

Os testamentos dos contratadores do pau-brasil *David Purry, Joseph Mellish e Gerard De Visme* e algumas notas sobre a influência do mobiliário setecentista inglês em Portugal. O caso dos “leitos imperiais”.

Adelina Valente*

Resumo Os testamentos transcritos revelam ligações estreitas entre mercadores estrangeiros e suas famílias com a comunidade portuguesa setecentista. O estabelecimento de residências próprias dos ingleses em Lisboa deu lugar a réplicas locais da moda da corte britânica. Uma das tipologias de prestígio de Seiscentos e Setecentos, o “leito imperial”, foi reproduzido nas casas nobres das elites portuguesas. A construção destes leitos, que inicialmente valorizou somente os tecidos ricos importados e aplicações de ouro e prata, deu lugar ao longo do século XVIII a uma maior visibilidade da madeira, proporcionando trabalhos de marcenaria e entalhamento de carácter marcadamente nacional.

Abstract The close links of the 18th century foreign community and the Portuguese elite are revealed in the three British merchants wills, now transcribed. Their important Lisbon palaces and gardens were a show-case of the British fashion abroad. The “state beds”, eventually more than one in each residence, were one of the prestigious and essential typology to display its owner status. Valuable and bright silk and even golden and silver embroideries completely covered the wooden structure of this kind of bed. From the middle of the eighteenth century on the neoclassical fashion gave place to a compromise between upholsterers and a more visible cabinet-makers’ work.

Uma sociedade comercial inglesa em Portugal

Os testamentos que transcrevemos trazem novas informações sobre uma sociedade comercial que operou em Portugal no quadro das prerrogativas reais concedidas para o comércio de matérias-primas brasileiras.

* Doutoranda em Arte – especialidade de Artes Decorativas, na Escola das Artes da Universidade Católica Portuguesa. Bolseira da Fundação para a Ciência e Tecnologia (Bolsa FRH /BD / 36428 / 2007). Membro do Centro de Investigação em Ciência e Tecnologia das Artes (CITAR), da Escola das Artes da Universidade Católica Portuguesa. Agradecemos ao “Tom Ingram Fund, the scholarship fund of *The Furniture History Society*”, representado por Adriana Turpin, a bolsa concedida à nossa investigação em Inglaterra.

Estes mercadores estrangeiros setecentistas, dois ingleses e um suíço naturalizado britânico, desenvolveram negócios colossais e muitíssimo rendosos que permitiram a criação de fortunas extraordinárias à época. Qualquer um dos três foi elemento activo na Casa da Feitoria inglesa em Lisboa tendo assinado diversos documentos relevantes para a defesa dos negócios da sua nação.^{1 2 3}

Sobre a exclusividade do comércio do pau-brasil concedida pelo rei D. José I à companhia “*Purry, Mellish and De Visme*”, documentos por nós compulsados sugerem que no ano de 1757 este negócio estaria já entregue a essa sociedade através de “*Alvará de Mag^{de} reg^o nesta Caza [da Índia] [registado] no Livro 1^o do Reg^o das Provizoes e Decretos a f. 58^{ma}*”. A não existir outro Contratador^{5 6} terá sido porventura de modo informal que esta concessão vigorou durante dois anos dado que David Purry indica no seu testamento que a sociedade foi fundada em Londres em 27 de Março de 1759 e em Lisboa a 10 de Abril de 1760 tendo cada sócio uma quota pessoal de “*one hundred and ffifty eight Contos, one hundred and | | ffifteen thousand one hundred and sixty one Reis*”. Uma das renovações do contrato está registada em Agosto de 1775 por “*decreto de Mag^{de}*”.⁷ Nesse ano, em 1 de

¹ The National Archives (Great Britain). *Portugal*. State Papers Foreign 89/44. Em 1746 David Purry assina uma missiva de parabéns a George II por vitória militar do Duque de Cumberland. Ff. 233-234.

² TNA. *Portugal*. SP 89/44. Joseph Mellish assina em Lisboa, presumivelmente em 1747, congratulação por George II ter sobrevivido a um atentado. Ff. 36-38v.

³ TNA. *Portugal*. SP 89/49. David Purry e Gerard De Visme assinam em 1754 congratulações pela nomeação do Cônsul em Lisboa Edward Hay fazendo votos de que os interesses ingleses sejam devidamente defendidos. Ff.33-34v. Em 1753 assinam um documento contra Mr. Crowle, cônsul em Lisboa e Madeira que foi posteriormente substituído. Ff. 166-167v.

⁴ Torre do Tombo (T.T.). Alfândega de Lisboa. *Alfândega Grande do Açúcar: Casa Da Índia. Mesa Grande*. “*Livro de Receita do Contratador do pau brazil. Ano de 1757*”. O rosto do livro apresenta a data de 23 de Março de 1757, com a menção manuscrita deste alvará.

⁵ Rattou parece sugerir, sem identificar, a existência de um outro comprador privilegiado de pau-brasil. Cfr. *Recordações de Jacome Rattou sobre ocorrências do seu tempo, de Maio de 1747 a Setembro de 1810*. Coimbra: Imprensa da Universidade, 1920. P. 118.

⁶ TNA. *Portugal*. SP 89/31. Bartolomeu Miguel Viana é um dos nomes portugueses da sociedade “*John Dansaint & Company*” a quem D. João V concedeu Alvará em 1723 para negociar escravos da costa oeste africana para o Brasil podendo em troca transaccionar, entre outras mercadorias, pau-brasil, em condições específicas. Ff. 8-15v. Rattou poderá querer referir-se a esta concessão. Viana é referido no testamento de Purry, como abaixo veremos.

⁷ T.T. Alfândega de Lisboa. *Alfândega Grande do Açúcar. Casa da Índia. Mesa grande*. “*Livro de Receita do Contratador de Julho de 1776 té Setembro de 1779*”. Neste livro menciona-se no respectivo rosto o “*Decreto de Mag^{de} de nove de Agosto de 1775 Reg^o nesta Caza no L^o do R^o de Leis e contratos de f:31 thé f. 33*”.

Novembro, Purry e Mellish encontravam-se em Lisboa e foram dos poucos que puderam salvar os valores pecuniários que tinham no edifício da firma⁸.

Dúvidas se levantam sobre se poderá ter existido um outro interveniente na sociedade. Analisando o testamento de Purry constatamos que aquela “*conducts itself agreeably to Articles of Agreement*” e que os balanços anuais disso são prova “*especially from that of the 31 December 1763 immediately after the death of Mr. John Gore of London deceased*”⁹. Qual terá sido o papel deste mercador inglês nesta sociedade? Outro pormenor não menos relevante é a indicação de que a quota de Purry é de 2.600 acções podendo sugerir que nem todos os sócios teriam a mesma participação financeira.

Embora Lisboa fosse a sede da empresa, esta cidade não era o único destino dos carregamentos de pau-brasil. Temos notícia de que chegaram ao Porto em 1761 quantidades apreciáveis da referida madeira, em toros¹⁰.

Da análise dos testamentos de David Purry¹¹, Joseph Mellish¹² e Gerard De Visme¹³ (é esta a grafia utilizada pelo próprio quando assina os documentos que referimos mais à frente)¹⁴ constatamos que os três

⁸ “The Gentleman’s Magazine For December 1755”. In *The Gentleman’s Magazine, and the Historical Chronicle*. Volume XXV. For the Year M.DCC.LXXV. By Sylvanus Urban, Gent. London: Printed for D. Henry, and R. Cave, at St John’s Gate. Pp. 529-594. O relator inglês do Terramoto em Lisboa informa que muitos conterrâneos perderam os seus haveres, embora “*some, indeed, as Mess. “Purry” and “Mellish”’s house, and Mr Raymond and Mr. Burrell’s have had the good fortune to save their cash, either in whole or in part*”. P. 557.

⁹ John Gore esteve activo no comércio de pedras preciosas com contrato preferencial outorgado pela Coroa portuguesa. Cfr. PINTO, Virgílio Noya – *O ouro brasileiro e o comércio anglo-português*. São Paulo: Companhia Editora Nacional, 1979. Pp. 214-219.

¹⁰ T.T. Alfândega de Lisboa. *Alfândega Grande do Açúcar: Casa Da Índia*. Mesa Grande. “*Lv^o Receita do Contratador do pao brazil. 23 Março 1757 a Jan^o de 1776*”. Veja-se o registo de entrada da madeira: “*Carrego mais em receita ao d^o Contratador David Purry que recebeo na Cid^e do Porto, o seu Procurador Manoel Lamas, duzentos e dois q^{aes} e três arobas (sic) e meya de Pao Brazil – Por outo centos outenta e sico Toros, pezados na Alfandega da d^a Cid^e do Porto, em quinze de Abril do presente anno, vindos de Pernambuco com o Navio Senhor da Boa Fortuna, como constou por Certidão dos Officiaes da mesma Alfandega de dezasseis do d^o e (sic) anno, de que fiz esta Receyta, e della passei Certidão ao d^o Contratador, p^a constar que lhe fica carregado nesta Caza da Índia o d^o Pao Brazil que não paga Dir^{tos} por andar contratado, feyta e assignada por mim. Escrivão da Receyta e pelo d^o Contratador. Lx^a 14 de Mayo de 1761.=D^e Purry=João Vic^{te} de Mir^{da}*”. F. 15.

¹¹ The National Archives (TNA), Great Britain (GB). *Probate*, Will 11/1145.

¹² TNA, GB. *Probate*, Will 11/1199.

¹³ TNA, GB. *Probate*, Will 11/1300.

¹⁴ No *Probate* (confirmação oficial) do seu testamento utiliza-se a expressão “*de Visme*”, uma interpretação livre de quem o transcreveu para os registos nacionais. Informação fornecida pelos serviços dos *The National Archives*.

possuíam fortunas notáveis¹⁵. De notar que De Visme refere os valores legados em libras enquanto que Purry os refere em cruzados e Mellish nas duas moedas¹⁶.

Purry e Mellish mencionam expressamente a sociedade. Este último refere que também possui uma “*Compting House in London*” denominada “*Society of Northant Adventures of England commonly called the Lamborough Company*”. A rede de negócios dos ingleses era vasta e intercontinental: Charles Mellish¹⁷, sobrinho de Joseph Mellish possuía uma firma de advocacia em Lisboa, *Mellish & Co*, dirigindo negócios com mercadores nas colónias americanas, entre os quais “*John Telles, merchant in Philadelphia*” exportador de cereais para Joaquim Pedro Quintella, em Lisboa, na década de 1780^{18 19}. A executora testamentária designada por Charles Mellish, Mrs. Isabella Pitt, residia, em Abril de 1786, em “*new Portugal Street, Grovesnor Square, London*”²⁰, a mesma localização de uma das casas de Gerard De Visme.

O testamento de David Purry, redigido em Lisboa em 13 de Janeiro de 1777, é, dos três, o único que nos fornece informações detalhadas sobre a sociedade dos contratadores do pau-brasil. Nasceu em Neuschatel, Suíça, em 1709 e naturalizou-se inglês em Abril de 1736; declara-se solteiro não tendo filhos nem herdeiros “*at Law*”. À data do testamento, em 30 de Janeiro de 1777, afirma-se “*established Merchant of Lisbon in Portugal*” sendo que os valores pecuniários que possui são os que estavam em reserva na “*House of Purry, Mellish and De Visme*” e que ascendiam, no balanço de 1776, a “*near four hundred and seventy five thousand Crusades exclusive*

¹⁵ T.T. Alfândega de Lisboa. *Alfândega Grande do Açúcar: Casa Da Índia*. Mesa Grande. “*Lu^{ro} Receita do Contratador do pau brazil. 23 Março 1757 a Jan^o de 1776*”. A fortuna colossal que este negócio proporcionou pode ser aferida pela seguinte nota à margem do registo de entrada da madeira na cidade do Porto referida anteriormente: “*De f.1 the f.13 deste L^o tirei consento e passey Certidão ao Contratador do d^o Pau Brazil, que tem recebido em todo o tempo do seu Contrato athe ao prez^{te} dia assima, sessenta e hum mil, e settenta e quatro q^{es} e três @roba (sic) do d^o Pau por...1.820.656 Toros; e p^a constar pus estas verbas. Lx^a 18 de Fevreyro de 1761*”.

¹⁶ A utilização da moeda portuguesa no testamento de David Purry sugere uma ligação mais entrosada com Portugal, atestada pelos variados nomes portugueses a quem deixa legados e pelo facto de ter sido sepultado em Lisboa. Cfr. *Grande Enciclopédia Portuguesa e Brasileira*. Volume XXIII. Lisboa, Rio de Janeiro: Editorial Enciclopédia, Limitada, [s.d.]. Vol.7, p. 743.

¹⁷ TNA, GB. *Probate*, Will 11/1080.

¹⁸ TNA, GB. *Public Record Office*. Customs 17/11. Doc. E219/576.

¹⁹ Ratton refere que este comerciante era membro da Junta do Comércio. Cfr. *Recordações de Jacome Ratton*, p. 202.

²⁰ TNA, GB. *Probate*, Will 11/1080.

*of my share profits*²¹. A sociedade foi estabelecida com uma quantia pessoal equivalente a “*twenty six hundred share in the Capital Ffund of one hundred Contos of Reis*”. O balanço do ano anterior tinha ditado um lucro individual de “*one hundred and ffifty eight Contos, one hundred and || ffifteen thousand one hundred and sixty one Reis*” que ficou aplicado na sociedade a juros de cinco por cento ao ano. O próprio David Purry considera que possui “*a very Considerable Personal Estate*”. O testamento parece sugerir que deteve uma outra sociedade com “*Monsieur Barthelemy Vianna, my first Partner*”, falecido em 1739. Um aditamento a este documento foi anexado por Purry em 22 de Maio de 1786, testemunhado pelo Vice-Consul inglês em Lisboa, Edward Gideon Perochon. Nele declara que o Rei da Prússia lhe outorgou o título de Barão. Nomeia outros testamentários e determina que cópias do seu testamento sejam enviadas em diferentes navios a Joseph Mellish e aos representantes da sua cidade natal a quem doa a sua fortuna para obras pias e de educação, bem como para melhoramentos e embelezamentos da mesma. Além de inúmeros parentes e amigos a quem lega, segundo os seus cálculos, a quantia total de 126.400 cruzados, foram também contempladas pessoas pobres da Casa da Feitoria inglesa em Lisboa com 240 cruzados que deveriam ser gerido pelo Cônsul inglês local. À Paróquia de N^a S^a das Neves, onde residia à época, legou 1.200 cruzados. Beneficiário foi também “*Joseph Mellish Esq. of London a partner in my Board of Trade in Lisbon*”, bem como diversos funcionários da sua firma nesta cidade. No termo de abertura do testamento é referido por Perochon que esta se efectuou em 1786 na casa de Purry “*situated in the Street called Rica formoza*”²².

