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Anderson, Captain Thomas William Emanuel
Biography
Twiggs County, Georgia

"Captain Thomas William Emanuel Anderson in Twiggs County": A
Biography of Captain Anderson.

"Reflective and Prospective", by C.C. Anderson: from a weekly column
in the Macon Daily Telegraph. 1921

In possession of: Washington Memorial Library
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CAPTAIN THOMAS WILLIAM EMANUEL ANDERSON IN TWIGGS COUNTY

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The forebears of Captain Anderson are traced to Northland in England, on the border of Scotland. Edward VI granted the Anderson family a coat of arms on which appears the words "Desperandum Auspice Dei", the liberal translation of which is "Despair Under God's Guidance".

The Anderson of Richland church was in his quiet way to the cause of the Master. One of his sons, visiting the grave in recent years with some of the grandchildren, was asked, "What was our grandfather noted for? Was he an intellectual, a money maker, a hard bargainer, a go-getter? Just how would you describe him?" The carefully studied reply was, "He was a Christian gentleman."

Two of the Anderson forebears are said to have been killed in the Battle of Camden in the Revolutionary War. Another, Captain Thomas William Emanuel, fought in that battle as a member of the cavalry under Francis Marion, known as the "old swamp fox."

Captain Thomas William Emanuel Anderson settled in Twiggs county to avail himself of a grant of two, forty-acre, lots of "gold-bearing" lands near Jeffersonville as a reward for service in the War of 1812.

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from two wealthy aunts what was considered a fortune, and he became a large planter in Twiggs county. His first wife was Mrs. Catherine Johnson Cater. The marriage was November 2, 1826; Reverend Duncan of Barnwell District, South Carolina, officiating. She was baptized at Richland church, September 4, 1830. He followed her into church membership at Richland, July 25, 1832.

In his will dated June 20, 1843, Captain Anderson expresses the hope that "my soul shall return to rest with the God who gave it, and I trust in eternal salvation through the blessed Lord and Savior Jesus Christ".

His second wife was Susan Frances Roach of Pulaski county, Georgia, whose family traced back to North Carolina in 1736. Her parents were James Roach and Elizabeth Gatling. She was born in 1803 and died in 1843. She was the widow of Charles Carden.

Captain Anderson was born in 1791, married the first time November 2, 1826, and the second time in 1836.

In his will the children of the first marriage are named as Samuel Fairchild Anderson, Sarah Mary Anderson, Margaret Elizabeth Anderson, and William Francis Anderson. To these were given twelve Negroes. Then nineteen Negroes are given to the children of the second marriage, George Hipp Anderson, Susan Frances Anderson, Christopher B. Cowen Anderson. It was provided in another item that in case of the death of any member of a set of the children, his or her share of the estate should go the full brothers and sisters of that set, and the half-brothers and sisters should have no share of it. And if all the members of a set of children should die, their combined shares should go the surviving half-brothers and sisters. All other property was to be divided share and share

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alike among the children.

Charles Carden and Catherine Bunn, children of the second wife at the time of her marriage to the testator, were given the furniture, and each one was to have a feather bed.

Marcus H. Bunn, husband of Catherine Bunn, was appointed trustee and guardian of the persons and property of the children of the last wife.

Thomas Johnson Cater, son of the first wife at the time of her marriage to the testator, was named trustee and guardian of the persons and property of the children of the first wife.

Marcus Bunn lived at Cedartown, and Thomas Cater was a merchant at Perry. Mary Anderson married John Rutherford and lived at Hayneville in Houston county. Samuel Fairchild and William Francis lived at Macon. Margaret died in youth. George Hipp died while "off at school" at Jeffersonville. Susan Frances married Marcellus Gatewood of Lee county.

An interesting story that has come down through generations of the family is that while Captain Anderson was walking along the road not far from his home, two highwaymen held him at the point of guns and demanded his money. Not satisfied with that, they made him take off and deliver to them his long, square-cut coat known as a Prince Albert. In fact, they relieved him of all his clothes, and left him infuriated and embarrassed in the road.

