

T. M. GRIFFING.

ston, between the Rebel and Union forces. Mr. Walther was in the service from the time of his enlistment until the establishment of peace, and was discharged July 19, 1865. He then returned to his home on Shelter Island, and for a number of years thereafter occupied his time in fishing and in the coasting trade. He is now the owner of a goodly property, which his knowledge of farming enables him to cultivate in a profitable manner.

Mr. Walther attended school in his native land for two or three years prior to coming to America, and after locating on Shelter Island prosecuted his studies in the English language. He is well informed regarding events of importance of the present day, and is esteemed by all who know him. In 1867 he married Miss Susan Haas, who died the following year, leaving a daughter, Susan, the wife of George E. Bennett. November 19, 1871, our subject married Henrietta Konrad, a native of Mengen, Bavaria, Germany. This union resulted in the birth of five children, of whom those living are Kate, Sophie and Georgia, all at home.

In his political faith Mr. Walther is a Republican and a strong believer in the measures adopted by his party. In local affairs he has shown himself to be deeply interested, and is regarded as one of the self-made men of the county.



TIMOTHY M. GRIFFING, who stands at the head of the Suffolk County Bar, was born in the house where he now lives, at Riverhead, November 22, 1842. The family of which he is a member has been long identified with the history of this locality. His grandfather, William Griffing, was born in this town, March 18, 1770, and built the old Long Island House, of which he was proprietor for many years before his death. He passed away October 6, 1848.

The father of our subject, Hubbard Griffing, was born in this town in 1792, and in early life was a sea-captain, but later engaged in farming,

being the owner of a place that comprises that portion of Riverhead west of Griffing Avenue, below the railroad and on both sides above it. His residence, situated at the junction of Griffing Avenue and Main Street, is now occupied by the subject of this sketch. He was a prominent man, and at one time was a candidate for the Assembly, but was defeated. In the Congregational Church, of which he was an active worker, he served as Deacon. His death occurred July 5, 1863. He had a brother, Wells, who for many years was proprietor of the old Long Island House, and served as Postmaster of the village several years, when the office was in his hotel.

Hubbard Griffing was three times married. His first wife, Elizabeth Edwards, died June 23, 1819, leaving no children. For his second wife he chose Huldah Terry, who died January 24, 1830, leaving a son, Oliver Hazard. The latter was born November 2, 1825, and for many years was connected with the Seventh Ward Bank of New York, making his home in Brooklyn, where he died in January, 1894. At his death he left a widow, Serena H., and four children, Reba, Helen, Edith and Hollis. The mother of our subject, who was the third wife, was a daughter of Timothy Miller, a highly respected farmer, who died before our subject was born. Mrs. Polly Griffing was born at Miller Place, May 31, 1806, and died September 30, 1895, at the home of her only son. At the time of her death she was nearly ninety years of age. She was one of the original members of the Congregational Church at Riverhead, of whom Mrs. Ira Lane and John P. Terry are the only survivors.

At Phillips Academy, in Andover, Mass., the subject of this sketch prepared for college, and in 1860 he entered Yale College, from which he graduated in the Class of '64 with high rank. His legal studies were commenced in the office of Miller & Tuthill, the former the late Judge George Miller, his uncle, and the latter the late Judge James H. Tuthill. His degree of LL. B. was received at the Albany Law School in 1866, and in October of the same year he opened an office at Patchogue, where he soon came into prominence as one of the brightest lights of the Suffolk County

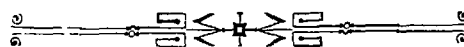
Bar. He remained at Patchogue until 1875, when he returned to Riverhead, but has ever since retained an office at Patchogue.

It is needful to the completeness of this history that it be recorded that the success of Mr. Griffing in a financial way has kept pace with his remarkable record at the Bar. With his brothers-in-law, J. R. and J. H. Perkins, he is the owner of the electric-light plant and the water works, the fine water tower and mill being his individual property. He is a Trustee of the Riverhead Savings Bank, and the attorney and counsel for that prosperous institution; also a Director in the Suffolk County National Bank. There is little doubt but that he could have anything in the way of political honors within the power of the people of the county to bestow, but he has repeatedly and positively refused all honors of that kind, preferring to devote himself exclusively to the duties of his profession. He has always, however, taken an active interest in all public affairs, and particularly in the educational advancement and general welfare of the community in his native village. In politics he is a stanch Republican.

In 1869 Mr. Griffing married Miss Caroline A. Perkins, whose twin sister, Angeline, is the wife of J. R. Wilson, of Norfolk, Va., and whose brothers, John R. and J. Henry, are mentioned elsewhere in this volume. For three years Mrs. Griffing was a member of the Board of Education. She is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and believes in practical Christianity, and all societies having for their aim either spiritual, moral or intellectual development have her support, and their members are assured of a cordial welcome in her hospitable home. She is noted for her untiring efforts in behalf of the poor, and for many years has presided over the Friendly Aid Society, an organization which cares especially for the children of that class, for many of whom she has found comfortable homes.

Mr. and Mrs. Griffing have five children, the eldest of whom, Frederick Lapham, lives in Hastings, Neb. Grace is a graduate of the Woman's College of Baltimore, and at this writing is in Europe with her mother. Angeline P. and Mabel are now students in the Woman's College, and

Robert Perkins, a boy of fourteen, is a student in the academy at Riverhead. When Mr. Griffing laid out the grounds for the beautiful and extensive private park that surrounds his residence, he intended to name it for one of his daughters, but the thought came to him that he could make a unique name by combining a part of the name of all. Hence the name "Grangebel."



WILLIAM JONES WEEKS is a worthy citizen of Yaphank, town of Brook Haven. He was born in the village of Oyster Bay, Queens County, February 21, 1821, and is a son of James H. and Susan Maria (Jones) Weeks, both of whom were natives of Queens County, living there until 1828, when they came to Suffolk County, and here passed the remainder of their lives. James Weeks was engaged in farming in early life, and in later years devoted his time to looking after his landed estates. He died in 1879, an honored and respected citizen, and a deeply mourned friend and companion by those who knew him best. He was President of the Long Island Railroad from 1847 to 1850, and filled several minor offices. Mrs. Weeks passed away in 1888, at the venerable age of fourscore and six years.

Our subject received his elementary education in the academy at Oyster Bay, and in the year 1840 he entered Yale College, from which he was graduated in 1844. He returned to his home in Suffolk County, and became the right-hand business man of his father, being the only child. Early in life Mr. Weeks learned surveying, and spent considerable time in the practice of this profession.

William Weeks was married, January 1, 1848, to Miss Mary Croswell, daughter of Archibald Croswell, of Schoharie County, N. Y., but formerly of West Hartford, Conn. Eight children graced the union and lived to call their parents blessed. They are Archibald, a prominent attorney of New York City; Susan, wife of William S. Girard, of Brooklyn; James E., a house decora-