



Box list of Moses Gaster's working papers at the John Rylands University Library, Manchester

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This box list provides a guide to a specific segment of the wide ranging Gaster collection at The John Rylands Library, part of the University of Manchester, namely the contents of thirteen boxes of 'Gaster Papers'. It is intended to help researchers to search for items of interest in this extensive but largely untapped collection. The box list is a work in progress and descriptions of the first six boxes are at present more detailed than those of boxes seven to thirteen. Most of the work in preparation for this box list has been undertaken in the context of a postdoctoral research fellowship funded by the Rothschild Foundation (Hanadiv) Europe at the Centre for Jewish Studies in the University of Manchester (September 2011–August 2012).

Biographical history

Moses Gaster was born in Bucharest (Romania) to a privileged Jewish family in 1856. His mother's name was Phina Judith Rubinstein. His father, Abraham Emanuel Gaster (d. 1926), was the commercial attaché of the Dutch consulate. Gaster went to Germany in 1873 to pursue philological studies at the University of Breslau, which he combined with studying for his Rabbinic degree at the Rabbinic Seminary of Breslau. He defended his doctoral thesis at the University of Leipzig. After his studies, in 1881, he returned to Romania and lectured in Romanian language and literature at the University of Bucharest. He also officiated as an inspector of secondary schools (from 1883) and an examiner of teachers (from 1884). Besides this he was active in various Jewish Societies, such as the Jewish Colonization Society and the Council of the Society for the Publication of Jewish School Books. His activism on behalf of the Jewish population, particularly his insistence that the government should implement article 44 of the Treaty of Berlin (1878) granting full citizenship to non-Christians, led to his expulsion from Romania in 1885. The decree of expulsion was later rescinded, and Gaster received the Rumanian order 'Pour le Merite' (first class) in 1891, and in 1929 he became an honorary member of the Romanian Academy. However, he did not return to Romania for residency.

After his expulsion he settled in England. In 1887 he was appointed to the position of Haham (roughly equivalent to Chief Rabbi) of the Sephardic community of the British Empire, a role which he fulfilled until 1918. Gaster maintained an interest in education, which was

demonstrated by the gusto with which he took up his appointment as the principal of the Lady Judith Montefiore College at Ramsgate (1888–1896), an institution which he tried to transform into a Rabbinic seminary. It left him deeply embittered when his dream of putting the Montefiore College on the map of European Jewish education ended in bitter conflicts between himself and the Sephardi establishment – an episode which nearly cost him his position as Haham as well. After the closure of the college he rededicated much of his energy to Zionism (to which he had already been committed in Romania). He was among the founders of the English Zionist Federation in 1899.

A significant number of Gaster's philological publications was produced in the 1880s and 1890s. Many of his publications were editions and studies of a wide range of texts, including European folklore, and Jewish and Christian literature from antiquity to the Middle Ages. Examples include: *Literatura Populară Română* (1883) and *Chrestomatie Română* (1891), *Romanian Apocalypse of Abraham* (1887), *Ilchester Lectures on Greco-Slavonic Literature* (1887), 'Hebrew Visions of Hell and Paradise' (1893), *The Sword of Moses* (1896) and *The Chronicles of Jerahmeel* (1899). In spite of his increasingly deteriorating eyesight, Gaster continued to publish throughout his life. His later books include *The Exempla of the Rabbis* (1924), *The Samaritans: their History, Doctrines and Literature* (1925, Schweich Lectures of 1923), *Asatir, the Samaritan Book of the Secrets of Moses* (1927) and *Maaseh Book of Jewish Tales and Legends* (1934). He also wrote many articles for newspapers and magazines on a great variety of subjects.

Gaster married Lucy Friedlander (1871–1940), the daughter of Michael Friedlander (1833–1910; principal of Jews' College) in 1890. They had a large family, with seven sons and six daughters (plus two sons who died in infancy). Their eldest daughter, Phina Emily, married judge Neville Laski (1890–1969). Another daughter, Irene, became a pioneering social worker. She moved to Israel, where she established the first care centre for mentally disabled children. A son, Theodor (1906–1992), was a scholar in biblical and ancient Near Eastern studies. He settled in the USA and published on topics such as the Dead Sea Scrolls and myths in the Hebrew Bible. Another son, Jack (1907–2007), was a solicitor and communist activist.

Moses Gaster died of a heart attack on 5 March 1939. He was buried in the Hendon cemetery of the Spanish and Portuguese Jews, north-west London.

Scope and Content

Gaster's range of scholarship was vast. The areas of study to which he contributed include folklore, apocrypha and pseudepigrapha, Jewish magic and mysticism, Samaritanism, and Romanian language and literature. The material in the Rylands Gaster Papers will be relevant to those interested in the history of scholarship in these fields, and also for the study of history and politics at the end of the nineteenth- and beginning of the twentieth-century. Several of Gaster's essays, particularly in box 5, show him as a commentator on events of the time, including Anglo-Jewish life, the demise of the Ottoman Empire, and the rise of 'Aryanism' and the 'Jewish question'.

Gaster Papers in the context of the Rylands Gaster collection

These thirteen boxes of ‘Gaster Papers’ are part of the Rylands Gaster Archive, together with four boxes of correspondence between Gaster and the Samaritan priests in Nablus (entitled ‘Samaritan correspondence’) and five boxes of lists of books Gaster owned (entitled ‘library catalogues’). The Gaster Archive is in turn part of the Rylands Gaster Collection. This varied collection consists of circa 850 manuscripts collected by Gaster (subdivided into the ‘Hebrew’, ‘Samaritan’ and ‘Miscellaneous’ sections), circa 15,000 Genizah fragments (which have recently been digitised), amulets collected by Gaster, and Gaster’s own copies of his published works (books, booklets and off prints of articles). Most of these published books contain annotations by Gaster.

For catalogues, finding aids and studies on Gaster manuscript collections at the Rylands see:

- Philip Alexander and Renate Smithuis (eds.), *From Cairo to Manchester: Studies in the Rylands Genizah Fragments*. Oxford: University Press, forthcoming.
- Maria Haralambakis, ‘A Survey of the Gaster Collection at the John Rylands Library’, *Bulletin of the John Rylands Library*, 89:2 (2013) [forthcoming; it includes an inventory of the ‘miscellaneous manuscript sequence’ with a catalogue of the German manuscripts].
- Edward Robertson, *Catalogue of the Samaritan Manuscripts in the John Rylands Library*, Volume 2. Manchester: John Rylands University Library, 1962.
- Alexander Samely, ‘The Interpreted Text: Among the Hebrew Manuscripts of the John Rylands University Library’, *Bulletin of the John Rylands University Library*, 73 (1991), 1–20.
- Alexander Samely, *A Preliminary Catalogue of the Hebrew Manuscripts in the John Rylands University Library [Draft]*. Manchester: 1997. [unpublished, but available for consultation in the Library].

Acquisition

The Library acquired the manuscripts which Gaster collected in January 1954, from the Gaster family, represented by his son, Vivian Gaster. The Hebrew and Samaritan manuscripts and the Genizah fragments were purchased, and the miscellaneous sequence was presented as a gift. The printed books and archival material, including the Gaster Papers described here, followed in 1958, as a gift. See the librarian’s reports, ‘Notes and News’, *Bulletin of the John Rylands University Library*, 37 (1954): 2–6, and 40 (1958): 260–61. In addition, a few individual items were presented at later dates.

Reference codes and numbers used

Some of the items in this box list have a number written in parenthesis. These numbers are found on or in the volumes themselves, and Vivian Gaster uses them to identify items on the list which accompanied his letter of December 1957 to E. Robertson of the John Rylands Library (in the Collection File at the Library).

The reference codes used in this box list consist of two numbers: the first is the box (1–13) and the second the item. These codes are not final. When referring to them readers should indicate that the reference code is from the draft box list. On a few occasions three numbers have been used. The first of these is 2/6/1 and 2/6/2: an English and a German version of the same lecture by Gaster. The second occurrence of three numbers is 3/11/1 to 3/11/5. The five

pieces thus grouped together are all copies (made by Gaster or somebody else) of Romanian manuscripts. Another instance is 4/5/1 to 4/5/24. These 24 unbound pieces (Gaster's work in various degrees of progress, some unpublished, some earlier versions of published work) were originally placed together in a small green box (within box 4; this is the 'green box' mentioned by Vivian Gaster in his list), but have now been placed individually in envelopes.

Covering dates

Not all of the items have been dated. Dates provided range from 1876 to 1938. The first four boxes contain handwritten material mostly in Romanian and German, especially work by Gaster in the broad area of philology, from 1876 to 1914 (most of it from the 1880s and 1890s). The 76 typescripts in box 5 are mostly drafts of short articles (with handwritten corrections) in English, written between 1910 and 1938. The remaining boxes contain mainly typescripts, but some handwritten work. These items are from different periods, although more material (especially typescripts) appears to be from the twentieth century.

State of the collection

Generally the collection described here (the Gaster Papers) is in fair/good condition. Some of the items are slightly damaged, and one bound volume is severely damaged (namely item 2/2). In contrast, a substantial portion of the Rylands Gaster manuscript collection suffered water damage during the Second World War.

Resources used in this box list

- Schindler, Bruno. 'List of Publications of Dr. M. Gaster,' in Bruno Schindler (ed.), *Gaster Centenary Publication*. London: Royal Asiatic Society, 1958, 23–40.
- The *Collection File* at John Rylands Library. This contains correspondence between Vivian Gaster and the Librarian, related to the acquisition of the collection. This includes a handwritten list of 'Manuscripts of Gaster's work' (box 1–4) by Vivian Gaster, in which he has tried to identify which of these items have been published. This box list refers to this list on several occasions.

Gaster Papers at other institutions

Work by Gaster in various stages of progress can also be found among the largest Gaster Archive, the Gaster Papers in the Special Collections of University College London (henceforth 'UCL Gaster Papers'). It consists of 337 boxes (plus 22 volumes and 9 rolls), and contains material such as correspondence, pamphlets, photo albums, newspaper cuttings, sermons and other work by Gaster (notes, draft articles etc). A summary description of the UCL Gaster papers is available at www.aim25.ac.uk (search 'Gaster'). See also Trude Levi, *The Gaster Papers* (London: Library of University College, 1976)

The Kressel Archive at the Leopold Muller Memorial Library at the Oxford Centre for Hebrew and Jewish Studies (Yarnton Manor, Oxford) holds a file of newspaper cuttings on

Moses Gaster, and also a file on his daughter Irene and her contributions to social work. Mostly in Hebrew, a few articles in English and German.

The YIVO institute in New York is in possession of one box entitled ‘Gaster Papers’, containing several hundred items, such as postcards, wall-calendars, and letters of appeal which Gaster received from charitable institutions in Palestine between 1900 and the early 1920s. See Brad Sabin Hill, ‘The YIVO Collection of “Moses Gaster Papers”’, *YIVO News* (2006), 16–17.

As an aside, the manuscripts and printed books which Gaster collected, have been acquired by various institutions, including the British Library (various languages in Hebrew script), the Library of the Romanian Academy of Sciences (Romanian manuscripts), the School for Slavonic and East European Studies of University College London (printed books related especially to languages, literature and history in Romanian and other European Languages, including many books on Jews in Romania). The process of the distribution of Gaster’s library has been documented by Brad Sabin Hill, see for example his prefaces in *The Gaster Collection of Rumanian Printed Books held in the Library of the School of Slavonic and East European Studies* (London, 1995) and *Handlist of Gaster Manuscripts* (London: Hebrew Section, The British Library, 1995). For a summary, and a brief introduction to the Gaster collection at the Brotherton Library in Leeds, see Maria Haralambakis, ‘A Survey of the Gaster Collection at the John Rylands Library’, *Bulletin of the John Rylands Library*, 89:2 (forthcoming, 2013).

Archival documents from the UCL Gaster papers used for the ‘biographical history’

- Gaster’s CV, written probably at the very end of the nineteenth century, GASTER 1/E/3l.
- Gaster’s account of his expulsion from Romania, written in Vienna (‘Meine Ausweitung aus Rumänien’, 8 October 1885), GASTER 1/F/1.
- ‘Things that were’ A (1) Autobiography, dictated from 1 November 1938 onwards, GASTER 1/F/2(1).
- Newspaper cuttings related to Gaster’s resignation as Haham (1918), GASTER 3/B/3.
- Correspondence and reports related to the Montefiore College, including Gaster’s ‘Scheme for the reorganization of the Judith College’ (typescript, circa 1887), GASTER 4/A/1(3).
- Documents surrounding the closure of the college and Gaster’s near loss of his position as Haham (1895–96), GASTER 4/B/4(4).

Select bibliography

- Alderman, Geoffrey. ‘Gaster, Moses,’ *Oxford Dictionary of National Biography*. 2004, online edition.
- Alexander, Philip S. ‘Gaster’s *Exempla of the Rabbi’s*: A Reappraisal’ in *Rashi 1040–1990: Hommage à Ephraïm E. Urbach*, ed. Gabrielle Sed-Rajna (Paris: Cerf, 1993), 793–805.
- Eskenasy, Victor (ed.) *Moses Gaster: Memorii [Fragmente], Corresponţenţă*. Bucharest: Hasefer, 1998.

- Florea, Virgiliu. *Scriitori români in arhiva M. Gaster de la Londra*. 2 vols. Cluj-Napoca: Editura Fundației pentru Studii Europene, 2007.
- Florea, Virgiliu. *Dr. M. Gaster, omul și opera*. Cluj-Napoca: Editura Fundației pentru Studii Europene, 2008.
- Gaster, Bertha (ed.). *Moses Gaster's Memoirs*. London: privately printed, 1990. It includes 'Theodor's Memoirs', a portrait of Moses Gaster by his son Theodor, originally published as 'prolegomenon' in the reprint of Moses Gaster's *Studies and Texts in Folklore, Magic, Mediaeval Romance, Hebrew Apocrypha, and Samaritan Archaeology*. New York: Ktav, 1971 (orig. 1925).
- Gaster, Moses. 'Hanukah, 5617–5692: Autobiographical Reflections', *Jewish Forum* (Dec 1931), 427–30.
- Renton, James. 'Reconsidering Chaim Weizman and Moses Gaster in the Founding-Mythology of Zionism' in Michael Berkowitz (ed.), *Nationalism, Zionism and Ethnic Mobilization of the Jews in 1900 and Beyond* (Leiden: Brill, 2004): 129–51.
- Stanciu, Măriuca. 'Moses Gaster: Landmarks of an Intellectual Itinerary', *Studia Hebraica* 4 (2004), 75–87.
- Stanciu, Măriuca. 'A Promoter of the Haskalah in Romania: Moses Gaster', *Studia Hebraica* 1 (2001), 53–62.
- Stanciu, Măriuca. *Necunoscutul Gaster: Publicistica Culturala, Ideologica si Politica*. Bucharest: University Press, 2006.
- Taylor, Derek. *British Chief Rabbis 1664–2006*. London: Vallentine Mitchell, 2007, 288–309.
- Yassif, Eli. 'Moses Gaster: Pioneer in Folklore and Jewish Studies', *Pe'amim*, 100 (2003–04), 113–124 [Hebrew].

Box 1

This box contains six discrete manuscripts in the form of bound volumes; only one of them is written by Gaster.

1/1 (402) Notes Related to Romanian Bird and Beast Stories

Given title: Der Rumanische Physiologus

Date: not dated [late 19th century]

Language: German with several Romanian words

The volume is numbered, from 40 to 69, but the entries are numbered I to XXX

Translations by Gaster of various animal stories, with references to 'parallels' in the work of other nineteenth century scholars, such as Stojan Novaković. It includes entries on real and fictional animals, such as the deer, eagle, crocodile, snake, phoenix, asp and gorgon.

There are several publications by Gaster, in different languages, which may draw upon this preliminary work, such as:

- 'Il Physiologus Rumeno', *Archivo Glottologio Italiano* X (1889): 273–304; this work has the text of the stories in Romanian, and the study is in Italian.
- *Romanian Bird and Beast Stories* (London: Folk-lore Society, 1915).

The Romanian text of five of the entries (I, X, XI, XVIII, XXIV) has been published in *Chrestomatie Română*, Vol 2 (1891), 109–11.

