

148/278. ROBERT JONES JR

Born probably c1696 Wales

Died after 1796

Married 149/279. Mary Van Meter c1730

Born (bapt) 26 Apr 1709 Somerset County, New Jersey

Died after 1796

Children (order of birth unknown):

74. John Jones

b. c1733 Virginia

d. c1793 Kentucky

m. 75. Mary (Rentfro?)

139. Margaret Jones

b. probably c1734 Virginia

d. 1797 Franklin County, Kentucky

m. 138. William Cook Jr c1750 Virginia

Robert Jones III

b. c1736 Virginia

d. c1820

m. Martha Riley

Isaac Jones

b. probably c1746 Virginia

d. c1782 Henry County, Virginia

m. Rachel -----

Thomas Jones

b. 05 Jul 1748 Virginia

d. 22 Mar 1830

m. Joanna Hill c1770 Pittsylvania County, Virginia

Henry Jones

b. before 1751 Virginia

d. 1831 Floyd County, Virginia

m. (1) Frances Bohannon

(2) Cassandra James 23 May 1817 Franklin County, Virginia

Abraham Jones

b. probably after 1751 Virginia

d.

m. Rachel Greer

Robert Jones, Jr. has been identified, without documentation, as the son of Robert Jones who came to America from Montgomeryshire, Wales, in 1698, when Robert, Jr. was about two years old.<sup>1</sup> Mary Van Meter, who was baptized in the Reformed Dutch Church at Somerville (Raritan), New Jersey, on 26 April 1709, was a daughter of John Van Meter and his first wife Sarah Bodine.<sup>2</sup>

The identities of the children of Robert Jones and Mary Van Meter have not been proved absolutely but an analysis of all records in Franklin County, Virginia, pertaining to the early settlers there named Jones, geographical and chronological circumstantial evidence, naming patterns, and tradition indicate that the above relationships are valid.<sup>3</sup> They probably had other daughters.

On 06 May 1877, Jesse Ruble Jones, an attorney who resided in Covington, Louisiana, wrote a letter from New Orleans to his nephew Dr. Robert Elam Jones of Crystal Springs, Mississippi, in which he states that he saw his great-grandparents Robert Jones and Mary Van Meter (Metre) in 1796 when he was about 8 years old and they supposedly were 100 years old. Both were in good health, with unimpaired faculties, and lived for several years afterward. His great-grandfather entertained him and the other children with stories about his boyhood. Jesse Jones stated that his great-grandfather Robert Jones came from Wales when a boy and settled in Montgomery County, Virginia, about 1700.<sup>4</sup> Montgomery County, in southwestern Virginia, was not formed until 1777, from Fincastle County, which also gave rise, at the same time, to Washington and Kentucky counties. That area was not occupied by whites in 1700. Robert and Mary Van Meter Jones came to southwestern Virginia from Frederick County in that colony, and some members of their Family subsequently resided in Montgomery County, which may account for the later misunderstanding. Some Family historians have said that Robert Jones first settled near Winchester, Virginia, about 1698. These claims must have been based erroneously on subsequent residency in that area and could not be the original settlement of the Family in America. White settlement of the Shenandoah Valley in northern Virginia, where Winchester is located in Frederick County, did not begin until about 1732. John Van Meter, father-in-law of Robert Jones, Jr., was among the first frontiersmen to enter the area.<sup>5</sup> Some of the families who settled in the Shenandoah Valley previously lived in the part of Prince George's County, Maryland, that became Frederick County, Maryland, in 1748. Montgomery County, Maryland, was established from Frederick County in 1776. Many of these families also previously lived in Chester and Philadelphia counties, Pennsylvania. The province of Pennsylvania was divided into three counties in 1682, Bucks, Chester and Philadelphia. Montgomery County, Pennsylvania, was created from Philadelphia County in 1784. The reference to Montgomery County, Virginia, could be a mistaken reference to Montgomery County, Pennsylvania, where Robert Jones was an early settler on Perkiomen Creek when it still was in Philadelphia County. Jost Hite, a pioneer settler of the Shenandoah Valley and a relative, by marriage, of John Van Meter, previously lived on Perkiomen Creek which suggests that Robert Jones who lived on Perkiomen was either he who married Mary Van Meter or his father. No dates of residence were given.<sup>6</sup>

Robert Jones of Perkiomen apparently moved to Chester County, Pennsylvania, where he was taxed in Marlborough Township for 2 shillings and 6 pence, in 1715. On 27 May 1729 the township was divided and one of the new boundaries, running north from Marlborough Street, was along "... land late of Robert Jones ...". This also must pertain to Robert Jones who married Mary Van Meter, or his father, because Caleb Pusey and John Strode, members of whose families married sisters of Mary Van Meter Jones, were neighbors of Robert Jones in Marlborough Township.<sup>7</sup>

Use of the term "late" could indicate that Robert Jones died before 27 May 1729, which could apply to Robert, Sr., or that he had moved to Maryland, where Robert, Jr. and Mary Van Meter, who were married about 1730, resided. The original source was not identified, but Robert Jones who married Mary Van Meter was described as having lived on Perkiomen Creek in Pennsylvania in the early 1720's.<sup>8</sup> He was appointed, with John Van Meter, a constable of Monocacy Hundred in Maryland. On

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27 February 1733, Robert Jones and Henry Ballinger appraised the estate of Joseph Hedges, who lived on the Monocacy River above Tuscarora Creek in Prince George's County, Maryland.<sup>9</sup> Robert Jones was listed among persons who had not burned their tobacco according to Maryland law in 1734, and signed several road petitions while residing in the Monocacy area. In 1740 he signed a petition for a road from Tuscarora Creek to the mouth of Catoctin Creek and on to Antietam Creek, with a bridge over the Catoctin. Robert Jones, Robert Baker and Jacob Neff witnessed the will of William Hedges, who died in January 1743. Robert Jones and John Middah inventoried his estate on 06 March 1743.<sup>10</sup> Robert Jones, husband of Mary Van Meter, daughter of John Van Meter, moved to Virginia with the Van Meter and Hite families.<sup>11</sup>

Joseph Hedges, who was the father of Solomon Hedges who married Rebecca Van Meter, came to Maryland from New Jersey by way of an intermediate residence in Chester County, Pennsylvania.<sup>12</sup> Henry Ballinger, Jr. was a Quaker from the Salem Monthly Meeting in New Jersey, who moved to New Garden Monthly Meeting in Chester County, Pennsylvania, where he married Hannah Wright, daughter of James Wright and Mary Davis, at Nottingham Monthly Meeting. Subsequently they belonged to Hopewell Monthly Meeting in Frederick County, Virginia, and eventually to Cane Creek Monthly Meeting in Guilford County, North Carolina.<sup>13</sup>

Robert Jones, Evan Jones, Isaac Van Meter (Vanmetera), Solomon Hedges, Charles Hedges, Joshua Hedges, John Davis, William Sheppard, Jr. and Darby Ryan were taxpayers in Monocacy (Monocosie) Hundred, Prince George's County, Maryland, in 1733.<sup>14</sup> Darby Ryan later lived in Franklin County, Virginia.<sup>15</sup> Monocacy Hundred was that part of Prince George's County that became Frederick County, Maryland, in 1748. The Monocacy Valley was settled as early as 1725 by Quakers from eastern Pennsylvania and the Monocacy Meeting was associated with the Hopewell Meeting in Frederick County, Virginia.<sup>16</sup> The Monocacy River flows into the Potomac River at the Montgomery County line, just below where the Shenandoah River enters the Potomac from Virginia.

Robert and Mary Van Meter Jones moved to Orange County, Virginia, before 13 October 1736, when Mary witnessed an altercation that occurred at her father's home:<sup>17</sup>

On 15 October 1736 Robert Yelldall, late of Orange County, labourer, came before me, Morgan Morgan, and assumed under penalty of L50 sterling, and Giles Chapman of the said county, farmer, undertook for Robert Yeldall in the penalty of L25, that Robert personally appear before the Justices on the third Tuesday in November next to do what by the Court be enjoined and in the meantime keep the peace, especially toward John Vanmetre of Orange County.

Morgan/an

15 Oct. 1736. John Vanmetre declares that on 13 October there came to his dwelling house one Robert Yelldall in company with Cornelius Newkirk, in a riotous and inhuman manner did enter his dwelling house and abused his wife and scared her by this threatening and saying that he wood stand by one James Davis that had lately assaulted the deponent's house, and that he is not safe in his owne house by reason of the riots aforesaid.

John Vanmetere

Mary Jones of this county declares that on 13 October Robert Yelldall was with Cornelius Newkirk, and Robert Yelldall entered the house of John Vanmetere and asked Vanmetre's wife for a

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bottle he left there. The woman answered that she did not know of any bottle. He began to swear and say he would have his bottle, except she would cheat him of it, and if she did, he did not matter it, they were knaves, they had sworn the peace against James Davis, but he would stand by him, and that James Davis was able to drive them and all their generations, and if not he would stand by him, and after they had been gone a while, they came back to the house again Robert Yelddall rode up to the house door, and the fore part of his horse entered the inside of the house, and John Vanmeter struck the horse back.

Mary (M) Jones

Sworn before Morgan/an.

The area of Virginia, where the Jones and Van Meters lived was in Essex County until 1721, when it became Spotsylvania County. It became Orange County in 1734 and Frederick County in 1743.

On 17 September 1744 John Van Meter made a deed of gift to his four surviving sons, a married daughter, two grandsons by a deceased son and daughter, and four sons-in-law, including Robert Jones:<sup>18</sup>

To all Christian People to whome these presents shall Come I John Van Meter of Frederick County in the Colony of Virginia Yeoman ... for Love and Affection that I Bear unto Isaac Van Meter Eldest Son of the said John Van Metre Henry van Meter Second Son Abraham Van Meter third Son & Jacob Van Meter fourth and youngest Son of the said John Van Meter & Maudlena Wife to Robert Bewsey my Youngest Daughter, Solomon Hedges Esqr Thomas Shepard James Davis & Robert Jones Sons-in-Law I the said John Van Meter ... have given granted & confirmed ... my Outlying Stalyons Geldings Mares & Colts of Whatsoever Kind now Runing in the Woods Branded on the Left Sholder with the Leter M ... to be Equally Divided ... Excepting ... four Young Likely Mares ... to the use of my Grand Sons Johanus Van Meter Son to Johanus Van Meter deced & John Le Forge Natural Son of my Daughter Rachel deced ... Equally ... at ye Age of Twenty One years ... I reserve unto my Self for my Use one brown Stalyon ... by the Name of Buck one Bay Gelding by the Name of Jobber One Young Bay Gelding of four Year Old with Star on his forehead One Younge Black Horse of four year Old & One bay Stallion one Ear Croped at Home ... that if ... Robert Jones Do not Quit Claim of or to a Pretended Right to One hundred Acres of Land & other pretended Demand on me ... for which he hath no right then the proportional part of said Creatures & Increase that should have fallen to the said Robert Jones as his part shall be given to my Daughter Mary Wife to said Jones & to her Children ... Seventeenth day of September Anno Domi one Thousand Seven hundred forty four

John Van Meter (Seal)

Witnessed by Jonas Hedges and Joseph Carroll. Proved in Frederick County Court October 1744.

Apparently, Robert Jones considered that he held a claim against his father-in-law for land and/or other property, perhaps as an expected dowry or from another agreement, which John Van Meter rejected. Mary Jones inherited part of the dwelling plantation of her father in his will, dated 13 August 1745 and proved on 03 September 1745 in Frederick County Court:<sup>19</sup>

In the Name of God Amen, the thirteenth Day of August one Thousand seven Hundred and Forty Five I John Van Meter of Frederick County in the Colony of Virginia ... Bequeath Unto my Daughter Mary Wife of Robert Jones and to the Heirs of her Body Lawfully Begotten one Certain

**Prepared by WILLIAM G SCROGGINS, revised 22 Mar 1995**

**: 718 Mill Valley Drive, Taylor Mill KY 41015-2278**

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piece or Tract of Land being part of the Tract whereon I now Dwell ... Containing by Estimation three hundred & fifty Acres of Land ... more or Less ... Also, I Give & Devise unto my said Daughter Mary Wife to the said Robert Jones after my afsd. Wife's Thirds of my Moveable Estate and Legacies are paid an equal Proportional Childs part arising therefrom as well of my Lands which are not to be Disposed of if any there be as of all Else, Provided, and it is my sole Intent and meaning that Robert Jones with his Wife Mary give Good and Sufficient Security unto my Executors for the Sum of her Proportion as Part of my Moveable Estate arising to be paid unto their Heirs equally Divided amongst them when they shall arrive to the Age of Twenty One Years, And on Refusal of such Security, the Proportional part so arising to Remain in the hands of my Executors until the Heirs afsd. arrive at age afsd. &c ... In Witness whereof I ... set my hand and Seal the Day and Year above Written Signed Sealed Published Pronounced and Declared by the said John Van Meter                      John Meter (Seal)  
as his Last Will and Testament in the Presence of us

his  
Edward E Morgan  
mark  
Andrew Corn  
Joseph Carroll

At a Court held for Frederick County on Tuesday the 3d. Day of September 1745. This Last Will & Testament of John Van Meter Deceased was presented into Court ...

