

# CANADIAN JEWISH ARCHIVES

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## National Bicentenary of Canadian Jewry

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EDITORIAL NOTES

Although the edict of Louis XIV, King of France, proclaimed in 1685, prohibited Huguenots and Jews from settling in New France and in other French colonies in North America, David and Abraham Gradis, Jewish merchants of Bordeaux, did much to develop trade between France and Canada in the period from 1744 to 1759, and contributed greatly to the defence of Canada and the support of its French settlers during that period, and there is reason to believe that there were some Jews among their agents who visited Canada under the French regime.

As early as 1697, William III, King of Great Britain and Ireland and Prince of Orange, granted to Joseph de la Penha, a Jewish merchant of Rotterdam, the territory now known as Labrador, but the de la Penha family never actually obtained possession of that territory or benefited from the grant.

Jewish merchants from Plymouth settled in Halifax, Nova Scotia, soon after it was established by the British in 1749, and it is believed that there was a Jewish cemetery in that city as early as 1750, but by 1770 most of the Jewish inhabitants of Halifax had moved to the New England colonies or had returned to England, and all traces of that early Jewish settlement vanished.

It is also possible that Ferdinande Jacob, who came to the Hudson's Bay Company territory from England in 1737, and became chief factor of the Hudson's Bay Company at Fort Prince of Wales on Hudson Bay and other trading posts until his retirement in 1775 was a Jew, although indisputable documentary evidence that he was a Jew has not yet been discovered.

Permanent settlement of Jews in Canada, however, first became possible in 1759, when Quebec capitulated to the British military forces under General Wolfe, and the first Jews who made their homes in what is now known as the province of Quebec were officers, commissaries and soldiers serving with the British Army.

The Canadian Jewish Community celebrates the bicentenary of Jewish settlement in Canada in 1959, and it is appropriate therefore that the present issue of CANADIAN JEWISH ARCHIVES should contain transcripts and facsimiles of some of the earliest documents dealing with Jewish settlement in Canada.

As in the previous three issues of CANADIAN JEWISH ARCHIVES, no attempt has been made to modernize or correct the spelling or punctuation in the original documents, but unlike the documents transcribed in the previous issues, the originals of which are in the National Archives of the Canadian Jewish Congress, the transcripts in the present issue are from documents in the Public Archives of Canada and the Massachusetts Historical Society Library, and from photostatic copies of documents kindly made available by Dr. Jacob R. Marcus, Director of the American Jewish Archives in Cincinnati.

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- 1) English Translation of the Dutch Original of a Grant of the Territory of Labrador Made by William III, King of England and Prince of Orange, November 1, 1697, to Joseph de la Penja(Penja), a Jewish Merchant of Rotterdam.
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William, by the grace of God, King of England, Scotland, France, Netherlands & Ireland, Prince of Orange, Hereditary Governor and the Stadtholder of Gelderland and the County of Zutphen, Holland, Zeeland, West Friesland, Utrecht, Overysse, and the Landschap of Brenthe, Hereditary Captain General and Admiral of the United Netherlands.

Be it known whereas in the year 1677 certain territories situated in the Northern part of America were discovered and taken possession of in Our Name, not previously occupied by anyone, but having become known by shipwrecks which took place on the coasts thereof, under the name of Labrador Corte Real and Estotiland, and that since the taking of the aforesaid possession on the 23rd of September of the year mentioned Our arms of Nassau and Orange were hoisted there to the end that we might be able to dispose thereof to the people who might be disposed to establish any commerce there under Our authority and protection.

And so it is that We, acceding to the request of Joseph de la Penja, a citizen and resident in the town of Rotterdam, by virtue of the aforesaid taking possession of the aforesaid territories and their appurtenances, have granted and do grant by these presents to the aforesaid Joseph de la Penja with the nominal and territorial rights, high, middle and low jurisdiction to and over the aforesaid territories and coast as far as these extend from 54 to 60 degrees Northern Latitude, with all the lands, woods, forests, game preserves, rivers, fruits and fisheries there situated and in and off the coast of the same with full right of hereditary and perpetual tenure for him and his legal heirs and descendants, men and women, conformably to the regulations of feudal law. Especially also with power if it should become desirable to transfer some portions of the said lands by lease(achterleen) to other persons Provided after the expiration of ten years from the date hereof there shall be paid or caused to be paid, in perpetuity and hereditarily to Us, or to Our heirs and Our legal successors, to the officers thereto in due time to be appointed for that purpose, one percent of all the goods which are exported from there to other lands or quarters, and that when the aforesaid lease from time to time owing to decease or other disposition shall come to pass into other hands, it shall be enfeoffed with one northern eagle or else ten golden ducats in the place thereof, and homage, submission and oath of fidelity shall be done to Us, Our heirs or Our deputies, and that he will regulate himself in everything according to this document. Then We promise him, the aforesaid Joseph de la Penja and his successors, Our protection and support in the possession of the aforesaid lease as Our vassal against any vexations and molestations. Done at Het Loo on the first of November 1697.

William R.

By Order of His Majesty in the  
absence of the secretary.  
Signed: WM. VAN HULS.

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Facsimile of the Grant by William of Orange, to Joseph de la Penja, of which the above is a translation, will be found on pages 2, 3 & 4, made from photostats of the original document in the American Jewish Archives in Cincinnati.











2a.) Letter and enclosures from Israel Abrahams, a Jewish Merchant in Halifax, Nova Scotia, dated the 18th October 1752, to the Lords of the Board of Trade in London, giving an account of his having made Pot Ash in that Province & desiring the Board's Countenance in that undertaking.  
Endorsed as received and read on Nov. 29th, 1752.

Halifax October 18. 1752

May it please yr. Lordships

In the month of April last, I tried an Experiment in making Pot Ash, of the Wood that grows in the Province & made about 60 lb. weight of the Flemish sort, I acquainted & layd the sample before the Honble. Edward Cornwallis Esqr. He sends for two men Soap Boilers that had served their times in London, who examined & tried said Pot Ash, and reported their opinion to yr. Honble Edward Cornwallis Esqr. I made 200 lb more of the same sort which I have sent Home to lay before your Lordships, that your Lordships may have the same proved, by those that are Judges in London, I have likewise sent home to your Lordships the charge that will occur in making One Ton Weight of this Flemish sort & likewise beg leave to acquaint your Lordships the great Benefit this Branch of Trade will be to this new Colony, first it will clear very Large tracts of Land of the Wood, and 2dly. of Consequence that will employ a great Number of Men in Cutting & Clearing the same & thirdly will be the means of making Large Remittances Home, besides of course Impoverish those Foreigners that has enriched themselves by supplying us with this Commodity.

The men that your Lordships sent over to make an experiment in Pot Ash arrived here several Months after I had made my first Experiment & wanted to put this Govert. to 7 or 800£ charge. I would have sent an Equal sample of Pot Ash of the same sort as Russia in every Degree, but for the proper Iron Work required, was obliged to decline. I have my Lords by Building Works & Lost Time in making this Experiment in Pot Ash, reduced my Circumstances to a very low Ebb. There is many here as well as in other parts of this Continent that has got large Tracts of Land and would be glad to have so Advantages away of clearing their Woods, and allso to carry on such a Manufactory and will make remittance home, but are prevented for want of knowledge in that Art. Therefore I am willing to make this thing publick, that every one as it suits To instruct them in the Business of making Pot Ash, in consideration of my being allow'd a Salary from the Govermt. in England, for a Term of years for the Act Trouble and Attendance in instructing them or allowg. me a Premium to make the thing publick in such a manner as your Lordships shall give instructions, as your Lordships shall be pleased to direct in promotg. this great Branch of Trade, I am willing to assist and proud of the Honour of having it in my power to serve an Infant Colony.

