

Will of John Styleman 1734

PCC Prob 11/666

John Styleman (or Stileman) was born about 1650, and was a London Merchant in the East India Trade spending thirty years in Java and India. He was married five times, first to Elizabeth in India with whom he had at least five children. On the 5th October 1708 he married Arabella Farmer at Wanstead. On the 6th July 1719 he married Henrietta Beaumont at St Bartholomew the Great, London and after her death he married Amy Sheppard at St Margaret Westminster in 1725. Finally he married the twice widowed Mary Sadler (formerly Hals, née Rose) at St Dunstan and All Saints on the 12th February 1731/32 who outlived him. He died aged about eighty-four on the 15th August 1734, probably at his house in Charterhouse Square, and was buried at Bexley with all his wives except Elizabeth. The Almshouses constructed in accordance with his Will still stand.

I **John Styleman of Charterhouse Square London Merchant** do hereby revoke all my former Wills and make this my last Will and Testament as following Vizt. I direct that the five hundred pounds which **my last wife Amy** had power to dispose of by our Marriage Agreement be paid according to the Directions of her Will or Writing Importing her Will/I give to **my sister Sarah Beaumont** fifty pounds a Year during Her Life to be paid to her own hands for her separate use and her receipt alone for the same without her husband to be good to Discharge and to be paid by weekly payments of twenty shillings on every Monday Morning until the whole fifty pounds for the year be paid and this I do in order the better to Supply her wants and that She may never have more at a time to hand than twenty Shillings and I appoint the same to be paid out of the produce of two thousand pounds Stock I have in the English East India Company Stock/I give to **my present Dear wife Mary** (over and above what She will be Intituled to by our Marriage Settlement) One full half of the Interest and produce of the said two thousand pounds East India Stock during her life/and I also

give to her absolutely My Coach Chariot horses and Harness and also all the Jewells and all other the Goods Chattells and Personal Estate that She was possessed of or intitled to at or before our Inter-marriage And in order to prevent any Questions or Disputes touching the same I Will and Appoint that her own Declaration in writing under her hand specifying the particulars of what Jewells Goods Chattells and Personal Estate She was so Entitled unto shall be Conclusive And I give to her Absolutely All that she shall so Specify in such Declaration trusting therein Solely to her honour Of which I have not the least doubt. After the Death of my said Sister Beaumont I direct that one thousand pounds of the said two thousand pounds India Stock be sold and out of the money thereby arising I give as followeth vizt. To **Mrs Mary Fish Niece of Arabella my Second Wife** two hundred pounds To and amongst all such Children Sons and Daughters equally of **Captain Francis Gostlin Grandson of Elizabeth my first Wife** as shall be living at the death of my said Sister Beaumont one thousand pounds To Mr **Simon Gostlin** Brother of the said Captain Francis Gostlin three hundred pounds to **Mary Southby** a Relation of my said first wife that used to sell me Books Ten Pounds To Mr **Charles Burton** now in the East India Company's Service in India Son of Mr **Caesar Burton** deceased thirty pounds for [illegible] To **Mary Taylor** wife of **William Taylor of Chigwell row** in Essex thirty pounds after her husband and she have paid and satisfied what is due to me as will appear by the Account entered in my Book and not before But I will that if any of them the said Mrs Mary Fish Mr Simon Gostlin Mary Southby and Mr Charles Burton shall dye before my said Sister Beaumont that then the said Legacys of such of them so dying shall be paid and in Case the said Mary Taylor shall dye before my said Sister Beaumont then the said thirty pounds Legacy for her shall be equally paid to and amongst her maiden Daughters living at my said Sister's death And whereas on our Marriage I settled all my Lands Tenements and Estate at Bexley Plumpsted and elsewhere in Kent on my said present Wife for her Life the same being let to **John Selwyn** Esq for a long terme of years at two hundred pounds a year tax-free More I do hereby after my said Wifes death give and devise one fourth part of all my said Estate in Kent to my niece **Mrs Anne Lloyd** wife of Mr **John Lloyd Brewer** for her Life and after her Death to her daughter Anne Lloyd and her heirs

