

≈ HISTORY LESSON ≈

# *The Grandsons of Justin Morgan* **GIFFORD MORGAN**

*Having profiled Justin Morgan (TMH, January 2015), then accounted for the sons (both famous and lesser known), our resident historian now chronicles the genesis of the Morgan breed through the grandsons.*

**By Brenda L. Tippin**

**G**ifford Morgan was the most influential son of Woodbury Morgan, yet little has been written about this chapter of Morgan history. These forgotten ancestors of the Morgan breed are key to understanding why the Morgans survived and the key role it played in the shaping of America. Although these horses are far back in the pedigrees of today, the crosses are repeated so often, they are more of a factor than one might think. Gifford Morgan is best known as the sire of Hale's Green Mountain Morgan, whose familiar image has long been held as an example of the excellence of the original Vermont Morgan. Here we will take a look at old Gifford, and some of his offspring and the lines through which his blood comes down to Morgans of today.

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**ABOVE AND RIGHT:** Gifford Morgan, in what is said to be a fair representation of the horse, according to those who knew him (*Ohio Cultivator*); An advertisement by Frederick A. Wier that ran in *The Cultivator* in 1846; Gifford Morgan's obituary, from an 1850 issue of the *Ohio Cultivator*.

## GIFFORD MORGAN, BREEDING AND CHARACTER

Gifford Morgan, a son of Woodbury, was bred by Ziba Gifford and foaled at his farm in Tunbridge, Vermont, on June 13, 1824. It was just three years after the death of the original Morgan horse and by that time, the Morgan blood was well-respected by the farmers throughout the small Vermont towns, and in much demand. He was a dark chestnut in color, nearly a coffee brown shade which was especially common in the Woodbury family, and is still often seen today. His coat was wonderfully soft and silky, with almost a metallic sheen, and he was thin-skinned, which was additional evidence of his fine breeding. From the old daguerreotype of Gifford, it also seems apparent that his mane and tail were light or flaxen colored, which must have made a stunning contrast with his dark coat. His height was 14 ½ to just under 15 hands according to some accounts, and he weighed about 1,000 pounds.

Gifford was an extremely powerful and muscular horse with a tremendous chest and deep barrel. His hip was long and smooth, and his well-crested upright neck was of good length and rose out of a laid back shoulder, giving him an even more lofty and commanding appearance. His head was short and finely chiseled with a broad forehead tapering to a small muzzle with large flaring nostrils while his lips were close and firm. Gifford's ears were lively, short and sharp, and his eyes a beautiful clear hazel color which gave him a wise, all-knowing appearance. Like his sire and grandsire, he was very much in demand for parades and military musters. His style and action were unsurpassed.

In an interview with Joseph Battell for Volume II of the *American Stallion Register*, Nov. 25, 1887, Mr. Andrus of Hancock, Vermont, said:

"Gifford was the first Morgan horse kept here. He was at Hancock and Rochester, fifty or more years ago. Old Lambert had the same appearance in moving. Their steps were wonderfully alike. The Gifford was a young horse then six to eight years old."

Many of Gifford's colts sold for as much as \$1,000, an astonishing price for a colt in those days, and this was common even before any particular effort was made to promote him.

Gifford was believed by many to bear a closer resemblance to old Justin than any of his sons. Justin Morgan Jr., son of the singing master for whom the Morgan horse was named, recalled, "Those who have seen the Gifford Morgan will have a very correct idea of the size, shape, style, and action of the Morgan horse, as the resemblance between them is very close, not only in those particulars, but in most except color. The stock of the Gifford Morgan, with which I have always been well acquainted, is very similar to that of the original horse."

In a letter to *The Southern Planter*, Volume VI, 1846, C. N. Bement wrote that he had been unable to attend the State Agricultural Fair at Auburn, New Hampshire, that fall, where Fred Wier had exhibited Gifford with one of his sons, six years old, who was purchased on the grounds for \$800. However, Mr. Wier had stopped in Albany on his way home, giving him a chance to see old Gifford, who was then 22 years old. Mr. Bement wrote of Gifford:

### THE GIFFORD MORGAN HORSE. (Fig. 83.)

Of this noted horse we give the following description (which we have no doubt is entitled to confidence,) in the language of the owner.

.....  
The Gifford Morgan, of which the above figure, taken from a daguerreotype miniature, is, in general, an accurate representation, is of a bright chestnut color, fourteen hands and three inches high, weighs about 1000 lbs., and in his form and qualities, is said by those who have been well acquainted with both, more nearly to resemble the original Justin Morgan horse than any other horse they have known. His gait is short and quick, he has great nerve and action, and is full of courage and endurance. His style of motion is very much admired. As a road horse he is not excelled, and is regarded as the best saddle horse of the Morgan family. He is remarkable for the great uniformity with which he stamps upon his stock, and through them upon their descendants, the fine, peculiar qualities of the Morgan race. The patronage he receives from intelligent breeders is as full as is desired, and all who see him freely acknowledge his great merits.

Among the celebrated foals of this horse, can be named the well known trotting pony of Horatio Sergeant, of Springfield, Mass., sold to Mr. Wood, of Providence, for \$1,000, making time, a mile, in 2m. 30s. The chestnut horse of Robert Abel, of Pawtucket, R. I., going in 2m. 40s., and was sold for \$600. The noted Beppo, making time on the Centreville track, 2m. 32½s. Many of his foals are yearly purchased for the southern market, as far south as New-Orleans, and some have even been taken to England.

The sire of the Gifford Morgan was the Woodbury, or Burbank Morgan, and his grandsire the Old Justin Morgan horse, whose pedigree is given in the last January number of the *Cultivator*. The sire of his dam was got by the old Justin Morgan, as also was his great grand dam. The Gifford Morgan has, therefore, seven sixteenths of Morgan blood, while no Morgan horse (except the old Justin Morgan himself,) has ever been more than half blood.

I intend to exhibit the Gifford Morgan at the show and fair of the State Agricultural Society, at Auburn, in September next, accompanied by a six years old stallion of his stock, closely resembling him, and a very perfect animal. The latter is for sale, but the Gifford Morgan is not.  
FREDERICK A. WIER.  
*Walpole, N. H., Aug. 10, 1846.*

### The Old Gifford Morgan Horse.

THE death of this noted horse, which took place at the stable of Benjamin Gates, in Walpole, N. H., October 30th, 1850, may be considered a public loss, deeply affecting the agricultural interests of the country, cutting them off from the purest source of MORGAN blood. His stock inherit, in a remarkable degree, the nerve, form, strength and action of the *original Morgan Horse*. For the pedigree of this horse, I would refer the reader to articles from the pen of F. A. Wier, Esq., to be found in the *Albany Cultivator*, for January and September, 1846, pages 19 and 286.

I consider myself fortunate, however, in having at this time on hand, five colts of his get, all promising well; being very fine colts of their several ages, and from mares of high Morgan blood.

I have a chestnut colored (free from white) stallion colt, two years old the 8th of June last, dam by the Old Woodbury Morgan; also a chestnut colored filly, white stripe in her face, two years old 17th of August last; her dam by the Green Mountain Morgan, grandam, Messenger; also a chestnut colored stallion, one year old last July, no white except about half of one hind foot; his dam by the old General Hebard Morgan. A colt foaled on the 30th day of April last, mahogany bay, with a small star in his forehead, a small spot on his upper lip, and one hind foot nearly to the ancle joint white; his dam, my Green Mountain mare, mother of the two-year old filly described above; and lastly, a chestnut filly, with no white upon her, foaled 20th day of June last, from a mare from which has been raised at least two very fast horses.

My mare, by Green Mountain, and another one by a colt of the old Woodbury, appear to be now in foal by old Gifford. Still I have, in common with others, reason to feel deep regret that so valuable a sire has passed beyond our reach.

