1832  DAVID R. F. JONES.

Died: At South Oyster Bay, on the morning of the 17th inst., Stanton Floyd Jones, only son of Hon. D.R.F. Jones, aged about 2 years.—Daily Albany Argus, Feb. 18, 1848.
The administration of Mr. Jones, in the distinguished position he occupies, has been eminently, successful, during the past year. His courtesy, promptness, and fidelity to the best interests of the people, have secured the approbation of all classes of men, and furnish additional evidence that he has inherited, in no ordinary degree, the high order of ability and capacity for public life which so much distinguished his ancestors.

Mr. Jones was born on the 6th of April, 1813, on the south side of Long Island, at Fort Neck, Queens County, N. Y. His parents, Thomas Floyd Jones and Cornelia Herring Jones, are both dead, the former having died in August, 1851, at the age of sixty-three, and the latter in December, 1839, at the age of forty-three. His ancestry has been traced back as far as Thomas Jones, who was a major in the army of King James, and who, after being defeated at the battle of the Boyne, emigrated from Strabane, Ireland, to America as early as 1592. Subsequently, he removed to Rhode Island, and after marrying a daughter of Thomas Townsend, settled at Fort Neck, where he resided until his death in 1713. His son, David Jones, to whom his property at that place was devised, was born in September, 1699. In 1737, he was chosen a member of the General Assembly, and continued in that body until 1758, occupying the position of Speaker, during a period of thirteen years. Throughout his whole life, and in every position, he was the unyielding advocate of the rights of the people against every species of royal encroachment, and no man of his day participated more largely in the public confidence and respect. On one occasion, while Speaker, he ordered the doors of the Assembly to be closed against the Governor, until a bill, then under consideration, could be passed, which his Excellency had determined to prevent by an immediate prorogation. In 1758 he was appointed a Judge of the Supreme Court of the Colony, which he resigned in 1773, and died on the 1st of October, 1775.

Thomas Jones, the oldest son of David Jones, was also a Judge of the Supreme Court of the Colony. He married Miss De Lancy, a daughter of Lieut. Governor James De Lancy, and sister of the father of the Right Rev. Bishop De Lancy, of Western New York, and died in England.
Samuel Jones, the grandson of Major Thomas Jones, and the great-grandfather of the subject this sketch, was born on the 26th of July, 1734. He was in due time admitted to the bar, and soon found himself in the enjoyment of a lucrative and extensive practice. For his exemplary industry, high attainments, and great purity of character, he was looked upon as a model for imitation of all who aimed at distinction in jurisprudence. His office was eagerly sought by students; and besides De Witt Clinton, he instructed many who afterwards rose to much distinction. He was often in the General Assembly, and in 1778 was a member of the Convention that adopted the Constitution of the United States, of which body his intimate friend, George Clinton, was president. In 1789, he was associated with Richard Varick, in revising the Statutes of the State of New York, which was chiefly executed by Mr. Jones himself, with uncommon accuracy and expedition. He was, in the same year, appointed Recorder of the City of New York, which position he held until 1797, when he was succeeded by the Hon. James Kent. In 1796 he organized, at the request of Gov. Jay, the office of Comptroller, which was the first comptroller ever appointed in the State. He died on the 21st of November, 1819, leaving five sons, the oldest of whom, Samuel Jones, has been Chancellor of the State of New York, Chief Justice of the Superior Court of the City of New York, and a Justice of the Supreme Court of the State. His second son, Major William Jones, the grandfather of the subject of this sketch, on his mother's side, was for eight years a useful and intelligent member of the Legislature of this State, and died only a few years since, at an advanced age. He was greatly esteemed during life, and left behind him a name of which his surviving children and grandchildren are justly proud.

