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Notes from Wills of the Family of Massiah of Barbados

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countries throughout Europe will follow the example of the United States which have admitted Jews to a participation in the rights of free citizens. I give my cordial support to the motion; and I only hope that the measure will be carried by a triumphant majority, both here and elsewhere.

Hume's hope regarding "here" (the House of Commons) was fulfilled, but "elsewhere" (in the House of Lords) it was doomed to disappointment for the time being.

At the present moment when American action on the Russian Passport question bids fair to influence European policy, it is peculiarly appropriate to recall this earlier instance of the reaction of the New World on the Old. When we add, among other things, the important influence exercised by American conditions both on the Resettlement of the Jews in England in the seventeenth century and on the European emancipation in the eighteenth, it may fairly be claimed that America has played no unimportant rôle in the history of the Jews of other countries.

I. ABRAHAMS.

Curiously enough, John Quincy Adams, who was a Representative in Congress from Massachusetts after the expiration of his term as President, held any but friendly opinions concerning the Jews. This fact is made manifest by passages from his secret diary, published after his death in 1848. The letter to which Hume referred cannot be identified among the Adams papers in the Massachusetts Historical Society. Nor has it been found among the Hume papers in England. F.

NOTES FROM WILLS OF THE FAMILY OF MASSIAH OF BARBADOS.

- Probated 1742, 11 Octr. DANIEL (Town of St Michael) Merchant. Dated 25th August, 1742. ["I commend my Soul to the Mercy of Almighty God"]. His eldest son, Jacob Massiah, has been blessed with "a plentiful fortune." *Sons*: Mordecai, Abraham, Samuel, Isaac, Jeremiah (his son, Daniel), Simon. *Daughters*: Angela Da Costa (Angel de Cortwall); Esther Baruch; Debora Fonseca. *Witnesses*: Thomas Clarke; Richard Skinner; Jacob Da Costa.
- Probated 1749, Novr. 20th. JUDITH. Will dated 17th October 1749. *Mother*: Sarah. *Niece*, Sarah Guttlerez. *Brothers*: Benjamin, Abraham. *Witnesses*: De Piza, Jacob Fonseca; Daniel Massiah.
- Probated 1778—Sept. 9th. JACOB (of London). Merchant—Will dated 3rd Feby 1744. Bequests to Portuguese Jews' Societies

- in London. *Father*: Daniel. Mentions "Brothers and Sisters." *Brother*: Jeremiah (late of Barbados), deceased. (His son, Daniel.) *Trustees*: Mordecai Massiah, of Barbados, Merchant; Joshua Machero, of London, Merchant; Charles Chancy, of Cornhill, London, Linen Draper.
- Probated 1776, Decr. 30th. SIMÉON (Gentleman). S^t Michael's. Dated 5 July 1775. Six pounds for use of Jews' Synagogue, Bridgetown. *Brother*: Mordecai. *Nephew*: Bauh (Baruch?) Louzada. *Niece*: Sarah M., Spinster, daughter of Abraham and Rachell Massiah, now deceased. *Witnesses*: Jacob Valverde, jr., Aaron De Lyon, and David Valverde.
- Probated 1782, March 8th. ESTHER (Widow) S^t Michael's Town. Dated 11 Jany. 1782. *Sister*: Sarah Belinfante (S^t Michael's Town). *Witnesses*: John P. Thomas; Moses Lopez; Daniel Da Costa.
- Probated 1786, March 13. BENJAMIN (S^t Michael's). Dated 11th March 1782. *Wife*: Esther. *Sons*: Simeon, David, Jacob, Mordecai, Isaac, Judah. *Daughter-in-law*: Rebecca, Wife of Jacob. *Witnesses*: Daniel Elder, Jacob Valverde, Emanuel de Piza, on Probate Daniel Elder was sworn on the Evangelists.
- Probated 1787. Novr. 6th. SIMÉON (S^t Michael's). Merchant—12 Octr. 1787. Interment to be "after the Custom and Ceremonies of the Jewish Nation, and be laid in white linen; and, that a decent stone may be placed over my grave." Ten pounds to the wardens of the Jewish Synagogue, for the use of the Synagogue. *Godson*: Benjamin Massiah, son of Jacob Massiah, of S^t Michael's Town. *Father*: Benjamin, late of Barbados, deceased. *Mother*: Esther, Widow of S^t Michael's Town. *Wife*: Sarah. Mrs. Sarah Barrow, Wife of Baruch Barrow. *Witnesses*: Roderick Barrow, Mordecai B. Massiah.
- Probated 1788—April 14 DAVID (S^t Michael's), Shopkeeper—Dated 15 July 1785. Interment to be according to the usual form of the Hebrews. Ten pounds to the Synagogue of Bridgetown. *Wife*: Sarah, formerly Sarah Aboab, Spinster. *Niece*: Esther Massiah. *Witnesses*: David Brandon, Samuel R. Duncley, Abraham Brandon. Abraham Brandon, "made oath on the first Book of Moses."
- Probated 1790, March 2^d. WILLIAM, Senior (S^t Joseph's). Dated 29 Novr. 1788. This is a Holograph Will; not attested, but admitted to Probate. *Wife*: Dorothy Peters Massiah. *Sons*: William Benjamin Massiah; William Nesfield Massiah. *Daughter*: Elizabeth Rebecca. *Grandsons*: William, and

