

The Descendants of
Hans Rudolf Herli
(1692-1764)

Volume 1

The Family of Hans Rudolf Herli
Descendants of His Daughters
The Family of His Son, Rudolph II

Prepared by
Willard F. Harley, Jr.
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Harley Memorial Association
12568 Ethan Avenue North
White Bear Lake, MN 55110
(612) 429-6729

prepared by: Willard Ferris Harley Jr.

FIRST GENERATION

1. Rudolph[1] Harley II[1], son of Hans Rudolf Herli and Barbara. Born, 14 Jul 1719[2]. Died, 9 Jul 1809. resided in Salford Twsp., Montgomery Co., PA. Burial in Harley Burying, Ground, Harleysville, PA. - in Brethren Church.

BIOGRAPHY OF RUDOLPH HARLY

Rudolph it is said first settled in Amwell, New Jersey, but soon removed to Lower Salford Township, Montgomery County, where he became the owner of considerable land. He was a member of the Brethren Church, was one of the Directors of the Poor for Lower Salford in 1764 and 1782.

On March 29, 1754, the Harley estate passed to Rudolph Harley, Jr., who later sold it to his brother-in-law, Henry Graff.

WILL OF RUDOLPH HARLY

In the name of God, Amen. I Rudolph Harley of Lower Salford Township in Montgomery County, Yeoman, being so far advanced in years but being of good health and perfect mind, memory and understanding (Blessed by God) have also thought proper to order and make my last Will and Testament in manner following (viz). That is to say first I recommand my soul, to God, whom dit givit and my body to the earth to be decently buried at the discretion of my Executors. And all my reasonable debts and funeral charges to be paid first. And then I give and bequeath unto my well beloved wife Mary the lower and upper room in which we now sleep and live and the kitchen at the east side of the said room for her only proper use and possession during her widowhood; further I give and bequeath to her all the furniture, beddings, bedsteds and clothes-press and what is in the same in the said room for her use and needfull kitchen furniture for her use and a cow of her chusing which cow shall be cept and fedd somer and winter by my son Jacob on my premises as he shall ceep his own and yearly dung to be brought on the same by my son Jacob: She shall have part of the cellar with free passage to and from her rooms or anywhere else as she pleases. My said son shall deliver her sufficient fire wood to the house reddy cut for use at the fier and give her yearly six bushel wheat and six bushel rey, five pound

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wool, ten pounds of flax and one fat hog of at least one hundred and fifty pounds weight and fruit out of the orchard as much as she may chuse for her use, all the aforesaid articles shall be kept and performed by son Jacob his heirs and assigns yearly and every year to my wife so long she remains my widow. Item; I further give and devise to my wife the sum of one hundred and fifty pounds in good gold and silver money, which money shall be raised by the sale of my moveable estate and fifty pounds thereof shall be paid to her in twelve months after my decease and the one hundred pounds in three years after my decease all the goods and money given to my wife shall be for her use and maintenance in her natural life but what shall remain of the goods or money after her decease that shall then be equally divided among my children then living or the heirs of their body. And whereas I do own and possess several plantations and tracts of land, I do give and bequeath to my son Jacob part of my plantation whereon I do live with all the buildings and improvements and one hundred and twenty acres of land with the appurtenances thereunto belonging (it being the same more or less) to have and to hold the same to my son Jacob his heirs and assigns forever, And I do value the same to him the sum of seven hundred and fifty pounds in good gold and silver money, his share of inheritance shall be deducted out of the said sum and the residue thereof shall be pay in payments of thirty pounds yearly, the first payment in one year after my decease and so forth yearly till fully paid. But nevertheless it is my will and I order in case my son Jacob shall die without issue and reason he is not married then the said land given and bequeath to my son Jacob eight hundred pounds in money aforesaid to have and to hold to him his heirs and assigns forever under the limitation and conditions given and bequeath to my son Jacob.

Item, the remainder part of my plantation whereon I do live I do give and devise to my son Abraham to have and to hold the same to my son Abraham, his heirs and assigns forever and I do value the same to him the sum of five hundred and twenty-five pounds in money aforesaid, his share of inheritance first deducted and then the residue of the said sum shall be pay in payments of twenty-five pounds in money aforesaid, his share of inheritance first deducted and then the pounds yearly the first payment thereof one year after my decease and then so forth yearly till fully paid and my land and plantation situated in lower Salford aforesaid whereon my sons Henry and Samuel doth live I do give and devise the one part thereof (as it is divided) to my son Henry will all the building and improvements on that part where he doth live. To have and to hold unto him his heirs and assigns forever for the value of seven hundred pounds in money aforesaid in payments of twenty-five pounds yearly the first payment thereof in one year after my decease his share of inheritance first deducted out of the said sum and then the yearly payments till fully paid. Item, the other part of the plantation with all the building and improvement thereon (as it is divided) I do give and devise the assigns forever and the value of two hundred and fifty pounds in money aforesaid and in case his share of inheritance shall not come to this sum the residue he shall pay in one year after my decease.

