

## **James Upchurch IV and His Family UAFA Enrolled Family AFEF No. 18**

### I. Introduction

This compendium for the descendants of James IV is being created, maintained, and updated by the Upchurch and Allied Families Association and cooperators with the purpose of having at one online site details about this UAFA “enrolled” family. Today, thousands can trace their heritage back to James IV.

Each UAFA enrolled family is served by a coordinator. Initially, the default coordinator of all enrolled families is Phil Upchurch, the founder of UAFA. Financial support is required to enroll and augment records for an enrolled family and to keep it online for the long term. The financial co-sponsors of the James IV Upchurch family and active supporters will be reported in periodic e-newsletters to the James IV Upchurch Sr. family. The ultimate goal is to have a minimal endowment of \$10,000 for this family, the earnings of which will support the records of this particular family and UAFA.

Historically, the records for the James IV Upchurch family have been found in a great many places. By “enrolling” this family under the auspices of UAFA, the intent is to have a central portal which will readily allow a member of this family to see and understand reference materials about their heritage. Much of this material exists in the Allied Family Archives amassed by Phil Upchurch over a forty year period. This and other resources will set the stage for further research, or for the creation of a comprehensive family history. Progress will depend on collaboration.

Readers are aware of the large amount of conflicting data for any given family on Ancestry.com and other sites. It is difficult and essentially impossible to get these conflicts resolved online. Furthermore, some of these sites fade from view over time. The plan and intent of UAFA is to resolve both of those issues. It is our intent that content portrayed by UAFA for an enrolled family will be factual and subject to ongoing validation and that the content will remain online for the long term under the auspices of UAFA. To make this a reality, UAFA must be sustained by an active volunteer Board of Directors, volunteer cooperators must be active participants, and some hired help must be available. Tax-deductible financial contributions will be important to allow all of this to happen. You may go to the [Home Page](#) of this website to find a membership/contribution form.

## EXCERPTS FROM THE UPCHURCH BULLETIN

UB VOL 1, NO 1, P 17

JAN 1980

## CLAN 15 (JAMES UPCHURCH IV)

James Upchurch IV lived in VA and appears to have died there 156  
about 1800. One son, Burwell U. (ca 1785-1830) has been identified. 2029

UB VOL 1, NO 4, P 133

OCT 1980

CLAN 15 (JAMES UPCHURCH IV)

156

So far as is known Burwell U. was the only son of James U. IV. 2029,156  
In addition to the discovery of the Ennis Loftin Bible giving details 4704  
on Burwell U. and descendants (see UB, Vol. 1, page 83) we now have a 2029  
copy of a booklet on the movement of some of his descendants from GA  
to TX. The setting is as follows: Before the Civil War, Moses U. and 2030  
Burrell Miles U., two sons of Burwell U. had moved to Grimes Co., TX. 4926,2029  
Immediately after the war they persuaded their sister, Harriet (Upchurch)  
Loftin, whose husband, Ennis Loftin, had died several years before, 4703,4704  
to move to Grimes Co., TX. Harriet with several of her grown children  
and their families made the trip in four covered wagons. Her youngest  
child, Celestia Ennis Loftin, also made the trip and when she was about 4877  
age 91 wrote her recollections of the trip in a booklet entitled "A Trip  
From Georgia To Texas In Four Covered Wagons". This is a priceless  
item of literature for all Upchurches and especially for members of the  
James U. IV/Burwell U. Subclan. This discovery has led to productive 156/2029  
correspondence with Mrs. Bruce Clayton Griffin (nee Frances Eleese 4881  
Coleman), Robert E. Lee U. II, and Roy White, Jr., all descendants 4964,5032  
of Burwell U. 2029

INTRODUCTION AND OUTLINE OF THE JAMES UPCHURCH IV (XID 156)  
CLAN (CLAN NO. 15)

	<u>XID</u>
James U. III, a greatgrandson of Michael U. I and the Head of the Southampton Branch of the Upchurch family, had five children.	155,146
His two daughters, Selah U. and Edith U. we know relatively little about. Son, John U. III, the Head of Upchurch Clan 14 who died in Chatham Co., NC. has two sons, one of whom, John U., remained in Chatham Co., NC and one of whom, Samuel U., moved to southern Illinois. We know little of John but Samuel and his descendants are well documented. Harmon U., another son of James U. III and the Head of Upchurch Clan No. 16 has been documented in <u>UB</u> (Vol. 1, page 61).	165,168 157 4168 4129 167
James U. IV, the fifth known child of James U. III and the Head of Upchurch Clan No. 15, is the subject of this article. So far as we know James U. IV had only one son, Burwell U. We are pleased that the outstanding cooperation of numerous correspondents has allowed us to assemble and to publish here for the first time the early descendants of Burwell U.	156,155 156,2029 2029
West and Morgan in their Upchurch books report that James U. III created a will dated 24 JUN 1784 in which he named his children and left his property in southern VA to his descendants.* To son, James U. IV he left land on the south side of Whiteoak Swamp below Bracey's Spring Branch but with the stipulation that this holding was to pass to Burwell U. at the death of his father, James U. IV. By this important passage we link James U. III, James U. IV, and Burwell U. as father, son and grandson. At the time of the execution of the will Burwell U. was about two years old. One gathers that James U. III believed that his son, James U. IV, was destined for a short life and that because of this provision was made for the property bequeathed to this son to pass on to the grandson, Burwell. This presumption of an anticipated short life for James U. IV could have been due to James U. IV having inherent or acquired health problems. In any case it is a tempting hypothesis as it would help explain why James U. IV had only one child, Burwell U., and it would help explain why James U. IV was one of the few, if not the only, fifth generation Upchurch who did not migrate from VA to NC. Our conviction that Burwell U. was the only offspring of James U. IV is strengthened by the fact that James U. III in the 1784 will named only one child of James U. IV.	155 156 2029,156 155,156,2029
Although James U. IV resisted the temptation to move south to NC, his son Burwell did not. In 1803 Burwell U. is found in Franklin Co., NC at which time he was selling the property in VA which had come to him from his grandfather, James U. III, through his late father, James U. IV. At this time Burwell U. was about 21 years of age and probably unmarried since his first child apparently was born in GA in 1813. Apparently	

XID

Burwell U. lived only a short time in Franklin Co., NC. So far he is the only member of the Southampton Branch of the Upchurches who appeared in Franklin Co., NC. It is likely that he was associated in the county with friends or other family members but the details are unknown to us. Whether or not he had any contact with his 3rd cousins of the Moccasin Creek Branch of Upchurches who were prominent and numerous in Franklin Co., NC at that time is not known. We are inclined to believe that Burwell U. used the proceeds from the 1803 sale of his 237 acres of VA land to finance his movement from Franklin Co., NC to GA.

It is unfortunate that we do not have more details concerning the life of James U. IV than those fragments presented above. We will welcome any bits of information which may not have come to our attention. 156

In UB Vol. 1, page 83 we have recounted the discovery of the Ennis Loftin Bible which provides a number of dates and family relationships for the Burwell U. family. Ennis Loftin was the son-in-law of Burwell U. having married on 14 FEB 1833 Harriett U., the oldest child of Burwell. A second priceless document for this family is the Celestia Ennis Loftin story of her mother, Harriett (Upchurch) Loftin moving from GA to Grimes, TX by covered wagon in 1865. See UB Vol. 1, page 133. 4704 4877,4703

Roy White, Jr., a descendant of Burwell U. has charted some of the movements of Burwell. In 1805, 1806, 1807, 1808, 1809 and in 1810 Burwell U. was on the tax rolls in Greene Co., GA for 64 acres. In 1810 he was also on the Wilkinson Co., GA tax rolls for a 101 acre parcel and a 101½ acre parcel. Burwell U. and his wife and children played a peculiar game of moving back and forth among GA, AL and MS. Later the children added TX to the circuit and while many descendants stayed in TX, some followed the established pattern and moved back east. 5032,2029

On 13 SEP 1810 Burwell U. sold his 64 acres in Greene Co., GA for \$128 to Thomas Dawson. A year earlier he had sold in the same county 160 acres for \$400 to Ro Johnson. Next Burwell U. appeared in MS (where son Burrell Niles U. was b. 5 JUL 1821 at Perry, MS), then in 1829 was in Wilcox Co., AL (where son John Tillman Riley U. was b. 19 FEB 1829), then moved to Sumter Co., AL (became Choctaw Co.). Roy White, Jr. presumes that Burwell U. met his future wife in Wilkinson Co., GA in 1810 or shortly thereafter. In 1831 Wilcox Co., AL was made a part of Clarke Co., AL. Several firm references to the Burwell U. family are found in Clarke Co., AL. It is presumed the family lived in the vicinity of present day Bashi. For Clarke Co., AL we find:

ca 1830 - "Among the Lime Hills, in the Bashi or Loftin neighborhood, the first family carriage was introduced about 1830. In this Mrs. Upchurch and her two daughters were accustomed to ride when going to make visits or attend church (from Clarke Co., AL and its Surroundings by Rev. T. H. Ball). (NOTE: Mrs. Upchurch is presumed to be the wife of Burwell U. - ED.).

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XID

- AUG 1832 - County Commissioners order Burwell U. and others to layoff a certain road.
- NOV 1832 - County Commissioners appoint Burwell U. and others to manage the Presidential election.
- FEB 1833 - Several individuals ordered to layoff a certain road starting at the residence of Burwell U.
- NOV 1833 - Orders given in FEB 1833 (above) canceled.
- FEB 1834 - Burwell U. appointed to Capt. Gilmore's beat.  
(Burwell U. not mentioned subsequently in Clarke Co., AL Court minutes).

In 1820 Burwell U. was recorded on the Census in Perry Co., MS. In 1830 he was on the Census in Wilcox Co., AL. For 1840 he has not been located on the Census records but he should be in the southern part of present-day Sumter Co., AL or in the northern part of present-day Choctaw Co., AL (all Sumter Co., AL in 1840), according to Roy White, Jr.

On 3 MAR 1834 Burwell U. was on the poll list for Sumter Co., AL. In 1836 he is shown as owning land in Sumter Co. On 2 OCT 1840 he bought two adjacent tracts of land for \$1200 in Sumter Co., AL. Subsequently, one of the tracts (39½ acres) remained in Sumter Co. while the other (80 - 12/100 acres) was split off into present-day Choctaw Co., AL.

In FEB 1839 Burwell U. of Sumter Co., AL sold a tract of land in Marengo Co., AL to Martin Frewitt of Wilcox Co., AL. In DEC 1836 Burwell U. bought 200 acres of land in Sumter Co., AL which land is in present-day Choctaw Co., AL. On 8 NOV 1838 Burwell U. sold 489 acres in Sumter Co., AL to James Thompson for \$4500. This land remains in present-day Sumter Co., AL.

Roy White, Jr. writes:

"To date (JUN 1968) no land records have been located for Burwell U. in Clarke Co., AL or in that part of Wilcox Co., AL which became part of Clarke Co. in 1831. However, from the reference points given in these proceedings and from the names of other individuals involved who were undoubtedly neighbors, it has been ascertained that the Upchurch family very probably lived in the extreme northern section of present-day Clarke Co., AL. A grave of "E. Upchurch" died FEB 1831 located in the woods on the old Thompkins place, now owned by Mrs. Sullivan Sheehan at Atkinson, AL, about a mile and a half from the Wilcox line cannot be other than the wife of Burwell U."

The Loftin and Champion families into which Burwell's only two dau married lived in the Bashi, AL area and they were well-to-do.

On 9 DEC 1836 Burwell U. is apparently located in Sumter Co., AL as he was appointed by the Commissioners there to layout a road. Burwell U. died in Sumter Co., AL and his son Burrell Miles U. was appointed as administrator. Before the estate could be settled his section of Sumter Co. was transferred to Choctaw Co. where proceedings were completed.

The name of Burwell U. has been encountered with many spellings. We have elected to standardize the spelling as Burwell U.

From this initial sketch of the life of James U. IV and his son Burwell U., we hope there will come an impetus for further uncovering of related information so that a fuller account may be published in due course.

Burwell Upchurch was of the 6th generation of Upchurches in America. An outline of his subclan, to the extent that details are available, is provided below through the 9th generation.

#### OUTLINE

	<u>XID</u>
I. Burwell U., b. 2 MAR 1782, d. ca 1846, md. Ellender Riley	2029,4714
A. Harriett U., b. 7 MAR 1813 (GA), d. 15 JUN 1890, md. 14 FEB 1833 Ennis Loftin, b. 15 AUG 1810.	4703 4704
1. Martha E. Loftin, b. 18 JAN 1834, md. 14 NOV 1850 John H. Stainback Wilson, MD.	4705 4711
a. Willie Wilson, b. ca 1853.	4927
b. Maude Wilson, b. ca 1854.	4928
c. John Wilson, b. ca 1855.	4929
2. Spencer Loftin, CSA, b. 2 AUG 1835, d. Civil War near Bardstown, KY.	4705
3. Narketa Loftin, CSA, b. 13 DEC 1836, d. Battle of Gettysburg KIA (Bur.- Hollywood Cem., Richmond, VA).	4707
4. Virgil A. Loftin, b. 14 AUG 1838, d. ca 1866 (Grimes Co., TX), md. 16 AUG 1857 Clementine M. Smiley.	4708 4712
a. Carrie Loftin, b. ca 1859.	4930
b. Hattie Loftin, b. ca 1861.	4931
c. Virgil Ennis Loftin, b. ca 1863, d. ca 1866 (Grimes Co., TX).	4932
5. Elizabeth H. Loftin, b. 25 NOV 1840, md. 3 APR 1860 William Frank Snellings.	4709 4713
a. George Ennis Snellings, b. ca 1859.	4933
b. Belle Snellings, b. ca 1862.	4934
6. Burwell Ennis Loftin, b. 6 DEC 1844.	4710
7. Celestia Ennis Loftin, Artist, b. 7 JUN 1855 (AL), d. 9 MAY 1951 (Decatur, GA)(Bur. Becatur, GA), md. 28 FEB 1878 (NC?) James Luther Cary Kerr (Lawyer), b. 2 MAY 1842 (Caswell Co., NC), d. 8 JUL 1917 (Decatur, GA).	4877 4878
a. Maude Laurene Kerr, b. 23 DEC 1883 (Caswell Co., NC), d. 14 FEB 1960 (Augusta, GA)(Bur. Twin City, GA), md. 12 AUG 1908 (Decatur, GA) Frederick Arthur Coleman, b. 23 OCT 1874, (Twin City)(Graymont, GA), d. 18 JUL 1936 (Graymont, GA)(Bur. as WIF).	4879 4880
b. Mabel Kerr, never married.	4935
c. Harriett Kerr, b. ca 1898, md. J. Davis Camp.	4936,4937
d. John Kerr, md. Estell Swanson.	6939,7080
e. Edwin Kerr.	6940
f. Olive Kerr., b. , d. age 6 years (Yancyville, Caswell Co., NC)(Bur. same).	6941
g. Roy Kerr, b. 13 MAR 1891, d. 6 AUG 1891.	7074

