

of which churches we shall speak. The monasteries of monks and nuns of S. Benedict, and S. Bernard, of S. Giuliano (Crosachieri, Croisiers, Porte-croix, who carry always a little silver cross in their hand, and are dressed in blue), of the Certosa, and the four mendicant Orders, the church of the knights of the Temple, and of the knights of S. John and many others. Of the Greeks too very many convents of monks and nuns of S. Basil; so that the churches in this city amounted to 250 and perhaps 300.

This city was great, in circumference three leagues or nine miles. It is true it was not quite full, but it had many gardens and large ones. But in 1567 the Signory of Venice wishing to fortify it reduced it to one league or three miles, and left three gates as it had before, and levelled with the ground the two thirds of the city all round, leaving the third part in the middle. Thus were destroyed very many houses and palaces and eighty churches of all kinds, and they reduced the city to the shape you will see on the opposite page.

This city had a citadel which was built by king Jacques I., and in those days when there was no artillery it was strong and well supplied; and within there was nothing but the Royal Court and the Monastery of S. Dominic, and the water flowed round it in the fosses. When the Venetians took the island they destroyed this citadel and the palace and the two drawbridges, and left only the walls, part of which they again pulled down in building the new fortifications.

And the palace, which was partly restored by M. Gabriel Cornaro, was again ruined. However one may still see some traces of that citadel. In the same way they destroyed that royal monastery, to which were attached two cloisters full of oranges and paved with fine marbles, and the church adorned with the grand tombs of the Royal House, and other princes and lords, and on its walls and floor with many fine, broad and large marbles. These Kings were buried there, Ughetto, Ugo, Pietrino, Giacomo, Giano, with their wives and sons and daughters: Princes of Galilee, of Antioch: Louis, son of the king of France, Seneschals, Constables, Admirals and Chamberlains of Jerusalem and Cyprus: Counts, Barons and Lords of Thabaria, Thoron, Saetto, Cesarea, Baruti, Tripoli, Zaffo, di Ruchas, and others. Ten sixteen Archbishops, Bishops and Patriarchs. Then the dormitories, refectory, hospice, paved with marble: it had too the other offices necessary to such a monastery, for in the time of the kings it held eighty monks. Then it had the chamber of the king on one side, and that of the queen on the other, which they visited often. And there died king John and his wife Helena. Joined to it, or rather enclosed in it, was the Patriarchal residence which the Patriarchs of Jerusalem who were of this Order built; but it is now many years since this was destroyed, and by a Patriarch. This is all which was inside the citadel.

In the same city they pulled down also another Latin monastery, which was first tenanted by the monks of S. Bernard, afterwards by the Zoccolanti; so I need not stay to describe it, how fine it was and how solid, when one thinks to what Order it first belonged. They destroyed also another convent of the nuns of S. Thodoro of the same Order; and two belonging to the Greeks, one of monks built by queen Helena, and the other of nuns, the first was called Manchana, the second Palluriotissa. They pulled down too other fine Latin churches and the convent of S. Anna, which was first tenanted by the nuns of S. Benedict, and then abandoned. In all eighty churches, of all sorts and Orders. And they made the city round, as in the plan below, with eleven bastions, all made of mere earth: when the Turks reached it they were not completely furnished with walls, nor were the fosses made (*Fr. v. p. 82 a*). The torrent used to pass through the middle of the city, entering it at one point, and leaving it at three (*Fr. v. p. 144*), and now in fortifying it in 1567 they cut off the stream outside (*p. 56 a*).