

# THE HISTORY OF CYPRUS



## CHAPTER I

### THE LAND

Soon after the British occupation of Cyprus in 1878, a German archaeologist wrote:

He who would become and remain a great power in the East must hold Cyprus in his hand. That this is true, is proved by the history of the world during the last three and a half millennia, from the time of Thutmes III of Egypt to the days of Queen Victoria.<sup>1</sup>

Since he wrote, nothing has happened, on land, on the sea, or in the air, to lessen the force of his words. The historian is reminded of them at every turn, beginning with his realization of the geographical position of the island, which lies towards the N.E. angle of the eastern basin of the Mediterranean, between lat.  $34^{\circ} 34'$  and  $35^{\circ} 42' N.$  and long.  $32^{\circ} 16'$  and  $34^{\circ} 36' E.$  of Greenwich. Asia Minor and Syria can be seen from it with the naked eye, Beirut, Haifa, Port Said and Alexandria are within the sailor's or flier's easy reach.

The third largest island in the Mediterranean (being a good deal smaller than Sicily and Sardinia), it has an area, according to the official figures, of 3584 square miles. It is thus somewhat larger than the two English counties of Norfolk and Suffolk combined.<sup>2</sup> Its greatest length, from W.S.W. to E.N.E. (i.e. from Paphos harbour or C. Drepanum

<sup>1</sup> Gustav Hirschfeld, in the *Deutsche Rundschau*, xxiii, 1880, p. 270.

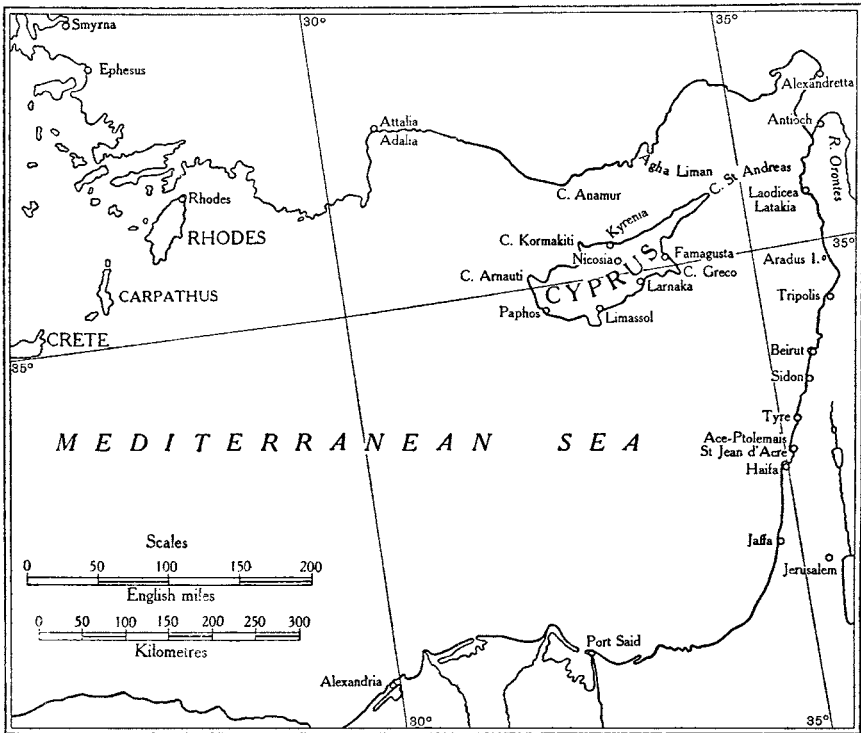
<sup>2</sup> Oberhummer, art. *Kypros* in Pauly-Wissowa, *Real-Encyclopädie*, xii, 1924, 62, makes it 9380 sq. km. (3622 sq. m.). (Norfolk and Suffolk measure about 3560 sq. m., but estimates vary according to the administrative areas included.) The basis of all modern maps is Kitchener's survey (1885). On the geography of Cyprus, in the widest sense, E. Oberhummer's *Die Insel Cypern*, 1 (no more was published), Munich, 1903, is the standard and indispensable work. I refer to it as O.C., and to the article *Kypros*, which gives full references up to date, as O.K.

