

# Will of Joseph Stone Williams 1836

## PCC Prob 11/1867

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*Joseph Stone Williams (c.1778 - 06 Feb 1836) was the owner of Anglesea Pen, Cairn Curran and Carawina estates in Westmoreland, Jamaica. The Williams family had a long history in the parish and although Joseph does not appear to have married, and had no legitimate heirs, his Will is a treasure trove of names from his various 'reputed children', to the former slaves, who by the time he wrote his Will had become 'apprentices' on his estates. He was buried in the family burial plot at Carawina where so many of his family found their final resting place.*

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In the Name of God Amen

I **Joseph Stone Williams of the Parish of Westmoreland in the County of Cornwall** in the said Island Esquire being of sound mind memory and understanding do make publish and declare this to be my last Will and Testament in manner and form following that is to say after all my just debts and funeral expenses are fully paid and satisfied for the payment of which I make liable all my estate Real Personal and Mixed whatsoever and wheresoever I give devise and bequeath unto **my Brother William Williams** the sum of ten thousand pounds currency I give devise and bequeath unto **my two Nieces named Elizabeth Lachlan Grant and Josephine Mary Grant the Daughters of James Grant by my late Sister Mary Hall Grant** the sum of two thousand eight hundred pounds currency each upon their respectively arriving at the age of twenty-one years or day of marriage which ever should first happen and the share of her so dying to go to the survivor her heirs and assigns for ever and it is also my will that in case of my death before they severally become of age my executors and trustees shall pay the interest of their several legacies towards their maintenance I give devise and bequeath unto my executors and trustees their executors administrators and assigns the sum of five thousand six hundred pounds currency upon trust nevertheless to pay the interest thereof annually unto **my sister Jemima Jackson at present residing in Great Britain** for and during the term of her natural life

and in the event of her death leaving issue under age to apply the said interest for and towards the maintenance education and support of such Issue and upon the decease of my said Sister **Jemima Jackson** I give and bequeath the said sum of five thousand six hundred pounds currency to her issue if one upon his or her attaining the age of twenty-one years but if more than one then to be equally divided amongst them upon the whole attaining the age of twenty-one years or day of marriage (if Daughters which ever should first happen) the share or shares of him or her so dying to the survivors or survivor their heirs and assigns for ever but should the said **Jemima Jackson** die without any children then the said sum of five thousand six hundred pounds shall revert to and become part of my residuary estate And I do hereby order and direct that the said legacies and the interest thereof hereinbefore bequeathed to my said Nieces **Elizabeth Lachlan Grant and Josephine Mary Grant** and also to the said **Jemima Jackson** my said Sister and to her Issue shall be payable in Great Britain and that without any charges expenses or abatement whatsoever I give and bequeath unto my God Daughter **Mary Distin** the Daughter of **Doctor [illegible] Henry Distin** the sum of one hundred pounds currency in testimony of my regard and esteem for her I give devise and bequeath unto **Mary Pessoa** of the parish of Westmorland Single woman an annuity or yearly sum of one hundred and sixty pounds currency to be paid to her by four quarterly payments by my executors to commence from and immediately after my decease the first quarterly payment to be made in advance I give devise and bequeath unto the said **Mary Pessoa** the apprenticeship services yet to come and unexpired of and in all those male and female Negro and other Apprentices named **William Grant William Montague William P [blank] Atkinson George Dixon James Arthur James Drummond Charles Vassall Alexander Grant Charles Pinnock Thomas Williams Richard Wellington Nod alias William Godfrey Amelia Murray Eliza Grant Grace Elizabeth Atkinson Patience Sarah R [blank] Arthur Ann Wilson Bell Margaret W [blank] Grant Jane Smith Jane Neill Daphne Hannah Queen Juba Matilla Bessy Anderson Helen McLeod Thomas Anderson George Pessoa Mary P [blank] James Maria Williams Pessoa alias Maria Cook James Gammon Bonella Gammon Maria Lewis Robert Bowen Jackie alias John MacLeod Ithy (?) Girling Mimba alias Eliza Hodges David**

