

Phyllis B. Little

ANCESTORS and DESCENDANTS
of
THE INDIANA PIONEER
GEORGE BOWMAN

A History of the Bowmans
From 1738

Ernestine Fox

*Elbert L. Bowman's, Copy
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To the Two Oldest Living Descendants
of Our Forefather
Daniel George Bowman

Thomas Partee Bowman, North Carolina
born September 26, 1869

and

Martha Secrest Grounds, Indiana
born October 12, 1869

It has been a great satisfaction to trace our forefathers back to the days when this land was uncharted and unmarked; to learn to which branch of the Bowman family we belong; how we are related each to the other; and, going farther back, to learn from what type stock we are descended.

Today, as we find ourselves thrust into the atomic age of rockets, satellites and charted space, we cannot help but do a bit of wistful lingering, yearning to lay hold on whatever was noble and enduring in the lives and times of our pioneer ancestors, claiming it as our birthright. This we hold to ourselves in this scientific present. It establishes for us roots in the past.

Ernestine Fox
Spring 1963

The History of the Name Bowman

Bowman, meaning "farmer" in German, is a common name in German-speaking countries today as it has been for centuries. A name so widely used and known would be certain to undergo changes in spelling from time to time and there have been several changes from Medieval times to the present.

The earliest spelling of the name was "Buman", used until about 1617. Then came the first changes to "Buwman" and "Bouman", both used until around 1650. The next change made it "Bauman", "Baumann," or "Baughman".

When the early American immigrant members of the family came they were using the spelling "Bauman." That was soon changed to "Bowman", not by the members of the family, but by English officials in entering court records of legal documents. They spelled the "Bau" as it sounded to their English ears -- "Bow."

Today some branches of the family have returned to one of the earlier spellings of the name -- "Bauman" -- but as far as could be ascertained, both the North Carolina and the Indiana members use "Bowman", although each group uses a different pronunciation of our common name. In North Carolina it is "Bowman" with the long sound of "O", while in Indiana it is the short sound of "O".

HOW IT ALL BEGAN

When two descendants start out in search of their family's beginnings in this country, with only a slender thread of the name of the original ancestor five generations removed and only the general location of where he settled, the unraveling is unpredictable.

Willard H. Bowman, our mother's cousin, of Centerpoint, Indiana, had learned quite by chance that in Alexander County, North Carolina "every other person is a Bowman". At his suggestion, my sister and I, on a trip to the Great Smoky Mountains, went on to Alexander County to find out whether or not these Bowmans might be related to us through our own forefather, GEORGE BOWMAN, who went to Indiana from North Carolina in the early 1800s.

On arrival in Alexander County, we learned that, indeed, nearly every other resident is a Bowman, or at any rate, they make up a goodly one-third of the population and we thought that contacting the branch of the family in which we were interested would be simple. As it turned out, however, the only simple fact established was that there seemed to be about seven lines of descent, each group declaring no kinship to the others. This puzzling situation was eventually clarified when it was learned that in only two families were there older members who knew which sons of the immigrant ancestor Bowman were their ancestors.

It was with not a little excitement that a Bowman family was located and a visit arranged shortly after we arrived on a Friday evening in the small town of Taylorsville, North Carolina. The visit, however, was brief and decidedly conclusive that theirs was not the family we were seeking. Mr. Bowman, feeling more prosperous than the average-income members of the clan -- and justified by his ambitious seventy miles of daily driving in his inspector's job at the age of 75 -- denied kinship to any other Bowman in the town. And upon his inquiring about the church affiliation of our particular branch of the family, he also declared absolutely no kin to any part of a Bowman family who had bred a Baptist minister (our grandfather, William J. Bowman, was an ordained Baptist minister in Indiana during his lifetime). It was Mr. Bowman's conviction that being other than Lutheran was near heresy. And certainly the history and unbroken tradition of the Lutheran Church in the county and all the Bowmans' devout association with it in the surrounding communities were memorable tributes to it.

Back at the hotel after the discouraging visit with our first North Carolina Bowman, we found a message from a Mr. Walter

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Bowman, inviting us to visit him at our convenience. Needing a bit of encouragement, we found it very much at our convenience to go calling on him at that precise moment and met a delightful, softspoken gentleman with whom we soon discovered a kinship. He proudly traced his family back to Daniel, sixth son of our 1738 immigrant ancestor. This gave the entire picture some perspective for us and we were heartened. From then on he referred to us as his "Kentucky cousins". Whether this was through sheer determination to keep us south of the Mason-Dixon line as the rightful place for all Bowmans, or through his confusing Kentucky and Indiana because of their proximity, we didn't learn.

So, Baptist heretics notwithstanding, we now plunged on in search of family history, spurred on by Mr. Walter Bowman and by leads from now interested citizens of the town. After but few walks from hotel to cafe at mealtime, all the sidewalk "keepers of the news" had allayed the townspeople's curiosity about the two strange ladies in town with the information that they had come seeking information of early Bowman families. (It was in this manner that Mr. Walter Bowman had learned of us). Consequently, on each return to the hotel there were waiting for us assorted messages, some helpful, some not.

But the one that paid off was offered by an elderly citizen who was not a Bowman but a former neighbor of "Peter Bowman's daddy". He was certain that Peter had in his possession his daddy's book of Bowman history. This sounded promising. We asked for and were given these directions:

"You go down the blacktop road ---"

"How far?"

"O, just a little ways beyond town til you come to a road that takes off to the left, which you can't miss. Then two turns down that road you'll come to a dirt road. The fourth house down that road is Peter Bowman's house, set back in a field."

We found the house and Peter Bowman. We liked him, he is of our generation, and he didn't ask if we were Lutherans. But he didn't have the book. He thought his sisters had it.

They lived on down the road.

"Go til you come to the lake; cross over the bridge and angle off to the right. Keep going til you come to the crossroads. Go on past the little house at the corner and my sisters' house is the next on the left", he directed us.

By this time we were racing the fading daylight. Just as we were on the down count a cloud of red North Carolina dust passed us, enveloped us and obscured our count. But we found the house and congratulated each other on being able to follow directions so well in a strange place. Peter's sisters were delighted to have us come. But they didn't have their daddy's book, although they thought Mr. Thomas Bowman had a copy.

He lived on down the road.

The cloud of dust we had encountered shortly before had been Mr. Thomas Bowman dashing home after delivering his garden produce into the city some miles away -- all at the age of 87.

Thomas did have a copy of the book and in his soft-spoken, gentle manner, invited us to his home to see it. As we talked and compared family names and family lore, he became more and more interested in our search.

The book he had in his possession was an historical sketch printed in 1905, written by a former pastor of the Lutheran Church, titled

HISTORICAL SKETCHES
OF
ALEXANDER COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA,
FRIENDSHIP LUTHERAN, HOPEWELL REFORMED
AND CHARITY BAPTIST CHURCHES
AND OF THE
BOWMAN AND FRY FAMILIES

by

REV. A. L. CROUSE

Excited at having the book in our hands at last, even for an hour or so, we read avidly making notes on the very meager section concerning GEORGE BOWMAN, our Indiana forefather, son of the 1738 immigrant Bowman. Here was the link for which we had been searching. We learned that our GEORGE BOWMAN had married an Eisenhour, that they and their children had moved to Indiana, and that nothing more was heard of them by the North Carolina Bowmans.

Rev. Crouse had written

"If in the future this sketch of history should fall into the hands of their descendants, they may be able to make out their connection with their relatives here, which, no doubt, would be interesting to them."

It was our good fortune to be those descendants.

Erline Fox Smith
Ernestine Fox

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

To gather material for this book of family history, we have used a variety of sources. As a beginning, we had our notes, hastily scribbled, as we read Mr. Thomas Bowman's copy of Rev. Crouse's sketch and were delighted to have them. We considered them our only source, unaware that there was to be yet another windfall.

Early the following morning, as we were preparing to leave Taylorsville, and the last piece of luggage was being stowed in the car, there came another phone call for us. It was Elbert Bowman, Thomas Bowman's son, suggesting that we take his father's copy of the Bowman history home with us for a few weeks. We accepted his generous offer and because of it we were able to include more detailed information of the North Carolina clan of Bowmans in our book.

Another source in Taylorsville was Mr. Cubb Watts whose hobby is copying early legal records of Alexander County families. He gladly shared with us the records of the early Bowmans from which we obtained some bits of family lore not available elsewhere.

Then came research on GEORGE BOWMAN in Indiana. Tracing lines of descent of his eleven children and dovetailing names, dates, and places called for an enormous amount of correspondence with at least one family member in each line, where possible.

Willard Bowman, with his uncanny memory for names and lineage of each of GEORGE BOWMAN'S children, as told him by his Grandfather Abel Bowman and his Great-Aunt Mollie Bowman, has been a delightful source.

Tombstone inscriptions in cemeteries in Morgan County and other cemeteries nearby were helpful for names and dates of some early family members.

Two sisters, Mrs. Martha Grounds and Lorena Secrest, who share the honor of being the last living grand-daughters of GEORGE BOWMAN, have verified and corrected the list of GEORGE'S children who were their aunts and uncles.

Most everyone contacted has been enthusiastic and cooperative in supplying information of their respective family lineage. There have been a few family members who have, from time to time, been able to supply just the bit of information needed to untangle frustrating knots that crop up when a genealogical research project such as this is being done.

For the history of the ancestors of CATHERINE EISENHOUR, wife of GEORGE BOWMAN, a copy of the Eisenhower Family History was obtained from the author, the late Mrs. Fannie B. Richardson of Greenwood, Indiana. An extensive history, it covers ten generations from the 1741 immigrant ancestor, Hans Nicholas Eisenhauer, to Mary Jean Eisenhower, born in 1955, fourth grandchild of former President of the U. S., Dwight David Eisenhower.

Civil War records were obtained from General Services Administration, National Archives, Washington, D. C. for some valuable information.

There have been exciting leads sending us scurrying to a variety of sources for checking. One such lead had our 1738 immigrant DANIEL GEORGE BOWMAN, the George Bowman who was a neighbor to George Washington's family in Virginia and also had us related to Dolly Madison, wife of James Madison, fourth president of the United States; another lead would have us related to Dwight D. Eisenhower, thirty-fourth president of the U. S. The last proved to be true; the other, not. It took much checking and rechecking to convince us that it was not our George but another George Bowman who settled in Virginia, lived near the Washingtons and was related by marriage to Dolly Madison. It was with great reluctance that we relinquished that exciting kinship.

How our forefather's decisions were influenced by the historical and political aspects of their times seemed pertinent enough to add to our history of the Bowmans. For such information, a great deal of research was done at the Sutro Library in San Francisco, a library which is a storehouse of volumes in genealogy. The following books were used:

Straussburger and Hinke. Pennsylvania
German Pioneers

Rupp. 30,000 Names of Immigrants in
Pennsylvania, 1727-1776

Rupp. Colonial Records, Vol. I-IV

Saunders. Colonial Records of North
Carolina

Tompkins, D. A. 1903. History of
Mecklenburg County

U. of North Carolina Press. 1917. The
James Sprunt Historical Publications

Indiana Writers' Project. Indiana:
A Guide to the Hoosier State

Carter, W. C. and A. J. Glossbrenner.
History of York County (1729-1834)

FROM GERMANY TO AMERICA

History, which can sometimes appear to be only a series of uninteresting dates and military campaigns, takes on a much different aspect when we are able to pinpoint the time and place in which our forefathers lived. As we picture some of them in an environment of misfortune and suffering, or others of them pleasantly plagued by the call of new frontiers, we begin to understand the reasons for the decisions they made. Then, with a clearer insight, dates and events take on a new meaning for us; in fact, there comes a feeling of personal involvement in many of the historical situations that affected the lives of our ancestors. We seem to be able to reach out and touch history, as it were.

The early members of our line of Bowmans had come to America and were settled on their farms years before the Revolutionary War. Living in that most eventful era of American history, they played a part in shaping a strong new nation out of the thirteen colonies, a nation dedicated to liberty and justice for all, principles which they had cherished and hoped for but had been denied in their fatherland, the Palatinate region of Germany.

The Palatinate was a rich agricultural region of the old German empire, originally one of the states of the Holy Roman Empire bounded by France, the Netherlands and the Rhine River. Situated as it was, a border country, it was always a coveted prize and therefore a favorite battleground for powerful rivals constantly at war. The unfortunate inhabitants of this coveted Palatinate region suffered incredibly because of the wars.

More misfortune for the Palatinates lay ahead -- years and years of religious persecution. In 1517 Martin Luther made his protest against matters of doctrine and the dispensing of indulgences in the Roman Catholic Church. Although Luther did not intend his protest to be a revolt against the Church but only a movement for reform to regain the purity of the ancient church, nevertheless, the German Palatinates saw the Lutheran movement as a ray of hope. In his doctrine of justification by faith alone and not by sacraments and good works, Luther uncompromisingly denied the authority of the priests to mediate between man and his God.

This new doctrine of placing man in direct communication with his God appealed to the Palatinates, long weary of the hand of Rome and the interference of the Church in state affairs, and Lutheranism spread through that part of Germany

like wildfire; and soon, of course, beyond Germany and into other parts of Europe. Thus began the Protestant Reformation.

As many Germans of the Palatinate renounced Roman Catholicism and became Lutherans, they only compounded their suffering. If the ruling Palatinate prince happened to be a Lutheran, the inhabitants were free to exercise their religious opinions, but if the prince was Roman Catholic, the Lutherans were persecuted severely.

Always there were more wars. The Thirty Years War (1618-1648), which began as a revolt against The Roman Catholicism of Ferdinand the Second, was fought in the Palatinate and once more the people were subjected to untold suffering and heavy loss of life at the hands of the warring factions. Added to this, in 1688 their land was utterly ravaged by Louis XIV when he left their farms and fields completely devastated.

It was during this period that the distressed Palatinates learned of a bold new venture in America. One that offered hope to them for generations to come.

