

Morford Historian

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

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THE TWO AARON WRIGHT FAMILIES OF OHIO

LIVING IN NEIGHBORING counties, and marrying, in the same year, women with the name of Mary, there were two men by the name of Aaron Wright. One was a wealthy physician who held property in both Montgomery and Warren Counties, Ohio; the other was just a farmer, living in Montgomery County, but who, as was the usual custom, went to the bride's county of residence -- in this case Warren County -- to be married.

Dr. Aaron Wright [c1813-1885], who died in Brooklyn, New York, married, on the second of April, 1840, at Amos Willets' home, Mary Willets, born 1 April 1820 in New York, a daughter of Amos and Ann (Titus) Willets, who were members of the Friends Meeting, at Springboro, Warren County, Ohio. Dr. Wright's wife died 18 April 1904. Volume II of William Wade Hinshaw's *Encyclopedia of American Quaker Genealogy* indicates that Dr. Aaron Wright was a son of Jonathan and Mary Wright. Children of Dr. Aaron and Mary (Willets) Wright were: Mary Ann (or "Marianna"), born in 1843; Amos Willets 1844; Frederick 1851, and Jonathan 1860. Dr. Wright and his family resided much of the time in Warren County, thus many of the records of this family are in the excellent card file maintained at the Glendower Museum Library in Lebanon, Ohio.

The other Aaron Wright is the one in whom we are interested. He was about 15 years older than Dr. Aaron, having been born 21 July 1798 in New Jersey, and died in Pymont, Perry Township, Montgomery County, Ohio, 20 May 1879. He had been married, first, to Ruth E., whose maiden name we did not learn; but it is his second marriage which is of interest to us, as the bride was Mary Morford, daughter of Cornelius Morford Jr. [1770-1851] by his first wife, Elizabeth Craft [1774-1809]. She was born 27 September 1804, in Delaware, probably in St. George's Hundred, New Castle County, as that is where both Cornelius Morford Sr. [1741-1825] and his son Cornelius Jr. were listed among "taxables", in 1804. She died 10 August 1884 at Pymont, Ohio.

Mary Morford's marriage to Aaron took place in Warren County, 17 September 1840 -- ten days short of her 36th birthday. Two children were born to her: Cornelius M., about 1843, and Mary Ann, born about 1847 or 1848.

Cornelius Morford Wright (that was almost certainly his full name) may have married in Illinois, as that is the birthplace of his wife Avira, whom he married about 1868; a son Edward was born in Illinois about 1869. By 1873 they were of Poweshiek County, in Iowa, where a son Cornelius was born to them. In 1879 when his father died, Cornelius M. Wright was said to have been "of Hastings, Adams Co., Nebraska"; but he returned to Iowa and in 1884 at the death of his mother, he was living in Malcom, Poweshiek County, Iowa. The 1885 census of that place indicated his profession as "M. (for medical?) Doctor." The MORFORD HISTORIAN would welcome later records of this family.

Mary Ann Wright married, 26 March 1869, in Montgomery County, Ohio, Henry F. Albert; they had two daughters, Louisa M. , born 1371 , and Dora E. , born 1873. The 1380 census shows the Albert family living in Brookville, Montgomery Co., Ohio. Did these Albert girls marry? and if so, to whom? and where are their descendants living?

LITTLE BY LITTLE, AND WITH MUCH HELP, A MORFORD MYSTERY IS SOLVED!

"MANY HANDS MAKE LIGHT WORK" is never more true than in genealogical research; thus it is gratifying to present this success story for our readers, especially those who were among the helpers. Rather than using standard genealogical format, we'll recount the various sources and methods utilized in proving the nebulous clues and traditions with which we started.

First, in 1957 the late Mrs. Joseph Wallingford Morford of Lexington, Ky., whose husband was a descendant of James H. Morford [1785-1843], let us borrow and photograph the Bible records of that family. In 1958, Lawrence Lee Morford, a descendant of James' brother John Morford [1778-1869], shared with us information which he and his father, the late Alexander Lee Morford [1878-1953] had learned as to the Pittsburgh Morfords. In 1977 the Bible records of this branch were photocopied for us by James F. Bryan, of Carthage, Mo., who is also a John Morford descendant. Both of these Bible records, together with one relating to Cornelius Morford Jr. , were published in the May 1977 issue of *Genealogical Magazine of New Jersey*, pages 57 through 64.

The mother of John and James H. Morford was the Mrs. Mary Morford [1753-1818], whose brief obituary appeared in a Pittsburgh newspaper. Lawrence Morford gave her maiden name as "Chamberlain"; the accuracy of his record is reinforced by the fact that the middle name of a daughter and granddaughter of John [1778-1869] was "Chamberlayne". Bible records of the family of Zebulon Morford [1722-94] and his wife, Susanna Barton [1727-1812] show the eldest son John born 10 November 1747 in Cranbury, N.J., with a wife named Mary Chamberlain. Lawrence also mentioned that John and James H. had a brother named Barton; a tradition in the James H. branch was that a third brother, his name not recollected, had also come to Pittsburgh, but "disappeared". Pittsburgh directories of the mid-1850s list: "Ruth Morford, widow of Barton"; in our list of early Ohio marriages is that of Barton Morford to Ruth Bond, in Jefferson County, 1832.

