

Alfords from Ireland in the IGI

Many Alfords and Alford descendants have expressed considerable interest in the "Alfords" of England, Ireland, Wales, and Scotland. With the help of Alicia Houston, AAFA Census Project Officer, we now have a complete set of the Alfords in the LDS-IGI of the British Isles. The records for Ireland are listed below.

Members will recognize a couple of new spelling variations. These may or may not be related to the "Alfords." Other spellings in the IGI which were not listed here are OL-PHERT, OLPHERTS, and ELLERFORD. If you think they

are pertinent, let us know and they will be published later.

Birth Place and Married Place are not listed as they are all assumed to be Ireland. The records in the LDS-IGI were all birth, christening or marriage. The date of birth or christening is shown under the birth date. The "Event" on the right of the page distinguishes between actual birth or baptism.

The computer grouped all children under parents with identical names. It is possible that some of the parents listed could actually be different persons with the same name.

NAME (ALFORD UNLESS OTHERWISE)	BIRTH DATE	SPOUSE	DATE MARRIED	EVENT & LOCATION: COUNTY, TOWN, AND/OR PARISH
ANNE ALFRED	1822E	TESKEY, HARDRUSS	18420228	M LIMERICK, LIMERICK, ST. MICHAEL
CATHERINE ALFORD	1818E	CARTER, JAMES	18380301	M LIMERICK, ADARE
ELIZA ALFRED	1820E	FARRELL, JAMES	18401214	M LIMERICK, LIMERICK, ST. MICHAEL
ELIZA JANE OLFOR	1850E	STEWART, HENRY	18700331	M LONDONDERRY, LONDONDERRY
ELIZABETH	1796E	LONG, GEORGE	18160804	M LIMERICK, LIMERICK, ST. JOHN
HENRY	1802E	ARMSTRONG, ELIZABETH	18220315	M MONAGHAN, CLONES
HENRY	1809E	WESLEY, CATHERINE	18290917	M LIMERICK, ADARE
HENRY ALFERT	1826E	JOHNSTON, MARGARET	18460204	M MONAGHAN, CLONES
JAMES ALFRED	1825E	MCMANARA, BRIDGET	18450602	M DUBLIN, DUBLIN
JOHN ALFRED	1804E	WILLIAMS, MARGARET	18240229	M LIMERICK, LIMERICK, ST. MUNCHIN
JOSEPH	1807E	DEMPSEY, MARY	18270225	M LIMERICK, LIMERICK, ST. JOHN
MARGARET ALFRED	1787E	FITZGERALD, JOHN	18070617	M LIMERICK, LIMERICK, ST. JOHN
MARIA ALFRED	1829E	COGHLAN, CHRISTOPHER	18490416	M LIMERICK, RATHKEALE
MARY ANNE	1794E	WHITE, DAVID	18140928	M LIMERICK, LIMERICK, ST. MICHAEL
MARY ANNE ALFRED	1815E	HIFFLE, RICHARD	18350625	M LIMERICK, ADARE
MICHAEL ALFRED	1814E	BURGH, MARY	18340713	M LIMERICK, LIMERICK, ST. MICHAEL
PRISCILLA ALFRED	1819E	TATE, WILLIAM	1839	M DOWN, DOWNPATRICK
ROBERT ALFRED	1817E	DWYER, JANE	18370207	M LIMERICK, RATHKEALE
ROBERT ALFRED	1846E	SPEIRIN, SUSAN	18660206	M LIMERICK, DREHIDTARSNA
SAMUEL ALFRED	1816E	CALLAGHAN, HONORIA	18361205	M LIMERICK, LIMERICK
SAMUEL ALFRED	1816E	CALLAGHAN, HONORA	18361205	M LIMERICK, LIMERICK, ST. JOHN
SARAH	1869E	SLEVIN, THOMAS	18891006	M DUBLIN, DUBLIN
THOMAS	1634E	BYRNE, MARGARETT	16541026	M DUBLIN, DUBLIN, ST. MICHAN
WILLIAM	1782E	GREY, MARY	18020203	M LIMERICK, LIMERICK, ST. MARY
WILLIAM ALLFORD	1701E	WILLOBY, ANNE	17210717	M DUBLIN, DUBLIN, ST. PETER

Parents: ALFORD, EDWARD and MANLEY, EURIAN
WILLIAM 18680718

B TIPPERARY, GOLDEN

NAME (ALFORD UNLESS OTHERWISE)	BIRTH SPOUSE DATE	DATE MARRIED	EVENT & LOCATION: COUNTY, TOWN, AND/OR PARISH
<i>Parents: ALFORD, HENRY and _____, CATHERINE</i>			
ELIZABETH	18320426		C LIMERICK, LIMERICK, ST. MARY
HENRY	18360622		C LIMERICK, LIMERICK, ST. MARY
JOHN	18340122		C LIMERICK, LIMERICK, ST. MUNCHIN
JOHN	18380207		C LIMERICK, LIMERICK, ST. MARY
HENRY	18040129		C LIMERICK, LIMERICK, ST. JOHN
JOSEPH	17990301		C LIMERICK, LIMERICK, ST. JOHN
<i>Parents: ALFORD, HENRY WILLIAM and MURRAY, SOPHIA</i>			
JENETTA CHARLES	18660824		B DUBLIN, DUBLIN
<i>Parents: ALFORD, JAMES and CONRY, ALICIA</i>			
MARY JANE	18650125		B DUBLIN, DUBLIN
<i>Parents: ALFORD, JOHN and COLLIER, MARIA</i>			
BRIDGET	18660523		B DUBLIN, DUBLIN
CATHERINE	18640608		B TYRONE, DONEMANNA
ELIZABETH	18250401		C LIMERICK, LIMERICK, ST. MUNCHIN
MARGARET	18311009		C LIMERICK, LIMERICK, ST. MUNCHIN
<i>Parents: ALFORD, MICHAEL and DOYLE, SARAH</i>			
ANNE	18670710		B WEXFORD, GOREY
MICHAEL	18670313		B DOWN, BALLYMACARPET
<i>Parents: ALFORD, RICHARD and _____, ANNE</i>			
ANN	18260415		C LIMERICK, ADARE
<i>Parents: ALFORD, ROBERT and DONNELL, SARAH</i>			
ROBERT	18660412		B TYRONE, DUNNAMANAGH
THOMAS	18451223		C LIMERICK, RATHKEALE
<i>Parents: ALFORD, SAM and _____, JANE</i>			
MARY	17270305		C DUBLIN, DUBLIN, ST. PETER
<i>Parents: ALFORD, THOMAS and FOLEY, MARY</i>			
None Given ALFORD	18650101		B DUBLIN, DUBLIN
SARAH	18681208		B DUBLIN, DUBLIN
JOSEPH	18650522		B TYRONE, DONEMANNA
<i>Parents: ALFORD, WILLIAM and EDGE, MARTHA</i>			
ALBERT	18640622		B WICKLOW, OVOCA
EMMA MURTHA	18661126		B LIMERICK, ADARE
JEMIMA	18691122		B MONAGHAN, DRUM
TRESSA	18641222		B MONAGHAN, DRUM
<i>Parents: ALFRED, HENRY and _____, CATHERINE</i>			
MARY ALFRED	18300829		C LIMERICK, ADARE
<i>Parents: ALFRED, JOHN and _____, ANNE</i>			
JOHN ALFRED	18271210		C LIMERICK, ADARE

NAME (ALFORD UNLESS OTHERWISE)	BIRTH SPOUSE DATE	DATE MARRIED	EVENT & LOCATION: COUNTY, TOWN, AND/OR PARISH
ANNA MARIA ALFRED	18270608		C LIMER., LIMERICK, ST. MUNCHIN
MARY ALFRED	18290428		C LIMER., LIMERICK, ST. MUNCHIN
MARY JANE ALFRED	18680829		B MONAGHAN, CLONES
ELLEN ALFRED	18341012		C LIMERICK, ADARE
ELLEN ALFRED	18371203		C LIMERICK, ADARE
JOHN ALFRED	18320909		C LIMERICK, ADARE
REBECCA ALFRED	18400105		C LIMERICK, ADARE

Parents: ALFRED, JOSEPH and DEMPSEY, MARY

MARY ANNE ALFRED	18400821		C KERRY, KILLARNEY, ROMAN CATHOLIC
ANNE ALFRED	18290315		C LIMERICK, ADARE
CATHERINE ALFRED	18320112		C LIMERICK, ADARE
ELIZABETH ALFRED	18360229		C LIMERICK, LIMERICK, ST. JOHN
EMMA ALFRED	18530506		C LIMERICK, ADARE
JOSEPH ALFRED	18371025		C LIMERICK, ADARE
JOSEPH ALFRED	18430115		C LIMERICK, ADARE
JOSEPH, ALFRED	18370505		C LIMERICK, LIMERICK, ST. MARY
MARY ALFRED	18350904		C LIMERICK, ADARE
SUSAN ALFRED	18480804		C LIMERICK, ADARE

Parents: ALFRED, JOSPEH and _____, MARY

WILLIAM ALFRED	18450504		C LIMERICK, ADARE
----------------	----------	--	-------------------

Parents: ALFRED, MICHAEL and DOYLE, SARAH

JOHN ALFRED	18640530		B WEXFORD, GOREY
-------------	----------	--	------------------

Parents: ALFRED, RICHARD and _____, ANNE

RICHARD ALFRED	18351129		C LIMERICK, ADARE
SAMUEL ALFRED	18301017		C LIMERICK, ADARE

Parents: ALFRED, ROBERT and SPEIRAN, SUSAN

HARRIETT ANNE ALFRED	18661212		B LIMERICK, ADARE
MICHAEL ALFRED	18421121		C LIMERICK, RATHKEALE
_____ ALFRED	18410623		C LIMERICK, RATHKEALE

Parents: ALFREED, WILLIAM and _____, MARY

ELLENOR ALFREED	16980523		C DUBLIN, DUBLIN, ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST
-----------------	----------	--	--

Parents: ALLFORD, GEORGE and DENT, CATHERINE

_____ ALLFORD	18660209		B DUBLIN, DUBLIN
---------------	----------	--	------------------

Parents: ALLFORD, GODFREY and _____, MARY

SARAH ALLFORD	17800123		C LIMERICK, LIMERICK, ST. MARY
---------------	----------	--	--------------------------------

Parents: ALLFORD, PAT and SUNDERLAND, KATE

_____ ALLFORD	18670324		B DUBLIN, DUBLIN
---------------	----------	--	------------------

Parents: ELFORD, ARTHUR and FLYNNE, ANNE

JOSEPH ELFORD	18691020		B KINGS, TULLAMORE
THOMAS ELFORD	18640625		B KINGS, TULLAMORE
THOMAS ELFORD	18660730		B KINGS, TULLAMORE

Columbus Washington Alford

The following was adapted from an article prepared by Ruby Alford Heard for publication in the Leake County (Mississippi) History.

Columbus Washington⁶ (1850-1936), James Floyd⁵ (1817ca-), Zaddock⁴ (1787ca-1823), Julius C.³ (1797-1820), Lodwick² (1710-), James¹ (1687-).

Columbus Washington Alford, known as "Lum", was the son of James F. and Sarah (ELLIS) Alford. He was born 18 January 1850 in Troup County, GA. His birth was during the short term of President Zachary Taylor who died 9 July 1850. President Taylor became ill from the heat while laying the cornerstone for the Washington Monument July 4, 1850 and died five days later. Daniel Webster was convinced that Taylor's death prevented the outbreak of the civil war in 1850.

