

pervision of the ministry for ecclesiastical and educational affairs, regulates the affairs of all the Jewish communities of the country. This body is composed of a Jewish theologian, a Jewish lawyer, and four Jewish associates, with a Christian ministerial counselor at their head. In all communities there are institutions for the instruction of adults, as well as burial societies, dispensaries, and societies for the relief of the resident and traveling poor. Stuttgart and Hall have societies for the promotion of a knowledge of rabbinical literature. The ancient ritual is observed in most of the communities, though some innovations have been introduced in Stuttgart, Heilbronn, Ulm, and Göppingen. See also HEILBRONN; STUTTGART; ULM.

S.

T. K.

WÜRZBURG: Capital of Lower Franconia, Bavaria, Germany. It ranked as a city in 741, and had a Jewish community as early as the eleventh century, although the first documentary evidence of the existence of Jews in the town is dated in 1119. The Crusade of 1147 brought much suffering on the Jews, and they were also persecuted in 1298, and again in 1349, when in their synagogue the men, together with their wives and children, met a voluntary death in the flames. Bishop Julius continued the work begun by Bishop Friedrich, who had expelled the Jews of Würzburg in 1565, and banished the community from the city. The cemetery was, accordingly, no longer used, and Bishop Julius confiscated it by illegal means, even ignoring the emperor's admonition to treat the Jews with justice.

After the expulsion from Würzburg the Jewish community of the neighboring town of Heidingsfeld flourished greatly, and to it were transferred the rabbinate of Würzburg and the Jewish court. The rabbinical office of Würzburg has always been held by prominent men, including Eliezer ben Nathan, Isaac Or Zarua', Meïr of Rothenburg, Israel Koppel Fränkel and his son Samson Fränkel, Jacob of Reckendorf, Aryeh Löb Rapoport, and Levin Fahrenbach. Under Fahrenbach's successor the Jews were again permitted to settle in Würzburg; and Rabbi Abraham Bing, who was appointed chief rabbi of Franconia in 1798, took up his residence in the city. When Bing retired from active service in 1839 the chief rabbinate was abolished, and a district rabbinate was created in its place. The first district rabbi of Würzburg was Seligmann Baer BAMBERGER, who died in 1878 and was succeeded by his son Nathan Bamberger. Seligmann Baer Bamberger founded various important institutions, including a Jewish school, a teachers' seminary, and a yeshibah. He also originated the movement for the establishment of a Jewish hospital.

Würzburg has numerous societies which support all forms of Jewish activity, among them being four associations for the promotion of the study of the Torah. The Jews of Würzburg number 4,000 out of a total population of 90,000, and constitute one of the most important communities in Bavaria.

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D.

M. L. B.

WÜRZBURGER, JULIUS: American journalist; born in Bayreuth, Germany, 1819; died in New York city Sept. 14, 1876; studied at the University of Erlangen. In 1848, the year of the revolution, he was editor of the "Bayreuth Tageblatt." Removing to Munich, his liberal views and writings attracted the attention of the government; and in 1849 he was banished from Bavaria. He went to Italy and France, where he acted as correspondent, and finally emigrated to America, where he became connected with the "New-Yorker Staats-Zeitung" (1856-75), editing its Sunday supplement with marked ability and success.

A.

A. S. I.

WYSBER, LUDWIG: Hungarian journalist and author; born 1817. Originally a street pedler in Pesth, he obtained employment as a chorus singer in the German theater of that city, and afterward held minor positions on several local newspapers. At the outbreak of the March Movement in 1848, he obtained permission to publish "Der Patriot," while Julian Chownitz, or Chowanetz, a Jew who had been active as a revolutionist, was given permission to publish "Die Opposition." These two journals represented Kossuth's party, and acquired considerable influence. Between 1850 and 1870 Wysber appears to have been guilty of numerous speculations among the merchants and clergy of Hungary, extending his operations even to Vienna. He employed various aliases, as "Arthur von Alaven," "Jonas Földváry," and "Wysbersi"; and warrants were issued for his arrest. He was the author of "Lebensbilder aus Ungarn," mentioned in Von Helfert's "Geschichte Oesterreichs vom Ausgange des Wiener October Aufstandes 1848" (Prague, 1876; Appendix, p. 135, note 311).

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S.

N. D.