

2127 Jackson Place
Chicago, ILL
July 20, 1912

Justus A. Griffin
14-16 Rebecca St.
Hamilton, Ontario

Dear Sir,

Knowing you are somewhat interested in the "War" find herewith clipping from one of our city papers, today. Putting aside the innate family modesty — (?) and Quaker spirit – I will state that I was in the Cedar Hills battle – but luckily escaped the rebels shots. In fact I got quite accustomed to the "hissing" of bullets, and the "crashing howl" of cannons - long time before; and although it is 50 years ago that I first heard the roar of battle, in my memory those horror scenes still haunt me. Oh, I can sometimes, in the night, hear the awful screams of the dying and wounded in that battle of the Wilderness - May 6, 1864 - and particularly those enemy in the thick bushes, close to our lines of battle, when a lull for a few minutes occurred, and ardently wished the musketry would again commence. In short out of the 51 days of battle in which my regimen the 122M.Y.V. was actively engaged - I was present fighting 17 of them - being seriously wounded in two battles- Gettysburgh PA, July 3, 1863, and Petersburg Va., April 2, 1865 - when Grant crushed Lee's army and drove the Confederates "helter-skelter" to Appomattox -April 9, 1865 - and thus closed the 4 ½ years War - So that I realize fully what War is - it is man's original state says one writer - let this pass -and I will switch off onto our family history, and which I have about made up my mind is the proper thing to do, considering all things and the way one fully feels about it and I want your opinion on it sent me soon.

1. In the Oct. Number 1891 (Vol 22, page 191) is your article on Jasper Griffin of Southold, L.I. – of N.Y. Genl. & Bio. Rec.

Later you inserted your line in the Am Ancestry - which corrected somewhat the unintentional mistake in the above. But leave out my article entirely - or any reference to it.

2. In the July 1905 No ___ in the same journal - the N.Y. Gen. & Biol Record - My article appears on page 197. Vol. 26 - giving my father's "Account of the Griffen Family".

3. In the Jan. 1906 No__ is the pedigree of Richart Pengriffwad - Vol 37, page 54. In my articles, I quite simply refer to yours, without comment.

Now I propose to get up a fuller genealogy - gathered from later searches of "fresh" publications and see if I can get our N.Y. Gen. & Bio. Record to publish it. Those ILL. and Mo. Griffens and I might say A. W. Griffin of Omaha have kind of cooled off. I think that the ILL. & Mo. G's are descendants of Joseph - son of Richard - son of Edward of Flushing, L. I But they are a little captious - think it may possibly be so - i.e. that Joseph is their Great grandfather. I just drop these ideas to you = for consideration - Awaiting your response-

Very truly yours,
Zeno T. Griffen

- 32 (degrees) -