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TITLE "America's Goodness: An Edited Translation of
Leon Horowitz's Tov Artsot Habrit"

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America's Goodness:

An Edited Translation of Leon Horowitz's

Tov Artsot Habrit

by

Randi Musnitsky

Thesis submitted in partial fulfillment of
the requirements for Ordination

Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion

June 1983

Referee, Professor Jonathan D. Sarna

Digest

In the late 1860's and the early 1870's the Jews of Romania lived under the rule of a government which pursued anti-Semitic policies. Jews were forbidden to settle in villages and lease lands; and they were forbidden entry into many professions, such as law, education, and medicine. Even citizenship was denied to them. Yet, the majority of Jews in Romania felt they should not leave the country; instead they wanted to fight for their equality.

One Romanian Jew, Leon Horowitz, did not agree. Horowitz was a writer, teacher, and businessman. In 1870 he left Romania and travelled to the United States. It was there that he became a prolific contributor to European Hebrew periodicals, to which he sent news of America and descriptions of American life. In mid-1872, Horowitz's interests were turned toward Romanian matters. He now wanted to convince suffering Romanian Jews that America could serve as a refuge for them. In order to encourage Romanian immigration to America, he wrote a 60 page travel guide in Hebrew entitled Tov Artsot Habrit, "America's Goodness."

This thesis contains an annotated translation of Horowitz's guide book. An introductory chapter provides relevant historical background dealing with Leon Horowitz, Romanian Jewry, and Jewish immigration to the United States. Together, this translation and study aims to further our understanding of immigrant Jews' perceptions of America in the late 19th century.

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DEDICATED

to the loving memory
of my mother

PHYLLIS MUSNITSKY

who, in love, showed me the way

and to

my husband

RONALD KAPLAN

who, with his love, helps me to grow

Acknowledgements

I take sincere pleasure in expressing my deep gratitude to those who were kind enough to dedicate their time and energies in helping me complete this thesis:

...to Dr. Jonathan Sarna, my advisor, for sharing with me his knowledge and expertise of American Jewish history; for his encouragement, and for his friendship.

...to Simon Mizrachi, my Hebrew tutor and friend, for patiently reviewing and correcting every page of my translation.

...to my parents, Harold and Marilyn Musnitsky, for their confidence, their love, and their pride.

...and especially to my husband Ron, for his support, understanding, and devotion. His love has made all my work meaningful.

Introduction

I

The principal international Jewish question in the late 1860's and the early 1870's was the problem of Romanian Jewry. During this time in Romania there were between 200,000 to 300,000 Jews out of a population of approximately five million. This was the highest percentage of Jews in a total population found in any European country.¹ There had been no more than 2,000 Jewish families living in Romania at the beginning of the 19th century, most of them in the Principality of Moldavia.² Most had come from Spain in the late Middle Ages, and had won acceptance by their non-Jewish neighbors. But after the Treaty of Adrianople in 1829 between the Ottoman Empire and Russia, which lifted trade restrictions and helped to increase economic prosperity in the Principalities, there was a flood of Jewish immigrants from Russia.³ They too mainly settled in Moldavia. As a result, by the 1850's, most Moldavian cities had a numerical majority of Jews.⁴

Unfortunately, as the number of Jews increased, so did anti-semitism. The Jews were viewed as foreigners by the provincial Romanian peasants because of their strange dress, customs, and language. In addition, the peasants often found themselves in debt to the Jews, who monopolized many urban businesses, partly because of discriminatory legislation passed against them by the Romanian government.⁵ Jews were forbidden

to inhabit certain streets or districts in the cities, prohibited from owning land, and barred from most professions including law, education, and medicine.⁶ Special restrictive measures were passed against Jewish merchants, peddlers, and artisans. The Constitution of 1866 even deprived Jews of Romanian citizenship.⁷ In short, the Jews of Romania were treated as "rightless aliens."⁸ Even if they had possessed homes and businesses and had lived in Romania for years, they and their Romanian-born children ranked no higher than squatters liable to expulsion and the pillaging of their belongings.⁹ Jews frequently faced outbreaks of violence and even murder. The Romanian government not only tolerated such violence, it also skillfully employed the threat of anti-semitic legislation to repress any inclination Jews might have had to protest their status. Thus the Jews of Romania remained silent.¹⁰

The plight of Romanian Jewry prompted emancipated Western Jews to pursue on their behalf an extensive diplomatic effort in the period between the Treaty of Paris of 1856 and the Treaty of Berlin of 1878. The first treaty, which concluded the Crimean War, gave broad autonomy to the principality of Moldavia, and, in article 46, granted Jews in the province full emancipation. This provision did little good for the Jews, however, because the ruling government of Moldavia strongly opposed this article and "by chicanery and deception circumvented and outwitted the ineffective consul."¹¹ The Treaty of Berlin, 22 years after the pact at Paris, again reiterated in most specific terms the emancipation and equality of Romanian Jews.¹² This treaty, however, had no more effect

on the Romanian government than its predecessor.

Efforts to aid Romanian Jewry reached their apogee with the appointment of Benjamin Franklin Peixotto (1834-1890), as the first United States Consul in Bucharest in 1870.¹³ Peixotto was a Jewish lawyer of Sephardic origin who lived most of his life in Cleveland. He was very active in Jewish affairs, and for three years (1863-1866) had been the Grand Master of the Independent Order of B'nai Brith. His only reason for seeking the consulate position was to help emancipate Romanian Jews. Peixotto only had a superficial understanding of Romania. He believed that the main obstacle facing Jews was their own ancient habits and customs, and thought that through education they could become westernized.¹⁴

Peixotto arrived in Bucharest in February 1871. He spent most of that year advancing projects for the internal improvement of Romanian Jewry. He established a cultural society for the improvement of Jewish education. He rented a mansion which served as headquarters for his pro-Jewish campaign, and he even established his own bi-weekly newspaper, Rumanische Post, which was used to combat the anti-semitic Bucharest press.¹⁵ Unfortunately, the larger part of his energies until 1873 was absorbed in relieving the periodic outbreaks of violence against Jewish communities.¹⁶ But Peixotto never lost faith in his program for emancipation.

The internal reform of Romanian Jewry seemed to be an attainable goal. Cultural and educational improvement could be brought about. But

what enlightenment should consist of was by no means clear. Since Romanian culture barely existed, either a French or a German model had to be followed. Vocational training was unnecessary because a higher proportion of Romanian Jews than anywhere else in Eastern Europe were artisans and craftsmen. It soon became clear to Peixotto that what Romanian Jews really needed was not culture or education so much as political rights. Jews needed to be allowed to live their lives unhindered by anti-semitic legislation. Peixotto continued to believe in reforms from within, but he refused to accept the idea that Jews had to earn their emancipation through internal improvement. He did not want the acquisition of Western culture and education to be a condition of freedom. He insisted that all Jews were equal to each other and to all Romanians.¹⁷

By August of 1872, the emancipation of Romanian Jewry was a receding vision rather than a political possibility. Cultural and educational efforts were slow in starting and showed few, if any results. Peixotto, therefore had an idea: "If the Jews of Romania could not have the rights of men, could they not join the hundreds of thousands of Europeans who yearly sought liberty and prosperity in America?"¹⁸ Peixotto asked the Romanian government whether it would favor mass immigration of Jews to the United States. The government was most happy to comply and even offered to supply free passports. The Romanian press gave the emigration plan extensive coverage. Thousands of Jews prepared to leave Romania with many believing that they would be provided free transportation.¹⁹ Western Jews, however, were divided over the

question of emigration and few were willing to supply the funds needed to carry out such a project. In October of 1872 an international Jewish conference, meeting in Brussels, rejected the idea of emigration as being "impractical."²⁰ This destroyed any chance that the project had of attaining widespread support.*

Despite the decisions made in official circles, some emigrants, nevertheless, left Romania on an individual, unorganized basis. The idea of emigration, once planted, could not so easily be forgotten. Romanian Jewry, however, needed much more knowledge about America if they were to seriously consider leaving their homeland. Information about this new land was slight. In the early 1870's there were hardly any sources to give a prospective Jewish immigrant an idea of how to go to America or what to expect there. Information could only be obtained from personal letters or by word of mouth.²¹ Due to this lack of information, a young maskil, only two years in America, undertook to promote emigration to his new country by writing a guidebook entitled Rumania and America, which he published in 1874. The young maskil was named Leon [Aaron Judah Leib] Horowitz.²²

*Peixotto, following the defeat of his proposed emigration project, remained in Romania until 1876. He continued to work with the Jews in trying to establish internal reform, in addition to helping Jewish emigrants to America. However, no more than a hundred reached the United States under his auspices. Peixotto's most lasting effect in Romania was his founding of the Order Zion which was organized to improve the cultural and educational level of Romanian Jews. (Quinlan p. 194)

II

Leon Horowitz (1847-1926) was a wandering Hebrew writer, a teacher, and finally, a businessman. Little is known of his background except that which he writes of himself in the third person: "he was born in Minsk and studied Torah with his father and afterwards with teachers in the Yeshivot of Vilna, Shklov, and other Lithuanian cities. At the age of 15 he left the Yeshivah and was a teacher in southern Russia for about three years. After this he went abroad to perfect himself in the sciences [Vienna, Paris, the Greek Islands, Egypt, Palestine, and Syria]."²³ He also lived in Bucharest, which he left sometime in 1866.²⁴

Horowitz came to the United States in 1870 and settled in New York. There he gravitated toward its small community of maskilim and Hebrew scholars. He became a prolific contributor to European Hebrew periodicals, to which he sent news of America and descriptions of American life. Insignificant as he was in America, his writings in the European press gave him a substantial audience.²⁵

In mid-1872 Horowitz turned his interests toward Romanian matters. While European Jewish leaders, the American Consul, and the Romanian government were considering the emigration of Romanian Jews, Horowitz single-handedly undertook to promote large-scale Jewish emigration from Romania to America. He wanted to convince suffering Romanian Jews that America could serve as their refuge. In order to accomplish this goal, he applied the most potent of stimuli to emigration--he appealed

directly to prospective emigrants.²⁶ For example, he wrote in the Galician Hebrew newspaper Ibri Anokhi which was circulated in Romania:

...for those who go about in towns and in the countryside, in marketplaces and in streets, who go from door to door selling their wares, how well and good it would be to go to America. While in their country they generally work for a moldy crust of bread, and remain paupers throughout their lives, it is not so here in America, when even in the first week of their arrival, without knowing the language and customs of the country, they earn more than they did at home...²⁷

Horowitz urged those interested in emigration to organize mutual emigration societies in each town, to negotiate with steamship companies for reduced rates, and to request assistance from Jewish communities in other countries.²⁸

Horowitz's efforts to promote emigration came to the attention of steamship companies and railroad land promoters. By an arrangement whose details remain unclear, he was sent on a tour of Romania to encourage emigration during the summer of 1873. His sponsors included the International Steam Navigation Company and the American Steamship Company. These lines docked in Philadelphia where they connected with the Pennsylvania Railroad, which was interested in furthering migration to the West on its trains.²⁹

Horowitz arrived in Romania on June 2, 1873 and left on September 2, 1873. He spent his first six weeks in Bucharest and then visited the cities of Ploesti, Buzau, Braila, Galatz, Berlad, and others. Wherever he went, he delivered lengthy addresses before synagogues and societies contrasting "the evils of the Old World and the countless blessings of

the New."³⁰ He told his audiences about the opportunities which America offered to skilled, industrious young men and he assured them that they would never have to fear for their futures.³¹ It is important to note that Horowitz only sought to promote emigration among skilled and educated workers, for he felt that America needed them as much as they needed America. For this reason, he was always sure to discourage the emigration of unskilled laborers, warning them that America had no place for them.³²

Certainly, many planned to emigrate after hearing Horowitz. In numerous towns emigration societies were established such as the one in Galatz named "Jewish Artisans and Workers Emigration Society."³³ Despite these successes, however, opposition to Horowitz's activities began to surface as he continued his speaking tour through Romania. Ha-Maggid, the important Hebrew weekly published in East Prussia for Eastern Europeans, had Horowitz in mind when it warned that:

Our Jewish brethren in Romania must be wary not to pay attention to the writers who paint the blessings of America in very attractive colors. Such writers really know very little of practical affairs in America, and an active imagination is their guide and beacon, so that they distort the facts and ensnare their listeners with a deceiving tongue.³⁴

Horowitz defended himself against this and other similar accusations. He continued his speaking tour, and then went on to Berlin* where in 1874 he published in Hebrew a travel guide entitled Rumaniah

*After a brief stay in Berlin, Horowitz retired to Hamburg, where he established himself in business, and remained there until his death. (Gartner p. 86)

va-Amerika.³⁵

III

The contents of this Hebrew guide-book, Rumaniah va-Amerika, are best described by a translation of its full title: Romania and America: A Book Containing My Travels in Romania, America's Goodness, and a Guide for Going to America. The first section of this book is 52 pages in length and it contains an account of Horowitz's travels in Romania. There are 48 pages more in the second section which provides a description of American geography and history. The final section contains information about travel to America and job opportunities found there.³⁶ The book essentially documents Horowitz's conviction that Romania is a land impossible for Jews to live in, and that America is their refuge, for it is a land filled with unlimited opportunities for liberty and good fortune.³⁷

As an emigrant's guidebook, Horowitz's travels in Romania are superfluous. Prospective emigrants had a need for information about America. They knew too well of the conditions in Romania. Thus, part two, "America's Goodness" was the book's most valuable section for potential emigrants because it provided a helpful and accurate analysis of America. It is for this reason, that I translated this section in its entirety.

Horowitz begins the section on "America's Goodness" with a brief history of the founding of America, including the formation of the

English colonies and the events which led to the establishment of an independent United States of America. He continues with a geographic description of the land which lay between the Atlantic and the Pacific Oceans. He gives detailed facts about the landscape of America's 38 states and 11 territories. One learns about the mountain ranges, the rivers and lakes, the minerals and precious metals, the produce, and even the climate of each and every state and territory. One also learns about the railroads, the shipping ports, and the manufacturing and business opportunities throughout the country.

Horowitz's descriptions are "glowing" because he wrote his guide-book "in a hot burst of enthusiasm at a time when emigration fever galloped across Rumania with him."³⁸ In addition, he might have been in the employ of firms profiting from the emigrants he influenced. In order to pay for the printing of Rumaniah va-Amerika, Horowitz secured advertisements from a number of steamship companies, emigrant hostels, and money-changers, all of whom inserted notices and ads in the front and back of his book. His personal relationships with these advertisers, however, has never been proved,³⁹ although he mentions some of the advertisers in the course of his description. Whatever his motives, Horowitz was most anxious to promote Jewish emigration to America the best way he knew how.

Because Horowitz was interested in Jewish emigration, he devoted special attention in his writing to Jewish communities throughout America. He listed the number of Jews in each state, the cities in

which they lived, and the availability of synagogues, rabbis, cantors, and ritual slaughterers. It is important to note that Horowitz himself states that his numbers of Jews are not always accurate since he is not a "census taker." He also discussed the three movements in Judaism; Orthodox, Conservative, and Reform, pointing out that all Jews are free to choose the religious life they wish to follow.*

Horowitz was well aware that the biggest drawing factor of America was not its land, climate, or business opportunities, rather it was the freedom its government and laws offered to all who entered. For this reason, he wrote a chapter entitled "The Government of the United States in General and the Governments of Every State in Particular." It was his desire to emphasize the freedom and liberty found in this country as compared to the persecution and discrimination found in Romania. This served as his final plea to all those considering emigration.

Horowitz's travel guide was by no means unique for its time. If the idea of emigration arose from the combination of Europe's discontents and America's opportunities, movement could only take place when the alternatives were clearly presented.⁴⁰ Unwilling to have prospective emigrants receive their impressions of America by mere chance, through letters or personal associations, many began to publish guide-books.⁴¹ Individual states, and later the United States federal government even commissioned the writing of guide-books to promote

*Refer to pages 95-98 of the translation.

immigration: the eastern and southern states needed skilled laborers; the western and northern states needed rapid settlement.⁴²

Guide-books stressed many different facets of American life, yet all conveyed similar themes. They all underscored the material advantages of living in the United States, claiming that America afforded more abundant and better quality food, as well as superior housing, clothing, medical care, and education.⁴³ The guide-book Minnesota, the Empire State of the New North-West (1878), for example, appealed to all foreigners:

To Labouring Men, who earn a livelihood by honest toil, to Landless Men, who aspire to the dignity and independence which comes from possession in God's free earth; to All Men of moderate means, and men of wealth, who will accept homes in a beautiful and prosperous country. . . . It is well to exchange the tyrannies and thankless toil of the old world for the freedom and independence of the new. . . . it is well for the hand of labour to bring forth the rich treasures hid in the bosom of the NEW EARTH.⁴⁴

The "rich treasures" to which this and other guide-books referred included: 1) mineral deposits of gold, silver, copper, iron, zinc, coal, etc.; 2) rich, fertile soil good for farming and the raising of cattle and sheep; and 3) available supplies of good and healthy water from rivers, lakes, and streams. Even the variety of climates found in the United States was seen as a treasure.⁴⁵ No guide-book, however, confined its appeal only to material advantages. Additional emphasis was placed on the image of America as a land of social equality, religious freedom and political democracy; a land of free public education "which helps the common man to realize his best potentialities";⁴⁶

and a land where becoming a citizen is an easy task.⁴⁷ Thus, the majority of guide-books, including Horowitz's, portrayed America as the "perfect" refuge for all those seeking a better life.

The immediate question to be asked is: What impact did Horowitz's guide-book have on Romanian Jewish emigration? Romania and America was published in Berlin in 1874. Horowitz claimed that 200 copies of his book were purchased and distributed free by the Berlin Romanian Committee. However, this claim is doubted because such a distribution of emigration literature would have gone against this organization's policy of discouraging emigration.⁴⁸ Even if the book was distributed, it would have been of little use to the majority of potential emigrants who could neither read nor understand the Hebrew in which the book was written.⁴⁹ If immigration statistics are used as an indicator of the guide-book's influence, its uselessness is only confirmed. According to the official Romanian government records of 1876 there remained 218,304 Jews in Romania.⁵⁰ Prior to that a maximum of 127 Jews left Romania for the United States in 1872, 240 in 1873, and a mere 61 in 1874.⁵¹ Emigration, then, not only failed to rise after the 1874 publication of Romania and America, it actually declined. Emigration apparently dropped to such a low ebb in the late 1870's and early 1880's that the Romanian government never even recorded the very few numbers who chose to emigrate.⁵² Clearly, then, Horowitz's book failed in its purpose. Romanian Jewish immigration to America did not increase.

