

The Ancient Melodies

OF

THE LITURGY

OF

THE SPANISH AND PORTUGUESE JEWS.

HARMONIZED BY

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PRECEDED BY

AN HISTORICAL ESSAY ON THE POETS, POETRY AND
MELODIES OF THE SEPHARDIC LITURGY,

BY THE

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THE ANCIENT MELODIES,

ETC., ETC.

PART I.

Our desire to furnish some interesting specimens from ancient and not generally known treasures, the produce of Jewish mental cultivation in remote ages, which were intended to be, and have proved, efficient aids in elevating and sustaining the public and individual worship of Him who is "enthroned amidst the praises of Israel" — the earnest wish to prevent, in the present age of religious indifference, the total decay and oblivion of those sacred hymns and melodies which delighted and edified our ancestors through many generations, and which, as precious heirlooms, they faithfully transmitted to us — and to assist, in this respect, public and private devotion among the widely-spread Israelitish nation; were the principal motives for the publication of the present work, which, as far as we are cognisant, is the first ever published on the subject of the Sephardic Liturgy.¹

That which we have endeavoured to present to, and preserve for, the Jewish community will also, it is presumed, prove generally interesting to the historian, the amateur, and archæologist of the Musical Art; as the melodies referred to originated for the most part in ages anterior to that of the invention of musical notation, and relate to a period from which few if any remains have descended to us in an authentic form. This is more especially the case with the orally transmitted melodies and chants whose origin is lost in the night of antiquity, and also with those adopted Moorish or early Spanish melodies, which in the course of time have been forgotten even in the countries in which they originated, having been superseded by more recent ones. Many of these have been preserved in this collection in consequence of their having been orally transmitted from one generation to another till our own time.

In the brief sketch to which our limits confine us, we shall notice — First. The History of the Hymns and Poetical Pieces inserted in the Liturgy of the Spanish and Portuguese Jews, their structure and peculiarities; Secondly. We shall give some account of the principal authors of them, and of the times in which they flourished; and, in the Third place, we propose stating what we have been able to collect respecting the Melodies with which they are combined.

— When the remnant of the Israelitish nation that had escaped the exterminating sword of their conquerors, in the period immediately succeeding the destruction of their sanctuary, became a little settled, and the many horrors consequent on their loss of country and enforced exile had somewhat abated — when a little breathing time was vouchsafed to the afflicted and scattered nation, and their lives and means of subsistence had become comparatively secure, so that their most pressing wants and physical necessities could be satisfied with less precarity than before, they began to accommodate themselves to the new phase

¹ We are aware that a work was published in Paris in 1854, entitled, *Recueil des Chants hebraïques du rit moderne du rit Portugais réuni et composés par Emile Jonas*; but a cursory view thereof will satisfy any reader acquainted with the subject, that this work contains much of M. Emile Jonas's little or nothing, "du rit Portugais ancien."

of their eventful history; and their mind, even through that partial relaxation, soon regained most of its former elasticity and vigour. Then was the necessity felt and acknowledged, sacrifices, priesthood, and temple having ceased, of endeavouring to replace them by a general and fixed form of worship. The earliest aspirations of the Israelitish nation, in their state of suffering and subjection, naturally consisted in prayers for salvation, and aid from their everlasting God and Protector; and their afflicted spirit vented itself and found relief in mournful remembrance of and lamentation for past greatness. The leaders and teachers of Israel, aware of the importance of encouraging and directing this good feeling, were occupied, soon after the dispersion, in collecting, consolidating, and reintroducing every law, custom, and tradition necessary for the maintenance of ancestral faith. One of the first objects of their care was the restoration of public worship, based upon the pre-existing prayers composed by the אִכָּהָג or Great Assembly.² These ancient well-remembered forms, and the solemn melodies of the temple and of the ancient worship, were not yet obliterated from the memory of many of the nation, and, as the sole remnants of the former temple service, were, in their afflicted state, most intensely cherished and venerated by them, and duly appreciated, as the consolatory sounds and sweet reminiscences of better times and of past national glory. To these prayers were joined the recitation or singing of Psalms and other poetical selections from the Holy Scriptures, which are so well adapted to touch the heart, and to express, in suitable and sublime devotional strains, the hopes, thanksgivings, sorrows, or joys of the Israelite nation, and which, not being like the artificial and laboured productions of poets of a later period, but the intense and spontaneous feeling gushing forth from the heart of eloquent and inspired men, unrestrained in its expression by the shackles of rhythm and rhyme, at once pointed them out as the best and most apt medium for the utterance of the praises of Israel to their God.³

It was not until many centuries later; not, indeed, until the Gaonic period,⁴ that the pious productions of uninspired poets were admitted into the regular synagogue service. Saadiah Gaon [died 942] was the first who introduced rhyme into Hebrew poetry. This became more common in the time of Ahi Gaon [died 1037], and was also used by his contemporaries in Spain, Joseph ben Abitur and Samuel Hanagid, two ancient and eminent poets. That, as well as the various forms of poetical construction, they learned and adopted from the Arabs among whom they dwelt, and whose language and literature they sedulously studied.⁵ One of the most ancient and celebrated poets of another school of Hebrew poetry in the South of Italy and South of France, nearest to Spain, was R. Eleazar Kalir, whose

² For a succinct historical account of these prayers, see the Introduction to my Translation of the *Prayers of the Spanish and Portuguese Jewish Liturgy*, p. ix.—xii. It may here be stated, in addition, that the uniformity and general adoption of them by Spanish, Italian, German, and Polish Jews, so divergent in other parts of their ritual, is a sufficient proof of their high antiquity, and of the acknowledged authority of those who composed and introduced them.

³ "The Hebrew language, even after it was excluded from common life by the various local dialects (Aramaic, Greek, and Persian) had always been preserved in public worship, and the older literary remains (e.g. the Psalms) were used for poetical purposes, and, in particular, for prayer."—STEIN-SCHNEIDER'S *Jewish Lit.*, p. 146. London, 1857.

⁴ Extending from the sixth till the eleventh century. Still, as mentioned by Charisi (who flourished at the commencement of the thirteenth century), the first poetical pieces received in any Jewish liturgy do not date earlier than the tenth century, in which Saadiah Gaon, who died 942, flourished.

⁵ As a proof, we quote Charisi's words in the 18th chapter of his תַּחֲכֻמוֹנִי, an important chapter for the history of the Hebrew poets and poetry in the middle ages, a period in which it attained its greatest perfection:

הַשִּׁיר הַנִּפְלֵא הָיָה בְּתַחֲלָה • לְבִנֵי עַרְבַּ לְנַחֲלָה • וְהֵם חִזְקוּ בּוֹ כֹּל בְּדָק • וְשִׁקְלוּהוּ בְּמֵאוֹנֵי הַצֶּדֶק ... גַּם בְּנֵי עַמִּינוּ אַחֵר גְּלוּתָם מֵאַדְמַתָּם שִׁכְנוּ רַבִּים מֵהֶם עִם בְּנֵי עַרְבַּ בְּאַרְצוֹתָם וְנִהְגוּ לְדַבֵּר בְּלִשׁוֹנָם ... וּבְהַתְּעַרְבָם עִמָּהֶם לְמַדּוֹ מִלֵּאכֶת הַשִּׁיר מֵהֶם :

The Arabic terms for various forms of poetry מַחֲרָךְ, מִסְתַּאֲנֵב, אֶלְמֶרְתִּיָּה, אֶלְכְּרוֹנ, and others, prefixed by our *Puytanim* to their hymns, sufficiently show whence their models were derived.

hymns are yet recited, and form part of the liturgy of the German and other congregations. He is supposed to have lived in the tenth century,⁶ and, in his peculiar style, is one of the most gifted and original of our poets. But the Cyclopean crudeness of his verse, his ungrammatical expressions, solecisms, the forced constructions of the Hebrew language, the obscurity of his diction and constant allusions to Talmud and Meдрash, often unintelligible to those most versed in them, his artificial alphabets, acrostics, and numbers (which, it must be owned, render them unsuitable for general devotional use), were the chief cause that none of his numerous productions were ever admitted into the Sephardic liturgy; and his style, and that of his numerous followers, have been the constant object of censure and even of ridicule, or scarcely concealed irony, to the more direct and eloquent poets of the Hebrew Spanish school.⁷ It is to these latter, and to their hymns, adopted in the Sephardic ritual, that our attention must be confined. The first of these, in point of time⁸ as well as of excellency, is SOLOMON BEN JEHUDA BEN GABIROL, surnamed *Hakatan*. This eminent philosophical poet, ethic, and grammarian, was born at Malaga in 1041, and died at Saragossa in 1107.⁹ Little or nothing is known of his personal history; and the great excellence of the works we still possess of him,¹⁰ must add to our regret at his

His history is so very obscure, that ancient authorities have supposed him to be identical with R. Charisi, one of the Mishnic doctors (see ר' שביץ in סגן אבות, p. 55). Modern critics, however, have supposed that he lived in the tenth century, and was (probably) born near Cagliari in Sardinia; also, about 970 he officiated as רון at Bari in Italy. See his biography in Rapaport's valuable contributions in נרם חסד, and Dr. Zunz's *Gottesdienstl. Vorträge*, etc., p. 381—88. Reggio supposes that the רון mentioned in the acrostics of some of his hymns, is *Civita di penna* in the Abruzzi. See Aben Ezra's *Comm. to Eccl.* v. 1; Shemtob Palquerria in המבקש (*The Enquirer*), p. 57; Sam. Archivolti in ערוגת הבושם, § 32; and Mos. H. Luzzatto in לשון למודים. Charisi is most severe on the Western, i. e. the French and German schools of Hebrew poetry. We extract for the Hebrew reader a few of his witty remarks on that subject.

קהלות מרח... וקהלות צרפת ואשכנז... ארמת השיר לבדה ראוה. ולא באוה, והשיר רחוק... ולהם לא יקרב... וראיתי מבני צרפת חכמים מאירים ככוכבי מרומים... וחרוזהם מלאים שבוש... יבנים אדם כי אם בפירוש. והפירוש צריך פירוש וכי

The excellence of the Hebrew Spanish poets of this period, and the inferiority of their German and French contemporaries, is attributed by the erudite Dr. Zunz to the favourable political position of the former under the dominion of the Moors in Spain, and the dreadful persecutions and oppressions the latter were then subject to in the Christian states (*Rel. Vorträge*, p. 418)—We cannot help thinking that their less perfect pronunciation and inferior grammatical knowledge of Hebrew also contributed much to that inferiority. Steinschneider assigns as another reason, that "the preponderance of (Jewish) legal studies in Germany and France made the mixed Talmudic idiom predominant, while their *Piyutim* still displayed that imperfect state of language out of which the Sephardim had early arisen to a more correct form." See p. 66 of *Jewish Literature from the Eighth to the Eighteenth Century*; also his observations, p. 161, of this valuable work respecting the German-French school of Hebrew poetry, of which Kalir is the head and representative. Of Kalir individually, an older authority, the historian Joseph Ha-Cohen flourished in the sixteenth century), while relating the cruelties inflicted on the Jews at Spire, Worms, Mayence, etc., by the Crusaders who followed Peter the Hermit in 1096 (see Jost's *Geschichte*, etc., vol. vii. p. 231)—expresses himself thus: ולא יקונן גם עליהם אלעזר. ולהיותו כבד לישון חשבתי לזר. ולא הביאותיו הנה [uncouth], I consider it as foreign [to my purpose], and will not here quote him." This is to be understood as relating to the Sephardic liturgy, which contains only one piece of each of the predecessors of Gabirol, José ben José, and Abi Gaon, and nothing of Saadia Gaon, and others of ages anterior to that of Gabirol.