Next, we learned from our subscriber Steven Morford of June Lake, Calif. , that his mother thought she had a picture of Ruth Morford. She did, and thanks to Vera (Mrs. Harry C.) Morford of Modesto, Calif., here is a reproduction of it. On the back of the picture was Ruth's name and her birthyear, 1802.



RUTH (BOND) MORFORD 1802-

Another subscriber, Gary D. Morford of Lucinda, Pa., sent us a photocopy of the marriage record of Barton Morford and Ruth Bond, shown below, actual size.

The State of Ohio Jefferson County
 do hereby certify that
 on the 13th day of September 1832 I joined together
 the holy state of matrimony Barton Morford & Ruth Bond
 of lawful age Given under my hand & seal Sept 13
 1832 John Sutherland & Seal

Apparently Barton left the Pittsburgh area by 1832, settling in or near Steubenville, Ohio, where the 1840 census shows him as Barton "Moffitt", aged between 40 and 50. His wife was born ca 1800-10. They had 2 daughters born ca 1832-35, and 2 sons born about 1835-40. We have no doubt but that the sons were James B. (for "Barton", or "Bond"?), who was born in 1836, and William L. [1837-97], whose picture is shown below, together with one of his wife, Letitia Ann (English) Morford [1847-1916]. Both these families lived in or near Alleghany, Pa. As to the daughters, the younger is still unknown to us, but the elder was Susan. Her picture (loaned by Vera Morford) was identified, in old script on the back, as "Susan Morford Agy". Her age was not known to family members, but a little 'sleuthing' as to the period within which R. H. Gano, the photographer, had a studio at 88 Federal St., Alleghany, indicated that the picture must have been taken between 1864 and 1875. Her dress style is of that period, and we guessed her age as in the mid-thirties. Mention was made that her signature, "Susan Morford Agy", was on a guest list at the 1906 wedding of Clarence Edgar Morford [1876-1961] to Fannie Burgess Crider [1878-1953].



SUSAN (MORFORD) AGY

Aha! living in 1906! She should show up in the Soundex index to the 1900 census of Pa., her birth year between 1833-35, birthplace Ohio. A microfilm of the index was ordered, arriving after many weeks, and was eagerly scanned for an Agy with wife Susan. There she was, living on Charles Street, Alleghany, with husband John, 69, born 1831 in Pa. She was 67, born 1833 in Ohio! Listed with them were an unmarried daughter Ella Agy, 33 (born Mar. 1867), Anne Gibson, 38 (b. Sept. 1862), and grandson Clarence Gibson, 16 (b. Oct. 1883). Further along in the index was a John Clarence Agy, 34 (b. Apr. 1866) with wife Sarah B., 34, and son Clarence, 3, living at 908 Middle Street, Alleghany. Repetition of the name Clarence seems to indicate that this John Clarence Agy was a son of the elder John Agy; both the Agy and the Morford families seem to have been partial to the name Clarence.

Now, how to find the younger daughter? Suggestion: Check Alleghany directories until John Agy's name, or that of a widow Susan, disappears; then obtain death certificates. With an exact death date, a newspaper obituary may now be sought; this might mention a sister and other relatives among Susan's survivors, thus providing new clues to assist in the search for other family members. Good Hunting! And be sure to report results, so that we may publish a sequel to this story in the MORFORD HISTORIAN.

These two pictures, also loaned by Vera Morford, are of her husband's grandparents, William L. Morford [1837-1397] and Letitia Ann (English) Morford [1847-1916] who were married 23 Nov. 1857, Alleghany City, now Pittsburgh, Pa. Their children: Harry Milward 1860; Charles Edward 1862-1892; William Thorn 1864-1936; Ella Jane 1866-1945 (m.. Chas. Hodge Hays); Freddie 1868-9, d.yng; Cora Mae 1871-1939 (never md.); Susan Gertrude 1873, d.yng; Clarence Edgar 1876-1961; and Margaret 1887 (m. Frank Kasten).