Joseph Mellish redigiu o testamento em 7 de Dezembro de 1789 e faleceu no ano seguinte; era inglês. Tinha casas na cidade de Londres e no Middlesex. Dois sobrinhos, John e William Mellish, deveriam ter interesse em continuar os negócios existentes, pois o testamento refere essa possibilidade, sendo que a concretizar-se estes receberiam a quantia de 12.000 libras durante cinco anos, isenta de juros. Gerard De Visme “*of Lisbon*” é contemplado pessoalmente com quinhentas libras; para obras de caridade em Lisboa destina “*Twenty thousand Crusados or eighty thousand Guineas current Money of Portugal*”. A “*Mr. Louis du Bois of Lisbon*” lega trezentas libras e à Feitoria Inglesa de Lisboa

²¹ Esta quantia poderia equivaler sensivelmente a 225.600\$000 réis. Cfr. PINTO, Virgílio Noya – *Op.cit.*, p. 335. As tabelas de conversão de moeda variam ligeiramente de autor para autor.

²² Descontando os desvios da redacção inglesa confirma-se a informação de Ratton. Cfr. *Recordações de Jacome Ratton*, p. 142.

500 libras. Lisboa era uma capital com negócios importantíssimos em diferentes áreas e as famílias dos mercadores estrangeiros tinham contactos estreitos entre si: Mellish deixa um legado a Mrs. Elizabeth Gore, presumivelmente familiar de John Gore.

Gerard De Visme faleceu em 20 de Novembro de 1798 na sua casa de Grovesnor Square n.º 2. À data do testamento, em 11 de Setembro de 1765, vivia na sua “*House at Wimbledon in the County of Surry*”. Em todo o documento não menciona qualquer propriedade em Portugal embora o palácio de Monserrate e o jardim de plantas exóticas da propriedade de Benfica fossem famosos à época, sendo este último objecto de representação pictórica em 1785²³ ²⁴. Eram-lhe enviadas espécies botânicas brasileiras para experiências de cultivo²⁵, prática corrente entre os dois continentes, rivalizando os ricos mercadores com a Casa Real portuguesa²⁶.

O rendimento da casa que possuía em “*New Portugal Street, Grovesnor Square, London*”, de £1.000/ano, é destinado, em legado, à única filha Emily. A esta doa, nas suas palavras, “*my library of books, pictures Collection of prints, Snuff Boxes and all other my curiosities*” existentes nas duas propriedades inglesas e refere que gostaria que estas fossem catalogadas caso não o pudesse fazer ele próprio em vida, deixando entrever a importância que lhes atribuía. Entre as doações referidas no testamento conta-se “*the sum of one hundred pounds sterling to be applied in repairing the hospital that I erected there [em Lisboa]*”. Todo o documento é de uma grande minúcia quanto às condições dos legados e seus administradores sendo completado por dois codicilos longos com detalhes menores relativos a duas dádivas de £10 cada à paróquia de Wimbledon.

Dos diversos colaboradores da sociedade o nome de Louis du Bois é sempre referido com deferência nos três testamentos; todos lhe dei-

²³ Gerard De Visme era um homem de negócios bem relacionado internacionalmente e certamente tinha um estilo de vida ostentatório. Cfr. BRIGOLA, João Carlos Pires – *Coleções, gabinetes e museus em Portugal no século XVIII*, Coimbra: Fundação Calouste Gulbenkian. Fundação para a Ciência e Tecnologia. Ministério da Ciência e do Ensino Superior, 2003, pp. 381-383.

²⁴ Jean Pillement pintou em 1785 diversas versões do ambiente aí vivido. Cfr. “*Vue des Jardins de Benfica*”. In www.lesartsdecoratifs.fr. 29.Mai.2008.

²⁵ A colecta de plantas e bichos no Brasil era difícil dados os meios limitados para tal efectuar; as embalagens também não eram as adequadas chegando não raras vezes a Lisboa o material em péssimo estado ou mesmo destruído. Cfr. BRIGOLA, João Carlos Pires – *Op. cit.*, pp. 117-118.

²⁶ Na sua actividade botânica Domingos Vandelli foi consultor da Corte nestas práticas e repartiu amostras enviadas do Brasil com Gerard De Visme. Cfr. BRIGOLA, João Carlos Pires – *Op. cit.*, pp. 117-118.

xam legados em dinheiro. Também são distinguidos os “Procuradores”²⁷ Simão da Veiga²⁸, Pedro Brot^{29 30 31} e José da Lama³².

Influência inglesa no mobiliário setecentista português: o caso dos “sate beds” ou “leitos imperiais”.

O Marquês de Távora teve ajustes contratuais com a sociedade *Purry, Mellish and De Visme* emprestando designadamente o seu nome ao comércio marítimo desta firma com o Oriente³³. Também o negociante inglês Elias Perochon, cuja assinatura encontramos em documentos da Feitoria Inglesa de Lisboa³⁴, era credor da Casa de Atouguia em 1759³⁵. Conquanto a hegemonia económica dos mercadores ingleses pudesse ser incómoda para a elite portuguesa estes dois factos parecem sugerir que a teia de contactos pessoais e comerciais entre portugueses e ingleses foi de mútuo interesse. A Europa de meados de setecentos, incluindo Portugal, continuava a consumir artigos de proveniência oriental que chegavam ao Continente directamente do leste via Brasil e África, em barcos nacionais ou estrangeiros por via comercial regular. Os paquetes diplomáticos entre Portugal e Inglaterra eram outra das vias para entrada em nestes dois países de mercadoria preciosa oriental. No leque destes ornamentos

²⁷ Este termo designa “aquelle que em virtude da procuração de alguém trata dos negocios delle em seu nome”. Cfr. BLUTEAU, Raphael – *Vocabulário Portuguez & Latino*. Coimbra, 1712-1728. P. 758. In www.ieb.usp.br/online. 22.Fevereiro.2009.

²⁸ T.T. Alfândega de Lisboa. *Alfândega Grande do Açúcar: Casa Da Índia*. Mesa Grande. “Lv^o Receita do Contratador do pau brazil. 23 Março 1757 a Jan^o de 1776”. Simão da Veiga assina como “Procurador” a recepção do pau-brasil em 29 de Fevereiro de 1764. Fl. 23 e 23v.

²⁹ T.T. Alfândega de Lisboa. *Alfândega Grande do Açúcar: Casa Da Índia*. Mesa Grande. “Lv^o Receita do Contratador do pau brazil. 23 Março 1757 a Jan^o de 1776”. Entre as datas de 31 de Maio de 1775 e 2 de Janeiro de 1776 o “Procurador” é Pedro Brot. f. 27-53.

³⁰ T.T. Alfândega de Lisboa. *Alfândega Grande do Açúcar: Casa Da Índia*. Mesa Grande. “Lv^o Receita do Contratador de Julho de 1776 té Setembro 1779”. Pedro Brot assina como “Procurador”. Ff. 1-9v.

³¹ T.T. Alfândega de Lisboa. *Alfândega Grande do Açúcar: Casa Da Índia*. Mesa Grande. “Lv^o Receita do Contratador. 1778 até 1782”. De 30 de Outubro de 1779 a 3 de Janeiro de 1783 o “Procurador” é Pedro Brot. f. 1 a 8.

³² T.T. Alfândega de Lisboa. *Alfândega Grande do Açúcar: Casa Da Índia*. Mesa Grande. “Lv^o Receita do Contratador do pau brazil. 23 Março 1757 a Jan^o de 1776”. Deduzimos pela informação registada que José da Lama terá sido “Procurador” entre 1756 a 1766.

³³ GUERRA, Luiz de Bivar – *Inventários e Sequestros das Casas de Távora e Atouguia*. Lisboa: Edições do Arquivo do Tribunal de Contas, 1954. P. 176.

³⁴ TNA. *Portugal*. SP 89/44. ff.36-38v e SP 89/49, f. 33-34v.

³⁵ Cfr. GUERRA, L.B., *op. cit.* Não se identifica a origem da dívida de “877\$050 reis” ao mercador inglês. P. 273.

oferecidos à clientela poderosa e rica estavam os tecidos e papéis de parede, dois elementos que criavam o ambiente da moda. As tipologias de assento e repouso ostentavam, por óbvias razões, essa afirmação de gosto. O restante mobiliário, funcional ou decorativo, era escolhido *a posteriori* pelo dono da casa procurando com esses elementos marcar a eventual diferença decorativa relativamente aos seus pares³⁶. O papel dos decoradores, quando não eram arquitectos³⁷, seria o de coordenar atmosferas únicas e exóticas empregando materiais que sugerissem exclusividade e moda. No exterior da casa, a vaga de feição orientalista também influenciava a concepção dos jardins. O rei Jorge III de Inglaterra³⁸ encomendou ao arquitecto William Chambers uma inspiração imperial dos jardins chineses projectando um pagode, composições minerais rochosas e plantações de árvores não nativas, que ainda hoje existem em Kew (Londres, Inglaterra). Parece-nos que William Beckford terá encontrado em Lisboa uma propriedade muito semelhante. Em carta datada de Lisboa de 2 de Julho de 1787 descreve o palácio de Gerard De Visme, em Benfica, como uma paisagem em que o Oriente estava presente com elementos que ele considera invulgares³⁹ e cujo enunciado nos remete para a criação de Chambers em Kew. Se bem que no testamento de De Visme não exista menção a qualquer peça de mobiliário⁴⁰ será natural admitir que a decoração interior

³⁶ Veja-se o Quarto Oriental em *Harewood House*, Yorkshire, Inglaterra. Guardado durante dois séculos numa arrecadação, o papel de parede chinês aplicado originalmente por Thomas Chippendale (1718-1779) foi recentemente descoberto praticamente intacto e colocado de acordo com o inventário setecentista existente. A decoração oferece um visual de exotismo quase paradoxal. O mobiliário do quarto compõe-se de leito, duas mesas-de-cabeceira, armário-cómoda [*commode*] e armário [*cloth-press*] e a sua estrutura é decorada com pintura de gosto chinês em tons de verde forte e ouro.

³⁷ Sabe-se actualmente que o arquitecto Robert Adams (1728-1792) delegou em Thomas Chippendale não só a factura mas também a concepção do mobiliário de Harewood House. Agradeço a informação ao Prof. Dr. Adam Bowett.

³⁸ Este monarca viveu entre 1760 e 1820.

³⁹ Relatando uma visita em Julho de 1787 ao Convento de S. José de Ribamar, Beckford compara a decoração que aí viu com a da quinta de De Visme: *"I observed the same propensity to shell-work and broken china [shining beads, china plates and saucers turned inside out] in a Mr. de Visme, whose quinta at Bemfica eclipses our Clapham and Islington Villas in all the attractions of leaden statues, Chinese temples, serpentine rivers, and dusty hermitages"*. P.98. Esta descrição faz lembrar os Jardins de Kew. Cfr. BECKFORD, William – *Italy; with Sketches of Spain and Portugal*. Third Edition in Two volumes (London, 1835), p. 98. Digitalized by Google.

⁴⁰ Os seus livros deveriam certamente estar colocados em livreiras inglesas; as *"snuff boxes"* e outras preciosidades aludidas no testamento teriam exposição condizente com a sua importância, eventualmente em alçados de papelarias, em *"cabinets"* apropriados e mesmo em estantes de parede. Chippendale preocupou-se em conceber esta última tipologia designando-a como *"Hanging Shelves"*, *"Shelves for China"*, *"China Shelf"* e *"Designs*

da sua casa em Benfica, certamente adquirida em Inglaterra, tenha tido algum efeito de irradiação junto da classe que frequentava o seu meio, tendo esta eventualmente o mesmo mercado abastecedor.

Neste contexto decorativo que sucintamente descrevemos os “leitos imperiais”^{41 42} são uma das tipologias chave dado que se encontravam nos apartamentos solenes, quer da corte, quer das residências de notáveis mercadores ou famílias de linhagem. Centro inicial da representação absolutista do rei como

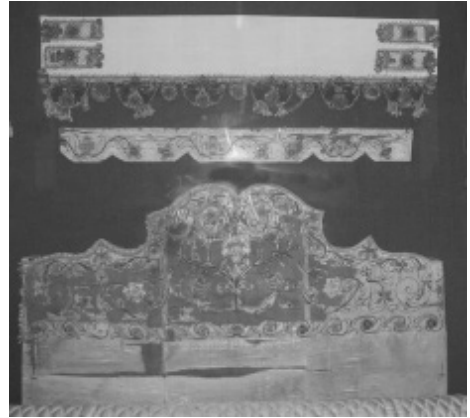


Fig. 1. Cabeceira de ‘leito imperial’ que Catarina de Bragança terá utilizado. Maio de 2009. Ham House, Londres. Foto da autora.

divindade, os quartos com leitos foram gradualmente destinados a recepções de reconhecimento pessoal e ratificação política dos visitantes sendo um dos enunciados da importância do dono da casa e a maioria dos actos públicos aí decorria. Mas alterações na definição dos leitos como tipologia foram acontecendo ao longo de décadas.

Enquanto as cabeceiras destes leitos barrocos afirmavam o primado do trabalho dos estofos sobre o da madeira o qual, na verdade, poderia ser efectuado por um carpinteiro de obra civil pois a madeira era o simples

for China Shelves”. Cfr. CHIPPENDALE, Thomas – *The Gentleman & Cabinet-maker’s Director*. A reprint of the third edition. New York: Dover Publications, Inc., 1966. Gravuras CXXXVIII a CXLIII sendo que esta última indica que é destinada a livros ou louça.

⁴¹ Na definição de Bluteau “*Leito consta de hu catre com quatro columnas, ou pilares altos, & taboas sobre que se põem a cama; armase com cortinas*”. Cfr. BLUTEAU, D. Raphael – Vocabulário Portuguez e Latino. Coimbra: No Collegio das Artes da Companhia de Jesus, 1712. Tomo V, p. 75. In www.ieb.usp.br/online. 29.Maio.2009.

