

Commentary: Penelope A. Williams was the wife of Bartley Upchurch, son of Abel Upchurch Sr., head of Upchurch Clan No. 8. Bartley was born in the Upchurch enclave on the border of Wake and Franklin Counties in North Carolina. It is likely Penelope was born in this same area. She and Bartley were married in 1823, likely in NC, and shortly thereafter moving to Alabama about 1825. More research on the Williams family is desired.

- RPU 18 Jun 2016

Transcription by William A. “Bill” Gates

(1) See Pg 12 Attach to 2 FEB 1978 Ltr Elva E. Burkhalter to RPU

A. Records of Pickens County AL - - collected by Mrs Charles Polk McGuire show

“Mrs **P. A. Upchurch**, dau of Joel & Penelope Williams married to Bartlett U 23 JAN 1823, d 24 NOV 1863.

A subsequent entry for Unity Cemetery shows “**Penelope**, wife of B. U 22 APR 180x
[not clear - could be 1802, 1800, 1808??] - 24 NOV 1863

(2) See 20 JUL 1979 Ltr Julia Elizabeth U to RPU

Penelope Williams md 25 JAN 1823 Bartley U (XID-590) b 19 DEC 1800 Wake Co NC, d 24 OCT Greene Co AL. He was son of Abel U (XID-589) & gs of William U (XID-160- Head of Clan). [*RPU note 18 Jun 2016: Abel U (XID 589) was son of Richard Upchurch II, not William Upchurch IV*]

(3) **Penelope Williams** (22 APR 1802 - 24 NOV 1863) md 23 JAN 1823 Bartley U (b 19 DEC 1800 in Wake Co NC - d 24 OCT 1879 in Pickens Co AL). They had at least 6 children one of whom was Capt Burt U CSA (b 31 JUL 1838 - d 8 JUN 1895 in Pickens Co, AL). Bartley migrated to AL from Wake Co when he was a young man at about the time his father did likewise (marriage in NC or AL?) (*Upchurch Story* by Belle West)

(4) See Ltr 22 MAY 1987 Eleanor NMN U to RPU

Penelope Williams d Pickens Co, AL and was bur Bethesda Cem on Benevola Rd in Pickens Co, AL as was her hus Bartley U. (They were not bur in Unity Cem) On her stone “**Penelope**, wife of B. U. 22 APR 1802 - 21 NOV 1863 - Thou art gone to rest. Thine is an earthly tomb. But Jesus summoned the away. Thy savior called the home.”

(5) See Photo File 92-3 for picture of **PAW** and Photo File 92-2 for picture of her husband Bartley U.

(6) See Ltr 24 APR 1992 William C. Daniel to RPU

“According to the Pickens Co, AL Cemetery Book, the tombstone of Penelope [**PAW**] reads ‘**Penelope Upchurch**, wife of J. B. Upchurch’ ”. All Upchurches are bur at Bethesda, not at Unity. [*Note: This entry is only evidence for Bartley U [son of Abel U, Sr - Head of Clan] to be called J. Bartley U - RPU*]

(7) See Cemetery File 24 MAY 1992 for picture of tombstone of **PAW** and for picture of Bethesda Presbyterian Church Cem in Benevola, Pickens Co, AL. This confirms inscription reported in (4).

(8) See Ltr 2 JUN 1992 William C. Daniel to RPU [Re Item (6)]

The writer says the broken stone for **PAW** includes the phrase “wife of Bartley U”. This stone is broken where “of” is written and previous inspections led to the reading of “of” as “J”. This was incorrectly entered in the Cemetery Book. William C. Daniel reports “I am now convinced there is no “J” [in the name of Bartley U]. This upon re-inspection of the stone.

(9) LIBERTY BAPTIST CHURCH - PICKENS CO, AL

The attached copy of minutes shows that the Liberty Primitive Baptist Church in Pickens Co, AL was formed 28 OCT 1837 with Bartley Upchurch and his wife **Penelope** as founding members. Other family members named (Strickland, etc) may have a relationship to the Upchurch Family. This article to RPU in a 22 JUL 1996 Letter from Carla Sue Jones. She got it from Mrs GUESNER PATE of Pickens Co, AL.

NAMES EXTRACTED AS FOLLOWS:

BARTLY U [**BARTLEY U**]
PENELOPE U [**PENELOPE A. WILLIAMS**] died 1892
LITTLE BERRY KING
ABEL STRICKLAND
BRINKLEY STRICKLAND
OBADIAH STRICKLAND, SR
OBADIAH P. STRICKLAND
HENRY PETTY
JEREMIAH PEARSELL
JOHN CARVER
CLEMMONS MARTIN
SARAH GAY
RUTHA BOLTON
EPHRAIM BOLTON
RICHMOND MASSEY

[RPU note 18 Jun 2016: These names recorded in Alabama in 1837 include family names present in the early 1800s in Franklin County, NC. A reasonable interpretation is that these families migrated in a “stream” from North Carolina to Alabama.]