SUMPTUARY LAWS OF THE JEWS FROM THE FIFTEENTH TO THE EIGHTEENTH CENTURIES

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Preface.

This is by no means an exhaustive treatment of the subject.

Such a treatment would require wider and deeper research than I
have, for the purposes of this paper, been able to undertake. Practically no syntematic work treating of the subject of "Sumptuary Laws
of the Jews" has been done, at least not as far as I have been able
to discover. The only material available are incidental references
to such laws in such works as Israel Abrahams "Jewish Life in the
Widdle Ages", Predemann's "Geschichte des Erziehungswesens" and some
of the general works on Jewish history, and of course the Tekanoth
themselves. The classification and translation of such of these Tekanoth as I could discover and an attempt to arrive at some general
conclusions regarding them are the purposes of this study.

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Sumptuary laws are "much laws as limit or regulate the private expenditures of the citizens of a community". (1). But the term may be used in a wider sense and with a breader application. It sometimes refers to laws regulating the conduct of the individual members of the community where the question of expenditure is not necessarily or directly involved. There are many such laws, which are not strictly religious, political or criminal and which may be placed under the general heading of sumptuary laws. For example: the Nethodist church strictly forbids card playing of any sort, even where there is no financial stake. New such a prohibition is not in the strict sense of the word either moral or religious, altho it is eventually based upon such a consideration, and it comes properly under the category of sumptuary laws. The laws against the theatres during Cromwell's dictatorship and a large number of the socalled "blue laws" of the New England States also belong to this class. It is at times hard to tell just warm where the strictly religious character of a law or ordinance ceases, while it goes over into the field of sumptuary law, and at times the terms overlap. This is particularly true of a good many church laws and enactments. Take fur example the prohibition of Sunday baseball and other forms of unisement on Sunday. Such laws are of course based upon the idea of strict Sabbath observance and yet they are not of themselves religious laws and belong properly within the domain of our subject.

There are various reasons and wrinciples underlying the making of sumptuary laws. These considerations may be of a political.

¹⁾Encl. Britt. Vol. 22 p 624.

economic, moral or religious character. In a community where one man holds absolute sway, his position may be endangered by too lavish a display on the part of some of the attisment his realn . Too great a display of wealth and luxury may be the means of wimning over to a unryer the allegiance of the mob, so the ruler finds it good policy to mass laws against the giving of expensive and gorgeous entertainments or the wearing of lummious attire, things which are aut to attract the loyalty and love of the mob. Or the ruler may realize that too great an indulgence in the pleasures of dress or the table weakens the sturdy character and warlike nature of his people and so he mx may make attempts to check their indulgence in the practices which tend to weaken the fibre of his subjects. Julius Cassar, who passed many such laws hints at his philosophy on the mibject when he praises the warlike spirit of the Gauls and attributes it to the fact that the merchants "least often resort to them and bring in those things which tend to weaken the courage".

Invarious living may drain the industrial resources of a nation and and it is deried advisable to place limits on private expenditure.

Such laws are or course of little value in that they do not remety the evil which they attack and are impossible is enforcement.

The moral basis of many such laws is clearly discernible. For instance, the Methodist enterments against dancing are based upon the theory that dancing may lead to sexual irregularity.

Sumpture: laws are widespread and extend from antiquity up to comparatively recent times. In fact many of the laws still upon the statute books of some of our own states are in reality survivals of this form of regulation, as witness the prohibition laws of Maine and other states and the "blue laws" above referred to. Among the larm of Solon, in Sparta, were enactments against extravagance in female attire, expensive doweries, costly banquets and gorgeous funerals. The Appian Law (215 B.C.E.) forbids women to wear ornaments weighing more than one half ounce in gold, dress of mixed colors or riding in carriages withing one mile of the city limits, except to public religious services. The Orchian Law (187 B.C.E.) limits the member of guests at private entertainments. The Fannian Law (161 B.C.E.) fixes the maximum sum to be spent at entertainment and goes so far as to specify certain foods which are not permitted at the banquet. For instance no fowl is to be served except one len and that one not fattened. In Mediaeval and Modern times we have the enactments of the various kings of Italy, Germany, Spain and Italy dealing with the same question. Edward IV of England attempted to regulate the dress of all ranks and gives his motives for sich laws: "the commons of the realm, men as well as women, wear excessive and inordinate apparel to the great displeasure of God, the emriching of strange realms and the destruction of this realms.

who formed so distinct and isolated a group among the people with whom he dwelt. It lay in the very nature of Jewish congregational life in the Thetto. The synagog was the centre of Jewish life and it excercised a far reaching influence not only upon the religious life of the Jew but also upon his every day life and deeds. We may living under the laws and customs general to all the inhabitants of

the land can hardly grasp or fully appreciate how far reaching and deep was this influence, not only throut the middle ages but up to the end of the eighteenth century. "The mediaeval life of the Jew had for its centre the synagog The Jewish quarter seems to have grown up around the synagog, which was the centre of Jewish life, locally as well as religiously. This concentration round the symagog may be noted in the social as well as in the material life of the middle wees. The synagog tended with ever increasing rapidity, to absorb and to develop the social life of the community, both when Jews enjoyed free intercourse with their neighbors of other faiths, and when this intercourse was restricted to the narrowest possible bounds. It was the political emancipation, which the close of the eighteenth century witnessed, that first loosened the hold of the synamor on Jewish life." (1) The synagog was looked upon not only as a house of morehip but as the proper authority for the promilgation and enforcement of whatever laws were necessary for the regulation and control of the xxxx lives of the members of the community. Only by completely cutting himself off from the community . a thing not easy to do, could the Jew escape the authority of the synance. An investigation into the laws and ordinances promulgated by the congregations gives as as could nothing else, a deep insight into the communal life of the Chetto Jew and the high degree to which such life was controlled and regulated, by the synagog. These congregational Tekanoth are a rich field for the student of Jerith life and its development during the period that Israel apent in the wilderness of the Chetto.

