

LEWIS MONROE ANDERSON

Louis Huston Gill tells this story: "In the 1880's men would cut timber and snake the logs down to a stream, float them down to a certain spot and lash them together into a raft. Then they would ride the raft down the Cumberland River to the saw mill at Nashville. Lewis Monroe Anderson was doing this one winter when he was a young man. The raft broke up and threw him into the river. After this he got rheumatism so bad that he wasn't able to do much physical labor thereafter. Some people thought he was lazy. He was about 6'4" tall, and he became very heavy in his later life. Also, he was very well liked."

Lamar Medley, describes him in the following manner:

"It would seem he had the right of leadership and executive ability, for I never saw him when he wasn't dressed up, white shirt, tie, etc. The only manual work he ever did was robbing bees, a task he seemed to relish. He knew how to direct labor, which always seemed more appealing than doing it himself. He thereby had an excellent farm, well run and maintained with very little turnover in his labor force. His tenants liked to work for him. He subscribed to the newspapers that were available to him, the Nashville as well as the local ones, and read them with great interest. He could relate what he read in an interesting manner, and was a good story teller. This was one reason he was able to keep his help. At the end of the days work, when the hands brought the teams and the tools back to the barn, Grandpa always greeted them cheerfully and would have them visit a

while at the barn or on the porch. He would tell them the news and they were always keenly interested in hearing him.”

Lewis Monroe Anderson was born 11 March 1867 in Boma, Putnam Co., TN. He was twenty years old when he married the petite Matilda Isabelle “Tildy” Wallace on 18 August 1887 near Silver Point, TN. Matilda Isabelle Wallace was born 23 January 1872 in Silver Pt., and was but a young girl of fifteen when she married Lewis. Matilda’s parents died when she was a child and she was raised by her Aunt Lucretia Matelia “Creese” Hendley (1839–1915), and husband William Byrd Wells (1844–1914). Lewis died at 5:30 a.m. of influenza, 10 December 1935, Boma. He was the first born of Riley W. Anderson (1839-1885) and Micheal Martelia “Mica” Elizabeth Alexander (1842-1910). They had five children, Lewis Monroe, James Wade, William Thomas, Mary Jane & Judian “Tiny” Anderson. The girls died a day apart on the 3rd & 4th of October 1885 from the flux epidemic in the Mine Lick Creek area of Putnam Co. Riley Anderson died a month later from the flux and was buried a few hundred feet from their home, a large two story log cabin, on their farm near Boma. The graves were moved to Smellage Cemetery, Boma, at a later date.

During the Civil War, Pvt. Riley W. Anderson belonged to the C.S.A., Co. F, 25th Inf. and was under the command of Col. Sidney S. Stanton. During the Battle of Fishing Creek, Kentucky, January 19, 1862, Riley, James Evans and Prettyman Jones Sr. witnessed the shooting death of Gen. Felix Kirk Zollicoffer (1812–

1862). These three soldiers had taken refuge behind a large chestnut tree when the General came rushing up, mistaking a body of Union soldiers just beyond them as part of his own command and was killed. He was shot and fell from his horse at their feet. This was a fierce and bloody battle for the strategic spot, which controlled the West to East supply route. The Confederates lost this battle and all of Kentucky. Riley was wounded but recovered. Later he married Micheal Elizabeth on the 23rd of March 1865 and they settled in the 11th Civil District of Putnam County by 1870.

Lewis Monroe Anderson's beloved wife Matilda died of cerebral hemorrhage, 19 November 1956, Boma. She was the daughter of McDonald Wallace (1826–1876), s/o Hugh Wallace (1798-1877) & Nancy Jared (1796-1873) and Julia Ann (1838–1872), d/o Aden S. Hendley (1812-1890) & Elizabeth Jane "Besty" Gentry (1817-1897). Lewis, Matilda, Riley, Micheal, Aden and Elizabeth are all buried in the Smellage Cemetery located in Boma.