Robert Jones apparently lived and worked on the land of John Van Meter, because there is no record of his having owned land in Frederick County until his wife inherited land from her father. On 04 April 1750 Thomas Shephard (Shephard) had a tract of 457 acres surveyed in Frederick County that adjoined his own land and lands of "Jacob Vanmeter, Joseph Chaplin, Robt Jones (formerly John Vanmeter's), 'ye Whidow Spurgin.'"<sup>20</sup>

It is not known when Robert Jones moved to Lunenburg County, Virginia, but he was among the early explorers of the area:<sup>21</sup>

1754. Surveyed for John Ward (Albemarle Co.) 400 acres on the south fork of Mayo River beginning at White Oak, marked R.I., near a camping place where Robert Jones camped and made said camp of White Walnut puncheons.

The I. in R.I. probably was an old-fashioned J. The Mayo River flows into North Carolina from the southwestern part of Henry County.

Robert Jones and Mary Van Meter apparently settled on the Pigg River in 1747. He is shown twice on a map of early settlers in Franklin County, Virginia. His name appears, with the date 1747, between the Pigg River and the head of Fox Run and also downstream from this spot in this generalized presentation.<sup>22</sup> This area was in Lunenburg County in 1747. These tracts, and one other, were surveyed for Robert Jones in March 1748:<sup>23</sup>

No. 2 Robert Jones 315 Ac. on both sides of Pig River survey'd 22 Mar. 1747-8 Beginning at an Hickory thence ... crossing Pig River to an Hickory West course 14 P. to a White Oak N40 W. 186 P. crossing a Br to an ... Oak S70 W. 110 P. to a Gum near the Nth Fork of Pig River S30 W. 84 P. cross sd N. Fork of Pig River to a Red Oak S35 W. 196 P. to a Red Oak S45 E. 40 P. crossing the Sth. Fork of Pig River to a White Walnut N52 E. 80 P. crossing a Br to an Hickory S75 E132 P. to

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an Hickory N60 E. 80 P. to a Red Oak 4 Pole from ye Beginning thence to sd Beginning as by the Plan pr R Walton

The South Prong of the Pigg River joins the main stream along a short stretch of road shared by State Highways 602 and 640, northwest of Ferrum, Virginia. The branch on the No. 2 plat appears to be a stream that parallels Route 640 as it heads north from 620. (US Department of the Interior Geological Survey 7.5 Series Topographic Map, Ferrum Quadrangle, VA, 1967.)

No. 3 Robert Jones 230 Ac. on both sides the S. Fork of Pig River survey'd 23d Mar. 1747-8 Begin. at a Buttonwood Tree on the So. side the sd South Fork thence N65 W. 86 P. to a Locust S75 W. 118 P. to a Red Oak S30 W. crossing 3 Brs & the S. Fork 240 P. to a Wh. Walnut S50 E. 154 P. crossing a Br. to a Red Oak W15 E. 92 P. crossing a Br. to two Maples No. 98 P. to a Beech on the No. side of the Fork thence down sd Fork & across it to the Beginning pr R Walton

Since the sixth boundary line of plat No. 3, points due north and the stream flows northeasterly, the marker locations on the river bank are described incorrectly. The first marker is on the north bank and the last one is on the south bank. This configuration of streams does not appear on the Ferrum Quadrangle topographic map, so this tract may have lay to the west which is covered by the Endicott Quadrangle map.

No. 5 Robert Jones 225 Ac. on both Sides the North Fork of Pig River survey'd the 23 Mar. 1747-8 Beginning at Stephen Rentfro's Corner Red Oak thence W. 164 P. to a Red Oak S30 W. 48 P. to a Spanish Oak S3 E. 38 P. to a Wh. Oak & Hickory S20 W. 102 P. Crossing sd N. Fork to an Hickory & Red Oak S70 E. 88 P. to a Dogwood N50 E. 312 P. crossing the Fork & a Br. to a Chesnut N15 W. 56 P. to a Red Oak thence on Stephen Rentfro's Line S60 W. 102 P. crossing Fox Br. to the Beginning p Rob Walton

The north fork of the Pigg River is now known simply as the Pigg River and the south fork appears to be the South Prong. Pigg River runs toward the southeast at the location of survey No. 5 and Fox Run is across a ridge, flowing northeasterly into the Blackwater River. The land on this plat is on the river where it parallels State Highway 602 before the road crosses the stream, curves to cross the South Prong and then joins State Route 640. This tract straddled a ridge that rises from 1300' to 1400' ASL, between the Pigg River and the head of Fox Run. The survey plats must be at the same scale as the topographic map (1:24000), since the overlay of plat No. 5 matches the topographic map. At 16.5 feet per pole, the 312-pole dimension of the tract is 5148 feet. A mile (5280 feet) from the river on the topographic map carries over the hill into the valley of Fox Run, near where an unimproved road crosses the creek. The sixth marker of plat No. 5 would have been about .5 of a mile up the Pigg River from the fifth marker of plat No. 2.<sup>24</sup> The following map attempts to show the approximate location of the tracts numbered 2 and 5.

The page of plats contains six surveys. Plat No. 4 was for Thomas Jones for 230 acres on both sides of the Pigg River, which was surveyed by R. Walton on 25 March (date illegible). Plat No. 1 was for Nathaniel Haile, Gent., for 350 acres on the Staunton River and a road, which was surveyed by R. Walton on 11 March 1747-8. Plat No. 6 was for Mark Cole for 175 acres on Little Creek of the Blackwater River, which was surveyed by Robert Walton on 28 March 1748.

William Cook had land on Fox Run.<sup>25</sup>

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Robert Jones later acquired 200 acres of land on Runnet Bag Creek, now in southwestern Franklin County:<sup>26</sup>

Surveyd 12 April 1749 for Robert Jones 200 Acres of Land at the fork of Runnet bag Creek (a North Fork of Irvine River) Bounded as follows, Vizt. Beginning at a Chesnut tree thence new Lines From A to B N20 E146 Poles to a Dogwood, B to C S65 W404 Poles to a Locust on ... Runnet bag Creek, thence C to D Down the same as it Meanders to a Hickory, thence ... D to E S15 E60 Poles to a White Oak by a branch, E to F East 42 Poles to a Poplar on a branch, F to G N25 E102 Poles to a Hickory by the Creek, G to H N80 E88 Poles to a White Oak, H to I S65 E160 Poles to a Hickory on the Creek below the fork, ... I to A North 80 Poles to the first Station 1/2 Plantable  
By Robert Walton A S

Robert Jones appears on a Lunenburg County tithe list in 1748 <sup>27</sup>

A List of Tithables from the Mouth of Falling River Upwards for the Year 1748

	Taken by John Phelps		
Robt. Jones and Thos. Jones	2	William Rentfro	1
James Rentfro	1	Joseph Rentfro	1
Joseph Hollingsworth and John Hannah	2		

	For 1749		
	List Taken by Nicholas Haile		
Robert Jones [and] John Jones	3	Thomas Jones	1
William Rentfro	1	James Rentfro	1
Joseph Rentfro	2	Robert Penrey (?)	1
Jacob Vanmeter	1	William Cook	1

Robert and Thomas Jones who were assessed together in 1748 must have been brothers, since Robert Jones' son Thomas was not born until 1748. By 1749 the elder Thomas apparently was living on his own land. He probably was Thomas Jones, Sr. of Franklin County, Virginia, who is on the map of early settlers as having settled there in 1747. His land was near Robert Jones, John Utley Wade and William Cook.

Able-bodied men 16 and over, excepting ministers, were charged for a tithe, so John Jones, who was assessed with his father in 1749, must have been born about 1733 and became 16 after the 1748 assessment.

Robert Penrey (?) of the 1749 list probably was Robert Pusey who married Magdalena Van Meter. The surname Pusey sometime was written Pewsey and that spelling was misread by the transcriber as Penrey. As did Robert Jones and Robert Pusey, the Rentfros and Hollingsworths came from Frederick County, Virginia, and Chester County, Pennsylvania.

This part of Lunenburg became Halifax County in 1752. On 09 November 1752 Robert and Mary Van Meter Jones of Halifax County sold the tract of land in Frederick County that she inherited from her father and they appeared in Frederick County Court to acknowledge their deed:<sup>28</sup>

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This Indenture made the 9th Day of November in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred & fifty two Between Robert Jones & Mary his wife of Hallyfax County in Virginia of the one part and Edward Lucas of Frederick County in Virginia aforesd of the other part Witnesseth that ... Robert Jones & Mary his wife for ... seventy pounds Curt Money ... paid by ... Edward Lucas ...

Have ... sold ... unto ... Edward Lucas ... all that tract ... of Land containing three hundred & fifty acres Scituate in the County of Frederick ... on the waters of Cohongo River being the Plantation whereon the sd Robert Jones formerly lived and bounded according to several Meets & bounds mentioned in a Devise of the last will & Testament of John Vanmetere whereby the sd Land is bequeathed unto the above named Mary Jones being then wife of Robert Jones & to the Heirs of her Body lawfully begotten ... To have and to hold the sd Tract & parcell of Land & premises with the appurtenances unto ... the sd Edward Lucas ... In Witness whereof ... Robert Jones & Mary his wife have ... set their Hands & seals the day month & year above written

Sealed & Delivered  
In presence of the Court

Robert Jones (Seal)  
her  
Mary M Jones (Seal)  
Mark

Received of Edward Lucas the within mentioned Sum of Seventy ... pounds Curt money of Virginia being the Consideration Money expressed in the within Deed ... the 9th Day of November Anno Domini 1752

Witness present

Robert Jones

Memorandum that on this 9th Day of November 1752 full quiet & peaceable possession of Livery & Seizin was given by ... Robert Jones to ... Edward Lucas ...

At a Court continued and held for Frederick County on Thursday the 9th Day of November 1752

Robert Jones & Mary his wife in open Court acknowledged this their Deed of Feoffment with a Receipt of Livery & Seizin endowed to Edward Lucas and Mary the wife of ... Robert Jones being first privately examined & in Court relinquished her Right of Dower ...

Know all men by these presents that I Robert Jones of the County of Hallifax in the Colony of Virginia am held & firmly bound unto Edward Lucas of the County of Frederick in the Colony aforesd in the sum of two hundred pounds Current Money of Virginia to be paid to ... Edward Lucas his Exrs Admrs & Assigns to the which payment ... I bind myself my Heirs Exrs. and Admrs firmly by these presents As witness my Hand & seal the 9th Day of November Anno Domini 1752

The Condition of the above obligation is such that whereas the above bound Robert Jones & Mary his wife and John Jones their son & heir at Law have by Deeds of Conveyances of equal Date with these presents for ... seventy pounds Current money of Virginia ... sold ... to ... Edward Lucas ... a certain Tract ... of Land containing three hundred & fifty acres ... in the County aforesd Now if the above bound Robert Jones his Heirs and assigns shall in all things perform fulfill and Keep every Clause Article and Covenant in the sd Deeds Expressed and further if the said Edward Lucas his Heirs & assigns shall from time to time & at all times forever hereafter peaceably & quietly hold occupy & enjoy the said Land in the above recited Conveyance mentioned against the Claim or Claims of them the sd Robert Jones & Mary his wife & John Jones their son & Heir at Law or any person or persons claiming or to claim by from or under them that then the above obligation to be void Else remain in full force & Virtue



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Sealed & Delivered  
In presence of The Court

Robert Jones (Seal)

At a Court continued & held for Frederick County on Thursday the 9th Day of Novr 1752  
Robert Jones in open Court acknowledged his Bond for performing covenants to Edward  
Lucas which on the motion of the sd Edward was admitted to Record  
Teste J Wood Cl

The inclusion of John Jones in this transaction as heir-at-law indicates that he was the eldest son of Robert Jones and Mary Van Meter who had a vested right in his parent's property under the law of primogeniture.