Dr. M. Sachs, p. 245, of his *Religiöse Poesie d. J. in Spanien*, quotes the epigraph of an ancient MS. according to which Gabirol was born at Saragossa, and was buried in Ocaña, both in Spain. Most authors, however, name Malaga as his birthplace, including Aben Ezra (Pref. to סגן אבות). A strong case is also afforded by Gabirol himself, who, in the acrostic of one of his hymns, styles himself סלקי מלגה. According to Steinschneider, he died at Valencia (*Jewish Lit.* p. 137). Some of his works are now irretrievably lost; others have been collected and printed of late years by Dukes, and recently a philosophical work of his, written in Arabic, and translated by Palquerria in French, entitled סקוד חיים, has been edited by the learned M. Munk in Paris. Charisi, enumerating the Hebrew poets, says of Gabirol, ואחריו לא. "The song of the poets who preceded him is like wind and emptiness compared with his, and his successors equalled him in excellence," etc.

untimely death before he had reached his thirtieth year, as we cannot but conjecture the extent to which Hebrew literature would have been enriched by his valuable labours if a longer life had been vouchsafed to him.¹¹ At the head of his poetical works adopted in the Sephardic ritual, we must place his sublime work, entitled *כתר מלכות*.¹² We have also from him for the Day of Atonement the Introduction to *Nishmat אלי אתה*; ¹³ the Introduction to the *Kadish* of the Morning Service, commencing *שנאנים שאננים*; ¹⁴ the Introduction to the *ס עבודה* or description of the Temple Service, on that day commencing, *ארוטמן חוקי וחלקי*.¹⁵ For New Year, the hymns *שופט כל הארץ* and *אלהי אל תריני*.¹⁷ For Passover, the short poems *שופט שמש* and *שלח רועך הטוב* in the prayer for dew: For the Feast of Weeks, the *Azharot*, a didactic poem of two hundred and fifty-five stanzas on the Precepts, divided into two parts:¹⁹ For the Eighth day of Tabernacles (*ש ה עירת*) in the prayer for rain *רביבים שפע*; ²⁰ For Simchath Torah, the poem *בשרה שוכנת*: For Fast days the *תחינה* for the Fast of 10th of Tebet, commencing *ה שטופה הטובה* and the Elegy *קול תחן* for the Fast of Ab, also the Morning Hymns *בוקי* " *שחר אבקשך* and *כל ברוך*.²¹ [Those marked ° are used for private devotion only, and do not form part of the regular synagogue service.]

The next of the great triad of Hebrew poets who flourished in Spain in the golden age, or zenith of Hebrew poetry, and who have enriched the Sephardic liturgy with their sublime hymns, was R. JEHUDAH HA-LEVI, the only one entitled to dispute the palm of supremacy with Gabirol, to whom he is preferred by many.²² He is supposed to have been born at Toledo about 1105, and died at the age of about sixty, on his journey to the Holy Land, the fond object of his desire and poetical aspirations, but which there is much reason to suppose he was, like Moses, not permitted to enter.²³ We need only mention that he is the author

¹¹ Like a bright meteor, he illuminated with transcendent splendour our poetical horizon, and disappeared as suddenly. As the statement of Guedalia Jachia in *יל הקבלה*, an author so credulous and fond of the marvellous, respecting the death of our poet, has been transcribed as a fact by many other authors, we suppose we must also notice it. He relates, that Gabirol was murdered by an envious Arab, who buried him under one of his fig-trees, which having prematurely borne fruit of uncommon size and superior flavour, the owner being closely questioned by the caliph to account for this phenomenon, confessed in his fright to have murdered Gabirol, and to have buried him under that tree, when the caliph ordered the assassin to be hung on that same tree." We can only say, that authentic history is altogether silent about this alleged wonderful fact; and, as Dr. Sachs observes with regard to it (*Rel. Poesie*, etc., p. 219), "*Wo die Geschichte schweigt, nimmt das Märchen geschäftig das Wort.*" Fable soon busies itself to speak where history is silent."

¹² For text, English translation, and explanatory introduction to this sublime poem, see vol. iii. p. 39—55 of *Prayers of the Spanish and Portuguese Israelites, with English Translation*, by the Rev. D. A. De Sola. Whenever, subsequently, the volume and page of *Prayers* are quoted, the reference is to the above work.

¹³ Ibid. vol. iii. p. 88. ¹⁴ Ibid. p. 91. ¹⁵ Ibid. p. 147. ¹⁶ Vol. ii. p. 62. ¹⁷ Ibid. p. 61.

¹⁸ Vol. v. p. 89. ¹⁹ Vol. v. pp. 147—152, and pp. 156—164. ²⁰ Vol. iv. p. 149.

²¹ Translated in this collection, as are also the *Morning Hymns* mentioned.

²² Even Charizi, the hyperbolic and enthusiastic eulogist of Gabirol, can hardly find terms sufficiently grandiose and laudatory to express his admiration of the great and mellifluous Judah Ha-levi, "whose poems," he says, "satisfy the learned and æsthetic critic as much as they charm the ordinary reader"; and that Gabirol only excels him in profundity of conception. Emanuel Aboab, who flourished in the sixteenth century, unreservedly places him at the head of all Hebrew poets. After giving the due meed of praise to Gabirol, Ben Giat, and R. Abr. Aben Ezra, he continues, "*Más a mi débil juicio exceden a todos en perfeccion y artificio las de R. Jehudah Ha-levi.*" But, in my humble opinion, the poems of R. Judah Ha-levi excel all others in perfection and artistic skill" (*Nomologia*, p. 280),—an opinion which the general verdict of succeeding ages has sufficiently ratified. It is, however, unquestionable that Gabirol is superior to all his contemporaries and successors in philosophical conception, intensity of devotional feeling, and vigour and terseness of diction; whilst J. Ha-levi, is, and has remained, unequalled in sweetness of expression, command of language, melody, and facility of versification. We may, perhaps, style the first the Milton, and the second the Pope of Hebrew poetry.

²³ The erudite Professor S. D. Luzzatto, of Padua, has published much of the secular poetry of Ha-levi (which had for centuries remained in MS.), under the title of *בתולת בת יהודה*, with a valuable introduction, in which he disproves the story generally copied from Guedalia Jachia, respecting the death of our poet, whom the said Jachia asserts to have been ridden over, and murdered by a Saracen, under the walls of Jerusalem, while crouching in the dust, and unmindful of anything around him, he was reciting his

the celebrated work *Cuzari*, and of his many excellent religious hymns, which form almost every Jewish liturgy. Some of these, including his great poem ארון חסד, hereafter to be further described, have, on account of their beauty, been adopted by the Caraites. [See their Liturgy in 4 vols, *Guzlaff*, 1834, or the Goslof edition, 1836, also in 4 vols.]

We have from him his great poem, recited on the Sabbath before *Purim*, commencing ארון חסד:²⁴ the hymns for the Feast of New Year, commencing יום י"י,²⁵ וידי,²⁶ and יה ששך.²⁷ For the Day of Atonement, the sublime hymns כל נגודך יי תאן:²⁸ the Introduction to *Nishmath*, אל מי אמשילך,²⁹ Introduction to *Keter*, ארץ התמוטטת.³⁰ יה ששע אביוןך,³¹ and יה ששע אביוןך,³² the Introduction to the *Selichot* of the afternoon prayers of that day. The *Techinah*, for the Fast of the 10th of Tebeth, יי יגוני קראוני,³³ and that for the Fast of Esther, commencing יי אויב נב;³⁴ and an elegy for the Fast of Ab, commencing הלנופלים תקומה.³⁵

The third is MOSES ABEN EZRA; born in Granada in the latter half of the tenth century.³⁴ He was descended from a distinguished family, and is celebrated by Charisi and Zachut, the author of יה חסין, as most learned in Jewish theology and Greek philosophy, and a famous Hebrew poet. It is in this latter capacity that we shall enumerate the few beautiful hymns our liturgy has adopted from his many devotional compositions: למחורה חטאתיו [Introduction to נפילת נפילת];³⁵ אנוש חסד; Introduction to "Kedusha," for the afternoon prayer of the Day of Atonement; and the hymn אל נורא עלילה³⁷ for the same day.

celebrated elegy על הלא תשאלי. It is certainly very poetical to make him die thus the (fabled) death of the swan;—but, as Luzzatto remarks, וזה כלו שקר מפורסם, "All this is an evident falsehood," because Jerusalem was not then in the power of the Saracens, but in that of the Christians; whilst the very poem represents as having been recited by R. J. Ha-levi on that occasion, bears internal evidence that it was composed in Spain, far away from the Holy Land, as he wishes therein for "wings that he might fly thither," etc. (מי יהן לי כנפים וארהיק נרוד ובין). "It appears, therefore, to me," continues Luzzatto, "that R. J. Ha-levi died without having accomplished his vehement desire to see and visit the Holy Land, but that he died on the road in the Desert between Egypt and Palestine." The same collection of Luzzatto preserves a fragment of the last known poem of Ha-levi (addressed to his friend and admirer, Samuel Hanagid), in which he seems to have had a presentiment of his approaching end.

אל פגעמי תאחרו לנסוע	Do not delay my steps to move from hence,
כי אפחד פן יקרני אסוני וכי	Lest I may meet my disaster (death) etc.

which Luzzatto aptly remarks נבא ולא ידע "Unwittingly he prophesied truly." What renders Luzzatto's supposition, that R. J. Ha-levi died a natural death, almost certain, is not only the silence of the subject of Charisi, and of older writers than the not very veracious G. Jachia, but also the fact of Abraham Aben Ezra citing R. Judah Ha-levi after his death, in the Commentary to Exod. xxii.7, with the simple addition of מנוחתו בבור, is conclusive on this subject, as, if he had met with a violent death, the usual דם עברו היצפון, or a similar phrase, would undoubtedly have been used.

Text and Translation, vol. i. of *Prayers*, p. 143, et seq. As an example of the structure of Ha-levi's poems, and of other Hebrew ones, we give the following short analysis thereof, as it cannot be discovered by those who cannot read the original. The subject is that of the Book of Esther. It is divided into four cantos in stanzas of four verses each, three of which have the same rhyme, and the fourth is a scriptural text, invariably ending in לו (lo). Besides this, the initials of the first canto are according to the order of the Hebrew alphabet; the second has the acrostic of the poet's name in full at the commencement of the stanzas; the third, even as the first, is in alphabetical order; and the fourth has again his name in an abbreviated form (אני יהודה).

²⁴ Vol. ii. of *Prayers*, p. 63. ²⁵ Ibid. p. 66. ²⁶ Ibid. p. 67. ²⁷ Vol. iii. p. 87. ²⁸ Ibid. p. 104—6. It is the longest and most sublime of all his devotional hymns, with full acrostics. ²⁹ note 81, *infra*. ³⁰ Ibid. p. 143. ³¹ Ibid. p. 157. ³² Ibid. p. 206.

His sublime elegy על הלא תשאלי, which most unaccountably has been omitted in the Sephardic edition of *Kinoh* for the 9th of Ab, in which so many of very inferior merit have found a place, has been translated into German by Mendelsohn, Herder, Meyer, Dr. Geiger, and, lately, by Ettlingen; by Reggio into Italian and in other languages, also into English.

The exact year of his death, even as that of his birth, is not known. It appears, however, he was born in 1138. See Luzzatto's Preface to ב'ב' and in vol. iv. of כרם המדבר. To that and to Duker's *Moses Ben Ezra aus Granada*, and to Dr. Sachs' before quoted work, pp. 276—86, we refer the reader for further particulars of his many literary labours. ³³ Vol. ii. p. 14. ³⁴ Vol. iii. p. 196. ³⁵ Ibid. p. 215. He has written many other hymns inserted in the liturgies of Avignon, and in others.

The other hymnic poets of the Sephardic liturgy we must notice with a brevity more corresponding to our limits than to their merit, and, as far as we are able, in chronological order.

JOSEPH BEN STANAS BEN ABITUR flourished in the beginning of the tenth century, and died at Damascus in 970. Besides his poetical talent he was possessed of great learning.³⁸ From him our liturgy has the Introduction to *Kedusha* of the Morning and for the *Mussaph* of the Day of Atonement, commencing שש אפורי and במרומי ערץ.³⁹ It is to be regretted that no other poems have reached us of this excellent writer, so much lauded by Charisi (*Tachk.* vii.), and whom he and Shemtob Palquerra rank among the earliest and best of Hebrew Spanish poets.

