

5733. "Record of Wills," Name of Deceased: Skeffington SELBY, Wills Vol. 57, 1821-1824, pages 459-469 ("Old libre" pages 525-536), online images of probate documents, New York County Surrogates Office, Surrogates Court Building, State of New York, Ancestry.com: "New York, Wills and Probate Records, 1659-1999", This register contains handwritten transcriptions of other original probate documents.

Transcription by Bruce W. Christopher, revised 03/23/2017.

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The People of the State of New York by the grace of God free and independent to Charlotte Selby the Attorney of George Edis Webster, Edward Compton and Robert Johnson Executors of the last Will and Testament of Skeffington Selby late of the City of New York, Gentleman deceased. Send greeting when as the said Skeffington Selby did make and execute his last Will and Testament and codicils thereto, and did among other things nominate and and [sic] appoint the said George Edis Webster, Edward Compton and Robert Johnson, Executors thereof and whereas the said Will and Codicils thereto have been duly proved in the Kingdom of Great Britain under and by virtue of the powers of the prerogative Court of Canterbury in said Kingdom having competent jurisdiction for that purpose, and Letters Testamentary thereon granted to the said George Edis Webster, Edward Compton and Robert Johnson the Executors therein named. And whereas a copy of the said Will and Codicils thereto have been exhibited before our Surrogate in and for the City and County of New York duly certified by Nath. Gostling, R. C. Cresswell and George Jenner Deputy Registers of the said prerogative Court of Canterbury and also duly authenticated under the seal of the said Court and the said deceased having whilst he lived and at the time of his death, goods chattels or credits within this State by means whereof the proving and registering the said Will and the granting administration of all and singular the said goods chattels and credits and also the auditing allowing and final discharging the account thereof doth belong unto us; and we being desirous that the goods chattels and credits of the said deceased may be well and faithfully administered applied and disposed of Do grant unto you the said Charlotte full power by these presents to collect levy recover and receive all and singular the goods chattels and credits which were of the said deceased and the same to administer and dispose of according to the tenor and effect of the said last Will of the said deceased and as the law directs you being first in one form of law to fulfill the Will of the said deceased a copy whereof is hereunto annexed and to pay his debts and legacies as far forth as the goods, chattels and credits will thereunto extend and the law require hereby requiring you to make or cause to be made a true and perfect Inventory of all and singular the goods, chattels and credits of the said deceased which have or shall come to your hands possession or knowledge or into the hands possession or knowledge of any other person or persons for you the said Charlotte and the same so made to exhibit or cause to be exhibited into the office of the Surrogate of the City and County of New York at or before the expiration of six calendar months from the date hereof and also to render a just and true account of administration when thereunto required. And we do by these presents depute constitute and appoint you the said Charlotte administratrix of all and singular the goods, chattels and credits which were of the said Skeffington Selby deceased with the Will of the said deceased annexed. In testimony whereof we have caused the seal of office of our said Surrogate to be hereunto affixed. Witness, James Campbell Esquire Surrogate of the said County at the City of New York the twenty third day of September in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and twenty two and of our Independence the forty seventh.

James Campbell

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<Stamp>

Sworn under five thousand pounds, within the province of Canterbury.

~~~ Wm. K. ~~~

To all and singular the faithful in Christ to whom these our present Letters testimonial shall come or whom the matters therein written do or may hereafter in any wise concern Charles by Divine providence Archbishop of Canterbury primate of all England and Metropolitan Send Greeting in our Lord God everlasting and will that undoubted faith be given to these presents and do make known and will that it be hereby made known to you that on searching the Registry of our prerogative Court of Canterbury in the Archives thereof there well and faithfully preserved and kept we have found among other things in teh same that on the sixteenth day of June in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and twenty one at London before the Right Honorable Sir John Nicholl, Knight, Doctor of Laws, Master keeper or Commissary of our prerogative Court of Canterbury lawfully constituted the last Will and Testament with two codicils of Skeffington Selby late of New York in North America, Gentleman but at Hitcham in the County of Suffolk deceased having whilst living at at the time of his death goods, chattels or credits, in divers dioceses or jurisdictions sufficient to found the jurisdiction of our prerogative Court of Canterbury aforesaid was proved approved and registered and administration of all and singular the goods, chattels and credits of the said deceased of any way concerning his said Will was granted to the Reverend George Edis Webster, Clerk, Edward Compton and Robert Johnson the Nephew of the said deceased and the Executors named in his said Will they having been already sworn (that is, to say) the said George Edis Webster and Edward Compton by commission and the said Robert Johnson before the Worshipful John Danberry Doctor of Laws and Surrogate of our aforesaid commissary well and faithfully to administer the same and to make a true and perfect Inventory of all and singular the said goods, chattels and credits and to exhibit the same into the Registry of our said Court on or before the last day of September next ensuring and also to render a just and true account thereof which said Will with two Codicils and also an Affidavit of William Johnson follow in these words.

