

Morford Historian

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

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Annual subscription, \$6.00

Vol. 4, No. 3

July 1983

AUDREY MORFORD STUBBART RECEIVES MATRIX TABLE AWARD

MORFORDS have good reason to be proud of Audrey Stubbart of Independence, Missouri, who on April 11th was one of six women honored at the 35th Annual Matrix Table held by Women in Communications, Inc., at the Alameda Plaza Hotel in Kansas City, Missouri, and the only one to receive a standing ovation for her many achievements. A daughter has described Audrey as "born of gypsy parents, self-taught, ranch-educated, and made of saddle leather and horseshoe nails" . . . testimony to a woman of indomitable spirit whose many accomplishments have enriched the lives of those about her. Born on a farm in Nebraska, Audrey Married at fifteen and moved to Wyoming where she and her husband homesteaded a ranch. In addition to rearing five children and helping her husband with ranch duties, she taught herself history, literature, English and math. Eventually she obtained a teacher's certificate by passing an examination from the University of Wyoming. When neighboring ranchers established a prairie school, Audrey was asked to be the instructor. She rode horseback to school each day.



Audrey M. Stubbart

The Stubbarts moved to Independence in 1944. There Audrey became involved in RLDS Church activities. She worked 18 years as a proofreader and copy editor at Herald House, producing the first Herald House stylebook and serving on the Book, of Mormon revision committee. At her retirement from Herald House,

twenty years ago, Audrey was asked to join the staff of the *INDEPENDENCE EXAMINER*, where she still rides herd on the grammar, spelling and punctuation of the contents of each issue of the paper. When she was introduced at the Matrix Table as "87 and still working a 40- hour week " , the audience gasped . Some of them knew that her week rarely includes just 40 hours at her desk, but is followed by such housewifely activities as tending her garden, quilting, and babysitting.

Audrey was way past the usual retirement age, eight years ago, when she learned to type and use the newspaper's newly installed computer system. Her present job is not limited to proofreading -- she also writes "Days Gone By" each day, and produces a weekly column, as well.

An article about Audrey and her third career appeared in the *INDEPENDENCE EXAMINER* on 9 March 1981, and many of our readers enjoyed reading a reproduction of the story in the January 1982 issue of MORFORD HISTORIAN. Audrey is truly a very special person, and we are pleased that the Women in Communications recognize her worth.

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

CORRECTION, PLEASE --- LET'S GET THE RECORD STRAIGHT!

EVEN IN THE BEST publications, mistakes get into print, and the MORFORD HISTORIAN does not claim to be infallible. In our article on page 112 of the April 1983 issue, about "MORFORDS IN THE REVOLUTIONARY WAR", Thomas Morford was designated as a Quaker. This statement had come from a correspondent, many years ago, who shall remain nameless. Our subscriber and long-time correspondent Louise Dunn called us to task, pointing out that Thomas Morford [1743-1818] was a member and vestryman of Christ Church, Shrewsbury, N.J. References to Thomas, his wife Hester Holmes, and several of their children appear in the Parish Register of Christ Church, as published in Vol. I of Stillwell's *HISTORICAL & GENEALOGICAL MISCELLANY*. James Steen, in his *HISTORY OF CHRIST CHURCH, SHREWSBURY*, also notes that Thomas Morford was a member of the Vestry, 10 July 1769; and that in 1785 the Vestry appointed Thomas Lloyd and Thomas Morford to attend a general convention of the Churches of the whole United States, to be held at Philadelphia. In 1807, in a list of Wardens and Vestrymen elected, appear the names of Thomas Morford "son-in-law of Josiah Holmes", and Thomas Morford Junior, grandson of Josiah Holmes. (The latter book also states that Josiah Holmes was born a Quaker, but was baptized in the Episcopal Church before 1738.) Thomas Morford, his wife Esther, and his sons George Taylor Morford, Thomas, and Garret, are all buried at Christ Church. Both Josiah Holmes and his son-in-law Thomas Morford were on the "Committee of Safety" in 1774-75.

 A SPECIAL REQUEST FROM GOLDA MORFORD

MORFORD HISTORIAN has been asked to notify its readers that Miss Golda Morford, formerly of Michigan and California, and presently living in Clearwater, Florida, is not well enough to continue correspondence with those seeking information on their Morford ancestry. Golda has been more than generous in sharing all her records with us, for many years, and we will do our best to respond to those who need help and data on their lines. Postage-paid reply envelopes will be appreciated from those who write us.

