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THE

SELANGOR JOURNAL:

JOTTINGS PAST AND PRESENT.

VOL. IV.

Kuala Lumpur:

PRINTED AT THE SELANGOR GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE.

1906.

Campbell

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PRINTED AT THE SELANGOR GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE.

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NOTES AND NEWS.

CAPTAIN FAWKES has written to Mr. J. P. Rodger offering a Cup, on behalf of the officers and ship's company of H.M.S. *Mercury*, to be run for at the next Race Meeting. Mr. Bridges, who had so bad an attack of fever in hospital lately, is at present in Singapore, and has been invited to take a trip on board H.M.S. *Mercury*, when she goes to Sandakan shortly.

“MR. F. E. LAWDER, whose reported retirement on a pension was announced in our columns of the 10th inst., was educated at Sherborne School and joined the Perak Service in 1881, and has thus completed sixteen years' service. He was Assistant Collector and Magistrate, Krian, 1881; Acting Collector of Land Revenue, Larut, 1884; Collector and Magistrate, Blanja, 1885; from thence he was transferred to the Selangor Service as Collector and Magistrate, Kuala Selangor, in November of the same year; and it is probably in Kuala Selangor that the memory of his name will be chiefly remembered by the natives, with whom, at the time, he was very popular. After three years in Kuala Selangor, he was appointed Collector and Magistrate of Ulu Selangor and in 1889 Acting Chief Collector at Klang. On the 13th of March, 1890, he received his final appointment as District Officer, Ulu Langat, whence after four years' hard work, he left for England very broken down in health. Mr. Lawder was a married man with three children. He was intensely devoted to all the pleasures so dear to the heart of the country gentleman, such as cattle breeding, horticulture, his stable, etc., and was probably a more conscientious reader of the *Field* than any other man in Selangor. At one time he tried to introduce the English plough for use amongst Malay padi-planters, but the natural laziness of the natives militated against the success of his experiment. Mr. Lawder was a man of middle age and hailed from Ireland.”—*S. F. P.*, 17th Sept., 1895.

THE long-talked-of colours for Selangor cricketers have at last been settled, and patterns for blazer, sash, cap, etc., as well as a design for a badge, have been made by Mr. D. J. Highet and adopted by the Club. The general design of the blazer is a dark blue ground with alternate narrow stripes of red and yellow about an inch and a half apart.

RASA is the latest place to which attention is directed both by miners and investors in town allotments, and its rapid progress bids fair to equal that of Serendah and even Sungei Besi. The Rasa Valley is near the Ulu Selangor Extension line, some three or four miles before entering Kuala Kubu, and a temporary railway station has been opened at that point. In the pamphlet "Statistics, etc., of Selangor," published last year, it states "Some 600 acres of land have been taken up during the past year [1893] for mining, and at present some 600 coolies are employed there" Now it is estimated, roughly, that 900 acres are held for mining and that some 7,000 coolies are at work. At a recent sale of town allotments 27 lots were sold by auction, each at an upset price of \$10, one of the conditions being that each purchaser should erect a building, costing not less than \$300, of approved design, with tiled roof, within 12 months. The sale realised, exclusive of survey and other charges, \$1,498, or an average of \$55.48 per lot. Four more lots were sold on the 17th instant, at an average price of \$55 per lot. Lok Yew, who is mining there, is using trucks and winding gear, worked by machinery, for stoping the overburden. From the foregoing it will be seen that there are already the makings of a very fair township in what up till recently was the heart of the jungle, as well as fresh evidence of the richness and importance of the Ulu Selangor District—to say nothing of the part played by railway extension in opening up these rich, but hitherto inaccessible, places.

THE Concert at the Selangor Club on Friday evening, the 13th inst., organised by the Entertainment Committee, was very successful, both in programme and in attendance—an additional merit being that the former was adhered to and the latter was punctual. The carrying out of the programme, which had been arranged by Mr. Cormac, was ably attended to by Dr. Travers. During the evening Mrs. Haines, Mrs. Stafford, Mrs. Travers, Mr. Alexander and Mr. W. E. Lott, accompanied, the latter also playing a pianoforte solo in the first part. The part song or quartet, with which each part opened, is a form of music we hope to hear more of at our concerts in the future than has been the case in the past. Mr. Bourne was not heard to his usual advantage in "Maid of Athens," but in Hatton's "Fair is my Love" he was loudly and deservedly applauded. Mrs. Haines, after singing "The River of Life," did not yield to the calls of "Encore." Dr. Hertz sang in each part and was loudly applauded for his rendering of a French song which he gave in response to an encore. Mrs. Parsons, in addition to taking part in the quartets, sang "Sunshine and Rain" charmingly, and also gave "Comin' thro' the Rye." The pianoforte duet by Mrs. Syers and

Mrs. Stafford was one of the most popular items of the programme. The humorous portions of the concert were supplied by Messrs. Alexander, Hubback and Parsons. The first named, who accompanied himself, gave a very amusing song from "The Nautch Girl" and "The Fatherland;" Mr. Hubback, who was called upon to sing twice in each part, certainly deserves the term bestowed upon him by the writer of the Seremban Cricket article—"an acquisition," while Mr. Parsons, who in a realistic manner declared he "really was so sleepy," could only have been speaking for himself, because directly the concert was over the room was cleared for a dance. The programme is given below, the only alteration being that Mr. Alexander sang in the second part instead of the first:—

PART SONG	...	...	"Summer"	...	<i>Bridgeford.</i>
MR. AND MRS. CORMAC, MRS. PARSONS AND MR. BROWN.					
SONG	...	...	from "The Nautch Girl"	...	<i>Solomons.</i>
MR. ALEXANDER.					
BARITONE SOLO	...	...	"Maid of Athens"	...	<i>Hatton.</i>
MR. BOURNE.					
PIANOFORTE SOLO	...	...	"Irish Diamonds"	...	<i>Pape.</i>
MR. W. E. LOTT.					
SOPRANO SOLO	...	...	"The River of Years"	...	<i>Marzials.</i>
MRS. HAINES.					
SONG	...	...	"The Coster's Courtship"	...	<i>Chevalier.</i>
MR. HUBBACK.					
SONG	...	...	"A Summer Night"	...	<i>P. Heise.</i>
DR. HERTZ.					
PART SONG	...	...	"The Dawn of Day"	...	<i>Reay.</i>
MR. AND MRS. CORMAC, MRS. PARSONS AND MR. BROWN.					
BARITONE SOLO	...	...	"Fair is my Love"	...	<i>Hatton.</i>
MR. BOURNE.					
SONG	...	...	"Trollhättan"	...	<i>O. Sindblad.</i>
DR. HERTZ.					
PIANOFORTE DUET	...	...	"Zampa"	...	<i>Herold.</i>
MRS. STERS AND MRS. STAFFORD.					
SOPRANO SOLO	...	...	"Sunshine and Rain"	...	<i>Blumenthal.</i>
MRS. PARSONS.					
SONG	...	...	"Dispensary Doctor"	...	<i>Lonnen.</i>
MR. HUBBACK.					
SONG	...	...	"I really am so Sleepy"	...	<i>Scott-Gatty.</i>
MR. PARSONS.					

The following paragraph is taken from the *Singapore Free Press*:—"The *Esmeralda*, the Selangor yacht, arrived at Johore on Saturday at ten o'clock, having followed the *Sea Belle* from Singapore where the *Esmeralda* had arrived the previous evening. Ungku Suleiman, the grandson of Sultan Abdul Samat and Raja Muda of Selangor, had come from there for the occasion, a compliment

which was very sincerely appreciated by the Tunku Mahkota and the Malays. The Raja Muda was accompanied by Captain Syers and by Raja Bot, one of the members of the State Council of Selangor, and a number of his principal followers. His arrival had been unexpected, but all possible attention was paid to him on such short notice, and when he was leaving again in the vessel at 4 p.m., Ungku Othman went, by direction of the new Sultan, to wish him good-bye for the Sultan and to thank him for the kind feeling he had shewn by coming at so much inconvenience to himself."

At the regular monthly meeting of Read Lodge on the 16th inst., Bro. H. C. Paxon was elected Worshipful Master for the ensuing year; Bro. Hoffner was re-elected Treasurer; Bro. C. Stewart was re-elected Tyler; and Bros. H. O. Maynard and Tearle elected Auditors. There was a full attendance of brethren, Wor. Bro. Makepeace, Bro. Jackson Millar and Bro. Rabe being among the visitors. After Lodge the brethren assembled in the hall for supper. The Installation Meeting will be held on the 21st proximo.

At a meeting of the members of the Selangor Hunt, held on the 14th instant, it was decided to hunt the Klang District regularly once a month, the recent meeting there having been so successful. At the same time, some comment was made on the fact that so few of the "locals" there took advantage of the presence of the dogs on the 8th instant, only Mr. Nissen shewing up. It was thought that possibly the festivities in connection with the marriage of the previous day had something to do with this. At the same meeting it was resolved that country members should be admitted at a monthly subscription of \$2, the entrance fee of \$7.50 to be charged at the discretion of the Committee. It was also resolved that Messrs. Edmonds, Nissen, Prior, G. Sanderson, Spearing and Walter be invited to become country members. The sport for the month, up to date, has been good—at the Hot Spring, Pahang Road, on the 1st, one deer, Dr. Travers; at Klang, on the 8th, one pig, Mr. Carpmal; at Ampang, on the 15th, two deer, Captain Syers and the Dogboy.

THE regular monthly meeting of the Selangor Museum Committee was held at the Museum on the 18th inst., Captain Syers (Chairman), L. B. Von Donop (Hon. Sec.), and Messrs. Ebdon and Russell being present. The Museum was inspected and the minutes of the last meeting read and confirmed. The Chairman, referring to the large elephant recently killed at Klang, and to the willingness of Messrs. G. Sanderson and W. D. Scott to present the skull of the animal to the

Museum, suggested that, after a sufficient lapse of time, the bones should be disinterred, articulated and set up in the Museum. Resolved that this be done. The Chairman informed the meeting that Dr. Rabe, on behalf of the Californian Museum, was anxious to obtain specimens of interest from the State in exchange for specimens of Californian minerals. It was resolved that certain surplus specimens be given to Dr. Rabe in exchange for others. In compliance with the desire of some of the Members of the Committee, the hour of holding meetings will be altered from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. It was resolved that in future a receipt be given to the donor in acknowledgment of additions to the Museum; also that an order form be provided as an authority for the Curator in cases of outside work. The Committee acknowledge, with thanks, the receipt of the following additions to the Museum:—Mr. Charter, a flying squirrel and a root of a tree; Mr. R. S. Meikle, a musang and two monkeys; Mr. E. V. Carey, a mole rat.

Visitors during the month of August	...	1,459
Previously	... ..	9,543
		11,002
	Total	...

THE regular monthly meeting of the Selangor Club Committee was held on the 11th instant, Mr. Russell (Chairman), Mr. Bligh (Secretary), Dr. Travers and Messrs. Paxon and Sanderson being present. Among other business, Mr. R. Tollemache and Dr. A. McClosky were elected members of the Club.

THE Second Annual General Meeting of the members of the Lake Club will be held in the Reading Room on Tuesday, 24th inst., at 6.30 p.m. Agenda:—1. To confirm the minutes of the previous meeting. 2. To confirm the alterations to rules, of which notice was given at the First Annual General Meeting. 3. Any business that may be brought before the meeting.

THE Javanese coolies employed in cutting the new Sungei Besi-Kajang Road complained of having to cut through rocks, which they did and threw on one side. A Chinese blacksmith and a Malay timber-cutter passing by afterwards found, to their astonishment, that the rock was tin-ore. The result was five applications for mining land in the vicinity, sent in within a few hours.

THE Railway notifies that the 5.30 a.m. train from Kuala Lumpur to Sungei Besi and the 6.20 a.m. from Sungei Besi to Kuala Lumpur, have been discontinued until further notice. Also that dogs, unless provided with chain and collar, will not be conveyed by railway.

LOCAL SPORT.

SELANGOR TURF CLUB.

THE formation of our new Racecourse has been progressing very rapidly lately and already begins to look quite tempting for a gallop. The inside rails are all up and look very well, the nibongs being, I think, a distinct success; of course, it remains to be seen whether they will last, but I do not see any reason why they should not when the joints are filled up with cement. At all events, they are a very great improvement on bamboos, with which the greater portion of the old course was fenced. The only part of the course which is giving any trouble is the filling on the back straight; this keeps on sinking, but as soon as any subsidence is noticed our energetic Secretary is at once on the spot and it is soon filled up to level again.

It was hoped that we should have been able to hold our first meeting at Christmas, but I think that this idea will be given up now for several reasons. In the first place, the course will not be really fit for racing by that time, and it would not be fair to ask owners of good horses to send them up to race on a course with the least suspicion of unsoundness about it; another thing which would keep away some people at this time is the inter-Colony cricket which will take place in Singapore about the end of the year; then, again, many men prefer to spend their Christmas in their own State. The probable date of the races will, therefore, be after the Kinta Meeting, probably some time early in March.

The idea to have one set of racing rules for all the Straits and Native States Clubs, which has been talked of for some time, has at last taken some sort of form, and representatives from all the various Clubs will meet together in Singapore during the next race meeting to discuss the matter. At a general meeting held in the Selangor Club on Saturday, the 14th inst., Messrs. Syers and Cumming were elected to represent the Selangor Turf Club. The idea, no doubt, is an excellent one, and if only all the Clubs can be induced to agree together about the penalties and allowances for professionals and amateurs, there is no reason why the thing should not be put through very shortly.

A very pleasant surprise for this Club, in the shape of a letter from Captain Fawkes of H.M.S. *Mercury*, arrived this week, in which the officers and men of the ship's company expressed themselves so pleased with the reception which they experienced in Sungei Ujong and this State that they are anxious to give the Club a cup to be run for by members resident in these two States. In order to keep the name of the *Mercury* green in Selangor Captain Fawkes is anxious that the cup should be a Challenge Cup to be won twice by the same owner before being held for good; the Committee have considered the matter and propose a race on the following terms. The "Mercury Challenge Cup," for roadsters the property of members resident in Selangor or Sungei Ujong, 11 stone, gentlemen riders. This should be a good sporting race, and the hearty thanks of the members of both Clubs

are due to Captain Fawkes and the members of the ship's company for their very thoughtful and appropriate donation.

The Australian griffins which were due here early in this month have not turned up yet; the steamer in which they were shipped is a fortnight overdue and has not been reported since she left Melbourne, she has 100 horses on board, so let us hope there is nothing more serious the matter than the breaking of a shaft, and that the horses will be none the worse for their protracted voyage.—THE MAN IN THE LALANG.

FOOTBALL.

THE chronicle of football happenings has been rather neglected of late by your correspondent, but he will now give you a resumé of the principal events for some time past.

On Wednesday, 21st August, an interesting game was played between the Lake and Selangor Clubs, in which the former club was by far the more strongly represented, but in spite of heavy odds the Selangor Club, playing a very plucky game, fairly held their own all through, and were rather unlucky in having to concede the only point that was obtained during the match.

On 28th August the Selangor Fire Brigade played a match *versus* "The World" the game being an exceedingly well-contested one, although the Fire Brigade should undoubtedly have had things more their own way, about half time the Brigade scored the only goal that was obtained by either side. Shortly before time a dramatic incident occurred which greatly amused and edified the onlookers. At five minutes past six, just as the game was drawing to a close, a cannon at the Fort suddenly went off and was shortly after followed by another one. This was at once understood to be the fire signal and the Brigade, headed by their gallant Chief Officer immediately responded to the call of duty. In less time than it takes to write about it "The World" was left gazing in blank amaze at the retreating backs of its late antagonists who were heading at top speed for the Brigade Station. It was a really inspiring spectacle, and had not some of the more "pursey" members of the Brigade been obliged, through lack of wind, to betake themselves to 'rikishas there would doubtless have been a most interesting finish at the Fire Station. One gallant gentleman, whose connection with the Brigade, by the bye, seems to be of a strictly honorary character, was unable to accompany his companions, but was nevertheless heard to say that he was ready to continue the match single handed. The game, of course, according to the letter of the law, was lost to the Brigade team, in that they left the field before the conclusion of the match, but their opponents, in consideration of the very unusual nature of the incident, generously forbore from pressing this point.

On 4th September the Selangor Club played a return match with the Lake Club, the former again could only muster a poor team against their heavy opponents. The result was foreseen at the start and although the Selangor Club played up with great spirit they eventually were defeated by 3 goals to 1.

On Wednesday, 11th September, the return match Fire Brigade *v.* The World was played, and an exceedingly even game was won by the Brigade. The score being 1 to nil.

On 18th September Officials met Non-Officials, the latter rather short handed. The result was a win for the Officials by 2 to nil.

We have been fairly free from accident on the football field, but one of a somewhat serious nature befell Mr. H. M. Hatchell in the match of 21st August. He was unlucky enough to fall and put out his knee, a rather nasty accident which we are sorry to say has since given him considerable pain and inconvenience. We trust, however, that he will soon be as well as ever.

BILLIARDS.

BELOW are given the points in the Billiard handicap at the Selangor Club; the game is 250 up, and the first round has to be played off by the 21st instant:—

J. Dalglish ... + 15	H. C. Paxon ... + 45	D J. Highet ... + 30
A. R. Bligh ... +120	E. J. Roe... .. scratch	L. Dougal... .. + 40
D. Prentice ... + 50	P. Hoffner ... + 125	G. Cumming ... + 25
J. O'Hara ... + 50	W. Crompton ... + 75	G. Carpmael ... + 30
G. D. Tisbury ... - 10	C. P. Jackson ... + 80	L. B. Von Donop ... + 75
Tamboosamy Pillia + 50	D. Macreath ... + 110	H. C. Rendle ... + 80
W. Boyer ... + 25	E. W. Neubronner - 20	W. E. Venning ... + 15
W. C. Turner ... + 30	C. E. F. Sanderson + 60	C. Maxwell ... + 50
G. A. Ketschker scratch	A. C. Harper ... + 50	
Dr. Travers ... + 60	M. A. Hawes ... + 35	

.....

"OUT, DAMNED SPOT! OUT, I SAY!"

Macbeth, act v. s. 1.

MY house is conveniently situated for the entertainment of travellers along the Sultan's high way. For this reason I am a fund of local information and, as a listener, second to none.

Not long since an officer, whom I will call Ano, or The Traveller, was passing through. A halt was made at my house and while this guest halted he talked. Heavens! how he talked; but this fluent flow of words was interesting since it was almost wholly concerning Selangor.

He told me, among other things, that he had once been suspected of writing to the *Selangor Journal* for the purpose of calling attention to little spots on their hitherto unclouded sun and that thought of this suspicion cast him down, inasmuch as the State of Selangor was, in reality, his metropolis to which he fled for life and society whenever a holiday could be snatched. He wished he could atone for the error of which he was accused by contributing some acceptable copy to the *Journal*; but, alas, he had nothing to say. And then when he had gone, it occurred to me that he had most certainly plenty to say, and perhaps I might be able to assist him were I to record some of his recent talk, and send it to you, Mr. Editor, so that what Ano really thought and said about Selangor might be known to your readers.

He told me how, in his distant home across the hills, he had prepared for a visit to Selangor by cutting the fray off his collars and performing other short cuts to tidiness and fashion. How, on one dark morning at 4 a.m., he was seen off by his household Malays, some of whom tied his bag on to the back of the sulky while others hung the skeleton carriage around with lamps borrowed from the police. They fixed his straw hat on the rail of the seat by a liberal use of office string, covered the floor with lunch and bottles, and padi and halters, and books and papers and parcels, finally depositing a walking-stick and greatcoat in the only vacant spot where he had intended himself to sit. How, each one had some remark to make as they sent him forth into the darkness, wondering mightily how so helpless a person could possibly propose to even temporarily dispense with their valuable services. And one, more thoughtful than the rest, produced a packet of quinine powders while expressing a hope that the Tuan would telegraph for him at once were he ill. But the Tuan had no intention of getting ill as he started to drive though the still sleeping town and sentries, and away past the silent kampongs, meeting no sign of life except an occasional bullock cart rumbling along laden with Manchester goods and rice.

As the daylight slowly grew, his sulky crossed the pass which led to civilisation and Selangor, and then the sun, here quite spotless, came glowing through the mountain trees to illuminate such glories of nature that those privileged to behold can but revel in that feeling of most exquisite pleasure, the sense of living and being alive.

After many hours of travel along the familiar road leading to Selangor Anu reached the boundary of that State, and realised that he was, at last, within easy distance of Kuala Lumpur, the town of welcomes and friends.

A short halt was made at Samonieh for a gossip with Raja Mahmoud, and then on, over the hot road to Kajang, where a temporary check was met in the shape of a monster engine drawn by fifty Chinese coolies. Presently the traveller passed the swamp where some years ago a police constable, brother to the faithful Yacobe, was shot dead through the heart by a Malay prisoner, a bugler deserted from the Force, and past the spot on which stood the hut in which on the following day the culprit was arrested while pointing the loaded rifle of his victim.

Then the spreading suburbs of Kajang came in view, the hospital gay with crotons (which might be better for cutting at the top), some new buildings plopped down in various places as though independent of site, and then the main street of official residences consisting of the house where Mr. Lindsay dwells--this, once a tiny hot house in which the traveller had nearly died of fever. And next to it the more pretentious but equally box-like house of the local Magistrate, which has its best point in the neat hedge which hides it from view. The police station once, in the time of Sergeant Syed, a garden of flowers, now wearing a somewhat desolate mien as though shrinking with awe beneath the emphatic-looking Government offices over the way. Then came the football green, agreeable proof of the health which this

climate allows us to enjoy. Then the broad road narrows and Kajang is left behind while the gharry pony gamely struggles towards Cheras. Here Syed Jaiah, more mournful even than of old, takes the opportunity afforded by a change of horses to narrate his unchanged woes. Well meant endeavours to cheer by pointing to patent signs of progress most hopelessly fail, as the Penghulu questions "What is the use of progress when the body has not enough to eat?" As the sandwiches of the traveller had been sat upon by the gharry syce and so rendered unfit for lunch a feeling of sympathy was not difficult to simulate.

At Cheras the first hiring pony of Selangor was harnessed to the conveyance, and though the appearance of this quadruped induced the traveller to express doubts as to its staying powers he was reduced to silence by a chorus which assured him that it was almost the best gharry pony in the State. Alas, poor State!—but let me beware lest failure should attend my efforts to assist poor Ano through lapses from the full glare of the sun.

It may, however, be permissible to say that the Cheras hiring afforded ample opportunity of admiration and envy for the coffee garden of Inche Abu, also wonderment and envy at the magnificence of the roadside stables where real horses are allowed to pass the night, and also constant criticism of the condition of the road. This last without any envy at all.

The traveller and the syce assisted the pony up the hills until all three paused for breath at the summit of the last one at the 4th mile. A spot which a celebrated medical man once described as an ideal place for a view if only there had been a view to see. At length Kuala Lumpur was reached and Ano directed the syce through the mazes until the gharry turned round the final corner which led to the house where the traveller had been invited to stay. With a sigh of relief he entered the verandah and awaited his welcome, but the place was deserted and no welcome was there. In this busy city, officials doubtless have such calls on their time that temporary and unexpected absences are easily explainable, and so, unloading the gharry and laboriously dragging his things up the steps the traveller entered the suite of his host and waited. The sun shone in true Selangor fashion, not a spot of shade was there in this loyal little room, as hungry and tired and dusty and thirsty, like the late Polar bear at the Zoo, Ano wandered up and down. He soon set forth on a voyage of discovery, which resulted in shewing that the whole building appeared deserted. However, further investigation unearthed an individual who bore the name of Puteh, and he stated that the absent host had gone away for good and left no address, and further that his, Puteh's, own particular Tuan was asleep and might not be disturbed. Returning to the room of his friend the traveller noticed for the first time the absolute emptiness of the place, which entirely corroborated the information of Puteh. Certainly the room had none of the usual signs of occupation, and so the weary one sighed once more and sought shelter elsewhere. His first step was to leave a card upon a gentleman of note describing his homeless

condition, and then he proceeded to the hospital to see an invalid friend. Here Ano found comfort and sympathy and in a very short space of time was doing ample justice to a high tea, which included the freshest eggs ever boiled, and the pleasure of that meal was enhanced by the thought that for an official of many years' standing this was quite the first occasion on which he had ever been fed at the expense of the State, and that, lynx-eyed as the Auditor might be, there was but little chance of any pre-audit concerning those eggs. After this highly satisfactory call upon the invalid Ano wended his way to where he had left his card in order to see what effect it had created in the household of the gentleman of note—one of the chief pillars of the State. Such a welcome and such a second tea awaited him that all fatigue vanished, and the traveller became lost in wonder why he was not always leaving the dreariness of the jungle to be cheered by Selangor friends.

This house was a most appropriate one for a pillar of the State since it was almost all pillars itself—from outside a most imposing pile. But inside one felt the sacrifice. A thin verandah had been squeezed in between some of the pillars and there were two rooms stowed away behind. As want of space in these forbade decoration in the correct architectural style they looked much out of keeping with the magnificent pillars grouped around, and in the dining room the occupants had managed to present the idea of a little cottage home by the simple expedient of a mediæval piece of furniture well behooked, on which were ranged and suspended all the crockery of the household—with saucers, cups and little brown jugs.

All this was noted *en passant* to the comfortable guest chamber and the grateful tub which waited beyond. Even in this bath-room the style of architecture was conscientiously sustained, for it was shaped like a slice of wedding cake, and on leaving the room one naturally looked round for a wooden wedge to stop up the aperture, after the manner of those little house puzzles which in days gone by we constructed upon the nursery floor. But the wedge being apparently forgotten one hoped it would not matter and the door was shut to, and duly hitched on to a tintack in the wall by means of a piece of string, the handle of the door as well as the latch both seemingly forgotten as well. And then the traveller, refreshed and happy, retraced his footsteps to the hospital, but *en route* met a student in a riksha deeply reading—reading what he could not tell, possibly some abstruse calculations of science, some problem of portentous import. It was the dilatory host, who, according to Puteh, had gone for good and left no address. Ano almost let him pass, vexed that books of science or problems or what-nots should drive recollection of his coming away; but then, the effect of Selangor was upon him, and he felt at peace with all the world, and also he feared that had he let the student pass it might be attributed to the fact that he was riding in a riksha shay. And so he woke him up. The student, returning to earth, at first bewildered, saw, and then, heaped reproaches on the traveller's head—because he had not waited until now, notwithstanding the words of Puteh and the paucity of his household gods.

Fortunately at this juncture there dashed up a high dog-cart drawn by a high-stepping horse, as befitted the rank of the occupant—none other than the greatest in the State. And he stopped and he knew, and he conversed with, the riksha-riding Johnny and his one-time friend who humbly tramped it on foot. And balm descended. The riksha was discarded and the student clambered to a seat in the dog-cart while the traveller was kindly invited to come “up topside” to stay.

The hospital revisited, Ano wandered on to the Lake Club to seek for sympathy and friends. He was not disappointed, for both were found in that hospitable place of genial reunion. How it gladdened this denizen of the lonely jungle to recklessly accept more hearty invitations to come and stay or dine than it would be possible to fulfil without several months of leave. And then to exchange political views and talk. Talk! oh, the charm of it, when one has been for months cut off from opportunities of conversation in the mother tongue. Then came a game of billiards with one of the best players in the State, who courteously endeavoured to lose, until, after remaining at 94 so long that even the surprise of the marker really gave him away, either hunger, or fear of his wife, compelled him to make the final six as a short cut to a return to his home. And dinner! mutton!—such mutton—boiled in soup, the hostess said, after long wrapping in leaves of papeia. Then, as this lady was apparently all knowing as to matters of the *cuisine*, Ano sought for information and obtained it, learning how to boil and roast, together with many other useful details for domestic use. A book of receipts for savouries was produced, some of which looked so easy to put into Malay and translate to Ano's “boy” that he unblushingly begged the loan of it, and as unblushingly refused. The hostess made daily reference to it in the preparation of the repast of her lord. You well-nourished pillar of the State, think of it—a menu from a book every day! Oh, Solitude, where will be thy charms when, returned to it, the traveller will think enviously of those thought-full dinners in the Gothic-Italian house with its sanded-floor-cottage-like interior? And after dinner—little tales of up to date—laughter and repartee. No nodding over a book to-night with one eye on the clock longing that ten may strike the hour of release.

Next morning the knowledge that a whole day was to be spent without travel. A whole day to dispose of in Kuala Lumpur, and what was more, a Sunday! A promised early visit to the hospital somehow became nine o'clock, and then a gharry—a local gharry—took him to the Rest House to call upon a Dentist who was stopping there. This journey was naturally slow, and it was quite a while before Ano reached the Rest House door. Here in the verandah sat a gentleman engrossed in the *Selangor Journal*. As he did not move, this was evidently not the Dentist. Then someone issued from the house and asked the traveller who he was and what he wanted there, and there crowded upon him pleasant thoughts of the hospitality of Selangor on finding himself utterly unknown in this resort of friendless men. It was true, there was a Dentist, and Ano was ushered into his room. This gentleman was busily engaged in attending to the teeth of a high official. The high official temporarily released, Ano took his place.

After a cursory glance at his uninteresting mouth the Dentist begged the H. O. to resume his seat, and asked permission to disclose to view the wondrous peculiarities of his teeth. With that affability so characteristic of all high officials, he consented, and in another moment a lecture was being delivered while Ano gazed wide eyed and awe struck at the sight presented to him. Many of you, perhaps—planters, miners, even subordinate officials—may have had the privilege of listening to a high official and wondered at what was in his mind as you looked barely into his eyes, but to none of you has it been permitted, as it has to Ano, to see that high official gagged, as making shrewd guesses at his thoughts, he gazed right into his wide open head.

An appointment arranged, at the sacrifice of Sabbath afternoon rest—attempt was made to wake the Chinese gharry syce sleeping so soundly inside the gharry. In this assistance was found in an old friend, a passing peon, who is in the service of the King. This Malay added his mite of welcome and extended a cordial invitation to come and stay at the house of his Tuan, adding as an attraction that Tuan Teddie had that day arrived. He was informed that Ano would have the pleasure of meeting him again at dinner, and the gharry syce, now aroused and smoking a cigaratte, was instructed to depart in the direction of home.

Thanks to the hostess, her cooks and her books, tiffin was a worthy interpretation of succulent receipts. Then, alas, once more Rest House and Dentist.

The same individual in the verandah was still sitting engrossed in the *Selangor Journal*, and the traveller wondered greatly what he did so long with that canary-backed publication. Recollection came of a story of a certain Club—the resort of those who played high after midnight—where, in order to give it an air of innocence before the outside world four white-haired old gentlemen of unimpeachable appearance were each afternoon stationed in a window overlooking the street and instructed to play whist for penny points. The reward of these players was their dinner and half a crown.

Could it be that about this reader also there was something unreal? Was it possible that behind that harmless yellow cover lay concealed some *Police Gazette* or *Reynold's News*? That the *Selangor Journal* was enjoying advertisement was an idea too improbable to entertain. It was more likely that the stranger was studying the customs of the Malays and those weird ceremonies at a birth which lately its pages so graphically described.

A happy afternoon was passed in the dental chair, and when the sitting was over Ano was allowed to behold many works of art and many skilful varieties for the adornment of the mouth of man, and woman. Then came the time of recreation, for he was going out to tea.

Preparatory to doing this a call was made at the house of a truly thoughtful friend who had given his welcome in the shape of the loan of a horse and buggy. In this little house, a place of luxurious ease, the owner was taking tea and stengahs with a circle of distinguished friends. Being offered champagne Ano had the *gaucherie* to ask for coffee. At least it turned out to be a *gaucherie*, as most of the guests

were planters, and the open-handed host had to be open-spoken as well, and acknowledge that he had none and never had such a thing in the house.

The buggy conducted the traveller in state to a house upon a hill, a house that it would take pages to describe. The house is, inside, a model English home, and as one enters an agreeable feeling of yearning home sickness awakes and there would be a fear of growing quite sad and sentimental did not the speedy entrance of a charming hostess dispel all illusion that this is a dream but a pleasant reality in Selangor.

Yesterday hospital tea—good of its kind—but to-day real tea with silver and cream jugs—delicately rolled slices of bread and butter—cakes and other little fancies. But for Ano, who was enabled by the homelike atmosphere to ask for what he liked, a cup of coffee and a new-laid egg. Notwithstanding evidences to the contrary the hostess was in trouble, as her valued chief servant was going on leave—they all do when most valuable—and things were supposed to be at sixes and sevens. Thus no brandy for the coffee could be found and it was necessary to send round the corner to borrow some from a charming neighbour friend. And quietly the brandy arrived and was three starred and good. The traveller thought what great care he would take to run short of this and that did he dwell in this place in order that he might constantly find a ready-made excuse to himself run round the corner with a jug and perhaps meet the fair neighbour who would fill it. But he did not shock by saying this, and a little platitude about neighbours comfortably covered his thoughts. And talking of running short of things the conversation turned on similar subjects, and it transpired how only that morning some eager official, responsible for the success of present gaieties in an adjacent State, had sent a wire to say that they were short of ladies, and would Selangor send over a batch of six at once to dance—adding that they should bring bedding and mosquito-nets but all else would be supplied. Poor Selangor, such is fame, for how little could this eager one really know the ladies who dwell there if he thought it possible that such charming creations could be spared at a moment's notice in batches. I fancy their husbands appreciate them too much, especially when they make dishes out of a cookery book. But apparently he fancied them too, or was it his fancy only? Only fancy, though—just fancy! (How he, the traveller, rattled on—have I bored you by relating it? But I must carry out my idea of atonement for the spots, and so will go on to where he stopped.) “And then,” he said, “they went to church, and he had the pleasure of driving the lady who had given him the coffee in the buggy lent by the friend who didn't.” “Who didn't” sounds like a quotation and therefore a reflection—but it is used without prejudice and isn't.

It was promised that he might go out before the sermon so as to revisit the hospital before the patients were tucked up for the night. It seemed to him that his companion was not very well acquainted with the order in which things came in church for she clearly, judging from points of time, got mixed about the hymns and hinted to him to

leave the church several moments before the proper one was reached. Still, he bravely left, knowing that however his action appeared the motive for it was good. And thus drove off to the hospital unashamed.

There by the bedside of the invalid the traveller met the genial Doctor, and as they sat one on each side of the bed they conversed. Well, Ano talks, as I am explaining to you, but so can the Doctor. And so interesting was his speech of men and things—of society and sport—cholera germs, gaols, nerves, police, vagrants, hospitals, local opinions, warrants, warders and water-supply, that time flew by and it was eight. Then Ano tore himself away and rushing outside met the most beaming, genial lady in Selangor, who, in her usual manner, gave him such a hearty welcome and said such pleasant platitudes that his ears, so long unaccustomed to little social speeches, tingled, till he could have purred like a cat. Thus stroked all the right way he sped onwards to The Pillars, whose outlines in the darkness recalled visions of southern skies, and as he unhitched the string of his bath-room door from its tack he thought of times spent in London, Berlin, Paris, Melbourne or New York—all perhaps pleasant places, but surely none so appropriate for the spending of a happy day as this metropolis of Selangor.

Hurriedly donning the long unaccustomed evening garb of civilisation and achieving the tying of a white tie in once, the traveller bade farewell to his kindly hostess (who still wouldn't lend him the cookery book) and then solemnly took his seat beside the pillar of the State in a respectable and comfortable four-wheeled conveyance drawn by a yellow horse of steady speed.

This carriage rolled them in luxury to the abode of the King, where they dined, and Tuan Teldie and other celebrities were duly met.

Only once was there a flaw in the evening when the host suggested contribution to the *Selangor Journal*, and T. T. too readily replied that this had already been done anent certain spots on the sun. And then, also, he cruelly referred to the origin of the Spotted Dog. Spots—dreadful spots—suspicion of allusion to which has haunted him in his jungle home—so much so that I am now writing what, he said, was the absolute truth about Selangor.

After dinner whist and billiards closed an evening of quiet enjoyment. Then home again for a few hours' rest. Next morning, alas! before it was dawn, the traveller awoke, but found that his unselfish host was already astir ready to provide him with lunch and start him off.

In the cold rain which descended without promise of cessation he left on his journey back across the mountains to lead his lonely life. But though hour after hour he sat all soaking wet, as the horses struggled on, yet was he not without content, since there accompanied him the memory of many kindly welcomes, the thought of which could always cheer, for they were not transient only, but, as he believed, waited there to be repeated whenever he should return again to Selangor.—EN PASSANT.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our Correspondents.]

GAMES AT THE SELANGOR CLUB.

To the Editor of the Selangor Journal.

SIR,—Many complaints have from time to time been made with regard to the state of the Parade Ground from a cricketer's point of view, and it has been suggested that not only in this but in other respects more might be done by the Selangor Club in the interest of cricket and out door games. The Selangor Club occupies a very important position with regard to the community in general, and besides being a Social Club combines in itself a Cricket Club, Football Club and Tennis Club as well as Reading and Assembly Rooms.

Where else could anyone for a subscription of \$2, practically 4s., a month get all these advantages? There is no doubt but that it cannot be done for the money. The Club is trying to do too much, and the result is that with every effort at economy it is impossible to keep out of debt.

The Lake Club, which is purely a Social Club, has a subscription of double, and an entrance fee of quadruple the amount, without having any of the extra expenses that fall on the Selangor Club. Subscriptions and entrance fees are, it should be borne in mind, all profit, whereas only a percentage of the receipts from the bar are of any benefit to the Club.

It has often been pointed out that the periodical matches and practises bring a great deal of custom to the Club and provide a large share in the support given to it.

To a certain extent this is the case, but it is entirely neutralised by the expenses incurred in connection with Cricket and Football.

It is suggested that a subscription, limited to a maximum of \$1 a month, with the option of any lesser sum, be paid by those members of the Selangor Club who will volunteer to do so, and that the funds so provided be kept entirely separate from the other subscriptions, being disbursed solely for the upkeep of the various games, and under the advice and management of the Sub-Committee appointed for the purpose. The Club might at the same time add a fixed sum monthly to the amount so collected.

I am quite sure that were a list started a very large proportion of the members of the Club would be only too glad to subscribe to it, not only those who play cricket and football or tennis but everyone who has the interest of first-class sport and athletics in Selangor at heart.—I am, etc., E. A. O. TRAVERS.

RUSKINANA.

To the Editor of the Selangor Journal.

DEAR SIR,—Can you tell me when the exterior of the Central Police Station is to be re-colour-washed, or is it the idea to let it resemble an ancient Roman ruin?—I am, etc., A. B. C.

NOTES AND NEWS.

THE Acting Resident, Mr. J. P. Rodger, accompanied by the Acting Resident Engineer, Mr. D. J. Highet, left in the s.s. *Esmeralda* on the 26th ult. for Singapore, to see His Excellency the Governor with regard to the Estimates for 1896 and to meet Mrs. and Miss Rodger, who arrived in Singapore on Monday, together with Mr. and Mrs. Watkins; they will return with Mr. Rodger in the *Esmeralda*, and are expected to arrive in Kuala Lumpur by the 8 a.m. train this morning (Friday).

MR. HUGH CLIFFORD, it is stated, will shortly give, under the title "East Coast Idyls and Etchings," an account of the people and places of that comparatively unknown part of the Malay Peninsula.

THERE have been, and possibly still are, members of the Selangor Club who object to the term "Spotted Dog." Let them take heart of grace, and be thankful to our correspondent who dubs it the "Home of British Sport."

No need to bewail one's inability to get round the coast, on duty, after snipe. We have them, the snipe, in our midst. On Saturday last our No. 1 Shikari was potting the bald-heads on the Parade Ground, quite regardless of the back-view of the Chinese wayfarer.

THE village of Ampang has now its own market, and with the adjacent Sungei Puteh mines should become a thriving place; the best thing to develop its importance would be a cart-road, if that is possible, from there to Ulu Langat.

THE Entertainment Committee of the Selangor Club are proposing a Calico Fancy Dress Dance to be held on Friday, 8th November. The proposal is now being submitted to the ladies of Selangor, whose hearty and unanimous support is so necessary to its success. The idea is to issue tickets, single \$2, double \$3, and to provide a really good supper

A MOONLIGHT Band does not sound very attractive just now, with so much rain about; but when, as happened last Wednesday

night at the Selangor Club, it is utilized for dancing, it furnishes very pleasant amusement for an evening.

WE are very glad to quote the following from the minutes of the Sanitary Board, Kuala Lumpur: "Captain Syers draws attention to the low rates authorised to be charged by jinirikisha pullers, which are the same as those charged in Singapore, where the cost of living is cheaper and the country is less hilly, and proposes that the rate be raised from six cents to ten cents per mile. Resolved that this matter be brought up for consideration at the next meeting." We drew attention to this when the 'Rikisha Regulation was published last year. One other thing we hope to see, and that is the complete knocking out of the double-passenger 'rikisha.

THERE is a paragraph in the papers to the effect that while Mr. F. A. Swettenham is in England he will negotiate for the inclusion of the Malayan Protected States within the Postal Union. A consummation devoutly to be wished; and one that has been talked about, and written about, for some time. The first step in the right direction was made when, in 1891, a Native States stamp was introduced. In the Administration Report for the State of Selangor for 1891 we read: "There remains another change, which, in justice to the Native States, should be introduced before long, and that is the admission of these States to the Postal Union, by means of which their stamps will be available for postage to Europe, America, etc. At present the stamps of the Colony of the Straits Settlements are used for this purpose, the whole of the revenue derivable from such stamps being paid to the Colony. This can hardly be justified, when States like Sarawak and North Borneo belong to the Postal Union and use their own stamps for foreign postage." The hardship of the case is shewn by the following paragraph from last year's Administration Report: "The number of articles dealt with by the Post Office was 955,495, an increase of 14 per cent. as compared with 1890. As pointed out by the Superintendent, however, the increased number of articles dealt with, although it affords valuable testimony to the growing importance of the State, does not necessarily produce a corresponding increase in the postal revenue, as letters despatched to places beyond the Straits Settlements and the Native States must be stamped in Selangor with Colonial stamps, on which no profit is realised by this Government, as they can only be purchased from the Colony at their face value."

A GENTLEMAN, dining out the other night, found himself in company with three sets of brothers, and it was only the merest chance

that there were not four. This, having regard to our small European community, struck him as rather strange. At different times during the last five or six years, however, it would often have been possible to have found oneself in company with a round dozen different sets of brothers—we mention the following names from memory: Baxendale, Bellamy, Campbell, Cumming, Glassford, Gordon, Harper, Kindersley, Lott, Maynard, Meikle, Sanderson, Stephenson, Stewart, Stonor, Toynbee, and Venning. This speaks well for the country, because only in a few instances have brothers arrived together. The foregoing all resided in the State; but the list could be lengthened if we added those who have had brothers in other parts of the Peninsula, for instance, the names of Belfield, Braddon, Dougal, Dunlop, Dunman, Hüttenbach, Maxwell, McGregor, Scott, and Trotter. Someone will certainly suggest a "Brothers' Club" one of these days.

A CORRESPONDENT of the *B. N. B. Herald* came across a troop of monkeys among which was an albino; although other Europeans had seen this freak, the Dyak who accompanied the writer had never heard of or seen one before. In Finlayson's "Siam and Hué," edited by Sir T. S. Raffles, a description is given of two white monkeys, perfect albinos in every respect. They were kept in the white elephants' stables in the precincts of the palace at Bangkok, and were supposed to ward off harm to the elephants.

THE following is Captain Syers' official report on his recent visit to Johore:—"I have the honour to report for your information that in accordance with instructions I left Kuala Lumpur on the 5th instant, at 7 a.m., and proceeded to Klang, went on board the *Esmeralda* and left for Jugra, picked up H.H. the Raja Muda and Raja Bôt and then went on to Singapore, arriving at 4 p.m. on the evening of the 6th. On arrival at Singapore I landed; at once saw the Hon. the Colonial Secretary, and received instructions from him to procure a pilot from the Master Attendant and leave for Johor at 7 a.m. the following morning. On the morning of the 7th Rajas Ismail and Daud, with several followers, came on board, and we then proceeded to Johor, arriving at about 10 a.m. We were met by Mr. Buckley, a representative of the Johor Government, taken on shore in his launch and at once introduced to the Government officials, from whom we received every possible attention. H.H. the Raja Muda was requested by Tungku Ibrahim to view the body of the late Sultan, which was lying in state at the Istana, and shortly after was present at the reading of a proclamation announcing to the people of Johor and others that Tungku Ibrahim had succeeded to the throne of Johor and would

henceforth be known as the Sultan of that State. After attending the funeral of the late Sultan, which took place at 1 p.m. and was a very grand and imposing ceremony, we returned on board the *Esmeralda* and were visited by Tungku Othman, who came on behalf of H.H. the Sultan of Johor to thank the Raja Muda for his attendance. The yacht then returned to Singapore. On the morning of the 9th I accompanied the Raja Muda to Government House and had an interview with H.E. the Governor, by appointment. This visit was returned by the Hon. the Colonial Secretary, who came on board the *Esmeralda* in the evening, and the yacht then returned to Jugra, landing His Highness and suite at Bandar on the evening of the 10th. The Raja Muda expressed a wish to visit Johor on some future occasion, under more cheerful circumstances, and appeared much gratified with the reception accorded him by the Sultan of Johor and his officers."

