

THE BLAIR FAMILY MAGAZINE

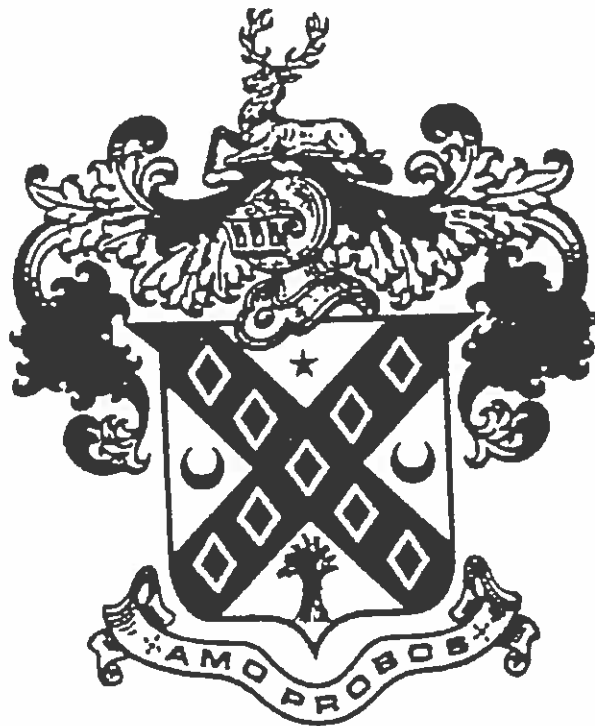


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From the President's Desk

Included with this issue of the *Blair Family Magazine* is a revised BSGR Publications List and a Blair Coat-of-Arms Color Prints flyer. You will notice that we have discounted both the coat-of-arms prints and our book prices to members. I am disappointed more of our members have not purchased back issues of the *Blair Family Magazine* or the *BFM Annual Indexes*. Since 1983, the BFM has been The Source for accurate, well documented Blair family history and genealogy. Since 1983, we have published 59 issues of the BFM, containing over 1,000 pages of Blair information from around the world. The Blair Coat-of-Arms Color prints make wonderful gifts that will be treasured for years. With Christmas just around the corner, please consider purchasing some of these prints for the Blair family members on your shopping list.

The 1998 BSGR Annual Convention will be held on Saturday, June 20th and Sunday, June 21st, 1998 at the Holiday Inn Hotel in Fort Wayne, Indiana. More information about this convention will be forthcoming in the *BSGR Annual Business Report*. Please mark your calendar and plan to join us in Fort Wayne for this important event.

Our Publications Committee is now collecting PRE-1900 Blair related Bible records for a Volume II of our book, *Blair Family Bible Records*. We hope that many of our members will want to share these important records with other Blair researchers. Please see the back page for details on submitting your Blair Bible records.

Doris Osten has reluctantly resigned as Chair of our Archives Committee because of health problems. She has spent many, many hours collecting photographs of our Blair ancestors and carefully preserving them in albums. We wish to thank Doris for her wonderful work and the love that she has shown for this important project. Raymond Stoudt will be scanning these photos onto Compact Disks, then will donate the original photos to the Atlanta History Center. We are looking for a volunteer to continue this important project. If you would be interested in helping, please let me know. Lynn Parsons has also resigned her job collecting present day Blair obituaries and Blair related current events articles. We wish to thank Lynn for the wonderful job she has done. Barbara Strang has volunteered to continue this important project. She requests that you include the source and publication date along with the obits and articles. Please send them to her at the following address: Barbara L. Strang, 6614 Ivy Hill Drive, McLean, VA 22101-5206. Her e-mail address is: BarbStrang@aol.com.

DUES REMINDER

1998 annual membership dues are payable on 1 January 1998. Our dues will remain at only \$15.00 for next year. We believe that this is one of the best bargains you will find anywhere. Please submit your 1998 dues as soon as possible to save the Society the time and expense of having to send out reminders. Please don't forget, we know that you will not want to miss a single issue of the *Blair Family Magazine*.

BSGR On Line by Blair Leatherwood

Well, here it is the end of summer. Hope you all had a wonderful vacation (or vacations, as the case may be) and are well rested for the coming winter. This will be a short column as we're in kind of a transition period here.

As you may have noticed, we are in the process of forming a computer committee in the Society. Our primary purpose will be to explore, establish, and maintain a presence on the internet so that all Blair researchers will have a central point of reference. The committee hasn't been finalized yet, but probably will be by the time you read this. We are in the process of obtaining our own "name" on the web, and will have an independent site. We would like your input as far as things you would like to see on our home page and, if you see anything out there on another site that you think looks interesting or works well for you (I'm thinking in terms of layout, graphics, etc.), please let us know. Write to me at bleatherwood@ibm.net and I'll pass it on to the construction crew.

I wanted to pass on a little story to show you how you can use the internet in your research.

From time to time, I've used search engines to see what comes up with a particular name. In this case, I used my wife's maiden name—Emick—in the Alta Vista search engine. Among the items returned were several referencing Bert Emick. It so happens that a brother of her grandfather was also named Bert; he, too, had a son named Bert. This looked promising, so I entered his name in one of the internet directories ([whowhere.com](http://www.whowhere.com) or [four11.com](http://www.four11.com)) and got a mailing address.

Having nothing to lose (we've all pursued leads with less to go on, I'm sure), I wrote to him. About a week later, I got a phone call from Bert Emick. Sure enough, we had a match and Judy's got new cousins. He's put us in contact with some older living relatives who may be able to help us in our research on her family. It also turns out that he has a close friend here in the Sacramento area and we may be meeting up with him later in the year (that old "small world" concept again!)

This just proves that there's an amazing store of information out there on the net. And, since that

store of information gets bigger every day, you never know when you might find what you're looking for (or maybe it will find you!).

Have a great fall season, and you'll be hearing more soon.

Fort Wayne Research

By Edna A. Upchurch, BSGR Mem. #466

Members planning to attend the annual conference in Fort Wayne in June 1998 should be aware that one of the resources of the Allen County Public Library in Fort Wayne is its collection of over 4,000 titles, of genealogical and local history periodicals. If a researcher has learned of an article in a genealogical magazine and has had difficulty in locating that particular magazine, there is a very good chance that the library has it.

The library annually publishes its *Periodical Source Index*, usually referred to as PERSI. These books place in a single index the articles in the many periodicals that the genealogy department of the library has received during that year. The articles are indexed under family surnames, subjects, and localities.

Many libraries around the country have a copy of PERSI. Anyone able to locate this index could determine, at home, the articles that they wish to find when they visit Fort Wayne.

Many of the periodicals are bound and are on open shelves. Call slips for periodicals in the closed stacks require the name of author, title of article, the specified four letter symbol identifying the publication, and the volume number.

Web site for the Allen County Public Library is <http://www.acpl.lib.in.us>.

Important e-mail address changes:

[Redacted e-mail addresses]

In Memory

Sarah Blair Dougherty

Sarah Blair Dougherty (#550) passed away on Friday, 20 June 1997, in Austin, Texas. She was born 23 April 1914 in Belton, Bell County, Texas. Her father, Judge Mallory B. Blair, served as Bell County Judge (1916-1920), 27th Judicial District Judge (1920-23), and Associate Justice of the Third Court of Civil Appeals at Austin in 1922.

Sarah graduated from the University of Texas in 1934 with a degree in English Literature. She was a member of Kappa Kappa Gamma Sorority and in spring 1934 was elected Sweetheart of the University. In the summer of 1934 she attended the University of Southern California at Los Angeles, where she took voice lessons and music courses and on two occasions was given bit parts in Hollywood movies. She obtained a Master of Arts in Education from the University of Texas, and was a teacher and counselor in the Austin public school system for many years, retiring in 1981. She was a member of the Austin Retired Teachers Association, the Junior League of Austin, and the University Presbyterian Church. She had a beautiful voice, and sang in the University Methodist Church choir for more than 25 years and at many weddings.

In 1937 Sarah married Gibson R. Randle. A son, Mallory Blair Randle, was born in 1940, and they adopted a daughter, Sally Randle in 1955. They were divorced in 1977. In 1981 Sarah married J. Chrys Dougherty IV of Austin. She is survived by her sister, Dawn Blair Woodward, Brookesmith, Texas, and by four grandchildren, three great-grandchildren, two step-grandchildren and several nieces and nephews.