⁴² A designação portuguesa “leitos imperiais” parece ser uma tradução literal das expressões inglesa e francesa. Em inglês setecentista a designação “state bed” remetia para existência do dossel como elemento preponderante da tipologia. Cfr. *Novo Diccionario Inglez-Portuguez*. Lisboa: Livraria e Typographia Editora, 1880. P. 1316. Por outro lado o “*menuisier*” Roubo refere que os leitos “*á la françoise*” têm um dossel – “*dais*”, “*ciel*”, « *pavillon ou impériale*” – que acompanha “*d’une même forme ou du moins de même grandeur que le bois de lit*”. Cfr. ROUBO, A.-J. – Description des arts et metiers. *L’art du menuisier en meubles*. Cópia facsimilada. [S.l.]: Bibilothèque des Arts, des Sciences & des Techniques, 2004. Pp. 665-666. Comparando as descrições de Roubo e as gravuras de Chippendale, Hepplewhite e Sheraton, bem como os leitos que conhecemos verificamos que a tipologia é a mesma, pese embora as variantes decorativas e idiossincráticas dos dois centros decorativos.

suporte para a montra dos tecidos utilizados⁴³, já o leito imperial rococó permitiu a visibilidade controlada da madeira integrando-a na decoração total dos tecidos. No período barroco os espaldares, de alturas diversas, com recortes ondulados mais ou menos acentuados, eram completamente cobertos de seda, damasco ou veludo, com passamanarias multicores cujo propósito era criar volumetria, sombra e movimento sobre o tecido base; o recorte primário da tábua da cabeceira era sempre devidamente debruado; esses elementos encordados, de várias espessuras, entrançados imaginativamente com vários nós e dispostos em SS, curvaturas e motivos florais diversos, salientavam amiúde o entalhamento grosseiramente debuxado na madeira que lhe servia de suporte⁴⁴ ⁴⁵. Trabalho de talha a coroar a cabeceira era raro⁴⁶. O dossel do leito era composto de panos de tecido e os cortinados caíam de sanefas também cobertas; penas de avestruz ou bolas proeminentes de passamanaria adornavam os quatro cantos bem como o elemento central de coroação exterior. Borlas de madeira entalhada e dourada eram outro complemento decorativo. Na sua parte interior o dossel não era menos esplêndido: os tecidos eram dispostos compositamente, apresentando amiúde um elemento central de madeira entalhada e dourada, por vezes com elementos vítreos⁴⁷, marcando o ponto estrutural em que os drapeados se deveriam encontrar. No período barroco os elementos de suporte por excelência, as quatro colunas, estavam também cobertas

⁴³ Roubo explica que o dossel é geralmente coberto de tecido e dá indicações sobre os ofícios que nele intervêm, sendo que o estofador é que define a forma da tipologia: “*Les ciels des lits à la Française sont ordinairement tout-à-faits garnis d'étoffe, de manière que le bois de leurs chassiss n'est aucunement apparent, & que toutes leur decoration dépend du Tappissier, lequel donne au Menuisier les mesures nécessaires & les formes convenables ; de sorte que toute l'ouvrage du Menuisier consiste en des bâtis les plus légers possibles, en leur conservant cependant toute la solidité convenable* ». Cfr. IDEM, *Ibidem*, p. 673.

⁴⁴ Cfr. O ‘state bed’ de *Melville House*, datado de 1700, em exposição no Museu *Victoria and Albert* (Londres, Inglaterra). Em vídeo que acompanha a exposição podemos seguir os passos da intervenção a que foi sujeito bem como verificar a estrutura da toda a composição. Daniel Marot, o autor do desenho, era um Huguenote francês que foi residir para Inglaterra na sequência de perseguições político-religiosas. A sua influência no desenvolvimento da decoração centro-europeia tem sido objecto de estudos recentes. Cfr. BOWETT, Adam – The engravings of Daniel Marot. In *Furniture History*, volume XLIII for the year 2007. Pp. 85-100.

⁴⁵ Veja-se também a representação pictórica do monumental leito de *Stoke Edith*, datado de 1710-1720 (Herefordshire, Inglaterra) no Museu *Victoria & Albert*.

⁴⁶ Veja-se o caso do ‘state bed’ seiscentista de *Knole House*, Kent, Inglaterra. Neste caso a cabeceira é coroada com talha dourada de inspiração continental. Até à data a autoria desta peça é desconhecida.

⁴⁷ Na época de pujança neoclássica (1760), estes elementos existem no “state bed” de *Osterley Park* (Londres, Inglaterra).

por tecidos sendo que o único elemento de madeira passível de ser visto eram as respectivas bases.

Catarina de Bragança, casada com Carlos II de Inglaterra, permaneceu na década de 1670 algum tempo em Ham House, junto a Londres, propriedade da Duquesa de Laudardale⁴⁸. Os inventários respeitantes aos anos de 1677, 1679 e 1783 fornecem descrição desses leitos imperiais indicando a existência de uma armação suplementar executada em tecidos menos dispendiosos, que no dia a dia cobriria a dos tecidos principais⁴⁹. O que resta da cabeceira que terá pertencido ao leito imperial dos aposentos da rainha, executada cerca de 1675, encontra-se actualmente em prudente exposição devido ao seu delicado estado de conservação (Figura 1): restos de cetim cor azul-céu bordado com fios de metal, prata e ouro, bem como passamanaria colorida com cerca de 20cm de espessura são os elementos que cobriam totalmente uma tábua com talha muito rasa, singelamente esboçada⁵⁰. A sua construção segue os cânones acima mencionados. No Verão e no Inverno os tecidos e tintos respectivos variavam. É de notar que no inventário *post-mortem* de Catarina de Bragança⁵¹ estão registados três leitos com descrição semelhante⁵². As cores dos tecidos são “*cremesim*” e “*cremesim e verde*” ostentando dois deles as “*armas*” na cabeceira. Um destes refere mesmo que “*as armas e seis tarjes com coroa e letras do nome da Raynha [está] tudo bordado a ouro e prata franjado a duas franjas de retos com algum ouro*”⁵³. Este enunciado permite-nos concluir que a madeira do



Fig. 2. “State bed” da oficina de Thomas Chippendale. Harewood House, Yorkshire. Cerca de 1770. Fonte: *Harewood: a guide*. [S.l.]: Harewood House Trust, [s.d.], p. 24.

⁴⁸ Um elemento da base do “state bed” de Catarina de Bragança, com três caras de *putti* alados, que sustentaria cada uma das colunas escondidas pelos tecidos existe em Ham House (Londres, Inglaterra).

⁴⁹ É de notar que nestes inventários seiscentistas existem outras duas referências a móveis de repouso: 1) a um “*portugall bedstead garnished wih brasse*” (sic), [uma armação portuguesa (à moda de Portugal?) com metais aplicados], que tem sido interpretado como um leito português de torneados; 2) e a “*one Bedsteed Guilt made in portugall*” [uma armação dourada feita em Portugal]. São armações de leitos de Verão. Cfr. *The furnishing and decoration of Ham House*. In *Furniture History*. Volume XVI for the year 1980. Pp. 144-145.

⁵⁰ Cfr. *Furniture History*, Volume XVI for the year 1980. Veja-se a Figura 121.

⁵¹ RAU, Virginia – Inventário dos bens da Rainha da Grã-Bretanha D. Catarina de Bragança. Separata do *Boletim da Biblioteca*, vol. XVIII. Coimbra: Biblioteca da Universidade, 1947.

⁵² O termo utilizado para definir estes leitos é “*docel*” sugerindo a tradução literal do termo inglês “*state*” (cúpula, dossel). Cfr. nota 41.

⁵³ IDEM, *Ibidem*, pp.60-61.

espaldar não estava à vista, não existindo mesmo qualquer menção à sua espécie em qualquer dos leitos. Referem-se três “doceis” em tecidos pretos que nos parecem remeter para as armações de protecção dos de aparato⁵⁴.

Em meados de setecentos o rococó incorporou a madeira na profusão de tecidos⁵⁵ pelo que necessitava da colaboração mais estreita entre estofadores, marceneiros, entalhadores e douradores ou pintores; na realidade a madeira entalhada e dourada complementava a decoração das sedas, esfusiantes de cor e brilho⁵⁶. Em Harewood House está em exposição um sumptuoso “state bed” desenhado e construído na oficina de Thomas Chippendale que sobreviveu miraculosamente à voragem do tempo. Esta peça é, até à data, o leito inglês de meados de setecentos mais bem documentado; o rococó funde-se já com elementos neoclássicos e está bem patente nesta peça a razão do elevado valor normalmente atribuído a esta tipologia nos inventários epocais. A seda é verde brilhante franjada de dourado e as cortinas apanhadas em drapeado; diversas borlas e sirgaria verde-dourado acentuam as quebras do tecido. Das quatro colunas estruturais como que nasce o dossel, autêntico zimbório com arcos de meia volta terminando em cada coluna encimada por vasos fantasiosos; exteriormente percebe-se que a estrutura da cúpula está executada com várias armações sucessivamente cruzadas; cada uma das faces deste dossel é enriquecida com festões de flores aninhados em seda pregueada. Uma urna, com tampa entalhada e dourada, coroa todo este conjunto.

Sendo peças marcantes de estatuto social, não será de estranhar que o inventário da Casa de Távora, refira “*Hua armação de Cama Imperial*” nas quintas ao Campo Pequeno e duas na casa da freguesia de Nossa Senhora da Ajuda. Na primeira menciona-se “*um espaldar*” sem específica

⁵⁴ IDEM, *Ibidem*, p.61.

⁵⁵ À data da publicação do seu tratado (1772) Roubo descreve a variante do leito em que o dossel apresenta madeira à vista e refere que o “*menuisier*” deve seguir as indicações do estofador: “*cependant comme il arrive quelques fois que ces sortes d'imperiales ont des parties de menuiseries apparentes, tant à l'interieur qu'à l'exterieur, il est bom que le menuisier & le tapissier trasvailleent de concert ensemble, & que ce dernir communique au menuisier de dessin de son ouvrage, afin qu'il dispose sa menuiserie en conséquence*”. Cfr. ROUBO, A.-J., *Op. cit.*, p. 675 e gravura 244, (12 e 13).

⁵⁶ Thomas Chippendale, na 3ª edição do seu catálogo (1762) de desenhos de mobiliário, sugere diversos modelos de colunas para estes leitos e de sanefas susceptíveis de serem utilizadas em dosséis. Propõem também desenhos completos de leitos que poderão servir de guia tanto a clientes como a artífices. Cfr. CHIPPENDALE, Thomas –*The Gentleman & Cabinet-maker's Director*. A reprint of the third edition. New York: Dover Publications, Inc., 1966. Gravuras XXXIV a XLI.

alusão à madeira, sinal de que possivelmente não estaria à vista nem seria de importância. É dado relevo ao “*veludo carmezim*” utilizado em profusão bem como aos galões, franjas e guarnições de ouro; de sete sanefas caem quatro cortinas; os tecidos principais estão forrados com tafetá; não é indicada a sua avaliação⁵⁷. Refere-se especificamente que o espaldar e dossel estão forrados com tecido que é bordado a “*ouro palha da Índia*”. Um dos outros leitos foi cotado em 800\$000 réis⁵⁸; a disposição dos tecidos deveria ser algo complexa dado que o avaliador refere que “*os balaústres*” são guarnecidos de 14 peças de tecido, que é igualmente “*veludo carmezim*”; os “*galoins de ouro [são] de duas faces*”. Existem “*4 bolças de nobreza*” e um remate que deveria coroar o dossel.

O terceiro leito foi avaliado em 680\$000 réis⁵⁹ e regista-se que é “*todo muito rico*”, sendo o espaldar coberto com “*quatro panos do tamanho das cortinas*”, à semelhança, aliás, dos outros dois. O dossel estaria forrado com o mesmo tecido das cortinas. Os valores atribuídos a estas peças são somente comparáveis aos de algumas jóias confiscadas⁶⁰. Já um “*Leito de pao de Evano torneado*” com aplicações de latão e prata foi vendido por 226\$000 réis⁶¹. Como peculiar apresentava, presumivelmente na cabeceira, “*três figuras de prata*” e “*quatro jarrinhas*” do mesmo material^{62 63}. Um outro leito de torneados de ébano foi avaliado em 220\$000 rs. sendo que a valorização apresentada é somente da prata aplicada⁶⁴. Os leitos imperiais portugueses aqui referidos são acompanhados de conjuntos de cadeiras com as respectivas capas protectoras em tecidos mais resistentes



Figura 3. Interior da cúpula do “state bed” da figura 2. Fonte: *Harewood: a guide*. [S.l.]: Harewood House Trust, [s.d.], p. 25.

⁵⁷ GUERRA, L. B., *Op. cit.*, p.16.

⁵⁸ IDEM, *Ibidem*, pp. 90.

⁵⁹ IDEM, *Ibidem*, pp. 68.

⁶⁰ O valor atribuído, por exemplo a “*duzentos e vinte e seis diamantes brilhantes*” (754\$000 réis), ou um adereço em prata com “*sesenta e hum Diamantes Brilhantes*” (970\$000 réis). Cfr. IDEM, *Ibidem*, pp. 96 e 104.

⁶¹ IDEM, *Ibidem*, p. 16.

⁶² IDEM, *Ibidem*, pp. 16-17.

⁶³ Estes elementos decorativos remetem-nos para o que parece ser uma variante desta tipologia já que existe em exposição no Museu Municipal de Viana do Castelo um leito de torneados em cuja cabeceira está inserida uma imagem de marfim.

⁶⁴ Critério semelhante foi aplicado em 1706 na avaliação do mobiliário de Catarina de Bragança que continha aplicações de prata. Cfr. RAU, *Op. cit.*, pp.48-50.

tes que os dos estofos originais⁶⁵. No inventário das Casa de Távora e Atouguia são referidos, com as duas das camas imperiais, “*trinta e hum panos de cadeiras novos bordados do mesmo ouro e veludo*”⁶⁶ e *trinta e dois panos de cadeira de veludo carmezim bordados de ouro palha*⁶⁷. A origem dos tecidos dos inventários é oriental, mas é de referir que existem roupas pessoais adjectivadas de “inglesas”⁶⁸.

Na colecção de desenhos atribuídos, até a data, a José Francisco de Paiva^{69 70 71} existem diversos esboços de leitos com dossel que nos parecem tentativas cruzamento de concepções de diversas origens. Nas cabeceiras de forma neoclássica da *Folha 8* são introduzidos elementos construtivos utilizados à data em outras variantes de leitos, parecendo-nos deslocados e mesmo incoerentes em termos funcionais; indicam com probabilidade que o autor do desenho pretenderia dar um cariz pessoal a tipologias europeias conhecidas. Referimo-nos à representação da ligação do dossel com a da cabeceira em que uma incoerência estrutural se revela: as colunas dos leitos neoclássicos, com decorações entalhadas e/ou rasgadas na madeira maciça, são para serem vistas e não escondidas. Nos dois desenhos da esquerda da *Folha 11* o seu autor coloca os tecidos drapeados cobrindo os prumos dos leitos propostos. Em traçados que nos remetem para a caixilharia arredondada e ovalada das molduras para

⁶⁵ Esta prática era comum a todo o mobiliário de aparato. Tampo de mesas, cadeiras, cadeiras de braços e leitos, como acima referimos, tinham capas suplementares para protecção do mobiliário e estofos primários que eram considerados mais valiosos.

⁶⁶ IDEM, *Ibidem*, p. 68.

⁶⁷ IDEM, *Ibidem*, p. 91.

⁶⁸ Existem referências cruzadas de tecidos e respectiva confecção, nomeadamente na roupa pessoal. Nomeiam-se, por exemplo, “*hum vestido inglez de lustro preto*”, “*hum vestido inglez de gorgorão preto*”, “*hum vestido inglez de setim verde*”, e também “*hum vestido inglez para pano da índia*”. IDEM, *Ibidem*, p. 87.

⁶⁹ Museu Nacional de Arte Antiga. Gabinete de Estampas. *Colecção de desenhos de José Francisco de Paiva*.

⁷⁰ Agradecemos a D. Maria Helena Mendes Pinto a leitura refrescada que conosco efectuou em Maio de 2008 no Gabinete de Estampas do MNAA e da qual emergiram novas ideias de abordagem desta colecção.