**Bowen William Goodin and Richard Bowen** for the use of the said **Mary Pessoa** and for the maintenance of **her three Sons Joseph Stone Williams John Robert Williams and Henry Lawrence Williams** for and during the term of her natural life subject to the said remaining unexpired term of apprenticeship and in case of her death before the expiration of such apprenticeship then to the use of the said **Joseph Stone Williams John Robert Williams and Henry Lawrence Williams** and to the survivors and survivor of them I give devise and bequeath all my mountain plantation called Cairn Curran and its appurtenances (excepting the two parcels of land part of the same hereinafter devised) unto the said **Mary Pessoa** to have and to hold the same for and during the term of her natural life then to the use of the said **Joseph Stone Williams John Robert Williams and Henry Lawrence Williams** their heirs and assigns as tenants in common and not as joint tenants and it is my will that the apprentices at present located upon Cairn Curran shall have the use of their houses and grounds during the apprenticeship system without any hindrance or molestation whatsoever And I do hereby direct and empower my executors and trustees to repair and put in complete order (if the same should not be done before my decease) the dwellinghouse and offices upon the said Plantation called Cairn Curran at the expense of my General Estate And I do further direct that the said **Mary Pessoa** and her family shall be allowed to live and remain at her usual residence the Great House of Anglesea Penn as long as she continues to choose to do so provided that in so doing she remain single and do not cause the introduction of any individual who may interfere with my executors and trustees in the management of my affairs in that she shall also have permission to depasture hers and her Childrens Cattle Horses and other Stock for so long as she chooses to reside at Anglesea and provided that the number of such Stock shall not at any time exceed twelve I give and bequeath unto the said **Mary Pessoa** one of my Gold Watches at present being repaired in England I also give and bequeath unto the said **Mary Pessoa** all my furniture house linen and wearing apparel give and bequeath unto the said **Joseph Stone Williams** the sum of one thousand six hundred pounds currency to be paid to him upon attaining the age of twenty-three years I give and bequeath unto the said **John Robert Williams** the sum of one thousand four hundred pounds

upon his becoming twenty-three years of age I also give and bequeath the said **Henry Lawrence Williams** the sum of one thousand four hundred pounds currency to be likewise paid him upon his arriving at the age of twenty-three years And it is my will that the interest upon their respective legacies shall be individually applied for and towards their support until they shall respectively attain twenty-three years of age and become entitled to the payment of their legacies And it is also my will that the Youngest Sons education shall be paid out of the means of my General Estate without [illegible] to his said legacy or the interest thereof but should any or either of them die before they arrive at that time of life then it is my will that the share of him so dying shall be divided between the survivors but in case only one of the three before named brothers shall survive the whole then it is my will that such survivor shall only be entitled to the sum of three thousand pounds currency the remaining part of the shares of the two deceased brothers to sink in and become part of my residuary estate I give devise and bequeath unto my executors and trustees their executors administrators and assigns the sum of two thousand pounds currency upon trust nevertheless to pay the interest thereof for the maintenance and support of the **two Sons of Eliza Robertson** of the Parish of Westmorland Single woman named **Joseph Williams and James Williams** to the said **Eliza Robertson** every half-year from and after my decease until they shall both attain the age of twenty-three years then I direct the said sum of two thousand pounds to be equally divided between them share and share alike but should one survive the other before they are twenty-three years of age then it is my will (as well as it is my desire if both should die before they are of age that the whole shall revert to my estate) that the share of him so dying shall become part of the residue of my estate I give devise and bequeath unto my executors and trustees their executors administrators and assigns the sum of one thousand four hundred pounds currency upon trust nevertheless to pay the interest thereof for the maintenance and support of **Mary Williams the Daughter of Eliza Murray** of the Parish of St James for and during the term of her natural life and if she shall marry I direct the interest to be paid into her hands by two annual payments and it is my will that if the said **Mary Williams** shall die having issue that it is my will that the said sum of one thousand four hundred

