

Clara Upchurch

XID – 72

Commentary: Clara Upchurch was one of eight children, and the only daughter, born to Richard III, head of Upchurch Clan # 4. She was born in Franklin County, NC and was married by the year 1816, the same year that her father died intestate. There is good evidence that she married John Pearce, brother of Elizabeth Pearce who in turn married Thomas Ray. Thomas Ray and John Pearce were like brothers, or at least close kin. By 1820, the two couples had moved to Randolph County, NC and from here to Shelby County, IN. These two couples live on in the Nail-Ray Association, most of which is descended from Thomas and Elizabeth.

Clara was also known as Clarissa.

The names Clara and Frances, at one point, seemed to the same person. But the best evidence is that they represent two people. More research on the two is desired.

RPU – 29 May 2019

Acknowledgements: This Biofile was transcribed by the talented Carla Michaels, directors of volunteers at the UAFA branch in Cary, NC.

(A) Added inputs from Janet (Morgan) Ross re the 2 Franklin Co, NC couples who moved from Franklin Co, NC to Indiana – email to RPU 14 Mar 2017 – A = 8:55AM; B = 10:39AM

A The mystery of John Pearce is still fairly unsolved. We know that Elizabeth had a brother John, who is buried next to her in Indiana (and so we know his death date). We know his approximate birth date from his deposition for Elizabeth's Revolutionary War Pension Application, and we know he had a daughter Martha who married Zebedee Ray, son of Hutson Ray and grandson of Elizabeth Pearce and Thomas Ray. Other information is softer.

B As for John Pearce, there is a possibly good candidate for the son of John Pearce who lived in a nearby county to Shelby Co., IN. One problem with that that man is that Y-DNA from one of his descendants does not match that of men from the Phillip Pearce family. Also, his mother was named Clarissa and a Find-A-Grave post says her maiden name was Jones. So, more work needs to be done there to connect dots, and I've not been interested in researching that family. I've tried to get descendants of Zebedee Ray and Martha Pearce to take the Family Finder test and will keep nudging them. If they have more matches with Upchurch families than others in the Nail-Ray family have, I think that would be supportive evidence that Martha's mother was an Upchurch. (Sigh).

I. Nathan Pearce 1725 – 1796

A. Elizabeth Pearce married Thomas Ray

1. Hudson Ray

a. Zebedee Ray

B. John Pearce

Married () Clara/Clarissa Upchurch – presumptive daughter of Richard Upchurch, III

1. Martha Pearce

Married () Zebedee Ray

a. A candidate son lived near Shelby Co, IN & his mother was Clarissa & she was nee Jones

(1) Letter 2 Oct 77 from Edythe Tippettt indicates Clara Upchurch was daughter of Richard Upchurch Jr. and she married John Pearce & that they moved to IN after Rev. War.

(2) See Will file for Petition Dec 1817 to divide property of Richard Upchurch Jr. Franklin Co NC – List Clara Upchurch as daughter her husband John Pace. [John Pearce]

(3) See Page 29 attachment to 2 Feb 1978 letter Elva E Burkhalter to RPU re Clara Upchurch: “John Pace [John Pearce] & wife Clara mentioned as Heirs of Richard Upchurch of Franklin Co, NC. Clara seems to be the daughter of Richard. Franklin Co. Wills & Inventories, Bk “E” page 120, 1815 – 1817 division of lands of Richard Upchurch to John Pearce and wife (Pace & Pearce must be same person)”

(4) In attachment to 23 Aug 1977 letter Edythe Tippettt to RPU Mrs Tippettt tells Mrs W. R. L. U of Atlanta, TX that Buckner Upchurch, son of Richard Upchurch Jr, moved to Randolph Co, NC in 1820 (pg 48 of Olive Morgan book). Tippettt thinks John Pearce who married Clara Upchurch (sister of Buckner Upchurch & daughter of Richard Upchurch Jr. (III) was also in Randolph Co, NC at this time as he gave William Rhea power of attorney to collect for him from Richard Upchurch Jr. estate.

(5) See letter 10 Jul 1980 Elva Era Burkhalter to RPU Page 14. [Note: I show 2 daughters for Richard Upchurch III – Clara & Frances]* Clara Frances Upchurch* born 1795, daughter of Richard Upchurch Jr [III], married 1 Dec 1808 John Pearce, Wit = Nathan Pearce.

