

# WILL OF CHARLES EDWARD WHITLOCK

This is the last Will and Testament of me *Charles Edward Whitlock* Gentleman formerly of Charleston in the State of South Carolina in America but now of residing at Addlestone in the parish of Chertsey in the county of Surry I direct that all the just debts which I shall owe at my death and also my funeral and testamentary expenses be paid as soon after my decease as conveniently may be I desire to be buried at the discretion of my beloved wife Elizabeth Whitlock and as to all my worldly estate whatsoever and wheresoever both real and personal I give devise and bequeath the same to my dear wife Elizabeth her heirs Executors Administrators and assigns for ever to and for her and their own use and benefit and I nominate and appoint my said wife Elizabeth the sole Executrix of this my last Will and Testament In Witness whereof I the said Charles Edward Whitlock have hereunto set my hand and seal the twenty ninth day of May one thousand eight hundred and twenty one *Chas Edward Whitlock* Signed sealed and published and declared by the said Charles Edward Whitlock as and for his last Will and Testament in the presence of *James Wilson, Addlestone, H.S. Benford, Addlestone, John Pamphley Junr, Addlestone.*

Proved at London 18<sup>th</sup> July 1822 before the Worshipful John Danbury Doctor of Laws and Surrogate by the oath of Elizabeth Whitlock, Widow and Relict the sole Executrix to whom admn was granted having been first sworn duly to admr.

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Charles Edward Whitlock met Elizabeth Kemble first in Bath and they were married June 21,1785 at Lancaster, Lancashire, England. At this time he was the Manager of the Newcastle circuit of theatres and a partner of Joseph Munden. The Whitlocks had at least three children John Kemble, Henry and Edward born 1786,1787 and 1790. The only one who appears to have survived infancy is Edward who died in August 1804 age 14. The above will is significant as it confirms that Charles Edward Whitlock was from Charleston, South Carolina.

Isabella Whitlock, Spinster of Beaufort Row in Saint Luke, Chelsea makes her will Oct.2,1792 and leaves “to my cousin Charles Edward Whitlock four hundred and fifty pounds four per cent Stock Consolidated annuities and also such of my household Furniture Plate Linen and China as is not otherwise bequeathed by me also my books not otherwise bequeathed by me” later in the will Isabella “bequeath[s] to Mrs. Whitlock wife of my cousin Charles Edward Whitlock my French Silk Gown and Coat and if she should be in London at the time of my decease to assist Mrs. Hannah Allwood in dividing my wearing apparel to the best of their Judgement between my three cousins equally”

On April 15,1804 Charles Edward Whitlock purchased from Jeremiah Parker 1000 acres of land on the “waters of Sandylick Creek, in W.P.Bready’s District, in the County of Lycoming, in the State of Pennsylvania”. No other reference to this property has been found and we do not know if Charles Edward Whitlock ever lived in Pennsylvania.

Charles Edward Whitlock had been an actor and manager in the provinces before coming to America and appears to have made several voyages from America to England and back. He played roles of fathers, serious and tragic as well as some comedy. As early as 1793 Elizabeth was brought to America by Thomas Wignell and was appearing with Wignell’s Co. at the Chestnut Street, Theatre in Philadelphia in 1794 and again in 1801. In 1797 both Charles and Elizabeth Whitlock were appearing at the John Street Theatre in New York City. In 1803 Elizabeth was at the Park Theatre in New York City. Their son

Edward died in Charleston, SC in August 1804. At this time Charles and Elizabeth are noted as “respectable Actor and Actress” and Charles is also called a Comedian. He is shown arriving in Philadelphia on the ship *Brilliant* Sep.30,1812. The diary of William Dunlap (1786-1834) contains many references to the Whitlocks during their stays in America. No other reference after 1812 has been found. There is painting of Mrs. Whitlock as Mrs. Teazle from *School for Scandal* in the Harvard Theatre Collection.

Hopefully as more research is uncovered we will determine which family Charles Edward Whitlock belongs to.

Sources: R192/10; R391/1; R713/2; R934; R1114/1; R1274/2; R2341; R2347; SOG50,189; UBC40,57; X687; X1375; X1413