

LOCAL ITEMS:

A new congregation has been started in Portland, Maine.

The French Synagogue now worships on Third Avenue and 26th Street, and is said to number ninety members.

At the East 20th Street Synagogue last Sabbath an able German sermon was delivered by Rev. Dr. Levl.

The Philadelphia Hebrew Charity Ball will take place at the Academy on February 26th, 1878.

Rev. Dr. HORNBERG lectured before the Y. M. A. of the Cong. "Ahawath Chesed" last evening.

A BALL will be given by the Societe Israelite Francaise de Secours Mutuels, at Germania Assembly Rooms, 201 and 293 Bowery, on Sunday evening, Dec. 2d.

A VOLUNTEER choir, composed of young ladies and gentlemen of the congregation, is attached to the Mason Street Synagogue, of San Francisco, Cal.

The regular weekly sewing meetings of the Ladies' Auxiliary Society of the Mount Sinai Hospital began last Monday, and will continue every Monday until further notice.

A LITERARY and musical entertainment will be given by the Malmonides Library Association, on Sunday evening next, at the lower hall in Teutonia Assembly Rooms, 168 Third Avenue.

At a meeting of Sunday School teachers held on Monday evening last, at the residence of Rev. H. S. Jacob, Mr. M. S. Wise read an interesting paper entitled, "A Teacher's Work in the Sunday School," which will be published in our next issue.

In compliance with a request of five members, a special meeting of the members of the Home for Aged and Infirm Hebrews, will be held on Sunday next, at three P. M., to consider and take action upon several proposed amendments to the Constitution and By-Laws.

The first reception of the Purim Association will take place at Delmonico's, on Wednesday evening, Dec. 12th. Tickets can be obtained of the usual committee, and, as the character of any affair given under the auspices of the Purim Association is so well known, further remarks are unnecessary.

On Sunday next, a new lodge of the Bona Berith will be instituted in Boston, Mass., under the name of Mosenthal Lodge No. 288. Eighty candidates for admission have already signed their names to the call. The business of the lodge will be transacted in the German language.

A LITERARY and musical entertainment, in aid of a worthy object, will be given at Chickering Hall, on Wednesday evening next. Mr. De Cordova will deliver his humorous lecture: "Miss Jones' Wedding, No Cards." Miss Gertrude Emmanuel will sing, Mr. Davis will preside at the organ, Prof. Froehlich will perform on the violin, and Mr. D. M. Levett will execute a piano solo. Signor Agratonte is the musical director.

From the annual report of the United Hebrew Relief Association, of St. Louis, Mo., we learn that the receipts during the past year were \$3,801.80, and the expenditures, \$3,744.74.—The following gentlemen are the officers of this charity: President, B. Singer; Vice-President, Dr. S. Wolfenstein; Secretary, A. Binawanger; Treasurer, William Goldstein; Directors, Rev. S. Amneshin, Moses Strauss, Lewis Hutzler, Albert Fischer, Leopold Steinberger, Jacob Farth, R. Weil, and D. Kohn.

The initial performance, this season, of the Parlor Dramatic Association will take place under the auspices of Golden Rule Lodge, F. and A. M., at the Lexington Avenue Opera House, on Thursday evening next. Robertson's comedy, "Caste," will be presented, with the following distribution of characters: *Ether Eccles*, Miss Fox; *Polly Eccles*, Miss Welsh; *Marchioness D'Alroy*, Miss Genit; *D'Alroy*, Mr. Perring; *Capt. Huxtree*, Mr. Marks; *Eccles*, Mr. Goodman; *Gerridge*, Mr. E. Goodman. An enjoyable entertainment may be anticipated.

The rooms of the Adelpbi Literary Society of Albany, N. Y., an association composed of co-religionists, were reopened to the public last Wednesday evening, after being newly furnished and elegantly decorated. Meetings of the Society are held every Sunday afternoon, at which there are orations, essays, readings, declamations, and debates upon the topics of the day. The officers are as follows: President, L. Stark; Vice President, L. Auer; Recording Secretary, S. Nien; Financial Secretary, L. Levi; Treasurer, L. Strauss; Librarian, D. Holstein; Library Committee, L. J. Waldman, C. S. Coleman; Board of Managers, S. Marks, L. Levi, Solomon Davis, H. L. Herschberger.

