

yeerely, there remaine heapes able to lade nine or ten shippes, and there are heaps of two yeeres gathering, some of three and some of nine or tenne yeeres making, to the value of a great summe of golde, and where the ships do lade, they never take it the measure, but when they come at Venice they measure it. This salt as it lyeth in the pit is like so much ice, and it is sixe inches thicke: they digge it with axes, and cause their slaves to cary it to the heapes. This night at midnight we rode to Famagusta, which is eight leagues from Salina, which is 24 English miles.

The 29 about two houres before day, we alighted at Famagusta, and after we were refreshed we went to see the towne. This is a very faire strong holde, and the strongest and greatest in the Iland. The walles are faire and new, and strongly rampired with foure principall bulwarkes, and betweene them turriens, responding one to another, these walles did the Venetians make. They have also on the haven side of it a Castle, and the haven is chained, the citie hath onely two gates, to say, one for the lande and another for the sea, they have in the towne continually, be it peace or warres, 800 souldiers, and fortie and sixe gunners, besides capitaines, petie capitaines, Governour and Generall. The lande gate hath alwayes fiftie souldiers, pikes and gunners with their harness, watching there at night and day. At the sea gate five & twenty, upon the walles every night doe watch fiftene men in watch houses, for every watch house five men, and in the market place 30 souldiers continually. There may no soldier serue there above 5 yeres, neither will they without friendship suffer them to depart afore 5 yeres be expired, and there may serve of all nations except Greeks. They have every pay, which is 45 dayes, 15 *Mozenigos*, which is 15 shillings sterling. Their horsemen have onely sixe *soldes* Venetian a day, and provender for their horses, but they have also certaine lande therewith to plow and sowe for the maintenance of their horses, but truely I marvell how they live being so hardly fed, for all the sommer they feede onely upon chopt straw and barley for hey they have none, and yet they be faire, fat and serviceable. The Venetians send every two yeeres new rulers, which they call *Castellani*. The towne hath allowed it also two gallies continually armed and furnished.

The 30 in the morning we ridde to a chapell, where they say Saint Katherin was borne. This chappell is in old Famagusta, the which was destroyed by Englishmen, and is cleane overthrowne to the ground, to this day desolate and not inhabited by any person, it was of a great circuit, and there be to this day mountaines of faire, great and strong, buildings, and not onely there, but also in many places of the Iland. Moreover when they digge, plowe, or trench they finde sometimes olde antient coines, some of golde some of silver, and some of copper, yea and many tombes and voutes with sepulchers in them. This olde Famagusta is from the other foure miles and standeth on a hill, but the new towne on a plaine. Thence we returned to new Famagusta againe to dinner, and toward evening we went about the towne, and in the great church we sawe the tombe of king Jacques, which was the last king of Cyprus, and was buried in the yere of Christ one thousand foure hundred seventie & three, and had to wife one of the daughters of Venice of the house of Cornari, the which family at this day hath great revenues in this Island, and by means of that marriage the Venetians challenge the kingdom of Cyprus.

The first of October in the morning, we went to see the reliefe of the watches. That done, we went to one of the Greekes Churches to see a pot or jarre of stone, which is sayd to bee one of the seven jarres of water, the which the Lord God at the mariage converted into wine. It is a pot of earth very faire, white enamelled, and fairely wrought upon with drawn worke, and hath on either side of it, instead of handles, eares made in founne as the painters make angels wings, it was about an ell high, and small at the bottome, with a long necke