

A recent American traveller speaks in the following terms of the Christians of Old Servia, who are still exposed to the double tyranny of the Porte and the Greek bishops: "Suffering under the galling despotism of the Turk; educating their children almost in secret; studying their national annals by stealth; practising their worship under foreign bishops; hiding their means from legal despoilers; without security of life, liberty, or property; taxed, imprisoned, and persecuted at the capricious pleasure of venal magistrates; they have still laboured for education, hoped for freedom, cherished their faith, and retained those simple virtues which characterise their race."

At the time of the Turkish conquest the Bosnian nobles were disgusted with both the Greek and Latin hierarchy; this exposed them to yield more readily to the temptation of saving their feudal privileges by apostasy. They have ever since tyrannised over the Christian half of the population to an awful degree, and the Porte made this its excuse for sending Omar Pasha in 1857 to crush them and bring them into subjection to the Central Government. In case of a religious war, Bosnia might prove a Mussulman Vendée.

Montenegro, which the *Times* is in the habit of treating as a den of robbers, and as to all intents and purposes a territory lawfully subject to the Porte, was really independent before the Turks ever set their foot in Europe, and has continued to be so through the heroism of its inhabitants. It formed part of the principality of Zeta, under the heroic family of Tsernoïevitch, which was contemporaneous with the Nemanitch, who ruled the greater part of the South Slavonians. When the last member of this family died, the mountain fastness became a theocracy governed by an elective bishop. In 1715, the Seraskier Achmet Pasha got rid of the chiefs by treacherously seizing them at a conference, and then overran the Black Mountain (Tsernagora, in Italian Montenegro) with an army of more than a hundred thousand men; but this was no permanent conquest; when the Turkish army had to leave the famished country, the mountaineers reasserted their independence.

At the peace of Sistow, in 1791, Russia and Austria sacrificed the Vladika, Peter the First; but he defended himself, and annihilated the army of the Pasha of Scutari. In 1815, Cattaro would have wished to be united with Montenegro, of which it is the natural harbour; but the Congress of Vienna cared little for either nature or popular will. Peter ended his long and glorious reign in 1830. Austria recognised the in-