

Abraham Levesque Master Silk Weaver died 1771

In the Name of God Amen I Abraham Levesque of the Parish of Saint Matthew Bethnal Green in the County of Middlesex Master Silk Weaver being by the Grace of God in health of Body and Mind do make and declare my last Will and Testament as followeth. First I commend my soul to God my Creator hoping through the merits of my divine saviour Jesus Christ to obtain remission of all my sins and my body to the earth to be devoutly buried at the discretion of my Executors hereafter named and as to my temporal estate with which it shall have pleased God to bless me after payment of my just debts and funeral charges I dispose of the same as followeth. I give and bequeath unto my dear wife **Elizabeth Levesque** the sum of one hundred pounds sterling to be paid to her within one month after my decease. Item I give unto my said wife an annuity of fifty pounds sterling per annum to be taken during all her life upon the estate which I shall leave the said annuity payable unto my said wife being six months by equal portions of twenty five pounds sterling the first payment shall be made six months after my decease. Item I give and bequeath unto my said wife and to my daughter **Elizabeth Levesque** the revenue of my two houses situated in Thomas Street in the parish aforesaid during the remainder of the lease thereof by equal shares together with all my household goods and silver plate also by equal shares. Item I give and bequeath unto my nephew **Jacob Dore** dwelling in Old Cork Lane in the parish of Saint Matthew Bethnal Green the sum of two hundred pounds sterling payable in twelve months after my decease. Item I give and bequeath unto my brother **Peter Levesque** the sum of ten pounds sterling payable in three months after my decease. Item I give and bequeath unto my nephews and nieces **Abraham Levesque Peter Levesque Magdalen Levesque** and **John Levesque** ten pounds sterling each payable at their age of majority or at their marriage and I give to all my other parents whomsoever one shilling sterling each. Item I nominate and appoint my said wife **Elizabeth Levesque** the said Mr **Jacob Dore** and Mr **Abraham Ogier** Notary Publick dwelling in Popes Road Alley Cornhill Executors of this my Will and I give unto my said Executors the sum of fifty pounds sterling each for their trouble in the execution of this my Will. I give unto my said Executors all the Rest and Residue of all my said Estate and Effects in Trust for the need following viz to convert the same in money after my decease as soon as possible and to place the produce thereof into some of the Publick Parliamentary Funds in their amounts and in Trust to employ fifty pounds sterling per annum of the said Rest and Residue to the maintenance and education of my said daughter **Elizabeth Levesque** during her minority or until the day of her marriage and to add the rest of the said interest to the capital. I desire that my daughter be left under the care of her mother to educate her and cause her to be instructed in a manner suitable to her condition and I do authorise my said Executors **Jacob Dore** and **Abraham Ogier** to look upon the maintenance and education of my said daughter and if they find any option of complaint I do authorise them to take her under their cares and to provide by themselves to her maintenance and education and in Trust when my said Daughter shall have attained the age of majority or been married with the consent of my Executors to pay and deliver unto my said daughter the sum of one thousand five hundred pounds sterling part of the said Rest and Residue and in Trust to pay unto my said daughter **Elizabeth Levesque** during her life and upon her own acquittance independent of any husband she may have the interest of the Rest of the said Residue and after the decease of my said daughter after she shall have attained the age of majority or be married then in Trust to deliver and transfer the capital in which the said Rest of the said Residue shall have been invested to the lawful descendants of my said daughter between them share and share alike if there is more than one but if my said daughter dies after having attained the age of

majority or be married without leaving any child living or other descendant then in Trust to deliver and transfer the said capital in which the said Rest of the Residue shall have been invested unto such person or persons and in such manner as my said daughter shall think fit to order by her last Will and Testament but if she happens to die intestate then in Trust to deliver and transfer the said capital of the said Rest of the said Residue to the next of kin of my said daughter but if my said daughter should happen to die before having attained the age of majority and unmarried then in Trust to deliver and transfer one half part of the said capital of the said Rest of the said Residue to my brother **Peter Levesque** if he survives my said daughter if not then to his issue share and share alike if he have any if not to my next of kin and to deliver and transfer the other half part of the said capital of the said Rest of the said Residue unto my said wife **Elizabeth Levesque** if she survives my said daughter but if at the decease of my said daughter my said wife should be dead then in Trust to deliver and transfer the above said last half part of the said capital of the said Rest of the said Residue to the next of kin of my said wife who should have a right to her inheritance in case she had died without being married and in order that all the Trusts above specified may be faithfully executed and fulfilled in their extent and in the order and manner aforesaid my Will is that in case one of my trustees hereinfore named should happen to die before the entire execution of the said Trusts the two surviving trustees jointly with those him or her for the use of which the said Trusts shall happen to be shall nominate another in his stead and do from time to time in case of the decease of one of the trustees so that there shall always remain three until the said trusts shall be entirely fulfilled executed and extinct and my Will is that the trustees so named shall have in threshold and for the whole the same power as those hereby mentioned in favour of my Trustees herein before named and I do hereby revoke and annul all other Testaments Codicils and other Testamentary Dispositions by me heretofore made willing that this present may have its full and entire effect. In witness whereof I have signed and sealed these presents in London the fifth day of February in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and sixty eight. Abraham Levesque. Signed sealed and delivered by the said testator and by him published and declared to be his last Will and Testament in the presence of us who have signed at his request in his presence and in the presence of each other. Thos Holden. James Jacob Durand. I. P. Du Bourg.

Abraham was buried 10 April 1771 at St Matthew, Bethnal Green.

Faithfully translated by me from the original Will and Testament of Abraham Levesque to me this day produced. London the fifteenth day of the month of April in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and seventy one. I. P. Du Bourg Notary Pub.

This Will was proved at London on the twentieth day of April in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and seventy one before the Worshipful George Harris Doctor of Laws Surrogate of the Right Worshipful George Hay (?) Doctor of Laws (?) Keeper or Commissary of the Prerogative Court of Canterbury lawfully constituted by the oaths of Elizabeth Levesque Widow the Relict of the deceased and Jacob Dore and Abraham Ogier the Executors named in the said Will to whom administration was granted of all and singular the Goods Chattels and Credits of the said deceased having been first sworn duly to administer.

(L.Shade 2015)