

Joseph A Upchurch

XID – 144

Commentary: See number one for his parentage.

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

(1) Joseph Upchurch was son of George Upchurch – 1790 Upchurch Progenitor per (29)

Joseph Upchurch born 8-10-1800 NC died circa 1865. Joseph married 3-2-1823 Jane Crouch. At an early age, Joseph began acquiring land, most of which fell into Tennessee later. He bought 50 acres on Rotten's Fork in Wayne Co, KY for \$10, part of the Kentucky Land Act, passed in the year 1815, called the Land Distribution Act. This Act offered land for \$20 per 100 acres. This part of KY fell into TN in 1823 and Joseph became known as Tennessee Joe. The year also happened to coincide with the year of his marriage.

Joseph Upchurch was a fair-minded citizen of Fentress County and a kind father and husband. He was public spirited and was soon called for civic duty. He served on juries, was a Justice of the Peace, his name on many of the marriages of Fentress County gave those marriages a head start. The Upchurch Cemetery at Pall Mall was set aside by Joseph. One of the graves in the center of the cemetery is the grave of Joseph Upchurch. A simple rock, uninscribed, marks his grave. This land is his land and ever shall be.

Copied from Page 67 (29) for Joseph, son of George Upchurch.

(2) See letter 25 Sep 1980 Mellie Mae Crouch to RPU

Joseph Upchurch married 2 Mar 1823 Jane Crouch and was called "Tennessee Joe". He is buried in the Upchurch Cemetery on land he gave for that purpose. I go to [put] decorations there often. It is in Fentress Co, near the home and tomb of Sgt Alvin C York, hero of World War I."

(3) See letter 24 Aug 1984 Wilma Lenora Crabtree to RPU

The heirs of **Joseph Upchurch** are recorded in the Fentress Co, TN land records – Book L, Page 519/20. Land went to children:

- *1. William Upchurch [William Hamilton Upchurch]
- *2. T W Upchurch [Thomas Washington Upchurch]
- *3. J C Upchurch [James Calvin Upchurch]
- *4. D G Upchurch [Drury Granville Upchurch]
- *5. E H Upchurch [Elias Henderson Upchurch]
- *6. Louisa Rich [nee Louisa Upchurch]
- *7. Sarah Crouch [nee Sarah Jane Upchurch]
- 8. Elias H Crouch [husband of #7]
- 9. John Rich [husband of Lucinda Upchurch]
- *10. Lucinda Rich [nee Lucinda Upchurch]

[Note: This accounts for 8* of the known children of **Joseph Upchurch**. Missing are the oldest – Elizabeth Upchurch born 1822 and John Jackson Upchurch who died 1864 and presumably predeceased his father – RPU]

(4) See letter 26 Jun 1987 Anna Marie Crouch to RPU

Joseph Upchurch born 10 Aug 1800 (NC) died circa 1865 (TN) married Jane Crouch born 29 Aug 1806 (TN) died > 1880 (TN), daughter of James Crouch.

(5) See 1850 Census Fentress Co, TN 2 Oct 1850 7th Civil District

J A Upchurch 49 m farmer \$350 born NC **[Joseph A Upchurch]**

[Note: This is the only reference to “A” as a middle initial for JAU on RPU copy of the census extract the JAU is clear – RPU]

| | | | | |
|--------------------|----|---|---------|------------------------------|
| Jane Upchurch | 44 | f | born TN | [Jane Crouch] |
| *Thos Upchurch | 18 | m | born TN | [Thomas Washington Upchurch] |
| Sarah Upchurch | 16 | f | born TN | [Sarah Jane Upchurch] |
| Louisa Upchurch | 14 | f | born TN | |
| Jackson Upchurch | 12 | m | born TN | [John Jackson Upchurch] |
| Elizabeth Upchurch | 10 | f | born TN | |
| Drury Upchurch | 7 | m | born TN | [Drury Granville Upchurch] |
| Henderson Upchurch | 3 | m | born TN | [Elias Henderson Upchurch] |

*Note that the individual was recorded twice on the 1850 Fentress Co, TN Census. He was in his father's home as Thomas Upchurch as shown above and also in his grandfather (James Crouch) home as Washington Upchurch.