The increasing demand for the Morgan stock of horses, through the length and breadth of the United States and the Canadas, is a recommendation in their favor, much stronger than anything that I or any other individual can say or write in their praise.

Waterbury, Vt., Nov. 8th, 1850.

C. BLODGETT.

“He has all the fire and vigor of youth, and is as supple as a cat. Although I had read and heard much of the Morgan breed of horses, my fancy fell short of the reality. He is, every inch a horse, and just such a horse as will always command a good price. His gait is short and quick, and his style of movement, great nerve, and courage, I admired much. His temper or disposition appears of the mildest character. His owner assured me that the sire and colt stood quietly in the same stall, and the old horse appeared much distressed on parting with his son. The figure in the September number of the *Albany Cultivator*, taken from a daguerreotype miniature, though very poorly engraved, is a very fair representation. Being low in stature, only fourteen hands and three inches high, most persons, at first sight, would pronounce him a small horse, but on further examination, he would be found a large horse in a small compass. He is said to weigh, when in good condition, over one thousand pounds. This horse is noted for the great uniformity with which he stamps his progeny, and producing fast trotters; some of which, I am informed, have made their mile in two minutes forty seconds—two minutes thirty-two and a half seconds—two minutes thirty seconds—and have been sold from six hundred to one thousand dollars. Six of his colts, all fast trotters, are now in England.”

### ZIBA GIFFORD, BREEDER OF GIFFORD MORGAN

Ziba Gifford, the breeder of Gifford Morgan, was from a large and old family of New England. His immigrant ancestor, Stephen Gifford, born in 1641, was one of the original proprietors of Norwich, Connecticut in 1659. Stephen Gifford was the third great grandfather of Ziba Gifford. Ziba was born in Norwich in 1764. His father, also named Ziba, married Edith Gifford, a distant cousin also descended from the first Stephen Gifford, and he was the second of their ten children. John, his next younger brother was apparently the first to move to Tunbridge, Vermont, and Ziba followed, probably sometime around the early 1790s. Ziba first married evidently in his early twenties as his first child was born when he was 24. His wives apparently did not survive very long except for the last one who outlived him, and had only borne one child. Altogether Ziba had 13 children, born to four wives, the youngest child was nine years old when Gifford Morgan was foaled. In his later years, Ziba Gifford bought property in Addison County, Vermont, and he is buried in the Riverside Cemetery at New Haven where he passed away at 83 years of age.

### EARLY HISTORY OF TUNBRIDGE

Tunbridge was established by charter of King George, III on September 3<sup>rd</sup>, 1761 when Royal Governor Benning Wentworth granted six square miles to 65 grantees. Wentworth was colonial governor of New Hampshire from 1741–1766 during which time he made a number of such grants. These were known as The New Hampshire Grants, all set up similarly, and involved selling large tracts of land to speculators for towns in what would become the state of Vermont. Most of the original Grantees of Tunbridge were land speculators who never went there themselves. The terms required that each grantee or his heir must plant and cultivate five

acres within five years for each 50 acres of land granted. During the first ten years the annual tax was an ear of corn. This was a tradition from the feudal era and implied the occupants were subject to the superior ownership of the King. After the first 10 years, the tax was to be one shilling annually for every 100 acres. Under this contract, once the settlement had reached 50 families, the town was authorized to hold two fairs and one annual market per year.

Despite all this, it was not until 1780 that the town was actually organized, and the first sawmill was built in 1782. Settlers trickled in over the next decade, mostly from Connecticut, and by the time Ziba Gifford arrived around 1792, the land was still raw. There were no existing roads and settlers had to find their way by blaze marks on the trees. Early homes were hewn out of logs and typically consisted of a single window, and a door made of bark. The roof was also covered with bark and the floor was earthen. Life was hard during these early years, nearly everything needed was either grown or made. Families were quite large with many children to help with the chores.

### GIFFORD'S OWNERSHIP HISTORY

Years earlier, both Bulrush and Woodbury Morgan had been foaled at Ziba Gifford's Tunbridge farm. Later, when he acquired a well-bred mare, Mr. Gifford chose to breed her to Woodbury Morgan. Gifford Morgan was by far the most famous son of Woodbury, one of the three best-known sons of Justin Morgan. When the colt was born, Mr. Gifford knew he had a good horse and sold him as a four-year-old to Ira Coolidge of Barnard, Vermont. Mr. Coolidge kept him three or four years and then Mr. Gifford took him back since Coolidge apparently never paid for the horse. Following this, Gifford Morgan was kept in different places, but Ziba Gifford retained ownership of him until 1840.

Gifford was kept in Addison County, Vermont, for several seasons, and is believed to have stood there as early as 1830. Ziba Gifford's brother Ira also kept him in New Haven for several seasons, and he was kept at Middlebury in charge of Joshua Ballard, and later Joshua Scott. A James Whitcomb kept him for three seasons at Stockbridge, Hancock, and then at Bethel, Vermont, and worked the horse in a meat cart during those years. He stood in Warren, Vermont, in 1836, or 1837. Mr. Gifford then sold him in 1840 to Russell Topliff of Barnard, Vermont. Topliff in turn sold the horse to Lyman Stewart four years later, and Stewart sold him to go to New York State. While in New York, he stood at Fort Ann in Washington County, and it was there he sired the famous long distance trotter Fanny Jenks. Gifford left many excellent sons and daughters there, and everywhere he stood.

Leonard Fish claimed to have bought him from Stewart although he thought it was when the horse was younger. He recalled, “I owned the purest-blooded horse ever owned here in Vermont, the Gifford, I owned him at Barnard, five or six when I got him, owned him between two and three years, I bought of Lyman Stewart of Barnard, four miles this side of Barnard Center, south of Locust Creek House. Think Stewart got him over the mountain.

“I am 80 years old. I moved from Barnard and bought a farm in Randolph July 26, 1852. Must have had him ten years or more before I lived in Barnard. I saw him at old Captain Jonas Bicknell's

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and Lyman Stewart's. Gifford dark bay, kind and good, was kind as a kitten."

Gifford Morgan was purchased in 1844 by Frederick Wier of Walpole, New Hampshire, who in turn sold him to a stock company for the remaining years of his life.

### FREDERICK WIER

Frederick Augustus Wier was born April 12, 1812 in Walpole, New Hampshire, and lived there his entire life. He was a grandson of John Wier, who came from Hampstead, Massachusetts and settled in Walpole as early as 1780. Wier became acquainted with Morgans from his earliest boyhood, and was devoted to preserving the old Morgan bloodlines. He settled in what had once been the old Johnstone tavern, in the northeast corner of the building, which had been previously occupied by Dr. Ebenezer Morse. Morse was born in Ireland, and had graduated from Dartmouth with his medical degree in 1810, setting up his practice in the old tavern building. Wier became a veterinary surgeon as well as a farmer. He carefully sought out the most concentrated blood of inbred Morgan horses strongly resembling old Justin, and bought up all the mares he had identified as having the highest percentage of Morgan blood. He owned nine or ten offspring of old Justin Morgan, and 58 Morgan stallions during his lifetime but of all these, he believed Gifford Morgan was the best.

Gifford was 22 years old when Wier found him drawing slabs at a saw mill in one of the towns along Lake George, New York, some 20 miles from Fort Ann where he had sired the famous trotting mare, Fanny Jenks. Wier traveled more than a hundred miles to find him. The horse was thin and poor with corns on his feet from little care and hard use. Wier paid \$100 for him and brought the horse back to Walpole at night so no one would see his deplorable condition. With care of his feet and proper feeding, Gifford was soon back in shape and Wier knew he had found a prize. Having discovered that Gifford carried the highest percentage of Morgan blood of any horse then living, he formed a stock company to which he sold Gifford on November 22, 1845 for \$2,000 when the horse was 21.

