MARITIME GEOGRAPHY

AND

STATISTICS,

OR

A DESCRIPTION

OF THE

Ocean and its Coasts,

MARITIME COMMERCE, NAVIGATION,

&c. &c. &c.

"Le Trident de Neptune est le Sceptre du Monde."

By JAMES HINGSTON TUCKEY,

A Commander in the Royal Navy.

IN FOUR VOLUMES.

VOL. III.

LONDON:

PRINTED FOR BLACK, PARRY, AND CO. BOOKSELLERS TO THE HON. EAST-INDIA COMPANY, LEADENHALL STREET.

1815.

MALAY ARCHIPELAGO.

SUMATRA.

Sumatra.

THE Island of Sumatra appears to have been vaguely known to the ancients under the name of *Jaba-Diu*, or Isle of Barley. It was known to the Arabs by the name of *Lamary* and *Saborma*. Marc Paul notices some of its kingdoms, and calls it *Little Java*, Borneo being his *Great Java*. According to Marsden, the natives have no general name for this land, nor do those of the interior know it to be an island.

The Island of Sumatra is separated from the Malay peninsula by the Strait of Malacca. Its extent from Achen Head on the N.W. to Hog Point on the S.E. is 916 miles, and its medium breadth 180, being cut by the equator nearly in the middle, extending to 5° 20′ N. of that line, and to 5° 58′ S.

A chain of mountains, sometimes double, sometimes treble, runs through its whole length from N.W. to S.E. On the west side, this chain approaches much nearer to the sea than on the east, the low land to its foot being no where more than twelve miles broad on the former. The highest summit, named Mount Ophir by the Europeans, is directly under the line, and

is

is 13,842 feet above the level of the sea. Many of the mountains contain volcanoes which burn from time to time. Earthquakes, the usual effects of such internal fires, are often felt, and hot springs are common in the neighbourhood of the volcanoes. These springs, in their quality, resemble those of Harrowgate. Sumatra.

Between the ridges of the mountains are immense plains, much elevated above the sea, and where the cold is sensibly felt. These are the most cultivated and best inhabited parts of the island, the mountains and low lands being for the most part covered with impenetrable forests.

The island contains many lakes, from whence issue numerous rivers and rivulets, rendering this one of the best watered countries in the world. The rivers on the west coast are, however, from the shortness of their course, too small and too rapid for navigation; besides, this coast being entirely exposed to the fury of the ocean, the surf on it is terrible, and throws up banks of sand before the mouths of the rivers, which render them inaccessible to any other vessel than long boats. On the east coast, on the contrary, the mountains being farther inland, the rivers have a longer course over a plain surface, and consequently carry more water, and with a gentler current to the sea: besides, this side of the island being sheltered by the Malay peninsula, the mouths of the rivers are more free from banks, and capable of admitting large vessels.

The

Sumatra. The climate of Sumatra is more temperate than that of many countries farther from the equator, the thermometer seldom rising, in the shade, above 85°, and at sun rise it is commonly at 70°. In the elevated plains, the degree of cold is sufficient to require fires in the morning. Before sun-rise, the mountains are enveloped in a fog of such density, that its extremities may almost be defined by the touch, and it is seldom dissipated till three hours after sun-rise.

Thunder and lightning are so common as almost to be perpetual, particularly during the west monsoon, when the lightning darting from every point of the horizon, seems to set the heavens in a blaze, while the thunder agitates the earth with a motion similar to that caused by an earthquake. In the S.E. monsoon, the flashes are longer, but not so frequent, and the thunder only growls in the atmosphere.

The soil is generally a reddish argillaceous earth, covered by a thin layer of vegetable mould, and when left a year without cultivation it is covered with brushwood. On the west side of the island are large tracts of marsh, formed by the overflowing of the rivers in the west monsoon.

The mineral productions of Sumatra are gold, copper, block-tin, iron, coal, sulphur, ochres of several colours, and petroleum.

No country in the world can boast a richer catalogue of vegetable productions than this island; of

of these the pepper plant first deserves notice, as supplying by far the greatest portion of the export trade. The camphor tree also affords a considerable commercial object; it is only found on the north side of the island, where it grows without cultivation to the size of the largest forest tree. To procure the camphor, the tree is cut down and split in small pieces, and the camphor is found in little cavities in a christalized form: this is called native camphor, and is sold on the spot for six dollars the pound. It is entirely exported to China, where it produces a profit of cent per cent. Sumatra.

There is also a tree at Sumatra which produces a liquid camphor, used as a remedy in sprains and swellings. It is procured by making a transverse incision on the tree, and digging out the wood till a hole is formed capable of holding a quart, into this a bit of lighted wood is put, and the heat drawing down the fluid, the hole is filled in a night. In the same manner is extracted another liquid rosin, named wood oil, which is used to preserve timber exposed to the air. The tree which produces the gum-benjamin grows in the north part of the island, and the gum is procured by making incisions in the bark, from which it distils.

The cassia, a well known species of coarse cinnamon, grows in abundance and without culture on the north side of the island. The rattan furnishes considerable cargoes, chiefly for China, where it is manufactured into household furniture; the

Sumatra. the fruit of the rattan, which grows in bunches, is eaten by the Malays.

The island produces cotton, but the cultivation of it is confined to a sufficient quantity for domestic consumption. The silk cotton also grows here but its fibre is too short and brittle to bear spinning, and it is only used to stuff mattrasses. The areca, or betel-nut, is a considerable article of export to the coast of Coromandel. The coffee plant grows in all parts of the island, but though the same species as that of Arabia, the berry is much inferior, probably from the want of care, or from the constant humidity of the climate.

Dammer is a kind of resin or turpentine, which exudes abundantly from a large tree; it is exported to India, where it is used instead of pitch in the dock yards. There is also a tree which produces a gum resembling gum arabic, and another like gum lack, but they are neglected. The forests also contain a variety of timber trees, which would be a source of wealth to a more industrious people: such are the ebony, a species of sassafras, sandal and aloes wood, teak, iron wood, and the manchineel, the wood of which resists the ravages of the white ants.

Besides the vegetable productions which enter into commerce, Sumatra possesses all the fruits of the tropics, together with many peculiar to the Malay archipelago. The *mangustine* is considered by Europeans the most delicious fruit in the world: it is the size of a middling apple, and contains within a hard rind several kernels surrounded

surrounded by a pulpy melting substance full of juice, and it may be eaten even immoderately without danger, an advantage few other tropical fruits possess. Sumatra.

The *durian* is the favourite fruit of the Malays, being a powerful aphrodisaic. It grows on a large tree and is sometimes the size of a man's head; its internal substance may with correctness be compared to a custard mixed with assafœtida, consequently it is not a fruit much relished by Europeans. The *jack* has a resemblance to the durian internally: it contains a number of kernels surrounded by a fleshy substance, the smell and taste of which convey the idea of onions mixed with honey.

The *bread fruit* is a favourite of the Malays, and is eaten in slices boiled or roasted with sugar: the taste of this fruit is insipid, something resembling that of an artichoke bottom. The *billingbing* is an extremely acid fruit, in taste resembling the green gooseberry. The *lansia* a small fruit of a pulpy substance and agreeable taste. The *brangan* resembles the chesnut, the *cameling* the walnut, and the *kattapping* the almond. The *karembola* is a fruit resembling the billingbing, but much less acid. The *sala* is the shape and size of the fig, containing an asidulous pulp of a fine perfume. The *jamboo* resembles the pear in shape, and contains a white fleshy substance which has the odour of the rose. The *carossol* is a mealy fruit the size of a pear. The *rhambootan* externally resembles

Sumatra. bles the fruit of the arbutus; it contains an acid but very agreeable pulp.

These are but a few of the most celebrated fruits of the Malay archipelago, which is said to produce 300 species, from the jack weighing 50 lb. to the berry. Nor is it to fruits alone that nature has confined her bounty in the vegetable reign, she has in these islands perfumed the atmosphere with innumerable flowers in an unceasing succession, and which are carefully cultivated, the Malays being passionately fond of them; particularly the women, of whose dress they form the greatest ornament.

Rice forms the chief vegetable food of the Malays, and consequently its cultivation is most attended to. It is of two kinds, named from the places of its growth, the mountain and swamp rice; the former being the best, but gives a less return. The Malays have a name to distinguish this grain in its different states; thus the seed is named *paddy*, the grain husked as we receive it, *bros*, and boiled *nassy*.

Next to rice the cocoa-palm is the principal object of cultivation, though it is not employed in the various uses as in India, the Sumatrans possessing substitutes which are not found there. Its pulp enters into the composition of all their dishes, and its consumption is immense; they also extract its oil to anoint themselves, and drink the *toddy*, and make brooms of its leaves.

The sago-palm of two kinds is also cultivated, though

though it does not here make any considerable part of their food any more than maize, which is only eaten roasted while green. Sumatra.

The betel-nut and leaf form a considerable article of cultivation as well for export as for home consumption. Tobacco is also raised in small quantities, but they have no method of preparing it. They likewise cultivate the sugar-cane, and boil its juice into a thick syrup, but their sugar, or jagree, is chiefly made from the toddy of the cocoa and sago-palms. In their gardens are always found abundance of Cayenne pepper and turmeric for their currys, yams, sweet potatoes, French beans, and *brinjalls*. The coriander and cardamum, as well as the palma christi, grow wild. The mulberry tree is reared for the raising silk-worms, and a large quantity of hemp is produced, not to manufacture but to smoke: it is named *Bang* and has an inebriating quality. A number of medicinal plants are also cultivated.

The domestic animals are the horse, cow, buffalo, sheep, goat, hog, dog, and cat. The horses are very small but extremely hartly and fiery: they are esteemed in the English settlements in India, as Shetland ponies are in London, and are chiefly exported from Achen. The cows and sheep are both very small races. The buffalo is the only beast employed in labour, and is used in the cart and plough: though naturally lazy and obstinate, it becomes docile by habit, and is led with no other bridle than a thong through the nostril,

Sumatra. nostril; it is however so delicate as to be incapable of bearing the least extraordinary fatigue. The milk of the buffalo furnishes the greater part of the butter used by Europeans here, as well as on the continent of India.

The wild animals are elephants which over-run the country, herding in large troops and doing great damage, destroying even the traces of cultivation by barely walking over the fields. Young plantain trees and sugar-canes are their favourite food, and their passion for the latter is often made the means of their destruction, by introducing poison into the crevices of the canes. The natives do not attempt to domesticate them.

The rhinoceros is also a native of Sumatra, and his horn is greatly sought after as a supposed antidote against poisons.

The tiger is the king of the Sumatra forests, and pushes his sanguinary devastation even to the villages, the inhabitants of which he often carries off in the open day. From a superstitious idea that these animals are animated by the souls of their ancestors, the Malays hesitate to kill them until they have suffered a personal injury from them; when they wage every kind of war against them by traps, snares, &c. and the European factors give a considerable reward for their destruction in their vicinity. The other wild animals are small black bears, the otter, sloth, stinkard, porcupine, armadillo, wild hog, deer, particularly the little animal called the hog deer, and which is one of those that furnish the bezoar, the

the monkey of many species, the pole cat, tiger cat, and civet, squirrel, rat, mouse, and bats of a very large size, having a head something resembling a fox, whence they are called flying foxes (*draco volans*). Sumatra.

The hippopotamus is found in the marshes, and the rivers are infested with alligators; and though they daily destroy the natives while bathing, the frequency of these accidents does not make them more cautious. This animal is also held in a kind of religious respect, which prevents their destroying them.

Among the long list of birds observed at this island, the Sumatran pheasant surpasses even the bird of paradise in plumage, but it is impossible to keep it alive for any time. The common pheasant is also plenty, as are swans, two or three kinds of pigeons, parrots, and parroquets, innumerable and of every species, particularly cockatoos, kite, crow, plover, snipe, quail, wild-duck, teal, water hen, wood hen, much larger than the domestic, lark, sea-lark, curlew, paddy bird the size of the sparrow and equally injurious to the grain, the dial bird, the minor the size of the black bird, which imitates the human voice with more accuracy than any other bird. The owl, the starling, swallow, king's fisher, the rhinoceros bird, so named from an excrescence projecting from the root of its bill; and, finally, the common domestic fowl, one species of which has black bones, and is much esteemed for its superior delicacy. The island does not produce

Sumatra. a single singing bird. The only birds the natives attempt to take are plovers and quails, and this they do by nets placed on the ground, over which they drive the birds, whose feet get entangled in the meshes.

The most common reptile is the lizard, which may be said to form a continued chain from the immense and voracious alligator to the little house lizard, half an inch in length. The *guana*, the ugliest animal in nature, and which probably gave the first idea of the dragon of fable, is found here of an enormous size, but is entirely harmless, and its flesh is said to be equal to that of a chicken. The marshes are full of frogs and toads, which form the chief food of the snakes: the latter are as numerous as the lizard tribe, and of all sizes, from fifteen feet long downwards; few of them, however, seem to be venomous.

In no part of the world is there a greater variety of insects; amongst which the ants form the most conspicuous tribe. They are, the destructive white ant, the great red, three quarters of an inch long, the common red ant or pismire, the great white ant, and the common and small black ant.

The coasts offer an immense quantity of excellent fish, which constitutes a large portion of the food of the natives. Besides the common method of taking them, they throw into the sea the root of a plant, which has a strong narcotic quality, and produces the appearance of death upon the fish, which float on the surface, and are taken out with the hand.

There

Sumatra.

