

with its traditional diplomacy, kept on good terms with everybody, especially with the Turks. A few frontier incidents with Austria occurred, but they were settled amicably. In 1804 Timoni was appointed Austrian consul at Ragusa. His instructions were to protect Austrian commercial interests, and to assure the Senate that the Emperor intended to protect the Republic and guarantee the integrity of its territory. When war broke out between France and Austria in 1805 Ragusa refused to commit herself, but Timoni informed his Government that the sympathies of the citizens were with the French, and when the "bad news" (of Austerlitz) arrived they did not conceal their satisfaction. Even in the Senate more than half the members were Francophil. "It appears," wrote Timoni, "that this Government, of which the apathy, indolence, and venality are at their height, will undergo the fate for which it is destined. . . . I am convinced that if peace be not concluded, the French will try to get possession of this Republic, and form a body of troops here with whom to attack Cattaro. The only means by which this could be avoided, and which I venture to submit to the superior intelligence of your Excellency, is that in case hostilities should recommence you should place a garrison in the town until peace is declared, without, however, interfering in the affairs of the Government."<sup>1</sup>

Bruère was at this time French consul at Ragusa. He was a cultivated, brilliant man, and had charming manners. He was also a *littérateur*, and composed sonnets and epigrams in French, Italian, and even in Slavonic.

<sup>1</sup> Pisani, *ibid.*, pp. 135-136.