Robert Jones was recommended as a Justice of the Peace for Halifax County in May 1752 and March 1753. He was appointed on 19 June 1753.<sup>29</sup>

Robert Jones apparently was the subject of an episode narrated in the journal of a Moravian minister, who was travelling, with eleven other Moravians, from Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, to Wachovia, North Carolina, in 1753. En route, the group visited with Robert Johnsen, a Welshman, after crossing the Blackwater River in Virginia. Since Johnsen is not a Welsh name, the Moravian diarist, who wrote in German, probably identified the surname of their host, Robert Jones, as Johnsen (Jones' son). The Moravians reached the Roanoke (Runoke) River by 400PM on 01 November 1753.<sup>30</sup>

Nov. 5 - ... At half a mile was a small creek, and another half mile brought us to Black Water, a large creek with very steep banks. ... Then the road turned to the left up the mountain but we missed it and came more to the right to an old millrace at Ringfros Mill, kept to the left of it and turned up the mountain again and regained our proper road ... One mile further we reached the home of Robert Johnsen, and bought some hay from him. He went half a mile with us to show us the way across the creek, and a pleasant place in which to pitch our tent. Our course today was west and south-west, and we made 16 miles; ... It is 25 miles from here to Smith's River.

Nov. 6 - We took up our journey; Br. Hermanus remained behind to thrash oats for Mr. Johnsen ... Mr. Johnsen, a Welshman, had spoken freely with Br. Hermanus, had first asked him how he had come to join the Moravians, and when Br. Hermanus had told him he began to relate his own story for the last few years. At one time he had become very uneasy and could hardly bear the distress of his heart; then he had turned with all his misery to the Saviour, and He had let him feel the power of His blood and that had given him peace, and so it was with him to this day. And if at any time his heart was not quite right with God he turned again to the Saviour, and all was well. It was the same with his wife and eldest son. He had spoken of this only to those in whom he felt and saw the same spirit, and for the World understands as little of such things as a horse, and therefore he kept silence. For nine years he had not heard a sermon; and he begged that when one of us should pass this way again he would stop with him. We all rejoiced when Br. Hermanus told us this, and were glad that also in this dark wilderness the Saviour had his people, who loved him. At night we set up our tent in the swamp ... Br. Gottlob held evening prayers, and then we lay down to rest.

Ringfros Mill undoubtedly represents a misunderstanding of the name Rentfro. The fact that the Moravians mentioned speaking to Robert Johnsen's eldest son indicates that he was an adult, which supports the birth of John Jones in about 1733. The distances stated in the journal reflect the twisting

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nature of their pathways, since it is only about eight miles between the Pigg and Smith rivers, as the crow flies.

Since it was reported that Robert Johnsen had not heard a sermon in nine years, perhaps Robert Jones left the settled area of Frederick County about 1744. Because the sons of Robert Jones were Baptists, perhaps Robert and Mary attended the Primitive Baptist Church at or near Gerrards Town in the part of Frederick County that became Berkeley County, Virginia, before moving south. Established in 1743, it was the first Primitive Baptist Church west of the Blue Ridge.<sup>31</sup>

On 19 February 1754 Robert Jones, William Wright and Joseph Moore witnessed a deed from Daniel Green of Antrim Parish, Halifax County, planter, to John Legrand of the same place, for 445 acres on the north side of Difficult Creek, for 70 pounds.<sup>32</sup>

On 22 August 1758, during a patrol along the frontier, the Halifax militia company of Captain Robert Wade spent the night at the plantation of Robert Jones, which was described as being at the head of Pigg River:<sup>33</sup>

... Capt. Robert Wade march't from Mayo Fort with 35 men in order to take a range to the New River in search of our enemy Indians. We marcht about three miles that day to a Plantation where Peter Rentfro formerly lived and took up camp. Next morning we marcht along to a place called Gobling Town where we Eat our Brakefast, and so continued our march and took up our camp that night at the Foot of the Blew Ledge (Blue Ridge).

Next Day we crossed the Blew Ledge and marched to Francis Eason's Plantation and continued there that night. Our hunters brought in a plentiful supply of venison. Next morning being Tuesday the 15th we marcht down to Richard Ratcliff's plantation on Meadow Creek where we continued the night. Next morning sent out Spyes and hunters to Spy for enemy signs and to hunt for provisions.

This report was written by John Echols who went on to state that they stayed at Ratcliff's for several days. One day five Indians came upon them unexpectedly and Echols noted that the Indians:

... stood in amaise and Reason they had, for I suppose there were twenty guns presented at them. They said they were Cherokees. I made signs to them to shew me their Pass But they had none. They had with them five head of horse and Skelps that appeared to be white men. Four of the horses appeared as tho' they had been recently taken, the other was vary poor.

The Captain decided to let the Indians go, which displeased his followers, so he sent twelve men after them. They were overtaken in an orchard, where four Indians were killed and one wounded. Finding many Indian signs about and running low on ammunition, the company decided to return home. On Tuesday the 22nd they ate dinner on Blackwater Creek and spent the night at Robert Jones' Plantation at the head of Pigg River. The company split up here and returned to Mayo Fort by different routes.

Goblintown Creek is south of the Smith (Irvine) River in present-day Patrick County, where the Mayo River rises.

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Robert Jones and Mary Van Meter were residents of Bedford County, Virginia, on 19 June 1760 when they sold their 315-acre tract of land at the fork of the Pigg River in Halifax County to Joseph Rentfro:<sup>34</sup>

This Indenture made this 19th Day of June one thousand seven hundred and sixty  
Between Robert Jones of Bedford County of the one part and Joseph Rentfro of the same  
County of the other part Witnesseth that ... Robert Jones for ... one hundred and fifty pounds  
... Hath ... sold ... unto ... Joseph Rentfro ... all that Tract ... of Land Containing 315 Acres in the  
County of Halifax on both forks of pig River ... In witness whereof the said Robert Jones hath  
hereunto set his hand and seal

Robert Jones (Seal)

At a Court held for Halifax County the XIXth Day of June 1760 The above Indenture was by  
the above named Robert Jones acknowledged to his Act and Deed and Mary Wife of the said Robert  
Jones being privately Examin'd (as the Law directs) Relinquished her rights of Dower in the Land &  
premises Conveyed by the said Indentr. which was ordered to be Recorded

In his Bedford County will, dated 14 November 1772 and proved on 25 March 1776, Joseph Rentfro  
named, among other heirs, daughter Mary Jones, who may have been the wife of John Jones, the  
eldest son of Robert Jones, Jr.<sup>35</sup>

Robert Jones, Jr. was registered as a voter in Halifax County in 1765 as Robert Jones, with his son  
Robert Jones III listed as Robert, Jr.<sup>36</sup>

A List of the Poll taken at an Election of a Burgess in Halifax County 17 July 1765

	(page 392)		(page 398)	
Mr Edward Booker			Thos Tunstall	
Robt Jones Jr		7	Robt Jones Jr	4
Thomas Jones		8	Thomas Jones	5
David Jones	17		Daniel Jones	16
James Rentfrow	24		Richd Jones	75
Wm Cook	40		Richd Jones	90
Robt Jones	44			
	(page 399)			
Thomas Jones		9		
John Donilson			James Rentfrow	26
Robert Jones	8		Wm Cook	39
	(page 393)			
Robt Jones	43		John Jones	83
Jos Rentfrow		44		
John Jones	185		John Jones	74
Jos Rentfrow	186		John Jones	152
			Jos Rentfrow	153

The Booker and Donelson lists seem to overlap. Perhaps one of the John Jones was a son of  
Thomas Jones, Sr.

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The Jones apparently resided in the part of Halifax County that became Pittsylvania County in 1767, because they do not appear on the 1768 list of Halifax voters. On 21 July 1767 Robert Jones of Pittsylvania County sold to Benjamin Barton of the same place, for 75 pounds, 50 acres on the Pigg River. The deed was witnessed by William Murphy, Sarah Murphy and Jeremiah Poor.<sup>37</sup> On the same day, Robert Jones, Sr. conveyed to Robert Jones, Jr., for 90 pounds, 150 acres on both sides of the Pigg River in Pittsylvania County, with the deed being witnessed by William Murphy, Sarah Murphy and John Murphy.<sup>38</sup> Both Robert Jones, Sr. and Jr. were identified as residents of Halifax County in this deed, while Robert was shown as a resident of Pittsylvania County on the previous deed to Barton. This probably represents a reflexive error on the part of the court clerk, which was caused by the recent establishment of Pittsylvania County from Halifax County.

On 23 November 1768 Robert Jones of Pittsylvania County and Camden Parish sold two tracts of land. To Jeremiah Poor he conveyed 214 acres, on both sides of the north fork of the Pigg River, for 50 pounds. To Isaac Jones of Pittsylvania County, he transferred 186 acres, in the same location, for 70 pounds. John Donelson, Thomas Dillard and John Persons witnessed both deeds.<sup>39</sup>

Some of the land in these conveyances probably was part of the 225 acres on the North Fork of the Pigg River and Fox Branch that was surveyed for Robert Jones on 23 March 1747/8 (No. 5).

The 1769 tithe list for Pittsylvania County indicates that two of the sons of Robert Jones and Mary Van Meter, who were of titheable age, were living at home in 1769, and two others were residing nearby, since they were listed sequentially. Isaac Jones appears on another list. Since Abraham was unlisted, he probably was under 16 years of age.<sup>40</sup>

### A List of Land and Tithes Taken by Hugh Innes for Pittsylvania County Anno Dom 1767

Joseph Rentfro  
Robert Jones, Thomas Jones & Henry Jones  
John Jones  
Robert Jones, Jr.  
Philip Smith  
William Cook  
John Fushon  
James Rentfro, jr.  
James Rentfro Sen, Joseph Rentfro & Peter Rentfro

### A List of Tithes Taken by Theop'l Lacy 10th of June 1767

Isaac Jones                      Masses Poor

There was no Jeremiah Poor on the tithe lists, but Masses Poor, who was listed next to Isaac Jones, probably lived on the land that Robert Jones sold to Jeremiah Poor in 1768. Benjamin Barton was on the Innes list, as was the other Thomas Jones.

On 20 March 1769 Robert Jones sold to Joseph Ellis (Elles), both of Pittsylvania County, for 60 pounds, 164 acres on both sides of the north fork of the Pigg River, which were part of a survey of 320 acres patented on 06 September 176\_ (sic). The deed was witnessed by William Murphy and Francis Bird.<sup>41</sup> On 27 November 1771 Robert Jones sold to Abraham Jones, for 50 pounds, 156 acres, on both sides of the north fork of the Pigg River, adjoining Joseph Ellis. The witnesses were

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Hugh Jones, William Cook and Robert (Penyman?). Since 156 and 164 total 320, this must be the remainder of the survey mentioned in the Ellis deed.<sup>42</sup>

In addition to the deeds to sons Robert, Isaac and Abraham, Robert Jones, Jr. also conveyed land to his sons Thomas and Henry. On 26 March 1771 Robert Jones conveyed to Thomas Jones, Jr., both of Pittsylvania County, for 60 pounds, 93 acres on both sides of the south fork of the Pigg River, being part of 260 acres patented on 10 September 1767.<sup>43</sup> There were no witnesses shown. Thomas Jones, son of Robert, apparently used the appellation, Junior, to differentiate himself from his older neighbor Thomas Jones who probably was a brother of Robert Jones, Jr.

Also on 26 March 1771, Robert Jones sold to Henry Jones, both of Pittsylvania County, for 50 pounds, 160 acres on both sides of the north fork of the Pigg River, which was acquired by the patent dated 10 September 1767. The deed was witnessed by Thomas Jones, Jr.<sup>44</sup> 160 and 93 equal 253 of the 260 acres. This must be the tract that was surveyed for Robert Jones on 23 March 1747/8 as 230 acres.

John Jones is the only son of Robert Jones, Jr. who is not known to have acquired land by deed from his father. This probably occurred because, as the eldest son, John was expected to inherit all of the land possessed by his father at the time of his death.

