

THE JEWISH SOUTH.

A JOURNAL DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF
JUDAISM.

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THE PAST week has been a momentous one in the Dreyfus matter, and was fraught with many incidents of interest.

To begin with, there was the landing of the exile in his native land on Saturday last, after four years of torture unequalled in history.

Next, and most pathetic of all, was the meeting with the wife, to whom is due, more than any other person, the revision. Her grief at finding her husband in a dazed and diffident mood must indeed have been great. Supposing this to be so, it is no matter of surprise that four years of solitary confinement have wrought havoc for the time being with his mental equilibrium. And besides this, there is no telling to what means the conspirators, who have hesitated at naught, may have resorted to poison his mind against his wife.

Hardly less touching was the scene with his counsel, when told for the first time of the treachery of his brother officers, whose perfidy he had never suspected. His suffering was pitiful as the truth was forced upon him. This seemed to him "the most unkindest cut of all."

One thing of great importance has been demonstrated by the week's events. It is this—that the great opposition of the mass of the people to justice being done Dreyfus does not exist. There has been little or no popular demonstration for or against him.

Taken all in all there can be no reason to doubt that the release of the celebrated prisoner is but a question of form and time.

ACCIDENTS, it is admitted, will happen in the best regulated families and newspapers. As a practical printer, we are well aware of the ease with which they occur in the latter, and our only surprise is that

they are not more frequent. Still we cannot help wondering if it had been our misfortune to have mixed matters up so atrociously as a certain daily did last Sunday, would the incident have been passed over so quietly.

A DISPUTE relative to the ice cream at a recent entertainment created a temporary "coolness" between several members of a leading social organization.

The Secret of True Happiness.

Happiness comes through quiet acceptance of the talent, temperament, and task that God hath appointed, says the Ladies' Home Journal. Unable to add one cubit to the statue, or make one hair white or black, man is also impotent to alter his birthgifts. Through heredity our fathers chose the life-work for us, and try as we may, we cannot alter their choice, though we can break our hearts. To-day one part of society is making itself miserable through an over-estimate of great deeds and an agonizing desire to do striking things. Yet struggling and agonizing never did anything worth while.

The first sign of a great piece of work is the ease and swiftness with which it was done by him appointed for the task. Another part of society destroys happiness by under-estimating small deeds and duties. God's mountains are not made out of huge chunks of granite, but out of minute flakes of mica. Size has nothing to do with the valued work, and man cannot be happy until he surrenders his will and cheerfully accepts the one talent, or two, or ten, counting it honor enough to do his appointed work more perfectly than any other can possibly do it. We do not need great and splendid things, but that common things shall be lifted up and illuminated by a quiet and beautiful spirit. One of the secrets of happiness is found in the habitual emphasis of pleasant things and the persistent casting aside of all malign elements.

Jewish Dress and Undress in the Middle Ages.

Those were curious customs in the manner of dress that affected our brethren of the Middle Ages; but it was forced upon them by persecution. Previous to the thirteenth century their costumes did not differ materially from those of ordinary men and women, but after that period there were variations in the manner of dress that were not agreeable to the parties interested. Thus in 1215 the church resolved that thenceforward Jews and Mohammedans must be distinguished from their fellows by a badge prominently fastened to their outermost garment. In some countries their mark of proscription was a hat of peculiar shape. But fortunately these restrictions were removed when the powers that be came to their senses.