(6) [Note: this item was left blank – CJM 27 Dec 2020]

(biofile continues below)

(7) From letter 5 Dec 1991 Carolyn Phyllis Harvey to RPU
[copied from Fentress Co, TN Heritage Book]

Crouch, Jan
Nancy and Martha
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Jane Crouch, the daughter of James B. and Patsy Evans Crouch, was born 6-29-1806. In 1823 she married Joseph Upchurch, born 8-10-1800 and died in 1865, the son of George and Rachel Upchurch. Joseph bought 50 acres of land in 1815 for \$10 that was then registered in Kentucky. In 1823 that area became part of Tennessee. He then became known as "Tennessee Joe" to his folks. This is the Jane Upchurch who filed the Bill of Complaint for the heirs inheritance part of the William "Billy" Crouch real estate in 1869 after the death of her husband. Their children were: (1) James (Jim) Calvin Upchurch born in 5-27-1824, married Elizabeth Bettsann Rich born 1828. Their children were: Rene (1848-1927) married John Jennings. They had four boys and four girls; Jane married Marion Johnson, an uncle of W.M., and after his death, Press Miller; John married Margaret Crouch, daughter of George Washington Crouch, and had a son Leo Upchurch; Joe (Black Joe) married first Ferbie Westmoreland. Their children were Bettsann, Sarah Jane, Bertha and Dora. He then married Elizabeth Rich. Their children were Perry, McKinley, Pearl, Bennett, Alma, Bill, Edna, Hooper, and Amos; Kathy married Lige Pile. Their children were Zeke, Landon, Rob, Fronie, and twins, Mae and Ray. Jim married the second time to Jane Vira Frogge in 1882. They had five children who were Bell Upchurch married "Little" Joe Upchurch whose children were Homer, Fox, Jennie and others; Margaret "Mag" married John Evans. Their children were Neely, Della, Timothy, Bonnie; Columbus "Lum" married Mertie Pennycuff and their children were Delphia, Elva, Alice, Fonzo, Horace and Amos; Jim Upchurch married Mary Buck

JOSEPH A. U

RENE SERENA ANN U

LUCINDA JANE U

F. MARION JOHNSON; W. M. JOHNSON

JOHN T. U

MARGARET L. CROUCH

WILLIAM JOSEPH U

[JAMES CALVIN U]

Williams. Their children were: a son, Flem and daughter, Vannie. She was widowed and she then married Samson John Fowler and also married a third time to Hoss powder

Bragg. (8) Drury "Drew" Granville Upchurch was born in 1843. His first marriage was to a Martaney and they had a son William Upchurch born in 1868. He then married Jane Dishman born in 1846 the daughter of Archibald Dishman. Drew and Jane had five children: Sam, Porter, Archie, Mary Jane and Armilda. (9) Elias Henderson "Hennon" Upchurch was born 2-8-1847 and died 1-24-1907. He married Luiza J. Storey, born 10-15-1842 and died 5-26-1921. Their children were Pierce, Cappy L., Fate, and Ida. This family story needs a chapter from a family member.

END OF JOSEPH A U FAMILY

Nancy Crouch, the daughter of James B. and Patsy Evans Crouch, married Silas Upchurch born 1806 and died in 1874 in Kentucky. Silas was the son of Shadrack Upchurch. The first son listed in the census not named, second son, Shadrack Washington Upchurch was born in 1832. In the census of 1850 Wash Upchurch born in 1832 is listed in the home of James B. Crouch. Silas told that Nancy joined a caveran passing by that was going west and was never heard of again. (This information was in the book "The Upchurch Story")

Martha Crouch, the daughter of James B. and Patsy Evans Crouch was born in 1813 and was married to John Campbell, born in 1807 and died in 1880. Their children are: Chestanner married Elizabeth Crouch and had one child, John Campbell born in 1857; Missie Campbell (1832) husband, Mose Hurst (1827) five children: Sarah Campbell (1840) husband, Lafayette Allen (1842-1862); James Campbell (1843-1927); Isaac Campbell (1844) wife Martha Cullom, had three children and moved to Texas; Jane Campbell husband, James Crockett, moved to Texas; Jesse Campbell (1849) wife 1st. Edna Sparrier, 2nd wife Malissa Crockett (three children listed): Martha Campbell (1851) and Adela (1854).