This was a remarkable return on his investment of \$100 for an aging horse which had appeared to be broken down a short time before. It was also perhaps one of the earliest instances of syndicating a stallion. It was evidence of the extremely high regard in which Morgan blood was held as well as the deep admiration for old Gifford himself.

Wier was the first to research and publish information on the origin of the Morgan horse, which appeared in the *Cultivator* of 1846. Additionally, Wier said he had found new information on Gifford's pedigree which showed additional crosses through his dam.

In 1907, Allen W. Thomson published an article on Gifford in the *New England Farmer*, and received the following response from W. S. Porter:

"I was 16 years old when I saw Mr. Wier ride Gifford Morgan around the track at the New York State Fair at Saratoga in 1847,

followed by 20 young Morgans—the finest sight I ever saw in my life. I stood near Mr. Wier when he got off the old horse and looked at the blisters on his fingers and said, 'I never will get on his back again!'"

In another article published in *The Vermonter* in 1909, Thomson quoted Wier as saying that Gifford had the most courage and the least fear of any horse he had ever owned, that he could have ridden him over a cannon, or against bayonets. Yet he was so kind, Wier's tiny daughter could lead him to water, and if she fell, the old horse would patiently wait for her to get up lest he hurt the child and seemed anxious to help her.

In the show ring, Gifford was so well trained, he would follow Wier into the ring without any bit in his mouth and cheerfully trot or go through his paces on command. After the show was over, he would follow Wier without a lead rope of any kind, to the railroad station to be loaded onto the freight cars. On one occasion, Wier saw Gifford's car had been moved some distance from the platform and he thought he would have to get them to move it back before he could load the old horse. Gifford, however, willingly jumped into the car of his own accord and lay down in the straw.

It was said that old Gifford loved music so much he would forget his age and forget that he was sore. *The Cultivator* reported on the 1847 Annual Exhibition of the New York State Agricultural Society as follows:

"There was Mr. Wier's 'Gifford Morgan,' twenty-one years old with his noble family of stallions and mares, of various ages, (six in all,) Mr. Hill's 'Black Hawk' and some others. The old Gifford pranced in the van of the cavalcade with all the fire, action, and gaiety of a horse of six, instead of twenty-one years\*. He appeared conscious of his honorable position, and seemed to look with the pride of a patriarch on the bold 'Green Mountain Morgan' and other fine animals which sprung from his loins. We understand that Mr. Wier refused an offer of two thousand dollars for this horse, from some gentlemen in the western part of the state."

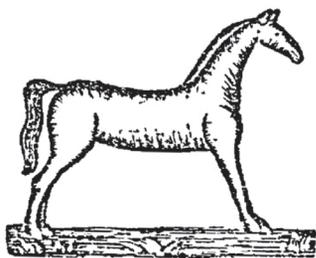
Gifford died at Walpole, New Hampshire, Oct 30, 1850 at 26 years of age.

### BREEDING OF GIFFORD'S DAM

The breeding of Gifford's dam presents an interesting puzzle. She was described as cherry bay in color, and very typical of the Morgans in her conformation and type, and was foaled in 1819. Linsley, in his book *Morgan Horses*, gives the pedigree of Gifford's dam as sired by Henry Dundas, second dam by True Briton (sire of Justin Morgan) and third dam by DeLancey's imported Wildair (A grandson of the Godolphin Arabian, and also behind the pedigree of Justin Morgan's dam). Henry Dundas was supposed to have been a son of the noted thoroughbred Cardinal Woolsey, and traced his sireline to the Godolphin Arabian in five generations. (Justin Morgan himself, it must be remembered, carried at least four crosses to the Godolphin Arabian, with one in four generations, and over 14% of his blood.)

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\*Gifford was actually 23 at this time rather than twenty-one.



*Henry Dundas.*

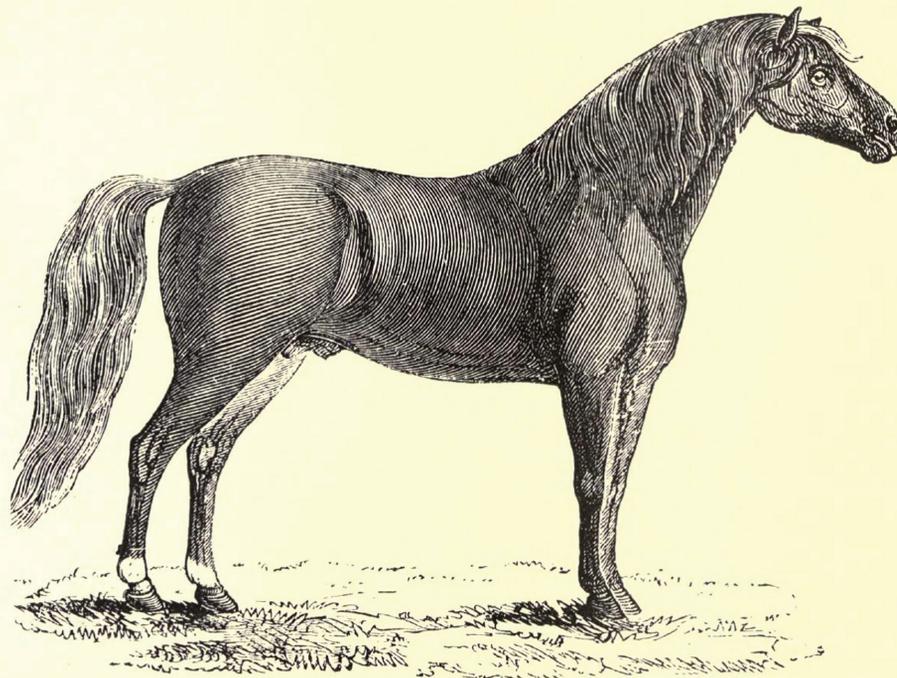
That noted HORSE, known by the name of

*Henry Dundas,*

will be kept at the stable of G. F. Holmes, in Randolph, near the Meeting House, the whole of the ensuing season, except Tuesdays and Wednesdays, those two days in each week, he will be at the stable of Maj. Wm. Ford in Braintree, where those wishing to improve their breed of horses, will do well to call and see for themselves, and may depend on finding as handiome and as sure a horse for folds as is in Vermont. He is the same owned by the subscriber the last season, and the same bred as formerly owned by Cornelius Lynd's Esq. of Williamstown. He was sired by the noted horse called WOOLSEY.

**GERSHOM F. HOLMES.**

**Randolph, March 15 1814.**



LEFT TO RIGHT: One of the last ads for Henry Dundas, run in *The Vermont Republican*, whom Linsley claimed to be the sire of Gifford's dam in contrast to Wier's claim that her sire was a son of Justin Morgan; Flying Morgan (Hackett Horse x Mare by Woodbury Morgan) (*Morgan Horses*).

This pedigree would seem impressive, and might be barely possible, but is unlikely to be accurate. Wildair was foaled in 1753 and imported in 1764. He was so successful as a sire that he was sent back to England in 1773 at 20 years of age. If he was the sire of Gifford's third dam, this mare would have to have been foaled between 1765 and 1774 at the latest. She was supposed to have been bred to True Briton who was not foaled until about 1768. But, the result of this cross, Gifford's second dam, had to be born late enough to be the mother of Gifford's dam who was not foaled until 1819. If True Briton sired this mare when he was past 30 and she in turn had Gifford's dam when she was 20 or older, it might be possible, but the odds are against it. Henry Dundas was advertised regularly between 1800–1814 and often stood in Randolph. He was foaled sometime between 1790–1798 and was supposed to have been sired by the noted thoroughbred Cardinal Woolsey, bred in Maryland in 1788.

