

country in Mexico as the successor to Thomas Corvin, by appointment of President Lincoln. Oscar S. Strauss, who is the subject of Henry Ward Beecher's letter printed above, was the second American Hebrew to occupy the office of Minister, having been appointed to the Turkish mission by President Cleveland in 1887. The State of Louisiana was for several years represented in the United States Senate by Benjamin F. Jonas. Leopold Morse, of Boston, was for five terms a member of Congress. Joseph Blumental, now the representative of the twenty-second assembly district of New York city, was also a prominent member of the assembly in 1870-71. It is generally conceded that Jacob A. Cantor, Senator from the tenth district of the same city, is one of the ablest representatives the city has ever sent to Albany. He was chosen a member of the assembly for three terms, and while a member of that body introduced numerous important bills, including many in the interest of various Hebrew institutions, in which he has always evinced a warm interest.

Judge Simon M. Ehrlich, of the city court of New York, was elected to the bench in 1884, and during his incumbency won the respect and esteem of his brethren of the bar and the public. Theodore W. Myers, controller of the city of New York, was elected to office in 1887 by a majority of 10,000 votes. Philip T. Toachimson was appointed assistant corporation attorney of that city in 1840, and fifteen years later was made assistant United States district attorney. During his term of office he secured the first conviction for slave trading. By direction of President Pierce he received the thanks of the government for the ability with which he discharged his official duties. Godfrey Morse, of Boston, was counsel for the United States in the court of commissioners of the Alabama claims.

Benjamin F. Peixotto has attained high rank as a diplomatist. He was nominated by President Grant as consul-general to Roumania during the frightful massacres of Hebrews in that country. He declined the appointment of consul-general to St. Petersburg in 1877, and was consul to Lyons, France, during the administration of Presidents Hayes, Garfield and Arthur. At Lyons he displayed a degree of fidelity and intelligence rarely found in consular service, and his official reports to the government rank as the most valuable of their kind in the national archives. The Hebrews of Albany are justly proud of Simon W. Rosendale, who has been assistant district attorney, recorder, and corporation counsel of that city.

Adolph L. Langer was president of the New York board of aldermen in 1885, and presidential elector in 1880-1884. Ex-Judge A. T. Dittenhofer derives his title by appointment to the vacancy caused by the death of Judge Florence McCarthy, of the Marine court. He was a presidential elector on the republican ticket in 1860.

Few Hebrews in this country

have attained a greater degree of prominence than Simon Wolf, of Washington, D. C. He has been recorder of deeds of the District of Columbia, and consul-general to Egypt, and has been on terms of the closest friendship with the leading men of the day of both parties.

Carl Shurz was Secretary of the Interior; Edward Solomon governor of Washington Territory, and Jos. Seligman, the banker, was tendered the secretaryship of the treasury by President Grant, but it was declined by him.

Solomon Hirsh has lately been appointed by President Harrison to the important diplomatic position of minister to Turkey, and was only last week received by his Imperial Majesty the Sultan with great honors.

What a difference in the position which the Hebrews have attained in this country and that of their fellow co-religionists in Europe.

DR. ED. ISAACSON.

AMERICAN FORK, Oct. 26, 1889.

### OUR CHICAGO LETTER.

The Pan-Americans are gone, but they are expected back again in 1892 to witness the World's Fair. By the way, the word *pan* has occasioned quite a literary discussion in our midst. The *Tribune* says it is Latin and means all or omnibus. The *News* says it is Greek and means everything and everybody. Of course the *News* is right. Its chief editor, Mr. Lawson, is noted for his exhaustive work on the writings of Sophocles. He is also an authority on the various dialects which old Homer made such good use of in his *Iliad*. Therefore we must conclude that *pan* is Greek, unless, indeed, the *Tribune* meant the *pan* in frying-pan, and even so, it is only from the frying-pan to the fire.

But what is stranger than all is the fact that many of our papers of want the word America discarded and Columbia substituted. This means a great deal. It means annihilating the Irish-Americans, British-Americans and Dago-Americans. It would kill that fine phrase of George Francis Train's "civis Americanus sum," and it would utterly paralyze that patriotic quantity the "American gentleman" in Utah. The reason assigned for the substitution is that Vespucci, the man called also Amerigo, was a fraud. This man gave a name to a continent which Columbus discovered, or rather some blundering Dutchman called the continent America because Amerigo wrote about it.

The truth about this matter is that we don't know whether the man was called Amerigo, because he wrote about America, or whether the country was so-called because a man named Amerigo wrote about it. There is strong grounds for believing that Mr. Vespucci got his prenomens the same as Texas Jack, Deadwood Dick and Araphahoe Bill. The Chicago reformers have not read his book. They do not know he ever wrote one only as the

dictionaries tell them. We don't find Amerigo entering very largely into Dago nomenclature. We read of cognate words in other countries. There is the Amorite of the bible, and there is the Ameer of Afghanistan, the whom Carter Harrison punched in the chest when out from Chicago.

Then again there is Amerganus, the father of St. Finnbarr, the gentleman who founded the City of Cork in Ireland. He might have had something to do with this matter. (See Canon Kingsley's *Celtic Hermits*.) One thing is certain, that Vespucci deserves to be remembered in connection with this continent. He wrote a gushing pamphlet about it, one that no modern real estate dealer could outdo; and though he did not send it around in an exposition car, yet it made quite a stir in Europe. In fact were it not for this pamphlet the work of Columbus would have fallen into oblivion as did that of previous discoverers. It is just as well perhaps to let Amerigo enjoy his immortality. It would not help us much anyway to change the name.

An occasional little incident crops out by way of variety to the great Cronin case. One of the latest has a drug clerk for a hero. First, let it be understood that in Chicago there are three publications entirely devoted to matrimonial matters. In connection with these are bureaus where marriages can be carried out either as civil contracts, business partnerships, or religious ceremonies. All grades of female beauty can be examined, from a Chinese angel to a Roman madonna. All types of male physical development are on hand from an Orlando Powers to an Apollo Belvidere. Then there are the Sunday newspapers and their "personal" columns. Young ladies from the country want protection. Refined American widows desire the acquaintance of honorable elderly gentlemen. Unincumbered spinsters are seeking monied lodgers. Prepossessing "typewriters" bid for places in a dreary, poetic, sentimental way. On the other hand, there are middle-aged business men seeking lady acquaintances not mercenary. There are farmers from Kansas, miners from Colorado, cattlemen from Montana and wheat-growers from Dakota, all anxiously seeking for good-tempered, good-looking young women. Well, we have come to it at last. Cleveland G. Arnold, a drug clerk in this city, made a habit of reviewing this interesting literature pertaining to love and matrimony. He picked out the lonely farmers and cattlemen, and replied to their advertisements. He enclosed a photograph of the prettiest girl he could find. He described himself as an angel in petticoats. The lonely man was captured at once. In due time our Chicago girl-hero consented to go west, but lack of funds intervened. Next mail brought a cheque or postal order from the farmer. That ended the correspondence. Mr. Cleveland G. Arnold closed his account with that idiot. Complaints and enquiries