Item; it is my will that each of my sons shall have twenty-five pounds more than each of my daughters out of my estate and then all the residue of my estate left both real and personal whatsoever I give and devise in equal shares to be divided share and share alike among my twelve children or to the heirs of their body and it is further my will I order that all in the ground on

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the place whereon I dwell or what grain, hay or oats in the barn or fat hogs or beef or meat in the house at my decease that shall be for the use of my sons Jacob and Abraham without charge to them. And my Berleborough Biblia I give and devise to my son in law Friederich Diel and my other large Biblia I give and devise to my son Abraham to have and to hold to them forever.

Item; it is my will and I order that the payments of my Real Estate of my sons shall be shared the first payments in two equal to my daughters Hanna and Mary and the second to my son Rudolph and my daughter Elizabeth, the third to my son Joseph and daughter Sara and the fourth years payments of my sons to my daughter Margreth and Whol, And then to begin at the first again as beforesaid till all have their full share each of them and it further is my will and order that all my moveable estate which are herein not all ready given or bequeath shall be sold on publick sale and the money reased by the sale thereof to be paid and shared as is herein before mentioned. And whereas I dit give to my children which are married in household goods cattle and money for which they are charged in my account book and bonds and nots given by any of them to me I will and order that what each of my children in my book is charged and respectively stands against each or any of them or their bond or note that shall by reckoned to his share and portion do nevertheless it is my will in case my eldest son, John, has received of me more then one equal share with the reast of his Brothers he shall ceep the whole that he has received of me but in case he has not received so much all reddy of me then he shall be made equal out of my estate with the reast of his brothers and lastly I do nominate my two sons Rudolph and Jacob to be my executors that this my last will and testament may be duly executed to my intention by them and for their trouble they are each of them to have and to receive three pounds and none more in money aforesaid. And I do hereby revoke and macke void all my other and former made Wills and Testaments ratifying and declaring this as my only active last Will and Testament.

In witness whereof I the said Rudolph Harley set my hand and seal thereunto dated the fourteenth day of May in the Year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and ninety-six. N. B. the words in the first page enterlined (and what is in the same in the said room) done before signing and sealing.

Witnesses:
 George School
 Henry Landis
 Isaac Landis

RUDOLPH HARLY (Seal)
 (signature has Harley without "e")

Facsimile of signature

Will proved Aug. 1, 1809 and letters granted same day to Rudolph Harley and Jacob Harley.

Reverend N. B. Grubb of Philadelphia, had in his possession a letter written by Rudolph Harley when 79 years of age, to his friend Rev. Alexander Mack 2d. It was originally written in German, the following is an English translation.

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Shippack, May 3, 1798

Your dear little letter was received in due time and I observed therein your loving remembrance and hearty well wishes which greatly rejoiced me.

Now dear brother I greet you heartily and in a childlike spirit I press your hand in the spirit of love.

My dear wife also heartily greets you and we wish that God's grace will grant you a rich blessing in this period of your life and your endurance in patience to a blessed entrance to the eternal rest for here we can expect little good in this poor life.

Yes, you will have patience with me and my scribbling for my memory is short and my hand trembles.

Well, I would like to see you once more dear brother, if it could be, but if not in this poor life then I hope if it is the Lord's will, we shall see each other in the eternal world.

Once more I heartily greet you, also the dear sister, your wife, and remain your meek brother.

Rudolph Harley.

He married[3] Mary Becker[1], daughter of Peter Becker and Dorothy Hartman, 1740. Born, 1 Sep 1720. Died, 1 Jan 1813. resided in Salford Twsp., Montgomery Co., PA. - in Brethren Church. Children:

- i. Johannes "John"[2] Harley[3]. Born, 16 Aug 1741. Died, 3 Dec 1814. resided in Pikeland, Chester Co., PA. Burial in Union Meeting, E. Coventry, Chester Co., PA. He married[3] Margaret Rebecca Landis[3], daughter of Henry Landis and Elizabeth Naas.
- ii. Joanna "Hannah" Harley[4]. Born, 21 Apr 1743. Died, 30 Aug 1820. resided in Norriston Twsp., Montgomery Co., PA. She married[4] Hans Ulrich Stauffer[4], son of Christian Stauffer and Elizabeth.
- iii. Lena Harley[5]. Born, 4 May 1745.
- iv. Maria Harley[5]. Born, 12 Mar 1746/7. Baptism: 19 Apr 1772, in Germantown, Philadelphia Co., PA[6]. She married[7], first, Jacob Landis[5], son of Henry Landis and Elizabeth Naas. She married[5], second, Frederick Diehl[5], son of Simon Jacob Diehl.