Notwithstanding this failure, Horowitz's book remains an important contribution. For his was an attempt to supply information to potential emigrants about the distant and often misunderstood land that was America. He sought to attract a reading audience of enlightened people like himself by composing a well-researched travel-guide in the Hebrew language. Even those who did not heed Horowitz's words may well have learned from them.

Horowitz should be applauded for his sincerity and enthusiasm in writing a work that he felt to be necessary. He displayed genuine dedication, employing all his efforts to the task of informing other Jews that a better life stood waiting for them in America. He had a keen sense of vision, perhaps prophetic, that the United States of America would one day become the home for millions of Jews, Romanian Jews among them.

America's Goodness

A Short Geography of the United States
and a general view of the life of the American people
and the life of the Jews there, in clear and easy language.

by

Aaron Judah Leib Horowitz

"I will be as the dew to Israel;
he shall flower like the lily...they shall
revive like corn, and blossom like the vine..."

(Hosea 14:6-8)

Berlin 1874

America's Goodness

Hail Columbia happy Land!
(The National Anthem)¹

I

North America is now a good and fortunate land, a land which is blessed and pleasant, a land that has multitudes of people flowing into it from all corners of the world; the land is lovely, glorious, and a crown of beauty to the entire Western hemisphere. The first travelers at the time of its discovery thought it to be a great wilderness, good for animal grazing, but not for human settlement because they only found dry lands and wilderness there filled with swamps, bushes, and large forests, used by the wild Indians who aimed their bows at others hunting prey. However, they did not find gold and silver dust, which had been on the shores of Mexico and Peru.

The first colony in this part was established by Walter Raleigh,² the English Magistrate, in the year 1585 and he called it Virginia in honor of the virgin queen Elizabeth I,³ the queen of England.

From this time onward, from different nations and peoples, came men young in years, full of youthful vigor, bravery, and strength, who left their homelands because of the hard burdens of the governments or because of religious hatred and persecution, to settle here in a quiet and tranquil new land and to live a life of freedom and liberty as they deserved. Numerous colonies and settlements sprang up in no time.

After a few years the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania was settled, and the pious William Penn⁴ built the city of Philadelphia (the City of Brotherly Love). All the settlers of the colonies were under the flag of the government of England, and she provided them refuge.

When the English government saw that the colonists were multiplying day by day, she levied taxes upon them. In the year 1765 Parliament established a law that all documents of contract and sale, and all purchase agreements in the new American settlements could only be written on official documents bearing a government seal, so taxes could be levied upon them. The colonists became very angry over this cruel law and in their Houses of Worship they rang their bells in chimes of mourning as if bewailing a death. In one city they took a coffin,⁵ draped it in black, wrapped themselves in shrouds, and made a funeral saying: "Since success and freedom has died, it must be carried to the graveyard." In some cities there was rioting and fighting until the Parliament was forced to revoke this law. Revocation of the law put courage in the heart of the colonists. Since God in His great mercy wanted to bring ultimate freedom to humanity that had since the beginning of time been bent under the yoke of tyrant Kings and cruel rulers and sought to build sheltered cities for the deprived and tortured, so God hardened the heart of Parliament⁶ and it imposed a new tax, a tax on tea, according to which the new settlers were forced to pay a large tax on all the tea that was brought to the country. In the month of December, 1773, three boats came to Boston Harbor loaded with tea.

City dwellers wanted the boats to return to England full, but when the Captain refused to abide by their wishes, many people went aboard the boats (masquerading in costumes so nobody would recognize them), and they threw 18,000 pounds of tea into the water. The entire city was joyous and happy. This event caused the start of the war, and Boston Harbor was closed by the British so that no one could exit or enter. When the colonists saw this, they gathered from the 13 different colonies in the month of September, 1774, in the city of Philadelphia in a public gathering (Congress), and there they finally decided to separate from England, to halt trade and purchasing with her, and to fight mightily against her. The 13 delegations entered into a single confederation to prepare a free government, and they appointed the famous, rich, and wise farmer George Washington to be head of their armies. It was a very difficult war because the parties to the Confederation, even if they didn't know how to wage war, still fought like lions and tigers for their liberty and freedom (valuable treasures whose worth they knew how to appreciate). Until the year 1777 there was not a significant victory in any one of the battles, but in that year, Burgoyne,⁷ chief general of the English army, was surrounded with all of his troops in the city of Saratoga and they were taken captives. At the same time Congress sent the prominent Benjamin Franklin,⁸ a great and outstanding man, to France to make a treaty with her for aid in the battles against the English. For at that time the French held a deep and abiding hatred for the British. King Louis XVI⁹ was delighted by this and Spain and

Holland also made a treaty with the colonists, so Britain faced war on every sea with those countries. Nevertheless England did not cease from fighting with the parties to the Confederation--the lion does not quickly abandon its prey and its glutton from his mouth. Only when God decreed to put an end to the glory of the English government and to make America a free land, did God give General Washington the strength and the might to pursue his enemy, the commander of the English army, Cornwallis,¹⁰ and he trapped him and his troops in the city of Yorktown and he took them captive. Then, when England saw that she had no more strength, she made peace in Paris in the year 1783 through the intervention of the German Kaiser Joseph II¹¹ and the Empress Catherine¹² from Russia, and all the governments recognized the United States Congress as a government unto itself, independent of the authority of the English.

From this time the new country developed remarkably rising to the pinnacle of national success. It now includes 38 states, 11 territories, and 40 [million]¹³ people under its flag. In the year 1787, in Philadelphia, the laws were made by which the government would be governed, and Washington was chosen Head of State (President) and in his honor they established the city of Washington, which was named after him, as the seat of the government.

The United States of America¹⁴ in North America, extends across the country from west to east from 49 degrees to 107 degrees, and across the width of the land from the South to the North from 25 degrees

from the equator to 49 degrees to the north.¹⁵ The whole landmass, including rivers and lakes and including the territory of Alaska, which was purchased from the Russians, is approximately 4,000,000 English miles.

The natural borders of these lands demonstrate that they were formed only for the sake of peace; no enemy's sword could pass over them. To the east the border is the Atlantic Ocean. To the west is the Pacific Ocean. To the north are the English territories (which will shortly be annexed to the United States perhaps without a battle and war,) ¹⁶ and to the south is the country of Mexico and the Gulf of Mexico.

There are two high mountain ranges that stretch along the United States, and their names are the Allegheny in the east and the Rocky Mountains in the west. The two mountain ranges are separate and distinct from one another and quite different from one another as well. The Allegheny Mountains begin to rise from the Mississippi Valley and they continue north-east, and the Rocky Mountains continue from the Andies Mountains and stretch to the north-west. These two mountain ranges come close to each other in the south, but they are far from each other in the north.

When we scale the lofty peaks of the Allegheny Mountains, our spirit fills with power from the spectacular view. Our eyes gaze upon the natural beauty in all its glory, a lush and fruitful land, with multitudes of flourishing trees, valleys which envelope the countryside and

fields full of green pastures, lilies and flowers, bearing the produce of God to which nothing in the whole country can compare. Even the mountains themselves have treasures and riches in them: coal, iron, and other metals. Quite different are the Rocky Mountains; there one will see that everything is desolate, devoid of man and settlement. Nevertheless these mountains too are enchanting wonders. Within their strength they conceal a treasure trove of precious metals, able to enrich the land and its inhabitants.

Besides these mountain ranges there are, continuing to the shores of the Pacific Ocean, the Sierra Nevada Mountains, also named the Cascade Mountains, and in the state of Missouri there are the Ozark Mountains which have hidden within them vast treasures of coal, tin, and iron.

Harbors go hand in hand with topography in securing the country's natural health. There are many big and small ports and harbors in the eastern part of the United States; not so in the west, where San Francisco is the only port of entry for merchant ships which could be considered among the leading ports in the land. However, what nature did not do on its own, man has created with his hands, for the entire United States is being bound and unified by the great interstate railroad system, which enriches the states and benefits their inhabitants.

Not only with early autumn and late spring rains, such as those with which God blessed Israel, are these states blessed, but also with abundant water, rivers and lakes of enormous dimensions. Among the

lakes, we will enumerate here Lakes Superior, Michigan, Huron, Erie, and Ontario. These five lakes are connected by many rivers and also by man-made canals and by the great St. Lawrence River which connects them to the Atlantic Ocean. These lakes are large and deep, their waters are clear and sweet, and many fish swarm within them. Ships also travel within them increasing and glorifying the nation's trade.

Among the rivers, we will only mention here, a few great and unusual ones like the Mississippi, Missouri, Ohio, Delaware, Illinois, Potomac, Colorado, Sacramento, and Columbia Rivers. Steamships travel in all these rivers.

Railroads are numerous throughout all the lands of the United States. These rails were engineered with great wisdom, skill and ingenuity; whoever has not seen the American railroad, has not really seen a spectacular railroad in his whole life. The car which is used for travelers is built in good taste and decor, like a home: with seats for sitting, stoves for heat, a wash room, and toilet, and one class--not three classes as in Europe--for everyone. Diners where passengers can eat their meals and rooms with beds for sleeping may be found on special cars.

Up to 1873, the number of miles of laid railroad track in America amounted to more than 40,000 miles, with 2,000 now being rebuilt. On all these rails and tracks there is life--a spirit of vitality, of commerce; people pushing one another, products piled upon one another. The products of the great west and the many and different products of the

southern states, the trade in coal, and all the different products which are imported, increase commerce to even greater heights and provide food and livelihood in luxurious plentitude to all the inhabitants of these lands.

There is also a high spiritual significance to the railroads in this new land. Rails brought culture with their horsepower--that is horses powered by fire and smoke (steam-engines)--throughout the world. But nowhere to such an extent as in the United States! Here there is no difference between one man and another; honors, titles and designations are unknown to the American people. Therefore strangers politely sit together in one car--because there is only one car for all: rich and poor, master and slave together--in one group. No one will say to the other: Get away! I am a Prince, a Duke, a General! Frequently a Congressman or a Senator will sit together with a laborer, a simple peasant, or a farmer, and they will argue with one another about government, politics, and manners, as the more experienced teach the less experienced the ways of the world.

The telegraph lines run the length and breadth of all the borders of the United States and they help to increase manufacturing and trade in all of the states.

The climate in the United States is generally healthy and good, as may be attested by the courageous spirit of the settlers and the ripe old age to which they live. However, the climate is different in every state depending on its individual character: its latitude, whether it is

mountainous and hilly terrain, lands of plains and valleys, marsh lands, swamp lands, pleasant meadows, close to the sea or far from it. In countries which cover large territories of diverse type, it is a natural and a well-known phenomenon that climates are diverse too.

In sections of the country which are between the Rocky Mountains and the Alleghenies, the air is hot and much healthier than the air in sections of the country to the east or west of these mountains. To the west of the Rockies, dryness dominates and strong cool winds blow there through most of the winter. In the states by the Pacific coast the air is good and the climate is moderate, not too hot and not too cold. To the east of the Alleghenies the weather is humid and variable almost from hour to hour. During the days of winter it is extremely cold and during the summer it is very hot. In the southern states the weather does not change frequently like it does in the northern ones. In conclusion: as you get further from the ocean or from the Gulf of Mexico and closer to the mountain ranges you find the air is much clearer and better and the land more fertile and fruitful.

The characteristic weather in the northern states of the United States is constant variability. It changes every day and every season. The winter, generally speaking, is very mild as in Italy and southern France, but suddenly and unexpectedly bitter cold can arrive and with it terrible snow as in Russia and Scandanavia. From early morning until mid-day all activity stops. Cart travelers in the city streets stop as snow covers the roads allowing nothing to pass. In the afternoon

the precious sun spreads over the open firmament of heaven,¹⁷ the springtime sun has arrived, it peers through the lattice¹⁸ of heaven over the face of the coldness and the frost¹⁹ and, with its warmth melts the snow to flowing waters, until there is no dry land for man to walk on. As night spreads its wings over the land torrential rains pour down angrily. In the morning there is a bitter cold, and after the cold a wind storm, and after the storm brilliant light spreads from the strong rays of the sun and lasts for several days until people come to believe that spring is coming early, in the month of Shevat [January].²⁰ Our Jewish brethren make believe that they are in the Land of Palestine where in the winter a generous rain and dew saturate the land and bring forth flowers and Godly produce from the fields. But suddenly comes winter, terrible to behold, and shatters all of our hopes; thus the days continue from the month of December until April. From April to July there is abundant rain and the clear wind refreshes us as in the days of summer. From July to mid-September there is oppressive heat both in the daytime and at night, and from then until December a fresh wind purifies the land bringing every living being satisfaction with the pleasure and health that comes from the fresh clean air which prevails in these lands. Generally speaking, we could say that in the summer-time the heat is greater here than it is in Germany and in the winter it is much colder, however, the cold does not continue for as long a time as it does in Germany as I described to you above. If, when he comes to these lands at first, a European just takes care of himself in terms

of his diet and life-style until he becomes accustomed to the different air, he won't get sick and the climate will not bother him.

The produce of the United States includes many different varieties. Almost all of the grains, fruits, and plants that grow in Europe, grow in abundance in these states. They are pleasant to look at and good to eat. In addition, the soil of America has an advantage over the soil of Europe. The land of Europe is like an old-maid, her land is dried out and she no longer has her youth. She cannot continue to give her strength to those who plow her land, her breast is dry, and her milk is not enough to nurse all of her children and lovers.²¹ Not so the virgin land of America, for she is young in years and full of youthfulness. Her udders are filled with milk and her breasts are like towers. Her body is wide open for all of her lovers. Blessing flows from her and success comes to all her lovers and helpers because she has youthful strength. Happy are the workers of her land because they are satisfied, enveloped in goodness, blessed by God.

The leading products of the United States are these: wheat, corn, millet, sweet potatoes, sugar-cane, tobacco and cotton. These American products go annually to all the markets of Europe because the land produces more than the settlers need. Wine also is produced in several American states: California and Missouri make the choicest wines. Hay, beans, vegetables, and sweet smelling flowers grow more abundantly here than anywhere else in the world. When we look at the beauty and glory of the land great feelings of admiration overcome us

and we marvel at the wisdom, goodness, and kindness of the Creator and Maker, who like a compassionate father, worries about His creatures, provides for them, prepares food and provisions for their souls. It is as though He opens before the children of Adam and Eve the Garden of Eden²² from which he drove their ancestors away, expelling the angels with the flaming sword which turned every way²³ in their hands so that they would no longer stand in the way of the people. Now it is wide open, making man's life rich and more successful.

In addition to all of the above, there also lie hidden, concealed under this good and fruitful land, precious metals like copper, iron, coal, and much silver and gold. There is a large quantity of coal in these lands. Besides what it does for us--the inhabitants of the United States--heating our homes and factories, powering steamboats, and feeding locomotives which run many mighty railroads, it will also yet bring wealth to these states, because England recently began buying these precious stones from us and paying with hard currency.

Kerosene oil, that is petroleum, is centered in the United States; the wells there are like fountains that will not stop. For this reason too the lands of the United States will be blessed with richness. The more we look upon the wealth and success of these states, the more we recognize the goodness God shows toward man, opening before him a land of milk and honey²⁴ in America. We thank Him with all our heart and soul for His goodness and kindness.

After speaking a little about the characteristics of the United States

in general, I will talk briefly about the characteristics of each and every state. I will begin with the state of Maine with which all the geography books begin.

1) Maine became part of the United States on March 3, 1820. Its area is 35,000 square miles and its population is 800,000. The state has another 2-1/2 million²⁵ acres of land to sell; and the majority of it still is not settled. The climate here is vigorous, but healthful and good and the citizens of this state generally live to an old age. The forests are beautiful and good; the lumber trade is therefore growing. The land in the middle of the state between the Penobscot and Kennebec rivers is more lush and fruitful. Maine has 13 ports, the biggest of which is Portland.

The capital of the state is Augusta, with a population of 10,000, which is situated on the Kennebec River. Portland is the largest city in the state with a population of 40,000. The number of Jews living in this state are few. Nevertheless, Jews live in every city, to a greater or larger extent, for "The Jew is a wonderful thing, every place you go you find one there!"

2) New Hampshire is an old state. It was founded back in the year 1623 when immigrants, fleeing poverty and dispersion, settled in this new land. Its area is 9,280 square miles and its population is close to 400,000. Here the Allegheny Mountains rise to their summit and the terrain is hilly. The land is filled with abundantly beautiful green grass, therefore cattle and sheep multiply greatly. The land is also good for

sowing wheat, maize, barley, oats, corn, and various kinds of fruits. From the apples one can make delicious apple cider. The climate here is pleasant and good. The 13 railroad lines in this state help to increase trade, especially the textile industry, although, there is only one sea-port in the entire state.

The capital of the state is Concord which is located on the Merrimack River, with a population of 12,000 residents. The city is located near the shore of Portsmouth. The number of Jews who live in this state is also few. The majority are merchants who peddle around their goods. In English they are called "peddlers."

3) Vermont became a state on February 18, 1791. Its area is 10,212 square miles and its population is about 350,000. The climate is good and healthful and the land is fertile so there are all kinds of fruit and produce here. Therefore the leading occupations are farming, and cattle and sheep grazing. Trade, however, will not thrive here because this state has no sea-port, but there are lakes and rivers including Lake Champlain, the Sorel River and the Saint Lorenz (Lawrence) River.

The capital of this state is Montpelier which has a population of 6,000. The biggest and prettiest city in this state is Burlington which has a population of 10,000. Here too, the number of Jews living in this state are few, but wherever they have settled they have become prosperous and successful.

4) Massachusetts was the first and oldest of the United States. It

was founded in the year 1620 when those who were persecuted in England because of their religion came and settled in the city of Plymouth. This state has an area of 7,800 square miles and a population of almost 1.5 million. Here education enjoys a higher status than in any other state in the Union. Schools and colleges glitter and learning hoists its banner with honor. Trade and manufacturing flourish just as farming and fishing have done in this state. The great textile spinneries of wool and cotton have helped to increase trade tremendously. Land in this state is precious because the population is so large. Therefore it is not good for farmers who come from Europe with little money to settle here. It is good, however, for skilled workers. The climate is clean, pleasant, and beautiful.

