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THE JONES FAMILY

NORTHWEST NORTH CAROLINA

In the late 1600s all of what is now North Carolina was granted by the King to eight Lord Proprietors of Carolina. By 1728 seven of these men had sold their shares back to the Crown. Only Lord John Carteret, the Earl of Granville retained his lands along the North Carolina border with Virginia. The section of the Granville District between the Yadkin and Catawaba Rivers was what was to become Rowan County in 1753.

Rowan County contained excellent rolling and fertile farmlands. Settlers began to enter the valley in the late 1740s. Among some of the very early settlers were the four sons of John Cathey. John's daughter, Jean, married John McCormick as I related in the Sharon History. Other very early settlers included Morgan Bryan and Squire Boone, the father of Daniel Boone. Relatives of Morgan Bryan married into not only the Jones Family, but into the Danner Family on my wife's side. Actually it was indeed a small world back in those days.

Settlement of the *Northwestern Frontier of North Carolina* was a natural result of the increasing population in the coastal areas. Most of the Scotch-Irish and Welsh immigrants landed in the Philadelphia or New Castle areas and found not only large populations, but many unfamiliar Quakers. They came to America to obtain inexpensive land for themselves and their families. Such lands were no longer available near the coast. Many moved west like my Sharons and many moved southwest along the Shenandoah Valley through Virginia to the North Carolina Border. This route was called the *Great Wagon Route* and was the road taken by my Patterson and my Jones ancestors.

The first settlers began to arrive steadily during the late 1740s and it was determined that some form of government was becoming necessary. In 1748, Governor Gabriel Johnson established Anson County to cover the entire western portion of the state. In 1753 both Orange and Rowan counties were formed out of Anson as the population increased. At the time, Rowan County included what were later to become twenty-eight counties in North Carolina and the entire state of Tennessee. The portion of Rowan that my Jones family settled in was later to be a part of Davie County, which was formed out of Rowan in 1836.

Rowan County was named after the then current Governor, Mathew Rowan, and contained the lands granted to the Earl of Granville. The settlers prior to about 1750 were exclusively Scotch Irish, but after 1750 there were settlements of German and English and Welch families as well.

It was in the late 1740s or early 1750s that the first Jones families began to arrive in Rowan County in the Northwestern Frontier and acquire lands on the forks of the Yadkin River in what was then Rowan, but now Davie County, North Carolina. It is in this time period and in this location of gently rolling fertile hills that I begin the story of my Jones ancestry.

JONESES IN EARLY ROWAN COUNTY

The first of my Jones line, of whom I can be certain, is David Jones and his wife Sarah. At this time I have no concrete proof, and there were a great many Jones families in early Rowan County.

I am going to now 'toss out' a few on these Jones folks, as I feel one or more of them are likely to be ancestors of my David Jones born about 1755.

There was another David Jones, who lived on the far eastern side of Davie County on the Yadkin River. He received a land grant there in 1755, but was obviously there earlier as he was elected the first Sheriff of Rowan County in 1753. He was married to a woman named Hannah. This is who I *think* is the father of my David Jones.

The other persons that could be the father of my David Jones are James Jones and two separate John Joneses. I think, however, that two are sons of the older David Jones, and older brothers of the younger David Jones.

One John Jones was born in 1742, according to some old papers I found in the Davie County Library. John married Elizabeth Elrod. Since one of David's sons was named Elrod Jones, there has to be some sort of relationship here.

Another John Jones is listed as being deceased, when, on February 16, 1769, his widow Catherine is appointed Administrator on a bond of 140 pounds with James and Thomas Jones as securities. On August 9, 1769, John Jones the orphan son of John Jones, age fourteen, is bound to James Erwin, jr. to become a '*saddle tree maker*', but on February 15, 1770, he is taken away from Erwin and bound to Adam Lash to '*Learn him the art and mystery of a blacksmith and to comply with an Act of Assembly &c. for the term of eight years.*' On August 4, 1772, William Jones '*Chose Alexander Martin Esqr. and Thomas Frohock his guardians who approved by the Court &c and offered for secus ... in the sum of 100 provisional money to be given when the money is deposited into their hands.*' This William is probably another of John Jones' sons.

A James Jones and David Jones senior both received land grants from the Earl of Granville along side each other on the Yadkin River on February 28, 1755. This leads me to believe that they were probably brothers.

James Jones had a land grant quite near my David Jones in central Davie County on the banks of Dutchman's Creek. James' grants date back to 1757. My David's grant was in 1780. This is enough a time spread that James could either be an older brother, or even of the next earlier generation. If the latter is the case, James could be David's father. I simply do not know. James Jones bought the original grant that the elder David Jones obtained. This would be logical if James was the eldest son and had come of age in 1757.

There are articles of marriage between James Jones and Elizabeth Free, recorded and proved in court by Edward Hughes, a witness, on January 20, 1762. Elizabeth had settled the estate of Isaac Free on April 25, 1761. This indicates to me that she was a widow, so I don't have a maiden name.

The McCUBBINS COLLECTION in the Rowan County Library in Salisbury, North Carolina,

turned up these other bits of information. I'm putting them in, but have no way to really sort them out.

Thomas Jones gets a license to keep an Ordinary at his home in the County on May 10, 1769 with Frances Taylor and Moses Peares as securities.

James Jones, Sr. is appointed overseer on the '*Road leading from the shoal of Third Creek to Will. Frohock Mill across the shoals of the South Yadkin River where the said road now crosses the said shoals with the inhabitants within one mile on the East side of the road to open and repair.*' August 5, 1772 Court Minutes.