⁷¹ A autoria do risco da urna de Santa Mafalda foi questionada por ROCHA, Manuel Joaquim Moreira da – *Das construções e das reconstruções: a memória de um mosteiro (Santa Maria de Arouca, séc. XVII-XX)*. Tese de Doutoramento em História de Arte apresentada à Faculdade de Letras da Universidade do Porto. Texto policopiado. Porto, 2003. Em 2007 a dúvida foi retomada BASTOS, Celina – D. Joaquim Lourenço Ciais Ferras de Acunha, um desconhecido arquitecto, “riscador” e organeiro do último quartel do século XVIII. In *Revista de Artes Decorativas*, N° 1, 2007. Porto: CITAR – Centro de Investigação em Ciência e Tecnologia das Artes da Universidade Católica Portuguesa, 2007. Pp. 115-138.

espelhos de John Linnel⁷² e seus elementos entalhados⁷³, o dossel “à la Polonaise”⁷⁴ proposto parece estar desarticulado do contexto. No entanto as plantas baixas apresentadas junto aos desenhos dão uma indicação preciosa: a concepção da tipologia pretendia de facto mimetizar um “leito imperial” dado que nos dois esboços da esquerda da *Folha 8* há indicação de que o dossel cobriria toda a área interna do leito, i.e., a cama. Outra informação valiosa propiciada pelos desenhos em análise é a importância que a madeira apresenta nesta tipologia remetendo-nos para uma interpretação específica e local que valorizava a matéria-prima de um modo pouco comum na produção europeia epocal.

Considerações finais

Entre 1697 e 1809 Portugal e Inglaterra exportaram e importaram madeiras para a indústria tintureira em constante fluxo comercial nos dois sentidos. Outras praças europeias intervenientes neste comércio eram Espanha, França, Holanda, Hamburgo, Prússia e Rússia. O pau-brasil, *Cesalpinia brasiliensis*, foi uma das espécies que circulou em abundância até ao século XIX época em que a indústria química desenvolveu métodos de fabrico de tinteira retirando às plantas coloniais o papel importante que possuíam nessa área⁷⁵. Durante todo o século XVIII o monopólio da matéria-prima possibilitou o controle dos preços na Europa, situação que preocupava os diversos reinos europeus⁷⁶ mas documento das décadas finais de setecentos, quando a coroa portuguesa já tinha chamado a si a prerrogativa do comércio das matérias-primas

⁷² HAYWARD, Helena – The Drawings of John Linnel in the Victoria and Albert Museum. In *Furniture History*. Volume V for the year 1969. Por exemplo, as figuras 113, 143 e 145 sugerem elementos ovalados e urnas, as figuras 134 e 137 vasos diversos com festões. Linnel viveu entre 1737 e 1796. Não cabe aqui dissecar outros elementos representados na cabeceira do desenho português.

⁷³ IDEM, *Ibidem*. Na figura 135 estão reproduzidos motivos diversos para inspiração dos entalhadores.

⁷⁴ O “menuisier” Roubo apresenta como solução de suporte do dossel neste modelo de leito um conjunto de quatro curvas de ferro; estas nascem de igual número de colunas de madeira truncadas para tal efeito. ROUBO, *Op. cit.*, p.681, gravura 247. Tal não acontece nos desenhos portugueses, sem qualquer margem para dúvida.

⁷⁵ As plantas utilizadas na época nesta indústria cresciam em climas tropicais ou pan-tropicais. Cfr. FARIA, Miguel – As plantas tintureiras. In *Oceanos*. Número 6. Abril. 1991. Lisboa: Comissão Nacional para as Comemorações dos Descobrimentos Portugueses, 1989. Pp. 66-78.

⁷⁶ Análises dos fluxos de pau-brasil do Brasil para Portugal eram alvo de atenção da espionagem francesa e reportados ao Quai d’Orsay pelos diversos representantes consulares franceses em Lisboa. Cfr. PINTO, Virgílio Noya – *Op. cit.*, p. 204.

coloniais, parece sugerir maior fluidez de circulação do pau-brasil⁷⁷. Diferentes indústrias utilizaram esta madeira, entre elas a da construção naval, nomeadamente no Arsenal de Lisboa⁷⁸. A dimensão da sociedade dos três mercadores ingleses está espelhada nos seus testamentos que igualmente evidenciam a saída para os seus países de origem das mais-valias dos negócios coloniais concedidos em exclusividade aos contratadores estrangeiros⁷⁹.

No que às Artes Decorativas diz respeito, e na esteira da moda seiscentista, os tecidos para decoração continuaram a chegar à Europa de setecentos transportando uma carga de exotismo, cor e luxo com que se batiam os igualmente singulares marfim e tartaruga, bem como os metais – prata e ouro. Não podemos deixar de referir a importância da não menos extravagante imaginação dos produtores de mobiliário dos diversos centros europeus e respectivos clientes. Os leitos imperiais

⁷⁷ Arquivo Geral da Marinha. *Matas Reais. Madeiras de Construção – Brasil*. Caixa 424. Doc.6. S/d. (provavelmente 1793-1811). Além de indicar algumas rotas de comércio desta espécie o documento que transcrevemos dá conta do contrabando que existia à época. “*João Guilherme & F. d’Amsterdam avizão ter feito naquella Cidade hu (sic) Siguro de Quarenta mil Cruzados sobre Páo Brazil q. se expirava de Philadelphia, a honde foy conduzir p. hu Navio português q. ali tinha chegado do Brazil. João Dias Santos e Cº de Londres, avizão ter ali chigado hú Navio Inglês da Costa do Brazil carregado de Pao Brazil. Constanos q. o Caixa ou proprietario do dito Páo se chama Geraldo Pinto, e q se acha nesta Cidade, tendo vindo de Londres no Navio Português N. Sª da Canna Verde, Cap. Jacomo Joze Badrilha q. entrou nesta Cidade em 27 de Maio. Guilherme Van Breiner e Fºs d’Amsterdam avizão ter ali chigado hú Navio Portugues com o nome S. Anna, Cap. Antonio Francisco, vindo do Rio de Janeiro, carregado de Pao Brazil, dizem telo recebido em Cabo Frio. O dito Navio Sahio em Lastro, e constanos ter ido a Bilbáo carregar ferro. Este testemunho, provavelmente anterior a 1793, assinala algumas rotas de comércio desta espécie.*”

⁷⁸ Arquivo Histórico Ultramarino. *Conselho Ultramarino. Brasil–Pernambuco*. Caixa 144. Doc. 10564. Em documento datado de Recife em 29 de Abril de 1782 está registada uma carga de “pau-brasil” para construção de navios transportada para Lisboa no pacote “*Nossa Senhora do Monte da Carmo e S. José*”; a madeira está devidamente numerada, pesada em quintais, e são apresentadas as respectivas medidas.

⁷⁹ Na recolha dos textos escritos de Pombal o Conde da Carnota refere documento em que aquele considera que “*The system of Great Britain was to weaken the power of other nations in order to increase her own. Portugal was powerless and without vigour, and all her movements were regulated by desires of England*”. Cfr. SMITH, John – *Memoirs of the Marquis of Pombal; with extracts from his writings, and from Despatches in the State Paper Office, never before published. By John Smith, Esq. Private Secretary to the Marshal Marquis de Saldanha. In two volumes*. London: Longman, Brown, Green, and Longmans, Paternoster-Row, 1843. Vol.1, p.86. A citação de outra frase do Marquês explicita de modo mais veemente a ideia anterior: “*The English came to Lisbon to monopolize even the commerce of Brazil. The entire cargo of the vessels that were sent thither, and consequently the riches that were returned in exchange, belonged to them. Nothing was Portuguese but the name*”. Cfr. IDEM, *Ibidem*, vol.1, p.115.

eram uma das tipologias cuja organização propiciava a exibição singular da riqueza dos seus possuidores.

Na centúria de setecentos a entrada abundante de madeiras em Inglaterra propiciou e consentiu aos criadores da moda um aligeiramento na utilização de tecidos nomeadamente no mobiliário de repouso e assento. Em Portugal as opções sócio-políticas continentais, a primazia dada à exploração colonial e as vicissitudes provocadas pelo cataclismo de 1755 conduziram a produção de mobiliário português para uma via de interpretação local das várias correntes decorativas europeias que comandavam o gosto das elites, de linhagem ou não. Enquanto elemento primordial na concepção do mobiliário a madeira maciça tendeu a valorizar-se representando indubitavelmente uma idiosincrasia das Artes Decorativas portuguesas⁸⁰.



Fig. 4.

1.º fólio do testamento de *Gerard De Visme*.
Fonte: The National Archives, Great Britain,
Probate, Will 11/1300.

Apêndice Documental

A transcrição efectuada é textual, mantendo a grafia da época.

Documento n.º 1

Testamento de David Purry

The National Archives, Great Britain, *Probate*, Will 11/1145.

[F.197] *In the Name of God Amen*

I the under written David Purry of Neuschatel in Switzerland || Born in Ffebruary 1709 Son of the deceased Colonel Jean || Pierre Purry and the deceased Dame Lucrece Chaillot of || the said Town

⁸⁰ Agradecemos ao *National Trust* (Inglaterra) as facilidades para visitar as casas citadas, bem como a consulta de documentação *in loco*. Em *Ham House* contámos com a disponibilidade de Victoria Bradley e em *Osterley Park* de Louise Ayres. Agradecemos também a Sarah Medlan as suas interessantes reflexões no Museu *Victoria and Albert* e ao Prof. Dr. Adam Bowett a sua inestimável disponibilidade e vasto conhecimento na área de mobiliário e madeiras setecentistas. Ao nosso orientador Prof. Dr. Gonçalo de Vasconcelos e Sousa, devemos o sempre precioso entusiasmo no que toca à investigação em curso.

a naturalized subject of Great Britain, by an || Act of Parliament of the Anbush of March or April 1736 and || an established Merchant of Lisbon in Portugal for forty one || [f.197v.] years considering the uncertainty of the duration of our || existence in this world have determined wherein full health || to make this my last and only valid Will in favour of the || several persons whom I wish to partake of the Goods || where with it has pleased God to bless^{^me}. And I hereby declare || that I was born in the Protestant reformed Religion in the || which I profess to live and die. I render my most humble || Thanksgivings to the most mighty God my Creator for all || the Mercies I have received and I implore his Devine Mercy || for the Pardon of all my Sins and I hope that the suprant || being will of his infinit Goodness remich my Soul into || his Paradise. I declare myself to be a Bachelor never || having been married and having no Child or Heir at || Law. All the Goods which I possess having by the Grant || of God been lawfully acquired in Trade except those || which I inherit from my dear Sister Marie Purry now || deceased (on whom when living I had bestowed very || considerable Donations) so that being at Liberty to dispose || thereof by my own free Will. I make the same manner || following that is to say I bequeath to my Sister Sarah || Harvey Purry of the South Caroline, widow of my dear || Brother Charles Purry deceased the Sum of ten thousand || Crusades, of which value it is my Will that every Crusades || herein after mentioned shall be considered to my Dear || Niece Eleanor Bull Purry of the South Caroline the only || Daughter of my said Dear Sister and my said Dear || Brother Charles Purry deceased. Wife of Mr. John Bull || of the said Caroline the Sum of thirty thousand Crusades || to the said Mr. John Bull husband of my said Niece || Eleonore Bull Purry, ten thousand Crusades to my || Cousin Gorman Pierre Quinthe of Neuschatel in || Switzerland, six thousand Crusades to my Cousin Gorman || his Brother Samuel Quinthe of Neuschatel of the said Town, three || thousand Crusades to my Cousin Gorman Abraham || Chaillot of Neuschatel in Switzerland, three thousand || Crusades to my Cousin Gorulan his Brother Rodolph || Chaillot of the said Town, three thousand Crusades to || my Cousin Gorman his Brother Samuel Chaillot of the said Town three || thousand Crusades to my young || Cousin ffrederick Osterwald of the said Town, fifteen hundred || Crusades to my second Cousin his Son Jean ffrederick || Osterwald of the said Town but at present residing at || Lisbon fifteen hundred Crusades to my good and old || ffriend contemporary Monsieur Goreman de Moutinollin of || Neuschatel in Switzewrland Ancient Mayor of Wallagne (?) || three thousand Crusades to my God Daughter Marie || Alexandrine de Montunollin Daughter of Professeur de || [f.198] Montinollin of Mottier Travers (?) in the County of Switzerland || fifteen hundred Crusades to my God Daughter Anna || Luiza Illins Daughter of Ludero Illins of Lisbon deceased || fifteen hundred Crusades to my to my (sic) Godson Jean Elie Perochon || Son of Elie Perochon of Lisbon deceased, fifteen hundred || Crusades to my Godson Miguel Joam Meyer || son of Monsieur Albert Meyer of Lisbon, fifteen hundred || Crusades to Joseph Mellish Esquire of London a || Partner in my House of Trade in Lisbon going || under the ffirm of Purry, Mellish and De Visme, three || thousand Crusades with bequest the said Mr. || Mellish owned accept as a mark of my sincere Esteem || and ffriendship. To Mr. Gerard de Visme also a Partner || in my said House at Lisbon the like Sum of three || thousand Crusades which I pray him also to accept || as a token of my ffriendship. To Messieurs Louis du Bois || Jean ffrederick Brandt and David Henry Mouron (sic) Clerks in || the said House, the Sum of two thousand Crusades || and to Messieurs Simao de Viega (sic), Pierre Brot, ffrancisco || Xavier da Costa, and Joseph de Lama also Clerks in || the said House the Sum of one thousand Crusades in || cash. To Jacob Sunier my Valet de Chambre, to my || ffootman Joao da Moura and Joseph Pereira my || postillion in Consideration of the long time they have || carrelly served me the Sum of six hundred Crusades || cash. To D. Anna Marie de Govea Vianna, Widow of || Diogo Ffrancisco Vianna deceased, four thousand Crusades || which I pray her to accept as a token of the Regard || which I have always had for her. To my Good Ffriend Mr. || Joseph Vianna of Lisbon Son of Monsieur Barthelemey, Miguel || Vianna formerly my Partner deceased twelve hundred Crusades || as a token of my ffriendship. To Anna Joaquina Roza a || young Portugueze Girl or Woman at present residing in || the Parish of N^a S^a das Neves at Lisbon with her mother || Joaquina Josefa Roza a poor Woman the Sum of two thousand || four hundred Crusades and it is my Will that the said Anna || Joaquina Roza shall receive the same herself independent || of and without any opposition from her said Mother. To || the three Daughters of D. Anna Thomazia Ravara || Widow of Joze Maria Ravara late of Lisbon Merchant || deceased,