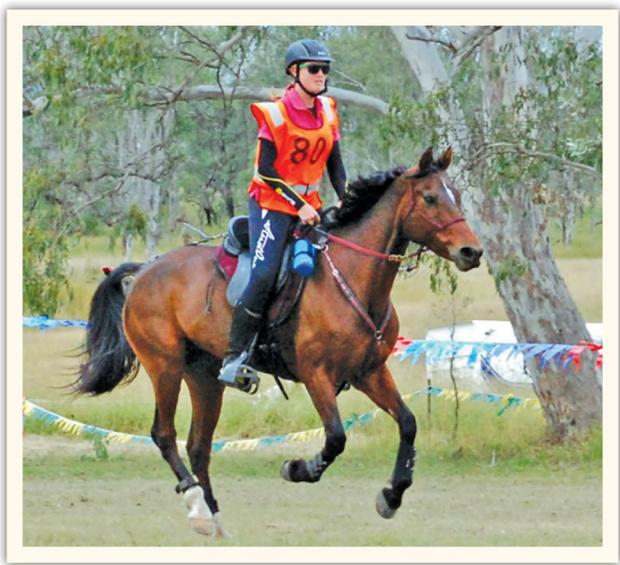
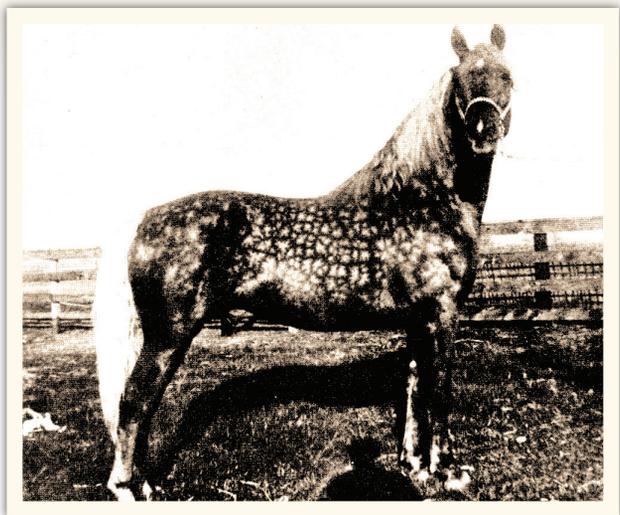
Joseph Battell, in Volume I of the *American Morgan Horse Register* lists Gifford's dam as "said to be" by Henry Dundas, although he seems not to doubt it and without mentioning the second or third dam, elaborates on the excellent thoroughbred blood behind the sire of Henry Dundas.

During the time that Wier owned him, and then sold him to the stock company, he began promoting Gifford as the purest blooded Morgan stallion then living, having 7/16 of Morgan blood, while no Morgan had ever before been more than half. At the time, he still owned old Bulrush, the last living son of Justin

Morgan who lived to the remarkable age of 36 and died in 1848. However, Wier must have realized Bulrush could not last much longer and began looking for another high percentage stallion to continue his program.

According to Wier's research, Gifford carried two additional crosses to Justin Morgan through his dam, she being sired by a son of old Justin, while his third dam was a daughter, thus making up 7/16 of Morgan blood. Unfortunately, he did not identify which son of Justin Morgan he believed was the sire of Gifford's dam, or offer further details. Nevertheless, he continued to promote Gifford as the highest percentage purest blooded Morgan alive, and this was never disputed until some years after the horse's death. Given the quality and type of Gifford himself as well as his dam, who was described by those who knew her as an excellent example of a Morgan mare, not resembling Henry Dundas or his stock which were much taller and of rangier build—it is likely Wier was correct in identifying the additional Morgan blood she carried.

It was suggested by Allen W. Thomson that Linsley had asked Wier for the pedigree information, but Wier refused to give it without being compensated—so Linsley supplied his own version of the pedigree and left Gifford's picture out of his book in order to vex Wier. It may be true that Wier wanted compensation to share additional details as he had gone to considerable expense in his pedigree research. However, the pedigree Wier gave for Gifford had already been published numerous times in the *Cultivator* and on many posters.



**TOP TO BOTTOM:** King Bob, dapple palomino, and Sampson, who both trace back to Flying Morgan with many other Gifford crosses; Sampson; Fox Brush Custom Design (Funquest Erick x BoWood Elusiv Dream) traces back through Sampson (Photo courtesy MaryAnn Schafer).

Linsley must have had some foundation for the crosses to Henry Dundas, True Briton, and Wildair, but Wier was also certain of what he had found as to the dam being sired by a son of Justin Morgan, and third dam being a daughter of Justin Morgan. In those days especially, not a lot of importance was placed upon the pedigrees of mares, and they were seldom written down. The names of Henry Dundas, True Briton, and imported Wildair may have been part of the mare's pedigree, but moved up or given more prominence by the person who sold the mare to Ziba Gifford. Given the dates and time-frames, a more probable pedigree for Gifford's dam may have included elements from both versions: she could have been sired by a son of Justin Morgan as Wier suggests, 2<sup>nd</sup> dam by Henry Dundas, 3<sup>rd</sup> dam by Justin Morgan, 4<sup>th</sup> dam by True Briton, and 5<sup>th</sup> dam by imported Wildair. In any case, considering Gifford's exceptional quality and prepotency, it is evident that his dam surely carried additional Morgan strains to reinforce the cross to Woodbury, and quite possibly some of the other lines mentioned by Linsley that were behind Justin Morgan as well.

### NOTED OFFSPRING

It would be impossible, within the scope of this article, to adequately cover all the offspring of Gifford Morgan, and his many lines of influence, even if some of the major sires are covered separately. Neither is it possible to trace all the lines and identify all those Morgans who may carry the most of his blood. Here we will offer just a few examples which may help to give some idea of his contribution, and a few brief interesting stories of those who helped make a name for the Morgan breed, even though their bloodlines may not have survived. All the examples with descendants today share numerous additional crosses to Gifford, as well as the particular line highlighted.

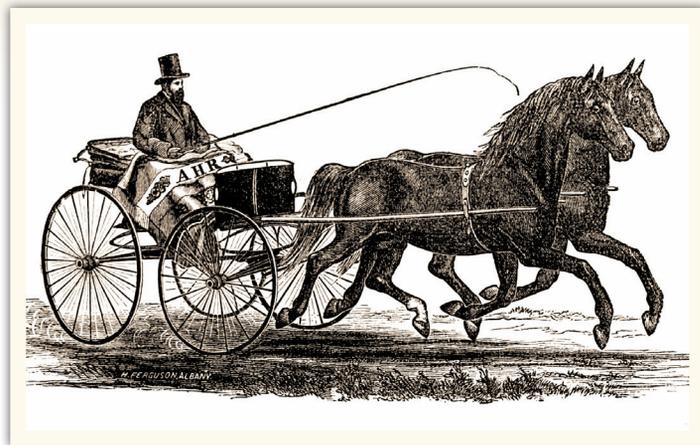
### BEPPLO

Beppo was a fast trotter sired by Gifford, and out of a daughter of Justin Morgan. Foaled in 1830, he had three crosses to Justin Morgan in three generations and another in five. In 1836 he was timed in a trial at the Eagle Course, Trenton, New Jersey, two days before a race. On this occasion, he trotted the half mile in one minute and nine seconds, a time which was then unheard of. He was a contemporary of Lady Suffolk and gelded when young although he did sire a few foals and has descendants today in both the Standardbred and Tennessee Walking Horse breeds. Famous reinsman Hiram Woodruff described him as a high-headed little horse with a short switch tail, very fast, and with a gay and gallant style of trotting.

Beppo pushed the great Lady Suffolk (a granddaughter of Engineer by Justin Morgan) in her historic race at the Beacon course in 1843, and, although she won the race, he finished with her in a dead heat during the second heat with the time of 2:28. This was also the first time any horse had trotted in 2:28, and Beppo, who carried four close crosses to Justin Morgan, compared admirably with his notorious cousin, Lady Suffolk, who had but one.

His greatest feat was in a match with Lady Suffolk at the Beacon course in 1849. Lady Suffolk and Beppo were to trot under saddle against the great pacer Oneida Chief in harness. The pacer ought to have had the advantage, but was beaten.

