

Pages 1-4 are a transcript made by Mike Lawrence of John Arkell Abraham's will, along with commentary notes by Dennis Coombs in the right hand column.

A facsimile of the original will is shown from page 5 onwards.

DEATH ON OR AFTER 1st JANUARY, 1898

Will

BE IT KNOWN that John Arkell Abraham of Upminster Mills near Romford in the County of Essex.

died on the 22nd day of July 1912 at Upminster Mills aforesaid

AND BE IT FURTHER KNOWN that at the date hereunder written the last Will and Testament

of the said deceased was proved and registered in the Principal Probate Registry of His Majesty's High Court of Justice, and that administration of all the estate which by law devolves to and vests in the personal representative of the said deceased was granted by the aforesaid Court to Thomas Abraham Alfred James Abraham and Clement Abraham all of Upminster in the said County Miller's Nephews of deceased the Executors

Commented [DC1]: Thomas Abraham, Alfred James Abraham and Clement Abraham are appointed Executors.

named in the said Will

Dated the 20th day of September 1912

Gross value of Estate £2957 – 7 – 11

Net value of Personal Estate £ 376 – 17 - 4

WILL -----

I, JOHN ARKELL ABRAHAM of Upminster Mills near Romford in the County of Essex Miller hereby revoke all wills codicils and other testamentary dispositions heretofore made by me and declare this to be my last Will

Commented [DC2]: Confirms this is the last Will.

I bequeath to my nephews hereinafter named being sons of my late brother Thomas William Abraham the following legacies namely To Thomas Abraham the large Photograph of myself in gilt frame my Family Bible my Presentation plate (Truly this was the Son of God) my silver Trowel presented to me by the late Reverend G H Spurgeon on the occasion of the laying of the Memorial Stone at the Baptist Chapel Hornchurch the Eighteenth of July one thousand eight hundred and eighty two my large mahogany side board my drawing room Dial (little boy swimming) and my Cabinet Piano To Ernest Abrahams my gold watch and my large bookcase made by Miss Drews father To Alfred James Abraham my clock which hangs in my living room and my old Bureau and Cupboard on the top of it and also my Bee hives Bees and everything connected therewith To Sidney Abraham my skeleton Dial in the little Parlour and also the two half dozen silver tea spoons and ten new knives in a box in Pantry To Clement Abraham my small bookcase my Wardrobe my wearing apparel and the furniture and other articles of household use and ornament which may be in and about my bedroom at the time of my death other than those hereinbefore disposed of and also my

billiard Board Marker and six feet deal table upon which same is placed for playing

Commented [DC3]: This section makes some specific bequests:

- (1) To Thomas Abraham:
- Large photograph of John Arkell Abraham in gilt frame
 - Family Bible
 - Presentation Plate (truly this was the Son of God)
 - Silver Trowel (of which the history is stated)
 - Large mahogany sideboard
 - Drawing room dial (little boy swimming)
 - Cabinet Piano.

- (2) To Ernest Abraham:
- Gold watch
 - Large bookcase made by Miss Drew's father.

- (3) To Alfred James Abraham
- Clock (from living room)
 - Old Bureau and cupboard on top of it
 - Beehives, bees and equipment.

- (4) To Sidney Abraham
- Skeleton dial in the little parlour
 - Two half dozen silver tea spoons
 - Ten new knives in a box.

- (5) To Clement Abraham
- Small bookcase
 - Wardrobe
 - Wearing apparel
 - Furniture and other articles from the bedroom
 - Billiard Board Marker and Table.

And I bequeath to my Executors (hereinafter mentioned) the sum of twenty pounds free of legacy duty which shall be expended by them in the erection of my grave with a suitable memorial stone

Commented [DC4]: £20 is set aside for a grave and suitable memorial stone.

Commented [DC5]: Thomas, Alfred and Clement are left the GOODWILL of the milling business.

I give and bequeath to my said nephews Thomas Abraham Alfred James Abraham and Clement Abraham or such of them as shall at the date of my decease be employed in the said business the goodwill of my trade or business of a Miller now carried on by me at Upminster Mills aforesaid equally as tenants in common for their or his own absolute use and benefit

Commented [DC6]: Thomas, Alfred and Clement are appointed trustees. They must collect all monies, settle all debts and hold the residue in trust for John Arkell Abraham's five nephews in equal shares – ie themselves plus Ernest and Sidney.