WILLIAM L. MORFORD



LETTIE E. MORFORD

NEWS OF MORFORDS AND THEIR DESCENDANTS

CHRISTINA LESLIE MORFORD, daughter of Joe Allen and Geraldine (Owens) Morford of Parkersburg, W. Va., became the bride of Richard Arthur Vore in a double-ring ceremony, 8 August 1981, at Trinity Episcopal Church in Parkersburg. The groom is son of Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Vore of Marietta, Ohio. The young couple will make their home in Marietta, where Richard is employed at the Aiolite Company. Christina's Morford line is: *Joe Allen¹⁰ Byron Leslie⁹ Patrick Hagan⁸ John Amyot⁷ Isaac Newton⁶ James⁵ Daniel⁴ Morford.*

WEDDING BELLS WILL RING ON VALENTINE'S DAY, 1982, for Brenda Lee Morford and Raymond George Manville II. Brenda is daughter of Lelan Leroy Morford of Waterford, Oakland Co., Mich., and Mary Rivers of Woodbine, Kentucky. The groom is son of Vivian Rourke of Berkley and Raymond Manville I of Pontiac, Mich. Lelan's line: *Perry Lelan⁹ Frederick Warner⁸ Thomas⁷ Garrett Sr.⁶ Joseph⁵ Morford.*

JAMES PHILIP O'CONNOR, born 1 July 1951 at Klamath Falls, Ore., was found dead in his laboratory at Seattle University, Seattle, Washington, where he was teaching chemistry, 12 July 1981. He was son of Michael J. and Margaret Irene (Hurley) O'Connor, and the grandson of Michael Henry and Flora Irene (Morford) Hurley. He is survived by his wife, the former Mary Elizabeth Lidstrom. His grandmother's Morford line: *Anderson⁸ Isaac⁷ Frederick Sr.⁶ Isaac⁵ Cornelius⁴ Morford.*

EVELYN DYCE (HEROLD) (MORFORD) CASTO, whose first husband was Alan Vincent Morford [1912-67] died 8 Aug. 1981, Hollywood, Fla., aged 64. She was born 1916 at Minnehaha Springs, W. Va., daughter of the late Andrew L. & Eulah (Gum) Herold. A retired registered nurse, she was a member of West Side Baptist Church, and of the Order of Eastern Star, in Hollywood, Fla. Surviving are a daughter Lois Jean (Mrs. Robert) Shaw, Fort Lauderdale, Fla.; a sister Dorothy Moore, Bridgeport, Conn; two brothers, Woodrow Herold, Baltimore, Md. and Andrew Herold, Aiken, So. Car.; and a number of grandchildren. Services were held 13 August at First Baptist Church, Spencer, W. Va.; interment at Morford Cemetery, Triplett, W. Va. Her first husband's line: *Patrick Hagan⁸ John Amyot⁷ Isaac Newton⁶ James⁵ Daniel⁴ Morford.*

BLANCHE SUEVILLE (MORFORD) PITMAN, of Rio, Ill., died 25 September 1981, aged 90, in Galesburg, Ill.; burial was in Oak Lawn Memorial Gardens Cemetery, Galesburg. She was born 20 May 1891 in Dexter, Iowa, daughter of John Jasper and Annetta Della (Allen) Morford. She was married 23 February 1917 to James Albert Pitman, Jr. [1890-1965], a son of James Albert and Alice (Mathers) Pitman. Blanche's line: *John Jasper⁷ John Titus⁶ James⁵ John⁴ Thomas³ Thomas² John¹ Morford.*

JACOB MICHAEL GRAHAM, infant son of Larry Kenneth and Wendalyn "Wendy" Ellen (Morford) Graham, was born dead; funeral services were held 30 Oct. 1981. Wendy's line: *Anderson Leroy¹⁰ Ralph Milton⁹ Anderson⁸ Isaac⁷ Frederick Sr.⁶ Isaac⁵ Cornelius⁴ Morford.*

EVELYN (GRIGSON) MORFORD, wife of Dr. John "Jack" Taylor Morford of Carlisle, Ky., died 2 November 1981, Lexington, Ky., following open heart surgery. A native of Maysville, Ky., she was born 26 February 1924 to the late Harold and Della (Kiskadden) Grigson. She and Dr. Morford were married 8 December 1944, and were parents of three children: Mrs. Michael Cochran; Susie (who died about 1970); and Jay, of Richmond; six grandchildren also survive. Mrs. Morford was a graduate of Maysville High School and of Louisville School of Nursing. Brothers and sisters who survive are Dorothy (Mrs. William) Boley, Richard and Eugene Grigson, all of Mason Co., Ky.; Raymond Grigson of Manchester, Ohio; Sylvia (Mrs. Frank) Vice of Ewing, Ky.; Rubye (Mrs. Reynolds) Kalb, of Brooksville, Ky.; and Mrs. Martha Poynter of Cincinnati. Dr. Jack's line is: *John Denzel⁹ John Taylor⁸ John Amyot⁷ Isaac Newton⁶ James⁵ Daniel⁴ Morford.*



SIGNIFICANCE OF AGE CALLED RELATIVE: SUCCESS IN THIRD CAREER IS PROOF

The accompanying article, by Diana Dawson of the Independence (Mo.) *EXAMINER*, dated Monday, March 9, 1981, is reprinted here, by permission of that newspaper. "Audrey (Morford) Stubbart is a lady after my own heart", says the MORFORD HISTORIAN editor, who shares Audrey's distaste for slipshod grammar, misspelled words, and inaccurate punctuation. Our local newspaper needs a person just like Audrey!

