

## Benjamin Newton Upchurch

XID – 10462

**Commentary:** Benjamin Newton Upchurch was born in 1845 and is the son of a Benjamin and the grandson of Abel, head of Upchurch Clan 8.

**Acknowledgements:** This Biofile was transcribed by Carla J. Michaels, a valued UAFA contributor and outstanding local historian in Cary, NC.

**(1)** Records for two sons of Benjamin Upchurch, Head of the Abel Upchurch, Sr/Benjamin Upchurch Sub-clan – RPU 2 Sep 2011

1880 Census – MS, Clarke Co, Enterprise			
Name			Age
William Upchurch	head	1830	50
Mary Upchurch	wife	1835	45
John B Upchurch	son	1866	14
George Upchurch	son	1870	10
Richrd Upchurch	son	1875	5
Lonney Upchurch	son	1878	2
Betsie McGaw	mil	1840	40

1880 Census – MS, Clarke Co, Enterprise			
Name			Age
<b>Benja Upchurch</b>	head	1845	35
Almita Upchurch	wife	1850	30
Lucinda Upchurch	dau	1866	14
Eddie Upchurch	son	1877	3
Lizzie McGaw	sd	1861	19
Lottie Upchurch	sis	1840	40
Alla Upchurch	niece	1862	18
Martha Johnson	sd	1869	11
Alonzo Obey	ss	1872	8

### I. Abel Upchurch, Sr – Head of Clan

#### A. Benjamin Upchurch 1805 – 1880 (Clarke Co, MS)

1. William Edward Upchurch, I born about 1830 (Marengo Co, AL) died 1880 (Quitman, Clarke Co, MS)

married 1864 (MS) Mary McGraw 1835 – 1873 (after 1880?)

a. John Benjamin Upchurch born 8 Jul 1865 (Clarke Co, MS)

b. George Edward Upchurch born 1870 (Clarke Co, MS)

c. Richard Upchurch born 1875 (Clarke Co, MS)

d. Lonnie Upchurch born 1878 (Clarke Co, MS)

2. **Benjamin Newton Upchurch** born 1845

married (1<sup>st</sup>) 6 Feb 1862 (Lauderdale Co, MS) Hannah J McGraw born ( ) died probably 1873?

married (2<sup>nd</sup>) 22 Nov 1874 (Clarke Co, MS) Almedia (James) Johnson born 1 Jul 1841 (MS) died 8 Apr 1906

a. Lizzie McGraw born 1861 (stepdau of BNU)

(family outline continues below)

b. Lucinda Upchurch born 1866

c. Martha Johnson born Jan 1870 (stepdaughter of BNU)

d. Alonzo Obey born 1872 (stepson of BNU)

e. William Edward Upchurch, II (Sr) "Eddie"

f. [Alla Upchurch – niece of BNU – born 1862]

3. Lottie Upchurch born 1840 [sister of BNU] [Anna Charlotte Upchurch – "Lottie"]

**(2)** Records for the Abel Upchurch, Sr/ Benjamin Upchurch Sub-clan – RPU 31 Aug 2011

1850 Census – MS, Lauderdale Co, Southern District

Name		Age	
Bery [Benjamin] Upchurch	1805	45	NC
Cendervilla Upchurch	1806	44	AL
Charchwell Upchurch	1829	21	"
Francis E Upchurch	1834	16	"
Woah P Upchurch	1836	14	"
Amma C Upchurch	1838	12	"
<b><u>Bery N Upchurch</u></b>	1841	9	MS

1860 Census – MS, Clarke Co, P. O. = Quitman

B Upchurch	1810	50	AL
Mary Upchurch	1812	48	"
Churchwell Upchurch	1836	24	"
<b><u>Newton Upchurch</u></b>	1839	21	"
S H Williams (F)	1841	19	"
Elen Williams (F)	1843	17	"
Westley Williams	1857	3	"

