

WILLIAM (1765-1842) AND ELIZABETH (WILLETT) ANDERSON
OF MARYLAND AND OF BEDFORD COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

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WILLIAM ANDERSON, probably the son of William and (his first wife) Elizabeth (Edwards) Anderson,¹ was born, presumably in Anne Arundel County, Maryland, 22 Dec 1765.² His marriage to Elizabeth Willett is said to have taken place on "Christmas Day 1784,"³ but records show that William Anderson and Elizabeth Willett obtained a license to marry 11 Jan 1785 in Anne Arundel County.⁴

About four years later, William and Elizabeth and their first two children removed by pack horse to Bedford County, Pennsylvania,⁵ where they settled first near a place "called Mashers Cream Spring or Kigers Ridge."⁶ They eventually settled in that part of Hopewell Township which became Broad Top Township.⁷

The Andersons are said to have come "of one of the proudest of Southern families as well as one of the oldest"⁸ William Anderson was "among the most prominent"⁹ of the Duvall settlers--some 28 families, followers of Dr. (and Methodist minister) Jeremiah Duvall, who settled in the Broad Top region and came mainly from Prince Georges County, Maryland.

William Anderson wrote his will 22 Nov 1830 and died 21 December 1842,¹⁰ the day before his 77th birthday (and perhaps four days before his 56th wedding anniversary).

His character for honesty was as good as any person's that ever lived on Broadtop, and it is said of him that he never owed anyone overnight, if he had any way to pay as he went. He was a poor scholar but a deep Bible thinker and a profound Christian.¹¹

William Anderson's will was admitted to probate 11 Jan 1843 and an inventory of his property was taken 20 Feb 1843.

Elizabeth (Willett) Anderson was probably a native of Prince Georges County, Maryland, where the Willett (Willet, Willets, etc.) family dates back to emigrant ancestors Edward and Tabitha Willett.¹² Presuming her husband had only one wife Elizabeth, Elizabeth (Willett) Anderson was still living 22 Nov 1830, the date of her husband's will. Her brother Samuel Willett, also a Duvall colonist, is probably the Samuel Willett who married Rachel Edwards. Rachel's siblings were Mary (second wife of Samuel McClain), Robert, Joseph, Joshua, and John W.¹³

Samuel and Thomas, the first two of William and Elizabeth (Willett) Anderson's eleven children, are said to have been born in Maryland--presumably either in Anne Arundel or Prince Georges County. The rest of the children were born in Bedford County--probably all in Hopewell Township.^{14a}
The children were:

1] SAMUEL ANDERSON, born 06 Oct 1785,^{14b} removed in 1855 from the "mountain house property" in Bedford County that he had purchased from his Uncle Samuel Willett to Taylor Township, Fulton County, Pennsylvania, where he died after "a few years."¹⁵ He married Sarah Shreves,¹⁶ "his good lady," who also died in Taylor Township.¹⁷ On 20 Feb 1843 Samuel Anderson signed the inventory of his deceased father's property.

2] THOMAS ANDERSON was born 13 Jun 1787 and was still living in 1830. He married Elizabeth Edwards,¹⁸ perhaps a descendant of the Anne Arundel County Edwardses and perhaps a cousin of her husband.¹⁹

3] WILLIAM ANDERSON, JR., twin of Sarah, was born 02 Jun or Jul 1790.²⁰ He died 27 Jun 1856.²¹ Called "Stonehouse Billy"²² he married Elizabeth Horton, born 23 Jan 1793, died 16 Oct 1862,²³ daughter of Samuel and Martha (Evans) Horton and sister of Mary Horton who was the first wife of James Anderson (see 7] below). William and Elizabeth (Horton) Anderson had eight children.²⁴ On 20 Feb 1843, Willam Anderson signed with his mark the inventory of his deceased father's property. On 25 Jul 1856 the "goods and chattels" of "Wm. Anderson decd of Broad Top Township" were sold "at Publick outcry." A complete schedule of the purchasers and what they purchased as well as at least three later accounts of this Anderson estate are on file at the Bedford County Register and Recorder's office.

4] SARAH ANDERSON, twin of William, was born 02 Jul 1790. She married Edward Shreves (possibly the brother of Sarah who married Sarah's brother Samuel--see 1] above).²⁵ She was alive in 1830 when her father wrote his will.

