

*Alford*

July 14, 1952

Mrs W J Farthing,  
Brooklet, Ga.

Dear Aunt:

1) It has been my purpose for some time to write you a note, to let you know that I am thinking about you and that I am still working on the family history project. Recently, I had about made up my mind to visit you and talk over the family data I had gathered in written notes. These, however, were incomplete and unorganized or rather untyped so that I could arrange and sort of make heads or tails out of 'em.

2) Of course, my physical capacity is limited and my power of concentration is not what it used to be; I just have to stop after I work awhile. I simply can't push ahead and carry on like I used to do or would like to do.

3) Awhile back I started trying to organize my data and have typed a lot of my notes, but not all. Then, too, I have a lot of investigating to do in Hancock County where, I believe, I will probably be able to determine if the "Willie" Alford named in the will of James Alford of Hancock (probated in 1814) is one and the same <sup>perfectly</sup> William who settled in Putnam and the father of your father William and Uncle Green and Uncle Jack.

4) Then there is a William Alford, Senior, and William, Junior, on the Hancock Co records. And I have seen a reference to Wm H. Alford Sr and Wm H Alford Jr on the Hancock Co records.

5) And there are Williams all through the Alford family, in every generation, and no definite conclusion can be reached about the identity of any of the until one runs down every available fact, in Georgia and in North Carolina. And birth dates are almost indispensable, to be sure.

6) Mrs U S Gunn (nee Olive Alford of Rutledge and a descendant of Kinchen Alford) insists that the Willie Alford named in the will of James Alford is my ancestor.

7) If that is true, then, the Willie named in the will of James of Hancock would probably be the William, Senior we see on the Hancock Co records. Wm Sr died in 1825, left a will and he named one of his sons, Wm Jr. This Wm Jr., I would reckon to be your grandfather and my great grandfather who settled in Putnam Co.

8) Now, Mrs Gunn also claims Lodwick Alford of S.C. to be the father of James of Hancock. I have a copy of Lodwick's will and in it he does not mention, among his children, James or Julius Alford, a brother of James, who came to Georgia after

80.7) James had settled here. Julius is not mentioned in Lodwick's will. Several of Lodwick's children, or Alford's with the same given names, settled in Georgia, too.

9) Now, that may or may not be a significant point. Its possible that Lodwick had provided for James and Julius (if they were his sons) and that they had left N.C. and settled in Georgia. If such was the case, we have to take it for granted at the moment, for I have not investigated the records back in N.C.

10) I have found, in an old Colonial Virginia Parish Register, several bearing our common forenames - James, William, Lodwick, John, etc - which I have assumed were the forerunners of the N.C. Alford's.

11) It takes time to run down these old records and leads. But I will, I hope, end it some time.

12) To get my notes organized, I have gotten up three forms for my use. No. 1 I use for jotting down my notes or to send to those who might supply some facts and information. No. 2 and No. 3 for showing individual families and then the lineal ancestry of a given person. I had to do this to make any headway. I will have two of the forms, 2 and 3, from the printer soon, I hope before June 20. I will show them to you and send along some for use in your individual family. I will explain how I use them or suggest to others to use, after I get the forms.

13) Back to our ancestry, I have copies of the will of James Alford of Hancock. Also, Wm Sr and he has a son named William mentioned in the will. And I have a copy of the will of Wm. Alford of Putnam (our forebear and who died in 1883).

14) There is a strong probability that these are our forebears but I want to be sure I do not start any unprovable legend or tradition, so I say my conclusions are tentative and subject to change, after I complete my investigation. And all who read this should be governed accordingly.

15) I plan to attend your birthday party next Sunday, July 20th. I have written my sister, Beulah and bro. Gartrell and we will probably come down together. And bring food too.

16) I owe Emmie and Flora a letter, so I am sending them a carbon of this letter, to save so much writing for me. I will bring along all of the data I have typed out, for you and others to see. And I want to ask you a number of questions.

17) We and my folks are about the same. And I do hope you are happy and enjoying good health.

18) With love and best wishes to you and family, I am,

Your nephew,

Guy Alford.