*I will assume Richard Upchurch, III had 1 daughter, Clara Upchurch – RPU 26 Jul 2010

(6) See letter Elva Era Burkhalter to RPU 27 Oct 1980 “Richard Upchurch, father of Claburn, had one daughter. Her name was Clara Frances*. She married Pierce, Pearce or Pace. Those are the three spellings of it.”

(7) Frances Pace Upchurch [Clara Upchurch] daughter of Richard Upchurch Jr (28)

(8) Note: Upon reexamination of the records I conclude above comes from Page 86 of (28) and that the proper item is Frances (Upchurch) Pace. Although page 86 shows that Frances Upchurch, daughter of Richard Upchurch III, married --- Pace (and the original source used by (28) shows she married --- Pearce & in fact John Pearce – RPU]

(9) See letter 10 Jul 1980 Elva Era Burkhalter to RPU

Page 14 – [Note: Assume that Richard Upchurch III has 2 daughters Clara & Frances – this item indicates one = Clara Frances Upchurch – RPU] Clara Frances Upchurch [Use **Clara Upchurch** only – RPU 26 Jul 2010] born 1795, daughter of Richard Upchurch JR [III], married 1 Dec 1808 John Pearce. Witness – Nathan Pearce.

(10) Note: Richard Upchurch III (Head of Clan) had one daughter Clara Frances Upchurch (XID – 72) who married John Pearce. Up to 1 Feb 81 RPU mistakenly listed Clara and Frances as separate individuals. Clara had been XID – 2796 and Frances XID – 72. Hence forth I will accept Clara Frances Upchurch XID – 72. The number XID – 2796 will be vacated. Corrections appear in Upchurch Bulletin 2 Issue 1 (Errors corrected on pages 19, 75, & 159 of Upchurch Bulletin 1) – RPU 1 Feb 81

(B) Re the marriage on 1 Dec 1808 (Franklin Co, NC) of Frances Upchurch to John Pearce

As of 30 Jul 2007 I am unable to determine to which of the two following marriages this record applies (RPU)

Nephew – John Pearce born 1787 married () Frances Upchurch daughter of Benjamin Upchurch

Uncle – John Pearce born 1766 married () Clara Upchurch [AKA Clara Frances Upchurch] daughter of Richard Upchurch, III.

If the 1808 marriage was for John Pearce born 1787 he would have been marrying at age 21 which is OK for a first marriage.

If the 1808 marriage was for John Pearce born 1787 he would have been marrying at age 42 which makes it likely that it was a 2nd marriage for him.

More research on the children of the two marriages may shed some light on the matter.

Unrelated to the above issue is a 3rd Frances Upchurch born Abt 1807 who married 1829 (Wake Co, NC) Blake Baker. There is conflicting evidence as to whether she was Frances Upchurch daughter of Jubal Upchurch or Mrs. Frances Upchurch, widow of Williford Upchurch, son of James Upchurch VII & grandson of Richard Upchurch, III.

Per attachment #29 West Letter 18 May 1975 – Franklin Co NC Marriage Bonds

Frances Upchurch married John Pearce 1 Dec 1808 – Bondsman & witness = Nathan Pearce”

See letter 10 Jul 1908 Elva Era Burkhalter to RPU

Page 14_ Clara Frances Upchurch, daughter of Richard Upchurch Jr [III] married 1 Dec 1808 John Pearce. Wit: Nathan Pearce

(C) Use of the Given name John in the Pearce Family of Wake & Franklin Cos, NC 1750 – 1900 & Upchurch connections

I. Nathan Pearce born 1735 () died 1821 (Franklin Co, NC)

Married 1756 () Nancy Wester

A. Phillip Pearce [I of 4 brothers] born 1754 () died 1812/ 1834 (Franklin Co, NC)

Married () Nancy Bunn

*1. John Pearce [XID 4203] born 1787 () died (Franklin Co, NC)

Married (Franklin Co, NC) Frances Upchurch daughter of Benjamin Upchurch

a. John Pearce “Jack” [XID 33869] born about 1810

b. Benjamin Pearce

i. John H Pearce [XID 33886] born about 1853/ 1857 (Franklin Co, NC)

*[John Pearce born 1787 married Frances Upchurch, daughter of Benjamin Upchurch & John Pearce born 1766 married Frances Clara Upchurch daughter of Richard Upchurch, III BUT to which of these 2 marriages does the 1 Dec 1808 marriage of John Pearce to Frances Upchurch apply – RPU 30 Jul 2007]

B* John Pearce [1 of 4 brothers] born about 1766 () died () Shelby Co, IN married Clara Upchurch daughter of Richard Upchurch, III [was she Clara Frances Upchurch?]