ISAAC BEN JUDAH ABEN GIAT (or Gijjat, according to *Steinschneider*) was born at Lucena, in Spain, and died at Cordova in 1089. He was a contemporary of Gabirol, whom he long survived, and was a most eminent poet and philosopher. Our liturgy has but few pieces of his, viz., that commencing יה היום וזכור היום, which, however, we have not in the form he wrote it,⁴⁰ being now subdivided as *Pizmon* in the seven הקפות for *Hosannah Rabbah*, with omission of some of the verses and addition of others. The *Pizmonim* אל ישעך צמאתי in the *Hoshaanot* for the first day of Tabernacles; אמוניך מתחננים for the fifth day; and ישראל ענדיך in the *Mussaph* for the Day of Atonement, are also attributed to Ben Giat.⁴¹

ABRAHAM ABEN EZRA, the celebrated theologian, exegete, philosopher, mathematician, Hebrew grammarian, and poet, was born at Toledo in 1119, and died in the isle of Rhodes in 1194.⁴² His great poverty⁴³ obliged him to leave his home, and wander the greatest part of his life through many countries, where he com-

³⁸ He is said to have translated into Arabic the whole of the Talmud (probably extracts only) for the Caliph Alkahim, whose reign commenced in 961. For an account of Abitur's eventful life and wanderings, his feud about the dignity of Gaon, to which he aspired, see Jost's *Gesch. der Israeliten*, vol. vi. pp. 128—30, and Dr. Sachs' *Rel. Poësie*, pp. 248—50.

³⁹ Vol. iii. pp. 103 and 143. In most printed editions they are erroneously ascribed to R. J. Ha-levi, but modern criticism, aided by ancient MSS., in which they are directly ascribed to Abitur, has sufficiently vindicated his right to them (see Sachs, pp. 251, 253). Accordingly, my own edition, printed before I became acquainted with Dr. Sachs' excellent work (*Die Rel. Poësie der Juden in Spanien*), must be corrected. Dr. Sachs also ascribes to him some hymns in the Tripoli *Machasor*, with the acrostic יוסף בן יצחק.

⁴⁰ It is printed in its original form, p. 14 of the Appendix to Dr. Sachs' quoted work, with his masterly poetic translation into German. ⁴¹ Vol. iv. p. 71. ⁴² *Ibid.* p. 107. ⁴³ Vol. iii. 170.

⁴⁴ The "Pizmonim" יום זה לישראל for the Sabbath, and המכבדיל for the conclusion thereof, may, perhaps, be also of Ben Giat, as both have the acrostic קצחק, and it is known that Ben Giat composed a hymn for the העילה or concluding service for the Day of Atonement, to be found in the old editions of the Sephardic *Machasor*, which also commences קדש לחול המכבדיל בין קדש לחול.

⁴⁵ According to Zunz, he died at Rome, on the 23rd of January 1167 (*Wiener Jahrbuch* for 5608).

⁴⁶ Adverse circumstances do not seem to have had any depressing effect on his extensive acquirements and the independence of spirit which characterize all his works. We quote the remarkable words of P'riphot Duran (who flourished in the fourteenth century), on that subject: לא ולחכם הנכבד ר"א ב"ע לא היה לו שתי פרומות כל ימיו ולרוב אהבתו וחשקו בתורה לא נמנע מהשנת כתרה ועורי לב יהשבו "The honoured and wise R. Abraham Ben Ezra never possessed two *Prutot* [small coins]. Still his great love and desire for [the study of] the law did not allow these adverse circumstances to prevent his attaining great eminence therein. Blinded mortals consider riches a great advantage to the just, but let the history of the Prophet Elijah teach them." Aben Ezra alludes himself to his ill success in worldly affairs in one of his poems, but rather in a bantering strain: he says, that "were he to deal in shrouds, he is sure no one would die during his existence; and if in candles, that the sun would never set till he were dead." On account of the rarity of this poem [first printed by Dukes from a MS. in the possession of M. Lehren of Amsterdam] we copy it for the benefit of the Hebrew reader.

אֵינֶנּוּ לְהַצְלִיחַ וְלֹא אִבְבֵּל	•	כִּי עֲזָחוּנִי כִכְבִּי שְׁמִי
לֹא אֶהְיֶה סוֹחֵר בְּתַכְרִיבִין	•	לֹא יִנְעוּנִי אֵיִשִׁים בְּכָל יָמֵי
נִלְנֵל וּמְנֻלּוֹת בְּמַעֲמָדִם	•	עוֹד בְּמַהְלָכֶם אֶת מוֹלְדֹתִי
לֹא יִהְיֶה גְרוֹת סְחוֹרְתִי	•	לֹא יִאֲסֹף שְׂבִיט עָרֵי מוֹתִי

century, is the author of the beautiful Sabbath hymn *לכה דורי*⁷⁹, the most modern hymn in our liturgy, which also contains the works of Poets whose age and country cannot now be ascertained, such as José-ben-José, who although erroneously described to have been a high priest of the Temple, is nevertheless one of our most ancient poets, as his style in the *סדר עבודה* or Description of the order of Sacrifices in the Temple on the Day of Atonement sufficiently testifies. Our liturgy also contains a few hymns which are either anonymous, or the names of the authors are but partly expressed; for not all Piyutim with the acrostic *שלטה* are of Gabirol, nor those with *יהודה* of Judah Ha-levi, and the same with the rest, because the number of hymnic poets, many of whom bear the same name, is immense, and their works cannot always be distinguished with certainty. L. Duker gives a list of upwards of two hundred hymnic poets in the *Lit. Blatt des Orients*, vol. ii. p. 569, which is increased by S. D. Luzzatto to five hundred and sixteen (see vol. ix. L.B. 481—614 of the quoted work). According to Zunz, the productions of the five most popular of the Sephardic poets, whose works became a part of public worship, amounting to about a thousand liturgical pieces, have been inserted in the various Jewish liturgies; an idea may thus be formed of the great mass of Hebrew poetry on that and other non-liturgical subjects by the many other poets. The learned M. Steinschneider truly observes (*Jewish Lit.* p. 246), "Seldom has poetry been developed to the same extent in any language whose existence was dependant on literature alone." For, as is well known, Hebrew had long ceased to be a vernacular language, even in the time of the earliest *Paytanim*.

Our remarks on the structure of Hebrew poems must be confined to two particulars, which as being peculiar to them and generally lost in translation, it is necessary to observe to the English reader:—First, that Scriptural texts are most often interwoven with, and made to form integral parts of, the poems, though having not the slightest relation to the subject in the original context. This, when skilfully introduced—as is especially the case in the works of Gabirol, Judah Ha-levi, and of the older poets—forms one of its greatest charms, indeed one peculiar to post-biblical Hebrew poetry.⁸⁰ Secondly, that it was generally the custom of the *Paytans*, or poets, to mark their productions with their own names, probably with the intention of securing them from plagiarists who might appropriate them, or to distinguish them from the works of others. This they did by acrostics either at the beginning of the poem of each stanza, or of both; or sometimes at the end thereof, with the addition, in some instances, of their father's name and surname, and the designation of their country, for the purpose of further distinction and identification; and sometimes, though more rarely, these acrostics also express the purpose and occasion for which the poem was composed.⁸¹

From what we have stated, it appears that the Sephardic has the fewest Piyutim of any other Jewish liturgy;⁸² and in every age most of its learned men, who superintended and regulated their form of worship, have shewn themselves averse to the introduction of poetical pieces in the regular synagogue service, so that but very few poems of even their most ancient and celebrated poets enumerated above, could obtain admission into the regular synagogue service, in which they are almost limited to the Feast of New Year, the Day of Atonement and Fast-days.

⁷⁹ Vol. i. p. 66; Second Ed. p. 68.

⁸⁰ See on this subject, Delitzsch *Zur Geschichte des Jüdischen Poësie*, § 32, p. 164, *Der Musikstyl*, and on that of acrostics, rhyme, and metre; in Hebrew Poetry, see Steinschneider *Jewish Lit.* § 18, pp. 149—157.

⁸¹ A remarkable instance of this occurs in the sublime Introduction to the *Kedusha* for the morning of the Day of Atonement, by R. J. Ha-levi. See vol. iii. p. 104 of my Translation of the *Prayers*, where I have marked and noticed that uncommon acrostic.

⁸² The Liturgies of Algiers, Oran, Tripoli, Avignon, the Roman and other *Minhagim*, more or less allied to the Sephardic, as also the German and Polish, abound in poetical hymns inserted among the Prayers.

The reasons alleged for their exclusion may be reduced to the following:—First, because they prolong the service unnecessarily, and distract attention from the regular and obligatory service, and thus lead to conversation and other unseemly practices in the synagogue. This is the opinion of the great Maimonides,⁸³ who also objects to them, because in many instances they contain gross errors and misstatements, which, as he says, “must be excused, as their writers were only poets and not rabbies.” This censure which, in nearly the same words, he repeats in another of his works,⁸⁴ seems harsh, and can only apply to the many unqualified poetical writers of his time, of which he and his contemporary, Aben Ezra, complain; but certainly not to the works of such eminent and learned men as Gabirol, R. Judah Ha-levi, the Aben Ezras, etc. Abraham Aben Ezra, himself a poet, visits with unsparing censure the works of his contemporaries, whose zeal exceeded their talent;⁸⁵ he also inveighs against Kalir, and others who wrote in Kalir’s style, and objects to their use in public service on account of their obscurity, and of the hyperbole and exaggeration in which poets are apt to indulge; also Kimchi in his Dictionary Art. עתר and Shemtob Palquerra, who flourished in the thirteenth century, in his celebrated work המבקש *The Enquirer*, p. 276, are much opposed to the introduction of Piyutim; and the latter will admit of only a few by the best of our poets. Speaking of Gabirol, Ben Abitur, Ben Giat, and the Aben Ezras, he says, “It is improper to sing more than a few of their hymns and not the whole (i.e. *many*) of them; the hymns of David are alone appropriate to celebrate the praises of the Lord.”⁸⁶

The very art and correctness of language, rhythm, rhyme, and strict observance of rules, which distinguish the work of the *Paytanim* of the Spanish school, are urged by theological writers as an objection to their being introduced into the synagogue service. “Where so much art is applied,” they say, “it must often be at the expense of devotion; as the attention of the poet must be more occupied with the manner than with the matter of his composition, being restrained and hampered in the expression of his devotional feeling by shackles of rhythm, rhyme, and other rules of his art.”⁸⁷ Nevertheless the works of our principal poets, above enumerated, sufficiently show how easily they have surmounted these difficulties, most of which were self-imposed.⁸⁸

⁸³ See his Answer, No. 194, translated from the Arabic by Dr. Geiger (p. 79 of *Melo Hofnayim*), from which we extract the following:—ואין בן הפיוטים כי הם הוספה על הענין נוסף על זה שהמבוקש בהם המשקל והננון ובוזה הצא התפלה מן כונתה לשחוק ולהיות העם פונים לשיחה בטילה לפי שיודעים שאלן דברים הנאמרים אינם מחוייבים נוסף על זה כי הפיוטים הנהוגים הם מיוסדים ממשוררים לא מלומדים וכ”ו

⁸⁴ In the Preface to his ספר המצוות as follows:—וכן כל מה ששמעתי האזהרות רבות המספר המתוברות אצלנו בארץ ספרד נהפכו עלי צירי וכ”ו ואין להאשימם על זה כי מתבריהם היו משוררים לא רבנים

The same opinion he expresses in his other works. See *Moreh Nebuchim*, b. 1, chap. 50, and his Resp. פאר הדור Nos. 64, 129, 151

⁸⁵ In שפה ברורה as follows:—ואחרי קדמונו קמו פייטנים אין קץ ולא ידעו לדבר נכונה Compare his *Comm. on Ecl.* v. 1, and on *Gen.* xlv. 43, and his work יתור § 74.

⁸⁶ ואין ראוי לשיר משיריהם אלא מקצת פיוטים ולא כלם ובשרי דוד לבדם ראוי לשבח הש”י ולהללו וכ”ו

⁸⁷ Compare the observations of R. Simeon Duran, (who flourished in the 14th century), in מנן אבות p. 55. where he states, that owing to this reason, R. Judah Ha-levi abstained, in the last period of his life, from composing devotional poetry, which, however, is much to be doubted.

