



## ANDERSON Honourable William

**Parents:** James Anderson and Hannah Aikenhead

**Siblings:** none

**Birth:** 3 January 1828, The Mall in the Parish of Montrose, County of Forfar, Scotland

**Marriage:** Ann Broadbent on 17 August 1848 in the Church of England, Belfast, Victoria. Anne died in 1906 at *Rosemount*, Southern Cross, daughter of William Broadbent and Ann Robinson

**Immigration:** William came with his parents aboard the *Arab* leaving London on 6 November 1841 arriving in Launceston on 31 March 1842

**Children:** No Issue

**Place of Residence:** *Rosemount*, Southern Cross

### **In Memoriam:**

HON WM ANDERSON AND MR JAMES OFFICER

*The Messenger*, May 28 1909

An 'In Memoriam' service in connection with the deaths of Hon. Wm. Anderson, *Rosemount*, and Mr James Officer, elders of the Koroit Presbyterian Church, was conducted by the Rev Thos J Riddle, on Sabbath, 16th May, when a very large crowd assembled. Mr Riddle took his text 2 Cor. 5: 1 - 4, and when concluding his sermon spoke as follows:- 'Brethren, does not our text help to bring light out of the darkness of sorrow, by which we are overshadowed to-day? Death has been in our midst, and created a double blank in our membership within the past fortnight, and a heavy cloud hangs over us. First the sad news of the death of the Hon, Wm. Anderson, whom we all loved and honoured... Mr Anderson's character and worth are not only known to members of this congregation and neighbourhood, but throughout the length and breadth of this State, and far beyond its bounds ... Brethren, is God not speaking very impressively to us all here today, by this double dispensation of His providence? Two of our standard-bearers have fallen, but they being dead yet speak: and can you and I not hear a voice saying, 'Be ye also ready, for you know neither the day nor the hour when the Son of Man cometh'? That beautiful American writer, the Rev. J.R. Millar, says: 'When our friends are taken from us, our bereavement is a call, not to sad weeping, but to a new duty'.

It bids us to do the work that they laid down,  
Take up the song where they broke off the strain;  
So journey till we reach the heavenly town,  
Where are laid up our treasures and our crown,  
And our loved ones will be found again".

There is a plaque to his memory in the Koroit Presbyterian Church which reads;

In Memoriam

The Hon William Anderson of Rosemount  
BORN AT MONTROSE JAN'Y 3RD 1828  
DIED AT COLOMBO MAY 6TH 1909.

A PIONEER OF VICTORIA, ONE OF THE FOUNDERS OF THIS CHURCH AND AN ELDER  
AND SABBATH SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT FOR OVER FIFTY YEARS.

**Life:***Victoria and its Metropolis: Past and Present 1888*

ANDERSON, William, M.L.A., J.P., Southern Cross, was born in Montrose, Scotland, on the 3rd January 1828. When thirteen years old he left school and went to learn engineering, but his parents having determined to leave their native land, he sailed with them from Scotland in October 1841, and landed in Launceston, Tasmania, on the 1st April 1842. After living there for nearly two years, they removed to Port Fairy (then recently settled), where with his father, he was engaged in the building trade. In 1849 his father transferred to him the entire business, which he carried on until 1854, when, having a taste for the country life, he joined his father in the purchase of the farm Rosemount, on which he now lives, and for which he obtained the prize offered by the Minister of Agriculture for the best managed farm in the southern portion of the colony during 1887. When local government became the order of the day in Victoria he took an active interest in local matters, and was shortly afterward elected a member of the Belfast Road Board: he was elected president of the Belfast Shire in 1864, and has since held Her Majesty's commission of the peace. He was in February 1880 elected to represent the counties of Villiers and Heytesbury, and has represented that constituency in the Legislative Assembly since his first election. At the age of twenty-six he was elected an elder of the Presbyterian Church, and has for many years represented the Tower Hill congregation in the court of the church. He succeeded the late Chief Justice [Higginbotham] as president of the Royal Horticultural Society of Victoria, and for two years acted as president of the Board for the Protection of Aborigines.

The pioneers of Yangery formed a Mutual Improvement Society whereby they held meetings in their homes or barns and William Anderson gave many of the talks. He had a passion to improve himself. William was also one of the founders of the Yangery National School which opened on 10th December 1858. William's greatest interest was said to be Sabbath schools. He was president of the Sunday School Union of Victoria in the 1880's. He did not have children of his own, but he conducted Sunday School for 53 years in his kitchen at Rosemount.