

Shortly after this the Portuguese were driven out of Ternate by the Rajah of that island, and took up their quarters at Tidore, for when Drake arrived at the Moluccas in 1579, there were no Portuguese at Ternate; consequently Drake anchored off that island, and traded with the King, carefully avoiding the Portuguese.

In 1599 the Dutch admiral Van Warwyck established intercourse with, and a factory on, Ternate Island; it was, in fact, in this year that the Dutch first began to trade with the Spice Islands,<sup>1</sup> and very soon quarrels arose between them and the Portuguese, so that the Dutch resolved if possible to drive the Portuguese from the Moluccas, and reap for themselves the benefit of the spice trade, and in the year 1603, twelve ships under the command of Stephen Verbayen left Holland for this purpose. After capturing Amboina the fleet divided, five ships being sent to Tidore, and the others to Banda. Arriving at Tidore on the 2nd May 1605, the Dutch summoned the Portuguese to yield on the 5th, and a spirited contest took place between the ships and the fort; but the magazine in the fort blowing up, and killing sixty or seventy men, the Portuguese surrendered. The Dutch were assisted in this action by the Rajah of Ternate.

The early period of the Dutch history consists of an account of their commercial transactions, their wars with the Spaniards, and their aggressions upon the natives. In the beginning of 1606, the garrisons at Ternate and Tidore were overpowered by the Spaniards under Pedro de Acuña, and it was not until ten years later that the Dutch recovered their ascendancy in these islands, at which time they had the dexterity to inveigle the greater number of the Rajahs into treaties, conferring upon themselves the exclusive right of buying cloves. These treaties, imperfectly understood by the Molucca Islanders, led to wars which desolated their country, with little interruption, to the year 1681, when, enfeebled and broken spirited by their ineffectual efforts, they submitted to the rule of the Dutch, who have since remained in possession of this fertile group.

As stated above, the island of Ternate is a volcanic cone, the summit of which rises to a height of 5600 feet above the level of the sea. There have been, during the Dutch occupation, no fewer than fourteen different important eruptions, beginning with the year 1608. In the eruption of 1840, the earthquakes lasted from the 2nd to the 15th February, with intervals of a few hours only. The inhabitants fled to the beach, or took to their boats. Every stone building in the town was overthrown, and the people were on the point of abandoning the island altogether, until ordered to remain by the supreme Government at Batavia. It is singular that no earthquake wave accompanied this earthquake.

The members of the Expedition were fortunate enough to find in the Resident of Ternate the late distinguished naturalist Mr. S. C. J. van Musschenbroek, who rendered every assistance in his power, and treated them with the greatest kindness and hospitality, even getting up a ball on the shortest notice. The musicians were Malays who were indefatigable, but knew only one tune.

<sup>1</sup> Purchas, pp. 709, 710.