

a mile distant. Cyprus, situated between Asia and Africa, partakes of the production of both; sometimes we noticed the birds and plants of Syria and Caramania; sometimes those of Egypt. Many of the Grallæ we saw were probably birds of passage.

April 12. We made an excursion to the mountain of the Holy Cross. We passed by the aqueduct of Larnaca, and after four hours ride over an uneven plain enlivened with varieties of the *Ranunculus asiaticus*, now in flower, we dined under a carob tree. Several little rivulets crossed the road, skirted with the Oleander. These were frequented by the beautiful *Merops apiaster*, one of which we shot. Numerous Jack-daws burrowed in the holes of the free-stone rock near the rivulet; and the Roller, which after short flights pitched frequently before us, rivalled the *Merops* in the splendour of its colours. After dinner we lost our way in the mountains covered with the *Pinus pinea*; we arrived late at a hamlet belonging to the convent; and about one hour distant from it. The ascent was steep and difficult; and the sun set soon after our arrival. Disappointed at finding the convent quite deserted, and no habitation being near, we resolved upon attempting an entrance by force. The different instruments we had brought with us of digging were employed: but without success. At length a Caloyer arrived with the key, and having opened the door of the church, we discovered some straw mattresses; these were drawn before the Altar, and we lay down to repose.

The mountain, a bluish grey argillaceous rock thinly covered with earth, furnished but few plants; a species of *Astragalus*, which I do not find mentioned by Linnæus, called by the Greeks *ἀγριόκιστος*, grew in abundance. I saw the *Valeriana tuberosa*, which is certainly the mountain-nardus of Dioscorides, on the summit, with the *Ziziphora capitata*, and a species of *Cnicus* and *Thymus*, neither of which I find described. On the walls of the convent I observed the golden Henbane growing plentifully.

[Near the convent of the Holy Cross I observed the golden Henbane in abundance: and when we had descended, a peasant brought me a pumpkin with water; it was corked with a bush of *Poterium spinosum*, which served both as a coverlid and a strainer, and prevented the entrance of flies and other insects. It preserves in most of the Greek islands its ancient name *Στροβή*. The stools on which we sat were made of the *Ferula græca*; the stems cut into slips and placed crossways were nailed together. This is one of the most important plants of the island in respect to its economical uses. The stalks furnish the poorer Cyprian with a great part of his household furniture, and the pith is used instead of tinder, for conveying fire from one place to another. It is now called *νάρθηκα*, the ancient name somewhat corrupted. *Memoirs*, p. 284.]

April 13. At eight we left the convent; the *Pinus pinea* was less frequent as we advanced in our descent. I observed a new species of *Gladiolus*, *G. montanus*, and *Thymus tragoriganum*, frequent. Arrived at the bottom, we stopped at a village to refresh ourselves; we then passed through a more level country covered with different species of *Cistus*, the *Onosma orientalis* and *Lithospermum tenniflorum*. I observed among the scarcer plants the *Brassica vesicaria* and the *Salvia ceratophylloides*. Swarms of locusts in their larva state often blackened the road with their number, and threatened destruction to the crops of corn now almost ripe. Near the aqueduct we observed several hawks hunting in troops; *Falco tinnunculus* was the most frequent species in the island, called by the Greeks *κίρκος*. We shot two other species; one with a blue tail, named *Mavromati*, and another, something like a buzzard, called *φαλκόνι*.

April 17. We set off at eight in the morning for Famagusta. [The reapers were busy in the harvest, and the tinkling of the bell fixed to their sides expressed their fears of the