1/2 (354) Excerpts from different sources copied by Dr. Ruben

Given title: Hellenistische Literatur, Theodotius, Dr. Ruben, N.P.

Date: various, but only one piece has been dated, to 1896

Language: German

Script: deutsche Kurrent

1/3 Sefer Ha Yashar

Given title: the Book of Jasher

Language: English (written from back of the volume to the front despite not being in Hebrew)

Date: not dated

The first four volumes (of six in total) contain a handwritten copy of the book of Yashar (Sefer Ha-Yashar) in English translation from an unidentified printed source. The pages were folded in the middle before they were bound, with the result that only every other page can be read.

Vivian Gaster explains in his letter that he has ‘also included four volumes of an English version of the Book of Jasher, stated to be from the printed copy. I do not know who wrote it – it was certainly not my father [...]’. The printed source has not yet been identified.

Box 2

This box contains eight bound and three unbound items (two envelopes and a stapled set of pages). Diverse content, mainly Gaster’s notes, works in progress and copies of manuscripts.

2/1 (318) Apocalyptic Literature

Given title: Ascension of Moses [and] Visions of Heaven and Hell

Dates: 1887–1889

Language: English

Heavily annotated work in progress. Gaster’s translations of various Jewish and Christian compositions dealing with visions and tours of heaven and hell and an incomplete study about apocalyptic literature.

Different versions of some of these texts were published by Gaster in his article ‘Hebrew Visions of Hell and Paradise’, *Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society* (1893): 571–611; repr. *Studies and Texts* I, 124–64. In that article Gaster argues that these Hebrew otherworldly journeys, attributed to Moses and various late antique Rabbis, form the source of all ‘apocryphal revelations’, including apocalypses attributed to ‘Peter, Paul, Ezra, Abraham,

Isaiah, Virgin Mary, St Macarius, and the host of others down to Dante and St Patrick.’ He also mentions that he is working on a book in which he explores the connections between various otherworldly journeys. It is possible that this item from the Rylands Gaster Papers is the preparatory work for that book, which may not have been finished and published. Examples of compositions included: Ascension of Moses, Visions of Hell and Paradise, a work with the title ‘The Apocalypse of Moses’ (but it is not the early Jewish Apocalypse with the same title), the Vision of Saint Macarios, and the Slavonic Apocalypse of the Virgin Mary. Gaster includes a chapter of apocalyptic literature surrounding the Virgin Mary (‘Journey of the Mother of God’, Vision of the Mother of God’ and ‘Letter of the Mother of God’) in his *Literatura Populară Română* (1883), 2632–70.

2/2 (360) Preparatory Work for the Ilchester Lectures

Date: no date visible, but the lectures were given in 1886, and published as *Greeko-Slavonic Literature* (London: Trübner, 1887).

Language: German

Condition: Very badly damaged, top of the pages illegible.

It is a small item placed (not bound) in a large cover, followed by twelve copies of the printed single leaf syllabus of the Ilchester Lectures.

2/3 (217) Draft of Gaster’s Edition of Romanian Gospels and Acts

Given title: Tetroevange(lion) Praxiu Mss

Languages: Italian, German, Romanian

Date: 1891

It seems to be a draft of Gaster’s publication of a Romanian Gospel of Matthew, with two introductions (one in Italian, one in German). Besides this it also contains the text of the Gospels of Mark, Luke and John, and the Book of Acts (all in Romanian, apparently from the same source manuscript). The titles of the introductions can be translated as ‘The Romanian version of the Gospel of Matthew from the Tetraevangelion of 1574 (manuscript from the British Museum), published for the first time by M. Gaster.’

The title and the pagination (two alternative paginations have been used, first in black, and a later hand has added alternative page numbers in red) are somewhat misleading. The content of the manuscript can be summarised as follows:

1. Introduction to the edition of the Gospel of Matthew in Italian (1–8)
2. Introduction to the edition of the Gospel of Matthew in German (1–20)
3. Romanian Gospel of Matthew (1–158)
4. Romanian Gospel of Mark (160–259 (there is no 159); red numbers: 1–99)
5. Romanian Gospel of Luke (260–422; red numbers: 99–261)
6. Romanian Gospel of John (423–539; red numbers 262–378)
7. Romanian Acts of the Apostles (1–106).

In his *Chrestomatie Română*, Vol 1 (1891) Gaster reproduced two short passages from this manuscript, pages *7–*9 and 9–10. He also mentioned this manuscript in his introduction, pages xxviii–xxx.

In his edition (without introduction) of *Tetraevanghelul Diaconului Coresi din 1561* (Bucharest, 1929), the four Gospels are presented from the manuscript mentioned in the title, but the *Acts of the Apostles* is from ‘Gaster No. 93’, with pages (rather than folia as for the Gospels) from 379 to 477 (which corresponds with the page numbers of the Acts in the current item 2/3).

There is also an article by Gaster in Italian on the Gospel of Matthew: ‘La Versione Rumena dei Vangelo di Matteo’ in *Archivio Glottologico Italiano* XII (1891): 197–254.

2/4 (358) Testament of Abraham and a Report of the Lady Judith Montefiore College, Including a Speech on Science and Religion

Given title: Apocalypse of Abraham.

Language: English (written from the back of the volume to the front)

Dates: 1886, 1891

This volume contains two entirely different items. One is an earlier draft of Gaster’s edition of and introduction to the text now known as the Testament of Abraham, but which Gaster called the Apocalypse of Abraham: ‘The Apocalypse of Abraham, from its Romanian Text, discovered and translated by M. Gaster’, *Proceedings of the Society of Biblical Archaeology*, 11 (1887): 195–226; repr. *Studies and Texts* I, 92–123. For a more recent study and edition of this text (which engages with Gaster’s work), see Nicolae Roddy, *The Romanian Version of the Testament of Abraham: Text, Translation and Cultural Context* (Atlanta: Society of Biblical Literature, 2001).

The other item in this volume relates to Gaster’s time as principal of the Montefiore College at Ramsgate. It is a draft of the second annual report for that college and the text of a speech with the title ‘Religion and Science’, dated 12 August 1891. This speech was delivered by Gaster on the occasion of the memorial service for ‘the founder of the College’. Report and speech published as *Judith Montefiore College, Ramsgate; Report for the year from 1st Tamuz, 5651-1891, to 30th Sivan, 5652-1892* (London, 1892).

2/5 (352) Three essays and one lecture by Gaster

Given title: La Source de Yalkut Shimeon, das Schur Komah, Jewish Weather Lore

Languages: French, German, English (written from the back of the volume to the front)

Dates: 1889, 1891

Paginated 1–216.

Besides the three items mentioned in the given title and as the contents on the title page, this volume also includes a speech on Jewish history, starting on page 155, dated 28 July 1889.

2/6/1 (400) Draft of Gaster’s lecture ‘Jewish Folklore in the Middle Ages’

Given title: Jewish Folklore and tales in the Middle Ages

Language: English (written from the back of the volume to the front)

Date: Not dated, but probably from before 26th December 1886.
49 numbered leaves.

Heavily annotated, many corrections. Gaster apparently first wrote this speech in German, then translated it into English, delivered it as a lecture, and published it in stages in the *Jewish Chronicle*:

Moses Gaster, 'Jewish Folk Lore in the Middle Ages', a paper read before the Jewish College Literary Society on 26 December 1886, *Jewish Chronicle*, 31 December 1886, 7 January 1887 and 21 January 1887.

2/6/2 (400) German version of Gaster's lecture 'Jewish folklore in the Middle Ages'

Given title: German original of 'Jewish folklore in the Middle Ages'.
Language: German
Date: Not dated

Unbound in an envelope with Gaster's name and address on the front, and on the back a note in green pen: 'German original of my lecture Jewish folklore in the Middle Ages.' Incomplete, first two pages and the end are missing.

2/7 (361) Preparatory work for the *Chronicles of Jerahmeel*

Given title: Chronicles of Jerahmeel
Language: English (written from the back of the volume to the front)
Dated: 1896, 1888.

Pages of different sizes have been bound together, and different dates have been mentioned throughout the work: 31 March 1896 on the second page, and several dates in 1888 towards the end of the volume. There is a note (possibly by Vivian Gaster) on the inside of the cover: 'Does not contain Moses Gaster's introduction. The numbering is not identical with the published book'. However, it does contain a 'preface'. It is best described as preparatory work for Gaster's book published in 1899 as *The Chronicles of Jerahmeel, being a collection of the most ancient Biblical legends, translated for the first time from the unique Hebrew Ms. in the Bodleian, with an introduction, full of literary parallels, copious index and fine facsimile reproductions of the Hebrew Ms.* In addition to the handwritten material, there are two extracts from printed studies by Gaster bound in to the volume, the *Testament of Naphtal*, and *Hebrew Visions of Hell and Paradise*.

2/8 Draft of article 'The Non-Latin elements of the Romanian language'

Given title: Die Nichtlateinischen Elemente im Rumänischen
Language: German (written from the back of the volume to the front)
Date and place: London, 14 December 1885

This item is unbound and it has recently been placed in an envelope. It consists of 18 pages stapled together. It is a draft, with many annotations and corrections, of an article on an

aspect of Romanian philology, which was published as: Moses Gaster, 'Die nichtlateinischen Elemente im Rumänischen,' *Grundriss der Rumänischen Philologie* (1888): 406–14.

2/9 Preparatory work for the *Exempla of the Rabbis*

Given title: Exempla

Language: English

Date: Not dated

It looks like preparatory work for Gaster's publication: *The Exempla of the Rabbis. Being a Collection of exempla, apologues and tales culled from Hebrew Mss. and rare Hebrew books* (Leipzig, 1924).

This volume has the appearance of notes, with the titles of 355 stories (exempla) along with references to secondary literature and manuscripts. Entries are numbered, first in Roman numerals and from 37 in Arabic numerals. It also contains an alphabetical index. It includes some loose pages with notes and typed stories. The entries are in the same order as the stories in the printed book.

There is a letter loosely placed in the book, to Gaster from D.S. Sassoon, dated 19 July 1923: 'Dear Dr. Gaster. Here are a few of the mashalot [a term used to designate the exempla] which I could find in the MS (No 262). All my notes have been packed for Baden-Baden where I think the proofs will be sent for correction. Kindest regards from us all.'

2/10 Gaster's translation of Lloyd George's speech

Given title: Romanian translation of David Lloyd George's speech at Guildhall

Language: Romanian

Date: 1 November 1914

This is Gaster's translation into Romanian of a speech on the war in Europe by David Lloyd George (British Politician, 1863–1945; Prime Minister 1916–22). It has been written in the notebook until page 43; then it continues (with number 44) on smaller, lined paper, attached with a staple to the notebook. The last page is 79, it is signed 'M. Gaster' and dated.

David Lloyd George gave this speech on 19 September 1914. Gaster was approached by Israel Zangwill (1864–1926, a well-known Anglo-Jewish author) with a letter dated 23 September 1914 [copies of the letters are kept in the Zangwill archive in Southampton, in MS294/1/7; originals at UCL], asking him to translate the speech into Romanian. Zangwill initiated or at least supported the goal to get the speech 'circulated in every language'. Zangwill asked Gaster to do it to 'give it the literary polish which could not be expected from some hack translator.' He then offered to reimburse 'any expenses to which you might be put for secretarial assistance (as of course I know the state of your eyes prevents you doing much with your own hand).' This was followed up by a second letter from Zangwill to Gaster, dated 16 October 1914, thanking Gaster for his willingness to undertake the work and urging him to do it soon: 'I can quite understand that the holidays have been taking up your time, but I trust the Bureau will soon be in possession of your manuscript.' As the manuscript of Gaster's translation attests, he finished it on 1 November.

Box 3

This box contains fifteen bound items (thin volumes) and one unbound item in an envelope. Mainly unpublished work and notes by Gaster and some notes which may have been made by others for him.

3/1 (398) Study by Gaster, 'The Origin and Development of the Cabbala'

Given title: Cabbala

Language: English (written from the back of the volume to the front)

Date: 25 March 1886

Thin volume, bound in a red cover, 44 pages.

In this study on the Cabbala, Gaster presents an outline of the philosophical system and 'the roots from which it arose', as he understands it. It contains a few corrections in pencil and several words have been underlined. It differs from a later work on Cabbala (see item 4/5/14), but it appears to be a revised translation of Gaster's 'Cabbala: Originea și Desvoltarea ei,' *Anuar Pentru Israeliți*, VI (1883): 25–36 (offprint at the Rylands: R 148859).

3/2 Study by Gaster, 'The Forms of the Oath according to Jewish Law'

Given title: Die Formen des Eides nach jüdischen Rechte

Language: German (with some marginal notes in Hebrew)

Date and place: Breslau, 23 June 1880

Preface numbered I–IV, the rest of the text numbered 1–42.

The volume has a sticker with 'M. Gaster' written on it on the cover. Since this study was written while Gaster was in Breslau, it could have been (a copy of) course work. Several loose unnumbered pages with Hebrew text have been inserted.

3/3 (326) Draft of Gaster's translation of the History of the Jerusalemite

Given title: History of the Jerusalemite

Language: English

Date: 22 May–1 June 1888

A thin volume bound in black, with several loose pages with typed text inserted. Both the handwritten and the typed text relate to Gaster's work on the History of the Jerusalemite.

This bound volume consists of 50 numbered pages containing Gaster's translation of the medieval Hebrew tale. It starts with the title, plus in parenthesis: 'attributed to R. Abraham Hasman (or Maimon?), son of R. Moses Maimonides'. It contains many corrections in pencil. The typed version on the loose pages has a line under the title: 'An ancient fairy tale translated from the Hebrew by Dr. M. Gaster'. It starts with an introduction by Gaster, about

oral and written tradition in the study of fairy tales, which is followed by the translation. The introduction is seven pages and the translation twenty six pages.

3/4 (336) Collection of Roma folk tales and a speech by Gaster

Given title: Gypsy Tales
Language: English
Dates: 1888, 16 February 1894

There is a note in pencil on the first page (possibly by Vivan Gaster): 'Inedited. Few published in FolkLore. Mss typewritten. Copy No 356'. This volume contains several Roma folk tales ('Gypsy tales') translated by Gaster, preceded by a speech, 'Gypsy Fairy Tales from Romania', which Gaster gave to the Folklore Society on Wednesday 21 February 1894. In it he mentions his personal experience of collecting these tales, and provides some information regarding the Roma in Romania. He also refers to his friend, B. Constantinescu, whose collection of Roma tales and songs was published in 1878 (see also item 5/42).

It has a table of contents on the first page (the page before the speech). The collection includes tales with titles such as 'The Vampire', 'The God-child of God', 'The two Thieves', 'The Watchmaker', 'The Gypsy and the Devil' and 'The Beauty like the Sun'. Not all of these tales were collected by Gaster; he translated some from publications by Constantinescu and Miklošić.

See item 4/1 for more information on Gaster's activity of collecting Roma tales.

3/5 Notes on Folklore

Given title: Folklore alphabetically arranged
Language: German
Date: 4 May 1877

This item is a notebook with sections organised alphabetically (i.e. like an address book). Not much has been written in it, only a handful of short entries (a few lines per entry) for some of the letters. For example, the section for 'A' contains short entries labelled 'Armenia', 'Albania' and 'Alexander'. No indication of author is given and it is uncertain whether the notes were written by Gaster.

3/6 (366) Draft introduction and edition of Romanian Gospel of Nicodemus

Given title: Nicodemus
Language: German (introduction), Romanian (edition)
Date: 14 August 1896

This volume consists of an introduction in German followed by an edition of the text of the Romanian Gospel of Nicodemus. It contains many corrections. The introduction occupies pages 1–30, followed by pages 31–34 which are empty, and then on different paper the

Romanian text, pages 35–164. This volume is mostly in good condition, but pages 53 and 54 are torn.

Vivian Gaster lists this item under ‘probably unpublished.’ He adds ‘This may have been published under a different title’. It is not mentioned in Schindler’s bibliography of Gaster’s work.

3/7 The Story of the Jewish Pope

Given title: Die Geschichte vom Jüdischen Papst

Language: German

Date: not dated

It is an unbound item in an envelope. The envelope contains the title and a note by Gaster: ‘My story of the pope Elchanan, written in German’. Every page is duplicated. There are forty one numbered pages. It is a story of Rabbi Schimon from Mainz, whose son Elchanan was captured from his house and later became pope, but remained Jewish, and at the end returned to Mainz.

