

CANADIAN JEWISH ARCHIVES

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THE FIRST JEWISH CONGREGATION IN CANADA

SOME EARLY DOCUMENTS
ON THE SHEARITH ISRAEL (SPANISH & PORTUGUESE)
CONGREGATION IN MONTREAL
IN THE PERIOD
1832 - 1840

SOME OF THE CONTENTS
OF THIS ISSUE

- ✓ 1. Names & occupations of the members of the Shearith Israel Congregation, 1832.
2. Letters to Moses Montefiore and Nathaniel Rothschild of London, England, soliciting contributions to synagogue building fund, 1833.
3. Names of seat holders in the new synagogue erected on Chenneville Street in 1838-39, and amounts contributed.
4. Letters by Benjamin Hart to Isaac Valentine in 1833 and 1835 regarding the erection of the synagogue.
- ✓ 5. Bylaws of the Spanish and Portuguese Congregation, Montreal, July 3, 1838.

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BUREAU OF SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC RESEARCH • CANADIAN JEWISH CONGRESS

493 SHERBROOKE ST. W. • MONTREAL • CANADA

INTRODUCTORY

The National Archives of the Canadian Jewish Congress has assembled a considerable number of documents and historical material relating to the early history of the Jewish community in Canada.

With this issue, the Canadian Jewish Congress commences the publication of "Canadian Jewish Archives" in order to make the contents of some of the more important documents in its collection known to students of Canadian Jewish history.

For the present it is planned to issue this publication in mimeographed form two or three times a year. It is intended to reproduce the text of the source material with no comment except an occasional explanatory note where necessary.

The compilation and preparation of this material will be done by the Bureau of Social & Economic Research, working in conjunction with the National Archives and Library of the Congress under the aegis of the Committee on Research and Archives of the Eastern Region of the Congress.

The documents presented in this issue refer to the early history of the first Jewish Congregation in Canada, the Shearith Israel (Spanish and Portuguese) Congregation in Montreal, and cover the period from 1832 to 1840, during which the Congregation had no Hazan or Rabbi. The first synagogue building which had been erected in 1777, had been demolished and a new synagogue was planned and erected in 1835 on Chenneville Street.

The manuscripts and documents included in this issue are from the collection presented to the National Archives of the Canadian Jewish Congress by the family of the late Mr. Martin Wolff, who was the first chairman of the Archives Committee of the Congress.

M. H. Myerson, Chairman,
Research and Archives Committee,
Canadian Jewish Congress.

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1. EXTRACT FROM THE REGISTER KEPT BY THE PROTHONOTARY OF HIS MAJESTY'S COURT OF KING'S BENCH FOR THE DISTRICT OF MONTREAL UNDER THE PROVINCIAL STATUTES 9 & 10 GEO IV CHAP: 75.

I. A. B. do swear that I believe myself to be of the full age of Twenty one years and that I am a British Subject professing the Jewish Faith.

Henry Joseph Senior	55 years	Merchant	Berthier
Alexr. Hart	48 years	Gentleman	Montreal
Benjm Hart	51 years	Merchant	ditto
Isaac Valentine	43 years	Gentleman	ditto
M J Hays	32 years	Gentleman	Do
H Solomon	42 "	Furrier	Do
M. Davis	28 "	Do	Do
Samuel Davis	40 "	Do	Do
M. Hart	62 "	Merchant	Do
Esdaile P. Cohen	32 "	Merchant	Montreal
Jacob Jacobs	33 "	Merchant	Montreal
Isaac Aaron	39 "	Montreal	Merchant
Samuel Joseph	29 "	Merchant	Berthier
E D David	21	Student at Law	Montreal
A. P. Hart	21 & over	Advocate	

Certified to be a true extract from the Register above mentioned

Montreal this 11 Sept 1832

Monk & Moroghe

P.KQ (?) (Initials illegible)

2. Manuscript draft of letter addressed to the Revd. Solomon Herschele,* and Chief of the Portuguese Jews in London, requesting assistance in building the synagogue, to be copied on the minutes of the congregation.

