

## Abba Hillel Silver Collection Digitization Project

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#### MS-4787: Abba Hillel Silver Papers, 1902-1989.

Series I: General Correspondence, 1914-1969, undated. Sub-series A: Alphabetical, 1914-1965, undated.

Reel Box Folder 47 17 1146

Maimonides Octocentennial, 1934-1935.



## The Temple Men's Club

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

THE TEMPLE

EAST 105th STREET & ANSEL ROAD

Cleveland



December 26, 1934.

Rabbi A.H. Silver, E.105th & Ansel Rd., Cleveland, O.

My dear Rabbi:

Enclosed you will find copy of the letter just sent out to Max Greenwald of the Temple on the Heights, Fred Stashower of the Jewish Center and Sam Weiss of the Oheb Zedek Temple.

Since my conversation with you and since writing this letter I have received the copy of the letter which you sent to Rabbi Rosenthal and Rabbi Cohen. Thanks!

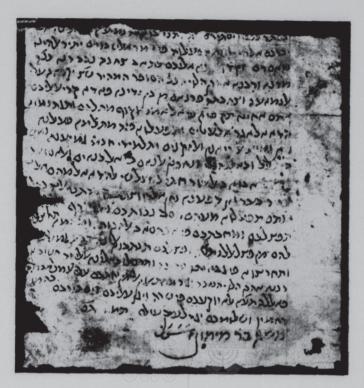
Sincerely yours,

Bertwinas

BWM: EC

Bert W. Marks.

January 3, 1935 Br. Julius Morgenstern, President, Hebrew Union College. Cincinnati, Chio. My dear Dr. Morgenstern: The Cleveland Public Library (one of the finest in the country) is desirous of putting on a special Maimonides exhibition on the occasion of the Octo-Centennial. The Jewish community is, of course, happy that the Library has expressed a desire to do it and will eagerly cooperate. The Library possesses a few of the works of Maimonides and in the Temple libraries of the city and among the Rabbis there will be found, I am sure, some others--but not enough to make an impressive exhibit. I wonder whether the Hebrew Union College Library would not loan to the Cleveland Library for the duration of the exhibit (say about ten days or two weeks during March and April) some interesting items which can be prominently featured -- a few manuscripts, early editions, translations, etc. The Hebrew Union College will, of course, receive full acknowledgment and publicity in the Cleveland press, and I em convinced a good deal of good will to the institution and to the Union will result from it. We would undertake to pay the expense involved in sending the exhibit and in insuring it. The Library exhibit would be tied up with a city-wide Maimonides celebration which the brotherhoods of all the Temples and the Synagogues in the city are arranging. Hoping that I might hear from you at your earliest convenience and with all good wishes, I remain As ever, AHS: AY



Autograph of Maimonides in the Seminary Library

#### **EXHIBITION**

in Commemoration of the Eight Hundredth Anniversary of the Birth of

### MOSES MAIMONIDES

MUSEUM OF THE

JEWISH THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY OF AMERICA

Broadway and 122d St., New York City

# AN EXHIBITION OF MANUSCRIPTS AUTOGRAPH LETTERS AND PRINTED BOOKS

BY AND ON

## MOSES MAIMONIDES רמב"ם

(1135 - 1204)

FROM THE COLLECTION OF THE

LIBRARY

OF THE

JEWISH THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY
OF AMERICA

BEGINNING WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 9, 1935

Open to the Public Daily except Friday and Saturday, 10 A. M.-5 P. M.



#### MOSES MAIMONIDES

AS born in Cordova, Spain, on the 14th of Nissan (March 30th), 1135. As a youth he accompanied his father into exile and lived for some time in Fez, Northern Africa. In 1165 he went from there to Palestine and thence to Fostat, Egypt, where he died on the 20th of Tebeth (December 13th), 1204.

In accordance with his wishes he was buried in Tiberias, Palestine, where his grave can still be seen.

He was court-physician to SULTAN SALA-DIN and his son, and held the office of NAGID, head of Egyptian Jewry, an office in which he was succeeded by his only son ABRAHAM. Equally prominent as jurist, philosopher and physician, he became the outstanding exponent of Jewish law and doctrine and exercised a tremendous influence on his people.

