

**Winship Upchurch****XID – 689**

**Commentary:** Winship Upchurch was the son of Sims and the grandson of Moses, head of Upchurch Clan 1. Winship's service in the Civil War, for both South and North, and his possible emigration to Hawaii are subjects worthy of more research.

**Acknowledgements:** This biofile was transcribed by Carla J. Michaels of Cary NC. She is both a marvelous contributor to UAFA and a member of the UAFA board. She is also a noted local historian in the Cary area.

**(no number)** Internet Records for the Family of Sims Upchurch - RPU 15 Jun 2011

I. Moses Upchurch b 1750 (VA)

married 1772 ( ) Mary Simms

A. Calorgy U. b 1795 (Franklin Co., NC) (Claise, Clargy) NM

B. Sims U. b 11 Dec 1808 (Chatham Co., NC) d Apr 1880 (Chatham)

married (1st) 11 Dec 1832 (Wake Co., NC) Abigail Olive d 1847

married (2nd) 1850 ( ) Matilda Temples

1. Parthenia U. b 22 Sep 1833

2. Quinetta U. (twin) b 27 Jul 1834

3. Lucetta U. (twin) b 27 Jul 1834

4. Lewraney U. b 29 Jun 1836 (Laurance)

5. James Henderson U. b about 1838

6. Williford U. b about 1841

7. Winslow U. b about 1842 (Winston)

8. **Winship U.** b about 1844

9. Courtney U. b Sep 1846

10. Alvania U. b 19 Jul 1848

NOTE: Sons 5 thru 9 died in the service of the Confederacy. Only James Henderson had married. He had issue.

NOTE: Sims U. supposedly married 23 Dec 1852 (Chatham Co, NC) Tabitha Williams but the presence of wife Matilda in the 1860 and 1870 census brings doubt.

**1840 Census, NC – Chatham Co – Sims Upchurch**

Free White Persons – Males Under 5:	1	James Henderson Upchurch
Free White Persons – Males 15 thru 19:	*	*Male born 1821 – 1825 – unidentified
Free White Persons – Males 30 thru 39:	1	Sims Upchurch
Free White Persons – Males 80 thru 89	1	Moses Upchurch
Free White Persons – Females Under 5:	3	#2, 3, 4 [in above outline]
Free White Persons – Females 5 thru 9:	1	Parthenia Upchurch
Free White Persons – Females 30 thru 39:	1	Abigail Olive
Free White Persons – Females 40 thru 49:	1	Calorgy Upchurch
Free White Persons – Females 70 thru 79:	1	Mary Simms
Slaves – Males Under 10:	1	
Slaves – Females Under 10:	1	
Slaves – Females 24 thru 35:	1	

Total – All Persons (Free White, Free Colored, Slaves):	14
Persons employed in Agriculture:	2
No. White Persons over 20 who cannot read and write:	-
Free White Persons – Under 20:	6
Free White Persons – 20 thru 49:	3
Total Free White Persons:	11
Total All Persons – Free White, Free Colored, Slaves:	14

1850 Census – NC, Chatham Co, Lower Regiment				
Name	born about	age		
Sinas Upchurch [Sims]	1808	42	NC	farmer, \$2700
Parthing Upchurch	1834	16	NC	
Laurance Upchurch	1837	13	NC	
James H Upchurch	1839	11	NC	
Williford Upchurch	1841	9	NC	
Winslow Upchurch	1842	8	NC	
<b><u>Winship Upchurch</u></b>	1844	6	NC	
Courtney Upchurch	1846	4	NC	
Alvany Upchurch	1849	1	NC	
Claise Upchurch	1795	55	NC	
Joseph Lawrence	1801	49	NC	laborer
Mossie Upchurch [Moses]	1750	100	VA	
Quinta Upchurch [twin]	1835	15	NC	
Lucilla Upchurch [twin]	1835	15	NC	

