

## XV

### LÀGOSTA, MELEDA, CANNOSA

LÀGOSTA (the *Λάστοβον* of Constantine) lies about eight miles due south of Curzola. It is not likely that the traveller will visit this "remote Bermuda" of the Dalmatian archipelago; it offers no architectural attractions, its flora is much like that of its neighbours, Lesina, Lissa and Curzola. The island is rich in carobian beans, the *Johannisbrotbaum* of the Germans, because St. John's food was "locust and wild honey". But how did it get the name "locust"? Did the island give its name to the bean? Does the English word "locust = the carobian bean" come from Làgosta? However that may be, the *Lago grande* is full of fish and of *écrevisses*, and the population of about 1200 inhabitants is almost entirely devoted to fishing. But they were not always thus peacefully employed. Làgosta swims into history as one of the