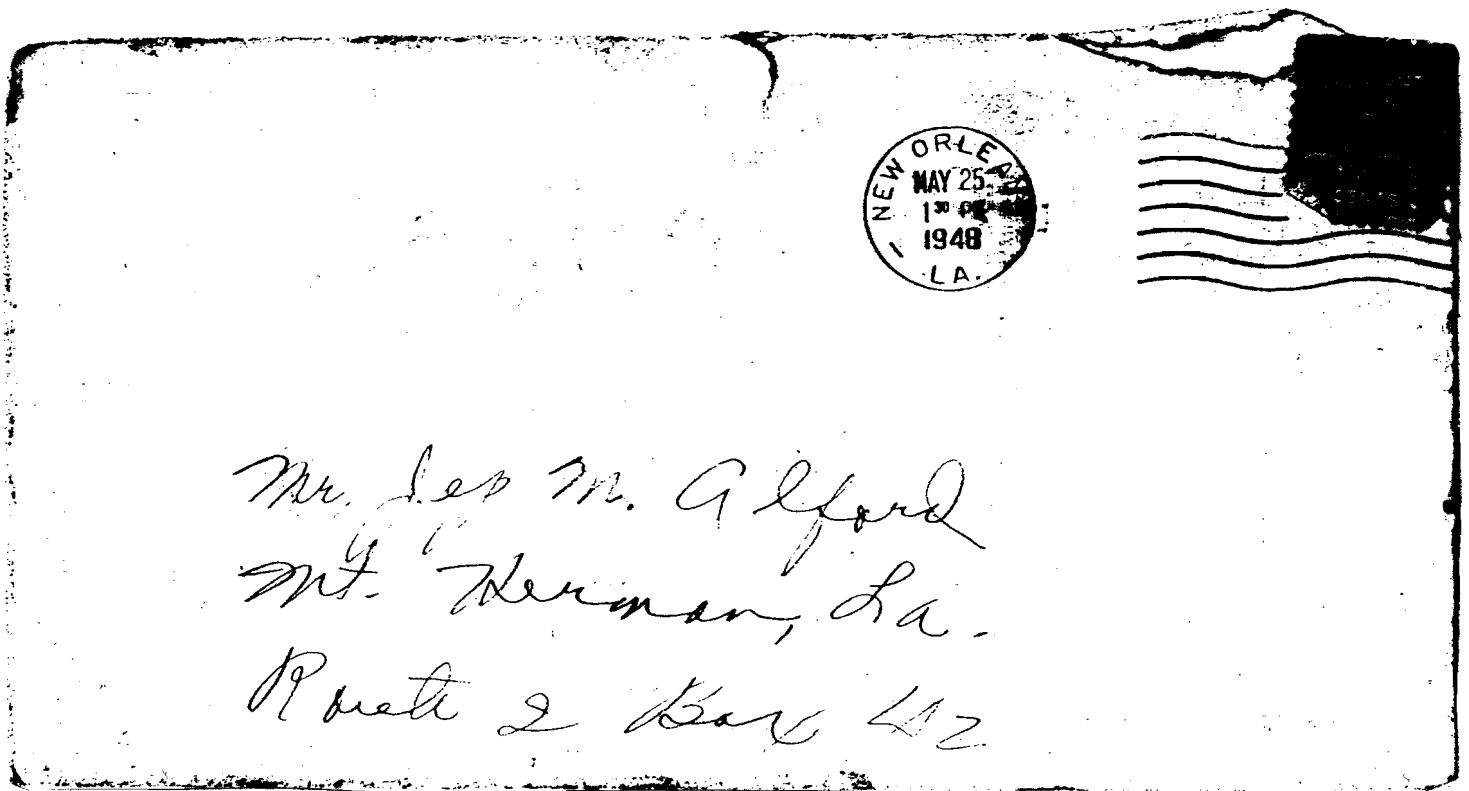


The following is a poor copy of a letter that has to be one of the last efforts to communicate with Jephtha Martin Alford from his children other than those who were at his bedside on May 26 1948. It was postmarked the day before he died.

Written by daughter Gussie Alford Fortinberry of New Orleans it is interesting how she mentioned so many of the family in such a short letter: Inez, G.K., Roxie, Iddo and Leoda.

In the P.S. it is evident that they were interested in family at that time because Gussie mentions having seen a cousin named Reeves. That would have been first cousin, twice removed, Paul Richardson Reeves, AAFA #0066, son of Haidee Alford & Harry R. Reeves, grandson of Bailey Monroe Alford 1875-1932 and great grandson of Marshall Thomas Alford and Charity Ann Self.



Mr. Jeph M. Alford
Mt. Hermon, La.
Route 2 Box 42

Monday Night

May 24, 1948

Dearest Dad + all,

Hope all of you are feeling good. All here are well. Lemuel and Carolyn have two more weeks of school. Then we have two weeks of Vacation Bible School so we will still be busy.

We are trying to do some house cleaning and repainting, retaping etc. on vacation blinds. Sure is plenty work.

Things are sure dry around here, the ground is just cracking. Our garden is doing fair but late this year. We have plenty dust.

Dug has been writing after P. H. - goes up home so I hear from you through her and Roger too. I hope Dad's leg or knee is better and not giving her so much trouble.

Leoda & Laverne gotten their shares with those vouchers but probably can before we come up. I hope we can come in a few weeks. Since Lemuel has that paper route its so hard for us to get away.

There isn't any news and it is bedtime
so think I better stop.

Love

Essie

P.S. Dad I found some more of our
kin folks, one of Uncle Judge Alford's
great grand sons. Cousin Emily Alford
was his grand father. He went up
to see you one time he said. His name
is Rees. Cousin Ethel (Alford) Chubb
calls me occasionally to talk from you
this man lives in Melrose and goes to our
church.

Tell Dad I'll visit him soon.