

highest administrative functions, such as in the cases of Joseph in Egypt, Ezra, Nehemiah, Mordecai in Babylonia and Persia, and in more modern times, Abarbanel in Spain; to-day we would rather refer to living instances. Well, brethren, during the present week we have all learned with much gratification, that the corporation of London, have voted the freedom of the city and an address to Sir Moses Montefiore.* Now, who is this man, on whom a city, the first in the world, bestows a distinction which, as the address informs us, "has from time immemorial been voted to distinguished naval commanders, to renowned soldiers, and statesmen," in Christian Great Britain, "who have prized the honor exceedingly?" Not being one of these, was the honor

* It is a cheering sign of the times when a Christian journalist can publish, and his readers endorse, sentiments like the following, contained in the "Montreal Herald" of 5th November:—

PRESENTATION OF THE FREEDOM OF THE CITY OF LONDON TO SIR MOSES MONTEFIORE.—English papers, recently received, contain accounts of the presentation of an address accompanying the gift of the freedom of the City of London to the eminent Jewish philanthropist, Sir Moses Montefiore. We reproduce with much pleasure, the address of the Lord Mayor, and the reply of Sir Moses, not as mere ordinary news items, but as exhibiting one of the most remarkable triumphs of the cause of civil and religious liberty, which it has fallen to our lot to record. For be it remarked, that this spontaneous token of respect, this expression of the esteem and good-will of the citizens of the world's metropolis, is accorded to one of the most rigidly orthodox members of the Jewish church that could well be found, while on a more lax adherent of the ancient faith similar honors have not yet been bestowed. It speaks volumes, then, for the good taste, the liberality and the enlightenment of the Corporation of the great city, that they so readily and so handsomely recognise the merits and virtues of the man, not as a follower of the popular religion, but as a consistent adherent of another creed. "To you, Sir Moses Montefiore," says the address, "a distinguished member of the Hebrew community, this great city has voted a resolution of thanks expressive of their approval of the consistent course you have pursued for a long series of years," &c. We think we are not over-estimating the importance of the event on which we are commenting, if we consider it as an additional assurance that "the world still moves," and that men are daily discovering more and more,—that, though of diverse creeds and nationalities, they may yet put aside minor differences of opinion and dogma, sink the *odium theologicum*, and walk hand in hand together, to do the great work, which patriotism and philanthropy point out. We now subjoin the address, which we can well imagine is regarded with the most lively satisfaction by the recipient's conforming brethren, as it will be by every true friend of civil and religious liberty.