

Our History, Part III

By Gil Alford, AAFA #0019, Corresponding Secretary, Member AAFA Hall of Fame
(Co-Founder & Past President)

We began this history in the Fall 2003 issue, #62; and continued it in Winter 2004, #63. It was deliberately skipped in the last issue, the special Louisiana issue, because this segment of our history has nothing to do with Louisiana.

Just imagine. When I began this back in 1982 I didn't know of more than a half-dozen or so Alford's in the whole world. In fact I did not know - never even thought about - who my great grandfather was. Now within the matter of about a month I received all this Alford information coming in at the average rate of a package every other day. I'd already been overcome with Alford information and I'd never catch up after this beginning. I'd heard from 16 persons and all are from a different branch of the Alford family. What was I to do with all this stuff?

Please do not take any of the content of the following letters as correct. While much of it is true there are many cases where the data is false or only half-truth. Most of the items mentioned, such as wills, obituaries and the work of Rev. Josiah Alford published in London in 1908, the work of Hugh Edwin Alford, early Alvord genealogy, etc., have been published in earlier issues of AAFA ACTION.

Thus far we have discussed the first 11 folks who responded to our initial efforts to get something started on Alford family history. Ten of those eleven I found in Everton's Roots file. These next six did not come from Everton's but rather were folks whose names were given to me by those earlier respondents. As soon as I received word someone was working on Alford genealogy I sent them a letter and a pedigree form.

The 11th person I heard from was Marshall Kim Gardner. He responded with an undated letter which I stamped in on Sep. 16, 1982. He provided my first serious introduction to Alvord.

I believe you have the same ALVORD or (ALFORD) line as I have, and you may even have it farther back, and you may connect into this line, if you have a relation that may help me further this line back. This is how my ALVORD line begins:

CHILD 1. CHARLOTTE ALVORD Married in Summer 1893-4 LYMAN CURTIS (MY GRAND MOTHER'S GRAND FATHER AND GRAND MOTHER)

Born-25 Sep 1815

Where- Lockport, Niagra, New York

Died- 9 Sep 1879

Where- Salt Lake City, Salt Lake Co., Utah

FATHER 2. THADDEUS ALVORD Married Dec. 1814 SARA OR (SALIE) WELLINGTON

Born- 28 Oct 1781

Where- Northampton, Hampshire, Massachusetts

Died- 11 Feb 1874

Where- North Ogden, Weber Co., Utah

GRAND 3. JOSEPH ALVORD Married 2 Feb 1778 SUMMIT CHAPIN

FATHER Born- 12 May 1733

Where- Northampton, Hampshire, Massachusetts

Died- about 1805

Where- Hamilton, , New York

1 GREAT 4. JOSEPH ALVORD Married 30 July 1730 CLEMENCE WRIGHT

GRAND Born- Mar. 1697

FATHER Where- Northampton, Hampshire, Massachusetts
Died- 1 Jan 1786

2 GREAT 5. Where- Northampton, Hampshire, Massachusetts
EBENEZER ALVORD Married about 1691 RUTH BAKER
GRAND Born- 28 Dec 1665
FATHER Where- Northampton, Hampshire, Massachusetts
Died- 28 Nov 1738

3 GREAT 6. Where- Northampton, Hampshire, Massachusetts
ALEXANDER ALVORD Married 29 Oct 1646 MARY VORE
GRAND Born- chr 15 Oct 1627
FATHER Where- Whitestaunton, Sommersetshire, England
Died- 3 Oct 1687

4 GREAT 7. Where- Northampton, Hampshire, Massachusetts
THOMAS ALFORD Married 11 May 1618 JOAN HAWKINS
GRAND Born- about 1595
FATHER Where- of Whitestaunton, Sommersetshire, England
Died- before 1636

5 GREAT 8. Where-
WILLIAM OR (JOHN) ALFORD Married about 1570 ?
GRAND Born- about 1547-9
FATHER Where- of Whitestaunton, Sommersetshire, England
Died- about 1600

