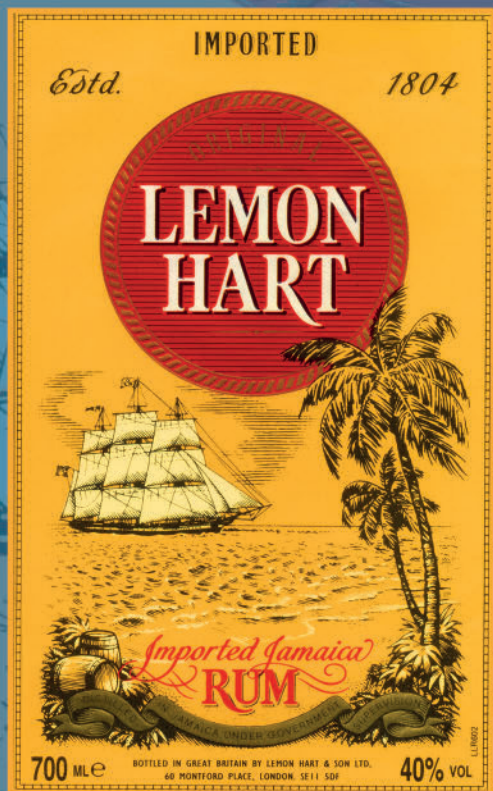


LEMON HART OF PENZANCE



KEITH PEARCE

Lemon Hart of Penzance by Keith Pearce

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P E N Z A N C E

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Lemon Hart (1768-1845) of Penzance is the most well-known of the many Jews who lived in Cornwall in the late 18th and early 19th centuries, and he is famous for the rum which still bears his name today. Over time, his story has been subject to embellishment and a colourful mythology has developed around him. Extravagant claims have been made that he owned slaves, slave ships and plantations, that he ran a distillery in Penzance, that he was the first person to be contracted exclusively to the Admiralty to supply its ships with rum, and that he introduced the sailors' "tot" to the Navy. These anecdotal and misbegotten claims are either unsubstantiated from documentary sources or they are entirely spurious. This study attempts to separate fact from fiction and aims to give an accurate picture of this successful Cornish merchant, who moved to London in 1811.

The text contains previously unpublished information on Lemon Hart and his family.

Colour portraits and illustrations and five family trees.

This publication is available through Penlee House,
and from local, national and online booksellers.

Softcover; pp. 50 @ £5.00