I am My Lords  
Your Lordships  
Most Obedt. Humble Servt.  
Israel Abrahams

To the Right Honble. & Honble.  
Lords of Trade & Plantations

Endorsed

2b) Enclosure in letter of 18th Oct. 1752.

- 6 -

Abrahams to Lords of Trade

Halifax, Oct: 17th 1752

Israel Abrahams appeared this Day before me and made Oath, that he had Manufactured within this his Majesty's Province of Nova Scotia about Two Hundred and Sixty Pounds wheight of Pot Ash, which said Pot Ash is made after the manner of Flemish Pott Ash, and that the said Pot Ash now to be shipt on board his Majesty's Ship Torrington for Great Brittain under the Care of Governor Cornwallis, is all of the Produce and Manufacture of this His Majesty's Province of Nova Scotia and made by this Deponent and of the value agreeable to an Estimation delivered into His Excellency Governour Hobson

Charles Morris J. P.

I do hereby certify that the above Charles Morris Esquire is one of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace for this Province.

P.T. Hopson

2c) Enclosure in letter of 18th October 1752

Abrahams to Lords of Trade.

A True and just Estimate of the cost & charge of making 1 Ton weight of Pot Ash of such sort as have now sent home the Honble. Edward Cornwallis Esqr. which is Calculated accordg. to the Wages we are obliged to give here, but if we could have Servts. from Home, it would not amount to three fourths of the charge, and would be good Wages to encourage men to come over to settle this Colony & without any Expencc to the Government.

5 Men in 26 Days can fall & cutt up Trees as they run large & small into Lengths of 24 ft. as many as is sufficient to produce ashes to make 1 Tun of Pot Ash, The Wages & victualg. those Men at 2/- each p day is 13.-.-

4 Oxen maintenance for 26 days to draw the above loggs to the place of Burng. at 20/- each 4.-.-

4 men to attend those Oxen at 2/- each 10. 8-

3 D for fire Tenders or at 2/- each 7-16-

£35- 4-

Israel Abrahams

2d) Enclosure in letter of 18th Oct. 1752.

Abrahams to Lords of Trade.

Halifax Ss. Oct: 18 1752

Emanuel Abrahams Trader & Christopher Shaffner labourer, came this Day before me one of his Majesty's Justices of the Peace for the sd. County & made Oath That the deponents under the direction of Mr. Israel Abrahams have assisted in the making & Manufacturing a Quantity of Pottash now to be ship'd on board his Majesty's Ship Torrington for Great Britain under the care of Govr. Cornwallis & they further depose that the said Pottash being about two hundred Weight is of the Manufacture & Production of his Majesty's Province of Nova Scotia.

Charles Morris

I do hereby certify that the above Charles Morris is One of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace for this Province.

P.T. Hopson

PRICE CURRENT.

		<b>Halifax,</b>	<b>175</b>
New-England Rum Leeward Island D.		Mould Candles	
Jamaica Ditto		Philadelphia hard Soap	
Melasses		New-England Ditto	} per Pound.
Linsced Oyl		Casteil Ditto	
Sweet Oyl		Indico	
Clove-Water		Allspice	
Mint-Water	per Gallon.	Ginger	
Orange Ditto		Water-Bread	
Cinnamon Ditto		Milk Ditto	} per Quarter Case.
Annisced Ditto		Butter Ditto	
Brandy			
Ginn		Indian Corn	
Limejuice		Barley	
		Oats	
Madiera Wine		Rye Meal	
Lisbon Ditto	per Pipe.	Indian Ditto	} per Bushell.
Port Ditto		Salt	
Claret		Peas	
Vidonia Ditto		White Beans	
		Onions	
Common Brown Sugar		Bricks	
Midling Ditto		18 Inch Shingles	
Muscovado Ditto		3 Foot Ditto	
Rice	per Hundred.	Clapboards	
Ship Bread		Pine Boards	
Hay		Oak Ditto	
Fine Flower		Pine Joice	} per Thousand Sand.
Common Ditto		Oak Plank	
Rye Ditto		Hoops	
Cornell		White Oak Staves	
		Red Ditto	
Pitch		White Oak Heading	
Tar			
Turpentine		Sweeds Iron	} per Tun.
Beef	per Barrel.	Whippeny Ditto	
Pork			
Beer		Stone-Lime	per Hogsb.
Porter			
Cyder		Lemmons	per Box.
Indian Meal		Onions	per Roap.
Butter			
Cheeshire Cheeie		Produce of Halifax.	
Gloucester Ditto		Pickle Cod	
Rhode-Island Ditto		Mackrel	} per Barrell.
Gammons		Fish Oyl	
Smoak'd Beef			
Smoak'd Mutton		Jamaica Fish	
Single refin'd loaf Sugar		Merchantable Ditto	} per Quintal.
Double refin'd Ditto	per Pound.	Refuge Ditto	
Chocolate		Toliquial Ditto	
Bohea Tea			
Green Ditto			
Cut Tobacco			
Virginia Leaf Ditto			
New-England Ditto			
Roll Ditto			
Pigtail Ditto			
Dipp'd Candles			
		Your Humble Servants;	
		Nathans and Hart.	

HALIFAX: Printed by John Bayball. 1752.

PRICE CURRENT ISSUED BY NATHANS AND HART, JEWISH MERCHANTS OF HALIFAX,  
AND PRINTED IN HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA IN 1752.



3) Price Current issued by Nathans and Hart, Jewish merchants in Halifax,  
Nova Scotia, and printed by John Bushell in 1752.

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P R I C E C U R R E N T.		Halifax, 175-
New -England Rum	)	*Cut Tobacco )
Leeward Island Ditto	)	*Virginia Leaf Ditto )
Jamaica Ditto	)	*New-England Ditto )
Molosses	)	*Roll Ditto )
Linseed Oyl	)	*Pigtail Ditto )
Sweet Oyl	)	*Dipp'd Candles )
Clove Water	) per Gallon.	*Mould Candles )
Mint-Water	)	*Philadelphia hard Soap )
Oringe Ditto	)	*New-England Ditto ) per Pound
Cinnamon Ditto	)	*Casteil Ditto )
Anniseed Ditto	)	*Indico )
Brandy	)	*Allspice )
Ginn	)	*Ginger )
Limejuice	)	*Water-Bread )
Madiera Wine	)	*Milk Ditto ) per Quarter Cask.
Lisbon Ditto	) per Pipe.	*Butter Ditto )
Port Ditto	)	*Indian Corn )
Claret	)	*Barley )
Vidonia Ditto	)	*Oats )
Common Brown Sugar	)	*Rye Meal )
Middling Ditto	)	*Indian Ditto ) per Bushell
Muscovado Ditto	)	*Salt )
Rice	)	*Peas )
Ship Bread	) per Hundred	*White Beans )
Hay	)	*Onions )
Fine Flower	)	*Bricks )
Common Ditto	)	*18 Inch Shingles )
Rye Ditto	)	*3 Foot Ditto )
Cornell	)	*Clapboards )
Pitch	)	*Pine Boards )
Tar	)	*Oak Ditto )
Turpentine	)	*Pine Joice ) per Thousand.
Beef	)	*Oak Plank )
Pork	) per Barrel.	*Hoops )
Beer	)	*White Oak Staves )
Porter	)	*Red Ditto )
Cyder	)	*White Oak Heading )
Indian Meal	)	*Sweeds Iron )
Butter	)	*Whippeny Ditto ) per Tun.
Cheshire Cheese	)	*Stone-Lime ) per Hogsh.
Gloucester Ditto	)	*Lemmons ) per Box.
Rhode-Island Ditto	)	*Onions ) per Roap.
Gammons	)	
Smoak'd Beef	)	Produce of Halifax.
Smoak'd Mutton	)	*Pickle Cod )
Single refin'd Loaf Sugar	)	*Mackerel )
Double refin'd Loaf Ditto	) per Pound.	*Fish Oyl ) per Barrel.
Chocolate	)	*Jamaica Fish ) )
Bohea Tea	)	*Merchantable Ditto )
Green Ditto	)	*Refuge Ditto ) per Quintal
		*Toliquial Ditto )

HALIFAX: Printed by John Bushell. 1752.