pounds shall go to him or her if one upon his or her attaining the age of twenty-one years and if more than one to be equally divided amongst the Children upon the whole attaining the age of twenty-one years or days of marriage (if Daughters whichever should first happen) the share or shares of him or her so dying to the survivors or survivor of them their heirs and assigns for ever but should the said **Mary Williams** die unmarried or married but without issue then it is my will that the said sum of one thousand four hundred pounds shall fall into the residue of my estate I give and bequeath unto **Ann Williams the daughter of Ann Anderson** an annuity or yearly sum of sixty pounds current money of Jamaica to be paid her by four quarterly payments by my executors from and immediately after my decease I give and bequeath unto my Friends the **Reverend Thomas Stewart Paul Stevens Samuells(?) David Mason the Elder Henry Distin Thomas Hills and Hutchison Scott** the sum of twelve Sovereigns each for the purpose of purchasing a ring as a keepsake I give and bequeath my Gold Watch Chain and Seals made by Barrands(?) Cornhill London unto my **Nephew Joseph my Brother William's Eldest Son** I give and bequeath unto my friend **James Grant** the sum of one hundred pounds Sterling for the purpose of purchasing some token of remembrance of me provided always that this shall not be taken to be in lieu of his lawful commissions on my estate I give devise and bequeath unto **John McLeod** formerly my servant twenty acres of Cairn Curran Land to hold to him and his heirs for ever together with an annuity of twenty pounds currency for and during his lifetime for and in consideration of his faithful services I give devise and bequeath unto my **Servant Francis Stone** ten acres of Land (also Cairn Curran) and the sum of twenty pounds currency and I do hereby direct that in apportioning these two pieces of land my executor or executors and trustees shall have the care not to do so to the prejudice of the other part of property devised to the said **Mary Pessoa** as aforesaid altho it is my desire that no advantage shall be taken of the said **John McLeod and Francis Stone** in apportioning to them barren or valueless land I give and bequeath unto my **Servant William Hughes** the sum of ten pounds currency I do hereby direct my executors and trustees to sell and dispose of all my wines carriages horses and plate purchased by myself for the best price that can be had or gotten for the same for the benefit of

my estate I desire my executors to cause a plain marble Slab to be placed over my remains with a suitable inscription thereon as soon as conveniently can be after my decease And I do also hereby direct my executors to provide mourning upon my decease for **Mary Pessoa** and all my reputed Children and the principal domestics of my family And whereas my estate will be liable for the paying of the balance of the legacy due to the estate of **my late Sister Mary Hall Grant** amounting at present to the sum of three thousand six hundred and ninety-seven pounds nineteen shillings and one penny current money of Jamaica bequeathed to her by the Will of **my Father James Williams** deceased which I am desirous should be paid as soon as can be after my decease to the said **James Grant** I do hereby make liable all my monies in the funds and in the hands of Messieurs Colvile and Company and the compensation to which I am entitled under the abolition act and all my other property real personal and mixed whatsoever and wheresoever for the payment of the same and of the various other legacies bequests and annuities orders and directions charged and contained in this my last Will and Testament and I do hereby empower my executors and trustees from time to time as occasion may require or it may seem expedient to them to transfer my monies in the funds and other hands and to reinvest the same in Government or other good and sufficient securities wherein the most interest can be had or gotten for the same All the Rest Residue and Remainder of my estate real personal and mixed whatsoever and wheresoever I give devise and bequeath the same and every part thereof unto my executors and trustees their executors administrators and assigns upon trust nevertheless for and during the term of the apprenticeship system in this Island that is to say to the first day of August which will be in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and forty to pay over every year for the annual nett proceeds of the profits of my real estate and the interest to arise from the residue of my funded and other personal estate to my **brother the Reverend Theodore Williams** then I give devise and bequeath the same real and personal and every part thereof unto the said **Theodore Williams** to the only proper use and behoof of the said **Theodore Williams** his heirs and assigns for ever I do hereby nominate constitute and appoint the said **James Grant** of the parish of Westmoreland in this Island and **Andrew Colvile** of the

United Kingdom of Great Britain Esquires Executors and Trustees of this my last Will and Testament hereby revoking all other Wills by me at any time heretofore made In Witness whereof I the said Joseph Stone Williams have to the nine first pages of this my Will set my hand only and to this tenth and last page thereof set my hand and affixed my seal this thirtieth day of November in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and thirty-five /-/Jo.S.Williams Signed Sealed Published and Declared by the said Testator Joseph Stone Williams as and for his last Will and Testament in the presence of us who at his request in his presence and in the presence of each other have subscribed our names as Witnesses thereto /-/**Peter Esson** /-/**Robt. Wilson**/-/**J.R.Brown**//