After they had started away and had gone some distance he called to them in a loud and angry voice and told them to come back

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and get his hat, the beaver, or stove-pipe, hat they had failed to take when they were stripping him.

Tradition says that in three days after the birth of Christopher B. Cowen Anderson, his father brought, with his own hands to the bedside of the mother, a breakfast tray, and while trying to serve the food he was stricken with apoplexy and fell across the bed. As a result of her injuries the mother died, and then a few months later the father died. Christopher, the infant, was reared by his half-sister Mrs. Catherine Bunn at Cedartown. In later years he attended school at Jeffersonville, and in his second year at Mercer at Pennfield he ran away and joined the Confederate Army. One of his inherited servants was sent to look after him as a bodyguard. After the war he married Laura Tooke at Hayneville, daughter of Joseph Tooke, and he reared three sons and five daughters: Eugene, William Thomas, and Peyton Tooke; Lela, Marie, Alma, Julia, and Myrta; all of whom made their home in Macon. The sons became identified with the Macon Telegraph and Macon News, two of them purchasing the properties. Eugene, the pioneer in the newspaper field, became fascinated with teaching while taking a part-time course in Mercer University, and afterward operated for thirty years the Georgia-Alabama Business College, and then returned to the newspaper field to join his brothers.

After the death of the mother of these children Christopher married Elizabeth Burkett, a school teacher of Twiggs county, and two daughters, Louise and Catherine, were born of that union.

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William Francis Anderson married Ada Hardeman of Macon, and they reared two children, John Rutherford Anderson and Elizabeth.

Samuel Fairchild Anderson married Elizabeth Pitts of Jones county, and they reared three children, Estelle, Eugene Pitts, and Annie Blount.

In about 1865 a ring came into the Anderson family as a token of gratitude from R. Clark and J. G. Clark, twin brothers, one of whom had been saved from drowning when he fell overboard on a voyage from England, and on approaching Edistow Island. Inscribed in the ring are the words, "R. Clark and J. G. Clark, born October 28, 1735." Since then the token has been handed down from father to son, or to the eldest male descendant. It reached Samuel Fairchild Anderson, and from him passed to Eugene Willard Anderson, son of Eugene Pitts; then to Dr. John R. Anderson, as the son of William F. Anderson, and from him it passed to P. T. Anderson, Jr.

The first of the Anderson family to reach America located in Virginia.

Anderson
recorded
14754

From: Column weekly run by Macon Daily Telegraph.

Reflective & Prospective
By C. C. Anderson

1921

Twiggs County.

Twiggs County is my theme. One would suppose that Twiggs County is named after General Twiggs of Mexican War fame, but this is not so, for Twiggs County was named before General Twiggs was born. It must have been named after an ancestor of General Twiggs, probably a Revolutionary War General.

Not many days ago, a party of gentlemen were discussing various topics, and the inquiry arose as to why Houston County is called "Houston" while the city in Texas spelled the same way, is called "Hewston," a Kentuckian solved the problem by saying that Houston County was named after a man by the name of House, while the Texas City was named after Sam Houston. Here is wisdom.

Twiggs County was once the banner county of Georgia. It had more rich men in it, more intelligent, more educated men than any territory of equal size in the State. It is a fact that most of the successful men of Houston county got their start in life by overseeing for these rich men of Twiggs. In a social way overseers were not considered up to the standard in the old days. The planter was his superior. He could not aspire to the hand of the planter's daughter. If he had a family it had to sit apart from the planter's at church. It was never invited to dine with the planter's family. Socially it was ostracised and the poor wife and her children had no companionship and led a lonely life. There are many families in Houston now prominent, whose grandparents got their start from the job of overseeing.

