

October 13, 1984

Dear Lowry,

I am sure you had decided that this letter would never come, and I began to believe it too. I went back to what I had already written and thought I should start again on this thin paper so the postage wouldn't cost an arm and a leg.

James Anderson, born about 1720—25 probably in Caroline County, Virginia, married Margaret in Spotsylvania County, Virginia. All books and old historians list Margaret as a Trogg or Troy. However, I have checked everywhere and neighbors of these names appear in that area. I believe she was probably a Fogg or Frog.

Where James and Margaret go until 1750 I don't know, but in that year James buys 400 acres of land from Anne Mayo in Cumberland County. Anne was the very land wealthy widow of Joseph Mayo, and the 400 acres were part of a 4,740 acre patent that Joseph Mayo had received in August of 1740. When Joseph had received the land however it was in the County of Goochland which was the mother of Cumberland. James paid Anne twenty-four pounds for the land.

The land James purchased had a small creek running through it known then as Soke Arse Creek or Run. One can only imagine how the creek received its name but sometime in the early part of the 1800's the creek was renamed Bonbrooke as it remains today.

It is impossible to know how James' land looked in 1750 as today it is included in state forest land and is used for planting and cutting of pulp. Some of the types of trees listed in the Mayo—Andersons deed include gum, pine, white oak and Spanish oak.

Records on James and Margaret after 1750 are sparse. A records has been found that does show that James and Margaret were still in Cumberland in 1761—62. At that time the couple were suing Moses Smith for talking indecently to Margaret.

A suit was tiled in Cumberland County for a “plea of trespass case .. damage one hundred pounds,” and continued until May of 1762 when the case was dismissed, James and Margaret failing to prosecute. Then in 1766, from the records, it would appear that James was in debt to George Kippen and James Lyle for fifteen pounds, two shillings and six pence. According to the records James absconded from Cumberland and an inventory was made of all the items he had left behind in order to satisfy his debt. Where he and Margaret and their young family went has not been discovered.

Proof can only be found for three children of James- Lawrence, George and William, and this is because they turn up with the 400 acres that James purchased of Aim Mayo. Also, I found a paper that definitely states that James was the father of William, and brother Lawrence in his will makes his “brother William” one of his executors.

Other children I believe to belong to James and Margaret are Jesse, John, Richard, James and possibly Molly/Polly (Mary) William, Lawrence, George, Jesse, John and Richard stay in Cumberland County. James moves to Franklin County, VA, and Polly too stays in Cumberland.

Mary "Polly/Molly" Anderson

This woman is a mystery because it has been undetermined who she was. She appeared in the records of Cumberland County in the late 1700's and early 1800's. In 1793 she witnessed the will of Elizabeth Lyalls but when the will was probated in 1804 Mary did not appear. In April of 1801, John Anderson was appointed surveyor of the road and the records show he included the hands of Mary Anderson.

From all indications she lived on the 400 acres of land that James had purchased. This might indicate she was a daughter, unmarried of James and Margaret. She also could have been the wife (second) of James and therefore the step—mother of the three brothers who end up with James' 400 acres. James may have stated in his will (and he did leave a will — but where?) that Mary was to live on the land for as long as she lived and remained his widow.

No records in Cumberland thus far found give any indication of Mary's death, so probably everything she had, by James' will, was to revert back to his estate at his death.

Jesse Anderson

Little is known of Jesse and his family even though he spent most, if not all of his adult years in Cumberland County. He married about 1777 when he bought his first land of 200 acres from Joseph Calland. This would put his birth about 1753-56.

Jesse married Mary Holland, daughter of James Holland and his wife Mary Meador. Mary was a sister to Jesse's brother John's wife Anna.

By the 1782 census, Jesse and Mary had three children, but it has never been determined how large a family they finally had. Trying to figure how many children there were has not been easy. In the 1810 Federal Census it lists

1 male 45 and up	1 female 45 and up
1 male 10-16	1 female under 10
1 male 16—26	1 female 16—26

Proven children are John, William and Lucy, but there was probably also Frances, Mary and Nancy. Son William was blind and never married. After John grew up he disappeared probably he died or left. Cumberland. Lucy married three times and had children by two men.

Jesse died about 1815, the year his inventory and appraisal of his estate appear in the but it is not known when Mary died.