6 GREAT 9. Where-
ALEXANDER ALFORD Married about 1540 AGNES
GRAND Born- about 1509-29
FATHER Where- Whitestaunton, Sommersetshire, England
Died- 22 Dec 1576
Where- England

Does your line go on further back than ALEXANDER ALFORD, ABOUT (1509-29) of Whitestaunton, Sommersetshire, England. Can you clarify either WILLIAM OR (JOHN) ALFORD, which one is correct, who was born about 1547-9, of Whitestaunton, Sommersetshire, England. I also have on these other TABLE CHARTS several ALVORD or ALFORD lines, that are somehow connected to the ancient ALFORD OR ALVORD line that goes back to the year 1160, and I was wondering if you can help me on these TABLE CHARTS, and on this project in connecting to the one back in the year 1160, and I would like to hear and correspond with you as soon as possible.

(SINCERELY)
s/Marshall Gardner
1901 1st Street
YUMA, ARIZONA 85364

Here is what he wrote Feb. 8, 1983:

Dear Mary & Gil!

The advertised pages contain the Gardner Gardiner Genealogy, and also included is the Alford line you tie into in this genealogy.

This also has the prepublication price for the book I am having published.

Please let the others in your areas know about the response of this genealogy, and please answer and reply.

(Sincerely,)
Marshall Kim Gardner

1901 1 Street
Yuma, Arizona 85364.

The book he mentioned was being advertised in the Genealogical Helper at that time but we did not purchase a copy of it. He sent several pages from Rev. Josiah Alford's *Alford Family Notes* which AAFA published in serial fashion in earlier issues. It was there he found the Alford's in 1160. The William or John question is based on a chart included in the 1908 Alvord book where it was shown that Alexander and Agnes Alford were the grandparents of Thomas Alford but they did not know which one of Alexander's four sons was the father. William and John were the two most likely. We never did hear much more from Marshall although I did respond with a letter on Feb. 14, 1983.

The next person heard from was the first who looked like he could possibly be my kin. Below is what Charles H. Sleight wrote on Sep. 17 and I received on Sep. 20 1982. Charles is AAFA #0441 and I think it was a gift membership from his cousin Lodwick H. Alford #0011. Included are copies of several letters to or from others which contain extensive and detailed information about different Alford families. Some of these were scanned and I made every effort to keep the content true to the original with punctuation and spelling as it was received. Some had to be keyed into computer files and they may not be so true to the original in punctuation and spelling..

7413 Sportsman Drive
Falls Church, Va. 22043
Sept. 17, 1982

Mr. Gilbert K. Alford, Jr. ,
1403 Kingsford Drive
Florissant, Mo. 63031

Dear Gil,

Your letter of 9 September was a pleasant surprise. It appears you are off to a good start and I hope you enjoy the genealogy hobby as much as my wife Mary and I have, but less the frustrations. Between the two of us we have researched 32 surnames of ancestors, traveled many miles, formed a family association, spent a lot of money, met many distant kin and made many friendships. I only regret I don't have more to offer you on the Alford's. My big problem has been my own surname and it has become almost an obsession with me.

I have corresponded with only two Alford families and assume one of them provided you with my name and address. I am enclosing copies of both of their letters so you can abstract from them in case you don't already have their information. I used to subscribe to the Genealogical Helper and answered an inquiry from Mrs. Lucille Mehrkam. I'm sure she would like to be added to your list and hope the address on her 1976 letter is still current. Same for the letter I wrote to Randall Alford in 1978. I regret I have not yet been to the Library of Congress to review the reference I made in my letter to Randall concerning Josiah Alford's Family Notes. I still intend to and will forego one of my weekly trips to the Archives to do so. Will let you know what I find.

The last Alford in my line was my great grandmother Susan who married an Adams (I'm way back on that line). A family group record is enclosed for Susan (a productive woman), also a record on her father Nathaniel Green Alford (a productive man), and her grandfather Lodwick Alford.

