

too, like the perfidy of the Porte, which had lulled his vigilance by professions of friendship, while she was concerting with Mohammed Bey the means of his destruction. During a whole year that the Turks had been disengaged from the Russians, it was not difficult to foresee their intentions from their motions. Still, however it was in his power to endeavour to prevent the consequences of this error; but, unfortunately, even this he neglected. Degnizla, bombarded in Saïde without hope of succour, was constrained to evacuate the town; and the Captain Pacha appeared instantly before Acre. At sight of the enemy, a consultation was held how to escape the danger, and this led to a quarrel, which decided the fate of Daher.

In a general council, Ibrahim gave his opinion to repel force by force: his reasons were, that the Captain Pacha had but three large vessels; that he could neither make an attack by land, nor remain at anchor, without danger, before the castle; that there was a sufficient force of cavalry and Mograbian infantry to hinder a descent, and that it was almost certain the Turks would relinquish the enterprise without attempting any thing. In opposition to him, Degnizla declared for peace, because resistance could only prolong the war; he maintained it was unreasonable to expose the lives of so many brave men, when the same object might be effected by less valuable means, that is by money; that he was sufficiently acquainted with the avidity of the Captain Pacha, to assert he would suffer himself to be corrupted; and was certain not only that he could procure his departure, but even make him his friend, for the sum of two thousand purses. This was precisely what Ibrahim dreaded; he therefore exclaimed against the measure, protesting there was not a medal in the treasury. Daher supported his assertion. 'The Shaik is in the right,' replied Degnizla; 'his servants have long known that his generosity does not suffer his money to stagnate in his coffers; but does not the money they obtain from him belong to him? And can it be believed that thus emitted to them, we know not where to find two thousand purses.' At these words Ibrahim interrupting him, exclaimed, that as for himself, no man could be poorer. 'Say hafer,' resumed Degnizla, transported with rage. 'Who is ignorant, that for the last fourteen years, you have been heaping up enormous treasures? that you have monopolized all the trade of the country; that you sell all the lands, and keep back the payments that are due; that in the war of Mohammed Bey, you plundered

the whole territory of Gaza, carried away all the corn, and left the inhabitants of Yafa without the necessaries of life? He was proceeding, when the Shaik, commanding silence, protested the innocence of his Minister, and accused Degnizla of envy and treachery. Degnizla instantly quitted the council, and assembling his countrymen the Mograbians or Barbary Arabs, who composed the chief strength of the place, forbid them to fire on the Captain Pacha.

Daher however, determined to stand the attack, made every necessary preparation; and, the next day, Hassan, approaching the castle, began the cannonade. Daher answered with the few pieces near him; but in spite of his reiterated orders, the others did not fire. Finding himself betrayed, he mounted his horse; and leaving the town by the gate which opens towards the gardens on the north, attempted to gain the country; but while he was passing along the walls of these gardens, a Mograbian soldier shot him with a musquet in the loins, and he fell from his horse, when the Barbary Arabs, instantly surrounding his body, cut off his head, which they carried to the Captain Pacha, who, according to the odious custom of the Turks, loaded it with insults while he surveyed it, and had it pickled, in order to carry it to Constantinople, as a present to the Sultan, and a spectacle to the people.

Such was the tragical end of a man in many respects, worthy of a better fate. It is long since Syria has beheld among her chiefs so great a character. In military affairs, no man possessed more courage, activity, coolness, or resources. In politics, the noble frankness of his mind was not diminished even by his ambition. He was fond only of brave and open measures; and heroically preferred the dangers of the field to the wily intrigues of the cabinet; nor was it till he had taken Ibrahim for his Minister that his conduct was blemished with a sort of duplicity which that Christian called prudence. The reputation of his justice had established throughout his states, a security unknown in Turkey; difference in religion occasioned no disputes on this head; he possessed the toleration, or perhaps, the indifference of the Bedouin Arabs. He had also preserved the simplicity of their customs and manners. His table was not different from that of a rich farmer; the luxury of his dress never exceeded a few pelisses, and he never wore any trinkets. The greatest expence he incurred was in blood mares, for some of which he even paid as high as twenty thousand livres, (eight hundred and twenty five pounds). He