



Johannes would marry Catharina Schwein on 24 January 1841:

Incipit Liber 1841. No. 1  
 24 Januarii Anno Domini millesimo octingentesimo quattuagesimo  
 Johannes filius primordialis Jacobi quartamensis Januarii  
 Dielet et ego Philippus Philippus Pater parochus in  
 Catharina Jacobi matris non nupto juncti facti  
 Schwein. Quis proclamationibus eulphastis publicis et  
 nullo notio impedimento. Canonico Johanne Kiel  
 Priorem ex Jacobi filium legitimum de  
 finet. Viri et agricola hujatis Johannis Kiel  
 et Catharina Elisabetha Pfaffmann conjugum  
 Catholicorum hujatum et Catharina  
 Schwein Priorem ex Jacobi filiam le-  
 gitimam conjugum Catholicorum hujatum viri et  
 agricola hujatis Francisci Michaelis Schwein  
 et Arsolonie Bruzer p. m. presentibus  
 Testibus qui fuerunt Georgius Michael  
 Wener et Michael Weigl viri et agricola  
 hujates ita testor ego J. Philippi  
 Pater parochus in Jacobi  
 Josephus  
 No. 2  
 sponsati

Anno Domini millesimo octingentesimo quattuagesimo  
 primo die sicut in mensis Januarii die in  
 Jacobi in quibus moribus adorum sacramenti  
 hujatis Johannes Kiel viri et agricola  
 Priorem hujatis et Catharina Elisabetha  
 Pfaffmann qui dicitur una secunda eadem  
 mensis in coemeterio Comuni hujatis hujatis  
 sepultus ita testor ego J. Philippi  
 Pater parochus in Jacobi

The wedding had to be filled with great sadness, as Johannes' father, Johannes the elder had passed away four days earlier and had just turned 60 years of age.

Johannes was a farmer and a day-laborer. In March of 1841, He and Catharina purchased a half share of her father's property at auction, which included the rear half of both the dwelling house and the basement, the rear half of the barn with stable, the shed with the first pigsty and the front half overhang on the back pigsty. The lot contained nearly 9,129 square meters (2.25 acres) of farmland and common property included the middle pigsty, the threshing floor and the driveway. They continued to live with her father, Franz Michael Schwein at Ludwigstraße 131 for another couple of years until his passing on 27 March 1843. Catharina's mother, Apollonia, had passed away in 1834.



1840 hausplan and present-day aerial view of Jockgrim.

The home belonging to Johannes' parents is located at Ludwigstraße 74 and was auctioned off in June of 1841 after the passing of Johannes the elder:

pr. den 11. Juni 1841.  
(Licitation.)

Montag, den 28. Juni l. J., des Nachmittags um 2 Uhr, zu Jockgrim im Saale des Gemeindehauses, wird vor dem unterzeichneten, hierzu committirten Notär Johann Lothar Keller, im Amtssitze zu Rheinzabern, in der Pfalz, der Untheilbarkeit wegen, in Eigenthum veräußert:

Ein zu Jockgrim im Vorstädtel neben Albert Ochsenreither und Georg Adam Schwahn stehendes Wohnhaus nebst der Hälfte einer Scheuer, mit gemeinschaftlichem Hofe, Ein- und Ausfahrt.

Dieses Immobilien rührt her von Johannes Riehl von Jockgrim, und wird unvertheilt besessen: a) durch dessen hinterbliebene Wittwe Katharina Elisabetha Hoffmann, und b) durch die Kinder des besagten verlebten Johannes Riehl, Namens: Georg Michael Riehl, Feinweber, Johannes Riehl, Tagner, Valentin Riehl, Maria Anna Riehl und Joseph Riehl, diese drei letztere noch minderjährig und ohne Gewerbe, sind vertreten durch ihren Vormund Martin Weigel, Ackeremann, wegen kollidirendem Interesse mit ihrer Vormünderin, ihrer obengenannten Mutter Katharina Elisabetha Hoffmann, sämmtlich in Jockgrim wohnhaft.

Rheinzabern, den 8. Juni 1841.  
Keller, Notär.

On June 11, 1841

Licitation

Monday the 28th of June In the afternoon at 2 o'clock to Jockgrim in the parish hall will be auctioned in front of the signed notary Johann Lothar Keller in the seat of residence to Rheinzabern in the Palatinate of incurability in property Vorstädtel next to Albert Ochsenreither and Georg Adam Schwahn standing house with half of a barn with communal courtyard entrance and exit.

