

Albania Past and Present



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ALBANIANS IN MONTENEGRO.—The number of the Albanians living in Montenegro is considerable, but no available statistics are to be had. Their presence dates mainly from the year 1879, when the Powers forcibly assigned to Montenegro the provinces of Dulcigno and Antivari, in exchange for Gussigne-Plava.¹ Moreover, the Conference of Ambassadors assigned in 1913 approximately 150,000 Albanians to the dominion of King Nicholas. The armed resistance of the majority of them, however, nullified this decision of the Powers.²

The interesting feature in regard to the Albanians who were incorporated in Montenegro in 1879, is that they have remained Albanians in all respects. When Czar Nicholas of Russia advised the King of Montenegro, in 1913, to desist from his project of occupying Scutari, the Emperor argued that it was in the interest of Montenegro not to have any more Albanians, in view of the fact that she has been unable to assimilate even those who were assigned to her in 1879.

It need not be again repeated here that in Serbia there are nearly a million Albanians who were incorporated in the Serbian Kingdom in 1912, and who have ever since been in a state of rebellion against the foreign rule.³

MINOR ALBANIAN COLONIES.—Besides the above mentioned compact Albanian colonies, there are also a number of lesser colonial settlements in various countries. One of them is the small colony of Zara, Istria, which was founded in 1478 by a part of the

¹ See above, pp. 51-53.

² See above, p. 93.

³ See above, pp. 93-94.