

before the English service, amongst the thickening and almost tumultuous crowds, to which were now added the Moslem arrivals for the feast of Neby Musa. The fanaticism of half-naked devotees, and the many small processions with flags and drums made distribution in the city impossible; but on the slopes of Olivet I again found some Russian men, whose countenances (marked by superstitious devotion) still live in my memory, and who eagerly received the Gospels, and carefully followed me in the reading of the title page as far as the St Petersburg imprint and Synodical authority and Censor's certificate, to which I generally drew attention, that they might have an answer for critics, who would not accept the Saviour's words unless the official Censor had signified his approval. In the Church of the Sepulchre itself next day I was asked for copies, but I declined to give or to show there as a rule.

"This, of course, was the culminating time so far as Jerusalem was concerned, but the excitement and pressure were too vivid and intense for either duration or comfort; and on the day before the Greek Good Friday, April 17, I was, by the kindness of Mr. Green, able to ride to Jaffa free of cost, and take with me 800 Gospels for distribution to the returning pilgrims, as they drew near to their departure from the country. To the week which followed I look back with as great pleasure and confidence as to any period of the work. I was at the Greek convent doors when the first returning Russians arrived there on Sunday evening, and I was not far from the spot for many hours during the whole of the week. As one after another recognized me, there were many kindly looks and words, as well as introductions to those who had not yet received copies. Of the 400 Russian Gospels not one had to be taken back into Jerusalem. Among the Armenians, though there was much badinage from the convent loungers, many came and spoke of themselves as Protestants, resident at Aintab, Mardin, Marash, etc., and one was desirous to take back to the American missionary in his home a letter from myself. Whilst even with a group of Greeks, who were careless whether they received or not, it was remarkable how the reading of a portion of Luke xv. evoked a hearty 'χαλός' and the Gospel was taken back with far more appreciation than that with which it was first accepted. This was one of the last copies given in Jaffa, as but few were now waiting for the boats; and on Thursday, May 1, I was again permitted to travel free of cost back to Jerusalem, meeting on the road many Russian pilgrims, who gave pleasant signs of recognition, and, as before remarked, absorbed all that remained of the 400.

"On returning to Jerusalem I found there were many scores of fresh Russian faces (who, I since understand, came down from the north), but the Armenian and Greek convents were almost empty. The last 200 of the Russian Gospels which were in the depot I was able to withdraw, and the greater number I had occasion to distribute, whilst a few Armenians were found from day to day who were now glad to receive. During the week a large number of French pilgrims were expected, and some arrived. By the kindness of Rev. H. Friedlaender I had received some French and Italian Gospels, but I found these Roman Catholic pilgrims too carefully guarded by their priests to allow of access or distribution on my part to any great extent.

"At the commencement of the work a wish had been expressed that the pilgrims who go northward should also be visited, and, hoping to effect this I looked forward to visiting Nazareth for this and other purposes. The Rev. J. Huber kindly promised to take charge of a small box of books, the residue of the Russian Gospels, etc., and on Monday, May 12, I again left Jerusalem, thus to conclude my labours. The Russian and other pilgrims, however, move apparently in different years in diverse orbits, and had principally come to Nazareth and Nablus, from Tiberias, in their southward progress to Jerusalem, so that I had seen them in my second visit to that city. My journey,