Sarah is descended from James King and Elizabeth (Bailey) Blair. She loved working on her genealogy and will be greatly missed by the Blair Society. We are happy to report that her husband, J. Chrys Dougherty, wishes to continue this work and Sarah's BSGR membership number has been assigned to him.

Robert K. Blair

Robert K. Blair (#375) passed away on Monday, 28 July 1997, at his residence in Westbend, Wisconsin. He was born 21 March 1921 in Milwaukee to the late Ralph and Hazel (Morris) Blair. He served with the United States Merchant Marines in both the Atlantic and Pacific theaters in World War II. For 36 years he was employed as a manufacturing engineer at the Square D Company in Milwaukee, retiring in 1983. Upon retirement he moved to Arkansas, then returned to West Bend in 1992.

In 1950 he married Joyce Shipley in Milwaukee. She passed away on 22 January 1973. He then married Ruth Briganste-Finkler on 15 November 1975 in Jackson, Wisconsin. He was a member of the Gallups Island Alumni Society, American Legion Post 333, Lions Club, and the Washington County Historical Society. He is survived by his wife, Ruth; 4 children, Barbara Blair of Slinger, Wisconsin, Ralph Blair of West Bend, Brian Blair of Hartford, Wisconsin, and Elizabeth Blair of Slinger; 2 stepdaughters, Jane Towler of Kewaskum, Wisconsin and Mary Ann Velnetske of Cedarburg, Wisconsin; a son-in-law, Michael Towler of West Bend; 2 sisters, Elizabeth Kirchhoff of Lakeland, Florida, and Patricia Blair of Milwaukee; 10 grandchildren, a great-grandchild, and many other friends and relatives. Robert's earliest known Blair ancestors are Robert and Isabelle (Rankin) Blair. He was a dedicated member of the Blair Society and will be greatly missed.

BIBLE OF REV. ROBERT DOWNEY BLAIR*

[Bible of Rev. Robert Downey Blair of Kentucky. The Bible was in the possession of Dr. R. L. Ireland of Louisville, Ky. when the article was published in 1979.]

Marriages

Major HOLLOWAY and Sara WHITAKER were married Sept. 29, 1825.

Robert Downey BLAIR and Lucinda HOLLOWAY married Oct. 7, 1847.

James William JACKSON and Sara Elizabeth HOLLOWAY, Jan. 19, 1854.

Dubarry SHELBOURNE and Eliza Jane HOLLOWAY, Feb. 1855.

William HOLLOWAY and Tiberia Lucy SHELBOURNE, March 1, 1855.

William BENNETT and Mary HOLLOWAY, Sept. 19, 1851.

William BLAIR and Jane DOWNEY, March 25, 1811.

John Thomas BATES and Sara Jane BLAIR, May 9, 1867.

Moses Frederick JOHNSON and Ann Elizabeth BLAIR, Feb. 6, 1868.

Henry Clay IRELAND and Rachel Isabel BLAIR, Aug. 30, 1870.

Benjamin Holloway BLAIR and Lula MILLER, Oct. 16, 1877.

Edwin HANSBROUGH and Lucinda Victoria BLAIR, Apr. 14, 18--.

John Robert BLAIR and Lula EDWARDS, Nov. 3, 1883.

George Alexander BLAIR and Willie Elizabeth CLEAVER, Oct. 8, 1885.

William Downey BLAIR and Fanny CROWDER, Mar. 25, 1886.

James Edward BLAIR and Mary Elizabeth ASHBAUGH, June 13, 1886.

Benjamin Holloway BLAIR and Mabel EULASS, Jan. 4, 1921 (second marriage).

Births

Major HOLLOWAY born Dec. 9, 1799.

Sara WHITAKER born Oct. 11, 1803.

Elijah HOLLOWAY born Aug. 12, 1826.

Lucinda HOLLOWAY born Oct. 8, 1828.

William HOLLOWAY born Dec. 8, 1831.

Sarah Elizabeth HOLLOWAY born Sept. 27, 1834.

Eliza Jane HOLLOWAY born Apr. 22, 1837.

John Whittaker HOLLOWAY, born Oct. 10, 1839.

James Robert HOLLOWAY, born July 6, 1842.

Mary HOLLOWAY, born Oct. 20, 1844.

MARTHA HOLLOWAY, born Oct. 20, 1844.

Nancy Rice HOLLOWAY, born Dec. 4, 1847.

William BLAIR born June 2, 1781.

Jane DOWNEY born Mar. 12, 1796.

Elizabeth Ann BLAIR born Feb. 4, 1813.

Orpha Jane BLAIR born Sept. 16, 1815.

Martha Montgomery BLAIR born Jan. 21, 1819.

Robert Downey BLAIR born Oct. 7, 1821.

Rachel Goodwin BLAIR born April 10, 1824.

William Alexander BLAIR born Aug. 22, 1827.

Nancy Johnson BLAIR born July 12, 1831.

Robert Downey BLAIR born Oct. 7, 1821.

Lucinda HOLLOWAY born Oct. 8, 1828.

Sara Jane BLAIR born Aug. 8, 1846.

Ann Elizabeth BLAIR born Aug. 8, 1849.

Rachel Isabel BLAIR born Feb. 11, 1851.

Lucinda Victoria BLAIR born July 13, 1852.

Benjamin Holloway BLAIR born Jan. 11, 1855.

John Robert BLAIR born May 15, 1857.

William Downey BLAIR born May 23, 1859.

George Alexander BLAIR born May 19, 1861.

James Edward BLAIR born Dec. 26, 1864.

John Thomas BATES born Oct. 5, 1836.

Moses Frederick JOHNSON born July 12, 1845.

Henry Clay IRELAND born Jan. 7, 1848.

Deaths

Sarah E. JACKSON died Aug. 14, 1876.

Sarah HOLLOWAY died Feb. 12, 1869.

James Robert HOLLOWAY died May 12, 1843.

Elijah HOLLOWAY died Oct. 24, 1845.

Nancy Rice HOLLOWAY died Aug. 18, 1850.

John Whitaker HOLLOWAY died Feb. 19, 1857.

Ann Elizabeth JOHNSON died Aug. 4, 1880.

Martha HOLLOWAY died Nov. 14, 1882.

Major HOLLOWAY died Jan 29, 1884.

Sara Jane BATES died Nov. 10, 1889.

Lucinda Holloway BLAIR died Mar. 4, 1890.

Robert Downey BLAIR died May 15, 1897.

John Robert BLAIR died Jan. 28, 1898.

William Downey BLAIR died Feb. 23, 1898.

William BLAIR died Apr. 30, 1843.

Jane BLAIR died Oct. 1, 1855.

Orpha Jane PRESTON died Jan. 5, 1881.

Rachel Goodwin BLAIR died Feb. 17, 1885.

Martha MONTGOMERY died July 4, 1870 (sister of Jane DOWNEY who married William BLAIR).

Rachel Goodwin died July 7, 1870.

Lucinda Victoria HANSBROUGH died Apr., 1913.

Lula Miller BLAIR died Jan. 23, 1920.

Rachel Isabel (Belle) IRELAND died Jan. 3, 1926.

William HOLLOWAY died Apr. 13, 1924. (Aged 93)

Henry Clay IRELAND died Apr. 11, 1934.

Written in the hand of Robert Downey Blair is the following note in his Bible:

My grandfather was William Blair.

My grandmother was Elizabeth Downey.

My grandfather was William Downey.

My grandmother was Ann McPheeters.

[See File 82 in Gen. File of Dr. Eleanor Hiestand-Moore, Compiled by G. Carlisle, 1990 (available through BFM) for Blair-Downey family.]

*Reprinted with permission from *Louisiana Genealogical Register*, Louisiana Genealogical and Historical Society, Baton Rouge, La., 1979.]



REV. J. E. BLAIR.



REV. G. A. BLAIR.



REV. W. D. BLAIR.

Rev. R. Downey Blair of Kentucky
Submitted by Paulina and Conrad I. Thorne (BSGR #3011)



REV. ROBERT DOWNEY BLAIR

At the age of 18 (1839) Robert Downey Blair (R. Downey as he was called) joined the Cumberland Presbyterian Church. He studied under the guidance of Rev. David Robinson and Rev. Laban Jones and was ordained in 1848.

