

# Morford Historian

---

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. 2, No. 4

October 1981

---

## THE SWEETEST STORY EVER TOLD

DID YOU KNOW that a Morford descendant provided the inspiration for the composer who wrote one of the best known and loved songs, one which was popular in the 1880s and is still remembered? She was Julie Vandervere, daughter of Abraham T. and Maria N. (Morford) Vandervere. Her husband was Robert Morrison Stults, who was not only a composer but also one of the founders of the *Long Branch (NJ) RECORD*. A feature story about the song appeared in that paper on 17 March 1959, and a clipping was sent to the Morford Historian soon afterward by Mrs. Harold Conover Morford of Long Branch, N.J. Here is the newspaper account:

"Wife's Compliment Gives R. M. Stults Inspiration for Long Ago Love Ballad. Something new about something old is NEWS - especially so when information concerns Long Branch and is told by local ancestors.

Take 'The Sweetest Story Ever Told'. How come Robert M. Stults, one of the founders of the LONG BRANCH RECORD, composed it? Who sang it first?

It seems that three little words 'I love you' confided one day to Stults by his wife, Julie Vandervere, caused him to counter with 'That's the sweetest story ever told.' And a song was born. He changed her compliment to 'Tell me, do you love me?' and combined it with his answer. Result - a melody theme that is remembered after 65 years. What a TV program introduction it would make today. Bing Crosby has recorded it.

Granted, every song needs a singer, and Stults' inspiration was lucky - it had two. Gretchen Gugel McCarthy, wife of former Commissioner Joseph P. McCarthy, now of Rumson, remembers her mother, Ann Dunham Gugel, telling her she sang it first. Then there is John W. Wooley, father of J. Russell Wooley of West Long Branch, who is claimed to have had something to do with that song. When questioned about this, the county clerk said, 'Yes, that's so, but I'm hazy about the details.'

Mrs. McCarthy revealed that her mother took vocal lessons from Mme. Nordica\*, a famous singer of long ago. She lived in a big white house on terraced land over the brook on Norwood Ave. where Monmouth College is today. Besides singing, Ann Dunham was a gifted pianist and friend of Stults'. Chances are he pranced right over to her home on Jackson St. soon as his song was off the press. Why? She could play it. She could sing it. He could listen.

Though John W. Wooley couldn't accompany himself or read a note, the magic of his voice will linger in the memory of those who heard him sing as long as they live. Truly, his talent was God-given.

Referring to publisher-composer Stults again, he not only managed a newspaper but ran a music store in Long Branch village. Unlike his song which is simplicity itself even in rhythm, two of his piano selections, 'Angels' Dream' and 'Birds and the Brook' are pretty tricky to play. He had harmony, composition and technique right at his fingertips.

Hardly had the last note of 'The Sweetest Story' sounded than his love ballad

\*Mme. Lillian Nordica (1859-1914), operatic soprano

'Listen While I Tell You, Dear' made its musical bow. It 'caught on' but didn't hold. often when the masses can hum part of a melody it makes 'the hit parade' in a hurry, and if it has what it takes it stays there.

Diverting from the tranquil quality of the ballads, Stults pepped up his musical steps with 'Academic March', dedicated June 19, 1886, to this Long Branch High School class. Graduation exercises were held in the Opera House, Washington St., and the high school was where the Grammar School is now. There were twelve graduates in the class (which will note its 75th anniversary next year). There were only two boys, William E. Alstrom and Edward Randolph Slocum, whose family later owned the RECORD before E. D. DeWitt bought it. Girls in the class were Chrissie M. Morris, Pauline M. Goldsmith, now Mrs. Pauline Wert, 189 Garfield Ave., Anna May Britton, Methodist Home, Ocean Grove, now widow of the Rev. Lewis R. Streeter; Cora E. Slocum, Lillie May Conover Hattie A. Tabor, Addie H. Morris, Emma Conrow and Emily Morris.

Every letter in Stults' name was engraved on the hearts of this class. Hadn't he written a march in their honor and had it copyrighted?

They knew his middle initial "M" stemmed from his mother who was Martha (Morrison) Stults of Hightstown.

In after years, the Morford homestead came down to his wife from her grandfather, John A. Morford\*. Their front yard is where the Norwood Tire Co., Broadway, is today. The entrance to the house is on Conover Street and locked up in it is "The Sweetest Story Ever Told".

*\*John Aken<sup>6</sup> Morford (1810-1882), who married 1836 Sarah Ann Conover (1814-1910). His line was: George Taylor<sup>5</sup> Thomas<sup>4</sup> Jarrat<sup>3</sup> Thomas<sup>2</sup> Thomas<sup>1</sup> Morford.*

## NEW SUBSCRIBERS

MORFORD HISTORIAN subscribers are grouped here, according to their earliest known ancestor. Following each person's name are listed his parent, grandparent and so on; small numerals indicate generation to which each belongs. When a line has not been traced back to one of the two early Morfords of N.J. [John<sup>1</sup> or Thomas<sup>1</sup>], we have determined approximate generation of known ancestor. Assuming 26 years to a generation, we deduct a series of 26s from the known date of an ancestor. *EXAMPLE:* Zebulon Morford [1722-1794] is assumed to have been son of a man born about 1696, and grandson of a man born about 1644, give or take a few years. As the early Morford brothers were adults in the 1670s, they must have been born about 1640-1650; Zebulon therefore must have been of the third generation. Listed below are our new subscribers since the July 1981 issue:

### DESCENDANTS OF CORNELIUS<sup>4</sup> MORFORD 1741-1825:

Josie Althea (Clouse) Morford, Delia KS  
widow of Arthur Carlton<sup>9</sup> Morford; William Isaac<sup>8</sup> Isaac<sup>7</sup> Frederick Sr.<sup>6</sup>  
Isaac<sup>5</sup> Cornelius<sup>4</sup> Morford

Albert J. Roberts, Jr., Mission Viejo CA  
Willa Montgomery (Wicks) Roberta<sup>9</sup>; Amanda Jane<sup>8</sup> (Morford) Wicks; Isaac<sup>7</sup>  
Morford; Frederick Sr.<sup>6</sup> Isaac<sup>5</sup> Cornelius<sup>4</sup> Morford

### DESCENDANT OF DANIEL<sup>4</sup> MORFORD 1740-1833:

Marcia Ann (Morford) Porter, Lawton OK  
Clare Edmister<sup>9</sup> Morford; Robert Boyd<sup>8</sup> John Thomas<sup>7</sup> Joseph<sup>6</sup> James<sup>5</sup>  
Daniel<sup>4</sup> Morford

### DESCENDANTS OF JOHN<sup>1</sup> MORFORD 165 -173 :

Alice Lucille (Morford) Albin, Walla Walla WA  
Alva Leroy<sup>8</sup> Morford; Francis Daniel<sup>7</sup> James C.<sup>6</sup> Richard<sup>5</sup> John<sup>4</sup> Thomas<sup>3</sup> Thomas<sup>2</sup>  
John<sup>1</sup> Morford

Ruth (Morford) Cummings, Redfield IA  
John Jasper<sup>7</sup> Morford; John Titu<sup>6</sup> James<sup>5</sup> John<sup>4</sup> Thomas<sup>3</sup> Thomas<sup>2</sup> John<sup>1</sup>  
Morford

Vicci Ann Lewis, Houston TX  
Dorothy E. (Myers) Lewis<sup>9</sup>; Lena Fern<sup>8</sup> (Morford) Myers; John Jasper<sup>7</sup>  
Morford John Titus<sup>6</sup> James<sup>5</sup> John<sup>4</sup> Thomas<sup>3</sup> Thomas<sup>2</sup>, John<sup>1</sup> Morford

Mary Elizabeth (Myers) Milburn, Oklahoma City OK  
Lena Fern<sup>8</sup> (Morford) Myers; John Jasper<sup>7</sup> Morford John T.<sup>6</sup> James<sup>5</sup> John<sup>4</sup>  
Thomas<sup>3</sup> Thomas<sup>2</sup>, John<sup>1</sup> Morford

Dr. Myron L. Morford, Edinboro PA  
Merle Asbury<sup>8</sup> William Vance<sup>7</sup> Vanransler Vance<sup>6</sup> John M.<sup>5</sup> John<sup>4</sup> Thomas<sup>3</sup>  
Thomas<sup>2</sup> John<sup>1</sup> Morford

Mildred Annetta (Myers) Orr, Summit NJ  
Lena Fern<sup>8</sup> (Morford) Myers; John Jasper<sup>7</sup> Morford John T.<sup>6</sup> James<sup>5</sup> John<sup>4</sup>  
Thomas<sup>3</sup> Thomas<sup>2</sup>, John<sup>1</sup> Morford

Esther Harris, Sec'y, Ashland Co. Gen. Soc.,  
Londonville OH (Not a Morford descendant)

MORFORD HISTORIAN - a unique Christmas gift for relatives. For each such gift you'll receive extension of your own subscription for 2 issues. Offer good only through 1981. A good response will enable us to hold our subscription rate to \$6.00 per year.

## MORE ABOUT THOSE "FAMILY TRADITIONS"

There are two romantic, but unsubstantiated, stories of early Morfords who were said to have had either titled or "blue-blooded" English ancestors. One says: "... supposedly descended from two English earls (brothers) who came to this country ..." The second goes this way: "It is said of ancestry in England ... that a daughter of the family of Burgess fell in love with her father's coachman. They were unable to get her parents' consent for marriage ... they ran away, were married, and came to the United States." That last statement is inaccurate, since "this country" was not the United States until after the Revolutionary War, long after the earliest known Morfords had arrived in the New World. As for actual earls coming here, that is unlikely; those from titled families who came to our shores were most often the younger sons who were estopped from inheritance of the "landed estates" because of the English law of primogeniture, which decreed that the eldest son must inherit the land. And as to claiming descent from *two* brothers who were earls, that would be possible only if a male descendant of one earl married a female descendant of the other earl! [Question: Did English families have more than one earl in the same generation?] One thing is certain as to this tradition -- if any earls of the Morford family were emigrants to the New World, it has been one of the best kept secrets in the history of genealogy!

We have another tradition which is much more plausible, but extremely difficult to prove; namely, that there is an early connection between one of the Morford ancestors and the famous Bogardus family and Anneke Jans, of whom we remember best a fictional account (perhaps by Clarence Buddington Kelland) which ran in serial form in the old *Saturday Evening Post*, many long years ago.

