

partment be opened in connection with the 8th St. Industrial School, and to occupy the fourth floor, so as to train capable girls as dressmakers. It is very probable that the capital plan will be realized.

Bnai B'rith.

At its last annual session, held in this city, in January, 1882, it was unanimously resolved to give a suitable mark of esteem and appreciation to the then retiring President, Joseph Fox; the General Committee were delegated, with full power, to carry this resolution into effect. On Tuesday, the 26th ult., at 9 o'clock, the General Committee and their ladies proceeded in a body from the Secretary's office, 908 3d Ave., to the house of ex-President Jos. Fox, 247 E. 48th Street.

Mr. A. L. Sanger, president of the district, in the name of the same, in a short address expressive of high appreciation of and good will towards the recipient — presented Mr. Fox with a very handsome finely carved book-case filled with a liberal selection of standard English works.

Mr. Fox in a very feeling manner thanked the committee. Those present then partook of a collation when each of the Committee made short speeches — and what with music and dancing, a most agreeable evening was spent.

The "Home" at Yonkers in its autumn garb, presents a very fine sight. Four new inmates were accepted on last Sunday, making 9 in all, who now will find a true home. They are expected in a few days.

During Rosh Hoshana and Yom Kippur impressive divine service was held at the Home, the Israelites of Yonkers attending. As soon as a few more male inmates are received, divine service will be held every Sabbath.

A "Jewish" Theatre.

There are now being performed at the Turn Hall Theatre, 66-68 E. 4th Street, by a company of Jewish actors, a number of Jewish dramas. The dialogue is in the Russo-Jewish dialect, the managers and his aids are Jews, the programme is partly printed in Hebrew characters, and it is needless to say, the audience are exclusively Jewish. Judging from the large number of auditors, the company is doing a remunerative business, among those of our coreligionists *au fait* with the peculiar dialect. In making his bow to the public, the enterprising manager in his programme tells us that

"The opening of a Jewish Theatre for the first time in America is worthy to be noted by everyone who is familiar with the Jewish German dialects. Nearly all the members of the company who will present to night "The Frightful Dream" are well known in Russia as the greatest Hebrew comedians.

"They could not, however, remain there on account of the terrible persecutions. Mr. Frank Wolf has expended thousands of dollars to bring them over to this country.

"Our stage manager, the 17-year-old comedian, Mr. Leon Golubock, had the celebrated lady-actress, Mme. Pauline Paulinowna were accompanied by the great Goldenfaden, king of the Jewish-German songs and plays.

"The number of tickets sold for the first performance is immensely great and there is every reason to believe that the Jewish theatre will be a success."

The play, "The Frightful Dream," is a drama of the "blood and thunder" style in four acts and six tableaux, in which ghosts, devils, angels, a shaman and a shadchen are most inextricably mixed up. The plot is very difficult to unravel, but this fact seems to make but little difference to the audience, which is most appreciative. The "great" Goldenfaden seems to be a favorite, for every action of his evokes shouts of laughter. The following is the entire cast:

- Bonzy, the Grandmother, Leon Golubock
- Adole, Bonzy's Grauddaughter, Mme. Pauline Paulinowna
- Ignatz, the Teacher, Adole's Lover, Myron Golubock
- Tobias Schmaye, the Schadchen, Jacob Simon
- An Angel, Master Tomaschowsky
- A Golemum Schamos, Mr. Goldenfaden
- The Dead Mother, Mme. Goltzman

It is, without doubt, a novel and interesting entertainment, and one which has never before been witnessed anywhere but in Russia or Poland. The actors are clever, on the whole, and seem to enter into the spirit of the performance with an earnestness foreign to American or English actors. In a more suitable location, and with better costumes, and less crude scenic and stage appointments, their appearance would make a decided sensation. As it is, they play to large and appreciative audiences every night, and the manager's daring enterprise in expending "thousands" of dollars in bringing them from Russia, seems likely to be fully rewarded.

Dr. Gottheil's Views.