The Wallace's were landowners in an area that stretched from Buffalo Valley to the waters of Indian Creek to land that later became the 13th Civil District of Putnam County. State records show that Hugh Wallace "in consideration of the sum of one cent per acre...on the 2nd day of January 1826 pursuant to the provisions of an act of the General Assembly" was granted 50 acres of land. The grant was signed by Sam Houston. Four years later "by virtue of Entry No. 2172" Hugh Wallace was granted 400 acres of land "on the waters of the Buffalo Valley

and waters of Indian Creek” area. This grant was signed by Tennessee Governor N. Cannon. Family history has it that Hugh Wallace was Scotch and came walking over the mountains with an ax and gun over his shoulder and settled the land. He died owning a great deal of property. His wife Nancy Jared was the daughter of Revolutionary soldier Joseph Jared (1760–1848), buried in the Joseph Jared-Ensor Cemetery, Putnam Co. and Martha Agnes “Aggie” Beard (1759–bef. 1802). Joseph Jared and Hugh Wallace signed the 1841 Petition for the Creation of a New County - Putnam.

Riley W. Anderson was the son of Garland “Gallant” Anderson (1809–bef. 1867), son of Thomas Shirley Anderson Sr. & Judith Robinson and Sarah Jones (1810-1860), daughter of Prettyman Jones Sr. (1772–bet. 1825 & 1827) & Sarah Hitchcock (1773–aft. 1840). Prettyman Jones Sr. started the first trading post store in Buffalo Valley, Putnam Co., TN. Judith Robinson’s father Edward Robinson Jr. was a soldier and her grandfather Edward Robinson Sr. was a patriot giving supplies in Cumberland Co., Virginia during the Revolutionary War.

Louis Huston Gill, son of Preston and Addie Anderson Gill relates this story. “Garland was born at Blackburns Fork on Roaring River, a tributary of the Cumberland River, near Gainesboro in Jackson Co., Tennessee. He and his brothers Thomas Shirley Jr. and Edward Robinson and their sister Annie Bartlett and her husband Joshua, went to Buffalo Valley about 1838. They had enough gold to buy land. I was told that Garland and Thomas, Jr. built their houses

within sight of each other. I believe that Thomas' house later became known as the Doc. Scott Farmer house. Garland's house was destroyed by fire about 1950. It was a large two story house. His grandson, Lewis Anderson and Lewis' family lived there until about 1892. Garland liked to hunt and camp out on a hill top behind his home beneath two large chestnut trees where he asked to be buried. He said that was as close to heaven as he would ever get. He is buried there."

Thomas Shirley Anderson Sr. (1779–1858) was the son of Revolutionary War soldier William Anderson (1753–1795) and Catherine Shirley (1759–1833). William's father James Anderson (1726–bet. 1783 & 1800) married Margaret Trogs or Troys. Catherine's father John Shirley Sr. (1733-after 1798) married Elizabeth. Both James and John were Revolutionary War patriots contributing supplies to the troops in Virginia. Thomas Shirley Sr. and Judith Anderson lived in Jackson County, TN and are buried in the Allen/Anderson Cemetery on Blackburn Fork Road.

Lewis Monroe and Matilda Anderson had seven children. William Grover Sr. born 24 March 1889 – died 26 March 1970, married Lillian Lee (1889-1925), buried in the Cookeville City Cemetery. Micheal Martelia "Telia" born 23 February 1891 – died 1 July 1951, married Ernest Medley (1885-1967), buried in the Cookeville City Cemetery. John Byrd Anderson born 13 July 1893 – died 13 March 1894 buried in the Smellage Cemetery. Ollie Lamby born 23 May 1896 –

died 27 January 1988, married Warner Miller Julian (1888-1964), buried in the Smellage Cemetery. Audra Camilla born 9 February 1899 – died 26 November 1990, married Virgil Timothy Denny (1884-1949), buried in the Cookeville City Cemetery. Addie Anderson born 27 November 1902 – died 23 February 1976, married Preston Steward Gill (1901-1967), buried in the Smellage Cemetery. Eldra Anderson born 29 January 1909 – died 15 October 1981, married Floyd Witherson Shanks (1906-1990), buried in the Cookeville City Cemetery.