Audrey's Morford line: Francis A⁷ Francis M.⁶ William⁵
John⁴ Thomas³ Thomas² John¹

Audrey Stubbart, The Examiner's 85-year-old proofreader, scours a reporter's copy for mistakes on a newsroom computer. Two decades into her third career, she says age is relative.

Audrey Stubbart's blue eyes peer above a newsroom computer terminal, searching for the reporter who wrote a word that doesn't click. Like Mark Twain who said "The difference between the right word and the almost right word is the difference between lightning and the lightning bug," The Examiner's 85-year-old proofreader doesn't settle for almost right.

As the culprit nears the terminal, Stubbart points a finger at one of several hundred words on the screen. "You didn't mean to use that word, did you?" she asks. Whether he meant to use that word or not, he knows it was the wrong choice.

Her hair may be snow and her hands show the lines of the ages, but Stubbart has summer spunk. For more than six decades, she has waged a personal war against mistakes that began with a Fourth of July holiday 70 years ago.

As a young store clerk in Sherwood, Iowa, she sold a \$2.56 pair of shoes to a motherless girl on July 3. By the time fireworks and picnic lunches had been reduced to ashes and chicken bones, the girl returned the shoebox to the store counter - one shoe black and the other brown.

"Then, I saw how much a mistake could affect a person's life. The girl either was not at the picnic or had to wear her old pair of shoes," Stubbart says. "Ever since, I've been so hard on myself and hated to make mistakes. But I've made enough of them to stay humble."

Between the picnic and The Examiner, the Stubbarts homesteaded in Wyoming where she rode across the western plains on horseback to teach school seven years. An avid reader since the age of four, she'd learned intricacies of grammar from a text propped up on her ironing board, for amusement and to fill hours of aloneness.

Herding sheep and killing rattlesnakes helped to fill the time between teaching school and rearing five children. After World War II, the homestead was sold for \$1.25 an acre and Stubbart returned to Independence with her husband and five children.

Once in the city, Stubbart earned the nickname "Rock of Gibraltar" from co-workers at Herald House-Independence Press. There, until mandatory retirement forced her out after 18 years, she read proof and assisted writing church publications.

"They asked me to be a copy editor once and I said, 'No this proofroom is the hub of the wheel and I'm staying right here,'" says the woman who has never asked for a pay raise.

There she stayed until "retiring" at age 66. An Examiner news editor

then hired her as proofreader, just until the newspaper could get someone else.

Now, two decades into her third career, Stubbart serves as the newspaper's living dictionary, thesaurus and grammar text. From across the newsroom, she'll yelp about a misplaced modifier or a comma fault minutes before the press chums out newspapers. But she doesn't know the definition of retirement.

"I don't see any reason for people to put others on the shelf at 65 and make them waste the best years of their life," she says. "If they've been living right, that is when they'll have the most knowledge - everything they've accumulated during all those years of living."

Accounting for her longevity, Stubbart says, "First you have to choose long-lived ancestors. Really, it isn't the length, but the quality of life that goes on the ledger. Mother told me and I believe, we should fill our minds with such beautiful pictures, sounds, music, poetry and scriptures that if we were shipwrecked on a desert island we would not be alone. There are islands of deafness and blindness, too, that can tax the mind's store."

Mention the fact that it's amazing for an 85-year-old woman to work 40 hours a week and Stubbart will either wrinkle her nose or quickly pass over the subject.

"I guess there are two of me. One says how nice it is to be recognized like that," Stubbart explains, "and the other is saying, forget it, can't you. Let's just go on from here. Age is relative."

"I'm not the amazing one - Pete Esser is. That's one thing I'm eternally grateful for, that he's let me work this long," she says as she protests an article being written about her. "Several times I've asked him if he doesn't want me to retire and he says no."

But The Examiner publisher throws the "amazing" title back to Stubbart. "Frankly, what would we do without her?," Esser asks. "I think when we went to the front-end (computer terminal) system she was concerned we would not have the need for her, but Audrey is here as long as she wants to stay."

Most of her original Examiner cohorts have retired and urged her to do the same. In their place has come a news staff with a median age of 25. "It's learning that I want them all to do I say I'm not here forever, so learn not to spell commitment with two t's," she says.

"I don't feel old until I look in the glass and then look at the young ones around me," she says. "I never really felt my age until at a staff meeting I brought out a book of grammar and Jim Snell said, 'Just look at that copyright date.' Rules of grammar never change. A subject is still a subject and a verb is still a verb. Never the twain shall meet."