The capital of this state is Boston which has a population of 200,000. In this city sits the center of wisdom and learning of the whole country. Therefore the Americans call it the Athens of the United States. Many Jews live in this city, among them extremely rich merchants. They do all kinds of purchasing and selling. There are synagogues, rabbis and cantors, and ritual slaughterers. In addition there are institutions of charity and righteousness as there are in all the large cities of the United States in which many Jews live. As there are Jews living in this city, so there are many Jews living in all the cities of this state. Their numbers are constantly increasing. Wherever you find them, they do well!

5) Rhode Island is the smallest state in the United States. Its area

is only 1,306 square miles and her population is about 225,000. The climate is a good one; you find here hot springs and beaches. The land is better suited for cattle grazing than for sowing and planting. Trade flourishes because of the sea-ports.

The capital of this state is Newport²⁶ with a population of 13,000. There is trading by land and by sea. The biggest city in this state is Providence with a population of 25,000. Jews live throughout all the cities of Rhode Island but their numbers are not as great as in other states.

6) Connecticut has an area of 4,750 square miles and a population of 537,454. The climate here is good and the land is lush and fruitful. It is good for farming and cattle grazing. Trade and manufacturing are greatly flourishing in this state.

The capital of this state is New Haven²⁷ with a population of 45,000. Here too many Jews live, as they do throughout the state, both in cities and in villages, and especially in the city of Hartford where they enjoy, for the most part, peace and prosperity.

7) New York: this state was first settled by the Dutch in the year 1614. The Dutch came here and called the state "New Netherlands." The city of New York was called "New Amsterdam." The size of the state is 47,000 square miles and its population is 4 million. The state of New York is blessed with many bodies of water and the land is lush and fruitful. It is very good for farming and cattle grazing. The landscape is hilly--it is a land of mountains and plains--and is very

good for sowing wheat. Because of the cattle, you find a lot of butter and cheese here. The choicest place for plowing and sowing in this state is the Genessee Valley. The air of this land is generally fresh, good, pleasant, and moderate. Trading and manufacturing here are growing by leaps and bounds. The state is generally wealthy and it has many good and large cities. There are also beaches for health and bathing. The port of New York is the biggest port in the world.

The capital of the state is Albany, where the governor lives, and its population is 80,000. The city of New York is the largest city in this state and in the western hemisphere.

In this great city, the largest metropolis of trade in the whole country, there are people from all over the world. Whoever wants to learn about the people of the world needs only to come to this city and see them all. In this city both the poor and rich mingle together. Here your eyes can gaze at beautiful buildings and glorious palaces as well as poor shacks and houses about to topple over. Temptation is the world's evil, and the scum of the world goes hand in hand with godliness, righteousness of the world-over and the elite of humanity are in the streets. Here you will find truly righteous men and completely evil men, for God put them all together in this city. The city in general is beautified by wonderful buildings, wide and beautiful streets, theaters and circuses, dance halls, colleges for all subjects of learning, academies for music and art, and trade schools. Here one finds churches for all of the country's various faiths, as well as private and

charitable institutions.

The biggest street in the city is called Broadway (i. e. the wide way). Throughout every season of the year, except Sunday which is the Christian Sabbath, in the summer and the winter, in the rain or in the snow, on a hot day or a cold day, people push against one another and thousands of people scurry about as in the world of confusion (described in fairy tales). There are many gardens and parks in this city, particularly the pleasant and beautiful park in the north of the city named Central Park. To the south is a most magnificent building named Castle Garden.²⁸ It is a spacious place built to hold immigrants, for that is where they disembark from their boats.

In the city of New York one finds 75,000 to 100,000 Jews, among them rich ones, even though almost all of them came to America with nothing. However, our Jewish brethren worked hard in these few years and the number of their synagogues--built magnificently, flaunting their excellence, splendor and glory to the entire city--increased and multiplied.²⁹ The beautiful and glorious hospital which they recently built is called Mount Sinai.³⁰ The orphanage is glorious in its beauty; likewise their superb and glorious organizations whose purpose is to unite and join together the dispersed children of Israel throughout America. These organizations are for example the great and precious "B'nai Brith"³¹ whose membership is 40,000,³² and its sister organization, Keshet Shel Barzel³³ with a membership of 4,000, and the benevolent and educational institutions, big and small, whose

memberships are increasing here. All of them attest and proclaim the precious value of the Jews of New York and the Jews of the entire United States. Although the Jews here enjoy substantial peace, and silver and gold is abundantly available to them, still they don't forget their religion and faith. While in Europe indifference to our faith has increased among our brethren who boast of their reform, this is not so here. The Orthodox Jew like the Reform Jews loves our religion with an inner love. Each man strives to strengthen and beautify our religion and our faith and to sanctify Israel's name and faith publicly. The Polish Jews in America have also removed their dirty clothes, their materialistic and spiritual coverings, and discarded their miserly dress. They have put on clothes of piety, mercy and compassion; all who see them know that their seed had been blessed by God.

The Jews have 36 synagogues in New York (like the number of the 36 righteous men by whose merit the world was established),³⁴ and you cannot even count the number of their "minyans."³⁵ There are also study halls for the Polish Jews like the Beth Hamidrash Hagadol,³⁶ the study hall on Allen Street³⁷ etc. where they can study every day. Rabbis, preachers, ritual slaughterers, cantors, young scholars, and religious school teachers will sprout in this city as grass sprouts upon the land.

8) New Jersey: The area of this state is 8,320 square miles and it has a population of 1/2 million or more. Even though this state has 140 miles of coastal shore land, since it lies on the banks of the Atlantic,

it nevertheless has no great or important trade port. The weather is good and pleasant, yet the land is not good for plowing and sowing as it is in other states. It is, however, good for cattle grazing because there are many green pastures in this state. This state is very rich in many kinds of metals, especially iron, tin, and coal.

The capital of this state is Trenton which has a population of 20,000. This city is situated next to the Delaware River. The biggest city in the state is Newark with a population of 80,000.

Jews can also be found in this state, but their numbers are few. The Jews do have small congregations in almost every city in the state. The biggest congregation in the state is in the city of Newark which is close to New York.

9) Pennsylvania: This state was founded in 1682. It has an area of 46,000 square miles and a population of almost 3 million. Although the climate is harsh and always changing, it is nevertheless good and healthy. The land here is lush and fruitful, thus it is good for plowing and sowing. The wheat crop grows in abundance. Fruits and sugar-cane also produce a good and blessed harvest here. This state is also very rich in many kinds of metals and minerals, especially iron, coal, and salt. The flowing wells of oil make this land rich. Trade and manufacturing are also flourishing here.

The capital of this state is Harrisburg which has a population of 14,000. The largest city with the greatest population in the state is the city of Philadelphia.

This large and beautiful city is second to New York in size and population--numbering only 800,000--but she exceeds New York and all other cities in the United States in beauty and magnificence. The nicest sections of the city have beautiful courtyards and marketplaces. She is a praiseworthy city because of the cleanliness which is prevalent everywhere. This is due to the determination and strength of her citizens. In this city the Declaration of Independence was signed that gave all the states freedom and independence from any kingdom or foreign government. The United States Congress convened for the first time in this city. The government buildings here include a town-hall, a meeting house, a treasury, and a mint. All are built magnificently with much charm and beauty and all of them are attractive to look at. There are many houses of worship and religious places here. In addition there are charitable institutions, and schools and academies, gardens and parks, and aquaducts which conduct the water through the pipes to all the streets of the city and to all the houses. Even though it is such a large city, nonetheless one does not see the corruption due to abundant luxuries and opulence as in the other large cities of Europe or in America, for the Quakers³⁸ who are practically the leading citizens hate luxuries with passion, and live entirely self-sufficient lives. The women, like the men in this group, dress in modest clothing, dresses that are beautiful and clean, but not scarlet with ornaments. They do not adorn their clothing with gold or decorate their necks with necklaces. Quaker daughters do not call out Give! Give! like the daughters of Israel

whose dresses are of fine linen with necklaces of precious stones and strands of gold with dots of silver. This is a disease among the daughters of our people, who are never satisfied with their luxuries, though the necklaces they wear are beyond counting. How great was the fervor against the Daughters of Zion whom the prophet (Isaiah) Ben Amotz cursed (Isaiah 3:16-25) for their poor attributes which brought them to the love of luxuries as enumerated there. And to this day if you cannot recognize the Daughters of Israel among the other girls for their long and hooked noses, then you will surely know them from their rings and ribbons, and earrings, and necklaces. For the daughters of Israel are covered with them.

There is a magnificent and enormous train terminal near this city. There are also, not far from this city by the Delaware Shore, ship ports which are growing and expanding day by day. Steam-ships travel from Europe to Philadelphia, increasing trade here remarkably. Those who travel to America would do well to come by way of this port since the entry-way for ships is very good, and the city government watches over and guards the immigrant with "seven eyes" lest he be deceived or harmed. The organization in this city called "The Deutsche Geselscheft"³⁹ worries about German immigrants, and tries to find work for them when they first arrive. Undoubtedly they would do the same for all Jews, because there are many Jews who support this organization financially, and some of our brethren head the organization.

There are about 25,000 of our Jewish brethren living in this city,

and their numbers are increasing every year. The primary means of livelihood for the Jews in this city and in this state is trade as it is throughout the rest of the country. Many of them are national notables. There are extremely rich ones, but there are also many laborers. As in New York, so here, they are striving with determination to hoist the flag of Judaism in this land by way of their synagogues which display splendor, majesty, beauty and glory to the entire city. They also have charitable institutions, and here too the B'nai Brith and the Keshet Shel Barzel built homes. These cherished organizations are uniting virtually all the Jews of the United States; those who are scattered and dispersed from the Atlantic Ocean to the Pacific. They are brothers in everything good and righteous, and everything beautiful and wonderful. Rabbis and scholars teach their flock through lectures, both in German and English, the language of the land, the Jew's obligation to his religion and his God, to his land and the land of his birth, to his coreligionists and to his entire community. Here, too, the name of Israel and its religion is adored and revered, exalted and uplifted, and held in highest esteem.

A rabbinical school was established in this city by the name "Maimonides College."⁴⁰ However, in the absence of students it did not fulfill its holy purpose. Whether it's going to continue to exist a long time or be closed is beyond my knowledge.

10) Delaware is a small state with an area of 2,120 square miles. It is one of the smallest states in the country, and has a population of 150,000. The climate is good and healthy in the northern part of the

state, but not in the south. There is minimal trade in this state, but there is a lot of fishing. The southern part of this state is almost entirely on the shore, and the lands there are lowlands and between them are marshes and swamps. There are large Zypressen⁴¹ forests there. You also find magnolia trees in this state. In the middle of the state, in the northern section, there is a small summit that is good for grazing and sowing.

The capital of this state is Dover which has a population of 1,200. The largest city, however, is Wilmington with a population of 22,000. This city is situated in the middle of the railroad line from New York to Baltimore.

The number of our brethren living in this state is very small. Many of the Jews are peddlers who walk and trade throughout the state with their goods which they carry on their shoulder or place in a cart. This is the way of peddlers in the United States.

11) Maryland: The first settlers in this state were Catholics from England who fled due to jealousy and persecution in their homeland. They settled here in the year 1631. The area of this state is 11,124 square miles and the population is 800,090. The climate is good and beautiful within the state and around the mountains, but on the west and east coasts of the state it is bad and destructive. In the Allegheny and Washington counties the land is fruitful and lush, and farming is flourishing there. They plant cotton and tobacco. Many minerals are hidden in the mountains. These especially include coal and lime, a

greenish-colored stone. Here, too, trade will flourish.

The capital city of this state is Annapolis which has a population of 5,000. This city is situated on the ocean, but despite this, trade is not flourishing here. The largest and best city with the biggest population is Baltimore.

This great city is not inferior to the other large cities. It was built with good taste and beauty. It has a large port which will increase its trade and importance.

The number of inhabitants in this city is more than 1/4 of a million. There are theaters, academies, factories, and great textile mills. There are also churches for various religions and charity foundations. All these adorn the city and they testify to her glory and splendor. The steam-ships that travel from Bremen⁴² to Baltimore regularly, bring thousands of immigrants from Europe here annually. They bring an abundance of good to this city and to the entire state of Maryland. How good it would be if our Jewish brethren also chose this way to reach America, rather than all flowing into the city of New York; especially those wishing to travel inland. Would it not be much better for them to go to Baltimore rather than New York since the fare is the same with the company Norddeutscher Lloyd⁴³ in the city of Bremen? The traveler does not even have to pay one penny more to go to Baltimore than to go to New York. The English company called National Line⁴⁴ also sends ships from Liverpool to this city. In so doing these companies benefit many immigrants.

Many Jews live in this great city of Baltimore. They number 15,000 with many more coming here annually. Many of the Jews here too became rich and successful. They are now city notables, honorable men of the city who conduct trade and purchasing like any national leader. Their shops are open wide all over the city as they are in the cities of New York and Philadelphia. They give charity generously. Their synagogues are beautiful buildings and so are their charitable homes, hospital, and orphanage. They all serve to attest and proclaim their charitable spirit. Here, too, the fortress of Judaism grows stronger and her banner is raised with honor. The precious Jewish organizations, "Keshet Shel Barzel" and "B'nai Brith" tie Baltimore Jewry to Jews in the rest of the United States, doing worthy and charitable deeds both for the general good and for the benefit of individuals.

12) District of Columbia: The two states of Maryland and Virginia gave this district as a gift to the United States government in order to build a capital city there for all the states, there was no choosing between the states for the seat of the federal government, so that no one would say it's in my section while another would say no it's in mine. They set up there the District of Columbia, named for Columbus who discovered America. The city which is the seat of the government is called Washington, named for the founder of freedom and independence. The people of America call him to this day "the founding father." In the year 1846 Congress returned to Virginia the piece of land it had given and the District of Columbia remained in only the small part which was

previously in the state of Maryland. It stands under the jurisdiction of the Federal government and it belongs to the government. The whole area of the District is only ten square miles. The land here is hilly and the climate is good.

The capital of the district which is also the capital of the entire United States is the city of Washington which has a population of 75,000. This city is the home of the President, the Congress, and the Supreme Court of the land. The most beautiful buildings in the city which rise in glory and splendor are: the Capital (the seat of the government), the White House (also called the Presidential Residence), the Senate, the General Post Office, the Treasury, and all the other houses of recreation and learning, holy places, and armories and jails. There are government representatives from all four corners of the world who live in this city, and they bring many luxuries with them here. Even though the purpose of the founders of the independent and the free nation of the United States was to put the seat of government in a small city far from an industrial and commercial center and separate from all the large places where corruption and luxuries rule in all their power, in order to benefit all of the states, whether those wise men were successful in their purpose is a serious question. Whoever knows the ways and means of life in the city of Washington now knows the answer! To the west of the city is the city of Georgetown with a population of 10,000; it is commercially superior to the city of Washington.

In this capitol city of Washington live many Jewish families. They

are now building a great and magnificent synagogue⁴⁵ to serve the Lord God of Israel. But since trade is not growing here, the number of Jews will not increase either.

13) Virginia: This state was first settled by the English. The first city built by them was the city of Jamestown on the James River. In the year 1862⁴⁶ when the war between the South and the North of the United States broke out, it separated the people of the southwest part of this state from the rest of the people of the state. This southwest part became a state of its own known as West Virginia. The state of Virginia joined with the South and fought against the North. The southwestern section gave its help to the North and fought against the South. The area of the southwest alone is 38,352 square miles and the population is almost 1-1/2 million, and of them, half a million are black Africans.

The climate and characteristics of this state are separate and distinct according to the districts here. In the Tide Water district the land is sandy and there are lowlands by the coast full of mud and swamps. Many places are always covered with water. This district extends from the coast to a distance as wide as 100 to 120 miles. When the water rises it covers this whole area with water. Therefore this section is very good for sowing millet which only grows readily with a lot of water. There is extreme heat here and only the black Africans are able to live here and stay healthy. They can endure the heat of the sun which beats upon their heads. Far be it from me to advise a man from the cold lands of Europe to go there. The second district is called Piedmont and is located between

the coast and the mountains. The land is good here for sowing and plowing and the climate is healthy and good. The choicest region in the whole state is the mountains. In this district the land is rich and very fruitful. It is excellent for sowing all kinds of plants and fruits like dates, pomegranates, and almonds, etc. It is also good for grazing cattle and sheep. The climate is remarkably healthy and good. There are also large forests here and luxuriant trees can be seen.

The state in general is very rich in produce particularly products such as wheat, corn, tobacco, minerals, iron, coal, and lime. All these things bring a good price at the marketplace because trade is certainly flourishing here in this state. Many medicinal springs are found here. However, one still sees destruction and ruin in this land from the war. In this state, the savior of the United States, George Washington, was born, and here he died and was buried on the corner of his estate in the village of Vernon⁴⁷ on the Potomac River.

The capital city of this state is Richmond which has a population of 40,000. It is the largest city in the entire state. Oak trees are planted on the two sides of its wide streets. They cover the houses with their branches and they look like beautiful groves. At the time of the recent rebellion, the city of Richmond was the capital of the Southern government, therefore much blood was spilled in its midst. Trade is flourishing here. The foremost trade is tobacco and flour.

In this city, as in all the other cities of this state, one finds new Jewish congregations and also old ones. The number of Jews is small

in this state but it is growing steadily. The Jews in the city of Richmond have synagogues and they have a Rabbi to preach on the Sabbaths and the Holydays according to the spirit of the time. The Jews here compete with their brothers wherever they live in order to increase the honor of Judaism and to rebuild its fallen glory.

14) West Virginia: In the year 1862⁴⁸ when the late rebellion broke out, 49 districts separated from the state of Virginia. They became a state in and of themselves and they helped the North. The area is 23,000 square miles, between the Allegheny Mountains and the Ohio River. The climate here is good and healthy. Medicinal springs and petroleum are found here in abundance. The land is good and it is best used for grazing sheep and cattle, and for farming.