I devise and bequeath all the rest and residue of my real and personal estate and effects whatsoever unto and to the use of the said Thomas Abraham Alfred James Abraham and Clement Abraham upon trust that they shall sell call in collect and otherwise convert into money such parts of my said estate as shall not consist of ready money and shall out of the proceeds of such sale calling in collection and conversion as aforesaid to pay my just debts funeral and testamentary expenses and the pecuniary legacies hereby bequeathed and shall hold the residue of the said trust premises In trust for such of my five nephews Thomas Abraham Ernest Abraham Alfred James Abraham Sidney Abraham and Clement Abraham as shall be living at my death in equal shares

Commented [DC7]: This section made provision for a widow if any of the five nephews had predeceased John Arkell Abraham.

I hereby declare that in the event of any of my nephews dying before me leaving issue or a Widow him surviving the share by this my Will given to him shall not lapse but shall devolve as if such nephew had survived me and died immediately after me

And I appoint the said Thomas Abraham Alfred James Abraham and Clement Abraham to be EXECUTORS and TRUSTEES of this my Will.

Commented [DC8]: Confirms Thomas, Alfred and Clement as trustees and executors.

Provided always and I declare that the said Thomas Abraham Alfred James Abraham and Clement Abraham if they shall be engaged in my business at the time of my decease or such of them as shall be so engaged shall jointly have the option of purchasing at a valuation to be made as hereinafter mentioned the stock in trade plant and machinery of my business of a Miller now carried out by me and the effects of such business (other than those hereby specifically bequeathed) and all book debts and moneys due to me in respect thereof or some or one of them or any part or parts of such stock plant machinery and effects as they may elect And also my freehold Mill land houses and hereditaments now in my use or occupation or used in connection with or relating to my said business upon their accepting my title to the same such option to be exercised by notice or writing by the said Thomas Abraham Alfred James Abraham and Clement Abraham or such of them as shall be engaged with me in my said business at the time of my decease is to be given to the said Sidney Abraham and Ernest Abraham within one month after my decease

Commented [DC9]: The three nephews Thomas, Alfred and Clement are given the option of purchasing the Mill, buildings, machinery etc. They have to give written notice of such intention within 30 days to Sidney and Ernest.

The purchase money to be paid for such of the said premises as the said Thomas Abraham Alfred James Abraham and Clement Abraham shall elect to take as aforesaid shall be ascertained by a valuation to be made by two valuers one is to be appointed by the said Thomas Abraham Alfred James Abraham and Clement Abraham if they jointly exercise the said option or such of them as shall exercise the said option and the others by my nephews Sidney Abraham and Ernest Abraham or their Umpire in the usual way

Commented [DC10]: The purchase price will be determined by a valuation by two valuers – one appointed by Thomas, Alfred and Clement and the second by Sidney and Ernest.

And I declare that if my said nephews Thomas Abraham Alfred James Abraham and Clement Abraham or such of them as shall be in my employ at my decease shall not exercise the said option within one month after my death then the other or others of them shall jointly or severally have the like option to be exercised by notice in writing jointly or severally within two months after my decease

Commented [DC11]: If one or two of the three nephews decline the option, the remaining ones get an extra month to make their decision.

And I declare that from and after the exercise of such option and valuation as aforesaid the said stock in trade and effects or such part or parts thereof as they shall elect to take and the Mill land hereditaments and premises shall belong to the said Thomas Abraham Alfred James Abraham and Clement Abraham or such of them as shall exercise the said option absolutely and they shall be debited with the value thereof in the division of my estate and in case such value shall exceed the total amount of the shares of the said Thomas Abraham Alfred James Abraham and Clement Abraham or such of them as shall exercise the said option in my estate the excess shall remain as a charge upon the said premises until payment together with the interest at four pounds per cent per annum

Commented [DC12]: The purchase price can be deducted from the estate but if this represents more than their total share of the estate then the balance will be a charge on the premises and attract 4% interest charge.

Provided always and I declare that the said Thomas Abraham Alfred James Abraham and Clement Abraham or such of them as shall exercise the said option as aforesaid their executors or administrators shall within six calendar months after my death enter into a proper Bond or Covenant with the said Sidney Abraham and Ernest Abraham their executors or administrators to their satisfaction for securing the payment of the said purchase money and interest or so much of it as shall on taking accounts to be found to be in excess of the shares of the said Thomas Abraham Alfred James Abraham and Clement Abraham or such of them as shall exercise the said option as aforesaid in my estate

Commented [DC13]: The nephews electing to buy the Mill must, within six months, enter into a proper Bond or Covenant to the satisfaction of the remaining nephews for securing the purchase money and interest.

And I declare that it is my wish that in the event of my nephews Thomas Abraham Alfred James Abraham and Clement Abraham exercising the said option and until the exercise thereof the said Alfred James Abraham shall have the use and occupation of the front half of the house in which I now reside and the said Clement Abraham the back half thereof and that the said Thomas Abraham shall have the use and occupation of my eight roomed house on the condition that his Mother shall be permitted to reside there and have the use and occupation of such parts thereof as she shall require

Commented [DC14]: This section expresses a "wish" that:

- Alfred shall have the use and occupation of the front half of the house in which John Arkell Abraham resided.
- Clement Abraham shall have the back half.
- Thomas Abraham shall have the use of the eight roomed house provided that his mother shall be permitted to reside there.

