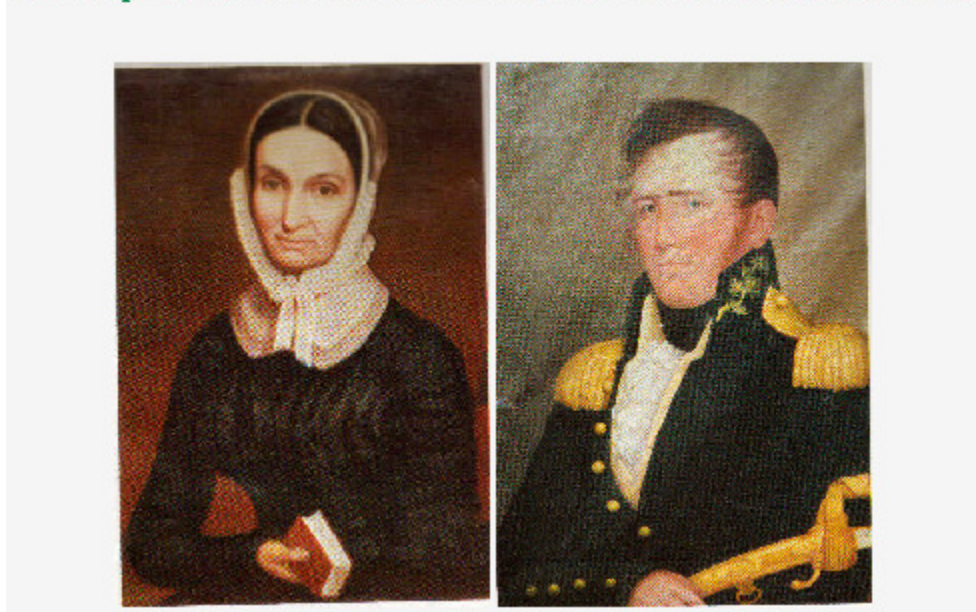


James Blair (1790 - 1 Apr 1834)

Biographical Directory of the United States Congress 1774-1989

A Representative from South Carolina, born in the Waxhaw settlement, Lancaster County, S. Car. about 1790; engaged in planting; sheriff of Lancaster District; elected as a Democrat to the 17th Congress and served from March 4, 1821 to May 8, 1822 when he resigned; elected as a Union Democrat to the 21st Congress; reelected as a Democrat to the 22nd and 23rd Congresses and served from March 4, 1829 until his death in Washington, D.C., April 1, 1834. Interment in Congressional Cemetery.

Below are pictures of Charlotte Rochelle BLAIR and her husband General James BLAIR



The National Intelligencer, Thursday, April 3, 1834

Owing to the sudden death of Gen. James Blair, one of the Representatives in Congress from the State of South Carolina, no business was yesterday transacted in either House of Congress, except the decision, in the Senate, to reconsider the vote of the preceding day by which the Bill providing for the repair of the Cumberland Road was rejected. By this decision, that bill is restored to the table of the Senate.

The National Intelligencer, Thursday, April 3, 1834

IN SENATE

The following message was received from the House of Representatives by Mr. Franklin, their Clerk:
In the House of Representatives, Wednesday April 2d, 1834
Ordered, That a message be sent to the Senate to notify that body of the death of James Blair, late one of the Representatives from the State of South Carolina, and that his funeral will take place this day, at four o'clock in the afternoon, from the Hall of the House of Representatives.

The message having been read--

Mr. Preston said: I am sure the Senate will sympathize with me in those emotions of profound sorrow with which I rise to propose the customary resolution upon such an event. The sudden death of General Blair, in the vigor of life, and in the midst of its most strenuous pursuits, cannot fail to impress all minds with the most solemn feelings--which to us are enhanced by his association with us in the same pursuits, and by the fact that this is the second instance this session of such an awful and sudden dispensation of Providence. We, his colleagues of the South Carolina delegation, lament his loss not the less that he has differed with us in some points of public policy. Such differences have never extended to personal separation; for each has excused the zeal of the other, by a mutual and equal acknowledgement of zeal; and God forbid that any such difference should impeded for a moment the sad current of feeling which now passes through my heart. To whatever the deceased addressed himself, he brought uncommon force of character, firmness of purpose, and vigor of intellect. His country and his constituents have to mourn the loss of these qualities at this important juncture of our affairs; and upon me devolves the melancholy duty of moving the following resolution;

Resolved, That the Senate will attend the funeral of the Hon. James Blair, late a member of the House of Representatives from the State of South Carolina, at the hour of four o'clock this evening; and, as a testimony of respect for the memory of the deceased, they will go into mourning by wearing crape round the left arm for thirty days.

The resolution was then unanimously adopted; and, on motion of Mr. Preston, the Senate adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

As soon as the sitting of today was opened--Mr. McDuffie, of South Carolina, rose, and in a feeling and proper manner announced to the House the decease of one of his colleagues, the Hon. James Blair, a Member of this House, Whereupon it was, on motion, unanimously

Resolved, That the Members of this House will attend the funeral of the late James Blair, at 4 o'clock this afternoon.

Resolved, That a Committee be appointed to take order for superintending the funeral of James Blair, deceased, late a Member of this House, from the State of South Carolina.

Resolved, That the Member of this House will testify their respect to the memory of James Blair, by wearing crape on the left arm for thirty days.

Ordered, That a Message be sent to the Senate, to notify that body of the death of James Blair, late one of the Representatives from the State of South Carolina, and that his funeral will take place at 4 o'clock this afternoon, from the Hall of the House of Representatives.

And then the House Adjourned.

(Death by Suicide)

Source:

Charlotte Rochelle married James Blair on Sunday evening at 7:00 p.m. on the 6th February 1820.

James Blair was born about 1790 in the Waxhaw District, Lancaster Co., SC, the son of William Blair & Sarah Douglas. By 1816, he was named Adjutant General of the SC State Militia and took an active part in the War of 1812; and was elected Sheriff of Lancaster Co. for several years. He was elected to Congress in 1821 and represented South Carolina until 1822 and was re-elected in 1828 and served until 1834; when he died on the 1st of April in Washington City.

A description of James Blair, lists him as 6 feet 6 inches tall and weighing 350 pounds, all in perfect proportion. He was known as the "Waxhaw Giant." A very tall Cattawba Indian, known as "Chunky Bones" was Blair's most constant companion other than his wife and son. They must have made a most impressive side.

General James Blair and Charlotte Rochelle had one son Lovic William Rochelle Blair, born on Tuesday, 10 July 1821 at Read Oak Camp.