And here's a really fanciful tradition, written by a dear little old lady who shall remain nameless. "My grandmother was a Morford. Her father left France and went to England and changed his religion from Catholic to the Episcopal church, and came to this country with the Duke of Orleans and married an Indian chief's daughter (they were the red Indians from India). The Morford that came to this country from England with the Duke of Orleans was spelt with a "de" in front of it, but his children wanted to be real Americans, so cut the "de" off, it should have been called deMorford. There was a row of buildings right in the heart of London that this deMorford owned, and one of his sons tore the back leaf out of his Bible and sent it to England, as he wanted to claim it, but he never got an answer, so it was dropped, so the English government got all of it." The dear little old lady who wrote this tradition was a great-granddaughter of a Morford who was not even born until 20 years after the death of the first Duke of Orleans to be associated with American history, i.e., Philip [1674-1723], who was regent of France during the minority of Louis XV; and her great-grandfather was a great-grandson of Thomas<sup>1</sup> Morford [c165\_--1695/6].

## WHO'S WHO AMONG THE MORFORDS?

To us, they're ALL important; but it was interesting to browse through a 10-volume set entitled *Biography and Genealogy Master Index*, and find 14 Morfords, as well as 4 of the variant spellings. In our own files we had an additional five Who's Who listings. We plan to obtain copies of each, and publish them in MORFORD HISTORIAN, adding data the originals lack -- the full lineage back to the earliest known generation. Names found were: Mirible Marford, Rose Mofford, Catherine Anne Morford, Douglas Harry Morford, George William Morford, Golda Morford, Helen Hawkins Morford, Henry Morford, Ione Morford, James Richard Morford, Kenneth James Morford, Mark Percy Owen Morford, Myron Lee Morford, Richard A. Morford, Thomas Morford, Vilas Jay Morford, Nicholas Murford, and W. Murford. From our own file we can add these: Charles Campbell Morfit, H. Mason Morfit, Cassius Arden Morford, Dr. Guy Morford, and John Baird Morford. Readers knowing of other Who's Who listings are urged to send us copies, if possible. We need one for Gary Moore, whose real name is "Morfit" -- a Morford variant!

JOSEPH<sup>3</sup> MORFORD OF FREEHOLD, MONMOUTH COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

By a family tradition, as yet unconfirmed, Joseph Morford was said to have fathered 13 children. Of these, only five are presently known: Elkanah, reputed to have served in the War of 1812; Garrett Sr. [1788-1873]; Elizabeth, born about 1789; William Lane Morford Sr. [1791-1874]; and Lydia, born 1794.

Neither the birth nor death date of Joseph Morford has been ascertained, but the former may be approximated by the fact of his earliest appearance in the tax ratable list of 1779 for Freehold Township, Monmouth Co., N.J., when he was taxed on 10 acres of land. This indicates he must have been a young adult, at least 20 or so, and therefore we may say he must have been born by 1759, at least. The number of white inhabitants shown in his household in the 1784 tax list was 3; however, since this figure might well have included persons not of his family, such as farm hands, it is not possible to determine how many children were then in his family.

This Joseph is almost certainly he who was baptized as an adult, 13 May 1786, in the Old Tennant Church, and must also be the Joseph mentioned in the following baptismal entries noted in Symmes' *History of Old Tennant Church. 1904*:

Page 231: Elizabeth, daughter of Joseph Morford and wife, baptized May 8, 1789

Page 232: Sep. 12, 1791, William Lane, son of Joseph Morford & wife, baptized

Page 235: May 10, 1794, Lydia, dau. of Joseph Morford & wife.

Because of the middle name "Lane", there may be some connection between Joseph's wife (or mother?) and the Joseph Lane whose estate was administered in 1774, in N.J., by a Thomas Morford. Matthias is a name found in early Lane families of New Jersey; thus the Matthias Morford, born about 1780/85, who was living in Decatur, Otsego Co.; N.Y. in 1820 -- the town in which Garrett Morford Sr. married, in 1812, Eunice Wood -- might be presumed to be another of the children of Joseph Morford of Freehold, N.J.

