

Q 23 150 b.

Letter of Thanks of Rabbi Halfon ben Menashe^{ch} of Cairo
to Halfon (Khalef) son of Isaac of Aden

Doehl. Ms. Heb. a 2 (Cat. 2805) f. 16

of all the letters of this volume, this is, in its outward appearance,
the most sumptuous. It is written on particularly light brown,
almost white, paper of good quality: smooth, thin and strong.
46^{cm} high x 20 broad. ^{37 lines, 2 on the margin, 1 on the left, 1 on the right} It is in the handwriting of the scribe

who is well known from many Jewish documents. For
he, Halfon ben Menashe^{ch} ben al-Qataif, was member
and scribe of the Rabbinical court of Old-Cairo for
most of the second ~~many years~~ quarter of the twelfth century, cf.
Marr. Jews Index passim (where only a very small fraction
of the documents preserved is mentioned). Thus he writes
with larger letters & more carefully than usual. ^{many of} The

Hebrew ^{words are} ~~text~~ is even partly vowelled. ^{156/1134} ~~orig. words~~ ^{orig. words}

The letter is partly damaged by holes; but the text could be completely
restored with only one word (the last in line 2) remaining doubtful.

In this letter, the writer expresses his thanks to Halfon,
son of Isaac we know under his Arabic name Khalef, son of
Isaac, for a sending of one Ma'ana of ^{eight} ~~eight~~
and of ^{which were de-}

livered to him by Halfon ben ^{b.} Nathan'el. Thus
may ^{such as from 1135} ~~may~~
The gifts were essential parts of the income of the religious dis-
pensaries. Cf. Bechler

Khalef b. Isaac, as we learn from the letter, bore the honor
title ^{joy} ~~the~~ of the Community, ^(in the plural)
which seems to indicate that he used to send gifts to

In the doc. T. S. 16.318 ll 12-13 פ'ררר (13) ו'ררר פ'רררר ו'רררר ל'ררר
Mann JQR VII (1917) p. 478 (Hsi) 1. 12. 13. ו'רררר ר'רררר
NS possibly people from various places (like Bagdad, Baina, Kufa, Nairi) had united to erect that synagogue.
the dignitaries & the poor of the two main communities of Cairo, the "Palestinians" and the "Iraqians", likewise his father, who ^{then was} still alive, bore the title The Benefactor of the Communities.

(Mann, Jews I 249-250, ^{cf. II 337-38} believed that our Halfon b. Isaac was a prominent member of the Jewish community of Egypt. However, from the Arabic section of this letter, the identity of our Halfon with the well known merchant 'Khalek of Aden is ^{evident} beyond doubt.)

~~an exclusively in Hebrew~~ ^{the second part in Arabic ink speaks as usually with a few Hebrew words.}
The letter consists of two parts. The first 21 lines, is in Hebrew and mostly in rhymed prose. ~~Lines~~ l. 1-8 contain ~~in general~~ a praise of the generous, 'who do not store up their riches, but give them to the poor and needy' and ~~then goes on to say:~~

8 ... This is the holy band, on the head of which there is

9-10 ... our prince ... Halfon ... the joy of the Community

11-21 ~~contains~~ ^{greetings & eulogies}

l. 8-13 states that 'at the head of this holy band' of benefactors there is Halfon, the joy of the Community, ^{a statement} which gives opportunity to bestow many eulogies on him, ending with the wish that he may see the coming of the Messiah & the erection of the Temple of Jerusalem.

^{on the second part of} ~~l. 14-23~~ the letter proper begins. According to

a usage, ^{and} which has remained in living use for among

the Yemensite ^{Jews} up to the present day, greetings or exhortations, as the letters of the Apostles show, must have been very old

19 April 1948

אלהן נוסף: אלהן

५२ ५३ ५४

the hard labor acc. to a rabbinical community

'hard labor' in Exodus 1, 14 refers to the study
of the Torah

[illegible]

23 tasadduqa to give as a good deed (alms is ^{for relief} not obligatory).