Tories listed on August 8, 1778 include James Sr., Thomas Sr., and John Jones in Captain Lyon's district; William, Allen, Jabis, Thomas and Matthew Jones in Captain Johnson's district.

On August 5, 1778, Rolling and Joseph Jones (Tories) took the oath of Allegiance to the state, while Thomas Jones had done so on November 4, 1777.

John Jones is appointed overseer of the road from Leinster's Ford to John Howard's. February 3, 1782.

Thomas, Joseph, another Joseph, James, Roland, Javis, Nathan and Hardy Jones were among the Tories summoned to show why their estates should not be confiscated and made default on February 8, 1783.

There were other early Jones families, but I can see no connection to mine. Jones was a fairly common name in Rowan County, and this makes tracing quite difficult. I am beginning this history with David Jones, senior as I think he is the first of my line in Rowan County. However, I can only *officially begin with my David Jones.*

DAVID JONES SENIOR

I am beginning my history with the elder David Jones. I am doing this for only two very weak reasons. First, only he and my known ancestor were named David. No other Jones family used this name. Second, and most important, there was a deed recorded on November 5, 1757 (Rowan County Deed Book 2, Page 336) between Earl of Granville and John McConnell. It was witnessed by David Jones, Sr. The fact that the title 'Sr.' was used indicates that he must have had a son also named David and the title was used to avoid later confusion. Weak, but my only choice.

David Jones was born sometime around 1725, probably in either Pennsylvania or Maryland. He was married, again probably, in about 1750 in Virginia. His wife was Hannah Moore. He died in Rowan County, North Carolina around 1780.

In the 1761 will of John Ellis of Frederick County, Virginia, a mention is made to one of his grandsons being a David Jones. Further he appoints this David Jones as one of his executors. This John Ellis was the father of Evan Ellis of Rowan County. Evan lived on an adjacent tract of land to David Jones on the northeast side of the Yadkin River. This would indicate that David Jones' mother was a daughter of John Ellis of Virginia and a sister to Evan Ellis of North Carolina. Also, being the local Sheriff, made David Jones a logical choice as an administrator of John Ellis' will.

The elder David Jones did sell his original land grant to a James Jones. James Jones, whether the same James or not I don't know, received a land grant in 1757 very near to where my David Jones received his in 1780. Whether there is any tie between this James Jones and my David Jones is not established at this time. Receiving grants does not necessarily indicate when folks actually began living on the land.

In virtually all cases at the time, people generally '*squatted*' on their property for years before deciding that they better do something positive as far as acquiring actual title. In fact the land was free while you were squatting, once you got a grant you had to start paying such nuisance items as rent and taxes.

This David Jones arrived in North Carolina and lived in what was called the *Bryan Settlement*, named for Morgan Bryan who came from Bucks County, Pennsylvania in about 1750. David Jones received a land grant of 360 acres on the Yadkin River on February 28, 1755. David sold this same land to James Jones in 1757. On this deed, David's wife Hannah also signed.

On March 8, 1757, David Jones received a second grant from the Earl of Granville. This one for 220 acres just south of his earlier grant. It appears that he remained on this second parcel for the rest of his life. Half the land, 110 acres, was sold on August 14, 1777. No wife was listed on the deed. Perhaps the David Jones who sold the land was a son, doing so after his father died.

David Jones received another grant, for 545 acres adjacent to earlier grants, in May of 1758. He sold this land in April of 1759, and Hannah also signed. David Jones was involved in several property transactions in what is now northeast Davie County, North Carolina throughout the 1760s. Hannah signed the deeds as well in the 1750s, but not in the 1760s, so she probably had died by then.

David Jones was the Sheriff from 1753 until 1758. He is then listed as a weaver in the tax lists. He also operated an early ferry across the Yadkin in the 1760s. Since he left no will, I have no idea as to his children. He is possibly the father of my David Jones.

I will now begin my '*Official*' History with the younger David Jones.

DAVID JONES

The first ancestor on my Jones line that I can positively identify is David Jones who lived on a 365 acre plantation on the southwestern banks of Dutchman's Creek in what is now Davie County, North Carolina. I find both he and his wife Sarah listed as ancestors in the old files of my grandmother, Minnie Jones Sharon.

David Jones received this land on Dutchman's Creek as a Grant from the Earl of Granville on March 21, 1780. It was State Grant number 96 for 411 acres on both sides of Dutchman's Creek on Grassy Ridge next to lands belonging to John Eaton, Isaac Eaton, James Bryant and Abraham Woods. The rent to be charged was at the rate of 50 shillings per 100 acres. This Grant is recorded in the Rowan County Deed Book number 9 on Page 270.

The only positive dates that I have are in 1780 when he received his land grant, 1793 when he wrote his will and 1795 when he died and was buried at Eaton's Baptist Church cemetery near Cana, North Carolina. He is buried on land that was once a portion of his plantation, land that he

willed to the Church as a burying ground.

I was in the area in 1987 and went to see if Eaton's church was still there. It was, although it had been rebuilt three times. The gravestone of David Jones is still there in the 'old part' of the cemetery and his death record of 1795 still is legible. His grave overlooks what was once his plantation on the banks of Dutchman's Creek.

Based on the ages of his children in the 1790 census of North Carolina, it would appear he died a very young man, perhaps only in his late thirties or early forties. In 1790 he only had two children over the age of sixteen. This would put his marriage date in the 1772 to 1774 range. As men tended to marry by the time they were twenty, his birth would probably have been sometime around 1755 give or take a couple of years.

David married a young woman named Sarah Elrod sometime in the early 1770s. I do not have an exact date. Sarah was a daughter of Jeremiah and Sarah Elizabeth Elrod from Maryland. I do know that the first of their children were born in the mid to late 1770s, so it was in this time period that they were married.

