

The Last
Will and Testament

of

Alfred Gamber, Deceased

1891

Be it Remembered That I, ALFRED BAMBER of the City of Philadelphia being of sound and disposing mind memory and understanding do hereby make publish and declare this my last Will and Testament, hereby revoking all former Wills by me at any time made.

First.—I direct that all my just debts and funeral expenses shall be fully paid and satisfied as soon as conveniently may be after my decease

Second.—I give and bequeath to Mrs. Elizabeth Ann Johnson the sum of Five hundred dollars (\$500) to be paid to her within one month after my decease—this sum to be in addition to any other provision made for her herein and not to be charged against any money due or to become due to her by any such provision.

Third.—I give and bequeath unto the said Mrs. Elizabeth Ann Johnson all household furniture plate and pictures owned by me at the time of my death (not including my wearing apparel) with the request that any such furniture which she may not wish to retain shall be sold and the proceeds thereof be used by herself for her own use and furthermore that no portion of such furniture shall be given away.

Fourth.—I give and bequeath unto the said Elizabeth Ann Johnson an annuity or yearly sum of Two thousand dollars (\$2000) to be paid to her in equal quarterly payments without any deduction whatever, the first payment to be made at the expiration of three months after my decease and quarterly thereafter, so long however as she shall remain single and unmarried, and upon her death or marriage whichever shall first happen the said annuity shall cease, And I further direct that the said Elizabeth Ann Johnson shall be permitted to reside in my residence No. 1636 North Fifteenth Street Philadelphia so long as she, being single and unmarried, shall desire to do so, but

if she shall marry while occupying said residence then she shall immediately vacate the same and my Executors shall forthwith take charge of the same; and I direct that no charge be made against her for the use of said residence and that all taxes, water rents and repairs that may become due or necessary shall be paid out of my estate. And I further direct that upon the decease of the said Elizabeth Ann Johnson if she shall have remained single and unmarried, her body shall be interred in the same burial lot in which my body shall rest. And upon the death or marriage of the said Elizabeth Ann Johnson whichever shall first happen I give and bequeath the following legacies; to The Foster Home Association of Philadelphia Situate at the North West corner of Poplar and Twenty fourth Streets the sum of Ten thousand dollars (\$10000): to the Manager of the Friends Asylum Situate at Frankford the sum of Ten Thousand dollars (\$10000) and unto The Hahnemann College Hospital of Philadelphia Situate on the West side of Broad Street above Race Street the sum of Ten thousand dollars (\$10000.)—The provisions herein made for the said Elizabeth Ann Johnson are made in recognition of the fact that she has acted as my housekeeper for a number of years and performed her duties to my satisfaction and has also faithfully attended me while confined to my bed by sickness on a number of occasions.

Fifth.—I give and bequeath unto Mrs. David Low formerly Mrs. John Haney an annuity or yearly sum of Two hundred dollars payable semi-annually. And upon the decease of the said Mrs. David Low I give and bequeath the sum of Three thousand dollars unto The Home for Destitute Colored Children, Situate on Woodland Avenue near Forty Sixth Street.

Sixth.—I give and bequeath unto Mrs. Maggie Loftus wife of Thomas Loftus, formerly Mrs. Maggie Keenan an annuity or yearly sum of Six hundred dollars, payable

semi-annually in equal payments without any deduction whatever: the above bequest is made in consideration and recognition of the fact that she conveyed to me information that an attempt would be made upon my life by the members and runners of a rival Fire Company and which information from circumstances that afterwards presented themselves proved true; the said Maggie Loftus, then Maggie Keenan lived at the time referred to on Sixth Street above Fitzwater Street with a family named McKenna. And upon the death of the said Maggie Keenan I give and bequeath the sum of Ten thousand dollars (\$10000) unto The Old Man's Home of Philadelphia Situate at Thirty ninth Street and Powelton Avenue, to be paid to the Treasurer for the time being for the use of said Society.

Seventh.—I give and bequeath unto my friend John McKinney an annuity or yearly sum of Six hundred dollars payable semi-annually in equal payments without any deduction whatever, And upon the death of the said John McKinney I give and bequeath the sum of Ten thousand dollars (\$10000) unto The Manager of the Convalescents Retreat Situate at Glen Mill, Delaware County for the use of said institution.

Eighth.—I give and bequeath unto my friend Francis McCluskey an annuity or yearly sum of Six hundred dollars payable semi-annually in equal payments without any deduction whatever, And upon the death of the said Francis McCluskey I give and bequeath the sum of Five thousand dollars unto The Union Home for Old Ladies and the like sum of Five thousand dollars unto The Home for Aged and Infirm Colored Persons. And I also give and bequeath unto the said Francis McCluskey my K. of P. charm now attached to my watch chain.