Maimonides wrote ten books on medicine, a number of philosophical and theological treatises, numerous letters and responsa, but his outstanding contribution to philosophy and Jewish learning are the three masterworks:

COMMENTARY TO THE MISHNAH, still considered the best and most original interpretation;

MISHNEH TORAH, the greatest and the only complete Code of Biblical and Talmudic Law; and

GUIDE OF THE PERPLEXED, the most important Jewish contribution to mediaeval philosophy.

#### THE EXHIBITION

COMPRISES only a small selection of Maimonides' works in the possession of the Seminary Library.

#### It includes:

Autographs of Maimonides and his son Abraham Case 5
Arabic Original of the "Commentary to the Mishnah" Case 7
Hebrew Translation of the "Commentary" Cases 2, 8
Code "Mishneh Torah" Cases 1, 2, 4, 8
Commentaries to the CodeCase 8
"Guide of the Perplexed" in Arabic, Hebrew, Latin, Spanish, Italian, French and English . Cases 6, 9
Commentaries to the "Guide" Case 6
Philosophical and Theological Treatises Cases 5, 8
Medical Works Case 3
Incunabula Editions of Maimonides Works
Unique Copies Printed on Vellum and on Blue Paper Case 8
Modern Works on Maimonides Case

THE HEBREW UNION COLLEGE CINCINNATI, OHIO January 8, 1935. OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT (Dict. Jan. 7) Rev. Dr. Abba H. Silver, The Temple, E. 105th St. at Ansel Road, Cleveland, Ohio. My dear Abba: I have taken up with Dr. Walter Rothman, the Librarian of the Hebrew Union College, the matter which you presented in your last letter, namely, that of a loan to the Cleveland Public Library, for exhibition purposes, manuscripts and other material which we may possess, pertaining to Maimonides. I assure you that

the Hebrew Union College will be happy indeed to participate generously in this project. You will hear from Dr. Rothman within the next day or two with regard to the details of this matter.

With warmest regards and all good wishes, I am ever

Faithfully,

PRESIDENT

JM/s



### MAIMONIDES EXHIBIT

January 9th — April 17th, 1935

The eight hundredth anniversary of the birth of Moses Maimonides, the great Jewish Philosopher, Physician, Jurist, Talmudist, Leader and Writer of the Middle Ages, will be marked by an exhibit of his work including rare editions, manuscripts and autograph letters.

At the Museum of the Jewish Theological Seminary of America Broadway and 122d Street New York City

Open to the public Daily, except Friday and Saturday, 10 A. M. — 5 P. M.

HEBREW UNION COLLEGE LIBRARY
WALTER ROTHMAN, LIBRARIAN
CINCINNATI, OHIO

January 9, 1935.

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, East 105th St. & Ansel Road, Cleveland, Ohio.

Dear Dr. Silver:

Dr. Morgenstern has given me your letter regarding the exhibition of Maimonides items in the Cleveland Public Library. I shall be glad to send a few of the Maimonides manuscripts and other items to the exhibition.

For the sake of record and insurance, I should like to have a letter from the Librarian making a request for this loan.

Sincerely yours,

Librarian.

S

#### MAIMONIDES EXHIBIT

The Cleveland Public Library to Exhibit Works of Maimonides
The Hebrew Union College Library to Cooperate by
Loan Exhibit

On the initiative of Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver of The Temple, the Cleveland Public Library has graciously consented to put on an exhibit of the works of the greatest Jewish philosopher of the Middle Ages, Moses Maimonides, the 800th anniversary of whose birth occurs this year.

The exhibit will include manuscripts, rare editions, translations and other valuable bibliographical material of the writings of Maimonides.

The Hebrew Union College of Cincinnati has kindly offered to send a loan exhibit of priceless manuscripts and books in its possession to augment the exhibit of the Cleveland Public Library. Many other books will be added to this exhibit from the private libraries of rabbis and laymen of Cleveland. The exhibit will be held towards the end of March.

The 800th anniversary of the birth of Moses Maimonides will be celebrated in all countries where Jews live. The Brotherhoods of the Temples and Synagogues of Cleveland are making arrangements for a joint celebration which will commemorate this outstanding event.