Your Humble Servants;  
Nathans and Hart.

- 4) Letter from Samuel Jacobs, Jewish merchant of Quebec, addressed to the Governor of Quebec, regarding the use by the Government of his schooner "Betsy" to bring cattle and stores from the Island of Orleans to Quebec in 1759.
- 

To the Honourable James Murray, Esq'r, Governor of Quebec, etc., etc.:

The memorial of Samuel Jacobs, merchant in Quebec, humbly sheweth that, in the year 1759, your memorialist was sole owner of the schooner "Betsy," Capt. Coalman, burthen one hundred sixteen and half tons, king's tonnage, laying in the river St. Charles (at Quebec), well fitted and mann'd for a voyage to Oporto with fish, and to return to this place with a cargo of the commodities of Portugal, the truth of which fully appears by the letter of recommendation herewith dated at Quebec, the 11th Oct'r, 1759, from Capt'n Thomas Martin to Mr. George Bullimore, merch't in Oporto.

Which said voyage to the great detriment of your memorialist he was prevented from putting in execution by an order from your Excellency to Lieut. Robert Paleshall, town adjutant, as appears by this certificate, herewith dated the 14th November, 1759, to employ said vessel in the service of the government to bring cattle and stores from the Island of Orleans (near Quebec).

And that said vessel in the course of the repeated turns she made was at last froze up at the said Island of Orleans and there remain'd with four men on board, maintained with bread at the extravagant price of nine-pence p(er). pound and pork at one shilling p(er). pound -- which is well known to the people in trade here -- untill the 13th April, 1760, when, by your Excellency's orders, your memorialist had then, with much labour and expence got her brought from said Island and put into the dock at this garrison with her cables quite chafed, ropes cut, planks started, and seams intirely open'd by the frost during the winter, as appears by Lieut. Paleshall's certificate dated the 13th May, 1760, as also by the return dated the 14 April, 1760, which your memorialist did himself the honor of delivering to your Excellency, setting forth that your memorialist had taken such measures as to put her in a proper condition for service in seven days.

That at the end of that time your Excellency was pleased to send for your memorialist to inform him that said vessel was still wanted in His Majesty's service. Whereupon Lieut. Chas. Stuart of 78th Regiment, then agent for transports, by your Excellency's orders directed me to get her portholes made larger as she was to be arm'd, which was immediately complied with, and your memorialist did himself receive, from Capt. Chas. Leslie's of 48th Regiment's schooner, six swivel guns and put them on board the said schooner "Betsey," so continued in the service and wholly own'd by your memorialist untill the 13th June, 1760, when, by many disappointments your memorialist had mett with, he was reduced to the necessity of selling three-fourths of said vessel to Mess'rs Algeo and Connor with the entire management of her, which said gentlemen have received certificates for the hire of her from the 14th day of the said month of June, 1760.

Therefore your memorialist must beg your Excellency will be pleased to grant him a certificate for the hire of said schooner "Betsey" from the 14th day of November, 1759, to the 13th June, 1760, both days inclusive, and

to excuse the delay of applying to your Excellency for the same which is intirely owing to the situation of your memorialist's affairs being such at Montreal and New York, as required his presence there.

Relying on your Excellency's inclination and readiness to do justice, your memorialist begs leave to subscribe himself with the greatest deference and respect,

Your Excellency's most obedient and most humble servant,

Quebec, the 22'd March 1762.

Sam'l Jacobs.

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Original letter is in the Public Archives of Canada, MS; S series, internal correspondence, Lower Canada Public Accounts, 1759-1766.

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5) \*MINUTES OF SHEARITH ISRAEL CONGREGATION, MONTREAL, FOR PERIOD FROM 1778 TO 1780

The Synagogue Built in St. James Street Montreal is Purchased and Built with the Money arising from Subscriptions and Offerings from us the Subscribers and others. It is therefore the Property of us and our Heirs Jointly but not Individually or Separately neither can we on any Pretence whatsoever claim any Part Separately of the said Synagogue further than the Privileges here agreed to; hereby Revoking all Title and Claim to the same as if no Money had been given by us, Provided always the said Synagogue, as we all comprehend is meant for the use of all Israelites who conform to our Laws and our Regulations and under the management of a Parnass; Gabay, and a Junto of three of the Elders, to be annually chosen by a Majority of us the Subscribers to all Laws and Regulations which shall be made by the Consent of the said Junto of five Persons.

We do in the Name of Almighty God promise most strictly to abide by in every Shape whatsoever Paying every due Submission & Respect to the said five Persons who Constitute the Junto

Levy Solomons	לוי סלומון
Uriah Judah	מייקר מיכאעלס
Samuel Judah	מייקר מייזערס
Andrew Hays	אברהם פראנקס

In the Name of God -- On the 25th of Ellul 5538 The Congregation met to Elect a Parnass and Gabay in the Room of Mr David Franks and Mr Ezekiel Solomons when the following having a Majority of Votes and accordingly Elected Mr. Levy Solomons as Parnass and Mr Uriah<sup>Judah</sup> as Gabay for the Ensuing Year - as also to Chose Hatanim when the two following Gentlemen were Elected and Served. Mr. Ezekiel Solomons as Hatan Torah and Mr Levy Michaels as Hatan Bereshith.

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At the above meeting Mr Samuel Judah was fined Three Pounds Halifax Currency for Refusing to serve the Office of Parnass to which he was Elected - as was also the following Gentlemen for Refusing to Serve as Hatanim to which they was elected.

Isaac Judah - fine Two Pounds Ten Shillings  
Myer Michaels ----- Do ----- Do -----  
Andrew Hays ----- Do ----- Do -----

28th Ellul 5538

Congregation met and Confirmed Mr Levy Solomons Parnass and Mr Uriah Judah Gabay for the Ensuing Year in the room of Mr David Franks & Mr Ez. Solomons at the same time Confirmed Mr Ezekiel Solomons Hatan Torah and Mr Levy Michaels Hatan Bereshith.

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11th Kislav 5539.

The Israelites of the Town of Montreal were this day Called together to have the voice of the Congregation concerning the Death of a Son of Mr Ezekiel Solomons to know whether he was to be buried according to the Rules and Customs of Jews / the said Child not being circumcised/ Several Circumstances favourable to the said Ezekiel Solomons appeared to us, for which Reason we allow his being buried, but at the same time we do hereby Unanimously Agree and Declare that no Man or Boy whomsoever shall be after Sixty days from this Date be buried in the Burying place of this Congregation unless Circumcised.

Dated as above

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3d. Tebeth 5539

The Congregation met to chose a Junto of Three Persons to assist the Parnass & Gabay to make a proper Code of Laws for the better Regulating this Kahal when a Majority appeared in favour of Mr Ezekiel Solomons - Mr Samuel Judah & Mr Andrew Hays who were Unanimously appointed The above Junto having met made the following orders and Regulations which were laid before the Congregation at Large by them agreed to do. Signed

Levy Solomons	Parnass)	Present	Mr Ezekiel Solomons)
Uriah Judah	Gabay )		Saml Judah )
			And Mr Hays ) Juntos

1st That the Names of Every Subscriber to the Synagogue with the Sum they have subscribed be made out - for which Reason Certain Privileges to the Subscribers in Preference to any others who may hereafter settle here -- Agreed Unanimously that the present Subscribers Only shall have on all Occasions a Double Vote hereafter for Ever, them and all their Oldest Sons after they attain Twenty one years of age.