THE Chief Inspector of Police is now in possession of a silver watch and chain awaiting an owner. In addition to the usual number, there are certain characters engraved on the case.



LOCAL SPORT.

SELANGOR HUNT AT KLANG.

ON Saturday, the 21st ult., a large party of sportsmen proceeded to Klang with the celebrated pack to try their luck for pig, and to give the local sports a chance of distinguishing themselves, a rumour having got abroad to the effect that these gentlemen preferred dancing to chasing the unclean beast. On this occasion, however, they were determined to prove the contrary.

We found a strong contingent on the platform waiting our arrival, and were at once taken in and done for in real Klang style. Some of our party started in search of snipe; others declined, saying it was too wet. Being fond of moisture, I stuck to the former party, and scored a bit: nothing like knowing a thing or two on these occasions. The shootists got two couple of snipe, three pigeons and a Chinaman. The latter was shot accidentally, of course, by a gentleman who makes a practice of shooting Chinamen whenever he visits Klang, and is said to have bagged three on one occasion, although he wanted none of them.

A visit to the Recreation Club, where a real good game of football was being played by a mixed team of Europeans and natives; then a prowl round the various residences, in search of information *re* the morrow's sport and to sample certain liquid refreshments; and then home to bed—which some did not reach till the small hours of the morning. I am told the combined effects of the sea air and Devonshire cider were so exhilarating that some of our party broke forth in

song about midnight: I am sorry for this, as the Klang people were really kind and had done nothing to deserve it.

"Sunday morning, 6 sharp, meet at the Leper Hospital to draw the cemetery for pig," was the somewhat gruesome notice issued by our energetic Secretary, who is nothing if not thorough in the matter of detail. However, at the appointed time nearly all the European inhabitants of Klang turned up fearfully and wonderfully armed, determined to do or die for the honour of their flourishing district.

The first beat resulted in one pig, which was shot by a gentleman who ought to have known better, as it was only a sow and quite harmless. A very large boar was put up, but took to the water and the dogs lost him. The second beat was a blank, as although several pigs were started, they all managed to evade the guns—the undergrowth being very thick, it was most difficult to get them out. The third beat behind the fort proved the best of the lot. There were no less than 10 pigs on foot directly the dogs went in, two of these (one being a very fine boar) were bowled over by Mr. Hemmy. After this the dogs were called off and a move made to the Klang Rest House, where the party were photographed by Mr. Staphell, in order that our appearance after an evening's entertainment and a morning's shoot at Klang may not be lost to posterity.

The Resident, who was on board the yacht, at Klang, kindly entertained the whole party at lunch, issuing a general invitation which was gladly accepted. The Kuala Lumpur contingent returned home by evening train, having thoroughly enjoyed their pleasant outing.—BATIN.

RIFLE ASSOCIATION.

THE third of the four Quarterly Competitions for the Quay Guan Hin Cup (value \$100) was brought off at the Range on Friday and Saturday afternoons the 20th and 21st September. The weather was fine on both occasions, in spite of the heavy rain which fell about 3 o'clock on Friday and threatened to prevent any shooting on that day, when Dr. Travers, Messrs. W. D. Scott and W. Crompton elected to fire, the remainder of the competitors choosing to fire on Saturday afternoon. The cup was again won by J. Brown, who was the successful competitor in the first competition for the cup, in March last, with a score of 73, and whose chances of retaining the trophy are considerably enhanced by this further success, the conditions being the greater number of wins in the four competitions. J. H. Allen was the winner of the second competition, in June, with 72 points. The scores are as follows:—

	200 yards.	500 yards.	600 yards.	Total	Handicap.
J. Brown ...	27	28	24	79	18
T. J. McGregor ...	29	28	21	78	scratch
R. Charter ...	25	24	24	73	12
Dr. Travers ...	25	26	19	70	14
W. Crompton ...	26	25	13	64	5
W. D. Scott ...	28	18	6	52	18
J. H. Allen ...	22	23	4	49	18
G. Shepherd ...	23	20	26	69	scratch

In the Monthly Competition for the Malay States Tin Mining Co.'s Cup on Saturday last, seven shots at 500 yards, the following scores were made:—

J. Brown	23	Dr. Travers	14
R. Charter	24	G. Shepherd	13
E. F. McGowan	22		

A MEETING of the Committee of the Rifle Association was held on the 2nd inst., to consider a letter from Colonel Walker in reference to a Match with Perak. The Colonel, on behalf of Larut, accepts Selangor's offer: teams five a side; seven rounds each at 200, 500 and 600 yards; the match to take place during October; but suggests that 200 yards be "any position" as well as 500 and 600 yards. Mr. H. C. Holmes is nominated as umpire on behalf of Larut. It was resolved that Dr. Travers be asked to reply naming a date towards the end of the month; that the match should be Larut *v.* Kuala Lumpur; and that the military positions be maintained. It is hoped this match will be the first of a series of annual competitions between the States. Mr. Butler was nominated umpire for Kuala Lumpur.

BILLIARD HANDICAP AT THE SELANGOR CLUB.

FIRST ROUND.

				Score of loser.
E. J. Roe	scratch	beat	M. A. Hawes ... + 35	... 222
J. O'Hara	+ 50	"	L. Dougal ... + 40	... 229
L. B. Von Donop ...	+ 75	"	Tamboosamy Pillai + 50	... 162
G. Cumming	+ 25	"	P. Hoffner ... + 125	... 238
H. C. Rendle	+ 80	"	W. E. Venning + 15	... 231
D. Macreath	+ 110	"	G. Carpmael ... + 30	... 212
D. J. Highet	+ 30	"	G. D. Tisbury ... - 10	... 206
W. Crompton	+ 75	"	A. R. Blich ... + 120	... 230
E. W. Neubronner ...	- 20	"	C. P. Jackson ... + 80	... 181
H. C. Paxon	+ 45	"	C. Maxwell ... + 50	... 175
J. Dalglisb	+ 15	-	D. Prentice ... + 50	scratched
E. A. O. Travers ...	+ 60	-	C. Sanderson ... + 60	"
W. Boyer	+ 25	-	A. C. Harper ... + 50	"
G. Ketschker	scratch	-	W. C. Turner ... + 30	"

GOLF.

WE learn that the Captain China has offered the Golf Club a prize for an Approach and Putting Competition, which is to be brought off about the middle of this month. The conditions are to be as follows:—

A teeing ground will be marked out about 60 yards from the Home Hole; and between the teeing ground and the hole, at about 20 yards from the hole, will be placed a net about 10 feet high, and about 20 feet wide.

Each competitor to drop three balls behind him on the teeing ground, play them over the net, and hole out.

Any competitor failing to pitch his ball from the teeing ground fairly over the net, to bring his ball back to the teeing ground and drop it again, losing one stroke.

The prize to go to the competitor who holes out his three balls in the fewest strokes.

A box of balls, as a second prize, will be given by the Committee.

Any question or dispute arising to be settled by the Committee, and any tie which may occur to be played off as the Committee may direct.

The date of the competition is not yet finally fixed, but it will be posted in the Clubs in the course of the next day or two, and a net for practice will also be shortly ready near the Pavilion.

FOOTBALL.

ON Wednesday, October 2nd, a match was played between Officials and Non-Officials, both sides turning out strong teams. Unfortunately at about 1 o'clock in the afternoon the rain descended in torrents and covered the field in many places with large pools of water. Not to be daunted by this, however, the game was started and kept up throughout with great spirit. Much amusement was caused whenever the ball fell into the lagoon-like expanse that had formed in front of the goal at the Church end of the field—on these occasions the ball was almost immovable, having to be worried along inch by inch, amidst prodigious splashings of water. Little or no science could be called into play in consequence of the condition of the ground, but a thoroughly jolly and well-contested game was obtained, nevertheless. Of the Non-Officials, Skinner, Cook, Glassford and Tollemache were most prominent, Lott in goal also doing well. For the Officials, Scott, Roe, Hubback, Carpmael, Charter and Lott played best. The game, which was remarkably even throughout, resulted in a draw, neither side obtaining a point. The following were the teams:—

OFFICIALS.—*Goal*, Tamby; *Backs*, Bellamy and Roe; *Half-backs*, Day, Carpmael and Charter; *Forwards*, Maxwell, Hubback, Scott, Brown and Lott.

NON-OFFICIALS.—*Goal*, Lott; *Backs*, Skinner and Tollemache; *Half-backs*, Glassford and Hawes; *Forwards*, Meikle, Jackson, Cook, Rendle and Mitchell.

A MALAY WEDDING.

(TRANSLATION OF A NATIVE ACCOUNT.)

PREPARATIONS for the wedding of Inche Halimah, daughter of Sheikh Abdul Mohit Baktal, and Said Abdul Rahman Al Jafri, commenced on Monday, the 2nd of August, 1895.

The mosquito curtain, tapestries and canopies were suspended, and decorations, including the marriage furniture (*peti betuah dan bangking*), arranged. Moreover, the bridal couch was adorned with decorations of gold, and mattresses raised one above the other, one with a facing of gold and the other with a facing of silver, and four pillows with gold facings and five piled-up pillows with silver facings; and the kitchen apparatus was got ready, including ten pans and coppers of the largest size, and the hose who were to cook rice

and the meats eaten therewith. On this day, moreover, a buffalo was sent by Towkay Teck Chong with the full accompaniments of music and so forth.

On Tuesday, the 3rd day of the month, took place the first Henna-staining, the bride being led forth by her Coiffeur and seated upon the marriage throne. And the bride seated herself against the large pillow, which is called "the Pillow against which One Rests," or bantal saraga. And towards evening all the relatives on the woman's side sprinkled the Tepong Tawer (upon the forehead and hands of the bride), and after the Henna-staining, dishes of confectionery (and preserved fruits) were offered to all the guests who were present in the reception-room.

And on the 3th day of the month there took place in like manner the second Henna-staining. And on the 5th day of the month took place the Private Henna-staining (berhinei churi): the bride's hair being dressed after the fashion known as Sanggul Lintang, and further adorned with ornaments of gold and diamonds to the value of about \$5,000. And after this Henna-staining all persons present descended to the rooms below, where fencing and dagger-dances, and music and dancing were kept up at pleasure.

On the 6th day of the month, being Friday, Inche Mohamad Kassim, Penghulu of the Mukim of Bukit Raja, was commissioned by Dato Penghulu Mohit to summon the bridegroom, inasmuch as that day was fixed for the marriage rite. And the bridegroom, wearing the robe called Jubah and a turban tied after the Arab fashion, arrived at about three o'clock and was met by the priest (Tuan Imam) at the house. Very many were the guests on that day, and many ladies and gentlemen and his renowned Highness the Tunku-Dia-Uddin were assembled in the house.

And the Tuan Imam read the marriage service, Datoh Penghulu Mohit giving his permission for Tuan Haji Mohamad Said Mufti to wed Inche Halimah to Said Abdul Rahman Al Jafri, with a marriage portion of \$100. And after the marriage rite Tuan Imam proceeded to read prayers for their welfare. And afterwards dishes of rice were brought of which all the guests present were invited to partake. And when all had eaten, the Coiffeur led forth the bride to the scaffolding for the ceremony called "Bathing in State." And upon that same evening took place the Great Henna-staining, and the guests assembled in exceeding great numbers, both men and women, and filled the house above and below to overflowing. And when the Henna-staining was completed, all the men who were present chaunted (bacha maulut) until daybreak.

And upon the 7th day of the month, being Saturday, the bride being adorned, the bridegroom seated in a buggy was drawn in procession at about 5 o'clock from the house of his renowned Highness Tunku-Dia-Uddin, accompanied by the State Band and all kinds of music, to the house of the Datoh Penghulu, where he was met and sprinkled with saffron-rice and rose-water. Afterwards, being seated on the marriage throne side by side, both husband and wife, they offered to each other in turn the mouthfuls of saffron-rice which were

presented by the ladies and gentlemen and His Highness the Tunku-Dia-Uddin.

And afterwards the elder relatives on the side of both husband and bride presented the rice, and Inche Mohamad Kassim presented red eggs (telor berjoran) to all the ladies and gentlemen, and the bridegroom led the bride with him into the bridal chamber by the finger walking upon cloth of purple and gold. And afterwards all the ladies and gentlemen were invited to eat and drink, and the Band played, fireworks and artificial fires were burned, and great was the brightness thereof, and all the young people danced and sang at their pleasure until the evening was spent.

The list of presents sent by friends was as follows:—(1) From Sergeant-Major Mohamad Said, a goat and spices, and plank covered with an inscription in letters of gold on Chinese silk. (2) From Towkay Teck Bong, a goat. (3) From Towkay Boon Hean, a Chinese inscription, 12 fowls, 12 ducks, a case of "wiski" and a case of "brandi." (4) From Towkay Teck Chong, a buffalo. (5) From Inche Mohamad Kassim and Inche Abdul Razzak, a buffalo. (6) From Haji Mohamad Nor and Haji Arip, two buffaloes. (7) From Inche Abas and following, a buffalo. (8) From Inche Arip and Kiei Musa, a buffalo. (9) From Haji Samsuddin and following, a buffalo and \$50 in cash. (10) From Inche Sleiman, a buffalo. (11) From Haji Ali, Haji Abu Bakar, Inche Lajis, Inche 'Ngah, Inche Akib and following, two buffaloes and seasoning. (12) From Haji Mohamad Akil and family, a buffalo-cow. (13) From Haji Jalal, a bullock. (14) From Sheikh Ahmat bin Manjor and following, two goats and spices. (15) From Klang Government Officers, a sirih apparatus (silver). (16) From Mrs. Syers, a silver box. (17) From K. Tambusamy Pillay, two gold rings. (18) From Dorasamy Pillay, two gold rings. (19) From Datoh Dagang Abdullah, of Kuala Lumpur, and following, a buffalo and \$50 in cash.

CHINESE TIN MINING IN SELANGOR.

AS the Chinese are the principal, I may say, the sole, miners in this State, what follows will only refer to Chinese mining customs and methods of working. There are four kinds of mining known in Selangor: (1) the kind called "Tai Nam" (low swampy ground); (2) "Pun san nam" (half hill, half swamp); (3) "San sah" (high ground)—commonly known as "lampan," sluicing on the surface of hills; and (4) "Ta loong" (underground mining by driving shafts and tunnelling). The first is the most expensive, involving a large outlay of capital owing to the thickness of the alluvial stratum and the wet nature of the ground, and it can consequently only be worked by large capitalists. The "pun san nam" are worked by petty shop-keepers and towkay labours or "advancers," and not unfrequently by the large capitalists, while the "san sah" and "ta loongs" are within the reach of almost everyone—a few men often chumming together and working for their common good, with or without the assistance of advancers.

These different methods are so complicated that to give anything like a satisfactory description of them would be almost impossible without some definite sort of scheme, I therefore propose to treat the subject systematically, under the following headings:—

- I. Preliminary (selection of ground, and starting of the work).
- II. Labour and "Labour" (or Questions of Finance).
- III. Phases and Phrases of Practical Mining.
- IV. The Kongsî: its management and officials.
- V. Hints to Intending Miners.
- VI. Miscellaneous.

I. PRELIMINARY.

In selecting his ground, the first thing the superstitious Chinese looks to is the "Fong shui," or geomancy, of the locality. A valley running east and west is considered unimpeachable "Fong shui," as "the sun's eye watches over it all the day long." Fong shui is quite a science and is equally in demand for the selection of the site for a house, a temple, a graveyard, or any sort of public building, whilst, in order that no mistake may be made in the selection, a specialist ("Sin Sang") is generally consulted. In the absence of the most desirable quality in a valley—viz., an east and west situation—other redeeming points may be found—*e.g.*, in the position of the surrounding hills and the direction of the streams. Thus upstream hills are regarded as the source of the tin-sand, while those at the lower end of the valley are said to "block the egress" of the metal. Malay pawangs (or medicine men) formerly played an important part in the supposed discovering of stanniferous country by means of their incantations and the power they were credited with of being able to "smell" the tin ore. Not a little mining land, however, has owed its development to the Chinese charcoal-burner, who, in his search for suitable timber, has abundant opportunities of discovering likely spots and of doing himself good by reporting the discovery to his towkay. The Sakei, again, who knows every gully and stream (which still bear the names his forefathers gave them, anterior to the coming of the Malays) is also said to be an authority on the selection of ground; whilst it is believed that tin will even on rare occasions announce its presence by a peculiar noise heard in the stillness of night, and that some birds and insects by their chirrupings and whirring will proclaim its whereabouts. Such are the ways and means adopted by superstition for the finding out of the ground; but latterly, the introduction of European boring tools has to a great extent dispelled these crude and primitive ideas.

The next thing after the selection of the ground is felling and clearing the jungle, which is best done by Malays (Rembau men, generally) on contract. A clearing of a hundred fathoms square ("saratus tanah") costs about \$18, and an equal number of gantangs of rice. Then comes the erection of the kongsî or cooly lines, the contractor in this case being a Chinaman, who does the work at so much per "shu teu" (posts) or per "ken vook" (the open spaces between the posts). The rate per post or "shu teu" is \$13 or \$14, and per "ken

vook" about \$15, the latter being dearer owing to there being one less open space than there are posts in a building. All materials should be supplied by the contractor with the exception of ataps and rattan, for which latter separate contracts are made. When the posts are cut and ready and before they are planted in the ground, the miner will consult his almanac to find out a lucky day—the erection of the posts ("hee shu teu") being considered a great event. The almanac is one of the great books of the Chinese. It contains astronomical information, but its main purpose is to give (so-called) "real and accurate information" respecting lucky places for performing the varied acts of the Chinaman's daily life; and, as every act of his life is thought to depend for its success on the time at which it is done, it is considered of the utmost importance. After the posts are erected and the skeleton of the roof formed, a piece of red cloth ("foong poo") is tied to the roof-tree for luck before the building is thatched. On the completion of the kongsi the name of the mine ("tsz how"), written on red paper, is affixed above the doorway of the kongsi. A few coolies ("kongsi kongs") are then engaged, and on a lucky day (chosen with the help of the almanac) the ceremony of "Hoi Kong" (commence work) takes place. All the men except the towkay labur, clerk, cook and a few others proceed with changkols and baskets to the site of the intended mine and cut the first sod, after which they return to the kongsi, when they are presented with the earnest money ("foong pows"). These are money presents wrapped up in red paper (whence the name: foong=red and pow=bundle), in value from ten cents upwards according to the rank or position of the recipient, the "kapala" or head overseer getting about a dollar.

Those who receive the "foong pows" consider themselves *bonâ fide* engaged, and give their names to the clerk to be entered in the cooly roll ("kong pai"), which is then hung up in a conspicuous place in the kongsi. It is needless to add that joss-sticks and crackers are burnt, and that a lavish banquet is provided for the occasion, the festive board groaning under the weight of a multitude of good things, conspicuous amongst which is the ubiquitous pork prepared according to all sorts and varieties of recipes, and arrack or samsu, which is also liberally provided. The next day the regular routine of work begins, and those who have recovered from the effects of the "hoi kong" of the previous day, must leave their comfortable beds at 5.30 in the morning when the kapala calls "Chut moon" (Go out).

A few words about the kongsi house or cooly lines may perhaps be of interest. Externally the kongsi presents the appearance of a huge thatched roof rising from the ground to a height of about 30 feet to the hip and covering an area of 150 feet by 40 feet. This ungainly looking mass of thatch, and the covered area, walled in with timber or split bamboo, constitutes the kongsi. There are three divisions in the building: the centre, which is sub-divided into the hall and store room, and the two wings, which are used as dormitories. A verandah runs along the front of the kongsi, and a door leading from the verandah to the hall gives general access to every part of the house. In the

hall are to be seen the "kong pai" (check roll) hung up in a conspicuous place, the clock which regulates the working hours, and a small table or altar on which are placed incense, joss-sticks and all the paraphernalia of heathen worship; while little rude tables here and there, shew that the hall is also the dining room. The store room, which is connected with the hall by a small door, is the sanctum of the "choy foo" (clerk) who here reigns supreme, and dispenses opium, tobacco, etc., from behind a counter. The manager, head overseer and the clerk have each their bed in this room, which is also reserved as a dining place for these three officials and the assistant overseer. In one corner is a raised platform for holding rice and other provisions, and in another the "shap-mi-chong" (tin ore box) for storing the tin ore as it comes from the mines. The coolies are not allowed inside, and any business they have with the clerk must be done through little wooden bars separating the store room from the hall. The verandah may be said to be the busiest part of the kongsi, affording a rendezvous for the cake-seller, pork-vendor, hawker and the rest of the pedlar fraternity who meet here at all hours of the day to tempt the coolies with their wares. But its usefulness does not end here, as the basket maker, whether mending old baskets or making new ones, always works in the verandah, the overseer beats the wooden drum and calls his coolies to work there, and lastly but not leastly it is the happy meeting-ground of the idlers, the coolies who skulk from work and generally the good-for-nothings who congregate here to loaf, gossip or quarrel.

The dormitories are divided into rectangular blocks with a main passage running through the centre and the beds are placed in the cross passages branching off, on either side, from the main thoroughfare. Four posts driven into the ground with a plank or bamboo floor on them and a mat to cover the floor form the bed of the cooly. But the bed of the cooly is his sanctuary. Here he keeps his belongings and furniture --his box, which also serves as pillow, occupies a corner, and his teapot and opium pipe and lamp are neatly arranged on a tray in the middle, whilst over them all is the universal mosquito-curtain which the cooly can never do without however poor his circumstances. Here he retires after the day's work, entertains his friends, sips his tea, smokes his opium and writes "clubbed packet" letters to his family in China. A bamboo partition separates the beds of the "pongshoo" (petty overseers), who generally keep themselves separate from those of commoner clay.

In small mines cooking is done in the kongsi house itself, but in large ones, owing to the greater number of men and the risk of fire, a separate kitchen house is provided within convenient distance from the main building. It is generally about 40 ft. by 20 ft., is walled on three sides and entirely open to the front or side nearest the kongsi house. The cooking range with the large rice-pan permanently imbedded in it, the kitchen dresser, chopper, saucepans and other culinary apparatus are kept scrupulously clean, though so much cannot be said of the drainage and outside surroundings. It is needless to say that the cook holds absolute sway over the kitchen, and

nobody is allowed in except at meal-times. The cook and his assistant sleep in the kitchen.

The above description applies to what is called the "tai kongsi" (big kongsi), where the overseer and the governing body live. Other less elaborate kongsi houses are also built, called "nai chang kongsi," for the accommodation of the "nai chang" coolies, that is, men engaged by piece work for the removal of overburden. The difference between the "tai kongsi" and the "nai chang kongsi" is that the former is looked upon as a permanent establishment (as long as the mine lasts), while the latter is more of a temporary nature.—J. C. P.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our Correspondents.]

GAMES AT THE SELANGOR CLUB.

To the Editor of the Selangor Journal.

SIR,—In the first para. of his letter, in your last issue of the *Journal*, Dr. Travers has dealt with matters beyond the jurisdiction, or even control, of the Selangor Club; that is, as regards the state of the Parade Ground.

The Selangor Club, as an institution, can have no control over the Parade Ground as long as it is vested in the Sanitary Board under Rule 35 appended to the By-laws of the Board; but it is an open question if the Board maintains the Parade Ground for the health and recreation of the public in a proper and efficient manner.

As both a cricketer and a football-player, I feel I am only expressing the opinion of all sportsmen, when I say that the maintenance of both the cricket pitch and the football field is lamentably short of what it should be. I cannot recollect ever playing either cricket or football on a ground in town or country where such natural advantages as our Parade Ground possesses were so pitiably neglected.

There is palpably a misunderstanding as to the responsibility of the charge of the ground; and, as long as this continues, so long will our great national games languish to the discredit of the State and the community.

There is no pleasure in playing on a ground which, for fielding, batting, or bowling, is about as dangerous as a cricket pitch possibly can be, and it is a fatal mistake to think that a cricket pitch will take care of itself. There are many cricketers who would make it a labour of love to maintain the cricket pitch and football field if funds and labour were placed at their disposal; and I am confident that many cricketers and football players would, if such a course were unavoidable, gladly increase their subscription to the Club, or, if necessary, raise funds to start a separate Cricket and Football Club if the care of the ground could be handed over to them.

The game of cricket was played and flourished in this State years before the present gaudy Club was dreamt of, and was the base on which its good old predecessor was established, and it is therefore

necessary for those who have the present Club's welfare at heart to consider the priority of cricket and football above all other social recreations.

I therefore endorse Dr. Travers' suggestion, if I understand it to be—as the funds of the Club are not sufficient—to raise a fund to maintain cricket, football and tennis in a manner worthy of the State and of the exponents of our great games; but I would not limit the fund to members only of the Selangor Club: such games must be cosmopolitan, and it must not necessarily follow that an individual desirous of playing either cricket, football, or tennis must belong to the Selangor Club, and I would not make the subscription to the proposed funds compulsory to all members of the Club.

This fund should be distinct and should provide for all the accessories to the games and also to the maintenance of the ground. It cannot be reasonably expected of the Sanitary Board to maintain cricket pitches, but that body might at least assist, by funds, in keeping the surroundings of the pitch and the football field free from objectionably long grass: therefore, with assistance from the Sanitary Board, the Selangor Club and the proposed special fund, the day will not, I hope, be far distant when cricket and other like games can be played in comfort of body and mind, and the real character of our exponents of these great games be seen in its proper light, which will never be while a state of divided responsibility exists as to the care of the Parade Ground. It is for the Selangor Club to move in the matter, and until it does approach the Sanitary Board and get the matter of the care of the ground settled so long will it as a body neglect its true interests to the community as the home of British sport in Selangor.—I am, etc., H. F. BELLAMY.

To the Editor of the Selangor Journal.

SIR,—I have read with great care the letter in your last issue written by Dr. Travers, whom we all recognise as an ardent sportsman, even in those sports where he does not personally shine—which are few.

The question he raises is not a new one, and he has done a public service so far as to bring the matter into general notice.

I hope you will allow me space to criticise a few of the points he has raised.

It will take a good many more dollars than are likely to be collected from voluntary subscriptions, with a maximum of \$1, to make the ground—which does not belong to the Club—properly fit for cricket, tennis or football, and it is likely to be a long time before the finances of the Club, under present conditions, will allow of more than an occasional rolling of the cricket pitch and tennis courts.

Reference to the Lake Club appears to me to be out of place in this matter.

Dr. Travers points out that extra revenue derived from periodical matches is "neutralised" by the corresponding expenses. This shows a fairly satisfactory state of affairs, in so far that these matches do not detract from the takings of the Club.

No doubt a voluntary subscription, if started for the purpose of the upkeep of outdoor games, would meet with a large amount of support, but it would at once shew cricket to be a subsidiary branch and not an intrinsic part of the Club. I believe the Club arose as the outcome of a proposed Cricket Club, which it was thought better to make a Social Club, with outside games as a part of the advantages of members, in the same way as the Reading Room, which was and still is not a revenue-producing department of the Club. The billiards, cards and dominoes are supposed to pay their way actually, and so perhaps should be left out of the argument, though some are of opinion that the outside games also help the revenue of the Club materially.

The idea of a *voluntary* subscription on the part of members of any Club (a Club being essentially a concern of equality and fraternity) seems to me abnormal, especially if enlisted on behalf of a department which is and always has been an intrinsic part of the Club, and which has been continually supported by it.

It was not so stated in the letter referred to, but it appears that if the proposal were carried out, the outside sports would very soon become practically a separate Club housed by the Selangor Club, which would subsidise the sports Club by a small donation in order that it might derive what revenue it could from thirsty sportsmen.

In the same way a separate subscription might be raised amongst those who chose to read the papers, or to use the billiard table.

It appears to me that the voluntary subscription proposed would tend to break up the Club from a social point of view. Previous mismanagement has forced the Club to practise careful economy in order to recover itself; the revenue can hardly meet the expenditure; repairs to the building are urgently required, as are additions to the furniture, especially in the shape of a second billiard table. The Club, therefore, must have more funds. Why specialise outdoor sport as the branch that requires increased subscription? If the Club is to appeal for funds let the funds so raised go to the general revenue, but do not let special subscriptions be asked for the upkeep of cricket any more than for the colour-washnig of the rooms or the purchase of a new billiard table; or better still, let the subscriptions be raised until our finances are satisfactory.

The Club is in the same condition as regards sports as it always has been, and as all members have known it since they joined it, except for the very trifling extra cost since the introduction of football. All our cricketers, and football and tennis players, would no doubt be just as willing to subscribe to the repair of the building and the purchase of a new billiard table and boxes of dominoes as the social members would be to assist the outdoor sports. Let us "pull together."—I am, etc., H. C. PAXON.

To the Editor of the Selangor Journal.

SIR,—The letter under the above heading which appeared in the last issue of the *Journal* must, I am sure, have been read by many of your subscribers with much indignation as being, not to put it too

forcibly, an outrage upon some of the highest principles which should regulate life in the East.

The contention seems to be that the Selangor Club (under its present management, I presume, though this somewhat important factor is carefully left out) cannot for the present subscription of \$2 per month decently keep up Cricket, Football, Tennis, Billiards, Reading and Assembly Rooms, and provide a monthly entertainment; and it is suggested that an additional subscription should be collected from those members who voluntarily offer it for the upkeep of the various games.

Now, Sir, this is simply monstrous! It is well known that the Selangor Club was started as a *Cricket* Club, and therefore cricket (which may surely be taken to include football, though this game was not played here till quite lately) should of course be the very first, if not the only, consideration to be kept in view in financing the Club—the mere fact of perhaps a very large majority of the present members who have chosen to join the Club wishing to use it for any other purpose than that of taking part in or witnessing these games, being quite irrelevant.

The voluntary subscription proposed is very insidious: whilst professing to be intended to help cricket, football, etc., it strikes deeply at the important principle that everyone should be *obliged* to support those games or withdraw from the Selangor Club.

I would propose, as an amendment (to the new Committee, be it noted) that in the future estimates of the expenditure of the Club, the cricket requirements be the first consideration, football and tennis being next on the list (though the latter game is seldom played at the Selangor Club, principles must be maintained)—and that after allowing for full and necessary expenditure on these games, a further part of the receipts be put aside to make a reserve fund for entertaining visitors and paying the expenses of our teams in the same connection. The next place would be given to the working expenses of the Club, such as wages and lighting (though, by the way, as night is unsuitable for out-door games, the latter item might almost be struck out); Interest on debentures must, of course, be provided for; and then, I think you will admit my impartiality in proposing that a part of the remainder of the profits be expended in providing newspapers and periodicals, and in maintaining the billiard table.

Though it is most difficult to see how the scheme I propose could fail to work—unless, indeed, the new Committee prove as incompetent as their predecessors—still, if from any cause the receipts should prove inadequate, the remedy is obvious—namely, to double or treble the amount charged for billiards; to charge a fee for the use of the Reading Room—the fact of there being little or nothing to read need not be considered; or, in the last resort, to increase the subscription all round.

I fear I have trespassed on your space in submitting my views, but the perusal of the former proposal has made me—JUSTLY INDIGNANT.

NOTES AND NEWS.

MRS. RODGER, who together with Miss Rodger arrived in Kuala Lumpur on the 4th instant, held an "At Home" at the Residency on the 10th instant.

WE are requested to remind our local readers of the Fancy Dress Dance at the Selangor Club on the 8th prox. No effort will be spared to make both the Dance and the Supper enjoyable. An early application to the Secretary for tickets will greatly assist those who have to make the necessary arrangements.

THE Annual Installation Meeting of Read Lodge will be held on Monday next, the 21st inst. Bro. H. C. Paxon is the W.M. elect. It is confidently expected that there will be a full muster of the brethren.

THE *Daily Telegraph* of the 16th September publishes the Selangor contribution to the W. G. Grace Testimonial, together with the Selangor Captain's letter.

OUR friends, Mr. and Mrs. Lindsay, have arrived safely in Bangkok, Lieutenant Bleckingberg, of the Siamese Navy, who is now in Kuala Lumpur, having met them on arrival. We made enquiries, but could glean no information, about the baby elephant.

MR. AND MRS. T. H. HILL have been residing at the Bungalow on Weld's Hill Estate for the last few weeks. Dr. Wellford has taken up land for coffee in the Kuala Selangor District, and Mr. C. P. Jackson, formerly of Weld's Hill, is engaged to open it up. Messrs. Kelly and De Mornay, of the Perak Government Service, have been visiting Kuala Lumpur. Mr. C. E. Baxendale, who has been engaged in Perak, on the Bukit Mas Mine, for the last nine months, is now in Kuala Lumpur. Mr. F. A. Toynbee, who has not been very well of late, has taken a trip home.

MR. A. R. VENNING reports in the last *Gazette* on the Government Savings Bank. The statements attached to the Report shew that since the Bank was started 387 accounts have been opened and 173 closed; the number of deposits 995, withdrawals 277; total

amount deposited \$34,801.69, withdrawn (including interest) \$21,879.34. The profit earned by the Bank after two years' working was \$275.67; but owing to the Chartered Bank having lately reduced its rate of interest on fixed deposit it is not anticipated that more than \$50 profit will be made during the current year, unless the rate paid to depositors in the Savings Bank (now $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent) is reduced.

MESSERS. MERRYWEATHER AND SONS, in a letter to the Chief Officer, Selangor Fire Brigade, in reference to the prizes given by that firm for the four-men drill in the late Competition and won by Lieutenant Scott, Secretary F. H. Lott, Firemen Brown and Rae, write: "We are very much pleased to hear that so creditable a drill was performed in competition for these prizes. We shall be most happy, on future occasions, to offer prizes for competition in your Brigade, and we shall be glad to learn, from time to time, what form you would like these prizes to take."

DR. HERTZ recently performed a very successful and interesting operation on a horse belonging to Mr. Cameron, of the Straits Trading Company. The animal was suffering from a worm in the right eye, which could be seen in constant movement floating behind the cornea, it was white, very thin, and an inch and a half a long; and it was evident that it was causing great pain. The horse having been thrown, Dr. Hertz administered chloroform, and opened the eye, the worm immediately rushing out at the incision. Two days afterwards the animal, which prior to the operation had become quite useless, was as fit as ever.

APRIL and October are known as months when we may expect rather more rain than usual, but the October of 1895, if it keeps on as it has begun, ought to make a record for Kuala Lumpur. Curiously enough, we hear that the weather in the Ulu has, comparatively, been dry. This is fortunate for Kuala Lumpur, or otherwise we might have had the river meandering through the streets. As it is, a harrowing tale might be written, entitled "Rain and Roof."

A MEMBER of the Provisional Committee of the proposed Recreation Club, Kuala Lumpur, writes:—"I have just received a letter from Mr. Maxwell at Acera in reply to an appeal for a subscription to the proposed Club. Mr. Maxwell evidently takes as keen an interest as ever in all that concerns the welfare of the State for which, during his residence among us, he did so much, for he offers a subscription of \$50 towards the building fund, and writes very much to the point as follows:—'I cannot refuse you a small subscription to an institution

which will benefit a class of men whose standard of knowledge and comfort I have always been anxious to raise. I hope that the Recreation Room will be the means of putting within the reach of the men in the lower ranks of the Government service books and periodicals which will lead them to think and to study. If the place is a mere lounge with a drinking-bar, I doubt whether it will do much good. However, I am sure that what you are aiming at is an institution which will provide opportunity for mental improvement as well as healthy exercise."

A KLANG "LOCAL" writes:—"With reference to the paragraph about the Hunt Club in a recent issue, and the sporting offer of the Club Committee to make several Klang locals members of the Club, we think that a far more satisfactory arrangement will be for us to start a pack of our own; and invite the members of the Kuala Lumpur Hunt to Klang once a month to hunt with our pack. Thus we shall have the use of a pack once a week instead of once a month, and at the same time we shall not lose the pleasure of the company of the members of the Kuala Lumpur Hunt whenever they care to run down to Klang and join us. The Klang Hunt Club is in course of formation and has every prospect of becoming established at an early date."

"AN impression has long been abroad that Klang," writes the District Officer of that district, "will decay and a new town spring up at the Kuala, but I am confident that this anticipation will prove ill-founded, and that so far from decaying, Klang will after a few years develop into a fair-sized market town, supplying most of the wants of a populous neighbourhood. It is of course possible, that, in spite of the entire absence of fresh water and of the heavy expenses of filling, a village (and perhaps in time a town) will spring up at the Kuala, but it will probably commence where the mangrove ceases and the dry land begins, half a mile or so from the proposed wharves, and in any case it would never supplant the existing town, which is in a remarkably central and well-chosen position. It is absurd to suppose that settlers resident on the Langat Road, on the Kapar Road, at Batu Tiga, Telok Menagan, Bukit Kamuning and Sungei Bingei and on the Jalan Kabun will go all the way to Kuala Klang to buy provisions when they can get them at Klang itself, and the sooner such ideas are abandoned the better for all concerned, and the sooner will the value of town property here rise to its natural level."

THERE was a most successful Sale of Work held in the Victoria Institution on Tuesday, 1st Oct., in connection with the Church Work Association. Those members who were not present will be glad to

hear that their work was much appreciated by the purchasers, and the garments, which were disposed of at a very moderate price, disappeared like magic; in fact, the supply was by no means equal to the demand. The number of garments would have been much larger but for the bazaar for a Girl's Home, held at Singapore in September, to which the Association were asked to contribute. However, at Christmas time it is hoped to have another Sale of Work, which it is anticipated will be even more successful than the last.

A GENERAL MEETING of Members of the Selangor Planters' Association will be held in the Reading Room of the Selangor Club on Saturday, 26th October, 1895, at 10.30 a.m., to transact the general business of the Association and to consider any other points, of which notice may be given to the Committee not later than 19th October. It is particularly requested that members will make a point of attending this meeting, as the correspondence with Government is of a most important nature. Those unable to attend will oblige by sending proxies. Attached is a draft Agenda for information of the members. Draft agenda of business:—1. To read and, if approved, confirm the minutes of the last general meeting. 2. To elect a member of Committee. 3. To consider the question of the proposed United Planters' Association. 4. To consider correspondence with Government on the subject of unrestricted Indian emigration to the Malay Peninsula. 5. To consider correspondence with applicants for employment in various capacities. 6. To consider any other points, of which due notice has been given to the Committee.

THE regular monthly meeting of the Selangor Club Committee was held on the 10th inst., Mr. Russell (Chairman), Mr. Bligh (Secretary), Mr. Paxon, Mr. C. Sanderson and Dr. Travers being present. Messrs. Hoffner, Hubback and Rochfort were elected members of the Club. The Secretary presented his half-yearly report and statement of accounts. The general meeting of members was fixed for the 26th inst., at 6.30 p.m., and after some discussion the meeting adjourned till the 14th inst., when it was decided to lay the following report before the members of the Club:

Gentlemen,—We trust that the accounts now placed before you will shew that the financial condition of the Club has not deteriorated under the management of your Committee.

The Balance Sheet shews an excess of assets over liabilities of \$3,784.41, as against \$3,466.97 of the last half-yearly account; while the liabilities, which on the 1st of April of this year stood at \$7,725.52, are now \$7,233.68. Your Committee, however, are of opinion

that the item "Members Accounts—Doubtful (\$315.47)" should not appear as an asset: the term used to describe it shews it to be an unsound entry. (At the same time, it should be explained that if this item be struck out of the present balance sheet, it is necessary, for purposes of comparison, that it be omitted from the previous one; if this be done, our profit will appear as \$396.29 instead of \$317.44.) No effort should be spared, however, to recover the sums which go to make up this amount, and if obtained they would appear in subsequent statements as clear profit—in the manner instanced in the foregoing parenthetical sentence, some doubtful accounts having been recovered during the past half year. In addition to accounts due by individual members contained in the item of \$2,524.66 under the head of "Assets," there is a sum of \$119.40 (balance of \$339.40) incurred by the Club in the entertainment of a large party of visitors in June last: it is hoped that the expenses incidental to that occasion will be altogether cleared, as in a great part they already have been, by subscription among the members—otherwise they will have to be met out of the profits of the Club. There is also, in connection with the use of the Club for a public entertainment during the same month, a bill for \$144.92 which has not yet been settled. The cash in Bank and safe on the 1st of this month was \$940.06, and the total amount of the Club's debts exclusive of debenture liability was \$1,063.68.

With regard to the amount transferred to Profit and Loss Account; the "Working Account" compares favourably with that for the previous six months, when the net profit, including the Government subscription of \$250, amounted to \$309.04, the sum now transferred to that account being \$317.44 exclusive of that contribution.

Referring to the estimates prepared for the guidance of the Committee and attached to the Report of April last, it will be seen that the estimated revenue has been exceeded by \$289.25 and the estimated expenditure by \$18.68. The revenue has gained by sale of papers \$124, subscriptions \$180, entrance fees and miscellaneous (including rent of upper room) \$132; but is below the estimate for wines and cigars and billiards. On the other hand, although the estimated expenditure has only been exceeded by \$18.68, the \$100 set down for furniture, of which the Club stands badly in need, has been used for other purposes. Notwithstanding the increase in actual revenue, the Working Account now before you only shews a net profit of \$317.44 instead of the estimated \$496.50. This is accounted for by the system hitherto followed of not allowing for (or, at any rate, not shewing) depreciation of building and furniture when drawing up the estimates. Calculated on the lines of the last estimate, therefore, the surplus revenue would appear as \$767.07—an increase of \$270.57

over the estimate. Your Committee, however, have altered this method, and in the estimates for the ensuing six months depreciation has been taken into account.

In framing the estimates now before you the Committee have considered it necessary to make extra provision for repairing and painting the Club premises. Occupying, as the Selangor Club does, one of the most prominent sites in Kuala Lumpur, the exterior, at least, of the building should present a decent appearance. It now is dirty, weather-stained and in part dilapidated. Lack of funds has, no doubt, prevented past Committees from dealing with this matter; but we think that the time has arrived when, if only for the preservation of the property, this work should be put in hand, and to provide the necessary funds some of the items which always appear under estimated expenditure have been curtailed.

In presenting his accounts to the Committee, the Secretary strongly recommends the purchase of a new billiard table. Your Committee, in respect both of the enjoyment of a large number of members and of the income which might be derived, would be glad to give effect to this recommendation, but consider that the outlay is, at present, greater than the Club can afford.

The number of members, which on the 1st of April was 182, is now 180: 21 having resigned, left the State, or otherwise ceased to be members, and 19 having been elected.

The members of the Club and the Committee are indebted to the various sub-Committees for the assistance they have rendered during the half year: the Reading Room sub-Committee recommended, and carried through successfully, a sale of newspapers and periodicals, which realised \$124.05; the sub-Committee for Entertainments have given much care and time in organising concerts and dances; the gentlemen appointed to look after cricket have, in spite of a bad ground and insufficient funds, worked hard in the interests of the game; while a most successful season has crowned the efforts of the Football sub-Committee. To the Finance Committee the thanks of all are due for the careful auditing of the accounts which are now laid before you.

Agenda.—1. To read and if approved confirm the minutes of the last General Meeting. 2. To receive the Committee's Report for the last six months. 3. To pass the accounts. 4. To elect five members of Committee for the ensuing six months. 5. General business.