In 1852 he became permanent pastor of three churches in Jefferson County, Kentucky at Bethlehem, Jeffersontown and Pleasant Grove. He bought a small farm near the Pleasant Grove church where he lived with his family for forty years. The salary of a pastor was not much in those days. Rev. Blair had to supplement his income by teaching school and farming. He truly enjoyed teaching and spent many hours tutoring after regular school hours.

In 1868, after sixteen years at the three churches, he decided he needed a change. From feeble struggling churches he had built them into self-supporting, thriving churches and was ready for a new challenge. He therefore enlisted as a missionary for the Presbyterian church and went into the mountains in Kentucky. He went to the most primitive places, where there were no schools or churches, and preached and taught Sunday school wherever he could, sometimes in one-room homes. The children were a special joy to him and he was very successful with them.

After several very productive and fulfilling years he was forced to resign and return home. His wife, Lucinda (Holliday) was in poor health and he needed to look after his large family. Within a short time he was asked to

return to his three former churches. It was a special joy to minister to the children and grandchildren of the families he had ministered to as a young man.

Rev. Blair married Lucinda Holloway, daughter of Major and Sarah (Whittaker) Holloway in 1847. They were the parents of five sons, the eldest a physician and ruling elder in his church, the second a lawyer, and the three youngest ministers in the Cumberland Presbyterian Church. Their four daughters married into good Christian families. Sarah married John Thomas Bates, Ann Elizabeth married Moses F. Johnson, Rachel married Dr. Henry Clay Ireland, Lucinda married Edwin Hansbrough. All lived in Jefferson County, Kentucky. Rev. William ministered in Missouri, George and James in Oregon and Washington. Dr. Benjamin settled in Lebanon, Ohio.

After the death of his wife in 1890, Rev. Blair went to visit his son Rev. George Blair, pastor of a church in Eugene, Oregon. He remained there for a year and then located in Missouri where he met and married Miss Ella Thompson. They were the parents of one daughter, Elizabeth E. Rev. R. Downey Blair passed away on May 15, 1897 in Corinth, Kansas where he had moved to become pastor of a country congregation.

Sources include: *Life of Rev. R. Downey Blair* (Nashville: Cumberland Press, 1908).



MRS. LUCINDA HALLOWAY BLAIR.

MARTHA BLAIR AND MARY BLAIR - WIVES OF JOHN PAXTON

An Hypothesis

By Arthur B. Broddus, BSGR Mem. #491

The object of this note is to present an hypothesis which best explains the information and speculation concerning the wife or wives of John Paxton who was born in Ulster about 1716, emigrated to Pennsylvania about 1735, and then moved to what was later Rockbridge County, Virginia, about 1746.

Martha Blair is named as his wife in early sources while his will names his wife Mary. Oscar Lyle published in 1912 a Lyle genealogy¹ which mentions Martha Blair and her niece Mary Blair. On pages 327 and 328 are discussed the nine children of Samuel Blair of Ulster, b. 1667, d. 20 Mar 1754. "Esther Blair, b. ab't 1712, m. 1731, Matthew Lyle and went to Rockbridge area, Virginia;..." "James Blair m. ___ ...His daughter Mary went to Virginia with that Blair and is the Mary Blair mentioned as equal heir in the will of John Houston in Rockbridge Co., Va., of date April 24th. 1748"... "Mary Blair m. David Lyle, a son of Robert Lyle, m. Annie Locke; Emigrated. Probably went to South Carolina." "John Blair. Probably went to Virginia." "Martha Blair ...Went to Virginia and m., Capt. John Paxton."

Thus we have evidence that Martha Blair married John Paxton, that her niece Mary was in Rockbridge, that her sister Esther was in Rockbridge and that two brothers, James and John, were probably in Virginia.

The argument that Mary might be just another form of Martha does not make sense when one realizes that Martha had a sister named Mary. Also, the usual nicknames for Martha are Marty, Mat, Mattie, Patsy or Patty, while the usual nicknames for Mary are Molly and Polly. John's wife has been called Mary, Polly, Martha, Patsy, and Mattie².

Both Martha Blair and Mary Blair are named as wives of a John Paxton by Oren F. Morton in his *History of Rockbridge County, Virginia*. Under "Miscellaneous Data" on page 518: "2. John - son of I., b. 1716, d. 1787 [?]- m. Mary Blair, 1742c." Then on page 520 is listed: "40. John - m. Martha Blair, 1730c."³ Under Mary and John were listed all the children. Thus some people were reporting that a John Paxton had married a Martha Blair. 1742 seems to be the correct date for the first marriage since the first son was born in 1743. 1730 is early; but the important point is that a Martha Blair married a John Paxton, thus supporting the hypothesis.

The next mention of Martha Blair as John Paxton's wife is by William Marshall Greene in *Historic Families of Kentucky*, pages 107-109.⁴ This Greene was a son of Mary Keith Marshall and Judge John Greene. Mary Keith Marshall had previously been married to James Alexander Paxton, father of William McClung Paxton who published *The Paxtons: We Are One!*⁵ Both these commentators initially named John's wife as Martha.

Previously in 1885, W. M. Paxton had named Martha as John's wife in *The Marshall Family*.⁶ Here in 1885, W. M. Paxton, a grandson of James Paxton, son of John Paxton, mentions Martha as the wife. At the time, W. M. Paxton had little knowledge of the Paxton genealogy. His grandfather James had been killed in a hunting accident leaving only one child who shortly went to Kentucky with his mother who had married a Moore. W. M.'s father died when he was six. Even in 1897 in his *Annals of Platte County, Missouri*, W. M. listed John's wife as Martha.⁷ Later, W. M. Paxton researched and published *The Paxtons: We Are One!* mentioned above. On page 44 he lists Mary Blair: "No. 6 JOHN PAXTON, son of John Paxton and Elizabeth Alexander, b. 1716, d. Feb. 13, 1787, married in Lancaster County, Pa., about 1742, Mary Blair, b. 1726, d. Aug. 12, 1821. She was a daughter of Rev. Robert Blair." By this time I suggest W. M. Paxton had discovered John Paxton's will of 1787 and the deed of Mary Blair Paxton in 1810. In a chart on page 33 of his work: "John Paxton 1716-1787, Mary Blair 1726-1821." How do these dates fit the family of John Paxton and his wife?

Neither in the Pennsylvania area where the Paxtons initially settled nor in the Rockbridge County, Virginia area have I found a "Rev. Robert Blair" who could be the father of Mary Blair who married a John Paxton.

Here is a chart of the children of John Paxton:

	<u>Name</u>	<u>Born</u>	<u>Died</u>	<u>Married</u>
1.	Capt. John Paxton Wife: Phoebe Alexander Son: John Paxton Son's Wife: Elizabeth Logan Names children: Joseph, William James, Peggy and Phoebe	1743 21 Aug 1749 16 May 1768 5 Dec 1765	3 Oct 1787 13 Feb 1821 29 June 1814 24 Aug 1841	15 Apr 1767 1 Jan 1789 1783
2.	Isabelle Paxton Husband: Capt. John Lyle, son of Matthew Lyle who married Esther Blair.	27 Oct 1746		
3.	Capt. William Paxton Wife: Elizabeth Stuart [Notice the gap between the date of births of the first three children and the later children.]	1751 1755	16 Apr 1817 bur. Va. 1826	
4.	Joseph Paxton Wife: Margaret Barclay	1763	1796	
5.	Elizabeth Paxton Husband: Major Samuel Houston	ca. 1760-1765 1753	1807	1783
6.	James Paxton Wife: Phoebe McClung He was killed accidentally while hunting near Lexington. Son: James Alexander Paxton Wife: Maria Marshall, In 1801 he accompanied his uncle, Judge William McClung, ... to Mason Co., Ky. Later became a lawyer. Son of James Alexander Paxton was William McClung Paxton, lawyer of Platte City, Mo., who wrote <i>The Paxtons: We are One!</i>	15 Mar. ca.1762 13 Sep 1788 20 Jul 1795	1788 23 Oct 1825 6 Feb 1824 in Columbus, Oh., resident Ky.	23 Mar 1786 2 May 1811
7.	Mary Paxton Husband: Thomas Conn, Jr.	16 May 1764 ca. 1764	ca. 1792 June 1815	13 Sep 1787
8.	Hannah Paxton Husband: James Caruthers	ca. 1775 1759	1845 1828	24 Jan 1793

First, let us consider John Houston who mentioned Mary Blair in his will dated 24 April 1748/1749 and probated May 15, 1755.⁸ Although the will does not name the wife, she is named in the bond where Margaret Houston, John Moore, the other executor, Matthew Lockage and Matthew Lyle sign. John left Mary Blair a share with the rest of his children. John Houston lived near New Providence Church, established in 1746, and thus about fifteen miles from Lexington where John Paxton lived.