There are few collections of houses in the island that deserve the name of towns. The villages are always situated on the banks of a river or lake, for the advantage of bathing and transporting their goods: they are generally on an elevated spot, surrounded with fruit trees, and forming a square, with a large public place of assembly in the middle. The houses are raised on posts, six or eight feet from the ground, and are entirely constructed of the bamboo; the sides or walls being of large bamboos, split down one side and pressed flat; the floor of large ones whole, as rafters, placed close together, and covered with laths of the same, two inches wide, over which are placed mats. The covering is usually of palm leaves, and the ascent by a single large bamboo, with notches cut in it to admit the toes.

The Sumatrans are below the middle size, with small limbs, but well proportioned. In infancy their noses are flattened, their heads compressed, and their ears pulled till they stick straight out from the head. Their eyes are black and lively, and strikingly resemble those of the Chinese: their hair is long, thick, and very black; the men cut it short, but the women allow it to grow to their feet. Both sexes eradicate the hair from every part of the body but the head; and the neglecting to do so is considered as an unpardonable want of delicacy: this is performed by rubbing the parts, when the hairs first begin to appear, with quick lime, which destroys the roots, and the little that escapes and from time to time makes

Sumatra. its appearance, is carefully plucked out with tweazers, which they always carry about them for the purpose. Their colour is a copper, deeper or lighter according to their exposure to the sun and their vicinity to the sea. Many of the women are not darker than the female peasants of the south of Europe, but they are disgustingly ugly.

The original clothing of the Sumatrans was composed of the bark of a tree beat to a certain fineness, as is still practised in the South Sea Islands; at present, however, they have universally adopted the use of cotton. The *criss*, which is their principal weapon, and which they never, even when sleeping, lay aside, is a poignard, the blade fourteen inches long, not straight, nor yet regularly curved, but in an undulating line, which renders the wound made by it very dangerous. The handle is of ivory, or of hard wood, inlaid with gold or other metal, and represents nearly the Egyptian Isis. The value of these weapons is in proportion to the number of persons they have killed; but the custom of poisoning them, common formerly, is now unknown.

Unmarried girls are distinguished by a fillet half an inch broad, of gold plates, which surrounds the head, and by bracelets of gold and silver on the wrists. Children of both sexes wear small silver money, strung on threads, hung round their necks; and girls, before they are considered old enough to be clothed, wear a silver plate, in the shape of a heart, hung to a silver chain, round the neck, so that the plate hangs down before. The women

women have a high opinion of the efficacy of morning dew as a cosmetic, and particularly as increasing their hair; hence they collect it with great care before sun-rise. Sumatra.

Both sexes have the custom of grinding their teeth with a kind of whetstone, some entirely down to the gums, others only to a point, and others again content themselves with getting rid of the enamel; they then stain them a jet black with the empyreumatic oil of the cocoa-nut shell.

The men sometimes insert a gold plate over the lower teeth, or wind gold wire round them. At the age of eight or nine the girls' ears are pierced; a ceremony which necessarily precedes marriage, and which, as well as that of grinding the teeth, is usually accompanied by a feast. Persons of rank let their nails grow to an enormous length, particularly those of the index and little finger, and sometimes stain them red.

In the arts and sciences the Sumatrans have made but little progress, and, indeed, their natural indolence seems to be an insuperable bar to their improvements. Their greatest ingenuity is shewn in the making fillagree work of gold and silver, which they do with astonishing elegance, and with the rudest tools; their principal being usually a piece of iron hoop, which they form into an instrument to draw out the wire. Their compasses are two nails attached together at the heads; their crucible a piece of an old earthen-pot; and their bellows a hollow reed, which they blow through. Their manufacture of iron is confined to the

Sumatra. simplest instruments of husbandry and carpenters' tools, nor have they arrived at the use of the saw; hence their works in wood are very clumsy and very tedious. Their glue is composed of the curds of buffaloes' milk and quick lime, and is much stronger, and less affected by humidity than our glue.

Their ropes are made of a vegetable substance, named *ejoo*, which envelopes the trunk of a species of the sago palm, and exactly resembles horsehair. They draw thread from a species of the nettle and several other vegetables.

They manufacture silk and cotton cloth, which they die with colours extracted from vegetables. Their oil is procured by expression from the pulp of the cocoa-nut; their candles or torches are small bamboos filled with dammer. They manufacture gunpowder, but of an inferior quality; and their jagree, or sugar, is the juice of the sago-palm, boiled to a consistency and formed into cakes. Their method of making salt is extremely imperfect; they light a large fire on the sea beach, and sprinkle it continually with sea water, the aqueous parts of which escaping in vapour, the salt is precipitated among the ashes, which is collected in close baskets; sea water is poured over it till all the particles of salt are separated and fall with the water into a vessel placed beneath the basket: the water, thus impregnated, is boiled until the salt forms chrystals on the bottom and sides of the vessel. They are entirely ignorant of painting or designing, and the little sculpture seen among them

them is grotesque and without meaning. In the manufacture of mats and baskets they are neat and expert. Sumatra.

The arithmetical knowledge of the Sumatrans extends no farther than the multiplication or division of any number under 10,000, by a single cypher. They have no word to express any number above 10,000; and in their trading accounts they assist memory by knots formed on a cord.

Their division of time is into the lunar year of 354 days, or twelve lunar months of twenty-nine days and a half each; their more usual method of computing time is, however, by their rice harvests. Their months are not divided into weeks; but when they want to specify a particular day, they do it by the age of the moon on that day. The hour of the day they make known by pointing to the sun's situation at that time: and this is subject to little error, as the sun pursues his course in an unvarying line.

Their knowledge of astronomy is confined to calculating the moon's phases, and they salute the new moon with a discharge of cannon, whether visible or not. Venus they do not know to be the same planet, when it precedes or follows the sun. During an eclipse they make a horrible noise on sonorous instruments, as they say, to prevent one of the luminaries being devoured by the other. The dark appearance in the moon they suppose to be a man continually employed spinning cotton, which a rat each night knaws, and thus obliges him to recommence his work. By

Sumatra. this metaphor they also describe a continual and useless labour.

They have neither written history nor chronology; and the memory of events is only preserved by tradition, and the time of their arrival, by assimilating them to some memorable circumstance which happened at or near the same time.

Their knowledge of medicine is confined to the virtues of a few simples, which every one is acquainted with, and, consequently, is his own physician.

The Sumatrans are subject to two kinds of leprosy; the first is the true elephantiasis, the other, though very disgusting, is not a dangerous malady. Those afflicted with the former are instantly driven from their village into the woods, where their relations supply them with food. The small-pox occasionally commits terrible ravages, as they have no idea of inoculation. The venereal is common on the coast, but unknown in the interior; it is cured by a plant that produces salivation. They have a curious method of attempting to cure madness: the patient is put into a hut, which is set fire to, and he is allowed to make his escape as he can. The fright, it is said, sometimes restores his reason. The inhabitants of the high grounds are subject to goitres, probably occasioned by the grossness of the atmosphere in the vallies between the mountains.

The extent of human life amongst the Sumatrans it is impossible correctly to ascertain, for their total want of chronology prevents any one of

of them from being able to tell his age. It, however, seems probable, that fifty years is the general period of existence, and that sixty is a degree of uncommon longevity. Sumatra

The Sumatrans are passionately fond of music, particularly that produced by sonorous instruments; they have the *gong* of the Chinese, drums, &c. Their wind instrument is an imperfect flute, and they have acquired the knowledge of the violin from Europeans.

The Malay language may be called the Italian of the east, being full of vowels and liquid consonants; it is consequently highly adapted to poetry, of which the Malays are so immoderately fond, that three-fourths of their time is passed in singing.

Their songs are chiefly figurative expressions and proverbs applied to the passing events, or love songs, either composed deliberately or impromptu.

The following are stanzas of a love song of the first kind.

Apo goono passang paleeto
Callo teeda dangan soombonia?
Apo goono bermino matto
Callo teeda dangan soogania?

Why light a lamp without a wick?
Why make love with the eyes if there is no intention to be serious?

The following is a favourite couplet of the young men.

Inchy

Sumatra.

Inchy piggy mandi, dekkat mule sangi
Sciow mow be jago, sciow mow be anty.

When my love slides into the water (to bathe)
I will remain at a distance to guard her.

The common conversation is sententious and figurative; thus, if a girl has a child before marriage, they say, "the fruit has come before the flower:" speaking of the death of a person, it is, "those that are dead are dead, those that remain must work; or, his time was come, what could he do?"

The Malays use the Arabic character in writing, but some of the Sumatrans have a distinct character. The former use China paper and an ink of their own composition, but the latter write, or rather mark, with a pointed instrument on the bark of a tree or on split bamboos.

Though the government and laws among the different tribes vary in some minute points, they have a sufficient resemblance to be brought under a general description. Their rajahs, sultans, or chiefs of whatever denomination are absolute *de juro*, but in fact their power is limited by their wanting revenues to keep on foot a standing force to support their arbitrary authority. The villages are internally governed by an elective magistrate, who is a kind of bulwark against the encroachments of the sovereign on the rights of the people.

The laws of the Sumatrans are founded on ancient customs handed down by tradition. All causes of property are usually decided by a kind of arbitration, each party binding itself to abide by the decision of the judges. All crimes, of whatever

whatever nature, may be commuted by fines: that for murder is in proportion to the quality of the person murdered, from 500 dollars, to eighty for the commonest person; but for a woman or girl of the lowest class the fine is 150. The man who murders his wife is only subject to the fine, but the woman who kills her husband is punished with death. The fine for a rape is twenty dollars, for perjury twenty dollars and a buffalo; for theft twice the value of the article stolen, together with twenty dollars and a buffalo. If a man takes his wife in adultery he may kill both parties, but if he prosecutes the man the fine is fifty dollars, and he must cease all other revenge. Sumatra

There are three kinds of marriages amongst the Sumatrans; by Joojoor, by Ambelana, and by Semundo. The first is the mere purchase of a girl from her father, and she is in a great measure the slave of her husband, who can sell her at pleasure, with the precaution of making the first offer to her relations. The price is limited to 120 dollars, but may be decreased according to circumstances; thus the price of a widow once married is but eighty dollars, twice married but sixty dollars, and so goes on diminishing every time she loses a husband and is disposed of to a fresh one. A widow with children cannot be married again till they are provided for. If a widow is left pregnant she may be disposed of again immediately, but otherwise she must wait three months and ten days.

In the marriage by Ambelana, it is the husband who becomes the slave to the wife's family, instead

Sumatra. stead of the wife to the husband's; in this case the girl's father makes choice of a young man usually of inferior family, who transfer all their right in their son to the family he enters. In this marriage the husband can have no property of his own, not even in his children, and he can be turned off at the pleasure of his wife's family.

The third kind of marriage by Semundo, is contracted on the basis of perfect equality; the contract declaring that all property is in common, and in case of a divorce shall be equally divided. This kind of marriage, which is more consonant to reason and more productive of conjugal felicity is prevailing over the others, and is strongly recommended by the English residents.

The marriage ceremony consists simply in joining hands and declaring the parties man and wife; then succeeds a feast in the public assembly room, and the evening is closed with dances and songs, often extremely licentious.

A man is allowed to have as many wives by Joojoor, as he can purchase or support, but in general poverty confines him to one.

The woman married by Ambelana has not a similar privilege; nor can it take place in the marriage by Semundo, as the property could not in that case be equally divided.

Female chastity is very closely guarded in Sumatra, for it is so much the interest of the fathers to preserve the virtue of their daughters, that they pay peculiar attention to their conduct before marriage: nevertheless it sometimes happens that the daughter's

daughter's wit exceeds the father's prudence; and in this case the favoured lover is either obliged to marry the girl by Joojoor, or if the father prefers keeping her he is punished by a fine, and the diminished value of the girl is thus made up to the father. Sumatra.

In the interior venal prostitution is unknown, on the coasts it is as common as in our own seaports. Adultery is not frequent, and when it is discovered the offended party usually takes a personal vengeance, or else sinks it in oblivion, instead of proclaiming his injury by having recourse to the law.

The ceremony of divorce is as simple as that of marriage, and consists in cutting a piece of rattan in two, in the presence of the parties, their relations and some of the chiefs. The women of Sumatra are not prolific, and few are mothers of five children: these latter soon voluntarily leave off the breast, and as their growth is not impeded by any kind of clothing, a deformed person is scarcely to be seen. The child on its birth receives a name from its parents to which it afterwards adds another, which is generally a sounding epithet, such as Shaker of the World, &c. In some parts the father takes the name of his son, with the addition of Pa (abreviation of Papa, father) as "father of such a one;" it is also considered polite to address a married woman by the name of her eldest son with the addition of Ma (mother). The Sumatrans make it a rule never to pronounce their own name, from

Sumatra. from what cause is unknown, and when a stranger ignorant of this enquires it of them, they refer him to another person. In speaking to a superior they, as in French, use the third person instead of the second, and substitute the name or title of the person spoken to instead of the pronoun: as, what does the gentleman wish? instead of what do you wish, sir?

Gaming is passionately followed by the Sumatrans, and their favourite play is with dice; the use of which is, however, strictly forbidden where the English influence is preponderant.

Cock fighting is also a favourite amusement of the Malays, and is carried to such lengths, that daughters, wives, sisters, and mothers, are often staked on a favourite bird: quails are also trained to fight. The athletic amusements are very few, being confined to a kind of war dance, in which they throw themselves into violent contortions, and to striking an elastic ball from one to another with their hands, elbows, knees, feet, &c. in which they shew great dexterity.

The Sumatrans, in common with most of the eastern nations, continually chew the betel. When two acquaintances meet they first salute, which, if they are equals, is by gently inclining the body forwards; but if there is a difference of rank, the inferior puts his joined hands between those of the superior, and then raises them to his forehead. The betel is then presented as we offer snuff, and the omission of this politeness between equals is considered

considered a gross affront, as it also is for an inferior to speak to his superior before he has filled his mouth with it. Sumatra.

