

BECOMES A MAN AMONG THE JEWS

Impressive Ceremonies at Superior Synagogue Yesterday.
Second Sacred Event in Life of Louis Sparberg.
His Confirmation.

At the Jewish synagogue, Sixth street and Hammond avenue, at 9:30 yesterday morning Louis Sparberg, 13 years old, was led to the altar by his father and there received by N. Marcovitch, teacher of the Hebrew night school the Jewish rites which made him a man. He was the first Superior boy to receive such rites. Mr. Marcovitch then addressed the large congregation. He said: "Thirteen years have passed since the boy's parents laid the first foundation upon his existence as a Hebrew." He explained that the Jewish boy is circumcised on the eighth day after his birth, according to the covenant that the world's architect made with our patriarch Abraham, "and now my friends," the speaker added, "thirteen years have passed since the birth of our new member, and his parents are laying the second foundation for his existence as a respectable son of Israel—planting in him at the same time the seeds of Judaism, knowledge and correct conduct.

"How happy must be the heart of every Jewish citizen fortunate enough to bring a child to this period of life; and how thankful must we be to the great God of Israel, who brought us to this country of liberty, unity and peace.

"My friends, open up our history of four centuries ago, when our tribes fell into the power of the Spanish Inquisition, and look at the bloody pages, dyed in the blood of thousands of our forefathers, who sacrificed their lives for being honest and faithful to Judaism."

To this the new member, Louis

Sparberg, replied as follows:

"Dear beloved parents, relatives and friends.—With a joyous feeling and yet oppressed heart, do I appear before you, worthy congregation, at this momentous hour, to assume my position among you as a participating member of our cherished faith. Another youthful branch has been added to the glorious tree, rooting in the soil of a hoary past, overshadowing with its lustrous crown a promising harvest for a still more glorious future.

"This day of my 'Bar-mizwa' (confirmation) serves but to strengthen within me the divine injunction, so vividly and beautifully brought forth in the holy scripture: 'Whatever the Lord speaketh, I shall do and perform.'

"As I gaze back and linger over each incident in the record of bygone days, so bright and cheerful, no thoughts of future welfare disturbing its calm, placid course, no fear nor consideration of troubles on life's journey—I wish and pray: O! may my future be as happy and bright as my past, for in Thine hands, O Lord and God, is placed the fate of all mankind.

"Up to this hour, you, my dear teacher and parents, have planted within my heart the seed of knowledge of God's unity—have taught me in words and deeds—the God of creation and history—the God of revelation.

"Above all I also pray, that for many years to come, Thou mayest spare to me the lives of my beloved parents, that they might enjoy the fruit of their care and labor, in health, happiness and prosperity. Amen."