

**GENEALOGY OF THE
DESCENDENTS OF
JASPER GRIFFING**

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Genealogy of the Descendents of Jasper Griffing by Clara J. Stone

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CLARA J. STONE

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OF THE

Descendants of Jasper Griffing.

COMPILED
BY
CLARA J. STONE.

1881.

Worcester
H. J. Stone
Boston

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1881

PREFACE.

WE have the direction by divine authority, through Moses, "Remember the days of old, consider the years of many generations; ask thy father and he will show thee; thy elders, and they will tell thee." *Deut.* xxxii, 7. Much interest has been taken, during the last thirty or forty years, in the collection and arrangement of Family Histories and Genealogies. As a result of these efforts there have been laid before the public many interesting compilations. Circumstances and events that must otherwise, in the natural order of things, soon have passed into oblivion, are thus placed on record, for the benefit of the present and future generations. From the events and occurrences of the past, it is the part of wisdom to derive instruction and guidance for the activities of the future.

In this volume it is intended to give a history of JASPER GRIFFING, a native of Wales, who settled in Southold, Long Island, about two centuries ago, and of his descendants down to the present time so far as known.

Some of those who have borne the Griffing name have risen to eminence and distinction, gaining a world-

wide reputation. Many more have "acted well their parts" in the humbler walks of life, and are equally entitled to our esteem and commendation.

The records and material for this work were collected by Miss Clara J. Stone [Number 494 of this volume]. She devoted her time for three or four years with much enthusiasm and energy to the accomplishment of the work, and to that end carried on an extensive correspondence with individuals in all parts of this country, and to some extent in Europe. In addition to what is here presented to the public, she collected much interesting matter in connection with representatives of the family, for which there is no room in this volume. When her collection and compilation were substantially completed, and the work was nearly ready for the press, she was suddenly stricken with disease, and died, after an illness of four days, on the 25th day of March, 1880.

Thanks are due to Dr. Alvan Talcott of Guilford, Ct., Miss Harriet Lord of Lyme, Ct., George B. Griffin of San Francisco, Cal., Mrs. C. G. Allen of Ravenswood, Augusta, Ga., Mrs. N. O. Randall of Yaphank, L. I., and others, for the valuable assistance rendered by them to Miss Stone in the collection of these records.

GUILFORD, CONN, *August 1, 1881.*

GENEALOGY

OF

THE DESCENDANTS OF JASPER GRIFFING.

THE Gruffids of Welsh history are considered by many antiquarians of the present day as Griffings. A strong tradition has come down through all the lines that the last prince of Wales, *Llewellyn ap Griffith ap Llewellyn*, is the progenitor of all. A record connected with the Tower of London calls one of these a Griffing. The Virginia Griffings, who are descendants of Cyrus Griffing of the Provincial Congress, and are not of the Jasper line, have the same tradition.

Of the early history of Jasper Griffing very little is known. He was born in Wales about 1648, and came to this country when quite young. We have a slight notice of him in Essex Co., Mass., in 1670, when he is said to be twenty-one years of age. We have still another notice in Marblehead, Mass., in 1674. Soon after this date, and about 1675, he came, with a young wife named Hannah, to Southold, L. I., where he spent his subsequent life. The family name of his wife, Hannah, has not been ascertained. The inscription on her tombstone reads; "Here lyeth the body of Hannah Griffing, wife of Jasper Griffing, born at Manchester, New England," [Mass.?] "aged 46 years and eight months, and was the mother of eighteen children, and departed this life in Southold the 20th day of April, 1699." Jasper Griffing died at Southold, aged 70, April 17, 1718.

Of their "eighteen children," some of whom doubtless died in infancy, we have accounts of only four sons, Jasper, John, Edward, Robert, and a daughter, Susanna.

Respecting the orthography of the name there is a decided lack of uniformity. Jasper and his descendants at Southold, and

also the Robert Griffing branch, of Guilford and other places, spell the name with the final "g," *Griffing*. Other branches as uniformly omit the final "g," and spell the name *Griffin*. But all these are, without doubt, descendants of the same ancestor, Jasper Griffing of Southold. For the sake of uniformity the names of all his descendants are given in this volume in *his* orthography, *Griffing*.

I.

Jasper Griffing, born 1648, married Hannah —, of Manchester, New England, who was born 1653 and died 1699; Jasper died 17 April, 1718.

CHILDREN:

2. Jasper Griffing,² b. about 1675.
3. John Griffing,² b. probably a year or two later.
4. Edward Griffing,² b. —
5. Susanna Griffing,² b. —
6. Robert Griffing,² b. 1685.