2. Nathan Pearce born 1783 () died 1867 (Franklin Co, NC) (Buried Nathan Pearce Cemetery, Franklin Co, NC)

Married (1st) Susan Upchurch¹ born 1790 (Franklin Co, NC) died (Franklin Co, NC) – possibly daughter of Benjamin Upchurch

Married (2nd) 1867 (Franklin Co, NC) Mary A Tippet born 1834

a. Acril N. Pearce born 1814 (Franklin Co, NC) died 1880 (Franklin Co, NC)

i. John Calvin/ Clifton Pearce born 1838 (Franklin Co, NC) died 1924 (Franklin Co, NC) (Burial: Pearces Church)

Married 1861 (Franklin Co, NC) Lenora Jane Pearce – an Upchurch descendant

ii. Bryant Pearce born 1849 (Franklin Co, NC)

(I) John Robin Pearce born 1875 () died 1948 ()

iii. Doctor Wiley Pearce born 1848 (Franklin Co, NC) died 1930 (Franklin Co, NC)

(I) John Walter Pearce born 1876 (Franklin Co, NC) died 1941 (Franklin Co, NC)

b. Solomon Pearce CSA born 1831 (Franklin Co, NC)

i. William Burrell Pearce/ Robert Burrell Pearce

(I) John B. Pearce born 1887 (Franklin Co, NC)

Married () --- --- Sanford

c. Burrell Pearce

i. Robert Pearce born about 1850

(I) John Valentine Pearce born 1874 (Franklin Co, NC)
died 1959 (Franklin Co, NC)

Other John's in Pearce Family born about:

John Pearce 1812 Wake Co, NC

John J Pearce 1837 Franklin Co, NC
son of Archibald Pearce 1804

John Pearce 1840 Wake Co, NC
son of John Pearce 1812

John A Pearce 1849 Wake Co, NC

John H Pearce 1847 Wake Co, NC
son of Berry Pearce 1818

John Pearce 1858 Wake Co, NC
Son of Wesley Pearce 1828

John A Pearce 1859 Franklin Co, NC
Son of Archibald Pearce 1831

John Pearce 1860 Franklin Co, NC
Son of Margaret Pearce 1831

John Walter Pearce

(D) Summary of census records for Clara Frances Upchurch born 1793 – Head of the Richard Upchurch, III/ Clara Frances Upchurch Sub-clan

1800 – Franklin Co, NC

Clara Frances Upchurch age 7 would be expected to be in the home of her father Richard Upchurch, III. In his home in 1800 there is not a 0 – 10 age slot available according to extracts created by RPU and by Charles John Peterson, JR. However an extract created by Mayfred Upchurch does provide a 0 – 10 age slot for a female [+3- 10 – 16 Female age slots not reported before.]

1810 – Franklin Co, NC

Clara Frances Upchurch age 17 is not in the home of her father Richard Upchurch, III. Other records show she married 1 Dec 1808 to John Pearce and thus could have been in her own home in 1810. However, note that in 1808 she would have been 15 or at the most 16 – hence the dates fit even if barely.

(E) For addition to biofiles of John Pearce born 1766 and Clara Frances Upchurch daughter of Richard Upchurch, III – presumed husband & wife

A. In letter 23 Apr 2010 RPU wrote to Janet Ross

“John Pearce born about 1766 married 1808 (Franklin Co, NC) Clara Frances Upchurch. They moved to IN. Clara is thought to have been a granddaughter of Richard Upchurch, II.”

B. Email 26 Apr 2010 – Janet Ross to RPU

Dear Phil,

I had one of those “ah-ha” moments when I read your letter dated 23 Apr 2010. Your Upchurch/Nail-Ray collaboration is paying off for Nail-Ray.

