

assault delivered by land and sea. The walls were soon battered down, and the town captured, the Sandjak-beg escaping with 200 horse. One hundred Ragusans fell in the attack. The Republic sent envoys to the Christian force with provisions, and requested the leaders not to invade Ragusan territory. This was promised, but nevertheless a Spanish column which was raiding the country round Castelnuovo also sacked Canali, carrying off 17,000 head of cattle, outraging many women, "and generally behaving worse than the Turks." The Republic protested against these proceedings, and Doria, with whom it was on friendly terms, sent the engineer Mastro Antonio Ferramolino of Bergamo to Ragusa to strengthen the fortifications of the town. Under his supervision the Torre Menze or Minćeta, the bastion outside the walls under the Monte Bergato to guard the harbour, and the town gate close by were built. On the latter the following inscription was placed :

*"Este procul sævi : nullum hæc per sæcula Martem
Castra timent sancti, quæ fovet aura senis."*

Ferramolino remained four months at Ragusa, and refused all payment for his services ; but the Senate presented him on his departure with a gift of plate and a fine horse, and conveyed him to Sicily on a Ragusan galley.¹

The following year Barbarossa determined to recapture Castelnuovo, which was defended by 4000 picked Spanish troops and 54 guns. A first attempt from the land side in January failed ; but in July Barbarossa entered the Bocche with 200 galleys, and after a series of

¹ Razzi, lib. ii. cap. xiv.