

PREFACE

satisfactory except for the aid that has been afforded by it, especially since it preserved for us the testimony of men of a previous generation. It might be added that the present work is about triple the size of the Alvord-Boutelle collection.

About the year 1897 my uncle, Rev. Frederick Alvord, being much interested in the family history and knowing of Coridon Alvord's work, desired to learn if the manuscript was still in existence. After some search he found that George M. Alvord, son of Coridon, was living in Hartford, and he learned from him that he had the manuscript and was willing to give it to anyone who would complete the work and publish it. Thus the manuscript came into possession of Rev. Frederick Alvord, who at once began to plan for its publication. Disappointment in securing financial support and advancing years led him reluctantly to give up the plan and in the fall of 1901 he came to my house and requested that I take the manuscript with the understanding that I should complete and publish it at some favorable time.

It was not my intention to proceed at once with the work, but letters from various members of the family led me to believe that the time was ripe for its publication. I therefore began to revise what had already been done and to add new matter. Mr. Boutelle had been unable to trace many families that had migrated to New York State soon after the Revolutionary War. Through the aid afforded by the Pension Bureau, Adj. General's Office, U. S. Census Dept., County Clerks and Surrogates, and the recollections of private individuals of advanced years, these families have been traced almost without exception. I confidently believe that there exists in the country no branch of the Alvord family whose annals do not appear in this volume—I except some isolated instances of individuals bearing the name, which will be noted in the appendix. The work, covering a period of seven years, has been accomplished in the midst of the confining duties of a teacher's life, but it has been my aim to neglect nothing that would add to the interest and completeness of the work.

Our relations to the family in England had been in a large measure worked out through the personal efforts of John W. Alvord of Chicago, who most generously contributed what he had gathered at his personal expense. This contribution was of great value and served as a basis for the later and more complete researches, making it pos-