

## INTRODUCTION

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It is now considerably more than 30 years since the compiler of these annals commenced to gather material for a family history, and the accumulated information, including copies of wills and official documents, would fill a very large volume. The selection and condensing of this material to proportions suitable for the present purpose has been no easy task; there was so much that called for insertion that had to be of necessity left out. He is indebted for much of the material to Messrs. Robert B. Miller, of New York; A. W. Griffen, of Omaha, an official of the United States Postal Service, and Z. T. Griffen, of Chicago. These gentlemen had exceptional opportunities to search old records and documents in the great libraries and official archives in the leading cities of the United States, and spent much time in doing so. They furnished this writer with copies of documents and detailed accounts of the results of their work. They satisfied themselves independently—I believe they never met—that Edward Griffin, of Flushing, was the Edward Griffin, or Griffith, who came with Capt. Clayborne's party in 1635, and that decision has been accepted in these annals.

Thanks are also due and are hereby tendered to the many correspondents who have courteously answered the questions asked of them, and to the others who have hospitably received personal calls and given the desired information as far as was possible.

The compiler has been made more cautious in forming decided conclusions, with regard to persons and events narrated, by an experience in the early days of his genealogical studies. Family records in direct line, of a reliable character, of Edward,