

is said to have produced formerly sugar-canes in abundance. Now it is planted with cotton. There is a fairly large fishpond in the neighbourhood, about a thousand paces from *Cape la gata abdama*, and two hundred more from the sea. There are some clumps of olive trees.

Conglia is but little distant from the sea. There is nothing to see there. Silk and cotton are produced in abundance.

Baffa is nothing but a ruined village on the seashore.

Lefkara is at the foot of Mount Olympus quite close to the sea. The mountain begins from this point to rise gently, and stretching always inland attains at last a great height. There is nothing to see at Lefkara except a river which rises in the mountain, and waters in the course several pleasant villages. It is here that is collected the famous *Ladanum*, which is produced by a dew falling on the leaves of a little plant about half a foot high, not unlike the smaller sage. To gather the *Ladanum* the peasants drive their goats to the fields before sunrise that they may browse on this herb, and as the *Ladanum* is soft and sticky it adheres to their beards, which are out once a year and the gum is extracted by the use of fire. This is the best, or virgin *Ladanum*. There is a second kind which is caught on a little tuft of hair on the goat's shanks. A third way of gathering it is with a coarse rope made of cow's hair which two men drag across the plants. There is yet a fourth way, to tie several little cords to a short stick and to rub them about the plants every morning as long as there is any gum on them. But the last two methods only give a coarser and inferior quality, because sand gets mixed with it and spoils it. *Ladanum* is black, has a strong odour, and is of great service in time of plague, and has other uses in medicine.

Nor is there anything to see at Lapida, except a convent of Greek monks near the sea, and a church which the apostles, it is said, caused to be built. One sees from the remains of old buildings that several houses had their fishponds which were refilled by the tide.

All that remains of *Sarignia* or *Cerines*, anciently called *Ceraunia*, is a harbour for galleys and a strongish fort. This is the point of starting for *Carmania* and *Natolia*. At an hour's distance is the magnificent building called *de la Paix*, or from the *Templars*.

About five miles from *Larnica*, on a lofty mountain which serves as a landmark to sailors entering the bay of *Salines*, there is a convent called *S. Croce*, or the convent of the Cross, inhabited by some twenty Caloyers, a kind of Greek monk. These good folk pretend to have there a piece of the wood of the Cross of our Saviour, about the thickness of a ducat and nearly a foot in length, which was brought there by *S. Helena*. They say it is suspended between heaven and earth, without support, or connection with anything. A perpetual miracle holds it in the air. All the world flocks there every year on September 14, which the Greeks keep as the feast of the Holy Cross. It is a great holiday, and people go to kiss this miraculous fragment, a privilege accorded to all, and of which all, the short as well as the tall, avail themselves with equal ease, though they do not see it moving downwards or upwards. But I have been told by those who have seen it—I had not an opportunity of doing so myself—that the wood is enclosed in a little shrine of silver gilt, where it can be seen at all times, but that on Holy Cross day a small cover is slipped to the right of an opening as large as a ducat just where the wood is, and then everyone can kiss it. Under this convent is a grotto in which is a spring with the scent of roses. Sick persons, whatever be their disease or infirmity, drink of it and bathe therein, with such success, if one may believe the Greeks, that without further treatment they are healed.

In the year 1668 throughout the island, but especially in the country round *Famagusta*, there was such a vast quantity of locusts that when they were on the wing they were like a dark cloud through which the sun's rays could scarcely pierce. This lasted about a month,