

CHAPTER X

RAGUSA INDEPENDENT OF HUNGARY

(1526-1667)

THE period between the establishment of the Turks in Bosnia and the fall of the Venetian Republic is one of great interest for the whole of Dalmatia. "In these events," writes an anonymous author in the *Annuario Dalmatico*,¹ "every village has its part, almost every family its glorious record. And if on the one hand we still find the traces, I may almost say the smoking ruins, of the desolation wrought upon us by the Turkish armies; on the other we find many memories of the valour of the Dalmatians in the trophies of the families, in the rank of nobility obtained as a reward for incredible sacrifices, in the letters of commendation, even in certain religious festivals, and in a large part of those customs which time has rendered sacred to the heart of our people, and most of us observe scrupulously, without perhaps understanding their meaning."

At the same time Turks and Christians through familiarity became less hostile, and did much business together. "Once the massacre was over the Turks spent much money, and thus after Castelnuovo had been captured, plundered, and 4000 Christians murdered, it

¹ I., 1884, pp. 131 *sqq.*
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