

Will of Margaret Eleanor Alpress 1797 PCC Prob 11/1288

Margaret Eleanor Alpress was born Margaret Eleanor Aikenhead in Jamaica in the early 1740s and married Samuel Alpress in the parish of St Andrew on the 27th January 1761. He died in 1784 leaving his widow and three surviving daughters. Margaret had leased out shares in the Jamaican estate of Caswell Hill to provide herself with an annuity during her lifetime.

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In the Name of God Amen. I **Margaret Eleanor Alpress of the City of Bath in the County of Somerset Widow but now in London** being of sound and disposing Mind Memory and understanding Do make Publish and Declare this my last Will and Testament in Writing in manner following (that is to say) First I Direct that all my Just Debts and Funeral Expenses be fully paid and satisfied and whereas by certain Indentures of Lease and Release bearing date respectively the twenty ninth and thirtieth days of November in the Year of Our Lord one thousand seven hundred and ninety one of the Release being of six parts and made or mentioned to be made between me the said Margaret Eleanor Alpress of the first part **Kean Osborn Esquire and Elizabeth his wife** of the second part **John Morse Merchant** of the third part **Samuel Townsend Esquire** and **Robert Cooper Lee Esquire** of the fourth part **Charles Payne Esquire** and **John Seager Gentleman** of the fifth part and **James Bowes Gentleman** of the sixth part the Plantation and Sugar work called Caswell Hill situate lying and being in the parish of Vere in the Island of Jamaica and the Lands Tenements Slaves Hereditaments and other premises therein particularly mentioned are granted and conveyed to the use of the said Samuel Townsend and Robert Cooper Lee and the survivor of them and the Executors Admons and assigns of such Survivors for the term of one thousand years upon the Trust (among other things) by the ways and means therein mentioned to raise and [illegible] and pay to me my Executors Admons and Assigns the sum of two thousand pounds of lawful Money of Great Britain with Interest thereon at and after the rate of five pounds per centum per Annum from the twenty

sixth Day of October in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and ninety eight if I should so long live such Interest to be paid me by half yearly Payments on the Days there in particularly mentioned during the Term of my natural Life and the Principal Sum of two thousand pounds together with a proportionable part of the Interest thereof from the last half yearly Day of Payment thereof to the time of my Decease to be paid upon my Decease to my Executors or Admons as part of my Personal Estate But in Case of my Decease before the said twenty sixth day of October one thousand seven hundred and ninety eight then the sum of two thousand pounds is to be paid to my Executors or Admons at that time Now I do hereby Direct that the said sum of two thousand pounds shall be raised and paid to my Executors hereinafter named and [illegible] I do hereby Give and Bequeath unto my **grandsons Samuel Osborn and Kean Osborn** the Sum of one hundred pounds of lawful Money of Great Britain to each of them and the Residue of the sum of two thousand pounds is to be paid applied and disposed of for the other purposes of this my Will Also I Give and Bequeath unto my **daughter Elizabeth Osborn the wife of the said Kean Osborn** my Silver Christening Bowl Also I Give and Bequeath unto my daughter **Milborough Crewe the Wife of Richard Crewe** Esquire my Silver Epergne Also I give and Bequeath unto my Daughter **Jane Eleanor Bulkeley the wife of Richard Bulkeley** Esquire three Mahogany Cases with Silver Locks and Handles the two larger Cases containing two Dozen Green handled¹ Knives and Forks ferrelled with Silver and one Dozen of Table Spoons and a Marrow spoon in each Case and the smaller Case containing one Dozen of Green handled knives and forks ferrelled with silver and one dozen of Desert Spoons and also a Silver Cruet stand both Compleat two pair of high Silver Candlesticks one flat silver candlestick one large silver Tankard and Cover two Silver Cups and Covers one large round Silver waiter one ditto next size two hand round Silver waiters one Silver Tea urn one Tortois Shell Tea Chest with silver Canisters Compleat fifteen Silver Tea spoons and a pair of silver Tea Tongs Also I Give and Bequeath unto my **Sister Elizabeth Townsend** my large square Silver Tea Board Also I give and bequeath unto my sister **Milborough McLean** a large Silver Saucepan and Cover Also I give and Bequeath unto my **Niece**

