

Morford Historian

RECORDS AND NEWS OF ALL BRANCHES OF THE MORFORD FAMILY OF AMERICA, PUBLISHED
QUARTERLY

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THE MOST AMAZING thing about the -so-called "AMAZING STORY OF THE MORFORDS IN AMERICA" (which is neither "amazing" in the dictionary meanings of the word, nor a "story" of this particular family) is that so soon after the well-deserved investigation by the consumer protection division of the U. S. Postal Service of the "Family Heritage Book" by Beatrice Bayley, just two years ago, another "scam" so similar should be attempted.

This latest production is somewhat of an improvement on the first one, which contained some very generalized articles on how to search for family ancestors, the history of ethnic origins and activities, the meaning and origin of heraldry, the origin of names and their meaning, and a list of reference books, followed by "the directory" of Morford names. The Sharon Taylor effort is more practical and down-to-earth in its discussions as to research procedures; however, for a lot less than the "AMAZING" book costs, one can buy Everton's "Handy Book For Genealogists" which is far more useful and practical. The only thing lacking would be the list of MORFORD names.

Let's talk about those names. In both cases the MORFORD HISTORIAN was sent out to each name on the list. The Bayley version contained 670 names; the Taylor version claimed 919, but had only 917. In both lists there were many duplications (the same name, but with slightly different addresses on the same street); or a series of two or more addresses from which the person had already moved. (Both listed a Morford who died more than 12 years ago!) The percentage of returns from each mailing amounted to about 25% of the total mailing. "Deceased"; "moved, left no address"; "no such number on this street"; "forwarding expired"; "insufficient address"; "unknown"; "unable to forward"; "not here"; "delivery attempted, addressee unknown"; all these and other reasons for return were shown. The Morford Historian's own list of living Morfords shows several hundred who were not listed in either of the "scam" productions.

The larger number of names shown in the second book is partly accounted for by listing female Morfords; the first list consisted almost entirely of males. In an effort to "dress up" the list, the second book prefixed the names formally with "Mr.", "Mrs.", or "Ms.": , but tagged three recognizably female names as "Mr.", which must have either amused or infuriated the recipients!

As to the other content of the book, we take issue with the "AMAZING" publishers as to their suggestion that a Morford coat-of-arms ever existed. If the statement has any merit, the publishers should, at least, have cited the source in which documentation might be located. (We have never found such a source.) The coat-of-arms is a rather attractive one; but bears no resemblance to a purported one for the Morford family put out about 20 years ago (done in enameled metal on a shield-shaped walnut plaque), by a firm similar to (if not identical with) the firm whose address Sharon Taylor (be she real or fictitious) uses. All we can say is "BEWARE!"

We also take issue with a suggestion that because California now has the most Morfords one's census research should begin there. No census later than 1900 is available at present except for a few Federal Centers which have the 1910 census. That's 72 to 82 years ago --- and in most cases one would have to know his ancestral line for 3 or 4

generations. (Most people DON'T!) Besides, maybe your family has never gone very far west, but has resided in New York, or Ohio, or Pennsylvania, for many generations. The only logical method of research is to work from the known to the unknown -- search the areas where you know your own parents and grandparents lived. As you find the earlier records, your search will take you east, NOT west, and eventually you should find that your earliest generation is to be found in either New Jersey or Maryland.

And a final criticism -- the statement that the only name variant for "MORFORD" is "MOREFORD" is way, way off base. The Morford Historian has found nearly 140 spelling variations of the name. Not ALL the spellings pertain to the MORFORD name in every instance; but known MORFORD names have been mis-identified by one or more of at least 139 other spellings at various times. (See our Vol. I, No. 1 for an article on this subject.)

Our final recommendation: Don't depend on the "scam" publications, but subscribe to the MORFORD HISTORIAN to get the facts.

ONE OF THE MORFORD HISTORIAN'S SUMMER VISITORS was Louise M. Dunn, with whom a pleasant afternoon was spent sharing Morford records. She lent me her newly purchased copy of "UP AND DOWN THE RIVER" by June Methot, 1980, a story of the North Shrewsbury River and its people. Browsing through it, the following items of special interest were found:

"All of the land in the two original townships of Monmouth County, excepting those two rather small areas occupied by the village centers of Middletown and Shrewsbury, was granted to the early settlers on the basis of the number of persons in their families -- 120 acres per person. Thus a man and wife and three sons were eligible for a grant of 600 acres. There were different acreages allowed for other people; 60 acres for a servant, for example. All the land bordering the North Shrewsbury River was divided up in this manner, so in the beginning this land was held in very large tracts by relatively few families. Once the grants had been made, the owners were obliged to make their own deals with the Indians, after which they could settle and farm the land or sell off any or all of it as they pleased. For a long time, very little of the land was divided.