This reminds one of an old lady in Monroe county whose sons were college graduates and who aspired to build a family tree. The family were rich and snobbish as all parvenues are. The mother on being asked for information replied: "Son, vanity prompts this inquiry. It needs curbing. Your father's brother was lynched in North Carolina for horse stealing. Your mother's brother absconded from justice for defaulting. Now let us pride ourselves on being honest, plain Christian people and on living up to that ideal regardless of ancestors." Mother, said the boy, "we will forego the family tree, I will try to be a gentleman and may you never be ashamed of me." That college boy was the father of a real estate man now living in Macon.

Twiggs County is very broken in the center from the Ocmulgee to the Wilkinson County line on the east. Here is peach land excelled nowhere in Georgia. It is red clay land underlaid by limestone. Its timber is hickory, walnut, white oak, elm, red oak and pine. The northern part of the county is the slopes of Big Sandy and Commissioners creeks. Poor is no name for it, but Irish and sweet potatoes, onions and collards were created in these beds of sand.

The lower part of the county is called the "Flat Woods." It is sandy, underlaid by clay and will grow anything if fertilized. It is the home of the typical Georgia cracker who lives at home and beads there.

The Slaveowners.

Now the rich people with their slaves settled the oak and hickory lands, raised cotton and bought Negroes. These rich people were grand people too. They were good people and trained their children to believe in immersion, family prayer, predestination and final perseverance of the saints. To be in the swim, to be eligible to membership in "our set", one must be a baptized member of the church, join in family prayer and go to Sunday school. These folks were pious. They were good people, and in easy circumstances and had nothing to employ them ~~next~~ but to prepare for the next world. They attended to that and there were no better people on God's footstool. Intelligent? they would surprise you. Refined? Good heavens, they were princes. They would scorn to stoop to the low tricks of trade practiced by many of our day. Their sons and daughters were educated. The sons were the soul of honor, brave and chivalrous. The daughters were beautiful, accomplished and rich. What more could one want?

The Wimberlys were prominent, unusually intelligent, well educated, good looking, but not money makers. They always married heiresses. The Bunns were good and pious, money makers, preachers or sons of preachers. No better people lived on earth. The Tarvers were money makers. They knew nothing else. They cared for nothing else and had no talent except to accumulate. Old man Hartwell Tarver trained the people of Houston county in farming. His overseers all moved to Houston.

There is old Tom Glover, who lived at Richland church. How poor or rich he was when he started, heaven only knows. He died rich and pious. He was a man who believed in his own family. This family was dear to him and no other family was. His attachment to his own made outsiders regard him as "clannish", which the family was. But the whole crowd were good men, educated, intelligent men and Lee's army contained no better, nor higher-toned soldier gentlemen than they were.

There were the Slappeys, they were thrifty and successful. The Radfords, Richardsons, Myricks, Durhams, Dr. Henry Wimberly, Griffins, Burketts, Tharpes, Woods, McCreas, Bryants, Vaughns, Burnses, Shines, Jordans, Barclays, Densons, Meltons, Phillips, Solomons, Faulks, Cardens, Andersons, Pages, Bannermans, ~~Exelton~~ Ezells, Fitzpatrick, Harts, Hamiltons, Hornes, Steallys, Boyntons, Hughes, McCallums, Jones, Caprees, Longs, and host of others who cannot now be recalled.

They were all planters, rich, prosperous, proud, pious, honest, brave and patriotic. But they had no more knowledge of the world outside of Twiggs County, than you and I have of China. These people were typical of all.

June 24 - 30
Information received from Dept of Archives
Atlanta, Ga., in reference to grandfather
Anderson's service during War 1812

A commission was ordered for Thomas Anderson May 18,
1809 as Captain of the 265 District Company, Franklin
County, Ga. Militia.

A commission was ordered for his successor May 14, 1813.
One Thomas Anderson commission as Captain of the Company
of First Class Militia, Franklin County, was ordered
August 17, 1814. He was serving with Col Wimberly's
regiment of Georgia Militia at Ft. Hawkins Nov. 22, 1814.