

Jones¹

The name was originally the genitive form of John – through John is common everywhere in England and superabundant in Wales. Next to John Smith, John Jones is perhaps the most common of all combinations of names. The name of John Jones is now a perpetual incognito, and if it were proclaimed from the housetops would probably mean thousands of men or no one in particular.

The name of Jones is distinctly Welsh and the line goes back to the ancient Kings and Noblemen of that country. The Jones family belonged to one of the tribes of Cimbri, which ruled Wales when it was a free state.

Griffith Jones (1683-1761) rector of Llanddowror in South Carmarthenshire, was the true pioneer of Welsh education, religious and secular. Early in the reign of George I, this excellent man, whose name and memory will ever be treasured in Wales, began a system of catechizing in the vernacular among the children and adults of his own South Wales where numerous "circulating charity schools" were set up in rural parishes. The results obtained by the development of these schools were speedy and successful beyond the wildest hopes of their founder. This novel education system in 1760 numbered 215 schools, with a total number of 8687 scholars, and by the date of Jones' death in 1761, over 150,000 persons of every age and either sex – nearly a third of the whole population of Wales at that date – had been taught to read the Scriptures in their own language by means of these circulating schools. Meanwhile the writings and personal example of this pious rector were stirring other Welshmen in the work of revival. Two clergymen who figure prominently in this Methodist movement and whose influence has proved lasting, were Peter Williams (1722-1796) the Welsh Bible commentator, and William Williams (1717-1791) the celebrated Welsh hymn writer.

About 200 years ago there lived in Wales a certain family by the name of Jones²: but in those days as now, the advice was freely given "Go West, young man, go West". Of the three sons, John, James, and Andrew, the latter went to sea. Fortune prospered him and he became very wealthy and finally owned a half interest in a vessel trading with India.

About the year 1740-50, James at the age of 16 and his brother John, took the ship to America, John travelling far to the West toward the Mississippi, and the brothers never met again. James settled in Pennsylvania³ and there married a young Dutch girl. He spent the next few years teaching her to speak the English language, for he wished his children to know his native tongue. They were very happy in their home with their six boys, Samuel, Johnathon, William, Andrew (born January 11, 1767), etc. until 1775. Then the American war of Independence broke out. The father was very loyal to the land of his birth and was not too modest to say so. As a consequence he was imprisoned as a British sympathizer. Three years later he joined his family but during his imprisonment he was able by the help of a faithful messenger, to send a note to his wife advising her to cross the boundary line at Niagara and wait for him at Thorold, near Niagara, Ontario. Three years later he joined them. The parents, with their six children, the eldest being 16 years of age, became United Empire Loyalists, who preferred to be under the Union Jack.

In 1786 the family including P.L.R.1786, Soldier's Butler's Rangers S.G. , moved to the Hamilton district. William located at Stoney Creek, Ontario, and some of his descendents are still located in that district.

¹ This was originally written by an unidentified family member between 1921 and the 1930's, possibly Albert Jones, great-grandson of Andrew Jones and Mary Slow. It was updated by Violet Jones Broder in July 1958. Items in square brackets [] added by Faye West, August 2000.

² Evidence that three brothers arrived in America is non-existent

³ Most records indicate that James was born in Jamaica, Long Island, NY in 1734

The other son, Andrew, born January 1767, and Mary Slow, born January 18, 1770, were married on the sixth day of March 1790. On August 18, 1791, the first born, a son, was named Abram and on February 1, 1793, a daughter was born. (When she grew up she became Mrs. Ellis.) Then in 1794 Andrew and Mary with the two babies, accompanied by Andrew's brother Johnathon, set out on foot over the wooded trail for the head of Lake Ontario. They finally located land to their liking in what is now known as the County Of Wentworth. Andrew spent many months in making the first survey of the South half of Beverley Township, and on September 21, 1801, bought from Daniel Cornwall, the South half of Lot 33, Concession 2, composed of 100 acres (which land had been a crown grant to Cornwall on March 10, 1797) and on April 14, 1804, bought 100 acres more.

The brother Johnathon bought, on October 3, 1801, 200 acres of Lot 34 from Daniel Cornwall. Andrew built a log house and proceeded to clear the land of its heavy stand of great pine trees as well as Maple, Beech and Black Walnut.

Other United Empire Loyalists began to settle in the district. In 1798 Adam Misener and his brother Peter settled near the village of Troy. Adam put up a saw mill run by water power which was of great benefit to the settlers. J. and C. Misener arrived in 1818 and Sydney Misener in 1851.

The pioneer of the Mulholland family came to Beverley in 1810, (John A Cornell's history of Beverley).