Ninth.—I give and bequeath unto my friend and at one time fellow member of The Hope Fire Company

William Brigg an annuity or yearly sum of Three hundred dollars payable semi-annually in equal payments without any deduction whatever. And upon the death of the said William Brigg I give and bequeath the sum of Five thousand dollars (\$5000) unto The Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts, Situate at Broad and Cherry Streets, for the use of said Academy

Tenth.—I give and bequeath to Florence Davis if she be single and unmarried at the time of my death an annuity or yearly sum of Two hundred dollars payable semi-annually in equal payments; the said annuity to continue for a period of five years if she shall so long remain unmarried and to commence on the first day of January or July next after my death and the first payment to be made six months thereafter; the said annuity to cease at the expiration of five years or upon her death or marriage if she shall die or marry within that period.

Eleventh.—I give and bequeath unto Edward Payson one sealed envelope which contains reading matter and nothing of money value and which will prove interesting reading to him in his leisure moments.

Twelfth.—I relinquish all claim upon the Volunteer Firemens Funeral Relief Association and all claims upon Samson Lodge No. 67 K. of P. for sick or funeral benefits.

Thirteenth.—I direct my Executors to expend a sum not exceeding Fifteen hundred dollars for the purchase of a burial lot in West Laurel Hill Cemetery, if there is none owned by me in said Cemetery at the time of my death, but if I should own a lot at the time of my death then this direction to be of no effect. And I further direct that the sum of Fifteen hundred dollars shall be held by my Executors In trust to invest and keep the same invested and to pay the net income to be derived therefrom to The West Laurel Hill Cemetery Company to be used and expended by them and under their supervision in keeping

my said burial lot and the enclosure thereof and the monument or shaft to be erected thereon in good order, condition and repair.

Fourteenth.—I direct my Executors to expend the sum of Five thousand dollars in enclosing my burial lot above mentioned and in the erection thereon of a suitable monument or shaft. And I direct that upon such monument or shaft the following inscription shall be cut.

ALFRED BAMBER

Born September 2nd, 1828.

Died

Aged

BROTHER

WILLIAM BAMBER

Born September 6th, 1827

Died December , 1851

Aged 23 years

MOTHER

MARGARET B. BAMBER

Born June 1796

Died August 23rd, 1848

Aged 52 years

Erected by Alfred Bamber.

Fifteenth.—Upon the death of the above named Elizabeth Ann Johnson, if she shall have remained single and unmarried and in no way violated any of the provisions of my will in so far as she is mentioned, then I direct that her body be buried in the same lot in West Laurel Hill Cemetery wherein my body lies; and if she should die without leaving sufficient funds for funeral expenses, then I direct my Executors to see that she is properly interred and to pay the expenses of such interment out of my estate,

And after her burial there, I direct my Executors to have the following inscription placed upon the monument or shaft.

ELIZABETH ANN JOHNSON

A good care taker and faithful nurse.

Born October 31, 1845

Died

Aged

Sixteenth.—I give and bequeath unto each of the twenty eight following named persons who were fellow members with me in The Hope Fire Engine Company of Philadelphia on the second day of August A D 1871 the sum of Three hundred dollars, viz; James Boner, John McCartney John Clayton, James Donohue, Thomas J. Dagney, William Donnell, Benjamin Flemming John Glancey, John Gallagher, Michael Gavin James Mackey, Alexander McIntire James Kelly Joseph Keefer and William Kelly, John Monaghan, John Miller, Robert Parks, Philip M Schultz Lewis E. Schultz, Charles Vanhartlevan James Wrench, Edward Walker, William Cathcart, William J Hazel, Arthur Mullen, George Shaffer and Edward Payson provided they shall be living at the time of my decease—and in case any of them shall die in my lifetime then the legacy bequeathed to the one or ones so dying shall fall into my residuary Estate.

Seventeenth.—I give and bequeath the sum of One thousand dollars unto each of the six following named persons, viz: Mrs. Mary Dole, widow of James S. Dole, Mrs. Margaret Abbett widow of Francis Abbett, Stephen Grimes, who at one time worked in the office of The Public Ledger, George Downey ex-Chief Engineer of the Old Volunteer Fire Department of Philadelphia, Mrs. Dollie Coleman formerly Dollie Abbett and Isaac Wright living at No. 624 South Twelfth Street Philadelphia. And I also give and bequeath the sum of Five hundred dollars

unto each of the following named three persons, all of whom at one time were in my employ, viz; William Savery Wright, William Esling and Benjamin Price colored, And I direct my Executors to pay the legacies given in this item of my will as soon after my burial as they in their judgment deem prudent and within two years after my decease.

