robes; nearly all the members of the Berlin Town Council; the Liberal Evangelical clergymen Thomas, Lisco and Richter; Herr von Levetzow, Conservative President of the Reichstag; the Conservative-Ultramontane Presidents and Vice-Presidents of the Lower House of the Prussian Diet; numerous representatives of the Liberal factions of the Prussian Diet and German Parliament. Of the centre party, especially, should be mentioned the Ultramontane Deputy, Herr Windthorst, who had entertained with the deceased a *friendship* based upon mutual esteem, besides a great number of deputations from the provinces, and also a deputation from the Jewish and Christian community of his native place of Jaroczin.

The coffin was placed on a bier near the steps leading to the Ark. It was profusely adorned with wreaths and flowers, and at either side there was a row of gilt candelabra with lighted tapers. All around was draped in black; the pillars in black velvet, and the steps of the Ark with black cloth. The gloom was relieved by the white curtain before the Ark. Amongst the flowers and wreaths, those from America were particularly noticed, and among them was a gigantic cushion of violets showing in each of the four corners a stuffed white pigeon. This was a most beautiful specimen of horticultural art. Of especial beauty were also the flowers sent by the Progressist party of the Reichstag. At 20 minutes past 11 o'clock, amidst a solemn silence, a prelude was played upon the organ. The choir then intoned the dirge "Man like grass are his days." The impression produced by the chant was overwhelming. It was remarkable to observe how deeply moved were the Christians present.

As the last strains of the organ died away, Dr. Frankl, Chief Rabbi, ascended the steps of the pulpit in front of the Ark and addressed the assemblage. He said:

To the resting-place of thy Holiness, O King of Glory, we bear to-day the body of him who, during life an eloquent and powerful orator, raised his voice only for the salvation of humanity. When from beyond the ocean the mournful tidings reached us that Lasker was no more, that he, who was preparing to return to his native land, had gone to his Eternal repose, the sad circumstance that Germany had lost one of her best sons, and humanity one of its most unselfish and faithful promoters, was rendered still more painful in view of the fact that he, whose every breath was devoted to the Fatherland, whose dream in youth was the liberty and unity of Germany, whose labours in manhood had for their object the fulfilment of this dream, should have had to lay down his noble life in a land far away from that which he loved so well. But the hospitable and friendly nation, on whose soil our dear departed brother ended his noble earthly pilgrimage, honoured him and mourned for him in so striking a manner as the greatest son of Germany, as the vigilant champion of Right and Freedom, and as the untiring promoter of humanity, that we who are now about to commit his remains to the mother-earth, there to lie in that eternal repose which he has so well earned, will have to compete with the nation of the Stars and Stripes in showing honour to, and in weeping for, him, who, like the wise men of old, exclusively devoted his rare gifts and great mental capacities towards the advancement of the welfare of the people. The preacher then gave a brief but graphic sketch of Dr. Lasker's career, from the cradle to the grave, of his many struggles and disappointments, and of his lofty ideal, and showed how Eduard Lasker, without any extraneous aid, but solely by dint of his great and persevering energy, attained a height which has ensured for him an imperishable name in the annals of United Germany. After quoting from Psalms xlv., 5, "And in thy majesty ride prosperously, because of truth and meekness and righteousness," words which, said Dr. Frankl, were peculiarly applicable to the eminent deceased, the preacher continued: Truth and truthfulness were the highest aims and the leading characteristics of his life. In his fearless independence and incomparable unselfishness lay the secret of his influence and success; the high moral tone and earnestness of his speeches laid the foundation for the mighty power of his utterances. When he spoke of peace, conciliation, and unity—and it was in their behalf that he most loved to speak—then truthfulness graced his lips. When he had to utter earnest reproaches, his words were as wounding as arrows, which, however, caused the greatest pain to his own sensitive and peace-loving mind. He may have erred—as a mortal he was subject to error—but he never sought to conceal his convictions. "Through truth to truth." One was the aim, the other the road: Modesty and justice were combined in him in close and beautiful union; through the combination in his person of the friend of justice and the friend of humanity he exercised a beneficial influence upon the legislation of the land, and, indeed, upon that of the entire Empire. Fully acquainted as he was, too, with the sad history of suffering which his coreligionists had undergone, and feeling it acutely himself, every harsh, exceptional and restrictive measure, every hateful distinction between one class and another, was especially painful to him, and found in him a powerful and stubborn opponent. Thus he stood equally honoured by friend and foe alike, for both recognised that he was pure and without blemish. He demonstrated how love of Judaism, of Fatherland, and of humanity can be beautifully united in one person. For him the earthly strife has ended. But in the work of his life he has left to us this noble legacy: "Unite closely together in harmony, sincerity, and noble-mindedness, and labour for the Fatherland and for humanity. Work not for the sake of reward, but for the sake of truth and morality, for the sake of God! And be the times ever so cheerless, let not your hearts fail, and lose not your belief in humanity, for Love and Right will triumph in the end."

