

Jacob Johnston, (26 Nov 1843 – 4 Feb 1918), Duncannon Record, February 1918

Jacob Johnston, aged 74 years, died at his home at Juniata Bridge station, Monday morning at 12:30 following an illness of several weeks.

Deceased was a veteran of the Civil War and for a number of years had been engaged in supplying river sand. For many years previous to the abandonment of the Pennsylvania Canal he was employed as a pilot at Clarks Ferry, an occupation that required knowledge and skill in the manipulation of the boats in crossing the Susquehanna River. He had a rich fund of reminiscences relating to his long career on the river and was seldom absent from the annual reunion of boatmen held at Rolling Green Park, near Selinsgrove.

He was a member of Lieut. William Allison Post G. A. R. of this place and also a member of the Methodist Church for many years, practically all his life was spent in this place where he was highly respected and esteemed by his friends. He served a term as Associate Judge and filled various township offices, being a staunch Republican in politics and an earnest advocate for all that meant civic and social improvement to his home community.

He is survived by his wife who was a **Miss Raisner** and the following children: **Mrs. Margaret Dressler**, of Altoona; **Mrs. Charles Miller**, of Enola; **Mrs. Charles Sieg**, of this place, **A. A. Johnston**, of Atlantic City, N.J. Funeral services will be conducted at his late home Saturday afternoon at 2:30 by Rev. H. J. Schuchart, pastor of the M. E. Church, followed by interment in the Presbyterian cemetery.

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February 1918, Newspaper Clipping, The Perry Historians

**Judge Johnston** Dies In Perry Co. – Was Former Associate on Bench and a Civil War Veteran

Duncannon, Feb. 4. – Former **Associate Judge Jacob Johnston** died at his home here on Monday after a few weeks' illness of heart disease and general debility incident to age. He was 74 years old and was a former Associate Judge of Perry County, veteran of the Civil War, member of the Lieutenant William Allison Post No. 196, G. A. R., and member of the Phoenix Lodge, No. 59, Knights of Pythias, of Harrisburg.

Was Canal Boat Pilot

**Judge Johnston** was a member of the old Boatman's Association and was the last of the surviving pilots who steered canal boats across the Susquehanna River above Green's dam at Clark's Ferry when the old Pennsylvania Canal was in operation. Previous to that time **Judge Johnston** followed boating from Nanticoke to Chesapeake Bay.

Leaves Many Surviving Relatives

Surviving **Judge Johnston** are his widow, who is an invalid and has been confined to her bed for several months; one son, **Arty A. Johnston**, of Atlantic City; three daughters, **Mrs. Charles H.**

**Miller**, of Enola; **Mrs. Margaret Dressler**, of Altoona, and **Mrs. Charles Sieg** of this place; five grandchildren and one great-grandchild; a sister, **Mrs. Emma McClain**, of Baltimore; a half sister, **Amanda Yingst**, of Enola, and two half brothers, **Harry Johnston**, of Rockville and **John Johnston** of Losh's Run.

The funeral services will be held at the home at Juniata Bridge at 2:30 o'clock Saturday afternoon with the Rev. Mr. Schucart, pastor of the Methodist Church, officiating. Burial will be made in the Presbyterian Cemetery.

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Harrisburg Telegraph, February 6, 1918

Jacob Johnston, Ex-Judge, Dies - Well-Known Perry County War Veteran and Resident of Duncannon

Duncannon, Pa., Feb. 6. **Judge Jacob Johnston** died at his home here, on Monday, after several weeks' illness of heart disease and complications, aged 74 years. He lived all his life in Duncannon and vicinity, and was a former associate Judge of Perry County, a veteran of the Civil War and a member of Lieutenant William Allison Post, No. 196, G. A. R., and a member of the Knights of Pythias, Phoenix Lodge. No. 59, of Harrisburg. He was an old boatman when the Pennsylvania Canal was in operation, and for many years piloted canal' boats across the Susquehanna River, above Green's dam, at Clark's Ferry, and was the last of the live men who performed that duty. He was a member of the old Boatman's Association.

Judge Johnston is survived by his wife, who is an invalid and has been confined to her bed for several months; one **Arty A. Johnston**, of Atlantic City, N. J., who is convalescing at his home from a serious illness, and whose wife is in a hospital at Atlantic City, where she underwent a serious operation for a throat affection; three daughters, **Mrs. Charles H. Miller**, of Enola; **Mrs. Margaret Dressler**, of Altoona, and **Mrs. Charles W. Sieg**, of Duncannon; also five grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren; one sister, **Mrs. Emma McClain**, of Baltimore, Md.; two half-brothers, **John Johnston**, of Losh's Run, and **Harry Johnston**, of Rockville, and a half-sister, **Mrs. Amanda Yingst**, of Enola. Funeral services will be held at the home on Saturday afternoon, at o'clock. The Rev. H. J. Shuchart, pastor of the Methodist Episcopal Church, will officiate.

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Philadelphia Inquirer, Thursday, February 7, 1918 ; Former **Judge Johnston** Dead

Marysville, Pa., Feb. 6. – Ex-Assosciate **Judge Jacob Johnston**, of Perry County, died today at his Duncannon home, after several weeks' illness of heart disease and complications, aged 74. He was a veteran of the Civil War and was boatman on the old Pennsylvania Canal when it was in operation. He is survived by his wife, one son and three daughters.

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Newspaper Clipping, The Perry Historians



At the last Republican primaries **Jacob Johnston**, of Penn Township, was the successful candidate for the nomination for Associate Judge, and the subsequent return judge's convention ratified the declaration made at the polls. The honor comes a fitting reward for party service. Always a stalwart Republican, always in the thick of the fight, **Mr. Johnston** deserves the full vote of his party and many Democrats will cast their ballots for him on 8th of November.

Jacob Johnston was born in Dauphin County, nearly opposite Duncannon, Nov. 26, 1843, and came to Penn Township, this county, to make his residence, over thirty years ago, and has since resided there. He has been active in the success of the Republican Party in every contest.

Few Soldiers have a better record than he, serving in two enlistments: First in the 136th Reg't, Pa. Vols., and second in the 77th Reg't, Pa. Vols. He is also a prominent member of Lieut. William Allison Post, No. 196, G. A. R., of Duncannon. He served his country well in the rebellion and now asks the support of his old comrade in arms – men along with whom he fought shoulder to shoulder on many a battlefield. He was wounded by a shell in the battle of Fredericksburg,, Sept. 13, 1862.

He has frequently been honored by his fellow citizens by election to different local offices, in all of which he has served with fidelity and intelligence. A man of sound judgment and upright character, the people of Perry County can make no mistake in electing **Mr. Johnston**, to the Associate Judgeship.

Vote for **Johnston**, the old soldier.

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Patriot, Monday, July 13, 1903; Perry County Duncannon

**Jacob Johnston** got a foreign substance in his eye last Fall. It became very sore and when operated on by Dr. H. D. Reutter, Friday, a piece of cinder was found lodged in the eye ball.

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Patriot, Wednesday, August 1, 1917; Horse Stepped On Him

Duncannon, Pa., July 31. – Ex-Associate Judge Jacob Johnston while working around his team of horses last evening, one of them stepped on one of his toes on the right foot and crushed the nail off.

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