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MY DEAR SIR,

"I received your favour of 25th August, some 14 days ago, and I give you my best thanks for the iterated kindness shown to me. The acquisition of the Indian Purânas will be a great thing, and, according to your wishes I have addressed myself to people at Bali that I might receive two or three copies of the Brahmândapurâna from different places. I shall do my best to give a sufficient edition and translation (perhaps also in English, although this is difficult for me) of the same Purâna, which might be the better effected, because I am feeding the hope to be sent to Bali, as soon as my collecting of the Javanese inscriptions shall be finished. I am under very great obligations to you, Dr. Wilson, and Brigadier Hale for having presented, and to the Society for having named, me an Honorary Member. I have not yet given my thanks to the Society, having been very often and much sick, and not being able to give to the Society a token of my acknowledging the great and really undeserved honour conferred upon me, but I am now writing to Dr. Wilson to this purport, and offering some small information gained by me about Indian Antiquities in the Archipelago.

"You will, perhaps, hear with some pleasure that I have found the real old names of Java and Sumatra in inscriptions from those two islands. What was long suspected and principally indicated by Marco Polo, viz. that there were two islands called Java, is now an undoubted certainty.

"In the great inscription of Pageo Rugung (Menang Kabáu, Sumatra) that island is called Prathama Java (the first Java).

"In an inscription on a copper-plate from the north-eastern part of Java (given by Raffles, plate 85) our island is also called Java Dvepa. Now we might understand how Ptolemy could say that Yava was rich in gold. Sumatra has indeed a great quantity of this metal, but Java none. That both were called Insulæ hordei (यव) is to be explained by their extreme fertility, and Yava, hordeum, might be taken as a repre-

sentative of all grain (hicalisæ). Marco Polo calls Sumatra 'Giava Minore,' and this expression principally has puzzled the learned because Sumatra is greater than Java. But we might explain this easily. In his time, Java was a powerful empire, and had subjected nearly the whole eastern coast of Sumatra besides a great deal of other islands. The petty kingdoms of Sumatra were dependant upon Java, and their princes originated all, or partly from Java, as the families of Palembang, Jambi and others do in our times. The name Java had remained, and the people who were subject of our Java naturally considered this last as (महायव) Mahá Yawa, whereby Sumatra became the lesser Java; Marco Polo did certainly not know the real extent of the two Javas. I find also a trace in Ptolemy that he knew more than one Java. He speaks of three islands called in charts and in editions Sabadibæ (Professor Lassen reads Saladibæ). If the first reading be the true one, I think we have here the same name as Jabadiu. S, would be the natural representative of ज, ज्ञ (C) in Greek.

"The rest of the word is the same. If this be right, we find in Ptolemy's time already the corrupted form (जव), besides the old form (यव). The Arabs and Marco Polo knew only the first, whereas in the cited inscription of Raffles, यव yet appears in the year of Christ 1294. All that pleads against this explanation comes on the account of the contradictory reports of ignorant Greek and Egyptian sailors. They knew principally two great islands. Some of them had heard the name यव, others that of जव, which they and Ptolemy considered to be different. Some must even have heard of three जव, wherefrom the 'three Sabadibæ.'

"Now to fill up, we might add the two principal islands in the Straits of Sunda (either to Java or to Sumatra), viz. Prince's Island and Krakatan (or Karkata कर्कट). In the great confusion which the different reporters of Ptolemy everywhere show (in these eastern longitudes) there is no wonder that they displaced the 'island rich in gold' to the eastward of the Sabadibæ. How should they not have known Sumatra if they knew several islands to the eastward of it? That the small islands abovementioned could be named with the same name as the two great ones even by the natives, I think you might concede. Yava was in those parts, but I don't extend this remark to the islands to the eastward and northward of our Java as a generic name.

"In Ptolemy's *Μαλαίοκωλον* I see Cape Romania. Malen is rather to be derived from *Malaya* Malay, than from the Tamuli word Malai, a mountain (Professor Lassen), because he derives the word from the last, and supposes it to be Cape Tringam on the eastern coast of

Malace, as there is a mountain there, and at Cape Romania none. But I think that Tamuli words must be stated in a most accurate manner to be found to exist in the Archipelago, the non-Sanscritic words of India being hardly to be found in the languages of the Archipelago (only in some terms of the Navy).

"If the word Malen be not *Malai* we have certainly here Cape Romania, which is so very important to all sailors as the southern point of the continent, when they are getting out on into the dangerous straits. Cape Tringam could be very easily overlooked by the foreign merchants, but Cape Romania I think not. According to the Malay tradition they, the Malays, came only about 700 years ago from the interior of Sumatra. Also the meaning attached to the word Malaya in Javanese and Balinese, seems to indicate their having had no fixed abode,—it means runaways, vagabonds. For the last, there is a good reason in the international hatred. The first might be applied to one *single horde*, that came so late to Singhapura as the 7th century; the great inscription above alluded to is of Saka 578-656 A.D.

"There was already a highly civilized, great empire at Sumatra.

"The inscriptions of Kedah and Province Wellesly (Journal of Bengal) seem to be yet older. Even the fragments of the inscription of Singhapura show characters much older than the time when the town was taken by the Javanese from the Malays. It might be inferred that a population related to the later Malays of Singhapura, Malacca Johor, might have spread over the coasts of Malacca a thousand years before these Malays came, whose tradition is preserved by their having become Mahomedans shortly after, so the name Cape Malaya (Κωλον is not cape but side, it was perhaps not called cape, because there is no promontorium), might have been the original one of Cape Romania. Malaya is explained differently, from the Javanese, in another way by the Malays themselves, but if rightly I don't know, and a just explanation would be difficult, if the name be so old and certainly not Sanscrit.

"If you like to have some communications of this kind I shall often write to you.

"I should like very much if you were to stay for some months at Bombay: a friend of a mine, also a Member of the Direction of our Society, the Rev. J. P. G. Brumund, is to leave Java on the 18th instant. He will stay about a month at Ceylon and come afterwards to Bombay, where he would like to see as much of the rock-cut temples of your parts as time and opportunity will allow.

"He has seen all the Antiquities of Java, and made a particular study of the great temple of Boro Budu.

“You recollect having seen here the excellent plates of that place. Now Mr. Brumund is to give a descriptive text to them, which he has nearly ready. Plates and text (in a French translation) are to be edited in Holland; the lithographing has since more than a year commenced.

“You understand that a visit to your Hindu remains will be most useful to Mr. Brumund, and I recommend him strongly to your kind assistance. Mr. Brumund will bring you the first ten sheets of my Essay on Inscriptions; a complete exemplar I will send next month by the mail.

Yours, &c.

(Signed) R. FRIEDERICH.”