

# **John Martin Werkheiser**

## **1758 - 1829**

**John Martin was born on March 28, 1758 in Milford Township, Northampton County, Pennsylvania and died on February 7, 1829, in Plainfield Township, Northampton County, Pennsylvania. John was baptized on March 7, 1759 at the Saint Paul's Lutheran and Reformed Church, known as the Blue Church. The church was located in Upper Saucon Township, on the west side of Coopersburg, Pennsylvania. His sponsors were John Marin Hausman and Elizabeth Barbara Schelp.**

**John married Barbara Itterly. Barbara was born on August 7, 1785 and died on May 12, 1855. John was a farmer. John Martin was about 47 and Barbara was about 20 when they got married. Barbara was 27 years younger than her husband. John Martin was almost 70 years old at the birth of their last child. John and Barbara are buried in the Plainfield Cemetery.**

**John Martin Werkheiser did not have a will. Lewis Micke, Esquire, George Hopple (farmer), and John Bauer (farmer) were appointed to settle his estate. Barbara Werkheiser (wife) and their eldest son, Jacob, signed the renunciation with an X.**

**Will #4048, page 165, for John Martin Werkheiser was filed on November 24, 1829. The inventory and appraisal was filed on December 26, 1829, by George Hopple and John Bauer. The settlement of the estate was filed on April 3, 1833.**

**A public sale was announced in November, 1832, in Easton Correspondent (a German newspaper) and in the Democrat Argus (an English newspaper) both printed in Northampton County. The sale day was December 27, 1832. The farm consisted of 21 acres, 93 perches, a log house, small barn, and adjoined lands of Abraham Bellisfield, George Frankenfield, Henry Swely, and Charles Heimer. Thirty nine men received disbursements from the sale, which would suggest that John Martin had a lot of debts. Some of the debts were as follows:**

**On January 25, 1833, the farm was sold and bought by Jacob for \$605.00. His farm sale brought \$300.01. Back accounts were owed to him by John Uhler for \$3.00, George Frankenfield for \$.58, and Hannah Shook for \$3.25**

**On April 22, 1831, Barbara filed a petition to have guardians appointed for four of her ten children. John, a minor under 14, had Andrew Stecker as his guardian. Eliza and Anna under 14, had John Bauer appointed as their guardian. Phoebe under 14, had Jacob Ruth appointed as her guardian.**

**On March 19, 1839, John Bauer filed release and settlement as guardian of Eliza and Anna Werkheiser. He charged \$10.00 for each out of their inheritance of \$109.02. The original sum was \$73.50 plus interest.**

The inventory and appraisal consisted of :

The following is a list  
of buyers at the sale:

Jacob Bauer	\$ 17.00 - beds, bedstands, and bedding
Peter Bellisfield	4.00 - stove and pipe
Jacob Boestler	1.12 - 1 table, old chest, and 3 old chairs together
Adam Breidinger	10.00 - 25 bushels of corn @ 40cents/bu.
Jacob Breidenger	3.25 - 1 pigeon net, old saddle, scythes, and cradle
Jacob Caster	2.25 - 3 spinning wheels, 2 old reels, 3 old tubs
George Dant	1.62 - 1 beehive with old iron, old griddle, and 5 bags
Jacob Deal	1.68 - kitchen dreckter (sic) and crockery ware, and old bake trough
Michael Deal	1.75 - 2 tubs, 3 pails, half bushel, churn tub, and half barrel
John Engler	1.34 - iron kettle, iron pots, frying pans, and coffee burner
Christopher Fecher	1.62 - 1 mall & 2 wedges, grubbing hoe, 1 garden hoe
George Frost	.80 - pair of old hames, tongue, chain, and axe
George Happel	1.00 - 4 geese at .25 per piece
Abraham Heller	21.00 - 8 acres of rye in the ground
Mat S. Henry	24.00 - 40 bushels of rye @ .60/bu
Peter Holland	40.00 - 1 horse
John Kratzer	20.00 - 1 wagon
John Rogers	5.00 - 1 sleigh
George Seiple	7.00 - 2 ploughs, 1 harrow, 1 swingel tree (used to beat flax or hemp)
Martin Seiple	1.25 - a pair of hay ladders, 2 cow chains
Fredereck Teel	2.55 - 1 old windmill, cutting box, hay fork, 1 rake and sundries
John Uhler	2.00 - harness set
Charles Werkheiser	.75 - scythes
George Werkheiser	.25 - sled benches
Jacob Werkheiser	1.00 - second crop corn fodder
John Werkheiser, Sr.	24.00 - 3 tons of hay
Nicholas Werkheiser	10.50 - 11 pigs
Peter Werkheiser	16.50 - 6 sheep
Valentine Werkheiser	18.00 - 2 cows
Abraham Zearfos	10.00 - 3 heifers
	<u>2.00</u> - 10 bushes of potatoes
	\$253.23
	\$ 1.50 - George Vout (Vaut)
	31.04 - John Baurer
	1.05 - John Uhler
	42.81 - Valentine Werkheiser
	28.74 - Peter Werkheiser
	3.30 - Jacob Werkheiser
	34.15 - Martin Seiple
	1.40 - Charles Werkheiser
	3.25 - Peter Bellisfield
	.82 - Nicolas Werkheiser
	4.50 - John Werkheiser
	2.90 - George Werkheiser
	<u>2.44</u> - George Seiple
	\$ 157.90
	\$ 411.13 - <b>TOTAL</b>