During a trip to the state Archives in Raleigh, N.C., a few years ago I found copies of the wills of Lodwick and his wife Susanna. I found them interesting in that they did not give, but lend, their wealth for duration of descendants' life in order to keep some "rascal" from marrying into possessions that were intended to be passed on

to children and grandchildren. The wills were also hard to read So I typed copies to make it a little easier. I tried to type the copies just as the writer spelled words, punctuation, etc., in order to preserve the dialect and way of life of our early ancestors. Lodwick could obviously write but Susanna (Susan) signed her will with her mark (X) .By comparing the writing I believe Matthew Strickland (who witnessed both wills) penned both of them.

Also enclosed is a letter written in 1953 from Green Haywood Alford, 2nd, addressed to Frances Parker, grand daughter of Susan Alford Adams, that might be of interest. Also a copy of his father's obituary notice.

I also intend to search the DAR files for more information further back about Lodwick's parents, but for now this should be enough to wreck your computer. If it doesn't, perhaps someday it will match up how our families are related, if at all.

Thanks for including my name on your list and if I can be of further help please feel free to let me know. I am only eight miles from the Library of Congress, Archives, DAR Office, etc. , and have a wealth of information available if I can just find the time to dig it out.

Good luck & best regards,
s/Charles H. Sleight
Charles H. Sleight

P.S. If you ever venture this way, give us a call--we would enjoy your visit. Our phone number is unlisted from the days we had three teen-age daughters at home. It is 703-893-5994.

This is the Green Haywood Alford letter he enclosed:

P. O. Box 269
Mount Airy, N. C.
May-10-1953

Mrs Frances Adams Parker

XXXXXXXX

[Address marked out with note No longer at this address.]

Dear Frances:

Your letter dated April-24-53, did not reach me until last Friday, May-8th as we have been in Louisville Kentucky since April-21st visiting our son and daughter-in-law, and did not return until late Thursday afternoon.

Now about the Alford part of your ancestry, according to the records I have preserved, it is as follows.

LODWICK ALFORD, also known as Major "Tamer" Alford was born July 7-1749 He was~married to Susanna Ross, of Franklin County, N. C. in 1770, he was 2nd Major in the Wake Regiment, under Col. Michael Rogers, in the Revolution also served in the General Assembly in 1778, as a Representative from the newly formed Wake County, N. C. He died in 1820, and his will is recorded in the Book of wills, in the office of the Clerk of Court of Wake-County N. C. in book 16 at page 289. Susanna Ross Alford his wife died in 1838 as I have it and her will is also recorded in the office of the clerk of Court of Wake County at Raleigh N. C. but I do not have the book and page number, my records give her birth date as 1752. These were the parents of Green Alford.

Green Alford, was born in 1787. I do not have the month and day, near what is now Wakefield in Wake County N. C. He was married to Nancy Rose Lile in 1813, Nancy Rose Liles was born in 1794. Green Alford died in 1848, near Cary N. C. and is supposed to have been buried at what was known as the High House near Cary N. C..

Nancy Rose Liles his wife, died in 1851, I do not have the place of her death or burial in my records. These were the Parents of my Grantfather. Green Haywood Alford for whom I was named. They were also the parents of Susan Alford, who was one of his NINE Daughters Susan Alford, according to my records married Quinton Adams on Jan 4-1849 You probable have the records from Quinton Adams and Susan Aflord on down.

Green Alford was the Father of Two sons, William Alford several of whose decendents live in Durham N. C. -and my own Grandfather Green Haywood Alford. There were nine daughters. I have a list of the names of all these daughters but I think I gave it to my son who has it at his home in Louisville Ky. however I have the records showing that Susan was one of the nine, and that she married Quinton Adams as stated above.

