

# Morford Historian

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

BY MRS. HAROLD L. ADAMS, F.A.S.G., ROUTE 1, BOX 43-C, SHELLEY, IDAHO 83274

Annual subscription, \$6.00

Vol. 5, No. 3

July 1984

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## MAJOR STEPHEN MORFORD, A REVOLUTIONARY WAR VETERAN

STEPHEN MORFORD [1756-1833] of Cranbury and Princeton, N.J., one of but a few Morfords to have served his country during the Revolutionary War, has never been the subject of a comprehensive history. The account by John F. Hageman in his *HISTORY OF PRINCETON*, 1879, though giving brief sketches of most of the children of Stephen, is undependable in recounting the early origin of the Morford family; Woodward's *HISTORY OF BURLINGTON AND MERCER COUNTIES*, 1883, is more accurate, but not detailed. The one brief mention of this branch of the Morford family which appears in Dr. Stillwell's Morford records, in Vol. IV, page 12, of *HISTORICAL & GENEALOGICAL MISCELLANY*, 1916, has been discussed on page 115 of the April 1983 MORFORD HISTORIAN, refuting the oft-quoted misstatement that Stephen Morford's father, Zebulon Morford [1722-1794] was "the first one in this country."

Stephen, son of Zebulon and Susanna (Barton) Morford of Cranbury, Middlesex Co. , N.J. , was born at that place 20 November 1756, and died 22 April 1833 at Princeton, Mercer Co., N.J., at the age of 75 years, 5 months and 2 days, having outlived his wife and all but four of their thirteen children. His wife, whom he married 17 March 1779, was Mary, daughter of John and Sarah (Manning) Hamilton. Mary was born about 1760, and died 28 December 1831 at Princeton, N.J. Shortly after their marriage Stephen and his wife moved from Cranbury to Princeton, as did Stephen's brother, Zebulon Morford, Jr. The names of only 12 of their thirteen children, and but few specific birthdates, are known. The list below has been placed in order much as they have been listed in published accounts of the family, and may not be in correct chronological sequence:

1. Charles, born, say about 1780; evidently one of those who died young.

2. Edmund, born 19 January 1782, died 4 February 1833 at Princeton, N.J.; interred in a cemetery in Liberty . Putnam Co., Va. (now W. Va. ) . He married Harriet Thompson, who was born 26 March 1788 and died 21 August 1842 at Liberty, Va. He was a Princeton graduate in 1797; became a lawyer, and moved to Charleston, So. Car., where he kept a bookstore and distinguished himself as a political writer; was founder and editor of the Charleston Mercury. Their seven known children were: Harriet Dalcho, who married Jacob Duché Mitchell ; Amelia Caroline, who married, 21 April 1836, John Seeley Hart; Edward FitzRandolph [1815-1840]; John Alexander [1816-1838]; Anna Marie A. [1818-1839]; Eliza Thornton, who married 10 October 1848 James Thompson, and died in July 1859; and William Percy, born in 1828 in South Carolina, who was almost certainly the William P. "Murford" enumerated in the 1850 census as a tobacconist, age 22, residing in 7th ward of Hamilton County, Ohio; possibly the Wm. P. "Monfort" listed in the Ohio 1860 census index as a resident of Ward 16, Hamilton County. We are greatly interested in knowing whether William Percy Morford married, whether he had sons, and whether there are any living male descendants carrying the Morford surname. If there are, they would be the only ones of Major Morford's descendants eligible for membership in Sons of the American Revolution. So far as we know, only one female descendant has ever joined the DAR based upon her descent from Major Morford -- Mae (Clarke) Bowman, daughter of Archibald M and Susan Royal (Mitchell) Clark, and granddaughter of Jacob Duché Miller and his

wife Harriet Dalcho (Morford) Mitchell. Her membership application, #54558, was dated 25 November 1905 and she was accepted as a member 9 January 1906.

3. Frances Witherspoon, known as "Miss Fanny", probably born in the 1780s; a resident of Lynchburg, Va. in 1878 when she furnished information of the family to Dr. John E. Stillwell. After the death of her brother William in 1824, Miss Fanny served as postmistress in the house long known as the old post office corner, at the northwest corner of Nassau and Witherspoon Street, a position she held until 1834.

