NEW EDITION OF THE BABYLONIAN TALMUD. ORIGINAL TEXT EDITED, CORRECTED, FORMULATED, AND TRANSLATED INTO ENGLISH; VOL. I: TRACT SABBATH

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MICHAEL L. RODKINSON

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NEW EDITION

OF THE

BABYLONIAN TALMUD

Original Text Edited, Corrected, formulated, and Translated into English

BY

MICHAEL L. RODKINSON

first Edition Revised and Corrected

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THE REV. DR. ISAAC M. WISE President Hebrew Union College, Cincinnati, O.

Volume I. TRACT SABBATH

SECOND EDITION, RE-EDITED, REVISED AND ENLARGED

BOSTON
THE TALMUD SOCIETY
1918

EXPLANATORY REMARKS.

In our translation we adopted these principles:

- Trans of the original—We have learned in a Mishna; Tonia—We have learned in a Boraitha; Itemar—It was taught.
- 2. Questions are indicated by the interrogation point, and are immediately followed by the answers, without being so marked.
- When in the original there occur two statements separated by the phrase, Linkna ackrena or Waibayith Aena or Ikha d'amri (literally, "otherwise interpreted"), we translate only the second.
- As the pages of the original are indicated in our new Hebrew edition, it is not decided necessary to mark them in the English edition, this being only a translation from the latter.
- 5. Words or passages enclosed in round parentheses () denote the explanation rendered by Rashi to the foregoing sentence or word. Square parentheses [] contain commentaries by authorities of the last period of construction of the Gemara.

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EDWIN R. A. SELIGMAN, Ph.D.

PROFESSOR OF POLITICAL SCIENCE AT COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

IN RECOGNITION OF

WIS WARM INTEREST AND VALUABLE SERVICES IN PROMOTING THE STUDY OF LITERATURE, AND HIS GREAT INSTRUMENTALITY IN ASSISTING TOUNG MEN AND WOMEN TO BROADEN THEIR MINDS, AND REACH A HIGHER SOCIAL PLANE, AND FOR HIS MANY WORKS FOR THE COMMUNAL WELFARE, ESPECIALLY THOSE IN BEHALF OF THE

EDUCATIONAL ALLIANCE

THIS VOLUME IS MOST RESPECTFULLY DEDICATED BY THE EDITOR AND TRANSLATOR

MICHAEL L. RODKINSON.

June 15, 1901. New York City.



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PREFACE TO THE SECOND EDITION.

THE translator of the Talmud, who has now reached the thirteenth volume of his task, covering twenty-one tracts of this great work, certainly cannot point with any great pride to the fact that this is the second edition of his translation which first appeared in 1896, for he believes that the opening and bringing to light of a book so long withheld from the gaze of the curious, and even the learned, should have attracted more attention and deserved greater consideration than it has received. However, he is glad to see that thousands of readers have at last taken advantage of the opportunity of looking into the "sealed book," and to such an extent that second editions have become necessary, both of this volume and of the Tract Rosh Hashana of the fourth volume, which he has reëdited and enlarged upon, adding many historical facts and legends, so that they now appear as practically new works.

This is certainly an encouragement to him to continue his work, with the hope that in time it will gain the proper recognition and proper attention which he thinks this great work of the sixth century should receive at the hands of all scholars and even laymen.

In revising this volume the translator had in mind the many criticisms which have been passed upon his effort and which have appeared in various papers throughout different countries, but he gave his attention to those only which were not prompted by animosity and jealousy. He begs to call the attention of all critics to the dictum of the Talmud, "Kal Hat'haloth Kashoth" (all beginnings are difficult); for, bearing this in mind, they would no doubt have been more moderate.