

**MALAY PENINSULA.**

Outline of Political and Commercial Relations with the Native States on the Eastern and Western Coasts, Malay Peninsula. By T. J. NEWBOLD, Lieut., A. D. C. to Brigadier General WILSON, C. B.

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Note.—It will be convenient to preface, that the subjoined outline follows the geographical order of the States on both coasts of the Peninsula; commencing on the north-west with *Quedah*, and proceeding southwardly down the Straits of *Malacca* to *Point Ramania*—thence turning northerly along the eastern coast up to *Patani*.

The following is the order of the States, with their supposed boundaries and estimate of populations, chiefly derived from native sources in 1835: *Quedah*—from the *Trang* river, in 7° 20' N. to the *Krian*, 5° 10' N. Population 50,000. *Pérah*—from the *Krian* to the *Rangkup*, in about 3° 55' N. Population 35,000.

\* This paper, though rather more of a political nature than is suitable to a Scientific Journal, cannot be refused publication, as it forms the wind-up to the valuable series of notices of the Malacca States already printed in our pages.—Ed. As. Journ.

*Selangore*—from the *Risik* to the *Lingis*, in about 2° 35' N. Population 12,000.

*Malacca*—(British territory) from the *Lingis* to the *Cassang*. Population, (1833-1831,) 34,333.

*Johore*—from the *Cassang* to the *Sedilly*, on the East coast. 2° 15' N. Population 25,000.

*Pahang*—from the *Sedilly* to the *Kenamang* in 4. 15' N. Population 40,000.

*Kenamang*—is situated a mile or two up the river, little or no territory along the coast. Population 1,000.

*Tringann*—from the *Kenamang* to the *Basut*. Population 30,000.

*Calantan*—from the *Basut* to the *Barana*. Population 50,000.

*Patani*—from the *Barana* to *Tana*, in 7° 20' N. Population 54,000.

The Population of *Pinang* in 1833 amounted to 40,322,—that of Province Wellesley to 49,553,—and that of *Singapore*, in 1834, to 26,329.

*Quedah*, *Ligore*, *Patani*, *Merdilous*, *Junk Ceylon*.

—The upper states of the peninsula, viz. *Quedah*, *Ligore*, *Patani*, *Merdilous*, and the island of *Junk Ceylon*, are considered in the treaty concluded by Major BURNBY, with *Siam*, in 1826, as provinces of that empire,—a concession to that arrogant power, scarcely just or politic.

*Quedah*.—Our relations with the latter four states are merely of a commercial nature,—an unrestricted trade with the ports of *Singapore*, *Malacca*, and *Pinang*. With regard to *Quedah*, it is stipulated in the above treaty, that the Siamese shall take proper care of that country and its people, and that they shall remain there: the inhabitants of *Pinang* and *Quedah* enjoying mutual trade and intercourse as before. The Siamese engaged not to levy any duty upon stock and provisions; such as cattle, buffaloes, poultry, fish, paddy, and rice, which the inhabitants of *Pinang*, or ships there, might have occasion to purchase in *Quedah*; and the Siamese should not form the mouths of rivers or any streams in *Quedah*, but should levy fair and proper import and export duties.

The English engaged to the Siamese not only that they would not attack nor disturb *Quedah*, but that they would not permit its deposed sovereign or any of his followers to attack, disturb, or injure in any manner the territory of *Quedah* or any other territory subject to the *Siam*. They also engaged that they would make arrangements for the ex-king of *Quedah* to go and live in some other country\*, and not at *Pinang* or *Prege*, or in *Perak*, *Salangore*, or any Burmese country. In case the ex-king did not remove, the Siamese were at liberty to levy the export duty upon paddy and rice in *Quedah*.

*With Quedah for Pulo-Pinang or Prince-of-Wales Island*.—*Pulo-Pinang* was formally ceded to the British on the 1<sup>st</sup> September, 1786, for the annual sum of 6,000 Spanish dollars, by the father of the present ex-king of *Quedah*, through the agency of Mr. LIGHT, to whom it had been presented the preceding year as a marriage portion with the Malay king's daughter.

In 1821, Sir G. BOCKLETT, then Resident, arranged that the English Company should pay annually to His Majesty of *Puris* and *Quedah* 10,000 Spanish dollars, as long as the English should continue in possession of *Pulo-Pinang* and *Province Wellesley*. This last is the line of coast, on the opposite shore, on the main, that lies between the river side of *Qualla Bida* on the north and *Qualla Krian* on the south; measuring inland from the sea side 60 orlongs.

The Company are bound to protect this coast from all enemies, robbers and pirates that may attack it by sea from north or south.