4. Henry Percy }  
                           }       both born in 1780s; both died young or in infancy  
 5. Hamilton        }

6. William Percy, born 1791, died 23 December 1824 in Princeton; he left a widow, Maria Magie, whom he had married 6 October 1323 in Philadelphia, Pa.

7. John Hamilton        }  
                           }  
 8. Child, name not known }   Three children who died young  
                           }  
 9. Harriet                }

10. Margaret Ashburner, born 1 October 1798 at Princeton, Mercer Co., N.J.; died 25 May 1862 at Brookline, Norfolk, Mass. She married Martin Luther Hurlbut, a distinguished classical teacher, and was mother of William Henry Hurlbut, the brilliant editorial writer of the *New York World*.

11. Juliet Stuart, born say in the 1800-1810 period; married in October 1831 Ames or Amos Botsford, who graduated at Princeton in 1828; they lived in Lynchburg, Va.

12. Mary Jane, called by her second given name, married 19 April 1825 at Charleston, S. C., William A. Ashley of Georgia, who graduated at Princeton in 1824. She died early.

13. Caroline FitzRandolph, named as youngest child in both the Hageman and Woodward accounts, married first, 12 October 1826, at Philadelphia, Pa., James W. Morgan, of Lynchburg, Va. He died between 1842 and 1849, as by 1850 Caroline was enumerated in the census of Lynchburg, Va., as wife of W.P. Allison.

Major Stephen Morford's pension record (7#28080) provides an interesting account of the various battles in which he had participated during the Revolutionary War, up to the declaration of peace in 1783. He died before action was taken upon his request for a pension; and because his wife had predeceased him, it appears that when the pension was finally granted, it would have gone to his eldest surviving child, his daughter, Fanny Witherspoon Morford, who was represented by attorney D. N. Bogart. She did receive the pension, amounting to \$55.45; thus it is mystifying why, some 52 years later, in 1886, one of the Major's granddaughters, Molly Elizabeth (Morgan) Forsberg, had initiated inquiries as to the pension.

According to a statement made by Major Morford's brother, Zebulon Morford, Jr., in support of the Major's pension application, there was a family Bible containing records of this family. Its present whereabouts are unknown. We hope it may be located, as it would undoubtedly provide specific dates of births and deaths for Major Stephen's siblings as well as his own children, and perhaps also for one or more earlier generations of Morfords of this particular line.

At Major Morford's death, several newspapers published his obituary. One lengthy one, indexed in the card catalog of the New Jersey State Library, could not be located when

the editor and her husband were doing research there some time in the 1970s; so it was gratifying that the following transcript of Major Stephen's obituary was among supporting documents in the D.A.R. file of Mrs. Bowman, whose notes indicated it had appeared in the Princeton, N. J. *COURIER*:

"Another Revolutionary Patriot Is No More

Died in this borough, on Monday morning last, Maj. Stephen Morford, in the 77th year of his age. Maj. Morford was one of the earliest volunteers in the cause of his country after the Declaration of Independence, having enlisted in August 1776. Throughout the whole Revolutionary struggle, until the peace of 1783, he was an active, efficient and patriotic soldier. No hardship was so great as to discourage him, no danger so imminent as to deter him, from the performance of any duty. Feeling that he could be of more service to his country in the ranks, he uniformly declined office, which was several times tendered him. Though then very young, he was in several instances selected by Gen. Washington himself, for the performance of duties difficult and hazardous, and uniformly acquitted himself to the entire satisfaction of the Commander-in-Chief. He was stationed as one of the Guards over the prisoners taken at the battle of Princeton, while they were confined in the College, and when they were marched to Philadelphia he was one of the guards detailed to take charge of them. He had applied for the benefits of the late pension laws, but it was with him as with many others, the boon was withheld until he no longer needs it. He has descended to the grave in a green old age, full of years and full of honors. He enlisted from Princeton, N. J. in August 1776 and served under Captains Chambers, Aaron Longstreet, James Moore, and Samuel Stout; Colonels William Scudder and Henry Van Dyke, N. H. service. His death took place on Monday, 22 April 1833."

Major Morford was buried in the old Princeton burying ground, where a monument commemorates his patriotic service, in his youth, in the struggle for American independence. Curiously, the Morford grave markers in the Princeton Cemetery include only the Major and his wife, along with markers recording death dates for their son Edmund [1782-1833] and Edmund's wife, Harriet (Thompson) Morford [1788-1842], both of whom are said to have been interred in a cemetery in Liberty, Va., and for four of the latter couple's children; and for the Major's brother and sister-in-law and one of their sons -- Zebulon Morford Jr. [1759-1841] and Mary (Denton) Morford [1765-1843], and their son Robert Campbell Morford [1801-1837]. Thus we are left to wonder where the burial places are which hold the mortal remains of the Major's many children who died young or in infancy.