 JOHN MORFORD [1778-1869], PLOWMAKER

A TREASURED KEEPSAKE in the family of the late Joseph Wallingford Morford [1864-1956], of Lexington, Ky., is the original patent for a plow design invented by his great-uncle, John Morford of Maysville, Ky. Said to have been printed on white silk, and signed by President Andrew Jackson, this patent, No. 8138-X, was issued 8 April 1834. John Morford, who (according to several census enumerations) was born in Pennsylvania, was of Mill Hill, N.J. in 1810 when he and Miss Mary McGalliard of Imlaystown, N.J., were joined in marriage. He had a brother, James H. Morford, who was born 3 June 1785 in Nottingham Twp., Burlington Co., N.J.; he married, 22 May 1806, at Trenton, N.J., Mary Jarvis. These brothers, with their mother, Mrs. Mary (Chamberlaine) Morford [c1753-1818], a brother Barton, and possibly another brother (his name perhaps Abraham), removed to Pittsburgh, Pa., where they engaged in the manufacture of plows and wagons before moving to Maysville, Kentucky.

Subscriptions to the MORFORD HISTORIAN run concurrently with the calendar year; anyone subscribing later in the year will automatically be sent copies of those issues for the current year which have already been published. All expiration dates will be shown on address labels as December of whatever year the subscription includes.

Better mouse trap may eliminate smart mice

By ROBERT HULLIHAN
Register Staff Writer

This decade may see the end of the smart mouse as we know it.

Marvin Morford has invented a mousetrap so cunning that only the dullest mice will survive it over the years ahead.

The best of the mice - the brightest, the most promising - will be the first to die in the Marco Multiple Catch Mouse Trap.

That is because the Marco trap attracts and catches mice by arousing their curiosity, challenging their minds and spirit of adventure.

Success of this trap, then, may leave us with a breed of dumb, disinterested mice in which the strain of curiosity is lost, mice that will just sit around the house and watch TV with us.

But that is a problem for another day, another inventor.

For now, Morford, 54, is aglow with his achievement in perfecting a trap to which he devoted eight years of thought and experimentation in the basement of his West Des Moines home.

Twila Morford is not all that aglow. She feels her husband's dedication to building a better mousetrap cost her eight years of domestic communication.

"He never listened to me. All that time he was like this," she said, letting her eyes glaze over, her mouth drop open and her face fall into the well-known expression of a man trying to invent a mousetrap.

The expression was once much more common than it is now, but that was in the nation's youth when men were expected to invent mouse traps. Indeed, better and better mouse traps.

It still is a man's game, of course, and Twila remembers that it was she who had to go down into the basement day after day to "water the mouse" all through those years of experimentation.

Marvin was often on the road all week traveling in his job as an area manager for Lystads Pest Control Co. He needed a live wild mouse to test his trap when he was at home on weekends.

So Twila kept alive whatever mouse was in residence at the time and, through the weekends, stood at Marvin's side, watching the mouse contend with

whatever improvements Marvin had made in the trap.

In the meantime, the Morfords' three children grew up and left home



Marvin Morford and his brainteaser for mice.

Curiosity kills the mouse, and the cat is out a job

Marvin won his gold watch for 25 years of service with Lystads, but the mouse in the basement kept spoiling his dream of the perfect trap.

It was not the same mouse from week to week, of course. Wild mice tend to give up and die early of "frustration" when confined, according to Marvin.

He knows a lot about mice. Except for four years as a champion door-to-door salesman for Ace vacuum cleaners after leaving the family farm near Earlham, he has spent all of his working life in the pest control business.

Curious Varmint

"A mouse is the most curious varmint there is," he said. "They have to investigate anything new in their area."

That's the secret of Morford's trap, now the new thing among mice in food-processing plants, warehouses, grain elevators and institutions. The trap is designed for industrial - not home -- use.

Industrial mice are flocking into his traps "like sheep," said Morford.

Since the traps contain no bait, this proves that these mice, at least, are in search of something in life beyond peanut butter, even as some men are in search of something spiritual beyond pizza.

Morford's trap, as finally perfected, is a small, oblong plastic box with a square hole at either end.

"A mouse can look through it and see daylight at the other end so he isn't afraid to go in," said Morford, whose trap seems to include some of the principles of investment counseling.