by Ellen Russell

(8) Fentress Co, TN Heritage Book – 1987, Page 407

CROUCH, EDWARD FAMILY

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Edward Crouch and his wife, Margaret, were the parents of James B. Crouch (1763) who with his wife Martha (Patsy) Evans (1751) daughter of Thomas Evans, migrated across the Smoky Mountains from Virginia about 1798 into new territory that was to become Kentucky and Tennessee. Their first son William (Billy) Crouch (October 14, 1796-August 15, 1868) would have been about three years old as he was born in Virginia. Jim bought lands in the beautiful valleys and foothills of the Cumberlands and raised a family of three boys and three girls (if others, no records have been found).

Billy grew up and married Elizabeth (1797-1871). Her maiden name is not on census records nor on her grave marker. He acquired much land and many Negro slaves, and built a prosperous plantation. The mainhouse must have been unusually large or spacious for that time. They had no children of their own, but welcomed relatives, nearly always having some of their nephews or nieces waiting there.

When his brother John Wesley and wife Elizabeth died in Missouri leaving nine children, Billy took 10 year old "Wash" to live with them. Brought him up like his own son, teaching and training him carefully. He

appointed him to be administrator of his estate and to see that Elizabeth was provided for her lifetime and buried properly beside him in the cemetery he had set aside for the slaves who had died in his service and for others too. Billy and Elizabeth's graves have built up limestone about the size of a casket with a solid slab atop on which their names and dates are chiseled in the Rocky River Cemetery, Fall Mall, Tennessee: Billy Crouch October 14, 1796 - August 8, 1868 and Elizabeth, wife of Billy 1797-1871.

Other bits of stories passed down by word of mouth relating to Billy Crouch. William Marion Johnson as told to Dolly Crouch. One Negro boy was assigned to going to the mill have corn ground into meal and wheat into flour. Mr. Marion looked forward to every chance he had to ride back up to Uncle Billy's with that little Negro boy. William Marion's sister, Julia Ann recalled the social entertainments at Uncle Billy's. She related how before the Civil War she was there at a ball (large formal gathering for dancing). Guests had ridden in from the area round about. Their horses had been hitched outside surrounding the part of the house where they were dancing. The neighings and stamping of horses hooves interrupted the merry-making. On going outside, a large wild stallion had come down out of the forested mountains and was trying to steal the mares and horses. She said that everyone just stood there until Ben Benjamin Barton seized a large saplin' and brandished it defiantly before that wild horse, driving him off before they lost their horses. (I dare say some of those other fellows helped with some gun shots into the air.)

The Bertram Negro family who lived in Fentress County on through WW I and into the early or mid-twenties. The mother claimed descendancy from one of Billy Crouch's slaves. Her son "Kudge" is remembered as a fine talented fiddle player. He served from Fentress County in WW I in France.

"The 8th day of April, 1869 Jane Upchurch her Bill of Complaint in the Chancery Court at Jamestown, Tennessee against Elizabeth Crouch, Martin Crouch, Mark Ginnings, Anna Ginnings, James Kidd, Martha Kidd, Elias H. Crouch, George W. Crouch, Adm. of William Crouch deed, Alfred Jones, Mary Jones, James K. Redman, Margaret Redman, Stokely Crabtree and Elizabeth Crabtree, all residents of this state and Alexander Rich, Elizabeth Rich, Anna Cypress, James Evans, Nancy Evans, David F. Crouch, John R. Morgan, Elvira M. Morgan, Timothy Buck, Sarah Buck non-residents of the state" (claiming he died intestate in 1868, leaving the above — complainants and defendants his only heirs.) They asked for a sale of certain real estate and distributions of proceeds to residents and non-residents. Agreement was worked out that the widow Elizabeth be given 'dower.' The court did settle the complaint by selling the land to the highest bidder after setting the minimum price of eight hundred dollars, three hundred dollars cash in hand. The court describes the property as lying to the right prong and the left prong of Rottens Fork, with a lane leading from the head of Mrs. Crouch's lane to the Monticello Road, said lane to be kept open one rod wide for property owners use. (The purchasers were Stokely Crabtree and H.W. Williams.)

