

Sarah Anne Elizabeth Parker**XID – 3637**

Commentary: Sarah Anne was born on 18 Mary 1839 in Nassau County, FL. She married Nathaniel Smith Upchurch in 1858. This couple would go on to produce 10 children. Nathaniel was the son of Gilbert and the grandson of Nathan I, head of Upchurch Clan #3. Sarah passed away in 1911 at the age of 72.

Acknowledgements: This Biofile was transcribed by Carla J. Michaels, long-time Cary resident and coordinator of volunteers for UAFA.

(no number) Rough extract of letter 9 Feb 2011 Kay Lind Slappey to RPU

The email letter provided 9 images Kay captured on a visit to the Court House Nassau Co, FL. These images A – I are preserved with the letter in the biofile of KLS. They concern activities of my Great Uncle Nathaniel Smith Upchurch and his family. To fully grasp all the actions I need better copies. Rough extracts appear below.

Re: A: Photo of Kay and her daughter on a NY trip.

Re: C: (#334) – Description by Kay:

Picture #334 - "N.S. Upchurch, Commissioner, to Jeff. Murhee": Date: October 1875. The story: NSU had been appointed by the probate court to appraise and sell the land of Jacob Geiger, deceased. Here he is selling 120 acres to Jefferson Murhee for \$50 - what a deal! The story behind the story: Jacob Geiger is my great-great-great grandfather. It was his daughter, Martha Lucretia Geiger, that married B.C. Parker, brother to SAE Upchurch. And Jefferson Murhee was married to Sarah Geiger, another of Jacob's daughters. So I guess Jeff got the family deal.

Re: B, H, I (339, 340, 341)

Pictures #339, 340, 341: This document is for the sale of land by NS Upchurch to Jehu Boothe for a parcel of land along the rail line at Callahan Station. The document also has SAE Upchurch signing away her dower right. This was in June 1860, not long after their 1858 marriage. And guess who Jehu Boothe is? My great-great grandfather on the other side! And check out the witnesses - Jacob Geiger and his sons. All these folks seemed to run in the same circles.

SAE U = nee **Sarah Anne Elizabeth Parker** wife of Nathaniel Smith Upchurch

D, E, F, G

Pictures #352,353,354,355: These are the indexes to the deeds, both reverse and direct, for the Upchurch name. You can see that the Upchurch family was quite involved in property transactions from way back. Maybe NSU did plant the seed for the family wealth.

(Covers Deeds 1840 – 1 Jan 1934)

D & E = Direct Deeds – From Upchurch to X – 45 entried

F & G = Reverse Deeds – To Upchurch from X – 41 entried

Names often found in D, E, F, G

Nathaniel Smith Upchurch Frank Drew Upchurch

John Jones Upchurch, Sr

Organization of some of the above input

1860: **NSU** sells land in Callahan, FL to John Booth – great great grandfather of Kay

SAEP signs away her rights

1875: **NSU** as appointed commissioner sells land of Jacob Geiger, dec'd to Jefferson Murkee

I. Jacob Geiger – great great great grandfather of Kay

A. Martha Lucretia Geiger
 married () B C Parker, brother of SAEP who married NSU
 B. Sarah Geiger
 married () Jefferson Murkee

(no number) Item in letter 6 Nov 2010 Kay Lind Slappey to RPU
 Crossfile: Callahan, Nassau Co, FL

(no number) Re: Part (2) of letter 29 Aug 2010 Kay Slappey to RPU re: the Florida Upchurches and especially Nathaniel Smith Upchurch and his wife **Sarah Anne Elizabeth Parker**. [Note: Pages 17 to 27 only sent on special request – RPU]
 Note of Kay re: Part (2) → + see her narrative below.
 “These documents are from the Indian War Service Pension application file for Martha Lucretia (Geiger) Parker, widow of Benjamin C Parker (brother of SAE Parker Upchurch).

The 10 documents appear in RPU files in the Biofile of Nathaniel Smith Upchurch.
 Added snippets from the 10 documents:

- a. NSU and **SAEP** were present when on 29 Dec 1859 (Nassau Co, FL) Benjamin C Parker and Martha Lucretia Geiger married in home of father Jacob Geiger, Edward King, JP. NSU and **SAEP** had known the couple for 2 years before their marriage on 29 Dec 1859.
- b. Benjamin C Parker did 22 Nov 189
- c. BCP left home with 1/2 brother William Stafford or later wrote home from Tampa, FL that they had joined the FL Indian War. [Seminole Indian War]
- d. NSU says he will be 85 on 27 Aug 1908.