Nathaniel Parker Willis, a journalist who witnessed this race, described Beppo in one of his books as follows:



**LEFT TO RIGHT:** Morgan Tiger and North Star driven without reins by A.H. Rockwell, about 1866 (U.S. public domain); Morgan Tiger and North Star, as portrayed in “*The Improved and Practical System of Educating the Horse,*” 1866.

“Beppo, the second best horse, is the most comical little animal I have ever seen. His color is like a shabby brown plush, and he looks, at first glance, as if he might have been a cab-horse, or a baker’s horse, or in some other much-abused line, but retaining, withal, a sort of cocked-pistol expression of eye and limb, and a most catgut extension of muscle. His loins are like a greyhound, and every hair on him seems laid in the most economical way to go, and when he does go there is no outlay for any other purpose. A more mere piece of straightforward work than Beppo’s action I could never imagine. Whatever balk there was in starting, he was just at the mark, and he neither broke nor bothered, but did it all in round honest trotting, coming up on the last quarter stretch like a whipped-up arrow. As he only lost the first heat by a head, he of course did his mile, as Lady Suffolk did, in two minutes twenty-six second—the fastest trotting on record.”

It was the Lady’s best race of her life made when she was 16 years old—but it was Beppo’s as well, made when he was 19.

#### HALE’S GREEN MOUNTAIN

Hale’s Green Mountain Morgan was the best-known of Gifford’s offspring, foaled about 1832. His dam was a daughter of Woodbury, and second dam a daughter of Bulrush. He was dark, nearly black chestnut in color when his coat was fresh, about the same height as his sire, 14 ¾ hands to a shade under 15 hands, and perhaps 100 pounds heavier. His breeder, Nathaniel Whitcomb, traded his dam in foal to George Bundy of Bethel, Vermont. Silas Hale purchased him as a 10-year-old for \$700 and, in his hands, he became quite well known for his style and action. Hale sold him in 1850 to a stock company in Washington County, Vermont, for \$2,200, another example of syndication. He died in 1863 at the age of 31 years. Time and space do not permit adequately covering Green Mountain and his numerous descendants here, and so his story will be told in more detail at a later time.

#### HACKETT HORSE

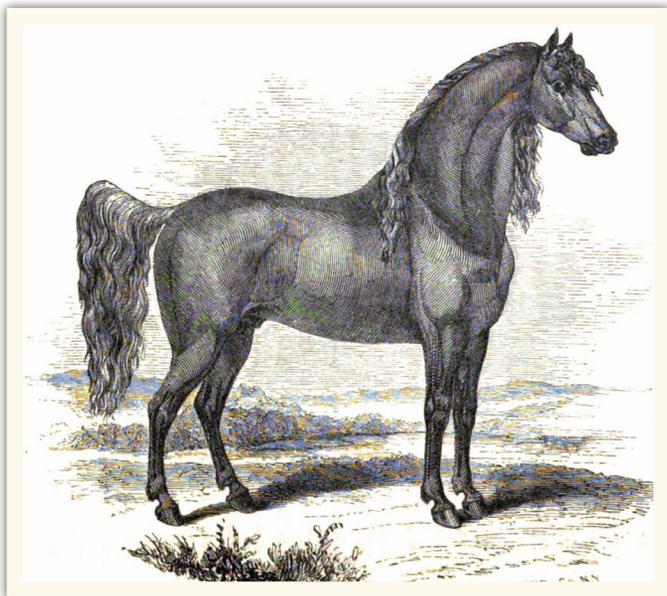
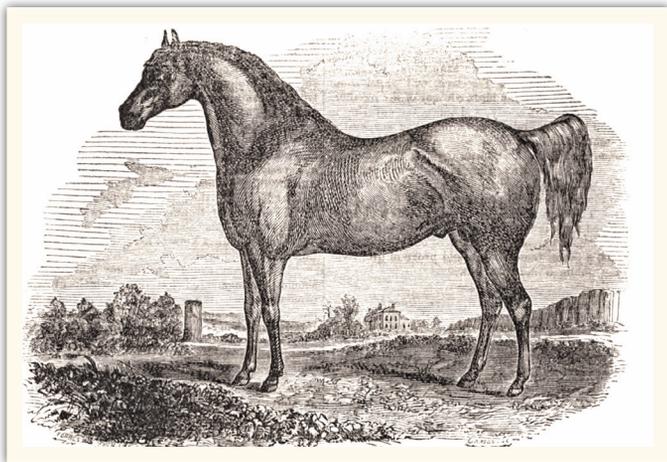
Foaled in 1832, the Hackett Horse was bred by Colonel John

Hackett of Hancock, Vermont, sired by Gifford and out of a small black daughter of Woodbury Morgan bred by David Cushing of Bethel, Vermont. Large numbers of Morgans trace to the Hackett Horse today, and he also has descendants among the Standardbred and Tennessee Walking Horse breeds.

Among the best known sons of the Hackett Horse was Flying Morgan, a blood bay with white hind feet, foaled about 1843 and his dam according to Linsley, was a daughter of Woodbury Morgan. Flying Morgan has numerous descendants today, including many through My Lady Knox. A few familiar names tracing through these lines include Meade (Goldfield x Glady); Bay State Admiral (Meade x Damsel); Mad River Sailor (Bay State Admiral x U.C. Reverie); Townshend Gaymeade (Meade x Gayselba); the beautiful dapple palomino King Bob (Townshend Gaymeade x Fleurette); Island Sun Dust (Sun Dust x Mon Heir Sundae); Quizkid (Ulysses x Glady); Gladgay’s Pride (Orland Leader x Glady), who won National Champion Stallion at the first Eastern National Morgan Horse Show in 1965; and many more.

Sampson, a full brother to My Lady Knox, owned by H.R.C. Watson, won the championship for Morgan stallions at the Madison Square Garden held in 1910. He also has many descendants including many outstanding sport horse performers tracing through Funquest breeding. In 2013, the 15 hand bay mare Fox Brush Custom Design (Funquest Erick x BoWood Elusiv Dream) bred by MaryAnn Schafer became the first purebred Morgan to complete Australia’s premier endurance ride, the grueling 100-mile Tom Quilty Gold Cup which begins at midnight, and contestants must finish the ride within 24 hours. Of 245 horses which qualified to start, only 111, or 45% were able to finish the ride, and only 18 horses finished ahead of the 14-year-old Morgan mare. Fox Brush Custom Design is the daughter of two AMHA Sport Horse Award winners, and both she and her sire were inspected and approved for registered breeding by the American Warmblood Society. Additionally, Fox Brush Custom Design won the Carriage Driving Championship at Australia’s 2011 National Morgan Horse Show, and is the dam of two stallions and one mare.

A particularly interesting son of Flying Morgan was Whyley’s Morgan Tiger #3031, bred by LaFayette Knapp of Middlesex,



**TOP TO BOTTOM:** Meredith Bilirubin, on his five generation pedigree, has 29 of 32 lines directly going to Gifford Morgan (Photo from Mary Rein Collection, courtesy Okan Morgans); Morgan Hunter (Gifford x daughter of Gifford) (*Ohio Cultivator*); Munson's Gifford Morgan Jr (Gifford x Ribbon Black by Young Black Hawk, 2nd dam by Justin Morgan) (*Morgan Horses*).

