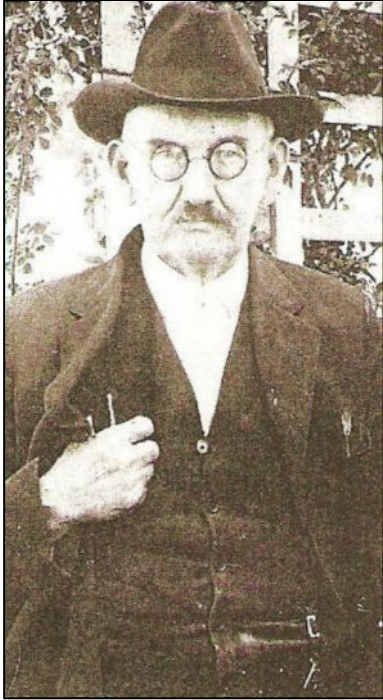


**ALVIN SAMMONS ANDERSON**

Hardeman County Historical Sketches, pg. 62  
By Hardeman County Historical Commission, 1979

When the twenty-two-year old Alvin Sammons Anderson launched Anderson Mercantile Company in Toone, Tennessee in 1871 he started a firm that was to last for over a hundred years, one of the oldest in the county. He came from study stock! His father, Edward R. Anderson, and wife, Frances Mansell, had



pushed west on horseback (Frances side-saddle) from Jackson County, Tennessee over hill and vale to settle on Clover Creek in the northern section of the county 8 November 1831. This was just six weeks prior to the birth of their second son, John R. Anderson. Edward's father, Garland, and his wife, Sarah Robinson, with two brothers, Thomas and Joel, and their families, had moved west along the wilderness trail from Virginia in the early 1800's to Jackson County, where they became landowners. Their father, William Anderson, who married Catherine Shirley, was a landowner in Cumberland County, Virginia.

(Pictured Alvin Sammons Anderson).

Edward R. Anderson was a planter. He and Frances had eleven children.

Garland Anderson married Julia Vernon. Their children were Johnson, Ella, Nannie and Maxine.

Sallie Anderson married Archie Overton.

William James "Jim" Anderson married Mary Caroline Dickinson, to whom were born Frankie, Charity, Lyda Etna, John Calvin and Lela Mae. John Calvin married first, Daisy Vernice Haynes. They had

John Vernice Anderson. John married second, Ivie Haynes and they had James Luther, Thomas Calvin, and Dan Clifton.

Myles Anderson married Betty Statler and their children were Charles, Mary Ella Bringle and Statler. Charles married Bess Harris and their children were Austin, C. E., and Charlsie. Mary Ella Bringle's children were Paul, Mae, Marie, and Clara Bringle. Statler married Hattie Rainey and their children were Bess who married Aubrey Hooper and had one son, Jimmie, and Nancy who married Joe Campbell. Statler Anderson for years headed Anderson and Company in Toone, which later became Murdaugh's Grocery.

Joshua Anderson married Delia Vernon. Their children were Milton who married Anna Vernon whose children were T. W., Woodrow, Katheryn and Frances; Edward who married Sue Robinson and their children were Jack, Ed, Pauline and Frances; and Madge who married Bob Swink father of Burl.

Jennie married Andy Overton. They were parents of Jess who married Ernest Murdough.

Dr. John Anderson married Betty Robinson.

Mattie Anderson married John Johnson.

Fannie Anderson married Dr. John Nuckolls. Their children were Alvin, Ambrose, John, Hutson, Victor and Carlyle Nuckolls.

Twin boys named for Primitive Baptist preachers were Calvin Cobb Anderson who died in infancy, and Alvin Sammons Anderson who first married Ophelia Arnold. They had no children but reared about

twenty. He later married Sarah Elizabeth Holloway Burkhead. Their children were Ophelia who married Joe West Williams; parents of Sandra Howard and Colonel Joe Anderson Williams; Mary Anderson who served in the Tennessee Baptist Convention; and Hattie (Mrs. Herbert Sweeney).

E. Y. Burkhead, son by the first marriage of Sarah Elizabeth Anderson, carried on Anderson Mercantile Company for thirty-eight years after the hearty laughter of “Uncle Sammons” was no longer heard around the pot-bellied stove. Now the stove is cold but the memories linger on.

Story by Mary Anderson

\*See Anderson files in Chapters 1-4 and Anderson family at: <http://www.ajlambert.com>  
Alvin Sammons Anderson is in Chapter 4.



Ophelia (Arnold) Anderson,  
b. 23 May 1847, MS – d. 7 June 1906  
md Alvin Sammons Anderson.

Photo courtesy of Debra McMurry.