5] ELIZABETH ANDERSON was born 20 Nov 1792. She died May 1878 in Wells Valley, Fulton County, Pennsylvania.²⁶ She married Ephraim Foster, son of Richard Lewis and Charity (Johnson) Foster, and had at least two children: Johnson J. Foster who married Julia Ann Horton and Priscilla Foster who married James A. Horton.²⁷

6] MARY ANDERSON was born 06 Nov 1794. She married Dennis Carrick and was alive in 1830 when her father wrote his will.²⁸

7] JAMES ANDERSON. See article following.

8] EDWARD ANDERSON was born 06 Oct 1798. He married, apparently by 1830²⁹ Susan Horton,³⁰ daughter of Josiah II and Katherine (Fluke) Horton and sister of Samuel Horton whose first wife was Edward's sister Jemima Anderson (see 10] below).³¹ These are presumably the Edward and Susan Anderson who, according to the U.S. Census, were living in Tod Township, Huntingdon County, Pennsylvania with seven children ranging in age from 2 to 20.³² Edward, with his brother Jonathan, was appointed an executor in his father's will. On 23 Jan 1843 Edward signed a statement renouncing "all my right and title to the Administration on" his father's estate.

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9] SUSANNA ANDERSON was born 06 May 1801. She was unmarried at the time of her father's will (22 Nov 1830) but later married Jesse Horton, son of Abner and Susan (Cheny) Horton and grandson of Samuel and Martha (Evans) Horton.³³

10] JEMIMA ANDERSON was born 20 May 1803. She married, probably in 1822 (at age 19), Samuel Horton (born 14 Aug 1806, and so age 16), the son of Josiah II and Katherine (Fluke) Horton, and brother of Susan (Horton) Anderson, wife of Edward (see 8] above). Samuel and Jemima (Anderson) Horton had three children, the last born 17 April 1829. Then Jemima died and Samuel, by 1832, married second Mary "Polly" Anderson, born 12 Jan 1814, a niece of Jemima and therefore a grandchild of William and Elizabeth (Willett) Anderson. Samuel and Mary "Polly" (Anderson) Horton had four children, the last born in 1837. Then Mary died and Samuel married third, 03 Jun 1841, Elizabeth Anderson, ^(born 23 May 1816) sister of Mary and therefore also a grandchild of William and Elizabeth (Willett) Anderson. Samuel and Elizabeth (Anderson) Horton had six children, the last born in 1855. Thus this Samuel Horton, by three Anderson wives, fathered 13 children over a space of 29 years.³⁴

11] JONATHAN ANDERSON was born 06 Mar 1805. He married Becca Horton,³⁵ perhaps the daughter of Nathan and Rebecca (Priest) Horton, and if so, a niece of Samuel and Martha (Evans) Horton.³⁶ Jonathan, with his brother Edward, was appointed an executor in his father's will.

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NOTES AND REFERENCES

1. Dulaney, Cora W. The Andersons of the Great Fork of the Patuxent (1948), pp. 23-24. See also Newman, Harry W. Anne Arundel Gentry (1933), p. 150.
2. Anderson, Mrs. A.F. (presumed author) "William Anderson and Elizabeth Willett His Wife..." (c1927), manuscript at the Maryland Historical Society, Baltimore; Foster, D.I. "Chapter LXIV William Anderson," printed in The Broad Top Bulletin, Saxton, Pennsylvania, 1977 (filed with the preceding manuscript at the Maryland Historical Society).
3. Anderson, Mrs. A.F., op cit.
4. Brumbaugh, Gaius M. Maryland Records, II (1928), p. 46.
5. Anderson, Mrs. A.F., op cit, Foster, D.I., op cit.
6. Horton, David F. True Stories of Broad Top Mountain (1965), p. 16.
7. Edward Anderson, son of William, on 23 Jan 1843, describes his deceased father as "late of Broad Top formerly Hopewell township."
8. Anderson, Mrs. A.F., op cit.
9. Horton, D.F., op cit, p. 9.
10. Anderson, Mrs. A.F., op cit.
11. Foster, D.I., op cit.
12. Watson, Estelle C. Some Lettons and Willetts (1955), p. 24. Dulany, Cora W., loc cit, gives Elizabeth's maiden name as Williams--presumably a typo, but certainly conceivable as as William Anderson's sister Mary is said to have married a Williams.
13. Horton, David F., op cit.
- 14a. Same as note 5.
- 14b. This and ensuing birthdates, except as noted, are in Anderson, Mrs. A.F., op cit, who apparently took her dates from Foster, D.I., op cit, who in turn apparently got his dates from the William Anderson family Bible records which, c1882, says Foster, was "in the care of William Foster of Broadtop and belongs to the Oxford edition of 1750, but it is entire yet."
15. Horton, David F., op cit, p. 16.
16. Same as note 5.
17. Horton, David F., loc cit.