Mr. Jones received the rudiments of his education at Christ's Church Academy, Manhassett, Long Island, and in 1829 entered the Sophomore class of Union College, at Schenectady, N. Y., from which institution he graduated in 1832. He then studied law with the late Samuel W. Jones (Union 1810), of Schenectady, and in 1836 commenced the practice of his profession in the city of New York, as a partner of the late James P. Howard. He continued the practice of the law until the fall of 1840, when he was chosen a member of the Assembly from the city of New York. He was re-elected in 1841, and again in 1842, and throughout his entire career in that body, showed himself an honest and capable representative. In 1843 he was the successful candidate for a seat in the Senate from the First District, comprising the counties of New York, Kings and Richmond, and was a prominent and influential member of the Constitutional Convention of 1846, from the city of New York. Soon after the expiration of his senatorial term, on the 31st of December, 1847, he was, after the death of Jesse Oakley, appointed Clerk of the Superior Court of the City of New York, by Chief Justice Oakley, Judge Sandford, and Judge Vanderpool. He successfully occupied this position until the spring of 1852, when he resigned it, and returned to his native place, where he now resides, on a portion of the property which has been in the family for
more than a century and a half. He has been quite successful in his agricultural pursuits, and during the past two years has been honored with the position of President of the Queens County Agricultural Society.

In 1856, Mr. Jones reluctantly consented to represent his native county once more in the lower branch of the Legislature, and at the session which followed, was the Democratic candidate for Speaker; and again a useful and industrious member of that body. He has been Supervisor of his native town, during the past three years, and now holds the position of Chairman of the Board. His nomination for the distinguished position he now occupies, was made with great unanimity by both wings of the Democracy at their State Convention, in the fall of 1859; and after receiving the endorsement of the American State Convention, at Utica, with equal unanimity, he was triumphantly elected. He has, throughout his entire political career, always been a straightforward, consistent, unyielding, and persevering Democrat of the National Conservative or Hardsell stamp; and although belonging to the purer class of politicians, has never failed to actively contribute his full share of service to the successful promotion of the principles and policy of that party.

Mr Jones is a gentleman of prepossessing personal appearance, being tall and elegantly formed, with black, bushy hair, heavy black whiskers, clear black eyes, and a mild, intelligent countenance; and is kind, courteous, and agreeable in his intercourse with all with whom he comes in contact.
Married: In this city, on the 25th inst., by the Rev. Dr. Seabury, of New York City, the Hon. D.R.F. Jones, of the same place, to Mary L., daughter of G. W. Stanton, of this city.

Daily Albany Argus
June 30, 1845.
Lieutenant-Governor David Richard Floyd-Jones, son of Brigadier-General Thomas Floyd-Jones and Cornelia Haring Jones, was born at Fort Neck, Long Island, April 6, 1813, and died at the old homestead, January 8, 1871. He was buried in the ancient family burial-ground at Massapequa, Long Island.

He received his early education at a public school near his father's residence at Fort Neck, and commenced his classical studies in Christ Church School at Manhasset. He then entered the sophomore class of Union College, graduating in 1832. After that he studied law in the office of Judge Samuel W. Jones, of Schenectady, and began practice in 1835, with James P. Howard, in New York City. He started his political career in 1840, and identified himself with the Democratic party. In 1840 he was chosen a member of the assembly of New York, and was re-elected in 1841, and again the following year. In 1843 he was elected to the senate from the first district, which then comprised the counties of New York, Kings and Richmond. He was a prominent and influential member of the constitutional convention of 1846 from New York City. On the close of his senatorial term, 1847, and following the death of Jesse Oakley, he was appointed clerk of the superior court of New York City, by Chief Justice Oakley, Judges Sandford and Van der Poel, which office he filled faithfully until the death of his father, 1852, when he returned to his native place. Through 1858-59 he held the position of president of the Queens County Agricultural Society, for he had been as successful as a country gentleman as in politics.

