



John M. Jones

Born: June 14, 1796 in Jenkintown, Montgomery County, Pennsylvania

Died: June 12, 1872 in New Centreville, Chester County, Pennsylvania

Clerk of Court: 1858-1860

Mr. Jones served as the Clerk of Court for a period of two years, from 1858 to 1860.

At the time of his death, the following obituary notice appeared about him that summarizes his life and career:

John M. Jones, Dec'd.¹

On last Wednesday, June 12th, John M. Jones, a highly respected citizen of Chester County died at his residence near New Centreville, aged 76 years. Deceased was an active, intelligent, life long Democrat and upon his merits was chosen by the Democrats of Montgomery county to represent them for two terms in the State Legislature in the years 1832-34. He was born near the village of Jenkintown, Abington township, Montgomery county, on the 14th day of June, 1796. At an early age he began teaching the district school in Whitmarsh township, which duties proved to be suited to his abilities and he continued them for a number of years. He afterwards was elected to the office of Auditor of his county and served as such for several terms. He was next elected Register of Wills and was sworn into office on Dec. 1st, 1851, serving one term. In 1852 he became a citizen of Norristown, and in 1858 was appointed Clerk in the United States District Court under Judge Cadwalader. In 1862 he moved to Chester county, since which time up to his death he lived a more retired life, holding no

¹ *John M. Jones, Dec'd*, THE JEFFERSONIAN (WEST CHESTER, PENNSYLVANIA) (Jun. 22, 1872), <http://www.newspapers.com/image/1033360991>

office but that of school director, he always taking a great interest in school matters and was a violent opponent to the present system which governs the public school cause. Mr. Jones was of Welsh parentage his grandfather, Malachi Jones, coming to the United States [from] Wales in 1714, and to whom is the honor for having founded and served as the first pastor of the present Presbyterian Church at Abington, Montgomery county. His great grandfather on his mother's side was commissioned High Sheriff under King George, which position he held at the time of the breaking out of the Revolutionary War, at which crisis he threw up his commission and became a prominent advocate and supporter of the rebel George Washington, who at once commissioned him and under whom he served with marked distinction throughout the struggle for independence. In the death of the subject of this brief sketch it is needless for us to add that a place is made vacant in a community which will long be felt and deplored. The more than ordinary mind from which [emanated] counsel of sterling worth, coupled with that candor, pleasantness and indomitable energy which are requisites to make the true man, all are losses to be lamented by his friends, yet his good influences will long live in the best memories of those who had the good fortune to share them while he lived.