Lum died 30 November 1936 in Freeny, Leake County, Mississippi. He is buried there in Shockalo Cemetery (New Bethel). Earlier that month Franklin D. Roosevelt had defeated Alf Landon for the Presidency.

Columbus married Martha Maryann (Mollie) D. GLOVER 17 September 1871 in Reeltown, Tallapoosa County, Alabama. This was just two months after William "Boss" Tween was exposed by the New York Times for taking up to \$200,000,000 in fraudulent contracts, kickbacks, false vouchers and other corrupt practices which brought New York to the verge of bankruptcy. It was just two weeks before Brigham Young was arrested for practicing polygamy—part of the pressure brought on by the Federal Government against the Mormons. And it was just three weeks before the fire in Chicago would kill 250 people and do damage estimated at \$196,000,000.

Maryann, the daughter of John Sanders

and Mary Glover, was born 11 August 1857 in Tallapoosa County, Alabama. She died 27 January 1944 near Estes Mill at Four Corners in Leake County, Mississippi. She too is buried at Shockalo Cemetery (New Bethel).

Columbus and his family moved from Alabama to Mississippi about 1880. They rented a home for a year after moving and then bought land in the Freeny area, giving five bales of cotton for it.

Lum was an ordained "Hardshell" Baptist preacher. He was liberated to preach in February 1897, ordained at Shockalo in May 1906 and called as pastor with elder J. R. Willis in November 1906. For the next fifteen years, he was called every November as pastor at Shockalo. He retired in 1922 due to ill health. He continued to perform marriages, preach and conduct funerals as his health permitted.

Children:

- i. Frances Vashu Alford, born 18 August 1872 in Tallapoosa County, AL; died 31 March 1949 and is buried at Goshen, Leake County, MS; married Wiseman [Banjo] QUICK 25 December 1889.
- ii. Maryann Elizabeth "Widdie" Alford, born 6 February 1874 in Tallapoosa County, AL; died 1 January 1947 and is buried at Ruston, Lincoln County, LA; married (1) John MILLS 13 February 1890 and (2) Billy RIVES 13 November 1921.
- iii. Wilburn Whitfield "Whit" Alford, born 5 September 1875 in Tallapoosa County, AL; died 21 May 1962 and is buried at Pleasant Hill, Leake County, MS; married Virginia Amanda

HOLLINGSWORTH 24 October 1896.

- iv. Edward "Ed" Franklin Alford, born 23 February 1877 in Tallapoosa County, AL; died 16 May 1940 and is buried at Pleasant Hill, Leake County, MS; married Laura HOLLINGSWORTH 22 December 1897.
- v. John Willie Alford, born 17 January 1879 in Walnut Hill, Tallapoosa County, AL; died 6 July 1906 in Rankin County, MS, and is buried in Steen Creek Cemetery, Florence, Rankin County, MS; married Lora Lola BRIDGES 6 July 1906 in Rankin County, MS.
- vi. Lular Pearl Alford, born 23 September 1881 in Leake County, MS; died 20 February 1952 and is buried at Pleasant Hill, Leake County, MS; married William Owen PERKINS 23 September 1897.
- vii. Susan Ealy Alford, born 16 April 1884 in Leake County, MS; died 26 June 1950 and is buried at Goshen, Leake County, MS; married John Christopher WEIR 6 May 1906.
- viii. Nellie Ann Alford, born 19 February 1888 in Leake County, MS; died 3 October 1954 and is buried at Pleasant Hill, Leake County, MS; married (1) Robert SANDERS 26 June 1906 and (2) Alex LANGSTON 4 May 1919.
- ix. Ellar Cornelius "Nealie" Alford, born 14 March 1890 in Leake County, MS; died 27 September 1915 and is buried in Shockalo Cemetery, Leake County, MS; married Walter CROSSWELL 18 March 1906.



Columbus "Lum" Washington Alford Family ca 1903

In chairs in front, children of Whit Alford: *Jacob Columbus, Maude Milinda*. Front row L to R: *Edward Alford; his wife Laura Hollingsworth Alford, holding daughter Essie; Lum; his wife Maryann Glover Alford; Whit's wife Virginia Hollingsworth Alford, holding daughter Mary Elizabeth "Matt"; Wilburn Whitfield "Whit" Alford, holding daughter Minervia Ann "Dolly."* Second row L to R, all children of Lum: *Samuel Hamilton, Ellar Corneleus, Susan Ealy, Nellie Ann, and Ular Valeria*.

- x. Samuel "Sam" Hamilton Alford, born 2 January 1893 in Freeny, Leake County, MS; died 14 February 1971, in Carthage, Leake County, MS, and is buried in New Hope Cemetery, Estes Mill, Leake County, MS; married Frances Everline "Evie" ESTES on 3 September 1913 (parents of Ruby Alford Heard).
- xi. Oberline Golden Alford, born 21 October 1894 in Leake County, MS; died 25 February 1895 and is buried at Shockalo, Leake County, MS.
- xii. Ular Valeria Alford, born 8 February 1896 in Leake County, MS; died 6 January 1962 and is buried in Caldwell Cemetery, Freeny, Leake County, MS; married Otho Olin KELLY on 11 December 1913.

Samuel Hamilton Alford and Evie (Estes) Alford with son Frank Martin, who was born 1919 and died 1920. Another son, James Raymond was born January 1920 and died February 1920. Ruby was born in 1921 and Bernice Lucille was born 1925.



Alfords in the Revolutionary War

Below is an index of Alfords in the Revolutionary War from MICROCOPY M860-1, extracted by Gil Alford. Following this list is a short biography on two of the Alfords, a series we plan to continue in future issues.

File	Cross Ref	T	Rank	Name (Alford)	Unit
3116	3122	R	PRIVATE	ALEXANDER ALFERD Alternate Name: ALFORD	7 CONNECTICUT REGIMENT
3117	3123	R	PRIVATE	ANDREW ALFERD Alternate Name: ALFORD	3 & 4 VIRGINIA REGIMENT
3119	3123	R	PRIVATE	ANDREW ALFOOT Alternate Name: ALFORD	3 & 4 VIRGINIA REGIMENT
3120				ALEXANDER	CAPT COFFEN'S COMPANY, VERMONT MILITIA
3121			PRIVATE	ALEXANDER	CAPT SALSBURY'S COMPANY, VERMONT MILITIA
3122			PRIVATE	ALEXANDER	CONNECTICUT REGIMENT
3123	3124		PRIVATE	ANDREW	3 & 4 VIRGINIA REGIMENT
3124	3123	R	PRIVATE	ANDREW	4, 8 & 12 REGIMENT
3125			PRIVATE	ASAHIL	1 MASSACHUSETTS REGIMENT
3126				BENEDIC (sic)	WARREN'S 15 REGIMENT, VERMONT MILITIA
3127				EBER	BALDWIN'S REGIMENT ARTIFICERS Alternate/Expanded Unit: CONTINENTAL TROOPS
3128			CORPORAL	ELIJAH	WEED'S REGIMENT MASSACHUSETTS MILITIA
3129			PRIVATE	GEORGE	PENNSYLVANIA REGIMENT, CONTINENTAL
3130				GEORGE	LT POST'S COMPANY, VERMONT MILITIA
3131	3132		PRIVATE	JACOB	3 & 7 VIRGINIA REGIMENT
3132	3131	R	PRIVATE	JACOB	7 VIRGINIA REGIMENT
3133			PRIVATE	JOB	8 CONNECTICUT REGIMENT
3134			PRIVATE	JOHN	VIRGINIA
3135			CORP/PVT	JOHN	— REGIMENT, CONTINENTAL TROOPS
3136			PRIVATE	JOHN	HASLET'S DELAWARE REGIMENT
3137			PRIVATE	JOHN	2 NEW JERSEY BATTALION
3138			PRIVATE	JNO	VIRGINIA
3139		R	PRIVATE	JOHN	4, 8 & 12 VIRGINIA REGIMENT Alternate/Expanded Unit: 8 VIRGINIA REGIMENT
3140			PRIVATE	JOHN	8 VIRGINIA REGIMENT
3141	4279	R	PRIVATE	JOHN Alternate Name: ALLFORD	9 VIRGINIA REGIMENT
3142			SERGEANT	JOHN HALL ALFORD	ARTILLERY REGIMENT CONTINENTAL TROOPS
3143				JOSEPH	— EEDING'S REGIMENT CONNECTICUT MILITIA
3144		R	LIEUTENANT	JOSIAH Alternate Name: ALVORD	WEED'S MASS. REGIMENT MILITIA
3145				BLANK RECORD	
3146				PELATIAH	18? REGIMENT CONNECTICUT MILITIA
3147			PRIVATE	PELATIAH	5 CONNECTICUT REGIMENT
3148			PRIVATE	PRICHARD	HALL'S DELAWARE REGIMENT
3149		R	PRIVATE	SAMUEL Alternate Name: ALFRED	3 MASSACHUSETTS REGIMENT
3150				SAMUEL	5 CONNECTICUT REGIMENT
3151			PRIVATE	SAMUEL	8 CONNECTICUT REGIMENT
3152	4281		PRIVATE	THOMAS Alternate Name: ALLFORD	3 VIRGINIA REGIMENT
3153				THOMAS	3 MARYLAND REGIMENT

3154			THOMAS	NAVAL
3155			WILLIAM	MOORHEAD'S INDEPENDENT COMPANY, PENN.
3156	3157	R	PRIVATE	WILLIAM
3157	3156		PRIVATE	WILLIAM
3158	3123	R	PRIVATE	ANDREW ALFRED
			Alternate Name: ALFORD	8 VIRGINIA REGIMENT
3159	3158	R	PRIVATE	ANDREW ALFRED
				12 VIRGINIA REGIMENT
3160			PRIVATE	GEORGE ALFRED
3161			PRIVATE	JOHN ALFRED
3162	3163	R	PRIVATE	JOHN ALFRED
			Alternate Name: ALLFORD	3 & 4 VIRGINIA REGIMENT
3163	3162	R		JOHN ALFRED
				4 VIRGINIA REGIMENT
3164				Alternate/Expanded Unit: 3 & 4 VIRGINIA REGIMENT
3165			PRIVATE	THOMAS ALFRED
3166			PRIVATE	WILLIAM ALFRED
4279	3141		PRIVATE	JOHN ALLFORD
			Alternate Name: ALFORD	CORPS OF INVALIDS CONTINENTAL TROOPS
4280			PRIVATE	JOHN HALL ALLFORD
4281	3152	R	PRIVATE	THOMAS ALLFORD
			Alternate Name: ALFORD	HALL'S DELAWARE REGIMENT
				9 VIRGINIA REGIMENT
				13 VIRGINIA REGIMENT
				Alternate/Expanded Unit: 9 VIRGINIA REGT
				3 MASSACHUSETTS REGIMENT
				VIRGINIA REGIMENT
				VIRGINIA
				9 VIRGINIA REGIMENT
				15 REGIMENT CONTINENTAL TROOPS
				3 VIRGINIA REGIMENT

Alexander & Asahel, Revolutionary War Vets

Alexander Alford (1752-1836)

Alexander, son of Benedict and Jerusha (Ashley) Alford, was born 25 June 1752—probably in Hartford County, Connecticut, although some say he was born in Vermont. He died 13 August 1836 in Colchester, Chittenden County, Vermont.