So, my John Pearce/ Pierce married Clara Frances Upchurch in 1808 in Franklin Co, NC! I had not made the connection because I/we had initially assumed that John went to Randolph Co, NC, shortly after he married Selah Sims on 06 Mar 1786 in Wake Co, NC, but when John showed up in Indiana he was married to Clara/Clarissa (last name unknown). Clara Francis Upchurch would fit though because his two youngest children were born after 1808 – Martha in 1812 and Sion in 1816. The birth date that her family has for Clara is 14 October 1764 and the 1850 Census in Shelby Co, IN, has that she was born in Virginia and the 1860 Census in Jefferson, Poweshiek Co, IA has North Carolina. She died 04 November 1869 and was buried in Poweshiek Co, IA. She was 50-ish when she had her two youngest children – which might/ would/ could be explained by her being married in only 1808. (John’s oldest daughter, Sarah who was born about 1792 in North Carolina, would then have been his child with his first wife Selah Sims.) Okay, that works for me!

Phil, Bev Knoll-Hegstron, Bethan Roberts, and Carol Masse are descendants of Clara’s daughter Martha Pierce who married Zebedee Ray (grandson of Thomas Ray of Franklin and Wake Co, NC). Please fill us in on Clara’s Upchurch ancestors!

Best regards,
Janet

C. Email 30 Apr 2010 – RPU to Janet

Hi Janet ---

With your message in hand it appears we may have the option of doing some digging to get a few things straight. Note that the attachment to my 23 Apr 2010 letter to you states that the 1808 marriage of John Pearce b. 1766 was to an Upchurch lady presumed to be the granddaughter of Richard Upchurch, II called by various names – Clara Frances Upchurch, Frances A Upchurch, and Frances Upchurch. My feeling is that there are two ladies here, one a daughter of Benjamin Upchurch and one a daughter of Richard Upchurch, III. Both of these first cousin females married a Pearce. As I study the matter I am now unsure which Frances married which Pearce. One of the husbands was John Pearce b. 1766 he being the son of Nathan Pearce, I b. 1735 and being the brother of the Elizabeth Pearce who married your Thomas Ray. The other husband was John Pearce, II b. 1787, son of Philip Pearce b. 1754.

One of the couples stayed in NC and I have a large collection of descendants of this couple the uncertainty of the parentage of both husband and wife notwithstanding.

The other couple moved to IN and it is from this couple that a daughter Martha Pierce appeared and for whom you have contact with living descendants. I am assuming that you or they have good records for this family. If I can be provided with an outline of this family I will study it going backwards to see if I can get to the point where we begin to learn more about the two couples and their parentage. If you have all ready sent what I request just give me a clue and I will go over the data.

I feel we may be close to peeling back a few pages of history. If my comments above need to be set straight in any way please let me know.

Please be patient with me as I have two major out-of-state trips planned between now and June 15 and that always clutters mind and desk.

Phil Upchurch

(F) No number indicated. Biofile labeled "Frances Upchurch", no XID number.

Re the marriage on 1 Dec 1808 (Franklin Co, NC) of Frances Upchurch to John Pearce

As of 30 Jul 2007 I am unable to determine to which of the two following marriages this record applies (RPU)

Nephew John Pearce born 1787 married () Frances Upchurch daughter of Benjamin Upchurch

Uncle John Pearce born 1766 married () Clara Upchurch [AKA **Clara Frances Upchurch** daughter of Richard Upchurch, III

If the 1808 marriage was for John Pearce born 1787 he would have been marrying at age 21 which is OK for a first marriage.

If the 1808 marriage was for John Pearce born 1766 he would have been marrying at age 42 which makes it likely that it was a 2nd marriage for him.

More research on the children of the two marriages may shed some light on the matter.

Unrelated to the above issue is a 3rd Frances Upchurch born about 1807 who married 1829 (Wake Co, NC) Blake Baker. There is conflicting evidence as to whether she was Frances Upchurch daughter of Jubal Upchurch or Mrs. Frances Upchurch, widow of Williford Upchurch, son of James Upchurch, VII and grandson of Richard Upchurch, III.

Per attachment #29 West letter 18 May 1975 – Franklin Co NC Marriage Bonds

"Frances Upchurch married John Pearce 1 Dec 1808 – Bondsman & witness = Nathan Pearce"

See letter 10 Jul 1980 Elva Era Burkhalter to RPU

Page 14 – Clara Frances Upchurch born 1795, daughter of Richard Upchurch Jr [III] married 1 Dec 1808 John Pearce. Wit = Nathan Pearce.