2. Copies of correspondence, affidavits, etc., from the Indian War service pension application file for Martha Lucretia Geiger Parker, widow of Benjamin C. Parker. Benjamin was the brother of Sarah Ann Elizabeth Parker, wife of N.S. Upchurch. The pension file was obtained from the National Archives. Lucretia Parker first applied in 1905, and was denied a widow's pension because her husband's service record could not be located. It was later realized that the names of Benjamin's service units were incorrect in the original application, and in 1908, another application was submitted. In both applications, N.S. and Sarah Upchurch submitted testimony on behalf of Lucretia's application. Note that in 1905, the Upchurches lived in Moniac, Georgia, but that by 1908, they were living in Jacksonville. Particularly valuable to me is the statement from Sarah that Benjamin left home with their half brother, William Stafford. I suspected there was a least one half sibling, and her statement confirmed it for me. Also valuable to my search is the statement from Nathaniel describing his conversations with Benjamin's former military commander. Also note that in 1908, correspondence is addressed to N.S. at the Dyal-Upchurch Building in Jacksonville. I am sure you know the history of the building. It is clear that N.S. played a large part in Lucretia eventually receiving her widow's pension, even enlisting the assistance of US Senator Talliaferro from Florida. Also noteworthy is the fact that in an affidavit dated April 27, 1908, Sarah gives her age as 68, but by June 20, 1908, she gives her age as 69, indicating she had a birthday since the first statement. However, other records (headstone, death certificate) give her birthday as March, so the ages in the affidavit may be incorrect.

(no number) Recap of prenuptial agreement between Nathaniel Smith Upchurch and **Sarah Anne Elizabeth Parker** – by RPU 21 Sep 2010

The transcribed version of the prenup was emailed to RPY by Kay Slappy on 8 May 2010 and a copy of the original was included as Item #1 in a letter 29 Aug 2010 from Kay to RPU. Kay is a descendant of Benjamin Parker, a brother of **SAE Parker**. The prenup was recorded in Nassau Co, FL on 4 or 14 Jul 1858 and the marriage presumably took place later although some sources place the marriage date in Mar 1858.

My interpretation is that the assets referred to in the prenup concern only 5 slaves which in 1858 would have represented wealth but not large wealth. At the close of the Civil War in 1865 the value would be 0. One might surmise that the groom, NSU, had debts or was know to incur same. The Jones Family that raised **SAEP** were wise to care for her assets. As to the initial source of Upchurch wealth among the FL Upchurches it seems unlikely that it came from NSU or his wife **SAEP** and more likely that it came from the effort of John Jones Upchurch, Sr.

The recap is being placed as indicated by Δ .

The transcription and the original copy are preserved in the biofile of Nathaniel Smith Upchurch.

From email 8 May 2010 Kay Slappey to Bette Upchurch + 6 Aug 2010 to RPU.

I. --- --- Parker

- Δ A. William Parker born about 1800 (possibly FL)
married Sarah Green born about 1800 (possibly FL)

- * { 1. Benjamin G Parker → Booth → Slappy → Kay Slappy
- 2. **SAE Parker** married 1858 (FL) Nathaniel Smith Upchurch
- Δ { 3. Francis M Parker (M)

* In 1850 census Nassau Co, FL, are in home of John Jones and wife nee Ann Hagin.

(1) See notes of 15 Apr 1979 phone call from Frances Norris to RPU

Marian Florine Upchurch has two letters 100 years old + from Sarah Elizabeth Parker to her son John Jones Upchurch, Sr. Sarah was the wife of Nathaniel Smith Upchurch of the Nathan/Gilbert Upchurch Clan.

Sarah's father went off to the Indian Wars and did not return. She and her brother were then raised by the Jack Jones family.

(2) Sarah E Parker born circa 1840 died circa 1912 married circa 1859

Nathaniel S Upchurch. From Family Chart received 24 Nov 1980 from Frank Drew Upchurch, Sr.

