
JOHN JENKINS was a planter in Christ Church Parish in Georgia shortly before the Revolution. He was commissioned as second lieutenant in the 1st Company, 1st Battalion, Georgia Continental Line, on 7/30 January 1776. His military record thereafter is obscure, but on 9 March 1778 Jenkins was appointed as one of the magistrates of Chatham County before whom the citizens were to take the oath of allegiance (i.e., to the Patriot government). In 1780 the British listed Jenkins on their Disqualification Act as a "rebel Assemblyman." In the latter part of 1780 such Tories as Roger Kelsall and James Robertson attempted to obtain judgments against John Jenkins "and his wife Susannah, formerly Susannah Moore," they then being absent (having fled) from the jurisdiction of the Crown's courts. John Jenkins is known to have owned a tract of land by that time near (George) Cubbedge's Creek in St. Philip's Parish in Georgia. On 13 June 1782 Jenkins purchased the White House Tract on Ogeechee and Canoochee Rivers which had formerly belonged to Governor James Wright. A few days later he purchased Lot 38 in Sunbury (confiscated from the Tory William Young). At the end of the war he signed as an officer of the "army of The United States of America" a petition in favor of the Tory, Thomas Young.

Jenkins settled at Knoxville in the extreme northwest corner of Chatham County. In March of 1785 he advertised the stud services of Eclipse, a Virginia sorrel, for the season of 1 April to 15 July. Jenkins became the defendant in at least five lawsuits in the Superior Court of Chatham County. The only lawsuit, however, which has had its documents survive is William Huxham vs. John Jenkins, Case No. 530, filed on 19 September 1788. The suit was on a note for 160 pounds, and the jury returned a verdict for the plaintiff plus one shilling in damages. Jenkins was a commissioner of the road in the First Northwest Division of that county. He served on the Chatham County Grand Jury in October of 1789. He was mentioned in a Savannah newspaper as late as 1794, but his exact date of death is presently unknown. No estate records for John Jenkins or his wife have been located in Chatham County, Georgia. Both a Mrs. Jenkins and a Susannah Jenkins, but no Mr. Jenkins or John Jenkins, were enumerated in the 1798 tax digest of Chatham County, Georgia, perhaps indicating that Mrs. Susannah Jenkins was already widowed as of 1 January 1798. She was a co-founder of the Savannah Female Asylum on 17 September 1801, and was named as a Manager at that time. Mrs. Susannah Jenkins was said to have lived in MAJ Edward White's "Yellow House" in Savannah in 1806. She is mentioned in the will of her son Charles J. Jenkins (I) in 1828. In 1830 she seems to have been living with her son Dr. John J. Jenkins. She was said to have died in 1834.

As stated, John Jenkins married Mrs. Susannah (or Susan) (Jones) Moore (1738-1834), daughter of Charles Jones and widow of Dr. James Weems (or Wemyss) Moore (I) (1730-1775) on 30 April 1776. They had the following children:

1. John Jackson Jenkins, born on 4 February 1777. See below.
2. Charles Jones Jenkins, born on 4 October 1778. See below.
3. William McKew Jenkins, born on 22 August 1780, died in October of 1781.
4. Lucia Esther Maria Jenkins, born on 22 September 1781, died the following January.
5. William Henry Jenkins, born 5 July 1782, died 8 October 1782.

