

Transcriptionⁱ of
 The Last Willⁱⁱ and Testament of
 Miss Joanna Trood, born December 18, 1806,
 Servant, Vicarage of Broadhempston,
 Devonshire, England
 July 22, 1853ⁱⁱⁱ

This is the last Will and Testament
 of Joanna Trood a servant now residing with The Reverend John a a
 Pitman of Broadhempston in the County of Devon Clerk I nominate and appoint
 the said John Pitman and Sarah Shears of Broadhempston Schoolmistress a a
 Executor and Executrix of this my will I give and bequeath the following
 sums to the persons hereinafter named that is to say To my Nephew John a a
 Shears of number 10 Boston Street Dorset Square Saint Michael in Middlesex a
 Carpenter the sum of two hundred pounds for his own use and benefit To my

Lines 01-08

This is the last Will and Testament

om?^{iv} Joanna Trood a servant now residing with The Reverend John a a
 Pitman^v of Broadhempston in the County of Devon Clerk I nominate and appoint
 the said John Pitman and Sarah Shears of Broadhempston Schoolmistress^{vii} a a
 Executor and Executrix of this my will. I give and bequeath the following
 sums to the persons hereinafter named, that is to say To my Nephew John a a
 Shears of number 10 Boston Street^{viii} Dorset Square Saint Michael in Middlesex a
 Carpenter the sum of two hundred pounds for his own use and benefit. To my

My Nephew Samuel Howe above a Clerk at Galtois^{ix} in Newfoundland the like sum of a two hundred pounds for his own use and benefit and both the said legacies are to be paid free from legacy duty and I direct that the same be paid within six calendar months after my decease. I give and bequeath to my Brother John Trood now residing at Harbour Britain^x in Newfoundland the sum of two hundred pounds this legacy is to be also free from legacy duty upon Trust that the said John Trood his executors or administrators do and shall stand possesed^{xi} of the same to and for the sole use and benefit of my niece and

Lines 09-16

Nephew Samuel Howe above a Clerk at Galtois^{ix} in Newfoundland the like sum of a two hundred pounds for his own use and benefit and both the said legacies are to be paid free from legacy duty and I direct that the sums be paid within six calendar months after my decease. I give and bequeath to my Brother John Trood now residing at Harbour Britain^x in Newfoundland the sum of two hundred pounds this legacy is to be also free from legacy duty upon Trust that the said John Trood his executors or administrators do and shall stand possesed^{xi} of the same to and for the sole use and benefit of my niece and

Mary Clear the wife of George Hosking Clear a Carpenter now residing at New York in America for their own absolute use and benefit and declare that the receipt of the said Mary Clear shall alone be a good discharge for the same. But in case my said Niece Mary Clear shall be dead at the time of my decease then I direct that the said John Trood his executors or administrators shall invest the said sum of two hundred pounds in Government funds or on mortgage securities with interest with power at discretion to vary the securities for others of a like nature and to stand possesed^{xii} of and interested in the said funds and

Lines 17-24

Mary Clear the wife of George Hosking Clear a Carpenter now residing at New York in America for their own absolute use and benefit and declare that the receipt of the said Mary Clear shall alone be a good discharge for the same. But in case my said Niece Mary Clear shall be dead at the time of my decease then I direct that the said John Trood his executors or administrators shall invest the said sum of two hundred pounds in Government funds or on mortgage securities with interest with power at discretion to vary the securities for others of a like nature and to stand possesed^{xii} of and interested in the said funds and

securities upon Trust to pay the dividends interests and annual *probate?xiii* a a
thereof unto and equally between all and every the child and children of my a
said niece who shall be living at her decease and to divide the said sum of a
two hundred pounds amongst such children when and as they *cooperatively?xiv* a
attain the age of twenty one years with benefit of survivorship to or among the
survivors of such children in case of the death of any or either of them under the

age of twenty one unmarried and without issue and I hereby give authority
to and direct the said John Trood to pay and apply the whole or a *part?xv* a a
part of the share or shares of the said child or children for and toward his heirs a a
and their maintenance and education as he shall or may think necessary^{xvii}. *All*
the Rest Residue and Remainder of my real and Personal Estates a
whatsoever and wheresoever not otherwise disposed of subject to the payment a
of my just debts funereal and testamentary expenses I give devise and bequeath
unto my two Sisters the said Sarah Shears and Anne Howe for their own abso-