There was an old scrap of a letter in the Utley Files at the Davie County Library in Mocksville, North Carolina referring to my Jones family. It seems that this letter was written in 1931 by a Mrs. Baity. Mrs. Lou Utley was the unofficial county historian a few decades back and kept all sorts of bits and pieces of her correspondence and these are now in the Davie County Library, although still un-indexed to any great degree. This part of a letter reads:

"The immigrant Jones ancestor came from Wales. Family tradition is that he was kidnapped as a boy and brought over here. He married and had many children, but most of them left this section, some for Indiana and some for western North Carolina. One son, John Jones, remained in Rowan County. He married a Wells girl."

The John Jones referred to above is my ancestor, son of David, the Wells girl was, of course, Elizabeth Wells.

This is nice and juicy reading, but even if it is true was the immigrant David Jones or his father, or even his grandfather. Family Tradition can in many cases be true and in others only guesses. I don't know.

One clue might be that in the Eaton's Meeting House Cemetery there is a grave of a John Jones, died April 30, 1778. This tombstone is near that of David Jones who died in 1795 and once owned the land himself. Another clue might be in the fact that David and Sarah 's eldest child was named Elrod Jones. I have found references to a John Jones marrying an Elizabeth Elrod. It was common to name male children after the wife's family.

In 1780, David Jones received a land grant in the northwestern portion of what is now Davie County. This land was comprised of 365 acres and lay along Dutchman's Creek. David Jones remained on this plantation until his death.

David Jones also owned some additional lands as he sold Lazarus Whitehead an adjacent parcel of some 172 acres on October 28, 1784. On this deed David Jones's wife Sarah also signed.

This new plantation abutted the Eaton's Meeting House lands. Eaton's meeting house was a very early Baptist Church. It was originally called Dutchman's Creek Baptist Church. Lazarus

Whitehead was an early minister at this church.

Most of the various Joneses in North Carolina were Baptists according to the older records. Eaton's Meeting House was established as a Baptist Church on December 16, 1790. There were two listings in the Church Records or Vestry Book. *"May 25, 1792: Brother David Jones joined by experience and baptism." He was the 25th member of the church. The other listing was, "Sister Sarah Jones joined by baptism, July 21, 1792."* Sarah was listed as the 28th member of the church.

David Jones wrote his will on July 29, 1793. In it he mentions his wife Sarah, daughter Elizabeth and son Ezra. Ezra and Sarah were executors. The plantation was to be divided among the children. A copy of this will is in the addendum.

His will also excluded a quarter acre plot adjoining the Eaton's meeting house Burial Grounds as a burial place for himself and his family. David Jones died on May 28, 1795. His will was proved in court by Lazarus Whitehead on August 4, 1795.

The tombstone of David Jones in the Eaton's Cemetery reads that he died on May 28, 1795. Other stones in the Cemetery read, *"John Jones died April 13, 1778"* and *"Mary Jones died August 17, 1784 in her 16th year."* I have no proof as to who this John and Mary were. They may have, in fact, been children of David and Sarah, both died before the First Census of the United States in 1790 so there is nothing to tie them in with.

It has been stated that David Jones had a large family. I could only identify a few of these for certain. As I mentioned before, there were a great many Joneses in the area and all had very common and redundant names. Obviously Ezra, Elizabeth and my John were children.

The 1790 North Carolina Census shows David to have the following members in his household at the time: 3 males over the age of sixteen, 5 males under sixteen and 2 females. The two females would be Sarah and Elizabeth. The remaining 7 males would be his sons. This would make it eight children still living with him at the time.

The Will of David Jones left his plantation to his wife Sarah for a twelve year period. After that period it was to be divided into equal shares. Sarah was to receive one share, Ezra two shares for his troubles as executor, and the other kids one share each. The plantation at the time was comprised of 365 acres. Based on the will date of 1793, the plantation could not be split until after twelve years had passed, or until 1805.

A deed dated October 12, 1815 from Samuel Jones to Henry Jones mentions that Samuel received the land (on Dutchman's Creek) from his deceased father David Jones. The plot that Samuel Jones sold in 1815 was for 36 1/2 acres. On July 1, 1819 Ezra Jones, who was living in Rutherford County, Tennessee at the time, sold the same Henry Jones another 36 1/2 acre parcel left him by his father David.

Knowing that the original land had 365 acres, it is obvious that it was apportioned into ten plots of 36 1/2 acres each. This would indicate to me that there were still eight children living when David Jones died in 1796 and the plantation was split among them equally as dictated by his will, allowing Ezra two shares and his wife Sarah one share.

In doing a little research in the land files, I found the following:

On December 30, 1815 Elrod Jones of Buncombe County, North Carolina sold 36 1/2 acres to

Henry Jones of Rowan.

On July 19, 1832 Mary Jones, wife of Josiah Jones deceased, sold 36 1/2 acres on Dutchman's Creek. Her maiden name was Mary Wells. John Jones, my ancestor, acted as Attorney on this transaction.

I then saw that Ezra Jones actually sold both 36 1/2 acre parcels to his brother Henry on the same date, July 1, 1819 and they were recorded on separate pages.

On December 20, 1821 John Jones sold his share to Thomas Furches.

On February 27, 1827 William Jarvis and his wife Elizabeth (formerly Elizabeth Jones) both of Rowan County sold her dower share of 36 1/2 acres of land of the deceased David Jones next to lot #4 to her brother Henry Jones.

The first sale was in 1815 so it would appear that Sarah was still alive at least through 1815, the twelfth year after the date of the will. Had she died earlier, the land would have been apportioned at that time.