If Martha Blair was born in 1726, we then can estimate the birth of her niece Mary Blair about 1736 to 1741. Thus in the mid 1750s she was young, available, and known to the widowed John Paxton when he needed a wife to manage his home and care for his young children.

About 1909 statements, that if true would disprove this hypothesis, were made in the Genealogical File of Dr.

Eleanor M. Hiestand-Moore.⁹ "John Blair was the fourth son of Samuel Blair of Ballyvallyough ... and his wife Martha C. Lyle. There were eight children: Esther who married Matthew Lyle in September 1731; Mary who married David Lyle 27 December 1735; Patrick who married Margaret McCullough; William who married Mary Rea; Martha who went to Virginia and there married a man named Houston; John your ancestor [?]; James who also went to Virginia (not established. E.M.H. Moore) and Nancy who married David Robinson. "Note by E.M.H. Moore: This enumeration seems to be correct as to the number and names of the children but otherwise it is very inaccurate because (1) Martha Blair married Capt. John Paxton; James Blair is missing and it may be he was the James Blair who was killed by the Indians at Fort McCord in 1756 in the neighborhood of the original Blair settlement in what was then Cumberland County; Mary Blair, daughter of this missing James married John Houston of Rockbridge County., Virginia.

(See the Paxton-Houston Genealogy compiled by Hon. W. A. Houston of Rockbridge County, Virginia); ...Of the children of Samuel Blair and Martha Campbell Lyle, two remained in Ireland, William who married Mary Rea and Nancy who married David Robinson.)"

I disagree with Mrs. Moore's conclusion that Mary Blair married John Houston. Apparently she bases that finding on the *Paxton-Houston Genealogy* compiled by Hon. W. H. Houston of Rockbridge. I have been unable to find such a work by any W. H. Houston. However, a Judge W. P. Houston of Lexington, Rockbridge County, Virginia did compile a 16-page work entitled "The Rockbridge County, Virginia, Paxtons."¹⁰ On page 4, "JOHN PAXTON, the eldest son of the widow, was born in Ireland in 1715. There, or after he came to America, he married Mary Blair . . ."

"John Paxton died February 13th, 1787, and is buried in the old Timber Ridge graveyard . . .

"His widow survived him many years, and died August 1821, aged over 96 years."

The point of the foregoing is to negate the suggestion that Mary Blair married a Houston. And there is further proof that she did not marry a Houston.

In 1882, the Reverend Samuel Rutherford Houston, D.D., wrote a Houston genealogy.¹¹ He starts with the first Houston in Rockbridge County, the John Houston above, whose will mentioned Mary Blair. Among his sources are a mss. left by Rev. Samuel Houston, who died in Rockbridge County in 1839 at eighty-one years of age. He was a son of the John Houston who mentioned Mary Blair in his will. Another son and source was Matthew Houston who died in Rockbridge County in 1847 in his eighty-fifth year. No Houston is mentioned as marrying a Mary Blair.

As mentioned, John Paxton's will names his wife Mary. What is very pertinent is that all the writers and genealogists then go on to say his wife was Mary Blair, not an unknown with another maiden name. And the Lyle book which mentions Martha Blair was not published until 1912. One can say that Oscar Lyle worked down through the Lyle and Blair genealogy until he came to Martha Blair. W. P. Houston lived in Rockbridge and checked the deeds and wills there as well as personal traditions. He decided the wife was Mary Blair. I think they are both correct.

W. M. Paxton who wrote *The Paxtons: We are One*, was a lawyer in Platte City, Missouri, when he wrote *The Marshall Family* in 1885 and the *Annals of Platte County* in 1897. He had not done much research on the Paxtons and named Martha as the wife of John Paxton;

he had lost contact with Rockbridge County. His father, son of James Paxton, left Rockbridge as a young child; and his father died when W. M. Paxton was six years old. While doing research for his Paxton book, W. M. discovered John Paxton's will which named Mary, and became aware of the W. P. work. Thus he changed his mind and named Mary Blair as John's wife. I do not know where he obtained the information that Rev. Robert Blair was her father, but if Mary Blair was John Paxton's only wife then he married her about 1741 in Pennsylvania.

Two deeds possibly bear on the question of John Paxton's wives. A deed in 1768¹² from John Paxton to his son John has no wife's signature or waiver of dower. Then a deed in 1777¹³ names his wife Mary and she signs, but again there is no waiver of dower; maybe because the grantee was his son William. I think this is just sloppy legal work. There is another deed where John bought property without getting the wife's waiver of dower and that wife later sued for her dower.¹⁴ Let us see what dower rights did for Mary Blair Paxton.

In his will probated in 1767,¹⁵ John gives Mary, in place of dower, support for life from his home plantation. Support was to be kept up by his son James to whom he devised that home plantation. James, however, was killed in a hunting accident in 1788, leaving his widow Phoebe McClung Paxton and one son, James Alexander Paxton, born 13 September 1788. A few years later the widow remarried and moved to Kentucky. Conflicts arose about the payment of Mary's support and she was forced to file suit in Chancery. I have been unable to locate the court records but a deed in 1810 recites that Mary won the suit and in return for a considerable sum of money and annual support she waived her dower rights. The deed or agreement is signed by Mary and James Alexander Paxton.¹⁶ This deed was witnessed by Andr. Alexander, Wm. Caruthers and James McDowell. Immediately preceding was the deed by James Alexander Paxton to James McDowell of all John Paxton's home plantation.¹⁷ And William Caruthers, whose brother was James, was a logical witness.

The 1810 census for Rockbridge shows William Caruthers living just ten doors away from his brother James Caruthers who had married Mary Blair Paxton's daughter, Hannah, on 24 January, 1793. In 1810 the census records indicate Mary was living with James Caruthers and Hannah. Hannah's estimated age was 40 to 45 while Mary's age is estimated at 65. James' census in 1810 shows living with him one female 26 to 45 years old and one over 65, very likely Hannah and Mary.¹⁸ The 1820 census of James shows two women

over 45, again very likely Hannah and Mary.¹⁹ Mary is said to have died August 21, 1821.²⁰ James Caruthers died in 1828.²¹ Thus, Hannah Caruthers as head of the household is listed in the 1830 census at age 60 to 70.²² There is no older woman who could be Mary. Hannah died in 1845.

The grave sites of the Paxtons bear some discussion. The grave of Elizabeth Alexander, widow of John Paxton, both emigrants from Ulster, is in the Paxton Cemetery, in Rockbridge County, three miles south of U.S. 60 on Route 608, just south of where Route 699 enters it. Also in that cemetery are all her sons except John.²³ W. M. Paxton in *We Are One!*, page 44.²⁴ John Paxton and Mary Blair are: "Both buried at Timber Ridge Presbyterian Church. His epitaph, on a brown stone slab, lying in the garden of Mr. Brady, reads: "Here lies interred the body of John Paxton, who departed this life Feb. 13 1787, aged 71." On page 28 discussing Presbyterian Churches in Augusts (now Rockbridge) County: "The first [Presbyterian meeting house] at TIMBER RIDGE was built of logs, and was nine miles South [*sic*, he means North] of Lexington, and two miles from the present building."

Reverend Samuel Rutherford Houston in *The Houston Family*²⁵ states in discussing Robert Houston, son of John: "He lived on Timber Ridge, some five or six miles northeast of Lexington and owned the farm on which Timber Ridge Church is located. The first church called by this name was a log building, situated about two miles from the present stone house in the direction of New Providence Church. The building of stone was

erected in the year seventeen hundred and fifty-six (1756), and the Timber Ridge Church was organized in the same year." The New Providence church is north.

Judge William Paxton Houston in *The Rockbridge County, Virginia, Paxtons*²⁶ writes, "John Paxton died February 13th, 1787, and is buried in the Old Timber Ridge graveyard."