*[EDITOR'S NOTE: it will be appreciated if readers having additional information as to this Morford family will share their data with our readers. We'd like to know if the Major's monument is still standing, and if so, would like to have a good-black & white photograph of it to reproduce in MORFORDS OF AMERICA. Also, if any reader finds it convenient to check the 1860 census of Hamilton County, Ohio, for Wm. P. Monfort, the entry is indexed as being on page 25-A.]*

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WANTED - OBITUARY OF DR. CORNELIUS MORFORD WRIGHT [1843-1920]

San Antonio, Texas, newspapers have ignored our request for a copy or transcript of Dr. Wright's obituary. He died 13 July 1920 at San Antonio, aged 77; said to have been buried at Rock Island, Texas (which we can't find in our atlas, so maybe this information was wrong). We'd like to learn names and current addresses of his surviving relatives, if possible. Can some one of our faithful readers help us?

MORFORD HISTORIAN WELCOMES PICTURES AND NEWS ITEMS OF MORFORDS AND THEIR DESCENDANTS!

## A PUZZLE -- WHERE DOES THIS CALEB MORFORD FIT IN THE MORFORD LINE?

The index to the 1830 Indiana census shows a Caleb Morford living in Randolph Township of Dearborn County. We have not seen the actual census showing in what age category he and his wife were listed; but know that he died shortly after 30 April 1833, leaving a widow Charlotte, but no children. Caleb's will, filed in Book 1, page 122, #002059 in Dearborn County, Indiana, is as follows:

*"In the name of God, Amen. I Caleb Morford of Dearborn County in the state of Indiana, being weak in body but of sound and perfect mind and memory, do make and publish this my last will and testament in manner and form following, that is to say, First, I give and bequeath all my personal estate, goods and chattels of what kind so ever and nature so ever unto my beloved wife Charlotte Morford; secondly I give and devise to Elizabeth Harris, my said wife's sister, all that piece or parcel of ground situated in the Town of Rising Sun in the aforesaid county and known and designated on the original plan of said town as lot number one hundred and nineteen, thirdly I give and devise to my said wife Charlotte Morford all my personal estate whatsoever except the above named lot which I have given and devised to Elizabeth Harris, and lastly I appoint John Harris Junior, sole executor of this my last will and testament. In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal the thirtieth day of April in the year of our [\*] one thousand eight hundred and thirty three. [Ed. Note: The usual phrase "our Lord" was incomplete, lacking the last word.] (Signed) Caleb Morford (seal)*

*Signed, sealed, published and declared by the above named Caleb Morford to be his last will and testament in the presence of us who at his request and hi presence have hereunto subscribed our names as witnesses to the same.*

*[signed] Joseph Gregory  
" James Jones  
" Jesse Witt*

*State of Indiana, Dearborn County, sct. Before me, James Dill, Clerk of the Probate Court in the State of Indiana personally came James Jones, on the subscribing witnesses to the foregoing last will and testament of Caleb Morford, deceased, and being duly sworn declares and swears that he signed the foregoing last will and testament of Caleb Morford as a witness in the presence of the Testator and the two other subscribing witnesses, and at the request of the testator, the same having been signed, sealed and published as testator's last will and testament, and he the said testator being then to wit 30<sup>th</sup> of April 1833 of sound mind and disposing and discriminating memory as this deponent verily believes. [Signed] James Jones  
Sworn and subscribed before me, James Dil, Clerk of the Probate Court of Dearborn County, 20 September 1833.  
[Signed] James Dill, Clerk*

*Recorded 20 September 1833, James Dill"*

The foregoing appears to be a copy made by the clerk, as it is all in the same handwriting; therefore it is not the original document. No other papers are in the file at present, according to the current Clerk of Dearborn Circuit Court, at Lawrenceburg, Indiana, in June 1984.