Alexander married Elizabeth Lease on 29 August 1782 in Williamstown, Berkshire County, Massachusetts. Alexander was from Rutland County, Vermont, at the time, and the ceremony was performed by the Reverend Seth Swift. The couple settled in Colchester, Chittenden County, Vermont. Elizabeth was born about 1765; on 8 October 1838 she stated that she was age 73. She died 18 January 1849 in Vermont.

Alexander enlisted in 1775 in Captain Gideon Brownson's Company in Colonel Warner's Regiment of the

Green Mountain Boys and took part in the expedition to Quebec. He remained there until the retreat of the army.

He enlisted, for three years from Colchester, as a private in January or February 1777. He served in Captain Titus Watson's Company, Colonel Flemon or Heman Swift's Seventh Regiment, General Washington's Brigade, General Putnam's Division of the Connecticut line and in Continental service. He served the full period and was discharged someplace in New Jersey.

He was present on 6 October 1777 for the storming of Fort Montgomery on the North of the Hudson River on board a Row Galley called Lady Washington commanded by Captain Lewis.

Although it is not mentioned in his pension application, a DAR lineage record indicates he was in the battle at Fort Washington.

He applied for a Revolutionary War

pension 10 April 1818, and the certificate was issued 11 June 1819. He received a pension of \$8 per month. He filed a Revolutionary War claim 20 June 1820 requesting an increase in his pension because his wife was sick in bed and had trouble with her eyes. He stated he was a farmer suffering from cancer and had four children living with him. He identified the children as Daniel 12, Eliza 9, Jane 16, and granddaughter Laura Ann 4.

Upon his death in 1836 Elizabeth's pension commenced also at \$8 per month. A later record showed \$80 per year to begin March 4 1843.

The index on those in the Revolutionary War lists an Alexander who served in Captain Coffen's Company, Vermont Militia, and one who served in Captain Abraham Salisbury's Company, Vermont Militia. These two were also separate entries in a list published in *THE MAGAZINE OF AMERICAN GENEALOGY*, Vol.1 No. 3 (October 1929). According to this source, the

time of service of both these Alexanders was in 1781. Alexander, the subject of this article, did have two older cousins named Alexander, but they were thought to be of Connecticut. No evidence of any pensions were found for other Alexander Alford.

If you are interested in reviewing the pension files on Alexander Alford or other Alford, refer to National Archives Micro Copy 804-31. If you prefer actual copies of the documents, they may be ordered from the National Archives and Records Administration, 7th and Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington DC 20408. You will need to write them first to obtain the appropriate form: NATF FORM 80. If you order copies of Alexander's pension record, you should cite pension number W20600.

At least one DAR line is based on the service of Alexander Alford, that of Miss Mary L. Braman #48754. If you have copies of DAR lineages in which Alford are listed, please send a copy to the Missouri office of AAFA.

(Asahel Alford, 1761-1853)

Asahel Alford was born 1761, probably in Massachusetts. He died 25 June 1853 probably in New York. He

married Lydia _____ who was born about 1760.

Asahel enlisted in Beckett, Massachusetts, on 1 January 1776 as a private in Captain Moses Ashley's Company, Colonel John Paterson's Massachusetts Regiment. He was taken prisoner at the Cedars on the St. Lawrence River but delivered to the American army in ten days.

Asahel enlisted for three years on 1 January 1777 in Massachusetts. He was in Captain Moses Ashley's Company, Colonel Joseph Vose's Regiment, Massachusetts Line, Continental service. He served until 7 January 1780 and was discharged in Highlands on the Hudson River in New York. He took part in the battle when General Burgoyne was taken, in battles at Monmouth and Long Island. He was in winter quarters in Providence, Rhode Island, with General Glovers Brigade, Colonel Joseph Vose's Regiment.

Asahel received a pension of \$8 per month commencing 22 September 1819. At that time he was 58 years old and residing in Sharon, Portage County, Ohio.

In 1822 he identified himself as a laborer with rheumatism. He and his

wife Lydia, age 62, had living with them a daughter, Melinda, about 30 years old, who was crippled and unable to work. His deposition puts him in New York at this time.

In 1850 he was living in Columbia, Herkimer County, New York with Cyrus Alford and his wife Clarinda.

Elijah Alford, of Portage County, Ohio, signed an affidavit to support Asahel's pension claim, stating that he knew him and that they had served together. No kinship was established.

From MICRO COPY 804-31 Pension # S45184

More information on Asahel can be found in Mary Coffin Johnson's *THE HIGLEYS AND THEIR ANCESTRY, An Old Colonial Family*. Asahel was born 22 November 1760, son of Elijah and Hannah (Higley) Alford. He had six brothers and sisters and eight children. One brother, according to *THE HIGLEYS*, was Elijah, born in 1757, who moved his family to Portage Co., OH. A complete account of this branch of the family (Descendants of Benedict Alford born about 1619 in England) can be found in Gil Alford's newsletter *ABOUT ALFORDS*, Number 31-32, Spring-Summer 1990.

The Alexander Alford Letter

Last quarter we stated plans to publish an "old Alford" letter in each issue of *AAFA ACTION*, beginning in that issue with one from Caroline Bridges Alford, the new bride of Alexander Alford of Copiah County, Mississippi. Alexander was the son of Sion and Catherine (McPhaul) Alford of Robeson County, NC. Alexander wrote the following letter to his father three years after his marriage. Notice that he mentions his baby daughter, Emma. In future issues you'll see letters written to Emma some seventy years later.

Rockport [Mississippi] August 12, 1860

Dear Father,

I will attempt to write you a short letter. I have not much news to write you. We are all well except our little girl. She is not well. Seems to be rather puny at this time; teething I suppose. Caroline wants to have her Ambrotype taken and send it to you. She thinks hers is better looking than anyboddies babe. But I fear Emma will not sit long enough to take. She does not grow very

fast.

The most disturbing news I have to write is the protracted drought. We have had no rain of consequence since the first of May. My ground has not been wet since that time. Corn is the most complete failure that I have ever seen. I will not make more than one third enough to do me. Peas and potato crops will be short and unless it rains soon they will make nothing. Cotton is

(Continued on p. 30)

(A. Alford Letter, cont. from p. 29)

cut off half if not more. The dry weather has been general in great measure throughout the state, though in many places not so severe. I think this neighborhood has suffered as intensely as any I have heard from. If I fail to make a pea and potato crop I will have to buy about a thousand bushels of corn.

Henry is now out of employ. He has been employed up to this time tolerably constant. He thinks there is a chance to get business up as a clerk in a merchantile house on the railroad. If he succeeds he will do better business even if his wages are not so high. He will be constantly employed. His health is bad. The health of our connections here is good. Cousin Jacob Ard died last Thursday of consumption. Politics are tolerably high in Mississippi at this time. Breckenridge and Lane will carry the state by the usual Democratic majority. My own private opinion is that Lincoln will be elected. I believe I have nothing more.

*Yours Affectionately,
A. Alford*

The Henry mentioned in the last paragraph is thought to be Alexander's half-brother Henry Giles Alford who later moved to Texas.

Don't forget to send us copies of your old Alford letters. They need not have genealogical content. Many are interesting from a human interest viewpoint, and they all have some historical significance.

Inquiries

From Lucille Mehrkam, Member #32
10170 Gardenia,
Houston TX 77018-4313

Lucille is seeking information on the Andrew Alford who was listed in the 1880 census in Lamar County, Texas. He was born about 1844 in Arkansas and married a Sarah who was born about 1845 in Tennessee. She was probably a widow White as there was a 19 year old J. W. White living with the family as a stepson. All of the children were born in Arkansas except the first who was born in Texas. Their ages in 1880 suggest years of birth as follows: females S. L. 1869, N. J. 1871, L. W. 1874, E. E. 1875; males G. E. 1877, SAMUEL M. 1878 and W. A. 1879.

The 1850 census of Arkansas lists two Andrew Alford's. An Andrew J. was one month old at the time of the census, son of Peyton and Miranda Alford in Crawford County. Peyton was born about 1823 in Georgia. The other Andrew was born about 1842 according to the census. He was the son of Madison Ewing Alford and was enumerated in Pike County. Information from the family indicates he was born 12 May 1842 and died after 1910, but nothing else is known of him. It is possible this is the same person.

At the time of the 1910 census in Pike County, Arkansas, Andy J. Alford, born about 1843 in Arkansas, is living with William A. and Sarah Alford. William A. was born about 1882 in Arkansas. This is probably the W. A. Alford listed in the 1880 family, with the father Andrew now living with him.

Can anyone help with this family?

From Patrick Roper, Member #307
5039 Forest Hill Road
Jackson, MS 39212-5741

Patrick would like to correspond with other people researching any of the following:

Franklyn Asberry Roper, b. 9 Apr 1838, d. 4 May 1868 in AL

Alice Love Corley, b. 18 Nov 1843, d. 16 Dec 1919 in MS; wife of F. Roper

John A. Roper, father of Franklyn

B.N. Corley and his wife M.E., parents of Alice

From Rod Bush, Member #116
5892 Karen Ave.
Cypress, CA 90630

Rod is researching the following non-Alford surnames:

Dawson, Fortson, Gray, Higginbotham, McLemore, Pope, Purvis, Radford, and Satterwhite.

From James P. Alford, Member #115
14106 Pinerock
Houston, TX 77079

James is looking for information on Julious Sherrel "Paddy" Alford, b. 28 March 1880 in Marshall, TX. He was a foundry worker and lived in Kansas and Missouri from 1899-1903 and in New Orleans from 1903-1906. He worked on the Panama Canal in 1906.

[See "Ghost Stories," p. 43, this issue]

Ultimate Ancestor James Alford

The following account was prepared by Gil Alford, who used a variety of sources and data submitted by several of the members. Jim Alford of Houston, TX, reviewed a copy of Gil's draft and most of his comments have been incorporated.

This James Alford was the progenitor of more Alford's than any other Alford ancestor known to date. Through two of his sons, Lodwick and Julius, he can claim more of our Association membership than all the other ancestors combined.

James Alford was born about 1687, probably in Virginia. Some believe he died in New Kent County, Virginia, between 1721 and 1735. More recent research in North Carolina suggests he moved there with the family and was the James Alford recorded in some of the earliest Alford history of that state. On this possibility Jim Alford of Houston added, "The older James in North Carolina may still have been the brother of Lodowick Sr. and not his father, though this is probably not the case since one or more of the brothers (James and Warren) stayed in Virginia and continued producing Alford-Bailey descendants there."

There are two primary schools of thought as to his ancestry. One is that he is the descendant of a Benjamin and Mary (RICHARDS) Alford who was a merchant in Boston, Massachusetts. They did have a son named James who was born 19 July 1691 and baptized 26 July 1691. Hugh Edwin Alford, in his *IN SEARCH OF MY ALFORD ANCESTORS*, reported that his extensive research could not prove a connection with this family, and in fact, nearly proves the impossibility of such a connection. Contrary to some popular belief, there is nothing to connect this Benjamin Alford with Benedict and Alexander Alvord/Alford who came to

Boston from England in the early 1630's. The following are comments from Jim Alford of Houston. "As for James being from Boston, balderdash! Those people were city-bred merchants and artisans who looked down on the southern farmers and had nothing to do with them beyond visiting in trade ships. Why would the son of a Yankee trader with a London family move to a squalid tobacco plantation in Virginia? Did William and John move with him or did he just randomly settle with some distant cousins? Later, when the Boston crowd picked a fight with the Crown, they couldn't be nice enough to their country cousins."