“ONCE more into the spurs of the hills and from Sungei Uje into Selangor, where at Kajang, fifteen miles from Kuala Lumpur

halted for breakfast and heard the last of the baby elephant recently caught there. The evening ride was delightful, and the road rather stony, but not bad, so in an hour at our feet was the valley in which lies Kuala Lumpur, the future capital of the Protected Native States. Pleasant smiles the valley in the evening light as one emerges from the eastern hills. A diversified tract of country, teeming with life and bounded on all sides by wooded slopes. The future Malayan Baedeker may speak of the buildings, the bridges, the waterworks, the railway, and the beautiful park known as the Lake Club Grounds, in Kuala Lumpur. It is great in buildings and the new Government Offices will be second only in comfort and importance to the Gaol. To mention the homes of officials and criminals in one sentence may seem a little unkind, but judging from the rations served out at Pudoah the Government of the State treats each class with equal consideration. The officials live in excellent bungalows built on surrounding hills. As one gentleman put it unconsciously, after half an hour's discourse on the iniquities of the head of his department—every 'chief' in the Native States is a despot of the most abandoned character—'every man in this place has his own 'ill.' The foundations of K. L. are laid on tin at present; bags of ore block up warehouses, ingots of tin constitute tables in even small *kedeis*, and closely packed slabs lead the casual observer, ignorant of the stanniferous flooring to each truck, to imagine that the best paying railway in the world makes its returns out of running empty trains. Our trip so far had carried us through three States and over 101 miles in two days. We took a rest and called on friends. It was mail day, but nobody seem annoyed at being visited; nor was time lacking to bestow a caress on that darling of the place, the Spotted Dog. The railway, next day, would have carried us to Kuala Kubu northward, had we chosen to get up in the middle of the night to catch the first—and last but one—train. Despising such adventitious aid to a cycling tour, seven miles along a dusty road, ending in a pleasant coffee garden, brought us to the famous Batu Caves, where an hour was spent. Then, emerging once more into sunlight, we sped along the Rawang Road, and after a pleasant ride Serendah was reached. This is a comparatively new field, but it keeps 12,000 men grubbing up tin. An hour spent wandering over the glittering heaps of white sand made the afternoon's run on to Kuala Kubu quite pleasant. For a mile or two the road is bad; but when the railway trace is left, and cultivated country reached, the pace is quickened to a twelve miles an hour 'bat' and over a fine red earth road we reach Kuala Kubu, a charming and thriving town, the present terminus of the railway. There is a beautiful Rest House beneath the shadow of the dividing range. Its beauties at night,

however, are rather more than skin deep; the keen air gives them an appetite. Till now we had been riding over roads marked on the map. Between us and the southern end of the Perak roads, 61 miles distant, only a 'bridle-path' was indicated. We anticipated an elephant track, but found, to our pleasure, a trunk road leading to Tanjong Malim, on the borders of Selangor. Mile after mile was covered over a passable if undulating road, and we soon whirled the dust of Selangor from off our tyres."—"On Wheels through Malaya," *S. F. P.*, 8th October, 1895.

THE Selangor Plantations Syndicate, of which Mr. H. Hüttenbach is the General Manager, has held its first meeting in London, Mr. L. Hüttenbach presiding, and a full report is given in the *Singapore Free Press*, from which we take the following:—"In the meantime, until I shall have the pleasure of giving you a graphic description of the plantations by word of mouth, any shareholders who like can have a look at the various photographs in the album which is on the table. I may here mention incidentally that apart from the fact that our manager has the largest interest in the company, the directors feel satisfied in every other respect that he is the right man in the right place, he having brought the property to the efficient position in which it now is. I have been led to make this remark in consequence of my having referred to these photos, from which it will, anyhow, be seen that he possesses the gift of being ubiquitous; for I think you will find him on every one of the photos, and I think I am not wrong in saying that although he is on them some of the photos were actually taken by himself. Instead of going now into further particulars, let me assure you once more, in general terms, that we are satisfied in every respect with the state of affairs, and that we feel that you are interested in a good, sound, and promising concern. I wish to emphasise once more the fact of which mention was made when the company was formed—that Selangor is under British rule, and that we have every reason to expect that we shall be treated in all cases not only with ordinary fairness and justice, but, doubtless, with special liberality and consideration, as, from the character and high-minded policy of the officials out there, I feel convinced that, our company being almost the first of any magnitude, they will give us every possible encouragement. Knowing, as I do, the officials out there, I feel sure this is the case; but if any confirmation were wanted I may tell you that we have had indications to this effect from a very high official of the Selangor Government."

"CORRESPONDENCE" claims a large share of our space in this issue; four extra pages are therefore given.

LOCAL SPORT.

CRICKET AT KUALA KUBU.

THE Kuala Kubu Club very kindly invited the Cricket Captain to take a Second Eleven to play them on Saturday last, and this he was able to do, including in his team some of the heroes of matches played in Seremban. Messrs. Dougal and Hubback went up to assist as scorer and umpire. Arriving before 12 o'clock, the elevens tiffed at the new Club, and a start was made at 1.30. A very interesting game resulted in a win for the Metropolitans by six wickets. Hampshire, Jackson and Tollemache were the most successful bowlers, while Dalrymple and Krall did well for the home eleven. The fielding on both sides was excellent. Hampshire distinguished himself with the bat. The following are the scores:—

KUALA KUBU.

Yap Swee c Carpmael b Mitchell	14	run out	10
Moosden c & b Hampshire	0	c Carpmael b Hampshire	1
Faithful b Mitchell	9	c Mitchell b Tollemache	23
Dalrymple c & b Hampshire	3	c & b Hampshire	17
Krall c Carpmael b	6	c Hone b Tollemache	1
Stokoe st Paxon b	8	st Paxon b Jackson	9
Hamerton st Paxon b	1	not out	0
Baba c & b Jackson	3	c Rendle b Hampshire	1
Ogle not out	7	c & b Hampshire	3
Allen c Hampshire b Jackson	0	c Rendle b Tollemache	0
Muttiah b Jackson	3	b Hampshire	0
Extras	4	Extras	6
	58		71

KUALA LUMPUR.

C. Meikle c & b Krall	13	c Krall b Dalrymple	1
R. Meikle c Allen b Faithful	16		
Cumming c Yap Swee b Krall	3		
Mitchell c & b Dalrymple	4		
Carpmael c Muttiah b Dalrymple	3	b Ogle	1
Tollemache b Dalrymple	18.	run out	8
Hampshire run out	20	b Ogle	12
Jackson st Yap Swee b Krall	13	not out	1
Rendle c & b Dalrymple	0	"	3
Hone c & b	9		
Paxon not out...	7		
Extras	4	No balls	3
	101		29

A football match was played between the elevens (Dougal and Hubback replacing two of the cricketers) which resulted in another win for Kuala Lumpur by one goal to nil. In the evening a most enjoyable Smoking Concert was held at the Club, with Mr. Douglas Campbell in the chair, Messrs. Stokoe, Maynard, Faithful, Ogle, Dougal, Rendle, Hubback, Cumming and Tollemache keeping the songs going in excellent style.

Mr. Campbell entertained the visitors at a curry tiffin on the Sunday, when Mr. Dalrymple proposed the health of the visitors, and Mr. Paxon in replying thanked the entertainers, and especially Mr. Campbell and Mr. Dalrymple, for their most successful endeavours to render the trip so enjoyable. Most of the eleven then returned to Kuala Lumpur.

It is proposed at an early date to arrange another "Second Eleven" to meet the side that played against Kuala Kubu.

SELANGOR HUNT CLUB.

THERE have been 40 meets since the beginning of the year, with the following record:—

Date.	Name.	Pig.	Deer.	Date.	Name.	Pig.	Deer.
Jan. 6	G. Sanderson	1	0	June 23	Dr. Travers	1	0
Feb. 3	Dr. Travers	0	2	" "	Captain Syers	1	0
" 7	Dog Boy	1	0	" 30	Dr. Travers	0	1
Mar. 10	Dr. Travers	0	1	Aug. 18	Visitor	1	0
" "	Dog Boy	0	1	Sept. 1	Dr. Travers	0	1
" 17	"	0	1	" 8	G. Carpmael	1	0
" 31	H. Day	0	1	" 15	Captain Syers	0	1
Apl. 7	Dog Boy	2	0	" "	Dog Boy	0	1
" 28	C. Foster	0	1	" 22	Captain Syers	1	0
" "	G. Sanderson	0	2	" "	Hemmy	2	0
May 12	Dr. Travers	1	0	" 29	Captain Syers	1	0
" 19	G. Carpmael	1	0	Oct. 13	Dogs	1	1
" 24	Dog Boy	1	0				
June 19	W. D. Scott	0	2				
" "	Lient. Yeul, R.N.	1	0				
					Total	17	16

GOLF.

THE Approach and Putting Competition for the Captain China's prize was decided on Monday, the 14th inst.; there were six competitors and some appeared to find a difficulty in getting on the spot, one player making it lively for the onlookers in the Pavilion. In the end Glassford proved an easy winner and took first prize; Berrington, being second, came in for a box of balls given by the Committee.

The usual monthly handicap will take place on Thursday, Friday and Saturday, the 24th, 25th and 26th October.

BILLIARD HANDICAP AT THE SELANGOR CLUB.

SECOND ROUND.

				Score of loser.	
E. J. Roe	... scratch	beat	J. O'Hara	... + 50	... 227
H. C. Paxon	... + 45	"	Dr. Travers	... + 60	... 218
D. Macreath	... + 110	"	W. Boyer	... + 25	... 244
J. Dalglish	... + 15	"	W. Crompton	... + 75	... 204
E. W. Neubronner	... - 20	"	H. C. Rendle	... + 80	... 208
G. Ketschker	... scratch	"	L. B. Von Donop	+ 75	... 238
D. J. Highet	... + 30	"	G. Cumming	... + 25	... 227

MR. STANLEY, a billiard player, visited Kuala Lumpur this week. An exhibition match was arranged to be played at the Lake Club on Tuesday night, but the heavy rain which fell during the evening prevented any attendance. On the following evening, at the Selangor Club, a game of 500 up, in which Mr. Berrington was conceded 200, was played. Mr. Stanley had made 426 when his opponent scored game. There was a very fair number present, despite the weather.

IN MEMORIAM.

THE sudden death of Dato' Penghulu Mohit was a great shock to his many friends, and his place in the District will be hard indeed to fill. There was no better-known figure in Klang than that of the courtly old man, with his ready smile.

Sheikh Abdul Mohit Baktal was a Malacca Malay, who came to Klang no less than 25 years ago (before the establishment of the British Protectorate) to join H.H. the Tunku-Dia-Uddin, who was then engaged in active hostilities with Raja Mahdi. After taking part in these guerilla contests for Klang Fort, Abdul Mohit was appointed Syrang of the *Coquette*, a cruising schooner which was at this time engaged in patrolling the coast on the look out for pirates and the people of Raja Mahdi.

His next appointment was that of Shahbander under the Malay régime, and in 1875, when Mr. Turney joined the service, he was Malay Clerk in charge of Customs.

In 1878 he was placed in temporary charge of Kuala Selangor, and again in 1881 of Kuala Langat.

His last appointment was to the Penghuluship of Klang, upon the duties of which post he first entered some 12 years ago, since which time he has worked in that capacity with unflinching energy, integrity and tact, winning thereby "golden opinion" from all who knew him. Penghulu Mohit was married more than once, and the wedding of his eldest daughter (Inche Halimah), which was celebrated with much splendour, will still be fresh in the memory of our readers.

Penghulu Mohit was 58 years of age. *Requiescat in pace.*

CHINESE TIN MINING IN SELANGOR.

II.—LABUR AND LABOUR.

(*Questions of Finance*).

THE question of Labur and Labour has been so often dealt with by the Government and thrashed out in the Civil and Criminal Courts of Selangor that any mention of the same from the official point of view would be dull reading. However, I shall try to deprive the subject of its official element as far as possible and treat it entirely from a Chinese standpoint.

Labur is not a Chinese word, it may be Malay. It means to finance; and Towkay Labur, a financier. The Chinese hardly ever use these terms, but call them "Kiow" and "Kiow Choo," respectively. The Towkay Labur combines in his person a variety of vocations: he is a mineralogist, prospector, mining expert, financier, shopkeeper, money lender and a great patron of the Law Courts, which he frequently haunts to air his grievances.

There are two kinds of Towkay Laburs—those of the old school and those with advanced and modernized ideas. The former variety is said to be a bequest of the late Captain Ah Loy, the great pioneer of the tin industry in Selangor, and his complex system of working and financing a mine still popularly known as "K"

the customs of Klang (Selangor), survives to this day, and is the cause of no little confusion and litigation. Of the other little need be said for the reason that there is nothing much to say. The ways of the "new" Towkay Labour are simple and practical, do away with a number of old-fashioned notions and superstitious observances and would recommend themselves to, and be easily understood by, any business man. The new system is known as "Pelak Hatat" (Perak customs), is supposed to have been introduced into this State about ten years ago by Towkay Lok Yew and improved upon from year to year until it hardly bears any trace of its Perak origin and resolves itself simply into a matter of calculation. Everything in the mine is done by piece work, the overburden is removed by contract and paid for according to its cubic measurement, the karang or tin sand is raised and sluiced daily in the same way; in fact, every kind of work is done with the object of obtaining a maximum of output in a minimum of time. The output of tin for the month is balanced against the month's expenditure to see how the concern pans out, and the coolies are paid off half yearly. That is the whole secret of the system. The Malay Pawang, the Astrologer or Sin Sang, the middle man and the rest of their gang are here mere supernumeraries.

But not so with the Klang Hatat. Time is no consideration with the old-fashioned Towkay Labour. He is a fatalist and takes things as they come. If the mine is going to pay, no matter what he does it *will* pay, but if the Fates decide otherwise no amount of work and energy will avail. Hence we find mines worked to-day as they were fifteen or twenty years ago; small baskets with a carrying capacity of about 20 catties are still in use, the men are allowed to move at the rate of one mile per hour up and down the ladders with these toy baskets on their shoulders, looking as miserable as can well be. The coolies are however perfectly happy and so is the Towkay Labour, and it never enters into their heads that perhaps with bigger loads and an accelerated rate of movement the tin could be got at sooner. The karang when raised is stacked up into little hillocks and washed once in two or three months with the usual accompaniment of prayers and offerings, and the tin is smelted twice a year, once about the 6th Moon, and again before the Chinese New Year, when the accounts are closed and the men paid off.

The contrast between the two systems lies more particularly in the actual working of the mine, and in matters relating to local customs, debts, mining discipline, and generally the relations between masters and men there is hardly much difference between them.

The former, whilst adhering to its primitive method of mining may be said to have confined its attention to laying down certain fundamental principles regulating the dealings between Chinese and Chinese in a mining community, the latter, although admitting these general principles as regards mutual dealings, has struck out for itself a new path by adopting more practical and lucrative means of obtaining the tin.

These Chinese mining practices are recognised by the Government of the State, and to some extent the Courts are generally guided by

them in arriving at a decision either in civil or criminal cases which arise out of mining questions.

There are two ways of financing according to the "Klang Hatat;" viz., that known as the "Ta-kong" by which the cooly works on wages, and the "Fun-si-ka" by which the cooly enters himself as a shareholder and works on the co-operative system, identifying his fortunes with those of the mine, and sharing in the profits or getting nothing as the working turns out a failure or a success.

In both cases the Towkay Labour supplies the mine with cash and provisions while the topsoil is being stripped and before any profit can accrue from the working.

The tin obtained by the coolies is credited to the mine against the debit for cash and provisions supplied, and the surplus credit if any, after repaying the advances made by the Towkay Labour and the royalty on the output of tin, goes to the "Fun-si-ka" or share coolies, representing their "Kong Chen," which means literally their wages, but really represents their profits on the speculation. But if the coolies are working for wages the Towkay Labour himself reaps the benefit of any balance over and above his advances, of course after paying the men, which is done either according to rates agreed to beforehand or by the process known as "Kon-kong-ta-ka" (lit., See the work and fix the rate), whereby each individual receives a payment proportioned to his position, ability and energy.

On the other hand, if the mine turns out a failure the loss is borne by the Towkay Labour as well as the coolies (if they are share coolies), inasmuch as they remain in the debt of the Kongsi on its books; but if they are coolies working on wages, the loss on the venture does not free the Towkay Labour from the obligation of paying the men who work simply for wages and could not of course be expected to guarantee the success of the undertaking.

By the "Fun-si-ka" or share system the coolies are practically the masters of the situation, for though the land and everything else on it may belong to the Towkay Labour, he is simply looked upon as the source of an endless supply of money and provisions. If, therefore, whether from choice or want of means he declines to render further assistance, the coolies are allowed to call in the aid of any other Advancer who may be willing to come forward and assist them with further advances.

Should such a change of financiers ("Won Kiow Choo"), take place, the custom is that the latest Advancer should be paid first, and those who have previously withdrawn their assistance can only recover their advances, in reverse order, when later Advancers have been repaid in full. The reason put forward in favour of this custom is that the latest Advancer, by opportunely taking up what would appear to be a bad business and turning it into a profitable one, becomes the means whereby those who had previously backed out of, and withdrawn their help from, the concern, can recover their investments which would otherwise have been irrevocably lost. The Chinaman has a happy knack of doing things "the other way about," but in this case the argument set forth above seems a perfectly good one.

The miners, on the other hand, after commencing to take their supplies from a certain Advancer cannot discard him and call in the aid of another capitalist except for very grave reasons, such as breach of contract; irregularity, insufficiency, inferiority of supply; or excessive prices. They are also forbidden to buy anything in the village or town where the mine is situated so long as the Advancer can himself supply them with it—such a practice being looked upon as an attempt to do the latter out of his profits on supplies. Opium, particularly, other than that supplied by the Advancer, when brought into the *Kongsi*, is considered strictly contraband. But the Advancer may not stop his men from buying, when they please, such luxuries as fresh fish, vegetables, pork and the hundred and one condiments so much relished by the Chinese.

The "Fun-si-ka" or share system is a very complicated business and is becoming more and more unpopular with the Advancer, who begins to see the folly of his ways. The complaint against this old system is that in the event of success the coolies receive the lion's share of the profit while the Advancer undertakes the risk, to say nothing of the worry and mental strain attendant on a doubtful venture; and that if the working prove a failure the Advancer is the sole loser, the coolies having nothing of their own to lose except their labour and time, for which they may be said to be more than compensated by their having obtained free board and lodging, clothing, opium, cash and generally having enjoyed what they would admit to be a jolly good time during their connection with the mine.

The Advancer has also other grievances, some of which are worth recording here.

When it becomes known that a mine is not likely to turn out profitably the coolies will indent for all sorts of provisions and articles which they are entitled to receive from the Towkay Labur, and the latter must not be backward in meeting their demands, or complications of some kind or other are sure to arise. Complaints, too, will be rife about this time as to the quality of the supplies, and where an inferior salt fish would do before, nothing short of the larger fish known as "Kurow" of the best kind will now satisfy them; groundnut oil, formerly used for cooking, is now said to be unfit for human food and lard is demanded instead, and men that never smoked before now find that they have suddenly developed a strong taste for opium and ask to be provided with the usual allowance.

Rice, pease, tobacco, and in fact every article of consumption, seem to deteriorate in quality in some mysterious way or other. The reason for this whimsical conduct on the part of the coolies will be obvious when it is remembered that, disappointed in their expectations of deriving any profit from the working of the mine in the usual legitimate way, they try to make up for this disappointment by "squeezing" the unfortunate Advancer. That they get deeper and deeper into his debt does not trouble them very much. On the other hand, if the prospects of the mine are good, the coolies become very temperate in their living and scarcely ever trouble the Advancer for supplies, because the less they get into his debt the larger will be their credit balance when the output of tin is realised.—J. C. P.

PANTHER SHOOTING.

SO many sportsmen have written of the panthers they have shot, it may be a change to give an account of a panther I was unlucky enough not to shoot.

A panther had been round the estate for the last few nights, destroying in its depredations two pariahs, for which I thanked it, and two chickens belonging to the conductor; and as his bungalow seemed to be the centre of attraction, I determined to lay in wait there. After carefully baiting a place a few yards in front of the verandah, I took up my position just as it was getting dark. My battery consisted of a 12-bore, with ball in right and shot in left, backed up by a Martini; I had no shikari, determined to do all myself and slay, or be slain. With such valiant sentiments I waited, and as the shadows lengthened and the sun finally sank beneath the western range, I found myself practically alone, with the exception of the inmates of the bungalow, who had been warned to put out all the lights, and on no account to make any noise. It grew darker and darker, and as there was no moon I depended solely on my good eyesight, the close range, and the whiteness of the soil, to see a black moving object, however dark it got. To my right the big bungalow on the hill looked very imposing, as the lights flittered about. It grew still darker and then night finally fell; then other thoughts came over me, of what a good dinner my two companions will probably be having, whilst here am I practically alone in the wilds of Malaya, with only a plate of sandwiches for sustenance, and not even, in Western parlance, any "snake-cure" to comfort me in the "wee sma' hours." All was now dark, not a sound to be heard except the continual whirr of crickets, and not much to be seen except the flittering of fireflies as they scurried through space in rapid succession. Time passed rapidly, I could still see the light on the hill where my lucky companions must be now enjoying *café noir* and cheroots, whilst I watching, even hardly daring to breathe, waiting for a black panther which came not. But what is that? as a sound reaches me, first hardly audible; someone whispering to the inmates of the bungalow, then a confused murmuring of voices, can it possibly be the panther come to the back of the bungalow, neglecting the tempting offering I have placed for him in front? This supposition is increased when a figure creeping stealthily towards me, informs me in whispers of something in Tamil, of which language I unfortunately don't understand a word, but I immediately follow him, gun cocked, determined to get a snap shot if possible. I peer into the darkness through the back-door, but nothing is visible, so return to my old position in front. Again another long wait but no panther, the light still glimmers in the big bungalow, making it very tantalising for me to think that here was I sitting on a hard verandah doing voluntary penance, whilst my two—shall I say more sensible—companions will soon be comfortably sleeping. Meanwhile I have heard nothing except crickets and seen nothing except fireflies. Suddenly in the distance I see a light, it comes nearer and nearer; who can it be at this untimely hour? It suddenly disappears

behind the bungalow and voices are raised effectually waking the sleepy caretakers, and I find after the noise has somewhat abated it is the conductor returning after being absent for the last few days. This finishes my chance of sport for the night, the noise they had made was sufficient to frighten any animal out of the district, so I prepare to return to the big bungalow where everything is awaiting me. A few hours' sleep and then early tea. I consult my watch, has it stopped? No! steadily the little hand revolves. Why! instead of it being about midnight, as I supposed it was, it is only 9! Even then I determine to go, thinking that the noise was sufficient to disturb any beast, and I judged wisely, as it did not come at all that night. Thus ends the tale of the panther I did not shoot.

I could also tell of how I went to shoot a deer, and found an orchid, which my friends contemptuously term "a beastly creeper;" but, as Rudyard Kipling says, that is another story."—S. C.



CORRESPONDENCE.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our Correspondents.]

GAMES AT THE SELANGOR CLUB.

To the Editor of the Selangor Journal.

SIR,—I have read with much pleasure the letters in your last issue by Messrs. Bellamy and Paxon, and am very glad that two such prominent representatives of cricket and football have taken the subject up so thoroughly. Mr. Paxon seems to fear that outside sports might become a separate club, connected with and subsidised by the Selangor Club instead of being an intrinsic part of the Club itself.

In suggesting that the proceeds of a voluntary subscription, which I hoped would realise \$50 a month, be devoted to the upkeep of outdoor games, I had the interests of cricket players too much at heart, perhaps, and must thank Mr. Paxon for pointing this out. Representing, I take it, the views of the majority of Selangor cricketers, Mr. Paxon would prefer an increased subscription—the revenue derived from which would be in the hands of the General Committee and none of which would, necessarily, be spent on outdoor games—to a regular income of, say, \$60 a month to be entirely under the control of a special sub-committee for outdoor games.

Looking at the list of members one sees that there is force in what Mr. Paxon says: as only some 20 out of 180 members take any active interest in cricket it would be hardly fair to arrange any special funds for their benefit while so much requires to be done for the members generally and for the building itself.

The question, having been thoroughly discussed, should be put before the members: if they consider that an increase of revenue is necessary, and that the best way to obtain that increase is by raising the subscription, there can be no possible objection to doing so.—I am, etc., E. A. O. TRAVERS,

To the Editor of the Selangor Journal.

SIR,—I have read with much interest the letters in the *Selangor Journal* re Games at the Selangor Club.

Dr. Travers, who introduced the matter, knows very well that this subject has been thrashed out on more than one occasion; but it would seem that whenever the Committee, or I ought to say a member or two of the Committee, think the funds of the Club are not what they might be they save themselves the trouble of getting another remedy by having recourse to the old one—viz., increase the subscription to all cricket, tennis and football players, or at least get them to subscribe voluntarily.

Dr. Travers admits that when a man joins the Selangor Club he, besides having it as a Social Club, can play cricket, tennis and football, and all for the small sum of \$2 per month. When the Doctor asks where one could get the same advantages for such a small subscription, he seems to forget, or he may not know it, that in Perak one can have equal advantages for \$1 a month, and the Club is run on the same principle as ours.

According, then, to Dr. Travers' admission, the Club as constituted is a sporting as well as a social one, and, therefore, until a general meeting of members decides that the Club can no longer carry on both departments, the sporting members have as much right to ask that material be supplied for the proper carrying on of their games as that any social member should ask for funds to be spent in any way connected with the social department of the Club.

Does Dr. Travers, by singling out sports, mean us to infer that he believes everything else connected with the Club is run in a proper way, and that if he could only get a voluntary subscription for the sports there would be no grounds for further complaints? Does not the Doctor consider the Club building requires painting, etc., and could he not get a voluntary subscription from the members to have this done? The principle, to my view, is exactly the same.

I find to run the games costs the Club, including wages of tambies, something like \$600 a year. The total revenue being roughly \$6,000 a year, this shews that only $\frac{1}{10}$ of the income of the Club is spent on sports. One tenth of the members, including out stations, means 19 members. Looking at it another way—to meet this sum of \$600 a year only means the subscription of 25 members for a year, not to talk of profits from drinks. A great argument is that cricket, football and tennis costs a sum quite out of proportion to the number of members benefited. Do the opposition think we cannot muster a great many more than 25 members who have joined the Selangor Club on account of the sports?

Unless it is that money is required to have the Club painted, etc., just now, I cannot understand why this subject of sports has again been introduced, because for years the Club has been paying off a large debt and have at last got to the last lap.

I find in April, 1892, the Club's debts amounted to close on \$6,000, and owing to the great care exercised by the various Committees who have been in power since then the debt is now only about \$1,000, and

by next October ought to be wiped off. More money will then be at the Club's disposal and with the debentures then being yearly reduced the finances of the Club ought to be more easily managed. If, however, the Committee think that at present more funds are required, why not raise the subscription to Kuala Lumpur members 50 cents a month all round for a year. That would mean \$800. When, in April, 1892, it was moved by Mr. Berrington, and seconded by Mr. Murray Campbell, that the subscription be raised, it was lost to an amendment proposed by Mr. Hüttenbach, and seconded by Mr. Venning, that an Honorary Secretary be engaged. I hope, however, on this occasion, the members will agree to an increased subscription; not that it may be available to spend on sports, but that it can be spent to the best advantage of the Club as at present constituted.

The letter by "Justly Indignant" does not express the opinion of the cricket and football members, and I think might be put down as a good try at sarcasm. We do not ask any special benefits, and we do not think we receive them. We are not prepared, however, to pay a voluntary subscription to a Club to keep up cricket, tennis and football, when, according to its constitution the Club is not only a Social but a Sporting Club as well.—I am, etc., L. DOUGAL.

To the Editor of the Selangor Journal.

SIR,—“Justly Indignant” considers the philanthropic Doctor's proposal to be “an outrage upon some of the highest principles which should regulate life in the East.” Hoity-toity!

Now let us see what he has got to say. Because cricket was the base on which the predecessor of the present Club was founded (to use Mr. Bellamy's words), therefore, says this logical reasoner, cricket should be the first, if not the only, consideration to be kept in view in financing the present Club; the *mere fact* that perhaps a *large majority* of its present members wish to use the Club for any other purpose is calmly dismissed as *being quite irrelevant*. Put that in your pipes and smoke it, gentlemen of the Selangor Club. It does not matter a little bit what you, the great majority of members of the present Club, think as to how your Club should be managed from a financial point of view, the people who will regulate this for you consist of the small minority backed by the ghosts of dead and gone members of the former Club.

No, Sir, the members of the present Club are not, never have been and never will be *obliged* to subscribe to support cricket any more than they are obliged to support racing; but they can be depended upon to support either if need be, if only the sporting instinct of the Britisher is appealed to in the friendly and manly way adopted by Dr. Travers; but they won't stand having the word “obliged” rammed down their throats for any man on earth.

If there was any obligation about the matter the “great majority” would no doubt expect to see a good deal more cricket for their

money than they do, or seem likely to, at present. If it is so essentially a Cricket Club, why, in the name of goodness, is there not more cricket played?

"Justly Indignant" evidently expects little sympathy from the present Committee—the chosen representatives of the great majority presumably—and so dubs them as incompetent. But take heart, gentlemen of the Committee, for is it not the undoubted birthright of every public man in Selangor to offer himself as a target for hostile criticism. Fortunately for us, the will of the Club is the will of the "great majority," and it remains with them, both by the election of their new Committee and by voting at general meetings, to indicate whether they consider their Club to be so essentially a Cricket Club as "Justly Indignant" would have it.

That the Spotted Dog, or Home of British Sport as we may now call it, is a huge caravan run to waste is quite another matter. If all its members are willing to convert it into a "Sporting Club" pure and simple, as the home of Cricket, Football, Shooting, Racing, etc., and say Billiards, with one Secretary and one subscription to cover everything, that is another pair of shoes altogether. But as long as there is a separate subscription to this, that and the other, Dr. Travers' proposal seems both the fairest, most sportsmanlike and most expedient way out of what is an obvious defect in our cricket and football arrangements. Oh, "Justly Indignant"—be aisy, and if ye can't be aisy, be as aisy as ye can.—I am, etc., JUSTLY INDIGNANT ON THE OTHER SIDE.

To the Editor of the Selangor Journal.

SIR,—Whatever may be the right view to take of the animated discussion now going on in your columns on the subject of games at the Selangor Club, Dr. Travers undoubtedly deserves the thanks of the community for having raised a question of such evident interest.

I believe Dr. Travers to have been solely actuated by a public-spirited desire to foster sport, for despite the opening compliment in Mr. H. C. Paxon's reply (a compliment which, by the way, may be held by some, though possibly quite wrongly, to savour of a desire to impute a self-interested motive to Dr. Travers) this latter gentleman does not actively participate in games at the Selangor Club—by games, I mean out-door games, which are the *raison d'être* of the whole discussion. His proposal is therefore worthy of every consideration and impartial criticism.

That cricket, football and tennis all suffer from want of sufficient financial support is conceded by everybody, and this fact is the basis of the whole argument.

I cannot find that Dr. Travers anywhere says that there should be no second billiard table, that the Club building should not be renovated, the supply of dominoe and card tables should not be supplemented or that the upstairs' floor should not be kept in good order for dancing; the introduction of these points appears to me therefore quite irrelevant to the discussion and beside the question at issue.

We have to deal with the constitution of this Club as it is now, not with what it may have been at its initiation. If members who look upon it as a Sporting Club pure and simple object to the recognition of its social qualifications and position, how is it that they have inaugurated no definite movement to start a distinct and separate Sporting Club? and that this point is only raised when Dr. Travers' opponents want material for an antagonistic demonstration? Is there a single man in this State who uses this Club for sports and games only? I doubt it. It is the one place where one may expect to meet our friends at any time in the day before 5 p.m. and often in the evenings when a dance or other entertainment is on, we have, therefore, long tacitly acknowledged it to be in a large degree a Social Club, and a Social Club it most certainly is.

Circumstances greatly alter cases, and I think few will agree with Mr. Paxon that the terms "equality" and "fraternity" have any application in the present instance; the members of a Sporting Club are clearly on the same footing with regard to sport, the same remark of course holds good with respect to the mutual relations of members of a Social Club, but when the two are amalgamated, the specific meaning of the word "Club" must lose its significance.

What we have to decide is, will a voluntary monthly subscription open to all members, for the sole purpose of improving the position of cricket, football and tennis, bring this result about to any appreciable extent? The question is no easy one to answer. Personally, I think a *monthly* subscription, voluntary or otherwise, is a mistake, for the all-important question of continuity comes in; members are not likely to bind themselves to support any scheme for an indefinite period, and no sub-committee could be asked to undertake a work involving the expenditure of a considerable sum of money unless a definite sum were guaranteed. It would be a thousand pities and cause an immense amount of ill feeling if a fiasco were to result.

Presumably Dr. Travers will come forward with a resolution on this subject at the next general meeting, when, if he expects support, he should be in a position to clearly state what sum he proposes to raise, and how, when obtained, it should be disbursed. He should endeavour to fortify his position by ascertaining, if possible, whether there is any prospect of assistance from the Sanitary Board, and obtain some sort of assurance from the Committee that such support as this Club has accorded to out-door games in the past, will not in the smallest degree fall off, when, owing to the operation of the fund, these games begin to look up. If he can satisfy members upon these points then, it seems to me, he will have established his case, but the task before him is a hard one.

There are many members who are content with what they have, and cannot afford to pay more for it; upon such members the tax of an enhanced compulsory subscription would bear very heavily, and it would I think be a pity if this extreme measure were resorted to—unless it can be shewn that the Club is not paying its way, and then only if no other remedy can be provided.—I am, etc., SPECTATOR.

NOTES AND NEWS.

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR is expected to visit Kuala Lumpur early in December. On the occasion of his last visit His Excellency laid the foundation stone of the new Government Offices. We confidently anticipate that the progress of this work will exceed his expectations.

THE PRINCE OF WALES' Birthday holiday will be celebrated in Selangor on Monday, the 11th inst., instead of on Saturday, the 9th.

MR. W. W. DOUGLAS, Collector and Magistrate, Port Dickson, will shortly join the Selangor Service as District Officer, Ulu Langat. Mr. J. H. M. Robson, now acting as the District Officer, will proceed on long leave. Mr. Robson has for some time past been engaged on a new edition of the "Laws of Selangor," which it is hoped will be ready for publication before the end of the year.

MR. MALCOLM CUMMING returned to Kuala Lumpur on Sunday last. He represents a company which has taken up land for coffee planting in Sungei Ujong.—Mr. Nicholas returned on the 29th ult., after a trip home. Mrs. Nicholas and family remain in Europe.—Mr. C. Hanrott, who has been employed for nearly the past two years on the Waterworks at Ampang, under Mr. Paxon, left for Europe on the 31st ultimo.—Mr. C. C. Thompson, who for some time past was very ill in hospital, is now much better, and left on Thursday for a trip to Singapore.—Mr. J. Foster, Messrs. Howarth, Erskine's agent on the Waterworks and Pahang Trunk Road, is at present down with a severe attack of fever in Singapore.

WE again draw the attention of our readers to the Fancy Dress Dance to be held at the Selangor Club on the 8th inst. The Acting Resident and Mrs. and Miss Rodger will be present at the dance.

SOME time ago we referred in a humorous strain to the advent of bookstalls and refreshment bars at the railway stations; the bookstalls are still uncertain, but in the last *Government Gazette* tenders are invited for the exclusive right to sell refreshments at the First Class Refreshment Room, Kuala Lumpur Passenger Station; and in

another notification tenders are invited for the right to sell refreshments at all stations except Batu Tiga Station. Why leave Batu Tiga out in the cold—or perhaps, we ought to say, high and dry.

On the 21st ult. the Annual Installation Meeting of Read Lodge was held, a large number of Brethren being present. Wor. Bro. Sanderson, assisted by Wor. Bros. Watkins and Russell, was Installing Master, and the ceremony was conducted in a most impressive manner. Wor. Bro. Paxon invested the following Brethren as his officers for the ensuing year:—Bro. Hüttenbach, S. W.; Bro. G. Shepherd, J. W.; Bro. Hoffner, Trea.; Bro. Charter, Sec.; Bro. Day, S. D.; Bro. A. C. Harper, J. D.; Bro. W. D. Scott, I. G.; Bro. C. Stewart, Tyler. After Lodge a banquet was held in the hall. The usual loyal and masonic toasts were given, and Wor. Bro. Sanderson gave the toast of "The Patron, R. W. Bro. Read," and referred to the great benefits the Lodge had enjoyed from the lively interest taken in it by its Patron; Wor. Bro. Paxon returned thanks for R. W. Bro. Read. The toasts of the W. M., the Installing Master, and the I. P. M. were given and received with masonic honours. The "Past and Present Officers" was given by Bro. Dalglish and responded to by Bro. Hüttenbach; and Bro. Syers in a humorous speech proposed the toast of "Visiting Brethren," which was responded to by Bro. H. F. Bellamy. Bro. Day made a capital speech in proposing "Masons' Wives and Daughters," to which Bro. W. D. Scott responded. Bro. C. Stewart gave the "Tyler's Toast." The Selangor Band played while the Brethren discussed a most excellent banquet; and after dinner Bros. Bligh, Tearle, Dalglish and others assisted vocally. The general opinion seemed to be that the meeting was the most pleasant and successful that has yet been held by the Brethren of Read Lodge.

THE half-yearly general meeting of the members of the Selangor Club was held on Saturday last, Captain Syers in the chair. The attendance was good, and the proceedings were marked by a freedom from the ordinary trammels of debate that was simply refreshing. The minutes of the last general meeting were read and confirmed; the Report of the committee was taken as read; the accounts were passed; and the business of the evening began with the proposed estimate of revenue and expenditure for the ensuing six months. On the motion that the estimates be adopted, Mr. Paxon moved an amendment that, in order to meet the necessary expenses of the Club, the subscription of the Club be raised from \$2 to \$3 per month, for a period of twelve months, for Kuala Lumpur members; Dr.

Travers expressed his willingness to second this amendment if the period of the increased subscription was reduced to six months; this was not accepted, and Dr. Travers' proposal eventually stood as a separate amendment. Mr. Sanderson pointed out that if the increased subscription was only to be levied on Kuala Lumpur members, only they should be entitled to vote. Mr. W. D. Scott said he thought the matter should be submitted by circular to the whole of the members of the Club, and not put to the vote at that meeting, so that each member might have the opportunity of recording his vote for or against the proposed increase. It was also suggested that the circular should give members an opportunity of saying if they were prepared to voluntarily give an extra dollar each month for one year in preference to raising the subscription all round. Mr. Scott's proposal was then put forward as an amendment and carried, the further consideration of the estimates being postponed. The ballot for a Committee for the ensuing six months resulted in the election of Messrs. Day, Hüttenbach, Paxon, and W. D. Scott, and Captain Syers; Messrs. G. Cumming and C. E. F. Sanderson being the Government nominees. A vote of thanks to the chairman terminated the proceedings.

The meeting of members to confirm the minutes of the above meeting will be held in the Reading Room of the Club on Wednesday, the 13th inst., at 6.30 p.m.

A MEETING of the members of the Museum Committee was held on Wednesday, the 30th ultimo, Captain Syers (Chairman), Mr. L. B. Von Donop (Hon. Sec.), and Messrs. L. P. Ebdon, A. R. Venning and J. Russell being present. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed; resolved that the Curator proceed to Klang to bring up the skeleton of the elephant recently shot there; a letter from the Government regarding the transference of the Museum to the site now occupied by the Post Office was read, and the Committee was unanimously in favour of the proposal; resolved that steps be taken to obtain a complete assortment of native weapons. The Committee acknowledge, with thanks the following donations: From Captain Syers, a red-headed pigeon; Mr. H. Cliffe, a hamadryad; Mr. W. D. Scott, a snake; Mr. Saturnin, an insect. A jungle cat and a porcupine were purchased.

Visitors during September ...	...	...	1,738
Previously ...	...	...	11,002
		Total ...	12,740

THE continuation of "Tin Mining in Selangor" is unavoidably deferred until our next issue.

THE statements of revenue and expenditure of the Kuala Lumpur Sanitary Board for 1894, recently published, shew that the revenue for 1894 exceeded that of 1893 by \$27,407.25, while the expenditure of 1894 was \$1,597.52 less than the previous year.

ELSEWHERE we give some account of the damage to rail and road cause by the recent heavy rains. According to the *Perak Pioneer* that State has also suffered from the same cause, embankments, bridges and roads having suffered from the floods. It is stated that such heavy rains and floods have not been experienced for a long time past.

FOUR extra pages are given in this issue, in addition to a supplement, "Steamer Communication."

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LOCAL SPORT.

RIFLE MATCH BETWEEN LARUT (PERAK) AND KUALA LUMPUR (SELANGOR).

THIS, the first of what is hoped will be an annual match between the two States, was shot off at the beginning of the week, the Kuala Lumpur team choosing the morning of the 27th inst. and the Larut team firing the next day.

At about 6.30 a.m. the members of the local team and a few others, including the Acting British Resident and Mr. H. C. Holmes, umpire, assembled at the range, and at 6.45, in a dull but steady light, commenced firing at 500 yards. The scoring was fairly steady, two outers only being recorded, McGregor with 31 heading the list. At 600 yards the sighting shots promised well, but a misty rain and very dull light made shooting very difficult, eight outers and a miss being recorded.

During the first four rounds the rain coming on obscured the target and put a stop to shooting for a few minutes, when the weather gradually cleared up, and in a rapidly improving light the next three rounds shewed 10 bull's eyes and only two outers. McGregor again made an excellent score, putting on six bulls out of seven shots and leaving everyone else a long way behind. At 200 yards the shooting was not quite so good as was expected, and 29, made by Messrs. McGregor and Travers, were the top scores.

The total for the three ranges was 405, an average of 81 points per man. Of individual scores the 94 made by McGregor deserves

s pecial mention, he was unfortunate in finding the bull but once at 200 yards, but throughout the match he never scored less than inners, and his record of 34 out of 35 at 600 yards, put on under by no means easy conditions, is a really excellent performance.

Perak's total is 353, so that Selangor wins the match by 52 points. The following are the full scores of the teams:—

KUALA LUMPUR.				
	200 yards.	500 yards.	600 yards.	Total
T. J. McGregor ...	4 4 4 5 4 4 4—29	4 4 5 4 5 4 5—31	5 5 4 5 5 5 5—34	94
Dr. Travers ...	3 5 5 4 3 5 4—29	4 3 5 4 4 4 4—28	2 2 4 2 5 5 5—25	82
J. Brown ...	5 3 4 3 3 5 4—27	5 5 3 3 3 3 5—27	5 3 4 2 4 5 4—27	81
R. Charter ...	3 5 5 4 4 4 3—28	5 3 5 5 3 3 5—29	2 3 2 0 5 5 2—19	76
C. R. Cormac ...	3 3 3 4 3 4 3—23	4 3 2 5 2 5 5—26	5 2 2 4 5 2 3—23	72
Total ...	136	141	128	405

LARUT.				
T. W. Rowley ...	2 5 4 4 3 3 4—25	4 5 3 2 2 5 2—23	4 2 2 4 5 4 5—26	74
H. C. Barnard ...	3 4 2 3 2 3 4—21	5 5 5 3 4 3 4—29	2 5 5 2 2 4 3—23	73
W. Eayers ...	3 4 5 3 3 3 3—24	5 5 4 3 4 5 3—29	3 2 4 4 3 2 2—20	73
E. M. Baker ...	4 4 3 3 5 2 4—25	5 4 4 5 3 3 4—28	3 3 3 4 3 2 2—20	73
H. Duhan ...	0 2 3 0 2 2 2—11	2 4 4 2 4 5 4—25	5 2 5 2 5 3 2—24	60
Total ...	106	134	113	353

THE Annual General Meeting of the Rifle Association will be held at the Selangor Club on Wednesday, 20th November, at 6.30 p.m.

In the monthly competition for the Malay States Tin Mining Co.'s Cup, at 500 yards, on the 26th ult., only two turned up in time to get in their scores before the storm came on:—Charter, 21; Brown, 30.

The Range is closed for practice for the present, as extensive alterations are being carried out.

BILLIARD HANDICAP AT THE SELANGOR CLUB.

THIRD ROUND.

		Score of loser.	
J. Dalglish ...	+ 15 ...	beat D. J. Highet ...	+ 30 ... 186
E. W. Neubronner ...	— 20 ...	„ E. J. Roe ...	scratch 190
G. Ketschker ...	scratch	„ H. F. Paxon ...	+ 45 scratched
D. Macreath ...	+ 110 ...	bye	

FOURTH ROUND.

D. Macreath ...	+ 110 ...	beat G. Ketschker ...	scratch 193
E. W. Neubronner ...	— 20 ...	„ J. Dalglish ...	+ 15 ... 173

OCTOBER, '95.

IN time to come that wonderful personage, the oldest inhabitant, who is generally gifted with a most extraordinary memory for the marvellous, will be able when that fruitful subject, "the weather," crops up, to refer to October, '95, as a time the like of which has not been seen for many a year—that is, we sincerely hope that he, the oldest inhabitant, will be able to make that assertion, for if there are to be many Octobers like the one we have just experienced it will be a sad look out. Incessant rain and gloom do not tend to cheerfulness: but overflowing rivers, bridges washed away, roads under water, mines flooded and railway cuttings and embankments ruined do most certainly have a disheartening effect. For a time, only, of course; because pluck and energy soon bring back the hopes that at present are lying at the bottom of submerged mines and blocked up railway cuttings.

The railway has been the chief sufferer. On the Sungei Besi Section, at the $3\frac{1}{4}$ mile at the south end of the temporary bridge, 35 ft. of the bank was washed away; formerly a 15-ft. span bridge stood here, but in June last, owing to the bursting of a dam erected by miners further up country, it was completely destroyed. A 50-ft. span bridge is now in course of erection, but even with this span supervision of the miners' water-courses is necessary. At present the stream of water flowing through the bank is 84 ft. wide, and at one time the water was 6 in. over the line near the $7\frac{1}{2}$ mile. From Sunday morning until Wednesday morning traffic was stopped past Pudo; on the latter day, at 10.45 a.m., trains ran through to Sungei Besi.

