



Genealogist and SAR

February 6, 1974

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Dear Eileen,

I was most delighted to get your letter. I always enjoy writing Alford "cousins" - and there are many of us. I too have done genealogical research for many years, beginning when I was thirteen years old. In 1969 I was fortunate in being able to study German at the University of Innsbruck in Austria. While I was in Europe I did some research in London on other allied lines.

I agree with you about the searching for my John Madison's parents. I have tried to do this but with out much luck. Everyone is baffled by my line. Mr. Benj. Holzclaw thinks my line connects with his southern branch because of the continual use of the name "Julius". His family as well as mine have used this name for generations. It is Mr. Holzclaw's article on the Alford family that appears in Beddie's works.

I have written to Neshoba Co., Miss. many times but with out much success. I also have many relatives that still reside in Neshoba Co. whom I still write. They have helped me somewhat. For the last year or two I have heard no word from them.

My ancestor, Rev. John Madison Alford, was a Primitive (Hard-Shell) Baptist Minister. At that time, as I understand it, the Primitive Baptists had no convention or associational body. In other words, they were all "independant" churches. John pastored then the Old Forks Baptist Church. It is now the Henry's Chapel Bapt. Church. John and his wife are buried in the church cemetery outside of Philadelphia, Miss. He was affectionately called - "Brother (Elder) Jack". I will write immediately to the clerk for a death certificate. Although I am not sure Miss. started these by 1892; I know they did not begin birth records until after 1900. As far as baptismal records are concerned, the early churches in the Primitive sect did not keep very accurate records - if any were kept at all. They only baptized adult believers, and my gr.grandf. had left Neshoba by that time. He was (Andrew Jackson) bapt. in Hopkins Co., Tx. by Elder Gaddy at the Bethel Bapt. Church.

It appears you have been very busy and fruitful in proving your family back to the immigrant! I was very interested in the Mayor Gregory Alford and the name Marmaduke (Duke). Our families could have a common ancestor.

In regard to my gr.-gr.-grandfather, his full name was; James Henry Alford. He married Ann Marie Pace in 1876 in Neshoba Co., Miss. After her death in 1887-89, he remarried a Miss Lou J. Martin in Neshoba Co.

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Are you familiar with Hardee's KINFOLKS? He has devoted a chapter to the Alford family - most interesting! Here is a chart:

father: Jenn, Julius, or Jacob ????

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Rev. John Madison Alford - listed as "planter" in 1856 in Greene Co., Ala.
b. Aug. 7, 1826-8 Georgia

d. Mar. 29, 1892 Philadelphia, Neshoba Co., Miss.

Mar. - (1) Sarah Rainey in 1854 Greene Co., Ala.

b. 1836 Greene Co., Ala.

d. before 1860

(2) Sarah Frances Cooper b. Apr. 8, 1836 Lauderdale Co., Miss.

d. Feb. 8, 1910 Neshoba Co., Miss.

Sarah Cooper and Rev. John M. Alford mar. in ^{Sept-7} 1860 in Lauderdale Co.,

Issue by first marriage:

1. George Washington Alford b. 1855 Greene Co., Ala. d. 1909? Tx.
2. James Henry Alford b. 1857 Greene Co., Ala. d. 1932 Cadde., Okla.
mar. (1) Ann Marie Pace b. 1855 Greene Co., Ala. d. 1887 Nesh. Co., Miss. They married in 1876 in Neshoba Co., Miss.
(2) Lou J. Martin in 1888 in Neshoba Co., Miss. (Many Issue)
3. dau. - name unk. mar. a Townsend in Kemper Co., Miss.

Issue by second marriage:

1. John William All of these children stayed in Miss.
2. Benjamin Warren
3. Mattie
4. Manza
5. Minnie
6. Charity
7. (probably more) , a dau. Nancy (older than rest, maybe by first marriage ?)

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James Henry Alford (above) had many children, left Miss. around 1889
* and came to East Tx. on an ex cart with family.

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Rev. Andrew Jackson Alford b. Mar. 14, 1880 Neshoba Co., Miss.

* d. Nov. 20, 1956 Hopkins Co., Tx. (Missionary Bapt. Minister);

* mar. 1900 in Hopkins Co., Tx. to Effie F. Keith b. 1886 Hopkins

* Co., Tx. d. 1957 Hopkins Co., Tx.

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Rev. George LeRoy Alford b. Mar. 23, 1905 Hopkins Co., Tx.

mar. (1) Lola Grice Williamson in Hopkins Co, Tx. 1922

b. 1900 Grice, Upsher Co., Tx.

d. 1947 Hopkins Co., Tx.

(2) Vennie Mae Fink b. 1910 - mar. 1948 in Upsher Co., Tx.

The above is my grandfather who now resides in Dallas Co., Tx.
and pastors the Lakewood Bapt. Ch. (Missionary Bapt.)

