

THE BOWER FAMILY OF BARTON STACEY, HAMPSHIRE, 1815 TO 1930s

by Linda Moffatt © 2018
for the Barton Stacey History Group

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JAMES BOWER was born on 22 July 1789 at Vernham Dean, Hampshire, son of Thomas and Phoebe Bower. He married Mary Lewis (born about 1779 in St Mary Bourne, Hampshire) on 17 April 1815 at All Saints', Barton Stacey.

At the time of the 1841 census he was a farm worker at Street Farm in Barton Stacey village and had become a farm bailiff by the census ten years later. Judging by the position of their home in the census of 1851 this was perhaps at Hill Farm, Barton Stacey.

They were living by 1861 in Newton Stacey, close to the home of their son Charles. The family of his grandson Elijah George Bower remained in Newton Stacey until just before the second World War.

Mary Bower died in 1862 aged 83, her husband in 1864 aged 76.

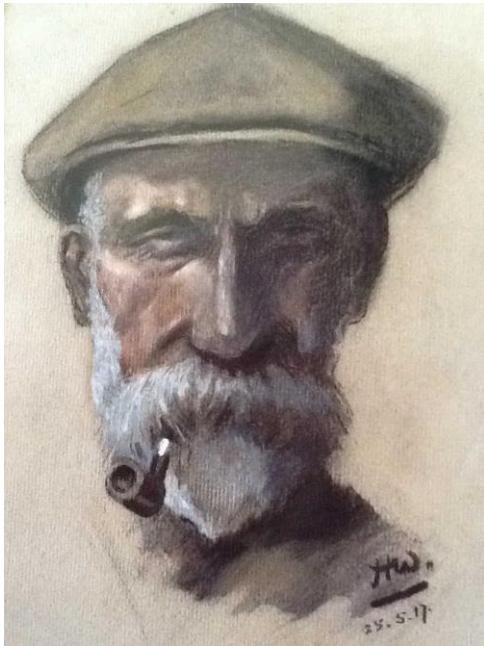
Children of James and Mary (Lewis) Bower, baptised at Barton Stacey,

- i. George, baptised 10 August 1817.
- ii. Mary, baptised 31 October 1819. She married Joel Ford (born in Silchester, Hampshire about 1817) in 1843. They were living by 1851 in Eversley, Hampshire. She died in 1892 aged 75.
- iii. **CHARLES**, baptised 20 May 1821. He married Charlotte Levy from Longparish in 1853. Charles Bower died in 1860 and she married secondly in 1867 John Ayres (Ariss), a gardener from Banbury, Oxfordshire. They were living by 1871 in one of the two New Cottages in Newton Stacey, where they remained. Charlotte Ariss died in 1907 aged 84, her husband in 1912 aged 80.

Children of Charles and Charlotte (Levy) Bower,

- i. **CHARLES HENRY**, born 1854. He married Harriet __?__ and lived in Eastleigh, where he worked on the railway. He died in 1918 aged 63.
- ii. William, born 1856. Not yet found after the 1861 census.
- iii. John, born 1858. I have yet to locate him in the 1871 census. He was a gamekeeper living with his mother and stepfather in Newton Stacey in 1881.

- iv. **ELIJAH GEORGE**, born 1859 (George). He was a gamekeeper in Newton Stacey. In 1881 he married Ellen Carter (born 1858 in Chilbolton, daughter of Thomas and Martha Carter). She had been a parlourmaid at Horton Rectory in Buckinghamshire before their marriage. They lived in a tied cottage in Newton Stacey which his married daughter Lilian was obliged to vacate after her father's death on 5 December 1938 at the age of 79, moving to nearby Chilbolton. Ellen Bower died on 12 September 1926.



A drawing of Elijah George Bower (1859-1938) made in 1917.

The identity of the artist HW is presently unknown.

Drawing and photographs courtesy of Wendy Power, gt gt granddaughter.

Below:

Elijah George Bower behind River Cottage, Newton Stacey. It is not presently known whether this is where the Bower family lived.





Children of Elijah George and Ellen (Carter) Bower, born in Newton Stacey,

- i. Eva, born 11 December 1882. She died on 12 January 1901.
- ii. Lottie, born 6 February 1884. She married William Henry Alexander in 1909 and lived, at least in the early years of their marriage, in Shipton Bellinger.
- iii. William Alfred, born 1886, died 1887.
- iv. May Isabella, born 14 May 1888 and baptised 1 July at Chilbolton. She married Dan Charles Clayton in 1913.
- v. Herbert George, born 27 May 1890. He married Ida A. Pembroke in 1919. He died on 21 March 1963 in Alderbury, Wiltshire.
- vi. Reginald, born 12 March 1892. He joined the Royal Flying Corps on 6 January 1916 and served as a chauffeur and mechanic in France from 24 March 1916 until 16 July 1919, when he was transferred to the Royal Air Force Reserves (service number 17341). He appears with his parents on the 1920 electoral roll for Barton Stacey parish. He later lived in South Africa.
- vii. Lilian Ellen, born 6 October 1895. In 1929 she married Frederick George Ridout, a gardener who lodged with the Bowers, and three children were born in the cottage in Newton Stacey. They were living in Chilbolton by 1839.
- viii. Daisy, born 23 January 1899. In 1920 she married Charles E. Perrin (born 30 September 1894?3) who was a dairy farmer from South Tidworth. Daisy Perrin died in 1982.

NOTES

Ann Bower married Charles Joyce at Barton Stacey on 13 April 1831.

Kate Beatrice (Sopp) Bower, buried at Barton Stacey 17 May 1983 aged 83. She was living at Bransbury Mill House, Barton Stacey at the time of the 1939 Register. She married Thomas S. Bower in 1940. She was a daughter of William Henry and Adelaide Beatrice Sopp.