

# Register Report for Jonas L BALL

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## Generation 1

1. **Jonas L BALL**-1 was born on 25 Mar 1818 in Massachusetts, USA. He died on 03 Apr 1888. He was buried in Toluca, Marshall, Illinois (Antioch Cemtery).

Notes for Jonas L BALL:

General Notes:

"Jonas L. BALL, a native of Massachusetts, located in Lacon in 1841, traveling from Hamilton, Ohio, on horseback. He had lived in the latter place from boyhood, and for a number of years served as foreman in the packing house of Jabez FISHER. In the employ of that gentleman he came to Lacon, where he had charge of a packing house for four years. He then turned his attention to general merchandising and also bought potatoes, shipping them to St. Louis by boat. In 1855 he removed to a farm and after two years located on section 1, Belle Plain township. He hauled wheat to Chicago, and on the return trip brought the lumber with which to build his house. His wife, Elizabeth C. BALL, was a daughter of Dr. FETTER, who in 1845 removed from Uniontown, Pennsylvania, to Caledonia, Putnam county, Illinois, where his death occurred about 1850. He had an extensive practice, and was a prominent and highly respected citizen.

"Jonas and Elizabeth BALL were parents of seven children, three of whom are living: John D., Jonas T. and Gertrude, wife of Sain WELTY, an attorney of Bloomington, Illinois. The father of this family was a member of the Christian church, and a valued and influential citizen, highly esteemed by all. His wife is still living at the age of seventy years and makes her home with her daughter in Bloomington." from The Biographical Record of Bureau, Marshall and Putnam Counties, Illinois, 1896.

**Elizabeth C FETTER** was born on 13 Feb 1823 in Pennsylvania, USA. She died on 03 Sep 1899 in Bloomington, McLean, Illinois, USA. She was buried in Toluca, Marshall, Illinois (Antioch Cemetery).

Jonas L BALL and Elizabeth C FETTER were married 7 children. They had the following children:

- i. **Alice BALL** was born about 1846. She died infancy.
- ii. **William Lemuel BALL** was born on 19 Nov 1848 in Lacon, Marshall, Illinois, USA. He married Ruth Ann STRATTON on 22 Feb 1871 (4 children). He died on 12 Aug 1884 in Bennington, Marshall, Illinois, USA (vs 7 Apr 1888).
- iii. **Charles BALL** was born about 1850. He died aged 2 years.
- iv. **Jonas Thomas BALL** was born on 06 Feb 1853 in Lacon, Marshall, Illinois, USA. He died on 03 May 1923 in Toluca, Marshall, Illinois. He was buried in Toluca, Marshall, Illinois (Antioch Cemetery).
- v. **John Dudley BALL** was born in 1855. He married Annie M GRIFFIN on 24 Feb 1876 (6 children). He died on 29 Mar 1919 in Belle Plain, Marshall, Illinois.
- vi. **Gertrude BALL** was born on 18 Oct 1859. She died on 10 May 1934. She was buried in Bloomington, McLean, Illinois, USA (Park Hill Cemetery).
- vii. **George L BALL** was born on 07 Jan 1862 in Illinois, USA. He died on 28 Jun 1894 (drowned in Senachwine Lake while bathing on a pleasure trip). He married Maria E CARRITHERS 4 children. He was buried in Toluca, Marshall, Illinois (Antioch Cemetery).

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## Generation 2

2. **William Lemuel BALL**-2 (Jonas L-1) was born on 19 Nov 1848 in Lacon, Marshall, Illinois, USA. He died on 12 Aug 1884 in Bennington, Marshall, Illinois, USA (vs 7 Apr 1888). He was buried Antioch cemetery.

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## Generation 2 (con't)

Notes for William Lemuel BALL:

General Notes:

"William Lemuel BALL, who was called from earth in the midst of his usefulness, spent his entire life in Marshall county, his birth occurring in Lacon, November 19, 1848, and his death on his farm in Bennington township, August 12, 1884. His parents, Jonas L. and Elizabeth C. (FELLER) BALL, continued to reside in Lacon until he was about twelve years of age, the father following general merchandising. He then removed his family to a farm in Belle Plain township, where he became the owner of a large tract of land, on which he continued to live until about two years before his death, when he went to Bloomington, Illinois, and there passed away April 7, 1888. He was one of the honored early settlers of Marshall county, a man highly respected by all who knew him.

