

us of his other fort of S. Andrea at Venice, with its embrasures down on the water level. Threading the narrow, rocky channel we emerge in that noble basin the harbour of Sebenico, a fiord virtually formed by the river Kerka, and presenting many ramifications which destined it to become, as it did, a stronghold of pirates. The town of Sebenico rises from the shore of the harbour, in fan shape, to its apex at the great fortress of S. Anna, dominating the city. Sebenico is built in terraces, as it were, on the hill-side, with streets running up from the shore to the apex at S. Anna, crossed by other streets running in curves the width of the town and offering, as we thread this labyrinth, a series of picturesque glimpses.

Unlike Zara, which we have just left, and Spalato, whither we are bound, Sebenico never was a Roman city, in spite of the tradition which endeavours to connect it with Siccum, where Claudius posted his veterans. Sebenico is unknown to Constantine Porphyrogennetos, and first appears as a purely Croat city. Tradition says it was founded as a free-booter's base by the Uscocks, Christian Slavs, who came down to the sea-coast from the hinterland under pressure from the Turks, and there took to piracy at the suggestion