¹⁾ Israel Abrahams: Jewish Life in the Middle Ages

Owing to the peruliar position which the Jew occupied, not only tiru the Middle Ages but up to comparatively recent times, some of the motives underlying the making of sumptuary laws are quite different from those which induced the enactment of such ordinances among non-Jers, while in some respects the reasons are the same. "Similar regulations laws limiting expenditure) were very frequently enacted, partly in the interest of thrift, partly to prevent envy, and partly to protect the poorer Jews from the humiliating necessity of foregoing the banquet altogether". (1). The fear of exciting the envy and hatred of the nonlewish world in the midst of which the Jew lived coems to have been a very important factor in the attempt to check extravagence and estentatious show of every kind. There was an immediate danger that anything which would call the attention of the Centile to his Jewish neighbor might for to the injury of the latter. The less conspicuous he rendered himself the better were into opportunities for a safe and peaceful existence. So we find wruning thru most of the Tekanoth this strain of "lest we arouse the jualousy of the Gentiles". To cite a few examples For the law in clearly dictated by the fear of stirring up the hatred of the Gritile: The congregation of Forli (1417) forbids more than three waten and two gills from walking on the street together or from taking pleasure wilks except on holidays, while the men age warmed not to stand on street corners or to loiter in front of the Synagog in groups of more than six. (2) A Spanish Tekanah of the 15th century begins with "he following significant words: "Inasmuch as there are ingerous distons by which women overstep the bond in their dress intiat they wear costly and luxurious dress......

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¹⁾ Abrahms: Jerish Life in the M.A. p 145
2) Vogelatein & Reiger: Geschichte der Juden in Rom I.p328.&
Groote Jubelschrift p59.

... because or this extravagance the hate and jealousy of the Christians gets new nouris ment and because they think our wealth the cause of their powerty they make stringent laws against us, we decree etc. "(1). "" Bologna and Forli Tekanah(1416-1418) gives as the reason for contain dress ordinances "not to be too commissions in the eyes of the Centiles (3). A Tekanah of the Tortugese community of Hamburg (1716) forbids Purim masking and parading of the streets with music "for by this means violence is stirred up against us and our condition is enlargered (3). A communal proclamation of the Hamburg-Altona community Degins: "Because it is known what great danger engine from the fact that women attend funerals, thinking it a great "mitgra", but they do not know that they are blood smillers even as : rederers are, therefore we forbid etc".(4). This same congregation in 1735 farkets limits the number of those atending a funeral "beguine too great a concourse, especially on Christian holidays hinders traffic on the streets and may stir up trouble (5). The dress ordinances of Fuerth (1786) has the following migorous introduction: "Also because of this we are in fear and trombling lest we be deriged by the Gentiles among whom we live in that they will say: ""here are the people of God. and they have left their own land. But instead of the Agarments of the Exile, they ornament themselves more than we, which state of affairs is not in accordance with whit is wight", and they will suspect us of being powerful in wealth and in the abundance of all things. And what great anxiety there is in thisi(6) And so in nearly every one of the Tekanoth there is come reference, either express or implied, to the danger there lies in drawing the attention of the Centils to the wealth

8) Juh. dom Jund. Lit. Gesell. Vill p 189.

¹⁾ Jab. C. d. Gesch.der Jud. III p 330 2) Gractz Jubelsch. p 58 3) " der Judd: Lit. Geschl. VII p 196. 4) Mittheil. der Geschl. Over Judd. Volkskunde 191 p 126. 5) " 1903- 4 p56.

and lubry or the Jew.

It is ration comprising to find little opposition to certain modes of dream merely on the ground that they are the garb of the Gentile. The doctrine of "Chikas ha Gov" seems to here played very little part in the passing of congregational laws regarding dress. If there were much motives underlying the Tekanoths they are not expressed or even indicated. Occasionally for religious reasons. where the particular robe or garment had some special Christian or Mohammedan mignificance . such gar might be forbidden. "Fut the underlying principle with mediaeval rabbis was not that Jews m must dress differently to others, but they were forbidden to use any article of attire which the Christian or Mohammedan wore as a token of faith. A similar remark applies to dressing the hair. "(1) "In 1526 Elijah Hizrachi, whose rabbinical authority extended over the Jews of Constantinople forbade Jewish savants and their pupils to wear the cope thrown over their shoulders, because he concidered the garment to belong to the category of a specifically Christian costure. But apart from the fact that Mizrachi's prohibition reformed appealably to the Sabbath, his decision was not unanimously diamed, and he the other authorities decided in favor of the cope. *(2). *Gr en wells were avoided by the Jews of Moslem countries . Tr these were the distinctive gurb of the decendants best Jewish methorities maintained that "all colors not exclusively Mohammedan may be worn by the Jews (3). The oridnances of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries no where, within the knowledge of the writer, enjoin any mode of conduct on the ground of "Chukas

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¹⁾ Amghana: Jerish Life in the M. A. p283.

⁾ p284

ha Goy". This fact deserves attention because in the European ghettos the Jews developed a distinctive mode of dress and there seems
to have been a popular feeling that to dress like the Gentile was
closely akin to apestacy. But the congregations did not in their
official capacity find it necessary to enact laws against this breach
of the popular mustom and wiewpoint.

A good new of the sumptuary laws of the various congregations are based upon purely moral grounds. It was felt that lavish display in mattern of dress, particularly on the part of momen was ant to lev! to loss of restraint and then to actual immorality. And altho in the dress engetments this reason is as a mule not expressly stated one feels that it must have in the minds of the congregational with mities when they legislated in regar to the matter. Mr. Abrahams opening of the Middle Ages says: "Jewish moralists and preachers shouted themselves boarse in exhortations towards greater moderation. Jews should don humble raiment and not flaunt colored robers was already a Jewish maxim in the thirteenth century. Even on the Sabbath when they may drags better, they should wear only circle timments of camelot. Linen might be worn close to the skin only on Sabbath. On all other days a thick roolen garm int was put on undermost".(1) Berliner, discussing the customs of the Jews of the same neriod says: " ... especially all conspicuously gry colors were prescribed among the Jews. Such colors were looked uno, un conductive to breaches of morality and hence the wearing of dark a stuffs are commanded".(2). The ordinance of the Fuerth ROX

¹⁾ Abraining: Jewis Life in the M.A. 2) Barliner: Aus dem Leben der Juden des Mittelalters p 643. 3) Jhb. der Jued. Lit. Genell. Vill p 190.

