

VI

NOVIGRAD

NOVIGRAD can be reached by sea or by land. By sea is the longer but more interesting route. Leaving Zara we keep up the Zara channel till we reach the northernmost point of Dalmatian mainland at Brevilacqua. Rounding this, to our right opens the fiord in whose farthest recess lies Nona. We cross the mouth of the Nona fiord with our bow now set east, and passing headland after headland through a maze of intricate channels that recall Skye and the western islands of Scotland, we sail into the great and solemn Gulf of Starigrad, a landlocked sea with desolate limestone shores, dominated to the east by the enormous and arid mass of the Velebit. Making now for the southern end of this loch, we pass places whose names recall the rule of Venice and which were the scene of much fighting between the Republic and the Turk, Castel