The capital city of this state is Wheeling⁴⁹ which is situated on the Ohio River with a population of 20,000. Trade is abundant, especially in coal. As far as I know one finds but a few of our Jewish brethren in this state because the number of Jews in the United States relative to the other people is small and would not exceed 1/2 million. So far they have preferred the large cities because they gathered around the trade which was alluring to Jewish eyes instead of the hoe and the plow. They carried a bundle of goods on their shoulder, refusing to live the life of a peasant and farmer who lives under his vine and under his fig tree.⁵⁰ Only trade--even with old clothes--was their life and happiness.

15) North Carolina is an old territory. Its area is 50,704 square miles and its population is more than one million. The people and the

characteristics of the land here are like that in Virginia, very good only near and around the mountains. The coastal lands are filled with valleys and sand. There are also reeds and marsh land here and the air is bad and destructive. However, cedar trees and cyprines also grow here, and the millet is seeded here for a profit. The western land is hilly, lush, and fruitful. Nice mountains tower here and on them are forests and green meadows. In the summer days it is very hot. The produce of the land here is wheat, corn, millet, tobacco, and cotton. In addition there are all kinds of southern fruits. Grapes are also planted here. In the forests you find tar and turpentine oil. One year they found gold in its land equal to \$400,000. There is not, however, in this entire state with its great coast, a harbor for ships.

The capital of this state is the city of Raleigh with a population of 4,000. The biggest city in the state is Wilmington with a population of 20,000.

Here, also, the number of Jews is small, but "what is not now, can still be"⁵¹ says a popular proberb--The Jews will come and settle here. They will farm the land and benefit from its goodness and prosperity as other citizens do.

16) South Carolina: Its area is 34,000 square miles and its population is close to 1 million. The people of this state were the first to fight against the North, but they were also the first to make peace after they saw from the battlefield carnage that victory would not be theirs. They chose a negro to be minister⁵² of their state. The choicest land for

sowing and plowing is in the mountainous section of this state. In the mid-section they only grow cotton, but in the lowlands near the coast they sow millet which will bring 100% of the market price. There are also many forests in this state near the coast. The majority are of Tannen [spruce] trees and so you find tar and turpentine oil. Education has not yet reached a strong level here.

The capital city of this state is Columbia which has a population of 10,000. However, the largest city in this state is Charleston which has a population of 65,000. This city has a ship port and a large trade.

Jews settled here too from early on. While the number of Jews in this state is not large, they do have communities with synagogues, especially in Charleston where many Sephardic Jewish families live.

17) Georgia: This state has an area of 50,000 square miles and a population close to a million. The land by the coast consists of lowlands full of sand and mud and the climate is destructive. The land further inland consists of rolling plains that are fruitful, and the climate is much better. Usually, however, the days of summer are very hot, as in all hot climates, but in the days of winter the air is moderate and it is very pleasant. Cotton and sugar-cane grow abundantly here and one acre brings more than 500 liters of cotton. The land also produces millet, tobacco, corn, and sweet potatoes. They have also begun to plant tea here which has produced excellent results. Southern fruits also grow abundantly here.

The capital of this state is Atlanta which has a population of 35,000.

Other large cities in the state include Savannah which has a ship port entrance and Augusta which has a population of close to 25,000.

In all of these cities which we mentioned, full communities of our Jewish brethren are found. They have synagogues and preachers and cantors and ritual slaughterers. The number of Jews have been small up to now, but they are increasing year by year as they are in all the cities of the United States. May God multiply them 1,000 times over making them wealthy and successful.

18) Florida: When the Sephardim came to this land they were amazed at the natural beauty here and called it "the land of flowers" (Florida). In the year 1845, Florida joined the United States. Its area is 59,268 square miles and it has a population of about 200,000. The southern part of the state is swampy and the largest part of the land consists of lowlands and sand. However, the climate is hot so it heats the land, allowing a lot of produce to grow here. The products of the land are cotton, millet, tobacco, and sweet potatoes. The best and most suitable counties for farming in the state are Jefferson, Madison, and Leon.

The capital of this state is Tallahassee, but it only has a population of about 2,000. Its climate is pleasant and good because the city was built on land that is fruitful and rich, and has lush grass. The cities of Saint Augustine and Pensacola have ship ports but they do not have much population.

Jews may also be found in Florida, and it isn't far from the truth to

accept the early assumption that the Jews also contributed to its creation and were among its first founders.⁵³ However, the number of Jews are few. In parts of Florida one can meet Jews who bind their wares on their shoulders and wander to and fro making a living, but not under the "vine and fig tree,"⁵⁴ their own fields and property.

19) Alabama: This state has an Indian name⁵⁵ which means "we will settle here." It became a part of the United States in 1819. Its area is 50,722 square miles and its population has grown to more than one million. The Allegheny Mountains are in the northern part of the state. There are peaked hills and small hills, and the Tennessee River flows the entire width of the state. Here our eyes see beautiful valleys which are covered with grains and pretty fields with lush grass completely greenish in color. To the south are wide meadows and plains. The climate around the mountains in the north is good and healthy, but in the south it is very hot and unhealthy. The produce of the land includes: cotton, millet, and many southern fruits. In addition corn grows abundantly here. In the North there are large forests with luxuriant trees and thick oaks, but they only grow in smaller quantities in the South. There are not a substantial amount of minerals found here. Yet, there are pastures for cattle and sheep which are multiplying year after year.

The capital of this state is Montgomery which is located on the Alabama River. It has a population of 5,000. The biggest city in the state is Mobile which has a population of 35,000.

In this state you also find full communities of our Jewish brethren,

especially in the large cities. Here, as elsewhere, everywhere that they settle, Jews compete with the rest of the inhabitants in an effort to expand their state's trade to the best of their ability.

20) Mississippi is named for the river which in Indian means "the father of the rivers." This state joined the United States in 1817. Its length is 334 miles and its width is 150 miles. Its population is 800,000. Around the Mississippi River the climate is not good because this river overflows and covers the land and it leaves behind--in its movement towards its basin--marsh and moisture. The heat of the burning sun then evaporates into a destructive air. The rest of the state, however, has good weather. The foremost produce of the land here is: millet in the south, and corn next to the river, forests of reeds, and cotton. Other produce also grows upon her land and grazing lands for cattle and sheep are very plentiful here. There are few minerals here. Although there is not in this state any large and wonderful ocean port, there is the great Mississippi River which brings great benefit to this state. There are still 4,900,000 acres of land in this state belonging to the state government which are for sale. Anyone who wants to buy, can come and purchase it.

The capital of the state is Jackson which is situated on the Pearl River with a population of 5,000. The majority of trade is in cotton. The city of Natchez is the biggest city in the state and it is the foremost place for trade. It has a population of 10,000.

Our Jewish brethren also live here and among them are extremely

rich ones. They own many lands. Recently, one generous Jewish man by the name of Trager⁵⁶ announced in a periodical to his Jewish brethren that he wanted to give a gift of 1,000 acres of his land to various poor Jewish families, for them to settle and work. In addition, he wants to build a synagogue for them and help them with openhanded generosity. If any family has already won this gift or not, I do not know, but anyone who wishes to know this should ask the publisher of the American Jewish periodical (but not the insolent one⁵⁷ for it is like a stinking carcass which one is forbidden to touch or carry, and every decent person should stay away from it) and he will tell you about the matter.

21) Louisiana: This state was discovered by the French and it was named for their king, Louis XIV. In the year 1803 Napoleon I sold the land to the United States for the price of \$15 million. On April 8, 1812 it became part of the United States. Louisiana is 292 miles in length and 250 miles in width. Its population is close to 1 million. This land is filled with mud and marshland from the waterfalls of the flowing Mississippi which overflows its banks and covers the width of this land with its waters. Throughout the spring the rivers rise and flood all the surrounding areas. Then, the sun sends out its rays, it burns the land up. The climate is bad and destructive here, but is good and healthy in the state's mountainous region. The produce of the land here include sugar-cane, millet, corn, cotton, and tobacco. Southern fruits grow here abundantly. Boats travel the 17,000 square mile area of the Mississippi River, and its tributaries bringing with them products from

the four corners of the United States to the large city of New Orleans where trade is growing and increasing abundantly.

The government of this state has an additional 6,580,000 acres of land to sell to all who want to buy it.

The capital of this state is Baton Rouge which has a population of 6,000. The climate in this city is pleasant and clear and healthy and good. The land surrounding the city is lush and fruitful. The largest city in this state, the well-known and wonderful city, where people of different nationalities do business is New Orleans. This great city was built magnificently upon the Mississippi River, not far from the place where the river spills into the ocean. The population is growing day by day and season after season. It numbers close to 200,000. This city has wonderfully good trade which is constantly increasing. For this reason, the number of inhabitants is increasing even though the climate is neither healthy nor good, it being all lowlands and settled on marsh. There is a great port in this city for steamships and sailboats which come from all different lands. They bring different cargos as well as immigrants to this city. The large and famous shipping organization Norddeutscher Lloyd sends ships from the city of Bremen to this city. How nice for every Hebrew traveler who seeks to travel to the city of New Orleans to go by way of Bremen. He can be certain that no troubles will afflict him for "with seven eyes" the guards and sailors of the ship watch over the peace and welfare of the travelers, which was entrusted to them. They may rest content that no evil will occur so long as God

tells the Master of the sea: "Do not be angry Neptune! Do no harm and do not destroy!"

There is much luxury in this city, and immorality holds sway here as in French cities. There are many houses of pleasure, theaters, and game rooms in this city. There are also, however, schools and academies here, although there is a lack of concern for popular education in the southern states. In this respect there is a great difference between the southern states and the northern states.

Many of our Jewish brethren live here in this city. Their numbers amount to about 20,000. Many of them are the offspring of Spanish Jews and they are very wealthy. The spirit of trade and frugality which are the legacy of almost all Jews, allowed them to gather wealth and riches. Many became rich in the last war. There are different and separate communities of Jews: Orthodox, Reform, Sephardic, German, and Polish. Recently, they built a sanctuary for prayer,⁵⁸ a great and truly superb temple. Eyes are drawn to the splendor of its glory and the elegance of its beauty. They called the famous preacher Dr. Gutheim⁵⁹ to serve as Rabbi and teacher at a salary of \$10,000 a year. Here too the Jews excel in charity and good deeds. They contribute a lot of money to institutions, hospitals, orphanages, and upon all holy tasks, both general needs and private ones. Their hands and their hearts are open to the spirit of everything good and worthwhile. They do not fall short of their generous brothers in New York who are distinguished in their charity. The Jewish organizations "B'nai Brith" and "Keshet Shel Barzel"

have spread to this city, established roots, and should bear fruit.

22) Texas: This state was named for an Indian family who settled there long ago. In the beginning it belonged to the Spanish and afterward to the Mexicans, but it was not long before the settlers set themselves free from the burden of Mexico. Texas thus gained freedom and became self-governing.

It joined the United States in the year 1845. Its area is 274, 356 square miles and she is the biggest of all the states in the United States. Its population is approximately 800, 000 and it is growing day by day. All of her land is very rich and fertile. It is made up of garden-land and green pastures, and beautiful fields with luxuriant trees. The land is also rich with all kinds of plants and growth. The climate is hot, but in every district of the state it is healthy and good, beautiful and pleasant. In some places, however, it is humid and destructive, damaging and bad. The produce of the land is millet, sugar-cane, and tobacco, and corn and cotton which are the best of their kind in the world. There is a lot of grazing land for sheep and cattle, and this land feeds many cattle. The minerals here include iron, salt, and coal. So far manufacturing and trade have failed to root themselves here in the state and no land has been fully cultivated. There are many rich treasures still available to skillful laborers. They can satisfy themselves from the good of the land and eat from her fruit. In addition, the rivers flow here and moisten the land, satiating the field in order that it give fruit in its time. However, in the lowlands here a very dangerous malaria

prevails with all its strength and power.

The capital of this state is the city of Austin which is situated on the Colorado River. It has a population of 4,500. The biggest and most wonderful city in the state, which is situated by the harbor, is the city of Galveston which has a population of 12,000.

Our Jewish brethren also live in the state of Texas, a few here and a few there, and just like the rest of the citizens they benefit from the goodly richness of the land. There are also small new congregations sprouting there, numbering among themselves teachers, preachers, ritual slaughterers, and cantors. Because the number of congregants is in most cases small, still unable to pay \$2,000 a year to those engaged in holy service, they therefore generally seek one man who knows and understands how to teach their children the religion of Israel, ritually slaughter their sheep and cattle, chant their prayers, and preach to them on Sabbaths and holidays. Men such as these who possess such skills and wisdom can almost anytime find a position in some small community of which there are hundreds in the United States and they can live there respectably. If all this wisdom (?)⁶⁰ is not to be found in one man, but only the first three skills, for he does not understand how to preach publicly, such a man also is guaranteed to find a position in holy service easily in the United States in some congregation or other, for their numbers are increasing in the small and large cities of the state.

23) Arkansas: The first settlers in this state were the French who

came to live here in the year 1685. On June 15, 1836 it joined the United States. Its area is 52,198 square miles and its population is 505,000. The shape of the land is unusual: The eastern section next to the Mississippi is made up of lowland filled with mud and the river floods it almost every year. The central section is mountainous and hilly. Next to the White and Saint Francis River the land is very good for plowing and sowing. The forests in this state are very good. Cotton and tobacco grow abundantly here. The land is rich in all kinds of minerals and metals especially iron, coal, lead, gypsum, bauxite, tin, and salt. The climate is goodly and pleasant in the mountainous region, but not in the plains and lowlands because of the mud there. A muddy vapor rises and brings bad illnesses to the inhabitants there. Mineral springs which spout cold and hot water are also found here. Even though, by the nature of their water, these mineral springs are different, nevertheless they are close to one another; one can immerse his left hand in a spring of cold water and his right hand in a spring of hot water at the same time. Many sick people are healed in these medicinal springs. They remember these places with holy feelings and praise God for His abundant goodness and loving kindness towards man.

The capital city of this state is Little Rock which has a population of 5,000. There are other large and small cities but the number of settlers still remains few. It is, however, growing year by year.

24) Tennessee: This state joined the United States on June 1, 1796. It has an area of 45,600 square miles and a population of 1-1/4 million.

The biggest portion of this state is mountainous and hilly lands. The air here is good and healthy. The mountainous region is better for grazing sheep and cattle than for farming. The plains and lowlands here are good for plowing and seeding. In addition, cotton, tobacco, and corn grow here. The minerals which are found here include iron, gypsum, and lime. Many Germans live in this state.

The capital of this state is the city of Nashville which has a population of 25,000. The biggest city in the state, however, is Memphis.

Our Jewish brethren have also settled in this state, generally in the two cities which we mentioned. They have congregations and synagogues, and cantors, and preachers. Their customs are the customs of Reform because for the most part these congregational preachers are tied to Rabbi Wise⁶¹ from Cincinnati; his teachings are deeply rooted for he ordains them as preachers and his diploma makes them teachers in Israel.

25) Kentucky joined the United States on February 4, 1791. It has an area of 37,680 square miles and a population of 1-1/4 million. There is farming in this state and abundant grazing for cattle. The land produces a lot of good grass for cows. The land is hilly and there are large forests on it. In addition, many minerals are found in the land. The climate is good and healthy. Manufacturing has increased here lately and on account of this, trade is increasing.

The capital of this state is the city of Frankfort which is situated on the Kentucky River. It has a population of 3,000. The biggest city

in the state is Louisville which has a population of 100,000.

Many Jews are found in this state, especially in the large city of Louisville where they number about 20,000. Many extremely rich Jews are found in this city. They have synagogues, ritual slaughterers, rabbis, cantors, and charitable homes. There are also branches of the Jewish organizations such as "B'nai Brith" and "Keshet Shel Barzel" in this city. The Jewish community in Louisville will be among the largest Jewish communities in the United States.

26) Ohio joined the United States in the year 1802. It has an area of 39,964 square miles and a population of 2-1/2 million. The land is rich and fruitful and the air is pure and refined. Every branch of industry is flourishing here and budding forth. Settlements are growing day by day and enlightenment will increase and expand throughout the state. Farming and the grazing of cows has risen to a foremost position in this state, to the extent that in the year 1865 it was equal to \$80 million. In addition, wine is produced, especially near the Ohio River and Lake Erie. The income from the sale of horses in this state in the above mentioned year rose to \$38,710,309, from the sale of cattle rose to \$38,432,410, and from the sale of sheep was \$30,103,572. This state is also rich in three kinds of metals, iron, coal, and salt. There are many railroads in this state.

The capital of this state is the city of Columbus which has a population of 25,000. The biggest city in the state is the highly praised city of Cincinnati which is located on the Ohio River, with a population of

1/4 million. Trade is primary in this city which is called "the Queen City of the West." The population here is growing and increasing year by year. There are many schools and academies and charitable homes in this city. There are also factories. In addition, there is much ship building here because they build most of the ships that float upon the rivers Ohio, Mississippi, and other rivers too.

Many of our Jewish brethren live in this large city and they are multiplying by leaps and bounds. Twenty-five thousand Jews are found in this city. They are busy negotiating in every branch of trade and many of the rich people of the city are Jews. There are several synagogues which exhibit glory, beauty, and honor for Israel and for the entire city. There are also many charitable homes for the Jews in this city. There are two wonderful, wise, and distinguished men who lead congregations there as public teachers and preachers. The first is the most famous man in the entire American Rabbinate, the learned Rabbi Isaac M. Wise. The second is the learned Rabbi Lilienthal⁶² who did much work in spreading the Enlightenment among the Jews of Russia. The first is the most outstanding of the rabbis of Israel in the United States and his name and reputation grow both among Jews and non-Jews due to his beneficent activities for the sake of Judaism. For many years now he has fought barehandedly for enlightenment in his published books and in the magazines, "The Israelite"⁶³ and "The Deborah,"⁶⁴ which he publishes, one in German and the other in English. This admirable and wonderful man has done much good. Recently he united many

congregations of Jews in the west into one organization⁶⁵ dedicated to everything good and righteous. Now he is trying to establish a rabbinical school in some American city. May God help him to transform his wish into human actions.

27) Indiana joined the United States on December 11, 1816. Its area is 38,809 square miles and its population has grown to almost 2 million. The land is rich and fertile, but the air is destructive, neither good nor healthy in various parts of the state. Many different minerals are found here such as iron, coal, gypsum, and so forth.

The capital of this state and the largest city in the state is Indianapolis, which has a population of 40,000. Trade is growing here. Many of our Jewish brethren also live in the cities of this state. They have complete communities with synagogues, ritual slaughterers, cantors, preachers, benevolent institutions and charities as the rest of the Jewish communities have in these states.

