## Probate File for William Conaway, McLean County, Illinois, August 21, 1832 to Nov. 18, 1834

Below are images of the pages in the probate file for William Conaway from the McLean County, Illinois Circuit Clerk - Civil Division in Bloomington, Illinois. The images are photos taken in August, 2020 by Chuck Hill, who works in that office.

The loose pages are from probate Box 1-14 and include the bond and oath of office on August 21, 1832 for Amos Conaway to serve as administrator. The pages from books are from: Book 1831-38, page 93 and facing page, Nov. 5, 1833; and Book 1833-49, page 7 and facing page, Nov. 5. 1833 and "final settlement" Nov. 18, 1834.

William Conaway died without a will. The records include lists of people who bought items at an estate sale. Many names on the lists correspond to the names of relatives of William Conaway, including:

Nancy Conaway (wife) Aquilla Conaway (son) Amos Conaway (son) Chalton Conaway (son) William Conaway (son, and also a grandson—son of Amos Conaway) Elizabeth Neal (daughter) Silas Waters (husband of daughter Christiana) Robert Barnett (husband of daughter Matilda) Ambrose Hall (husband of daughter Nancy) Henry Merrifield (husband of granddaughter Catherine—daughter of Aquilla)

The final value of the estate was \$1399, as recorded on November 18, 1834. A record of the distribution of the money to William Conaway's wife and living descendants would be expected, but was not found.

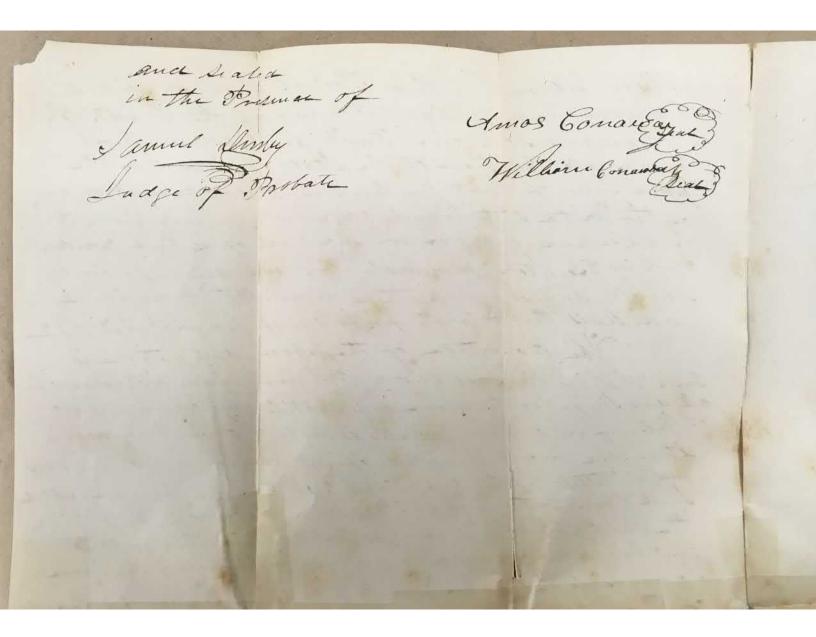
Bertha B. Watters did extensive genealogical research about William Conaway's family. Her husband Samuel "Fay" Watters was a grandson of William Conaway's daughter Christiana. Bertha's research files are at the Crumbaugh Library in Le Roy, Illinois and include a typed transcription of the probate files below made in November, 1958. She wrote that she did not find a record for the distribution of the final estate and intended to return to the courthouse to pursue the matter with the clerk. She lived in McLean County and presumably did try again, but did not obtain the expected record. In August, 2020 Chuck Hill checked the probate files for Amos Conaway and William H. Conaway to verify that a record for William Conaway had not been misfiled in another Conaway box. He said that it was possible that no record was filed with the court, or that a record was misplaced.

(The images were obtained by Jim Kennedy, who also wrote the introduction above, version of September 6, 2020)

