

The whole effect is interesting and curious, but is obviously the work of an architect groping between two styles, and master of neither, as Sir Thomas Jackson convincingly observes. The middle of the cloister has a fountain, or well, dating from 1623, recalling in general form, the well in one of the cloisters of the Frari at Venice. Round the well is planted a garden with orange and cherry trees.

But perhaps the most striking monument in all Ragusa, certainly the most imposing when viewed from the sea, are the great fortification walls. We have seen how Constantine lays stress on the walling of Ragusa, when it was first colonized from Epidaurus. And all down its history, Ragusa has been obliged to rely on its walls for its safety against mainland neighbours—Bosniacs, Hungarians or Turks. For the most part there is a double line of walls. The main line of fortification is built of white stone, which looks very new, as though it had just come out of the hands of some Viollet-le-Duc; we are reminded of Carcassonne. The walls are broken by picturesque towers; by far the most striking of these is the famous Menze or Minčeta tower, so called after a Ragusan family, which stands above the Franciscan monastery, and gives