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to C. St Andreas), is 138 miles; its greatest breadth, from N. to S. (i.e. from C. Kormakiti to C. Gata), 60 miles.

How and when did the island come to be there?<sup>1</sup>



From the point of view of the geologist, it is not very ancient.<sup>2</sup> The oldest rocks, known as the Trypanian series, are attributed to the Cretaceous and early Eocene period. They probably underlie the whole

<sup>1</sup> Pliny (*N.H.* II, 90, 204) thought that Nature made islands by tearing them away from the mainland (cp. Est. de Lusignan, *Chorogr.* fo. 2; Kyprianos, p. 1). This guess, which has been naïvely regarded as based on some lost historical source (Georgiades, *K.K.* p. 1), was fantastically developed by medieval Arab writers (*O.C.* pp. 44, 53 f.; cp. p. 106).

<sup>2</sup> Passing over earlier accounts of the geology, we may mention the following: C. V. Bellamy and A. J. Jukes-Browne, *The Geology of Cyprus*, Plymouth, 1905; 2nd ed. [1927] (Crown Agents for the Colonies); Bellamy, *Geological Map of Cyprus*, 1905; F. R. C. Reed, *Geology of the British Empire*, 1921, pp. 15–20; C. G. Cullis and A. B. Edge, *Report on the Cuprififerous Deposits of Cyprus*, 1922; Cullis, "Sketch of the Geology and Mineral Resources of Cyprus", in *Journ. R. Soc. Arts*, 1924, pp. 624–47; F. R. Cowper Reed, "Contributions to the Geology of Cyprus", in *Geol. Mag.* LXVI, 1929;

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island, and appear as the backbone of the compact limestones and marbles of the Kerynia range along the north coast. Contrary to the old belief, these marbles are both various and admirable, and all the marbles used in the buildings of ancient Cyprus, with one exception, can be matched in the beds of the Kerynia range.<sup>1</sup> These limestones must have formed an ancient land surface during the greater part of the Eocene period, as a result of uplift. Then came a period of subsidence; and in the sea below which the land sank were deposited, first, the products of erosion—the Kythrean sandstones and shales, probably of Oligocene age, which lie disconformably on the Trypanian series, and line the flanks of the Kerynia range, running out along the Karpass peninsula. With the complete submergence of the land and the development of clearer water conditions, a series of chalky limestones and marls were deposited; these comprise the Idalian series, of Miocene age, which overlie the Kythrean in conformable sequence.<sup>2</sup> This Idalian series probably, at one time, covered the whole area of what is now the island. By the time these chalky deposits were being made, the water must have been of moderately great depth. But then followed, towards the end of the Miocene, a period<sup>3</sup> of earth-movement and igneous activity, during which there

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lxvii, 1930; R. Storrs and B. J. O'Brien, *Handbook of Cyprus* [1930], pp. 234–59; J. R. Partington, *Origins and Development of Applied Chemistry*, 1935, pp. 356–69. The account in the text is based on Bellamy and Jukes-Browne, but has been thoroughly revised and largely rewritten with the kind assistance of Mr K. P. Oakley. The geologists do not mention any signs of active vulcanicity within recent times on the island itself, but Stewart (pp. 126 f.) speaks of a hot air vent and a hot spring on Pentadaktylos, phenomena generally associated with the last stage of a volcanic cycle.

<sup>1</sup> It is still held by archaeologists that “all Cypriote marble sculptures are probably made of imported marble” (Westholm, *Temples of Soli*, p. 125). Marble columns at A. Chrysostomos come from a local quarry. That Cyprus produced good marble was noticed long ago by A. Thevet (Cobham, *Exc. Cypr.* p. 179). “These marbles of the Kerynia range represent limestones which have become ‘recrystallized’ through the heat of igneous activity and earth-pressure” (Oakley).

<sup>2</sup> The gypsum of the Idalian series is a valuable economic product, used both for building stone and for plaster of Paris (Cullis, pp. 628 f.). The limestones furnish also abundant flints, still used for the primitive threshing implement or *dhoukani* (*ibid.* p. 630 and R. H. Lang, *Cyprus*, 1878, p. 214). It is incorrect, therefore, to say (J. L. Myres and H. Ohnefalsch-Richter, *Catalogue of the Cyprus Museum*, henceforward referred to as *C.C.M.*, p. 13) that Cyprus contains no flint. Umber (*terra d’ombra*) is another important Idalian product.