The funeral oration was followed by three verses of a cantata specially written and composed for the occasion by a friend of Lasker's and entitled: "Herrliches ist ihm gelungen durch des Geistes Kraft und Glanz."

Herr von Stauffenberg having been detained in Munich on public business, Dr Friedrich Kapp, Deputy of the Reichstag—for many years a friend of Lasker, and belonging to the same party—delivered an address which was a warm tribute to Lasker's worth, and in heartfelt words described the character of the deceased. The speaker dwelt upon Lasker's energy and eloquence, his noble and devoted nature, the beauty of his character, and his lofty convictions. He concluded by saying, "Lasker's picture is yet surrounded by the mist and fog of the present strife, but the future will judge more objectively, it will confirm our opinion of our departed friend. I believe I cannot better conclude than with the words of the choir, which will conclude our celebration." "Hohes Thun kann nie verwesen Deine Kraenze welken nicht." The choir then sang the last verses of the cantata, and the mourners left the synagogue.

THE FUNERAL.

A band of music, followed by the members of the Berlin Artisan's Association, led by Deputy Goldschmidt, headed the procession to the cemetery. Then came the Berlin Working Men's Association, and two Electoral Associations of the Progressist party; next the plain hearse. On either side of the hearse walked friends of the deceased holding in their hands palm branches. Immediately after the hearse walked the Delegates of the Free Scientific Association of the Berlin University, then the relatives of Lasker, followed by deputations of various societies and associations of Berlin and the provinces, and then about 150 members of the Prussian Diet and German Parliament. These were followed by members of various electoral and district associations, and at intervals were bands of music playing solemn marches. It is computed that the procession was composed of about 5,000 persons, and about 200,000 people assembled as spectators in the streets through which the procession passed.

Thanks to the careful arrangements of the police and the excellent behaviour of the public, no unpleasant incident occurred. Order and quiet prevailed throughout undisturbed. Shortly before two o'clock the *cortège* reached the old Jewish cemetery, situated high up in the north of the city at the Schoenhauser Allee. The grave of Lasker was dug in the "row of honour" reserved for Rabbis, and it was for this reason that the old cemetery was chosen. The funeral solemnities took place in view of the open grave, the walls of which were covered with fresh green foliage. Behind a black catafalque for the coffin a tribune draped in black was erected: On either side were minature forests of flowers, palms and shrubs, and amidst the splendid flowers was a large candelabra with lighted candles. When those who had tickets had entered the cemetery, the Rabbi, Dr. S. Maybaum ascended a pulpit and delivered an address.

