b CHARLES EDWARD Louis Philip Casimir, privately acknowledged as CHARLES III, King of England, Scotland and Ireland on the death of his father, 1 Jan. 1766, but not publicly by France, Spain or the Papacy, born 31 Dec. 1720, married 17 April, 1772, Louisa Maximiliana, Princess of Stolberg-Gedern (died 29 Jan. 1824), eldest daughter of Gustavus Adolphus, Prince of Stolberg-Gedern, and died without legitimate issue 31 Jan. 1788. However, he left an illegitimate daughter (by Clementina Walkinshaw),

1c Charlotte, awarded by her father the title of Duchess of Albany, Act of Legitimation registered by the Parliament of Paris August 1784, *baptised* 29 Oct. 1753, *died unmarried*. 17 Nov. 1789, but (by Prince Ferdinand Maximilien de Rohan-Guemene, Archbishop of Cambrai, and Count of the Empire (1738-1813)), had three illegitimate children,



1d (Charles Edward) August Maximilien de Rohan-Stuart, more commonly known as Charles Edward Stuart, Count de Roehenstart, *born* 13 May 1784 in Paris, *married* 1stly *circa* 1819/20 Maria Antoinetta Sophia (Barbuoeni?) (*died without issue* and *buried* 1821, *aet* 31), he *married*. 2ndly 13 Dec. 1826 Louisa Constance (*died without issue* 1853), daughter of Joseph Bourchier Smith, of Kidlington, Oxon, and *died without issue* 27 Oct. 1854.

1d Victorie-Adelaide, *married* 1stly *circa* 1804/6 Paul Anthony, Chevalier de Nikorowicz (*died* 1810), and had issue, *married* 2ndly 29 Nov. 1823 Capt. Corbet James d'Auvergne, RN (*died* 5 Feb. 1826, aged 60), and 3rdly Jean, Chevalier de Pauw. She *died* 27 April 1836.

2d Charlotte Maximilenne Amelie, born circa

1780/1 in Paris, *married* 20 July 1804 in Paris Jean Louis Lugie Cousin de la Morliere (*died* 20 Dec. 1846), and *died without issue*. 22 July 1807.

## CHARLOTTE STUART DUCHESS OF ALBANY<sup>1</sup>

WAS born and baptized at Liège, in the parish church of 'La Bienheureuse Vierge Marie des Fonts' 29 October I753,<sup>2</sup>— 'L'an du Seigneur a été baptisée dans notre église paroissiale de la Bienheureuse Vierge Marie des Fonts de la ville de Liège. Charlotte fille de Noble Seigneur Guillaume Johnson et de Noble Dame Charlotte Pit. Le parrain a été Noble Seigneur Georges Frementen, au nom de Noble Seigneur André Giffard' (see *Miscellany of the Scottish History Society* 1904, ii p. 437 where her will is printed in full). She was educated at the Abbey of Notre Dame de Meaux-in-Brie; was on or before 23/24 March 1783 created Duchess of Albany [S] by her father, being so styled in his will of that date; and was legitimated 30th March following, by a deed recorded in the Parliament of Paris, 6th September 1787. On St Andrew's Day Nov: 30 1784 she was invested with the green ribbon of a K.T. (*Jacobite Peerage, Ruvigny*).

Had there been another child? In Lord Bray M.S.S.<sup>3</sup> there is Charles's solemn declaration that except Miss Walkinshaw's daughter he had no child. General Charles Edward Stuart Baron Rohenstart (1781-1854) is said to have been a grandson of Clementina by the Prince. (See note on next page).

Notes from Canon Townley's version of Clementina Johannes Sobieski Stuart. Buried at Finsthwaite 16 May 1771. 1726 The youngest of John Walkinshaw's ten daughters was baptized at Rome, Clementina Maria Sophia. Clementina, James III's consort was God-Mother? The prince had several aliases, Douglas, Johnson, Pitt. Andrew Lang in his introduction to "Redgauntlet" says, "It is certain she bore him two children, of whom the elder a boy died early" (?)