It is also in betel that the young men present philtres or love potions to their mistresses, and as these are usually composed of stimulating drugs, they of course have at times the desired effect. Tobacco is smoked, rolled up in the leaf of the palm tree.

The usage of opium is universal amongst the Sumatrans; it is boiled in a copper vessel, strained through a cloth, boiled again, and mixed with a certain leaf cut small until it is of a sufficient consistence, when it is rolled up in pills the size of a pea; one of them is put into a tube inserted into the extremity of a pipe, which being lighted, the opium pill is consumed at one inspiration. The smoke is passed by the nose, or even by the eyes and ears, but never by the mouth. When indulged in to excess, this custom produces paroxysms of phrenzy, in which the person thus affected runs through the streets and with his *criss* indiscriminately kills every person he meets with, till at length he is killed himself; this is called *running a muck*, and where the English influence prevails the guards have orders to do instant execution on the culprit.

Among those who have adopted Mahometanism the children are circumcised between the ages of six and ten; this is called *banishing shame*, and is followed by a feast.

The last offices for the dead are performed with much solemnity. The body is conveyed to the place

Sumatra. place of interment on a board which serves for a whole village, it is there rubbed over with glue, and enveloped in a white cloth: a hole of a certain size and depth is then dug, and at the bottom and on one side of it the earth is excavated so as to form a cavity sufficiently large to hold the body; this being strewed with fresh flowers the body is placed in it, and it is closed by two planks united together by their edges at right angles, so that one of the planks goes over the body, and the other closes the cavity on the open side; the grave is then filled, and little streamers and flags stuck round it, a tree sacred to this purpose, bearing a white flower, is planted on it, and also the wild marjoram. The women who follow the body to the grave express their sorrow in a dismal howl. At the end of twelve months the relations place at the head and foot of the grave some long elliptical stones, which being scarce are very dear, and at the same time kill a buffalo and give a feast, the head of the animal being placed on the grave. The burying grounds are held in such veneration, that it is deemed sacrilege to violate the earth of them even where there is no appearance of a grave.

The tribes who have not adopted Mahometanism have no form of worship whatever, nor do they appear to have a very correct notion of a future state; they have nevertheless confused ideas of supernatural beings, whom they suppose can at will render themselves invisible, and hence they call them *orang aloos*, or imperceptible men;

men; they divide them into good and evil genii, Sumatra.
the former they distinguish by the name of *Malay cat*, and the latter by that of *Sisin*. As these are the names by which the Arabs call their good and evil spirits, it is probable the Sumatrans have thence borrowed both them and the idea itself.

Some tribes believe that old trees are the habitations of spirits, and therefore hold them in great veneration, particularly the banyan tree. The inhabitants of the interior make an offering to the sea when they see it for the first time in order to propitiate it; they believe it to possess a voluntary power of motion, and one of them has been known to carry a vessel full of the sea water into the interior with him, and pour it into a lake, supposing it would impart this virtue to its tranquil waters. They believe that certain persons are invulnerable, and that they can impart this property to inanimate things, such as a ship, &c.

Towards the north end of the island is a tribe named Battas, differing so much from the rest of the islanders as to deserve a particular mention.

Their dress consists of a coarse cotton garment of their own manufacture, with a hat of the bark of a tree: they are passionately fond of strings of beads, and the young women wear rings of block tin in their ears, sometimes to the number of fifty in each.

They consider horse flesh a great luxury, and fatten those animals for slaughter. The houses are constructed of large timber and covered with

Sumatra. ejoo, and consist only of one great apartment, entered by a door in the centre. In the front of every house is an open building, or shed, where they repose during the day, and where the unmarried men pass the night. Each village, which seldom consists of more than forty houses, has a large public assembly room, in which their feasts are held and strangers received, who are here treated with great hospitality.

Every man may marry as many wives as he pleases, and six is no uncommon number; all of whom live in a large apartment, or house, without screen or partition: nevertheless each has a separate fireplace and cooking utensils, and prepares her own victuals, and her husband's in her turn. When a man feels a *penchant* for a girl, he makes it known to her father, and if the latter agrees to receive him as a son-in-law, the girl, stripped naked, enters a bath, in which the lover is permitted to examine her; and if he finds her *comme il faut*, the price he is to pay her father is agreed upon. The women are here, indeed, less considered than among the other Sumatrans, being not only employed in domestic drudgery, but also obliged to cultivate the rice; while the husbands pass whole days in playing the flute crowned with garlands of flowers.

As well as the other tribes the Battas are much addicted to gambling; but here, when a man has lost more than he can pay, his creditors seize and sell him for a slave, and in this manner most

most of the native slaves have become so. Their favourite amusement is horse-racing: they ride without a saddle, and with bridles of rattan. Sumatra.

The language and written characters of the Battas differ from the Malay, and a much greater number of the former know how to read and write. They are strictly honest in their dealings with each other, but make no scruple in cheating a stranger, when they are not restrained by the laws of hospitality, which they strictly observe.

A man convicted of adultery is punished with death, while the woman is only shaved and sold for a slave; but in this case, as well as in all others, the man may redeem his life by paying a fine, which, for the crime of adultery, is eighty dollars.

The Battas are cannibals, not from the necessity of eating human flesh in times of famine, nor from considering it as delicate food; on the contrary, they eat it as a kind of ceremonial, to prove the detestation they have for certain crimes, or to satisfy their vengeance against their enemies, the victims served up at these horrible repasts being either condemned criminals or prisoners taken in war; the former, however, are never sacrificed, unless their friends refuse or are unable to redeem them, and the prisoners of war may be either ransomed or exchanged.

The slightest provocation rouses the military order of the Battas, and they are instantly in arms. They first give notice to the enemy of their discontent by firing muskets with powder only

Sumatra. over their houses, by which it is understood that they give them three days to propose terms of accommodation; at the expiration of which, if no terms are proposed, or not agreed to, war is commenced. Their wars sometimes last two or three years, for they never come to a decisive engagement, nor openly attack a village, but endeavour to surprize straggling parties. Three or four conceal themselves near the road where the enemy is expected to pass, and when they see one approach they fire at him, and instantly take to their heels, without waiting to ascertain the effect.

Their villages are fortified by clay walls, on the top of which they plant bushes. Outside of this wall is a ditch, with a range of pallisades at each side; and without the ditch an impenetrable hedge of living bamboos and prickly shrubs, and outside of all, the ground is stuck full of pointed bamboos concealed by the grass. At each angle of this fortification a high tree is planted, which serves as a look-out post.

Their military standard is a horse's head or tail, and their arms the matchlock, a bamboo spear, and a kind of sword or long knife, never using the *criss*. They are also supplied with pointed bamboos of different sizes, which, when retreating, they stick in the ground behind them, to retard a pursuit by wounding the enemy's feet.

Having no money all valuation is by certain merchandizes; thus in trade, with strangers, they calculate by cakes of benjamin, and in the home trade

trade by buffaloes, corn, &c. and by salt in small transactions, two pounds of it being equal to two-pence half-penny. Sumatra.

They have little more idea of religion than the other tribes who have not embraced Mahometanism, but they believe in a beneficent and maleficent being, to neither of whom however they render any worship, nor do they appear to have any hopes or fears respecting a future state. They have priests, whose business it is to bury the dead, and predict fortunate or unfortunate days, which they observe scrupulously. The priests also predict the event of their wars by the examination of the entrails of an animal (a buffalo or fowl entirely white), which is sacrificed previous to commencing hostilities. This is, however, a dangerous office for the priest, for, if the event contradicts his prediction, he is inevitably put to death for his ignorance.

The Lampoons, who inhabit the eastern extremity of the island, differ from the other races in their features, nearly resembling the Chinese, and speak a gutteral dialect.

In the interior of the island are two tribes, named *Orang Cooboo* and *Orang Googoo*; the first are sometimes taken and made slaves of by the Sumatrans. Of their manners we have no other knowledge than that they feed on whatever the woods afford, eating indifferently elephants, rhinoceros, snakes, or monkeys, and that their language differs entirely from that of the other islanders. The Orang Googoo is said to differ

Sumatra. from the Orang Ootang only in the gift of speech, being, like that animal, covered with long hair.

Both these races are in very small numbers, and indeed the existence of the latter is not guaranteed to his readers by Mr. Marsden, but given merely on the testimony of some of the Sumatrans, who affirm that they have occasionally met straggling individuals of this race.

By the original treaties between the native princes and the English, the former bound themselves to oblige all their subjects to cultivate pepper and sell it to the English at a fixed price; while the latter were in return to maintain the chiefs in their full sovereignty, and to pay them a small duty on the pepper they received from their territories. Both the letter and the spirit of these treaties have, however, long become obsolete, and the English are the real sovereigns of the districts over which their influence extends. This usurpation has, however, been certainly productive of much benefit to the natives in general. The English residents are the mediators between the chiefs and the people, hence the districts under their influence enjoy uninterrupted tranquillity, while the surrounding tribes are ever at war; and in the English districts private quarrels seldom produce those murders which are their invariable consequences in the other parts of the island. "I protest to you, in truth," said a chief, irritated against a person and addressing a British Resident, "that you alone prevented me from plunging this criss into his bosom."

The

The town of Achen is the capital of a kingdom of the same name, which formerly held the first rank amongst those of Sumatra. It is situated two miles up a river, which falls into a bay five leagues N.E. of Achen Head, the N.W. point of the island. The river is small, and a bar crosses it, which closes it against any vessels larger than boats at low water, but at high water vessels of thirty tons enter it. The anchorage is safe in the bay or road two miles from the river's mouth. Sumatra.

The description given of the town of Achen, as it appeared to the author of *Lettres Edifiantes* in 1698, though a little overcharged for its present state, is sufficiently accurate to give a just idea of it. "Imagine to yourself," says the author, "a forest of palm trees, plantains, and bamboos, through which runs a fine river covered with boats; place in the forest an incredible number of houses, constructed of cane, reeds, or bark; dispose them so as to form sometimes streets, sometimes detached quarters; interpose these quarters and streets with fields and groves, and people this forest with as many inhabitants as we see in one of our populous cities, and you will form a just idea of Achen. It appears like a landscape formed by the imagination of the painter or the poet, in which are combined all the most smiling features of the country; all is negligent, natural, and even a little savage. From the road the town is not perceived, being concealed behind the thick wood that lines the coast."

Sumatra. The town of Achen has, however, nothing to recommend it, either on the score of beauty or magnificence. The palace of the sultan, which is the chief public building, is an irregular clumsy edifice, surrounded by thick walls, but without any other defence, except that at its gate are placed several pieces of brass ordnance of extraordinary size, chiefly presents from the Portuguese, and two presented by our James the First, one of which has a calibre of twenty-four inches and the other eighteen, but their thickness is not at all in proportion, nor does it appear that they have ever been fired out of. The number of houses at Achen are reckoned at 8,000.

Innumerable fishing boats quit the river with the land wind in the morning, and return with the sea breeze in the afternoon.

Six to ten chulia, or Coromandel native vessels, carry on the principal trade of Achen, arriving there in the month of August, and returning in February or March. The duties on importation form the whole revenue of the sultan, and may amount to between £1,500 and £3,000 annually, which barely enables him to keep a standing force of about 100 men.

The trading places which succeed to Achen on the west coast are Analaboo, in 4° 8′; Soosoo, in 3° 41′, both under the Achen government. Sinkel town is forty miles up the largest river of the coast, which however is crossed by a bar with but twelve feet high water; proas ascend it to the town. Before the river's mouth is a small island, affording

affording a sheltered road within it. Baroos, in 1° 57′, in the country of the Battas, is two leagues up a river. Sumatra.

Tappanooly Bay, also in the country of the Battas, is described as possessing capacity and perfect security for all the navies in the world, being a great lagoon penetrating into the heart of the island, and forming such a labyrinth of harbours, that a ship may be so hid as not to be found without a tedious search. On a small island, named Ponchang Cacheel, is the English settlement of Tappanooly, consisting of an insignificant fort and factory.

Natal, also an English establishment, is of still less consequence, but is a considerable native trading place.

Priaman, formerly a Dutch settlement, is now occupied by the English, whose establishment consists only of a square space, pallisaded and encompassed by a ditch, with ten small guns, and is under the direction of a non-commissioned officer.

Padang, the chief establishment of the Dutch on the west coast of Sumatra, is a mile up a river, in 50° S. The fort is a square, with four stone bastions; the walls nine feet high, and encompassed by a wet ditch. The garrison is usually fifty men.

Ayer-rajah, also a Dutch settlement, in 1° 58′ S., is two miles up a river, crossed by a dangerous bar.

Moco-Moco, in 2° 36′, at the head of a bay, where

where the English have a small fort. Landing is only practicable in the country canoes.

Bencoolen, or *Fort Marlborough*, the chief settlement of the English in Sumatra, is situated on an elevated point of land, in a bay, which affords tolerable anchorage within a small island. The native town of Bencoolen is three miles from the fort, and extremely unhealthy, from the neighbourhood of morasses. Besides Malays, it is inhabited by many Chinese.

The expense of this establishment considerably exceeding its revenue, without any counterbalancing advantage, either commercial or political, it was very considerably reduced in 1801, and from being a presidency, was placed under the immediate government of Bengal. The other trading places on the west coast, and where the English had residents, but which have been withdrawn, are,

Saloomah,	in 4° 12′ S.	Manna	4° 25′ S.
Cawoor	4° 54′	Crooe	5° 15′

Off the west coast of Sumatra are several islands, the first of which that present themselves lie off Achen Head, and are named Pulo Way, high, and three leagues long, and the place of banishment for robbers from Achen, after they have suffered amputation of one arm; Pulo Rondo, a great high round rock; Pulo Brasse and Pulo Nancy, also high, and with several islets near them.