Travel from New Jersey to New York in 1812 was by "river packets" -- (boats commissioned mostly for delivery of merchandise and mail, but which accepted passengers).

A few Morford names were mentioned in the book: Samuel W. Morford, in front of whose place the schooner JORDAN WOOLLEY was blown ashore in October 1878 (p. 16); "Morford's Dock" mentioned (p. 48); Thomas F. Morford, owner of a catamaran, 1887 (p. 84); and Garry Morford, living 1897 (p. 115).

The book is nicely illustrated, and if any of our readers are interested, copies may be obtained from Whip Publishers, P.O. Box 163, Navesink, N.J. 07752; price not known

EXTRA COPIES of this or earlier issues of MORFORD HISTORIAN available at \$2.20 each; publication began July 1980, so there are only 2 issues for that year, July & October. Each issue is punched for placing in a standard 3-ring binder, so that your copies may be kept together for easy reference. Pages are numbered consecutively.

MORFORD HISTORIAN WELCOMES PICTURES AND NEWSITEMS ABOUT MORFORDS & THEIR DESCENDANTS!

A DOUGHTY, STOUT-HEARTED OLD HERO -- "JAP" MORFORD

Four and a half years before his death in 1937, the following tribute to John Jasper Morford of Dexter, Iowa, appeared in the Dexter SENTINEL. We feel it's worth sharing with our readers.

Did we but know of their deeds, there are multitudes more of heroes who live and die unsung than ever have their names heralded in the annals of fame. I would not endeavor to detract from the fame and glory of those who have accomplished spectacular deeds in daring and valor. But I would strive to play the spotlight of recognition for a little while upon another type of hero who, while utterly unconscious of heroism, has performed certain deeds and accomplished certain results which are quite as worthy as any other feats ordinarily declared heroic.

About the very first time I ever saw "Jap" Morford, we had an argument. It was concerning politics, and it required less than a minute for me to learn that from first to last -- then and forever -- "Jap" was and is a republican. Not being acquainted with this man whom I have since come to highly respect and fervently love, I didn't know but what he was "kidding" me, for he stated that he understood I was a democrat. I answered in the affirmative, and he said, "Hell, you look smarter than that." Our argument continued -- it still continues -- as long as either of us lives, it will continue. If he sees me tomorrow, he'll ask, "Still a democrat?" and when I nod in the affirmative, he'll reply, "And I'm still a republican."

"Jap" isn't so much a stand-patter as he is a stay-putter. He's what he is, and you can absolutely depend on it. He is a man of not only ideas, but he is more -- he is a man of convictions. What he believes, he declares. If he thinks you are a horse-thief, he won't hesitate a moment to tell you so. If he thinks you are worthy his trust, confidence and friendship, he'll go to the farthest limit of open-hearted communion. You don't have to agree with him, nor do you have to baby him, nor do you have to do what he wants done in order to have his regard. But you do have to measure up to a pretty stiff standard of industry, honesty and square-dealing if he is to accord you his friendship. He lets you know every day where he stands. To him it is only reasonable that he know where you stand. And if you ever lie to him, or double-cross him, or cheat him, why, stuff will be off eternally -- he will not only be through, but he will battle you to the last ditch.

Now, I suggested something about heroism. "Jap" Morford is a doughty, stouthearted old hero. Before I ever knew "Jap" I knew some of the other Morfords -- they are and were made out of the same kind of timber -- and they were heroic, too.

"Jap" has been heroic in and about his farming career through long years. He 'was heroic in labor. He was heroic in saving money. He was heroic about the battle of life -- of rearing a family, of paying debts, of acquiring property. I reckon he's been a fighter for about seventy-five years, and twenty-four hours out of every day. He's fought hard times, and bad crop conditions, and ornery markets, and mean weather, and crooks who tried to fleece him.

Since long before I knew him, he walked with a limp. He had a bad limb that caused him constant annoyance -- even severe pain. But he got along -- he endured. He was no cry-baby. He never stopped the business of other people's lives because he wanted sympathy for his affliction. Not many months ago one of his limbs became gangrenous for the old complaint. It had to be amputated if he was to live. No baby-crying from "Jap". Off came the leg. He snapped out of it and seemed well on the road to recovery. Then came gangrene in the other foot -- and eventually off came that leg. And still no baby-play from stout-hearted old "Jap". Some fancied he could never rally. When you consider a man in his mid seventies having both legs amputated within a few months, and refusing to die in the transaction -say, if that isn't something of heroism then tell me what the word means!