	<u>XID</u>
B. Elizabeth U., b. ca 1814 (GA), md. 3 AUG 1831 Littleberry Champion.	4941 4942
C. Moses U., b. 19 APR 1816 (GA), d. 24 JUN 1886 (Grimes Co., TX) (Bur. Bedias, TX), md. (1st) 15 FEB 1834 (Clarke Co., AL)	2030
Lucinda Dickson <u>1</u> /, b. ca 1817 (AL), md. (2nd) 20 SEP 1852 (Clarke Co., AL) Nancy Lary <u>2</u> /, b. 20 NOV 1836 (AL), d. 14 AUG 1888 (Grimes Co., TX)(Bur. Bedias, TX).	4938 4939
1. <u>1</u> /James Monroe U., b. ca 1836 (Clarke Co., AL), d. 25 JUN 1868 (Grimes Co., TX)(Bur. Bedias, TX), md. 30 NOV 1856 Grimes Co., TX) Sarah Elizabeth Miller, b. FEB 1835 (Sumter Co., AL), d. 20 JAN 1919 (Near Blessing, Matagorda Co., TX)(Bur. same - Hawley Cem.).	2031 4949
a. Virgil A. U., b. 8 APR 1858 (Bedias, Grimes Co., TX), d. 25 NOV 1928 (Bur. Cego, Falls Co., TX), md. 8 DEC 1880 Mollie A. Simes (Bur. Cego, Falls Co., TX).	4980
b. Ennis Perry U., b. 15 DEC 1860 (Bedias, Grimes Co., TX), d. 4 AUG 1926 (Waco, McLennan Co., TX)(Bur. same, Oakwood Cem), md. (1st) 21 DEC 1880 Nancy Elizabeth Simes (Simms), md. (2nd) James C. "Mittie" Hall, md. (3rd) Mollie V. Landers.	2032 2033 4987 4988
c. James William U., Sr., b. 10 FEB 1866 (Bedias, Grimes Co., TX), d. 29 MAY 1943 (Bur. Baptist Cem., Bedias, TX), md. (1st) 30 AUG 1887) Frances Ariola, md. (2nd) 14 DEC 1902 (Bedias, TX) Anna Adams.	4981 4984 4985
d. Nancy Jane U., b. 30 AUG 1868 (Bedias, Grimes Co., TX), d. 2 JAN 1923 (Houston, TX)(Bur. Blessing, Matagorda Co., TX - Hawley Cem.), md. 23 OCT 1884 (Madisonville, TX) Braxton Bragg White, b. 14 SEP 1865 (Jasper Co., TX), d. 5 FEB 1914 (Bay City, TX)(Bur. Hawley Cem.).	4982 4986
2. <u>1</u> /Oliver Hazard Perry U., CSA, b. 30 SEP 1838 (Clarke Co., AL), d. 8 FEB 1921 (El Campo, Wharton Co., TX), md. (1st) 18 NOV 1866 Mary Senily, md. (2nd) ca 1881 Mary Hampton, md. (3rd) 16 OCT 1881 (Montgomery Co., TX) Mary E. Paulin (nee; may be same Mary E. Hampton), b. 15 AUG 1857 (TX), d. 26 JAN 1946 (Wharton Co., TX), md. (4th) 31 DEC 1890 (Grimes Co., TX) Nettie McDaniel.	4950 4951,4952 4953
a. Moses Monroe U., b. APR 1876 (TX), md. Savannah Noble, b. APR 1875 (TX).	5302 5303
3. <u>2</u> /Celia S. U., b. NOV 1854 (Clarke Co., AL), d. 9 OCT 1905, md. Caster W. Howard.	4954 4968
4. Riley Judson U., b. 22 MAY 1856 (Bedias, Grimes Co., TX), d. 1 JUL 1920, md. (1st) 13 MAR 1879 Mary P. Sanders, md. (2nd) Mary U. (1st cousin).	4955 4969
a. Lowell U., b. JAN 1882 (TX).	5384 5051
b. Nevada U., b. SEP 1883 (TX).	5052
c. Alma U., b. JAN 1880 (TX).	5053
d. John R. U., b. JUN 1885 (TX).	5054
e. Nancy U., b. FEB 1887 (TX).	5055
f. Agness U., b. JAN 1889 (TX).	5056
g. Marcus U., b. JAN 1891 (TX).	5057
h. Henry U., b. JAN 1893 (TX).	5058
i. Martha U., b. OCT 1895 (TX).	5059
j. Ester, U., b. MAY 1897 (TX).	5061
k. Unnamed U., b. MAR 1900 (TX).	
l. Mary U., b. OCT 1895 (TX).	5060

	<u>XID</u>
5. Texana O. U., b. ca 1857 (Bedias, Grimes Co., TX), d. 1945,	4956
md. 24 DEC 1878 John T. Overby, b. (GA).	4970
a. Richard Overby, b. AUG 1880 (TX).	5062
6. Milton Ernest U., b. 15 OCT 1860 or 62 (Bedias, Grimes	4957
Co., TX), d. 15 FEB 1934, md. 16 DEC 1879 Mary Alma Carter,	4971
b. 25 MAY 1857 (LA), d. 25 MAY 1920.	
a. Carven Ernest U., b. SEP 1884.	5063
b. Nettie U., b. MAR 1885.	5064
c. Robert Moses U., b. 8 SEP 1888, d. 5 DEC 1933, md.	5065
1 OCT 1909 Ida Virginia Ballard, b. 3 JUN 1891,	7102
d. 27 JUN 1976.	
d. Fletcher U., b. DEC 1889.	5066
e. Walter Philip U.	7105
f. Jennie U.	7106
g. Elizabeth U.	7107
7. Robert E. Lee U. I, b. 6 JUN 1861 (Bedias, Grimes Co., TX),	4958
d. 17 AUG 1922 (Bur. Methodist Cem., Bedias, TX), md.	
(1st) 15 JAN 1890 Willie Harrison, md. (2nd) 18 JUN	4972
1919 Fannie Verna Davis 2/.	4973
a. 2/Robert E. Lee U. II, b. 4 APR 1922 (Bedias,	4964
Grimes Co., TX), md. (Grimes Co., TX) Mary Kathryn Dyer.	4974
8. Martha Paralee U., b. 1862 (Bedias, Grimes Co., TX), md.	4959
24 DEC 1878 Sam A. Isbell (Isabel).	4975
9. John Bunion U., b. ca 1864 (Bedias, Grimes Co., TX),md.	4960
29 JAN 1890 Hattie Wilkerson.	4976
10. Ionia E. U., b. 1 MAR 1868 (Bedias, Grimes Co., TX), md.	4961
27 JAN 1887 (Grimes Co., TX) J. M. Wheeler.	4977
11. Arminta Lamira U., b. ca 1869 (Bedias, Grimes Co., TX), md.	4962
22 APR 1886 Milton W. Wheeler.	4978
12. Joseph C. U., b. DEC 1872 (Bedias, Grimes Co., TX), d.	4963
1908, md. 4 MAR 1897 Lizzie A. Barry, b. JAN 1875 (TX).	4979
a. Olen U., b. DEC 1898 (TX).	5067
b. Michel U., b. MAY 1899 (TX).	5068
D. Jordan U., age 10-15 in 1830 hence b. 1815-1820, d. ca 31 JAN	4945
1858 (Grimes Co., TX).	
E. Burrell Miles U., b. 5 JUL 1821 (Perry, MS), d. 26 AUG 1884	4926
(Grimes Co., TX)(Bur. Bapt. Cem., Bedias, TX), md. ca 1834	
Margaret James.	4940
1. Mary U., md. (1st) ----- McWhorter 1/ (Common Law), md.	5384
(2nd) ----- Hoard, md. (3rd) ----- Lewis, md. (4th)	
Riley Judson U. (1st cousin), b. 22 MAY 1856 (Bedias, TX),	4955
d. 1 JUL 1920.	
a. 1/W. Edward U., b. SEP 1874 (TX), md. 7 NOV 1897	5385
(Madison Co., TX) Rosa Whinery, b. DEC 1879 (AL).	5386
F. John Tillman Riley U., b. 19 FEB 1829 (Wilcox Co., AL), d.	4943
11 JAN 1851 (Choctaw Co., AL)(Bur. near Yantley, Choctaw Co., AL),	
md. 16 DEC 1847 (Sumter Co., AL) Sarah Dudley Mary Hester	
Margaret Scott Bryan McGregor, b. 15 AUG 1829 (AL), d.	4944
23 JAN 1899 (Red River Co., TX).	
1. Burrell Turner U., b. 17 OCT 1848 (Choctaw Co., AL),	4946
d. 5 MAR 1865 (Bur. Red River Co., TX).	

	<u>XID</u>
2. John Bartlett U., Sr., b. 22 NOV 1849 (Choctaw Co., AL), d. 25 SEP 1910 (Boxelder, Red River Co., TX)(Bur. Boxelder Cem.), md. 7 FEB 1877 (Clarksville, TX)	4947
Julia Rebecca Hardison, b. 4 FEB 1860, d. 20 APR 1898 (Boxelder, TX)(As HUS).	4948
a. Alfa U., b. 7 OCT 1878 (Boxelder, TX), d. 9 OCT 1878 (Boxelder, TX)(Bur. Boxelder Cem.).	7202
b. Benjamin Riley U., b. 20 JAN 1880 (Boxelder, TX), d. 11 MAR 1948 (Boxelder, TX)(Bur. Boxelder, TX), md. (1st) 4 APR 1909 Minerva Ola Carter, md. (2nd) 27 JAN 1917 Gertrude C. Minter.	7203 7211 7212
c. Sarah Reed U., b. 22 AUG 1882 (Boxelder, TX), d. 30 APR 1929 (Boxelder, TX)(Bur. Boxelder, TX), md. 3 JUL 1900 James R. Law.	7204 7213
d. Catherine U., b. 13 FEB 1885 (Boxelder, TX), d. 18 FEB 1885 (Boxelder, TX)(Bur. Boxelder, TX).	7205
e. Mary Alexander U., b. 13 MAY 1886 (Boxelder, TX), d. 19 FEB 1977 (Boxelder, TX)(Bur. Boxelder, TX), md. (1st) James David Humphries, md. (2nd) Louis Hardiman.	7206 7214, 7215
f. John Bartlett U., Jr., b. 2 DEC 1888 (Boxelder, TX), d. 6 FEB 1969 (Boxelder, TX)(Bur. Boxelder, TX).	7207
g. Bell Finlayson U., b. 27 DEC 1892 (Boxelder, TX), d. 31 MAR 1979 (Clarksville, TX)(Bur. Boxelder, TX), md. 22 DEC 1912 (Red River Co., TX) Herbert Edgar Humphries, b. 22 DEC 1890 (Cullman Co., AL).	7208 7216
h. Henry Tillman U., b. 17 AUG 1895 (Boxelder, TX).	7209
i. Omega U., b. 25 DEC 1896 (Boxelder, TX), d. 25 DEC 1896 (Boxelder, TX)(Bur. Boxelder, TX).	7210

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UB VOL 3, NO 1, P 15

JAN 1982

CLAN 15 (JAMES UPCHURCH IV) 156

Mrs. Lessie Lee Upchurch of Tomball, TX is very interested in historical matters and has helped to assemble information on the James U. IV/Burwell U. Subclan to which her husband belongs and to which she belongs by marriage. We are pleased to report that she is General Chairwoman of the Diamond Jubilee of Tomball, TX which celebrates its 75th Anniversary in 1982. 5746 156/2029

We have not forgotten that details on the Ennis Loftin Bible are to be published - all in due course.

UB VOL 5, NO 2, PP 51-57

APRIL 1984

CIAN 15. (JAMES U. IV)

156

The special article below on Burwell U., son of James U. IV, was written 8 JAN 1984 by Roy White. An extract will appear in Genevieve Little's book on Mississippi Upchurches. It is published here in full by permission of Roy and Genevieve.

2029,156

## "BURWELL UPCHURCH (1782-1847)

2029

Because of Research accomplished by others, as published in Upchurch Family of England, Virginia and North Carolina, by Belle Lewter West, Burwell Upchurch's descent from the immigrant, Michael Upchurch, who was in Virginia as early as 1649-1950, has been determined to be: Michael Upchurch, via Richard Upchurch, via John Upchurch, via James Upchurch of Brunswick Co., Virginia, via James Upchurch who was Burwell's father.

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146,149,150

155,156

XID

According to a Bible record that was preserved in the family of Ennis Loftin who married one of Burwell's daughters we know that Burwell was born 2 March 1782, probably in Brunswick Co., VA, where he is named in the Last Will and Testament of his grandfather, James Upchurch in June 1784, apparently the only child of James (the younger). There have been no indications that Burwell had any siblings and we do not know the name of his mother.

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Nothing is known about the goings-on of Burwell's life for the next seventeen years or where they took place. Presumably his family remained in Brunswick Co., but at some point he removed to Franklin Co., NC where, on 12 MAY 1803 when he was barely 21 years old, he sold the Brunswick Co., VA land that had been bequeathed to him by his grandfather. The land had actually been loaned to Burwell's father during his own lifetime after which it was to pass to Burwell, and, because of this detail, it has been assumed that Burwell's father James must have died. This writer questions that theory because the Tax Lists of Greene County, GA indicate the residency of Burwell there in 1805 and both Burwell and James for the years 1806 through 1810. It cannot be said for certain, of course, that James Upchurch of Greene Co., GA is Burwell's father but he certainly could be, and he could have legally relinquished his rights to the Brunswick Co., VA land so that Burwell could then sell it to finance their move to Georgia.

2029

156

Because Burwell paid taxes on Wilkinson Co., GA land in 1810 while a resident of Greene Co., and because both he and James do not appear in subsequent Greene Co. Tax Lists after Burwell sells his Greene Co. land in 1809 and 1810 it would seem reasonable to guess that Wilkinson Co., GA became the next place of residence. This theory is further reinforced by the fact that there are indications that members of the Riley family lived in Twiggs Co. which is adjacent to Wilkinson Co., and there has to have been opportunity for Burwell to have met and married Eleanor Riley about this time because their children begin appearing as early as 1813 when Harriet was born on 7 March. It may never be known for sure because the Courthouse in Wilkinson County burned in 1828, 1854 and 1924, the Twiggs County isn't in much better shape for the extant early records.

4714

4703

At any rate, a subsequent daughter, Elizabeth, was born ca 1814 4941  
 and a son, Moses on 19 April 1816 (GG-Grandfather of this writer) -- 2030  
 all indicated by census records to have been born in Georgia. The  
 1830 census returns indicate a son born between 1816 and 1821, of whom  
 more later, who was probably born in Mississippi along with Burrell Miles 4926  
 who was born on 5 July 1821. The last child produced by Burwell and  
 "Ellender" (A Southern version of the name Eleanor) was John Tillman 4943  
 Riley, born 19 FEB 1829 in Alabama. If there were others born in the  
 1821-1829 time-period then they must not have survived to adulthood.

Although the reason for choosing that particular time is not  
 known the fact is that Burwell removed to Greene Co., Miss. by 1817 --  
 probably to that part that was cut off to form Perry Co. in 1820  
 because he is a resident of that county from 1820 to 1825. Almost  
 certainly, however, the move to Mississippi was in connection with the  
 Riley family's move to the same location, including Burwell's father-in-  
 law, Edward Riley, and most, if not all, of the Riley siblings-in-law

who appear in Perry County along with Burwell. It is not known whether  
 they trekked together or, if not, who left Georgia first since this  
 aspect has not been researched.

A curious census conducted by the State of Mississippi in 1823  
 which, among other things, indicated the names of individuals over the  
 age of 70 years divulges that among the residents of Perry County in said  
 age-group there was a certain Mary Upchurch. The 1820 census returns  
 show a female "over 45" in the Burwell Upchurch household and this Mary  
 is enumerated in 1823 next to Burwell's listing. Her identity, the  
 relationship to Burwell, is a mystery although it is extremely tempting  
 to think that she is his mother. We can't know for sure. For one thing,  
 if she is why aren't there siblings for Burwell?

Another fact concerning the movements of Burwell Upchurch about  
 which we are ignorant is why he decided to remove to Wilcox Co., Ala.  
 For whatever reason he can be found enumerated in the 1830 census returns  
 for that county and it is known that his youngest son, John T. R., was 4943  
 born in Alabama. In 1831 that portion of Wilcox Co. lying west of the  
 middle of Range 4 in Townships 11 & 12 was made part of Clarke County  
 and subsequent, numerous references to Burwell made in various records of  
 the county indicate that the family lived in that area -- the extreme  
 northeast section of present-day Clarke Co. In May 1968 this writer  
 was led to an old grave located in the woods on "the Old Tompkins Place"  
 at Atkinson, Ala., about a mile-and-a-half from the Wilcox Co. line.  
 The worn, handcarved sandstone marker is engraved "E Upchurch, died 4714  
 Feb 1831" and is without question the burial site for Burwell's wife.  
 An indication that the family had some affluency: "Among the lime hills,  
 in the Bashi or Loftin neighborhood, the first family carriage was  
 introduced about 1830. In this Mrs. Upchurch and her two daughters  
 were accustomed to ride when going to make visits or to attend church."  
 (Clarke Co., Ala. and It's Surroundings by Rev. T. H. Ball, pp. 192-193).

During this time-period the Upchurch children came of age and married into various of the local families. Elizabeth M. Littleberry 4941,4942  
 Champion, 3 August 1831; Harriet M. Ennis Loftin, 14 February 4703,4704  
 1833; Moses M. Lucinda Dickson, 15 Feb 1834 and, after her death 2030,4938  
 Nancy Lary, 20 September 1852; Burrell Miles M. Margaret James 4939,4926,4940  
 ca 1843 and John Tillman Riley M. Sarah Dudley Mary Hester 4943,4944  
 Margaret Scott Bryan McGregor, 16 December 1847. Jordan, the presumed 4945  
 other son, does not appear to have married. Of these children the  
 movements of the Champions are unknown after 1850 when they were residents  
 of Choctaw Co., Ala.; the Loftins went back to Georgia; Moses, Burrell  
 M. and Jordan went to Grimes Co., Texas after 1850; and John T. R.'s  
 widow took her family, after he died in 1851, to Red River Co., Texas.

