

to impart it ; the Jew keeps his religion to himself, deeming it the heritage of his tribe ; he no more thinks of imparting it than a Brahmin of imparting his caste. Those who refuse to mingle with humanity must take the consequences of their refusal. They cannot expect to enjoy at once the pride of exclusiveness, and the sympathies of brotherhood.

The dispersion of the Jews, and their peculiar commercial habits, are not phenomena so absolutely unique as is commonly supposed. We have something like them in the cases of the Armenians, of the Lombards and the Cahorsins, in the Middle Ages, and in that of the modern Greek before the restoration of Greece. But the Jew is the chief of those who, instead of tilling a land of their own, have spread themselves abroad to appropriate by usury and other commercial arts the fruits of the toil of others. For this purpose they have thrust themselves into all communities, and probably their presence has been everywhere an evil except in countries, such as Poland and Turkey, where the military spirit of the natives despised trade. Their wandering, and the commercial habits connected with it, commenced before the destruction of their city. In the Middle Ages they were the instruments and partners of royal extortion, and the cruel maltreatment which they often received was caused less by hatred of their misbelief than of their rapacity. When the risings took place, the rioters made not so much for the synagogues, as for the places where the Jews kept their bonds. The expulsion of them from England by Edward I, although its harshness is now justly condemned, was no doubt a measure of immense relief to the people. The best authorities assure us that the Roumanian farmers are principally moved, not by fanaticism, but by despair at finding their homesteads passing into the hands of a pitiless band of alien usurers ; while, curiously enough, Lord Salisbury, who lectures the Roumanian on intolerance, himself excludes Jews on the religious ground from the House of Lords. We all know now that taking the current rate of interest for money is no more wrong than taking the current rate of rent for a house, or the current price for goods ;