

VII

VRANA

VRANA LAKE and Vrana's ruined castle, about thirty-eight kilometres south-east of Zara, can be reached by car. The road follows the seashore through Borgo Erizzo or Arbanesi, the settlement of the Albanians, S. Cassian (Sukožan), with the ruins of the unfinished Palace of Archbishop Valaresso, Torette, to Zara Vecchia (Biograd or Belgrad), the white city; and a white city it looks both from land and sea, with its large church standing on a promontory jutting into the canal of Zara. The road is fairly good so far, and runs through *maquis* of heath and juniper, with clearings where it has been cut, in sharply marked patches, for charcoal-burning. The soil, where it has been cleared, is a rich red, and the vineyards look flourishing, but the wine of the country does not seem to me to be what it was before the War.