

Story of Asa Lynn

Source: Jackson County Tennessee Cemetery Inscriptions 1801 – 2003

Including Some Genealogy - By Larry Earl Mabry & Reda Knight Bilbrey: pgs. 497 & 498

ASA LYNN GRAVE ROARING RIVER ROAD: pgs. 497 & 498

Civil Dist. 9, Jackson Co., TN –From Gainesboro go toward Celina on Hwy 53. Just before the bridge over Roaring River, turn right on Hwy 135 (Dodson Brach Highway). Go about 10 miles and turn left at the foot of the Will Overton Hill on Roaring River Road. Look to your right when you cross the bridge close to the Overton Cemetery and the Asa Lynn Cemetery is at the far end of the field. Crops are grown next to the cemetery but the cemetery is in a patch of woods that is about 50 feet from the road. Mr. Will Terry Johnson told Suzanna Mitchell and myself that his great grandmother was buried there along with many others besides Asa Lynn Sr. When you cross over Roaring River, here you will bear to the right toward the “Dirt” Cave. The cemetery is before the first hollow on your left when you first turn right. This is written to better clarify the first paragraph on this page. Revised 2003 by Larry E. Mabry

Asa Lynn Sr. – b. 1777 – d. 7 April 1868

Elizabeth Lynn – b. 1790 – d. 30 October 1844, d/o Joseph Hawkins

Asa Lynn – b. 1777 – d. 7 April 1868, f/o Polly Mary Lynn Anderson, w/o **William James “Short Billy” Anderson**

By: Joe Brown Lynn (1994 Revised: 1999) 18399 Clairmont Dr., South Bend, IN 46637

(A copy of the deed, spelling is as listed in copy. Original deed is held by Harold Hawkins of Cookeville, TN. Asa is reputed to be buried across the river from the Overton Cemetery, where a lot of Lynn’s are buried, out in the middle of the field. Harold Hawkins took us to the field, but the outline of the grave had disappeared. When he owned the property, he told us the grave was outlined with Cedar stakes at the four corners). A lot is still unknown about the life of Asa Lynn. What follows is what we know to this date. There is some confusion as to his date of birth. Some say ca. 1777, as born out by the 1850 census. The other proof is from a claim filed by his 2nd wife Mary Lynn. In 1883 she filed a Claim of Widow for Service Pension for service in the War of 1812, with W.M. Gailbreath, in Gainesboro, Jackson Co., TN. She describes him as being six feet tall, 175 lbs., has black hair, fair skin. We couldn’t read (the color of his eyes), and that he was born in South Carolina in 1783. (In the 1850 census, he said he was born in North Carolina) she further states that before marriage her name was Mary Regan, and that she had not been married before. They were married by Justice of the Peace, Marron Dixon, in September 1845. Asa’s first wife Elizabeth Hawkins having died in March 1844. Elizabeth was the daughter of Joseph Hawkins, a Veteran of the Revolutionary War, who had a farm adjoining Asa Lynn on Spring Creek, a tributary of Roaring River. Asa had a farm consisting of 304 acres on Spring Creek in Jackson County, TN. It was near the Community of Marengo, in Jackson County. Marengo no longer exists, but was near Asa’s farm. We visited the farm in the fall of 1993, courtesy of Harold Hawkins, of Cookeville, TN. In the early days the Morgans, Loftis, Hawkins, Johnsons, Lees, and Lynns seemed to dominate the Spring Creek area.

Asa was drafted in Gainesboro, TN 26 January 1814. He served as a Private in Captain Bennett’s Company, 4th Regiment of the Tennessee Militia. He was granted a pension in 1834 for life at \$33.33 per annum. The spelling of his man in a Land Deed to Archibald Loftis on 15 July 1854, was Lynn and later in the deed as Linn. We can assume the first to be correct, because all his Tennessee descendants have all used that form to this date. His lineage is believed to be Scot/Irish.

The following is a copy of a General Affidavit given by Polly Terry, aged 60, and Margaret Johnson aged 76 to W.M. Galbreath on behalf of Mary Lynn to help her secure a Widows Pension on 18 June 1883: Quote: “Affiants was well acquainted with Asa Lynn and his first wife Elizabeth Lynn. Asa Lynn died the 7th day of April 1868, his first wife Elizabeth died March 1844. Affiants knew Asa Lynn and his wife Elizabeth Lynn from their first recollections to the time of their deaths, having lived in the same neighborhood of the desc’d all their lives. Affiant Polly Terry states her daughter was born the 6th day of Janaury 1845, who’s age is recorded in her Bible and knows that Elizabeth Lynn died in March before and knows that Mary Lynn, widow has never remarried to any one else and is still the widow of Asa Lynn.

Affiant Margaret Johnson states her son was born September 8th 1843 and her Bible record showed that on March the following the Elizabeth Lynn first wife of Asa Lynn did die and from recollection thinks it was from _____. Asa Lynn family Bible shows that he died 7th of April 1868 which is as affiant now recalls it. Affiant also states that Mary Lynn has never remarried to any one else. Both Polly and Margaret signed with their marks. Mary Lynn was granted a pension commencing on 9 March 1878, of \$8.00 per month, certificate was sent to the pension agent 6 July 1883.

... **William James Anderson "Short Billy"** – b. 12 February 1808, Blackburn's

Fork, Roaring River, Jackson Co., TN – d. ca. 1890, Jackson Co., TN –

Named after grandfather, William Anderson. - Buried: +Allen/Anderson Cemetery, TN

Listed in 1850 census living in the 9th Civil Dist., Jackson Co., TN.

md 1st +**Polly Mary Lynn** -1809, TN – 1854: (d/o **Asa Lynn Sr.** – b. 1777, NC–

d. 4/7 July 1868) - md 2nd Martha Wallace/Wallis - md 3rd Judy Gibson

(Children: Miles Wesley Sr.; Mary Elizabeth; Garland; Andrew L.T.; Balie P.; Asa L.; Sarah "Sary" A.; James William; William Roberson & Edward A. Anderson.) 1860 census living in the 9th Dist. Jackson Co., TN.

1860 Census: Dist. 9, Gainesboro, Jackson Co., TN – South of the Cumberland River

Dwl: 809 Family: 809 Line: 2

Lynn, Acy 85 M Farmer (Value of real estate, 1500) (Value of personal property, 500) NC –

(Acy Lynn f/o Polly Lynn who md William James Anderson "Short Billy")

Lynn, Polly Lynn 45 F TN *(Polly Lynn md William James Anderson "Short Billy")*

Lynn, Alfred 14 M TN

Census Place: 1880 District 11, Jackson Co., Tennessee

Source: FHL Film 1255264 National Archives Film T9-1264 Page 259B

	Relation	Sex	Marr	Race	Age	Birthplace
Thomas R. JONES	Self	M	M	W	24	TN
Occ:	At Home	Fa: TN	Mo: TN			
Margarette JONES	Wife	F	M	W	22	TN
Occ:	Keeping House	Fa: TN	Mo: TN			
Henry L. JONES	Son	M	S	W	3	TN
Occ:	At Home	Fa: TN	Mo: TN			
James F. JONES	Son	M	S	W	8M	TN
Occ:	At Home	Fa: TN	Mo: TN			
William ANDERSON	Other	M	W	W	72	TN <i>William James "Short Billy"</i>
<i>Anderson</i>						
Occ:	At Home	Fa: VA	Mo: VA			