

Jeremiah Bowles

By Gracie Stover

Jeremiah Marion Bowles was born on April 6, 1816, in Franklin County, Virginia, and died September 1892, in Mason County, West Virginia. Thanks to the DNA testing popular with the modern genealogist, we have connected to more cousins and found that his parents were Jeremiah Bowles, Sr., and Elizabeth Martin, from Franklin County, Virginia. He married Mary Ann Waldon, daughter of William Walden and Margaret King, on December 5, 1838, in Franklin County, Virginia. They settled in Putnam County, Virginia, by the 1850 census.

According to his military record from the Civil War, Jeremiah was 6'2" with blue eyes and light colored hair. He served in the 36th Virginia Regiment, a Confederate troop, under Colonel John McCausland. He enlisted on May 13, 1861, in Putnam County, Virginia, at age 47. He was discharged in August 1862 for being over age. His occupation was a cooper, and instead of retiring from service, he went to Pulaski County, Virginia, and worked at Scott's Depot, a railroad station that shipped supplies to the Confederate troops. His muster rolls show he signed his name to collect his pay, so he could read and write, but when he took his oath of Allegiance on June 8, 1865, in Franklin County, he signed with an X.

Jeremiah married Nancy E. Marsh, on August 26, 1852, in Putnam County. Their children were Peter Bowles and a daughter, M.A. Bowles.

Jeremiah married Elmira Akers, daughter of Blackburn Akers and Sarah Wilson, on January 11, 1866, in Giles County, Virginia. Using Jeremiah's muster rolls from the Civil War, we can track his movements and see when he was in the area where he met Elmira. After the Civil War, he went back to Giles County, and married her, and they had a son named Joseph Bowles. Elmira was the widow of David Akers, also from Franklin County.

Jeremiah's fourth marriage was to Sarah Adams, on October 30, 1877, in Putnam County.

Children of Jeremiah Bowles and Mary Ann Waldon:

1. Francis Marion Bowles was born on October 18, 1842, and died on June 14, 1927, in Mason County. During the Civil War, he served in the 7th West Virginia Calvary, a Union troop. He was 5'8" tall and had blue eyes, light complexion, and light hair.
2. **Allen S. Bowles.** See below.
3. John Bowles.
4. James Bowles.

Allen S. Bowles

Allen S. Bowles was born on January 25, 1846, in Putnam County, West Virginia, and died on April 23, 1917, in Boomer, Kanawha County, West Virginia. He married Octavia Cooper, daughter of Wiley Cooper and Margaret Price, on March 8, 1876, in

Kanawha County, West Virginia. She was born June 12, 1858, and died in 1896. Allen was in the 7th West Virginia Infantry during the Civil War. Their children were:

-1 Wiley Bowles. See below.

-2 Anna Bowles was born on August 19, 1878, in Kanawha County, and married Ike Middleton.

-3 Alpha Bowles was born on August 14, 1884, and married John Martin.

-4 Pearl Bowles.

-5 Delphia Bowles.

-6 Sydney Bowles.

Wiley Bowles

Wiley Bowles was born on February 2, 1882, in Winifrede, Kanawha County, and died on December 20, 1956, in Charleston, Kanawha County. He married Regina Sylvia Roche, daughter of Auguste Joseph Roche and Mahalia Elizabeth Wilkins, on September 1, 1909, at Boomer, Fayette County, West Virginia. Regina was born on July 6, 1885, in Huntingdon County, Pennsylvania, and died on December 21, 1952, in Boone County. Wiley and Regina are both buried in the Adkins Cemetery, at Naoma, Raleigh County, West Virginia. After Wiley and Regina were married, they moved to Packsville, Raleigh County, where Wiley worked in the coal mines. Their children were:

i Octavia Elizabeth Bowles. See below.

ii Frank Dayton Bowles was born on June 19, 1912, in Raleigh County, and died in June, 1987, in Simi Valley, California.

iii Sydney Bowles.

iv Bertha Bell Bowles was born on October 24, 1921, and died in Huntington, West Virginia, on February 3, 1975.

v Edward Eugene was born on August 24, 1924, in Ivoton, West Virginia. He married Dorothy May Arthur on September 5, 1950, at Whitesville, Boone County, West Virginia.

Octavia Elizabeth Bowles



Elizabeth and her daughter Betty Jo

Octavia Elizabeth Bowles was born on July 22, 1910, at Boomer, Fayette County and died on May 14, 1987, in California. She was raised at Packsville, Raleigh County, and living with her parents, Wiley and Regina, when she met and married Shirley Stilwell. Shirley was the son of Elias Stilwell and Martha Ann Caldwell. He was born on January 1, 1888, in Oldtown, Kentucky, died on February 21, 1951, in Raleigh County, and is buried at the Adkins Cemetery at Naomi, Raleigh County. They lived at Edwight, where Shirley was a supervisor in the coal mines. He also took the donkeys home with him to care for, when they were not needed in the mines. After 1935, they moved to War, McDowell County, then moved back to Packsville, Raleigh County, due to the mining jobs that he was assigned. Their children were Wiley Shirley, Betty Jo, Francis Regina, and William Stilwell. Due to her

husband’s ill health, Elizabeth opened a restaurant at Seng Creek, Boone County, and then worked in a doctor’s office at Whitesville, where she learned the profession of nursing. Without formal nursing school, she “challenged” the state nursing board, and was allowed to take the test. She passed it and obtained her LPN nursing license. After her husband died, she moved to California with her daughter Jean, where she continued her nursing career.

		
<p>Shirley Stilwell and his oldest daughter Louise</p>	<p>Martha Ann Caldwell Shirley’s Mother</p>	<p>Shirley and Elizabeth’s Children – (Back row) Wiley, Betty; (Front Row) Reginia, and Bill</p>

--1 Wiley Shirley Stilwell was born on May 1, 1929, in Hazy, Raleigh County, and married Bonna Hall, daughter of Russell Hall, in Raleigh County. He also married Anna Rose Gibbons on April 18, 1960, in California.

--2 Betty Jo Stilwell was born on June 26, 1930, and married Herbert Jackson Stover Sr., on August 15, 1946, in Raleigh County. She also married George Massey.

--3 Reginia Frances Stilwell was born at Edwight, Raleigh County, and married William Legg in Kentucky. She married Kenneth Hildreth in Carson City, Nevada.

--4 William Stilwell.