The traffic on the Ulu Selangor Extension past Serendah was stopped on the 19th ult., and on the 24th the traffic beyond Kuala Lumpur was blocked. The slips in the Kepong cutting at the 8th mile were not sufficient to entirely stop the traffic, but were bad enough to make it necessary for a train to be constantly at work to keep the line clear. Just beyond this, at the $8\frac{1}{4}$ mile, the bank, 50 feet high, slipped away for a length of about 60 ft. leaving the rails hanging in the air; it took three days to repair the bank sufficiently to get an engine over it, and this was accomplished by slewing the line and putting in stacks of sleepers to act as temporary bridges.

From the 14th mile to Kuala Kubu (38th mile) there is hardly a bank or cutting which has not suffered. At the 16th mile the slip covers the rails for a length of 60 yards, and is 6 ft. deep. There is a bad slip at the $17\frac{1}{4}$ mile, about 70 yards in length and 10 ft. deep, and the same has occurred at the cutting at the 18th mile. Some three-quarters of a mile further on, the cutting has slipped for a distance of 320 yards and in places is quite 8 ft. over the rails. About half a mile before entering Serendah the mines alongside the railway were flooded and the water was flowing over the rails. The abutments of the bridge near the 26th mile were washed away, and the big cutting at Sungei Tampeian, two miles further on, has slipped badly,

while the cutting at the 29½ mile has slipped for a distance of 80 yards, with an average depth of 20 ft. over the rails. Slips have also occurred at the 30th mile and the 34th mile, and the latter, it is expected, will take several weeks to clear. At Ulu Yam the masonry of a 20-ft. span bridge was completely washed away, and the girders were left hanging to the rails; the breach in the bank at this spot is about 65 ft. The water near here was quite 4 ft. over the rails. It is expected, even given fine weather, that it will be nearly six weeks before traffic through to Kuala Kubu can be resumed. On the Klang Section, fortunately, nothing serious has happened; but the permanent way has suffered in many places by ballast being washed away.

Directly it became known that the railway was blocked, the first thought was how would the main trunk road from Kuala Lumpur to Kuala Kubu stand. The traffic is very heavy, and may be safely given as an average of 25 carts per mile throughout its whole length of 38 miles. From Kuala Lumpur to the 12th mile its surface is good; there are one or two places that are breaking up into holes and might give trouble if not attended to, but special measures are now being taken to maintain the surface and facilitate traffic. From the 12th mile to Rawang is rough and lumpy, but as spreading is in full operation no trouble may be anticipated over this portion. From Rawang to Serendah, we understand, the road was never properly surfaced, such gravel as there is to be found there having been put on from upkeep estimates. The section, however, is in good order considering the weather, and, so far, is carrying the traffic satisfactorily. From Serendah to Sungei Tampeian the road runs through low-lying land liable to inundation, and some of this section is still under water. The heavy traffic, however, manages to pass over, though the road, which is only gravelled, is much scoured. Just beyond this occurs the very worst portion of the road, an eye-witness describes it as a veritable Slough of Despond; it has lately been raised and widened, and, in fact, was not completed when the floods made it necessary to divert the traffic over it. There are several similar lengths, each averaging 500 feet, that have to be passed. At this point the P.W.D. are working all they know, and are receiving assistance from the Railway Department in the shape of ballast from the Sungei Tampeian quarry; a day or two of fine weather will enable the P.W.D. to surmount the difficulty at present experienced at this point.

From 28½ mile to Batang Kali, a distance of four miles, the surface is in fair order, with the exception of short lengths scoured away by landslips, which are all under repair. Unfortunately, at the time the floods occurred the new iron bridge over the Yam River near the swamp at the 32nd mile was under construction, and the traffic was diverted over two temporary bridges which had already given much trouble, and been twice carried away; on each occasion only a short stoppage of the traffic ensued. They are now being strengthened in order to carry engines. The Sungei Kalong, at the further end of the swamp, is also crossed by a temporary bridge. The breach in the railway embankment referred to above, some 65 feet wide, will give

some idea of the volume of water these temporary bridges had to contend with. The road from Ulu Yam to Kuala Kubu is in fair order with the exception of half a mile recently gravelled, which is very heavy, but only wants sun to make it a good surface. The landslips and destruction of small bridges on this length are being rapidly set right.

From this it will be seen that, unless there is a repetition of the late heavy floods, there is no immediate fear of road traffic being blocked between Kuala Lumpur and Kuala Kubu, while a few dry hot days will greatly facilitate the work on the bad parts. The carrying capabilities of the trunk road will, of course, be very severely taxed until the reopening of the railway line. It is at times like this that the necessity is apparent for upkeeping roads although running alongside the railway, and not even limiting the surface material to gravel. Of the 38 miles between Kuala Lumpur and Kuala Kubu 20 are gravelled.

A correspondent writes that the fall of rain for the fortnight prior to last Saturday is the most continuous he has experienced in thirteen years. With the exception of the Ampang and Pahang Roads, all the roads in the Kuala Lumpur district have suffered more or less. The Sungei Besi Road, which it is estimated carries the heaviest traffic in the district, suffered most. At the $3\frac{1}{2}$ mile a 12-ft. bridge, abutments and all, was washed away, and a torrent 45 ft. wide was roaring over its site; the bridge at the 4th mile was damaged, and at the $7\frac{3}{4}$ mile, where an 18-in. pipe had previously sufficed, 22 ft. of the road in bank was washed away. Sungei Besi was cut off from communication for some 24 hours, as the bridges between Cheras and there were down, and the road from Petaling Station was 4 ft. under water. As an instance of the energetic action taken to restore traffic we may mention that in the case of the Sungei Besi Road bridge, the order for timber to repair was given in at the Factory at 9 a.m.; the timber was cut and on the site at 1.30 p.m., and traffic resumed by 5 p.m. On the Kepong Road a water-course, usually carried under the road by two pipes, scoured a passage some 16 ft. wide and 6 ft. deep. On the Rawang Road 29 landslips, more or less extensive, occurred in three miles. Ulu Klang village was completely cut off from communication for a time. Some time back the river between Kuala Lumpur and Petaling was thoroughly cleared, and many consider that it is owing to this that the town was not flooded.

Ulu Langat has been no better off than Kuala Lumpur. A small 8-ft. bridge between Ulu Langat and Dusun Tua was the first to go before the infuriated rush of a swollen river. Next the Semenyih Road was blocked by the disappearance of a bridge, then followed news that one of the new Sungei Cheow Road bridges had taken its flight, and last, and worst of all, the District Engineer found a 70-ft. chasm across the Sungei Besi Road. The Government are not the only sufferers in this district, for many of the mines are flooded and the Messrs. Kindersley, who had started to build a large

and expensive bridge across the Kajang River, have had a considerable portion of a new and costly structure carried away to goodness only knows where. The Cheras Bridge, the work of the Penghulu—and an excellent piece of work, too—has stood, but Cheras, like Kajang, was surrounded by a weary waste of water which threatened to engulf the show. The Cheras Mosque may be carried bodily away to sea now at any moment, whilst the Kajang Mosque could be used as a fish pond. The Cheras Penghulu thinks we shall have more rain—he does not know why he thinks so, but still he does think so! He cannot remember anything like this flood for the last eighteen years.



ETHEREAL SCIENCE*—PART I.

WHEN the formation of the Selangor Scientific Society was under discussion three years ago, I read a short paper referring to the gradual erasure of those lines drawn by our forefathers around different branches of physics.

Thinking of that portion of the scientific world which studied, fifty years ago, those subjects with which I am now going to deal, produces in our minds an impression of several groups of men standing on the banks of a river; each group having drawn an imaginary line across the river and calling the water flowing past it by different names.

An adventurous spirit in group number one seizes a stick which is floating down; group number two gets hold of a leaf; while a dashing member of the third group dives below the surface and returns with a stone from the river bed.

At first these groups are too absorbed in analysing the specimens thus obtained to pay any attention to the fluid flowing past them. Eventually, however, one of the groups bottles some of the substance and shouts to the neighbouring one: "That which flows past us contains some hydrogen." Another group, not to be outdone, examines a similar quantity and replies "Ours contains oxygen." A third group shouts "By Jove! ours contains both hydrogen and oxygen."

At last a great man, who has travelled from group to group and seen each specimen, says, "Yes, not only does each of these specimens contain hydrogen and oxygen but they also each contain two molecules of hydrogen to every one of oxygen, and are essentially the same."

This great man was Clerk Maxwell.

We cannot all be great men, but we can all travel from group to group, and I want you to visit with me the ground covered by some of those groups of scientists and overhaul the different collections of articles made by those standing on the banks of the river—between

* A Society, 1

Dawendale, read before the members of the Selangor Scientific 5th August, 1895.

the boundaries marked Magnetism, Heat and Light. I shall also deal with Ether and it will be necessary for me to speak of what Clerk Maxwell calls "the great theory of radiation."

In 1831 Faraday communicated to the Royal Society a paper containing an account of his discovery of the magneto-electric induction of currents.

Let me recount a few of the facts positively known which relate to the connection between Magnetism and Electricity:—

Every dynamo exemplifies the production of electricity by magnetism and practically all of them also exhibit the reverse action. The first point to be considered, is the production of electricity by magnetism. Every magnet is supposed to throw off so-called lines of force through space, and by cutting these imaginary lines at right angles by a coil, or line, of wire a current of electricity is generated in the wire. Not only every dynamo, rotating or oscillating, exemplifies this action, but many of the "noises" heard in every telephone, attached to a long stretch of wire which lies north and south, shew how, by cutting the lines of force of terrestrial magnetism, currents can be produced. A step further in this direction brings us to the reversibility of electro-dynamic machines which, in power transmission, enables the generator to be used as a motor or a motor as a generator; but, seeing that the title of my paper is "Ethereal Science" not "Practical Electricity," I now intend to deal with the theory of production of magnetism by electricity.

A current of electricity passed beneath, and parallel to, a suspended bar magnet causes a deflection of the magnet from the magnetic meridian.

A current sent through an insulated wire, wound round a bar of soft iron, causes the iron to become practically instantaneously a magnet, and to retain its magnetic power, as long as the current continues to flow. Stopping the current results in demagnetisation of the iron. Reversing the current results in reverse magnetisation—that is to say, the pole which, with the current flowing in one direction, attracts a certain object, will, when the direction of the current is reversed, repel that object. Soft iron thus magnetised through the agency of electricity is called an electro-magnet.

If a bar of steel be treated in this manner instead of soft iron, the current has no instantaneous effect, but after some time causes the steel to become what is called a permanent magnet. Soft iron easily gains and rapidly loses its magnetic power. Steel is with difficulty magnetised and then for a long time retains its magnetisation.

Sound is produced by sudden magnetisation and sudden demagnetisation of soft iron. When an iron bar is magnetised, its volume is unchanged, but it is lengthened.

The explanation of the cause of these effects was given by a man named De La Rive.

It forms a beautiful theory, which I will give in Professor Tyndall's words. "If a sheet of paper or a square of glass be placed over a

magnet, iron filings scattered on the paper or on the glass arrange themselves in lines which Faraday called lines of force. Along these lines the filings set their longest dimensions and they also attach themselves end to end. A little bar of iron, or a small magnetic needle, freely suspended, sets itself also along these lines of force. We may regard a bar of iron as made up of particles united by the force of cohesion, but still to some extent distinct. When iron is broken we see crystalline facets on the surface of fracture. In fact, the bar is composed of minute crystals of irregular shape. These, when the bar is magnetised, try to set their longest dimensions parallel to the direction of magnetisation—that is to say, in the direction of the bar itself. They succeed in this effort to some slight extent, and thus produce the minute and temporary lengthening of the bar."

This, you see, accounts for the production of sound and lengthening of the bar. The rigidity of steel, in view of this theory, also accounts for its resistance to, and retention of, magnetisation longer than iron.

Having shewn that there is necessarily a close connection between electricity and magnetism in that electricity overcomes and creates magnetism and that cutting magnetic lines of force creates electricity, I will leave this subject for the present and deal broadly with the connection between Heat and Light. Before doing so, however, I must touch on radiation and the molecular theory of matter.

A molecule is the smallest particle of matter that can exist alone. It contains component parts named atoms, but atoms cannot exist alone. Molecules are perpetually in motion. The hotter the body the greater or faster the motion and greater the space necessarily occupied by the body. Observe, for instance, ice, water and steam.

The diameter of a molecule of hydrogen is about one thirty millionth of an inch.

The mean free path of a molecule of hydrogen (in a gaseous state) is $\frac{1}{505000}$ th of an inch, according to Clerk Maxwell, or twice that length according to Crookes, and it would collide about 17,750 million times per second with other molecules.

The mean free path in solids is of course much smaller.

Parenthetically, I might remark that molecular motion has been absolutely proved to exist and that it accounts for the pressure of the atmosphere.

Now, it is this motion of the outer surface of a hot body that conveys to an intervening medium the undulations which will account for radiation.

The intervening medium we call Ether.

Let us now consider the points possessed in common by heat and light.

They both travel by radiation—or, the more correct way of putting it is to say that radiation conveys light and heat.

Their velocity is similar—viz., 180,000 to 192,000 miles per second through free space.

They both travel in straight lines through any uniform medium.

The medium through which radiant heat passes is not heated if it is perfectly diathermanous.

The medium through which light passes is not rendered luminous if it is perfectly diaphanous. But supposing any impurity or defect of transparency causes the medium to become visible when light passes through it, it will also cause the body to become hot and stop part of the heat when traversed by radiant heat.

Heat and light are alike reflected from polished surfaces.

Numberless other facts tending to prove our point can be cited, but our case is now so strong that it is a waste of time to bring them forward.

We are therefore, I think, in a position to say that light and radiant heat are the same thing though perceived by us through different channels—the former by the eye and the latter by the sensation of heat.

Now I will digress for a moment to point out why we cannot see heat.

The wave lengths of the undulations producing no luminous effect, but great heat, are too rapid to affect the eye.

Our eyes like our ears have their limitations as to range of length of waves which can be perceived. A wave length 500 millionths of a millimetre has but little heating effect but is visible as green, 600 millionths of a millimetre produces red. 812 millionths of a millimetre produces no luminous effect, but may generate great heat. Oral perception ranges over ten octaves. Optical perception only covers one octave.

Next comes the question of light and electricity. The rate of propagation is similar through free space. In this connection Mr. Preece in 1880 pointed out that the magnetic effects known as earth currents had been observed to occur simultaneously with the appearance of sun spots.

Maxwell's theory required that opaque substances should be good conductors of electricity and that non-conductors should be transparent because light requires an oscillatory and undulatory propagation which can only be produced by elasticity. This is the explanation of Maxwell's theory relating to this point, which is given in the "Electrical Standard Dictionary":—"Since in non-conductors the displacement produces a restitution force, which varies as the displacement which is requisite, or is a criterion for, propagation of waves, while in conductors no such force is manifested and the electric energy appears as heat; it follows that light vibrations are not possible in conductors—because electric magnetic waves do not exist in them, when they are in circuit, and conductors should be opaque. While the reverse is true for non-conductors."

This definition you may find somewhat difficult to understand, so to simplify the matter it may be of assistance if I bring to your minds

an analogy which can be obtained from the science of sound. In felling a tree the sound of the blows heard at the moment of impact is caused by the vibration of the wood and the axe, after concussion. Given a complete absence of elasticity the condensations and rarefactions which are necessary to produce sound waves will be absent. This also will be the case if the axe is so extraordinarily sharp or the wood so soft that the axe can sink through the wood without resistance.

This will give you an idea of what happens when a current of electricity flows through a conductor. There is a steady flow instead of the undulatory motion which is necessary to produce a light wave. The absence of resistance to the flow prevents the production of waves. That opaque objects generally are conductors and that transparent substances are generally non-conductors you all know. Metals are the most opaque of objects, and space, glass, etc., are transparent. Probably but few of you know that ebonite has been proved to be transparent to some kinds of radiation.

While on this subject I should like to put before you an interesting point raised by Professor Nikola Tesla. He suggests that a metal when raised to such a temperature as to become a non-conductor might become phosphorescent under the flow of an electric current, and that it also might do so when behaving as a non-conductor owing to an alternate current of very high frequency being applied. Maxwell, when he propounded his theory, had, as data, these two facts—viz., the similarity in rate of propagation and the fact that conductors of electricity were generally opaque and *vice versa*—and little else except his mathematical theories and an experiment of Faraday's which shewed that magnetism had some effect on light.

(To be continued.)

.....

“COUSIN JACK.”

“The wages be pure but the mine 'er be rich.”—*Cornish Proverb.*

WE met him first at the mouth of a shaft, in a part of the world which it is not necessary to specify more exactly. He was dressed for the most part in a coating of black mud, with trimmings of red clay. He wore a hard, brimless felt hat on the top of his bullet-shaped head, and a small piece of guttered candle was fastened to the front of it with a clot of clay. Some of the tallow had found its way to the end of his nose, where it reposed undisturbed amid mud, perspiration and other foreign matter.

“'Oo be yew?” was his kindly greeting. We gave the necessary information.

“The old man be main sick,” was his next remark; “yew can't see 'er an' Cap'n Tam be dawn to vorty vathom level 'ome by the mill 'ed.”

Before going in quest of Captain Thomas, however, we decided that it would be interesting to pursue our investigations somewhat

further regarding Cousin Jack himself, so we kept our ground and observed carefully, but by stealth.

"How do you like this part of the world?" we said, for the sake of gaining time and in order to keep the ball a-rolling.

He went of at score, speaking with considerable heat.

"'Tis mucky country, sure 'nuff, vor white man tu work in. 'Ere I be twelve months come Michaelmas a villin' my bloomin' guts wi' bloomin' rice, and wi' bloomin' vovls a vlyin' roun' my bloomin' 'ed. Can't so much as get a cook as can make passty."

While we had been speaking we had been carefully observing his outer man, and our eyes had been irresistibly attracted to a large swelling which appeared on his left side, under his shirt, and somewhat above his belt. "What have you got there?" we asked.

"Passty," he answered, shortly. He then thrust his hand deep into the breast of the shirt, with which his hairy bosom was covered, and withdrew it grasping a bag made of flannel which had once been white. The mouth of the bag was fastened by a bootlace, which Cousin Jack very deliberately proceeded to untie with his teeth. He then took out a large "turnover," made of adamantine pie-crust, and smelt it lovingly. He explained that this was not a good "passty," and illustrated the truth of this statement by biting off one gigantic corner of it without apparently having recourse to any particularly superhuman exertion.

"This yer Chinaman's passties be too crips," he said, speaking through the section of "passty" which was between his jaws; "crumbles all away to nothen' in yer mauth. Now my mother, she du make vine passty, sure 'nuff. Let 'un vall daun vorty vathom shaaf, piek 'un up good as ever 'er was!"

He then sat down on the head of what he called a "viddel," which, until he spoke, we thought was a woodman's mallet, and began to eat the "passty" out of the end of the flannel bag, holding it in such a manner that the crumbs dropped into its womb and were saved, his nose being buried in it the while, much as a London cab-horse's muzzle is hidden in its nose-bag. The noises made by his "healthy mastication," by his snorts of pleasure, varied by occasional chokes which made us tremble for his safety, were more curious and surprising than pleasant. Presently he raised his head, and began to poke with his thumb at a small piece of chicken which was hidden in the centre of the "passty," thrusting it deeper down into its recesses.

"Daun tu Cornwall," he said presently, "passties be made of turmuts, green-trade, and such-like. In the mine where I was tu work vor I come'd out 'ere us 'ad a man as used tu putt a piece of mate in ut. 'E diden putt 'un in vor tu eat 'un, 'e putt 'un in vor show. If 'e seed anyone a-watchen' ov 'un like, he'd ledd 'un see the piece of mate juss vor tu show a 'ow 'e 'ad 'un like. When there weren't no passon looken' e' 'd gi'un a poke daun wi' 'is vinger, so as 'e cüd leave 'un in the baig, 'an always car'd un 'ome nights an' 'is missus putt un in vor 'un again nex' day. 'Twassen nothen' moren tu show as 'ow 'e cüd afford ut."

Cousin Jack having eaten through the "passty," ate the piece of chicken which it had contained as a tit-bit, and then shook the crumbs, which had collected at the bottom of the bag, into the palm of his hand, which was already coated with various samples of the earth's strata. He proceeded to lap these crumbs up much as a cat laps milk from a shallow saucer. He then raised himself by sections into an erect position, picked his teeth with a jack-knife, spat deliberately thrice, and lounged off to his work.

Since our first meeting with Cousin Jack we have, at one time and another, seen a good deal of him, and we have come to understand and like him better than we at first expected to do. He is not particularly godly, nor does he cultivate the virtue which is proverbially next to godliness. His state of civilisation is not a high one, and he is painfully ignorant of many things. Nevertheless, he is not without his good points, and his faults are chiefly to be traced to the defects of his early training. Until the passing of the Acts which prohibited the employment of little children underground, Cousin Jack put off the things of a child at a very tender age, and began his life's work, in the bowels of the earth, almost as soon as he could walk and speak. So soon as his father could get his name placed on the rolls, little Cousin Jack went underground to turn an air-fan wheel, and took his day and night shifts with the full-grown miners. The poor child was waked from his sleep in the middle of a bitter winter night, and, after swallowing a weak mess of turnips or thin porridge, had to walk shivering with cold and fear through the dark roads which lay between his father's hut and the mine in which he was employed. Once down the mine poor little Cousin Jack exchanged the horrors of the open road for the agony which only a child can feel when left alone in the dark. We have seen grown men shake and tremble at the mere recollection of the extremities of fear which they suffered in the pitch darkness of the mines, quite out of sound of all human voices both by day and by night, and picturing all manner of "pixies" and other demons which many a grown miner to this day believes to inhabit the galleries of a mine. One man told us that for months he had never dared to look over his shoulder for dread of the awful forms which might be behind his back, and another said that time and again he has stopped turning the wheel of the air-fan so that the men from below, failing to get a proper supply of air, should come up to "put the buckle-strap in about me," for even to be licked was preferable to the awful loneliness, and while a man was licking him poor little Cousin Jack had the delight of "company" to compensate him for the blows.

Can it be wondered at that poor Cousin Jack, who was subjected to this dreadful and prolonged trial to his nerves, should never quite recover the strain put upon him, and that the dread of "pixies," which was thus one of his strongest and earliest impressions, should never again quite leave him? Little Cousin Jack sometimes attended Sunday School, but such education as he got there did little to alleviate his lot, and for the most part the elder men among the

present generation of Cornish miners can neither read nor scratch out the letters which form their own names.

Occasionally a man of stronger and more original intellect than his fellows would educate himself during the hours which his companions spent asleep in their bunks or in the public houses, and there are many examples of men who have broken their "Fate's invidious bars" and have risen to positions of great trust as managers of mines. These men, however, are the exception, and in speaking of Cousin Jack such exceptions cannot be regarded as typical examples of the breed, nor do the remarks which we have made in this paper in any way apply to them. They have left the dialect and the habits of Cousin Jack far behind them, and the very name can no longer be used in connection with them.

The ignorance of Cousin Jack is vast. Not only is he often entirely unacquainted with the "three R's," but even the more rudimentary facts in natural history are quite unknown to him. Some years ago a travelling menagerie visited Cornwall and exhibited a dancing bear and a tame monkey. The performing bear was dressed in coat, trousers and hat, and the monkey also wore the uniform which has been made familiar to our eyes by the ingenuous organ-grinder. Cousin Jack at once recognised the bear as a miner from the Black Country, and set the local champion on to wrestle with him. For several minutes they swayed backwards and forwards without either the man or the bear gaining any advantage, and when they had parted the wrestler turned to his fellows and said, "There aint much style about 'un, but 'tis a beggar ov a *grip!*" Meanwhile the monkey had been solemnly dancing round the wrestlers with that pained expression of countenance commonly seen on the face of a performing ape, and one of the spectators, judging him to be the son of the supposed North of England miner anxious for the safety of his parent, sought to set his mind at rest, and patting him kindly on the head said, "Neveer yew mind, my dearr, they baint agoen tu 'urt your vathur, taint nothen' but vair grip."

Another story is told of a Cornish miner who found what Cousin Jack calls a "pungkin"—in the Queen's English it is usually termed a pumpkin. He shewed it to the foreman of his gang, who was presumably a man of rather superior education, and asked him what it was. The foreman chaffingly told him that it was a mare's egg.

"Mare's egg be ut?" said Cousin Jack. "'Ow be I goen' tu get the colt?"

"I'll tell 'ee 'ow tu get the colt, sure 'nuff," said the foreman. "Tak'en up top beacon there, then roll en daun—yew'll get the colt!"

Cousin Jack and his companions, nothing doubting, made their way up to the top of the beacon, bearing the "pungkin" carefully, and proceeded to roll it down the hill. The pumpkin rolled down at a great speed and brought up in a furze bush in which a hare was sitting on its form. The frightened animal went off at score, and the delighted owner of the "pungkin" clapped his hands and cried in glee—

"There goeth the colt! 'Tis a racer for certain sure!"

As is often the case with men who are ignorant, Cousin Jack dislikes people who use long words. "Daun tu Cornwall"—we once heard a miner say, pointing to some rock which had lately been examined by a mining expert who had written a very learned report on the subject—"Daun tu Cornwall us ud say as 'ow the damned thing 'ad got shifted, but Mr. L—— du tell us as 'ow it is *meta-more-voosed!*" The disgust which he managed to express in that one tortured word could only be reproduced by means of a first-class phonograph.

The Cornish miner, though he lives in constant dread of the supernatural, and is so superstitious that he will half kill a man who whistles underground, since whistling is well known to attract "pixies," and other unclean spirits, is yet endowed with considerable endurance as regards physical suffering, and may be said, in so far as bodily pain is concerned, to have practically no nerves at all. We once met a Cornish man who was suffering from a severe toothache. Some days later we met him again and asked how the bad tooth was getting on. "I villed 'un up wi' 'malgam," he said, "an 'e got a bit better. Then 'er cum on again. Cudden' putt up wi' ut no more. I putt the penknife in under 'un an' *hucked* 'un aut!" It makes our jaws ache merely to think of this fearsome operation.

In his cups Cousin Jack is often terrible. We know one man who when in liquor habitually smashes all the furniture in his house under the impression that he is murdering his father, against whom he apparently cherishes a deep and deadly grudge. "I *will* kill my bloomin' vathur," he cries at such times, in a perfect transport of rage.

With all his faults, however, Cousin Jack has the saving virtue of a keenish sense of humour. We remember hearing one of them speaking of the clothes his mother, who was not apparently a very expert needlewoman, used to make for him when he was a small boy. "They breeches were that tight," he said, "that when I'd 'ad 'em on matter of 'arf an 'our I didden know as whether I was goen' tu skule or cummen' vrom ut."

Poor Cousin Jack! it is a shame to laugh at his queer ways. He is a good fellow at bottom, and works out his life's labour in a manner which would shame many of us who consider ourselves above him in the scale of creation, and who are so busy thinking "the thoughts which maketh nothing plain," that we forget only too often that if we *thought* less and *did* more, our lives might possibly be less useless to our fellows, and less wearisome to ourselves. Cousin Jack works hard, and by the sweat of his brow succeeds in keeping himself and his family in decency and honour. He thoroughly understands his work, and does it nothing doubting, content to labour from day to day, "without hope of change"—in that, as, alas! in many other like things, we may frankly own him to be our superior.

In conclusion, we must express our regret that most of the really typical and characteristic stories told by and of Cousin Jack, belong to the four thousand four hundred and forty tales which cannot be told to ladies, as opposed to the forty-four which can.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our Correspondents.]

THE SAVINGS BANK.

To the Editor of the Selangor Journal.

SIR,—My attention has been called to an article in the *Perak Pioneer* of the 16th instant, in which the Editor of that journal criticises my Report on the Selangor Government Savings Bank, and to which he appends a comparative statement calculated to mislead the uninitiated and, moreover, so carelessly drawn up as to contain at least one gross error.

As it is possible that some of your readers who are depositors in Bank may have seen the article in question and may be prejudiced by it against the Bank, I will ask you to allow me through the medium of your columns to point out the mistakes and inaccuracies into which the writer has fallen.

I would first draw attention to the statement that the Report under review is my first Report on the Savings Bank.

This is not the case, as your readers can see for themselves by referring to the *Selangor Government Gazette* for last year.

Moreover, I should like to ask whether the omission of a report on the first year's working of a new institution such as a Savings Bank is a very serious enormity; because I must confess that I have searched through the *Perak Government Gazette* for the first report on the Perak Government Savings Bank, and have been unable to find any prior to that published in December, 1890, for the third period of six months in the history of that Bank.

The Editor then proceeds to make a most unjustifiable insinuation to the effect that my interest in the Bank has fallen off, a personality of which it is not worth my while to take further notice than to say, that I have reason to believe that those interested in the Bank think differently, as is shewn by the fact that the number of accounts opened since 31st May last, a period of less than 6 months, is 72, while the number opened in the Perak Savings Bank during the 5th and corresponding half-year of its existence was 65.

The Editor of the *Perak Pioneer* publishes a tabulated statement giving the results of the working of the two years' old Selangor Bank as compared with the six years' old Perak Bank (the latter is four years older than the Selangor Bank, and not three years as stated by him), which, he says, "tell their own story."

I am afraid they do tell stories, if they lead his readers to believe that any such comparison can serve any useful purpose, especially as in the first item of the statement the Editor has made a gross blunder, quite inexcusable in one who sets himself up as a critic of accounts.

The figures given purport to represent the total amounts deposited in each Savings Bank, but the amount under the head of Selangor (\$11,850.80) is the sum invested in the Chartered Bank, while that

compared with it under the head of Perak (\$63,101.64) is the total amount of the assets of the Bank at the end of the last half-year.

I have been unable to obtain from the *Perak Government Gazette* all the statistics I wanted as to the working of the Perak Savings Bank during its earlier years, and I cannot therefore give quite such a detailed statement as that which appeared in the *Perak Pioneer*, but the following figures "tell their own story" and give a true presentation of the progress of the two banks during the first two years of their existence.

	Selangor Govt. Savings Bank.	Perak Govt. Savings Bank.
No. of accounts opened during the 1st two years	387	243
" closed	173	124
" remaining open	214	119
Amount due to depositors at end of 2nd year	\$13,429	\$11,056

As it is obvious that the success of a Savings Bank must depend in great measure on the number of people who have access to it, I may add that the populations of the two States at the last census were—Perak, 214,254; Selangor, 81,592.—I have, etc., A. R. VENNING.

The following is the paragraph referred to in the above letter :

"THE NATIVE STATES SAVINGS BANK.—In another column we publish a report on the Selangor Savings Bank by its Manager, Mr. A. R. Venning, who is also the Treasurer of that State. The Bank was opened in June, 1893, and therefore has been in existence 2 years and 4 months. The report is for the working of two years viz up to the end of May 1895 and a remarkably brief one for such a long period especially when it is considered that it is the first report. The Manager has confined himself to figures only and has apparently no comment to make on this important and useful institution. Perhaps this is due to the fact that the Government has discontinued his allowance since the end of 1894 and under the circumstances, perhaps, he can hardly be blamed for his lack of interest. We published in August last Mr. Gaynor's interesting report on our own Savings Bank and give below a comparative statement of figures shewing the chief outlines of the working of the Selangor Savings Bank as compared with our bank which is older by 3 years. They will tell their own story. The following tabulated statement compiled from the reports will shew the total amounts of deposits in each Savings Bank on the day the accounts are confined to.

<i>Selangor.</i>		<i>Perak.</i>		NUMBER OF WITHDRAWALS.	
\$11,850.80		\$63,101.64		<i>Selangor.</i>	<i>Perak.</i>
				277	502*
ACCOUNTS OPENED SINCE THE OPENING OF THE BANK.				TOTAL AMOUNT OF DEPOSITS.	
<i>Selangor.</i>		<i>Perak.</i>		<i>Selangor.</i>	<i>Perak.</i>
387		1,306		\$34,801	\$2,031.25*
ACCOUNTS CLOSED.				TOTAL AMOUNT OF WITHDRAWALS.	
<i>Selangor.</i>		<i>Perak.</i>		<i>Selangor.</i>	<i>Perak.</i>
173		801		\$21,879.34	42,433.18*
NUMBER OF DEPOSITS.				TOTAL AMOUNT DUE TO DEPOSITORS.	
<i>Selangor.</i>		<i>Perak.</i>		<i>Selangor.</i>	<i>Perak.</i>
995		1,788*		\$13,429	\$60,720.59

* In the past 12 months only.

THE PUBLIC GARDENS.

To the Editor of the Selangor Journal.

SIR,—The attention of the Gardens Committee has been drawn to the wilful and mischievous destruction of flowers and injury to trees which is almost daily perpetrated by some persons, who amuse themselves with plucking flowers, pulling them to pieces and strewing them about the ground.

It is quite useless to inform such barbarians that trees and shrubs are planted in the Gardens in order that the public generally may enjoy the sight of their blossoms and the fragrance with which they fill the air, and not for the indulgence of any individual's mischievous propensities nor even for the decoration of any individual's table.

The committee are desirous therefore to draw attention to the fact that under the by-laws any person offending is liable to be punished, and that in future every person found breaking the by-laws in this respect will be prosecuted; and they desire especially to ask those ladies whose children frequent the gardens to warn their ayahs that they will not be exempt from punishment should they prove offenders in this respect.—I have, etc.—A. R. VENNING, *Chairman, Gardens Committee.*

GAMES AT THE SELANGOR CLUB.

To the Editor of the Selangor Journal.

SIR,—There are one or two points in connection with the proposed addition to the subscription of the Selangor Club which were not mentioned at the general meeting and which members should consider before replying to the circular to be sent to each of them. As shewn by the estimates for the next half year the present sources of revenue are sufficient not only to maintain the Club in a satisfactory way but to repair and repaint the building.

The expenditure on entertainment of members does not exceed \$450, of which sum \$250 is to be spent on printing and papers (some of this will no doubt be recovered from sale of papers), and the rest on the various games in connection with the Club. This amount, which will be spent almost entirely on cricket and tennis, will, presumably, be disbursed as follows: Gardener, \$10 a month; 5 Tambies, one at \$10 and four at \$3 a month; and \$10 a month for extras.

Thus more than one half of the funds available for the entertainment of members is to be spent on cricket and tennis. Surely this is more than a fair charge on a Club a very small proportion of the members of which play cricket. A voluntarily offered subscription for the sole benefit of games has been objected to by some prominent cricketers, and I should be much surprised if the majority of members will consent to a compulsory one.

I am informed by one of the original members of the Selangor Club that it was undoubtedly started as a social club only, the subscription being purposely fixed at a low rate so as to suit all classes of the community. Cricket was certainly played in connection with it on account of its situation on the Parade Ground—I am, etc.,
A MEMBER.

NOTES AND NEWS.

PRINCE OF WALES'S BIRTHDAY (observed on Monday) in Kuala Lumpur was quiet and wet, the few fine days of last week, which promised the end of the bad weather, having given place to more rain. The holiday, however, had been anticipated by the Fancy Dress Dance at the Selangor Club, last Friday night, and we are glad to be able to record such a very successful gathering as the dance proved to be. Mr. Bligh, the Secretary, is to be congratulated on the arrangements; and Mr. Hüttenbach's share in the work has soon proved the wisdom of those who elected him on the Committee. Mr. Parsons bore the brunt of the labours which fell to the Sub-Committee. Thanks to the kindness of a correspondent, we are enabled to give an account of the dance on another page.

MRS. RODGER held an "At Home" in the grounds of the Residency on the 7th inst.

MR. J. P. RODGER, the Acting British Resident, has presented to the Selangor Club Sub-Committee for Football a handsome Silver Challenge Cup. The rules for competition will be drawn up and published shortly.

MR. J. WELFORD, the Chief Surveyor, expects to leave Selangor on long leave on the 20th or 21st inst.

MESSRS. C. G. Glassford and E. W. Neubronner have been selected to play in the Straits Eleven at Christmas time against the Ceylon and Hongkong teams. The selections are—H. L. Talbot (Perak), F. W. Talbot (Negri Sembilan), C. G. Glassford (Selangor), R. McKenzie (Perak), A. S. Anthony (Penang), J. Orman (Singapore), W. B. Voules (Perak), W. Dunman (Negri Sembilan), J. Cook (Singapore), A. L. Ingall (Perak), F. G. Guggisberg (Singapore), E. W. Neubronner (Selangor), and J. G. Mactaggart (Singapore). In the *Free Press* list Mr. Dunman is given as a player from Selangor, but it is now some time since that gentleman severed his connection with this State, and he must be regarded as a representative of the new Confederation of Negri Sembilan; so that, taking the 13 players as given above, the representation of the various parts of the Straits

may be put down as—Singapore, 4; Perak, 4; Negri Sembilan, 2; Selangor, 2; and Penang, 1.

THE final round of the Billiard Handicap at the Selangor Club was played on the 1st inst., when E. W. Neubronner — 20 beat D. Macreath + 110, loser's score, 244.

MEMBERS of the Selangor Rifle Association are reminded of the Annual General Meeting, to take place at the Selangor Club on Wednesday, 20th November, at 6.30 p.m. It is hoped that all members will make a point of being present, as some important suggestions with regard to the arrangements for shooting during 1896 will be brought forward.

THE Selangor Fire Brigade is very busy just now with practices for an Exhibition Drill. Some of the town hydrants were tried by the Brigade recently, and found very satisfactory indeed, the height of the jet thrown being greater than that attained by the engine.

TENDERS are invited for building the new Recreation Club, Kuala Lumpur, on a site opposite the Plain and near to the footbridge over the railway line. Tenders are to be sent to Mr. G. H. Leembruggen, Hon. Sec., not later than the 23rd inst.

THE traffic on the path up the hill from the plain to the Government Offices is almost as great during the evening as through the day, and a few lamps placed along the track would be a decided improvement; there are one or two sharp turns, darkened by trees, where lamps are very necessary.

LAND in the coast districts still continues to charm the intending coffee planter, and Mr. H. C. Holmes, in his monthly report on the Kuala Selangor District, writes that, in addition to two 500-acre blocks applied for by Messrs. Toynbee and F. Wellford, respectively, he has received four other applications—one for a 1,000-acre block and three for 500-acre blocks. Since that date there has been quite a rush of applications for coffee-planting land in the same locality. An experienced planter has reported some land in the district to be "as rich as any he has seen in the Native States."

THE attention that Mr. Ketschker is paying to the comfort of visitors to the Kuala Lumpur Rest House is borne testimony to by a gentleman who has been travelling through Perak and Selangor, and has published an account of his trip in the *Pinang Gazette*. He

writes: "The Kuala Lumpur Rest House is, for a Rest House, quite a magnificent place. It is substantially built, with one of those confounded cement floors, but here the floors are covered with coir matting. They are about four times the size of those at Ipoh, and a bathroom opens out of each room. I had one of the front rooms with two windows which boasted printed muslin curtains, a round table, and a suite of furniture that had probably done duty in the Residency in early days. No bedrooms open into the dining-room, which is a pleasant nicely furnished room with everything bright and kept in good order. The Rest House is run differently from most. It is let out on condition that the lessee provides for guests at a fixed tariff. At one end of the dining-room there is a well-stocked bar where everything is bright, and an attendant serves out anything that is wanted from the gin pite before dinner to the liqueur after it."

A MEETING of the members of the Museum Committee was held on 8th November, Captain Syers (Chairman), Mr. L. B. Von Donop (Hon. Sec.), and Mr. J. Russell being present. The Museum was inspected, and the minutes of the last meeting read and confirmed. A minute from the State Engineer, regarding the removal of the Museum to the building now occupied by the Post Office, was read. Resolved that the resolution passed at the last meeting be adhered to, and that the Committee take an early opportunity of consulting with the State Engineer before a plan of proposed alterations is made. The Committee acknowledge with thanks the receipt of two snakes from Mr. Saturninofflores.

Visitors during October	...	1,622
Previously	... ..	12,740
Total	...	14,462

THE General Meeting of the Members of the Selangor Club, held on Wednesday, the 13th inst., was purely a confirmatory meeting of the resolutions passed on the 26th ult., any other business being ruled out of order. The Vice-President, Mr. A. Berrington, was in the chair.

THE first regular Monthly Meeting of the new Committee of the Selangor Club was held on the 13th inst., Mr. C. E. F. Sanderson (in the chair), Mr. Bligh (Secretary), and Messrs. G. Cumming, Day, H. C. Paxon and W. D. Scott being present. The following gentlemen were elected members of the Club—Messrs. E. Cameron, S. St. G. Carey, W. A. B. Hamerton, M. A. Hawes, C. H. O. Rowe

and F. Wellford. Subject to their acceptance, the following gentlemen were appointed members of the sub-committees—*Finance*: Messrs. Day, Ramsay and W. E. Venning; *Cricket*: Messrs. Paxon (Captain), Dougal, C. Glassford and E. W. Neubronner; *Football*: Messrs. F. Lott, Roe, Skinner and W. D. Scott; *Billiards*: Messrs. Cumming, Ketschker and Roe; *Tennis*: Messrs. Highet, Trotter and E. Neubronner; *Reading Room*: Messrs. J. Brown, Charter and Parsons; *Entertainment*: the Rev. F. Haines, Dr. McClosky, Mr. Parsons, Mr. Russell and Dr. Travers.

THE POLICE DEPARTMENT entered its new Offices in High Street on the 12th inst., and is now at last in possession of a building it can call its own. For a long time past the Police have been driven from pillar to post in search of office accommodation, finally finishing up with a term of some eight or ten months in the old gaol. A commodious and handsome set of offices has now been built for the Department and the building is, or rather will be, when the surroundings are improved, an ornament to that part of the town. The Captain China and a number of the leading Towkays of Kuala Lumpur attended during the morning to personally congratulate Captain Syers on taking possession of his new offices. A vast pile of crackers was brought and let off in front of the building, causing a mighty fusillade for nearly half an hour; a spectacle which afforded infinite amusement to the pupils of the Victoria Institution, who had perforce to relinquish their tasks and turn out to see the fun. The last crackers having been fired an adjournment was made to crack a friendly bottle of champagne in honour of the Captain-Superintendent. The Captain China, Yeap Kwan Seng, made a short speech, referring to the esteem in which Captain Syers was held by all the Chinese residents of Kuala Lumpur, and said, that it was the hope of himself, and of all those present, that Captain Syers might long continue to carry on the work which he had so faithfully performed during the last 20 years of his residence in the State. Captain-Syers replied, thanking the Captain China and those present for their good wishes; and, finally, Towkay Yeap Long, the Captain China's Secretary, on behalf of the others, made a lengthy and fluent speech, eulogising the Captain Superintendent, wishing him all manner of good luck and happiness, and congratulating him, in the name of the Chinese community, on his occupation of the new offices. The following is a list of those present: The Captain China, Yap Kwan Seng, Towkays Yeap Fuk, Hang Pow, Yeap Lin, Yeap Fat Lin, Yeap Loi Sun, Cheow Lin, Teow Sung, Chiu Chun, Hap Lung, Bong Sam, Vong Chong, Yeap Long and Cheow Kui.

WE have received the first two numbers of a weekly journal, published by Messrs. John Haddon and Co., Bouverie House, London, entitled *The Produce World*, "solely devoted to the interests of planters, shippers of produce, and colonial store-keepers." The annual subscription is 10s. 6d., post free. The matter contained in these two numbers ranges over a variety of subjects, many of which should prove of interest to planters and others in this State; a special market report, with prices corrected up to time of publication, is to be issued with each number; and the publishing firm in a notice "To Planters and Growers of Produce," also undertake to act as importers and agents. The first paragraph under the heading "Queries," reads: "*Coffee-Growing in the Malay States.*—Will a planter give some idea of the amount of money needed to start a plantation of about 200 acres, and the number of hands required?—SELANGOR." The Editor writes:—"The Planter needs the *Produce World* for two reasons: primarily, to bring his products under the notice of home buyers; and, secondly, to keep himself posted up in the prices realised, the produce most in demand, to learn what will bring him the best return, and which is the best market for him. In order to deal with the question of bringing produce under the notice of home buyers, the proprietors of the *Produce World* are appointing correspondents in all the main centres of the world where produce is grown, and these agents will report upon the condition of crops, and the shipments being made, or to be made, to this and other countries. Specially for the Planter and Shipper the proprietors have arranged, at considerable outlay, a 'Weekly Market Report,' which will be unequalled. It is intended to make the contents as varied as possible. The field to be covered is very large, and the desire is to touch upon many subjects, and so bring the paper up to a high standard of usefulness; and to this end we intend to be a practical paper for practical men, and shall do all in our power to secure practical writers upon practical subjects."

THE continuation of "Tin Mining in Selangor" is again unavoidably held over until our next issue.

THE RAIN AND THE RAILWAY.