The distribution of his land to his sons by Robert Jones suggests that the portions conveyed to Benjamin Barton, Jeremiah Poor and Joseph Ellis may have been to sons-in-law. This theory diminishes the likelihood that William Cook was a son-in-law, however, since Cook is not known to have acquired land from Robert Jones.

The settlement in 1747 of Robert Jones, Jr. in the part of Lunenburg County that became Halifax and then Pittsylvania County, is evidenced by his involvement in Pittsylvania County land transactions as early as 1748.<sup>45</sup>

Jones, Robert	pages 259, 338, 379 (1761-1766)
Jones, Robert	page 363 (1766)
Jones, Robert	pages 87, 88, 90, 163, 171, 194 (1748-1753)
Jones, Thomas	pages 88, 149, 157, 217, 218, 312 (1748-1763)
Jones, Thomas	pages 386, 427, 468 (1766-1770)
Jones, Ambrose	pages 344, 381, 450 (1765-1769)
Jones, Daniel	pages 221, 232 (1754-1755)
Jones, David	pages 345, 351 (1764-1765)
Jones, Henry	page 468 (1770)
Jones, Hugh	pages 249, 257, 286, 297 (1758-1763)
Jones, James	pages 257, 258, 272, 285 (1761-1762)
Jones, John	pages 358, 394, 409, 429 (1766-1768)
Jones, Jonathan	page 394 (1767)
Jones, Jonathan	pages 257, 258, 298 (1761-1763)
Jones, Joshua	page 298 (1763)

The lands of Robert Jones were in western Lunenburg County where parts later fell into Halifax, Bedford and Franklin counties when the new jurisdictions were established. Lunenburg County

## **ROBERT JONES JR**

emerged from Brunswick County in 1746. Halifax County was erected in 1752 from Lunenburg County. Bedford County was formed in 1754 from parts of Lunenburg and Albemarle counties. Albemarle came from Goochland County in 1744. Pittsylvania County originated in 1767 from Halifax County and Henry County was cut from Pittsylvania in 1777. Franklin County was created from parts of Bedford and Henry counties in 1786.

One Jones Family of Pittsylvania County was established by Thomas and Mary Jones of Mountain Top (White Oak Mountain), near Shoco, who settled there before the Revolutionary War, in which Thomas served. They had sons Thomas B. Jones and Emmanuel Jones. Thomas B. Jones married Miss Burton and had John, James, Richard and Allen Jones.<sup>46</sup>

On 27 October 1785 Robert Jones (Jr.) and two of his sons, Henry Jones and Robert Jones (III), who signed as "Jr.," were among 282 men who signed a petition urging the formation of a new county because they found it "extremely inconvenient attending their publick and necessary Business, by reason of bad roads, and their Remote situation from the Court House."<sup>47</sup> Franklin County was created from Henry and Bedford counties the following year.

One of the patents obtained by Robert Jones, Jr. for land in southern Virginia, was numbered (or dated) 1753. In 1779 James Rentfro (Renfro) sold 12 acres on the Pigg River in Henry County to William Cook. The tract was part of Robert Jones' Patent 1753.<sup>48</sup> Earlier, in 1776, Robert Jones sold 96 acres, on the north fork of the Pigg River in Henry County, to Moses Rentfro.<sup>49</sup> On 07 August 1786 Joshua Rentfro of Franklin County, sold to Isaac Jones, son of Isaac Jones, deceased, of the same place, for 20 pounds, two parcels of land on branches of the Blackwater River in Franklin County. 62 acres that were part of 400 acres patented to William Cook on 26 September 1760 and 110 acres that were patented to Joshua Rentfro on 02 September 1780.<sup>50</sup>

Isaac Jones, Jr. moved to Knox County, Tennessee, where he was a resident on 07 January 1799 when he sold the two tracts of land, that he purchased from Joshua Rentfro, to Boston Nave of Franklin County, for 77 pounds. The deed was witnessed by William Jones, Thomas Jones and John M. Napier.<sup>51</sup>

On 09 November 1789 Jesse Rentfro sold 40 acres on a branch of the Pigg River in Franklin County to Thomas Jones of Franklin County for 10 pounds. The tract adjoined land of Thomas Jones. The deed, which was signed Jesse Renfro, was witnessed by Isaac Renfro, William Renfro, John Renfro, John X Renfro and Moses Rentfro.<sup>52</sup>

It has been said that Robert Jones, Jr. was a soldier in the Revolutionary War and was at Yorktown when Cornwallis surrendered<sup>53</sup> but, born about 1696, he probably was too old for more than local militia duty. Perhaps this service pertains to Robert Jones III.

Joanna Hill, who married Thomas Jones, was a daughter of Robert Hill and Violet "Velie" Linus. The children and heirs of Robert Hill are identified in several Franklin County, Virginia, deeds. Swinfield Hill and wife Martha; Thomas Hill and wife Alinah; Thomas Jones and wife Joannah; David Barton and wife Hannah; and Bartlett Wade and wife Mary, heirs of Robert Hill to Walter Bernard, 330 acres for 500 pounds on 04 April 1787.<sup>54</sup> On 02 July 1787 Violet Hill, widow; Swinfield Hill and Martha; Thomas Hill and Aley; David Barton and Hannah; Thomas Jones, Jr. and Anna; Walter Bernard and Ruth; and Bartlett Wade and Mary sold 12 1/3 acres in Henry County near Washington Iron Works to

## **ROBERT JONES JR**

James Callaway for 130 pounds.<sup>55</sup> Thomas Jones, son of Robert, probably was known as Thomas, Jr. to differentiate himself from his uncle Thomas Jones, Sr.

The birth dates of the children of Thomas Jones and Joanna Hill appear on the front cover and flyleaf of the Minute Book of the Pigg River Baptist Church in Franklin County, Virginia. The book covers the first hundred years of the church. It was in an excellent state of preservation and in the possession of Mr. Woodrow Wilson Abshire, Clerk of the Pigg River Association, Route 711 (off Route 221), Bent Mountain, VA, in 1978.<sup>56</sup> The birth date of Joanna Hill Jones also was recorded in the Minute Book. The birth date of Thomas Jones appears in the Family Bible of William Jones, who married Betsy Hill, as do the death dates of Thomas and Joanna, and of three of their children, Robert, William and John:<sup>57</sup>

Thomas Jones	b 05 Jul 1748	d 22 Mar 1830
Joanna Jones	b 24 Jan 1752	d 02 Mar 1833
Robert Jones	b 28 Jul 1772	d 23 Sep 1837
Abraham Jones	b 13 Apr 1774	
William Jones	b 05 May 1776	d 11 Nov 1848
Ruth Jones	b 10 Jul 1778	
John Jones	b 20 Sep 1780	d 11 Nov 1832
Hannah Jones	b 13 Jun 1783	
Isaac Jones	b 17 Aug 1785	
Polly Jones	b 30 Jun 1787	
Violet Jones	b 22 Jan 1792	

William Cook, Jr., husband of Margaret Jones, was appointed as one of the appraisers of the estate of Robert Hill on 16 March 1778.<sup>58</sup> After the death of William Cook, Jr. in Kentucky, his sons, Seth Cook and William Cook III of Woodford County, Kentucky, granted their power of attorney to Thomas Jones, Jr. on 01 October 1793 to sell a tract of land in Franklin County, Virginia.<sup>59</sup> This substantiates the probability that their mother Margaret Jones Cook was a sister of Thomas Jones, who was known as Thomas Jones, Jr.

**THOMAS JONES**

Born 05 Jul 1748 Virginia

Died 22 Mar 1830

Married Joanna Hill c1770 Pittsylvania County, Virginia

Born 24 Jan 1752

Died 02 Mar 1833

Children:

Robert Jones

b. 28 Jul 1772

d. Sep 1837

m. Violet Barton 01 Feb 1796 Franklin County, Virginia (bond date)

Abraham Jones

b. 13 Apr 1774

d. before 22 Mar 1830

m. Sally Turnbull Hale 26 Jul 1813 Franklin County, VA (bond date)

William Jones

b. 06 Mar 1776

d. 11 Nov 1848

m. Betsy Hill 26 Jul 1806 Franklin County, Virginia (bond date)

Ruth Jones

b. 10 Jul 1778

d.

m. Costello Hill 12 Jan 1809

John Jones

b. 20 Sep 1780

d. 11 Nov 1832

m. Abigail Hale 17 Jan 1826 Franklin County, Virginia (bond date)

Hannah Jones

b. 13 Jun 1783

d.

m. Jacob Webb 03 Oct 1805 (bond date)

Isaac Jones

b. 17 Aug 1785

d.

m.



Polly Jones  
b. 30 Jun 1787  
d. probably before 22 Mar 1830  
m.

Violet Jones  
b. 22 Jan 1792  
d.  
m. Jubal Willis 27 Oct 1820 (bond date)

Sally Turnbull Hale was the widow of Joseph Hale when she married Abraham Jones. The marriage record of John Jones and Abigail Hale on 17 Jan 1826 shows that she was the (step)daughter of Abraham Jones. The bondsman was Isaac Jones. Abraham died before his father Thomas wrote his will on 22 March 1830 as, apparently, did Thomas' daughter Polly who was not named in the will. Grandson Fleming Jones, son of Isaac, was named as executor of Thomas' will.<sup>60</sup>

**ISAAC JONES**

Born 17 Aug 1785

Died

Married

Born

Died

Children (order of birth unknown):

Fleming Jones

b.

d.

m.

Isaac Jones Jr

b.

d.

m. Rody Hill Jones

**WILLIAM JONES<sup>61</sup>**

Born 06 Mar 1776

Died 11 Nov 1848

Married Betsy Hill 26 Jul 1806 Franklin County, Virginia (bond date)

Born 10 Dec 1789

Died 26 May 1861

Children:

Ruth Jones

b. 13 Aug 1807

d. 12 Feb 1826

m. not

Rody Hill Jones

b. 20 Dec 1808

d. 19 Apr 1887

m. Isaac Jones Jr

Madison Jones

b. 01 Sep 1810

d. 23 Jul 1811

m. not

Isaac Madison Jones

b. 25 May 1812

d. 18 Sep 1890

m. Emma Hill 26 Nov 1833

Edward Jones

b. 16 Apr 1814

d. 29 Aug 1815

m. not

Sophronia Jones

b. 07 Dec 1816

d. 09 Apr 1894

m. (1) Lott Hill 05 Jul 1833 (bond date)

(2) William Guilliams 03 Feb 1851

Thomas Edward Jones

b. 25 Dec 1818

d. 1885

m. (1) Elizabeth F Cannaday 02 Dec 1844 (bond date)

(2) Sarah E Jones 07 Sep 1853

Miriam Hill Jones  
b. 31 Jan 1821  
d. 21 Sep 1901  
m. Robert Guilliams 10 Jan 1843

Robert Linus Jones  
b. 02 Oct 1823  
d. 17 Dec 1825  
m. not

Jesse Jones  
b. 12 Oct 1826  
d.  
m. Sarah E Helms

Sarah Ann Jones  
b. 16 Nov 1828  
d. 09 Jun 1897  
m. Thomas T Jones 07 Jan 1874

Rufina Jones  
b. 15 Jun 1832  
d. 20 Jul 1886  
m.

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**ABRAHAM JONES<sup>62</sup>**

Born 13 Apr 1774

Died before 22 Mar 1830

Married Sally Turnbull Hale 26 Jul 1813 Franklin County, VA (bond date)

Born 17 Dec 1779

Died

Children:

Creed T Jones

b. 25 Nov 1813

d.

m. (1) Sally Jones 23 Sep 1835 (bond date)

(2) Dorothy Prillaman 03 Nov 1853

Mildred C Jones

b. 29 Dec 1816

d.

m.

Thomas T Jones

b. 13 Aug 1819

d. 06 Dec 1884

m. Sarah Ann Jones 07 Jan 1874

William Jones

b. 09 Sep 1822

d.

m.