In 1681 William Penn, a devout English Quaker, was given a charter by King Charles the Second for almost all of the area that is now Pennsylvania, as payment of a royal debt owed Penn's father. The king named the land "Pennsylvania"-Penn's woods -- and gave Penn the proprietary rights so that he could establish his long dreamed of "holy experiment." Penn had long wanted such a colony, as a refuge for the persecuted, where religious and political freedom could flourish, approximating what has become known as the "American dream."

Penn carefully constructed a Frame of Government which guaranteed complete religious freedom and a liberal government to his colonists.

He also wanted assurance of peace between the Indians and the colonists. In order to obtain such assurance he met with the chiefs of the Delaware Indians, the most powerful of all the Algonkian tribes, and as a result, the famous treaty was signed establishing friendly relations and good will between the Delawares and the colonists in Pennsylvania. (It is of interest to note that so long as Penn lived the treaty was kept. Following his death, however, in spite of all efforts by the Delaware Indians to maintain friendly relations, they were eventually forced off their own land by scheming colonists who had no regard whatsoever for the treaty because it had been made with Indians.)

For his "holy experiment," William Penn invited the persecuted of every creed and religious opinion to his new colony

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of Pennsylvania. The German Protestants of the Palatinate, knowing they had not the slightest chance of improving their condition in their homeland, had for generations yearned for a country where rich farming lands could be acquired and homes built, where families could live in peace with freedom to worship according to their convictions. When the news of Penn's colony reached them, the Palatinates began fleeing their homeland in great numbers, determined to reach Pennsylvania.

It was shortly after 1710 that the first of the Palatinates arrived in Pennsylvania in any great number and the influx continued for many years. As Rupp stated, "Pennsylvania became the asylum for the harrassed and depressed sons and daughters of the Reformation.

There were Bowmans among the early settlers in Lancaster County and York County, Pennsylvania. The name appears in a list of a thousand Palatinates who arrived in 1727. Among a 1735 group of early settlers and landholders in Lancaster County there were Baughmans. One Jacob Bowman had a grant of eight acres of land in Germantown, Philadelphia County, and paid quit-rent on it prior to 1734.

The first Federal census was taken in 1790. On our visit to North Carolina we found a copy taken from that census for Catawba and adjacent counties where "George Bowman" declared that he and his brother Jacob had come to America from Germany in 1738.

That was our third reference to his name as "George" and that is how we referred to him until much later when I found his signature to the Oath of Allegiance upon his arrival in Philadelphia. On that document he had used "Daniel" as part of his name, as the story below explains. Now, after much checking it would seem that he was referred to by his descendants and called himself "George", but when his signature was required, both as a young man and again near the end of his life, he used "Daniel".

Fortunately, at the time of the census, he gave the names of his children even though by then they were grown and had homes of their own. These names checked, except for one, with the children named in his will. So I have used both his names together "Daniel George", in this history.

With the information gathered from the copy of the census in North Carolina, I began searching records of ship's lists of early German immigrants. Two years later I found the names of Jacob Bauman and his younger brother on a list dated 1738-1739.

On February 7, 1739 Jacob Bauman, age 22, and his brother "Daniel Jacob" Bauman, age 18, arrived in Philadelphia on the Jamaica Galley from Rotterdam, last from Cowes on the Isle of Wight, with 320 passengers, Robert Harrison, Capt.

As was customary only males 16 years of age and older were listed by the captain and only they were required to sign the Oath of Allegiance to the King of England. It was to this oath that I found the signatures of the two Bauman brothers, both seemingly written with great difficulty.

The younger brother wrote his name as close to Jacob's signature as could be managed. He did well enough with the "Daniel" but the "George" he probably was unable to write correctly, if at all. Many immigrants unable to sign their names made an X over which the clerk would then write the person's name with the words "his mark". But not our young Bauman.

Evidently, rather than condescend to X "his mark" on such a noble occasion, the determined young man did the next best thing -- copied his brother's name, letter by letter, mistake by mistake. Bursting with pride, no doubt. And with no loss of dignity. Here is a copy of the signatures:



The image shows two handwritten signatures. The top signature is 'Jacob Bauman' written in a cursive script. The bottom signature is 'Danl Jacob Bauman', also in cursive, appearing to be a copy of the first signature.

Had it not been that the Governor of the Province of Pennsylvania had become alarmed a few years earlier at the multitudes of Germans pouring into the colony, we would not now have our forefather's signature. But fortunately, it is available to us. For me, that bit of penmanship reveals a great deal about him that I find admirable.

At any rate, the governor at that time decided

"to take proper measures for the peace and security of the province, which may be endangered by such numbers of strangers pouring in daily, who being ignorant of our language and laws and settling in a body together, make, as it were, a distinct people from His Majestie's Subjects."¹

1. Strausburger and Hinke, Vol. 1

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He then declared that all male immigrants 16 years of age and older should take the Oath of Allegiance to George the II, King of England and that all ships captains be required to keep a list of passengers, usually males 16 and over. Prior to that date there had been no such requirements but from that date, 1727, until 1775, such records were made.

Of course, the danger that the governor in 1727 had foreseen was purely imaginary on his part. Succeeding governors approved highly of the German newcomers. In fact, in 1738 Governor Thomas declared,

"This province has been for some years the asylum of distressed Protestants of the Palatinate and other parts of Germany; and I believe it may be said with truth that the present flourishing condition of the Province is in great measure owing to the industry of those people."¹

1. Rupp, Colonial Records Vol.4

IN A NEW LAND

It was 225 years ago that the young Bauman brothers decided to try for a new and better life in Pennsylvania. Once they had made their decision, they undoubtedly had days of anxiety and misgivings as they made preparation to leave, perhaps never again to see their fatherland or members of their family. Living as they were, under such extremely difficult conditions, the leave-taking must have required a lion's share of courage.

The long and arduous journey alone might have deterred those less courageous. First, there was the trip down the Rhine River to Rotterdam, Holland, a journey in itself which required from 4 to 6 weeks. Once in Rotterdam, there was a long wait of another 4 to 6 weeks before traveling on to an English port, in their case, Cowes on the Isle of Wight. Here, there was still another delay of a week or so while ships waited to be passed through customs or for favorable winds.

With the best of winds and weather an Atlantic crossing at that time took at least from ten to twelve weeks. According to the ships' lists dated 1727 to 1775, most of the ships carrying German immigrants arrived in Philadelphia in September or October which would lead us to conclude that June or July was the favorable time for starting the trip.

Then, as now, the usual storms and rough seas on the Atlantic in the fall of the year become increasingly worse during the winter months. Noting the arrival date in Philadelphia -- February -- of the ship on which the Bauman brothers traveled, we can readily imagine the hazardous crossing they must have had in the dead of winter! It has been suggested that perhaps the Jamaica Galley was forced to lay over in the Azores because of some misfortune. At any rate, of all the lists of ships' arrivals in Philadelphia, the Jamaica Galley was the only one arriving at any time other than the fall of the year.

Traveling conditions were wretched for our young forefather. Galleys used for the transport of the immigrants were usually fighting ships hastily converted when the transporting of the great waves of German immigrants gave promise of becoming a lucrative business.

The Palatinates were packed into the ships without proper food and water and as a result many of them suffered from dysentery, scurvy, typhoid and smallpox. Seasonal storms and rough seas only aggravated the suffering of the ill and added to the misery and discomfort of all the passengers. The crossing of the Atlantic for them was far from pleasant.

When at long last ships carrying the German immigrants entered the port of Philadelphia, there were physical examinations for all aboard and oaths required of male passengers, sixteen years and older. The physical examinations were given aboard ship by Philadelphia doctors who disliked the time-consuming job so much that all doctors were ordered by the City Council to take turns at the task.

Those passengers who were not ill and quarantined were then taken to the City Hall where all male passengers over the age of sixteen were required to take the Oath of Allegiance to the King of England and to sign their names, or make their marks, to the oath. Here is the oath:

"We subscribers, natives and late inhabitants of the Palatinate upon the Rhine and places adjacent, having transported ourselves and families into this Province of Pennsylvania, a colony subject to the Crown of Great Britain, in hopes and expectations of finding a retreat and peaceable settlement therein, do solemnly promise and engage, that we will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His present majesty, King George the Second, and his successors, Kings of Great Britain and will be faithful to the proprietor of this Province; and that we will demean ourselves peaceably to all His said majesty's subjects, and strictly observe and conform to the laws of England and of this Province, to the utmost of our power and the best of our understanding."

It was to this declaration that both the Bauman brothers affixed their signatures.

There still remained the matter of settling with the ship's captain for passage. The fare at that time ranged from six to ten louis d' or (\$27 to \$30) to fourteen to seventeen louis d' or (\$40 to \$76.50). Those with money to pay passage were released. Those unable to pay entered into contracts in order to pay back funds advanced to the captain for their passage and were called Redemptioners. The Bauman brothers were able to pay for their passage.

We can only imagine how apprehensive our young immigrant ancestor must have felt as he at last stood in a new land, knowing he would have to adjust and adapt himself to an entirely new environment, new associations, a new way of living. Throughout his lifetime he probably experienced no time of greater solemnity than at that moment.

But as Straussburger wrote:

"In spite of all the hardships they faced, the newcomers did not complain and after a few years emerged from all difficulties as successful farmers, who made the country blossom as a rose. It only shows of what sturdy stuff these pioneers were made."

Our immigrant ancestor DANIEL GEORGE BOWMAN was of those pioneers. We can pay him no greater tribute than Straussburger did.

PENNSYLVANIA DUTCH

Many of the German families from the Palatinate planned on becoming farmers in Pennsylvania just as they had been in their homeland. They soon discovered, however, that the land they would have chosen in the new colony had already been settled by another immigrant group, the Scotch-Irish. Called variously Irish-Protestants, Scotch-Irish Presbyterians, and Scotch-Irish, these people had come from Ulster in north Ireland, also fleeing persecution, political as well as religious. Arriving in Pennsylvania a few years before the first great influx of German immigrants, the Scotch-Irish settled on the easily accessible land, which also happened to be some of the best land, that of the Cumberland Valley.

So the Germans had to look further. They found in south-east Pennsylvania forests of hickory and walnut trees, a sure indication of a deep channel of limestone that makes for fertile soil and good water. Here they settled. They cleared the forests, built great farm buildings, and planted in the rich soil that produced abundantly.

In an early letter written by Joris Wertmuller to his family in Germany, he noted the abundance of the land:

"The houses in the country are better built than those within the City (Philadelphia). The land is very productive, and raises all kinds of fruits--- From a bushel of wheat it is said, you may get sixty or seventy, so good is the land.---There is provender for as many cattle and swine as you want, since there are multitudes of oak trees, which produce an abundance of acorns to make them fat, as well as other wild nuts.--- There are all kinds of wild animals; all kinds of birds, by the thousand, together with a great quantity of fish. The land lies in a good climate and is very healthy. You seldom see mists or fogs. There are many great and small rivers that are navigable, beautiful springs, fountains, mountains and valleys. The farmers here live better than lords.--- Whatever they have is free for them alone. They eat the best and sell the worst. You can find as many wild vineyards as you wish. The vines bear so

many bunches that from one vine many
hundred bottles of wine should be made."1

The German families had indeed found the land of plenty. They became extremely successful farmers in that area of Pennsylvania that today is known as the Great Valley, still one of the prize farmlands of our country, and still inhabited by Pennsylvania Dutch.

Because the German settlers maintained their own language and customs, a source of irritation to the English, they became known as "Pennsylvania Dutch." So it is that we Bowman descendants are correct when we claim our forefathers were Pennsylvania Dutch.

1. S. W. Pennypacker "Pennsylvania German Society"

TO NORTH CAROLINA, A NEW FRONTIER

Bowman family legend has it that the immigrant Bowman brothers remained in Pennsylvania for a number of years and were farmers there. Just when they left we were unable to determine but from historical records we learn that around 1745 the Germans who had settled in Pennsylvania heard of land available in North Carolina and learned of the pleasant climate, good soil, and of the friendliness of the Catawba Indians there.

In Pennsylvania there was a growing unrest among some of the Indian tribes because of the encroachment on their lands by the colonists. Penn's heirs had neither the good sense nor moral stability that motivated William Penn in his fair treatment of the Indians. So with no protection for either the Indians or the settlers, the latter found that settling parts of the colony was becoming more and more unsafe.

It was at this time that many of the German (Pennsylvania Dutch) families migrated to North Carolina, our forefather Bowman among them as well as our Eisenhower ancestors.

Also leaving Pennsylvania at about this time because of Indian trouble was another George Bowman who went to Virginia and settled near the family of George Washington, as we related earlier. But for all the Bowmans who left Pennsylvania, there were as many or more who remained, as witness this list of Pennsylvania place-names today: Bowman's; Bowman's Creek; Bowmansdale; Bowmanstown, Baumansville.

The migration to North Carolina from Pennsylvania continued for several years. In his Colonial Records, Saunders noted that in 1753 Germans and Irish Protestants (Scotch-Irish) were

"Increasing daily in North Carolina, mostly from Pennsylvania. To Lancaster and York Counties in Pennsylvania, North Carolina owes more of her population than to any other known part of the world and surely there was never a better population than they and their descendants -- never better citizens -- and certainly never better soldiers."

There is an old map of the period -- Jeffrey's map -- which shows the route used from Pennsylvania to North

Carolina. Called the Great Road, it ran from Philadelphia through Lancaster and York Counties, up the Shenandoah Valley to the Staunton River, through the Blue Ridge in Virginia, across the Dan River then south to the Piedmont area of North Carolina. It was a journey of 435 miles.

The Piedmont plateau, an area cut by countless streams, is hilly country and well watered, the kind of land the German families favored. It was here they settled on hilly land along the Yadkin and Catawba Rivers.

DANIEL GEORGE BOWMAN, our forefather, settled on land in Catawba County, North Carolina, at the confluence of the Catawba River and three smaller rivers, all "swift running streams." He built his home a few miles west of what is now Conover, North Carolina. A century and a half later, Rev. Crouse found that the widow of one Abel Bowman owned and operated a ferry at this very place.

Jacob Bowman, brother of Daniel George Bowman, settled in nearby Rowan County, North Carolina.

