GEO/MAIN/37057

This is the last Will and Testament

of Me CHARLOTTE Queen of the United Kingdoms of Great Britain and Ireland

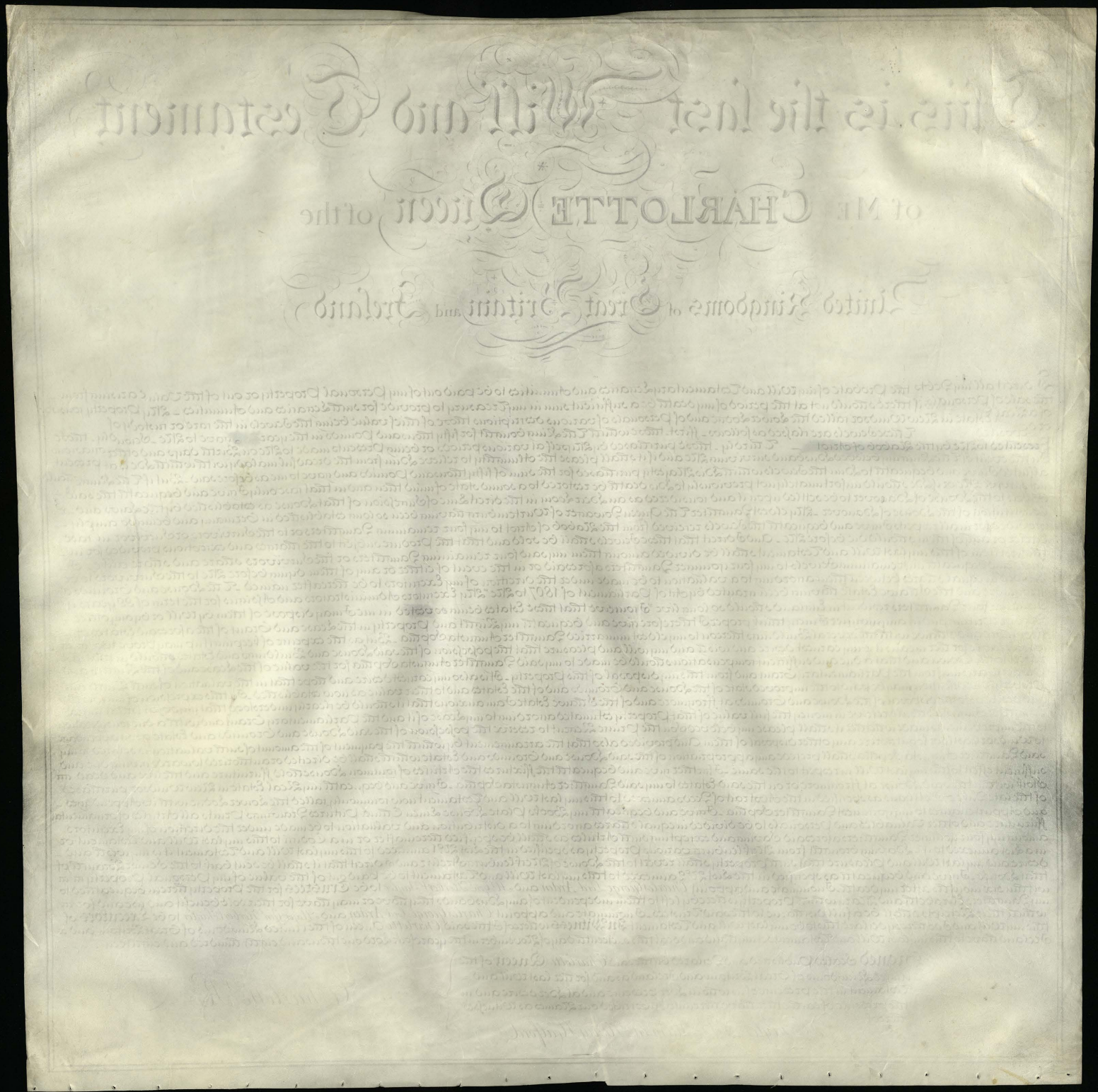
I direct all my Debts the Probate of my Will and Testamentary Legacies and Annuities to be paid out of my Personal Property or out of the Value arising from the sale of Personals if there should not at the period of my death be a sufficient sum in my Treasury to provide for such Legacies and Annuities — My Property consists of a Real Estate in New Windsor called the Lower Lodge and of Personals of various descriptions those of chief value being the Jewels in the care or custody of or deposited These Jewels are classed as follows — First — those which The King bought for fifty thousand Pounds in the year gave to Me — Secondly — those presented to Me by the Nabob of Arcot — Thirdly — those purchased by Myself at various periods or being Presents made to Me on Birth days and other occasions In the event of The King my beloved Husband surviving Me and if it shall please the Almighty to relieve Him from the dreadful malady with which He is at present afflicted I give and bequeath to Him the Jewels which His Majesty purchased for the sum of fifty thousand Pounds and gave to me as before said — But if The King should not survive Me or if He should unfortunately not previously to His death be restored to a sound state of mind then and in that case only I give and bequeath the said Jewels to the House of Hanover to be settled upon it and considered as an Heir Loom in the direct Line of Succession of that House as established by the Laws and Constitution of the House of Hanover — My eldest Daughter The Queen Dowager of Wurtemburg having been so long established in Germany and being so amply provided for in all respects I give and bequeath the Jewels received from the Nabob of Arcot to my four remaining Daughters or to the Survivors or Survivor in case either or any of them should die before Me — And I direct that these Jewels shall be sold and that the Produce subject to the charges and exceptions provided for in the first item of this my last Will and Testament shall be divided among them my said four remaining Daughters or the Survivors share and share alike — I give and bequeath my remaining Jewels to my four younger Daughters aforesaid or in the event of either or any of them dying before Me to the Survivors to be divided in equal shares between them according to a valuation to be made under the direction of my Executors to be hereafter named — The House and Grounds at Frogmore and the Shawe Estate having been granted by Act of Parliament of 1807 to Me "My Executors Administrators and Assigns for the term of 99 years if I and my four Daughters resident in England should so long live" I conceive that these Estates being so vested in me I may dispose of them by Will or by any other Deed or Writing and in any manner I may think proper I therefore give and bequeath my Right and Property in the Lease and Grant of the aforesaid Estates of Frogmore and Shawe with the several Buildings thereon to my eldest unmarried Daughter Augusta Sophia — But as the expence of keeping it up may prove too considerable for her means it is my earnest desire and wish and my will and pleasure that the possession of the said House and Buildings and Estates should in that case revert to the Crown and that a due and sufficient compensation should be made to my said Daughter Augusta Sophia for the value of the Lease and of the Rights and Property arising from the Parliamentary Grant and from this my disposal of this Property — It is also my earnest desire and hope that in the valuation of such Right and Property due attention may be paid to the improved state of the