The

The Cocos are two small islands, six leagues N.W. of Hog Island, or Pulo Babee, which latter is seventeen or eighteen leagues from the coast of Sumatra, and is fifteen leagues long, N.W. and S.E. and three to four broad. It is hilly, and may be seen eight leagues. It is covered with wood and inhabited, but is seldom visited by Europeans.

Pulo Banjak is a group of two islands, separated by a narrow strait, and several islets. The northernmost of the two principal islands rises in a sugar loaf mountain.

Pulo Nias is seventeen leagues long, and six to eight broad, being the largest island on this coast: it is high, has several rivers, and produces abundance of rice and yams: it also abounds in wild hogs and poultry. It is divided between a great number of rajahs, continually at war, for the purpose principally of making slaves, who are sold, to the number of 800 annually, to vessels from Sumatra. The natives appear to be of the Batta nation, and their females, being remarkable for the fairness of their complexions and the delicate symmetry of their forms, are sought for by the Dutch of Batavia.

Manslaer Island, before the Bay of Tappanooly, is well wooded and has a fine cascade, precipitating itself from the conical summit of a hill.

Pulo Mintao, or Nantian, is fourteen leagues long and five broad, has an undulating surface, covered with wood, and is well inhabited, but seldom visited by Europeans.

Se

Sumatra. Se Booro Island is twenty-three leagues long, high, covered with wood, and with a great surf on the west coast. Se Pora is fourteen leagues long and seven broad; woody; its west side is uninhabited, but on the east side are three good bays, where hogs, yams, and cocoa-nuts, may be procured at some straggling villages. These two islands are the Good Fortune Island of the old charts.

The Nassau, or Two Poggy Islands, are separated by a narrow strait called Se Cockup, forming an excellent harbour. The islands are inhabited by an uncivilized people, who do not know the use of money, making no distinction between a metal button and a piece of gold or silver coin. They are divided into tribes, each inhabiting a distinct village on a river. Their houses are like those of the Sumatrans, of bamboo raised on posts, and the space underneath serves as a place for pigs and poultry, which, together with sago, constitute their food, for they grow no rice; the islands have red deer, but neither buffaloes nor goats. They abound in large timber, amongst which are poon trees, of sufficient dimensions for lower masts for a first-rate ship of war.

Larg, Bergen, and Trieste, or Pula Mago, are three small islands in succession. Engano, or Deceitful Island, is twenty leagues distant from the coast of Sumatra; it is about four leagues long, well inhabited, and abounds in yams and cocoa-nuts.

The

The east coast of Sumatra, from Achen Head to Diamond Point, is usually called the coast of Pedir; near the sea it is low, but inland rise high mountains of singular shapes. The only place of the coast visited by European traders, is Pedir, situated up a small barred river, accessible only to boats. Telisamey is a town and fort on a river, visited by Malay proas. Sumatra.

From Diamond Point (Tanjong Goeree), the coast is low, with many rivers and villages, but is never visited by Europeans, the natives being extremely treacherous, so that unless a ship is well manned and constantly guarded, she is sure to be *cut off*. Pulo Varella on this coast, seven leagues off shore, affords wood, water, and turtle, but is infested by the Malay freebooters.

Batoobarra, in 3° 25′ N., is on a river navigable by small vessels, and a considerable distance up which is seen a large brick building, of whose origin no tradition is preserved amongst the natives. It is a square, with a very high pillar at one corner, thought to have been intended for hoisting a flag; figures in relief are carved on the walls, which the Malays believe to be Chinese, but which more probably are Hindoo.

Rakan, or Irkan river, nearly opposite to Malacca, is one of the largest rivers of Sumatra, penetrating like an arm of the sea, and navigable for sloops a long way inland. Siak river, farther east, is more accurately known by a recent survey. From its mouth to the town of Siak is sixty-five miles; and Pakanbharu, where the survey ended,

Sumatra. ended, 100 miles more. The general breadth of the river is from half to three-fourths of a mile, and the depth seven to fifteen fathoms; but its mouth is crossed by a bar with only fifteen feet, and there are many shoals and islands before it. According to the accounts of the natives, the river is navigable with the tide eight days sail from its mouth. The Dutch had formerly a factory on an island in the river.

Indragiri is another river of magnitude, sloops tiding it up for five or six weeks, according to the relations of the Malays.

Jambee is a large town on a river, sixty miles from its mouth, and accessible to large boats; the English and Dutch had formerly factories on this river, but which have been long abandoned. An occasional ship from Bengal touches here to sell opium, the trade being carried on on board at the point of the bayonet.

Palambam, or Palembang river, rises near the west coast of the island, about a day's journey from Bencoolen, and empties itself by several branches into the strait of Banca; the land near its mouth is low and swampy, the breadth up to the Dutch factory, a distance of fourteen leagues, is near a mile, and it has depth for vessels of fourteen feet draft. The Dutch establishment in 1777 (and it does not appear to have been since increased), consisted of 115 Europeans, of whom about thirty were officers, civil and military. The Malay town of Palembang is the most considerable of Sumatra; it is sixty miles up the river, along both banks of which it extends for eight miles, besides

besides a number of floating habitations on the river. The houses are like those of the Malays in general of wood and bamboo raised on posts. The sultan's palace is a large lofty building, surrounded by a high wall, and near it is the grand mosque, which appears to have been built by an European, having pilasters and a cupola, and glazed windows. Two forts mounting heavy cannon protect the town.

Besides Malays, a great many strangers are settled at Palembang, principally Chinese, Cochin-Chinese, and Siamese.

At the east end of the island, in the strait of Sunda, are the two large bays of Lampoon and Keyser, both forming good harbours; and that of Lampoon in particular is one of the grand rendezvous of the Malay pirates.*

The islands that attach themselves by their proximity to the east coast of Sumatra, particularly in the east entrance of the strait of Malacca, are

so

* The greater part of the Malay archipelago is infested by pirates, whose proas often join till they form fleets of 200, each carrying 20 men, and two carriage guns (six or twelve-pounders), besides Rantakkas, or long swivels, of their own manufacture, with wall pieces and small arms. The first met with are those of Rio, whose chief rendezvous is Pulo-Lingin. The inhabitants of the north and west sides of Banca are also pirates, and their rendezvous is Numlok, on the west side of the island; the pirates of the east coast of Sumatra and the neighbouring islands frequent the bay of Lampoon. The people of Bally are all pirates, and their vessels, as well as those of Java, assemble at Carimon-Java. Mindanao and Soolon are also full of freebooters, whose depredations are chiefly exercised amongst the Philippines.

The Chinese and Europeans who are so unfortunate as to be taken by these pirates are usually murdered; but the Malays, if they do not belong to their own island, in which case they are liberated, are sold as slaves to the Chinese and Indian Portuguese.

so numerous and so little interesting, that we may be excused for passing them over with the general remark, that they are mostly rocky, all covered with wood, and generally affording fresh water. The Great and Little Dryon, or Durian, are two high islands separated by a narrow strait; the channel between them and the coast of Sumatra, into the strait of Malacca is called the strait of Dryon. The islands of Battam and Bintang form the south side of the strait of Sincapore (Governor's Strait of the French).

Bintang Island is visited by Chinese and Malay trading vessels. The sultan resides at Rhio, on the S.W. side of the island.

Pulo Lingin, under the Equator, is a large island with two peaks; its inhabitants are amongst the most cruel of the Malay pirates.

The island of BANCA is separated from Sumatra by the Strait of Banca, thirty-four leagues long. The island extends in a direction N.W. and S.E., in which direction a chain of hills runs through it; one of whose summits, on the north, named Monopin Hill, and another on the south, named Parmesan, are marks for the navigation of the Strait. This island, which belongs to the Sultan of Palembang, in Sumatra, is famous throughout Asia for its tin mines, which were only discovered in 1710, and which afford 300,000 lbs. of metal annually without any appearance of their diminishing. The mines are worked by Chinese, who deliver the tin to the Sultan of Palembang, and who, in his turn, delivers it to the Dutch. The island

island also affords copper and tutenague, and is esteemed healthy. The north coast is lined by reefs, within which are some good ports, but never visited by Europeans. At Rangan, at the west end, the Dutch had a small post.

Lucipera is a small islet in the fair way of the east entrance of the Strait of Banca.

The island of BILLITON lies in the centre of the passage between the Sunda and China sea, for which we have proposed the name of the *Channel of Borneo*,* and nearly midway between Banca and Borneo. The channel between Banca and Billiton is called Gaspar Strait, and that between Billiton and Borneo, the Carimata Passage. A great number of islands and reefs render the navigation of these channels perillous.

The chain of large islands between Sumatra and New Guinea are usually included by geographers in the denomination of *Sunda* Isles, from the strait of that name, which appears to derive from the Sanscrit *Sindu*, sea, great water or river, and which is probably the true ancient name of the internal sea, to which we have applied it.†

The island of JAVA is separated from the east end of Sumatra by the Strait of Sunda, about five leagues wide where narrowest. The island is 250 leagues long and thirty to fifty broad. Its name, according to some, signifies *great*, while others derive it from the Malay, *djav*, the name

Java.

* Vol. i. page 14. † Ibid.

Java. of a grain that grows on it. The Arabs and Persians call it *Gezira al Maha Rajah*, the island of the great king.

Java is traversed by a chain of high mountains from east to west, approaching nearest to the south coast, and giving rise to innumerable torrents, which, in the rainy season, inundate all the low lands. The greatest elevation of the chain is towards the east, and the highest summits are on the narrowest part of the island behind Cheribon. Several of the mountains are volcanoes, of which that named Geté has an elevation of 8,000 feet.

The rivers of Java are inconsiderable, and their mouths generally closed by bars against the entrance of any but small vessels. The northern coast of the island is, in general, low and considered very unhealthy, from the marshes, stagnant waters, and thick vegetation, that cover the shore. At the distance of some leagues from the sea, the climate becomes salubrious and agreeable, and the cold increases in ascending from the foot of the mountains, until at the country house of the governor of Batavia, only six leagues from the city, the coolness of the morning and evening air renders fires agreeable. The vegetable and animal productions are entirely similar to those of Sumatra, which we have already minutely detailed. The Javanese also resemble the Sumatrans in their general character and customs, and speak the Malay language, with some modifications: The Mahometan doctrine is predominant throughout

throughout the island; but in the mountains there is still said to be found a tribe, who, adhering to the original religion, abstain from animal food, believing in the metempsychosis. There are also found some descendants of an ancient Chinese colony, and many ancient Chinese temples are scattered over the island. The yellow colour reserved for the habits of the emperor seems also to have been adopted from China. Java.

The island is divided by the Dutch into five sovereignties, Bantam, Jacatra, Cheribon, Soosoohoonam, and the Sultanat; the four first are dependant on the Dutch, and the last is to a certain degree under their controling influence. The nominal emperor or sultan resides at Soorikarta, on the south side of the island, and assumes the pompous titles of Prince of Princes, Support of the World, &c. &c. &c. The population of the island is estimated at two millions.

The kingdom of Bantam occupies the west end of the island. The king is appointed by the Dutch, but is always chosen from the royal family. Besides a large tribute in pepper, he is bound to deliver all the pepper and other commercial objects of his dominions to the Dutch alone.

Bantam, the residence of the king, is on a gulf on the north side of the island, near the west end. The gulf is filled with uninhabited islands and shoals, but has good anchorage for large ships. The city is at the head of the gulf, between two branches of a river, which are entirely choked up by sand, having only five feet at high water springs.

Java. springs. The town is composed of scattered dwellings of bamboo, interspersed with cocoa-palms. The palace is within a square fortification of considerable extent, with regular bastions at the angles, mounting sixty-six cannon, several of brass, but few of them serviceable: they are chiefly of Portuguese and English make. The Dutch keep a garrison of 150 soldiers in the fort, on pretence of doing honour to the King, but in reality to guard him as a prisoner, no one of his subjects being allowed to enter the palace without the knowledge of the commandant.

Below the town, nearer to the river's mouth, is the Dutch fort of Speelwyk, mounting forty-eight guns, with a garrison of 150 men.

Subordinate to Bantam is the post of Anjera, consisting of a pallisaded fort surrounded by a ditch, with four four-pounders, and six or eight soldiers; here ships passing through the Strait of Sunda frequently touch for water and provisions. The territory of the Bay of Lampoon on the east end of Sumatra, is also subject to Bantam, and has Dutch inferior residents.

The kingdom of Jacatra succeeds to the east of Bantam: its last king was conquered by the Dutch in 1619, since when they have governed it as sovereigns.

BATAVIA, the capital of the Dutch Indian possessions, is situated on the river Jacatra, one of the largest of the island, which washes the town on one side, while a canal insulates it on the other, and answers the purpose of a wet ditch to the

the works, which consist of a wall twenty feet high, built chiefly of coral rock, and flanked by twenty-two irregular bastions, with two to three pieces of cannon each. Four gates, with drawbridges, form the communications between the town and suburbs. The citadel is on the north side of the town outside the walls, and has a rampart twenty to twenty-five feet high, and four bastions. In it are the governor's palace and all the public buildings.

The river, which is navigable for loaded lighters to the town, is shut by a barrier of wood below the citadel, and lower down is fort Loo, mounting six or seven guns pointed towards the river's mouth. On the opposite or east bank is also a fort, and extensive lines flanked with redoubts, to protect magazines, &c. All the fortifications, however, are incapable of any long defence.