We must now return to the life of the pioneer Jones family. The land was very fertile and the farm still owned by Andrew's grandson Thomas and his great-grandson Albert, are among the best farms of Wentworth County. But the land needed to be fertile, for the young family was steadily increasing.

James was born on April 16, 1795; John August 16, 1797; Catherine August 31, 1798 (became Mrs Coleman); Peter June 21, 1801; Phoebe February 12, 1804 (became Mrs Culver). On April Fools Day twins were born, Elizabeth (became Mrs Camp) and Mary died in infancy. George was born June 4, 1818 [sic s.b. 1808]; Andrew September 10, 1810; and Mary January 14, 1814 (died at the age of 19). In 1851 the old father Andrew, now 84 years of age, died and was buried in Copetown Cemetery.

Again war interfered with the happiness of this home as happened in his father's home 36 years before. Living within about 60 miles of the frontier, the war of 1812 kept them very much unsettled. James, though scarcely 18 years of age, felt the call to the defence of his country. He advanced from Private to Colour Sergeant and fought in the battles of Queenston Heights, Lundy's Lane, and Stoney Creek. After the war was over he returned home little the worse for his experience.

Of the other brothers and sisters, Peter had a large family of 14 children, two of whom were William and George, a Methodist minister. George remained on part of the old homestead, married Rachael Kitchen and had three sons, Thomas still on the old farm (NOTE: since this was originally written Thomas died during the 1930's and his son George took over the farm); John and George, and four daughters Sarah Hunt (Mrs George Hunt), Dorothy Betzner, Mary Green, and Margaret Cornell.

Andrew the youngest son had the following family: John in Chicago, George, James, Carelton at Barton in Wisconsin, Jane, Mary Faroe, Sarah McFarlane, Annie, and Margaret Mugford of Washington.

James, soon after returning from the war experience, married Hannah Goodale (born 1800) and they had the following family: Andrew, Sylvester, [James] William, Able, Mary, Elizabeth, Sarah Clement and Matilda Fleming. The father, James, died July 24, 1860, at the age of 65 years and the mother Hannah died October 10, 1882 (Note inserted by Violet Broder: Hannah visited Amos and Mary Ann [Jones] in 1881 or 1882 after Emery was born) at the age of nearly 82 years. They were both buried in Troy Cemetery.

Of the boys just mentioned [James] William married Minerva Mulholland, and to this marriage were born Bernice, Amos, Etta, Edson and Milton. Grandfather James William born 1835 or 1836, died June 7, 1899, at the age of 64. Grandmother Minerva Jane, born 1838, died December 23, 1821 age 83. They were both buried in Troy Cemetery.

Amos Randall was born October 29, 1857, died December 26, 1905 at the age of 48 years and is buried in Troy Cemetery. Amos married Mary Ann Misener and had a family of Emery, Morley, Myrtle (died in 1888 at the age of 4 years and is buried in Troy Cemetery), Lulu Goodbrand, and Violet Faye Broder. Mary Ann Misener [Note inserted by Violet Broder: daughter of John and Mary Misener] was born April 15, 1858, married to Amos in 1878 and died July 23, 1945 and was buried in Troy Cemetery.

Other members of William's family died at the following dates, Bernice 1917, Etta 1951, Edson 1951, Milton 1953.

Amos' family: Emery married Jessie Fulton in 1912 and has two sons and one daughter, Howard in Vancouver, BC, Clifford in Lethbridge, Alberta, and Audrey Drummond in Vancouver, BC.

Morley married Viola Howey in 1919 and has three daughters, Marguerite Denholm, Shirley Daley, and Myrtle all in Vancouver.

Howard has two boys; Clifford has a boy Brian and a girl Anita; Audrey has two girls Joan and Janet; Marguerite has three children, Dorothy, David and Joanne; Shirley has three children Lynda, Caroline, and Laura.

Lulu married Walter Goodbrand on Oct 19, 1903 at Waterdown, Ontario. They had four children, Gladys Mary, married to William Dickson, has one daughter Susan; Lillian, who died at the age of 8 months [Note added: Jean 8 year]; Minerva, married to Robert Kerr, has three boys Robert, Donald and David; Lulu, married to Harry McCormick, has three children Betty, William (Bill) and James (Jim)

Violet married Robert Roswell Broder on April 18, 1916 and has two children, Marion Violet and Stanley Robert. Marion married James Gordon Doyle in 1946 and has four children, Faye Louise born 1947, Linda Susan born 1949, Wesley James born 1952 and Randal (Randy) Charles born Sept 14, 1956. Stanley married Edna May McLeod on December 24, 1948 and has three children Susan Lee born April 1950, Robert John born April 1952 and William Randal born April 1956.