<sup>3</sup> Not necessarily the first in the history of the land; one, for instance, seems to have preceded the deposition of the Kythrean sandstones, which are partly composed of volcanic material (Cowper Reed, *Geol. Mag.* LXVI, p. 446).

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was uplift and folding of the sediments, accompanied by the intrusion of dyke-rocks and the extrusion of basaltic lavas. Mountain ranges originated at this time; in the north the Kerynia range, which contains igneous intrusions here and there among the limestones and marbles already mentioned; in the south and west the great massif of Troödos, which is largely composed of intrusive and volcanic rocks. Cyprus must at this time have been part of Asia, the Kerynia range and Troödos, with the plain between them, being continuous with Mts Amanus and Casius and the Lower Orontes valley. During the later part of the Pliocene period the land sank again, but not so deep as before; the sea covered the plain, but the heights of Troödos and the Kerynia range appeared as islands. The best of the notably fine building stones of Cyprus are from the shelly limestones of the Pliocene and Pleistocene deposits.

A new movement of elevation, or fall in sea-level, at the beginning of Pleistocene times, brought Cyprus to the surface again. It seems probable that connexion with the mainland existed in the direction of the Gulf of Alexandretta. The vertebrates found in the cave-breccias of the island presumably made their way from the mainland by this connexion. From the high points of the mountains came floods which began the carving out of the deep valleys which form so picturesque a feature of the present landscape. The washings which they brought down, deposited on the lower levels (sometimes to a depth of seven metres), gave to portions of the central plain its present great fertility. A final subsidence relative to sea-level left the island within its present limits, more or less. It has been suggested, somewhat hazardously, that this subsidence, or some phase of it, is still celebrated by the annual Whitmonday festival of the Kataklysmos.<sup>1</sup> Raised beaches round the island testify to intermittent changes in sea-level since the main subsidence.

Such is the position and general lay-out of the land. Its geographical relation to the mainland (the advantages and disadvantages of which will become apparent as this history proceeds) may now be more precisely defined. The outstretched finger of the Karpass points significantly to Syria, with which the history which we are going to read has always been so intimately bound up. The north coast of the island is generally

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<sup>1</sup> Bellamy and Jukes-Browne,<sup>2</sup> p. 56. The festival seems to be connected with the cult of Aphrodite. Ohnefalsch-Richter, *Kypros, die Bibel und Homer* (henceforward referred to as *K.B.H.*), p. 343; also M. H. Ohnefalsch-Richter, *Sitten und Gebräuche auf Cypern*, 1913, pp. 96 ff.

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described as being forty miles from that of Cilicia (but that is between nearest points). Cilicia is indeed generally visible, and on clear days so are the summits of Taurus, some eighty miles away. From the extreme eastern point of the island to Syria it is less than seventy miles, and on clear days from certain heights, for instance, from Stavrovouni, Lebanon is discernible. With favouring winds the sailor can reach Syria in a day. On the other hand, Egypt is much farther off. From Larnaka to Port Said is more than 260 miles; so that relations with Egypt naturally did not begin so early as with Anatolia and Syria.<sup>1</sup>

The two mountain ranges already mentioned, with a broad plain between them, characterize the relief. Of the two ranges the northern, with its jagged outline, is particularly impressive. It runs, at a distance of some three miles from the shore, for about sixty miles, from above Lapithos on the west to Kantara Castle on the east, from which point it falls away along the Karpass peninsula. For want of a name of its own it is known as the Kerynia range. Its heights shelter the plain from the north, taking much of the moisture from the winds which blow from Anatolia. Its highest peak,<sup>2</sup> Kyparissovouno, above Larnaka tis Lapithou, measures 3357 ft.; but its most striking summit is "Five Fingers", Pentadaktylos (2430 ft.). The castles of St Hilarion, Buffavento and Kantara (Pl. XV) stand romantically on peaks of 2380, 3131 and 2068 ft. respectively. These sites, chosen doubtless for strategic reasons, command wide and wonderful views over the sea and in other directions. The chief pass from the plain to the sea through this range is on the modern road from Nicosia to Kerynia (1250 ft.); another road runs north from Leukoniko, over a low pass (850 ft.) under the western flank of Mt Olymbos, providing the quickest access to the north coast from Salamis and accounting for the many ancient settlements in the neighbourhood