Vivian Gaster lists this item under ‘probably unpublished’. It is not mentioned in Schindler’s bibliography of Gaster’s work.

3/8 (382) Excerpt from medical dictionary by Honigberger (1851)

Given title: Honigberger, *Früchte aus d. Morgenlande*, 1851, medizinisches Wörterbuch, pg 512–569.

Languages: Arabic, Latin

Date: 20 December 1877

This item is a notebook with lined pages. Only 36 pages have been written upon (on both sides of the page). The rest of the notebook is empty. The identity of the copyist is unknown. It does not appear to be Gaster’s hand.

3/9 (540) Miscellany related to Romanian philology

Given title: Miscellanea zur Romänischen Orthographie etc.

Languages: German, Romanian

Date: mostly undated, one copy/offprint from a publication by the Imperial Academy of Sciences of Vienna is dated as 1881.

This notebook, bound in brown cover, is miscellaneous in content and form. Some of the pieces within the notebook are typed but most are hand written (some in Romanian, most in German). A content list has been provided on the inside cover. The notebook contains studies and notes by Gaster on various topics, mainly related to Slavonic and Romanian philology and folklore. There are also notes related to specific (medieval) manuscripts. Two entries relate to the Romanian bestiary (bird and beast stories, physiologus), see item 1/1 on this list.

3/10 (394) Draft of Gaster's essay on Christmas songs about a stag

Given title: Colindele despre cerbul

Language: Romanian

Date: 13 November 1883

This thin volume of 14 numbered pages contains a study by Gaster, possibly preparatory work for an article. Corrections have been made throughout the study, and four small pieces of paper with references have been bound into the volume. The study includes samples of songs about a stag (cerb). A colinde is a specific kind of Romanian folk song, sung at Christmas time.

It may be noteworthy that Gaster made a mistake in Romanian; the title should be Colindele despre cerb, without the definite article –ul, which should not be used with a preposition such as ‘despre’ (observation made by Professor Laura Badescu, University of Pitesti).

This study could be related to Gaster's article: ‘Colindele, Cântece Populare și Cântece de stea inedited,’ *Revista pentru Istorie Arheologie și Filologie* II (1883): 313–36 and III (1884): 99–100.

3/11 Overall description

Vivian Gaster states about the five items which have been grouped together here as 3/11, all or which are transcriptions of Romanian manuscripts: ‘The following may have been published in part in the *Literatura Romana Populara* (sic) or in *Chestomatie Roumane* (sic)’. He states that they are copies from manuscripts in Bucharest and elsewhere.

3/11/1 (200) Teachings of Basil of Macedon and Life of Saint George

Given title: Invațaturile lui Vasile Machedon

Language: Romanian

Date: not dated

Transcription of the tale *Invațaturile lui Vasile Machedon* as contained in ‘manuscript 9’ [unidentified source manuscript]. A marginal note on the first page contains a reference to Krumbacher, *Byz Lit*, 457–8. This item also contains a transcription of the *Life of St George* (Viața Sfântului Gheorghe), which is an excerpt from *Cazania lui Varlaam* (Iași, 1643).

3/11/2 (201) Disputation (discussion) of Silvester and Zaniori

Given title: Disputația lui Silvestru cu Zaniori

Language: Romanian

Date: not dated

Transcription of this disputation as contained in ‘manuscript 9’ [unidentified source manuscript].

3/11/3 (203a) Five Tales

Given title: 12 Vineri (12 Fridays)

Language: Romanian

Date: not dated

It is a collection of five tales transcribed from different manuscripts [all unidentified source manuscripts], namely:

1. *12 Fridays* [stories about Friday, personified as a female saint, are common in Balkan folklore] (1–10).
2. *The Shroud of Christ* [from manuscript number 63] (11–30).
3. A story about Melchizedek [from manuscript number 63] (31–44).
4. *Archir and Anadam* [from manuscript number 94] (45–70).
5. *Troada* [History of Troy] (71–95).

3/11/4 (205) Humorous calendar of 1829 and verses on each letter of the alphabet

Given title: Calendar umoristic 1829

Language: Romanian

Date: January 1882

Transcription of (parts of) two manuscripts:

1. The ‘Humorous Calender’, copied from ‘manuscript number 75’ [unidentified source manuscript] (1–18)
2. A short alphabetically arranged text in verse, copied from ‘manuscript number 15’ [unidentified source manuscript] (19–25, but numbered 1–7)

3/11/5 (612) Questions and Answers: philosophical dialogues

Given title: Intrebările filosofefte de la Adam și de la Hristos și raspunsurile (philosophical questions by Adam and answers by Christ)

Language: Romanian

Dates: 1881–82

A note has been written on the first page: ‘Transcription from a manuscript from 1808 from the central library in Bucharest.’ The volume contains three different compositions with ‘Intrebari și raspunsuri’ (questions and answers) in the title. The given title refers to the first composition, which occupies pages 1–17. The second ‘Questions and Answers’ text fills only one page. The third composition can be found after two empty pages, on pages 21–29 (but numbered 1–9).

3/12 (213) Notes in Romanian related to specific manuscripts

The given title is difficult to read, approximately: Descrierea amănunțită a manuscriselor
Language: Romanian
Date: not dated

The sticker on the spine calls this item a catalogue of manuscripts 1–6, the location of which is not mentioned. However, it looks more like notes related to the study of these manuscripts (numbered 1–9, not 1–6 as the title suggests) rather than catalogue descriptions of them.

Box 4

This box contains three discrete manuscripts and two composite items (an envelope containing various pieces, and a collection of items which were formerly placed in a green box but have now been relocated into individual envelopes). The content of the box as a whole can be described as works by Gaster in different stages of progress, and some notes made for him by others.

4/1 (357) Roma folk tales collected by Gaster

Given title: Gypsy tales
Languages: Romani, Romanian
Dates: 16 September 1876 – various dates in 1877

This item is a large but thin volume bound in a red cover. There is a note on the inside cover: ‘Gypsy Tales. The Original with Roumanian interlineal translation.’ The pages have been numbered 1–82. These tales were written down on different days (mostly in 1877, but one in 1876), and have not been bound in chronological order.

The collection of tales is accompanied by a small notebook with the title ‘Gypsy–Romanian Glossary’.

In his *Reminiscences* (dictated in 1931, typescript at UCL, 1/F/2(2)), Gaster mentions (pages 32–35) how he as a student on the way from Breslau to Romania for the summer holidays in 1877, stopped in Vienna to meet the well-known Professor of Slavic philology Franc Miklošić (1813–1891). Miklošić asked Gaster to collect Romanian ‘Gypsy tales’ for him, and so Gaster spent that summer in Romania collecting tales. He made contact with an elderly man in a Roma village who taught him the Romani language and told him Roma tales. Miklošić published them as ‘Zigeunerisches aus Rumänien. Mitgeteilt von Herrn Dr. M. Gaster’ on pages 17–19 in his article: ‘Beiträge zur Kenntnis der Zigeunermundarten’, *Sitzungsberichte der Wiener Akademie der Wissenschaften*, 90 (1879).

Throughout his life Gaster produced several publications and speeches on Romanian/Roma tales that may have drawn on this early work of collecting tales. See for example item 3/4, and:

- ‘Ein Zigeunermärchen aus Rumänien – der Eisenmann’, *Bukarester Salon* 1 (1883): 281–87.
- ‘Zigeunermärchen aus Rumänien – Der Zigeuner und der Teufel, Die beiden neidischen Schwestern’, *Bukarester Salon* 3 (1885): 506–14.

4/2 (818) Notes, translated by Neville Laski, on magical formulae, curses and incantations from *Antike Fluchtafeln* by Wünsch and *Anecdota Graeco-Byzantina* by Vassiliev

Given title: none

Languages: English, many Greek words (often transliterated in Latin script), a few Hebrew words (possibly words in other languages)

Date: 1916

This item with 43 numbered pages consists of notes on two books, both containing magical formulae, the first one mainly curses, the second incantations and exorcisms. Notes on pages 1–13 deal with Richard Wünsch, *Antike Fluchtafeln* (Bonn, 1907). This is followed after two empty pages by notes on Afanasii Vassiliev, *Anecdota Graeco-Byzantina* (Moscow: 1893). At the bottom of the last page there is a note by Moses Gaster: ‘This translation has been made for me by Neville and finished on Wednesday 15.3.916/76. M. Gaster.’

4/3 Essay by William Irvine, ‘The Aramaic Origin of Israel’

Given title: Origin of Israel.

Language: English

Date: Unknown, sent to Gaster on 2 March 1912

Author: William Irvine; ‘prepared’ (maybe copied, maybe edited or revised in some way) by I. Kennedy.

This essay consists of fourteen pages.

A letter to Gaster from I. Kennedy, dated 2 March 1912, has been inserted:

‘My dear Dr Gaster,

I promised to let you see a notice I prepared of my friend Irvine, but which I did not publish as Mrs Irvine thought that members of the family might object to the publication of any details regarding the past connection of the family with trade. Irvine himself was fond of talking about it and certainly would not have objected. Perhaps Mrs. Gaster will read it to you to save your eyes. I think she will be interested.

I have been much occupied and out of town for the last 2 or 3 weeks. My daughter with her child and her husband - a captain in the Royal Engineers – sailed on Thursday from South Hampton. Partings are a great trial; but Psalm 121 has been a great comfort to me many times. We hope soon to see you back in the committee and when the weather gets nicer, I hope that my wife may make Mrs Gaster’s acquaintance. She has a great opinion of learned men; she says they all love to talk about their babies! With very kind regards.

Yours very sincerely.

I. Kennedy.’

4/4 Preparatory work on the Samaritan Phylacteries (Shem Hametfaresh)

Given title: Papers relating to the Shem Hametfaresh

Languages: Hebrew, English (primary material in Hebrew, notes and translations in English)
Date: 17 March 1915

The envelope contains five bound volumes, a small note book and three unbound items. It is preparatory material for Gaster's work on Shem Ha-Mafaresh – this term designates the true name of God, important for magic and mysticism. Gaster seems to use it to refer to a group of literary texts which he acquired from the Samaritans. He uses the term, which he spells in different ways, as a synonym for 'Samaritan Phylacteries', as he calls it in the title of his publication, spread out over six issues of the *Proceedings of the Society of Biblical Archaeology*, 1915–17 (repr. *Texts and Studies*, I, 387–82).

The thin bound volumes are copies, collations and photographs of manuscripts. There are also English translations of some of the texts. There are typed and handwritten items.

4/5 General introduction to 4/5

These items, of miscellaneous content, were in a small box: the 'green box' that Vivian Gaster mentions (see Introduction). Now they have been placed individually in envelopes. It is mainly Gaster's own work (book reviews, articles, studies and notes) in various degrees of progress. Some items are notes made for him by others. Many of these works deal with folklore and Apocrypha.

Approximate range of date: 1879–93 (several items are not dated)

4/5/1 (825) Booklet *Basme* by Stancescu

Given title: *Basme*.
Language: Romanian
Date: 1885

This small publication, Dumitru Stancescu, *Basme* (Bucharest, 1885), contains an introduction by Moses Gaster.

4/5/2 Studies on the Testament of Abraham

Given title: 'Apocalipsul Avram, Studia Comparativa'.
Languages: Romanian, German
Dates: June 17 1883 (the Romanian item), 9 February 1886 (the German item)

The title has been written on a sheet of paper which has been wrapped around the two items. The text in German (eight pages) is a study by Gaster about apocalyptic literature. It introduces what is now known as the *Testament of Abraham*, but which Gaster called the *Apocalypse of Abraham*, providing information about the Old Slavonic and Romanian versions of this composition. The Romanian text (twenty four pages) is not the text of the *Testament of Abraham*, but another study about it.

This work may relate in some way to Gaster's published edition of the Romanian *Testament of Abraham* (see item 2/4).

4/5/3 The Legend of Judas among the Romanians

Given title: Die Judas Legende bei den Rumänen
Language: German
Date: undated

Translation and study by Gaster (nine pages). Gaster starts by discussing V. Diedericks, 'Russische Verwandte der Legende von Gregor auf dem Stein und der Sage von Judas Ischariot' (Russian works related to the legend of Gregor on the stone and the tale of Judas Ischariot). He explains that the literal translation of the Romanian version which he presents here serves to move forward the discussion raised by Diedericks. The translation of the Judas legend starts on page two and ends on page eight. Gaster concludes with a few more observations on the figure of Judas in Romanian sagas and ballads and states that he will find another opportunity to look further into the influence of apocryphal sagas on Romanian folk literature.

Vivian Gaster lists it under 'probably unpublished in green box'.

4/5/4 Unfinished Article or Book Review by Gaster on Romanian Bird Stories

Given title: Rumänische Vögelsagen
Language: German
Date: 30 November 1883

This study which occupies two small pages seems unfinished. Gaster refers to the work of Fl. Marian, *Ornitologia Română* (1883), for which he suggests the translation 'Die Vögel in Sage, Glaube und Brauch der Romaenen' ('The birds in tales, religion and customs of the Romanians'). It could be Gaster's review of the book, as Vivian Gaster suggests, but it could also be that Gaster had in mind to write something more on Romanian tales about birds himself, and took Marian's book as a starting point.

Vivian Gaster lists it under 'probably unpublished in green box'.

4/5/5 The Gothic inscriptions on the ring from Bucharest

Given title: Die gothische Inschrift auf dem bukarester Ring
Language: German
Date: not dated

It seems Gaster intended this work for publication, as he writes about making this inscription accessible to a wider audience. This version seems unfinished. Three pages with text, followed by five empty pages.

Vivian Gaster lists it under 'probably unpublished in green box'.

4/5/6 Drafts of work by Gaster on Romanian literature, possibly including a version of his lecture at the University of Bucharest

Given title: Introductory lecture at the University of Bucharest

Language: Romanian

Date: 1883 (written on front of item, possibly by Vivian Gaster, with a question mark)

It consists of two items, both in Romanian, by Gaster. The first consists of eleven pages. This is followed by a second item of six pages which contains a poem or song. The work seems to be incomplete, and there are many small pieces of paper inserted with notes and references.

Vivian Gaster mentions 'Introductory lecture at University of Bucharest' under 'probably unpublished in green box'.

4/5/7 Uncertain item related to Alexander the Great

Given title: The Book of Alexander of Macedon

Language: English, a few Hebrew words

Date: not dated

The title on the first page of the text is 'The Book of Alexander of Macedon.' The first line is: 'There was a certain man who lived in the land of Egypt whose name was Bildad the son of Ason.' After 105 pages, the text ends with the word 'finis', indicating that the work is complete. After this there is one loose page, and another folded page (four sides with text), with what seems to be notes related to this translation of the *Book of Alexander*.

There is a piece of paper pinned to this item with a note (probably by Vivian Gaster): 'this manuscript except for the title page is not in Moses Gaster's hand. The Romance was published in JRAS in 1897 as translation from a manuscript from the 12th century, not the 10th as stated on this page. The translation is entirely different and appears to be from a different text.'

Vivian Gaster states in his inventory of the collection: 'not M.G. writing, but corrections by him. Not the text published in J.R.A.S. 1897.'

4/5/8 Notes related to Alexander the Great and King Arthur

Given title: Alexander and Arthuriana

Date: not dated

Language: English

Two sizes of paper, containing two items, which have been numbered separately. The first, smallest, item is numbered 1 to 7. Some pages have been written on one side only, some on both sides. It appears to be work by Gaster related to literature about Alexander the Great.

The second item has been numbered 1–87. The title, written on the first page, is ‘Arthuriana’. It appears to be incomplete, since the last page does not end with a complete sentence. It deals with a wide range of topics. For example, mention is made of the Grail (note in top margin of page 43), of the Alexander Romance (page 43), and of the Gospel of Nicodemus (page 86). On page 87, Gaster writes: ‘I have dealt with these as far back as 1885 in my history of the Romanian popular literature’.

Vivian Gaster calls it ‘notes on Alexander and Arthuriana’ and lists it under ‘probably unpublished in green box’.

