



*Alvin Jones*

**Alvin Jones**, grain dealer, Newport, Perry County, Pa. **Joseph Jones**, great-grandfather of **Alvin Jones**, was of Scotch-Irish descent, and came to this country about the year 1735, settling in Chester County, Pa. He afterwards came to what was then Cumberland, now Perry, County, and settled in Juniata Township; he was the founder of Milford, which was then called Jonestown; he was the father of five sons and two daughters: **Joseph**, farmer, married **Miss Marshall**, his second wife was **Miss Smith**; **John**, farmer, married **Martha Monroe**; **Thomas**, hotel keeper, of Harrisburg, married **Margarey Donnelly**; **Benjamin**, farmer, married **Miss Luckens**, of Thompsettown; **Joshua**, distiller, married **Julia Brown**; **Rebecca (Mrs. Philip Miller)**; and **Nancy**, married **John Vincent**, a hatter. Two of these sons served in the war of 1812.

**John Jones**, second son of **Joseph**, and grandfather of **Alvin Jones**, died in 1818, at the age of seventy-four years; his children were: **John**, married to **Hettie Meredith**; **Joseph**, married to **Elizabeth Himes**; and **Martha (Mrs. Robert Stephens)**.

**John Jones** (2), son of the **John Jones** last named, and father of **Alvin Jones**, was born in Juniata township, Perry County, Pa., December 25, 1809, and died in 1880. His education was obtained in the common schools, and he grew up on the farm. On reaching maturity he bought a part of the old homestead which was settled by his grandfather and which he cultivated until 1866, when he removed to Newport and formed a partnership with **Mr. B. Himes**, which continued for three years. At the end of this period, **Mr. Jones** bought the interest of **Mr. Himes**. A little later, he took his son, **D. Meredith Jones**, into partnership with himself, and later still admitted his son, **Alvin**, to the business. His wife was **Miss Hettie Meredith**, of Madison Township, Perry County, who died in 1856. Their children are: **Rebecca (Mrs. William Fosselman)**, of Tuscarora Valley; **John**, served in the cavalry under General Fitzpatrick, in the late war, was killed at the age of twenty-six years, was a brilliant scholar and had been studying law at New Bloomfield, was active in politics, was highly esteemed, and his untimely death sincerely lamented; **D. Meredith** died in 1885, had married **Miss Mary E. Gantt**, who survives him; **Martha (Mrs. G. W. Simpson)**, of Indiana County, Pa., died in October, 1896, was a gifted woman, a writer of some note and the author of some beautiful

poems; **Mary B. (Mrs. Amos Fleisher)**, of Oliver Township, Perry County, Pa.; **Alvin**; and **William**, who died in infancy. **Mr. Jones** is actively interested in political matters, in connection with the Republican Party, and has served in local offices. He was reared in the Presbyterian faith, and is esteemed and honored by all.

**Alvin Jones** was born on a part of the old homestead farm in Juniata Township, Perry County, Pa., October 15, 1850. His first attendance at school was in his native township. His mother having died when he was six years old, he was brought by his father to Newport, where his instruction was completed in the public schools. In 1869, he was employed by the firm of **John Jones & Son**, his father being the head of the firm. In 1871, an interest in the business was given him, and the firm then became **John Jones & Sons**. His father died in 1880, and himself and his brother, **D. Meredith**, took charge of the business, buying the interests of the remaining heirs, and establishing the firm of **Jones Brothers**, which partnership continued until the death of his brother in August, 1885. After this event, **Alvin Jones** continued the business under the old firm name until 1890, when he bought the interest of his brother's estate, and has since conducted the business alone.

On May 25, 1876, **Alvin Jones** was married to **Miss Mary Sheats**, daughter of **John Sheats**, of Newport. Their children are: **S. Jessamine**; **Mae M.**; **Helen W.**; **Charles A.**; **Ruth E.**; **John Howard**; and **Janet Frank**, the second child, died in infancy, also one son, unnamed. **Mr. Jones** has always voted the Republican ticket; he has served in the borough council and in the school board. He is a member of the Presbyterian Church in which he has been uniformly an active worker. The beautiful and commodious residence of the family was designed by **Mrs. Jones**. It is built of brick with brown stone trimmings, and is one of the finest residences in Newport.

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