Eighteenth.—I give and bequeath to The Zoological Society of Philadelphia located in Fairmount Park the sum of Five thousand dollars on the condition that they shall in each year set aside four afternoons in the months of July and August, commencing at two o'clock P. M. for the free admission to said Garden of all persons presenting themselves: and I direct that if the said Society shall decline to accept said legacy upon said condition, or shall fail to keep the provisions thereof then I give and bequeath the same unto The Fairmount Park Art Association to be used in and for the purposes of said Corporation in beautifying the Park.

Nineteenth.—I give and bequeath the following legacies—to The Pennsylvania Society for prevention of Cruelty to Animals (1627 Chestnut Street) the sum of Five thousand dollars; to The Womans Branch of the Pennsylvania Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (1706 Chestnut Street) the sum of Five thousand dollars: to the Law and Order Society of Philadelphia (609 Walnut Street) the sum of Two thousand dollars: to the Fairmount Park Art Association the sum of Three thousand dollars: to The Friends Asylum for Relief of the Sick (152 N. 15th Street) the sum of Two thousand dollars: to The Board of Managers of the Temporary Home Association (No. 505 N. Sixth Street) the sum of One thousand dollars; to The Pennsylvania Industrial Home for Blind Women (Powelton Avenue and Saunders Avenue) the sum of Three thousand dollars; to The Pennsylvania Institution for the Instruction of the Blind (Twentieth and Race Streets) the

sum of Two thousand dollars; to The Hayes Mechanics Home (Belmont Avenue) the sum of Two thousand dollars; to The Pennsylvania Working Home for Blind Men (3518 Lancaster Avenue) the sum of Three thousand dollars; to The Philadelphia Fountain Society (210 Chestnut Street) the sum of One thousand dollars; to the Pennsylvania Training School for Feeble minded children (near Elwyn, Delaware County Pennsylvania) the sum of Two thousand dollars; to The Home for Aged Couples of the City of Philadelphia (No. 1723 Francis Street) the sum of Two thousand dollars; to The Howard Hospital and Infirmary for Incurables (Broad and Catharine Streets) the sum of Two thousand dollars; to The Northern Soup Society (No. 817 North Fourth Street) the sum of One thousand dollars; to The Central Soup Society (No. 709 Cherry Street) the sum of One thousand dollars; to The Preston Retreat (Twentieth and Hamilton Streets) the sum of Two thousand dollars; to The Industrial Home for Girls (No. 762 South Tenth Street) the sum of Two thousand dollars; to The Northern Home for Friendless Children (Twenty third and Brown Streets) the sum of Two thousand dollars; to The Southern Home for Destitute Children (Twelfth and Fitzwater Streets) the sum of Two thousand dollars; to The Childrens Homœopathic Hospital of Philadelphia (No. 914 N. Broad Street) the sum of Two thousand dollars; to The Orphan Society of Philadelphia (Sixty fifth and Haverford Road) the sum of Two thousand dollars; to The Philadelphia Home for Incurables (Forty eighth Street and Woodland Avenue) the sum of Two thousand dollars; to The German Hospital of the City of Philadelphia (Corinthian and Girard Avenues) the sum of Five thousand dollars; to The Childrens Hospital (Twenty second Street below Walnut Street) the sum of Two thousand dollars; to The Western Home for Poor Children (Forty first and Baring Streets) the sum of Two thousand dollars; to The Pennsylvania Society to Protect Children from Cruelty (No. 1406 Chestnut Street) the

sum of Two thousand dollars; to The Penn Asylum for Indigent Widows and Single Women (Belgrade Street above Otis Street) the sum of Three thousand dollars; to The Wills Hospital for Relief of the Indigent Blind and Lame (Race Street above Eighteenth Street) the sum of Five thousand dollars; to The Asylum for Treatment of Alcoholic and Opium Intoxication (near Media) the sum of Five thousand dollars; to The Rosine Association (No. 3216 Germantown Avenue) the sum of Five thousand dollars; to the Old Ladies Home of Philadelphia (now at Wissanoming) the sum of Five thousand dollars; to The Pennsylvania Retreat for Blind Mutes and Aged and Infirm Blind Persons (No. 3413 Haverford Avenue) the sum of Five thousand dollars; to The Southwark Soup Society (Sutherland Street near Queen Street) the sum of One thousand dollars; to The Moyamensing Soup Society (926 South Eighth Street) the sum of One thousand dollars; to The Soup Society for Supplying Soup to the Poor (338 Griscom Street) the sum of One thousand dollars; to The North Western Soup Society (Nineteenth and Thompson Streets) the sum of One thousand dollars; to The Magdalen Society of Philadelphia the sum of Five thousand dollars.

