

Thomas Gay Upchurch, Jr

XID-2082

Commentary: Thomas Gay Upchurch Jr (XID 2082) was the son of Thomas Gay Upchurch Sr. and the grandson of Charles Upchurch, head of Upchurch clan #2. Thomas Gay Upchurch Sr. was born in North Carolina but later moved to Georgia where his son, Thomas Gay Jr. was born in March of 1827. Thomas would marry Sarah Miller prior to 1850 and the couple would move to Louisiana by 1860. There is speculation that he died later that year, and yet other speculation that he served as a soldier in the 56th GA, Co A, CSA. Needless to say, much more research is needed in order for us to have a better understanding of the life and times of Thomas Gay Upchurch Jr.

Jay Buck, 6 Nov 2016

Acknowledgements: The following Biofile was transcribed by Carla Michaels, a volunteer and contributor, who volunteers at the Cary Facility in Wake County, NC

(1) Thomas Gay Upchurch, Jr. was born in GA and in 1850 the census showed him in Henry Co, GA- age 23, wife Sarah Miller – age 24- children:

Robert Gay Upchurch- age 3

Willis Upchurch- age 4

Thomas Gay Upchurch, Jr. was son of Thomas Gay Upchurch, Sr. who was born in NC in 1797 and moved to GA. (28)

(2) See Letter 1 Nov 1960 Martha Lucy Upchurch to Ben Lane Upchurch, Sr.

“I am afraid I have upset Mrs. Fred Upchurch (Alice Gray) in Texas. I do not believe that her Thomas Gay was the son of Gay Upchurch [Thomas Gay Upchurch, Sr.] and Patience Barnes. Her Thomas Gay Upchurch was born in 1847 and Gay’s son **Thomas Gay Upchurch, Jr.** was born in 1827. Her Thomas Gay Upchurch went to Louisiana and Gay’s son went to Maryland. He took the Oath of Allegiance there and stayed there after the war.”

(3) Thomas Gay Upchurch, Jr. born 1827 married Sarah Miller born 1826. He is son of Sr. and grandson of Charles Upchurch (Head of Clan). (29, pg.62)

(4) See Letter 1 Apr 1988 James Oliver Upchurch to RPU
Thomas Gay Upchurch, Jr. lived in Vernon, LA.

(5) See Photo File 88-11 for photo of **Thomas Gay Upchurch, Jr.** and his wife

(6) See letter 13 Dec 1988 Ruth Upchurch Unruh to RPU

From the Family Bible of **Thomas Gay Upchurch, Jr.**

Thomas Gay Upchurch, Jr. born 7 Mar 1827 and is buried in the Collier [Ranchos (?)] Cemetery below Vernon. He married Sarah _____ who was born 7 Sep 1825 (not 1826).

(7) See letter 15 Aug 1990 James Shannon Elder to RPU

Thomas Gay Upchurch, Jr. moved to Vernon, LA and his descendants were later found in Corsicana, TX. He may have been a soldier in 56th GA, Co A, CSA.

(8) See letter 10 Sep 1990 Sandra Kathleen Upchurch to RPU

1850 Census- Henry Co, GA

Thomas Upchurch	age 23	born GA	<u>[Thomas Gay Upchurch, Jr.]</u>
Sarah Upchurch (wife)	age 21	born GA	[Sarah Miller]
R. J. Upchurch	age 3	born GA	[Robert Gay Upchurch]
Willis Upchurch	age 4	born GA	[Willis J. Upchurch]

1860 Census- Jackson Parish, LA

T. G. Upchurch	age 33	farmer born GA	RE=\$1000; Personal= \$500
<u>[Thomas Gay Upchurch, Jr.]</u>			
Sarah Upchurch	age 32	born GA	(nee Miller) died LA
Robert G. Upchurch	age 13	born GA	
Willis J. Upchurch	age 11	born GA	died Navarro Co, TX
William J. Upchurch	age 8	born GA	
Theodosia Upchurch	age 6	born GA	
James S. (M.) Upchurch	age 4	born GA	[James Simeon Upchurch]

(9) Ancestry.com Download- 5 Oct 2008- RPU- shows all born GA

1860 Census- Jackson Parish, LA- Jackson P. O. Vernon

Name	Born About	Age	Born
T G Upchurch farmer \$1000/\$800	1827	33	GA
<u>[Thomas Gay Upchurch, Jr.]</u>			
Sarah Upchurch	1828	32	GA
Robert G Upchurch	1847	13	GA
Willis J Upchurch	1849	11	GA
William J Upchurch	1852	8	GA
Theodotia Upchurch	1854	6	GA
James N Upchurch	1856	4	GA