⁸⁸ *Ex. Gr.* The introduction of texts all ending in ל (lo) in Ha-levi’s long Poem *Mi Kamocha*, Gabirol’s 225 stanzas in the *Azharot* ending in רים (*rim*), etc. Artificial and intricate alphabets, acrostics, etc. This was carried much further in subsequent periods when prayers, composed of words commencing with the same initial letters were made, of which the famous prayer אלה אלפין (*a thousand alephs*), by J. Bedrashi, and the בקשת המטין by his father, R. Abraham, a prayer composed of words, all of which commence with the letter מ may be cited as examples. It is unnecessary to say that none of those artificial hymns were ever admitted into the Sephardic Liturgy.

There are, however, other theologians of eminence who acknowledge the value of hymns, and are friendly to their introduction into the public service on account of their efficiency to promote devotional sentiments; the principal of which are R. Joseph Albo, in *Ikkarim*,⁸⁹ Eleazar Askari, Elias de Vida, author of *תורת משה* and others.

PART II.

WE consider it supererogatory to dilate on the state of Music in the first periods of Jewish history, as applied to Divine Worship or for secular purposes, as every Bible reader must of necessity be acquainted therewith.¹ The mention in the Biblical books of more than sixty instruments, stringed, wind, and percussion, and the direction that various kinds of poetical compositions should be sung to the accompaniment of particular instruments adapted to them, of which the headings of the Psalms afford many examples, are a sufficient proof of the great degree of perfection music had attained among the Israelites at a very early period, and how extensively it was cultivated among them.

It is almost certain that the Levitical choirs, consisting of some thousands of individuals, who, by virtue of their office, cultivated and occupied themselves with music, subsisted till the destruction of the Temple, and that music was further perfected and cultivated during the long interval between the time of Ezra and that event. Philo Judaeus mentions with praise the melodies of a Jewish sect, called the Therapeutics, in the fiftieth year of the Christian era; and many instances are cited in the New Testament of the general cultivation of music among the Jews of that period.² Besides the instruments enumerated in the Bible, several of those since invented or adopted are treated of in the Mishna, Tr. *Erachin*,³ where also an instrument is mentioned as used in the temple, which, although obscurely described, appears to have been the organ in its imperfect state, and such as the

⁸⁹ This great theological writer says as follows:—*התפלה צריכה ג' דברים אם היא ראויה להתקבל וכו'* "Prayers to be acceptable, require that three rules be observed in their composition. They must be short; they must be expressed in phrases pleasant to those who utter them; and not be burdensome to them. We therefore adopt metrical compositions in our devotions, which besides possessing those requisites, join to it the charm of music with which they are connected, and with which they blend, so as unitedly to enable the devout mind properly to express its sentiments when used for the purpose of prayer" (*Ikkarim*, chap. iv. § 23).

¹ To assist their researches, we shall here mark some of the most remarkable passages. The invention of music and first mention of musical instruments, Gen. iv. 22. Instrumental and vocal music in the time of Jacob and Laban, *Ibid.* xxxi. 27. Choirs and part music by Miriam and the many Jewish women who followed her, Exod. xv. 20. Trumpets and wind instruments to assemble the people and for journeys, Num. x. 2. For war purposes, *Ibid.* xxxi. 6; Josh. vi. 4, 5, etc.; Isa. xviii. 3; Job xxxix. 25. Music, in the time of the Judges and Samuel, Judg. ix. 27; 1 Sam. x. 5, and xxi. 11. Choirs of women celebrating the victory of David over Goliath and the Philistines, the harp play of David, and the application of music to cure melancholy, *Ibid.* xix. 9, and xxi. 11. Secular and social music, and for private and public rejoicings, Judg. ix. 27; 1 Kings i. 40; Isa. v. 12, xxiii. 16, xxiv. 8, 9; Amos vi. 5; Lam. v. 14; Ps. cxxxvii. 2, etc. Music in the temple, 2 Chr. v. 12, 13, xx. 19, xxix. 25, 27, xxx. 21, xxxv. 15; Neh. xi. 17, xii. 27, 28, 45—47; and Ps. cl. Besides these scriptural quotations, the reader is referred, for further inquiry, in respect to the music of the temple during the festivals, to the Mishna Tr. *Erachin*, ii.; *Pesachim*, v. § 7; *Succah*, v. § 4; *Rosh Hashana*, iii. § 3. iv. §§ 1, 5, 9, and *Tamid*, vii. 3.

² Matt. xxvi. 30; Mark xiv. 26; Eph. v. 19; Col. iii. 16.

³ Chap. ii. §§ 3, 5, 6.

and Romans had it.⁴ It has also been clearly proved, that the chants of the early Christians were derived from the temple melodies, and were adopted by them from the Jews.⁵

After the destruction of the temple by the Romans, under Titus, the voice and harp of both Levites and people became mute, and the sufferings, the Israelitish nation underwent during the first years of their captivity and dispersion, left them no leisure for the cultivation of music, devotional or otherwise; but as soon as public worship could be again re-established, and "the utterance of the lips" had replaced the former "offerings of bulls," the ancient well-remembered and traditionally-preserved temple melodies were also reintroduced, and the selection of psalms, which then and since have formed an integral part of the prayers, were sung to them. It is scarcely to be doubted, that the acknowledged efficacy of music as a handmaid to devotion, and the general inclination and aptitude of the Israelite nation for that sublime art—their characteristic in every age—led them, even during that period of captivity and distress, to repeat in their services, at least occasionally, the ancient, traditional, and venerated tones and sacred melodies, which they naturally then valued and cherished more as the sole remains of the former temple service, as consolatory sounds in their distress, and as the sweet reminiscences of better times and of national glory.

That most of these melodies were forgotten and lost in the course of time, is a fact which will not surprise any one acquainted with the unparalleled sufferings and dispersions the Israelites had to endure during the many ages of their subsequent history, especially when it is also considered that the most strenuous exer-

Talmud Tr. *Erachin*, pp. 10 and 11, as follows: אמר רבא בר שילא .. מנריפה היתה במקדש עשרה נקבים היו בה כל אחד ואחד מוציא עשרה מיני זמר נמצאת כולה מוציא מאה מיני זמר (מס ערכין דף ט"ז) "There was a musical instrument in the temple called a *Magrepha*, in which there were ten holes (or cavities); each of these produced ten sorts of musical sounds [notes?], thus producing together one hundred sounds." The word *Magrepha* signifies a fork; and this instrument was so called from the rows of pipes presented that appearance (see *Rashi ad loc. cit.*). These pipes were inserted in each of the cavities of a hollow box, and the instrument was no doubt played upon by means of keys, though no mention of them is made in the short and imperfect account of the Mishna. It is, however, added, that it was "a most powerful instrument, which could be heard at a very great distance"—a description very applicable to the organ (Tr. *Tamid*, iii. 8, and *Comm.* חוספח ט"ז).

The reasoning of G. B. Martini is, to any impartial reader, conclusive on this subject. He says (*Storia della Musica*, t. i. p. 351):

Ed ecco il canto Ebreo della Salmodia, sin da tempo di David e de Salomone successivamente tramandato di padre in figliuolo, oltrepassare la metà del primo secolo della chiesa.

Ché se il metodo del canto, e delle formole musicali stabilite da Davide pervenne tant' oltre, se non tutto, almeno sostanzialmente non variato nella nazione Ebreo; qual ragione potrà persuaderci, che gli Apostoli, i quali erano soliti a frequentare il Tempio, e ad esercitarsi nell' orazione e nelle divine cantate, lo stesso metodo non riteneressero? Essi infatti, Ebrei essendo, e quindi allevati ed assuefatti alle usanze di lor nazione allorché alle ore prefisse colle moltitudine del popolo adunavansi al Tempio di Gerusalemme (*Luc. 24, 53*) quali cantilene avranno usato se non quelli medesime con cui le turbe rispondevano ai Cantori Leviti?"

This is the Hebrew chant of the Psalmodies which, ever since the time of David and Solomon, have been transmitted from one generation to another, and [therefore] goes beyond the first half of the first age of the Church. These have not materially varied, but have been substantially preserved by the Hebrew nation. Is it not, then, sufficient to convince us, that the Apostles who were born Hebrews, brought up in the customs of their nation, went to frequent the temple and engage in the prayers and divine praises therein recited, should retain the same method and use the same chants with which the people used to respond to the Levitical choir?"—Martini's *History of Music*, vol. i. 3rd Dissertation, p. 350.

We may remark, in addition, that it is quite improbable that the early Christians should have adopted the music used by idolators for the purposes of idolatry. Not only was this prohibited to them by the law (see Föinkel's *Geschichte der Musik*, vol. ii. p. 91), but they were themselves naturally averse to idolatry. Thus Clement of Alexandria, who flourished in the third century, would allow the lyre to be used at social festivities, "because David played on them," but prohibited the flute and other instruments "as used in the service of idolatry." They, therefore, could not use any other than the old Hebrew melodies with which they were acquainted from early habit and association.

In the above quoted work, says (p. 188), "This mode of reading the Scriptures with cantillation has been adopted in the Christian Church from the Temple, and is still preserved in the chanting the collects, responses, etc." See further on this subject, Dr. Saalschütz *Geschichte der Musik bei den Hebräern*, § 61.

When the Sephardic ritual became fixed and generally established in Spain, and was enriched by the solemn hymns of Gabirol, Judah Ha-levi, and other celebrated Hebrew poets, chants or melodies were composed or adapted to them, and were generally adopted. It would, indeed, have been most desirable that the sublime lays of our pious poets should have ever been found combined with equally sublime and sweet strains by devotionally inspired musical composers of our own nation. But this was not always practicable; and at a very early period it became necessary to sing many of these hymns to the popular melodies of the day; and in most printed editions we find directions prefixed to hymns replete with piety and devotion, that they are to be sung to the tune of *Permetid bella Amaryllis* (Permit fair Amaryllis), *Tres colores in una* (Three colours in one), *Temprano naçes Almendro* (Thou buddest soon, O Almond!), and similar ancient Spanish or Moorish songs (בגנון ישמעאל), a practice no doubt very objectionable, for obvious reasons, and from which the better taste of the present age would shrink. It is, however, but fair to say, that these adaptations, though in some degree unavoidable, did not pass without severe censure from pious and learned Rabbies.

Aben Ezra already mentions many hymns which were sung to Moorish or ancient Spanish melodies (see his *Commentary to Ps. viii.*) As a further proof of the early and continued practice and censure of these adaptations, we quote the words of one of its most energetic opponents. Speaking of the works of R. Judah Ha-levi, he says, "In his days it became a practice to introduce into liturgical works hymns founded on popular melodies. This error ultimately increased so much, that the printers of them, like the Sodomites of yore, unblushingly declared their misdeeds, by directing that pious hymns, such, for instance, as שיר תורה וכ"ו (Sing a hymn of praise to the Lord), etc., was to be sung to the tune of *En toda la tranimontaña*, "In the whole country beyond the mountains";⁹ and another similar hymn is directed to be sung to the tune of *El Vaquero de la Morayna* "The cowherd of the Morayna," and others in the same manner" (*Samuel Archivolti* in ערונת הבושם, p. 100).

It must, however, not be concealed that some rabbies excused or defended the practice as an innocent one,¹¹ and on account of the beneficial tendency of music to excite and sustain devotion. With this intention, some poets purposely adapted their devotional hymns to the melodies of popular songs, to supersede the original (not always most moral) words of them, and to substitute their hymns instead, the approved and popular melodies being retained.¹² Still these adaptations must be understood as limited to hymns for private devotion; and if any found their

⁹ This was, no doubt, a love-song in praise of a woman, the continuation of which probably was "There is none so fair as —"

בימי (של ר' יהודה הלוי) נגלו כימנים להשימ בסדורי התפלות שירים נבנים על הננונים ההם (על משקלי שירי חול מההמון) ויהי השבוש הזה הולך ומתפשט עד שהמדפיסים חטאתם כסדום הנודת ועל פיוט אשר תחלתו שיר תודה לאלהים תנה הזכירו לחן "אין טודא לא טראמונטניה" ועל פיוט אחר כתבו לחן "איל באקירו די מוראינה" וכדומה:

¹¹ The adaptation of profane melodies to devotional hymns was, as Menahem Lonsano, who flourished in the sixteenth century, informs us, "very objectionable to many rabbies and sages [in Israel], but they are wrong, for there is no harm in this" — וראיתי קצת חכמים כמתאוננים על המחברים שירים — ושבוות לש"י על ננונים אשר לא מבני ישראל המה ואין הדין עמהם כי אין בכך כלום (שתי ידות דף קס"ב). Simeon Duran, in the extract above quoted, also mentions the practice without blame, and mentions as an excuse, probably) that the beauty and sweetness of the Arabic melodies attract the heart (see extract, *supra* p. 12).