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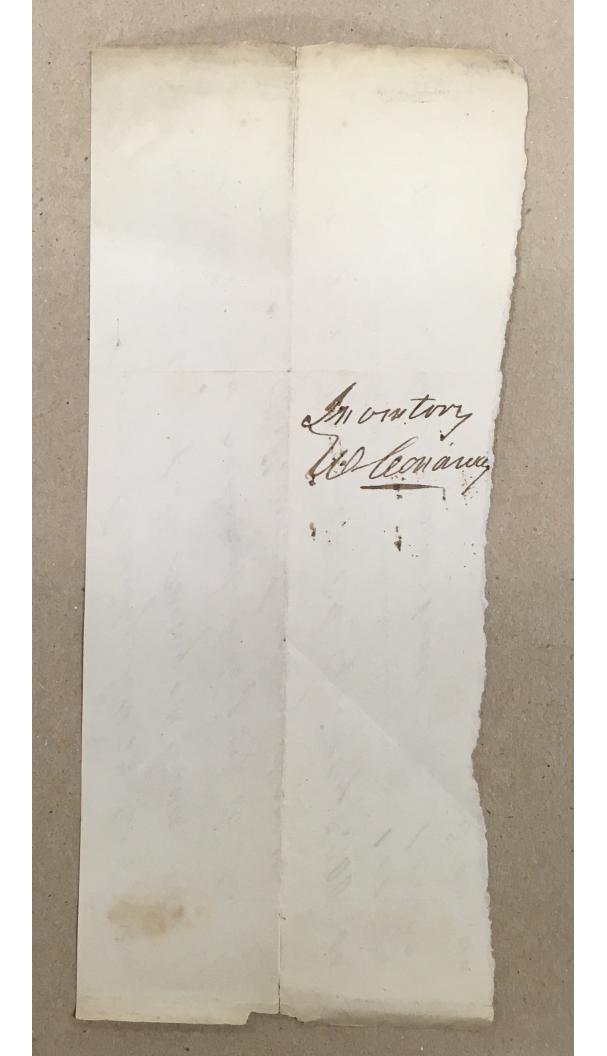
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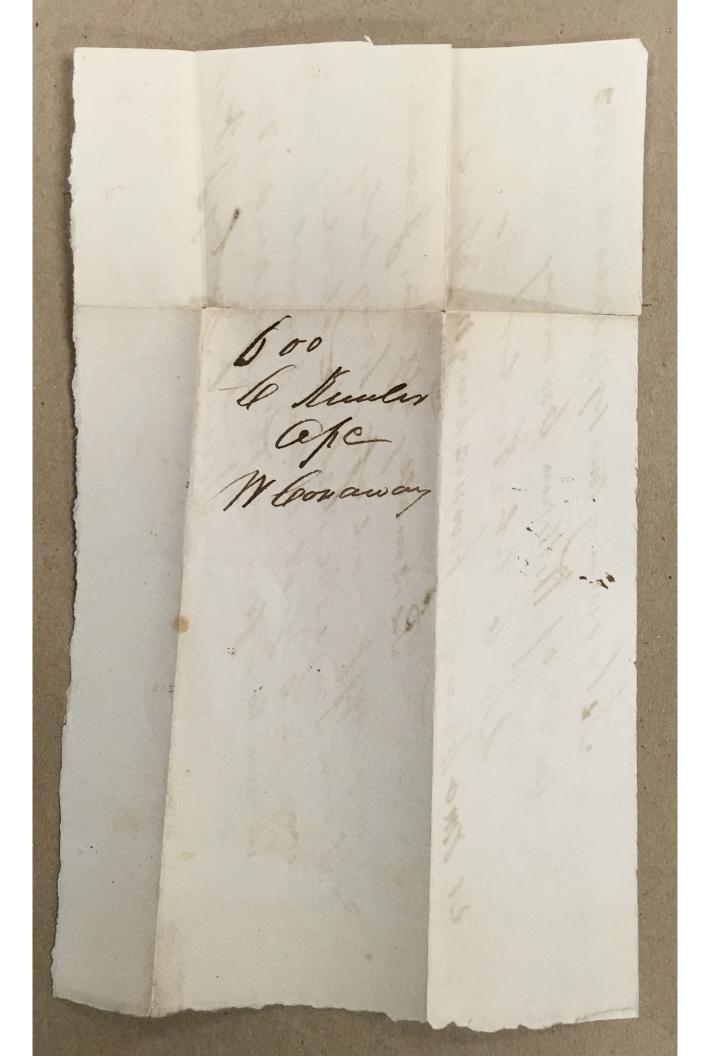