The mouse, curious, enters the box in search of food, shelter or self, finds nothing and then tries to leave. It can't get out because of a couple of moving parts which cleverly prevent the entrances from serving as exits

Crowd of Rodents

But other mice can keep pouring in until there is a crowd of rodents caught in the box. They pass the time explaining to one another how they saw this daylight at the other end and thought it would be OK . . . "

Some of the more philosophical mice in the crowd may go around pointing out how closely the mouse condition resembles the human condition but they, probably, are little heeded as the level of frustration rises in the box and the mice die.

And, of course, these are the best of the breed - the bold, charming inquisitive ones that dare to look for something better inside Marvin Morford's box.

Look for surviving mice to become unbearably dull in the future. It is just another price we will pay for advancing technology.

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We think our readers will enjoy this article, which was published several years ago in the Des Moines Iowa REGISTER. The inventor, Marvin Archie Morford, is a son of Hazen Allen & Dorothy Gwendolyn (Wight) Morford, of Earlham, Iowa. Hazen's line is: John Jasper⁷ John Titus⁶ James⁵ John⁴ Thomas³ Thomas² John¹ Morford.

MANY FAMILY REUNIONS are held in the summer months, so it seems appropriate to publish this account of a Morford reunion held almost 60 years ago. We are indebted to Golda Morford for sending us the original newspaper account.

FIRST REUNION OF NORMAN MORFORD FAMILY AT EVART

The Reunion of the family of Norman Morford, formerly a resident of Unionville, was held at the home of their mother, Mrs. R. S. Covert, at Evart, Michigan, on Thursday, August 30, 1923. Four sons were in attendance, together with their children and grandchildren, as follows:

Charles H. Morford, of Saginaw, Mrs. Morford and their two daughters, Etta, Mrs. Harry Warneca [sic; our records show the name as "Warnicka"] and their daughter, Marjorie; Edna, Mrs. James Brown, of Mt. Pleasant, Mr. Brown and their seven children. The youngest, four months old, was the youngest at the reunion.

Edgar Morford, of Milwaukee, Wis., Mrs. Morford and their son, Professor Ray Morford and Mrs. Morford. Professor Morford graduated from the Northwestern University and for twenty-five years has been an instructor in English in the College.

William Morford, of Muskegon, Michigan, Mrs. Morford and their son, Doctor Fred Morford, Mrs. Morford and their daughter Betty Jean. Dr. Morford is a successful specialist for the eye, ear, nose and throat.

Fred L. Morford, of Jackson, Mrs. Morford, and his daughter, Mildred, Mrs. Harry Cartwright, of Unionville, and Mr. Cartwright. Their son, Robert, was the only member of the family not present at the reunion, he being left in Unionville because of whooping cough. Mrs. Jennie Morford, of Saginaw, widow of the late Milton J. Morford, making thirty-one in attendance.

Mrs. Covert, the mother, will be 81 years of age the 5th of October. She is smart and active and is wonderfully well preserved, in full possession of her mental faculties.

Norman Morford located in Unionville in the fall of '70, coming from Pennsylvania, and he resided continuously in Unionville until 1898, when he moved to Evart, dying June 27, 1911. Norman Morford was closely identified with Unionville all of the time of his residence here; in business, socially, in the church, and in the civic affairs of the village. He was a familiar figure, highly respected and a useful all around citizen.

Outside of the death of the father, there has been but one other break in the family, namely, the death of Milton J. Morford, the fifth son, who was killed in an automobile accident in Saginaw, December 9, 1922. Milton Morford was one of the boys to go from Unionville to the Philippines for service in the Spanish-American War.

Chas. H. Morford, the eldest son, has a position as traveling salesman with the Saginaw Ladder and Wheelbarrow Company, of Saginaw, with whom he has been connected for a great many years. Edgar Morford, the second son, has a very lucrative position as sales manager for Grossenbach & Company, Commission House, at Milwaukee, Wis. William Morford, the third son, operates a retail grocery store at Muskegon, Michigan. Fred L. Morford, the fourth son, has a position as sales manager with the Night Commander Lighting Company at Jackson. Mr. Morford was a graduate of the Unionville school, in its first class graduated, 1888. He taught school and was a member of the County Board of School Examiners. For several years Mr. Morford was postmaster of the village and was identified with county politics. Later for several years he conducted the Unionville hotel.

All those attending arrived by automobile and spent the entire day at the home. Arrange-

ments had been previously made for the serving of the meals by the Baptist Aid Society at Evert, in the church parlors, so, there was nothing for anyone to do but to visit.