1. John Jackson Jenkins, born on 4 February 1777 in South Carolina, became a physician or "practitioner of physic." He settled in Bryan County, Georgia, where he opened his medical practice, as well as becoming a planter. He married Maria (or Mariah) Netherclift on 15 September 1801 at Pembroke. She was the daughter of Thomas Netherclift and his wife Catherine Rae Elbert. In May of 1803 Dr. Jenkins entered into a partnership with Dr. Michael Burke in the practice of physic. Their office was in Hardwick in Bryan County. Doctor Jenkins sold some slaves to John G. Williamson and William B. Bulloch of Chatham County in August of 1804. That same month Dr. Jenkins entered into a partnership with Dr. John Maxwell in Bryan County. Doctor Jenkins served on a Bryan County jury in February of 1806. He served as surgeon in the 2d (LTC John Pray) Regiment, Georgia Militia, in federal service during the War of 1812. In 1819 he was mentioned as a co-partner of Richard Habersham Footman. Doctor Jenkins was a close friend of the Rev. William McWhir (1759-1851), the educator and Presbyterian clergyman of Sunbury. Doctor Jenkins and his family moved to Jefferson County, Georgia, by 1820. On 30 October 1826 Mrs. Ann (Morel) Rutherford, daughter of John Morel (II) and wife of Nathaniel Green Rutherford the attorney, died at Dr. Jenkins' home in Jefferson County. In March of 1828 William H. Vanbrackle, Sheriff of Bryan County, published a notice of foreclosure of certain executions held by Dr. John J. Jenkins and others against the late Henry Harden. By 1830 Dr. Jenkins, his wife, at least three of their children, and a lady aged between 80 and 90 years old, probably his mother Mrs. Susannah (Jones) Jenkins (1738-1834), lived in the 82d Georgia Militia District of Jefferson County. Between 1840 and 1850, however, Dr. Jenkins and his wife moved to the 71st Georgia Militia District of Burke County. His plantation was described at the time as having 900 acres of unimproved land, 800 acres of improved land, 9 horses, 9 mules, 8 milk cows, 22 other cattle, 68 sheep, 58 swine, and 39 slaves.

Doctor Jenkins died testate as a resident of Jefferson County on 23 March 1851. His death occurred at White Sulphur Springs, Meriwether County, Georgia. He had a terrible case of gout, and thought the warm baths would do him good. He was said to have been buried at White Sulphur Springs. His wife Maria died testate in Jefferson County on 26 May 1852. Their children were:

- 1-1. John Edgell Jenkins, born on 18 June 1802.
- 1-2. Susan Jenkins, born on 8 January 1804. She died as a child.
- 1-3. Thomas Netherclift Jenkins, born on 14 December 1805. See below.
- 1-4. Charles Moore Jenkins, born in May of 1808.
- 1-5. James Weems Moore Jenkins, born on 17 June 1810. He became an attorney. In October of 1832 he represented Daniel Goulding, being tried in Milledgeville for counterfeiting. Goulding was convicted and sentenced to death for his crime. Jenkins married Susannah Darley in 1841 in Jefferson County.
- 1-6. Susan Williamina Caroline Eliza Jenkins, born on 1 October 1812. Susan married Dr. James R. Smith of Louisville, Georgia, on 10 August 1832 at Milford in Jefferson County. She died shortly thereafter.
- 1-7. William Alexander Jenkins, born on 8 January 1814. See below.
- 1-8. Berrien Jenkins.
- 1-9. Richard Belt Jenkins, born on 12 May 1818.
- 1-10. Nathaniel Green Rutherford Jenkins, born on 12 May 1822.

1-3. Thomas Netherclift Jenkins was born on 14 December 1805. He lived in Washington County, Georgia, in 1830, and in Jefferson County in 1840. He died on 14 November 1841 in Georgia. He married on 1 February 1827, Susannah Sarah Moore, born on 31 March 1807, died on 15 December 1871 in Washington County, Georgia. Susannah was the daughter of Andrew Moore (born in Ireland, died in 1814) and his wife Jane Gibson Gawley (married 29 May 1806). The known children of Thomas Netherclift Jenkins and his wife Susannah Sarah Moore were:

- 1-3-1. Mary Jane Jenkins.
- 1-3-2. Charles Moore Jenkins, born in 1830.
- 1-3-3. Susan Emily Jones Jenkins, born on 6/8 February 1832 in Louisville, Georgia, died on 28 August 1916 in Sumter, South Carolina. She married Henry Gregory Wright, born on 9 July 1830, and died on 3 May 1904 in Louisville. They were married on 8 October 1851 in Louisville. Henry Gregory Wright was the son of LTC Ambrose Wright (1769-1849) and his wife Sarah Hammond (1802-1838), and the brother of General Ambrose Ransom Wright.

- 1-3-4. Maria Netherclift Jenkins.
- 1-3-5. Henrietta Ann Jenkins.
- 1-3-6. Margaret Lawson Gamble Jenkins.