From the above, I can make a reasonable assumption that Samuel, Ezra, Elrod, Josiah, John, Henry and Elizabeth Jones were children of David Jones. This leaves one share outstanding and it would have belonged to a son. Some people have felt the missing son was Ebed Jones who married Mary Wells and moved out to Buncombe County, North Carolina after 1800. In all two shares were not sold, or at least I cannot find records of them. One was Sarah's share and one was the other son's share.

It was quite acceptable to leave land by will as well as deed and Sarah may have simply left her share to her son Henry who was acquiring much of the original land and was probably still living in the old plantation with his mother.

On October 21, 1806 Lazarus Whitehead then of Dearborn County, Indiana sold James Wells the original 172 acres he bought from David and Sarah Jones plus an abutting 37 acre parcel. Could this have been one of the missing 36 1/2 acre pieces? Could old Lazarus have married up with Sarah Jones later on? See kids, the plot thickens.

I do not know when or where Sarah Jones died, but it was around 1815-1820. She does not have a tombstone in Eaton's cemetery as does her husband David and their son Henry and his wife Sarah Kinnion Jones.

I visited the cemetery in Cana in the winter of 1987 and it is still standing. David Jones tombstone still remains towards the rear of the cemetery. The church has been rebuilt twice since the 1790s, but is still there to this day.

The following section covers what I know about the children of David and Sarah Jones.

The Children of David Jones

At the present time I have very little information on David Jones's children. The marriage dates shown below were taken from Brent Holcomb's 1981 compilation MARRIAGES OF ROWAN COUNTY NORTH CAROLINA 1753-1868.

Ezra Jones

Ezra was born February 3, 1772. He was the executor of his father's estate so was probably one of the eldest sons at the time David Jones wrote his will in 1793.

Ezra married Margaret Hunt in Rowan County on March 10, 1796. Margaret was born in Rowan County on October 18, 1773 and died in Rutherford County, Tennessee May 22, 1877. She was a daughter of Jonathan Hunt and Margaret Lawrence.

Shortly afterwards, they moved to Rutherford County, Tennessee as he was not in the 1800 North Carolina Census. He was definitely in Tennessee in 1815 when he sold his share of his father's plantation to his brother Henry. He died April 1, 1839 in Hall's Hill, Rutherford County, Tennessee.

Their children were:

JOHN JONES born in the late 1790s. He married Elizabeth Molloy October 16, 1821 in Rutherford County.

DANIEL JONES born in the late 1790s. He married Elizabeth Massey December 21, 1824.

ENOCH HUNT JONES He was born May 11, 1798 and died February 3, 1885 all in Rutherford County. He was married to Sarah Naomi Doran, Enice McLain, and finally to Rebecca Frances Hunt.

SAMUEL JONES born November 15, 1802. He married Julia Goodloe January 9, 1821.

DAVID JONES born about 1805. He married Lucy Dutter August 15, 1825 and lived in Rutherford County all his life.

MARGARET H. JONES born March 14, 1807 and died August 20, 1832. She never married.

SARAH JONES born October 7, 1808 and died October 13, 1850. She married George Washington Lawrence December 18, 1829.

MARY JONES born around 1810.

Ebed Jones

Ebed was born in Rowan County on August 9, 1774. He married Mary Wells on December 22,

1796. Mary Wells was the daughter of Newman Wright and Mary (Bryson) Wells of Rowan County.

Ebed and Mary moved to Buncombe County, North Carolina shortly after they were married and remained there for the remainders of their lives. Ebed died there on November 9, 1848, and Mary died there on June 14, 1844. They had the following children.

SARAH JONES was born on September 1, 1798. She married Thomas Duckett of South Carolina. They moved to Whitefield County, Georgia.

EDITH JONES was born on September 28, 1799. She married James Worley and they lived in Buncombe County.

NATHAN JONES was born on December 4, 1801. He married Violet Robeson. They moved to Whitefield County, Georgia.

WILEY JONES was born on November 8, 1803. He married Annie Duckett. They moved to Leo, Texas where they remained. Wiley died on August 13, 1867 and Mary on April 9, 1868.

ISAAC JONES was born on May 17, 1805. He married Mary (Polly) Worley. They moved to Buncombe County and he died there on December 8, 1884.

RACHEL JONES was born on December 25, 1806. She married Andrew Fitzpatrick Ferguson on February 5, 1824. They moved to Haywood County, North Carolina. Rachel died there on March 3, 1863 and Andrew died there in March of 1876.

ELIZABETH JONES was born on May 13, 1808.

ALLEN JONES was born on January 29, 1810. He married Catherine Worley. They moved to Buncombe County where he died on February 13, 1885, and she on December 20, 1858.

MARY JONES was born on November 4, 1811. She married Thomas Ferguson on January 29, 1835, and they moved to Haywood County, North Carolina. Mary died there on December 25, 1889, and Thomas on January 20, 1891.

JOSIAH JONES was born on June 25, 1813. He married Mary Elizabeth Robeson and they moved to Leo, Texas. She died on June 11, 1898, he in October of 1900.

MARGARET JONES was born on March 2, 1815. She married Daniel Dotson.

ESTHER JONES was born on June 1, 1817. She married William Robeson in 1839, and they moved to Leo, Cooke County, Texas. She died there in 1861, and he in 1882.

The information on Ebed and his family was supplied by Grace Duckett Greene. The dates are from a family bible record.

Josiah Jones

Josiah appears to be one of the elder sons of David and Sarah Jones. He was born about 1775 in

Rowan County. His marriage is not listed in Holcomb's book so he may have married out of the county. We know from a later land transaction that his wife's name was Mary, but I have no idea as to her maiden name.

