

Commentary Upon Section Eight and Ninth

In reviewing the following line of Family Record - desirous of making a few comments relative to this record:

When a lad, or in the year of 1846 or 1847, my parents or our family resided in Rollin, Leneway County, Michigan. We came west from Waterford County, Pennsylvania by teams over land route with relatives named Powers in the summer of 1844, first settling near Adrian, Michigan, then Rollen(sic) Leneway County, Michigan. My father then was Pastor of the First Baptist Church of this said village. It was then what we now term an inland village or free from any railroads and from the year 1840 to 1848 was a thriving town. It had fine milling property and water power - saw mills, grist mills - and chair factory and the town contained of over twelve stores and buildings and at that time consisted of about one thousand or fifteen hundred inhabitants. It was a good trading point on account of its water power and milling privileges and a fine farming country surrounding it at this time. Hudson, Michigan was only a small station and had no water power or milling property. This station was on the Michigan S.R. R. four miles from Rollen. Adrian, Michigan was not as large as Rollin and Hillsdale, Michigan was the largest town on the railroad and the terminus of the Michigan Southern Rail Road. About the year 1847 Capt. George Alford visited our family. I was sent to Hudson Station to meet him, walking the four miles with the intention of coming back with a neighbor in his wagon as he had a load of merchandise to deliver at the station. The train was late and when Capt. George Alford got off the train I knew him by his build and resemblance to my grandfather and father for he walked and looked so much like them. I walked up to him and asked if this was Uncle George Alford and he said "Oh this is Uncle Loyal's son, is it?" and I told him I was his only boy. He asked "Where is your carriage?". I told him I had walked over and we would ride back in a neighbors wagon. "How far is it?". I told him and he said "No distance at all, let us walk it." So we started for home. We had walked about half way and I became tired and he was such a pleasant man and so genial, talked all the way. I asked him if I could not rest a while as you walk so much faster than I do and tired - he laughed heartily and said "Oh, yes, boys now-a-days do not amount to anything. Why, my dear boy, I outran my old grey-headed boy of 60 years this morning, 'no-account'." So I set down on a log near a high rail fence which he was standing by, "Why, look here, my boy. I can pert(sic) nigh hand you all nearly as high as I can reach and stand in my tracks jump right over this fence and back and never touch a rail." And he did it to my great amazement - I looked at him closely - a man I should judge over 6 feet high - not a grey hair in his head could I see - a fine set of teeth as could be found and gleamed like pearls when he laughed and should judge his weight over two hundred pounds, fair complexion and chestnut colored hair and curly - I would call it. This was Capt. George Alford - at that time I thought him such a queer man and he told me such fibs - out ran a son of 60 years old - why he did not look 40 years old himself - but afterwards found out my mistake. He told me he was never sick a day in his life and no Indian could out run him. At a battle (I think Lunden's Lane) but near Buffalo, N.Y., his regiment was surrounded by the British and Indians and he and a friendly Indian took a drummer boy, leapt over the heads of the enemy, he running with the boy and the friendly Indian keeping the enemy at bay and they would exchange and in this way made their escape. After we had reached home, my mother wanted some wood cut for dinner - I admit I was played-out - and I suppose I heaved a sigh - and he said come on my boy - let us look at that wood. He took up the axe and a few minutes the wood was cut and I

carried it in. I could not keep my eyes from him - he laughed so heartily and pleasantly - just before dinner my father came - as he had been away on some missionary work for the church - and after dinner he told my mother "Aunt Betsey, it's time I took my dinner nap" and mother showed him to the bedroom. After he was gone I told father and mother what whopping big fibs he told me. She said, "My son, he told you the truth. He and his father were noted Indian Scouts and all the Alford's are very stout men". He was I think about 83 or 5 years old at this time I should judge. Father called him Uncle George and we all did. And I was not aware he was an elder brother to my grandfather until a letter I received from Col. George F. Alford of Dallas, Texas, in which he sent me a letter dated Rockdale, Crawford, County, Pennsylvania, April 16, 1846, from my grandfather, Rev. Oliver Alford to his brother Capt. George Alford of Monroe, Michigan. As I have previously stated as the Family Record ... Bible of Rev. Oliver's father could be found or obtained.. So this explained the relationship of Capt. George Alford and Rev. Oliver Alford.

