

**James H Carter****XID – 425**

**Commentary:** See number one below:

Acknowledgements: The following Biofile was transcribed by Carla J. Michaels, a volunteer and tireless contributor, who administers the UAFA center in Cary, NC

**(1)** James H Carter born 27 Jan 1826 White Co, TN married Nellie Upchurch (XID – 426) born 19 Jul 1829 died 12 Feb 1870. After Nellie died in 1870 James married 2ndly Sarah Dishman. (29, Page 71 & 83).

**(2)** James H Carter was father of Edmond G Carter (XID – 444) born 15 Jan 1864, died 24 Apr 1921 and Frank Woolford Carter born 22 Oct 1871. Frank is buried in Mirabile Cemetery in Caldwell Co, MO (29, Page 90).

**(3)** See letter 20 Jul 1984 John Kim Upchurch to RPU  
I came across a **James Carter** who was born in White Co, TN and moved to Wayne Co, KY where he married Eleanor Upchurch. They had a daughter America Carter born May 1856. [Note: Morgan (29) on Page 83 states that Nellie who married James H Carter was sometimes called Eleanor – RPU] [Note: Nellie/ Eleanor Upchurch is daughter of John Upchurch of the George Upchurch/ John Upchurch Sub-clan – RPU]

**(no number)** From Rev James Henry Carter, 1826 – 1900, Page 5 – 11

JAMES HENRY CARTER - (1) ELEANOR (NELLIE) UPCHURCH

(2) SARAH E. DAWSON

Your records say last name is Dishman

James Henry Carter, presumably, the son of William Carter and Ruth Bean, was born the 27th of January, 1826 in White County, Tennessee.

(The census records show his birthplace as the state of Tennessee and when he recorded the birth of his daughter America, born March 1856, in Wayne County, Kentucky, he stated that he was born in White County, Tennessee.)

He evidently grew up in White County, Tennessee but was living in Wayne County, Kentucky when his first child, Shrewsberry (Susberry), was born in November of 1849.

No record of the marriage of James and Eleanor Upchurch has been uncovered but it probably occurred in Wayne County, Kentucky ca 1848-49.

Eleanor, or "Nellie", as she was known by, was the daughter of John Upchurch and Sarah Bertram. She was born the 7th of July, 1829 in the Little South Fork area of Wayne County, Kentucky.

Her parents were from Virginia originally and relocated from North Carolina to Kentucky ca 1812.

James and Nellie were the parents of eleven children –

Including 2 unnamed infants buried Lowe Cemetery, Wayne Co, KY

James was a circuit rider minister for the Methodist Church and was mentioned several times in a book by Rev. J. C. Wright, titled "Autobiography of Rev. A. B. Wright", which was a diary of his ministry listing marriages, funerals, baptisms, etc.

This book refers to a "prayer meeting held at Brother J. H. Carter's" in September of 1866 and in 1877 mentions "Rev. J. H. Carter, a local preacher whom I received in the Church and baptised several years before", so it would appear that James became a minister sometime after 1866.

James wife, Nellie, died the 12th day of February, 1870 after giving birth to their daughter, Elen. In the book "Cemeteries of Wayne County, Kentucky" by Bennie and Juanita Coffey, it states that Elen is buried in the Lowe Cemetery, near Sunnybrook, with her mother. The stone states that she died the same day that she was born, but the 1870 Census for Fentress County, Tennessee, shows her as being five months old. To date, there has been no way to account for this discrepancy. Perhaps, as the child's birth was so difficult as to cause her Mother's death, it was assumed that she wouldn't survive, given the medical knowledge available, and when James ordered Nellie stone he went ahead and ordered one for Elen. Elen evidently didn't survive very long as she doesn't appear in any other census records.

James was married for the second time a few months later, which was not unusual for this time period in our history. There weren't such things as "baby-sitters", "nannies" or "day-care centers" and a husband needed someone to care for the numerous children that were common during this era. If it was the husband who died first, then his wife would need someone to provide for her and her children, so she would remarry in a very short period of time, if at all possible. A woman alone, for the most part, was considered by the community, to be unable to care her children and so the courts would scatter the children out among relatives and neighbors to be raised as an "extra" hand was always welcome to help with the numerous tasks to be done.

James took Sarah E. Dawson, as his second wife. They were married the 10th of June 1870 in Clinton County, Kentucky by the Rev. Wright, mentioned earlier.

