

sand miles. And the king of it hath subject to himself seven crowned kings. Now this island is populous exceedingly, and is the second best of all islands that exist. For in it grow camphor, cubebs, cardamoms,¹ nutmegs, and many

imaginings of these old travellers would have seen almost similar golden glories in the palaces and monasteries of Amarapura as they have existed in our own day; and the walls and corridors sculptured in relief with court-scenes and battle-scenes, are precisely what we do find, on a vastly extensive scale, in the galleries of the great Buddhistic monument Boro Bodor, completed, according to Crawford, about twenty years after our traveller's visit to the island. That the bas-reliefs of Boro Bodor were gilt, or were intended to be gilt, I have not the slightest doubt. I do not remember whether the halo or glory round sacred heads, to which Odoric refers, is to be found round those sculptures; but it is essentially a Buddhist feature. Burnes mentions it on the paintings behind the great idols at Bamian; and I have seen examples of figures so glorified in some of the ancient temples at Pagàn on the Irawadi, which were very striking from their resemblance to Byzantine Apostles. (*Lassen* iv, 482; *Walckenaer, Sur la chronologie, etc. des Javanais* in *Mem. Acad. Inscript.* 1842, xv, 224; *Gaubil, H. de Gentchis Can, etc.*, pp. 217-219). As to golden palaces, however, see Polybius's account of that at Ecbatana, quoted by Rawlinson (*Herodotus* i, p. 194).

¹ The word here translated cardamoms is *Melegetæ*, for which no other concise rendering seems practicable. One Italian dictionary indeed (*Vocab. Universale Italiano*) does give *cardamomo* as the explanation of *Melegghette*; whilst Ducange gives nothing more precise than *floris species*, quoting this passage from Odoric, and another from Rolandus Patavinus out of Muratori, in which last *Meleghetæ* are coupled with camphor, cummin, cloves, and cardamoms. This, therefore, shows that the two were not properly identical. In two passages also of Peglotti, I find *cardamoni* and *melegghette* mentioned at short intervals, as if they were different spices. And in the book of G. da Uzzano (*Della Decima* iv) *Melegghette* and *Meleagghette* appear repeatedly, and as distinct from cardamoms. In yet another passage of Pegolotti we have "*melegghette o vuoi ti dire Noci sarche o in grano o in polvere che fussero*," which might settle what was meant by *melegghette* in the 14th century, if one could only tell what *noci sarche* may be!

In later times the name has been applied (*Mellighetta, Malagueta, Manighetta*) sometimes to two kindred species of amomum exported from different parts of the West African coast (*Am. Granum Paradasi* and *Am. Melegueta*), and sometimes to a quite different article, the seeds of the *Unona Ethiopica* or Ethiopic Pepper. It appears to be one of the former which Gerarde and Mattioli describe as the greater cardamoms or *meleggette*, for Gerarde states they were said to come from "Ginny," and were called in England "Graines of Paradise." The author of the article *Mellighetta* in Rees's Cyclopædia however asserts that the *Cardamomum*