Burwell Upchurch does not appear in Clarke Co. records after 1834, probably because he is subsequently in evidence over in Sumter Co., Ala., apparently barely inside that part that was cut off to form Choctaw Co. in December 1847. He died there, 31 DEC 1847. Fortunately for us his probate proceedings were initiated in Sumter County before being transferred to Choctaw County because that county has lost it's records. In May 1968 this writer and a cousin, Robert E. L. Upchurch of Bedias, Grimes Co., Texas were led to the site of a completely overgrown and abandoned cemetery near Yantley in Choctaw Co. Virtually all of the stones had

XID

been removed over the years for re-use, but we located, buried in the leaves a fine, marble headstone for John T. R. Upchurch. The elderly colored man who guided us there and had lived nearby for most of his life "remembered" that there used to be an identical, second marker with the same Upchurch name on it. How tempting to think that we located the final resting place for Burwell Upchurch.

In January 1858 a certain Jordan Upchurch died in Grimes Co., Texas 4945 whereupon Moses and Burrell Miles Upchurch were appointed as administrators of the estate by the county court. There were only a few personal belongings and no heirs were named nor was the relationship to Moses and Burrell M. divulged. Unfortunately, Jordan has not been found in the 1850 census returns nor has a marked gravesite been located so his age cannot be determined, but he is the most logical prospect available to be the missing sibling who appears in the 1830 census record. It is interesting to note that in August 1842, when Burwell and most of his children were residents of Sumter Co., Ala., a certain Jordan Upchurch was elected to the Office of Constable in Lauderdale County, Miss., adjacent to Sumter Co.

(NOTE: We are grateful to Roy White for this outstanding article and for his dedicated research on the Upchurch family over many years. - Editor).

UB VOL 6, NO 2, PP 62 - 65

APRIL 1985

XID

## A. EXTRACT OF THE ENNIS LOFTIN BIBLE RECORDS.

- NOTE: In a letter dated 18 MAY 1977 Mrs. Bruce Griffin -  
nee: Frances Eleese Coleman sent to your Editor six  
reproduced pages from the Ennis Loftin Bible. The  
details from this record have been filtered into the  
UB over the years. Because of its great importance  
it is extracted and recorded here with commentary for  
the record. - Editor
1. Title Page of Bible shows printed in 1834.  
"This Bible is in possession of  
Mrs. Bruce Griffin (nee: Frances Eleese Coleman)". 4881
2. Picture Page.  
"Family Bible of Ennis & Harriet Loftin with family record 4704,4703  
between old and new Testament".
3. A. Ennis Loftin was born 15 AUG 1810. 4704  
B. Harriet Upchurch was born 7 MAR 1813. 4703  
C. A connecting line between A & B with a faint inscription  
Appears to be:  
"Parents of CARRION LOFTIN KALY (Celestia Ennis Loftin 4877  
Kerr).  
D. Martha E. Loftin, their daughter (ie A & B) was 4705  
born 18 FEB 1834.  
E. Spencer Loftin, their son, was born 2 AUG 1835. 4706  
F. Narkelta (Narketa) Loftin was born 13 DEC 1836. 4707  
G. Virgil A. Loftin was born 14 AUG 1838. 4708  
H. Elizabeth H. Loftin was born 25 NOV 1840. 4709  
I. Hard to read inscription added more or less as a part  
of H.  
"Died 21 JAN 1918 (#####) unreadable."  
"Died 25 MAR 1909 (#####) unreadable."  
J. Burrell (Burwell) Ennis Loftin b. 6 DEC 1844. 4710
4. A. Ennis Loftin & Harriet Upchurch was married 14 FEB 1833. 4704,4703  
B. Dr. John H. Wilson (Stainback Wilson) and Martha E. 4711,4705  
Loftin was married 14 NOV 1850.  
C. Virgil A. Loftin and Clementine M. Smiley was 4708,4712  
was married 16 AUG 1857.

	XID
D. William F. (Frank) Snellings and Beth (Elizabeth) H. Loftin were married 3 APR 1860.	4713,4709
E. James L. (Luther) C. (Cary) Koerr (Kerr) and C. Ennis Loftin were md. 28 FEB 1870(?)1878(?).	4878 4877
5. A. Celatia (Celestia) Ennis Loftin was b. 7 JUN 1855.	4877
B. Harriet Upchurch was baptised at New Hope, AL 1832.	4703
C. Ennis Loftin was baptised at Friendship, AL 10 NOV 1839.	4704
D. Martha E. Loftin was baptised at New Hope, AL AUG 1845.	4705
E. NOREETA (Narketa) & Elizabeth H. Loftin were baptised at Bethel, GA 23 AUG 1857.	4707,4709
F. Virgil A. Loftin was baptised at Friendship, AL 17 SEP 1857.	4708
G. Spencer Loftin was baptised at Friendship (Shiloh), AL 25 SEP 1857.	4706
H. C. Ennis Loftin was baptised at BADI (BEDIAS) Church, TX 12 AUG 1866.	4877
I. Burrell (Burwell) Upchurch was born 2 MAR 1782.	2029
J. Ellender Upchurch was born 20 JUN 1794 Previously Riley - (ELLENDER RILEY).	4714
K. Line connecting I & J reads: "Harriet (nee: Harriet U.) Loftin's parents".	4703
L. John Loftin senior was born 13 APR 1766.	
M. Sary Giles Loftin was born 1 MAY 1775 - Formerly Giles (Hence Sary Giles).	
N. Line connecting L & M reads: "Ennis Loftins Parents".	4704
O. Arrow pointing to M - reads" "Grand parents of Ennis Loftin Kerr".	4704
B. COMMENTARY ON THE ENNIS LOFTIN BIBLE RECORDS.	

There are several extremely valuable genealogical contributions from this record which demonstrate the high value of such sources. From other records we know that the Burrell (Burwell) U. referred to in 5 I is the son of James U. IV., Head of Upchurch Clan No. 15. We have already decided to standardize and will continue for now the name as BURWELL (it is written many ways) but we note that the version Burrell is clearly spelled in these Bible records and that the Burrell spelling carries through to his gs Burrell Ennis Loftin

in 3 J. From these records we learn the birth date of Burwell U. and the maiden name and birth date of his spouse and a substantial body of facts about the family of their daughter, Harriet Upchurch.

XID  
2029  
4703

The above Bible record is matched by a beautiful article entitled "A Trip From Georgia to Texas in Four Covered Wagons" By Mrs. C. E. Kerr. This article was written by Celestia Ennis Loftin about 1945 when she was 90 years old. In it she recalls the trip she and her family made by covered wagon to Grimes County, TX. Celestia was ten years old at the time of the trip. Many of the individuals listed in the above Bible records were in the travel party. Item 5 H refers to the fact that Celestia was baptised in Bedias, in Grimes Co., TX. Some of this travel group, including Celestia returned to GA after four years. However, members of the family, some of whom had migrated to Grimes Co., TX before the Civil War, remained there, and today we still maintain active correspondence with descendants.

4877

It is our intent to publish the article by Celestia in the UB eventually, but it will have to be done in installments because of its length. It is a delightful recording of an event which occurred 120 years ago.



Editor's Note: (Granddaughter of Mrs. C. E. Kerr).  
 Preface or - in other words -  
 (Note to Grandmother:) (Mrs. C. E. Kerr).

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4877

To nearly every one, there is an urge to WRITE A BOOK. Sometimes it comes early in life -- like it did to your modern grand-daughter who drew sketches on my bed room wall with my lipstick -- maybe she had illusions of being an illustrator for your book.

The teen age writing inclination generally fades before the chance of blossoming into a Best Seller comes. THEN -- ah, sad "then" ..... come the years of cherished thoughts of "tomorrow I'll begin that book".

But - to you grandmother - that "Tomorrow" is today - Beloved Celestia Ennis Loftin Kerr - who is Laurene's and Mabel's 4877,4879,4935 and Harriette's Mother -- and our Grandmother. 4936,4877

So - we'll always cherish your little book and cherish too, the thought that with the mellowness of your God given ninety odd years you decided to write an account of your trip from Georgia to Texas in FOUR COVERED WAGONS.

GRANDMOTHER KERR -- YOU ARE AN INSPIRATION TO US AND WE LOVE YOU AND ARE VERY PROUD OF YOU AND THANKFUL TO GOD FOR YOU.

A TRIP FROM GEORGIA TO TEXAS  
IN FOUR COVERED WAGONS

We were disappointed in not having all four of the covered wagons illustrated, but the other three wagons were half as long again, and otherwise very similar. The ridge-pole is the long pole that goes from one end to the other of the cover, and was very securely fastened to the cover from end to end, and the sides from bottom to the top left loose. In rainy weather the folding cots and tent could be tied to the side ribs and kept dry.

\*\*\*\*\*

PREFACE:

List of children in the party:

Celestia Ennis Loftin (that's me) - age 10	4877
George Ennis Snellings, age 6	4933
Belle Snellings, age 3	4934
Maude Wilson, age 11	4928
Willie Wilson, age 12	4927
John Wilson, age 10	4929
Brother Virgil's Carrie, age 6	4930
Hattie, age 4	4931
Virgil Ennis, age 2	4932
Charlotte, negro nurse, age 12	----

Total of ten children

XID

## Adults:

My mother, Harriet Upchurch Loftin. (My father died when I was too little to remember him. His name was Eanis, is why it appears so often among the family names).	4703,4704
Dr. Stainback Wilson and his wife, Martha, who was my sister.	4711,4705
Virgil A. Loftin, my brother, and his wife, Clemmie.	4708,4712
My sister, Bettie Snellings, and her husband, Frank.	4709,4713
Annie Smiley, who was Brother Virgil's wife's sister.	----,4708
Mr. Tip Hall, a friend of the family.	----

We had four covered wagons and a large tent. Three folding cots for the two Wilson boys and Mr. Hall to sleep on, and use as seats in the tent.

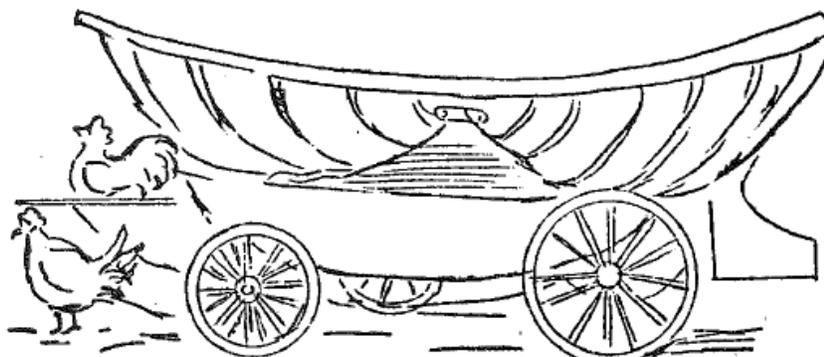
A common mongrel dog named "Watch" was Willie's pet and a pair of white Leghorn bantams was John's. A large bird cage was the riding place of John's pets in the day time, hooked onto the back of the wagon and resting on the feed trough. When we camped, he would turn them out and they would scratch in the leaves for worms and grit, and perch on our wagon tongue, to wake in the morning by daylight. Their master's work was to make the fires, while the ladies dressed to prepare breakfast and the men's lunch. (Elsewhere I quote the little ditty he sang as he went about his work).

The wagon bodies were made deep by adding a wide plank all around them. Then the bottom of the body was filled with one covering of small trunks or boxes, in which were packed bed-clothes or our clothing not in use. Over that was a very large feather bed, with a slip on it something like a pillow case to keep it clean. On this we sat - with our shoes off - until we got out of the wagon for meals.

Then the sides of the cover were pinned up with a large safety pin for light and ventilation, except when it was raining; and we had fine weather going in the early Fall - September 1st to December 1st.

In the preface of this book I have given a description of our covered wagon personnel and the names of the adults and children, nineteen in all. So that you may refer to it if you do not remember them.

Mother's Wagon



## FOUR COVERED WAGONS

### CHAPTER I

#### GETTING STARTED FROM OUR HOME IN TALBOT COUNTY, NEAR GENEVA, GEORGIA

XID

At the time of this narrative, my Mother had three grown sons - Spencer, Narketa and Virgil. Spencer and Narketa were already 4706,4707,4708 in Texas, where they had gone some time before. (Later, during the Civil War, Spencer fell at his post, near Bardstown, Kentucky, and Narketa was killed at the Battle of Gettysburg and his body rests in Hollywood Cemetery, Richmond, Virginia).

My Mother's brothers lived in Texas - Moses and Miles Upchurch. 2030,4926 They had written her for all of us to come out there, where the War Between the States had scarcely been felt, and make a new start.

So we advertised our farms, live stock, household furniture, etc. for sale, all of which brought good prices and gave us plenty of money - greenbacks, too, not Confederate money. We had plenty of Confederate money - great rolls of it. We should have had, when Irish potatoes sold for \$16. a bushel. I remember when Sister Bettie Snellings sold Irish potatoes for that price and bought high-laced calfskin shoes for \$20. - worth about \$5.

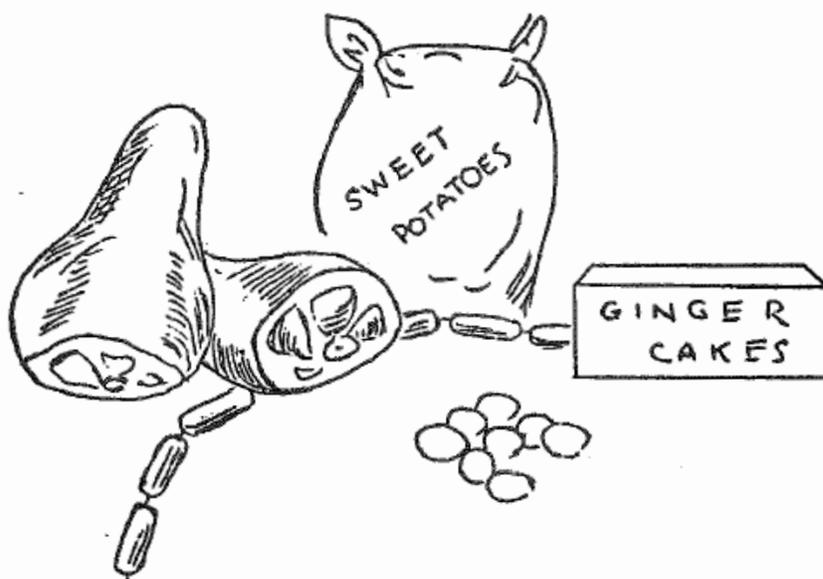
### CHAPTER II

#### PREPARING FOOD TO BEGIN THE JOURNEY FROM OUR OWN HOME PRODUCTS

Each family wagon prepared about the same thing: Two sugar-cured hams for our wagon and more for the larger families. Sausage, linked and smoked; it always makes my mouth water to think of them now, a big box of them. Fresh eggs - as many as we thought would keep until we could eat them, packed in small boxes, so we could turn them daily. A good-sized bag of sweet potatoes and last - but by no means least - a good sized box of my Mother's ginger cakes.

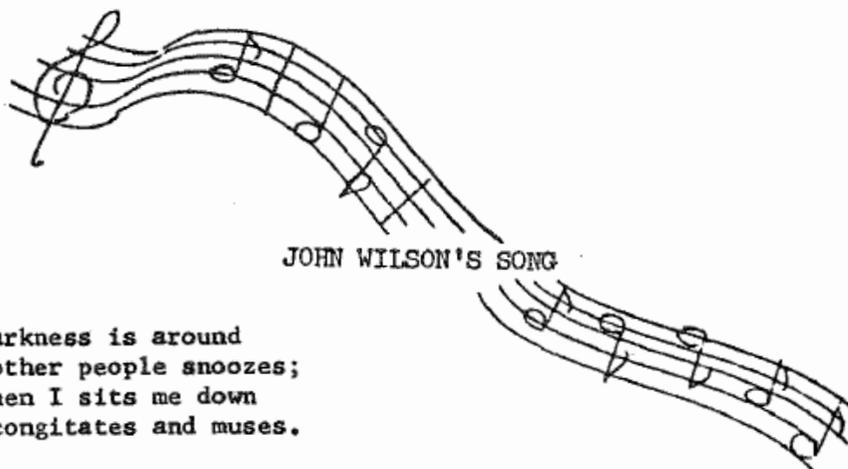
She could make the best gingerbread I ever tasted. I'll say here, too, that although we were on the way exactly three months to the day, some of those cakes were still soft; they were about five inches wide and eight inches long, and one and a half inches thick. I would like to give my readers a recipe of them, but I'm afraid they would turn out like some I made - as hard as bricks!