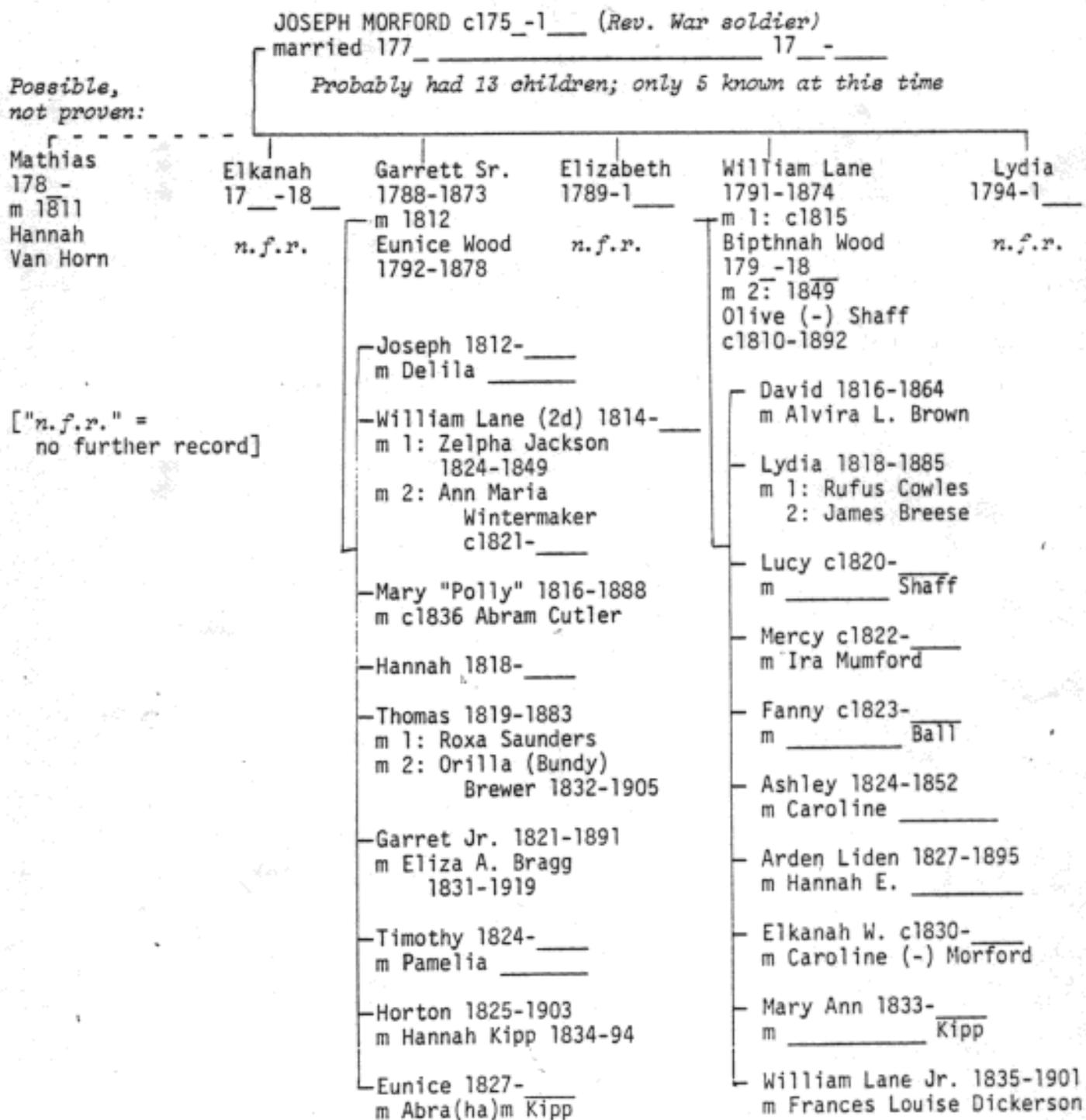
Revolutionary War pension file 23,297 shows that a Mathias Lane of Farmersville, Cattaraugus Co., N.Y., was allowed pension on his application dated 8 March 1833. in which he stated that he was born 19 May 1759 and resided at Freehold, Monmouth Co., N.J. when he entered service in January 1777. Matthias's nephew, Timothy Lane, also of Farmersville, made affidavit 27 April 1833 that he had frequently heard statements made by Joseph Morford "who is now dead", that he and Mathias Lane had been in the service together. It is worth noting that the given name of Timothy appears among children of Garrett Morford Sr., mentioned as one of the 5 known children of Joseph Morford.

The last entry for Joseph Morford in Freehold tax lists was in June 1792, at which time he held 66 acres. As of 1784 he had 80 acres, acquiring another 8 by 1787. A check of Monmouth County land records should show Joseph's disposition of the 20 acres and indicate to whom his 66 acres went following his death or removal from Monmouth Co. It is not unlikely that Joseph might have participated in the westward migrations following the Revolutionary War; many soldiers who first saw New York in the course of their war service, returned there to settle in later years.

Some confusion has existed because of three of Joseph's descendants who had been named "William Lane Morford". The eldest of these, as shown above, was born (or at least baptized) in 1791 at Freehold, N.J. He married twice; first, about 1815, to Biphnah Wood; and second, in 1849, to Mrs. Olive Shaff [1810-1892]. By his first wife there were ten children, the youngest being William Lane Morford Jr. [1835-1901, who married 4 March 1860 Frances Louise Dickerson, born 28 September 1846 in Corsica, Richland Co., Ohio, a daughter of Job Dickerson. Garrett Morford Sr. (brother of William Lane Morford Sr.), also named a son William Lane Morford; he should by rights have been called "2d". we suppose. His birthyear was 1814; and he married twice; first to Zelpha Jackson, who

died in childbirth 2 September 1849, leaving four children; and second, 30 March 1856, to Ann Maria Wintermaker.

In addition to this family's use of "Lane" as a middle name, it is also significant to note that of three instances of early use of "Gilbert" as a given name in the Morford families, one appears in Joseph's descendants, and one among descendants of the John Morford who was also of Freehold, N.J., whose records follow on pages 56 and 57. Were they related to the Gilbert Lane who died intestate about 1727? His probate, and the ones for Mathias (will, 1729), Joseph 1774 (intestate), and Mathias Sr. (will, 1784), should be studied for possible connections with these two Morford branches. We append a chart of descendants of Joseph Morford of Freehold, N.J. for your further study.