**ISAAC MADISON JONES<sup>63</sup>**

Born 25 May 1812

Died 18 Sep 1890

Married Emma Hill 26 Nov 1833

Born 10 Sep 1815

Died 06 May 1878

Children:

Martha E Jones

b. 25 Apr 1835

d. 07 May 1909

m. Lewis F Sigmon

Charles Henry Jones

b. 31 Dec 1836

d. 25 Mar 1900

m. Sarah Sigmon 17 Dec 1863

James Edward Jones

b. 11 Sep 1838

d. 13 Sep 1863

m. Alia Ann Jones

Eliza A Jones

b. 24 Feb 1842

d. 13 Aug 1910

m. Esom Slone 17 Mar 1861

Sarah Francis Jones

b. 03 Feb 1844

d. 12 Oct 1908

m. David Troup 23 Dec 1868

Marshall Peter Perry Jones

b. 05 Oct 1846

d. 22 Jan 1929

m. Sarah M Slone 10 Jan 1867

Richard M Tell Jones

b. 26 Aug 1849

d.

m. (1) Frances Sigmon

(2) Virginia T Sigmon

(3) Octavia Sigmon

Lucy Agnes Jones  
b. 17 Aug 1851  
d. 06 Apr 1905  
m. Joseph Sigmon 23 Dec 1868

Milton Darius Jones  
b. 04 Apr 1855  
d. 19 Apr 1910  
m. Harriett Peters 23 May 1875

**ISAAC JONES JR<sup>64</sup>**

Born

Died

Married Rody Hill Jones

Born 20 Dec 1808

Died 19 Apr 1887

Children:

Abraham (Abram) Jones

b. 18 Apr 1834

d.

m.

(Child) Jones

b. 1835

d.

m.

(Child) Jones

b. 1837

d.

m.



**ROBERT JONES III**

Born c1736 Virginia

Died c1820

Married Martha "Patsy" Riley

Born

Died

Children (order of birth unknown):

Mary Jones

b. c1758/9

d. c1825/30 Ripley County, Indiana

m. William Mavity 1775

David Jones

b. 25 Jan 1761 Halifax County, Virginia

d. 07 Feb 1838 Cooper County, Missouri

m. Jane (Jean) Ruble 1779

Elijah Jones

b.

d.

m. Rebecca McCutcheon 13 Feb 1789 Franklin County, Virginia

Jesse Jones

b. 24 Apr 1766

d. 15 Jan 1859

m. (1) Hannah Hale 02 Sep 1788 Franklin County, Virginia

(2) Sarah "Sally" Tuggle 23 Sep 1797 Patrick County, Virginia

Isaac Jones

b.

d.

m.

Jonathan Jones

b.

d. young

m. Sarah Barton 07 Nov 1803 Franklin County, Virginia

(2. Dorcas Howell 03 Jun 1805 Patrick County, Virginia?)

Tabitha Jones

b. c1770

d.

m. Richard Hale 24 Oct 1788 Franklin County, Virginia

Rachel Jones

b. 1772

d. 15 Jul 1857 Lawrence County, Kentucky

m. John Turman 07 Sep 1791 Montgomery County, Virginia

Robert Jones III was a Baptist preacher and so was his son Jesse. Martha Riley may have come from Frederick County.<sup>65</sup>

As Robert Jones, Jr., Robert Jones III made a deposition before a special court held at Mayes Ferry (later Booker's Ferry) on 01 June 1758 about an engagement with some Shawnee Indians in which he participated.<sup>66</sup>

Halifax County At Mays's Ferry on Staunton River June the 1st, 1758 ... to wit John Wheeler, William Verdiman, John Hall, Richard Thompson, William Verdiman, Junr, Robert Jones Junr, and Henry Snow being first sworn ... deposed in Substance as followeth ... that when they arrived at the [Staunton] River Bank they as they imagined heard the Indians War Halloo on the other side, that they proceeded to pass the River, that when they gott over, on rising the Bank on the other side, they found a small fire just kindled, and at some little distance from thence, they observed the Enemy, upon which all the Deponents say that Old William Verdiman aged about sixty, went foremost, and that they all followed close at his heels, that when they came up to the Enemy they found they had tyed their Horses, pretty many in Number to the Bushes, that most of the Indians were painted and others then painting, some black some Red, but mostly black, that when they came near Old Verdiman pulled off his Hatt and Bowed and accosted them in terms of peace, and Friendship, and said Gentlemen we come in a Brotherly manner to ask you for our Horses, and other Goods, that you have taken from us, and the Indians gave a kind of Grunt, and appeared determined for mischief, stripped themselves threw out the priming of their Guns, fresh primed and Cocked them, struck their Tomahawks into Trees, and in an angry manner demanded of the Deponents if they would fight; that whilst Verdiman who was still uncovered Bowing and Treating with them, the Enemy Indeavored to Inviron them, and actually got them into a half Circle before the Deponents were aware upon which, and young Verdiman observing that two Indians had pointed their Guns, they the Deponents all retreated backwards with their Faces to the Enemy, and took to trees, that on their retreat, the Indians threw their Tomahawks, and that two of them narrowly missed two of their men, that one of them would have hitt Old Verdiman, but that he luckely parried it with an Elder Stick he had in his hand (for he was one of the number of those that had no Guns) and the Indians pursuing and they retreating in Order, they were near drove to the River Banck, where they must have inevitably perished had they then attempted to have crossed, that on the retreat a Gun was fired upon which the Engagement insued, and many Guns discharged on both sides, in which Engagement the Father of John Hall one of the deponents fell, and being mortally wounded soon after died, that during the Engagement those of the Deponents who had Guns were obliged to fly from tree to tree to one another for a shott of Powder and Lead both being very scarce among them, that in the Engagement three Indians fell, that at last their Powder and Lead being Expended they fled back over the River in different places, and being all met again on the other side, they went to a Neighbours House, supplied themselves with more Ammunition, and went back again to place where the Engagement was to look for their wounded friend, who they found expiring, three Indians dead in the Field and much plunder, that they scalped the Indians, threw their dead bodies in the River, and brought away their dying friend and the plunder, and that their Friend soon after dyed, the account of Spoil found in the Field consisting of Horses, Saddles, Bridles, Mens and Womens

apparel &c., is herewith Contained in two papers Numbered 1. 2.

Jane Ruble who married David Jones was a daughter of Owen Thomas Ruble and his first wife Helen (Helena) White. Alice Woodrum Wade, widow of John Utley Wade, married (2) Owen Thomas Ruble whose Franklin County, Virginia, will was dated 06 March 1824 and proved on 06 December 1824. Witnesses were Castleton Wade, John Hale and Jacob Troup. His legatees were his wife Ally, her daughter Polly W. Wade, and his own children, Jane (Jean) Jones, Thomas W. Ruble, Elizabeth Hall, Swinfield Ruble and Margaret (Marget) Conner. William Jones and John Jones were named as executors. Abraham Jones and Robert Hairston were securities on the executor's bond.<sup>67</sup>

David Jones served in the Revolutionary War from Virginia under Captain Owen Ruble, his father-in-law. He was a private for three months in the spring of 1777 and a sergeant for the same period of time in the spring of 1781, for which he received a pension. He moved from Franklin County, Virginia, to Madison County, Kentucky, in 1796 and from there to Cooper County, Missouri, in 1811. He died there on 07 February 1838, aged 77, and is buried in Reid-Kincheloe Cemetery, 4 miles south of Arrow Rock, Missouri. His wife Jane Ruble Jones died a few months later in her 75th year.<sup>68</sup>

When Jesse Ruble Jones wrote in 1877 about his great-grandparents, as they were in 1796,<sup>69</sup> he recollections were of his last seeing them before migrating to Kentucky with his father. Jesse visited Franklin County, Virginia, in 1859 and met two young grandsons of Thomas Jones and great-grandsons of Robert Jones and Mary Van Meter. They informed him that Robert Jones, son of Henry Jones and Frances Bohannon, was then living in Floyd County, Virginia.<sup>70</sup>

R. E. Jones  
MD

New Orleans La  
May 6th 1877

Dear Nephew

I received yours of the 2nd instant and was very glad to hear from you - We are all in good health and much elated at the change in our political affairs - I think that affairs in the South will now commence to improve. We, as well as most of the Citizens of Louisiana, have suffered much in our pecuniary affairs. We, however, have been able to save our real Estate which I think will soon become productive. I think a large Southern immigration will commence shortly. If our farmers would plant a third Crop in Cotton it would fetch more money. I think Mississippi and Louisiana should raise Corn for exportation. I have observed in my travel North and even West that the towns are growing too fast for the Country. Two thirds of the lands in some of the Northern States are uncultivated and growing up in Timber. We find that our poorest lands with good culture will produce more than the average lands in the New England States. Our last Legislature (illegible) passed reform laws which will lessen expenses of the State government at least to one half after they become operative.

With regard to our ancestors, my great grand father came from Wales when a boy to Montgomery County Virginia about the year 1700 - When grown he married Mary Van Metre and had four sons Abraham, Thomas, Robert and Henry. I never heard of any daughters. - His name was Robert. in [sic] 1796 when I was about 8 years old I saw him and his wife, each supposed to be 100 years old, in good health appearing to have their faculties unimpaired. I recollect his entertaining me and other children in telling us of some incidences of his boyhood age.

They both lived several years after. I visited the place of my birth Franklin County in 1859 and there met two young men Grandsons of Thomas Jones. They informed me that a son of Henry Jones was a then living in Floyd County named Robert. -

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## **ROBERT JONES JR**

My Grandfather Robert Jones married a Miss Riley they had Four sons Elijah who moved to Georgia. Jesse who lived in the same neighborhood until 1859 and died at the age of 104. he [sic] was a Baptist Preacher. I heard him preach in 1796 and I was told he preached a Month before he died. One of Father's brothers named Isaac moved to Clay County Ky about 1800. I have not heard of since another Jonathan. I think must have died young as could not hear of him in Virginia. My father had three sisters Mary who married Wm McVity [sic] had one son named John was a Methodist Preacher. Elizabeth married Thurman and Tabitha married Hale -

My Grandfather Robert Jones was a Baptist Preacher. I think he died in Virginia about 1820 -

My Mother Jane Ruble was daughter of Owen Ruble of German extraction. He commanded a Company of Militia at the taking of York Town. my [sic] father was a Subaltern in his Company - Major Turly [sic] son of my sister Elizabeth once wrote me that he was wearing the sword which my father wore at Yorktown. My mother's mother was Helena White born in Scotland her brother Alexander White of Winchester Virginia was member of the first Congress. I own an Eddition [of] Blackstone published by subscription before the Revolution - He gave it to my uncle Thos W Ruble who gave it to me. Grand mother Ruble was well educated. I was told she taught her sons the dead Languages -

My Mother had two brothers Thos W and Swingfield [sic] and Two Sisters Elizabeth who married Hale and Margaret who married Conner both Sisters moved to Ky and left children.

Thos W Ruble had a son John who moved to Texas he had two Daughters who married in Louisville. I do not know the names of the men they married

My father and mother married at the ages of 16 and 18 years lived together within a few months of 60 years - They had Two Sons and nine Daughters -

I have heard nothing of the Family since the war

If you have any information as to the present situation of our relations in Missouri I would take it as a great favor if you would write me the particulars. My love to your Family Grandmother and connections.

Jesse R Jones

[Some punctuation added for clarity.] The envelope was postmarked in Covington, Louisiana.

In writing that his grandfather Robert Jones married Miss Riley and had four sons and three daughters, Jesse R. Jones failed to include his father as one of them. He also appears not to have known that Robert Jones and Mary Van Meter had sons named John, Isaac and Abraham.

Subsequently, on 25 November 1902 Susan B. Jones of Covington, Louisiana, an unmarried daughter of Jesse R. Jones, wrote to her cousin Clara Jones in Crystal Springs, Mississippi:<sup>71</sup>

Covington Nov 25th 1902

My dear Cousin

We received your letter and we were very glad to hear from you, as it had been a long time since we had done so. For the last twelve years, Serena and I have lived alone in the old home in Covington, and we only go to New Orleans two or three times a year, for a week or two at a time. We look on it now as quite a journey. All three of our nephews, James, Frank and Charlie are dead, but our two nieces, Arsine and Laura live in Covington, not far from us. After the death of our brother James, with whom they lived on a farm four miles from here, they moved into Covington. James (or Boy as he was always called) left two sons, Frank, the oldest, and Charlie, who lives with his aunts, Arsine and Laura, and is a very fine young man. Poor Frank is a hopeless

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## ROBERT JONES JR

invalid, an incurable disease of the spine which has paralyzed his lower limbs. He is now at Hot Springs, Ark. and the Doctors say that he may die at any time, or he may live for some months.