In 1856 he was lured from the pleasant retirement to be assemblyman and in the subsequent session filled the speaker's chair. He was nominated with great unanimity of sentiment for secretary of state by both wings of the Democratic party in the fall of 1859, and was triumphantly elected, holding the position at the breaking out of the civil war. He cooperated with Governor Morgan in enlisting and sending forward troops, and was a patriotic figure along these lines. He took a most decided stand against the dissolution of the Union, and made a ringing speech July 4, 1862, which attracted wide attention and was published. It brought him more into the limelight of public life, and in the fall of that year he was elected lieutenant-governor on the ticket with Horatio Seymour heading it for governor. His oration upon assuming office, January 5, 1863, when he was the acting ex-officio president of the senate, was a burst of patriotism which stirred the souls of listeners. One who had known him intimately and had been his political opponent spoke of him in this strain after his death:
"He passed through life from the beginning to the end of it, I believe, without a single blemish upon his reputation or standing before the entire community of this State. No man in the heat of party strife or conflict, no man in the heat of debate upon the floor in either branch of the Legislature, was ever heard to say aught against his pure and upright character, and no man who watched, can say aught that he worked with his whole heart and soul for the benefit of those who had placed him in position."

In the work of the Episcopal church he was a devout and consistent helper. The "Church Journal" of 1871 has this to say:

"His influence and usefulness in the councils of the church need no other record than the important positions which he filled in the Diocese of New York previous to its recent division, and subsequently in the Diocese of Long Island. In the new diocese his important services were immediately recognized and acknowledged at its primary convention by his being elected a member of the standing committee, a deputy to the General Convention, and also a deputy to the Federal Council. He was appointed on the Special Committee on Canons, and on the Revision of the Constitution and Canons, in both of which he served with marked ability."


Gen. & Fam. Hist. of Southern N.Y. v. 2 p. 555
Cuyler Reynolds, Ed.
New York 1914.
"wise and discreet action;" avoiding "offensive personalities;" abstaining from extreme utterances; "keep not only within the pale of sound principles, but in their maintenance give needless offence to none."

He married Mary L., daughter of the late George W. Stanton, of Albany, and left her with one son and three daughters, besides two brothers and a sister, with families, to deplore their great loss. "In personal appearance he was prepossessing, tall and finely formed, with black piercing eyes, dark hair and a mild and intellectual countenance."

There were obituary notices in the Brooklyn Eagle, the Glencove Gazette, the Church Journal, and some others, which embrace additional particulars for which our limits are too scant.

New York Genealogical & Biographical Record 1871
Vol. 2 pp. 111-112

Jones, David R. Floyd, 1832 10/11/1854
"flourished for awhile in N. Y. as a Tammany Hall politician and served one term in Albany as a state senator. He is now a farmer at Oyster Bay, his native place."

Pearson Diaries V.4, pp.692-693
This representative of two old Long Island families (in the eldest male line), born 6 April, 1813, on the ancestral place at South Oyster Bay, died there on Jan. 8, 1871, in his 59th year. He was the eldest son of Thomas Floyd Jones and Cornelia (Jones) his wife; grandson of David R. Floyd Jones and Sarah (onderdonk) his wife; and great grandson of the 4th Richard Floyd (born 1731; died 1792), who married Arabella Jones, daughter of Judge Daniel Jones (the first judge of many in the family); they and their children taking the name of Floyd Jones as a condition of holding a large tract of land on Long Island under the Judge's will.

