

Abstract of the Will of John Kelly 1740

John Kelly was one of five brothers from Lisduff in County Galway, Ireland who went to Jamaica in the first quarter of the eighteenth century. Brothers Edmund, Darcy and Charles died before John only Dennis surviving to return to Ireland. John married Margaret Risbie (or Risby) on the 27th April 1720 in Spanish Town, Jamaica. She was sister to Sarah Risbie wife of his brother Charles. John and Margaret had three children Risby, Mary and Edmund all of whom died young. After the death of his first wife, John married Mary Marshall on 27th Nov 1728 having one daughter Ann. He may also have had one son Dennis (baptised 18th May 1741) with Margaret Lilleyham.

John Kelly's Will was a very simple one requesting his executors to apply the profits of his estates to the payment of his debts, and if insufficient to mortgage or sell any part of his estates to discharge his debts. The residue was left to his **nephew Henry Kelly** (who died in 1745). Executors were **Henry Dawkins, Charles Price, William Aikenhead Barnet, Andries Woodstock and Dennis Kelly**. The Will was signed on the 6th August 1740 and witnessed by **Gerd. Bermingham, Pattk. Burke and John Robison**.

There seems to have been some delay in proving the Will which was not entered until 26 June 1747.