(3) See letter 8 Dec 1980 Frank Drew Upchurch, Sr to RPU

Nathaniel Smith Upchurch married Sarah Ann Elizabeth Parker. They had nine children. [My count otherwise shows 10 – RPU]

(4) See John Jones Upchurch, I for article “Makers of America” published 1911

Sarah Ann Elizabeth Parker and her ancestors were early settlers in Florida. The book says John Jones Upchurch, I [son of Nathaniel Smith and Sarah Ann Elizabeth (Parker) Upchurch] was of French Huguenot descent. [Note: If this is true it came from the Parker side and not the Upchurch side – this lends credence to Uncle Getty's statement that Nathaniel Smith Upchurch married a “French” girl – RPU]

(5) See letter Frank Drew Upchurch, Sr to RPU 12 Jan 1981

Frank Drew Upchurch, Sr said his grandfather Nathaniel Smith Upchurch never returned to Raleigh, NC but that his grandmother, Sarah Ann Elizabeth Parker visited her brother-in-law W G Upchurch [William George Upchurch] in Raleigh, NC.

(6) See letter 4 Nov 1981 Susan Katherine Upchurch to RPU – A quote from Frank Drew Upchurch, Sr

“Cousin Phil's statement about my grandfather [Nathaniel Smith Upchurch] marrying a French girl and disappearing for 20 years is news to me. His wife [Sarah Ann Elizabeth Parker] was well known to me. She was a Florida Cracker girl who was born at or near Callahan, FL and was reared by her guardian Mr. Jack Jones...”

(7) See Census Records for Florida

1860 Nassau Co, Callahan PO; Page 431, D211; Family 200; Taken 20 Sep 1860

Name	Age	Sex	Born	
N S Upchurch	25 [1835]	M	NC	RE \$500, PP \$6000
[Nathaniel Smith Upchurch]				
Sarah A E Upchurch	21 [1837]	F	FL	<u>[Sarah Ann Elizabeth Parker]</u>
James B Upchurch	1	M	NC	[James Benjamin Upchurch]

1870 Nassau Co, Fernandina PO; Page 60/433 D503; Family 486; Taken 16 Aug 1870

Name	Age	Sex	Born	
Nathan Upchurch	46 [1824]	M	NC	white, farming, RE \$800, PP \$300
[Nathaniel Smith Upchurch]				
Sarah A E Upchurch	27 [1843, 1841]	F	FL	white, keeping house
<u>[Sarah Ann Elizabeth Parker]</u>				
[probably age 29]				
James B Upchurch	11	M	FL	<u>insane</u> ; [James Benjamin Upchurch]
John J Upchurch	9	M	FL	[John Jones Upchurch, I]
Ella A Upchurch	6	F	FL	[Eleanor Agnes Upchurch]
George W Upchurch	5	M	FL	[George W Upchurch]
Elizabeth Upchurch	1	F	FL	[Sarah Elizabeth Upchurch]
Surena Nettles	35	F	FL	white; domestic servant

1910 Duval Co; 93/24

Name	Age	Sex	Born	
Nathaniel R Upchurch	86	-	NC	white
[Nathaniel Smith Upchurch]				
Sarah A E Upchurch	72	-	FL	white
[Sarah Ann Elizabeth Parker]				
Nathaniel Upchurch, Jr	38	-	FL	son
[Nathaniel Swan Upchurch]				

[Note: An extraction of the 1910 Census for Duval Co, FL sent by Margaret Louise Harris to RPU on 9 Oct 1998 show:

Nathaniel Upchurch, 86, and wife Sarah A Upchurch [nee **Sarah Ann Elizabeth Parker**], 72, married for 50 years, born FL, father born France, mother born FL. This reinforces the position of Uncle Gettys that his Uncle Nathaniel married a “French” girl since her father was French – RPU]

(8) See letter 30 Aug 1984 Ray White Jr to RPU

The Nathaniel Smith Upchurch Family was not found on the 1900 Florida Census.
The 1890 Florida Census is missing.

