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MAKERS OF WILLS WHO SHOW SPLEEN

Legacies With Unusual Conditions
Attached to Them.

their relations containing such vindictive or arbitrary clauses as to what they must do, or must not do, under pain of forfeiting the money, that many of the recipients prefer to renounce the wealth in order that they may follow their own inclinations. In any case the agony of deciding which of the two things to do must be a terrible mental and moral strain. For instance a fortune of over £20,000 has just been left by Mrs. Bibby of Liverpool, to her sister Katherine Perry, "When my said sister shall cease to oe a nun and leave the said convent (the Notre Dame Convent, Mount Pleasant, Liverpool) absolutely."

While Mrs. Bibby's sister remains a nun the interest on the money is to be paid to her on condition that none of it is used for the benefit of the convent or any one connected with it. A similar case is that of Lady Mary Catherine Ashburnham, who has not yet come to any decision as to whether she will continue her life at the convent of the Sacred Heart at Roehampton. If she takes the vow she is precluded by Lord Ashburnham's will from inheriting his real and personal estate. The will has been provisionally sworn at under £250,000. She has four years in which to decide, being still a novice at the convent. Her age is twenty-three.

Mustn't Join Army or Navy
Another peculiar will which attracted considerable attention six years ago was that of Mr. Robert Beard, who left his estate to his nephew, provided he "did not enter either the naval or military service of the country." The nephew took the case to court, and Mr. Justice Cody decided that the clause could not stand, as "such a provision struck at the very security of the state," and was therefore contrary to the public good.

An eccentric stockbroker of Sloane street, who died in 1905 left over £/200,-000 to his only son, who was then eight years old, on very quaint terms, several pages of the will being taken up with curious provisions regarding the care and moral welfare of the child. He is not allowed to have any dealing with his mother, except as unless and ordered by a judge of the Court of Chancery.

Every effort is to be made by the trustees to prevent the granting of such an order, but if such grant cannot be prevented they are to employ "doctors, nurses, detectives or tutors" as they shall deem necessary to guard both his moral and material welfare.

A short time ago a Mr. William Claghorn died in America, possessed of about £60,000 and a pretty wife.

Of her he was inordinately jealous.

Every Smile for a Man Lost £200

He left her all his money, however, but stipulated that she should forfeit £200 of the estate each time she appeared in public unveiled, and another £200 each time she smiled at a man. The will went on: "I do further order that for every time she dances with a man, goes to any gathering for entertaining, amusement or instruction with a man that the same sum shall be forfeited, and, further, that if she do permit any caress or fashion of endearment £1,000 be forfeited."

Lord Kew was a very wealthy peer of strict principles and peculiarly acrid temper, and, having no wife or children to annoy, he "took it out," as the saying is, of his brothers, nephews and other expectant kinsfolk. One gem from his collection is in such words as these: "By a previous will I had left £50,000 to my brother John, but as he has sent his son to Oxford instead of Cambridge, contrary to my expressed wish, I reduce the legacy to £500."

Probably the meanest will on record was that of a man who left to his wife the sum of 1 farthing, with the direction that it should be sent to her by post in an unpaid envelope.—Pearson's Weekly.

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