As to our relations, we regret that we did not write down what my Father used to tell us about them, for I am afraid that we cannot tell you much more than you already know. My Father's great, great grandfather came from Wales early in 1700 and settled near Winchester, Virginia. Pa remembered his great grandfather, and great grandmother (who were then more than ninety years old) and used to tell him anecdotes of their childhood in Wales. Afterwards Pa's grandfather moved to Franklin County, Virginia, near the little town of Rocky Mount, where Pa was born and some of his nine sisters. In 1795 Grandfather Jones moved (and a number of his neighbors) to Madison County, Ken - in the Bluegrass region. When my grandfather moved to Ken - he sold the farm in Virginia to a Mr. Saunders, whose descendants still own and live on it. When we were at one of the Virginia Springs in 1859, Pa rode over to see the old place. Pa removed with his father to Ken - and was educated there until he was twenty one (1808) then his health was delicate, and he was advised to come to a warmer climate. he came to Miss - near Natchez, where he remained three years. Then he moved to Covington in 1811, and began to practice law. Afterwards, Grandfather Jones moved (I do not know in what year) to Missouri, with his nine daughters, and Uncle Robert, who I think was born in Ken - Pa's mother was named Jane Ruble and her father had a farm in the same neighborhood in Virginia. As Pa never had any of the Family records, we do not know the names of the any of the wives of the different ancestors, except I think, one was named Van Meter. Pa had a copy of Blackstone, one of the first edition ever published in the United States, which was given to Grandfather Jones by one of his ancestors, to whom it belonged (Alexander White who was a member of the first Continental Congress, which ratified the Declaration of Independence). The names of our Aunts were Rebecca - Anna - Elizabeth - Martha - Helena - Margaret - Lavinia - Lydia and Jane. The married names were Rebecca Bingham - Anna Reid - Ferrell - Turley - Helena McMahan (and another married a McMahan) Thorpe - Lydia Allison and Jane Jones, (the Jones she married was no relation). I think Uncle Robert was one of the younger children. Pa used to receive letters occasionally from his surviving sisters, until the war interrupted the intercourse. He heard, however, that all of his nephews, who were of a suitable age, were in the Confederate army, which gratified him very much, as you know Missouri was so divided. At one time a cousin of Pa's (Dr. Josiah Hale) was Professor of Botany in the Medical College in New Orleans. He was a very scientific man, and a very nice old gentleman, but he died a year or two before the war. He was a celebrated botanist, and we often see his opinion quoted as an authority. I am sorry to say that we cannot tell you anything about the Robertsons, except that we have heard Ma say that her sister Serena was only fourteen years old, when she married Nathaniel Robertson in Georgia. Grandfather Ragan lived on a farm, and had a flour mill also, near Milledgeville, but moved his Family to Mississippi, (I think about 1814) Covington County. We send you a picture of my Father. I am sorry that we have no better one. He never took well, and always disliked to sit for his picture. We would send you one of ours, if we had one, but we have had none taken for thirty five years, and those were all given away at the time. In the summer, sometime, cannot you and Cousin Lizzie pay us a visit. We should be very glad to see you. The pine woods in winter look very bare and desolate, but in summer the country looks more attractive, and then too the trains arrive here before dark. When you come, write to us a few days before, and we will meet you at the train. Serena joins me in love to you, Cousin Lizzie and the children.

Your affectionate Cousin  
Susan B. Jones

Another letter about the Jones Family was written to Miss Clara Jones in 1902 from Mrs. Louise J. B.

Prepared by WILLIAM G SCROGGINS, revised 22 Mar 1995

: 718 Mill Valley Drive, Taylor Mill KY 41015-2278

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Neff of Hardeman, Missouri:<sup>72</sup>

**ROBERT JONES JR**

Hardeman,  
Saline County, Mo.  
October 13, 1902.

Miss Clara Jones;  
Dear Cousin,

Please pardon my tardiness in replying to your letter. It was received just after I moved back to the farm. I had to do my packing hurriedly and moved in bad weather.

The farm had been rented over nine years, therefore, I found much hard work to do after getting here.

The overwork caused me to have very severe attacks of headache - averaging one a week all season. It is difficult to get help here and my daughter and I have done all of our house work and the washing, too, most of the season.

I have had a gentleman - a cousin in poor health - staying with us 'till last week.

I am sorry I have so little information to give you.

My mother, Lamenda McMahan Bingham, she, the daughter of Margaret Jones McMahan, the latter a sister of your grandfather Dr. Robert Jones.

Margaret Jones married Thomas McMahan.

The sisters of Margaret Jones McMahan were all married, lived and died in Missouri, except one, perhaps; I give them on next page but not in rotation according to age.

Melvina Jones - Marcus

Betsy Jones - Turley

Annie Jones - Reed

Patsy Jones - Ferril

Lydia Jones - Allison

Helena Jones - McMahan

Rebecca Jones - Thorpe

Jane Jones - Jones

They were all considered remarkably intelligent women.

There is a son of Aunt Melvina Marcus - a methodist [sic] preacher - his name is David Marcus; he is in Missouri, I think; he being a son of the oldest daughter, may by reason of his student life remember some more than others. Your Aunt Mary might find him through her methodist [sic] friends.

I have not seen him since I was a child.

There is another Cousin Anna Reed McMahan, I wish to see; she has an excellent memory and being one of her mother's oldest children may remember some things from what her grandmother Annie Jones Reed may have told her.

Cousin Adelia Turley - Herndon says great grandfather David Jones was a colonel under Gen. Washington. She remembers his epulets [sic] and sword and of his telling of his days as a soldier.

After his death his effects were sold and her elder brother, Dr. Jesse Turley bought the sword but she does not remember ever seeing it after our civil war.

All of Dr. Turley's Family are dead except one son, which I'll try to find him.

I can not tell you anything about your great-great grandfather Owen Ruble.

There was an Owen Ruble lived and died here; he was a brother of great grandmother - Ruble - Jones, I think. I do not know what great grandmother [sic] first name was. She had a brother who was quite a noted physician in those days. She must have studied under him as she was quite well informed in medicine.

**ROBERT JONES JR**

Some time I should like a copy of the letter written to your father by Uncle Jesse Jones; you say it contains considerable Family history.

My mother was named for his first wife. Too late in life I began to take a genuine interest in our Family history. Those who could have informed me are dead. There was a David Thorpe, the only child of Aunt Rebecca Jones Thorpe. He did live in Platte County, Mo. He was very intelligent. If living he is quite old; I should like to find him.

I hope some time you may come to see us in Missouri. Give my love to Cousin Rosa. I think I wrote the last letter but presume she lost patience with my tardy answers. I hope she and you, too, have better health than I have ever had.

Would the muster roles [sic] be in Philadelphia? I shall be glad to hear from you again. I'm not always so tardy. Besides a member of the Bingham Family had written for Family history which I had just finished - twenty seven pages - when your letter came.

Yours sincerely,

Louise J. B. Neff

Notations in another handwriting on the original photocopy state that the writer was a daughter of Samanda (sic) McMahan Bingham, who was a daughter of Margaret Jones McMahan, who was a sister of Robert Jones of Utica, Mississippi, and Jesse Ruble Jones of Covington, Louisiana.

There are two discrepancies in the lists of daughters of David Jones and Jane Ruble. The list of Susan Jones included one named Lavinia and gave the married name of Rebecca as Bingham. Louise Neff named Melvina Jones Marcus, as the eldest, and did not list a sister named Lavinia. Since Mrs. Neff was closer to the sisters, all of whom resided in Missouri, it seems likely that one was named Melvina, not Lavinia. The Neff list also gives the married name of Rebecca Jones as Thorpe, instead of Bingham, and identified her as the mother of David Thorpe, which indicates that Susan Jones was in error in giving Bingham as the married name of Rebecca Jones. Since Louise Neff's father was a Bingham, it is likely that she would have mentioned a marriage by Rebecca to a Bingham, if one had occurred.

Dr. Robert Elam Jones of Crystal Springs, Mississippi, was a son of Robert Jones (1800-1860) and Mary Battle Robertson (1809-1843) who were married in Covington County, Mississippi. She was a daughter of Nathaniel Robertson and Serena Ragan.<sup>73</sup>

Jesse Jones was licensed as a Baptist minister on 26 March 1794. Hannah Hale, who married Jesse Jones on 02 September 1788 in Franklin County, Virginia, was a daughter of John Hale. Richard Hale secured their marriage bond on 02 September 1788. Jesse Jones married (2) Sarah "Sally" Tuggle on 23 September 1797 in Patrick County, Virginia. Elder Jesse Jones died on 15 January 1859, aged 92 years. Sarah Tuggle Jones was born on 27 November 1777 and died on 23 December 1852. They are buried in the "Elder Jesse Jones, Salmons, Thompson Cemetery" in Widgeon Valley.<sup>74</sup>

Rebecca McCutcheon who married Elijah Jones was a daughter of James McCutcheon. Elijah Jones and Rebecca McCutcheon (McCuthon) were married in Franklin County, Virginia, on 13 February 1789 by Robert Jones with Joseph Hale as surety. Elijah went to Montgomery County, Virginia.<sup>75</sup> It has also been reported that they went to Georgia.<sup>76</sup>

Elijah Jones was surety for the marriage bond for Richard Hale and Tabitha Jones on 21 October 1788. Richard and Tabitha moved to Lee County, Virginia, about 1805 and were enumerated on the

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## **ROBERT JONES JR**

1830 census in Scott County, Virginia, which was formed from Lee County in 1814<sup>77</sup>

Isaac Jones, son of Robert Jones III and Martha Riley, was a resident of Montgomery County, Kentucky, in 1804 when he sold land in Montgomery County, Virginia, to John Dabney. The deed was not recorded until July 1816.<sup>78</sup>

Jonathan Jones, son of Robert Jones III, appears to have been married twice. Jonathan Jones married (1) Sarah Barton on 07 November 1803 in Franklin County, Virginia, and (2) Dorcas Howell on 03 Jun 1805 in Patrick County, Virginia. The second marriage was performed by the Reverend Robert Jones. Jonathan and Dorcas were residents of Montgomery County, Virginia, when they sold land by a deed recorded in October 1832.<sup>79</sup>

William Mavity, who married Mary Jones, was the son of Robert Mavity and Margaret Morton who came to Virginia about 1765 from Ireland, where William was born on 08 November 1747. Mavity was spelled McVity, McVitty and Mavitty in public records. It was written McVeatey on a survey to Robert Mavity on 15 November 1769 for 193 acres of land on the South Fork of the Pigg River. When Robert transferred this tract to William on 05 November 1773, their name was spelled Mavity. William Mavity was in the Henry County, Virginia, Militia and Sergeant Major of the 2nd Battalion, 4th Regiment of Virginia Troops, commanded by Colonel Waller. He was at the siege and surrender at Yorktown. William Mavity and Mary Jones had ten children: John Mavity, the Methodist minister who preached in Montgomery County, Kentucky, and the surrounding area in 1810; William Mavity, Jr.; Mary Mavity; Martha Mavity; Margaret Mavity; Jesse Mavity; James Mavity; David Mavity; Morton Mavity; and Wesley Mavity. In 1824, William and Mary sold their land in Franklin County, Virginia, excepting one square perch of the 495 acres which was set aside as the Family graveyard, and moved to Indiana, where William entered land in Ripley County on the Michigan Road. Mary Jones Mavity died between 1825 and 1830 and William Mavity died between 1830 and 1834. They were buried on their farm.<sup>80</sup>

Rachel Jones Turman died on 15 July 1857 in the part of Lawrence County, Kentucky, which later became Boyd County. She is buried in the Kavanaugh Cemetery in Boyd County. John Turman (Thurman), who married Rachel Jones in Montgomery County, Virginia, on 07 September 1791 with Jesse Jones as surety,<sup>81</sup> was a son of Benjamin Turman, Sr. and his wife Frances.<sup>82</sup> Benjamin Turman, Jr. married Sarah Harbour, a daughter of Elijah Harbour and Prudence Pusey. Prudence Pusey was a daughter of Robert Pusey and Magdalena Van Meter, who was a half-sister of Mary Van Meter Jones. The Turman Family also was connected with the Bohannon Family in Middlesex and Culpeper counties, Virginia. Robert Turman, Sr. married (2) Anne Booten Bohannon, widow of Henry Bohannon.<sup>83</sup> The surname Turman has been spelled Tureman, Thurman and Truman,

**DAVID JONES**

Born 25 Jan 1761 Halifax County, Virginia

Died 07 Feb 1838 Cooper County, Missouri

Married Jane Ruble 04 Feb 1790 Madison County, Kentucky

Born c1763

Died c1838

Children (order of birth unknown):

Jesse Ruble Jones

b. c1788 Franklin County, Virginia

d.

m. (1) Lamenda -----

(2)

Robert Jones

b. 1800

d. 1860

m. Mary Battle Robinson Covington County, Mississippi

Elizabeth Jones

b.

d.

m. Stephen Turley

Anna Jones

b.

d.

m. William Reed

Margaret Jones

b.

d.

m. Thomas McMahan

Helena Jones

b.

d.

m. James McMahan

Lydia Jones

b.

d.

m. Thomas Allison

Jane Jones

b.

d.

m. Benjamin Jones

Martha "Patsy" Jones

b.

d.

m. Henry Ferrell

Rebecca Jones

b.

d.

m. ----- Thorpe

**WILLIAM MAVITY**

Born 08 Nov 1747 Ireland

Died between 1830/34 Ripley County, Indiana

Married Mary Jones 1775

Born c1758/9

Died c1825/30 Ripley County, Indiana

Children:

John Mavity

b.

d.

m.