The below information is taken from the Registers Office records in Jamestown, Ten-

nessee. Martin and John Wesley's ten children, their sister Jane Crouch Upchurch are listed as heirs. The others I am as yet searching for their line of heritage. Could the Nancy Evans have been the "missing" former Mrs. Silas Upchurch? I cannot know why Martha Crouch Campbell is not asking for her share of the real estate sales.

by Ellen Russell

(NEE: MARTHA ELLEN BARTON)

I. Edward Crouch

A. James B Crouch "Jim" born 1763

married Martha Evans born 1751 daughter of Thomas Evans

1. William Crouch "Billy" 1795 – 1868

married Elizabeth --- --- 1797 – 1871 – no issue

2. John Wesley Crouch – 9 or 10 children

3. Jane Crouch

married **Joseph A Upchurch**, son of George Upchurch, Head of Clan

4. Martin Crouch

5. Martha (Crouch) Campbell

(9) Item in letter 5 Apr 1993 Arieta NMN Snyder to RPU

From a Book: Pioneer Families of Pickett Co, TN by Tim Huddleston, Pickett Co, TN Historian

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UPCHURCH FAMILY

The Upchurch family of Travisville and Forbus are descendants of Michael Upchurch, who came from England to Virginia about 1651. One of their ancestors, George Upchurch, was a soldier of the Revolutionary War and was at Valley Forge under General George Washington. The Upchurches came to the Pickett area soon after 1800. From that time on they have contributed to the history of the area. **Joseph Upchurch** was a member of the Fentress County Court in 1843; George Washington Upchurch was a deputy Fentress clerk in 1856; Drewry and Henderson Upchurch fought for the Union under Captain "Tinker" Dave Beatty in the Civil War; Grady Upchurch (1902-65) was tax assessor of Pickett and was a member of the Pickett County Court at his death.

Marion Upchurch was twice elected sheriff of Pickett County. Ruble Upchurch (1903-), son of Gregg and Freely Ann Crabtree Upchurch, with a BS from T.P.I. and a MS from U. T., has spent his life in teaching and supervising the Fentress County Schools. Ruble has now retired and hopes he can spend his time doing historical research on Pickett and Fentress Counties.

Notes by RPU

1. I have not seen evidence that George Upchurch served in the Revolution. He was Head of a Clan.

Joseph Upchurch = **Joseph A Upchurch**, son of George Upchurch, Head of Clan

George Washington Upchurch = son of Moses Upchurch and grandson of George Upchurch, Head of Clan

Drewry Upchurch = Drury Granville Upchurch, son of Joseph A Upchurch

Henderson Upchurch = Elias Henderson Upchurch, son of Joseph A Upchurch

Grady Upchurch =

Marion Upchurch = son of William Hamilton Upchurch, grandson of Joseph A Upchurch

Ruble Upchurch = Oscar Ruble Upchurch, Sr

(no number) See letter 1 Dec 1998 Dennis Wayne Price to RPU
Joseph Upchurch born 1800 (Iredell Co, NC)

(10) Pedigree Chart received in letter 28 May 1998 Charlie W Crouch to RPU. He is son of Charlie Crouch, Sr



(14.) Items in letter 20 FEB 2004 Truex Newman Upchurch to RPU; also file: Land Grants/Lotteries.

Jillson, Willard Rouse
The Kentucky Land Grants, Part I
Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., Inc. 1971.

Kentucky Land Warrants:

In 1815 the Kentucky State Legislature passed an act relative to land distribution, and the records written in fulfillment of this statute are now known as Kentucky Land Warrants, 1816-1873. These grants consist of forty-three books and 25,621 grants. The Act of the General Assembly governing this group of grants opened for sale, at \$20.00 per 100 acres, all the vacant lands to anyone in Kentucky, except an alien. The method followed was similar to that originally employed by Virginia, the purchaser securing receipt from the State Treasurer which was in turn converted into a land office warrant, authorizing the owner to locate and survey a certain acreage. When this had been completed and returned to the land office, it was registered and a land patent was issued to the owner within about six months. This law, however, did not apply to lands west of the Tennessee River.