It may be significant of a relationship between this Caleb Morford and the Thomas Morford [1805-1868] whose brief history appeared on page 158 of the April 1984 MORFORD HISTORIAN, that both were early residents of Rising Sun, Indiana. The Historian can not at this point try to identify Caleb's parents, but suggests they may have been of Greene County, Pa. As Caleb left no issue, it is not likely that clues to his identity may be easily found at this late date. Research into deed records of Dearborn County might indicate the period at which Caleb and Charlotte (Harris) Morford came to Indiana, and from what state. Their marriage is recorded in Dearborn Co. 8 November 1827. Earlier in the same year a Matilda Morford married, in the same county John Aikens or Akins. Matilda's father was Little Morford. Was she perhaps a cousin to Caleb Morford?

## NEWS OF MORFORDS AND THEIR DESCENDANTS

DARRELL DeWAYNE MORFORD, 83, a retired meat cutter for Belmont Supermarket in Parsons, Kansas, who had lived in Simi Valley, California since May of 1983, died on Monday, 30 January 1984, in a Simi Valley hospital, following a lengthy illness. He was born 14 July 1900 at Tabor, Iowa, a son of Francis Arlando and Etta Belle (Lyon) Morford. He had been a meat salesman for Armour Packing Company in Kansas City, and later had operated meat markets in Chanute and Parsons, Kansas. He was a member of the RLDS Church of Chanute, a past master of Parsons Lodge No. 117, A.F.&A.M., a member of RAM No. 39, past patron of Progress Chapter No. 49, Order of the Eastern Star in Parsons, and of Coeur de Lion Commandery No. 17. He is survived by his wife, Opal Marie (Wilson) (Dirks) Morford; two sons, Kenneth of Arlington, Texas, and Samuel of Omaha, Nebraska; a stepson Galen Dirks of Texas, and a daughter, Marilyn Burnham of Simi Valley; two brothers, Kenneth of Independence, Mo., and Rexford, of Nevada, Mo., and a sister, Mrs. Audrey Stubbart of Independence, Mo.; also by twelve grandchildren. Services were held Wednesday, 1 February, at the Reardon Simi Valley Mortuary; burial was in Oakwood Memorial Park, Chatsworth, California. His Morford line: *Francis Arlando*<sup>8</sup> *Francis Marion*<sup>7</sup> *William*<sup>6</sup> *John*<sup>5</sup> *Thomas*<sup>4</sup> *Thomas*<sup>3</sup> *John*<sup>2</sup> *John*<sup>1</sup> *Morford*.

DONALD MILO MORFORD, of Napoleon, Henry County, Ohio, was recently elected as a city councilman. He is pictured here with his family: Daughter Annette, a registered nurse working at St. Vincent's Hospital in

Toledo; his wife Pauline; daughter Denise, a teacher, and son Ronald, a freshman at the University of Toledo, majoring in mechanical engineering. Don is owner of Morford Machining, Inc., a shop he started 8 years ago in the Napoleon Industrial Park area. Pauline had worked as a secretary for the Ohio State Department of Education until June of 1983, when she had to, undergo open-heart surgery. Donald's line is: *Donald Ellis*<sup>9</sup> *Lawrence Hood*<sup>8</sup> *John William*<sup>7</sup> *Richard*<sup>6</sup> *John*<sup>5</sup> *Thomas*<sup>4</sup> *Thomas*<sup>3</sup>



*John*<sup>2</sup> *John*<sup>1</sup> *Morford*.

EVERETT MORFORD, prominent farmer and livestock dealer of Mt. Olivet, Robertson County, Kentucky, died at his home, Wednesday, 6 June 1984, at the -age of 79. He was born in Bracken County, Ky., 4 April 1914, son of the late Everett and Zue Anna (Quinlan) Morford. A magistrate from his district for more than 30 years, he had served as a director of the Farmers and Traders Bank and had been awarded recognition for his work in soil conservation. He was preceded in death by his wife, Eloise (Linville) Morford, in May of this year, and by a sister, Mrs. Theresa (Morford) Perkins. Survivors include his son, Billy Winkle Morford of Robertson County, and daughter Wedonia "Donnie" King, also of Robertson County; a sister Mrs. Annabelle Hall of Brooksville, Ky., five grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. He was a member of the Brooksville Christian Church. Burial was in Mt. Olivet Cemetery on Saturday, 9 June 1984. His line was: *Everett Browning Morford*<sup>8</sup> *George Wm. Jr.*<sup>7</sup> *George Wm.*<sup>6</sup> *Daniel Jr.*<sup>5</sup> *John*<sup>4</sup> *Thomas*<sup>3</sup> *John*<sup>2</sup> *John*<sup>1</sup> *Morford*.