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. [John¹ or Thomas¹], 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 October 1981 issue:*

DESCENDANTS OF DANIEL⁴ MORFORD 1740-1833:

Ethel Viola (Loan) Garrison, Iowa City IA

Grace⁹ (Morford) Loan; John William⁸ Morford; Reason⁷ Daniel⁶ James⁵ Daniel⁴ Morford

Elberta (Smiley) Kruger, Garrison IA

Eunice (Levengood) Smiley⁹; Sarah (Day) Levengood⁸; Amariah Day⁷; Sarah⁶ (Morford) Day Daniel⁵ Morford

Daniel Leroy Morford, El Paso TX

Valmy Leroy⁸ James Leroy⁷ Isaac Newton⁶ James⁵ Daniel⁴ Morford

JoAnn Morford, Presho SD

Darrell Keith¹⁰ Leland Reed⁹ Brinton M.⁸ Isaac Reed⁷ Jesse⁶ James⁵ Daniel⁴ Morford

DESCENDANT OF DANIEL⁶ MORFORD 1793-1876:

Norman Lewis Morford, Indianapolis IN

Eibert Silas¹⁰ Arthur Ray⁹ Lewis Franklin⁸ William Henry⁷ Daniel⁶ Morford

DESCENDANTS OF JOHN¹ MORFORD c165 - 173 :

John F. Hendrickson, Annandale VA

Murl S. Hendrickson⁹; Ella (Stanley) Hendrickson⁸; Nancy (Woods) Stanley⁷; Martha⁶ (Morford) Woods; Joseph⁵ Morford; James⁴ Thomas³ Thomas² John¹

Gregory Leroy Morford, El Paso TX

Benjamin Wakely⁹ Clarence Leroy⁸ Calvin Wakely⁷ Abner Tunis⁶ James⁵ John⁴ Thomas³ Thomas² John¹

Monroe Alexander Morford, Weimar CA

Alfred Melvin⁸ Edward Gurn⁷ Jacob S.⁶ William⁵ John⁴ Thomras³ Thomas² John¹ Morford

Diane Lyndall (Morford) Sime, Loomis CA

Benjamin Wakely⁹ Clarence Leroy⁸ Calvin Wakely⁷ Abner Tunis⁶ James⁵ John⁴ Thomas³ Thomas² John¹

DESCENDANTS OF JOHN¹ MORFORD c1784-187 :

Lisa Ann (Feil) Ferriere, W. Willington CT

Mayfred J. (Wilbur) Feil¹⁰; Arthur Morford Wilbur⁹ Eizabetheth⁸ (Morford) Wilbur; James⁷ John⁶ Morford

James Henry Morford, Monroe NC

John Henry Jr.⁹ John Henry⁸ Matthias⁷ John⁶

Robert Stanley Morford, Ames IA

George Martin¹⁰ George Wilson⁹ Marvin Martin⁸ Jerome⁷ John⁶

Arthur Dean Reinhart, Guilford CT

Anne Frances¹² (Morford) Reinhart; Albert Francis¹¹ Morford Fredrick⁹ George⁸ James⁷ John⁶

DESCENDANT OF ZEBULON³ MORFORD 1722-1794:

Joseph Kinnear Morford II, San Francisco CA

Joseph Kinnear⁸ Joseph Wallingford⁷ Isaac Newton⁶ James H.⁵ John⁴ Zebulon³ Morford

?? ?? ANCESTRAL LINE UNKNOWN ?? ??

Joan Morford, Bryant Pond ME

NOTE: This is a gift subscription, . from Mrs. Joan (Morford) Bungum, of Lindstrom, Minnesota, to an unknown Joan .Morford. We invited Miss? Mrs.? Joan Morford to fill in the ancestral chart so as to identify her tine; but had not had a reply at the time this issue was being prepared for the printer. We hope to hear from you, Joan Morford!!

JACOB MOFORD was among the 321 voters out of 518 on the 1792 tax lists of Botetourt Co., Virginia (which then included present Botetourt, Craig, Roanoke and Alleghany) who participated in an election of Delegates and Senators held at the Court House in Botetourt County in April 1792. This information was noted and sent to the MORFORD HISTORIAN by our subscriber Mary Jane Steinhagen of McLean, Va., who found it in a book entitled *A Seed-bed of the Republic*, by Robert Douthat Stoner, 1962, Kingsport TN Press. Jacob is not a common name in the Morford families and this is the earliest of whom we have record. If any reader has more data of Jacob and his family, we'd like to learn more about him, so we may determine where he fits into the known families.

EXTRA COPIES of this or earlier issues of MORFORD HISTORIAN available at \$2.20 each; publication began July 1, 1980, so there are only 2 issues for that year, July & October.

WHO WAS JOHN MORFORD, REVOLUTIONARY WAR SOLDIER AND SADDLER?
(or, IN STUDYING ONE PROBLEM, WE SOLVE TWO!)