This is the last Will and Testament of me Skeffington Selby late of New York in North America and now residing at Hitcham in the County of Suffolk in England, Gentleman being of sound and disposing mind memory and understanding (praised be God for the same) and hereby revoking all former and other wills and testaments by me at any time heretofore made. First I desire that all my just debts funeral probate and executorial charges may be paid and satisfied as soon as conveniently can be after my decease. And whereas I have lately contracted and agreed with Daniel Webster of Deen in the County of Northampton, Gentleman for the sale to him of all those several parcels of land (freehold and copyhold) lying in Elton in the County of Huntingdon containing together about one hundred and six acres and eleven perches (more or less) and now in the occupation of the said Daniel Webster together with the buildings standing thereon and appurtenances thereunto belonging at or for the price or sum of four thousand and one hundred pounds to be paid to me my heirs or assigns on or before the sixth day of April next or upon the execution and passing of the necessary conveyances and surrenders. Now I hereby give and devise all such part and parts and so much of the said lands hereditaments and premises as are freehold unto my Executors the Revd. George Edis Webster of Elton in the County of Huntingdon, Clerk Edward Compton of Water Newton in the said County of Huntingdon, Miller, and my Nephew Robert Johnson of London, Warehouseman in the City County of Middlesex and their heirs upon trust and confidence nevertheless that they the said George Edis Webster, Edward Compton and Robert Johnson or the survivors or the survivor of them or the heirs of the survivor shall and do upon receipt of the said purchase money or sum of four thousand and one hundred pounds and interest as mentioned in the said agreement bargain sell convey and assure in the legal and proper manner all the said freehold premises unto and to the use of the said Daniel Webster his heirs and assigns or unto and to the use of such other person or persons and his her or their heirs as be the said Daniel Webster or his heirs shall direct or appoint in performance of any part of the said agreement and I also authorize

empower order and direct the said George Edis Webster, Edward Compton and Robert Johnson or the survivors or survivor of them or the Executors or administrators of the survivor to bargain sell convey and assume in such manner as may be thought requisite and necessary all such part and parts and so much of the said lands hereditaments and premises as are copyhold unto and to the use of the said Daniel Webster and his heirs or unto and to the uses of such other person or persons and his her or their heirs as he the said Daniel Webster or his heirs shall direct or appoint in performance of the said agreement and I do hereby declare that the receipt or receipts in writing of the said George Edis Webster, Edward Compton and Robert Johnson or the survivors or survivor of them or the heirs executors or administrators of the survivor or such of them as sign the same shall be a sufficient discharge for the said sum of four thousand and one hundred pounds and interest and that the said Daniel Webster his heirs appointees or assigns shall not be answerable or accountable for the application misapplication or nonapplication of the said sum and interest or any part thereof and which said sum of four thousand and one hundred pounds and interest I desire may be added to and considered as part of the residue of my personal estate which I have hereinafter disposed of. As to my Messuages Lands Tenements and hereditament in North America I give and devise the same unto Charlotte Sanxay alias Selby (who sometime since resided with me at New York) for and during the term of her natural life (she keeping the buildings in tenantable repair and not committing or permitting any waste on the said premises) and from and immediately after her decease I give and devise the same premises unto my Niece Elizabeth Johnson daughter of my sister Kezia Johnson of Oundle in the County of Northampton and her heirs. But if my said Niece Niece [sic] Elizabeth Johnson shall die in the life time of the said Charlotte Sanxay then I give and devise my said Messuages Lands Tenements and hereditament in North America unto Robert Johnson brother of the said Elizabeth Johnson and his heirs also I give and bequeath unto my Executors the sum of one thousand pounds upon trust and confidence nevertheless that they place the same out at interest in their names upon real or government security and pay the interest or dividends arising therefrom unto my said Niece Elizabeth Johnson for her own sole and separate use and disposal during the term of her natural life and not to be subject to the debts controul [sic] or engagements of any husband she may