NOT MANY ERRORS ESCAPE the eagle eye of Ye Ed when proofreading, but she really goofed in not noting the 1864 birthdate of William Morford on page 87 of the July HISTORIAN; it should be 1764; please correct! The following poem, author unknown, seems apropos:

HOW WELL WE KNOW

The typographical error is a slippery thing and sly.
 You can hunt till you are dizzy, but it somehow will get by.
 Till the forms are off the presses, it is strange how still it keeps.
 It shrinks down in a corner and it never stirs or peeps,
 That typographical error, too small for human eyes
 Till the ink is on the paper, when it grows to mountain size.
 The editor just stares with horror, then he grabs his hair and moans.
 The copy reader drops his head upon his hands and moans.
 The remainder of the issue may be clean as clean can be
 But that typographical error is the only thing you see!

NEW SUBSCRIBERS

John W. Triggs, Kansas City MO

His ancestry goes back through a TAYLOR line to Catherine ² Morford; Thomas ¹ Morford

Enid (Stubbart) DeBarthe, Lamoni IA

Audrey (Morford)⁸ Stubbart; Francis A. Morford⁷ Francis M.⁶ William⁵ John⁴ Thomas^{3,2} John ¹ Morford

Ronald Lyle Morford, Bishop CA

Fred Noyes⁸ Alford Orlando⁷ Joseph William⁶ Joseph Baker⁵ William⁴ Joseph³ Thomas^{2,1}

Charlotte Cushman (Bean) McShea, Uniondale NY

Marion Virginia (Cushman) Bean; Mary/Marie (Morphet) Cushman; line being researched

Ruth E. () Morford, Fort Wayne IN

widow of Wilbur G.¹⁰ 1908-79; Orvil Lester⁹ Samuel Herman⁸ Jacob⁷ William⁶ John⁵ 1766

Willis Hazen Morford, Pequot Lakes MN

Hazen Harrison⁸ Byron James⁷ John Titus⁶ James⁵ John⁴ Thomas^{3,2} John¹ Morford

Leah Elizabeth (Morford) Schlegel, Irvine CA 6 5 4 3,2 1

James William Morford⁸ James Hiram⁷ Abner Tunis⁶ James⁵ John⁴ Thomas^{3,2} John¹

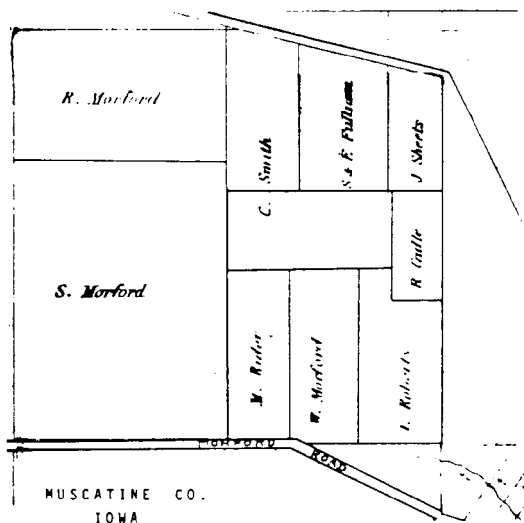
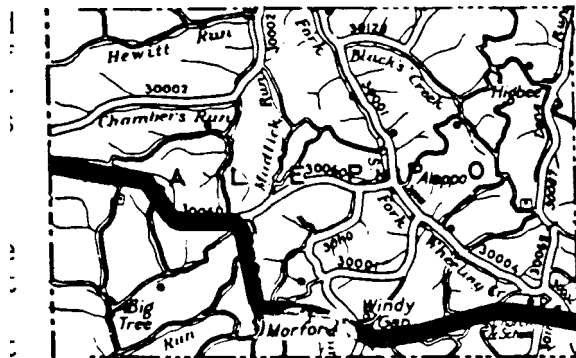
MORFORDS OF BLACK ANCESTRY

The Morford Historian has been asked about the origin of black and mulatto Morfords. It is known that some of the New Jersey Morfords were slave-owners; and it is almost a certainty that this is true of Josiah Furman Morford [1799-1865], grandson of Zebulon Morford Sr. After having received his A.B. at Princeton in 1818, Josiah F. Morford went to Tennessee, becoming owner of a large plantation in McMinnville, Warren County.

Instances of manumission of slaves are found in New Jersey, Maryland and Kentucky. After being freed, many who had only a given name, adopted the surnames of their former masters. The 1800 census of Columbia Co., NY lists an Elizabeth Morford, "free black"; in 1807 Anna, age 20, black, height 5'2", was manumitted by her owner, John Moffit of Baltimore.