Besides the education received in the country schools, William L. BALL also attended school in Wenona, and completed his literary course in Eureka college, in which he was a student for several year. On leaving the schoolroom he was for a time a clerk in a dry goods store of Lacon, during which time he also read medicine, but at the end of a year gave up the idea of following that profession and began farming on his own account.

On the 22d of February, 1871, Mr. BALL led to the marriage altar Miss Ruth A. STRATTON, who was born in Vanderburg county, Indiana, August 10, 1848, and is a daughter of James and Marcia (CHALCRAFT) STRATTON. Four children graced this union: Gertrude, who was born on the home farm January 3, 1872, and was married November 21, 1894, to Roscoe VAYNE, of Chicago; Cora E., born September 13, 1873; Frank D., born November 5, 1875, and William J., born August 24, 1881. Cora was educated in the Normal and Eureka college, while Frank attended the last-named institution two years, and also pursued his studies for one year in Galesburg.

Mr. and Mrs. BALL began their domestic life upon a farm of two hundred acres given him by his father, where she still resides. For three years they made their home in the old house standing there, and then erected the present comfortable residence of the family. The land was unimproved, but to its cultivation and development Mr. BALL devoted his time and attention until life's labors were ended, and transformed the place into one of the most desirable farms of the locality. At the time of his death he was serving as vice-president of the Wenona Union Fair association, and for years had taken an active part in promoting its interests and making it a success.

Politically, Mr. BALL was a lifelong democrat, was repeatedly elected supervisor of Bennington township, and was a prominent and influential member of the board at the time of his death. His name was often spoken of in connection with the democratic nomination for the legislature, and had he lived he would undoubtedly have been nominated and elected. He also served as school treasurer. From boyhood he was a consistent member of the Christian church, to which his wife and family also belonged, and was one of its most liberal supporters. His influence was great and always for good. His sympathy, his benevolence, his kindly greetings, will long be remembered. His duties were performed with the greatest care, and throughout his life his personal honor and integrity were without blemish. His home life was beautiful and exemplary. Ardent and constant in his affections, he was a most tenderly devoted husband, and an indulgent father. His body now rests in Antioch cemetery."

from The Biographical Record of Bureau, Marshall and Putnam Counties, Illinois, 1896.

"Throughout life this gentleman was identified with the agricultural interests of Marshall county and won a place among the prosperous and well-to-do farmers of the community in which he made his home. He was born in Lacon on the 19th of November, 1848, and was a son of Jonas L. and Elizabeth C. (FETTER) BALL. For many years the father was engaged in general merchandising in Lacon, but when our subject was twelve years of age removed to a farm in Belle Plain township, on which he engaged in agricultural pursuits throughout the greater part of his life. He died on the 7th of April, 1888, honored and respected by all who knew him.

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## Register Report for Jonas L BALL

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### Generation 2 (con't)

During his boyhood and youth William L. BALL pursued his studies in the public schools of Marshall county, being a student in the schools of Wenona for a time, but he completed his education at Eureka College, which he attended for several years. On starting out upon his business career he engaged in clerking in a drug store in Lacon and afterward read medicine, but at the end of a year decided to abandon that profession and turned his attention to agricultural pursuits. After his marriage he located on a farm of two hundred acres given him by his father, which at that time was improved, but to its cultivation and further development he turned his attention, finally transforming it into one of the finest farms of Bennington township.

Mr. BALL was married February 22, 1871, to Miss Ruth A. STRATTON, a native of Vanderburgh county, Indiana, born August 10, 1848, and a daughter of James and Marcia (CHALCRAFT) STRATTON. Four children blessed the union of Mr. and Mrs. BALL, who in order of birth were as follows: Gertrude, born on the home farm January 3, 1872, was married on the 21st of November, 1894, to Roscoe BAYNE, D. D., at Henry. Cora E., born September 13, 1873, is now the wife of H. H. BECKWITH, who is operating the old home farm, and they have one child, Harold, born September 26, 1903. Frank D., born November 5, 1875, now conducting a livery stable in Toluca, married Miss Nellie MATHIS, daughter of the postmaster at that place, and they have three children, Ruth Irene, James William and Floyd Raymond. William J., born August 24, 1881, died on the 20th of April, 1902. The children were given good educational privileges, Cora having attended the normal college and also Eureka College, while Frank was for two years a student in Eureka College and afterward pursued his studies for one year at Galesburg.

