

The following circumstances suggest the direction in which a clue may eventually be found to the connecting link :—

1. Elizabeth, daughter of John Smythes of Wrington, married Robert Goodwyn and was a contemporary of William Smythies of Witnesham, who as executor to his will selected his "dear friend Mr. Robert Goodwin."
2. William Smythies of Witnesham, judging from his appointments to St. Mary Matfelon, St. Giles's, Cripplegate, and St. Michael's, Cornhill, evidently had interest in the City of London.
3. William Smythies, Rector of Mile End, Colchester (son of William Smythies of Witnesham), followed two rectors (William and Thomas) of the name of Eyre, and before them Thomas Salwate (or Salwey) was the rector. Appointments to livings being much influenced by family connections these names are significant, for Hester Smythes, daughter of George the Alderman, married Christopher Eyre, and George Smythes himself, in his will (proved 1615), refers to his "cosen Arthur Salwey."
4. The widow of Thomas Smythies of Lavenham (younger son of William Smythies, Rector of Mile End) owned a farm called Wallass's or Wollis's, and this name is the same as the maiden name of the wife of George Smythes the Alderman, which is found spelt Woolhouse, Wollis, etc. It is possible, therefore, that the farm may have been the property of Mrs. George Smythes (afterwards Lady Savage), and have descended from her to Thomas Smythies of Lavenham.
5. William Smythes of Fleet Street, in a will dated 20 November 1657, and proved in London 16 December following (521, Ruthen), made bequests to his son William Smythes, to his son-in-law Robert Tilney, and to his grandchildren John, Sarah, Mary, and Elizabeth Tilney, as well as to his wife Elizabeth. The place of this William in the pedigree is still uncertain, but since his son William was alive in 1657 he can hardly have been the father of William Smythies of Gosfields, unless there has been some error made in the records. That William of Gosfields and the testator were nearly related is, however, strongly suggested by the fact that Isaac Smythies, son of the former, was appointed Vicar of Dagenham *on the death of Tilney*, 2 October 1663. (Newcourt's Repertorium, p. 203.)