He did have a daughter, Amy, who married Robert Wells and went to Madison County, Illinois before 1830 and then up into Greene County, Illinois in the early 1830s. Robert Wells was the son of James Wells and Rachel Horn. Robert's sister, Elizabeth, married my John Jones in 1811.

It is possible that Josiah also went to Illinois and died there. In 1832, his widow Mary sold his share of his father's plantation in North Carolina. She was residing in Greene County at the time and probably did this after his death. On the other hand Josiah may have died earlier and Mary went with her daughter to Illinois.

Elizabeth Jones

Elizabeth was the only daughter. She was still at home when the will was written. She married William Jarvis in Rowan. They were still living in the area in 1827 when they sold her share of land.

John Jones

John Jones was born July 10, 1780. He married Elizabeth Wells and as he is in my direct line his life will be covered in detail in the next section.

Samuel Jones

Samuel Jones was born in the early 1780s, about 1782. He married Nancy Skinner on March 14, 1813 in Rowan County. On October 12, 1815, he sold his share of the family farm to his brother Henry. He must have remained in the area a while longer, as he appears in Rowan County in the 1820 Census. Nancy may have been his second wife according to another descendant.

They then moved with some of the Wells family to Miami County Ohio in the early 1820s. In 1845 they left Ohio and moved to Miami County Indiana.

Elrod Jones

He was born about 1784. I know very little about Elrod except he moved out of the area to Buncombe County along with Ebed Jones and his wife Mary Wells. This adds credence that Ebed was his brother. Elrod was living in Buncombe County in December 1815 when he sold his share of the estate to his brother Henry.

Henry Jones

Henry Jones was born in March of 1785. He married Sarah Kinnion in Rowan on October 12,

1811. He must have remained in the area as he began to buy back his brothers' shares of the original plantation right after he was married.

Henry and Sarah belonged to Eaton's Church and both are buried in the Cemetery with their father. Henry died August 1, 1829. According to his tombstone he was aged 44 years and 5 months. Sarah died October 27, 1840 aged 46 years, 9 months and 2 days. This would put her birth date as February 25, 1796.

The children of Henry and Sarah were:

DAVID JONES born November 1, 1814. He married Eliza Hunter in Rowan County. They went by wagon to Summitville, Madison County, Indiana and remained there the rest of their lives. David died October 4, 1862. Eliza was born October 2, 1821 and lived through the century, dying on April 23, 1901. She was a daughter of John Hunter and Mary Deatherage of Rowan County. They had five children.

Henry Jones born March 24, 1839, and died in Summitville, Indiana July 9, 1906. He married Sarah L. Allen, and later Susannah Clementine Clifford on November 19, 1874. They had two children that lived past infancy: James Arthur Jones (1880) and William Rufus Jones (1889).

William Jones born in 1842.

Sarah Ann Jones born in 1843. She married Henry Davis.

Louisa Jones born in 1847. She married John Armstrong.

Samuel Jones born in 1850, and died in 1933.

JOEL JONES born in 1816. He married Rhoda Cree. They had two sons.

NATHAN JONES born February 16, 1823 in Davie County. He married Sarah Hunter. They had four children. He died August 27, 1855 in Summitville, Grant County Indiana. Sarah was a daughter of John Hunter and Sarah Deatheridge. She was born March 31, 1825 and died in Grant County Indiana April 18, 1880. Their children were:

Eliza Jane Jones born in Indiana. She married James Stallings in Madison County Indiana and later John Armstrong on November 24, 1889.

Wiley F. Jones born March 28, 1847 in Rowan County NC and died in Madison County IN February 4, 1924.

Braxton Jones born April 13, 1847 in Indiana and died October 2, 1907. His wife was named Sarah.

John Pleasant Jones born October 4, 1853 in Grant County Indiana. He married Anna Meriam Shaul April 6, 1890 and died in Indiana March 18, 1925.

Hannah L. Jones was born in October 1851 and died in Madison County Indiana November 12, 1922. She married William Antrom Marley January 26, 1883.

LEMUEL JONES born September 20, 1826 and died January 20, 1907. He married Elizabeth Moore. They had three children.

MARY ANN JONES born in 1820. She married John White.

ELIZABETH (Betsy) JONES married Wilson Beck.

MELISSA JONES born in the late 1820s and married George Christopher.

The next section cover David and Sarah Jones's son, John Jones, my ancestor.

JOHN JONES I

John Jones was one of the middle children born to David and Sarah Jones. He was born on July 10, 1780. This would have been right after the family moved to their new home on the banks of Dutchman's Creek. The land lay in Rowan County at the time, but is in the present day bounds of Davie County, North Carolina. It lies near the town of Cana and abutted the land of Dutchman's Creek and Eaton's Baptist Church.

John would have only been 15 when his father died. I assume he was raised by his mother, and others in the family, until he could work his own farm. I have a record of John selling his 36 1/2 acre tract to Thomas Furches in 1821. I know he remained in Rowan County for most if not all of his life.

John Jones married Elizabeth Wells in Rowan County on December 14, 1811. Elizabeth's parents were James Wells and Rachel Horn. Her brother, Robert Wells, married Amy Jones, John's brother Josiah's daughter. There is a brief WELLS FAMILY HISTORY in the addendum to this Jones History.

John remained in Rowan County and worked as a farmer. This part of Rowan County became Davie County in 1836. Regretfully, I have very little information on John and Elizabeth.

In a deed description in July 1836, John Jones was still living on Dutchman's Creek. There was another deed in February 1842 referring to lands of Edmond Jones lying adjacent to the lands of Ebenezer and John Jones. In 1847 another deed mentioned Steven Horn was living on lands adjacent to John Jones. These are the last references I have on John Jones.