1860 Census – NC, Chatham Co, Eastern District – Grove PO			
Name	born about	age	
Sinn Upchurch [Sims]	1808	52	farmer, \$4500/ 8000
Matilda Upchurch	1808	52	
Willerford Upchurch	1841	19	
Winston Upchurch	1843	17	
<b><u>Winship Upchurch</u></b>	1845	15	
Cortney Upchurch	1841	19	
Alvany Upchurch	1849	11	
Clargy Upchurch	1800	60	
Sally Davis	1837	23	
Alfred Waldin	1837	23	laborer
John Jeffers	1836	24	laborer

1870 Census – NC, Chatham Co, Eastern District – Grove PO			
Name	born about	age	
Sims Upchurch	1807	63	farmer, \$3100/ 1500
Matilda Upchurch	1807	63	
Courtney Upchurch	1846	24	
Alvany Upchurch	1848	22	

**(no number)** Item in letter 7 Sep 2007 Margaret Louise Harris to RPU

NC CSA Soldiers and Sailors

[The original biofile contains the names of 65 men. Listed below is the one who is featured in this biofile – CJM 16 Nov 2020]

73. **Upchurch, Winship** Confederate Infantry 6<sup>th</sup> Regiment, North Carolina Infantry

**(no number)** Book: The Upchurch Family of High Falls, NC (Moore Co.) Page 66

I. Moses U. - Head of Clan

A. Sims Upchurch

6 Simms Upchurch: b: 11 Dec 1808 Chatham County, North Carolina d: Apr 1880 in Williams, Chatham County, North Carolina

+Maiden

7 [2] **Winship Upchurch** b: 1844 in Chatham County, NC, USA

7 James Henderson Upchurch d: 1863

7 Winslow Upchurch b: 1842

7 Wiliford Upchurch b: 1841

\*2nd Wife of Simms Upchurch:

+Tabitha Williams b: 1810 m: 23 Dec 1852 d: 1860

\*3rd Wife of Simms Upchurch:

+Matilda Temples b: 1808 in North Carolina m: 1850 in Wake, NC, USA d: in NC, USA

\*4th Wife of Simms Upchurch: b: 1810 m: 11 Dec 1832 in Wake, NC, USA d: 1847 in Chatham, NC, USA

+Abigail Olive born 1810 married 11 Dec 1832 in Wake, NC, USA, died 1847 in Chatham, NC, USA

7 Partheny Upchurch b: 1833 in Wake County, North Carolina

7 Lucetta Upchurch b: 1835 in Wake County, North Carolina

7 Quinetta Upchurch b: 1835 in Wake County, North Carolina

+Joseph Bell Lasater b: 1830 m: 15 Jan 1852 in Chatham, NC, USA d: 30 Aug 1861

8 Minerva Lasater b: 1853 in Chatham County, North Carolina

8 Abby C. Lasater b: 1854 in Chatham County, North Carolina

8 John S. Lasater b: 17 Mar 1856 in Chatham County, North Carolina d: 07 Aug 1918 in Durham, NC, USA

+Theodica Council b: 1858 in North Carolina m: 1878 d: Bef. 1910 in Durham, Durham County, North Carolina

9 Leo Dexter Lasater b: Jul 1879 in Williams, Chatham County, North Carolina

9 Joseph M. Lasater b: May 1882

9 Annie P. Lasater b: Nov 1888

9 Ella G. Lasater b: 1901

\*2nd Wife of John S. Lasater

+Lee H. b: 1865 in North Carolina m: 1908 in Durham, North Carolina

[Not 2<sup>nd</sup> wife of JSL – rather is 2<sup>nd</sup> husband [Lee Hawkins

8 Rebecca Lasater b: Mar 1858 in Chatham County, North Carolina d: 17 Dec 1938 in Durham, North Carolina

+Joseph P. Lawrence b: Nov 1854 in North Carolina d: 05 Feb 1938 Durham, North Carolina

9 Nora D. Lawrence b: Nov 1879 in Durham, Durham County, North Carolina

9 Clara V. Lawrence b: May 1883 in Durham, Durham County, North Carolina

9 James Thurmon Lawrence b: 26 Jul 1888 in Durham, Durham County, North Carolina d: 10 Dec 1938 in Durham, North Carolina