congregation (1786), in the same manner frobids the wearing of ermine coats by women or girls "lest the daughters of Israel become unrestrained in the manner of the Gentile women". The sume ordinance frobids the surling of the hair because as one sin leads to another there may enough an increase of Sabbath desecration".(1). A dress ordinines of the eighteenth century (Frankfurt) recognizes the same dunrar in permitting too lavish a display in dress and condemns the practice in the following words: " ... the extrawagant show and nome of women and girls, and this sin was also the cause of our great loss in the destruction of the Temple, as Isaia' reproved them: Because the drighters of Zion went with outstretched necks etc. And in this mitter we have not yet turned from our error and this great sin is still hidden in our midst ... and this frivolity increases from lay to day". (3). Along the same line is the Cherem of 1733 enacted by the community of Eisenstadt and vicinity: " In the same mainer clothes shall not made to be worn open at the throat or at the blok of the neck in a frivolous ma ner, not even by small girls and young mailens. But let them hold fast to the standards of the law; or Ismael and Judaism to so in humility after the custon of our migortons. Therefore it is decreed that whoever transgresses in this manner shall be placed under the pan of excommunicution".(3).

the moral region clearly evident. Not only in the synagog, but also at the burgest and other festive occasions, such as weddings and circumstations, attempts were made to keep men and women neps-

^{1).} Jhb. Just. Lit. Gesell. VIII 190. 2) Der Israelit 1874 p876

rated. "If they did not may together, neither did they play together." (4) To quote one or two of the ordinances which clearly illustrate this point: "To put a watch upon a watch, at a wedding men and women whill not be mut together in one room, unless it be partitioned off by a curtain. (5) "In every place that you find restraint you will find holiness. But up to now there has been great frivolity in descing. It is therefore absolutely forbidden for a dance to take place where men and women dance together. (6). In purth, the habbi ordered a black slate to be placed in the women's synagog containing the following legend in "big letters": "This slate has been placed here for the purpose of entering on it the names of those romen, who are so bold that they dance with men, thus distinguishing themselves by their shamelessness from wirthous women". (7). " Amarried woman or a widow shall not dance with men or with youther. (8).

the ordinances forbidding women to be seen on the streets alone after dark or proper escart. (2). The community of Eisenstadt enacted three such ordinances in an attempt to compel uncarried women to avoid suspicus conduct. The one shall take into his house a servant who has a husband. And whoever transgresses this law shall be put under the ban of accommunication. With the exception that a married women may be engaged as a set nurse. We also serve warning that no married women to avoid not a proper character of and the women not beeding this warning will be

⁴⁾ Abrahmus: Jew. Life in the M.A. p 28. 5). Jbb. Jued. Lit.
Genell. Vill. p 190. 6) J.J.J.G. Vill 190. 7) **

8.) New Townslit 1876 pt. 1 p416. 9) Witth. Ges. Jued. Volk. 40.

proclaimed an a frivolous woman". "We also warn every man that he shall investigate carefully in his household as far as he can if he muspects any eart of sinful thing in his man or maid servant to discharge them even in the medicale of the term".(1).

Certain forms of plansure are looked upon with histrust by many classes of people and are in many instances distinctly frowned upon. This is due to various reasons. Sometimes the distrust is based on the fear that indulgence in that particular form of pleasure may lead to frivolity, lack of responsibility and eventually to positive mong doing. But in many cases it is based on the idea that life is a derious usiness, much too sombre and gloomy to be spent in such inconsequential and unprofitable a manner as the mere gratification of the desire for amusement. This attitude has come to be known as the Puritanic viewpoint, because it was the Puritans who carried it to its greatest extreme. It is especially against the theatre, dancing and card playing that this muritante entrit vents itself. It finds concrete expression in the laws promulgated by some of the christian sects, even of our own day, against indulgence in them forms of musement. The Jew his had, on the whole, a same and outgristic attitude towards life and its pleasures. It is true that in the malirid attendance at athletic games was forbidden. But such prolibition was based on the practical consideration that these games word in Treet and Roman times of a religious nature and the audience by its very presence gave a certain amount of acquiescence to the religious rite which the game celebrated. There was also the further reason, that during the Maccabean period the Jew-

¹⁾ Ismanlit: 1876 pt I p 416.

ish youth tolding part in the games often attempted by means of an operation to disquise the fact that they had been circumcised and thus avoid the discrimination which might be shown against them as Jews. Then the very fact that they had to appear in the arena naked naturally for ended the Jewish sense of modesty. So there was a good practical reason for forbidding any participation in the games. But against symptoments as such there seems to have been no opecific objection. It is therefore hard to understand the meaning of several of the emgregational enactments of the seventeenth and eighteenth combries against such indulgence. And yethhere are such enactments as witness the following. "At the order of the congregational sugregentatives dancing at weddings is forbidden for the future. This prohibition applies alike to men and woman, of whatever station they may e. (1). "Men and women are for idden, on Sabbath or hold larg, to go to an inn to drink there, or to attend bowling allows, fencing schools or theatre or the opera. During Purin work or Channuka week they may go to the opera. "(2). ".... no one whall attend the comedy or play which are now here:(5). This same or inanca also forbids going to the mublic baths.

Gaming was a wise which often has a strong hid on the Jew.

It was always discountenanced by the authorities. Even in Mishnate times the grabler was held in low esteem, so low in fact that his testim my was not accepted in a law smit.(4) In later times the congregations attempted to deal with the evil in the usual manner, the enactment of laws prohibiting it under severe penalties. Particularly type was this in Italy, where the Jews mingled freely with (1)J. J.L.Gesell. VII p204. 2)Mitth. Jued. Volk. 1903-4 p 12.

with the non-Jeve, and shared with them the pleasures of the gaming table. The "chara of Bologna & Forli (1416-1418) deals with the matter as follows: "Mirther we decree that from this day until the end of the torns fixed (10 years) no Jew shall be permitted to harbor in his lowe gumblers, whether Jews or Christians; nor shall any Jew play with dice, cards or indulge in any other form of gambling, neither on his own behalf or for any one else, not with Jews nor Christians, not in his own house nor that of others. But playing with dominos and dies together or chess without dies is permitted, provided the stake be not over four bolognini for each play. In days of facting or illness cards are permitted to lighten the burden. provided the grate chall not be over one quattrino per player for each game. (1) Eisenstadt (1733): all are forbidden to nlaw cards except women confined with child. But on Chamuka even men may play. But under no consideration shall men and -omen. youths and middens, even if related to each other, play together, under the penalty of excommunication. "(2). Fuerth (1764) "Participation in the lottery absolutely forbidden". (3) The congregation of Kuttenplan of the transpart(1737) forbade card playing excert on the days on which no "Tacirrin" is medited or during illness. (4).