After such preparation as could be made on Long Island, he entered Union College in 1832, and graduated in 1835. He studied law with his mother's brother, the late Judge Samuel W. Jones, of Schenectady; was admitted to the bar in 1835; and practiced for about five years in New York City. In the fall of 1840 he was elected to the Assembly from New York and re-elected in 1841-2. In the fall of 1843 he was elected to the Senate from the First Senatorial District for four years; his election almost deciding the fate of the present school system of the city, which he advocated. He was next chosen a member of the Constitutional Convention of 1846, in which he took a prominent part. In 1847 he was appointed Clerk of the New York Superior Court, and he held that station until 1852. He then retired to his paternal estate on Long Island, and was President of the Queens County Agricultural Society, delivering a noted address, which was printed. In 1856 he was persuaded to represent Queens County in the Assembly. In the fall of 1859 he was elected Secretary of State, holding that office in 1860-61, when the Civil war broke out. On the 4th of July, 1862, in a published address, he proclaimed his loyalty to the Union in terms which we have not the space to repeat. In the fall of that year he was elected Lieutenant Governor of the State. His address as President of the Senate would also bear repetition. After two years in that station not acting the partisan, he retired to private life; but as a prominent member of the Congregational Church, he took a decided part in forming the new Diocese of Long Island. He became a member of the standing committee, and a Deputy to the General Convention and to the Federate Council. He was elected President of the American Church Union. With impaired health he visited Europe in some hope of a restoration; and on his return, shortly before his death, read a valuable paper, which has been published, recommending some points for which he was himself noted, viz.,
CLASS OF 1832

DAVID RICHARD FLOYD JONES

Was conspicuous during his whole life. His modest deportment, coupled with cultivated intellect, refined taste, and unobtrusive yet confiding manner, gave him the confidence of all who knew him. This confidence is evinced by the many offices of trust, which he was called to assume, and which was emphasized by the support cheerfully given him by his personal friends, regardless of political opinions.

Although firm in his conviction of the correctness of Democratic principles, and acting upon these convictions, when party lines were drawn upon matters, which honestly divided political parties, he was in no sense a politician, as the term is generally accepted, but a politician only as subordinate to broad and honorable statesmanship.

He graduated from Union College on attaining his majority; was elected a member of assembly from New York City, 1842 and 1843; State Senator in 1845; member of Constitutional Convention, 1846; Secretary of State in 1859, and Lieutenant Governor in 1862. In each of these positions his energy, fidelity, and honesty of purpose met the full measure of expectations, and adorned the office which he filled. Failing health and, apparently, untimely death, intervened to stay the progress, so conspicuously begun towards national reputation which would undoubtedly have been his.

His social relations were no less felicitous. He was in every sense a gentleman, and what is better still, always a manly man.
FROM Thomas Youngs of Oyster Bay and his Descendants
Oyster Bay, 1890

David Richard Floyd Jones (continued)

WHO DURING HIS WHOLE LIFE. HIS IMPRINTED IMPRESSIVE, INTELLIGENT, REFINED TASTE, WAS IMMEDIATELY REALIZED. HE OFFERED TO THE MANY OFFICES OF TRUST, WHICH HE WAS CALLED UPON TO FILL, IN A MANNER, AND WHICH WAS SEIZED UPON BY THE SEVERITY OF DUTY, GIVEN UP TO THE PERSONAL FRIENDS, REGARDLESS OF COMMERCIAL INTERESTS.

ALTHOUGH THEY IN HIS CONSIDERATION OF HIS PRINCIPLES, AND ACTING UPON SOME ACCORDANCE WITH SOME FACTORS DRAWD UPON NATURE, WHICH HE SAW IN ACTION. HIS PRACTICE, BEING IN NO SENSE A POLITICIAN, TO THE VOTE OF THE MASS IN THE HOUSE, BUT A MAN OF PRINCIPLES. HE WAS NOT AN ORDINARY REPRESENTATIVE IN THE MANNER OF A REPRESENTATIVE. HE WAS A MAN OF ACCORDANCE FROM THE YEAR 1812, WHEN HE AND HIS WIFE, WHOSE NAME IS INAOD, REMAINED AS A REPRESENTATIVE IN THE HOUSE, BUT THE GROWTH, DETERMINED ON PURPOSE FOR THE FULL SEASON OF CONGRESSIONS, AND RETURNED THE OFFICE WHICH HE FILLED. FULFILLING THE TRUTHS AND PRINCIPLES, UNTIL DEATH, INTERVENED TO STRIKE THE DEATH, IN CONSCIENTIOUS BONES TO NATIONAL REPUTATION WHICH WOULD UNDOUBTEDLY HAVE BEEN HIS.