The Academy of Music has been engaged for the "Ahawath Chesed" Fair, and, if all the arrangements are properly carried out, December 12th will be the opening night. It is the universal opinion that no more convenient place, as to size and location, could have been secured. A ball will take place at the Academy on December 11th, and immediately at its conclusion a large force of carpenters will be put to work, and the entire building adapted to the use of

the Fair as speedily as possible. The various committees are diligently at work, endeavoring to outvie each other in their efforts to make the Fair the event of the season.

A COURSE of monthly lectures has been arranged for the Thirty-fourth Street Synagogue, which will be given during the winter months, from November to April inclusively, by Rev. Drs. Gottlieb and Huebner, Rev. Geo. Jacobs, of Philadelphia, and Abraham S. Isaacs. The opening and closing lectures will be delivered by the minister of the congregation, Rev. Henry S. Jacobs. These lectures will be given on the last Monday evening of the months named, except Dr. Gottlieb's, which will take place on the last Thursday evening in December. The public are cordially invited to attend these lectures for which there will be no reserved seats. Some musical attractions are also announced.

ONCE again the Purim Association is to the front, and the friends of the members are invited to participate in a soiree at Delmonico's, conducted in the liberal manner that has distinguished all the affairs of this Association. If proper support be extended, we may have the pleasure of announcing a Purim Ball, after the fashion of the entertainments that make this Society so popular; but the conservative element is so strong that no steps will be taken until fair support is guaranteed. Meanwhile, the coming entertainment will be appreciated, especially by the many who are not connected with any clubs, and who have sisters, wives and daughters who are fond of the dance and of the other little excitements incidental to a ball. A sign of the times may be witnessed in this little fact that while the entertainment is to be in all respects equal to its predecessors, the charge for an invitation is reduced one half, which is no small recommendation in the eyes of economical brothers, husbands and fathers.

COL. MYER MYERS, a venerable and distinguished coreligionist and British Consul at Norfolk, Va., died in that city on Thursday last, in his eighty-fourth year. Col. Myers was born in the city of Norfolk, in the same house in which his death occurred, and which was built by his father, Moses Myers, Esq., over a century ago. During the war of 1812, he was on the staff of Gen. Wade Hampton, father of the present Governor of South Carolina, and, at the close of the war, embarked in mercantile pursuits, in which he amassed a handsome fortune. At the time of his death he was Consul for Great Britain, Brazil, and the Netherlands a Director of the Farmer's Bank, and one of the oldest Freemasons in Virginia, having been initiated in 1812. He was one of the earlier members of Norfolk Lodge No. 1, F. & A. M., and remained a member in full standing to the last. He was generous, hospitable, and courteous, and died full of years and honors. His death is lamented by all who knew him, and especially by those who enjoyed the warmth of his friendship. His venerable wife survives him—he leaves no other family.

A LARGE audience greeted Hon. Algernon S. Sullivan on his appearance on the lecture platform before the Y. M. H. A. on Wednesday evening. Mr. Sullivan chose for his subject, "Orientalism: To what extent and by what agencies will it affect American thought?"—The lecturer's remarks were attentively listened to, and, no doubt, produced a deep impression on his hearers. We publish the lecture in another column. After the intermission, Miss Henrietta Markstein performed a piano solo, "Rhapsodie Hongroise," and later in the evening a fantasia, "Lullule." This lady has been heard so frequently before the Association, that any comment is unnecessary. The same may also be said of Dr. D. H. Davison, whose violin solo, De Beriot's "7th Air Varié," was artistically rendered. Mr. H. A. Maas sang Abt's beautiful ballad, "Embarrassment," very pleasantly, and, for encore, gave Tito Mattei's old favorite, "Non E Ver." Miss Adele Myers, a young lady possessing a rich and beautiful voice, sang "La Serenata," and was loudly applauded. Her encore also greatly pleased the audience.—It is to be hoped that Miss Myers will be again heard before the Association.

The next entertainment will be given at the rooms on Saturday evening, Nov. 24th.