This property originates from Johannes Riehl of Jockgrim and is owned unrestrictedly by:

a) his surviving widow Katharina Elisabetha Hoffmann and  
b) by the children of the said Johannes Riehl, Names: Georg Michael Riehl, Linen weaver. Johannes Riehl, Tagner. Valentin Riehl, Maria Anna Riehl and Joseph Riehl.

These three latter are still underage and without trades, are represented with guardian Martin Weigel, farmer, because of a conflict of interest with her guardian of her above-mentioned mother Katharina Elisabetha Hoffmann, all residents in Jockgrim.

Rheinzabern the 8 June 1841  
Keller, Notary

Johannes and Catharina had eight children, four of whom were born in Jockgrim. They are:

- 1) Franz Michael Riehl, born 31 May 1840
- 2) Helena Riehl, born 22 December 1842

The image shows a handwritten Latin church record. The text is written in a cursive script and includes the following information:
 

- Anno Domini millesimo octingentesimo...
- quartaagesimo secundo die vice kalendarum...
- decembris in Jockgrim nata Riehl...
- estet baptizata die eodem...
- alim. anota parochus Helena filia...
- legitima Johannis Riehl civis ac agricola...
- pus et Catharinae conjugum Catholicorum...
- hujatum cui nomen Helena impositum...
- est matrina erat Helena Handoxor...
- Michaelis Weigel civis ac agricola...
- estorego parochus Philippus Feib...
- alaminus Riehl...
- Wiforal Baikal...

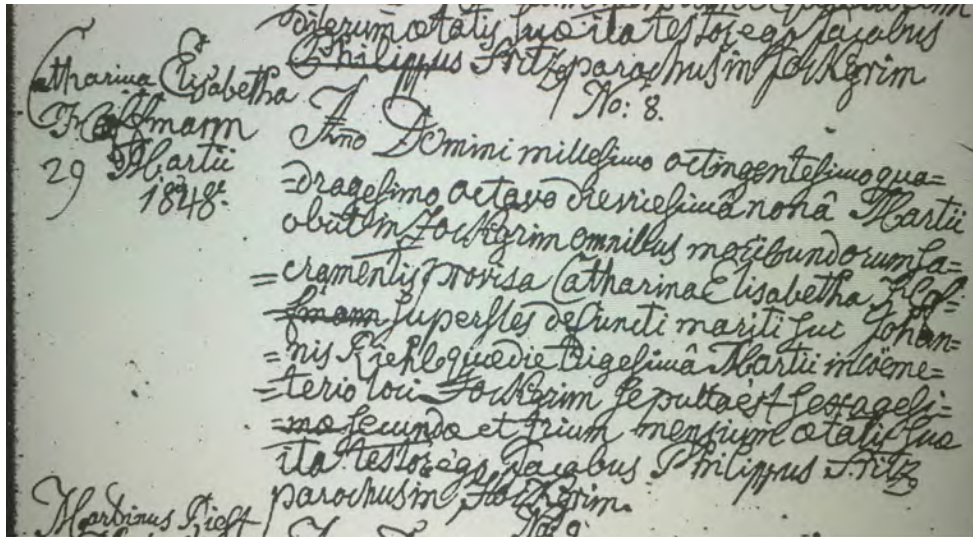
3) Johannes Riehl, born 28 October 1845

Johannes Riehl  
 Anno Domini millesimo octingentesimo  
 Quadragesimo quinto die vicesima nona  
 Octobris in Jacobgrün natus est et die  
 trigesima Octobris a me infra scripto  
 parochobaptizatus filius legitimus  
 Johannis Riehlo perarii in Jacobgrün  
 et Catharina Schwein conjugum cat-  
 holicorum cui nomen Johannes im-  
 positum est pater erat Michael We-  
 ixel in Jacobgrün mater vero  
 Catharina Schwein in Blandenberg

4) Anton Riehl, born 19 May 1848

Anton Riehl  
 Anno Domini millesimo octingentesimo  
 Quadragesimo octavo die decima  
 Maii in Jacobgrün natus est et  
 die vigesima Maii a me infra scripto  
 parochobaptizatus filius legitimus  
 Johannis Riehlo perarii in Jacobgrün et  
 Catharina Schwein conjugum cat-  
 holicorum cui nomen Antonius im-  
 positum est pater erat Michael Weixel  
 murarius in Jacobgrün mater vero  
 Catharina Schwein in Blandenberg  
 pater vero Michael Weixel in Jacobgrün  
 mater vero Catharina Schwein in Blandenberg

The 1840s were years of hardship in Jockgrim. Bad harvests in 1841 and 1842 had raised the prices of grain and potatoes to the point they were more rare on kitchen tables than meat or butter. Famines had occurred in 1846 and 1847. War had ravaged the region during the [German Revolutions of 1848-1849](#). Many residents were forced to look at relocating to other nations like Algeria in North Africa and America.