The letter reads as follows:

"Dear Brother, I received with pleasure your letter dated at Youngstown, Feb. 7. I was glad to hear that you and sister Hatheway were well. I enjoy s good health as I could expect. My family as far as I know are well. They are much scattered - I have six sons living - one in the state New York, one in Pennsylvania - three in Ohio - one in Michigan, Lenaway Co., three daughters in Pennsylvania and one in Illinois. I do not expect to ever to see them all again. But if my health and strength holds out I think of trying to visit them this summer and if I do I shall try to come and visit you on my journey. I am sensible it will be a great undertaking for me. My youngest son pastor of the Baptist Church in Rollinsville he writes that there has been a precious time of revival in that part of the country - he has held a protracted meeting most of the winter. It is indeed a pleasing thing to me to have my children engaged in the Service of God. I hope my dear brother that you are steadfast in the faith - living in the enjoyment of the law of God.

You requested me to direct my letter to James Skinner Esq. I have no knowledge of the gentleman and will afix(sic) your name for his. I will write no more with paper and ink, but I hope to see you that we may speak fact to face - adiu(sic)

I myself your loving and affectionate Brother
To George Alford Oliver Alford

As Col. George F. Alford furnished me with no dates or places of the history of his great grandfather, will make a few comments of history and personal observations.

Detroit in 1820 had a population of 1422 inhabitants - Michigan became a state of the United States 1837 and Detroit was the capital of the state about the year 1852, Lansing became the capital of the state. In 1812 the British captured Detroit and in 1813 Gen. Harrison recaptured it and Michigan became a Territory until 1836 or 7 - Monroe, Michigan was a trading point and in 1840 nearly as large as Detroit and there was a great rivalry between the two cities. The City of Toledo, in 1840, was but a small city and Manhattan was trying to be

the important city - Adrian, Michigan had but one store, blacksmith and wagon shop and a few shanties and houses but was no water power there. In 1816 to 1820 Col. Benedict Alford and family settled in Cahuga County, Ohio. Ashtabula County joins it and Erie County, Pennsylvania joins it and Crawford County with joining county and Chantagne Co., N.Y. joins Erie County, Pennsylvania - where the Alford's located after leaving Vermont state. Rev. Oliver Alford and family came west in 1831 or 2 and settled and took up land two miles east of Coldwater, Michigan, also at Door Prairie, Michigan. Three years afterwards returned to Erie County, Pennsylvania with his family. In 1850 Michigan Southern Railroad was from Toledo, Ohio to Hillsdale, Michigan. A branch was built from Adrian to Detroit going through Monroe, Michigan, which was after Capt. George Alford visited us. Again I was present with the representatives and surveyors when the capitol grounds were platted for the capital city of Lansing, Michigan. These few statements we make in regard to the following history of section Eight and section Ninth.

In completing our Summary of the past records of the history of the Vermont Alford's or our fraternal forefathers of which among some of the descendants who claim the birth place of some of the Vermont 'Alford Boys' were born near Lexington, Massachusetts or Woburn, Massachusetts, which by records are probably correct. Whilst others claim that the Addison County, Vermont 'Alford Boys' first consisted of the "Three Brothers" who came from England and settled in Vermont, I think this is doubtful (perhaps descendants of one of the Three Brothers) as no records can be found to substantiate this claim. And again others claim that the "Three Brothers" settled in America in an early period and were located or settled in Massachusetts and Connecticut - in which all records so far received substantiate these facts - but at what period of time when all of these "Three Brothers" all landed at one time and settled in this country is not positively known, but every indication from historical facts shows that they came over about the year 1634 and 1636 on the ship 'Mayflower', it's second landing on American shores. Although one of these brothers might have come over in 1622 to investigate and returned to England and came over in 1634 as merchants under the cooperative name of Skinner Mercantile Company. And it is clearly shown by records that our parental forefathers and their descendants settled in Massachusetts and Connecticut and their descendants extended their homes in Pennsylvania - New York - Indiana - Missouri - Kentucky and other states who were the descendants of these "Three Brothers". It appears in records that Hartford County, Connecticut was the birth place of many of our parental forefathers. And that Col. Benedict Alford and his wife Rebecca Alford were born and reared from this county which was of our parental descent. And who were the parents of the Addison County, "Vermont Boys"? As they were married as in previous records given at Windsor, Connecticut and they left there between the year 1760 and 1765 and settled near Lexington or Woburn, Massachusetts and leaving there between the years 1779 and 1783 and settled in Verginius, Addison County, Vermont. Nor could we find the name of any other Alford whose age would denote such a relationship - if they were brothers, there would be too much difference in age. I state this for the benefit of the ninth section of our parental Grandfather Rev. Oliver Alford's Father's Family Record could not be obtained in all probability destroyed or lost or maybe in the possession of some of the descendants whose names are not known. And by the above facts that claim Col. Benedict Alford and Rebecca Alford were the father and mother of the "Addison County, Vermont Boys".