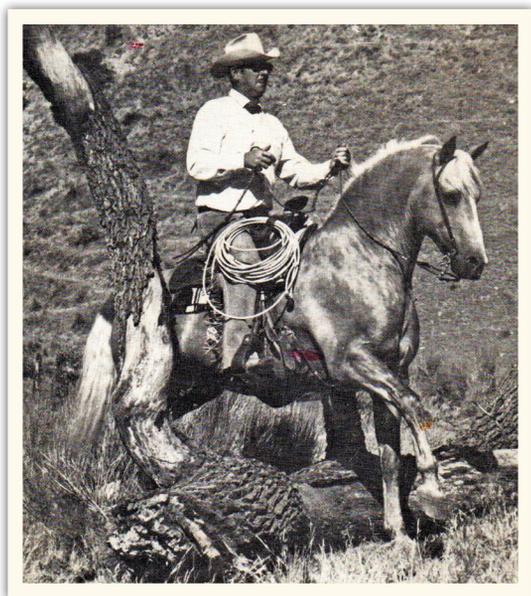
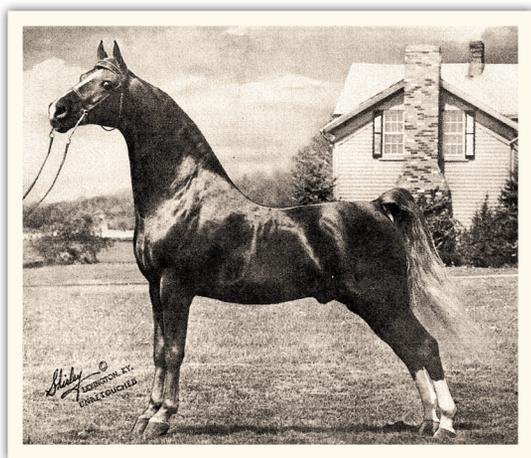
Vermont, dam said to be a Morgan. He was a bay with one white foot. This horse was owned and shown as a trick horse by the famous horse tamer Professor A. H. Rockwell. Rockwell stated the horse was sent to him to break of a long-standing vicious habit of kicking and frisking whenever he was hitched to a wagon. Using his special training system, Rockwell was able to exhibit Tiger before the Susquehanna County Pennsylvania Agricultural Society, driving him rapidly around the track to a sulky—turning, stopping, and starting—all without reins. He was often shown as a team with North Star #3467, a bay son of Black Hawk, driving with no bridle, and sometimes they were even shown this way three abreast with a white horse called Mazeppa in the middle.

One of the most common lines tracing to the Hackett Horse comes through Rena (Ward's Flying Cloud x Bowman mare by Selim), the dam of Denning Allen, sire of General Gates, foundation stallion for the U.S. Government Morgan Horse Farm. The dam of Rena's sire, Ward's Flying Cloud, was a daughter of the Hackett Horse. Interestingly, Ward's Flying Cloud also has descendants among the Standardbreds, including the 1997 pacer Your Nemesis, who had a record of 1:51.2 for the mile and earnings of over \$427,000. Many Saddlebreds also trace to the Hackett Horse through this line.

Another cross to the Hackett Horse which has been a strong influence on the Morgan breed comes through his well-bred daughter, Peggy Hackett. The fifth dam of Lippitt foundation stallion Ashbrook (Croydon Prince x Nancy by Ethan Allen 3<sup>rd</sup>), Peggy Hackett was out of the exceptional Gifford daughter Old Leben, whose dam was a daughter of Woodbury and second dam by Justin Morgan—all bred by Caleb Ford, one the earliest Morgan breeders. Many important lines trace through Ashbrook. His daughter Ne Komia (Bridget by Bob Morgan) produced the outstanding endurance mare, Lippitt Miss Nekomia (Lippitt Moro by Moro), dam of 14 registered foals. Lippitt Miss Nekomia, foaled in 1935, more than 100 years after the Hackett Horse, competed six times in the Heavyweight Division of the 100-Mile Vermont Competitive Trail Ride from 1941–1946. She won first place in 1942 and placed second and third in other years. Lippitt Miss Nekomia was also a winner at the 1947 National Morgan Horse show, winning both the In-Hand Mares Class and the Broodmare and Foal Class. Among her descendants are champion reining stallion Desiderata Desert Storm bred by Art & Jo Baughman, Philhomath, Oregon. Desert Storm was National and World Champion for Open Reining in 2000, and won Reserve World Champion Reining in 1999 as well as numerous other reining championships.

Many fine show lines also trace to the Hackett Horse through Lippitt Miss Nekomia including 1969 National Champion Mare, Cherokee's Love Song and her widely shown son Southerly Con Brio (Southerly Conowingo by Lord Appleton). Southerly Con Brio won numerous championships including World Champion Three-Year-Old Park Harness Stallion Stake in 1984, and in 2000, World Champion Junior Exhibitor Classic Pleasure, 13 & Under.

Meredith Bilirubin, foundation sire for Okan Morgans who have done exceptionally well with their Lippitt Morgans in CDE competition, carried 15 crosses to the Hackett Horse through Ashbrook. Moreover, 29 of the 32 lines on his five-generation



**TOP TO BOTTOM:** All tracing back to Munson's Gifford Morgan Jr: Reata's Encore (AMHA archives); Black River Dandy (Photo © Shirley); Tio Lalo with Dick Nelson.

pedigree trace directly to Gifford.

### FANNY JENKS

Fanny Jenks was the only daughter of Gifford Morgan to be registered, and is listed in *American Morgan Horse Register*, Volume III. She was bred by a farmer named Jerry Hatch and foaled in 1837, a little north of Saratoga, New York. He had bred three foals from the same mare, and sold her to Mr. Jenks. Joseph Battell received the following correspondence from Dr. Norman Ross regarding Fanny Jenks:

"I drove Fanny Jenks often when Jenks owned her; bay, 900 pounds, two little white lines on feet. A beauty, mane and tail wavy, square as a brick. She had two colts at Whitewater, Wisconsin, where she died. I drove out to see her. Gen. Dunham made a bet, won \$20,000. He took her to Wisconsin. She was Morgan all over, Morgan mane and tail. A perfect picture of old Gifford, except he was chestnut and she bay."

Fanny Jenks trotted 10 miles with a sulky, pulling 145 pounds in a time of 29:59 in her first race which was at the Centreville, Long Island course in 1844. Her great fame was won as a long distance trotter the next spring when General Dunham made a bet she could trot 100 miles in less than 10 hours. The match was for \$500 and held on the Old Bull's Head race course at Albany, and Dunham backed Fanny Jenks with a bet of \$20,000. The gallant little mare did not let him down and trotted a total of one hundred and one miles in a time of 9 hours, 42 minutes, 57 seconds.

She trotted her 101<sup>st</sup> mile in 4:23, and her feat was described in *Porter's Spirit of the Times*:

"The mare showed no symptoms of distress at any period of the performance, and her indomitable game was fully evinced by her speed in part of her last mile, and the ravenous manner in which she attacked her hay as soon as led to the stable. On the following day she

was driven twelve miles, exhibiting no soreness, stiffness, or any other evidence that she had performed her wonderful feat so recently."

One of the most fascinating twists in the history of Fanny Jenks was the fact that as a result of her success in these races, she was purchased by some young English soldiers who had been serving in Canada, taken to England where she was given another name, and it was claimed she was used to perpetrate a scheme of fraud upon a fellow soldier. All these young men were officers who had obtained commissions and joined their corps in Montreal, Canada around 1843 at which time they ranged in age from 17 to 20 years. It was said they developed a habit of betting, gambling, and living far beyond their income. Captain Holder Alleyne purchased Fanny Jenks, and brought her back to England with him when he returned home in early 1846, calling her by the name of Pigeon. His younger brother, Captain McGeachy Alleyne, returned in the fall along with another friend, Captain Robert Kennedy, who served in the same regiment. Holder Alleyne made a bet with Kennedy for a trotting match between Fanny Jenks or "Pigeon" and Kennedy's mare which apparently grew with the discussion.