HIS GREAT PATRIOTISM WERE NO LESS EXSTINCTORS. HE WAS IN EVERY HONOR A GENTLEMAN, AND WHAT IS BETTER STILL, ALWAYS A REALY MAN.
To Dr. R. T. Jones

of the Class that graduated at Union College, in the year 1832

(or, if deceased, to the friend or relative who knew him best:)

Sir,—

It is the aim of the subscriber, in collecting the information asked for by the following questions, to obtain materials for a concise Biographical Catalogue of the Trustees, Presidents, Professors and Tutors of Union College;—of those who have received Honorary Degrees from it, and of all who have ever entered that Institution, whether Graduates or not.

That such a work would be interesting and useful to the Alumni, will not be denied; but whether it be practicable, will depend chiefly upon the ready aid which they shall impart. This circular will be sent to every Graduate whose residence is known, (or, if deceased, to some near connection,) and it is confidently expected that no one will neglect to return it in due time, with as full information as circumstances will allow—some of the questions, indeed, it may not be possible to answer with certainty: others not at all: still, it is hoped that no important facts will be withheld because of their farness.

Death has removed the twenty-four original Trustees, the first three Presidents, the early Professors and Tutors, and from eight hundred to one thousand of the Alumni of the College. Doubtless their friends and descendants will cheerfully contribute such information as may be necessary to illustrate the lives and services of the departed.

The subscriber desires every aid that may help to throw light upon the personal history of those concerned:—Obituary Notices; Biographical Sketches, Epitaphs, Funeral Sermons, Newspaper Notices of election to important offices or stations, Business Cards and Advertisements; also, copies of their Literary Works, Addresses, Sermons, Essays, Newspapers, engraved Portraits, &c.; all of which will be deposited and preserved in an Alcove of the College Library, to be set apart for "Graduates' Works."

He also requests that all future changes affecting the answers which shall be given, be made known to him from time to time:—especially the deaths of Graduates, and that the usual obituary notices or funeral sermons published on such occasions, be sent with the announcements, as it is his purpose to publish these deaths hereafter once a year.

JONATHAN PEARSON, Librarian.

Union College,
Schenectady, N. Y.

Specimens of Biographical Sketches for the Proposed Catalogue.

John Glidden Brown was born in Quinimute, N. Y., May 2, 1800; parents, James and Elizabeth (Glidden) Brown, who moved to Epsom, N. Y., in 1800. He was prepared for College at Holderness High School, under the instruction of Rev. Moses Johnson, and entered Union College Jan. 1817. He studied law with Hon. Septimus H. Smith, of Great Falls; was admitted to the bar in 1821; and commenced the practice of law in Albany, with James S. Van Hoosen, Esq. In 1830 he moved to New-York City, which, thereafter, became his residence. He was Member of N. Y. Assembly 1832-5; State Senator 1836-8; Member of Congress 1833-41; and Judge of the Superior Court 1842-6. He died June 30, 1849, of cholera, aged 49 years. Besides occasional speeches, orations and opinions, he wrote a work on constitutional law, and edited the N. Y. State Papers. He received the Degree of L. L. D. from Hamilton College in 1846.

Joseph Henshaw Luther was born in Hanover, Mass., June 1, 1798; parents, Joseph and Madeleine (Henshaw) Luther; prepared for College at Yorkville Academy, John-Elmy, Esq., Principal; and entered Union College Sept. 1814. He taught, 1818-20, in East Philadelphia, (Penn.) High School; graduated at Princeton Theological Seminary in 1823; and was ordained Sept. 25, 1828, at Marlborough, N. Y.; and was Pastor of the Presbyterian Church till 1825. He was Pastor of the 1st Congregational Church of Haddam, Conn., 1825-30; Professor of Rhetoric in Erie College 1831-40; retired on account of ill health, and now resides in Philadelphia, Pa. He has published six sermons on various occasions; a series of lectures on Rhetoric and Belles Lettres, and the "Communicant's Companion." He received the Degree of D. D. from the Hudson University in 1842.