<sup>1</sup> A number of actual distances, compared with ancient calculations, are given in O.C. pp. 95-6. Some of them differ slightly from the following (true to about  $\frac{1}{2}$  m.), which I owe to the kindness of the Curator of Maps of the Royal Geographical Society: C. Kormakiti to C. Anamur, 43 m.; Kerynia to Agha Liman, 75 m.; C. St Andreas to Mouth of Orontes, 83 m.; the same to Latakia, 76 m. (to Minat-al-Baidha about the same); Famagusta to Mouth of Orontes, 132 m.; Larnaka to Beirut, 127 m.; the same to Port Said, 264 m. These figures have been converted from the nautical mileage shown on the Admiralty Chart. See also Schaeffer, *Miss.* pp. 1 f., for distances between the island and the Syrian coast.

<sup>2</sup> These heights are taken from the Survey of 1932; they differ from those given in the latest edition of the *Handbook* (1930).

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of Akanthou,<sup>1</sup> while the western end of the range is turned by the road from Nicosia through Myrtou to Lapithos.

It would be natural to identify the Mt Olymbos just mentioned with the Olympus, of which Strabo says: "the mountain ridge is called Olympus, and has a temple of Aphrodite Akraia, which women are not allowed to enter or see". But there is general agreement to place the ancient Mt Olympus at the extremity instead of at the root of the Karpass. Strabo's account of this part of the island is, however, by no means satisfactory.<sup>2</sup>

The narrow strip of land between the range and the sea is very fertile, and, with its romantic mountain background, this is perhaps the most attractive region in the island. Places such as Lapithos and Karavas have fine springs of fresh water. The finest of all the springs in the island, however, issues from the southern flank of Pentadaktylos, appearing at Kythrea. It now feeds a multitude of local mills; but its waters once, by means of an aqueduct, supplied the needs of Salamis, some twenty-three miles distant. The source from which this and other springs derive is probably local, depending on the rainfall in the Kerynian hills, although the theory that they come from the Anatolian mountains across the sea is not so absurd as some have supposed.<sup>3</sup>

The central plain, commonly but loosely called the Mesaria<sup>4</sup> or Mesarea, consisting mostly of sedimentary limestones, stretches for some

<sup>1</sup> Oberhummer in *Ztschr. d. Ges. f. Erdk.*, Berlin, xxxvii, 1892, p. 449.

<sup>2</sup> The application of the name Olymbos to the peak above Akanthou may, as Hogarth says, not be old (*Devia Cypria*, p. 83, n. 2); on the other hand, so dignified a name as Olympus seems unsuitable to the hillock to which modern writers attach it. On the name Olympus in general, see E. Oberhummer in *Anz. Akad. Wiss. Wien*, lxxiv, 1937, pp. 92 ff.

<sup>3</sup> Sir Samuel Baker, for instance (*Cyprus as I saw it*, 1879, p. 76), scouts the idea (which is local tradition) as "simple nonsense". But it is seriously suggested by Unger, p. 70; cp. O.C. p. 227, who dissents. On the water supply, see C. Reid, *Report on the Water-Supply of the Island of Cyprus*, Foreign Office, 1908; R. Oakden, *Report on the Finances and Economic Resources of Cyprus*, Crown Agents, 1935, pp. 133 ff.; and C. Raeburn, Gov. of Cyprus *Progress Report for 1937, Water Supply in Cyprus*, Nicosia, 1938, where the reasons for supposing the source to be local are stated, the chief being the variation with the rainfall and the lack of mineralization, which would have been present had the water gone to a great depth on its way from the source.

