

Most of the verso contains anpiyyut unrelated to the other side, but the margins do indeed go with the other side.

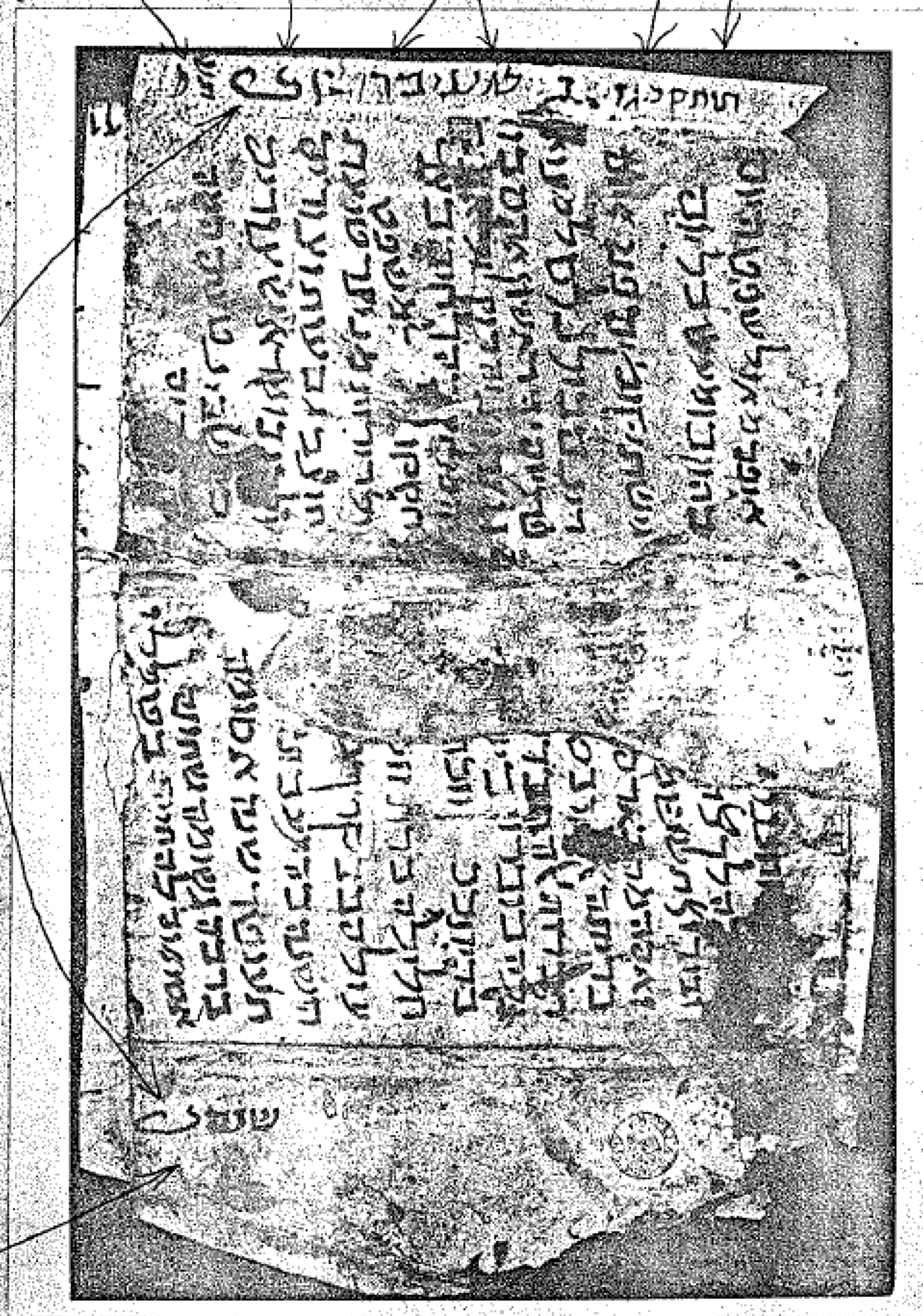
Bull. MS
Hab. d. 79
fol. 36
Verso

The same date as verso?

Anchimmunale or letters

תחת סגן (?)

This seems to be the same in both places



שנת

LIBRARY

Bodl. MS d. 79 fol. 36 verso.

Copy prepared for Prof. S. D. Goitein
December 1965.

only

הערות למעשה בי"ד מן העיר סרקוסה משנת 1020

א

קריאתך בדרך כלל מצויינת

3 מלה אחרונה: אלכ(ניסה) - בבית הכנסה

4 אולי: ואש קדר עלמה - ומה הוא יודע, מה מידת ידיעתו

6 ואחען: קרא: ואחנין - פעם אחת או שתיים.

8 מלה אחרונה. אולי: קס אלי דארך (כ כמו ך . כך היה מקובל אצלם)

9 רבד ואן. אולי: ודכרו אן

ב

2 מלה אחרונה לא הוכל להיות יגלב, שפירושו הביא סחורה מחוץ לארץ.

