Albert I. or J. (?) Clagget (t) 1820 A.B.

Entered as a sophomore from St. Mary's County, Maryland, in 1817. Dismissed at request of parents May 17, 1819. Princeton Denio. 1940
Albert I. Clagett (to my great frustration I don't know his middle name; nor do I know his date of birth, which must have been about 1798. Only son of James Clagett (1752/3-1833), of Georgetown, D.C., and Elizabeth Wheatley of St. Mary's Co., Md.; grandson of Charles Clagett of Montgomery Co., Md., and Jane Young; great-grandson of Capt. Thomas Clagett II, of "Weston," Prince George's Co., Md., and Mary Keene; great-great grandson of Capt. Thomas Clagett, the settler in Md. 1669/70.

James Clagett lived in Georgetown between the College and the river, in a house where a school was later kept. He was one of the first members of the corporation and common council of Georgetown, 1791.

Albert was admitted in 1817 to the sophomore class at the College of New Jersey. He lived at room 40, Nassau Hall. He joined the American Whig Society in 1817, and the Society records contain a list of the books he borrowed from its library in 1817-19. With eleven of his classmates, he transferred to Union College in 1819. He graduated A.B. from Union in 1820.

He was admitted about 1824 to the bar of Prince George's Co., Md. In 1824 he sold 287 3/4 acres in St. Mary's Co., which had come to him from his mother's family. In 1825 he was appointed U.S. Attorney for the Western District of Florida (28 Nile's Reg. 80). Letters of administration on his estate were issued in the District of Columbia on Nov. 16, 1825, describing him as "Albert I. Clagett of the State of Alabama." The only other item in the administration file is a letter from Daniel Brent, Dept. of State, to Henry C. Neale, dated 10th Nov. 1825, reading in its entirety: "Sir: We have just received Intelligence in this office, which appears to be authentic, of the death of Albert I. Clagett [sic], late Attorney of the United States for West Florida."
Fishy as hell, don't you think? My theory: Albert got tired of being a WASP, faked his death, kept heading southwest, changed his name to Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna, and had a long and eventful career under that name, dying at a ripe age in 1876.
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Dear Mrs. Hadley,

The enclosed biography of Albert I. Clagett of the Class of 1820 was given me by Prince W. Clagett, a local lawyer and genealogist, and is all that is known about him. The material is from The Princeton archives, and is interesting because Clagett
was one of ten or eleven students
at Princeton who transferred to
Union in 1818 or 19 because
Nott's liberalism in education
contrasted in such a superior
way to the authoritarian Calvin-
ism of Asahel Green, Pres. of
Princeton at the time.
An article on the eleven
Transfers would make very
interesting reading, and the
Princeton Archives are fairly
complete, even to a list of books.
the student borrowed from the college library.

Asbel Green is also very interesting, and more can be read about him in my book "The Ordered Web" published in 1981. In fact, I was Asbel Green's advisor, source, and teacher from 1925 to 1940.
Green was Presbyterian minister of note, and I have some reasons to think that it was he who may have suggested Nott's name for Union's presidency. Since they were both members of the elite Presbyterian mafia that ran most of the colleges at the time, my best personal wishes. Your book is still remembered. Sincerely,

John C. Davis '37