2d GENERATION.

2.

Jasper Griffing, Jun., probably eldest son of Jasper Griffing of Southold (1) and Hannah, his wife; married, 29 April, 1696, Ruth Peck, born 19 August, 1676, daughter of Joseph Peck of Lyme, Ct., and Sarah, his wife. In Lyme all the children of Joseph and Sarah Peck were born. [This Joseph Peck was the son of Deacon Wm. Peck of New Haven, who was born in England, 1603.] It is said in "Griffin's Journal," that Jasper Griffing, Jun., purchased a tract of land in Lyme and settled there. By reference to "Southold Index of 1698," by Chas B. Moore, Esq., we find a note of Jasper, at the time of his father's death, 1718, where he is spoken of as a son and heir reciting his father's will, etc., and at the same time disposing of his possessions at Southold to his brother Edward Griffing.

It is also said in the "Journal" that he lived to be more than 90 years old, but the date of his death does not appear.

SECOND GENERATION.

7

CHILDREN :

7. Jasper Griffing, 3d,^s b. 28 Jany., 1698.
8. Hannah Griffing,^s b. 1700. Nothing further found.
9. Lemuel Griffing,^s b. —
10. Nathan Griffing,^s b. —. Nothing further found.
11. Joseph Griffing,^s b. —. Nothing further found.

3.

John Griffing, son of Jasper Griffing of Southold (1) and Hannah, his wife, probably died 1714 or 1715. Dates of birth and marriage not found.

CHILDREN :

12. John Griffing,^s Jun., b. 1710.
13. Deborah Griffing,^s } These joined the Church at Acquebogue, 24
14. Phœbe Griffing,^s } April, 1768. Nothing further.

4.

Edward Griffing, son of Jasper Griffing (1) and Hannah, his wife, married, 1st, Irene —, who died 8 Nov., 1716; 2d, Sarah Meaker, on the 1 Oct., 1717. Nothing further found.

5.

Susanna Griffing, daughter of Jasper Griffing (1) and Hannah, his wife, married 4 Oct., 1704, Joseph Peck, Jun., born 20 March, 1680, son of Joseph and Sarah Peck of Lyme, Ct. Probably the name of the children of this union are recorded in the "History of the Descendants of Wm. Peck of New Haven," by Judge Darius Peck of Hudson, N. Y. None are found in the records of the Griffings. Joseph and Susanna Peck lived at Lyme, Ct.

6.

Robert Griffing, born 1685, son of Jasper Griffing (1) and Hannah, his wife, was born at his father's homestead "at the foot of town harbor lane" leading from the main street to the harbor. He married about 1708 Lydia Kirkland, born 11 Oct., 1685, daughter of Lieut. John Kirkland of Saybrook, Ct., and Lydia

(Pratt) Kirkland, daughter of Lieut. Wm. Pratt, also of Saybrook. It is said of Robt. Griffing that he was "a man of most agreeable conversation and greatly beloved."

Although Robert was the fourth son yet we find him at last in possession of the homestead, and it seemed to come about in this way: As Jasper, Jun., had removed to Lyme, Ct., a deed of sale was executed 1 June, 1718, about two months after his father's death, by which Jasper of Lyme transferred all the real estate he owned to his brother Edward. The same year we find that Edward and Sarah (Meaker) Griffing gave a deed of the homestead and lands he possessed at Southold to his brother Robert. Again referring to "Griffin's Journal:" "Where Edward settled, what family he had, how long he lived, we are not able to say. So Robert settled down on his father's estate and homestead on the pleasant banks of Peconic Bay, at Southold Harbor." Besides cultivating his patrimonial land at Hallock's Neck and the islands near by.

We find incidentally that in 1725 Robert Griffing kept an "Inn," that *dernier resort* of so many of our ancestors who came to *do*, and finding a sterile soil *did* whatever was honest to eke out an independent living. Robert Griffing died at the homestead 28 March, 1729. His wife Lydia made a second marriage with Joseph Conkling of Southold, who died 1740; she died in 1742.

CHILDREN:

15. Lydia Griffing,^s b. early part 1709; d. 2 April, 1718.
16. Samuel Griffing,^s b. 25 Sept., 1710, O. S.
17. Elizabeth Griffing,^s b. —
18. William Griffing,^s b. 1715 (about).
19. John Griffing,^s b. 1717 (about).
20. Robert Griffing,^s b. 1720 (about).
21. Jasper Griffing,^s b. 7 March, 1722, O. S.