In conversation with a *Times* reporter as published in its issue of the 2d inst., Dr. Gottheil said this with reference to Jewish church life in New-York:

"The Jews are the purest congregationalists in the world. Any ten members, for example, can at any time and anywhere, without asking for leave of anyone, and without a rabbi, organize a congregation. All they need do is to provide a scroll of the law and they constitute a Jewish religious community in the fullest sense of the word. Our regular places of worship number about 20, with a membership close upon 3,000, but these figures do not state the whole case. Besides the larger organizations, with established synagogues, there are scores of smaller congregations, ranging in membership from ten to one hundred. These meet in various parts of the city, especially down town, in rooms or small halls, and with or without rabbis carry forward their work, which is not only religious, but in this associative form extends to burials, help in cases of sickness, and other benevolent objects. The number who belong to these minor associations is certainly much larger than is associated with the more prominent congregations. This gives us at least 7,000 heads of families. In Christian congregations, where both sexes are admitted to membership, the women, as a rule, exceed the men in numbers, and according to this standard we are entitled to 14,000. I may add further that grown-up sons and daughters do not count with us as separate members, unless they are themselves heads of families, and from this source, according to the Christian method of computation, we ought to figure out at least 3,000 more. This gives us 17,000 out of an estimated Jewish population of 75,000, or about one in four and a half, while the Protestant Church membership in this city is about one in eight in a Protestant population—that is about 95,000 Protestant church members, in about 750,000 Protestant population."

However satisfactory the Jewish exhibit may be, it is not what I would have it, were it in my power to mend matters. We have our indifference as well as the Christians. The large majority of Jews in this city are of German birth or descent, and the skepticism that distinguishes this nation has also struck a deep root in our people.

In consequence many are not easily accessible to spiritual influences. Others are merely cold, and under favorable conditions the flame might be made to burn again. Still others, and these constitute a very large element, do not attend worship although connected with some synagogue, for the reason that it would interfere very seriously with their business. Our merchant class, our bankers and brokers, our lawyers and professional men generally, cannot afford to give two days every week out of their time when Christians give one only. On such terms they could not do business, and would soon be compelled to quit the field. Hence these classes say: 'Conform your day of worship to that observed by the world at large in which we live and gladly will we be faithful children of the synagogue.' I think the statement often made, that the synagogues are neglected, must be qualified. Considering the sacrifices which attendance upon the synagogue entails in a business community like this to business men, the attendance is far from discouraging. We are contending with an abnormal state of affairs, and whenever the services shall be accommodated to the necessities of our Jewish business community I look for great changes for the better. Our aim is to be a part of this great American community in the fullest sense of the word. We have no desire to be peculiar in anything, civil or secular, and we heartily rejoice that the old exclusiveness is fast disappearing. The whole aim of the reform movement in Judaism is to fit it to the circumstances of the world as they are. It is highly desirable to do this, and the necessity that compels this is by no means a misfortune."

The Russian Emigrants.

In reference to the complaints made regarding the management of the Ward's Island refuge, Mr. Mildenberg, secretary of the Society, stated this week, that they undoubtedly originate with the boarding-house keepers in Bayard, Essex, Ludlow and other streets, where the refugees were formerly lodged. Incensed by the loss of business which ensued by the removal to Ward's Island, these people are striving by every means in their power to make the emigrants dissatisfied with their lot, and to embarrass the society. There is not, says the secretary, the slightest foundation for the complaints, but in their frantic desire to be returned to Europe, the emigrants leave no stone unturned to accomplish their wish, which, in view of the treatment received by the refugees who have been recently returned to Russia, it is impossible for the society to grant. The stories of the hardships encountered by the repatriated refugees, are recounted by the emigrants on Ward's Island, who look upon them as sheer inventions. Altogether, the lot of the society's officers, at present, is not a happy one. They have a thousand discontented people on their hands, and find it an exceedingly difficult task to prevent an outbreak.

Mr. Morris Tuska, who was appointed by the Executive Committee to investigate the condition of the Cotopaxi colony, has made the following report:

I left for Cotopaxi on the 26th of July and arrived there on the 30th inst. I immediately called on Mr. Julius Schwarz, the General Manager of the colony, whom I found master of the situation and who willingly gave me all information required as to the doings of E. H. Saltiel in whose care the colony was intrusted.