Nothing "concrete" has been found regarding Sarah, only that it was her first marriage according to her marriage application and as the census records shows her born ca 1832- 39, she would have been in her early thirties at the time of the marriage and the standards of the day would have regarded her as an "old maid". It is possible that Sarah's parents were Isaac A. and Mary Ann Dawson, as in the 1880 census she shows her Father as being born in North Carolina and her Mother as being born in Tennessee.

The 1850 census for Knox County, Tennessee shows that a Isaac A. Dawson (born ca 1810 NC) was living with his wife Mary Ann (born ca 1816 in Tennessee) along with the following children—

1. Sarah M. E. B-ca 1840
2. Louisa L. B-ca 1843
3. Isabella F. B-ca 1845
4. Narcissa B-ca 1848

Isaac A. Dawson is shown on the Tax Rolls in Clinton Kentucky for 1865-68, 1870 and 1873. (The Tax Roll for 1871 is not legible).

Sarah and James named their first-born son "Isaac" perhaps after her Father??

The above is purely "speculation", but the pieces of the "puzzle" do fit together.

James and Sarah were the parents of six children –

According to the family stories, James was buried near Slickford in Wayne County Kentucky on what they called "Carter" mountain, which from what I have heard, was just a big hill on their farm, but no one could find the grave or knew when he had died. My husband and I were researching in the area and had stopped by the courthouse in Clinton County, Kentucky to get a copy of James and Sarah's marriage license and had a few minutes to spare so went to the local library to see what records they might have. Included in the few genealogy books that they had was the cemetery records of Cumberland County, Kentucky. As my Mother's line of 'GROSES' were from Cumberland County I wanted to check the index for information on that line, but as I picked up the book I had what I have come to refer to as my "gut" feeling and checked the index first for "Carter" and to my amazement, I found James Henry Carter and two of his sons from his second marriage, along with the wives of both and a grandson, buried in the "Rose of Sharon Cemetery". Unfortunately, we were out of time and didn't get to go to the cemetery to actually see and take a picture of James' stone.

According to the cemetery book, James, died the 22nd of April, 1900.

The only available newspaper for this period has been checked for an obituary, but the only reference was found by Mr. R. N. Smith of Burkesville, Kentucky –

He advised that in the April 25, 1900 local paper he found the following –  
"Old Uncle Jimmie Carter of the Hegira Country died last Sunday of diseases incident to old age. He was eighty odd."

Mr. Smith said that Hegira was a small community near the Rose of Sharon Church & Cemetery.

Sarah does not appear on the 1900 Soundex for Kentucky or Tennessee but the 1910 Census for Cumberland County, Kentucky shows her living in the household of her son Haywood Hart Carter.



Rev James Henry Carter

(The original of this picture of Rev. James Henry Carter, hangs in our living room and looks like a charcoal drawing but gives no indication as to when it was done or who the artist might have been.)

**(no number)** Book: Wayne Co, KY & Families – 2016, Wayne Co Historical Society, Page 99, 100

One of 10 articles with significant Upchurch info – submitted by: Melanie Carter, Joyce (Carter) Patton & June (Carter) Ramsey

File: George Upchurch Clan

**James Henry Carter**

Melanie Carter

(article found below)



Edmund Grant Carter and Gertrude Upchurch Carter

**CARTER** – Two Carter families in Wayne County can be traced back to Thomas Carter

(1632-1700) of Barford, Lancaster County, VA. Thomas arrived in Virginia from England in the 1650s and married before 1662. Thomas was a tobacco planter and served in Virginia Royal Militia, obtaining title of Captain and later served in Lancaster, VA House of Burgess. He remained in the tidewater of Virginia but his descendants moved west. The first of this Carter family to migrate to Wayne County, KY was William Carter (1749-1848) from Wythe County, VA. He arrived between 1801 and 1810 under the "Headrights" provision and grants.<sup>1</sup> His family came through the Cumberland Gap most likely along the Cumberland River into Wayne County. William with wife Unity (1754-1824) and children lived in Wayne County on a large farm along the Cumberland River. Unity Carter was buried at Parmleys Grove Church. A historical reference is William's signature found on an 1817 signature page along with many early Wayne County pioneers.<sup>2</sup>



James Henry Carter

The next known Carter family of immigrant Thomas Carter to settle in Wayne County arrived 40 years later. James Henry Carter<sup>3</sup> was the son of William Carter (1770s-1840s) and Ruth Bean (1780-1860s). William and Ruth married in Grainger County in 1801 according to early Tennessee marriage records. Ruth was born in east Tennessee in 1780,<sup>4</sup> 16 years before statehood. She is thought to be from the fur trading post of Bean Station, TN. This Carter family migrated across Tennessee along the North Carolina Road (now Interstate 40) into White County, TN, where they resided for some years. Ruth and some of her children came into Wayne County, KY in the 1840s through Fentress County, TN. There were 16 children in William and Ruth's home.<sup>5</sup>

William Carter and Ruth Bean children:

Lathemy, March 29, 1802.

