

Bowers Problem

Mary Sowash was born ___ 18__ in _____ Co., __. She married _____ (perhaps David) Bower/Bowers or perhaps Powers (born ___ 18__ in _____ Co., __, son of _____ and _____ (_____) Bower) on ___ 18__ in _____ Co., __. Mary was listed in the 1827 will of her father John Sowash, Sr. (Soash_03) She received one dollar, with the rest of her one-eleventh share of the estate going to her unnamed children.

I Give & Bequeath to my Daughter Mary Sowash Bowers the sum of one Dollar to be paid out of the first monies received by my Executors out of my Real estate & the residue of said share, I Give & bequeath to the children of the Said Mary Bowers to be equally divided among them. An I do hereby declare that it is my will That my _____ friend Adam Saar [?] be a Guardian and caretaker for each & every of the children of the aforesaid Mary Bowers until they shall arrive at an age to choose for themselves. Their respective shares with the increase thereof to be paid when they separately [?] come of age.

The child of Mary who seems relatively certain was Mary Elizabeth Bowers, born ___ 18__ in _____ Co., __.

In the letters of administration of Catherine (Thomas) Sowash, Mary's mother, in 1851, it listed three payments to Mary Bowers' child "1/5 of 1/11". The children of Mary were to inherit one-eleventh of her father's estate to be divided equally. This would indicate there were five children in 1851.

In the [1850 Westmoreland Co., PA.](#) census (North Huntington Twp., 220/226), there was a Henry Bowers (age 43), his wife Barbara perhaps [FAG](#) (age 42), and four children: [Ann](#) (Bowers) Mckee (1841-1929), Debora (age 8), Henry Clay (age 4?), Margaret (age 4), and Daniel (age 3). They were right beside Catherine (Thomas) Sowash (1/W/). The names do not fit well with other data on the Bowers family, but being next to Catherine could indicate a kinship. Perhaps this Henry was the husband of Mary Sowash Bowers and he remarried Barbara after Mary died? Pure speculation.

In the will of Mary's sister Elizabeth Sowash in 1854 (Soash_06), it listed Mary Elizabeth Bowers, daughter of David Bowers. No relationship was listed, but it would seem that David was the husband of Mary. It also listed a niece Margaret Barnhart, who may fit into this line. Henry Barnhart is the executor of the will. This may be the husband of Margaret? The rest of the inheritors of the will have been accounted for.

In the will of Mary's sister Catherine Sowash in 1882 (Soash_ 16), it listed a Mary Robertson, deceased, and her children Rachel Emma (who married an Elliot), Anna, Jennie, Oley, and Kattie. This may be Mary Elizabeth Bowers who then married _____ Robertson. Other people listed are Ann (Howell) Steiner, Manerva (Howell) Gray, Catherine (Howell) McGrew, children of Sarah (Sowash?) Howell.

In the will of Mary's sister Ann Sowash in 1889 (Soash_66), there was a Joseph Bowers who certainly seems connected to this line and a William Bruce Barnhart who may be connected. Other unconnected people listed are Annie Large and Elizabeth Sarver (see 2C4I).

April 18, 1889
Sold land 1889

Catherine Will (16)
1882

Elizabeth 1854 (see her file) 6

Ann's Will (66)
1897

4666 Done

Rachel McCall
Sister

Sisters
Rachel McCall
Frank
Ann Swash

Brother
George
Sisters
Catherine
Ann
Rachel

George Albert Swash

Annie Parze

George McCormick
Rachel George (Daugh John M. Corndak)
wife John George

Ann Steiner

Niece
Margaret Barnhart
+ children
Henry L.? - See 10

Joseph Bowers

Manerwa Gray

Wm Bruce Barnhart

David Swash

? IE

David son Joseph
\$100 cork leg

Elizabeth Sawyer

d. of John George Catherine Cochran

Mary Matilda Swash

John M. Corndak
Edward

Catherine McGraw

Merata Swash
d. of David

M. Wellen
Son John George
Sawash
Ann Sauffer ? IE 9

M. Josiah Sauffer

John
3 of George

Do this one

Mary Robertson
deceased

Mary Elizabeth Bowers
d/o David Bowers

children
Rachel Emma
m. Elliott
Anna
Jennie
Oliver
Katherine

12 Jan 1832

86 2m 27d

1853 Letter of Administration lists "Mary Bower's child singular"

DATA WORK SHEET (For recording genealogical information as it is gathered from various sources.)

| | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|--|---------------|--|-----|--------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|------------------|------------------------|
| Date | Search No. | Enclosure No. | Name of Subject David ? Bowers 61 | | | | | | | |
| Printed Record | | | Subject's Data | Day | Month | Year | City, Town or Place | County or Province, etc. | State or Country | |
| Vol. | Page | Location | Birth | | | | | | | |
| Document Dated | | Recorded | Chr'nd | | | | | | | |
| Who controls or has record? | | | Mar. | | | | | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Bible | | Death | | | | | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Census | | Burial | | | | | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Church | | Places of Residence | | | | | | | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Correspondence | | Occupation | | Church Affiliation | | Military Rec. | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Court | | Father | | | Mother | | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Deed | | Name of Spouse | | | Mary 1 Sowash 60 <i>not returned</i> | | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | History | | Spouse's Data | Day | Month | Year | City, Town or Place | County or Province, etc. | State or Country | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Home | | Birth | | | | | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Interview | | Chr'nd | | | | | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Military | | Death | | | | | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Obituary | | Burial | | | | | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Tombstone | | Places of Residence | | | | | | | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Vital Record | | Occupation | | Church Affiliation | | Military Rec. | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Other | | Father | | | Mother | | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Original; <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy; <input type="checkbox"/> Recorded Copy; | | | Copy verbatim on this form the information you find in the various records or books as you do your research. (You will find differences in records.) Make a separate sheet for each search or each name or family on your line found in a search. Then, after information has been extracted from all sources, you may easily make comparisons of statements, judge value of each, and record correct data on a permanent form such as A1, F1, F3 or F6. See The Sixth Edition THE HOW BOOK FOR GENEALOGISTS for additional suggestions regarding the use of this sheet. | | | | | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Transcribed Copy; <input type="checkbox"/> Extract; | | | | | | | | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Photo Copy; <input type="checkbox"/> Handwritten; <input type="checkbox"/> Typewritten; <input type="checkbox"/> Printed | | | | | | | | | | |
| Legibility | | | | | | | | | | |
| Sex | Children's names in full (Arrange in order of birth) | | Children's Data | Day | Month | Year | City, Town or Place | County or Province, etc. | State or Country | Add. info. on children |
| 1 | Mary Elizabeth | | Birth | | | | | | | Will John children |
| | Full name of spouse* | | Mar. | | | | | | | |
| | Robertson? | | Death | | | | | | | |
| | | | Burial | | | | | | | |
| 2 | Margaret Bower | | Birth | | | | | | | Will John |
| | Full name of spouse* | | Mar. | | | | | | | daugh |
| | David Bower? (2) | | Death | | | | | | | Mary Elizabeth (2) |
| | | | Burial | | | | | | | |
| 3 | Margaret | | Birth | | | | | | | Elizabeth Sowash |
| | Full name of spouse* | | Mar. | | | | | | | children (2) |
| | also 1854 (2) | | Death | | | | | | | Wm Bruce (4) |
| | Henry? (2) Barnhart? | | Burial | | | | | | | Barnhart |
| 4 | Joseph? | | Birth | | | | | | | Joseph Bowers |
| | Full name of spouse* | | Mar. | | | | | | | |
| | | | Death | | | | | | | |
| | | | Burial | | | | | | | |

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*If married more than once No. each mar. (1) (2) etc. and list in "Add. info. on children" column. Use space below or reverse side for additional children, other notes, references or information.

Niece of Elizabeth (son John Sr)

Jacksonville

DATA WORK SHEET (For recording genealogical information as it is gathered from various sources.)

Date _____ Search No. _____ Enclosure No. _____ Name of Subject Henry Barnhart *exp of Elizabeth's will*

| | | | | | | | |
|---|---------------------|--|---------------|------|---------------------|--------------------------|------------------|
| Printed Record | Subject's Data | Day | Month | Year | City, Town or Place | County or Province, etc. | State or Country |
| Vol. Page Location | Birth | | | | | | |
| Document Dated | Recorded | Chr'nd | | | | | |
| Who controls or has record? | Mar. | | | | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bible | Death | | | | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Census | Burial | | | | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Church | Places of Residence | | | | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Correspondence | Occupation | Church Affiliation | Military Rec. | | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Court | Father | Mother | | | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Deed | Name of Spouse | <u>Margrett</u> <i>look for Margrett</i> | | | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> History | Spouse's Data | Day | Month | Year | City, Town or Place | County or Province, etc. | State or Country |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Home | Birth | | | | 1850 | Post / Post | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Interview | Chr'nd | | | | North Hunterdon Twp | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Military | Death | | | | | | dead 1854? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Obituary <u>Will Am ④ 1859</u> | Burial | | | | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tombstone | Places of Residence | | | | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Vital Record | Occupation | Church Affiliation | Military Rec. | | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other <u>Elizabeth's will 1854</u> | Father | Mother | | | | | |

USE THIS SECTION OF THE GENEALOGICAL RECORD SHEET FOR A THOROUGH RECORD OF RECORD AND DESCRIBE.