JOHN MORFORD OF FREEHOLD, N.J. , in 1827 at the age of 80 made application for pension, based on his claimed service as a saddler during the Revolutionary War [R-7379] in the company of Capt. Dunbar from Maryland. He said he had served in the battles of Germantown (1777) and Monmouth (1778), although he gave the dates of his service as eighteen months during 1778 and 1779. He had a wife, Sarah, aged 81 , who was quite infirm. To prove his poverty he presented a pitifully brief schedule of personal belongings, estimated by the Judges of the Inferior Court of Common Pleas as worth only \$29.37. Even though the judges, William Lloyd, John Hull , John Headden, James G. Herbert, and W. J. Bowne, urged that the claim be considered because of the petitioner's age, poverty and infirmity, the application was denied.

The name of John Morford, saddler, appeared on the tax ratable list in Freehold, from 1779 to 1797; in 1784 his household consisted of eight white inhabitants. Except for John and his wife, we have no idea who the others in the household were.

Recently we came across two deeds which provide clues to the identity of this man, who was born in 1747. The first deed was made 10 March 1804 by John Campbell and his wife Hendricka, conveying an acre in Freehold to Benjamin and John Mofford, sons of John Mofford Sr. of the same county and state (i.e. , Monmouth County, N.J.). A second deed, 2 Oct. 1806, identifies the John "Mofford" of the earlier deed as "John Morford Jr. of Freehold Township, sadler"; and mentions his brother Benjamin, "since deceased", as well as two sisters, Susannah (or Hannah), wife of Theodorus Conover, and Ann Morford. John and these two sisters were called "sole heirs" of their brother Benjamin Morford.

Now the problem is to identify the John Mofford Sr. who was father of at least these 4 children (although he certainly may have had others who died before 1804). As John Sr. was of Monmouth County, he was almost certainly a descendant of the earliest Thomas and Susanna. The John who was a son of the earliest John was of Middlesex Co, by 1704 and was said to have been born in 1665 and to have died in Salem, N.J. in 1733, age 98.

The will of the first Thomas [given verbatim, p. 33 MORFORD HISTORIAN, April 1981] was dated December 1695, listing male issue first (as was customary), although all but one of the daughters appear to have been older than both sons. As the elder son was born in February 1692, John must have been born between November 1692 and December 1695. We were in error in the April 1981 article in assigning the birthyear of 1685 to this man; it was his cousin of the same name who was born in 1685, as mentioned above.

In his Vol. IV, N.J. Miscellany, Dr. Stillwell is strangely silent as to Thomas' son, John. He numbered him as #4; but gives no further account of him, skipping from elder brother Thomas [1692-1750], to #5, Catharine, born perhaps in the 1680s, as her first marriage, to Edward Taylor, was about 1701/2. Dr. Stillwell lists two John Morfords who served from Monmouth County in the Revolutionary War, one in Capt. John Walton's Troop Light Dragoons, the other in Capt. Kenneth Hankinson's Co. , First Regiment; but identifies neither one. As John the saddler says he served in Capt. Dunbar's Company, there must have been at least three contemporary men by the name of John Morford.

In thus determining the ancestral line of John Morford the saddler as John² Thomas¹, it is likely we have also solved a mystery as to one of the wives of Theodorus Van Kouwenhoven (or Conover), born 24 May 1733, died 10 December 1825; buried in Old Tennent Cem. [NJ Misc. 2:323]. He was son of William Van Kouwenhoven [1703-77], whose will was witnessed by a John Morford. [NJA 34:112]. See discussion on p. 173, NYG&BR., July 1950, in *The Van Kouwenhover-Conover Family*, by Lincoln C. Cocheau.

WHO WAS THE LOYALIST JOHN MORFORD [1757-1838], OF NOVA SCOTIA?

IN CONTRAST TO THE THREE JOHN MORFORDS who served in American forces during the Revolutionary War, there was also a John Morford, born about 1757, who was a Loyalist, in sympathy with the British cause. With his first wife, whose name is unknown to us, he moved to Nova Scotia by 1783, settling in Digby, where he died in November 1838 at the age of 81, and was buried 23 November. He married second, 1791, Margaret Dixon, whose burial at Jogin, Digby Co. , N.S. is recorded as 3 January 1830. At the time John came to Canada, a Jane Stenegar, whose relationship, if any, is unknown, came with him. If anyone can find further data of this man, as to where he lived during the war, and who his parents were, the Morford Historian would appreciate receiving the information.

MORFORDS WHO WERE PIONEERS IN WASHINGTON TERRITORY AND STATE

JOHN WESLEY MORFORD [1861-1946] and his first wife, Mary Jones, were probably first of the Morfords to arrive in Washington Territory. A son of John W. and Mary "Polly" (Cullumber) Morford of Ohio, Illinois and Kansas, he went from Munden, Kansas to British Columbia in the summer of 1884, and lived in Nanaimo when his son John R. was born in February 1885. Soon afterward he and his family went to Carbonado, Pierce County, Washington Territory, where his wife died in September 1887. Early in 1889, with his second wife, Jane "Jennie" Catherine (Irish), he moved to the Yakima Valley where they reared a large family, many of whose descendants are still living in that region.