Muse Cemetery²⁷ is located about two miles north of Timber Ridge Cemetery on the northwest side of U.S. 11. This cemetery seems to fit the location given for the old Timber Ridge cemetery. Today the cemetery is a rectangular plot fenced inside a cow pasture in a hollow visible from the southbound highway lanes. Here is located the grave of John Paxton - a wide-coffin shaped horizontal slab with the inscription clear. Near John's slab is an almost identical slab, but much older, weathered, and with no inscription legible. Immediately one speculates that this might be the grave of Martha Blair Paxton and that she might have died in the 1750s. Why was John Paxton buried in this cemetery? Without some kind of connection he would logically have been buried in the newer Timber Ridge cemetery or with his mother and brothers. Another puzzle, I have not located Mary Blair Paxton's grave; I have not been able to conduct an exhaustive search.

In conclusion, the evidence to date supports the hypothesis that John Paxton married Martha Blair and then Mary Blair, Martha's niece. This I submit should be the genealogical record until conflicting evidence, if any, is found.

¹ Oscar K. Lyle, *LYLE FAMILY The Ancestry and Posterity of Matthew, John, Daniel and Samuel Lyle, Pioneer Settlers in Virginia* (Brooklyn, N.Y.: Lecouver Press Co., 51 Vesey St., NYC: 1912.

² Washington and Lee University Library, Special Collections, RHS. Misc. Paxton Family. Genealogy Paxton, 4 folders.

³ Oren F. Morton, B. Lit., *A History of Rockbridge County, Virginia* (Baltimore: Regional Pub. Co., 1973, Reprint).

⁴ Thomas Marshall Green, *Historic Families of Kentucky with Special Reference to Stocks immediately derived from the Valley of Virginia, tracing in detail their various Genealogical Connexions and Illustrating from Historic Sources their influence upon the Political and Social Development of Kentucky and the States of the South and West* (Baltimore: Regional Pub. Co.: 1966) pp. 107-109.

⁵ Paxton, W. M., *The Paxtons: We Are One* (Platte City, Mo.: Landmark Press, 1903).

⁶ Paxton, W. M., *The Marshall Family or a Genealogical Chart of the Descendants of John Marshall and Elizabeth Markham, His Wife, Sketches of Individuals and Notices of Families Connected with Them* (Cincinnati: Robert Clarke & Co., 1885), p. 156.

⁷ Paxton, W. M., *Annals of Platte County, Missouri (Kansas City, Mo.: Hudson-Kimberly Pub. Co., 1897), p. 40.*

⁸ Abstract of Will of John Houston, Sr., dated 24 Apr 1748/9, probated 15 May 1755, Augusta Co., Va. Will Bk 2/40.

⁹ Gerry Carlisle, Compiler, *Genealogical File of Dr. Eleanor M. Heistan-Moore* (Escondido, Ca.: n.pub., 1990), p. 303.

¹⁰ Hon. W. P. Houston, *The Rockbridge Co. Paxtons* (n. pub., 1894). Alderman Library, Call No. CS 72, P38, U of Va., Roanoke, Va.

¹¹ Rev. Sam'l Rutherford Houston, D.D., *Brief Biographical Accounts of Many Members of the HOUSTON FAMILY accompanied by a Genealogical Table From Well Authenticated Records, and an Extensive Correspondence with a Large Number of Well Informed Members of the Family, During the Years 1876-1882* (Cincinnati: Elm St. Pub. Co., 1882). Family History Library, Salt Lake City, Ut. Call No. Can/Am 929.273, H818c.

¹² 18 Aug 1768, Augusta Co., Va., Deed Bk 15/92.

¹³ 5 and 6 Mar 1777. Deed, Botetourt Co., Va., Deed Bk 2/254.

¹⁴ Not cited.

¹⁵ Abstract of Will of John Paxton (70) (#6) 3 Jan 1787, Rockbridge Co., Va. Mixed Recs. Vol. 1/pp298-301, probated 2 Apr 1787.

¹⁶ 5 Jan 1810, Rockbridge Co., Va., Deed Bk G/47.

¹⁷ 1 Feb 1810, Deed, Rockbridge Co., Va., Deed Bk G/44.

- ¹⁸ U. S. 1810 Census, Rockbridge Co., Va., p. 391.
¹⁹ U. S. 1820 Census, Rockbridge Co., Va., p. 276A.
²⁰ *The Paxtons*, p. 44.
²¹ Listing of Stonewall Jackson Cemetery, Lexington, Rockbridge Co., Va., p. 3.
²² U. S. 1830 Census, Rockbridge Co., Va., p. 297.
²³ Rev. Ben Simmers, pastor of Ben Salem and Popular Hill Churches, Tabulator, *Paxton Cemetery* (Lexington, RFD, Rockbridge Co., Va. FHL Film #1,486,622, item 2).
²⁴ *The Paxtons*, p. 44 and 28.
²⁵ P. 22.
²⁶ Rockbridge Paxtons, p. 4.
²⁷ Muse Cemetery, Rockbridge Co., Va., FHL Film #1,486,622, item 9.

Iowa Notes

(Submitted by Morgan Rajceвич, Mem. #679)

History of Mahaska County, 1843-1900, by Semira A. Phillips; Oskaloosa, Iowa: Herald Print, 1900.

page 338: First Court cases of Mahaska County, July 17, 1844: United States vs. A. W. Blair; Indictment for assault with intent to inflict great bodily injury.

page 338: Signees of Temperance pledge July 25, 1845: A. W. Blair.

page 393: Seventh Infantry, Company C: Private Samuel H. Blair, enlisted July, 1861, wounded at Corinth, afterward Corporal.

page 427: Thirty-third Regiment Infantry, Company H.; Private Robert Blair, enlisted September 4, 1862.

page 438: Forty-seventh Infantry, Company C: Jacob Blair, enlisted May 7, 1864.

page 556: Blair, W. P., laborer.

The History of Cedar County, Iowa; Chicago: Western Historical Company, 1878.

page 618: Blair, Wm. H., Druggist, of the firm of Blair and McLenman, Clarence, Iowa; was born in Muskingum County, Ohio, April 17, 1843; came to this county April 9, 1857. Not married.

page 678: Wm. M., farmer, Sec. 16; P.O. Inland; born June 2, 1821, in Pocahontas County, West Virginia, came to this county in the spring of 1851, and settled in Center Township; lived there till spring of 1861 he came to Inland Township, where he now resides. Married Ann Gay, of Pocahontas County, West Virginia; she was born in same county August 27, 1827; had six children—Eliza J. born in Virginia March 2, 1845; George, July 18, 1848; Colbert H., August 25, 1855; Wm. P., April 14, 1859; John A., Dec. 17, 1867. Colbert H. died

Sept. 7, 1857; John A. died September 21, 1865; owns 320 acres of land valued at \$13,000.

The History of Tama County, Iowa 1987: Compiled by The Tama News Herald, The Tama County Historical Society and the Tama County Tracers Genealogy Society. Copyright, Curtis Media Corp.; 1987.

page 719: Nathaniel Randolph: Nathaniel Sr. and Nancy Randolph were my great-great-grandparents. I am descended through their daughter, Mary Randolph, wife of Richard Chandler. Nathaniel Randolph Sr. was born in 1800 in Pennsylvania (ref.: Pennsylvania censuses 1850 and 1860). Some family members believe he may have been born in Ohio. He married Nancy McDonald prior to 1827. Nancy was born in 1797 in Scotland. Nathaniel Sr. and Nancy had at least six children: Jane, William, Mary, James, Nathaniel Jr., and John. Nathaniel Sr. and Nancy moved to Tama County, Iowa prior to the 1870 census. Jane Randolph, daughter of Nathaniel Sr. was born in 1823 (ref.: 1850 Pennsylvania census). Another source says November 20, 1822 in Sandusky, Ohio. Jane married Alexander Blair, son of William and Agnes Nancy Campbell Blair, in 1846 in New Bethlehem, Pennsylvania. Alexander was born July 6, 1822 in Pennsylvania. He died March 16, 1898; Jane died December 21, 1903; both are buried in Oak Grove Cemetery, Porter Township, Clarion County, Pennsylvania. Jane and Alexander had ten children: Elizabeth Ann; Nathaniel Randolph; Agnes A.; William; Thomas Chalmers; George; Hugh Calvin; Martha Ella; Maggie Bella; and Eddie C. Blair.... [The rest of the article deals with the remaining Randolph children.] By Judy Stepherson Wendt.

