

*Griffin Family Letters: Related to the Griffins who were prominent in Dutchess and Westchester Counties of New York in the 1700's.*

*A few years ago I obtained many copies of letters primarily written between A. W. Griffin (Andrew) of Omaha, Nebraska, Zeno Griffen of Chicago and Justus Griffin of Hamilton, Ontario.*

I wish to share these letters with everyone.

## **Letter 1**

25 Jackson Place  
Chicago, ILL  
May 7, 1908

J. A. Griffin  
Hamilton, Ontario

I am still at genealogy– and am in a quandary as to the correct “ Coat of Arms”. The one you so kindly furnished me brought over by Jasper Griffing of Southhold, L.I. and is given in ‘Burkes General Armory 13.

Griffin-Penrith Wales

“Gu on a fesse between 3 lozenges on each charged with a fleur de lys of the first, a denu rose between two Griffins sergeant of the field” and another one is exactly like it of Penrith Wales except it has “Gu on a fesse doucette”.

So here are two families obviously of Penrith Wales

May it not be a fact that our branch – “Edward Griffin” of Flushing Long Island and Jasper Griffing branch come together in Richard Griffeth” of Cardiagan, who went with Henry Tudor to Bosworth Fields, 1485 and assisted in killing Richard III and placing Henry on the English throne, as Henry VI?

You know my father got Edwards name as “Richard” as being the first settler in Flushing who migrated from Wales . In the line back to Richard of Bosworth Fields fame the names of Richard, Edward, and John occur frequently and almost invariably in our branch while “Jasper Griffing” branch the same Jasper likewise appears. In fact I find “Jasper Griffeth” in 1607 in a old Welsh books, as the owner, now in the Penrith Library. This does not militate against the impression that you have that Edward and Major Jasper Griffin of Southold, L.I. were related - - I will give you again Dwinn’s record on page 244 Vol I (under the name Pengriffin)

Richart Pengruffwnd - Elsbeth sister to William Mor Esq:

Gruffydd Pengruffwnd - Jowan dochder to Seimont David Esq., off Koksol Gent

Syr Richart Pengruffwnd - Annes Oreli v Martin	Johan Pengruffwnd- Ann v Edward
Person o Walton yn Rows   Oreli o Werdden Esq:	Langffort
yn Sir Benffro   o Marged v Jams Power	
Esq.	

Peter	Thomas	Hari	Elizabeth	Edward	John	Jowan, gwraig	Katrin
			(B.1602)	(B.1608)	Richard	Marston	gwaig Makton

This Richard Pengruffwnd undoubtedly was the Richard Griffith mentioned on page 299 of "Wales" by Owen M. Edwards 1905 published by G. P. Putnam & Sons, NY. He ways referring to Henry Tudor after he landed in South Wales in August 1485 after leaving Haverfordwest "they moved northwards toward Ferry. The Pembrokeshire men welcomed Jasper. At Cardigan they were cheered by the appearance of Richard Griffeth and a little force" etc.

In other accounts Richard Griffith is called an old and experienced soldier . There has been stormy and bloody times in Wales - - Owen Glendower a Griffith in 1400 had the support of every Griffin. I suppose and when he failed the Griffin of Crum will attained and plundered of their intales? Yet always have stoutly and stubbornly the contended for their mother soil - men fighting against one another and the male line running out. Witness our own branch and your ancestor remaining loyal in the Revolution and mine the youngest son a Quaker as I now find the record was drafted or at least his name appears as an owner of a land warrant. Jonathan Griffith (born May 11, 1757) as Private in the 4<sup>th</sup> Dutchess County Regiment along with many Griffins. But after the War he moved to Oowtoga (?), NY in 1783 and there settled..

But I may weary you being a busy man - - so I will stop right here - - only adding that I here nothing further from A. W. Griffin of Omaha. I fear he has "cooled off" and I am only stirred up as the "girls" here want a Griffen Coat of arms for their autos and stationary, etc. and I am going to again lean on you a little.

If you ever invade the United States for enough time to get to Chicago just call on us and me particularly without fail

My sincerely yours, Zeno T. Griffen  
Excuse this scrawl but you are a printer