

Last Will and Testament of John Seiger Sen'r, deceased
1821

No. S-22 (held in the Lebanon County, Penna, courthouse, Recorder of Wills)

Submitted by Jeff Rinscheid

In the Name of God, Amen.

I John Siegar Senr of Heidelberg Township, Lebanon County, State of Pennsylvania, Farmer, being at present weak & sickley, but of sane and disposing Mind, Memory and understanding, thanks be to the Almighty God for the same, but knowing that it is appointed for all Men once to die, and not knowing the time thereon, I have thought proper, and do make and publish this my last Will and Testament in manner and form following; that is to say.

First, I Recommend my soul into the Merciful Hands of the Almighty God who gave it, and my Body to the Earth to be Buried in a decsent and Christian-like manner by my Friends.

Secondly, It is my Will that all my Just Debts and Funeral Expenses be fully Paid and satisfied by my Executors hereinafter named as soon after my Decease as possible.

Item – it is my Will that my said Executors shall Sell and Dispose of my Messuage or Tenement, Barn and Plantation of Two Tracts or Pieces of land, Situated in Part in said Heidelberg Township, Lebanon County, and Part in Elizabeth Township, Lancaster County and State aforesaid, and Bounded by Lands of Peter Prusman, Sebastian Cockley, Peter Dinger and others, and Containing about one Hundred & Eighty Acres of Land and the Allowance for Roads & as be the same monec (?) lots which said Land and premises they my said executors shall Sell and Dispose off, either at Public or private Sale, in the what__ or in Pieces, and for Cash or upon Sales, as they see best, and when they may see proper. And I do hereby fully authorize and Impower them my said Executors to make and Execute good and lawful Deed or Deeds of Conveyance for the said Premises to the Purchasor or Purchasors thereof to him, her, or them, their Heirs and Assigns for Ever.

And it is also my Will that my said Executors shall Sell & dispose of my personal Estate and Effects at Public Vendue (?), as soon after my Decease as possible.

Item – I give and bequeath unto my Son William, the Bed and Bedstead he now sleeps on, and all my wearing apperal, and the Sum of Forty Dollars lawful Money of Pennsylvania, and the Sum of Five Hundred Pounds of the Purchase Money of my said Plantation shall Remain charged on said Plantation, or in the Hands of the Purchasor or Purchasors of said Plantation, and the said Purchasor or Purchasors shall yearly Pay the lawful Interest of said Five Hundred Pounds, unto him my said Son William, during the term of his Natural Life.

Item – I give and Bequeath unto my two Daughters, Susannah and Sarah the sum of Twelve Pounds Money aforesaid, each of them for to Purchase House Furniture in addition to what I have given them.

Item – out of the Rest and Residue of my said Estate, I give and Bequeath the Sum of Three Hundred Pounds Money aforesaid unto my Six following named Children, to Wit: Barbara, the Wife of John Smith, Eve, the Wife of Benjamin Landis, Catharine, Wife of John Louser (?first letter hard to read?), Maria, wife of Christopher Sharp, Susannah and Sarah, which said Children I had by or with my Wife Catharine, the Daughter of Henry Mock, and which said Sum of Three Hundred Pounds I give them in the Place and stead of the Money I received of said Henry Mock's Estate.

Item – I also give and Bequeath the Sum of Two Hundred Pounds Money aforesaid unto my Three Children, to Wit, Jacob, John, and Elizabeth, Wife of David Cockley, which said Children I had by or with my Wife Barbara, the Daughter of Jacob Weideman, and which said Sum of Two Hundred Pounds I give them my said three children in the Room, Place, and stead of the Money which I had of said Jacob Weideman's Estate, or should have come to them my said Three Children.

Item – all the Rest and residue of the Money arising out of my said Estate, I give and Bequeath the same unto my said last named Nine Children to be Equalley Divided between them and after the Death of him, my said Son William, the said Sum of Five Hundred Pounds remaining at Interest for him my said Son William, shall be Equally Divided between them my said Nine last named Children, and what I have given each of my said Children shall be in full of their Parts and shares in my Estate.

And I do hereby make and appoint my said Son-in-Law, Benjamin Landis and my Brother-in-Law, Philip Muck, to be the Executors of this my said last Will and Testament, hereby Declaring this and none other, to be my said last Will and Testament. In Witness whereof, I, the said John Sieger, Senr, have hereunto set my Hand and seal, this Sixteen Day of July in the year of our Lord One Thousand Eight Hundred and Twenty one.

Signed, Sealed, Published, and
Declared by the above named John
Siegar Senr as and for his last Will &
Testament, in the Presence of us

[no signatures]

[There is an alternate will also filed... very similar... here goes]

John Seigar Senr Will
First at Wills run

It is my Will that my Plantation in Heidelberg Township and Elizabeth Township, Lebanon and Lancaster Countys, Bounded by land of Peter Reisman/Prusman, Sebastian Cockley, Peter Dinger & others & Containing about 180 Acre and allowance shall be sold by my Exrs hereinafter named as soon after my Decease as possible, either in the whole or in Pieces, and for barter or for Sales as they may see most proper and they to give good Deed. It is also my Will that my said Exr shall sell and dispose of my Personal Effects at Public Vendue, as soon after my Decease as possible.