The Bowmans were among many German Palatinate families that left Pennsylvania and migrated as a group to the Piedmont area in North Carolina. Among them were the Steins, Eckhardts, Clines, Frys, Icenhours, and Deals.

Just as they had done in Pennsylvania, these families spoke only German, retained their own customs, and continued to take little part in public affairs since the laws were written and expounded in English and all public business was transacted in that language. Nevertheless, they proved to be a valuable part of the population.

In his early history of that section of North Carolina, Tompkins wrote:

"They were intelligent, labor-loving, industrious Protestants. They built their houses on high ground, often on the tops of hills, after the fashion of ancient German castles. They selected land near streams and invariably built their homes near springs. They were hardy, self-reliant, frugal and courageous. They tolerated no idlers among them.

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"These German Protestants respected just authority, were God-fearing, peaceful and law-abiding. They had their sports and their amusements, their Easter holiday and their Chris Cringle frolics. They were guileless of dissipation and debauchery, and even in their amusements partook rather of skill and labor than of useless sport. Their quiltings, corn shuckings, log rollings and house raisings all tended to develop manliness and womanliness as well as to cultivate the social virtues.

"Their family government was excellent, combining for them the State, the Church, and the School; and their thrift and economy laid the foundations for comfort and wealth."

DANIEL GEORGE BOWMAN

DANIEL GEORGE BOWMAN, our immigrant ancestor, married a Miss Bolch (or Bolick). In his will, she was referred to as Mary. Their home was about $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles west of present-day Conover, North Carolina. Their children we found listed identically, except for Catherine, in a copy of a 1790 census report in Alexander County, in Rev. Crouse's 1905 Sketch and in DANIEL GEORGE BOWMAN's will, dated April, 1811. Their children were Daniel, John, David, Samuel, Henry, George, Barbara, Mary (Molly), and Catherine.

1. DANIEL BOWMAN

DANIEL married Mary Simmons and their children were: Catherine, Joseph, Franey, Jonas, Elizabeth, Susan, and Daniel.

He was a landowner of great extent. In 1769 he was given a grant of land of 200 acres by George III, King of England, on the headwaters of Clarke's Creek. On the document his name was spelled "Powman", just as he no doubt pronounced it. When the Germans began to speak English they mixed up their "b's" and "p's" and a whole lot of other things. Rev. Crouse, thinking how pleased DANIEL must have been that he understood English well enough to get a tract of land, imagined he might have said to his wife, "See, Mary, ich kann now English gut talkin py dis dime already."

In 1782, DANIEL received a state's grant of 300 acres of land. Then in 1807 he bought 43 acres for \$30 and another 60 acres for \$140, all on the Middle Little River and Mountain Creek. He also acquired adjoining lands, making his farm quite a large one.

He built his house on a hill overlooking the river. It was still standing several years ago and one of his great-grandsons was living in it.

It was another of DANIEL's great-grandsons, WALTER BOWMAN of Taylorsville, N. C. who was so gracious in helping us get started on the right track in our search for family information during our short visit to Alexander County.

2. JOHN BOWMAN

JOHN, son of DANIEL GEORGE BOWMAN, married Rebekah Bolch. They had several children but only the names of three could be recalled: John, Anthony, and Henry. The family left the community and went to live in Caldwell County, N. C., near Lenoir.

There is a family story of an incident that may have influenced JOHN's leaving Catawba County:

"John Mouser lived on the north side of Clarke's Creek. On the South side is a fine spring. The water runs out of a rock. Mouser conducted the water through wooden pipes across the creek to his house and used it. His wife and one or two children fell sick and died in such a way that it was pronounced clearly a case of poisoning, although we have not been informed that the whole family was affected. The traditional account is that a rag with something tied up in it was found in the spring and that it made the water boil like a pot. The people who died at that time are buried in the woods on a hillside over against the spring."

No one ever knew whether JOHN BOWMAN was under suspicion and left rather than live among people who cast a suspicious eye at him or whether the fact that he happened to move at that time cast suspicion on him. But, at any rate, he left the county. If he poisoned the spring, said some of his farmer neighbors, perhaps he only wanted to take revenge on a neighbor, whom he disliked, by sickening and frightening them but with no intention of killing anyone.

In any case, JOHN's descendants suffered no loss of moral standing because of the incident. Years later one of his great granddaughter married a grandson of the victim of the poisoned spring.

Rev. Crouse in 1905 found the spring water to be "as refreshing and pure as any other." No doubt the spring will always be of great interest. We were told the story soon after our arrival in the county and learned the Bowmans still enjoy telling it.

At the time we were told the story, we as yet had no definite clues as to which of DANIEL GEORGE's sons was our great-great grandfather. The thought came to us that perhaps JOHN was the one and, if so, we would have only a skeleton in our family closet as a reward for our efforts. But, as we discovered, JOHN was not our forebear, only a brother to ours.

3. DAVID BOWMAN

DAVID, son of DANIEL GEORGE BOWMAN, married Elizabeth Simmons. Their children were: John, Mary, Daniel, Susie, Lydia, Catharine, Lewis, Mina, and Harriet. It was Lewis at age 80 who was able to recall much of this family history for Rev. Crouse in 1905. He was a grandson and, at that time, the oldest living relative of DANIEL GEORGE BOWMAN. An old white-haired man, he traveled several miles over rough roads to attend the Lutheran Church when the weather was not too severe.

He lived at his old home, "a good farm with stately fruit trees surrounding the house and a good spring that gushed out of the hill above the house." His son, Jacob, had an apiary on the farm from which he supplied "sweets for the eater." Jacob had two sons, Carl and Clyde Bowman.

Lewis Bowman died in 1906, "a good old man, a faithful member of his church, and one of the best citizens in Alexander County."

4. SAMUEL BOWMAN

SAMUEL, son of DANIEL GEORGE BOWMAN, married Susan Deal (or Diehl), daughter of George Deal.

From a census list we obtained this partial list of SAMUEL's children: Jacob, Abner, Mary, George, Samuel, Paul, Henry, Jesse, Susan, Lavina, Logan, and Polly.

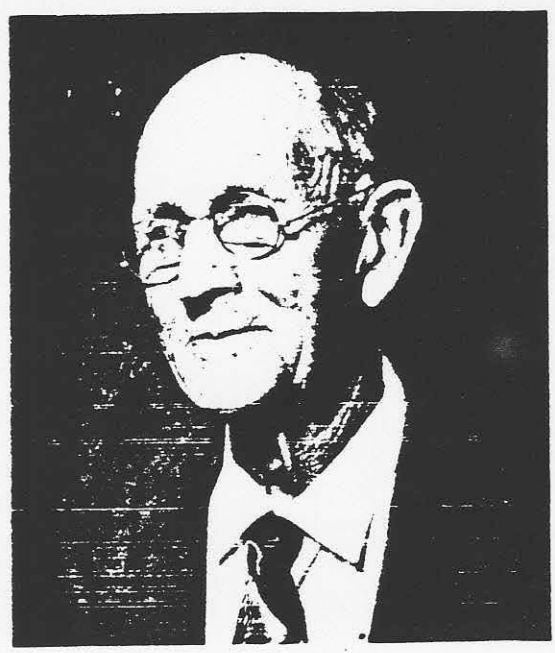
It was one of SAMUEL's great-grandsons, THOMAS BOWMAN, who was kind enough to loan us Rev. Crouse's sketch of the family. Nearing 90 when we met him, THOMAS was as active as a much younger man, running a truck farm and taking the produce to Hickory, N. C., once a week. His son, ELBERT BOWMAN, is greatly interested in obtaining a history of the Indiana branch of the family so the Bowman family tree would be complete.

THOMAS P. BOWMAN has 11 children: Carl, Dearborn, Mich.; Tolly, Detroit, Mich.; Hartsel; Walter; Paul; Mabel Bryesel; Anna Lee Lanciaux; Lela Nyalka, all of Washington, D. C.; Leo, Lumberton, N. C.; Ethel Sigmon and Elbert Bowman both of Tayorsville, N. C.

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In a recent letter Elbert wrote, "My Dad (THOMAS) is doing pretty well considering that he is past 93 years old and I believe that he is living longer than the Bowman Ancestors did. He still works out about and in the garden when weather is suitable. He goes to church with us every Sunday and goes into Hickory and Taylorsville with me every few weeks."

THOMAS PARTEE BOWMAN will be 94 years old on Sept. 26, 1963. As to the honor of being the oldest of any of the Bowmans, he has a runnerup in MARTHA GROUNDS of our Indiana Bowmans. She will be 94 on Oct. 12, 1963, just sixteen days younger than THOMAS.

Our immigrant forefather, DANIEL GEORGE BOWMAN, lived to be either 93 or 94 -- his will was probated in 1814 -- and up to the present year, his was the record in longevity for the Bowmans. May both THOMAS BOWMAN and MARTHA SECREST GROUNDS break that record of their ancestor!

5. HENRY BOWMAN

HENRY, son of DANIEL GEORGE BOWMAN, married Betsey Bolch, daughter of John Bolch. Their children were: John, Sebastian, and Molly.

On June 9, 1810, HENRY bought 140 acres of land on Clarke's Creek from his brother, DANIEL, for \$300.

HENRY died from a cut on his foot suffered one day while he was "at a chopping" at William Turner's. Although the wound was not severe, HENRY said it would kill him and so it did. He died in the prime of life.

Several years ago it was known that HENRY's old homeplace was owned by one of his granddaughters. She lived in the well-built log house and used the deep, old-fashioned fireplace with the great, wide brick chimney. At the time she lived there, the house had been lived in by Bowmans for over 125 years.

6. GEORGE BOWMAN

GEORGE, youngest son of the immigrant DANIEL GEORGE BOWMAN, was the forefather of the Indiana Bowmans in Morgan and Monroe Counties. His story is dealt with fully in the following section.

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7. CATHERINE BOWMAN

CATHERINE, daughter of DANIEL GEORGE BOWMAN
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8. BARBARA BOWMAN

BARBARA, daughter of DANIEL GEORGE BOWMAN,
married Peter Hermann. Their children were George, John,
Mathias, Ephraim, Elizabeth, Ann, Rissie Lourina, Catharine,
Leah, and Rachael.

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9. MARY BOWMAN

MARY, daughter of DANIEL GEORGE BOWMAN, married
George Deal, son of Jacob Deal. Their children were Katie,
Polly, Jemima, Anthony, David, Henry, Jonas, and J. George.

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Having learned that the will of George Martin Eisenhower
(also a forefather of the Indiana Bowmans) was recorded in Lin-
coln County, N. C., I made inquiries and learned that the will of
DANIEL GEORGE BOWMAN was also recorded there. The
document as dictated by him is so interesting I am including it
in its entirety, exactly as it was written in 1811:

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In the Name of God Amen. I Daniel Bowman being weak
and low in Body but of Sound and Disposeing Mind and
Memory thanks be to Almighty God for the Same. Do
make this my last will and Testament. First I give my
Body to the Earth to be decently buried by my Herein
after named Executors and my Soul into the hand of God
that gave it in Love and Certain hope of the Ressurrection
to Eternal life at the last Day. After payment of my
Just Debts and funeral Charges I dispose of my worldly
affects in the following manner. (Viz) I first will and
bequesth to my wife Mary Bowman Ten Dollars in Cash
her Bed and Bedstead and all the furniture belonging to
it, also the Dresser and all thats on it and in it and the
whole privilege of the House and all the pots and Vessels
belonging to the same or so mutch of them as she pleases
to Keep During her Natural life, and a good milch Cow
with a young Calf to be Kept for her use every year off
the Farm she lives on also her Chest and her saddle and
Bridle All the above named propperty the above Named
Mary Bowman is to hold During her Natural life. A

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second bed and furniture I Leave for her use -- then all to be sold and Equally Devided among her Children Except her body Clothes witch is left at her own Disposal also her will of the orchard as far as she stands in need of and her will of the Spring House. Secondly I will and bequeath to my sons Daniel Bowman John Bowman David Bowman Samuel Bowman Henry Bowman and George Bowman and Catherine Lutes Barbara Harman and Molly Diehl all or Each of them an Equal Share of all the personal propperty after being put to Sale and that tract of land I purchased of John Presly it is my will that it be sold By the Executors to the best advantage Either by probate or publick Sale and the money to be Equally Devided Among the before named Heirs. and the residue of my Personal Estate after the Legasies is paid - I Hereby Constitute David Bowman my son and George Diel my Executors to this my last will and Testament in Witness whereof I Hereunto Set my hand and affix my seal this fourteenth Day of Aprile in the Year of our Lord 1811 -

Daniel Bowman



Interlined before signed----

Geo. Deal an Exr. Sworn

For me, finding the two signatures of our forefather were two happy discoveries indeed. A great deal can be understood about him from those signatures, one incorrectly written, but justifiably so, at age 18; the other, with writing still a chore, written at age 90. With little need to write his name in the intervening years, except perhaps during an occasional land transaction, his last signature shows that his surname still gave him trouble. But write it, he did.

Of interest, too, as an insight into the character of the man is the fact that instead of using the acting attorney's legal seal, our forefather drew his own and with a flourish. That proud, independent "I'll - do - it - myself" spirit he maintained all his life long.

On coming to North Carolina, DANIEL GEORGE BOWMAN found that not all his land was extremely fertile but nonetheless it yielded generously of timber and fruit, especially apples. He dried some of the apples (schnitz) to eat in winter and used the remainder "to make brandy as long as it lasted." Down through the succeeding generations, the Bowmans did the same with their apple harvests -- dried some, "put up some", and, as one of them said, "Made a little brandy to have trouble over."

Rev. Crouse was the pastor of the Friendship Lutheran Church in the late 1800's and around the turn of this century. In his book of Sketches, he made some interesting observations about the Bowmans in general. He found that most of them were farmers with good homes but that none of them were very wealthy. They were generally regarded as honest and law-abiding, "except, perhaps, a few of them may have ventured to disregard the internal revenue laws in making whiskey and brandy. Bowmans entertained the idea, widely prevalent in the country, that the internal revenue system was unjust and that the government had gone too far in meddling with the affairs of their homes and the products of their farms. Therefore, they declared that they were to a great extent morally justified in doing as they pleased with their things at home."