Johannes' father passed away just days before his wedding, and his mother, Catharine (Hoffmann) would pass away in March of 1848.

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Catharina (Schwein)'s parents had both passed, and there was very little holding them to their town now gripped in poverty. In the summer of 1850, the Riehl family slipped away in secret with 600 Florins to their name (equivalent to \$9,278 USD in modern currency). They traveled to Le Havre, France and boarded a ship bound for America named "Old England". They arrived at the port of New Orleans, Louisiana on October 29.

Schiff	Old England			Page from Ship's Manifest "Old England"
Wieder	Olga	3	m	Sailed from Le Havre, France to New Orleans
Catharina	Do	3	f	Arrived 29 October, 1850
Frau	Steving	24	m	Passengers:
ms	Arndt	22	m	John Riehl Age 36
Anna	Riehl	36	m	Catherine Riehl Age 35
Catharina	Do	25	f	Franz Age 9
Franz	Do	9	m	Helena Age 7
Helena	Do	7	f	Johann (John Jr) Age 4
Johann	Do	4	m	Anton (Anthony) Age 1
Anton	Do	1	m	
Frau	Hank	21	m	

They sailed up the Mississippi River and settled in Apple Creek Township in Cape Girardeau County, Missouri. The area had already been established by fellow Jockgrimers with family names like: Biehle, Braun, Ochsenreither, Burkbuchler, Roll, Gebhart, Reis, Katus, Schloss, Wingerter, Weixel, Schmitt, and Goldate.

John Riehl was granted a 40 acre parcel in NW Cape Girardeau County in [Hildersheim](#):  
 The Riehls had four more children who were born in Missouri:

- 1) Catherine Riehl, born 27 April 1851.
- 2) Maria Riehl, born 1856.
- 3) Joseph Riehl, born 13 March 1858.
- 4) Andrew Riehl, born 6 March 1860.

The St. Maurus Parish in Biehle, MO where they attended was founded in 1870, therefore records are not available prior to this.

The family is found in the 1860 US Census for Apple Creek Township in Cape Girardeau County:

36	Reel John	45	m	Farmer	1000	475	Beveria			37
37	Elizabeth	43	f							38
38	Helena	15	f							39
39	John	14	m							40
40	Anthony	11	m							1
1	Catherine	8	f							2
2	Mary	4	f							3
3	Joseph	3	m							4
4	Andrew	6/12	m							5
5										6

The only member of the family not listed here was their firstborn son Franz who was known as either Frank or John Frank and had moved up to St Louis. He married Ann Murphy and they had 6 children: Thomas Frank, or Frank Jr. (born in 1869); Mary (1870); Katherine (1872); John Joseph (1876); Jeremiah (Jerry) J. (1878); and Annie (born and died in 1881).

Cape Girardeau County conducted a census in 1868 and the family is recorded here with the exception of Frank and Helena.

Helena married Vincent Leible in 1864 and remained in Apple Creek Township where they had 9 children: Agnes (1865); Rosalie Katherine (1866); John Moritz (1867); Maria Helena (1869); Anna Barbara (1871); Josephina Cecilia (1873); Emma Johanna (1875); Vincent Wendelin (1877); Louis Anton (1879).

Anthony, who would have been 19 at the time, and Joseph, who would have only been 10 also aren't listed here:

Congressional Township, No. 33	White Males.						White Females.					Total.			
	Under ten years of age.	Of ten, and under eighteen years.	Of eighteen, and under 21 years.	Of 21, and under 40 years.	Of forty-five years and upwards.	Total White Males.	Under ten years of age.	Of ten, and under eighteen years.	Of eighteen, and under 21 years.	Of twenty-one, and under 45 years.	Of forty-five years and upwards.	Total White Females.	Total White Population.	White persons born in this age of 9 and 18.	Number of White persons able to read and write.
John Riehl					1										1
Catharine										1					1
Catharine								1	1						1
Mary							1							1	1
John		1												1	1
Andrew	1													1	1