Joe Lee Anderson speaks about his father William Grover Anderson Sr. “He was born a farm boy at Boma in the last year of President Grover Cleveland’s first administration. After Anderson finished high school in Cookeville, he worked for a time at Boma in his uncle William T. Anderson’s general store. In 1912, he went to Baxter, TN and worked until 1918 as cashier at the Baxter Bank & Trust Company, and that year he and his uncle formed a partnership in a department store in Baxter. It was the largest in the Upper Cumberland, boasting ‘anything from the cradle to the grave.’ They meant it too, for the partners were the county’s first licensed embalmers. His interest in public affairs led him to three terms as Putnam County’s direct representative in the State Legislature. Anderson was first elected to the legislature in 1927, serving under Austin Peay’s term; again in 1929-30 under Governor Henry Horton; and later, in 1949-1950 under Governor Gordon Browning. Mr. Anderson said, ‘When I went for my first term, there wasn’t a mile of hard-surface road in Putnam County, Tennessee.’ Anderson was a member of the Putnam Board of Education 20 years, and was

building committee chairman when the first Baxter Elementary School was built in 1923.

His proudest accomplishment as a legislator was his now famed "Million Dollar Bill" appropriation request which saved Tennessee Tech. He called for a million dollars to help build the school up, and he almost got it. After Governor Henry Horton vetoed the "Million Dollar Bill" for Tech., he was still able to get a \$250,000 appropriation and a new lease on life for the college. Mr. Anderson moved to Cookeville, TN in 1957. After an eight year tenure as General Secretary of the Chamber of Commerce, he left his office at the corner of East Spring Street and South Jefferson Avenue, Cookeville, TN. William Grover Anderson was a 32nd degree Mason."

Story submitted by:

Louis Huston Gill, 28984 Sunnysdale, Livonia MI 48154-3332,
grandson of Lewis Monroe Anderson.

Story compiled by:

Audrey J. (Denny) Lambert, great granddaughter of Lewis Monroe Anderson.

e-mail: mhlambert@yahoo.com

Denny-Loftis website: <http://www.ajlambert.com>

Sources:

Information acquired from Louis Huston Gill, Lamar Medley (1916-2000), Joe Lee Anderson (1923-1987), James Paul Anderson (1935-2002) & D. Mitchell Jones (1942-2006).

Putnam County Tennessee Cemeteries by Maurine Ensor Patton, transcribed by Doris Garrison Gilbert, 1995.

U.S. census 1900, 11th Civil Dist., Putnam Co., TN; U.S. census 1910, 17th Civil Dist., Boma Village, Putnam Co., TN; 1920 & 1930 13th Civil Dist., Putnam Co., TN: Lewis Monroe Anderson.

Pictorial History of Putnam County Tennessee by First American Bank, pg. 104, family of Lewis Monroe Anderson, courtesy of Audra Camilla Anderson Denny. *Ibid.*, pgs. 104, 134, 198, 226.

Putnam Co., Herald, Cookeville, TN: December 19, 1935, "Lewis Anderson, 70 Dies at Home Near Boma."

Putnam County Herald, Cookeville, TN: November 26, 1956, "Matilda Isabelle Wallace Anderson, 84, died November 19 at her home in Silver Point, Rt.2, after a long illness."

Lewis Monroe Anderson family Bible owned by Louis Huston Gill of Livonia, MI.

U.S. census 1860, 9th Civil Dist., Pekin, Putnam Co., TN: L. H. Gill states, "The 1860 census of the ninth civil district of Putnam Co., TN showed Riley Anderson living with a close neighbor and first cousin, Garland Bartlett and family. His future wife, Michael Alexander is living near with her older sister, Martha Alexander and Martha's husband, Robert Simpson Alcorn Sr."