James III's secretary (Edgar) records that he has been informed that Clementina Walkinshaw has got in with the Prince, has born two children, and got an extreme ascendant over him, this was in

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> <u>The life and letters of H. R. H. Charlotte Stuart</u> by <u>Francis John</u> Angus Skeet.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Extract from the register of the Church of S. Maria ad fontes at Liège of the entry of the baptism of Charlotte Stuart on October 29. 1753, therein described as the daughter "nobilis domini Guillelmi Johnson et nobilis Domina Pit" (*Hist. MSS. Comm. Reports* X. vi. 235). Dated October 20, 1784, a certificate below from the Prince Bishop of Liège. Duke of Bouillon, etc., that the extract was in the hand of the priest of the parish. The seals of the church of S. Maria ad Fontes and of the Prince Bishop of Liège affixed (*ibid.*).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Hist, MSS, Com, X, vi. Page 236.

1754. Andrew Lang speaks of a very strange and extraordinary note which the prince made 1752: "A marque to be put on ye Child if I part with it—I am pushed to ye last point and so wont be cagioled any more." Lang says in Pickle the Spy, "The future Bonny Lass of Albany was to be marked like a Kelt returned to the river in spring."

James Douglass went with the lady to Finsthwaite and there remained with her. Sir Walter Scott in his "Introduction to Redgauntlet" quotes extracts from Dr King's "Anecdotes of his own times" concerning Charles and Clementina. Dr King had been secretary to Ormond and to Arran, and was an ardent Jacobite engaged in their plots, and it was to him the Prince came in disguise when visiting England, though at last disgusted with the Prince's intention to bring Clementina to England with him, he withdrew from the cause. A kinsman of Dr King's married Miss Taylor, the heiress of Finsthwaite House.

The lady was first at "July flower tree" with Mr Backhouse, Dr King's brother-in-law and its owner; and then at Waterside with Mrs King's brother, Mr Edward Taylor. She regarded herself as a princess and had wondrous fair hair. She bequeathed to Miss Jane Penny a medal commemorating the marriage of James and Clementina in 1719.

Edward Taylor made his will 28 April 1770 (proved Consistory Court at Lancaster May 16), it was witnessed by James and Clementina Douglass. The following entry is in the Register of Burials: "Buried at Finsthwaite 16 May 1771 Clementina Sobieski Douglass, Spinster of Waterside" (collated from *Finswaithe Parish Magazine*).

## Note

Dictionary of National Biography under Walkinshaw states—Clementina perhaps bore Prince Charles a son, who is said to have been baptized by a non-juring clergyman (afterwards Bishop Gordon), and who must have died in infancy."

Under John Sobieski Stuart<sup>4</sup> the same authority says: "He ascribes the renewed hostility of Professor George Skene in hs criticism of his works in the Quarterly Review to his partisanship of a rival claimant." This claimant was known as General Charles Edward Stuart, who pretended not only that Charles III married Clementina Walkinshaw, but that their daughter the Duchess of Albany espoused a "Count" or "Baron" Roehenstart in the Swedish or Austrian service, and that he was the issue of the marriage. The "General" was killed in a carriage accident at Dunkeld, 1854, and buried in the Cathedral there. He is mentioned in Life of Thomas Coutts, by E. Hartley Coleridge with accounts of money, one in facsimile: "paid to my poor grandmother the Countess Alberstroff (sic)," signed "R."

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> John "Sobieski Stuart" and his brother pretended to be legitimate descendants of Charles III and Louise of Stolberg-Gedern.



 $HIC \cdot IACET\ CARLOTTA \cdot DVX \cdot ALBANYENSIS\ EX \cdot REGIA \cdot STIRPE \cdot STVARDA\ MORTVA \cdot BONONIAE\ XV\ KAL \cdot DEC \cdot MDCCLXXXIX$  Here lies Charlotte, Duchess of Albany, from the Royal House of Stuart, died at Bologna, November 17, 1789.



