

December 18, 1988

Gil,

I'm tickled to find that there are living Alford's out there who care if the family is recognized! I was only 47 (this year) when 'the calling' came and I started digging furiously into where we originated. Fortunately, I'm a programmer and investigator by day and an author by night. My family suspects that a wee bit of the Blarney is in me blood, too.

On the research front, I have a PC/AT, a NEC laptop portable, use PC-FILE III ver. 4 (later versions are buggy) and Phillip Brown's Family History System. My wife is an American History teacher, we're both T. C. U. graduates, and we know many of the Clayton librarians by name. So, our stage is set for some good investigative effort. The killer is that we aren't retired and can't give it the time we'd love to. (Are dangling participles legal, yet?)

I'm biased toward Southern Culture and believe that any Alford who is descended from Northern Aggressors should receive a bundle of switches each and every Christmas. The burden of Original Sin prevails here. If they prove to be good people, perhaps the bundle size can be reduced.

Let me organize this letter into subjects so that you can more readily respond:

---- O-N-E ----

I was startled when you stated that your Jacob was Julius' son, his wife was Mary Pace, and that he settled in Louisiana Territory in the early 1800's. According to records that I have before me the Jacob (1738-1794) who married Mary Pace died in Robeson County, North Carolina and was Lodowick's son!

The Jacob (ca1745-?) that I have listed as Julius' son married Elizabeth Bryant and well could have settled in Louisiana, siring the following children: Jacob Jr., Kirby, and Needham Judge (1789-1869), a Methodist minister who migrated across the Carolinas, Georgia, Alabama, and Mississippi before settling for awhile in Sabine Parish, Louisiana. He later moved into Texas.

Mrs. Bowman commented in 1972 during her Louisiana research that there were certainly a lot of Jacobs around. Please enlighten me since you have the benefit of both hers and your research.

---- T-W-O ----

My dream is to track down my errant grandfather, Julius S. (1880-?). Ironically, he deserted his family within a few miles, I suppose, of where you are. He was manager of the Texas Pavillion at the 1903 World's Fair in Saint Louis when he skipped.

All we know is that he was born April, 1880 in Marshall, Texas and married Susie Smith in Galena, Kansas in late 1899. He should appear somewhere in the 1910 Census. However, Clayton has only the Alabama, Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma and Texas Soundex films and he is not on those.

Another thing: my son, who was schooled in phonetics, says that Julius S. may really be Julius Caesar. He did have an uncle named Julius Caesar (wonder if there are more Jacobs than Julius Caesars?) so the name was still popular in our branch. The Cherokee County, Kansas Clerk's Office hasn't responded to my two month old request for a copy of his only child's Birth Certificate so, it's been impossible to verify his middle name.

Do you have any data on him?

---- T-H-R-E-E ----

I've corresponded with Patricia (Pat) Leone, 3825 E. 55th St., Tulsa, Okla. 74135 who is seeking information on Julius Caesar Alford, who was born in Georgia about 1799 and moved to Sabine Parish, Louisiana in the 1820's. His wife was named Elizabeth. I suspect he may be a brother of Needham Judge Alford mentioned above. Do you have anything on him?

Pat was down here this summer for radiation treatment at the M. D. Anderson Clinic and may be hearing the rustle of angel's wings so, she's pushing hard to get her research complete.

---- F-O-U-R ----

I mailed my membership in last week and I expect that you've seen it by now. The Association's stated goals appear to leave open the issue of publishing an official genealogy of American Alford's. Are there plans for such a venture? If I wanted a complete chart of all of the American Alford's could I get it now or in the future?

I have just written a preliminary work on my branch. and would be willing to contribute it to the making of a major Association publication. After talking to a genealogical publisher, I have concluded that family histories are a labor of love and will never make the author rich so, why not lump them all together and produce one colossal work? It would buy a lot of Pina Colladas as we lounged on the beach.

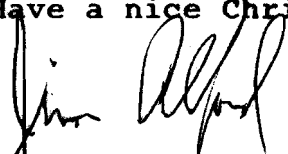
---- F-I-V-E ----

What is the correct relationship of William and James of Virginia? Was William really named William Sion? Did he really come from the North of Wales, which doesn't seem likely after talking to several people familiar with the region?

Boddie seems to have a good argument that John was the son of William and James the son of John but, The Colonial Dames don't support that (or, seem not to.) I have deduced that William Jr. was the father of James. When was James born and what was his wife's name?

---- F-I-N-I-S ----

Have a nice Christmas!


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