The will of Lodwick Alford, does not mention Green Alford, in the disposition of his property, his favorite child appears to have been Delany Alford, who married Wm. High who was at one time Sherrif of Wake County, I think, and Lodwick gave her the major portion of his estate, I heard one of my aunts say that Lodwick did not like Green Alford's marriage and disinherited him because of that. However, Green Alford seems to have prospered any way and later came into possession of the Delany Alford High farm know as the High House near Cary N. C. and I have heard owned nineteen slaves at the time of his death.

I did not give the name of my Father in the above, he was George Benton Alford Bom July -24 1845 died April 5 1924 at Holly Springs N. C.

George Benton Alford was married to Charlott Ann Olive, who was a daughter of Rev. Johnson Olive in 1875. Two children were born of this union, Mattie Viola Alford born October 24 1880 and myself Green Haywood Alford born October 9 1882. Mattie married R. J. Utley, who died about 1934 she did not have any, children and still lives at Holly Springs. I lived in South Georgia for several years and married Elizabeth Gertrude Pollard of Sylvester Georgia Oct 9 1907 we have one son Green Haywood Alford 3rd, who is married to Elizabeth Barrett formerly of Monroe Georgia they now live at 117 Arbor Park South, Louisville Kentucky and no not have any children. I neglected to state that my mother Charlotte died Feb 11897.

I have a dim recollection of visiting or rather spending a night with a Quinton Adams at Aberdeen N. C. during my mothers lifetime we were all on our way for a stay at Jackson Springs N. C. where my Father was going to try the water there for his rheumatizm and we has to stop over in Aberdeen on the trip. As I recall Quinton Adams had several children I remember Vance Adams and two of the girls Lena and Nina Adams. I think was this your Grandfather Quinton Adams.

I came back to Holly Springs in 1909 after my stay in Georgia and stayed there until 1934 whin I started work with the Government, Farm Credit Administration, was in Winston Salem, Lumberton, Durham and finally was sent to Danbury, in Stokes County then came to Mount Airy in 1941 and am now retired but still here. probably temporarily. We live at No 11 Snyder Court Apartments Mount Airy.

All of this is somewhat of a "Rambling" letter but I think I have given you the main facts you wanted from Lodwick Alford down to your Grandmother Susan Alford. I have just carried the old walking cane owned by Lodwick up to Louisville and given it to my son. I have seen the old paper the Raleigh Register and Gazett published at Raleigh No C. in 1820, which gives this account of Lodwick Alford's death -Viz- Major Lodwick Alford and old and respected planter died-, this was in 1820, his will was recorded that year. This newspaper is in the Supreme Court Library in Raleigh N. C.

I hope you can get the information you want from thi scattered type letter I do not have any information about the ancestors of Quinton Adams and this is about all I can give you,

If you should come to Mt Airy stop by to see us we live on South Main St. a Brick appartment building just as you

come into town on #52 right side of street, as you come into town.

Best wishes to you and yours.

Green Haywood Alford 2nd

June 17, 1978 Randall L. Alford [now Dr. Randall L. Alford AAFA #0052] wrote this letter to Charles Sleight:

605 Francis St., #18
Arlington, Texas 76014
June 17, 1978

Dear Mr. Sleight,

I am searching for the parents of my gr - gr - gr grandfather, the Rev. John Madison Alford, b. Aug. 1825-26 Georgia d, Mar. 23, 1892 Neshoba Co., Miss; mar (1) Sarah C. Rainey 1834 Greene Co. Ala; mar (2) Sarah F. Cooper 1860 Lauderdale Co., Miss, listed in Greene C. Directory 1856 as a planter (in Clinton, Ala. = also listed Isaac H. Alford). John M. s bros are said to have been: 1) George (supposed to have d. an old bachelor in Nozubee Co., Miss) 2) Julius (said to have lived in Rankin Co., Miss) 3) Duke Alford_ who was supposed to have been killed during Civil War. I have found Duke in 1850 Ala census in either Pickens or Scott Co. with household of Robbins family - as a laborer aged 17 yrs (b. 1833 Ala) This would indicate that the Alford's must have left Georgia sometime between 1825-1833. Not sure why Duke is listed another household_ unless his parents were dead or he ran away from home. I cannot find my John M. on any 1850 Ala census. The father of this line, according to the family was a John Alford. There is a John Alford in Pickens Co in 1820 (Ala): found in Deed Bk A - Ala Records Vol 34. John Alford of Pickens Co., Ala to John N. Thompson of Greene Co., Ala of 2nd pt & Thomas Riddle Adm. Of Est of Joseph M. Biddle of 3rd pa. 5 Mar 1828.