John Anderson

John lived his adult years in Cumberland and died in 1815 He had a very large family and his children all had large families. John married Anna Holland, daughter of James Holland and Mary Meador. He appears to have purchased his first land in 1779 — 50 acres, but that is just the beginning as he buys and sells all of his years after this. John appears to have been a farmer and he did leave a will. His and Ann's children were: James; Joel; Frances a daughter; Patsey; Jacob; John; Elizabeth; Mary; and Susanna. Many of these end up in Ohio and I am presently in correspondence with a descendent of James.

John was quite a wealthy man (for those days) when he died having \$4,641.91 which included 13 slaves.

George Anderson

George is a book himself. Re was probably the third son since he ended up with the less of the 400 acres than Lawrence and William did.

Jenny Bradley and he died 1816 leaving a will. His wife Jenny did there in 1825 and she too left a will. They had 7 children to grow to adults! Phoebe; Levis; David; Elijah; Elizabeth; Nancy and Chesley.

George too appears to be a farmer although some evidence points to the fact he may also have been in politics. There was another George (from another family) who lived in Cumberland at the same time and was about this George's age, so for sure which George was in the House of Delegates for Virginia is difficult to determine. George appears to purchase additional land beginning in 1783 when he buys 100 acres, George had at his death an estate worth over \$2,700 which included 8 slaves but most of them were children.

Two of George's sons moved to Georgia and one of his daughter's Elizabeth married her cousin Shirley Anderson son of William.

Richard Anderson

Richard is the only one we have found Rev. War records for. Richard was born in 1760 and died in Cumberland in 1813. He married Martha Meador who was a sister of one of our other ancestor (Annah Meador who married Edward Robinson). They were married in Cumberland and their 8 children began appearing the next year (one at a time however). There was James Moses; Sally and Betty who died young; John A.; Thomas; Frances; Rebecca (who married her cousin Caleb son of William and Catherine); and Richard Laurence.

Richard seems to purchase his first land from Andrew Edwards in 1793, and his last from his father in law in 1794. Maybe because he died early, but he seemed to be the poorest of the brothers. He probably lived on the 400 acres until his own marriage but never owned any of it, although his own land was very close to his older brothers.

Lawrence Anderson

Lawrence was probably the oldest of the Anderson brothers because he appears to have received the biggest share of the 1400 acres. I have never been able to find her maiden name. Lawrence was very young when he died, having only three children (Lawrence; Fanny and Nancy). It would appear that when he wrote his will in February 1781 he was "sound of body and mind" yet three months later in May he was dead, probably about 35 years old. From the tone of the will I would suspect he either went off to war, knew someone was gunning for him, or there was a sickness about and he was afraid he might catch it. Anyway, apparently when he wrote his will he was fearful for his life. Rhoda his wife never married but raised her children and did some fine property wheeling and dealing. She was able at her own death in 1833 to leave her children not only their share of their grandfather's estate, but some other prime land. Her daughter Nancy never married; Fanny married her cousin John Anderson, son of William and Catherine, and

Lawrence died shortly after his mother when a houseful of children.

James Anderson

Many people disagree with me about this James. They make him the son of another James Anderson Family in Cumberland County. I won't go into all my reasons for putting James in our family but even in the DAR is beginning to lean my way. Anyway, this James married Anne Hubbard in Cumberland County and then moved to Franklin County, Virginia where James died in 1822. He had a family of nine children with four daughters marrying Meador men. The children were Jesse; Joseph; Nelson; James; Lucy; Polly; Frank; Sally and Elizabeth.

Meredith Anderson

Meredith is another long shot but I do believe he ties into the family somewhere. He appears mostly in the records of Spotsylvania County, Virginia and later Goochland County, Virginia and then I lose him. He married Catherine Ammon and had at least Lawrence, Rhoda and Lucy.

Jacob Anderson

Jacob was another soldier in the Rev. War. On his records he says he was in Caroline County in 1760 and moved to Cumberland the winter of 1799. He married twice, the first wife unknown. After his move to the southern section of the state he married second Frances Green and they settled in Pittsylvania County, Virginia. Jacob had a large family with children by both wives. They were David; Polly; Sarah; Nancy; Jonas; Joel; James; Thomas; Doctor; Raleigh; Elizabeth; Jacob C. and Dolly H. His children move into Ohio and Texas

William Anderson — Our line

William was the second son of James and Margaret, b. about 1748. Nothing is known of his early years except that somewhere and from someone he learned the tailoring trade. The earliest record thus far found for him was in 1769 and identifies him as a tailor. William was probably identified as a tailor in the Cumberland records because another William also lived at that time in Cumberland and this was a means of keeping the two men apart.

