

Two Seventeenth-Century Dutch Traveller Accounts of Famagusta

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In the so-called seventeenth-century 'Golden age' of the Netherlands there were many Dutch travellers publishing exhaustive material on Cyprus. This paper focuses on two such authors: One is Olfert Dapper, who left to us a ten-volume encyclopaedic work on world history and geography, including a volume devoted to the Aegean and mediterranean islands. The other traveller is the famous Cornelis de Bruyn, who travelled the Levant for seventeen years and published his accounts in a prestigious book entitled *Reizen van Cornelis de Bruyn ...* in 1698. Both books have long chapters on Cyprus, and have been translated into many languages.

Besides the detailed description, both accounts include engravings of Cyprus and Famagusta. Dapper in his book writes seventy-three pages about Cyprus and presents a large map and illustrations of Famagusta. De Bruyn devotes thirteen pages to Cyprus with five illustrations. In my paper, I will discuss these accounts and illustrations and compare them to the contemporary Ottoman accounts and descriptions of Famagusta.