PLEASE - Don't throw away the cover in which your HISTORIAN was mailed; instead, give it to one of your Morford relatives and tell him he'd enjoy a subscription, too!

ROSA GENIEVE (STANGEL) MORFORD, widow of William Arthur Morford [1883-1964] died March 1984 in Tacoma, Pierce County, Washington, where she had resided since 1960. Daughter of John and Mary (Maurer) Stangel, she was born 5 November 1893 in Staads, Wisconsin. Her late husband was the second son of John W. Morford [1861-1946], who was the first of the Morford family to settle in Washington Territory, coming about the time it became a state. Mrs. Morford is survived by two sons, William John Morford, of Kent, Washington, and Wilbur Arthur Morford, of Tacoma, Washington; also by a daughter Pauline Agnes Morford, with whom she had ' been residing in a rest home in Tacoma. Five grandchildren also survive: Barry Alan Morford, Brian Keith Morford, Bradley Jay Morford (son of William John Morford) and Valerie Jean and Jeffrey Lynn Morford (children of Wilbur Arthur Morford. Other survivors were 11 great-grandchildren and one great-great grandchild. Her late husband's Morford line: *John W.<sup>9</sup> John Wesley<sup>8</sup> Frederick<sup>7</sup> Isaac<sup>6</sup> Cornelius<sup>5</sup> John<sup>4</sup> Thomas<sup>3</sup> John<sup>2</sup> John<sup>1</sup> Morford.*

#### EX-CON EARNS TEARS OF JOY FOR AIDING ELDERLY LADY

Under the title shown above, the *SEATTLE TIMES* of 6 April 1984 had the following story in its "People" column. Our thanks to Audrey Morford of Alhambra, California, for this and the previous clipping.

"An unemployed ex-convict spent more than three hours and \$25. to help a disoriented elderly woman find her way to her Chicago home. Michael Johnson's deed brought tears of joy to the woman's husband, Donald Morford, 68. He said it was one of the few times he had wept in his life. Johnson, an unemployed truck driver, said he became worried when he saw Stephanie Morford, 76, sitting on a bench Monday night.

'I knew something was wrong as soon as I saw her sitting there with no coat on,' Johnson said yesterday. 'That's a rough area. I asked if I could help her get home, but she couldn't remember anything. All she was able to tell me was she lived near Sears.'

Morford said his wife is senile and often confused.

Johnson took Mrs. Morford for a bus ride to see if she could recognize her neighborhood. 'Being an ex-con, I didn't want to cause any kind of confusion by being seen going through her purse,' said Johnson, who was released for good behaviour after serving 13 months of a three-year term for delivering narcotics.

He explained the situation to a woman on the bus who looked through the purse and found Mrs. Morford's name, but no address. 'All she was able to tell me was that she lived near Sears.'

He and Mrs. Morford toured the area around a Northwest side Sears store by taxi in search of her home, but in vain.

Johnson then reached a telephone company supervisor who checked unlisted numbers and called Morford who called Johnson back and asked him to bring Mrs. Morford to the couple's home.

'I can't thank this young man enough,' said Morford, a retired railroad worker. 'I just hope someone out there realizes what a good man he is and gives him a job.'

#### HELP NEEDED IN SOLVING THIS PROBLEM

EDWARD MORFORD, Of Ohio or Pa., said to have died at age of 81; where? His wife Mary (Stevens) Morford died in 1902 age 67, therefore was born ca 1835. Their 2 known daughters were May E. married 1<sup>st</sup>, by 1884, John R. Thomas, and 2d, in 1904, Jesse C. Cartwright. Sarah E. married, 20 Oct. 1887, at Sharon, Mercer Co., Pa., Ferdinand Nagahira. Want names, addresses, of descendants.

## MORFORD GRAVESTONES AND MONUMENTS

RECENTLY, a subscriber asked whether we had a list of Morford burial places, so that a trip might be planned in which might be visited many burial spots of early members of the family. Regretfully, the answer was "No". The question started us pondering about the usefulness of such a compilation, but also the difficulties of gathering all such statistics. Sometimes several generations of a family will remain in one area, all will be members of the same church, and thus the local cemetery or cemeteries will have many Morford and Morford-related family members' graves. Then again, as descendants moved to greener pastures, they would be buried far away from the home place. Frequently, if a family had fallen upon hard times, the graves would be marked only with a wooden marker which soon deteriorated, thus leaving the burial spot unknown and unidentified for later generations.