¹⁾ Graets Jubellachrift 57. 2)Der Ierzelit 1876 pt. I p416 3) Jub. Jued. Lit. Genell. VIII 189. 4)Mitth. Jued. Volke. 1920: 87.

Ordinances regulating dress.

Tokanah of Bologna & Forli 1416-1418. (1)

In or ber that we may humble our hearts and bring humility in the midst of the people of God, and not to be too conspicuous in the eyes of the dentiles, we decree that from this day until the end of the project above mentioned, no dew or Jewess of the inhabitants of the above mentioned eities, or of the surrounding villages and humbers, any clock which may lead to pride, but only black clocks. ... and the sleeves shall not be worn slashed open. But such clocks as have already been made (before this ordinance) which are of cloth other than black, may be worn; but the pleaves must be already (i.e. not slashed open), and such clocks shall not be open at the rides or back.

Pirther, no man or woman shall wear any cloak of sable, ernine brilliant color, red, changeable, out low, or.. (here is used the rord ping rate hedemann transliterates "paone", the meaning of which is reduced to the writer). But if the garment is of any other texture it may be manufactured and worn, with the provise that on such garment no cloth shall be put anywhere on the outside, of a texture different than the garment itslef.

but they didl not be permitted to mean them outside of the house nor shall tray be seen in them at the doors of their houses, un-

¹⁾ Granty , hibeliachrist p 58.

other garment no that they be not seen in the open......

Purther inn whall not wear jackets of silk or velvet, for pride's sake, unless it be in a manner so as not to be visible on the outside. And in the same way, women shall not wear garments of silk or velvet, exposed to view, unless it be in a manner so as not to be seen in the outside. Further, they shall not wear a dress which has fringes exposed to view in any place except at the neck and the slaeve openings(i.e.at the wrist).

meck and no gold hairned, disclosed to view, upon her head. But brides are permitted to wear a gold hair net openly, without a covering for thirty days, but after thirty days they must put the covering on their heads. Further, the men shall not wear belts, exposed to view, outside of their houses, made of silver, if the silver weighs more than six owness, nor shall such a belt be covered with velvet for pride's sake.

Further, Remar shall not by wav of ornament wear upon their fingers none thun one gold ring. But that one ring they may wear on whatever finger of either hand they wish. Women shall not wear more than two rings at a time or three at the utmost.

And in the same way, they (momen) shall not put on a belt or sash, exposed to wise, the silver of which weighs more than ten ources at the introst.

Any one who transgresses any of these ordinances referring to dresses or ornments, as mentioned above, whether man or woman, shall be compalled to pay a fine of ten bolagnini in silver or its

equivalent to the treasury of that city for every breach. And the men are liable for the fines of their wives. And if any one chall refuse to obey that congregation shall not be allowed to count him in as a nember of the "minyon", nor shall it permit him to be called to the reading of the law, not shall be be granted the honor of rolling up the servel, till be turn from his wickedness.

Tekanah of Balladolid, Spain 1433. (1)

The last paragraph forbids in general, the wearing of glaringly conspicuous dress. "Let not the Jews forget that they live in times of optimisation".

Spanish Tekanah of the 15th Century. (2)

Inagench of there are dangerous eletons by which women overstep the bounds in their dress, in that they wear costly and luxurious clothes, i.e. wich stuffs, trains and ornaments of gold,
silver and precious pearls etc., which cause much harm and evidence
great expenditure. And the heads of the families swear that because of the extravagance the hate and jealousy of the Christians
gets new normalizatent, and because they think our wealth the cause
of their powerty they make stringent laws against us, we decree
that with the exception of brides and women who have been married
only one year, no woman shall wear: rich dresses of costly gold—
embroidened, olimecolored, transparent fine linen, silk or fine
wool, or on their mobes trivings of silk, brocade or olimecolored
sturce. No clumps of gold or pearls, no olive-colored headbands,
no long trains, no cloaks with high collars, no robes of brilliant-

1 1) Grantz Geschich. VIII p 144. 2) Jhb. Geschich. Juden & Didenthums III p 331

ly colored stuffs, no wide sleeves. Silver clasps and brooches may be worn provided they do not weigh over four ounces each. In the same way, no Israelite over fifteen vears of age shall wear a dress worked in gold, olive colored or made of silk, or a garment trianed with gold or olivecolored stuffs. These may be morn to receive the king and queen, at dances or other mublic occasions. The separate communities may apply the law as they see fit or make new ones.

Ordinance of Hetz --- end of 17th Century. (1)

All worms injet were weils when they go to the synagog. Young brides aged tember, thinteen or fourteen years, are excused from this law for the first year of their marriage; those who wed when fifteen years old, are free from wearin the weil for three months. At the service on Saturday evening, on the evening when the festival concludes, on week nights and on Purim eve all women are free to discard the weil. The same law applies to mantles.

Ordinance of Frankfurt ---- 18th Century. (2)

In no care shall women wear garments embroidered with gold or silver.

No Jereis or mearls, except one ring on each hand.

No instruct which frivologaly expose the throat.

No flowers or feathers shall be worn on the head. Golden chains, mediallians, hoods, golden watches, scarfs or miblions around the body, all forbidden.

¹⁾ Abraham: Jemish Life in the M. A. 283.

² mar Immalit: 1874 p 566.

"ekanah of Bisenstadt 1744. (1)

In front or it the back, in a frivolous manner, even by maidens and small girls. But let all hold fast to the standards of the laws of Israel and Judaism to go in humility after the custom of our ancestors. Therefore it is decreed that whoever transgresses in this respect shall be put under the ban of excommunication.

The rewing of crinoline skirts is forbidden under to penalty of excommunication.

Harburg-Altona-Wandabeck 1726 (2)

New fastions shall as far as possible be avoided.

No worker shall appear at the awnages clothed in a crinoline skirt.

