

We the People of the United States, in order to form a more perfect Union, establish Justice, insure domestic Tranquility, promote the common defence, promote the general Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity, do hereby constitute and establish this Constitution for the United States of America.



## JANE MEANS APPLETON PIERCE

*First Lady (1853–1857)*

Jane was born on March 12, 1806 in Hampton, New Hampshire, the daughter of Reverend Jesse Appleton and Elizabeth Means.

When she was 28, she married Franklin Pierce on November 19, 1834 in Amherst, Massachusetts. Jane and Franklin had three children: Franklin, Frank Robert, and Benjamin.

Jane had a reclusive personality and was prone to deep depression. The birth and death of her first two sons (one died at three days and the other at age four) took a huge toll on her. When Pierce won the nomination of the Democratic Party, Jane fainted.

After he was elected, the family was on a train going from Newport to Washington and it derailed, killing 12-year-old Benny, the only surviving son. The inauguration took place without an inaugural ball or Jane Pierce. Jane never recovered from her children's deaths.

Jane died in Andover, Massachusetts on December 2, 1863 when she was 57 years old.

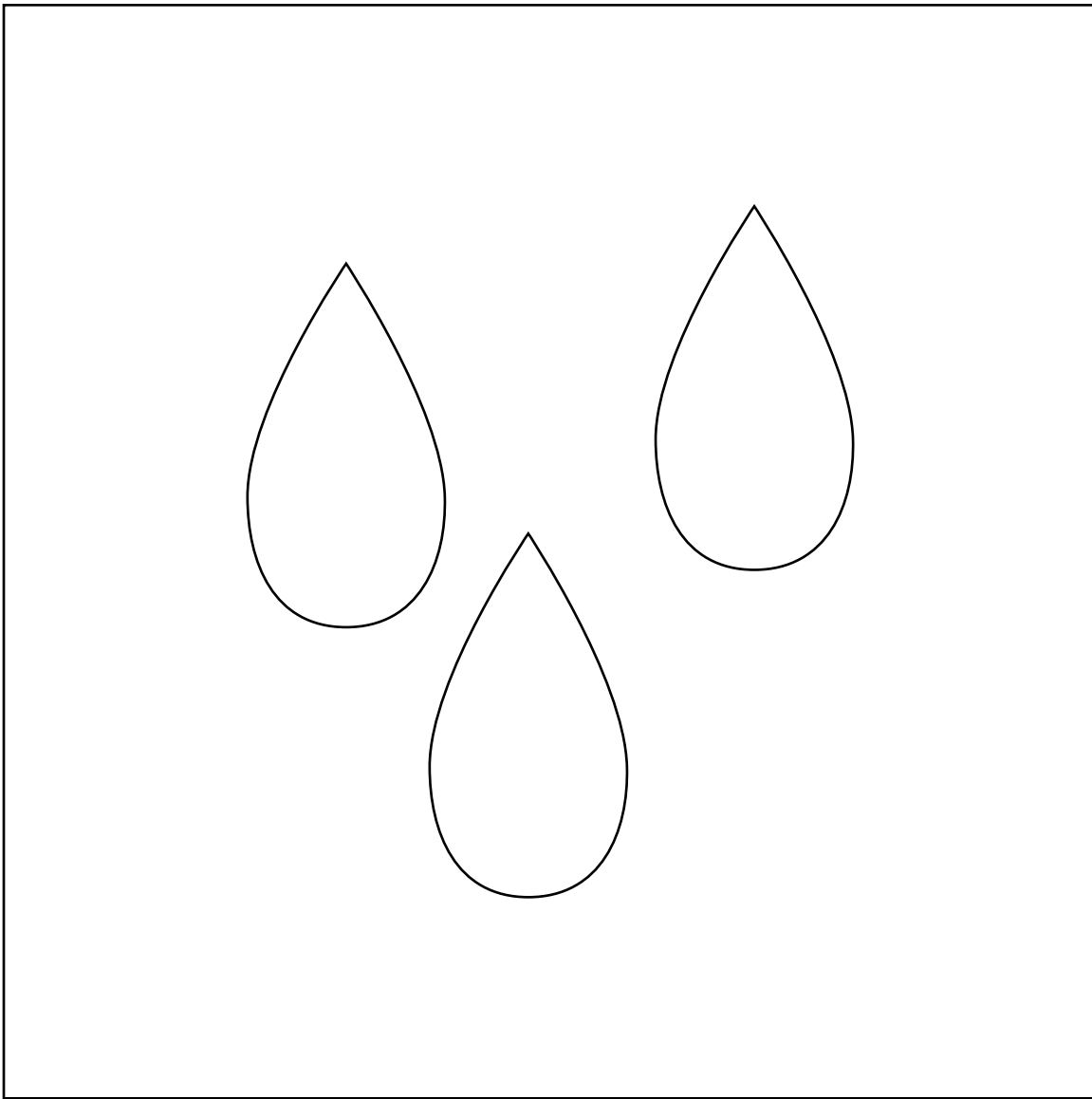
*"I have known many of the ladies of the White House, none more truly excellent than the afflicted wife of President Pierce... she was a refined, extremely religious, and well educated lady."*

*~Mrs. Robert E. Lee, in a private letter*



### Jane's Sorrow

Jane's block was created to honor her sorrow, the three teardrops each representing one of her lost sons.



**Jane's Sorrow**  
Making the Block

Using the diagram above, make templates and appliqué to a 7" square of background fabric according to the block design. Trim block to 6½" x 6½".