The Maimonides Octorentennial

1135 - 1935

4895 - 5695

January 16th

1 9 3 5

64 WEST 48TH STREET NEW YORK CITY

> TELEPHONE BRYANT 9-8165

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CHAIRMAN, ADVISORY COUNCIL:
PROFESSOR SALO W. BARON

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY:
HERMAN BERNSTEIN

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver The Temple Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

You are cordially invited to join the Advisory Council of the Maimonides Octobentennial Committee. Your counsel and co-operation will be deeply appreciated.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely.

Herman Bernstein.

HB/d Enc.

January 17, 1935. Mr. Herman Bernstein, Executive Sec'y, The Maimonides Octocentennial, 64 West 48th St., New York, N.Y. My dear Mr. Bernstein: Permit me to thank you for your letter of January 16. I shall be pleased to serve on the Advisory Council of the Maimonides Octocentennial Committee. Very sincerely yours, AHS: BK

January 22, 1935. Dr. Walter Rothman, Librarian, Hebrew Union College Library. Cincinnati, Ohio. My dear Dr. Rothman: I was very happy to receive your letter and to 1 arn that you will send us a few of the Maimonides manuscripts and other items to assist the Cleveland Public Library in putting on an impressive Maimonides Exhibit. I got in touch with Miss Eastman, librarian, and told her of your request that she communicate with you. I assume that by this time you have heard from her. The Library is eager to put on a fine exhibit. It has a very large and attractive room with show-cases etc. for just such purposes. The interest which the announcement of the Exhibit in the newspapers has already created, indicates that the project will be highly successful. If you will send me, at your convenience, a list of the items which you plan to forward to the Library, I would "play it up" in the publicity. With all good wishes and thanking you most heartily for your cooperation, permit me to remain Very cordially yours, AHS: BK

71. Franch 28 HEBREW UNION COLLEGE LIBRARY WALTER ROTHMAN, LIBRARIAN CINCINNATI, OHIO January 31, 1935. Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, East 105th St. at Ansel Road. Cleveland, Ohio. My dear Dr. Silver: I have received a letter from Miss Eastman making a request for the Maimonides material for March 25. I contemplate sending one volume of a Mishneh Torah Manuscript on vellum, Spain, 13th century (?); Mishneh Torah, first ed., Rome (?) before 1480; Mishneh Torah, Venice, 1524; Moreh Nebukim, Venice, 1551; and Latin, Italian, and Hungarian translations of the Moreh Nebukim. I shall also send a small oil painting of Maimonides, probably from the 18th century, by an unknown artist. This last item comes from the Hebrew Union College Museum. I am very much satisfied with Miss Eastman's proposal to exhibit all this material in locked cases. In fact, it is one of the rules that rare books and manuscripts must be exhibited in this manner. I shall also have this material insured in Cincinnati and send bill to you. I am sure that all expenditures, including express charges, will not amount to more than \$12.00. Sincerely you rs, Walter Yothman Librarian. S.

[ January ? 1935]

## CLEVELAND PUBLIC LIBRARY

LIBRARY BOARD - - - A A STEARNS PRESIDENT EMIL JOSEPH VICE-PRESIDENT - NEWELL C BOLTON - E R GRASSELLI CLARENCE J NEAL - CARL N OSBORNE - G A TOMLINSON SECRETARY TO THE BOARD - - - CLARENCE S METCALF

LINDA A EASTMAN LIBRARIAN

CLEVELAND OHIO

My dear Rabbi Sherman:

Our nemanh on Their inhibition

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Milusday noon.

Sin couly yours

Other Carl Joing

Curato y brisis.

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Warsaw 1881-82.

From the John & White Collection. "I Teachings of Marmonder - Cohen "I He Eight Chapter of M. on Ethics . Gorfinkle Sorfukle Musa Mainum (eighth chapter). Wolff 4) Selections from the arabic Writings of M. - Friedlasseder M. Guide for the Perplexed - Friedlander 6) Die Seelenhygiene dis Mamonides - Kroner 1) Gride des Egares - M. (Frank 1856) 8) Legum Mischnicarum - maimonidis et Bartenovae -Tuileelnus Surenhueine - amsterdam +833 1698-1703 91M. Commentar gum Tractast Makkoth - J. Barth 10) m. " arachin - Schapiro
" aboda zara - Wiener
" Of the schapiro .. .. Challah - Bamberger 12) m.

