

**A BIOGRAPHICAL
MEMOIR OF THE
REV. EDMUND D.
GRIFFIN, PP. 1-115**

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A Biographical Memoir of the Rev. Edmund D. Griffin, pp. 1-115 by John McVickar

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JOHN MCVICKAR

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OF THE

REV. EDMUND D. GRIFFIN.

BY

THE REV. JOHN MCVICKAR, D.D.

PROFESSOR OF MORAL PHILOSOPHY, ETC., IN COLUMBIA COLLEGE, NEW-YORK.

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THE following Memoir was originally published, prefixed to "The Remains" of their lamented subject. Its reprint in a separate and cheaper form having been repeatedly called for, and at length solicited on the part of a Society* whose labors have been always usefully directed, the author felt himself no longer entitled to hesitate; but with the approbation of the editor of the original work, through whose kindness he is enabled to add to its interest by several extracts from the Journal, it is now put forth in the trust that it may accomplish some portion of that good among the rising youth of our country, which was the original motive for undertaking it.

Columbia College, New-York, 15th June, 1832.

* The following is the application above alluded to.

New-York, May 30, 1832.

REV. AND DEAR SIR,

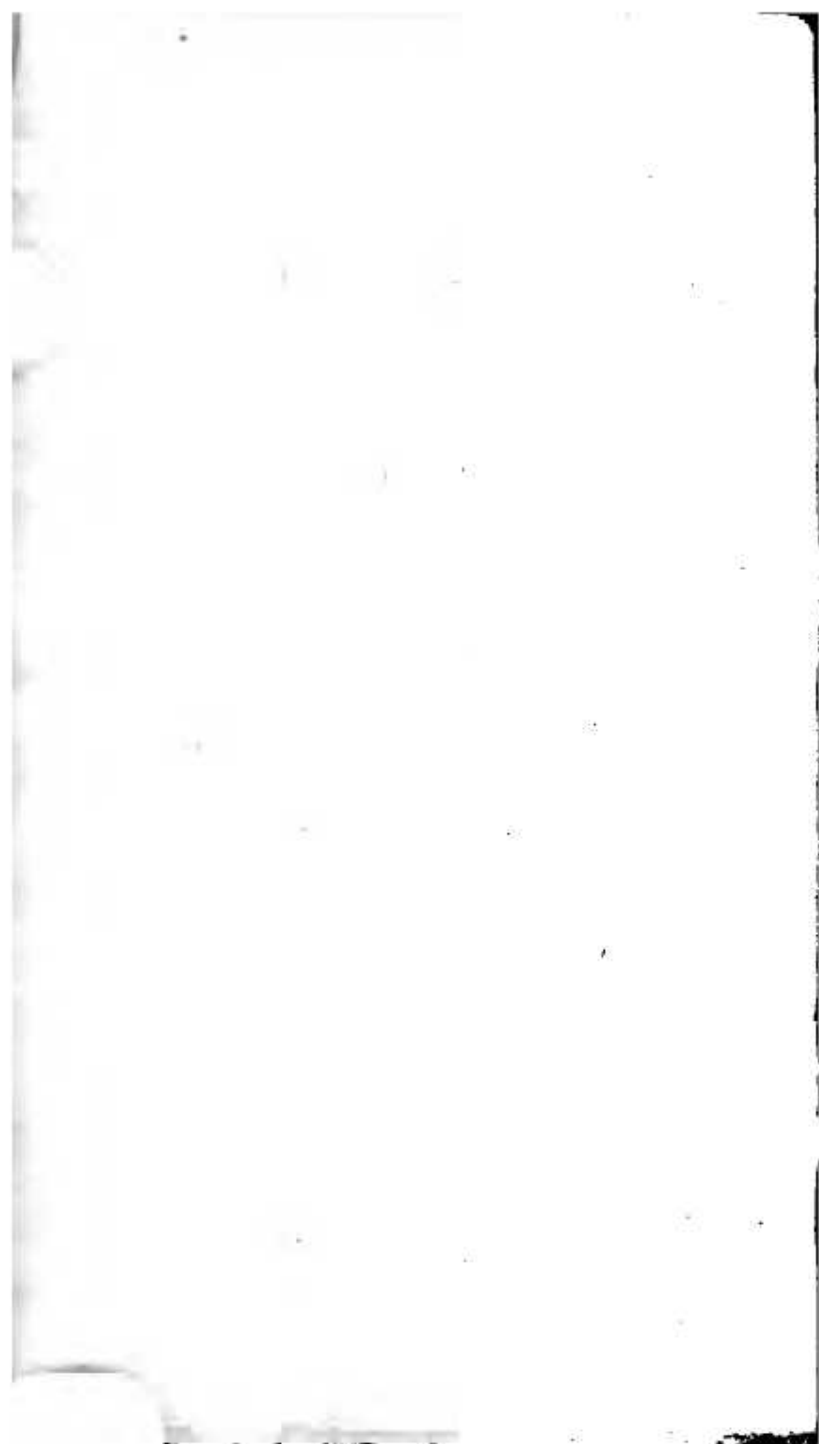
The Executive Committee of the General Protestant Episcopal Sunday School Union, having understood that an edition of the 'Memoir of the Rev. Edmund D. Griffin' prefixed to his 'Remains,' will probably be published in a detached form, beg leave to request through you, that the privilege be granted to the Institution with which they are connected, of placing this work upon its catalogue, and issuing it from its press. The obvious ground of their application,—apart from the merit of the work, and its promise of usefulness,—I need not say is—the relation which its subject sustained to the Church by which this Society is patronized.

