

2127 Jackson Place, Chicago, Ills
June 11-1912

Gentleman relatives:-

I have just received the following data from Andrew W. G. Of Omaha, and will send each one interested a copy thereof. I do this to preserve the records in case of future losses and suppressions. A. W. Has been working faithfully and properly from the descendants backwards, while I have been working, the other way, down from the ancestors and we must meet, and confirm our searches, traditions, and other crude data with known records and have them fit in. I am sending out carbon copies so that all who receive them may study and sort out members of our numerous family. Andrew says:

“ I will try and answer part of it - (my letter).

Joseph Griffin (3) Richard (2) Edward (1) married Mary Gildersleve (from Marriage License, issued by the secretary of the Province of N.Y. previous to 1784. Published by the Sec’y of the State, Gidson J. Tucker, Albany, N.Y. 1860) (June 17, 1738) They had at least Jonathan, born 27th of 11th month, 1750, Obadiah, born April 2, 1753, died March 3, 1841 at Niles, Mich. You write Harry Mansfield, of Niles, Mich. I got one letter from him years ago, then no more. He said he could account for a 100 descendants of Obadiah. I have quite a list of them, - Isiah, and according to Morganza, Joseph Jun.

Now here is a Joseph Griffen of Clinton, Duches Co, administrator of his estate, April 19. 1793, principal creditor, Isaac Bloom. In 1786 Joseph Griffen was a militia, company in Duches Co; William Johnson, Lieut, Jonathan Ensign. In 1793, Joseph Griffen was deceased, and was succeeded by Jonathan Purdy. Do you not suppose that this Joseph was Joseph Jun? And the father of Jacob, born October 22, 1771 - Morganzas’ line?

I will write this to Morganza, of Brunswick, Mo, today.

Now the Jonathan, the first son, was Jacob, born Oct, 24,1772.

I think that Joseph (3) Sen, Richard (2) Edward (1) probably had another son Jacob, and Jonathan named his first son for him.

Now among the Revolutionary soldiers, there are two Colonels’ Jacob Gs’ of Duches Co. or one with two spellings of his name different - one ‘fen’ and the other ‘fin’. Col. Jacob of Fishkill was the ‘fen’ for I had letters from a party who read it on his tombstone or monument.

I have the descendants of the above Jonathan about all traced - know nothing of his brother Isiah. I think he lived not far from Buffalo, perhaps in Canada - they were Friends.

Now this Jonathan must have gone from Duches Co to Vermont, and then to Greenfield, Saratoga Co, N.Y. This Jonathan was the one that led your ancestor, Jonathan, to Saratoga Co. I think, if the truth was known, the Quakers in the Revolution times, or a good many of them, were on the move. I have heard that my ancestor Isiah, son of Edward, son of Richard, was in the English army by force, and that he said he “was certain that he never killed any one for he always shot in the air -“ I never saw anything that would confirm the above. I wrote two of the Griffens in St Louis, whose names you sent me, but got no reply. I believe there are descendants of Joseph (3) still alive in Duches Co.

Here is an Isiah G. Died Oct 17, 1850, the administrator, son G. W. Griffen mentions children, mentions Geo. W. Mary, Hannah, Phebe R. Amos J - Abraham M, Ethelinda - all of Clinton, N.Y. Abrahams’ children, Herbert G, resides at 21 So Water Street, Poughkeepsie, N.Y. Will at (—)

Louis, Millbrook, N.Y.) Nettire, married a Burton, of Millbrook, N.Y. I wrote them all- but no reply. When they stay in one place. So long, I think they degenerate and in time run out. I received a letter from Robert B. Miller last week, and will write him today and see what he can do for us.

Thine,

A. W. Griffen (561 So 26th Av - Omaha)

So as to preserve and assist in sorting out the descendants of the sons of Richard (2) and of John (2) - both the sons of Edward (1) here is a memo of Friends Marriages -

1736 - 16th of 10th Mo Thos Vail to Mary Griffen (daughter of John of Mamaroneck)

1754, 21st of 11th Mo John Griffen Jr, son of John and Hannan (Haviland)

1759 -22nd of 8th Mo John Griffen of Phillipsburgh, Westchester Co, N.Y. Province, and Judith Marshall, of Greenwich, Conn.

1766 -20th of 3rd Mo Joseph Griffen of Mamaroneck and Sarh Burling of East Chester, Town, Westchester Co. N. Y.

1772 - 16th of 4th Mo. John Griffen of Mamaroneck, and Jane Cornell of Scarsdale.

1777 - 22nd of 10th Mo John Griffen Jun, of North Castle, and Ester Cornell of Harrison Precinct - (Duchess Co N.Y.)