4/5/9 Draft of an essay by Gaster, ‘the hazelnut (tree)’

Given title: ‘Alunul’ (the noun alun translates both as hazelnut and as nut tree, the ending –ul is definite article)

Language: Romanian

Date: 22 February to 6 March 1885

Study by Gaster which deals with legends, songs, sayings related to the hazelnut (or nut tree) in different (European) countries (especially Germany and Russia). Reference is made to the Nibelungen. Several words have been underlined and there are corrections and marginal notes. Eight pages.

Vivian Gaster lists it under ‘probably unpublished in green box’.

4/5/10 Gaster’s answer to Cihac on matters of Romanian philology

Given title: Cihac. Meine Antwort an Herrn Dr M. Gaster

Date: there is a note in red pencil on the first page with a date 26 May 1880 (26/v/80)

Language: German

In spite of the given title, ‘Cihac. My answer to Mr. Dr. M. Gaster’, it is actually Gaster’s answer to Cihac, often referring to him as ‘Herr C.’ (Mister C.) They seemed to have had some disagreements on matters of Romanian philology. Twenty four pages. Signed (bottom of last page): ‘M. Gaster’. It contains underlined words, corrections, and notes in the margin.

Vivian Gaster lists it (as ‘Cihac. Mein antwort an M.G.’) under ‘probably unpublished in green box’

There is an earlier response by Gaster to Cihac’s ‘Sur les etudes roumaines de Mr. Hajdeū’ (a review of Hasdeu and Schuchardt, *Cuvente den bătruni, Limba Română vorbită între 1550–1600*. I. 1878), *Romanische Studien*, XIII (1879): 468–76. The disagreement there is about which is the older form of the spelling of certain words. Cihac attacks Hasdeu, Gaster defends him.

4/5/11 Draft study and translation by Gaster of ‘The description of the Church of the Three Hierarchs in Iași’ by Paul of Aleppo

Given title: Descrierea bisericeii Trei-Ierarhi din Iași, după textul arab del lui Paul din Aleppo (1650–1660)

Languages: Romanian, some English and German

Date: 2 to 14 March 1882

A work in progress, with several small pieces of paper with notes inserted, and corrections and notes in the text. The second page has a number 27 and is in German, it does not seem to belong here. The third page is empty. The title has been written on the first and the fourth page.

Vivian Gaster lists it under ‘probably unpublished in green box’, but it has (in a later version) been published:

‘Descrierea Bisericeii Trei-Ierarhi Din Iași de Paul din Aleppo’, *Revista pentru istorie, arheologie și filologie* I.2 (1883): 415–17.

This publication by Gaster has been reproduced in Măriuca Stanciu, *Necunoscutul Gaster* (Bucharest, 2006), 142–45.

In the published version, Gaster explains that the archdeacon Paul of Aleppo travelled to Moscow via Romania and Moldova, accompanied by Macarios, Patriarch from Anatolia, between 1650 and 1660. They described their journey in Arabic. Part of this travel account has been translated into English by F.C. Belfour as *The Travels of Macarius, Patriarch of Antioch* (London, 1836). Belfour did not include their description of the church of the three hierarchs in Iași. Gaster offers his translation of the description of the beauty of that church, which was at the time of his writing being restored.

4/5/12 Gasters edition of a Romanian version of the *Condemnatio Uvae*

Given title : Rumänische Version der ‘Condemnatio uvea’

Languages: German, Romanian

Date: not dated, but a very small note in black pen on front page: ‘M. Gaster in Breslau.’

Draft of Gaster’s edition of the Romanian version of the *Condemnatio Uvea*. Six pages. The edition of the Romanian text is presented in two columns, preceded and followed by a short introduction and conclusion (in one column) in German. Signed: ‘M. Gaster’.

A small note has been attached (probably by Vivian Gaster) ‘Condemnatio Uvae. Ms. No printed copy available. Published 1879.’ It was published as ‘Die rumänische Condemnatio Uvae’ in *Zeitschrift für Romanische Philologie* in 1897.

4/5/13 Incomplete essay (draft) by Gaster on Romanian Literature

Given title: Rumänische Literatur

Language: German

Date: It does not seem to be dated, but an address for Gaster in London (34 Warwick Road) has been written on the first page, so it is from after 1885.

It contains many additions in the margins, references to scholarly literature, and corrections. Sixty four pages. It seems incomplete, as it does not end with a complete sentence.

Vivian Gaster identifies this item as the publication: Moses Gaster, 'Rumänische Sprache und Literatur', *Kritischer Jahresbericht der Romanischen Philologie*, VI (1895): 623–40. However, at most it is an earlier, incomplete draft for this publication.

4/5/14 Incomplete essay (draft) by Gaster, 'The Origin of the Kabbala'

Given title: The Kabbala
Language: English
Date: 29 July 1893

Forty six pages. There is a note in pencil at the bottom of the last page explaining that one or two leaves are missing.

When he was the principal of the Lady Judith Montefiore College at Ramsgate, Gaster introduced the custom of giving a lecture as part of a memorial service on the day of the anniversary of the death of the founder of the College, Sir Moses Montefiore. Often he subsequently published his lecture as part of his annual report. This is the case with this study on the Kabbalah, which was published as 'The Origin of the Kabbala' in the Report of the Lady Judith Montefiore College 1893–94 (1894): 15–28. This work is different from an earlier essay on this topic, see item 3/1.

4/5/15 Draft of Gaster's edition of a Hebrew version of the legend of Judith

Given title: Hebrew Version of the History of Judith by M. Gaster
Languages: English, Hebrew
Date: It has a postal stamp with the date 16 March 1894, and a date at the bottom of the second page of the Hebrew text: 4 January 1894.

Twenty three pages. After an introduction in English (1–21), it contains the Hebrew text from Codex Gaster 82, folio 172a (this MS is in the Rylands). It was published as 'An unknown Hebrew Version of the History of Judith', *Proceedings of the Society of Biblical Archaeology* (1894); repr. *Studies and Texts*, I: 86–91, III: 31–32.

4/5/16 Book review by Gaster of *Tunisian Fairy Tales and Poems* by H. Stumme

Given title: Dr. H. Stumme, *Tunische Märchen* (Review)
Language: English
Date: not dated

Written on very small paper, this is a book review by Gaster of Dr. H. Stumme, *Tunische Märchen und Gedichte* (2 vols, Leipzig, 1893). Thirteen pages. Signed 'M.G.' on the last page. It was published in the *Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society* in 1894

4/5/17 Book review by Gaster of *The Hebrew Translations of the Middle Ages and the Jews as translators* by M. Heinschneider

Given title: 'Heinschneider, *Hebräischen Übersetzungen des Mittelalters* (Review)'

Language: English

Date: not dated

On the same small size of paper as the previous item. Eight pages. Book review by Gaster of Dr. M. Heinschneider, *Die Hebräischen Übersetzungen des Mittelalters und die Juden als Dolmetscher. Ein Beitrag zur Literaturgeschichte des Mittelalters, meist nach handschriftlichen Quellen* (2 vols, Berlin 1893). Signed on last page: 'M. Gaster'. Like the previous item, it was published in the *Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society* in 1894.

4/5/18 Draft of Gaster's introduction to *Basme* by Dumitru Stancescu.

Given title: Introduction to *Basme* - Dumitru Stancescu

Language: Romanian

Date: 1 January 1885

It consists of two folded A4 pages, written on four sides (i.e. eight pages in total). Six pages have been written upon. It is a draft with several corrections. Note on the last page: 'Bucharest, 1 January 1885, Dr. M. Gaster'.

The publication, *Basme* by Dumitru Stancescu, is item 4/5/1.

4/5/19 Essay by Gaster, 'The Printing of Books in Romania'

Given title: Die Buchdruckerei in Rumänien

Language: German

Date and place: Bucharest, from 24 November to 6 December 1883

The format of this item is folded A4. It has been written on all sides and the pages have been numbered 1–8. Slightly damaged.

It is a short historical overview of printing and publishers in Romania from the sixteenth century to 'today', mentioning the foundation of different publishing houses in different cities. It was published as 'Die Buchdruckerei in Rumänien', *Bukarester Salon* (1883): 374–78.

4/5/20 Essay by Gaster on the influence of Turkish books of palmomancy in Romania

Given title: Das türkische Zuckungsbuch in Romänien

Language: German

Date and place: Breslau, 24 August 1879

The format is folded A4 written on all sides. Sixteen pages.

Gaster starts this essay by mentioning several examples of areas of Turkish influence on the literature of all the peoples 'that were once subjected by them, and those that are still

subjected to them.’ He then turns to the main topic, that of ‘superstition’ (Aberglaube), particularly dealing with books that explain the meaning of twitches (jerks) in different parts of the body for predicting the future. The term Gaster uses is ‘Zuckungsbuch’, which can be translated as book of Palmomancy. He then describes a small book of this nature ‘which I have in my possession’. He compared this text with that published (in German) by Fleischer (the reference he gives is ‘Berichte der k. sächs. Ges. 1849, S. 249 ff.’) and found that they are quite similar. He then translates the texts of his *Zuckungsbuch*, listing the 113 different twitches of different body parts, and their meaning (e.g. ‘when the back of your neck twitches, you will receive bad news’). This is followed by a short conclusion.

It was published as ‘Das türkische Zuckungsbuch in Romänien’, *Zeitschrift für Romanische Philologie* (1880) [Schindler does not mention page numbers.]

4/5/21 Study by Gaster on a folktale, *the Treasure in the Tree Trunk* (incomplete)

Given title: Der Schatz im Baumstamme.

Language: German

Date: not dated

This seems to be an incomplete version of a larger work. The format is folded A4, written on all sides. Ten pages numbered 20–29. The last two pages have been left empty. There is no date and signature on the last page, which seems to indicate that it is unfinished or incomplete.

Vivian Gaster mentions that this item is included in: Moses Gaster, ‘Beiträge zur vergleichenden Sagen- und Märchenkunde’ (contributions to the comparative study of folk tales), *Monatschrift für Geschichte und Wissenschaft des Judentums*, XXIX (1880) and XXX (1881); repr. *Studies and Texts* II: 1187–1293. These ‘Beiträge’ were also published as a booklet (Bucharest, 1883).

4/5/22 Study by Gaster (draft, work in progress) on miracle tales (incomplete)

Given title: Die Wunder im Tempel und in Jerusalem III. Die neapolitanischen Virgilsagen

Language: German

Date: not dated

The format is folded A4 written on all sides. It has been paginated in two ways: 244–51 (the last page does not have a number) and 38–47. The first and second pages are stuck together.

This seems to be part of a larger work. Many notes and corrections have been made throughout the work, and there are many notes in the margin, often referring to rabbinic literature. There is no date and signature on the last page.

Vivian Gaster mentions that this item is included in: Moses Gaster, ‘Beiträge zur vergleichenden Sagen- und Märchenkunde’ (contributions to the comparative study of folk tales), *Monatschrift für Geschichte und Wissenschaft des Judentums*, XXIX (1880) and XXX (1881); repr. *Studies and Texts* II: 1187–1293.

4/5/23 Study by Gaster, the Targum of Amidah

Given title: Das Targum der Amidah

Languages: German, Aramaic

Date: 20 November 1893

This handwritten version contains corrections, which have been applied in the published version: 'Ein Targum der Amidah', *Monatsschrift für Geschichte und Wissenschaft des Judentums* (1894), repr. *Studies and Texts* I, 264–69.

The writing occupies only one side of the pages. There is no number on the first page, after this it is numbered 2–20. There is a signature and date on page 18, and a small signature (M.G.) on page 20.

Page 19 and 20 contain a few samples of the Aramaic text. They serve the purpose of characterising the nature of the manuscript (as Gaster states in his conclusion). Pages 1–18 contain Gaster's study in German. He stresses the significance of this publication, as it is the first example of Targums on prayers. Previously only Targums on biblical literature had been known.

4/5/24 Fragments of studies on the Samaritan 613 commandments (incomplete)

Given title: The Samaritan 613 Commandments

Language: English

Date: not dated

These fragmentary studies of the Samaritan Commandments could have been Gaster's preliminary work for his later publication on this topic in German: Moses Gaster, 'Die 613 Gebote und Verbote der Samaritaner', *Festschrift zum Bestehen des jüd.-theol. Seminars Breslau* (1929).

It consists of five items which have recently been placed together in an envelope. Only the first item contains the title, but the next four items appear to belong to the same work. The first item is substantial (ninety one pages). The next four items contain only a few pages each. Six small leaves with notes have been inserted into the first item between pages 63 and 64.

Box 5

This box contains one big folder with 76 typescripts (many of them in faint purple ink) consisting of drafts of articles, notes, speeches, etc. In summary, works by Gaster in various stages of progress. They are alphabetically arranged within the folder. The reference numbers (of the box list) have not been written on the individual items.

It contains a note by Vivian Gaster, dated 22 March 1959: 'Memorandum. It is not easy to decide in many cases whether these "articles" are drafts, or merely dictated memoranda; whether and if so where, they were published.'

Not all items have been dated, but the dates seem to range from the 1910s to 1938. Most of the items are written in English and were intended for magazines and newspapers. Many of these essays show Gaster as a commentator on 'current affairs'. Most of these have not been included in Bruno Schindler's bibliography of Gaster's publications. There are also drafts of articles intended for encyclopaedias and journals.

5/1 Article about Albania

Given title: none
Language: English
Date: Not dated
Number of pages: 12

There is no typed title, but there is a note written with a blue pen (probably by a different hand) at the top of the first page: 'Albania'. Gaster starts this article with a general introduction covering ethnography, geography and language of southern Albania, before turning to 'current' politics on the Balkans. He advocates that Austria or England should protect Albania from the surrounding countries, and prevent a possible division of Albania between Greece, Serbia, Montenegro and Italy.

Gaster refers as 'recent events' to the Balkan war (the First Balkan War took place from October 1912 to May 1913, followed by the Second Balkan War, from 16 June to the end of July 1913) and the establishment of an Albanian kingdom. This 'kingdom' could refer to the principality of Albania under Prince William, established on 21 February 1914. Gaster makes his recommendations for the protection of Albania in the context of WWI: 'if the allied powers win the war Albania should not be worse off than at the beginning'. This must refer to WWI, as Gaster's recommendations predate the 1920 Paris Peace Conference, which decided Albania should be divided between the Kingdom of Yugoslavia, Italy and Greece. This decision was blocked by Woodrow Wilson and Albania's sovereignty was recognized by the League of Nations in December 1920. It thus follows that Gaster wrote this article between February 1914 and the end of WWI.

5/2 Draft article or proofs 'The Alchemy of the Alphabet', for *Jewish Review*

Given title: The Alchemy of the Alphabet
Language: English
Date: Not dated
Number of pages: 4

There is a note in the top right corner of the first page: 'Proof to Dr. Rev. Gaster 193 Maida Vale W9', and another in pencil 'Jewish Review'. Several corrections have been made in the text. Gaster compares alchemy with alphabet mysticism, and refers to the *Sefer Jetsira*, 'the so-called practical Cabbala' and the occurrence of the numerical value of letters in texts such as the *Apocalypse of Saint John*, the *Sibyline Oracles*, and the work of Philo.

5/3 Draft article or proofs, 'As it is written', for *Jewish Review*

Given title: As it is written
Language: English
Date: Not dated
Number of pages: 4

Similar to the preceding item, there are two notes at the top of the first page: ‘Proofs to author 193 Maida Vale W’ and ‘J.R.’ (*Jewish Review*). With corrections. After a general introduction dealing with the discovery of the alphabet and the role of scribes, the core of the article addresses the significance of signatures.

First sentence: ‘The discovery of the alphabet has been one of the greatest achievements of the human mind’. Last sentence: “‘As it is written”, is sufficient to prove the truth of a statement, and to this very day, the written or printed word exercises an unconscious and deep influence upon the masses; as if the mere fact of seeing it [hand written correction: a statement] in print or writing was sufficient to demonstrate its reliability [hand written correction added: and profound wisdom]. Thus the mystical sanctity with which alphabet was endowed is still a potent factor in our modern civilization.’

5/4 Article or speech by Gaster for the *Royal Asiatic Society*, on the excavation of Antiquities in the Near East

Given title: Memorandum on the excavation of Antiquities in the Near East
Language: English
Date: Not dated
Number of pages: 6

There is a note in pen on the first page: ‘By Moses Gaster late Vice-President of R.A.S.’ (Royal Asiatic Society). It is possible that Gaster delivered this as a speech, and later submitted it as a ‘memorandum’ for the society’s journal. The first sentence is: ‘A complete change is coming over the countries in the Near East which contain the remnants of the old civilizations, and it is in view of this change that I venture to submit to the consideration of the members assembled the following views.’ The main subject matter is the politics of archaeology.

