

# MASONIC PROCESSION, 1864

## MRS. MOSES DELGADO

- 1     **Extract from *The Jamaica Tribune & Daily Advertiser***  
Wednesday, 10th August 1864
- 2     **Extract from *The Jamaica Tribune & Daily Advertiser***  
Tuesday, 16th August 1864
- 3     **Extract from *The Colonial Standard & Jamaica Despatch***  
Thursday, 18th August 1864

Items 1 & 2 are reprinted from *A Record of the Jews in Jamaica*, by Jacob Andrade, and published in Jamaica in 1941; Appendix Ee, pages 267 & 268.  
Item 3 is from the Editor's research at The Newspaper Library, Colindale, London, England, and found on page 2, columns 3 to 6.

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- 1     **Extract from *The Jamaica Tribune & Daily Advertiser***  
Wednesday, 10th August 1864

### **Masonic Procession.**

The ceremony of a Masonic Procession is almost a novelty in Kingston. One will however take place on Monday next, on the occasion of laying the corner stone of the new Jewish Alms House about to be erected in Duke Street.

The ceremony will be arranged under the immediate direction of the Friendly Lodge of this city, by permission of the Right Worshipful the Honourable **Dr. Hamilton**, M.A., M.D., Provisional Grand Master of Jamaica, who has most courteously conceded the management to the Friendly Lodge.

The Grand Master and his grand officers will be present, as well as the several Lodges of Kingston, St. Andrew and Port Royal. The procession will move from the Masonic Hall, Hanover Street, at 4 o'clock, proceed up Hanover Street, as far as Beeston Street, along Beeston Street as far as the General's House, and then down Duke Street, to the site selected for the erection of the Alms House. The stone will be laid by **Mrs. Moses Delgado**, who was President of the Ladies' Committee of the late Bazaar, from the proceeds of which the expense of the contemplated buildings will be defrayed. After the ceremony the procession will return in order to the Masonic Hall, Hanover Street.

- 2     **Extract from *The Jamaica Tribune & Daily Advertiser***  
Tuesday, 16th August 1864

### **Laying the Foundation Stone of the Hebrew Alms House.**

This interesting ceremony took place yesterday afternoon. Long before the appointed hour, Duke Street in the vicinity of the Alms House, and Hanover Street near the Masonic Hall, were crowded with spectators. Every window, piazza, trees, and in

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some cases, the tops of houses were brought into requisition. The Masonic brethren assembled at the Lodge Room soon after 3 o'clock, but it was after 4 o'clock before the procession moved off down Hanover Street along Harbour Street, up Duke Street to the site of the building. The preparations made here by the President and Directors of the Hebrew Benevolent Society were admirable. Two large covered and beautifully decorated platforms were erected one specially for the ladies, the other for the Grand Master and the Officers of the Grand Lodge and the Officers of the Friendly Lodge, to which the Executive in the present ceremony was delegated. The Band of the Volunteer Companies accompanied the procession and attended on the ground - the time going was the "Royal Arch March." On the arrival of the procession at the place of the building the large gates were thrown open and the procession entered and the place presented a very beautiful appearance. The different Lodges were arranged under their respective banners. The Band played "God save the Queen." An introductory prayer was offered by the **Reverend Dr. Myers**. Brother **Henry J. Jacobs**, Senior Warden of the Friendly Lodge, then read the parchment scroll to be deposited under the stone. **B. A. Franklin**, the President of the Society addressed the assemblage on the establishment and progress of the Institution, and having concluded, the **Rev. A. H. Delevante** delivered an oration, after which the ceremony of "Laying the stone" took place. (The Clergy were in full canonicals, wearing of course their Talet). The Very Worshipful **Moses Mendes Sellas**, Master of the Friendly Lodge, handed to **Mrs. Moses Delgado** the trowel, remarking:-

"**Mrs. Delgado** - I have much pleasure that it has been delegated to me as Master of the Friendly Lodge of this city (that Lodge over which your late respected husband once presided with great ability, and whose memory is yet held in high esteem by Brethren of the Fraternity) - to present you with this Trowel for the purpose of laying the corner stone of the new "Alms House." When it was known, Madam, that you consented to be the President of the Ladies' Bazaar Committee from which the funds have been realized by which this building is about to be erected to the relief of suffering humanity, that pleasure was doubly enhanced, when as a mother in Israel, you so cheerfully rendered your services in the good and holy cause and have now accepted the invitation to add further to your past labours in laying the corner-stone of this building. Permit me, madam, to hope that the cement which you are about to spread with this Trowel around this foundation stone, dedicated to the cause of that Godlike virtue charity, may cause many a heart to rejoice and may be looked upon by the Great Architect of the Universe as an acceptable offering in His sight, and may your years be long numbered among those whose examples may go down to posterity for the benefit and good of mankind in general."

**Mrs. Delgado** (accepting the trowel) replied:-

"I cannot but acknowledge the very high honour which has been conferred on me in having been selected to lay the Foundation Stone of this building, which has been dedicated to so noble and charitable a cause - in the ceremony in which I have performed so prominent a part; I have been assisted by the members of the various Lodges in this city. So closely allied as Freemasonry is to charity, it being one of the first or principal rules of that ancient Institution, I do not wonder at the part they have taken in these interesting proceedings, and it must be their desire (as I am sure it is of all others who surround me) to see this good work (so nobly commenced this day)

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flourish and prosper as it deserves, and I feel assured with one voice all will join me in exclaiming, - May Almighty God in His Wisdom look down upon it and sanctify it - Amen.”

The bottle containing the scroll, the coins of the realm and a copy of the *Tribune* newspaper was then placed on the niche, the stone was lowered to slow music and the cement applied by Mrs. Moses Delgado, who has been specially invited to perform the ceremony. This ceremony was followed by another prayer by the Reverend Dr. Myers and some remarks by the Right Worshipful The Hon. Dr. Hamilton: and the ceremony being concluded, the procession formed again, up Duke Street, along East Queen Street, down Hanover Street, to the Friendly Lodge. The Band playing the Apprentices’ March where refreshment was provided for the brethren generally.

### **3 Extract from *The Colonial Standard & Jamaica Despatch*** Thursday, 18th August 1864

#### **Masonic Procession.**

The Foundation Stone of the projected Kingston Hebrew Alms House was laid on Monday evening last with Masonic honors...

#### *Column 4.*

The ceremony for which the company had assembled was then proceeded with. The Band having struck up an appropriate air, the Right Worshipful **Doctor Hamilton** escorted **Mrs. Delgado**, widow of the late **Moses Delgado**, Esq., Merchant, to the east end of the contemplated buildings. This lady was selected by the Directors of the Institution to lay the foundation stone of the structure for several reasons. She had been the President of the Committee of Ladies who had managed the late Bazaar, and had by her countenance and support done much to render that arduous undertaking eminently successful. Then she is the relict of one of the most philanthropic, zealous, and worthy of men who has ever lived in this community. Mr. Moses Delgado had, in his day, laboured unceasingly to achieve the political enfranchisement of himself and his co-religionists in this island, and for his invaluable and laborious services, had obtained from his bretheren a valuable service of plate, a portion of which we had the pleasure of seeing in use on the memorable occasion herein referred to. Then Mrs. Delgado has lived a life of usefulness. She has ever had the outstretched hand of charity and friendship: not only her own family and immediate friends but all who have had the pleasure of her acquaintances have had the benefit of her precept and advice...