

**1770, 16 Março, Londres. Testamento de Pedro Vaz da Silva, alias Abraham Vaz da Silva**

(Kew, *The National Archives, Public Record Office, PROB 11/974*)

*Translated from of the Portuguese*

In the *diante* of God, Amen. Be it known that I, Pedro Vas da Silva, alias Abraham Vas da Silva, a native of Portugal, at present residing in Bevis Marks, in the city of London, being in perfect mind and understanding, have resolved to make this my last will and testament, resigning my soul into the lands of my Creator, praying Him to receive it with mercy, and as to my body, I desire it may be throwded *in crapo* and buried amongst my brethren at the Portuguese Jews burying ground, without pomp and with the decency that my executors shall think proper and for the good of my soul. I desire them to distribute alms to the poor to the poor on the day of my burial, at the seventh day and at the month after my decease. Item, I declare that I have two thousand and four hundred pounds, three per cent annuities exclusive of other moveables, efforts, plate and debts due to me in Portugal, as will appear by the accounts that will be found made out or signed by me. Item, I order my son Doctor Joseph Vas da Silva and my son Raphael Vas da Silva to take particular care of my relations, Ana Mendes and my cousin Michaella da Silveira, who reside at my house, that they shall provide them with their maintenance and any other *necessarios* for their subsistence during their lives, and in case that neither of my said sons will do it, I order my executors in several and oath in particular to put them out to board where the said women shall think propor and to pay to oath of them twenty five pounds sterling *per annum*, by half yearly payments, out of the *produto* of the interest of my said stock. And for that purpose, I leave my said two sons my heirs and executors, jointly with Mr. Isaac Roiz do Valle, surgeon and inhabitant of this city of London, to whom I order to give him six guineas for a mourning. Item, I order that after my funeral expences and other legacies here mentioned are paid, that the remainder of the said two thousand four hundred pounds annuities shall remain in the same funds as they are and that the interests thereof be paid to my son, the Doctor, in his own hands and for his own proper use, and the fulfilling of all the conditions here declared and no otherwise so long as he lives. Item, I order that all my household, goods, wearing apparel and plate, etc.<sup>a</sup>, and all the residue of my

estate, excepting the said stock to remain to my son Joseph Vas da Silva and, after his death, to my son Raphael Vas da Silva, with all the remainder of my capital or stock, upon condition that, if my said son, the Doctor Jose Vas, by reason of misfortune troubles or any other cause whatsoever, should not have sufficient for to live as he has till now, I order my executors, that notwithstanding what has been mentioned, to assist him annually with what they shall judge sufficient, taking it out of my said capital as far as the sum of eight hundred pounds, which shall be given to him divided and in equal proportions during all his life, and so as not to break into the remainder until the death of my said relations and son, and afterwards, the whole residue of my capital and stock shall remain into my son Raphael Vas da Silva or his heirs in such manner as he shall think proper. And by this my last will and testament, I revoke all and any other testaments by me heretofore made and I will have only this to be valid from henceforth forever. I do here further declare that, having been informed that my son David da Silva, who died at Kingston, Jamaica, has left here one son and one daughter, and notwithstanding they are legitimate and got in lawful matrimony, I give only one shilling to each of my said grandchildren. And because all that is contained and declared in this testament is my last will, I, Abraham Vas da Silva have wrote this and signed with my signature and sealed it the sixteenth day of March one thousand seven hundred and seventy in presence of the witnesses hereunder written (signed) Abram Vas da Silva. Witnesses present (signed) Abraham Alves Correa, (signed) Samuel Souza Prado.

The foregoing is a faithful translation out of the Portuguese language of the original will and testament of Pedro Vas da Silva, otherwise Abram Vas da Silva, hereunto annexed, translated by me, this eighth day of January one thousand seven hundred and seventy two. *Quod attestor*

Joseph Cortissos, not.<sup>o</sup> pub.<sup>o</sup>

1772

This will was proved at London the tenth day of January in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and seventy two, before the worshipfull Francis Simpson, Doctor of Laws, surrogate of the right worshipfull George Lay, also Doctor of Laws, Master Keeper or Commissary of the Prorogative Court of Canterbury, lawfully constituted by the oaths of Joseph Vas da Silva and Raphael Vas da Silva, esquires, the sons of the deceased, and Isaac Roiz do Valle, the executors named in the said will, to

whom administration was granted of all and singular the goods, chattells and credits of the said deceased, having been first sworn dully to administer.