5/5 Draft of Gaster’s publication ‘Nochmals Asatir’

Given title: In Bezug auf den Namen ‘Asatir’
Language: German
Date: Not dated, but published in 1933
Number of pages: 2

Mentioning the names of Fleischer, Nöldeke and Heller (without references to specific works), Gaster states that to date no satisfying explanation for the word *Asatir* has been found. Gaster uses the opportunity to argue that the Samaritan book of *Asatir* is very old, one of the oldest texts of Samaritan literature.

This short note has been published as ‘Nochmals Asatir’, *Monatsschrift für Geschichte und Wissenschaft des Judentums* 77, no.4 (1933): 302–3.

Available online: http://www.compactmemory.de/index_p.aspx?ID_0=12

5/6 Copy of draft article: The Blockade of the Jewish Intelligence

Given title: The Blockade of the Jewish Intelligence

Language: English

Date: Not dated

Number of pages: 5

It is a carbon copy of a draft article by Gaster. There is a note on the back of page four: 'Article – Blockade of Jewish Intelligence'. It contains some notes in what appears to be Gaster's hand, such as an additional concluding sentence: 'The blockade must be broken'.

In this article Gaster stresses the importance of university education for Jewish emancipation. After a general introduction he comes (towards the end of page 3) to the 'Anti-Semitic policy' of shutting Jews out of universities, mentioning (page 4) that this policy was first implemented in 'czarist Russia', followed by 'Roumania of former times'. Now it has been taken up by Hungary 'and one only has to read the speeches of the rectors of the Vienna University and other higher institutions to find an echo of the same tendencies'. He states (on page 5) that the aim of these policies is 'slowly to pauperize the intellectual life of the Jew. This is the most formidable danger that has ever confronted us.'

5/7 Draft of newspaper article 'On Jewish Books'

Given title: On Jewish Books

Language: English

Date: Not dated, but must be around 1926

Number of pages: 4

The two notes made in pen on the first page enable the contextualization of this draft article: 'Maggs Catalogue' and 'Jewish Guardian'. It seems reasonable to conclude based on these notes that Gaster wrote this short article for the newspaper the *Jewish Gardian*, and that its impetus was formed by him having seen the catalogue of the booksellers Maggs Bros, which was published in 1926: *Judaica and Hebraica. Manuscripts, Printed Books & Autographs illustrative of the History, Martyrdom and Literature of the Jews. Selected from the Stock of Maggs Bros., 34 & 35 Conduit St., New Bond St. W.*

In this article he uses his knowledge of the value of books and the trends in the book market to urge Jewish institutions to buy the Jewish books which are 'currently' being offered for sale (referring to the Maggs catalogue). He stresses the importance of preserving Jewish cultural heritage.

5/8 Draft article 'The Love of Books'

Given title: The Love of Books

Language: English

Date: June 1937

Number of pages: 9

According to a note on the first page, this article, which shows Gaster as a book collector and bibliophile, was sent to *The Jewish Guild* in Johannesburg on 23 June 1937. The last page contains Gaster's signature and a date: 9 June 1937.

5/9 Article on calendars, for *Jewish Life*

Given title: Calendar

Language: English

Date: July 1923

Number of pages: 5

According to a note at the top of the first page this article was sent to *Jewish Life* on 30 July 1923. Gaster addresses the topic of calendars in the context of the occasion of the approaching of the New Year.

5/10 Article on Jews in Canada (1830-1930) for the *Daily Eagle* (Montreal)

Given title: Jews in Canada

Language: English

Date: 1932

Number of pages: 16

A note in pencil at the top of first page mentions *The Daily Eagle* in Montreal and the date 8 March 1932. The article has a broader focus than just Jews in Canada, as Gaster begins with Mendelsohn. He gives the Haskalah and the French Revolution the credit respectively for 'breaking the spirit of the Ghetto' and 'breaking the walls of the Ghetto'. Further on he expresses his view that he would have wished the Zionist movement to have stayed unified (Alliance Universale), rather than broken into fractions.

5/11 Article about Hanukah for *Sunlight*

Given title: none

Language: English

Date: 1935

Number of pages: 3

A note on the first page mentions that this article was sent to *Sunlight*, Manchester, on 12 December 1935. There are several corrections made with a green pen in what appears to be Gaster's hand.

5/12 Article by Gaster about magical formulae

Given title: Charms and Conjurations

Language: English

Date: not dated
Number of pages: 10

There are no corrections in this article. There is a note, probably by Vivian Gaster, stating that it is not 'S. 253', referring to that number on Bruno Schindler's list of Gaster's publications: 'Conjurations and the ancient Mysteries', *Search* (1932): 102–16, 211–36.

5/13 Article about archaeology and the significance of counting for Jewish life

Given title: Counting
Language: English
Date: not dated
Number of pages: 8

After an introduction in which Gaster mentions several 'recent' archaeological expeditions in different parts of the world (and criticizes the 'explorers' for 'not knowing how to count' and attributing 'exaggerated dates' to their finds) he comes to the topic of the significance of counting for Jewish life. He stresses the importance of counting 'what the world owes us' and 'what the world has done to us'. Counting his way through 'biblical history', he comes to 'our own time' and counts the pogroms and the victims. However, he ends on a positive note, emphasizing how the Lord through miracles and wonders saved 'our people'.

5/14 Article on Dante and Jewish Apocalyptic literature

Given title: Dante and the Jews
Language: English
Date: not dated, probably around 1921
Number of pages: 9

Gaster explains in the first sentence of this article that the world is preparing to celebrate the fifth centenary of the death of Dante, which he attributes to 1421, which seems to indicate that Gaster wrote in 1921. He traces motives in the *Divine Comedy* back to Jewish traditions as expressed in early apocalyptic literature.

5/15 Draft of article 'The Divine Name and the Creative Word' for *Jewish Review*

Given title: The Divine Name and the Creative Word
Language: English
Date: not dated
Number of pages: 4

There are three notes on the first page: at the top on the left, J.R. (*Jewish Review*), and on the right: 'Proof to Dr. Gaster 193 Maida Vade Lond W'. In addition there is a handwritten note under the title: 'by M. Gaster, ex-president of the Folklore Society, member of the council of the Royal Asiatic Society etc etc.' In this study Gaster mentions the idea that the whole bible 'consists only of various permutations and changes of the Ineffable Name' (page 4), an idea

which he promises to develop further on another occasion. He also refers to his article ‘the Alchemy of the Alphabet’ (item 5/2 in this box list).

5/16 Article dealing with ‘current affairs’ in the Balkans (decline of Ottoman Empire)

Given title: none
Language: English
Date: not dated
Number of pages: 13

A mistake has been made in the page numbering, 10 follows 8, but there is no missing page. There is a note in pencil at the top of the first page, which could be the given title: ‘Eastern Question’.

This article seems to have been written between c.1909 and c.1912, because the Young Turk revolution (July 1908), followed by the deposition of Sultan Abdul Hamid (in April 1909), is mentioned, and the Balkan Wars are not mentioned.

In this article Gaster deals with ‘current affairs’, developments related to the decline of the Ottoman Empire and the formation of independent nation states (e.g. Serbia, Bulgaria, Romania, Montenegro). He does not celebrate these developments: ‘Millions and millions of pounds have been sunk in military organizations and military preparations. Those countries are being slowly turned into military camps ... Ambition is fostered, crude nationalism is preached, and the unrest is kept alive, and revolt and hatred against other nations and other states is growing a pace’ (page 10). This seems to indicate that he was writing just before the Balkan wars.

5/17 Draft article on the educational importance of folklore

Given title: Folklore and its educational importance
Language: English
Date: 3 November 1916
Number of pages: 7

There are two notes in pencil, probably by Vivian Gaster at the top of the first page: ‘printed’ and ‘partially S. 190 ET’. This refers to and corrects item 190 on the bibliography of Gaster’s publications by Bruno Schindler: ‘The Educational Importance of Folk Lore’ (1920), which was listed as published in ‘T.E.’, but here corrected as ET (*Expository Times*). The note however is misleading as it suggests that this seven page item is a partial version of the article in *Expository Times*. However, it seems more likely that the publication in *Expository Times*, which is only two columns, is a partial version of this item.

In this article Gaster states that the aim of education is to stimulate the imagination (page 1). He stresses the significance of folklore for education: ‘Folklore has become the most characteristic expression of the national spirit. It is everywhere and nowhere and hence its immense importance for education’ (page 2). He mentions several examples, such as popular weather lore, charms and amulets.

5/18 Article on Folklore in England for *Adevarul*

Given title: Folklore-ul in Anglia
Language: Romanian
Date: 1 May 1935
Number of pages: 4

There is a note in the line below the title: 'de Dr. Moses Gaster'. Another note on the back, in green pen (in what appears to be Gaster's hand): 'Articolul pentru Adevarul numerul special despre Anglia' (the article for *Adevarul* for the volume about England). *Adevarul* is a newspaper based in Bucharest, established in 1871 (www.adevarul.ro).

5/19 Study by Gaster on Roma Charms

Given title: Gipsy Charms
Language: English
Date: not dated
Number of pages: 4

Gaster translates several charms from Wlislöcki, *Volksdichtung der siebenburgischen und sud-ungarischen Zigeuner* (Wien, 1890), and concludes that these Transylvanian Roma charms differ greatly from Romanian, Slavonic and Greek charms.

5/20 Study on a system for Braille in Hebrew

Given title: Hebrew Braille code
Language: English
Date: not dated
Number of pages: 3

This incomplete study (presumably by Gaster, although it is not signed) refers to 'tables' 1 to 6, and appears to be the explanations of a system for Hebrew Braille presented in these tables. However, no tables accompany it, and it is not yet known whether they have survived.

5/21 Article for *Jüdische Nationalkalendar* about Hebrew language and Jewish culture

Given title: Hebräische Sprache und jüdischen Kultur
Language: German
Date: 16 June 1938
Number of pages: 11

The title has been written by hand at the top of the page. Above it there is another note, explaining that it was sent to A. Klein, Palmoticeva 16, Zagreb, for 'jüd. Nationalkalendar' (Jewish National Calendar). In this article Gaster stresses the importance of the Hebrew language for the unity of the Jewish people.

5/22 Draft of Gaster's response to Professor Heller's evaluation of his edition of *Asatir*

Given title: Zu Heller's Bemerkungen in MGWJ 77

Language: German

Date: not dated, but published in 1933

Number of pages: 5

This response by Gaster, in a slightly different version, was published under the title 'Araber und Samaritaner' in *Monatsschrift für Geschichte und Wissenschaft des Judentums* 77.4 (1933): 304–5, the same issue in which Heller's critique of Gaster's edition of the *Samaritan Book of Asatir* appeared. In places the language has been softened, probably by or at the request of an editor. For example, in the original version (i.e. this item), Gaster stated that he did not understand how Heller could come to this conclusion unless he knows nothing at all about Samaritan literature. This harsh criticism was removed for the published version.

5/23 Article about Huldricus' edition of *Toledot Jesu* (1705)

Given title: none

Language: English

Date: not dated

Number of pages: 3

Gaster mentions this 'rare booklet', of which he managed to discover a copy in 'Dr. William's library in London'. He also refers to a fragment of the Hebrew text which he managed to obtain. He compared the text of the fragment and the edition by Huldricus and concluded that in the latter there are 'two items of a purely folk-lore origin which shows exactly the elements used by the author for the compilation of his pamphlet.'

5/24 Study by Gaster on the chapter and verse numbering in Isaiah

Given title: Die Zählung der Verse im Hebraeiscjen (sic) Texte des Jesaja

Language: German

Date: not dated

Number of pages: 2

In this short study Gaster examines how the chapters and verses in the book of Isaiah have been numbered by comparing all the Hebrew Bible manuscripts in his collection. The study has been poorly typed with many mistakes.

5/25 Six articles about Jews in England

Given title: none

Language: English

Date: various dates in 1922

Number of pages: 44

The articles have been numbered in Roman numerals and dates have been written in black pen on the first page of each article, as follows:

I – 27.3.22

II – 24.4.22

III – 10.5.22

IV – 16.6.22 [the note has 16.6.21, but this must be a mistake]

V – 11.7.22

VI – 4.8.22

These articles were written by Gaster under the pseudonym Observer, for the Chicago-based journal: *East and West: a Journal for Thinking Jews*. Dealing with a wide range of topics related to the life, culture and organization of Jews in England, they reveal a lot about Gaster's perception of the Anglo-Jewish community. The second article (25 April 1922) includes a discussion of Belloc's *The Jews* (1922). In the same article he discussed the retirement of Claude Montefiore from the Anglo-Jewish Association. He referred to Liberal Judaism as a 'fly leaf between the old and new testaments'.

5/26 Copy of an article on high ranking Jews

Given title: Jewish Politicians

Language: English

Date: not dated, probably shortly after April 1921

Number of pages: 7

It is a carbon copy of an article in which Gaster provides an overview of Jews in the highest ranks in biblical narratives and throughout history. For example, he mentions Joseph in Egypt, Mordecai in the Persian court of Ahasuerus, Nehemiah, etc. The impetus seems to have been, based on the first sentence, the appointment of the Earl of Reading (i.e. Sir Rufus Isaacs) as the viceroy of India which took place in April 1921. Gaster concludes his article with the following statement: 'Looking over that long list of Jewish statesmen and politicians we are filled with a justified sense of pride, not only for their achievements but for that more remarkable fact that their memory has not been tarnished by a single action of dubious loyalty or of self interest. They have lived an unblemished life and they left behind a reputation which no folk could attack. There is nothing about them of which we could stand ashamed on the contrary they will by closer acquaintance, and they have each and all contributed to raise the prestige of the Jew and to assure for themselves the highest place of well deserved honour. The decline in the greatness of the states can also be recognized with the absence of Jews from high and responsible positions. This is a moral which even he who runs can read. It is like the writing on the wall.'

5/27 Draft of an introduction to a book

Given title: Jews and Arians

Language: English

Date: undated

Number of pages: 5

This work starts with ‘a few preliminary words to those who intend reading this book’. This seems to apply that this item is the introduction to (or preface of) a book. A few corrections have been made in pen, mainly on page 2. It is not signed. It is not made clear which book it is an introduction for, and whether it is by Gaster or by a different author. From the concluding sentence it seems that the author of the foreword is the author of the book: ‘I may have seen the world in an inverted mirror, but I doubt whether my mirror has shown me an inverted picture or whether that which is shown by other mirrors is the truer one. For one thing I plead: read this book and try to enter into that innermost thought which has prompted me to open it and to give it to the world, and then judge.’ As this box list shows, Gaster wrote several articles on the topic of Jews and ‘Arians’. However, no publication details of a book (or booklet) by him on this topic have yet been found.

5/28 Partial draft of a series of articles for the *American Jewish Chronicle* about the Modern Jew

Given title: none
Language: English
Date: April 1917
Number of pages: 60

According to the note written at the top of the first page, this is a series of articles written for the *American Jewish Chronicle* in April 1917 about the modern Jew. The pages have been numbered 31 to 90. Many corrections have been made in the text, and some pages have been damaged. The topics which Gaster addresses here include: Haskallah, Reform Judaism, Hassidim, emancipation, the role of the Rabbi.

5/29 Copy of an article about Jews in Rumania

Given title: The Jews in Rumania
Language: English
Date: undated, but probably written between 1920 and 1923
Number of pages: 14

There is a note at the top of the first page (probably by Vivian Gaster): ‘S 123?’ This refers to item 123 on Bruno Schindler’s bibliography: ‘Roumania and the Jews’, *North American Review* (15 November 1902): 644–75. However, since Gaster refers to the League of Nations, which was not founded until 1920, he must have written the article during or after 1920. This means that it cannot be item 123 from Schindler’s bibliography as suggested by the note. It can be assumed that the article was written before 1923, because in that year the issues which Gaster problematized were resolved, as the Romanian government adopted a new constitution which granted equal rights and full citizenship to Jews.