Others believe that James was the son of a John or William Alford. Both were active in Virginia in the generation prior to James. Either or both of these candidate fathers may have come directly to Virginia from England. Circumstantial evidence seems to favor William as the possible father. The following comes from a paper done by Dr. John Abright Alford in 1981.

WILLIAM ALFORD in 1682 received a Land Grant of 450 acres on the south side of the York River in New Kent County, Virginia. A similar grant of 150 acres was made to JOHN ALFORD that same year. Unfortunately, no information is available as to their relationship to each other. An easy assumption would be that they were brothers who came to America together.

Sufficient evidence is available, however, to be reasonably sure they were the forebears of many of the Alford's in the southern part of the United States today. It is believed they migrated directly from England, but they may have been descendants of Richard Alford who came over with the Roger Smith Expedition.

The Vestry Records (1684-1786) and the Parish Registry (1680-1787) of St. Peter's Parish have many interesting references to Alford's during that time. Out of these records and others comes the claim that JAMES ALFORD was the son of either John or William, probably William, and this provides the beginning of the lineage of Barnabas Seaborn Alford" [John Abright Alford's ancestor].

Development of this conclusion illustrates how a mixture of facts, logic and assumptions are used to arrive at a conclusion. It is as simple as A, B, C, D:

- (A) *As indicated above, William Alford's Land Grant was along the south side of the York River. A prominent route of the time, the "Upper Road", ran along this river.*
- (B) *The records show that James was the father of five sons: Lodowick, Goodrich, James, Jr., Warren and Julius.*
- (C) *The Vestry Book states that 'brothers Lodowick, Goodrich, Julius and James were required to tithe along the Upper Road in 1725'*
- (D) *It then is logical to assume that WILLIAM ALFORD WAS THE FATHER OF JAMES WHOSE SONS were required to tithe along the Upper Road.*

The next two paragraphs and the subparagraphs, dealing with the ancestry of James, come from Jim Alford of Houston.

I've toyed with it many times and I'm still considering several most likely scenarios for the Virginia bunch:

- a. *The simplest scenario is that "John Sr and William (of New Kent Co.) were brothers." This has been endorsed before. There are problems with it though, due to the apparent difference in wealth and probably age of the two.*
- b. *"John Sr. was the father of William, James and John Jr", ie., William and James were brothers, not father and son. This would fit your thinking, I believe and is a perfectly plausible supposition.*
- c. *"John Sr. was the father of William and John Jr., and James was a son of William." This may well be the ultimate truth. John Sr. was likely the brother of William (of Elizabeth City) who was in the King's service. They seem to have been age and wealth peers. John Sr. had money and transported plenty of indentured servants to help establish the Colony in the New World. William, the officer, was power-crazy and ultimately lost his life because of it.*

Try this chart: John Sr. (ca 1640-1710), his brother Maj. William (ca 1642-1675)

William (ca 1665-), his brother John Jr. (ca 1675-1726)

*James (ca 1690-1769), brothers unknown
(Circumstantial evidence suggests that William married a Tanner and James married a Bailey or vice-versa.)*

A lot of the above is based on several observations:

- a. *John Sr. was well-to-do and able to pay the transport of many persons, something that a young man without inheritance could not do.*
- b. *Wil'am, the Deputy Escheator and militia officer, was a contemporary of John Sr. A 1671 deed of his was*

- witnessed by a James who was likely a grown son. This might be the origin of the Colonial Dames assertion that James is descended from William and Dorothy of Elizabeth City. This should be noted in your article because it may well be correct! If so, it would make James a lot older than we believe now and mess up theories about him being in North Carolina later. I'm not ashamed to crawlfish when I'm proved wrong!*
- c. *It is statistically improbable that all of the scattered John and William references around Virginia in the mid-to-late 1600's represented more than one or, at best, two persons of the same name. There were precious few people in Virginia (5000 or less) to begin with and the probability of there being more than a tiny handful of Alford's is very small. Within the general English population less than one in 20,000 (estimate) were Alford's, so why would we accept a different ratio in the Colonies?*
- d. *The scattered couples John and Elizabeth (1662), John and Lettice (1689) and John and Grace (1717) could well have been John Sr. and John Jr. My thought is that John Sr. was the one married to Elizabeth and then to Lettice.*
- e. *Due to the repeated use of names on the surviving lists of transported persons, we can't rely on that source to distinguish people or even discern the true data of their arrival.*

We have nothing to prove or refute any of these theories about the father of James at this writing; therefore we presently consider James as the beginning ancestor (first generation) for many branches of our Alford line.

We know nothing of the wife of James

Alford. We do know that his children include at least the following:

- i. *Goodrich Alford, born about 1708 in New Kent County, Virginia; died about 1753 in Edgecombe County, North Carolina; married Sarah _____;*
- ii. *Lodwick Alford, born about 1710 in New Kent County, Virginia; probably died Franklin County, North Carolina about 1800; married (1) Elizabeth _____ (2) Susannah _____ and probably (3) _____;*
- iii. *James Alford, born 7 February 1712/13 in New Kent County, Virginia and baptized there 12 April 1713 in St. Peter's Parish.*
- iv. *Warren Alford, born about 1715 in New Kent County, Virginia, and baptized there 28 August 1715 in St. Peter's Parish; may have died young;*
- v. *Julius Alford, born September 1717 in New Kent County, Virginia, where his birth, but no baptism, was registered in St. Peter's Parish; died 1771 in Bute (later Warren) County, North Carolina; married Lucy ?NEW-TON?.*

Jim Alford of Houston added, "James very likely had another son, John, who went to North Carolina. He appeared in the 1749-52 Granville County Tax Lists living near Julius Alford and John Ferrell. Until I actually examined the tax lists (thanks to Bill Mitchiner and James Sorrell) I was inclined to dismiss him as a 'stray.' He had only one tithable, may or may not have had children, and likely died in 1752-53. This would bring the known sons to six: Goodrich, James, Lodowick, Warren, Julius, and John and would be consistent with known family naming patterns (no Richards, Anthonys or Thomases in the group!)."

Booklist Additions

Here are more additions to the Booklist, a compilation of references to Alford's (and spelling variations) contained in books. Entries are organized by state and county. Family histories are listed at the end under their appropriate states whenever possible. Each entry lists the book name and publication data followed by the name in bold print of every Alford listed on the pages that AAFA has. The page number where the name is found is listed next followed by a brief description of what information about the person is contained on the listed page.

The Association has the pages listed. To obtain copies that interest you, write to the AAFA Librarian, Nancy Dietrich, P.O. Box 1838, Westport, WA 98595. If you are a new member and would like a copy of the 27-page Booklist that was sent to all members with the June 1989 issue of *AAFA ACTION*, send \$1.00 to cover postage to Publications Editor Pam Thompson, 1017 Marilyn Drive, Mtn. View, CA 94040. If you'd like to contribute to the Booklist, xeroxed pages of books may be sent to either Nancy or Pam—don't forget the title page!

GEORGIA

Forsyth County—established from Cherokee and Lumpkin, 1832

- Shadburn, Don L. *PIONEER HISTORY OF FORSYTH COUNTY, GEORGIA, Volume I*. Roswell, GA: WH Wolfe Associates, 1981. Title page and all pages that list Alford's or variations: **W.L. "Bill"**, 157 (attended revival meeting at Shiloh Methodist Episcopal Church after Civil War); **Alfred OLFORD**, 116 (member of Antioch Baptist Church).

- *HISTORY OF FORSYTH COUNTY, GEORGIA*. Easley, SC: Southern Historical Press, 1985. Title page and all pages that list Alford's (no variations): **Asa**, 110 (drawer in Gold Lottery from Washington Co.); **Nancy**, 81 (widow, drawer in Gold Lottery from Tainall Co.); **Posey**, 553 (Indigent Confederate Soldiers Pension); **Thos.**, 127 (on 1830 Census); **Turner**, 91 (drawer in Gold Lottery from Harris Co.).

Gwinnett County—established from Cherokee lands and Jackson, 1818

- Flanigan, James C. *HISTORY OF GWINETT COUNTY, GEORGIA 1818-1960, Volume II*. Hapeville, GA: By the author, 1959. Volume I was not indexed and not checked for Alford's. Title page and all pages that list Alford's (no variations): **Alice**, 229 (member of Bethesda Methodist

Church 1959); **Alice Gertrude**, 409 (daughter of James Alvin and Emma Alford); **Alice Rebecca**, handwritten on p. 157 but actually on p. 162 (member of Lawrenceville High School senior class 1943); **Anne**, 409 (daughter of Roger and Elizabeth Alford); **Arthur**, 157 (member of Lawrenceville High School senior class 1913); **Asabel**, 409 (private in Revolutionary War [not clear from where]); **Benedict**, 410 (private in Revolutionary War [not clear from where]); **Benjamin Alvin**, 409 (son of James Alvin and Emma Alford, m. Charlotte Smith); **Carl Kelley**, 409 (son of James Alvin and Emma Alford, m. Edith Gilbert); **Carolyn**, 228, 229 (author of article on and member of Bethesda Methodist Church 1959); **Celia Caroline**, 409 (daughter of James Arthur and Celia Alford); **Charles**, 409 (son of James Arthur and Celia Alford); **Cullan H.**, 429 (m. Parthenia Tallulah Brandon, who was probably b. 1850's or 1860's); **Drewry C.**, 409 (came from SC and settled in Hart Co.); **Edward**, 409 (son of Robert and Anne Alford, m. Judith Downing, studied law; also, son of Roger and Elizabeth Alford; also, Sir, son of Edward and Judith Alford); **Elijah**, 410 (private in Revolutionary War [not clear from where]); **Elizabeth Ginn**, 327 (member of Lawrenceville First Baptist Church 1959); **Emmacile**, 409 (daughter of Helion and Margaret Alford); **Francis**, 409 (b. 1539 son of Robert and Anne Alford, studied law); **Helion Giles**, 409 (son of James Alvin and Emma Alford, m. Margaret Smith); **Henry**, 409 (son of Edward and Judith Alford); **James Alvin/J.A.**, 93 (m. E.C. Kelley 1887), 120 (postmaster at Sweetwater 1884-1903), 140, 409 (lived on road near Bethesda Methodist Church and later had mercantile store at Gloster beginning in 1875), 409 (m. Emma Kelley); **James Arthur**, 409 (son of James Alvin and Emma Alford, m. Celia Kelley; also, son of James Arthur and Celia Alford), 477 (m. Colis Kelley); **James H.**, 327 (member of Lawrenceville First Baptist Church 1959); **Jane**, 327 (member of Lawrenceville First Baptist Church 1959), 409 (daughter of Carl Kelley and Edith Alford); **John Inzer**, 409 (son of James Alvin and Emma Alford, m. Omer Shermer; also, son of John Inzer and Omer Alford); **John**, 409 (son of Edward and Judith Alford), 410 (seaman in Revolutionary War [not clear from where]); **Katheryn Kate**, 409 (daughter of James Alvin and Emma Alford, m. C.M. Parson); **Kelley G.**, 327 (member of Lawrenceville First Baptist Church 1959); **Kelley Jr.**, 327 (member of Lawrenceville First Baptist Church 1959), 409 (son of Carl Kelley and Edith Alford); **Kelley**, handwritten on p. 157 but actually on p. 162 (member of Lawrenceville High School senior class 1951); **Kelley, Mrs.**, 327 (member of Lawrenceville First Baptist Church 1959); **Launcelot**, 409 (son of Robert and Anne Alford; also, son of Edward and Judith Alford); **M.**, 70 (m. Richard Peters 1865); **Martha**, 559 (m. Charles A. Anderson [who was probably b. circa 1850]);

Mary Louise, 409 (daughter of James Alvin and Emma Alford, m. Robert Cleveland); **Rebecca**, 409 (daughter of Walter B. and Daisy Alford, m. James Hutchins); **Robert**, 408 (of London, father of Sussex and Hertfordshire families, m. Anne Brydges), 409 (son of Edward and Judith Alford); **Roger**, 409 (son of Robert and Anne Alford; m. Elizabeth Ramsey); **Samuel**, 410 (served in Revolutionary War [not clear from where]); **Sara**, 74 (m. W.R. Rambo 1872); **Sh-ermer**, 409 (child of John Inzer and Omer Alford); **W.B.**, 168, 169 (member of Lawrenceville City Council 1935-36, 1938, 1947-48); **Walter B.**, 409, 416 (son of James Alvin and Emma Alford, m. Daisy Keown); **Walter**, 120 (postmaster at Gloster after 1914), 393 (on County Board of Education 1938-41), 409 (son of Helion and Margaret Alford); **William**, 409 (b. 1600 son of Edward and Judith Alford, was vicar of Pitron, Wilkshire).

