

Summary Remarks upon Family Records of Section Fourth

In continuing our investigations of the Alford Family Records which was furnished us and the documental records of past History of the Alford - we are somewhat at a loss to connect the relative pedigree correctly as many of the records being lost. If we take up previous sections of the Alford history of the Alford marriages and the relative connections of date of births and names in previous records and if information truly given, which would connect lineage which would be that Col. Benedict Alford and Elijah Alford and Nathaniel(sic) Alford, Jr. were brothers and if true would be descendants of Rev. Nathaniel Alford Sr. and Experience Holcomb Alford and by this classification the third and fourth sections into a "family tree".

If we adhere to the traditions handed down from generation to generation of the "Three Brothers" as it appears in the second Section - the old fathers were born in England - and their names were supposed to be William Alford, Benedictus Alford and Alexander Alford - the two brothers in the annals of historical records wrote their names Alford and the other brother after the broad English pronuncial fashion Alvord and all of his descendants spell their names that way. As you will find in later sections of the first of Col. Benedict Alford and the son of Benedictus Alvord who was called Benedict born forty-two years previous to the birth of Col. Benedict Alford and could not possibly be from Benedictus Alvord descent (but classed as above) - but shows a close relationship in given names and could have been the father of Col. Benedict and Elijah Alford if the Alvord name was spelled right. And it again appears that the early fathers were born in Hartford County, Connecticut and not many miles apart. And from this locality it appears that many of the Alfords moved to North and South Carolina, Virginia, Massachusetts, Vermont, Maine, Michigan, Indiana, Kentucky, Ohio, Pennsylvania, New York, Texas prior and after the Revolutionary War.

Now we will take up the Military Records in the state of Vermont and of the Revolutionary Veterans and the "Green Mountain Boys", Minute Men of the Alfords in the Revolutionary War and War 1812 and 1814 in which we find the names given as T.S. Peak, Sgt. Gen.. of Montpelier, Vermont and were as follows:

Benedict Alford - Alexander Alford - Amasa Alford & George Alford - Oliver Alford
Benjamin Alford - Aschel Alford and Samuel Alford

Now we take up the land grants and name of property owners in the following three counties: Addison Rutland and Windsor Counties Vermont and we find in the years 1787 and 1793 the following names:

Benedict Alford - Abner Alford - Sorrel Alford - Benedict Alford, Jr. - Oliver Alford - Ansel Alford and Asahel or Ashley Alford second entry. And in or about the year 1823 we find the names of Oliver Alford power of attorney granted by Court

Now again in our third section and the records we have in the year 1783 that was Hannah wife of Elijah Alford (deceased) and his children Asahel Alford - Amasa Alford - Abner Alford - and Hannah Alford settled at Castleton, Rutland County, Vermont about 30 miles from Ferrisburg, Addison Co.

Vermont. And in the year 1790 we find the names of Elephalet Alford and Lord or Love Alford and other sons of Nathaniel and Abijah Hill Alford settled in Windsor and Addison Counties, Vermont. And about the year 1815 Samuel Alford settled at Woodstock Woodson Co., Vermont - as farmer and land owner.

Col Benedict Alford and Capt George Alford and other of the Alfords were noted as men of great strength and endurance. They were fleet of foot and no Indians were found that they could not our run or out jump them. They could (so record says) take ... any two ordinary men and hold them at arms length free from the ground. They were Scouts - sharp shooters and Indian traders and fighters and farmers.

Col Benedict Alford was in the service with Gen. George Washington in the French and Indian in 1754 and 1756 and he was a Scout.

And Col. Benedict Alford, Capt George Alford and Alexander Alford were in the Revolutionary War and the War 1812 and 1814.

About the last of May 1814, the Alfords with others, built a raft out of logs and built upon it a citadel or deck as breastworks for sharp shooters and pushed it into the lake and helped capture a British Frigate. A cannon ball fired from a British War Vessel penetrated through the house of one of the Alfords the night his youngest son was born May 19 1814.

In the above we give some of the records of past history for the benefit of other descendants if they are desirous of investigating their History.

In taking up this fourth lineage from the letters and records of some of our correspondents, had come to the conclusion that Col. Benedict - George and Alexander were brothers - but more probability were father and sons and that they were the descendants from Rev. Nathanel(sic) Alford, Sr. and seems more correct than otherwise if statements of records are true, which we have no doubt.

It appears that the father of Capt. George Alford and Rev. Oliver Alford had six sons and one daughter whose name was Miss Cloe Alford or her name might have been Cloe Rosa Alford as by a letter received dated Watts Falls, N.Y., June 24, 1896 from J. W. Hodges which says "Grandfather Rev. Oliver Alford was born in Mass. If fathers old family Bible could be found - you could find the record both his parents and mother. Great Grandfather Alford had one sister Miss Cloe Alford she married my grandmother Hodges brother Mr Stephen Cable".

In an other letter later received from Mrs. Harriet Alford Campbell says "That fathers Bible had all the names in it but was destroyed by fire - but that great grandfather Alford had six sons and one daughter whose names was Cloe Alford - Mrs Harret(sic) Alford was a daughter of Oliver Alford, Sr. from Midland, Mich.

In a letter lately received from Col. George F. Alford of Wallis, Texas descendants of Capt. George F. Alford says: - You wrote me and say your great grandfather was Col. Benedict Alford - as you will see from date seemingly correct - which I give that your father Rev. Loyal Alford ... his father was Rev. Oliver Alford and his father was Rev. Nathanel Alford and this was your great grandfather and not Col. Benedict Alford and that he had five sons and one daughter Rosa Alford"

We do not think this can be - as the first - second - and third Nathaniel(sic) in record previously given, nor can we find the name of a Nathaniel(sic) of that period old enough to be the father of Rev. Oliver Alford or Capt. George Alford and name not found in Vermont annals of history.

I have been told by my grandfather Rev. Oliver Alford, when I was a lad, of his visiting his elder brother, John Alford who lived in Virginia - and of his long perilous ride on horse back - (which happened about the year 1828 or 9) and that his brother John came west to visit his parents and from there went to the state of Indiana to visit his son then living in the Southern part of Indiana and his visiting other relatives in the Blue Grass region in Kentucky - which we will mention further on in this record.

In the letter of Col. George F. Alford says "that - Alexander Alford and Amasa Alford were also brothers", but we think that Amasa Alford was the son of Elijah Alford and that Benjamin Alford probably the son of Alexander Alford and Benedict Alford was the son of Col. Benedict Alford.

If my conclusions are correct the five sons or six and one daughter their names would be John, Alexander, Benedict, Jr., George, Cloe and Oliver Alford - and if we add James as his second son, would be the six brothers and one daughter, would make the family record of Col. Benedict Alford and Rebecca Wills Alford, which would include all the names found from the Court records and Land grants and seems of that date found in the records of the counties of Addison, Windsor and Rutland, Vermont. And this is to explain the loss of family record, which could not be found - which would substantiate any other name for the father and mother of Capt. George Alford and Rev. Oliver Alford.

We will now continue the Fourth Section

The next in line of record is of Col. Benedict Alford.
See next record of Section Fourth