1-7. William Alexander Jenkins was born on 8 January 1814. He married Eliza T. Williams (also found as Margaret Elizabeth Williams) on 10 November 1839 in Effingham County, Georgia. A resident of Jefferson County at the time, he was commissioned on 20 January 1846 as an ensign in the Jefferson Riflemen. On 11 January 1849 he purchased from Lawrence Elkins three tracts of land in Effingham County totalling 828 acres, and moved to the vicinity of Guyton in that county. The censuses of 1850 and 1860 named him as a farmer. He became a member of the Effingham Hussars, and was commissioned captain of that troop on 8 August 1850, a command he held until February of 1854. The 1870 census named him as a physician. On 14 January 1871 he gave a mortgage to the Trustees of the German Lutheran Church of Ebenezer, which mortgage was foreclosed in litigation which went all the way to the Georgia Supreme Court in 1876. He died in 1880, and was buried at Guyton, Georgia. William Alexander Jenkins had the following children:

- 1-7-1. John Jackson Jenkins, born on 6 February 1841. See below.
- 1-7-2. Herschel Vespasian Jenkins, born in 1842.
- 1-7-3. Thomas Netherclift Jenkins, born in 1843.
- 1-7-4. Charles J. Jenkins, born in 1845. He enlisted as a private in Company I (Effingham County), 54th Regiment Ga.Vol.Inf. He was discharged at Savannah on 13 December 1862. He was a school teacher in Guyton after the war.
- 1-7-5. S. Gertrude Jenkins, born in 1848.
- 1-7-6. Philip Lemle Jenkins, born in 1850.

1-7-1. John Jackson Jenkins (also found as John W. Jenkins), son of William Alexander Jenkins and his wife Eliza T. Williams, was born on 6 February 1841, and died on 26 May 1885. He became an educator in the Effingham County schools. By 1880 John and his family had moved to the 63d G.M.D. of Burke County. John Jackson Jenkins married Ophelia Victoria Grovenstein on 21 January 1869 in Effingham County. Both John and Victoria were buried at Guyton. They had four children:

- 1-7-1-1. Leila Jenkins, born on 24 December 1869, married Lawrence L. Cubbedge of Savannah.
- 1-7-1-2. Herschel V. Jenkins, born on 5 October 1871, moved to Savannah, Georgia.
- 1-7-1-3. Maude Jenkins, born on 28 November 1873, married Walter Landrum Cubbedge of Savannah.
- 1-7-1-4. Victor Brandon Jenkins, born on 25 July 1876, vice president of Citizens & Southern National Bank. He lived in Savannah and Dublin, Georgia.

2. Charles Jones Jenkins, born on 4 October 1778, married Susan Emily Kenney on 23 April 1804. She was born in Coosawhatchie, South Carolina, about 1782. They settled in Beaufort District, South Carolina, on "The Grimbball Hill Place" plantation. In 1807 he described this plantation as being at Coosawhatchie on New River three miles from a landing and twelve miles from Savannah. Charles became clerk of the Court of Common Pleas in Beaufort District, and subsequently became ordinary of that district. On her wedding anniversary, 23 April 1815, Susan died at Dr. John Aloysius Casey's on Broughton Street in Savannah. She was survived by her husband and only child. Susan was buried at Beaufort, South Carolina. In January of 1816 Charles and his son moved to Jefferson County, Georgia, where he "purchased a tract of land and led the quiet life of a planter." He died in August of 1828 in Washington County, Georgia. His will was executed on 14 June of that year and presented for probate on 13 August of that same year. In it he named his mother Mrs. Susan Jenkins, and son Charles J. Jenkins (II). He bequeathed considerable literature from the Baptist General Convention and the Baptist Convention of Georgia. He also bequeathed tracts from Philadelphia to be given to the Baptist Church at Providence in Jefferson County. Their only child was:

2-1. Charles Jones Jenkins (II), born on 6 January 1805 at "The Grimbball Hill Place" in Beaufort District, South Carolina. He moved to Jefferson County, Georgia, with his father in 1816. Charles became the ward of his uncle Dr. John Jackson Jenkins of Hardwick, Georgia. Charles graduated in 1824 from Union College in New York and studied law with his kinsman John Macpherson Berrien in Savannah. He was admitted to the practice of law in Screven County in April of 1826. He began his law practice in Sandersville, Georgia, that same year, but in 1829 moved to Augusta. There, Jenkins became a law partner of Augustus Baldwin Longstreet.