From the files in the Davie County Library in Mocksville, North Carolina I found that they had the following children:

Josiah Jones

Josiah was born on January 22, 1813. He was the eldest of the children. He was my ancestor and his life will be covered in the next section.

Ebed Jones

Ebed was one of the older sons. He went with his brother Josiah to Greene County, Illinois in the early 1830s. He remained a bachelor all his life. He worked as a jailor for Josiah's son, John Jones, who was the Sheriff in Greene County. Ebed lived most of his life with his nephew, John. Ebed died in Greene County at the home of another of Josiah's children, Mrs. William Seeley, on January 29, 1881. Ebed was buried in the Martin Cemetery in Wilmington, Illinois next to the grave of his brother Josiah.

Rebecca Jones

Rebecca Jones was born about 1822. She married Asbury White in Rowan County. They were in

Davie County in the 1850 and 1870 census. Based on these they had these children:

MARY WHITE born in 1848.

SARAH WHITE born in 1849.

JAMES WHITE born in 1851.

RACHEL WHITE born in 1853.

LEWIS WHITE born in 1855.

GREENBURY WHITE born in 1857.

WALKER LAFAYETTE WHITE born in 1859.

ELIZA WHITE born in 1861.

Susan Jones

Susan Jones was married to a Beck. I found this scrap in the *Utly files* and know nothing more. Rowan was a '*jumping off place*' for the west. Many families moved to Greene County, Tennessee as soon as they were married. Tennessee was just being opened up for settlement.

Cullen Jones

Cullen was born on January 4, 1818. He married Mary Poole Coker, a daughter of William Coker. They had the following children: Elizabeth, Rebecca Jane, Nancy, Henry (died as an infant), Lou, Josiah, William, Ellen, Lovie, John and Susan who married a Ritchie.

Cullen spent his life working as a mason. He remained near the old homestead in Cana and died there in September 1896. Mary, who was born on April 5, 1824, died on April 2, 1868. Both Cullen and Mary are buried in Eaton's Meeting House Cemetery as is their son Henry.

Sarah Jones

Sarah or Sally Jones was never married and I believe she remained in North Carolina.

Rachel Jones

Rachel Jones died as a young child.

Regretfully this is all I know. I do not know when or where either John Jones or Elizabeth Wells Jones died, but I assume it was in Davie County.

The next section covers the life of their son, Josiah Jones, my ancestor.

JOSIAH JONES

Josiah Jones was born in Rowan (now Davie) County, North Carolina on January 22, 1813. He remained with his parents until his early twenties.

In 1835, Josiah and his brother Ebed traveled to Greene County, Illinois. His uncle, also named Josiah Jones, and his wife Mary Wells Jones had gone to Greene County a few years earlier with their daughter Amy and her Husband, Robert Wells. In the 1830s a great deal of land in southern Illinois was being opened for settlement. Much was granted as bounty land for veterans of the War of 1812 and this in turn attracted others to Greene County.

A HISTORY OF GREENE COUNTY, ILLINOIS stated that Josiah had come in 1835. From the details in a deed mentioned earlier, we know the uncle Josiah was deceased in 1832 and that Mary Jones and Robert and Amy Wells were in Greene County at that time.

Josiah worked as a school teacher when he first arrived in Wilmington, Greene County. He met his future wife here in Illinois. On January 24, 1838 he married Elizabeth Adelaide Neece in Belltown, Illinois.

Elizabeth was the daughter of Robert Neece and Penninia Weaver Neece. Elizabeth was born on December 25, 1822 near Fayetteville, Lincoln County, Tennessee. Her father Robert Neece was born on January 6, 1801 and he died in White Hall, Illinois on January 13, 1851. Her mother, Penninia Weaver, was born in Greene County, Tennessee on December 19, 1800 and she died in White Hall on March 22, 1881. The addendum contains a brief history of both the NEECE FAMILY and the WEAVER FAMILY.

The following comes from Elizabeth's obituary printed in the Roodhouse, Illinois CENTINNAL in 1908:

"On June 24th, 1838 she (Elizabeth) was married to Josiah Jones and they began housekeeping on a small tract of land of their own, mostly timber, one fourth of a mile north of the Village of Wilmington, now Patterson, where she continued to live until two years after the death of her husband."

The following comes from an 1885 HISTORY OF GREENE AND JERSEY COUNTIES, ILLINOIS:

"Among the men who have and are making Carrollton, Illinois what it is, are the following gentlemen:

Josiah Jones was a native of North Carolina, born in January 1813. He settled in Greene County in 1835, and with the exception of a short time that he followed teaching school, was engaged in farming until his death, which occurred January 7, 1870. He was a man who manifested great delight and interest in agricultural and horticultural pursuits, and although his farm was comparatively small, yet he realized more net profit than hundreds of farmers with more land.

The cultivation of the choicest fruits was to him a great source of pleasure and profit. Mr. Jones was a thorough democrat of the Jeffersonian School, and never wavered in his political faith. He was elected justice of the peace several terms, serving

his fellow citizens very satisfactorily in that capacity.

Although he was not a member of any particular sect or church, he was a firm believer in revelation and his life was that of a consistent Christian. He was a kind devoted husband, an affectionate father and a good neighbor and excellent citizen.

He was married in Greene County, in 1838, to Elizabeth A. Neece, daughter of Robert and Penninah Neece, who came from Tennessee and made settlement in this county at an early day."

Josiah and Elizabeth had five children; John, Robert, Elizabeth Jane, Cullen and Frances.