And it is my Will that the Sum of £500 of the Purchase Money of the Sale of said Plantation shall Remain in the Hands of the Purchaser of my said Plantation for the saole use and Benefit of my Son William, and the said Purchasor shall yearly pay the lawful Int. of said £500 unto him my said Son Wm during the Term of his Natural Life and immediately after the Death of him my said Son Wm the said Sum of £500 shall be paid by the said Purchaser as hereinafter mentioned.

Item – I give unto my said Son William the Sum of £15 for his Support in ___ he draws his yearly Interest. I also give unto (him) the Bed and Bedding he now sleeps in, as also all my Clothing.

Item – I also give unto my two Daughters, Susannah and Sarah, the Sum of £12, each of them for to [buy] House Furniture, in addition to what I have already given them.

Item – and of the Rest of my ___, I give and Bequeath the Sum of £300 unto my following named Children, to Wit: Barbara, wife of John Smith, Eve, Wife of Ben Landis, Catharine, Wife of John Souser (?), Maria, Wife of Chris sharp, Susannah and Sarah which said Children I had with my Wife Cath, the Daughter of Henry Muck and which said Sum of £300 I give them in the Place and stead of the Money which I received of said Henry Muck's Estate.

Item – I also give and bequeath the sum of £200 unto my Three Children to Wit: Jacob and John Siegar and Eliz, the Wife of David Gockley, which said three children I had by or with my Wife Barbara the daughter of Jacob Weidman and which said sum of £200 I give them my said three Children in the ___ Place and stead of the Money which I had of said Jacob Weidman's Estate or would have given to them my said three Children.

Item – all the Rest and Residue of the Money _____ and of my said Estate I give and bequeath the same unto my said last named Nine Children to be equally divided between them and after the Death of him my said Son William, the said sum of £500 Remaining at Int. for him my said son, Wm, shall be Equally Divided between them my said Nine last named Children.

And I make my said Son-in-Law, Benj Landis and my Brother-in-Law Philip Muck my Exr what I have given each of my Children to be in full.

Jn [this looks like the beginning of a signature, but rest missing]

[now comes the “normal” follow on verbiage]

At a Registers Court held at Lebanon in and for the County of Lebanon the first day of September in the year of our Lord one thousand Eight Hundred and Twenty One, Samuel Rex, Esquire, being duly sworn according to Law doth depose and say in Open Court that He was called to write the will of John Seiger of Heidelberg Township in the County of Lebanon on the fifteenth day of July

[a line is missing]

last I went on the 16th and found him in bed, he was sick and low but of sound mind. He then requested me to write his will. I spoke to him and found his conversation such as induce me to believe that he was capable of making a will. He mentioned to me that he wanted to make his will and intend to go into my town to do it. I think that from what he said that he had been thinking of making his will before – I received the Instructions from the mouth of the Testator and reduced them to contis (??) and expain (??) the same to him by reading this over to him as I went along in the presence of John Stover and the foregoing minutes are the same which I took from his mouth. I went home to ___ the will but before I finished writing it I received the news that the Testator was dead.

Sown and subscribed in Open Court
Before me this
1 Sept 1821

Samuel Rex (signature)

Henry Kelker, Register (signature)

Same time came John Stover who being duly sworn according to Law doth depose and say that he was present at the Time John Seigar gave instruction to Samuel Rex to write his will and that he hired the same ___ and was present all the time that John Seigar was of sound mind and seemed to have thought on this subject of making his will before the instructions were given, The above notes are the same which Saml Rex took at that time and which were given by the said John Seigar to be his last will and testament.

Sworn & Subscribed
Before me in Open Court
1 September 1821
Henry Kelker, Register

Samuel Rex (signature)
John Stover (signature)

I, Henry Kelker, Esquire, Register for the Probate of Wills & c/or in and for the County of Lebanon, ___ the Subscribing the Children and legal Representative of John Siegar Senr, late of the Township of Heidelberg, Lebanon County, & State of Pennsylvania, farmer, Deceased, do hereby Promise and bind ourselves and agree that the last Will and Testament of the said John Siegar Senr, Dec., as it is ___ and Remaining in the Hands and Possession of Samuel Re of the said Township of Heidelberg and Dated the Sixteenth Day of July, none last past, shall be Proved and Established in the Registers Office of said Lebanon County, and be considered and Remain as the said last Will & Testament of the said John Siegar Senr, Dec., And do hereby promise and bind ourselves

to be fully satisfied with the Provision made for us in and by the said Will. And that if the said John Siegar has charged any of us the said Children with any Thing, or Amount, in his Book, that the same shall be crossed out, and not to be taken into the Inventory of his Estate or not charged to us. Witness ___ and ___(oath?), this twentieth Day of August, AD 1825.

Sealed & Delivered
In Presence of us
Abrm Rex
Samuel Rex

Jacob Ziegar (signature)
Johannes Ziegar (signature)
David Gockly (signature)
Johannes Schmidt (?) (signature)
Barbara Smith (her mark)
Benjaminicus (?) Landis (signature)
Eve Landis (her mark)
Johannes Louser (?) (signature)
Catharine Souser/Louser (her mark)
Christopher Sharp (signature)
Susannah Siegar (her mark)
Sarah Siegar (her mark)
William Siegar (his mark)