She is said to have had nine children, many of whom moved to western states (Heckler).

- v. Rudolph Harley III[8]. Born, 7 Feb 1748/9[9]. Died, 1 Jan 1827[10]. resided in Coventry Twsp., Chester Co., PA. Occupation: Farmer. He married[11], first, Barbara Bach[11], daughter of Jacob Bach and Barbara Stager. He married[11], second, Sarah Bomberger[11].
- vi. Sarah Harley[12]. Born, 20 Jun 1750. Died, 25 Sep 1799. She married[13] John "George" Price[13], son of Daniel Price and

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- Hannah Weickerd (Weicher).
- vii. Elizabeth B. Harley[14]. Born, 9 Sep 1750. Died, 17 Sep 1838. resided in Worcester Twsp., Montgomery Co., PA. Burial in Brethren Cem., Lower Prov., Montgomery Co., PA[15]. She married[14] Christian Dettere[14], son of Conrad Dettere and Elizabeth, 4 Oct 1769.
 - viii. Jacob Harley[16]. Born, 8 Jun 1752. Died, 17 Jan 1819[17]. Jacob was killed by a kick from a horse. He was unmarried.
 - ix. Heinrich Harley[18]. Born, 1 Jul 1754, in Harleysville, Montgomery Co., PA. Died, 13 Aug 1840. resided in Franconia Twsp., Montgomery Co., PA. Burial in Brethren Cem., Lower Prov., Montgomery Co., PA[19]. - in Brethren Church. He married[18] Elizabeth Keeley[18], daughter of Henry Keeley.
 - x. Samuel Harley[20]. Born, 6 Mar 1758. Died, 24 Mar 1839. Burial in Harley Burying, Ground, Harleysville, PA[21]. Occupation: Hotel Owner. He married[20] Catherine Sauer[20], daughter of Christopher Sauer and Catharine Sharpnack, 10 May 1785.
 - xi. Joseph Harley[22]. Born, 14 Mar 1760. Died, 9 Nov 1835. Burial in Harley Burying, Ground, Harleysville, PA[21]. He married[22] Catharine Reiff[22], daughter of Jacob Reiff and Catharine Schneider, circa 1810.

Joseph Harley married when he was about 50 years of age and died without children.

- xii. Mary Margaretta Harley[23]. Born, 13 Jul 1762, in Harleysville, Montgomery Co., PA. Died, 27 Jul 1842. resided in Perkiomen, Montgomery Co., PA. Burial in Lower Skippack, Mennonite Ch., Montgomery Co, PA. She married[24] Jacob Reiff Detweiler[25], son of John Detwiler and Susannah.
- xiii. Abraham Harley[26]. Born, 14 Jun 1765. Died, 20 Sep 1833. Burial in Harley Burying, Ground, Harleysville, PA[21]. Occupation: Farmer. He married[27] Christiana or Catherine Giesz[28].

NOTES AND REFERENCES

- [1]Record of the Descendents of Rudolph Harley (Vol.I), p. 2.
- [2]Born while his parents were on the voyage to America.
- [3]Desc. of Harley (Vol.I), p. 8.
- [4]Ibid., p. 8, 59.
- [5]Ibid., p. 8, 214.
- [6]By Alexander Mack, Jr.
- [7]Desc. of Harley (Vol.I), p. 214.
- [8]Record of the Descendents of Rudolph Harley (Vol.I), p. 8, 223.
- [9]Says Family Record.
- [10]Tombstone says age 79-10-15.
- [11]Desc. of Harley (Vol.I), p. 223.
- [12]Desc. of Harley (Vol.I), p. 8, 446.
- [13]Ibid., p. 446.
- [14]Ibid., p. 8, 66, 362.
- [15]Old Version of Harley Book, p. 204.
- [16]Desc. of Harley (Vol.I) p. 8, 390.
- [17]He was killed by a kick from a horse when he was old.
- [18]Desc. of Harley (Vol.I), p. 391.
- [19]Old Version of Harley Book, p. 205.

NOTES AND REFERENCES

- [20]Record of the Descendents of Rudolph Harley (Vol.II), p. 552.
- [21]Old Version of Harley Book, p. 198.
- [22]Desc. of Harley (Vol.I), p. 657.
- [23]Ibid., p. 2, Desc. of Harley (Vol.II), p. 657, Wilbur Houston Seifert, Genealogy of Elias L. Detwiler traced to Hans Detweiler, p. 8.
- [24]Desc. of Harley (Vol.II), p. 657.
- [25]Ibid., p. 657, Wilbur Houston Seifert, Genealogy of Elias L. Detwiler traced to Hans Detweiler, p. 8.
- [26]Record of the Descendents of Rudolph Harley (Vol.II), p. 8, 849.
- [27]Ibid., p. 849.
- [28]Ibid., p. 849, Old Version of Harley Book, p. 197.