Jenkins became a prominent lawyer and attorney general of Georgia. He was elected to the legislature in 1830; and became solicitor-general of the Middle Judicial Circuit, 1831. He was a member of the state legislature from Richmond County from 1836 to 1850, and served as speaker of the Georgia House of Representatives, 1840, 1843, and 1845. He declined the appointment as Secretary of the Interior in the Fillmore cabinet in 1850. He became an associate justice of the Supreme Court of Georgia in 1860. He was governor of Georgia from 1867 to 1868. The Radicals took control of the state government in that latter year and General Meade expelled Governor Jenkins from office. General Thomas H. Ruger, appointed as the Radical governor to replace him, demanded that Jenkins turn the seal of the Executive Department over to him. Jenkins refused. He

placed this seal in his belongings and carried it with him to Nova Scotia. After the reconstruction governor was replaced by a legally elected official, Jenkins returned the seal to the capitol.

On 27 August 1872 the state legislature passed a resolution officially praising Governor Jenkins for his valuable service and foresight in protecting the seal. In addition, the grateful state presented Jenkins with a gold facsimile of the seal. It is inscribed "In Arduis Fidelis" ("Faithful in hardship"). This beautiful seal was then donated to the Georgia Historical Society in Savannah.

Governor Jenkins' first wife was Sarah Seaborn Rebecca Weed Jones, daughter of "Columbus" Seaborn Jones and granddaughter of Abraham Parham Jones. Jenkins married her on 24 May 1832 in Louisville, Georgia. Sarah was born on 14 August 1806, and died on 29 August 1849 at Stone Mountain, Georgia. She was buried in Summerville Cemetery near Augusta. Jenkins married second Emily Gertrude Barnes on 18 April 1854 in Columbia, South Carolina. She was the daughter of the late Judge Barnes of Philadelphia. Governor Jenkins died at his home in Summerville on 14 June 1883. Jenkins County, formed from Burke, was named in his honor. Governor Jenkins and his first wife had five children:

2-1-1. Mary McKinne Jenkins, born on 2 October 1833, died on 16 October 1848. She was buried in Summerville Cemetery.

2-1-2. Charles Jones Jenkins (III), died on 19 January 1843 at the age of 3 years, 4 months, and 19 days. He was buried in Summerville Cemetery.

2-1-3. Sarah Martha Jenkins, born on 5 June 1842, died on 16 October 1848. She was buried in Summerville Cemetery.

2-1-4. (Name unknown), survived its mother.

2-1-5. (Name unknown), survived its mother.

In 1884 Mrs. Elizabeth T. Belt, widow of CPT (Dr.) Lloyd Carlton Belt, filed a lawsuit in the United States Circuit Court in Savannah against Joseph B. Cummings and Charles C. Jones Jr., executors of the estate of the late Gov. Charles J. Jenkins, claiming that Jenkins had been executor of her husband's estate and that he had never adequately accounted to her for certain investments made in behalf of the estate. This case went to trial in August of 1884, and the following year Judge Emory Speer ruled in favor of the defendants.

REFERENCES: Jenkins family file in the genealogical files, Georgia Historical Library, Savannah, Georgia; Berrien family information in the Rice family file, Washington Memorial Library, Macon, Georgia; obituary of Dr. John J. Jenkins in SMN, 17 April 1851; obituary of Charles J.

Jenkins (I), Esq., in "Christian Index," 23 August 1828; will of Charles J. Jenkins (I) in Jefferson County Will Book (1828-28); biography of Charles J. Jenkins (II) in Rev. George White, Historical Collections Of Georgia (New York, 1854), 629-630; Dr. James Holmes, "Dr. Bullie's" Notes (Atlanta, 1976), xxiii, 4, 6, 6n, 7-8; will of Dr. John Jackson Jenkins in Burke County Will Book A, 209; biography of Charles Jones Jenkins (II) in William J. Northen, ed., Men of Mark in Georgia, III (Atlanta, 1911), 281-293; William A. Jenkins vs. The German Lutheran Congregation of Effingham County, 58 Ga. 125 (1876); William Murphey, Herschel V. Jenkins, A Biography (bound typescript in Chatham-Effingham County Public Library, Bull Street, Savannah, Georgia; undated); Pearl Rahn Gnann, comp., Georgia Salzburger and Allied Families (Easley, 1976), 128-129; and see "The Governor Jenkins' Suit" in SMN, 22 August 1884, for a history of the origins of the Belt vs. Cummings et al. lawsuit in the U.S. Circuit Court.

