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GREECE.—ALI PASHA.

WE recommend the careful perusal of the following piece to the particular attention of our readers, for two reasons: It is interesting to the general reader, as an authentic historical account of an individual, whose power, influence, and exploits, in our own days, have been much famed throughout Europe and Asia, and which have been seldom surpassed by the most celebrated heroes of antiquity. To the politician it will prove, that the Turkish Government is by no means so powerful as was generally supposed, when the Governor of a single province could oppose, with success, its united force so long, reduce the Sultan to such mean shifts to conciliate his favour, and at last compel him to resort to the most dishonourable expedients to rid himself of one whom he could not conquer, and dared not trust. If the Greeks had possessed a leader like Ali Pasha, and been united in their counsels, they would, long ago, have been an independent people.

THE true author of the Greek insurrection was Ali Pasha. This man's ambition, intercourse with Europeans, and fierce and oriental catastrophe, have thrown all circumstances of his life and character into public knowledge. His birth was honourable among his barbarian countrymen; he was the descendant of a long line of warrior robbers, lords of some of those small districts into which a mountain-country is naturally divided. A remote ancestor, and robber, Muzzo, had made himself master of Zepeleni, a town on the left bank of the Voiussa. Mouktar Bey, Ali's grandfather, was a distinguished soldier, and slain at the siege of Corfu. Veli Bey, the youngest of Mouktar's sons, and father of Ali, had been Pasha of Delvino, but driven from his Pashalik, and reduced to his original lordship, he died of grief. At this period, Ali was but fourteen. He had been born at Zepeleni in 1748. The death of his father exposed the town to the rapacity of all the surrounding clans.—Khamco, his mother, a true barbarian heroine, instantly threw aside the distaff, sword in hand, rallied the dependants of the family, and repel-

led the invaders. In one of these attacks, she and her daughter Shunitza were taken prisoners by the people of Gardiki, who treated them with the indescribable insults of a robber's victory. They were released at the end of a month by ransom; but the insult sunk deep into Ali's spirit, and he treasured it for almost half a century, till it was wiped away in the blood and ashes of Gardiki.

Ali had all the restlessness and craft of a savage, mingled with the rapacity of the robber, and the native activity and bravery of the Greek mountaineer. From the age of sixteen he was a soldier and a plunderer, continually engaged in brief expeditions against the neighbouring tribes, carrying off cattle, or making descents among the richer population of the valleys. Success and defeat, were for a while alternate, but at length he was on the point of ruin. An attack near the sources of the Chelydnus had been followed by the total dispersion of his wild troop, and Ali fled alone to Mount Mertzika, so reduced that he was compelled to pledge his scymitar to buy barley for his horse. He made the attempt again with a force