

invaded Friuli, by which the Dalmatian seaboard returned to the possession of Venice on the annual fee of a white horse and a golden goblet, than the Republic found herself called on to face a new enemy on that debatable ground the Dalmatian tableland. The Turk was already in possession at Narenta, and held Ragusa as tributary, though no military advantage could be gained from that very shadowy lordship. Venice now found herself committed to a series of wars with the Turk. The major field of action was undoubtedly the waters of the Ionian sea and the Levant, but the repercussion made itself clearly felt in Dalmatia. In 1522 Knin and Klissa, those two important passes, the keys to the Dalmatian mainland, were gallantly defended against the Turkish attack. But Klissa fell in 1537, and for about one hundred years the Turks ruled, in a spasmodic fashion, over the larger part of mainland Dalmatia. Traces of Turkish buildings still exist, as we shall see when we come to visit Vrana and Dernis. In 1646 the Venetian commander, Leonardo Foscolo, engaged the Turkish Pasha, who was commanding a Turkish offensive designed to reach the shores of the Adriatic, on the plain near Novigrad. Novigrad fell, but the Turk failed before Sebenico, and