

RECEPTION TO MAURICE MOSCOVITCH.

A BRILLIANT FUNCTION AT PORT ELIZABETH.

(Communicated.)

A function closely identified with Jewish culture—pleasing as it was gratifying to all co-religionists—took place here on Sunday morning, 2nd September, when that great master of his art—Maurice Moscovitch—was the honoured guest.

Situated within the spacious and picturesque grounds which surround the charming residence of Councillor and Mrs. Schauder, was a large arbor covered with a profusion of flowers and trained creepers. It was here, amidst a fragrance of perfume and wealth of colour, that the admirers of Mr. Moscovitch assembled; a perfect elysium through which a shaft of brilliant sunshine occasionally penetrated with beautiful effect and in which the visitors partook of the lavish hospitality of their hosts.

Speeches, which were of unusual eloquence and exceptional merit, held the attention of an enraptured gathering. During the intervals strains of appropriate music floated through the air. Superimposed upon nature's lavish decorations, and supplementing her colour scheme, were numerous patriotic flags, and it was a significant and touching indication of the deep loyalty and lasting devotion of Judah to Britain to observe the Flag of Zion nestling securely beneath the ample folds of the Union Jack.

Upon Mr. H. J. Rogaly rested the privilege of introducing the many visitors who accepted Councillor Schauder's invitation to meet Mr. Moscovitch and his son, Mr. Nat Madison. The central figure of a perfect tableau—outstanding and commanding, yet gracious and modest withal—was that of the Great Lover, unmistakably happy and delighted to be amongst his own people. Above the plaudits of the great world—the three continents which had acclaimed him a superb artist and master—he appreciated more than all else the love and admiration of his people, of which Mr. Mierowsky, in an address of outstanding merit, assured him in the name of Zion. The spontaneous tribute paid him that day deeply touched him, though the great artist was already decorated with the laurel wreath of fame. Mr. Mierowsky's eloquence reached a very lofty eminence when he compared the Great Lover with Israel, and suggested that the Jewish people had played the role of history's "Great Lover" amongst the nations. Israel had in turn courted almost every country in the world. He made love to Babylon, Persia and Media. He paid his addresses to Greece and Rome; he left a badly bruised heart in Spain and Portugal; before surrendering his heart to Britain, he paid court to every nation in Europe. Unlike the "Great Lover," Israel's love was rarely returned. Hoary with age, virile as ever, tired of unreciprocated love, Israel now courted once more the object of his early affection, and it was his earnest desire that this last phase would result in a happy union.

Mr. D. M. Brown, M.L.A., a well known figure in local and parliamentary life and a staunch friend of the Jew, expressed pleasure in being with them all that day. He could not refrain from expressing the pleasure he had experienced in listening to Mr. Mierowsky's oration and designated it as a masterpiece. Interspersed with a speech complimentary both

to the guest of the occasion and the Jewish people, was a fund of brilliant wit and humour.

At this stage Miss Minnie Lewis delighted the audience with a song which was much appreciated. Mr. Schauder welcomed Mr. Moscovitch, both in his capacity of City Councillor and as an individual member of the community. He felt full of pride that one of his brethren had again attained to eminence. He looked forward to Mr. Moscovitch's return in the near future, and emphasised the honour which their distinguished guest reflected upon them all.

The "Great Lover" in his reply, which was received with rapt attention, evoking bursts of applause from time to time, felt somewhat tired after 10 weeks of strenuous love-making, but the warmth and cordiality of their welcome, the hospitality and attentions which had been showered upon him almost deprived him of the power of speech. He then gave a brilliant dissertation on art, dividing his subject into five distinct parts, viz.:—sculpture, painting, music, literature, and the stage, which gave vocal expression to the inarticulate thoughts of each. He paid a tribute to that brilliant young genius, Mr. Adolph Hallis. He was charmed with this country, he laid special emphasis on the exquisite beauty of his surroundings. He looked forward to his next visit to these shores with eager pleasure.

Mr. Moscovitch embarked that afternoon for Europe when many of his Jewish admirers wished him *bon voyage* on the jetty. The function was in all respects a happy one and the community's thanks are due in no small measure to Mr. and Mrs. Schauder for their contribution towards its success. The event will be long remembered by all who were fortunate enough to be present.

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