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DRAFT

September 11, 1982

Dear Lucille:

The notebook you sent us is on the way back. We just cannot thank you enough for sending it. You certainly were trusting with something you have been working on for so long and which contains so many of your precious hours. What you had there must be the only one like it in the world and we will be grateful for your trust for the rest of our days. I am worried that we may have messed up the sequence of some of the pages. We took them out just a few at the time and tried to put them back like they came out. Our printer had to use two different kinds of reproduction machines though. The blue ink and some of the pencil would not come out well on ~~one~~ of the Xerox 8200 and they had a different kind of Xerox they used for them. When we split a group of pages between the two machines is when increased the possibility of messing up.

As I was going through yesterday comparing each of my reproduced copies with your original, I found ~~four~~ pages we did ~~no~~ copy, so I took them to a place near by and had a copy made. Later as I was still using your book to try and arrange my copies in some kind of order I found one page in the back of the pocket in the back of the book that I had not copied. I began to study it and compare it with other data in the notebook, and before I knew it I was making marks on your copy. I am sorry for that. The marks are notations to show where else in the book the same information can be found. Most of it seems to be census data and we will eventually have a copy of the Alford part of every census index for every state. The bottom half of the back page seemed to be something else, and I really could not make it out. Must be from either a wedding or a death announcement. You are someone questioned it, ie NC vs SC. If it is important and you want to send me some clarification I will be sure and include it in what goes in the computer. In case I didn't make it clear which part I am talking about it has to do with Rebecca Alford & Robert E Coleman. That is all I copied from it though.

I kept the copies of the pedigree sheets you updated. Just as soon as I can get it in the computer and get you an updated version I'll send it.

As I start to load the stuff from your book into the computer, I think I will send you a copy of the printout along with my copy of what I got from your book, with the idea you can check it, suggest any changes or additions, and file what I send you in the book. Eventually you should have a computer version of everything you gave me plus what I add from other sources. Because you have been so generous with your information, I plan to send you copies of stuff that I do with data from other people, even if it does not relate directly to data you had. If you do not want me to send you these, just let me know.

We are getting a great deal of information from other people (none like yours however) and we do notice that there is some duplication in what they are sending and what you gave us. There still seems that there are an awful lot of Alford lines for which we have seen no information. We really have no basis for that statement since we have no way of knowing how many "Alford lines" there are or ought to be. We know ~~we have~~ the possibility of having tens of thousands of names in our file before we are finished. We are still having some problems deciding how best to organize our files. If you have any suggestions, we would love to hear them.

Several days ago we sent letters to 27 other possible Alford contacts. We will keep you posted on the results.

Do you know of anyone that is doing anykind of newsletter on Alford's? We are thinking about starting one, not like The Alford Family bulletin, but a simple communication vehicle for those interested in Alford genealogy.

DRAFT

We made copies of the pages from the 2 *FULMORE SECTION Concerning The Antecedents and Descendants of Andrew and Agnes (Cade) Fulmore and Their Collateral Relatives* copyright 1935 By William Curry Harlee. Do you have the entire book? Do you know if this is all that addresses ALFORD in the book? Do you know if the copyright is still valid?

We also made copies of the pages from *HISTORICAL SOUTHERN FAMILIES VOL XII* but we think we can find that in our Library and will check. If not we will be having similar questions about it.

It looks like you have sent us most of the stuff you mentioned in your Aug 19 letter. If you have any other references, we would appreciate the title, author, publisher and date of them so we can search for them.

You have mentioned "Kinfolks" in two letters. Can you send us an address, subscription price etc so we can try and get it. We are assuming that it is some type of genealogical magazine.

We have a few items that you did not have. Would you want us to send you a copy of what we have, or would you prefer to wait for us to run it through the computer and get the "Consolidated Gil version"? We will be glad to copy what we have if you want it.

We keep referring to what we are doing with the computer, we should make it clear that all this is not going to get done overnight. We expect to be working on this project for years. We do expect to have some type of computer product coming out regularly which will be a part of our ultimate objective.

Before we got your material we were working with a bunch of data sent to us by Denna (Smith) Cross from 724 10th Street, Nevada, IA 50201. She is of the family described in Mrs Bowmans bulletin number 4 beginning on page 5. I am merging the data from both sources and making family charts (like the long one I sent you on our family) and will try to write a fresh genealogy of her line. I intend to send you a copy when it is finished. Other than the bulletin and maybe an isolated census item I did not see anything in your book about this bunch.

Although I am still trying to figure out how to get there, our long range plan is to have all Alfords included on some family chart, have them all written up in our genealogical format and have them in our data file. Hopefully you will see ~~each~~ ^{most} of these in the stuff we send you. *it all in*

I think I have begun to ramble, I better shut up so you can get back to whatever you are supposed to be doing.

Thanks again so very very much for letting us have your Alford Book. I hope what we do for you or give you makes our trouble worth your while.

Sincerely,

Mary & Gil Alford

is there a particular genealogical society that you would recommend joining as an aid to our Alford research?

have a pedigree chart on all subts whom we are in contact