John M. s children by 1st wife- Sarah C. Rainey

1) George Washington Alford b. 1855 - Greene Co. Ala -1880 Neshoba Co., Ala census. My gr gr grandfather
2) James Henry Alford b. 1857 Greene Co., Ala, d. 1932 Okla 1) mar 1876 Neshoba Co., Miss [appears to have been a line cut off the bottom of the page] Issue:

- 1) Wm. Lafayette Alford
- 2) John Martin, my gr grandfather
- 3) Rev. Andrew Jackson b. 1830 Neshoba Co. Miss d. 1950 Hopkins Co., TX
- 4) Bennett Jefferson,
- 5) James Madison,
- 6) George Albert Sydney,
- 7) Henry Green

Issue con t of Rev. John M & wife (1) Sarah (Rainey) Alford

3) dau-? mar. A Townsend - Kemper Co., Miss.

Issue of Rev. John M. & 2nd wife = Sarah F. Cooper

- 1) Nancy }
- 2) Luella }
- 3) Charity }
- 4) Sarah } All in 1880 census of Neshoba Co., Miss
- 5) John Wm. }
- 6) Benj. Warren }

Perhaps fam trad is wrong ___ & the father of my John M. wasn't a John ___ but rather a Jacob or Julius_ of Greene Co., Ala. Not sure. Do know, however, my John M. lived in Greene Co. in 1854 -&- mar. & had 2 sons there, But cannot find him on 1850 census in Ala (25 yr old in 1850). Am sure my line is related to Lodwick, Sr. because names are so similar. Do you have any info or addresses of people who might be able to help me? Would like to write any his Alford's. Any help you could give me would be appreciated.

Sincerely,
Randall L. Alford

PS John Madison Alford's widow (2) Sarah F. Cooper applied for C. W. Pension in 1900 in Neshoba Co., Miss. John M. enlisted 1862 Enterprise, Miss Co. B. 8 Reg. Under Cpt. Austin & served til close of war in Tenn listed home as Newton Co., Miss during War.

John Madison Alford - (ordained Bapt. (Primitive) minister)
b. 1825-6 Georgia
1854 - mar. (1) Sarah Rainey - Greene Co., Ala
1857 = Planter in Greene Co., Ala
1859-60 - mar (2) Sarah Cooper- Lauderdale Co. Miss
1863 = Newton Co., Miss
1880 = Neshoba Co., Miss
1892 d. in Neshoba Co., Miss

John Alford in Pickens Co., Ala - 1830: Males 1 (1-5), 2 (5-10), 1 (10-15), 1(30-40);
Females 1 (1-5), 1 (5-10), 1(30-40)

Who is the John's parents?

Father = John, Sr. of Franklin Co., NC or a grandson of Lodwick & thus of Jacob or Julius? So many Alford's migrated from NC to GA & into Ala & Miss - (Esp Greene Co) - So confusing!

Charles Sleight's undated response:

Mr. Randall L. Alford
605 Travis Ct., #18
Arlington, Tex 76014

Dear Randall,

I can't imagine who gave you my name and address as an Alford reference. I haven't worked on my family history very much lately and it was a pleasant surprise to hear from someone who is still searching. I don't believe I can help you much but will give you what I have in hopes someday all the pieces of the puzzle will fit together. Lodwick Alford was my Gr. Gr. Gr. Grandfather. He was born in 1749 and died in 1837. He was married to Susanna Ross. They had one daughter, Laney (or Delaney) and two sons, Cade and Nathaniel Green Alford. Laney married William High and I have found no evidence of Cade's marriage. I descend from Nathaniel who was born in 1787. He married Nancy Rose Liles and they had a large family - mostly girls. Their names were: Green Haywood, William, Clara, Helen, Polly Ann, Hilda, Luvery, Mary, Penia, and Susan, I descend from Susan, who married John Quinton Adams.