Respected Sir --

1. I have taken the liberty of enclosing to you one of the circulars issued by the President & Trustees of the Jewish Congregation in Montreal - and I beg leave respectfully to lay a few facts before you which may explain to you more fully our motives in claiming the assistance of the Israelites of London in aid of the Attainments of our views
2. The Jews of Lower Canada Revd Sir tho very few in number have by dint of perseverance obtained the enactment of a Law which has latterly received the Royal Assent - Whereby they have been placed on the same footing, as the other British subjects of the Province, and are now entitled to a seat in the Legislature, and to hold places of Honor & profit under Government
3. They have also obtained the enactment of another statute by which the Jews of the City of Montreal have been incorporated into a Religious Congregation. These objects obtained, it now only remains for us to erect a Temple for the worship of our Holy God.
4. Every exertion has been made and were we more numerous we would build our Synagogue without assistance from other cities - but being few in number and many of those few having large families we find it impossible to purchase a Lot of Ground and build a synagogue and House for the Reader & Sexton without foreign assistance and this we are not ashamed to claim not only as it is a Holy work to which all Israelites should lend their aid, but also because every individual professing our holy faith in the province has come forward and given their mite and one or two have subscribed most munificently.
5. I beg therefor Revd Sir to forward to you one of our subscription lists knowing your Influence among the Israelites of London and to claim your assistance in obtaining subscriptions for the above purpose Should this meet your approbation I take the liberty of stating that all monies received by you can be lodged in the Hand of Messrs Gillespie Moffat, Finley & Co. Gould Square, London our agent there subject to our order.
6. Should we be so fortunate to obtain thro your means any assistance in aid of our contemplated holy work whereby we may be enabled to build a Temple to be consecrated to the Honor of the Holy One of Israel we shall feel in duty bound when congregated together for divine worship with our united voices in supplicating the Holy God to shower down his choicest blessings on your Head, and that you may be spared for many years to preside

* Chief Rabbi of the Ashkenazic Communities in England from 1802 to 1842.

over the Children of Israel in London

Montreal
5 Nov. 1832

I have the Honor to be
Reverend Sir
Very respectfully
Your most obt Hbe Servt
I. Valentine

3. MANUSCRIPT DRAFT OF LETTER ADDRESSED TO M. ROTHSCHILD ESQ. AND MOSES MONTEFIORE OF LONDON ENGLAND SIGNED BY ISAAC VALENTINE; AS PRESIDENT OF THE MONTREAL JEWISH CONGREGATION ON NOVEMBER 5TH 1832, REQUESTING ASSISTANCE IN BUILDING THE SYNAGOGUE.

To N. M. Rothschild Esqr

Sir

1. I have taken the liberty of enclosing to you one of the Circulars issued by the President and Trustees of the Jewish Congregation in Montreal and being well acquainted with the known charitable disposition of yourself and your amiable Lady towards our Jewish Brethren I beg leave respectfully to lay a few facts before you which may explain to you more fully our motives in claiming the Assistance of the Israelites of London in aid of the attainment of our views

(Paragraphs 2, 3 and 4 in this letter identical with paragraphs 2, 3 and 4 in letter addressed to Rev. Solomon Herschels and the Chief of the Portuguese Jews in London.)

5. I beg therefore, Dear Sir to forward to you one of our Subscription Lists knowing your influence amongst the Israelites at London and to claim your assistance in obtaining subscriptions for the above purpose.

6. Should this meet your approbation I take the liberty of stating that all monies subscribed can be lodged in the hands of Messrs Gillespie Moffatt & Co our agents in London, subject to our Order.* Trusting that the Liberty I have taken may find an excuse in your known charitable disposition

I have the Honor to be
Sir
Your very obedt Servt
Signed
Isaac Valentine
President
M. I. Congregation

* Any monies recd please request the abovenamed Gentlemen to place to a/c of M.J. Hays & Isaac Valentin Executors to the Estate of the late David David Esq.

Dear Sir

I enclose you a list of debt that would be taken in a School, as well as a list of annual payments, provided we have a Continence School.

Now I have put down charges to you - have all told me they prefer our economy to their own - on one side a list of charges that perhaps would hold out its feet - the side think they would all purchase what is put for them - in the end -

I would recommend 1st to pay for the debt immediately - 2^d To perhaps to pay a Middle side on the other side - My opinion is - I think one a better you have two faces to make - each at a cost of £100 - the extreme must be on the one - and the School much exposed to bad observation to break the window glasses &c -

In a Middle side on the other side - you have but the Fourth with a proper entrance, the School more safe from bad observation and Room hereafter to build a House -

