

Joseph Smoot

(1 Nov 1797 – 21 Apr 1846)

Smoot. On Monday the 20th instant after a short illness, Joseph Smoot in the 49th year of his age. His funeral will take place from his late residence on K street in this city on this day at 2 o'clock p.m. and his friends are requested to attend it without further notice.

Newman, Harry Wright, *The Smoots of Maryland and Virginia, Washington, DC*: 1936, p. 34

Joseph Smoot

(1797-1846)

Joseph Smoot, son of Henry and Elizabeth (Warren) Smoot, was born November 1, 1797, in Dorchester County, Maryland. At the beginning of the War of 1812 he was sent to the United States Military Academy at West Point, but resigned at the conclusion of the war and settled at the National Capital where he became a prominent manufacturer and merchant. He married his cousin, Mary Anne, born June 18, 1805, daughter of Clement Kennedy Jr. (born April 23, 1784) and his wife Pamela (born 1787).

Of seven children born to this union, only one daughter--Mary Jane Smoot--born 1830, survived beyond the infant stage. She married her cousin John D. Dement and became the mother of a son Ralph, who died without issue.

The birth of her seventh child resulted in the death of the mother and Margaret Jane Smoot died on February 26, 1840. On April 6, 1841, Joseph Smoot married another cousin Julia Anne, born 1819, the daughter of William and Julia (Kennedy) Dement, also a granddaughter of Clement Kennedy.

Children of Joseph and Julia (Dement) Smoot

8. Joseph K. Smoot, born 1842, d.s.p. in Calif.
9. William H. Smoot married Lavania O'Brien, q.v.

Joseph Smoot maintained his residence at 2627 K Street in Washington, built by Robert Peter, where George Washington was once entertained and which became the first British Legation in the United States. Joseph Smoot died April 30, 1846.

During the Civil War residence in Washington was not safe for Confederate sympathizers, consequently Mrs. Smoot leased her residence and retired to her mother's plantation in Prince Georges County, Maryland. The leasee sub-let to the Federal Government which housed from time to time in the 21-room mansion thousands of ex-slaves. And true to the race they destroyed entirely the hand-carved wood work, the frescoing, and other interior features for which the house was noted. Mrs. Smoot lived to celebrate her eightieth birthday and departed on July 8, 1901.