9 Leslie Erbon Lawrence b: 03 Jan 1893 in Durham, Durham County, North Carolina d: 24 Oct 1952 in North Carolina

8 Lenora A. Lasater b: 1860 in Chatham County, North Carolina d: 12 Nov 1943 in Durham, North Carolina

7 Laurana Lurany Upchurch b: 1836 in North Carolina

+Albert C. Council b: 1833 in North Carolina

7 James A. Upchurch b: 1838 in Wake County, North Carolina

7 Willoford Upchurch b: 1840 in Wake County, North Carolina

7 Winslow Winston Upchurch b: 1842 in Wake County, North Carolina

7 [2] Winship Upchurch b: 1844 in Chatham Cty, NC, USA

7 Courtney Upchurch b: 1845 in Wake County, North Carolina

7 Alvaney Upchurch b: 1847 in Wake County, North Carolina

**(no number)** Civil War 1861 – 1865 – Company I, 6<sup>th</sup> Regiment – NC State Troops  
See RPU War Records for complete article as published in Wake Treasures, Vol 9, No 2, Summer/ Fall 1999, Pages 41 – 57.

Many participants were from Wake Co, NC and nearby counties so the article has been extensively extracted for RPU biofiles.

Details Re: Co I

**UPCHURCH, J. H., Sergeant**

Enlisted in Virginia at age 24, 13 August 1862, for the war. Mustered in as Private. Wounded at Sharpsburg, Maryland, 17 September 1862. Promoted to Corporal on 1 February 1863. Wounded in the breast at Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, 1-2 July 1863. Captured at Rappahannock Station, Virginia, 7 November 1863, but escaped. Promoted to Sergeant in November-December 1863. Wounded in the arm at Cedar Creek, Virginia, 19 October 1864. Died at Charlottesville, Virginia, 13 November 1864, of wounds.

**UPCHURCH, Williford, Private**

Enlisted in Wake County at age 20, 28 May 1861, for the war. Present or accounted for until reported missing in action at Cedar Creek, Virginia, 19 October 1864. No further records.

**UPCHURCH, Winship, Private**

Born in Chatham County and was by occupation a farmer prior to enlisting in Wake County at age 17, 28 May 1861, for the war. Present or accounted for until captured at Rappahannock Station, Virginia, 7 November 1863. Confined at Point Lookout, Maryland, where he took the Oath of Allegiance and joined the U.S. Army on 17 February 1864. Assigned to Company E, 1st Regiment U.S. Volunteer Infantry.

**UPCHURCH, Winslow, Private**

Enlisted in Chatham County on 24 October 1864, for the war. Present or accounted for through December 1864.

The company, known as "Cedar Forks Rifles," was from Wake and Chatham Counties and enlisted in Wake County on 28 May 1861. It went into the camp of instruction near Company Shops (Burlington), Alamance County, 1 June 1861, and was assigned to this regiment [Sixth Regiment] as Company I. After joining the regiment, the company functioned as a part of the regiment, and its history for the war period is recorded as a part of the regimental history.

The information contained in the following roster of the company was compiled principally from company muster rolls for 20 June 1861, through February 1864, and 15 September through December 1864. No company muster rolls were found for the period prior to 20 June 1861; for March through 14 September 1864; or for the period after December 1864. In addition to the company muster rolls, Roll of Honor records, receipt rolls, hospital records, prisoner of war records, and other primary records, supplemented by state pension applications, United Daughters of the Confederacy records, and postwar rosters and histories, all provided useful information.

Transcribed by Madlyn Jamison

Source: Jordan, Weymouth T. Jr., compiler and Louis H. Manarin, Unit Histories; *North Carolina Troops, 1861-1865: A Roster: Vol. IV Infantry* (Raleigh, N.C.: Office of Archives and History, 1973) The North Carolina Archives has generously granted permission to *Wake Treasures* to reprint the history of Company I, 6th Regiment N.C. State Troops in this journal issue.