At full time, to strike my down &c &c. We are there to take service all - and no one can go against the same - We are perfectly sure from the Dutch, because - our young ones are numerous - We have now a P. Hunt & back, in which we have Mr. Danks & Wellington, and in 18 we have the Dutch people - in 3 years - 5 or 6 more young ones - so that we hold the place in our own hands - if only guards can be kept out -

No Dutch will ever have our School for their own - they are themselves a threat to their economy -

I have a strong wish to return from the Board - but you to do so - at the moment - May you to communicate this to the Kings

Yours Truly

14 Oct 1833 -

J. Hunt

- 1 That no Party for who may ^{propose} become a Tent Holder, can be admitted as a member of the congregation, ^{provided} after the period of three years -
 - 2 That no Government Public for who may become a Tent Holder can be proposed or admitted, as a member of the congregation, ^{provided} after the period of three years -
 - 3 That all for who are brought up to the Party kind of worship, or brought up in the congregation shall at the age of 21, become members - provided they have been Tent Holders three years -
 - 4 That all Proprietors or contributors to this School - who have been members and Tent Holders - for three years and upwards - and who have not become Tent Holders, shall be considered members, provided they take and become Tent Holders within three months from this date -
 - 5 That in consequence of Mr. Danks, being 6 - having been Tent Holders and holding office - are hereby declared admitted members
- This the last clause

4. LETTER BY BENJAMIN HART TO ISAAC VALENTINE ESQR. REGARDING
THE PLANNING AND ERECTION OF THE SYNAGOGUE ON CHENNEVILLE STREET.

B. HART ESQR. TO ISAAC VALENTINE ESQR.

Dear Sir

I enclose you a List of Seats that would be taken in a shool, as well a list of annual payments provided we have a Portuguese Shool.

Those I have put down strangers to you -- have all told me they prefer our Ceremonies to their own -- on one side a list of strangers that perhaps would hold out at first -- Tho I do think they would all purchase seats & pay for them - in the end --

I would recommend 1st to pay for the lot imm'y -- 2nd - To exchange it for a Middle Lot on the other side - My reasons are - To Build on a Corner you have Two faces to make - each at a cost of £100 - The entrance must be on the rear and the Shool much exposed to bad Characters to Break the Window Glasses etc.

On a Middle Lot on the other side - you have but the frontage with a proper entrance, the Shool more safe from Bad Characters and Room hereafter to build a House -

Its full time, to Make ByLaws L L L - We are three, which carries all - and no one can go against the same - We are perfectly Secure from the Dutch, German - our Young ones are Numerous - We have now A.P. Hart C David, in March we have Mr. David E Wellington, and in 18 Months - Fred Hart & Jacob Joseph - in 3 years - 5 or 6 more young ones -- So that we hold the force in our own hands - if only quarrels can be kept out -

No Dutch will ever have our Shool for their own - they are themselves a Shamed of their Ceremonies --

I have a strong wish to retire from the Board - but fear to do So - at this Moment - I beg you to Communicate this to Mr. Hays

I am Yours truly

14 Octr 1833 --

B. Hart

5. MANUSCRIPT DRAFT OF CHANGES IN THE BY-LAWS OF THE SPANISH &
PORTUGUESE CONGREGATION IN MONTREAL (CIRCA OCTOBER, 1833)

1. That no Portug. Jew who may hereafter become a seatholder can be proposed or admitted a member of this Congregation, until after the period of three years.
2. That no German or Polish Jew - who may become a seat holder can be proposed or admitted a member of this Congregation until after the period of two years.

3. That all youths brought up to the Portug. mode of worship, or brought up in this congregation shall at the age of 21 become members - provided they have been seat holders three years.
4. That all Proprietors or Contributors to this Shool who have been members and seat holders for three years and upwards - and who have not become seat holders shall be considered members, provided that they take and become seat holders within three months from this date.
5. That in consequence of Mr. Asher, Levy Having been seat holders and holding office - are hereby declared admitted members.

This the last clause.