They moved to Carrollton for a period while Josiah was a Justice of the Peace, but then returned to the farm in Patterson, Illinois.

Josiah Jones died in Patterson on January 7, 1870 at age fifty-seven. His obituary in the WHITE HALL REGISTER on January 8th, 1870 read:

"Friday morning January 7th at Wilmington, Greene County, JOSIAH JONES, ESQ. died. Mr. Jones was well known in this vicinity, being one of the oldest inhabitants of this county and a resident of Wilmington for 35 years. Another good man has gone."

Josiah was buried in the Pinetree Cemetery in Patterson, Illinois alongside the grave of his daughter Fannie. His tombstone reads, *"Died January 7, 1870, age 56 years, 11 months, 16 days."*

Elizabeth Jones remained living on the farm for two years. She spent the years 1882 to 1888 living with her son, John, in Carrollton and with her daughter, Jennie Seeley, in White Hall.

In November 1888, Elizabeth Jones moved with her son-in-law and her daughter, Captain William and Jennie Seeley to Oregon. Her son, Cullen, and his family went with them. Elizabeth Jones outlived both her children and died in Alsea, Oregon at the home of her grandson, Charles Seeley, on January 17, 1908 at the age of eighty-five. She was buried next to her daughter Jennie.

The following section contains what I know of the children of Josiah and Elizabeth Jones.

John Jones II

John Jones, the eldest child, was born on December 12, 1839. He is in my direct line and will be covered fully in the next section.

Robert Jones

Robert Jones was born in 1843. He was barely out of school when the Civil War erupted. Robert enlisted, as did his brother John, in the Union Army. He joined the Sixty-First Illinois Infantry on December 21, 1861. Robert was killed a few months later at the Battle of Shiloh in Tennessee on the morning of April 6, 1862. Robert was not yet nineteen years old at the time.

Elizabeth Jane Jones

Elizabeth, or Jenney as she was called all her life, was born in 1848. She married Captain William Seeley when he returned home from the Civil War. They lived on a farm near White Hall until 1888 when they moved to Alsea, Oregon. Jenney died in Alsea on March 19, 1898.

Cullen Jones

Cullen Jones was born in 1852. He married Sarah E. Silkwood in Patterson, Illinois on June 24, 1879. He worked as a farmer in Greene County for a while. In 1888 he took his family with his mother and sister's family to Alsea, Oregon. Cullen then moved to Seattle, Washington where he died on September 7, 1903.

Frances Jones

Frances or Fannie Jones was born in late December of 1862. She died on September 11, 1863 at the age of nine months.

The next section covers the life of the eldest son of Josiah and Elizabeth Jones, John Jones my great grandfather.

JOHN JONES II

John Jones, the second of the name, was the eldest child of Josiah Jones and Elizabeth Adelaide Neece. He was born in Wilmington, Greene County, Illinois on December 11, 1839. Wilmington's name was later changed to Patterson in honor of his future wife's family.

John attended the country school in the area and then studied further in Jacksonville and Chicago, Illinois. He studied to become a teacher as his father once was. He taught school in both Morgan and Sangamon counties in Illinois.

He was teaching school in Waverly, Illinois when the outbreak of the Civil War came. He enlisted, along with his brother Robert, in the Ninety First Illinois Infantry and was commissioned a second lieutenant in *H Company* on September 8, 1862.

The following article was taken from a 1966 ROODHOUSE ILLINOIS CENTENNIAL BOOK:

"A flag made by the ladies of the Patterson community was presented to John Jones when he was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant on his entrance to the army during the Civil War. The presentation speech was made by Miss Minerva Patterson, who became his wife on his return from the service. After being carried through the Civil War, it was presented to Mr. Jones on his retirement. It was shot so full of holes that it could not be restored, and a few years ago, was presented to the Greene County Historical Society in Carrollton, by his daughter Mrs. James M. Orr."

My grandmother told me that he once wrapped the flag around his body under his tunic so that it would not be captured by the enemy. John was wounded and was discharged from active duty in October of 1863.

He returned home and became engaged in farming.

On April 15, 1865, he married Minerva Eve Patterson in Patterson, Illinois. Minerva was the daughter of Lemuel James Patterson and Ann Elizabeth Hume Patterson. Minerva was born in St. Louis County, Missouri on September 5, 1844. The story of the Pattersons, Humes and many other families are contained in the PATTERSON FAMILY HISTORY Section of this work.

Perhaps the best recap of the life of John Jones was contained in his obituary printed in the CARROLLTON GAZETTE on December 26, 1928 a week after his death.

There was a large photo and a headline that reads, "*John Jones. One of Greene County's best known citizens dies.*" The first part described his parents and his early life and marriage. The rest reads,

".... In 1866 Mr. Jones entered the business of general merchandising with Lemuel J. Patterson and James Howard, under the firm name of Jones, Patterson and Company. He continued in this business until 1872 when he was appointed Greene County Superintendent of Schools to succeed Caleb Worley. About the same time he was appointed deputy sheriff under Nathaniel J. Andrews and moved his family to Carrollton. In 1874 he was again appointed deputy sheriff under Francis M. Bridges.

In 1876 he was elected sheriff by the largest majority ever given up to that time to

any candidate for any county office in Greene County, He was re-elected in 1878. At the expiration of his term of office he became cashier of the Farmers & Drovers Bank at Roodhouse, Illinois, to which city he moved with his family.

He was elected county clerk in 1882 and again moved to Carrollton. He was re-elected in 1886 and served until December 1890. Upon the election of M. J. Carmody to succeed him, Mr. Jones remained in the office of Mr. Carmody as deputy for four years.