It is interesting to learn that the Bowmans, and no doubt their neighbors as well, were still stoutly resisting the excise on domestic spirits although the law had gone into effect over a hundred years before, the law that had been the cause of the Whiskey Rebellion in 1794.

From history we know that prejudice against a tax in any form was common at that time in America so when the excise on domestic spirits became law in 1791, angry farmers in Western Pennsylvania, Virginia, and North Carolina protested mightily. The Federal tax law permitted government agents to enter private homes to collect taxes directly from small producers. This added insult to injury as far as the rebellious farmers were concerned and soon came reports, from here and there, of Federal revenue officers being tarred and feathered.

Alarmed, Congress removed the tax from the smallest producers. This satisfied the farmer in Virginia and North Carolina to some extent but whiskey makers in Pennsylvania still refused to pay the tax.

In September 1794, President Washington sent the militia against the rebellious Pennsylvania farmer-whiskey makers who submitted without bloodshed. The skirmish was called the Whiskey Rebellion.

Thus it was that Rev. Crouse found the Bowmans in North Carolina still taking a dim view of the internal revenue laws in making their brandy and whiskey. Then he goes on to say quickly, lest we point a condemning finger, "But the Bowmans have never been sinners above others in the county; and perhaps far less than many."

The Bowmans were known to be always first in the county to pay their property taxes but whether they declared true valuation of taxable property was "not freely admitted." But always when the true amount was established and taxes levied, they were ready and willing to pay the revised amount.

Throughout the county the Bowmans were known to be close in making a trade. But once an agreement was reached there was no need for a bond, as a Bowman's word was sufficient.

Very few Bowmans were ever arraigned in the courts for flagrant violations of the law. They were "honest and peaceable, heeding the teachings of their pastors."

Rev. Crouse also stated that "the Bowmans are kind in their homes; they live well and entertain their friends in a goodly, home-like fashion. The visitor who tarries with them need have no fears that his horse will not be well fed."

These observations were general, of course, and were cited to describe the traits of the Bowman family at large in that section of North Carolina well over a half century ago. On our visit there we were impressed by the fact that many of the same character traits are still applied to the Bowmans today. One elderly citizen told us that the Bowmans are held in high esteem; that they are not wealthy but "well-to-do." Another person made much of the fact that the Bowmans always are first to pay their taxes.

When the German families fled their homeland in the Palatinate, they carefully took along their Bibles, the Lutheran Union Hymnal, sermons, and prayerbooks. Once settled, in Pennsylvania and later in North Carolina, they lost no time in arranging for Lutheran services in German; although in North Carolina they had to be content with irregular services for years.

The Bowmans were always active in the Lutheran services. They helped organize the first Lutheran Church in that section of the country, The Friendship Lutheran Church. It was organized in 1832 in what is now Alexander County.

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DANIEL BOWMAN, son of DANIEL GEORGE, helped
in making the purchase of land for the original church site.
Throughout the history of the Friendship Lutheran Church the
Bowman name appears in almost all offices of the church ex-
cept that of pastor. SAMUEL BOWMAN was one of the first
elders. In an early list of 36 young people confirmed at a
meeting, sixteen were Bowmans; at an even earlier meeting
of fifty-seven communicants, twenty were Bowmans.

In 1858 the original church building was replaced. The
new building was erected on land purchased from Paul Bowman
for \$2. An octagonal shaped structure, it stood on a hill over-
looking the wooded countryside and was used by an active
Lutheran congregation. In 1960 the octagonal building was
replaced by a building of modern church architecture. Today
Bowmans make up about a third of the congregation.

GEORGE BOWMAN

GEORGE, youngest son of DANIEL GEORGE BOWMAN, our immigrant ancestor, was the adventurer of the family; even his story was somewhat elusive to us as we were attempting to connect available bits of knowledge concerning him. In the section, "How It all Began", the details of our search are given and of how the proof was conclusive that he was the forefather of the Indiana branch of the Bowman family.

Very little was remembered about him by the time Rev. Crouse was gathering family information in Alexander County, N. C. at the turn of the century. Some remembered that George had married an Isenhouer and that their children were: Mary, Betsey, Katie, Mollie, and Carl and that one of the girls drove a four-horse team quite skillfully; and that the family had moved to Indiana. Beyond that, they knew nothing of him.

Here is his story now that the bits of information from the various sources have been fitted together.

GEORGE BOWMAN, youngest son of immigrant DANIEL GEORGE BOWMAN, was born in North Carolina in October 1787. He married Mary Catherine Eisenhauer. Their children were John, Mary Catherine (Mollie), Elizabeth (Betsy), Malinda, Emmanuel, Levi, Abel, Noah, Samuel, Sylvester, and Rebecca (Becky).

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Some of our family members have expressed interest in knowing how we are related to the Eisenhowers, specifically to Dwight D. (Ike) Eisenhower. Since it is through Catherine, George Bowman's wife that we are related, her lineage is of sufficient interest to be included here.

HANS NICHOLAS EISENHAUER

Hans Nicholas Eisenhauer, his wife and three sons came to Pennsylvania from the Palatinate district of Germany in 1741. Later they settled in what is now Lebanon County, Pennsylvania, northeast of Fredericksburg on 168 acres of lands.

The land record was dated January 20, 1753. It was exactly 200 years later, January 20, 1953 that Dwight David Eisenhower, great-great-great grandson of Hans Nicholas Eisenhauer, was inaugurated 34th President of the United States.

The children of Hans Nicholas Eisenhauer were Peter, Johannes, Martin, and Maria Magdalena. Lines of descent of Peter Eisenhauer and Martin Eisenhauer follow, to include Dwight D. Eisenhower and Mary Catherine Eisenhauer Bowman.

PETER EISENHAUER

Peter was about 25 years old when he came to America. He was naturalized in Philadelphia along with his brother Martin in 1752. He settled in Pennsylvania. Married three times, his third wife was Ann Dissinger. He had 17 children in all, 8 by his third wife. Their youngest son, Frederick, was born when his father was 78 years old.

FREDERICK EISENHAUER

Frederick, son of Peter Eisenhauer, married Barbara Miller. They lived in Pennsylvania. He was a farmer and a weaver of bedspreads. When he was 84 years old, Frederick made the journey from Pennsylvania to Kansas with his sons Jacob and Samuel and daughter Catherine. They settled in Dickson County, Kansas. Frederick lived to be 89 years old.

He had six children. His son Jacob Frederick was the grandfather of Dwight D. Eisenhower.

JACOB FREDERICK EISENHOWER

Jacob Frederick married Rebecca Matter and they lived in Elizabethtown, Pennsylvania where their 14 children were

born. In 1878, they moved to Dickson County, Kansas. He was a farmer and a minister of the Mennonite Church. Their son, David Jacob, was the father of Dwight D. Eisenhower.

DAVID JACOB EISENHOWER

David Jacob Eisenhower married Ida Elizabeth Stoever in Kansas. They moved to Texas, for a short time, where their son Dwight David was born. Two years later, the family returned to live in Abilene, Kansas, where Dwight grew to manhood. It is here that the Dwight D. Eisenhower Memorial Library is located.

The children of David Jacob and Ida Eisenhower are: Arthur, Edgar, Dwight (Ike), Roy, Paul (died in infancy), Earl, and Milton.

DWIGHT DAVID EISENHOWER

Dwight David Eisenhower, born October 14, 1890, married Mamie Doud July 1, 1916. In 1943 he was appointed to the post of Supreme Commander of the Allied Expeditionary Forces, European Theatre of Operations, World War II. He directed the invasion of France and Germany. In 1944 he was promoted to the rank of 5-star General.

On May 7, 1945 he received Germany's surrender.

After returning to the U. S., he was named Army Chief of Staff, November 1945. Retired from the Army in 1947, he spent a part of 1948 as president of Columbia University. In 1950 he was appointed Supreme Commander, North Atlantic Treaty Organizations with headquarters just outside Paris, France.

With mounting pressure from friends and advisors requesting him to become candidate for the office of President of the United States, he finally decided to enter the political ring in 1952. Requesting and obtaining release from his command of NATO, he ended over forty years of service in the Army. President Truman presented him with the Distinguished Service Medal.

On Nov. 4, 1952 Dwight David Eisenhower was elected Republican President-elect. On Jan. 20, 1953 he was inaugurated 34th President of the United States. Having served two

terms as President, he is now retired and he and Mamie live on their farm near Gettysburg, Pennsylvania.

Since his retirement, General Dwight D. Eisenhower heads a program for peace, "People-to-People", with headquarters in Kansas City, Missouri. As a man dedicated to peace, he finds this crusade the most challenging assignment of his career. Confident that peace will come through a mutual understanding of the peoples of the world, he and his fellow crusade members have suggested a list of 12 ways in which Americans can actively participate to achieve such a peace.

Children of Dwight David and Mamie Eisenhower:

David Dwight born 1917, died 1921.

John Sheldon Doud born 1923; married
Barbara Thompson and their children
are: Dwight David II, Barbara Ann,
Susan Elaine, and Mary Jean.

MARTIN EISENHAUER

Martin, 3rd son of immigrant Hans Nicholas Eisenhauer, and youngest brother of Peter, was not yet 16 years old when he came to America from Germany. He grew up in his parents' home near Fredericksburg, Pennsylvania.

He married Anna Barbara Graff. Their children were Johannes, George Martin, John Peter, and John Valentine.

During this period there were innumerable clashes between Indian groups and the white settlers as the Indians resisted invasion of their lands. In 1760, Martin Eisenhauer died from injuries suffered in a skirmish with Indians, probably Shawnees, known for their roaming, war-like habits.

As far back as 1671, the Great Warpath, later to be known as the Wilderness Road, connected two strong and important Indian nations, the Iroquois Confederacy of Five Nations (Cayugas, Mohawks, Oneidas, Onondagos, and Senecas) in the north and the Cherokee and Catawba Nations in the south. This worn and well-traveled trail led across central Pennsylvania, up through the Shenandoah Valley, crossed the James River and continued into the mountains that we know as The Great Smokies. The Shawnees, even though they came from farther west, freely used the Great Warpath for their marauding forays. They were a great menace to settlers throughout the entire wilderness area.

After Martin Eisenhower's death, his sons took their mother, Anna Barbara, left Pennsylvania and moved to North Carolina. They established homes in Catawba County, near Conover, North Carolina.

According to family legend, their mother met a fate somewhat similar to that of her husband, Martin. One day she went to the spring for water and was ambushed and killed by Indian women. In all probability they were renegade Cherokees seeking revenge for pioneer invasion of their lands. As a tribe the Cherokees were peaceful and exceedingly friendly to the pioneers but almost every tribal group had its malcontents, its renegades.

GEORGE MARTIN EISENHAUER

George Martin, second son of Martin and Anna Barbara Eisenhower, was born in Pennsylvania in 1754. It was he along with his three brothers who took their mother to North Carolina, several years after their father's death.

George Martin married Anna Maria Blackmen in 1776. After her death, he married Katherine, who was his widow mentioned in his will.

Family legend has it that George Martin Eisenhower was a soldier in a North Carolina regiment during the Revolutionary war and was with General George Washington when Cornwallis surrendered at Yorktown, October 19, 1781.

John Peter, brother of George Martin, was killed in the Revolutionary War.

George Martin Eisenhower was given two land grants, both in what is now Alexander County, North Carolina. One tract was granted by the King of England, prior to the Revolution.

(Listing ancestors who were in the Revolutionary War seems reason enough to insert here the names of Bowmans from North Carolina who also were in that war:

Capt. Joshua Bowman wounded at Charleston;
killed at Ramseur's mill.

Pvt. Robert Bowman deserted in 1776.

Sgt. Chas. Bowman rec'd 1,000 acres for 84
months' service.

Pvt. Sherwood Bauman, N. C. Militia; invalided,
rec'd pension.

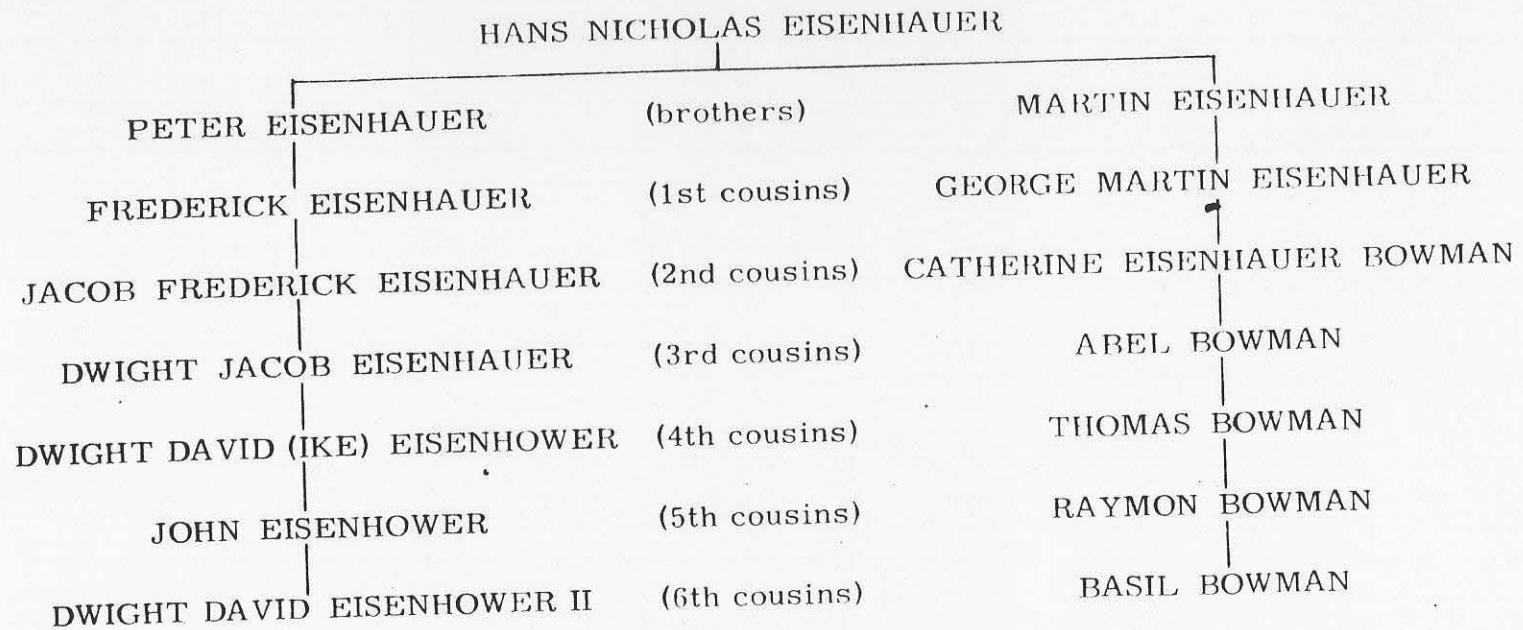
Where they belong on the family tree, if at all, I do not know.)

lutionary War, the other, a later grant, was for his service in the Revolution, no doubt.