Original; Certified Copy; Recorded Copy;
 Transcribed Copy; Extract;
 Photo Copy; Handwritten; Typewritten; Printed

Copy verbatim on this form the information you find in the various records or books as you do your research. (You will find differences in records.) Make a separate sheet for each search or each name or family on your line found in a search. Then, after information has been extracted from all sources, you may easily make comparisons of statements, judge value of each, and record correct data on a permanent form such as A1, F1, F3 or F6. See The Sixth Edition THE HOW BOOK FOR GENEALOGISTS for additional suggestions regarding the use of this sheet.

| Sex | Children's names in full (Arrange in order of birth) | Children's Data | Day | Month | Year | City, Town or Place | County or Province, etc. | State or Country | Add. info. on children |
|-----|--|-----------------|-----|-------|------|---------------------|--------------------------|------------------|------------------------|
| | 1 <u>Wm Bruce</u> ④ Full name of spouse* | Birth | | | | | | | |
| | | Mar. | | | | | | | |
| | | Death | | | | | | | |
| | | Burial | | | | | | | |
| | 2 <u>Elizabeth</u> ④ Full name of spouse* <u>Sarah</u> ④ | Birth | | | | | | | |
| | | Mar. | | | | | | | |
| | | Death | | | | | | | |
| | | Burial | | | | | | | |
| | 3 | Birth | | | | | | | |
| | | Mar. | | | | | | | |
| | | Death | | | | | | | |
| | | Burial | | | | | | | |
| | 4 | Birth | | | | | | | |
| | | Mar. | | | | | | | |
| | | Death | | | | | | | |
| | | Burial | | | | | | | |

*If married more than once No. each mar. (1) (2) etc. and list in "Add. info. on children" column. Use space below or reverse side for additional children, other notes, references or information.

Jacob Kosonsteel
R F Albright.

(66)

And now July 6 1897, Will filed and duly probated. Letters
Testamentary granted to John M. Mathias the within named
Executor who was duly sworn before me. Testatrix died 20th
day of January 1897 about the hour of one o'clock A.M.

Daniel C. Stearns Register

Will Book 10 p 42

1-M

IM

No. 23 1897.
Will of
Ann Bowash
Twin Boro

In the name of God Amen: I, Ann Bowash
of the Borough of Irwin, County of Westmoreland
and State of Pennsylvania being of sound mind
and memory do hereby make, publish, and de-
clare this to be my last Will and Testament.

in manner and form following hereby revoking any will or wills hereto
fore made by me. First I direct all my just debts and funeral ex-
penses to be fully paid and satisfied as soon as conveniently may
be after my decease. Second I devise and bequeath all my property
and estate, real, personal and mixed of what nature or kind now
and wheresoever the same shall be at the time of my death. To
my sister Rachel McCall and her husband Franklin McCall for
and during the term of their natural lives and at the death of one
of them to the survivor and at the decease of both of the above legatees.
I direct that all my real estate and whatever remains of the personal
property shall be sold by my Executors hereinafter named and the
proceeds divided as follows to wit: I give and bequeath in one
hundred dollars to and for the benefit of the United Presbyterian
Church of Irwin Pa. I give and bequeath one hundred dollars to
George Albert Bowash. I give to Annie Large one hundred dollars.
All the remainder and residue of my Estate after the payment of the
above bequests I give and bequeath to George McCormick, Rachel
George wife of John George deceased. Joseph Bowers, William
Bruce Barnhart, Elizabeth Davis and John McCormick and
Edward McCormick sons of Eli McCormick deceased. Equally
share and share alike. Except the two last named John McCormick
and Edward McCormick who are to receive one share divided equally
between them. And lastly I do nominate and appoint John
Bowash of Penn Township, Westmoreland County, and State of
Pennsylvania and Edward McCormick Esq of the Borough of
Irwin County and State aforesaid to be the Executors of this
my last Will and Testament. In Witness whereof I have here-
unto set my hand and seal this 30th day of August in the year

1025

of our Lord one thousand Eight hundred and Ninety four (1894)
Signed sealed published and
declared by by Ann Dowash
the Testatrix above named as
and for her last Will and Testament
in the presence of us who in her
presence and at her request and
in the presence of each other
have subscribed our names as
Witnesses thereto
W. V. Kerr
C. A. Gregg

The Eight words on the 27th line
of first page was interlined before
signed.