House and Grounds and of the Estates and to their value as now established — In this expression of my wish and desire as to the disposal of the House and Grounds at Frogmore and of the Shawe Estate I am anxious that it should be clearly understood that my object is that my Daughter Augusta should receive in money the full value of that Property estimated according to my Lease of it and the Parliamentary Grant and with a due consideration to the improvements made whether it shall please my beloved Son the Prince Regent to reserve the possession of the said House and Grounds and Estate as an appendage to Windsor Castle or to authorize any other disposal of them And provided also that the arrangement by which the payment of the amount of such valuation is secured to my said Daughter Augusta Sophia shall precede any appropriation of the said House and Grounds and Estate which shall be directed or authorized towards giving due and sufficient effect to this my last Will in respect to the same — I further give and bequeath the fixtures the Articles of common Household furniture and the live and dead Stock within the said House at Frogmore or on the said Estates to my said Daughter Augusta Sophia — I give and bequeath my Real Estate in New Windsor purchased of the late Duke of St. Albans as specified in the Abstract of Deeds annexed to this my last Will and Testament now commonly called the Lower Lodge with its Appendages and Appurtenances to my youngest Daughter Sophia — I give and bequeath my Books Plate House Linen China Pictures Drawings Prints all Articles of ornamental furniture and other Valuables and Personals to be divided in equal shares according to a distribution and valuation to be made under the direction of my Executors among my four younger Daughters aforesaid Saving and excepting such Articles as shall be specified hereinafter or in a Codicil to this my last Will and Testament or in a List annexed to it — Having brought from Mecklenburg various Property as specified in the List No. 1 annexed to this my last Will and Testament it is my wish and desire and my last Will and Pleasure that such Property shall revert to the House of Mecklenburg Strelitz and I direct that it shall be sent back to the Senior Branch of that House — I give and bequeath as specified in the List No. 2 annexed to this my last Will and Testament to be paid out of the value of my Personal Property within six months after my death — I nominate and appoint Charles George Lord Arden and Mr. Genl. Herbert Taylor to be Trustees for the Property herein bequeathed to my Daughters Elizabeth and Mary which Property is hereby left to them independent of any Husbands they have or may have for their sole benefit and use and for which their Receipts shall be a full discharge to the said Trustees — I nominate and appoint Charles George Lord Arden and Major Genl. Herbert Taylor to be Executors of this my Will and I do hereby declare this to be my last Will and Testament In Witness whereof I the said Charlotte Queen of the United Kingdoms of Great Britain and Ireland have to this my last Will and Testament set my hand and seal this sixteenth day of November in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and eighteen . . .

Signed Sealed Published and Declared by the said Charlotte Queen of the United Kingdoms of Great Britain and Ireland as and for her last Will and Testament in the presence of us who in Her presence and at Her desire and in the presence of each other have hereunto subscribed our Names as Witnesses hereof.

H Taylor — Fr. Milman — Henry Halford

Charlotte R. (LS)

Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016



Supplied by the Royal Archives/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016