

unless he wishes to import the worst of moral and commercial plagues into the country.*

* "It might not be devoid of interest to mention the views expressed to me on the subject of the Jewish disturbances during last year by a Lutheran clergyman, who has for many years resided in the Provinces of Volhynia and Kieff, and whose district contains sixteen colonies, or about 3,000 persons. 'My experience of the Jews,' said the clergyman, 'extends over a period of many years, and, without entering into the subject of their relations with the indigenous Russian population, I have always found that they are highly prejudicial to the welfare and interests of the colonists. I can cite instances of colonies which were happy and prosperous a few years ago, and which are now quite the reverse, and this change I attribute to the Jews. They resort to all manner of devices to obtain the right of residence in a colony, and when once they have succeeded in their object, you will find that nearly all members of the colony are in debt to the Jew, and gradually get so tightly involved in his meshes that they give up all idea of ever getting free. Small loans, artfully pressed at first, gradually mount to considerable sums, the payment of which is generously deferred, in consideration of which the debtor is made to agree to easy bargains in the sale of crops and produce of all kinds, besides tilling the ground, and performing other services for his creditor, whose position daily becomes more powerful, and the man himself more overbearing and exacting. If the victims, driven to desperation, attempt to free themselves, the screw is put on, not on the offender alone, but on others, which process generally results in victory for the Jew. Moreover,' continued my companion, 'the Jews are notorious horse-stealers, and the depredations committed by them, in the Province of Volhynia especially, would seem incredible to a person unacquainted with the facts. There have been several cases of lynching Jewish horse-stealers by the colonists within the last year or two, and the number of offences has much decreased in consequence. If,' concluded the clergyman, 'the Jews prove more than a match for my poor colonists, whose enemies will not refuse to give them credit for industry and temperance, what must be the condition of the Russian peasant, idle, intemperate, and weak in character? The Jews' two great factors in dealing with the Russian peasant are *vodka* (native gin) and a few roubles at a pinch, and with these powers he enslaves and uses him for his own ends. Look at all the large properties in this province belonging to influential and hereditary Russian noblemen. They are, with few exceptions, rented out to Jews, because the proprietors find that they pay higher rents than the Russian tenants. But why are they able to pay higher rents? Firstly, because their system is to draw as much profit out of the estate as possible within a certain space of time without regard to its future impoverishment; and secondly, because they make the Russian peasant work for them almost for nothing. He tills their ground, and carts their produce and material, all in payment of interest on loans generally contracted in a state of intoxication, and for the purpose of obtaining more liquor. This is all very deplorable; but, whatever may be the faults of the Jews—and I confess they are not few—they cannot be remedied by violence and plunder such as occurred in this city, and no Christian man can for a moment justify such outrages. The real source of the evil lies in the mental and moral condition of the masses, and it is there where the remedy must be applied.' Such are the views expressed by a person who enjoys the respect and confidence of both the Christian and Jewish communities of the place where he resides."—*Russian Correspondent of the London Daily News.*