¹² Thus Israel Nagara (*supra* p. 7) adapted purposely all his hymns to Arabic (עראבי), Turkish (תורקי), Greek (גרינו), Romaic (רוימנסי), and other melodies, and even prefixed the commencing words of them. In the two hymns we have of his in this collection, he directs יה רבון עלם (our No. 65) to be sung to the tune of the Arabic song שאילמי שאילמי, and our No. 66 (יגלה וכ"ו) to a Sicilian or Provençal one, *Fasi abassi Silvana*, and has in other hymns even made the Hebrew words correspond to those of the adopted tune, as, for instance, where he ingeniously applied to the words

way into the synagogue service, it was not till long after their profane origin had become forgotten. Many hymns had melodies expressly composed for them; either by the Hazanim, many of whom, in ancient times, were also *Paytanim* (Poets), who introduced their own compositions into the synagogue service, or sung them to well-known tunes of more ancient hymns, as appears by the headings prefixed, or new melodies were composed for them by others.¹³ It is highly

of a Spanish song, *A las Montañas mi alma! a las Montañas me iré.* ("To the mountains, my soul, to the mountains I will go"), to a poem commencing:—

אל ההרים אשא עיני
עזרי הוא מעם יי

The first is probably a love song, and the second a devotional hymn, founded on v. 1 and 2 of Ps. cxxi. This incongruous mixture he thus defends in the Preface to his collection of hymns, called *Zemiroth Yisrael*:—

פי דוברי שקר ודוברי שירי ענבים יסכר ושירי אהבים לא יעלה על לבם לעולם. בראותם השירים אשר לשלמה מלך שהשלום שלו. איש על דגלו ישירו תהלתו ואליו יעריצו באמרי נועם שיח הנם וישירו בשמחה. כי חוקה על כל איש לא שביק היתירה ואכיל אסורה ובפרט בהיות הננונים בלתי נשתנים וכיו.
"The mouth of those who utter vanities and sing profane love-songs shall be closed for ever, when they behold the hymns I have composed in honour of the Almighty; and they will truly rejoice now that they are enabled to sing His praises in melodious strains. For we may well assume that no man will prefer the prohibited thing, when that which is permitted is equally good; and as the melodies remain here unchanged, it is not to be supposed that pious men will expose themselves to be ensnared by the profane words in a rude and strange tongue [בלשון נר אכזר] and abstain from seeking the Lord, and singing His praises with the melodious strains and words of the sacred language which I have here arranged for them."

We are, on reading this, involuntarily reminded of the answer of a celebrated divine, who is reported to have justified the adaptation of popular tunes to religious hymns, by the remark, that "it was not proper that the d—l should have all the pretty tunes to himself." It must, however, be owned, that the Jewish Rabbi of the sixteenth century defended the practice in a better and more logical manner than the Christian divine of the nineteenth century; and as it appears to us, the learned Rabbies above quoted, who permit or apologise for the practice, do not seem to have attached sufficient importance to the effect of association of ideas, which often must have reverted to the profane words of the original melody, when known, to the utter destruction of every devotional sentiment. This was more especially the case, when even at an early period some of our poets, forgetful of their sacred mission, introduced into their hymns all sorts of irrelevant matter, and indulged in puns and witticisms to show their command of language. Moses Aben Ezra justly blames some of his contemporaries, who, abandoning the natural and simple style of their predecessors, introduced mathematics and astronomy in their hymns; and thus, as is well observed by Steinschneider, "causing devotion to degenerate into speculation and disputation." Their play upon words is therefore justly and severely censured in the following extract, which will show to what extreme this license was carried:—
מה שראוי למאוס היא קצת שירים:—
Especially loathsome is the practice of making some [Hebrew] hymns commence with words similar in sound to those of the song (from which the melody is taken), like him who composed a hymn to the melody of the Spanish song, *Muérame mi alma, ai! muérame*, to the same sounding Hebrew words *מה עם רב הומה* and thought he had done a great thing, but was not aware that a similar hymn 'is an abomination, which the Lord will not accept' [Lev. xix. 7], and that those who utter it are only repeating the words of the lovers [the expression *הנואף והנואפת* in the original is much stronger]; and their minds and thoughts will revert to them [and impure thoughts instead of devotion will result]. The same censure is deserved by those who write *שמ נורא* *Shem Nora* [the awful name], instead of *Señora* (Lady), and similar expressions" (M. di Lonzano, in שתי ידות p. 147). The similarity of structure and sound of the Spanish and Italian languages with the Hebrew, very much facilitated these witticisms, of which many instances might be adduced (see, *inter alia*, Ephraim Luzzatto's בני הנעורים, London, 1766). From what has been stated above, it is needless to add, that none of the hymns, so justly complained of, were admitted into the Sephardic Liturgy.

¹³ This also did not take place without being occasionally abused by ignorant Hazanim and singers, who obtruded their music and fine voices at the expense of true devotion, for which they were, as early as the twelfth and thirteenth centuries, attacked and ridiculed by satirical poets; such as Charisi ch. xxiv., Immanuel of Rome, and others. (Compare also *Shulchan Aruch* הל' ברכות liii. § 11, and Lonzano in שתי ידות p. 137, לחכמה ודעת, לבל יצרכו לחכמה ודעת). As Steinschneider expresses it: "These writers quote authorities for the physical connection between an agreeable voice and an empty skull." The same erudite modern author is also very severe on the practice and style of the German, and especially of the Polish חזנים and singers, "So much admired by persons who once or twice a year feel themselves brought back by them to the devotional feelings of their youth, deadened either by neglect or mechanical attendance on places of worship. Their melodies are characterised by a kind of

probable, and indeed almost impossible that, in the public service of the Sephardim, so jealously watched by the ancient Rabbies, and especially in that of the ימים נוראים (New Year and Day of Atonement), melodies of known profane origin should at any period have been allowed to be sung.

In considering the structure and character of the ancient melodies traditionally orally descended to us, we find that, either as original compositions, or as adaptations, they are eminently calculated to fulfil their intended purpose; for though simple in character, they are yet sufficiently melodious to please the ear and attract the multitude; and whether we wish to give utterance to the devotional outpouring of the soul to its Divine Source (see *Morning and Occasional Hymns*), or raise the joyful strain of praise and thanksgiving (*Hallel*, etc.), attune our contrite hearts to solemnity and holy awe (as in the hymns and chants for ימים נוראים), or give vent to our affliction for national misfortunes and losses (קטוב or *Elegies for the Fast of Ab*); we find them throughout well adapted to the subject and occasion, and never unworthy of the sacred words or immortal verse which they are associated. They have the further merit of adaptability to the use of a great mass, and of whole congregations, who are without the aid of instrumental music to guide and direct them. Hence the cause of their simplicity, in order to enable them to be acquired and executed by most voices, and also the reason of their shortness, which although it proves monotonous, especially in long pieces, by the too frequent repetition of the same melody, is an inconvenience amply compensated by the more important advantage of their being easily acquired and executed by a mixed congregation, and as easily transmitted, by constant practice, to following generations.

The age and time of composition of each melody varies considerably, and cannot always be accurately ascertained. To guide us in this respect, we must in the first place ascertain by whom the hymns, to which the melodies are attached, were written, and the time the various authors of them flourished, which has been stated above in every instance in which it could be ascertained; because the greater part of these hymns and melodies were adopted either in the life time, or soon after the death of the poets who composed the hymns. The fact of the melodies [which could not then be written down, but were orally acquired and transmitted], being the same in every Sephardic congregation, however widely separated and without communication with each other, affords ample proof of their antiquity, genuineness, and general adoption, and no doubt they have reached us nearly in their original form. Accordingly we find the melodies to the hymns of Gabirol, Ha-levi, and the two Aben Ezras, to be in the Moorish or very early Spanish style of music, corresponding to the age and country in which these great poets flourished, and those less ancient will be found similar in style to that of the music of the various periods of their composition.

A tradition exists with respect to the melody of the blessing of the priests (ברכת כהנים No. 44 in this collection), that it is identical with that sung in the temple where, as it is known the priestly choirs were daily wont to bless the people, agreeably to the command to them in Numbers vi. 22—26. (Compare

... having so little reference to musical time, that it spoils the ancient melodies. These singers, however, are so wanting in attention to the original simplicity of the music, that their ornamentation surpasses the bravuras of Italian opera singers, and the execution of modern pianists. The recitation in the Sephardim, kept closer to its original simplicity, and retained some of the old hymnology, and therefore underwent fewer changes, owing to the nature of their public service being more rigid and unchangeable. (Steinschneider, *Jewish Literature*, pp. 155, 156).

... however, but fair to remark, that this censure is not so extensively applicable to the practice of our day as it was about half a century ago, before a better taste prevailed among the German congregations, and before the works of Sulzer, Naumbourg, Weintraub, Berlyn, and others appeared, to the great improvement of their synagogue music.

Maimonides (הל' נשיאות כפים § 14). That this tradition is supported by great probability, almost amounting to direct proof, will appear from the following considerations: First, that this duty devolved exclusively on the priests, who were a numerous class, who executed it with religious awe and attention, and who, as a privilege peculiar to themselves, scrupulously transmitted it to their sons. It is, therefore, highly improbable, that on the restoration of public divine service, the priests would have used, or the people would have permitted them to introduce, any other melody, except the venerated one of the temple, especially as the blessing of the people was the only act of ministration remaining to the priests after the destruction of the Sanctuary. Secondly, we find that with slight alteration, this blessing is sung to the same melody in every Sephardic congregation.¹⁴ And though our brethren, following the German liturgy, have more than one melody for it, they seem to be of comparatively modern introduction; and one of them, said to be the most ancient, contains unmistakable traces of this, which we must consider to be the original melody. Its simplicity, and the repetition of the same melody for all the words of the *Blessing* [fifteen in number] are circumstances which will have due weight, and will be accepted as additional and corroborative evidence for its antiquity, by the musical archæologist and critic.

No. 12 of our Collection. The melody to the שירה or *Song of Moses*, is also held to be of very remote origin. According to a very ancient Spanish work (printed, if I recollect rightly, in Portugal), "Some have affirmed [*Hay quien dizen*] that what we now sing to the *Song of Moses* is the same [melody] Miriam and her companions sung," etc. This legend would not merit any serious consideration here, except that it undoubtedly proves that the knowledge of the origin of the melody was already long lost when this ancient Spanish book was written: and here again the acute remark of Dr. Sachs is applicable, that "Fable soon occupies itself to speak where history is silent" (*supra*, p. 4, note 11). It is, therefore, highly probable that this melody belongs to a period anterior to the regular settlement of the Jews in Spain. The general adoption thereof by every congregation of the Sephardic Liturgy, furnishes also a strong proof in favour of the high antiquity of its origin.

The melodies contained in the present work may, therefore, be thus subdivided:

I. Those most ancient whose origin is supposed to be prior to the settlement of the Jews in Spain. Nos. 12 and 44 are, for the reasons above stated, of this class; as are also very probably many chants used on the Festival of New Year and Day of Atonement.

II. Melodies composed in Spain, and subsequently introduced by the Israelites into the various countries in which they took refuge from the persecution in the Iberian Peninsula. In this class, which forms the larger portion of our collection, we include the Nos. 1, 2, 3, 8, 9, 10, 11, 13 to 39, 45, 47 to 52, 56, 57, 58, 62, 68 and 69. The other numbers not mentioned, we are inclined to consider as of a later period.