IN WITNESS whereof I the said John James Abraham have to this my Will contained in this and the two preceding sheets of paper set my hand this Twenty first day of May one thousand nine hundred and eight – JOHN ARKELL ABRAHAM Signed and declared by the said John Arkell Abraham the Testator as and for his last Will and Testament in the presence of us both present at the same time who in his presence at his request and in the presence of each other have hereunto subscribed our names as witnesses

ARTHUR EATON Station House Upminster Essex
THOMAS COVELL THOMPSON Upminster Essex

JOHN ARKELL ABRAHAM

Resigned by the Testator John Arkell Abraham this nineteenth day of June one thousand nine hundred and eight and declared by him to be his Will and Testament in the presence of us both present at the same time who in his presence at his request and in the presence of each other have hereunto subscribed our names as witnesses

EDWIN CARTER
WILLIAM T LAWRENCE
clerks to Messrs Hilleary Solicitors 5 Fenchurch Buildings London E C

On the 20th day of September 1912 Probate of this Will was granted to Thomas Abraham Alfred James Abraham and Clement Abraham the Executors

Will. DEATH ON OR AFTER 1st JANUARY, 1898.

BE IT KNOWN that *John Arkell Abraham*
of *Upminster Mills near Romford in the*
County of Essex

died on the *22nd* day of *July* 1912
at *Upminster Mills aforesaid*

AND BE IT FURTHER KNOWN that at the date hereunder written
the last Will and Testament

of the said deceased was proved and registered in the Principal Probate
Registry of His Majesty's High Court of Justice, and that administration
of all the estate which by law devolves to and vests in the personal
representative of the said deceased was granted by the aforesaid Court
to *Thomas Abraham Alfred James*
Abraham and Clement Abraham all of
Upminster in the said County of Essex
Nephews of deceased the Executors

named in the said

Will

Dated the *20th* day of *September* 1912

Gross value of Estate £ *2957-7-11*
Net value of Personal Estate £ *376-17-4*

IA.

I, JOHN ARKELL ABRAHAM of Upminster Mills near Romford in the County of Essex Miller hereby revoke all wills codicils and other testamentary dispositions heretofore made by me and declare this to be my last Will I bequeath to my nephews hereinafter named being sons of my late brother Thomas William Abraham the following legacies namely To Thomas Abraham the large Photograph of myself in gilt frame my Family Bible my Presentation plate (Truly this was the Son of God) my silver Trowel presented to me by the late Reverend C H Spurgeon on the occasion of the laying of the Memorial Stone at the Baptist Chapel Hornchurch the Eighteenth of July one thousand eight hundred and eighty two my large mahogany side board my drawing room Dial (little boy swimming) and my Cabinet Piano To Ernest Abraham my gold watch and my large bookcase made by Miss Drews father To Alfred James Abraham my clock which hangs in my living room and my old Bureau and Cupboard on the top of it and also my Bee hives Bees and everything connected therewith To Sidney Abraham my skeleton Dial in the little Parlour and also the two half dozen silver tea spoons