Mr. BALL was recognized as one of the most enterprising and progressive men of his community, and was called upon to take an active part in public affairs. At the time of his death, which occurred on his farm in Bennington township, August 12, 1884, he was filling the position of vice president of the Wenona Union Fair Association and had for several years been actively identified with its prosperity. At an early age he united with the Christian church, to which his wife and family also belong, and throughout life gave a liberal support to all measures which he believed would prove of public benefit or would advance the moral and material welfare of his native county. By his ballot he always supported the men and measures of the democratic party, and was honored with several local offices, serving many years as supervisor of Bennington township, and was chairman of the board for four years, being one of the leading members of the board at the time of his death. He was several times spoken of as a candidate for the legislature, and had he lived would undoubtedly have been nominated and elected. After a useful and well spent life of forty years he passed away, honored and respected by all who knew him, and in his death the community realized that it had lost a valued citizen."

from Past and Present of Marshall and Putnam Counties Illinois, 1907.

**Ruth Ann STRATTON** daughter of James Lemuel STRATTON and Marsha CHALCRAFT was born on 10 Aug 1848 in Vanderburgh, Indiana, USA. She died on 22 Jul 1924 in Toluca, Marshall, Illinois. She was buried in Toluca, Marshall, Illinois (Antioch Cemetery).

William Lemuel BALL and Ruth Ann STRATTON were married on 22 Feb 1871 (4 children). They had the following children:

- i. **Gertrude BALL** was born on 03 Jan 1872 in Marshall, Illinois, USA. She married Roscoe S BAYNE on 21 Nov 1894. She died in 1960. She was buried in Henry, Marshall, Illinois (Henry Cemetery).
4. ii. **Cora E BALL** was born on 13 Sep 1873 in Marshall, Illinois, USA. She died in 1867.
5. iii. **Frank D BALL** was born on 05 Nov 1875 in Marshall, Illinois, USA. He died in 1938.

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## Register Report for Jonas L BALL

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### Generation 2 (con't)

- iv. **William J BALL** was born on 24 Aug 1881 in Marshall, Illinois, USA. He died in 1902. He was buried in Toluca, Marshall, Illinois (Antioch Cemetery).
3. **John Dudley BALL-2** (Jonas L-1) was born in 1855. He died on 29 Mar 1919 in Belle Plain, Marshall, Illinois. He was buried in Toluca, Marshall, Illinois (Antioch Cemetery).

Notes for John Dudley BALL:

General Notes:

"John D. BALL, an enterprising farmer residing on section 12, Belle Pain township, Marshall county, was born in Lacon, Illinois, February 24, 1855. His father, Jonas L. BALL, ...

"Under the parental roof John D. BALL was reared to manhood, no event of special importance occurring in his boyhood days, which were passed midst play and work on the home farm. He was married February 24, 1876, to Anna M. GRIFFIN, daughter of Hamilton R. GRIFFIN, deceased, who came to Marshall county from Smithville, Pennsylvania, in 1848. After conducting a hotel for a year in Henry he located in Evans township, Marshall county, where he made his home until 1892, removing then to Wenona, where his death occurred in 1894. To Mr. and Mrs. BALL have been born six children, four of whom are living, namely: Electa L., Ella G., and Jonas H. and Josie L., twins. One died in infancy, and Charles L. died at the age of near two years.