Ann^{per} Dowash (seal)
mark.

In case of the death Joseph Bourrs one of the above legates the
share allotted to him is to fall back to Mrs Mary M^r Fail.
The above codicil written before being signed.

And now July 8th 1897. Will filed and duly probated Letters Testa-
mentary granted to John Dowash and Edward McGinnis the with
in named Executors who were duly sworn before Mr. _____
Testatrix died May 5th 1896 at about 6 o'clock A.M.

Daniel B. Steward Register.

No 27 of 1897.
Will of
Mary Kuhlman
Lords Township

In the Name of God Amen: I, Mary Kuhlman of
Lords Township, Westmoreland County & State of
Pennsylvania being in good health of body and of
sound and disposing mind and memory do make
this my last will and testament in manner fol-
lowing, that is to say, I order and direct that all my just debts be
the first place fully paid, that is my funeral expenses & charges
of proving this my last will, then I give and bequeath to Mary
Kauger wife of Elijah Kauger, of Lords Township, Westmore-
land County, State of Pennsylvania all my property in to what
soever form it may be in with the exceptions of Three Dollars &
13⁰⁰ which is to be equally divided with my daughter Katharine

In the Name of God Amen I Catherine ¹⁴
 Sowash of the County of Westmoreland and State of
 Pennsylvania being of sound mind and Memory and ^{Duplicate}
 considering the uncertainty of this frail and transitory life
 do therefore make Ordain Publish and declare this to be my
 last Will & Testament that is to say after my funeral
 expenses and Charges of proving this my last Will are fully
 paid and discharged the residue of my Estate real and
 personal I give bequeath and dispose of as follows To wit,
 to my Sister Miss Sowash to my Sister Rachel Meall
 and her husband Frank Meall all the undivided one
 fourth of the ¹³parson on which I now reside Situate in Hempfield
 Township County and State aforesaid together with what ever
 personal affects I may possess at my decease to have and en-
 Joy during the term of their natural lives and after the death
 of each and all of the above named three persons to be divided
 Equally among the following named persons to Ann Steiner to
Margaret Gray, to David ¹⁵Sowash, Catherine ¹⁵Cochran, Catherine
Megrew, Ann ¹⁵Sauffer, Rachel Emma Robertson intermarried to
Wm Elliott Anna ¹⁵Robertson, Jennie Robertson, Oley Robertson,
 and to Kattie Robertson, the last five Executors herein named
 shall only represent one of the above Equal Shares mentioned
 which was intended for their Mother Mary Robertson now
 deceased to be Equally divided among them Share & Share alike
 Likewise I order that my Executor hereinafter named shall sell
 all my Estate at public or private sale and after all expenses
 are fully paid & discharged shall distribute the residue among
 the Legatees herein named Likewise I make constitute and
 appoint John G. Leasure to be Executor of this my last will and
 Testament hereby revoking all former wills by me made
 In witness whereof I have hereunto subscribed my name and
 and affixed my seal, this twenty sixth day of January
 in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and eight,
 '80 (1882)

In the presence of,

Catherine Sowash ^{made} ~~her~~ ^{last} ~~will~~

Wm J Moore
J G Leasure

63/4/9-17

HUSBAND: ROBERTSON (ID=6) 1-P
Born Place
Chr. Place
Marr Place
Died Place
Bur. Place

61 + 62

HUSBAND'S FATHER:
HUSBAND'S OTHER WIVES:

HUSBAND'S MOTHER:

899 Really ? 191

WIFE: MARY ~~SMITH~~ (ID=6)
Born 1837 Place
Chr. Place
Died c. 1882 Place
Bur. Place

WIFE'S FATHER: (ID=9)
WIFE'S OTHER HUSBANDS:

WIFE'S MOTHER: (ID=10)

~~check to be sure~~
~~and son~~

M/F CHILDREN WHEN BORN WHERE BORN FIRST MARRIAGE WHEN DIED

1 F ANNA ROBERTSON (ID=95)

2 F RACHEL EMMA ROBERTSON (ID=96)

ELLIOT (ID=97)

3 M OLEY ROBERTSON (ID=98)

4 F JENNIE ROBERTSON (ID=99)

5 F CATHERINE ROBERTSON (ID=100)

SOURCES OF INFO

W-NOT PROVEN MAY
1-CATHERINE'S WI
2-CATHERINE'S WI
3-CATHERINE'S WI
4-CATHERINE'S WI
5-CATHERINE'S WI

| | | | |
|-----|------------------|------|-----|
| 186 | West N High | p | 789 |
| | Joseph Robertson | 49 | |
| | Mary Ann | 37 | |
| | Joanna J | 27 | |
| | Margaret J | 19 | |
| | John | 16 | |
| | Andrew | 14 | |
| | Thomas | 12 | |
| | Isabella | 9 | |
| | Cassius | 3/12 | |

