Testament of Captain Simon Fraser SC29/44/10 pp.96-7

Simon Fraser SC29/44/10 [p.97] [In box] Inventory of the Personal Estate of Simon Fraser sometime of Knockie Captain in the Fraser Fencibles, residing in Rose Street Inverness [main text] At Inverness the fourteenth day of December Eighteen hundred and fifty seven years In presence of George Young Esquire Advocate Commissary of the Commisariot of Inverness Compeared Duncan MacLennan Solicitor in Inverness as Procurator for the Executor after named and designed and gave in the Inventory and Affidavit ^ [in margin] ^ together with the Will 16 Dec[embe]r 1857 [signed] John MacRayle [main text] underwritten to be recorded in the Commissary Court Books of the said Commissariot in terms of law which the said Judge ordained to be done whereof the tenor follows vi[delice]zt Inventory of the Personal Estate of the late Simon Fraser sometime of Knockie Captain in the Fraser Fencibles who died at Rose Street of Inverness on the fourth day of July Eighteen hundred and fifty two given up by Angus or Aneas Fraser residing in Inverness as Executor decerned to him on the third day of December Eighteen hundred and fifty seven.- 1. One half of Manuscript sheets of Gaelic and Dance tunes numbered 233 to 696 inclusive intended to form 2 Volumes when published -the other half of said Manuscript being the composition and collection of the said Angus or Aneas Fraser –valued by George Hutcheson Licensed Auctioneer in Inverness at £10..-..- 2. Reliques & memoirs of a private Highland family - no value 3. A Collection of Melodies set to songs embraces in No. 1 no value 4. Essays on proceedings in 1745 – no value 5. Essay of the primitive & progressive state of Scotland with appendices no value 6. Appendix to last mentioned No. no value 7. Killin with Alpine Muses & c[etera] no value 8. Squibs at the learned Professions – no value 9. Translations into Gaelic of some of Newton & Coopers Hymns no value [signed] John MacRayle Forward £10..-..- [p.99] Brought Forward £10..-..- 10. Preliminary dissertation written by himself – no value 11. Manuscript containing some of the songs referred to in No. 3 – no value A Violin belonging to deceased valued at -..15..- Chest & trunk valued at Portable Writing Desk -..2..6 / £11..-..- (signed) Angus Fraser, W.H. Thomson At Inverness the fourteenth day of December Eighteen hundred and fifty seven years, In presence of William Hamilton Thomson Esquire Commissary Depute of the Commissariot of Inverness Appeared Angus or Aneas Fraser residing in Inverness who being solemnly sworn and examined Depones that Captain Simon Fraser sometime of Knockie latterly of Rose Street of Inverness died at Rose Street on the fourth day of July Eighteen hundred and fifty tow That the said Captain Simon Fraser left certain writings of a testamentary nature in one of which bearing date the second day of August Eighteen hundred and twenty eight he conveyed to the Deponent certain rights in certain literary and musical manuscripts he then partly completed and was partly engaged on. That he afterwards left certain other writings connected with the disposal of his affairs -and it is believed that he nominated certain Executors who declined to Act. That in these circumstances the Deponent and the three children and dearest of kin of the deceased Mr Hugh Fraser Miss Catherine Fraser and Miss Jamesina Fraser all residing in Inverness entered into an arrangement whereby it was stipulated that the Deponent should de decerned Executor to the deceased and that he was accordingly decerned on the third day of December current. That the only means and effects left by the deceased consisted of Musical & literary manuscripts and three other triffling articles which are enumerated in the the foregoing Inventory. That the said Inventory which is signed

by the Deponent and said Commissary as relative hereto is a full and true Inventory of all the personal and moveable Estate & effects of the said deceased Captain Simon Fraser wheresoever situated already recovered or known to be existing belonging or due to him beneficially at the time of his death and that the value of the said Estate situated in Scotland is of the value of Eleven pounds and under the value of Twenty pounds Sterling all which is truth as the Deponent shall answer to God (Signed) Angus Fraser, W.H. Thomson Com. Dep. Follows the Will before referred to Inverness 2nd August 1828. Æneas Fraser. As you are the only person belonging to my family that is in any way possessed of the taste or talent necessary for issueing the labour of my life in case I may be cut off before its completion -I hereby will & begueath the whole into your custody not doubting that if it turns to the account which I have all along anticipated, tho [ugh] retarded by unforeseen misfortunes, I may safely rely on the discretion that wins so many friends in participating the proceeds after paying your expense, with any that may be extant of my family who may have any claim upon it, and are possessed of my approbation of their dutiful conduct towards me.- I particularise the works in manuscript annexed and remain ever yours (signed) S. Fraser 1. The copy Right & proceeds pf volume first of the Highland melodies, already published. 2 That Publication & copy right of Volume 2[n]d of the same work, with the legendary notes regarding the airs -to be published in progressive numbers. 3, The right of Publishing pocket Editions of these two works at a cheaper rate, when the present impressions are run out. 4. The whole numbers harmonised from the above originals, with the Verses and accompaniments 5. Killinn an Epic Poem in 5 Cantos. 1. Vol. The alpine Muses homer & other fugitive pieces 1 Vol. My Lyrics to the Highland melodies 1. Vol. 6 Reliques & memoirs of the [p.101] the Projectors of this National work including many legends of their preservation 7. Series of Essays 1. On the ancient Language Music & Poetry of the British Isles. 2. The State of the Highlands form 1745 to the present day -both Illustrating a variety of Antiquities 3. Essay on the Conflagration of the Caledonian Forests. 4. Essay on the Grazing System of the Highlands which is one of Highland Societies prize Essays -5 Essay on Potatoe culture. 8. Specimen of a Translation of Newtons & Cowpers Alney Hym[n]s into the Gaelic Language intended to be presented to Principal Baird as my Donation for behoof of the Gaelic Schools to be established on his Scheme. -In case of my decease I make over not only these, but all the Scrolls & m[anuscript]s which may the better enable an Edition of reputation to appreciate the extent of my unrewarded efforts in the Service of the Public.- And I impose it as a duty on you that if my litigation with Mr James Bristoun Fraser is not terminated before my decease, that my memorial and detail of his absorption of my property shall be published in the appendix to any account of my Literary Life so as to be seen, but not to disturb its narrative; -yours ever.- (Signed) S. Fraser, Inverness 14 Decr. 1857. Referred to in Affidavit to Inventory of date. (Signed) Angus Fraser, W.H. Thomson Com. Dep. John MacRayle Court Clark