J O H N
A R K E L L
A B R A H A M

and ten new knives in a box in Pantry To Clement Abraham my silver watch my small bookcase my Wardrobe my wearing apparel and the furniture and other articles of household use and ornament which may be in and about my bedroom at the time of my death other than those hereinbefore disposed of and also my billiard Board Marker and six feet deal table upon which same is placed for playing And I bequeath to my Executors (hereinafter mentioned) the sum of twenty pounds free of legacy duty which shall be expended by them in the erection of my grave with a suitable memorial stone I give and bequeath to my said nephews Thomas Abraham Alfred James Abraham and Clement Abraham or such of them as shall at the date of my decease be employed in the said business the goodwill of my trade or business of a Miller now carried on by me at Upminster Mills aforesaid equally as tenants in common for their or his own absolute use and benefit I devise and bequeath all the rest and residue of my real and personal estate and effects whatsoever Unto and To the use of the said Thomas Abraham Alfred James Abraham and Clement Abraham Upon trust that they shall sell call in collect and otherwise convert into money such parts of my said estate as shall not consist of ready money and shall out of the proceeds of such sale calling in collection and conversion as aforesaid pay my just debts funeral and testamentary expenses and the pecuniary legacies hereby bequeathed and shall hold the residue of the said trust premises In trust for such of my said five nephews Thomas Abraham Ernest Abraham Alfred James Abraham Sidney Abraham and Clement Abraham as shall be living at my death in equal shares I hereby declare that in the event of any of my nephews dying before me leaving issue or a Widow him surviving the share by this my Will given to him shall not lapse but shall devolve as if such nephew had survived me and died immediately after me And I appoint the said Thomas Abraham Alfred James Abraham and Clement Abraham to be EXECUTORS and TRUSTEES of this my Will Provided always and I declare that the said Thomas Abraham Alfred James Abraham and Clement Abraham if they shall be engaged in my business at the time of my decease or such of them as shall be so engaged shall jointly have the option of purchasing at a valuation to be made as hereinafter mentioned the stock in trade plant and machinery of my business of a Miller now carried on by me and the effects of such business (other than those hereby specifically bequeathed) and all book debts and moneys due to me in respect thereof or some or one of them or any part or parts of such stock plant machinery and effects as they may elect And also my freehold Mill land houses and hereditaments now in my use or occupation or used in connection with or relating to my said business upon their accepting my title to the same such option to be exercised by notice in writing by the said Thomas Abraham Alfred James Abraham and Clement Abraham or such of them as shall be engaged with me in my said business at the time of my decease to be given to the said Sidney Abraham and Ernest Abraham within one month after my decease The purchase money to be paid for such of the said

premises as the said Thomas Abraham Alfred James Abraham and Clement Abraham shall elect to take as aforesaid shall be ascertained by a valuation to be made by two valuers one to be appointed by the said Thomas Abraham Alfred James Abraham and Clement Abraham if they jointly exercise the said option or such of them as shall exercise the said option and the others by my nephews Sidney Abraham and Ernest Abraham or - their Umpire in the usual way And I declare that if my said nephews Thomas Abraham Alfred James Abraham and Clement Abraham or such of them as shall be in my employ at my decease shall not exercise the said option within one month after my death then the other or others of them shall jointly or severally have the like option to be exercised by notice in writing jointly or severally within two months after my decease And I declare that from and after the exercise of such option and valuation as aforesaid the said stock in trade and effects or such part or parts thereof as they shall elect to take and the Mill land hereditaments and premises shall belong to the said Thomas Abraham Alfred James Abraham and Clement Abraham or such of them as shall exercise the said option absolutely and they shall be debited with the value thereof in the division of my estate and in case such value shall exceed the total amount of the shares of the said Thomas Abraham Alfred James Abraham and Clement Abraham or such of them as shall exercise the said option in my estate the excess shall remain as a charge upon the said premises until payment together with interest at four pounds per cent per annum Provided always and I declare that the said Thomas Abraham Alfred James Abraham and Clement Abraham or such of them as shall exercise the said option as aforesaid their executors or administrators shall within six calendar months after my death enter into a proper Bond or Covenant with the said Sidney Abraham and Ernest Abraham their executors or administrators to their satisfaction for securing the payment of the said purchase money and interest or so much thereof as shall on taking accounts be found to be in excess of the shares of the said Thomas Abraham Alfred James Abraham and Clement Abraham or such of them as shall exercise the said option as aforesaid in my estate And I declare that it is my wish that in the event of my nephews Thomas Abraham Alfred James Abraham and Clement Abraham exercising the said option and until the exercise thereof the said Alfred James Abraham shall have the use and occupation of the front half of the house in which I now reside and the said Clement Abraham the back half thereof and that the said Thomas Abraham shall have the use and occupation of my eight roomed house on the condition that his Mother shall be permitted to reside there and have the use and occupation of such parts thereof as she shall require IN WITNESS whereof I the said John Arkell Abraham have to this my Will contained in this and the two preceding sheets of paper set my hand this Twenty first day of May one thousand nine hundred and eight - JOHN ARKELL ABRAHAM Signed and declared by the said John Arkell Abraham the Testator as and for his last Will and Testament in the presence of us both present at the same time who in his -

presence at his request and in the presence of each other have hereunto subscribed -
our names as witnesses - ARTHUR EATON Station House Upminster Essex -
THOMAS COVEL THOMPSON Upminster Essex - JOHN ARKELL ABRAHAM - -
Resigned by the Testator John Arkell Abraham this nineteenth day of June one thousand
nine hundred and eight and declared by him to be his last Will and Testament in the
presence of us both present at the same time who in his presence at his request and
in the presence of each other have hereunto subscribed our names as witnesses -
EDWIN CARTER - WILLIAM T LAWRENCE)- Clerks to Messrs Hilleary Solicitors -
5 Fenchurch Buildings London E C

ON the 20th day of September 1912 Probate of this Will was granted to Thomas
Abraham Alfred James Abraham and Clement Abraham the Executors

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