

to succeed to the office of Recorder. They seem to think him in all respects perfectly qualified for the due execution of it, and indeed I do not find that his most violent enemies have ventured to call in question his abilities for any part of the business that belongs to it. The greatest objection I have heard against him is that he is too sanguine in his temper, and too violent in carrying his party measures into execution; and, I confess, that where I have differed from him in opinion I have thought the same, and have felt the full force of the objection; and, angry as I have been with him at the time, yet I never could suppress a wish that we had had so warm and so steady a friend on our side of the question; and though perhaps a character with less spirit might be more generally popular, yet would it be less adapted to our present perilous situation. In the course of the twenty years that he has exercised the office of Town Clerk . . . whenever I have had occasion to ask his advice he has always given it to me gratis . . . With respect to his behaviour on the Hall, whenever our rights to the Commons, Fisheries, or other public matters have been under consideration, you must have made your own observations, and I dare say they have been such as have done him Credit, both as a Townsman and a Brother Burgess." (Copied from the original, as published, dated 17 November 1787.) Francis Smythies was appointed Recorder.

Portraits in oils of Francis Smythies and his wife are in possession of his great-grandson Mr. Frank Borthwick Smythies, who also has a miniature portrait of Francis Smythies.

(B 42). See pedigree.

(B 43) Mary Ann Smythies, daughter of Francis Smythies (B 41). Sackville Henry Frederick Gwynne of Glanbran, the husband of Mary Ann Smythies, was a member of the well-known Welsh family of that name. The record of his marriage to Mary Ann Smythies will be found in the Gwynne pedigree given in the "History of Monmouthshire," by Colonel Joseph A. Bradney, C.B., B.A., F.S.A., p. 409. He was baptized at Llanfair ar y bryn 14 August 1778, became Captain in the Monmouthshire and Brecknockshire Militia, Colonel of the Carmarthenshire Volunteers, and Sheriff of Brecknockshire 1807. He and his son sold Glanbran, and spent the family fortune. He died in 1836. There are now (1911) several descendants of this marriage in the female line, but none in the male. A very interesting account of the Gwynne family is given in "Old Wales," vol. iii., p. 288.

(B 44 to 49). See pedigree.

(B 50) William Smythies, son of Francis Smythies (B 41), married about the year 1797 Grace, daughter of Thomas Richards of Stow Hill, Newport, Monmouthshire. Her mother was Elizabeth Evans, daughter, by his first wife, of Samuel Evans of Goldcliff, co. Monmouth, Esq.

(B 51) Francis Smythies, son of Francis Smythies (B 41), was offered knighthood by King George IV., but declined the honour. His will contains a comprehensive statement of his landed property, and its distribution amongst his children and grandchildren.

A portrait in oils (c. 30 inches by 25 inches), by Pickersgill, of Mrs. Francis Smythies (*née* Caroline Dale) is in possession of Mrs. William Yorick Smythies, by whom it was purchased at a sale at Messrs. Robinson, Fisher, and Co.'s rooms, on 2 February 1911, when certain pictures, formerly the property of Rev. William Yorick Smythies, who died intestate, were offered at auction. The picture was incorrectly catalogued as a portrait of Mrs. Frances [*sic*] Smythies.

(B 52) Francis Smythies, son of Francis Smythies (B 51), married Harriet Jane Gardiner, whose mother (*née* Anne Mangles) was a sister of Frances Mangles, who married 1825 Captain the Hon. Charles Leonard Irby (see "Boston" in