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18. Same as note 5.
19. If Thomas' father is the son of William and Elizabeth (Edwards) Anderson, then Thomas and his wife might indeed be cousins. For an account of the early Anne Arundel County Edwardses, see Newman, Harry F., op cit, pp. 147ff.
20. Imler, Roberta, et al, Bedford County Cemeteries (1975), says William Anderson Jr.'s gravestone gives his birthdate as 02 Jun 1790. Anderson, Mrs. A.F., op cit, and Foster, D.I., op cit., both say 02 Jul 1790.
21. Imler, Roberta, op cit.
22. Anderson, Mrs. A.F. "Horton Family," Nebraska and Midwest Genealogical Record, vol. I (1923), p. 75.
23. Imler, Roberta, op cit.
24. Alloway, George W. Horton Genealogy and History (1929), pp. 133-6. See also Anderson, Mrs. A.F. (1923), loc cit. Alloway gives a complete account of William and Elizabeth's children and lists a number of their grandchildren.
25. Same as note 5.
26. Foster, D. I., op cit.
27. Undated (but apparently recent) letter from Leona Foster Marshall, # 1, 3616 DeBelle Street, Clarkston, GA 30021, to Mr. Perry Horton, Box 138, Rio Grande, OH. She cites "Foster History" by D.I. Foster.
28. Same as note 5. Her father seems to spell the name Kerrick.
29. Their apparent oldest child being 20 in the 1850 Census. See note 32 below.
30. Same as note 5.
31. Alloway, op cit., p. 12.
32. 1850 U.S. Census, Tod Township, Huntingdon County, Pa.
33. Same as note 5. Anderson, Mrs. A.F. (1923), loc cit. identifies parents of Jesse. Alloway, op cit., p. 11, identifies the mother of Jesse Horton as Susan (Lockard) Horton.
34. Same as note 5. Alloway, pp. 12-13, gives the detailed account of Samuel Horton's three marriages. I haven't discovered which of Jemima Anderson's brothers was father of Mary "Polly" and Elizabeth Anderson. It was definitely not William, Jr., or James, or Edward. That leaves only Samuel or Thomas. If the speculative dates are correct, at age 16 Sam married a 19-year-old and at age 29 an 18-year-old. At age 38 he married a 25-year-old.
35. Same as note 5.
36. Alloway, op cit, p. 11.

WILLIAM (1765-1842) AND ELIZABETH (WILLETT) ANDERSON, p. 6:

WILL OF WILLIAM ANDERSON OF BEDFORD COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA
DATED 22 NOVEMBER 183[0?]

22 Nov |
1830 |

In the name of God Amen, I William Anderson of Hopewell Township Bedford County and State of Pennsylvania being of Sound Memory and understanding, blessed be God for the Same, do make and publish this my last Will and Testament in manner and form following, viz.

Principally and first of all I commend my immortal Soul into the hands of God who gave it, and my body to the earth to be buried in a decent and christian like manner at the discretion of my Executors herein after named, and as to Such worldly Estate wherewith it hath pleased God to bless me with in this life, I give and dispose of in the following manner, viz.