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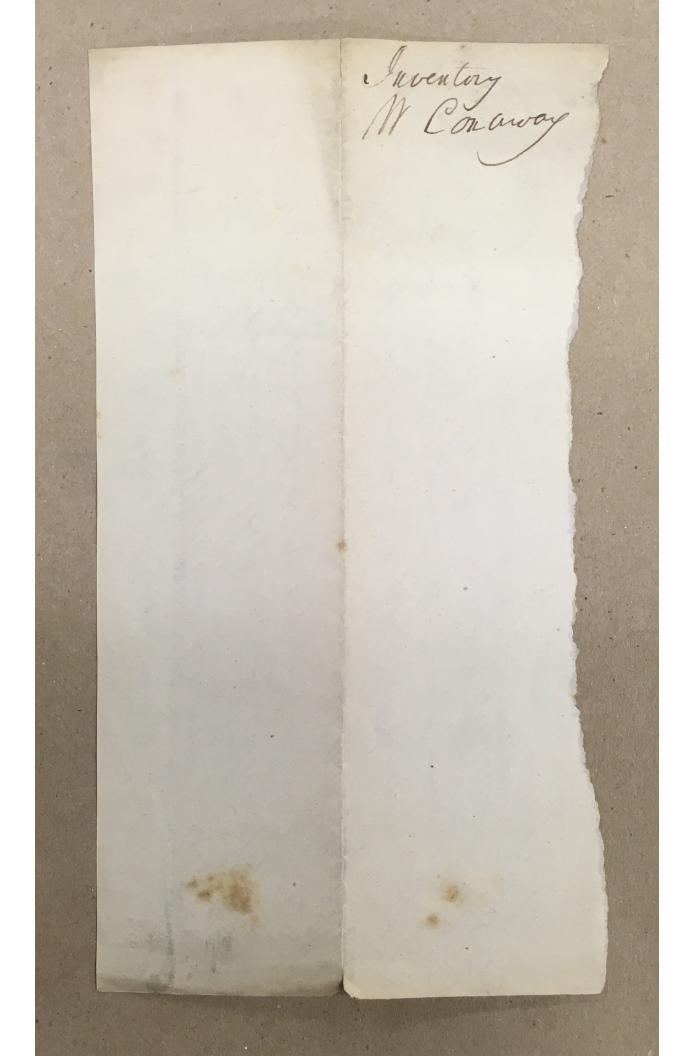
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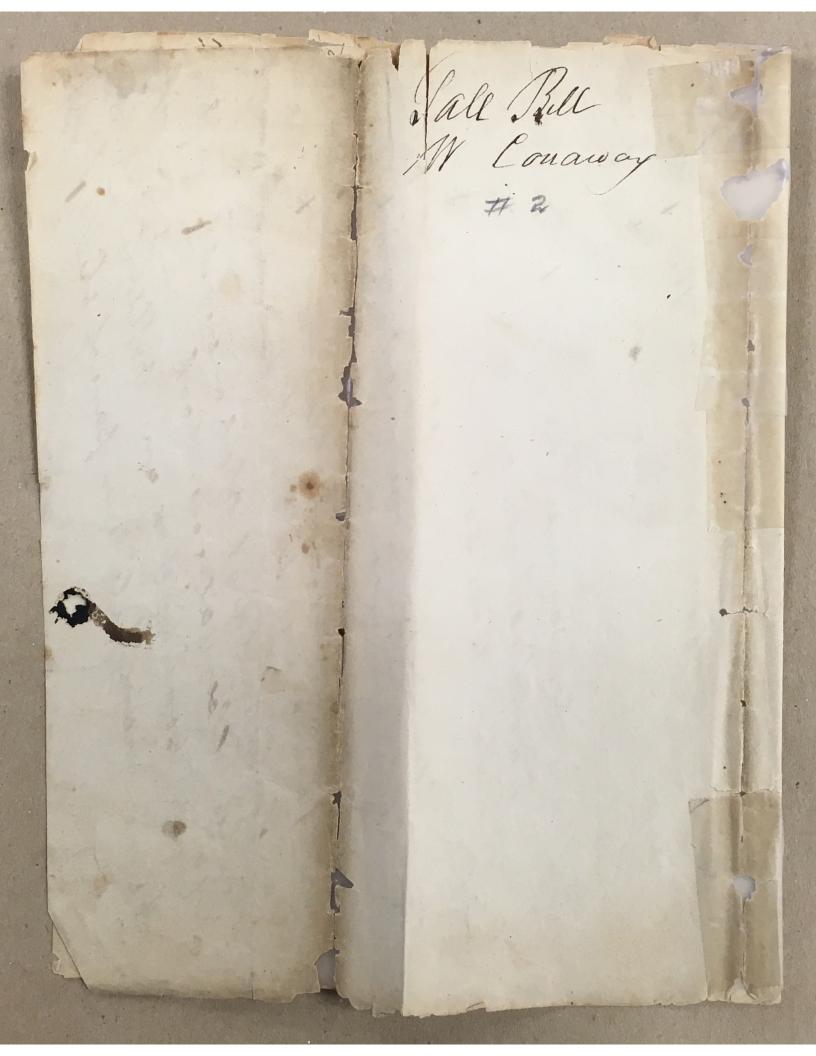
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