

Colonel Sir David Harris.

From M. Rabinowitz (Capetown).

To the Editor of the *Zionist Record*.

Sir,—I was an interested reader of your review of Sir David Harris' popular book. The author is a very old friend of mine whom I have seen rise from comparatively humble beginnings to distinction and success in the various activities in which from time to time he embarked. In the early days of Kimberley he was President of the Hebrew Congregation there and I was Hon. Secretary. When his fortunes rose and a new Synagogue was needed, Harris subscribed £1,000 towards the building and was instrumental in getting De Beers to provide the site. He sat in Parliament many years, and most of his not too frequent speeches were connected with this great Corporation, of which he was so long the moving spirit since the death of Rhodes and Barnato. He was a fluent speaker, could always interest the House, and was frequently applauded by the press. He married young, and his wife died suddenly at the Queen's Hotel, Capetown, where they were residing during the Parliamentary Session.

In Sir David's book he refers to his wife's benevolence of character. A striking instance of this was told me some time back by Lady de Waal (wife of the late Administrator of the Cape Province) who was an intimate friend of hers.

On their silver wedding her husband gave her a diamond necklet composed of a number of picked stones he had collected for the purpose. She enquired its value, and on being told it was worth £6,000 she said she would prefer the money. He gave her a cheque, and she immediately proceeded to distribute the money among the Kimberley poor and its various charities, and said that she felt a deeper satisfaction in that than in wearing so costly a trinket. Not many women would have done that.

Your reviewer speaks of Sir David's benefactions to Kimberley. About four years ago I spent three weeks there with my old friend, and heard much of those benefactions, which included an annual grant of £400 towards the cost of providing 700 poor children with a midday meal.

To mark their sense of his long-standing munificence the people of Kimberley combined to subscribe for a bust of their

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RETURN OF SHURA CHERKASSKY.

A Jewish Pianist.

The young pianist who created such a furore in South Africa two years ago has now returned to this country on a short visit. Shura Cherkassky will give recitals at the City Hall on April 5th, 8th and 12th, and he is assured of a warm welcome by all music lovers.



In London the *Daily Telegraph* recently stated that there could be no two opinions concerning his astonishing mastery of every department of keyboard technique. He has an exquisite touch and a peculiarly felicitous style of phrasing in his performance.

The critic of the *London Times* said: Clear precision and rapidity worthy of a machine were balanced by a flexibility no machine could approach. His octave playing was specially brilliant. His tone was rich, varied and powerful, but the power was that of a steel spring rather than of a steam hammer.

The Sunday Times said: Go and listen to young Cherkassky. Here is not merely first-rate pianism, superlative pianism, the sort of thing that is so completely remarkable, that after a while you cease even to be aware of its perfection.

great old man on a lofty pedestal and recently unveiled it amidst great enthusiasm. This is the first occasion that a public man has been so honoured in his lifetime in this country—it is rare in any country.—Yours, etc.,

M. Rabinowitz.

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Stock-taking is now behind us. So, also, is a full week of feverish activity in the Goods-Receiving Department. New stocks of every kind have been crowding in upon us to an extent that set us seriously wondering whether our Buyers of the Fashion Sections had permitted optimism to get the better of their judgment . . . we feared they had heavily over-bought. But such thoughts were quickly dispelled immediately we checked the styles, the qualities and the values that are to be offered for the new season. We cannot remember a time when new assortments were so attractive and prices so pleasing.

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