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**“ A BURIAL PLACE FOR THE JEWISH NATION
FOREVER.”**

BY ROSALIE S. PHILLIPS.¹

This title was employed in the deed of trust of the third acquisition of the cemetery, situated near Chatham Square, on New Bowery, New York City, purchased in 1729 (the first parcel having been granted in 1656, and the second purchased in 1681), and little did those who executed this deed imagine that it would be preserved inviolate as a place of repose for the remains of Jews for nearly two centuries; but such has been the case, and to-day the Congregation Shearith Israel in the city of New York, the oldest Jewish Congregation in North America, which owns the Cemetery, jealously guards those who sleep there, and all efforts to disturb their ashes have been steadfastly repulsed. In this little enclosure rest the remains of the ancestors of many of our most distinguished Jewish families.

Year by year all that is quaint in the streets of New York is becoming less, and the old landmarks are slipping away. All the more interesting is this ancient graveyard, with its unpretentious dark stones, made even darker by age. No marble shaft or carved tombs are there. Overshadowed by tall modern structures is this little remnant of “God’s acre,” situated in the midst of a busy life, marking a sacred spot where are interred the dead of a people which has been an enigma to the world in all ages and countries, and whose history is the history of all that is good in civilization.

¹Translations from the Hebrew have been kindly rendered by the Rev. Dr. D. de Sola Pool, of the Spanish and Portuguese Congregation Shearith Israel, New York City.

Name.	Date of Death.	Age.
Rebecca, wife of Daniel Gomez, Merchant	Oct. 14, 1729.....	28 yrs.
Rachel, daughter of Abram Rodrigues Riveira	Tishri 24, 1731.....	—
—, daughter of Asher —.....	Oct. 22, 1732.....	41 yrs. 7 mos. and 25 days.
Sara, daughter of Jacob Franks..	Kislev 23, 1733....	2 yrs. 10 mos. 4 days.
Rachel Rodriguez.....	May 19, 1733.....	—
Joseph Gomez	Sept. —, 1734.....	5 yrs.
Mordechay Burgos	July 18, 1736.....	56 yrs.
Esther Rachel, wife of Morde- chay Gomez	Sept. 29, 1736....	41 yrs. 6 mos.
Joseph Isaacs	May 25, 1737.....	78 yrs.
Aaron Franks	July 21, 1738.....	6½ yrs.
Jacob Louzada	Sivan 15, 1738.....	—
Elias Valverde of Barbadoes....	Aug. 30, 1739.....	48 yrs.
Rebecca Ashers	Jan. 22, 1740.....	87 yrs.
Reyna Gomez	Menahem 10, 1740.....	—
Michael bar Shelomo Hays.....	Elul 10, 1740.....	—
(Unknown)	Oct. 14, 1740.....	46 yrs.
Abraham Nunes Henriques.....	June 29, 1741.....	67 yrs.
Basha, daughter of Judah Hays.	Adar 16, 1741.....	4 yrs.
Abraham, son of Isaac M. Seixas	Ve Adar 25, 1742.....	—
(Unknown)	—, 1742	Adult.
Samuel Myer Cohen (Merchant) ..	Sept. 21, 1743.....	—
Michael bar Joseph	Sivan 7, 1744.....	—
Jacob Louzada	July 3, 1744.....	7 yrs.
Jehudith bat Joseph.....	Ab 4, 1745....	46 yrs. 4 mos. 11 days.
Simha, wife of Moses Torres....	Oct. 24, 1746.....	69 yrs.
Rachel Levy	Aug. 21, 1749.....	—
Esther, wife of Daniel Gomez...May	31, 1753.....	—
Rebecca, wife of David Gomez...Sept.	23, 1761.	56 yrs. and 4 mos.
Raphael	—, 1762	35 yrs.
Aaron Louzada	Decr. 27, 1764.....	71 yrs.
Judah Hays	Aug. 19, 1764.....	61 yrs.
David Gomez	July 15, 1769.....	72 yrs.
Daniel Torres	Iyar 25, 1770.....	88 yrs.
Benjamin	Aug. —, 1772.....	Adult.