Dr. Maybaum said that the old Jewish proverb had been confirmed in the present instance. There are three crowns in life, the crown of knowledge, the crown of priesthood, and the crown of kingdom; but the crown of a good name which, indeed, is only conferred by posterity, excels them all. Dwelling upon Lasker's life he said, Lasker lived and worked religiously, and for him resounds in death what the Psalmist has said, "Open to me the gates of righteousness; I will go into them, and I wil praise the Lord." They were about to bury the departed in the so-called row of honour, where, according to old Jewish rite, only the pious are interred, men of religious knowledge and religious teaching. The preacher quoting from Isaiah xxii., 16, put the question, "What hast thou here? whom has thou here, that thou hast heweth thee out a sepulchre here, as He that heweth him out a sepulchre on high, and that graveth an habitation for him in a rock?" How was it that a religious community, counts among the number of her pious a popular representative, who stood apparently aloof from them?" Lasker rarely defended the cause of his coreligionists. He recognised the justice of their demands, but he believed the time for special laws past, and that his coreligionists should exercise abnegation and wait. Once the principle of equal laws established, "Love and truth would meet and justice and peace embrace each other." Himself a hero of resignation, he would ask from others such heroism of resignation; but in this wise the deceased stood, either consciously or unconsciously, on the ground of Judaism. For his aims, as well as that which he attained, reminded us of the Jewish prophets, who ever directed their eye upon the entire human race. Therefore he belonged to our pious men; therefore his belief that "The salvation of the Fatherland lies in its unity," was a great legacy for us; therefore his pure soul would receive the reward which the Almighty reserves for the righteous. On earth, however, his name would be kept sacred in the words to which he himself once gave utterance: 'And if the stream of the present should go against us, the future will be more just to us." In the words of the Psalmist: "They shall come and shall declare his righteousness unto a people that shall be born, that he hath done this." His grave would become a place of pious veneration for noble men; and they would hear the words of the Spirit—"Take thy shoes from off thy feet, for thou standest on holy ground."

The sermon made a deep impression. The usual prayers for the dead followed. A lane was formed by the bystanders, and the coffin was then lowered into its last resting-place according to Jewish rites. Many present having laid flowers upon the coffin, reverently left the House of Peace.

Never has there been witnessed in Germany a similar demonstration at the funeral of a civilian.

The funeral ceremonies of the day were concluded by a political memorial celebration in the evening, in the Academy of Music, arranged by the members of the party of the lamented deceased. From half-past seven o'clock the hall began to fill with an enthusiastic audience, the members of which belonged to the intellectual and liberal circles of Berlin citizens. Upon a raised platform there were a great number of Liberal Deputies, and eminent men of science and literature. The ceremony opened with the singing of a dirge, Mendelssohn's "Lord, O God Thou art our shelter for evermore," by a select choir. Dr. Ludwig Bamberger, the celebrated Deputy of the Reichstag, ascended the tribune, and in a speech lasting nearly two hours, illustrated Lasker's political labours in and out of Parliament. His strongly pointed dissertation, in which there was many a side-thrust at the Government and the leading German Statesman, was very frequently interrupted by loud applause. His estimate of the character of Lasker reached a climax in the following sentence: "Lasker was not, properly speaking, a man of liberty and of the people; the flames which burned most fiercely in him—the deities of his soul—were Right and Justice." Lasker was a most uncompromising enemy of the police state and arbitrary Government, and by no means the unpractical man and Utopian he is represented to be by his adversaries. He did not die of a broken heart, but from over-work. He had taken to heart the words of our great poet Schiller:

Vor dem Tode erschrickst Du? Du wünschest im Sterben zu leben? Lebe im Ganzen; wenn Du dahin, es bleibt ewig zurück.

A chorus by Neithardt concluded the celebration.

Sabbath Meals Society.—The annual meeting of the subscribers to the Society for Providing Strangers with Meals on Sabbaths and Festivals was held on Sunday last at Camperdown House, under the presidency of Mr. S. Goldhill. The meeting was at times of a most noisy character, and it was with considerable difficulty that the proceedings, which were thereby unduly prolonged, could be carried on. The principal uproar arose through some strictures which were made on certain items of expenditure, as set forth in the annual balance-sheet. According to this financial statement, the income from donations was £14J, and £287 16s. respectively. With the aid of this support, the Committee had been enabled to give 9,240 meals to 2,511 persons at a cost of £393 4s. This sum was, with the exception of a few shillings, identical with the amount spent for the same object in the previous year, but by dint of economy the Committee had been able at the same outlay to provide more meals, the number of meals in 1882 having been 7,429 to 2,497 persons. On the motion of Mr. E. Liebmann, seconded by Mr. M. T. Levy, the balance-sheet was, after considerable discussion, unanimously adopted. The following honorary officers were re-elected for the ensuing year: President, Mr. S. Goldhill; Vice-President, Mr. S. Risch; Treasurer, Mr. H. S. Friedman. Messrs. B. Barnett, E. Liebmann, and Leopold L. Mendelsohn were elected Auditors, and Mr. Zuesman was added to the Committee. During the evening a forcible appeal was made by the honorary officers for increased support to the charity. It was stated that with the continued influx of destitute foreigners into the metropolis the number of applicants was largely on the increase. Owing, however, to the restricted character of the funds at the disposal of the Committee, they were reluctantly compelled at times to withhold a meal even from persons who were quite homeless.

