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Christopher Jones of Fore Place - Waltham, Mass.

His American ancestors came early to New England. He was born in Boston, September 25, 1757. At the outbreak of the Revolution his father, with others of Tory proclivities, went to Halifax.

Young Christopher entered Harvard College in Thirteen, and was graduated in 1776, having there formed a close, & long friendship with Rufus King of New York, in later life a leading member of the Federalist party, in which Jones also held a conspicuous part.

Served briefly in the American Army, entered the profession of law & advanced rapidly. Still young, he served in the State Convention which adapted the Constitution of the United States, and was appointed by Washington the first United States Attorney for Massachusetts. Much intelligence and personal charm.

David Webster read law in his office. It was Jones who invited Webster into a taste for wine. I believe the man's Dutch blood was affected by Mr. Webster's liking for liquor.

Mr. Jones returned from England in 1804 following a long period spent there, as one of the commissioners charged with settling, under Jay's Treaty, the claims of American citizens for repatriation during the Revolution. His friend Rufus King was U.S. Minister to Great Britain at this time, and during his absence made Jones charge d'affaires. His official position brought him into relations with the more prominent men and its manner of life on country estates. Upon his return home he was quite natured for him to bring plans down by an English architect, for a country residence.

The resulting mansion was famed for its beauty & hospitality. His portrait by John Trumbull & that of his wife, Rebecca Annoy Payne, now to be seen at Fore Place, has given their combined names. "a genuine brandee of the old School."

Between his serving in both houses of the Massachusetts Legislature and later as U. S. Senator, he was Governor of Massachusetts for the year 1709-1710 and "liked the position so well he was fain to try again. Thereupon he had his four horses harnessed to his stately coach, and made a sort of royal canvassing tour of the State. But the voters in the fields were not favorably affected towards a candidate who went driving about in a four-in-hand, and he lost the election."

His death at Waltham, March 1, 1729 in the mansion he had built closed a full life. He was childless, but much interested in young people.

Besides his political positions he served both as Overseas and a Fellow of Harvard College, and as President of the Massachusetts Historical Society. His bequest of \$100,000 to Harvard College was larger than any previous single gift. The money was used to build a library, now called, later replaced by the W. Green Library. The name was bestowed to one of the Freshman dormitories, in the name was bestowed to one of the Freshman dormitories, in about twenty years ago more than two hundred volumes.

Chiefly of classical literature, from Jones' own library came to the Harvard College Library from the King family who had inherited them.

apropos of our conversation yesterday Tom, you see many of the people in those days really did have beautiful homes & money to spend on them, although the ratio of rich to poor was not great.

With the early Kodak connection it just may be possible that this Jones & your English Jones may be related. Certainly the Westworts must have been of the same social level.

at least this will prove very interesting to you and I had fun doing it.

Wm. H. Burleigh