

thence in a solemn procession unto the old, to pay their voves and celebrate her solemnities. But her Temples both in the one and in the other (as throughout the whole Iland) were razed to the ground by the procurement of Saint Barnaby. West of this stood Cythera, a little village at this day called Conucha, sacred also unto Venus, and which once did give a name unto Cyprus. That, and not the Iland that lies before Peloponnesus, being meant by this: (Virg. *Æn.* X. 51.)

Mine Amathus, high Paphos, Cythera  
Idalian groves.

The uttermost promontory that stretcheth to the west, with the supereminent mountaine, now called Capo Saint Pifano, bore formerly the name of the Athenian Acamas: East of which stood the Citie of Arsinoe (at this day Lescaire) renowned for the groves of Jupiter.

This Iland boasts of the births of (Escapiades, Solon, Zeno the Stoicke, and author of that sect, Apollonius and Xenophon.

At the first it was so overgrown with wood that besides the infinite waste made thereof in the melting of metals it was decreed that every man should inherite as much as he could make champion. A country abounding with all things necessary for life, and thereof called Macaria, whose wealth allured the Romanes to make a conquest thereof, a prey that more plentifully furnished their coffers then the rest of their triumphs. It affordeth matter to build a ship from the bottome of the keele to the top of her top gallant, and to furnish her with tackling and munition. It produceth oyle, and graine of several sorts, wine that lasteth until the eight yeare; grapes whereof they make raisins of the sunne, citrons, oranges, pomgranats, almonds, figs, saffron, coriander, sugar canes: sundry hearbs as well physicall as for food, turpentine, rubarbe, coloquintida, scammony &c. But the staple commodities are cotton woolles (the best of the Orient) chamolets, salt and sope ashes. They have plentifull mines of brasse, some small store of gold and silver, greene soder, vitrioll, allume, orpiment, white and red lead, iron and diverse kinds of precions stones, of inferiour value, amongst which the emerald and the turky. But it is in the summer exceeding hot and unhealthy, and annoyed with serpents. The brookes (for rivers it hath none) rather merite the name of torrents, being often exhausted by the sunne, insomuch as in the time of Constantine the Great the Iland was for sixe and thirtie yoares together almost utterly abandoned, raine never falling during that season. It was first possessed by the sonnes of Japhet, payed tribute first to the Ægyptian Amasis; then conquered by Belus, and governed by the posteritie of Tencer, untill Cyrus expelled the nine Kings that there ruled. But after the Grecians repessest the soveraigntie, and kept it untill the death of Nicocles, and then continued under the government of the Ptolemeis, till the Romanes tooke it from the last of that name; restored againe to Cleopatra and her sister Arsinoe by Antonius. But he overthrowne, it was made a province of Rome, and with the transmigration of the Empire submitted to the Bizantine Emperours: being ruled by a succession of Dukes for the space of eight hundred yeares, when conquered by our Richard the first, and given in exchange for the titular kingdom of Jerusalem unto Guy of Lusignan, it continued in his familie until the yeare 1473 it was by Catherina Cornelia, a Venetian Lady, the widow to king James the bastard, who had taken the same by strong hand from his sister Carlotte, resigned to the Venetians, who ninetie seven yeares after did lose it to the Infidels, under whose yoke it now groweth. But is for the most part inhabited by Grecians, who have not long since attempted an unfortunate insurrection. Their Ecclesiasticall estate is governed by one Archbishop and three Bishops: the Metropolitan of Nicosia, the Bishops of Fannagosta, Paphus and Amathus, who live upon stipends.