3 פקד וצד. אולי:פקאל צד מא דבר - ואמר הפך מה שהגיד מקודם

4 אן כלף מורתי ענרך הגר. וחרגומו פשוט: מורישי הניח אצלך אבן כסף

שקנה אותו (הכסף), שבעדו היה עליו לשלם וכו'

5 פאנכרס. כמעט בטוח: פאנכרה, הוא הכחיש.

אלאניף: אני מסופק, אם קיימה טלה כזו, ואיני רואה, שכך כתוב. אולי

כתוב בפשטות: אליה הדא?

8 באלחמיר: איני מבין, איך אתה קורא ואיך אתה מתרגם. לדעתי כתוב

כאן בפשטות: באלדנאניר, עד שיביא את הכסף.

9 קרא: אלאעואן.

האם החתימה היא חכמון? זהו שם מערבי רגיל. אך נראה לי שהאות הראשונה היא

ח' ולא ח'.

ברשט"ו

ש.ד.גויטיין

נר ראשון חשכ"ו

A 79.7.36

11TH-CENTURY MS. OF JEWS IS FOUND

Called Oldest Extant Proof of a Community in Sicily

A member of the University of Chicago's Department of Oriental Languages and Civilizations, announced yesterday the discovery of what he called the oldest extant legal document of the Jews in Sicily.

Norman Gold, assistant professor of Medieval Jewish Studies, said the document was important because it bears the early date of 1020 A.D., and because it showed that a community of Jews flourished in Syracuse under the Arabs before the Norman conquest of the island in 1080 A.D.

Mr. Gold reported his findings at the 38th annual meeting of the American Academy for Jewish Research at the Jewish Theological Seminary of America, 122d Street and Broadway. The meeting was presided over by Prof. Saul Lieberman of the seminary, outgoing president of the academy.

What Mr. Gold reported on was a parchment leaf that found its way to Egypt and then, in due course, to Oxford University in England.

Ultraviolet Rays Used

It had been classified there as an "illegible document," and scholars generally ignored it until Mr. Gold noticed it and used ultraviolet ray photography to bring out traces of the writing.

It is a court document about one Elijah, the son of a silk merchant of Syracuse who had been found guilty by the judges of the Jewish community of appropriating some silver ingots from another's inheritance.

Elijah went to the Moslem

officials who ruled in Syracuse at the time and brought them back to the Jewish court. There, before an open Torah, he was made to recite the Ten Commandments and to swear that he had not taken the silver.

The Moslem officials recovered the money that Elijah had been required to pay as surety for the silver.

The event was recorded on Thursday, April 21, 1020.

Mr. Golb was puzzled by certain legal peculiarities in the document. For example, the practice of reciting the Ten Commandments before the open Torah as a form of oath is not otherwise attested to in historical sources, he noted.

Genizah Manuscript

The parchment is one of the so-called Genizah manuscripts, which were discovered near the end of the 19th century in an old synagogue south of Cairo, where a large community of Jews lived in medieval times. A valuable collection of Genizah manuscripts is now in the Bodleian Library at Oxford University.

Sicily was part of the Byzantine empire from 535 A.D. until 878 A.D., when Moslems from North Africa completed the conquest of the island.

At that time the Jews of Syracuse were expelled, and they resettled at Palermo, Italy. They were not heard from again until the 12th century.

Discovery of the legal document indicates that the Jews either were not entirely expelled, or that a new group of Jews, perhaps from North Africa, settled in Syracuse before the Norman conquest, Mr. Golb suggested.

The document is written in Judaeo-Arabic—that is, Arabic language in Hebrew script—with some occasional Hebrew words.

During yesterday's meeting, Dr. Salo Baron, professor-emeritus of history at Columbia University, was elected president of the academy.

HARTFORD CHANGES

Lieutenant Governor Under Party

Special to The N

HARTFORD,

major changes in the administration of Gov. J. Seymour are expected. The first of the year will see Samuel Tedesco, who has been Governor since J. Willard Boardman will resign on the agreement reached last week by state Democrats.

Mr. Tedesco, wife of Bridgeport's Mayor, has been appointed to the Superior Court next summer. His resignation would give Fred I. Windsor, president of the State Senate, the opportunity to serve as Governor for a year. State party leaders are expected to name Attilio F. Stafford Springs, a Consumer Protection Commissioner, as a possible nomination for Lieutenant Governor at the state party convention next June.

2d Resignation

Another resignation is that of Paul Driscoll, which as a member of the Public Utilities Commission. Mr. Driscoll also has been appointed as a judge of the Superior Court, effective immediately.

There is speculation that Raymond S. Thatcher, Hampton, who is the controller, may resign his appointment to the Public Utilities Commission to succeed Driscoll. This would be the nomination for controller at the state party convention. Among those men

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