The mother was presented with a beautiful bouquet of American Beauty roses by her children and grandchildren. During the day a visit was paid to the grave of the father in the cemetery at Evert, where suitable shrubbery and flowers were placed by the sons and their children. A likewise provision was, also, made for the grave of their deceased brother, Milton J. Morford, at Saginaw.

It goes without saying that a very enjoyable day was spent, the weather being ideal, and it was decided that the meeting should be repeated during the future years that the mother may be spared. The meeting came to an end with a beautiful benediction offered by Mrs. Curtis, Secretary of the Baptist Aid Society, and with everyone joining in singing the beautiful hymn, "God Be With You Till We Meet Again."

NORMAN MORFORD, the patriarch of this family, was born 3 October 1839 in Mercer County, Pa., to William and Phoebe (McLaughlin) Morford, whose line was: *Richard⁵ John⁴ Thomas³ Thomas² John¹ Morford*. Norman's wife, the former Emily A. Harris, was - born 5 October 1842 in Conneaut, Ashtabula County, Ohio, and died in Evert, Osceola County, Michigan, in August 1926. In 1915, four years after the death of her first husband, she had married Robert S. Covert.

SCHEDULE OF KNOWN MORFORD REUNIONS

IN PLACE OF the "Morford Western Roundup", scheduled for August 3rd at Kent, Washington, which has been cancelled, there will be a LOAN-MORFORD family reunion in Iowa City, Ia., on August 21st at the 4-H Fairgrounds. There will be a pot-luck meal about 12:30 p.m., after which the afternoon will be spent in getting re-acquainted with cousins of varying degrees, and meeting new arrivals, spouses, or new twigs of the family tree. This group is descended from Reason Morford [1822-1885] a descendant of the "Greene Co., Pa." Morfords. Reason's line: *Daniel⁶ James⁵ Daniel⁴ John³ Thomas² John¹ Morford*.

DESCENDANTS of John Beard Morford [1856-1940] and his wife Florence Eva (Summers) [1860-1911] will meet on the first Sunday of October (Oct. 2d), in North Manchester, Indiana. There will be a pot-luck dinner at noon at the Scout Hall in Warvel Park. (Enter at the West 7th entrance.) Mrs. Wayne Morford, who notified us of this reunion, says they'll welcome Morfords of other branches. Present reunion officers are Mrs. Ben (Eva Speicher) Snyder, President; and Paul Speicher (Eva's brother), Secretary. Paul's address is 600 Bond St., No. Manchester, IN 46962, John Beard Morford's line: *Jacob⁶ William⁵ John⁴ Thomas Garrison³ John² John¹ Morford*.

WILL OTHER MORFORDS having reunions this summer or fall please send in an account of their gatherings, number in attendance, names of new officers elected, so we may report on them in the October MORFORD HISTORIAN? We might suggest that an account of your Morford reunion should be written up for publication in your local newspaper. Include a little history of the earliest known ancestor in your line. Plan to have a good photographer present who can take pictures of the entire group -- then when you get the prints, identify each person and write the names on the backs of the pictures. If your reunion write-up is published, the MORFORD HISTORIAN would appreciate having a copy. We may decide to reproduce these reports in the next issue of MH, so that those who did not attend may enjoy reading about the reunion.

EXTRA COPIES of this or earlier issues of MORFORD HISTORIAN available at \$2.20 each; publication began July 1980, so there are only 2 issues for that year, July & October Each issue is punched for placing in a standard 3-ring binder, so copies may be kept together for easy reference; pages are numbered consecutively, 10 to each issue.

PROBABLE IDENTITY OF LT. JAMES MORFORT, REVOLUTIONARY WAR SOLDIER

OUR FIRST INFORMATION as to this otherwise unidentified MORFORT or MORFORD is that he was a member of the Middlesex County, N.J. Militia in 1778, and was wounded in the ankle during an attack by the British. This incident was mentioned in the pension file of the widow of Christopher Hartman [Wid. 4319, NJ]. Christopher Hartman had been born in Germany about 1750; came to America with his parents when he was about 2 or 3 years old, residing with them in Bucks County, Pa. until 1755, when his father died. He then moved with his mother to Burlington County, N.J. In 1771, when he was 21, Christopher moved to Middlesex County, N.J., and was married in Cranbury, in 1777, to Mary Hutchinson, born 24 March 1755. Christopher's file showed that he lived in Middlesex County, N.J. in 1794; then removed to Fayette Co. , Pa. , where he remained about six years before moving to the Northwest Territory, "now Ohio". He was residing in Williamsburg, Clermont Co., Ohio, when he applied for pension.