William Mavity Jr

b.

d.

m.

Mary Mavity

b.

d.

m.

Martha Mavity

b.

d.

m.

Margaret Mavity

b.

d.

m.

Jesse Mavity

b.

d.

m.

James Mavity

b.

d.

m.

David Mavity

- b.
- d.
- m.

Morton Mavity

- b.
- d.
- m.

Wesley Mavity

- b.
- d.
- m.

**HENRY JONES**

Born before 1752 Virginia  
Died 09 Oct 1831 Floyd County, Virginia  
Married (1) Frances Bohannon  
Born 05 Jan 1753 Virginia  
Died 21 Feb 1813 Franklin County, Virginia

Children (1) (order of birth unknown):  
Hannah Jones  
b. born by 1776 Virginia  
d. before 15 Apr 1843  
m. John Wade 30 Jan 1792 Franklin County, Virginia

Henry Jones Jr  
b. probably c1780 Virginia  
d.  
m.

William Jones  
b. Virginia  
d.  
m. Jane Rhodes 14 Mar 1814

Joshua Jones  
b. Virginia  
d.  
m. Mary Canterbury 16 Jan 1797 Montgomery County, Virginia

Naomi Jones  
b. 11 Mar 1789 Virginia  
d. 01 (10?) Oct 1855 Whiteside County, Illinois  
m. Zachariah Stanley Jr

Robert Jones  
b. 1797 Virginia  
d. 1872  
m. Lucy Cox 23 Nov 1811 Montgomery County, Virginia

Married (2) Cassandra James 23 May 1817 Franklin County, Virginia  
Born c1779 Maryland  
Died after 1870

Children (2):  
Abraham J Jones  
b. c1818 Virginia  
d. after 1880  
m. Nanny Hill c1878

Henry Jones was born before 1752, since he was at least 16 in 1767, when was charged for a tithe, as a resident with his father in Pittsylvania County.<sup>84</sup>

Frances Bohannon was a daughter of William Bohannon, Sr. who died in White County, Tennessee, in 1816. Henry Jones received a child's share of the estate of William Bohannon, Sr. when his estate was divided. Frances Bohannon Jones, who was born 05 January 1753, died on 21 February 1813 and is buried in the cemetery at the Pigg River Primitive Baptist Church, near Callaway, Virginia, where her tombstone gives her date of death.<sup>85</sup>

Henry Jones married (2) Cassandra James in Franklin County on 23 May 1817, with Costello Hill as their bondsman.

Zachariah Stanley, Jr. and Naomi Jones went from Virginia to Clinton County, Ohio, in 1830, and then to Tazewell County, Illinois, in 1835. Zachariah died three weeks after their arrival. Afterward, Naomi went to Whiteside County, Illinois, to be with her sons, where she died on 01 October 1855 and was buried in Peugh Cemetery.<sup>86</sup>

Henry Jones served in the same militia unit in the Revolutionary War as his nephew David Jones.<sup>87</sup>

The will of Henry Jones, Sr. of Montgomery County, Virginia, was dated 29 November 1824 and proved in Floyd County, Virginia, in November 1831, the year that Floyd County was erected from Montgomery County. His heirs were wife Cassandra (Cassander), son Abraham J. Jones who was under 21, son Henry Jones, daughter Hannah Wade, son William Jones, son Joshua Jones, daughter Naomi (Neomy) Stanley, and son Robert Jones. Abraham Jones, John Jones and Isaac Jones were named as executors. The will was signed by Henry Jones before witnesses Stephen Slusher, William Jones, John Wilson, William Hancock and A. Hylton. The executor Abraham Jones, who was a nephew of the testator, died and, in recognition, Henry Jones made a codicil to his will, on 03 May 1831. In place of Abraham Jones, deceased, and Isaac Jones, he nominated Stephen Slusher of Floyd County and John Jones of Franklin County as his executors. The codicil was witnessed by William Jones, John Wilson, William Hancock and Archelous Hylton. The will was produced in Floyd County Court by Stephen Slusher on 21 November 1831 and proved by William Jones, John Wilson and Archelous Hylton.<sup>88</sup>

Henry Jones, Sr. bequeathed one-half of his personal estate to his son Henry Jones, Jr. with the stipulation "if he shall apply for it" and "in case my son Henry Jones shall not come and apply for what I have willed and devised to him (before) my son Abraham J. Jones shall arrive to the age of twenty five years," then the legacy would go to Abraham. This signifies that Henry, Jr. was at some distance from home, perhaps in Tennessee.

Since Frances Bohannon Jones died in 1813, before her father William Bohannon died in White County, Tennessee, in 1816, her husband Henry Jones would have inherited her share of her father's estate. However the distribution of the estate of William Bohannon continued into 1836, after the death of Henry Jones, Sr. in Floyd County, Virginia, in 1831. The child's share of Frances Bohannon Jones, if not claimed by her husband, would descend to her eldest surviving son, who must have been Henry Jones, Jr. On 04 April 1836 fourteen of the legal heirs or representatives of William Bohannon, including children and grandchildren, sold their shares of his land. Among them was Henry Jones, who must have been Henry Jones, Jr.<sup>89</sup>

Henry Jones and William Bohannon were on the tax list for Sullivan County, Tennessee, in 1796 and

## **ROBERT JONES JR**

a Henry Jones was enumerated in Jackson County, Tennessee, in 1820 and 1830, who would have been born about 1780. Jackson County and White County, Tennessee, were adjacent at this time, which suggests that this was Henry Jones, Jr.<sup>90</sup>

John Wade who married Hannah Jones, daughter of Henry Jones and Frances Bohannon, on 30 January 1792, was a son of John Utley Wade and Alice Woodrum, and a brother of Royal Wade who married Rachel Jones, daughter of John and Mary (Rentfro?) Jones. John and Hannah were married by Randolph Hall, a Baptist minister of Franklin County. Three of the children of John Wade and Hannah Jones were:<sup>91</sup>

Anna Wade who was born on 26 December 1790, married Ross Cox, son of Carter Cox (1762-1852) and his wife Ann, and died on 06 January 1864,

Henry Wade, who was born in 1806 and married Elizabeth Cox, daughter of Ambrose Cox who was a brother of Carter Cox, on 22 February 1826,

Nathan Wade who married Delphia Cox and was the ancestor of Edith Duncan Cox of Riner, Virginia.

Elizabeth Cox (1789-1859), sister of Ross Cox, married Anderson Wade on 28 November 1808. Anderson Wade was a brother of John Wade. They were sons of John Utley Wade and Alice Woodrum. The will of John Wade was dated 15 April 1843 and proved in April 1849 in Floyd County, Virginia. It named the following children, Henry, Nathan, John, Owen, Anna Cox, Frances Stigleman, Elizabeth Epperly, Mary Weddle, Nancy Slusher, Alley Epperly, wife of William, and Ruth Magatha, wife of James. Granddaughter Hannah Magatha also was a legatee. Hannah Jones Wade must have died before the will was written, since she was not a legatee. Franky Wade, daughter of John and Hannah, married John Stigleman, son of Philip Stigleman, on 14 December 1811. John Craig was surety. Elizabeth Wade and Jacob Epperly and Ally Wade and William Epperly were married on the same day, 07 January 1820, with John Wade as surety on both licenses.<sup>92</sup>

Nathan Wade and Delphia Cox had a son Noah Wade who married Martha Phillips. They had a daughter Sabra Wade who married William Austin Duncan and had a daughter Lovell Duncan who married Harless James Akers. They were the parents of Loretta Akers who married Willie Altizer. Lucy Cox who married Robert Jones, son of Henry, Sr., was also a daughter of Carter Cox. Their surety was Jesse Jones.<sup>93</sup>

The will of Isaac Jones was dated 30 March 1781 and proved in Henry County, Virginia, Court on 28 February 1782. His heirs were his wife Rachel, who was "big with child," and children Isaac, Milla, Rachel, Elizabeth, Hannah, Sarah and Susannah. Milla Jones was married to George Anderson Smith by her uncle Robert Jones, the Baptist preacher, in Franklin County, Virginia, in 1787. Isaac Jones, Jr., who lived in Knox County, Tennessee, in 1799, when he sold his land in Franklin County, Virginia, may have married Polly McCaleb, with the consent of Archibald McCaleb, in Knox County on 05 August 1811.<sup>94</sup>



**ISAAC JONES**

Born probably c1746 Virginia  
Died c1782 Henry County, Virginia  
Married Rachel -----

Born  
Died after 30 Mar 1781

Children (order of birth unknown):

Milla Jones  
b. perhaps c1770  
d.  
m. George Anderson Smith 1787 Franklin County, Virginia

Isaac Jones Jr  
b.  
d.  
m. (Polly McCaleb 05 Aug 1811 Knox County, Tennessee?)

Rachel Jones  
b.  
d.  
m.

Elizabeth Jones  
b.  
d.  
m.

Hannah Jones  
b.  
d.  
m.

Sarah Jones  
b.  
d.  
m.

Susannah Jones  
b.  
d.  
m.

(Child) Jones  
b. about 1781  
d.  
m.

## **ROBERT JONES JR**

There was an Abraham Jones who was wounded during the attack by Indians on Rentfro Station, at the confluence of the Red and Cumberland rivers in Tennessee in 1780. The wounded Abraham Jones was being carried on a horse-litter by the fleeing survivors, when he and his elderly parents were killed. His brother, "a youngster," was captured. His wife escaped with her son Shadrack, "a lad," and her infant daughter Betsy.<sup>95</sup> This could not pertain to Robert and Mary Van Meter Jones and their son Abraham because Robert and Mary were alive in 1795. Furthermore this Abraham Jones had a brother who was described as "a youngster." Since Robert Jones was born about 1696 and Mary Van Meter was born in 1709, it is not likely that they had a son who was considered a "youngster" in 1780. This appellation suggests a birth after 1765 and the children of Robert and Mary were born about 1730-1750, with their son Abraham apparently being the last born. Additionally, the children of the deceased Abraham were identified as a lad and an infant, which suggests that he was a young man, born around 1755-1760.

The wife of Abraham Jones was identified, without documentation, as Mary Rentfro, daughter of Joseph Rentfro of Bedford County, whose will was dated in 1775 [sic]. The widowed Mary Rentfro Jones later married a Mr. Berry.<sup>96</sup> Some obvious discrepancies in this material weaken its credibility.

Another report of this event gives the name of the victims as Johns:<sup>97</sup>

... Some of the migrants who came down the Tennessee in boats in the beginning of this year (1780) remained at Red River with the intention to settle there. Among them were a number of persons by the name of Renfro and their connections, Nathan Turpin and Solomon Turpin. Not long afterward in the month of June or July, the Indians, a party of Choctaws and Chickasaws, came and broke them up and killed Nathan Turpin and another man at the station. The residue attempted to run off to the bluff where Nashville now is ... They encamped the night about two miles north of Sycamore at a creek now and ever since called Battle Creek. In the morning Joseph Renfro, going to the spring to drink, was fired upon by the Indians who lay concealed in the bushes. He died instantly. They then broke in upon the camp and killed old Mr. Johns and his wife, and all his family. Only one woman, by the name of Jones, escaped ... Eleven or twelve other persons were there at the time of the attack who were all killed ...