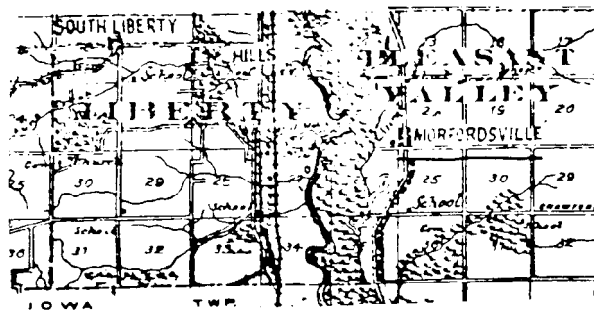
We have corresponded with the late Willie Frances (Roberts) Morford, whose husband, Cornelius W., was son of Will Morford and grandson of Alfred Morford, mulatto, who was born in Tennessee in 1844. In 1880 Alfred was living in Warren Co., Tenn., with his wife Ann, born 1851, and children John S. 1871, Mag 1872, Will 1875, and Hallie, 1878. Realizing that some persons receiving sample copies of MORFORD HISTORIAN may be descendants of the early blacks who worked on the Morfords' plantations, we invite them to submit what ancestral records they have and we'll try to locate further data of their ancestry, so far as records may be available.

ONE OF THE EARLIEST places known to have been named for a member of the MORFORD family was a village of that name, located in Aleppo Township in the southwestern part of Green County, Pennsylvania. It has not been learned whether it was named for James Morford [1766-1839], an early settler, or for his father, or for one of his sons; nor do we know at what period of time the town was in existence. Joe Allen Morford of Parkersburg, W. Va., tells us that an old barn is about all that remains of the town. He once saw the old "Morford Post Office" sign, but when he next asked about it, learned it had been sold. We tried to find Morford on one of our long research tours, but when we asked about the town (pronouncing the name as it is spelled), the natives shook their heads in puzzlement, finally exclaiming "Oh, you mean "MAWFIT!" Their directions weren't much better than their pronunciation, so we never saw what was left of the town.



A grandson of James Morford [1776-1839] was Remembrance Morford [1834-1924], son of Thomas [1804-68] and Sarah (Stoops) Morford, who migrated from Greene County, Pa., to what later became Muscatine County, Iowa. A page from an 1874 atlas of that county shows the properties of Remembrance Morford and of Sarah Morford, his mother; also lands of the Fulliam, Smith and Rider families with which Thomas' descendants intermarried. The "W. Morford" whose property is shown was William [1837-1929], next younger brother of Remembrance. William married Susan Emeline Rider; his younger sister Mary C. married William Henry Rider. Extending along the southern boundary of Sarah Morford's land, and then bearing southeasterly, is "Morford Road". Remembrance migrated to Washington State in 1887.

Another of the sons of James Morford of Greene County, Pa., was John, who was born in 1801 in Virginia. He was one of the earliest Morfords to settle in what was, in 1836, called Demoine County of Iowa Territory. He apparently had first gone to Muscatine, where his brother Thomas had settled. A history of Johnson County, Iowa, says that "Uncle Johnny" came up from Muscatine to Morfordsville. At right is a portion of page 69 of the 1900 Standard Atlas of Johnson County, showing the location of Morfordsville in Pleasant Valley Township. An accompanying description lists the town as having been platted in February 1855 by John Morford, with one main street, four blocks, or eighty rods, long.



There is another "Morford Road", located in the town of Petoskey, Emmet Co., Michigan. We could not get the map and background information in time for this issue, but it is on the way and will appear in a later issue. We do know that the road actually has two Morfords living on it: Mrs. Florence Morford, widow of Roy Morford [1900-1974]; and her brother-in-law, Arlie Dale Morford. Both Roy and Arlie are sons of the late Clyde Henry Morford [1864-1961] who was a descendant of the Joseph Morford of Freehold Township, Monmouth County, New Jersey, and who was baptized there, as an adult, in 1786.

WILLIAM AND RACHEL (BOYS) MORFORD OF CLERMONT COUNTY, OHIO

IDENTIFICATION of the William "Moferd" who married, 12 February 1826, in Clermont Co., Ohio, Rachel Boys [c1805-1893] is not documented, but circumstantial evidence seems to indicate that his father was probably the Miles Morfott whose marriage license, dated 12 February 1795, was issued by Gov. Arthur St. Clair of the Northwest Territory. Miles. and his wife, Polly Alter, lived in Clermont County Ohio, at least through 1817; in 1830 and 1840 lived in Liberty Township and Lemon Township of Butler County, Ohio, his given name being spelled "Myles" in 1840. A death record preserved in the family records of Joseph August Morford [1809-1884], showing that a Miles Morford died on 23 January 1842, is believed to pertain to this same man, even though the Bible record shows no age at death, or relationship: We haven't been able to locate proof of the place of death, through cemetery or probate records; further data would be welcome.