• Ingmire, Frances T., comp. *THE FIRST SETTLERS OF GWINNETT COUNTY, LAND LOTTERY FORTUNATE DRAWERS 1820*. St. Louis, MO: By the author, n.d. Title page and the only page that lists Alford (no variations): **Julius Sr.**, 6 (residence Greene Co.).

• Ingmire, Frances T., comp. *GWINNETT COUNTY, GEORGIA MILITIA ENROLLMENT 14 DEC. 1863*. St. Louis, MO: By the author, n.d. Title page and the only page that lists Alford (no variations): **William**, 1 (age 17, farmer from SC).

Houston County—established from Indian lands, 1821

• Henry, William R. *HOUSTON COUNTY, GEORGIA MARRIAGE RECORDS 1825-1898*. Warner Robbins, GA: Central Georgia Genealogical Society, Inc., 1986. Title page and all pages that list Alford or variations: **Lucy**, 34 (m. Andrew Jones 13 Dec 1852); **Patten**, 1 (m. Mary Yaun 3 Jan 1849); **John ALLFORD**, 27 (m. Martha E. Glanton 12 Aug 1852).

• Henry, William R. *MISCELLANEOUS ESTATE RECORDS OF HOUSTON COUNTY, GEORGIA Annual Returns Book "A" 1824-1833, Appraisements & Sales Book "A" 1824-1834*. Warner Robbins, GA: Central Georgia Genealogical Society, Inc., 1988. Title page and all pages that list Alford or variations: **Bryant**, 11 (insolvent account 1829); **H. ALFROD**, 22 (note due on 1832 property sale).

• Henry, William R. *WILLS & INFERIOR COURT MINUTES OF HOUSTON COUNTY, GEORGIA Will Book "A" 1827-1855, Inferior Court Minutes 1821-1836, Inferior Court Minutes 1836-1852*. Warner Robbins, GA: Central Georgia Genealogical Society, Inc., 1987. Title page and all pages that list Alford (no variations): **Axiom S.**, 4 (executor of will of James Burnside 1851); **James**, 10 (executor of

will of Harrison Haskins 1851); **Jane**, 10 (named as sister of Harrison Haskins in his will 1851).

Howell, Addie Paramore. *CEMETERIES & OBITUARIES OF HOUSTON COUNTY, GEORGIA*. Macon, GA: Omni Press: 1982. No listings in cemetery section. Title page and the only page that lists Alford (no variations): **George W.**, 130 (d. 13 Sept 1834, age 22); **Smith and Alford**, 130 (named as a company in 1834). Obituaries are from *The Georgia Journal & Messenger* of Macon, GA.

Jones County—established from Baldwin, Bibb, and Putnam, 1807

• Ingmire, Frances T., comp. *JONES COUNTY, GEORGIA MARRIAGE RECORDS 1812-1870*. St. Louis, MO: By the author, 1985. Title page and the only page that lists Alford (no variations): **Goodridge**, 1 (m. Lora Alford 14 June 1821); **Isaac**, 1 (m. Matilda Bayne 23 Dec 1827); **James**, 1 (m. Jane Harkins 26 July 1832); **Jeptha**, 1 (m. Jane Scroggin 30 July 1820); **Lora**, 1 (m. Goodridge Alford 14 June 1821).

• Williams, Carolyn White. *HISTORY OF JONES COUNTY, GEORGIA FOR ONE HUNDRED YEARS, SPECIFICALLY 1807-1907*. Macon, GA: The J.W. Burke Bompany, 1957. Title page and all pages that list Alford (no variations): **A.J.**, 892 (m. Sallie M. Long 10 Dec 1882); **A.O.**, 688 (first husband of Alice Tarver; also son of A.O. and Alice Alford); **Alice Tarver**, 688 (wife of (1) A.O. Alford and (2) L. Sketoe—d. 1891); **Alice**, 688 (daughter of A.O. and Alice Alford); **Ava**, 688 (daughter of A.O. and Alice Alford); **Clinton**, 777 (1821 Land Lottery drawer); **Goodridge/Gudridge**, 757 (on 1811 Tax Digest List), 777 (1821 Land Lottery drawer), 845 (m. 14 June 1821 to Lora Alford); **Isaac**, 855 (m. Matilda Bayne 23 Dec 1827); **James L.**, 799 (1827 Land Lottery drawer); **James**, 860 (m. Jane Harkins 26 July 1832), 897 (sold slaves 1849); **Jeptha**, 777 **Lora**, 845 (m. 14 June 1821 to Goodridge Alford); **Peyton**, 799 (1832 Land Lottery drawer), 968 (witness will of James Jones 1828); **Turner**, 777 (1821 Land Lottery drawer).

Pike County—established from Monroe, 1822

• Mitchell, Lizzie R. *HISTORY OF PIKE COUNTY, GEORGIA 1822-1932*. Spartanburg, SC: The Reprint Company, 1980. Title page and all the pages that list Alford (no variations): **Brit.**, 136 (private in Civil War); **Brittain**, 8 (attended Pike County's first election meeting 1823); **J.A.**, 38 (Col. of West Point, gave speech at Whig rally 1840).

Spalding County—established from Henry, Pike, and Fayette, 1851

Griffin, Mary, comp. *ABSTRACTS OF WILL BOOK A*

(1852-1880) *SPALDING COUNTY, GEORGIA*. N.p.: Griffin Historical and Preservation Society, 1983. Title page, Foreword, and all pages that list Alford's (no variations): **Aley A.**, 7 (niece of Columbus J. Butler and daughter of J.T.A. Alford); **Clemmie A.**, 8 (witness to will of Columbus J. Butler 1861); **Emily L.P.**, 7 (niece of Columbus J. Butler and daughter of J.T.A. Alford); **J.Q.A.**, 14 (witness to will of George Prothro 1874 and codicil 1875); **J.T.A.**, 7 (witness to will of Columbus J. Butler 1861, and named as father of 3 nieces named in will); **O.H.**, 7 (witness to will of James Butler 1859); **Susan C.**, 7 (niece of Columbus J. Butler and daughter of J.T.A. Alford).

Griffin, Mary, comp. *MARRIAGE RECORD A, DIRECT AND REVERSE (1852-1873 SPALDING COUNTY, GEORGIA)*. N.p.: Griffin Historical and Preservation Society, 1983. Title page, Foreword, and the only page that lists Alford's (no variations): **Dave**, 1 (m. Catherine Prothro 5 March 1866).

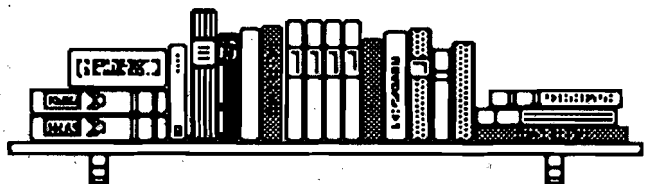
Purdy, Geraldine, comp. *ABSTRACTS OF DEED BOOK A, SPALDING COUNTY, GEORGIA*. N.p.: Griffin Historical and Preservation Society, 1983. Title page and all pages that list Alford's (no variations): **J./John T.A.**, 18, 60, 61, 68, 94 (witness 1846, 1849, 1852, 1853), 37 (of Spalding Co., buys land in Spalding Co., formerly Henry Co., 1853), 62 (buys with others land originally in Monroe Co. to be held in trust for a Male College).

Troup County—established from Indian lands, 1826

Allen, Randall A. and Danny Knight, comps. *ESTATE RECORDS OF TROUP COUNTY, GEORGIA 1827-1850*. LaGrange, GA: Family Tree, 1987. Title page and all pages that list Alford's (no variations): **Brittain**, 2 (purchaser at estate sale of Isham Alford 1833); **David C./Sherell**, 4 (orphan of Zadock Alford); **David**, 1 (purchaser at estate sale of Erasmus C. Alford 1843); **Erasmus C.**, 1 (inventory and appraisal 1841), 1 (estate sale and annual returns 1843), 1 (annual returns 1844), 1 (noted as former guardian of Albert E. Cox 1844); 2 (annual returns 1847, 1849); 4 (appraiser of estate of Zadock Alford 1838), 65 (guardian for Albert E. Cox, orphan; note says Erasmus became Albert's guardian in 1834, but no returns were filed until 1845), 286 (purchaser at estate sale of Henry Rogers 1837); **Isham**, 2 (inventory and sale 1833); **J.C.**, 185 (purchaser at estate sale of John Kendrick 1837); **James Floyd**, 4 (orphan of Zadock Alford); **Julius C.**, 1 (purchaser at estate sale of Erasmus C. Alford 1843); **L.**, 1 (purchaser at estate sale of Erasmus C. Alford 1843), 129 (purchaser at estate sale of Simeon Hammond 1846); **Lodowick C./Lodwick C.**, 2,3 (son and orphan of Erasmus C. Alford); **Lodowich/Lodowick/Lodwick**, 4 (guardian for orphans of Zadock Alford, 1831-1839); **Lodwick/Lodowick**, 1 (administrator for Erasmus C. Alford 1841), 2 (administrator of estate of

Erasmus C. Alford 1849), 65 (guardian for Albert E. Cox, orphan; note says Lodowick became Albert's guardian in 1841 upon the death of Erasmus C. Alford, but no returns were filed until 1845), 244 (purchaser at estate sale of Thomas Oglesby 1836), 286 (purchaser at estate sale of Henry Rogers 1837); **M.**, 150 (purchaser at estate sale of John Hill 1850); **Margaret E.**, 1 (widow of Erasmus C. Alford); 2,3 (widow and guardian of children 1847-50); **Margaret Erasmus/E.**, 2,3 (daughter and orphan of Erasmus C. Alford); **Mary E.C.**, 2,3 (daughter of Erasmus C. Alford); **Richard**, 223 (purchaser at estate sale of Phillip McKamie 1849); **Spier/Spire Warren**, 4 (orphan of Zadock Alford, 1831-1838; 1 Jan 1839 note: David and James are 2 remaining orphans, indicating that Spier had died or reached maturity); **Spire/Speir**, 2 (purchaser at estate sale of Isham Alford 1833), 100 (purchaser at estate sale of Francis Foster 1839); **Zadock**, 4 (annual returns for 1826-1838; returns for 1826-31 were filed in 1831 in Morgan Co., GA, with a copy filed in Troup Co.).