U.S. census 1870 & 1880, 11th Civil Dist. Buffalo Valley, Putnam Co., TN: Riley W. Anderson. *Putnam County Herald*, Historical Sketches by Will T. Sewell, "Story of General Felix K. Zollicoffer and the Battle of Fishing Creek."

Tennesseans in The Civil War, A Military History of Confederate and Union Units with Available Roster of Personnel, In Two Parts, Part II: Published by the Civil War Centennial Commission, Nashville, TN, 1965, pg. 17: ANDERSON, RILEY, PVT. F CO. 25TH INF.

Pictorial History of Putnam County Tennessee by First American Bank, pg. 134, Riley & Micheal Anderson.

Stray Leaves From Putnam County Tennessee by Mary Hopson, pg. 234, Riley W. Anderson, C.S.A., Pvt. Co. F, 25th Inf.

U.S. census 1850, 13th Dist., Jackson Co., TN & 9th Civil Dist., Putnam Co., TN: Garland Anderson

The Jackson County Family History Book, 200 Years of Memories, by The Jackson County Historical Society, pg. 48, Garland Anderson; pgs. 56 & 57, Thomas Shirley Anderson Sr.

Jackson County Tennessee Cemetery Inscriptions 1801-2003, by Larry Earl Mabry & Reda Knight Bilbrey, 2004; pg. 513, Thomas Shirley & Judith Robinson Anderson.

Account Book XVIII, 1783-1784-Auditors Dept., Commonwealth, Virginia, pg. 533, Virginia State Library, Richmond, VA: Edward Robinson Jr. – NSDAR #811361 A879, Audrey J. Denny Lambert, application for Edward Robinson Jr.

Commissioners book I, Cumberland Co., VA Public Service Claims, pg. 232: Edward Robinson Sr. – NSDAR #811361 A879, Audrey J. Denny Lambert, application for Edward Robinson Sr.

Virginia Publick Claims Vol.1, by Janice L. Abercrombie & Richard Slatten, pgs. 294 & 295: Edward Robinson Sr.

Commissioners book I, Cumberland Co., VA Public Service Claims, pg. 232: William Anderson.

Account Book XVIII, 1783 - 1784, Auditor's Department, Commonwealth of Virginia, Virginia State Library, Richmond VA, pg. 533: William Anderson.

NSDAR #811361 A879, Audrey J. Denny Lambert application for William Anderson.

Virginia Revolutionary Publick Claims, Caroline County, VA, Volume I, compiled and transcribed by Janice L. Abercrombie & Richard Slatten, pgs. 186,197 & 200: James Anderson.

NSDAR #811361 A921, Audrey J. Denny Lambert, application for James Anderson.

NSDAR #811361 A920, Audrey J. Denny Lambert, application for John Shirley Sr.

Virginia Revolutionary Publick Claims, Vol. 3, compiled and transcribed by Janice L. Abercrombie and Richard Slatten, Iberian Publishing Company, Athens, GA, pgs. 717, 855 & 856,gave supplies, John Shirley.

U.S. census 1860 & 1870, 13th Dist., Laurel Hill, Putnam Co., TN: McDonald Wallace.

1854-1855, Putnam County Tax Book Index: Upper Cumberland Genealogical Association Bulletin, 15 December 1976. U.S. census 1860, 13th Dist., Laurel Hill, Putnam Co., TN, U.S. census 1870, 13th Dist. Putnam Co., TN. *Jackson County, Tennessee Chancery Court Minutes 1840-1861*, abstracted, transcribed, annotated, and indexed by: Betty Huff, 1100-B Mission Ridge, Austin, TX 78704: Hugh Wallace.

Stray Leaves from Putnam County History by Mary Hopson - pgs. 223 & 224: Wallace family, written by Lois Anderson.

