

CLARKE.

The Rev. Edward Daniel Clarke, LL.D., Fellow of Jesus College, and Professor of Mineralogy at Cambridge, died on March 9, 1822. His *Travels in various countries of Europe, Asia and Africa*, sumptuously printed and illustrated, were issued in quarto volumes between 1810 and 1823. I transcribe from Part the second (Greece, Egypt and the Holy Land), Section the first (1812), pp. 308—356, omitting the notes, chiefly references to Dapper, Heyman and other travellers, whose remarks on Cyprus I have already edited for the *Excipita Cypria*.

Dr Clarke visited Cyprus in H. M. frigate *Ceres* between June 6 and 16, 1801. He notes the temperature during his stay as varying between 77 and 85 degrees Fahrenheit.

About six o'clock in the evening of June the third 1801 we made land north-east and by east. It fell to my lot to give the first intelligence of its appearance, being aloft upon the look-out in the phuttock shrouds. Cape Blanco, anciently *Curias* promontory, then hove in view (to use the language of seamen), and soon after the whole island was seen indistinctly looming amidst thick fogs. It appeared very high and mountainous. We had such light breezes and frequent calms, that we did not reach Salines Bay until 3 o'clock p.m. on Saturday the sixth of June. We had coasted the whole island from its western extremity, and so near to the shore that we had a distinct survey of the features of the country. We saw the fortress and town of Baffa, anciently Paphos, backed by high mountains. The coast towards the west much resembles the southern part of the Crimea; the villages and cultivated places being near the shore, and all behind being craggy and mountainous. From Baffa to Limassol near the spot where the ancient city of *Amathus* stood, the coast appears very fertile, and more so than any part of the island that we afterwards visited. Towards the south-western district the country is well covered with forest trees, and particularly the neighbourhood of Baffa. Limassol produces the finest muscadine wine of Cyprus; some of this pours like oil, and may be kept to a great age. The wine called *Commanderia*, is, however, held principally in esteem among the natives.

As we sailed into Salines Bay, anciently that of *Citium*, now called 'Αλίκες, from a cluster of salt lakes near the sea, the town of Salines appeared covered with that white fog, so much dreaded, and so well known in Italy, by the name of *Mal-aria*. The mountains behind the place were partially concealed by this unwholesome vapour. It rose from the shore and buildings like smoke. Whenever this appearance is presented the heat upon the island is excessive. Few of the natives venture out of their houses during mid-day; and all journeys, even those of caravans, are performed in the night; the dews are then neither abundant nor dangerous; in this respect Cyprus differs entirely from Egypt, and from all the neighbouring shores. Its ports are more sultry than any other in the Levant. Salines and the towns situated on the eastern and north-eastern coasts of the island are subject to such dangerous temperature, that, in the months of June and July, persons fall victims to the afflicting malady called a sun-stroke, or *comp de soleil*, if they venture out at noon without the precaution of carrying an umbrella. The inhabitants, especially of the lower order, wrap their heads as if exposed to the rigour of a severe winter; being always covered with a turban over which, in their journeys, they place a thick shawl, many times folded. The great heat experienced upon the eastern coasts of Cyprus is owing to two causes; to the situation of the island with respect to the Syrian, Arabian, and Libyan deserts; and to its mountainous nature, preventing the cooler winds, the west, and north-west, from the low shores to the east and north-east.