Gaster concludes this article with a suggestion that Romania should be persuaded to give Jews equal rights: [page 13] ‘I have insisted, and I continue to insist, that the Jews of Rumania should be no better or no worse than the Jews in the Western countries of Europe and the United States, and be [page 14] treated as citizens without any distinction of race or religion. If an appeal is to be made, then it should be directed not to any specific league, but to the better sense of the Rumanian nation itself, bringing home to them the fact that by

allowing this ill treatment of the Jews to continue, they place themselves and their country outside the pale of civilization. An appeal can also be made to their own moral consciousness and to that of the world, no longer to tolerate acts which run counter to the elementary principles of humanity. Only such an appeal will prove effective, and lead to the desired result. It will [be] in the interest of the Rumanians to see that justice and order shall prevail.'

5/30 Article on taxation in charity

Given title: The Jewish Aspect of taxation in Charity

Language: English

Date: not dated

Number of pages: 8

A small note has been attached to the last page, which states it was written by 'Haham Moses Gaster', which might indicate a date before 1918, when Gaster retired as Haham.

5/31 Article for *Jewish Guild* (Johannesburg), 'Jewish Dignity'

Given title: Jewish Dignity

Language: 31 July 1935

Date: not dated

Number of pages: 4

A note at the top of the first page states that this article was sent to the *Jewish Guild* (Johannesburg) on 31 July 1935. Gaster argues against the concept of 'race', dismantles the 'Arian swindle', and stresses the importance for Jews to be aware of their history and take pride in their achievements.

In November 2012 a small exhibition of items from the Gaster collection was displayed for several months in two cases in the Rylands Gallery of the John Rylands Library. This typescript was part of that exhibition.

'The Arian swindle and the racial hallucination propagated with so much fanaticism has produced complete confusion in the mind of the people. There is no-one who can explain what an Arian is, it is the result of a modern invention, originally referring to a very small fraction of a tribe in India. It has now been deliberately expanded in such a manner, that the German Government when faced with the problems of what to do with the Hungarian or Japanese or Chinese had to declare these nations also to be Arian. It is the height of absurdity, for anyone who knows anything about these nations is aware of the fact that Hungarians belong to a Finish-Turkish tribe, whilst the Chinese and Japanese again differ completely from both and are part of the great Mongolian stock. Yet in their hatred of the Jew the German Government did not hesitate however to run to this absurdity and as for race, no-one who has studied Ethnology or the history of the nations, especially of Europe can give a clear definition what race means. Nowhere has such a mixture of various nations taken place as in Europe. And to endeavour to separate one from the other is just as absurd and unscientific as the former extension of the Arian notion. But it is producing a complete confusion, not only in the mind of those who propagate the idea and who would deliberately deceive themselves so long as it suits their purposes, but also in the mind of our people, and therein [p2] lies a

great danger. The exaltation of the Arian is intended to degrade the Jew. And to speak of a Jewish race is equally absurd. We Jews belong to a great branch of the human family to which also the Arabs belong and the Assyrian stock and many other smaller or larger tribes or nations in Asia and Africa. The intention however is to select the Jew as if he were the only representative of the Semitic race and to bow down with respect before the Arab or even to embrace the Arabic wishes and desires, i.e. in Palestine against the Jews. The hollowness therefore of an attempt to segregate the Jew from the rest of the world need no further explanation, it stands out as clear as noon in the day. But what one observes is the fact that it is lowering the Jew in his own estimation. With the usual aptitude of assimilating new ideas also to enter into our mind and to wrap our judgement beginning to feel inclined to believe that perhaps we belong to a lower status in the scale of the nations. An inferiority complex is produced and unfortunately many of the Jews have already inherited that from previous times of persecution. It has been so often dinned into their ears that they are people who ought to be grateful for some toleration extended to them and have accepted the situation and often we have heard our people talking grandly how tolerant this nation or that government is, or how tolerant the other is, without realizing that they themselves subscribe to the idea that they are people of a minor value. They forget what they have to claim is equality and not to be merely tolerated. I wish this idea could be eradicated from the mind, especially of the younger generation who are called upon now to take up the gauntlet which has been thrown down and to fight the battle to recover their feeling of dignity, or self respect, of honour. The greatest misfortune which has befallen our people especially in the course of modern education is that they have forgotten their past. They judge themselves by the standard by which they are judged by others. They have lost the only standard by which they should measure themselves. In every school and in every home Jewish history ought to be taught from Abraham to our day. That would be the source of inspiration which they are lacking, true, we have been scattered throughout the world, but have we become Pariahs, an ignorant horde belonging to the lower state of human civilization or is the contrary the fact, have we not been throughout the ages and in every country the standard bearers of the highest form of human civilization? We have never lagged behind. We have always been in the vanguard of human progress, and often impetuously pushing too fast to the front and thereby creating envy and hatred. There is no branch in human activity in which Jews have not excelled, to a dozen great names in history we could add another dozen and more of equal value [p4] if not greater. Therefore the history of our people ought to be sucked in with the mother's milk to enter into our flesh and blood and thus teaching us to understand what we are and what we have been. It would be a great misfortune to our people if we would allow ourselves to be intimidated by the raucous cries of the apostles of the new creed, by the teachers of the new paganism and Arianism. These will soon die away as the echoes of wild beasts in the jungles. We must keep our mind clear, our hearts warm, our walk steady, we must learn to be humble, but not cringing, proud but not arrogant, but above all, strong in our faith and hope. I have for a long time meditated to write a new history of our people, but there is Graetz and there is Dubnow, and there is a host of others, turn to them, you young men of the future, and you will have the future.'

5/32 Article in which Gaster presents his solution to the 'Jewish Problem'

Given title: What of a Jewish World Congress?

Language: English

Date: March 1935

Number of pages: 3

There is a handwritten note at the top of the first page: ‘Sent to the *Jewish Ex-serviceman* and the *Courier*, New York, 8 March 1935. Appeared in *Jewish Ex-serviceman* April 1935.’

In this article Gaster expresses his support for the idea of a Jewish world congress, which would focus on finding a solution to ‘the Jewish problem’. It may be noteworthy that he uses this phrase without quotation marks, and his solution is: ‘The Jew should now demand a place upon earth where they could congregate and form not by the thousand but by the million, a large settlement into which all the Jews could flow, preferably under the aegis of the League of Nations and with the help of the League of Nations’ (page 2).

5/33 Carbon copy of article ‘Is Judaism a proselytizing religion?’

Given title: Is Judaism a proselytizing religion

Language: English

Date: not dated

Number of pages: 5

In this article Gaster challenges what he calls ‘the legend’ that Jews have always been against making proselytes. He describes the idea that the New Testament apostles were the first ‘to carry the name of God among the nations’ as ‘a fallacy’.

5/34 Study of a manuscript of the Lament of Moses Remos plus an unsigned letter

Given title: Das Klagelied des Moses Remos

Language: German

Date: April 1900

Number of pages: 2

The study engages with Zunz’ notes on Moses Remos, and announces the existence of a manuscript in Naples (codex III,F,7) containing the text of this lament.

The second item is a letter. The names of the sender and the receiver of the letter have been left blank, probably with the aim to be added by hand. Gaster’s address is at the top (37 Maida Vale. W.), and the address of a certain Dr. Freimann in Frankfurt a/Main at the bottom. The letter mentions ‘my little contribution’, which seems to refer to the study. The letter is dated: ‘London, 19 April 900/60’. This seems to indicate that Gaster is the author (probably of both the letter and the study), since he lived in London, and he used this curious way of writing a date on several occasions.

5/35 Gaster’s reply to Ludwig Blau in MGWJ

Given title: Das Krönchen der Thora, a Reply

Language: English

Date: 7 January 1930

Number of pages: 10

Gaster responds, as he makes clear at the beginning of this article, to ‘the article by Dr. B. under the above title in the last number of the Monatschrift’. This must refer to Ludwig Blau, ‘Die Krönchen der Thora’, *Monatsschrift für Geschichte und Wissenschaft des Judentums*, 73, no.7 (1929): 465–71.

5/36 Copy of a Christian text against idolatry

Given title: Kurze Lehre gegen die vielen schlechten Beispiele welche [sic] einige Christen verfolgen und der Beweisze [sic] woher sie stammen und was sie bedeuten.

Language: German

Date: not dated

Number of pages: 6

Based on the names occurring in it, this text seems to have originated in a Romanian context. Gaster may have copied this text (or had somebody else copy it for him), because in its vicious reaction against any form of ‘idolatry’, it mentions a lot of folklore motifs, names of ancient Gods, and examples of mantic practices and other traditions (e.g. customs during weddings and funerals).

5/37 Study about the Star of David

Given title: Magen David

Language: German

Date: 20 September 1922

Number of pages: 8

Besides the date handwritten in pen, there is also a note ‘for Hischnitzer’. In this study Gaster attempts to trace the origin of the symbol of the Star of David.

5/38 Carbon copy of article about Purim and medieval Jewish ‘mystery play’

Given title: Minstrelsy & Purim play

Language: English

Date: not dated

Number of pages: 10

In this article Gaster deals with Purim as the occasion for ‘extravagant merriment’, expressed for example in the Jewish version of the medieval ‘mystery plays’ – the *Ahasverus Spiel*. He refers to the work of Dr. Landau (publication of a sixteenth century Targum) and to Schudt’s *Jüdische Merkwürdigkeiten*, which included an *Ahasverus Spiel*: Johann J. Schudt, *Jüdische Merckwürdigkeiten Vorstellende Was sich Curieuses und denckwürdiges in den neuen Zeiten*, Vol. 3 (Frankfurt-Leipzig, 1714), 202–25.

5/39 Carbon copy of an article for *Jewish Chronicle*, The New Year of Trees

Given title: The New Year of Trees

Language: English
Date: not dated
Number of pages: 7

There is a handwritten note at the top of the first page: *Jewish Chronicle*. Gaster addresses the topic of Jewish calendars, and the issue of when the year starts.

5/40 History of Palestine from the Destruction of the Temple until 1914

Given title: Palestine from the Destruction of the Temple until 1914
Language: English
Date: not dated
Number of pages: 8

In this article Gaster stresses the significance of the land of Palestine throughout Jewish history. Since he mentions that he presents some main points in the history of Palestine ‘down to our own days’, it could be assumed that he wrote in or shortly after 1914. The disaccord within ‘the Zionist movement’ is obvious, as Gaster states: ‘My views which have remained constant do not agree with those which are now propagated from the housetops’ (page 7). Moses Gaster did not get on with other prominent Anglo-Jewish Zionists such as Chaim Weizmann and Leopold Greenberg. See Simon Mayers, “From ‘the Pharisee’ to ‘the Zionist Menace’: Myths, Stereotypes and Constructions of the Jew in English Catholic Discourse (1896-1929),” PhD thesis, *University of Manchester* (2012), 143n13.

5/41 Draft interview with Gaster on the Future of Palestine

Given title: The Future of Palestine (handwritten, no typed title)
Language: English
Date: not dated
Number of pages: 7

The name of the interviewer has not been mentioned. There are many additions and corrections written by hand. It is possible that the interviewer/author sent this version as a draft to Gaster for him to make corrections.

The author expresses his joy at Gaster’s willingness to grant him an interview and praises him as a leader of Zionism: ‘Who would be more able to shed some light on this mystery [the silence of Zionist leaders regarding the future of Palestine] than he who created Zionism in England, the friend of Herzl and great leader of the movement. The name of Gaster is too well-known to explain how momentous is the message which he now sends’.

Gaster expresses his disappointment over the Balfour Declaration (2 November 1917), which he regards as a bad deal for the Jewish people, being left with a colony rather than a country. The interpersonal struggles within ‘the Zionist movement’(s) are obvious as Gaster states that: ‘The Jewish self-appointed leaders had no right whatever to jeopardize the future of the Jewish people in the way in which they have done, and have been spending vast sums of money and continue to do so, as can be seen in that extraordinary budget which has just been published’ (page 4).

5/42 Anecdote on Constantinescu collecting Roma tales

Given title: Perilous Collecting

Language: English

Date: 29 November, 1937.

Number of pages: 1

Gaster submitted this anecdote to the *Journal of the Gypsy Lore Society* (now: *Romani Studies*) to be published as a ‘Small Note’. There is a note at the top of the page: ‘proof returned 24/3/38’.

Gaster shares an anecdote of how M. Barbu Constantinescu, while collecting Roma tales, was once nearly stabbed by a woman who wanted to test whether he was the ‘Beng’. Gaster prides himself in having interested Constantinescu in Roma and their literature, and thus having initiated his collection *Probe de limba și literatura Țiganilor din România* (Bucharest, 1878). M. Barbu Constantinescu (1839–91) was lecturer and later dean of the Faculty of Theology at Bucharest University.

5/43 Article about Pesach

Given title: Pesach

Language: English

Date: not dated

Number of pages: 11

This article is one of the few items in this box to not contain notes or corrections. Gaster compares and contrasts the festivals of Pesach and Purim.

5/44 Handwritten draft article about the Prayer Book and liturgical poetry

Given title: Der Ohel

Language: German

Date: not dated

Number of pages: 6

There is a note in pencil on the first page (probably by Vivian Gaster): ‘not published?’ The article does not seem to be in Gaster’s hand, but it is possible that he dictated it to an assistant. It deals with liturgical poetry (piyutim, hymns) and the attitude of the Reform Movement to the prayer book.

5/45 Purim

Given title: Purim

Language: English

Date: not dated

Number of pages: 10

This article is different from item 5/38, which also deals with Purim. Corrections have been made with pencil, in what seems to be Gaster's hand.

5/46 Article about the importance of the local Rabbi

Given title: The Rabbi in our midst

Language: English

Date: January 1933

Number of pages: 5

In this article Gaster expresses his view that the decline of religious life is due to the ignorance of rabbis caused by their lack of education. He also perceives the 'new tendency of centralisation' as a sign of weakness. According to him the local rabbi should be independent and respected, and the 'only recognised spiritual head of each community, big or small'.

5/47 Article for *Jewish Forum*, against the concept of 'race'

Given title: Ancient 'Race', a modern illusion and snare

Language: English

Date: August 1936

Number of pages: 8

There is a note written at the top of the first page: 'For "Forum" 17/8/1936'. In this article Gaster challenges the concept of race and its use 'in modern times'. In conclusion he states: 'The absurdity and hollowness therefore of these modern theories advanced in such a vicious manner for political reason is inferior to the grand Jewish conception of the unity of men. Arising out of it is the common duty of working for the welfare of humanity at large and though there may be nations differing from the Jews in their religious beliefs, this does not in the slightest degree affect that bond which ought to unite all mankind in one great endeavour to foster the happiness and prosperity of the world' (page 8).

5/48 Article on Jews in Romania

Given title: Roumania

Language: English

Date: March 1933

Number of pages: 4

There is a note in pencil at the top of the first page: '14.3.33. Sent to de Haas, New York'. In this short article Gaster provides an historical survey of the situation of Jews in Romania.

5/49 Two translated poems and a draft study on Romanian and Slavonic poetry

Given title: On Roumanian epic poetry

Language: English
Date: not dated
Number of pages: 28

The typed title has been corrected in pencil (probably by Gaster): 'Roumanian ballads and their relation to Slavonic epic poetry'. This item consist of a study by Gaster (pages 1–14), followed by two poems translated into English: *Moshniac* and *The song of Baba Novac*. Gaster states that: 'Folklore lies at the basis of the culture of all these people and shows the affinity between them... Folk-lore in its widest sense and properly understood and studied seems to be the best antidote against that extravagant nationalism so rampant in our times' (page 3).

5/50 Draft article, two contributions to the comparative study of tales

Given title: Rumänische Parallele zu Fridolin und zu der Legende: 'Der Glaube versetzt Berge.' Beitrag zur vergleichenden Sagengeschichte.

Language: German
Date: not dated
Number of pages: 10

The given title can be translated as Romanian parallels to 'Fridolin' and to the legend 'faith moves mountains' – a contribution to the comparative study of tales. Gaster published various contributions to the comparative study of tales in *Monatschrift für Geschichte und Wissenschaft des Judentums* (e.g. in 1933, 1934 and 1936) and it is possible that it included a version of these two studies.