age of twenty one unmarried and without issue and I hereby give authority
to and direct the said John Trood to pay and apply the whole or a *part?xv* a a
part of the share or shares of the said child or children for and toward his heirs a a
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of my just debts funereal and testamentary expenses I give devise and bequeath
unto my two Sisters the said Sarah Shears and Anne Howe for their own abso-

into use and benefit and declare that the share of my said sister Anne a
above is for her separate use free from the control, liabilities and engagements
of her husband and that the receipt alone of the said Anne above shall be a
sufficient discharge for the same provided always and I hereby declare my
will to be that if the Trustee hereby appointed or any Trustee to be appointed a
as hereinafter provided shall desire to be discharged or refuse or become inca-
pable to act then and in every such case it shall be lawful for the said John a
Trood or any Trustee for the time being acting under these presents to appoint

Lines 39-46

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above is for her separate use free from the control, liabilities and engagements
of her husband and that the receipt alone of the said Anne Howe shall be a
Sufficient discharge for the same provided always and I hereby declare my
will to be that if the Trustee hereby appointed or any Trustee to be appointed a
as hereinafter provided shall desire to be discharged or refuse or become inca-
pable to act then and in every such case it shall be lawful for the said John a
Trood or any Trustee for the time being acting under these presents to appoint

a new trustee in his place and that upon any such new appointment all a
the monies, stocks, funds and securities then vested in the said John Trood or a
other, the Trustee for the time being shall be so conveyed, assigned and trans-
ferred that the same may be vested in such new trustee and that any new
Trustee to be appointed as aforesaid shall upon the trust premises being so
vested in him as aforesaid execute the trusts and powers of this my Will as a
fully and effectually to all intents and purposes as if I had hereby constituted a
him a Trustee and I revoke all former wills by me at any time heretofore a

Lines 47-54

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the monies, stocks, funds and securities then vested in the said John Trood or a
Other, the Trustee for the time being shall be so conveyed, assigned^{xviii} and trans-
ferred that the same may be vested in such new trustee and that any new a
Trustee to be appointed as aforesaid shall upon the trust ^{p??ses?xix} being so a
vested in him as aforesaid execute the trusts and powers of this my Will as a
fully and effectually to all intents and purposes as if I had hereby constituted a
him a Trustee and I revoke all former wills by me at any time heretofore a

made In witness whereof I the said Joanna Trood have to this my last a
Will and Testament contained in three sheets of paper set my hand at the a
end hereof and also at the foot or end of the two preceding sheets this seventh a
day of February in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and fifty
three — *Joanna Trood* — Signed published and declared by the said
Joanna Trood the Testatrix and as for her last Will and Testament in the pre-
sence of us who at her request in her presence and in the presence of each a
other have subscribed our names as witnesses thereto — *John Pitman*
Chas F Michelmore

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Will and Testament contained in three sheets of paper set my hand at the a a
end hereof and also at the foot or end of the two preceding sheets this seventh a
day of February in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and fifty
three — *Joanna Trood* — Signed published and declared by the said
Joanna Trood the Testatrix and as for her last Will and Testament in the pre-
sence of us who at her request in her presence and in the presence of each a a
other have subscribed our names as witnesses^{xxi} thereto — *John Pitman*
Chas F Michelmore

Proved at London 22nd July 1853 before the Judge by the Oath of Sarah a
Shears Widow the Sister one of the Executors to whom *Admin^{xxii}* was granted a
having been first sworn by *C??xxiii* duly to administer power reserved of making a a
like grant to The Reverend John Pitman Clerk the other Executor when he shall a a
apply for the same.

Proved at London 22nd July 1853 before the Judge by the Oath of Sarah a
Shears Widow the Sister one of the Executors to whom *Admin^{xxii}* was granted a
having been first sworn by *C??xxiii* duly to administer power reserved of making a a
like grant to The Reverend John Pitman Clerk the other Executor when he shall a a
apply for the same.

