

EAST INDIES.

The following are Extracts from Private Letters, respecting the new British Settlement formed by Sir Stamford Raffles, at Singapore:—

PENANG, *June 18.*—The Indiana, Cornwallis, Mary Anne, and Marchioness of Wellesley, are now at Singapore, where every person was engaged in landing and mounting the heavy ordnance, sent from Penang, for its garrison, consisting of three 24-pounders and twelve 18-pounders, with abundance of ammunition and warlike stores. After this duty had been performed, the ships named were expected to return to Penang with the remainder of the 1st battalion of the 20th, that had been at Bencoolen.

MADRAS, *August 24.*—Extract of a letter from an Officer on board one of the Hon. Company's cruizers in the Eastern Seas:—

“On our way up we called at the new Settlement of Singapore; we found them doing well, and have no doubt of its being a flourishing place before long. The harbour or road is safe, easy of access at all times, and commands the passage through the Straits close to St. John's Island. The landing is good, plenty of fresh water, and a fine plain to build on. When I first visited it with Sir S. Raffles, there were not above 30 Malay-houses; others are rising in all parts just now; and the Malays from various States came to express their satisfaction at again seeing the English amongst them. Batteries were built, and the best arrangements made to give our Java friends a warm reception, should they feel inclined to visit them, which the Malays confidently expected, but without doubt of the issue, having the greatest reliance on Major Farquhar, whom they know by no other name than the Rajah of Malacca, to this day. We were falling much in the opinion of the Malays, until the new Settlement was made; whereas, now, there is nothing like the English in their estimation.”

The natives of Singapore say, that the climate is very salubrious; that there is no sickness peculiar to the island; and that they do not know what sickness is; but they say, indeed, that even in this healthy and beautiful spot, ‘people do sometimes die when they get old!’