**This is a Codicil** to the last Will and Testament of me Joseph Stone Williams of the Parish of Westmoreland in the County of Cornwall in the Island of Jamaica Esquire which Will bears [illegible] date here with First I do hereby ratify and confirm my said Will in all respects save in so far as the same relates to the appointment thereby made of Andrew Colvile as one of my executors and trustees and whereas I may die possessed of monies in the hands of Messieurs Colvile and Company of the City of London Merchants And now I do hereby ratify and confirm my said appointment of the said Andrew Colvile is one of my Executors and trustees provided always nevertheless that such appointment shall not be meant or construed to release or to be a discharge to the said Andrew Colvile individually or to the mercantile firm of Colvile and Company for any monies of mine in their hands as a legacy to the said Andrew Colvile In Witness whereof to this present writing which I hereby declare to be a Codicil to my last Will and Testament and which I direct to be taken as part thereof I have to this first page set my hand only and to this second and last page thereof set my hand and seal this thirtieth day of November in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and thirty-five /-/Jo.S.Williams /-/Signed Sealed Published and Declared by the said Testator Joseph Stone Williams as and for a Codicil to his last Will and Testament in the presence of us who at his request in his presence and in the presence of each other have subscribed our names as Witnesses thereto /-/**Peter Easson** /-/**Robt. Wilson** /-/**J.R.Brown**

**This is another Codicil** to the last Will and Testament of me Joseph Stone Williams which said Will and Codicil bear date upon the thirtieth day of November one thousand eight hundred and thirty-five And I do hereby ratify and confirm my said last Will and Testament and Codicil in all respects and in addition to the various orders directions legacies and bequests therein made directed given and bequeathed I do hereby order and direct that the present Crop of Carawina Estate to be shipped and to be answerable for the contingencies of the estate I give devise and bequeath unto **Ann Katherine Storer** Widow ~~the one half of the commissions which I engaged to pay her on the Crop~~ (original so) the sum of thirty guineas The one half of the commissions which I engaged to pay to her on the Crop of the Estates of **Anthony Gilbert Storer** for the year one thousand eight hundred and thirty-one I desire may be given to her as soon as the amount of my debt against the estate of Storer is paid I give devise and bequeath unto her Daughter Ann Storer the like sum of thirty Guineas as a small (sic) of my remembrance I give and bequeath the sum of thirty Guineas for the purchase of watch for my young friend **John Allan Distin** I give my officers pistols to my **Brother William** and the pistols in the case to my **reputed son Joseph Stone Williams** I give and bequeath unto my **Niece Elizabeth Lachlan Grant** the breast Pin with my Sisters hair I give unto the **Eldest Daughter of my Brother William** the breast pin with my Fathers and Mothers hair I give unto **Mary Hemmings** the sum of ten pounds and to **Frances Nesbitt and Eliza James** the sum of five pounds each for their attention during my Illness In Witness whereof to this present writing which I hereby declare to be another Codicil to my last Will and Testament and which I direct to be taken as part thereof I have to the first page set my hand only and to this second and last page thereof set my hand and seal this ~~thirtieth~~ [original so] eleventh day of January in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and thirty-six – Jo.S.Williams /-/Signed Sealed Published and Declared by the said Joseph Stone Williams the Testator as and for another Codicil to his last Will and Testament in the presence of us who at his request in his presence and in the presence of each other have subscribed our names as Witnesses thereto the ability orations in the third sixteenth and seventeenth lines of

the first page and the obliteration on the twelfth line of this page having been first made/-/

**R.H.Harvey /-/J.R.Brown/**

Vera Copia Extur W.G.Stewart Sec /-

**Proved at London with two Codicils 27th September 1836** before the Judge by the Oath of **James Grant** one of the Executors to whom Admon was granted having been first Sworn by Commission duly to Administer./ . Andrew Colvile Esquire the other Executor and one of the Residuary Legatees in trust having duly renounced the Probate and Execution of the said Will and Codicils and the Letters of Admon with the same annexed./.

Transcribed by Anne M Powers

March 2013