2d. No Stranger to be Entered in this Congregation hereafter but on the following conditions -- "to enjoy no Office for three years "to have no Vote for Two years -- & then to have only a Single Vote afterwards", & that every such Stranger shall pay Ten Pounds Halifax Currency before he enjoys such Privilege. NB The Intention of this 2d order is meant to preserve to those Present Subscribers the Founders of this Congregation which has been so far Established at an Expense beyond the Bounds of our Circumstances, that we may enjoy certain Privileges beyond any Stranger that may hereafter Settle here.

3d. No Person whatsoever hereafter to have a Vote untill Attained the age of 21 Years or Married & had a Child.

4th. All those laws and Regulations to be read annually at the Meeting for Chosing the proper Officers of this Congregation.

5th. In Mentioning the Junto it is to be Understood the Parnass and Gabay are Included.

6th. Any one who Compose the Junto Misbehaving can be Expelled provided it is by the Unanimous consent of the other four who are to chose another to serve the Remainder of the year Provided also and it is agreed the expelled Member of the Junto may have powers to Appeal to the General Body of the Subscribers (If he pleases) for a final Determination which shall be Decided by the Majority.

7th. The Seats in the Synagogue has already been fixed on for the Subscribers and Numbered Resolved that the Names of the Persons with the Numbers of their seats annexed be Entered in this Book. Those seats to be kept for them & their Sons for Ever and not to be taken away on any Pretence whatsoever.

8th. A Meeting every Three Months of all Subscribers at which time the Gabay to Render Accounts.

9th. In the absence of one or more of the Junto the Remainder to call in others to act in their Stead.

10th. The Parnass to have the Casting Vote in no case but in the Choice of Parnass, Gabai and Junto.

11th. No meeting to be held unless 12 Hours Notice is before Given Except by General Consent.

12th. The Junto to be Established Counsell of this Congregation and no other Subscribers to be Called in but as circumstances may Require any past Parnass to have liberty to attend and speak at any meeting of the Junto but not to have a Vote.

13th. Any Israelite that will not Sign these our Laws and Regulations that are Inhabitants of this Town within Twenty Days and those out of the Town within Six Months shall for ever be Exempted from having any Privilege Honour or Employment in this Congregation and be looked on as no Member thereof Except only Chapman Abraham and Benjamin Lyon who are at too great a Distance - but allowing them Twenty Days after their arrival in this Town.

- 14th. We do Jointly and Separately Promise to Promote Harmony and Unanimity amongst us and Endeavour as far as lays in our Power to assist each other as Circumstances will Permit.
- 15th. The Penalty of Fifty Shillings to be paid by any one who shall Expose or Devulge the Proceedings of any Meeting Provided Secresy is Required.
- 16th. All Monies that may be in hand over and above Fifty Pounds at the Expiration of Every Year shall be made a Dividend amongst the Subscribers towards the Expense of Building the Synagogue.
- 17th. Any Person or Persons making a Disturbance or having the least Controversy in the House of God to be liable to be Fined Exempted from all Mitzvahs for a Limited Time his Name in Capital Letters - Inserted in this Book with the Crime he has been Guilty of to Deter others from such Misbehaviour in so Sacred a place.
- 18th. The Like Fines, Exemptions and Insertions to be extended to any Persons absenting themselves from the House of God on any Frivolous Pretence arising from any Controversy with others.
- 19th. Thirty Nine Shillings Fine to be paid any Person Refusing a Mitzvah with which he may be Honoured by the Parnass - Gabay or any other person acting as Proxy for the Parnass.
- 20th. All Punishments, Fines etc. to be Settled by the abovementioned Adjuntos and every Misdemeanour Committed by any Member of the Congregation the Same shall be enquired into within Forty Eight Hours after such Offence be Committed.
- 21st. All Fines to be paid within Thirty Days after Judgment be given in Default of which such other Recourse to be had as in the Wisdom of the above Adjuntos shall be adjudged most Expedient.
- 22nd. At the Annual Elections of Officers belonging to this Congregation the Parnass then /only/ to have the Casting Vote - should there be equal Majority of Votes.
- 23d. Any Member of the Junto not giving Attendance at any Meeting called by the Parnass to pay a fine of Forty Shillings.
- 24th. Any Member who shall be Elected to the offices of Parnass or Gabay and should refuse to Serve to pay a fine of Twenty Dollars.
- 25th. Any Persons who shall be Elected to the Offices of Hatanim & should Refuse to serve to pay a fine of Fifty Shillings Hallx.
- 26th. Any Member who shall presume to say he would have his Name Erased out of the Congregation Books, the same to be done and the Party to not come to any Dibrah Kedusha untill he pays a fine of Forty Dollars.
- 27th. Strict Obedience and Respect to be paid to the Parnasim and the Elders of the Congregation.



28th. No Private Quarrels to Extend so far as to make a Disunion in the Congregation on pain of severe Penalties.

29th. Severe Penalties on those who shall be the Means of giving a bad Name to any of the Congregation, by which a Disgrace may be brought on any of the Israelites.

30th. All Offerings made in the Synagogue to be Punctually paid to the Gabay every Three Months in Default of which Such Persons to be excluded from any Mitzvahs, &c.

31st. The Parnass, Gabay & Junto to be annually Chosen before Rosh-ashanah & the Parnasim to be called out in the Synagogue on the first day - as Likewise the Hatanim on the Second day of Rosh Hashanah.

32nd. The Parnass that Served the Last Year to Officiate the first day of Rosh Hashanah and the Mitzvahs to be given on the day of Simhat Torah & Shabat Bere-shith by the Hatanim.

33rd. If any Dispute should arise between any Members of the Congregation they shall be obliged to come before the Mahamad that they may Endeavour to settle it before they go to any Magistrate or, be liable to such a Penalty as they may think proper.

34th. No Person to be admitted without the Consent of the Junto.

35th. All Monies expended by the Parnasses during their Acting out of their own Capital shall be made good by those who are Chosen to Succeed them.

36th. The Shamas shall be obliged to Carry each Member his Account.

37th. The Gabay shall lay before the Junto the Monies Expended & Received During his Acting the Week before Rosh Hashanah.

38th. The Parnass is not to lay out any money for the Congregation without the Consent of the majority of the Adjuntos.

We the Underwritten do hereby Solemnly Promise in Name of the Almighty God to abide by the above Regulations, or to be Liable to such Restrictions as is herein Specified as Witness our Hands the 3d day of our Month Tebeth 5539.

Levy Solomons - Parnass  
Uriah Judah - Gabay.

Samuel Judah

Andrew Hays

אברהם ז"ל 117

Myer Michaels.

Abr. Franks.

Myer Myers.

David David

Heineman Pines

Barnet Lions

Abr. Judah

Sam David

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12th Adar 5539

Uriah Judah - Gabay	)	Present	Saml. Judah)	
J. Franks.	)	Ezekl. Solomons	)	Adjuntos
Isaac Judah	)	And W. Hays	)	
David David.	)			

A Meeting was this day Called for by the Gabay at the Request of J. Franks & others when it was Unanimously Agreed that at any other meeting which may be Called by the Gabay or any other Gentleman who compose the Junto -- shall be equally in force as if such Meeting had been called for by the Parnass - and every such Member not giving Attendance the 23d. Article to be put in force -- Agreed to Unanimously -

Uriah Judah  
for the Gentlemen present.