About 1770 William married Catherine Shirley a Spotsylvania County girl. Catherine was the daughter of John and Elizabeth Shirley. She had been born about 1750 and was one of the older children of her parents.

William made a few additional purchases of land to go with his share of his father's estate, but never was a large land owner. He apparently kept his family by his tailoring trade, although his sons probably did work the land.

One of the last records found for William while he was alive is recorded in Spotsylvania County. In September of 1794 he purchased a Negro woman named Bess from his father-in-law. John Shirley was, to have full use of the woman until his death and then she was to go to William or his heirs.

Family tradition lists fourteen children for William and Catherine, however proof for only eleven has been found. William taught at least two of his Sons the art involved in tailoring. He may have taught other young men as well as several of his brothers descendants were also tailors. Of his Sons, it is known that James and William were

tailors. Most of the other six boys became farmers when they were grown, and one in later years became a preacher.

It is not known if any of the Anderson children received a formal education. The records of Cumberland do not tell if there was a school where the children could attend. It is known however, that they could all read and write because of later records found. Perhaps Catherine and William served as schoolteachers to their young brood.

One wonders what the cause of William's death might have been. He was under fifty years of age at his death in 1795. Many illnesses were common place in the late 1700's however, and because of it few people lived into their sixties and seventies. Whatever the cause of death, William died in Cumberland between May 17 and June 22. His place of burial to this date has not been found.

Catherine continued to live on the home place and raise her family. At William's death at least four of his children were young enough that they required a guardian. Their older brother John played this role until at least 1805 when their mother became their guardian. John also became executor of his father's estate as William had died intestate.

In March of 1830 Catherine wrote her will and left two thirds of her estate to son Shirley and the balance to son Caleb. By this time Catherine was near 80 years old, but she was to live another three years before her death. She died in Cumberland in 1833 and her will was probated in December of that year.

The children of William and Catherine were:

Elizabeth who married Jackey Talley

James who was single at his death.

John who married Frances Anderson his first cousin, daughter of Lawrence and Rhoda.

William who married Elizabeth _____

Thomas who married Judith Robinson and moved to Jackson County, TN, Joel who had wives and moved to Williamson County, Tennessee

Garland who married Sarah Robinson, sister to Judith Robinson wife of Thomas. This couple also moved to Jackson County, Tennessee

Caleb who married Rebecca Anderson his first cousin and daughter of Richard and Martha.

Frances who married James Meador

Shirley who married twice — 1st to Elizabeth Anderson his first cousin and daughter of George and Jenny, and 2nd to Mary Oslin

Sarah who married Gross Robinson and after Gross' death moved with her children to Putnam County, TN

Others who by family tradition were also children of William and Catherine:

Paul

Nancy

Patsey

Lowry, there is so much more that could be said about these brothers and the children, grandchildren, etc., but that will have to wait until a later time. Let's know move to Thomas who married Judith Robinson which is our direct line. First the Robinsons:

Judith and her sister Sarah were daughters of Edward Robinson and his wife Anna Meador. Anna was the daughter of Jehu Meador of Cumberland and his wife Sarah Atkinson. Jehu's parents were Jonas and Frances Meador of Cumberland County. Edward Robinson was the son of Edward Robinson and his wife Judith, and Edward Robinson Sr. was the son of John Robinson and his wife Tabitha Jones, all of Cumberland County.

I have tons and tons on the Meadors and Robinsons but still have much to do there. The Robinsons are like the Andersons with such a common name that it is hard to sort and determine for sure which are yours.

Thomas Anderson.

Thomas was somewhere in the middle of births in his family. He was born about 1779 in Cumberland County. It is not known for sure when or where he married Judith Robinson but it was before the couple left Virginia headed for Tennessee. Judith was born in 1785 or 1786 probably in Cumberland County, Virginia.

Thomas and Judy arrived in Jackson County, Tennessee sometime after July of 1806. Moving with them were Thomas' brother Garland and his family, Judy's parents and several of her brothers and sisters. The date into Tennessee is arrived at because Garland had a son Edward born in Virginia in July of 1806.

Thomas received several land grants from the State of Tennessee in Jackson County. These are available through the State Archives in Nashville should you want copies.

Thomas became a very wealthy farmer for his day because he gave at least three of his sons and one of his sons—in—law enough money to purchase land in the Silver Pointe area. And at his death he had between 259 and 300 acres of land along with 12 Negroes.

October 8 1858 as the Jackson County record will show. He died intestate, but in 1858 a law suit was brought between his heirs. As a result of this suit his estate was divided between his heirs except that Judy received 101 acres as her dower.