The treaty consists of fourteen articles, and terminates with the following remarkable paragraph: "These fourteen articles being settled and concluded between his Majesty and the English Company, the countries of *Puris* and *Quedah* and *Pulo-Pinang* shall be as one country; and whoever shall depart or deviate from any part of this agreement, the Almighty punish and destroy him; he shall not prosper."

*Pinang* was formed into a regular government in 1805.

*Pérah*.—*Pérah* is the next state, on the west coast, south of *Quedah*. A notice of its relations has been already given.

*Salangore*.—A treaty of commercial alliance, precisely similar to that entered into with *Pérah*, was concluded with *Salangore* in 1818 by the British Commissioner, Mr. CRACKOPP.

By Major BURNBY'S treaty with *Siam*, 1826, the British are bound not to allow the State of *Salangore* to attack and disturb that of *Pérah*. The Siamese are likewise bound by the same treaty not to go and attack or disturb *Salangore*. In 1786 the Dutch dictated a treaty to the then Raja (*IBRAHIM*), by which the latter was compelled to acknowledge the sovereignty of the Dutch, who were then in possession of *Malacca*, and to hold his kingdom from them as a fief. In 1818 the Dutch wished to renew this treaty, but the *Salangore* chief refused, relying on his newly acquired relations with the British.

*Johore for the occupation of the Island of Singapore*.—In 1818 a commercial treaty was entered into, by the then Resident at *Malacca*, Major FARQUHAR, with the monarch of *Johore*, who was acknowledged by the Dutch; viz. Sir Sultan ABDURRAHMAN SHAH. Since that time, however, the elder brother of this prince was set up and acknowledged by British policy as being the rightful successor, and in order to obtain a legal title to the island of *Singapore*, which, as will be shewn, was ceded to the Company by the latter. By Major FARQUHAR'S treaty with ABDURRAHMAN SHAH, mutual liberty of navigation and commerce in the ports and dominions of *Johore*, *Pahang*, *Lingis*, *Rho*, &c. was secured to British subjects, or persons under the protection of the Company, on the footing of subjects of the most favored nations; the subjects of *Johore* enjoying similar advantages and privileges in the harbour of Fort Cornwallis, and in all other places dependent on the British Government of *Pinang*.

Sir STAMFORD RAFFLES, in a letter to Sir ROBERT H. INGLIS, states that the Dutch no sooner obtained possession of *Malacca*, (in September, 1818, the month after Major FARQUHAR'S treaty with ABDURRAHMAN SHAH had been concluded,) than, notwithstanding our treaties, which had been publicly communicated for their information on the cession of *Malacca*, they sent an overpowering force to *Rho*, where ABDURRAHMAN resided; declared the chief to be their vassal, treated our negotiations with him contemptuously, and dictated a treaty which excluded the British trade from the port, &c.

In consequence partly of the delivering up of a place, so advantageously situated as *Malacca*, to Hol-

† It must be borne in mind, that a tract of the *Quedah* coast, called Province Wellesley, about 35 miles long by 4 broad, extending from the embouchure of the *Mada* to that of the *Krian* river, is under the *Pinang* Government.

‡ He resided and drew his pension in *Malacca* till the close of 1835, when he left it ostensibly for *Delli* in *Sumatra*.

§ *Salangore*, formerly renowned for its warlike and enterprising colony of *Bugis* has dwindled into a weak, piratical state. They were apprehending and preparing for an attack from *Siam* in the middle of last year. The present chief is not remarkable for talent or enterprise. His name is sultan MAHOMED.

land, it was deemed politic by the Marquis of HASTINGS, in order to protect the British trade, and to secure one of the two passages to the Eastern Archipelago and *China*, to attempt the improvement of our relations with *Achih* at the northern entrance, and to form a settlement at *Rho*, an island advantageously situated near the southern extremity. For these and other political purposes, Sir STAMFORD RAFFLES was appointed and associated with the Resident at *Malacca*, Major FARQUHAR, by his Lordship, and proceeded on his mission from *Beagal* in December 1818.

On arriving in the Straits he found *Malacca* and *Rho* in the hands of the Dutch, as already alluded to;—consequently, *Holland* at this time held in her hands the keys of both those gates to the *China* Seas, the Straits of *Malacca* and *Sunda*.

The *Carimon* isles and that of *Singapore* were almost the only eligible spots now left. The latter, with the concurrence of Major FARQUHAR, and, some say, at the suggestion of Captain ROSS, was judiciously selected by Sir STAMFORD, and the British flag there hoisted, on the 29<sup>th</sup> February 1819. The new settlement was placed in charge of Major FARQUHAR; who, from his great popularity among the Malays, and local experience, was admirably fitted for the office.

