of native population, had for his nearest neighbours upon Mount Carmel about a thousand Druses, occupying two villages on the eastern slope of the mountain. He was able to be of some service to them, and they are evidently his favourites among the older population. Nine hundred years ago the tribe took possession of the valleys of the southern Lebanon, its headquarters being fixed at the foot of Mount Hermon. Two hundred and fifty years ago the tribe swept down upon the lowlands, led by a famous warrior; took possession of Beyrout and the coast towns as far south as Carmel, and eastward to Tiberias; the two Druse villages now occupying the sites of old Roman towns, and built out of their ruins, are the remains of that invasion. Each village is governed by two sheiks, acting as its spiritual and temporal head. The people are sober, fairly honest and industrious; very reticent as to their religious belief; and their own code of morals is rigidly adhered to. The women enjoy much greater freedom than is customary in the East, and consequently exercise a larger social influence. They are pretty, but heartless.

DRUSE WOMEN.

The prominent feature in the Druse religion is the belief in ever-recurrent Divine manifestations, one of which is regarded as being now close at hand. The whole nation numbers some one hundred and twenty thousand, and it can send into the field twenty-five thousand of the best soldiers of the Turkish empire. "There can be no doubt that the character of their religion, with the secrecy which surrounds it, enables them to organize in a special manner, and that the theocratic element which enters into their political constitution gives them a cohesion, a unity, and a power for combined action which the Christian sects, with their jealousies, bigotry, and internal dissensions, do not enjoy."

Two-thirds of the population of Haifa are Greek Catholics, or Melchites, proselytes from the orthodox Greek Church, who have been won to Roman Catholicism by the missionary labours of