ON Sunday last, Jordan Lodge No. 15, I. O. B. B., celebrated its twenty-fifth anniversary by a banquet at Terrace Garden. This lodge is one of the oldest in the Order, and now numbers about two hundred and twenty members, all of whom, with their wives and lady friends were present on this occasion; four hundred and fifty persons were seated at the tables.—After all had freely partaken of the profusion of viands set before them, Mr. Moral announced the regular toast, which were as follows:—"District Grand Lodge No. 1," responded to by President Hermann. "Constitution Grand Lodge," by Mr. Ellinger. "The Ladies," by Mr. A. L. Sanger. "The Press," by Dr. S. N. Leo. "Jordan Lodge No. 15," by Mr. Seligman, and "The Charter Members," by Mr. Solwab. The latter gentleman is one of the original thirteen who first founded the Order. All the arrangements were gotten up in perfect good taste, and reflected credit on the efficient chairmen of the different committees, Mr. S. Jackson of Floor Committee, Mr. L. Lindner of Reception, and Mr. M. Schwarzbaum of Banquet. At nine o'clock the banquet terminated, and a recess was taken, in order to afford time to clear the hall for dancing, which was kept up until an early hour in the morning. The "silver wedding" of Jordan Lodge will long be remembered by the many who participated in its celebration. Among the many present was one venerable member, with his wife, who had just celebrated their golden wedding. The music was furnished by A. Bernstein, who fully sustained his well known reputation. Great praise is due to Mr. L. Lindner, for his untiring zeal and energy in rendering the affair a perfect success.

A REGULAR bi-monthly meeting of the Executive Board of the Union of Hebrew Congregations was held in Cincinnati last Sunday, President Loth in the chair. The minutes of last meeting were read and approved. The following new members were announced: Congregation Emanuel, of Denver, Colorado, and Congregation Emanu-El, of San Francisco, Cal.—The Secretary read a list of the receipts since the last meeting, amounting to \$2,437.25.—The President reported that he had drawn orders on the Treasurer for \$1,360.92 for payments ordered by the Board of Governors, and \$100 for the use of the Joint Committee on Statistics, which was, on motion, approved.—Bills amounting to \$822.75 were ordered to be paid.

The Secretary reported that a majority of the congregations composing the Union had approved the amendment to the constitution passed by the Fourth Council, whereupon the same was declared duly ratified and a part of the constitution. They will enable the next Council to adopt laws that may be required to carry into effect the terms of union with the Board of Delegates. The Committee on Circuits reported that each State and Territory be considered a general circuit, and that these be divided into special circuits in such manner as the various congregations and committees deem best for their own interest and convenience;—this report was adopted. The several towns who now desire to avail themselves of the benefit of circuit preaching, should now proceed to organize and reap the advantages offered them by the Union.

The fifty-eighth annual meeting of the Female Hebrew Benevolent Society of Philadelphia, was held in the Seventh Street Synagogue on Wednesday, Nov. 7th. Rev. S. Morais opened the meeting with prayer, and the minutes of the previous meeting having been read and adopted, the Secretary, Myrilla E. Mitchell, presented the following report:

SECRETARY'S REPORT.

Athwart the sunlit horizon of our hopes, a cloud of sadness casteth now its darkening shadow o'er us, and with eyelids moistened with the tear drops from the sympathetic fount of sorrow, cometh at this season the Secretary of your society, for our well-beloved President, she, who at each succeeding year, hath smiled on all a kindly welcome, now languishes in physical distress. Join with me, then, kind friends, while here before the shrine of the Most High, in unison, we now implore that Israel's God may once more restore the precious boon of sight and health to her whom we have all for over five and twenty years delighted to honor as our President; and, through His infinite mercy, may she once more return to her wonted sphere of usefulness in our midst, "for when the poor hath cried, she, too, hath wept."

Throughout the year just ended many and urgent have indeed been the calls on the Female Hebrew Benevolent Society, and each, "e'en hide though it be," met with a warm response from our kind and faithful almoners, the Committees of the Northern and Southern Districts. In the last named locality, a pensioner who, for almost a score of years, has been aided by our charity, upon whose attenuated form consumption's stamp had long since set its ghastly seal, has ceased to battle on the field of life and gone to her eternal home; her death-bed, as her latest years had been, soothed by kind words and loving words emanating from our altar of beneficence. Peace to her soul. Amen.