Ultimately, Holder Alleyne would win the bet of £7,300 if his mare could trot 17 miles in an hour. Considering the earlier feats of Fanny Jenks, he knew this would be an easy task for her. However, as the date for the match approached, she was lame for a short time and unable to race. Rather than postpone the race, Kennedy paid the £7,300 with the agreement he would then own half interest in the mare, but he was then sent to India. Another friend, Francis Coyle convinced Kennedy that the Alleynes had defrauded him and persuaded him to bring an indictment against them. Ultimately the Alleyne brothers were convicted, with Holder sentenced to imprisonment for two years and McGeachy for six months. They were out of the country and continued to

try to appeal these charges, insisting on their innocence. They maintained that Kennedy knew the true identity of Fanny Jenks but did not believe her capable of the feats she was credited with and even if she was, he did not believe Holder would ever push her to drive 17 miles in an hour.

The controversy attracted worldwide attention, even Charles Dickens wrote about it. Finally, in 1855, the Alleyne's found evidence that Frances Coyle had committed perjury and given false testimony to convict them because he owed large sums of money to McGeachy Alleyne. Coyle was tried and convicted and also sentenced to two years of imprisonment—but the Alleyne brothers still had to serve their time as well. The entire proceedings of this case titled *The Queen vs. Coyle* were published in the *Sydney Morning Herald*.

Meanwhile, Fanny Jenks, whose lameness lasted only a few days, if indeed she was ever lame at all, remained in Holder Alleyne's stable, and he was unable to make any matches with her since Kennedy was half owner and was still in India. By that time, she was 18 years old. Evidently she must have been brought back to America soon after, as the communication Battell received from Dr. Norman Ross, who knew her well, indicated she had two colts at Whitewater, Wisconsin, and died there. Unfortunately, they were never registered, and the blood of Fanny Jenks was lost to the Morgan breed.

### BARNARD MORGAN

Barnard Morgan was a dark dapple bay foaled in 1843. He was the sire of Dorsey's Vermont Morgan, who in turn sired the famous Golddust. The exceptional family of Golddust traces to Gifford through this line, which again are deserving of their own story and will be covered in a separate chapter.

### MORGAN HUNTER

Morgan Hunter was a chestnut foaled in 1844, and bred by Mr. Exwell or Axtell (Battell lists the breeder as Axtell, but Linsley and early advertisements show it as Exwell) of Springfield, Vermont. His dam was also a daughter of Gifford Morgan. He was owned for a time by Fred Wier and was exhibited at the New York State Fair in Syracuse, New York, in the years 1849 and 1851, and later was sold to Virginia. He was advertised in the 1849 *Cultivator* as follows:

“Morgan Hunter is six years old; was bred, as we are informed, by Mr. Exwell, of Springfield, Vermont; was got by Gifford Morgan, dam by the same horse. He was sold by F. A. Wier of Walpole, New Hampshire in May last, to Messrs. Ackley & Gilbert, of East Hamilton, Madison county, New York, and stands the present season, at the stable of S. A. Gilbert, in that town. He is a capital specimen of the Morgan family of horses. In his general form, he possesses in a remarkable degree, what Youatt lays down as the most important requisite in a stallion—compactness—as much goodness and strength as possible, condensed in a little space. His head is fine, and his eye large and brilliant; his chest capacious, barrel round, loin very broad, back short, quarters long and muscular, flanks deep and full, limbs short-jointed, flat and sinewy. In temper and spirit, he exhibits the intelligence and docility, which characterise most of his near relatives. Like

the high-mettled Arabian, he unites the playfulness and good humor of a pet lamb, with the courage and power of the war-horse, whose ‘neck is clothed with thunder,’ ‘who rejoiceth in his strength,’ and ‘mocketh at fear.’”

Morgan Hunter may be found in practically all Morgan pedigrees today. His son Morgan Hunter 2d (listed in the Online Registry as Goldthwait Morgan) sired the dam of Peter's Morgan (by Peter's Vermont). This extensive line which also traces in sireline to Gifford, will be covered later. Morgan Hunter also has descendants among the Standardbred breed.

### PIKE'S MORGAN

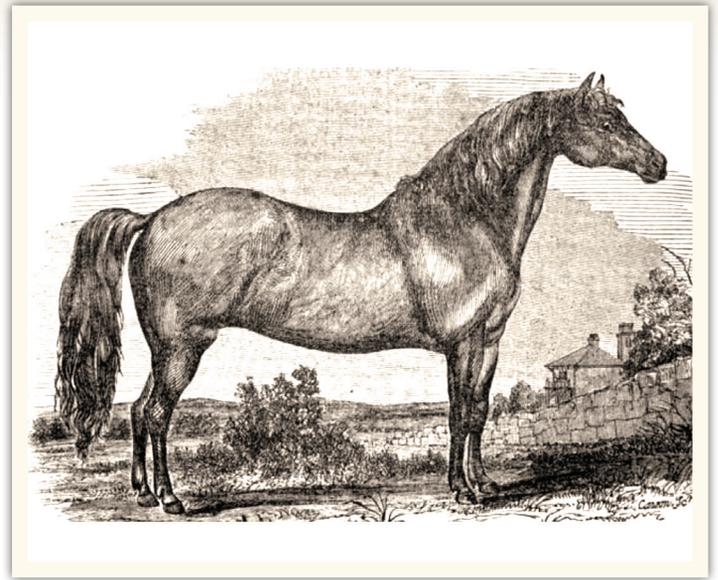
Believed to have been foaled sometime in the 1840s, Pike's Morgan was bred by Mr. Tatman of Woodstock, Vermont, out of a black Narragansett pacing mare. He was never trained, but said to be quite speedy and left many descendants in the Tennessee Walking Horse, Saddlebred and Standardbred breeds which still survive today. Among these were the famous pacer, Dan Patch (Joe Patchen x Zelica) which comes back into the Morgan breed and bears a strong influence through the mares of the LU Sheep Ranch. (See Mares of the LU Sheep Ranch, *The Morgan Horse*, February 2012).

### GIFFORD MORGAN JR. (MUNSON'S)

One of the most beautiful of Gifford's sons, Munson's Gifford Morgan Jr. (Gifford x Ribbon Back [Young Black Hawk x mare by Justin Morgan]) was a striking black, with long curly mane and tail, 15 hands tall, and weighing 1,100 pounds. He was bred by Elijah Judson of Woodbury, Connecticut and foaled May 23, 1850. His second dam, the daughter of Justin Morgan which produced the fine mare Ribbon Back, was bred in Vermont and taken to Connecticut in 1825. He was said to be a fine traveler, pleasant tempered and tractable, with a bold and showy style. He was later owned by H. B. Munson and kept in Keokuk, Iowa. Many descendants trace to Gifford Morgan Jr. through the Jubilee King daughter Katette (Katie Hughes by Knox Morgan). This line included the memorable full brothers Reata's Encore (Fleetwing x Lovely Melody), Grand Champion Stallion at the 1971 Western National Morgan Horse Show; Black River Dandy, Grand Champion Stallion at the 1969 Eastern National Morgan Horse Show. Another line tracing to Gifford Morgan Jr. comes down through descendants of Red Correll (Will Rogers x Kate Smith) as well as the beautiful palomino Tio Lalo (Mahan Field x Palomesa). These lines include many excellent sport and Western working horses. Interestingly, Munson's Gifford Morgan Jr. also has descendants among the Quarter Horse, Paint, and Appaloosa breeds.

### PETERS' VERMONT

Foaled in 1850, according to Linsley, Peters' Vermont was “sired by Gifford, g sire Woodbury, g g sire Justin Morgan. Dam sired by Green Mountain 2d, g dam Phebe; owned by J. L. Woods. She was sired by a horse known in Mass. As Tom Morgan, and noted for his speed and bottom. Tom Morgan was by True Briton. Vermont received the first premium in his class at the State Fair in Brattleboro, in 1854. He is dark chestnut, 14 hands high, weighs 950 lbs. A very close, compact made horse. Now owned by Joseph



**LEFT TO RIGHT:** Peters' Vermont was sired by Linsley and always advertised by Peters as a son of old Gifford; The lovely Gifford daughter, Lady Gifford, was shown as an example of an ideal mare (*The Cultivator*).

