

## Part 7: Eileen Alford's Consider Alford

From Eileen Alford's *THE ANCESTORS AND DESCENDANTS OF CONSIDER ALFORD AND HIS WIFE LUCY FITCH KENNEDY - A SAGA OF THEIR LIVES AND TIMES IN OLD ENGLAND AND COLONIAL AMERICA* (published 1971)—pages 51–55.

This excerpt from Eileen Alford's book concludes the Alford portion that AAFA ACTION will be printing. If you would like a copy from our copy of the original book, please write to AAFA Librarian Nancy Dietrich. We have copies of and have excerpted the following pages, beginning with the June 1991 issue: 2, 3, 5, 28, 29, 32–41, and 49–55. We also have the following pages that contain descendant charts with Alfords: 24, 25, 48, and 176–179. AAFA ACTION did not print these charts because of space constraints, but you are encouraged to obtain them if you are related to this line. [Editor's note: AAFA might have the entire 175-page book, but I had only the aforementioned pages, which I will forward to Nancy to make available to the members. If you are interested in obtaining the entire book, write to Nancy to check availability.]

Eileen's writing style incorporated many historical comments and asides; she wanted her readers to imagine her ancestors in their historical context. We did not include these comments in most of the excerpts because although they add color and interest to the text, they have little genealogical value. Again, write to AAFA for the full manuscript if this is your line!

On August 23, 1850, the census taker for New York City made the following entries:

NAME	AGE	OCCUPATION	BORN
Edwin M. Alford	43	Painter	NY
Ann Maria	44		"
Laura	21		"
Edwin M. (Madison)	13		"
Thomas K. (Kennedy)	11		"
John H. (Honeywell)	9		"
Charles C. (Consider)	6		"
Ann M. (Maria)	4		"

Other census records show that the Alfords had at least one other daughter, Phoebe, who, as the wife of John A. Simpson, was living in Castleton, Staten Island, New York, at the time of the 1850 census. She was named for her mother's sister, Phoebe Honeywell Babcock. At a later date the Simpsons moved to Brooklyn, New York.

In 1838 Edwin named his second son, Thomas Kennedy Alford, after his cousin, Thomas Kennedy. This name has been

carried down to the present generation. One year later 'cousin Thomas' returned the compliment and named his son Edwin Alford Kennedy. . . .

On January 7, 1878, Ann Maria Honeywell Alford died, leaving her husband a widower of seventy one years of age. . . . Her death certificate revealed that she died of heart failure and lung congestion at six o'clock. . . .

Edwin Madison Alford passed away at the home of his daughter, Mrs. John A. Simpson, 399 Van Buren Street, Brooklyn, New York, February 1, 1879, and was buried in Cypress Hills Cemetery of the same city, according to a notice in the Brooklyn Daily Eagle. A large carved stone marks the Alfords graves. The family plot in this lovely, old cemetery was purchased in the year 1870 by Edwin's second son, Thomas. The plot is two hundred fifty square feet in size. The south half of the plot was for his family while the north half was for his older brother, Edwin, and his descendants. The cost of the plot was \$125.00. The deed is in my possession.

Many of the direct descendants of the Alfords remained in Brooklyn, New York, for almost a century. The City of Churches was in its prime in their day, and they not only enjoyed it but took advantage of its many opportunities. They attended Adelphi Academy, Erasmus Hall, Poly Prep Country Day School and Packer Collegiate Institute. They carried Edwin's love of horses to the 'Riding And Driving Club' where many were members. They joined the Montauk Club for dining out. Their families vacationed at many resorts on the Jersey coast and Long Island as far east as Orient Point. The families of William Madison Alford and his son, Thomas Kennedy Alford, my father, made their summer homes in Sayville, Long Island, for a number of years. They called their residences 'Fairway Farm' Three centuries before, their kin in Devon, England, lived on the 'Farms of Farway', but, of course, this small detail was unknown to them.

During the summer of 1903, when my parents, Thomas Kennedy Alford and Agnes McCosker, became engaged to marry, their families vacationed in Goshen, Orange County, New York, to be near where the 'trotting races' were taking place. My mother's family lived in a lovely, large old home built in the early 1800's. The tiles of the floor of this house were designed and laid by the firm of Kennedy & Alford according to the engraving on the back of one tile which had become loose. The old house was torn down several years ago. Through the Historical Society in Goshen, I was able to get in touch with the last owners who lived there for over a half century, but they were not interested in looking back on the

(Continued on p. 55)

## Coleman – Alford Connections

Various connections between Alford and Colemans have been brought to our attention by Fred Field, editor and publisher of *Coleman World* (1516 Avenida Selva, Fullerton, CA 92633). If you have a Coleman connection not included below, let AAFA or Fred Field know.