• Bruce, Merle Massengale. *EARLY MARRIAGES TROUP COUNTY, GEORGIA 1828-1900*. Roswell, GA: WH Wolfe Associates, 1982. Title page and all pages that list Alford's (no variations): **A.M.** [male], 3 (m. F.E. Shank 1 Nov 1874); **Caroline M.**, 293 (m. Lawson Slaughter 1 Nov 1860); **D.A.** [female], 183 (m. T.W. Johnson 8 Nov 1865); **David S.**, 3 (m. Julian Frances Ellis 16 May 1839), 4 (m. Epsa E. Norris 12 March 1846); **Eliza E.**, 213 (m. M. Austin Martin 2 July 1844); **Elizabeth A.T.**, 212 (m. Benjamin H. Martin 30 March 1835); **Elizabeth**, 274 (m. James W. Richardson 24 Oct 1844); **George W.**, 4 (m. Jane Piper 26 Sept 1839); **Goodrich**, 4 (m. Mary Richardson 29 Feb 1844); **James F.**, 4 (m. Sarah J. Ellis 13 July 1838); **Julieta W.**, 69 (m. Albert E. Cox 26 Nov 1840); **Julius**, 4 (m. Elaphar Hickey 13 Jan 1847); **L.N.**, 4 (m. Margaret A. Hogg 17 July 1892); **Maggie R.**, 163 (m. Jarrel N. Hogg 22 Dec 1881); **Margaret E.**, 149 (m. Henry T. Heard 8 Sept 1857); **Martha C.**, 247 (m. George C. Palmore 25 Jan 1849); **Mary Cade**, 150 (m. Peter A. Heard 25 Nov 1851); **Mary H.**, 163 (m. A.J. Hogg 6 Aug 1885); **Mary S.**, 63 (m. Joseph P. Collins 22 Oct 1884); **S.W.**, 4 (m. Lyna J. Hammond 7 Feb 1875); **Spire W.**, 4 (m. Caroline M. Cotten 12 Jan 1837); **Thomas**, 4 (m. Susan Barden 28 Aug 1848); **William L.**, 4 (m. Mary A. Hutcherson 22 Apr 1852).



Part 2: The Descendants of Alexander Alvord

From *A Genealogy of the Descendants of ALEXANDER ALVORD an Early Settler of Windsor, Conn, and Northampton, Mass.*, compiled by Samuel Morgan Alvord (Webster, NY: 1908)

English Alfords

ORIGIN AND EARLY MENTION OF THE NAME ALFORD IN ENGLISH RECORDS. THE RELATION OF THE AMERICAN ALVORD FAMILY TO THE ENGLISH ALFORDS.

In any consideration of the earliest data regarding the Alvord family, it must be remembered that the name is identical with Alford* and that all the Alvord family ancestors in England were ALFORDS and not ALVORDS. There are a very few instances of the latter spelling in Co. Somerset, Eng. The transition to Alvord from Alford was a natural one since f and v are kindred letters. (The descendants of Alexander Alford, the progenitor of the American Alvord family have consistently spelled their name A-l-v-o-r-d. The descendants of the other Alford immigrants have used the original spelling). It therefore follows that in observing the early occurrences of the name in English archives and records, it is more important to note similarity to Alford than Alvord. Hence, there is little reason to believe that there is a reference to the Alford name in the Domesday Book of William the Conqueror (1060), although one Alward and one Allured appear, each possessed of a hyde of land (about 100 acres).

* The following variations of spelling the name occur in the early New England records: Alford, Allford, Alfred, Alvard, Alvert, Alverd, Alvert, Alved, Allord, Alloord, Alluard, Allucrd, Alhurd, Olford, Olverd, Olvord.

It has been suggested that the name was originally Alfred, from King Alfred the Great, but evidence is lacking to support such a theory. Nor should it for a moment be thought that the name is derived from a place where "all forded" the river. The name is distinctly Saxon in origin rather than Norman and the true source or derivation of the name is furnished by Canon J. G. Alford of Bristol, England [author of the other 1908 book being printed in this quarterly].

"Alde was an ancient form of old as in alderman. Aldeford was the old ford across a river, and Robertus Dominus de Aldford was master, lord or governor of a military station (Aldford Castle) commanding the old ford across the Dee above Chester. The changes then followed:

Richard Dom. de Aldford
Radulf de Aldford
Henry de Aldford
Robert de Alford (a descendant of "Bigot" who came over with William the Conqueror. He was miles [Knight] in 1160).
Thomas Alford
Alexander Alvord.
(The above is not to be taken as a direct line of ancestry.)

"This comes from the oldest pedigree of the name, and the connection of the Somerset family with the Aldford Castle in Cheshire is early but distinct. The northern Alfords gradually died out or sank in position, while the Somerset Alfords became land-owners (though not extensive ones) about 1560, and have maintained their position as professional gentlemen."

The following are very early occurrences of the name:

"Middleton or Milton (Clivedon), Fol. 48, No. 114. Grant by William de Clyveden for the good of his soul and those of his parents and friends to the

canons of Bruton of the church of Middleton.

Testibus:
Roberto, Archidiacons Ilberto et Servasio decanis,
Rogero de Alderforda, etc.

"Folio 14,15. No. 35, A. D. 1256. Agreement made in the Lady Chapel of Bruton between Sir William, Prior of Bruton, and William de Careville before Sir H. Lovell. Sir Ralph sine Averio (Sansaver) Hugh his son Knights, Master Thomas de Alde the ford (Alford) John Rufus of Lamay, etc. Richard Landres, William Pincema Mathew de Beteville, etc. The said William de Careville released to the prior all right which he had in the pathes and foot stiles above the Barn of the said Prior in the field which is called Hyde toward Begwode.

Testibus:
Wittelmo de Plescey,
Wittelmo Hurcarl,
Robert de Crudenhulle,
W. de La Lade,
Henrico de Campo florido,
Wittelmo de la Coume,
Thomas de Dike.

"No. 202. Deed by which Isabella who was the wife of William Fitz Adam of Cherleton, etc. (quit-claim), this is a very long charter.)

His testibus:
Domino Andria Wake,
Domino W. de Doneheved,
Domino Humfrido le Kael,
Domino W. de Loueny Majisto,
W. Fauerole,
R. Bissop,
W. de Combe,
Radulfo Huscarl." (Somerset Rec. Soc. Vol. 8.)

In 1292, 20 Edward I, certain lands at Barrington and Chillington, Co. Somerset, were held "by the service of finding a man on foot to serve at the Castle of Aldford, Cheshire, in the time

of war." (Canon J. G. Alford.)

In 1327-8, Edward I, the names of Thomas Alford and John Alford appear under the parish of Henstridge, Co. Somerset. (Subsidy Rolls.)

In 1335-6,9 Edward III, John Alford of Williton, Co. Somerset, cler, made a grant of a tenement at Williton. (Hist. M. S. Com., Vol. XVI, p. 74.)

In 1484 there died an Allford, Vicar of Cannington, near Bridgewater. "There was an inscription in Brass under the Alter steps" to his memory, in which he was called "a Benefactor." (Collinson's Somerset.)

In 1520, Thomas Alford, patron of Pilton; in 1523, Henri Alford and George Alford, both of the Hundred of Whitely; in 1524-5, John Alford of Ile Abbots and John Alford of Bickenhall, all in the County of Somerset, are mentioned.

The foregoing is sufficient to show the antiquity of the family and that it was early established in Co. Somerset, which will be shown to be the locality from which the progenitors of the Alford and Alford families in America came, i. e., the descendants of Alexander and Benedict Alford. No evidence exists which shows whether any of these early names are in direct line of the American families.

"The Alford's of Somerset were landowner in the county, as is still the case, and two members of the family were county magistrates—the family being one of evidently good position in the county for the last three hundred years—but they became known chiefly as a clerical family. A veritable family of priesthood, six successive generations, in two diverging but unbroken lines, having taken Holy Orders." (Canon J. G. Alford.)

Henry Alford, D. D., late Dean of Canterbury was a descendant of the Somerset Alford's.

The Family Registry

By Pamela Alford
AAFA Publications Editor

I spent a few days in at the Family History Library in Salt Lake City in August, gorging myself on genealogical research. Whenever I hit a dead end or couldn't make my brain think anymore, I did something easy—grabbed books from the Georgia shelves (where my Alford's were) and copied every indexed page with an Alford on it for the Booklist. At five cents a page, copies were a bargain! On Sunday, when the library is closed, I typed 'em up on my trusty Mac—that's why all the books listed in this quarter's "Booklist Additions" are from Georgia!

Unfortunately, I didn't make any progress on my own line of Alford's, but I had a good time, and I found out about a new service the library offers that I think AAFA members should know about: The Family Registry. According to their brochure, "The Family Registry can help you find others who are doing research on the same family lines you are working on. You can then contact them to coordinate your efforts and share results."

Basically, you submit a Research Coordination Registration form for each individual you want to register to the library. They then computerize the information and include your name and address as the researcher.

Then, like I did, other researchers can look up the names they are researching in the library's computers. If you look up John Alford, for instance, all the entries with that name, including all the spelling variations, will pop up, along with some identifying information: dates, places, spouses, and/or children. Hit a couple more keys and the name and address of the entry's submitter is displayed.

I found several people researching some of my lines, and one had a lot of data I didn't have! Now I'll write to them and share info. Even if these people have moved or don't answer my letters, I printed out the information (five cents a sheet again) and now have a lot of leads on new lines!

However, when I actually looked up Alford, I was surprised to find that about 90% of the names were from New England or England. Only a couple of southern lines were represented. Turner Alford from Georgia and his family were being researched by someone, and several entries that had the Seaborn name in them were displayed. Other than that—zip for Southerners!

I felt so bad about this that I decided to make it easy for all AAFA members to register their Alford (or any other) families in The Family Registry. I've enclosed a blank form which you can fill out and submit on one of your Alford's—but they must be deceased. (If you're a northern Alford, do it anyway because all researchers on an individual get their names listed.)

Try submitting the name of one of your problem people, as long as you have at least one identifying date and/or place. If you get really ambitious, xerox the form and submit lots of them! The more exposure you get, the more results you're likely to receive.

And if anyone writes to you and you can't help them or you don't really connect, send their letter to Gil at the Association address. Maybe AAFA records can help, and maybe we'll get a new member!

This is a great deal—it's free!—so don't pass it up!

The Lost Graves

By Bob Alford Sterling, Member #320

Summer, 1854

Troup Community, East Texas

Spire W. Alford paused for a moment to wipe the sweat out of his face. He was chopping the weeds out of 40 acres of waist high corn. The woods past the field were full of game, including deer, rabbit, and squirrel. This was a good place. Resting with one arm wrapped loosely around his hoe, Spire bent down and scooped up a handful of soil. It was sandy, but well drained and suitable for growing a crop for the farm animals.

For four long years, Spire had worked to build a house, clear the land, and put in a crop. Soon, he wanted to have his whole family together again. His wife Caroline made only infrequent trips to visit. She was so far away and he missed her.