Corrected Genealogy of Wm. C. Blair (1826-1921) and Nancy Ann Powers (1822-1861) By Mary J. Powers, BSGR Mem. #240

Recently there have surfaced several versions of this couple's genealogy, each containing errors and misconceptions: that Wm. C.'s antecedents were Vermont Blairs; that his immigrant ancestor came to this country with John Paul Jones from Scotland; that Nancy's maiden name was Carder (and that the Carder's sprang from the "King Carter" of Virginia line, the spelling having been changed from "t" to "d"); that Wm. C.'s middle name was "Carey," which gave him Carey connections. Documentation does not support any of these claims.

WILLIAM C. BLAIR was born 29 Nov. 1826 in Kentucky, the son of Wm. Hamilton Blair and Phoebe Atkins. A copy of his parents' bible record gives the date of his birth and shows his middle name as "Cratary," although his direct descendants as well as his obituary give it as "Colin." Nowhere in family or public records is the name "Carey" used.

A pension application filed in 1879 by Phoebe against Wm. Hamilton Blair's War of 1812 service confirms their marriage in Fleming Co., Kentucky, and gives subsequent places of residence: Fleming and Nicholas counties; Logan Co., Ohio, and in 1851, Mahaska Co., Iowa, then to Monroe Co., Iowa. Wm. Hamilton's parents are said to be John Blair and Elizabeth Hamilton, he the son of Alexander Blair and Elizabeth Cochran of Pennsylvania. As William and Phoebe were married in the home of John's daughter Elizabeth and her husband, Daniel Scott, near Flemingsburg, Kentucky, i.e., Wm. H.'s sister's home, this supports this family connection. [Research on John is underway and will be the topic of a future paper.]

Wm. C. and Nancy Ann Powers were married in Logan Co., Ohio, 27 Aug 1846.¹ She was the daughter of Jacob D. and Charity Carder Powers. Charity had a sister Nancy which one researcher had confused with Nancy Ann.² In 1849 Nancy's brother, Wm. Carder Powers married Wm. C.'s sister, Emily Jane Blair in Champaign Co., Ohio,³ creating a double relationship between families. Wm. Carder and Emily, along with his parents, Jacob and Charity Powers and other Powers children migrated to Eddyville, Mahaska Co., Iowa in the fall of 1849; Wm. Hamilton and Phoebe and their younger children came there in 1851 taking up a land grant for his service in the War of 1812,⁴ and Wm. C. and Nancy followed in 1856, with four children, a fifth being born in Eddyville September 1856.

Children of Wm. C. Blair and Nancy Ann Powers:⁵



L to R: Ayres Laforge, Sarah Ellen, Samuel H., Wm. James,
(inset) Jacob Powers, William C. Blair

1. Wm. J. "Jimmy" Blair, b. 19 Nov. 1846, Logan Co., OH., d. 3 Mar 1936, Harlan, Ia., m. Sep 1867 to Hanna Jane Bufkin; (2) Alice Evaline Rains. Ch.: Milo ("Sam") b. 1868 m. Iva Spoon-er; Mary Ivy, and Melvin Blair, both d. 2 years old; Naomi "Noni" Blair b. 1876/8 Shelby, Ia. m. Chas. Hopkins; Milton Edgar Blair b. 1878 Botna, Shelby Co., Ia. m. Myrtle W. Edwards.
2. Jacob Powers Blair b. 20 Sep 1849, Ross Co., Oh., d. 1893 Harlan, Ia., m. 1872 Elizabeth Taylor. Ch.: Minnie M. Blair b. Ia., m. 1899 to A.C. "Nelson" House; Charles Blair b. 1876 Ia. d. 1962, m. 1898 Lillie Waterbury; Louis (Loring) Blair b. 1881, d. 1938; Anna Blair b. 1883, d. 1980, m. G. Custer; Edward Blair, b. 1886 Ia.; Fred Blair, b. 1890, d. 1962; ?Harry A. Blair.⁶
3. Sarah Ellen Blair b. 12 Aug 1851 Logan Co., Oh., d. 4 Aug 1933, Harlan. Never married.

4. Ayres LaForge Blair b.26 Dec 1853, Bellefontaine, Champaign Co., Ohio, d. 1938, Lyons, Rice Co., Kansas m. Aug 1881 Margaret Ellen Henry. Ch: Wm. Orville Blair, b. 1882 Lorraine, Ellsworth Co., Kansas, d. 1961, Lyons m. 1911 Edna Alice "Mae"McAntire; Carrie Ellen Blair b. 1884, d. Bisbee, Arizona, m. (1) Aden Burley (2) Chas. Lewis; Samuel Clyde Blair b. 1885, Lorraine, Kansas, d. 1959, Plainsville, Kansas, m. 1919 Maisie Van Norstrad; Jessie/Jesse LaForge Blair b. 1887, d. 1963, Lyons, Kansas m. Luella Seaver; Harry Ellsworth Blair b. 1888, d. 1976 Lyons, m. Lulla Donnelly; Mel Fern Blair b. 1890, m. Lillian Whithorn; Grace Bell Blair b. 1891 m. Henry Tibbets (2) Early Duley, lived in California; Elmer D. Blair b. 1884,d. 1964, Geneso, Kansas, m. Donna Fail; Bulah Jewel Blair b. 1895 d. 1972 Lyons, m. Jay Rickard; Ayres Henry Blair b. 1897 near Fredericks, Kansas d. Salina, Kansas, m. Josephine Marrow.
5. Samuel Hamilton Blair b. 12 Sep 1857, Eddyville, Mahaska Co., Iowa, d. 25 Sep 1932 Minneapolis, Minnesota, m. Sylvina Gertrude Farrell at St. Paul, Minnesota Ch: Wm. Hamilton Blair b. 1887 St. Paul, d. Aug 1946; Earl Ellsworth Blair, b. 1890, St. Paul; Francis Samuel Blair, b. 1892, St. Paul; Marie G. Blair, b. 1896.
- Ch. of Wm. Colin Blair and Elizabeth Lytton:
6. Harry Ellsworth Blair, b. Harlan, Ia.

As for connections with John Paul Jones and King Carter of Va., neither are substantiated. John Paul first came to America in 1772/3 to visit his brother, William Paul at Fredericksburg, Virginia He stayed two years to administer Wm. Paul's estate, at this time taking the name "Jones" to honor a friend. This was some 20 years after Wm. C's ancestor, John Blair, was reportedly born in Lancaster Co., Pennsylvania.

There were Carders (with a "d") in Virginia in very early days: on a list of tithables in Lancaster Co. in 1670; James Carder appears on a deed from 1674 in old Rappahannock and New Kent counties; Capt. Andrew Carder sailed between Cowes, England and Virginia in 1692, and in 1705 and 1707 Uriah Carder and his wife Sarah baptized their daughter per the register of Christ Church in Middlesex Co. - all these spelled with a "d". In fact, one Peter Carder sailed with Sir Francis Drake and was marooned off the coast of South America. He survived several years a captive of cannibals before he was able to make his way back to England. He was brought before Elizabeth I, "where it pleased her to talk with me a long hour's space of my travails and wonderful

escape...and afterward bestowed Twenty-two angels [gold coins] on me." This in 1586.⁷

The Harlan Tribune, Harlan, Iowa, Wednesday, September 21, 1921, Vol. XXXXII, No. 38.

PIONEER PASSES ON
BLAIR

William Colin BLAIR passed away Friday morning at the home of his son, Mr. James BLAIR, East Market Street, where he has lived for the preceding twenty years. Funeral services were held at the home Monday afternoon at two o'clock conducted by Rev. J. A. Riggs. Interment in the city cemetery. The pall bearers were six of the grandsons of deceased.

Mr. Blair was born in Kentucky November 29, 1826, moving to Ohio with his parents when a small boy. In 1846 he was married to Miss Nancy POWERS. Five children were born: James of Harlan; Jacob, deceased; Sarah, of Harlan; Ayres, Lyons, Kan.; Samuel, Minneapolis, Minn. The family came to Wapello county in 1856. Mrs. Blair died in 1861. In 1873 they became residents of Harlan and a year later he married Mrs. Elizabeth Lytton. They had one son, Harry E. Blair, an employee of this office. The second Mrs. Blair lived only three years after her marriage. The fruit of these marriages is 6 children, 36 grandchildren, 37 great grandchildren, 1 great, great grandchild, 5 generations.

Mr. Blair was a life-long Democrat. In the pioneer conditions under which his life was passed, so common a century ago, he got little education, but after he took up the trade of carpenter, which he followed during his active life, he taught himself to read and write and became a great student. Most of his leisure hours were spent in reading. Naturally he became well informed on all public affairs. He has been confined to his bed about a month but his general health has been failing since he suffered from the flu two years ago. Two cabinets made by Mr. Blair and his partner, Will George, nearly 40 years ago, are still a part of the Tribune office furniture.

