

**TIGERS IN SINGAPORE.** — “It was not till 1836 that their presence first became known. Mr. Coleman, the surveyor of the station, accompanied by a body of convicts, was in that year laying out a new road through a low swampy part of the jungle about four miles from town. He was in the act of taking an observation through his theodolite when a crashing sound was heard among the bushes close by, and a huge tiger leaped right into the thick of the party, but fortunately alighted on the theodolite, which was overturned and broken, and, doubtless alarmed by the commotion occasioned, the animal immediately sprang into the jungle again and disappeared. The convicts to a man flew back to town, and the surveyor himself followed as quickly as he could, leaving the theodolite where it lay on the ground. It was a long time before the people in town could be brought to believe that a tiger really had been seen, and it was only on an appeal to the broken fragments of the theodolite—in the nature of that made by Macaulay in his lays to the molten image of Horatius—that unbelief was finally overcome. After this no work was done near the jungle but under arms, though it was some years before the next tiger showed itself.” That the tigers reached the island by swimming from the mainland is not to be doubted, just as they often cross to Bombay from Salsette. Thus our author tells us:—“Early one morning a party of Malay fishermen, who had set their nets overnight, proceeded to examine what luck they had had, and were surprised to find secured in their meshes a large female tiger. The animal had in its struggles to get free thoroughly entangled itself, and was completely exhausted, and nearly drowned.  
— *Our Tropical Possessions in Malayan India.*”