6. MANUSCRIPT LIST, PRESUMABLY IN THE HANDWRITING OF BENJAMIN HART, OF LADIES' & GENTLEMEN'S SEATS THAT WOULD BE TAKEN IN THE NEW SYNAGOGUE, & PLAN OF SUGGESTED SEATING ARRANGEMENTS, REFERRED TO IN BENJAMIN HART'S LETTER OF OCTOBER 14th, 1833 TO ISAAC VALENTINE

List of Ladies Names of the Congregation

Mrs. C. Solomons	Miss Davids
Joseph	S. Davids
David	Hart
B. Hart	Jesse Solomons
A.M. Hart	R. Joseph
H. Solomons	S. Joseph
Asher	E. Joseph
S. Benjamin	Solomons
G. Benjamin	Solomons
W. Benjamin	Valentine
Levy	Roshin (?)
Hart	Hays
	Hays

Gentlemen

Moses I. Hays	M. E. Davids
Myer Solomons	S. Benjamins
Henry Solomons	G. Benjamins
Doctor David	W. Benjamins
S. Davids	Asher
B. Hart	A Young Lad
J. Hart	Levey
A.M. Hart	Hart
Jacob Joseph	M. Hays
I. M. Joseph	Hays
C. Joseph	Hays
A. Joseph	Hays
C.E. Levy	Moses Hays
A. E. Hart	A. Cohen
Z.C. Hart	
Moses Hart	

No. 7. MINUTES OF MEETING HELD 23RD DECEMBER 1834

At a meeting of the Trustees of the Congregation convened at the office of the M.W.W. Notre Dame Street this 23rd December 1834.

Present

Mefsr -- B. Hart
H. Solomon
I. Aaron
M. J. Hays
I. Valentine

On exhibiting the plans for a synagogue intended to be erected -- it was proposed by B. Hart Esq and 2d by Mr. Valentine that Mr Hays be and is hereby fully authorized to effect an exchange of the lot of land purchased from F. A. Lerocque Esq. for either of the lots owned by J. Quesnele Esqr or Mr Deschenes --

2d. proposed also by Mr Hart seconded by Mr Solomon that the Treasurer Mr Hays is authorized to advertise for Tenders for the Erection of the said synagogue -- and to call in immediately twenty five percent of the amt. subscribed.

The meeting then adjourned at 11 oclock A.M.

NO. 8. LETTER DATED JAN. 7, 1835 FROM BENJAMIN HART TO ISAAC VALENTINE, PRESIDENT OF SPANISH & PORTUGUESE CONGREGATION, MONTREAL, RESIGNING AS TRUSTEE.

Montreal January 7th.1835

Mr. Isaac Valentine
President

Sir

Your note Undate of the 31 Ultim I have before me, and in answer, I cannot agree with you, that their remains No alternative, but to Erect the Synagogue on the Lot purchased of Lerocque.

My objections are as follows -

1. No Synagogue should be Built on a Corner Lot of Two Streets, in a Country like Lower Canada - and if it was an extra expense will attend - Two Fronths.

2dy To Build in the Center of the Lot will require a Stone Wall around the Lot to protect the Building from insult and ill usage - this will be a heavy charge -

3dly All Entrances to a Synagogue - must be facing or opposite the Ark - No Entrance, Stair Case or Rooms can be by the Side or near the Ark.

4thly All Seats along the Sides of the Ark or near the Ark - command the highest price of an annual Rent.

My opinion is. - That the Lot should be paid for and deed discharged - Then exchanged or resold by Public Auction - even on Terms of payment - and a Proper Lot obtained to allow but one Frontt and the Door of Entrance in that Frontt to face the Ark --

Dreading we shall not agree - on all these subjects and having no wish to oppose you or the other gentlemen honored - or in the least to stand in the way - Induces me to hereby withdraw, and declare my Trust & Seat in quality as a Trustee vacant and resigned

Requesting you to follow the 5th Clause of the Act, and to request your Society to enter this my Protest, and resignation on your Journal

And I have the Honor to be
Sir

Your obt svt
B. Hart

(No attempt has been made to modernize or correct the spelling or punctuation in this letter.)

No. 9. BYELAWS OF THE CONGREGATION KAHAL KADOSH SHEARITH ISRAEL

Chapter 1st
of Election of Officers

- 1st Whereas by the third section of the Act (9 & 10 George IV Chapt. 75) for extending certain privileges to persons professing the Jewish Religion the enregistered Jews are empowered to elect from among their number five persons as Trustees, which Trustees shall not remain in office longer than five years --
- 2nd The same Trustees or any of them may be re-elected --
- 3rd The Trustees shall elect from among their number a president or Parnas a Treasurer and Secretary --
- 4th There shall always be provided by the Trustees a Hazan, Shochet, and Shamas, to perform the services required of them in their several departments.

Chapter IIInd
of the Prayers

- 1st The fixed Prayers shall further be read in the Hebrew Language according to the custom of the Spanish and Portuguese Jews and no other --
- 2nd But the Parnas may on a public thanksgiving or any other occasion direct the Hazan or any other suitable person to deliver an address or sermon in English.

