

try, returned in one ship of five with which he went out, bringing back cloves that are much better than common; and of his other ships in five years no news has been heard. They are supposed to be lost. What our captain brought, he does not mention in his letter, except a young man of those countries made captive, but it is believed that he has brought a specimen of gold, in that region of no value, of drugs and other aromatic liquors, to confer with many merchants here, after having been in the presence of his Most Serene Majesty, where he should be at this hour; and from there to come here soon, for he is much desired for his conversation, the more because he will see his Majesty, our Sire, who is expecting to arrive within three or four days;* and we hope that his Majesty will once more give him half a dozen good vessels to make the voyage again. And if our Francisco Carli shall have returned from Cairo, be assured he will adventure himself with him on said voyage, and I believe they knew each other at Cairo, where he was some years since and not only in Egypt and Syria [Syria] but nearly throughout the known world; and therefore on account of his merit, he is esteemed another Amerigo Vespucci, another Ferrando Magalhiana and even more; and we hope that by providing himself with other good ships and vessels well built and victualled as requisite, he will find some profitable traffic and business; and he will do, our Lord sending him life, honor to our country by acquiring immortal fame and memory. And Alderotto Brunelleschi, who went with him, and unfortunately turned back, unwilling to follow him farther, when he there hears of it will not be well pleased. Nothing else now occurs to me; since by others I have advised you of what is doing. I commend myself to you continually, praying you to mention me to our friends, not forgetting Pierfrancesco Dagghiano,† who being a studious person does not idle much time, and to him recommend me; also to Rustichi, who will not be displeased (if he should take delight as formerly) in hearing of matters concerning cosmography. May God guard you from all evil.

Your Son,

FERNANDO CARLI,
in Lyons.

* See also, Doc. Ined., vol. 23.

† Perhaps Gagliano.