| | Area | Book | Page | Date Survey | County | Watercourse |
|----------------------|------|------|------|-------------|---------|-----------------------|
| Nation, William | 100 | E | 523 | 12-24-1818 | Shelby | Little Brush Creek |
| Nations, Christopher | 50 | Y | 77 | 2-6-1824 | Whitley | Fork Case Creek |
| Upchurch, Chadrick* | 50 | M | 49 | 4-10-1822 | Wayne | Muddy Fork South Fork |

*[Shadrack Upchurch born 1784]

Grants west of Tennessee River

Following the acceptance of the treaty drawn by Andrew Jackson and Isaac Shelby with the Chickasaw Indians in 1818 and approved by Congress in 1819, the United States became the possessor of all lands lying between the Tennessee and Mississippi rivers in what is now both Kentucky and Tennessee. The Kentucky portion, oddly enough, became known as the Jackson Purchase and embraces McCracken, Ballard, Carlisle, Hickman, Fulton, Graves, Marshall and Calloway Counties. These lands were opened up for settlement in 1820, the General Assembly appointing a surveyor to lay off this great boundary into sections and townships—a very fortunate provision. The records of this group has thus come to be known as Grants West of the Tennessee River, and are to be found in eleven volumes from 1822 to 1858. They compromise 8,713 grants.

| Grantee | Acres | Book | Page | Township-Range |
|---------------------|-------|------|------|-----------------------|
| Upchurch, Thomas A. | 160 | 5 | 124 | NW Qr Sec 10T-4 R-5 E |
| Upchurch, Ambrose | 160 | 9 | 271 | SE Qr Sec 3 T-4 R-5 E |

Grants South of Walker's Line

A small group of grants known as the Grants South of Walker's Line were issued from 1825 to 1923. They are located as their title suggests, "South of Walker's Line," and north of the parallel 36 degrees and 30 minutes, a line which was accurately established in 1819 by Robert Alexander and Luke Munsell, following legislative appointment. Dr. Walker in running his line for the southern boundary of Kentucky in 1779-80 failed to establish the true parallel of 36 degrees and 30 minutes, his line falling variously from six to ten miles north of the true parallel. Since the old Walker line had been established as the southern boundary of Kentucky and covers a considerable distance, it will be seen that the lands indicated in these grants were really in Tennessee. To settle the matter, an agreement was reached in 1820 by the Commissioners selected by the Kentucky and Tennessee, in furtherance of which Kentucky was given the right to issue grants for all of the territory lying north of parallel 36 degrees and 30 minutes and east of the Tennessee River.

| Grantee | Acres | Book | Page | Date Survey | County | Watercourse |
|-------------------|-------|------|------|-------------|-----------|--------------|
| Upchurch, Joseph* | 50 | 2 | 167 | 4-10-1828 | Opp Wayne | Rottens Fork |
| Upchurch, Joseph | 50 | 2 | 411 | 4-7-1831 | Fentress | Caney Fork |
| Upchurch, Joseph | 50 | 3 | 341 | 6-13-1837 | Campbell | Wolf River |
| Upchurch, Joseph | 100 | 3 | 453 | 11-12-1838 | Fentress | Beatys Creek |
| Upchurch, Joseph | 50 | 6 | 408 | 10-25-1851 | Fentress | Caney Fork |

*[**Joseph Upchurch** born 1800]

(no number) From email Pat Thomas to RPU 16 Jan 2016 9:35 am and :36 am. Archived in Dropbox.

Case in the KY Court of Appeal

Thomas Upchurch (son of George Upchurch – Head of Clan) on 18 Jul 1853 a few months before his death asked his brother **Joseph Upchurch** to write his will. Will dated 18 May 1853. Settlement 19 Jun 1834 – contested – Probated 24 Oct 1855. The contest had to do with how signatures were affirmed. **Joseph Upchurch** = a principal devisee. Names of brothers Moses Upchurch and Shadrick (sic) Upchurch mentioned. Others present Cyrus Keeton and Joel Keeton. Also --- Redman (Redmon?) or ---?

Note: The actual will not now in RPU files.