There now - I nearly forgot about our famous Georgia fried chicken. Fry it until about half done; pack in a jar and pour fresh lard, just enough to cover it, and when wanted, finish frying, as much as is needed for a meal, making cream gravy. Several chickens may in this way be placed in a gallon jar.



We had been used to using parched wheat, as we could not get coffee during the war, at any price. Now Mother had her own favorite brand, parched as she liked it, and ground in her own little hand coffee mill.

Then we had about a gallon of our own Georgia sugar cane syrup. The children and some of the grown-ups, too, enjoyed its sweetness with the pancakes, and it helped out on the mid-day meal, as we only stopped one hour at noon to feed the team and the pet "banties".



When darkness is around  
And other people snoozes;  
'Tis then I sits me down  
And congitates and muses.

Chorus: Oh, I'm a used-up man  
A perfect used-up man;  
And if I ever get up again  
I'll keep up, if I can.

Sometimes I think it's mighty hard  
 When there is such a many  
 Who have more cash than they can spend  
 While me - I ain't got any!

Oh, I'm a used-up man  
 A perfect used-up man;  
 And if I ever get up again  
 I'll keep up, if I can.

This is the song he sang as he went about his chores).

### CHAPTER III

#### A NEW KIND OF NUT

One day as our road passed thru a beautiful woods of large trees, a stiff breeze sprang up and a perfect shower of small nuts almost covered the ground. They were much like what we call the scaly-bark hickory nut in Georgia - and we were in lower Alabama. Only these were easier to crack and much richer and better. All the crowd stopped and gathered a lot of them, enough to cheer many a rainy day, altho we didn't have many of these, fortunately. However, it rained plenty of nights after supper.

As we were busy gathering them, a man passed along and after asking the usual question, "Moving?" etc., he passed on, saying as he did so: "Help yourselves to the free seedling pecans". They were the first we had ever seen.

### CHAPTER IV

#### THE BIG COW

Now let me tell you a story that first seems almost unbelievable, but it is really true.

One day, as we were traveling along, we came up suddenly to a big cow, right across the road. It would not move and the underbrush was so dense on both sides of the road that we could not go around it, so we just had to camp there until the next morning - perhaps longer, until it moved away. Did you ever hear of such a delemma? But fortunately, the next morning the big cow had moved away, and we went on our way - "believe it or not". Have you guessed it? The Big Cow was the name of a creek. The evening before, when Mr. Tip Hall rode his big black horse into it, we found it was much too deep for us to drive the wagons into. That was one of his jobs.

CLAN 15. (JAMES UPCHURCH IV) 156

In a letter received from Ruth Eunice (Coleman) Waters in MAY 1981 much useful information was received. She outlines her desire to have her line qualified for the Colonial Dames. 6195

On 4 JUN 1981 we were pleased to have input from M/M James 5015/5023 William Upchurch, Jr. of Shiro, TX.

In this issue of the UB we are pleased to commence publication of the manuscript concerning the 1865 move of Harriet Upchurch from 4703 GA to TX. She is the dau of Burwell U., Head of the James U. 2029,153 IV/Burwell U. Subclan. 2029

Manuscript: A Trip From Georgia to Texas in Four Covered Wagons.  
By Mrs. C. E. Kerr. - continued.

" CHAPTER V

GEORGE SNELLINGS' (AGE 6) PRAYER

XID  
4933

We were very fortunate in having good weather most of the way. A very rainy day was irksome to the children, when the covers of the wagon would not be pinned up on the sides with a large safety pin for light and ventilation.

George was a very devout person, even at the tender age of six, and he began to pray very earnestly - one day when it was raining: "Please Jesus, make it quit raining and don't EVER let it rain any more." Then he would repeat the same prayer, over and over.

His Mother said: "Son, I am afraid you don't realize what an awful thing you are asking for. If it should never rain any more, we soon would not have any water to drink; the stock would have no water to drink; the farmers could not make their crops and we could not get anything to eat."

George looked very serious for a few minutes, his Mother watching him to see what he would do. Then he said: "Please, Jesus, make it quit raining and don't let it rain any more in a l-o-n-g time."

Should we wonder that such an earnest prayer of a little child should be answered? Before sunset, it had quit raining and the sun was shining brightly.

CHAPTER VI

BELLE SNELLINGS WANTED TO HE'P

4934

Little Belle, with her long golden curls, was so sweet and pretty that she was a great favorite with all of us.

As soon as we stopped to camp, she would begin to beg to "he'p" (help). Sister Bettie would persuade her that the best way for her to help was for her to sit down in her little chair and take her little platter in her lap, with a nice large dish cloth over it, on which she would place her little deep plate, spoon, knife and fork, and a cup for her sweet milk. (We learned how to keep the milk from souring. If the bottle was wrapped in a small wet towel and tied up in the mid-rib of the cover, it would keep cool and sweet all day.)

After the meal was over, she was allowed to dip each piece in the dish pan of warm water and dry it on the towel. So she was very well pleased. When she had finished "heping" and put her things in the dish basket, with the other dishes, until the next meal.

There are so many of these sweet little incidents such as this to make covered-wagon trips even more pleasant than one by rail, but it is saddening to think that the whole Snellings family of Brother Frank,

XID

Sister Bettie and George and Belle are all gone on ahead of us, but sweet to feel assured that we shall meet again beyond the river, where they will be no more parting.

## CHAPTER VII

## A JOKE ON BROTHER FRANK SNELLINGS

4713

One day, just after we had started out from camp in lower Alabama, a man rode his horse up close to Brother Frank's and spoke in a very low tone, for he could see there was a lady and children in the wagon.

Now there were three questions that nearly every one we met asked. First, "Where are you from?" Second, "Where are you going?" and third, "Where did you camp last night?"

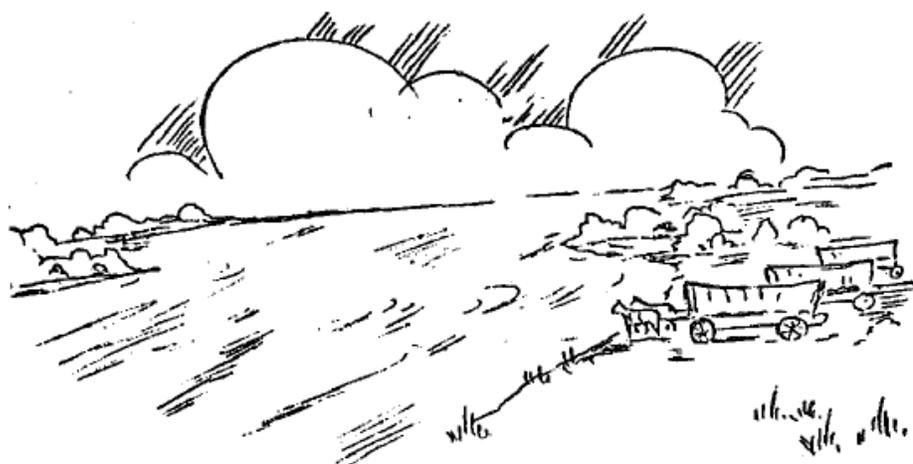
Brother Frank was quite deaf. When the man rode up close to him and asked: "Have you any whiskey in there.", Brother Frank answered: "Coming from Georgia."

The man then said, again, in a slightly raised tone: "Have you any Whiskey in there?" Brother Frank answered: "Going to Texas."

By this time, Sister Bettie, back in the wagon, was almost convulsed with laughter. The questioner then, almost shouting, said: "Have you any whiskey in there?" To which Brother Frank calmly replied: "Back there at that little village they call 'Shubootie'".

By this time, the man must have realized Brother Frank was deaf, because he yelled: "HAVE YOU ANY WHISKEY IN THERE?" Brother Frank answered: "No, I've no whiskey in here."

Then Brother Frank glanced back and saw that Sister Bettie had heard it and he realized that she had and he, too, enjoyed the joke on himself.



## WE CROSS THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER

XID

It will be remembered that the reason for our taking this trip in covered wagons was on account of conditions just after the close of the War Between the States.

Railroads were torn up, steam ships destroyed, and public travel was well nigh impossible, and I believe this was felt more up and down this river than anywhere else.

When we reached the Mississippi River, we found that its normal width at Natchez, where we crossed it, was one mile. The only way we could cross it was to drive a wagon and team onto a long flat, which was only long and wide enough to take over one wagon and team at a time, and the team must be loosed from the wagon while crossing. This flat, as the ferry boat was called, was rowed by four men, two at each end. Only the driver of the wagon went on a flat. Brother Virgil went over first. Then 4708 one by one, until all four of the wagons were over.

When Brother Virgil's flat was about halfway across, there came a gale of wind down the river that raised such a fog that we could not see them. The gale blew them three miles down the river. Brother Virgil said the waves ran so high that the flat dipped water several times. He thought every minute it would go under, but they finally reached the shore and with hard rowing and pulling by the willows that grew on the banks, the landing was reached on the other side.

The other three wagons and teams, one by one, reached the other side without event. Then two large rowboats, with one strong man at each end of the boat, rowed the women and children across.

## CHAPTER IX

## THE GUN THAT WASN'T AND TWO STRANGERS

We always avoided camping in a city, and it seemed that we had had enough excitement for one day, and so we moved on, leaving the East side and set up a camp in a good quiet dry place a few miles into the Mississippi Valley.

Yes, it was dry now, but the water marks on every tree from three to fifteen feet high showed how wet it had been a few months before, when the enemy had broken the levees that held the waters back and flooded that fertile valley until the river, instead of being a mile wide, was sixty miles wide at that point. So we had about fifty miles yet to go before we were out of it.

Think of it - before this levee was broken, the large steamboats had plied it! Three and four stories high, and when we returned by rail some years later, there was a steam ferry onto which our whole train ran and we were carried over in a few minutes.

To get back to the tale of the two strangers: We were all sitting around the fire, discussing the events of the day, not conscious that any one else

XID

was within miles of us, - in Egyptian darkness, excepting the glare of the camp fire and a lantern or two, when up walked two strange-looking men from out of the darkness, on the same road that we had traveled, with knapsacks on their backs. They were rough looking, unshaven and none too clean.

We returned their salutation of "Good Evening" but the impression seemed to have come to all of us - that they had followed us out from the city for some mischief, altho they explained that they were a couple of exchanged prisoners-of-war, just getting home to some point in Louisiana. They looked as tired as we felt, and soon said: "Well, we most move on. Goodnight" and they moved on, but we could hear their footsteps in the dead leaves, and they only went a few yards and all was still.

There was not a gun, not even a pistol, among us and they must have known that such a party must have a considerable amount of money.

Mother arose and said, loud enough to have been heard farther away than 4703 the men were- "I'm tired. I'm going to bed." She went a few steps farther to our wagon, and turning around she said, louder still: "Tip Hall, come take this gun out of here."

He caught on at once and said: "All right, Mrs. Loftin. I'll be there in a minute." He went to the wagon, stayed a few minutes and then back into the tent with the imaginary gun.

Then all retired and we never heard any more of our strangers, so I guess their story was true, and they only wanted to be near such nice-looking people for protection!

That was the only real scare we had all the way, except our crossing of the Mississippi River. Both happened the same day.

## CHAPTER X

### NO HIRED SERVANTS

It will be remembered that Charlotte, the negro nurse of by Brother 4708 Virgil's children, was the only ex-slave in our party. She was a little orphan, as I remember it, and so devoted to his children that she was just glad to go "for nothing."

Some of ours would have been glad to go as "hired servants" but we declined. Then it was whispered that "the niggers" were not free in Texas, and they decided to stay where they were, and they did.

## CHAPTER XI

### SUNDAY SERVICE IN LOUISIANA

We were now well on our way thru the sixty miles of the Mississippi Valley. There was only one house in the valley, and it was built on high underpinning, so the house of several rooms was safe for the overseer and his family, in case the levee should become broken by extra high water, and the boats and oars stored in one of the rooms told the story.

XID

Not far from the home was a very large blacksmith shop, with bellows and horse shoes, wheel tires and everything needed to put our horses and wagons in tiptop shape for the rest of the journey.

I don't know where the cabins for the negro slave workers were; washed down the river, perhaps, when the levees were broken. This evidently had been a large sugar and syrup plantation.

Brother Virgil's ox team, Buck and Bright Larry and Jack, were ready 4708 always to travel. We never urged the teams out of an easy walk, and they were well fed and watered three times a day.

In a few days after leaving the house on stilts and the blacksmith shop, we rolled out on a smooth road in Louisiana. This State was a plain farmers' country and our passage thru it was uneventful.

Tip Hall found some lovely places for Sunday services in crossing the State, as he rode ahead of us locating them. If there chanced to be a meeting house, we donned our Sunday clothes and went into the church and joined the worshippers. All of us could sing and if this chanced to be their off-Sunday for preaching, Brother Virgil could make as 4708 good a talk as the average preacher and pray the most earnest prayers I ever heard, so we would ask near neighbors if we might have the key to the Church and Mr. Hall would go out to see and invite the neighbors and we would have a good time.

There are so many pleasant occasions similar to the above, it almost makes me want to take such a trip again, and I am in my ninety-first year.



Manuscript: A Trip From Georgia to Texas in Four Covered Wagons.  
By Mrs. C. E. Kerr. - continued.

"CHAPTER XII

ON TEXAS SOIL

XID

Then we crossed the Brazos River into Texas, but we had many miles yet to go before we reached Grimes County - our final destination.

A few miles on Texas soil and we came across the only relatives we had run across in our travels. Cousin John Loftin we found there - some of them using goat's milk instead of cows, but they had both. Our bunch chose the cows' milk.

This part of the State was a fine grain country; plough it as deep as you would and the soil was almost black, so that a few acres would yield bushels and bushels of wheat or other grain. This was their money crop.

Our route led thru broad treeless prairies, crossed by strips of timber which furnished lumber for building purposes, and these came in good work for our well-fed teams, especially Brother Virgil's four strong, well-trained oxen. 4708

Then in a few days we crossed the "Grimes County Line" and meeting a man, some of us asked if he knew a man by the name of Moses or Miles Upchurch, who lived in that county. He answered: "Yes, I know both of them. Fine men they are, too." 2030 4926

We asked if we were on the right road and how far it was. "Yes," he answered, "You are on the right road and I suppose it is about twenty or twenty-five miles." The children were eager to rush right on that day, but older heads decided to camp that night and get an early start the next morning, and with a little hurrying, reach our final destination by late dinner time.

So we raised the tent, had our suppers and retired early for our last camp sleep. John Wilson's little bantam rooster had his last perch on a wagon tongue and waked his master by daybreak with his shrill little crow. 4929

Then we sent our forerunner, Mr. Hall, to tell the Uncles that we were to reach there between 12 and 2 O'clock - nineteen of us, but not to

think we were going to eat them out of house and home; that we were preparing a lunch to add to their picnic dinner.

Mother and Dr. Wilson's families drew the straws that sent us to Uncle Moses' and the Snellings and Brother Virgil went to Uncle Miles' home. The brothers lived about a quarter of a mile apart.



