



Benjamin F. Jayne

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The Jayne family, which has been identified with the interests and history of Setauket from the earliest colonial days, traces its descent from the Rev. William Jayne, who was born in Bristol, England, January 25, 1618. In 1678, at the age of sixty years, he crossed the Atlantic in a sailing vessel to America, and took up his abode at Setauket, Long Island. Here he became the owner of a considerable tract of land upon which he carried on farming for some time. He attained mature years, dying at a little more than ninety-six years of age. March 21, 1714. He was twice married, and his second wife was An Briggs. His sons, all born at Setauket, were: William, March 23, 1684, died in 1753, on Long Island; Samuel, who moved to Orange county and died in 1756; Mathias; John Daniel, died in 1785; and Stephen, born in 1700, married Ma Hawkins and died November 1, 1774. John, Daniel and James; like Samuel, moved away from Setauket.

Stephen Jayne, son of Stephen Jayne, named above, was born August 25, 1727. He was a farmer and blacksmith, and seems to have inherited a full share of the vitality of his long lived race, dying in his eightieth year at Setauket, January 1807. His wife was Amy Davis.

Joseph Jayne, son of Stephen Jayne, was born March 3 1757, and lived to be the oldest man in Setauket, his death occurring August 19, 1847, at the age of ninety years, one month and eleven days. His wife was Elizabeth Robbins, who bore him four sons - - Daniel, Stephen, Micah and Alfred among whom -was divided the large patrimonial estate.

Micah Jayne, third son of Joseph and Elizabeth (Robbins) Jayne, was born in Setauket, April 5, 1796. He early became identified with maritime interests, in which he made for himself fortune and fame. He built and commanded several vessels among them the "Adaline," which he named for his wife and was the first vessel constructed on the modern plan of ten hours of labor per day in the shipyards, the day's work having previously extended from: sunrise to sunset. He married Adaline Jones, February 19, 1823, and of this marriage were born three children: Scudder, Benjamin F., and Mary Elizabeth. Captain Micah Jayne died in 1883, at the age of eighty-seven years being at the time of his death, as had his father before him, oldest man in Setauket.

The two sons of Captain Micah Jayne inherited the paternal tastes and ability. Scudder, born May 17, 1824, took to a sea-faring life at the early age of fifteen years, first sailing with his father. When only eighteen years old, he was placed in command of the sloop, "Arrival." In 1846 he was placed in charge of the schooner "Adaline," which He commanded for several years. For five years he sailed the "Marietta Haul." From 1856 to 1862 he commanded the schooner "Susan E. Jayne," which had been built for him. In 1863 he took charge of the "Ida A. Jayne," which also had been built for him, and which sailed until 1867, when he retired from the sea.

Benjamin F. Jayne, only surviving son of Captain Micah and Adaline (Jones) Jayne, was born in Setauket, Long Island, February 25, 1835. His early education was acquired in the schools at Setauket, Long Island, and when eighteen years of age he entered the Academy of Miller's Place, Long Island, a renowned school of learning in those days. He studied navigation for over a year, and subsequently went to sea, having acquired some practical experience under his brother, Captain Scudder Jayne. At the age of twenty years he became master of the schooner "James M. Bayles," and engaged in the coasting trade. In 1857 he had the "David B. Bayles" built, and successfully navigated this vessel in the coasting and foreign trade up to about 1865. Having visited numerous ports of the Mediterranean and West Indies seas, he finally sold his vessel and purchased the schooner "Annie Lewis," navigating her until 1869. When he located in Brooklyn and engaged in the wholesale coal business, with offices in New York City. In this venture Captain Jayne met with merited success, as in his other business enterprises. In maritime as well as in trade circles his name was always synonymous with integrity and straight-forward business methods. Captain Jayne is a member of the Setauket Presbyterian church, and has been one of its board of trustees for upwards of a score of years. He is also a member of Suffolk Lodge, Free and Accepted Masons, at Port Jefferson and the Union League Club of Brooklyn. He has been twice married. His first union was to Miss Hannah All. Corwin, daughter of Robert and Margaret Corwin. Mrs. Jayne died May 7, 1900, and on April 14, 1902, he married Miss Martha Jones Corwin, a niece of his first wife and a daughter of John R. and Martha (Jones) Corwin.

The information above was taken from "Genealogical and Family History Vol. 2" Located in the Sutro Library in San Francisco.