Chapter IIIrd
of the Parnas

- 1st The Parnas shall have a superintending power over the Hazan, Shochet, and Shamas and see that they faithfully perform the duties of their respective office, and should either of them appear deficient in the discharge of their duties he shall report the same to the Board of Trustees who shall immediately take cognizance thereof.
- 2nd The parnas shall have the power at his discretion to cause to be given to any person professing Judaism whom he may deem an object of charity any sum not exceeding Four dollars --
- 3rd All the Mitzvas to be the gift of the Parnas

Chapter IV
of Board of Trustees

- 1st All meetings of the Board of Trustees to be called by the Secretary by direction of the Parnas or any two members of the Board.
- 2nd It shall be the duty of the Board to make and renew all contracts within its cognizance, in such a manner as may be deemed proper and conducive to the interest of the Congregation --
- 3rd The Trustees shall also appoint a suitable person to keep a book for marking all offerings made in the Synagogue.
- 4th An annual meeting of the enregistered Jews shall be called by the Secretary on the third Sunday in August of each year for the purpose of laying before them a full and correct Statement of the accounts with the Trustees and also to receive the report of all the resolutions of their Board intended to have the effect of Laws
- 5th The Board shall meet quarterly to examine such business as may be laid before it --

Chapter V
To Promote Solemnity and order

- 1st Any member of this Congregation shall previous to the singing any Psalm or prayer remain silent until the Hazan signify the tone or key in which the same is to be sung when those who are so inclined may then join therein, with an equal force but neither higher nor louder than the Hazan
- 2nd No children of either sex under the age of three years shall be admitted into the synagogue under any pretence whatever --

- 3rd All umbrellas & canes, except those carried by Lame persons, shall be left at the door
- 4th All garments taken off shall be deposited in the room outside for that purpose unless the owners thereof put them in their own seats
- 5th Any person or persons leaving the synagogue shall retire in a quiet and orderly manner and avoid going out together or in bevvies, more particularly during the reading of the Tora and Haphtora
- 6th Any person or persons infringing the above Laws shall be admonished accordingly

Chapter VI
of Seats

- 1st No person residing in the City of Montreal shall be considered a member of this Congregation unless he possesses a seat in the synagogue, neither shall he be entitled to any of the Rights, Benefits, or immunities thereof
- 2nd The seats will be leased by Auction for the term of three years, reckoning from the 1st September
- 3rd Any person wishing to obtain a seat at other times must apply in writing to the Trustees and if granted they shall charge therefore such a sum as may be deemed equitable -
- 4th Persons wishing to obtain seats gratis must apply to the Trustees who will decide on the expediency thereof -
- 5th The seats on the main floor will not be put up at less than Six dollars nor over twelve -
- 6th The seats in the gallery will not be put up at less than five dollars nor over ten --
- 7th Half the annual amount of the purchase of the seats respectively must be paid within eight days from the day of purchase and the other half within six months from said time and so on semi-annually in advance for and during the term of the three years -
- 8th In default of punctual payment the seat or seats to revert to the Trustees, which will be released, and due notice thereof given in the synagogue --
- 9th No person shall be allowed to take possession of his seat unless it has been paid for.

Chapter VII
of offerings

- 1st Persons called up are not obliged to make any offerings but if they make only one it must be for Paraas and Congregation in any sum not under a quarter of a dollar
- 2nd Any person called up who wishes to make an Heshchabah shall not offer less than one dollar -
- 3rd It shall be the duty of the person keeping the account of the offerings made to report to Trustees at their quarterly meetings all persons who may be delinquent in the payment of the amount of the offerings made by them the preceeding quarter

- 4th The parnas shall not call up nor receive any offerings from any member or other person who may at that time be indebted any sum to this congregation for the space of three months -
- 5th In the case of offerings made by strangers the amount shall be collected within eight and forty hours after such offering may be made.

Chapter VIII
of Baking Passover Bread

- 1st It shall be the duty of the Parnas to procure a suitable person to superintend the Baking of the Passover bread, who shall call upon the different families requiring the bread to ascertain the quantity they wish for
- 2nd The superintendent shall be entitled to the following remuneration from each family or person taking the bread viz
- | | | |
|--------------|------------------|------------------|
| Under 50 lbs | he shall receive | 1/3 |
| "- 80 lbs | " | 2/6 |
| "- 110 lbs | " | 5/ and 1/3 extra |
- for every 20 lbs over 110 lbs --
- 3rd Persons unable to pay for their Motzas shall receive the following quantity on application to the Parnas
- If one person he shall receive 8 lbs -
- If a Family - 3 lbs allowed for Children & 6 lbs for Adults.

