

Fifteen years ago any one venturing outside the town after night-fall was certain to be waylaid and robbed; now the ways are as safe at all hours as in Western lands. The contrast between the influence of the colonists and the monks of the monastery on Mount Carmel is very striking and significant. "When we remember that the Carmelite monks have held the mountain for seven hundred years, and compare their influence over the native population with that which these honest Germans have acquired by simple example during less than fifteen, we have a striking illustration of the superiority of practice to preaching. Their whole effort has been to commend their Christianity by scrupulous honesty in their dealings, by the harmony and simplicity of their conduct, and by the active industry of their lives."

Of deeper interest, perhaps, is the existence of some seven or eight Jewish colonies which have succeeded in establishing themselves in the land of their forefathers in spite of huge difficulties persistently thrown in their way by the government. They are composed of Russian and Roumanian refugees, who, seeking to escape from the injustice and persecution they suffered in these countries, have turned in hope to their ancient inheritance; and, singularly enough, they have been assisted in their purpose by the very governments which oppressed them. Some five thousand Russian pilgrims visit Jerusalem annually, finding accommodation in the extensive premises belonging to the Russian Government, which is a sort of Russian suburb to the Holy City. Not a Russian pilgrim visits Jerusalem who does not hope that he may live to see the day when it will become a Russian city, and who does not long for a call to a holy war, the object of which should be the exclusive possession by Russia of the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, and of the city in which it stands.

Meanwhile the Porte, becoming alarmed at the threatened extensive immigration into the country, recently issued an imperial decree forbidding the settlement of Jews under any condition whatever, and calling upon the provincial authorities to rigorously enforce the law of exclusion in regard to any persisting in establishing themselves there. At the same time all foreigners of whatever nationality have a treaty-right to settle in Palestine, so the Porte is faced by the difficulty of either departing from treaty engagements with Western governments, or submitting to Russia exercising an ever-widening protectorate over the continuously increasing number of Russian subjects locating themselves where their presence is forbidden and dreaded. What the