28) Illinois joined the United States on December 3, 1818. It has an area of 55,410 square miles and a population of 2-1/4 million. The land in this state is rich and very fertile, good for farming and for grazing cattle and sheep. It is a particularly valuable treasure for farmers because it is free of rocks and stones which obstruct farming. The land produces many products especially corn, wheat, oats, barley, potatoes, tobacco, hemp and flax, and cotton. There are also different minerals found here such as iron, copper, coal, and lead. Wine grapes also grow here plentifully. The value of cattle in this state rose to

\$120 million in the year 1865. The air here is good and healthy; cold in winter, hot in summer. There are also many railroads throughout the state.

The capital of this state is the city of Springfield which has a population of 20,000. (This is the place where the man acclaimed by multitudes was born, Abraham Lincoln, who was the President of the United States and he was secretly killed by murderous assassins, may his soul be bound up in the bond of everlasting life),⁶⁶ and the biggest city in the state is Chicago.

This city, 25 years ago, was smaller and had fewer inhabitants. Now, however, it has a population of 300,000 and it is one of the largest urban centers in the United States. Trade is flourishing here and spreading because 14 different railroads are joined here. In the month of October, 1871, there was a huge fire in the city. There has not been such a fire in the world for hundreds of years; almost the entire city became an inferno. (See my report of the Chicago fire in the magazine Havatselet⁶⁷ in the second volume, number 8.) But, to the surprise of the whole world, the city was revitalized from the ashes in a short time and the institutions of trade and manufacturing displayed their renewed greatness and glory. After a few more years passed, Chicago forgot about the entire disaster which had come upon her. Her renewed glory and beauty flourished as it had in the previous years.

Unsurprisingly, the great city of Chicago contains many Jews. There are 15,000 Jews in the city. They are artisans and they do

trading and purchasing and many of them are proud and strong. There are four large congregations in the city. They have synagogues, in magnificent buildings, with famous preachers. They also have charitable institutions, and Jewish groups and organizations. As in the rest of the cities of the United States, here, too, Israel displays vigor.

29) Michigan joined the United States on January 26, 1837. It has an area of 56,451 square miles and a population of about 1/4 million. The shape of its land is very unusual, and it lacks the strength to produce abundant produce. There are many forests and hidden within them is a precious treasure--copper. There is also a lot of fishing in this state to the extent that in the year 1865 this state sold fish in the amount of \$565,000.

The capital of this state is the city of Lansing. The biggest city in the state, however, is Detroit which has a population of 75,000. Trade is large in this city because it is situated on the fjord which connects Lake Erie and Lake Saint Clair together.

Our Jewish brethren also live in this state, especially in the city of Detroit. There they have congregations with synagogues and charitable institutions. Their numbers are growing year by year.

30) Wisconsin joined the United States on March 3, 1847. It has an area of 53,924 square miles and a population of about 1 million. The land here is rich and fertile. There are plains with large forests on them and the land produces many kinds of produce. In the largest part of the state, an area of 2,140 square miles, a great quantity of the

metal lead may be found. The climate is good and healthy, but it is very cold during the days of winter and warm during the summer days. Half of the population in this state are Germans.

The capital of this state is the city of Madison which has a population of 20,000. The biggest city in the state is Milwaukee which has a population of 100,000. Trade in manufacturing has reached a foremost position in this city. In 1835 nothing stood on the place which is now a magnificent city except for one house. Now it is a large metropolis!

Our Jewish brethren are also found living in this state. In the city of Milwaukee as in the city of Madison complete congregations are found. But because the correct number of Jews in every city can still not be known, it is impossible to point to precise numbers. If I incorrectly estimated the Jewish population of other cities the reader will kindly judge me on the side of merit for I have written only based on conjecture and not as a census taker.

31) Minnesota joined the United States on February 26, 1857. It has an area of 83,531 square miles and a population of up to 1/2 million. The climate here is harsh and bitter but also good and healthy. Winter is long and cold and summer is hot. The produce of the land is wheat, in abundance, and also millet. Few minerals have been found, but in some districts there are good, large forests. This state still has 36 million acres of land to sell and anyone who wants to buy it can come and purchase it cheaply.

The capital of this state is the city of St. Paul which has a population

of about 25,000.

Our Jewish brethren also live here and there in this state, but I do not know in which cities and towns they have congregations. However, it will not be long before the number of Jews throughout the United States will increase and spread. Wherever they settle they shall prosper.

32) Iowa joined the United States in the year 1845. It has an area of 55,045 square miles and a population of up to 1-1/4 million. This state is bound by two great rivers: the Mississippi River on the east and the Missouri on the west and streams flow through its land and irrigate the soil. The land generally is good and very fertile and the climate is good and healthy. However, in the lowlands malaria prevails. Many minerals are found here, especially lead, tin, copper, and coal. The population in this state is small; 25 million acres still unplowed and unsowed stand for sale cheaply. This state has no debts or liabilities, only money in its state treasury. Therefore the taxes here are small and light. How wonderfully pleasant to settle in a state such as this!

The capital of the state is the city of Des Moines which has a population of 10,000. The largest cities in the state are Davenport with a population of 20,000 and Dubuque with a population of 25,000.

To some degree, our Jewish brethren are also found here, but I do not know their numbers.

33) Missouri joined the United States on March 2, 1821. It has an area of 65,350 square miles and a population of about 1-1/2 million.

The land is generally good and fertile, especially around the Mississippi and Missouri Rivers. Large forests with different kinds of luxuriant trees grow in this state. The produce of the land here is plentiful and varied. Such things as vegetables and seeds grow here in abundance. Also wine grapes and other kinds of fruit blossom forth in this state. There are many minerals here such as iron, copper, lead, and limestone; there is also coal and other kinds of metals. The climate is highly variable, the winter is very cold, and sometimes the great Mississippi River freezes to the extent that carriages carry heavy loads across the ice for three months continuously. The summer is very hot. Despite all this, the air is not destructive and it is not harmful to the body's health. Trade and manufacturing will grow here by leaps and bounds.

The capital of this state is the city of Jefferson City which has a population of 5,000. The largest city in the state is St. Louis which has a population of 1/4 million.

This great city is situated on the right bank of the Mississippi and is built magnificently. It is growing and spreading year by year. Trade is large here because of the trading ships and the railroads. It is one of the biggest and most wonderful cities in the United States. Learning sits on a pedestal and many labor on behalf of general education. Thirty different magazines are published here, and benevolent and charitable institutions stand here in splendor and glory. About 10,000 Jews live in this city and they have prospered and succeeded as they

have in the rest of America's large and small cities. They have congregations with synagogues and rabbis, cantors, and ritual slaughterers and there are also good and useful organizations. The Jews in this city, like their brothers in the rest of the cities of this new land, excel in their charity and their generous spirit. They love the religion of Israel and uphold the covenant. The Orthodox Jew lives together with the Reform Jew in peace and harmony. Each man and his neighbor strives to enlarge the honor of the faith of Israel and to glorify it.

Many immigrants will flow to this city. How wonderfully nice for our Jewish brethren who travel to America also to settle in this city and state. The number of our Jewish brethren is small compared to the number of the other citizens. In the great city of St. Louis many more Jews can still find a place to settle down and earn an honorable living either from work or trade, as did their brothers who came in the last ten years. The fastest way to travel there is by way of Baltimore or New Orleans from the Port of Bremen in ships of Nordeutscher Lloyd Company.

34) Kansas is one of the newest and biggest states. It joined the United States January 29, 1861. It has an area of 81,318 square miles, but a population of only about 500,758. The land in the eastern part of this state is rich and fertile especially next to the rivers and lakes. The land in the central part is good for plowing and sowing, but the western land is not good. This land is filled with sand and cannot produce wheat or fruit. The climate here is good and healthy. Minerals

have not yet been discovered in abundance but a lot of magnesium was found around the Kansas River. Industry is still in its infancy and settlements are few. The government of this state still has 43 million acres of land to sell.

The capital of this state is the city of Topeka, but the biggest city in this state is Leavenworth which has a population of 50,000. A few Jews are also found in this state, especially in the city of Leavenworth. There they have a complete community with a synagogue and they are rich and successful.

35) Nebraska joined the United States on March 1, 1867. It has an area of 75,995 square miles and a population of about 150,000. The eastern part of this state is very good for farming, and wheat and millet grow abundantly here. The valleys around the Nebraska River and the Elkhorn River are rich and very good. The railroad which joins the East Coast with the Pacific Coast runs through this state and brings much benefit to the entire state. The climate here is good and healthy. There are still 42 million acres of land which the government has left to sell but that number is getting smaller day by day.

The capital of this state is the city of Lincoln, but the biggest city in the state is Omaha which has a population of 25,000. To my knowledge, Jewish settlers are still not found here because most Jews only go to states in which people have already settled, so that they may increase trade. But they forebear from going to a place that is still not settled to help increase settlement. When I was still in New York, a report in

a periodical stated that families from Romania were going to search for a place to settle in the state of Nebraska in order to purchase fields and vineyards and to become wine farmers and vinegrowers. However, this is only a false dream of the magazine's own invention, a deceitful dream which is not mixed with any truth whatsoever.

36) California was accepted as a state in the United States on September 9, 1850. It has an area of 188,981 square miles and a population which is now about 623,785. This state is known to the world as a land dusted with gold. Gold was first discovered in the year 1848, when miners found gold worth \$10 million. The value of the gold found since then has risen to \$1,000,000,000. Silver is also found there, but not in such vast amounts as gold. There are other kinds of minerals such as iron, lead, copper, tin, coal, and especially mercury. The land in this state is very good, it is rich and fertile and adaptable for plowing and sowing all kinds of produce. Wine and southern fruits such as oranges, pineapples, bananas, figs, pomegranates, olives, and almonds grow very well here and have won fame and favor. Silkworms were also brought to this land and they multiplied, profiting the entire state. Cattle and sheep grazing have also developed here in abundant measure because the fields and green pastures here are very good. The climate is beautifully good and healthy, but it is very hot in the summer days and rain does not appear in the land from the month of April to the month of November. Winter days are the rainy days here. There are many great forests in this state. The trees which grow here are the

finest and choicest trees for building. They are better than the forest trees found in any other country. The appearance of the trees is red; their trunks rise to 275 feet and their circumference is 19 feet. The splendid oak called the Sequoia is found in this state and it is the largest oak in the entire world. Its height is 400 feet and its radius is 30-40 feet. Industry is growing and flourishing from day to day and trade is prospering in this state because of the great port in the city of San Francisco. It joins all parts of the world together while the railroads journey to and fro from the Atlantic coast joining the Atlantic with the Pacific Ocean to the benefit of the entire United States.

The capital of this state and its largest city is the city of San Francisco⁶⁸ which has a population of 200,000. It is situated on the Pacific coast, where trade grows ever increasingly large. The reader of the history of this state and the history of San Francisco would come to understand that miracles have not yet vanished from the world. Even in our times, wonders appear before our eyes. Whoever heard of a land giving birth even once? California has given birth to thousands and ten thousands in just a few years, so too the city of San Francisco! This large city, situated on great waters, trading with different countries, merchants, peddlers, and powerful fleets, with land that is dusted with gold--no wonder many Jews gathered here from all over the country. Twenty-five thousand Jews are found in the state of California, and two-thirds of them live in the city of San Francisco. They buy and sell and are growing ever stronger and more numerous. Their wealth

is increasing, they are succeeding, and they are happy. The traveler Benjamin the 2nd in his book (Three Years in America)⁶⁹ * the first section, page 252 [p. 232 in English edition], tells a wonderful story about the Jews of San Francisco to show that all the trade of the city lies in the hands of the Jews (If you grasp a lot you cannot hold it, if you grasp a little you can hold it).⁷⁰ It reads as follows:

It happened that two years ago the steamers from the East, chiefly to New York, were about to leave on the Jewish Day of Atonement. But since all the Jewish places of business were closed, the steamers had to postpone their departure for the day.

In this city various Jewish communities are found, with synagogues, charitable institutions, rabbis, cantors, and ritual slaughterers. There are also various Jewish periodicals in English and German.⁷¹ They have one rabbi by the name of "Cohn"⁷² who is bountifully wealthy, the richest of all the rabbis of the United States and perhaps of all the rabbis in the entire world. There are only a small number of Jews living in

*The above mentioned book [Three Years in America] contains documents dealing with the history of our Jewish brethren in the United States which the author gathered and collected from magazines of our Jewish brethren, from letters and private writings, or from conversations with intelligent people. However, they are very few and when he didn't have something to write he filled out the bulk of his book with rubbish, mean spirited words, stupidities and lies. He desecrated and condemned things which he did not understand or know about. He slandered the characteristics of the American people in general and the characteristics of Jewish boys and girls born in America in particular. Who will clear the dust from your eyes Benjamin! See a people flourishing in the United States like palm trees, growing like a cedar in Lebanon in every state. They shall be rooted in the courts of wisdom and civilization and in the courtyards of the homes of the humanists they will flower and Israel will be fruitful in her old age, full of sap and richness for the splendor, honor, and glory of the religion of Israel and her beliefs. [author's footnote]

this fine state. If our brethren going to the United States had any sense they would come to this state. They could come cheaply by way of Liverpool via ships from the English company called National Line.

37) Oregon was admitted to the United States on February 14, 1859. It has an area of 95,274 square miles and a population of about 100,587. It is situated to the north of California next to the Pacific Ocean. The climate in this state is good and healthy because the air is hot and pleasant and moderate. The land is generally rich and fertile and very good for plowing and seeding. All kinds of produce and fruits, vegetables and seeds abundantly grow here in full measure. Forty to 50 bushels of wheat are brought forth from every acre. Also, wine is produced from the fruit here. The forests here are like those in the state of California; they are plentiful and good. Gold is also found in the dust of this state. Fishing, from a species called Lachs⁷³ is also flourishing here. There are still another 52 million acres of grasslands remaining for sale from the government for a cheap price. Anyone who wants can come and purchase it.

The capital of this state is the city of Salem. This state has many other cities. Five hundred Jews live in this state of Oregon. An entire community of them is found in the city of Portland and all of them are wealthy.

38) Nevada was admitted to the United States on March 21, 1864. It has an area of 112,090 square miles and a population which has grown to about 65,875. The land is generally a land of rich and fertile soil

and many low lands cover the prairies. There are many minerals here such as silver, salt, copper and lead, and coal. Silver and salt are especially found here in abundance. Medicinal springs are also found here and many illnesses are cured there.

The capital of this state is the city of Carson City in which trade has blossomed with 5,000 inhabitants. The biggest city in this state is the city of Virginia City which has a population of 25,000.

I do not know anything about the Jews in this state, but I am sure that Jews also live here, although their numbers are small.

These are the 38 states of the United States. Each and every state shines like a star in the heaven of the great and blessed republic of which there is none upon the earth which compares to it. However, there are other districts which are called in the vernacular territories. Their areas are as large as states, but because they are lacking in number of inhabitants, they were not annexed as states of the United States. Before 60,000 people settle in a state, it is only considered a territory. The territories do not have a place in Congress in Washington because they are not self-governing like the states. Their leaders and judges are only appointed by the federal government, not by the people. There are still 11 territories such as these waiting to become states in the near future when their populations increase. These are:

- 1) Washington territory, to the north of the state of Oregon. Its land and its air is like the state mentioned and its area is 69,694 square miles. Its population is about 23,955. There are many trees in this

state and the lumber trade should flourish and increase because from this state trees are sent upon by water to San Francisco, to South America, to the island of Sandwich to Japan and to China. There is also a lot of fishing in this territory. This district was made a territory on March 2, 1853 and in it there are still 41 million acres of arable land to sell.

2) Idaho has an area of 90,932 square miles and a population of about 14,999. This territory is filled with mountains and hills like the land of the Alps. Its land is good for plowing and seeding and its valleys are covered with an abundance of grains. The weather is moderate and many minerals are found here, including gold.

3) Montana was made a territory unto itself on May 26, 1864. Its area is 143,776 square miles. The majority of this large area still stands for sale. Its population is about 20,558. The great Missouri River comes out of this territory and many other small and large rivers flow into it. A third of this territory is very good for farming and for grazing sheep, because good fertile grasslands filled with fat covers the hills and the valleys. Raising cattle in this territory would enrich its owners. There are countless numbers of hot springs here and a sulphur spring was also recently found. There are many kinds of metals which were discovered here, they are gold, silver, copper, iron and coal. The climate of this land is good and healthy.

4) Dakota was made a separate territory on March 2, 1861. Its area is 150,932 square miles and its population of about 14,181. The

land of this territory is very good for plowing and sowing and for grazing sheep and cattle. The climate is good and pleasant and healthy. There are also many kinds of hidden and concealed metals within the ground. Forests are also found here.

5) Wyoming became a separate territory in the year 1868. It has an area of 97,883 square miles and a population of 9,118. This territory is filled with mountains and hills but it is not good for farming. There are also only a few minerals here.

6) Colorado was made a separate territory on February 28, 1861. Its area is 104,000⁷⁴ square miles and it has a population of about 40,000. This land is called the land of gold because a lot of gold is concealed here in the soil and it is very good quality gold. The Rocky Mountains extend the length and width of this territory and generally we are able to call this entire territory a mountainous region. Here nature's beauty appears in all its glory for a graceful spirit bathes this entire plain. The air is clear and refined and the sky is a bright and shining blue, not a cloud is cast. The land is lush and fertile and it produces all kinds of produce: both products of the soil and fruits of the tree. There are also an abundance of green grasslands, a plentiful measure of hay for the cattle and precious metals to make men rich. There are also forests with luxuriant trees.

7) Utah became an independent territory on September 9, 1850. It has an area of 84,476 and a population of about 86,786. The shape of this territory is like the shape of the rest of the lands which are mixed

with mountains and hills. The characteristic of the land is like the characteristic of a peaked land. The Mormons* made this territory into a pleasant garden; the sect worked hard to transform this wilderness into settled land. The largest valley is called the Mormon Valley and it is bordered by the Salt Lake which fertilizes the land here and covers an abundance of prairies. There are also salt springs and a lot of sulfur springs in this territory.

