

Early Wills

Michael Laufer

Will of Michael Laufer, husband of Anna Maria Wurtz, April 13, 1786, proved October 26, 1793 from Frederick County, Maryland Wills, Liber GM #2, pages 497-498.

In the name of God Amen. I Michael Laufer of Frederick County, State of Maryland, being weak in body but of sound memory blessed be God do this day April 13th in the year of our Lord, one thousand seven hundred eighty and six make and publish this my last Will and Testament in manner following that is to say first; I give to my Son Michael, in the sum of five shillings currency. Also I give and bequeath to my Son Lewis my piece of Land called Pleasant Plain containing one Hundred and Nineteen acres of land, Also I give to my Daughter Catherine Ten pounds, Also to my daughter Magdalena the sum of Ten pounds current money to be paid by my Son Lewis to said Daughters, Also to my Wife Anna Maria her thirds and personal Estate whatsoever I give to my said Wife Anna Maria and I do make and ordain her my said Wife sole Executrix of this my Will is trust for the Intents and purposes in this my Will contained. In Witness whereof I the said Michael Laufer have to this my last Will and Testament set my hand and Seal the day and year above written.

John Henry Thomas

Will of John Henry Thomas, husband of Catharina Wurtz, dated August 17, 1804, proved March 5, 1805, Frederick County, Maryland Wills, Liber GM-RB #1, pages 93-95.

In the Name of God Amen. I John Thomas of Frederick County and State of Maryland being weak of body but of perfect mind and memory do make and publish this my last will and Testament. First I give and bequeath unto my Eldest Son Joseph Thomas all that part of my land which lies North East of the Lane which divides my dwelling plantation from William Johnson's and by a line in the direction of the said lane to strike the nearest corner of a tract of land called Mountain Field and containing the following tracts (to wit) par of a tract called Burgesses Lott about eleven acres a part of Delashmutts Folly about sixty acres a part of another tract called Long Hope about fifteen acres and that tract called Mountain which was conveyed to my Father by a certain Thomas Duckett all the said tracts or parcels of land I give unto my said son Joseph Thomas his heirs and assigns forever as also one man slaved named John and one boy slave named Isaac I give the said salves to him and his heirs forever. Secondly I give and bequeath unto my son Jacob Thomas his heirs and assigns forever all the residue and remaining part of my real estate as also one female slave named Susanna and her son named Stephen to him and his heirs, and it is my will that my said Son Jacob shall pay into his elder brother Joseph the sum of Two Hundred Pounds Current Money over and above what I have before given him on account of his Land being unimproved and it is my will that the said Sum of Two Hundred pounds be paid to my said Son Joseph or his Legal representatives in eight equal annual payments, my will further is that all the rest and remaining part of my personal Estate shall be sold by my Executors to Interest and both principal and interest to be paid to my said Sons of their legal representatives in Equal proportion when they respectively shall arrive to the age of Twenty one years. And I do hereby appoint Conrad Young and John Ramsburgh Junr. executors to this my last will and Testament hereby revoking all other wills made by me.

Alverta Virts

Alverta Clendening, wife of James W.A. Virts. Excerpts from her will, June 1924.

To J.W.A. Virts, husband during his natural life, my farm, he can sell the property if he desires, if he declines, it is to be equally divided between my 6 children, Elizabeth C. Virts; Annetta M. Virts; Mary Rebecca Richardson; Ruth H. Young; Virginia T. Virts and Sarah M. Virts.

To Elizabeth C Virts, id addition, a blue coverlet that belonged to her grandmother Thomas, a chiffonier that belonged to her cousin Susie; Mary Rebecca Richardson, the breastpin with hair in it, formerly belonging to her aunt Mary Thomas.

List of Alverta's heirs:

Elizabeth M Virts, dau. 46, Purcellville, VA
Nettie M. Virts, dau. 45, Purcellville, VA
Rebecca M. Virts, dau. 44, Washington, DC
Sarah M. Virts, dau 30, Washington, DC
Virginia T. Virts, dau 40, Washington, DC
J.W.A. Virts, husband, 71, Purcellville, VA

Conrad Virts

Conrad Virts will, dated June 7, 1821:

Be it remembered that I Conard Virts of Loudoun County calling to mind the uncertainty of this life and being desirous to dispose of my worldly Estate do make and ordain this my last will and Testament in manner and four following viz. my will is that my eight children now living shall have equal shares of my estate that it is to be equally divided between Peter, John, William, Adam Virts and my Daughters Elizabeth, Caty, Barbary and Christinas after paying to my tow grandchildren, William and Betsy Virts children of my son Henry three hundred dollars each when they become of age, my four sons to have one hundred dollars each more than my Daughters; my will is that my Negro is not be sold unless they wish to be but to be divided amongst my children. My son Adam Virts to have my farm one year after my death clear of rent. If a majority of my children should be of opinion that it would be more advantages to the Heirs to sell my land I hereby authorize my Executor to sell the same on such terms as my children as before stated. Lastly I nominate and appoint my tow sons Peter and Adam Virts Executors of this my last will and Testament revoking all others I witness where of I have hereunto set my hand and seal this 7th day of June one Thousand eight hundred and twenty one-1821.

1822 Nov 11 - Estate appraisal of Conrad Wertz, note in hands of William Wertz for property sold before death of Conrad for \$518.83, total \$2539.45 1/2.

Peter Virts

Will dated January 6, 1798:

In the Name of God, Amen, I Peter Wirts, Sen. of Loudoun County, state of Virginia, being sick and weak body, but of perfect mind and memory, be given unto God, calling unto mind the mortality of my body, of knowing that it is appointed for all men once to die, do make and ordain this my last Will and Testament that is to say principally, first of all I give and recommend my soul into the Hand of Almighty God that gave it and my body, I recommend to the Earth, to be buried in decent Christian Burial at the discretion of my Executors, nothing but at the General resurrection, I shall receive the same the dame again by the mighty power of God, and as touching such worldly Estate, where with it hat pleased God to belfs me in this life, I give and display of the same in the following manner and form, that is to say, I give and bequeath to my beloved son, John, one Bay mare and to my beloved daughter, Christina, I give a roan colt of the same Mare and two cows, a bed and other household furniture, as my other tow daughters have received all ready and to my Dear wife Christina, I give and bequeath of my Estate, real and personal, with land and houses and all whets in and on it with all the creatures, during her natural life, and in case she should get married again, she shall have no more than her third, and the rest shall be equally divided amongst my children, as hereafter their names mentioned as to my beloved son Michael, to my beloved daughter Catharina, to my beloved son William, to my beloved son Jacob (who has received of me, seventy four pound, fourteen shillings, which sum is to be deducted from his share) and to my beloved daughter Anna Mary, and to my beloved son Peter, to my beloved son John and to my beloved daughter Christina, after all debts is paid. But as long as my dear wife Christina is a life and single nothing shall be taken out of her hands and after her natural decease, what is left shall be divided as above mentioned, and my Dar wife Christina and my oldest son, Michael, do I likewise constitute make and ordain the sole Executors of this my Last Will and Testament and I do hereby utterly disallow revoke and siannul all and every other former Testament, Wills, Legacies, bequests and Executors by me in any wise before named Willed, Bequeathed, Ratifying and Confirming, this and not other to be my Last Will and Testament. In Winefs whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and seal this sixth day of January, One Thousand Seven Hundred and Ninety Eight.

Signed by Peter Wirts with his mark 'X'. Will was probaated on September 10, 1798. Charles Binn, clerk.

1804 Nov 8 - Peter Werts list by Jacob Wertz, administrator brought to court Augsut 14, 1811