

**MORAL AND RELIGIOUS GUIDE,
BASED ON THE PRINCIPLE OF
UNIVERSAL BROTHERHOOD,
ESPECIALLY INTENDED FOR
JEWISH SCHOOLS AND FAMILIES**

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Moral and religious guide, based on the principle of universal brotherhood, especially intended for Jewish schools and families by Moritz Davidsohn

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MORITZ DAVIDSOHN

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Moral and Religious Guide,

BASED ON THE PRINCIPLE OF

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DEDICATED, BY PERMISSION,

TO THE

RIGHT HON. LORD JOHN RUSSELL.

BY

MORITZ DAVIDSOHN.

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TO THE
RIGHT HON. LORD JOHN RUSSELL.

MY LORD,

When historians shall panegyryze your glorious life they will not only refer to the valuable services which you have rendered both to Queen and country in the capacity of Minister of State, but they will also highly praise your zealous exertions in promoting popular education, your championship of Roman Catholic emancipation, and in abolishing the Corporation Test Act, and your advocacy of civil and religious liberty. These ornaments will shine brightly upon coming generations, which will always cherish your memory. But I consider that my co-religionists particularly, not only in this country but also in the greatest part of the globe, will remember with gratitude that your Lordship has always been the warm advocate of their emancipation, and that by your indefatigable exertions, by your generosity and influence, almost all the barriers

which in darker ages were erected by prejudice and ignorance, have in your life-time been broken down and razed to the ground; and thus it may be hoped that the sun of intelligence will soon be able to penetrate and enlighten also those few still prejudiced nobles who yet cling to the last tottering barrier, which will soon fall. Therefore my Jewish brethren, in all generations, will remember your Lordship's name with reverence and joy for your having paved the way for their full emancipation. Having compiled a book intended as a moral and religious guide, based on the principle of universal brotherhood, I felt a natural desire to offer the first fruits of my pen to you who evince such noble sentiments, who live and move for the welfare of your fellow men without regard to creed, sect, station, or number. I therefore ventured to solicit your Lordship's permission for inscribing my work with your noble and glorious name; and for the high honour kindly conferred on me by your Lordship's gracious autographical consent I hereby express my sincere thanks, which may serve as a reminding monument to the readers of my book to show honour to whom it is due.

Your Lordship's
Most humble Servant,
MORITZ DAVIDSOHN.

London, July, 1855.

PREFACE.

IN introducing the following work to the notice of the public, the Author begs to disclaim all pretension to originality or novelty, either in thought or in expression. The truths which it contains are ancient, and have formed the basis of instruction from time immemorial, and have been frequently expressed in ancient and modern languages. The Author, therefore, only compiled some fragments from the piety and wisdom of great and good men, without quoting the authors who preceded him, and presents them in the English language, hoping that they may prove useful in the instruction of "children of a larger growth," or in confirming the faith of the adult. His objects in the publication may be thus simply expressed :

- 1st. To furnish a book for schools, in which the fun-

damental truths of religion and morality would be generally taught, reserving it for teachers, who are entrusted with the sacred mission of educating youth in piety and religion, to explain and illustrate these truths in detail.

2ndly. To enable those who have been deprived of the advantages of early religious training in some measure to repair the loss, and to become intimately acquainted with the relations and duties of human life, that the child and parent, the husband and wife, the employer and the employed, may become fully acquainted with their condition, privileges, and obligations in society. The author indulges the hope that an attentive consideration of these truths may be productive of domestic enjoyment, and of increased prosperity, peace, and harmony in the intercourse of human life.

3rdly. That the general reader may be reminded of his duties as a creature to the great Creator, as a citizen to the state, and as a member of the human family to his fellow men.

4thly. To remove the injurious prejudice, arising either from misunderstanding or design, that the