

1822-1830 (circa), Nova Iorque. Excerto de uma carta de Sarah Lopez à amiga e parente Priscilla Lopez sobre a história da sua família

(Max J. Kohler, "The Lopez and Rivera Families of Newport", *Publications of the American Jewish Historical Society*, 2, 1984, pp. 101-106)

This Genealogy I cannot trace farther back than from my Husband's Father named Diego Jose Lopez a man much respected and esteemed in Portugal where he was born and married twice. By his first wife (who was my Grand Father Rivera's sister) he had two Sons and one Daughter named there Jose, Michael and Elizabeth. Jose, the oldest son, from some unpleasant circumstances connected with the affairs of the Inquisition, supposing himself in Danger of being imprisoned in that horrid place, quited the Country very young in his Father's lifetime, and went as I am informed to England, from whence he was the first of his Brothers that came to America, where in compliance with our religious forms & customs he changed his name to that of Moses and Married my Grand Father's Daughter Rebecca; the whole family afterwards removed from New York to Newport, where they lived a number of years and there he Died. He had Eight children, three of them, Isaac, Daniel & Abigail Died, and his Widow (your Husband's Mother) going finally from Newport to Charleston, and all her Children, you well know that the whole family Died there. By the second wife of my Husband's father who was of the Lopez family, he had three Sons, named in rotation Edward, Henry & Gabriel. Henry Died quite young, and his Brother Edward the oldest who brought with him his other Brother Gabriel, the youngest (now Dead) were called here Aaron & David, they being the two next half brothers to Moses that came to America. With the first brother Edward came also from Portugal his first wife & a young Daughter, their names being there Anna & Catherine were altered for Abigail & Sarah, the marriage ceremony of our religion being on their arrival performed here between him & his said wife. By her he had seven Children, who are all Dead, excepting the youngest Daughter named Rebecca Hendricks, a Widow residing in this City. By my Husband's second marriage with me we had Ten Children, two sons both named Jacob Died at Newport, and my Daughter Maria Levy at Wilmington, the remainings even now living are my Daughter Hannah Rivera, a widow, Abigail Gomez, Juliet Levy, Samuel Lopez, married, Joshua, Delia and Gracia, unmarried. The last that came in succession to America was another own brother to Moses, by the name of Michael, altered here for Abraham. With him came also his Wife and three Sons, the Mother there being called Joana, took the name of

Abigail, & the sons whose Names were in rotation Edward, Joseph and John, were changed for Moses, Samuel and Jacob, their, parents Marriage Ceremony being also performed here. The whole of this family is now Dead, excepting Moses, who after the Death of his brother Jacob at Newport not long ago, came to this city, & lives in my family. Elizabeth, who was own sister to Abram & Moses, who having been married, was left a widow with four Daughters & one Son. The oldest Daughter was my Husband's first wife, who as before said came to this country. The mother and two of the other Daughters were killed by an Earthquake in Portugal in the year 1755, the House falling upon them, and the son, a worthy young Man, was murdered in Cool Blood in his own house by a Spanish traitor who lodged there one night as his intimate friend, so that of the whole family, only One Daughter was left living in Portugal, who would not quit it when the last brother came away. There were also left there several other near Connections of the Lopez name. As your own Children's Grand Mother Lopez was originally a Rivera, & the two families of Lopez and Rivera are nearly connected both by blood and marriage, I will also give you some description of the latter, beginning with my Grand Father of that name. He was born in Spain, where he married twice, being there much esteemed. By his first wife he had only one son, & by the second a Son and a Daughter. With this family he emigrated to America, and came to New York in which place was also performed the Marriage Ceremony, & had their Names altered. He took that of Abraham, the eldest son was called Isaac, the other Jacob, and the Daughter Rebecca, but what they were called in their country I cannot say. Some time after their being settled here, Jacob, the second Son, who afterwards became my father, went to Curacao, where he married my Mother, a widow whose name before She had her first Husband named Sasportas was Pementel. With her he returned to New York, where I was born, and my Grand Father losing his wife he after some time married a third named Lucena, which he also buried in New York, having no children by her & the family then removed to Newport, the place of my brother Abraham's nativity, and finally the old Gentlemen & his two sons Isaac and Jacob Died there. My Mother came with me to New York (where she and my said brother ended their days), the latter left only his wife & his only son Aaron now in Wilmington, to keep up the Rivera's Name.