## JOHN AND HANNAH MORFORD OF FREEHOLD, MONMOUTH COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

Contemporary with the Joseph Morford of the preceding article (pages 54 and 55) is the John Morford who, with wife Hannah, was living in the same community, and whose three known children were also baptized in Old Tennant Church a scant few years before the baptisms of the three children of Joseph Morford "and wife". The chances are that the two men were closely related, either as brothers or cousins.

On page 229, *History of Old Tennant Church*, compiled by Rev. Frank R. Symmes in 1904, in a list of baptisms, is the following entry:

John, Catherine & Margaret; children of John and Hannah Morford, baptized March 8, 1785.

Between 1779 and 1797 there were two men named John Morford shown in the tax ratable lists of Freehold Township, Monmouth County, N.J. One, a cordwainer (shoemaker), in whose household were 5 white inhabitants in 1784, is probably the John mentioned above. The other John Morford had a wife Sarah, born about 1745, as she was 82 in 1827 when John's application for a Revolutionary War pension (R-7374) was rejected. He was shown as "saddler and harnessmaker". In 1784 there were 8 white inhabitants in his household. There will be more about this John Morford in our next issue.

We have no further record of John and Hannah Morford; but believe that their son John may well be the man of that name, born about 1782/4 in N.J., who was of Charleston, Montgomery Co., N.Y., by 1805; and that a "Peggy" (nickname for Margaret) Morford who was in the same place by 1803, was his sister. *Marriages by Rev. Elijah Herrick & Rev. Calvin Herrick of Charleston, Montgomery Co., N.Y., 1796-1876*, at N.Y. State Library, shows the following marriages by Rev.. Elijah Herrick:

Jonathan Forgate to Peggy Morford, Oct. 27, 1803

John Morford to Catron Disbrow, Sept. 29, 1805

Mathias Morford to Hannah Van Horn, Jan. 23, 1811

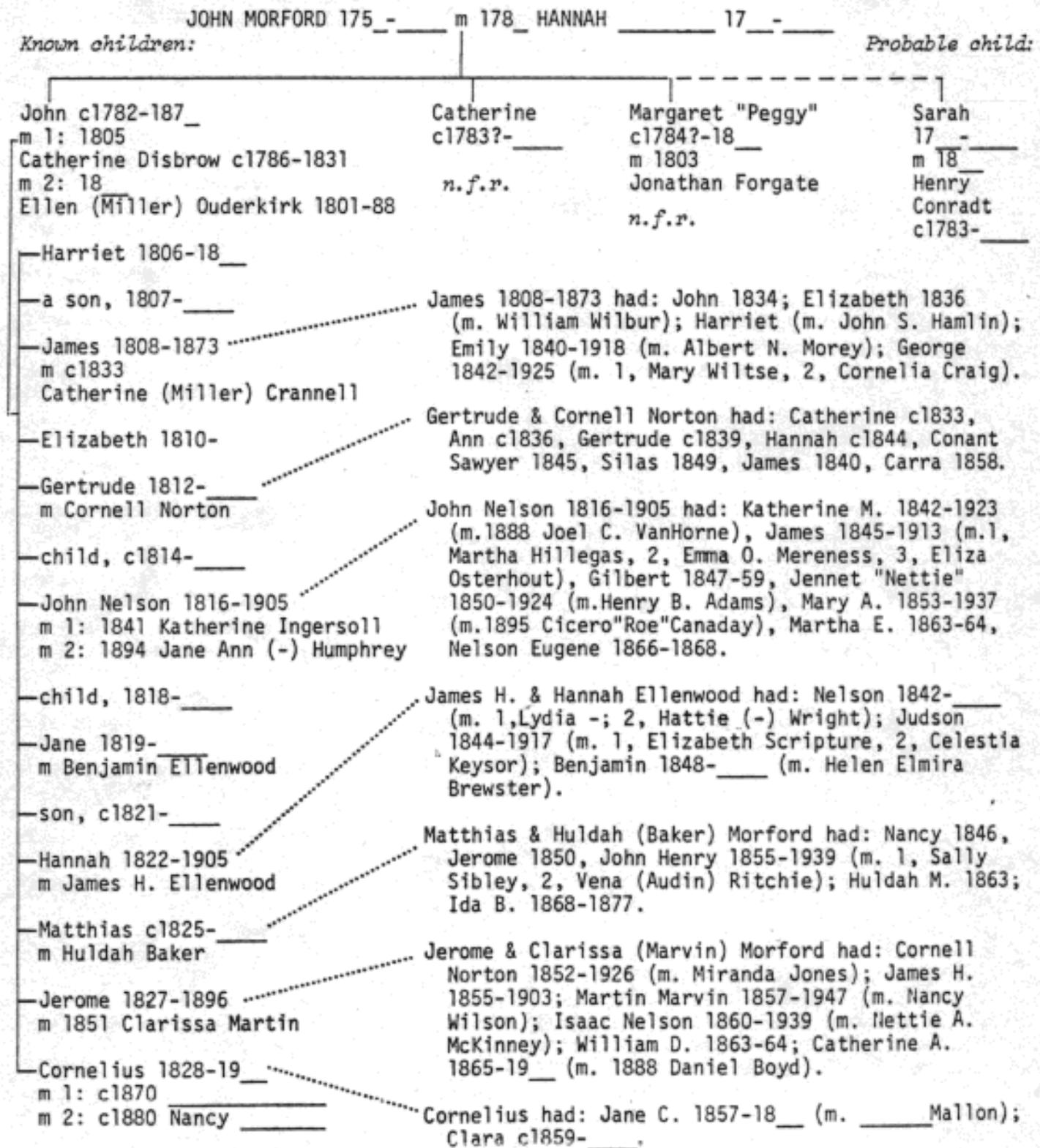
Peggy and John were probably siblings, the children of John and Hannah of Freehold; and Mathias (as noted on page 55) might have been a son of Joseph Morford of Freehold.

