[Canterbury, 1864] [UCL Spec.Coll. Box 1, Signature: 23]

[Text Testimonial:]

Address Presented to Sir Moses Montefiore, Bart., F.R.S., by the President and Members of the Canterbury Hebrew Congregation, April 5624, a.m./1864

Sir Moses Montefiore,

We, the President and Members of the Canterbury Congregation, approach you with feelings of the highest veneration and respect, mingled with those of the deepest gratitude, in which we are sure that every true son of the House of Israel must participate. We hold it to be a great privilege that we should be amongst the first to address you on your reaching the shores of England, after that with God's help you have accomplished the most truly-glorious achievements wrought since the dispersion of Israel. To have rescued four of our brethren from impeding death, and to have worked out the salvation of hundreds of thousands of them from the most cruel and degrading oppression that has ever existed, is a marvel permitted only to a true and faithful servant of the Most High to accomplish, and must be an evidence to the whole world that you, Sir, are one of those men who, at long intervals of time, God sends to the Nations when He graciously designs to save them.

The Hebrews of Canterbury, few as they are in number and humble as they are in station, yield to none of their brethren in admiration of your great work, in gratitude for its accomplishment or in the fervency of their prayers to the Creation that He will be pleased to preserve you to our nation for long years to come, for we firmly and truly believe that God has yet a great work to be wrought out by you, and that He has destined yours to be the hand that shall tear from the records of Spain the tremendous edict of 1492.

And sure are we, Sir, that your influence with your brethren is so justly great that whether it be for the promotion of this great national object, for the conservation of our religious unity, or for our social progress, that you have but to point the way and indicate the course, and there is scarcely a man amongst the millions of Israel but will say to you, as their ancestors said to the Moses of old, "We will hear it, and we will do it."

In conclusion, Sir, we thank you most truly for having this day permitted us to approach you, and to express these our feelings towards you, and we earnestly pray Almighty God to have you in His Holy Keeping.

Signed on behalf of the Congregation,

[Signature:] Nathaniel Lazarus, President.

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