Jun 23

Elizabeth 1/12/1854
Washoretad

(52) brother George

(900) ~~brother~~
son John
sisters

(49) Catherine

(57) Ann

(58) Rachel

? niece Margret
Henry ^{Banham} husband
Clerk #34

brother? Joseph
(42)

Davidson (2026)
wooden leg

Mary Matilda Sowash
& David

over Maratta (3/33)

Duplicate

I Elizabeth Sowash, of North Huntingdon Township Westmoreland County and State of Pennsylvania, being of sound mind and memory and considering the uncertainty of this frail and transitory life, do therefore make, ordain, publish and declare this to be my last will and testament: in manner following, that is to say, I order that all my just debts be paid, and satisfied, and after payment thereof, I give and bequeath, unto my Brother George Sowash, children the farm, which I lately purchased of George Keck, in Franklin Township Westmoreland County State of Pennsylvania. I give and bequeath three head of horses six cows three head of young cattle one wagon one carriage and all the farming utensils which I now have on the place where I now reside, to the above named children and I direct their father to pay out of the proceeds of said farm and stock: all the interest which may be come due on the payments of said farm, to the executor which I will appoint, to be used as I will hereafter direct. George Sowash and his wife to be maintained out of the proceeds of ^{his} farm, as long as they both shall live: the above named property to be managed by their father as he shall think best for the benefit of his children: I give and bequeath to my ^{my} three sisters, Catharine Sowash, Ann Sowash, Rachel Sowash: three fourths of the farm, which I lately purchased of William Evans, in Hempfield Township Westmoreland County State of Pennsylvania, joining lands with B. H. Marchand, Thomas Tilbrook, and others: I give and bequeath unto my niece Margaret Barnhart, one eighth of the same farm, and the other eighth of the same farm to the above named Margaret Barnhart's children, and I here direct: that Catharine Sowash, Ann Sowash, Rachel Sowash.

(?)

and Margaret Barnhart and her children. Henry Barnhart
 as the guardian for the afore said Margaret's children
 they being the only heirs in the last named farm; for these
 heirs to sell the afore said farm, as soon as they think
 proper: or at any time that, ^{they} think best for their own ben-
 efit: I give and bequeath unto David ¹⁵⁵ Sourash son of Joseph Sourash
 the sum of one hundred dollars which I intend for him
 to purchase a cork leg for himself if he sees proper to
 use it in that way. I give to May ¹⁵⁷ Wilder Sourash the
^{the sum of 100 dollars to purchase Sourash property of David Sourash}
 sum of one hundred and seventy five dollars; I give to
¹⁵⁷ John Sourash son of George Sourash the sum of one hundred
 dollars: I give to May Elizabeth Bowers daughter of David Bow-
ers the sum of twenty dollars: the residue of my personal
 property after the above heirs be paid: to be divided among
 my three sisters herein named equally: it is my will
 and desire that all the heirs herein named shall
 severally receive the portion that is herein directed
 they should get: and I do hereby nominate constitute and
 appoint Henry Barnhart of Jacksonville Whitmerland
County and State of Pennsylvania executor of this my
 last will and Testament: and I direct the executor to receive
 the money which is or which may become due to me
 and to ^{pay} out of the same for the two farms herein
 named as the obligations of the same calls for: the
 remainder to be paid ^{and} as herein directed in this
 my will hereby revoking and making void all former

over

and others wills by me at any time here to fore
made. and declare this only to be my last will and
testament in witness whereof I the said testatrix have
to this my last will and testament. set my hand
and seal. this the 12th day of January A.D. 1854

Witness present
D. S. Huntley
A. Marchand

Elisabeth Sewash 

Westmoreland County Js

Before me Randal McLaughlin Register
of Wills in and for said County personally came D. S. Hunt-
ley Esq. & A. Marchand the Subscribing Witnesses to the foregoing
written last Will and Testament of Elisabeth Sewash formerly of
North Huntingdon, late of Hompsfield Township, Pa. who being
duly sworn do say, that they are present and saw and
heard the said testatrix duly sign, seal, execute, acknowledge
and declare the same as and for her last Will and Testa-
ment, and at the time of so doing she was as they believe
of sound and disposing mind memory and understanding
and that they signed their names as witnesses thereto in
her presence and at her request

Sworn & Subscribed this 22nd day of September A.D. 1854

D. S. Huntley
A. Marchand

Before me
Randal McLaughlin Reg^y