The 1810 census of Charleston shows John Morford, aged between 26 and 44 [born 1766/84], a female 16/25 [his wife, c1785-94], a female 10/15 [she may have been a sister, or a servant, born c1795-1800], and 2 males under 10 [sons, born c1800/1810].

From subsequent census records and other source materials we find that John and Catherine (Disbrow) Morford had 14 children, but names of all are not known; some perhaps died in infancy. Known are: Harriet 1806, James 1808-1873, Elizabeth 1810, Gertrude 1812 (md. Cornell Norton); John Nelson 1816-1905, Jane c1819 (md. Benjamin Ellenwood), Hannah 1822-1905 (md. James H. Ellenwood); Mathias c1825 (md. Huldah Baker), Jerome 1827-1896 (md. Clarissa Marvin), and Cornelius 1828-19\_\_ (married several times).

John Morford's first wife, Catherine Disbrow, who may have been a daughter of Henry and Catherine (Van Mater) Disbrow, died 6 December 1831 in Charleston; and John married 2d, by 1850, Ellen "Nellie" (Miller) Ouderkirk, from whom John was either divorced or separated by 1870. In the latter year John was shown in the census of Altona, Clinton Co., N.Y., living with his son Cornelius; John was then aged 89. At the same time the 1870 census of Glen, Montgomery Co., N.Y., lists his second wife, Ellen, as a "widow", the current euphemism at that period used to conceal the disgrace and stigma of having been divorced. She was living with her son-in-law and daughter Nicholas and Margaret (Ouderkirk) Dockstader. An examination of death records at the State Library in Albany, N.Y. would show John Morford's within the following decade; and now that these early vital

statistics are open to public inspection, we hope that some of the Morford descendants living near or in Albany will take it upon themselves to visit the State Library and copy ALL the available Morford statistics, and forward copies to the Morford Historian. This would make it possible for many of the "unknowns" in various Morford branches to be identified so that the family records may be completed. With exact death dates and locations, we can then obtain obituaries which provide additional information.



## KEEPING THE RECORDS STRAIGHT

FIRM FOUNDATIONS OF FACT are essential in building acceptable genealogical records. In 30+ years of researching, the Morford Historian has found that once errors are in print, correcting them is harder than retrieving a bucket of feathers thrown into a windstorm! One very erroneous Morford manuscript, authorship unknown, was found in files of the late William D. Hixson, first librarian of Maysville and Mason County (KY) Library. We quote it verbatim here and follow with discussion of true facts determined by research:

"Three brothers, Robert, Cornelius and Zebulon Morford, emigrated from England to America prior to the Revolutionary War. Cornelius Morford who settled in New Jersey participated in the struggle for independence. He died leaving two sons John and James, and a daughter Ann who married Alexander Calhoun, and Elizabeth who married Woods. John Morford emigrated from New Jersey with his brother James and settled in Pittsburgh, Pa. in 1811, where they engaged in the manufacture of plows for the Southern trade. He afterwards went to Natchez and from thence came to Maysville, where he married Miss McGalliard. He visited New Jersey and finally took up his residence in Maysville and engaged in the manufacture of plows, wagons &c which he carried on for years. He removed to Illinois with his daughter Mrs. Pickett and died there. Jas. Morford married Miss Jarvis in New Jersey - removed to Pittsburgh where he died. Theodore is his son."

We have no way of knowing, at this time, the identity of the so-called brother Robert. N.J. records show a Robert Maffett or Robart Marfutt, of Greenwich Twp., Gloucester Co., about 1747-50; and a Robert Morford, born ca 1737 in Newcastle, Del., served in Capt James Armstrong's Penna. Reg't. in 1759. No further mention of any Robert Morford in this early period has been found.

Nor has any record come to light showing that Cornelius Morford was ever in military service. The consensus of opinion among Morford researchers is that Cornelius and Zebulon were not brothers, but that both were, probably, descendants of John' and Margaret Morford who were of Cranbury, Middlesex Co., N.J., as early as 1710. This was some time before either Zebulon [1722-1794] or Cornelius [1741-1825] was born.