namely D. Ffrancisca Maria D. Maria Leonora || and D. Camilla Maria at present residing in the || Parish of N^a S^a da Lapa, five thousand Crusades || [notas ilegíveis nas entrelinhas] bestowed them with it is my Intention they shall || receive themselves and have Liberty to dispose thereof || by Will independent of their Mother even if it should || be contrary to the Laus of Portugal of which however || I am ignorant. I intend and I declare it to be my Will || and intention that the Legacies above mentioned || bequeathed by this my Will and which together the || amount to one hundred and twenty six thousand || and four hundred Crusades shall have no force or be || [f.198v.] valid except in favour of such the above Persons who || shall survive me and with respect to those who shall || happen to die in my life time. The Legacies which I have || bequeathed than shall become null and as if not bequeathed || to them without any of their Heirs Descendants Representatives || or any Persons whatever having it in their Power in || any manner whatever - - - (sic) may Claim to them with || respect to the Legacies who shall survive me and shall || be intitled (sic) to receive their Legacies my desire is that || they receive the same as soon as possible that is to || say such as reside at Lisbon or in Portugal within || a ffortnight after my Decease and such as are out of || the Kingdom as soon as conveniently may be to which || End I particularly recommend it to my Executors here || after named to facilitate as much possible the payment || of the said Legacies to the several Persons to whom || they are bequeathed. I ... (sic) bequeath to the poor || of the Parish of N^a S^a das Neves in which I at || present reside twelve hundred Crusades to be distributed || by small portions to the most necessitous and deserving || of Charity within fifteen days after my decease by my || Executors with the assistance of whatsoever shall then || happen to be the Curate of the said Parish to whom I || also bequeath to his own use the Sum of two hundred || and fforty Crusades. I bequeath to the poor of the || British ffactory at Lisbon twelve hundred Crusades to || be distributed to the most necessitous and deserving of || Charity within a Month after my decease by my || Executors with the Assistance of the British Consul || at Lisbon or in case of his absence his Representative. || I declare that I am not in debt to any person in any || Sum of Money unless for rifling matters and the common || daily Expences (sic) of my House and that all the property || I am at present possessed of is known to my Partners || and particularized in a Book written with my own || hand and balanced the 31st December last at which || time it amounted to near four hundred and seventy five || thousand Crusades exclusive of my share of the profits || gained by our said House of Purry, Mellish and De || Visme and left in reserve on our last Ballance on the || said 31st day of December and such other profits as || may further arrive to us from our continuance in trade || which said property consists for the most part of three || Articles, that is to say The first of a very Considerable || Personal Estate which belongs solely to myself. The second || in one hundred and ffifty eight Contos, one hundred and || ffifteen thousand one hundred and sixty one Reis || Principal Money with Interest for the same at five || per cent per annum from the 31 December last which || is due to me from my said Partners. The third in my || twenty six hundred share in the Capital ffund of one || hundred Contos of Reis and in all the concerns of my || [f. 199] said Partnership. The said House of Trade is Governed and || conducts itself agreeably to Articles of Agreement signed at London || the 27th March 1759 and at Lisbon the 10th of April || following and additional Articles also approved at London || which said Articles are the only ones in force amongst the Partners || of the said House of Trade having been renewed from || time to time by unanimous Consent and the proof of such || Consent is evident from our several Balances which have || always been settled at the end of every year and especially || from that of the 31 December 1763 immediately after the death || of Mr. John Gore of London deceased in case of the || Death of any of the Partners I nominate and appoint || for the universal Heirs of the residue of all my Estate || as well present as future the City and Corporation of || Neuschatel in Switzerland my native Country to apply the || same to the Purposes hereafter named to which and to || which only I will that it shall be appropriated in || order that the Burglors [Burghers] of the said City may partake || thereof agreeably to my Intention and receive the principal || Benefit thereof though indirectly I think that the said City and || Corporation of Neuschatel in Switzerland are represented by the || General Council of the said City consisting of a Petty || Council called "the Furrity four" and a Grand Council ruller || "the fforty" but if it should be otherwise and the said || City and Corporation are only represented by the four || Master Burglors [Burghers] of the said City which are commonly || called "Messieurs los quatro Ministraux" or by the said || Magistrates with one or

other of the said Councils or jointly || with both of them or lastly by any other Body Members or || Community of Burglars [Burghers] whatever although not herein before mentioned || to such Representatives of the City and Corporation of Neuschatel || in Switzerland whoever they may be. I commit the good use || Management and wise Administration of all my Effects that is || of the residue of all my Effects as well present and || ffuture whereof. I pray them to take good charge as of || a publick and saved Deposit committed to their trust || to divide the same into two equal Portions and apply || each of them separately and as much as possible to the || purposes hereafter mentioned to which I would have them solely || applied that is to say the first portion thereof shall be appropriated || to Pious and Charitable Uses such as the repairing, or || Rebuilding of Churches in the said City of Neuschatel || the supplying the same with Organs, the Augmentation of || the Incomes allotted to Pastors and Ministers of the holy || Gospel in the said City, the augmentation of the Salaries || given to the Governors and Masters of Schools for the || Instruction and Education of youth especially the Children of || Burglors [Burghers] in want of assistance, to assist the Chamber of || Charity in their Pious Works and especially to contribute to the || support of the Hospital of the said City or to any || other purposes of the like nature that the said Representatives || of the City and Corporation of Neuschatel may judge most fit and || [f.199v.] and (sic) proper, to apply this first Portion of the half of || the residue of my Effects. The second Portion or the || other half [^]part of the [^]Residue of my Effects shall be solely used || and totally applied to the Increase the Embellishment || and Completion of such Publick Works of the said || City of Neuschatel as the said Representatives shall think || most Elegant the most useful and most necessary as well for the || Accommodation as the Pleasure of the Burglars [Burghers] and || Inhabitants of the said City, such as publick (sic) Buildings || Bridges Roads ffountains and other Embellishments || the Walks in the said City and its Environs or such || other purposes as may be determined by the said Representatives || without the Sovereign Prime of Neuschatel intervening || therein in any manner whatever. I nominate for joint Executors || of this my Will Monsieur Louis du Bois, [^]Monsieur Joan ffredrerick || Brandt and Mr. David Henry Mouron all three of whom are above || mentioned in the my Will and at present Clerks in my || said House provided at the time of my Death they be || still resident in the said House. I say in case at the || time of my Death they be still resident at Lisbon || but if one of them should die or be absent in || that case the two others, in the order above mentioned || shall together have the same Authority and if it || should happen that two of the three be dead or absent || then I nominate for Executor jointly with the third || remaining at Lisbon Mr. Pierre Brot already || mentioned in this my Will provided at the time of my death || he be resident at Lisbon with said two persons shall || jointly have the same Authority. I recommended it to my || Executors to pay great Attention to the advice of Mr. || Joseph Mellish of London with respect to the settling the || Partnership Accounts and in default of him to pay great || Respect to Mr. Gerard De Visme and pay particular || attention to the settling the said Accounts and also || the remitting the Mounts in the order they shall revise || them to the Persons whom in this my Will I have nominated || for my Heirs. Notwithstanding I have declared that none || of my Legators but those who shall survive me shall have || any Title to their Legacies nevertheless it is my Intention || that if my Niece Eleanora Bull Purry shall die before || me and have Children lawfully begotten they shall be || entitled to the Legacy of thirty thousand Crusades bequeathed || to her by this my Will. It is also my intention that the || three Miss Ravaras shall succeed each other, to || the Legacy of five thousand Crusades given to each || of them separately so that if only two of them should || survive me they shall each have receive seven thousand five hundred || Crusades and if only one she shall receive the entire Sum || of ffifteen thousand Crusades. It is also my Will that || if either of the said young Ladies shall marry and || die before me leaving Children lawfully begotten whether one || or more living at the time of my decease they shall in all Respects || [f.200] Respects be intitled (sic) to represent their (sic) Mother as if she || was still Living. I bequathe to whatever shall be Chaplain || of the British ffactory at Lisbon at the time of my || death, or in case of his Absence to whatever shall || Officiate for him the Sum of two hundred and forty || Crusades my Personal Estate shall be disposed of in || what manner my Heirs think proper. I bequeath to || such of my Servants who shall live with me at the || time of my decease one years (sic) Wages each independent || of any Legacy I may have already given any of them || by this my Will. I revoke annul and make void every || other Will I may have made before this wich I declare || shall only remain valid and have fforce,

the same being || my only and last Will. In Testimony whereof the whole || being written with my own hands upon nine Pages of || Paper without any Erasure or Alteration. I have || Sealed the same with my Seal and signed it with my || usual Signature. Done at Lisbon in Portugal the || thirtieth of January one thousand seven hundred and seventy seven (Signed) D^a Purry. (selo).

Added the same Day

Independent of the Legacy of two thousand || Crusades to Mr. Joan ffrederick Brandt I bequeath to || him ffifteen hundred Crusades he being my Relation || tho' a distant one. I declare that I have rendered a || just and ffaithful account of the Affairs of the inheritance || of the late Monsieur Bartheleme Michael Vianna my || first partner who died in 1739 whose sole surviving Executor || I am which account has been legally approved by a || decree whereof the Original or the Copy remains with || the Secretary of the Ecclesiastical Judge Valerio || Maximiliano dos Reys Silva, and agreeable to the || actual Receipt or discharge which is in the House || Coffor wherein my said House of Trade keep their || Papers of Importance. I too declare that in quality || of the first Executor of the Will of the said Barthelemy || Michael Vianna deceased I have been obliged to prosecute || many Suits at Law against Mr. ffrancisco Pereira Silva || the third Executor named in the Will of the said Vianna || during many years to Defend the Rights of Inheritance || of the Orphan Minor Nephew and Niece of the said Vianna || and others His Legacies in which I have acted justly as || if for myself and being persuaded of the just pretensions || of the said ffrancisco Pereira Silva which suit was || finally determined in my favour by the Arbitrators and || by a Sentence of the Judge of the Civil Court Antonio || da Costa ffreire which sentence was confirmed there || being no appeal and concerning which no dispatch arose || for many years before the Great ffire in November 1755 || [f.200v.] in which I believe all the Original Papers in the said || Suit were burned. (Signed) D^a Purry [assinatura] /-/- Witnesses – Isaac Le Gay, Franc^s Morgan.

Signed sealed and delivered in the presence of || the witnesses there into subscribed and of me British Vice || Consul and the fort going last Will and Testament was || approved by the Testator published proclaimed and declared to be his last Will and testament at Lisbon on the tenth || day of September one thousand, seven hundred and || seventy seven. In Testimony of the truth [assinatura]. Signed. John Legay.

A Codicil to my present Will

I revoke (sic) and make void my || nomination of three Executors jointly as well as the || order I made in case of the Death or Absence of either || of them as if such Nomination had never been made || instead whereof I especially nominate by this Codicil || as my Testamentary Executors Monsieur Joan ffrederick || Brandt, my Relation, Monsieur Gerard de Visme my || Partner and Monsieur Louis du Bois the oldest and || Chief Clerk employed in our House of Trade. I commit || the Care and Custody of all my Private Books, Copies || of Letters and Papers and especially of this my Will to the || said Monsieur Brandt of which I request him to let || there be two Authentic Copies and sent by two different || Vessels to Mr. Joseph Mellish of London requesting him || to register one of them in the Court at Doctors Commons || and also to send two authentic Copies of my said Will by || different Vessels to the City and Corporation of Neuschahtel || in Switzerland my Native Country, being already in possession || of their Confidence and one of the Members of the Grand || Council called "the fforty". Monsieur Brandt will destroy || such of my Papers as are of no Value. I bequeath to the || Widow D. Thomazia Ravara five thousand Crusades in || addition to and in like manner with the fifteen thousand || Crusades. I bequeath to her three Daughters making in || all twenty thousand Crusados to the said ffamily of || Ravara. My Estate being so much increased I propose || if please God to make a second Codicil in addition to this. || I bequeath to Monsieur Henry La Chaux our present || Book keeper two thousand Crusades, and to Monsieur Segismund Ramuz our junior Clerk one thousand || Crusades. His Majesty the King of Prussia has done || me the honour of creating me a Baron of his Kingdom || and its Dependencies by the Title of Baron de Purry || an honour which I highly esteem nevertheless. I have || not altered my Signature by reason that the stock I || possess in the English and ffrench ffunds is uttered by my || [f.201] name of David Purry. I declare myself to be a Bachelor || having no Child or Heir at Law and to

owe nothing || to any one. There should of right be no Deficiency In the || money Chest belonging to our House of Trade but || should there be any which I fflatter myself there will || not. I will be responsible therefore. Done at Lisbon || the twenty second of May one thousand seven hundred || eighty six (signed/David Purry) (Seal). Witnesses Charles Wade, Charles Russel.

I Edward Gideon Perochon

Vice Consul to the British Nation in the || City of Lisbon do hereby certify that the within || named Testator David Purry did in my || presence and in the presence of the within || written Witnesses sign and seal the Codicil || on the other side declaring it to be such and || that it may be held and understood as a || Codicil to his last Will and Testament. In || Testimony of the truth whereof I hereunto || set my hand and Seal at Lisbon aforesaid || the twenty second day of May, one thousand || seven hundred and eighty six. In Testimony || of the truth (signed) Edward Gideon Perochon || Vice Consul.

I Edward Gideon Perochon

Vice Consul to the British Nation in the City || of Lisbon do hereby certify to all People || whom it doth and may concern that being || required to go to the House of the late Mr. || David Purry in this City deceased situated in the Street called Rica formoza (sic) to open his last || Will and Testament which I accordingly || opened having found it Sealed and Directed I there || audibly read it as also the Codicil thereon || annexed in presence of the Witnesses hereafter || subscribed Witnesses my hand and Seal the thirty first day of May, one thousand seven hundred and eighty six (Signed) Edward Gideon Perochon || Vice Consul /-/ As Witnesses Gerard de Visme, J.F. Brandt, Louis du Bois.

Registered in the Vice || Consules Office. Register Book N°1 || @ fo:15 to fo:24. Lisbon the second || June one thousand and seven hundred || and eighty six. Signed. Edward || Gideon Perochon Vice Consul.

[f. 201v.] **I Edward Gideon Perochon**

Vice Consul to the British Nation in this City || of Lisbon do hereby certify and do attest that what || is written on the fifteen foregoing Pages of these four Sheets of Paper is a true and faithful Copy || of the last Will and Testament of the late Mr. || Dadiv Purry taken from the Original as also || of the Codicil of his last Will and Testament || Carefully compared and examined and found || without any alteration addition or omission. || In faith whereof I here onto set my hand and || Seal. Lisbon the fifth day of June one thousand || seven hundred and eighty six. Edward Gideon || Perochon. Vice Consul.

We the underwritten

British Merchants here residing attest the || Signature on the other to be the proper and || actual hand writing of Edward Gideon Perochon || our Vice Consul and that to all Acts Deeds || and publick Instruments by him so Signed full || and entire ffaith and Credit are given and || obtained in Courts of Judicature and thereof. || Lisbon the fifth day of June 1786. William || Burn, Daniel John Hoissard, Joseph Hake.

Faithfully translated

From the fFrench at Doctors Commons || London this twenty second day of July || in the year of our Lord 1786. By me || James Bush Not^s publick.

This Will was (sic) proved at London || with a Codicil the twenty third day of August in the || year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and || eighty six before the Right Worshipful Peter Calvert || Doctor of Laws Master Keeper or Commissary of the || Prerogative Court of Canterbury lawfully constituted by || the Oaths of Joan ffrederick Brandt Gerard de Visme || and Louis du Bois the Executors named in the said Codicil || to whom Administration was granted of all and singular || the Goods Chattels and Credits of the deceased having been || first sworn by Commis- sioner duly to Administer.

Documento n.º 2

Testamento de Joseph Mellish Esquire

The National Archives, Great Britain. *Probate*, Will 11/1199.