The general condition of the colony is, considering the many difficulties having arisen from the mismanagement of Saltiel and from his omission to furnish the colony with the necessary funds, a favorable one. Owing to the indefatigable perseverance of Mr. Schwarz, who rendered himself worthy of the trust put in him the refugees were settled on Government land on 160 acres for each family. The lands are very fertile, full of phosphate and of almost surprising growing power. The farms situated on the first division of the lands called Oak Grove Creek, are drained by a creek that is always supplied with water and is more than sufficient for irrigating purposes. Here three farms are located. A high mountain range separates these farms from the second division of the lands from the so-called Wet Mountain Valley. Here the rest of the farms are located. Mr. Schwarz told me that although no water is extant to irrigate still he is confident that the farmers will in the winter be able to care for the necessary supply of water to be used next summer, by digging a three mile long ditch and filling the same with water which is in abundance in the lake, situated on the mountains that border the farms and separate Fremont County from Custer County. The colonists sowed mostly potatoes, about 17,000 pounds altogether. Mr. Schwarz assured me that he repeatedly requested Mr. Saltiel to give him the means to sow a larger quantity of potatoes, as they are saleable and greatly wanted; but Mr. Saltiel did not give him the funds required. Seventeen thousand pounds will, as Mr. Schwarz says, yield about 140,000 lbs.; 40,000 lbs. he intends to save for seeding purposes, and 100,000 lbs. he will put on the market. The general price of potatoes varies from 1 1/2 to 2 cts. per pound, thus about \$2,000 are expected from the potato crop. Cabbage, peas, beans, cucumbers, beets, turnips, etc., have been sowed, but owing to the slowness with which the houses have been built, or better said, owing to them not having been built at all, most of the gardenstuff was destroyed by grazing cattle, and what has been spared is just sufficient to cover the household requirements. Had Mr. Saltiel used the money so readily put at his disposal for the purposes of the colony, for buying or hiring teams and ploughs, buying potatoes and other seeds, purchasing agricultural implements, erecting houses and buying wire for fencing, the colony not only would have been made self-supporting, but been able to repay every cent that has been spent for their sake. As matters stand at present, the colonists will be able to pull through; they must, however, be provided with cows and wire fences. Mr. Schwarz proposed to purchase twelve cows and wire fence for ten acres on each farm, and assured me that by means of the income of the crop and by means of the cows, that will furnish them the two chief feeding articles, namely, milk and butter, they will make a livelihood and will next year get along splendidly; so much the more as Mr. Schwarz has been offered labor for the refugees during the winter, which will help them towards defraying their expenses for living.

The financial condition of the colony. The facts are that Mr. Saltiel used the money put in his hands for his own purposes and left several bills unpaid, which he said were paid to him. He did not build the houses, although having received the money for them, he thereby caused the colony great damage, much annoyance and disgrace. On account of his actions and fully trusting in the ability, integrity and energy of Mr. Julius Schwarz, I took the charge out Mr. Saltiel's hands and put it into the hands of Mr. Schwarz, who in my strong belief is the only man that prevented the colony's final destruction. It is with much satisfaction that I note that the Society possesses a faithful, energetic, honest, persevering officer in Mr. Schwarz, who gives his heart, mind and all his time to his duties. Mr. Schwarz is now the only manager of the colony, and is ably assisted by Mr. Leon Tobias, who acts as field overseer.

Permit me now to give you a statistical statement of the families that compose the colony. There have been on the 30th of July, fourteen families with 61 souls, 34 males and 27 females. One family consisting of six souls, I sent to Denver, on request of the head of the family Abr. Moskovitz. Another family the Schochet Joseph Friedman, who was sent on recommendation of

Mr. Saltiel who promised to assist him, but failed to do so, was also sent to Denver, as there was no prospect for his making a livelihood in the colony. Since my leaving Cotopaxi, 15 more persons, relatives of the colonists were sent, thus making the total number of families 15, with 64 souls, 34 males and 30 females. The working force amounts to 25 persons.