In his will, made in 1833, he bequeathed the sum of five shillings to each of his children: Mary, Martin David, Susan, Elizabeth, Barbara, and Molly. But as to his daughter Catherine, he stated in his will: "I give and bequeath to my daughter, Catherine Bowman's heirs the sum of Five shillings." The will was recorded in the Book of Wills, Records of Lincoln County, N. C., Sept. 1839.

It was George Martin Eisenhauer's daughter, Mary Catherine Eisenhauer, who married GEORGE BOWMAN. They moved to Indiana from North Carolina and were our Indiana pioneer ancestors. It is through Catherine Eisenhauer Bowman that we Indiana Bowmans and Dwight David (Ike) Eisenhower have a common ancestor, the 1741 immigrant, Hans Nicholas Eisenhauer.

A GUIDE IN CHARTING RELATIONSHIPS OF BOWMANS TO EISENHAUERS



By substituting the name of ABEL BOWMAN's brother or sister who was your forebear and following through with your family line, you can figure your relationship. On this chart, RAYMON BOWMAN, his sister, and his own first cousins are fourth cousins once removed to Dwight David (Ike) Eisenhower.

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GEORGE BOWMAN, INDIANA PIONEER

There is on file in Alexander County, N. C., a record showing that in March 1828, GEORGE BOWMAN sold 251 acres of land to his brother-in-law, Peter Hermann for \$600. It was not too long after, that GEORGE and his family left North Carolina for Indiana. Although it is not known exactly when they left, we can approximate from these facts:

1. The will of George Martin Eisenhauer, Catherine Bowman's father, as recorded in the county records, Lincoln County, N. C. He made the will July 29, 1833 and in it he stated, "I give and bequeath to my daughter, Catherine Bowman's heirs, the sum of Five shillings." It is assumed then that by 1833 GEORGE BOWMAN and Catherine had already left North Carolina and that her father believed her dead, although she was not. Her youngest daughter, Becky, was born in Indiana in 1837.

2. Abel Bowman's birthdate. Abel, son of George and Catherine Bowman, was born in North Carolina in 1830.

It is evident then that the family left North Carolina for Indiana sometime between 1830 and 1833, while Abel was still a young child and before Catherine's father, George Martin Eisenhauer, made his will.

Our immigrant ancestor, DANIEL GEORGE BOWMAN, had six sons and three daughters. Of that family, the son, GEORGE, was the only one to venture westward, the remaining children having lived out their lives on their North Carolina farms. We wonder why GEORGE and CATHERINE sold their sizable landholdings, left their hosts of relatives, and set out.

Historically we know that by this time reports of good, flat land came trickling back from earlier settlers in the Midwest, those very first families to make their way to the "West", those who had followed Daniel Boone's blazed trails.

Many of the younger colonial farmers who heard of the rich, new land that lay out west felt that there, a land of bounty waited beyond the mountain ridges; there, fortunes could be made. It was the stirring of the pioneer spirit. Our Indiana pioneer ancestor was one of those who couldn't resist the call of the new land.

By the time GEORGE BOWMAN and his family started west, the Midwest's first great overland highway, the famous Old National Road, was being extended farther and farther into the interior of America. And although the George Bowman

family probably did not travel the entire length of the new Road, they traveled it the last part of their journey.

This historic old road was first known as Zane's Trace and had its beginning as hardly more than a trail for horsemen, cut through the forests of Ohio by Ebenezer Zane in the late 1790's. But by 1825, Zane's Trace had been joined to the Old Cumberland Road which had become part of the National Road.

By 1835 the roadway had been completed and graveled from Cumberland, Maryland to Columbus, Ohio. Of necessity, the road became a toll road, the rates varying according to the damage done to the road by animals and vehicles. Fee for a coach-and-four was twenty-five cents; for wagons, ten to twenty cents; and for a horse and rider, three cents. Toll stations were set up along the entire length of the road.

Before long the road was extended and finished through Indiana and Illinois, and control of it was turned over to the individual states through which it ran. Indiana leased its section, badly in need of repair so soon, to a private company. It was then paved with planks and that section became a toll road. By this time, the National Road had become the great highway of western migration and was second only to the Ohio River as the most important route of travel into the interior of the new nation.

Pioneers by this time were flocking into the new state of Indiana. A fairly new state, carved from the Northwest Territory -- statehood was declared December 11, 1816 -- Indiana was still considered frontier country in the early 1830's. For several years, settlers who had been attracted to this new state found land of deep-glacial, fertile soil, ideal for family-sized farms. The land produced abundantly. Many newcomers settled near waterways in order to have good transportation to the New Orleans markets for their farm products -- corn, wheat, and pork.

The reports trickled back across the mountains: new land -- fertile soil -- abundant crops -- a waiting market -- a new road to all this. And the GEORGE BOWMAN family sold their land, left North Carolina and headed for Indiana.

They were accompanied by at least one other North Carolina family -- the Henry Stines. Just as the Steins and Baumans had come from Germany to America together nearly a hundred years earlier, now the Stines and Bowmans set out together once again to settle new lands. Stinesville, Indiana, was named in honor of Henry Stine.

GEORGE BOWMAN had Indiana as his goal when he and his family left North Carolina. Of that members of the Bowman clan in N. C. were certain, although they never saw him again nor heard from him.

He settled on farming land in Monroe County, near present day Bloomington, Indiana. The fine two-story log house he built for his family is still standing and still in use. Although he built the house in a wooded area, it has been moved and now stands on land that was later owned by his son, EMMANUEL BOWMAN. Mrs. Mayme Spicer, great-grand-daughter of EMMANUEL, is proud of the fact that the old log house now stands just across the road from her home.

Another building of great interest to the family is the Old Dutch Church, the first Lutheran church in the area, and still standing near Jack's Defeat Creek, only a few miles from Stinesville, Indiana. It was organized and built by Henry Stine and George Bowman and their sons with the help of the many other German Lutheran families who had settled in the area.

WILLARD BOWMAN recalls hearing the story that gave the creek its name. For all its being only a creek, it was a treacherous stream at run-off time. One night when the creek was on a rampage following a long rainy season, some young men, spoiling for sport, laid wagers as to which one could ride his horse through the torrential stream. One fellow, Jack (his surname has been lost in the telling), boastful from too much whiskey, spurred his horse to the banks of the creek, the horse slipped in the mud, horse and rider were swept into the raging stream and were lost. Thus, Jack met his defeat. Thus, Jack's Defeat Creek.

It was near this stream that the German Lutheran newcomers to this part of Indiana chose to build their church. Following is an historical sketch of the church by a great-granddaughter of GEORGE and Catherine BOWMAN, Mrs. NETTIE REYNOLDS of Ellettsville, Indiana.

"The Old Dutch Church began life around 1845 as St. John's Lutheran Church, a two-story log structure near a curve of Jack's Defeat Creek, a few miles from Stinesville. As the years passed, the Lutheran congregation dwindled away and this building, by then affectionately known as the Old Dutch Church, was used by different denominations. Trees now tall and beautiful were planted near it and the two-acre gently sloping yard was enclosed with a stone fence.

"Time, use, and age left their marks inescapably upon it. Sometimes the flood waters of the creek came up to its very steps; its log foundation sagged and broke, but it was always repaired, cherished, and used again as a place of worship. Its spirit survived and the Lord continued to dwell in its one small simple room.

"The old church is still standing and was in use up until a few years ago when a new church was built nearby, known as the Old Dutch Community Church."

From land records we learned that GEORGE BOWMAN had been a farmer and landowner of some means in North Carolina. On coming to Indiana he purchased good farmland in Monroe County between Ellettsville and Bloomington and found himself situated in the center of a thriving industry, the quarrying and milling of limestone.

No doubt always one to make the most of a promising situation and evidently handy with the tools, he soon was in business as a surgeon, performing amputations and other surgery on men injured in the stone mills and quarries. Whiskey, the pioneer cure-all, was widely used as anesthetic at that time, providing only a minimum of insensibility to pain for the patients, of course. It wouldn't be surprising to learn that GEORGE BOWMAN, the "surgeon", even distilled his own anesthetic for his patients.

He practiced dentistry, too, although there is no record, nor does family legend indicate, that he ever studied any branch of the medical arts.

On the side, he set up a forge and made plowshares and mold boards.

GEORGE's oldest daughter, MOLLIE BOWMAN, who lived to be 86 years of age (or 94), recalled these facts pertaining to her father and related them to her grandnephew, Willard Bowman.

Aunt Mollie told Willard how fastidious her father was, "always as neat and clean as if he were going to church." He insisted on wearing white starched shirt fronts whether he was performing surgery at the stone mills or pulling teeth or making plowshares.

Making starch was quite a process in itself at that time. Kernels of fresh corn were grated, covered with water, and left to soak for several hours. Then the liquid was drained off and set aside until the next day. The result was a supply of starch ready to be used.

In these days of instant starch from the supermarket, I feel that my great-great-grandmother, Catherine Bowman, should be given a medal, posthumously, for her fortitude and industry in keeping my great-great-grandfather supplied daily with starched shirt bosoms.

When the family moved to a new farm in Morgan County, they were still near enough to mills and quarries so that George did not have to give up his practice of surgery and dentistry. In fact, he continued in both, as well as in his trade at the forge, until he was too old to work. He lived to be 87.

He staunchly refused to speak English, speaking only German. Thus, it was with great glee that the following story was told by his daughter-in-law, Mary (Abel's widow), to her daughter-in-law, Mrs. William J. Bowman. Abel had bought a farm east of present day Whitestown in Boone County and George came by train from Morgan County to pay his son and daughter-in-law an all-day visit. Came time for the evening return trip and George reached the station just as the train was pulling out. He ran alongside the moving train, shaking his fists and yelling, "Whoa! Whoa!" -- the extent of his English vocabulary, as far as anyone ever knew.

GEORGE BOWMAN died August 5, 1874 and is buried in the Stierwalt Cemetery, Morgan County, Indiana.

His wife, Mary Catherine Eisenhower Bowman, born February 1794 in North Carolina, died September 1, 1865 and is buried in the Stierwalt Cemetery.

DESCENDANTS OF GEORGE AND
CATHERINE EISENHAUER BOWMAN

JOHN BOWMAN

Although JOHN BOWMAN's birthdate was not found, it is known that he was the oldest son of GEORGE and CATHERINE BOWMAN. He was born in North Carolina and came to Indiana with his parents.

JOHN BOWMAN married Christena Loucinda Yount. They had five children: WILLIAM, MARY E., SIMMION, DANIEL, and SALLIE K.

1. WILLIAM BOWMAN was born February 19, 1848. He married Sarah Tipps in August 1868. They had one son, JOHN MILLARD (Mid) BOWMAN, born November 16, 1871.

JOHN MILLARD (Mid) BOWMAN lived at Paragon, Indiana. A retired teacher of the public schools there, Mid was also a farmer and a businessman. His children were Laurence and Vada, both deceased. Laurence had one daughter, Anetia Kinley. Vada's children are Margarite Hite Young; Ruth Hite Bastin, William, and Duane. John (Mid) Bowman died January 1963.

2. MARY E. BOWMAN was born December 1853. She married Bud Tipps. No further information was available.

3. SIMMION (Sim) BOWMAN was born May 24, 1855. His children are: JOHN, MINNIE, and CARRIE.

JOHN BOWMAN married Melia Brummett and they live in Bloomington, Indiana.

MINNIE BOWMAN married Mr. Tipps. They had one son, Charles Tipps, who died in 1960. MINNIE BOWMAN TIPPS lives in the Wampler Nursing Home, Gosport, Indiana. Minnie has been interested in the family history and has supplied much helpful information.

CARRIE BOWMAN was a daughter of
SIMMION BOWMAN. Her daughter is Ruth
Vashell of Paragon, Indiana.

4. DANIEL BOWMAN was born August 7, 1857. No
further information was available.

5. SALLIE K. BOWMAN was born June 13, 1868. She
married Amos N. Jones, December 19, 1890. They had four
children: EVERETT A., LUTHER, BESSIE M., and OPAL A.

SALLIE BOWMAN JONES died October 21, 1912.

EVERETT A. JONES, son of SALLIE
and Amos Jones, was born January 26, 1892.
He lives at Gosport, Indiana. He has two
daughters, Juanita Truesdale and Alberta
Kincaid, both of Gosport.

LUTHER JONES, second son of SALLIE
and Amos Jones, was born May 31, 1897. He
has no children. He lives in Ft. Myers,
Florida.

BESSIE M. JONES, daughter of SALLIE,
was born November 10, 1904. She married
Mr. Evans and they had five children: Amos,
born July 7, 1927, died June 23, 1947; Joan
Lietzman who lives in Florida; Betty Walters,
Florida; Barbara Kemp, Martinsville; and
Sally, who lives in Kentucky.

BESSIE JONES EVANS died October
17, 1932.

OPAL A. JONES, daughter of SALLIE,
was born January 25, 1909. She married
Harold Quackenbush and they live at Lake
Edgewood, Martinsville, Indiana. Their
children are Patty Jean and Richard.