Disregarding the inherent difficulties in compiling a record of Morford burial spots, and concentrating on the positive advantages, we can see that such a record could be achieved only by whole-hearted cooperation of all our Morford and Morford-related subscribers and their families. We already have a few photographs of such gravestones. One such grave, of a Morford as yet unidentified, is pictured here. It is of an Alva Morford, son of D. & J. Morford, June 1861. We do not know whether Alva was a child who had died young, or whether he was a Civil War soldier. The marker was found by Anne M. Donley of Oklahoma City, Okla., when she was searching for the grave of Esther Hazen Morford, first wife of John Titus Morford [1818-1908], her great-grandfather. Anne wrote, "This stone was found in Mann's Burial Ground, north of Alexis, in Mercer County, Illinois. This burial ground is not maintained; is located about 1/4 mile from a section-line road; is fenced, but completely overgrown with briars, trees, etc., and scattered over a wide area."



*WHO WAS ALVA?*

So, readers, as you make your pilgrimages in search of Morford burial spots, take along a good camera, equipped with black & white (not color) film, and watch for an opportunity to take a picture at a time of day when the stones are "side-lighted", so as to provide good contrast, enabling us to read inscriptions. Some "graveyard hounds" like to take along a yard or so of "pellon", a type of stiffening used by dressmakers, which is durable enough to withstand tearing when held over the lettered surface and rubbed with charcoal or a very soft lead pencil, thus making a "gravestone rubbing", as it is called. Otherwise, on a gray and dreary day, you'll need a flash attachment to obtain a good copy of the inscription on the gravestone.

We'd like to put together a book showing pictures of Morford gravestones, indicating what is known as to the ancestry and a couple of generations of descendants of each of the Morfords included in or now very small collection of grave markers. Such a book could also include a list of known death dates and places of early Morfords, indexed by name and geographically, so when readers are travelling in an area where their ancestors were buried, they could visit the cemetery and furnish us with more pictures for a 2d and successive volumes of "MORFORD GRAVES AND MONUMENTS". Let's have your comments on this idea, as well as any photographs you may be able to let us have for copying. [Be sure to give location of the grave and data as to parents or other relatives of the person whose gravestone is pictured. Write your name and address, on the back of the picture with a felt-tip pen.]

EXCERPTS FROM TWO PUBLISHED GENEALOGICAL RECORDS HELP TO UPDATE, CORRECT  
OUR RECORDS

In Curtis R. Morford's 1892 HISTORY OF THE MORFORD FAMILY, the youngest daughter of James and Mary (McLaughlin) Morford is shown briefly as "Margret T., born Sept. 2, 1849; married M.. Palm 1870; died Mar. 21, 1883. Child: Cora Palm".

From "A STRIGHT GENEALOGY" by Hayden Stright, published by the Brings Press, Minneapolis, Minn, in 1973, we were able to gain a more complete record of this family. The full name of Margaret T. Morford's husband was Milton A. Palm, a son of William and Catherine (White) Palm. Their daughter Cora was born 5 March 1871 in Sandy Creek Twp., Mercer Co., Pa., on a farm one mile west of Sheakleyville. When Cora was 12 years old her mother, Margaret T. (Morford) Palm, died of tuberculosis on 4 February 1883. Cora then went to live with her grandmother, Mary (McLaughlin) Morford, who was then aged 66. In 1891 Cora's grandmother moved to Meadville, where she died the following year, on 4 February 1892. At that time Cora Ione Palm moved to Greenville, where she lived with the William Washburn family, and during this time passed the teacher's exam at age 16, although she did not become a teacher.

On 22 December 1892, Cora Ione Palm married, in Greenville, Pa., Lawrence Stright, who was born 20 November 1861, son of John Leonard Stright of Deer Creek Twp., Mercer Co., Pa. The following year, as a delayed honeymoon, they attended the Columbian Exposition, Chicago's first world's fair, in company with Cora's uncle and aunt, William J. and Mary Belle (Luce) Morford. Lawrence and Cora Ione (Palm) Stright were parents of two children, Nola Marguerite, born 23 April 1894, and Hayden Leroy, born 18 April 1898.