Twentieth.—I give and bequeath unto my friend William Bryans the sum of Five thousand dollars

Twenty-first.—I direct that the foregoing legacies shall be paid free of collateral inheritance tax, which shall be paid out of my residuary estate.

Twenty-second.—I order and direct that no misnomer or misdescription or incorrect location of any of the individuals or corporations named in this my will shall avoid the bequest or provision made but where any such case arises my Executors or the survivor of them shall decide to whom the said bequest is payable and their decision shall be final.

Twenty-third.—It is my Will and I do further order and direct that in case any one or more of the legatees named in this my Will shall contest the validity of the same or of any provision thereof or shall commence any action at law or in equity or any proceeding in any court claiming therein either to set aside this my Will or any part thereof or to recover other or greater provision than is herein made for him or her then and in such case I do hereby revoke the bequest herein made for the benefit of such disputant or contestant and do give and bequeath such sum or annuity which by this Will is given to or intended for him or her so contesting or disputing unto the residue of my Estate.

Twenty-fourth.—I direct that my Executors shall first pay the legacy given to Mrs. Elizabeth Ann Johnson in the second item of my will, and shall then set aside sufficient of the principal of my estate in cash or securities to enable them to pay from the income thereof the several annuities herein given and to hold such portion of my estate in trust to pay such annuities during their continuance; and after such provision shall be made for the annuities then to pay the legacies herein bequeathed in the order in which they are given in this my will, except that the legacy given to William Bryans in the Twentieth item shall be paid prior to the legacies named in the Nineteenth item.

Twenty-fifth.—I also direct that my Executors and Trustees shall have full power to continue the present investments of my Estate or such investments as I shall have at the time of my decease or to call in sell assign and transfer the same from time to time and as often as they shall see proper and to invest the proceeds thereof and any other personal estate held under this my will in the same class of securities without any liability on their part for so doing notwithstanding such investments are not such as are termed legal investments.

Twenty-sixth.—I nominate constitute and appoint my friend John McKinney and The Fidelity Insurance Trust and Safe Deposit Company of Philadelphia Executors and Trustees of this my Will hereby revoking all former Wills by me at any time made. And I further will and direct that my said Executors and Trustees shall have full power and authority to grant bargain sell and dispose of either at public or private sale all or any part of my real estate either absolutely or in fee simple or by way of mortgage and upon any such sale or disposition thereof by good and sufficient deed or deeds, mortgage or mortgages conveyances and assurances in the law to make sign seal execute and deliver to the purchaser or purchasers thereof his her or their heirs and assigns without any liability on the part of such purchaser or purchasers, mortgagee or mortgagees to see to the application of the purchase or mortgage moneys: but this power of sale shall not extend or apply to my dwelling house No. 1636 North Fifteenth Street so long as the said Elizabeth Ann Johnson shall reside therein under the provisions of the Fourth item of this my Will.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF I have hereunto set my hand and seal this Sixteenth day of May in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and ninety (1890).

ALFRED BAMBER [SEAL]

SIGNED Sealed Published and Declared by Alfred Bamber the Testator above named as and for his last Will and Testament in the presence of us who at his request and in his presence and in the presence of each other have hereunto subscribed our names as witnesses. Note. The words "Joseph Keefer and William Kelly" first

interlined between the Seventh and eighth lines from bottom of Eighth page—and the words “ she shall ” in Tenth line from bottom of second page—and the names “ Boner ” in twelfth line, “ Glancey ” and “ Gavin ” in ninth line and “ Vanhartlevan ” in fifth line and syllable “ Dag ” in eleventh line all from bottom of eighth page first partly written on erasures and the words “ Alfred Bamber the ” in this attestation first written on erasure.

THOMAS B. PROSSER }
 JAMES J. KNOX } 1340 Chestnut St.

Thomas B Prosser and James J Knox subscribing witnesses to will sworn September 8, 1891

WM G SHIELDS
Deputy Register

John McKinney and R L Wright Jr Secretary of The Fidelity Insurance Trust and Safe Deposit Company, Executors, sworn and affirmed respectively September 8, 1891 and Letters Testamentary granted unto them. The said testator died September 2, 1891 at 4.45 o'clock A M

WM G SHIELDS
Deputy Register



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