<sup>4</sup> Commonly written Mesaoria, or the like, from the idea that it means the space between the mountains (so, e.g., Est. de Lusignan, *Descr. fo. 7 v<sup>o</sup>*). It has been suggested that the word is of Frankish origin (*massaria*), and has been extended from the cultivated estates to the plain as a whole (O.K. 64). This is disputed by Chatzidaki

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sixty miles from Morphou Bay on the west to Famagusta Bay on the east. Remains of the harder rocks, which have mostly been eroded, form here and there striking “table-mountains”, which were sometimes used for early settlements. The most notable of these are at Leondari Vouno, south-east of Nicosia, and C. Greco (Pedalium). The plain is now treeless (save for modern planting), but the soil, as already noted, is very fertile, producing in most seasons fine crops of grain.<sup>1</sup> The general aspect is arid, except in spring, when it is clad in the green of the young crops and a wonderful garment of flowers. But in old times (by which Eratosthenes, our informant, probably means the period of the earlier Greek settlers) the plains were so heavily wooded and covered with bush that agriculture was impossible. The growth was to some degree kept down by cutting timber, partly for smelting the copper and silver ore from the mines, partly for shipbuilding; but, this being of little avail, leave was given, to whoso wished and was able, to clear and keep the land as his own property free of taxation.

The two larger streams of the Mesarea, the Pedia (ancient Pediaeus) and the Yialias,<sup>2</sup> both rising in the eastern portion of the Troödos massif, flow, the former past Nicosia, the latter past Dali (Idalium), to the bay of Salamis. They have little water except in flood-time (and then too much). Another stream, with its many tributaries, drains the western part of the plain and flows into Morphou Bay. Its ancient name is uncertain; but it may have been Satrachus.<sup>3</sup>

Some short streams which, descending from Mt Troödos, water the southern strip of coastland, may be mentioned, e.g. the Kouris (ancient Lycus) issuing near Curium (Episkopi); and the Diarrhizos, which

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(*Ἀθηνᾶ*, vi, 1894, pp. 3–64), who connects it with *μεσόρις* = *μέσος*. Strictly speaking it means only the eastern portion of the plain (*O.C.* pp. 160 f.).

<sup>1</sup> On the fruitfulness of Cyprus, and testimonies thereto from antiquity onwards, see *O.C.* pp. 270 ff. Cyprus, says Ammianus Marcellinus (xiv, 8. 14), was so rich in natural resources that without any external supplies it could build a ship and send it to sea fully equipped from truck to keelson. Not all the central plain is fertile; see *O.C.* p. 163.

<sup>2</sup> Yialias is said (*O.C.* p. 166) to derive its name from Idalium, and Mas Latrie (*M.L.H.* i, p. 60) actually gives an alternative modern name of the river as Idalia. But, if so, why did not Idalium become Yiali?

<sup>3</sup> Nonnus (*Dion.* xiii, 420) places the Satrachus near Paphos, in which case it must be the Diarrhizos (see next note). Ross (*Journey to Cyprus*, tr. C. D. Cobham, Nicosia, 1910, p. 71) identifies the Satrachus with the Dali river, but has not found many to follow him.

issues by Kouklia, the site of Old Paphos.<sup>1</sup> The Basilopotamos, Basileus, or Great River (Vasilopotamo, Vasilikos), issuing by Mari, is associated with the landing of St Helena. Some have identified it with the Tetios of Ptolemy, though that name is claimed also for the insignificant brook which flows past Arpera and Kiti.<sup>2</sup>

Mt Troödos (Trogodos in antiquity) and its foothills occupy the greater part of the southern and western portion of the island, the thousand feet contour on the south and west being seldom more than four miles from the coast. Its core of igneous rocks is surrounded by a girdle of tertiary limestones and marls. Its highest point, Chionistra,<sup>3</sup> measures 6403 ft., and was from antiquity a sanctuary; in the Middle Ages a chapel of St Michael stood there. On the heights the snow lies late into spring. At the place Troödos itself, at 5600 ft., there is now the summer station of the Government, and the mountain is rapidly becoming popular as a summer resort from Egypt and Palestine. It is tempting to identify Chionistra with Strabo's second Mt Olympus, "the breast-shaped", as is commonly done. But Stavrovouni, an isolated peak far to the east, though only 2258 ft. high, is so striking in its contour, that its claim to the name Olympus has been strongly urged.<sup>4</sup>

It is in the foothills of the Troödos range that copper, the most important product of the island, was mined in antiquity, especially along the coast district from Marium to Soli, and also on the north-east slope

<sup>1</sup> By some identified with the Bocaros, but on insufficient evidence. See M.R. James in *J.H.S.* ix, 1888, pp. 182–3. The reading *Bo-ka-ro-se* on the coins is not certain, nor is the attribution of the coins to Paphos: *B.M.C. Cyprus*, pp. lxiv f.