[f.124v.] **In the Name of God Amen**

I Joseph Mellish of the City of London and of || Bush Hill in the County of Middlesex Esquire || being of sound and disposing Mind and Memory || (praised be God) Do hereby revoke all former || Wills by me at any time heretofore made and || make and ordain this my last Will and Testament || in form -- -- (sic) following that is to say ffirst I will || and direct the payment of my just Debts and || ffuneral Expences and in case I shall have or || leave Issue one or more Child or Children born || in my lifetime or in time after my || decease I give to such Issue if a Son and || no other Child so much Money as together || with the portion in Will be initially to inder || my Marriage Settlement will make up the Sum || [f.125] of Twenty Thousand pounds to such only Son and || if a Daughter and no other Child so much Money || as together with the portion she will be intitled || to inder my Marriage Settlements will make up the || Sum of Ten Thousand pounds to such only Daughter and if two Sons or one Son and one Daughter || and no other Child then I give such Elder or only || Son so much Money as will make up his portion || Twelve Thousand pounds and to such Daughter or || younger Son so much Money - - - - - || - - - - - || - - - - - || - - - - - as will make up his or her || portion Eight Thousand pounds. And if there || shall be two Daughters and no other Child in || that case I give to each Daughter so much || Money as will make up their respective portions || Ten Thousand pounds each. And I will and direct || that such Legacies to my Child or Children shall be || paid and payable to the Son or Sons at the age || of Twenty one years and to the Daughter or Daughters || at the like age or Marriage (which shall first happen) and that my Executors do and shall by and out of || my Personal Estate pay and allow for the Maintenance || and Education of my Child or Children until they shall || respectively attain the Age of nine Years such yearly || Sum and Sums of Money as my Executors and the || Survivor or Survivors of them shall think proper not || exceeding the Yearly Sum of one hundreds and fifty || pounds a piece. And I do will and direct my || Executors as and when such Child or Children shall || attain his her or their Age or Ages of nine Years || to place out this Legacy and Legacies of such || Child or Children respectively Interest on Governement || or Real Securities and from time thenceforth until such || Child and Children shall become intitled to receive || his her or their Legacies respectively to pay and || allow by and out of such Interest such Sum and || Sums of Money for his her and their Maintenance || and Education as my said Executors and the Survivors || or Survivor of them shall from time to time think || fit and to accumulate the Surplus of such Interest || and Annual produce (if any) for the benefit of || such Child or Children respectively and to pay the || same to him her or them together with his her || or their Original Legacy or Legacies and my Will || is and I do hereby direct and impower my Executors || [f.125v.] and the Survivors and Survivor of them to apply || such Surplus Interest or any part thereof and any || part of the principal of such Child or Children's Legacy || or Legacies for the preferment or advancement in the || world of such Child or Children respectively at any || time or times during his her or their Minority at || the discretion of my Executors and the Survivors and || Survivor of them. And I do hereby declare that such || Child or Children shall not be intitled to any Interest || for or in respect of his her or their Legacies before || he she or they shall attain his her or their || respective Ages of nine Years other than and except || the aforesaid allowance for Maintenance. I give to || my Brother William Mellish Esquire ffive Thousand || pounds and to my Nephew Charles Mellish Esquire || Son of my said Brother William Mellish by his present || Wife one Thousand pounds. I give to my two Nephews || John an William Sons of my said Brother by his || present Wife Ten Thousand pounds each, and to all || other the Children both Sons and Daughters of my || said Brother by his present Wife ffive Thousand || pounds a piece and in case my said Nephews John || and William Mellish or the Survivor of them shall || thust to carry on and continue my Mercantile || Business my Will is and I do hereby direct and || order that the Sum of Twelve Thousand pounds || part of my Capital Stock in

Trade shall be || continued in Trade for five Years from my decease || for the benefit and the risqué of my said two || Nephews and that the Executors shall accept and || take the Bond of my said two Nephews or the || Bond of the Survivor of them who shall continue || in the Trade for the payment thereof without || Interest at their Expiration of five Years next after || my decease my Intention being in that case to || give the Interest of the said five Years to my || said two Nephews and the Survivor of them. I give || to my Sister the present Wife of my said Brother || William Mellish Two hundred pounds and to Mrs. || Townsend and Miss Susanna Gore two hundred pounds || each and to John (?) Townsend Esquire three hundred || pounds and to Mrs. Tompest (?) two hundred pounds and || to Mrs. Elizabeth Gore sister of the late Charles Gore || of Tring Esquire deceased one hundred pounds. I give || to my worthy friends John Nutt Esquire one hundred || pounds for Mourning. I give to Mrs. Harriot || Bondler and Mrs Mary Thompson the two Daughters || of John Lanbury ^{Alate} of Lamborough Esquire deceased Two || hundred pounds each and to Miss Sarah Salmon of Bury Street Edmonton ffive hundred pounds || [f.126] each for their trouble in the Execution of this my || Will. I give to Mr. Gerard Devisme of Lisbon ffive || hundred pounds and to Mr. Louis Dubois of Lisbon || three hundred pounds. I give to the Clerks who || shall be employed at the time of my decease in the || partnership House Trade carried out at Lisbon || under the ffirm of Purry Mellish and Devisme ffour || hundred pounds to be distributed amongst them || in such proportions as Mr. Gerard Devisme shall in || his discretion think fit and direct to give to Mr. Donna || Anna Vianna Widow now residing at Lisbon two || hundred pounds. I give to Peter du Pasquier who || is Clerk in my Compting House in London three || hundred pounds and to --- (espaço em branco) Bouhote (?) another || Clerk there one hundred and fifty pounds and to || the other Clerks who shall be employed at my || London Compting House at my decease Sixty pound || each. I give to Rebecca Barker the Maid who || waits of my Dear Wife Thirty pounds a year for || her life to be paid by two equal portions half || Yearly on Midsummer Day and Christmas day and || the first payment to be made on such of the || said Days as shall happen next after my decease || free of all Taxes and Dedutions. I give to John || Brown my Butler two hundred pounds and to || John Curtis my Bailiff one hundred and thirty || pounds. I give to the Widow of Barnes Drisdalt my || late Gardiner twenty pounds for his case of || Molly Hutchinson. I give to Ann Laban dairy Maid || ninety pounds and to Elizabeth Boaton House Maid || eighty pounds. I give to Thomas Walker my Groom || if in my service at my Decease ffity pounds and || to James Bassington my present Gardiner if in my || service at my Decease ffifty pounds and to John || Wise my Coalman if in my service at my || decease fforty pounds and to Jenny Wilkinson if in my || service at my decease Sixty pounds and to || Hannah ffoley my Cook if in my service at my || decease fforty pounds. I give to my other Nomial || Servants twenty pounds each and to such of them || as shall have been I my service fourteen Years || or upwards the further Sum of Ten pounds each making || together fforty pounds each. Also I give || to Mary Bodenham Twenty pounds and one || half of the Money which shall be due from her || to me ^{on Bond} at the time of my Decease. I give no || more to my Servants because it will be in the || power of my Dear Wife to reward them according || to their Merit as she shall think proper. I give || [f.126v.] Arthur Bradley my late Carter ten pounds and to || John Tarbox Labourer ffive pounds and to Thomas || Winth my present Carter Ten pounds and to ffrancis || Governors of the London Hospital ffive hundred || pounds and to the Governors of S^t Lukes Hospital || three hundred pounds to be employed in the Current || Service of the same Hospital respectively and paid || into the hands of the Treasurer for the time being || of each Hospital whose Receipt shall be a good || discharge to my Executors. I give to the Reverend || Mr. Audley Chaplain to the London Hospital Thirty || pounds. I give to Edward Fforster John ffee and || Nathaniel ffee Esquires Members of the Society of || Northant Adventures of England commonly called the || Lambrough (?) Company and the Survivors and Survivor || of them the Sum of Two hundred pounds in Trust || to be applied and disposed of for the benefit of || themselves and the other Members of the said || Society in London as the said Edwards fforster || John ffee And Nathaniel ffee or the Survivors or || Survivor of them shall in their or his discretion || think proper and without any Account to be || therefore given to the Company at Lambro' or to || any person or persons whomsoever. I give to the || Minister of the Parish Church of St. Martin || outwich in Bishopsgate Street London Officiating || there at or within one Month after my Decease || fforty pounds to be by him distributed unto and || among such poor Inhabitants of the said Parish || as

shall appear to him proper Objects of Charity || and in such proportions and manner as he shall || think fit and to the Minister of the Parish || Church of Edmonton in the County of Middlesex || officiating there at or within one Month after my || decease Seventy pounds whereof Twenty pounds || shall be for his own use and benefit and || ffifty pounds residue thereof shall be distributed by || him unto and among such poor Inhabitants of || that Parish as shall appear to him proper || Objects of Charity in such proportions and manner || as he shall think fit and to the Minister of || the Parish Church of Enfield the said County || officiating ^{^then} at or within one Month after my || Decease fforty pounds to be by him distributed || unto and among such poor Inhabitants of that || Parish as shall appear to him proper Objects of || Charity in such proportions and manner as he || shall think fit. I give Twenty Thousand Crusados || or Eighty Thousand Guineas Current Money of Portugal || to Mr Gerard Devisme of Lisbon to be by him || distributed unto and among such Portuguese Public || [f.127] Charities at Lisbon as he shall think proper and in || such shares proportions and manner as he shall think || fit. And in case of the Decease or absence of the || said Mr. Gerard Devisme to Mr. Louis Dubois of Lisbon || to be by him distributed unto and among such Public || Charities as aforesaid at Lisbon as he shall think || proper and in such Shares proportions and manner || as he shall think fit. I give to the said Mr. Gerard || Devisme and Mr. Louis Dubois ffive hundred pounds || in Trust for the British ffactory at Lisbon to be applied || for the Current Service of the said ffactory and as || to all the Rest and Residue of my Monies, Securities || for Money Goods Chattels and Personal Estate whatso (sic) || and whosoever. I give and bequeath the same || unto my Dear and affectionate Wife Catherine || Mellish to and for her own proper use and benefit. || I also give devise and bequeath unto my said || Dear and Affectionate Wife Catherine Mellish and || her Heirs all that my Capital Messuage or Mansion || House called Bush hill in the Parish of Enfield in || the County of Middlesex with the Offices Courtyards || Stables Gardens Park Lands Hereditaments and || Appurtenances thereunto belonging and also all || my Messuages Lands Conveniats and Hereditaments both || ffreehold and Copyhold situate lying and being at || or near Bush Hill and Winchmore Hills in the || parishes of Enfield and Edmonton in the County of || Middlesex and in the City of London and elsewhere || in Great Britain (which Copyhold Lands and || Hereditaments I have surrendered to the use of my || Will) with their and every of their Rights Members || and Appurts to hold all and singular the said || ffreehold and Copyhold Messuages Lands Temments || Horoditaments and Premises with the Appurtnances || unto and to the use of my said dear Wife || Catherine Mellish her Heirs and Assigns for ever || according to the several Tenures Natures and || Qualities of the same Estates respectively and do || declare that what have by this my Will || given devised and bequeathed to my dear Wife || shall be considered deemed and taken in (?) || and satisfaction of and for all Claims and || Demands ^{^whatsoever} which she shall may or can have or || claim of in to or out of my estate Real and || Personal under her Marriage Settlement or otherwise || heresoever. I do hereby constitute and appoint my || Dear Wife Catherine Mellish my dear Brother William || Mellish Esquire and Jonathan Price of Salter's Hall || London Gentlemen Executors of this my last Will || and Testament and I do authorize and empower || them and the Survivors and Survivor of them to || refer all Matters in Dispute (if any) relative to my || [f.127v.] Estate to Arbitration and to compound and take less || than the whole for any Debt or Debts due to my || Estate when and as often as they or the survivors || or Survivor of them shall think proper and declare || that my Executors shall not be answerable or || committable otherwise than each one of them for his || her and their own respective Arts Deed Receipts || Payments and wilful Neglects or defaults and not || any one of them for the others or other of them || nor for the Arts Deeds Receipts Payments Neglects or || Defaults of the others or other of them nor for any || more than what shall actually come to their || respective hands notwithstanding joint Receipts || signed by them for the sake of Conformity nor shall || my Executors or any or either of them be answerable || or committable for any Involuntary loss or losses || which may happen to my Estate or any part || thereof. And my Will is and I do hereby declare that || it shall and may be lawful to and for my || Executors and every of them to deduct and reimburse || to him and themselves respectively his and their || full Costs Charges and Expences in and about the || Execution of this my Will by and out of my Estate. || And I do nominate and appoint my Dear Wife || Catherine Mellish my Dear Brother William Mellish || and the said Jonathan Pritt Guardians of my Child || or Children in case I shall have any. In Witnesses ||

whereof I the said Joseph Mellish have hereinto set || my hand and Seal this seventh day of December || in the year of Our Lord one Thousand seven || hundred and eighty nine. Jos^h Mellish. [Selo] Signed || Sealed and delivered published and declared by the said || Joseph Mellish Esquire the Testator as and for his last Will and Testament in the presence of us who have || at his request and in his presence subscribed our || Names as Witnesses thereto. Jn^o Marsh, Salter's Hall || London Daniel ffee his Clerk. Isaac H. William Clerk || to Mr. Price. Salter's Hall. London.

This Will was proved at London the ninth day || of December in the year of Our Lord one Thousand seven || hundred and ninety before the worshipful Maurice || Swabey Doctor of Laws Surrogate of the Right Honourable || Sir William Wyme Rright Doctor of Laws Master Keeper || or Commissary of the Prerogative Court of Canterbury || lawfully constituted by the Oaths of Catherine Mellish || Widow his Relict William Mellish Esquire the Brother of || the Deceased and Jonathan Pritt Esquire the Executors || named in the said Will to whom Administration was || conducted of all and singular the Goods Cahttels and || Credits of the said Deceased having been first || Sworn duly to administer. ||

Documento n.º 3

Testamento de Gerard De Visme.

The National Archives, Great Britain, Probate Will 11/1300.