With respect to particular melodies, we have to remark, that No. 7 of this collection, the Sabbath hymn *Lecha Dodi*, differs from the other melodies as being much older than the poem to which it is now sung by all Sephardic congregations; because in all old editions of their prayers it is directed to be sung to the melody [לחן] of שירי נפש למנוחתי by R. Judah Ha-levi, who preceded the author of the first-mentioned hymn several centuries (see *Supra*, p. 4 and 7).

¹⁴ This melody has here been written as sung in the ancient congregation of Sephardim, at Amsterdam, where I heard it in my youth, and remember that, simple as it is, it affected even to tears those who heard it sung in harmonious parts, and in proper musical time. It would prove a great gratification to me, if, by means of this our work, this most ancient and sacred "Blessing" should in various congregations be sung in a manner worthy of the holiness thereof, and tend to inspire the hearers with reverence and fitting devotion.

No. 10, *Yigdal*. The author of this poem, so often occurring in the Liturgy, hitherto unknown, but from a communication made to me by the erudite Mr. L. Dukes, I learn, that Professor S. D. Luzzatto has, in an ancient MS., seen the following prefixed to this hymn: אלה הם י"ג עקרין שסדרם כמורה דניאל וז"ל בכמהר: יהודה ז"ל. "These are the Thirteen Articles of Faith, as arranged by R. Daniel, son of R. Judah, the *Dayan*, or 'Judge.'" This discovery is not without interest for the history of our Liturgy.

No. 24, *Hamabdil*. This being a hymn for private devotion, and not sung in synagogue, various melodies have been adapted to it. I have selected the present as the best and most melodious of those known to me, and which bears unmistakable traces of a Spanish origin, as those who are at all acquainted with that style of music will readily perceive.

No. 26, *Shofet kol Haaretz*. We have preferred writing this very ancient melody, often repeated in our *Roshhashana* and *Kipur* prayers, without musical time, rather than deviate by any alteration, however slight, from the established manner in which it has been sung for many centuries.

Nos. 39—44, Melodies for *Hallel*. Besides those enumerated, the Nos. 3, 4, 11, 65 and 68 are also occasionally used for *Hallel*. Nos. 19 and 25 on Sabbath only.

No. 47. This melody, sung on the last days of Festivals only, is known by the name of *La Despidida*, or "Farewell."

No. 49, *Shochant basadé*. The remarks on No. 24 are also applicable to this number. Its Moorish style of music is a sure guarantee for its antiquity. With respect to the poem, which differs so much from the usual severe and philosophic style of its author, Gabirol, see the able remarks thereon of L. Dukes, *Ehrenpfeilen*, etc., p. 22.

Nos. 65 and 66, *Yah Ribbon* and *Yigaleh*. To these hymns, used for private devotion only, there are also more than one melody to each, of which I consider I have selected the best. Whether these are the Moorish and Provençal tunes for which their author Israel Nagara composed them (*supra*, note 12), I am unable to state.

No. 70, *Rachem Na*, the Dirge for the Dead. This belongs to the class known in Hebrew poetry as אלוהים, which either, according the supposition of Dr. Sachs, is derived from the Spanish *El Mortaja* or (hymn of) the shroud; or, as Jellineck, with more probability derives it, from the Arabic, in which it has the sense of *Oratio funebris*. The poem of Gabirol for the morning service of the Day of Atonement, commencing אלהים אלי אהה (vol. iii. of *Prayers*, p. 88), is also sung to this solemn melody.

No melody has been inserted in this collection which is not, as far as I have been able to investigate, at least a century and a half old.

A new melody to *Adon Olam*, composed by the writer of this Essay, having met with some favour by the Sephardic congregations of London, the Hague, in America, etc., has been added as an Appendix, in the hope of its being further adopted by other congregations, or for private devotion.

It only remains to be stated, in addition, that these melodies have been here often as I heard them in Amsterdam and in this country. Mr. Aguilar has often them from hearing me sing them.

TRANSLATIONS.

The following Hymns are now for the first time translated into English. Those which exceed four or five stanzas have been rendered in full. Of the others the first only has been rendered, and the parts placed under the music. The same method adopted in my version of the poetical pieces of the Sephardic Prayers in English has here been adhered to, viz., to give a faithful rendering of the words, as well as the spirit of the original, without sacrificing perspicuity to mere elegance of style.
D. A. DE S.

I. MORNING HYMNS. כל ברואי *Kol Berué.*

All created beings, celestial and terrestrial,
Testify and declare, with unanimous sound,
That the Lord is ONE, His name the only ONE.

1.
Indeterminable! are Thy wisdom's paths.
They who penetrated their mystery
Can alone relate Thy greatness.
We acknowledge that all are derived from Thee,
And that Thou art the only God and King!
Testify and declare, etc.

2.
When the mind contemplates the world's structure,
Finds all but Thee subject to corruption and
Change;
When everything was numbered and weighed by
Thee;
That all derive their existence from One
Eternal source.
Testify and declare, etc.

3.
In every extreme of the universe
Thou hast established determined signs.
North, West, East and South, Heaven and
Earth,
Attest Thy almighty power on every side.
Testify and declare, etc.

4.
Their order and union were fixed by Thee;
They all must perish, and Thou alone remain.
Let, therefore, every creature ascribe glory unto
Thee,
Since Thou alone, O Father, existest eternally.
Testify and declare, etc.

II. שחר אבקשך *Shachar Abakeshcha.*

In the early morn I seek Thee, my Refuge and Rock!
And address unto Thee my morning and evening prayers.

When contemplating Thy greatness, I remain and stand amazed;
For to Thine all-seeing eyes my innermost thoughts are revealed.
In the early morn, etc.

How feeble is the power of heart and tongue to conceive and praise Thy might,
And how inadequate that of the spirit which is within me!
In the early morn, etc.

Yet Thou deignest to accept the praise of mortal man,
Therefore will I praise Thee, whilst Thy divine spirit shall animate me.
In the early morn, etc.

The thirty-two, according to a cabalistical system in the Book *Yetsirah*. I have, however, rendered according to the spirit than to the letter.
Their quantity and quality were fixed and determined at their creation.

TRANSLATIONS.

III. אֲדֹנָי בֹקֵר *Adonai Boker*

Lord, in Thy mercy
 Deign to hear my prayer,
 Which in the early morn
 I address unto Thee.

Hear my prayer, O Thou who dwellest in heaven,
 When morn, even, and noon I address it unto Thee;
 When my heart, as well as my eyes, is raised towards Thee;
 And when, "in the greatness of Thy mercy, I enter Thine house."
 Lord, in Thy mercy, etc.

My heart panteth, my strength faileth me,
 When my soul reminds me of my trespass;
 Therefore do I dread to direct my steps,
 "To prostrate myself in Thy holy temple."
 Lord, in Thy mercy, etc.

Oh! that I had wings like the dove,
 I would fly and (perhaps) dwell secure;
 But were I to ascend the heavens, there, too, is Thy dread presence.
 Then "Lord guide me according to Thy righteousness."
 Lord, in Thy mercy, etc.

Oh! my soul, constantly praise thy God,
 With heart and tongue intimately conjoined;
 For He is the Creator and Supporter of all,
 It was "He who made and established thee."
 Lord, in Thy mercy, etc.

IV. אֱלֹהֵי עֵוָה *Elohe Oz.*

God! my strength and praise,
 Oh "heal me and I shall be healed."
 Grant a cure for my disease,
 Lest I be no more and die.

V. לְמַעַן *Lemaancho.*

For Thy sake, not for our's,
 And for that of those who sleep in Machpelah's cave.

Rebuild Jerusalem, Thy fair and precious city,
 Through the merit of Thy righteous law, comprised in ten precepts.
 For Thy sake, etc.

Reveal Thy secret to the solitary nation, "let the daughters of Judah rejoice,"
 Through the merit of Thy precious law, which "enlightens the eyes."
 For Thy sake, etc.

Execute vengeance on my enemies, who have overborne me with a strong hand;
 "For the son of the handmaid shall not take the inheritance of the son of the mistress."
 For Thy sake, etc.

Send us speedily Thy Anointed One with Elijah our Prophet;
 For it is He who will enlighten our eyes, and announce the good tidings.
 For Thy sake, etc.

Then shall our eyes behold it, and our heart rejoice,
 When Thou leadest us to our Temple, there again to kindle the sacred lights.
 For Thy sake, etc.

VI. אֲבָרַךְ *Abarech.*

I will bless the name of the Almighty,
 Who is hidden from every existing being,
 And hope for His mercy all my days.
 For He ever proved most bountiful to us, etc.

TRANSLATIONS.

VII. SABBATH HYMN. כִּי אֶשְׁמְרָה שַׁבָּת *Ki Shmerna Shabat.*

When the Sabbath I truly keep,
God will also guard me;
For an eternal covenant and "sign"
It is between Him and me!"

It is prohibited to transact business, to travel, to discuss political, commercial, or private affairs, and I must meditate in the divine law, that its instructions may improve my knowledge.—When the Sabbath, etc.

On that day I find rest for my soul. Behold, to a former generation the Most Holy gave a wondrous blessing, granting them a double portion on every sixth day.² May He also on that day ever double my blessing.—When the Sabbath, etc.

As commanded to His chiefs and priesthood to arrange thereon, according to law, the shewbread offering, but to fast on that day has been prohibited by the sages, except it be the Day of Atonement.—When the Sabbath, etc.

That day is one of delights, which we also honour by the enjoyment of savory food and drink, but the afflicted must on that day abstain from mourning, for it is a day of joy, on which God calls us to rejoice.—When the Sabbath, etc.

All works on that day will assuredly be cut off. Therefore will I purify my heart of every unrighteousness, and will pray to the Almighty evening and morning, address to Him the additional and fervent prayers, that He may answer me!—When the Sabbath, etc.

VIII. יוֹם זֶה לְיִשְׂרָאֵל *Yom zeh leyisrael.*

This day is unto Israel
A day of light and joy—
The Sabbath of rest.

On Mount Sinai Thou issuedst Thy commands for the observance throughout the year of Sabbath and Holy Days, and that I should arrange my heave and meat offerings on the Sabbath of rest.—This day, etc.

That is the desired day of a crushed and humbled nation. It gives additional life-breath to the heart afflicted by woe, and the afflicted soul experiences relief on the Sabbath of rest.—This day, etc.

Thou didst sanctify and bless it above all other days, having ended on the sixth day the creation of the universe. The sorrowing shall find consolation and hope on the Sabbath of rest.—This day, etc.

Thou, most revered, hast commanded us to refrain from all work thereon. If the Sabbath I shall observe, I shall rejoice in witnessing the glory of our re-establishment. Then will I sacrifice and offerings unto Thee on the Sabbath of rest.—This day, etc.

Remember and renew our sanctuary, which now is in ruins. Grant Thy bounty, O our Saviour, to our afflicted nation, who occupy themselves with praises and hymns unto Thee on its Sabbath of rest.—This day, etc.

IX. מְנוּחָה וְשִׂמְחָה *Menucha Vesimcha.*

That day of rest, of joy and light to the Jewish nation³ is the holy Sabbath—a day of delights, etc.

X. אֱלֹהִים יִסְעֲרֵנוּ *Elohim Yisadenu.*

May God support us, bless our substance,
And endow with His bounty the work of our hands.

On the first working day may we experience His blessing, and also on the second day may He cause our counsel to prosper.—May God, etc.

May His aid continue and increase on the third and fourth days, and on the fifth—but without terror may He send our Redeemer!—May God, etc.

On the sixth day the cattle was slaughtered and prepared. It is celebrated with sanctification, praise and offerings, for the choice blessings vouchsafed unto us.—May God, etc.

On our holy Sabbath, experience delight for our souls. "May our couch be ever verdant,"⁴ and our gloom be made lucid unto us.—May God, etc.

XI. בְּמוֹצָאֵי יוֹם מְנוּחָה *Bemotsae yom Menucha.*

In conclusion of the day of rest, may Thy people experience ease. O send the Tishbite at my prayer, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

¹ Exod. xxxi. 13.
² Esther viii. 16.

³ Ibid. xvi. 22.
⁴ Cant. i. 16.

