



Agnew family wills

These wills have been transcribed from the Will Calendars held by the Public Record Office of Northern Ireland. The original documents, as is the way with legalese, tend to run on nearly continuously without punctuation. Given that the originals may be inspected online, for these transcriptions I have unashamedly added punctuation and separated out most of the sub-clauses to make them more accessible.

- i Will of John Agnew's daughter, Anne Lindsay Agnew
- ii Will of John Agnew's wife, also Anne Lindsay Agnew
- iii Details of the will of Isabella Holmes, John Holmes' youngest daughter

i

The Will of **Anne Lindsay Agnew** late of 3 University Square, Belfast, Spinster deceased who died 15 May 1881 at same place was proved at Belfast by the oath of John Blakiston Houston of Orangefield, Co. Down, Esquire, the sole Executor. Effects under £5,000.

No.340

This is the last Will and Testament of me, Anne Lindsay Agnew of No.3 University Square Belfast in the County of Antrim, Spinster.

I devise all money and securities for money over which I have any power of disposition, and thereafter referred to as the said trust premises, to John Blakiston Houston of Orangefield in the County of Down Esquire and whom I hereby appoint Trustee and Executor of my will, upon Trust to continue the said trust premises in their present state of investment without risk to himself, or to call in and reinvest same upon such securities as he shall think sufficient and desirable, and out of the income thereof to pay the following annuities:

To Jane Neill (for many years in my family as domestic servant) an annuity of twenty five pounds per annum to commence from my death;

To Julia Johnston, also domestic servant in our family, a like annuity of twenty five pounds per annum for her life to commence from the death of my mother;

A further annuity of twenty pounds per annum to said Jane Neill for her life to commence from the death of my mother;

To my cousin Eliza Robinson, widow of the late Captain Robinson, and daughter of the late William Russell of Edenderry, an annuity of forty pounds per annum to commence from the death of the survivor of my said Mother and aunt.

I direct said several annuities to be paid to the said several parties quarterly, commencing from the respective dates of payment, and free of any deduction for legacy or succession duty.

And subject to the payment of said several annuities and of my funeral and testamentary expenses and any debts I may owe upon trust, to pay the residue of the income for the time being of said trust premises to my dear mother during the term of her natural life;

And from and after her decease, upon trust to pay such annual income to my Aunt Isabella Holmes, if then living, during the term of her natural life;

And from and after the decease of the survivor of my said mother and Aunt, and subject as heretofore mentioned, to stand possessed of one moiety or half of said trust premises upon trust for my cousin Dora Blakiston Houston, daughter of the said John Blakiston Houston, to be vested in and payable to her on her marriage or attaining twenty one years of age, whichever shall first happen;

but in case the said Dora Blakiston Houston shall die under age and unmarried, then upon trust in like manner for her sister Mabel Blakiston Houston, to be vested in and payable upon her marriage or attaining twenty one years of age whichever shall first happen;

but in case she shall die under age and unmarried, then I bequeath same to her father, the said John Blakiston Houston, his ex[ecut]ors or admi[nistrato]rs

And as to the other moiety of said trust premises, upon trust for my cousin Catherine Helen Lonsdale, wife of Rupert Lonsdale and daughter of the late John Russell Esquire of Newforge;

and in the event of her decease in my lifetime, then upon the same trusts as are hereinbefore declared in respect of the other moiety of the said trust premises, and subject to the trusts hereinbefore declared, I leave all the property I die possessed of to my said mother absolutely;

and, in the event of her death in my lifetime, then I bequeath same to my said Aunt Isabella Holmes absolutely.

All bequests made by me to females to be for their separate use and free from marital debts control or engagements. (Anne L. Agnew Jnr.)

In witness whereof I have herewith subscribed my name this 29th day of April, one thousand eight hundred and eighty one.

Anne L. Agnew Jnr.

Signed published and declared by the said Anne Lindsay Agnew as and for her last Will and Testament in the presence of us, present at the same time, who in her presence, at her request and in the presence of each other, have herewith subscribed our names as witnesses –

Alex Lockhart Soltr. Belfast Alex A Lockhart.

Probate of the will of Anne Lindsay Agnew deceased granted on the 31 day of May 1881 to John Blakiston Houston the sole executor therein named.

ii

The Will of **Anne Lindsay Agnew**, late of Belfast, Widow, who died 4 June 1884 at same place was proved at Belfast by John Blakiston Houston of Orangefield (Belfast), Co. Down, Esquire, the sole Executor. Effects £360 17s 6d

No.565

This is the last and only Will and Testament of me, Anne Lindsay Agnew, of Number 3 University Square, Belfast in the County of Antrim, Widow.

I revoke all wills or testamentary dispositions by me at any time heretofore made.

I leave bequeath and appoint all property over which I have any power of disposition or appointment to my daughter Anne Lindsay Agnew absolutely for her own use and benefit; and in the event of my said daughter dying in my lifetime, I leave bequeath and appoint all such property to my sister Isabella Holmes absolutely.

I appoint John Blakiston Houston of Orangefield in the County of Down my executor and devise to him all estates vested in me as trustee or mortgagee.

In witness whereof I have herewith subscribed my name this 30th day of April one thousand eight hundred and eighty one.

Anne L. Agnew

Signed, published and declared by the said Anne Lindsay Agnew as and for her last Will and Testament in the presence of us, present at the same time, who in her presence at her request and in the presence of each other, have hereunto subscribed our names as witnesses – Alex Lockhart Solr., Belfast – Alex A Lockhart

Probate of the will of Anne Lindsay Agnew deceased granted on the 16 day of July, 1884 to John Blakiston Houston the sole executor therein named.

iii

Probate of the Will of **Isabella Holmes**, late of 6 University Square, Belfast, Spinster who died 17 May 1899, granted at Belfast to John Blakiston Houston of Orangefield, Belfast D.L.
Effects: £15,088 6s 10d

The will is dated 1888.