From a book similar to a county history, but entitled "SOLDIERS' ALBUM OF PERSONAL RECORDS", apparently published in Wisconsin some time prior to 1908, we gleaned some new information as to William Henry Morford [1847-1929], son of John Titus and Esther (Hazen) Morford. Mention is made of the fact that John Titus Morford and two of his sons, William and Hiram, enlisted in Company E, 102<sup>nd</sup> Illinois Infantry, during the Civil War. The account provides fairly complete detail as to William's experiences in various battles in Kentucky, Tennessee, North Carolina and Virginia. Two years after returning home from the war, William Henry Morford moved to Chippewa Falls, Chippewa County, Wisconsin, where he engaged in the lumber business. He married, 3 July 1873, at Eau Clair, Wisconsin, Altha Frances Chipman, daughter of Isaiah and Sarah Chipman. Earlier records we had acquired from a descendant show her name as Frances Eltha, and indicate she was born in 1853 in Wisconsin, and died 28 August 1932, the place not stated. Their children were: Arthur William [1874-1953; married 1910 Harriet W. Culliton]; Roy Merwin [1877-1935; did he marry?]; Cora Esther [1879-\_\_\_\_ ; no further record in the MORFORD HISTORIAN's files]; and Minnie Grace [1886-1911, married Karl Elliott Anderson]. The Morford Historian needs places of the foregoing births, marriages and deaths.

NOTICE OF A MORFORD FAMILY REUNION

Shirley (Mrs. George) Thompson, of Lake Braemar, 10414 Tamryn Blvd., Holly, Michigan, has written to let us know that the "MORFORD-CUTLER-EDWARDS" reunions are now being held each year in Michigan. Those who attend are descendants of Joseph Morford (born ca 1751), his son Garrett Morford Sr. [1788-1881] and the latter's daughter Mary "Polly" Morford [1816-1881], who married Abram Cutler. Others eligible to attend are descendants of Garrett's son Thomas Morford [1819-1883] who married first, Roxa Saunders, and second, Orilla (Bundy) Brewer. [See page 55 of the October 1981 MORFORD HISTORIAN for a chart showing Joseph's descendants.] Any Morfords interested in coming to these reunions are invited to write to Mrs. Thompson for information as to the exact time and place of the next reunion.



### WHO CAN IDENTIFY THIS MILES MORFORD, OF MERCER COUNTY, OHIO?

MILES MORFORD and Susan Mate made application for a marriage license in Mercer County, Ohio, 11 September 1880, and were married there the following day. Both were of age.

In the following year, a James M. Morfford and Elizabeth Woodburn applied on 23 April for a license, and were married 24 April, 1881.

Subsequent records refer to children of James and Elizabeth (Woodburn) Morford:

Pearl Morford, 18 years old on 30th August 1899, daughter of James Mofford, to Henry Adams Jr. , who was 21 years old on 6 July 1899; son of Henry Adams. Marriage consummated 31 December 1899.

Wilbur H. Mofford, 21 years old on 5 November 1905, son of James Mofford and Elizabeth Woodburn, to Dosha (probably a nickname for "Theodocia") B. Cole, who was 18 years old on 9 December 1904, daughter of William and Elmina (Brookins) Cole. Marriage consummated 12 March 1905.

We're especially interested in this recurrence of the given name Miles, because of the strong probability that these Morfords may have been descendants of the Miles and Polly (Alter) Morfoot or Morford who had been married in Ohio Territory in February 1795 by Governor St. Clair, and who later were residents of Clermont County, Ohio. This early Miles Morford is said to have died 25 January 1842, the exact place not stated. His death record appears in Bible records of Joseph August Morford [1809-1884]; relationship not stated, but presumably he would have been Joseph's father.

We would appreciate hearing from descendants, or from anyone else having additional information of the couples mentioned above.

### WE STILL DON'T KNOW WHO THIS "ENSIGN MORFORD" WAS; DO YOU?

From Vol. 8, page 31, *SOMERSET COUNTY HISTORICAL QUARTERLY*, 1919:

"In March, 1781 --

At a Court Martial held by the appointment of Brigadier General Heard, on the 19th of January last, at the house of James Drake in the City of New Brunswick. Ensign Morford, of the Third Battalion of Middlesex Militia, was tried for parading in arms with the men belonging to Capt. Perine's company, and marching from their post in mutiny, and found guilty, and adjudged to be cashiered and rendered incapable of serving in the militia as an officer during the war."