Peters, of Bradford, Vermont.”

This was the pedigree J. H. Peters gave when advertising him and exhibiting him at fairs as early as 1854. This pedigree was never disputed during his lifetime, or at all until Volume I of the *American Morgan Horse Register* was published. Battell listed Peter's Vermont as being sired by the Wood Horse, a son of Hale's Green Mountain Morgan, and bred by David Wood of Hancock, New Hampshire, giving the same pedigree for the dam.

Phoebe, the second dam, was first bred and owned by John Muzzy of Hancock, New Hampshire. He owned her mother, a daughter of Nondescript, also known as the Muzzy Horse, and bred this mare to Tom Morgan, owned by Mark Perkins of Mt. Vernon, New Hampshire, to produce Phoebe. In Volume I of the *American Morgan Horse Register*, we see that this same Phoebe, described as “a fast mare bred by John Muzzy,” was also the dam of Crane's Comet, son of Wood's Comet, and that she was later sold to Dr. J. L. Woods. (*American Morgan Horse Register*, Volume I).

Next we find reference to Phoebe and her daughter Jennie in the pedigree of Gen. Thomas by Ethan Allen (Black Hawk x Poll), bred by Stephen Dow of Woburn, Massachusetts. Here Jennie is described as the dam of Gen. Thomas: “dam Jennie, bred by Dr. J. L. Woods, Boston, Massachusetts, got by Green Mountain Morgan; 2d dam Phoebe, said to be by Tom Morgan; and 3d dam by Nondescript.” (*American Morgan Horse Register*, Volume I).

Clearly, Dr. J. L. Woods of Boston, Massachusetts, was the breeder of Jennie—not David Wood of Hancock, New Hampshire. Dr. J. L. Woods owned Phoebe and bred her to Green Mountain Morgan to produce the mare Jennie, and later bred her to Gifford Morgan to produce Peters' Vermont. He then sold her to Stephen Dow of Woburn, Massachusetts, who lived only about 11 miles away. He sold the colt to John Steele in Stoneham, Massachusetts, who lived about 10 miles away. Battell does note in Volume I that Peters' Vermont was sold first to Steele, and it makes sense that Steele bought him from Dr. J. L. Woods, who bred and owned the

dam, rather than obtaining him from David Wood in Hancock, New Hampshire, some 80 miles away.

Dow continued to own Jennie and breed from her for years so she remained in Massachusetts and was never owned by David Wood. After producing Gen. Thomas for Dow, Jennie produced a daughter, which we find reference of in the pedigree of Nellie P.: “bred by Stephen Dow, Woburn, Mass.; got by General, son of Ethan Allen: dam chestnut, bred by Stephen Dow, got by Ethan Allen; 2d dam Jennie, bred by J. L. Wood, got by Green Mountain Morgan. (*American Morgan Horse Register*, Volume I).

The dam of Nellie P. was also the dam of Peter's Ethan Allen 2d, who was called Nellie (*Annual Report of the Bureau of Animal Industry for 1907*) whose pedigree is given in Volume I of the *American Morgan Horse Register* as follows:

“dam chestnut, bred by Stephen Dow, Woburn, Massachusetts., got by Ethan Allen; 2d dam chestnut, bred by David Wood, Hancock, New Hampshire, got by Green Mountain Morgan; 3d dam dark chestnut, said to be by Tom Morgan; and 4th dam by Nondescript.”

Kenneth Telford, in his book *The Origins of the Modern Morgan*, also calls attention to this error, which is one of the few instances in which Battell does offer extensive details on why he made these changes in the pedigree of Peters' Vermont. This in itself indicates it was more likely a simple oversight. Some accounts stated the reason Battell changed Linsley's version of the pedigree was that Fried Wier denied that Gifford was the sire of Peter's Vermont, and the horse was got while Gifford was owned by the stock company Wier had created. However, Wier never disputed the pedigree while Peters was advertising and exhibiting his horse—often in competition with Gifford offspring that he himself owned.

At any rate, the other pedigrees entered in the registry from different sources confirm that the mare Jennie was bred by Dr. J. L. Woods of Boston, Massachusetts, and then sold to Stephen

## HISTORY LESSON *≈ Gifford, Morgan*

Dow of Woburn, Massachusetts. Jennie remained there and was never in possession of David Wood of Hancock, New Hampshire, which eliminates the possibility of David Wood breeding her to his stallion, the Wood Horse. Peters advertised him as early as 1854 and referred to his colts of the year before, so likely acquired him as a two-year-old. After Volume I of the *American Morgan Horse Register* was published in 1894 (the same year Fred Wier died), the Peters family continued to insist that Linsley's original version of the pedigree showing Vermont as a son of Gifford was correct. Both E. H. Hoffman, and later A. Fullerton Phillips, known for their careful research on early Morgan pedigrees, stated that Peters' Vermont was indeed a son of Gifford and this is doubtless correct. This places the entire surviving Woodbury sireline directly under Gifford Morgan, and virtually all Morgans today carry crosses to Gifford through Peters' Vermont. Time and space do not permit covering this family here, and the full story of Peters' Vermont, his son Peters' Morgan, and grandson Peters' Ethan Allen 2d, cornerstone stallion of the Lippitt Morgans, will be told later.

### LADY GIFFORD

The lovely mare Lady Gifford was among Gifford's last foals. She was among few mares appearing in journals of the day shown simply for her excellence and as an example of the ideal mare. Her portrait appears in Volume VII of *The Cultivator* for 1850 along with the following notice:

"The above figure is an excellent portrait of a mare, noticed in our last as having been purchased by Mr. S. A. Gilbert, East Hamilton, New York, of Mr. Ingraham, Chester, Vermont. We are informed that she was bred by Madison Aldredge, of Weathersfield, Vermont, was by the well-known horse Gifford Morgan, dam a bay mare owned by Mr. Aldredge. Her color is a dark chestnut, or brown. She has great depth and capacity of chest, and remarkable muscular development, combined with justness of proportion, which gives her great bottom and power. She has not yet been trained but her natural action is of the right kind, and indicates that mature age and proper management only, are wanting to enable her to show speed equal to the best. She has great spirit and fire, but withal so much intelligence and gentleness that a lady or child can safely drive her."

Her lines are lost to the Morgan breed but she has many surviving descendants among Saddlebreds, Tennessee Walking Horse, and Missouri Fox Trotters.

### INFLUENCE ON THE BREED

Of all Gifford's offspring, only 39 stallions, one gelding and one mare were listed in the registry, though many more can be found in extended pedigrees, and virtually all Morgans today trace to him, generally in multiple crosses.

Gifford's poster for 1850, the year of his death, copied in volume I of the *American Morgan Horse Register* states,

"The foals got by this horse number over thirteen hundred. Many of his foals are bought for the southern market, as far south as New Orleans, and several have been taken to England.

They excel in great endurance, are full of noble and generous spirit, with such docility of temper that the most timid can drive them, but if put to their mettle they are a full hand for the best drivers. Among his celebrated foals is the trotting pony, Horatio Sargent, who made a mile in 2 :30 and for the last three or four years known in New York as Henry Clay; the chestnut horse of Robert Abel, going in 2:40; the noted Beppo, making time on the Centerville track of 2 :32 1/2; the chestnut horse Pizarro, going in 2: 50 at Cleveland, in 1848; the Green Mountain Morgan, Gen. Gifford, Morgan Gifford, Morgan Hunter, and Morgan Chief, and the fine mares now owned by Joslin and Eldridge of Greenfield, Massachusetts."

Gifford's greatest contribution, however, was the deep and lasting impression he made on all who knew him, causing his blood to be carefully preserved long before a registry existed. Gifford was one of the truly great early Morgans, whose style, vitality, strength and beauty are the reason the breed survives today. ■

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