

*I Was A Cantankerous Little Cuss*  
memoirs of Grace Johnson Tompkins  
(Tim's paternal grandmother)

Chapter 2

Billy Tyne

When I was a kid we had a homestead and a nice garden. Momma had it in cultivation. She had Billy Tyne. Billy was her right-hand man, he was our neighbor. But the fact was that Momma depended on Billy a lot, he'd come over and do things, the plowing of the garden, one acre...and that acre! Some of it was hard going. So she would do some cooking for him; he was a bachelor. He was just grand to Momma, you know. She was alone, just had me.



Young Grace and neighbor Billy Tyne on homestead near Stratton, Colorado