During the period from 1778 to 1794, the only Morford family known to have been living in Cranbury, Middlesex Co., N.J., was that of the Thomas Morford [1716-97] whose wife was Ann Lawrie. Their third son, and sixth child, was James Morford [1753-1809]. By 1790 James was of Washington Township, Fayette Co., Pa., his name appearing in the census enumeration as James "Marford". A resident of the same township was the Benjamin Harris whose son Jacob married James Morford's daughter Rebecca. We might conjecture that it was James Morford's presence in Fayette County which impelled his former comrade-in-arms, Christopher Hartman, to come to Fayette County, Pa. and reside there for six years. Both Christopher and James seem to have left Fayette County at about the same time, Christopher going to Ohio, while James went north to settle in Mercer County, Pa., with all of his children except his daughter Rebecca Harris.

The 1800 census of Mercer County enumerated the families of James and his son Thomas, and a brother Joseph, all under the spelling of "Maffitt". It was not until about 1802 that James' younger brother John Morford [1758-1840] removed from N.J. to Mercer Co., Pa. The 1810 census shows John Morford and his nephew Thomas Morford, the latter's father, James, having died in the previous year, 1809.

A MORFORD MYSTERY

WHY WAS JOSEPH MORFORD, the third son of Thomas and Ann (Lawrie) Morford of Cranbury, Middlesex Co., N.J., "cut off" in Thomas' will with a token bequest of only five shillings? Why was the date of his marriage, but not the name of his wife, given in the little 1892 pamphlet history of the Mercer County Morfords? Who was the girl whom he had married on 22 February 1767? She apparently died in 1775. This was thought to have been Joseph's death date; but in the light of other facts, it is believed that the 1775 death record belonged to Joseph's wife, not himself. As of 1795, Joseph was undoubtedly living in Fayette County, Pa., the same county where his brother James lived for a few years before moving north to Mercer County, Pa. In 1795, a Joseph "Morfort" witnessed the will of Benjamin Harris, of Washington Twp., Fayette Co., Pa., the father-in-law of Joseph's niece Rebecca (daughter of his brother James Morford). And by 1800 Joseph and his brother James, and the latter's son Thomas, were all of Mercer Co., Pa., as shown by a census enumeration in which their surname is spelled "Maffitt" [page 231:05]. Joseph's name did not appear in the subsequent 1810 census. Did he die in Mercer County? or did he move on to some other location? We have a lot of questions here. One more, to make the list complete: Does anyone have the answers?

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!



Cyretta Morford

CYRETTA MORFORD, after a career of school teaching (like her sister Golda), is one of those remarkable persons whose talents and extra-curricular activities merit our description of her as "indefatigable". Thirteen years ago she wrote a delightful little book, "That Rascal Buddy", with so much insight into the antics, caprices, and mischievousness of the mongrel dog who shared the sisters' home that one might well believe Buddy had simply dictated it for Cyretta to reduce to writing. With casual disregard for following the accepted norm of sitting and idly rocking her hours away in her golden years, she has done, and is now doing, other writing. Bible student and teacher par excellence, at an age we will not mention, she is still being called upon to conduct her penetrating discourses on Biblical subjects. Between Cyretta, her sister Golda, and their remarkable relative Audrey

Morford Stubbart, an example is being set which may be difficult for others to match --though we certainly should be inspired to TRY!

Cyretta was, as one might well expect, the valedictorian of her high school class, her report cards being replete with "Es" (the highest mark), in such subjects as Latin, German, history, mathematics, and, of course, English. We may be sure that Cyretta would never, no, never, perpetrate such modern and appallingly ungrammatical expressions as "Will each one bring their paper to my desk after class?"; nor would she ever say "I could care less about it", when what she really meant was that she couldn't care less. Thank Heaven there are a few persons like Cyretta left in this very ungrammatical generation!

A new (and presumably expanded) version of "That Rascal Buddy" is one of Cyretta's projected activities for the near future. There are to be additional illustrations, and we look forward to it with great expectations. We'll let our readers know when, and from what source, it will be available. What nicer gift could Morfords present to their youngsters than a delightful book about a very special dog, written by a very special Morford?