**(no number)** From email 10 Dec 2010 Ann Pie to RPU  
[Re: Winship Upchurch's Civil War Service. – CJM 16 Nov 2020]

UPCHURCH, WINSHIP - Born in Chatham County and listed on the 1850 census as living with his parents in Chatham County and attending school. In 1860 he is listed at 15 years old. Member of Mt. Pisgah Baptist Church and brothers with Williford and Winslow. He was a farmer prior to enlisting in Wake County at age 17, on May 28, 1861. Present or accounted for until captured at Rappahannock Station, VA., November 7, 1863 and confined at Point Lookout, MD. Here he took the Oath of Allegiance on February 17, 1864 and joined Co. E, 1st Regiment U.S. Volunteer Infantry.

**(4) continued**

Butternut Press, Inc. 1987 Page 431

"Upchurch, Winship, Private. Born in Chatham County and resided as a farmer prior to enlistment in Wake County at age 17, May 28, 1861 for the war. Captured at Rappahannock Station, VA November 7, 1863 and confined at Point Lookout, MD where he joined the US Service February 17, 1864. Mustered into Company E, 1<sup>st</sup> Regiment US Volunteers at Norfolk, VA May 1, 1864 for three years. Deserted near Fort Benton, Montana Territory, July 3, 1865.

**(1) Winship Upchurch** was son of Sims and Abigail (Olive) Upchurch and grandson of Moses Upchurch (28).

**(2)** See Census Chatham Co, NC – extract by RPU

1850	Winship Upchurch	age 6	M	is in home of Sims Upchurch
1860	Winship Upchurch	age 15	M	is in home of Sims Upchurch
1870	No Winship in home of Sims Upchurch			

**(3)** See biofile of Sims Upchurch – entry 12 Nov 1987

**Winship Upchurch** born circa 1844 served in CSA, did not return. Presumed MIA.

**(4)** From letter 30 Jul 1989 Vicki Marie Barefoot to RPU

**Winship Upchurch** Co I, 6 NC Infantry Pvt/ Pvt

Enlisted 28 May 1861	age 17, volunteers
20 Jun – 31 Aug 1861	“Absent sick on furlough dated 28 Aug for 20 days by order Gen Johnson
Sep – Oct 1861	“Absent, sick leave for 20 days from 28 Aug by command of General Johnson & extended to 16 Oct. Is now at Williams Mills, NC
Nov & Dec 1861	present
Jan & Feb 1862	present
Mar & Apr 1862	present
1 May – 31 Oct 1862	present
Nov & Dec 1862	present, sick
Jan & Feb 1863	present
1 Mar – 11 May 1863	present

(list continues below)

11 May – 31 Aug 1863	present
Sep & Oct 1863	present
Nov & Dec 1863	absent – “prisoner since 7 Nov 1863, captured at Rappahannock, Va on 7 Nov 1863. Prisoner of War at Point Lookout, MD – arrived 11 Nov 1863

“... released on taking the Oath of Allegiance and joining the United States Service during the month of February, 1864.”

Joined the Army from The Bloody Sixth: The Sixth North Carolina Regiment Confederate States of America by Richard Iobst and Louis Manarin – Gaithersburg, MD)



(Confederate.)

W | 6 | N. C.

Winship, Thoburn  
Capt. Co. D. { 6 Regiment  
North Carolina Troops.

Appears on a

Roll of Honor\*

of the organization named above.

County \_\_\_\_\_

Date of entrance into service May 28, 1861.

Age 17; Vol. or Conscript Volunteer

Died or discharged, and when \_\_\_\_\_, 186 .

Remarks: Killed at Rap. R.R. Bridge.

\* Compiled in the Office of the Adjutant General of the State of North Carolina in accordance with resolutions ratified by the General Assembly of that State on December 20, 1862.

This card was made from the original record borrowed from the Adjutant General of North Carolina.—M. S. 1043147.

J. M. Mearns  
(677) Copyist.

(Confederate.)