<sup>2</sup> *O.C.* p. 157.

<sup>3</sup> Kionia (4659 ft.), above the monastery Machaeras, is probably the ancient Αἰών: *O.C.* p. 154.

<sup>4</sup> Much confusion reigns about the two mountains Olympus. Cotovicus, for instance (*Itin. Hier.* 1619, Cobham, *Exc. Cypr.* p. 195), Est. de Lusignan (*Chorogr.* fo. 5, 5v<sup>o</sup>) and Archbishop Constantius in 1776 (Κυπριός χαρίεσσα in Περιγραφή τῆς Μονῆς τοῦ Κύκκου, 1819, p. 135; tr. in Cobham, p. 312; Gunnis, *Historic Cyprus*, p. 447) mix up the two passages of Strabo, and confound the Olympus, which had the temple of Aphroditē Akraia, with that of Mt Troödos. Strabo's words about the latter, after speaking of Citium, are (xiv, 6. 3): "then (comes) the city of Amathus, and between (them) a small town called Palaea and a breast-shaped mountain Olympus; then Curias (a foreland) of peninsular shape". Thus Olympus from the sea would be seen between Citium and Amathus; and this points to Stavrovouni rather than to any peak of the main mass of Troödos. On the identification see also Menardos, *Τοπωνυμικόν* ('Αθηνᾶ, xviii, 1906), p. 325; Hackett, *Hist. of the Orthodox Church of Cyprus*, 1901, p. 440.



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at Tamassus,<sup>1</sup> the Homeric Temese, now probably at Politiko. Near Marium (Polis tis Chrysochou), at Limni-Pelathousa, and near Leuka, at Skouriotissa and Mavrovouni, copper is being worked by modern enterprise.<sup>2</sup> Nearly all the modern copper-mining leases and prospecting permits are on the extreme edges of the igneous area.

In antiquity, long before the Roman period, indeed as early as the second millennium, copper was exported from this region, both in the form of ore and in ingots of more or less refined metal. Ore and scoriae of the same composition as those found at Skouriotissa have been found not only at Enkomi in Cyprus itself, but at Ras Shamra on the Syrian coast, in deposits of the fourteenth and thirteenth centuries.<sup>3</sup> And we shall see that copper, both unrefined and refined, was sent to Egypt from Asy, which may be Cyprus, in the time of Thutmose III.

There is some uncertainty about the extent to which iron was mined in Cyprus in antiquity, although ore in the form of pyrites occurs in considerable quantities in the rocks of Troödos.<sup>4</sup> Gold, which according

<sup>1</sup> In *Od.* i, 184, Athena, in the guise of Mentès, pretends to be voyaging ἐς Τεμέστην μετὰ χαλκόν, taking iron to exchange. But many maintain (most recently O. Davies in *B.S.A.* xxx, 1932, p. 81) that this is Temesa in Bruttium, and ancient writers were divided on the question. I think that the balance of evidence seems in favour of the Cypriote place. See *O.C.* p. 176, and Oberhummer's art. *Tamassos* in *R.E.* iv A, 1932, 2095; also Philipp, art. *Temesa*, *ibid.* v A, 1934, 495. Davies is concerned (though he fails) to prove that Cyprus copper was not mined until the very end of the Bronze Age; but Homer is not evidence for so early a date and need not count against his main thesis, even if the Temese of the *Odyssey* is in Cyprus. Myres (*Who were the Greeks?* p. 438) probably exaggerates the wealth of Cyprus in iron when he says that for Mentès to take iron to Cyprus was carrying coals to Newcastle, and therefore Temese cannot be Tamassus. See below, n. 4.

<sup>2</sup> Details in *Hdb.* pp. 251 ff. See also Cullis and Edge (above, p. 2, n. 2); T. A. Rickard, "A Journey to Cyprus", in *Univ. of California Chron.* xxxii, 1930, pp. 423 ff., and "Copper Mining in Cyprus", in *Bulletin* 306, March 1930, of Institution of Mining and Metallurgy; O. Davies, "Copper Mines of Cyprus", in *B.S.A.* xxx, 1932, pp. 74-85; Schaeffer, *Missions en Chypre* (henceforward referred to as *Miss.*), pp. 94-101.

