

THE
ASIATIC JOURNAL

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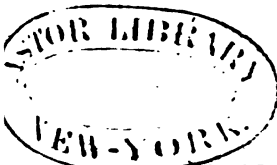
MONTHLY REGISTER

FOR

British India and its Dependencies :

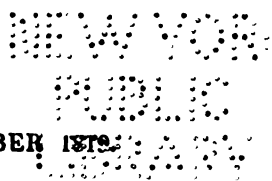
CONTAINING

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VOL. VIII.

FROM JULY TO DECEMBER 1819.



LONDON :

PRINTED FOR BLACK, KINGSBURY, PARBURY, & ALLEN,
BOOKSELLERS TO THE HONOURABLE EAST-INDIA COMPANY,
LEADENHALL STREET.

1819.

Major Farquhar read the orders of his sovereign for the restoration of Malacca to his Majesty the King of the Netherlands, and the same were successively repeated in the Malayau and Chinese languages to a great concourse of the native population assembled to witness this extraordinary spectacle. The military ceremonies were concluded by the British colours being lowered and replaced by the Dutch ensign, under mutual salutes from the batteries and ships. After the heads of the various native tribes had waited upon the hon. the governor with their respectful congratulations, they proceeded to the residence of the British commandant, and expressed their deep regret at his departure, and grateful sense of the benefits they had ever experienced from his fostering protection. Major Farquhar's retirement from the government of Malacca will be cheered with the pleasing retrospect of a long and successful administration, employed to promote the welfare of all subjected to his authority, and in having well maintained the character of his country for benevolence and hospitality.—(*Cal. Jour. for Nov.*)

Loss of the Vestal.—The Vestal brig, Capt. Elliot, was taken possession of by the Malays in the straits of Colong (*Callam dark*), in the early part of September. She left Penang on the 1st, laden with government stores for the troops about to evacuate Malacca. She got aground on the bar, and being unable to get her off, the commander, with Capt. Hampton, a passenger, proceeded to Malacca for assistance, and arrived there after an exposure of 36 hours in an open boat. The most prompt aid was afforded them by the Dutch Admiral Wolterbeck, who instantly dispatched a schooner to look after the brig; but the pirates had made prize of her in the interim, and the fate of her crew, as well as that of the vessel, is still unknown. This has been the fate of all small vessels that have unfortunately grounded in those straits, as long as we can recollect, and on this account they are very dangerous for vessels not properly armed. Whilst the Dutch held Malacca, a cruizer was always stationed in them to afford protection to vessels passing through.

AVA.

Rangoon Lure.—A curious but atrocious circumstance took place a short time ago, which will shew the degree of justice that a stranger is likely to meet with in this port. Some natives of our territory having occasion to put into Rangoon, purchased a vessel then building, for which they agreed to pay a specified sum, by an order upon Calcutta. The vessel being finished and delivered up to the purchasers,

the bill was in due course presented, but to their surprise was found to exceed the sum agreed upon by more than one half; they, in consequence, very naturally demurred against the payment, and entered a protest against the demand. This, however, only drew upon them the resentment of an inhabitant of the place, who is considered to be more or less concerned in transactions of this kind, by whom, and another person principally interested, they were ordered to be seized, and were suspended by the heels without allowing their hands to touch the ground, and beat across the breast with bamboos, until they consented to withdraw the protest, and give the order for the full amount of the demand.—(*Or. Star.*)

SIAM.

Two grabs, the Fatteh Alvadood and Ahmedy, belonging to natives of this port, have this year proceeded to Siam, so that we may confidently expect some increase to the very superficial knowledge we at present possess of this interesting country. For these last thirty years it has scarcely been visited by an Englishman, or even a European, if we except a solitary missionary or two. That the trade is profitable admits of no doubt, and we hope the present adventurers will open to us again this source of trade and profit. The Siamese, like their neighbours of Ava and Pegu, are Boodists; but, contrary to their brethren of this side, will, though they refuse to take life, partake of any thing that is killed to their hand. Siam as well as Pegu is full of Mahomedan adventurers, who have so much weight with the government as to influence them to exclude European vessels; that is, to levy such exactions as amount to prohibitions. This trade was pursued with great advantage by the nabob and Mahomedan merchants of Surat before that place went to decay.—(*Mad. Cour. Dec.*)

SUMATRA.