From Philosophy a Religion Division References in: Religion + worship of the Synagope - Oesterley History of the undienal Jews - Harris Judishis Lexicon Jervich Contributions to civilization - Jacobs The few through the Centuries RCHIVES Willit History and Destring the Jews Kasteir The Legacy of Derado - Ox ford Puro Grayo.

Judaism as a civilization - Kaplan

#### MATERIALS LENT BY

#### HEBREW UNION COLLEGE LIBRARY

#### CINCINNATI, OHIO

- MISHNEH TORAH (Gode of Laws) Moses Maimonides. Venice: Bomberg, 1524
- HEBREW MS. (Vellum) Moses Maimonides. Mishneh Torah (Code of Laws) Spain, 13th century?
- MISHNEH TORAH (Code of Laws) Moses Maimonides. Venice: Bragadini, 1550 First Hebrew book printed by Bragadini.
- MISHNEH TORAH (Code of Laws) Moses Maimonides. Rome? before 1480? First edition
- MOREH NEBUKIM (Guide for the Perplexed). Italian. Moses Maimonides. Leghorn, 1870
- MOREH NEBUKIM (Guide for the Perplexed). Hungarian. Moses Maimonides. Negy-Becskerek, 1890
- MOREH NEBUKIM (Guide for the Perplexed). Latin. Moses Maimonides. Basle, 1629.
- MISHNEH TORAH (Code of Laws). Moses Maimonides. Venice\* Bragadini, 1574-75.
- COMMENTARY TO ABOT (Sayings of the Fathers. Mishnaic treatise.)
  Moses Maimonides. Soncino: 1485?
- MOREH NEBUKIM (Guide for the Perplexed). Moses Maimonides. Venice: Bragadini, 1551.
- MOREH NEBUKIM (Guide for the Perplexed). Moses Maimonides. Leipzig, 1923
- MOREH NEBUKIM (Guide for the Perplexed). Arabic in Hebrew characters.

  Moses Maimonides. Jerusalem, 1931
- MOSES MAIMONIDES. Oil painting from the 18th century (?). Artist unknown. This is the traditional portrait which first appeared in Ugolino's Thesaurus Antiquitatum Sacrarum, vol.1, Venice, 1744

Sent also to Leo Weidenthal, Editor, The Jewish Independent. March 1, 1935 Mr. Ralph Wertheimer, Editor, The Jewish Review and Observer, 1151 West 3d Street, Cleveland, Ohio. My dear Mr. Wertheimer: You may wish to give further publicity to the Exhibit of the works of Maimonides which will be put on display by the Cleveland Public Library in cooperation with the Library of the Hebrew Union College beginning Friday, March 3, and continuing for a period of three weeks. This exhibit is in connection with the octobentennial celebration of the birth of Moses Maimonides -- greatest Jewish philosopher of the Middle Ages. The Hebrew Union College in Cincinnati is sending on some rare manuscripts of the works of Maimonides, first editions, and Latin, Italian and Hungarian translations of Maimonides classic, "Guide to the Perplexed." An oil painting of Maimonides by an unknown artist, probably from the 18th Century, is being sent by the Hebrew Union College Museum. Rabbis and laymen who have interesting editions of any of the works of Moses Maimonides are requested to communicate with Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver or with the Librarian of the Cleveland Public Library, Miss Rastman. Brotherhoods of the Temples and the Synagogues of the city are arranging for a joint city-wide celebration of the event. Very sincerely yours, AHS:AY ENCL. 1

## The Maimonides Octocentennial

1135 - 1935

4895 - 5695

64 WEST 48TH STREET NEW YORK CITY **ROOM 404** 

TELEPHONE BRYANT 9-8165

March 20, 1935

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CHAIRMAN, ADVISORY COUNCIL:

PROFESSOR SALO W. BARON

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY:

HERMAN BERNSTEIN

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver

The Temple Cleveland. O.

Dear Dr. Silver:

On Sunday evening, April 14th, the Maimonides celebration will be held under the auspices of the national Committee for the Maimonides Octobentennial, at the Pennsylvania Hotel.