SINCE our last issue, the heavy rains, which had been so continuous during the previous month, have in a great measure abated, but the weather at the time of writing cannot be described as settled. The damage done by floods to road and rail, however, is rapidly being repaired, and will, it is hoped shortly

be made good. As was shewn in our last article on the subject, the chief sufferer was the railway, slips of lesser or greater degree having occurred at most of the cuttings and embankments between Kuala Lumpur and Kuala Kubu; and at the same time it was pointed out that the road, taken over its entire length, had stood fairly well, and although seriously impeded and injured by the floods at various points, could not be said to have been entirely blocked, except for a few hours, at any time.

The work to be done on the railway between here and Kuala Kubu in order to restore the running was, as could be seen from our last description, very heavy indeed, and it has been, and is being, carried out with all possible despatch, large gangs, working day and night shifts, being employed on the line. To give an idea of how the work is progressing we will take the same points referred to previously.

Starting with the damage done to the Kepong cutting, a large gang of coolies, working continuously since our last notice, have restored this to order; while the adjacent bank, to which a special ballast engine was detailed, may now be regarded as in a stable condition. The large slips at the cutting at the 16th mile were sufficiently cleared by the 4th inst. to allow of the passage of the ballast train. Some trouble was experienced in the cutting at the 17 $\frac{1}{4}$ mile, the soil being exceedingly soft and difficult to work, and the roots of trees causing much inconvenience; but, by the aid of day and night gangs, the ballast train was able to pass this point on the 5th inst., and on the same day a passage was effected through the cutting at the 18th mile.

At the cutting three-quarters of a mile further on every effort is being made day and night; ballast trains are working each side of the slip, and it is confidently expected that by the time we go to press they will be able to run through, so that if the weather only holds up traffic through to Serendah will be open by the beginning of the week.

A temporary bridge has been erected at the 26th mile, where one of the abutments of a 15-ft. span bridge was washed away; in fact, 24 hours after its breakdown trains were able to pass over this temporary structure. Further on, at the 28th mile the large gang of coolies working in the cutting there have been able to keep that portion of the line open.

On the very heavy slip which occurred in the cutting at the 29 $\frac{1}{2}$ mile, a temporary road has been laid, about 12 ft. above the permanent way, and by this means a train will be enabled in a day or two to get over to the north side of the slip, and so work at it from both ends.

At the slip at the cutting at the 30th mile work is steadily progressing. At the cutting at the 34th mile over 300 men are employed on the slip; and, notwithstanding that no ballast trains are available at this part of the line, excellent progress is being made; and the same can be said regarding the cutting at the 36 $\frac{1}{4}$ mile.

At Ulu Yam, where the 20-ft. span bridge was washed away and where a 65-ft. breach was made in the bank, a temporary sleeper

bridge has been put up; and the work of erecting a new 50-ft. span bridge at this point is well in hand and being rapidly pushed on.

From all this it can be imagined what a busy and anxious time the last fortnight has been for those in charge of this work; and it must also be remembered how much still depends upon the weather, and how a day's continuous downpour may mean the obliteration and upsetting of the previous week's work. Still, hoping for the best—that is, fine weather—there is no doubt that the above anticipation regarding Serendah will be realised.

At the moment of going to press we hear that an engine and ballast train went through the Rawang cutting (18 $\frac{3}{4}$ mile) at 8 p.m. on the 14th inst.

VICTORIA INSTITUTION.

THE first examination for the Treacher Scholarship at the Victoria Institution will take place on 9th December and following days. Dr. E. A. O. Travers, Mr. L. P. Ebdon and Mr. W. W. Skeat have, we understand, undertaken to conduct the examination.

The Scholarship is valued at \$120 per annum and is tenable for two years, either at the Institution or elsewhere, subject to the approval of the Trustees. Candidates must be under the age of 17 and must have been members of the Institution for two school years. They must also prove to the satisfaction of the Trustees that they are in need of pecuniary assistance.

In addition to the above Scholarship a silver medal, presented by the Acting Resident, will at the same time be competed for. This medal will be awarded to the best scholar of the year, whether qualified to compete for the Scholarship or not. The Acting Resident has endowed a fund to provide a medal each year, which, we feel sure, will be much prized by the winner and be of value to him in after life as a certificate of merit. There are now over 200 pupils attending the Institution, and we may therefore conclude that the best scholar out of this number is a boy with good abilities, even though the standard of work cannot at present be a high one.

We hope in time to see established in Selangor a centre for the Oxford or Cambridge Local Examinations. It seems rather strange that there should be no centre for these examinations in the Straits, considering the large number of candidates presented for them in other Colonies. The Government inspections and the examinations for the Queen's Scholarships do not answer the same purpose. Most boys are now content to leave school after passing the seventh standard unless they have a very good chance of gaining a Queen's Scholarship, a very small proportion of the pupils remaining for the special classes, which are the only provision made in the Straits for secondary education. A public examination like those mentioned above, in which the average boy could gain a certificate, would, we believe, prove an inducement to many to remain longer at school, and tend to raise throughout the schools the st-

THE FANCY DRESS DANCE AT THE SELANGOR CLUB.

"WE look to you for an account of last night's dance." This alarming note was handed to me just now. Oh! Mr. Editor, how could you?

I came home late last night—or, rather, early this morning—determined to kill anybody who would dare to disturb me within the next twenty-four hours. I am a shocking wreck to-day. I feel stiff and lame and sore all over—but, it was a glorious dance, and everybody enjoyed himself or herself immensely. Everything went off most successfully.

The Dance began with a procession before the President of the Club, who was accompanied by Mrs. and Miss Rodger. The display of the many couples, in their pretty dresses, as they moved along the beautifully decorated ballroom, made a very animated and effective picture. It would have been a difficult task for any jury to award prizes for the best dresses. Mr. Steve Harper, as the "New Woman," was simply killing, and he was unanimously awarded the palm. Mr. Bellamy, as Virgil, with a laurel wreath on his head, looked like an ancient emperor. Mr. H. O. Maynard, as a "Sandwich Man," was very successful, and attracted much attention with his tempting and attractive advertisements. Mr. D'Arcy Irvine made a capital Sikh, and Dr. McClosky and his sister, Mrs. Wilson, were excellent as a Pierrot and Pierroette.

There were, besides, a lot of funny Clowns; also a crowd of charming and pretty ladies, always good-looking and attractive, but particularly so last night in their wonderful costumes, which must have given them no end of trouble; but they were all richly rewarded by the great success of their highly appreciated appearance. There were whirling round us most refreshing Queens of the Bath, majestic Queens of the Night, bewitching Gipsy Queens, charming real Witches, Peasant Maids and Milk Maids, fascinating Spanish Ladies, Jockeys, Arabs, Malay Chiefs, Indians, Sailors, Italians, Spanish Toreadors, Zouaves, Kings in all their majesty, Men in Rags, Odds and Ends, Blacks and Whites, Highlanders in kilts—in fact, too many for me to remember.

Great was the amusement when Virgil changed his laurel wreath for the Clown's hat and paraded up and down the room with the Sandwich Man's advertising boards, his white powdered face never moving a muscle, whilst everybody else was dying with laughter.

There is only one voice about last night's Dance: "It was a complete and great success." So well did the people enjoy themselves that it was found very difficult to induce them to go home; and not before the lamps were turned out could they be made to realise and to understand that it really was "All over."

But there was another safe place below—generally in vulgar language called the bar—which it was utterly impossible to clear of the jolly Selangor Boys, and I left them there singing, "We won't go home till morning." But doubtless they were soon afterwards in bed,

dreaming pleasantly of Gipsy Queens and other entrancing characters they had met at the Fancy Dress Dance at the Selangor Club.

WE give below, so far as we are able, a list of the characters impersonated :

Mrs. Anchant	Egyptian Princess
Miss Bartholomeusz	Esmeralda
Mr. C. E. Baxendale	Minute Paper
Mr. H. F. Bellamy	Virgil (Gaiety version)
Mrs. Bellamy	Marguerite of Monte Carlo
Mr. Berrington... ..	The Bugis Man
Mr. J. Brown	Eastern "Peeler"
Mr. E. V. Carey	A Smoker
Mr. Crompton	Pack of Cards
Mrs. Crompton	Maggie
Miss Cross	Sweet Seventeen
Mr. G. Cumming	M.F.H.
Mr. Day	Turk
Mrs. Ebden	Order of the Bath
Mr. Edmonds	Haji
Mrs. T. Gibson	My Grandmother
Mr. Hampshire	Scraps
Mr. A. C. Harper	Jockey
Mr. Steve Harper	The New Woman
Mrs. Harper	Milkmaid
Mr. Highet	Lord Tolloller ("Iolanthe")
Mr. Hubback	Pierrot
Mr. Hüttenbach	Neapolitan Fisherman
Mr. Irvine	Mr. Hide Seak
Mrs. Irvine	Annie Laurie
Mr. Jackson	K. Selangor Sailor
Mrs. Jarrett	Gipsy
Mrs. Ketschker	Greek Lady
Mr. R. Kindersley	Cowboy
Mr. Macreath	Italian Peasant
Mr. H. O. Maynard	Sandwich Man
Mrs. Maynard	The Witch
Mr. C. Maxwell... ..	German Peasant
Dr. McClosky	Pierrot
Mr. E. W. Neubronner	Mexican Planter
Mr. H. F. Neubronner... ..	Selangor Colours
Mr. O'Hara	Calcutta Tailor
Mrs. O'Hara	Hindustani Lady
Miss O' Hara	Delhi Princess
Miss Elsie O'Hara	Persian Girl
Mrs. Parsons	Night
The Masters Parsons	Sailors, R.N.
Mr. Rendle	Piebald
Mrs. Reyne	Old Mother Hubbard
Miss Maud Richards	Breton Peasant Girl
Mr. Skeat	Orang Kaya, Telok Blanga
Mrs. Stafford	Lady's Attendant (period Louis XV.)
Mrs. Syers	Spanish Lady
Mr. Trotter	Black Watch
Mr. Alan Wilson	Highlander
Mrs. Wilson	Pierroette
Mr. A. Yzelman... ..	Fancy Costume, 19th Century
Mr. L. Yzelman... ..	Haji Mustapha.

LOCAL SPORT.

THE GRIFFINS.

I AM extremely glad now that I refrained from writing anything about the griffins on their arrival, for although I was not one of the many who condemned them utterly, yet I must own that I hardly hoped to see them turn out as well as the majority of them are doing. There is now not the least doubt that we have got some really very nice galloways among the crowd, who already look well worth their money.

Out of the batch of 20 there were three which arrived in really good condition, and are still far ahead of the others so far as looks are concerned. These are a bay mare, owned by Mr. King; a chestnut mare, owned by Captain Syers; and a grey mare, owned by Mr. Tait.

Amongst the others, however, there are several which are fast catching up to them: notably, a bay mare, owned by Mr. Tambusamy Pillai; a bay mare, owned by Messrs. Stonor and Scott; a brown gelding, owned by Mr. Browne; and a black mare, owned by Messrs. King and Cumming. This last was one of the worst-conditioned of the lot, but she is picking up wonderfully fast and in another couple of months' time will be, I fancy, a valuable animal—two bay mares, owned, respectively, by Mr. G. Cumming and the Railway Kongsis, who were simply bags of bones when drawn for, are now looking quite presentable; in fact, one of the part owners of the latter informed me in confidence that "with a dandy weight up he thought his would just about win." What a "dandy weight" is, I am not quite sure; but it sounds all right, and I hope the prophecy will be fulfilled. Nearly all of these which I have mentioned are being regularly ridden on the roads, and the majority of them make excellent hacks.

Mr. Charlton Maxwell is looking after a couple, a bay mare and a chestnut gelding; both of these horses are coming on nicely, the former is a racy-looking little mare and the latter, though not taking to the eye, will, I think, be useful. Mr. Harper, I believe, is to be condoled with, as up to the present, he tells me, he has been afraid to remove the props from his draw, which is a brown gelding. Messrs. Lyons, Hone and Nicholas have, I hear, drawn useful-looking beasts, but these I have hardly seen since their arrival. The up-country people are, it is said, very sweet on a black mare owned by Mr. Clarke, of Kajang, but as I have not seen her since the draw I can't say much about her, except that as far as I remember she was a fine big-framed beast, with plenty of bone but very low in condition.

The programme of our next meeting will, I hope, be very shortly published. The Committee have already drawn one up which will be put before a general meeting in the course of a week or so. The principal event will, I fancy, be the Miners' Purse—a handicap for all horses, value \$1,000. This should bring up some good horses—provided, of course, that the owners are satisfied with their handicaps. It is said that Mr. G. Tait will be asked to officiate as handicapper, and if he will kindly consent to do so I do not think that we could

procure a better man, as he has a large and varied knowledge of racing and will also probably see most of the first-class horses running in Penang, Taiping and Kinta.

All of these meetings will take place before ours, which will not be till the 28th and 30th March—that is to say, a week before the Sungei Ujong meeting. This will give ample time for horses and ponies to come up here from Kinta and then walk overland to Sungei Ujong, arriving there without incurring the risk of an extra voyage by sea. Besides the Miners' Purse, several other cups and purses have been kindly promised—viz., the Resident's Cup, the Planters' Purse, the Australian Purse and the *Mercury Cup*; in fact, everything points to a most successful meeting if only owners will send up their horses from Singapore and the other Native States, as it is a lamentable fact that we must almost entirely depend on outside support, having nothing here with any pretensions to being a race-horse.

However, there is lots of time yet before our meeting to get up a decent horse from Singapore, and when it is seen that there will be good prizes to run for, one or two local representatives may be forthcoming. The course is rapidly getting into good order and it is quite possible to canter all the way round, winding up with a sprint down the straight, which is first-class going. The more horses I see on the course the better I shall be pleased, as this is about the only way to find out any rotten ground that may be there. Up to the present no accidents have occurred, and as far as one can judge the track is practically sound.—THE MAN IN THE LALANG.

SELANGOR HUNT CLUB.

It was a pity that more members of the Selangor Hunt did not turn up on the morning of the 10th to enjoy the very excellent sport provided for them at that most certain of all sure finds, the well-known Hawthornden jungles. It was a grand morning for a hunt, very dull with a nice cool breeze, and everything dripping with dew. Captain Syers and Doctor Travers were, however, the only representatives to meet the pack on the road between Hawthornden and Lincoln.

The veteran Yacub having advised trying the jungle on the left hand side of the road, the two guns posted themselves on a small lalang rise opposite to where the dogs were put in. The dogs had hardly entered the jungle when a large stag broke back and passed close by the dog-boy, who hit him badly in the side. The deer running across the open came to bay in a water hole at the edge of the opposite jungle where it was finished off by the dog-boy, but not before it had killed "Cheras," one of the best dogs in the pack, by a kick from its powerful hind leg. It was unfortunate that such a grand stag should have been shot by the dog-boy, and had any other members of the hunt been present one of the guns would have been posted just at the place where the deer broke cover. Shortly after the death of the stag, Captain Syers saw a large doe standing quietly looking at him from among the bushes, some 200 yards off,

not having his rifle with him it was no good firing and a few minutes afterwards a second deer appeared among some cattle in the lalang quite in the open. The body of this last comer being covered by a bullock, Captain Syers could only try a longish shot at its head, with buck shot, on receiving which it leaped up into the air and rushed into the jungle.

The dogs by this time had been collected together and were again put into the same place. It was not long before one of them gave tongue, and the whole pack in full cry worked rapidly down towards the Bungalow, turning at the end and bringing their quarry back round the edge of the jungle. Doctor Travers, running back, caught a glimpse of a small deer crossing a bare patch, took a snap shot at it about 70 yards away, and hit it in the jaw. The same deer again broke cover about 25 yards from Captain Syers, who, seeing the blood coming from its mouth, gave it two charges of buckshot in the side to finish it, but it got away. The dogs were at once put on, and hunted it for a long distance, but the deer was never bagged. This was a bit of bad luck, had the 500 express bullet struck it anywhere but in the mouth there would have been no difficulty in catching it.

After luncheon with Mr. J. Toynbee, who now reigns over Hawthornden during the absence of his brother, the stag was cut up and the head presented to the host to adorn the walls of Hawthornden Bungalow. A 12-bore bullet was found in an old wound in the side of the deer, and from its composition it is supposed that this was fired by Mr. Leech, who had a shot at a stag in the same place last February and who was much chaffed at the time for scoring a miss.

FOOTBALL.

THE rain having at length diminished, a start has been made once more with football. On Wednesday, 6th November, a game was played between the "Fire Brigade" and the "World." The latter got up an overwhelmingly strong team—in fact, one of the strongest elevens that has been played in Selangor for many months. It was not difficult to predict the result, as the Brigade were minus several of their good men. After a pleasant game the World won by 4 goals to nil.

On 14th November, "Officials" met the "Non-Officials." This is a match which is always looked upon with great interest. Everyone was pleased to see how well the Non-Officials turned out. Thanks, however, are due to Mr. Dougal for this, as he, with characteristic energy is again taking up football and stimulating others by his example to "keep the ball rolling." The Officials, on the contrary, could only muster a scratch team, which presented a marked contrast to the well-ordered array of their opponents. Of the former some had been injured slightly at some remote previous date, some were absent and some were apathetic. The result was, as might have been expected, a win by the "Nons" by 3 goals to nil. Of the 3 goals 2 should certainly have been saved by the goal keeper, Dalglish, who appeared to be somewhat off colour, but the play throughout was certainly in favour of the winning side. It is hoped that a

return match will be played shortly, when strenuous efforts will be made by the officials to give their opponents a little more trouble. The following were the teams:—

NON-OFFICIALS.—*Goal*, Phillips; *Backs*, Cook and Tollemache; *Half-backs*, Rendle, Skinner and C. Glassford; *Forwards*, Hampshire, Hawes, Dougal, Meikle and Mitchell.

OFFICIALS.—*Goal*, Dalglish; *Backs*, Scott and Roe; *Half-backs*, Ebden, Charter and LaBrooy; *Forwards*, Brown, Lott, Day, Maxwell and Pereira.

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SELANGOR PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

MINUTES of a general meeting, held at the Selangor Club, on Saturday, 26th October, 1895. Present: Messrs. E. V. Carey (Chairman), C. Meikle, E. B. Skinner, R. Meikle, R. Kindersley, R. C. Tollemache, L. Dougal, H. Rowe, M. Stonor, C. Glassford, B. Nissen, F. A. Hurth, H. M. Darby, H. Hüttenbach, C. Jackson and Tom Gibson (Hon. Secretary).

1. The notice calling the meeting having been taken as read, the minutes of the last general meeting were read and confirmed.

2. Mr. Forsyth, having expressed his wish to retire from the Committee as he no longer intended to reside in Selangor, Mr. H. Hüttenbach was elected in his place.

3. Correspondence with the Perak Planters' Association, *re* the proposed Central Planters' Association, having been read, the Chairman explained to the meeting that, taking advantage of the presence of Mr. T. H. Hill (Chairman of the S. U. P. A.) in Kuala Lumpur, the Committee had invited him to meet them on the 15th October, and it was then resolved that the Hon. Secretary should write to the S. U. P. A. and arrange a convenient date for representatives of the two Associations to meet in Kuala Lumpur and that notices be sent to planters in Johore and Perak.

4. Copies of a letter from the Acting Government Secretary *re* restrictions on the recruiting of free labour and draft of proposed reply to same were circulated amongst the members previous to the meeting, and the proposed reply, with a few slight alterations, was agreed to unanimously.

5. A number of applications from people in India for the post of recruiting agent were laid on the table, and it was explained that each applicant had been informed that nothing could be done until the restrictions against paid agents had been removed.

6. Mr. Carey, in announcing his intention to appeal against a recent judgment of the Chief Magistrate's in a crimping case, explained to the members his object in bringing the matter before the Association. It was, he felt, a question which affected all employers of labour and if he could put his case to the Resident unanimously supported by the S. P. A. it was certain that every consideration would be paid to his petition for a rehearing of his action against the employees of the P. W. D. Mr. Hüttenbach then proposed the following resolution:—

"That this Association strongly approves of and supports Mr. Carey's appeal to the Resident for a rehearing of his case Carey *vs.* Sinapah krani and Sinapah mandore." This, having been seconded by Mr. Skinner, was put to the meeting and carried unanimously.

7. Mr. G. Shepherd was elected a member of the Association.

8. Read a letter from Acting Government Secretary forwarding copy of a circular from the Editor of *The Produce World* which was sent to the Association by the suggestion of His Excellency the Governor.

9. Mr. Hüttenbach referred to his recent visit to Europe and assured the members that the existence of the S. P. A. was recognized and its operations followed with interest far beyond Selangor. He considered the Chairman's visit to India had been a distinctly good move, and congratulated members upon the increase in their numbers and the improved position of the Association.

The Chairman, in thanking Mr. Hüttenbach for his remarks, said he was sure every member present was glad to hear that the Association was well thought of in the outside world, and as a proof that it was recognized as a representative body in the Straits, he need only refer them to the correspondence with Government now on the table.

The meeting terminated with a vote of thanks to the chair at 11.35 a.m.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our Correspondents.]

MOUNTAIN RAILWAYS.

To the Editor of the Selangor Journal.

DEAR SIR,—Knowing that you and your readers are, or should be, keenly interested in the solution of the question of establishing your port of Klang as the port *par excellence* of the Federated Native States of the Peninsula by the extension of the State Railway system across the mountains that at present bar the way to golden Pahang, it has appeared to me that you might be willing to give publicity in your *Journal* to the following brief notes on some European mountain lines which have of late come under my notice.

I.—The Festiniog, or "Toy" Railway, North Wales, from Blaenau-Festiniog to Portmadoc, is $13\frac{1}{2}$ miles in length, Festiniog being 700 feet above the port. Average gradient, 1 in 92; maximum, 1 in 68; minimum curve radius, $1\frac{3}{4}$ chains! gauge, 1 ft. $11\frac{1}{2}$ in.

The locomotives in use are the Fairlie "double-bogie" engines, largest driving wheel 2 ft. 4 in., prevailing size 2 ft. The cost—including a mile of breakwater, half a mile of tunnelling and rolling stock—was about £6,000, or say \$60,000, a mile. Considerable sums were

subsequently spent on improvements, but the line was a great financial success, earning 30 per cent. or more. Freight, chiefly passengers, and slate from the Blaenau-Festiniog quarries—which you should procure for the roofing of your public buildings and bungalows.

The line was engineered by Mr. Spooner, grandfather of your State Engineer, and attracted much attention at the time; so much so that in 1876 a Commission, headed by the late Duke of Sutherland and Count Bobrinskoy, and representing Great Britain, Russia, France, Sweden, Norway, Switzerland and Germany, visited the works and inspected the engines, then a novelty. "The line is cut into and embanked upon the steep slope of the valley, and some of the breast-walls are 60 feet in height and are sharply curved." The authorised speed on the curves is 13 miles an hour, but a speed of 30 miles is considered quite safe. I recently travelled up and down this railway, and enjoyed the most lovely scenery of mountain and valley. The down journey, with stops at several stations, occupied a little over one hour.

II.—Snowdon Railway, under construction, to connect Llanberis with the summit of Snowdon. The height of the mountain is 3,560 feet above sea level, and that of Llanberis 360 feet, the difference being 3,200 feet. The first sod was cut in December, 1894, but the line will probably not be completed before the beginning of 1896. The distance between the two points will be about $4\frac{3}{4}$ miles and the rail gauge is 2 ft. $7\frac{1}{2}$ in. Maximum gradient, 1 in $5\frac{1}{2}$; minimum curve radius, 4 chains. This line has only a passing interest for Selangor, as it is not an "adhesion" or "friction" railway, but a modification of the Swiss Abt system, with a rack between the rails, composed of solid double cast-steel cogs. I inspected one of the locomotives at Llanberis; they have been obtained from Switzerland and are driven with two double pinions. The ascent is to be made in 50 minutes.

III.—The Landquart-Davos Platz Mountain Railway, Switzerland, said to be the highest "adhesion" or "friction" railway in Europe, and the description of line which you will eventually require for Selangor and Pahang. The starting point, Landquart, is at an elevation of 1,730 feet above the sea, and the terminus at Davos Platz at 5,115 feet. The highest point attained is at the station of Wolfgang, not far from Davos, 5,357 feet above the sea, or 3,627 feet above the starting point, Landquart. From Mr. Martin's valuable paper in a former number of the *Journal*, I gather that the elevation of the Devonia Pass into Pahang is 2,710 feet above sea level, and 2,570 feet above the present terminus at Kuala Kubu, from which it is distant 21 miles.

The length of the line is $31\frac{1}{2}$ miles, and the gauge is the one metre, or 3 ft. $3\frac{1}{8}$ in., as is the case with the Selangor State Railway. The line has been solidly constructed, further important extensions being in view, and is splendidly equipped. The 1st class corridor carriages are most comfortable, having large windows, excellently planned so as to afford a maximum range of view to the traveller, and the views are superb and far beyond the powers of my pen to describe. The arrangements, also, for heating all the coaches by steam are complete, but would not be required in your sunny climate. While you, in Selangor, have to contend with a tropical rainfall and consequent landslips, remember that the Swiss engineers have had to battle with avalanches, landslips and the snow which, for about half the year, covers that elevated region to a depth of 3 feet, and periodically converts the mountain streams into raging torrents. The total cost of construction was $7\frac{1}{2}$ million francs, or £300,000, the cost per kilometre, 150,000 francs, or about £9,524, or \$95,240 a mile. Work was commenced in March, 1888; in the autumn of 1889 the first section of $20\frac{1}{2}$ miles was open to traffic, and by the summer of 1890 the whole $31\frac{1}{2}$ miles were completed. This is a rate of progress unattainable under the conditions of labour and climate obtaining in Selangor.

At present four trains run a day, each way, the time occupied in the ascent, including stops at no less than 16 stations between Landquart and Davos Platz, is $3\frac{1}{2}$ hours, and for the descent $2\frac{1}{2}$.

The steepest gradient is 45 per 1,000, or $2\frac{1}{4}$ in 50, and the minimum curve radius 100 metres, or a little under 5 chains.

To the best of my recollection there are only three or four tunnels, but at Klosters the direction of the train is reversed by means of a spiral tunnel $\frac{1}{4}$ mile in length. The bridging also is heavy.

The locomotives are of the Mogul type, with three connected axles, and a trailing axle in front.

Line.	Length in miles.	Gauge, feet.	Max. gradient.	Min. curve.	Max. elev'tion.	Total cost.	Cost per mile.
Festiniog ...	$13\frac{1}{4}$	1' 11 $\frac{1}{4}$ "	1 in 68	1 $\frac{3}{4}$ ch.	700'	\$795,000	\$60,000
Snowdon ...	$4\frac{3}{4}$	2' 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	1 " 5 $\frac{1}{2}$	4 " "	3,200'	?	?
Landquart-Davos	$31\frac{1}{2}$	3' 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	2 $\frac{1}{4}$ " 50	5 " "	3,627'	3,000,000	95,240

The dollar in the above table is taken as equivalent to 2s.

You have doubtless noted the fact that the British Government hopes to get the railway through to Uganda—650 miles, highest elevation 8,000 to 9,000 feet above sea—for £1,755,000, or £2,700 or \$27,000 a mile, inclusive of cost of rolling stock, buildings, etc. This appears somewhat a sanguine estimate, does it not? But the cost of labour there is lower than with you.

Yours faithfully,

ENGLAND, 8th October, 1895.

W. H. TREACHER.

NOTES AND NEWS.

MR. RODGER, on Friday last, the 22nd inst., opened the Tung Shin Hospital, Pudoh Road, in the presence of the Acting Resident, a large company of ladies and gentlemen and the leading Chinese Towkays invited by the Captain China (Towkay Yap Kwan Seng) and Towkay Loke Yew, the Trustees for the institution. The buildings were decorated with flags and greenery, and the Captain China's tent, as usual on these occasions, sheltered two long tables spread with good things. According to Mr. Rodger's Administration Report for 1894, "This institution consists of a hospital and out-door dispensary, where sick Chinese receive medical treatment from their own doctors, and an additional ward provides free shelter for the destitute. The whole initial expenditure and cost of maintenance are borne by private individuals, whilst the institution itself is entirely managed by a Chinese Committee, under the Chairmanship of the Captain China, although it is at all times open to the inspection of the Residency Surgeon and the Chinese Secretary." We are indebted to the kindness of Mr. Hap Lang, Secretary to the Captain China, for the account of the origin of the institution, and the report of the speeches, printed on another page. A list of subscribers sent will be published in our next number, and a long list of those present has been unavoidably crowded out.

H. E. THE GOVERNOR is expected to arrive in Kuala Lumpur on or about the 13th proximo, travelling overland from Seremban. Lady Mitchell will accompany him.

ONE of the London illustrated weeklies, *Black and White*, of the 26th ultimo, gives a picture, "Governor Maxwell and his Suite." The likeness of Mr. Maxwell is excellent.

MR. W. H. TREACHER, whose notes on "Mountain Railways," published in our last issue, has aroused an interest in some of the Straits papers, will not be back from leave until early in next July.—Mr. Vane, writing under date 31.10.95, tells of an excellent holiday at home; but complains of the cold and fogs, to escape which he will winter at Montreux, in Switzerland. He met Mr. French in

town in the best of health and spirits.—Miss Carpmael arrived in Kuala Lumpur on Sunday last on a visit to her brother, and will probably remain in Selangor for a few months.—Mr. W. Walsh, who, after his work in the jungle on the Pahang Road trace from the ridge down into Pahang, took a trip to Rangoon, returned to Kuala Lumpur last week.—Mr. A. F. Martin, who suffered from ill-health in Siam, is now in Perak, where he will, it is reported, conduct the Sunkei-Slim Road Survey. He is contributing an article, entitled "Along the Bangkok-Korat Railway," to the *Perak Pioneer*.—Mr. Lindsay paid a flying visit to Kuala Lumpur last week, arriving on the 17th and leaving again on the 19th, Mrs. Lindsay being in Singapore. We are very sorry to hear that both Mr. and Mrs. Lindsay suffered severely from fever soon after arriving in Bangkok. We understand that they have returned to New Zealand.—The Rev. C. Letessier, who for the benefit of his health made a trip to Hongkong, returned, after two months' absence, on the 12th inst. Father A. Carteson, of Singapore, has been in charge of the Church and Mission of St. John the Evangelist during Father Letessier's absence.—Mr. C. Foster, the Agent of Messrs. Howarth, Erskine, Ltd., for the Waterworks and a portion of the Pahang Trunk Road, had sufficiently recovered from his recent illness to return to Kuala Lumpur on Sunday last.—During the coming week Mr. J. Wellford (Chief Surveyor) and Mr. Robson (Acting D.O., Ulu Langat) will be going on long leave of absence.—Mr. W. W. Douglas, Collector and Magistrate, Port Dickson, will take up the duties of his new appointment, District Officer, Ulu Langat, at the beginning of December.

A MEETING of the Selangor Branch of the Church Work Association was held at the Residency on Monday, the 18th inst. Some twenty ladies were present, and Mrs. Rodger was elected Vice-President.

TOWKAY LOKE YEW is the successful tenderer for the Kuala Lumpur District "Gambling, Spirit and Pawnbroking Farm," for a period of three years from 1st January next; as well as for the "Opium Import Duty Farm," for the State, for a period of two years.

ON the 9th instant a dinner at Mr. Kennelley's was given by the Locomotive Department of the S.G.R. on the occasion of the departure of Mr. Harry Cliffe for England. Mr. Highet was in the chair and there were present Mrs. Smart, Mrs. Rae, Mr. Day, Mr. Tearle, Mr. Parsons and some fifteen other friends of Mr. Cliffe. After dinner Mr. Highet proposed the toast of the evening, to which

Mr. Cliffe responded. "The Ladies" was replied to by Mr. Day; Mr. Tearle replied for the Traffic Department, and Mr. Prentice for the Locomotive; while Mr. Highet took the opportunity, while replying for the "Railway Officials," to thank one and all for the loyal manner in which they had served him during his late acting appointment; the high compliments he paid were thoroughly appreciated by those present. Songs were sung by Messrs. Tearle, Moffatt, Durie, and others, and "Auld lang syne" brought to an end a very sociable evening.

THE closing time for receiving tenders for the 5th Section of the Pahang Trunk Road was the 24th instant, and although no acceptance has yet been made, we understand that the lowest was that of Messrs. Nicholas and Walsh; a combination of names which gives confidence of good work. We wish them every success.

AN appointment, which should prove of great value to both doctors and patients, has recently been made by the Selangor Government—that of a Nurse-Matron to the General Hospital, Kuala Lumpur. At the beginning of the month Mrs. Abrams, a trained nurse, arrived from Singapore to fill the post. In addition, Mrs. Strugnell, Mrs. Abram's mother and a nurse well-known in Singapore, has come to take up her abode in Kuala Lumpur, and will be available for attending sickness and taking charge of cases at patient's own houses. A nurse of this description has been much needed for some time.

THE Chaplain desires it to be known that during Advent there will be special Evensong at St. Mary's Church on Thursdays at 5.30 p.m., followed by a short sermon. The Sunday services are: 8 a.m., Holy Communion; 8.30 a.m., Matins and Litaney or sermon; 9.30 a.m., Sunday School; Bible Class for men and boys; 6.30 p.m., Evensong and sermon.

AT a meeting of the Church Committee it was resolved that Messrs. Riley, Hargreaves and Co. be requested to furnish an estimate of the probable cost of providing the Church with punkahs. The Hon. Secretary, Mr. St. L. Parsons, drew attention to the non-payment of certain sums put down on the Church Building Fund list. The Committee hope to receive these subscriptions without delay; the names and amounts having appeared in the *Selangor Journal* among the lists of subscribers published from time to time. The Hon. Secretary also wishes it to be known that further subscriptions are necessary to defray the Church expenses. Something like \$70 a month

is needed for this purpose, but at present only a sum of between \$30 and \$40 is subscribed. Mr. Parsons will be glad to receive the names of those who are willing to render help in this direction by becoming monthly subscribers.

THE new steam launch, the *Abdul Samad*, built by Messrs Riley, Hargreaves and Co., of Singapore, reached Klang on the 4th inst. and, after being cleaned and put shipshape, went to Jugra on the 13th inst., to shew herself to H.H. the Sultan before being put to regular work. His Highness proceeded in the launch up the river as far as Tanjong Duablas, and then steamed down the river as far as Kuala Langat; the trip taking about four hours and a half. His Highness expressed himself as greatly pleased with the launch. The new boat is built of teak, and her dimensions are—length, between perpendiculars, 65 ft.; breadth, moulded, 12 ft.; depth, moulded, 6 ft. 3 in.; draft, aft, 4 ft. 11 in. Her engines, made in Singapore, are of the same class as the *Enid*, and the arrangements and fittings of the two launches are pretty much on the same lines. Her measured mile speed is 10 knots an hour.

ALTHOUGH there is no "seasonable weather" out here to call to mind the approach of Christmas, nor, in Kuala Lumpur at any rate, any of those gaily-dressed shop windows which at this time of year are such a feature of every English town, we have had for a few years past one event the preparation for which makes us remember we are nearing the season of goodwill—we refer to the Annual Christmas Tree Entertainment for the Children—an event which we confidently hope to see grow in extent and importance year by year. In this connection a meeting of the English-speaking ladies of Kuala Lumpur was called for the 21st inst., to make the preliminary arrangements. Mrs. Rodger presided, and there were present about twenty ladies. Various details were discussed and the following ladies were elected by ballot to form a Committee:—Mrs. Chartres, Mrs. Haines, Mrs. Harper, Mrs. Maynard, Mrs. Spooner and Mrs. Syers. A vote of thanks to Mrs. Rodger for presiding brought the general meeting to an end. A meeting of the Committee was then held, and its first business was to appoint Mr. A. R. Venning as Secretary. The selection of toys furnished by Messrs. Pritchard and Co., of Penang, having given so much satisfaction on the last occasion, it was resolved to place an order for \$250 worth of toys with that firm at once. Mrs. Rodger informed the Committee that the wife of the late Towkay Ah Yok had kindly offered to give a tree. It was resolved that, with the consent of the Headmaster, the Entertainment should again

be held in the Victoria Institution. Subscription lists will be circulated, and it was resolved that donations be limited to a maximum of \$2. The Committee then adjourned.

We are sure the Committee will receive substantial support in their endeavours to give the youngsters a good time, for there are few things to which one can subscribe a dollar with such certainty of its affording happiness as will be the case in this instance. As the "third city of the Peninsula" now boasts a host of children among whom \$250 worth of toys will soon be swallowed up, those who put down their names early will doubly earn the thanks of the Committee, and so help to avoid placing the Hon. Secretary, so far as the dollars are concerned, in the position of the young man in the song, "E dunno where 'e are."

THE Committee of the Selangor Turf Club met at the Selangor Club at 5.30 p.m. on Saturday last and finally settled the programme to be placed before the general meeting; they also prepared the local rules for the Club. At 6 o'clock the general meeting was held and the programme for the races—on the 28th and 30th March—was passed with certain slight additions. On the 1st day there will be seven races and on the 2nd eight; there will be three races for the griffins, and there is every reason to believe that they will be sporting events. The programme will be printed in the course of a few days when members will be able to judge of the fare to be placed before them at the end of March. The consideration of the local rules was left over for the next general meeting.

It is just as well to know that something beneficial can be placed to the credit of the recent heavy rains. The Residency Surgeon, in his report as Health Officer for the town of Kuala Lumpur, writes:—"I am glad to be able to report an entire absence of infectious or epidemic disease. The general health of the community has been good, no form of sickness having been especially prevalent. The rainfall during the month was 23 inches, which is without precedent, and the temperature rather cooler than usual. I am of opinion that the general health of the inhabitants is never better than during heavy rains, all the drains being well flushed and the wells full."

THE demand for land for coffee planting in Kuala Selangor continues as brisk as ever; not long since fourteen applications were sent in in one day. Messrs. King and Rochfort are busily engaged in surveying in the district, and it is anticipated that a sale by auction, on the same lines as the Klang sales, will be held before long.

The fare for hire of jinirikishas has been altered to a uniform rate of five cents for a half mile, or part of a half mile; the previous rate authorised by last year's Regulation was three cents per half mile, except between the hours of 9 p.m. and 5 a.m., when the rate was four cents per half mile. The charge for a day's hire is unaltered—that is, 80 cents.

By an amended By-law of the Sanitary Board, registered hand carts travelling at night must carry at least one hurricane lamp or other sufficient light, which if only one is carried must be fixed on the front right hand side. This will do away with the dangerous practice of carrying a damar torch, pieces of which frequently fall off and are left flaring on the roadway to startle horses, to say nothing of the risk of fire.

At last something is to be done with regard to straying pigs in town limits; after the 1st of next month those found at large will be destroyed by the Police. The turn of the goats will come in time.

THE STRAITS TRADING COMPANY have issued their balance sheet for the six months ending 30th September, with the following report of the directors, signed by the Chairman, Mr. J. Sword:—"Gentlemen,—Your directors now beg to submit the accounts for six months ended 30th September last; being the first half of the business year, 1895-96. The net profit for that period is \$153,814, which, with the balance of \$21,102 brought forward from last half-year makes \$174,916 to be dealt with. From this sum your directors recommend the payment of an interim dividend of 6% for the half-year, absorbing \$75,000, and that \$25,000 be put to Reserve Fund, which will then stand at \$150,000, leaving a balance of \$74,916 to be carried forward. The policy of paying higher prices for ore and charging less for smelting has answered expectations, as, in spite of active Chinese competition both in Kinta and Selangor, the profits and volume of business both shew a considerable increase."

THE *B. N. B. Herald* quotes a letter written by Mr. Patteson, of Sapang, which tends to shew that the old Adam is very much alive in the Dyak of to-day: a man, with a grievance of a financial nature, made a complaint to Mr. Patteson, who advised him to bring the man along and he (Mr. Patteson) would make him pay. The complainant replied, "Ah, Tuan, it is too far. I will go back and take his head, and that will save both you and me trouble."

THE T'UNG SHIN INSTITUTION.

THE following is an account of the institution, its origin, object and development. In 1882, finding that many sick were scattered over the place and afraid to go to hospital, and considering the trouble the Government had to induce them to go to hospital, Towkay Yap Kwan Seng started an institution of his own, called P'ui Shin T'ong, to provide the sick with medical advice and drugs, he also provided coffins and money for burial expenses. The institution engaged two Chinese doctors. Later on, owing to the continual and rapid increase of the sick and needy it was thought advisable that the institution should take a permanent and enlarged form and be jointly supported by the Chinese community. With this in view Captain Yap Kwan Seng consulted the late Towkay Ah Yok, who not only concurred in the opinion, but promised to take the matter in hand. Unfortunately, in 1892, before anything could be done, Towkay Ah Yok died, and nothing was accomplished until recently, when the Captain China again brought the subject forward before the leading Chinese towkays; and they supported his views. The name of the Institution was then changed to T'ung Shin T'ong,—i.e., T'ung Shin Hospital; and the institution is to be henceforth carried on jointly by the Chinese towkays. The approximate annual expenditure of the original institution, the P'ui Shin T'ong, as borne by the Captain China alone, was between \$4,000 and \$5,000, and during epidemics as much as \$8,000 to \$9,000."

Mrs. Rodger having, as stated in our first Note, formally declared the Hospital Wards open and the visitors having been conducted through them, Mr. Hup Lang, at the request of the Trustees (the Captain China and Towkay Loke Yew) and other representatives of the Chinese community present, said :

"Sir, Ladies and Gentlemen,—We are much pleased with your kind presence here this evening on the occasion of the opening of the T'ung Shin Hospital and thank you most cordially for it. To Mrs. Rodger our best thanks are due for her great kindness in undertaking the performance of the ceremony of declaring the hospital open. That the hospital is now open must be welcome news to the sick and the needy. The institution was founded in 1882 and has since been carried on by Captain Yap Kwan Seng alone. He now thanks God that the working of the hospital is henceforth to be jointly carried on by the Chinese Towkays; which, of course, means more permanence for the establishment. Christianity enjoins us to feed the hungry, to clothe the naked, and to visit the sick. The Acting British Resident has therefore in his great considerateness very properly requested that food may be supplied to the inmates of the hospital. To make provision for this, the Chinese Towkays have agreed to pay a tax of \$4 per chest on opium besides the usual duty; the tax to go to the hospital. A petition to that effect has been drawn up and will be sent to the Resident in due time. We sincerely hope that the Government will sanction the measure suggested. We must also thank those who take

an interest in the welfare of the hospital and those who have contributed so many useful articles."

The Acting Resident, in reply, said:—"Captain China and Towkays of Selangor, my wife has asked me to express to you in Malay, on her behalf, the very great pleasure it has given her to open the Tung Shin Hospital. The present Captain China is the third holder of that appointment whom I have known in Selangor, and I am glad to meet again to-day many other Towkays, whom I have also known for the last thirteen years. Most of you were present at the ceremony of opening the first Selangor Railway in 1886, and many of you have seen Selangor grow from a small into a comparatively large and important State. The rapidity of this growth is in no slight degree attributable to the commercial enterprise, the unflagging industry and the orderly conduct of the Chinese community, but I have pleasure in bearing testimony to qualities of an even higher order shewn by your race in Selangor, and in fully recognising the ready and generous assistance you have always afforded in promoting the general welfare of the community at large, irrespective of race and creed. I will only mention in this connection, the Victoria Institution, to commemorate the Jubilee of H.M. the Queen, the Anglo-Chinese School at Klang, the Tai Wah Hospital, and the Ambulance Service; but I am sure that all members of other nationalities who are present here to-day will agree with me in thinking that every public or private philanthropic enterprise in Selangor is assured beforehand of receiving the liberal support of the Chinese community. As your spokesman has informed us to-day, the present institution was founded several years ago, mainly through the instrumentality of the present Captain China, to afford shelter, and, if necessary, medical treatment to indigent persons, when temporarily thrown out of work, through sickness or otherwise, and to thus prevent them from wandering about the streets as vagrant beggars. He has not, however, dwelt on what is, to us Europeans, the most interesting feature of the institution—namely, that the patients admitted will be treated solely by Chinese doctors and with Chinese medicines. As far as I am aware, this is the first institution of the kind that has ever been established in the Malay Peninsula, and the results of the experiment will be watched with much interest and attention. You have here good hospital buildings, with outhouses, etc., fitted to accommodate 120 persons, and built on an excellent site. It is very possible that the knowledge of medical science—on which the last word will probably never be said—may be appreciably increased by a study of Chinese methods of treatment, and the effects of Chinese drugs, which have been in vogue among your countrymen for many hundreds of years; and I am sure that no one will watch your proceedings with a more friendly interest than the Residency Surgeon and his colleagues, whom I am glad to see present with us to-day. Your own "Sin Sangs," on the other hand, will doubtless find much to learn from the methods of treatment, especially from the point of view of general hygiene, pursued in the Government Hospitals. In conclusion, I will only add that I feel sure that this institution will be productive of much good

in reducing the number of decrepit vagrants; that it is deserving of gratitude from the poorer classes of the community and of encouragement at the hands of the Government. I trust that you will all live for many years to see the benefits resulting from this manifestation of your liberality and kindly feelings and that your sons and grandsons will follow the example of their ancestors, and be actuated by similar feelings in the future."