The name also is given as Johns in another account of the massacre:<sup>98</sup>

... The Renfroes, Turpins, Johns, wife, son and daughter and Crutchfield are recollected by Mrs. Donelson. The defeat, she says, was well along in August and knows from the circumstances that the Donelson settlement left Clover Bottom that month and went to Mansco's Station and when the Renfro defeat occurred, Mrs. Crutchfield and her children who had escaped came there and placed themselves under the protection of Col. Donelson and went with the Colonel and his people to Kentucky. Mrs. Donelson never saw any of the Johns Family -thinks they were all killed. Does not think the killed at all large- thinks the whole Renfro settlement numbered about 40

...

Robert Jones, Jr. must have been related to Josiah Jones who owned land adjoining John Van Meter in the area of Orange County, Virginia, that became Frederick County in 1743. On 23 and 24 August 1738 John Van Meter (Metre) of Orange County obtained for 100 pounds current money from Richard Morgan of the same place and his wife Jane "290 acres between the dividing of Josiah Jones and Charles Anderson's path ... near fish spring."<sup>99</sup>

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## **ROBERT JONES JR**

Josiah Jones, Richard Paulson and Joseph Mounts obtained 834 acres by grant on 03 October 1734 of which Joseph Mounts and his wife Katherine sold "317 acres on the west side of Sherrendo River and on Chongoluta River" to Jonathan Simmons on 09 and 10 January 1737. The deed was witnessed by Thomas Anderson, Richard Morgan and Morgan Morgan.<sup>100</sup>

John and Sarah Jones, orphans of Josiah and Sarah Jones, discharged their guardian Captain Thomas Swearingen on 02 August 1748. The act was recorded on 03 August 1748.<sup>101</sup>

Another probable relative of Robert Jones, Jr. was Richard Jones of St. Marks Parish, Orange County, farmer, who bought 200 acres on the west side of Opeckon Creek for 7 pounds current money from John Littler of the same place on 25 and 26 October 1737. Part of a tract granted to Littler on 12 November 1735, it was in a valley near the mouth of the creek, adjoining land of Evan Thomas. Morgan Bryan, Daniel Chancey and Thomas Cherrey witnessed the deed.<sup>102</sup>

A Thomas Jones, Jr. of St. Stephens Parish, King and Queen County, Virginia, bought 500 acres in Orange County on Rapidan River in a different area of the county for 34 pounds on 27 and 28 April 1738.<sup>103</sup>

Hugh Jones owned land on Mine Run in Orange County at this time and Ambrose Jones witnessed a deed in the county during this period.<sup>104</sup> Hugh Jones and Ambrose Jones may have been connected with Robert Jones. Ambrose Jones and Hugh Jones appear on the index of Pittsylvania County land entries, 1737-1770, with Robert Jones, while Ambrose Jones was taxed in Henry County with Robert Jones during the period 1782-1787.

The will of Spencer Jones of Frederick County was dated 28 January 1747 and proved on 07 December 1748. He named his wife Martha and sons Benjamin, William and Isaiah. He mentioned a daughter without naming her. The witnesses were John Nation and Robert McKay.<sup>105</sup>

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10. *ibid*, Prince George's County, Maryland, Wills 1738-1742, Volume 22, page 528; Inventories, Volume 30, page 210.
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12. Supra note 6.
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16. *Hopewell Friends History, 1734-1934*, John W. Wayland, Strasburg, VA, 1936, reprinted Genealogical Publishing Company, Baltimore, 1975.
17. *Orange County, Virginia, Deed Books 3 & 4, 1738-1741*, supra note 2.
18. Frederick County, Virginia, Deed Book 1, page 143.
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- <sup>24</sup>. US Department of the Interior Geological Survey Map, Ferrum Quadrangle.
- <sup>25</sup>. Cook data of compiler.
- <sup>26</sup>. Photocopy of descriptive sheet, numbered 49, without plat, source unknown, data of Russell Bidlack, supra note 8.
- <sup>27</sup>. *Sunlight on the Southside, Lists of Tithables in Lunenburg County, Virginia, 1748-83*, Landon C. Bell, Baltimore, 1974.
- <sup>28</sup>. Photocopy Frederick County, Virginia, deed, without source notation.
- <sup>29</sup>. Halifax County, Virginia, Pleas No. 1, May Term 1752 - March Term 1755, abstracts, Marian Dodson Chiarito, *Magazine of Virginia Genealogy*, Volume 23, Numbers 2 and 3, Volume 24, Number 1, The Virginia Genealogical Society, Richmond, 1985 and 1986.
- <sup>30</sup>. *Travels in the American Colonies*, Newton D. Mereness, Antiquarian Press, New York, 1961, data of Russell Bidlack, supra note 8.
- <sup>31</sup>. *ibid.*
- <sup>32</sup>. *Halifax County, Virginia, Deed Book 1, 1752-1759*, Marian Dodson Chiarito, The Clarkton Press, Nathalie, VA, 1985.
- <sup>33</sup>. Supra note 21.
- <sup>34</sup>. Bedford County, Virginia, Deed Book 2, page 167.
- <sup>35</sup>. Bedford County, Virginia, Wills, pages 243-245, photocopy of published abstract from Philip C. Ellsworth; supra note 1; *Chronological Index of the Renfro Family in the United States, 1700-1850*, Donald Ott Manshardt, M.D., typescript, Peoria, IL, data of Ruth Smitt, Walkerton, IN, 1986.
- <sup>36</sup>. *List of Voters for Elections of Burgesses 1764-1769*, Marian Dodson Chiarito, The Clarkton Press, Nathalie, VA, 1986.
- <sup>37</sup>. Pittsylvania County, Virginia, Deed Book 1, page 25, abstract from Russell Bidlack, supra note 8.
- <sup>38</sup>. *ibid*, page 27.
- <sup>39</sup>. *ibid*, pages 199-200.
- <sup>40</sup>. Supra note 21.
- <sup>41</sup>. Supra note 36, page 280.
- <sup>42</sup>. *ibid*, Deed Book 2, pages 365-366.
- <sup>43</sup>. *ibid*, pages 149-150.
- <sup>44</sup>. *ibid*, pages 151-152.
- <sup>45</sup>. *Index to Pittsylvania County, Virginia, Land Entries 1737 to 1770*, Genealogical Services, Danville, VA 1979.)
- <sup>46</sup>. Supra note 21.
- <sup>47</sup>. *Virginia Genealogist*, Volume 24, July-September 1980, pages 192-195, data of Russell Bidlack, supra note 8.
- <sup>48</sup>. Henry County, Virginia, Deed Book 2, page 17
- <sup>49</sup>. *Chronological Index of the Renfro Family in the United States, 1700-1850*, supra note 34, abstracts, original sources not indicated.
- <sup>50</sup>. *Abstracts of the Eighteenth Century Deed Books, Franklin County, Virginia*, Sara Motisher Beck, Volume I, Deed Book 1, pages 45-47.
- <sup>51</sup>. *ibid*, Volume 2, Deed Book 3, page 666.
- <sup>52</sup>. *ibid*, Volume 1, Deed Book 2, page 107.
- <sup>53</sup>. *Biographical and Historical Memoirs of Mississippi*, supra note 1.
- <sup>54</sup>. Franklin County, Virginia, Deed Book 1, pages 210-211.
- <sup>55</sup>. *ibid*, pages 335-336.

- <sup>56</sup>. Abstract by Gertrude Mann, supra note 3.
- <sup>57</sup>. Data of Juanita Halstead, supra note 4, abstracted by Alan Messenger, Calloway, VA, 1985.
- <sup>58</sup>. Henry County, Virginia, Order Book 1, 1777-1778, page 25.
- <sup>59</sup>. Franklin County, Virginia, Deed Book 3, pages 157, 166 and 169.
- <sup>60</sup>. Data of Gertrude Mann, supra note 3.
- <sup>61</sup>. Supra note 57.
- <sup>62</sup>. *ibid.*
- <sup>63</sup>. *ibid.*
- <sup>64</sup>. *ibid.*
- <sup>65</sup>. Supra note 60.
- <sup>66</sup>. Supra note 21.
- <sup>67</sup>. Franklin County, Virginia, Will Book 2, pages 619-620.
- <sup>68</sup>. Supra note 1; *Revolutionary Soldiers Buried in Missouri*, publication data missing, photocopy from Philip C. Ellsworth; supra note 1, taken from book at Oklahoma Genealogical Society Library data of Margaret E. Smith, Osawatomie, KS, 1995..
- <sup>69</sup>. Supra note 4.
- <sup>70</sup>. Photocopy of a certified typed transcript of the original letter from Russell Bidlack; supra note 8; data of Gertrude Mann, supra note 3.
- <sup>71</sup>. Photocopy of original letter from Juanita Halstead, supra note 4.
- <sup>72</sup>. *ibid.*
- <sup>73</sup>. Supra note 1.
- <sup>74</sup>. Data of Gertrude Mann, supra note 3; data of Margaret E. Smith, supra note 68, with references to Patrick County, Virginia, Marriage Book 1, Grayson County, Virginia, Order Book 1793-1794 and *Tombstone Inscriptions of the Cemeteries of Patrick County, Virginia*, O. E. Pilson, 1984.
- <sup>75</sup>. *ibid.*
- <sup>76</sup>. Data of Juanita Halstead, supra note 4.
- <sup>77</sup>. Supra note 74.
- <sup>78</sup>. Data of Margaret E. Smith, supra note 68.
- <sup>79</sup>. *ibid.*
- <sup>80</sup>. *ibid.*, containing excerpts from *The Mavity Family*, Norman Bloss Mavity, 1954; *Old Survey Book I, 1746-1783 from Pittsylvania County*, Marian Dodson Chiarito; survey copy from Russell Bidlack.
- <sup>81</sup>. Supra notes 68, 74.
- <sup>82</sup>. *Genealogy Newspaper Columns of Robert E. Turman*, Bettie Anne Cummings Cook, C.G., McDowell Publications, Owensboro, KY, 1981.
- <sup>83</sup>. Van Meter and Bohannon data of compiler.
- <sup>84</sup>. Supra note 21.
- <sup>85</sup>. Data of Russell Bidlack, supra note 8; data of Marjorie Fluor, Santa Ana, CA, 1988.
- <sup>86</sup>. Data of Russell Bidlack, supra note 8.
- <sup>87</sup>. *ibid.*
- <sup>88</sup>. *ibid.*, transcript, Floyd County, Virginia, Will Book A, page 1.
- <sup>89</sup>. Data of Eve Barnes, Anaheim, CA, 1978, transcript, White County, Tennessee, Deed Book I, page 396.
- <sup>90</sup>. Supra note 86.
- <sup>91</sup>. Wade data of compiler.
- <sup>92</sup>. Data of Loretta Akers Altizer, Radford, VA, 1979, will abstract.

<sup>93</sup>. *ibid.*

<sup>94</sup>. *Supra* note 86.

<sup>95</sup>. Data of Ruth Smitt, *supra* note 35, photocopy, *William Renfro 1734-1830*, Josie and Delilah Baird, typescript, Kentucky Historical Society files, quoting Draper Manuscripts, S-32, Wisconsin Historical Society, Madison, WI.

<sup>96</sup>. *ibid.*

<sup>97</sup>. Data of Ruth Smitt, *supra* note 35, photocopy, *The Civil and Political History of Tennessee*, John Haywood, 1823.

<sup>98</sup>. Data of Ruth Smitt, *supra* note 35, photocopy, Draper Manuscripts, interview with Mrs. John Donelson, Jr. by Lyman C. Draper, 1844, Wisconsin Historical Society, Madison, WI.

<sup>99</sup>. *Orange County, Virginia, Deed Books 1 & 2, 1735-1738*, John Frederick Dorman, Washington, 1961, deed book pages 449, 453, 437 and 442; no witnesses shown.

<sup>100</sup>. *ibid.*, pages 385 and 390.

<sup>101</sup>. Frederick County, Virginia, Will Book 1, page 193.

<sup>102</sup>. *Supra* note 99, pages 124 and 128.

<sup>103</sup>. *ibid.*, pages 317 and 322.

<sup>104</sup>. *ibid.*, pages 63, 66, 156 and 160.

<sup>105</sup>. Frederick County, Virginia, Will Book 1, page 221.