have and for which her receipts alone shall be sufficient discharges and at her decease I give the said sum of one thousand pounds or the stocks funds or other securities in or upon which the same shall be placed out or invested unto such person or persons and in such shares and proportions as she the said Elizabeth Johnson notwithstanding any coverture she may be under shall in and by her last Will and Testament or any writing purporting such give nominate or appoint and in default thereof I give the same unto her personal representatives, also I give and bequeath unto my sister Elizabeth Webster the sum of eight hundred pounds, to my brother in law William Johnson the sum of one hundred pounds and to his six sons the sum of one hundred pounds a piece. To my Nephew and Niece Joseph and Mary Ricketts the sum of one hundred pounds a piece. To my sister Mary Maydwell and her four daughters the sum of one hundred pounds a piece. To my Nephews and Nieces sons and daughters of my sister Elizabeth Webster the sum of one hundred pounds a piece. Also I order and direct my Executors to place out at interest in manner aforesaid the sum of one hundred and twenty pounds and to apply the interest and dividends arising therefrom for the use and benefit of Hannah Campbell of Warmington in the County of Northampton during her natural life and at her decease I give and bequeath the said sum of one hundred and twenty pounds or the stocks funds or other securities in or upon which the same shall be placed out or invested unto my said Niece Elizabeth Johnson. Also I give and bequeath plain Mourning Rings to the following persons, Viz., My sister Ricketts and her husband the aforesaid Edward Compton, the Revd. Nathaniel Morgan and the Revd. John Staverton Mathews. Also I wish to be buried in Elton Church yard with my father in a plain decent manner as he was and as to all the residue of my personal Estate and effects whatsoever and wheresoever that I shall be possessed of interested in or entitled unto at the time of my decease and that shall remain after payment of all my just debts funeral probate and executorial charges and the several legacies and bequests aforesaid I give and bequeath the same unto

my said Niece Elizabeth Johnson for her own use and disposal and I do hereby nominate constitute and appoint the aforesaid George Edis Webster, Edward Compton and Robert Johnson Executors of this my last Will and Testament. And it is my will that my said Executors shall not be charged or chargeable with or answerable or accountable for any more of my monies personal estate or effects than they shall respectively actually received or shall come into their hands by virtue of this my will and that they shall and may vary alter or transpose the stocks funds or securities in or upon which any part of my property is or shall be placed out or invested for other securities of the like nature and that they shall not be answerable or accountable for or in respect of the rise fall or deficiency in any fund stock or security nor for any Banker Broker or other person with whom or in whose hands any part of my property shall or may be lodged or deposited for safe custody nor shall my said Executors or either of them be chargeable or answerable with or for any other loss or losses which may happen in any part of my property without their wilful neglect or default nor the one of them for the others or other of them or for the act deed receipt or disbursement neglect or default of the others or other of them but each for his own conduct. And also that it shall and may be lawful to and for my said Executors and each of them from time to time to deduct and reimburse themselves respectively out of the moneys that shall come to their hands by virtue of this my will all such costs charges and expenses as they or either of them shall pay expend or be put unto by reason or means of all or any of the trusts hereby in them reposed or the execution thereof or in any suit or proceeding act matter or thing relating thereto in any wise howsoever. And also I desire my Executors will retain in their hands a reasonable sum of money for their loss of time and the care and trouble they may have in the due execution of this my will over and above their necessary expenses. In Witness whereof I the said Skeffington Selby the testator have to this my last Will and Testament set my hand and seal this \_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_ in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and twenty one.

Skeffington Selby (S.S.)

Signed Sealed published and declared by the above named Skeffington Selby the Testator as and for his last Will and Testament in the presence of us who in his presence at his request and in the presence of each other have hereunto subscribed our names as witnesses, Charles Johnson Rector of Bildeston, Chas. Cooke Rector of Semer, John Harper Farmer of Hitcham.