The Capt. China then asked for Mrs. Rodger's permission to apply to the Sanitary Board, that the name of the road leading to the hospital be changed to her name, in honour and remembrance of her opening the institution. He also asked her to plant a young Chinese fir tree, which she gracefully did in the centre of the hospital grounds, as a memento of the prominent part she took in the ceremony. The tree is believed to be capable of existing a thousand years, and is therefore a fitting emblem for the institution, as indicating long duration. He hoped that whenever he sees the plant, it may remind him of the happy occasion and of Mrs. Rodgers' kindness.



LOCAL SPORT.

RIFLE ASSOCIATION.

THE Annual General Meeting of the Selangor Rifle Association was held at the Selangor Club on Wednesday, 20th November, Captain F. W. Lyons (President) in the chair. There were a good number of members present.

The Report and Balance Sheet for the year ending 30th September (of which each member had received a printed copy) were taken as read and passed unanimously.

The election of officers for the ensuing year was then proceeded with, and resulted as follows:—President, Capt. F. W. Lyons; Vice-President, Dr. Travers; Hon. Secretary and Treasurer, Mr. J. Brown; Committee, Messrs. H. G. Carpmael, R. Charter, C. R. Cormac, W. Crompton, and W. D. Scott.

Dr. Travers brought forward a motion to the effect that the Association should adopt a close season for rifle shooting. He was of opinion that if his suggestion were carried into effect, and all matches and competitions arranged to take place during the open season, a much keener interest would be shewn by the members generally in the shooting, and more progress would be made in the six months than under the present arrangement during the whole year. In fact he was strongly in favour of a close season for all sports, in their turn, so that they should not interfere one with the other, and he looked forward with hope to the time when this idea would be carried out in Selangor. This was seconded, and after some discussion, in which it was pointed out that the Morris Tube Range would be available for practice during the close season, the motion

was carried unanimously, the Committee being left to decide the time during which the range should be closed.

Some general business was discussed and the meeting closed with a vote of thanks to the chairman.

The following is the Committee's Annual Report:—

"1. The number of members at the commencement of the year was 31, the present number is 38. 2. A statement of accounts, which has been audited by Mr. M. A. Hawes, shews a satisfactory state of affairs. 3. The expenditure has been made: firstly, for necessary expenses, such as payment of markers; secondly, for reducing the price of ammunition; thirdly, for prizes for competition. 4. A competition for prizes given by the President and Vice-President in November last was won by R. Charter and W. D. Scott. 5. A cup, value \$100, was presented for competition by Mr. Quay Guan Hin; and another, value \$50, by the Malay States Tin Mining Company (per Mr. Hone); these competitions are still in progress. 6. The following matches were arranged by Dr. Travers and resulted satisfactorily: (a) 17th June, H.M.S. *Mercury*, resulting in a tie, each team scoring 398. (b) 13th August, North Borneo. Selangor, with 7 men, scored 567; North Borneo, with 8 men, 551. 7. Dr. Travers and Mr. Carpmael each presented a Morris Tube and ammunition to the Association. 8. The thanks of the Association are due to the Police Department for the use of the Rifle Range. 9. The Committee wish to express their thanks to the Hon. Secretary, Mr. J. Brown, for the efficient and zealous way in which he has performed his duties. Signed, for the Committee, F. W. Lyons, President."

At a meeting of the new Committee of the Rifle Association, held on the 27th inst., it was resolved to confirm the arrangements of competitions for December already published, with the exception of the championship, which is postponed to 29th December, on account of the range being closed for practice. It is hoped the contractors will have finished the alterations in time to allow of practice for this meeting, and for the prize meeting on 28th December for those who have never won a prize in the S.R.A. The monthly competition will be held as advertised, on 30th November and 14th December, and the final stage in the quarterly competition will be held on 21st December. The Morris Tube Range will be open for practice every Wednesday afternoon from 4 o'clock.

FOOTBALL.

On Wednesday, the 27th November, a match was played between Officials and Non-Officials. Both sides turned out well and there was evidently a great deal of interest taken in the game. Unfortunately at about 4 o'clock there had been a heavy downpour of rain, which somewhat spoilt the ground. The game was very even, taken all through, but the official forwards perhaps did a little more of the pressing. The Officials, were lucky in obtaining the help of Messrs. Spearing and Clark, from Klang and Kajang, both of them playing

up well. The game terminated in a draw, which leaves the question as to supremacy between the two teams still in statu quo.

The following were the players:—

Officials.—*Goal*, Highet; *Backs*, Bellamy and Spearing; *Half-backs*, Carpmael, Ebden and Charter; *Forwards*, Day, Maxwell, Scott, Roe and Clark.

Non-Officials.—*Goal*, Phillips; *Backs*, Cook and Tollemache; *Half-backs*, Glassford, Skinner and Rendle; *Forwards*, Mitchell, Hampshire, Dougal, Hawes and Meikle. Mr. Hubback was referee.

CHINESE TIN MINING IN SELANGOR.

II.—LABUR AND LABOUR (*continued*.)

(*Questions of Finance*.)

THE "Fun-si-ka" or share system is generally popular with the coolies, introducing as it does an element of speculation and opportunities of gambling. The cooly need not himself work in the mine if he engages another cooly to work for him on wages; and if he holds more than one share in the mine he must have a corresponding number of coolies to work out his shares, while he himself goes and works somewhere else if he chooses.

In Perak the share system is worked differently. A cooly is not allowed more than one share, and the right of having more than one is confined to the Towkay Lombong or mining manager and others in the higher grade of the service. Thus, for instance, a mine employing 50 men will be divided into say, 70 shares, 50 of which go to the ordinary coolies, and the remaining 20 are divided among the Towkay Lombong, clerk, head and petty overseers in proportion to their respective importance and responsibility.

In Selangor a mine employing the same number of men will perhaps be divided into 20 shares only, which gives an average of three shares to each man. Perhaps the following example will shew more clearly what I mean. An advancer opens up a mine with 10 coolies in addition to the Towkay Lombong, clerk, head overseer and his assistants. There will be 20 shares in all, 10 of which are divided among the ordinary coolies and the remaining 10 go to the Towkay Lombong and staff. By-and-bye, as the working develops, the coolies complain that the present force is quite inadequate to carry on the work, and they demand and obtain from the advancer 40 extra hands to assist them. The original system with its 20 shares is not in any way affected by these additional 40 men, who merely work for the original share-coolies on wages guaranteed by the advancer. If the concern turn out to be a success the original coolies reap the benefit of other men's labour, but, if it prove a loss, they have nothing to lose, although they get into the debt of the advancer; for although theoretically they are supposed to pay the wages of the extra men, practically the advancer has to do all the paying for them. This is really unfair on the advancer, who, while undertaking the risk of engaging a larger number of men, has to put up with the mortification of seeing the

profit (if any) slip through his fingers into the pockets of a few individuals who are but coolies themselves and may perhaps be working in other mines. Is it, then, to be wondered at that the old race of advancers is fast dying out?

Hitherto I have only portrayed the grievances of the Towkay Labor (and they are many), but the coolies too have their own grievances against him. It is not an uncommon event when a mine is doing well (and some have been known to pay as much as \$100 per share per mensem), for the Towkay Labor to try and get the working into his own hands by putting on hired labour and turning out the share coolies. This is generally effected by buying out the coolies, but where owing to the resistance of the men this is impossible, unfair pressure is not unfrequently brought to bear upon them. The tricks and plots and counterplots (which generally end in an appeal to "Ton Sayat," as the Police Department is called) are too numerous to mention here; but a common expedient known as "Lan Teu," and often resorted to by the Towkay Labor, is well worth recording. This is to "block the working," which is done by opening up a new mine, independently of the one worked by the share-coolies, in close proximity to it, and in the quarter towards which the rich seam of ore seems to run. "Lan Teu," which may be likened to the "claim jumping" of golden countries, is considered a gross violation of the unwritten code of honour and fair dealing which should obtain amongst a mining community, and is generally a serious matter ending in fights and bloodshed.

Returning to the question of finance, we find besides the Towkay Labor, another species of Advancer called the Towkay Bantu (from a Malay word meaning "to assist"). As the name implies, the Towkay Bantu is one who comes to the rescue and assists Towkay Labours in a small way of business with cash and provisions when the latter's resources are not strong enough financially to enable them to carry on the work unaided.

The Towkay Bantu does not directly interfere with the management of the mine, which he leaves to the Towkay Labor; but he keeps himself posted up as regards the latter's doings and the prospects of the mine which he finances. He has a lien for his advances not only on the tin produced from the mine, which the Towkay Labor must consign to him, but also on the latter's estates generally.

It sometimes happens that the local Towkay Bantu receives assistance in turn from a more opulent trader residing in Singapore (for instance), who thus becomes his Towkay Bantu. When this is the case, the local Towkay must consign his tin to the Singapore Towkay Bantu in return for the cash and provisions received, and he must not dispose of any tin in the local market.

Thus it is to be seen that the Towkay Labor's life is not altogether "a happy one." His mines are supported by borrowed capital and the profits are burdened with a ruinous rate of interest to be paid to the different Towkay Bantus. But this is not all. He is haunted by an apparition in the shape of a fat man with sleek and oily skin, clad in a white turban and scanty cloth in the recesses of

which are certain documents vulgarly called I.O.U's. This man is the "Tai Ngee Loong," or Big Ear-holes, as the Chitty moneylenders are named from their custom of piercing the ears. It is a long story. The Towkay Labur first fell into the clutches of the "Tai Ngee Loong" a long time ago when the Towkay Bantu failed to do the needful and the coolies wanted money for the New Year. In a weak moment he put his "chop" to a promissory note for twice the amount he received, and although he has paid instalments and interest and interest and instalments times out of number, they both continue to increase from year to year until his prospects of repaying the loan are remoter than ever. And the fresh documents he is made to sign from time to time, and the notices and summonses he receives, are they not recorded in the books of the big Court House on the hill? Yes, the Chitty is the bane of his existence and haunts him in his dreams. He may affect the "carriage and pair," smoke highly scented cheroots and put off the claims of coolies and Towkay Bantus for a season, but the implacable "Tai Ngee Loong" and the bit of paper in his possession invariably come up with him in the end!

It is not clear from Chinese mining customs what claim the Chitty has on the Towkay Labur's estate as against the claims of the Towkay Bantus and the coolies. But it may be surmised that he is quite capable of looking after his own interests, judging from his "fair round" paunch, and the look of contentment on his face, and it is certain that no small wealth finds its way to India, the home of these gentlemen.

The Chitty moneylender is a great institution in the Native States and has of recent years taken a prominent part in the mining industry of Selangor. He is said to own many of the mines in the State and most of the houses in the principal towns. The very pair of horses and the carriage of which Towkay Laburs are so fond, are paid for with his money. Verily, he is a great benefactor. But this is a wide subject, and I am digressing.

Now a few words must be said about labour. The Chinese for labourer is "Nyin Kiok," which means Men's Feet and conveys the same meaning as the English word "hands" when used in the sense of persons employed. Thus the expression "twenty hands" would in Chinese be "twenty men's feet"—another illustration of their topsyturvy ways of saying and doing things. "Nyin Kiok" is more generally used by a superior when talking of the coolies; but the coolies amongst themselves call each other "Fokei"—*i.e.*, partners.

As everybody knows, the Chinese labourer is an exotic as far as the Native States are concerned, the nurseries of his species being the Chinese provinces of Kuantung and Fukien. He is brought into the State as an immigrant, and in the process of transmission from his native soil to the Straits the various changes he experiences and the incidents of the voyage are not altogether encouraging.

In China they have a curious notion that those who give themselves up to the "Hak-teu" or cooly broker and seek a living in foreign parts are almost hopelessly lost to their friends and relations, and the common expression "Mai choo tsi" (*i.e.*, Sell young pigs), as applied

to the monetary transaction between the immigrant and the broker, gives an idea of the prejudices and fears entertained by a Chinaman in leaving the home of his ancestors. The "pigging" when sold does not generally return to the litter. To a certain extent it is true that but a comparatively small percentage of those who leave China ever return, owing especially to the great mortality among the Chinese labourers engaged in opening up the unhealthy malarial forests of Borneo, Sumatra and other parts of the Netherlands Indies.

On his arrival in Singapore the immigrant goes through a course of catechism and registration known to him as "Puck-ee-ling" (after Mr. Pickering of Chinese Protectorate fame), after which ordeal he is taken to Klang and finally lodged in the "Siak-moo-koongso" in Kuala Lumpur—*i.e.*, the local Chinese Immigrant Depôt. Here he is lodged and fed at the expense of the Hak-teu until he obtains an employer, when he bids farewell to his broker and is taken, generally in company with others of his class, to his "diggings."

In the depôt his contract and the name of his employer are registered and he himself is provided with a certificate giving his name, etc., which document he hands over to the safe custody of his employer during the term of his service. At the mine he is supplied at the expense of his employer with a mat, blanket, a sun hat, a piece of bathing cloth, a pair of clogs and a jacket and pair of short trousers, certainly not an extensive wardrobe.

In the chrysalis or larva stage of his career he is known as a "Sin-hak, or more commonly, "Sinkheh." But he may be capable of great things in the future, and personally I have always looked upon a Sinkheh as a Towkay Labur, Towkay Bantu or a Captain China in embryo, and respected him accordingly. But my respect for him ends here. The more you know of him, the more he falls in your estimation. His first duty towards his employer is to abscond at the earliest opportunity, which is easily enough accomplished owing to the great facilities afforded by the jungle and the number of "Chulies" (people of the same "Seang" or surname) who are ever sneaking about the place and ready to help a "relative" out of the bondage of "sinkhehdom."

Then, again, the Sinkheh may be what the Chinese term a "Low kiok" (old feet), that is an old hand, who has been in the State before and knows the ropes, in which case if he runs away you have as much chance of meeting him again as of finding the proverbial pin in the haystack. Besides this propensity for taking himself to fresh woods and pastures new (at the expense of his master), he has an unpleasant habit of always getting sick, and as his ailment generally takes the convenient form of a headache or stomach ache you have no means of finding out whether he is in earnest or only shamming to get a day off. He has also some curious ideas about property and ownership, and veracity is his weakest point.

It generally happens that the sudden change from a cold to a tropical climate does not suit his constitution, and when not shamming he spends half his time in bed with fever or diarrhœa. The employer has, however, an excellent recipe for acclimatizing the

Sinkheh, which is to turn him out to bathe at 4.30 in the morning and again at 8.30 p.m., before bedtime, his ablutions lasting about an hour each time. There is something, after all, in the hydropathic treatment.

At the expiration of his service he becomes what is called a "Low-hak" or free labourer and is able to seek employment where he likes. Before leaving the mine his employer must return him his immigration papers besides providing him with a certificate ("Chin tan") to the effect that he is out of debt and free to seek new employment.

Of the Low-haks or free labourers there are several varieties: some are strong and healthy, others indolent opium smokers, some good and some bad. These differences in characters and habits are due, to a great extent, to racial differences.

The Hakkas or Khehs consider themselves the rightful owners of the soil, for they are the pioneers of the State, and look with jealousy on the Hockiens and Sin-Yews as invaders. They are steeped in vice, and are fond of gambling and opium smoking, rather indolent and very conceited. Apart from their technical knowledge of mining—and they are the only men to be relied upon for sluicing the "karang"—they do not make good workmen.

The Cantonese are physically strong, fond of good living, independent, somewhat inclined to rowdiness and extremely hard to manage. They mix freely with the Hakkas and like them are very conceited, treating with disdain the Hockiens whom they nickname the "Hoklos."

The Hy-loh-fongs are hard-working but notoriously bad characters.

By far the best workers are the Hockiens. They are pliable and will put their hands to any kind of work, but have a weakness for litigation.

The Sin-Yews, a branch of the Hockienese family, are remarkable for their child-like simplicity and docility. They are in great demand for "Nai-chang" work, and have recently been pouring in great numbers into the State to the disgust of the Hakkas. There is one great objection to them from an advancer's point of view: they have no redeeming vices. They don't smoke opium, nor drink samsu, nor gamble, but eat "Kanchang" (rice boiled to the consistency of porridge) and help to enrich the Chinese Empire by frequent remittances home.—J. C. P.

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CORRESPONDENCE.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our Correspondents.]

AUX ARMES VOS CITOYENS.

To the Editor of the Selangor Journal.

SIR,—Great is the excitement amongst the peaceful inhabitants of Kuala Lumpur; even the wives, the pacifying spirits of the rough and hardy members of the Selangor Club, are using their influence to arouse their husbands to arm and defend themselves and to fight to the bitter end against an increased subscription to the Selangor Club.

Yes, that is the long and the short of it. It is proposed to raise the subscription. Nothing more and nothing less.

It is not the Committee who propose this. The Committee are quite happy and satisfied with the financial position of the Club, which is sounder and better than it has been for a good many years, and are only asking for members' opinions on the matter, in accordance with a resolution passed at a general meeting. The Club has no debts, a large amount of assets, and about \$1,000 in hard cash at the Bank. The number of members is increasing steadily, all old debts have gradually been paid off, and all round the affairs of the Club are progressing very satisfactorily.

"Well," you might ask, "what on earth do they want to raise the subscription for?"

Well, you see, that is just the difficulty: nobody seems to know exactly why. But I have heard people say that if the subscription was not raised they would resign, and the "Spotted Dog" would then go to the dogs; and I have heard others say, that if the subscription was raised *they* would resign, and the Selangor Club would certainly go to the wall then. Thus the fate of the old Selangor Club is sealed, doomed to death, whichever way the members decide.

What is the cause of all this "much ado about nothing"?

Our popular "Doc," with the best of intentions, drew attention to the fact that nowhere in the world could one get so much for so little subscription as offered by the Selangor Club, and now some spirits are aroused, and they won't be happy until they've got it—I mean the increased subscription and less for the money.

Let those who are dissatisfied say clearly and distinctly what they want—\$27.50 worth of cricket material for every \$2-a-month-subscribing cricketer; \$1,000 spent for improvement of the pitch, etc.

All right, put it all down; you have a Cricket Sub-Committee, let them submit to the General Committee what the cricketers want; have the application, if possible, signed by all the cricketers, and members who support cricket and think the expenditure really necessary, and you will see whether your Committee will be in a position to do justice to the demands or not.

Every member of the Committee is anxious to do something to improve the Club; the Resident is anxious to do what he can for the Club and has shewn it by presenting a handsome silver cup for football and by attending the Fancy Dress Dance; the Secretary is willing to work himself to death "all for the love of you"; the members individually are all ready to support their Club; and yet there seems to be a hitch somewhere.

This reminds me of my brother's baby:—

"What do you want?" "Boo-oo!" "Have you hurt yourself, darling?" "Boo-oo!" "Do tell me what you are crying for?" "Boo-oo!" "Are you hungry?" "Boo-oo!" "Well, what, in the name of goodness, do you want?" "I want to cry, Boo-oo!"

Well, it strikes me that's what some members of the Selangor Club want too, they want to cry, "Boo-oo!"

I am, etc., H. HÜTTENBACH.

NOTES AND NEWS.

A MERRY CHRISTMAS and (we reserve the next portion of this old British greeting for our next issue) a pleasant one to all our readers, wherever they may be. Of course to several of them the greeting will come late, but that can't be helped. We say, "of course," because we know that there are many, now far away from Selangor, who yet look forward to getting their *Journal*—not, we modestly hasten to say, for the "latest news," but simply for the sake of coming across the old familiar names, which is the next best thing to looking upon the old familiar faces. It is not unlikely that some of them may sigh for the brightness and warmth of the East, and be content to forego the delights of an old-fashioned winter. We remember how dismayed we were, as a youngster, on seeing a picture in an illustrated paper entitled "A Christmas Dinner in Australia." The meal was being taken in the open air, there was no indication of a roaring fire, and not the remotest sign of sliding or snow-balling; on the contrary, all the company seemed to be suffering from the heat. It was difficult for our infantile intellect to grasp the subject—a picture of Christmas? Impossible! However, that was a long time ago, and we fancy that many will agree with us in thinking that the feelings of goodwill and fellowship, so indissolubly associated with this time of year, may be enjoyed under the influence of a warm sun just as well as in the midst of a foggy frost, and require no nearer acquaintance with ice and snow than that depicted on a Christmas card.

THE sad news of the death, on the 8th inst., of Mr. W. H. Kelly, of the Perak Service, who was stationed at Tanjong Malim, caused a feeling of profound regret among his many friends and acquaintances in Kuala Lumpur. It is not long since that Mr. Kelly, in company with Mr. De Mornay, was in Kuala Lumpur, and he had then, he himself thought, quite recovered from the effects of the dog-bite which has since caused his death. Many of his friends, at the time he was bitten, urged upon him the necessity of going to Saigon for treatment, but, unfortunately, he treated the matter lightly and could not be brought to see any cause for alarm. Mr. Kelly, whose age was about twenty-four, was a good all-round sportsman, being an exceptionally good tennis player; he was the embodiment of high spirits and youthful energy, and had the making of a good officer in him. Mr. E. W. Birch, to whom the late Mr. Kelly was related, upon receipt of

the news of the death wired through to Selangor for arrangements to be made for bringing the body in to Kuala Lumpur, and this was effected by means of a special train which arrived here at 4 a.m. on Monday. At 8 a.m. the coffin, covered with the Union Jack and several wreaths, and accompanied by a Guard of Sikhs, left the Hospital for the cemetery, and the funeral took place in the presence of the Acting Resident, Mr. J. P. Rodger, Mr. Ebden, Captain Syers, Captain Lyons, Dr. Travers, Mr. Trotter, Mr. Watkins, Mr. Cameron, Mr. Harper, and several other Europeans, the Rev. F. W. Haines conducting the service. Rain was falling most of the morning. Among the flowers on the coffin were wreaths placed there on behalf of Mr. and Mrs. Birch, Mr. and Mrs. Wallich, "His Brother Officers in Perak," as well as wreaths from Captain and Mrs. Syers, Mr. and Mrs. Ebden and "Officers in Selangor."

His Excellency the Governor proposes, weather permitting, to travel overland from Sungei Ujong and to arrive here on the 18th inst., being met by the Acting Resident at Beranang, the frontier station. Lady Mitchell will leave Port Dickson for Klang by the *Sea Belle*, arriving on the 18th. His Excellency and Lady Mitchell will leave for Penang on the morning of the 19th.

His Excellency the General Officer Commanding the Troops, S.S., will come up from Singapore in the *Esmeralda* on the 23rd inst., remaining over Christmas, and will inspect the Sikhs during his stay.

No official notification has been issued with regard to the Christmas holidays. The regular holidays are 25th and 26th December and 1st January, and last year the 24th was specially added. It is not yet known whether the same holidays will be given this year.

THERE will be a dance at the Selangor Club on the evening of Boxing Day.

THE Distribution of Prizes will take place at the Victoria Institution on Friday, 20th December, at 4.45 p.m. The Acting Resident will preside and the prizes will be presented to the boys by Mrs. Rodger. The Trustees will be glad to see present all those who are interested in the work of the school.

WE are unable to give with certainty the names of those who are likely to go to Singapore for the Christmas festivities, but we hear that Messrs. E. V. Carey, L. Dougal and C. and J. Glassford will play in the Planters' Cricket Team, and that the two latter gentlemen and

Mr. Berrington will represent Selangor at Golf; Dr. McClosky was to have made up the golf four, but owing to the absence of Dr. Hertz it is doubtful if he will be able to leave Selangor. Mr. John Glassford arrived in Kuala Lumpur, on his return from Europe, on the 12th inst.

It has been proposed to call a meeting of the English-speaking ladies of Kuala Lumpur to discuss the question of organising a Sick Fund with the object of providing good nursing and the necessary medical comforts in cases of sickness. The want of some such fund has for a long time been recognised. Mrs. Rodger has very kindly asked that the meeting may be held at the Residency, and all those ladies who take an interest in such an organisation are asked to meet there at 4.30 p.m. on Monday, 30th December.

WE have not yet heard anything about the Police Sports, which we were led to believe would be an annual event, and were so successfully carried out last Boxing Day. No doubt most of those who can will go to Singapore, so we shall want something to enliven the few who remain to keep Christmas in Kuala Lumpur. At any rate, we ought certainly to have the race for children, "sons of policemen," in connection with which a prize was presented last year by Captain Lyons and Mr. Holmes to the lady who drew the winner. We are sure that all who saw that race would willingly see it again.

By the last mail news came to hand of Dr. Welch, Mr. Ridges and Mr. Norman. All are in good health and enjoying their vacation. Dr. Welch dates from Scotland, and tells of a chance encounter in Gareloch with our old friend Mrs. Prentice. Mr. and Mrs. Ridges are in Austria, and according to present plans expect to arrive in Kuala Lumpur early in February. Mr. Norman, is devoting himself to sport and pastime in Devonshire.

THE following Circular has been issued by the Selangor Planters' Association:—"It has been proposed upon the occasion of His Excellency the Governor's visit, to present him with an address praying for certain reforms which appear to be much needed in connection with land policy and other matters, and an Extraordinary General Meeting of members of the S.P.A. will therefore be held at the Selangor Club, on Saturday, 14th inst., at which the committee specially request that every member will endeavour to be present."

THE opening notifications in the last *Gazette* are full of interesting information: Mr. Douglas is D. O., Klang, not Ulu Langat as

previously stated, Mr. Aldworth being gazetted to the latter post. Mr. Holmes' many friends will be pleased at his appointment as D. O., Kuala Selangor, a district that is rapidly coming to the front. The retirement from the service of Messrs. G. C. Bellamy, F. E. Lawder, and W. C. Kemp is also officially notified; as well as the leave of Messrs. Wellford and Robson, who are lost to Selangor for 14 months and 15 months, respectively. A long period, in these moving times; who can tell the changes that may have occurred by then? *Perhaps* they will return to find the Governor at Kuala Lumpur and a District Officer in charge at Singapore.

THE REV. A. F. Sharp, Asst. Chaplain of St. Andrew's Cathedral, Singapore, and Mrs. Sharp were recently in Kuala Lumpur as guests of the Rev. F. W. Haines. Mr. Sharp had been spending a vacation at Tanjong Kling, Malacca, and came from there to Selangor by bicycle, Mrs. Sharp riding a tricycle. It is not long since that it was considered something of a marvel for men to make this journey, which has been described both in our own pages and in the columns of the *Singapore Free Press*, but Mrs. Sharp regards it as a matter of little difficulty. Unfortunately, Mr. Sharp, whose vacation was owing to his health of late not having been of the best, contracted a chill on the trip, and on his arrival at Mr. Haines' was laid up with a sharp attack of dysentery. Happily, under the care of Dr. Travers, the reverend gentleman recovered sufficiently to be able to preach at St. Mary's Church last Sunday evening. The congregation, owing to continuous rain, was not a large one.

IN our last issue Towkay Loke Yew was given as the successful tenderer for the Kuala Lumpur District Gambling, Spirit and Pawn-broking Farm; it should be stated that it was in conjunction with Towkay Yap Kwan Seng, the Captain China.

DR. BRADDON, who was recently bitten by a dog which later on developed symptoms of rabies, has gone to Saigon for treatment. His many friends in the Straits will unite in wishing that the Doctor may furnish another instance of the success of Pasteurism.

WE are very sorry to hear that Dr. Hertz was bitten on the foot by a mad dog on Tuesday last. He left Kuala Lumpur the same day for Saigon. This mad dog business is becoming a terror.

NOR for the first time do we point to the necessity for the construction of a lych-gate to the Protestant Cemetery; last Monday morning furnishing an example of how badly this is needed. It has been

said, and with some reason, that if the town of Kuala Lumpur continues to increase at the rate of the last few years, the site of the present cemetery will be unsuitable from the hygienic point of view, and that to build a permanent and costly lych-gate would be a waste of money; however true this may be, it is no reason why some light, temporary and inexpensive shelter should not be erected now, wherein the first portion of the service may be read, and where the clergyman and mourners may escape standing in a downpour of rain. Another question we might ask, also not for the first time, is, when will a plan and register of the cemetery, with a numbering of the graves, be provided. Unless some one places a headmark, it is impossible, in the absence of numbers, to ascertain with certainty whose grave a mound represents. As we said before, this is one of those things about which we can't boast of progress.

At last something is to be done for the comfort of the gentle wayfarer who does not own a conveyance, nor always feel disposed to hire one. The Sanitary Board has resolved to request Government to grant a special vote for the purpose of filling in the swamp at the junction of the Hospital Road with the Damansara Road, and further that, when this work is completed, footpaths be made from the Passenger Station to the Skew Bridge. The Skew Bridge is too narrow, no doubt, to admit of a footpath being laid down, so the pedestrian will continue to seek safety by balancing on the kerb of the drain when meeting vehicles on the bridge. Below this, however, a sidewalk might be made to Market Street, and from there the five-foot way should be kept clear to meet what will doubtless be a broad promenade in front of the new Government Offices.

ANOTHER necessary work is in hand at present, a valve for clearing the lake at the foot of the Residency Road. Owing to the proximity of the Barracks, the largely occupied area it drains, and the number of men who bathe there, the water becomes foul; by means of the valve and pipes now being laid, the lake, in times of heavy rains, can be thoroughly flushed.

THE regular monthly meeting of the Committee of the Selangor Club was held on the 11th inst., Mr. C. Sanderson (in the chair), Mr. Bligh (Secretary), and Messrs. Cumming, Day, Huttenbach and Paxon being present. Mr. J. M. Gunn was elected a member of the Club. It was resolved, on the recommendation of the Sub-Committee, that there should be a dance at the Club on the evening of Boxing Day, the 26th inst. It was also resolved that the Committee in

future hold its regular monthly meetings at 6.30 p.m. on the second Saturday in the month, instead of 9.30 p.m. on the second Wednesday.

SOME three days a week the Bank end of the Parade Ground is used by the Malays as a practice ground for football. This game has been started in Kuala Lumpur amongst natives in consequence of the kindness of the Acting British Resident, Mr. Rodger, in presenting a silver challenge cup for competition. The idea is a most excellent one and we hope there will be no lack of enthusiasm in these competitions. Anything that will afford rational amusement and good exercise to a lot of young natives who must find time hang grievously on their hands, and whose principal diversions, in Kuala Lumpur at any rate, appear to be loafing about the streets and shops, will be most welcome. A copy of the rules governing these competitions, which are for non-Europeans only, has been sent to each district. The game, as played at present by the Kuala Lumpur players, is scarcely up to international form, but if they are coached up a little and assisted by a few Europeans they will eventually give a good account of themselves. At present the players are Malays only. An amusing half hour may be spent in watching them. The natural gravity and dignity of the Malay is easily noticeable. No preliminary horseplay or turning of summersaults as amongst English school-boys can be seen. After a lot of talking, which is shared in equally by all the players, the ball is started. The game reminds one of the descriptions one reads of ladies' football matches in England. The players make apologetic charges and stand around in picturesque attitudes. The full back may be seen stretched at full length smoking a cigarette whilst a mildly fierce battle is being waged near his opponents' goal. Should the ball happen to trickle his way he will come to life and spread himself around gracefully until the tide of conflict has once more rolled backwards. The costumes worn by the players are very "chic." Where Dolah got those nice boots and stockings from must remain a matter for conjecture. Perhaps his long-suffering tuan could a tale unfold? Joking apart, however, these fellows will soon get into a better style of play and help to fill up the ranks in the regular football matches played by Europeans. The rules referred to above will be printed in our next issue.

WE have received an account of the first run of the Sungei Ujong Pack in Klang, on the 15th inst., which will appear in our next.

WE hear on good authority that the Waterworks will be very nearly completed by the end of the year, although during the last five

months the progress of the work has not been so rapid as was expected. This may, in a measure, have been due to the severe strain on the labour resources of the contractors, who have had in hand also a section of the Trunk Road towards Pahang. For some time past Mr. Paxon, having practically completed the Service Reservoir in Kuala Lumpur, has been living out at Ampang devoting his time to the Impounding Reservoir and construction of the main channel, the latter work being done departmentally. The works at Ampang, by the new year, will well repay a visit, even for those not learned in engineering. At present there is 19 feet of water in the reservoir, which means that there is stored an available supply for Kuala Lumpur for 26 days. There is another 11 feet to be filled up before the water will run down the overflow tunnel. The rainfall at Ampang during the past month was 3.15 in., the only month in which it was lower than this being January last, when it was 2.69 in. The heaviest monthly fall was in October, 14.95 in. The filtering material is being put into both filters, and the dam is already up above top-water-level, only another two feet being necessary to complete. The channels feeding the reservoir are being pushed on rapidly; the main channel, with the exception of one or two short lengths, is completed for $1\frac{1}{3}$ mile, and the first mile is already delivering water. The smaller channel ($\frac{1}{2}$ mile) is very nearly finished. At present the sides of the reservoir are being cleared of loose earth, and as the new cuttings must necessarily require some time before their delivery into the reservoir is clean, the water in the reservoir is just now not quite clear. For some time past water has been delivered to the new Gaol, but no regular supply can yet be guaranteed to the bungalows or the town, as before the completion of construction it is difficult to keep the thousand-and-one details of a water supply in proper working order. The Service Reservoir well repays a visit if only for the view to be obtained from there. The visitor who wishes to inspect the interior must be armed with a permit. The stand posts and hydrants are now being fixed throughout the town; a trial of the hydrant outside the Police Station at Pudoah resulted in a delivery on to the roofs of the neighbouring shop-houses. Altogether, the Waterworks will prove a great boon to the town, and we welcome their approaching completion. We understand that there is no fear of their proving inadequate for some time to come, and when a greatly increased population requires an augmented supply the continuation of the channels can be quickly and cheaply effected.

THE Estimates for 1896 give Revenue, \$3,767,666; Expenditure, \$3,609,776 (Ordinary, \$3,099,776; Railway Extension, \$510,000). In the balance sheet the principal headings under which revenue is estimated are Customs (\$1,936,870), Railway (\$720,000), Licenses (\$563,716), Conservancy (\$171,300), and Lands (\$110,555), the revenue anticipated from the P. and T. Department being put down as \$61,435; while the chief items of expenditure occur under the headings Railway (\$1,198,642), Roads, Streets and Bridges (\$730,725),

Works and Buildings (\$330,933), Conservancy (\$168,270), Medical (\$109,343), Police and Gaols (\$84,566), these amounts do not include Establishments, which for the whole State is set down as \$564,097. Turning to the details of expenditure, the items of general interest are that provision is made for building an English School for Girls in Kuala Lumpur (\$5,000), completion of new Government Offices (\$56,018), completion of new Gaol (\$23,000), the conversion of the Museum building into a Home for Women and Girls, under Regulation II. of 1895, and the alteration of the present Post Office into a building for the Museum—about the best site that could be obtained for this purpose. There are 52 separate items down under the heading of Roads, Streets and Bridges: a metalled road is to be made from Petaling to Kuchai, and provision is made for the formation of a road from there to join the Klang-Kajang Road, as well as from the Klang-Kuala Langat Road to Sungei Cheow Road (24 miles), the construction of a road to Batu Tiga, the connection of the Brickfield and Damansara Roads, and the Pahang Trunk Road (3rd vote, \$160,000). Under the heading Conservancy, quarantine buildings are to be erected at Klang (\$2,000), a road is to be made from Maxwell Road to Damansara Road, a drinking fountain and a cattle-trough (\$5,000), and a Refuse Destructor (\$27,855). Under Railway, \$50,000 is set down for Carriage Building Works, including sidings, etc., \$15,000 for a new Goods Shed, Kuala Lumpur, and \$74,000 for additional rolling stock; the \$510,000 set down for Extensions is cut up as follows: Kajang Extension, \$270,000; Kuala Klang Extension, \$20,000; Wharves at Kuala Klang, \$200,000; and Railway Surveys, \$20,000.

	1895.	1896.	Increase.
Estimated Revenue	\$3,357,879	\$3,767,666	\$409,787
.. Expenditure	\$3,473,307	\$3,609,776	\$136,469

WE reprint from the *Field* a very interesting article entitled "A Day on a Liberian Coffee Estate in the Malay Peninsula." We hear it is from the pen of one of our Selangor planters, now at home, whose initials may be traced in the *nom-de-plume*.

ELSEWHERE we publish, by request, a list of subscriptions, etc., in aid of the Tung Shin Hospital, on the Pudo Road. An account of the institution was given in our last issue.

RATE OF PENSION.

IN August last a Memorial, by Officers of the Civil Service, with regard to the notified intention of Government to reduce, without compensation, the rate of exchange for pension purposes, in cases of promotion, was addressed to the Right Hon. the Secretary of State for the Colonies; the answer now received is being circulated, with an explanatory Memorandum by the Sub-Committee, for the information of those who signed the Memorial. These documents are printed for the information of our readers.

MEMORIAL FROM OFFICERS OF THE SELANGOR SERVICE TO
THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

TO THE RIGHT HON. HER MAJESTY'S SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE
COLONIES.

SIR,—We, the undersigned, Heads of Departments in the Selangor Government Service, in pursuance of a resolution passed unanimously at a meeting of members of the Service held in Kuala Lumpur on Saturday, the 10th August last, have the honour to ask your favourable attention to certain representations on the subject of a Notification published in the *Selangor Government Gazette* of the 19th of July last.

2. The Notification referred to is as follows:—

“No. 329.—RATE FOR PAYMENT OF PENSION.—The following rule governing the rate at which pension will be paid in England is published for general information.

“All officers whosoever in the Public Service who shall, from the date of this Order, receive an increase amounting to 10 per cent. of their emoluments, either by promotion or without change of office, will be entitled to draw pension only at the rate of 3/8 to the dollar.

“This rule will apply to all officers who may in future receive increase of emoluments without promotion, under schemes for periodical increments.—16th July, 1895.”

3. This Notification was followed a few days later by a Regulation passed by the State Council, in which the principle that the acceptance of promotion is a relinquishment of any claim to pension at a higher rate than 3/8 to the dollar was adopted, and in which it was further laid down that only officers who entered the Service before 1st January, 1890, and have not since that date accepted promotion, have a claim to draw pensions at the higher rates.

4. Your Memorialists beg, with all respect, to submit that the interests of a large number of the Government servants receive very scant consideration in this Notification and Regulation.

5. We desire to draw your attention, Sir, to the official correspondence in which it has been laid down that in pension matters the conditions obtaining in the Colony of the Straits Settlements will be applied also to the officers in the Protected Native States.

6. For instance, paragraph 5 of the Secretary of State's despatch to Governor Sir F. A. Weld, dated 5th February, 1886, is as follows:—

“5. Subsequently, in his confidential despatch of the 9th December, 1882, Lord Kimberley wrote as follows:—

“The words of my despatch No. 63 of the 15th March, 1881, however, are explicit, and contain no such limitation. They are as follows:—“European officers serving in the Native States should be entitled to pensions calculated in the same manner as those assigned to officers in the Service of the Straits Settlements. Under this rule all European officers at present serving in the Native States are, unless their employment is of a purely temporary character, entitled to expect pensions under the same rules as officers in the Service of the Colony.””

7. The substance of this ruling was communicated officially at the time to Heads of Departments in the Selangor Service.

8. Four years after the date of this despatch the pension rate was reduced in the Colony to 3/8, but it was not arbitrarily reduced without compensation; a bargain was made by which the Colonial servants

who then had the salaries on which the pensions would eventually be calculated raised by an amount of not less than 10 per cent. were at the same time required to accept the reduction of the pension rate from 4/- to 3/8, and in cases in which the pension rate had been previously above 4/- a corresponding increase of salary was allowed as compensation for the reduction.

9. Further, it was officially notified to those in the Service of the Colony, that officers who under that scheme did not receive an increase of emoluments amounting to 10 per cent., would continue to draw pensions at the rates to which they were then (*i.e.*, on 1st January, 1890) entitled, unless promoted to an appointment to which an increase of the amount in question had been attached.

10. From this it seems clear that unless the salary of an officer's appointment was raised—in which case he not only received the immediate benefit but also could look forward to eventually drawing pension calculated on the higher salary, and was thereby compensated for the reduction in the dollar rate—unless this was done, it was recognised that an officer in the Service of the Colony retained his claim to draw pension at 4/3 or 4/- as the case might be, except in the event of his being subsequently promoted to an appointment the salary of which had been so raised, and your Memorialists respectfully submit, Sir, that as no scheme for the general increase of the salaries of pensionable offices has been extended to this State, the servants of this Government (except those who have been told on appointment that the pension rate for them would only be 3/8) are entitled to claim that their pension rates are at present 4/3 in the case of those who joined before 1st May, 1880, and 4/- in the case of those who joined subsequently, and to ask that if these rates are reduced they may be treated in the same manner as those in the Service of the Colony were treated.

11. But apart from precedent and the claim to be treated in such matters as those in the Service of the Colony were treated, your Memorialists submit that everyone who enters the Service does so—without any right to promotion, it may be—but at least with a reasonable expectation of promotion in the ordinary course as opportunities occur, if his merits are such as to justify it, and that a Government servant who has merited promotion (or an increment of salary) in the ordinary course is hardly treated in being told that henceforth such promotion (or increment), if he accepts it, will be discounted by the reduction of his pension rate.

12. It cannot be fair to tell him that ordinary promotion, the prospect of which, we submit, is one of the conditions on which every officer originally takes service under Government, is henceforth to be contingent on the surrender of a privilege to which he has hitherto been entitled.

13. Your Memorialists respectfully submit, Sir, that it is fair to ask that the reduction of pension rates should be accompanied by a general compensatory increase, altogether apart from ordinary promotion or periodical increments, of, say, not less than 10 per cent. of the salaries of the officers who have hitherto had a claim to be paid at the rate of

4/- to the dollar (that is, of all those who have not been told on appointment that the rate would be 3/8), and by a proportionate increase of the salaries of such officers as have hitherto had reason to suppose that they would eventually draw their pensions at higher rates.

Your Memorialist have, etc.,

(Signatures of Heads of Departments.)

SELANGOR, 26th August, 1895.

FROM THE HON. THE COLONIAL SECRETARY TO THE ACTING BRITISH RESIDENT.

SIR,—In continuation of my letter, No. 7,120 of the 25th September last, I am directed by the Governor to inform you that he has received a despatch from the Secretary of State acknowledging the receipt of the Memorial from certain Heads of Departments in Selangor, in which they complain of the rule that pensions of Officers who may have received an increase of salary amounting to ten per cent. of their emoluments shall be paid at the rate of 3/8 to the dollar.

2. The Secretary of State desires that the Memorialists may be informed that he sees no reason for interfering with the decision arrived at by His Excellency in the matter, which was based upon the same principles that have already been applied to the cases of Officers in the service of the Colony.—I have, etc.,

J. A. SWETTENHAM,

SINGAPORE, 29th November, 1895.

Colonial Secretary, S. S.

MEMORANDUM.

A reply to the Memorial to the Secretary of State from the Selangor Civil Service on the Pensions Rates question has been received. At least, a letter from the Colonial Secretary has been communicated to Memorialists stating that the Governor has received a despatch in which the Secretary of State acknowledges the receipt of the Memorial complaining "of the rules that pensions of Officers who may have received an increase of salary amounting to ten per cent. of their emoluments shall be paid at the rate of 3/8 to the dollar."

The letter continues—"The Secretary of State desires that the Memorialists may be informed that he sees no reason for interfering with the decision arrived at by His Excellency in the matter, which was based on the same principles that have already been applied to the cases of Officers in the service of the Colony."

The Memorial shews that the writers imagined they had demonstrated that they had not been treated in the same manner as the Colonial Service in the matter. The reply is to the effect that the same principles have been applied in both cases. It appears, therefore, that the Secretary of State is of opinion that in reducing the rate of pension without compensation, he is applying the same principle as that applied in the Colony, where those who had their salaries raised by not less than ten per cent. were at the same time required to accept the reduction in the pension rate.

It will be seen that the important question of the rights of Officers since January, 1890, is ignored altogether.

A DAY ON A LIBERIAN COFFEE ESTATE IN THE
MALAY PENINSULA.

"SUDAH pukul lima, Tuan" ("Five o'clock, Sir"). With these words am I awakened one morning by my Chinese boy. Though intensely sleepy, I have no further chance of rest, as my "boss," no gong being handy, begins to drum violently with a boot on the wooden partition of his room. So I slip out of bed, and, after washing my face and hands, get hastily into my clothes, a costume consisting of a cotton vest, khaki trousers and button-up coat, merino socks, and canvas boots. By this time it is half-past five, and the first streaks of dawn have been appearing for the last few minutes in the east, the mist is lifting, and the birds are already giving notice that a new day has begun. I shiver as I turn from the window, and am truly glad when my boy reappears to announce, "Teh suda siap, Tuan" ("Tea is ready, Sir").

