

Will of Adiel Mill 1703

PCC Canterbury prob 11/472

Adiel (sometimes written Adie) Mill seems to have used the form of his father's will in the drawing up of his own a few years later, judging by the similarity of the wording. His Naval career was not without incident and in 1697 he was court-martialed and reprimanded¹ apparently for striking the gunner's mate. He was later employed as interpreter on Sir William Norris's expedition to Surat in India in 1701, but Norris seems to have been disappointed at his lack of ability in Persian². His brother Richard, one of the witnesses to his will, subsequently had a career as a landowner in Jamaica, and at least two sisters Joan and Ithamar outlived him, as did his mother. William Bythell referred to in the Will was probably his uncle, married to his mother's sister Elizabeth.

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Know all Men by These Presents That I Adiel Mill of London gent. have and by these presents doe make ordain and constitute my dear and loving Mother Joan Mill to be my true and lawfull Attorney irrevokable for me and in my name and for my use to aske demand and receive of and from the Rt. Honble. The Treasurer or Paymaster of his Maties Navy and Commissioners for prizemoney and whome else it may concern aswell all such wages and pay bounty money prize money and all other summe and summes of money whatsoever as now is and which hereafter shall or may be due or payable unto me pursuant to His Maties gracious declaration of the 23 of May 1689. And also all such pensions salleries smart money and all other moneys and things whatsoever which now and at any time hereafter is and shall be due to me for my wages and pay and arrears

¹ Admiralty, and Ministry of Defence, Navy Departmen... ADM 1/5257/118
f. 118 Adiel Mill, Lieutenant, HMS Royal Transport. Royal Navy Court Martial, 13 February 1697.
Crime: Offence under 33rd Article of War. Verdict: Guilty.
Sentence: Severe reprimand.

² See http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sir_William_Norris,_1st_Baronet

thereof and service or otherwise in any of Maties Ships Frigates or Vessells or any Merchant Ship or Ships As also to demand recover and receive of all other person and persons whatsoever whom it doth or may concerne all and singular such other summe and summes of money goods wares effects wages debts dues claimes and demands whatsoever and which now and hereafter is or shall be due and payable unto me either by bond bill book account or otherwise howsoever And moreover in my name and for my proper use to demise and let by Lease in writing or otherwise all or any of my Messuages lands or Tenements to such person or persons and for such terme of years conditions and reservations as my said Attorney or her counsel shall think fitt and convenient giving and hereby granting unto my said Attorney my full and whole power in the premises And to recover and receive all and singular the summe and summes of money matters and things aforesaid and upon non payment thereof or any part thereof all such person and persons whome it may concern and where need shall require their Executors Administrators and goods to sue arrest attach seize imprison prosecute and condemne and to compound and agree and out of prison to release and discharge and upon receipt of the said premises or any part thereof acquittances releases or any other discharges for me and in my name to make seale and deliver and one Attorney or more to substitute and at pleasure to revoke and generally to act and doe all other Acts matters and things whatsoever needfull and necessary to be done in and touching the premises as fully and effectually as I ought or could doe if I were personally present ratifying for firm and valid and irrevokeable all and whatsoever my said Attorney shall lawfully doe or cause to be done in or touching the premises by virtue of these presents. And I the said Adiel Mill considering the incertainty of this transitory life doe make and declare these presents to containe my last Will and Testament That is to say all and singular such wages summe and summes of money Lands, tenements goods chattells and Estate whatsoever wherewith at the time of my decease I shall be possessed or invested or which shall then belong or of right appertaine unto me I doe give devise and bequeath unto the said Joan Mill my Mother and Attorney. And I doe hereby nominate and appoint the said Joan Mill my Mother and Attorney to be my sole Executrix And doe revoke all former Wills and deeds of gift by me at any time

heretofore made and doe ordaine these presents to stand and be for and as my only last Will and Testament In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal the fifth day of January Anno Dm 1698/9 And in the./ Adiel Mill ./ Signed sealed published and declared in the presence of us after the writing of the following Memdm. Memdm. That whereas Mr Wm Bythell has a bond from me for £200 tis my will that the said bond be discharged first./Mary Thomlinson. Jno. Mill Richd. Mills /

Probate in Latin, granted to the executrix Joan Mill on 4 October 1703.