(G) See Page 14 Download in letter 7 Mar 2000 Flora Pauline Upchurch to RPU

19. John⁶ Pearce (*Phillip⁵, Nathan⁴, Nathan³, Phillip², George¹*) was born November 10, 1787 in Franklin Co, NC. He married Frances Upchurch December 1, 1808 in Franklin Co, NC¹⁰, daughter [??] of Richard Upchurch [Richard Upchurch, III] and Susannah Pace [2nd wife]. She was born Abt. 1790 in Franklin Co., NC.

Children of John Pearce and Frances Upchurch are:

- i. Jane⁷ Pearce, m. Clem Alford, March 10, 1840.
- ii. Priscilla Pearce, m. Archibald Alford, December 8, 1835, Franklin Co, NC
- iii. Sidney Pearce, m. Pam Mitchell. [RPU show as Lucinda Pearce married () Pemberton Mitchell – Cross List]
- iv. Jack Pearce, b. about 1810. [John Pearce]
- v. Benjamin Pearce, CSA, b. November 11, 1816, Franklin Co, NC; d. August 30, 1904, Franklin Co, NC.
- vi. Harriet Pearce, b. Abt. 1818, Franklin Co, NC
- vii. Clara Ann Pearce, b. October 9, 1925, Franklin Co., NC; d. September 8, 1912, Franklin Co, NC.
- viii. Fannie Pearce, b. Abt. 1831.
- ix. Calvin Pearce, CSA, b. Abt. 1833, Franklin Co, NC; d. Bef. 1880, Franklin Co, NC.

I. Nathan Pearce, I born 9 Jul 1735

A. Philip Pearce 1 of the 4 brothers)

1. John Pearce, II

Married () Clara Frances Upchurch vs Frances Upchurch

[was she daughter of Richard Upchurch, III or of Benjamin Upchurch – both heads of clans.]

(H) RPU thoughts about tricky Upchurch – Pearce – Ray Relations – Reference Nail & Ray Families 2nd Edition and RPU records – by RPU 26 Jul 2010

I, Nathan Pearce, I born 9 Jul 1735 – He + 5 sons & 1 daughter to Franklin Co, NC – Moccasin Creek Area 1775±

A. Elizabeth Pearce born about 1767

Married () Thomas Ray born about 1762

To Randolph Co, NC and then to Shelby Co, IN – Noll Heritage

B. Philip Pearce born 24 Jul 1754

1. John Pearce, II born 12 Nov 1789 () died () (Buried Family Cemetery 3 miles southwest of Poplar Springs Baptist Church, Franklin Co, NC

Married () --- --- Upchurch – Possibly the Frances Upchurch who married 1 Dec 1808 (Franklin Co, NC) John Pearce – She is possibly daughter of Benjamin Upchurch.

C. John Pearce, I born about 1766 () died (Shelby Co, IN)

Married () Clara Upchurch (Clarice) daughter Richard Upchurch, III

There seems to be little doubt that John Pearce who lived close to his sister Elizabeth (Pearce) Ray in Randolph Co, NC was the John who married the only daughter of Richard Upchurch, III who died intestate in Franklin Co, NC in 1816. His son-in-law John Pearce and his wife drew lot #1 of 28 acres (need to find where John sold this.) A clincher is that John Pearce in Randolph Co, NC appointed William Rhea in Franklin Co, NC to recover his right to a portion of the estate of Richard Upchurch, III.

The records from IN show the wife of John Pearce born 1766 was "Clarise" hence Clara.

The children of Richard Upchurch, III were born from 1774 to 1795 with a daughter born in 1793. Richard Upchurch, III married 2nd 14 Sep 1796 (Franklin Co, NC). His young sons show up in his home on the 1800 census but no young daughter born 1793. Perhaps she was staying with relatives.??

In the 1790 – 1810 era it is unlikely you would find a female with the name Clara & Frances.

On balance, I am inclined to say that the 1808 marriage was for John Pearce born 1787 and Frances Upchurch possible daughter of Benjamin Upchurch – not for John Pearce born 1766 and Clara Upchurch.