From The Life and Letters of HRH Charlotte Stuart - Appendix II

Letters patent which allow Lady Charlotte Stuart d' Albany to reside in this Kingdom and to acquire goods there and to dispose of them 100 D<sup>d</sup> at Paris 50 Rue 5' Jacques 150 Convent of the Visitation one hundred and five livres (There is a further countersigning nearly illegible)

Louis, by the grace of God, King of France and of Navarre, to all present and to come, Greeting.

Lady Charlotte Stuart d'Albany has represented that having been brought up in Paris where she received first the particular benefits of the late Prince James Stuart and later those of the Cardinal Prince of York, his second son, she has been authentically recognised by Prince Charles Edward her father, eldest son of the said late prince James

and grandson of the late James the Second, King of Great Britain, by an Act made at Florence, the thirtieth of March, seventeen hundred and

eighty three, signed by the prince in the presence of witnesses and ratified with his seal, certified by a notary in the Prince Charles Edward's presence and of the said witnesses the same day and year, and legalised in the fifteenth of July last by the S<sup>r</sup> Billerey in charge of our affairs in the absence of our Minister Plenipotentiary to the Archduke Leopold, Grand Duke of Tuscany, by which Act, which she has produced to us, the said Prince Charles Edward declared fully legitimated, and rendered her birth legitimate by all the faculties which he is capable of and of which he intended to avail himself of in the said Act, the said Lady Charlotte Stuart d'Albany his daughter, desiring to continue under our good pleasure her residence in our States, and to be able to acquire and possess therein immovable property, the Prince her Father, having moreover there property which he succeeded to principally from the Princess his Mother, which he has the power to dispose of entirely or in part in her favour, and which may come to her by succession. She has begged us to accord her permission and authorisation on these requisitions, even to everything which of necessity may be renounced to her, to all right of escheat or others which may belong to us and wishing to favourably treat the said Lady Charlotte Stuart d'Albany in these legal actions and others moved by the advice of our council and of our own certain knowledge and full royalty power and authority, we have by these presents signed with our hand, permitted and permit the said Lady Charlotte Stuart d'Albany, to acquire and possess immoveables in our kingdom, as we have authorised and authorise also to receive all gifts and legacies which could be made to her by the Prince her Father, or other Foreigners, or our subjects, of immoveable property real or in fief (copyhold), and of furniture or moveable effects, which succession might bring to her reception of immoveable or moveable property situated in our states, and to dispose freely of her goods by will or gift amongst the dead and living, in the same way that our own subjects can dispose of them (Reynicoles?) and renouncing to her as far as may be necessary, and all right of aubanie [a feudal right under which the French King's claimed the goods of strangers dying in his kingdom, and renouncing so far as the above is concerned, he [the King] renounces all which would conflict with all Laws, Arrets, Judgements, Usages, and other things to the contrary. Giving and charging our beloved and faithful Counsellors those sitting in our Court of Parliament at Paris and to all our other officers belonging to it, which these presents have made register and to continue to do the same herewith and use the said Lady Charlotte Stuart d'Albany fully, peaceably and perpetually stopping, and making cease all troubles and impediments, notwithstanding all things to the contrary. For such is our pleasure, and in order that it may be firm and stable for ever we have had our seal put on these said presents.

Given at Versailles in the month of August, the year of Grace seventeen hundred and eighty four, and of our reign the eleventh.

Louis By the King Gravier de Vergennes Vised
Zueli (name illegible)
Registered this consent
The Procurer general to the
King to enjoy the importance of
its effects and contents and to be
Executed according to this form,
and term following, following
the decree of this day at Paris in
Parliament the seventh September
seventeen hundred and eighty
(Obliteration by damp.)

Charles Gravier comte de Vergennes, chief of the Royal Council of France, died at Versailles 13 February, 1787, aged 68.

Bray MSS, state "Certified by M. Sémonux chef du Depôt des Affaires Etrangères.

