

## 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's 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. Corbush)  
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. Corbush  
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 <del>David</del> ? <b>Bowers</b> 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	<del>Margaret Bower</del>		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				<u>1850</u>	<u>Post / Post</u>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Interview	Chr'nd				<u>North Hunterdon Twp</u>		
<input type="checkbox"/> Military	Death						<u>dead 1854?</u>
<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 FORM FOR THE GENEALOGICAL RECORDS. Do not use for a few instances 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 20<sup>th</sup>  
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 30<sup>th</sup> day of August in the year

102F

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  
 T. A. Gregg

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

Ann<sup>per</sup> Dowash (seal)  
 mark.

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

And now July 8<sup>th</sup> 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 me  
 Testatrix died May 5<sup>th</sup> 1896 at about 6 o'clock A.M.

Daniel B. Steward Register.

Nov 27 of 1897. } In the Name of God Amen: I, Mary Kuhlman of  
 Will of } Coors Township, Westmoreland County & State of  
 Mary Kuhlman } Pennsylvania being in good health of body and of  
 Coors Township } 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 from  
 the first place fully paid, that is my funeral expenses & charges  
 of proving this my last will, then I give and bequeath to Mary  
 Hauger wife of Elijah Hauger, of Coors Township, Westmore-  
 land County, State of Pennsylvania all my property in to what  
 cover form it may be in with the exceptions of Three Dollars &  
 13<sup>00</sup> which is to be equally divided with my daughter Katharine



In the Name of God Amen I Catherine  
 Sowash of the County of Westmoreland 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 & 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 parson on which I now reside Situate in Hempfield  
 Township County and State aforesaid together with whatever  
 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 Sowash, Catherine Cochran, Catherine  
Megrew, Ann Sawyer, Rachel Emma Robertson intermarried to  
Wm Elliott, Anna Robertson, 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 hereby 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 <sup>made</sup> ~~her~~ ~~last~~

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 ? 101

WIFE: MARY ~~SMITH~~ (ID=68)  
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 <sup>Banham</sup> husband  
Clerk p34

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 <sup>his</sup> 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 <sup>my</sup> 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 aforesaid Margaret's children  
 they being the only heirs in the last named farm; for these  
 heirs to sell the aforesaid farm, as soon as they think  
 proper: or at any time that, <sup>they</sup> think best for their own ben-  
 efit: I give and bequeath unto David <sup>185</sup> Sowash son of Joseph Sowash  
 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 <sup>185</sup> Wilder Sowash the  
<sup>the sum of 100 dollars to purchase</sup> the  
<sup>Sowash property of David Sowash</sup>  
 sum of one hundred and seventy five dollars; I give to  
<sup>157</sup> John Sowash son of George Sowash 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 <sup>my</sup> out of the same for the two farms herein  
 named as the obligations of the same calls for: the  
 remainder to be paid <sup>and</sup> 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 12<sup>th</sup> day of January A.D. 1854

Witness present  
D. S. Huntley  
A. Marchand

Elisabeth Sewash 

Westmoreland County Pa

Before me Randal McLaughlin Register  
of Wills in and for said County personally came D. S. Hun-  
tley 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 22<sup>nd</sup> day of September A.D. 1854

D. S. Huntley  
A. Marchand

Before me  
Randal McLaughlin Reg<sup>r</sup>