

places before competitors could establish themselves. There were many economic opportunities, but presumably the reins slipped out of their hands and the gold nuggets fell through their fingers. They were persistent in their search, tireless in their efforts, and astute in finding opportunities, but Samuel and Philip Drachman never attained the state which they sought. We are fortunate, however, that the newspapers of the day, the urge which impelled the Drachmans to write of their past, and the records of the National Archives could be pieced together to give us a glimpse into this family that played so prominent a part in the history of Arizona.

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### A CRY FOR HELP

*It was no pleasure to be a prisoner of war during the Civil War, and the Union's prisoner of war camp at Fort Delaware, Delaware, must have been a grim place of incarceration. Confederate Jewish soldiers held there, however, could and did appeal for help to their Northern coreligionists.*

The following letter is the second or third we have received from the same persons, who are now in Fort Delaware, and were there about a year and a half. Please read the letter and give them such assistance as is in your power. These young men are innocent.

Fort Delaware, Sept. 27, 1864.

Rev. Dr. I. M. Wise — Dear Sir. — Referring to our letter from last year, in which we took the liberty in stating to you our case, we again write you today. We were not fortunate enough in procuring our release, and not seeing any prospects of any change for the benefit of our situation, we appeal through you to your congregation to assist us in our behalf. We are in need of some pecuniary aid or food, especially coffee. Anything you send will be thankfully received. We are not permitted to write but ten lines. Hoping to hear from you, we are

Very respectfully yours,

LOUIS MEYERSBERG

MAX NEUGAS

A. WATERMAN

Prisoners of War

In care of Captain G. W. Ahl.

[*The Israelite* (Cincinnati), Oct. 14, 1864]