

Vol. II

A) ~~woman~~ widow disposes of her house.
to be buried in Jerusalem

Will of a Childless Woman, Made in Old Cairo on (November 13, 1006) *Fechat*

1006

T.S. 16.115

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(Most of the legal documents preserved in the Geniza, were written in Old Cairo itself. The Hebrew document, translated here, is a typical example. Even its poor state of preservation is *characteristic*. Most of its beginning and a considerable part of its end are torn away. Notwithstanding, all the basic stipulations contained in it emerge clearly. The translation is made from a photograph of the original manuscript and begins with line 7, the first line of any considerable length which is preserved.)

- A. I am in the possession of a house in Fustat, in the quarter Qagr al-Shan^{a)}, in the street al-Masakin^{b)} which belongs to me with all its exits and entrances, the ways leading to it and from it, and all rights connected with it from the depths of the earth to the pinnacle of heaven.
- B. Although the site belongs to the government,^{c)} I hereby give eight of the twenty-four parts of the house as an endowment to the two synagogues in Fustat, four to the synagogue of the Babylonians, and four to that of the Jerusalemites, in order that the proceeds of the monthly rent from a third of this house should be used for...^{d)} in these two synagogues, as our sages - may their merit protect us forever - have said: "It is a religious duty to act according to the words of a dying person."^{e)}