*W 1 6 N.C.*

*W. McChurch*  
*Put Co H 6 Regt, N.C.*

Appears on a

**Roll of Prisoners of War**

at Point Lookout, Md., released on taking the oath  
of allegiance and joining the United States  
service during the month of February, 1864.

Roll dated *Not dated* 186*4*

Where captured *Pappahannock*

When captured *Nov. 7*, 186*3*

When released *Feb. 17*, 186*4*

Branch of service *Army*

Remarks:

Number of roll

Sheet *5*

(639b) *J. H. McCaw* Copyist



(Confederate.)

*W 1 6 N.C.*

*W. McChurch*  
*Capt Co H 6 Regt, N.C.*

Appears on a

**Roll of Prisoners of War**

at Point Lookout, Md., released on taking the oath of allegiance and joining the United States service during the month of February, 1864.

Roll dated *Not dated*, 186*4*.

Where captured *Rappahannock*

When captured *Nov 7*, 186*3*.

When released *Feb 17*, 186*4*.

Branch of service *Army*

Remarks:

Number of rolls

Number of sheets *5*

*J. H. McCaw*

(6896) Copyist

#### A BELATED CONFEDERATE.

The romantic side of the late war is just beginning to show itself. Every day some little scrap of history comes to light, rivaling in dramatic interest anything to be found in the pages of Scott, Dumas or Cooper.

Shortly after the confederates began their struggle for independence, Winship Upchurch, of Chatham county, N. C., joined a volunteer company and went to the front. He made a good soldier, and fought on until the last year of the conflict. The federals captured him in one of the bloody battles in Virginia, and he was sent to one of the prisons in the northwest. At the close of the war he was discharged. He was without money and had heard nothing from home in many months. His relatives, he knew, had good reason to believe him dead. Despondent and poverty-stricken, the poor fellow drifted about from place to place wherever he could obtain work. His wanderings carried him all the time westward, and when he found himself in San Francisco he yielded to a temptation to visit the Sandwich Islands.

The voluntary exile intended some day to return home, but many things interfered. He also intended to write and notify his people of his whereabouts, but from time to time he delayed. Almost before he knew it twenty years flitted by. A few weeks ago he felt an uncontrollable desire to see the old north state again. He arranged his business, packed his trunk and started on his long journey. Last week he turned up in Chatham county with the announcement that he had come to pay a short visit to his old friends.

It is easy to imagine the astonishment created by the reappearance of the belated confederate. The intelligence of his return spread like wildfire, and hundreds of farmers who were total strangers to him rode many miles to interview him. The Sandwich Islander will be the lion of the hour and a nine-days wonder. Unfortunately for the symmetrical rounding off of the story, the adventurous soldier does not propose to settle down in his old home. He has prospered among his heathen friends and will go back to spend his days among them. Perhaps all the points in the story have not been made public. There may be a woman in the case. Upchurch may have been drawn to North Carolina by a smothering desire to again look upon the face of the girl he left behind him when he went to the tented field. He may find her, not the buxam lassie of twenty years ago, but a faded matron, happy in the ceaseless duties and cares of wifehood and motherhood. This may be the end of the little romance. Who knows?

Atlanta  
Constitution  
14 Nov 1885  
also other  
newspapers  
including  
Daily Honolulu Press  
23 Dec 1885

**Chatham Record:** One of our citizens who lives near the line of our proposed railroad, has already cleared out the undergrowth and trees between his house and the line, in order to have an unobstructed view of the cars as they go by.— During the war Mr. Winship Upchurch, a son of Mr. Sims Upchurch, of this county was captured by the Federal troops and carried to a Northern prison, and did not return home until last week. After the war closed he went out West, but for several years past he has lived at the Sandwich Islands, from which far distant place he has returned to his old home on a short visit.