(I) Upchurch – Ray – Pearce Relationships – from pages 926, 927 Nail & Ray Families 2nd Edition 1997 by RPU 26 Jul 2010 [] = per RPU

[x. Nathan Pearce born 9 Jul 1735 (VA) He & wife & children to Moccasin Creek Area of NC 1771]

P111 Nathan Pearce

D. before 26 March 1796 (when Nancy Peirce, widow of Nathan Peirce, was granted her 62 and 1/3 acres of the land to be divided [Franklin Co., NC Will Book B, p. 36 (ref. 3)])

M. to Nancy --- (maybe Weston) [Nancy Sarah Wester]

Parents of ?, record of 6 children

P1111 Stephen Pearce

B. 1756 – 1765 (less than 45 in 1800 Census and more than 45 in 1810 Census for Franklin Co., NC)

D. in Wake Co, NC

M. to Elizabeth ---

Parents of 4 children

P11111 Charlotte Pearce

M. to --- Upchurch [Jubal Upchurch, I]

P11112 Elizabeth Pearce

M. 19 March 1808 Franklin Co, NC
To Simion Carpenter

P11113 Mary Pearce

M. to --- Perry [James Perry, Jr.]

P11114 Cherry Pearce

M. 09 October 1815 Franklin Co, NC
To Drewry Denton

P1112 Arthur Pearce

D. before 26 Mar 1796 (when Nancy Peirce, widow of Arthur Peirce, was granted 41 acres for her dower land [Franklin Co, CN Will Book B, p. 36 (ref. 3)])

M. to Nancy --- (see above)

Parents of 2 children (Philip Pearce was named guardian for these children after Arthur's death)

P11121 Cordy Pearce } Moses Upchurch took over as guardian 1799

P11122 Willie Pearce }

P1113 Phillip Pearce (fought in the American Revolutionary War)^{2,3}

² His son Nathan Pearce, II born 23 May 1783 married (2nd) Susan Upchurch possible daughter of Benjamin Upchurch.

³ His son John Pearce, II born 10 Nov 1787 could be the one who married 1 Dec 1808 (Franklin Co, NC) Frances Upchurch

B. 1756 – 1765 (younger than 45 in 1800 Census and older than 45 in 1810 Census for Franklin co, NC)

D. ?buried old Bryant Stallings Graveyard, near Moccasin Creek in Franklin Co, NC
M. 1778

To Nancy Bunn

Parents to 6 children

P1114 Elizabeth Pearce [Elizabeth Pearce & her husband Thomas Ray had a Moccasin Creek, NC heritage but no Upchurch ancestors but her brother married an Upchurch

B. ca 1766 North Carolina

D. 13 November 1844 Shelby Co, IN, buried Ray/ Center Cemetery, Shelby Co, IN

M. Bond dated 29 March 1783 Franklin Co, NC (Bondsman, Charles Upchurch; Witness: J. Rice)

To Thomas Ray [R12] (Son of William Ray, Sr.)

Parents of 7 children

For record, see Thomas Ray [R12]

P1115 John Pearce

B. ca 1768

D. 03 Jan 1845 (age 77 years) buried Brandywine Center/ Ray Cemetery, Shelby Co, IN

M. to Clarissa [tentatively Clara Upchurch daughter of Richard Upchurch, III]

Parents of ?, record of 1 child

P11151 Martha Pierce

B. 27 February 1812 North Carolina

D. 30 January 1896

M. 25 December 1832 (Bible Record) Shelby Co, IN

To Zebedee Ray [R1213] [Son of Huston [R121] and Margaret (Byerly) Ray]

Parents of 12 children

For record, see Zebedee Ray [R1213]¹

¹I. Wm Ray, Sr. – had Moccasin Creek Land in mid 1700s

A. Wm Ray, Jr

1. John Ray – lived in Chatham Co, NC then in Randolph Co.

B. Hutson Ray – died in Revolutionary War

1. Zebedee Ray

Married () Martha Pearce granddaughter of Richard Upchurch, III

C. Charles Ray died in Revolutionary War

D. Thomas Ray – Revolutionary War

P1116 James Pearce [born about 1758]

D. before 1795 Franklin Co, NC (Guardian Account for his children was assumed by Phillip Pearce from the former guardian John Martin [Franklin Co, NC Will Book B, p. 19].)

