

1827, Novembro, Nova Iorque. Recomendações de Grace Nathan Seixas ao filho Isaac Mendes Seixas Nathan relativas à sua morte.

(Jacob Rader Marcus (ed.), *American Jewish Woman: A Documentary History*, Nova Iorque, KTAV Publishing House, 1981, pp. 73-74.)

To My Son

This effort will speak to you from the tomb. Years of infirmities lead to the reflection that we must soon part. I am perfectly resigned to meet the last earthly event, grateful to God for the blessings he has given me.

I *die* in the *full faith* of my *religion*. I leave you in the bosom of a virtuous wife, surrounded by a numerous offspring, who give promise of comfort.

Long may they live to shew you the same filial duties that I have uninterruptedly received from you. Now in this solemn moment when I am taking an eternal earthly farewell let me express my full approbation of your deportment toward me. It has been exemplary, as you have devoted your kindnesses so may be your great reward; more I could say. Need I exhort you to the cultivation of your endearing children and give them a just idea of their religious and moral principles, these being the corner stones of all *good*, and on which the basis of life here and hereafter may be supported. You my son will live in peace and bear a kind manner to those who have shown it to me; by this they will cherish my memory; and I shall live.

Now thou my son who wast the joy of my younger days and the balm of my declining age, let me thrice bless you and say may peace rest with you forever and ever. Amen.

Your mother Grace Nathan

Keep the seven days of mourning and no more; for that time only you will keep your beard.

Began, November 1827