He was a man sparing in his criticism, generous to a fault and of a quiet, mild manner that retained his same friends through his long life.

¹ Marriage records of Logan Co., Ohio and family records.

² Sister Nancy Carder married Jacob Thompson in Ohio.

³ See *BFM* Volume XIV, 1996, page 29.

⁴ See U.S. War of 1812 Pension File No. 16280-80-55 WC 27154 1812.

⁵ Much information pertaining to descendants is from *Descendants of Charity Carder* by F. Kent Turner, from former BSGR member Byron Blair, from the Chancery suit to settle the estate of Charity's brother Peter Carder in Fayette Co., Ohio, and from U.S. Census records.

⁶ Turner and the Census records agree on the children through Charles H.; Byron Blair adds the other four without giving documentation.

⁷ Leslie, Edw. E., *Desperate Journeys, Abandoned Souls*. Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1988, page 21ff.

From the Members:

Blair and Bruce Family Connection?

By Nancy Knox Schaffer, BSGR Mem. #493

The Scottish Historical Society published the Genealogical Collections of Walter McFarlane. In volume 34, pages 76, 77 and 78, the family of Leslie is described: "Andrew, First Earl of Rothes, married [1] Isobel Hamilton, daughter of Sir James Hamilton, Lord Evandale. She gave him three sons and two daughters: James, Patrick, Andrew, Margaret and Euphan; [2] Patrick was made by King James VI Commentator of the Abbey of Lundoris, and then Lord Lundoris, Anno 1660, and from his father and the King had a sizable estate. He married Jean Stuart, d/o Patrick Earl of Orkney [son of Robert Stewart, Earl of Orkney Natural; who was son of King James V]. Jean Stewart gave Patrick five sons and five daughters: Patrick, James, Robert, Ludovick, and David [see next paragraph] and daughters were not named. However, *Daughter 1* married (1) George Lesley of that ilk and (2) John Forbes. *Daughter 2* married Sinclair Laird of Mail in Caithness. *Daughter 3* marriedDrummond, Lord Madertie. Issue:Lord Madertie, General William Drummond, Viscount of Strathallan, Ludovick Drummond, and Margaret who married Sir Robert Crichton [alias Murry?]. *Daughter 4* married Sir John Cunningham of Broomhill and *Daughter 5* married Sir David Barklay of Cullairnie in Fife.

Of the five sons: Patrick, James, Robert, Ludovick, and David, Patrick succeeded his father [and] Patrick was succeeded by his younger brother, James, who was the Third Lord Lundoris. With little of any fortune left, it states he was a Groom of the Bed Chamber to King Charles 1st ? James married (1) a daughter of Ormistoun (?) and (2) a daughter of Lord Gray. Two Englishwomen were among his two last ladies. His second lady gave him a son John who succeeded him and his fourth lady gave him a daughter Jean Leslie. These are the children that interest me. They are both children of

Patrick Leslie by different ladies [wives?]. Jean married (2) Bruce, Younger of BLAIRHALL. Her brother, John Leslie, who became the Fourth Lord Lundoris married (1) Majory Ogilvie, dau. of James, Earl of Airlie. He married (2) the widow of James Elphinstoun, Lord Cowpar, who gave him at least one son named David. John married (3)Gibson, Lady Pilton.

Does anyone have knowledge of this Bruce, Younger of Blairhall? In *Bruce, The First 1,200 Years* by Michael Bruce, there are two mentions of Blair. Page 18 lists a marriage of Agnes Bruce, daughter of Sir Robert Bruce [9th Baron of Clackmannon by his second marriage to Helen, daughter of Robert Durie of that ilk]. Sir Robert Bruce was knighted by James VI in 1615, so these children were born in the early 1600's [?]. Agnes married Patrick Blair of Essie.

The other mention of Blair is on page 24. Alexander Bruce of Airth was a legitimate son of Sir Robert Bruce, 3rd Baron of Clackmannon. He died before 1487 and married twice (1) Janet, probable daughter of 1st Lord Livingston and (2) Margaret, daughter of Sir Malcolm Forrester of Torwoodhead. By Margaret he had at least six sons and a probable daughter [Major William Bruce Armstrong, *Collectanea Bruceana*, pages 204-5, 352] named Agnes who married (1) Sir William Sterling of Keir and (2) Adam Blair of Adamtown. No mention of Blairhall or Bruce the Younger [?].

I would love to hear from anyone who has looked into Bruce the Younger of Blair Hall. Who was he? He is not in the Bruce genealogy. Nancy K. Schaffer, 20751 Chartwell Dr., Kildeer, IL 60047-8542; e-mail: NKSchaffer@aol.com.

Note found at Carlisle, Kentucky Historical Society by Russ Emery (BSGR Mem. #423):

I Alexander Blair of the County of Nicholas and State of Kentucky do by these presents liberate, emancipate and set at Liberty a negro Woman slave belonging to me, named Nann, about 24 years of age. Given under my hand and fiat this 23rd day of December 1805. [signed] Alexander Blair

[Notary Seal]

John J. Blair, Sr., Pike County, Alabama, A Lineage Correction By Thomas William (Bill) Blair, Jr., BSGR Mem. #773

I was listed as a new member in your Summer 1997 (Vol. XV, No. 2) issue. Unfortunately there were two and likely three errors included in my lineage biography.

I did not include my ancestors' information on my application because there were still several question marks. Some of those researching our family's history have made some incorrect assumptions, which has caused great confusion and extra work on my part to get the corrections made. I prefer leaving something blank rather than listing incorrect information.

My biography in the newsletter read, "Bill desc. from John Solomon Blair and Kitsy Stephens Rhodes. John Solomon Blair was b. Newberry Dist., SC. and died in Pike Co., Al."

Error #1 is in my 4Gr-grandfather's name. His name was John J. Blair, Sr. I do not yet know what the J. stands for. I believe that the name Solomon was an assumption based on the fact that his first son was named William Solomon Blair (my 3Gr-grandfather) and that his grandson was named Solomon David Blair (my 2Gr-grandfather). In all the documents I have found on John Sr., the only time I have seen the initial S. was on a census index where the person writing the index misread "Blair, John Sr." as "Blair, John S."

Error #2 is with Kitty Ann Stephens Blair's name. In the newsletter she was listed as a Rhodes. This rumor was started by Johnnie Blair Deen in Texas. She has NO documentation to back up this claim. There was a Kitty Ann Rhodes in Pike County, Alabama, but this was a different person than our Kitty Ann Stephens. The Kitty Ann Rhodes was much younger than ours and I found a record

where she married ten years after our Kitty Ann died and three years after our John Sr. died.

Possible error #3 is that we do not know who the mother of William Solomon Blair is. Actually it is more likely that his mother was John Sr.'s first wife, Cedena Stephens. John Sr. married three Stephens women. We can document that wives #2 and #3 were sisters, but at this time we can only speculate that #1 was also a sister to #2 and #3. John Sr. married Cedena Stephens on 14 Feb. 1828 in Henry County, Alabama. In the 1830 census, William Solomon had already been born. Based on which census data is used, John Sr.'s second child (John J. Blair, Jr.) was born about two to three years after William Solomon. John Sr. continued having children at the rate of approximately one child per year. He had about 10 or 12 children. The next documentation we have on a wife was in 1841 where John Sr. was shown as married to Kitty Ann. According to family legend, Cedena was killed by a black bear and John Sr. married her sister Kitty Ann. However, we have no documentation of this legend that tells us when or where Cedena was killed and buried, or when or where he married Kitty Ann. Without this information we cannot say who was the mother to which children. I have suspected that William Solomon's mother was Cedena and Kitty Ann was the mother of his other children, but this is speculation based on the gap between child #1 and child #2.

So until I have more definite proof, my biography should read, Bill is descended from John J. Blair, Sr. and either Cedena Stephens (wife #1) or Kitty Ann Stephens (wife #2). John J. Blair, Sr. was born 15 March 1800 in Newberry District, South Carolina. and died 2 October 1881 in Pike County, Alabama.

