

EXTRACT FROM AN OLD WILL.

As showing the minuteness with which even the will of the average farmer-citizen was drawn up and his goods disposed of a hundred years ago, and also how the surviving wife was taken care of in the adjustment of estates, the following example is offered. Mr. Hartman, the testator, was a well-to-do farmer, owning two large farms, besides much gear of other kinds. His liberal treatment of his surviving wife was no doubt a tribute to her assistance in the accumulation of his estate.

F. R. D.

The Will.

"In the Name of God Amen. I, Henry Hartman, of Lampeter Township, in the County of Lancaster and State of Pennsylvania, Yeoman, being of Sound mind and understanding, but considering the uncertainty of this life, do make, publish & declare this my last Will & Testament in the manner and form following, hereby revoking and renouncing all former and other Wills by me heretofore made.

"Imprimis: I direct that all my just debts and funeral expenses may be paid out of my estate by my executor hereinafter mentioned.

"Item. I give and bequeath unto my beloved Wife, Ann, in Lieu and in full satisfaction of her Dower, Two hundred Pounds, in Specie, to be paid unto her in Six Weeks after my decease, her choice of one Horse, Saddle and bridle & one cow, her choice of Feather Beds & Bedsteads, one cor-

ner cupboard with glass doors, together with all the China and queensware, Silver Table and tea Spoons, Glass, &c., in the same, except the Glass Bottles, one chest of Drawers, one Chest of her choice of Two Tables, one Arm Chair, Six chairs, two Spinning Wheels, one wool wheel and check reel, the third part of all my pewter and earthenware, two cedar Tubs, one tin bucket, as many of my books as she may choose, Twenty Yard of Flax Linen, ten yards of Lindsy, fifteen pounds Heckeled Flax, one Small Walnut Chest With 2 drawers, one copper wash Kettle, one Tea Kettle & Tea Pot, Six Table Cloths, Six Towls, One Tin plate Stove, with the pipe, 1 pair fire Shovel & Tongs, the third of my bottles, bowls and glasses, one Kitchen dresser, and I do further bequeath unto her while she remains my widow the privilege and entire use of two rooms on the North Side of my dwelling House and the Sole and entire use of one Room in the Same house up stairs in second story such as she may choose. I do also direct she shall have as much room in the Kitchen and cellar and Springhouse as she may require for her own use, together with the one-fourth part of my Garden, and the fourth part of all the currants & as many apples and other fruit as she may choose for her own use. And I do order and direct that my son Henry shall feed and take care of her Horse and Cow, in the same manner as his own, and he shall supply her with as much fire wood as she may want, and cut in small for the stove and bring it into her rooms whenever she may require it; he shall pay unto her Yearly and Year on the first day of April the sum of eight dollars in Gold or Silver, he shall give her Ten Bushels of Wheat & Six bush-

els of Buckwheat and three bushels of Potatoes, a fat hog of one hundred weight, third part of the Fowls and Eggs, two barrels of Cider, half a bushel of fine Salt, three pounds of Wool, fifteen pounds of heckeled flax, with the tow of the same, six pounds of hog lard; and he shall haul all her grain to the Mill and Shall haul the flour of the same to the house.

“All of which Same things give unto her Yearly and every year during her widowhood as aforesaid. And I hereby further order & direct that my son Christian Hartman shall give unto my Wife Ann Yearly and every year Ten bushels Wheat, Six Bushels Rye, four bushels Indian Corn, Forty pounds fat beef, half a bushel coarse salt, fifteen pound reckeled flax, with the tow of the same, three pounds of wool, six pounds rendered tallow and on the first day April Yearly and every year eight dollars in gold or silver.”

Author: Diffenderffer, Frank Ried, 1833-1921.

Title: Extracts from an old will / by F. R. Diffenderffer, Litt.D.

Primary Material: Book

Subject(s): Hartman, Henry, d. 1809.
Wills--Pennsylvania--Lancaster County.

Publisher: Lancaster, Pa. : Lancaster County Historical Society,
1905/1906

Description: [120]-122 p. ; 23 cm.

Series: Journal of the Lancaster County Historical Society ; v. 10,
no. 4

Call Number: 974.9 L245 v.10

Location: LCHSJL -- Journal Article (reading room)

=====

+++++

Institution Name

Institution Address

Institution Phone Number

Institution E-mail Address