

THE
ASIATIC JOURNAL

AND
MONTHLY REGISTER

FOR
BRITISH AND FOREIGN INDIA, CHINA,
AND
AUSTRALASIA.

VOL. II—NEW SERIES.

MAY—AUGUST, 1830.



LONDON:
PARBURY, ALLEN, AND CO.,
LEADENHALL STREET.

1830.

"All the merchants and people of the island of Penang, bowing to the ground, present themselves before the bar of the great official judge of Penang, Malacca, and Singapore—Tuan Hakim the Magnate.

"Prostrate, we consider that you, illustrious sir, sustain an office for the well-being of the people and the genii of the land; that you have the power of life and death, and your benevolence reforms and instructs the people in a greater degree than the ancient ruler Le-kwa, who from kindness of heart used merely a rush whip to chastise the people, that he might cause them to feel ashamed of doing wrong. Your strict purity and integrity also exceed the ancient Heang-chung-whang, who when he watered his horse, threw money to pay for it into the river Wei.

"Three years have elapsed since you arrived at your office, during which time, in reference to those above, you have obeyed the laws of the country; and, towards those below, you have conformed to the feelings of human nature. You have decided in judgment like a divine person; you have loved the people as little children. Songs of praise have arisen on every high way. Merchants and traders have pursued their avocations in peace and tranquillity. Truly it has been a great blessing to our island, and at the same time an extreme display of kindness.

Of late, as your carriage was visiting every town, and all expressed their desire that their turn to be visited should arrive; suddenly a royal mandate is heard calling you to return to your country, and we, looking round, find no means of detaining you. Although we intensely desire to cling to your chariot, and have hearts to lie down among the wheels, we feel really ashamed that our strength is inadequate to draw in the earth, and pull back the heavens; we can only look forward and upward with vain desire, as those who look to the clouds in time of drought.

"But we desire that the divine heavens may silently protect you, and that your return may be prosperous; that the day of your coming back may be commanded, and that you may be highly promoted with honour and emolument.

"We confidently hope that your excellency will return to your office in this land, and cause all the merchants and people of the island again to see the azure heaven of your countenance, and enjoy abundantly the renovating showers of your administration. What a delight will this be!

"We moreover hope that you will earnestly request the high commands of his Majesty, that hereafter, as formerly, the great court of justice may be retained, and that the commands and orders of Europe's King may be acted on. This will

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be an unlimited benefit to the people and country. On ten thousand accounts it should not be exchanged for the Company's court. Hence will arise a great felicity to the people and to this land.

"Our petty thoughts we have above-narrated, and we look up to you with the most intense hope and desire. With veneration we bow to the ground, and present this to the gate to be heard on high. Presented below the pavilion of the great judge of Penang, Malacca, and Singapore—Tuan-hakim, the Magnate."

(Signed with name and cipher of the merchants and people of the island of Penang, forty-three names.)

CULTIVATION OF SUGAR.

The increasing cultivation of sugar in the Wellesley province has excited but little attention. We are informed, from good authority, that upwards of 10,000 peculs were made in the Batta Kawan district during the past year, the estimated price of which must have exceeded 60,000 Sp. dra. In this settlement, where hitherto considerable difficulty has been experienced in procuring dead weight for freight, the accession of a merchantable article, amounting in its present infant state to upwards of 700 tons, is a very important consideration. —*Pen. Gaz., Dec. 5.*

Singapore.

THE DUTCH SHIP "HELEN."

The *Singapore Chronicle* contains a very aggravated case of plunder committed on the Dutch schooner *Helen*, belonging to a Chinese merchant of this place, which, on her passage from Penang and Malacca to this port, grounded on Tree Island, and almost immediately bilged. The account is as follows, given from the report of the nakodah of the schooner, named Goan-sing:

The *Helen* left Malacca on the 27th Nov., with several native passengers, and a full cargo of tin, pepper, coffee, spelter, Europe cambrics, longcloths and muslins, Madras piece goods, muskets, &c. worth from 12,000 to 15,000 Spanish dollars, and on the following night she grounded on Tree Island.

Goan-sing, perceiving it impossible to get the vessel off, requested the mate, crew, and passengers to remain by her, while he proceeded to Singapore for assistance. He accordingly left the vessel in the gig with five hands, and arrived at New Harbour, the residence of the Tumungung, the following morning about seven o'clock, and at his request, the Tumungung sent off two prows to the vessel, with orders to render every assistance in their power. Goan-sing also sent back his gig from New Harbour, and came on to

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Singapore by land, where he made known the circumstances to the owners of the vessel and cargo. The parties interested forthwith sent off six cargo boats; and the nakodah himself returned to Tree Island, when the *Helen* was surrounded by Malay fishermen in sampans, but they made no attempt at plunder.