for ever And I give and devise one other fourth part of the said Estate to **my niece Mrs Jane Sadleir** wife of Mr **George Sadleir** for her life and after her Death to her Son and Daughter George Sadleir and Jane Sadleir equally to be divided between them and to their several heirs for ever and the remaining Moiety or two fourth parts Of my said Estate I give and devise to **Sir Robert Austen of Hall Place** in the said parish of Bexley Baronet **John Austen of Bexley** aforesaid Esqr son of Captain Austen deceased and **William Steele** of [illegible]abby in the said parish of Bexley Gentleman and their heirs for ever upon the Trusts following vizt. that they and the Survivors and Survivor of them and the heirs and Assigns of such Survivor Do in their names with the Concurrence and Approbation in Writing of the Minister and Churchwardens for the time being of the parish of Bexley aforesaid out of the rents and profits of the said Moiety or two fourth parts purchase a proper piece of Freehold Land as near the church of Bexley aforesaid as conveniently may be and thereon build twelve Substantial Almshouses for the Commodious reception and living off twelve poor families And after the same are finished that then and from thenceforth there shall from time to time for ever be put and placed therein such poor and distressed Families and Inhabitants of the said Parish of Bexley and to continue therein during so long time as the Minister and Church Wardens of the said Parish for the time being or any two of them shall from time to time Choose nominate and think fitt and that the yearly rents and profitts of the said Moiety or two fourth parts of my said Estate after the said Almshouses shall be so finisht shall forever be paid as the same shall be received to the said Minister and Church Wardens of the said Parish for the time being and be by them or any two of them divided into twelve equal parts and forthwith paid and distributed to and amongst the said Poor Familys Vizt To each Family be they large or small a full twelfth part with full power and Authority nevertheless forthe said Minister and Church Wardens and their Successors for ever to detain and keep out of the said Rents and Profitts in the first place Sufficient money for the Necessary reparation of the said Almshouses when wanting and also to detain and apply thereout two and Forty Shillings a year to and for the said Minister for a Proper Sermon to be preached by him or someone else by his Order Annually for ever on the Feast of Saint John Baptist and that they

also deduct and apply thereof three pounds three Shillings a year to be forever spent and laid out on that day after the Sermon for a Dinner for the said Minister and Church Wardens and such other Parishioners of the said Parish as they shall think fit to invite thereunto And I direct that the said Minister shall annually on the Sunday next before the said Feast give Publick notice in the said Church of such Sermon to be so preached and Exhort all the Inhabitants of the said Almshouses to be present at it and also to deduct and pay thereof two and Forty Shillings more for the Expenses each time for the making Proper Writings when Occasion for the filling up of the number of Trustees on deaths as is herein after directed that is to say when two of the said Trustees or two of any future Trustees shall be dead I direct that the Survivor of them together with the said Minister and Church Wardens for the time being do from time to time forever Choose two more proper persons out of the Inhabitants and Residents in the Said Parish of Bexley and that such Survivor do by proper Deeds effectually convey the said Moiety of the said Premises To the use and behoof of himself and of such to two New Trustees and their heirs on the Trusts aforesaid and when the said Lease to the said John Selwyn is determined or within half a year of being so I direct that a further Lease be made thereof but not for longer than one and twenty years and that the same be made with the Consent in Writing of the said Minister and Church Wardens for the time being at the full Improved yearly rent payable half yearly and being so made that the same shall be valid but not otherwise/I give and devise all the rest of my Messuages Lands Tenements and Hereditaments whatsoever and wheresoever lying or being and also all the rest of my Goods Chattells and Personal Estate that shall remain after payment of my Debts Legacies and Funeral Charges to my said Wife and her heirs In trust with all convenient Speed after my Death to sell the same to the best Advantage and for the most money that can be got for the same But if She shall happen to dye before the same is so sold Then I give and devise the same to the said John Loyd George Sadleir Captain Francis Gostlin and to John Hope of Charterhouse Square aforesaid Merchant and their heirs upon the same trusts for selling thereof as aforesaid and if the same shall be so sold by my said Wife in her life time I then Direct that She put all the money thereby arising out at Interest on Government or real Security All