<sup>3</sup> Schaeffer, *Miss.* pp. 95-101.

<sup>4</sup> Bellamy and Jukes-Browne,<sup>2</sup> p. 63; *O.C.* p. 184; *C.C.M.* p. 22 ("Cyprus has considerable masses of iron ore of fair quality, and there is evidence that they were discovered and worked as soon as the knowledge of the metal extended"). Georgiades (*K.K.* p. 13) reports an ancient iron-mine near Asproyia. A legend associated the Telchines, the first workers in iron and copper, with Cyprus, which they inhabited after leaving Crete on their way to Rhodes (Strabo, xiv, 2, 7, p. 654; Nicol. Damasc. fr. 116, *F.H.G.* iii, p. 459; cp. Paus. ix, 19, 1). Engel, i, p. 198, thinks the route was the other way about. In any case, it is a long way round; and it is to be suspected that

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to a fragment of Pseudo-Aristotle was found on Mt Boucasa in the Troödos range,<sup>1</sup> is once more being produced in the island in small but payable quantity. Silver, as we have already seen from Eratosthenes, was also anciently mined, and this may account for the large issues of silver coinage in the Ptolemaic age.<sup>2</sup>

Next in importance to copper now seems to be the short-fibred asbestos (Greek *amíantos*) which was mined in antiquity, and is now extensively worked at Amiandos, a few miles east of Troödos.

The trees of the highlands and foothills are most commonly the Aleppo pine and the black pine; the once famous cedars have almost disappeared.<sup>3</sup> In antiquity, Cyprus was one of the chief sources of ship-building timber in the eastern Mediterranean.<sup>4</sup> There are also cypresses and an evergreen oak endemic in the island (*Quercus alnifolia Cypria*). The all-useful carob is largely cultivated and its bean exported—this is indeed now the most important export crop. The stately eucalyptus trees were first planted since the British occupation; but the attempts at re-forestation have had disappointing results,<sup>5</sup> mainly because of the

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Cyprus has been dragged in, because it was assumed that the earliest metal-workers must have had a home in the island which was so early a source of copper. Cp., for the Dactyls, ch. v, p. 86, n. 2.

<sup>1</sup> Boucasa is conjecturally identified with the hill Phoukasa to the north of Troödos (Sykutris in *Κυπρ. Χρον.* I, 1923, p. 340). For traditions concerning ancient gold production in Cyprus, see Est. de Lusignan, *Chorogr. fo.* 14 v<sup>o</sup> (Tamassus), and 87; O.C. p. 183.

<sup>2</sup> In Hudūd al-‘Ālam, *The Regions of the World*, tr. V. Minorsky, 1937, p. 59, Cyprus is described as having mines of silver, copper and plasma (*dahanj*). This work was compiled in 982/3.

<sup>3</sup> O.C. p. 44, quotes from Eutychius how Thomas, Patriarch of Jerusalem († about 821), took advantage of the absence of the Moslems to cut fifty cedars and have them brought to Jerusalem.

<sup>4</sup> The legend of Semiramis told that she had shipwrights from Phoenicia, Syria and Cyprus to build her river-ships (Diod. Sic. II, 16. 6). The invention of the *kerkouros* was attributed to Cyprus (Plin. *N.H.* VII, 209). But the references in Assyrian texts (O.C. pp. 6, 8) and in Ezekiel (xxvii, 6) seem to be to fine woods, not ship timber. However, in the latter passage, G. A. Cooke (*Crit. and Exeg. Comm. on the Book of Ezekiel*, p. 297) regards ivory as an intrusion, and translates “thy boards they fashioned of ‘pines’ from the isles of Kittim”. The traditional rendering *box tree* is unsuitable here; *box-wood* might be inlaid with ivory for small ornamental articles, but if *ivory* goes out as an intrusion, there is no reason to keep the traditional *box-wood*, which could not be used for shipbuilding.

<sup>5</sup> On the forest problems, see A. H. Unwin in *Great Britain and the East*, Cyprus Supp. 4 Feb. 1937, pp. 12 f. Sir Arthur Evans informs me that recent enquiries throw