26th Nisan 5539

Whereas Brethren of this Congregation have at Divers Times most Shamefully, Maliciously & Wickedly aspersed the Characters of each other by which means a Shame & Disgrace has fell on the Reputation of Individuals those Proceedings is contrary to our Laws and Sacred Religion and turning the Vengeance of Our Almighty God on us, by which Means Destruction now threatens us, and our Posterity to prevent in future such Misconduct, and such abominable Practices, we have Unanimously Resolved and agreed first to take the Oath by the Laws of Moses that we will never hereafter speak against the Character or Prejudice the persons of each other on any pretence whatsoever by which means any Disgrace may be brought on us. We at the same time agree & by the above Oath bind ourselves that we shall and will be obliged to make known & Discover to the person spoke of or injured by any Assertion Whatsoever We do Likewise and by the Said Oath bind ourselves that we will jointly and separately Detest Abhor & Despise any Israelite belonging to the Congregation Inhabitants of this Town that will not join with us in this our well meant Determination. We do further Agree and bind ourselves by the above Oath that for Every time any of us shall be found Guilty of any Article that is Contained herein and Convicted by the Majority of us that we will pay for Every Such Crime the Sum of Forty Shillings Halifax Currency.

We do hereby further acknowledge our full Consent to our having taken the Sacred Oath above mentioned Signed our Names.

Uriah Judah	Ezekiel Solomons	J. Franks
Saml. Judah	Levi Michaels	Andrew Hays
	Simon Levy	

A Junto was called this day at the Request of Mr. J. Franks on a Complaint made by him against Mr Levy Solomons when it appeared to the Gentlemen present that he had made use of Expressions to the Manifest Injury of the Congregation the following Resolve was made & a Copy thereof sent to Mr Levy Solomons.

(Copy)

We the Junto of this Congregation were this day Called together on a Subject that appeared to us of the Greatest Consequence to ourselves & the future Welfare of our Religion in this Province & as there is every reason to Suppose that you are

guilty of the charge brought against you -- We have Unanimously Resolved that you are Suspended acting neither are you to take your Seat in the Banco of the Synagogue as Parnass untill you are heard before us on Sunday morning prompt at 10/oClock at which time you are Desired to Attend.

To Mr Levy Solomons.

Uriah Judah  
Ezekiel Solomon  
Andrew Hays  
Samuel Judah  
J Franks

The Junto met & called the Congregation to Deliberate on the above affair. Mr Levy not appearing further time by the Majority of the Gentlemen Present being Required. Mr Levy was ordered to Attend at 6/oClock this Evening, which he Neglected doing & sent word he would have nothing more to do with us Whereupon Mr Uriah Judah was Noted to act as Parnass the Remainder of this Year in his Room.

Mrs Davis having in her possession a Shofar Refuses Lending it to this Congregation for Rosh Hashanah, but will sell it for a Guinea -- which sum has been paid by the Congregation at Large -- Therefore Remains their Sole Property.

26th day Ellul  
5539

The Congregation met this day in Order to Chose Parnass and Gabay for the Ensuing Year - when Mr Uriah Judah was Uannimously Elected to both Offices

Present.	Uriah Judah --	Saml. Judah	Levy Michaels
A. Hays	A. Franks	Myer Michaels	David David
Simon Levy	Saml. David		

The Portuguese Congregation of London thought Proper to send this Kahal as a present Two Safar Torahs - which they delivered Mr. Abraham Judah in London to forward in their Name -- the said Safar Torahs came out Under the Care of Mr Jos. Pines with a third which was raised by a Subscription sett on foot last Year the following Gentlemen subscribed - as Under.

Uriah Judah.	£1/1/-	Saml. Judah	£1/1/0
Levy Solomons	2/2/-	A. Hays.	10/6
Levy Michaels	10/6	J. Franks.	1/14/8
Ezekiel Solomons	1/1/-	Ben. Lyon	10/6
Simon Levy	5/6	Barnet Lyon	10/6
Hein. <sup>n</sup> Pines	9/-	Jacob Cohen	10/6
Isaac Judah	10/6	A. Franks	10/6 Sterling
Myer Michaels	10/6	David David	5/- Total £(12/3s/2d)

The following Gentlemen were by the above Congregation Elected to the Offices of Hatanim which they Accepted & served Accordingly Mr Abraham Franks as Hatan Torah & Mr Simon Levy as Hatan Bereshith



22 Hellsul 5540

It is the unanimous Consent and approbation of the Congregation of Jews to accept with Satisfaction Mr Abraham Judah to be a member of this Society that from this day he shall be on the same footing and Enjoy the Same Privileges as any Member belonging to us the same as if he had been a subscriber from the first Establishing of this Congregation.

Uriah Judah  
Andrew Hays  
Simon Levy  
Myer Michaels  
Abraham Franks  
David David  
David Frank  
Saml David

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Same Day the Congregation met in order to chose Parnass and Gabay for the Ensuing year when Mr Samuel Judah was unanimously elected Parnass and Mr Andrew Hays Gabay Mr Abram Franks was chosen Hatan Torah & Mr Levy Solemons Served as Hatan Bereshit --- And the Junto for the year is dispensed with --

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21st day Hesvan 5541

This day the Subscribers met according to appointment when it was proposed and agreed on unanimously that <sup>the</sup> Synagogue be finished and the sum not exceeding forty pounds be applied for that purpose and Mr Abram Judah & Mr Levy Solomons were nominated to carry the same into execution and the Gabay is hereby ordered to pay the said sum to those Gentlemen when demanded.

The Synagogue Built in St. James Street Montreal is Purchased and Built with the Money arising from Subscriptions and Offerings from us the Subscribers and others. It is therefore the Property of us and our Heirs Jointly but not Individually or Separately neither can we on any Pretence whatsoever claim any Part Separately of the said Synagogue further than the Privileges here agreed to; hereby Revoking all Title and Claim to the same as if no Money had been given by us. Provided always the said Synagogue, as we all comprehend is meant for the use and Service of all Israelites who conform to our Laws and our Regulations and under the Management of a Carnaf; Gabay, and a Junta of three of the Elders, to be annually chosen by a Majority of us the Subscribers to all Laws and Regulations which shall be made by the Consent of the said Junta of five Persons. We do in the Name of Almighty God promise most strictly to abide by in every Shape whatsoever Paying every due Submission & Respect to the said five Persons who constitute the Junta p. 22 23 24 25

Levy Solomons  
Uriah Judah  
Samuel Judah  
Andrew Hays

Myer Michael  
Moses Myers  
Abraham Franks

In the Name of God On the 25<sup>th</sup> of Elul 5538 The Congregation met to Elect a Carnaf and Gabay in the Room of M<sup>r</sup> David Franks and M<sup>r</sup> Ezekiel Solomons when the following having a Majority of Votes were accordingly Elected M<sup>r</sup> Levy Solomons as Carnaf. And M<sup>r</sup> Uriah Judah as Gabay for the ensuing Year - as also to three Hatanim when the two following Gentlemen were Elected & Seized M<sup>r</sup> Ezekiel Solomons as Hatan Torah and M<sup>r</sup> Levy Michael as Hatan Bereshith

At the above meeting M<sup>r</sup> Samuel Judah was fined Three Bonds Tallith Currency for Refusing to serve the Office of Carnaf to which he was Elected - as was also the following Gentlemen for Refusing to serve as Hatanim to which they were Elected

Isaac Judah - fined Two Bonds and Tallith  
Moses Michael - do do  
Andrew Hays - do do



28<sup>th</sup> Elul 5538

The Congregation met and Confirmed Mr. Levy Solomon  
Carnap and Mr. Uriah Judah Gabay for the ensuing  
year in the Room of Mr. David Frankel & Mr. E. T. T. T.  
at the same time Confirmed Mr. Ezekiel Solomon, Nathan  
Leah and Mr. Levy Michael Nathan Bereshith

11<sup>th</sup> Kislev 5539

The Israelites of the Town of Montreal were this day Called together  
to hear the voice of the Congregation concerning the Death of  
a Son of Mr. Ezekiel Solomon. to know whether he was to  
be buried according to the Order & Customs of Jews (the said  
Child not being circumcised) Several Circumstances favorable  
to the said Ezekiel Solomon appeared to us. for which Reason  
we allow his being buried. but at the same time we do hereby  
Unanimously Agree and Declare that no Man or Boy  
whomsoever shall be after Sixty days from this Date be buried  
in the Burying place of this Congregation unless (circumcised)  
Dated as above.