[f.142] **In the year of our Lord one**

thousand seven hundred and sixty five on the eleventh || day of September in my House at Wimbledon in the || County of Surry I Gerard de Visme make this my last || Will and Testament and I hereby revoke and annul || all former dispositions whatsoever which I may have || thereof made or intend to make. I give unto each || of my Rogations by Blood of Marriage who shall be || living in England at the time of my decease the Sum || of fifty pounds for a Mourning to the Baron^o || Bondly the Son of my late Sister Emily of Ban in || Switzerland the Sum of one hundred pounds and to || the two Children of my Niece his Sister fifty pounds || each to my Godson George Koster of Lisbon one hundred || pounds to my Godson George Keutzen Son of the (?) || Consul at Lisbon one hundred pounds to my Godson || Brandt (a Child of Mr. John ffrederick Brandt of Neus || Chatel in Switzerland one hundred pounds to Mr. Louis || d' Bois, my partner at Lisbon for a Mourning Rant || one hundred pounds to Mr. ff. S. de la Chaux my late || Book keeper at Lisbon but who has now retired from || my Service into Switzerland Ffifty pounds for a Mourning || Rant to Mr. John Isoduct formerly my clerk at Lisbon. || Ffifty pounds to Mr. fforest now my Clerk at Lisbon. || fifty pounds to Mr. Henry Mouron once my Clerk at || Lisbon. ffifty pounds for a Rant to Miss Mary Green || Governess of my dear Daughter Emily one hundred || Guineas and I recommend it to my Executors and Trustees || hereafter appointed and the Survivors and Survivor of || them and the Executors or Administrators of such Survivor || to continue the said Miss Green Governess of my Dear || Daughter Emily De Visme so long as her Conduct shall || meet with their or his Approbation and to allow and || pay to life a Salary of one hundred pounds a year and || in case my said Daughter shall marry to the entire || satisfaction of my Trustees or the major part of them || then I will and direct that my said Trustees and || Executors and the Survivors and Survivor of them and || [f.142v.] the Executors and Administrators of such Survivor - ----- - [em branco] || shall lay out and most in some or out of--- - [linha em branco] - ----- - || - ----[linha em branco]----- - || - -[em branco]----the public Stocks || or funds of this Kingdom in their or his own Hands || or name so much of my ffortune as will produce by || the annual Discounts thereof a clear yearly Sum of one || hundred pounds upon Trust that they or he do and || shall pay the Dividends and Produce thereof half || yearly as they shall arise and become due and payable || to the said Miss Green for the Term of her natural life || I give to Jacob Sunier my House Steward and to Manuel || Ignacio my Vallet ffifty pounds each in Consideration || of their long and faithful Services to me To each of my || other mercial Servants I give one years' Wages over || what may be due

to them respectively. I give ffifty || pounds to be laid out in Bread and distributed the || first five Sundays next after my ffuneral to such poor || persons resident in the Parish of Saint George (?) || Square in the County of Middlesex as my Executors and || Trustees shall think proper Objects of Charity and ffifty || pounds to be laid out in Bread and distributed in life || manner to such persons resident in the Parish of || Wimbleton in the said County of Surrey as my Executors || shall think proper Objects of Charity. I give and bequeath || to the ffactory at Lisbon in the Kingdom of Portugal || the Sum of one hundred pounds Sterling to be applied || in repairing the Hospital that I Erated there and I || also direct my Executors and Trustees to lay out the || Sum of five hundred pounds in Erating a Monument || to the memory of my late Mother Emily my Brother Louis || and myself and I hope to fix the plate for erating the || same before my demist. All my Jewels I give to my || said Daughter Emily and I desire she will keep them || for her own use and not part with or dispose of them || in her life time. And I give to her my said Daughter || Emily my Library of Books Pictures Collection of Prints || Snuff Boxes and all other my Curiosities either at my || House in Governors Square or in my lodge near in || Wimbleton Common and at every other place or places || of my abode and I desire that a Catalogue may be || made of the whole thereof so soon after my Decease as || may be convenient in case one be not prepared in my life time and that --(sic) they may not be || disposed of for. My wish is and I hereby direct that || they may descend and go to the my said Daughters Heir || at Law and in case my said Daughter shall not happen || to have any Child then to such Person as she shall || or may be her will direct and I will and direct that || my Executors and Trustees hereinafter named or the || [f.143] Survivors or Survivor of them do and shall apply the || yearly Sum of one thousand pounds by half yearly || payments to and for the handsome Support and Education || of my said Daughter Emily until she attains the age || of twenty five years or marries with such Consent || and Approbation as is hereinafter mentioned and I || deem the said allowance to be ample for she will || have for her residence my Town House in Grosvenor || Square and Country House of Wimbleton freed of || and from all Rents Taxes and Repairs over and || above the said one thousand pounds a year and over || and above the said one hundred pounds a year to || be paid to Miss Green her Governess and which said || two Houses. I hereby leave for her use as well during || her Minority as afterwards together with the Rents || and Profits of my Real estate at Wimbleton aforesaid || and I desire my Trustees and Executors hereinafter || named to accept of and take five hundred pounds || each as some acknowledgement for the Trouble they || will have in the Execution of this my Will and the || Trusts thereof and as a token of my Regard and || as to for and continuing all the Rest and || Residue of my personal Estate subject to and after || payment of my Debts, Legacies ^{^and funeral} and Testamentary || Charges. I give the same to my Executors and Trustees || herein after appointed upon Trust that they or the || Survivors or Survivor of ^{^them} or the Executors or Administrators || of such Survivor do and shall sell and dispose of this collect and get in the same as soon as may || be after my Decease and place the same out at || Interest in their or his Names or Name in some || one of the Public Storks or ffunds if this Kingdom || and do and shall in life manner from time to time || until my said Daughter Emily shall attain the said || age of twenty five years or shall be married with || such Consent and Approbation as herein after mentioned || most of the Dividends or Interest which may arise || from all such Stocks or funds as the same shall from || time to time become due or payable in other the || like Stocks or funds so as that my said Residuary || personal Estate may be regularly improved or || accumulated by means of such Savings and Investments || until my said Daughter Emily shall attain the said || age of twenty five years or shall be married with such || Consent or Approbation as is herein after mentioned || And when and so soon as my said Daughter shall || attain the said age or shall be married with the Consent || of my said Executors and Trustees or of the major part || [f.143v.] of them or the Survivors or Survivor of them or the || Majority of such Survivors or the Executors Administrators || of such Survivor or the majority of them dignified || as herein after is mentioned or with the Approbation || of the Court of Chancery then upon Trust that || they my said Executors and Trustees or Trustee for || the time being do and shall pay unto or Empower || her the said || personal Estate for her own use and benefit to the intent that || the same may not be at her Disposal of or subject || or liable to the Controul Debts or Engagements of || any Husband and my Will is that the Receipt or || Receipts of my said Daughter Emily alone make || her Hand shall from time to time notwithstanding any || Coverture be a good and suffisant

Discharge or Discharges || to the person or persons paying the said Dividends || Interest and produce for so much thereof for which || such Receipts shall be respectively given and upon || further Trust that from and immediately after her || decease they my said executors and Trustees and || the Survivors and Survivor of them and the Executors || and Administrators of such - - - (sic) Survivor shall || pay or Transfer the Capital of the said Stocks || and ffunds into such Child or Children of my said || Daughter Emily in such shares and proportions and || subject to such Conditions and in such manner as || she by any Deed or Deeds writing or writings with || or without power of revocation sealed and delivered || in the presence of and attested by two or more || Credible Witnesses or by her last Will and Testament || in writing or any writing in the Nature of or || purporting to be her Will to be Signed and Published || in the presence of and attested by three or more || such - - - (sic) Witnesses, shall direct limit or appoint and || in default of such Direction or Appointment then || unto and among such Child or Children of my said || Daughter Emily De Visme which shall be living at || the time of her decease equally to be divided between || them if more than one share and share alike and || the Child and Children of such of them as shall || be then Dead in manner aforesaid and such Child || or Children to have his her or their ffather or Mothers || share only provided always nevertheless that the || share or shares of such Son or Sons that my said || Daughter Emily shall have shall not become payable until he or they has or have attained the full age || of twenty one years nor the share or shares of such || [f.144] Daughter or Daughters until she or they has or || have attained the full age of twenty five years || or shall be married which ever Event shall first happen || and upon further ^{^Trust} that my said Executors and Trustees and || the Survivors and Survivor of them and the Executors and Trustees and || the Survivors and Survivor of them and the Executors and || Administrators of such Survivor do and shall from and || after the decease of my said Daughter Emily apply the || Dividends or Interest of my said Residuary Estate || or so much thereof as they or he shall or may deem || necessary for or towards the maintenance and Education || of such Child or Children as shall presumptively intitled || to the said Capital ffund or any share or shares || thereof in the meantime until their respective || portions shall become payable or transferable not || exceeding the annual proceed of their respective shares || and portions provided always and my will is || that in case it happens that my said Daughter || Emily departs this life without having a Son who || shall attain the said age ^{^of} twenty one years or a Daughter who shall attain this said age of twenty five years or be || married with her consent if she be living Then upon || Trust that my said Executors and Trustees and the || Survivors and Survivor of them his Executors and || Administrators do and shall pay or allow out of the || produce of my Estates one clear annual Sum or yearly || payment of five hundred pounds for and towards || the maintenance and Education of my Godson Gerard || de Visme Son of my Nephew Philip de Visme for during || and until he shall attain his age of twenty one || years and upon - - - (sic) Trust that they or the Survivors || or Survivor of them or the Executors or Administrators || of such Survivor do and shall from time to time until || my said Godson Gérard de Visme shall attain the || said age of twenty one years Invest the Residue || and Remainder of the Dividends Interests and || produce of all my Estates as they shall from time || to time arise and become due and payable in some || or one of the like Stocks or ffunds so as that the || Residue of the Dividends Rents ffunds and profits || of my said Estates may be regularly improved or || accumulated by means of such Savings and Investments || until my said Godson Gerard de Visme shall attain || the said age of twenty one years and then upon || Trust that my said Executors and Trustees for the || time being do and shall pay unto or empower him || the said Gerard de Visme to receive the Dividends || Interest and produce of all my Estates and of the || Accumulations thereof for his own use and benefit || and to enter into the possession and occupation || [f.144v.] of my said two Dwelling houses ^{^and my ffreehols at Wimbledon with the ffurniture in the said Dwelling houses} and the Appurtenances || thereunto belonging and upon further Trust from and || immediately after the decease of the said Gerard de || Visme they my said Executors and Trustees and the || Survivors and Survivor of them and the Executors and || Administrators of such Survivor shall convey assure || Transfer and assign the whole of my Estate with the || Accumulations unto such Child or Children of my || said Godson Gerard de Visme in such shares and || proportions and subject to such Conditions and in || such manner as he by any Deed or Deeds Writing || or Writings with or without power of revocation Sealed || and Delivered in the presence of two or more credible ||

Witnesses or by his last Will and Testament in writing || or any writing in the nature of or purporting to || be his will to be Signed and published in the presence || of and attested by three or more such Witnesses shall || direct him if or appoint and in Default of such || Direction ^{Alimitation} or appointment Then unto and among such || Child or Children of the said Gerard de Visme which || shall be living at the time of his decease equally to || be divided between them if more than one share || and share alike and the Child and Children of such || of them as shall be then Dead in manner aforesaid and such Child or Children to have his her or their || ffather or Mothers share ^{^only} provided always nevertheless that share or shares of such Son or Sons that the || said Gerard de Visme shall leave shall not become || payable until he or they has or have attained || the full and complete age of twenty one years nor || the share or shares of such Daughter or Daughters || until she or they shall attain her or their full || and complete age of twenty five years or shall be || married which ever event shall first happen and || upon further Trust that my said Executors and || Trustees and the Survivors and Survivor of them || and the Executors and Administrators of such Survivor || do and shall from and after the decease of my said || Godson Gerard de Visme apply the Dividends Interest || and Produce of my said Estates or of so much thereof || as shall or may in their Discretion be necessary || for or towards the maintenance and Education of || such Child or Children as shall be presumptively || intitled to the said Estates or any share or shares || thereof in the mean time until their respective || portions shall become payable or transferable not || exciding the annual proceed of their respective || shares and portions provide always and my Will is that || [f.145] is that in case it happens that my said Godson Gerard || de Visme departs this life without having a Son who || shall attain the said age of twenty one years or a || Daughter who shall attain the said age of twenty || five years or be married with his consent if he be || living Then my said Estates shall after his decease || and the Deaths of his said Children and Child under || the respective ages herein before mentioned be paid || and transferred to and amongst all and every other || the Sons and Daughters of my said Nephew Philip || and the Sons of my late Brother William who || shall be living at the time of my Decease their Executors || and Administrators in equal shares and proportions and || in case my said Daughter shall happen to inter marry || with such Consent as hereinafter mentioned or with || the Approbation of the Court of Chancery with any || Gentleman not of the name of de Visme Then I will || and direct that such Husband shall take upon himself || and use my Surname and I hereby direct him to || apply in the usual manner for his Majestys (sic) Licence || to use the same provided and my will is that in || case my said Daughter Emily shall intermarry with || the Consent in writing of t he Majority of my Executors || and Trustees or of the Survivors or Survivor of them || - - - - - [linha em branco] || - - - (em branco) or of the Executors or Administrators || of such Survivor and of the New Trustees or Trustee || to be appointed as herein after is mentioned if such || New Trustees or Trustee shall at the time of such || marriage have been appointed or with the Approbation || of the said Court of Chancery it shall be lawful for || them or him to ban assign and transfer to such Husband || the Sum of five thousand pounds Sterling out of the || said Residuum of my Estate for his own use and benefit || provided always and my will is that my said Daughter || Emily shall marry without the Consent in writing || of the majority of my Trustees or of the Survivors or || Survivor of them or of the new Trustees or Trustee for || the time being to be appointed under this my Will or || without the Approbation of the said Court of Chancery || Then and in such Case they or he shall only pay || the clear yearly Sum of two hundred pounds in || - - - (sic) quarterly payments out of the Dividends or || Interest of my said Residuary Estate into her own || proper Hands during the Remainder of her life for her || Sole and separate use extensive of such Husband or || Husbands as she may intermarry with and or file from || his or their Control Debts or Engagements and for || which her receipts alone shall be effectual Discharges || [f.145v.] notwithstanding her Coverture and subject and without || prejudice to the payment of the said clear yearly || Sum of two hundred pounds. They the said Trustees || or Trustee for the time being shall from and after || such Marriage without such Consent in writing and || the Approbation of the said Court of Chancery as || aforesaid stand and be possessed of and interested in || the Residue of my said personal Estate upon the || life Trusts and for the same ends and purposes as || are herein before mentioned and expressed in the Event || happening of my said Daughter dying without Issue || or without leaving a Son who shall attain the age || of twenty one years or a Daughter who shall attain || the - - - (sic) age

