

## THE HOUR OF TRIUMPH.

### Rev. Moses J. Gries' Lecture at the Synagogue Rodef Shalom.

A large congregation was attracted to the Synagogue Rodef Shalom, Broad and Mount Vernon streets, last night, when Rev. Moses J. Gries, of Cleveland, O., delivered an interesting lecture on the topic, "Shall we remain Jews?" "The question," he said, "is neither strange nor foolish, for there are men who wish they were not Jews. The only men who should remain Jews are those whom the Jewish heart compels. We are not a race, but a religious denomination. I can change my faith as surely and as completely as other men change their religions. For us there are no Hebrews, no Israelites; there are Jews, and if not, then simply men and women.

"Why shall we not remain Jews? In the hour of freedom shall we beg for freedom? In the hour of triumph shall we bend the knee? Why have we lived and suffered when it would have been easier to die? Why have we been faithful and scorned when it would have been more pleasing to be unfaithful and honored? Have we not lived to hasten this hour, the very hour of which the first stroke is now sounding?

"This is the hour of the promise, the beginning of the fulfillment of the hope, the hour of Israel's triumph. We are Jews and would remain so. Let others do as they will. Not because the world compels, but because our hearts desire and our minds approve are we Jews. Why shall we become non-Jewish when the world is becoming Jewish. The world is becoming Jewish in religion, in its God conception, in its man conception, in its thought concerning life and duty. Therefore am I, and therefore I ask you to be Jews indeed."