Chap IX
of the Fees

The Hazan shall be entitled to the following fees -

- 1st For performing the Marriage Ceremony not less than Three Dollars
- 2nd For naming a Child or duties as Moel not less than Five Dollars
- 3rd For performing the Burial Service, with attendance at the House of Mourning during the seven days not less than Five Dollars
- The Shamas shall receive the following Fees
- 1st For attendance at a Marriage Ceremony not less than one Dollar
- 2nd For attendance at a Berith not less than one Dollar & a Half.
- 3rd For attendance and duties at a Funeral not less than Two Dollars

Chap X
of the Register for Names of Dead

- 1st All applications to have the name or names of any person or persons deceased previous to the present time recorded in a book for that purpose for the privilege of an Heshchabah on Yom-Kippur shall be made to the Trustees who shall charge therefor a Sum not less than Five Dollars -
- 2nd For the recording names of those who may die after this Trustees shall charge a Sum not less than Ten dollars

Chaptr XI
of the Burial Ground

In order that no kind of sacrilege may be committed on the remains of those who have already been interned either by disturbing their remains or in any other manner it is to be understood

- 1st That Ninety Feet of the new ground immediately adjoining the old burying ground remains in the possession of the Heirs to the estate of the Late David Davis Esqr.
- 2nd That the ground given to the Congregation by the Executors of the Estate of the Late David Davis Esqr. shall be made the sole management of the Trustees for the time being
- 3rd The Trustees shall keep the ground laid out in rows and properly into graves and numbered, which numbers shall be registered in a Book to be kept for such purpose by the Secretary - with also the names of the persons as they are buried in such grave -
- 4th Agreeably to the Custom of our Religion all persons dying shall be buried next each other in their rows
- 5th The sum of Five Dollars shall be charged for the grave of a Child under thirteen years of age - exclusive of the digging fee - and the sum of Ten dollars for the grave of an adult
- 6th In the event of a family wishing a row or part thereof for themselves exclusively application is to be made to the Trustees for that purpose, and if granted they shall charge therefore such a sum as they may think fit -
- 7th In the case of death of persons professing our Holy Faith not coming under the above rules, Trustees shall demand for burial in our Beth Haim a sum not less than L5 nor over L25 exclusive of funeral expenses.
- 8th In the case of death of Poor Persons professing Judaism they shall be buried at the expense of the Congregation

Montreal 3 July 1838

B Hart Pres

A.H. David, M.D.
Secy

NO. 10. COPY OF ELECTION RETURN OF THE KAHAL KADOSH
SHEARITH ISRAEL MADE BY I. VALENTINE, DATED OCTOBER 10, 1837.

At a meeting of persons professing the Jewish Faith whose names are enregistered in the Register kept for that purpose by the Prothonotary of the District held at the office of the Montreal Water Works Company pursuant to order in that behalf granted by the Honorable George Pyke one of the Justices of Her Majesty's Court of Queen's Bench of and for the District of Montreal, in virtue of the statutes in that case made & provided and duly published in the Montreal Gazette - held this day -

Present	I Valentine Esquire	Chairman
	Benj ⁿ Hart	"
	Moses I. Hays	"
	Aaron P. Hart	"
	Jacob H. Joseph	"
	Samuel Hart	"
	Aaron H. David	"
	Theodore Hart	"
	Bernstein	
	Eleazer D. David	

Isaac Valentine Esquire chairman of the Trustees formally elected in the Chair - Mr. E. D. David was requested to act as secretary -- The business of the meeting having been stated by the Chairman, the persons present proceeded to vote for the election of Five Trustees for the ensuing five years when the following gentlemen were declared duly elected they having a majority of votes -- that is to say -- Moses Judah Hayes, Isaac Valentine, Benjamin Hart, Jacob H. Joseph and Aaron E. David, all of Montreal Esquires --

I certify the above to be the correct return of the proceedings heard at this meeting held pursuant to the said order this 10th day of October 1837 --

I. Valentine, Chair

No. 11. SALE OF SEATS IN NEW SYNAGOGUE 31st AUGUST 1838.