A couple of years ago I was in Raleigh, N.C. and found the wills of two Lodwick Alford's. At first I thought I had found my Lodwick's father's will but after much analysis concluded that the will dated June 1792 must have been that of an uncle to my Lodwick who's will was dated 1820 and just shortly before his death. The wills indicate that both men owned hundreds of acres of land and many slaves in Wake County, N.C. I've already given you the names of Lodwick & Susan's children, but here are the names of their grandchildren that were listed in the 1820 will: Hutson Alford, Cade Alford, Peyton Alford, William High, Robert High, Mary High, Leiny High,

and Clary Hinton. The first three names make me believe that Lodwick's son Cade did indeed marry and name one of his sons after him. Susanna outlived Lodwick and I also found her will. Her will also contained the above names as well as some great granddaughters by the High part of the family.

The Lodwick Alford will of 1792 contained the following names: Sons: Anselm Alford, Samuel Alford, Kurtchen Alford, Goodrick Alford and Warren Alford Daughters: Winny Rogers, Mary Alford, and Susanna Hobbs Grandsons: Bailey Alford and Wilbe Alford. His will mentioned acquiring some land from John Alford and that is the only reference to a John that I found. My great grandmother Susan Alford, her father Nathaniel and Grandfather Lodwick are all buried near Cary, N.C. as well as many of the other children. If any of my clan ever went to Miss., or Alabama, I am not aware of it. I've heard rumors that some of the Alford descendants reside in the Durham, N.C. area but haven't followed up on that clue. Several years ago I tried to locate Green Haywood Alford, III, who was supposed to be living in Kentucky and who has Lodwick's old walking cane. No Luck!

It seems I devote most of my time trying to figure out the Sleight side of my ancestry. I'm back to 1653, but with many gaps in between. There is a reference in the Library of Congress I'm aware of but have not yet checked out. Maybe it will give us both some information. It is Alford Family Notes, Ancient & Modern, compiled by Josiah George Alford, edited by W.P.W. Phillimore, London, Printed for private circulation and issued by Phillimore & Co., 1908. The Library reference No. is CS 439.A5. After I review that reference I will give up on the Alfords for I know much more about them than I do my other lines and want to work on them some more. There are many Alfords listed in the Washington area phone books and I've talked to a great many of them. Some of them are working on their ancestry but none were in my line as you said, it sure gets confusing. Randall, I've run up many dead ends, so don't get discouraged by this letter. If you ever do establish a tie-in with Lodwick let me know and I'll give you some of the intimate details of the family (funny, blacksheep, etc.)

Sincerely,

Charles H. Sleight

Articles written by AAFA member #0011 Lodwick H. Alford, co founder and past president of AAFA, do much to update comments made in the above letters. He proved why Lodwick, b. 1749, showed favoritism in his will, that a Cade Alford of the family did go to Miss., and many other things. Wick is the present owner of the famous walking stick and has had it at several AAFA meetings.

I sent Russell A. R.A. Alford of Birmingham, Al one of my introductory letters and had a response received Sep. 17, 1982:

Mr. Alford, thank you for your letter. Please keep me informed on your project. I'm very interested. Russell. He sent along pedigree forms. Russell later became AAFA #0119. While Russell and his father were born in Alabama his great grandfather, George M. Alford was born in Canada. George was the son of an Elijah Alford b. 1793 in New York. We later made a tentative connection to the northern branch of the family going on back to the immigrant, Benedict Alford, B. 1619 in England, but it is a weak link which we may some day disprove.