XII. FEAST OF REJ. OF THE LAW. שוכנת בשדה *Shochant Basade.*

O Thou who abidest in the fields among the Cushite's tents, ascend to Carmel's summit, and look towards Bashan's mount.

Fairest, raise Thine eyes to the concealed garden, and behold Thy beds, how full they are of bloom!

Why, Noble Doe, abandonest Thou my garden, to pasture in Jokshan's bower and in Dishan's wood?

Come! let us go down to the garden, to enjoy its luscious fruit, and, in the lap of the fair one, lie down in sweet repose.¹

XIII. ELEGIES FOR THE FAST OF AB. לְמִי אֲבַכָה *Lemi ebke.*

For which shall I weep and smite my hands? For which mourn in the bitterness of my inward grief? Shall it be for the sanctuary, for the ark and cherubim, in whose places ravens and bitterns now nestle? etc.

I will refrain from listening to the singer's sweet voice, and intone the lament—"Alas! how solitary is now the once populous city."

XIV. אֲלֵיכֶם עֵרָה *Alechem edah.*

To you, holy congregation, will I propose some questions. Why is this night different from other nights? etc.

XV. עוֹרָה נָא *Urah na.*

Awake, O Lord, Thy omnipotence, and she who was styled the *abhorred*, call her "the *consoled one*"; and to the humbled and afflicted people say—"Poor and storm-tossed nation, be comforted."

Awake, O Lord, Thy omnipotence, and in mercy redeem Israel; and let it be said to the supplicating poor—"A Redeemer shall come unto Zion."

XVI. נְרוּשִׁים *Gerushim.*

Cast out from their delightful abode, my soul fainteth for their slain. My heart! my heart is stricken for those who were murdered, and my inward parts mourn for those who were massacred.

XVII. אֵלֵי עֲרָתִי *Eli udati.*

Lament and mourn, O my congregation, on this day on which my glory was cast down—when the melody of my harp was changed into lamentations, and the sounds of my flute to mournful tones. Flow, my tears, flow, for many are my sorrows.

XVIII. בַּת צִיּוֹן *Bat Tsion.*

I heard the daughter of Zion uttering her bitter lament—"Alas! I have drank the cup, and drained it to the very dregs thereof." O thou, voluptuous, weep for the holy place, whose brightness is now turned to gloom.

XIX. יְהוּדָה וְיִשְׂרָאֵל *Yehudah Veyisrael.*

Know, Judah and Israel, that I am overwhelmed with woe, and owing to my sins, am seized with terrific horror, etc..... The holy city is bereft of sacred harmony and joy, for lost and destroyed is now the holy temple! etc.

XX. דָּמְמוּ שְׂרָפִים *Damemu Seraphim.*

The Seraphim ceased their sacred song, and the Hayoth and Ophanim their holy ministrations, on the day the severe sentence was decreed and executed. "The angels of peace wept bitterly," etc.

XXI. קוּמִי וּסְפְדֵי תוֹרָה *Kumi vesifdi Torah.*

Solo. Arise and mourn, O holy law, and utter a lament for the many woes (Israel) suffered on the ninth day of Ab—a day of trouble, anguish, and wrath—a day on which the Divine ire was kindled against me, and when the temple's oracle and courts were utterly destroyed, *Chorus.* Raise a cry, loud and bitter, "This is the ordinance of the law."

¹ The intention of this mystical allegory, in imitation of that in Canticles and in Isaiah, where the union of God and Israel is assimilated to a bridegroom and bride, is, to admonish Israel to cherish and cultivate its own divine law, and not to abandon it for worldly pursuits. Gabirol composed two other hymns in the same figurative style, the melodies to which are unknown.

XXII. בורא עד אנה *Boreh ad Anah.*

Until when, my Creator, shall Thy dove remain caught in the fowler's snare. Miserably afflicted and bereft of her young, she cries unto Thee, "O my Father!" etc.

XXIII. אש תוקד *Esh Tukad.*

Joy like a fire burns within me, when I bring to mind how I went forth from Egypt.

But now I can only raise lamentations, when I remember how I went forth from Jerusalem, etc.

XXIV. איך נני *Ech Navi.*

How was my dwelling spoilt, and those I loved cast forth or fled, when the populous city became solitary and lone like a widow. Therefore will I utter bitter laments on this day every year, etc.

XXV. נחמו *Nachamu.*

Comfort ye, comfort ye my people, saith the Lord,¹ with all the consolations found in the *prophetical book*.² "To impart gladness to the mourners of Zion, to give them a beautiful crown instead of ashes." etc.

XXVI. OCCASIONAL HYMNS. תודות אל *Todot El.*

My thanksgivings to God, and my oblation,
I offer with "the praises of all living beings."

Be Thy name Eternal, our God and King, for ever praised; and let every living creature join in praises due to Thee from every animated being.—My thanksgivings, etc.

XXVII. צור שוכן *Tsur. Shochen.*

My Rock, who dwellest beyond the skies,
O have compassion on Jerusalem.

How long wilt Thou still forget Thy children, and defer to vindicate Thy holy name? Have mercy on the progeny of Thy faithful, for long have we borne a two-fold yoke.—My Rock, etc.

XXVIII. יה רבון *Yah Ribon.*

Eternal Sovereign of the world and universe,
Thou art most Supreme, and King of kings.

The greatness of Thy might and of Thy wonders, may it please Thee to manifest them in my favour.
Eternal Sovereign, etc.

Morning and evening will I address my praises unto Thee, most holy Creator of every breathing soul, of holy spirits, of man, of the wild beast of the forest and birds in the air.—Eternal Sovereign, etc.

Many and great are Thy acts: Thou humblest the proud and sustainest the oppressed. Were man to live a thousand years, he would fail to enumerate all Thy mighty acts.—Eternal Sovereign, etc.

Eternal, most Glorious, and Mighty, deliver Thy afflicted nation from out of the lion's mouth. Release Thy people from their captivity, that people whom Thou preferred to every other nation.—Eternal Sovereign, etc.

Return to Thy sanctuary and to the most holy place, where angelic spirits and human souls shall celebrate Thy *sanctus*, and sing hymns of praise unto Thee, within Jerusalem, Thy fair city.—Eternal Sovereign, etc.

XXIX. יגלה *Yigaleh.*

May the glory of Thy kingdom be revealed to a humbled and wandering nation, and rule for ever, O our Rock, who didst reign alone before the existence of any other power.—Rule for ever, etc.

XXX. רחם נא עליו *Rachem na alav.*

Most merciful and ever-living God, Thou who art the only Source of life, have compassion on this deceased person. May his soul find rest in the abode of immortality, and may he ever become attached to eternal life.—May his soul, etc.

¹ Heb. the cluster of Camphire, alluding to the allegory, Solom. Song, i. 14

² Of Isaiah.

The Liturgy of the Spanish and Portuguese Jews is entirely musical, every portion being either intoned, chanted, or sung in verses to the melodies of which this work is composed. The singular irregularities of rhythm which will be perceived in many of them, is, I think, attributable, in some instances, to their dating from a period anterior to the use of *bars* in music; in others, from their composers being unacquainted with musical notation. These melodies have become so completely identified with the Spanish and Portuguese Jews, whether in England, France, Holland, United States, West Indies, or South America, that, whatever their peculiarities, the utmost care has been taken to give them in this work precisely as used for devotional purposes. Three Chants are added, viz. "Mizmor Shir," "Mizmor le-David," and "Uba le-Tsion" (Nos. 8, 13, and 14).

I have only further to add, that, although these melodies are, for the most part, harmonized so as to be sung in parts, they are written in the manner I have thought most convenient for playing.

E. AGUILAR.

It is necessary to observe, respecting the Hebrew words of the hymns placed in English characters under the music, that the vowels are to be read as in Italian or Spanish; that the consonants *ch*, intended to represent the Hebrew \aleph are to be pronounced as in the German words, *acht*, *wacht*, etc., and that *ng* representing the γ , has the same sound as these letters in English, when at the end of words, as *strong*, *long*, etc.

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APPENDIX.

ADON OLAM, Vol. I., p. 102*. (The Melody by the Rev. D. A. de Sola)

COL BERUE.

1

LENTO. (♩ = 69)

N^o 1.

a 4 Voci.

Col - - - - - be - ru - e ... ma - ah la ... u -

- ma - ta ya - hi - dun .. ya - gi - dun ku - lam ke - e -

- chad A - - do - nai e - chad ush - mo e - chad

ve - - em ... ya - ki - ru ki a kol she - lach.

ve - a - tah ha - el a - me - lech' a me - yu - chad...

SHACHAR ABAKESHCHA.

MODERATO. (♩ = 84)

Nº 2.

Solo.

Sha - char a - ba - kesh cha tsu - ri u -

- mis - ga - bi eng - e - roch le - fa - ne

- cha shach - ri... ve - gam ar - bi shachri ve - gam arbi.

ADONAI BOKER.

ANDANTE. (♩ = 84)

Nº 3.

Solo.

A - do - nai bo - ker eng - e - roch le - cha gam

bo - ker tish - mangko - li - he - chas - de - cha

ELOHE OZ.

3

MODERATO (♩ = 96)

Nº 4.
a 4 Voci.

E - lo - he oz te - hi - la - ti
re - fa - e - ni ve - e - ra - fe - ve - ton mar - pe - lo

The musical score for 'ELOHE OZ.' consists of two systems. The first system shows the vocal line and piano accompaniment for the first two measures. The second system continues the vocal line and piano accompaniment for the next two measures. The piano part features a steady accompaniment with chords and moving lines in both hands.

ma cha - la - ti le - bal a - mut ve - e - tsu - pe.

The third system of the musical score for 'ELOHE OZ.' shows the vocal line and piano accompaniment for the final two measures. The vocal line ends with a long note on 'ti' followed by a rest, and then continues with 'le - bal a - mut ve - e - tsu - pe.' The piano accompaniment provides harmonic support throughout.

LEMANGANCHA.

MODERATO. (♩ = 96)

Nº 5.
a 4 Voci.

Le - mang - an - cha ve - lo la - nu
Ul - shuch e - be meng - a - ra ul - schoche - be meng a - - ra.

The musical score for 'LEMANGANCHA.' consists of two systems. The first system shows the vocal line and piano accompaniment for the first two measures. The second system continues the vocal line and piano accompaniment for the next two measures. The piano part features a steady accompaniment with chords and moving lines in both hands.

ABARECH.

ANDANTE. (♩ = 78)

N.º 6.

Solo.

A - ba rech et shem A - do - nai

a - - neng - - lam mi - kol nim - tsa

Va - a - ka - veh chas - do kol ya - mai Al - kol tub a

- sher a - - sah ai kol tub a - sher a - sah.

LECHA DODI.

5

ANDANTE CON MOTO. (♩ = 116)

N.º 7.

a 4 Voci.

Le - chah do - di li - krat ... ka - lah
pe - ne sha - bat - - ne kab - - be - lah Sha - mor ve - za -
- chor be - di - bur e - chad ishming - a ... nu el
a - me - yu - chad A - do - nai e - chad ... ush - mo e -
- chad le - shem ul - tif - e - ret ve - lit - hi - lah.

MIZMOR SHIR.

ANDANTE MAESTOSO (♩ = 120)

*Unis.*N^o 8.

a 4 Voci.

Miz-mor shir le-yom ha-sha-bat tob le-ho

- dot la do - nai ul-za-mer le-shim-cha el-yon

poco piu lento.

E - do te-cha ne-em nu meod... le-be-techa

Tempo 1^o

na - a - va ko - - - desh A - do -

- nai le - o - - - rech ya - mim...

LEBETEA & KADISH FOR THE SABBATH.

MODERATO MAESTOSO (♩ = 104)

N^o 9.

Solo.

Le be - te - cha naa - - - va

ku - - - desh A - do - nai le -

- o - rech ya - mim Yit - ga - dal veyit - ka -

- dash she - meh rab - bah.

YIGDAL.

ALLEGRO. (♩ = 84)

N.º 10.

a 4 Voci.

Yig-dal E-lo-him chay ve-yish-ta-bach, nimt-

-sa ve-ehn et El met-si-u-to. E-leh shelosh es-re leng-

-i-ka-rim i-nam yesod dat El ve-to-ra-to.