The town is handsomely built, the streets intersecting each other at right angles, and in the middle of each is a canal from thirty to sixty feet broad, lined with masonry, and planted on each side with trees. Next the houses is a footway six feet wide, the outer edge of which is also planted with a line of trees; and between this footway and the canal is a road from thirty to sixty feet broad, gravelled for carriages and slaves, the latter being forbidden to walk on the footway: thus the streets are all from 114 to 210 feet wide, and the town contains twenty streets. The canals are crossed

Java. by thirty-eight bridges. The places of worship are a Calvinist and Lutheran church, a Portuguese, Chinese, and Mahometan temples. The population is estimated at 160,000, of which 12 to 1,500 are Europeans, independent of the regular military force, 10,000 Chinese, and the rest Javanese, Portuguese, and slaves.*

The regular military force is 1,000 European infantry, 200 cavalry, and 3,300 Javanese and Madurans. The inhabitants are also formed into a militia, consisting of several regiments, each commanded by a member of the regency. The European inhabitants form two companies of infantry and a squadron of cavalry. The native Christians five companies, the freed slaves one company, the Moors one company, the Javanese proper three companies, the natives of Bally, Macassar, Amboyna, Bouton, Madura, Sumba wa, and Sumatrans, one company each, and the Chinese five companies, in all twenty-six companies.

The government of the colony is composed of a regency, consisting of the governor-general, six ordinary counsellors, a director-general of commerce, and nine extraordinary counsellors. The governor-general is, however, absolute, for though he

* Tombe, Voyage aux Indes Orientales. Travellers, however, estimate the population variously. In 1778, Huyers makes it 486 Europeans, exclusive of the Company's servants, 23,000 Chinese, 20,000 slaves, in all 111,000, not reckoning women and children. Another account in 1779 makes it 173,000, of whom 20,000 were Chinese and 17,000 slaves.

he is obliged to consult the council, he is at liberty to reject their opinions on his own responsibility. Each of the counsellors is charged with the superintendance of one of the factories in India or the other islands, or else presides in one of the departments at Batavia. Java.

The council of justice or judicial court is composed of members named in Holland, and presided by a fiscal; this court is independent of the regency. The city of Batavia has a municipal government composed of one of the members of the regency and a number of citizens.

The road of Batavia is formed by several small islands, which shelter it in both monsoons. On Onrust, one of these islands, is the naval arsenal, surrounded by fortifications, but none of which command the road or the channels into it. On Parmurent island is the naval hospital.

The kingdom of Cheribon, east of Jacatra, is governed by three native princes very little more independent than the King of Bantam, the Dutch dethroning and banishing them when it suits their will and pleasure.

Cheribon, a large Javanese village, on a river, which empties itself by two mouths, both only navigable at high water for vessels of six feet. The Dutch have here a small brick fort with four guns, surrounded by a ditch, and garrisoned by seventy Europeans. The road of Cheribon is entirely open, and has but five fathoms two leagues off. At Cheribon is the grandest mosque of the island, and near it the Mahometans venerate the tomb of

Java. Ibn Sheik Mollanah, the apostle of Islamism in this island.

East of Cheribon is the empire of Soosoohoonam, which formerly included all the east end of the island, but in 1740 the emperor ceded thirty, out of fifty-six, of his provinces to the Dutch; who by this cession acquired the whole sea coast to the east extremity of the island; at the same time that the nominal emperor and other princes bound themselves to deliver all the products of their territory to the Dutch company only.

Tagal is a native town of 8,000 inhabitants, twelve leagues east of Cheribon, to which succeeds Samarang, a Dutch and Indian town, on the Great River, of 30,000 inhabitants. It is the second establishment of the Dutch on the island; having a good fort, with several outworks, and a garrison of 150 Europeans and 450 natives. The road is open, and the depth only three fathoms one league off, and five fathoms one league and a half. The river carries out a great quantity of mud, which forms banks at its mouth, leaving but one channel into it for boats. It is said to be the most healthy situation on the north coast.

Japara is a small Dutch fort, near which are the ruins of an ancient city of that name, the capital of a kingdom, where is seen a temple of stone, of far superior workmanship to any thing produced by the Javanese of the present day.

The fort of Javanna is east of the promontory of Japara; and before it is the island Mandelique, the rendezvous of the Borneo pirates.

The

The river of Javanna is one of the largest of the north coast, flowing from a large lake, called the Inland Sea, and having a depth of twenty feet, and a communication, navigable for boats, with the river of Samarang. The Dutch fort at Javanna is a redoubt with four demi bastions, and near it are Javanese and Chinese towns.

Rembang is a Dutch fort, four leagues east of Javanna; to which succeeds Sidayo, two leagues east of Panka Point (the point of Java that forms the west entrance of the Strait of Madura, and where pilots are usually taken for the strait), a native town and Dutch post of half a dozen Europeans.

Grassec, in the Strait of Madura, is a small Dutch fort, with a town on the beach, inhabited by Javanese and Chinese. There is no good water nearer to the town than half a league.

Surabaya, three leagues S.E. of Grassec, and one league up a river, is a Dutch fort, of brick, with a garrison of 100 Europeans and several companies of native troops. The Malay and Chinese towns are populous, and are on the opposite side of the river to the fort; the communication by two large wooden bridges. Vessels of 100 tons ascend to the town; and here the Dutch build the vessels employed in the coasting trade of their different eastern settlements, wood being plenty. The Surabayans are considered among the best of the Javanese seamen, and many of them enter on board English country trading vessels; there has been, however, so many instances of their massacreing

Java. massacreing the captains and officers, and running away with the ships, that there seems to be much danger in receiving them.

Passowarang is a Dutch fort on a river navigable by proas a considerable distance: the fort is small but well built, and the Javanese town of considerable size. Rice is the chief export; the water is here so shoal, that ships cannot anchor nearer than three or four miles to the land.

Panaroukan is a small Dutch fort of a serjeant and three or four Europeans, one mile and a half up a river, which empties itself by several branches, none of which are accessible even to canoes except in the rainy season.

Banioowangui on a river in the province of Balambooang, at the east extremity of the island south of Cape Sandana, its N.E. point, is a small mud fort encompassed by a ditch, with a large Malay and Chinese town; it is considered extremely unhealthy, and is the place oftran sportation of criminals from Batavia, to work in the pepper and coffee plantations.

The south coast of Java being never visited by European vessels, is very little known. In sailing along, it appears very mountainous and to be beaten by a tremendous surf. Java Head, the S.W. point of the island, is a noted promontory, six leagues N.E. of which in the Strait of Sunda is Prince's Island (Pulo Seilan and Panetan of the natives), often touched at by ships to procure wood and water; it is one league and a half from the Java shore, and about six leagues from that of Sumatra,

Sumatra; is low, but with two little hills, five leagues in circuit and inhabited by about 200 Malays, who supply ships with poultry, fruits, and fish: the best watering place is on the east end of the island. Both shores of the Strait of Sunda afford pleasing prospects: the Sumatran shore is low, but lofty mountains rise inland and conceal their heads in the clouds; the coast of Java, on the contrary, presents a smiling appearance of cultivation in the rice grounds and groves of cocoa-palms, while the islands Cracatoa and several others shoot up in verdant peaks from the bosom of the waters. Java.

The island of Madura is separated from the N.E. end of Java by a strait, only half a league wide between the opposite shores, but a bank on each side reduces the channel to one-fifth of a mile with three to four fathoms soft mud. Madura is twenty leagues long and eight broad. It is governed by a prince tributary to the Dutch, who also have taken from him two provinces towards the east end of the island, where are situated the principal towns of Samanap, Padakassam, and Sampan. The residence of the prince, who has the title of Pahambana, or *Adorable*, is at the west end of the island and has 8,000 inhabitants; the population of the island is 60,000, it abounds in rice and ship-timber, is moderately elevated, and the north coast is bold.' Madura.

Pondy Island, four miles from the east end of Madura, is level, nearly round, eighty feet high, inhabited and well cultivated; as is Galliou Island S.E.

S.E. of Pondy. Kangelang is about thirty leagues farther east, and is a large island of considerable height, well inhabited and of a pleasant appearance.

Bally. The island of Bally is separated from the east end of Java by the Strait of Bally, five leagues wide, through which the tides run with great rapidity. Bally is twenty leagues long, and is traversed from N.W. to S.E. by a chain of high hills, covered with impenetrable forests and containing mines of gold, iron, and copper. On the east side of the island is Gilgil the residence of the sultan. The inhabitants are fairer and better made than the Javanese, and the slaves of this island are esteemed. The women burn themselves with their husbands' corpses.

Lombock. Lombock Island, *Salamparang* of the natives, is separated from Bally by the Strait of Lombock, in the entrance of which is Banditti Island, and though the strait is very narrow there are no soundings within a mile of either shore, and the depth is sixty to eighty fathoms a cable's length off. Lombock is of considerable size with a peak 8,000 feet high, but the east coast is low with plantations of cocoa-nut palms, and on this coast is the town of Bally, *Loboagee* of the natives, very populous and much frequented by Malay proas from Celebes, Amboyna, &c. for rice. Cattle and fruit of all kinds are also abundant; and the people are represented as very different from the generality of Malays, being friendly and honest in their dealings with Europeans.

Sumbawa

Sumbawa. Sumbawa* Island is east of Lombock, from which it is separated by the Strait of Alass, or *Gilleese*, of the natives, fifteen leagues long, and five to six miles broad, where narrowest. Sumbawa is sixty leagues long, eastand west, with high irregular mountains running through it; it is thickly inhabited by friendly Malays, who as well as the Lombockers speak a language different from the common Malay, and write on the leaves of the palm-tree with an iron style. The Dutch had a post on Biman Bay, on the N.E. side of Sumbawa, chiefly for the purpose of procuring horses, a very small but active race of which is abundant on the islands east of Java. From this place the Dutch also procure superior sandal wood, in return for opium and India piece goods.

Goonong Api, or the Burning Mountain, is three or four miles from the N.E. end of Sumbawa, and forms two sharp volcanic peaks.

Commodo. Commodo, or Rotten Island, is separated from the east end of Sumbawa by the Strait of Sapy, named from a village on the Sumbawa shore. Commodo is a high island well inhabited, with several lesser ones near it.

Mangeray. Mangeray Strait separates the island of Commodo from that of Flores, or Mangeray.† This latter is seventy leagues long, and fourteen to fifteen broad: at its east end is the volcanic mountain

* *Sumbava* of the Portuguese, which is often erroneously written Sumbawa, in maps.

† Also called Ende in the old charts.

mountain of Lobetobie, and several other volcanoes are seen near these islands. On the east side of Flores is Larantouca a village, where buffaloes, goats, hogs, fowls, and fruits, may be procured for gunpowder, balls, glass bottles, and cutlery. The island also affords sandal wood, bezoar, wax, and ambergris, which the natives send in their proas to Timor, where it is purchased by the Chinese. Many of the natives of Flores are Christians, having been converted by Portuguese missionaries.

Sandal-wood Island.

Sandal-wood Island, Tjinnana * of the natives, which is the Malay name for sandal-wood, is 100 miles long east and west; near the west end is a volcanic peak visible twenty leagues. The Strait of Flores separates the islands of Solor and Serbite from Flores; on Solor the Dutch had a fort named Frederick Hendrick, where they collected some wax and ambergris. Serbite is little known: to it on the east succeed Lombatta, Pantare, and Ombay, forming straits of their respective names, but little known. Pantare Island is of considerable size with a volcanic peak. Ombay, or Malloom, is sixteen leagues long east and west, is high, and from the numerous dwellings seen amongst the hills appears to be well inhabited.

Timor.

The island of TIMOR is eighty leagues long, N.E. and S.W., and twenty broad. A circle of low land borders the shore, but at the distance of three

* It would appear that the ancient name of this island is properly *Sumba*.

three or four leagues commences a mass of lofty mountains; some said to be calcareous, and composed of sea shells to the height of 800 feet; while others are described as primitive, volcanic, and containing veins of gold. Besides the vegetables common to the Malay islands, which are here in the greatest profusion and luxuriance, the island possesses some species similar to those of New Holland, particularly the *eucalyptus*, and a kind of pine proper for masts; the cinnamon is also found in the interior. The rocky soil and the small quantity of level ground leaves few spots fit for the culture of rice, and the inhabitants live mostly on fruits. Among the animals is said to be one of the kangaroo genus. Timor.

The sea shores are chiefly occupied by the Malay race; but on the south coast is a race of negroes, governed by independent rajahs, who persuade their subjects that they are descended from alligators.

The Portuguese, when driven from the Moluccas, took refuge in Timor, and still occupy a portion of the N.W. coast, where they have the considerable settlement of Delly, or Dilil, visited annually by a ship from Macao. The Dutch established themselves on the S.W. coast of Timor in 1613, and built the fort of Concordia, on the Bay of Coupang. This fort is on a rock overhanging the water, and is garrisoned by fifty men. A little river runs at the foot of the fort, on both sides of which is a town, occupied by Chinese and Creoles, of about 150 houses of wood and bamboo, raised on

Timor. on poles, and only one story, in consequence of the earthquakes to which the island is subject.

The Bay of Coupang is only safe in the eastern monsoon; during the western, vessels anchoring between Timor and Semao, a small island on the S.W.

Rotti Island, separated from Semao by a strait two leagues wide, is visited by the Dutch for rice and jagree. The inhabitants are painted as robust, and leading a most licentious life. Savu Island, between Sandalwood and Timor, is eight leagues long east and west. Its natives tatoo their skins like the islanders of the Pacific. The Dutch have a fort at Timan, on the S.W. side of this island, for the purpose of collecting rice. New Savu is S.W. of Savu.