8) Arizona was made a separate territory on February 24, 1863. Its area is 113,916 square miles and it has a population of about 9,785. The shape of its land is of hills and high plains. Between the wildernesses of sand there are many good valleys suitable for farming. They produce wheat, barley, oats, tobacco, fruits, and also many vegetables. Cotton and sugar-cane grow in the southern part. This territory has the best area for grazing cattle in the entire United States. The climate here is clear and pleasant, warm and mild to the extent that in the month of February and March the fruits blossom. Seldomly does snow fall from the sky. There are many minerals in the soil of this territory; an abundance of silver and gold is also found here. The settlements here are sparse. There are still 72 million acres of grasslands for sale to any buyer.

*The Mormons are a religious sect which was founded 40 years ago by Joseph Smith. They were called "The Later Day Saints." They accept many things in both the Old and New Testaments. They marry many wives according to the custom of the fathers of the nation of Israel. One who takes many wives is blessed in this world and in the world to come. They believe that the state of Utah is the land of Israel and that the Messiah will appear there and create his kingdom, etc., etc. [author's footnote]

9) New Mexico was made a territory on September 9, 1850. It has an area of 121,201 square miles and a population of about 91,955. The shape of this land is mountainous, except for the Rio Grande Valley which is 20 miles wide. The height of the mountain chain here is from 6,000 to 11,000 feet. Many forests are found in the central part of this territory. The land there is very good for plowing and seeding and not infrequently produce grows here twice in one year. Therefore there is a lot of hay for the cattle here. The climate here is healthy and good and moderate. Many kinds of metals are found in the western part of this territory, especially gold, silver, lead, iron, zinc, coal, antimonium and clay. The settlements here are few and there remain more than 73 million acres of land for sale.

10) Indian Territory has an area of 68,991 square miles. The majority of settlers are wild Indians, people of the wilderness, and only a few white men who settled there. However, it won't be too long before the number of civilized people inhabiting this district will increase for their success and the success of this territory.

11) Alaska: This territory was purchased by the United States government from the government of Russia and it was made a territory in 1867. Its area is 577,390 square miles; at the place where the Western and Eastern Hemispheres are separated from one another only by the Behring Straight. The American government knows well that in the long run, as time goes on, this land will bring only good things to the United States. Not for nothing were millions of dollars expended for Alaska.

Very few Jews are found in these 11 territories; so few that even a child could count them.

I have briefly described the particular regions of the United States and talked about every state separately, guiding our brethren who wish to seek a place to settle in the United States so that they would know all the characteristics of all the places and be able to choose a place to live. Now, I will describe for the reader a few things about the United States in general which the author of "Shvile Olam Chadash,"⁷⁵ according to findings he collected from different books said: In books of geography and politics which give their opinions and conclusions about every kingdom and government, great and wonderful things are said about the government of the United States of North America. They praise the way of life there, its national situation, and the religions and the characteristics of the American people. Although it is very difficult to characterize a large nation which was formed by innumerable different peoples from almost all four corners of the world, people who differ from one another in characteristics and manners, in spite of this, they all unanimously say that the United States is a great nation, a nation that all look up to. All the manners and all the characteristics mix together for the better because in truth there is no nation and no kingdom which has been able to elevate itself to such great heights in its early career as this government. There is no country that has managed to bring its inhabitants to such heights of success by its good government and its honesty and justice as the land of North America! -- Although there is "nothing new

under the sun" and many kingdoms have grown and succeeded in a short period of time through their strength and power, with swords, bows and arrows, elevating themselves to rule nations through power and might and by oppressing the weak. Such a star when it appears makes few happy, for it is like a meteor, throwing fear and dread among people of the world. Not so with these stars (the stars and stripes stand as symbols on the flag of the United States). They are lasting stars, they shine with bright light and by their light every man will securely walk because the government of the United States is not established by power or by strength but rather with a tender spirit. Truth will spring out of the earth; and righteousness will look down from heaven--the spirit of the founders of this government is still alive in her, is still alive in all its laws and in all its rules sanctioned for man. These righteous souls still go about the land, so too the spirit of those who revealed their true simplicity since it was not for themselves or for their honor that they fought like lions and risked their lives to danger, it was only for their society and for the love of man and his freedom. That spirit guides and will guide the law-makers who come after them for the happiness of society and for the success of humanity. Among the laws which are as valuable as fine gold are also the laws which say all mankind are brethren and friends.

Children may not govern through ancestral merits, nor may contentions with God be decided by human judges, for as the incident involving Yerubba'al⁷⁶ proved: God will strive for himself!--Precious laws such

as these will willingly take root in the heart of every man. Therefore, society will remain established there forever and the eternal union of these fortunate states, will never be broken.

II

The Government of the United States in General and the Governments of Every State in Particular

The United States government is a republic, a free government. The country is a land of freedom and liberty. The people who settle there are free people according to the true meaning of the word. However, the American people do not understand freedom to mean that every man does what is righteous in his own eyes, without laws and without authority and orders. Rather, every man is free to make righteous laws for his own happiness and good. He is free to choose whom he wants to be his public officials and judges who will preserve the laws of the state, and then free to give the leadership of the government to their hands. Each and every man who obeys the laws and does not transgress them, will be safe and secure; nothing bad will happen to him. If, however, he disobeys the law, he will be punished, whoever he may be. Even were the President to transgress he could not clear himself, he would have to pay for what he did like any other man. The federal government is governed by the laws of the Constitution which the American people accepted upon themselves under oath and testament in the year 1789¹ as eternal law. According to these laws, all the states which entered the union then, or

joined it later would be connected and tied together in a strong bond, an everlasting unbreakable union under one government.

When the people of the south wanted to rend this union asunder and to separate themselves from the people of the north, a horrible war broke out which caused destruction in the land. But the unity was re-established upon its foundation and together with this was established the human value of those whose appearance is darker than black and came from Africa. For on account of the war nearly four million black slaves were delivered from hard and bitter slavery to everlasting freedom.

The job of the government is divided into the federal government which rules the entire United States together, and the state government which rules each and every state individually. The federal government is governed by the President whom all the states together choose. The term of the Presidency cannot continue for more than four years, though if the spirit of the people favors him, they are able to choose him for a second time. It is also governed by representatives from all the states to the Congress. The local government is lead by a Governor who is elected by the people of the state and it is governed by representatives from this state. Each and every state is like a special government. It has its own laws which are different and separate from the laws of other states in matters concerning internal affairs. But in matters that concern the federal government it is like a link in a chain, unable to do anything big or small without the federal government. The federal government is divided into three branches: a) the Executive branch

from which all the laws which govern society come out of; b) the Legislative branch which writes the laws and c) the Judicial branch which all court cases are brought before. The President chooses cabinet members with the approval of the National Legislature and they are the leaders of the government and must at times give reports on all that they do. The President and these men at his right hand form the Executive Branch. The Legislative Branch is divided into two houses, in the upper house sit the representatives of the people. Two are elected from every state for a period of six years and it is called the Senate. In the lower house representatives of the people also sit, these representatives are elected for two years and their numbers vary according to the number of citizens of the state. It is called the House of Representatives. These two houses are also called the Congress. The Houses of Congress assemble every year in December to share their views and oversee the government, to establish good and righteous laws, to accept new states into the Union, to establish laws concerning the railroad, to increase or lower the taxes and expenditures of government, etc. The Judicial Branch is divided into four courts: a) the Supreme Court of the United States on which the Chief Justice of all the land sits with eight assistant judges next to him. They decide and rule on difficulties between the states; b) the Federal Court which rules over all judicial matters against the federal government; c) the District Court; and d) the Local Court. The judges of these courts are appointed by the President with the approval of the Senate for an unlimited term. They

may serve for the rest of their lives as long as bribery does not blind their eyes and they pursue justice.² The government of every state is like the federal government and it is also divided into three branches. The first branch is in the hands of the Governor and his cabinet who help him. The second branch is in the hands of the state legislators and the third branch is in the hands of the judges. The territories have governors and judges which at this time are appointed by the President and the Congress and are overseen by Congress.

These are the laws of the government of the United States by which the people of these states live in goodness and pleasantness, rising miraculously, in a short time, to become a great nation, a wise and discerning nation, there is none like it. It now stands as an example for all the rest of the nations of the world. These precious laws were established by the founders of the liberty of America, Washington and his generation led by the spirit of God according to these fundamentals: every man regardless of religion and origin is created by God, and all men are created equal, by a living God, who gave us the land to settle and live on, to be free and happy men, and to seek success only in the true and proper way.

III

The Characteristics of the American Nation, Its Livelihood and Labor, Its Education, and Its Way of Life

In the entire history of the world since the ancient Canaanites invented writing and down to this day there has not been found such a

wonderful people as the Americans! If the gourd which God caused to grow over the head of Jonah¹ overnight is a miracle and a wonder, how much more wonderful it is to see a great nation born all at once! For what is 100 years in the life of an entire nation? Is it not overnight? In the year 1782 the population of the United States was only two million and now they are 40 million people and each and every year they grow bigger and bigger as some 100,000 people from all corners of the world come here to settle and live. Let no one say to the other this place is too small for me. Compared to the land of Germany where 880 people inhabit one acre and in France 840, in the United States only 11 people inhabit one acre. There is still a wide open space for hundreds of millions of people. The American nation which is now a great and large nation derives from a mixture of different people from various European nations. Since the majority of the inhabitants of these lands first came from England and all the colonists were subjects of the English government, the English language became the language of this land to this day. The mixture of all these different nations together improved the quality of their descendants. All the good qualities and characteristics which together the nations had, became the collective inheritance of the new generation. They received the good qualities not the bad ones. The good laws and the just rules of the country shaped and purified them until they became righteous and just people. Just so! The highly exalted laws of the United States are strong enough to make men righteous, they can turn a heart of stone into a heart of flesh. At the time when they took

effect on the multitudes of immigrants who came to America from the beginning of this century, there were seemingly thousands of criminals among them who had escaped overseas so that the arm of the law would not reach them. People of no virtue and of ill-repute, ones that do not abide by the laws, ones who broke the laws--Did these people turn the United States into a refuge for villians? No! Even these evil people changed their ways for the better. They changed their bad habits and became righteous men and good citizens because there they learned to honor the value of mankind. If there were any who remained wicked, they were few, even a child could count them.

The American by nature believes completely in God. He dearly honors his religion and faith. Holy Scriptures are revered in his eyes, such that when a man has to swear in court he has to put his hand on the Bible and kiss it. You can also find Bibles prepared for guests in each and every hotel room. The first day of the week (the Christian sabbath) is a holy day for Americans; they guard it by not profaning it with work and labor and they lovingly call it "Sabbath." Their houses of worship are numerous and they tower high into the sky. They go to pray there with feelings of holiness and they honor their priests dearly and pay them well for their preaching. They give charity regularly with a philanthropic and charitable spirit because they are compassionate people. The Americans truly love their laws and in general they live moral lives. They honor their women. A single woman could travel all over the United States and nothing would happen to her. If a woman comes to the house

when unruly youths are sitting together and speaking roughly they stand mute and do not utter a word. Men look at women and women look at men with dignity. You would not find an American speaking rudely. If a woman comes into a train car and has nowhere to sit, people stand up and free a seat for her. Anyone who violated a woman, particularly a virgin, would not go free. He would be punished in court. In short, the American people live a moral life. The destructive family values prevalent among other peoples are unknown to this one.

The American is by nature courageous, strong, valiant, active, and diligent in all types of labor and in all business dealings. He carries on his trade and commerce without laziness. He does not remain still or rest until he has collected a pile of money. Farming is pleasant here in this land because it provides people with a life of blessing and honor, and a life of richness and success. The American works in every craft. His good sense taught him to invent valuable machines which ease his manual labor. The sewing machines and the many machines for plowing and sowing which Americans have invented, have already become world famous. The American also conducts business wisely. He does not flatter customers like the French and Germans do; rather he shows kindness to every man at all times. Finally, the American is diligent and quick in all of his activities, but becomes tough as sealing wax for the sake of enlarging his good and his happiness. Roam around in the streets of New York and you will see people scurrying all about. If you ask how they are, they will not stop running, but will answer you only in haste,

even if they be friends and loved ones, for time is very precious to them. "Time is money," the common saying here goes. The American, however, does not collect money like [holy land] dust to secure away in his sack or plate, but rather to live with it in prosperity and comfort, to help others live, and to perform acts of charity and righteousness. He collects and disperses, for upon his generosity he will be known, and he will be called munificent. The many charitable institutions, institutions of learning, synagogues, and the like which are constantly multiplying in the United States bear witness to the kindness and charitable deeds of these people which are beyond measure.

The American very much loves his land. When you ask an American his place of birth, he will not say New York, Pennsylvania, Missouri, or California, he will answer you only America because the entire country is his. He loves all the states of his country with a passion. When an American goes to Europe and returns to his land, he loves his land much more than before and appreciates her value 10 times more than at first, seeing the great difference between the one and the other. Family lineage, an honorable name, a pedigree--none of them are found in the United States. Each and every man is equal in lineage and honor if only he walks righteously and earns his livelihood by the work of his own hands. Drunkedness is a despicable and scorned thing in the eyes of Americans. Many Americans do not drink and will never allow it to enter their mouths. If a drunkard appears outside, he will be brought to jail and after being sobered up he will be punished by having to pay a

fine of 10 dollars to the state treasury.

There is no governing faith in this country. All religions are equal here and the merit of one is no less than the merit of a second. No religion has superiority over the other. Freedom of thought and belief dominate in the country. Each and every man lives by his beliefs without interference and insult. Religious jealousy vanished like a shadow and no longer exists in this country. Each and every religious sect from the many different ones here build for themselves houses of prayer and choose for themselves priests. The government does not interfere. It is not so with the schools because they are built magnificently by the government and its taxes pay the teachers. Learning is free and so are the books. Everything that the students need is given to them without cost, since the government wishes to create an educated, enlightened citizenry. Five days a week children go to public school to acquire wisdom and knowledge, and to learn the obligations of men to their fellows, to the land of their birth, and to the entire world. Two days a week, on the Sabbath and on Sunday, they are free to study the doctrines of their religion and their beliefs and to be educated in the ways of their faith according to the desire of their parents--for public schools do not teach anything about faith and religion. Public schools stand supreme; knowledgeable people claim that there is nothing like them in the entire country. The course of study in the lower schools is: English--the language of the country--usually on a high level, arithmetic, and history and geography of the United States, needed to implant in the hearts of

the young a love for the land of their birth. Now they also learn the German language. The high schools teach humanities, sciences, and languages, both living and dead, as in similar schools found in other enlightened lands. There are also many universities and academies, all with their own specialties. American children are very distinguished by their intellectual spirit,* to the extent that some 300 magazines are published in the United States by boys and girls from the age of 11 to 18 who write articles, set type and do the printing, all by themselves. Education has found a home in America and the American people, educationally speaking, do as well as any European nation. There are, to be sure, men of great wisdom, philosophers in particular, found in Germany who are wiser than American scholars. On the other hand, the masses in general in America are better educated and more knowledgeable than the masses in Germany. In America, everyone lives within one society and each person learns from his neighbor. Since all are allowed to express their opinions in every matter, to elect officials and judges, and to be elected, they apply themselves to books in order to gain knowledge. This is not so in European countries where the government does whatever it desires while the people are left wandering in the dark. An American has time to read magazines and to follow his heart, because he doesn't have the heavy burden upon him of worrying about finding his livelihood like in Europe. The many groups in which everyone expresses his own opinions, and the many orators in each and every city who preach to the

*Author's footnote in German.

people on every political and ethical matter, spread knowledge among the people and increase their wisdom and learning. Also the many magazines which are published in every city and village enlighten the people and direct them in the path of knowledge.

IV

The Jews in the United States

The first Jews that came to live in America were exiles from Spain* and Portugal. The author Wilhelm Rapp¹ in his book, The Territory of the Lands of North and South America, on page 358 wrote as follows:

"when the Portuguese exile Pedro received the land of Brazil in the year 1500, Jews expelled from the land of Portugal settled there." When the land of Brazil was conquered after this in the year 1630 by the Dutch, Brazilian Jews were informed, doubtless by other Jews, about the city of New Amsterdam (that is New York) which the Dutch built on the Atlantic coast, and several Jewish families went there. When Brazil fell into the hands of the Portuguese again, the Jews feared for their lives from new persecutions caused by religious hatred and jealousy, and they abandoned their homes and went to the new city of New Amsterdam which was under the rule of the Dutch. There the Jews did not know hatred and jealousy on account of the difference of their religion and faith.

*The family of Mr. Benjamin Franklin Peixotto was one of those that came to live in America in the beginning of the 17th century A. D., see "The Life of Benjamin Franklin Peixotto" which I wrote in a magazine and was later printed as a special pamphlet. [author's footnote]

The government of Holland may have helped them to come there to raise commercial standards in the new city which they had built.

The few Jews who settled in this new city formed a complete community, and began to think of ways to build for themselves a synagogue to pour out there their prayers and emotions before God who protected them in such a faraway land. In the year 5489 corresponding to 1729, they built a synagogue named Shearith Israel* on Mill Street and they also purchased for themselves a graveyard to bury their dead at the corner of Madison and Oliver in the year 1681. The Jews went on and grew, and from year to year their numbers increased because families from the remaining lands of Europe came to join them. However those that came were few in number and only a small number settled there.

However, in the year 1836 many Jews, not from the diasporas of Spain or Portugal, but from that of Germany began to escape to America. Many Jews started then to follow in the ways of the Enlightenment, and opened their eyes to see the oppression which the Germans forced on them and the many obstacles which the wickedness of the gentiles imposed upon their way of life. They sought suggestions and means to escape from servitude to freedom and from enslavement to redemption.