23 ³7 yadd with the sign for a dadd, because this is pronounced, as widely in Dutch.

24 [25] 26 [27] 28
may find present the
27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100, 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 106, 107, 108, 109, 110, 111, 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, 117, 118, 119, 120, 121, 122, 123, 124, 125, 126, 127, 128, 129, 130, 131, 132, 133, 134, 135, 136, 137, 138, 139, 140, 141, 142, 143, 144, 145, 146, 147, 148, 149, 150, 151, 152, 153, 154, 155, 156, 157, 158, 159, 160, 161, 162, 163, 164, 165, 166, 167, 168, 169, 170, 171, 172, 173, 174, 175, 176, 177, 178, 179, 180, 181, 182, 183, 184, 185, 186, 187, 188, 189, 190, 191, 192, 193, 194, 195, 196, 197, 198, 199, 200, 201, 202, 203, 204, 205, 206, 207, 208, 209, 210, 211, 212, 213, 214, 215, 216, 217, 218, 219, 220, 221, 222, 223, 224, 225, 226, 227, 228, 229, 230, 231, 232, 233, 234, 235, 236, 237, 238, 239, 240, 241, 242, 243, 244, 245, 246, 247, 248, 249, 250, 251, 252, 253, 254, 255, 256, 257, 258, 259, 260, 261, 262, 263, 264, 265, 266, 267, 268, 269, 270, 271, 272, 273, 274, 275, 276, 277, 278, 279, 280, 281, 282, 283, 284, 285, 286, 287, 288, 289, 290, 291, 292, 293, 294, 295, 296, 297, 298, 299, 300, 301, 302, 303, 304, 305, 306, 307, 308, 309, 310, 311, 312, 313, 314, 315, 316, 317, 318, 319, 320, 321, 322, 323, 324, 325, 326, 327, 328, 329, 330, 331, 332, 333, 334, 335, 336, 337, 338, 339, 340, 341, 342, 343, 344, 345, 346, 347, 348, 349, 350, 351, 352, 353, 354, 355, 356, 357, 358, 359, 360, 361, 362, 363, 364, 365, 366, 367, 368, 369, 370, 371, 372, 373, 374, 375, 376, 377, 378, 379, 380, 381, 382, 383, 384, 385, 386, 387, 388, 389, 390, 391, 392, 393, 394, 395, 396, 397, 398, 399, 400, 401, 402, 403, 404, 405, 406, 407, 408, 409, 410, 411, 412, 413, 414, 415, 416, 417, 418, 419, 420, 421, 422, 423, 424, 425, 426, 427, 428, 429, 430, 431, 432, 433, 434, 435, 436, 437, 438, 439, 440, 441, 442, 443, 444, 445, 446, 447, 448, 449, 450, 451, 452, 453, 454, 455, 456, 457, 458, 459, 460, 461, 462, 463, 464, 465, 466, 467, 468, 469, 470, 471, 472, 473, 474, 475, 476, 477, 478, 479, 480, 481, 482, 483, 484, 485, 486, 487, 488, 489, 490, 491, 492, 493, 494, 495, 496, 497, 498, 499, 500, 501, 502, 503, 504, 505, 506, 507, 508, 509, 510, 511, 512, 513, 514, 515, 516, 517, 518, 519, 520, 521, 522, 523, 524, 525, 526, 527, 528, 529, 530, 531, 532, 533, 534, 535, 536, 537, 538, 539, 540, 541, 542, 543, 544, 545, 546, 547, 548, 549, 550, 551, 552, 553, 554, 555, 556, 557, 558, 559, 560, 561, 562, 563, 564, 565, 566, 567, 568, 569, 570, 571, 572, 573, 574, 575, 576, 577, 578, 579, 580, 581, 582, 583, 584, 585, 586, 587, 588, 589, 590, 591, 592, 593, 594, 595, 596, 597, 598, 599, 600, 601, 602, 603, 604, 605, 606, 607, 608, 609, 610, 611, 612, 613, 614, 615, 616, 617, 618, 619, 620, 621, 622, 623, 624, 625, 626, 627, 628, 629, 630, 631, 632, 633, 634, 635, 636, 637, 638, 639, 640, 641, 642, 643, 644, 645, 646, 647, 648, 649, 650, 651, 652, 653, 654, 655, 656, 657, 658, 659, 660, 661, 662, 663, 664, 665, 666, 667, 668, 669, 670, 671, 672, 673, 674, 675, 676, 677, 678, 679, 680, 681, 682, 683, 684, 685, 686, 687, 688, 689, 690, 691, 692, 693, 694, 695, 696, 697, 698, 699, 700, 701, 702, 703, 704, 705, 706, 707, 708, 709, 710, 711, 712, 713, 714, 715, 716, 717, 718, 719, 720, 721, 722, 723, 724, 725, 726, 727, 728, 729, 730, 731, 732, 733, 734, 735, 736, 737, 738, 739, 740, 741, 742, 743, 744, 745, 746, 747, 748, 749, 750, 751, 752, 753, 754, 755, 756, 757, 758, 759, 760, 761, 762, 763, 764, 765, 766, 767, 768, 769, 770, 771, 772, 773, 774, 775, 776, 777, 778, 779, 780, 781, 782, 783, 784, 785, 786, 787, 788, 789, 790, 791, 792, 793, 794, 795, 796, 797, 798, 799, 800, 801, 802, 803, 804, 805, 806, 807, 808, 809, 810, 811, 812, 813, 814, 815, 816, 817, 818, 819, 820, 821, 822, 823, 824, 825, 826, 827, 828, 829, 830, 831, 832, 833, 834, 835, 836, 837, 838, 839, 840, 841, 842, 843, 844, 845, 846, 847, 848, 849, 850, 851, 852, 853, 854, 855