"Mr. BALL gives his attention to agricultural pursuits and his energy, close application and sound judgment have brought to him a handsome competence. His home farm comprises four hundred and forty-five acres of valuable land, and he also owns two hundred and forty acres in Ford county. All the improvements and conveniences known to the model farm of the nineteenth century are found on his place and indicate the thrift and enterprise of the owner. His home is one of the finest in the county, a two story frame residence, heated by a hot air furnace, and supplied with water which is piped into the house. The furnishings are tasteful and in this desirable home hospitality reigns supreme. In 1895 Mr. BALL erected a large barn. He is very progressive and follows the most advanced methods in all things. His sterling worth has occasioned his selection to public office, he having served as school director several years, as school trustee, assessor for five years and supervisor for three years. He is United States reporter for this township, to obtain statistics of the agricultural products. Religiously he is connected with the Christian church, and socially is a member of the Knights of Pythias and Modern Woodmen of America. His life has been well spent and he well deserves mention among the leading citizens of Marshall county." from The Biographical Record of Bureau, Marshall and Putnam Counties, Illinois, 1896.

"John D. BALL, one of the prosperous and prominent residents of Marshall county, is living on section 12, Belle Plain township, where he owns and occupies a beautiful residence about a mile west of Toluca. He has wielded a wide influence over public life in this community, manifesting a public spirited devotion to the general good, and in his business interests has displayed a spirit of progress and enterprise that have enabled him to overcome all difficulties and obstacles in his path and make steady advancement on the highroad of prosperity. He was born in Lacon, Illinois, in 1855. His father, Jonas L. BALL, a native of Massachusetts, came from Hamilton, Ohio, to Marshall county, Illinois, making the journey on horseback. He settled here at a pioneer epoch in the history of the county, taking up his abode just west of Toluca, where G. W. THOMAS now resides on a part of the old homestead. Mr. BALL became a very extensive land owner, having at one time fifteen hundred acres, but he divided his property among his children, giving to each two hundred acres when they attained their majority. He ever utilized his opportunities to the best advantage, was quick to recognize a chance for good investment, and, moreover, in his daily life displayed a spirit of industry and capable management that constituted the strongest elements in his success. His political views were in accord with the principles of democracy and he was one of the founders of the Antioch Christian church, which was afterward removed to Toluca. His land lay just west of Toluca about a half mile and extended into Belle Plain township. For four years he served as supervisor, and his devotion to the public good stood as an unquestioned fact in his life. He contributed to the material, intellectual and moral progress of the community through his co-operation in affairs that had direct bearing upon the welfare of the county along those lines, and he passed away in 1888, respected and honored by all

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## Register Report for Jonas L BALL

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### Generation 2 (con't)

who knew him. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Elizabeth C. FETTER, was born in Pennsylvania in 1823, and was a daughter of Dr. FETTER. She too held membership in the Christian church and was a most estimable lady. In the family of this worthy couple were seven children: Alice, who died in infancy; William L., also deceased; Charles, who died at the age of two years; Jonas T., living west of Toluca; John D., of this review; Gertrude, the wife of Sain WELTY, a lawyer of Bloomington; and George L., who was drowned in Senachwine lake while in bathing on a pleasure trip at the age of thirty-three years. He left a wife and four children, the wife being now Mrs. Maria E. BALL, who is educating her children in Eureka.

"John D. BALL was provided with liberal educational privileges. He supplemented his early training by study in Eureka College at Eureka, Illinois, and he began farming on his own account in 1875. He first followed that occupation just west of the old home place on a farm given him by his father. He now has extensive property holdings, including three hundred and forty-five acres of the old homestead, three hundred and twenty acres in Oklahoma and one hundred and seventy acres in southwestern Kansas. His property holdings are therefore extensive, and return to him a very gratifying income. For the past fifteen years he has lived retired from active business life. While at La Rose, Illinois, he was engaged in the grain business and also dealt in coal, lumber, lime, salt, cement and other similar commodities. He established his store in 1888 and sold out in 1893. He removed to the town in order to give his children good educational privileges, and while residing there became connected with its commercial interests.

"Mr. BALL was united in marriage to Miss Anna M. GRIFFIN, who was born in Pennsylvania, near Pittsburg, in 1853, and is a daughter of Hamilton and Nancy GRIFFIN, both of whom are now deceased. They were members of the Cumberland Presbyterian church. Unto Mr. and Mrs. BALL have been born the following named: Charles, who died at the age of two years; L. Eleta, living at home; Ellen G., at home; Josie Fayetta and Jonas H., twins. The former is attending the Woman's College at Jacksonville, Illinois, and the latter is studying scientific farming in the university at Champaign.