JOHN (Mid) BOWMAN remembered that his grandfather,
JOHN BOWMAN, received a Civil War pension. When I con-
tacted General Services Administration, Washington, D. C. for
his war record, I learned that there are Civil War records on
file for twelve John Bowmans and several more military records
for soldiers of that name with various middle initials, all from
Indiana. With no identifying middle initial for our JOHN, there
was nothing more to do.

JOHN BOWMAN died October 10, 1899.



MOLLIE BOWMAN

Oldest daughter of
George and Catherine Bowman

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MARY CATHERINE (Mollie) BOWMAN

MOLLIE BOWMAN was the oldest daughter of GEORGE BOWMAN. There is a conflict concerning her birthdate. On her gravestone in Stierwalt Cemetery, Morgan County, Indiana, her birthdate is given as March 4, 1812. But in 1867, she and her sister, BETSEY HARR, were witnesses to an application for a widow's pension made by their brother NOAH BOWMAN's widow, America Maples Bowman. On that occasion MOLLIE gave her age as 47 which would make her birthdate 1820.

It seems that the two sisters had decided to deduct eight years from their respective ages since on that day, when they were witnesses for their sister-in-law, BETSEY also gave her age as eight years less than her gravestone indicates.

MOLLIE undoubtedly was the young girl to whom the North Carolina relatives referred as being able to drive a four horse team quite skillfully. The information about her is limited but even so, to us she seems to have been blessed with the spirit and daring of both her pioneer father and immigrant grandfather.

MOLLIE did not marry. After her mother's death, she kept house in the family home for her father. Following his death in 1867, MOLLIE made her home with her youngest sister, BECKY SECREST. It was MOLLIE who gave WILLARD BOWMAN the wealth of information regarding her father, pioneer GEORGE BOWMAN.

She died January 20, 1906. She was either 94 or 86, according to which birthdate is correct.

ELIZABETH (Betsey) BOWMAN

BETSEY was the second daughter of GEORGE and CATHERINE BOWMAN. She was born in North Carolina in 1814 -- or 1822 -- and came as a young girl to Indiana with her parents.

BETSEY married Leonard Harr. They had no children.

It was she who appeared with her sister MOLLIE BOWMAN as witnesses for their sister-in-law, America Bowman, and each of the sisters deducted eight years from her age.

At that time, 1867, BETSEY gave her age as 45 which would place her birthdate 1822. Yet on her gravestone her birthdate is given as 1814. Undoubtedly, it was only a case of shenanigans, this falsifying of their ages, and they must have enjoyed doing it immensely, legal document or not.

BETSEY and Leonard Harr were farmers, hard-working and frugal. Long years after BETSEY's death, Leonard spent periods of time living with BETSEY's brother, ABEL BOWMAN, and his family. My mother remembers "Uncle Leonard" at her grandfather's and recalls his frugality. He would go about picking up every pin that had fallen to the floor, chiding ABEL's wife, Mary, for allowing her grandchildren to be so wasteful. He admonished her one time with, "Even mein Petsey she deed have one paper of pins for twelve years."

BETSEY BOWMAN HARR died October 4, 1871.

MALINDA BOWMAN

MALINDA, daughter of GEORGE AND CATHERINE BOWMAN, was born in North Carolina and came to Indiana with her parents.

She married Abraham Myers and their children were: EMANUEL and GEORGE, twin boys; ABEL, NOAH, EPH, CICERO, JONAH, and MARY.

1. ABEL MYERS married Lora Beach. They had two children, CLAUDE and ALICE MYERS.

CLAUDE MYERS married Delpha Stierwalt. Their sons: Fred Myers, who married Norma Smith, has a son, Philip, and lives at Martinsville; Frank Myers, who married Betty Richardson, has a daughter, Sandra, and lives at Plainfield, Indiana; and John Myers, who married Betty McNish, has a son, Steve; and lives in Marion, Indiana where John is a teacher in the schools of that city. CLAUDE and Delpha MYERS have a foster daughter, Sally Jones.

ALICE MYERS married Homer Goss. They had three sons: Walter, deceased 1953; Clarence, whose daughter, Joan Owen, has two children, Douglas and Debbie; and Roy Goss of Beech Grove, Indiana, who has a daughter, Katharine Alice. ALICE and Homer GOSS' foster daughter, Barbara Jones, married Jasper Kemp, has two sons, Morris and Randy, and lives in Martinsville.

ALICE MYERS GOSS lives at Paragon. She has provided much of the information concerning MALINDA BOWMAN MYERS' descendants.

2. NOAH MYERS married MARY SECREST, daughter of BECKY BOWMAN SECREST. They had no children.

3. JONAH MYERS moved to Missouri. Of his three children, the names of the daughter, Mintice, and of one son, Abe, were recalled.

4. MARY (Molly) MYERS married Mr. Cox. They had a daughter, Lora.

5. CICERO MYERS lived in Knox County, Indiana. No other information available.

6. EPH MYERS married Sarah Jane Edwards. They had one daughter.

7. GEORGE MYERS was born in 1855. He lived at Linton, Indiana. His daughter, Lucille Catana, lives in Tampa, Florida.

8. EMANUEL MYERS was born in 1855. He married America Hill. They had five children: DEPHART, DELLA MAY, WALTER and ALBERT, twins, and LONNIE.

EMANUEL MYERS died in 1900 at the age of 45. His widow, America, died in 1942. Their son, WALTER, supplied the information about his family.

WALTER L. MYERS lives near Gosport on a farm of historic interest in that part of Indiana. Originally the Allen Asher farm, it is the site of a much earlier settlement, the town of Middletown. Tanning vats can still be seen at the site and WALTER says that he has found the location of the foundations of 14 houses of the old town, all on his farm.

The farm was later purchased by Wesley Shields in whose family WALTER grew up. The two-story house of twelve rooms was built in 1856 at a cost of \$1200, WALTER relates with pride.

WALTER MYERS has two absorbing interests -- his fine, old home and his music. He composes hymns and has several to his credit. Some members of our Bowman family might be interested in contacting WALTER to obtain copies of his hymns at a nominal price.

WALTER and ALBERT MYERS were born in 1890. ALBERT who had lived at the Soldier's Home, Lafayette, Indiana, passed away February 28, 1963. He is buried in the Mannen Cemetery.

DEPHART MYERS, born 1888, died in 1892.

Walter L. Myers

There Is A Bright Pathway

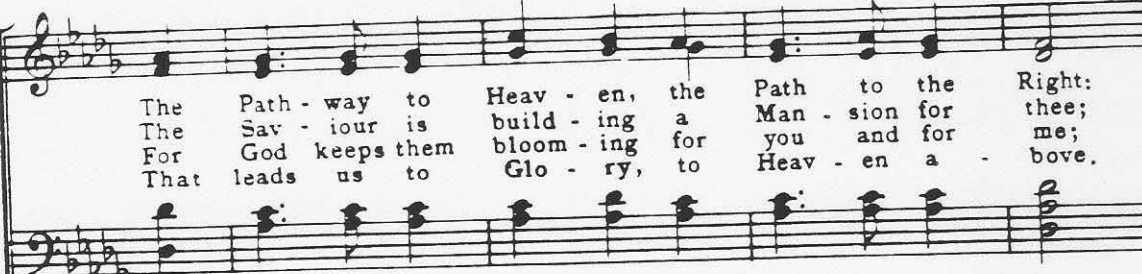
Palm 16: 11

WALTER L. MYERS

W. L. W.



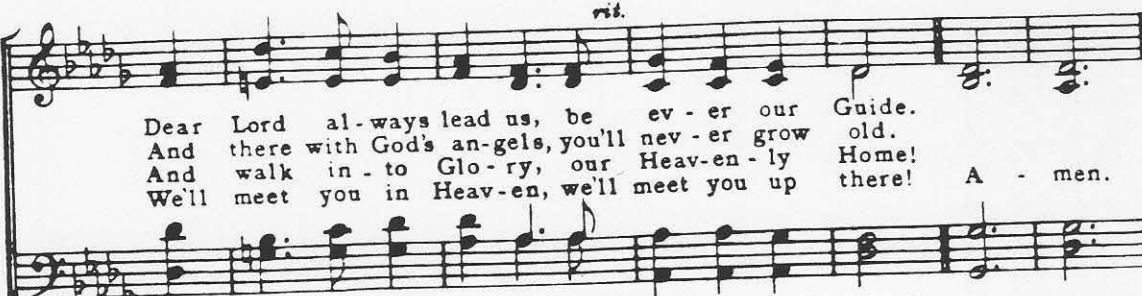
1. There is a bright Path - way, the Path - way of Light,
2. A - long the bright Path - way, no troub - le you'll see,
3. A - long the bright Path - way, sweet ros - es will be,
4. There is a bright Path - way, the Path - way of love.



The Path - way to Heav - en, the Path to the Right:
The Sav - iour is build - ing a Man - sion for thee;
For God keeps them bloom - ing for you and for me;
That leads us to Glo - ry, to Heav - en a - bove.



The Path that will lead us so close to His side;
A Man - sion in Heav - en that's made of pure gold,
We'll trav - el His Path - way through Heav - en's bright dome,
Oh, Je - sus our Sav - iour, our Sav - iour so fair,

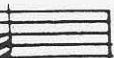


rit.
Dear Lord al - ways lead us, be ev - er our Guide.
And there with God's an - gels, you'll nev - er grow old.
And walk in - to Glo - ry, our Heav - en - ly Home!
We'll meet you in Heav - en, we'll meet you up there! A - men.

DELLA MAY MYERS was born in 1887. She married (1) Henry Mannen, now deceased and (2) Luther Abel. DELLA MAY MYERS and Henry Mannen had two children: Edna Lee, deceased; and Eva who lives in Muncie, Indiana.

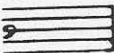
LONNIE THARP, youngest son of EMANUEL MYERS, was born in 1897. He is a farmer and businessman and lives with his family in Pittsboro, Indiana.

MYERS



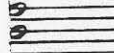
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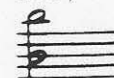


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EMMANUEL BOWMAN

EMMANUEL, son of GEORGE and CATHERINE BOWMAN, was born in North Carolina, December 15, 1826. He came to Indiana with his parents as a young boy.

EMMANUEL BOWMAN married Lucy Myers and their children were MARGARET, SAMUEL, PAUL, MARTHA (Mattie), HATTIE, MARY, and JULIA.

EMMANUEL BOWMAN was a farmer and had a farm of 160 acres a mile out of Stinesville on the Ellettsville Road. Two of his descendants recall that on his farm there was a still, a dry house for the fruit and vegetables, a granary, as well as all the other farm buildings.

In their house Emmanuel built a great open fireplace where his wife Lucy baked the family supply of bread. She kept her loom set up near the fireplace and kept busy at it in spare time.

The spring still flows which ran through the spring house where Lucy kept the milk and butter fresh and can be seen on the old farm today. Also still to be seen on the farm is an old wild cherry tree that is nearly four feet in diameter. Mayme Spicer recalls that this old tree was used on the original farm to determine a boundary and was called a "witness tree".

The information about EMMANUEL and his family was supplied by one of his granddaughters, Cora Stevens Axom and by one of his great granddaughters, Mayme Spicer. As a child, Mayme visited her great Grandmother Lucy many times and remembers seeing her at the loom and baking at the fireplace. Mrs. Spicer now lives across the road from EMMANUEL BOWMAN's original farm.

EMMANUEL died November 23, 1891 and is buried in the Old Dutch Church Cemetery, the church he helped organize and build. His wife, Lucy, is buried there, too.

1. MARGARET BOWMAN married Abraham Swafford. Their children were LUCY, SAMUEL, JAMES, WILLIAM, EMMA, MARY, ELIZABETH, and DOVIE, all deceased except SAMUEL.

MARGARET's daughter, LUCY, married Isadore DeCello and their five children were: Gracie, now deceased; Mayme, Mary Zelpha, deceased, Elsa Brunetta, deceased; and Louis Murl.

Mayme DeCello married Cleo Spicer and they live near Gosport. They have a son, Winifred. Winifred has a son, David.

Louis Murl DeCello has been in the Veteran's Home, Los Angeles, California.

Mary Zelpha Rogers had four children: Helen, Rebecca, Gary, and Gerald Rogers.

Elsa Hedrick's children are: Thelma Bennett and Paul Hedrick, both of Bloomington, Indiana.

MARGARET's son, SAMUEL SWAFFORD, is now 83 years old and has his home near Gosport. His children are Mrs. Hubert

Headly, Gosport; Mrs. McKinley Harris, Spencer; Ralph Swafford, Columbus, Indiana; and Roscoe Swafford, Martinsville.

MARGARET's son, JAMES SWAFFORD, had five children: Pearl Still, who lives in Bloomington; John Swafford, Bloomington; Hazel Burch, Ellettsville; James O. Swafford, Frankfort, Indiana; and Clovis Swafford.

MARGARET's son, WILLIAM SWAFFORD, had two sons: Leroy and Harold Swafford.

MARGARET's daughter, MARY, married Mr. Aeillo and their children are: Louie, who lives in Ohio, and Ernest, Bedford, Indiana.

MARGARET's daughter, ELIZABETH SWAFFORD AEILLO, had two children: Theresa Marks, Bear Lake, Michigan, and Fred Aeillo.

2. PAUL BOWMAN, son of EMMANUEL BOWMAN, married Mary Moser. Their children are: PLEASANT, CARL, and Mrs. STELLA MEDLEY.

3. MARTHA (Mattie) BOWMAN, daughter of EMMANUEL BOWMAN, was born July 15, 1865. She married Cristian Summitt. Their daughter, FLOY MASIE, born March 28, 1883, became a teacher and entered the U. S. Indian Service.

FLOY's first appointments were to Indian schools in Kansas and Wisconsin. She then transferred to the U. S. Indian School, Albuquerque, New Mexico. Here she met and married Severiano Francisco Naranjo, instructor and head of the Tailoring Department at the school.

