

Somerset, is mentioned in the Vincent MS. 141,111 (see 1 and 2, above) as the son of Johannes Smythes and grandson of Wiffus Smithes de Wrington. In his will, dated 3 September 1584-5, bequests are made as follow: "... unto Jone my wiffe all those goodes which I haue in Glastenbury which were hers before tyme; ... unto my sonne John Smithes of Compton my clocke withe the bell, etc.; ... to John Smithes of Austen Sutton* fyve markes of lawfull moneye of Englande; ... to William my sonne thre score and eleven poundes of lawfull moneye of Englande; ... unto Thomas Earle thelder my best blacke cloke; ... unto Jone my saide wiffe my littell blacke mare, one macer silver parcell gilt and one silver cuppe white and ungilted. All the reste of my goodes not given nor bequeathed, moveable and unmoveable, I give and bequeathe unto George Smethes and unto William Smethes my sonnes, whome I make and ordeyne my whole and sole executors ... I doe ordayne, make, and appointe my brothers Robert Smithes and George Smethes, my cosen John Busshe of Undcombe and Nicholas Mors my neighbour, overseers; ... my will is that yf either of my sonnes, that is to saye George Smethes or William Smethes, happen to departe this naturall life before he come to the full age of one and twentye yeares,† that then his saide porcion so dyeinge do remayne to the longest lyver of the twayne; ... my will is that my sonnes John Smethes and Thomas Parmynter‡ shall see and provyde that my wiffe be well used," etc.

Proved by George Smithes and William Smethes, sons, in P.C.C., 26 February 1585-6. (8, Windsor.)

(28) William Smythes was the third son of William Smythes of Wyke Court, and with his elder brother George proved his father's will (see 27, above). The two brothers were joint residuary legatees, and a dispute may have arisen between them as to the division of the property, or William may have died; but however that may be, no mention is made by George in his will, dated 1614, of either of his brothers John or William or of any children of theirs. Either John or William may have been the father of William Smythies of Gosfields.

(29) ... Smythes, a daughter of William Smythes of Wyke Court, married to Thomas Parmynter, whom William Smythes refers to in his will as his son (see 27, above).

(30) John Smythes of Compton, son of William Smythes of Wyke Court (see 27 and 28, above). The Parish Registers of Wrington record the baptism of a John Smithes 22 June 1544, who may have been John Smythes of Compton.

(31) George Smythes (so spelt in the signature to his will) was born *circa* 1563.§ He was admitted to Gray's Inn 14 March 1608-9 (Adm. Reg. Gray's Inn). A member of the Goldsmiths' Company, he was Prime Warden in 1610-11, and Alderman of Bridge from 30 April 1611 till his death in 1615. In 1611 he was elected Sheriff of London, and there is a note in the records of the Goldsmiths' Company that a gratuity of £100 was given to him on his election "towards the tryming of his house and other charges in the time of his Shrievalty." His arms (*Argent, a chevron azure between three oak-leaves vert, each charged with an acorn or*) were exemplified and a crest granted to him (*A demi-arm azure and hand proper, holding a branch of oak-leaves with acorns or, set in a wreath of his colours*) on 9 March

* Probably the same person as John Smythes of Wrington, whose father George Smythes of Wrington was still alive in 1584.

† See note to (31), below.

‡ Son-in-law.

§ He was recorded on his monument in St. Mary's Steyning as aged 52 when he died, 11 July 1615, but in his father's will, dated 3 September 1584-5, he is spoken of as under age. If he was 52 when he died it is obvious that he must have been 21 before 11 July 1584. It may be that he was not 52, but in his 52nd year at the time of his death, or possibly his father's will was drafted some little time before it was signed and dated.