N.E. of Timor are many islands, seldom visited by Europeans, and therefore little known; they are frequented by Macassar sailing proas. The names of the most considerable are, Pulo Cambing, with a volcanic peak and bubbling sulphurous springs; Wetter; Dog Island; Pulo Babee, or Hog Island; Pulo Jackee, or Nooss-Nessing; Leetee, a high island, of considerable extent, and Moa, abounding in sheep; Damma has a volcano and a small Dutch post; Cerowa; Nila Baber, a large high island; Timor Laut, the southernmost large island between Timor and New Guinea: it extends N.N.E. and S.S.W. twenty-five leagues, is generally high, and is surrounded by many lesser islands. The Keys are three large

large islands, N.N.E. of Timor Laut, and near the coast of New Guinea.

The Arroo Islands are a large cluster, also near the coast of New Guinea, and seem to be thickly inhabited by Papuas: they are low and covered with wood, producing all the fruits and vegetables of the Moluccas, and abounding in fowls. These islands are frequented by birds of Paradise, which it would appear quit the coast of New Guinea in the western, or dry monsoon, to seek the more humid atmosphere of the sea. The natives convey these birds, stuffed, to Banda, as well as sago and slaves, which latter they procure from the coast of New Guinea in predatory incursions. The Dutch claim the Arroo islands, and they are considered as in the government of Banda, but no establishment has been ever formed on them.

The second grand chain of the Malay Archipelago comprehends the islands of Borneo, Celebes, and the Moluccas, included between (nearly) the parallels of five degrees of latitude at each side of the equator, and between the longitudes of 110 and 132° E.

Borneo. BORNEO, if New Holland is raised to the rank of a continent, is the largest island in the world, being 270 leagues long and 225 broad. Our knowledge of it, however, is confined to the coasts, for the interior has never been visited by any European. In general the coasts are low and marshy, covered with wood and intersected by rivers. A chain of mountains runs from north to

Borneo. south approaching close to the eastern coast. From the crystals contained in them, the Dutch have given them the name of the *Crystalline* mountains; several of them are volcanoes, and the island is subject to violent earthquakes; diamonds and gold are found in the soil. The vegetable productions are similar to those of Sumatra; and besides the nutmeg and clove, the trees that give the gum dragon and camphire abound, as well as the benzoin tree. The animals are elephants, tigers, very large wild oxen, wild hogs, and the animal called by the natives the water deer (*Cervus Axis*) which grows to a great size and lives in the marshes. Amongst the monkeys is the pongo having the stature of a man, and the orang-ootang (*Simia Satyrus*), whose resemblance to the human species has been much exaggerated; nor are we credulous enough to believe, that this animal lights a fire to dress its victuals, and blows it into a flame with its mouth.

The coasts of the island are inhabited by Malays of Sumatra, Java, Celebes, and the descendants of some Arabs; all these tribes are Mahometans and are governed by chiefs named Sultans.

The kingdom of Banjermassing is the best known to Europeans and occupies the S.E. of the island. On the river of Banjermassing, which is navigable for vessels of burden, the Dutch have a pallisaded fort, with some bastions and twenty to thirty soldiers; its chief intention is to collect pepper and rough diamonds. Near it is the native town of Tattas

Tattas, of about 300 houses, mostly built on floats in the river. Borneo.

On the west coast are the kingdoms of Landak and Succadana: the town of the latter name is a great trading place, where the Dutch had formerly a resident. Pontiana in the same kingdom is fifty miles up the principal branch of a large river which has several mouths: here the Dutch have a strong fort. The richest diamond mines are in the vicinity of this place.

Momparva, sixteen miles up a river crossed by a bar, is a considerable trading place, being visited by many Chinese junks. Sambas, farther north, is also a great Chinese trading place. Borneo, formerly the capital of the whole island, is on the N.W. coast and contains 3,000 houses, many of which are built on stages in the river.

The north coast of Borneo is subject to the Sultan of Sooloo. On the S.E. is Passir, the chief trading place of the Buggess or Macassar Malays. The English formed an establishment here in 1772, but the resident being frightened at some disturbance among the natives, quitted the place, and no attempt has been since made to renew the factory.

The interior of Borneo is inhabited by a race named *Biadjoos* or *Viadhjas*,* but who call themselves *Dayaks* and *Eidahans*; they are taller, more

 robust,

* This name is said to be of Sanscrit derivation, and to signify savages; from the same root are derived the names of Batta and Beda, tribes of Sumatra and Ceylon. Many other circumstances seem to prove the ancient relations between the Malay Archipelago and India.

Borneo. robust, and fairer than the Malays, and still more sanguinary and ferocious. Their clothing is only a girdle; they paint the body with various figures, and the chiefs draw one or two of their front teeth and substitute golden ones. Their habitation consists of a single large apartment formed of planks, which sometimes contains 100 persons, and over the entrance they suspend the heads of those they have murdered. In order to be entitled to take a wife, it is necessary to lay the head of an enemy at the feet of the bride, and the marriage ceremony consists in smearing the man with the blood of a cock, and the woman with that of a hen. Polygamy is not authorised, and when a woman commits adultery, instead of revenging the affront on the seducer, the husband kills three or four slaves, whose blood is supposed to wash out the stain, and the woman is quit for a beating or is divorced.

When a Biadjoo dies the corpse is kept in a coffin until a slave can be purchased to sacrifice, and when one is procured the corpse is burned and the slave beheaded, after being enjoined fidelity to his master in the other world. The Biadjoos seem to have no government. Their religion extends to the belief in a governing and preserving power, to whom they put up prayers and propitiate by human sacrifices, and they draw omens from the flight of a hawk.

The Alforezes or Haraforas, another tribe of the interior, seem to differ from the Biadjoos in

in being of a darker colour and in the length of their ears. Borneo.

Besides the Malays and Biadjoos, there is said to exist in the mountains a race of negroes, who avoid all communication with the other islanders. None of this race, however, have been seen by Europeans.

A number of small islands, from their proximity, naturally attach themselves to Borneo; and we shall therefore notice the most considerable before we proceed along the grand chain to the east.

Balambangan is five leagues N.E. of Tanjong Sampan-Mangio,* the north point of Borneo, it is about fifteen miles long N.E. and S.W. It has two harbours; one on the north and the other on the south. The entrance to the former is embarrassed by sand banks but it is very capacious and safe; the southernmost can receive a fleet and has four fathoms, so close to the shore that a line of battle ship may fill her water by means of a hose from the land.

In 1773, the English East India Company procured the cession of this island, and several districts on the N.E. coast of Borneo, from the King of Sooloo, and formed an establishment on the island as an emporium of Malay trade; but in 1775, the factory was surprised by the Sooloos, who put the natives to death, and the Europeans escaped to the ships in the harbour. No settle-

* Called Cape Henry in some charts.

Borneo. ment was again attempted until 1803, when the factory was restored, but again soon withdrawn on account of the advantage not compensating the expense.

Banguey is about a mile and a half distant from Balambangan, is twenty miles long rising to a peak on the N.W.; it affords fresh water from a river of some size, but is infested by pirates.

Cagayan Sooloo is an island twenty miles in circuit and of moderate height; it is dependant on Sooloo and is only visited by European ships for refreshments.

Sooloo. The Sooloo Archipelago is composed of a chain of islands extending in a N.E. and S.W. direction between Borneo and Mindanao. The largest island, or Great Sooloo, lies nearly in the middle of the chain; it is ten leagues long and four broad, is extremely fertile producing all the tropical fruits, and particularly excellent oranges. This island, though of so small extent, has wild elephants and small deer (*Cervus Axis*). The sea washes up considerable quantities of amber on the shores, chiefly towards the end of the west monsoon; at which period also a large pearl fishery is carried on among these islands, the oysters being brought up by dredges. The pearls, though inferior to those of Ceylon, find a ready sale among the Chinese. The island also afford birds' nests, gum copal, and tortoiseshell for commerce. The population of Sooloo is thought to be 60,000. The residence of the Sultan is at Bowan, a town of 6,000 inhabitants at the N.W. end of the island. Pangattarran, the

the north western of the Sooloo islands, is long and low, without fresh water, but covered with cocoa palms; it is claimed by the Spaniards, as are Tappool and Seassee, other islands of the archipelago; while, on the other hand, it appears that Basilan, off the S.W. point of Mindanao, is subject to Sooloo. Sooloo.

The other islands of any consideration that attach to Borneo, are Carimata and Soorootoo in the channel of Borneo, and the Natunas and Anambas, a number of scattered islands in the China Sea, N.W. of the west extremity of Borneo.

The island of CELEBES is of so irregular a shape that the giving it any precise length or breadth would convey no idea of its size. It is formed by four peninsulas, enclosing three deep gulfs open to the east; on the west it is separated from Borneo by the strait of Macassar, fifteen to forty-five leagues wide and 115 leagues long. In general this island is covered with mountains, many of which are volcanoes in a state of eruption; but the coasts present a smiling appearance of perpetual verdure and rich cultivation. It has many rivers which precipitate themselves down the rocky precipices in beautiful cascades. The northern peninsula possesses gold mines and some of the mountains afford copper, iron, crystals, and great quantities of sulphur. Earthquakes are frequent, particularly in the northern peninsula. Celebes.

Among the vegetables is said to be the famous

Celebes. *upas*, of which such exaggerated relations have been given, and with whose juice the Celebeans poison their *crisses*. The nutmeg and clove are indigenous in these islands, but the Dutch have endeavoured to extirpate them. The island has neither elephants nor tigers, but many wild hogs, deer, and it is said elks; it also possesses buffaloes, small bullocks with humps, goats, and sheep. The penetration of the sea into all parts of the island by its three great gulfs renders the climate salubrious and temperate.

The inhabitants of Celebes are divided into Buggesses and Macassars, and are the bravest of the Malay nations; but their courage is rather a momentary desperation than the cool intrepidity of reason: hence if their first onset is resisted they soon give way. The Buggesses are also the most trading of the Malay tribes, visiting all parts of the archipelago and even New Holland, to gather the *biche de mer* to sell to the Chinese. They are considered by the other Malays as setting the ton of fashion in dress. Their general language is Malay, but they have also a dialect of their own and a peculiar written character from left to right. The Buggess females far surpass the other Malay women in beauty, and their ingenuity in inventing new modes of sensuality, causes them to be chosen by the other sex, and particularly by Europeans, as mistresses; their jealousy is however alive to the slightest trifle, and affronts to their charms are usually revenged by a punishment worse than death, caused by the administration of poisonous philtres.

The

The Portuguese established themselves in Celebes in 1525, and retained their influence until 1660; when the Dutch, by force and intrigue, succeeded in getting them expelled the island. Since this period the native princes have formed a kind of confederation, which is presided by the Dutch governor of Macassar. A considerable number of Chinese are settled in the trading ports of the island. Celebes

The principal place of Celebes is Macassar, on the S.W. side of the island, and on a bay full of small islands and sand banks, which, while they render the entrance difficult, shelter it from all winds. Fort Amsterdam is surrounded by a high and strong stone wall; and without it is the town, named Vlaardingen, containing about 250 whites and 10,000 Chinese and natives.

Bonthian and Boelecomba are small Dutch palisaded forts at the south side of the island, and on a beautiful bay; behind which rises a peaked mountain, wooded to its summit. From hence the Dutch Spice islands are principally supplied with rice. The Great Gulf of Boni, also called Buggess Bay, is formed between the two southern peninsulas of the island. On the west shore is the town of Boni, of considerable size, situated on a river bearing the classical name of *Tempe*. Pulo Bay, or the Bay of Islands, is the gulf between the two peninsulas on the east side of the island; and the Gulf of Goonong-tella, or Tomini, is formed by the northern peninsula. In this gulf, and

Celebes. and on a river, the Dutch have a small fort; and on the N.W. they have the forts of Kemar and Manado, chiefly for the purpose of procuring rice and other provisions for their more eastern settlements.

The islands, which by their proximity attach to Celebes, are the Seleyer, a group off the east point of Bonthian Bay. They are well inhabited, produce large quantities of rice, and the natives manufacture much striped blue and white cloth from the cotton grown on the island. The Dutch have a resident on the largest island. Cambyna, Pangasani and Bouton islands lay off the S.E. end of Celebes. Cambyna, the westernmost, rises in a peak, visible twenty leagues. Pangasani is very long and narrow; its north end is low and marshy. Bouton is one of the most beautiful of the Malay Islands, being highly cultivated, and the surface diversified with gentle elevations and fine plains. The principal town is on an eminence, and is surrounded by thick walls, and defended by a stone fort, in which the sultan resides; he is an ally of the Dutch, but supports his independence in his island. Waway, or Weywongy Island, is off the north end of Bouton, and of considerable size.

The four Xulla Islands lie between the Celebes and the Moluccas, and are named separately, Xullabessy, Talyabo, Mangola and Lissamatula. They abound in sago and ebony; but their inhabitants are savage

savage and treacherous. Near one of them is a rock resembling a man, which the natives adore as a divinity.

A chain of islands extends from the N.E. point of Celebes to the south point of Mindanao, enclosing the Sooloo Sea on the east. The principal of this chain are Siao and Sangir; the latter is seven leagues long, abounding in fruits, goats and fowls, which the natives exchange for brass buttons and other trifles, having no idea of money. Among the chain are two or three volcanoes in a state of eruption.

Moluccas.

The MOLUCCAS, in the original extent of the name, included only five islands, *viz.* Ternate, Tidor, Motir, Makian, and Batchian. The word Molucca seems to be Arabic, and to signify *Royal Islands*: each of them being anciently the residence of a sovereign. This name is now generally given to the archipelago between Celebes and New Guinea, and between Gillolo and Banda. It would, perhaps, be more correct to adopt, as a general name, that of Spice Islands, and to confine the Moluccas to their ancient limits.

