

withstanding these cowardly cautions, and his obstinate refusal to answer my letter, I determined to proceed without delay, to Acre.

I went to the house of the Commissary of the Republic of the Seven Isles. A short time after, the Pacha's dragoman came to conduct me to Ghezar, who received me in an apartment, in which he was alone, and which had no furniture but a carpet. He had on one side of him a pistol with four barrels, an air-gun, a sabre, and an axe. After enquiring concerning my health; he asked me if I was well convinced, that, when the hour of our end had been proclaimed in heaven, nothing could alter our destiny. My answer was, that I believed, as he did, in fatalism. He talked a long time in this strain, and I perceived, that he affected an extreme simplicity, that he wished to pass for a man of understanding, and, what is more, for a just one. He several times repeated to me, "Ghezar is said to be barbarous, he is but just and severe." Treat the First Consul, added he, not to send me a lame or a one-eyed man as commissary of commercial relations; because, it would certainly be said that Ghezar had reduced him to that condition." A moment after, he observed to me again, "I wish that the commissary you will send, should reside at Leide; though this port has more commerce than any in my states, an agent will not be necessary here; I shall be myself the French commissary, and your countrymen shall have the most friendly reception. I esteem the French highly. Bonaparte is small in person, but he is the greatest of men; I also know that they regret him much at Cairo, and that they would wish to have him there again!"

"I said a few words to him on the peace between France and the Porte; to which he answered, "Do you know why I receive, and feel pleasure in seeing you? It is, because you come without a sinning; I regard not the orders of the Divan, and I entertain the most profound contempt for the one-eyed Vizir. It is said, Ghezar is a Bosnian, a worthless, a cruel man, and I am fought after. I was born poor; my father left me only his courage: I have raised myself by my exertion; but that does not make me proud, for all things have an end, and this day, or to-morrow, Ghezar, himself, may perhaps come to his end; nor that he is old, as his enemies say, (and, on this, he began to wield his arms after the manner of the Mamelukes, with much agility) but, because God shall have so ordained it. The King of France, though he was powerful, has perished—Nebuchadnezzar, the great king of his time, was slain by a goat, &c." He repeated other sentences to the same effect, and talked to me afterwards of the motives that had determined him to make war on the French army. In the whole of his conversation it was easy to observe, that he wished to be reconciled with the First Consul, and that he feared his resentment.

"The following is the apology which he made use of to demonstrate the reasons that induced him to resistance:—"A black slave, after a tedious journey in which he had suffered every species of privation, arrived in a small field of sugar canes; he itopped there, refreshed himself with this delicious liquor, and resolved to settle himself in the

field. Soon after passed two travellers, the first of whom saluted him civilly. The Devil take you, answered the black slave. The second traveller approached, and asked him why he had given such an uncivil answer to so kind an address? I had, replied he, good reasons for that; had my answer been courteous, that man would have entered into conversation with me, would have seated himself by me; he would have partaken of my support, have found it good, and would have endeavoured to obtain the exclusive possession of it."

"On my recommendation, he promised protection to the Christians, and particularly the convents of Nazareth and Jerusalem; and he several times assured me his sword was more to be depended on than treaties.

"His palace is built with much taste and elegance; but, to reach the apartments, one must pass through an infinite number of windings. At the foot of the stair-case is the prison, the door of which is always open from noon till night. In passing I observed a number of unfortunates crowded there. There are in the court 12 field pieces, with their ammunition chests, in very good order. Never have I seen a more frightful and revolting spectacle than Ghezar's Minister, whom I met on coming out. The Pacha had caused one of his eyes to be put out, and his ears and nose to be cut off. I saw more than a hundred in the city in the same condition. In viewing the domestics of Ghezar, and even the inhabitants of Acre, one would suppose ones self in a nest of robbers, ready for assassination: this monster has stamped the seal of his atrocious character on every thing that surrounds him.

"I have seen at Acre the procurator of the Propaganda and of the Holy Land. The latter is penetrated with gratitude to the First Consul for his protection of the Monks. He says, that Ghezar does every thing to be reconciled with the First Consul; and the fact is, that a French vessel, which had been at Acre before my arrival, had been well treated by the Pacha."

After a description of the state of Ghezar's territories, and of the adjoining pachalics, Sebastiani proceeded in his account: "On November 20, I left Acre, and being prevented by contrary winds from going to Jaffa, made sail for Zante. Though put under quarantine, I procured permission to go to the Governor and French Commissary, under an escort of officers of health." Here he lectured the authorities, assuring them of the lively interest the Chief Consul took in their welfare, and advising them, in his name, to lay aside all party spirits. Every thing bowed to the name of Bonaparte. The air resounded with cries of "Long live Bonaparte." Even the fear of citizen Sebastiani's displeasure caused the release of two men who had been arrested for a riot on the occasion: and the affrighted Governor when summoned before him, promised, that he would consider those, who had cried, "Long live the First Consul," as good citizens, and treat them as such. At the conclusion of his account of the Republic of the Seven Islands, he assures, that the Islands of the Ionian Sea will declare themselves French at any time it shall be thought proper.

He next subjoins an account of the state and