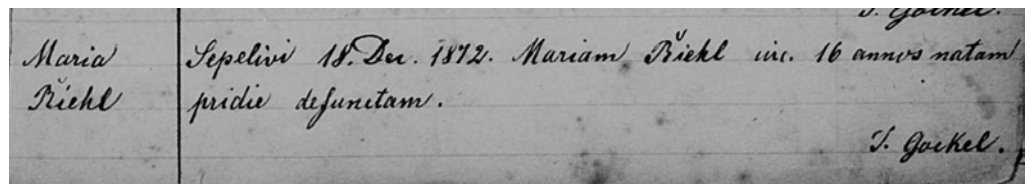
The 1870s brought joy and sorrow. Three of their children were married:

Catherine Riehl married August Ruch on 10 November 1874. They would have 10 children: Elisabeth (1875), August (1876); Helen (1878); Theresa (1880); Anton Friederich (1883); Isadore Maurus (1885); Addlehite (1887); Maria Catherine (1889); William (1892); and Barnhart (1894).

John Riehl Jr married Mary Clay on 21 March 1878. They would have 8 children: Caroline (1878); Joseph (1880); Leo John (1881); Josephine (1884); Anna (1886); Elizabeth (1887); Andrew (1890); and Louise (1893).

Anthony Riehl married Susan Hutchins on 20 July 1879. They would have 8 children: John (1880); Vincent Leonard (1884); James Glen (1886); Victor (1888); Mary Linetta (1890); Susan Mary (1892); Florence Elizabeth (1894); and Ada (1895).

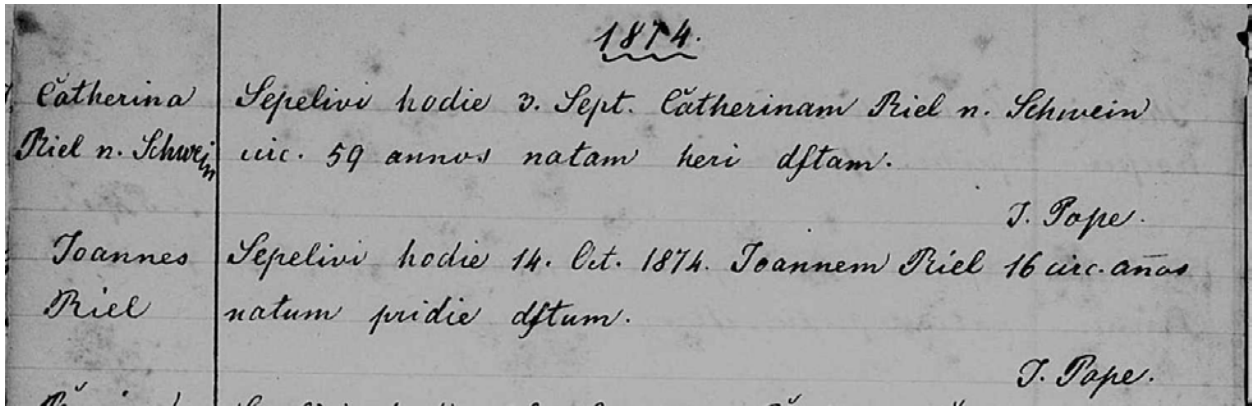
John and Catharina's daughter Maria died on 18 December 1872 at the age of 16.



The matriarch of the family, Catharina died at the age of 57 on 3 September 1874. Their son Joseph, who was 16 years old, died eight days later on 11 September (according to his headstone). The church record indicates he passed (or was buried) on



14 October.



By 1880, the family consisted of John Sr, who was now 65, Andrew, who was 20, and John Jr and his wife Mary, with their daughter Caroline and son Joseph, all living under the same roof, still in Apple Creek Township.

95-101	Riehl, John	65	1	Farmer	Bavaria	Bavaria	Bavaria
	Andrew	20	1	Farmer	Missouri	Bavaria	Bavaria
92-102	Riehl, John Jr.	34	1	Farmer & stone mason	Bavaria	Bavaria	Bavaria
	Mary	25	1	Housekeeper	1.1. Missouri	Miss.	Miss.
	Caroline	1	1		Missouri	Bavaria	Miss.
	Joseph	1	1		Missouri	Bavaria	Miss.

The Riehl men here were still farmers and John Jr also divided his time as a stone mason. By this time John Sr had 15 grandchildren: 9 by Helena, 2 by John Jr, 3 by Catherine, and 1 by Anthony.