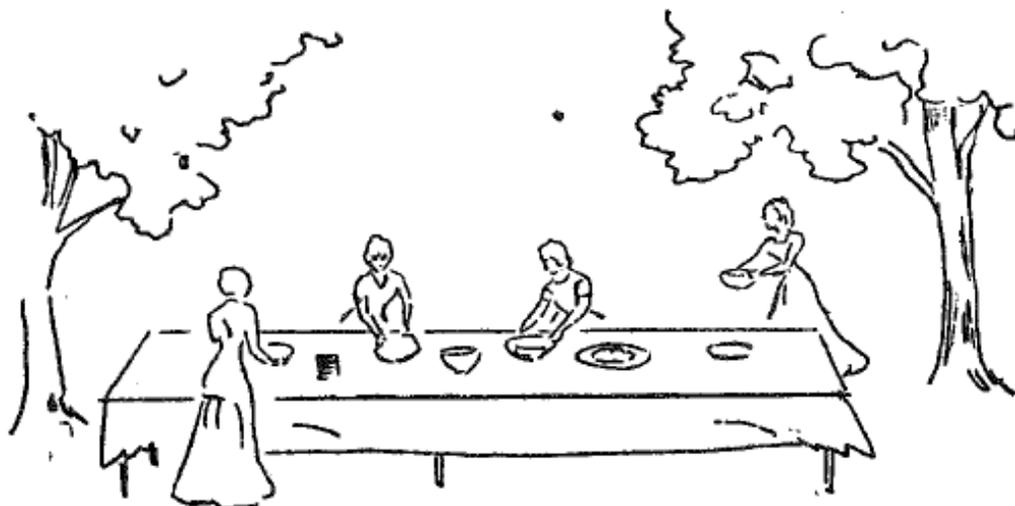
### CHAPTER XIII

#### THOSE PICNIC DINNERS

When we arrived, an ample table had been built in the yard, such as we have at protracted meetings. Aunt Nancy, the lady of the house, was a splendid cook and with what we had, there was food and room enough for all to eat at the first table.

To top it off, there was a twelve pound wild turkey, so tender and brown, at the head of the table, which our host informed us was about to be sent to a neighbor, as none of his family liked turkey, - that he only hunted them for the sport of it.

There was more than enough of the fragments left for supper.



## CHAPTER XIV

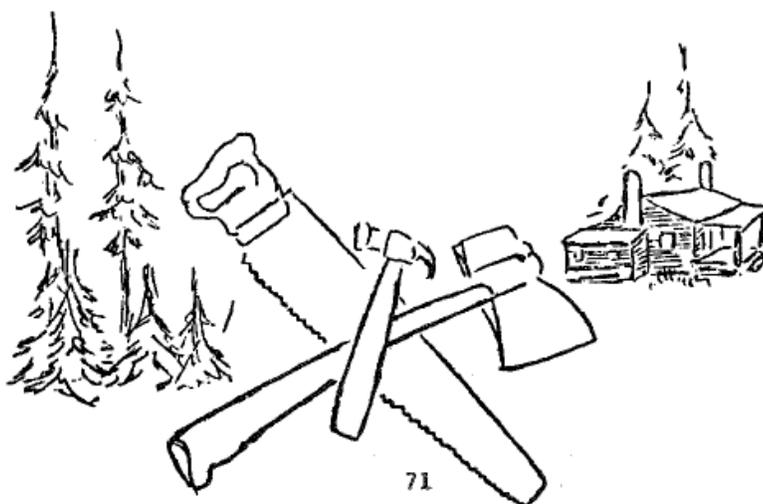
## BUILDING OUR HOMES

XID

The next day, every man and boy old enough to wield a hammer was ready to begin building our new homes. There was lumber enough to build a cottage on Uncle Moses' farm, which he let Dr. Wilson and Brother Virgil have, and soon their little home was ready to move into, with plenty of land cheap for farming, adjoining. 4708

Mr. Snellings and my sister, Bettie, found a small farm with a house on it which could be bought very reasonably. So he did not have to build. 4713,4709

Uncle Miles invited Mother to come and live right across the road from him and use his garden and as much milk as we wanted from his cow pen. It did not take long to build our little home, with the help of kind neighbors. 4926,4703



## CHAPTER XV

## LIFE IN TEXAS

The covered wagons still came in handy, while all this building was going on. The wagon, with its comfortable bed, was in use as it had been the past three months.

Meantime, Mother was getting her a flock of chickens and turkeys, and we soon had as many eggs, chickens and turkeys as we could use. 4703

The Upchurch brothers lived about a quarter of a mile apart. Both had large families. The elder brother had eight children and the other six. The two families and I went to the nearest school, which was three miles away. In good weather, we walked. If the weather was bad, Uncle Miles would go in a wagon to take us, and bring us back again. 4926

## CHAPTER XVI

## THE FIRST DEATH

Just after Brother Virgil's house was built, he sickened and died, after one day's illness, with something like acute indigestion, and was buried in Bedias Baptist Church Yard. 4708

Soon his little son, Virgil Ennis, followed him. His wife was left with two little girls. 4932

She afterwards married again and moved to another part of the State. We never saw her again, so they were not with us when we returned four years later.

Poor Mother never seemed quite herself again, but bore up bravely under it, like the good Christian she was, and lived to come back to Georgia again, and lived to be seventy-five years old. 4703

## CHAPTER XVII

## HUNTING IN TEXAS

Uncle Miles was a great hunter too, but he went for larger game than turkeys. I have known him to bring home two fine fat deer and a big wild cat at one haul. He would send us as much as we could use before it spoiled. Venison is fine meat and my Mother was very fond of it. 4926  
4703

Some one asked him how he knew whether it was a cow or a deer he was shooting. With a merry twinkle of his eyes, he answered: "I shoot so that if it is a cow, I will miss it, and if it's a deer, I will kill it."



The way he hunted was on a dark night, with a bright light in his hat-band. The deer could not see the man, only the light. A deer was lower and his eyes closer together than a cow, and shone like balls of fire. Being a good marksman, he shot the deer between the eyes, never missing.

#### CHAPTER XVIII

##### HORSE RAISING IN ELLIS COUNTY, TEXAS

After we had all settled down, some of the men of the family and any friends who wished to go, decided to go up to Ellis County to see what had become of the herd of horses my brothers left there on the range.

My two older brothers had been at the business about five years, and the herd had kept together six more years when we went out there.

The range was so good they did not have to feed the herd at all. The large horse that headed the herd was still there and about thirty brood mares. All as fat and fine as they could be, but it was noticeable that there were no colts - one, two and three years old, and there should have been thirty or forty of them. They had evidently been taken while young and tamed.

They brought back about thirty head of the herd, fine fat horses, but only one of them was broken to the saddle, - a nice bay pony. There were about five of each of the heirs and one odd one when we went to choose each of us our part.

I was the youngest heir and Uncle Moses said: "Let Ennis choose first - she's the baby", 10 years old, so I was quick to choose the little bay pony, and oh, how I did enjoy it! I would saddle the pony and canter from one neighbor's house to another and over the prairie. We were right near one large prairie. 2030,4877

Sister Bettie Snelling was one of the heirs and her husband, Brother 4709

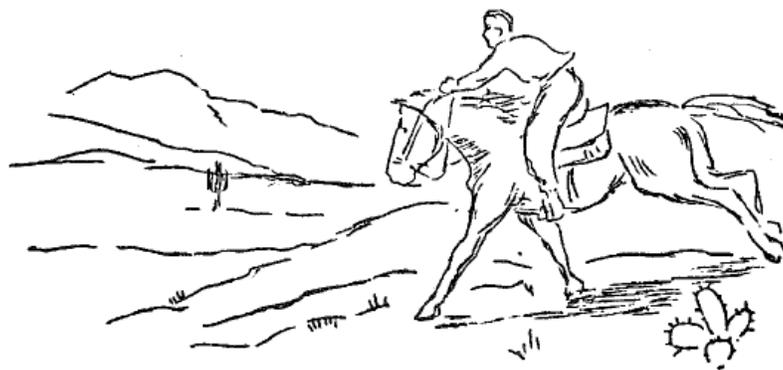
Frank, decided to break in one of her horses, a beautiful fat bay.

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He lassoed the horse and tied it to a very stout stob, driven deep into the ground. The horse, unused to halter and rope, thought he was loose and ran as fast as he could to the end of the long rope; it stopped him so suddenly, he turned a complete somersault and broke his neck, dying right there. So Brother Frank decided to sell the other four and let some one else do the breaking, who understood it better.

4713

All the others did the same, I think, but the sale of them came in nicely, as ready cash always does.



(to be continued)

Manuscript: A Trip From Georgia to Texas in Four Covered Wagons.  
By Mrs. C. E. Kerr. - continued.

## CHAPTER XIX

## MY BROTHERS RETURN TO GEORGIA

XID

Brother Narketa decided to take the money they had made by the sale of horses and return to Georgia and join the Army, with friends from Georgia, but Brother Spencer decided to ride one of their mustang ponies, taking only enough money with him to supply himself and horse on the way. 4707

So he started off on the little mustang pony. They got along fine and he was nearly halfway back, when his pony's back got sore and he was taking off the saddle, trying to cool it off when a man came along, going in the opposite direction. He stopped and said: "Good day, sir. Would you trade horses with me?" Brother Spencer said: "I don't know. How will you trade?" 4706

Brother Spencer looked at the big fine black horse the man was riding and thought: "He will want more boot than I have with me", so he asked: "How will you trade?" The man said: "I'll swap even." So they changed saddles and Brother Spencer mounted Charlie, which - according to the man was the horse's name.

"Is he gentle?" Asked Brother Spencer. "Gentle as a dog" the man answered, so Brother Spencer mounted big fat Charlie and rode away.

Then he thought, all at once and with dismay: "That man must have stolen this horse" and for days he was expecting to meet the owner of the horse, but he never did.

Horse stealing was a very serious matter in those days when every horse in the country was confiscated for war service, unless they were proven to be needed daily in family service, which of course Charlie was not.

We owned no other horse at that time except old Genus and he was too old and lazy to move along without the continued use of a buggy whip.

However, one day a thing happened which showed that "A horse is a vain thing for safety". On Sunday Mother and I were going to church. We were in a lane between two rows of a crooked rail fence, when some three or four hundred yards ahead of us there was coming an old-fashioned rockaway, with the curtains on each side which should have been fastened down, but were flying loose and flapping up and down, like some terrible living thing. Charlie raised his head and snorted.

There was one of our little slave boys named Jim, riding on a little seat behind the buggy. Mother said: "Jim, I believe Charlie is afraid of that thing. Get down and hold his bridle until it passes" but Charlie did not wait for it to pass. He whirled around in the middle of the road so quickly our buggy looked like it would turn over in the middle of the road, and the horse went running down the road.

Mother thought the buggy would turn over, so she stepped out and left me in the buggy. Charlie ran as fast as he could for about thirty yards and the front wheels of our buggy caught fast in the corner of a rail fence, where a sapling grew, and held it there. I remember yet how the wind from his heels sounded as he ran. The harness broke and the horse ran on four miles before anyone could catch him.

The impact of the buggy and fence threw me out and I fell right where the horse's heels would have been, had not the harness broken and freed him, so old Genus became our buggy horse again and might have gone to Texas with us, but we only wanted such teams as could stand the whole 1000 mile trip, and I am glad to say they did.

## CHAPTER XX

### UNCLE MOSES' PHILOSOPHY OF LIFE

Mother asked Moses one day why he did not buy more land and have a large farm, adding: "If you worked as hard here as you did in the East, you could make a lot more on the farm."

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He answered: "What's the use? We make more on these few rich acres of lands where not an ounce of fertilizer is ever used or needed than we did on the old poor farm land back home. We have plenty of grazing for the cattle and horses; never have to feed them; in the spring we drive up our cows with their young calves, keep the calves in the pen at night; the cows come to their calves with large sacks of milk; we give the calves half the milk and keep them gentle. Turn the cows out of the pens after milking time at night and they lie around about the pen to keep close to their babies, and chew their cuds and in the morning at milking time they give their babies and us another sack of milk. We have a small close-in pasture for the calves when they are old enough to use it, and all with so much less work and we have more time for reading and improving ourselves."

Now that is pretty good reasoning, I think.

## CHAPTER XXI

## GOING BACK TO GEORGIA

Dr. Stainback Wilson was a fine physician, as well as surgeon. His wife, Martha - who was my sister - studied medicine under him, and was a fine nurse. He found Texas a fine opening for him.

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4705

When asked if this was a healthy country, they would say: "Yes, indeed. We have almost no sickness at all. Of course we have chills and fever sometimes."

So he went on doctoring the chills and fever for about four years making good money, and then the chills and fever got him. He would be shaking with a hard chill and then a high fever would follow it, so one day he said: "I'm going back to Georgia" and so he did but not in a covered wagon.

Our farms and livestock, including my much-loved pony, were sold. We took as much baggage and hand luggage as our railroad tickets would allow, and started back to Georgia. This time our destination was Atlanta. Some of our belongings were packed in large boxes and sent by freight. Among these boxes was one that contained my Mother's old straight rockerless chair with which she began housekeeping. It is now 130 years old and still in my possession.

Now we could cross the Mississippi River without being blown three miles down stream. The trains would be rolled right onto the large steam ferry, with all passenger cars on it and in a few minutes cross over. The trip back was uneventful.

## CHAPTER XXII

## WE REACH ATLANTA

And what did we find when reached Atlanta? A city not yet recovered from Sherman's raid - still showing ash heaps he had left behind him.

Not a single public school; not a foot of street paving; flag stones at street crossings. Not a single telephone or elevator. One mule-drawn street car out Whitehall and Peters Street to West End.

A few monied men got together and built the Equitable Building - now the Trust Company of Georgia Building. Eight stories high, with two elevators, but they had to build a stairway, too, for the people were afraid of elevators. The wise-acres shook their heads and said: "What a mistake and waste of money! It is too far out. It can never be filled as an office building." But look at it now - filled to capacity all the time, as well as half a hundred other, larger office buildings, still farther out.



## CHAPTER XXIII

## THE JONESBORO EPISODE

XID

It may seem a digression from our trip, but I feel it is due to Dr. Stainback Wilson and his wife to relate an incident which took place during the Civil War, not far from Atlanta, during General Sherman's raid. 4711

Dr. Wilson was the same one mentioned in "GONE WITH THE WIND". When he entered the Confederate service, Sister Martha boarded out her children and went with her husband. As I have said, she had studied medicine under him and was a splendid nurse. She would rent a room near where the soldiers were and when they moved on, she followed. 4705

During that awful battle between Jonesboro and Lovejoy Station, she was nearby and went to her husband. General Sherman appointed Dr. Wilson to look after three hundred Confederate soldiers who were too badly wounded to be moved to Northern prisons.

When these three hundred men were lying all over the battlefield, it must have been a heart-rending sight. She said she noticed one poor fellow groaning and turning about, apparently in the death agony. The Federal examiner never even felt his pulse, but said as he passed on: "That poor fellow is not long for this world." Then sister went to the wounded soldier and leaning over, said to him: "Would you like a glass of water?" He replied: "No, lady, I'm not hurt much, but I'd rather die than go to one of those Northern prisons" so he went on with his dying act, until the Federals left.

Sister Martha then turned to General Sherman and said: "General, my husband and I cannot possibly care for these 300 men, won't you please let me select ten good strong men to help us with them. He hesitated a moment and said: "All right. Go and select them." 4705

She said it was a hard job. All the men wanted to be selected and rushed up. Several said they "had had much experience in nursing", etc.

Sherman and his men and their prisoners resumed their famous "March to the Sea" and the doctor and surgeon began his work, with the aid of the "ten strong men", his wife and the "poor dying man" who decided not to pass out just yet, but got up and helped in the care for the wounded.

My sister wrote a book, a sort of diary of the happenings during the Civil War and sent it to the publisher, but the publishing concern was burned, and she had only the one copy, she never tried to re-write it.

How often we wait until our loved ones are gone before we ask them questions we would so like to know.

Afterward, Dr. Wilson built a nice home and opened an office in Atlanta, 4711 and lived to be quite an old man.

The people of Jonesboro and Lovejoy Station had refuged to the country when they found that the battle was to be fought mostly in Jonesboro.

The first thing to be done was to get these three hundred badly wounded men off the ground and into some building. Naturally, the largest church was called into use. Many of the seats of those old-fashioned churches had their seats cushioned, and by turning two of them facing each other, a fairly comfortable bed was made.

Stretchers were improvised and in a short time they were at least safe from being rained on, and the improvised beds were more comfortable than the ground. As soon as these arrangements were made, the surgeon and his helpers went to work.

Almost as soon as Sherman's men were out of sight, the refugees began coming back.

I am sure my sister's manuscript that was burned told how many of these three hundred men were saved by the physician's care, but it is gone beyond recovery.

I have thought that I would write to the Mayor of Jonesboro and ask if there is any record of how many recovered, but like many of the things we intend to do, it comes to only a good intention in the end. Only those who were able to tell their names could have any record in the cemetery.



#### CHAPTER XXIV

#### A ROMANCE



Some one, after reading the manuscript of our book said: "Very interesting, but one thing it lacks. A romance."

Now this book is the story of a Mother, one of her sons and three daughters, and their children, ranging in age from twelve years down to two.

