



## Abba Hillel Silver Collection Digitization Project

Featuring collections from the Western Reserve Historical Society and  
The Jacob Rader Marcus Center of the American Jewish Archives

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

Series V: Writings, 1909-1963, undated.

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Reel  
175

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Mrs. Esther Oppen, memorial service (Cleveland?), 1932.



Sept 1932  
32-19

*Out*

Mrs. Esther Oppen lived her life as graciously and as worthily as it was given her to live. She endeavored to be a blessing to all who came within the sphere of her life's influence - to her family, her friends and her community. She was a true mother in Israel, faithful to her God and to her people. She built a home in which children were reared in an atmosphere of love and piety.

Mrs. Esther Oppen gave of herself unstintingly to many charitable and humanitarian causes in our community. During those years before sickness laid its hand of pain upon her she was lavish of her time and energy in serving the needy and the dependant. The universal sorrow which her death evoked is eloquent testimony to the affectionate place which her life of service and devotion won for her in the esteem of all people.

Mrs. Esther Oppen has not ended her earthly career. She has entered upon the pilgrimage everlasting. The fine qualities of her life remain as a precious legacy bequeathed unto those who loved her and those whom she loved; and in this host of beautiful memories you who now mourn her loss will in the days and years to come find your solace and your comfort.

"And friends, dear friends, when it shall be  
That this low breath is gone from me,  
And round my bier ye come to weep,  
Let One, most loving of you all,  
Say, "Not a tear must o'er her fall!  
He giveth his beloved sleep."



1. She was a quiet, kindly soul - devoted & ~~completely~~ <sup>devoted</sup> merged her life with that of her husband - solicitous about his slightest needs - faithful to his every want - She was a true companion ~~and~~ to him & ~~to his~~ <sup>to his</sup> ~~life~~ <sup>life</sup> ~~and~~ <sup>and</sup> ~~was~~ <sup>was</sup>

All that lives must die,  
Passing through nature to eternity."

"The underground country, from which come  
No traveller returns."

Sh. loved - Sh. mother - Sh. was a great, kind,  
devoted - mother - solution - true companion -  
and not real full score - not how long -

1. My friend Mr. Belmont found her now passed on to the  
underworld country, from where even her friends  
return - her earthly pilgrimage is ended - 12 earth  
came to her - smoothly - as an arrow that flieth  
by night - Her <sup>years</sup> ~~days~~ upon earth were not  
many - not span - in this human world

many - not span -  
Where shall we find <sup>in this low, human</sup> that consolation?  
~~But~~ in the thought that whereas one is



In life or in death - in darkness or in light, in time or eternity  
I am always with you - your companion in every sphere and all stations - it reaches beyond  
the parting of the grave. If I cannot with you.

Then, too, we shall find our consolation in  
(2) Security - in the conviction that our life  
can be shielded & measured by God's divine  
Size & covers -

(3) Threat - that I have what remains behind  
it - a life that I have seen color - seen  
fragrance - even after I am gone - it is not  
lost - it is not forgotten - it is not  
dead - it is not  
devoted - completely merged - whether -  
faithful - True companion -  
It has been a precious -



Whether shall I go from Thy spirit?  
Or whether shall I flee from Thy presence?  
If I ascend into heaven, Thou art there;  
If I were as the uttermost, Thou art there.  
If I take the wings of the morning



1. Our beloved friend - passed to that undiscovered country from  
whose domain no Span. returns. - Her earthly pil-  
grimage was <sup>short</sup> but <sup>very</sup> interesting as well as  
useful to her family - as an arrow-  
swift & direct - with heart & hand for the needy  
& vulnerable hand & the sorrow; a voice that  
is still -

2) Her year upon earth was not many  
less than the span of life allotted by Gd.  
to mortal men - who said -

3) Whence shall you find your consolation -  
friend is missing - What that <sup>can</sup> ~~shall~~  
replace you with cup of joy & wish -  
only in those hours that faithful heart can  
you can give place.

① Whence one is - in life & death -  
God - God's compassion & love all being -  
all spheres - & all conditions & being - Rocks beyond  
"7/ I ascend -

② No life ends - No joy dies - A memory  
remains - a grave - an afterlife - a path -  
who can deny our precious memory -  
the recollection does remain & last - does  
live - & even - where there can - be no end