M. to Mary --- (because she received one-third of the estate of James Pearce)

Parents of 5 children (named as orphans, would have been minors in 1795 when their father died)

(J) Page 931 of Book Nail & Ray Families 2nd Edition 1997

I. Richard Upchurch, III – Head of Clan

A. Clara Upchurch

Married () John Pearce

RPU Note: Here John Pearce is supporting the petition of ??? Elizabeth (Pearce) Ray widow of Thomas Ray for a Revolutionary War pension RPU – 27 Jul 2010

These two couples married in the Moccasin Creek area of NC & then moved together to Randolph Co, NC before 1820 and then to Shelby Co, IN. John Pearce was age 76 in 1842 hence born about 1876 [More likely 1776 – CJM 5 May 2019].

Deposition of John Pierce

State of Indiana Hancock county Be it known on this the 18th day of May in the year 1842 Before me Andrew F. Hatfield a Justice of the Peace of Said county of Hancock personally appeared John Pierce a resident of Said county aged 76 years of Sound mind and memory who being by me duly Sworn on his oath Saith that he is the brother of Elizabeth Ray of Shelby county Indiana who is the widow of Thomas Ray deceased who died in Said county of Shelby Twelve years ago last fall during the revolutionary war and from the earliest recollection of this deponent he resided in the county of Franklin near the line of wake county in the State of North Carolina with his father's family and a near neighbor to the father and family of Said Thomas Ray while the Said war was raging in Carolina and other Southern States about the fall of the year 1779 and

when this deponent was a lad he thinks about 13 or 14 years of age the Said Thomas Ray being thereabout two years or upwards older than this deponent he the said Thomas was drafted to Sere in the army for 3 months it was understood at that time among the family and neighbours that Said Thomas was not quite of Sufficient age to be drafted but his father did not go to prove his age and he Thomas went with Several others of the neighbours and Served and when his term ecpired he hired as a Substitute for one of the neighbours Jacob Wheeler for 3 months and after that time was out he returned home but was very Soon called out again and went Still on from one campaign to another till the war was about threw in that part of the country I think he must have served in all near two years from the general conversation and report in the neighborhood he was in the battle at Eutaw Springs he came home Soon after that battle with a Slight wound on his neck and another on his foot he brought home one of the redcoats of the brittish there ware Several persons who I know out in the Service at the Same time to wit – John Segraves Sen John Segraves Jun Charles Ray Hudson Ray Jefse buh John Pierce Richard Pierce William Wheeler Shadrach Medlin Philbert Peirce John Rainwater Anderson Nunery James Pierce Joseph Pery Roger Craig Andrew Jackson John Martin Starling Cooper Tanner alford who was a Mager in the Service I do not know where any of these persons are or wheather any of them are living except I have had a late account from Andrew Jackson he was yet alive at that Hudson Ray was wounded in battle and died in the hospital and Charles Ray died a prisoner with the British they ware both Brothers to Said Thomas the next winter after the war was over in those parts the Said Thomas Ray and my Sister Elizabeth was Married at my fathers residence in franklin county by Tanner Alford a Magistrate I was present and Saw them Married they lived Together until the death of Said Thomas Ray as above mentioned they had Several children to wit – Hudson Ray James Ray Gilley Ray Sarah Ray Susanna Ray Martha Ray and Cha?ey Ray this deponent cannot State positively that he is acactly correct as to the dates or as to his own age or the age of said Thomas Ray the family Records of this deponants father and family was given up in the time of the war to be Sold to pay expences of the war this deponent remembers that Some man cane to his fathers house for money or property for that purpose and his father had nothing for them but the Bible which he Gave up and that had the record of their ages in it Elizabeth the widow of Said Thomas is about Two years older than this deponent

His
(signed) John~ Pierce
Mark

Witnesses ---
Wiley Wray
James M, McCorkhill (?)

Sworn to and subscribd the day and year first above written ---

Andrew F. Hatfield
Justice of the Peace

(K) Pages 641 – 650 from book – **Nail & Ray Families** – 2nd Edition 1997

I. Richard Upchurch, III – Head of Clan

A. Clara Upchurch “Clarissa”

Married () John Pearce

1. Martha Pierce

Married () Zebedee Ray

12 children and descendants on pages 641 – 650

RPU note 27 Jul 2010

All 10 pages to biofile of Zebedee Ray awaiting processing. Page 641 only to biofile of Clara Upchurch

R1213 Zebedee Ray

Zebedee was the third child of Hutson Ray [R121] and Margaret Byerly. Zebedee’s Bible was entitled Bible: New Testament of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, translated of the original Greek and with the former translations diligently compared and revised. (Philadelphia, William W. Harding), dated 1864 (no current information about the Bible’s guardian).