*In a calendar which was published in the city of Montreal in the year 1854 by J. L. Lyons assisted by Abraham D. Sola² there appears an article which talks about the first Jews in the city of New York, especially about the congregation Shearith Israel, the first synagogue and the cemetery which they bought then in the city. The traveler, Benjamin the 2nd in his book "Three Years in America" copied this article. [author's footnote]

From Baiern, whose laws are as cruel and harsh as the laws of Egypt, crushing Jewish lives into the earth, thousands and ten-thousands of our Jewish brethren left and went to the new land of Israel,³ to America, the land of freedom and liberty. The first Jews from among these new immigrants were mostly craftsmen and artisans or peddlers who came to America with their might, vigor, and belief in God. They began to work at their jobs, each in his own, with joy and a good heart. They peddled in the land with a bundle of goods on their shoulders, and were skillful and honest in their dealings. They lived modestly, saved, and many of them became rich and successful. Since God expanded their horizons, they did not forget their relatives and kinsmen whom they left behind in the land of their birth, and they began to bestow upon them from their goodness and wealth. They sent money out to them so that they could come to this land of goodness and blessing. This one sent after his brother and sisters, and this one sent after his uncle and relatives, and this one sent after the maiden Jochebed or Miriam, in his family to take as his wife. The money which was sent home and the good news introduced a spirit of love in the hearts of the ten thousands of Jews in all the German lands. Many then left their homes and the land of their birth and went to America. In the days of turmoil and confusion, in the year 1848,⁴ many Jews left the land of Hungary, the territory of Posen and the state of Galicia to come to America. The poverty and the diaspora conditions in western Russia brought many Jews from the district of Poland and the cities of Lithuania to America.

They did their work here skillfully like their healthy brethren did before them, they prospered and succeeded, and they sent after their wives, their children, their relatives, and their kinsmen until the number of Jews now in the United States has risen to about 500,000.⁵ These new settlers are scattered throughout the entire United States, from the Atlantic Ocean to the Pacific Ocean. Wherever they have come they have united into communities. They have built for themselves synagogues, and charitable homes. They have obtained teachers to instruct the young and the old the Jewish religion and to preach in their synagogues. Many Jews also came afterwards, after completing their courses of study in the university, and became here in this new land school teachers, doctors, lawyers, and judges. The children who were born to them in this land did not follow in the ways of their merchant fathers. They studied in school and acquired wisdom. This is a new generation, a generation of intelligence and learning. From them there are great and distinguished masters who occupy important state positions as officers of the law, judges, interpreters and eloquent speakers. Some of them sit in the legislature* and some are officers of the state. The name of Israel in

*The Jew [Judah] Benjamin⁶ (who is now a famous lawyer in the city of London) was sent to the legislature from the state of Louisiana and he was a minister afterwards in the government of the South when the late war broke out. The Jew [David] Yulen [Yulee]⁷ sat in the Congress of the state of Florida. Major Mordecai Manuel Noah⁸ was a consul for the United States in the country of Tunis and sheriff of the city of New York. [Adolphus] Solomon⁹ was a district representative from the district of Washington and the Jew [Franklin] Moses¹⁰ is now the head of the state (governor) of Carolina. There is no counting the number of Jews who serve in different state positions, whether small or large. [author's footnote]

the United States is exalted, magnified, praised, and glorified.

While the people of Israel were sitting quietly and serenely in the United States, enjoying the goodness of the land and rejoicing in its abundant goodness, people arose among them who deliberated together about establishing a Jewish state, and bringing to it Jews from all corners of the world, those who moaned and cried under the burden of harsh rulers and ruthless oppressors, to live here a life of blessing and honor under the flag of freedom and liberty. The worthy noble Mordecai Manuel Noah, may he rest in peace, who saw with his own eyes the tears of his people and his brethren when living as an envoy sent by the United States to the city of Tunis, stood at the head of this worthy nation under the God of Abraham, and his generous spirit moved him to establish a city on the bank of the Niagara River in the state of New York as a settlement for Jews. He sent notices* to all the dispersed Jewish families throughout the world, made known to them his desire for good, and called upon them to come here and to settle in the blessed land of America, a land flowing with milk and honey, a land of freedom and liberty, to renew their days as of old, that Israel not be chased from destruction to destruction. The magazines very much glorified the idea and activities of the noble Mordecai Manuel Noah and all of them covered him with honor and glory for the great thing which he thought of doing for

*The author's footnotes (pp. 43-45) referring to Mordecai Manuel Noah's letter are not translated here because they are available in Dr. Merdel Silber's America in Hebrew Literature (New Orleans: 1928) pp. 63 ff.

his people. However, many thoughts in the heart of man and the counsel of God will be established.¹¹ That generation was still not worthy for this and God sent an evil spirit into the hearts of the ministers and great leaders of Israel in Europe to subvert the advice of this distinguished man. They became obstacles in his path and urged Israel to turn away from this important and sacred advice. They mocked and scorned at the words of the noble Mordecai Manuel Noah, may he rest in peace, and they perverted his thoughts. The wise man Judah Jeteles¹² who printed the news in Bikkurei Haittim¹³ called the aforementioned minister a "lunatic." "He prophesizes with dreams and foolishness." What a disgrace! What a shame! During these terrible days in which the name of Israel was still an example and a by-word for a slander, even in the enlightened lands of Europe, the writer Jeteles was hypocritically flattering, saying: "Behold, all of Israel sits now under the staff of kind and compassionate kings and their goodness is upon Israel as it is over the rest of the nations." But what need is there for me to charge the wise Jeteles with folly when he has already gone the way of all flesh and his death atoned his sin. "This was the act of God for when the shepherd is angry with his flock, he makes a blind sheep the leader."¹⁴ This generation was not suitable for this, but God equates good thoughts with deeds. The reward of the noble Mordecai Manuel Noah is with him. His works stand before him in the [next] world, where all is goodness.

*Judaism in the United States is separated and divided into many parts and different groups. This group is not analogous to that group, but there is unity among them because all the Jewish groups have in common the love of their religion and their faith, and they exalt the name of Israel. Their thoughts are good even though at times their actions are not very desirable. Like the rest of the population of the United States the Jews have not come from one country, rather they have come from different countries. Therefore they are divided and they differ in their customs and habits just as the Frenchman differs from the Italian and the Spaniard from the Pole, even though all of them are of one faith. A Polish Jew would not place himself alongside a Lithuanian Jew in any matter even though he was born in the same country. It should not be a surprise that they do not unite with those whose customs are from other lands, who were born in different countries, in another environment, in different surroundings--one under a north wind, the other under a south wind, these were raised on scanty rations and water of distress, while these were raised on wine, fat, and an abundance of everything. Their fundamental faith is the same, but they differ and part company over secondary customs of the faith. The majority of those from the same country unite into a group and one congregation. They build a special synagogue for themselves and they pray there according to what is good and righteous in their own eyes.

*Pages 41-48 which are translated here, can be found in a condensed translation in Dr. Mendel Silber's America in Hebrew Literature (New Orleans: 1928) pp. 84-87.

The Bavarian Jews build their own synagogues for themselves and Jews from other German lands join them. Bohemian Jews when their numbers are great in the big cities build synagogues for themselves to pray together and Jews from the land of Austria join them. The Dutch and the English Jews establish synagogues for themselves and Russian and Polish Jews do the same for themselves. The latter build schools for themselves in which they sit and study in the evening and in the morning. They endangered themselves doing this in their homelands; here they do so without impediments and without obstacles. The large congregations also have schools to teach their children the faith of Israel, the Hebrew language, the Bible in translation, prayers, and Jewish history.

Children go to these schools several times a week to acquire this knowledge because in the public schools they do not learn about faith and religion. As in the public schools, the studies here are without cost, but the congregation pays for the teachers. Here every congregation has its own cemetery because everyone buys a portion of the ground for a family grave to bury their dead. The laws and rules governing the entire congregation are made by the President and the Board of Trustees and are recorded in a book, city officials validate and enforce them as law, to ensure that they are not violated. One congregation has nothing to do with a second; they consider themselves strangers to one another. The President of each congregation is elected by the congregation annually, likewise the trustees who are only few in number. The President and the trustees handle all the needs and concerns of the congregation.

Rabbis and preachers are chosen by members of the congregation. Every congregation with wealth enough to pay chooses a rabbi or preacher who it finds pleasing and pays him a stipulated salary. This is why you find in America, that in one city there can be a group of rabbis and a collection of preachers with no one relying on the other. In this free country there is no district rabbi or provincial rabbi as in Europe and no Hakham Bashi¹⁵ as in the Land of Israel. The orthodox congregations take orthodox rabbis for themselves and the reform take reform rabbis. The Polish Jews send to Russia for preachers and rabbis to come to teach and to preach in Yiddish to people from their country. The majority of Jewish preachers preach in German. There are very few who preach in English because all the rabbis of Israel came from the countries of Germany and Poland. However, the new generation does not listen to a language that is foreign and strange to them. English preachers are everywhere sought after as highly desirable, but they cannot be found. Young men born in America are not inclined to dedicate their days to being teachers of Israel. Even the sons of rabbis will not follow in this profession, but turn their backs on it. From all the sons of rabbis in America only two that I know of have chosen to follow in the footsteps of their fathers: One is the son of Rabbi Adler¹⁶ of New York and the second is the son of Rabbi Hirsch¹⁷ of Philadelphia who is now studying in the city of Berlin at a school for the wise of Israel called Hochschule.¹⁸

The election of the rabbis is only for a definite period, whether

long or short, and if the members of the congregation no longer find the rabbi pleasing or if they find him lacking knowledge then they will dismiss him and take another in his place. In the majority of congregations in America the congregants do not ask the rabbi or preacher who comes which Yeshiva or university he studied in or if he was ordained or if he holds a doctoral degree, as the congregations do in Germany. They only tell him to preach and he will receive a salary. If the congregation likes his preaching then he is called "rabbi" and "doctor." This is the reason that rabbis and doctors sprout like grass in the United States.

If illiteracy is a criterion for the education of the people, as the wise man Justus Liebig¹⁹ said, that is so even in spite of magazines which reflect the spirit of the people and speak in their own language! There are many magazines for the Jews in the United States whose purpose is to hoist the pennant of Judaism, to teach the people of God which way they should establish the light of wisdom and knowledge, the light of faith and religion and to arouse and to awaken the spirit of love in the heart of Israel for this new land, for their brethren of the faith, and for all humanity, to make all the rest of the nations see that we are following the light of knowledge and pursuing justice. In the city of New York three periodicals are published for Jews. One is the Jewish Messenger, all in English, edited by the Reverend S. M. Isaacs.²⁰ The other two are half English and half German: the Hebrew Leader²¹ published by Reverend Dr. Bondi²² and the Jewish Times published by Ellinger.²³ In the city of Cincinnati the wise rabbi, Reverend Dr. I. M.

Wise publishes two magazines, one in English which is called the Israelite²⁴ and the second in German which is called Deborah.²⁵ In the city of San Francisco there are various periodicals published, the one which I know is named Hebrew Observer,²⁶ half in English and half in German. All of these magazines are published weekly. Still there are many more which are published monthly and also many which have passed from the scene like the magazine Occident²⁷ in the city of Philadelphia, Cornerstone²⁸ in New Orleans, Sinai²⁹ in Baltimore, Pacific Messenger³⁰ in San Francisco; these magazines will bring a bounty of good to the people of Israel in America and to the literature of Hebrews in English for they contain news and valuable articles dealing with Jewish history and literature, matters of Torah and wisdom, and matters of faith and religion. Each one competes with its neighbor to increase the honor of Israel and to glorify its name among the nations and all of them deserve to be blessed. But just as there cannot be a barn without hay, so it is impossible to have a magazine without nonsense, and sometimes instead of hearing love of humanity pour from their throats we hear only words of hatred and jealousy--gossip and slander by men about their neighbors--which profanes God's name in heaven and Israel's name before the public.

When the number of Jews began to increase throughout these new lands, many new settlers found themselves abandoned and lonely without relatives, kinsmen or a fellow-sufferer. They therefore took counsel on means of establishing groups and organizations among their brethren

for the sake of uniting in love and friendship within one group and organization men who did not previously know one another. Many precious organizations were established among our brethren in the United States, but the biggest of them here is the "B'nai Brith" organization and the "Keshet Shel Barzel" which branched out from the Atlantic Ocean to the Pacific Ocean, in every region where Jews live. All the different organizations stand under the banner of charity, mercy, and compassion, and the purpose of all of them is to unite and bind together with a bond of strength and might, love and brotherhood, all Israel settled in the United States, to strengthen the hands of members in need, to strengthen Jews' material and spiritual situation, and to perform charity and loving kindness all the time. If someone is sick and confined to bed, members of the society come to visit him, and the society provides both five dollars a week from its funds and a physician. If a society member dies, his wife or heirs receive one thousand dollars from the funds of the society. If a society member loses money in a bad deal, the society will make an effort to support him, helping him since he is unable to support himself. The two societies which I mentioned are shrouded in secrecy much like "The Free Masons." The first one has 40,000 members. The beloved minister Benjamin Franklin Peixotto,³¹ now the Ambassador of the United States to Rumania, brought the society great honor. Under his presidency it grew and flourished since he traveled around, circuiting through large and small cities, and gave magnificent fiery speeches about the greatness of the society and its purpose, and he thus increased

its membership. The second society has about 4,000 members and they are increasing every day, especially now that its president is the famous and wise J.P. Solomon.³²

I will also mention here the Board of Delegates³³ whose essential purpose is to keep an eye on the situation of our Jewish brethren in other countries and to support God's people being persecuted by cruel nations such as in Romania, Persia, and remaining countries on which the light of enlightened civilization has not yet shined.

So far, dear reader, you have seen the quality and nature of this new land, the condition of life there, and the condition of our Jewish brethren who are dispersed and scattered throughout these states. Now I will guide you and enlighten you as to how you too can come and settle in this blessed land. In the next section, I will teach you about the process of immigration: who can travel to America, at which time, and which way, how to proceed on the journey, and particularly how to travel across the great ocean. In the same way, I will guide you through your arrival in the new land explaining how to find work there, how to purchase land, and how to settle on it. All of these things I will briefly place before you, based on my personal experience, through the grace of God.

Footnotes

Introduction

¹ Paul D. Quinlan, "Early American Relations with Romania, 1858-1914," Canadian Slavonic Papers, vol. 22, no. 2 (1980), p. 189.

² Ibid.

³ Ibid.

⁴ Ibid.

⁵ Ibid., p. 190.

⁶ Dr. E. Schwarzfeld, "The Jews of Roumania From the Earliest Times to the Present Day," American Jewish Year Book, vol. 3 (1901-1902), p. 53.

⁷ Quinlan, p. 190.

⁸ Lloyd P. Gartner, "Documents on Roumanian Jewry, Consul Peixotto, and Jewish Diplomacy, 1870-1875," Salo Wittmayer Baron Jubilee Volume, vol. 3 (1974), p. 468.

⁹ Ibid.

¹⁰ Lloyd P. Gartner, "Roumania, America, and World Jewry: Consul Peixotto in Bucharest, 1870-1876," American Jewish Historical Quarterly, LVIII, no. 1 (September 1968), p. 30.

¹¹ Gartner, "Documents," p. 467.

¹² Ibid.

¹³ Ibid., p. 468.

¹⁴ Quinlan, p. 191.

¹⁵ Ibid., p. 192.

¹⁶ Gartner, "Roumania, American, and World Jewry," p. 63.

¹⁷ Ibid., pp. 65-66.

¹⁸Ibid., p. 79.

¹⁹Quinlan, p. 194.

²⁰Ibid.

²¹Lloyd P. Gartner, "Rumania and America, 1873: Leon Horowitz' Rumanian Tour and Its Background," Publications of the American Jewish Historical Society, vol. 45 (1955-1956), p. 69.

²²Ibid., p. 70.

²³Ibid.

²⁴Ibid.

²⁵Gartner, "Roumania, American, and World Jewry," p. 98.

²⁶Ibid.

²⁷Ibid.

²⁸Ibid., p. 99.

²⁹Ibid.

³⁰Gartner, "Rumania and America," p. 79.

³¹Ibid.

³²Ibid., p. 82.

³³Ibid., p. 79.

³⁴Ibid., p. 81.

³⁵Ibid., p. 83.

³⁶Ibid., pp. 69-70.

³⁷Ibid., p. 84.

³⁸Ibid.

³⁹Ibid., p. 83.

⁴⁰Philip Taylor, The Distant Magnet, (1971), p. 66.

⁴¹Ingrid Semmingsen, "Emigration and the Image of America in Europe," Immigration and American History, ed. Henry S. Commager, (1961), p. 30.

⁴²Merle Curti and Kendall Birr, "The Immigrant and the American Image in Europe, 1860-1914," The Mississippi Valley Historical Review, vol. 37 (June 1950 - March 1951), p. 206.

⁴³Ibid., p. 214.

⁴⁴Taylor, p. 74.

⁴⁵Curti and Birr, p. 215.

⁴⁶Ibid., p. 223.

⁴⁷Ibid., p. 225.

⁴⁸Gartner, "Rumania and America," pp. 84-85.

⁴⁹Ibid., p. 83.

⁵⁰Schwarzfeld, p. 86.

⁵¹Gartner, "Rumania and America," p. 85.

⁵²Schwarzfeld, p. 86.

Translation

Part I

¹"Hail Columbia" was the first national hymn of the United States. The song, written by Joseph Hopkinson, gave voice to a national feeling of independence and a determination to protect America's honor and rights.

²Sir Walter Raleigh (1554-1618) was an English soldier, seaman, author and explorer. He was the first to settle colonists in Virginia. See Willard M. Wallace Sir Walter Raleigh (Princeton, N.J.: 1959).

³Elizabeth I (1533-1603) reigned England from 1558-1603. She was one of the greatest of all English sovereigns. See Elizabeth Jenkins Elizabeth the Great (New York: 1958).

⁴William Penn (1644-1718) was a Quaker leader and advocate of religious freedom who founded the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. See Catherine D. Peare William Penn; A Biography (Phila.: 1957).

⁵Horowitz used the following Hebrew expression for coffin:
הארון אשר בו נושאים את המתים Literally the Hebrew translates:
"a chest in which they carry the dead." The modern Hebrew word for coffin is ארון המתים.

⁶The Hebrew phrase that Horowitz uses (ויקשה את לב הפרלמנט) is based on Exodus 10:1 where God hardened the heart of Pharaoh.

⁷John Burgoyne (1722-1792) was a general of the British armies during the United States War of Independence. He is best remembered for his defeat by the American forces in Saratoga (New York) campaign of 1777. See Francis J. Hudleston Gentleman Johnny Burgoyne (Indianapolis: 1927).

⁸Benjamin Franklin (1706-1790), one of America's "founding fathers," was a printer, publisher, author, inventor, scientist, and diplomat. See Carl Van Doren Benjamin Franklin (New York: 1938).

⁹Louis XVI (1754-1793) reigned France from 1774-1793. He was the last monarch in the line of French kings preceding the French Revolution of 1789. See Saul K. Padover The Life and Death of Louis XVI (New York: 1938).