(9) See Census 1900 for Charlton Co, GA

Name	born	age
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Nathaniel Upchurch	Aug 1824	75	white	male
Sarah A Upchurch	Mar 1840	60	white	female, wife, born FL, M born FL, F born NC

[Sarah Ann Elizabeth Parker]

+ 2 children

(10) The Jones Cemetery, Callahan, Nassau Co, FL – In letter 21 Jul 2009 Elizabeth Johanna Wilson to RPU

1. WALTER D. UPCHURCH--April 10, 1873-March 17, 1929 [D= DRAUGHAN]
2. S. ELIZABETH UPCHURCH--Wife of W. E. Bennett "Aunt Lizzie" [S= SARAH]
June 23, 1869-October 14, 1925 [S= SMITH]
3. NATHANIEL S. UPCHURCH--Born August 27, 1823-Died July 15, 1913
4. SARAH ELIZABETH UPCHURCH--March 18, 1840-April 16, 1911 [S. ANNE E. PARKER]
5. JOHN J. UPCHURCH--March 18, 1861-February 16, 1933 [JJU, SA]
6. NATHANIEL SWAN UPCHURCH--August 6, 1870-Dec. 25, 1931
7. GEORGE W.--son of N. S. and S. A. E. Upchurch-May 24, 1890 (age 24 year)
8. ELLA--Daughter of N. S. And S.A.E. February 10, 1888 age 25 years.
9. JAMES B.--Son of N. S. and S.A.E. Upchurch June 24, 1880--age 21 year:
11 days
[BENJAMIN]
10. CASEY MAY BENNETT--1910--age 3 days
11. W. EUGENE BENNETT--October 10, 1893-Dec. 3, 1908 [ELLA AGNES U]
12. THELMA L. BENNETT--1898--aged 6 months
13. NOBLE B. BENNETT--1895-1896

BURIELS AT CALLAHAN, FLORIDA

UPCHURCH PLOT

10.	11.	12.	13.
5.	6.	7.	8. 9.
1.	2.	3.	4.

DIRECTIONS TO JONES CEMETERY

Paved road North past railroad--take paved road to the left.
Jones Cemetery on the river about 4 miles.

Last house on the left was home of Nathaniel S. Upchurch house.

6-14-1953
Δ Jones Cemetery--Callahan, Fla.



General View



Δ John J. Upchurch



Δ Nathaniel Smith Upchurch
Δ Sarah Elizabeth Upchurch

(11) RPU Ancestry.com search 21 Mar 2008 re: the Florida Upchurches.

1880 Census, Precinct 8 Nassau Co, FL

Name	Age	
N S Upchurch	53 [58?]	Land Agent
<u>Sarah Upchurch</u>	wife 40	
Berry Upchurch	son 21	James Benjamin Upchurch
John J Upchurch	son 18	
Ella Upchurch	dau 16	Eleanor Agnes Upchurch
George Upchurch	son 14	George W Upchurch
Elizabeth Upchurch	dau 10	Sarah Elizabeth Upchurch
Swann Upchurch	son 8	Nathaniel Swann Upchurch
Walter Upchurch	son 5	W Draughan Upchurch
Noble Upchurch	son 3	N Alvin Upchurch
Edmond P Upchurch	son 9 mos	born Sep; Edward Ponder Upchurch

In 1880, all 9 children born to NSU as alive and still in the home.

1900 Census – Willisville, Charlton Co, GA

Household Name

Members:

Nathaniel Upchurch	75	born Aug 1824	
<u>Sarah A E Upchurch</u>	61		wife [10, 7]
Swann Upchurch	28	born Aug 1871	son
Fred B Upchurch	17	born Dec 1882	son

By 1900 one more child has been born to NSU completing his batch of 10. Seven are still living but only two in the home.

Continue search for Edward Ponder Upchurch – not found on 1900 Census.

1910 Census – Militia District 661, Lowndes Co, GA

Household Name

Members:	Age	
Leward R Upchurch	27	[Edward P Upchurch]
Retta Upchurch	wife 24	married 5 years
John W Upchurch	son 4	
Therisa Upchurch	dau 2	
John Eastus	fat 74	[Eustis?]

1920 Census – Edward Ponder Upchurch not found

1930 Census – Jacksonville, Duval Co, FL

Household Name

Members:	Age	Born (self, ftr, mtr)
Ray Touchstone	head 29	married age 26
Teresa Touchstone	wife 22	married age 18 (GA, FL, GA)
Gloria Touchstone	dau 1	FL
Edward Touchstone	f-i-l 51	(FL, NC, FL)
Rhetta Upchurch	m-i-l 44	(GA, FL, FL)
Montine Upchurch	sis 13	(GA, FL, GA)

I. Nathan Upchurch, I – Head of Clan

A. Gilbert Upchurch

1. Nathaniel Smith Upchurch

married () **Sarah Ann Elizabeth Parker**

a. Edward Ponder Upchurch

married about 1905 () Retta --- --- born about 1886
(possibly Retta Eastus or Retta Eustis?)

i. Teresa Upchurch born about 1908

married () Ray Touchstone

(I) Gloria Touchstone born about 1929

ii. Montine Upchurch born about 1917

(12) See biofile of Bette Jo Wilson – entry 23 Jun 2009

Nathaniel Smith Upchurch born 27 Aug 1823 married Mar 1858 () Sarah Anne Elizabeth Parker.