THIS PICTURE of Dr. James Amyot Morford [1881-19481, taken about 1936/38, was sent in by Vivian (Mrs. Warren Newton) Morford, The caption mentioned "pills and potions", and the temptation to expand on the subject was irresistible. We came up with "Prominent Popular and Proficient Physician Poses in Proximity to Pharmaceutical Phalanx of Pills, Potions, Painkillers, Panaceas, Placebos and Palliatives." (Did he prescribe "Pink Pills for Pale People"?) James A. Morford was son of Dr. Jack Taylor and Theodocia (Bartlett) Morford, whose Morford line was: *John Amyot⁷ Isaac Newton⁶ James⁵ Daniel⁴ John³ Thomas² John¹ Morford.*



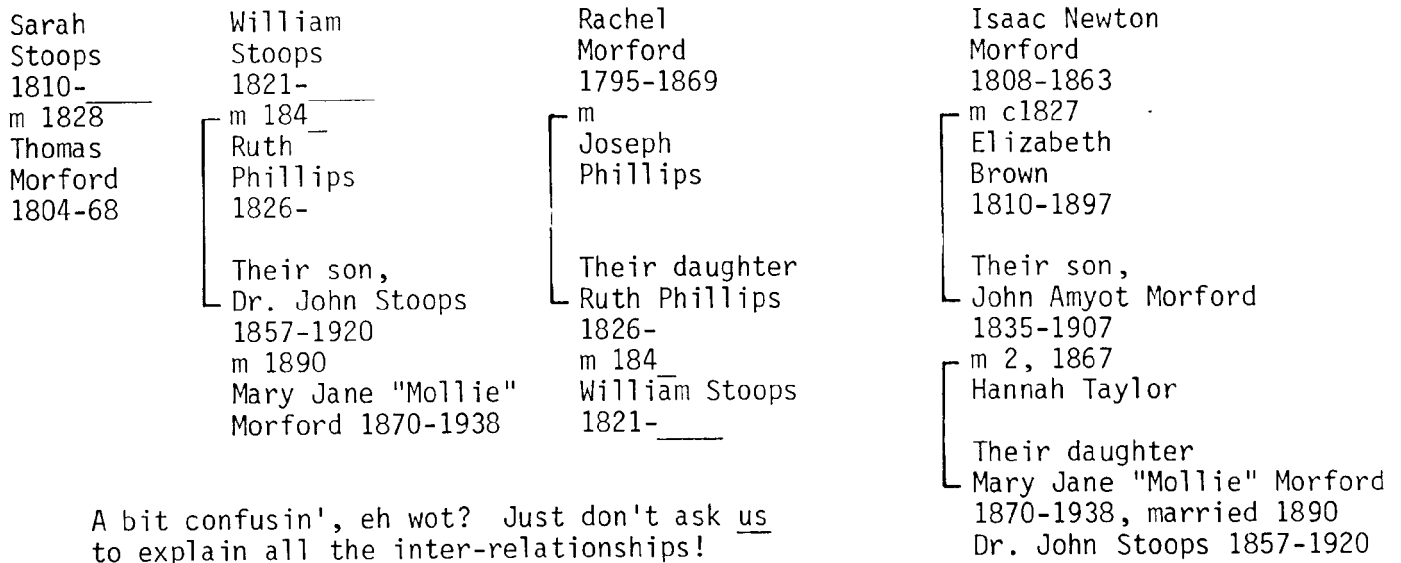
IF YOU ARE ENJOYING this newsletter, please recommend it to your Morford relatives --especially those who have custody of such family records as have been gathered on your branch of the family, or those you know have been doing some research into ancestral lines. Records may be shared, and preserved through publication in MORFORD HISTORIAN.

INTERMARRIAGES BETWEEN THE MORFORD AND STOOPS FAMILIES

Correspondence in 1958 between the Morford Historian and Mrs. Robert F. Stoops of Royal Oak, Michigan (who two years later was of Raleigh, North Carolina while teaching history at N.C. State College) provided us with helpful information as to the many marital ties between the Stoops and Morford families of Greene County, Pa. and Wood County, Va. (or W. Va. if we're talking about 1863 or later). In line with the adage "Confucius say one picture worth a thousand words", in this case the chart shown below will delineate the Morford-Stoops relationships.

WILLIAM STOOPS
 m ANNAH OGELVIE
 Of their descendants, 3 married Morford descendants:

JAMES MORFORD 1766-1839
 m JANE KENNEDY
 Of their descendants, 3 married Stoops descendants:



A bit confusin', eh wot? Just don't ask us to explain all the inter-relationships!