Married non are forbidden to wear: velvet clothing as well as welvet facing upon their cloaks, buckles set with even false jewels, colored shoes or slippers. But they may wear collars and caps of welvet, also buttons of dull silver on their clothing and neck-kerchiefs with lace edges. But if any one shall buy himself into the community with the stipulation that the above forbidden things are permitted him, the elders of the community may permit it.

Dut on the sleeve of a fur coat it is estmitted. (handpietten) are forbidden, the same as in the case of married men, while on the other hand, necklerolises with lace edges are nermitted.

¹⁾ per Immelit: 1876 pt. I p 416

²⁾Mitth. Just. Volksk. 1911 p 125 1903-4 p 52-53.

Women winll wear no colored silk dresses(except black). The body of the more must be of wool, while the sleeves may be of silk. But there shall be no silver trimmings thereon. On velvet or other skirts the arron shall be at least one quarter of an ell longer than the most of the skirt, and especially must they not lift the skirt and tuck it in. Further they shall not wear gloves and caps embroidered with gold or silver, att any kind of gold or silver braid upon tipin imesses, aprone worked in lace or ages drawn work, buttons of hard or dull silver (except on fur coats), hoods trimmed with milver wit gold, shoes or slippers embroidered with gold or silver, also those made of silk or with lace or ribbons, especially any kind of color of shoes or slippers. (except black or waxed). cornet(?) hords and hoods of fur of any sort, also of silk and plumed hats, pourls or gold chains or other ornaments of diamond . even if the stones be false, pearl or diamond earings (even if the stones be falce), rings set with diamonis or false stones(2 gold. band rings are permitted, but no more), gold key chains, fur collars of sabel, warder or lynx, as also scarfs with lace work, silk and gold and gilver worked ribbons on the aprons or as a sash around the maste waint,but the arms must be govered, any kind of sable, marder or lynx on the outside, and surely not as a lining on the inside of their skirts, also Swedish skirts(drawn work where silk is used as the body underneath, but wool drawnwork lined with black stuff in permitted), colored East India cotton and smooth satin even plack, clasps set with diamonds or even false stones,

stockings tripped with gold and silver, bits of plaster on the face (beauty spots), hair ornaments and finally, any kind of frings on the skirts (the last mentioned is forbidden to married momen also).

of the things have forbidden, the unmarried are permitted to wear: "schluder-telegues and Forschelewith lace edges, but their arms must be covered (they shall not be permitted to wear gold, silver or white lace on their heads), "Horhflege, naemlich mit Wieren" (a kind of hood with frilled white edges).

They are forbidden to wear rings, even of plain gold, evening cloaks even without lace, and on their coats more than one piece of white lace at the mock. On Sabbath and holidays they shall not have their hair dressed, and especially hall not wear curls (but false hair is permitted). They are permitted to wear "Tabrettzeug" and Swedish clothes, but not of Taffeta or colored silk. A taffeta coat is promitted. But HERKING servant girls are forbidien to wear Tabrettzeug (cridently a kind of imported cloth)

Should any one of the Hamburg _er Wandsbeck community appear in Altona and in his dress or otherwise do anything contrary to our laws, he shall be sited to his own congregation, and it shall beasked to observe the same dress ordinance or else not be invited to come to Altona.

A full fledged member of this community and also a youth who has attained his thirteenth year, shall not appear in the synagog on Sabbath or holidays with any other than a black hat, nor shall the first lemitioned appear at the synagog on the above mentioned days with a colored neckeroleif. The elders of the community, as

days from such dress. But an unmarried person shall be remitted to wear such dress even on Sabbath and holidays.

Any garments (worn by the child at circumcision) of Gold or silver or trimmed with colored or white lace are forbidden and even the father of the child shall not on such occasion permit it to be dressed in silk. Under penalty of excommunication, at a cricumcision, the child's frees shall consist of only the socalled Jewish swadd—ling clothes (Justischwindel), without any trimming of gold or silver or lace.

Tekanah of Parth 1786 (1)

Silver and gold trimings are mermitted only on hoods and on headveil(?) ("sternlich), but otherwise frobidden whether on furs, collars, north shoes or sandals, whether worked into the fabric, embroidered sorted on or in any other manner attached, even only a thread of gold or eilver (because of the danger of arousing envy) whether on weeklays, Sabbath or holidays. And if some have such garments from a former day, they shall not wear them outside of the house.

No householder, whoever he may be, shall on the Sabbath, holiday or at a private fastivity go to the evnagor without his synagog mantle. Rich shaking (some kind of outer garment) are forbidden to all man, whoever they may be, on all occasions.

1)Jub. Jurd. Lit. Gesell. Vol. VIII. p 189.

Freeth

white lace is permitted only on the hoods (of women) but otherwise forbidden under a penalty of 18 litres of wax. All household
heads shall wern the members of their households in reference to
this matter and match equability for any breach thereof. Hewcomers
are allowed to follow the quantum of their former communities for
a period of dix meeks till they can have the local laws explained
to them.

In rings earings and belt buckles precious stones and jewels are permitted, but otherwise forbidden, e.g. in bracelets, even if such ornaments are permet ones (lest it excess envy). Also, women and girls shall not wear a watch on their dresses, as is done by the gentiles. A breach of this ordinance shall be finedxb 18 litres of wax. For offending a management shall be made in both synagogs that such and such women have broken this law, in order that the daughters of Israel shall hear and not rebel again.

Jowish women and girls shall not walk on the streets clothed in ermine, leds the daughters of Israel become bold, in the manner of the dentiles. The girls shall not go about with their hair curled for as one sin leads to another, there may ensue an increase of Sabbath description.

A woman who has no married sons, shall not before the end of twenty five years of married life, nome into the synages without cloak and heal covering. But because in the past, women have greatly transgrouped in this matter, the deputies of the congregation shall pay strict head to this point, and as soon as one or more transgressors are discovered, such transgressors shall, without head as

to family or station, pay a fine of mix litres of wax for a first offense, and they shall also be warned that if they commit this breach again, they will be fined nine litres of wax.

in

From the congregational mimites of Prostitz 1772 (1)

Because of the great troubles that have cone upon us, let every one who form dof turn his attention to these words, examine his conduct and day: "What hath God done this to us and why hith his great anger birmed".....surely our sins have caused all this....
especially write as shown in the gamb of men and narticularly women, who bedeek themselves with ornaments and beautiful garmuds, decorated with gold and silver and medallions, on the streets and in the market place and to this the monhet bath said: "Wee unto the daughters of Zion who 30 with outstretched neck etc.". And besides this is proper to nown for Jerusalen if fitting dress. It is therefore decreed under the ban pronounced by Joshua ben Nun, that neither man nor women shall were any garment trimmed with silver, and surely not with gold. Even hoods of gold or silver, buckles broaches and the like shall be forbidden.