These islands present the evident appearances of having undergone some great natural convulsion, being singularly broken, and rising in enormous peaks from the abysses of the ocean; most of them are also volcanoes either extinct or in a state of eruption. Earthquakes are likewise very frequent, though seldom violent. The nature of the

Moluccas. the climate, and of the soil, in most of these islands, prevent the cultivating any kind of grain; the former being, for one season, a constant rain, and for the other an uninterrupted drought; while the latter is in general either spongy or rocky: hence the staple food of the islanders is derived from the sago palm, which nature has given to them in vast profusion, as if to compensate for the corn she has denied them. The chief riches of these islands however, and without which they would never have attracted the notice of Europeans, are their nutmegs and cloves, which are indigenous in no other region of the globe.

The most remarkable animals are the *Babeeroussa*, or hogdeer, the opossum, the phalanger, the *moschus pygmæus*, and the wild hogs and common deer.

Valentyn notices a singular phenomenon in that part of the sea usually called the Banda Sea. Between June and September, every year, a current of white water occupies this part, first appearing towards the S.E. near the islands Key and Timor Laut, and gradually spreading to the shores of Ceram on the north, and of Ombay on the west, beyond which it disappears between Flores and Celebes. During the day its colour is that of milk, and in the night it emits a light similar to that of the horizon: the water which composes it seems to be agitated internally, and while the phenomenon lasts the fish disappear from the coasts.

Bouro,

Bouro, the southwesternmost of the Spice Islands, rises abruptly from an unfathomable sea to a domed elevation that is seen thirty leagues. In the interior savages, named Alforezes, inhabit the borders of a lake, which appears to be subject to periodical increase and diminution, an island in it being said to appear and disappear at fixed periods. The interior of the island is very humid, abounding in springs, and the trees covered with moss. The island has buffaloes and deer; and among the trees are said to be the teak, the iron wood, a green ebony, and the tree that affords the *cayoo-pooty* (white wood) oil, which is chiefly prepared in this island. Rice and sago are very abundant; and though fish is not plenty the shores are covered with the most beautiful shells. Cajeli, the Dutch establishment, is at the bottom of a deep bay, on the east side of the island. The fort, named Defence, is in the middle of the town, and has only three or four guns and swivels mounted on ruined walls, with a garrison of fifty men. Its principal use is to collect the rice and sago of the island for Amboyna, on which it is dependent. Moluccas.

The island of Amblau lies off the S.E. end of Bouro, at two leagues distance. It is small, and has but few inhabitants.

Ceram is one of the most considerable of the Spice Islands, being near sixty leagues long, east and west; and is traversed through its length by parallel chains of mountains, whose summits rise to the elevation of 8,000 feet. Amongst the rocks is found a grey stone capable of resisting the most ardent

Moluccas. ardent heat; and there are hills of chalk, from which descend rivulets whose water is discoloured by this substance. The mountains are separated by frightful ravines, through which rush impetuous torrents, crossed only by the trees which fall from the precipices. The villages are often situated on terraces cut in the rocks, the ascent being by steps. The N.E. coast is covered by forests of the *casuarina*, and the island abounds in the sago palm; and, according to Forrest, possesses the nutmeg and clove. Among the birds which swarm in the forests is the cassowary.

The interior of the island is inhabited by the Alfborezes, who are probably its aborigines, and have no other connection with the inhabitants of the coasts than to procure the iron and salt they require in exchange for the products of their mountains. They are a stout and strong race, and so active that they run down the wild hogs. Their clothing is only a bandage of cloth of the bark of a tree round the loins; their arms, a bamboo sword, and bow and arrows. The qualification for marriage in the men is the production of the head of a person whom they have treacherously murdered; nor can they build a new house until they have destroyed an enemy. The heads thus collected, after being triumphantly exposed in the villages, are conveyed to the inmost recesses of the woods, where their idolatrous rites are performed, and where, says Rumphius, "the devil answers their questions, and often carries away some of them, especially children, for three or four months, when

when he brings them back, after having presented them with certain presents." Valentyn gives a more rational account of these people, informing us that parents deliver their children to the priests to be instructed in the religion of the demon they worship; and the priests receiving the children in the darkest recess of their leafy temples, the parents are made to believe that they are sacrificed by the dismal screams they hear, and by the bloody spears being thrust through the roof of the temple. In three or four months, however, they are returned to them with presents of some Chinese copper coins on strings. The principal food of the Alforeze is the wild animals of the woods, rats and snakes. They take but one wife, to whom they are constant. Moluccas.

The island has several good ports, particularly Lahoo, near the S.W. end, where the Dutch had formerly a resident; Sawa, on the north, and Wakoo on the N.E.

The island of AMBOYNA, the principal of the clove islands, lays near the S.W. end of Ceram, and is composed of two peninsulas joined by a very narrow isthmus, across which the natives drag their canoes to go between the south and north sides of the island. The peninsulas enclose a large bay on the south, which is the only port of the island.

Both the peninsulas are mountainous. The bases of some of the hills are a fine grained granite, and many of the rocks are composed of a tender *sahistus*, close to which is found a very hard

Moluccas. hard asbestos; some of the hills are also encrusted with sulphur.

The soil in the low grounds and valleys is a reddish clay mixed with vegetable mould and sand. Numerous rivulets descend from the hills and find their way to the sea, and are much swollen in the rainy season.

The south-east monsoon, from May to October, at Amboyna, and among the neighbouring islands, is the rainy season, and is accompanied by constant thunder, lightning, and frequent storms or whirlwinds; but it is a remarkable circumstance, that the rains do not extend to the island of Bouro though only twenty leagues distant from Amboyna, and with an open sea between them: at Bouro, on the contrary, the S.E. monsoon brings fair weather.

The clove tree constitutes the chief value of Amboyna; and the most useful vegetable is the sago palm, which affords the chief food of the inhabitants: besides, its branches answer the purposes of cork to buoy up the fishing nets, &c. and the *ejoo*, a parasite plant that adheres to its trunk, is made into strong cordage. Coffee and indigo are also cultivated, but in small quantity. With Valentyn's assertion before us, we dare not attempt even a list, much less a description of the *flora* of Amboyna, for, according to him, "the most laborious exertions of a long life would be insufficient to become acquainted with all the trees that grow on the lofty mountains and in the extensive and inpenetrable forests of this island:" nor will there appear much exaggeration in this, when it is known

known that, "a little cabinet presented to Cosmo III. Grand Duke of Tuscany, was inlaid with 400 sorts of only the choicest and handsomest woods of the island." Moluccas.

The animals are deer and wild hogs, the flesh of which is almost the only meat eaten. Valentyn describes 528 species of fishes found here, and most of them peculiar to these seas. Snakes of several species are very numerous, as is also the lizard tribe, particularly the alligator and guana. The domestic animals are so few that their flesh is only seen at the tables of the richest whites.

The inhabitants of Amboyna are of three races, Amboynese, or Malays, Chinese and Europeans. The Amboynese are much handsomer than the more western Malays, and the women in particular, was it not for their complexion, might recall the ideas of the females of ancient Greece: neither do they "waste their sweetness on the desert air," being, whether married or unmarried, most devoted worshippers of the cyprian goddess; and a *teeming* bride is here sought for in preference, as giving proof of not being cursed with barrenness. Both men and women clothe themselves from head to foot.

The Amboynese are divided between the Mahometan and Christian religions; the former introduced by the Arabs, and the latter by the Portuguese and Dutch: both these religions are, however, tainted with many of their ancient idolatrous practices. The Amboynese are immediately governed by magistrates of their nation, named ra-

Moluccas. jahs and orang-tuas, or old men. The population of the island, when it last fell into the hands of the English (1812), was 45,000; of them 18,000 were Protestants. The Chinese do not exceed a few hundreds; and, besides the Dutch, a few of the descendants of the ancient Portuguese are still distinguished. The Europeans, exclusive of military, are not above 200.

Fort Victoria, the chief place of the island, is situated on the east side of the great bay; it is of considerable size, built of brick and surrounded by a wet ditch, and is, next to Batavia, the best fortification of the Dutch in India. The town is separated from the fort by a small esplanade. The houses of the Europeans (about fifty) form a handsome row, though generally built of wood, and but of one story, on account of the earthquakes. The streets occupied by the Amboynese run at right angles, and are kept very clean. Besides Victoria there are many small forts on the island chiefly intended to awe the natives.

The road of Amboyna is safe at all seasons, and the largest ships can anchor within a stone's throw of the wooden jetty at fort Victoria; the head of the bay also forms an inner basin.

The lesser clove islands subordinate to Amboyna are the following. Manipa, nearly midway between Bouro and the east end of Ceram; it is high, and has a spring, whose water the natives believe gives the itch to perjured persons who dare drink of it. On the south side of the island is a fort of ten or twelve guns. Kelang, near the west end of Ceram.

Ceram. Pulo Babee, or Hog Island, between Kelang and Ceram. Bonoa, a high rugged island with several islets round it, close to the N.W. end of Ceram. East of Amboyna are Haruuca, or Oma, which has several warm springs, and a fort on the west end. Saparooa, or Honi-moa, with a fort on the south. Noosa-laut, a little island covered with clove trees, one mile east of Saparooa; whose inhabitants, according to Valentyn, were still, in 1703, cannibals, and considered the cheeks and palms of the hands as the most delicate morsels. Off the east end of Ceram are the islands close together of Kessing, Ceram-laut, Goram, and several others. Molucca.

The Banda or Nutmeg Islands form a scattered group of ten in an open sea south of Ceram. The largest island is named Banda Lantoir, or Great Banda: it has the form of a crescent, the concave side facing the south, and with Banda Neira and Goonong-Api forming the harbour. Great Banda is twelve miles long, and about two miles and a half broad; it rises with a steep ascent to a ridge a few hundred feet high, and is entirely covered with nutmeg trees: the neat houses of the planters scattered near the shore give it a chearful appearance, and near the west end are some forts to defend the entrance of the harbour. Banda Neira, the second island in size, contains the chief settlement, consisting of Fort Nassau, a square work, of small dimensions, with a wet ditch; and

above it, on an elevation, is the Castle of Belgica, built by the Portuguese, a pentagon with round towers at the angles, and surrounded by a wall with small bastions, but no ditch. This island is two miles long, and from three-quarters to one mile and a half broad. On the north it rises to a high hill, but on the south, where are the forts and town, it is level. The town consists of fifty houses of wood, thatched with the leaves of the sago-palm. Goonong-Api, or the Burning Mountain, is, as its name denotes, a volcano, 1,940 feet high, rising perpendicularly from the sea on every side except the S.E. where is a small plantation of nutmegs. It is nine miles in circuit, and is separated from Neira by a narrow channel. The harbour, formed between these islands and Lantoir, is fit for the largest ships. Pulo Pisang and Pulo Capella (Plantain and Ship islands) lay before the east entrance of the harbour. Pisang is three-quarters of a mile long; is uninhabited, and entirely covered with cocoa-palms. Pulo Carakca is a little uninhabited island, at the north entrance of the channel between Neira and Goonong-Api. Rosingen is a low island four miles east of Great Banda; it has no nutmegs, but is covered with other fruit trees.

Pulo Ay, or Way, seven miles west of Goonong-Api, is six miles in circuit, moderately high, and thickly planted with nutmegs. Pulo Ron, the westernmost island, is four miles from Pulo Way, and about the size of the latter; it is a mass of rock covered with wood, among which is the cabbage-

cabbage palm, but it has no nutmegs, and is uninhabited, being only visited by fishermen to take turtle. The ruins of a small fort, said to have been constructed by the English, about the time of the massacre of Amboyna, are seen on it. Neither Pulo Way nor Pulo Ron have any harbour. Pulo Swangy, or Witch Island, is the northernmost of the group. Molucca

The aborigines of the Banda islands having been extirpated by the Dutch, the only inhabitants are the whites and their slaves: the former being (in 1795) about 200 and the latter 2000. The small extent and entire cultivation of all these islands but Pulo Ron, precludes their having any wild animals. The principal birds are of the parrot tribe, and the crowned pigeon is also found here, as well as the bird of this species that disseminates the nutmeg, by swallowing it whole and regorging it.

The isle of Oby seems to be the continuation of the chain of Xulla already noticed. The Dutch have a small fort on the west end. Farther north is the island Mya, formerly well inhabited, and abounding in clove trees, but which have been all rooted out, and the inhabitants obliged to quit it by the Dutch. It is of middling height and has a good road. Tyfoa island, N.W. of it, is low.

Gillolo, or Halamahera, is the largest of the Spice Islands, and in irregularity of shape resem-

Moluccas. bles Celebes, being formed of four peninsulas, enclosing three large bays on the east: the interior of the peninsulas are occupied by high mountains rising in peaks. It abounds in buffaloes, deer, goats, and wild hogs, and is well inhabited. It is said to have nutmeg and clove trees towards the south. When Captain Forrest visited it, (1774) its dominion was divided between the kings of Ternate and Tidor, and consequently under the influence of the Dutch; at present, however, it seems to be governed by several independent chiefs.

North of Gillolo is the island Mortay, covered with sago trees, but thinly inhabited.

The Moluccas proper form a chain along the west side of Gillolo. The southernmost and largest is Batchian, governed by its sultan, who also possesses Oby, Ceram, and Goram, but the Dutch have a fort on Batchian to prevent the cultivation of cloves. Mandoly, S.W. of Batchian, has a good harbour, called Bissory. Tawally succeeds to the north of Mandoly, to which succeeds the Latta Satta group, on the N.W., of which one is of considerable size, and the rest are a mixture of bare rocks and woody islets.