5/51 Article on Romanian Charms and Conjurations

Given title: Roumanian Charms and Conjurations
Language: English
Date: not dated
Number of pages: 10

There is a note at the top of the first page, probably by Vivian Gaster: 'not published?' On page three of this study Gaster mentions his article 'in the pages of the Journal' on the Romanian amulet 'Avestitza'. This seems to refer to 'Two Thousand Years of a Charm against the Child-Stealing Witch', *Folk-Lore*, 11 (1900): 129–62; repr. *Studies and Texts II*, 1005–38.

In conclusion he states: 'Distinction between Pagan and Christian is often difficult to trace. As I have shown in my *Roumanian Bird and Beast Tales* one is almost inclined to ascribe to these nations the continuity of ancient belief, nor has the school master yet had time to brush away the ashes and to drive away from the people the belief in the power of charms and countercharms' (page 10).

5/52 Incomplete study and translation of a Romanian book of spells

Given title: The Roumanian Charm
Language: English
Date: not dated
Number of pages: 5

There is a note at the top of the first page, probably by Vivian Gaster: ‘not published?’ Gaster mentions in this article that he discovered a eighteenth-century printed pamphlet, *The Book for Undoing Spells*, in Romanian in Cyrillic, which a friend of his (no name or publication details given) printed in 1884 in Romanian in Latin. Gaster also received a copy. This article is a description of the contents of this booklet, followed by an English translation (it is not clear whether he translates all or only part of it). Then he proceeds with his analysis of this ‘curious document’. The analysis takes up less than one page and the article seems to be incomplete.

5/53 Ten Romanian Charms in translation

Given title: List of Roumanian Charms
Language: English
Date: not dated
Number of pages: 17

There is a note at the top of the first page, probably by Vivian Gaster: ‘? not published’.

The item starts with a list of the contents, followed by texts of the charms. These ten charms could have been translated by Gaster, apparently from two Romanian publications which are mentioned: Tudor Pamfile, *Sarbatorile de vara la români: studiu etnografic* (Bucharest, 1910) and a work from Ion Creanga. The reference which Gaster provides for the latter is ‘XIII 1920’, which might refer to Creanga’s collected works, which was published in that year: Ion Creanga, *Opere Complecte* (Chisinau, 1920).

5/54 Notes on fairy tale motifs in Romanian ballads

Given title: Fairy Tale Motifs in Roumanian Ballads
Language: English
Date: June 1933
Number of pages: 2

In this work in progress Gaster lists three motifs, and mentions several Romanian ballads in which they occur. For example: the motif of journeying to hell across meadows, some of which are full of grass and populated by skinny cattle, whilst others are barren and filled with fat cows. This motif occurs in the Romanian ballad *Sun and Moon*, and in ‘my gypsy tale’ the *Iron Man*. Gaster adds the note: ‘Other parallels I must find’.

5/55 Three notes related to Roma

Given title: none
Language: English

Date: not dated, but written in 1934

Number of pages: 3

The content of the first page is Gaster's translation of an 'amusing article' from a Romanian newspaper of June 1934 (article by Mr. Lazurica in *Adevărul Literar și Artistic*). The second page deals with a book on Romanian history in Gaster's collection, from which it is evident that there were already many Roma (Gaster uses the term 'gypsies') in Walachia in 1385. The third page contains a short note on celebrations by Roma on 1 July, of the eightieth anniversary of their full emancipation, granted by prince Grigore Ghica of Moldova, in 1854.

5/56 Gaster's translation of a Romanian tale

Given title: How worry came into the world, A Roumanian Legend

Language: English

Date: May 1933

Number of pages: 3

There is a note written at the top of the first page: 'Pearsons. May 1933'. There is another handwritten note just below the title: 'by M. Gaster'. This is Gaster's translation of a Romanian tale. It is not accompanied by an introductory study.

5/57 Two tales, contributing to the comparative study of tales

Given title: Ein Beitrag zur vergleichenden Sagengeschichte

Language: German

Date: not dated

Number of pages: 11

Gaster explained that he collected these tales in Bucharest in 1883, but decided to omit them from his publication because it had grown too large. This probably refers to *Literatura Populară Română* (Bucharest, 1883). He decided to return to these tales, because he understands them to be an important and previously unknown part of the chain of similar tales and legends that spread from the east over Europe. The first tale is part of the Fridolin legends. Gaster refers to Emmanuel Cosquin, *La Légende du page de Sainte Elizabeth de Portugal et les nouveaux documents orientaux* (Paris, 1912). The translation of the tale follows Gaster's introduction. The second tale, 'The story of a gold smith who by his prayer moved a mountain in the river Nile', has not been preceded by an introduction.

5/58 Carbon copy of an essay on the relation between the Samaritan Pentateuch and the Masoretic Text of the Bible

Given title: Samaritan Reading in the Masoretic Text of the Bible

Language: English

Date: not dated, after 1923

Number of pages: 4

The first sentence is: ‘The relation between the Samaritan Pentateuch and the Jewish Masoretic text has been the object of keen controversy ever since the discovery and publication of the former, in the Paris Polyglot of 1632.’ Gaster refers in this essay to his Schweich Lectures on the Samaritans, which he delivered in 1923 and published in 1925 as *The Samaritans: Their History, Doctrines and Literature*.

5/59 Incomplete Study about Samaritans

Given title: none
Language: English
Date: not dated
Number of pages: 8

In this article, Gaster first provides an overview of differences between Jews and Samaritans, followed by a discussion of various ‘Samaritan legends’. It is incomplete. It ends on page 8 with an introduction to a story about Moses.

5/60 Study in which Gaster compares Christian Lent with Samaritan Samoth

Given title: none
Language: English
Date: not dated
Number of pages: 4

5/61 Draft study by Gaster related to the correspondence between Samaritans and western scholars

Given title: Some New Documents Relative to the Correspondence between the Samaritans and their supposed brethren in the West
Language: English
Date: not dated
Number of pages: 9

Gaster refers to Sylvestre de Saci’s collection of letters ‘ancient and modern up to his time, which had passed between the Samaritans and their alleged brethren in the West, especially in England’. The date of Saci’s publication has been left as 18__. Gaster may have wanted to check it and fill it out later. On the next page he announces the existence of ‘an unknown letter’ which ‘has come into my possession’, and which he intends ‘to publish here in full’ (page 3). Gaster suggests that this letter was written by a Christian Hebraist who aimed to convert the Samaritans to Christianity. He mentions Mr. Huntingdon and Dr. Peacock. The typescript ends with: ‘letter follows’. Several corrections have been made in the text.

A different (expanded) version, which seems to draw upon this preliminary study, was published as appendix I, ‘Samaritan Correspondence’ in Gaster’s book *The Samaritans: Their History, Doctrines and Literature* (1925, based upon the Schweich Lectures which he delivered in 1923).

5/62 Article on Sephardic Communities, for *East and West*

Given title: The Sephardic Communities of the Nineteenth Century

Language: English

Date: August 1922

Number of pages: 15

A note has been written at the top of the first page: 'East + West, New Year Number, 28.8.22'. This must refer to the already mentioned Chicago based journal: *East and West: a Journal for Thinking Jews* (see item 5/25). In this article Gaster calls for an intellectual revival of Sephardim, otherwise he predicts absorption (by the Ashkenasim) in 'the immediate future'.

5/63 Short article on Serbian Literature

Given title: Serbian Literature

Language: English

Date: not dated, but probably shortly after 1918

Number of pages: 2

The study, which has the appearance of an encyclopaedia entry, is signed by Gaster. He mentions the 'new kingdom of Yugoslavia', which seems to indicate that it was written not long after the formation of this kingdom in 1918. It is a very concise overview of Serbian literature, mainly a list of key authors in different periods. The study is followed by a kind of bibliography (which is rare for Gaster), although only last names and years of publications have been mentioned.

5/64 Notes by Gaster about the motif of a worm in a stone in various tales.

Given title: Solomon Legend

Language: English

Date: not dated

Number of pages: 3

These notes by Gaster deal with tales containing the motif of a worm in a stone. He mentions his edition of the Rumanian legend *The archangel Michael serving an abbot for forty years* and finds an 'exact parallel' in the Ethiopic version of the *Death of Moses* (he refers to an edition by Faitlovich, Paris 1906, page 25). The English translation of this story is followed by a discussion of other stories which contain this motif.

5/65 Draft of Gaster's foreword to N.M. Penzer's *The Ocean of Story* (vol 3), and two letters

Given title: Foreword

Language: English

Date: February 1925

Number of pages: 19

Seventeen of the leaves contain a draft (or proofs) of the text for Gaster's foreword to volume 3 of N.M. Penzer's *The Ocean of Story* (being C.H. Tawney's translation of Somadeva's Kathāsarit sāgara), published in 1925. The first of the letters is from Penzer to Gaster (3 February 1925), thanking him for drawing his attention to a specific story, and mentioning that the proofs of Gaster's foreword are enclosed for correction. The other letter is from Gaster to Penzer returning the proofs (5 March 1925).

5/66 Incomplete article on Jewish 'Parallels' to the *Acts of Thomas*

Given title: Jewish Parallels to the Apocryphal Acts of Thomas

Language: English

Date: note dated

Number of pages: 5

There is a note in pencil at the top of the first page: 'Incomplete, p 5 missing and not ended'.

Gaster begins this study as follows: 'In studying the literature which has gathered round the Apocryphal Acts of the Apostles, as well as the other Apocryphal Books of the New Testament, I have been struck by the fact that no attempt seems to have been made to trace some of the incidents to Jewish sources, or at least to seek for Jewish parallels'.

5/67 Draft of study on *The Legend of the Tobacco*

Given title: The Legend of the Tobacco: A chapter in modern myth making

Language: English

Date: not dated

Number of pages: 11

There is a note at the top of the first page (probably by Vivian Gaster): '? a first draft, never published'. This study contains many gaps which have been left in the text, probably with the intention to be filled in later.

First sentence: 'One of the many issues of the study of Folklore is whether we have lost the power of making tales?' Last sentence: 'An ancient legend upon which this one has apparently been moulded is that of the travels of Sr. Macer, or his journeying to the gate of Paradise'.

5/68 Short article on Turkish Literature

Given title: Turkish Literature

Language: English

Date: not dated

Number of pages: 2

There is a note written on the first page: 'Blackie's Encyclopaedia'. The format is similar to that of item 5/63, on Serbian Literature, which seems to imply that both were written for this encyclopaedia.

5/69 Incomplete draft article responding to a play on 'The Wandering Jew'

Given title: The Legend of the Wandering Jew

Language: English

Date: not dated, possibly around 1921

Number of pages: 4

In this incomplete article (pages 4–6 are missing, corrections have been made), Gaster refers to a play, 'now in a new setting on the stage of the New Theatre'. This could be *The Eternal Jew* by E. Temple Thurston, which was performed in that theatre in 1921. Gaster deals with prejudice, and the 'readiness of the masses to believe anything'. He describes Christianity as a religion of hatred and links the popularity of the legend of the wandering Jew to blood libel accusations.

5/70 Draft of Gaster's preface to and copy of Wassilevsky's essay on Modern Hebrew Literature

Given title: none

Language: English

Date: not dated

Number of pages: 10

This item has a cover sheet with a single word, 'Wassilevsky', written in pen. 'Preface' is written in pen at the top of the first page of the work itself, and '10 pages'. Typescript with handwritten corrections, a draft of Gaster's introduction to an essay on Modern Hebrew Literature by I. Wassilevsky. 'M. Gaster' signed on page 6. The last four pages contain newspaper cuttings of the essay as it appeared in two installments of the *Jewish World*: I. Wassilevsky, 'Modern Hebrew Literature', *Jewish World*, 4 August 1915, 17–20 and 18 August 1915, 20–22.

5/71 Draft speech or essay on Western influence on Eastern Europe

Given title: The Influence of the West upon the nations of the Eastern part of Europe

Language: English

Date: not dated, but around 1935, 1936

Number of pages: 14

This item appears to be dictated by Gaster to somebody relatively new to the English language. There are many mistakes which are the result of the discrepancy between English phonetics and orthography (i.e. between sounds and writing). For example, 'inside' instead of 'insight', 'veri' instead of 'very', 'colar' instead of 'colour', 'ferytales' instead of 'fairy tales'. It could be a speech, as Gaster uses the phrase 'at the present congress'. He also

mentions that he is approaching his eightieth year, so it was probably written around 1935, 1936.

5/72 Carbon copy of article on Jewish Vilna

Given title: Wilna and its Jewish Inhabitants
Language: English
Date: not dated
Number of pages: 9

In this article Gaster mentions that that Poles and Lithuanians are at present involved in a deadly combat (page 3). This could refer to the Polish–Lithuanian war of 1919–20.

5/73 Carbon copy of an article on Yiddish

Given title: The war against Yiddish
Language: English
Date: not dated
Number of pages: 7

5/74 Draft of two part article on Hebrew and Yiddish

Given title: Hebrew Versus Yiddish. The Battle of Languages
Language: English
Date: not dated
Number of pages: 14

The pages of this two part article have been numbered 1–6 and 1–8 (the articles themselves have been numbered I and II). The second article is a carbon copy. The first article has been signed ‘M. Gaster’ on page 6.

The first article begins: ‘A typical [addition by hand: bloodless] Jewish war and more interesting even than Swift’s war of books. It is not a mere theoretic discussion, but a rather grim word war, fought with peculiar bitterness by two parties with the usual partisan fire and the usual intolerance. Which of the two languages is to be dominant and as it were hall marked as the National language?’ Gaster argues that this war is unnecessary, as Yiddish will in due course be superseded by Hebrew and cease to exist. This is just a matter of time, and the Hebrew language should be allowed to develop naturally, not be artificially and quickly reconstructed.

5/75 Incomplete draft article on Jewish magical formulae in German

Given title: alte Juedish Deutsche Zaubersprueche
Language: German
Date: 21 February 1931
Number of pages: 7

This item consist of seven pages, but the last page is numbered 'xi'. There are two sets of numbers, in print and pencil. In pencil: I, III, V, VII, IX, X, XI. In print: -, 2, 3, 4, -, -, - ('-' means: no number). This suggests that some pages have been lost.

In this study, with corrections, Gaster provides an introduction to Jewish German magical formulae. He refers to several of the manuscripts in his possession, but does not provide the texts of specific formulae.

5/76 Two versions of an article on the Zionist movement

Given title: none

Language: English

Date: 5 August 1919

Number of pages: 40

There is no typed title, but there is a handwritten note which could be a title: 'The Zionist Outlook and the Great Delusion by M. Gaster'. There is a note in the left corner of first page (probably by Vivian Gaster): 'probably unpublished'. This item consists of two versions of the same article. The first one is dated as 5 August 1919 on page 19. The second one appears to be a revised and expanded version.

Box 6

This box contains three folders, which have recently been numbered in pencil. It contains a mimeograph copy of a manuscript in Gaster's possession made by one of his students, and work by Gaster, namely book reviews and studies on Samaritan literature.

6/1 Copy of Gaster Hebrew 66 by Dr. W.H. Greenberg

This folder contains one item, on very thin paper. According to the notes which accompany it (one by Gaster on the item, and a lose note by the librarian, Frank Taylor), it is a copy of Gaster Hebrew 66 (described in Alexander Samely, *Draft Catalogue of Hebrew Manuscripts at the John Rylands University Library* (1997), 186–87), a collection of stories about various rabbis, used by Gaster in his edition of the *Exempla of the Rabbis* .

This copy, which appears to be a mimeograph rather than a typescript, was made for Gaster, as he explains in the note on the item, by a student at the Montefiore College, Dr. W.H. Greenberg, finished on 16 June 1896. It was presented to the Rylands Library by Vivian Gaster on 4 January 1960.

6/2 Book reviews by Gaster

This folder contains seventy four book reviews by Gaster, written in English. They have been arranged alphabetically by surname of the author of the book under review. Examples include reviews of Micha Josef bin Gorion (Berdyzewski), *Die Sagen der Juden* (Vol I, Frankfurt

a/M, 1913) and Jacob de Haas, *History of Palestine: the Last Two Thousand Years* (New York, 1934).

6/3 Notes and studies on Samaritan Literature

This folder contains two files, one blue and one orange, with material related to Gaster's work on Samaritan literature. The blue file contains one item, a study by Gaster of his manuscript 1734. There is a note on the front: 'The Samaritan quotations in the Arabic version of the Asatir'. It also includes an English translation of chapter ten of this work. The orange file contains various copies of Samaritan manuscripts (mostly in his possession) and notes, translations and studies by Gaster related to Samaritan literature, including the 'Samaritan Book of Joshua'. Some items have been dated (including dates in 1924, 1931 and 1933). Also contains a list of contents of the 'Kenosh', Gaster Samaritan Manuscript 830, which is in the Library (JRULM).