¹⁰Charles Cornwallis (1738-1805) was a British general and statesman. He is best known for his defeat at Yorktown, Virginia in the last important campaign of the United States War of Independence. See Fred and Mary Wickwire Cornwallis: The American Adventure (Boston: 1970).

¹¹Joseph II (1741-1790) was Holy Roman emperor from 1765-1790. He was known as one of the "enlightened despots" of the 18th century because he introduced numerous reform in a vain attempt to modernize the Austrian Hapsburg domains. See Saul K. Padover The Revolutionary Emperor, Joseph II (New York: 1934).

¹²Catherine II the Great of Russia (1729-1796) was the German-born empress of Russia from 1762-1796. She led an emerging Russia into full participation with the political powers and cultural forces of Europe. See M. E. von Almedingen Catherine, Empress of Russia (New York: 1961).

¹³The word million is clearly missing from the text.

¹⁴United States of America: literally the Hebrew translates as "The United States of the Free States in North America."

¹⁵Horowitz is referring to latitude and longitude lines.

¹⁶Horowitz believed that Canada would eventually join with America. This was a common view at the time.

¹⁷Horowitz quotes directly from the Bible: על פני רקיע השמים (Genesis 1:20).

¹⁸Horowitz quotes directly from the Bible: מציץ מין החרכים (Song of Songs 2:9).

¹⁹קפאון : Horowitz uses this rare word found only once in the Bible in Zechariah 14:6.

²⁰[January]: this is a reference to what is known as "the January thaw."

²¹Horowitz employs biblical language, fashionable in Jewish Hebrew writings of his day, to express the idea that Europe is overpopulated and that its excess population would eventually find a home in America.

²²Note biblical reference to the Story of Creation found in Genesis chapter 2.

²³Horowitz quoted directly from the Bible: להט החרב המתהפכת (Genesis 3:24).

²⁴Horowitz uses the biblical phrase ארץ זבת חלב ודבש (Exodus 3:8), which describes abundance in the land of Canaan, to refer to America.

²⁵Note: Horowitz mis-spells million in the Hebrew מללינים rather than מיליונים. I suspect he used two lameds because this is the way the word is spelled in English.

²⁶Newport ceased to be the capital of Rhode Island in the year 1900. At that time Providence became the new capital.

²⁷Note: New Haven ceased to be the capital of Connecticut in 1875. At that time Hartford became the new capital of the state.

²⁸Castle Garden was originally a fort built in 1811 on a small island off the southwestern tip of Manhattan. From 1855-1890 it was used as a landing depot for immigrants. Seven and one half million persons entered the United States there.

²⁹ Horowitz uses a biblical phrase common in Genesis פֶּרֶךְ וָרֶבֶךְ (Genesis 1:22, 28; 9:1, 7).

³⁰ Mount Sinai Hospital was built in 1852.

³¹ B'nai Brith is the world's largest and oldest Jewish service organization, founded in 1843. See Edward E. Grusd B'nai Brith, The Story of a Covenant (New York: 1966).

³² Horowitz estimates that B'nai Brith had a membership of 40,000 by 1873. B'nai Brith records, however, report a membership of only 16,000 in the same year. See Edward E. Grusd B'nai Brith, The Story of a Covenant (New York: 1966).

³³ Keshet Shel Barzel was founded in San Francisco in the year 1860. The main function of this organization was as a mutual aid society. It dissolved in the year 1903. See Occident and The American Jewish Advocate, July 1863, no. 4, p. 191 and Universal Jewish Encyclopedia, "Fraternal Orders", vol. 4, pp. 419-423.

³⁴ "36 righteous men," according to Jewish tradition, is the minimal number of anonymous righteous men living in the world in every generation. The world exists on their merit. The origin of this tradition is found in the Babylonian Talmud Sanhedrin 97b and Sukkot 45b.

³⁵ Minyan is the designation for the quorum of ten males, aged 13 years or over, necessary for public synagogue service and certain other religious ceremonies.

³⁶ Beth Hamidrash Hagadol ("The Grand") was the second Russian-American congregation founded in New York in 1859. See J. D. Eisenstein, "History of the First Russian American Jewish Congregation." Publications of the American Jewish Historical Society, vol. IX. (1901) p. 63.

³⁷ No. 78 Allen Street in New York city was the location of the first Russian-American congregation which was dedicated in 1856. See J. D. Eisenstein, "History of the First Russian American Jewish Congregation." Publications of the American Jewish Historical Society, vol. IX. (1901) p. 63.

³⁸ The Quakers is a Christian religious society which was founded in England in the year 1652. They met with violent persecution in England, and therefore many immigrated to America. The majority settled in Pennsylvania. See Elfrida Vipont Foulds The Story of the Quakers Through Three Centuries (London: 1960).

³⁹The Deutsche Geselscheft, see Maxwell Whiteman "Philadelphia Jewish Neighborhoods" in Allen F. Davis and Mark H. Heller The Peoples of Philadelphia (Phila.: 1973) pp. 231-254, esp. 234.

⁴⁰Maimonides College was the first, though short-lived, American rabbinical school which was founded in Philadelphia in 1867. It functioned only until 1873.

⁴¹Zypressen forests are forests of cypress trees.

⁴²Bremen is a city located in West Germany. In the mid-1800's it became an important port of transit for thousands of Jews emigrating from Eastern Europe to America.

⁴³Norddeutscher Lloyd was a German steamship company which transported Eastern European emigrants from Bremen, Germany to New York, Baltimore, and New Orleans. Advertisements for this company are found in Horowitz's book.

⁴⁴National Line was an English steamship company which transported Eastern European emigrants from Liverpool, England to Baltimore, Maryland. Advertisements for this line are found in Horowitz's book.

⁴⁵The synagogue to which Horowitz refers is the Washington Hebrew Congregation which was founded in 1852.

⁴⁶Note error of the date 1862. The Civil War began April 12, 1861.

⁴⁷Washington's estate is known as Mount Vernon. It is located in Virginia approximately 13 miles south of Washington D.C. It is a 500 acre estate along the Potomac River.

⁴⁸Note error of date 1862. The Civil War broke out in 1861.

⁴⁹Wheeling was the capital of West Virginia from June 20, 1863 to April 1, 1870 and from May 23, 1875 to May 1, 1885. Charleston then became the permanent capital.

⁵⁰Horowitz quotes directly from the Bible: גפנו רחצת תאנחת (I Kings 5:5).

⁵¹"מה שאינו עתה יכול להיות" This proverb may be a Hebrew translation from Hamlet V.ii "if it be not now, yet it will come."

⁵²Reference is probably to Francis L. Cordozo. See John Hope Franklin From Slavery to Freedom (New York: 1967) p. 318.

⁵³ The Spaniards settled in Florida during the 16th century. There is no record of Jews living in Florida from the 16th century to colonial days. One of the earliest known Jewish families to settle in Florida during the 1760's was the family of Isaac Monsanto. See Jacob R. Marcus The Colonial American Jew 1492-1776, vol. 1 (Detroit: 1970) pp. 371-374.

⁵⁴ Horowitz quotes directly from the Bible I Kings 5:5.

⁵⁵ The name of Alabama comes from Choctaw Indian alba ayamule meaning "I make a clearing."

⁵⁶ Reference is probably to Abraham Isaac Trager (1808-1913). See Judah David Eisenstein Ozar Zikhronothai (New York: 1929) p. 126.

⁵⁷ Horowitz refers to Henry Vidaver (1832-1883), a rabbi and writer. Vidaver strongly opposed Horowitz's mission in Romania. He personally criticized Horowitz with articles in the Hebrew newspaper Ibri Anokhi. See Lloyd P. Gartner "Rumania and America 1873: Leon Horowitz' Rumanian Tour and Its Background," Publications of the American Jewish Historical Society vol. 45 (New York: 1955-56) pp. 81-82.

⁵⁸ Horowitz refers to Temple Sinai, the first Reform congregation in New Orleans founded in 1870.

⁵⁹ Dr. James K. Gutheim (1817-1886) was a Reform United States rabbi who served congregations in Cincinnati, New York, and New Orleans. See Bertram W. Korn Early Jews of New Orleans (Waltham: 1969) pp. 251-254.

⁶⁰ The question mark is satiric. Horowitz questions whether these qualities truly constitute real wisdom.

⁶¹ Isaac Mayer Wise (1819-1900), an American rabbi, was the founder of organized Reform Judaism in the United States. See James G. Heller Isaac M. Wise (New York: 1965).

⁶² Max Lilienthal (1815-1882) was an educator, author, and rabbi. He was a promoter of Reform Judaism and served congregation Bene Israel in Cincinnati from 1855 until his death. See David Philipson Max Lilienthal, his Life and Writings (Cincinnati: 1915).

⁶³ The Israelite, a Jewish weekly newspaper published in English was founded by Isaac M. Wise in Cincinnati in 1854. It is the oldest Jewish journal in the United States.

⁶⁴The Deborah (Die Deborah) was originally founded by Isaac M. Wise in 1855 as a German-language supplement to The Israelite. It was the most important German Jewish publication of its time. It appeared until 1903, first as a weekly and later as a monthly.

⁶⁵Horowitz is referring to the Union of American Hebrew Congregations (U. A. H. C.) which was founded in 1873 by Isaac M. Wise, as the first nationwide cooperative organization of Jewish congregations. Wise had hoped that this would be an "umbrella" organization which would include traditional as well as progressive congregations. This, however, never came to be. It became an organization for only the Reform movement. See Steven A. Fox "On the Road to Unity: The Union of American Hebrew Congregations and American Jewry, 1873-1903," American Jewish Archives 32 (November 1980), pp. 145-193.

⁶⁶Note: The words "may his soul be bound up in the bond of everlasting life" should follow after Abraham Lincoln. Horowitz obviously did not want the souls of the murderous assassins "to be bound up in the bond of everlasting life."

⁶⁷Havatselet was a Hebrew newspaper first published in Jerusalem in 1863. It was discontinued in 1864, but revived again in 1870 and continued until the outbreak of World War I. The paper was originally a monthly, but became a weekly in 1872. It served as the main voice for Hasidism and was a strong advocate for aliyah. See Encyclopedia Judaica, vol. 7, pp. 1479-1481.

⁶⁸San Francisco was the capital of California from 1850-1854. In 1854, Sacramento became its capital.

⁶⁹Three Years in America 1859-1862 by I. J. Benjamin is a general survey of Jewish life in America. It was originally written in German, but later translated into English by Charles Reznikoff. (Philadelphia: 1956)

⁷⁰This famous rabbinic saying is found in the Talmud, tractate Rosh Hashanah 4b.

⁷¹The Jewish periodicals include the San Francisco Gleaner (English, 1855), The Hebrew Observer (English and German, 1856-1888) and The Hebrew (German, 1863-1912).

⁷²Elkan Cohn (1820-1889), an American rabbi, served Congregation Anshe Emeth in Albany (1854-1860) and Emanu-El Congregation in San Francisco (1860-1889).

⁷³Lachs fish refers to salmon.

⁷⁴The text reads 104,00. The additional zero (0) was omitted.

⁷⁵Shvile Olam Chadash (Path's of the New World) is a geography book of America and Australia written in Hebrew by Issachar Ber Gordon (Warsaw: 1870).

⁷⁶The incident involving Yerubba 'al to which Horowitz is referring is found in Judges 6:32.

Part II

¹The Constitution was ratified in the year 1788.

²Horowitz is referring to the biblical laws found in Deuteronomy 16:19-20.

Part III

¹Horowitz is referring to the story of Jonah 4:6.

Part IV

¹Wilhelm Rapp (1828-1907) wrote An Illustrated Geography of North and South America in 1854. It is a 391 page travel guide of the lands of North and South America.

²Jacques J. Lyons (1813-1877) and Abraham D. Sola (1825-1882), both rabbis, together prepared and published a Hebrew calendar covering fifty years, and an essay on the Jewish calendar system. A Jewish Calendar for Fifty Years (Montreal: 1854).

³Horowitz claims that just as Israel proved to be the perfect refuge for the persecuted Jews living in Egypt, so America is the perfect refuge for all the persecuted Jews living in Eastern Europe. Horowitz thus gives equal importance to both Israel and America in the scheme of Jewish history.

⁴In the year 1848 there was an attempted revolution in Hungary against the Austrian military government. Many Jews were active in the revolution and suffered the effects of anti-semitic legislation due to their involvement.

⁵500,000 is an exaggerated figure. In 1880 it was estimated that there were only 280,000 Jews living in the United States.

⁶Judah Philip Benjamin (1811-1884), a prominent 19th century American Jew, was a noted lawyer and a Confederate statesman. See R. Douthat Meade Judah P. Benjamin, Confederate Statesman (New York: 1943).

⁷David Levy Yulee (1810-1866) was the first Jew in the United States Senate. He was elected as Florida's first senator in 1845. See Bertram W. Korn, American Jewry and the Civil War (Cincinnati: 1951).

⁸Mordecai Manuel Noah (1785-1851) was a politician, a newspaper editor and a playwright. He was one of the most influential Jews in the United States in the early 19th century. See Jonathan D. Sarna Jacksonian Jew (New York: 1981).

⁹Adolphus Solomon(s) (1826-1910), a noted philanthropist, became a district representative in the House of Representatives of the District of Columbia in 1871.

¹⁰Franklin J. Moses (1804-1877) held the following positions in South Carolina: State Senator (1842-1862), Circuit Judge (1865-1868), and Chief Justice of the Supreme Court (1868-1877). His son Franklin J. Moses Jr. (1838-1906) was governor of South Carolina from 1872 to 1874. See Barnett A. Elzas The Jews of South Carolina (Phila.: 1905) pp. 197-199.

¹¹Horowitz quotes directly from the Bible: רבות מחשבות בלב- איש ועצת יהוה היא תקום (Proverbs 19:21).

¹²Judah Jeteles (1773-1838) was a Hebrew writer who published poems and biblical and halakhic articles. He was one of the four chairmen of the Prague community and he developed the peculiar blend of Hapsburg patriotism and awareness of the Jews as one of the nations in the empire. It found its outstanding expression in his opposition to Mordecai Manuel Noah's program for his city of refuge (Bikkurei Ha-Ittim, Vol. 7 1826/27, pp. 45-49). See Jonathan D. Sarna Jacksonian Jew (New York: 1981) p. 73.

¹³Bikkurei Ha-Ittim ("First Fruits of the Times") were Hebrew literary-scientific annuals published in Vienna for 12 successive years (1821-1832). All the various literary genres were represented in these volumes--e.g., fiction, research, and translations of world literature.

¹⁴This quote is found in the Talmud, tractate Baba Kamma 52a.

¹⁵Hakham Bashi is the title of the chief rabbi in the Ottoman Empire. He was the supreme authority in all religious matters.

¹⁶ Rabbi Samuel Adler (1809-1891) was rabbi of Reform Congregation Emanuel in New York City from 1857-1874. His son, Felix Adler (1851-1933) served as a rabbi at Temple Emanu-el in New York for a short time, but left the rabbinate and founded the Ethical Culture movement. See H. Simonhoff Saga of American Jewry from 1865-1914 (New York: 1959).

¹⁷ Rabbi Samuel Hirsch (1815-1889) was a pioneer of the Reform movement in Germany and in the United States. He emigrated to America in 1866, where he led the Reform congregation Keneseth Israel in Philadelphia until 1888. His son, Emil G. Hirsch (1851-1923) became the leading Reform rabbi in the United States at the turn of the century. He served Chicago Sinai Congregation from 1880 until his death. See David E. Hirsch Rabbi Emil G. Hirsch, The Reform Advocate (Chicago: 1969).

¹⁸ Hochschule ("College") was the center for the scientific study of Judaism and the rabbinical seminary in Berlin. It opened in 1872 as an independent, university-level center for Jewish studies. It was forced to close in July of 1942 by order of the Nazi Party.

¹⁹ Justus Liebig (1803-1873) was a German chemist and professor. See Forest R. Moulton Liebig and after Liebig (Washington D. C.: 1942).

²⁰ Samuel Myer Isaacs (1804-1878), a cantor and preacher, founded the weekly newspaper Jewish Messenger in New York in 1857. The paper ran until 1902.

²¹ The Hebrew Leader was an English language weekly Jewish periodical published in New York from 1856 through 1882. It covered local, national, and overseas news in addition to feature articles and editorial comments.

²² Jonas Bondi (1804-1874) served as editor of The Hebrew Leader from 1860 until his death.

²³ Moritz Ellinger (1830-1907), an American public official, communal leader, and journalist, founded the Jewish Times in 1869. This was an English language Jewish periodical published in New York. Ellinger served as editor of the paper until it folded in 1878.

²⁴ The Israelite, see Part I footnote #63, p. 109.

²⁵ Deborah, see Part I footnote #64, p. 110.

²⁶ The Hebrew Observer was an English and German weekly newspaper published in San Francisco from 1856-1888.

²⁷The Occident was a monthly periodical founded by Isaac Leeser in 1843. It was devoted mainly to religious articles from a traditionalist standpoint, but it contained news items as well. It was published in Philadelphia until 1868.

²⁸The Cornerstone was an English-language weekly Jewish newspaper which began publication in New Orleans in 1859.

²⁹Sinai was an English and German monthly published by Rabbi David Einhorn from 1856 to 1863. It was noteworthy on account of its radical Reform and vigorous abolitionism.

³⁰The Pacific Messenger was an English and German weekly published in San Francisco from 1860-1861.

³¹Benjamin Franklin Peixotto (1834-1890) was a lawyer, diplomat, and Jewish communal leader. He served as President of B'nai Brith during 1863-64. In 1870 he became the first United States consul in Bucharest. See J. L. Blau and S. W. Baron Jews of the United States 1790-1840, vol. 2 (New York: 1964) pp. 437-439, 469-475, 597-601.

³²Jacob P. Solomon (1838-1909) was an immigrant from England, a noted lawyer, and the editor of the Orthodox weekly, the New York Hebrew Standard. See Judah D. Eisenstein Ozar Zikhronothai Autobiography and Memoirs (New York: 1929) p. 117.

³³Board of Delegates of American Israelites was the first national organization of Jewish congregations in the United States. It was founded in 1859 for the purpose of defending civil and religious rights in America and overseas. See Allan Tarshish "The Board of Delegates of American Israelites (1859-1878)" Publications of the American Jewish Historical Society 49, (1959) p. 16.

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