Family History Library of Salt Lake City, UT (FHL: Roll: 1013021): State of Tennessee No. 778, Book B, pg. 210: "State of Tennessee unto Hugh Wallace a certain tract or parcel of land Containing fifty acres by survey bearing date the 26 day of June 1827 lying in said County in the Buffalo Valley the waters of Indian Creek of the Caney fork". State of Tennessee (FHL: Roll: 1013024) No. 3070 "Granted by the said State of Tennessee unto Hugh Wallis a certain tract or parcel of land containing seventy five acres by survey bearing date the 4th day of May 1831 lying in said County on the ridge between the buffalow (sic) Valley and Wolf Creek waters of the Caney fork"

Family History Library of Salt Lake City, UT (FHL: Roll: 1013024), 3071. FHL: Roll: 1013030 State of Tennessee No. 6735 – Book L, pg. 399, No. 6736 & No. 7202: Hugh Wallace.

Biographical Directory of the Tennessee General Assembly, Vol. III 1901–1931 by Ilene J. Cornwell with research by Verla S. Hodges, published by The Tennessee Historical Commission, Nashville, 1988, William Grover Anderson (1889-1970).

History of Putnam County, by Walter S. McClain, pg. 140: William Grover Anderson.

Herald – Citizen, Cookeville, TN: March 30, 1970, "William Grover Anderson, 81, died Thursday at Master's Nursing Home on the Algood Road, following a long illness".

Index for Lewis Monroe Anderson Story:

Anderson, Catherine Shirley
Anderson, Edward Robinson
Anderson, Garland "Gallant"
Anderson, James (1726–bet. 1783 & 1800)
Anderson, James Wade
Anderson, Joe Lee
Anderson, John Byrd
Anderson, Judian "Tiny"
Anderson, Judith Robinson
Anderson, Lewis Monroe
Anderson, Lillian Lee
Anderson, Margaret Trogs or Troys
Anderson, Mary Jane
Anderson, Matilda Isabelle "Tildy" Wallace
Anderson, Micheal Martelia "Mica" Elizabeth Alexander
Anderson, Riley W.
Anderson, Sarah Jones
Anderson, Thomas Shirley Sr.
Anderson, Thomas Shirley Jr.
Anderson, William
Anderson, William Grover Sr.
Anderson, William Thomas
Bartlett, Annie Anderson
Bartlett, Joshua
Browning, Gordon
Cannon, N.
Cleveland, Grover
Denny, Audra Camilla Anderson
Denny, Virgil Timothy
Evans, James
Farmer, Doc. Scott
Gill, Addie Anderson
Gill, Louis Huston
Gill, Preston Steward
Hendley, Aden S.
Hendley, Elizabeth Jane "Besty" Gentry
Horton, Henry
Houston, Sam
Jared, Joseph (1760–1848)
Jared, Martha Agnes "Aggie" Beard
Jones, Prettyman Sr.
Jones, Sarah Hitchcock
Julian, Ollie Lamby
Julian, Warner Miller
Medley, Ernest



William Grover Anderson Sr., son of Lewis Monroe and Matilda Isabelle Wallace A



Lewis Monroe Anderson with his state fair prize hog.

Picture made ca. 1928.

Medley, Lamar
Medley, Micheal Martelia "Telia" Anderson
Peay, Austin
Robinson, Edward Jr.
Robinson, Edward Sr.
Shanks, Eldra Anderson
Shanks, Floyd Witherson
Shirley, John Sr.
Shirley, Elizabeth
Stanton, Col. Sidney S.
Wallace, Hugh
Wallace, Julia Ann Hendley
Wallace, McDonald
Wallace, Nancy Jared
Wells, Lucretia Matelia "Creese" Hendley
Wells, William Byrd
Zollicoffer, Felix Kirk



Family of Lewis Monroe and Matilda "Tildy" Isabelle (Wallace) Anderson

From left front row: Audra Camilla, Addie, Lewis Monroe, Matilda "Tildy" Isabelle and Ollie Anderson.

Standing: Micheal Martelia "Telia" and William Grover Anderson.

Picture made in ca. 1906.