may find present in
America

27 КД² 5/

He led off the

originally

2025

22/24

28 It's strange that a verse from the Book of 28

Proverbs () is quoted here as a saying of the Dabbi of the Talmud. No reference to a ^{Mishdrashic} house is intended.

[illegible]

22 ~~complex~~ the highest ~~stage~~^{low} degree of completion

34 x-ray film) may be crown mid, my head with Dagon. lot. A
strange expression. However, when in case of the decision of

~~1382] 1st ff. on 1382~~

37 KSK: This sort is reduplicated. It

P.T.O. It is introduced because the classical phrase beginning with ψ is not any more alive in the speech of the youth.

can 'un'other
man one
saw, in
the crown
of my head
in the
down

6

110

Address as usual written

upside down to the text overall
~~opposite direction~~

on the left side of lines 2 and 4-5 are left blank so that the
whole space may be as least unimpeded by letters. Likewise
written like this for
esthetical reasons

Another hand

Handwritten signature/initials

again upside down

Possibly handwriting of Whistler himself, so this preserved
the letter together with others.

or the leaves of the letter

[illegible]

הוא מה שאני רוצה אנחנו נלמד 25
25 ימים ביום הפה'א פה'א בן ל' האדם לאדם

וזהו אדם בן מסלול בין ימים בן אדם מלך (מפני)
[הואן אדם מלך פה'א]
אין לו מלך מלך מלך מלך

35 פה'א אדם מלך מלך מלך מלך מלך
וזהו אדם מלך מלך מלך מלך מלך
מלך מלך מלך מלך מלך מלך

אדם מלך מלך מלך מלך מלך
שור'א מלך מלך מלך מלך מלך
מלך מלך מלך מלך מלך מלך
2 ואדם מלך מלך מלך מלך מלך

מלך מלך מלך מלך מלך
אדם מלך מלך מלך מלך מלך
מלך מלך מלך מלך מלך מלך
מלך מלך מלך מלך מלך מלך

מלך מלך מלך מלך מלך מלך

אדם מלך מלך מלך מלך מלך