

PREFACE

sible to at once strike at the very heart of things. The services of C. A. Hoppin, Jr., an experienced specialist in searching English records, were engaged and he has added materially to the value of the data gathered by Mr. Alvord. I am convinced that this part of the work has been thoroughly done, and that all records have been searched with care in the vicinity of the home of our ancestors in England. The sum of one hundred and fifty dollars for engaging the services of Mr. Hoppin was contributed by the following persons: John W. Alvord of Chicago, Ill., John F. Alvord of Torrington, Conn., Dean Alvord of Brooklyn, N. Y., Clinton Alvord of Worcester, Mass., E. C. Alvord of Washburn, Wis., Geo. B. Alvord of Torrington, Conn., Andrew P. Alvord of New York City, Chas. H. Alvord of Torrington, Conn., Samuel M. Alvord of Hartford, Conn., Mrs. E. J. Brown of New York City, H. B. Alexander of Geneva, Ill.

I desire also to express my appreciation to all those who have so readily given their support and coöperation in this task. Letters have in general been promptly, and always courteously, answered, even though demands were repeatedly made upon time and patience. In the Alvord homes that I have visited, whether in Vermont or California, the greatest hospitality and courtesy have been shown me, so I have been made to feel that the tie of kinship is indeed very strong in the family.

I cannot close without acknowledging my special obligation to the late Hon. William Alvord of San Francisco, who by his generous financial support and kindly words of encouragement materially lightened the burden of the work. It was my privilege to meet Mr. Alvord in San Francisco in Sept., 1904, and the pleasure he took in driving through the city and explaining the points of interest was only surpassed by my own pleasure in his delightful companionship. Three months later his earthly career was closed and the sight of the city that was the pride of his heart, almost in total ruins, never came before his mortal vision.

Rev. J. G. Alford (now Canon Alford) of Bristol, Eng., is about to publish pedigrees of the early Alford families in England and he has willingly contributed from his notes.

Errors are inevitable in a work of this kind, though every effort has been made to avoid them. Readers are requested to send corrections to the author where errors are observed. Such corrections