

Cornelis de Bruyn's Copperplate and his Fear of 'Turning Turks' in Seventeenth-Century Famagusta

Michael Walsh

A copperplate engraving of Famagusta reproduced in Cornelis de Bruyn's *Reizen van Cornelis de Bruyn door de vermaardste Deelen van Klein Asia* (Delft, 1698) may at first glance seem unremarkable. Upon further investigation, however, it raises some key questions about the Ottoman port of Famagusta in the seventeenth century, its relations with the 'west', and the state of its historic structures before the great earthquake of 1735. The artist's own written description, read contrapuntally with the image, is priceless too in relation to the European fear of 'turning Turks' in this martyred realm.