Spire was worried. He squinted in the hot, July sun and glanced over his shoulder in the direction of the house. A slave named Dorcas was there looking after two of his children: 16-year-old Marcilius and 14-year-old Partha. They were sick with the fever. Spire was weak from the fever too, but someone had to work the field.

Spire was a long way from LaGrange, Georgia. There waiting were Caroline and four more children: Leonidas, Didema, Alexander, and Spire Jr. Back in the spring of 1854, a pregnant Caroline made the trip to Texas to visit her husband. Despite the distance between them, they managed to get together every several months or so. On the way back to Georgia, she delivered a baby boy. She named the boy Spire Warren, after his father.

For several generations, settlers had worked the land there in West Georgia until the soil, drained from years of cultivation, began to produce less with every new year. When the land gave out, people moved West to

fresh areas which had never before seen a plow. Spire, like so many of his contemporaries, looked to the West to find his future. Spire and a cousin named Sippy Alford first traveled to East Texas around 1849. The war with Mexico had been won and the great Republic of Texas had been admitted to the Union as its largest state in 1845. New settlers were welcomed with open arms. Spire bought 1260 acres of land in February of 1850.

By the summer of 1854, Spire was one of hundreds of pioneers who populated the fertile Red River valley area just about 30 miles southwest of Texarkana. Back in Georgia, Caroline Cotten Alford waited for her husband to send for her and the other three children. But by August, 40-year-old Spire and his two oldest children lay dead from the fever. Spire left behind a fully furnished house, a female slave, several hundred acres of land with 40 acres of which in a high state of cultivation, numerous farm animals, and farming implements. In short, an estate worth thousands of dollars—which in 1854 was considered a small fortune. Spire never got to see his youngest son.

Claim against the Estate of Spire W. Alford

Made July 15th, 1855

(Note: The third child mentioned below is speculated to be a daughter of the slave Dorcas named Harriott. Dorcas and Harriott are listed in the inventory of the estate as property of Spire.

Dorcas is listed as being worth \$350.00; Harriott is listed as having no net worth, probably because of her youth, and the fact she is female).

For John L. Dennas

To building rock wall around the grave of the deceased and three children, \$15.00

Personally appeared before me James

Brown and acting Justice of the Peace after being duly Sworn deposite and Saith the above account is just and true to the best of his knowledge after all just credits are allowed.

Sworn to and Subscribed before me this 12 of July 1856,

J. L. Dennas

Santown, Georgia

June 28, 1856

Cousin Sippy Alford I received your letter accompanied with a deede to the lands that my husband Spier W. Alford owened when he died with a request for me to signe the deed. I dont think that it would be just for me to signe the deed. I am willing to wave my right to a dower on the lands that my husband owened in Texas but I dont thinke that is the proper way to do so.

I herby autherrise you as the administrater on my husband's Spier W. Alford's esstate to sell all of the lands that he owened in the State of Texas at the time of his death and I herby wave my right as his widder to take my dower on the lands that he died in persession of in texas and I herby autherrise you to sell and make a feesimple title to my intrestes in said lands and I will come in as a child for my introust in said lands in witness wherof I herby signe my hand and seal this the 28 of June 1856.

Carolin M. Alford

Witness

Joseph A. Palmer

The following is the text of a personal letter included with the one above. The one above is more of a legal document.

We are as well as common we have

nothing knew. The people are generally well croses are only tolerable. The season has bin dry. We need rain at this time what croses was injured with the rust. I wount you to reserve graves and the grave yarde in some of the lands I dont wont the land cleared up to the graves. If what I have said in refferance to the land is insurfisment. I am willing to do anything that is nesserey after the land is sold I can sign the deed to the percheraser if you thinke it is nesserry let it be knowen on the day of the sale that the title be good....give my love to cousin Elizer & the children I should be glad to see her. Say to Dorcas that I wont her here verry mouch. I hope that next winter we all will get to gether again. I moust close. Yours in Last,

Caroline M. Alford

*The State of Texas
County of Cass
Late August, 1854*

County Court August term, 1854.
To the Honorable Chief Justice of Cass County, your petitioner represents that Spire W. Alford, late of the County of Cass, departed this life about the first of August 1854 at his residence in said county without a will leaving a widow and three children minors and also a large amount of property lying and being in said County of Cass. The promises being considered your petitioner pray your Honor to grant him letters of administration on said estate in our form of law and your petitioners as in duty bound will ever pray,

Sippi Alford
by J.C. McAlpine, Attorney

*The State of Texas
County of Cass
September, 1854*

Know all men by these present, that we, Sippi Alford as principal and William Leftwick and Columbus

Palmore as surities, are held and firmly bound unto the Chief Justice of the County of Cass in the sum of four thousand, four hundred dollars for the payment of which well and truly to be made unto the said Chief Justice, we bind ourselves and our heirs executors administrators, individually and severally, firmly by these presents, signed with our hands and sealed with our seals (the seals being scrawls) the 26 day of September, A.D. 1854. The condition of the above obligation is such that whereas the above bound has been appointed administrator of the estate of Spire Alford, deceased. Now if the said Sippi Alford shall well and truly perform all the duties required of him under said appointment, then this obligation shall be null and void, otherwise to remain in full force and effect,

Sippy Alford
William Leftwick
Columbus Palmore

*Santown, Georgia
December 7th, 1857*

Sippy Alford, Esq.
by the politness of Wm Leftwick

Cousin Sippi I availe my self of this opitunity to drope you a few lines you will lerne that we are all well. I was glad to here by Wm Leftwick that you & yours wer well. I have bin expecting a letter from you for some time & when Wm Leftwick came in I was in hopes that you had sint me some word about my businefs but he sayes that you sint me not a word. I was in hopes that you would have the esstate wound up this winter so that I could have got what little was coming to me this winter but from what William Leftwick sayes I fere that I shant be able to do so. I was making arrangements to come or send to Texas this winter to have a settle ment with you on the esstate but from what Wm Leftwick sayes I think it best to wait

owntell I can here from you. He sayes that he dont thinke that the man that bought the land will be able to pay all the money this winter & if he dos not you will not be able to make a final settlement this winter. I wish you had sint me some money by William. I think if you knew how mouch I need money you would have sint me some. I have now bin here three years without a dollar & at the mussey of my friends for the two last years I have wonted to buy me a home but I could not for the wont of money. J.A. Palmer has bought Andrew Alford place and is willing that I should live ther but I have no money to buy such things as I need to go to house keeping so I dont know what to do. When you get this I wont you to thinke of my conditioin & do the best you can for me. If you can wind up the esstate this winter I wont you to do so & if you can & will let me know I will make some arrangements to have an agent ther to make the settlements with you & bring what little ther is to me. If you cant wind up the esstate this winter & be ready for a final settlement it is not nesarsary for me to come or sind as I wont one tripe to do. If you cant wind up the esstate this winter I wont you to send me all the money that you can if you can see any man coming from ther to Georgia that you can depend on. I know a man who expects to go to Texas some time soon if you will write to me that you have money that you will send I will get him to call & get it. Wm Leftwick sayes that Jarrel Hogg will come to Georgia soon. If he dos you could sind it by him if you have any money that you can sind. You need not be affraid to sind it. I will give you any showing that you wont. I wont you to be safe & I will do any thing that will make you safe. I have letters of Gardianship for the children & can give you a proper receipt. Send the money by a responsible man & whin he gives me the money I can give him a receipt or I can sind you the receipt or I will give it to any man that you will name & he can hold the receipt or sind it to you. Cousin Sip money I need &

money I must have if I can possibly get it. If Jarrel Hogg dos come to Georgia I wont you to sind Dorcas by a responsible man that you see that is coming to Georgia & I will give you a proper reccit for her. Be sure to write to me as soon as you get this. If I can get any money I wont to know it & if I cant get non I wont to know. So be sure to write so I will know what to depend on if I am to stay her & beg my bread I won to be at it. Wm Leftwick telles me that you have a man ther for me. If I have to get married I will, so send me the money or the man. I am on the carpet. Widders have a hard time in this world so I moust marry if I can. Cousin Elizer I often thinke of you. You may have some day of my troubles since I left you but you dont know what they have bin. You moust pray for me. You may be a widder some time. Except my love for you & all your family.

Caroline M. Alford

*Troup County, Georgia
1857*

Received of Sippy Alford Adminis-
trater on the esstate of Spier W. Alford
Deceast Late of Cass County Texas one
negro woman by the name of Dorcas
belonging to the esstate of said Spier
W. Alford, Dec.

Caroline M. Alford
Guardian for the minor children of
Spier W. Alford Dec., Late of Cass
County Texas

*Troup County, Georgia
December 30th, 1859*

\$2178.08
Received of Sippy Alford administrater
on the esstate of Spier W. Alford, Dec.
late of Cafs Co. Texas, one houndred
and twenty four dollars 72 ct, Dec 12th
Eighteen houndred & fifty fore, and
ninty one dollars and 56 cts, Jan 15
Eighteen houndred & fifty five and

eight houndred dollars Dec 10th
Eighteen houndred & fifty Seven and
three houndred & fifty five dollars, Dec
24 Eighteen houndred & fifty Eight and
also by the hand of P.L. Trammell
Eight houndred dollars Dec 30th
Eighteen houndred & fifty nine. Given
under my hand & let this Dec 30th
Eighteen houndred & fifty nine.

Caroline M. Alford
For my Self & as Gardean
for all my children

*Santown, Georgia
March 30, 1860*

Cousin Sippy Alford, Der Ser

I received your letter some time
since & should have written to you
some time since but I have bin wating
hoping to get some one that was going
to Texas to see you and bring what
money you had for me. Several of the
neighbors have bin speaking of going
but now it is ounsertin when thay will
go so I wont you if you pleas to buy me
a check on New York. Buy one on the
Continental Bank of N.Y. if you can &
if you cant get on that Bank. Why any
good Bank of N.Y. will do. Have the
check made parerable to J.A. Palmer &
send it to him to Longcane Post Office
by male. Be sure wen you buy the
check & mail it that you can prove that
you did buy one & make it to J.A.
Palmer if it ever should be nesersary.
Attend to this as soon as you can if you
pleas. I will send you the recceit for the
money in this letter.

From the tenner of your last letter
you appered to be a littell netteled at
my last letter. You put a rong construc-
tion on my letter. I never have bine
affraid that you would intenchonly
cheat me out of a dollar. I have ever
esstemed you as one of my best friends
& I will never forget your kindness to
me when I was in Texas. But I did fere
there was some misstake & that was the
reason that I wonted you to send me the
different amounts & the expences of

the administration & I thinke a littell
harde of you for your ansur of that
parte of my letter. If you was to aske
souche a favor of me I certinly would
take a plesure in accomerdating you
and I think you ought to give me all the
information you could as I am a pore
widder & have no one to go to Texas &
looke after my introust. I know it would
have put you to some trouble but I hope
you will be paid for all of your trouble
with me. From your letter the land
brought \$1700 or \$1800 houndred
dollars & the perisherable property
brought over eleven houndred dollars
& the Dennis & Wilerame Det if I
remember right was some twelve
houndred dollars & Dorcas hiered for
some fore houndred dollars that makes
some \$4500 dollars & I dont thinke that
A. Alford was in det mouch you lost
but in det of \$124 that I ever herd of &
you have sente me \$2164 & have but
nine houndred more making some three
throughsan dollars that I get has the
expences bin \$1500 dollars and some
of the money ought to have bin on
introust & the land was rentied for
somthing. It dos looke to me like there
was some mistake.