On behalf of the Committee it gives me pleasure to extend to you an invitation to deliver a ten minute address on that occasion. I know this is a very short time for an address on Maimonides, but all the speakers will be limited to ten minutes, and I also know that you can deliver an important and inspiring message even in ten minutes.

The others to be invited to speak at this national celebration are: President Conant, of Harvard University, Professor Louis Ginzberg, Dr. James J. Walsh, an eminent Catholic scholar and physician. Dr. Cyrus Adler or Mr. Sol M. Stroock will preside. The opening prayer will be by Dr. H. Pereira Mendes, and the closing prayer by the President of the Union of Orthodox Rabbis.

As the Committee is financially not in position to pay the traveling expenses, I hope you will make this further contribution in addition to your intellectual contribution.

May I have your favorable answer without delay? We are anxious to make this the outstanding Maimonides celebration in the country.

With kindest regards,

Sincerely yours,

Herman Bernstein

March 21, 1935. Mr. Herman Bernstein, Exec. Sec'y, Maimonides Octocentennial, 64 West 48th St., New York, N.Y. My d-ar Mr. Bernstein: Let me thank you for your kind letter of March 20 and for the invitation which you extend to me in behalf of the Committee to address the Maimonides Octocentennial celebration on Sunday evening. April 14. I shall make every effort to attend. With all good wishes, I remain Very cordially yours, AHS: BK

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SOL M. STROOCK

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PROFESSOR SALO W. BARON

#### EXECUTIVE SECRETARY:

HERMAN BERNSTEIN

March 26,1935

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
East 105th Street at Ansel Road
Cleveland. O.

Dear Dr. Silver:

Thank you sincerely for having accepted our invitation to deliver an address at the national Maimonides celebration on Sunday evening, April 14th, at Hotel Pennsylvania. Others who have already accepted our invitation to speak are: Dr. James J. Walsh, the Catholic scholar and physician, Professor Harry A. Wolfson and Professor Louis Finkelstein.

With kindest regards and best wishes,

Faithfully yours,

Herman Bernstein

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EXECUTIVE SECRETARY:

HERMAN BERNSTEIN

April 4, 1935

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
East 105th Street at Ansel Road
Cleveland. O.

Dear Dr. Silver:

Will you be kind enough to let me have an abstract of your address to be delivered at the national celebration of the Maimonides Octocentennial on Sunday evening, April 14th, at the Hotel Pennsylvania. I should like to have it mimeographed for release to the press at the meeting.

You may be interested to know that Professor Albert Einstein will also deliver a brief address on that occasion.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

Herman Bernstein

April 9, 1935. Mr. Herman Bernstein, Executive Sec'y, Maimonides Octocentennial, 64 West 48th St., New York, N.Y. My dear Mr. Bernstein: I am enclosing herewith a short abstract of the address which I will deliver at the Maimonides celebration on April 14. With all good wishes and looking forward with pleasure to seeing you, I remain Very cordially yours! AHS: BK Enc.

## USE THIS BLANK FOR YOUR REPLY

1219A

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R. B. WHITE

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Send the following message, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

APRIL 14

19 35

To HERMAN BERNSTEIN

MAIMONIDES OCTOCENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

Street and No\_

Place

HOTEL PA. - NEW YORK

NECESSITY OF OFFICIATING AT FUNERAL THIS AFTERNOON MAKES IT IMPOSSIBLE

FOR ME TO ATTEND MAIMONIDES CELEBRATION PLEASE EXPRESS MY PROFOUND

REGRETS

A H SILVER

# ESTERN

SIGNS

DL = Day Letter

NM = Night Message

NL = Night Letter

LC = Deferred Cable NLT = Cable Night Letter

Ship Radiogram

FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

The filing time as shown in the date line on full-rate telegrams and day letters, and the time of receipt at destination as shown on all messages, is STANDARD TIME.

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DR ABBA HILLEL SILVER, THE TEMPLE= EAST 105 ST AT ANSEL ROAD=

MINUTES IN TRANSIT FULL-RATE DAY LETTER

MAY WE HAVE ABSTRACT OF YOUR ADDRESS BY FRIDAY REGARDS= :HERMAN BERNSTEIN.