I am soon at work on hot tea and the inevitable poached egg in the dining-room, into which both bed-rooms of the bungalow open. These three principal rooms form the main portion of the building, and stand on piles raised four feet from the ground. From the back of each bed-room, steps lead to the bath-room below; here also are two smaller rooms used respectively for stores and medicines, and the bungalow opens on to a verandah in front.

By the time my meal is finished it is quite light, so, putting out the lamp and whistling to the dogs, the manager and I start out. After some five minutes' walk we come to the cooly lines. Here are drawn up two long rows of coolies, Tamils from various districts of Madras, the men separate from the women and children. The manager then produces his small muster-book, and calls out from it the names of the coolies; opposite the names of those who are present he puts a dot, against those of the absent a cross. Muster being finished, he proceeds to tell off his coolies to their various work, so many to holing, so many to filling, so many to weeding, so many to pruning, two or three men to the nursery, and, lastly, some men to plant. The manager then goes back to the bungalow, saying he has some work to do, and that he will give out medicine to any coolies who are sick, and thus save me the trouble of returning to the bungalow for what is, as a rule, part of my duty.

I start off to the weeders. Weeds in this tropical climate ripen and seed wonderfully quickly, so quickly that we find it necessary to weed every portion of the estate every three weeks. One weed in particular, called *vaalike* by the Tamils, a kind of chick-weed, is the bane of every plantation; it roots very deeply, and if any portion of the root or head be left on the ground, it will revive as though it had never been touched. For this reason, all weeds are collected in sacks, and, after work is over, either burnt or buried. Each weeder is supplied with one small sack, and with a small pointed stick to loosen the soil at the weeds' roots. I give each cooly so many rows to weed and am

careful to notice whether the number of workers arrived at the spot corresponds with the number despatched from muster.

My way now lies through jungle, to the new clearing, and as I take the path all is shade, though in the open the sun has already begun to give its fierce heat. My dogs thoroughly enjoy themselves ranging on either side of the track in search of game. Squirrels of several kinds run up the trees for refuge, shaking off great drops of dew which fall on my pith hat with a thud. Trees rise up on all sides, ranging from the slender sapling to great giants of a hundred and fifty feet high, interlaced in many places with beautiful vines. The undergrowth is dense: nowhere can one see further than five yards, one close mass of creepers, palms, and wild ginger-leaves. Here, in the shadow of the trees, is none of that gorgeous colouring, or life, so much written about as existing in the forests of Brazil. It is true that from the open clearing, at certain times of the year, one does see the leafy tops of trees here and there glorified by tints that would shame an English autumn, but in the shade where I walk the general impression is of a great green mass, relieved from monotony by one of the graceful rattan tribe. Save for the occasional scolding of a squirrel, or the chattering and shrieking of various sorts of monkeys, disturbed by the approach of man, the silence is wonderful. The birds seem to be ashamed of themselves. One rarely sees them: but on this path, wherever the gleam of sunshine manages to force its way, colour is supplied by hundreds of butterflies, some of striking brilliancy and beauty.

Suddenly my reverie is rudely disturbed by a great yapping of the dogs, who, seeming to scent something, keep rustling to and fro in the undergrowth, as they now find, now lose, the scent. It may be a wild pig! And I am cursing my ill luck in not having a gun with me, when a small form, no doubt the innocent cause of all the commotion, creeps suddenly out of the jungle some twenty yards away, looks round with frightened eyes, and then hops slowly across the path, back into the jungle. This is a mouse-deer, the smallest of all deer, perfectly proportioned though but a foot high. The dogs soon give up the chase, and come back to my side just as I emerge into the new clearing. Here is what would seem to the uninitiated a scene of wildest confusion, trees lying about in all directions, some heaped on top of others, and all more or less charred by the fire that was applied to them a month ago. Now, in reality, everything is quite in order: if one looks closely, one can see pegs placed in line at a space of ten feet apart, this being the distance at which holes for the coffee plants are to be cut. Wherever a bough would have been in the way, it has been lopped off. The explanation of the seeming disorder is that, in this country, timber is never removed from a felled clearing. By its shade, it keeps the earth from drying too fast, and, decaying so rapidly as it does, it forms a valuable top-dressing for the soil.

My first business in the new clearing is to inspect the work done by the holers. Each of these is armed with a heavy hoe and a sort of iron scoop into which is fitted a long handle. The hoe is used instead

of a spade for digging, the other implement to trim the sides of the hole, and remove earth where the hoe cannot reach. I have first to set the coolies their task, then to see that they are doing their work properly, that the earth which they remove is neatly piled in one or two heaps. We do not allow more, as the "filling cooly," whose duty it will be to refill these holes with top soil, would have too hard a task had he first to remove the earth left all round the hole by a careless "holing cooly."

A quarter of an hour or so I spend with the holers, then after checking their numbers I pass on to the fillers, whose task I set, and whose work I proceed to inspect. They must refill the holes with soil scraped from the top of the ground, which soil has to be carefully freed from roots before being put in. It is then stamped down, and more is added until the soil of the hole is raised three or four inches above the surrounding level, thus allowing for any subsequent subsidence caused by rain.

The planters next claim my attention. They have just started work on the field, the small plants being brought from the nursery, which is handy, and given to a certain chosen few who understand the work. They, making a hole with a wooden peg in the earth of the hole itself, place in this the tap-root of the plant, taking great care not to bend it, and completing the operation by pressing down the soil round the root with their fingers. After each of these planter coolies there comes another cooly, whose duty it is to shade the young plants with palm-leaves, which he places east and west of them, thus shielding them from the sun, but allowing a current of air to pass through from north to south. I watch the planters for some time. Coolies are very apt to bend the tap-roots; for this reason we never task the planting cooly, so he can never give the excuse of having been in a hurry. I glance at a young nursery, where two or three men are employed in watering the seed put in a few days before; then, on looking at my watch, find it is time to be off. So I turn homewards, only halting on my way for a few minutes' inspection of the pruners' work in an old clearing, and arrive at the bungalow again about eleven, very hungry and thirsty.

My boss, who is lying in a long chair, is apparently in the same plight, as he calls out to me to hurry up and change. This accordingly I prepare to do. But first I must have my bath. The bathe, one cannot call it bath, is a much more frequent and important occurrence in the East than in the old country, so it seems worthy of description. In one corner of the bath-room, which I enter by means of steps from my room above, stands a big earthenware jar full of water. This jar is, in my case, about three feet high, and rather more than a foot in diameter at the mouth, broader below. Near it is placed a tin bailer, and with the help of this one is expected to throw water from the jar over one's self until refreshed. This, in such a hot climate, is a somewhat lengthy operation, but, oh! the relief of it. The pleasant feeling of that cool stream trickling from one's buzzing head down one's hot spine! It is much more refreshing than the ordinary bath, but I well remember that when I first came

out to this country I was much perplexed by this mysterious jar. I stepped boldly into it. But, alas! when my legs were in, there was no room to get at the water. Eventually I was forced to appeal to my boss for advice. He roared with laughter at the idea of my getting into the jar, but, after putting me right, he was obliged to admit that he himself had done the very same thing, when he first came out.

Dressing after my bath was not a work of much time, as in a bachelor establishment one does not trouble one's self with too many clothes. A vest, the sort of skirt called a "sarong" that is worn by all Malays, and a pair of grass slippers complete my toilet. We shout to the boys for food, which soon arrives, and consists of four courses—fish, mince, stewed chicken (chickens appear constantly under various disguises), and curry. I do not touch the last dish, as I find it makes me so sleepy that turning out again into the heat is distinctly objectionable. Our drink is whisky, beer being too bilious for ordinary occasions, though we sometimes do indulge in it by way of a treat on Sundays. When our food is over we enjoy a little interval of idleness, lying in our long chairs on the verandah and smoking. But at half-past one the work of the day begins again; we resume our outdoor clothes; the manager goes off to see after the pruners, remarking that he has not much confidence in my skill in that line, and wants to see for himself what they are doing, while I start on my morning's round over again.

The coolies had been tasked so that, if fairly industrious, they should be able to finish work between the hours of one and half-past two, at which time a horn is blown as a signal for all untasked, such as nurserymen, to leave the field, while those of the tasked who have not then done their allotted portions have to remain to complete it.

As I have started out at half-past one, I expect to find that most of the coolies have finished, and on my way to the weeders, I do meet several from each of the works, who have evidently done what they had to do, and are hurrying back to the lines to wash themselves. When I reach the weeding party, ten men have finished and gone, and the others remaining have only a few yards to complete. Their work seems clean, so I go on to the new clearing. No hohlers! I ask the headman, who has been looking after them, where they are, whereupon he answers that they have all finished, except one who has gone sick.

It never does to trust any of these men too implicitly, so I proceed to count every fifth row, and find that though the correct number of holes has been cut, many are not of the proper size. As the headman possesses a gauge with which to measure the holes, he has no excuse to offer, especially as he has been warned only yesterday. So I dock two days' pay, firmness being the only method that answers with coolies, leniency they regard as weakness to be taken as much advantage of as possible. The fillers' work is satisfactory. And now all the coolies have finished, as the nurserymen and planters went off some ten minutes ago, at the blowing of the horn.

I have nothing more to do, and telling the headman to have the coolies ready for muster at four, I go back to the house. When four

o'clock arrives, off I set to the lines, and put down the working coolies' names in the small muster-book. Then I have to check the different totals given me by the headman, and see that they, when totted up, agree with the grand total in the muster-book. This takes some time to-day, as the man who looked after the holers gives me one too many in his total, entirely forgetting to deduct the cooly "gone sick." After puzzling a bit, I find out his mistake, and am able at last to get back for a much-needed bath and change, while the coolies begin to cook the rice for their evening meal.

After tea there is some book-work to be done: I must enter the coolies' names from the small muster book into a big one; then the manager calls to me to take copies in the letterpress book of some business letters which he is writing. So I am well employed until dinner-time, half-past seven. Dinner does not differ materially from tiffin, except that soup always begins it, and curry is dispensed with. As our rising hour is an early one, we turn in about half-past eight, after smoking one pipe.

My day's experience may be taken as a pretty accurate example of work on most estates. If picking had been going on, of course we would have had also to measure the crop picked during that day, in the afternoon. To a man who becomes interested in the coffee, its growth, and cultivation, such work as I have described is not irksome; the morning's walk is always a pleasure; and though I must say that occasionally going out after tiffin into a burning sun is distinctly against the grain, still that is often the result of over-eating.

As to the amount of capital required to open a coffee estate in the Peninsula, £20 per acre is generally considered sufficient to bring the coffee into bearing. This should include all cost of buildings, etc.; of course, as one can easily see, the expenditure on a place of 100 acres will be greater in proportion than that on a place of 200, since a good manager would have to be paid quite as large a salary on the one as on the other, the store and bungalow would cost nearly the same, and so on with a good many items. For this reason it is better that no estate should be started with less capital than £4,000: this should allow for the opening of 200 acres.

I do not mean, by my account of a day's life on a coffee estate, to make out that the planter's lot is all work and no play. On the contrary, on Saturday and sometimes another day as well, we drive into the nearest town and play either cricket or football. I see my reader shudder at the idea of football in 85° in the shade—about the temperature at 5 p.m., when we begin to play—but I can assure him that not only is there no particular fatigue (except after the first try or two, when one is in no sort of training), but also I, for one, am certain that the exertion is of distinct benefit to the health of the many who, in towns, lead a life of too much liquor and too little exercise.

After football and a change, one repairs to the club, where are to be met all the *élite* of the place, and where one can get a game of billiards. After a pleasant hour there, the cart is called, and in brilliant moonlight we drive home to our estate in time for the welcome dinner at half-past eight.—"ABEL," *The Field*.

NOTES AND NEWS.

A HAPPY NEW YEAR.

HIS EXCELLENCY the Governor, accompanied by the Acting Resident, arrived a little before 6 p.m. on the 18th inst. at the Kuala Lumpur Passenger Station from Sungei Besi, having travelled overland from Sungei Ujong, and was received by a guard of honour, the officials, and members of the mercantile community, the Captain China, Towkay Lok Yew and other representative Towkays. Mrs. Rodger, Miss Rodger and a large number of European ladies were also present on the platform. His Excellency, having been introduced to several present, drove off to the Residency; the company remaining on the platform to welcome Lady Mitchell, who arrived soon afterwards by the evening train from Klang, accompanied by Mr. Severn, Mr. Gerald Browne and Mr. Highet.

EARLY on Thursday morning, the 19th, His Excellency and the Acting Resident, together with Miss Rodger, Mr. Severn and Mr. C. N. Maxwell, paid a visit to the Impounding Reservoir of the Kuala Lumpur Waterworks at Ampang, being received by the State Engineer, the Hydraulic Engineer, and Mr. Shepherd, representing the contractors. An exhaustive inspection was made of the works, the party returning to Kuala Lumpur at about 11 a.m. In the early afternoon of the same day, H. E. the Governor received the Committee of the Selangor Planters' Association, who presented a memorial which we print elsewhere. At 5 o'clock Lady Mitchell held a Reception in the Residency Grounds, which was largely attended; His Excellency, after a large number of visitors had arrived, leaving with the State Engineer to inspect the new Government Offices. On Friday morning His Excellency inspected the new Gaol on the Pudoh Road, the Government Factory, the General Hospital, the old Gaol, and the Barracks and Fort. The early afternoon was devoted to transacting various business matters at the Residency, and later on H. E. and Lady Mitchell attended at the Victoria Institution to witness the presentation of prizes to scholars by Mrs. Rodger. A visit to the Batu Caves occupied Saturday morning, the programme for the afternoon being an inspection of the Selangor Fire Brigade and a visit to the Masonic Hall. Unfortunately the weather at about 5 p.m. was very threatening, and soon after His Excellency and party had left the Residency the rain came down so heavily as to ke it necessary for them to return before they had reached the B. Station. This was a great disappointment to Chief Officer

Bellamy and his men, as well as to the brethren who were assembled at the Masonic Hall, but the Residency party having in their attempt to reach the town become thoroughly drenched, their non-attendance was unavoidable. When the rain had some what abated Captain Bellamy very kindly, for the benefit of those visitors who had arrived early, and so escaped getting wet, put the Brigade through the drill which had been arranged. The work was carried out with that smartness and despatch for which the S.F.B. are renowned, and the visitors also had an opportunity of seeing how useful and effective in the case of fires will be the hydrants fitted up by the Waterworks. His Excellency attended Divine Service at the Church of St. Mary in the morning and evening of Sunday, the 22nd. At 9.30 on Monday morning His Excellency inspected the Sikhs on the Parade Ground, and, later on, when leaving Kuala Lumpur, complimented Captain Syers on the smart and soldierlike appearance of the men, both at parade and in the guards which received him and were present at his departure. After the inspection was over, H. E. the Governor and the Acting Resident paid a visit to the Railway Workshops and Offices, His Excellency looking closely into all the arrangements of the shops and remaining there for more than an hour. At 10.10 a.m. H. E. the Governor and Lady Mitchell, accompanied by Mr and Mrs. Rodger, Miss Rodger, Captain Herbert and Mr. Severn, arrived at the Passenger Station, where a large company was assembled. A special train conveyed the party to Klang, which included Mr. Rodger, Miss Rodger, Mrs. Douglas, Mr. G. Browne and Mr. Watkins; Mr. Browne proceeding by the *Sea Belle* to Penang.

THE holidays in Kuala Lumpur cannot be said to have been dull, nor even brief, if we take into account the functions and the dinner parties connected with the Governor's visit. Christmas Eve, quite as much as Christmas Night, appeared to be a time of large parties at various houses, and there was no lack of visitors in "town" from the out stations. Mrs. Rodger gave a Children's Party at the Residency on Tuesday afternoon and a large dinner party on Christmas Night. On Boxing Night there was a Dance at the Selangor Club; the company was fairly numerous, the room being full, but not crowded. Much care had been bestowed on the floor and the decorations. In addition, during the week we have had Abell and Olman's "Australian Variety Company" performing in the town to large audiences; some very good acrobatic, bicycling and juggling-acts forming part of the programme.

THE visit of inspection to be paid by H. E. the General Officer Commanding the Troops, S.S., has been postponed, we hear, until early in January.

CAPTAIN F. DE VERE CREIGHTON, Commandant of the Johore Forces, was a guest at the Residency early in the week, and Mr. J. A. Harwood, Registrar of the Supreme Court, Penang, was a visitor at Christmas.—Mr. C. E. W. Stringer, of the British Legation and C.

sulate General, Bangkok, has been staying with Mr. and Mrs. Watkins during the holidays.—Mr. J. H. Cope, who joined the service in November, 1890, and recently resigned, proceeded by last Tuesday's *Sappho* to Singapore *en route* for England.—Mr. C. C. Trotter left Kuala Lumpur on the 23rd instant for a six weeks' vacation in India. Mr. O. F. Stonor will act as Auditor during his absence.—Captain Wahl, the "Genial Skipper," has returned from his trip to Europe and is again on the old run, looking after the comfort of his passengers on board the *Sappho*, and often making them wish that the trip between Klang and Singapore was a longer one than it is.

THE Feast of Christmas was duly observed at St. Mary's, Kuala Lumpur. The Church was most tastefully decorated, the following ladies taking part in this: Mrs. Haines, Mrs. Syers, Mrs. Reyne, Mrs. Lyons and Miss Bartholomeusz. At 8 a.m., on Christmas Day there was a choral celebration; the music for the "Credo," "Sanctus," "Benedictus," "Agnus Dei" and "Gloria," taken from Merbecke's setting, being well sung by the choir. The congregation joined heartily in singing the well-known Christmas hymns. In the absence of Mr. Lott, the duties of organist were undertaken by the wife of the Chaplain. The collections throughout the day, amounting to \$47, were handed over to the new fund about to be started in Kuala Lumpur for relieving the sick.

THE attendance at the Christmas Eve service at the Church of St. John, was as large as in previous years; the Mass being celebrated with instrumental accompaniment by the band. After the service a number of the congregation sang carols round the town.

THE Children's Treat, the Christmas Tree, will be held on Saturday, 4th January, at the Masonic Hall, Damansara Road, at 6 p.m. It is not too late to give subscriptions in aid of this good time for the youngsters.

THE marriage of Miss Maria Alethea Richards, daughter of Mr. H. D. Richards, formerly of Kuala Lumpur, and Mr. A. R. Bligh, Secretary, Selangor Club, was solemnised at St. Mary's on Tuesday, the 17th inst., in the presence of a number of friends of the bride and bridegroom.—At the same church, on Thursday, the 26th inst., Miss Van Geysel, daughter of Mr. V. Van Geysel, of the Selangor Government Railway, was married to Mr. White, of the Selangor Government Railway. A large number of friends were present at the ceremony.

MR. W. W. SKEAT, Acting D. O., Ulu Langat, has, we understand, gone to Malacca for the Christmas holidays with the object in view of making the ascent of Mount Ophir. The Christmas of 1892 was passed by Mr. Skeat in climbing Gunong Tenjah (or Raja) near Batang Kali, an account of which was given in Vol. I. of the *Journal*, and we hope that we shall be able to publish the details of the Mount Ophir trip.

MR. A. R. VENNING, Chairman, Sanitary Board, Kuala Lumpur, writes:—"There are many frugal housewives among us whose hearts will rejoice when they learn that the maximum prices at which meat is allowed to be sold in the market have been fixed for next year, and that the farmer has signed a contract which binds him not to allow more than the specified rates to be charged for any meat sold. This, of course, does not compel the butchers to charge the full rates given in the list, and I believe mutton is frequently sold very much below 35 cents a catty. It will, however, enable ladies to keep a check on their cook's accounts to a certain extent, and help, I hope, to cheapen the cost of living in this expensive place. I enclose list of prices."

List of maximum prices allowed to be charged at the beef and mutton stalls, at Central Market, Kuala Lumpur:

Buffalo meat	at 14 cents per catty	Beef, Marrowbones	at 8 cents each
Beef	25 " "	" Kidneys... ..	10 " "
" Suet	8 " "	" Brain	10 " "
" Liver	20 " "	" Tongue	30 " "
" Tripe	8 " "	" Heart	25 " "
" Shoulder at to	15 " "	" Tail	10 " "
" Feet	at 8 " "	Mutton	at 35 cents per catty

At a general meeting of the members of the Selangor Club, held on the 14th inst., Mr. C. E. F. Sanderson in the chair, it was announced that the majority of the circulars returned—issued in accordance with a resolution passed at a former general meeting—were in favour of the Club subscription remaining at two dollars. The Committee then placed before the meeting a revised estimate of revenue and expenditure; the alteration from the former one being that in place of \$60 for Games, \$200 was set down for that purpose, this amount being provided for by reducing the sum set apart for depreciation of building. The Committee were of opinion that, as a sum of \$400 was provided for repairs, this might fairly be done. The meeting agreed with this view and the revised estimates were passed. Another meeting to confirm this resolution will be held on the 28th inst., at 9.30 p.m.

RULES regarding penalty for trespass on Railway premises and reserves are published in the last *Gazette*, as well as extracts from the Turkish Quarantine Regulations for pilgrims to the Hedjaz; the latter have been printed in the Malay language and circulated. The rules for payment by stamps of Court fees are also published; these rules come into force on and after 1st January next. These stamps will be obtainable at the different Treasury Offices of the State as well as at the shops of licensed vendors, of whom the names and addresses will be gazetted.

WE draw the attention of our local readers to Regulation III. of 1895 ("Registration of Dogs"), to come into operation on 1st January next. The working of this Regulation is under the Sanitary Board, which has issued a notice stating that registration must be between the 9th and 31st proximo, and that any dog found ab-

31st January, not bearing a registered number, will be liable to be destroyed. The By-laws under the Regulation state that every dog must be provided with a proper metal or leather collar, to be produced at the time of registration. Mr. Macreath, of the Dispensary, advertises that he has recently imported leather collars of all sizes.

AN order has been issued that all dogs within the district of Kuala Lumpur are to be confined for a period of five weeks, dating from the 13th instant. All dogs found at large in the district during that time will be destroyed.

A MEETING of the Committee of the Selangor Museum was held on Friday, 13th December, 1895, Captain Syers (Chairman), Mr. L. B. Von Donop (Hon. Secretary), Mr. C. E. F. Sanderson, Mr. A. R. Venning and Mr. J. Russell being present. After inspecting the Museum and recent additions collected in Pahang, the minutes of the last meeting, held on 8th November, were read and confirmed. The Hon. Secretary laid before the meeting a statement of the expenditure to the end of November, and it was resolved that additional exhibit cases should be purchased. The Chairman reported that a valuable silk sarong had been stolen. Resolved that it be replaced, and the cost be borne by the responsible persons in charge of the Museum. The Committee acknowledge with thanks the receipt of the following additions to the Museum during the month of November:—Mrs. Watkins, a resurrection rose; Mr. L. B. Von Donop, seven coins from Pahang; Mr. W. Crompton, two magpies; Mr. Chan Ah Thong, a small kingfisher; Mr. S. Harper, a crocodile.

The number of visitors during the month of November ...	1,664
Previously ...	12,740
Total ...	14,404

WE give below the text of the memorial presented to H. E. the Governor by the Selangor Planters' Association; also the summary of the Governor's reply published in the *Straits Times*.

YOUR EXCELLENCY,

We, the undersigned members of the Committee of the Selangor Planters' Association, desire on behalf of our Association to offer to Your Excellency and Lady Mitchell on this the occasion of your third visit to Selangor, our most hearty and cordial welcome.

We feel sure that Your Excellency cannot but be struck by the great change in the aspect of the country, which has resulted from the rapid advancement of the coffee enterprise. We desire to tender to you our sincere thanks for the vigorous steps you have taken to forward the cause of free labour, and we trust that Your Excellency's appeal to the Madras Government to send over Delegates with a view to ascertaining the exact conditions under which the Tamil immigrant lives in this country, will result in the Malay Peninsula being thrown open to unrestricted emigration from India.

We recognise and appreciate Your Excellency's wise determination to so
to agriculture that the State may in the future derive a large
revenue from this source and not, as in the past, be entirely

We trust that Your Excellency will permit us, as a body of practical men, to draw your attention to various points in the policy of the Government which affect labour and the planting enterprise—points upon which we believe Your Excellency will agree with us that our opinions, as coming from those most nearly interested in the question, are not unworthy of Your Excellency's close consideration.

LABOUR.—It is felt to be a great hardship that labourers can leave the service of their employers at a month's notice without settling their liabilities, unless bound by written contracts of service. It is true that employers have their civil remedy, but as, in the majority of cases, coolies' assets are nil, it is useless for employers to try to recover advances through the Civil Court. We submit that there can be no injustice in making it compulsory for coolies to either pay or work off their advances (taking, say, \$15 as a maximum indebtedness for each cooly) before leaving their employer's service.

It is claimed that written contracts obviate this difficulty, but we are of opinion that such contracts are utterly opposed to the spirit of free operations as binding the labourer to work for a fixed period exceeding a month, and we know that they are exceedingly unpalatable to the coolies themselves. We would have our labourers free to leave us at a month's notice if they choose and if we cannot so identify our interests with theirs as to make it to their obvious advantage to stay with us; but we ask that this freedom with regard to their movements should be contingent upon the proper settlement of their just liabilities, and we quote the instance of Ceylon where this principle is most strongly insisted upon by planters and recognised as equitable by the Ceylon Government. We sincerely trust that Your Excellency will see fit to meet our views in this connection before the new Labour Code becomes law.

AUCTION SALE OF FOREST OR "WASTE" LAND.—Your Excellency has inaugurated the system of selling forest or "waste" land in districts which appear best adapted to the cultivation of coffee by auction sale; the size of blocks so sold has been limited to 320 acres approximately, and the usual clause providing for the cultivation of one fourth of the whole area within a period of five years has been inserted in all grants. Your Excellency has stated in a recent despatch to the Secretary of State for the Colonies that your object in introducing these innovations has been primarily the exclusion of the speculator in land. As *bonâ fide* planters ourselves we would record our entire approval of any measures which will achieve such a desirable result, but we are of opinion that the cultivation clause in itself is sufficient for this purpose, and moreover that the practical utility of this clause would be considerably enhanced by the issue of larger grants, inasmuch as the holder of a block of, say, 1,000 acres would find it a much more difficult matter to dispose of his land in the third or fourth year after purchase, with 250 acres to be brought under cultivation during the time that remained before the Government had the right of re-entry, than the holder of, say, three blocks of 320 acres each, who could very possibly place his land in three different quarters with the obligation attached to each of only opening 80 acres in from one to two years.

We also consider that blocks of 320 acres are insufficient in area to admit of economical working, and that the general effect of sales by auction is to put the trained planter who has selected his block, and spent time and money in doing so, at a serious disadvantage when the sales come off. The land speculator attends the auction quite content to buy land that he knows must be worth acquiring, inasmuch as it is auctioned at the instance of the man of experience, and he can afford to bid higher than the other as he has incurred no preliminary outlay.

Again, if a planter desires to buy three contiguous blocks, the speculator may purchase the central one at a prohibitive figure and compel the planter eventually to buy him out at a price which leaves a substantial margin of profit for himself. Such abuses are inevitable in connection with sales by auction.

We would further ask that the delay in surveying blocks in the Kuala Lumpur District within the radius gazetted as subject to auction sale be rectified,

and that blocks applied for in the above and other districts should be attended to and put up for sale with the same despatch as they are in Klang and Kuala Selangor. We would point out to Your Excellency that competition at these sales means the disappointment of at least one party, and that unless there is abundant land on offer, which there has not been hitherto, the result is one settler the less in the State.

We believe that general satisfaction would be given to the public if the Government would—

- (1) Construct rough service paths, of a width of six feet or so to commence with, through rich districts ;
- (2) Cut up and survey blocks of 500 and 1,000 acres *in advance of applications* ;
- (3) Price this land at a rate which the demand at the time being and completed sales would seem to warrant ; and
- (4) Dispose of the blocks to applicants in order as they come forward.

If such measures were adopted an intending settler would be able to make his selection, buy his land and commence operations at once, and there can be no doubt that the wide circulation of this fact would tend to bring numbers of investors into the country who are now holding off owing to the at present existing uncertainty connected with the acquisition of land.

It is of course of the highest importance that no such attempt to open up a district on the lines suggested above should be made without the soundest expert advice upon the suitability of the soil and locality for growing coffee.

Our Association hopes that the time is not far distant when Your Excellency will concede to the planter the prior right to mine his own land himself, or to make arrangements for its being mined, as we are of opinion that it is an essential point that the holder of a lease in perpetuity should neither be deprived of any of the land comprising that lease, nor of the power to exercise control over such miners as, by virtue of the mineral rights retained by H.H. the Sultan, might at any period be empowered by the Government to prosecute the mining industry in the planter's land.

In cases of resumption of land by the Government for public purposes, we would again point out to Your Excellency that the existing terms of settlement by arbitration are, if not inequitable, at any rate not at all calculated to give satisfaction to proprietors. We maintain that the Court of final reference should in all cases of arbitration be composed of adjudicators without any interest whatever in the question at issue.

We do not at the present juncture desire to again urge upon Your Excellency the necessity for permitting lawyers to practise in the Law Courts, but we hope that the administration of justice in Selangor will be one of the first points which will engage the attention of the Resident-General of the amalgamated Native States. We commend the foregoing suggestions and recommendations to Your Excellency's notice, feeling assured that Your Excellency will honour the views which we have advanced, and which we claim to be representative, with your kind consideration.

We beg to subscribe ourselves, Your Excellency's obedient humble servants,
 E. V. CAREY, TOM GIBSON, C. MEIKLE, E. B. SKINNER, H. HUTTENBACH,
Committee, S. P. A.

"H.E. the Governor received the Planters' deputation at 2 p.m. at Kuala Lumpur, on Thursday, the 19th inst., and granted them an interview extending over two hours, during which, after giving it as his opinion that the various points raised in the Address should have been forwarded to him through the Resident with that official's comments upon them, His Excellency very fully discussed each of the questions raised. Whilst sympathising with the difficulty experienced by planters in being unable to compel their labourers, if engaged on verbal monthly contracts, to either work or pay off their advances, H. E. held out no hopes whatever that the relief asked for would be granted. He contended that the case of Ceylon, which had been quoted as a precedent, was

no precedent at all, that Government having always had trouble over the labour question, and he assured the deputation that the matter had been thoroughly threshed out, and that the Law Officers of the Colony were very strong against connecting the element of criminality with breach of verbal contract of service. H.E., however, promised, in the case of contracts in writing, that the question as to whether one document could be made to embrace a number of contracts should be gone into, and he desired the Hon. Secretary, S. P. A., to represent the matter to the Resident. Dealing with auction sales of land in blocks of no greater than 320 acres, after hearing all that the deputation had to say, H. E. gave a decided opinion that the present system should have a fair trial before being condemned, and he assured the deputation that the delay which had been occasioned in the past, owing to an insufficient staff of surveyors, would no longer be a cause of complaint, as the Chief Surveyor, Mr. Wellford, had been empowered to introduce a number of new men from Australia, where he had lately gone on leave. He further recommended that both the questions, (1) touching the planter's prior right to mine his own land, and (2) the terms of arbitration on acquisition of alienated land by the Government for public purposes, should be reopened, without committing himself to any definite promises. At the same time he held out hopes to the deputation that their desires in both these connections would be favourably considered."—*Straits Times*.

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VICTORIA INSTITUTION.

ANNUAL PRESENTATION OF PRIZES.

A LARGE and representative company, including H.E. the Governor and Lady Mitchell, responded to the invitation of the Trustees to be present at the distribution of prizes at the above Institution on Friday, the 20th instant. It was a great day for the Victoria Institution and for many of its scholars, especially to P. La Brooy, who won three special prizes, including a medal, presented to the best scholar of the year, and to Chun Sze Pong, the winner of the first Treacher Scholarship. The thought of the day should prove an incentive to the other boys throughout the coming year to strive for similar success; for although the chief prizes can be gained by only comparatively few, yet, as Mr. Rodger pointed out, the preliminary training and preparation a boy undergoes in trying to reach the top place will be always of the utmost value to him.

The visitors were received by the Trustees, and as soon as H.E. the Governor and Lady Mitchell and the Acting Resident and Mrs. Rodger had arrived and taken their places on the platform, Mr. Rodger, as President, called upon the Headmaster to report upon the work of the Institution for the year 1895.

In the course of his remarks the Headmaster first alluded to the satisfactory increase in the numbers of the school. There had, he said, been an increase of over 70 boys during the year, and a corresponding increase in the average attendance. The figures shewn on the printed lists would, he thought, compare favourably with any other school in the Straits. The numbers still continue to rise steadily and he expected to have as many boys as he could accommodate during the next year, although considerable additions had been made to the original amount of accommodation.

Passing on to the work of the school, he said that there had been a great advance during the last few years in educational science, and the school curriculum had been expanded in accordance with the theories of the "New Education." The "New Education" asked for training as well as instruction and demanded that training should in future be the chief aim of all teaching. He saw no reason to be dissatisfied with the result of his efforts to follow out these theories; judging by the results of the recent examinations he believed that the methods which he was gradually introducing would prove successful in this country. He called special attention to the examinations for the annual medal, founded by the Acting Resident, for the best scholar of the year, and that for the Treacher Scholarship. These rewards and the prospect of the examinations for them had had a most excellent effect upon the work of the upper forms. Examinations might be doubtful tests of the knowledge or of fitness for special duties in life, but from a schoolmaster's point of view they were certainly the best possible stimulus for making boys work that could be found, especially examinations conducted by examiners unconnected with the school. They were under very great obligations to Dr. E. A. O. Travers, Mr. L. P. Ebdon and Mr. W. W. Skeat for the trouble they had taken over the examinations and the time they had given up to them. The report, on the whole, was more favourable than he had expected, and gave him considerable satisfaction; at the same time he would not for a moment have them suppose that he considered the school had yet reached a state of thorough efficiency. He believed rather, knowing well the weaknesses, as the Headmaster must, that nine-tenths of the work which he had undertaken had yet to be done, in order to make the school equal in efficiency to a thoroughly good English school. He would read them the report put into his hands by Mr. L. P. Ebdon, which would be more acceptable to them than his own remarks and would shew them at least that a certain amount of progress had been made.

After reading this report the Headmaster went on to express a hope that a greater number of trained teachers would soon be available in the Straits and also that a centre for the Oxford or Cambridge Local Examinations would shortly be established. These examinations were highly commended in the recently issued Report of the Royal Commission on Secondary Education, and he felt sure that they would have a beneficial effect upon the Schools in the Straits. He concluded by thanking His Excellency and Lady Mitchell, in the name of the school, for the honour they had conferred upon them by being present that day, an honour which, he assured them, was very highly appreciated by all connected with the Institution.

The President then said:—Your Excellency, ladies and gentlemen, and boys of the school, on behalf of the Trustees I have to congratulate the Victoria Institution on the presence here to-day of H.E. the Governor and Lady Mitchell, whose visit to Selangor fortunately coincides with the occasion of the annual presentation of prizes. Since the date of the last presentation, in December, 1894, the

progress of the school has been rapid and persistent, and, as you have heard from the Headmaster, there are now more than 200 boys, of many different nationalities, receiving a sound English education in this Institution. Among these nationalities are representatives of both Western and Eastern races, and the recent photograph of the school is an interesting example of the variety of races living under British protection, whose sons are engaged in learning a language which, more than any other, has a chance of becoming the *lingua franca* of the world. I noticed with regret, however, that there were so few Malay boys among the prize winners to-day, and I hope that the proportion of those boys in whose country the rest are only guests will be largely increased next year. It may be that, for a few or for many years to come, they will not be able to compete, on equal terms, with boys belonging to races of older civilisation, and that, as to-day, most of the prizes will be won by English, Eurasians, Chinese and Tamil scholars. For one set of prizes, however, they are at no special disadvantage, and I trust that, next year, at least one Malay in each class will claim a prize for regular attendance and good conduct at school. The prizes so earned are, in my opinion, of equal if not greater value than those won by natural capacity or trained intelligence, the true end of education being the training of a boy to become a good citizen, and including his moral as well as physical and intellectual development. At the same time, the value of the other competitions must not be underrated, and not the least valuable feature of a competitive examination is that it enables—indeed compels—each boy to gauge his own knowledge, or ignorance. Most people have experienced the somewhat humiliating sensation of finding their actual knowledge of a given subject very considerably less than they thought it to be, when they attempt to crystallise the vague ideas floating through their minds and bring them to a focus on paper. I remember hearing, many years ago, an allusion to this in a lecture by the late Sir Edward Creasy, which has always remained in my memory: "Use the pen, it keeps the mind from staggering about," and, as a test of the real acquirements of competing candidates, apart from cramming, I believe a *vivâ voce* examination to be even better than an examination in writing. It gives me much pleasure to congratulate the prize winners to-day, but the other boys must not be discouraged by comparative failure, and must again strive "to deserve that success which cannot be commanded," remembering that the preliminary training and preparation will always be of the utmost value to them. When I recently examined some of the classes, I was glad to find a very fair level of general intelligence among the boys, the more creditable, both to them and to their masters, as the language in which they receive instruction is to most of them a foreign one, and the Trustees are in complete accord with the Headmaster, to whom I believe teaching is not merely a matter of duty but a labour of love, in thinking that every school should be judged by the general results of its teaching and not by a mere computation of the number of passes obtained by individual boys. Since our last meeting, I am glad to say that the playground has been put

into good order, and that the boys seem to take a keen interest in football and other athletic sports. In the course of next year, I hope that it will be possible to supply them with various gymnastic appliances, which can be fitted up in the empty space below the school-rooms, and will enable them to take healthy exercise during wet weather. I hope also that it may be possible to establish preparatory schools, affiliated to this Institution, in various parts of the State, similar to the Anglo-Chinese School at Klang, for which the inhabitants of the Klang District are mainly indebted to the liberality of Towkay Lok Yew. I will not detain you longer, as the sub-division of these class-rooms, although of great advantage from a teaching point of view, is not an unmixed benefit for such a large assembly as I am glad to see gathered together to-day, but I cannot sit down without a reference to Mr. Treacher, in whose place I am acting, who has, from the first, taken so much interest in this school, and who will, I am sure, hear with great pleasure in England of its successful progress. The establishment of a Treacher Scholarship, conferred for the first time to-day, will link still more closely with the school the name of one who was mainly instrumental in its foundation, and who, as I know, always takes a keen personal interest in everything that affects it.

His Excellency the Governor said it gave him great pleasure to come among them. He was very fond of travelling about and seeing all that was to be seen. He would only say a few words for he had great faith in the old maxim, "Speech is silver but silence is golden"; and they were all aware to what extent silver had depreciated in value; he was glad to see by the applause which followed this remark, how well the scholars understood the point. On occasions of this kind one was apt to hear extravagant expressions of praise and admiration; he did not believe in that kind of thing, which was demoralising both to boys and their teachers, and he was pleased at the tone of the Headmaster's speech, which warned them against supposing that the school was yet anywhere near perfection; yet although they would never reach that state, he felt sure they would continue to improve each year and he looked upon the Victoria Institution as likely to be the most successful school in the Straits in days to come. The prosperity of the State was largely dependent upon and could only be properly supported by the rising generation, and he saw in the boys present that day future helpers in this great work, occupied as they would be in mining, in agriculture and in civil pursuits. It was for this prosperity that the Victoria Institution was laying the foundation. They had heard each speaker's opinion of the value of examinations and the amount of reliance to be placed on them; opinions upon the subject went from one extreme to the other. He was of opinion that examinations were a useful but not a perfect test, and that a nervous boy would never shew to such advantage as one of equal capacity not so afflicted. He was glad to hear the Headmaster's reference to the Oxford and Cambridge Local Examinations; he was of opinion that they were one of the most useful tests of education that could be employed, and he knew what good work they had done in other Colonies. He echoed Mr. Rodger's regrets that so few Malay

scholars presented themselves. He trusted that every one of those present would do all they could to advance the best interests of the Malays and he hoped in future to see more coming up for these prizes. He was pleased to see representatives of all nationalities present and to see the right hand of fellowship extended by Englishmen to all alike. He congratulated Mr. Shaw on the progress of the Victoria Institution during the past year, and he was sure that Mr. Treacher, who had been rightly spoken of as the father of the scheme, would be satisfied that his child was in a healthy and satisfactory condition. He hoped the Institution would in time attain the highest success, for which all who took part in the work had his best wishes.

Mrs. Rodger then presented the prizes to the successful scholars, and in replying to the vote of thanks which was accorded, Mr. Rodger said, "My wife asks me to thank you, on her behalf, for the very kind way in which you have received this vote of thanks, and I take this opportunity of repairing an omission in my speech by saying that we hope to see established in Selangor, during the course of next year, an English Girls' School, affording similar educational advantages to the girls of the State that are enjoyed by the boys at the Victoria Institution."

Every care for the comfort of the visitors had been taken by the Trustees, and they wish to acknowledge the assistance they received in this direction from Mrs. Spooner, who was chiefly responsible for the arrangements for the refreshments and the decoration of the tables; Messrs. Chow Kit and Co. also lent materials and furniture, as did the Captain China and Mr. Tambusami Pillai, two of the Trustees. The tasteful decoration of the room was the work of the masters and boys. The efforts of all concerned were rewarded by a most successful gathering, and we cordially echo the assurance of H. E. the Governor that the Victoria Institution will become in time the most successful school in the Straits.

PRIZE LIST, 20TH DECEMBER, 1895.

FORM PRIZES (Year's Marks).

FORM VII.	...	R. Pereira	FORM II. A	...	Fah Poh
"	VI.	...	Not awarded	"	II. B
"	V.	...	S. Maartensz	"	II. B
"	IV.	...	Kim Fook	"	I.
"	III.	...	{ Ah Jin	Primer A	...
			{ Woo Ah Koon	Primer B	...

ATTENDANCE AND CONDUCT PRIZES.

FORM VII.	...	{ S. Ranganathan	FORM III.	...	{ Yap To Taik
"	V.	...	{ P. Parsons	"	III.
"	IV.	...	{ A. Klyne	"	II. A
"	IV.	...	{ F. Quantin	"	II. A
			{ R. Mailvaganam	"	II. B
			{ Kim Fook	"	II. B

MATHEMATICS (by Examination).

FORM VII. ...	Chun Sze Pong	FORM II. ...	{ Yoon Fat Kuppasamy Chok Sen
" V. ...	Alvapillay	" I. ...	
" IV. ...	R. Mailvaganam		
" III. ...	Yap To Taik		

RECITATION (by Examination).

FORM VII. (Eng.)	R. Pereira	FORM III. ...	W. Crompton
" V. ...	Kow Tiam Chuan	" II. A. ...	F. Anchant
" IV. ...	A. Browne	" II. B. ...	K. T. Parimanam

MAP DRAWING.

FORM VI. ...	P. La Brooy	FORM V. ...	Ah Thin
		FORM IV. ...	Tamby

SPECIAL PRIZES (by Examination).

English History, Physiology (Headmaster's Prize), and Medal (presented to the best scholar of the year by J. P. Rodger, Esq.), each taken by P. La Brooy. Treacher Scholarship, Chun Sze Pong. Examiners for the above: Dr. Travers, L. P Ebden, Esq. and W. W. Skeat, Esq.

SUMMARY OF SCHOOL RETURNS, 1895.

TOTAL FOR THE YEAR.

Average No. on Register.	Number of Meetings.	Total Attendances.	Average Daily Attendance.	Percentage of Daily Attendance.
158 ...	203 ...	28,914 ...	142 ...	90

NOVEMBER, 1895.

Average No. on Register.	Number of Meetings.	Total Attendances.	Average Daily Attendance.	Percentage of Daily Attendance.
201 ...	21 ...	3,837 ...	183 ...	91

NOVEMBER, 1894.

Average No. on Register.	Number of Meetings.	Total Attendances.	Average Daily Attendance.	Percentage of Daily Attendance.
130 ...	27 ...	3,140 ...	116 ...	89

RESULT OF GOVERNMENT INSPECTION.

Number Presented for Examination.	Number of Passes obtained.	Percentage of Passes.
152 ...	778 ...	86

PASSES IN SPECIAL SUBJECTS.

English, Stage I.—) Chun Sze Pong, P. La Brooy, Chun
 Science, Stages I., II. and III.) Sze Kiong, P. Parsons, VanGeyzel
 Narayanasamy, F. Newman, R. Pereira, Renganathen, W. Daniel.
 History, Stage I.—Sze Pong, Newman, La Brooy, Pereira, Sze Kiong, Renganathen, Parsons, Daniel, Narayanasamy.
 Euclid, Stage I.—La Brooy, Sze Pong, Newman.
 Algebra, Stages I. and II.—F. Newman, R. Pereira, La Brooy, Sze Pong, Sze Kiong.

LOCAL SPORT.

SELANGOR TURF CLUB.

