

The Evening Telegraph
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Authority Expired on the Death of Col. McKee

Barclay H. Warburton,
President of "The Evening Telegraph."

I have been living in one of the late Colonel's McKee's houses for seven years No. 2355 Gerritt street. D. P. McKenna, of No. 1532 Point Breeze avenue, acting as agent for Colonel McKee, is still collecting the rents for all of the Gerritt street houses and when asked to show his legal authority for doing said that he was doing so under the old lease, and to all those who do not pay their rent to him he declares he will levy on their goods. When asked what he intended to do with the money, he said he would hold it until the estate was settled. I would like to know if he has authority to collect these rents under the old lease, and if so, can the tenants demand that he produce authority before they produce the money?

A Renter

Philadelphia, May 17, 1902

[The authority of an agent to collect rents or for the transaction of any other business expires upon the death of the person who vested him or her with that authority, and no legal or valid payment can be made until some person or persons are legally qualified to act in that capacity. An examination of the records of the office of the Register of Wills, shows that no one has been legally appointed to represent the estate. The editor of "The Evening Telegraph" would not like to make the broad assertion that the person claiming the right to collect had no such right, yet it would appear that demand on the person claiming to exercise the right to produce his authority would be upheld as being more than justified under the circumstances.]