

ZIONISM.

SERMON DELIVERED IN THE SPANISH AND
PORTUGUESE SYNAGOGUE, MONTREAL,
ON THE SEVENTH DAY OF PASS-
OVER, 5660,

BY THE REV. MELDOLA DE SOLA.

כי לא בהפזון תצאו ובמנוסה לא תלכו כי ה' אלהי ישראל
ומאספכם אלהי ישראל :

"For not in haste shall ye go forth, and not in flight shall ye go; for the Eternal goeth before you, and the God of Israel will be your gatherer."

—Isaiah, LII, 12.



The Passover festival, which we are now celebrating, is essentially our national festival. Not only does it commemorate that wondrous night when the angel of destruction swept over the homes of Israel's cruel taskmasters; not only is it the anniversary of the birth of our nationality, that glorious culmination of the series of marvels wrought in Israel's behalf; but, with that beauty of design which ever characterizes the ways of an all-wise Providence, it is associated with nature, and thus preaches to us in manner most eloquent, Faith, Hope: faith is the ability of the Almighty to fulfil the words of His prophets, hope in the glorious future which they promise to our nation. Celebrated by divine command in the spring of the year when nature is reviving, Passover bids us study nature, bids us contemplate nature's return to life after the death-like sleep of winter, that in this return to life we may recognize