

and fifteen *seyas* are worth a *sequin*. The *crown*, both of France and Spain, is worth twelve *seyas*, and the *dollar* (Spanish pieces-of-eight) ten.

These are their only coins except certain *maugouris* made of copper, of which sixteen make an *aspre*. The *aspre* is worth about six French *deniers obole*, the *seya* four  *sols* and four *deniers*. You must carry none of these small coins to Tripoly or Hierusalem, for they are not current there, and from month to month they rise or fall in value.

[The vessel leaves Larnaca on the evening of May 17, and coasts along in the direction of Limassol until a *sirocco* freshens so much that it anchors close to the shore. The author lands]

to recover the appetite I had lost on board, and to enjoy the sight of a fine plain filled with caper-bushes, olives, carobs, and a strong-scented wood called in Greek *Squina*, from the seeds of which oil is made: but I marvelled especially to see the fields full of thyme, which our sailors cut for fuel, while in our country we keep it to adorn and embellish the borders and labyrinths of our gardens. Wonderful indeed is the excellence and fertility of the island, and still more wonderful to see it so thinly peopled, for one would scarcely find five or six poor houses in all this plain!

[The Seigneur de Villamont visited Jerusalem (where he was dubbed a knight of the Holy Sepulchre) and Damascus, and on September 10 embarked at Tripoli for Damietta. Eight days later he reached Limassol, ill with fever, and remained in Cyprus until October 6, 1589, when he sailed again for Damietta, pp. 553—5.]

## THEVET.

André Thevet, "Angoumoisain, Cosmographe du Roy," after publishing his *Cosmographie de Levant*, 4to, Lyon, 1556, *Cosmographie Universelle*, 2 vols. fol., Paris, 1575, and other works, left in MS. (Bibl. Nat. de Paris, nos. 15452 and 15458) his *Grand Insulaire*. From this work Mons. Ch. Schæfer edited an account of Cyprus, part of which is here translated. It fills pp. 298—309 of *Le Voyage de la Terre Sainte composé par Maître Denis Pussot*, royal 8vo, Paris, 1890.

(Pp. 304—309.) AS to the things remarkable and rare to be found in the island, as well as the lords who have ruled over it, and lastly by what means the Turk has pounced on it, I have to my thinking, discoursed at such length in my *Cosmography* (*Cosm. Universelle*, Paris, 1575, vol. I. 104—204) that it would be only wasting paper in repeating myself, if I set myself to say all that should be said. I shall do better to warn you that Abraham Ortelius was ill informed where he speaks of what happened in this island in the year 1570, for he writes that the Turks made themselves masters of Famagosta, and slew all the Christians, Latin and Greek, with the sword, so that old and young without exception felt the violence of these infidels. And still you see that the Greeks and others live in entire liberty. You must consider too that in this island are found many kinds of fruits, as cherries, chestnuts, oranges, lemons, almonds and nuts. So too you have palm-trees, the tallest in the world, but they do not (as some fancy) bring their fruit to maturity, like those of upper Africa, Arabia Felix and Egypt. I never saw any, nor can they ripen there any more than in Crete, Rhodes or the Mediterranean islands generally. I say this, because I know that many persons have fallen into error, and have mistakenly written that these palm-trees produce very good fruit which we call dates. Among others a certain Cypriot who calls himself Frère Estienne de