No.	By Whom Purchased	Price per Annum			No.	By Whom Purchased	Price per Annum		
		L	S	D			L	S	D
1.	Isaac Aarons	3	5	-	32				
2	C.P. Levy	6	10	-	33				
3	A.H. David	3	5	-	34				
4	Jacob Joseph	3	5	-	35				
5	Alv. Joseph	3	5	-	36				
6	Gershon Joseph	3	5	-	37				
7	-				37				
8	-				38				
9	Major David	3	5		39				
10	M. Saml David	6	5		40				
11	A.P. Hart	3	5		41				
12	B. Hart	5	-	-	42	D.-Mefs D. Mofs	1	15	-
13					43	H.-Selemensen	1	5	-
14					44	L. Mofs	1	15	-
15					45	Joseph Jacobs	1	15	-
16					46	John Jacobs	1	15	-
17	Moses Binley Aug.'39	1	10	-	47	Mofs Moses	1	15	-
18	Saml Hart	5	10	-	48				
19	Theodr Hart	5	-		49				
20	Meses-E.-David	5	10	-	50				
21	M.I. Hays	2	10	-	51	H. Solomonson	1	15	
22	I. Valentine	2	10	-	52	Harry Solomons	2	5	
23	M. I. Hays	2	15	-	53	A.P.-Hart-	2	7	6
24	M. I. Hays	2	10	-	54	Adolphus Solomons	2	7	6
25	M. I. Hays	2	10		55	Gershon Solomons	2	7	6
26	Mr-Steiger	2	10	-	56	Mr.-B.-Mefs	2	10	-
27	Mr Freilander	2	7	6	57	B. Hart	3	-	-
28					58	Moses Hart	3	1	-
29	Craig Hart	2	10	-	59	G.W. Hart	3	-	-
30					60	Jesse Joseph	4	-	-
31					61	Myer Solomons	6	-	-
							112	11	6

12. MANUSCRIPT NOTARIAL COPY OF PROTEST SERVED BY NOTARY
H. B. DOUGLIT ON BEHALF OF ISAAC AARON, A MEMBER OF SHEARITH ISRAEL
CONGREGATION ON BENJAMIN HART, PRESIDENT OF THE CONGREGATION

On this second day of the month of September in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and thirty nine in the afternoon, at the request of Mr. Isaac Aaron of the City of Montreal Bailiff of her Majesty's Superior Court of King's Bench in and for the District of Montreal where he elects his domicile to the effect hereof, We the undersigned Public Notaries duly admitted and Sworn in and for the Province of Lower Canada, residing in the City of Montreal personally went to the domicile of Benjamin Hart of the City of Montreal Esquire, President of the Kahal Kadosh Shearith Israel of Montreal, where speaking to the said Benjamin Hart, and by him to the said Congregation we declared unto them that the said Isaac Aaron a duly registered Member of the said Congregation, and as such registered in the Prothonotaries office of Her Majesty's court of Kings Bench for the District of Montreal; do hereby Protest against the resolution of the said Congregation contained in a letter of which the purport is as follows

Committee room Synagogue
Montreal 19 Augt. 39

Mr. Isaac Aarons

Sir

At the annual meeting of the Congregation held at the Synagogue on the 18th August it was resolved that certain members of this Congregation having neglected to pay the amount of their offerings and seat money, immediate notice be given them by the secretary, that unless their debts be discharged before the 7th September they will no longer be considered as members of that congregation and will therefore not be entitled to any of the rights and privileges belonging thereto

I have the Honor to be
Sir

Yours Obed
Signed A H David Secty

1st Because the seats of the synagouge were sold and offerings made for the purpose of raising a sufficient sum to support a Hazan, Shochet, and Shamas which is a Reader, a Killer of Meat, and a person to attend the synagouge similar to a Beadle of the Churches;
2nd -- That by the fourth Section of the first Chapter of the ByeLaws of the said Congregation, it is ordered,
There shall always be provided by the Trustees, a Hazan, Shochet and Shamas to perform the Services required of them in their several departments

3rdly That no Hazan, Shochet or Shamas have been so provided by the Trustees of the said Congregation, altho one year has now elapsed since the selling of the seats in the said synagouge

4thly -- That by the first clause of the second Chapter of the ByeLaws of the said Congregation, it is ordered, The fixed prayers of the said Congregation shall for ever be read in the Hebrew Language according to the custom of the Spanish and Portuguese Jews and no other;