Two families, long dependent on this Society, have been sent aross the ocean's briny deep to distant homes in Holland's far off clime; and yet another to Occidental states, th' steps have bent, each and all blessing the charity that gave them aid, thus embuing them to reach once more the distant relatives, long only known in memory, or in the heart's commune. And, as we have done, so enable us, kind friends, still to do, that: all may feel how truly then is charity, like mercy, twice blessed, in blessing him who gives, and him who takes.

MYRILLA E. MITCHELL, Secretary.

PHILADELPHIA, NOV. 7, 1877.

From the report of Isabel R. Weil, Treasurer, we learn that the receipts during the past year were \$609.10, and the expenditures, \$506.50, leaving a balance of \$102.60 due the Treasurer. The following were the officers elected for the ensuing year: President, Mrs. A. Hart; Vice-President Mrs. A. S. Wolf; Treasurer, Mrs. E. H. Weil; Secretary, Mrs. Allen Mitchell; Managers, Mrs. A. Hart, Mrs. Dr. Emanuel, Mrs. Paines Hart, Mrs. A. S. Wolf, Mrs. Ellen Phillips, Mrs. A. C. Van Bui, Mrs. Henry Cohen, Mrs. Leon Berg, Miss Bluma Heymann, Mrs. G. Cromelien, and Mrs. E. H. Weil.

On the 7th inst., Rev. Jacob Voorsanger, of the Providence Hebrew congregation, delivered a lecture on "Nathan the Wise," upon which the Providence Journal comments in this flattering strain:

"To any one who has read Lessing's greatest master piece, it must be interesting to learn how the drama is thought of by our Hebrew citizens. Taking with full liberty the rabbi's views as exponent, we are gratified to pronounce the now indisputable fact, that the Hebrew race not alone has outgrown its former tancor against those who held their lives cheaper than that of their wild dog, haunted and pursued for fear of hurting men in his rabid madness, but have become the most tolerant and liberal race on the earth. The rabbi, who treated his subject with the ease and grace of a *litterateur*, has given the death knell to the bigoted assertion that Jews do not love their fellow citizens. We have learned many a thing that was unknown to us, we have been acquainted with acts long hidden under the veil of darkness. The rabbi, who is but twenty-five years of age, spoke as we might expect it from an enthusiast but withal scholarly young man. Always tolerant, never offensive, he spoke of the sufferings of his brethren in former ages as a patriot, it is true, but in a manner which leaves no doubt that the Jewish race has forgiven, if not forgotten, the sufferings of the past. We tender the rabbi our congratulations for the successful delivery of his "Nathan," and express the sincere opinion that with such able and faithful exponents as leaders, the younger generation of American Israelites will amply justify the high expectations of their fellow citizens."

The history of the Providence Hebrew Congregation shows what influence a little energy and earnestness can exercise. Previous to the call of Rev. Mr. Voorsanger, there was no synagogue, simply two or three *minyanim*. Thanks to the efforts of Messrs. Peixotto and Sonnen-schwin, about one month before the holidays a congregation was organized, now numbering eighty-five. A pretty synagogue, capable of seating five hundred worshippers, was leased,

and a moderately reformed ritual (Jastrow's) was adopted. Rev. Mr. Voorsanger was then elected minister of the congregation, and at once organized a Sunday School, numbering seventy-five pupils. On Sundays, the classes receive instruction in the doctrines of faith and biblical history; on Sabbaths and Mondays in Hebrew. On Thursdays the confirmation class meets. An English sermon is delivered every week. Mr. Meyer Noot assists as Hebrew teacher, and there are five lady teachers.

The congregation is steadily increasing in numbers, receiving accessions from neighboring towns. A Ladies' Hebrew Benevolent Association has just been organized, with fifty-one members. As soon as this Society is on a firm footing, a Y. M. H. A. will be organized by the popular minister, who was one of the organizers of the Philadelphia Y. M. H. A. At a meeting held last Monday evening, it was resolved to join the U. A. H. C. from January 1st, 1878 — No delegate is to be sent to the special meeting of the Board of Delegates, but the members are pledged to the Union, and will not be in the background when the East decides to join the Union in a body.

---