His daughter Helena would pass away on 4 March 1886. Her husband Vincent preceded her in death in 1880. At the time of her passing she left behind 9 children from ages 20 to 6.

1.	Capt. Viet of Ind. 1st Inf. 1861 Helena Leble nata Riehl	12 Dec. 1841	4 Mar. 1886	5 Mar. 1886
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His firstborn son Frank would pass away on 17 February 1890. His wife Ann preceded him in death in 1884.

His son Andrew would marry on 27 May 1890 to Francisca Schulte. They would have two sons, but Francisca would die in 1894 at the young age of 35. Andrew would marry again on 6 March 1896 to Catherine Clay and they had three children, two girls and a boy.

John Sr wrote his last will and testament at the age of 80 on 6 February 1896. In it he leaves the following after his passing:

In the name of God amen I John Riehl Sr  
of the County of Ballinger in the State of Missouri  
aged 80 years being of sound mind do make and  
publish this my last will and testament as follows  
I request that my oldest son Frank heirs in  
St Louis Mo shall have One Hundred Dollars  
I also request that my Daughter Helena Libel  
Heirs shall have one Hundred Dollars  
and I also request that my son John Riehl  
shall have Two Hundred Dollars cash and all  
other personal property that I may own at my  
death consisting of 1 Bed and clothing  
and it is also my request that my son Anton  
Riehl of Perry county and State of Missouri  
shall have One Hundred Dollars

It is also my request that my Daughter Catherine  
Rush of Ballinger county and State of Missouri  
shall have credit for One Hundred & Fifty Dollars  
that I have paid her and Her Husband August Rush  
and pay to my executor here after mentioned on  
note that I hold against them Fifty Dollars  
and it is also my request that my youngest son Andrew  
Riehl shall have One Hundred Dollars after my  
death

I appoint my son John Riehl Jr Executor of this  
my last will revoking any former will by me  
made and I authorize and empower my said executor  
to collect all outstanding debts and if he thinks it  
advantageous to my estate to accept in satisfaction  
less than the full amount thereof  
in witness whereof I have hereunto subscribed  
my name this the 6<sup>th</sup> day of February AD 1896

Witness to me  
Joseph W. H. H. H.  
Joseph W. H. H. H.

John Riehl  
Sr

I request  
that my  
oldest son  
Frank in  
St Louis,  
MO shall  
have  
\$100.  
I also  
request  
that my  
daughter  
Helena  
Libel shall  
have  
\$100  
and I also  
request  
that my  
son John  
Riehl  
shall have  
\$200  
cash and  
all other  
personal  
property  
that I may  
own at my  
death  
consisting  
of 1 bed  
(?) and  
clothing  
and it is  
also my  
request  
that my

son Anton Riehl of Perry County shall have \$100.

It is also my request that my daughter Catherine Ruch of Bollinger County shall have credit for \$150 that I have paid her and her husband August Ruch and pay to my son Anton afore mentioned our note that I hold against them \$50

and it is also my request that my youngest son Andrew Riehl shall have \$100 after my death.

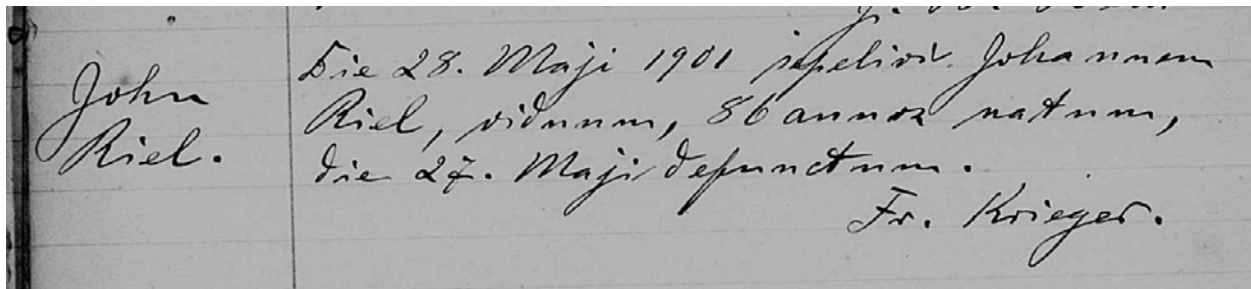
I appoint my son John Riehl, Jr executor of this my last will, revoking any former will by me made and I authorize and empower my said executor to collect all outstanding debts and as he thinks is advantageous to my estate except in satisfaction less than the full amount thereof.