SHELDON OSMUND MORFORD [1849-1919], son of Isaac and Celestia Lysetta (Williams) Morford, came from Ohio to Washington Territory some time prior to December 1885, and was a resident of Yakima for a number of years. A future issue of MH will have a longer biographical sketch of Judge Morford.

Next to arrive was REMEMBRANCE MORFORD [1834-1924, a son of Thomas and Sarah (Stoops) Morford of Greene Co. Pa. and Muscatine Co., Iowa; with his wife, Catharine (Rupp) Morford, Remembrance came to Seattle in the spring of 1887, from Pottawatomie County, Ia. Their children and descendants are mostly of Seattle and nearby areas.

Following her younger brother, John Wesley Morford, MARGARET (MORFORD) ADAMS and her husband GILBERT ROYAL ADAMS [1853-1927] came West in September 1887 from Munden, Kans. to Carbonado, W.T., arriving on the very day when John Morford's wife had died. The Adams family lived at Wilkeson for a while, then moved to Naches, where they lived until early 1895, returning to Kansas for a few years before again moving West to settle in Lebanon and later in West Salem, in Oregon's beautiful Willamette Valley.

Another Kansan was JEROME JEFFERSON MORFORD [1841-1910], son of James and Martha (Titus) Morford. He and his first wife, Amanda Janette (Abbott) Morford [1847-90] had lived in Illinois; in Seapo, Republic Co., Kansas; in Concordia, Cloud Co. , Kansas; and some time between July 1888 and October 1890, came to Seattle, King County -- the first of the Morfords to arrive after Washington Territory became a state. Their children were residents of Ellensburg, Sumner, Edmonds, Tolt, and Renton.

FRANCIS "FRANK" DANIEL MORFORD [1847-1926], son of James C. and Mary (McLaughlin) Morford, was in Washington state some time prior to 1893. He and his wife, Ida May (Chase) Morford [1856-1921] had lived in Wrightstown, Brown Co. , Wis.; in Cumberland, Barron Co., Wis; and in Minnesota and North Dakota in 1882 and 1886, before coming West. They settled in Spokane, eastern Washington, where Ida died 13 December 1921, and Francis Daniel Morford died about five years later, 19 August 1926. Two sons who were of Spokane were Alva Leroy [1875-1953] and Leroy Eugene [1879-1930].

JAMES CHAMBERLAIN MORFORD [1795-1883], LAST OF THE "OLD DEFENDERS"

FROM DRUMMER BOY TO QUARTERMASTER in the company commanded by his future kinsman sums up the military career of the War of 1812 soldier, James Chamberlain Morford. He was born 10 September 1795, probably in a home located on the "Long Green Road", in what was originally Lord Baltimore Gunpowder Manor, in Baltimore County, Maryland. This road runs through land designated as (John) Chamberlain's Meadow, turning northeast along a tract known as "Gitting's Choice Resurveyed". It is likely these were lands belonging to James' ancestors, as he was eldest of three sons born to John Morford [1766-1837] and his second wife, Susanna "Sukey" Chamberlain, whose parents were said to have been Philip and Sarah (Gittings) Chamberlain.

James was only 19 when, on 12 September 1814, he fought in the Battle of North Point, later commemorated by a monument where it was customary for survivors of the defense of Baltimore to meet on the anniversary of the battle, and, in uniform with crape armbands, march around the monument, carrying their cockaded hats. The History of Baltimore 1729-1898 says "the last to honor the custom was James Morford; he was too feeble to walk and was driven round it in a hack, accompanied by Mr. Todd Hall and William M. Marine, the last named .. for years orator of the Association of Defenders." This is at variance with a newspaper account written shortly after James' death, in which it was stated that he was the sole survivor present at the last dinner given honoring the "Old Defenders". After the dinner he took the street car to Patterson Park, where a celebration was in progress, at which he made a few remarks. The History of Baltimore stated "when Mr. Morford died it was supposed he was the final living member of the association; recently that assumption has been discovered to be incorrect. There was until lately living ... Elisha Glenn, in Newark, N.J., over 100 years of age, and John Lamberson, 96 years of age, residing in Baltimore, and two in Texas --Jarett Carl, 102, and Joseph Coffman, 96 ..."

James C. Morford married first, 3 January 1822 in Baltimore, Elizabeth, a daughter of Richard and Mary (Collins) Fowler. (It was her relative, Henry Fowler, who had been Captain of the company in which James Morford had served.) James and Elizabeth had 6 children: Mary Jane [1822-1905, m. 1849 James S. Cornelius]; Susannah Elizabeth [1824-1915, m. 1846 Charles McComas]; Sarah Ann [1826-67, m. 1847 George W. Bishop]; Alice Miller [1828- , m. 1853 William Dorsey Cowley]; Richard 1830-36]; and Julia Ann [1832-1928, m. 1859 George Franklin Lewis].