¹⁾ Ozgr 1: Sifmuth Vol. III part 3 p 16.

Lars limiting number of guests at weddings etc.

Bologna & Forli (1)

Because we have noticed that those having weddings and banquete are extravagant and spend more than is in keeping with their
wealth and more than the wealthy of the dentiles among whom we live
and this is the cause of the waste of money, we decree that from
the end of this month of Sivan (1416) to the end of the term (10
years), no Jew of the inhabitants of the communities above mentioned
whall be permitted to entertain at any one wedding banquet more
than twenty was, ten women, and five voung women (unmarried). But
relatives to the third degree, including the third degree, may be
entertained in addition to the number mentioned.

We furnive decree that if the bride comes from another city u upon a horse, die shall be escorted into the city by no more than ten male times and form men on foot. But if she come in a boat the number accompanying her from the boat to the place where the redding is to be held shall not exceed twelve Jews or Jemesses.

We further decree that at the elementation banquet no Jew of the communities mentioned, shall be permitted to entertain more than ten men, and five women in addition to his relatives, male and female; relatives shall be reckoned to the third generation inclusive.

whoever whall disobey one of these decrees and shall entertain men or when at the medding or circumstation banquets to a number greater than above mentioned, shall be obligated to pay to the

Grants Jubelechmift pp5 9-60.

treasury of the community a fine of one ducat for every man and woman exceeding the number allowed above.

Harburg-Altona-Wandsbeck (1)

At a worlding feast, the first evening, 20 couples (man and wife), 12 youths and 12 numarried women may be present, on the evening that the number is consummated in the pales of tranty couples forty are possible. This does not include, the chief rabbi and his wife, the massessors, the singers and the servants, but without their rives. In accordance with an older ordinance, if the dowery of the pair amounts to more than one thousand thalers up to ten thousand thalers, for every thousand thalers, two couples additional may be invited, and for every thousand thalers over ten thousand thalers one; couple additional may be invited. For every couple over the number above mentioned a fine of eight marks shall be assessed to be paid into the poor exchequer.

tions in accordance with the amount of downry on each side. At a circumcision the number remains in accordance with the older decree, (see the next) only that the number of the invited may be increased by half of the number there allowed. For every additional couple the fine shall be as above.

At a retornation the following shall be permitted to attend: 80 men and ten momen, besides the parents of the child, the grand-

1)Mitth. der Gesell. fuer Jued. Volvek. 1905-4 p54-62.

parents on both sides, the god-parents and those who attend to the ERE circumciation with their wives. If an out-ider (not the parents of the child) provides the banquet or if the guests pay for it out of their own purses, the attendance shall be limited to twelve men and six momen, and in no case shall unmarried people be permitted. The god-parents, mobels, as well as strangers(those not belonging to the Hamburg-Wandebeck or Portugese congregations) are not included in the Bore number. Uninvited guests shall pay a fine of one reichethaler.

(An older ordinance) At a wedding amount or circumsission banquet invitations shall be extended to the following number: At the wedding of a socialed "Rosh hasajit (members of the poor classes), 15 invited complex, and six each unmarried men and momen. At the wedding of a contributing member 25 complex, and ten unmarried men and women, and for every thomsand marks dowery on the part of the bride one pair additional may be invited. In this number are not included: The parents, brothers and sisters of the bridal pair, the chief rabbi, and the elders (for the month) if the congregation with their mixes, the Chasan and sexton and finally the schoolmaster of the youth the delivers the oration. The latter class may also invite three learned sen.

At a circumcision in the first mentioned class, ten couples and five pox or learned men without their wives, may be invited, and in the second class, five couples more than the fifteen couples. In this number are not included those mentioned in reference to weddings, the midvife, godfather and mobels with their wives. In the above are included only members of the community, among from are counted the fortugese. But strangers who are here only imporarily may be invited in addition to the number above mentioned.

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Congregational minutes of Duesseldorf 1698-1776 (1)

Inasmich as expenses at medding feasts are increased to a greater extent than is fitting, it is decreed (1698): At the medding of a son or doughter, where the dowery is between one hundred and two hundred thulers, the guests shall be limited to twenty house-holders, the caterer, officiating minister, parents of both parties and their brothers and sisters. If there be more than this number present the host shall be fined for every excessive guest.

But outsiders may be invited as additional guests.

Portigare Comminity of Hamburg 1658 (3)

At all meddings and circumcisions even wien two take place at the same time, also at engagements and the evening preceding the circumcision, invitations limited to twenty man and twelve momen. Relatives up measury attendants not included in this marker. Fine for breight of this ordinance fifty marks.

Miscellandous laws dealing with expenses at weddings atc.

Spanish Tekanah of the 15th century (3).

Because at betrothals, weddings circumcisi as and other family celebrations extravagant expensed are made, we wish every congregation to dual wit these matters in accordance with local conditions.

¹⁾Jub. Aud. Lit. Gesell. Vol. 2)
3) " deschich. der Juden und des Judenthums Vol.III p 332.

Hardring Altona Congregation (1)

A woman confined with child is forbidden to have in her room or about her bod any kind of gold or silver ware nor shall she decorate her bed with valuable emaments. Nor shall she put on her person distincts or pearls, for she especially should in every respect obey the laws in reference to these matters. No collach (a kind of pastry) shall be sent her at such a time by her relatives or any of her friends. Heither shall she entertain women at her home with pastries or brandy, nor send them candies or other delicacies. Peaulty for smeach themself, 2 rejensthaler.

under a possibly of four reichsthalar. The bridegroom shall not give a socialed "Vortheil" or a ball for the young people, rehter it be on the Subbath before or after the medding, neither at the house of the groom or that of the bride, nor elsewhere. A To the socialed knassmahl (betrothal banquet (*)) no unmarried folk shall be invited exampled and that too only if it takes place on Sabbath eve.