At the time of our correspondence, Mrs. Robt. F. Stoops had possession of the Stoops family Bible records. We append the obituary of Dr. John Stoops, a copy of which was sent to the Historian by Mrs. Stoops; date and name of newspaper not known. Dr. Stoops was the grandfather of Robert F. Stoops.

"Dr. John Stoops died Tuesday morning, February 10, 1920, of pneumonia, after an illness of less than 24 hours. Dr. Stoops was born in Wood Co., Va., now W. Va., 27 Jan. 1875, the son of William & Ruth Stoops. He studied dentistry and became one of the most widely known members of that profession in W.Va. In the spring of 1909 he located at Pennsboro (W.Va.) and since that time has practiced his profession here, visiting professionally not only all of the adjoining counties, but Clay, Braxton and others. He built up a lucrative practice. The doctor was a member of the M.E. church and Harmony Lodge No. 59, A.F. & A.M. and the Eastern Star. He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Mollie Morford Stoops, three sons, Charles Lindsay of Winona, W.Va., John and Dr. Harry H. Stoops; two daughters, Mrs. Harold Cutler and Miss Ona, all of Pennsboro. Four brothers, Joseph, Lindsey, William and George Stoops, and two sisters, Mrs. Webb and Mrs. McFarland, all of Parkersburg, or near there, survive him. Dr. Stoops stood at the front rank of his profession. But that is not all. In private life he exemplified the highest type of citizen. He was an ideal husband and father, a kindly neighbor and a loyal friend. Modest and self-effacing, he was none the less a potent influence for good in this community, and his passing is an irreparable loss, not merely to his family and intimate friends, but to Pennsboro."

NEWS OF MORFORDS AND THEIR DESCENDANTS

JANE (PENNEY) MORFORD, mother of our 4th cousin Andy Morford of Yuba City, California, is recovering from her emergency operation last December, when she suffered an aneurism. We enjoyed her visit with us several years ago, when she and Andy brought a tremendous collection of photographs of their branch of the Morford family, for Harold to copy for later use in MORFORDS OF AMERICA. Although Jane is a Morford by marriage, not by birth, we can't help but reflect on what remarkably good taste Ralph Milton Morford showed in choosing such a lovely wife! I enjoy having Jane's picture on the shelf above MY desk. Ralph's line is:
Anderson⁸ Isaac⁷ Frederick Sr.⁶ Isaac⁵ Cornelius⁴ John³ Thomas² John¹ Morford.



A STORY WITH A HAPPY ENDING! A forty-two year search for her mother ended successfully a couple of years ago for our subscriber Dottie Bevard, of Denver, Colo. All contact between Dottie and her mother, Helen (Sherwood) Pagano, was lost during the depression, when the mother sent two of her daughters to stay with their paternal grandparents on a farm near Galesburg, Ill., presumably just for the summer. The father died a couple of years after the girls came to Illinois. When Helen remarried, somehow she and the two girls lost track of each other. Years later, Dottie found her first good clue, while sorting some of her deceased grandmother's things -- a letter from her mother with an address in the Bronx. Learning that the Denver Public Library has telephone books and directories from all over the country, Dottie copied addresses of all the Bronx newspapers, with the idea of writing to one each week. The very first letter hit the jack pot! In Newton, Iowa, Dottie's mother was reading her hometown newspaper, The Bronx Press Review Weekly, when she was electrified to note a letter to the editor which was as follows: "Please help me find my mother. She was born Helen Laura Snediker on April 1, 1909 Less than two weeks later Helen and her daughter Ruth Knapp flew to Denver for a reunion with Dottie. Dottie's line: *Francis Keith Sherwood⁹ Elizabeth Esther (Steele) Sherwood⁸ Martha (Morford) Steele⁷ John Titus Morford⁶ James⁵ John⁴ Thomas³ Thomas² John¹ Morford.*

RUBY AND ELMER BOMAN of Zapata, Texas, recently celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary, on June 3rd. Their three daughters, Carol Livingston, Barbara Anderson, and Nancy Mattingly, organized a "golden wedding anniversary card shower" for them, with plans to present them with a basketfull of cards and letters from all over the United States, and even some from Europe. Ruby's Morford line is: *Pearl (Olds) Edmunds⁹ John Calvin Olds⁸ Chatham Liberty Olds⁷ Mariah (Morford) Olds⁶ Thomas⁵ Morford James⁴ Thomas³ Thomas² John¹ Morford.*

