

## Norman Jones: Father of a Victorian Gentleman

*Norman Jones was the father of Maxson Jones of Bloomington. Maxson is highlighted in the Victorian Gentleman exhibit as an example of a community leader. He was the second postman of the hamlet and was thought to have registered the community's name in 1869. Jones was a magistrate, storekeeper, assessor to the reeve of Whitchurch Township and he held municipal offices. He also built a large private residence in Bloomington.*

*The Will of Norman Jones provides fascinating insight into family values and dynamics of a local Victorian family...*

In the name of God Amen

I Norman Jones in the township of Whitchurch + County of York farmer do hereby make + declare this my last will + testament.

1<sup>st</sup> I direct my Executors to pay all my just debts funeral expenses + the expenses of managing my estate as soon as practicable after my decease

2<sup>nd</sup> To my youngest daughter Minetta Luanna Jones I give my house hold furniture of every name nature also my beds and bedding

3<sup>rd</sup> To the said Minetta Luanna Jones I also give two hundred dollars the said sum to be paid after the sale of my farm.

4<sup>th</sup> I order and direct my executors to sell my real estate and to convey the same as soon as practicable after my decease and to pay to Maxson Jones the sum of fifty dollars advanced by him to my daughter Eveline

5<sup>th</sup> To my grandson Harrold the son of my daughter Eveline I give five hundred dollars to be paid to him on his twenty first birthday or the balance of five hundred dollars after my Executors shall have paid any amount they may deem necessary for his education

6<sup>th</sup> to my daughter Emeline I have given what I consider her share from my estate but in consequence of her adverse circumstances I give her two hundred dollars to be paid in four annual instalments of fifty dollars each. She to receive the said sum if living after the sale of my farm

7<sup>th</sup> To my sister Hannah and her daughter Mary Frances Winn I give one hundred dollars each to be paid to them respectively when the amount is realised from the sale of my farm

8<sup>th</sup> To my daughter Diannah I have given her full share of my estate but as an acknowledgement for her many kindnesses to me in sickness I give her one hundred dollars to be paid after the sale of my farm

9<sup>th</sup> To my sons D A Jones and Lyman M Jones I have given three thousand dollars for which I hold their notes. I order these notes to be delivered to them respectively subject to the condition that they pay the interest on said notes until money is raised from the sale of my farm to pay a mortgage made by me to raise the said three thousand dollars

10<sup>th</sup> I order my Executors to pay to Patrick Manly(?) the sum of two hundred dollars to be used for the benefit of my daughter, Adeline is she be living when said sum may be available from the proceeds of the sale of my farm and the receipt of the said Patrick manly to be a discharge to my Executors

11<sup>th</sup> All the residue of my estate of every kind and nature of which I shall die possessed I give devise and bequeath to my daughters Abigail, Charlotte, Albert(?) and Minetta, and my son Maxon Jones of Bloomington share and share alike if living and to their heirs respectively if deceased. My landed(?) estate consists of the west half of Lot three in the eighth Concession of Whitchurch

I nominate and appoint James Dougherty Merchant of the Village of Stouffville and Archibald McPherson Carriage builder of Ringwood Executors to this my last Will and Testament hereby revoking all former last wills and testaments by me made – In witness whereof I have hereto set my hand and affixed my seal this 14<sup>th</sup> day of January one thousand eight hundred and eighty four Norman Jones.

Signed sealed + published by the same Norman Jones in the Testator Co(?) and for his last will and Testament in presence of us who at his request and in his presence and in the presence of each other have subscribed our names as witnesses to the execution thereof

Joseph Randall  
Walter Randall