**Our Forefathers or Family Records Supposed "Three Brothers"
and their children**

William Alford

	Birthplace	Date of Birth
William Alford	London, England	1605

Ancient Records
Benjamin Alford in the artillery in the year 1671. Benjamin was made prisoner 1689 in Barbary States and made his escape and returned to Boston, Mass. and became a man of great importance in Boston, Mass.

Mary - Ann	London, England
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Nathaniel	Nunkey - Salem	Mar. 19, 1637
Samuel	Salem	Feb. 17, 1639
Bethia	Salem	June 26, 1642
Elisha		1644
Mary		1646
Elizabeth		1648
Benjamin		1650
John	Boston, Mass.	1658

Benedictus Alford

Benedictus Alford	London, England	1616
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Benedictus Alford joined the church in Windsor, Conn. 1641 was a juror in 1643 and 1646. Was Sergeant at the Sequoit Battle in 1641. His will was proved 1683. He was an early settler

at Windsor, Conn. And had relatives in Boston, Mass, a brother & family.

Jane Newton Alford London, England

Jonathan	Windsor, Conn.	June 1, 1645
Benedict	Windsor, Conn.	July 11, 1647
Josiah	Windsor, Conn.	July 06, 1649
Elizabeth	Windsor, Conn.	Sept. 21, 1661
Jeremy	Windsor, Conn.	Dec. 24, 1665

Alexander Alford

Alexander Alford London, England 1612

Alexander Alford
John Alford
Thomas Alford
Benjamin Alford
Took the Oath of Allegiance at North Hampton, Mass. in 1678.

Mary ... Alford

Abigail	Windsor, Conn.	Oct. 6, 1646
John	Windsor, Conn.	Oct. 12, 1649
Mary	Windsor, Conn.	July 6, 1651
Thomas	Windsor, Conn.	Oct. 27, 1653
Elizabeth	Windsor, Conn.	Mar. 12, 1655
Benjamin	Windsor, Conn.	Sept. 11, 1657
Sarah	South Hampton, Conn.	June 24, 1660

Notes of Records - John Alford of Windsor, Conn. Became first settler at H.... in 1734
Isaac Alford of Colchester had a son Alexander Alford baptized July 27, 1755
Josiah Alford of Windsor, Conn. Married Mary Drake alias Case Oct. 20, 1726 was the
Nathaniel Alford - married July 3, 1724 Miss Experience Holcomb

Short Sections of Records

Jeremy Alvord

was the fourth son of Benedictus and Jane Newton Alford. He was born in Windsor, Connecticut

Dec. 24, 1665. He married Miss Jane - (other name not given) 1687. They had seven children. \

Their eldest child was a son who was named

Benedict Alvord - he was born at Windsor, Connecticut, April 27, 1688. He married Abigail Wilson. They had a son Benedict Alford born at Windsor, Connecticut, Aug. 29, 1716 - see page 161(original page 161).

Their second child was a son who was named

Newton Alvord - he was born at Windsor, Connecticut, Mar. 24, 1690.

Their third child was a son who was named

Jermiah Alvord - he was born at Windsor, Connecticut, May 8, 1692.

Their fourth child was a son who was named

Jonathan Alvord - he was born at Windsor, Connecticut, Mar. 4, 1695.

Their fifth child was a daughter who was named

Jane Alvord - she was born at Windsor, Connecticut, January 14, 1699.

Their sixth child was a daughter who was named

Joanna Alvord - she was born at Windsor, Connecticut, Mar. 1, 1702.