KENNETH RIVENESS, 20, son of Ronald and Janet (Morford) Riveness of Onida, So. Dakota, died Sunday, 13 February 1983, as the result of a one-vehicle accident a mile east of Onida. He was born 24 November 1962 at Rapid City, SD; lived at Onida until March of 1968, when he moved with his family to Omaha, Nebraska. in 1975 the family returned to Onida, and Kenneth was graduated from Sully Buttes High School there in 1981. Active in football and track, he was named to "Who's Who In American High School Students" in 1980; received the American Legion outstanding citizen award in 1981. He was a member of the South Dakota National Guard. Survivors include his parents, a brother Dennis and a sister Vicki, all of Onida; his paternal grandparents, Ronald and Ruth Rivenes of Rapid City, and his maternal grandmother, Laverna (Buchheim) Horford (now Mrs. Carl Kutz) of Highmore, SD. His mother's Morford line: *Ivan L.¹⁰ Brinton M.⁹ Isaac Reed⁸ Jesse⁷ James⁶ Daniel⁵ Daniel⁴ John³ Thomas² John¹ Morford.*

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

THOMAS "MORFIT" OF BALTIMORE IN 1779

DURING THE REVOLUTIONARY WAR, and after the Continental Congress had fled from Philadelphia to Baltimore, one of the urgent needs of the troops was adequate clothing. From correspondence published in Vol. 43 of the Archives of Maryland, p. 386, for the year 1779, it appears that a George P. Keyports had been put in charge of finding suitable material from which uniforms and shirts might be made for the soldiers. A letter he wrote to Governor Thomas Sim Lee of Maryland, reporting on material he had bought on approval, was delivered to the Governor by one "Thomas Morfit" who had been "hired on purpose" by Mr. Keyports of Baltimore to "wait upon His Excellency the Governor" with the letter, dated 15 December 1779. This Thomas "Morfit" was, no doubt, the Thomas Garrison Morfit (or Morford) who was born in 1738 and died in 1820 (the place unknown). He was a resident of Baltimore, and had been baptised, as an adult, in 1800, at St. James Parish in Baltimore. Does anyone know where he and his wives, Jane Richardson and Hannah Presbury, are buried?

ILLINOIS ISSUING "PRAIRIE PIONEER" CERTIFICATES

OUR SUBSCRIBER and "steenth" cousin, John Strider of La Mesa, CA, tells us that the Illinois State Genealogical Society is now issuing Prairie Pioneer Certificates to direct descendants of early settlers of Illinois. There are three categories: A gold seal with ribbon to those whose ancestor was in Illinois prior to statehood (3 December 1818); a gold seal for those whose ancestor came between 1818 and 1850; and a silver seal for those whose ancestors came to the state between 1851 and 1880. Evidence of each generation will be required, in the form of census, birth, death, marriage records; school or church records; military records; obituaries; land or estate records; tombstone inscriptions; county histories, and other sources. Mrs. Reba Mathis, Route 2, Box 36B-1, Tr IL 62294, can furnish forms and information as to preparing applications. We believe that some descendants of Thomas and Ann (Lawrie) Morford will be able to qualify for certificates; and we know that Frederick Morford Sr. [1788-1851], great-great-grandfather of the Historian's husband settled in DeWitt County, Ill. with most of his sons, by the time the 1850 census was taken.

THE EDITOR'S CORNER: Recently we spent a week at the SLC Genealogical Library, to begin checking the 1910 census for Morfords and related surnames. Only a portion of the index reels, and a few of the actual census reels, were on hand; so we'll go down again this fall. We were greatly surprised to find a William Marford with a wife "Enid", aged 27 and 21, respectively, living in Geneva, Kane Co., Il. Anyone recognize this couple as a part of his family? We appreciate the interest being shown in our efforts to learn just how John and Thomas of New Jersey fit into the earlier English Morford family. Contributions to the research fund, from Dorothy Lewis, Joe Allen Morford, Ted Morford Jr., and Viola Neeb, have brought the total up to \$263. Even if we cannot prove a solid connection, we'll at least learn in which English shire the earliest recorded Morford families lived. All English records which can be located prior to the time Vol. I is readied for the printer, will be included, so later researchers won't have to plow the same ground Don't forget about those personal biographical sketches of yourself, spouse, children, and earlier generations of your family -- they are what will make the book valuable to your descendants. We still have some of the "memory-tickling" checklists which will remind you what kinds of information to include; just send in a #10 SASE with your request ... Be sure to clip out, date, and send us any Morford news items you find in your local paper.



Enid