William Moferd or Morford, and his wife Rachel were of Ohio when their three known children John [1828-1915], Jane [c1831-], and Rachel, known as "Nacky" [c1832-] were born. The 1850 census of District #220, Monroe Twp., Clermont Co., Ohio, listed two other children, Francis "Frank" M. born about 1834, and Sarah Ellen, born about 1838. Both were born in Indiana; neither is mentioned in settlement of Rachel's estate, and we are inclined to think they were orphaned children of another Morford family.

The fact that William Morford's name appears in the 1850 census is significant, because a history of Clay County, Indiana says he "left for California in 1849, attracted by the discovery of gold on the Pacific slope and was never heard from again." [This was in a biographical sketch (see opposite page) relating to William's grandson, Corwin McClaine Mofford.] Census enumerations were usually made about April through June of the census year; so either the tradition as to California is untrue; or William had returned by mid-1850; or his wife had reported his name even though he was absent from home. The 1860-70-80 Clermont County census records have not yet been checked to find out what is recorded as to Rachel's status -- was she a wife, or a widow? We'll report on this as soon as we have an opportunity to do further checking.

Our records of the three known children of William and Rachel (Boys) Morford show:

- i. John, born 7 December 1828, died 23 Feb. 1915, Monroe Twp., Clermont Co., Ohio. He married twice; first, 27 April 1856 to Jane Tamsen Boulware [1837-70], and second, 22 March 1871 to Mrs. Amanda (Goff) Boulware [1843-1924; widow of William Livingston Boulware]. By the first marriage there were four children:

1. Charles A., b. 1858; married 1879 Georgia E. Day
2. Mary Emma, b. 1859 (no further record)
3. Corwin McClaine, b. 1862; married 1889 Manila E. Jackson
4. Branch Vetery [1864-1928], md. 1st, Mary "Daisy" Frazee; 2d, Julia --

Children of the second marriage were:

5. Edgar or Edward L., b. 1874; married 1898 Josie E. Barber
6. Elizabeth "Bessie" P., b. 1877; married 1899 Guy Hauck
7. George E. [1878-1920]; married 1907 Harriet "Hattie" E. Simmons
8. Robin S. [1881-1906]; buried Laurel Cemetery, Clermont Co., Ohio
9. Nora, b. 1885; married 1903 Isaac W. Armacost
10. Bra (female), b. 1886 (no further record)

- ii. Jane "Mawford", born about 1831; married 5 July 1850, Clermont Co., Jas. R. Young; children: N.A. (female) 1855; Albert 1856; Oscar 1857; Elisha 1859; Martha 1862; Harriet 1864; Mertie 1869; Rachel 1872

- iii. Rachel "Nacky", born about 1832; married 1st, 1856, Daniel McKinley, who died in Civil War; and 2d, 1872, Oliver B. Peddicord. McKinley chil: William, Oliver, George B. and perhaps others.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH OF CORWIN M. MOFFORD [1862-19]
from HISTORY OF CLAY COUNTY, IND., pp. 413-4

CORWIN M. MOFFORD, manager of the Brazil office for the Central Union Telephone Co. , was born in Clermont county, Ohio, October 28, 1862. His parents were John and Tamson (Boulware) Mofford The father was born in Clermont county in December 1828, and has there spent his entire life, devoting his time and energies to general agricultural pursuits. His grandfather left Ohio for California in 1849, attracted by the discovery of gold on the Pacific slope and was never heard from again. [Editor's note: see comments on opposite page.] Starting out upon his business career at an early age, John Mofford has since been dependent upon his own resources and whatever success he enjoyed has come to him through his well directed labor. His wife, who was born in Bethel, Clermont county, Ohio, died in 1870, at the age of thirty-five years. They the parents of a daughter and three sons, namely: Charles, who is living in Cincinnati; Corwin of this review; Branch, also living in Cincinnati; and Emma, who died in infancy. Having lost his first wife, the father was married again, his second union being with Mrs. Amanda Boulware, nee Goff, who was a native of Williamsburg, O. Unto this union were born six children, of whom four are now living: Harry, Bessie, George and Robbins. In his political views John Mofford has always been an earnest Republican. At the time of the Civil War he espoused the Union cause and joined the Ohio Regiment of Volunteer Infantry, with which he served for three years, giving loyal aid to the Union cause. He is now a member of the Grand Army of the Republic at New Richmond, Ohio, and his religious faith is indicated by his membership in the Methodist Episcopal church.