The Cardinal Duke of York cannot do less than complain strongly of the proceeding of his Royal Brother concerning the irregular and improper action taken in summoning a natural daughter of his to live with him in so much publicity. It will be easily perceived on what grounds he may complain, if it is considered in the first place, what an indecent uproar was made some time ago about supposed poverty and destitution, when it was pretended his Royal Brother had not enough to live upon, and the burden was thrown on the shoulders of the Cardinal Duke, against all justice; who is now informed in the most outrageously pompous manner, that he has taken upon himself an expense which will naturally exceed the maintenance of his own consort; an action which is in manifest contradiction to the former exaggerated statement.

In the second place, the Cardinal Duke represents the situation in which he finds himself, on seeing follow immediately after a feigned reconciliation by means of autograph letters from his Royal Brother, a public proceeding of this description, as to which he has no information, and to which his consent was not asked.

In the third place, he represents the irregularity of this pretended legitimation, which was not necessary to enable his brother to give to this person a fair subsistence, which he had already been bound in conscience to do for thirty years past. As he did not do it, the Cardinal Duke, touched by pure compassion supplied the money privately. But it was not necessary to give her those titles, and to place her in a position for which there can be no explanation to the mind of any intelligent person, aware of the facts and of present circumstances, except the intention of putting a public slight upon the Cardinal Duke and his sister-in-law.

And here is reached the fourth point raised by the Cardinal Duke: that the said legitimation, as it seems to be intended, goes very much father than has been the invariable custom in similar cases, and as in the recent example of James II in the person of the Duke of Berwick, since it reaches the very height of presumption to pretend to have the lady recognised as of the stem of the royal house, by granting her titles which would be most justly contested if he were in actual possession of his lawful right. Nor in that case would his royal brother, according to the law of the Kingdom, have the faculty thus to habilitate thus a natural child, and place her in the succession to the throne; a case utterly without precedent. In this state of things, the Cardinal Duke flatters himself that all his friends will accept his statement, convinced of its justice with regard to this business, so disgusting to hi; which he protests for his part to regard as null and void: in short, to ignore it so long as God gives him life.

In the name of God. Amen.

This fourteenth day of November 1789, Her Grace the Duchess of Albany, Charlotte by name, being grievously sick of body, but of sound mind, and in full possession of her senses, thanks be to God, not wishing to leave this world without disposing of these goods of fortune of which she is possessed, after having received the Holy Viaticum and humbly commended her soul to God, her Creator and Redeemer, and again beseeching His pardon for all even to the least offence which she may have given Him during the whole course of her life, and trusting to His infinite mercy -

Declares in the first place that she desires to be buried without any pomp whatever, asking only such suffrages for her soul as may be decided upon by the Lord Cardinal Archbishop [Andrea Giovanetti], whom she has requested to take down her will in writing, further recommending him not to allow her body after her death to be opened in anyway, and if possible that it may be kept aground for four days, not enclosed in a coffin.

In the second place she desires to be buried in the parish church of St. Blaise of Bologna, to the poor of which she leaves a hundred scudi to be distributed to them by the curate of the said church.

Coming to the legacies, or pensions, she requests her royal uncle, hereinafter constituting him her sole heir, to send to her lady mother in Paris an annual pension of fifteen thousand francs during the term of her natural life, and further, to allow her the power of disposing at her death of fifty thousand francs in favour of any of her necessitous relations.

She leaves to Mrs. Norton an annuity of two thousand francs for the term of her natural life, also a gold enamelled box, and the English clock which her Grace uses daily, further requesting her royal uncle to provide for the lady more abundantly should this pension not suffice.

To Canon Cesarini, rector of Frascati, she leaves an annuity of a hundred scudi, for the term of his natural life, as a mark of her attachment, and more especially on account of the respectful and particular affection which he has for her royal uncle.

To the Count Monsignor Consalvi she leaves an enamelled box as a remembrance.