"Mr. BALL is deeply interested in the cause of education and is giving to his children excellent opportunities in this direction. The local schools have found in him a stalwart champion, and for twenty-one years he has served as school director and as school trustee. He has also been assessor of Belle Plain township for four years and was supervisor for three years. While living in La Rose he was a member of the village board for three years and was president at the time of his removal to the farm. In 1904 he was the candidate of his party, the democratic, for state senator, but was defeated. Fraternally he is identified with the Knights of Pythias lodge, No. 291, at Lacon, and the Modern Woodmen camp and the Royal Neighbors of Toluca. He belongs to the Christian church, of which he is serving as trustee, and his interest in various phases which constitute the general life of the individual is manifest by the hearty co-operation which he gives to many movements for the public good. He lives in a beautiful home about a mile west of Toluca, facing the main public road. His business interests have been carefully managed, and though he received from his father a good farm he has enlarged his holdings and brought his land under a high state of cultivation. He is seldom if ever at error in matters of business judgment, and his carefully directed labors have brought to him a gratifying measure of prosperity. He has never concentrated his energies, however upon business affairs to the exclusion of other interests, and, in fact, in all matters of citizenship has displayed a most worthy and generous support. Viewed from a personal standpoint he is a strong man strong in his honor and his good name, strong in his ability to plan and to perform and in his power to achieve that which he undertakes." from Past and Present of Marshall and Putnam Counties Illinois, 1907.

**Annie M GRIFFIN** daughter of Hamilton GRIFFIN and Nancy Griffin was born in 1853 in Pennsylvania, USA. She died on 03 Sep 1940 in Belle Plain, Marshall, Illinois. She was buried in Toluca, Marshall, Illinois (Antioch Cemetery).

John Dudley BALL and Annie M GRIFFIN were married on 24 Feb 1876 (6 children). They had the following children:

## Register Report for Jonas L BALL

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### Generation 2 (con't)

- i. **Charles L BALL** was born on 15 Feb 1879. He died on 21 Dec 1880. He was buried in Toluca, Marshall, Illinois (Antioch Cemtery).
- ii. **Electa L BALL**. She died after 1896.
- iii. **Ellen G BALL** was born on 25 Apr 1883. She died on 02 Feb 1912. She was buried in Toluca, Marshall, Illinois (Antioch Cemetery).
- iv. **Josie Fayette BALL** was born in 1887 (twin). She died in 1965. She was buried in Toluca, Marshall, Illinois (Antioch Cemetery).
- v. **Jonas H BALL** was born in 1887 (twin). He died after 1896.
- vi. **infant BALL**. He died Bef 1896.

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### Generation 3

4. **Cora E BALL-3** (William Lemuel-2, Jonas L-1) was born on 13 Sep 1873 in Marshall, Illinois, USA. She died in 1867. She was buried in Wenona, Marshall, Illinois (Cumberland Cemetery).

**Herbert Horace BECKWITH** son of Putnam BECKWITH and Frances Ann DAGEN was born in Oct 1872 in Illinois, USA. He died on 15 Dec 1933 in Toluca, Marshall, Illinois. He was buried in Wenona, Marshall, Illinois (Cumberland Cemetery).

Herbert Horace BECKWITH and Cora E BALL married. They had the following children:

- i. **Harold R BECKWITH** was born on 26 Sep 1903 in Toluca, Marshall, Illinois. He died on 11 May 1991 in Toluca, Marshall, Illinois. He was buried in Toluca, Marshall, Illinois (Antioch Cemetery).
5. **Frank D BALL-3** (William Lemuel-2, Jonas L-1) was born on 05 Nov 1875 in Marshall, Illinois, USA. He died in 1938. He was buried in Toluca, Marshall, Illinois (Antioch Cemetery).

**Nellie MATHIS**.

Frank D BALL and Nellie MATHIS married. They had the following children:

- i. **Ruth Irene BALL**.
- ii. **James William BALL**.
- iii. **Floyd Raymond BALL**.
- iv. **William J BALL**.