Covey Gibson (aka Hatfield) Family Tree Owner: CoveyG

Benjamin Upchurch

Born 1805 in North Carolina, United States

Death 1863 in Atlanta, De Kalb, Georgia

Marriage to Cinderella Tant

1822 6 Aug Age: 17 Franklin, North Carolina, United States

Residence

1830 Age: 25 Pickens, Alabama, United States

Residence

1841          Age: 36          Lauderdale County, MS  
 Residence  
 1845          Age: 40          Lauderdale County, MS  
 Residence  
 1853          Age: 48          Lauderdale County, Mississippi, United States  
 Residence  
 1860          Age: 55          Clarke County, MS

#### Family Members

##### Parents:

Abel Upchurch          1775 – 1846

Betheana Upchurch    1779 – 1860

##### Spouse and Children

Cinderella Tant          1806 –

\*Parthenia Upchurch          1823 – 1880

(#2) Daughter Upchurch          1825 – 1830

(#3) Anna C Upchurch          1827 – 1825

(#4) Churchwell Upchurch          1829 – 1880

(#5) Noah P Upchurch          1830 – 1861

(#6) William Upchurch          1830 – 1864 (or 1862) [name repeated 4  
times – CJM 16 Apr  
2020]

(#7) Frances E Upchurch (#7)          1834 – 1835 [name repeated 3  
times – CJM 16 Apr  
2020]

(#8) Amma Charlotte Upchurch          1838 –

(#9) **Benjamin Newton Upchurch**          1841 – 1883

#2 → #9 [see below in this entry – CJM 16 Apr 2020]

#### Covey Gibson (aka Hatfield) Family Tree    Owner: CoveyG

##### \*Parthenia Upchurch

Birth 1823 in North Carolina, United States

Death 1880 in Mississippi, United States

##### Residence

1850          Age: 27          Southern District, Lauderdale

##### Death

1880          Age: 57          Mississippi

Residence          Age: 57          Jasper, Mississippi

#### Family Members

##### Parents

Benjamin Upchurch    1805 – 1863

Cinderella Tant          1806 –

##### Spouse & Children

John Haywood          1826 – 1863

\*\*Francis L Haywood          1850 – 1923

\*\*\*Elizabeth Haywood 1854 – 1919

\*\*\*\*Sidney Jane Haywood 1856 –

Covey Gibson (aka Hatfield) Family Tree Owner: CoveyG

\*\*Francis L Haywood

Birth Nov 1850 in Clarke, Mississippi

Death 8 Mar 1923 in Simpson, Mississippi

Residence

1860 Age: 10 Beat 2. Lauderdale, Mississippi

Marriage to William Spencer Mayfield

1867 10 Jan Age: 16 Clarke Co, Mississippi

Residence

1870 Age: 20 District 1, Clarke, Mississippi

Residence

1880 Age: 30 Jasper, Mississippi

Residence

1900 Age: 50 Laurel, Jones, Mississippi

Covey Gibson (aka Hatfield) Family Tree Owner: CoveyG

\*\*\*Elizabeth Haywood

Birth 23 Feb 1854 in Lauderdale, Mississippi

Death 15 Aug 1919 in Smith, Mississippi

Birth

1854 23 Feb Lauderdale, Mississippi

Death

1919 15 Aug Age: 65 Smith, Mississippi

Spouse & Children

Elizabeth Haywood? 1844 –

William Mayfield? 1847 –

Parents

John Haywood 1826 – 1863

Parthenia Upchurch 1823 – 1880

\*\*\*\*Sidney Jane Haywood

Birth Mar 1856 in Clarke, Mississippi

Death in United States

Parents

John Haywood 1826 – 1863

Parthenia Upchurch 1823 – 1880

I. Abel Upchurch, Sr

married ( ) Bethenea

A. Benjamin Upchurch

married ( ) Cenderella Tant

1. Parthenia Upchurch 1823 – 1880

married ( ) John Haywood 1823 – 1863

a. Francis L Haywood 1850 – 1923

married ( ) Wm Spencer Mayfield

Children: Charlie, James, Wade, John

b. Elizabeth Haywood 1854 – 1919

c. Sidney Jane Haywood

2 → 9 [see above in this entry – CJM 16 Apr 2020]