Joanna Trood's Family and a Few Other Descendants of the elder John Trood (born in Devonshire, about 1733)

John TROOD born: abt. 9 Feb 1768 in Moreton-Hampstead, Devonshire, England, occupation: Cooper (i.e. barrel maker) & Retired Sailor, died: Oct - Dec 1853 in Newton Abbot, Devonshire, England

♥ Sarah LOVECRAFT born: 1765 - 1769 in Devonshire, England, married: 6 Feb 1794 in Broadhempston, Devonshire, England, occupation: Homemaker, died: Jan - Mar 1847 in Newton Abbot, Devonshire, England

Joanna TROOD born: abt. 18 Dec 1806 in Broadhempston, Devonshire, England, occupation: Servant to the Vicar of Broadhempston, died: about Jun 1853 in Broadhempston, Devonshire, England

Sarah TROOD born: abt. 4 Dec 1794 in Broadhempston, Devonshire, England, occupation: Teacher / Schoolmistress, died: Jan - Mar 1867 in Greenwich, London / Kent, England

♥ John SHEARS born: 1784 - 1799 in [likely], Devonshire, England, married: 10 Feb 1818 in Broadhempston, Devonshire, England, occupation: Mariner, died: before 1851 in [likely], Devonshire, England

John TROOD born: abt. 23 Oct 1798 in Broadhempston, Devonshire, England, occupation: Storekeeper, Newman & Company, Harbour Breton, Nfld, died: after 1857 in [likely], Devonshire, England

♥ Elizabeth COPP born: 1793 - 1808 in Broadhempston, Devonshire, England, married: 24 Feb 1825 in Broadhempston Parish Church, Devonshire, England, occupation: [The very first] School Teacher in Harbour Breton, Nfld, died: after 1839 in [likely], Devonshire, England

Ann TROOD born: abt. 2 Nov 1802 in Broadhempston, Devonshire, England, occupation: Housekeeper, died: 7 Oct 1869 in Torquay, St Mary Church, Devonshire, England

♥ Samuel HOW born: 1792 - 1802 in Devonshire, England, married: 12 Jun 1823 in Parish Church, Broadhempston, Devonshire, England, occupation: Thatcher (i.e. for houses with thatched roofs), died: after 1869 in [likely], Devonshire, England

Samuel HOW born: abt. 13 Jun 1824 in Broadhempston, Devonshire, England, occupation: Agent, Newman & Company (exporters of saltfish and port wine), Harbour Breton, Nfld, died: 15 Nov 1869 in East Stonehouse (later Plymouth), Devonshire, England

♥ Betsy Grute "Bessie" NORRISH born: Oct 1830 - Jan 1831 in Staverton, Devonshire, England, married: 19 Feb 1852 in Parish Church, Broadhempston, Newton Abbot, Devonshire, England, occupation: Tailoress, died: 16 Apr 1881 in East Stonehouse (later Plymouth), Devonshire, England

Annie Elizabeth HOW born: 15 Feb 1863 in Harbour Breton, Fortune Bay, Newfoundland (now NL, Canada), occupation: Homemaker, died: 13 Mar 1920 in Pimlico, Chelsea, London, Middlesex, England

♥ George Robert "George" BROWNESS born: 11 Nov 1854 in Kensal Town, Chelsea N.E., Middlesex, England, married: 17 Nov 1880 in East Stonehouse, Devonshire, England, occupation: Lance Corporal, Royal Welsh Fusiliers / Chelsea Pensioner, died: 14 Dec 1923 in Chelsea, London, Middlesex, England

George Henry BROWNESS born: 23 Mar 1883 in Pembroke Dock, Pembrokeshire, Wales, occupation: Naval Sick Berth Steward, died: 19 Sep 1924 in Western Infirmary, Glasgow, Lanarkshire, Scotland

♥ Mabel Amelia HIGGINS born: 26 Apr 1885 in Stoke Damerel (later Plymouth), Devonshire, England, married: 5 May 1908 in Devonport, Devonshire, England, occupation: Homemaker, died: 1 Jan 1914 in St Aubyn, Devonport, Devonshire, England

George Arthur "Art" BROWNESS born: 20 Mar 1910 in Devonport (now Plymouth), Devonshire, England, occupation: Navy Telegraphist / Communications Security Director / "grandpa", died: 16 Sep 2004 in Ottawa, Carleton County, Ontario, Canada

♥ Evelyn Rita PURDIE born: 11 Jul 1916 in St Aloysius Parish, Montréal, Québec, Canada, married: 28 Mar 1938 in Washington, District of Columbia, U.S.A., occupation: Homemaker, died: 29 Dec 1990 in Ottawa, Carleton County, Ontario, Canada

George Arthur "**Skippy**" **BROWNESS** (deceased)

Eve Linda "**Linda**" **BROWNESS**

Margaret Ann BROWNESS

Ian Barry BROWNESS

Kenneth Michael BROWNESS

George Henry BROWNESS (introduced above)