Robert, Sept. 26, 1805.

Betsyanne, Feb. 24, 1807.

Martha, Oct. 10, 1806, married James Rule and lived in Wayne County. Buried Pleasant Hill Cemetery.

(article continues below)

Canzada, April 6, 1810.  
 Williamah, March 29, 1813.  
 William F., March 13, 1816, remained in White County, married Mary Ann Dunn. Mary, Jan. 1, 1819.  
 Susannah, June 24, 1820, married William M. Rigney and lived in Wayne County.  
 Edmond B., June 24, 1823, married Elvina McFarland, lived in Wayne County, son James Earl Carter.  
 Charlotte, Oct. 27, 1825, married William Evans and lived in Wayne County.  
 James, Jan 27, 1826, married Eleanor Upchurch and lived in Wayne County.  
 Wayman, April 21, 1828, married Martha Pile Latham and lived in Wayne County.  
 Sarah, Feb. 1, 1829.  
 Lucy, May 6, 1832, lived in Wayne County.  
 Jasper, June 22, no year.  
 Ruth and seven of her children settled in the southern part of the county. The land deeds list location as Otter Creek and Carpenters Fork, Wayne County. Census of 1850 and 1860 list the children in Slickford District so this would be the portion of Otter Creek where this Carter family settled.  
 James Henry Carter (1926-1900) married Elenor "Nellie" Upchurch (1829-1879) of Wayne County in 1848 in a ceremony officiated by Nathaniel Shrewsbury. They named their first born son Shrewsbury Carter. Elenor was the daughter of John Upchurch and Sarah Bertram, granddaughter of George Upchurch on her father's side, granddaughter of Nicholas Bertram on her mother's side.  
 The George Upchurch family of Virginia met up with the Nicholas Bertram family in Iredell County, NC and their children married. The combined families migrated together into Kentucky as a large group. George Upchurch received land under the "Tellico Warrants" land grants, specifically Cherokee Indian land opened up for patenting in 1810. Their first grant was #58, July 1813, 100 acres, Little South Fork of Cumberland River.<sup>4</sup>  
 James Carter and Elenor Upchurch farmed, raised livestock and cut timber on land they owned in Slickford.<sup>7</sup> The first of many land deeds was dated in 1854 for 100 acres. James was greatly influenced by the Methodist church and studied to participate in spreading the gospel. In the 1800s, the state line of Tennessee and Kentucky was typically the boundary between the Holston and Louisville Conferences of the Methodist Episcopal Church. James attended meetings in both conferences and knew many great clergymen. Pulpit ministers and circuit riding ministers had to earn the respect of the church conference leaders to become licensed. One would teach as class-leader for some time, then become an exhorter for some time. When approved at a quarterly convention, one would be recommended for a license to preach. James Henry Carter worked his way through this process during the Civil War era and preached as a circuit rider and a pulpit minister. He is mentioned several times in the book, *Autobiography of Reverend A.B. Wright* (a must read for Wayne County historians). In one of many referenc-

es, Reverend Wright writes in 1871, "Rev. J.R. Carter, a local preacher whom I received into the Church and baptized several years before, preached a number of times, and did other efficient work." Elenor died during childbirth in February 1870, leaving nine living children. She is buried in Lowe Cemetery. James remarried within the year on June 10, 1870 to Sarah Catherine Dawson. James and Sarah had six children. They moved to Cumberland County, KY where James became minister of Rose of Sharon Methodist Church and lived with his large family on Hegira Road. James and Sarah are buried in the church cemetery in Bow, KY.

James Carter and Elenor Upchurch children:

Shrewsbury Carter (1849-1933).  
 John W. Carter (1852-1922).  
 Alvin M. Carter (1855-1855).  
 America Carter Hughes (1858-).  
 Sarah C. Carter Wray (1859-1936).  
 Frank Wolford (Colonel) Carter (1861-1944).  
 Edmond Grant Carter (1864-1921).  
 James Montgomery "Gum" Carter (1867-1951).  
 Elen V. Carter (1870-died before 1880).  
 James Carter and Sarah Dawson children:  
 Isaac S. "Van" Carter (-).  
 Ruth F. Carter Spicer (1873-1917).  
 Haywood Barton "Bart" Carter (1875-1921).  
 Wilburn Campbell "Camel" Carter (1877-1942).  
 Mary Nevada Carter (1879-1887).  
 Gertie L. Carter Gibson (1883-).  
 Edmond Grant Carter married Mary Jane Upchurch (1859-1903), daughter of Moses Upchurch and Harriet Grimes on Jan. 15, 1884. Mary Jane's son, Oda "Odie" Martin Upchurch, was about 5 years old when they married.<sup>9</sup> Oda "Odie" took the Carter name. Mary Jane and Edmond raised Odie and encouraged him in education and his interest in medicine. Odie pursued a career as a doctor and went on to build the first hospital in Wayne County and became well known as Doc Carter (1879-1938). Edmond and Mary Jane lived in Slickford. Mary Jane died in 1903 without any more children. Edmond remarried Gertie Jane Upchurch (1886-1963), daughter of Joseph "Jode" William Upchurch and Mary Polly Upchurch. Joseph died in an accident while Mary was pregnant with Gertie. Sadly, later in life Gertie lost her husband while she was pregnant. Gertie's mother, Mary, later married James Criswell and lived in Mullentown. Edmond and Gertie lived in Slickford on a farm at the head water of Otter Creek and raised seven children. Edmond was a mail carrier in Wayne County. He took mail from Monticello into Slickford. His route ran across Edwards Mountain along today's Cooper-Slickford Road. He was a member of the Freemasons at Freedom Lodge #643, that met in Sunny Brook on the second Saturday of each month.<sup>10</sup> Edmond and Gertie moved to Stuebenville in 1919 to a farm on Fall Loreen Road, now Cooley Lane. Edmond died from a heart attack in 1921. He is

buried at Locketts Chapel Cemetery. Gertie struggled to make ends meet with seven young children. She raised all her children to adulthood to be valued citizens. Gertie first moved to Touristville and then later to Lexington, KY and married W.M. Eubanks, a barber. Gertie is buried in Crestlawn Memorial Gardens.

Edmond Carter and Gertie Upchurch children:

Arthur Ernest Carter (1907-1973).  
 Sterling Lawson Carter (1909-1983).  
 Opal Leona Carter (1912-1991).  
 Nellie Pearl Carter (1914-1998).  
 John Ray Carter (1918-1978).  
 Eva Mae Carter (1919-1969).  
 Vena Edmond Carter (1921-1930).  
 Sterling Carter was born in Slickford. He was 12 years old when his father died. Sterling moved with his mother and siblings to the Touristville area, where he met and later married Ada Lee Barnett (1909-1961) on Jan. 17, 1927. Ada was the daughter of Joseph and Emma Lovell Barnett. Sterling and Ada farmed in Touristville and had eight children. Sterling was a member of Monticello Masonic Lodge. They are buried at Mill Springs Christian Church cemetery.

Sterling Carter and Ada Barnett children:

Leonard Carter.  
 Louise Carter.  
 Betty Carter.  
 Joyce Carter.  
 Glenn Carter.  
 June Carter.  
 Patricia Carter.  
 Bobby Carter.  
 Notes:

<sup>1</sup> Augusta Phillips Johnson, Standard Print Company, 1939, *A-Century of Wayne County*, p20.

<sup>2</sup> June Baldwin Bork, 1974, *Wayne County, Kentucky Pioneers*, vol. 4, forward section.

<sup>3</sup> Carter DNA Project, Familytreedna.com

<sup>4</sup> Tennessee State Archives, Early Marriage Book, Grainger County, TN and 18880 Census, KY, Casey County, Roll 408, page 725: listed in parent information on census by daughter Susannah Carter Rigney.

<sup>5</sup> Sue Beck Carter, booklet, *James Henry Carter*, White County, TN Library. States that handwritten list of William and Ruth Carter children found by Edwin Morse. Portrait of James Henry Carter courtesy of Sue Beck Carter.

<sup>6</sup> See Upchurch Family page.

<sup>7</sup> KY, Wayne County, Land Grant Book 40, page 515, patent 22388, 100 acres on Otter Creek, Dec. 22, 1854.

<sup>8</sup> A.B. Wright, *Rev. Autobiography of Rev. A.B. Wright, Holston Conference, XI. E. Church, 1896*, reprinted by *Fentress County Historical Society, 1977. P95.*

<sup>9</sup> 1880 Census, KY, Wayne County, Mary Jane Upchurch and son Oda, age 1, listed in household of Thomas Upchurch as granddaughter.

<sup>10</sup> *Proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Kentucky* ... volume 122, page 434, October 1922. Submitted by Melanie Carter, Joyce Carter Patton, June Carter Ramsey.