Box 7

This box was formerly labelled 'Samaritan miscellaneous', but it contains diverse items, only some of which are connected with the Samaritans.

7/1 (2074) Samaritan scrapbook

This is a brown album, with an illustration and the words 'scrap book' on the front. Inside the cover there are two notes by Vivian Gaster, dated 28 April 1957. He explains that it contains important papers and notes of Moses Gaster's early study of Samaritan language, and a few letters.

The album starts with the Samaritan alphabet and pronunciation exercises, transliterated in Latin script, with notes in English. The study notes have various dates in October and November 1902. There are carbon copies of English translations of letters of recommendation that priest Isaac Ibn Amran had with him when he went to England to 'seek help for his poor community' in 1906. It also has Gaster's invitation for the viewing of the Samaritan Scroll of the Law of Moses (vellum, 1000 years old), presented by priest Isaac Ibn Amran on 16 November 1906, and a newspaper cutting, 'Samaritans in London; Ancient Scroll for Sale', *The Tribune*, 28 November 1906. After describing the Samaritan delegation, the article credits Gaster for making their 'long stay in this country' possible. The album also contains copies of cheques by Gaster to the Samaritans, with various dates (one in 1908, one in 1927, and seven in 1928).

This scrapbook was on display in the small exhibition of items from the Gaster collection in the Rylands Gallery, from November 2012 for several months.

7/2 (136) Proofs of an unpublished dictionary

Proofs of an unfinished Romanian-German dictionary by Gaster. There is a note by Gaster in English on the paper which is wrapped around it: 'Proofs of a Rumanian-German Dictionary,

started by me, but left unfinished, 1887–1888’. Among the UCL Gaster Papers there is a copy of the contract between Gaster and the publisher, D.H. Steinberg, for this dictionary, signed in Bucharest on 25 November and 7 December 1884 (UCL Gaster Papers, 1/D/2(2)/box 20).

Several versions, all incomplete:

- Two sets of A to comornic (pages 1–128)
- A to corvet (pages 1–142)
- A to moștnesc (pages 1–256)
- pară to sealbă (pages 289–352)

7/3 Contributions to comparative folklore

These studies seem to be preliminary works by Gaster related to his publications ‘Beiträge zur Vergleichenden Sagen- und Märchenkunde’, *Monatschrift für Geschichte und Wissenschaft des Judentums* (various dates in 1880 and 1881).

7/4 The Well in Ancient Arabia

This item, in an orange file, does not seem to have been written by Gaster. The name of the author is not mentioned. It appears to be a typescript of a monograph. The topic is wells in ancient Arabia. It may have been sent to Gaster for feedback. It contains corrections.

The following articles have been loosely placed within a blue cover.

7/5 Study on the Samaritan Allegory of the Flood

Given title: ‘The Taheb: The Samaritan Allegory of the Flood’

Language: English

Date: 26 December 1913 (written as 26.12.913)

Handwritten study in a small notebook. A note in the top right corner of first page explains that it is related to chapter nine of Gaster’s published book *Samaritan Eschatology* (London, 1932).

7/6 Study by Gaster about mystical elements in the Samaritan Pentateuch

Given title: *Mysterisches in dem samaritanischen Pentateuch*

Language: German

This typescript study contains many handwritten corrections.

7/7 Study on the palaeography of the Samaritan Pentateuch

Date: 1913

Typed and handwritten notes by Gaster related to the topic of the palaeography of the Samaritan Pentateuch.

7/8 Handwritten draft of an article on the history of engravings on wood and metal.

Date: 12 May 1894 at 12.30 pm

7/9 Part of a lecture series on ‘Russian Broadsides’, for London Institute

Typescript, with a page of headed paper of the Montefiore college as a cover. Not dated. There is a handwritten note, probably by Vivian Gaster: ‘not published’.

7/10 Typescript article ‘the Manuscript Variation of the Decalogue’

7/11 Draft article ‘The Carol of the young man and other carols’

It is a draft typescript with many corrections. There is a handwritten note, probably by Vivian Gaster: ‘not published’.

7/12 Draft article ‘The Targum of the Passover and Pentecost Lessons’

This article is handwritten

7/13 Theodotion

7/14 Draft article ‘The Hebrew Testaments of the Twelve Patriarchs’

Handwritten draft of an article which was published as: ‘The Hebrew Text of one of the Testaments of the Twelve Patriarchs’, *Proceedings of the Society of Biblical Archaeology* (1893): 33–49 and (1894): 109–117; repr. *Studies and Texts* I, 69–85 and III, 22–30.

7/15 Partial draft of article ‘Hebrew visions of Hell and Paradise’

This handwritten draft for a published article by Gaster is incomplete, it only has part of the introduction, not his translations of the texts. This version differs from item 2/1.

Published as: ‘Hebrew Visions of Hell and Paradise’, *Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society* (1893): 571–611; repr. *Studies and Texts* I, 124–64.

7/16 Draft article ‘A Gothic inscription from the land of Ulfilas’

Handwritten article. Published as 'A Gothic Inscription from the Land of Ulfilas', *The Archaeological Review* 4.1 (1889): 51–56.

7/17 Draft article 'The modern origin of the Fairy Tales'

Handwritten article. Published as 'The Modern Origin of Fairy Tales', *Folk Lore* (1887): 339–351; repr. *Studies and Texts* II, 1039–51.

7/18 Draft edition of a work of Maimonides on the names of God in the Torah scroll

Given title: Die Heiligen und Profanen Namen Gottes in der Torah-rolle. Ein unbekanntes werk von Maimonides. Entdeckt und zum ersten Mal herausgegeben aus meiner Hs. (Cod. Gaster no. 81)

Language: German

Date: 11 June 1922

Attached to this unpublished article is a typed unsigned copy of a letter from Vivian Gaster to Professor Goitein of the University of Pennsylvania, and the handwritten response by Goitein.

Box 8

This box contains eight items, most of which have been bound.

8/1 A list of bible verses in *The 613 Commandments of the Samaritans*

Given title: Comparative table of Bible verses in the 613 Commandments of the Samaritans

The list itself is typed, preceded by a handwritten page with the title on it. Unbound item. Ten numbered pages.

8/2 Draft of Gaster's book of retold bible stories

Given title: Stories of the Bible re-told by M. Gaster, PhD

This work, dedicated to his grandchildren, is very similar to, although not a literal translation of, his much earlier Romanian bible stories for children (3 editions: 1882, 1894, 1897). Item in brown cardboard cover, with the title written on it. The English version was published as *Stories from the Bible* (London: Raphael Tuck, 1925).

8/3 (314) Various Samaritan studies

This volume with typescripts contains four different versions, some of which are heavily annotated, of Gaster's published essay: 'The Samaritan Book of Joshua'. It also contains a list of successive Samaritan High priests, and a book review by Gaster.

8/4 Preparatory work for the *Romanian Gospel of Nicodemus*

Given title: Die rumaenische Version des Evangelium. Nicodemis.' [sic]

Languages: German, English

Date: not dated

German introduction to and translation of the Romanian Gospel of Nicodemus (without the Romanian text). Loosely inserted at the end there is an English translation. This consists only of the translated text without introduction or study. This typescript has been placed in a discarded book cover.

8/5 Contributions to the comparative study of tales

Given title: Beiträge zur vergleichenden Sagen und Märchenkunde

Language: German

Date: February 1932

Number of pages: 112

Gaster's typed study of various tales, in which he compares 'parallels' in different sources. There is a note on the first page, stating 'unpublished'. If this is indeed the case, then these 'contributions' exist in addition to the ones Gaster published - first in 1880–81 (see item 4/5/21 for the details of this publication). Some more 'contributions' were published in the same journal decades later: 'Beiträge zur vergleichenden Sagen und Märchenkunde', *Monatschrift für Geschichte und Wissenschaft des Judentums* 77 (1933): 431–35; *MGWJ* 78 (1934): 273–78, 324–43; *MGWJ* 80 (1936): 32–52.

8/6 (1814) Gaster's translation of Vassiliev's *Anecdota Graeca*

Language: English

Date: not dated

Number of pages: 163

Typescript work by Gaster with corrections. The translation of Vassiliev's *Anecdota Graeca* takes up 154 pages. This is followed by an empty page and eight pages of notes from a different work, namely by Freudenthal (including a text by Eusebius).

8/7 (1988) Copy of Huldricus' *Toledot Jeshu*

Given title: Historia Jeschuae Nazareni (Joh. Jac. Huldrico, Tigurino, 1705)

Languages: Latin, Hebrew

Related to the medieval anti-Gospel *Toledot Jeshu*. Note by Gaster at bottom of last page: 'This is the Hebrew Text published by Huldricus and copied out of the book for me by my son, Manie, who finished the work on Monday, February 22nd, 1932.' See also item 11/5.

8/8 (384) Various articles and letters related to the Samaritan book of Joshua

Language: English

Dates: various

The titles of the twelve typescripts contained in this bound volume are listed in a hand written table of contents. It includes several articles and speeches by Gaster on the *Samartian Book of Joshua*, and responses by others who are sceptical regarding the antiquity and authenticity of Gaster's discovery (including Elkan Adler), and Gaster's replies to those sceptics (e.g. reply to Yellin's letter in the *Jewish World*).

8/9 Bound typescripts of Gaster's work (various)

Language: English

Dates: various

Some of the works collected in this item appear to be duplicates of the typescripts in box 5. This item contains a table of contents, listing 37 articles. The list does not seem to be in Moses Gaster's hand, but could have been written by one of his children. Many of these articles deal with aspects of Jewish religion, but some with folklore. Notes have been added referring to the relevant publications in Schindler's bibliography.

Box 9

9/1 Draft of a study by Gaster on the *Tale of Alkestis*

Given title: Alkestissage

Language: German

There is a handwritten note on the first page, stating that it was published in *Byzantinische-Neugriechische Jahrbücher*, 1939. It is a typescript with corrections.

9/2 (327a) Jewish Sects

This is a copy of an unidentified item with the number 327. It contains four lectures, on Judaism, Samaritans, Karaites, Hassidism. Dated: 1899. Published in the *Jewish World*.

9/3 Reviews and articles

This bound volume contains 686 pages. It has a table of content listing the individual items, most of which are book reviews by Gaster, some articles. Most of them date from the 1920s

9/4 (363) Published reviews (JRAS, Folklore, Jewish Review etc)

Many of these book reviews by Gaster, which were published in various journals, date from circa 1900–1910. Most of them are typescripts in English, but there is also a handwritten item in German.

9/5 (1377) Translation of *Midrash Konen*

This is a translation by Gaster of *Midrash Konen*, as contained in Codex Gaster 197 (now in the British Library), which is a copy Gaster made of a manuscript written in 1412 (Codex 81 of the library of the Rabbinic Seminary of Breslau Seminary).

Box 10

10/1 (816) Study by Gaster on Romanian Charms

Bound volume of typescripts in English with Gaster's translations and study of Romanian Charms. There is a page loosely inserted with a list of names of people whom Gaster invited to his lecture at the Folklore Society in 1914, probably on the topic of Romanian Charms.

10/2 Typescript copies of Romanian manuscripts and printed books

This volume contains a list of contents. It contains copies of various manuscripts, such as MSS 609, 610, 600B, 601B [unidentified source manuscripts], and of a printed book by the Romanian author Anton Pann (1850).

It is possible that it is related to Gaster's publications *Literatura Populară Română* and *Chrestomatie Română*.

10/3 (529) Typescript copies of various Romanian MSS

10/4 (462) Studies related to *Mishle Sendebār*

This item consists of two volumes. The first is an introduction by Gaster to *Mishle Sendebār*, and the second volume consist of studies of various manuscripts containing the text of that composition. There is also an envelope with a photo of a manuscript and a letter from Bucharest, and another envelope with a different version of the introduction.

Gaster published a study on *Mishle Sendebār* as his contribution to the Festschrift *Jewish Studies in honour of the Chief Rabbi Professor Dr. J.L. Landau* (Tel Aviv, 1936).

Box 11

11/1 Folktale about the Archangel Michael

Given title: 'How it came to pass that the archangel Michael served an abbot for 30 years'

11/2 Copy of the translation of Samaritan Joshua and Chronicles by Oliver Turnbull Crane

Dated: 1890

There is a note stating that the original is in Leeds

11/3 Greek magical texts and Hungarian fairy tales

This item is probably not by Gaster. The Greek magical texts have been copied by Dr. Ruben (see also item 1/2). The handwritten translations of Hungarian fairy tales (author/translator unknown) have various dates, from 1887 onwards.

11/4 Copies of various articles by Gaster

This volume contains copies (handwritten and typed) of several articles by Gaster, mainly from the 1890s. Examples include Gaster's editions and studies of the *Sword of Moses*, and the Hebrew versions of *Tobit*

11/5 Studies about *Toledot Jeshu*

Various studies, handwritten and typed, in German and English related to the medieval anti-Gospel *Toledot Jeshu*. See also item 8/7.

11/6 Typescript drafts of *The Story of the Sabbath* and *The Story of the Fast Days*

These two 'Stories' seem to be unpublished (no publication details have yet been found). Their publication however has been anticipated on the inside back cover of some of the volumes in a series of small books by Gaster, aimed at Jewish children, about the Jewish holidays. Schindler's bibliography includes: *The Story of Chanukah* (1928), *The Story of Purim* (1929), *The Story of Shevuot* (1930) and *The Story of the High Festivals and the Feast of Tabernacles* (1931).

11/7 Gaster's translation of a tale, *Moled*

Given title: Moled

Dated: 1912

11/8 Typescript studies by Gaster

This volume contains six studies by Gaster, some written in English, some in German:

- A Study on Samaritan Paleography in German,
- The tale 'Jewish History by a Gentile' from Gaster's manuscript 1042, published as 'A Hebrew Manuscript on Jewish History written by a Gentle', in *YIVO, Studies in History, volume 2* (Vilna, 1937)
- 'The Aristophorus legend' (German, from MS 588)
- 'White Magic' (dated 1901)
- 'Apocrypha'
- 'A Manuscript Variant of the Decalogue'

Box 12

This box contains four bound volumes of typescripts of Gaster's work.

12/1 Preliminary work for a book on Jewish History

Given title: Jewish History

Language: English

Date: undated

Number of pages: 428

Three empty leaves are followed by 409 numbered pages. The title 'Jewish History' is typed in the upper left corner of the pages. It covers a wide range of topics. A separate set of sixteen leaves has been inserted into it. This has 'see Schweich Lecture' handwritten at the top right corner. It begins: 'The activity of Ezekiel and hi attitude to the past and the future are in the highest degree remarkable. There is no doubt that he aimed at the union between Judah and Israel'.

12/2 (532) Romanian Translation of Gaster's article 'Geschichte der Rumänischen Literatur'

12/3 (533) Romanian Translation of Gaster's article 'Geschichte der Rumänischen Literatur'

12/4 (534) Collection of Folktales

This collection includes tales surrounding the famous figure of Nastratin Hoga, and various tales which were probably translated by Gaster from publications by the Romanian author Anton Pann. Various dates.

A short chapter on 'Nastratin Hogeia', which draws upon a publication by Anton Pann, is included in *Literatura Populară Română*, 1883, 164–69.

Box 13

13/1 Samaritan Studies

Various studies by Gaster related to the Samaritans and their literature.

13/2 Copy of *Sindipa*

This is a copy of a book printed in Sibiu in 1834. A version of the tale *Sindipa*.

A chapter on ‘Syndipa’ features in *Literatura Populară Română*, 1883, 54–77, and an excerpt from a manuscript has been published in *Chrestomatie Română*, Vol 2 1891, 188–90.

13/3 Paper by Gaster on Roma tales

Given title: Gypsy Tales

A paper which Gaster read to the Folklore Society in 1894.

13/4 German translation of a manuscript from Bucharest, *Questions and Answers*

13/5 The Book of Proverbs, typed copy of MS 374

It contains a note by Gaster, explaining that these are lessons that he gave to Mr. David Bueno de Mesquita in 1896–97.

13/6 Jewish Tales