It appears that Sir STAMFORD when off *Singapore*, was visited by the *Tumungong* of *Johore*, a chief inimical to the interests of *Holland*, and by no means friendly to the claims of the Sultan newly elected by the Dutch, ABDURRAHMAN SHAH, with whom a reluctant and exclusive treaty had been concluded by Dutch agents at *Rho*, which gave them possession of that island. The *Tumungong* represented to Sir STAMFORD, that the British were still at liberty to establish themselves on the island of *Singapore* under the sanction of the legitimate sovereign, whom he considered to be the elder brother, HUSSAIN MAHOMED SHAH, whose lawful claims had been set aside by the Dutch in favor of those of his younger brother, ABDURRAHMAN SHAH, with whom they had concluded the arbitrary treaty already mentioned.

As the recognition of HUSSAIN SHAH as lawful sovereign of *Johore* was a necessary preliminary to treating with him, he was now invited over from *Rho* to *Singapore* by the British Commissioners, and being acknowledged by the two hereditary elective officers of the empire, viz. the *Bendahara* of *Pahang* and the *Tumungong* of *Johore* as their lawful chief, was recognized and treated with as the legal sovereign by the Commissioners; who forthwith entered into arrangements for the occupation of the port and the establishment of a Settlement at *Singapore*, pending a reference to the Supreme Government.

By the arrangement with HUSSAIN SHAH, of the 26<sup>th</sup> June, 1819, which appears to have been rather loosely drawn up, it was decided that the British jurisdiction should extend only over a limited part of the island; viz.—from *Tanjong Mallang* on the west, to *Tanjong Kallang* on the east; and interiorly as far as cannon-shot range all round the factory. The council for the government of the island to be composed of the British Resident, the Sultan and the *Tumungong*.

This state of affairs continued with little alteration until 1824, when final arrangements for the entire cession of the British were made, and a treaty of friendship and alliance concluded by the then Resident, Mr. CRAWFORD, on the part of the Company, with their highnesses the Sultan and *Tumungong* of *Johore*. This took place on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of August. By it the island of *Singapore*, together with the adjacent seas, straits, and islets to the extent of ten geographical miles from the coast of *Singapore*, were given up in full sovereignty and property to the East India Company, their heirs and successors for ever.

The Company agreed, in consideration of this cession, to pay to the Sultan the sum of 33,200 Spanish dollars, together with a stipend during his natural life of 1,300 Spanish dollars per mensem; and to the *Tumungong* the sum of 26,800 Spanish dollars, with a monthly stipend of 700 Spanish dollars during his natural life.

In event of the Sultan and the *Tumungong*, their heirs and successors, preferring to reside permanently in any portion of their own estates, and to remove for that purpose from *Singapore*, the Company agreed to pay the Sultan, his heirs or successors, the sum of 10,000 Spanish dollars; and to the *Tumungong* his heir or successor, the sum of 15,000 Spanish dollars. The Sultan and the *Tumungong*, in return, relinquishing for themselves, their heirs and successors, to the Company, their heirs, &c. for ever, all right and title to every description of immovable property, whether in land, gardens, houses, &c. of which they might be possessed within the island or its dependencies at the time of their withdrawal from *Singapore*, for the purpose of residing permanently within their own states.

It was also mutually stipulated, that neither party should be bound to interfere in the internal concerns of the other Government, or in any political dissensions or wars which might arise within their respective territories, nor to support each other by force of arms against any third party whatsoever. The Sultan and *Tumungong* bound themselves that, as long as they continued to reside within the island of *Singapore*, or drew their respective monthly stipends from the Company, they would not enter into any alliance, nor maintain correspondence with any foreign power or potentate without the knowledge and consent of the Company, its heirs, &c.; to maintain a free and unshackled trade every where within their dominions, and to admit the trade and traffic of the British nation into all the ports and harbours of the kingdom of *Johore* and its dependencies on the terms of the most favored nations. Such are the conditions under which the British hold *Singapore* from the Sultan of *Johore*.

*Pahang*.—*Pahang*, though virtually independent, is nominally a dependency of *Johore*; governed by one of its elective officers, the *Bendahara*. It has consequently been included in the relations with that state.

*Tringann and Calantan*.—By the 12<sup>th</sup> article of Major BURNBY'S treaty it is stipulated, that *Siam* shall not go and obstruct or interrupt commerce in the states of *Tringann* and *Calantan*. English merchants and subjects shall have trade and intercourse in future with the same facility and freedom as they have heretofore had; and the English shall not go and molest, attack or disturb those States upon any pretence whatever.

*Patani*.—*Patani* has already been adverted to as having become a province of *Siam*, on which empire it borders.

(The concluding part of this Article was published in our last number. Ed.)