

Campbelltown Jan. 14th 1836

Dear Brother. I have just finished reading your letter which as you say was truly long looked for. So I wanted to write to you as soon as possible and yet wished to wait for your letter which I had reason to expect about the time you mailed it. Mr. Sawyer has cited me to make a final settlement on the estate of Grandfather which it appears father as administrator never did. His views for so doing are he says to ascertain what amount of the personal estate which came into father's ^{hands} would of right belong to us. Which he says he bought of father and now means to collect off me. I want now to know of you as soon as possible ~~how much of the~~ and Mr. Sawyer settles with Sawyer as I cannot remember much about it not being of age or at Harrisburg with you at the time but this much I remember that I was opposed to the whole proceeding. I had a few sharp words with the old man a few days ago about it. He said I would be attacked by the whole posse of heirs. I then asked him if Ol. Key's were worth anything which he at first refused to tell me but afterwards he said they were not worth a dollar. Aunt Polly is still living. So it appears that all the heirs but us and ~~Brother~~ and Sawyer himself are worth nothing and Sawyer's circumstances are but miserable he not being able to hold Grandfather's farm any longer if he pays his debts. 190 acres are sold and money all received and ~~still~~ there is still debts on hand. He had sold the ^{1200/1000} ~~rest~~ which he holds here but when the come to article he could not satisfy the purchaser with his title he having I am told given the purchaser of the 190 the land he still holds for security for the title of the 190 which leaves matters worse and worse. I told him the heirs were all indebted to father and if they were worths any thing I would save them the trouble of suing me by suing them; but as it was I did not think they were so simple as to do so. There is no doubt but he has been persuading them to attack me and I believe his object is to frighten my purchaser so as to compel me to stay here as well as himself until I am forced to extricate him out of his difficulties which he has been heard to say that there was no man but me could do. I believe he was satisfied from what I told him that the heirs were all indebted to father but did not want to believe that our shares of the personal was also all spent and that before he bought them which if he did he bought what was worth nothing; for certainly father was entitled to his pay in the first place for supporting and defending our rights.

What may be the result of this affair is hard for me to say, but this much is certain that my presence here is absolutely necessary for some time to come and that I must alter my plans in some measure as it will not do for to let all the money pop out of my hands to I see the end of this cursed affair. I have succeeded in defeating all but this first and now last enemy of Father and I trust in God as my cause is just I will shortly see him likewise. There is a balance due by father on his account as executor of Grandfather's estate of 1311-11 out of which father paid one third to the Widow or to Sarah M Donald for her use while she lived with her, and Sawyer M Sudden recovered \$16. of the rest, and in the division the Supreme Court made of it Robert Geller was allowed \$65 leaving \$99 for another and \$58 for another the rest getting nothing - some part of these sums were interest as I believe interest was calculated from the time M Sudden brought his suit which increased the amount to be allowed to what those sums make. The principal in the 99 and 58 was all that father had off the five heirs who agreed to pay what cost might be incurred, which cost amounted to \$1500. Father received 500 from Goals which with our \$65 the 99 & 58 do not amount to that sum. Now if Sawyer is to compel me to pay him the 65 and interest as well as our share of the 500 received of Goals he will get a pretty considerable sum. He has for a number of years back been boasting that father's estate owed him the above \$1311-11 but as he never attempted to do any thing with father living or with me since his death I had concluded he was not in earnest or that he knew that he could recover nothing. I asked him why he did not see father, he said his lawyers would do nothing for him. It to him it looked very much as if he wanted to take the advantage by leaving it off to his death and then attack his children who knew nothing of these matters. What course to pursue I hardly know. If in order to avoid filing an administration account I please that there was nothing for and me to do after father had settled an account of all the personal in his executor act. And that father had no right to collect any of the Bonds or notes that were given by the heirs to Grandfather but that they were to be set off against their shares when a settlement of the whole estate should be called for by the heirs themselves, but which was prevented by Sawyer holding the real estate: to the heirs were obliged to sell their shares to him for what he was pleased to give. The matter stands then thus in my opinion. Sawyer knows what each has rec^d and in purchasing out the heirs gave each of them what more he considered their shares worth with what they had received.

Wm John Geller
Direct your letter to Balmora Del. Co Pa. Hobbsman Geller

consequently they were entitled to hold all they had received from Grandfather
either by Book account, Receipt, Bond, note or otherwise. If then he did
collect why did he will be asked when I will have to reply that at
that time he thought he had a right which he found by the decision
of the Supreme court in McFadden's case he had not and that there
was a settlement between Daals and myself and that I would refund
the balance due them on settlement if there would be one and so
leave the matter as it was when father settled his executor's account.
I am to appear at Harrisburg on Monday next and after receiving your
answer to this will let you know the result if of any consequence. I
don't expect to be in Michigan before the first of May when my
stay will be short unless I shall have put to rest Sawyer's suit forever.
Agrippa will come with me to invest his money in land in Illinois
near where James and John Sawyer are located unless him and Thomas
should go into partnership as storekeepers as Thomas wishes but which
I will oppose as neither of them are qualified for it and would in my
opinion break at it in a short time. Thomas is like William the
printer to liberal of his cash to ever be rich. He gets \$100 a year, an
and I have sent him in that time \$90 more \$10 of it lately to give
him to leave them without being in debt which he intends in time.
He has sunk \$220 besides what he earned since father's death. Agrippa will likely
return with me to his mother where it is likely he will stay for some
time. This I consider his best plan to invest all his money in land and
stay with his mother for some two or three years who will be able to re-
ward him. He is a dull boy but not quite so bad as you think. Isabel
McClun is as usual. I will inquire what that medicine is you mention and
send an account of it on a paper. Uncle Allen was in Baltimore when Eliza
was married - he gave her \$100. Our coldest weather was in Nov. too but the mercury
was not lower than 6 deg. above zero. Wheat is worth \$1.15. Rye 75, Corn 55
Oats 31. Book of Pr. Govt. I am still living in Campbelltown doing nothing.
Agrippa is helping me. We are all well ^{Ann} is to be married today. I am
writing to you and wont attend the wedding - all in attendance are
my particular enemies except Ann herself who has more sense than all
the rest. Pugh's Dell and wife. Ann and Mary Sawyer and Mr Johnson's
sister are all that were invited. I advanced Ann as much money as
she wanted for an outfit and think I done my duty in full. If she
had not invited the Sawyer I would have attended.
W^m John Geddes
William Geddes

Palmyra Pa
Jan 14.

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1836

Mr John Ciddes
Ypsilanti
Michigan

