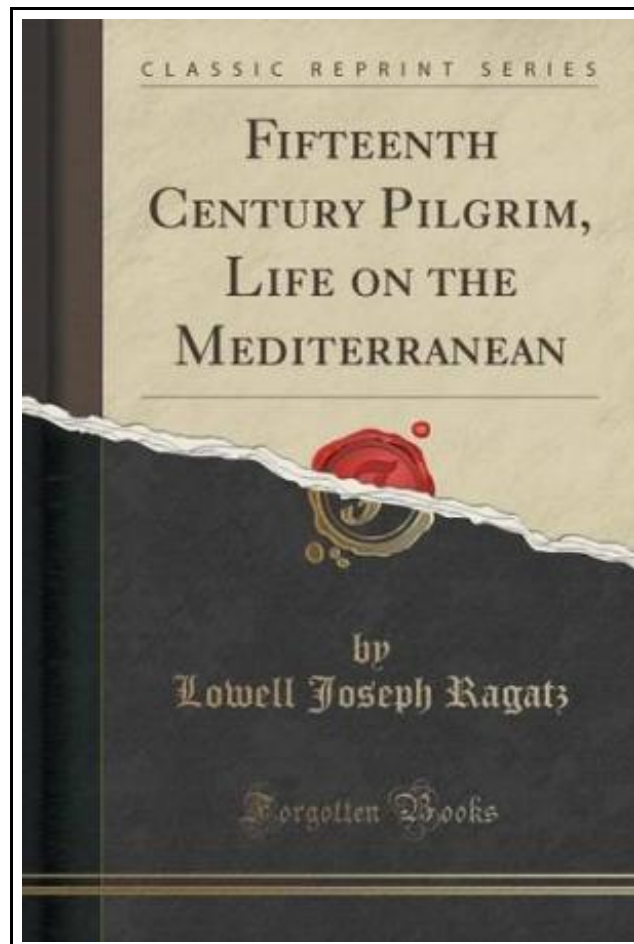


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Forgotten Books, United States, 2015. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 229 x 152 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****.Excerpt from Fifteenth Century Pilgrim, Life on the Mediterranean In speaking of large-scale movements of west European Christians to the Holy Land, one is prone to think only of the several great crusading expeditions which, from the close of the eleventh century, led hordes of occidentals to take the Cross, forsake their homes and, for the love of God or their own material gain, caused them to resolutely turn their faces eastward in order that they might battle against the infidel. This is not unnatural, for such mass precipitations upon the Levant were spectacular military enterprises which wrought very definite political changes and romantic episodes associated with them have appealed to popular fancy throughout the ages. However, sight must not be lost of the fact that the Crusades were, in reality, mere reflections of an already long-existent burning interest in the Near East, albeit in exaggerated form, and that, both before they opened and after their close, large numbers of devout men and women reverently made the long trip to Palestine as palmers and there rendered spiritual homage in the reputed scenes of the Savior's activities. The custom developed as an outgrowth of the familiar habit of going on pilgrimage to the shrines of local saints with which the old world abounded and of undertaking the less frequent one to Rome. The growing popularity of the far journey is revealed by the fact that, while but seven great parties are known to have set forth from west Europe in the eighth century, twelve did so in the ninth, as did sixteen in the tenth and one hundred seventy in the eleventh. Hundreds and, in some cases,...



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