

**1766, 13 Junho, Londres. Carta de Rebecca Mendes Seixas ao irmão Isaac Mendes Seixas.**

(in *"Items relating to the Seixas family, New York"*, Publications of the American Jewish Historical Society, 27, 1920, pp. 359-361.)

London the 13<sup>th</sup> June, 1766

Dear & beloved brother,

I found myself favored with your two letters of the 4<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup> March, the one as well as the other move me in such a manner that could I remedy your necessities and distress agreeable to my inclination, you may rely I would certainly do it, and in order that you may in some measure be sensible of it, I let you know that I am determined to take possession of the Estate our Deceased Father left for which purpose I have taken the advice and Counsel of the best Lawyers here and intend after to make my will in authentic form by an attorney in order to avoid uneasiness after my death, which in substance is as follows. That during your life may be paid to you the interest of the Estate for your subsistence; after your decease to pay your spouse the interest of £700 during her life only, and your sons and daughters the interest of £1200 divided in equal parts, each their equal proportion for their support and the Capital to be delivered them when the shall come at the age of Twenty one years, and in case they may be any of age to deliver them their parts directly after your decease; also leave that after the death of your wife the £700 that are reserved for her support may be divided among the abovementioned your children in the same manner as is already expressed. This, my Dear Brother, is in substance the Contents of the will I propose to make in respect of the Estate left by our father; and that has been the motive that I have not left you know before as it was about four months before I could get the most principal opinion and all for your advantage & that of your family, and to avoid embarassments after my death. You'll take notice that from the said Estate I intend to reimburse myself of £202.10.6 you are in my debt as appears by the account which is taken from the Books of my Loving & Deceased husband which I do not remmit at present to avoid so great a postage but shall send it without fail by the first ship that goes to your port. In case you should judge that you can establish any of your sons & maybe your desire that I should release you a sum to do it I shall have no objection to do it provided it does not exceed the summ of Two hundred Pounds Sterlg. for which you mat draw on me or my son in law Daniel Brandon Seixas, or you may order that sum Layd out in some sort of goods

which I leave you to order as you may direct for the advantage of your family. I do not resolve to release you a greater sum as no person can answer for the uncertainty of life as I wish that during yours you may always have something to support and educate your children while in the world. Besides that I can not know whether the public funds will fall from the 3p<sup>ct</sup> to 2 as has happened in other stocks that from 4p<sup>ct</sup> they fell to 3, as I am always to secure you the sum of Thirty Pounds annually. But in case you should not resolve that I should release you the said sum of £200 besides the Amount of the Interest of the Estate and you are willing for the term of ten years successively to draw for £20 more you may do it in the supposition that by these means it does not exceed the aforesaid sum of £200, when you may be certain that neither I nor anything belonging to me will pretend to defraud the Estate of one single farthing of which you may be certain and easy. The Estate of our Deceased father consists of £1000 annuity at 3 p<sup>ct</sup>, £500 India annuity at 3pct, & £400 South Sea annuity at 3 p<sup>ct</sup>, all which amounts to £1900, the interest of which is £57 p. annum, and if you resolve that I should release you the above sum of £200 and I reimbursed of what you are in my debt you may draw every year on me or my son in law for £45 and in case you should rather chuse the £20 for the term of 10 years you may then draw for £71 each year, which I leave to your determination & beg you'll advise me with brevity that I may act accordingly.

I am now to acquaint you that God had been pleased to grant my daughter a very fine son, tho something smaller than common as it came at the seven months, but we are in great hopes that it may live as many others have done, of which we crave your joy. The letter you sent me I ordered delivered in his own hand, when I write you by a merchantship shall send to know if there is any answer. I am sorry that you enjoy so poor state of health as you inform me. May the Most High permit that at the receipt of this you may find yourself entirely recovered for the relief of your family, to whom I wish every felicity, as to myself, I go on as the Almighty pleases. I have retired into the country with my family, with an intention of living there, both summer and winter, to see if I can recover a better state of health. My son in law, daughter, and grandson are all in health and desire to be kindly remembered with our most tender love. After having wrote this I received your Letter by the hand of Hazan Pinto dated the 26<sup>th</sup> April; as it contains nothing new to answer I offer the foregoing as a replay and remain, praying the Almighty to preserve your life for many years as desires, Your loving & affecte sister.

Rebeca Mendes Seixas