September 22, 1982 I received the following:

Sorry I haven't answered more promptly, because I am interested in what you are doing. Have been out doing research with other branches of the family tree. Am sending my husband's Charts, and as you can see, I haven't been too successful in finding his ancestors. As far as I know, I'm the only one working on this line of Alfords. The members of the family I've contacted haven't been able to give much information. I can give you some names that are connected to George W. Alford (had 2 sons - Towns & Lafate. Lafate settled in Okla (Ada) his son's wife & his daughter still live there.) Mrs. Ollie Alford 719 W. 7th St., Ada Okla 74820 (Son of Lafate, Fletcher Alford's wife (he is deceased.) Minnie Baxter, Short St., Ada, Okla 74820 (daughter of Lafate Alford, brother of Towns son of George W.) Also (not connected to my line, as far as I know) Mrs. Katherine Black, 6214 Glenco St., Houston Texas 77087 and Mrs. Velma P. Downes P.O. Box 5, Nicholson, Miss. 39463.

S/ Delores (Mrs. Martin G) Alford.

It is ironic. Still laying on top of the pile of my backlog at the computer is a copy of the obituary of Martin G. Alford who died in February of this year. Martin and Delores are AAFA #0147. We continued to correspond for years. John Rogers who is writing the articles on the descendants of Job Alford that appear in the quarterly has made a connection with their George W. Alford and if you watch for him you ll find him in a future article.

The last contact to be covered in this issue is Mr. L.E. Alford who wrote me on September 21. All copies of correspondence with these folks is kept in 3-ring binders that wrap around the walls of my basement on steel shelves. He is another of these early contacts who has sent so much that there is one binder devoted just to him. Before he died he passed most of his Alford collection to me and the old About Alford's effort which has now been incorporated into the AAFA collection. He always wrote on his old business stationery which was like the old onion skin paper. The letterhead said L.E. Alford, Certified Public Accountant, Tampa, FL. He would type in Retired and pasted a label over the Tampa, FL that gave his street address as well. Here s his first letter and I ll skip the addresses and greetings: Look for a genealogy on his branch of the family elsewhere in this issue.

Imagine what a surprise it was to receive a letter from a Gilbert Alford when I have a younger brother (age 75 this month) Gilbert Alford living in Horry County (my native home) S.C. Anyway I was glad to get your letter.

Since 1966 I have been trying to locate the date of birth and where born of my Great Great Grandfather Arthur Alford, Sr. and his wife Clarky.

I try to answer all requests for data pertaining to the Alford or Watts (my mothers side) line at no charge. Nor do I plan to ever charge anyone. When I can supply desired information that is reward enough for me.

I hope you have issue #5 published July 1976, of the Alford Family Bulletin which contains an article by the late Mr. Hugh Edwin Alford of Pike County, Miss. Giving the origin of the Alford name and other Alford data. If you do not have it I ll be glad to send you photocopies (poor copies) of the article. I am sorry that because of poor health she (Mrs. Bowman) ceased publication of the Bulletin.

The first data I have on Arthur Alford, Sr. is a deed recorded in the Horry County, S.C. Courthouse, on June 3, 1803 for 424 acres, furniture, horses, cattle, hogs and negroes. I have a hand written copy of his will.

I am sending you a manuscript listing the direct descendants of Arthur Alford, Sr. through my generation. Included are other data of interest to other Alford's.

I was born December 8, 1900 on a farm in Horry County, S.C. Conway is the county seat and Myrtle Beach in Horry County is a popular summer resort. Had my first stroke in June 1974. I walk with a cane.

I enjoyed your letter very much and hope this will be the beginning of a pleasant correspondence.

Sincerely yours,

s/ L. E. Alford

Lewis Emerson Alford

Enclosure: Manuscript

P.S. When I retired I had on hand quite a lot of audit report letterheads, which I am using on genealogical correspondence.

L.E.A.