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Jeremie Papers

6. Notary: L'Epine (Jean Gabriel Joseph Hordell)

Folder 6A-108

Procuration by M. Jean François Gervais to M. Jeanniot. 1785 July 4

-English Translation by Andie Ho, www.andiehotranslations.com 12/2013

July 4, 1785
Mandate by
Mr. Gervais in favor of
Mr. Jeanniot

In the presence of the undersigned King's Attorneys
in the Jurisdiction of the Seneschal of the Royal Seat of Jérémie
residing in the Saint-Louis-en-l'Île parish and French coast
of St. Domingue in America

Mr. Jean François Gervais, who was present in person,

Living at his residence in the
uplands of Trou-Bonbon and Castaihe(?),
qualified to call and consider himself heir to Mr. Edme
Gervais, working as a caterer, Rue de monX in Paris,
X X parish of Saint-Jean-en-Grève,
who drew up and wrote for his general/special agent
Mr. François Michel Jeanniot, *officier de bouche*¹ residing on rue X
in Corneilles near Franconville on Route de Pontoise,
to whom is granted, along with the other presumptive
heirs of the deceased, the authority to act on his behalf and in his name
in these matters, to draw up an inventory and
description, in the accustomed manner, of all assets
and effects left behind by the deceased in
the house where he died and everywhere else;
to name and designate officers to prepare the
inventory appraisal and the sale of household effects from the
estate; to agree, if necessary, to the termination of the inventory;
to have sold in the accustomed manner the household effects;
that the attorney has full knowledge of all

¹ Literally "officer of the mouth." Under the Ancien Régime, a general name referring to a variety of positions in the royal court involving serving at the King's table, for instance, cutting meat, etc. The term "officer" designated anyone who held a position of personal responsibility that was inherited or purchased (at the time, positions could be purchased), and thus implied a certain social standing.

assets and effects from the estate and debts owed,
if any; to unconditionally or by benefit of inventory
accept or renounce the estate on behalf of the settlor;
if accepted, to distribute the
assets and effects of the deceased to his heirs;
in doing so, to also request and collect from all persons
indebted to him all money owed to him
and, if payment is refused, to pursue by legal means
debtors and others indebted to him;
if the presumptive heirs of the settlor are
negligent or refuse to have the inventory drawn up and
[the assets] distributed, to issue any summons or petitions against them
as may be necessary, and even, if such is the case, at his request and diligence,
to have the inventory and distribution performed
through legal processes; and if necessary, to plead, oppose,
summon, renounce, affirm, elect domicile, and substitute.
He also grants authority to his agent to sell, assign,
transport, exchange, and otherwise give up everything that he can
claim and which may be owed to him from distribution of the assets
from the estate, under such clauses and conditions and from such other
assets as he shall decide; to collect payment for
everything that the agent shall receive in accordance with this document;
to provide the necessary receipts and discharges; and, for all of
the contents above and under all circumstances and dependences, to draw up and
perform any contract of sale, assignment, transport, distribution,
exchange, compromise, ~~transaction~~, summons, petition,
inventory, receipt, discharge, transactions or any other necessary
instruments. The settlor promises to
approve and sign if necessary. This document
is valid until it is explicitly revoked,
notwithstanding expiration and passage of time. Hereby.

Drawn up and signed in Jérémie in the office, in the year
one thousand seven hundred eighty-five on the fourth
of July before noon. Mr. Gervais signed along with
us, the attorneys.

[signatures]

Gervais

[Jean Gabriel Joseph] Lépine, Attorney
Hüe [probably the deputy clerk who drew up the document]