John and James Morford, and their sister Ann, were not children of Cornelius, but of the Mrs. Mary Morford who died in Pittsburgh in 1818. The Historian believes that Mary was widow of a John Morford who was the only person of that surname shown in Burlington Co. N.J. in Kenn Stryker-Rodda's *Revolutionary Census of New Jersey*. It is true that widow Mary and her three children John, James and Ann Morford (and perhaps two other sons) came to Pittsburgh about 1811. James had married Mary Jarvis in Hunterdon Co., N.J. in 1806; John married Mary P. McGalliard "near Imlaystown", N.J. in 1810; and Ann returned to N.J. in 1814 to marry Alexander Calhoun. This family's Bible records (published in the May 1977 issue of *The Genealogical Magazine of New Jersey*) do not show any Elizabeth who married a Woods. She may have been confused with a Margaret Morford, born about 800, who married in 1821, in Bracken Co., Ky., Samuel Wood; but neither Margaret nor Elizabeth belongs to this particular family.

Mary (McGalliard) Morford died 1857 in Maysville; her widower. John later moved to Maroa, Ill., where he is said to have died in 1869; no record of his death has been located. James Morford died in Maysville in 1843; his widow Mary (Jarvis) Morford died at the same place, 1863. Both these men had sons named Theodore, but John's son, born in 1816, was the only one who lived to maturity; James' son of the same name had died in 1819 at the age of 7 yrs. 7 mos. and 7 days. Ann (Morford) Calhoun was widowed in 1826; she resided in Maysville, Ky., where she died in 1874.

The mention of Zebulon in connection with the Pittsburgh-Maysville plow-manufacturing Morfords can be explained only by the probability that he was father-in-law of Mrs. Mary

Morford [c1753-1818] who was mother of the brothers John [1778-1869] and James [1785-1843], and their sister Ann (Morford) Calhoun [1791-1874]. A future issue of MORFORD HISTORIAN will give a more complete account of this family and present some recently discovered evidence in further proof of its probable descent from Zebulon<sup>3</sup> Morford.

### NEWS OF MORFORDS AND THEIR DESCENDANTS

NOTE: *Until we find a benefactor who will provide funds for subscription to a clipping service which will check all publications for mention of MORFORD (and its chief variants of MOFFORD and MORFIT), we depend on our readers to send us such news items as the following, so we may keep up with the MORFORD news.*

MISS KAYE MARTIN of Augusta, KY., and KENNY MOFORD of Brooksville, Ky., were married 24 July 1981 in a candlelight ceremony at Saint Augustine Church, Augusta. She is a daughter of Mrs. Catherine Martin and the late Marion Martin; Kenny is a son of Leland "Tubby" and Meva (Fralix) Moford. The bridegroom's twin brother Denny served as best man, and his sister Debby (Mrs. Chas. A.) Godman assisted at the reception. Kenny's line: *Leland<sup>10</sup> John<sup>9</sup> Louie Hervey<sup>8</sup> Geo. Wm.<sup>7</sup> Geo. Wm.<sup>6</sup> Daniel<sup>5</sup> Daniel<sup>4</sup> Morford.*

MERLE ASBURY and GRACE ELAINE (HAYSLETT) MORFORD celebrated their 50th Wedding Anniversary at their home in Andover, Ohio, on 6 June 1981, at a party hosted by their two children, Myron Lee Morford and Beatrice Louise (Morford) Bell. Mr. Morford is a retired dairy farmer. His line is: *William Vance<sup>7</sup> Vanransler Vance<sup>6</sup> John<sup>5</sup> John<sup>4</sup> Thomas<sup>3</sup> Thomas<sup>2</sup> John<sup>1</sup> Morford.*

### New Twigs on the MORFORD Family Tree

REGINA LYNN MORFORD, born 6 March 1981, Lexington, Ky., daughter of Steven Keith and Vickie Carol (Fulks) Morford; granddaughter of Robert Thomas Morford Sr. of Frankfort, Ky. His line: *James Herbert<sup>10</sup> James Clarence<sup>9</sup> Thomas Elcano<sup>8</sup> George Washington<sup>7</sup> John<sup>6</sup> Isaiah<sup>5</sup> Morford.*

JAMIE ANN LEACH, born 25 June 1981, Lexington, KY, daughter of James Preston and Dale Ann (Johnson) Leach of Lexington, and granddaughter of Victor Preston and Mary Alice (Morford) Leach of Route #4, Stanford KY. Mary Alice's line: *James Herbert<sup>10</sup> James Clarence<sup>9</sup> Thomas Elcano<sup>8</sup> George Washington<sup>7</sup> John<sup>6</sup> Isaiah<sup>5</sup> Morford.*

CASEY JUSTIN MORFORD, born 6 July 1981, to John Arthur and Laura E. (Webb) Morford, of Shawnee, KS; grandson of Arthur Waldamer Morford of Topeka, KS. Arthur's line: *Arthur Carlton<sup>9</sup> William Isaac<sup>8</sup> Isaac<sup>7</sup> Frederick Sr.<sup>6</sup> Isaac<sup>5</sup> Cornelius<sup>4</sup> Morford.*

RACHEL MORFORD, born 2 August 1981, daughter of Edgar Calvin Jr. and Lori (Brown) Morford; granddaughter of Edgar Calvin Morford of Yakima, WA. Edgar Calvin Sr.'s line is: *Albert<sup>8</sup> Calvin Wakely<sup>7</sup> Abner T.<sup>6</sup> James<sup>5</sup> John<sup>4</sup> Thomas<sup>3</sup> Thomas<sup>2</sup> John<sup>1</sup> Morford.*

