

Phila 4th Mo, 11th 1879

My Dear Aunt

If you have received the Papers I sent you last week, you have of course been made acquainted with the sad news I am about to communicate to you. In the death of Cousin Alexander we have all lost one of the best earthly friends we ever had, or probably ever shall have again; Cousin Alexander has been failing for two years past, and I think that he was responsible for his poor health in a great measure, for he would expose himself in all kinds of weather, and work hard at things that was of no profit to him or any one else, and all we could do or say to him was of no use, he was never willing to take the advice of another, especially if it was volunteered. He had a bad cold for four or five weeks, and did scarcely anything for it, about ten days before he took to his bed, he was attacked with diarrhoea, one of the most severe attacks I ever knew him to have, so bad that he had no

control over his bowels at all, and the worst of all was that he would not do any thing for it, not even take a little paregoric which we had in the House, and very often is a very effectual remedy, neither would he have the Doctor until he had been in bed two days, the Doctor pronounced him a very sick man the first time he saw him, and even with the Doctor he would not take stimulants until the day before he died, and then it was too late to do any good, he seemed to suffer a great deal the last three days, and at times was delirious. He went to bed on Sunday the 23rd of March and died on Saturday morning at 2¹/₄ O'clock the 29th.

I suppose you would feel some interest in knowing what disposition he has made of his estate, He left a Will and in it he directs that all of his debts and funeral Expenses shall be paid as soon as practicable, and then he gives Algemine two thousand dollars to do as she thinks best, and then he gives her Four thousand a year for Two years to maintain the family as it may be at his death if she chooses to do so, and she does

At the Expiration of the Two years he gives her Three thousand a year during her natural life to use as she sees fit, he also gives her all of his household furniture watches Silver ware Pictures and whatsoever may be in the house at the time of his death, He also gives her his Horses and Carriages to be her own, and he gives the House to live in as long as ~~hes~~ she chooses do so, free from all Taxes, and repairs. He gives to Carrie Derbyshire \$800. a year as long as she lives, and her Brother Allie \$1000. when he arrives at 21 years, and \$600. to Eliza Ann Nenszey a year as long as she lives, One thousand to the Carpenters Company of which his Father was a member, and all of the residue, or Surplus Income from the Estate after paying the above mentioned annuities, and paying all Taxes and repairs to his property, is to be invested by his Executors, and the Estate allowed to accumulate until the death of the last annuitant, which in the ordinary course of nature might not occur for 40 or 50 years, in that length of time it would increase to about \$1,500,000.

It is a very singular Will and surprises Every
one who has heard of it, Now my Dear Aunt
you will want some one to look after your little
interests here, If you desire me to do it I
will do so with pleasure or if you would prefer
Daniel Slack or some one else you are free to
name the person, who ever does so will have to
have Powers of Attorney to collect your dividends
when they are declared, I suppose you know what
you have here, There is according to Cousin Alex's
Books \$1500. of the Bonds of the Crane Iron Co. which
pays \$90. a year. And 88 Shares of the Little
Schuylkill Railroad Co's Stock, which pays \$3.50
per Share a year, and then there is 160 Shares of
of the Shoemaker Pianos Stock which has not payed
any dividend for a year, it is one of the uncertain
Stocks about paying, there will be nothing to
collect now until July 1st when you have decided
who shall attend to it for you, we will send Powers
of Attorney properly filled up for you to sign, and
which will be placed on file with the different
Companies, I hope you are well, and all of your
family, I have not had good health ^{for} five years
when I had the Typhoid Fever.

570 Nth 4th St
Phila. Pa.

Your Affect. Nephew A. D. Stockton