Elizabeth (Fowler) Morford, who was born 3 March 1794, died 1 October 1839, and James married 2d, 13 October 1840, Ruth Ann Biddison. There were two children by this marriage; both died before 1850. They were James Thomas, born 1842, and Samuel Lucas, born 1848. Ruth Ann (Biddison) Morford died 23 October 1872, in Baltimore, and was buried in Lot R-118, Greenmount Cemetery, Baltimore.

James C. Morford died 17 December 1888, aged 93 years, 3 months and 7 days; was first interred in Lot 65, area J, Greenmount Cemetery; but later was reinterred in a family burial plot belonging to the Fowler family, near Capt. Henry Fowler's old stone house.

It's interesting to note where some of James' siblings settled. His elder half-brother, William, and his eldest sister Harriet Plowman, were of Newcastle, Coshocton Co., Ohio, where their father lived in his latter years. His second sister, Jane Fulks, and youngest sister Mary Gardner, were of York Co., Pa., where their father had been born. Sarah Chamberlain Chilcoat, and the youngest brother Thomas (who used the spellings of Maffatt and Morfoot) stayed in Baltimore; while the middle brother, Philip C. [for "Chamberlain"?], moved to Champaign Co., Ohio, and died in Indiana.

MORE NEWS OF MORFORDS AND THEIR DESCENDANTS

NELLIE S. MORFORD, 72, of 817 Roberts St. , Newport, Ky. , died at her home Thursday, 10 September 1981. Survivors: Daughters Ms. Geraldine Morford and Barbara Morford, both of Newport; sons, Douglas, Dayton and Ray of Newport; sister Myrtle Hilton, of Covington; brothers Garrett Smith of Early Branch, N.C., and Sawyer Smith, Cincinnati; and 5 grandchildren. Services at Newport; burial at Spring Grove Cemetery, Cincinnati, Ohio She was widow of Dwight Anderson Morford [1903-1968], who, the Morford Historian has reason to believe, was a son of James E. Morford (who also had sons Alonzo, James and William); and grandson of John M. and Jane (Watson) Morford. This John Morford, born in 1838, died in Linton, Indiana in 1829 at the home of his son "Orento" -- possibly a reporter's mistake for "Alonzo". He was said to have been survived by three daughters and four sons. If any reader can furnish the birth and death dates and places of this family group, it will be appreciated.

NEW TWIG ON MORFORD FAMILY TREE

ROBERT CLARE PORTER, son of Terry Lynn and Marcia Ann (Morford) Porter, of Lawton, OK, was born 7 December 1981. His mother's line: *Clare Edmister Morford*⁹ *Robert Boyd Morford*⁸ *John Thomas Morford*⁷ *Joseph*⁶ *James*⁵ *Daniel*⁴ *Morford*.

THE EDITOR'S CORNER:



Several subscribers have sent in contributions toward a fund for hiring the services of a clipping bureau, so that we'll be able to keep current on Morford births, marriages, deaths, and other news items about Morfords everywhere in the United States, such as the one on page 65 about Audrey (Morford) Stubbart, bless her heart, who is still going strong as the EXAMINER's proof-reader, at the age of 86+. Or, an article about the Morford who has invented the proverbial "better mouse trap"! We hope to publish that one, soon. We're trying to get details as to the clipping bureau fees, and hope more contributions will come in soon, so that we'll be in a position to sign up for this news source To the reader who wonders why we list so many "branches" of the family, it's because in many cases we haven't found good, solid proofs, or even reasonably strong clues, as to where some of the "strays" tie in to lines known to come from one of the 2 Morford brothers of

New Jersey. For instance, there's an unidentified Charles Morford, born in the 1760s, who was of Genesee Co., N.Y., according to the 1810 census. Might he be father of William Morford [1817-78] who was married in 1848 at Alexander, Genesee Co., N.Y., to Polly Nelson? If he is, who was his wife? what other children did they have? did he have brothers and sisters? And even if we find the answers to these questions, we always wind up with a new question, like "Who were HIS parents? and that's, what all the digging into early deeds, wills, and census records is about -- trying to find sufficient proofs to be sure of where each branch fits into the larger picture of the entire Morford family. If you live near a county courthouse, and have time to spare, why not take a notebook and pencil and copy Morford marriage records for us? Or ask at the public library whether they maintain an obituary file which could be checked for Morford deaths; every little bit helps! MH subscriptions run concurrently with the calendar year, expiring in December; this makes the bookkeeping easier for us. The expiration date was typed on your October issue; but in case you didn't keep the cover page, look at the one on this issue and if it says Dec'81 , get your check book out and send in your renewal Do you know that there are more than 400 Morfords who have birthdays between now and July? Some may already be subscribers some are too young to read ... but that leaves quite a few who might enjoy receiving a gift subscription to MORFORD HISTORIAN. It makes good reading when the snows are deep and the wintry winds howling, and you'd just as soon stay indoors, anyway! So treat your favorite relative to a gift subscription. **Enid**