Alexander McLean, sons of Daughter, Mary McLean, wife of Daniel Howes McLean. *Grand-Daughter*: Sarah Ann McLean. *Others mentioned*: Charlotte, Ann, and Harriet King, *alias* Massiah; William McLean, senior, and Alexander McLean. *Executor*: Friend, John Stewart.

Probated 1791, March 1st. ISAAC (S^t John) Farriar. Dated 14 Jany. 1791. *Wife*: Mary. *Daughters*: Sarah Moore Massiah, Rebecca Massiah, Elizabeth Rose (widow); Dorothy, wife of William Wilkinson. *Sons*: Christopher, William, John Mitcham, Abraham Howard. *Executor*: "My friend the Honorable Richard Haynes." *Witnesses*: Edward Squires, William Ashley.

Probated 1795, Sept. 18th. ESTHER (widow), S^t Michael. Dated 10th August 1795. *Son*: Judah. *Daughter-in-Law*: Abigail Massiah, widow. *Witnesses*: Isaac de Fonseca (sworn on Books of Moses), John Thomas Rogers.

Probated 1796, Feby. 24 SARAH (S^t Michael). Dated 8 Feby. 1796. *Brother*: Emanuel de Piza. *Legacies to Valverdes*: Abraham Isaac, Rebecca. *Witnesses*: Roderick Elder, Henry Hutson (Doctor?).

Probated 1799, April 9th. JACOB (S^t Michael), Shopkeeper. Dated 14 Feby. 1799. Interment to be according to the Rites and Ceremonies of the Hebrew Nation. *Wife*: Rebecca. *Executor*: Lewis Cohen, Merchant. *Witnesses*: Ham Alexander Chase, and Jacob Joseph Levi. The latter was "sworn on the Books of Moses."

N. DARNELL DAVIS.

A NEWSPAPER ACCOUNT OF AN AUTO DA FE IN LISBON IN
1726, IN WHICH A JEW, A NATIVE OF BAHIA,
SOUTH AMERICA, WAS BURNT.¹

Lisbon, October 14. Yesterday a Publick *Auto de Fa* was held in this City; in which thirty nine Men and thirty two Women were tried for various Offences; Two Men and one Woman were sentenced to be burnt. One of the men, named *Antonio dias Fernandes*, a Merchant of this City convicted of Judaism, was pardon'd on his Recantation; the other, being a priest named *Manoel Lopes da Carvalho* a native of the *Bahia*, forty four Years

¹ From *The New York Gazette*, No. 67, From February 6 to Monday February 13, 1726[-7]. At New York Society Library.