He was unable to write and left a mark on the will next to his written name.

In the 1900 Bollinger County census, John Sr is listed as a boarder in the Alkemeyer residence who lived next door to his son John Jr in Whitewater Township.

172	Alkemeyer	Helia	W M Aug 1869	30	M	8			Germany		
		Catherine	W F	1873	26	M	8	5	4	Germany	
		Emma	W F	1873	7	S					
		John	W M	1874	2	S					
		Blara	W F	1897	2	S					
		August	W M	1874	1	S					
176	Riehl John Sr	Boarder	W M	1815	85	M			Germany	Germany	Germany

John would live into the 20th Century, but passed away on [27 May 1901](#) and was buried in the [St Maurus Cemetery](#) in Biehle the following day where most of his immediate family is laid to rest. He was 85 years old.



In August 1903 the final settlement of John's estate was made. Heirs would include his children John Jr., Andrew, Anton, and Catherine. The children of Frank and Helena would also share in the inheritance. The estate was worth \$956.49. After a debt to Morris Biehle was paid in the amount of \$645.12, the balance to be distributed to the heirs only amounted to \$311.37:

Court met pursuant to adjournment. Members present same as yesterday

Estate of John Reichler }  
 Deceased 6-208 } Final Settlement

John Reichler Jr Exec Now at this day comes John Reichler Jr Executor of said estate and makes proof to the Court that he has given notice as required by law that he would on this day make final settlement with said estate, and presents his accounts and vouchers for Final Settlement and by reference to his first annual Settlement he is found charged in the sum of \$956.49. He now files seven vouchers of payment together with executor commission and Unavailable Note on Morris Biehl the sum of \$645.12 for which he is allowed credit and which being deducted from his said Charges leaves a balance due said estate the sum of \$311.37. It is therefore Ordered by the Court that this settlement be and the same is hereby approved and filed for Record. It is further Ordered that the legacy of \$100 to Helene Leible deceased due and unpaid at this date be paid out of the said balance due said estate on this settlement to the guardian and curator of the minor heirs of the said Helene Leible dec'd; and it is further Ordered that the remainder, the sum of \$211.37, of said balance of said estate due on this settlement be distributed as follows, to wit: That is to say,

- To John Reichler, Jr son of the deceased the sum of \$35.22%
- " Anton Reichler " " " " " \$35.22%
- " Andrew Reichler " " " " " \$35.22%
- " Catherine Rauch daughter " " " " " \$35.22%
- " The heirs of Helene Leible dec'd daughter of John Reichler dec'd the sum of \$35.22% as follows, to wit: That is to say:
- 1. To Helene Meyer daughter of Helene Leible deceased the sum of \$4.40<sup>7</sup>/<sub>18</sub>
- 2. " Rosa Bohmert " " " " " " \$4.40<sup>7</sup>/<sub>18</sub>
- 3. " John Leible son " " " " " " \$4.40<sup>7</sup>/<sub>18</sub>
- 4. " Emma Oeds daughter " " " " " " \$4.40<sup>7</sup>/<sub>18</sub>
- 5. " Vincent Leible son " " " " " " \$4.40<sup>7</sup>/<sub>18</sub>
- 6. " Guar Minor heirs, Mary Bohmert, dau. " " " " " " \$11.40<sup>7</sup>/<sub>18</sub>
- 7. " " " Anna Kern " " " " " " \$4.40<sup>7</sup>/<sub>18</sub>
- " " " Josephine Berold " " " " " " \$4.40<sup>7</sup>/<sub>18</sub>

- To the heirs of Frank Reichler<sup>son</sup> son of John Reichler dec'd, the sum of \$35.22% as follows: That is to say:
- To Frank Reichler son of Frank Reichler dec'd the sum of \$7.04<sup>3</sup>/<sub>50</sub>
- " John J. Reichler " " " " " " \$7.04<sup>3</sup>/<sub>50</sub>
- " Mrs Katy Lilly daughter " " " " " " \$7.04<sup>3</sup>/<sub>50</sub>
- " Mary Reichler " " " " " " \$7.04<sup>3</sup>/<sub>50</sub>
- " Jeremiah Reichler son " " " " " " \$7.04<sup>3</sup>/<sub>50</sub>

It is further Ordered by the Court that said executor take proper receipts from the various distributees and file with this Court and upon the filing of same be finally discharged as Executor of said estate.