Corwin M. Mofford remained under the parental roof until twenty-one years of age, working on the home farm during the summer months, while in the winter seasons he pursued his education in the public schools. He early learned the value of industry as a forceful factor in the duties of life and when he started out upon his own account it was his chief stock in trade. He first worked in a store in Chattanooga, Tennessee, for about six months, after which he returned to Ohio, where he continued until the 10th of March 1886. On that day he arrived in Brazil, Indiana, where he has since made his home. Here he entered the employ of B.F. Kruzan as a salesman, and continued with him until June, 1895, when he went upon the road as a traveling salesman for C. L. Brayman & Company, of Terre Haute, Indiana. He spent some time in that way and when his labors had brought him sufficient capital to engage in business on his own account he opened a grocery store in Brazil in February, 1896. For about a year he continued in that business, and in June, 1897, engaged with the Central Union Telephone Company as manager of the Brazil office. He has now continued in this position for eleven years and the interests of the office are well systematized, capably managed and faithfully executed, his long connection therewith plainly indicating the trust entertained for him by the company which he represents.

On the 25th of September, 1889, Mr. Mofford was married to Miss Manila Jackson, who was born in Vigo county, Indiana, September 10, 1864, and is a daughter of Robert and Melissa (Kruzan) Jackson. He father was born in North Carolina and died in 1864, while the mother, a native of Vigo county, passed away in 1870. Mr. Kruzan [sic] was one of the pioneer farmers of Vigo county and there carried on general agricultural pursuits until his demise, while to the Democratic party he gave his political support. Unto him and his wife were born two daughters, Cora and Mrs. Mofford, and a son who died in infancy.

The children of Mr. and Mrs. Mofford were four in number: Helen; Edith, who died at the age of five years; Lester; and one who died in infancy.

Mr. and Mrs. Mofford are well known in Brazil, where they have an extensive circle of warm friends. Fraternally he is identified with Brazil lodge, No. 264, A.F. & A.M.,

while both are members of William Black chapter, No. 80, O.E.S. Mr. Mofford also belongs to the Modern Woodmen camp. His political endorsement is given to the Republican party at the polls and he is also an active worker in its ranks. In 1894 he was elected from his ward as a member of the city council and served for four years, during which time he exercised his political prerogatives in support of various measures that have proven of substantial benefit to the city.

A hand-written note on page 414 adds: Lester Mofford married Inez Hill , daughter of Wm. Hill and Emma Young; Helen Mofford married --- Sylvester; died in Ohio 1936, leaving two children. Mrs. Manila J. K. Mofford died at her home on N. Forest Ave., Brazil, 191_." *[Death records examined by the Morford Historian at the Ft. Wayne Library show the year of Manila's death as 1913. It is noted that there is a discrepancy between the Historian's list of children of John and Amanda (Boulware) Mofford, and that shown in the Clay County history; it is believed that the latter's mention of a "Harry" Morford may be an error for the son Edgar or Edward. To complete records of this family, the 1900 census of Brazil Twp., Clay Co. , Ind. , lists Corwin McC. Mofford, 37, birthplace Ohio, living at 215 No. Forest Avenue with his wife Manila E. , age 35, born Sept. 1864, Ind.; and children Hellen I., age 9 (b. Aug. 1890), and Lester R., age 7 (born April 1893).]*

NEWS OF MORFORDS AND THEIR DESCENDANTS

NOTE THAT MANY OF THE NEWS ITEMS published in the HISTORIAN may be a year or more old; but we welcome such items anyhow, as they help us and others keep up with the vital statistics and other events in the Morford family. So, readers, keep the news coming!

DENAE KATHLEEN MORFORD, born 23 May 1981 at San Jose, California, is the daughter of Larry Gene and Kathleen Johnson Morford; granddaughter of Willis Hazen and Gayle I. (Cass) Morford of Pequot Lakes, Minn., and of Curtis W. and Geneva B. Johnson. Denaë joined an older brother and sister, Gregory Gene and DeAnn Joy Morford. Their line is: *Larry Gene¹⁰ Willis Hazen⁹ Hazen Harrison⁸ Byron James⁷ John Titus⁶ James⁵ John⁴ Thomas³ Thomas² John¹ Morford.*

JOHN WILLARD MORFORD, born in Cheyenne, Wyoming, 25 June 1895 to Abner T. and Melinda (Williams) Morford, died there 10 July 1981. Masonic graveside services were held at Lakeview Cemetery 13 July 1981. He was father of two sons, by his first wife, Nellie May Parker [1902-1935]: John William and Harold Raymond. His second wife was Myrtle Emma Cotton. His line: *Abner Tunis⁶ James⁵ John⁴ Thomas³ Thomas² John¹ Morford.*