I order and it is my will that all my Just debts and funeral expenses be paid and discharged as soon as possible after my decease. I give and bequeath to my beloved wife Elizabeth all my lands for her maintenance during her natural life, and my personal property also, at her decease I bequeath my landed property to my Son Jonathan reserving the incomes of the one third thereof for the use and benefit of my Daughter Susanna during her single life and no longer, and at her marriage or decease her share or interest in my real Estate to fall or revert to my son Jonathan, and at the decease of [my?] wife Elizabeth all my kitchen furniture shall belong to my Daughter Susanna. I give and bequeath to my Son Samu[el] in addition to what he has heretofore received one dollar and no more, to my sons Thomas the Same as to Samuel and no more, to my Son William the Same sum as Samuel and Thomas, to my Daughter Sarah Srieves I give and bequeath the Same Sum as given to my Sons Samuel, Thomas, and William, and to my Daughter Elizabeth Foster I give and bequeath the Same Sum as given to my Daughter Sarah Srieves, I give and bequeath to my Daughter Mary [Kerr?] the Same Sum as given to her Sisters Sarah and Elizabeth[,] and to the children of my Daughter Jemimah Horton deceased namely Edward Elizabeth and Josiah the Sum of One Dollar each and no more, and the remainder of my personal property (if any there be) I give and bequeath to my Children James, Edward, Jonathan and Susanna equally divided amongst each.

I do hereby constitute and appoint my sons Edward and Jonathan Executors of th[is] my last will and Testament hereby revoking all other wills by me heretofore made and declaring this and no other to be my last will and Testament

In Witness whereof I have hereunto [Set], published pronounced and declared this to be my last will and Testament, this 22^d day of November 183[0?] in the presence of w[itnesses?]

Witnesses

William Piper

David Piper

William Anderson (S E A L)

11 Jan |
1843 |

Bedford County [?]- Personally appeared before the Register for the Probate of Wills and for granting letters of Administration for Said County William Piper Esq one

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11 Jan |
1843 |
cont. |

of the su[bs]enting witnesses to the foregoing instrument of writing who being duly sworn saith that he was personally present and saw and heard the Testa[tor] William Anderson Sign, Seal, publish pronounce and declare the Said instrument of writing as and for his last will and testament, that at the time of So doing Testator was o[f] Sound and disposing mind memory and understanding according to the best of depona[nt's] knowledge and belief[,] that he signed his name thereto as a witness in the presence of T[es]tator and at his request
Sworn and Subscribed the

William Piper

11 JAN |
1843 |

Bedford County [?]- Also personally appeared before the Register for Said County David Piper the other Su[b?]enting witness to the foregoing instrument of writing who being duly Sworn Saith that on the morning after the Same was written [as] he believes Testator called on him and requested him to witness the Same, and acknowledge the Signature to be his, and that he had Signed it and and for his last will, and further that at Said time Said Testator was of sound and disposing mind memory and understanding according to the best of the deponants knowledge and belief
Sworn [&] Subscribed the 11th

day of January AD 1843

David Piper

Before Jos B[N]oble Regr

Bedford County [?]- I Edward Anderson having been appointed one of
the Executors of the last will and testament of my Father William

23 JAN |
1843 |

Anderson late of Broad Top formerly Hopewell township decd do hereby renounce all my right and title to the Administration on [sic] the Estate of said deceased, and all the title I have to the Office of Executor under the will of Said deceased-- Witness my hand and seal 23d day of
January AD 1843

Edward Anderson

Witness David Hamilton _____

■ THE ABOVE THREE DOCUMENTS WERE COPIED, NOT FROM THE ORIGINALS (WHICH ARE MUCH MORE DIFFICULT TO READ), BUT FROM WHAT MUST BE THE BEDFORD COUNTY WILL BOOK, VOLUME AND PAGE UNKNOWN. IN THE ORIGINAL WILL, THE DATE OF THE WILL IS CLEAR: 22 NOV 1830.

20 Feb |
1843 |

A List of the [?] Appointment of the property of William Anderson [decd] of Broadtop Township in the county of Bedford [?] is as follows--

■ THIS INVENTORY CONTAINS SOME 50 TO 60 ITEMS BUT IS ALMOST ENTIRELY TOO FAINT TO READ. THE SIGNATURES AND CERTIFICATION ARE READABLE AS FOLLOWS:

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20 FEB|
1843|
cont. |

Samuel Anderson

his

William X Anderson

mark

I do hereby certify that the[y?] above named [?]son were this day duly [...lli....] before me one of the justices of the peace in [and] for the County of Bedford Witness my hand and seal at Broadtop Township this 20th day of February 1843.

Joseph Evans

■ THE ABOVE DOCUMENT HAS THE DATE 23 FEB 1843 WRITTEN IN AT THE BOTTOM OF THE PAGE. THE MARK OF WILLIAM ANDERSON IS APPARENTLY WITNESSED BUT THE SIGNATURE OF THE WITNESS IS ILLEGIBLE.