

are now reduced to a state of vassalage, and are but regal slaves, whose pomp and state are maintained by the dollars of the Dutch. The villages close at hand consist of a number of bamboo-built houses, nicely sheltered with cocoa-nut and banana trees, and picturesquely situated on a little projecting point almost surrounded by the bright blue sea.

On my way back to the European quarter I heard the booming of the drum from the large mosque close at hand, calling all the faithful to assemble to return thanks to the Prophet at the close of the departing day. I went into the building, which is a square, pagoda-like structure with several roofs, one above the other, and each being a little smaller than the one beneath it. A wall surrounds the building, inside which was a large well, or pool, where all the faithful performed their ablutions before proceeding into the sanctuary. After getting within the inclosure, an inclined terrace of steps led to the entrance door, where boots had to be removed, and I entered barefooted the sacred precincts amongst the worshippers, who were kneeling in front of a recess, or niche, and a gaily painted and decorated dais, or throne; but I could learn nothing as to the objects in view, and the whole of the religious ceremony appeared to consist of the repetition of a certain number of prayers or passages from the Koran, on the termination of which all seemed to disperse highly pleased. Before we left Ter-