5thly -- That the regular fixed Prayers have not for eleven months past been read in the said synagouge and that during the said eleven months, no regular performance of divine service according to the portuguese custom (or any other custom of Jews) have been performed in the said synagouge of the said congregation for the want of a Hazan or reader, and that during the said eleven months past a part of the fixed prayers have been twice or thrice publickly read in the english language in the said synagouge;

6thly -- That a Shochet or Killer of the meat is indispensable in a Congregation of Jews, as it is the first Pillar, and that no congregation of Jews can be or is ever formed without a Shochet, and altho where a number of Jews are congregated they can dispence with a Hazan or reader and even a Public Synagouge, they can not according to our fundamental rites of religion dispence with the Shochet or Killer;

7thly -- That the diligence necessary to be used in order to obtain the necessary persons as before stated have not been nor is now used by the said Trustees of the said Congregation particularly that of obtaining a Shochet or Killer;

In consequence at the request aforesaid We the said Notaries have requested the said Trustees of the said Congregation, and also the said congregation to provide and have without delay a Hazan, Shochet and Shamas in conformity with the said rules and then he the said Isaac Aaron will pay the sum demanded, until then, that he considers nothing due not even the sum of four pounds two shillings and sixpence by him advanced last year, Hereby Protesting against the said Congregation, against the Trustees or Committee of Managers and against the President and Secretary of the said congregation against all others concerned for all damages suffered and to be suffered for the non' compliance with the said Bye Laws; and notifying them that the said Isaac Aaron will keep the possession of his said seat in the said synagouge as being duly entitled to the same, and we have delivered a Copy hereof to the said Benjamin Hart President and to the said Aaron H. David Secretary # so that neither of them of the said congregation can plead ignorance

Thus done protested and delivered on the day and year aforesaid and we have signed in Testimony of the Premisses

H. B. Doucet N P

speaking to themselves

No. 13. Seats in Gallery of Synagogue Sold
31st Augt 1839 - Expire 31st Augt 1841 --

No. of Seat	By Whom Purchased	Price		
		L	S	D
1	Mrs. Judah -----	4	"	"
2	Miss Joseph -----	6	"	"
3	Miss Hart -----	5	10	"
4	Miss Hart (M. Hart)	6	"	"
5	Mrs Hart -----	6	"	"
6	Mrs Catharine Solomons	9	"	"
7				
8	Mrs. Joseph -----	4	"	"
9	Miss David -----	4	"	"
10	Mrs Dr. David -----	4	"	"
11	Mifs D. Hart ----	2	10	-
12				
13	Mrs I. Aarons	2	10	
14	Mifs. Aarons	2	10	-
15				
16	Mifs Jessy Solomons --	2	5	-
17				
18	Mrs H. Solomons ---	2	"	"
19	Mifs Solomons -----	2	"	"
20	Mifs Solomons -----	2	"	--
21	Mifs Sarah Joseph	2	5	
22	Mifs Esther Joseph	2	5	
23	Mrs Hoffstetter	2	10	-
24	Mifs F. M. David	2	"	"
25	Mifs Sophia David	2	"	"
26				
27				
28				
29				
30				
31	Mrs Valentine -----	10	"	"
32	Mrs Hays -----	9	"	"

NO. 14. AMOUNT SUBSCRIBED BY EACH FAMILY FOR THE SUPPORT
OF THE SYNAGOGUE -- MONTREAL 1840

		<u>Seat</u>	<u>Offerings</u>	<u>Total</u>
Benjamin	1	3/5/0	" " "	3/5
Binley	2	1/10/0	" " "	1/10
David	3	25/5/0	17/10	42/15
Harts	4	27/5/0	15/10	42/15
do 3 Rivers	5	9/15/0	" " "	9/15
Hart	6	14/10	7/10	22
Hays	7	19/5	" " "	19/5
Hofstetter	8	2/10	" " "	2/10
Joseph	9	28/5/0	12/5	40/10
Jacobs	10	4/5/0	" " "	4/5
Judah	11	4 " "	" " "	4/
Levey C E	12	6/10	" " "	6/10
Solomons	13	7/	2/10	9/10
Myer do & Mrs	14	17/10	1/	18/10
Henry do --	15	8/7/6	" " "	8/7/6
Valentine	16	12/10	5 " "	17/10
		<u>191/12/1</u>	<u>61/5</u>	<u>252/17/6</u>