Thomas Pennington Radway was born Feb. 28, 1778, in Benton, N. Y.; parents, John Harmony and Mary (Pennington) Radway; was prepared for College at High Holme School, Rev. Hanover Kelton, Principal; entered Union College Sept. 1795; taught a few months in Suncook, Mass., in 1796; studied medicine with Dr. Jonas Physic and Dr. Abram Pottier, of Cambridge; attended medical lectures at the College of Surgeons and Physicians, and was admitted to, and commenced the practice of medicine in La Rhine, in 1800. He was Surgeon in the Army 1813-15, and returned to practice at Oldbury in 1816, where he has since resided. He lectured in the Fairhaven Medical School on Anatomy and Physiology 1830-5, and has published several articles in the New-York Medical Review, and two larger works on the "Functions of the Brain," and on "Gunshot Wounds."

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N. B.: 1. Let the answers to the following questions be as full and authentic as possible; but when doubtful let them be marked as such.
2. Let as much time be taken as may be found necessary for this purpose, and no more.
3. Let as much time be taken as may be found necessary for this purpose, and no more.
4. In case this sheet be not sufficient to contain all the facts to be sent, add another of the same size, if possible, leaving an inch margin of not less than one inch and a half.
5. In case where no answers to this circular shall be returned, the editor will be obliged to publish such names without any biographical notices, or to rely upon information, gathered from other sources, and, therefore, not always authentic.
IX. Where he has practiced his profession, with dates; and in case he be a clergyman, mention the denomination to which he belongs; thus:—

[First, Roxbury, N. J., 1808-18; then, Albany, N. Y., 1808-18. New York City, 1842-44]

In the City of New York 1836-18

X. The other occupations he has followed; when and where; thus:—

[Merchant, Stockbridge, N. Y., 1812-32; or Farmer, Georgia, N. Y., 1823-34; or Manufacturer, Schenectady, N. Y., 1841-46; or Professor, teacher, lecturer, editor, &c.]

XI. The important offices he has held, with dates; thus:—

[County of Greene, Col. N. Y., 1808-11 and 1824-27; Member of Congress, 1st Session, N. Y., 1811-12. Member of Assembly, of N. Y., 1804-05 &c. &c.]

XI. The important offices he has held, with dates; thus:—

[County of Greene, Col. N. Y., 1808-11 and 1824-27; Member of Congress, 1st Session, N. Y., 1811-12. Member of Assembly, of N. Y., 1804-05 &c. &c.]

XII. The Literary or Scientific Works he has written or edited.

[Copies are solicited for the "Graduate Album" in College Library.]

XIII. The names of his relatives who graduated at Union College.

[Mr. Samuel W. Jones, Mr. Samuel W. Jones, Charles Floyd Jones, James W. Jones]

XIV. The literary, professional, or honorary titles he received; from whence, with dates; thus:—

[H. D., from Albany Medical College 1844; & L. D., Amherst College, 1845 &c.]

XV. Is there an engraved portrait of him?

[One or two copies, together with his signature, are solicited for College Library.]

XVI. The date, circumstances, and place of his death.

[Read any printed notice biographical sketch formal source, &c. In many instances more space will be required to answer this and the following questions, in which case add an additional sheet.]

[Vita of a resident of Union, N. Y., 1811-29. Union City, 1836-39. South Brooklyn, Queens County, on the 10th day of November, 1879. The name of his relatives who graduated at Union College.

[Mr. Samuel W. Jones, Mr. Samuel W. Jones, Charles Floyd Jones, James W. Jones]

XIV. The literary, professional, or honorary titles he received; from whence, with dates; thus:—

[H. D., from Albany Medical College 1844; & L. D., Amherst College, 1845 &c.]

XV. Is there an engraved portrait of him?

[One or two copies, together with his signature, are solicited for College Library.]