**(1) MS – 1880 Census – Clarke Co, MS**

1880 United States National Census										
Census Place: Enterprise, Clarke, Mississippi										
Source: FHL Film 1254644 National Archives Film T9-0644 Page 89C										
Name	Relation	Sex	Marr	Race	Age	Birthplace	Occ:	Fa:	Mo:	
Benja UPCHURCH <sup>↑</sup>	1	Self	M	M	W	35	MS	Occ: Farmer	Fa: NC	Mo: NC
Almita UPCHURCH	2	Wife	F	M	W	30	MS	Occ: Keeping House	Fa: SC	Mo: MS
Lucinda UPCHURCH	3	Dau	F	S	W	14	MS	Occ: Operative	Fa: MS	Mo: MS
Eddie UPCHURCH	4	Son	M	S	W	3	MS		Fa: MS	Mo: MS
Lizzie MC GAW	5	SDau	F	S	W	19	MS	Occ: Operative	Fa: AL	Mo: MS
Lottie UPCHURCH	6	Sister	F	W	W	40	MS	Occ: At Home	Fa: NC	Mo: NC
Alla UPCHURCH	7	Niece	F	S	W	18	MS	Occ: Operative	Fa: MS	Mo: MS
Martha JOHNSON	8	SDau	F	S	W	11	MS	Occ: Operative	Fa: SCOTLAND	Mo:
MS										
Alonzo OBEY	9	SSon	M	S	W	8	MS		Fa: MS	Mo: MS

I. Abel Upchurch, Sr – Head of Clan

A. Benjamin Upchurch

1. Benjamin Newton Upchurch = #1

#2 = Almedia (James) Johnson

#4 = William Edward Upchurch, Sr “Eddie”

#5 = Lizzie McGraw

#6 = Anna Charlotte Upchurch

**(1) See Census – 1880 – Clarke Co, MS**

<b><u>Benjamin Upchurch</u></b>	W,M	age 35	born MS
Almita Upchurch	wife	age 30	born MS
Lucinda Upchurch	dau	age 14	born MS
Eddie Upchurch	son	age 3	born MS
Lizzie McGaw	stepdau	age 19	born MS
Lottie Upchurch	sister	age 40	born MS [XID-10461]
Alla Upchurch	niece	age 18	born MS
Martha Johnson	stepdau	age 11	born MS
Alonzo Obey	stepson	age 8	born MS

[Note: There is also on the 1880 Clarke Co, MS a William Upchurch age 50 head of a household with wife Mary – and a mother-in-law Betsie McGaw – Do the two McGaw’s tie these families together? – RPU]

**(2) Letter 20 Nov 1981 Mayfred Upchurch to RPU**

CSA – **Benjamin Newton Upchurch** – Co D, 8<sup>th</sup> Miss Inf, Pvt-Pvt

(Also see A J Linton)

(biofile continues below)

**(3)** See letter 6 Apr 1983 Genevieve Ellen Upchurch to RPU

I. William Upchurch, IV

A. Abel Upchurch, Sr

1. Benjamin Upchurch

- a. **Benjamin N Upchurch** born 1841 (MS) (Civil War Deserter)  
married 22 Nov 1874 Almita Johnson born 1841 (MS)
  - i. Edwin H Upchurch born Jun 1877 (MS)
  - ii. Lucinda Upchurch born 1866 (MS)
  - iii. ?

**(4)** In 1880 William Upchurch, born 1830 – 1835, showed up in Clarke Co, MS in a household next to his brother **Benjamin Newton Upchurch**. This was the first evidence to connect these two and to show that they were sons of Benjamin Upchurch (42, Page 23)