1780 - 17th of 2nd Mo Zopher Griffin of Courtland Manor, Westchester Co and Deborah Sutton.

1718 - (at Flushing) Thomas Carle and Mary Griffen, daughter of John Griffen - all of Flushing.

New York Marriage, previous to 1784

1736 - Feby 16, Griffen, Elizabeth and John Hadden.

1764 - Griffen Ame and James Haight.

1759 - Oct 3, Griffen, Bridget and Moses Griffin.

1678 - January 4 Griffen Edward Jr and Deborah Barns

Note - This is undoubtedly is Edward (2) son of Edward 91) - he moved to Westchester Co, N.Y., became a zealous Baptist, married, and only had daughters, (see his will)

1761 - Oct 14 - Elizabeth Peck. Griffin

1755 - Dec 23 - Griffen Elizabeth and Joseph Budd.

1777 - April 15 - Griffen, Elizabeth and Martin Shacker.

1776 - Sept 13 - Griffen, Elizabeth and William Fowler.

1771 - Griffen, William, and Mrs Rebecca ne' Chesure.

1794 - (-) Griffen Benjamin - of Ohio - and Clarissa Mather, of Lynn, Conn - she was born Aug 10, 1774, a daughter of Elias Mather (from Gen'l Notes of Mass and Conn, by Goodwin, of Hartford, - 1856)

(Spencer Genealogy says - William Spencer came to Colonies had a son John Spencer, of Rhode Island, who married Susannah Griffin, a sister- in-law of Thomas Nichols)

1779 - July 10 - Griffen Ephraim and Hester Vanderburg.

1691 - Sept 4 - Griffen Honour and Francisco.

1781 - June 17 - Griffen Joseph and Mary Gildersleve.

1674 - January 7 - Griffen Samuel and Elizabeth Platt. (Is this the son of Edward (1)? .

1760 - Oct 15 - Griffen Susannah and Peleg Ransom.

1768 - April 6 - Griffen William and Mary Lawson.

1758 - Oct 27 - Tompkins , Jonathan Griffin and Sarah Hyatt

1756 - April 23 - Griffen and Edward Stevenson

1766 - Jan 1 Griffin and William Cornell

---- Griffin, David and Hannah Cornell.

---- Griffin ---- and Ester Cornell.

Some of the last few are from other records - genealogics

In addition to what I have heretofore written of the tracing of Samuel (3) oldest son of Richard (2) - Edward (1) who was Col, and Deputy Adj-Gen'l under Washington, in the Flying Camp, and knowing that he was a member of what was called the Silk Stocking Troop of the Philadelphia, in the beginning of the Revolution - 1776 - I note that when Gen Washington, was appointed commander -in-chief of the American Army, and went to take charge of the American forces around Boston, Washington Irving says - page 515 volume 1 Life of Washington - (1869- Washington prepared to depart from Philadelphia for the army before Boston. * As an escort he had a "Gentleman troop of Philadelphia, commanded by Captain Markoe; the whole formed brilliant cavalcade" - (page 526) At New York, Washington had learned all the details of the battle of Bunker Hill * He departed therefore on the 26th accompanied by Gen Lee and escorted as far as Kings' Bridge, the termination of New York Island, by Markoes' Philadelphia light-horse, and several companies of militia"

In closing I think that there was only Col Jacob Griffen, of Dutchess Co, N.Y. And that the muddle of the spelling of the name, has raised the supposition of A.W.G. There is another Jacob Griff'n a private soldier and the Jacob, who was finally Lieut-Cornel, first enlisted as a private. He was also a Captain, of the Associators in 1775- He never was in the Line, but served only, I think for three months - that was as long as they could keep the militia out of the State. And I see no other that could be his ancestor, but the "Joshaway Griffen, the first G, settling in Fishkill, in 17339 -This is Joshua (3) - But I want to get these sons located as near as correct as any genealogist could - there is no Family History perfect, you know. During my vacation I shall have plenty of time to search the record - histories, genealogies etc in out three great Libraries here, and will test the rumors, traditions etc of those that send in memoranda of our family. I think that we should hurry up, or the good deeds of our ancestors, and collaterals will be appropriated, like those Georgia, Daughters of the Revolution. There are three Daughters, claiming descent from Lieut-Col Jacob Griffen, of Dutchess Co, now living in New York city and Brooklyn. And I guess they are entitled to the honor. That Griffin Penrith (Wales) Coat , too belongs to us sure. And the fact that John Griffin, a sergeant. Of Windsor, had been credited with that Coat, I think that his brother Edward (1) should have it also.

Awaiting further correspondence,

I am, very truly yours -

Zeno T. Griffen