THE JEWISH FEAST OF CHANNUKA. CELEBRATING A HISTORICAL EVENT—THE ACADEMY OF MUSIC CROWDED.

The Jewish Feast of Channuka, or Feast of Dedication, was celebrated by the Young Men's Hebrew Association, in the Academy of Music, last evening. The feast continues eight days, and yesterday was the closing day. In every Jewish household candles are burned throughout the whole period, one candle being added to the number daily, until on the eighth day eight of them are burning. In the most orthodox families, each male and female member is required to burn candles. The events to which the feast of Channuke traces its origin occurred in the second quarter of the second century before Christ, or about 2,000 years ago. Judea had been enslaved by the Syrians, and was groaning under the yoke of the oppressor. The Jewish religion was proscribed, the temple at Jerusalem was plundered of its gold and silver vessels, and then dedicated to Jupiter Olympus, and on its altar the flesh of swine was offered up in sacrifice to the Greek god. The whole land was filled with misery and woe. Deliverance finally came in the person of Matthias, who, by an inspired revelation, was called around Mattathias, and waged a harassing guerrilla warfare against their heathen oppressors. Jerusalem was recaptured, and Judas Maccabaeus, at the head of his countrymen, entered the city in triumphal procession. The temple was purified and cleansed, and after a lengthy period dedicated it to God, on the 25th day of the Jewish month of Kislev, (corresponding to the month of December in our calendar,) it was rededicated to its ancient uses with offerings and prayers of thanksgiving and peace. In commemoration of this event arose the feast which has just been celebrated.

The throng that assembled in the Academy last evening completely filled the building. Every box was occupied and many persons were left standing. Among those present were Messrs. Jesse Seligman, H. Blum, J. Rosenwald, E. Lehman, M. Lehman, Commissioner Hass, Cornoruse Elinger and Hermann, J. Sebnecker, Judge David M. Adam, A. Wallach, Samuel A. Lewis, S. M. Schaefer, H. L. Sebnecker, Judges Iredale, L. Streuberger, H. Nordlinger, S. Bornheim, L. Riudakopf, Uriah Herman, and A. B. Ausbacher. The evening's entertainment included a series of tableaux, interspersed with Hebrew and English orations. The tableaux were preceded by a ballet, in which 100 children of the Hebrew Orphan Asylum, the girls dressed in white and the boys wearing black suits, sang the melodies to the accompaniment of Downing's musicians. The tableaux were powerfully in Hebrew composition, and in their execution artistic and brilliant. The evenings entertainment was greatly enjoyed after the period of the historical events which were portrayed. The effect of the scenes was intensified by the colored lights which were thrown upon the stage from the electric apparatus in the gallery. The tableaux were in numbers. Most of the Fedora in mourning, the Syrian General, Appelles, ordering the Jews to worship the statue of Jupiter, the ignominate Mattathias slaying the Jew who stepped forward to obey the order, the death of Mattathias, the triumphal procession of the conquerors, the tableaux were closed with slaves, and Jewish soldiers into Jerusalem, and, finally, the dedication of the temple itself. The proceeds of the celebration will be added to the fund of the Young Men's Hebrew Association, one of the most popular Jewish societies in the City.