This is a Codicil to the last Will and Testament of me Skeffington Selby now residing at Hitcham in the County of Suffolk, Gentleman and which I desire may be annexed thereto and deemed and taken as part thereof (Vizt.). I give and bequeath one thousand dollars in the seven per cent United States stock five thousand dollars in the New York State six per cent stock and seventy one shares in the Globe Globe [sic] Insurance Company to Charlotte Sanxay alias Selby (in my said will named) for her own use and disposal as to my house and lots in New York I give and devise the same unto the said Charlotte Sanxay alias Selby for and during the term of her natural life and at her decease I give and devise the said house and lots unto my Niece Elizabeth Johnson for and during the term of her natural life only (in lieu of the devise of the said premises to her and her heirs contained in my said Will) and from and immediately after the decease of the survivor of them the said Charlotte Sanxy [sic] alias Selby and Elizabeth Johnson I give and devise the said House and lots unto Robert Johnson (brother of the said Elizabeth Johnson) and his heirs. Also I give and bequeath unto the said Charlotte Sanxay alias Selby all and singular my household furniture plate linen china pictures and books in my house now occupied by her in New York for her sole use and disposal. And I do hereby ratify and confirm my said will in all other particulars thereof nor hereby altered. In Witness whereof I the said Skeffington Selby have to this codicil set my hand and seal this nineteenth day of March in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and twenty one.

Skeffington Selby (S.S.)

Signed Sealed published and declared by the said Skeffington Selby as and for a Codicil to his last Will and Testament in the presence of us who in his presence at his request and in the presence of each other

have hereunto subscribed our names as witnesses. Elizabeth Webster, Hitcham; Mary Maydwell, Oundle; J. S. Mathews, Rector of Hitcham.

I Skeffington Selby now resident at Hitcham in the County of Suffolk give and bequeath to my sister Sarah Ricket wife of James Ricket of Cotterstock in the County of Northampton thirty pounds to purchase some trifling memorial of my regard and affection conscious that she does not require from me my further assistance. I also give and bequeath to the Revd. John Staverton Mathews Rector of Hitcham in the County of Suffolk fifty pounds as a token of my esteem. I also give and bequeath to Letitia Compton wife of Edward Joseph Compton of Water Newton my gold watch chain and seals which I now wear and which I trust she will accept for my sake. I also give to my Niece Mary Ricket my silver gift box as a small token of my affection and I also give to my sister Elizabeth Webster now resident at Hitcham all my wearing apparel which I may die possessed of in whatever part of England an I do hereby devise that the above bequests be considered as a part of my last Will and Testament. Given under my hand and seal at Hitcham this twenty third day of March in the year of our Lord one thousand and eight hundred and twenty one.

Skeffington Selby (S.S)

Signed Sealed and delivered in the presence Mary Maydwell.

The Twenty Ninth of May 1821.

Appeared Personally William Johnson of Oundle in the County of Northampton Merchant and made oath that he knew and was well acquainted with Skeffington Selby late of New York in North America Gentleman but at Hitcham in the County of Suffolk deceased and he also knows and is well acquainted with his manner and character of hand writing and subscription having several times seen him write and also write and subscribe his name and having now with care and attention viewed and perused the paper writing hereunto annexed purporting to be and contain a Codicil in the last Will and Testament of the said deceased the said Codicil beginning thus: "I Skeffington Selby now resident at Hitcham in the County of Suffolk" ending thus "Given under my hand and seal at Hitcham this twenty third day of March in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and twenty one" and thus subscribed "Skeffington Selby" he lastly made oath that the subscription thereto is of the proper handwriting and subscription of the said Skeffington Selby deceased. Wm. Johnson. (same day the said William Johnson was duly sworn to the truth of this affidavit by virtue of the Commission hereto annexed the alteration respecting the handwriting of the body of the Codicil having been first made before me.

John James Commissioner

[end of transcription of the will as provided to the New York court; it omits the "Proved at London" statement at the end of the original English documents]

In faith and testimony of all and singular which premises we have caused these our present Letters testimonial to issue forth and is to be corroborated and confirmed by affixing thereto the seal of our prerogative Court of Canterbury aforesaid which we use in this behalf. Given at London as to the time of the aforesaid search and sealing these presents this fourteenth day of March in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and twenty two and in the eighteenth year of our translation.

Extracted by Bayford & Bowdler Proctors, Doctors Commons. /// Nathl. Gostling, R. C. Cresswell, G. Jenner /// Deputy Registers (L.S.)

