

Will of John Laurence Felsted of St Catherine Jamaica 1821

PCC Canterbury Prob 11/1648

John Laurence (or Lawrence) Felsted was the only surviving son of the composer Samuel Felsted. It must be presumed his wife Maria had died before him, possibly at the birth of their son Samuel James Felsted in 1818. At the time of his death three of his sisters were still alive – Susan May and Christiana, mentioned in the Will and the unmarried Sarah Felsted who may also by then have been living in London. It is not clear from the Will, and without a burial record, whether John Laurence Felsted died in Jamaica or in London. Both his children moved to England where Samuel James died in 1860 and Justina in 1887.

This is the Last Will and Testament of me **John Laurence Felsted of the Parish of Saint Catherine** in the County of Middlesex and Island of Jamaica first I direct that all my just debts and funeral expenses be fully paid and satisfied as soon after my decease as may be convenient to my Executors and Executrices hereinafter named Item I give devise and bequeath In trust unto my two children **Justina Frances Felsted and Samuel James Felsted** my House in Church Street my Store in Water Lane my Penn in Saint Catherine and House in London together with all my Slaves Plate Jewels? Stock and whatever I may die possessed of either Real Personal mixed or in expectancy for them and their heirs lawfully begotten but should my said Daughter or Son die without lawful issue then I give devise and bequeath the same and every part thereof unto the Survivors (sic) and in case of the death of both my said daughter and Son Without Lawful Issue Begotten of Their Bodies Then I Give Devise and Bequeath the Same and Every Part Thereof unto the Children of my Sisters **Susan May Robertson and Christiana Dawson** Share and Share Alike for Ever I Nominate Constitute and Appoint **James Robertson John Dawson Esquires Susan May Robertson and Christiana Dawson Executors**

and Executrices and Guardians to My Two Children in Witness Whereof I Have Hereunto Set My Hand and Seal This Twenty-Sixth Day of February in the Year of Our Lord one thousand eight hundred and twenty one /-/Jno L Felsted Signed Sealed Published and declared by the said Testator as his last Will and Testament in our presence who at his request in his presence and in the presence of each other have subscribed our names as Witnesses thereto /-/David Phillips /-/ John Cammell /-/ Alexr Cameron://

8 September 1821

Appeared personally David Phillips of Heath Street Commercial Road in the County of Middlesex Mariner and made oaths that he is one of the subscribed Witnesses to the last Will and Testament of John Laurence Felsted late of the parish of Saint Catherine in the County of Middlesex and Island of Jamaica deceased bearing date the twenty sixth day of February one thousand eight hundred and twenty one and he further made oath that he was present with the said deceased on the day of the date of the said Will when he the said John Laurence Felsted deceased as well in the presence of this appearer as of the other subscribing Witnesses to the said Will did duly execute his last Will and Testament which is hereunto annexed contained in two pages of paper by subscribing his name Jno L. Felsted opposite the wax impression on the second page thereof and he the said deceased did then also Seal Publish and declare the said paper writing which he had signed and Sealed to be and contain his last Will and Testament whereupon the appearer in the presence of and at the request of the said Testator and also in the presence of the other subscribing Witnesses did set and subscribe his name as a Witnessed the said Will and the other subscribing Witnesses did also set and subscribed their names as Witnesses thereto in manner and form as therein now appears and having now [illegible] the names David Phillips appearing subscribed as a Witness to the said will he says that such names are of his proper handwriting and subscription and he lastly deposed that the said John Lawrence Felsted deceased at the time of executing his said Will as aforesaid and during all and singular the circumstances aforesaid appeared to be and was as he the appearer verily and in his conscience believes of sound and disposing mind memory and understanding well knew and

understood what he said and did and was perfectly capable of making and writing his last Will and Testament or of doing any other serious and rational act of that all the like nature. /-/David Phillips same day the said David Phillips was duly sworn to the truth of this affidavit before me John Daubeny Surr. Present Jno J Glennie N.P.

Proved at London 6th Sept 1821 before the worshipful John Daubeny Doctor of Laws & Surr. by the oath of **James Robertson Esq John Dawson Esq Susan May Robertson Wife of the said James Robertson & Christiana Dawson Wife of the said John Dawson** the Sisters and Exors. to whom Admon was granted having been first sworn duly to admr.

Transcribed by Anne M Powers

October 2012