The sanitary condition of the colony leaves nothing to be wished for. No serious cases of sickness having occurred. The refugees show a very favorable appearance, look well and robust, since Mr. Schwarz took charge of the colony. Kosher meat is procured from Denver and the people are satisfied with their food. The colonists are clean and neat and take good care of their children. The children will receive education at the public school, recently erected in Cotopaxi. Mr. Schwarz will see that the houses are finished and the crop sold for the best price. The colonists keep their religion in accordance with the ancient customs, keep the Sabbath and holidays, possess a Sephar Thora donated by Rev. Dr. Baar and are on friendly terms with their Christian neighbors. The colony required thus far the following funds: — \$5,250 paid to Saltiel, \$500 paid to E. B. Hart by me, \$1,000 sent to Mr. Schwarz so far. Total \$6,750. Mr. Schwarz wrote me that \$500 more will be required for food, \$600 for cows and about \$350 for wire, making the sum of \$8,200 that this colony cost the society. The colonists are aware that they will have to repay the expenses laid out for them and I have no doubt whatsoever that the society will be partly repaid. I hope that despite of the many drawbacks this colony had to undergo,—it will be maintained and stand as a monument of Jewish charity, and as the best proof of the laboring abilities of the refugees and of their capacity and competency to become farmers. Jewish farmers were looked upon with scorn, the Cotopaxi colony has and will render evidence that such scorn is nothing but prejudice, and that the Jew can make as good a farmer as any other human being.

Respectfully submitted,
(Signed) MORRIS TUSKA.

Local News.

IN TOWN

Cong. B'nai J shurun.

At the meeting last Sunday the following officers were elected. M. Cohn, Benjamin Russak, B. S. Levy, trustees; M. Cohn, President.

Cong. Shaaray Tefila.

The members of the 44th Street Congregation met last Sunday and elected the following officers: E. M. Angel, Adolph Levy, Barrab Seligman, trustees for three years; Wm. Reitlinger, two years; A. H. Allen, one year; E. M. Angel, President; Adolph Levy, Vice-President.

The New Orphan Asylum.

Work has been actively begun on the new Hebrew Orphan Asylum. While the contractor's estimates are higher than at first anticipated, they are lower than last spring, when ground was to have been broken. It is expected that \$600,000 will cover the entire cost.

The Hebrew Free Schools.

A fair in aid of the Schools and Kindergarten is being arranged for December. A meeting of the Ladies' Committee in charge of the Kindergarten will be held on Monday afternoon, to take final action. As this is the first announcement for the season, we have no doubt, it will excite lively interest, and the friends of the institution will surpass themselves in generous preparations.

The Preparatory School.

At Tuesday evening's meeting of the Local Committee, appointed by the Union of Congregations, in charge of the Emanuel Preparatory School, the board organized for the ensuing year by the re-election of Mr. Lazarus Rosenfeld as President, Mr. Moses Schloss, Treasurer, and Dr. A. S. Isaacs as Secretary. Rev. Dr. Gottheil, Messrs. M. Ellinger, Leop. Haas, J. H. Fleisch are the other members. The condition and prospects of the Preparatory School formed the subject of debate. The regular examination, deferred from last June, will take place later in the year, and earnest efforts will be made to enlist the more liberal support and cooperation of the public and the congregations.

United Hebrew Charities.

In order to make the employment branch, which has hitherto not received the attention it deserved, as efficient as possible, arrangements have been entered into with the Y. M. H. A., whereby all applicants will be sent to the latter's employment bureau. The Charities will pay the necessary clerical salary. It is hoped that the consolidation will prove of benefit, the employment committee of the Y. M. H. A. already having some excellent experience.

Judging from the increased number of applicants during the past few weeks, a busy season is anticipated. The cases of women in search of their husbands are numerous of late. A large number of Russians seeking work on returning to New York from out of town, are among the applicants, while many recently arrived Hungarian emigrants were on hand.

It has been suggested that a dressmaking de-