PRESENTLY REPRESENTED IN THE GEORGIA SOCIETY OF THE CINCINNATI BY:
(vacant)

NOTE NO. 1: During the January Term of 1793 of the Superior Court of Chatham County an order was obtained regarding the estate of the late William Jones. It recited that a John Jenkins, in right of his wife Mrs. Hester West, along with other heirs, signed receipts for their respective shares of Jones' estate, but obligating themselves to pay their share of any demands subsequently made against Jones' estate. Apparently, these notes had been signed in or by 1777. See legal notice in "The Georgia Gazette," Savannah, 28 March 1793. Furthermore, in 1798 Richard Wall, Sheriff of Chatham County, seized a slave as property of MAJ (sic) John Jenkins. See notice of sheriff's sale in "Georgia Gazette," Savannah, 30 March 1798. Nor should LT John Jenkins of the Georgia Continental Line be confused with CPT John Jenkins of Beaufort, South Carolina. A report of the great storm of September, 1804, related that all the homes at Bay Point in Beaufort, except that of CPT John Jenkins, had been swept away by the "impetuosity of the tide and wind." The inhabitants of the Jenkins home took to an open boat, and after being exposed in this state through the night, they were fortunate enough to get safely on shore in the morning. Captain John Jenkins of Beaufort was commander of the St. Helena Volunteer Company in December of 1775. He was born on 15 May 1750, and died in 1814. Captain John Jenkins married Mary Fripp. Mabel L. Webber, comp., "Descendants Of John Jenkins, Of St. John's Colleton" in South Carolina Genealogies, III (reprint, Spartanburg), 14-25; Theodore Rosengarten, Tombee, Portrait Of A Cotton Planter (New York, 1986), 62, 120, 724-725.

NOTE NO 2: The Hon. John Moore (1659) married in 1685 Rebecca Axtell. John was Secretary of South Carolina in 1682. Their son was COL William Moore (1699-1785). He married Willimina Weems (Wemyss). Willimina was said to have been the daughter of William Wemyss (said to have been killed at Preston Pans in the '15) and his wife Eliza (Loch). Willimina and her brothers were brought to Anne Arundell County, Maryland, by their uncle Dr. William Loch in 1716. The son of COL William Moore and his wife Willimina (Weems or Wemyss) was Dr. James Weems (or Wemyss) Moore (I) of Charleston, South Carolina. Dr. James Weems Moore (I) (1730-1775) of Charleston, South Carolina, witnessed the will of Harvey Childermas of Charleston in 1768. He witnessed the will of Francis Ladson of St. Andrew's Parish in 1770. He married Miss Susannah (or Susan) Jones (1738-1834), also from Charleston, on 2 October 1770 in St. Paul's Parish, South Carolina. Susannah was the daughter of Charles Jones. Doctor Moore and his wife Susannah (Jones) had two children:

1. Williamina Sarah Eliza Moore, born on 1 August 1771. She married in May of 1788 as his second wife MAJ John Berrien. She died on 17 February 1838.
2. James Weems Moore (II), born on 6 March 1773 in Savannah. He became a physician, but died in Savannah in June of 1796, having just returned from Philadelphia, where he had been for two years completing his medical studies. The Chatham Artillery, of which he was a member, attended his funeral.

After the death of Dr. James W. Moore (I) in 1775, his widow married on 30 April 1776, 2LT John Jenkins, of whom above.

NOTE NO. 3: The portrait of Willimina Weems (Wemyss) (1704-1784) was destroyed by General George Cadwallader when a boy by shooting arrows through it with a bow while it was stowed away in his father's garret at Ninth and Arch Streets, Philadelphia. However, the brilliant artist Thomas Sully (1783-1872) copied the portrait. It was engraved on steel by Longacre for the Atlantic Souvenir (1831). The Sully copy from which the engraving was made was last known to have been in the possession of Mrs. David Stewart Craven (Williamina Wemyss Laird).
