

It will not be advisable to have the power of attorney subscribed by a Witness or acknowledged before any officer, for when there is no subscribing witness the oath of the attorney will be a sufficient proof of the execution of the power. In this case John Geddes being familiar with the hand writing of Mr. Geddes could testify to the execution of it.

December 15<sup>th</sup> 1838 you have only to sign this power of Attorney & seems there is some difficulty with the said Rail Road and they Engineers are running another route and there is a prospect of the Rail Road not touching your land. But they have been on your land and grubbed a whole through it for which you will be entitled to some damage. But if you had given me the whole management of this affair with the privilege of doing what I pleased I would have taken the \$140: and paid back what I pleased of it if they had run the route some where else. Now I will have to settle with them ~~some~~ and take what I can get. sue them &c. The difficulty with the Rail Road is in Ypsilanti. I think it highly probable it will not go through your land at all. I am in a hurry and I will leave you a little room to write we or all well heard nothing about Uncle James John Geddes

I received a letter last week from sister Ann's husband of Newville in which he informs me that uncle James died in August last but he gave no particulars merely stated the fact of his death. I had heard Mr. Fisher say sometime in October that he had seen an account of his death he thought but when I just saw so I thought no more. I am thinking he might have been mistaken. But it appears he has actually paid the debt for the land and there is now but one of the original owners remaining. He says Mrs. Johnson is in good health but his father-in-law is in a very delicate state and is not expected to live much longer. Our relations at Newville are in good health. Mother had received a letter from brother James of Illinois and him & Agrippa were well and contented with new homes. Mary they say is very sick in Illinois and a great deal of her is selling for taxes. I'd you ever had any thing land bought for taxes. I saw a Philadelphia paper that a Judge of the United States Court decided that no Rail Road Company can enter on any man's lands unless it has first got the consent of the owner and actually laid an injunction out on a certain Rail Road not to proceed to it had such consent. If that is all the law of the United States the Rail Road Companies and their parties are not going to do as they please. I hear the whole matter now to you but still it is doubtful whether you will gain any thing by going to law with them or be best to let them alone. But if they go on with their Road I think it would be enough to threaten them with an injunction by the United States Court unless they would at least pay you \$300 and I am confident that before they would risk it they would pay that sum for they are certainly aware of this decision of the United States Court and it is perhaps that that is stopping it at Ypsilanti for it was some corporate town that had it. I another Road I think Louisville but am not certain. I don't want to be more assailable but still I will not be imposed on by no man or Company of men. I am so busy engaged at present that I have hardly time to attend to this matter. Our Legislature of last winter only had the Statutes of the State to be taken by the 4<sup>th</sup> of September & I am at it too our township cannot take an account of more than 10 establishments in a day & could not come out till lately. I am threatened with claims but as yet have no more. I cannot say more than that it is not for the purpose of a case. Those false returns from Philadelphia County has nearly revolutionized the state. The Porter party in attempting to cheat Taylor & Co. spirit that in Congress partially cheated their members of the Legislature out of their seats and to compel that they brought a trial and would prosper by force and have kept it in the lower house. I heard it was finally settled yesterday but there is no certainty we have many contradictory stories. You need not expect any answer to your former letter more than this. This is mailed the day and was received yesterday. Would you be willing to give me as much for acre to my share of our partnership. Let an agent man there for my other land. Give me a particular account of the damage the Railroad has done if they proceed now. Yours truly

John Geddes

Farewell

William Geddes

*Mr. Wm. Geddes*

*Palm Springs, Ohio  
Dec 26th*



*John Geddes*

~~*Mr. William Geddes*~~

*Palm Springs  
Lebanon County  
Pa*

*John Geddes*