XVI. The date, circumstances, and place of his death.

[Read any printed notice biographical sketch formal source, &c. In many instances more space will be required to answer this and the following questions, in which case add an additional sheet.]
XVII. General information respecting character, services, success, interesting passages and events in his life, &c.

XVIII. Some account of his pedigree and family; its original seat in this or the old country, &c., &c.

XIX. List of such graduates as may not be widely known; their residences, professions, dates of deaths, &c.; the name and residence, also, of some near friend of the deceased, that further information may be sought for; thus:

One of the most interesting houses in Albany is that now occupied by the Jewish Community Center at 111 Washington Ave.

---remainder of article follows:

preceding part of article is filed in folder of John C. Spencer, class of 1806.

from the Albany Times-Union
Oct. 14, 1951

By Edgar S. Van Olinda

Russian ambassador Baron Bodisco, who was a bachelor, walked up to Miss Stanton, and although he had never been introduced to her, presented her with a bouquet of roses and announced that it had been his intention to present the corsage to the girl he considered the most beautiful and most attractive in the distinguished gathering. 1882.

MISS STANTON afterwards married David Floyd-Jones, a member of the Assembly, after she had nursed him back to health, following an accident when he had sustained a broken leg while riding horseback in front of her home. Servants carried him into the Stanton home where romance developed, culminating in rapid succession by the announcement of his engagement to his beautiful "nurse," and a brilliant wedding at the Stanton home.

The victim of Aaron Burr's bullet on Weehawken Heights, July 14, 1801, Alexander Hamilton had been intimately associated with early Albany history through his marriage to Elizabeth Schuyler in what is now the Schuyler mansion museum.
full broad forehead, beneath which a pair of dark hazel eyes, light and kindle as he converses, and, when he addresses an audience, flash and sparkle with most brilliant, meteoric scintillations. He has a full, large mouth, which ripples over with most genial smiles—sure exponents of a warm and generous heart.

DAVID R. FLOYD JONES,

LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR.

Lieut.-Governor Jones has shown himself an efficient and capable presiding officer, and watches over the deliberations of the Senate with an air of graceful ease and dignity which contrasts favorably with that of some of his more prominent predecessors. In his personal appearance he is equally adapted to the position, being tall and elegantly formed, with a full, round, well-developed head, thickly coated with short black hair, slightly tinged with gray; heavy black whiskers, neatly trimmed; brilliant black eyes, of intelligent expression; and a countenance denoting unusual depth, earnestness and sincerity of thought. Although modest and unpretending to a degree seldom found in public men, he is well adapted to public life; and has been honored, from time to time, by his fellow-citizens, with some of the most important official stations in the State. He is not a brilliant or attractive orator, seldom attempting a speech; but when he does speak, he is entirely devoid
of everything trashy or inane and all manner of poetical hysterics. Great and mighty thoughts seldom leap from his mouth, as "Minerva sprang from the brain of Jove," but he never fails to put forth what is far better—plain, practical, philosophical, argumentative, correct, and classical reasoning.

Mr. Jones is a native of Fort Neck, Queens county, N. Y., where he was born on the 6th of April, 1813. His parents, Thomas Floyd Jones, and Cornelia Herring Jones, are both dead, the former having died in 1851, at the age of sixty-three, and the latter in December, 1839, at the age of forty-three. His ancestry has been traced as far back as Thomas Jones, who was a Major in the army of King James, and who, after being defeated at the battle of the Boyne, emigrated from Strabane, Ireland, to America, as early as 1592. Subsequently, he removed to Rhode Island, and after marrying a daughter of Thomas Townsend, settled at Fort Neck, where he resided until his death, in 1713. His son, David Jones, to whom his property at that place was devised, was born in September, 1699. He was chosen a member of the General Assembly, in 1737, and continued in that body until 1758, occupying the position of Speaker during a period of thirteen years. He was always the unyielding advocate of the rights of the people against every species of royal encroachment, and on one occasion, while Speaker, ordered the doors of the Assembly to be closed against the Governor until a bill, then under consideration, could be passed, which his Excellency had determined to prevent by an immediate prorogation. In 1758 he was appointed a judge
of the Supreme Court of the Colony, which he resigned in 1773, and died on the 1st of October, 1775.