[Note Anne is spelled with an “e” here – probably correct – RPU 6 Jul 2009]

(13) Death Certificate for Sarah Anne Elizabeth Parker – Item 4 in letter 29 Aug 2010 Kay Slappy to RPU

STATE OF FLORIDA
OFFICE of VITAL STATISTICS
CERTIFIED COPY

④

CERTIFICATE OF DEATH.

STATE OF *Florida* Division of Vital Statistics.

Place of Death: *St. Johns*
County: *St. Johns*
City (or) Town: *Waikiki*
Street and No.:
Full Name: *Sarah Ann Elizabeth Upchurch*

Special information for Hospitals, Institutions, Transients or Non-Residents:
Former, or Usual Residence:
How long at place of death:
If in Hospital or Institution, give its name:

PERSONAL AND STATISTICAL PARTICULARS.

Sex: *Female* Color and Race: *White*
Single, Married, Widowed or Divorced: *Married*
Date of Birth: *Mar* Day *18* Year *1839*
Age: *72* Years, *1* Mos., *0* Days
Occupation: (if none, so state): *None*
Birthplace: (State or Country): *Fla.*
Name of husband or wife, if married: *Nathaniel Upchurch*
Name of Father: *W. Parker*
Birthplace of Father: (State or Country): *France*
Maiden name of Mother: *S. E. Green*
Birthplace of Mother: (State or Country): *Fla.*
The above stated Personal Particulars are true, to the best of my knowledge and belief

Medical Certificate of Death.

Date of Death: *Apr* Day *18* Year *1911*
I hereby certify that I attended deceased from:
and that death occurred on the date stated above.
To the best of my knowledge and belief the cause of death was as follows:
CAUSE OF DEATH, BERTILLO.
(See instructions on back.)
Sudden Heart failure from Kidney Disease and Senility.

Informant: *S. E. Bennett* Duration: *Two Hours*
Address: *Waikiki, Fla.* Where contracted: *Fla.*
This declarant has signed this statement. Signed: *S. E. Latham* M. D.
Place of Burial: *Fla.* Date: *Apr 18 1911*
Date of Burial: Address: *Waikiki, Fla.*
Undertaker: Filed: 1911 For the Sec. State: *275*

VOID IF ALTERED OR ERASED

C. Meach Grijj, State Registrar Date Issued: OCT 15 2009

WARNING: THIS DOCUMENT IS PRINTED ON SECURITY PAPER WITH A WATERMARK OF THE GREAT SEAL OF THE STATE OF FLORIDA. DO NOT ACCEPT WITHOUT VERIFYING THE PRESENCE OF THE WATERMARK. THE DOCUMENT FACE CONTAINS A MULTI-COLORED BACKGROUND AND GOLD EMBOSSED SEAL. THE BACK CONTAINS SPECIAL LINES WITH TEXT AND SEALS IN THERMOCHROMIC INK.

HEALTH

51416779 CERTIFICATION OF VITAL RECORD

* 5 1 4 1 6 7 7 9 *

Input #4 from KAY LTR 29 AUG 2010 re above Death Certificate

4. Copy of death certificate for Sarah Ann Elisabeth Upchurch. Note her father's place of birth is listed as France. In census records, there was at least one instance where Sarah gave her father's place of birth as France. However, her brother Benjamin never listed his father's place of birth as France – he listed Florida, which I believe is correct. I do feel, however, that the grandfather may have had a French connection (I am anxious to get time to follow up on this). The informant for Sarah's death certificate was her daughter Sarah Bennett. It is understandable that the daughter would have heard the "France" story from her mother. Note that Sarah's birth year is listed as 1839, yet her headstone gives 1840 as her birth year. I tend to believe the 1839 is correct, in view of the fact the 1850 census gives her age as 12 – if she were born in 1840, her age would have been 9 or 10. But who knows.