In 1896 he moved from Carrollton to Roodhouse and purchased an interest in the Roodhouse Eye-Herald, and became its editor. In 1902 he was elected a member of the board of supervisors to represent Roodhouse Township. He served continuously in that capacity for twenty years and voluntarily retired in April of 1922. He was twice chairman of the board and served as chairman of the finance committee throughout a number of sessions.

Mr. Jones was a faithful public official and as an ardent and loyal Democrat did much to maintain the party organization in Greene County. His repeated successes are proof of his popularity among the people. He possessed an unusual faculty for remembering faces and names. In his prime he probably knew a greater number of residents of Greene County than any other man.

Aside from his elective positions he had been a member of the State Democratic Central Committee for this congressional district and was a delegate to the National Convention, which nominated Grover Cleveland for president. He possessed a warmth of personality which endeared him to his friends and acquaintances.

In 1867 he joined the Baptist church and remained a devoted and consistent member throughout his life. He was a deacon in the church for more than fifty years and for a time was the moderator for his association. He also served as superintendent of the Railroad Y.M.C.A. at Roodhouse for five years.

He was a member of the Grand Army of the Republic, the Masonic Lodge and a charter member of the Carrollton Camp of Modern Woodsmen of America.

His funeral took place at the Baptist Church in Roodhouse on Sunday last in the presence of a very large congregation of relatives and friends. The remains were laid to rest in Fernwood Cemetery.

In the death of John Jones the county loses one of its best known and most highly respected citizens."

John Jones was eighty-nine years old at the time of his death in 1928. Minerva Jones continued on in excellent health until her death in Roodhouse on October 18, 1933 also at the age of eighty-nine years.

John and Minerva Patterson Jones raised a fine family of five children, including a state Supreme Court Justice and my Grandmother.

The following section covers the lives of the children of John Jones and Minerva Patterson Jones.

Minnie Florence Jones

Minnie Jones, my grandmother, was born on February 16, 1867 while the family was living in Carrollton. She met my grandfather, Addison Joseph Sharon while she was a school teacher in Carrollton. They were married there on June 14, 1893.

Add and Minnie lived their entire lives in Carrollton, Illinois. Add was the third generation of Sharons to own and operate a large general store on the '*Square*'. Minnie taught school and had a Sunday School Class at the Baptist Church. A fiftieth reunion of her students was held and they were fondly referred to as *THE ROSES OF SHARON*.

Minnie and Add had five children; JOHN JONES, LEONTINE, LUCIE MAY, JOSEPH and my mother, ALMEDA SHARON.

Minnie Sharon lived a rich life and attended my high school graduation at age ninety. She died three years later on May 17, 1958.

Minnie Jones Sharon and her family's lives are detailed in the SHARON FAMILY HISTORY.

Norman Lemuel Jones

Norman Jones was born in Patterson, Illinois on September 19, 1870. He graduated from Carrollton High School in 1888. He attended West Point Military Academy for two years before he had to resign because of the illness of his father. He then completed his education at Valpariso College in Indiana. He taught school for two years in Fayette, Greene county, in Illinois where he also acted as principal.

He was elected State Representative in 1892 and at only twenty-two years of age was the youngest member of the Legislature. He was re-elected in 1894.

While in the Legislature, he began reading the law. In May of 1896 he was admitted to the Illinois Bar. In 1899 he was elected City Attorney; a position he was re-elected to in 1901. He was a law partner of H. T. Rainey from 1900 to 1914. He was elected State's Attorney for Greene County in 1912 and elected Circuit Judge in 1914 to fill a vacancy. He was re-elected in 1915, 1921 and 1927, each time endorsed by both the Republicans and the Democrats at their conventions.

He was appointed by the Supreme Court as an Appellate judge and served for ten years during which he became Presiding Justice.

In 1924 he was nominated as the Democratic Candidate for Governor of Illinois. He polled the largest vote ever cast for any Democratic candidate. Regretfully it was in a losing cause.

In 1931 he was elected to the State Supreme Court in a landslide victory.

On June 28, 1906 he was married in Carrollton to Almeda DeKalb Pegram. Meda was the daughter of Alvin and Almeda Pegram of Carrollton. Meda Pegram Jones was born on September 13, 1874.

They had one child, Norman Pegram Jones who was born in Carrollton on February 7, 1912.

Norman is presently still practicing law in Springfield, Illinois.

Norman L. Jones died on November 15, 1940. Meda P. Jones died on February 16, 1953.

Lucie Mae Jones

Lucie Jones married Thomas H. Cobbs of Greene County, Illinois on August 29, 1898 in Roodhouse. Tom Cobbs was a school superintendent when they were married. He studied law and became a highly successful lawyer in St. Louis, Missouri. They were quite wealthy and had a marvelous life. Thomas Cobbs had a building, Cobbs Hall, at Lindenwood College in St. Charles, Missouri named for him as he made many contributions to this and several other schools during his lifetime. Minnie Jones Sharon's daughters, Lucie Mae and Leontine both attended Lindenwood College.

Cora M. Jones

Cora Jones was born in Roodhouse and remained there for her entire life. She married James L. Orr, also of Roodhouse, on January 12, 1907. James Orr worked for the Railroad in that city, and then later for the Roodhouse Bank. They spent all their lives in Roodhouse.

Howard Kennett Jones

Howard Kennett Jones was born in Roodhouse in 1885. He remained unmarried all his life. Howard worked for the railroad for over forty years. He was first a flagman on local trains and then worked on the Chicago to St. Louis run.

In later life he suffered a stroke and was in ill health. He shot himself and was found dead in his room in the Western Hotel in Chicago, Illinois in January of 1941.