

savage crime, but the time which he allowed to pass between the first sentence and the later and more cruel tortures lends it some probability. It was mere madness which stirred him to rage even against the dead. He entered the Episcopal Church of S. Niccolo, caused the graves to be opened and the bones scattered. He destroyed the altars and the images of the saints, and committed other bestial and cruel acts for which he was much blamed even by his own people.

The city thus acquired, order was taken at once carefully to clear the ditches of the ruins of the walls, to raze all the forts, and fill all the trenches outside, and to repair all that had been destroyed within. Thus the fortress was soon restored to its original condition, and made even more secure and defensible than it had been before.

Mustafa Pasha put the Bey of Rhodes in charge of the city, and on the twenty-fourth of September left Cyprus, returning victorious and triumphant to Constantinople, where he was received with high honours and universal joy. Yet the victory had cost the Turks dear, for they had lost, so report said, more than fifty thousand men, and among them many commanders of high rank, and their best warriors.

LUSIGNAN.

Fr. Etienne de Lusignan's description of Nicosia and Famagusta is here translated from his *Chronographia*, Bologna, 1578, pp. 11 and 14—16. It should be compared with the French version, 4to. Paris, 1590, *Description de toute l'île de Cypre... composée premierement en Italien, et imprimée à Bologne la Grasse, et maintenant augmentée et traduite en François.*

Letra, an ancient city, but it is not known who first founded it: it was afterwards restored by Lencico or Lenco, son of the first Ptolemy, king of Egypt, who called it Leucoton. This is Nicosia, which is an ancient city, but it is not exactly known who first built it, and when. It is evident that it is ancient, and S. Jerome and Platina and others call it Letra or Leucoton, naming a bishop S. Triffillus—Triffillus of Letra in Cyprus, Leucoton. The Latins now call it Nicosia, but the Greeks Leucosia: and some say that Leuco and Sia his wife built it, and in olden days traces of it were visible. It was a royal city in the time of the nine contemporary kings, and it had a castle which was in the upper square near the river, where one finds now a Greek church which is called Castegliotissa. This castle was destroyed by the townfolk, at the time of the engagement with the knights Templar, whom the former would not have to reign in Cyprus; and this was about 1194. And later in the time of the Lusignan kings it was made an archiepiscopal and royal residence, and the capital of the whole island, for the site on which it stands is in the middle of the island, and the middle of the plain; the air is excellent, the water delicate, the spot pleasantly full of gardens and fruits. Immediately outside it it has two springs, one called Pidia [*Πυγιάδα*] and the other Sweet Water, and this one passes through the city, and supplies several fountains in the palaces, the court and the square and other places, and this water is light and is given just as it is to sick people to drink as much as they will, and it does no harm. And for these reasons the city was in the days of the Lusignan kings much adorned with nobles, palaces and churches, Latin, Greek, Armenian, Coptic, Maronite, Indian, Nestorian, Jacobite, and those of the Iberi or Georgians,