Thomas Jones, the oldest son of David Jones, was also a judge of the Supreme Court of the Colony. He married Miss De Lancy, a daughter of Lieutenant-Governor James De Lancy, and sister of the father of the Right Rev. Bishop De Lancy, of Western New York, and died in England.

Samuel Jones, the grandson of Major Thomas Jones, and the great-grandfather of the subject of this sketch, was born on the 26th of July, 1734. He was a distinguished lawyer, enjoying an extensive and lucrative practice, and was a model for all who aimed at distinction in jurisprudence. His office was eagerly sought by students, and besides De Witt Clinton, he instructed many who afterwards attained distinction. He was a member of the Convention that adopted the Constitution of the United States, of which body his intimate friend George Clinton, was president, and in 1789, was associated with Richard Varick in revising the statutes of the State of New York. He was the same year appointed recorder of the city of New York, which he held until 1797, when he was succeeded by the Hon. James Kent. He was the first Comptroller ever appointed in the state, which office he organized at the request of Governor Jay, in 1796. He died on the 21st of November, 1819, leaving five sons, the eldest of whom, Samuel Jones, has been Chancellor of the State of New York, Chief Justice of the Superior Court of the city of New York, and a Justice of the Supreme Court of the State. His second son, Major William Jones, the grandfather
of the subject of this sketch, on his mother's side, was for eighty years a prominent member of the legislature of this state, and died only a few years since at an advanced age. He was highly esteemed during his lifetime, and left behind him a name of which his surviving children and grandchildren are justly proud.

Mr. Jones received a preparatory course of schooling at Christ's Church Academy, Manhasset, Long Island, and in 1829, entered Union College, Schenectady, where he graduated in 1832. He then studied law, and in 1836 began the practice of his profession in the city of New York as a partner of the late James P. Howard. He devoted himself closely to the practice until 1840, when he was chosen a member of the Assembly from the city of New York. He was re-elected in 1841 and '42, and in 1843 was chosen a member of the Senate from the First District, then comprising the counties of New York, Kings, and Richmond. In 1846, he was a member of the Constitutional Convention, and after the expiration of his senatorial term of office on the 31st of December, 1847, he was appointed Clerk of the Superior Court of the city of New York. He successfully occupied this position until the spring of 1852, when he resigned, and retired to his native place where he now resides. He has always taken a deep interest in agricultural pursuits, and for several years was honored with the position of President of the Queens County Agricultural Society.

In 1856 Mr. Jones reluctantly consented to represent his native county once more in the lower branch of the Legislature, where he was then the Democratic Candidate for Speaker, and has since then been Supervisor of his town several years. During most of this time, however, he devoted himself exclusively to the quiet pursuits of his farm, until the fall of 1859 when he was unanimously nominated by the Democratic State Convention for Secretary of State, and by the aid of the indorsement of the American State Convention at Utica, was triumphantly elected. At the expiration of his term of office in this position he again retired to his farm on Long Island, where he quietly remained until last fall, when the people of the State once more summoned him to duty by placing him in his present distinguished position.

Mr. Jones is a gentleman of superior ability and sterling integrity, and the successful industry and disinterested patriotism with which he has discharged the duties of the various official stations to which he has been called, has not only reflected credit upon him, but it has redounded to the promotion of every interest entrusted to his care. He is a politician of the purer class, and throughout his entire political career, has been a staunch, unwavering Democrat, of the old-fashioned Hard-shell school. In social life, he is genial and attractive. Open, frank, and generous almost to a fault, he never fails to exercise a large influence over all with whom he comes in contact, and but few men have more numerous and devoted personal friends.

Biographical Sketches of the State Officers and Members of the Legislature of the State of New York in 1862-63
By Wm. D. Murphy
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