



Story of Lewis Monroe Anderson (1867 – 1935)
by his grandsons, Louis Gill & Lamar Medley

Louis Gill gives 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. Louis 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 with his state fair prize hog.



Lewis Monroe, Matilda Isabelle & their daughter, Eldra Anderson

Lewis was born 11 March 1867 in Boma, TN. He was twenty years old when he married Matilda Isabelle Wallace on 18 August 1887. Matilda Isabelle Wallace born 23 January 1872 in Silver Pt., TN, was but a young girl of fifteen when she married Lewis. Matilda’s parent died when she was a child and she was raised by her Aunt Lucretia (Wells) Henley, who married Byrd Wells.