HODU, KIRHU.

MOD.º QUASI AND.º (♩ = 100)

N.º 11.

a 4 Voci.

Ho-du la-do-nai... kir hu-bish-mo.....

O-ding-u bang-a-mim a-li-lo-taf.

AZ YASHIR MOSHE.

9

ALLEGRETTO MODERATO. (♩ = 100)

N.º 12.

a 4 Voci.

Az ya-shir Mo - she ub - he yis - ra -

- el et ha-shi - ra ha - sot... la - do - nai va yo - me - ru le -

1.^o 2.^o
mor mor A - do - nai ish mil cha - ma A - do - nai she -

- mu mar - ke - but Parng - ho ve - che - lo ya - ra ba -

- yam u - mib - char shali - shav tubeng - u - beyam suf.

MIZMOR LEDAVID.

LENTO MAESTOSO (♩ = 75)

N.º 13.

a 4 Voci.

Miz - mor le - da - vid Ha - bu la - do -

- nai be - ne e - lim Ha - bu la - do - nai ka - bod vang -

- oz ha - bu la - do - nai ke - bod she - mo ish - ta - cha -

- vu la - do - nai be - had rat ko - desh kol A - do - nai

al ha - ma - yim El ha - ko - bod hirngi - im A - do -

- nai al ma - yim ra - bim kol A - do - nai ba - ko -

- ach kol A - do - nai be - ha - dar kol A - do -

- nai sho - ber a - ra - zim yay - sha - ber A - do -

- nai et ar - ze ha - le - ba - non Va - yar ki -

- dem ke mo - gel Le - ba - non ve - shi -

- rion ke - mo ben re - hu - mim kol A - do -

- nai chutz - eb la - ha - bot esh kol A - do -

- nai yachil mid - bar yachil A - do - nai midbar ka -

- desh kol A - do - nai ye - cho - lei a - ya -

- lot va - ye - che - sof yeng - a - rot ub ech - cha -

- lo ku - lo o - mer ka - hod A - do - nai

la - ma - hul ya - shab va - ye sheb A - do - nei

me - lech leng - o - lam A - do - nai oz leng - a - mo yi -

Rit -----

- ten A - do - nai ye - ba - rech et a - mo ba - sha - lom.

UBA LETSION.

ADAGIO MOLTO TRANQUILLO (♩ = 80)

N^o 14.

a 4 Voci.

U - ba - le - tsion go - el ul - sha -

- be pe - shang be - yang - a - kob ne - um A - do - nai :

va - a - ni - tot be - ri - ti o - tam

a - mar A - do - nai ru chi a - stier a - le -

- cha ud - ba - rai ash - er sam - ti be - fi - - cha In ya -

- mu - shu mi pi - - cha u - mi - pi zarng a - cha u - mi -

- pi ze - rang zarng a - cha o mar A - do - nai meng - a -

Unis.

- tah ven - gad o - lam ve - a - tah kadosh yo - sheb te - hi -

- loth yisrael ve ka - rah zeh el zeh ve - a - mar

YAANI TEFILATI.

ANDANTE SOSTENUTO (♩ = 78)

N^o 15.

a 4 Voci.

Va - a - ni te - fi - la - ti le

- cha A - do - nai et rat - son E - lo -

- him be - rob ehas - de - - cha a -

- ne - mi be - e - met yis - e - - cha.

MICHTAM LEDAVID.

17

ANDANTE CON MOTO (♩ = 96)

Nº 16.

a 4 Voci.

Mich tam le da vid shamreni El shamreni

El ki cho si ti bach..... a - mart la -

- do - nai A - - donai a - tah

..... A - - - donai a - tah tel - -

- - ha - ti to - ha - ti bal a - le - - - cha.

LAMNATSEACH AL TASCHET.

MODERATO QUASI ALLEGRETTO. (♩ = 120)

N^o 17.

a 4 Voci.

Lam nat - se - - - - - ach al tash -

- chet miz - mur - - - - - le a - saf - shir

LEDAVID BARUCH.

MODERATO (♩ = 96)

N^o 18.

a 3 Voci.

Le - da - vid ba - - ruch A - do - nai tsu -

- ri a - - - - me la - medi ya - dai la - krab.

KI ESHMERA SHABAT.

19

ANDANTE (♩ = 84)

N.º 19.

Solo.

Ki - esh me - ra sha - bat el yish - - me - re

ni ot hi le - ol me ad be - no u - be - ni A - sur metso che -

- fes la - a sot de - - ra - chim vegam le - da - ber bo di - bre me -

- la - chim, di - bre se - cho - - ra o di - bre tse - ra -

- chim Eh - gue be - to - rat El ut - cha - ke me - ni

YOM ZEH LEYISRAEL.

MODERATO (♩ = 100)

N.º 20.

a 3 Voci.

Yom zeh... le-yis-ra-el o-rah ve sim-

cha sha-bat me-nu-cha Tsi-vi-ta pe-ku-dim be-

- ma - - a-mad si-nai sha-bat u-mo-a-dim lish-

- mor be-chol sha-nai la-a-roch le-fa-nai mas-

- et - ve-a-ru-cha sha-bat me-nu-cha.

D.C

MENUCHA VESIMCHA.

POCO ADAGIO (♩ = 84)

Nº 21.

Solo.

Me - nu - cha ve - sim - - - cha or - la ye

hu - - - dim me - nu - cha ve - sim - -

- cha or - la ye - hu - - - dim sha - - - bat ...

- - - yom yom ma - cha - ma - dim.

ELOHIM YISHADENU.

MODERATO.

N^o 22.

a 4 Voci.

E - lo - him yis ha - de - nu be - ra - cha bi - mo -

- de - nu ve - ze - het tob yis be - de - nu be -

- chol mishlach ya - de - nu be - chol mishlach ya - de - nu

BEMOTSAE YOM MENUCHA.

ALLEGRETTO MODERATO (♩ = 120)

N^o 23.

a 4 Voci.

Be - mot sa - e - yom menucha amt - si leng - a - me -

- cha harvacha she - lach tishbi be - yom ekra ve - na suya gon va - anacha.

HAMABDIL.

23

ANDANTE CON MOTO (♩ = 88)

Nº 24.

a 4 Voci.

Ha-mab dil ben ko-desh le chol cha-to-

- te - nu yim - chol za - re - nu yar -

be ... ka - chol ca - co - cha - bim ba - lai -

- la za - - re - nu yar be ... ka -

- chol ca - co - cha - - bim ba - - lai - la.

HALLEL FOR SABBATH.

MODERATO (♩ = 120)

Nº 25.

a 4 Voci.

Hal - le - lu - et A - do - nai col go - yim sha

..... be - chuhu col a - u - nim ki - - ga - bar a -

- le - nu Chas - du ve - e met A - do - nai le - o - lam hallelu - yah.

ACHOT KETANA.

LENTO SOSTENUTO (♩ = 69)

Nº 26.

a 4 Voci.

A chot ke - ta - - - pah te - fi - lo -

- te - - - O - re - cha ve. o - - - nah

te - hi - lo te - a El na re - fa

- na El na re - fa - na El

na re - fa - - na le - ma - cha lo -

- te - - a, tich - le sha - -

- na ve - ki - le - lo - te - - a.

SHOFET KOL HAARETZ.

LENTO (SENZA TEMPO)

Nº 27

Sho - - - fet kol ha - a -

- - - - - rets ve - o - tah

he - mish - pat yang a - mid

na - cha - yim vache

sed al am a - ni tats - mid veet te -

fi - lat a - sha - - - - - char bim -

- kom o - la - - - - - tang a mid

o - - - - - lat a - bo - - - - - kor

a - sher - - - - - leng - o - lat ha - ta - - - - - mid.

YAH SHIMCHA.

ANDANTE QUASI ALLEGRETTO (♩ = 108)

N.º 28.

a 4 Voci.

Yah shim - cha..... a - ro - mim - cha

vet - sit - ka - te - cha lo a - cha - seh

e - e - zan - ti ve - e - e - man - ti

Piu lento.

ve - et E - lo - he yis ra - lo - el

KEDUSHA FOR ROSHASHANA & KIPUR.

ADAGIO (♩ = 66)

N.º 29.

Solo.

Nak - - - di - shach ve -

- nang a - - rit - sach ke - nong - -

- am ei - - - - -

- ach sod sar. - - - fu ko - - desh.

ADONAI BEKOL SHOFAR.

ALLEGRO MODERATO. (♩ = 132)

Nº 31.

a 5 Voci.

A - do - nai be - kol shofar

yash - mi - ang ye - shung - a le ka - bets se - fe -

- zu - ra be - bo chesyon te - shunga a -

lah E - lo - him bit - rung -

ASHKIBENU.

ANDANTE CON MOTO. (♩ = 104)

N^o 37.
a 4 Voci.

Ash - ki - be - nu A - bi - - nu le - shalom

ve - ang a - mi - de - nu mal - - ke - nu.

YIGDAL FOR FESTIVALS.

ALLEGRETTO. (♩ = 89)

N^o 38.
a 4 Voci.

Yig - dal E - lo - him chay - ve - yish - ta - bach nim -

- tsa ve - ehn et El met - si - u - to.

BIRCAT COHANIM.

41

ADAGIO MAESTOSO (♩ = 76)

N^o 44.
a 4 Voci.

Ya - ha - - - re - - -

The first system of the musical score for 'Bircat Cohanim' consists of two staves. The upper staff is in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature (C). It contains a vocal line with lyrics 'Ya - ha - - - re - - -'. The lower staff is in bass clef and contains a piano accompaniment. A fermata is placed over the first measure of the vocal line, and a triplet of eighth notes is marked above the second measure.

- - - cbe - cha - - -

The second system of the musical score continues the vocal line with lyrics '- - - cbe - cha - - -'. It features similar notation to the first system, with a treble clef, one sharp key signature, and common time. The piano accompaniment continues in the bass clef.

LESHONI BONANTA.

MODERATO (♩ = 100)

N^o 45.
a 4 Voci.

Le - sho - ni bo - nan - ta.... E - - - lo -

The first system of the musical score for 'Leshoni Bonanta' consists of two staves. The upper staff is in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature (C). It contains a vocal line with lyrics 'Le - sho - ni bo - nan - ta.... E - - - lo -'. The lower staff is in bass clef and contains a piano accompaniment.

- hai va - tib - - - char be - shi - - - rim she - sam -

The second system of the musical score continues the vocal line with lyrics '- hai va - tib - - - char be - shi - - - rim she - sam -'. It features similar notation to the first system, with a treble clef, one sharp key signature, and common time. The piano accompaniment continues in the bass clef.

- ta he - - - fi tob - - - mi - mis - - - char

The third system of the musical score continues the vocal line with lyrics '- ta he - - - fi tob - - - mi - mis - - - char'. It features similar notation to the previous systems, with a treble clef, one sharp key signature, and common time. The piano accompaniment continues in the bass clef.

He - Jeh sit - ri a - tah ke -

- et - - - mel ul - ma - - - char u -

- ma - - - gi - ni a - tah E -

ritenuto.

- - lo - hai te char

ADAGIO (♩ = 126)

N^o 46.

a 4 Voci.

Ehn ke-lo-he-nu, ehn ka-do-ne-nu,

ehn ke-mal-ke-nu, ehn ke-moshing-e-nu.

ADAGIO

N^o 46 bis.

a 5 Voci.

Ehn ke-lo-he-nu, ehn ka-do-ne-nu,

ehn ke-mal-ke-nu, ehn ke-moshing-e-nu.

ADON OLAM.

THE MELODY BY
D. A. DE SOLA.ANDANTE ($\text{♩} = 50$)N^o 71.
a 4 Voci.

The musical score consists of five systems, each with a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment (bass clef). The tempo is marked 'ANDANTE' with a quarter note equal to 50 beats per minute. The key signature has one flat (B-flat).

System 1: *A - don o - lam a - sher ma -*

System 2: *- lach Be - te - rem col yet sir - nib -*

System 3: *- rah Leng - et nang - sa Ke - chef so*

System 4: *koi A - zai me - lech she mo nik - ra ...*

System 5: *A - zai me - lech she - mo - ni - kra ...*