

Everyday People – DeKalb and Putnam Co., TN
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The Upper Cumberland Genealogical Association, Inc.
Vol. XVI, No. 2
Pgs. 69-75

The Jones name can be Welch or English and means the son of Jone, which is the Welch pronunciation of John. Our oldest Jones ancestor that has been traced was probably Thomas Jones, who died in 1698 in Sussex County, Delaware. Ebenezer died in Worchester County, Maryland. Thomas and his wife, Bridgett, had a son, Thomas Jones, who was born in 1696 in Sussex County, Delaware; Edenezer and his wife, Hannah, had a son, Thomas Jones who was born in 1724 in Somerset County, Maryland. Thomas married Elizabeth Prettyman, who was descended from John and Mary Prettyman. Thomas and Elizabeth named their son Ebenezer after his grandfather. Ebenezer was born in 1746 in Worchester County, Maryland and died in 1796 in Blount County, Tennessee. Ebenezer married Ann and they had a son whom they named Prettyman Jones, using his grandmother's maiden name as a given name. This started a tradition and the surname Prettyman was used in several generations as a given name.

The records of St. George Episcopal Church, Indian River Hundred, Sussex County, Delaware, show Prettyman was born on February 22, 1772 and baptized on December 6, 1772. Ebenezer and Ann had at least three other sons: Zachariah, Thomas and Ebenezer, Jr. By 1798 Prettyman Jones and his brother were in Blount County, Tennessee. In 1799, Prettyman Jones was appointed as Ensign in the Blount County Militia. In 1804 the Jones brothers moved from Blount County to the Taylor's Creek area of White county Tennessee.

Prettyman, Thomas and Zachariah served in the War of 1812 and participated in the Battle of New Orleans. Around 1810 Prettyman Jones relocated to Buffalo Valley area of Middle Tennessee. He entered two tracts of land on Indian Creek on the waters of the Caney Fork River, which is in present-day Putnam County Tennessee.

Prettyman Jones married Sarah and their union produced sixteen children: John R., Alfred, Mary Ann, Cynthia, Rebecca, William, Byrd S., Sarah, Lotty, Luvina, James R., Prettyman, Jr., Lewis Jenkins 'Jerk", and three males, names unknown. Their son, Prettyman used the designation 'Jr.' at least until his father died. The first Prettyman Jones, Sr., husband of Sarah, apparently died around 1826. As later generations were named Prettyman, the use of the designation 'Junior' and 'Senior' changed and created some confusion in putting the men in their proper chronological order. There was further confusion because of the repeated use of the given names, Ebenezer and Thomas. It is believed that the order given here is proper for the Jones ancestors.

'Prettyman' was often pronounced "Purtyman" or simply shortened to "Purt". Byrd S. Jones' son, Prettyman, fought in the Civil War and was known as 'Captain Purt' for many years after the war.

Rebecca Jones, daughter of Prettyman Sr. and Sarah, married John Carr.

Carr

The name Carr, also spelled Kerr in The Dictionary of Surnames, can be English, Irish or Scottish and means "a dweller at or near a rock, marsh, or enclosed space". John Carr, born ca. 1800, married Rebecca Jones. Little is known about John Carr. He is listed in the Illinois census as head of the household only once and his name is entered in an old store ledger in Buffalo Valley, Tennessee from 1836-1838.

It is believed that John and Rebecca Carr moved to Illinois for a while, where their sons, Ira, Alfred and Andrew were born. Following Andrew's birth, there is a seven year gap and then John W., Catherine and Nina were born in Tennessee, each one year apart. In the 1840 Tennessee census Rebecca Carr is listed as the head of the household with no mention of John Carr. In the 1850 census Rebecca and John's children are living in various Jones' households around the community. It is known that the oldest son, Ira, lived with Rebecca's brother, Prettyman Jones, from about 1841 until he married. However, to add further confusion, Elizabeth and Mary A. were born after 1840. They carried the Carr name and testimony of Issac Jones, a descendant, states that they were all brothers and sisters, children of John and Rebecca Carr. Testimony of descendants also claim that there were children named Wesley and Sarah. Because these two never appear on a census, it is believed that Wesley is John W. (Wesley) and Sarah is (Sarah) Elizabeth.

Home of Captain Prettyman Jones. 1841-1917. Prettyman Jones, seated in chair, was the son of Byrd S. Jones, 1804-1864 and Hannah Johnson Jones. He was first married to Angeline Anderson, 1843-1888, second to Matilda Smith Garner and third, Doll Denny. He was the father of Byrd Thomas Jones 1864, Walter Jones, 1867-1928, married Dillion Julian; Prettyman Jones, 1869-1927, married Cornilia G. Burton; Josephine Jones, 1871-1934, married Robert Alcorn; Nevada "Vada" Jones, 1874-1956, married Henry Jones. Picture courtesy, J. Ann Calvetti

