

WINE & CLOVES & GOLD OF THE RIVER BRIUS  $\neq$  MARCO POLO  
 in great abundance. They have no wine of the vine, but they make wine of wheat  
 Z VB and of rice with many spices *mixed together*, and it is a very *clear and fragrant and*  
 VB VB *pleasant and good drink*. And cloves enough grow in this province. For it is a small  
 VB longer and more narrow. *The said leaves of cloves look something like leaves of a laurel tree,*  
 FB L *which leaves we call folio*. The flower it makes white and small as is seen in the clove,  
 VB R *and when it is ripe it is dusky black*. They have ginger also growing there in abundance,  
 Z L L and cinnamon as well and many other good spices enough *unknown to us*, which never  
 come into our country, and therefore need not be mentioned. Now we will leave  
 FB you this city<sup>2</sup> of which indeed we have told you what was necessary, and we will  
 Z Z tell you of the same country of Gaindu henceforward. And when one sets out from  
 FB this city of Gaindu and one rides quite ten<sup>3</sup> days journeys to the borders of the province,  
 R VA R he finds *always cities and villages and hamlets enough*. The people are of those same  
 Z *manners and customs as those of Gaindu* of which I have told you. They have *places*  
 Z of hunting of birds and of beasts enough. And when one is gone these *said ten days*  
 Z VA Z journeys then one finds a great river which is called Brius, at which the province  
 FB FB of Gaindu is ended. And in this river is found great quantity of gold dust. There  
 FB FB is also cinnamon enough *on this river; and this river*, it goes into the Ocean sea.  
 FB FB Now let us leave *speaking to you of this river* where there is nothing which does to  
 FB FB tell, and we shall tell you of [53a] another province which is called Caragian, just  
 FB FB as you shall *be able to hear and understand after this*.

HERE HE TELLS OF THE GREAT PROVINCE OF CARAGIAN. When one has  
 Z H crossed this river *aforsaid* then one finds and enters into the province  
 Z Z of Caragian which is so large and broad that there are *in it* actually seven<sup>4</sup>  
 Z FB *separate kingdoms*. And it is towards sunsetting, and they are idolaters and are subject  
 Z Z to the dominion of the great Kaan. But his son who has Esentemur for name is made

<sup>1</sup> *qe il fait* Z: *que ipsos producis*(sic) VB,R to the same effect; but other texts omit this phrase. The text of VB is: *Ano questi garofali i qualli nascono su picholi arbori i quali ano fronde e foie a modo de Rubage alquanto piui longe e piui strete parono le dite foie de garofali quaxi chomo foie de laurano le qualle foie nui apellemo folio i qual fano el fiore bianco et pichollo chome garofallo et quando e maduro quello e negro foscho* This is not noticed by YULE or B., though R reproduces part of it. Folio (*folio d'India*, etc.) is a Syrian or Indian tree of which the leaves produced the ointment malabathrum, the tree being variously called *malabathrum*, *folium*, or *laurus cassia* (*Vocab. della Crusca* s.v.).

<sup>2</sup> FA,FB,LT: "province" TA: *contrata* Others, "city" or omit.

<sup>3</sup> Z,R: "fifteen" Others "ten"

<sup>4</sup> VB: *viiij* VA: *zinque*