**I—Killed—none. Wounded—Privates M Hern don, J H Williams, J M Shipp, J M Cheek. Miss ing—Lieuts W B Allen and Thos M Jenkins; Serg W H Lyon; Privates N M Allen, William Burgess, Jno A Booth, G P Cheek, S Chapel; E Chapell, A A Lewis, Wm Lawrence, W L Morris, Sidney Mul hollon, Geo Page, Ben'j Page, Jno Roberts, Aaron Roberts, Ash Roberts, Thos H Smith, Dan'l Smith, Winship Upchurch, Mark Wimberly, L B Yates, W M Yairgain, and C Eubanks.**

(Confederate.)

W | 6 | N. C.

Winship Upchurch  
Capt. Co. I, { 6 Regiment  
North Carolina Troops.

Appears on a  
Roll of Honor\*  
of the organization named above.

County \_\_\_\_\_

Date of entrance into service May 28, 1861.

Age 17; Vol. or Conscript Volunteer

Died or discharged, and when \_\_\_\_\_, 1861.

Remarks: Captured at Rapahannock Bridge.

\* Compiled in the Office of the Adjutant General of the State of North Carolina in accordance with resolutions ratified by the General Assembly of that State on December 20, 1862.

This card was made from the original record borrowed from the Adjutant General of North Carolina.—M. S. 1043147.

J. M. Means  
(677) Copyist.



(Confederate.)

*W 6 N.C.*

*W. Wychurch*

*Capt Co H 6 Regt, N.C.*

Appears on a

**Roll of Prisoners of War**

at Point Lookout, Md., released on taking the oath of allegiance and joining the United States service during the month of February, 1864.

Roll dated *Not dated* 186 .

Where captured *Pappahannock*

When captured *Nov 7*, 1863.

When released *Feb 17*, 1864

Branch of service *Army*

Remarks:

Number of roll

133; sheet *5*

*J. H. McCaw*

(6396) Copyist.

**(no number)**

Subject: Re: Upchurch website

From: Jay Buck <jay.buck@alliedfamilies.org>

Date: Tue, Nov 06, 2018 9:33 am

To: Gettis Upchurch <gettisupchurch@carolina.rr.com>

cc: Phil Upchurch <phil@upchurchstory.com>, Michael Upchurch <mlupchurch28@yahoo.com>, maperry45@yahoo.com, rebeljohn@netzero.net, sdterry@ncsu.edu

Hi All

We are looking into the possibility that Winship fathered a child while in Hawaii. James Upchurch (1878 – 1957) had a father born in the US and a Hawaiian mother.

Jay

On Mon, Nov 5, 2018 at 7:03 PM Gettis Upchurch <gettisupchurch@carolina.rr.com> wrote:  
Phil,

You failed to mention that Winship was a traitor to the Confederacy, having switched sides at Point Lookout Prison Camp. He even deserted the Union Army near Fort Benton, Montana. I can understand after he was sent to Leavenworth Federal Prison, that he didn't want to show his face in the "Old North State" for quite a while. Who ever wrote that newspaper article didn't have a clue about Winship. His two brothers survived the war after having served honorably, but Winship didn't cover himself or his family with glory. Hope you do not waste much time on Winship.

Gettis

Sent from my iPhone

On Nov 5, 2018, at 5:27 PM, <phil@upchurchstory.com>, <phil@upchurchstory.com>, wrote:

Hi Michael,

I write for several reasons. First, I would like to inquire about your health. Hopefully, your medical situation has improved.

Second, I inquire about the extent that you are engaged in helping create the Moses Upchurch Legacy Tree. Several people are helping and we are anxious to have it completed.

Thirdly, I write to ask your advice about adding a military section to our resource component on our website. The exact structure of this section is yet to be determined but I presume there would be a sub-section for each war. Maybe for the Civil War there would be separate parts for the North and South.

Knowing of your deep interest in the CSA I ask for any input you may have and inquire about your interest in helping to create new entries. I was stimulated to think about this when Jay Buck recently uncovered the attached 1885 newspaper article showing Winship Upchurch went to Hawaii for 20 years after the Civil War. I thought he was among the 4 or 5 sons of Sims Upchurch that died.