After a circumcision the godparents shall give no banquet for men and woman. Also on the Sabbath evening before the circumcision no exects shall be served for the entertainment of visitors, under a penalty of mix reichsthalers.

The socialed leading out of the bride shall not take piles.

Also, a grown on the occasion of his bethwothal, shall not give a ball, and through the year with the excention of the reiding no

¹⁾ Hith. dem Gesell. filer Jued. Volkak. 1903-4 pp 9,10,52,54,64.

dance, under the penalty of four remembers. A betrothal banquet is forbidden under the penalty of twenty reichsthalers.

It is prohibited under a penalty of twenty reichsthalers to g
give the bridgroom as a wedding gift anything besides a ring, talith and kittel. As a betrothal gift he shall not be presented with
a socialled "kinjingeng" (in article of wearing apparel.. And the
groom shall not present his oride with a book which has gold covers.
A married worm shall not carry such a book.

At a betrothal, wedding or circumciation as well as by all banquets taking place before or after such events there shall not be served, exported fowl, confects, almost and prunell tort <u>"Plewen"</u> and the like importately costly foods, nor shall such foods be sent to the homes of the guests. But on the Sabbath before a circumcision in compliance with the emtablished custom, Raisins and sweets may be served. The one transgressing shall be put under the ban and fined at the discretion of the elders.

Frienth (1)

Religher The forbidden at weddings and at all other celebrations, no nature the the host be, and all sorts of fish shall be forbidden at all banquets except at Sabbath, heliday and other communal feasts. The penalty for infringement of the above shall be 18 litres of this. Seltzer water also forbidden under the same penalty.

On the Sabbath that the mother first goes to the synagog (after confinement) she shall not be accompanied by a large concourse of women. On the Friday evening preceding, she shall send cake and whiskey to now one except the two kantors, not even to her parents, brothers or other relatives. Pine three litres of wax.
Neither shall a britisgroom or confirmant send wine and cake to any
one except the congregational officers and manters. The recipient
of such gifts shall also be fined.

On the Subbath eve preceding a circumcision no delicacies shall be served, no natter who the host be, and wine shall be served as follows: At the wich man's home four measures, at the home of the middle classes two measures, at the poor man's home one measure and no more. Denalty for infringement of the above, three litres of wax.

Laws to mewent emorating on the streets.

Bologna & Forli ())

Women "bill not walk outside of their homes in groups of more than three women and two maidens unless it be to perform some meritorious act.

And the shall not go for pleasure walks on the streets and highways on my except festal days and then in the manner specified (in the preceding enactment). And husbands shall be liable for this transgressions of their wives to the extent of the fines mentioned in the matter of dress.

And men whill not walk on the streets in large crowds nor shall they lotter of the street crossings nor in front of synagous in groups of more than six, nuless it be for some meritorious purpose

1) Grantz Jubelschrift 59.

under whatever penalty the officers appointed by the congregation may see fit to fix.

Portugese Community of Hamburg 1656 (1)

Altho it was by means of public moclamation forbidden to go about the streets masked on Purim, and the household heads were organed to see that the order be carried out, yet this prohibition has been violated by many. So it is again proclaimed that no one of our congregation, whether man or woman, shall mask on the day o night of puris, or parade the streets in masks or parade the streets with masic, because such conduct may cause disturbances and our position be environment.

pleasure walks on the Jungfersteig, sitting on the public beaches singing and other misconduct on Sabbath or Sabbath night is forbidden under a penalty of five pounds of wax. (2)

Haraburg Altona & Wandsbeck (2)

Because it is known what great danger ensues from the fact that women attend from the thinking it a great mizwa, but they do not know that they are bloodspillers even as marderers are, therefore the rabbis forbid all women of Hamburg, Altona and Wandsbeck to accompany a corpse even in front of their own homes. The female mourners shall so far from the men, to the rear gate of the cometary. But in Hamburg the women may follow later in their carriages. A breach of the above manishable by a fine of two thalers and the women transgressing in this way shall be publicly proclaimed as a bold woman.

Teachers shall not go out walking after Mincha.

^{1)}Jhb. Jund. Lit. Mescil. Vol. VII 196 2)Mith. Gorall. Fuer Jund. Volkak. 1911 np126-7

Hending-alles

At funerals the conveyances, which are used to acompany the body by both men and women and also the people who live in the neighborhood of tim deceased and who assemble at the house of the deceased at times cause a great stir, which especially on Christian holidays hinders traffic on the streets and might lead to disorder. It is therefore degreed that only the merently existent two brotherhoods shall follow the body to the grave, but no new society shall be formed. Fromy one shall be armitted to join one of these societies without the payment of an admission fee. But only three carriages of those societies shall accompany the body and they shall take turns shout, the one society furnishing two carriages and the other one in! "ice "ersa. These three conveyances shall maixweix widexthragging shall go on ahead outside of the city gate and wait at the cemetry but no on the street. Those desiring to be present at the burial shall do livewise, but outside of these three conveyances no other conveyance shall accompany the body, with the excention of those who wish to rise in the hearse. These list mentioned may mount at the house or enter the heurse at the cemetary. The fine for infringement of this enactment shall be 2 reichsthalers.

It is strictly prohibited everyone, men or women, married or unmarried, to go driving in a chaise or gig on Sunday or other Christian holidays. This shall not be permitted even when those wishing to ride shall go to the gate on foot and there enter the chaise or gig. Riding in a gig and also horseback riding are generally forbidden. On Sunday and other Christian holidays pleasure driving on the Alster is forbidden. A breach shall be punished by a fine of

10 reichthalers and in addition thereto the imposition of the ban.

Laws in the interest of sex morality.

Hamburg-Altona-Wandaback (1)

A married roman or widow shall not without an escort be seen entering an unknown house under penalty of four reichsthaler for the married roman and two reichsthaler for the widow.

Fuerth (2)

But up to the present there has been great frivolity in denoing and great expense has been needlessly incurred. It is therefore absolutely prohibited for a dance totake place where men and women dance together. It shall be permitted not on the day of the giving of the wedding gifts, the day of the wedding nor the night thereof, nor during the erren days of the wedding celebration; not at the home of a groom, at the home where a circumcision is taking place and certainly not at any other house. But at the home of the bride or in the banquet chumber during the banquet women and maidens may dance with each other. But no male shall be seen among them. But men may be invited to dance on the night of the wedding and women on the night of the gift gifing. Those violating this prohibition shall be fined; also the host entertainers, musicians and all who help in the consission of the wrong.