But wait a minute! Let's look over that page of description of our caravan personnel. Here we find Miss Annie Smiley, sister of Brother Virgil's wife. She almost had to go with her sister, as their parents were dead and she could not stay by herself. She was a pretty, sweet little blond of eighteen years of age. And Mr. Tip Hall was a handsome brunette twenty-four years old. Now can you read anything between those lines? But, let's just wonder about it - don't tell anyone!

Wonder how he came to be such a 'good friend of the family' as to want to take all his belongings, the nice roll of greenbacks that he had, made on a rented farm, and a fine horse, good under saddle, in harness or pulling a plow. We w-o-n-d-e-r. We w-o-n-d-e-r, too, why Annie Smiley was so industriously piecing pretty quilts and making pretty homemade rugs. We w-o-n-d-e-r! Her sister didn't need them; she had plenty of her own.

After they arrived in Texas, they could "take up a claim" of sixty acres of rich prairie land, by building a small house on it and living in it a year. Many did this, building two rooms with a wide hallway between them, a porch in front, the width of the house, and a lean-to in the back, which served as kitchen and dining room. This gave them a good title to sixty acres of very rich land.

Of this sixty acres of land, fifteen would be enough for a home plot, garden, yard and orchard. The other forty-five acres could be planted in trees for firewood. Pecans grown there were the finest in the South, which in itself is a fine money crop. It would also produce fine peaches for home use and canning.

I wish I could have followed this young couple further, but they - with Brother Virgil's widow - went into a distant county. Brother Virgil's widow married again - a vastly different man. She died soon after her second marriage, and I had a few letters from her oldest daughter. I imagine she either married or went to live with Annie, her aunt.

THE END

A. "A TRIP FROM GEORGIA TO TEXAS IN FOUR COVERED WAGONS"

By Mrs. C. E. Kerr. Concluding remarks.

The complete text of this "recreated" diary by Mrs. C. E. Kerr has now been published in full in the UB and parts of it may be found in UB, Vol. 6, No. 4 and UB, Vol. 7, Nos. 1, 2 and 3. Mrs. C. E. Kerr was nee: Celestia Ennis Loftin, the dau of Harriet Upchurch and the gd of Burwell Upchurch, Head of the James U. IV/Burwell U. Subclan. It is to be hoped that for many years to come this story of how one contingent of Upchurches arrived in Texas will be read and reread by the descendants of Burwell U. and by other Upchurches who might be curious about family life and conditions following the Civil War.

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2029

In reflecting on the trip taken more than 120 years ago, several thoughts come to mind. One is impressed by willingness of the small band to undertake such a long and hard journey. They obviously concluded that things could be better for them elsewhere so they made a commitment to improve their lot in life. How many of us today are willing to exert ourselves to such an extent. Even today there are opportunities all around us to improve our lot and the world about us. We need to take heart and to take action to help ourselves and to encourage others to do likewise. (End of Editor's sermon!).

The outline of the James U. IV/Burwell U. Subclan is published in UB, Vol. 2, No. 4. Some may wish to read the diary with the outline in hand to see how the characters on the trip match the ones on the outline. It will be noticed that the outline is missing certain details. It is our hope that the Covered Wagon story will stimulate some present day descendants of Burwell U. to work on upgrading their family history. Not only would we like to have more details on the family members down to current generations, it is our hope that other details such as the exact location of parcels of land involved will be established. Perhaps some of these advances can be reflected in future issues of the UB.

156/2029

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If there are other Upchurch diaries around, we would welcome copies for our central files and possibly for publication in the UB. Perhaps we have another elderly member of our family who would consider at this late date putting down on paper events that transpired in their Upchurch families several decades ago just as Celestia Ennis Loftin did at age 91. We are better off as a result of her written recollections.

4877

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JULY 1987

CLAN 15. (JAMES UPCHURCH IV)XID  
156

Our Cousin Roy White, Jr. of the James U. IV/Burwell U. Subclan continues to send us interesting details from his vantage point in Salt Lake City, UT. Keep up the good work, Roy! Your help is needed and appreciated.

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UB VOL 9, NO 4, P 135

OCT 1988

CLAN 15. (JAMES UPCHURCH IV)

156

Recently Mrs. Phillip McKinney, nee: Katie Laura Nobles, sent me a photo of her gf, James William U., Sr. and a picture of the old Baptist Church at Bedias (Grimes County) TX. It is a lovely country church which, I am told, can be seen from Bedias. Someday I hope to see it. I have just penned a note to Robert Lee Upchurch of Bedias about this. He is a longterm supporter of our family project and a prominent banker of the area. He is also of the James U. IV/Burwell U. Subclan.

16849

4981

4964

156/2029

UB VOL 10, NO 3, PP 97, 99

JULY 1989

CLAN 15. JAMES UPCHURCH IV

156

Over the last several months we have benefitted from the assistance of Cousin Katie Laura (Nobles) McKinney. She has made two trips from her home in Houston, TX to the Baptist Church Cemetery just outside of Bedias in Grimes Co., TX. This is where many descendants of the James U. IV/Burwell U. Subclan are buried. She has carefully recorded all the inscriptions on the Upchurch stones and through several exchanges of correspondence we have almost all of the individuals identified. She now promises to visit the Shiloh Cemetery at Pankey in Grimes Co., TX where more of this family are buried. Thanks, Katie, for your sterling performance.

16849

156/2029

XID

We have recently added another very active correspondent on the James U. IV/Burwell U Subclan to our list. She is Mrs. Walter Wesley Hardin, Sr., nee: Eva Annie Ione Smith of Houston, TX. She is a daughter of Percy Franklin Smith and descends from the Burrell Miles U. Section of the family. She encountered the UB in the Clayton Library in Houston, TX while researching her ancestors. This is another illustration of the importance of having the UB in libraries across the country.

Another possible shred of evidence on the Burwell U. Family in GA has turned up. This has been referred to our Cousin Roy White, Jr. in Salt Lake City, UT and he is pursuing it with vigor. If it is meaningful we'll let you know.

UB VOL 11, NO 2, P 69

APRIL 1990

CLAN 15. JAMES UPCHURCH, IV 156

Eva Annie Ione (Smith) Hardin of Houston, TX, her sister, Iris Earl (Smith) Foster and their sister-in-law, Hattie Sue (Kleckley) Smith are doing a great job of helping to complete the outline for Frances "Fannie" Upchurch, dau of Burrell Miles U. of the James U., IV/Burwell U. Subclan.

UB VOL 12, NO 1, P 23

JAN 1991

CLAN 15. JAMES UPCHURCH IV 156

For the James U IV/Burwell U. subclan we would expect Burwell Ennis Loftin to be on the 1850 census of Marengo Co., AL, in the home of his MOT, Harriet (U.) Loftin. He would have been 5 years and 8 months old at the time the 1850 census was taken, but he is not in his parents home. It is presumed he d. before the census was taken on 28 AUG 1850.

## II. PHOTOGRAPH

OLIVER HAZARD PERRY UPCHURCH, GREAT GRANDSON  
OF JAMES U. IV, HEAD OF UPCHURCH  
CLAN NO. 15

XID  
4950  
156



This member of our family appears in the  
James U., IV Clan as follows:

156

I. James U. IV, Head of Clan.

156

A. Burwell U.

2092

1. Moses U.

2030

a. Oliver Hazard Perry U.

4950

XID

Oliver Hazard Perry Upchurch was born 30 SEP 4950  
 1838 (Clarke Co., AL) and is presumed to have reached  
 manhood in the county of his birth. There is a  
 considerable record of the James U., IV/Burwell U. 156/2092  
 Subclan in Clarke Co., AL for the 1830-1860 era.  
 O.H.P.U. was presumably named for Oliver Hazard Perry,  
 a hero of the War of 1812. As a young unmarried man  
 O.H.P.U. appears to have moved with his parents and 4950  
 their offspring to Grimes Co., TX in approximately  
 1855. We know that he served in the Civil War, as his  
 widow applied for a pension following his death on  
 8 FEB 1921, in El Campo, Wharton Co., TX. However, the  
 details of his war experience, presumably in the service  
 of the Confederate States of America, have not yet come  
 to us. It appears that he married for the first time  
 following the war, when he would have been age 28.

On 18 NOV 1866 in Grimes Co., TX, O.H.P.U. md. 4950  
 Mary A. Senily by whom he had four children: 4951  
 Moses Monroe U., Lucy U., Sophronia C. U., 5302,22294,22212  
 and Eddie U. The order of birth is uncertain. No 22295  
 further details are available on Mary A. Senily. 4951  
 Possibly she died by 1881 when her husband is known  
 to have remarried.

On 16 OCT 1881, in Montgomery Co., TX, O.H.P.U. 4950  
 md. Mary Hampton, b. 15 AUG 1857 (TX), d. 26 JAN 1946 4952  
 (Wharton Co., TX) by whom he had seven children:  
 Walter U., Annie U., Beulah U., 22297,22298,22299  
 Lillian U., Benjamin U., Arthur Barnaby U. 22300,22216,22215  
 and Ollie U. (dau). The order of birth is uncertain. 22214

Except for Moses Monroe U., we know little of 5302  
 the children of O.H.P.U. A number of them appear to 4950  
 have died young.

There is some evidence that our subject md. a  
 third and even a fourth time. However, in 1989 his  
 85 year old granddau, Rosa Bell U., wrote to your 21674  
 editor regarding O.H.P.U. as follows: "I remember  
 seeing him. I visited him every summer in El Campo,  
 TX. He was blind. The only pictures of him burned  
 in a house fire. He married twice".

Rosa Bell U. did not realize that the above 21674  
 photograph existed. The original of this photo was  
 donated in 1992 to the Upchurch Archives maintained  
 by Michael Enterprises by Elizabeth (Upchurch) Wilson 5014  
 of Houston, TX. O.H.P.U. was her great uncle. She  
 reported in 1992 "I remember seeing Uncle Oliver 4950  
 when I was a little girl. My Daddy (James William U., 4981  
 Sr.) and Mother thought a lot of him. He is buried

XID

between my Grandpa James Monroe U. and my Daddy, at 2031  
 the Old Baptist Church Cemetery (Bedias, Grimes Co.,  
 TX) along with a whole lot of the rest of the Upchurches  
 like my Great-Granddad, Moses U., and his last wife." 2030  
 We are deeply indebted to Elizabeth for this photo- 5014  
 graph, for her keen interest in Upchurch family history  
 and for her sustantial assistance in helping document  
 the family. We are, also, indebted to Roy White, Jr. 5032  
 Eric Corrine (Evans) Webb, Rosa Bell U. and 12618,21674  
 to Marie Elizabeth (Isbell) Francis for help with 21261  
 this family.

Much more remains to be learned about Oliver 4950  
 Hazard Perry U., and his descendants, starting with  
 his birth in 1838 and covering the next century and  
 a half, down to the present day. Additions to the  
 record will be welcomed.

## II. PHOTOGRAPH

JAMES MONROE UPCHURCH AND HIS WIFE  
 NEE: SARAH ELIZABETH MILLER OF THE  
 JAMES U. IV/BURWELL U. SUBCLAN

XID  
 2031  
 4949  
 156/2029



James Monroe U. was the son of Moses U. and the 2031,2030  
 gs of Burwell U. The Upchurch family is blessed with 2029  
 at least five individuals with the name James Monroe U.  
 The one pictured here was b. 1835 (Clarke Co., AL),  
 d 25 JUN 1868 (Grimes Co., TX)(Bur. Baptist Church Cem.,  
 Bedias, Grimes Co., TX), md. 30 NOV 1856 (Grimes Co., TX)  
 Sarah Elizabeth Miller, b. FEB 1835 (Sumter Co.,AL), 4949  
 d. 20 JAN 1919 (Matagorda Co., TX)(Bur. Hawley Cem.,  
 near Blessing, Matagorda Co., TX). James enlisted

in the Confederate States Army in 1862 and served until captured in the battle of the wilderness in 1864. We do not know of the impact of the war on his health but note that he died at the young age of 33 shortly after the war, leaving four young children. The youngest of these was Nancy Jane Upchurch who was born after her father died. She is an ancestor of our cousin Roy White, Jr. of Utah. Among the three sons left was James William U., Sr., the father of our cousin Elizabeth (U.) Wilson, who kindly supplied these pictures.

XID

Moses Upchurch moved his family, including James Monroe Upchurch, from AL to Grimes Co., TX in the early 1850s. At the time James Monroe Upchurch was approaching adulthood. Members of the James Upchurch IV/ Burwell Upchurch Subclan continued to move from AL to TX up to and after the Civil War.

The four children of James Monroe U. and the distribution of his 28 grandchildren among the four are as follows:

- a. Virgil A. U., b. 8 APR 1858 (Bedias, Grimes Co., TX), d. 25 NOV 1928 (Falls Co., TX)(Bur. Cego, Falls Co., TX) 4980  
 md. 8 DEC 1880 Mary Ann Simes, b. JAN 1857 (TX), d. 13 NOV 1924 (Falls Co., TX)(Bur. Cego, Falls Co., TX). (6 children). 4983
- b. Ennis Perry U., b. 15 DEC 1860 (Bedias, Grimes Co., TX) d. 4 AUG 1926 (Waco, McLennan Co., TX)(Bur. Oakwood Cem., Waco, TX) md.(1st) 21 DEC 1880 Nancy Elizabeth Simes (Simms) md.(2nd) James C."Mittie" Hall, b. DEC 1871 (AL), md. (3rd) Mollie V. Landers. (6 children). 2032 4987 4988
- c. James William U., Sr., b. 10 FEB 1866 (Bedias, Grimes Co., TX), d. 29 MAY 1943 (Grimes Co., TX)(Bur. Baptist Cem., Bedias, TX), md.(1st) 30 AUG 1887 Frances Ariola, md. (2nd) 14 DEC 1902 (Bedias, TX) Lou Anna Adams, b. 11 JAN 1875 (White Co., GA), d. 12 JUL 1975 (Brazos Co., TX) (Bur. Bryan, TX). (8 children). 4981 4984 4985
- d. Nancy Jane U., b. 30 AUG 1868 (Bedias, Grimes Co., TX) d. 2 JAN 1923 (Houston, TX)(Bur. Blessing, Matagorda Co., TX - Hawley Cem.), md. 23 OCT 1884 (Madisonville, TX) Braxton Bragg White, b. 14 SEP 1865 (Jasper Co., TX), d. 5 FEB 1941 (Bay City, TX)(Bur. AS WIF). (8 children). 4982 4986

## B. COMMENTS ON THE UPCHURCH HOUSEHOLDS ON THE 1880 TX CENSUS.

1. The James U.,IV/Burwell U. Subclan. XID  
156/2029

Households 1-4 (Persons 1-31) on the list belong to the James U.,IV/Burwell U. Subclan. They are found in Grimes, Red River and Madison Counties. Children and grandchildren of Burwell U. migrated to TX from 2029  
the GA/AL/MS/LA scene before the Civil War. Moses U. 2030  
and Burrell Miles U. were two sons of Burwell U. who 4926,2029  
became patriarchs in TX. Two of their siblings, Harriett and Jordan, were also participants but they 4703,4945  
are not reflected on the 1880 census. Harriett (U.) 4703  
Loftin made the trek from GA to Grimes Co., TX  
(See earlier UBs) but soon returned east. Jordan 4945  
reached Grimes Co., TX but died there in 1858 unmarried.

XID

John Tillman Riley U., another son of Burwell U., 4943,2029  
is represented on the 1880 census by his son, John 4947  
Bartlett U.,Sr. (Person No. 24). John Tillman Riley U. 4943  
died of malaria in 1851, at age 22, and thus never  
made it to TX. We are unclear as to the status of  
Person No. 28 (Isabel Boare) in the home of John Bartlett -, 4947  
U.,Sr., other than that she was his ward. Perhaps  
there is more to this story. Note that John Bartlett U.,Sr. 4947  
established his family in Red River Co. rather than in  
Grimes Co., TX. There was some interaction with Grimes  
Co., TX as one of his sons married there in 1909.

For Household No. 4, we note that Jesse Miles U., 22881  
a son of Burrell Miles U., had left Grimes Co., TX, 4926  
where we know he was married in 1875, and that he  
established his family in Madison Co, TX.

Starting from the nucleus of four households shown on the 1880 census in three TX counties, the James U.,IV/Burwell U. Subclan has spread to many parts of the state.