To the Abbate Waters, as a mark of her gratitude for his services to her royal father and herself, she leaves an annuity of a hundred scudi for the term of his natural life; further requesting him, if such be the pleasure of her royal uncle, to be her testamentary executor as hereinafter set down.

To the Abbate Count Castaldi she leaves a plain gold box as a remembrance, particularly requesting her uncle to be pleased to prefer him upon the first occasion he has of disposing of an ecclesiastical benefice.

To her two waiting women she leaves all her wearing apparel, and an annuity of sixty scudi to each of them for the term of their natural life.

To Signor Giacinto Bruni she leaves a sum of a hundred scudi in one payment, and two years salary.

To each of her two serving men she leaves an annuity of forty-eight scudi at the rate of four scudi a month to each, for the term of their natural life, also a year's wages, and their mourning, which is to be made for them, as well as for all in her service, both men and women, appealing to the friendship of Abbate Waters to take upon himself, besides the other charges hereinafter stated, the task of providing mourning for those in her service.

To the unliveried members of her household, that is the steward and chaplain, she leaves the pay, or wages, or salary one year.

The rest of her household, including the Moor in livery, are warmly recommended by the duchess, the testatrix, to the great and constant charity of her royal uncle, and moreover she leaves to the said remnant of her household, including the Moor two years' wages.

She leaves a hundred scudi to be distributed to the poor of her parish in Rome.

She appoints and constitutes his royal Eminence her uncle Cardinal Henry, called the Duke of York, universal heir of all her goods movable and immovable, titles, rights, and shares, in any place, country, province or kingdom whatsoever, and especially and expressly of all the jewels, diamonds and orders belonging to the Crown.

It is her will that all the remaining jewels, coins, and plate of any sort whatsoever shall be sold, the proceeds of such sale to form a capital the interest of which shall be applied to the payment of the annuities, pensions or legacies abovesaid; and should the interest of the said capital formed as aforesaid by the sale of the said articles the personal property of the testatrix, not suffice, she earnestly entreats the goodness and great affection of her uncle and universal heir to pay all the said pension.

As testamentary executor of this her last will, if it meets the consent and approval of her uncle, she appoints the Abbate Waters above-mentioned, upon whom she lays the charge of forming the said capital in the best way possible, besides the other charges which she flatters herself he will willingly undertake out of the friendship he has always shown to the said duchess the testatrix; further requesting him to see that the doctors and surgeon be adequately remunerated, also that Father Scandellari, her confessor receives some recognition of the trouble given him during her illness.

She further wills and beseeches her royal uncle (whom she thanks with all her heart to the utmost of her power and ability for the singular affection he has always shown her), assuring him that she dies willingly, resigning herself with her whole soul to the will of her Creator and Redeemer, in whom she places all her hope of eternal salvation, that he will be pleased to accept her small library for his own at Frascati, with this condition however, that all those books which his royal grace, the Lord Cardinal her uncle, shall not think fitted for the said library shall be given and consigned to her said testamentary executor, the Abbate Waters whom she requests to so arrange that the journey of all her household to Rome may be paid for. She further charges the said Abbate Waters to collect all the letters belonging to the royal house and family and to deliver them to her royal uncle. All her purely personal letters to be consigned to the flames by the said Abbate.

She declares this to be her last will, and any other disposition made by her at any other time notwithstanding this will alone to stand and be regarded. And should this said last will not be

valid as such, she wills and declares it to be valid by virtue of the codicil *in cause mortis* and in every better way possible.

In faith whereof the said duchess has affixed her signature with her own hands in the presence of the undersigned witnesses called upon to witness the same.

Charlotte, Duchess of Albany

## The following codicil was added the day of her death, November 17, 1789:

The third waiting-woman, Carolina Bidusi by name, two pieces of velvet and one of linen, and the same annual pension as the other two, being very sorry for having forgotten her, and recommending her to H.R.H.

A little clock to Mr. d'Azincourt.

A small present to Monsignor Erskine and one to the Cavaliere de Bernis.