¹⁾Mitth. Gesell. fuer Jued. Volksk. 1903-4 p 49. 2)Whb. Aud. Lit. Gesell. Vol. VIII 189.

To put a watch upon a watch, at a wedding men and women shall not be put together in one room, unless it be partitioned off by a curtain. Parally for infraction of this rule 18 1'tres of wax. Caterer and host also penalized.

Eisenstadt. (1)

A married woman or a widow shall not dance with with men or youths.

or maiden was also serve warning that no married woman shall go the house of a Gentile without an escort. Any woman who does not heed this warning will be proclaimed a frivolous woman.

We also worm every woman and man to investigate carefully in his household as far as possible and if he suspects any sort of sinful thing in his maid or man-servant to discharge them even in the middle of their term.

Kuttenplan (2)

If a narried woman or maiden be found going unescorted to Plan or another village, then the father or busban's shall pay a fine of one half litre of oil.

Eisenstadt (1)

Mo one simil take into his house a servant who has a husband.

Whoever disobers this law shall be paleed under the ban of excommunication. Such a woman may be engaged as a wet nurse upon the payment of ten thalers to the authorities and ten thalers to charity.

1) Der Imaelit 1876 ptl 416 2) Mitth. Volvak. 1910 p

Laws against theatre-going, card playing etc.

Bologna & Forli (1)

Further we decree that from this day until the end of the term (10 years) no Jew from any of the inhabitants of the cities which have congregations belong to the Roman federation shall harbor in his house gamblers, whether they be Jew or Christian. Nor shall any Jew play with dies, cards or indulge in other forms of gambling, whether for inicelf or others, with Jews or Christians, neither in his own house or the house of others. But playing with dominos and dies together, and chass without dies is permitted, provided the stake shall not be over four Bolognini for each play. On fast days and days of illness cards are permitted to lighten the burden. But the stake shall not be over one quattrino for each player per game.

Portugese community of Hamburg (2)

At weddings no kind of dance shall be permitted to take place, wherefore we make the following announcement: By order of the authorities, dancing at meddings is for the future prohibited. This prohibition applies to men and momen, no matter of what station in life. For a breach the host stall pay a fine of fifty marks.

Ejsenstadt (3)

No one wall play cards, except women confined with child. On

¹⁾Graetz Jubelschrift 57. 2)Jhb. Jued. Lit. Gesell. VII p204. 3)Der Icranlit 1876 pt I p416

Chamuka even men may play. But men and women, youths and maidens, even if related are forbidden to play together under penalty of excommunication.

Hamburg-Altona-Wandsbeck (1)

Men and women are prohibited, on Sabbath or other holidays, from maximizing going to the inn for the purpose of drink, or attending bowling alleys, fencing schools and theaters, under the penalty of four reichahtalers. Married and unmarried men shall not, under a like penalty attend the opera. (Later revision) No shall attend the opera except during the Purin or Chanuka-week. For an infringement of this law, such person, if he be a member of the community, shall not be permitted to receive any communal honor, and shall particularly be considered ineligible for the office of elder; and in widition to this shall be munished by fine and the reprimand and reproval of the elders. Should a narried roman or an unmarried person of either sex be guilty of transgressing in this manner, such person shall be fined and publicly reprimanded. Also at the discretion of the elders such person may be expelled from the congregation.

Under a penalty of 50 reichsthalers and a warning of the ban youths and muidens are prohibited from taking dancing lessons with a dancing manter. This applies especially to servants of either sex.

Card playing and bowling are strictly forbidden, except during the Purin and Chamika week, when it is nermitted. Women shall re-

1)Mittheil. Gesell. Jued. Volkak. 1903-4 pp 12, 15, 50

frain from all names of gaming in the commany of strange men, no matter of what station in life. A married woman shall not after evening prayor, be kept away from her home by gambling, under a penalty of four reichethalers. Whoever acts against these ordinances shall be looked upon as one excommunicated and for a period of three years shall be barred from all communal honors and shall be ineligible for the office of elder in the congregation. The elders shall in addition, inflict fixed and other heavy penalties.

Kuttenplan (1)

It has thir day, at the full assembly, been decreed that neither man nor tairs, little or big, whether in Kuttenplan or Plan, shall paly cards except on those days on which no "Tachmun" is said, or when one has a blood-letting. The latter person may on the day of the blood-letting and the next day after, invite two others to a card game. Thould any one either here or in Plan, disobey this ordinance, the following proclamation shall be uttered against him in the synagog: He shall not be permitted to take part in any rite at the synagog. Should any one be found playing cards during time for prayer (and thus miss the time for mrayer), he shall pay a fine of one litre of oil. This is the decision of the entire congregation.

Fuerth (2)

Any participation in the lottery is strictly forbidien.

The compregation openly proclaims in the synagog that no one

1) Mitth. Volksk. 1910 87. 2) Jue. Lit. Gesell. VIII 184

little or big, shall attend the conedy or paly which is now here. Thosver disoberg will be fittingly punished.

Miscellaneous.

Hamourg-Altona-Wandsbeck (1)

A bar migra shall not invite young folk to go with him to the synagos or to accompany him home from the synagos, fine 30 thalers. A bride small not invite girls on the Sabbath or holidays after the betrothal neal, fine twenty thalers. The godfather shall not present the child with any garment except the circumcision swaddling cloth (without gold or selver trimings or fringes).

Women shall not on "Simchath Thora" distribute 'elicacies in the synagog, neither at their own expense and surely not out of the congregation's funds. The latter munishable by a fine of 2 reichsthalers.

Pierth (2)

At the "herze" (a colebration held in connection with the circumcision). I good deal of ado has been made, which is not in keeping with the liv. No woman shall hereafter come to the "kerze", except the wife of the "sandik", "mobel", daughters of the mother daughters of the godfather, their nothers and sisters, the midwife and the two women who prepare the "kerse". Fine for infringement , three litres of wax. These women shall not go thru the streets in a body, so an not to attract attention, nor after their return from the celebration shall they go to the home of the goi-parents.

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¹⁾Mitth. Volkak. 1903-4 p 12. 2)Jhb. Med. Lit. Gesell. Vol. VIII p 184.

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