Acheen.—The revolution which took place some time ago at Acheen, and which terminated in placing the son of Syed Hussein, an opulent merchant at Penang, in the chief authority, may be within the recollection of our readers. Another revolution has been since effected, by which this usurper was expelled to Tullohsamaway, and the old sovereign reinstated. The force, however, of the former still continues strong, though the native Acheense are devoted to the cause of the legal prince. The contests between these two chiefs have produced several sanguinary acts of the most atrocious description, which require the interposing aid of a stronger power to terminate them. Not long since a letter

reached us, detailing an account from Pedier of a horrible event. "The new King's right hand man, Hadjee Abdul Rahim, stabbed Tunkoo Pakier and killed him on the spot; while he himself was instantaneously dispatched, with all his followers, by the Tunkoo's guards, cut into pieces, and afterwards publicly exhibited. Report says, that Hadjee had been secretly commissioned by Syed Hussein, the new king's father, to proceed upon this murderous expedition from Tullohsamaway, for which 10,000 dollars was to be his reward." (*Or. Star.*)

PENANG.

Address to the Marquis of Hastings.

—The Govt. Gazette of 29th August contains the proceedings of a general meeting of the British inhabitants of the island, Mr. Clublely in the chair, on the 25th, at which an address was voted to the Marquis of Hastings on the brilliant termination of the war in India. The Gazette of Dec. 5. records the address at length, the letter of the governor, Col. Bannerman, transmitting it, and the reply of the Marquis of Hastings.

Loss of the Sylph.—The Hon. Company's cruiser Sylph, Capt. Painter, was upset, on the 11th October, in Queda river, whither she had proceeded upon a mission from Penang: the crew were happily all saved.

Miscellanies.—Dec. 30.—Sir Stamford and Lady Raffles arrived from Calcutta on board the H. C. cruiser Nearchus. The preceding day Major Farquhar, late resident and commandant at Malacca, landed from the Ganges.

The new church at Penang was opened for the first time for the performance of divine service on Christmas day. The edifice is said to be built on the model of St. George's church at Madras, and was constructed under the superintendence of Captain Smith of the royal engineers.

MARRIAGES.

July 30. W. E. Phillips, Esq. Member of the Council, to Janet, eldest daughter of the Hon. Col. Bannerman, Governor of this Presidency.

At the same time, Lieut. and Adj. H. Barney, 20th Bengal N.I. Acting Town Major and Military Secretary, to Miss Jane Bannerman, niece of the Hon. the Governor.

BORNEO

PROCEEDINGS OF THE DUTCH.

The Dutch fleet quitted Pontiana on the 28th Aug. (after leaving a resident there with 100 Amboynese troops), and proceeded to attack Sambas. The Sultaun, *Asiatic Journ.*—No 43.

aware of their approach and intentions, was at the mouth of the river with three brigs and a fleet of proas ready to make his escape.—(*Penang Gaz.* Oct. 17.)

CHINA.

COMMERCIAL.

The following is a statement of the total importation of cotton in China in the year 1818 (in bales of 300lbs. and upwards).

Bengal	bales 40,000
Bombay country ships.....	31,500
Portuguese	6,500
Hon. Company's ships.....	35,000

Total .. 113,000

No foreign ships except American have visited China this year. (*Bom. Gaz.* Dec. 30.)

BIRTH.

Oct. 23, at Macao, the lady of Capt. P. Maughan, H. C. Marine, of a son.

DEATH.

Sept. At Canton, Chas. Moore, Esq. chief officer H. C. ship Duke of York.

PHILIPPINES.

MANILLA.

By the Zenobia, Clark, from Manilla, arrived at Calcutta, we have letters hence up to 8th Sept. From a scarcity of money, owing to the non-arrival of the usual ships from Acapulco, a duty of 13 per cent. was about to be levied on all monies exported. Trade was very dull for all kinds of articles; there was a sufficient quantity of piece goods in the place to answer every demand for three years.

The brig Madras Packet was lost in a gale, during the early part of Aug., off the pier-head at Manilla. (*Madras Gaz.* Dec. 29).

MAURITIUS.

We are sorry to state that another hurricane has taken place in Mauritius: it commenced on the 25th Jan., and has done great mischief to the shipping, and also to the plantations of that illfated island.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

IRRUPTION OF REVOLVED CAFFRES.

Official.

A proclamation by the Gov., Lord C. H. Somerset, dated March 3, 1819, states, that the border chiefs who are at variance with the principal chief, Gaika, have entered the province of Albany (Zureveld) in several directions, and have committed great and unforeseen outrages,