### Obituaries

FANNY (MORFORD) ULLOM, of Stigler, OK, died 10 October 1980. She was born 1 January 1889 in Deep Valley, PA, to James Leroy and Mary (Burdine) Morford. She had been a resident of Oklahoma since 1928, and taught school from 1929 to 1963. Her husband, William Harrison Ullom, died several years ago. Surviving are one son, Glenn, of Independence, KS; three grandchildren, 10 great-grandchildren; a niece Mary (Mrs. A. W.) Gardner of Pittsburgh, and several other nieces and nephews. Her line: *James Leroy<sup>7</sup> Isaac Newton<sup>6</sup> James<sup>5</sup> Daniel<sup>4</sup> Morford.*

PAUL ARCHER, son of Robert L. and Marion C. (Fowler) Archer, and grandson of Harvey and Emma Celestia (Morford) Fowler, died of a heart attack 26 February 1981, Wichita, KS.

(continued on page 60)

OBITUARIES - *continued from page 59*

Following cremation, his ashes were interred in the cemetery in Brookfield, OH, where his father had been buried. Paul had been employed-at Boeing Aircraft. He was 57 yrs. 2 mos. and 22 days old, having been born 4 December 1923. His grandmother's line was: *Isaac<sup>6</sup> Richard<sup>5</sup> John<sup>4</sup> Thomas<sup>3</sup> Thomas<sup>2</sup> John<sup>1</sup> Morford.*

ARTHUR WILLIAM GARDNER died 27 February 1981 at Pittsburgh, PA. He was survived by his wife, the former Mary Morford Wolf, and two children, Arthur Warren Gardner and Lois Jeanne (Mrs. Cecil) Gooch. Mary is daughter of the late Haven Veach and Elizabeth Abigail (Morford) Wolf. Elizabeth Abigail's line: *James Leroy<sup>7</sup> Isaac Newton<sup>6</sup> James<sup>5</sup> Daniel<sup>4</sup> Morford.*

WILLIAM B. HALL, retired farmer of Brooksville, KY, died 19 June 1981, aged 78. Born 26 March 1903 in Robertson Co., KY, he was a son of the late Thomas and Lutee (Orme) Hall. Survivors include his wife, Annabelle (Morford) Hall, and two sons, William A. of Lexington, and Rev. Eudell Hall of Brooksville. The couple had celebrated their fiftieth wedding anniversary in November 1980. His widow's parents were Everett and Zueann (Quinlan) Morford. Everett's line: *George William<sup>7</sup> George William<sup>6</sup> Daniel Jr.<sup>5</sup> Daniel<sup>4</sup> Morford Sr.*

THE EDITOR'S CORNER: We appreciate the Morford genealogical gleanings sent in by readers. John Strider found an 1861 list of able-bodied males of Waynesville, IL, which included John, Robert and Wesley Morford, sons of Frederick 1788-1851, of Cornelius' line. Mary Jane Stein hagen found a Jacob Moford on voters' list of 1792 election in Botetourt Co., VA; he's the earliest Jacob we know of, but we do not know where he fits in the family, so will do some research on him. Frequent packets of data come from Golda Morford and Viola Neeb; Ruby Boman's another who's always on the lookout for Morford records . . . Have had several phone calls from Morfords and enjoyed hearing from them . . . If you're wondering about the index of our first 2 issues, it's rough-drafted, alphabetized, but requires lots more work to get into printed form - would you believe it'll be as big as the MH quarterly even with reduction of print size? Would have been done this summer, except we had such good painting weather that I elected myself chief painter to do the outside of the house. Looks nice - pale green, brown trim (neighbors call it the "chocolate-mint" house!) . . . Celebrated by a "working vacation" - Harold and I checked Yakima, Pierce and King Counties, WA, to update our collection of Morford marriages, last checked in 1960s; also phoned all Morfords in Yakima, but many weren't home . . . Thanks to lots of good advice and help from our neighbor Robert Morford (a former beekeeper), our own first attempt at beekeeping resulted in a fine crop of delicious honey . . . We'd like to hear from you as to which articles you've most enjoyed . . . 3 separate branches of Morfords are covered in this issue; we'll do more next time. In some cases we're in need of just a little bit more research to tie our conclusions into a neat package. Be patient, we'll eventually get around to all your ancestors! . . . Several have written that birthday lists don't include descendants of other surnames, but space is limited. Sorry we missed your Sept. 12 birthdate, Edwin F. of Lexington. Some day we'll make a huge Morford Birthday Calendar, so if your birthday hasn't appeared in print yet, let us know . . . Wondering how you can help? If you're rich, see page 59; if not, how about checking your county courthouse for Morford marriages, or sending us Morford names and addresses from the new phone book when it is published? Give the MORFORD HISTORIAN as a birthday or Christmas gift to a relative -- or even a "just because" gift. Remember, "many hands make light work". Your help will hasten the day when we can start putting our projected series of Morford histories into print . . . And, keep those letters coming, love to hear from y'all! HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

