

Neil Jeffares, *Dictionary of pastellists before 1800*

Online edition

FREEMAN, Samuel Flower

London bpt 1.vii.1757–6.ii.1824

“Flower Freeman, Jr”, an honorary exhibitor at the Free Society in 1775 and 1776; he showed a conversation piece, presumably in oils, a watercolour view near Windsor and a single pastel portrait. There is some confusion among the members of this family, but it seems most likely that the artist was the Flower Freeman baptised at St Mary Whitechapel in 1757 to Flower Freeman (–1777) of Mile-End and his wife, Susannah Rosewell. Flower Freeman Sr was a merchant and chairman of the London hospital; he was recorded at Goodman’s Fields in 1759 when admitted to the Society for the Promotion of Christian Knowledge. He was probably involved in the same business as a lead merchant and shot maker recorded at 24 Mark Lane as his brother Samuel and nephew Samuel Flower Freeman (1746–1795).

Flower Freeman, Jr resided in Saint Luke’s Chelsea. On 6.i.1799 at St Marylebone he married Mary Parry of Uxbridge (a cousin of Lord Brougham); there was a son, August Flower Freeman (1800–1875). He died in his home in Kennington Lane, of apoplexy; his will was proved 9.iv.1824. The obituary notice in the *Oriental Herald* recorded that he was “late of Barbadoes”.

There is no obvious connection with Freeman Flower of Clapham (1714–1797: will proved 24.iii.1798), of whom a painting by Joseph Highmore is in the Art Institute of Chicago.

Pastels

J.3274.101 Gentleman, crayons, Free Society 1776,
no. 70