3<sup>d</sup> Tebeth 5534

The Congregation met to Choose a Junta of Three Persons  
to assist the Carnap & Gabay to make a proper Code of Laws  
for the better Regulating this "Kahal" when a Majority appeared  
in favour of Mr. Ezekiel Solomon. Mr. Samuel Judah &  
Mr. Andrew Hays who were Unanimously appointed.

The above Junta having met made the following order and  
Regulations which were laid before the Congregation at once  
by them agreed to. To W<sup>ts</sup> S<sup>ds</sup>,



M<sup>rs</sup> Levy Solomon Barnago } Present { M<sup>rs</sup> Elizabeth Solomon  
 Chick Sadah Gabay } { Sarah Sadah  
 And: 2 Days. } Junta's

- 1<sup>st</sup> That the Names of Every Subscriber to the Synagogue with the Sum they have Subscribed be made out for which Reason Certain Privileges to the Subscribers in Preference to any others who may hereafter settle here — Agreed Unanimously that the present Subscribers Only shall have on all Occasions a Double Vote hereafter for ever them and all their Oldest Sons after they attain Twenty one Years of Age.
- 2<sup>d</sup> No Stranger to be Entered in this Congregation hereafter but on the following Conditions - "to enjoy no Office for three Years" to have no Vote for Two Years & then to have only a single Vote. afterwards & that every such Stranger shall pay Ten Pounds Sterling Currency before he enjoys any such Privilege. NB. The Intention of this 2<sup>d</sup> order is meant to Preserve to those the Present Subscribers the Founders of this Congregation which has been ~~of~~ established at an Expense beyond the Bounds of our Circumstances that we may enjoy certain Privileges beyond any Stranger that may hereafter settle here.
- 3<sup>d</sup> No Person whatsoever hereafter to have a Vote untill Attained the age of 21 Years or Married & had a Child.
- 4<sup>th</sup> All those Laws and Regulations to be Read Annually at the Meeting for Choosing the proper Officers of this Congregation.
- 5<sup>th</sup> In Mentioning the Junta it is to be Understood the Barnago and Gabay are Excluded.
- 6<sup>th</sup> Any one who Compose the Junta Misbehaving can be Expelled provided it is by the Unanimous consent of the other four who are to choose another to serve the Remainder of the Year. Provided also and it is agreed the expelled Member of the Junta may have power to Appeal to the General Body of the Jewish (if the please) for a final Determination which shall be Decided by the Majority.
- 7<sup>th</sup> The Seats in the Synagogue have already been fixed on for the Subscribers and Numbered. Resolved that the Names of the Persons with the Numbers of their Seats annexed be Entered in this Book. Thence to be kept for them & their Sons for ever and not to be taken away on any Pretence whatsoever.
- 8<sup>th</sup> A Meeting every Three Months of all the Subscribers at which time the Gabay to Render Accounts.
- 9<sup>th</sup> In the absence of one or more of the Junta the Remainder to call in their stead.



- 10<sup>th</sup> The Parnafs to have the Casting Vote in no Case, but in the Choice of Parnafs. Gabai and Junts
- 11<sup>th</sup> No Meeting to be held unless 12 Hours Notice is before Given - Except by General Consent
- 12<sup>th</sup> The Junts to be the Established Counsell of this Congregation and no other Subscribers to be Called in but as Circumstances may require any part Parnafs to have Liberty to attend and speak at any meeting of the Junts, but not to have a Vote
- 13<sup>th</sup> Any Israelite that will not Sign these our Laws and Regulations - that are Inhabitants of this Town within Twenty Days and those out of the Town within Six Months shall forever be Exempted from having any Privilege Honor or Employment in this Congregation and be looked on as no Member thereof. Except only Chapman Abraham and Benjamin Lyon who are at too great a Distance, - but allowing them Twenty Days - after their arrival in this Town
- 14<sup>th</sup> We do Jointly and Separately Promise to Promote Harmony and Uniformity amongst us and Endeavour as far as lays in our Power. to assist each other as Circumstances will Permit
- 15<sup>th</sup> The Penalty of Fifty Shillings to be paid by any one who shall Expose or Devulge the Proceedings of any Meeting. Provided Secrecy is Required
- 16<sup>th</sup> All Monies that may be on hand over and above Fifty Pounds at the Expiration of Every Year shall be made a Dividend amongst the Subscribers towards the Expence of Building the Synagogue
- 17<sup>th</sup> Any Person or Persons making a Disturbance or having the least Controversy in the House of God to be Liable to be Fined Exempted from all Mitzvohs for a limited Time his Name in Capital Letters. Inserted in this Book with the Crime he has been guilty of to Deter others from such Misbehaviour in so Sacred a place
- 18<sup>th</sup> The Like Fines, Exemptions and Inventions to be extended to any Person, abusing themselves from the House of God on any Trifling Pretence arising from any Controversy with others
- 19<sup>th</sup> Thirty Nine Shillings Fine to be paid by any Person Refusing a Mitzvoh with which he may be Honoured by the Parnafs - Gabai or any other person acting as Proxy for the Parnafs



- 20.<sup>th</sup> All Punishments. Fines all to be settled by the above mentioned Adjuntos and every Misdeemeanor Committed by any Member of the Congregation the same shall be enquired into within Forty Eight Hours after such Offence be Committed.
- 21.<sup>st</sup> All Fines to be paid within Thirty Days after Judgment be given in Default of which such other Recourse to be had as in the Wisdom of the above Adjuntos shall be adjudged most Expedient.
- 22.<sup>d</sup> At the Annual Elections of Officers belonging to this Congregation the Parnass then / Only / to have the Casting Vote - should there be an equal Majority of Votes.
- 23.<sup>d</sup> Any Member of the Junta not giving Attendance at any Meeting called by the Parnass to pay a fine of Forty Shillings.
- 24.<sup>th</sup> Any Member who shall be Elected to the Office of Parnass or Gabay and should Refuse to Serve to pay a fine of Twenty Dollars.
- 25.<sup>th</sup> Any Person who shall be Elected to the Office of Hatanim & should Refuse to Serve to pay a fine of Fifty Shillings Shall.
- 26.<sup>th</sup> Any Member who shall presume to say he would have his Name Erased out of the Congregation Books, the same to be done and the Party to not come to any Dibrath Kedusha untill he pay a fine of Forty Dollars.
- 27.<sup>th</sup> Strict Obedience and Respect to be paid to the Parnassim and the Elders of this Congregation.
- 28.<sup>th</sup> No Private Quarrels to Extend so far as to make a Disunion in this Congregation - on pain of severe Penalties.
- 29.<sup>th</sup> Severe Penalties on those who shall be the Means of giving a bad Name to any of the Congregation. by which a Disgrace may be brought on any of the Parnassim.
- 30.<sup>th</sup> All Offerings made in the Synagogue to be punctually paid to the Gabay every Three Months in Default of which such Persons to be excluded from any Mitzvahs &c.
- 31.<sup>st</sup> The Parnass, Gabay & Junta to be annually Chosen before Brosh-ashanah & the Parnassim to be called out in the Synagogue on the first day - as likewise the Hatanim on the Second day of Brosh Ashanah.
- 32.<sup>d</sup> The Parnass that served the last Year to officiate the first day of Brosh-Ashanah and the Mitzvahs to be given on the day of Simhat Torah - & Shabat Bereshith by the Hatanim.