Mr. Naranjo is from an outstanding family in the Pueblo of Santa Clara in New Mexico. His father, Francisco A. Naranjo, served as governor of the Santa Clara Pueblo before 1900, an appointment made by the Casique, head authority of the pueblo.

FLOY SUMMITT and Severiano Naranjo were married July 15, 1914. Their children: S. F. Naranjo, Jr. is married, has two children, lives in Albuquerque; Mary Kathryn Elston is married, has one child, and lives in Michigan; Rose Christine Clark is married, has one child, lives in Albuquerque in the family home with her father; Floy Agnes Stroud is married, has one child, lives in Chicago; and Mark Bernard Naranjo is married, has one child, lives in Albuquerque, next door to his father and Rose.

Soon after I entered the U. S. Indian Service as Community Worker and Teacher in the Navajo Indian Schools, I learned that there was a "distant relative on the Bowman side" at the Albuquerque Indian School. My great-aunt, Alice Shields, teaching at the Albuquerque School at the time, helped me locate my Bowman relative and was surprised to learn that it was her fellow-teacher, FLOY NARANJO.

Since I was only 130 miles west of Albuquerque, at the Iyanbito Day School on the Navajo Reservation, I visited FLOY and her family several times.*

* During my seven years on the Navajo Reservation I found other Bowmans in New Mexico. While attending a rodeo at the Navajo Fair one fall, I discovered that two brothers and their sister, all highly skilled rodeo performers, were named Bowman. They are from a quite remarkable Navajo family.

Reservation land is exceedingly poor yet this Bowman family had a strip of land with soil as beautifully red as the mesa it backed up against. They tilled their land, used the scant rainfall (5 to 10 inches) to the best advantage and grew fine crops. Their farm was indeed an oasis in that semi-arid, high plateau country.

At that time I knew so little about our Bowman ancestors and even less about tracing family lines, that I did not try to learn more of the Navajo Bowmans. Also, I was reluctant to approach a dazed and winded rider, after his 18-second ordeal on the wildest, buckin' bronc in the whole canyon country, to ask him if he knew the history of his Grandfather Bowman. But now, I do intend to pursue the quest.

MATTIE SUMMITT made several trips to the Southwest to visit her daughter, FLOY and family. On one of her visits, I invited her to spend a long weekend with me in my home at the day school. We had an enjoyable time getting acquainted and figuring our relationship. She and my grandfather, William J. Bowman, were first cousins, making MATTIE and me cousins a couple of times removed. But in that enchanted mesa land of New Mexico distance means so little, whether it be in miles or generations.

MATTIE BOWMAN SUMMITT passed away in Albuquerque, March 26, 1940. She is buried in Stinesville, Indiana.

FLOY SUMMIT NARANJO passed away October 6, 1943 and is buried in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

4. HATTIE BOWMAN, daughter of EMMANUEL BOWMAN, married George Chambers. Their two children died in infancy.

5. JULIA ANN, daughter of EMMANUEL BOWMAN, was born in 1855. She married William Samuel Stevens. They had two daughters, FLORA ETHELEN, born in 1874, and CORA, born July 12, 1880.

JULIA BOWMAN STEVENS died July 1880. At the time of her death her parents, EMMANUEL and Lucy BOWMAN, took her daughter, FLORA, into their home and kept her until the child's death in 1885.

CORA STEVENS married (1) Mr. Swink, now deceased, and (2) Leonard Axom. She lives in Heltonville, Indiana. Her children are: Flora Marie Wade, Borden, Indiana; Nettie Evalene Stroud, Indian Springs, Indiana; Samuel Lester Swink, Norwalk, California; Ruby Ellen Pritchett, Indianapolis; Opal Irene Reynor, Indianapolis; Walter Irvin Swink, Lafayette, Indiana; and Linna May Shaw, Carmell, Indiana.

CORA remembers visiting her grandparents, EMMANUEL and Lucy, on their beautiful farm. Her grandfather would talk to her "in Dutch" which she found hilariously funny causing them in turn to laugh at her. She says of her grandparents, "They were wonderful people."

6. MARY BOWMAN, daughter of EMMANUEL, married (1) Mr. Hite after whose death she married (2) Mr. Porter. They lived in Orleans, Indiana, where MARY BOWMAN PORTER is buried.

7. SAMUEL BOWMAN was the oldest son of EMMANUEL. He married Sarah _____ and they had a son, DAVID BOWMAN. The family went out west during the 1880's. CORA AXOM thinks they went to Oregon. She remembers seeing DAVID BOWMAN when he returned to Indiana for a visit many years ago.

Only recently there have been leads -- one by a person who is not a member of the family -- to Bowmans in Oregon. Letters of inquiry have been sent. If definite information is obtained, it will be forwarded to each of you and can be included here.

LEVI BOWMAN

LEVI BOWMAN, son of GEORGE and CATHERINE BOWMAN, was born in North Carolina and came to Indiana with his parents. LEVI and his brother EMMANUEL married sisters. LEVI married Mary Myers.

LEVI BOWMAN served in the Union Army during the Civil War but as in the case of his brother, JOHN BOWMAN, there are Civil War records for several Levi Bowmans. Since we did not know his identifying middle name, I could go no further in the search.

LEVI BOWMAN and his wife, Mary, are buried in the Old Dutch Cemetery.

They had two sons, GEORGE and AMOS.

1. GEORGE BOWMAN, son of LEVI BOWMAN, married Elizabeth Hancock. They had no children. GEORGE died in 1920.

2. AMOS BOWMAN, son of LEVI BOWMAN, was born November 25, 1857. He married Louisa Langly, December 22, 1881. AMOS BOWMAN died May 21, 1924. They had nine children:

MINNIE BOWMAN, born January 14, 1882; died May 1, 1900.

LINNIE BOWMAN, born September 28, 1884; died September 27, 1904.

HOMER LEVI BOWMAN was born September 25, 1886. He married Anna Winterland. He died October 2, 1962.

CENA BOWMAN, born January 1, 1888; died January 14, 1928.

MARY MAGDALEN BOWMAN was born December 6, 1889. She married Carl M. Miller and their home is in Castlewood, South Dakota. Their

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children are 1. Byron M. Miller, born July 26, 1912, now living in San Diego, Calif., has three sons Jon M. whose children are Jennifer Lane and Melissa Dawn Miller; Robert B. who has a son, Stephen Eric; and Richard A. Miller; 2. Earl E. Miller, born February 24, 1914 now living in Wichita, Kansas; 3. Philip H. Miller, born May 28, 1918 now deceased; 4. Carl M. Miller, Jr., born October 26, 1919, now living in Castlewood, South Dakota; and 5. Pearl (Mrs. Robert) Herron, born Nov. 8, 1925, now living in Pensacola, Florida.

CLAUDE BOWMAN was born October 13, 1891. He married Eva Frye. Their home is in Anoka, Minnesota.

BRUNETTA (Nettie) BOWMAN was born October 15, 1893. She married Jesse Reynolds and their home is near Ellettsville, Indiana. Their children are Kathryn Alice Livingston, Mary Ellen Ashby, Jesse Thomas Reynolds, Jr., and Norma June Whitaker, all of Gosport, Indiana. NETTIE BOWMAN REYNOLDS has supplied much of the information concerning her grandfather LEVI BOWMAN's family and she wrote the account of the Old Dutch Church for us.

WILLIAM L. BOWMAN was born October 26, 1895. He married Vera Deardorff. They live in Lakeland, Florida. One daughter, Bonnie R. Bowman, lives in San Francisco, California.

AMOS BOWMAN, JR. was born November 18, 1897. He married Jessie Goodwin. His home is near his sister, NETTIE REYNOLDS, on R.2, Ellettsville.



ABEL BOWMAN and wife, MARY

ABEL BOWMAN

ABEL, son of GEORGE and Catherine BOWMAN, was born in North Carolina, December 25, 1830. He came to Indiana as a young child with his parents.

In 1856 he married Mary Martha Shumaker who was born near Eminence, Indiana, April 2, 1837. At one time they had a farm in Boone County, east of present-day Whitestown but later moved to a farm in Morgan County.

A hard worker all his life, ABEL was a grain farmer whose barn was always filled with harvested grain to be traded to farmers in lean harvest years.

He was also a shrewd horsetrader. A "born" trader, to be sure. I have in my home the Seth Thomas mantle clock that

ABEL and Mary took in trade for a small pig one day when a peddler came by. Although the clock is now a hundred years old, it is still reliable, striking on the hour and half-hour in soft, mellow tones.

During the Civil War there came a time when the Union had to resort to some kind of military draft. In March 1863 the Union Conscription Act was passed, making all able-bodied men between the ages of 20 and 45 subject to military service. A drafted man who presented an acceptable substitute or paid the government \$300 was excused.

ABEL, 32 years old, was drafted for military duty and went to be interviewed by the draft board at Indianapolis. He was asked,

"Where were you born?"

"North Carolina."

"Are you willing to serve in the Union Army?"

"No."

"Why?"

"Because I have uncles and cousins in the Confederate Army and I do not wish to fight them."

He then asked how much he would have to pay for a substitute. When he was told it would cost him \$400, he took out his purse, peeled off the specified amount in bills and went home.

Several of ABEL's grandchildren, including my mother, remember the purse that ABEL carried in his pockets. It seemed to be always bulging with rolls of money. And Mary, his wife, also had her well-stocked change purse which she always carried in a pocket stitched to the inside of her skirt.

My mother recalls how her grandmother Mary worked to earn the change she carried in her purse. She made butter to sell. It was quite a production. Each Thursday evening ice was purchased for 5¢ from a neighbor-farmer who chopped the blocks of ice from his pond and stored it for year-round use. The butter, paddled and molded into shape and each pound wrapped carefully in immaculate white cloths, was then packed in the ice. Early Friday morning the butter was taken to a storekeeper in Paragon who was so anxious to get it that he paid Mary the top price, 15¢ per pound.

ABEL loved his grandchildren dearly. They remember him as being especially kind and generous.

He had a hobby - if making kraut can be called that; he enjoyed making it and made it by the barrel. Whenever he went visiting relatives or calling on friends he invariably took a half-gallon of his kraut as a gift.

ABEL died in 1905 at the age of 75. He is buried in the Mannen Cemetery in Owen County, Indiana.

For several years after ABEL's death, his widow Mary remained on their farm in Morgan County. As a very young child, I visited Mary, my great-grandmother, on her farm. I remember running errands for her to the stone springhouse on the hillside just out the kitchen door. There I would let the icy-cold spring water run over my bare feet until they were blue with cold wondering all the while if Grandma would approve my dabbling my feet in the very spring water that gushed around her crocks of milk, cream, and butter.

Mary, in later years, made her home with her second son, Rev. WILLIAM J. BOWMAN, in Lebanon, Indiana. She died November 8, 1923 in Lebanon. She is buried in the Mannen Cemetery in Owen County.

ABEL and Mary had 4 sons: GEORGE, WILLIAM, THOMAS, and ELI.

1. GEORGE TEMODIOUS, son of ABEL and Mary BOWMAN, was born September 28, 1858 in Morgan County, Indiana. On January 1878, he married Alice McCollum. George was a farmer in Morgan County. Their children were ELBERT SOCRATES, WILLARD HENRY, and CLAUDE C.

ELBERT SOCRATES BOWMAN, born 1882, died in 1905.

WILLARD HENRY BOWMAN was born 1884; married Nellie Shuler; their daughter is Pauline Smith of Gosport. Willard was a Railroad Mail Clerk on the Monon Railroad. He is now retired and he and Nellie live on a farm near Centerpoint, Indiana, where the bees in his apiary make the best honey in the state. Willard and Nellie have provided much of the family history and have given many leads to be pursued for further information regarding family members. Pauline Bowman Smith's children are Mary Ann, Sue and Dan.

CLAUDE C. BOWMAN was born in 1897. He married May Ruple. They live on a farm near Brazil, Indiana. Their

children are Kenneth, Hazel, Charles, Claude, Jr., Coleen, Clifford, Russell, and Mary Alice.

2. WILLIAM JASPER, son of ABEL and Mary BOWMAN, was born November 15, 1860 in Morgan County. In August 1883, he married Mary Ellen Shields.

A young man of deep faith, his great desire was to become a minister. He set for himself a course of study which he followed diligently, all the while developing a sound theology as well as strong convictions concerning his beliefs.

In his determination to improve his delivery, he read among other things the account of Demosthenes, 384-322 B. C., the greatest of the Greek orators, who practiced speaking with rocks in his mouth to improve his enunciation and articulation. So with the ancient Greek orator as his example, WILLIAM BOWMAN spent hours in the woods, rocks in mouth, preaching to the trees until his enunciation became beautifully clear.

It has been asked why WILLIAM was a Baptist instead of Lutheran. It was because his family lived near the Corinth Baptist Church which he attended as a young man. His mother and father later became members of the Corinth Baptist Church also.

He was ordained a Baptist minister April 11, 1895 at the Amity Baptist Church near Quincy, Indiana. A well-loved pastor, he held pastorates in several Baptist churches throughout central Indiana, among them Amity, Corinth, Samaria, Mt. Aetna, Tennessee Valley, and Lebanon.

Witty and possessing a keen sense of humor, he was always ready with a fast come-back. Once at a Sunday dinner in the home of one of the church members, a rather sarcastic person said, "Brother Bowman, why is it that preachers' children

are so onery?" He replied quickly, "Because they have to associate with other peoples' children."

WILLIAM J. and Mary Ellen BOWMAN had six children: BYRL ANN, MAY SYRINTHA, SADIE FLORENCE, ADA, CORDELIA FAY, and ENNIS RUSKIN.

BYRL ANN BOWMAN was born July 7, 1885; she married John Hamilton; later divorced. Suffering from tuberculosis, she left Indiana and went to San Francisco where her youngest sister, Cordelia Bowman Strang, was living. Her health improved and in 1921 she decided to go to Klamath Falls, Oregon to make her home. She caught a cold just before leaving for Klamath Falls, pneumonia developed and she died the day following her arrival. She is buried in Klamath Falls.