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Calcutta.—An interesting gathering was held in Calcutta on the 20th December, the occasion being the distribution of prizes to the pupils of the Jewish Boys' and Girls' School in that city. The Lord Bishop of Calcutta occupied the chair, and was supported by a distinguished company, including some of the principal members of the Parsee community. The two departments of the school contain 70 and 115 pupils respectively, as against 28 and 94 in the previous year, and it is a gratifying feature of the institution that the children both of rich and poor are to be found among its scholars. The proceedings, to which we have referred elsewhere, were of a pleasing character, not the least interesting item being the admirable address of the Chairman. The girls' school boasts of a silver medallist. It is satisfactory to note that the future of the children, the girls especially, is well cared for, the latter being taught in addition to the ordinary subjects, music, drawing, and plain and fancy needlework. The school is entirely supported by the generosity of Mr. Elias Gubbay, and has an energetic secretary in Mr. R. M. Cohen.

Central Synagogue.—On Sunday the 17th, the election of a First Reader of the Central Synagogue will be held at the Synagogue Chambers. There are only two candidates: the Rev. H. Davids (Reader of the Western Synagogue), and the Rev. E. Spero, who has been temporarily appointed Reader by the Committee.

Birmingham.—On the 13th ult., the annual general meeting of the Birmingham Branch of the Anglo-Jewish Association, was held in the Congregational School room, the Rev. G. J. Emanuel, B.A., President of the Branch, in the Chair. An address was given by the Chairman explanatory of the varied work of the Association, and the balance sheet was received and adopted. The subscriptions for the year amounted to £78 10s. 6d., being £5 11s. in excess of the previous year, and after payment of incidental expenses, the sum of £75 was remitted to the parent society. There are at present 155 members attached to the Branch. The Committee for the ensuing year having been appointed, votes of thanks were passed to the President, to Mr. P. H. Levi (Treasurer), and Mr. Selim Samuel (Honorary Secretary).