**(5)** Benjamin Newton Upchurch (15)

Benjamin Newton Upchurch (15) was born about 1840 in Mississippi, probably in Lauderdale County.<sup>119</sup> He was mustered into service during the Civil War as a private on 17 July 1861 at Enterprise, Mississippi at the age of 22. His unit was called the Moody True Blues which was later called Captain Chandler's Company, Company D, 8<sup>th</sup> Mississippi Infantry. On 25 September 1861 he was discharged and A J Linton, age 25, substituted for him. Benjamin Newton enlisted again as a private into Company E, 7<sup>th</sup> Battalion Mississippi Infantry on 20 April 1862 at Clarke County and was mustered into service on 12 May. This duty occurred one month after his first marriage. He was present for his duties from 12 May 1862 through October 1862. On 7 July 1862 he was paid \$50 at Jackson, Mississippi for enlisting for three years or the war. Benjamin Newton was absent without leave on 17 December 1862 and was considered a deserter. He still had not reported to duty by February 1864.<sup>120</sup> It is not known why Benjamin Newton left his duties with the army. Perhaps he longed to be with his new bride or else he became disheartened after the death of his brother, Noah P (13), who had enlisted with him.

Benjamin Newton (15) was married twice with the first marriage being to Miss Hannah J McGraw on 6 February 1862 in Lauderdale County.<sup>121</sup> This marriage occurred right before Benjamin Newton enlisted into the Confederate Army for the second time. By 1866 Benjamin was living in Clarke County where he had 31 freed coloreds living in his household. By 1872 he owned three cattle and a pistol.<sup>122</sup> Shortly after this, Hannah must have died for Benjamin Newton married Mrs Almeita James Johnson on 22 November 1874 in Clarke County.<sup>123</sup> Almeita was born 1 July 1841 in Mississippi, died 8 April 1906 and was buried at the Oak Grove Cemetery in Bonita, Lauderdale County.<sup>124</sup> In 1876 Benjamin Newton was still in Clarke County and in 1877 he owned four cattle worth \$35. He lived at Enterprise, Mississippi in 1878, 1879, and 1883. In 1878 he owned six head of cattle worth \$36, in 1879 four cattle worth \$25, and in

1883 he had one horse with \$40.<sup>125</sup> Presumably Benjamin Newton died sometime between 1883 and 1900.

Benjamin Newton (15) is known to have fathered two children. By Miss Hannah J McGraw, he had a daughter, Lucinda Upchurch (59) born in 1866. He had a son by Mrs Almeida Johnson, W Edwin Upchurch (60) born in 1877. Benjamin Newton had three stepchildren: Lizzie McGraw born in 1861; Martha Johnson born in January 1870 who married John S Wheeler; and Alonzo Obey born in 1872.<sup>126</sup> These stepchildren pose some interesting questions. Lizzie McGraw appears to be the illegitimate daughter of Miss Hannah J McGraw and was born to Hannah a year before she married Benjamin Newton Upchurch (15). Martha Johnson would be the daughter of Mrs Almeida James Johnson by her previous marriage to a Johnson. Alonzo Obey is the real mystery. We know Almeida had three children and one had died by 1900. Alonzo Obey seems to be this third child, but if he is, it appears that he was an illegitimate child of Almeida's born in between her marriage to a Johnson and her marriage to Benjamin Newton Upchurch.

A little more information is known about one of Benjamin Newton's children. W Edwin "Eddie" Upchurch (60) was born in June 1877 in Clarke County. He was married twice with the first marriage being to Cora Riley on 13 April 1898 in Lauderdale County.<sup>127</sup> Cora was born in February 1874 in Mississippi. The second marriage was about 1907 to Carrie ?, who was born about 1889. W Edwin (60) had two children, one by each marriage: Edwin Upchurch (61) was born in February 1899, and Zilla Upchurch (62) was born in 1909. This family was living on Bragg Avenue in Meridian, Lauderdale County in 1910.<sup>128</sup> No further records have been found this family.

**(6)** From letter 14 Nov 1964 Mrs Lois Taylor to William Kendrick Upchurch, Sr [See biofile of Lois Taylor]

Lauderdale Co, MS Marriage Records

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**Benjamin N Upchurch** married 6 Feb 1862 Hannah J McGaw

**Benjamin N Upchurch** later married Almeda (James) McGaw widow of my Uncle William McGaw who was killed in the Civil War.