I intend to have the thing looked
into some day I thinke it is my duty to
do so. I have my children to rase. My
husband worke hard for what littel he
had & his children ought to have it. I
know you wont them to have all that is
coming to them & would not cheat
them out of a cent. But you are like
other men lierable to mistakes & have
made some. You wrote by Mr. Tram-
mel there would be but about one
hundred dollars more & I see there is at
least \$939.70 more if you make one
mistake you may make more. I hope
you wont think hard of me for this
plane talke that is the way for friends to
talk. The old adage is a good one watch
your friend & you will have no
enemies. I wish I could se you and
talke this thing over but hope you
understand me. My Self & family are
as well as common. We are trying to do
the best that we can. We have nothing
new or strange except the Female

Collage in Lagrange buned down last Wensday night. We have a late cold spring. Give my love to Cousin Elizer & the children & Palmor & his wife & children & Low & his family. I dont know that I ever will see you all any more in this life but I shall remember you all as long as I live for your kindnes to me. You moust continue to write me. Tell Cousin Elizer to write to me.

Your Friend Respectfully,
Caroline M. Alford

*The State of Texas
County of Cass
Summer, 1860*

Administrator shows by the account current that said estate is in his debt three thousand and three dollars and that he has received three thousand, nine hundred and forty two dollars and seventy cents leaving in his hands belonging to said estate the sum of nine hundred and thirty nine dollars and seventy cents and prays for the court to pass an order authorizing this administrator to pay said last named sum of money to Caroline M. Alford, surviving widow of the deceased, in her own right and as guardian for her children and take her receipt for the same and be discharged thereafter from further liability and will forever pray,

Sippi Alford

*Page 191, 1860 Census
Troup County; West Point, Georgia*

C.M. Alford, female, age 41
Leonidas, male, age 16
J., female, age 14
Alex, male, age 12
S.W., male, age 6

*Civil War Era
1861 - 1865*

Caroline M. Alford marries Thomas Winston Slaughter. They move across the state line to near Roanoke, Alabama in Randolph County.

*March 29, 1864
West Point, Georgia*

Fifteen-year-old Alexander Alford enters the service of the Confederate States at West Point, Georgia. He serves in Company D of the 37th District Georgia Militia. Serving under Colonel W.W. Cato, he advances in rank from private to order sergeant. One of his responsibilities is to guard the bridge spanning the Chattahoochee River along the Alabama/Georgia border. Alexander is furloughed March 1, 1865. Almost 50 years later, Alexander is denied a pension because he served in the Georgia Home Guard, not the regular infantry.

*Troup County, Georgia
November 1, 1874*

Alexander Marshall Alford, Spire's next to youngest son, marries Frances Elizabeth Shank.

*Winston County, Alabama
Summer, 1879*

Alexander and his family move from Troup County, Georgia to Winston County, Alabama near what is now the Bankhead Wilderness Area.

*Cornett Community (previously known as Troup Community)
1929*

The Cornett family discovers a rock wall on the land previously owned by Spire Alford. The wall encloses an area measuring approximately 12 feet by 12 feet. Most of the rocks are removed to the Cornett house some distance away for the construction of a

"summer cellar." What remains of the gravesite is a low rock perimeter about a foot high which is soon hidden by the growth of underbrush.

*Morris County, Texas
Summer 1954 (100 years after Spire's death)*

A light blue Buick Roadmaster pulls up at a small service station in Daingerfield. Out step Marshall and Owen Alford, great-grandsons of Spire Alford. They had always heard of the legend of Spire who died in Texas a long time ago. They know the graves are marked, not with headstones, but with a rock wall. The purpose of the stop is to find someone who knows where the graves are. The service station attendant has never heard of the graves and does not know any Alfords. Marshall and Owen try a couple more places in town, but eventually drive back to Winston County, Alabama somewhat disappointed. Over the next several years, Marshall and Owen occasionally stop in Daingerfield and ask about the graves.

*Linden, Texas
Cass County
1986*

Spire W. Alford's estate papers are discovered in the Court House in Linden. Copies of the estate papers, and copies of correspondence between Caroline and Sippy Alford belonging to Della Mae Kennedy are forwarded to Alfords living in North Alabama. Descendants of Spire and Sippy Alford exchange letters and phone calls.

*Morris County, Texas
March 1987 (132 years after Spire's death)*

Marshall and Owen Alford, each accompanied by one grandson, meet Jim and Linda Alford and their children



Alexander and Frances Elizabeth (Shank) Alford

outside the post office of Naples, Texas. Jim Alford is a direct descendant of Sippy Alford. It is the first time in over 100 years descendants of Spire and Sippy have gotten together. From the post office, two vehicles drive to the Cornett Community in Cass County. At the Cornett house, the summer cellar constructed of the rocks from Spire's grave is found.

The group is joined by David Thomas who grew up in the area and has seen the gravesite. But he doesn't remember exactly where it is. Marshall and Owen are both in their eighties, but effectively lead the party of 10 or so searching for the gravesite. The soil is sandy and most of the area is covered with 10 to 15 year old pines trees and various low growth

including honeysuckle vines, blackberry bushes, and sage brush.

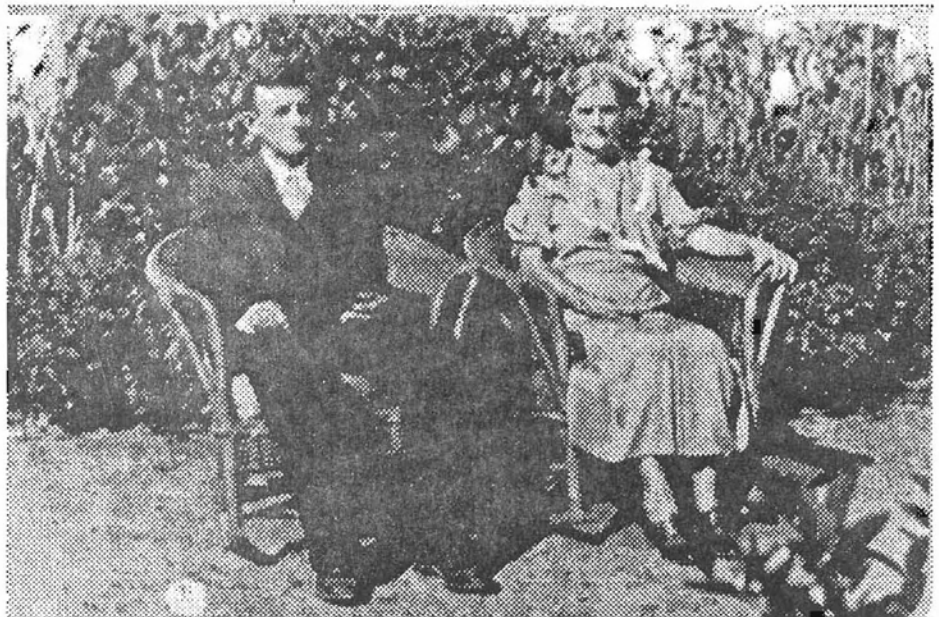
The search party covers a few acres near the Cornett houseplace, but to no avail. At one point in the search, Marshall holds up a 50 dollar bill and offers to give to it the first one to locate the gravesite. By now, it is late in the afternoon and the search party is growing tired and hungry. The search is called off about 4 pm. The next day, the Marshall and Owen Alford group travel back to Alabama. Before they leave, Jim and Linda assure them the search for the gravesite will continue.

*Roanoke, Alabama
Randolph County
1988*

Owen Alford and his oldest grandson, Mitchell Owens, travel to Bethel Church just South of Roanoke to the gravesite of Caroline M. Alford Slaughter. They replace Caroline's headstone which, over the years, had weathered and was broken.

Summer, 1990

Marshall and Owen are getting older, but often think of going back to Texas to visit, at least once, their great-grandfather's gravesite. The grave is still lost, but the search has not been discontinued. Perhaps someday soon, the gravesite will be discovered. It is not known



John Warren & Amy Cleo (Tidwell) Alford

for sure if the site still exists, even though various area residents claim to have seen it over the years. It may have been covered by undergrowth; the remainder of the stones may have been inadvertently removed by some well-meaning neighbor; or the site could have been bulldozed for a county road or some other civic project. The hope is, the site can be found and Spire's final resting place can be properly marked. Then he can be recognized and remembered as the East Texas pioneer that he was.

The author is indebted to several people. Their help provided the information contained in this article: Ruby Heard, Gil Alford, Della Mae Kennedy, and Jim and Linda Alford. The North Alabama Alfords are most grateful.

The Author's Lineage

- Spire Alford & Caroline M. Cotten
 - Marcilius Didema
 - Partha Alexander
 - Leonidas Spire Warren
- Alexander Alford & Frances
 - Elizabeth Shank
 - Celestia Odessa
 - Daisy F.
 - John Warren
- John Warren Alford & Amy Cleo
 - Tidwell^{M1}
 - Myrtie Owen Warren
 - Marshall Daisy Alford
 - John Warren Alford and Ira Hulsey^{M2}
 - Louis
- Owen Warren Alford & Mary Jane
 - Miller
 - Peggy Jean
 - Elizabeth Joyce (Betty)
 - Eula Owene
 - Johnnie Evelyn
- Johnnie Evelyn Alford and Billy
 - Thomas Sterling
 - Robin Alford
 - Jane Ellen
- Robin Alford Sterling and Wanda
 - Gail Blevins

Ghost Stories

Maybe it's only coincidence mixed with wishful thinking—not the stuff of genealogical research, certainly—but doesn't it sometimes seem that the spirits of your ancestors are nudging you in the right direction? AAFA has two members who've experienced the ghostly nudge, and they were impressed enough to share their stories with us.

Looking for Answers in All the Right Places

By James P. Alford, Member #115

My missing grandfather has been found, or at least the trail has been picked up after 87 years! This IS a ghost story. . . . I went to San Francisco last summer looking for Grandfather. All I found were two dead sisters and a brother. Not being one to miss an opportunity and having had a few beers, I went to the cemetery on my last night there and "asked" his sisters where Grandfather went. (I ruled out asking his brother since he had been cremated.) Less than one hour later on PBS, I watched the "answer"—a special on the building of the Panama Canal! I knew this was it, and I kept studying the photos looking for ole Grandfather! Seven months later, I

found where to write for information on people who built the Canal. . . . YES, dear readers, Grandfather went to work on the Canal, February 17, 1906, after hiding out three years in New Orleans. The National Records Center, St. Louis, sent me copies of his employment application papers.

Out in the Trenches

This one's anonymous . . . so we won't think he's crazy!

In 1984 or '85 my wife and I visited the Vicksburg battlefield in Mississippi. As we entered the drive behind the Confederate lines at the northern perimeter, I had an indescribable feeling so strong that I stopped the car and walked along the trench lines and just stood there, soaking it in. Now the strange part. I recently learned that my great-grandfather served with Company C in the 27th Louisiana Infantry and had fought and been captured at Vicksburg. A map of the Vicksburg defenses shows the 27th Infantry was dug in on the northern perimeter for the entire battle! I was probably standing within 100 yards of their trench when this occurred, but that was before I even knew my great-grandfather's first name!

NEW ADDRESSES

Evonne A. Salmons
1133 Timberlane
Rosenberg TX 77471

Sarah M. McEachern
1440 Roberson Springs Road
Loudon, TN 37774