Judy was to live until 1868 and she and Thomas are supposed to be buried on their home place on Blackburn's Fork in Jackson County although no stones have been found for them.

Children of Thomas and Judith

1. Fannie, born between 1804 and 1810 — married John Warrick Reynolds and moved to Missouri

2. William J. (Short Billy), born about 1808 — married 1st Polly Lynn married 2nd (?). Stayed in Jackson County.
3. Garland (later called Gallant by his family, born about 1810 married Sarah Jones and moved to the Buffalo Valley area of Putnam County
4. Edward “Ned”, born about 1811. and married Lucinda “Cindarella” Mahaney and moved to the Buffalo Valley area
5. Katherine, born about 1814 and married Ransome P. Mahaney. They, I think, stayed in the Jackson County, area.
6. Annie, born in March of 1816. She married Joshua Bartlett. and they moved to the Buffalo Valley area.

7. Thomas, born in May .of 1881 He married Louiza Alexander and moved to the Buffalo Valley area.
8. Paul Thomas, born 1 May 1821. He married Susniath Johnson and he lived on Thomas’ and Judy’s land after their death.
9. Silas C., born in October of 1824 He married Jane Wilson and he moved all over Jackson and Putnam County finally settling in the Silver Pointe area.
10. Francis Marion born 23 February 1827. He married Frances Almeda Ritchie’s 4 January 1849 and died 9 November 1903.

Francis Marion Anderson

I suspect you know as much about France as I do. He was born in Jackson County

He married Frances Aleda Ritchie, daughter of David Ritchie and his wife Polly Loveall. She was the only child, her mother dying when she was born or very young. David did not marry again until very late in life. David Ritchie owned a mill, etc. which later was owned by Cab, Anderson down out of Shiloh, Jackson County.

Frances seemed always to be in trouble, twice accused of murder, but his father-in-law seemed always to be bailing him out. Frances Almeda even sued for divorce at one time, but the records are missing as to how it all turned out. France was a great one to squander money.

Children were:

1. Lafayette Alexander “Fate” born about 1849 or 1850. I don’t know what happened to him. I am told he died as a gangster in Missouri.
2. David Silas — our great-grandfather
3. Vancil Wales born 23 September 1854. He married Marena Caroline Burton and died in 1936.
4. Polly W. born 13 February 1858. She married John Meddix and died in February 1891 She is buried in Bloomington Springs Cemetery.
She had one daughter (Maude) that was very small when she died. Her parents raised the daughter and she is in the picture you have of Francis Marion.
5. John D. born in November of 1860. He married Lucetta a Garrison in 1883 and died in 1890. He lived at 7 Knobs.
6. Judah Frances of Francis Judy, born in October of 18614. She

married and it was from this family I got the picture of Francis Marion that I gave a copy to your father or your uncle Robert. Judy is in the picture. She died in August of 1926 and is buried in Silver Pointe.

7. Fannie Lincoln (named after the president) born in April of 1867. She married Will B. Stafford and I believe died in Chattanooga in 1951.
8. Thomas Shirley, born in 1871. He married Millard Louisa Florida and died in Warren County, - Tennessee in 1960.
9. Henry Clay, born 11 October 1873. He had a twin brother who died the same month they were born. Henry married Betty Herd Palmer but they seperate. They had no children, Chattanooga,
11. Kathie (Helen) born in February of 1876. She married Martin Love or Lane in DeKalb County, Tennessee.

Now I am sure you have the rest of the line down to yourself. If not, let me know. Lowry, there is much more I could tell you, but just to much to put in a letter. Hopefully I will have it all assembled by spring so I can get it off to a printer. I've been trying several years to accomplish this but every time I start I find I am missing this or that and off I go again. I hate to leave anything out, but I guess if I don't finally stop looking and start assembling it will never get done.

Hope your family is fine. Let me know how things turn out for Boone. Maybe as soon as he is well enough you and your family can come here for a visit. I have lots of room and my folks would love to see anyone who belongs to Avalon.

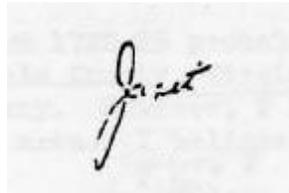
Tell you daddy and uncles I said hello and take care.

New address:

1611 Oak Lane, Powhatan, Virginia 23139

Same house just different street number.

(old residence)

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "J. Lambert".

<http://www.ajlambert.com>