

Sarah Upchurch**XID – 38638**

Commentary: Sarah Upchurch (XID 38638) was born about 1817 in Chatham County, NC. She was the daughter of Courtney Upchurch and the granddaughter of Moses, head of Upchurch clan # 1. She was married in 1835 in Perry County, AL to James McCann. This helps to establish that Courtney left NC about 1830 as a part of the diaspora of the Moses Upchurch clan. This partially documented saga needs to be more fully documented. Sarah has come more fully into view through the research of her descendants.

Charles J. Peterson of Columbia, MO has rendered great service in helping to organize research for his line and the broader Upchurch family.

RPU – 12 Aug 2018

Acknowledgements: This Biofile was transcribed by Carla Michaels of Cary, NC.

(1) See letter 15 Oct 1995 Charles John Peterson, Jr.
He reports the following:

Actually I really am interested in whether you have fitted a certain **Sarah Upchurch** into the family. In 1835 **Sarah Upchurch** married James M. Cann in Perry County, Alabama. It is possible that I have overlooked her among your 37,000+ entries, but if this is not the case, who is she? Assuming that I have not overlooked something else, it appears that the only two Upchurch families in northern Alabama at this time would have been those of Abel Upchurch (XID – 589) and my great4 – grandfather Courtney Upchurch (XID – 1109). Abel does not seem to have had a Sarah in his family (all of whom seemed to have married in Greene County), but Courtney (who has ties to Perry and neighboring Dallas and Marengo Counties) had several as yet unidentified daughters who would have been of the right age to marry in 1835. Barring contrary information, I would suggest this **Sarah** is Courtney's daughter.

[Note: Having reviewed my census records, records on all Sarah Upchurch files and census records I agree the above is in order – RPU – hence:

I. Moses Upchurch – Head of Clan

A. Courtney Upchurch

1. **Sarah Upchurch** married 1835 (Perry Co, AL) James M. Cann

[Note: See Upchurch Bulletin 12 #1 – Jan 1991 Page 11 for details on the proposed 14 children of Courtney Upchurch – some not named. Child D born 1820 – 1825 seems to be the best bet to be the above described **Sarah Upchurch**.

(2) See letter 25 Sep 2000 William Lee Pattillos to RPU

Sarah Upchurch born about 1820 (Chatham Co, NC) married 3 Nov 1835 (Perry Co, AL) James M. Cann born about 1795.

(3) From letter 22 Nov 1995 Charles John Peterson, Jr. to RPU

CJP, Jr. makes a detailed analysis of census records of the family of Courtney Upchurch and identifies two daughters born 1815 – 1820.

	1820 Census	1830 Census	
#1	born 1810 – 1820	born 1815 – 1820	Assume born 1815
#2	born 1810 – 1820	born 1815 – 1820	Assume <u>Sarah Upchurch</u>

His further analysis:

Notes to the table:

(1) I am attributing **Sarah** who married in Alabama as the younger daughter of Courtney. Being a bit older, the first daughter may well have married in North Carolina and not gone with her parents and the remainder of the family to Alabama. One needs to look at the North Carolina marriages to see if one can identify this older daughter. As for **Sarah**: **Sarah** is considered here to be one of the unnamed daughters found on the 1820 and 1830 censuses (my records differ from your regarding these censuses; cf. Upchurch Bulletin, vol. 12). A **Sarah Upchurch** married 3 November 1835 James M. Cann in Perry County, Alabama. Perry County abuts Dallas and Marengo Counties in which Courtney and his widow Cynthia are found. In 1830 the Upchurch families in Alabama were those of Bartley Upchurch, Benjamin Upchurch, and Burrell Upchurch, in Greene, Pickens and Wilcox Counties, respectively. Greene and Pickens are to the westnorthwest of Perry County along the Mississippi border whereas Wilcox is to the south. **Sarah** could be a daughter of any of these, but equally possible a daughter of Courtney who moved to Dallas County about 1835.

*****No James M. Cann is found in the 1840 Alabama census, but there is one in Lauderdale County, Mississippi that year (p. 42 of the census). The census entry shows 1 male age 40 – 50, 1 male 30 – 40, and 1 under age 5; also 1 **female** between age 20 and 30, in agreement with the age of Courtney's daughter. James Cann is not found in the 1850 Mississippi census and a desultory search for a couple of other states does not find him, but a more serious census search is warranted as well as a search of Lauderdale County cemetery records.

*****Upchurch Bulletin, vol. 2, #4, p. 11 – 23, 1981. **Sarah** is not the daughter of Burrell Upchurch.

*****Upchurch Bulletin, vol. 3, pp. 37 – 39, 1982. Abel Upchurch who died between 12 September 1846 (the date of his will) and 11 January 1847 (when it was proven in court, in Greene County, Alabama) appears to have been the father of Bartley and Benjamin Upchurch. Bartley was born (Upchurch Bulletin, vol. 1 p. 40, 1980) in 1800 and Benjamin (Upchurch Bulletin, vol. 3, p. 12, 1981) probably between 1800 and 1807. As **Sarah** must have been born no later than 1820 and more likely about 1815, this seems to eliminate either of them as her parent. It is possible, however, that she was a sister.

*****Upchurch Bulletin, vol. 4, pp. 17 – 25, 1983. Abel Upchurch and descendants. Three daughters of Abel are identified, but none is named **Sarah**. As his children married in Greene County, this would argue against **Sarah** being an unidentified daughter, leaving only Courtney as her father. This identification has been made here.