

Commentary: William Benton Upchurch, born about 1819 (NC) and died about 1880 (Wilkes County, NC), was the son of John Upchurch VII and the grandson of John Upchurch III, head of Upchurch clan # 14. We are left to speculate whether he was born in Chatham County, NC, in the Upchurch enclave that his grandfather established about 1780, or whether he was born in Wilkes County, NC where his mother was found in the 1830s. We are confident he spent all of his adult life in the area of Wilkes County, NC. We treasure the research provided by Dema Elizabeth Upchurch (in the 1980s) to establish this line. She provided critical information, but only after her passing from the scene were we able to complete the task and then only by making some well based assumptions.

- RPU 31 May 2017

Acknowledgements: This biofile was transcribed by Allied Family Board Member, Carla Michaels of Cary, NC.

(1) See letter 16 Jun 1980 Dema Elizabeth Allen to RPU (Page 6)

She presents information that an Upchurch Patriarch named James (Jimmie) Upchurch had several sons at least some of whom lived in Wilkes Co, NC. The full list of children:

1. Larkin Upchurch b. 1816
2. John Wesley Upchurch born 15 Feb 1819, died 14 Nov 1887
3. Sanford Upchurch
4. **William Upchurch**
[Info from William's letter to his brother John Wesley Upchurch found in Ransie Upchurch Richardson papers at Ruth [Ashboro?] Sparta, NC]
5. Green Berry Upchurch born Jun 1827

She provides much detail on John Wesley Upchurch. In a 8 Aug 1981 phone call RPU to Dema Elizabeth Allen, she reported she did not learn about **William Upchurch** until late. She found a letter in which he was trying to sell land to a relative and this established a relationship.

[Note: The above 5 are sons of John Upchurch (XID-4168) and grandsons of John Upchurch III, Head of Clan- RPU]

(2) See letter 14 Aug 1981 Dema Elizabeth Upchurch to RPU

A. William B. Upchurch was a brother of John Wesley Upchurch. The fact that William B. Upchurch was one of the brothers came about in the following way: "Ervin Upchurch [Ervin Thomas Upchurch of Tennessee] had a copy of a deed made in 1919 (I think). I believe Green Berry Upchurch was selling a farm which required all of the children of John Wesley Upchurch to sign- my granddad Columbus and wife Dema, Aunt Ransie Upchurch Richardson and husband

(6) See letter 19 Feb 1983 Dema Elizabeth Allen to RPU

The Morgan in the 9 May 1876 letter **William B. Upchurch** to John Wesley Upchurch is Morgan Upchurch, the son of John Wesley Upchurch. The Rausey on the letter is Aunt Rosamona Upchurch Richardson.

(7) See letter 5 Apr 1983 Ruth Nielson to RPU

“I found **William B Upchurch** and Emily on the 1880 Census, Wilkes Co, NC, Trap Hill Township, with son Sanford listed as the oldest (born 1863) and James F. as the youngest (born 1879). William B Upchurch was age 60 at the time.

(8) See letter 14 Apr 1983 Ruth Alice Westley to RPU

William B Upchurch born circa 1819 married 24 Nov 1851 (Wilkes Co, NC) Emily Carline Cordall born 1835. He died after 1880 and is buried at Pane Cemetery, Dalton, NC. Their children:

1. Sanford R. Upchurch b. 1863
2. Greenberry Upchurch born 1865
3. Nancy A. Upchurch born 1867
4. Nevid J Upchurch born 1870
5. Floyd Upchurch born 1873
6. Charles F. Upchurch born 1876
7. James F. Upchurch born 1879
8. ? “Martha”
9. ? “Millie or Molly”
10. ? “John Wesley

(9) See letter 6 Aug 1983 Ruth Alice Westley to RPU

William B Upchurch born circa 1819 married Emly Carline Cordall on 23 Nov 1851 (Wilkes Co, NC) is a farmer in Wilkes Co, NC in Trap Hill Township (on 1880 Census?)

Ten children are listed. It appears that two of them Mary Upchurch born circa 1869 and Nevia J. Upchurch born circa 1870 could be the same.

(10) RPU extract of 24 May 1883 Wilkes co, NC Deed- Book 30 Page 20 [Deed #6 in letter 24 Apr 1999 Lewis Timothy Ferrier to RPU]

William B Upchurch and wife Emily C Upchurch [nee Emily Caroline Cordall], she being separately examined, sell 50 acres for \$280 to John D. Blizzard in Wilkes Co, NC on the Wilkes/Surry County Line- adjoins J. F. Gentry, Water of White Oak Creek, Spence Line- presumably a part of the land described in Deed #5.

(11) RPU extract of 23 Feb 1869 Wilkes Co, NC Deed- Book Z Page 447

The nature of this document not clear. Three individuals being duly sworn set aside to W. B. Upchurch (**William B Upchurch**) some enumerated personal property and a tract of land 200 acres being in Wilkes Co, NC and 50 acres in Surry Co, NC. Adjoins Rick (?) Spenser, J. F. Gentry, W. C. Demetts (?). The signers: Reo (?) B. Sparkes, P. B. Moody, Samuel Hanks.
[Deed #5 in letter 24 Apr 1999 Lewis Timothy Ferrier to RPU]

(12) Extract of 14 Aug 1884 Wilkes Co, NC Deed- Book 18 Page 77.

[Deed #2 in letter 24 Apr 1999 Lewis Timothy Ferrier to RPU]

A. A. Parks sells 100 acres to G. B. Upchurch [Green Berry Upchurch] on the waters of White Oak Branch and touching the county line. Adjoining land owners: Alfred Combs, G. B. Upchurch land [Green Berry Upchurch], J. F. Gentry, R. F. Upchurch [note: I cannot identify this R. F. Upchurch, could this really J. F. Upchurch for John Franklin Upchurch? Will crossfile: R. F. Upchurch, John Franklin Upchurch and Franklin Upchurch- RPU], John Blizzard (land sold to the said John Blizzard Dec by W. B. Upchurch [**William B Upchurch**]).