## VIII. MISSING LINKS

## A. MISSING LINK NO. 28 - THE MOTHER OF BURWELL UPCHURCH

1. BACKGROUND.

XID

So far as is known, James U.,IV, the Head of Upchurch Clan No. 15, 156  
 had only one son; namely, Burwell Upchurch. The wife of 2029  
 James U., IV who would have been the mother of Burwell U. has 156,2029  
 never been identified. A great deal of information has been published  
 in the UB about James U., IV. , his son Burwell U. and about many 156,2029  
 descendants of this line. One of the descendants; namely, Roy White, 5032  
 has been a dedicated researcher of his various ancestors. He has  
 often been the source of details published in the UB , sometimes with  
 credit given and sometimes not. We are all grateful for his keen interest,  
 insight, and hard work. He has now provided us with the article which  
 appears below and which provides a well thought-out analysis about  
 the mother of Burwell Upchurch. 2029

Roy's article leads us to understand that James U., IV married a 156  
 widow Mary \_\_\_\_\_, that they had Burwell U. and that this is the same 2029  
 Mary U. who appears on the 1850 census of Talbot Co., GA, at an age of  
 100 years. Evidence presented by Roy shows that Mary most likely  
 married first a Mr. Barnes by whom she had a son William Barnes  
 OR that she married a Mr. X. by whom she had Rachel, the wife of  
 William Barnes. We are still left to learn the last name of Mary before  
 she married Mr. Barnes or Mr. X -- that is what was her maiden name?

The overall resulting outline is as follows:

- |  |      |
|--|------|
| I. Michael U., I (original immigrant).                     | 146  |
| A. Richard U., I.  | 149  |
| 1. John U., I.   | 150  |
| a. James U., III (James U.,Sr. In article below).          | 155  |
| i. James U.,IV (James U.,Jr. In article below).            | 156  |
| md. widow Mary (-) Barnes or the widow Mary (-) <u>X</u> . |      |
| (i) Burwell U.,  | 2029 |
| md. Ellender Riley.  | 4714 |

2. ARTICLE BY ROY WHITE.

(SEE NEXT PAGE)

**A Possible Mother**  
**for**  
**Burwell UPCHURCH**

It is a given fact that Burwell UPCHURCH (1782-1847) was the son of a certain James UPCHURCH (Jr.) who was specified as being the son of Burwell's grandfather, James UPCHURCH (Sr.) who died in Brunswick Co., VA -- the Last Will and Testament for whom was dated 24 June 1784 and subsequently proved 26 July 1784 in that county -- because the said parties are identified as such in the said LWT. What has been lacking, however, is any indication in re the identity of Burwell's mother. What follows will be an effort by this writer to present a possible candidate, and to outline the available circumstantial evidence that can be interpreted in a way that supports the theory.

The individual who could appear to qualify if the evidence is viewed in a "favorable" manner is a certain Mary UPCHURCH who first came to light when this writer was examining one of the various censuses undertaken by the State officials of Mississippi for their own, local purposes -- that of 1823. One provision of this exercise was to enumerate all individuals who were "over the age of 70", and it is in this context that Mary's name was listed next to Burwell's in Perry County (It is unclear whether she was in an adjacent habitation of her own, or a member of Burwell's household, but listed separately because of her age. Possibly significant, however, is the fact that the returns for the federal census of 1820, same county, indicate that Burwell's household included a white female "over 45"). A subsequent analysis by Robert Phillip UPCHURCH, based on his vast collection of UPCHURCH family data and deduced family-connections there-from, determined that Mary would not have been a blood-aunt (No such daughter was named in the LWT of James UPCHURCH (Sr.)), nor was it likely she was the wife of one of his uncles -- their names being known. R.P.U. further informed me that she could not have been a first-cousin because Burwell's uncles were simply too young to have produced a daughter of Mary's age. This writer acknowledges the possibility she might have been a second or third cousin, but for the purposes of this article we will consider that idea to be a bit far-fetched (For one thing the other branches of the family seem to have been relatively far-removed, geographically speaking.). There is also the possibility that she could have been a step-mother, but for a reason to be presented later this writer is discounting that idea, too.

At a later date R.P.U. brought to the attention of this writer the existence of an 1850 federal census return for Talbot County, GA -- one for a household that included William BARNES (75 yrs), Rebecca BARNES (69 yrs), Mary UPCHURCH (100 yrs), and various additional individuals who can be identified by other means as having been family of William and Rebecca. Except for one, serendipitous turn of events this item might have remained just another unconnected bit of UPCHURCH trivia, but with the discovery that the early records for Stone Creek Baptist Church, located near present-day Dry Branch in the very northern part of Twiggs County, were available on microfilm via inter-library loan, and the subsequent examination of the same in connection with a research project involving the family of Burwell's wife, a presentable (in the personal opinion of this writer) scenario can be formulated that ties together several strands -- including Burwell UPCHURCH, his wife and her family, the above-mentioned BARNESes, and individuals

who can have been Burwell's parents if the evidence is viewed with an open mind.

The following were received into membership at Stone Creek Church on the dates indicated:

William and Rebecca BARNES	23 June 1810
Elizabeth RILEY	21 July 1810
James UPCHURCH	22 June 1811
Mary UPCHURCH	25 Jan 1812
Ellender UPCHURCH	25 Jan 1812

It needs to be said here that Burwell UPCHURCH's wife has been identified as having been Eleanor ("Ellender") RILEY, daughter of Edward RILEY and Mary Elizabeth WOOD(S), and since Burwell's oldest known child was born 7 March 1813, it would seem likely that they had probably not been married very long by Jan 1812. Interestingly, Burwell is not named as having ever joined this church (Nor is his father-in-law; it being fairly certain that the above Elizabeth RILEY is Ellender's mother considering that one of their other daughters also joined.). A Letter of Dismissal was issued to "Sr Elender Upchurch" (Sister E.U.) on 21 November 1815 -- clearly indicating that Burwell was getting ready for the move to Mississippi because they were in evidence there by 1817. Unfortunately, no other dates of dismissal are extant, so it cannot be determined just when the BARNESes and Mary UPCHURCH left, but these records were extracted and compiled at some point, and the nature of the information included leads this writer to think that process occurred sometime in the 1840's. James UPCHURCH was indicated to be "dead", while Mary had been "dismissed" -- the implication being that James died while still a member of Stone Creek Church (and is thus likely buried in the original cemetery about two miles from the present-day location of the church, which was moved to a new site in the 1850's, and is said to be completely abandoned with very few tombstones remaining).

But the writer digresses! The point is that Mary UPCHURCH, along with William and Rebecca BARNES, not-to-mention Burwell UPCHURCH (if Ellender was there, then so was he.) were all in one, defined location at the same time.

At this point, before finally knitting everything together, it becomes necessary to digress once again in re another matter: that of James UPCHURCH.

The reader will recall that the LWT of James UPCHURCH (Sr.) who died in Brunswick Co., VA, in 1784 was mentioned in the first paragraph above. In a very curious provision said James *loaned* a tract of land and a slave to his son James UPCHURCH (Jr.), said property to be *given* to his grandson Burwell UPCHURCH "after the Death of my son James Upchurch". This stipulation has undoubtedly perplexed and confused every researcher who has attempted to explain the arrangement -- a variety of reasons having been put forward, none of which have seemed very satisfactory (at least in the opinion of this writer).

On the surface, it would seem fairly straight-forward to assume, then, that James (Jr.) must have died by the time that Burwell, on 12 May 1803, sold the parcel of land that came to him from his grandfather (At the time he had just reached his twenty-first birthday, and was a resident of Franklin County, NC. The federal census returns for 1800 indicate there were two UPCHURCH households in that county headed by a "James", but it is

uncertain, although tempting -- perhaps even obvious -- to conclude, that one or the other is the father of Burwell.). But DID he die? For the purpose of this study it will be assumed that he did not, and that some legal maneuver was found for Burwell to have sufficient control over the land in order to sell it after attaining his majority.

Two years later Burwell can be found in the annual Tax List of 1805 for Greene County, GA., and paid taxes there every year through 1810. Significantly, a James UPCHURCH was also there from 1806 through 1810. In October 1809 Burwell sold a tract of Greene County land and in September 1810 he conveyed another parcel, while paying taxes on acreage located in Wilkinson County. Since Twiggs County was cut out of Wilkinson, it seems highly likely that the general area wherein was located Stone Creek Church was his destination (early records for these counties are no longer extant, so confirmation is difficult to achieve) -- and this writer has no problem surmising that James and Mary UPCHURCH were with him, thus explaining their presence and the timing of their church membership (The writer will choose to ignore the fact that there was a six-month difference in the respective dates of reception into the church for James and Mary, and assume there was an explanation.). On another note, it would seem very reasonable that it was here where Burwell encountered the Riley family and his future wife.

The final element of the situation is the BARNES family, and how one of them could have been associated with the aforementioned provision in the LWT that denied James (Jr.) his heirship. Along with all of the other threads that enter this picture from seemingly different directions a pattern is formed that can be interpreted in a way that explains everything. (Whether the picture presented here was the true one, or close to it -- or can ever be proved -- is another matter, of course.). The route whereby the BARNESes arrived at Stone Creek Church is not known with any certainty, but it is surely significant that they joined the church in the same time-period. Perhaps it was purely coincidence -- and maybe he was another individual with the same name -- but among the annual tax lists for Greene County there was a certain William BARNES listed every year beginning in 1805 who remained there through 1809. It is interesting to note that William and Rebecca were received into Stone Creek Church in 1810 -- and very intriguing to remember that Burwell and/or James UPCHURCH were in Greene County during that same time-period (It must be reported, however, that while Burwell's land was associated with the Oconee River, that of William BARNES was on the Ogeechee River -- the opposite side of the county, and possibly even in present-day Taliaferro County -- so they were not near-neighbors.).

The fact that Mary UPCHURCH was enumerated in the household of William BARNES implies that she must have had a connection, and one of the usual -- the one postulated here -- is that she was the mother of either William or Rebecca.

William could only have been Burwell's half-brother, but Rebecca might have been a full-sister except that this would mean that she had been deliberately omitted from the LWT of Burwell's grandfather. The other option -- supported by the fact that she was born 16 October 1779 (from a published record), thus older than Burwell -- is that she was a HALF-sister -- Mary's child from a prior marriage, as would William have to have been because he, too, was older (born 4 September 1774) -- and this scenario would seem to explain everything.

Since it was not at all unusual for someone to marry a widow(er) in those days, it would not be unreasonable to think that James (Jr.) might have done so. In this scenario

Mary had at least the one child, whether William or Rebecca -- probably there were others, too, considering her age -- and for the purposes of this effort we will assume that James (Sr.) did not want her or her child(ren) to eventually inherit his property in the event that Burwell did not survive (He was only two years old when his grandfather found himself in his final days -- his LWT was written only a month before being proved, so he "knew" -- and we will think it must have been clear there would probably not be full-siblings for Burwell because no provisions were made for any.). The thought that perhaps James (Sr.) had "bad feelings" for James (Jr.) is a possibility, but why was he then named as one of the executors?

For the further interest of the reader it will be mentioned now that Burwell's household of 1830 (Wilcox County, AL) did not include an older female, but that of William BARNES (Twiggs County, GA) did -- as it did also in 1840 (Talbot County, GA) and, of course, in 1850. For some reason Mary returned to Georgia after 1823 and before 1830. Burwell's wife died in early 1831, so perhaps she had become ill and Mary didn't want to (or couldn't) deal with it (by then Burwell's oldest were teenagers and would've been able to manage the household), and went to live with the BARNESes. This writer sees no problem for a 75ish woman travelling a few hundred miles, even in those days (She couldn't have been all that "frail" to have lived to be 100.), since Burwell seems to have been sufficiently well-off (He had one of the first carriages where they lived.) in order to have afforded her some of the better transportation available for the times, and the BARNES family had resources, too, judging by the extent of their slave-holding.

Operating on the above assumption in re Mary this writer spent some time going through the records of Brunswick County, VA, looking for qualified widows who could have married Burwell's father, but found no obvious candidates. It could have been, however, that she was from an adjacent county.

Additionally, there is the possibility of tracing the BARNES descendants down to present-day families -- hoping to find someone who "knows" something (This procedure seems to fail more often than not, in the experience of this writer, but may be one of the very few avenues of attack.). William BARNES died in Talbot County, GA, where his probate indicates there was an extensive array of descendants -- some of whom surely must have left adequate tracks for for such a project.

Roy White  
14 January 1996

**CLAN 7. (JAMES UPCHURCH V)****153**

James U. V of Franklin Co., NC had four children whom we can name 153  
 They are: Alfred U., Calvin U., Willian U., and Peyton U. Of these we know 37680,,-,-,  
 little, except for Alfred U who had three wives and eleven children about whom 37680  
 a fair collection of details is available. One of the eleven was Benjamin Washington  
 U. whose burial site was inspected by your editor and his wife, Sallaine, on a 1994  
 visit to Spring Hope in Nash Co., NC. This is home country for Sallaine and  
 it was to this area that Alfred U. shifted his operational base as a result of his  
 second marriage in 1839. In any case, Sallaine was acquainted with the children  
 of Julian Emmett U., Sr., a grandson of Benjamin Washington U., as she grew up  
 in Nash Co., NC. We encourage members of this clan to join in the effort to  
 garner more facts about this Upchurch group.

## II. PHOTOGRAPH

JOHN BARTLETT UPCHURCH, SR. OF THE  
JOHN TILLMAN RILEY U. LINE IN THE  
JAMES U. IV/BURWELL U. SUBCLAN

XID  
4947  
4943  
156/2029



JOHN BARTLETT UPCHURCH, SR.  
b. 22 NOV 1849, d. 25 SEP 1910

We are indebted to Juanita Ernestine (Upchurch) Tatum, who supplied the above photograph, and to Rebecca Reed (Humphries) Sullivan for helping us to understand the history of the John Tillman Riley U. family. XID  
43288  
8211  
4943

James U. IV, the Head of Upchurch Clan No. 15, had only one son, Burwell U. Father and son were born in VA and lived part of their lives in Brunswick Co., VA. We know that Burwell U was in Franklin Co., NC in 1803 when he sold the Brunswick Co., VA land he had inherited. We have no evidence that he "mixed" with other Upchurch cousins who were in NC in 1803. He soon was found in GA. Burwell U. was later found in several counties in AL and in MS. He died on 31 DEC 1847 in Choctaw Co., AL. A full accounting of the movements of Burwell U. shows him moving back and forth between states from VA to MS during his entire life. John Tillman Riley U., b. 19 FEB 1829 (Wilcox Co., AL) was one of the six known children (2 dau, 4 sons) of Burwell U. Descendants of Burwell U. found their way to Texas in the mid-1800s, and there played significant rolls, especially, in Grimes Co., TX and Red River Co., TX. 156  
2029  
2029  
2029  
4943  
2029

John Tillman Riley U. lived barely three years after his marriage to Sarah Margaret McGregor. He reportedly died of malaria, leaving a widow and two infant sons. 4943  
4944

In 1968 Cousin Roy White, Jr. and Robert E. Lee U. II (both descendants of Moses U., a brother of John Tillman Riley U.) visited Choctaw Co., AL and there in an overgrown cemetery near Yantley found a tombstone marker for John T.R.U. They speculated that Burwell U. may also be buried here. 5032,4964  
2030,4943  
4943,2029

Sarah Margaret (McGregor) U., the widow, now followed the pattern of her husband's family immigrating to Texas. Moses U., Jordan U., and Burwell Miles U. moved to Grimes Co., TX well before the Civil War. Their sister, Harriet (U.) Loftin, a widow, joined them in 1866, although she later moved back east to GA. These children of Burwell U. have given rise to a large population of the extended Upchurch family in Texas. 4944  
2030,4945  
4926  
4703  
2029

Information passed down in the family indicate that the widow, Sarah U., moved to northeast Texas with her brother, John McGregor, and other members of the McGregor family in late 1851 or early 1852. Apparently she left her two young sons in AL with a caretaker (family member?). They later joined her in TX and the history of this family then unfolds in the Boxelder Community of Red River Co., TX. We do not know for sure when the sons, Burrell Turner U. and John Bartlett U. Sr. (see photograph) came to TX. One family version has them coming about 1860. 4944  
4946  
4947

XID

Sarah U. married Benajah Bryan in 1855. They had two children before 1858,-----  
Benajah died in 1858, leaving Sarah an inheritance, including land on Shawnee  
Creek. Perhaps this is how she found herself in a position to bring the two  
boys of her first marriage to join her in the Boxelder Community.

One of the boys, Burrell Turner U., died an untimely death at age 16 in 4946  
Mt. Pleasant, Titus Co., TX and is buried there. There are conflicting versions  
of how he died and as to why he was in Mt. Pleasant. One version was that he was  
in the process of obtaining some mules from his uncles in Grimes Co., TX.