Amateur Choral Society.—This Society gave a concert on Thursday, the 24th ult., at St. Andrew's Hall, Newman Street. The audience, amongst whom we noticed several of the *élite* of the community, scarcely filled the large hall to its full extent. The uniform scarves worn by the chorus gave a very picturesque appearance to the orchestra, on which were seated about sixty ladies and gentlemen. The first part of the concert consisted of Romberg's "Lay of the Bell," in which the soloists were Miss Hast, Miss Adèle Myers, Mr. H. Bailey and Mr. C. H. Victor. It would be difficult to particularise any special morceaux, yet perhaps extra attention was attracted by the duet "O tender longing," feelingly sung by Miss Hast and Mr. Bailey, and Miss Myers' pathetic rendering of "Ah! the wife it is." The Rev. M. Hast was conductor, and he is to be complimented on the great progress of the chorus. The attack showed much improvement, and the colouring, especially by the ladies' voices, left little to be desired. The audience, cold at the commencement, warmed into great heartiness during the progress of the cantata, and the repetition of the quartet and chorus "Peace and Concord" was enthusiastically insisted upon. Altogether the "Lay of the Bell" was very creditably rendered both by soloists and chorus. In the second part of the concert, the chorus sang two part-songs, "Sigh no more Ladies" by Macfarren, and "Good night, beloved" by Pinsuti, distinguishing themselves in the former by much crispness and precision and in the latter by a very satisfactory shading. Miss Esther Barnett, a talented young coreligionist whom we have before heard with pleasure, was certainly the most heartily received, her high class playing of Mendelssohn's "Capriccio" and of Sterndale Bennett's "Rondo à la Polonaise," quite captivating her audience. Mrs. Farmer sang Pinsuti's "Raft" in a highly artistic manner. The "Venetian Boat Song" of Blumenthal was sung by Miss Hast and Miss Myers with the admirable style characteristic of both, Miss Hast's flute-like high notes being heard to much advantage. Mr. Bailey gave an excellent rendering of the "The Anchor's Weighed," and Mr. Victor sang the Toreador's song from "Carmen" most artistically. Mr. Victor is the possessor of a bass voice of much volume and richness, and though an apology was made for him on the grounds of indisposition, few signs of its necessity were apparent. Two violin solos by Mr. H. M. Morris showed great merit and were well received. Miss Myers sang Miss Hartog's new song "Swinging" very charmingly, and Miss Hast gave to the "Shadow Song" from Dinorah a most skilful and effective rendering, which met with prolonged applause. Mr. W. J. Barton was the accompanist, and it was evident that the vocalists and chorus were fortunate in having obtained his services. The proceeds of the concert, the amount of which has not yet been stated, will be given to the Soup Kitchen.

Jewish Working Men's Club.—A novel and successful entertainment was given at this institution on Sunday evening under the direction of Miss B. Parker. All those who took part in the entertainment, including the "Chairman" (Master B. L. Abrahams), were children of a tender age. The most interesting feature was the remarkable playing on the violin of a tiny mite (Kate Kershenbaum), aged five years, who actually looked younger, as she bravely and skilfully manipulated a violin nearly as big as herself. The other children who cleverly displayed their precocious musical or elocutionary talents were: Sylvia Cohen, Esther Joel, Rachel Nabarro, Maria Hart, Lizzie Levy; David Nabarro, G. Soesen, M. Parker, and David Jacots. —On Saturday evening next a concert will be given under the direction of Mrs. Maurice Davis, and on Sunday evening a concert will be given under the direction of Miss Adèle Myers and Miss Henden Warde.

At the South Kensington School of Art, Miss Louise Lyons obtained second certificate for Drawing from the Models.

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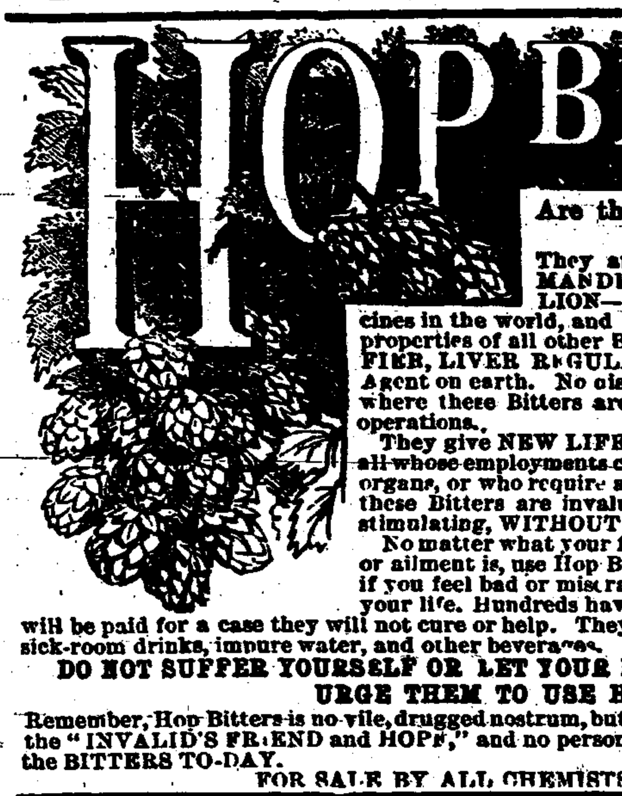
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