

## SARAH JANE BARTLEY

Sarah Jane was the oldest (known to us) of the daughters of Joseph and Jane Bartley. The surviving registers of the Parish of Templecarne begin on March 25, 1825 and, since she was born around 1820, the dates of her birth and baptism are not known. The first record that we have of her is of her marriage in the Kemptville Anglican church on January 16, 1843 to Nathan Purcell; the witnesses were James Blair and Lanty Johnston.

Nathan's name did not appear on the 1842 census although James and Isaac Purcell were listed as owning the two halves of lot 22, concession 2, of Oxford Township, which was adjacent to the lot purchased by Jared Bartley in 1846. It was a heads-of-family census and Nathan may have been a son of one of those men and so was not listed. Nathan was a plasterer and Isaac was recorded in the 1851 census as a mason so perhaps he was Nathan's father.

In the 1848 census, the Nathan Purcell family was located on lot 23, concession 2, and consisted of two married adults and two children, a boy and a girl, both five years of age or less.

The children born to Sarah Jane and Nathan were:

Mary Jane	October 29, 1843
William	November 7, 1845
Joseph James	c.1848
Sarah Ann	September 5, 1850

One of the sponsors at William's baptism was "Ann Barclay". This entry is the only specific evidence of Anne's presence in Canada. Sarah Ann's baptismal entry did not mention her father's name and Joseph James' baptism was not entered. It is interesting to note that it was Joseph James, the only grandchild whose name was mentioned in Joseph's will, whose baptism was not recorded.

Sarah Jane died on June 23, 1854 at 34 years of age and was buried in the St. James Anglican cemetery at Kemptville. The register records the death of "Jane Purcel" the wife of Nathan Purcell. An "Ann Jane Purcel", age four days, died on June 22 and so it appears that this may have been another child of Sarah Jane and Nathan.

Nathan married again (Mary Ann --?-- ) and there were additional children:

Eliza	c.1857
George Arthur	September 25, 1859
Nathaniel	February 17, 1862
Christiana Eliza	April 10, 1864
Mary Ann	May 11, 1870.(died age 23 days)

The 1861 census listed Sarah's four children, ages 17, 14, 13 and 10 with Nathan and Mary Ann along with Eliza and George Arthur. In 1871, only George Arthur, Nathaniel and Christiana were with Nathan and Mary Ann so it appears that by that time all of Sarah Jane's children were married or otherwise on their own.

On March 24, 1869, William, age 24, of Oxford-on-Rideau township, the son of Nathan and Mary Ann (sic) Purcell married Mary Ann Wilson, age 19, of South Gower township, daughter of Thomas and Ann Wilson.

On June 21, 1864, M. J. Purcell, age 22, of Oxford, daughter of N. and S. Purcell married A. Thompson, age 23, son of T. and T. Sarah's daughter, Mary Jane, would have been 21 years old at that time and so this is likely to have been her marriage. The Kemptville Advance of February 9, 1899 reported the following:

"Mrs. Andrew Thompson of East Oxford died yesterday morning after only about three weeks illness at the age of fifty-four years. She was the eldest daughter of Nathan Purcell of Listowell and formerly of Rideau Road. By her death a sorrowing husband, 4 sons and 1 daughter are left to mourn her loss. The funeral will leave the house at two o'clock this afternoon for East Oxford Presbyterian Church."

Nothing more is known of the children of Sarah Jane Bartley and Nathan Purcell.