which Interest money I give to her during her life And from and after her Death I give all the said money that shall arise by such Sale as likewise all that shall arise thereby if such Sale is made by the said other Trustees after her death And also after her death I give all such Plate Jewells Houshold Goods and Furniture as by our marriage Agreement She is to have the use of during her life as followeth Vizt. One third part thereof to the said Ann Loyd daughter of my said Niece Ann Loyd one other third part thereof to the said George Sadleir Junior Son of my said Niece Jane Sadleir and the remaining third part thereof to the said Jane Sadleir Junior Daughter of my said Niece Jane Sadler And the Interest rents and Produce of the said residue until such Sale I give to such Person and Persons as are by virtue thereof to have the Interest of the money or the money itself when such Sale is made as aforesaid And I make my said Dear Wife my Sole Executrix hereof And in case she shall dye before she shall have performed every thing in this my Will mentioned Then I appoint my said Nieces Ann Loyd and Jane Sadleir and the said Capt Francis Gostlin and John Hope my Executors hereof and in such case I give to such of them as shall prove this my Will and accept the Trusts herein Fifty pounds apiece to be paid in three months after my Wifes Death out of the said money arising by Sale of the said residue of my Estate I desire to be buried in the Church of Bexley aforesaid as near my last three Wives there as reasonably may be and to be buried without pomp and with as little Expense as Decency will Admit of In Witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and Seal this two and twentieth day of July in the year of our Lord One thousand Seven hundred and thirty-two And in the Sixth year of the Reign of his Majesty King George the Second Jo: Styleman Signed Sealed and Published by the said John Styleman in the presence of us who have also Subscribed our names as Witnesses in his presence the razures in the tenth Fifteenth Sixteenth thirty Seventh and Forty Seventh lines being first made and these words (but not) being the first Interlined **Ja. Hotchkis Joseph Ashton Tho: Bagshaw.**

Whatever legacies I have Specified or given away in this my said Will to any Relations or Friends that shall sue or give my said Wife Mary any trouble or uneasiness shall forfeit his or her Legacies

herein mentioned to him her or their heirs And if that any Bond Note or other Demand whatever shall after my Decease be made by any person or persons mentioned in my Will upon my Executrix It is my Intent that such Debt of what nature or kind soever shall be Included in the said Legacy and that in case he she or they will not accept of such Legacy in full of all Demands upon my Estate then such Legacy to be void and the debt that shall appear to be due shall be paid out of my Estate And I likewise declare that all such Household Goods that I shall be possessed of I give to my said Wife the Sole use of them during her life without any appraisement reasonable Wear and Tear allowed.

August the 12th 1734. Jo: Styleman witness **M Schomberg John Lyde.**

This will was proved at London (with the Codicil annexed) before the worshipful John Andrew Doctor of Laws and Surrogate of the Right worshipful John Bettesworth also Doctor of Laws Master Keeper or Commissary of the Prerogative Court of Canterbury lawfully constituted the twenty eighth day of August in the year of our Lord one thousand Seven hundred and thirty-four by the oath of **Mary Styleman Widow** the Relict of the deceased and Sole Executrix in the said Will named to whom Administration was granted of all and Singular the Goods Chattells and Credits of the said deceased being first sworn duly to Administer./

The later probate noted in the margin in 1751.

Proved at London with a Codicil the Seventeenth day of May 1751 before the Worshipful Robert Chapman Doctor of Laws and Surrogate by the Oath of **Jane Sadleir** Widow the niece of the deced and one of the surviving Extors substituted in the Will to whom Admon was granted being first sworn duly to adster (Power reserved of making the like Grant to John Hope the other surviving Extor substituted in the said Will when he shall apply for the same) the Probate of the said Will and Codicil had in the Month of August 1734 in the name of Mary Styleman Widow the Relict of the said deced and Extrix named in the said will being ceased and expired by reason of her death.