Can't find John M. in 1850 census of any co. in Ala. - could have overlooked him (census so difficult to read). He was prob. infant when his father moved to Ala. Family trad. says his father's mother d. + children were left orphans. This may explain Duke being in a different household in 1850. Please let me hear from you with kindest regards, Randy H.

DESCENDANTS OF
James Henry Alford and 1st wife Annie Pace
B. 1857 B. 1855
D. 1932 D. 1886

Completed by
Vida Alford Miller
Pickton, Texas

Their children -

William LaFayette

John Martin

Andrew Jackson

Bennett Jefferson

James Walter

George Albert Sidney (who, because his initials spelled gas, changed it to Sidney Albert)

Henry Green

A daughter who died when small

Dee (who died when 18 or 19)

William LaFayette Alford wife Minnie E. Keith
B. June 16, 1877 B. Sept. 13, 1879
D. Jan. 30, 1932 D. Oct., 1946

Their Children

~~William~~ hus. William Miller
Clovis wife Ruth Grice & Marge ?
Adrian (died at Age 1)
Ray wife Dimple Roach & Foye Bell
Guy (drowned at age 4)
Baby boy who died
George wife Lena Mae McFarlin & Mildred ?
~~Walter~~ hus. ~~Robert~~ Roach
Jessie Pearl hus. Robert Roach
Minnie Lee hus. Aubry Coats
Willie Fay hus. John H. Culpepper
Donald wife ?

John Martin Alford 1st wife ?
B. Jan. 1, 1879 Children -
D. July 5, 1950

Annie Bell

2nd wife - Minnie Kennedy
B. Mar. 18, 1885
D. Jan. 14, 1919

Their Children

John William wife Ruth
~~Robert~~ wife ?
Lloyd wife ?
Jack
Jewell twins
Ewell
May
Leo

Bennett Jefferson Alford wife Bell Burns
B. 1881 B. 1884 ?
D. 1918

Their Children

James (Jim) wife Lois Mays
Lillie hus. A. B. Spangler
Jewell hus. Quincy Thomas
Annie hus. (1) Roy Culpepper (2) Clyde Ray
Paul wife Corina McFarlin
B. J. wives ? and Drucilla Finklea-Turner

<u>Andrew Jackson Alford</u>	Married	<u>Effie Francis Keith</u>
B.Mar.14,1880 (minister)	Oct.7,1900	B.Oct.7,1886
D.Nov.20,1956		D.Feb.5,1957

Their Children

Mittie Almyra hus. Nath Ferguson
 Annie Cornealia hus. James O. Bailey
 George Leroy W's Lela Grice(died) & Vennie Fink
 Virgie Virginia (died at age 6)
 Bennie Clifton (died at age 1)
~~Dennis Jackson~~ (died at age 2)
 Alice Lavada H's Raymond Culpepper & Harvey Sanders
 Iva Dee hus. Edgar Gunn
 Bonnie Francis H's Vernon Wright & Ed Cole
 Kenneth Spurgen (died at age 6 Months)
 Ruby Vida hus. Jesse Dial Miller (minister)
 Levi Gordon wife Jimmie Hall
 Daisy Dell H's, J.W. Brown & Thomas W. Warrick
 Gretchen Bell (Dutch) H's. Curtis Gunn(died) & L.Z. Arnold

<u>James Walter Alford</u>	Married	<u>Carrie Lee Keith</u>
B.1888		B.1888 Jan.25
D.19 ?	Their Children	D.192 ? Sept.25,1926

~~Dora Ethel~~ H's. Ed Pharr(dead) & Frank Slampa
 Jessie Lee hus Alton Johnson
 J.W. wife Pearl Spindle
 A girl died at age 1 Week & a Boy ~~stid~~ was born dead

<u>Sidney Albert Alford</u>	Married	<u>Valeria Clay</u>
B.Jan.31,1886		B.Sept.22,1888
D.June24,1937		D.Dec.25,1969

Their Children

A.B. wife Clara Harrelson
 George D. wife Bell Harrelson
 Clara Lee hus. Welcome Edwards
 Truman wife Elva Attaway
 Killed in W.W.2 Ottis wife Grace Edwards
~~Horice~~ wife Rosie Lee Hart
 James wife Everine Odell
 Leon wife Elwanda Crane
 Harvey & Essie Bell died when small & 1 Baby born dead.
 W.W.I Vet. Henry Green Alford wife Florence(?) Brown
 B.1887 or 8 She had 1 son by first marriage
 D.19

Children of James Henry Alford & 2nd Wife LUE Martin Married July 12,1888²²
 B.1870
 D.1940

Dee (died at age 18 or 20)

~~Marie~~ H's Edwards, 2 children, & Ernest Sanders, 3 children

Gladys
 Lessie H's Tom Ingram & _____ Young
 W.W.I Vet. Connie H's Joe Bennifield & _____ Keith
 Claud wife Mead Ridgeway
 Roy W's Lucille----? & Mary----?
 Arnold wife Lillie Tigert
 Lonnie hus. John McDougal
 I small Girl & I Baby Died