R1214 Zebedee Ray (name spelled Zebedie in Bible record)

B. 24 March 1811 Randolph Co., NC (Bible record)

D. 01 November 1858 (Bible record) (age 57 years) buried Brandywine Center/ Ray Cemetery, Shelby Co., IN

M. 25 December 1832 Shelby Co., IN (Bible record)

To Martha Pierce [Daughter of John and Clarissa Pierce. John Pierce was the brother of Elizabeth Pearce who married Thomas Ray [R12], Zebedee’s grandfather. John Pierce died 03 January 1845 (age 77 Years) and is buried in the Brandywine Center/ Ray Cemetery, Shelby Co., IN, beside his sister Elizabeth (Pearce) Ray.]

Parents of 12 children

R12131 Reuben Ray

B. 01 December 1833 Shelby Co., IN (Bible record)

D. 01 Jul 1934 (Cemetery record; Bible record has only July 1834 buried Brandywine Center/ Ray Cemetery, Shelby Co., IN

R12132 Jincy (Bible record) (Jennice?) Ray

B. 27 Aug 1834 (Bible record has 27 Aug 1835) Shelby Co., IN

D. 07 September 1865 (Cemetery and Bible records) buried Brandywine Center/ Ray Cemetery, Shelby Co., IN

M. 08 January 1857

To Samuel Brown

Parents of 2 children

R12132-1 Robert M. Brown (Residence: Mount Pleasant, IA)

B. 1858

Parent of 1 child
 R12132-11 Ruth Brown
 R12132-2 Minnie Brown
 M. to Rev. --- Foster
 R12133 William Ray
 B. 27 January 1837 (Bible and Cemetery records) Shelby Co., IN
 D. 18 Oct 1908 buried Brandywine Center/ Ray Cemetery, Shelby Co., IN
 M. 27 Nov 1862
 To Elizabeth Williams
 B. 01 October 1842
 D. 20 October 1921 buried Brandywine Center/ Ray Cemetery, Shelby Co., IN
 Parents of 4 children
 R12133-1 Emma May Ray
 B. 1865
 D. 1942 buried Brandywine Center/ Ray Cemetery, Shelby Co., IN (under name
 of Emma May Kanoose)
 M1 11 March 1888
 To Benedict Hasler

Page 641 [See book or biofile of Zeebedee Ray for pages 642 – 650]

(L) RPU downloads from internet – 15 Nov 2011

From RPU records:

I. Nathan Pearce born 9 Jul 1735 (VA) died 26 Feb 1821 (Franklin Co, NC)

Married 24 Jun 1756 () Nancy Sarah Wester [vs. Ann Westray]

A. James Pearce

B. Elizabeth Pearce

Married () Thomas Ray

C. John Pearce

Married Clara Upchurch

Daughter of Richard Upchurch, III

D. Philip Pearce

Married () Nancy Bunn

E. Arthur Pearce

F. Stephen Pearce

Elizabeth and John with spouses
 moved to Shelby Co., IN

Borland-Heinzman Families

Owner: James Snow

Nathan Pearce

Birth about 1725 in Isle of Wight Co., Virginia

Death before 26 Mar 1796 in Franklin Co., North Carolina

1725 Birth
 About Isle of Wight Co., Virginia
 Based on his being 21 years old (an adult) in his first documented land record

1752 Marriage to Ann Westray
 About Isle of Wight Co., Virginia
 Age: 27 Date is “probably”, but definitely before 1755 (the date of Ann’s father’s death).
 See attached story for documentation sources for Ann’s name and parents.

1796 Death
 26 Mar Franklin Co., North Carolina
 Age: 71

Family Members

Parents Phillip Pearce (Sr.)
 1684 – 1728
 Sarah
 – 1738

Show siblings

Spouse & Children

Ann Westray
 1735 – 1810
 Arthur Pierce
 James Pierce
 Philip Pierce
 Stephen Pierce
 Elizabeth (Betsey) Pearce
 1766 – 1844
 John Simon Pierce
 1768 - 1845