### Connections from AAFA Booklist

- Thomas, Elizabeth Wood. *GREENE COUNTY, ALABAMA MARRIAGES 1836-1848*. Columbus, MS: Blewett Company, 1965. Rebecca Alford, p. 65, m. Robert Coleman 1838.
- Forrister History Company. *PAST HISTORY AND PRESENT STAGE OF DEVELOPMENT OF TEXAS*. Chicago, IL: Regan Printing House, n.d. Albert Nelson Alford, pp. 30-31, biography, b. Crockett, Houston Co., 1841, m. first Cornelia Coleman 1867 and they had five children, m. second Mrs. Lobitha Brooks 1885 and they had seven children, served in Civil War.
- Farmer, Garland R. *THE REALM OF RUSK COUNTY*. Henderson, TX: Henderson Times, 1951. Mary Elizabeth Alford, p. 107, daughter of E.B. Jr., m. Dr. T.G. Coleman.
- Rusk County Historical Commission. *RUSK COUNTY HISTORY*. N.p.: Rusk County Historical Commission, 1982. Mary Elizabeth Alford, p. 89, daughter of E.B., Jr., m. Dr. T.G. Coleman.

### Connections from Gil Alford's ABOUT ALFORDS

Fall 1989, p. 27: Robert D. Coleman, spouse of Rebecca E. Alford, m. 20 Feb 1830 in Greene Co., AL.

Winter 1990, p. 19: Edwin Coleman, spouse of Lucy Ann Alfred, b. 1830 in

IL, m. 13 Apr 1850 in Cass Co., IL.

Spring/Summer 1980, p. 47: Cornelia Coleman, b. AL, d. TX, m. 5 Dec 1867 in Houston Co., TX, to Albert Nelson Alford, b. 1841, d. 1921 in Van Zandt Co., TX.

Fall 1990/Winter 1991, p. 38: Laurel Coleman, daughter of Henry Coleman and Laurel Leman Long, m. Joe Sim Alford 25 Feb 1950 in Leake Co., MS.

Fall 1990/Winter 1991, p. 39: Ruby Coleman, b. 11 Feb 1919, d. 17 Jan 1982 in Hinds Co., MS, daughter of John C. Coleman and Mary Ellis; m. Dossie Joy Alford, son of Wilburn W. Alford and Virginia Hollingsworth.

Fall 1990/Winter 1991, p. 41: Joe Coleman, m. Gladys Alford, daughter of Egbert Alford and Jeannie Quick.

### Query in *Coleman World*

Jud K. Arrington, 425 Broad St., York, AL 36925: My 2nd ggf, Robert HILL came to AL during the War of 1812 with Gen. Andrew Jackson's Army. He liked what he saw. After the war he returned to Bibb Co., AL to live. Living nearby was Wilie (Wylie) Coleman, b. 9 March 1783, son of Charles Coleman and Mary ROUNDTREE who had moved from Edgecombe Co., NC to Greene Co., AL, circa 1818. Wilie had married Martha COBB, b. 14 Sept 1793, daughter of James Cobb and Martha Penelope Ethridge Butts. Their children were: Theresa Coleman, b. 1809, d. 1850, m. 1824 to David N. BOYD; Roda Coleman, b. circa 1810, m. 1826 to Louis CANMACK; Penelope Coleman, b. circa 1810, m. George Hays CARNATHAN; Sarah Coleman, b. 10 April 1812; John Bestor Coleman, b. 1814; Mary Coleman, b. 1816, m. Col. Jacob MAYBERRY; Robert E. Coleman, b. 1818 in Edgecombe Co., NC, m. 1838 Rebecca

E. ALFORD; Martha Ann Coleman, b. circa 1820, m. \_\_\_\_\_ McGEE; and Wilie J. Coleman, b. 1822; m. Caroline Virginia CHANEY. Wilie Coleman d. 25 Nov 1822 in Bibb Co. Martha m. 2nd Robert Hill and they had 4 children: Alexander Hill (my line), Francis Marion Hill, Charles Coleman Hill, and Virginia Hill.

### Alford First and Middle Names Among Colemans

From the IGI, sent by Fred Field:

Manaticus Alford Coleman, b. 25 July 1856 in Clarke Co., AL, the son of Allen Coleman and Bettie Southhall; m. 13 Jan 1888 to Corrie Calhoun in Clarke Co., AL

Alford Tims, m. Vashti Coleman 13 June 1831 in Marengo Co., AL

Alford Coleman, m. Epsy McGhee 22 Feb 1876 in Tunica Co., MS ♦

### (Consider Alford, cont. from p. 54)

deed of the property to see if Consider Alford had built the house. Whether the old summer residence once rang with the laughter of the Alford children in the early 1800's or whether a stranger strolled into the Grand Street firm of Kennedy & Alford and purchased the tiles for the floor of his own home will always remain a secret.

Through the years we have all enjoyed bearing the name of 'Alford' and have been intensely interested in any stories connected with it. I feel that the complete history of the family will not be told until the day comes when I locate a fourth cousin who would have descended from another of Consider's children. ♦