This left the John T.U. family to be carried on by his only remaining living 4943  
blood relative, John Bartlett U. Sr., the subject of the photograph presented herein. 4947

The story of John Bartlett U. Sr. is now best carried forward in the words 4947  
of his granddaughter, Juanita Ernestine (U.) Tatum, taken from her narrative of 43288  
her family:

“John B. was a large, strong and determined man. He used his business savvy  
and brut strength to build a large, successful farm. They had renters and hired help.  
Their main source of income came from gathering up hogs in Sulpher Bottoms for  
sale. This work went on year round, regardless of rain, sleet, snow or heat.

In the early days the settlers had to travel to Jefferson, a port town in east  
Texas to purchase some needed supplies such as seeds, salt, sugar, furniture and  
blacksmith supplies. Some supplies came in 55 gallon wooden stave barrels..  
It was said that John B. would load and unload these by himself.

John B. married Julia Rebecca Hardison 2 Feb 1877. Julia was born in  
Miss. 4 Feb 1860 to Benjamin Hardison and his second wife Mary Cathrine Rebecca  
Alexander. Mary Catherine R. Alxander Hardison was born 22 June 1836 and  
died 12 Feb 1864. Benjamin Hardison moved his family to Texas in 1870 and  
settled in Sulpher Bottoms on what became known as Hardison, Knoll.

John and Julia had nine children and raised six. They sent all the  
children to school, boarding them out with families in Bogota, Detroit, and  
Clarksville TX.

Julia died a tragic death. She was outside at the washpot with a fire  
around it when her clothing caught fire. She screamed and ran. By the time  
she was caught and the flames extinguished, she was severely burned. She  
died 20 Apr 1898.

## XID

John B. bought land by paying off back taxes. Some land was deeded to him by the state. He co-signed notes for people, often paying off the notes. The acreage owned by Sarah M. and John B. combined with Julia's inheritance probably was over three thousand acres. Someone stole a deed from John B. and the property was claimed by another large landowner. They went to court and the other landowner won the land.

John was a hard worker and taught his children to work. He took care of his family and hired help, whether ill or in other troubles. When Riley came down with typhoid fever, John brought him home. He told Mary she would have to care for Riley during the day and he would care for Riley at night after he worked all day.

Once a week John killed hogs to feed the family and all the workers. They grew their food, ground their corn, and made their syrup, rendered lard, and made lye soap.

John B. and Julia built a large, two-story house and furnished it with walnut furniture. They had a very large parlor for entertaining. John liked to play the fiddle. He liked his daily "drink" and kept a supply on hand. In his later years, he wore an old slough hat and rode a mule rather than a horse. He said the mule was much easier to ride.

John B. had a heart attack. He was instructed by the doctor to change his diet, reduce the amount and stop eating pork. He told the doctor that as a child he had to go to bed hungry most every night and that he promised himself if he ever could afford food he would never go hungry again. Needless to say, he died of a heart attack on 10 Sept 1910. He is buried at Boxelder Cemetery."

John Bartlett U., Sr. had nine children of whom six lived to adulthood and four had issue. Space precludes telling the full known story of these children. However, we take special note of two of them, each of whom had a daughter, who have collaborated in preserving and sharing their Upchurch heritage. Son, Benjamin Riley U., Sr. went on to get his MD degree and to have seven children including cooperators, Juanita Ernestine (U.) Tatum. Daughter, Bell Finlayson 43288, 7208 (U.) Humphries had nine children, including cooperators, Rebecca Reed 8211 (Humphries) Sullivan.

It is a pleasure to present here an outline of the John Tillman Riley U. family which has been compiled by many caring family members. This outline begins on the next page and begins with James U. IV - Head of Upchurch Clan 15.

## OUTLINE OF CLAN

	XID
James U., IV - Head of Upchurch Clan 15.	156
I. Burwell U., b. 2 MAR 1782 (Brunswick Co., VA), d. 31 DEC 1847 (Choctaw Co., AL), md about 1812 Ellender Riley, b. 20 JUN 1794, d. 2 FEB 1831 (AL).	2029 4714
A. John Tillman Riley U., b. 19 FEB 1829 (Wilcox Co., AL), d. 11 JAN 1851 (of malaria Choctaw Co., AL)(Bur. near Yantley, Choctaw Co., AL), md 16 DEC 1847 (Sumter Co., AL) Sarah Dudley Mary Hester Margaret Scott McGregor, b. 15 AUG 1829 (Marengo Co., AL), d. 23 JAN 1899 (Boxelder, TX). [She md (2 <sup>nd</sup> ) 1855 Benajah Bryan, b. 14 MAR 1832, d. 6 NOV 1858 (Boxelder, TX)(Two children)] [Boxelder & Clarksville are in Red River Co., TX].	4943 4944
1. Burrell Turner U., b. 17 OCT 1848 (Choctaw Co., AL), d. 5 MAR 1865 (Mt. Pleasant, Titus Co., TX). Never married.	4946
2. John Bartlett U., Sr., b. 22 NOV 1849 (Choctaw Co., AL), d. 25 SEP 1910 (Boxelder, TX)(Bur. Boxelder Cemetery, Boxelder, TX), md 7 FEB 1877 (Clarksville, TX) Julia Rebecca Hardison, b. 4 FEB 1860 (Omega Landing, 4948 LA), d. 20 APR 1898 (Boxelder, TX)(Bur. AS HUS).	4947
a. Alpha U. (F), b. 7 OCT 1878 (Boxelder, TX), d. 9 OCT 1878 (Boxelder, TX).	7202
b. Benjamin Riley U., Sr., MD, b. 20 JAN 1880 (Boxelder, TX), d. 11 MAR 1948 (Boxelder, TX) (Bur. AS FAT), md (1 <sup>st</sup> ) 1 APR 1909 (Grimes Co., TX) Minerva Ola Carter, b. 1890 (Walker Co., TX), d. 11 FEB 1916 (Boxelder, TX)(Bur AS HUS), md (2 <sup>nd</sup> ) 27 JAN 1917 (Boxelder, TX) Gertrude Clements Minter, b. 7 MAY 1897 (Liberty, Jefferson Co., AL), d. 3 OCT 1957 (Clarksville TX)(Bur. AS HUS).	7203 7211 7212
c. Sarah Reed U., b. 22 AUG 1882 (Boxelder, TX), d. 30 APR 1929 (Boxelder, TX)(Bur. AS FAT), md 3 JUL 1900 (Red River Co., TX) James Raymond Law, b., d. (Bur.-).	7204 7213
d. Catherine U., b. 13 FEB 1885 (Boxelder, TX), d. 18 FEB 1885 (Boxelder, TX)(Bur.-).	7205
e. Mary Alexander U., b. 13 MAY 1886 (Boxelder, TX) d. 19 FEB 1977 (Paris, Lamar Co., TX)(Bur. AS FAT). md (1 <sup>st</sup> ) 13 AUG 1905 (Boxelder, TX) James David Humphries [BRO of 7216], b., d. (Boxelder, TX) (Bur. AS WIF), md (2 <sup>nd</sup> ) 9 JAN 1918 Red River Co., TX) Lewis Hardiman, b., d., (Bur. Lydia, Red River Co., TX).	7206 7214 7215

- XID
- f. John Bartlett U., Jr., b. 2 DEC 1888 (Boxelder, TX), d. 6 FEB 1969 (Wichita Falls, Wichita Co., TX) (Bur. AS FAT). Never married. 7207
- g. Bell Finlayson U., b. 27 DEC 1892 (Boxelder, TX), d. 31 MAR 1979 (Clarksville, TX)(Bur. AS FAT), md 22 DEC 1912 (Red River Co., TX) Herbert Edgar Humphries, b. 22 DEC 1890 (Cullman Co., AL) [BRO of 7214], d., (Bur. AS WIF). 7208 7216
- h. Henry Tillman U. I, WWI, b. 17 AUG 1895 (Boxelder, TX), d. 11 JAN 1985 (Clarksville, TX)(Bur. AS FAT), md 13 JAN 1920 (Red River Co., TX) Florence Greenwood\*, b., d., (Bur.-). (Divorced 29 MAY 1923) No issue. [\*Is this the Florence (Greenwood) Upchurch who md 1927 Hiram Jennings Moore of the Richard U. III/Claburn U. I Subclan? - RPU]. 7209
- i. Omega U., b. 25 DEC 1896 (Boxelder, TX), d. 25 DEC 1896 (Boxelder, TX)( Bur. -). 7210
- j. No further issue.

3. No further issue

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OCT 1999

CLAN 15. James Upchurch IV

156

Cousin Roy White of Salt Lake City, UT sent in a nice extract of the Upchurch entries on the 1880 census for Clarke Co., MS. This adds to the excellent set of extensive extracts for the Upchurch entries on the 1880 census for several states Roy provided in 1984. This set has been invaluable for our Upchurch research effort.

5032

**CLAN 15. JAMES U. IV**

156

Cousin Katie (Nobles) McKinney (XID 16849) of Houston, TX has provided us with the obituary of Raymond Huwald Upchurch (XID 13354) which is reprinted here. He is of the Moses U. (XID 2030) Line in the James U. IV /Burwell U. (XID 156/2029) Subclan. He rests in Pankey Cemetery, one of several traditional burial sites for the Upchurch family of Grimes Co., TX.

**Raymond Huwald Upchurch**

Funeral services for Raymond Huwald Upchurch, 79, of Hawkins, Texas were held 2 p.m. Sunday, July 4, at the Bedias Baptist Church. The Rev. Jerald Brown, pastor, officiated.

Interment was in the Pankey Cemetery under the direction of Southern Heritage Funeral Home of Bedias.

Upchurch died Friday, July 2, 1999. He was born in Bedias on April 4, 1920. Upchurch was a member of the Mineola, Texas VFW, along with being a member of the Masonic Lodge #1293 of Hawkins.

Surviving are his wife, Evanel Byers Upchurch of Carthage; son and daughter-in-law, Leslie Ray and Lenora Upchurch of Round Rock; daughter, Lynette Bordwine of Milwaukee, Wisc.; brother and sister-in-law, Charles and Louise Upchurch of Hawkins, Texas; sisters and brother-in-law, Marie Hall of Houston, and Dorothea and Walton Phillips of Magnolia; special friend, Jannie Luchak of Houston; four grandchildren, Clifton Toon, Cinnamon Tondreau, Raymond Charles Upchurch and John Jacob Upchurch; along with four great-grandchildren, numerous nieces and nephews, other relatives and friends.

Pallbearers were members of the Bedias Masonic Lodge.

**CLAN 15. (JAMES UPCHURCH IV) {Son of James U. III}.**

156

We believe James U. IV to have lived his entire life in VA. So far as we know he had a single child - Burwell U, b. 1782 (VA), d. 1847 (AL). The driving force behind the unfolding of the story of this clan has been Cousin Roy White of Salt Lake City, UT. He descends from descendants of Burwell U. who settled in Grimes Co., TX just before and just after the Civil War. Over the years our records of Texas Upchurches and especially of the James U. IV/Burwell U. Subclan have been greatly enhanced by Katie (Nobles) McKinney and her husband Philip of Houston, TX.

UB VOL 28 NO 2 PP 66, 67

JUL - DEC 2007

**Clan 15. James Upchurch Clan.**

156

**Burwell U. Subclan.** Cousin Roy White of Salt Lake City gave a huge boost to Upchurch research in the early years and has continued as a strong participant since. His email of 4 NOV 2007 reads as follows:

“Phil,

I wish I had something to offer, but there is nothing at this time. I always look forward to the Bulletin.

Are there any developments in re the DNA program? It would be interesting to find out if there are any “surprises” among the U. S. UPCHURCH lines (hopefully not in my own) – and how many of the families in England match Michael’s Haplotype. Roy”.

(We still need to find that “angel” who will start a DNA program for the Upchurch Family. - Ed.)

UB VOL 31, NO 1, P 41

JAN – DEC 2010

**2. Clan 15. James Upchurch, IV Clan.**  
**No members added in UB, Vol. 31.**

156

**Katie Laura (Nobles) McKinney was a member of the Moses U. Line in the James U., IV/Burwell U. Subclan. Her mother Eula Anna Elizabeth (U.) Nobles was the GGD/o Moses. We were deeply saddened to learn from Katie’s husband, Phillip McKinney, that she passed away on 30 SEP 2009. For many years Katie worked tirelessly to perfect the record for the Moses U. Line which goes back to Bedias in Grimes Co., TX. The story of how this part of our Upchurch family relocated from GA to TX before and after the Civil War forms a major chapter in our Upchurch heritage. Along the way Katie involved her husband, Phillip, in efforts on family history. He has continued working with us and has established a Memorial in honor of Katie as noted later in this issue.**

UB VOL 33, NO 1, P 14

JAN – DEC 2012

**Clan 15. James U., IV Clan**

156

**0 members added in UB, Vol. 33**

**Cousin Roy White, Jr. has been a very effective collaborator for Clan 15 for many years. We are now reaching out to him for help on the proposal of taking Master Outlines digital.**

Clan 15. James U. IV Clan (James U. IV =XID 156)  
1 member added in UB Vol. 35

Recent exchanges with Cousin Roy White, Jr. of the James U. IV/Burwell U. Subclan reveals that his long standing interest in his Upchurch heritage has led him to undertake a special project which we will now relate. He writes:

“My current Upchurch project involves re-making the grave of my 2<sup>nd</sup> gr-grandfather, James Monroe Upchurch, at Bedias, Grimes Co., Texas. About 60 years ago some cousins of mine undertook to mark it with a homemade concrete marker and attached a brass plaque with his Confederate info thereon that they acquired from the gov’t agency that provides such. Unfortunately, it was discovered later that they had requested the record of a distant Upchurch cousin who had the identical name. I have contracted for a larger monument of India black granite with the correct Confederate info, along with a brief bio inscribed on the backside naming his siblings, his wife and names of their children (his own chldn), plus a short pedigree (limited space ) back to Burwell and then the fact of his descent from Michael Upchurch. There are quite a few Upchurches in that cemetery and this single monument will explain how most of them are related.

India black granite is – as I understand it – the most dense and finely grained of the various granites, and should last for (centuries?) without eroding away (like a lot of markers I’ve seen).”

In a follow-up exchange Roy writes:

“I do have a couple more comments about the India black granite for possible interest, however. If the granite is polished it results in a glossy, coal-black surface; distinctive and striking looking, but possibly not for everybody. The monument company convinced me to go that route for my first two markers because he said the surface would then not be subject to staining from tree sap, lichen growth, etc. (He was a bit bemused about my personal concept of “long-term” survival of the market – thinking in terms of centuries instead of only decades). If you have the stone ground off, then the color is an attractive dark gray, but then subject to staining over the long term. However, there is another process – about which I learned later – that I used on a third monument (plus the next one in Bedias Cemetery)-whereby the stone is “honed” (whatever that means) and the appearance is a glossy dark gray and (supposedly) retards staining. I quite liked the classic-looking result.

More comments of a general nature: Having been to numerous cemeteries it is readily apparent that taller monuments are highly vulnerable to tipping over – either via deliberate vandalism, natural settling, etc. – so I’ve adopted the policy of using markers with a relatively low center of gravity; not a fool-proof strategy, but... Thus, when I marked the graves of my parents and wanted to have their pedigrees recorded thereon I utilized slabs (“Ledgers”, they are called) to cover the grave, plus the usual upright, with the pedigree inscribed on the ledger and the upright with the usual info on the front and a bio sketch of their lives on the back. Between you and me I did all of this not so much for them, but also for my own self-serving purposes (another preservation mechanism of the genealogy; who knows what will survive into the future?). At the Bedias Cemetery, however, ledgers are not permitted because they make it difficult to mow the grass. So I needed to bend my policy and use a (slightly) taller and wider monument in order to have a bit more space for all the info (thus, only a limited pedigree – back to Burwell and skipping to Michael). The monument maker was again bemused by my insistence (a bit paranoid, in his opinion) on using a thicker marker (10 inches, instead of six – or even four), with a wider base – hoping to retard tipping.”

These comments by Roy are useful in several respects. They reveal that after several decades of dedicated Upchurch research, Roy continues to sustain his passion and to lead the way for the rest of us. His latest venture illustrates steps that can be taken in cemeteries to illustrate and preserve our heritage. It once again reminds us that we should be proactive in recording, preserving and sharing records found in cemeteries and elsewhere.