MAY SYRINTHA BOWMAN was born May 2, 1887; married Herbert Miles Fox, September 25, 1907. They lived in Vigo County, Indiana the greater part of their lives. Their children: Mary Ernestine, Sarah Erline, and Charles Herbert who died in infancy. In 1949 MAY and Herbert Fox went to San Francisco to make their home with their daughter Ernestine. Herbert Fox died there January 26, 1951 and is buried at North Terre Haute, Indiana. In November 1957, MAY married William Gratz in San Francisco; he died July 30, 1962. Erline Fox Smith, second daughter of Herbert and May Fox, has one son, Neil Bowman Smith, and lives in Sacramento, California.

*He compiled
this history*

SADIE FLORENCE BOWMAN was born November 14, 1893; married Ernest Eugene Lemmons, December 1908. They have lived in Vigo County where he has farmed and operated coal mines. Retired, they now live on a small farm near West Terre Haute, Indiana. Their children are Shields William, Brooks Eugene, and Clara Byrl Lucas. Shields, Riley, Indiana, has a son, Bruce, and a daughter, Sheila Denham who has a son, Mark Shields, and lives in

Fremont, California. Brooks Lemmons lives in Oakland, California and has a son, Rolland. Clara Byrl Lucas lives in Terre Haute, Indiana.

ADA BOWMAN was born March 15, 1895, died 1900.

CORDELIA FAY BOWMAN was born April 21, 1897; married Samuel L (Chuck) Strang in Terre Haute, May 25, 1913. They moved to San Francisco, California in 1918. Chuck Strang died December 30, 1952. CORDELIA married Gilbert Rodgers of Martinsville, Indiana September 14, 1954. They lived in San Francisco where Gilbert died February 11, 1956. CORDELIA has a step-son, Gene Rodgers, of Martinsville, Indiana.

ENNIS RUSKIN BOWMAN was born December 13, 1900. Because of a back injury suffered when he was a young child, he was lame for the remainder of his life; nevertheless, as an older youth he seemed to be always high spirited and gay, and activities became quite animated when he was around. He was 18 at the time of his death, April 8, 1919. He is buried in Lebanon, Indiana.

Mary Ellen, wife of William J. Bowman, died May 29, 1902 and is buried in Florida where the family had moved in an effort to restore her health. After her death, WILLIAM returned to Indiana with their children.

WILLIAM J. BOWMAN married Elsie Eva Thompson February 20, 1916. They lived in Lebanon, Indiana, where he was pastor of the Walnut Street Baptist Church. Their children:

MARY ELECTA born March 8, 1917; died September 30, 1936.

RUTH FLORENCE born December 13, 1918; married Herschel Yocum and their son is Leslie Wayne. They live in Chicago, Illinois.

VIRGINIA LOU born April 14, 1921;
married (1) Elbert Russell; (2) Mr. Smith;
children Steven Arthur Swails, Joyce Ann,
and Allen. They live in Indianapolis.

CARNA and MORGAN DEE born January 19, 1923; died in infancy.

WILLIAM J. BOWMAN died suddenly
at his home in Lebanon, Indiana, September
20, 1923. He is buried there. His widow,
Elsie Thompson Bowman lives in Chicago
with her daughter, Ruth. It is she who
recalled many of the incidents of my grand-
father's life for this family history.

3. THOMAS BOWMAN, third son of ABEL and Mary
BOWMAN, was born in 1862 in Morgan County, Indiana. He
married Nancy Lambert. He was a farmer in Morgan County.
They had three children: POLLY (MYRTLE), VENZA, and
RAYMON.

POLLY BOWMAN was born May, 18,
1887. She married Jason Bryant. Their
daughter, Beatrice Stiles of Mooresville,
Indiana, has three children: Wyona Rose
Spoon whose children are Kathy Jo and
Kyle; Ronald Stiles, Carpenteria, Cali-
fornia, whose children are Jeffrey and
Jennifer; and Madonna Stiles, Mooresville.
POLLY BOWMAN BRYANT moved to
Southern California where she died June
27, 1955.

VENZA E. BOWMAN was born March
23, 1890. She married Roy Rodgers. Their
children are: Mildred (Mrs. Richard)
Acree, Martinsville, who has a daughter,
Linda Jane; Harold Rodgers of Indianapolis;
Gletha (Mrs. Paul) Hastings, Phoenix,
Arizona, who has a daughter, Paulette Sue;
and Betty (Mrs. Ed) Lynn, Martinsville,
whose children are Marcia, Rebecca, Dana,
and Lisa Ann.

VENZA and Roy Rodgers live in
Martinsville.

RAYMON BOWMAN was born February 19, 1892. He married Ella Grounds. They have four children: Basil B., Omaha, Nebraska, and his children are Sharon, Karen, Donald, Roger, and Raymon; Beulah (Mrs. Austin) Kirk, Martinsville, whose children are Raymon, Linda, William, and Lisa Ann Marie; Martha (Mrs. Calvin) Gregg, Morgantown, whose children are Michael, Robert, and Steven; and James T., Paragon, whose children are Diana Jo, James, and Debra.

RAYMON and Ella live on a large farm near Martinsville where he continues to farm his land and for years specialized in raising registered Duroc hogs. At the Indiana State Fair Centennial in 1952 he showed the Grand Champion and the Reserve Grand Champion sow, the first man to show both champions in the same year. He is well known throughout the agricultural areas of the country, having shown his prize hogs at state fairs in six states as well as at many Duroc National Congresses.

Although he does not show hogs now, he still raises about 200 a year to sell to 4-H Club boys and girls who win top honors with them in County and State Fairs.

THOMAS BOWMAN was a jolly person who took great delight in joking and laughing with his family and friends. He was noted for his honesty and as was also said of the Bowmans in North Carolina, "His word was as good as his bond."

He and his wife were faithful members of the Corinth Baptist Church.

THOMAS BOWMAN died January 18, 1904 and is buried in the Mannen Cemetery, Owen County.

4. ELI BOWMAN, fourth son of ABEL and Mary BOWMAN, was born in 1866 in Morgan County, Indiana. He married Janey Layman. They lived on a farm near Spencer, Indiana. ELI died in 1937 in Indianapolis. He is buried in Mannen Cemetery.

NOAH BOWMAN

NOAH, son of GEORGE and CATHERINE BOWMAN was born in 1831 in North Carolina. He was a small child when his parents moved to Indiana.

NOAH BOWMAN married America Maples on January 22, 1854. They first lived in Monroe County but later, moved to Morgan County, according to his War Record.

During the Civil War, NOAH BOWMAN was drafted into the Union Army at Indianapolis, October 23, 1864. He served as a Private in Company H, 29th Regiment of Indiana Volunteers. His granddaughter, Lelia Hacker, has the letters that Noah wrote to his wife America during his time of service in the War. Here is one that he evidently dictated to a buddy during the time he was in the hospital, a letter so touching as to make it a near sacrilege to do other than fold it into its envelope quickly and lay it away again.

January, the 4

A. D. 1865

Mi dear Companion I will again seat mi self to let you know how I am ageting along well Merica I am amentin slowly but mi legs is weak from mi hips down and num my legs sweld last night but I hop to god I will get mi health agan but mi blessed wife and Children I hop to mi gait (great) god that thes few lines may find you all well and harty and able for your good table Merica I want you to eat a good mess of cabag for me Merica I hant got that box yet and I don know whether I ever will or not. Merica you may sent me some mor money if you please I dont want to starv writ soon ana ofon if there is any other chanc Merica some of the boys has come back John Bowman and Jesse spain Jesse spain is prety sick the boyes has got ahard tim they ar still after hood thayer away dow in alabam the last I heard from tomas secres his feet was about giv out I hop he will be back soon Merica I would like to see you all the best kind Merica I want you to tell me awl abot the draft and what Able is agoin to do and wher they ar again to draf men I swap some of a corn bread for acopl of sweat tators they was good well Merica I hant got much to writ so good by for this time so ? at presen

Noah Bowman to Merica Bowman

From his War Record, it was learned that he died March 14, 1865 at Chattanooga, Tennessee from a relapse of measles and erysipelas. The information was obtained from General Services Administration, Washington, D. C., from a copy of the application for Widow's Army Pension made by NOAH's widow, America Bowman. It was to this document that NOAH's sister, ELIZABETH (BETSY) HARR and MOLLY BOWMAN were witnesses, made their signatures with "X her mark", and swore they were eight years younger than they were.

NOAH BOWMAN is buried in the Stierwalt Cemetery, Morgan County, Indiana.

NOAH BOWMAN had two children, AMANDA C. and CHARLES.

1. AMANDA C. BOWMAN was born in Monroe County on January 19, 1855. She married Buck Secrest.

2. CHARLES M. BOWMAN was born in Monroe County, November 11, 1863. He married Emma Costin and their four children are: LELIA, NOAH, ILA GLEE, and JULIUS.

LELIA BOWMAN was born December 3, 1888. She married Marshall Hacker. Their children are Lt. Colonel William F. Hacker, Ft. Benning, Ga. and Martha Glee Dickerson of Paragon who has one son, Stanley. LELIA BOWMAN HACKER lives at Paragon.

NOAH BOWMAN, born July 15, 1895, married Mildred Hewitt. They live near Martinsville.

ILA GLEE BOWMAN, born May 2, 1902, married Maurice Macy. They live in Litchfield, Illinois. They have three daughters: Maureen Lober, Springfield, Illinois, who has three children: Rebecca, Rose Marie, and Sarah; Carol Lee Neare, Hughesville, Maryland; and Janet Golovner, Bronx, New York.

JULIUS BOWMAN was born December 3, 1911. He married Viola Eubank and they live in Martinsville. Their children are Andre Bates, Greencastle, Indiana, and Jackie Bowman.

CHARLES M. BOWMAN died January 1940 and is buried in the Friendship Park Cemetery, Paragon, Indiana.

SAMUEL BOWMAN

SAMUEL BOWMAN has been a subject of controversy during the writing of this history. One informant declares that GEORGE and CATHERINE had no son named Samuel, while another says emphatically that there was such a son. The latter remembers hearing that SAMUEL was the "black sheep" of the family, constantly in trouble with the law, and at one time lived in a house far back in the woods in order to evade the law enforcement officers. Finally, SAMUEL and his family left for the West.

SYLVESTER BOWMAN

SYLVESTER was probably the youngest son of GEORGE and CATHERINE BOWMAN. Their youngest daughter, BECKY, was born after the family moved to Indiana from North Carolina and BECKY often spoke of her brother SYLVESTER as if they might have been near the same age.

SYLVESTER BOWMAN died at age 13, burial place unknown.

REBECCA BOWMAN

REBECCA (Becky) was the youngest child of GEORGE and CATHERINE BOWMAN. She was their only child born in Indiana. Her birthdate was March 31, 1837 and she was born in the log house her father built, which is still standing across from Mayme Spicer's home.

BECKY BOWMAN married Thomas Secrest. They had a large farm north of Paragon, Indiana where they grew wheat and corn and fattened cattle and hogs to be shipped to the market. As hired help was required much of the time, one of BECKY's many jobs was the preparation of meals to feed the hungry work crews. She took care of her mother-in-law for years, had a family of nine children, and in her later years, made room in her home for her oldest sister, MOLLIE BOWMAN, until the latter's death in 1906, all the while running a little butter-and-egg business of her own on the side. After she had made the butter and wrapped it properly and selected the eggs, she then walked to the store in Lewisville to deliver her produce in person.

BECKY had a hobby that she pursued in her spare time. She grew flowers. Blessed with a green thumb, she had great beds of her lovely old-fashioned flowers throughout her yard. GLAYE SINK, having inherited her grandmother BECKY's love of flowers and her ability to grow them, has made a detailed plan of her grandmother's flower beds showing which flowers were grown in each plot.

BECKY SECREST lived to be 71 years old. She died August 1, 1908 and is buried in the Lingle Cemetery.

Her children:

1. SARAH CATHARINE was born July 13, 1861. She married Robert Dow. They had four children.

2. MARY CAROLINE was born December 25, 1862. She married NOAH MYERS, also a Bowman descendant. Although they had no children of their own, "Aunt Moll" and Uncle Noah, as they were known by friends and family alike, took into their home two foster children.

MARY CAROLINE SECREST MYERS died June 7, 1938.

3. LUCINDA ALICE was born April 27, 1866. She married Levi Stierwalt and they had one child. LUCINDA ALICE STIERWALT died August 1, 1941.

4. GEORGE FREDERIC was born November 9, 1867. He married Minnie Crone and they had 2 children. He died January 27, 1941.

5. MARTHA FLORINDA was born October 12, 1869. She married Walter Grounds. They had four children: FRED, CARL who died in childhood, BERNICE, and a child who died in infancy.

MARTHA (Aunt Matt) lives on a farm near Gosport with her son, FRED, and her daughter, BERNICE JOHNSON. A lively little lady in her nineties, MARTHA has taken a keen interest in this gathering of the family history and has been most helpful in giving us family data impossible to obtain elsewhere.

6. CLARINDA JANE was born April 2, 1871. She married John Ratts. There were no children. She died April 23, 1903.

7. LORENA VIRGINIA was born January 25, 1873. She married Ott Secrest. Their daughter, GLAYE, married Willard Sink who died in 1930. The children of GLAYE and Willard Sink are Dorcas Patt, San Rafael, California, who has two children - Sherry and John Patt; Myron Sink of Indianapolis; and Russell Sink of New Whiteland, Indiana.

GLAYE SECREST SINK lives in Indianapolis where her mother, LORENA (RENA) also lives. A family history buff herself, GLAYE has been actively interested in supplying a great deal of information about her grandmother, BECKY.

8. SAMUEL TILDEN born October 1876, died November 1880.

9. Infant daughter.

As far as I can determine, MARTHA GROUNDS, age 93, and LORENA SECREST, age 90, daughters of BECKY BOWMAN SECREST, are the oldest living members of our Indiana branch of the Bowman family. For us they are the link connecting all of us living today to our pioneer ancestors of yesterday.



Copy of Tintype taken around 1880 of George Bowman's youngest daughter Becky Secrest and her daughter Lucinda Alice.



Log house built by George Bowman when he brought his family to Indiana from North Carolina about 1835.