Member News

Ruth Phillip (BSGR. #393) writes to say that her son Colonel Douglas Phillip has been awarded the *Military Medical Award*. Col. Phillips is stationed at Madigan Military Hospital, Fort Lewis, Washington, and is in charge of Preventative Medicine at all military hospitals in the western half of the United States. He is descended from Brice Blair of Bedford County, Pennsylvania. We congratulate Col. Phillip for this outstanding achievement, and wish Ruth a speedy recovery from her recent accident.

Update on William Jackson Blair Family Data

By Brenda Weeks, BSGR Mem. #768

It is, I guess, a tribute to the Blair Society that by the time my new member entry made it to the magazine some of the information in it was incorrect. I have come a long way in a relatively short time with a lot of help from the Society and its members. Here is a more accurate account of my Blair family.

William Jackson Blair was probably the son of James Blair and Mary Thompson. This is what the Blair descendants in Oakland, Illinois, the former home of William Jackson tell me. I do not know what their source of information is at this point. I do know that records from the church that they belonged to are available so that may be the source. Other circumstantial evidence also leads to that conclusion.

William J.'s family were the only Blairs in Coles County for approximately thirty years (1829-1859) and in the neighboring Edgar County were the only other Blairs for miles. Thomas Blair who married Susan Donica, along with two of his sisters, Jane Sanders and family, and Susan Donica's brother, Hiram and his wife, Thomas's sister, Mary Blair were all in Edgar County.

The cemetery record is the source of the date that William J. came to Illinois. The record states "William J. - April 17, 1859 - 41 yrs. - born in Indiana located 1829." The cemetery record for Thomas Blair states "Thomas-June 27, 1855 - 62y - born in Ohio located 1829." (Notice that this birth place differs from the census information on this family.) Both Thomas and William J. came to Illinois from Indiana. In the graveyard where both Thomas and William and their wives and children are buried is the grave of Mary Blair [Thompson] wife of James who died in 1855. The graveyard is fairly small and these Blair graves are very close to each other.

William Jackson married Sarah Jane Campbell 7 August 1878 in Coles County, Illinois, the marriage having been performed by John Shields who was the minister of the Predestinarian Baptist Church of Jesus Christ called Providence. It is this church's records that are available there in Oakland and may be the source of some of the information. I have

this marriage record from several sources, one of them being Morgan Rajcevich of the Blair Society, and Iclang@advant.com who answers queries for the Coles County Web page.

The census record for William J. Blair for 1850 states: "Coles County, Illinois, Independence Pct.

102-103 Blair Jackson-31 m Ind farmer 1000

Jane -21 Ohio [Campbell]

Campbell, Eva-11 - f- Va

Daniel - 49 - m - Va

Ann - 42 - f - Ohio [Williams]

John - 18 - m - Ohio

Clarissa - 23 - f - Ohio

Myers, Henry 6/12 - m - Ohio

I found proof that William Jackson was both William Blair and Jackson Blair in the probate record, the file, #174, found in the court house in Charleston, Illinois has documents written to both William Blair and Jackson Blair and is titled Estate of W.J. Blair, 4/23/1853.

William Jackson's land record is as follows:

Purchaser: Blair William J

Record ID: 135049

Date: 12/30/1843

Acres: 40

Price: \$1.25

Type of Sale: Federal Sale

County: 15

Section: 33

Section Part: SWSE

Township: 14N

Range: 14 W

Meridian: 2

Purchaser Res: 15

Arch Vol. No.: 291

Vol. Page No.: 011

Cash warrant code:

Record corrected: 0

The legal description for his land listed among his probate and guardianship records was:

W1/2 NE1/4 NE1/4 Sec 4, town 13 range 14 in Coles Co.

N1/2 SE1/4 SE1/4 Sec 33 Town 14 range 14

E1/2 SW1/4 SE1/4 Sec 33 Town 14 range 14N

Other property records that may involve this William Jackson Blair are as follows:

Blair, Thomas to William J. Blair Warranty 1 Oct. 1838

\$75.00 Lots 223-224

Bedford Recorded 13 Dec 1838 Book G .87 Lawrence Co. Ind.

Blair, W. to Jno Johnson 25 Oct 1841 \$218 SE 1/4 SW 1/4

Sec 32 40a Recorded 13 Oct 1842 Book J. 296 Lawrence Co. Ind.

Blair, Wm. J. to Alex H. Dunchue 9 Mar 1842 \$50.00 Lots

242 223 Bedford Recorded 17 Mar 1843 Book I or J 389 Lawrence Co. Ind.

...from the Members

After the death of his wife, Sara Jane Campbell, 20 Nov 1855 - 25 yrs of age, William Jackson remarried. His second wife was Mary E. Louise Griffin b. 8 Jan 1834 in Clark Co., Ill., they were married 9 Apr 1857 in Clark Co., Ill.

William Jackson's children were as follows:

1. Infant son d. 10 Apr 1849 bur. in Shields Cemetery, Oakland, Ill.
2. Infant son d. 15 May 185- bur. in Shields Cemetery
3. Hester Elzina Blair b. 13 Sept 1851 bur. in Shields Cemetery
4. Sarah E. Blair b. 13 Feb 1853
5. Daniel Boone Blair b. May 1855 d. 7 Oct 1859 bur. in Shields Cemetery
6. John Jackson Blair b. 25 Jan 1857
7. Ruth Malinda Blair b. 2 Jul 1859 d. 7 Oct. 1891 bur. in Shields Cemetery

Mary "Polly" Griffin Blair remarried after the death of William Jackson. She married Jesse Rader in 1861. Of William Jackson's children the three daughters lived to be adults. Hester Elzina married Peter Orlando Hanner, 12 February 1872; Sarah E. married Patrick Whalen, 13 January 1873; Ruth Malinda married Charles Francis Childress, 5 January 1879. I am descended from Hester Elzina and a Jack Barron of 3200 SW 32nd Street, Topeka, Kansas is descended from Ruth Malinda.

I hope you will correct the information about William Jackson and family so that future generations will not be confused. Sorry for any misinformation that I may have given before.

Item Found at Beaverhead Co. Museum, Dillon, Montana, August 1996

(Sent by M. Lethene Parks, BSGR Mem. #490)

From file folder titled Bannack Pioneers:

William G. Blair

Came to Bannack in 1867. He had a contract to carry the mail from Watson (the Sim Estes ranch near the mouth of Beaverhead Canyon). The trip was from Watson to Argenta and Bannack and was made daily except Sundays; horses were changed at Argenta. He moved from Bannack to Horse Prairie, where he took up land and engaged in stock raising for a number of years. After selling his ranch he moved to California for a time, coming back to Dillon where he died in 1933.

Confederate Records

(Sent by "Rusty" Williams, BSGR Mem. # 748)

Through Confederate pension records I've come across two Blairs unrelated to my immediate line. If you'd like more information about either of these, I'll be glad to share what I have from the pension records.

WILLIAM CARY BLAIR (1847-after 1903)—Enlisted in 1861 in Company "D", 30th Tennessee Regiment, organized in Nashville. Moved to Fannin Co., Texas about 1873. Worked as a preacher, teacher and public speaker.

JAMES WESLEY BLAIR (???-1912)— Married Martha L. (unknown) in 1866 in Lincoln Co., Tennessee. Served in Company "D", 41st Tennessee Infantry. Moved to Ellis Co., Texas in 1899. Maye Blair signed Martha's mortuary certificate in 1925.

McHenry County, Illinois Christenings (Sent by Nancy Knox Schaffer, BSGR Mem. # 493)

I found in Saint Patrick's Catholic Church in Hartland, McHenry County, Illinois three christenings of Morrison children, all three the children of John Morrison and Mary Ellen Blair: (1) baptized 5 August 1860 by Terrance Fitzsimmons: Ellen Morrison, born 3 July. Sponsors were John Sullivan and Bridget Dwyer; (2) baptized 24 December 1863, Rebecca Morrison, born 24 November. Sponsors: Michael Hoolihan and Margaret Walsh; (3) baptized 10 December 1865, Catherine Morrison, born 13 November 1864. Sponsors John Reycroft and Ellen McMahan.

"This morning we met with a boat from the garrison, commanded by lieutenant Blair, on his way to Arkansas." From Thomas Nuttall, *Travels into the Arkansa Territory, 1821*. Entry for March 19, 1819.

NOTE TO MEMBERS: If you have updates or additional information from your research, even if unconnected with your own line, please send along (with source cited, of course). A member you're not in contact with may appreciate the information, and give back information to help your own research.