of twenty five years or be married and || as to for and consenting my ffreehold and Leasehold || Estate at Wimbledon and my Leasehold Estate in || Grovesnor Square I give devise and bequeath the || same to and the use of my Executors herein after || appointed and Survivor of them and || the Heirs Executors Administrators and assigns of such || Survivor according to the Nature and quality of the || said respective Estates upon Trust that they my said || Executors and Trustees or the Survivors or Survivor of || them or the Heirs Executors or Administrators of such || Survivor do and shall permit my said Daughter Emily || de Visme to have the enjoyment of the said Realm and || Personal Estate during so long time as the said one || thousand pounds annual payment shall continue || payable to her according to this my Will and subject || and without prejudice to the Trust herein before || expressed consenting the said Estates and my will is || that the said Estates shall be enjoyed by such person || or persons as for the time being shall be intitled || to the annual Income of my Estates and when and || so soon as the absolute beneficial property in the || principal or Capital thereof shall rest in possession || in pursuance of this my Will my said ffreehold and || Leasehold Estates shall be conveyed and transferred to || the person or persons who shall have become intitled || to such absolute property of and in my said Estates || according to their shares in the same and to their || Heirs Executors Administrators and Assigns according to || the Nature and quality of such ffreehold and Leashold || Estates provided and my will is that my said Trustees || or Trustee for the time being shall from time to time || apply so much money as may be necessary out of my || Personal Estate for keeping the said premises in || Grovesnor Square at Wimbledon in good and sufficient || [f.146] repair and Condition ^{^and} for discharging the Ground Xart || Taxes and all other outgoings in respect of the said several || premises and I constitute and appoint my Hounored || ffriends John Mellish and William Mellish of Bishops || gate Street London Esquires John Marsh of Browles || Street in the County of Middlesex Esquire and Henry || Smith of Camberwell Grove Esquire Executors of and || Trustees under this my last Will and Testament which || I earnestly request they will all prove in the prerogative || Court of Canterbury immediately or as soon after my || decease as the same can conveniently be done and I || also appoint my said Executors and Trustees and the || Survivors and Survivor of their Guardians and Guardian || of my said Daughter and I hereby will and direct || that she shall not be in any wise considered as being || of age until she shall have arrived at the full || and complete age of twenty five years and desire that || they or he will so soon as conveniently may be after || my decease take the proper Steps for putting her under || the protection of the High Court of Chancery as a || ward of that Court and I thereby direct that all proper || proceedings may be had and outered into for effectuating || that purpose provided and my will is that in case || any of my ffamily shall at any time intermeddle or || interfere with or endeavour to prevent or obstruct || my said Executors and Trustees in the management of || my said Estates that the Legacy and Legacies bequest and || Bequests by me hereby made and given in favour of || such of my ffamily as shall so intermeddle shall || be absolutely null and void provided and my will is || that in case any of my said Executors and Trustees || shall depart this life or desire to be discharged from || the respective Trusts hereby in them reposed which || desire I trust and sincerely hope will not happen before || the same respectively shall be performed. Then and in || such Case it shall be lawful for the said Trustees or || Trustee for the time being or the Executors or Adminis (sic) || of the Survivor of them by any Deed or Deeds writing || or writings under their or his Hands and Seals or || Hand and Seal attested by two or more credible || Witnesses to nominate or appoint any other respectable || and proper person ^{^or persons} to be a Trustee or Trustees for the || several purposes of this my Will in the place of || the Trustee or Trustees so dying or desiring to be || discharged from the said Trusts and so when any || future Trustee or Trustees shall die or desire to be || discharged it shall be lawful for the Trustees or Trustee || for the time being or the Executors or Administrators || of the Survivor of them to nominate any such || [f.146v.] other respectable and proper person or persons to be a || Trustee or Trustees in the place of such Trustee or || Trustees as may be dead or have desired to be Discharged || and when any new Trustee or Trustees shall be nominated || and appointed in pursuance of this my Will all the || Trusts Estates Monies ffunds and Securities then remaining || shall be conveyed assigned and transferred in such manner || as that the same may be vested in the remaining || or continuing Trustee or Trustees if any and in such || New Trust or Trustees jointly or in such a new Trustees || only in case none of the former ^{^Trustee} should continue

in || the Execution of the aforesaid Trusts their Heirs || Executors Administrators and assigns according to the || Nature and quality thereof respectively upon the || Trusts and for the outings and purposes and under and || subject to the probes and provisoes herein before || expressed continuing the same in this my Will or such || of them as may be Subsisting undetermined or capable || of taking Effect and every such New Trustee shall || have the like power and authority to act in || Execution of the several Trusts and manners of the my || the Will and giving consents and doing Arts of discretion || as if he had been originally appointed thereby and || I will and declare that my said Trustees and Executors || or any of them or any of their Heirs Executors || Administrators or Assigns shall not be Answerable || for any more of the said Trusts Estates Monies || and Premises than they respectively shall actually || receive with their own Hands nor for any loss that || may happen in the said Trust Estates Monies and || Premises by bad Securities or otherwise without their || wilful neglect or Default and that they respectively || shall not be answerable for the Arts Neglects or || Defaults of each other but each of them only for his || own Arts Neglects and Defaults and that they and || each of them shall and may out of the Monies that || shall come to their respective Hands in consequence || of the Trusts hereby in them reposed retain and || reimburse themselves and himself all such Costs Charges || and Expenses as they respectively may sustain in or || about the Execution of the said Trusts or any ways || relating thereof and lastly I revoke all other Wills || by me heretofore made in writings whereof to this || my Will contained in fifteen sheets of paper set my || Hand and Seal that is to say my Hand to oath of || the fourteen preceeding sheets and my Hand and || Seal to this fifteenth and last sheet this Eleventh || day of September in the year of Our Lord one || thousand seven hundred and ninety five. Gerard de Visme [selo] || [f.147] Signed Sealed published and Declared by the above [^]named || Gerard de Visme 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 subscribed the same as Witnesses thereto the day || and year first above written. Abr^m Rhodes Attorney || at Law Clerkenwell. J. Handley /-/ John Shurlock his Clerks.

N^o1 Wimbledon 9th Nov^r 1797

On the subject of the family Vault which || Mr. de Visme has constituted in Wimbledon Church || Yard with due Law and legal faculty from Doctors || Commons there the agency of the Rev^d Holbart || Randolph Curate of said Parish in Surry. Approved by Mr. de Visme attornies Mrss^{rs} Rhodes Cook and || ffcy of Clerkenwell.

A Legacy of £10 per annum in perpetuity a || Charity of Mr. De Visme to the poor of the said || Parish to be distributed during the three Winter || months of November December and January every || Sunday for 12 Weeks in the Church in Quartum || Loaves of Bread to the most deserving Objects || preferably ffathers and Mothers of ffamilies which || Charity is beth by bequeathed by said Donor to the || Parish of Wimbledon under the Obligation of due || care and reverence to be manifested by said Parish || to his ffamily Vault and the little plantation || around it and to cease from his Trustees in case || of any Omission or Neglect on the part of the || Parish to said [^]family Vault and its Surrounding plantation. || Mr. de Visme also bequeaths an annual Income || of ten pounds in perpetuity to be expended in || keeping his ffamily Vault it precincts and Surrounding || plantation in ~~perf~~ constant and good repair in || every respect the said Sum to be carefully and || annually expended in said purpose alone the due || execution of which object || he recommended to the || Trustees of his Estate. +

[Nota na margem direita] + and to the annual attention of the Curate of the said parish. Assinatura. Mrs Rhodes Cook and Handley will advise Mr. de || Visme in what manner and in what public Governm^t || ffund these two Sums of £10 & £10 can be most || Solidly invested and in what manner the due || obligations can be drawn up so as to ~~oblige~~ ^{oblige} arrogate the || ~~respective~~ ^{respective} of his Estate (sic) Trustees duly to execute the Will of him || the Testator in the above two Legacies and in || case the Parish should be any ways different in the || [f.147v.] respect and preservation of his ffamily Vault then his || Legacy to be applied in a life Charity to the (?) || Parish of Wandsworth. N^o2

The Charity to Wimb^a Parish to be distributed || by the Curate with the assistance of the [^](?) Church || Wardens who will be careful in the Choice of the || most deserving poor Objects. || The Trustees

of Mr. de V^{es} Estate will be attentive to || continue the Charity to the said Parish of Wimⁿ only || so long as due attendance given by the Parish to || his mausoleum and ffamily Vault and his said || Trustees will please to see or direct to be inspected || annually The total Sum of £10 are expended in || keeping the ffamily Vault inside and outside as well || as the little plantation around it.

23rd December 1797.

Appeared Personnaly John Hodnot of Wimbledon in the County of Surry Gentleman || and the Reverend Herbert Randolph of the same || place Clerk and severally made oath as follows and || first the said John Hodnot for himself made oath || that he knew and was well acquainted with Gerard || de Visme formely of Grovesnor Square in the || County of Middlesex but late of Wimbledon aforesaid || Esquire deceased for ten years and upwards before || and to the time of his Death which happened on the || twentieth Day of November last past and this || Depoiment further made oath that he lived in the || said deceased House for about three years before || and to the time of his Death in the Capacity of || his Secretary and Amanuensis the said deceased saw || writing himself and this Deponent further made || oath that he was in the Daily Habit of Copying || from the said deceased dictation Memorandums and || other writings and Letters into a Book described on the || outside “Gerard de Visme Esq^r Grovesnor Square N^o2 || Memorandums April 1795”. That the said deceased || having some short time before his Death obtained a || faculty for erecting a ffamily Vault in Wimbledon Church || yard and being desirous of leaving Directions for taking || care of the same after his Decease and he being in || in firm State of Health on the Ninth Day of November || last past this deponent wrote down from the deceased || [f.148] Dictation in the said Book the following Memorandums || to wit N^o1 Wimbledon 9th Nov^r 1797. On the subject of the ffamily Vault to which Mr. de Visme has || constituted in Wimbledon Church yard with due due (sic) || and legal ffaculty from Doctors Commons throu’ the || agency of the Rev^d Herbert Randolph Curate of || the said Parish in Surry approved by Mr. de Visme’s || Attornies Mrs^{rs} Rhodes Cook and ffy Of Clerkenwell” || “A Legacy of £10 per annum in perpetuity || a Charity of Mr. de Visme to the poor of the said || Parish to be distributed during the three [^]Winter Months of || Novem^r Dec^r and January every Sunday for 12 weeks || in the Church in quarter Loaves of Bread to the || most deserving Objects preferably ffathers and Mothers of ffamilies which Charity is ~~betty~~ bequeathed || by said Donor to the Parish of Wimbledon under || the Obligation of Due care and reverence to be || manifested by said Parish to his ffamily Vault || and the little Plantation around it and to cease || from his Trustees in case of any Omission or || neglect on the part of the Parish to said ffamily || Vault and its Surrounding plantation [^] in **proof** || constant and good repair in every respect the || said Sum to be carefully and annuall expended || in said purpose alone to the || execution which Subject || Hereunto and || the Trustees of the estate +

[Notas na margem direita]

+ and the annual attention of the Curate of the said Parish.

[^]+ Mr. de Visme also || bequeaths an annual Income of || £10 in perpetuity || to be expended in || keeping his ffamily || Vault its precints || and surrounding || plantation.

“Mrs^{rs} Rhodes Cook and Handley will advise || Mr de Visme in what manner and in what [^]public || Govern^t ffund these two Sums of £10 & £10 can || be most Solidly invested and in what manner the || due Obligation can be drawn up so as to oblige ~~contact~~ || the ~~respect~~ at which Estate Trustees duly to execute the will of || him the Testator in the above two Legacies || and in case the Parish should be any ways deficient || in the respect and preservation of His family Vault || then his Legacy to be applied in a like Charity to || the Neighbourough Parish of Wandsworth” where said Memorandum || this Deponent hath since cut out of the said Book || and are more hereinto annexed worked in that || a few days afterwards this deponent by the direction || of the said deceased wrote down the following || Memorandums on a loose bit of paper since marked || N^o2 to wit “The Charity to Wimⁿ Parish to be || Distributed by the ~~pey~~ Curate with the assistance || of the two Church Wardens who will be careful in || the Choice of the most deserving poor objects the || Trustees of Mr. de V^s Estate will be attentive to || continue the Charity to the said Parish of Wimⁿ || [f.148 v.] only so long as due attendance is given by the Parish || to his Mausoleum and Ffamily Vault and his said Trustees || will please to see or direct to be inspected annually || the

Total Sum of £10 are expended in keeping the || ffamily Vault inside and outside as well as the little || plantation around it” and this deponent further made || oath that a few Days before the said deceased’s Death || his fellow Deponent having called upon the said || deceased to pay him a Visit the said deceased sent for || this Deponent and directed him to bring upstairs || into his Chamber where he then was the said || Memorandum Book herein before mentioned which || he accordingly did and delivered the said Book to the || – ----- – (sic) said deceased in the presence of his || fellow deponent and after his said fellow deponent || had left the said deceased the said deceased returned || the said Book to the Deponent. Lastly this Deponent || made oath that the said Memorandums were hereunto || annexed marked as aforesaid N^o1 and N^o2 were || wholly written by this Deponent in the presence of the || said deceased and by his Direction and the Contents || thereof were well (?) to the said deceased and that || the Interlineations were appearing in the said || Memorandum marked N^o1 to wit the words the || Execution of which Subject he recommended to the Trustees || of his Estate and to the annual attention of the Curate || of the said Parish”. Were interlined between the seventy || and eighty lines of the sound side thereof and in || the margin of the said side also the word contact || interlined over the word oblige obliterated in the || thirteenth line of the said side also the words Mr. || de V’s Estate written over the words respective obliterated || in the fourteenth line of the said side and the || word “Neighbouring” interlined over the last line but || one of the said side were so obliterated and interlined || by the Deponent at the time this Deponent wrote the || said Memorandums and by the express Directions of the || said Deceased who was looking over the same whilst || this Deponent was writing the said Memorandums and || the said Herbert Randolph for himself made oath that || he also saw and was well acquainted with the || said deceased for four years before and to the aforesaid || time of his Death and that he this deponent was || frequently in the habit of calling upon and visiting || the said deceased at his House at Wimbledon foresaid || that this deponent well recollects the said deceased having || told him it was his intention to leave something for || taking care of the Vault built by him in Wimbledon || Church yard and likewise that he should leave a || legacy to the poor of the same Parish and this || [f.149] deponent further made oath that on ^the Tuesday or || Wednesday proceeding the said Deceased Death this deponent || dined with the said deceased outering at his House at Wimbledon || aforesaid and the said deceased outering upon the subject || of his vault and the disposition he had made respecting || the same and what he had left to the poor he || directed his ffellow deponent the said to him John Hodnot to || bring up Stairs his Book on which his said fellow || Deponent brought up Stairs the Identical Book mentioned || by him in the preceding part of this Affidavit which || he delivered to the said deceased who on opening the || same desired this deponent to read what he had || directed to be written and this deponent thereupon || read over the paper writing since Cut out of the said || Book and were hereinto annexed marked N^o1 and after || he had so read the same he shut the Book and || returned it to the said deceased and this deponent || from the Conversation he had with the said deceased || he is well convinced in his own mind that the || said deceased perfectly well hear the Contents of the || said annexed paper writing marked N^o1 and approved || thereof and likewise of the paper writing hereunto || annexed also marked N^o2 which the deponent oath || since read and the Substance of which tho’ the || said paper writing was not produced at the time || the said Book was he the said deceased mentioned || and this Deponent is assured that the said deceased || Death which was sudden prevented him from || having the said paper writings properly drawn up || and Executed. John Hodnot /- / Herbert Randolph the || day aforesaid the said John Hodnot and Herbert || Randolph Clerck were duly sworn to the tenth of || this affidavit before me J: Fisher Surrate p.& to W^m Tobbs. Not pub. /.

This Will was proved at London with || two Codicils the thirteenth day of January in the || year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and || ninety eight before the worshipful John Sewell || Doctor of Laws Surrogate at the Right Honourable Sir || William Wyme Knight also Doctor of Laws master || keeper or Commissary of the prerogative Court of || Canterbury lawfully constituted by the oaths of || John Mellish, William Mellish John Marsh and || Henry Smith Esquires the Executors named in the || said Will to whom Administration was granted || of all and singular the Goods Chattels and Credits of || the said deceased having been first Sworn duly to || Administer. /.