Mackian contains a large volcano, whose crater forms a great chasm from its summit to its foot. Motir is also a great volcano. Tidor is composed of elevated lands, well watered and thickly inhabited. Its sultan possessed a part of the S.E. side of Gillolo, and claims the sovereignty of Waygion, Mysol, and Battanta.

Ternate

Ternate, the northernmost and most important of the Moluccas, is about ten leagues in circuit: its sultan reigned over Mackian and Motir, over the northern part of Gillolo and Mortay; and to him likewise belongs the N.E. part of Celebes, the islands of Siao, Sangir, and others. This prince, according to Valentyn, can raise 80,000 armed men, which, however, does not prevent his abject subjection to the Dutch, whose Fort Orange has not a garrison of more than three or 400 men. Ternate rises in mountains which lose their heads in the clouds, one of which is a volcano in a state of eruption: the island abounds with springs. There are many of the descendants of the Portuguese on this island. Moluccas.

The Sallibabo islands are a group forming the link which unites the Moluccas with the Philippines.

The last and best defined division of the Malay Archipelago is the PHILIPPINES, extending between the latitudes 5° and 20° N., or from Borneo nearly to Formosa; their number is estimated at above 10,000, but 500 or 600 only are of any consequence, all the remainder being mere rocks not half a mile in circuit. Philippines.

These islands offer a terribly magnificent spectacle. The mountains which cross them in every direction lose their heads in the clouds, while their sides are covered with basaltes, lava, scoriæ,

Philippines. and other volcanic matter, and in many places are seen boiling springs and wells of liquid burning sulphur. All these appearances and phenomena are the work of extinct volcanoes, of those still in ignition, or of fires concealed in the bowels of the earth, which produce frequent and terrible earthquakes.

The surface of these islands is furrowed by innumerable ravines, and has many large tracts of marsh and turf and some considerable lakes.

The same variety of seasons is found here as on the coasts of Hindostan, and proceeds from a similar cause, the chain of mountains that run through the Archipelago from north to south. During the monsoon from May to September the rain is continual on the west coasts, and all the plains are transformed into lakes. Violent storms are also experienced at this season; while towards the north and east the winter is serene and dry. The N.E. monsoon in October, however, brings similar rains and storms on these coasts. This constant humidity of the atmosphere renders these islands supereminently fertile, and preserves a perpetual verdure, not only in the trees, but on the meadows, which produce a luxuriant herbage, and are throughout the year enamelled with flowers of the most beautiful tints.

The wild animals of the Philippines are buffaloes, deer, and hogs, in great numbers, and the domestic ones chiefly bullocks and hogs; the lard of the latter being used as butter.

According to tradition these islands were anciently

chiefly possessed by a negro race, which, on the invasion of the Malays, fled to the mountains, which they still inhabit, and are known by the various names of *Ygorrotes, Finguianes, Calingas, Itulones*, &c. They were formerly described as descending from their mountains, massacring the other natives they met, and carrying off their heads as trophies. At present, however, they seem to trade peaceably with the Spanish subjects. They live on wild honey, the flesh of wild beasts, and roots: their dress is made of the bark of trees, and their cabins composed of branches. Philippines.

The Indians, or Malays, are divided into many nations, the two principal of which are the *Tagalls*, in Luconia, and the *Bissayas*, in the central islands.* The Tagalls believe themselves to be descended from a colony of Bornean Malays. The total population of the islands is very differently estimated between 700,000 and three millions; and one writer makes the Malay population of Luconia, subject to the Spaniards, one million and a half.

The island of Luconia, the most considerable of the Philippines, has its name from the native word *Luson* (written *Luçon* by the Spaniards) the name of a kind of pestle used by the natives to free their rice from the husk, and which the first discoverers took for a war club. The island is of very irregular shape, the southern extremity being formed

* The Bissayas received from the early Spanish navigators the name of *Pintados*, from the custom of painting their skins.

formed of a number of peninsulas, making two great bays, that of Manilla on the west, and of Lampoon on the east. A great portion of the tract between these bays is occupied by the *lake of the bay*, forty-five leagues in circuit, and which is formed by the waters of fifty to sixty rivers and rivulets, and empties itself into Manilla bay, by the river Passig. The lake is navigable by large boats, and in it is an island nine leagues in circuit, which, though very fertile, is uninhabited. It would appear that the lake has a communication with some of the volcanoes that surround it, its waters being at times strongly impregnated with sulphur, which destroys the fish. There are also many hot springs in its vicinity. The shores of the lake to the feet of the mountains are well cultivated, producing abundance of rice, indigo of a superior quality, pepper, cocoa and areca nuts, and logwood. The uncultivated plains abound in wild buffaloes, deer, and hogs.

Luconia produces iron, copper, and gold, of which the latter only is collected in small morsels.

The east coast of Luconia is very mountainous and little productive, the strong easterly winds and atmosphere of the sea destroying vegetation. The mountains on this side are chiefly occupied by the natives, who have fled from the Spanish dominion. The N.E. point of the island is Cape Engano, and the N.W. Cape Bojador.

MANILLA, the chief city of the island and of the Spanish possessions, is situated near the mouth of

of the river Passig, which issues from the lake of the Bay, and which was formerly navigable for the largest ships to Manilla, but at present it is crossed by a sand bank, with but fifteen feet at high water. The streets of Manilla are wide and straight: the basement of the houses only are of stone, on which is erected a superstructure of wood, put together like the frame of a ship, so as to cede to the shocks of earthquakes, which are almost continual here. The population is chiefly composed of Spanish Creoles, Chinese, and Malays, in the proportion of 1,200 Spaniards and 35,000 Malays. The Chinese who newly arrive, and intend to remain, are obliged to get themselves baptised, when they are allowed to marry a Malay Christian woman, never bringing their women with them, and to carry on the professions of shopkeepers or mechanics, for they are prohibited from being proprietors or cultivators of land.

The fortifications of Manilla are irregular, having been built at different periods, without any original plan. The castle is separated from the town by a ditch, and is surrounded by a wall with outworks: the usual garrison is four to 500 regular troops, of whom one-third are seldom Europeans.

The port of Cavita, two leagues from Manilla, is sheltered by a point of land on the S.W.; and vessels when obliged to quit the road of Manilla in the S.W. monsoon, find perfect security moored close under the walls of Cavita. This town contains about 2000 Spaniards and half-cast,

cast, and 1,000 Chinese. It has two churches and three immense convents of monks. The Black Town contains about 5,000 Malays.

The royal naval arsenal is situated on the point of the tongue of land that forms the port; it is strongly fortified and protected by a citadel.

New Segovia and New Caceres, the other towns of Luconia, though episcopal cities are insignificant.

The government of the Philippines is lodged in a captain-general sent from Mexico, to which viceroyalty he is subordinate: his appointment is for eight years.

The military force of the colony is about 5,000 regular troops, mostly American Spaniards, or Malays, with a very few European officers; and 10 to 12,000 militia.

The naval force stationed at Manilla during the late wars never exceeded four sail of the line, five frigates, and some small vessels, with a flotilla of thirty to sixty gun-boats. The latter are intended to cruize against the pirates, but they seldom venture out of harbour, and the ships of war are badly equipped and not half manned.

The revenue of the Philippines does not cover its expenses, 500,000 dollars being received annually from Mexico to make up the deficiency. The chief sources of revenue are a capitation tax on every Indian between the ages of sixteen and sixty of one dollar and a half for every five persons, and half a dollar for the church; a capitation of six dollars per annum, paid by every Chinese

Chinese established in the colony, whose number is estimated at 80,000, but owing to the connivance of the alcades only 7,000 pay the tax. The other branches of the revenue are from taxes and customs: the respective products are as follows. Philippines.

Revenues.	*Dollars.*	*Expenditure.*	*Dollars.*
Capitation of the Indians	573,000	Civil Government	173,500
Chinese	42,000	Military and naval establishments	1,472,000
Tax on Tobacco	600,000	Establishments on Mindanao	20,000
Areca Nut	40,000	Babuyanes	2,000
Spirits	200,000	Clergy	385,000
Imports and Exports	200,000	Pensions	30,000
Stamps	12,000		2,082,000
Cock-fighting*	60,000		
	1,727,000		

Between the north end of Luconia and Formosa are two clusters of islands, which with Bottol Tobago, already noticed, form a chain uniting the Philippines and Formosa. The nearest to Luconia are the five Babuyane Islands, named from the largest of them; they are elevated, fertile, but bare of wood, and have only an European serjeant and some monks on them.

The Bashee Islands, farther north, were visited by

* The Malays of the Philippines are as much addicted to this amusement as those of the southern islands, and the Spaniards licence the cock-pit.

Philippines. by Dampier in 1640, who gave four of them the names of Richmond, Grafton, Monmouth, and Orange; they are covered with verdure, and inhabited by Chinese, who cultivate sugar-cane and other vegetables, and raise hogs, goats, and poultry.

Balingtang or Richmond Islands, the southernmost of the group, are three high peaked and uninhabited rocks. Ratan or Monmouth Island is three leagues long, with a high mount at its north extremity. Sabtang, Monmouth Island of Dampier, is separated from the S.W. point of Ratan by a narrow gut; it is only three miles long. Bashee and Goat Islands are small, but with cultivated spots. Grafton Island is small and steep to. Bayat or Orange Island is two leagues long, elevated, rocky, and barren, without anchorage. The north Bashees are two small high islets.

The remaining islands of the Philippines form three natural subdivisions. First, the central islands, whose inhabitants name themselves *Bissayas*, and which name has been transferred to the islands. The second division contains the chain extending between Luconia and Borneo, of which Palawan is the principal; and Mindanao forms the third.

The chief islands of the Bissayas are the following. Mindoro, twenty-five leagues long and fifteen broad, mountainous, covered with wood, well

well watered, and abounding with deer. The coasts are alone subjected to Spain.* Philippines.

Samar, separated from Luconia by the Strait of St. Bernardino, it is forty-five leagues long, and abounds in rice. The port of Palappa on the north is sometimes visited.

Panay, about twenty-five leagues long, has vast herds of horned cattle, sheep, and horses; is fruitful, and affords gold dust.

Negros has this name from the race that principally inhabit it; its native name is Buglas: it is forty-five leagues long and ten broad. It forms a province of the Spanish dominion and is chiefly valuable for a pearl fishery carried on near it. The Malay population subject to Spain is 22,000.

Cebu, twenty-eight leagues long and six broad is generally rocky, and its own commercial productions confined to gold dust and ebony; but it is the depot for all the products of the Bissayas, which are collected here to be transported to Manilla: the whole amount, however, does not exceed the cargo of one annual brig. The subjected Malays of Cebu are 58,000. The little isle of Mactan is only worthy of notice as containing the ashes of Magellan.

Leyte, separated from Samar by the strait of St. Juanico, navigable only by small craft, is forty leagues long and fifteen broad; it has an esteemed breed

* The French wished to form an establishment on this island under the administration of the Duc de Choiseul, but the Spanish government remonstrating against it, the idea was abandoned.

Philippines. breed of horses; the subjected population is 22,000.

PALAWAN,* the principal island of the western chain, is sixty leagues long and ten broad: a small part of it only is subject to Spain. It affords ebony, cacao, logwood, and wax. The Calamianes, or Isles of Canes, near its north end, are three small but inhabited islands. The number of natives subjects of Spain in Palaruan and these islands is 37,000.

MINDANAO, which forms the third division of the Philippines, is next to Luconia in extent, having near 300 leagues of circuit, but is very irregular, being deeply indented by a gulf, enclosed by a peninsula on the west. Its name (*Magindanao* properly) is a compound of *Mag*, related to, *in* country and *danao*, a lake, signifying *relations living in a country round a lake.*

The interior of the island is occupied by lofty ridges of mountains separated by plains and covered with forests of *teak* and *poon*. Its minerals are little known, but some gold dust is brought to market and *talc* is abundant. The island is profusely watered, containing more than twenty navigable rivers, and near the south is a lake sixty leagues in circuit which discharges its waters by a large river. The soil is extremely fertile, producing

* In most charts this island is called *Paragoa* and Paraguay, a name found in Marc Paul's relation.

ducing rice and sago in abundance, and a species of cinnamon, but inferior to that of Ceylon, is indigenous. The forests swarm with wild horses, bullocks, buffaloes, goats, and hogs. Philippines.

The sea coasts are occupied by Malay Mahometans, who speak the Bissayan dialect as well as the Malay. In the interior is a race of negroes named *Haraforas*, who have little communication with the Malays.

The island is politically divided into three sovereignties. The first, under the sultan, is the most considerable and occupies the S.E. portion of the island; his residence is at Selangan on the east shore of the Great Illano Bay, and on the large river Pelangy, which empties itself by two branches, whose mouths are crossed by bars with two and three fathoms at high water. The town consists of about 200 houses, with a fortified palace of the sultan and several wooden castles of the *datoos* or nobles. The passage of the river is also defended by a large pallisaded fort with many cannon and swivels. A number of Chinese are settled here. This is one of the chief residences of the pirates and where they build their vessels.

The second sovereignty of the island is the *Illano* country, and is of a feudal nature, being under many chiefs. The third and smallest portion, chiefly comprehending the sea coasts of the western peninsula, is subject to the Spaniards whose principal establishment is Samboangan on the S.W. extremity of the peninsula. It consists of a fort of masonry surrounded by a rampart of earth; its

Philippines. ordinary garrison is about 150 men; it seems to be of little other use to the Spaniards, than as a place of transportation of their convicts from the other islands.

Misamis, the second Spanish establishment, is on the north side of the island and has a garrison of 300 men. Correga, the third and last, is an insignificant post on the east.