He subsequently procured at Singapore some spars, ropes, &c., with a view of raising the *Helen*, and on reaching her he found the Raja Jaffier, with three prows, from the Carimons. The raja, being a professed friend, inquired very minutely into all the circumstances connected with this his misfortune; and after ascertaining all the particulars, sent two of his prows to the Carimons, and remained at Tree Island himself. The crew commenced to load the boats with such of the cargo as was at hand. As there was no appearance of the wind abating, Goan-sing came to the determination of sending the empty boats back to Singapore, there being no probability of raising the vessel that tide. Goan-sing therefore requested the gunner and crew to remain in charge of the vessel, while he proceeded to Singapore with the cargo and boats. The gunner said he was afraid to remain. The nakodah requested the raja, as his friend, to remain with the gunner and protect his property until he returned from Singapore. The raja promised to stay by the vessel, or at all events to leave some of his men to defend the property against the attacks of pirates until Goan-sing returned. Upon this promise, Goan-sing left for Singapore with the boats and cargo, where he arrived the same night about nine o'clock. About eleven o'clock the gunner and crew also arrived here, saying that they had been expelled from the island by a party of Malays acting under the orders of Tanku Abdul Rahman, son of the Raja Moodah of Rhio, and the Raja Moodah's representative at the Carimon Islands.

It appears that about two hours after Goan-sing left Tree Island, a boat with five men arrived from the Carimons, with a letter from Abdool Rahman to Raja Jaffier, ordering him to send the crew away from the vessel, take charge of her, and bring such party of the cargo as remained to the Carimons. Raja Jaffier then set sail for the Carimons, leaving the panglima, Abdul Latib, the bearer of the letter from Rahman, in charge. The gunner wishing to save some more of the cargo, ordered his men to dive for the tin, and on a slab being brought up, he was in the act of putting it into his boat, when the panglima put his hand to his kris, and threatened to stab him if he attempted to take away another article belonging to the wreck. The panglima then had the tin put into his own boat, and ordered the gunner and crew to depart forthwith, or

he would kris every man of them. Shortly after the crew had left the wreck, they saw Raja Jaffier's boat put about and return to Tree Island.

The fact of the crew having been thus forcibly driven from their vessel was communicated to the authorities here, and four boats and a party of sepoys were immediately put under the orders of the master-attendant, who proceeded to Tree Island, where he found Raja Jaffier in a prow with sixteen men, all armed. When the master-attendant came up to him, he inquired who and what he was; the raja replied that he was guarding the wreck by order of the Raja Moodah's son of Rhio, and produced the letter. He was then asked what he had in his prow, and he replied, nothing. It turned out, however, that the ropes in his prow were the lashings of the spars. He likewise had some sheathing copper, bolts, rigging and other articles, of which he had plundered the schooner. The master-attendant brought him and his crew to Singapore, and we regret to say, without leaving any one in charge of the vessel. The raja, after undergoing several examinations before the magistrates, has been discharged, in consequence of the evidence which was produced against him not being considered sufficient to warrant them in committing him.

It is proper to add that the account given of this transaction in the *Chronicle* has been accused by the government of Singapore as imperfect and objectionable.

In a subsequent paper it is stated that "the local authorities here have lately sent the *Active*, with Acho on board, in quest of the panglima Go. Acho is not only personally acquainted with that pirate, but also with his principal places of resort, as he was about four months in the same prow with him, during which time they visited most of the haunts of these marauders in the straits of Malacca, between Penang and the Carimons; and, from this circumstance, it is to be hoped that there is some chance of their shortly succeeding in capturing him."

THE BUGIS.

The following character of the Bugis is given in a letter published in the *Singapore Chronicle* of Dec. 31, giving an account of the murder of Capt. Graveson and part of his crew at Semerindon, a Bugis campong on the Cotti river, by a person who was imprisoned by the Bugis. The editor of the *Chronicle* states that the gloomy description exactly coincides with the accounts he has received from Bugis and other nakodahs, who allege that these people, in their hostility to the English, are actuated chiefly by feelings of revenge, as they suffered so much from the British during the war.

"In all the native states of Borneo,