A NOTE ON CURRENCIES AND PLACE-NAMES

Throughout the book, I cite monetary amounts in the currency in which they appear in the sources. The most widely used currency across Europe in the nineteenth century was the French franc, and most amounts here will be given in francs. In 1880, the equivalent value of 1,000 francs in other major currencies was as follows:

- Pound sterling: 40
- Ottoman lira: 43
- Austrian gulden (florins): 467

It is notoriously difficult to translate these numbers into today’s currency. The relative price of goods, services, and labor was different from what it is now. Adjusted for inflation, 100 pounds sterling in 1875 would be about 12,109 pounds today, and the sum with which Baron Hirsch endowed the Jewish Colonization Association in the early 1890s (2 million pounds, subsequently topped off by another 7.2 million pounds), would be something like 1.19 billion pounds today.²
A NOTE ON CURRENCIES AND PLACE-NAMES

PLACE-NAMES

For the sake of consistency, I usually cite place-names in the form that they appeared in European-language sources at the time—for example, Constantinople rather than Istanbul in modern Turkish, and Philippopolis rather than Plovdiv in Bulgarian. Common place-names in the book and their modern equivalent include the following:

- Adrianople: Edirne
- Bottuschan: Botoșani
- Brünn: Brno
- Constantinople: Istanbul
- Czernowitz: Chernivtsi
- Dedeagatch: Alexandroupoli
- Galatz: Galați
- Lemberg: Lviv, Lwów
- Philippopolis: Plovdiv
- Rustchuk: Ruse
- Salonika: Thessaloniki
- Smyrna: Izmir
- Uskub: Skopje

All translations, unless otherwise noted, are mine.