I John Bayford of Doctors Commons, London, Notary Public by Royal Authority duly admitted and sworn and also one of the procurators General of the Arches Court of Canterbury, Do hereby certify unto all to whom these presents may come or in any wise concern that the names and words "Nathl. Gostling, R. C. Cresswell, Geo. Jenner Deputy Registers" set and subscribed at the foot of the

parchment writings hereunto annexed purporting to be and contain an Exemplification of the probate of the last Will and Testament with two Codicils thereto of Skeffington Selby late of New York in North America Gentleman but at Hitcham in the County of Suffolk deceased are all of the proper handwriting of Nathaniel Gostling Esquire one of the Deputy Registers of the prerogative Court of Canterbury with whose handwriting I am well acquainted; and that to all acts and writings by him so subscribed full faith and credit is due both in Judgment and thereout. In Witness Whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal in London this fifteenth day of March in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and twenty two.

John Bayford, Noty. Public (L.S.)

Consulate of the United States of America, London ///

I Jeremiah Le Souef Junior, Vice Consul of the United States of America for London & the Dependencies thereof Do hereby make known & certify to all whom it may concern that John Bayford Esquire who hath signed the foregoing certificate is a Notary Public and practicing in the City of London aforesaid and that to all acts by him so done full faith and credit are and ought to be given in Judicature and thereout. Given under my hand and official seal ~~set~~ in London aforesaid this fifteenth day of March in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and twenty two and of the Independence of the said United States the forty sixth.

(L.S.) J. Le Souef Jr.

Consulate of the United States of America, London ///

I Thomas Aspinwall Consul of the United States of America ~~of~~ for London and the Dependencies thereof do hereby make known and certify that Jeremiah Le Souef Junior who hath signed the foregoing certificate is Vice Consul and Agent for the Consulate of the United States aforesaid and the dependencies thereof by me duly authorized and that to all acts by him so done full faith and credit are and ought to be given in all cases. Given under my hand and Official Seal in London this fifteenth day of March in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and twenty two and of the Independence of the said United States forty six.

(L. S.) Thos. Aspinwall

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Transcriber's notes.

Regarding Sir John Nicholl:

<http://www.historyofparliamentonline.org/volume/1820-1832/member/nicholl-sir-john-1759-1838>

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/John\\_Nicholl\\_\(judge\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/John_Nicholl_(judge))

## Message

**MESS'UAGE**, *noun* In law, a dwelling house and adjoining land, appropriated to the use of the household, including the adjacent buildings.

<http://webstersdictionary1828.com/Dictionary/message>

**COVERTURE**, *noun*

1. Covering; shelter; defense.

2. In law, the state of a married woman, who is considered as under cover, or the power of her husband, and therefore called a feme-covert, or femme-couvert. The *coverture* of a

woman disables her from making contracts to the prejudice of herself or husband, without his allowance or confirmation.

<http://webstersdictionary1828.com/Dictionary/coverture>

Bildeston is in the county of Suffolk, England.

Rev. Charles Johnson, Rector at Bildeston, died at age 84, 24 Jan 1849.

From "The Gentleman's Magazine" Vol. XXXI, April 1849 issue, page 437.

<https://books.google.com/books?id=3LsUAAAAQAAJ>

Charles Cooke, Rector of Semer, Suffolk, died 23 March 1838, aged 76.

From "The Gentleman's Magazine" Vol. X, July 1838 issue, page 104

<https://books.google.com/books?id=BA82AQAAMAAJ>

Notice of the termination of the partnership of John Bayford and Charles Bowdler, dated 23 Nov. 1827. *The London Gazette*, 27 Nov. 1827, page 2451.

<https://books.google.com/books?id=kRFKAQAAMAAJ>

See also for a history of "Doctors' Commons"

<http://www.michaelgallagherwrites.com/octavius-guy-books/octopus/doctors-commons.html>

Jeremiah Le Souef Jr. (aka Jeremie Le Souef)

b. 5 Dec 1782, Spitalfields, London, England, bur. 27 Jan 1837, Middlesex, England.

"Registers of the Church of La Patente, Spitalfields, 1689-1785." London: The Huguenot Society, 1898. Page. 163. <https://archive.org/details/registerofchurc1116egli>

Ancestry.com. London, England, Church of England Deaths and Burials, 1813-1980