Very respectfully, by order,

JOHN V. VAN INOEN,

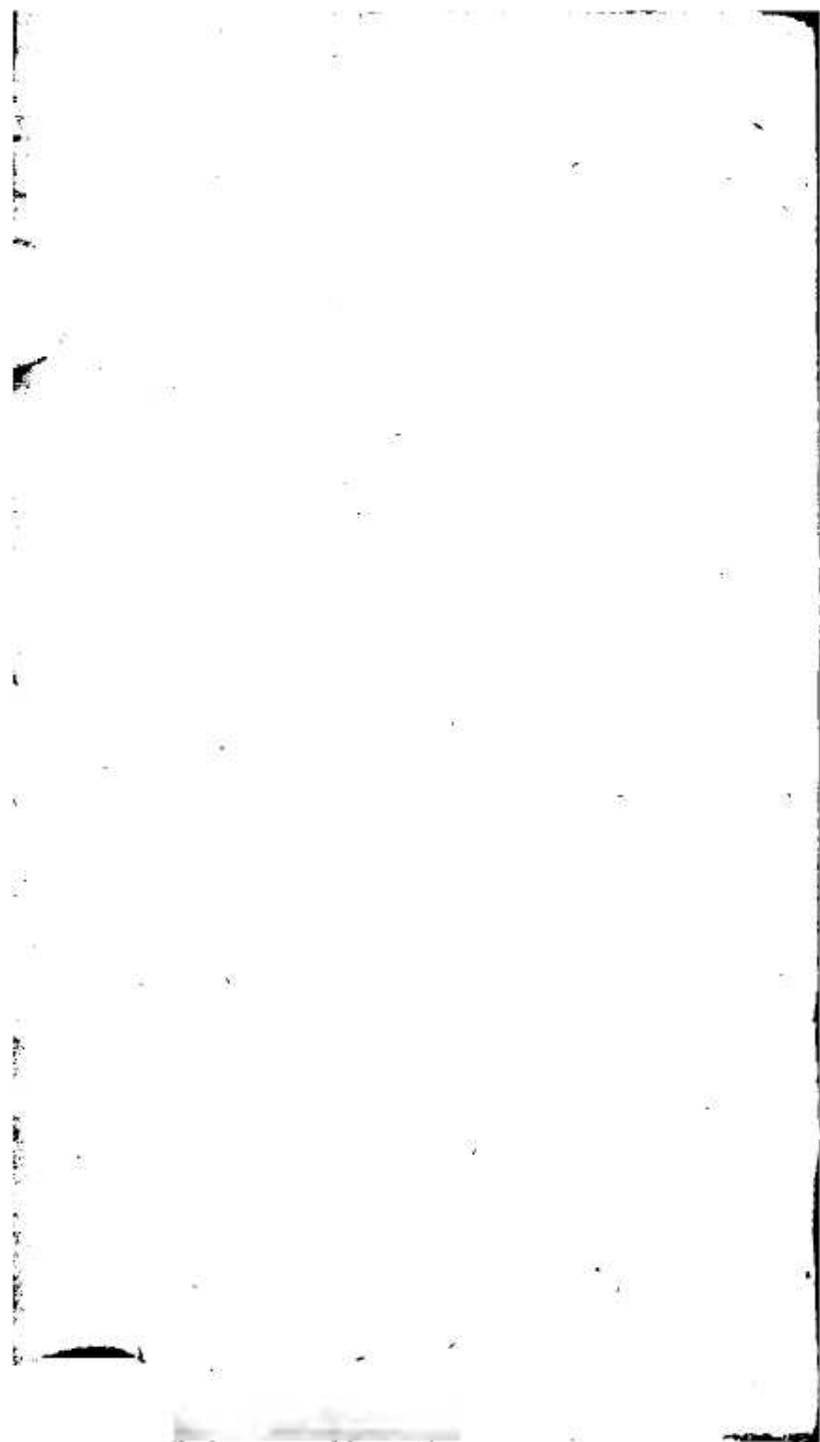
*Secretary of the Executive Committee General Protestant
Episcopal Sunday School Union.*

THE REV. J. McVICKAR, D. D.



The life of a domestic studious young man, terminating before its twenty-sixth anniversary, it is obvious cannot possess many materials for interesting the public. At the best, it can be but an amiable and flattering picture of what life promised, rather than what it performed; and the highest aim it can propose, is the delineation of a virtuous and well-spent youth. The writer of the following narrative deems it due, in justice both to himself and readers, to say, beforehand, that such is all this Memoir professes to be; and it must serve as his apology for dwelling at large upon many little incidents of boyhood and youth, which, in any other light, would appear trifling and irrelevant. They serve to fill up a moral picture which he knows to be just, thinks to be interesting, and would fain hope will be found to be useful.

COLUMBIA COLLEGE, 25th May, 1831.



MEMOIR.

EDMUND D. GRIFFIN, second son of George Griffin, Esq., of New-York, was born at Wyoming, in Pennsylvania, on the 10th September, 1804. He was the grandson, on the mother's side, of Col. Zebulon Butler, a distinguished revolutionary officer, who was long regarded as the patriarch of that secluded village, having commanded on the side of its defenders in the memorable but ill-fated engagement (3d July, 1778) which terminated in the devastation, by the British and their Indian allies, of that beautiful and now classic valley. When Edmund was about two years old his parents removed to the city of New-York, where the family fixed their residence. During his early years, nothing is recollected which deserves particular notice. He possessed the usual vivacity and buoyancy of childhood, but with great delicacy of constitution. With a view to strengthen his health, much of his time was passed in the country, where he continued at various schools until the age of twelve years. The records of his early progress are now forgotten, save that he was always at the head of his class; and the uniform prediction of his teachers, that if his life and health were spared, he would one day be an ornament to his family and country. He lived long