

THE  
YOUTH'S COMPANION,  
OR AN  
**Historical Dictionary ;**

CONSISTING OF  
ARTICLES SELECTED CHIEFLY FROM  
NATURAL AND CIVIL HISTORY, GEOGRAPHY,  
ASTRONOMY, ZOOLOGY, BOTANY AND MINERALOGY ;  
Arranged in Alphabetical order.



**BY EZRA SAMPSON,**

Author of the Selection, entitled "*Beauties of the Bible.*"



From the Hudson Edition, with sundry emendations, re-  
trenchments and enlargements.



ALBANY :

PRINTED BY WEBSTERS AND SKINNERS,  
For themselves, and NATHAN ELLIOT, of Catskill, joint Proprie-  
tors of the Copy-Right.

.....

1813.

MALACCA, a peninsula of Asia: bordering on the Southern Ocean; extending six hundred miles in length, and two hundred in breadth. It is famed for the superior excellence of its pine apples, and for the largeness of its cocoa-nuts, which have shells that will hold an English quart. The natives of Malacca (an ignorant and barbarous people) are in the practice of eating a great quantity of opium, which sometimes occasions furious intoxication. Those who take too large a dose fall into a paroxysm of rage, from which death alone can relieve them. Such is the fury with which opium inspires them, that it is no uncommon thing for a Malay-pirate to push himself forward against the lance that has entered his body, in order to be able to get at his enemy, and stab him with his *krist*, which is a crooked and poisoned poinard. This species of ferocity obliges ships in danger of falling in with them, to provide themselves with lances that have a guard through the middle of the shaft; by means of which they hold them at a distance and suffer them to die at the end of the weapon, without daring to draw it out till those furious beings have breathed their last....*Grandpre.*