MARGARET LOUISE (FISKE) MORFORD, who died 12 January 1982 in Tucson, Arizona, was a daughter of Harry Raymond and Sylva Edna (Mack) Fiske, and wife of Glenn Devere Morford, whose line is: *Clyde Isaac⁸ William Isaac⁷ Frederick Sr.⁶ Isaac⁵ Cornelius⁴ John³ Thomas² John¹ Morford.* Margaret was born 26 July 1918 at Soldier, Jackson Co., Kansas; burial was in Soldier Cemetery in Holton, Kansas. She was mother of three children: Carol Jean (Mrs. Jerry K. Exline), Danny Joe, and Cheryl Suzanne (Mrs. Terry Musick).

ROBERT LEONARD MORFORD, who died 7 July 1982 at St. Elizabeth Medical Center, Yakima, Washington, at the age of 65 years, 5 months and 24 days, was a son of the late Frederick Richard Morford [1889-1974] by his first wife, Dora Lavina Davis. He married, 17 November 1937, at Granger, Washington, Edith Viola Lyons, who survives. They were parents of twins, Robert Leonard and Roberta Louise, both of whom died soon after birth in 1939; also of a daughter Rhonda Sue who married Danny Jorgenson. Robert's line: *Frederick Richard⁹ John Wesley⁸ John W.⁷ Frederick Sr.⁶ Isaac⁵ Cornelius⁴ John³ Thomas² John¹ Morford.*

(continued on page 100)

THOMAS PERRINE MORFORD OF NEW JERSEY WAS THE WAGON-TRAIN'S "MR. MORFORD"!

The 1900 census has proved our friend Louise Dunn was correct in suggesting that Thomas Perrine Morford, who was born 18 February 1850 in New Jersey, must have been the "Mr. Morford" who went with the wagon-train from Wise County, Texas, to Pendleton, Oregon. As of 1900 he and his wife, Martha A., age 42 (born June 1847 in California) were living in South Moscow Precinct, Latah Co., Idaho. His birthdate was Feb. 1850; they had been married 13 years; had 6 children of whom 5 were living: Mary G., b. June 1888; Harriet, b. June 1889; Thomas L., b. March 1891; Garrett L., b. Feb. 1895, and Robert J., born Sept. 1896. The first three named were born in Oregon, the two younger sons were born in Idaho. We'll be anxious to see the 1910 census for this family!

NEW BOOKLETS ABOUT SOME MORFORDS

SEVERAL COMPILATIONS in booklet form, of records of various branches of the Morford and allied families have been sent to the Morford Historian. One, by Mary Lou Netzger of Puyallup, Washington, a daughter of Marion and Opal Lee (Morford) Garrison, is called "THE TREE OF MORFORDS", and consists of a series of family group record pages which provide names and birthdates of each couple. The back of each page is blank, so that one could add to the interest by jotting down some brief personal histories and/or descriptions of the couple and their children. The progenitor of those listed in this book was Reason Morford [1827-1886] of Pennsylvania and Iowa. Records of descendants, including those of non-Morford surnames are carried down to the present generation.

"ANCESTORS AND DESCENDANTS OF ARCHIBALD LEROY McCASLIN AND JANE ELISABETH ASHTON" is a small booklet compiled in excellent quality mimeograph form for a family reunion held at Bragg Creek, Alberta, Canada, in August 1982, the author being Joan (Morford) Bungum, a descendant of Samuel Dwight and Tirzah (Woods) Morford of the line of William Morford [1764-1816] -- this time I got his birthyear correct! The special feature of this excellent genealogy is that in addition to the genealogical and historical aspects of the record, some personal descriptions are given which really bring the characters to life for the reader. A sample: "She was 5' 3" in height, slender but very strong; had blue eyes, brown hair; was above average in intelligence, very good in languages; artistic, sensitive, a great community worker, a natural nurse; worries a great deal; excitable, a fast worker, very capable; loves to entertain, fond of outdoor exercise; persistent, very determined, fond of pretty clothes; is a very nice seamstress." Now there's a really complete assessment of many characteristics which give the reader a feeling of having known the individual personally.

"THE WAY IT WAS", by Ethel Loan Garrison (another of Reason Morford's descendants), is a book containing personal recollections of early and present family members, has many pictures, and is replete with family anecdotes, some sad, some hilariously funny, some nostalgic for those who look back and remember "the way it was". The members of that family should really enjoy and treasure this book.

