

Lancaster County, PA Will book Y-2-64
Will of Nicholas Bower
written 4 August 1784, filed 11 Dec 1784

Nicholas Bower – Dec'd }

In the Name of God Amen

I Nicholas Bower of Hempfield Township in the County of Lancaster and Province of Pennsylvania Husbandman being sick and weak of Body but of sound mind memory and understanding thanks be to God for the same, Do this fourth day of August in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty four make and publish and declare this my last Will and Testament in manner and form following that is to say.

First, it is my Will and I do hereby order that my funeral expensed and all my just debts be paid out of my Estate by my Executors hereinafter named.

Item – I give and bequeath unto my beloved wife Elizabeth full Right to dwell in the Kitchen room in this my dwelling House as well as she can as long as she lives and remains my widow and further I give unto her the sum of Eighty Pounds lawful money of Pennsylvania in Gold or Silver coin and also the Bed and Bedstead with the Bed clothes in my Bed Room and one of my milch cows in the stable as her property.

Item – I do order that my son Jacob or the Possessor of this my Plantation (which I shall hereafter devise and value unto him) shall faithfully give and deliver unto my said wife out of the said Plantation yearly and every year as long as she lives and remains my Widow twelve bushels of wheat, eight bushels of Rye, one hundred and fifty pounds of good Pork, fifty pounds of fat Beef, fifteen pounds of Heckled Hemp, ten Pounds of wool, as much fruit as she shall have occasion for to dry, cook and eat, two barrels of good cider, eight Gallons of whiskey, as much firewood well made an brought to her House as she may use the one half of the Kitchen and Cabbage Garden near said dwelling House which shall be well manured and kept under good fence and furnish her with a horse when she pleases to ride and keep a cow for her in the summer and fall seasons in Pasture and provide stable room and fodder for her in winter like his own cows and I allow her the use of my clothes press in my Bedroom which shall be removed into her room is she desires it And she shall also have a good stove with a pipe and all what belongs thereto put into her room for her use as long as she lives and remains my widow and she shall have the joint use of the Kitchen and Fire Hearth in this my dwelling House on this my Plantation as occasion shall require.

Item – I give an devise unto my son Jacob Bower and to his heirs and assigns forever this my Plantation whereon I now live with the House, Barn and other Buildings on the same being containing one hundred and seventy one acres and allowance (including the sixteen acres which I bought of Sebastian Weidman) at and for the sum of nine hundred Pounds lawful money of Pennsylvania in good Gold or Silver coin in which said nine hundred Pounds he shall also have his share like each of the Rest of my Children the Remainder thereof he shall after he takes Possession of the said Plantation or arrives at the age of twenty one years pay unto his Brothers and Sisters in payments of Thirty Pounds money as aforesaid until they are all equal.

Item – I give unto my eldest son the sum of Five Pounds extraordinary which shall be in full for his second share of and in my whole estate.

Item – It is my Will and I do hereby order that my Executors hereinafter named or any one of them or their or any of their sons shall sign, seal and deliver a good and sufficient Deed of Conveyance for the aforesaid Plantation unto my said son Jacob and to his Heirs and assigns forever which shall be as good and valid as if I myself had given the same in my Lifetime.

Item – It is my Will that all my children hereafter named to with, Barbara Mumma, Mary Shopp, Susanna Bower, Catharine Bower, Jacob Bower, Elizabeth Bower, Christian Bower and John Bower shall have equal shares of my Estate except what I have above given unto my eldest son extraordinary in lieu of his second share.

Item – It is my Will and I do hereby constitute, nominate and appoint my two Friends and neighbors, Christian Gerber and John Hertzler, Executors of this my Last Will and Testament and I do hereby revoke all and every Will

and Testament by me at any time heretofore made declaring this and no other to be my last Will and Testament. In witness whereof I, the said Nicholas Bower have hereunto set my Hand and Seal the day and year above written.

his
Nicholas **NB** Bower
mark

Published, acknowledged, declared and pronounced by the said Nicholas Bower as and for his Last Will and Testament in the presence of us, the subscribing witnesses, John Newcomer, Joseph Carle, Christian Killheffer.

Lancaster County } On the eleventh day of December Anno Domini 1784. Before me the subscriber personally appeared John Newcomer and Joseph Carle, two of the subscribing Witnesses to the above and foregoing Will and on their solemn Affirmation did declare and say that they were present and saw and heard Nicholas Bower, the Testator therein named sign, seal, publish, pronounce and declare the above and foregoing writing as one for her last Will and Testament and that at the doing thereof he was of sound and well disposing mind, memory, and understanding to the best of their Knowledge, observation and belief.

James Jacks Reqr.

Be it Remembered that on the eleventh day of December Anno Domini 1784 the last Will and Testament of Nicholas Bower late of Hempfield Township deceased was proved in due form of law and Letters Testamentary therein was granted to Christian Gerber and John Hertzler, the Executors therein named they having been first duly qualified well and truly to administer the Estate of the said deceased and especially to exhibit a true and perfect Inventory thereof into the Register's Office at Lancaster within one month from this date and render a just and true accounting of their administration on said estate within one year or when thereunto Lawfully Required. Given under the seal of said office by me.

James Jacks Reqr.