Does any reader have access to published lists of men serving in the Third Battalion of Middlesex Militia in 1781. If so, please tell us which Morford this may have been!

### WHO CAN IDENTIFY THESE MORFORDS?

ANNA M. , died 2 January 1954, Linn Co. , Ore.?

DONALD L., died 19 June 1945, Linn Co., Ore.?

HANSINE M., died 26 December 1944, Benton Co., Ore.?

JAMES R., died 17 December 1957, Columbia Co., Ore.?

MABEL G. (wife of Wm.), died 17 July 1960, Marion Co., Ore.?

DWIGHT, died 3 June 1963 , Linn Co. , Ore.?

EDITH M. , died 28 March 1921 , Portland , Multnomah Co. , Ore. ?

SOPHIE C. , died 5 June 1917, Portland, Multnomah Co. , Ore.?

THE EDITOR'S CORNER: Yes, we know this issue is late! But the editor was not playing hookey - two trips to Salt Lake City in late June and early August gave us an opportunity for additional Morford research at the Genealogical Society Library; and we had the bonus of a visit from Ruby and Elmer Boman of Zapata, Texas, who brought with them many notebooks full of information on the Mercer County Morfords, as well as Ruby's notes of her research in many courthouses for data on births, marriages, deaths, wills and other information of Morfords and Morford-related families. Armed with all this data we were able to up-date many lines and discover previously unknown relationships. A welcome visitor just as this issue was in process of being "finalized" for the printer, was fellow-member of the American Society of Genealogists, Noel Stevenson, with whom the editor has been acquainted since 1956 when she was editing the Seattle Genealogical Society Bulletin. Noel has been diligent throughout all this time in sending helpful Morford gleanings, many of them from legal records to which he has access .... We hear



"by the grapevine" that the Beatrice Bailey outfit is again promoting a list of names and addresses of Morfords, by the enticing title of "MORFORD FAMILY HERITAGE BOOK". The latest one of these we saw was full of errors caused by inclusion of out-of-date listings, as well as duplications. These incorrect addresses are due to the fact that Morfords, like most other American families, are mobile -- in other words, due to job changes or for other reasons, they move frequently. Some post-office statistics claim that between 15 and 35% of the population moves each year. Not all Morfords subscribe to MORFORD HISTORIAN; but enough do that if you lose track of a Morford relative, a note in our bulletin may reach someone who can tell you where the lost relative now lives ... Our subscriber and cousin, Gary D. Morford of Olympia, WA, sent us the label portions of two grocery store bags on which appeared in red ink the words "Manufactured by Donald Morford" and "Manufactured by David L. Morford". As we haven't finished (in fact have scarcely begun) our complete index of Morfords, we don't know to which branch these two bag-manufacturers belong. Can one of our readers tell us .... Our thanks to those of our readers who have sent us names of those of their relatives who might be interested in receiving the MORFORD HISTORIAN. We can generally find new Morford listings, but don't always know the descendants bearing other surnames, nor where they are living. Those who have recently sent us such lists are Alma S. Blahna, Joan Morford Bungum, Dorothy Lewis, and Edgar Calvin Morford. We want to send sample copies of MORFORD HISTORIAN to all descendants so they will be aware of the forthcoming publication of MORFORDS OF AMERICA -- so please use the mailing cover to send us names and addresses of your brothers and sisters, cousin, uncles and aunts.

By the way, we haven't received very many of your autobiographies, or biographies of your parents, grandparents, uncles and aunts. The book MORFORDS OF AMERICA will be only as complete as you, by your contributions of family history, can make it. Let's have something to put flesh on the bare, dry bones of the genealogical record. Don't worry about your writing style -- the editor can polish up the writing. What she can't do is to set down the facts, from her personal knowledge; that's up to you, the readers of this bulletin .... So, get busy!

We have had no news as to when, or whether, the Revolutionary War marker was placed in the cemetery where John Morford [1758-1840] was said to have been buried. We did hear that the government is slow in processing these markers, because they prefer getting a number of a similar type done at a time, before changing the "die" from which they are cast. There surely can't be very many Revolutionary War soldiers' graves being marked at this late date .... and we have not had any reply from the cemetery board in charge of the cemetery where our Civil War veteran, John Morford [1821-1875] was buried. We hope to have something to report on that project in our next issue

**Enid**