

POPULATION.

The first census taken of the population of Singapore was in January 1824 when

it was found to amount to 10,613, having been about five years before inhabited by a few Malay fishermen, or more properly pirates. In 1825 the population was increased to 11,851—in 1826 to 12,905 in 1827 to 13,732, and it has since continued to increase in a commensurate scale. We now publish a comparative statement of the population of the Settlement for the years 1833-34 and 1835-36, no census for the intermediate year having been taken, which shews the present total population to amount to 29,984, exhibiting an increase since the last returns in 1834, of 3,655, of which 3,323 are males, and 332 females. We have had recourse to more detailed official statements than that now published in order to become acquainted with the manner in which this population is distributed throughout the island, and we now proceed to lay before our readers the results of those inquiries. In *the Town* the total number of inhabitants is 16,148, of whom the males are 12,748 and the females 3,400—the division called by this name extends to the *Rocho river* on the eastward, and on the westward to Mr. Ryan's hill, and, within these boundaries not going further inward than a line drawn parallel with *Mount Sophia*. In the population which these limits include we find the Chinese by far the most numerous, amounting to 8,233—the Malays next, amounting to 3,617, and then the Klings 2,157, which, with the exception of about 200, comprises the whole Kling population of the Settlement. Javanese, Bengalese, Bugis, and native Christians principally assist to make up the remainder.

The *Country* comprises the whole island beyond the limits of *the Town* and also includes several small circumjacent islands which constitute the *Dependencies* of the Settlement. It is, however, subdivided into two districts, namely, *the district of Singapore Town* and *the district of Kumpong Glam*. The former may be said to comprehend the western half, the latter the eastern half of the Island beyond the town. The population of the western side we find to be altogether 4,184, and includes 2,338 Chinese, of whom 41 only are females, with 1,755 Malays of whom 759 are females; the small remainder being, with a trifling exception, made up of Klings and Bugis. The islands on this side, of which the population is here included, are *Blakan Mati* with *Salat Chingke*; *Flag Island*, *St. John's*, *Pulo Senang* and *Pulo Dammer*. The eastern side of the island is much more numerous peopled, including the islands of *Tekong* and *Ubin*, the total number of inhabitants being 9,652. Of these, 4,288 are Malays of whom 2,050 are females—3,178 Chinese of whom 72 only are females—1,515 Bugis of whom 679 are females—the remainder consists of Javanese, Balinese and a few Bengalees and Klings. The two small islands *Tekong* and *Ubin* make up together a population of 1,901—the Chinese females here mentioned are not of course natives of China, but all of a creole or mixed race, and mostly from the neighbouring island of *Bintang*. Not the least striking feature of this statement is the great relative disproportion of the sexes—and although the total population of the *Town* is considerably greater than that of the country, the number of females is greater in the latter—there being 3,400 for the *Town* and 3,829 for the country—but the relative proportion in favour of the country is of course much greater than the mere contrast of these numbers exhibits.