

*ALPHEUS GIFFORD*

*His Son*

*HENRY DILL GIFFORD*

*His Son*

*GEORGE WASHINGTON  
GIFFORD*



***MEN & WOMEN OF COURAGE***

Henry Dill Gifford was born 28th of April, 1827,

Reading, Wayne County, New York, the son of

Alpheus Gifford and Anna Nash. Alpheus was born to Noah Gifford and Mary Boweman Gifford 28th of August, 1793. Anna Nash was born to Azor Nash and Lucy Shaw Nash 17th of February, 1800. Alpheus and Anna were married 27th of April, 1817. Henry Dill was the 5th child in the family and the 4th son. During his early childhood, he with his family, traveled a great deal. His father Alpheus, was a "free lance" minister and went wherever he felt he was needed. Alpheus was a deeply religious man and taught his children the will of the Lord as he interpreted the Bible.

When Henry Dill was a young boy of 5, in 1830, his father met some men who had claimed they had the everlasting Gospel. Alpheus read the book of Mormon and the spirit of the Lord revealed to him the truthfulness of the Gospel therein contained. He was baptized, ordained a Priest, and returned home, with 5 books of Mormon, to Taigo County, Pennsylvania, where his family and fiends lived and distributed the Books of Mormon amongst them. Soon after, Alpheus, along with his brother Levi and several friends, went to Kirtland, Ohio, where the Church was now located and there, Levi and friends were baptized and Alpheus was ordained an Elder. They returned home, rejoicing in their new found religion. There, and in the regions round about, they baptized many. The gifts of the Gospel were made manifested amongst the Saints in that place, signs followed those who believed, the sick were healed, devils were cast out, some prophesied, some spoke with new tongues and some interpreted. In fact, the gifts were enjoyed to a great extent. (Two years later, in April, 1832, Alpheus, accompanied by 4 other Missionaries, were in the Mendon, New York area and there, Alpheus baptized Heber C. Kimball, and one of his companions, Eleazure Miller, baptized Brigham Young. Heber and Brigham, having two years earlier, been

introduced to the Book of Mormon, which had first been bought by Phineas Young, from Joseph Smith's brother Samuel, and Phineas gave it to Brigham Young and through Brigham it eventually got to Heber C. Kimball.)

History of the Church, Vol.4, Pg.109, Footnotes

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[Alpheus Gifford was born in Adams township, Berkshire county, Massachusetts, August 28, 1793. At the age of eighteen, having scarcely sufficient learning to enable him to read the Bible, he commenced preaching the Gospel, not for hire, but for the salvation of souls. In 1817, he married Anna Nash, who bore him seven sons and three daughters. In the spring of 1831, hearing of the doctrines taught by Joseph Smith he made diligent inquiry and found they were scriptural and was baptized and ordained a priest; he brought home five books of Mormon which he distributed among his friends; he was then living in Tioga County, Pennsylvania. Soon after he went to Kirtland, Ohio, to see the Prophet Joseph Smith and the brethren, when he was ordained an elder; he was accompanied by his brother Levi, Elial Strong, Eleazer Miller, Enos Curtis, and Abraham Brown, who were baptized. On returning to Pennsylvania he preached and baptized many, among whom was Heber C. Kimball. The gifts of the Gospel were enjoyed by many, signs followed those who believed; devils were cast out; the sick were healed; many prophesied; some spake with new tongues; while others interpreted the same. Mr. Calvin Gilmour, with whom Brother Gifford had previously been associated in preaching, heard him speak in tongues and interpret. Gilmour declared he understood the languages and that they were interpreted correctly, and that he knew Gifford had no classical learning; but that he would rather be damned than believe in Mormonism.

1. THEOREM

HEBER GILKINSON