

most fascinating periods of history. Excavators have uncovered great palaces, also a wealth of weapons, tools, pottery, statuettes and other objects. Pictures of bull-fights, festal processions, dense crowds, as well as acrobatic performances show us what a highly developed civilization these people enjoyed.

From the dawn of history to the present, most of the people inhabiting the Ægean islands have been of this ancient Mediterranean race. Intermixtures, however, have occurred with Greeks and later conquerors. From the Roman conquest of the Mediterranean almost down to our own times, the islands have worn the yoke of foreign domination. When Greece at last shook off Turkish domination (1821-1830), many of the islands were joined to the new Hellenic kingdom. Nearly a century later the Balkan wars and the World War of 1914-18 restored most of the remainder to Greek rule.

**ÆNEAS** (*ē-nē'ās*). According to the stories which the old Romans loved to tell, their imperial City of the Seven Hills was settled by men descended from the heroes of lofty-towered Troy. Æneas, son of Anchises and the goddess Aphrodite (Venus), was the leader under whom this little band of Trojans reached Italy and settled on the plain of Latium.

Æneas, according to the story, was the bravest of all the Trojans after Hector. When Troy was conquered and burned, he escaped from the city with old Anchises on his shoulders and leading his young son by the hand. For seven years he and his companions wandered over the Mediterranean in their swift-oared ships.

Near Carthage on the African coast Æneas was wrecked, and the Carthaginian queen Dido loved him and begged him to stay. But the gods sent him wandering again, and Dido killed herself for grief.

After further wanderings Æneas came at last to Latium, a land in central Italy, whose king

welcomed him and gave him his daughter in marriage. For years, so the story goes, Æneas reigned happily over the united Trojans and Latins. Then in battle with the Etruscans he vanished; and his subjects, failing to find his body, believed that he had been carried to heaven, and worshipped him as a god.

#### A VALIANT DEFENDER OF TROY



It is related that after Greece had conquered Troy, Æneas escaped with his father and son. Here the hero is seen carrying his father, who is receiving the household gods from Creusa, his daughter-in-law.

the unfavorable winds—the north, south, and east—safely confined in an ox-hide bag.

With the west wind blowing steadily, and the other winds safely imprisoned, Odysseus' ship flew swiftly homeward. But on the tenth day the sailors, believing a treasure was in the bag, opened it while Odysseus slept. The released winds then blew the ship back to the island. There Æolus, angry at the abuse of his kindness, refused the ship further aid.

From Æolus is named the Æolian harp, a musical instrument made by stretching catgut strings or wires over a thin sounding box, the strings being tuned as in a violin. When placed in a partially closed window, where there is a draught of air, the passing of the wind over its strings produces strange and melancholy musical sounds, varying with the rise and fall of the breeze.

Æneas is the hero of the most famous epic in Latin, the "Æneid" of Virgil. There he is frequently called "the pious Æneas" because of his loyalty and devotion to his father Anchises.

**ÆOLUS** (*ē'ō-lūs*). In a wonderful island in the western Mediterranean Sea dwelt the ruler of the winds, the god Æolus, son of Poseidon (Neptune). With him lived Boreas, the god of the fierce north wind; Notus, the south wind that brought fogs and rain; Eurus, the bleak east wind; and Zephyrus, the gentle wind from the west.

Once Odysseus (Ulysses) touched at the island in the course of his wandering return from Troy; and Æolus, wishing to hasten Odysseus' return home, gave him all