Their seventh child was a daughter who was named

Elizabeth Alford she was born at Windsor, Connecticut, June 10, 1704.

Jane Alvord was a widow in 1709 and administratrix of the estate. Jeremy Alford died in 1709 in his 44th year.

Gov. Mitchel Cary Alford

who lives at Lexington, Kentucky, served two terms as Lieut. Governor of Kentucky during the administration of Gov. Young Brown, 1893 and 1897. His father has a large family and they reside at Lexington, Kentucky and are wealthy and distinguished in the political affairs of Kentucky for many years. But was unable to procure a family record or complete a regular descent.

Enoch L. Alford

whose family lived at Lagrange, Fayette County, Texas, who was born June 5, 1829. This record in a book known as "The Annals of Warren, Maine", which contains a large amount of names of the Alfords. Enoch served in the Legislature during the administration of Gov. E. J. David, 1865.

- No. 1 There is a family of Alfords in Kansas City, Missouri. Edmond M. Alford, telegraph operator and J. H. Alford with Barnham Hanna Manufacturing Company. Probably sons of Edmond Alford - will find further in record.
- No. 2 There is a family of Alfords - one named D. S. Alford, Atty at Law, No. 700 Mass. Street, Lawrence, Kansas.
- No. 3 There is a family of Alfords at Greenville, Hurd County, Texas - one who is a hardware merchant.
- No. 4 There is a family of Alfords at Henderson, Rusk County, Texas - one who is a merchant and probably a son of Ludwig F. Alford.
- No. 5 There is a family of Alfords, W. G. Alford lives at Hazelton, Kansas.

Father and mother of Elijah Alford in record born in Simsbury, Connecticut Dec. 14, 1782. Josiah was the son of Benedictus Alford.

Captain George Alford

He was in all probability born near Lexington Massachusetts or Hartford County Connecticut March 10 1761 (his birth place not certain). It is said that George was with his father in many skirmishes and battles and was noted as his father in woodcraft as a hunter and Indian trader and scout. He was endowed with great strength and endurance and was in many battles with the British and Indians previous and in the War of 1812 and 1814 in which he became noted as you can see in previous comments. In 1792 or before the War 1812 it appears he and his family resided in Seneca New York State or near the ... counties of the state. As about the year 1820 he left there and moved his entire family leaving Buffalo New York in a sailing vessel via Lake Erie to Detroit River Michigan. His vessel was wrecked during a storm near what is now the city of Cleveland Ohio. They finally arrived and settled in Detroit Michigan then a frontier French and Indian village. After living at Detroit for some time they moved to Monroe City Monroe County Michigan at the mouth of River Raisin. At this time a very important trading point and was then supposed would become a greater place than Detroit. So he was amongst the first settlers of Monroe Michigan and where he was elected Marshal and became Chief of Police. His matches and fearless bravery made him greatly respected and feared by all evil-doers.

He died and was buried beside his beloved wife who had preceded him. He died at Monroe Michigan April 16 1825 in his 89th year. As previously stated to all - "was never sick a day he remembered" and was sitting at the table eating his meal - leaned back in his chair and passed away - so died a brave and noble man.

He married Miss Polly Hubbard about the year 1784. She was first cousin to Gen Ethan Allen of Ticonderoga fame. She was born Feb. 26 1762 and died at Monroe Michigan April 12 1844 in her 79th year and she slept beside her noble husband. There was born to them twelve children.

Their eldest child was a daughter who was named

Sally Alford (Wickham) - she was in all probability born in Addison County Vermont Oct. 2 1785. She died June 12 1825 in her 26th year. She married Mr. Wickham. They had six children.

Their eldest child was a son who was named

Johnson H. Wickham - married - had two children - a jeweler - resides in Chicago, Ill. Their second child was a son who was named

William Wickham - married - had two children - names Astrin Wickham, married first Mr. Lawrence, second - Mr. Oscar Hughes, they reside at Indianapolis and are wealthy.

Their third child was a daughter who was named

Leannette Wickham - married to whom not known - had one child - Mary - deceased. Their fourth child was a daughter who was named

Amanda Wickham (Dutton) - she married Mr. Dutton, had one child, a son named Richard Dutton, lives in Toledo, Ohio - a rich man - a ...