

BOWEN, JOHN PERRY, 1827-1906

**PAPERS,
1881-1900**

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INTRODUCTION

The John Perry Bowen Papers, 1881-1900, are centered around the activities of the Bowen family. The collection is the gift of Mary Coghlan White, of Lookout Mountain, Georgia. The collection contains approximately ten documents and four volumes, and occupies .84 cubic feet of shelf space. There are no restrictions on the collection and copies of unpublished writings in the collection may be made for the purpose of scholarly research. The collection's microfilm accession number is 1502.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

John Perry Bowen

- 1827 Born December 17, in Grainger County, Tennessee, son of Reece Bowen and Mary Moody Bowen.
- Married Margaret Virginia Jones.
- 1859 June 28, son born, Hugh Jones Bowen.
- 1863 June 5, son born, Albert Sidney Bowen.
- 1865 October 13, son born, William Newton Bowen.
- 1868 April 26, daughter born, Mary Ann Bowen.
- 1870 December 29, son born, Daniel Wylde Bowen.
- 1873 May 22, son born, Milton Lee Bowen.
- 1876 May 31, son born, Robert Nelson Bowen.
- 1881-1898 Postmaster of Bowen, Grainger County, Tennessee.
- 1900 Sold farm in Grainger County, Tennessee, and moved to Jewell, Georgia.
- 1906 December 21, died in Jewell, Georgia.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Reece Bowen

- 1801 Day and month of birth unknown, son of John and Sarah Bowen.
- 1825 April 6, married Mary Moody, daughter of George and Rachel (Mitchell) Moody.
- 1826 February 26, daughter born, Rachel Jane Bowen.
- 1827 December 17, son born, John Perry Bowen.
- 1829 October 18, son born, George Moody Bowen.
- 1831 December 19, daughter born, Sarah Amelia Bowen.
- 1833 Reece Bowen sells John Moody land for the sum of \$268.00.
- 1834 January 8, son born, William Reece Bowen.
- 1836 February 10, son born, James Nelson Bowen.
- 1838 October 22, son born, Wylde Lyde Latham Bowen.
- 1840 December 18, daughter born, Mary Elizabeth Bowen.
- ca. 1840s Arranged a place for wagon travelers to camp for the night.
- 1842 Daughter Charlotte Bowen dies at birth.
- 1844 July 26, son born, Samuel Gill Bowen.
- 1845 December 29, son born, Henry Ahab Bowen.
- 1851 February 11, son born, Robert Lyon Bowen.
- 1856 September 17, Article of Agreement drawn up among Reece Bowen and three of his sons, John P., George M., and William Reece, for lease of his farm.

Reece Bowen, biographical sketch, continued:

- 1865 June 11, Mary Moody Bowen died and was buried in the apple orchard not far from Reece Bowen's blacksmith shop.
- 1867 July 4, married Mary Jane Marshall.
- 1868 Bought a saw mill and carding machine at Tampico, Grainger County, Tennessee.
- 1881 December 18, died in Grainger County, Tennessee. Buried beside Mary Moody Bowen in Bowen Cemetery, Grainger County, Tennessee.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Wylde Lyde Latham Bowen

- 1838 October 22, born, son of Reece and Mary Moody Bowen.
- 1858 Bought 40 acres of land in Putnam County, Florida, Palatka Military Reserve. There he engaged in a number of enterprises including his orange grove, "Myrtlewood."
- 1860 Entered Confederate service.
- 1861 Graduated from Carson College. Enroute to joining his military unit he received his degree from the president of the college as his train was departing. Began his duty with the Confederate Service Gulf Coast, at Cedar Keys, Florida, with the rank of Captain. Later in the year promoted to Major, C.S.A.
- 1862 Bowen's regiment joins the army at Corinth, Mississippi.
- 1862-1863 Promoted to Brigadier General on the Battlefield at Stones River, Murfreesboro, Tennessee. This was not confirmed until close to the end of the war.
- 1864 Served with General Hood in the Battle of Franklin, Tennessee, and in the Battle of Nashville.
- 1865 Colonel Bowen joined General Joseph E. Johnston and was the dispatch bearer from Johnston to General Lee the day before the latter evacuated the capitol of the Confederacy. Bowen was with President Jefferson Davis and other governmental department heads just before the Confederate Capitol fell into the hands of the Federal Army.
- 1865 May 5, received his parole.
- 1877 Married Mary Emma Jewell in Jewell, Georgia.
- 1880 June 21, daughter born, Marie Jewell Bowen.
- 1881 Bowen purchased a mill in Jewell, Georgia. Renamed the factory, "Bowen-Jewell and Company."

Wylde Lyde Latham Bowen, biographical sketch, continued:

- 1883 August 15, daughter born, Annie Lucile Bowen.
- 1887 January 29, daughter born, Mabel Lyde Bowen.
- 1889 January 27, son born, Orlando Wylde Bowen.
- ca. 1890 A son, Reece Bowen, died in infancy.
- 1891 September 7, daughter born, Marian Evangeline Bowen.
- 1989 June 13, the Bowen home, "Idyl Wylde," located in Jewell, Georgia, was featured in an unidentified paper in an article titled, "A Model Country Home."
- 1905 Died December 14, and was buried in Jewell, Georgia.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The John Perry Bowen papers, containing approximately 14 items, span the period 1881-1900. Box 1 of the collection is composed of accounts, correspondence, cards, court records, genealogical materials, notes, notices, photographs, and publications, arranged alphabetically, covering the period 1893-1900. Photographs from the collection include a photograph of John Perry Bowen and his wife, "Ginny," ca. 1900, and a photograph of the Bowen family, ca. 1887. The collection also includes a petition pertaining to railroad access on the Bowen farm, Bowen, Grainger county, Tennessee.

Box 2 contains two farm account ledgers, covering 1896-1900; a Bowen Post Office ledger, covering the period when Bowen was Postmaster of Bowen, Grainger County, Tennessee, between 1881 and 1888; and a receipt ledger from the partnership of Albert and Bowen, covering 1885-1894.

John Perry Bowen Papers, 1881-1900

CONTAINER LIST

Box 1

Folder:

1. Accounts--Bills, notes, receipts, etc., - John Perry Bowen, 1893-1900.
2. Accounts--Bills, notes, receipts, etc., - Farm ledger - John Perry Bowen, 1896.
3. Accounts--Bills, notes, receipts, etc., - *The Practical Farmer*, 1900.
4. Correspondence--Bowen, Robert Nelson, 1898.
5. Cards--Business - The Secretary of Agriculture, 1894.
6. Court Records--Petitions - Morristown & Cumberland Gap Railroad Company vs. John P. Bowen, et. al., 1890.
7. Genealogical data--Bowen Family, n.d.
8. Notes--John Perry Bowen, ca. 1897-1900.
9. Notices--Auction - John Brewer, deceased 1-29-1895.
10. Photographs, drawings, etc., - John Perry & Margaret Virginia (Jones) Bowen, ca. 1900.
11. Publications--Bulletin - *Baptist and Reflector*, 1900.

Ledgers:

12. Bowen Farm Account Ledger, 1896-1897.
13. Bowen Farm Account Ledger, 1899-1900.
14. Bowen Post Office Ledger, 1881-1888.
15. Albert & Bowen Receipt Ledger, 1885-1894.