

Will of Martha Dennis, Widow of John Dennis

RG22-155: Ontario Probate Court, York, 1837, Film MS 638, Reel 45

Last Will of Mrs Martha Dennis

There being Land in District of Newcastle it must be taken to Col. FitzGibbon the Register of the Probate Court

This is the last will and Testament of me Martha Dennis of the City of Toronto, in the Home District of the Province of Upper Canada Widow and relict of John Dennis late of the same place, Gentleman, deceased, and as to such worldly estate as God has bestowed upon me, I give and dispose thereof in manner hereinafter mentioned that is to say:...I give and devise the land I obtained from Government as a U.E. and being Lot number five in the sixth concession of the Township of Darlington, in the New Castle District, containing about Two hundred acres To my dear Son John McLaney of Pelham in the District of Niagara, Yeoman, to hold the said Lot of land to him his heirs and assigns For Ever. As to my personal estate, my will is that the same (although of small value) be distributed, in manner following: that is to say I give and bequeath to my Son John McLaney the double stove I now possess, and Iron pot, also the and irons. – To my Son Joseph Dennis I give his dear Father's bed, bedding and bedstead – also a little white table – the prints or pictures in the parlour – the small drawers, and the stove which last year stood in an office at that time occupied by George Ridout Esquire – To my ~~said~~ [struck through] late daughter Elizabeth Sanders' children, Elizabeth and Mary Ann, I give the Franklin Street half a dozen of chairs ~~(and all my other personal property not otherwise disposed of by this my will)~~ [all struck through and initialled in margin: A.G.] – To my daughter Hannah Johnston I give the large chest of Drawers, a cherry breakfast table – and half a Dozen of Windsor arm chairs – a half round table – and a Carriestic[?], also the large Brass Kettle – To my daughter Rebecca Richardson, I give my small bed, with the bed and bedding thereof a Cavenistic[?], the Small stove, looking glass, five silver table spoons and sofa, to my Granddaughter Martha Richardson, five silver tea spoons, (as a Small token of remembrance) – And the black walnut chest with the few articles of clothing therein to my granddaughter Martha McLaney – out of the Pictures above given to my Son Joseph Dennis I reserve that of Trinidad for my daughter Rebecca – After the payment of my late husband's just debts and my own and funeral expenses, out of any surplus, arising from the rents of the Estate my dear husband John Dennis, left at my disposal and Control, for life, I give and my will further is that my executor, hereinafter named, do pay or cause to be paid unto, my Grandson Andrew McLaney of Pelham in the said Niagara District, the sum of Twenty five pounds Currency – and the remainder or residue thereof to be equally divided between my four children, John McLaney, Joseph Dennis, Rebecca Richardson and Hannah Johnston, share and share alike.

I do hereby nominate and appoint The Reverend James Richardson of the City of Toronto, Clerk (my son in law) Executor of this My Last Will and Testament – hereby revoking all former wills by me made, In Witness Whereof, I have to this my last Will and testament, contained in three pages of paper set my hand and seal this Twenty ninth day of June in the year of our Lord one thousand Eight hundred and thirty five.

Martha x Dennis her mark & Seal

Signed, sealed, published and declared, by the said Testatrix Martha Dennis as and for her last Will and testament in the presence who likewise in her presence and at her request have subscribed our names as Witnesses thereto –

George Ridout

A. Grant

Court of Probate

Upper Canada
City of Toronto, to Wit

You James Richardson of the City of Toronto in the Home District, Clerk, do swear that you are the person named in the Last Will and Testament of the late Martha Dennis of the Said City of Toronto in the Said District and Province of Upper Canada, Widow, Deceased, as Executor thereof, that you believe the Paper now shown to you to be the Said Last Will and testament, that you will pay all the debts and legacies of the Said deceased as far as the goods and chattels shall extend, and the law Shall bind you, and that you will exhibit a true full and perfect Inventory of all and every the goods and chattels Rights and Credits of the said Deceased, together with a just and true account into the Registry of the Said Court of Probate when you shall be lawfully Called thereunto.

So help you God
Sworn before me in
the City of Toronto
this 15th day of August 1837
Grant Powell
Offg. Principal

Probate Fees on the Last Will of the late Mrs. Martha Dennis of the City of Toronto, Widow
Official Principal - £1-6-"

Register:

Seal: "-6.8
Inventory: "-3.4
Col. Will: "-6.8
18 folios: "-18-"
1.14.8

Total £3-"-8
Rec^d. payment 16th August 1837
James FitzGibbon
Register Court of Probate

Court of Probate
Upper Canada
City of Toronto to wit

By the tenor of these Presents I Grant Powell Esq. Officiating Principal of the Court of Probate in and for the Province of Upper Canada do make known to all People that on the day of the Date hereof in the City of Toronto in the Province aforesaid before me was presented approbated and insinuated the last Will and Testament of the late Martha Dennis of the City of Toronto in the Home District of the Province of Upper Canada Widow, deceased, a true copy whereof is above written by means whereof the approbation and insinuation of the said last Will and Testament and committing the administration of all and singular the goods and chattels Rights and Credits which were of the said deceased at the time of her death, and also the auditing of the accounts calculations and reckonings and final admission of the same to me as manifestly known to belong: And Administration of all and singular the goods and chattels Rights and credits of the said Martha Dennis deceased mentioned in her said last Will and Testament is committed to the Reverend James Richardson of the City of Toronto, Clerk, Sole Executor named in the said last Will and Testament of the said deceased: the said James Richardson well and truly administering the goods and chattels Rights and credits of the said deceased and making a true and perfect Inventory thereof and exhibit the same into the Register's office of the said Court of Probate on or before the first Monday in June next ensuing the date hereof and rendering a true account calculation and reckoning thereof when thereunto lawfully required.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto Set my hand and affixed the Seal of the Said Court of P. this fifteenth day of August in the Year of our Lord 1837.

(Contributed by Holly Adams)