(10) See Biofile of Bruce Bowman- Entry 30 Jul 2012

Bruce seeks proof that **Thomas Gay Upchurch, Jr.** is son of Thomas Gay Upchurch, Sr. re: Sons of the American Revolution

(11) Item C29-32 in Packet dated 22 May 2004 in Biofile of Ben Lane Upchurch, Sr.- Letter 25 Sep 1950 F. R. Barr of Vernon, LA to Alice Brown Gray. This letter links two families as follows:

I. Charles Upchurch- Head of Clan

A. **Thomas Gay Upchurch, Jr.**

a. Robert Gay Upchurch

married () Eliza Jane Barr ←

(Eliza died aged 100)

i. William Edward Upchurch ←

(over 82 in 1950 hence b. ~1868)

ii. John Robert Upchurch

of Jonesboro, LA

iii. Ida Upchurch

married () John Carroll

(I) M. Gay Carroll

iv. Josephine Upchurch "Josie"

R. J. Marlar

(or Malar-CJM 29 Oct 2016)

live in Bossier City, LA

I. _____ Barr

A. Eliza Jane Barr ←

1. Edward Upchurch ←

B. _____ Barr

II. _____ Barr

A. F. R. Barr (M)

Note: Edward Upchurch and F. R. Barr noted as 2nd cousins, [actually 1st cousins once removed].

Refers to:

- Cap Upchurch & Jim Upchurch who drove horses to LA
- Uncle Jack Upchurch [F. R. Barr grew up with Uncle Jack Upchurch's children]

Note that F. R. Barr refers to:

- **Thomas Gay Upchurch, Jr.** & wife Sarah Miller as **Grandfather** & Grandmother Upchurch
- Eliza Jane Barr- as his 1st cousin
- Says Mr. Upchurch [presumably Robert Gay Upchurch or **Thomas Gay Upchurch, Jr.** had an Uncle Jack Upchurch
- Says Mrs. Theodosia Harris of Shreveport, LA can give detail on Uncle Jack Upchurch & family
- Says "My father often said, "Grandmother Upchurch was a fine lady."

(12)

Dear Mrs. Upchurch [Probably Alice Brown Gray- RPU]

22 June 1932

Your letter received asking about the connection. I didnt no any thing about grandfathers people. grandfather had 10 children 6 boys and 4 girls. the boys names was Willis, Bud, Tom, Johnie, Joe and father Poney and the girls names were Elizabeth, Radie, Mat, and Mallie. if you will wright to my brother John he might give you some information as he is 10 years older than I am and John only lives 60 miles from Carrolton. he noes plenty people over there and he can either go and run the records or get some one over there to run them for him. I will send you a card with his address.

Yours truly,

Walter Upchurch

Athens, Tex

Route 1

[Walter William Upchurch XID-2096]

Note: RPU 23 Feb 2004

I. Charles- Head of Clan

A. Thomas Gay Upchurch, Sr.- Had 10 children as listed above. RPU

List agrees except that added children d. young, renamed

XID	Name
2073	1. William Barnes Upchurch "Bud"
2082	2. <u>Thomas Gay Upchurch, Jr.</u> "Tom"
2078	3. John C. Upchurch "Johnie"
2077	4. Mary Elizabeth Upchurch "Elizabeth"
2076	5. Rhoda A. Upchurch "Rodie"
2075	6. Martha Upchurch
2080	7. Margaret J. Upchurch

Note: Walter William Upchurch refers to his Aunts as "Mat" and "Mallie"- I am not sure which is which- RPU]

2074	8. Jethroe Wilson Upchurch "Poney"
2096	1. Walter William Upchurch "Walter"
2093	2. John Emmerson Upchurch "John"

(13) Input from letter 19 Nov 2008 Cynthia Delaine Primrose to RPU

I. Charles Upchurch- Head of Clan

(Section E)

A. Thomas Gay Upchurch, Sr

1. **Thomas Gay Upchurch, Jr.** married 3 Sep 1859 (Ebinego Baptist Church, Jackson Parish, LA) Sarah Miller. TGU, Jr. = a Blacksmith. He came to US from Cork County Ireland about 1850.

[RPU Note: This input from Mary Bess Kirk incorrect in that TGU, Jr. did not come from Ireland. Also note other records show TGU, Jr. had children to he and Sarah in GA well before 1859.]