¹ Probably green stained ivory fashionable at the time

Elizabeth Trelawny Townsend my Silver Tea Pot Also I Give and Bequeath unto my Dear **Friend**

Mary Stern a Small Silver Saucepan used for Cream Also I Give and Bequeath unto my said Daughter Elizabeth Osborn my Diamond Necklace and Ear Rings one large Diamond Pin and her Fathers Picture set round with Diamonds Also I Give and Bequeath unto my daughter Jane Eleanor Bulkeley my two next sized Diamond Pins and six smaller ones my Diamond Pin with her Fathers Hair and a smaller Diamond Pin with Hair in it and my Rose Diamond Ring Also I Give and Bequeath unto my **God Daughter Elizabeth Raine (?) Wilhelmina Pringle** my Hoop Diamond Ring Also I Give and Bequeath unto my said daughter Jane Eleanor Bulkeley all my wearing Apparel Linen and Laces and all my Household Linen of every kind and all my China and Glass Also I give and Bequeath unto my said sister Elizabeth Townsend the Sum of one hundred pounds of lawful Money of Great Britain Also I Give and Bequeath unto my said Sister Milborough McLean the Sum of one hundred pounds of lawful Money of Great Britain Also I Give and Bequeath unto my Grand Daughter Frances Osborn the Sum of fifty pounds of lawful Money of Great Britain Also I Give and Bequeath unto my **Grand Daughter Emma Crewe** the Sum of fifty pounds of lawful Money of Great Britain Also I Give and Bequeath unto my **Grandsons Richard Bulkeley and Samuel Alpress Bulkeley** the Sum of fifty pounds of lawful Money of Great Britain to each of them Also I Give and Bequeath unto my **Nephew Samuel [Kean?] Townsend** the Sum of one hundred pounds of lawful Money of Great Britain Also I Give and Bequeath unto my said Niece Elizabeth Trelawny Townsend the Sum of one hundred pounds of lawful Money of Great Britain Also I Give and Bequeath unto **Doctor Brown my Physician at Bath** the Sum of one hundred pounds of lawful Money of Great Britain for Mourning Also I Give and Bequeath unto my **woman Servant Susanna Tomlinson** the Sum of ten pounds of lawful Money of Great Britain Also I Give and Bequeath unto **Mary Collins Housekeeper to my said sister Elizabeth Townsend** the Sum of ten pounds of lawful Money of Great Britain Also I Give and Bequeath to **my Mulatto Woman named Mary Bremmer (?) My Negro women named Rose Johnston and Eleanor Aikenhead and my Negro Man named James Knight** all of whom live in Jamaica the Sum of ten pounds of lawful money of Great Britain to each of them and all the Rest Residue and Remainder of

my Estate and Effects whatsoever I Give Devise and Bequeath to my said Daughter Jane Eleanor Bulkeley her Heirs Executors and Admons to and for her and their own use and benefit and I nominate Constitute and appoint my said Son In Law Richard Bulkeley Sole Executor of This My Last Will and Testament and Hereby Revoking All Other Will and Wills by me at any time heretofore made and I declare this only to be my last Will and Testament In Witness whereof I the said Margaret Eleanor Alpress the Testatrix have to this my last Will and Testament contained in this and the three preceding sheets of paper set my hand and affixed my seal (to wit) my hand at the bottom of the three preceding sheets and my hand and seal to this Fourth and last sheet this seventeenth Day of February in the Year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and ninety five. M.E.Alpress Signed Sealed Published and Declared by the said Margaret Eleanor Alpress the Testatrix as and for her last Will and Testament in the presence of us who in her presence at her request and in the presence of each other have hereunto subscribed our names as witnesses. Jas. Townsend, [?] Smith, [?] Bowes

This Will was proved at London the seventeenth day of April in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and ninety seven before the worshipful John [illegible] Doctor of Laws Surrogate of the Right Honourable Sir William Wynne Knight also Doctor of Laws Master Keeper or Commissary of the Prerogative Court of Canterbury lawfully constituted by the Oath of Richard Bulkeley Esquire the sole Executor named in the said Will to whom Administration of all and singular the Goods Chattels and Credits of the Deceased was granted having been first sworn duly to Administer./.

Transcribed by Anne Powers

18 Janaury 2012