33.<sup>th</sup> If any Dispute should arise between any Members of the Congregation they shall be obliged to come before the Mahamad that they may Endeavour to settle it before they go to any Magistrate or be liable to such a Sentence as they may think proper

34.<sup>th</sup> No Person to be admitted without the Consent of the Junta

35.<sup>th</sup> All Monies Expended by the Parnasses during their Acting out of their own Capital shall be made good by those who are Chosen to succeed them

36.<sup>th</sup> The Parnass shall be obliged to Carry each Member his Account

37.<sup>th</sup> The Gabary shall lay before the Junta the Monies Expended & Received During his Acting. the Week before Prosh Hashanah

38.<sup>th</sup> The Parnass is not to lay out any Money for the Congregation without the Consent of the Majority of the Adjutors

We the Underwritten do hereby most Solemnly Promise in the Name of the Almighty God to abide by the above Regulations, or to be Liable to such Restrictions as is herein Specified as Witnesses our Hands the 3<sup>d</sup> day of our Month Tebeth 5539

1778

Levy Solomon Parnass  
Uriah Judah — Gabary

Samuel Judah

Andrew Hays

POPH 213

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Abner Shickel

Mr. Franks

Mr. Myers

David David

Heineman Ross

Baruch Lion

Mr. Judah

Sam David

Exhibt 24/11/1778  
in the Court of the City of New York

- 6) Letter from Chapman Abram, dated 11th August, 1778, to the Governor in Chief of Canada, requesting a letter of recommendation.
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To His Excellency, Frederick Haldimand, Esquire, Captain General and Governor in Chief of the Province of Quebec and the territories thereon depending in America, Vice Admiral and Keeper of the Great-Seal thereof, etc., etc., etc.

May it please your Excellency: Imprest with a deep and lively sense of those favors I have already experienced under your Excellency's command, permit me to testify the joy and satisfaction I now feel on your happy arrival in this province.

It is so much the more agreeable as I have already experienced your Excellency's kindness to me during the last war (with the French and the Indians to 1763), when I had the honor of supplying several regiments with necessities under your command.

Permit me likewise to assure your Excellency that neither my loyalty or zeal for his Majesty's service have in the least abated, that during the present unfortunate contest, I flatter myself in having shown new testimonies of my attachment for his Majesty's service under the command of your late worthy predecessor, Sir Guy Carleton, particularly in being one of those who had the honor of repelling the rebels at Long Point (Montreal, September, 1775), who, with an effrontery only peculiar to themselves, had formed the design of taking this city, and likewise in (1775) being one of a party that was detached from Quebec to surprize a party of Mr. (Benedict) Arnold's men just before that town was invested by the rebels; and lastly having turned out a volunteer with the troops when the rebels were defeated at Three Rivers (June, 1776).

This enumeration of my services, I assure your Excellency, proceeds not from a vain misplaced pride. It is only intended to inform your Excellency of my loyal conduct at a time when I am sorry to say that many of my fellow-citizens, unfortunately for them, gave way to those beneful insinuations which a despicable set of seditious men and tools of an unnatural rebellion endeavored to diffuse throughout the whole province.

That having been deeply engaged in the trade of the Upper Counties for these many years past, I have unavoidably many considerable outstanding debts due me there. Therefore, relying on your Excellency's past kindness, permit me most humbly to supplicate you may be pleased to recommend me to the care and attention of the commandants of the respective posts, by whose kind assistance I may be enabled to carry on my business to my satisfaction and advantage.

That your Excellency may enjoy every blessing of this life is the sincere and fervent wish of your Excellency's

Very humble and obedient servant,

Chapman Abram.

Montreal, 11th August, 1778.



- 7) The last Will & Testament of Chapman Abraham late of Montreal, Mercht. Deceased, depositted and proved the 11th April 1783 in the Registrar's office. Montreal.

J.B. (Signature illegible)

This Will of the within-named Chapman Abram was opened and Read in the Presence of us in Montreal the Seventh day of April 1783.

Chas. Blake, Surgeon, Garrison Montreal.  
Henry Lowel, Adjutant to Mr Chas. Blake.

In the Name of God - Amen: I Chapman Abraham of the City of Montreal Merchant, being in a weak and low state of body, but of sound and disposing mind and memory and being desirous to settle my worldly affairs do make and publish this my last Will and Testament hereby revoking and making void all former Wills by me at any time heretofore made; and first and principally I commit and reccommend my Soul to God and my body to the Earth to be decently interred in the burial ground of the Jewish Congregation near to the City of Montreal, and I request of my Executors hereinafter to be named that they would invite the Brethren of the Free-Mason Lodge of which I am a Member to accompany my body to the Grave - And as to such worldly Estate Wherewith it has pleased God to entrust me I dispose of the Same as followeth --- Imprimis, my Will is that all my just debts shall be first paid by my Executors after discharging the Expenses of my funeral --

- Item. My Will is that my Executors do as soon as conveniently may be after my decease pay to my beloved Wife Elizabeth the sum of One thousand pounds lawful money of the province of Quebec -----
- Item. I will and bequeath unto my said Wife the Bed bedstead, Curtains and Appurtenances together with a small table and six chairs making part of the furniture of her present bed-chamber -----
- Item. I will and bequeath to my said Wife all my bed and table linnen ----
- Item. I will and bequeath unto my Nephew Isaac Abraham of Montreal all my wearing Apparel except my linnen, stockings, Shoes and buckles ----
- Item. I will and bequeath unto Richard Macniel of Montreal the Sum of Fifty pounds lawful money of the Province of Quebec, in testimony of my grateful acknowledgement of his kind and friendly attention to me in my weak and low estate.
- Item. I will that all my household furniture, books, plate, linen and all my moveables not before especially bequeathed be sold to the highest bidder, and the Moneys arising therefrom, as well as the Moneys due to me may be disposed of by my Executors in trust for the following purposes:-  
Whereas my wife is now enceint by me, I do will, give and bequeath all the residue of my Estate so above described unto Richard Macniel and Samuel Judah of Montreal, Merchants in trust to be by them employed for the best use and behoof of the Child whereof my said wife is now enceint if it should be born with life, and my will is that the Interest of the said Residue should be added to the Principal and be paid to the said Child on the day it shall attain the Age of twentyone years; and in the Event that the said Child shall not be born with life or shall not attain the age of twenty one years, then I give the said residue and Interest thereof to my said Trustees to be by them possessed on this



further trust, that is to say, to pay the same in equal portions to my dear Brothers Solomon Abraham and Hart Abraham of Plimouth in Great Britain, their Executors, Administrators or Assigns -- And for the due Execution of this my last Will and Testament I do appoint Richard Macniel and Samuel Judah of Montreal, Merchants, to be my Executors with full power to do all lawful Acts tending thereto -- In Witness whereof I have to this my last will and Testament subscribed my Name and affixed my Seal declaring and publishing this to be my last Will and Testament at Montreal in the Province of Quebec the tenth day of March in the year of the world five thousand and seven hundred and eighty seven.

(Seal)

Signed, Sealed, published and declared by Chapman Abraham the above named Testator as and for his last Will and Testament before us who at his request, in his presence and in the presence of each other have subscribed our names as Witnesses thereto.

I. W. Kenney  
N. Bayard  
Wm Dummer Powell.

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- 8) Inventory of goods and chattels belonging to the estate of Chapman Abram, deceased, of Montreal, dated March 7th, 1783.

Inventory of Sundries the Goods and Chattels belonging to the Estate of Chapman Abram, late of the City of Montreal in the Province of Quebec Merchant deceased; Made and taken at request of Richard McNeal and Samuel Judah of the same place merchants, Testamentary Executors named in the Last will and Testament of the said late Chapman Abrams made at Montreal aforesaid date the seventh --- of March One thousand seven hundred and Eighty three --- This Inventory made and taken by me John Gerbrand Beek of the said City & District of Montreal Notary and Tabellien public being thereunto Lawfully authorized sworn and admitted; in the presence of the said Richard McNeal and Samuel Judah. as follows. -

In the Parlor

One oval looking glass Gild frame.