♥ Margaret ("**Gretta**") **Shepard SUTHERLAND** (the second wife of George Henry BROWNESS) born: 18 Apr 1897 in Brasfield Gardens, Lanark, Lanarkshire, Scotland, married: 18 Apr 1917 in Kirkliston, West Lothian, Scotland, occupation: Chemist's Assistant, died: 26 Sep 1961 in Gourrock, Renfrewshire, Scotland

Robert James BROWNESS born: 9 Jan 1918 in Devonport, Devonshire, England, occupation: Civil Engineer Project Director, died: 7 Jun 1979 in Edinburgh, Midlothian, Scotland

♥ **Ida Jessie BRENTNALL** born: 14 Jun 1922 in Twickenham, Brentford, Middlesex, England, occupation: Homemaker, married: Jul - Sep 1941 in Brentford, Middlesex, England, died: c. Jan 2001 in Fenland, Cambridgeshire, England

Stephen James BROWNESS

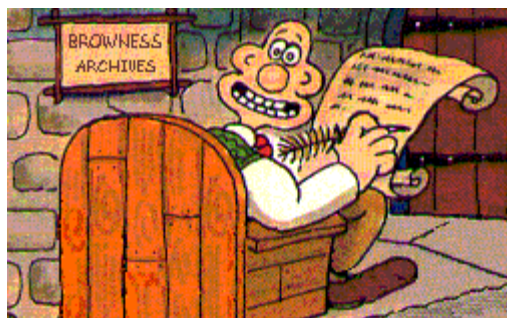
Gillian BROWNESS

...and the rest, as they say, "is history"!



Endnotes

- ⁱ The Will was transcribed in July/August 2007 by Ian Brownness and Cynthia Cristine. The original spelling, including the use of “fs” to represent “ss” has been preserved, but some punctuation has been added where found wanting, in order to add clarity.
- ⁱⁱ Original scan of probated copy of Will obtained from The National Archives [UK] Documents Online service; document identification: **PROB 11/2176 Will of Joanna Trood, Servant of Broadhempston, Devon 229 / 192 258**. **Please Note** that the latter document and material contained are under crown copyright. This segmented and transcribed version thereof has been created solely for research and reference by the descendants of Joanna and her heirs as identified in therein.
- ⁱⁱⁱ While this Will was probated (in essence, reviewed by the Courts some time after Joanna’s death and declared official), on July 22, 1853, it was written and signed by Joanna several months earlier, in February, 1853.
- ^{iv} This word is illegible; nothing appears to fit the context.
- ^v The superfluous “alphas” at the end of many lines were apparently used to fill in the larger empty spaces after the actual text.
- ^{vi} The transcription of all proper names, including that of the Reverend John Pitman (Vicar of Broadhempston), reflects other sources of information, such as parish register and census entries, used to confirm their identities.
- ^{vii} Schoolmistress (see note “i”)
- ^{viii} The writing appears to show “100” due to the large loop on the “B” following, but the 1851 England Census clearly shows the address as number “10”. From an aerial view (Google Maps / 2007-09) the building at this address (now in London NW1 6), about a block away from Dorset Square and the Marylebone Underground Station, appears to be still standing.
- ^{ix} Gaultois, a Newman & Co. fishing & whaling station on Hermitage Bay, NW of Harbour Breton, Newfoundland
- ^x Harbour Breton, Newman & Co.’s headquarters on Fortune Bay, South Coast of Newfoundland
- ^{xi} possessed (see note “i”)
- ^{xii} possessed (see note “i”)
- ^{xiii} This word is uncertain; neither it nor “profits” (another possibility) seem to fit.
- ^{xiv} This word is uncertain, as it doesn’t fit the context particularly well.
- ^{xv} issue (see note “i”), i.e. children
- ^{xvi} This word is mostly illegible and nothing of that “shape” seems to fit the context particularly well.
- ^{xvii} necessary (see note “i”)
- ^{xviii} assigned (see note “i”)
- ^{xix} This word is mostly illegible and no “good fits” have yet come to mind.
- ^{xx} witness (see note “i”)
- ^{xxi} witnesses (see note “i”)
- ^{xxii} This word is unclear and although “Admin” fits the context, it seems an odd place to use an abbreviation.
- ^{xxiii} This word is illegible (“Oath” would fit, but doesn’t match the writing well enough).



<http://brownness.net>