This brings us back to a repetition of our plea for personal histories for each member of your family, going back as far as you have personal recollections of grandparents, uncles and aunts, cousins, and other "kissing kin". Perhaps your elder generations told you stories about their elder generations, and those could be included, too.

A book made up of stories such as the foregoing can become one of the greatest treasures any of us could leave for our descendants. I know of another such book, which is full of such personal vignettes, and no matter where you open the book and start reading it is so fascinating you hate to lay it down. We can make our history of MORFORDS OF AMERICA just as interesting, so it will be not just "amazing", but amusing, intriguing, a book which will delight and inspire many generations of our descendants.

LENA FERN (NORFORD) MYERS died 10 August 1982 in Bethany, Oklahoma. Born 12 May 1888, in Mercer County, Ill., she was a daughter of John Jasper and Annetta Dell (Allen) Morford. She was a homemaker; resided in Oklahoma City since 1919 with the exception of 18 years (-1945-63) spent in Houston, Texas. She was preceded in death by her husband, Boyd S. Myers, who died 17 October 1963. Survivors include her four daughters, Mrs. Mary Milburn and Mrs. Ann Donley of Oklahoma City, Mrs. Mildred Orr of Summit, N.J., Mrs. Dorothy Lewis of Houston, Texas; 11 grandchildren, 14 great-grandchildren, a sister, Mrs. Ruth Cummings of Redfield, Iowa, and a brother, Hazen A. Morford, of Winterset, Iowa, as well as numerous nieces and nephews. Graveside services were held 13 August in Memorial Park Cemetery. Her line was: *John Jasper*⁷ *John Titus*⁶ *James*⁵ *John*⁴ *Thomas*³ *Thomas*² *John*¹ *Morford*. On the distaff side of John Jasper Morford's family she was a direct descendant of Gov. Thomas Dudley and Gov. Simon Bradstreet of the Massachusetts Bay Colony, and of their daughter and wife, respectively, Anne (Dudley) Bradstreet, the first recognized poetess of the American colonies.

The Rev. WILLIAM HAROLD MORFORD, formerly of Pittsburgh, Pa., has accepted the pastorate of Allegheny Valley Baptist Church and is now residing in Natrona Heights, Pa. His line is: *Ivan Newton*⁹ *Isaac Newton*⁸ *John Amyot*⁷ *Isaac Newton*⁶ *James*⁵ *Daniel*⁴ *John*³ *Thomas*² *John*¹ *Morford*.

A "how-to" article in the September-October issue of MOTHER EARTH NEWS with the by-line "Jean and Michael Morford" caught the Historian's attention. A little sleuthing and letter writing revealed Michael to be son of Robert Harold Morford [1907-1965], whose line is: *John Wesley*⁸ *John W.*⁷ *Frederick Sr.*⁶ *Isaac*⁵ *Cornelius*⁴ *John*³ *Thomas*² *John*¹ *Morford*. Michael and Jean recently returned to the West Coast from their former home in West Virginia, and are now living in California.

THE EDITOR'S CORNER: With Thanksgiving just around the corner, we think it's quite appropriate to thank all of our readers who from time to time send us "goodies" -- not the edible kind, but the very important bits and pieces of Morford information which contribute to our knowledge of, and our ability to identify the many early Morfords We're especially grateful, too, for the several subscribers who have sent in their contributions toward funding Morford research in England. Our dear Golda has pioneered in having quite a bit of research done by a renowned genealogical organization, and the resulting report appears to give promise of a successful search for the forebears of our American Morfords!! We now need to carry on the project, and hope all those of you who are anxious to help will be generous in contributing whatever amount you can afford to the research "kitty" If you are visiting family members during the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays, be sure to take along your file of MORFORD HISTORIAN for them to read, and perhaps you can interest them in becoming subscribers, if they're not already receiving the HISTORIAN We feel we're on the verge of a great "break-through", and our progress will continue to be reported in each issue One of our new subscribers, on his way south for the winter, is sending us Morford telephone listings from his stops along the way. Whenever a new listing turns up, we mail that person a sample copy of the bulletin On a recent trip to Salt Lake City to do (what else?) more Morford research, we inquired about when the 1910 census reels will become available. "Not until next spring, at the earliest", we were told. Checking of this census for all MORFORD names (as well as names of allied family descendants) is an absolute must before we can even think of starting our first rough draft copy of MORFORDS OF AMERICA In the meantime, do get busy on those biographical sketches -- they're what will "make" the book Best Holiday wishes to all of you from the Editor (me) and the printer (friend hubby, who is the Morford descendant) ... and may the New Year bring you all health and -

happiness.

Enid