One pair window curtains compleat to drawing cords tassels and four brass screws.--

One large walnut dining Table -

Six common painted Chairs.

One pair Andirons with brass knobs -

One four post Bedsted

One Traveling Bodet

five Hebrew Books.

In the Hall

One oval Looking glass with Gild frame

One pair window Curtains Compleat to draw up  
Cords tassels and four brass screws.

Two Mahogany Chairs.

Six Common Chairs  
One large Walnut dinning Table  
One small pine Table  
One Japaned oval Tea Tray  
One pair large Andirons Brass Fender Shovel and Tongs  
Twelve Cups and Ten Saucers Blue China  
Six Silver Tablespoons.  
Five silver Tea spoons and one pair Silver sugartongs  
One Tea pott sugar dish and Creamer Blk ware  
Twelve Green handle knives and Twelve Ditto forks with silver ferrel  
One Slop Basin and Milk pott China  
One Feather Bed and Bolster  
One ditto Bolster and Pillow  
One Mahogany old shaving Box One Razor strop with two Razors and old shaving Box.  
four fine cutt Salts with three pearl spoons  
One large China Bowl  
two cutt decanters  
two Water Bottles  
One dozen Wine Glasses  
five tumblers  
One pewter inkstand  
One japaned water  
One pair new Boots  
Twenty four Men's shirts Good and Bad.  
Thirteen pair silk hose " " "  
four pair thread do. " " "  
five pair worsted do.  
One pair shoe and one pair knee Buckles Silver.  
One Tin Tea Canister  
One fowling piece

In the Kitchen.

One wooden dresser  
Twenty three Queen's ware flat plates  
Twelve ditto soup ditto  
Six ditto sorted dishes  
One ditto fish plate  
Twelve ditto desert do.  
One China Soup Tureen Queens ware  
One Japaned Bread Basket  
Two pair metal candlesticks  
One Japaned Gallon Jugg  
Two frying pans  
One Gridiron  
Two Copper Saucepans  
One Iron pott  
four smoothing Irons.-  
One pair Kitchen Tongs and shovel  
One water Bucket.-  
Three washing Tubs.-  
One Brass Teakettle.-  
One pewter Collender.-  
One pair Snuffers.-  
One doz. common knives and Forks  
One dbl Iron Stovepipe and stove

In the Yard.

One High runner Carioll, Cushions and Harness.-

One Cow.-

Three milk pans.-

One roasting Jack.-

Seven Blankets.-

Three Good Sails and one Bad one

Four Tin Kettles and Two Soups.-

Four Parcels roap.-

One Market Basket.-

Thus Done and Inventorised at Montreal aforesaid in the House of Joseph Perrinault lately occupied by the deceased Chapman Abrams, in St. Francis Street this Tenth day of April one thousand seven hundred and eighty three; and did the said Executors Promise as they do hereby that if anything should come to their knowledge wherewith this Inventory ought to be Augmented or deminished they will give due notice thereof where it doth belong.- and after being duly read have hereunto sett their names with the aforesaid notary.

Richd. McNeill

Saml Judah

J.G. Beek

Notr. Publ.

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Photostat copy of original will and inventory in the Old Court House, Montreal.

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- 9) Letter from Aaron Hart of Three Rivers to his son Moses Hart in New York, with postscript from his mother.
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Three Rivers, 8th March, 1786.

Dear Mo:

We rec'd your letters of 2d and 5 ins(tant). Am sorry to find that you had not warm cloths enofe with you and that the lakes are bad. Thear for I hope you will not risk in any danger if you find that you cane not be hear Pesah. You will acarding to my instrucktions go to New Yark and keep Pesah. Should you want any clothes to apper in ... you will git a good suit made in New Yark. Should you be short in money, you take up as much as you want frome my brother Harry.

I hope you are safe arrived some time before you receive this, and have settled all to my instrucktions with my brother to your satisfaction. Should you want any pints (points) consarning what is due me, he hase letters frome me which pints out every thing you will are cane (or can) want.



You will say as little as possible about your business to any of the Jews in New York more to your Unkles to (too). You must remain Pesah in a Jew's house. Pray take care of your self and God bless you.  
From your

Affection'd father,  
Aaron Hart.

Dear Moses:

This letter will be conveyed to you by Mr. Baby that lives at Jack Morris, who is going to York. I am sorry to find the lakes are dangerous, but hope before this reaches you, you will be safe at your journey's end. Your Dadda has order'd you to get made a suit of clothes at York which will be quite necessary if you are there Passover. I am sorry you had any cause to regret leaving the round of beef. I hope you took enough with you not to want on the road.

When you arrive you will on my account say every think affectionate to my d'r Mammy and rest of my family, not forgetting what I told you. I have nothing new to add. You will go to Mr. Eleazar Levy and present my best respects to him and Mrs. Levy and to Mr. Solomon Myers Cohen and Mrs. Cohen and family (formerly of Quebec), Mr. Hyam Myers and family.

'Tis needless to mention to you, I am sure, you will be particularly attentive to the business you are sent upon. If there should be any difficulty, advise with them who is able to give you good advice, and consider well with your self before you do any thing.

Don't forget to get me a wench. Josette is sick at the nunnery since Sunday last. We are all well here except myself. Have got a sore throat and head ach. I have no more to add, but remain, dear Moses, your

Affectionate mother,  
D. Hart.

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Original letters in the Hart papers,  
Seminare du St. Joseph, Three Rivers.

- 10) Letter from Eleazar Levy of New York to Aaron Hart of Three Rivers, regarding the education of Aaron Hart's son, Benjamin Hart.

New York, June 4th, 1794

Mr. Aaron Hart,

Dear Sir:

I am favor'd with yours of 29th April regarding your son Benj. If you intend him for a doctor, he should have the Latin language in some degree of perfection. Therefore not a day should be lost to put him to a Latin school and that can be done under your own eye at Montreal or Quebec Seminary, tho' I believe his cousin, Barnard Judah, is to be a doctor without Latin. He is with Doctor Bard where he is fully employ'd in carry'g out medecines, and he has an uncle who, if you will believe what some of his good family say, he was eminent in his proffession in England. Inclosed is one of his advertisem'ts.

All over this continent a practitioner, of what is called a D'r, is included an apothecary, a surgeon, and physician. This can be learn'd in N. York, Philadelphia, etc., and can be learned equally as well in Quebec or Montreal where there are equal as good practitioners as here. You will be at less expence, and he be under the superintendence of his parents and family, and that he stands much in need of.

I neither knew your intention and for what purpose the boys were sent here, but as you say in your last letter, for them to learn to be good Yehudim (Jews). Mr. Uriah Judah's family was not so well suited for that purpose as that was your object. Yourself and family and Moses who placed them there know more than I do, tho' I have heared from a person of veracity a true description of the Jews at Montreal.

I wish you would come to N. York this summer as it is said you had some inclination thereto. I will come a considerable part of the way to meet you, and at N. York my house and every think therein will be as your (own). You need be at no other expence than your pocket money and of y'r journey, nay shall be glad if you will spend the winter with me.

I think you can easily come now as your two sons are grown up and in business, and there is no great business doing in the winter.

It is unnecessary troubling you with any Congregation news or a description of people here, your sons having been so recently here and at Philadelphia.

Wishing happiness to yourself, wife, and family, I am  
Truly and sincerely your friend,  
Eleazar Levy.

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Original in Hart papers, Seminaire du St. Joseph, Three Rivers.