[RPU Note: Mary Bess shows TGU, JR. had 5 children- I show 9. I cannot identify Cap Upchurch & Jack Upchurch in her list. My prospects would be: Willis J. Upchurch, Thomas J. Upchurch, William Jefferson Upchurch & John F (T) Upchurch.]

a. Robert Gay Upchurch

i. John Robert Upchurch

(I) Bessie May Upchurch

(A) Frances June Willis b. 14 Jun 1926

(II) Buel Jane Upchurch

(A) Mary Bess Willis (RPU shows Mary Bess Kirk) b. 16 May 1928; Phone: 318-484-9736; address: 363 Windermear Unit 319 Alexandria, LA 71303. She has the Robert Gay Upchurch Bible.

married () Merrill Dee Wingard b. 3 Nov 1926 [RPU has 3 Nov 1929]

(B) Rose Anne Kirk b, 30 Oct 1934 [RPU has 16 Oct 1934

RPU Note: Cynthia reports the Bible contained only:

Robert Gay Upchurch	9-11-47	[RPU has 17 Jul 1847]
	12-3-06	OK

Eliza

married 9-26 [RPU has 1867 hence 26 Sep 1867]

[9 children]

Wm Edward	1-26-1868	OK
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Ida Lee	1-22-1870	OK
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Sarah	11-24-1871	[Sarah Allie Upchurch]
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Maggie	5-23-1874	[Maggie O. Upchurch]
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Josephine	10-14-1876	[Mary Josephine]
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Cont'd on next page....

Twins:

John Robert	10-16-1878	OK
Thomas R.	10-16-1878	OK
Cora Minnie Upchurch	4-2-1882	OK
Claude L	9-20-1886	[RPU has "Claud" L. Upchurch b. 20 Aug 1886

(14) See letter 12 Nov 1950 in Biofile of Allie Ruby Frezell by her

I. Charles Upchurch- Head of Clan

A. Thomas Gay Upchurch, Sr.

1. ***Thomas Gay Upchurch, Jr.** d. 1860 when son Robert Gay Upchurch was 10 married () Sarah Miller d. 1866 when son Robert Gay Upchurch was 16

a. Robert Gay Upchurch b. 1850 (); d. 1906 at age 56 (buried 3 ½ miles east of Vernon, LA at Oak Ridge Cemetery.)

married () Eliza Jane Barr [nee Hancock]. She had a Family Bible when she lived with us. [M/M Robert Gay Upchurch. She left our home & took Bible. (Buried in Ruston, LA) [She is buried there in plot of her son William Edward Upchurch as weather was bad when she died & Ed wanted to bury her there] She died in Ruston, LA.

Both (Thomas & Sarah) buried 1 ¼ miles south of Vernon, LA Collier Cemetery

*Allie reports that she visited the gravesite of **Thomas** & Sarah Oct 1950. It is over grown with trees. No markers of any kind, I had been there twice before. There is an adjoining Colored Cemetery, We have a picture of **Thomas** & Sarah.

i. John Robert Upchurch (Twin) "Bob" married ()
Allie Ruby Flozell (Frezell above- CJM 29 Oct 2016)

ii. Thomas Rebrent? Upchurch "Bert"

iii. William Edward Upchurch "Ed"

iv. Claud Upchurch

v. Josephine Upchurch → may have Bible
married () R. J. Malar- They live at
415 Arcadia St.

Bossier City, LA

vi. ____ ____ Upchurch (F)
married J. W. Martin

They live at
4542 Rusk Ave
Houston TX

[Just which daughter married J. W. Martin is not clear- RPU]

vii.	}	3 known females
viii.		
ix.		

(15) From Biofile of Ben Lane Upchurch, Sr. Packet dated 22 May 1980
Re: Charles Upchurch/Thomas Gay Upchurch, Sr. Subclan- A12

Edward Upchurch, born 11/11/1873, grandson of this Gay Upchurch wrote on 12 Jan 1958:
“I have enclosed copied of newspaper clippings of the death notices of Gay Upchurch, J. W.
Upchurch-----

I remember an aunt Elizabeth Hand, married Hilliary Hand-----another aunt, Rhoda Barnes-
----- Margaret’s last name was Bonner.

Mother and Father (J. W. son of Gay) moved back to Georgia to Grandfather Morgan’s house,
Palmetto Ga. at the time of the Civil War, and then back to Alabama right soon after the war was
over. However they moved back to Georgia about 1883.

Uncle Thomas Gay during the Civil War took the Oath of Allegiance in Maryland, and lived
there for awhile after the War-----

In Alabama my family lived 3 or 4 miles from Grandfather, but Uncles Joseph and Willis beside
Grandfather, one on each side-----

Edward Upchurch=Edward Franklin Upchurch son of Jethro Wilson Upchurch “J. W.”
Martha J (A) Upchurch [shown above as Margaret Upchurch married () John Bonner
“Mother”= nee Rosina A Morgan

Thomas Gay Upchurch, Jr. “Uncle Thomas Gay”
Willis J. Upchurch, Joseph Eaton Upchurch
Grandfather= Thomas Gay Upchurch, Sr.