THE following griffins have received the rite of baptism:—
 Mr. King's "Busted Flush"; Mr. Berrington's "Trilby";
 Messrs. Maynard and Lyons' "May Fly"; Messrs. King and
 Cumming's "Nightmare"; Mr. Cumming's "Queen Bee"; Mr.
 Nicholas' "Elsie"; Captain Syers' "Budge"; Mr. Holmes'
 "Bessie"; Mr. Walsh's "Dingo"; Mr. Tambusamy's "Maharane";
 The Railway Kongsis' "Forlorn Hope"; Messrs. Scott and Stonor's
 "Coquette."

The majority of the griffins may be seen at work on the course nearly every Saturday, and with the exception of Mr. Jackson's bay mare go very kindly; this mare is not blessed with the best of tempers and has a strong objection to Europeans, though the native boy who rides her seems to get along all right; she is a real nice looking little horse and looks like galloping all over. Of the others the ones that most take my fancy are "Busted Flush," "Elsie," "Night-mare" and "Maharane," the last named, by the bye, looking a good deal more like 15 hands than 14.2.

Last Saturday three likely competitors for the Mercury Challenge Cup put in an appearance—*viz.*, Mr. Maynard's "Black King," Mr. Harper's brown gelding and Mr. Highet's bay gelding; all these should make good roadsters and I hope we shall see them competing with "K.G." which, I hear, has been bought by Messrs. Travers and Berrington especially for this race. "Buzz," 13.2, and "Nerna," 13.3, are undergoing a steady preparation for Kinta, both these ponies are looking and going well and should render a good account of themselves. The back straight of the racecourse has been closed until further notice; this is a good move as the new turf was getting cut about badly. A roller is now daily at work on this part of the course and the going should be good in a fortnight or so; the rest of the course is wonderfully sound though slightly rough in parts; a few days' rolling, however, should put this all right. The Grand Stand is now progressing and should be completed in about a couple of months, which should just about leave enough time to get the lawn in decent order for the race meeting.—THE MAN IN THE LALANG

SELANGOR RIFLE ASSOCIATION.

THE Competition for the Malay States Tin Mining Co.'s Cup (value \$50) was brought to a close on Saturday, the 14th inst. The conditions under which this has been shot for were; the highest aggregate of four best scores made in handicap competitions, seven shots at 500 yards monthly throughout the year 1895. The winner of the cup is J. Brown, with an aggregate of 116 (without added points). The next best are, Dr. Travers (+6) 115; T. J. McGregor, (scratch) 111; R. Charter (+5) 110; J. H. Allen (+6) 109.

The final stage in the Competition for the trophy presented by Mr. Quay Guan Hin (a handsome silver bowl, value \$100), was shot off on Saturday last, the 21st instant. Only seven members turned out, and of those but three were enabled to finish. The lalang on

each side of the Range was on fire, and the smoke interfered considerably with the shooting, consequently no good scores were made, and the rain, later on, put an end to the firing altogether. J. Brown was for the third time the winner, and he becomes the possessor of this trophy also, which has been shot for in four quarterly handicap competitions, seven shots at 200, 500 and 600 yards.

RULES FOR THE ACTING RESIDENT'S CHALLENGE FOOTBALL CUP.

1. The competition for the Challenge Cup is open to any District Association Football Team in Selangor the members of which are of other than European nationality, subject to the approval of the Selangor Club Football Sub-Committee.

2. The competition to take place annually. The final tie to be played in Kuala Lumpur.

3. The name of the winning team will be inscribed on the cup and also the year of winning it.

4. The holders of the cup must have it placed in a conspicuous place to the approval of the Selangor Club Football Sub-Committee.

5. The cup will become the property of any district team winning three years in succession.

6. The kick off in each tie of the competition must not be later than 5 p.m. (the final tie at 4.45 p.m.), either team that is short of its full complement of players at that hour must play without waiting for the absentees. If no members of the team are on the ground the team is scratched. This rule will be rigidly enforced.

7. The referee will be appointed by the Selangor Club Football Sub-Committee.

8. As regards any further point, the rules governing the competition for the English Association Football Cup will be adhered to as far as possible, but there will be no appeal from the decision of the referee appointed by the Selangor Club Football Sub-Committee.

9. All entries must be forwarded to the Secretary of the Selangor Club Football Sub-Committee before the 31st December. Every team when sending in their entry must give the name of the team, address of their Secretary, together with a list of the probable members of the team. Entries must be accompanied with an entrance fee of \$1 to meet expenses.

10. The ties will be drawn by the Football Sub-Committee by whom the venue of the tie will also be settled.

11. Should more than one team enter from any one district, the teams so entering will play their ties in the home district, the winning teams in each district will then be drawn against each other.

12. These rules are liable to alteration, subject to the approval of the Selangor Club Football Sub-Committee.

13. The Selangor Club Football Sub-Committee will appoint one of their members as Secretary. He will receive all entries and keep an account of the expenditure and revenue, he will also keep a record of the competitions.

Entries to be sent to Mr. F. H. Lott, Hon. Sec., Football Sub-Committee.

CHINESE TIN MINING IN SELANGOR.

III.—PHASES AND PHRASES OF PRACTICAL MINING.

THIS article treats of different subjects, giving an insight into the ways, customs, superstitious observances and other peculiarities of the Chinese miner and tin mining generally.

The "kong-moon-choo," or landlord, pre-eminently claims the first place in this chapter. He holds the land from the State and either mines it himself or sublets it to others on what is commonly known as "chabut" or "chukei" (royalty) which generally takes the shape of a tithe. In former days, before the invasion of the "foo-moh-qui" (red-haired devils) and when the Land Department and its attendant evils of survey fees and quit-rents were unknown, the kong-moon-choos were, to all intents, feudal lords, holding large districts from the Sultan or Malay Chiefs. Some laid claim to a whole waterbasin; others owned a certain "sungei" (stream) and its tributaries; others again had the exclusive right of mining within the area covered by the sound of a "pong" (the wooden drum used for calling the coolies), or as far as the crowing of a cock could be heard; while the famous Captain Ah Loy, it is said, had exclusive control over the whole of the Kuala Lumpur District, commencing from the point on the Klang River where tidal influences cease, or, as the local version has it, "where the fresh water meets the salt." The conditions attached to these holdings were that the lessees should submit to a mild kind of exaction in the shape of petty presents, and a "chabut" of one slab of tin out of every ten that came down the river, besides rendering assistance either in money or men in the then frequent warfare between rival chiefs. Surveys were unknown, of course, but rivers, streams, hills, prominent objects, or cuts in the bark of large trees served the purpose of demarcation of boundaries. Things have since changed. These feudal territories were abandoned or resumed on the advent of the "Coom-pa-nga" (a corruption of the "Company" of British India), as the Government is called, and allotted in smaller areas to the different kong-moon-choos of the present day. When not mining himself the kong-moon-choo charges the miner, or what may be called his tenant, a "chukei" generally amounting to "ship-choo-yit" (lit., out of ten take one), a term equivalent to the "sapuloh satu" of the Malays, that is, ten per cent. But the rate varies according to circumstances, and the following may be taken as fair examples of the arrangements generally entered into between the kong-moon-choo and his tenant:—

If the landlord merely sublets his land he levies a "chukei" of from 5 to 8 per cent. according to the richness of the tin-bearing drift. When he undertakes to erect cooly lines, cut water-courses and otherwise improve the land, either an additional 2 or 3 per cent. is demanded, or the original "chukei" (on the land alone) is allowed to stand, provided the tenant makes good to him the cost of his

improvements out of the first output of tin. In the event of his also undertaking to "pump" the mine a percentage of from 12 to 16 is levied on the output, but this varies according to the method employed, pumping by water power being cheaper than by steam-engine and centrifugal pump.

Under this system one is apt to think that the kong-moon-choo has a tendency to grow rich at the expense of the *bona fide* miner, his tenant, and that the latter is an ill-used creature liable to be black-mailed and squeezed at the will of the former. But when the position comes to be fairly understood this may not necessarily be the case.

It is true that the tenant undertakes all the risk of mining while the landlord levies his royalty. But if the former be making money by it, does he not owe it to the landlord through whose agency he has acquired this profitable mine? Then again it must be remembered that the kong-moon-choo has expended a certain amount of time, labour and skill in discovering the land, besides paying the initial cost of surveying and prospecting. Why, then, grudge him the "chukei" he enjoys? I put forth this argument advisedly, having heard it said on several occasions that the "chukei" system is unjust and should not be tolerated. It is a well-known fact that miners would rather pay a very high royalty (and still make money), than mine, without royalty, on doubtful ground leased directly from the Government. What, it may be asked, must be the feelings of a landlord who, having sublet his land at 3 per cent. finds that his tenant is making a dividend of 40 per cent. out of it? Must he not feel as if he has made the greatest possible blunder and that existence is a burden? If, therefore, both parties are satisfied, let them then remain so. *Cui bono?* Let those see to it who are interested.

But whatever may be said of the kong-moon-choo, he comes of a hospitable race. In the days when rest houses and metalled roads were not, he was ever ready to accommodate a benighted traveller in his jungle fastness; and in the case of European visitors, and especially of the "leong-tee-coom" (land measurer, the special object of his solicitude), his hospitality was apt to take the form of "wee-see-kee" of questionable blend and cheap "sam-pain" (of the "Comet" variety), of which he kept a stock in his kongsi to provide against such emergencies. The neighbouring Malay headmen and penghulus, too, used to regard him *in loco parentis*, and would coax many a gantang of rice out of him in return for their prayers to the gods to give him plenty of "untung" (profit).

But railways, "kreta post" (mail-carts) and other facilities for travelling have done not a little to blunt the kong-moon-choos' hospitable instincts, and weary and thirsty travellers may now only look forward to the universal cup of tea or, on very rare occasions, to a pint of "beer kunchi" (key braud) from the village shop near by.

Superstitions.—The Chinese miner has peculiar ideas about tin and its properties, which, to a great extent, he has imbibed from the

Malay medicine-man. He believes that the tin and "mang" (pyrites) are endowed with life. Hence the superstition that tin ore may turn into "mang" if he fails to propitiate certain spirits under whose protection he believes the tin to be; and that the useless pyrites may be converted into good ore by various processes—the metamorphosis in this latter case being generally wrought by felling the primeval forest and allowing the land to remain, as it were, fallow for a year or two before commencing operations.

To describe certain things in the mines he uses a special language analogous to the "Bahasa Pantang" of the Malays, which is a kind of artificial dialect used in searching for jungle produce or minerals. There are the "Pantang Gharu" used by eagle-wood hunters, the "Pantang Kapur" of camphor hunters, and the "Pantang Mas" used by those engaged in gold or tin mining. Thus for "bijeh" (tin sand) they say "buah rumput" (grass seed). A snake is called "akar" (creeper or laine) instead of "ular." Metallic tin is "batu puteh" (white stone) instead of "timah," etc.

The Chinese name for this special mining vocabulary is "coot-lap-san," which means "sever, entangle, separate." Owing to the peculiarity of the Chinese language, where one sound conveys different meanings according to the characters and tones used, the "coot-lap-san" differs from the "Bahasa Pantang" inasmuch as while the latter uses special terms to signify particular objects, the former forbids the use of all words where the sounds of coot, lap, or san occur either as classifiers or independently (regardless of the meaning): or, to put it more plainly, no word must be used which has the sound of "coot," "lap," or "san."

The reason for this is obvious when it is remembered that "coot" means to sever or cut off, and that the mention of the word is therefore expected to lead to disastrous consequences by the sudden severance or "pinching out" of the seam of ore. "Lap" is also of ill omen, inasmuch as it might bring about an "entanglement" or complication in the affairs of the miner from which it would be difficult to extricate himself—inability to pay his debts, for instance. "San" is by far the most strictly tabooed of the three, as it leads to the separation of coolies and master, that is, to the closing of the mine.

Thus, when ordering a crowd to disperse, you must not say "san" (the correct word for "to separate") but "hang hoi" (lit., walk and open the way) or "cheu" (run). "Leong san" (umbrella) must be called "chia," its final syllable being objectionable.

For "lap vone" (a pile of cups) "thoong vone" must be used. The "lap" in this case is simply the classifier of "vone" (cup) but being similar in sound to the "lap," which means "entanglement," the classifier "thoong" has been wisely substituted.

"Hiet" (blood) must not be mentioned, but "foong" (red) should be used instead: thus, for "chut hiet" (bleeding) say "chut foong" (lit., red comes out). "Hiet" is objectionable because it might also mean to cease or stop, a word synonymous in meaning with "coot." The vegetable known as "kwi choy" (a kind of leek) is called "voon-

tong-choy" (lucky vegetable) but although the name comes under the category of the "coot-lap-san," I have not been able to discover the reason, as it has no affinity whatever in sound or meaning with either coot, lap or san. Similarly, instead of "fan-cheang" (fan) "chin foong" (good wind) is used, the same difficulty of explanation arising as in the case of the "kwi choy."

There are, again, certain acts which are forbidden. In the mine, especially if the "karang" has not yet been removed, it is forbidden to wear shoes or carry an umbrella. This rule, it seems, originated with the coolies themselves who in olden times insisted that the Towkay Labur should take off his shoes and close his umbrella whenever he visited the mine, so that, as they alleged, the spirits might not be offended. But their real object was not to allow him to pry too much into the mine, in case it might not bear scrutiny; and thus, by depriving him of the protection from the sun and from the rough mining quartz which would have been afforded by the umbrella and shoes, they prevented him from going about here, there and everywhere and making unpleasant enquiries, as he would otherwise have liked to do.

Quarrelling or fighting in the mine is strictly forbidden, as it has a tendency to drive away the ore.

Bathing in the mine is not allowed.

A man must not work in the mine with only his bathing cloth around his body. He must wear trousers.

If a man takes off his sun hat and puts it on the ground, he must turn it over and let it rest upon its crown.

Limes cannot be brought into the mine. This superstition is peculiar to the Malay miner, who has a special dread of this fruit, which, in "pantang" language he calls "salah nama" (lit., wrong name) instead of "limau nipis."

In looking at the check-roll it is forbidden to point at the names with the finger. No one may examine the check-roll at night with an open light, owing more probably to the fear of setting it on fire than to superstitious prejudices.

It is considered unlucky for a man to fall off the mining ladder, for, whether he is hurt or not, he is likely to die within the year.

An outbreak of fire in the mine is considered an omen of prosperity. Several mines have been known to double or treble their output of tin after the occurrence of a fire.

It is unlucky for a cooly to die in the kongsi house. When, therefore, a man is very sick and past all hopes of recovery, it is customary to put him out of the house in an extempore hut erected in the scrub, so that death may not take place in the kongsi amongst the living. His "chuleis" attend to him during his last hours and bury him when dead. These and other superstitious ideas and observances are, however, fast dying out, though it would still be an unsafe experiment to enter a mine with shoes on and an umbrella over your head.

Time.—In former days, when clocks were not so easily obtained, the Chinese miner had to tell the time of day by measuring his own shadow or by the help of the sun-dial. This is still done in small mines situated in remote places. When working "overtime" the coolies count time by burning joss sticks. Thus two joss sticks (leong kee heong), or rather the duration of time it takes to burn two sticks consecutively, make one hour (koong). This practice, though done away with in large mines, is still very common with petty Towkay Laburs working on the share system. Joss stick burning is very unsatisfactory, and when unwatched, the coolies are apt to steal time by inclining the stick to windward at an angle which helps it to burn out sooner.

Another curious practice in reckoning time may perhaps be of interest: If it rains when the coolies are working, in the afternoon, they have, of course, to return to the kongsi, and the question whether they should get a "koong" (*i.e.*, be put down in the check-roll) for the work done depends on what the cook is doing in the kitchen at the time. If he has put the lid on the rice pan and withdrawn the fire from the furnace (this is done when the rice is cooked and requires slow heat to keep it hot and dry) they get "koong," but if they return before that event, their labour is lost. The rice is cooked and the fire withdrawn at about 3 p.m. It may also be mentioned here that when it rains no one is allowed to leave the mine until water begins to drop from the rim of his sun-hat or from the eaves of the kongsi. Distance is commonly measured by joss sticks, that is, the amount of ground covered by a man in the period of time it takes to burn out a single joss stick. One joss stick (yit kee heong) is equal to one Chinese mile ($1\frac{1}{2}$ English mile), and this would mean walking at the rate of three miles (English) per hour.

Charcoal carriers are always paid by the number of "joss sticks" they travel and not by the quantity or weight carried, which invariably averages about a pikul. This is only fair to the carriers when it is borne in mind that some charcoal pits are situated at a greater distance from the mine than others and that no other way than payment by mileage (joss sticks) could reduce to equilibrium their daily earnings.

Strikes amongst coolies are not uncommon. Sometimes the men strike for mere trifles, such as bad salt fish or inferior quality of rice, but this is rare. A strike, however, would assume serious proportions if the Towkay Labour should reduce the wages, increase the prices of provisions, introduce innovations or break his contract with the men. There is of course the usual ringleader, who gathers together his "chuleis" or otherwise creates a majority on his side, which the others, however peaceably inclined, dare not resist. Mutual concessions on both sides generally settle matters, but where one party is obdurate the coolies leave the mine, in which case the Towkay Labour gives vent to his feeling by saying "Tai ma chut tam chia loy"—*i.e.*, "One man goes out with nothing but a hat, another swaggers in with an umbrella," a proverb which, however consolatory at the time, may not be quite satisfactory if labour is scarce.—J. C. P.

NOTES AND NEWS.

MRS. RODGER gave a Dance at the Residency on New Year's Eve. Close upon a hundred invitations were issued, many of the guests coming in from the out stations. At midnight "Auld lang syne" was sung by the company, who then sat down to supper. Dancing was afterwards resumed until about 2 a.m.

H.E. MAJOR-GENERAL H. T. JONES-VAUGHAN, C.B., General Officer Commanding the Troops, S.S., accompanied by Lieutenant R. H. Isacke as Staff Officer, arrived last Saturday by the evening train from Klang, and was received by Mr. J. P. Rodger, Acting British Resident, and a Guard of Honour at the Kuala Lumpur Passenger Station. His Excellency arrived at an opportune moment, for proceeding along with Mr. Rodger to the Masonic Hall he was enabled to gaze upon the infancy, youth and beauty of Kuala Lumpur assembled for the Christmas Tree Festival. On Monday afternoon at 4.30 His Excellency inspected the Sikhs on the Parade Ground. To the eye of the civilian the men went through their marchings, drill and bayonet exercise with a smartness and cleanliness of movement that was pleasant to watch. In addition to the ordinary inspection drills, several movements were executed at the request of the General. Mr. and Mrs. Rodger and a large number of spectators were present at the inspection. At the finish of the parade, a general move was made in the direction of the Fire Brigade Station, where Chief Officer Bellamy and his men were waiting to receive His Excellency and other guests, the Acting Resident having intimated his intention of inspecting the Brigade. A thorough inspection of the appliances and gear having been made, a wet drill, similar to the one arranged for H.E. the Governor, was performed. Chief Officer Bellamy was warmly complimented on the general equipment and the efficiency displayed. At 6.30 on Tuesday morning a body of Sikhs entered the jungle near the Residency gates with the object of storming the Guard House in the grounds, a small defending body, under the command of the General, having previously taken up a position there. Surprises, in the form of flanking parties, were tried on both sides; but we are unable to say with which side victory rested. Later on in the morning the Fort and Barracks

were inspected. During his stay His Excellency inspected the Rifle Range and visited the Golf Links and the new Racecourse, and on Monday night was, together with Mr. Rodger and many others, invited by the Captain China to witness a performance at the Chinese Theatre. His Excellency left Kuala Lumpur on Wednesday by the afternoon train for Klang, on his way to Sungei Ujong and Jelebu.

H.E. the Governor, when in Kuala Lumpur, took a great interest in St. Mary's Church and was kind enough to make a donation of \$20 in aid of the Church expenses, the receipt of which we have been requested, by the Hon. Secretary of the Church Committee, to acknowledge.

WE hear that during his recent visit H.E. the Governor was greatly pleased with the signs of progress evident both at Semenyih and at Kajang since he last passed through. At Kajang His Excellency lunched at the District Officer's quarters.

DR. HERTZ has returned from Saigon, looking the picture of health and in excellent spirits. During his stay there, no less than five patients from the Native States were under treatment in this French institution. Dr. Braddon had left Saigon just before Dr. Hertz arrived. It seems strange that those who are under British protection should have to seek relief in any form from a foreign power; but, while it is so, we must be thankful that the foreigner is not so far behind the times as we are.

WE understand that Mr. E. J. Roe, of the clerical service, has been appointed a Junior Officer. Mr. Roe, both as Chief Clerk, Rawang, and Chief Clerk of the Police Department, has given evidence of his ability, and we congratulate him on his promotion and the Government on securing the services of one who, we feel sure, will prove a zealous and capable officer.

MR. WALSH is at present engaged in setting out the permanent way of the extension of the Sungei Besi line to Kajang, and the work of construction will follow on as rapidly as possible. Every endeavour will be made to have the line ready for traffic by the end of the year. It is expected that the advent of the railway will work wonderful changes in Kajang and Semenyih. The value of town lots, we hear, is rapidly rising.

MRS. PRENTICE returned to Kuala Lumpur last week after three years in Europe.—The Hon. Martin Lister is at present in Kuala

Lumpur.—The Rev. G. M. Reith paid a short visit to Selangor this week, as the guest of Mr. Alexander.—Messrs. A. H. Bagnall and W. D. Fisher are expected to arrive in Kuala Lumpur before long; it is probable that they will be engaged on the S.G.R. Extensions.—Mr. Stokoe has applied for home leave.—Mr. Spearing, District Engineer, Klang, will shortly take up the duties of Engineer in charge of the Pahang Trunk Road.—Mr. Hubback, a brother of Mr. A. B. Hubback, will arrive at the end of this week; he has been appointed a District Engineer and will be placed in charge of the Coast Districts.—Mr. E. B. Skinner will shortly relinquish charge of the Batu Caves Estate, as he is about to open up coffee in connection with Messrs. Hicks and Allen, two of the latest additions to our planting community.

THE Christmas Tree for the children of Kuala Lumpur flourished this year at the Masonic Hall, and thanks to the trouble and care of the Committee of Ladies, presided over by Mrs. Rodger, who were responsible for the arrangements, and to the good fortune of this Committee in having such an energetic and painstaking Hon. Sec. as Mr. A. R. Venning, the tree blossomed in a manner quite in accordance with ancient custom. When, last year, permission was given to have the entertainment at the Victoria Institution, it was generally felt that a more suitable place would be hard to find; but since then the large space of the Institution has been sub-divided into class-rooms, and it became necessary to again look abroad for accommodation—and, if the crowded room of last Saturday is any criterion, a still larger space will be wanted next year. Happy thought! the new Government Offices will be completed by then. It is quite clear that each year the increasing crowd will require more care and thought to be given to method and arrangement. Plenty of space is an absolute necessity, insuring as it should proper ventilation. The heat of the room on Saturday was overpowering, and those ladies and gentlemen who were engaged round the illuminated tree in distributing toys must have felt most uncomfortably warm. It is just a question whether an open-air gathering, with a large marquee, called for five o'clock instead of six, would not be better. The oranges and cakes and sweeties could be given to the children to begin with, then the toys (previously arranged in the tent) might be drawn for, and finally the Christmas Tree illuminated as a closing show. This could very well be done in the grounds of the Masonic Hall, for there, in the event of rain, shelter could be taken in the building. However, this can hardly be considered a description of last Saturday's treat. The Hall had been divided, long seats forming barriers, into three parts:

the end of the room was the part allotted for the tree and tables for toys, with an entrance on either side, one for girls and the other for boys; the centre of the room was supposed to be for children and only those who were in charge of them, while the end of the room near the entrance and the verandahs were left for spectators. The number of children for whom toys were provided was 71 boys, 76 girls and 31 babies, 178 in all (143 last year); and even then, sad to say, at the last moment it was discovered that some had been left out. Messrs. Pritchard and Co., of Penang supplied the toys, which were of a very varied nature—but not a whit more varied than the nationalities of the recipients. The appearance of the tree, with its lighted candles, coloured shades, globes and tinsel was very brilliant; and those wonderful revolving lamps of Messrs. Riley, Hargreaves and Co. (kindly lent for the occasion) were again the wonder of the children. The amount subscribed does not fully cover the outlay, a small sum having to be drawn from the reserve of last year—but although the treat has been given, and possibly many of the toys already the worse for wear, and undoubtedly all the sweetstuff eaten, it is no reason why anyone who from one cause or another missed the opportunity of subscribing before should not do so now, and every reason why those who did put their names down should pay without delay. The Committee wish to express their thanks to all who helped to give the children their annual treat, as well as to the Masons for the use of their hall; and we feel sure that we are doing what the children would wish when we express their gratitude to the Committee for what they have done for them this year, and for what they feel sure they will do for them next year.

MR. W. W. SKEAT, Acting District Officer, Ulu Langat, writes:—
 “The ascent of Mount Ophir has so often been accomplished and described that a detailed account by me would, I think, be an infliction unmerited by your long-suffering readers, Mr. Editor. A few hints to would-be climbers of the mountain would perhaps be more acceptable to the majority. Its height is, I believe, about 4,000 feet, and as it rises somewhat suddenly from the plain, actual climbing does not begin until the traveller is close up to it. From Malacca to Chabau *via* Jasin (distance, so far as I recollect, about 27 miles) there is a good road for driving, and if three ponies are sent on, it can be traversed in very fair time, though it is a little hilly at one or two points. Sleep the night at the Penghulu's house, Chabau, or push on to Relau (four miles) and sleep at the Penghulu's house there. This last four miles, however, is along a most execrably bad road over which nothing but a bullock cart can live, and that not always; it is very bad, in fact, even for pedestrians and will probably take some time to traverse, though I am glad to say that efforts are now being made to improve it. At Relau the road, which has for some time been getting narrower and more grass-grown, stops short in a coconut-grove close to the Penghulu's house; and thence nothing but a native footpath leads to the mountain. Guides having been procured from the Penghulu, either at Relau or Chabau, the ascent begins, the path crossing a succession of buffalo paddocks and skirting the padi fields; but it

must be remembered that after leaving Relau no more houses will be met on the route, and that no more water will be obtainable after leaving the lower falls, which are met not long after the start, until the heights of Padang Batu are reached. At Padang Batu, which can be reached after a stiffish climb of from three to four hours' duration, a small but comfortable hut will be met where the night can be passed and a most refreshing bath obtained in the stream which spills itself over the granite boulders of the steep hillside and issues from a spring at a few yards distance from the hut. The whole of this hillside here is almost bare of trees, having been burnt in former days (I was informed) by the Sakais who used to live there. Whether it is the spot where the Princess of the Mountain (Tuan Putri Gunung Ledang) used to reside, is a matter of pure conjecture, but I may notice in passing that although the local Malays appear to be entirely ignorant of her history, there is evidence to shew that she not only existed, but that she fled to Bukit Jugra, a fact which chimes in curiously with local Jugra traditions.* Most conspicuous are the curious firs, which are called Aru (*i.e.* 'Ru) trees by the local Malays, although they have no resemblance whatever to the *Casuarina littorea*, which grows on sandy stretches by the sea. Besides these are some very large pitcher-plants growing by the stream and two curious varieties of fern whose leaves at once strike the eye as being of unusual shape. Many miles away to the left as we stand by the hut stretches the Malacca coast, with its little group of neighbouring islands plainly discernible. On the right my own view was marred by dense banks of clouds which blotted out the entire landscape. The return journey from this point can be made in about $2\frac{1}{2}$ hours, but it is usual to spend the night at the hut, continuing along the sky line to the summit and returning the next day. The popularity of the mountain is of course due to the well-known fact that a rather wild conjecture, entirely innocent of proof, long ago identified it with the Mount Ophir of Scripture. The modern traveller will seek in vain for further light on the subject, if he trust to the intelligence of the local Malays. Nor will he discover the traditional gold, ivory, or peacocks among them, though it is quite possible that he will meet with apes!"

A MEETING, to discuss the formation of a society which should provide its members with skilled nursing and other assistance in time of sickness, was held at the Residency on Monday, the 30th ult. Mrs. Rodger kindly presided, about twenty ladies being present. After a draft scheme (to be published later) setting forth the objects of the proposed society had been read by Dr. Travers, it was unanimously agreed that a society should be formed, and that it should be called the "Samaritan Society of Kuala Lumpur." The following ladies

* At the end of the Rio Code (formerly in use in Selangor) I read the following passage:—
"Sabermula Raja Malaka (*i.e.* Tuan Putri Gunung Ledang) dan Bendahara Paduka Raja dan Temenggong dan Laksamana duduk berkahwat di-atas Bukit Tanjong Jegra, itupun tiada sebut lagi, entah mati entah ghrub." That is to say, that after the taking of Malaka the Princess of the Mountain and her Malay chiefs (after fleeing through the jungle) took up residence on Bukit (Tanjong) Jegra (or Jugra); and no further news of them ever reached Malacca.

were then elected to draw up rules and carry out the general business of the society: *President*, Mrs. Rodger; *Treasurer*, Mrs. Syers; *Secretary*, Mrs. Harper; and five members of *Committee*—Mrs. Haines, Mrs. Maynard, Mrs. Stafford, Mrs. Venning and Mrs. Watkins. It was also decided that all members should pay a subscription of not less than 25 cents a month, which amount might be voluntarily added to. Those wishing to join the Samaritan Society are requested to send their names in at once to Mrs. Harper, stating the amount of monthly subscription that they are willing to pay.

SEVERAL tigers are known to be about at Kajang at present, and a larger number of domestic animals than usual have been their victims. A goat was taken in broad daylight nearly opposite to the District Officer's quarters, the tiger on being disturbed disappearing through the grounds of the bungalow. Goats have been taken in several places, a deer and a pig killed near the Cheras Road, and just across the river at Cheras a Siamese bull was killed a few days ago, apparently by more than one tiger. An unsuccessful attempt was made to shoot it from a *machan*, and at the beginning of the week a young tiger, just about half-grown, was shot by a *blantek* set by the police.

NOT only for coffee planting is there a demand for land in Kuala Selangor. We hear that an application has been received for a very extensive concession for pepper and gambier; also that a gentleman, lately visiting the district, expressed a desire to take up a thousand acres for coconut cultivation. This latter application is for land subject to tidal influence, which renders the area applied for useless for any other purpose. It is to be hoped that the latter application, at any rate, will be granted, for in that event the concessionaire has stated his willingness to import the necessary plant and machinery for the extraction of oil and the working of fibre, and start an industry that would bring wealth to the natives and to the Government. A high authority once informed us that our "tin won't last for ever," and that we were "going on the right lines in developing our agricultural resources." Therefore, let the development be encouraged.

IN the Ulu Selangor District for a period of three months from the 19th ult., all dogs found at large will be destroyed. In Kuala Lumpur a similar order is in force for five weeks from the 13th ult. We would draw the attention of our Kuala Lumpur readers to a notice that all dogs in the district must be registered at the Sanitary Board Office between the 9th and 31st of January. Elsewhere we print a letter on the question of Dog Registration in our districts.

IN Jebebu, according to Mr. Keyser's report for November, as in Perak and in Selangor, the dog question is an alarming one. "They are a source of annoyance and danger. The owners of these village curs allow them to breed and never think of killing any of the young ones and thus their numbers increase alarmingly."

FROM and after the 1st of April, 1896, the interest payable on deposits in the Selangor Government Savings Bank will be at the rate of 3 per cent. per annum.

THE "Labour Code," adapted from the Order in Council recently passed in Perak, is now in force in the State; as well as a Regulation regarding cemeteries. Both are published in the last *Gazette*.

REVISED fares and rates for both passengers and goods carried by the S.G.R. came into force on the 1st inst. First and second class return tickets are now available for the return journey for seven days, and third class tickets for three days.

THE nominations for the several Sanitary Boards of the State for 1896 were published in the last *Gazette*, as well as the Committees for the Tai Wah Institution, the Chinese Cooly Depôt, the Public Gardens and the Museum; and the rosters of Visiting Justices and Hospital Visitors for Kuala Lumpur.

IN 1891 the "Foreign Coin Prohibition" Regulation was passed in Council, and an Order under the Regulation was issued in March, 1893, prohibiting the importation from the 7th of April of that year of all copper and bronze coins issued by the Governments of British North Borneo, Sarawak and Brunei. A notification in the last *Gazette* draws the attention of Government Officers and of the public generally both to the Regulation and to the Order, and states that the provisions of the former will be strictly enforced. Section 4 of the Regulation reads as follows:—

"4. (1) If any person shall in contravention of any such Order import or attempt to import any coin in such Order specified to the amount in nominal value of five dollars or upwards in the case of copper or bronze coin, or of twenty-five dollars or upwards in the case of silver coin, he shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding five hundred dollars; and if the amount in nominal value is one hundred dollars or upwards to imprisonment either in lieu of or in addition to such fine.

"(2) Any coin imported or attempted to be imported in contravention of any such Order to the amount in nominal value of five dollars or upwards in the case of copper or bronze coin, or of twenty-five dollars or upwards in the case of silver coin, shall be forfeited.

"(3) The provisions of this section shall not apply to coin imported for trans-shipment under a license in writing under the hand of the Government Secretary."

ONE of the largest native gatherings yet held in the Ulu Langat District took place at Mr. Skeat's bungalow at Kajang last Saturday. All the members of the small European community were present and the Malays exhibited their skill in sword-dances, saucer-dances, and

many other kinds of entertainment. The festivities were kept up with great vigour and enthusiasm until a very late hour.

At a meeting of the Committee of the Rifle Association held on Wednesday last it was resolved that the Rifle Range remain closed, with the exception of the last Saturday in each month, until March, when the Committee will publish a programme of arrangements for the coming season. In the meantime the Morris Tube Range, near the Selangor Club, will be open for practice every Monday and Thursday at 4 o'clock till dusk and Sundays at 10 to 12 o'clock. Matches may be arranged at any time to take place on either of the above dates.

A GENERAL MEETING of members of the Selangor Planters' Association will be held in the Reading Room of the Selangor Club to-morrow, Saturday, at 10.30 a.m., to transact the general business of the Association and to consider any other points of which due notice may have been given to the Committee. Draft Agenda of Business:—1. To read and, if approved, confirm the minutes of the last General Meeting. 2. To consider correspondence with Government on the subject of certificates of discharge to coolies. 3. To consider proposed letter to the Resident in accordance with the suggestion of His Excellency the Governor to the S. P. A. deputation, on 19th December, 1895, *re* (a) Written contracts with coolies; (b) Preferential claim to mining rights; (c) Arbitration on acquisition of land by Government. 4. To consider correspondence with the S. U. P. A., *re* proposed Central Association. 5. To consider any other points, of which due notice may have been given.

The following is a draft of resolution to be brought forward at the above meeting:

That owing to the facility with which Tamil absconders are at present able to obtain employment wherever they may offer their services, thus causing serious loss to employers, and laying the whole community open to the contingency of having the unpleasant charge of crimping preferred against them: it is desirable that immediate steps should be taken to put this question upon a more satisfactory basis, and with this object in view this Association submits for the consideration of Government the accompanying suggestions, the adoption of which it is believed will go far towards rectifying an evil which is becoming every day more apparent and which, unless checked, may lead to very serious results. It is therefore recommended that—

1. All Tamil coolies being fresh arrivals in the State should be furnished, both at sea ports and the terminal Police Stations on roads leading from neighbouring States, with certificates to the effect that they are *bonâ fide* new comers, and therefore eligible for employment.

2. All employers of Tamil labour, other than day labour, should be required under penalty of a fine of not less than to furnish a certificate of discharge to every cooly leaving their employ.

3. It should be incumbent upon all employers, on a Tamil cooly applying for work, to demand from such cooly the production of his

certificate, either of arrival or discharge, and anyone found employing a cooly without such certificate, unless able to prove the cooly to have been a servant of his prior to the coming into effect of these rules, should be liable to a fine of not less than.....

4. Employers should be entitled to demand from every Tamil cooly applying for and obtaining work, the certificate which he possesses on his arrival.

5. In the case of Tamil labourers *employed and paid by the day*, whilst their obligation to produce certificates, as in para. 3, should remain the same, employers, upon settling their accounts, should be required to return to labourers the certificates originally produced by them, under penalty of a fine of not less than.....

6. Such rules should not be enforced for six months after they have been agreed to.

7. Proceeds of fines to go towards cost of supplying passes.

THE following note comes to us from Kobe; the writer says he is in excellent health, had a splendid passage, and is now in the midst of freezing weather:—That the Native States can, and do, produce some of the ablest administrators of our time nobody would deny, I am sure! Still, Selangor is not quite so well known as it should be. To ask the Canadian Pacific Steamship Company in Hongkong for a reduced passage rate to America on the grounds of being a Selangor Government Official, and then to be answered with "Selangor? Where's Selangor? Is it a British Colony? No; sorry, can't do it. You must pay full fare," is annoying and derogatory to the aforesaid important State! Luckily, however, the Pacific Steam Navigation Company are more up to date (although the C.P.R.S.S. Co., said they wouldn't be) and at once recognised Selangor as a British possession. It must have been my "Entirely under the control of the Governor in Singapore, don't-cher-know," that fetched them. But when, within half an hour, an old Hongkong resident asked after the *Selangor Journal* my spirits revived, and I comforted myself with the thought that after all Selangor is a most wonderful place, which has but to be known to be appreciated, as Chow Kit says in his advertisement. Then came Shanghai—the Paris of the Far East—Selangor not known, forsooth! Why, everybody knows about the Native States; and when Selangor is mentioned you could cut the surrounding profanity with a knife, and anybody talking about tin mines is likely to meet with a sudden and untimely end. Native States celebrities in North China! One of the first of our old friends I heard of was Count Bernstorff. Now what on earth is he doing? you ask. A.D.C. to a Chinese Viceroy. How's that? The Count seems to have fallen on his feet. Next, I met Mr. Williams, who formerly managed for Messrs. Maynard in Kuala Lumpur. He is in the same line of business up here, and except that he looks a little older and a trifle stouter seems as fit as ever. I grieve to relate that he unblushingly stated that he preferred Shanghai to Kuala Lumpur. There's no accounting for tastes, Mr. S. Hart, formerly of Kuala

Lumpur and war correspondent fame, is also reported to be knocking about Shanghai. But it is Sungei Ujong that has the honour of fathering Shanghai's best-known representative from the Native States. For does not Captain Mackenzie now command some six hundred mixed European-Sikh-Chinese Police, besides serving as Adjutant to the Shanghai Volunteers? That distinguished corps which comprises four companies of foot, one of cavalry, one of artillery and one of engineers. Words fail me in attempting to describe the absolutely palatial police stations, the admirable way in which 47 miles of streets are patrolled and the splendid detective system in vogue in the Settlement, which numbers some two hundred and fifty thousand people. The French settlement adjoining numbers some hundred thousand persons, whilst the Chinese city itself at the back of these two must number some three hundred thousand. There is free intercourse between all these places, yet the police in the English and American settlements (united) managed to recover property worth \$44,859 out of property worth \$46,327 reported stolen—in 1894. Capt. Mackenzie (Deputy Supt. of Police) has been Acting Superintendent for the last four months. He first joined the Marines, then the Indian Staff Corps, next went as Adjutant to the Houssas on the West Coast of Africa, and thence came over to the Penang Police, from where he was appointed to Sungei Ujong. Small wonder then that first and foremost Captain Mackenzie is a soldier. His fifty European Police are armed with the Lee-Metford and his Sikhs with Martinis, and all, including the Chinese, must drill at least once a week. He resides in a flat in the Central Police Station. The flat has a private entrance, electric light, and water laid on. It is furnished in the latest and most orthodox English style, thick carpets, rugs, blazing fires, etc.—in fact coming off the steamer the place was like a little paradise. Mrs. Mackenzie, who still looks back on her residence in the Straits with pleasure, told me that they live in an unceasing whirl of balls, dinners and tiffins throughout the winter. In fact, so numerous are the gaieties of Shanghai that the dates of the different balls are inserted in the daily papers some six weeks in advance. Life in Shanghai is gay and luxurious in the extreme, and Capt. Mackenzie's position involves himself and Mrs. Mackenzie in the thickest and forefront of it all. What a change after Seremban, which can hardly be called a very gay place.—J. H. M. R.

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PREPARING FOR AN "H.E."

IT is a long time ago, and seems longer when you think of the amount of detail in the way of incidents you get jammed into your time out here, and we were young and inexperienced, particularly in the matter of "H.E.'s", but whether we were any better or worse than we are now is open to question. We were deputed to prepare for a picnic away in the "negri punya hati," as it has been described, at which an H.E. would be present. "We"

consisted of a "deputy Bobby," the caretaker of the State "oof"—now, alas, no more—a Coffee Cooler—planter, I should say—and myself, "Ezra the Scribe," so-called because I write so nicely. The State "Oof-bird" and I considered our importance as harbingers of an H.E. so great that our dignity repelled the ordinary means of getting about the country in those days—on horseback—as incompatible with our duties, and we secured the, I fancy, only gharry then in the town—the balance being scattered in conditions of sorts up and down the Damansara Road.

The Bobby and the Planter, not so puffed up with pride, kept "their hair on" and rode the same ponies, by the way, they used to drive in tandem, each driving his own animal—more advance being made in the study of bad language than in actual progression.

I forget now what sort of gharry pony we had as compared with these we have now; all went well, however, for the first three miles—we had eight to do over an unmetalled, unfinished earth road—when it dawned upon me that the syce was needlessly merciful to his beast and that if we ever hoped to reach the camp that night my personal efforts would alone effect this, and therein I was aided and abetted by the State Oof-bird. I endeavoured by persuasion to induce the syce to let me drive—granted; but without the only means of propulsion, the whip, further persuasion useless. Result: absolute exhaustion of my vernacular and utter collapse of temper ending in my collapse also on the slippery soil and the careful deposit of my carcass in the newly cut earth drain on the road-side, entirely unaided on the part of the syce or the Oof-bird—the latter sat placidly smiling in the gharry. There I lay on my back as carefully and systematically stowed away as if I had been in my coffin. Have you ever tried to smile when you feel you have made an ass of yourself? Try it. I did on this occasion and I have never tried it since that I am aware of, because all the sympathy I got was, "Don't, pleathe don't, I never thaw anything tho dreadful in my life." I wondered what he alluded to, and as I picked myself up I looked round and asked him what he meant, and he merely said, "That thmile." This was the only episode of the journey I can recollect, but I am not likely to forget that. We arrived at the camp ultimately and there found old Sandy, the contractor's agent, well and hearty. As usual, you who now live in more or less "palatial abodes" can little realise what sort of a domicile these pioneers were contented with—proud of, is, I think, the more correct expression.

This camp, or "bungalow" as Sandy designated it, consisted of one large room raised some eight or nine feet above the ground, the space between the ground and the floor being used as the dining-room, drawing-room or study, according to the taste of the occupant. The room above, which served as a bedroom, was floored with round sticks of all sizes and shapes—unbarked and in this particular house more full of knots than usual. It was always my good fortune to be allotted to the knottiest corner in the room for my bed, and that irritability of temper characteristic of me at the present day may be put down to this, as in whatever position I lay on my thin Malay mattress these knots would work into the most sensitive parts and make night

hideous. "What a charm jungle life has after all!" said I, after the weary ride in a wretched gharry at a snail's pace, but none the less to me perilous. "What comfort there is in being able to strip oneself of all one's conventionalities—although that's not what they are generally called—to get into 'sarong' and 'baju' and loll in a long chair for a *dolce far niente*." "What's that?" asked the Planter, "that's a fine word," trying to take a rise out of me—he was always trying to be "brani." "Oh, that's all right, old chap, that's French, and you won't understand it, and it is nothing to eat." Rather think I had him there. Sandy, more practical, translated it and the lotion was brought and enjoyed.

Among the preparations for H. E. were several cases of combustibles—comestibles, I mean—both dry and wet; among those wet were several cases of that peculiarly seductive beverage known as "The Boy." The contents of the cases, solid and liquid, served to make us a most excellent dinner. We dined wisely and well and the Boy made men of us. Jokes, fairy tales and experiences helped to pass the after-dinner hours. Experiences of many and strange places from the Oof-bird and the Bobby, who had seen much of this good old world; experiences also from the Planter, Sandy, and myself, also strange and varied, which if not strictly true did credit to our imaginations and memories. But you never know your luck! and there was a sword of Damocles or some other fellow hanging over us that we did not reckon on. The spirit or the Boy moved him and the Oof-bird said, "I thay, Shandy, old chap, you will have to make a thpeech to-morrow and propothe the health of H. E." This was carried *nem. con.*, in spite of every protest by Sandy and we all put our heads together to concoct a speech. As my manuscript is so easily decipherable, especially when one is at all nervous, as would be the case in addressing an H. E. in a maiden effort, I was deputed to commit the speech to paper. There never was such a speech and never will be again in Selangor. We "framed" for it—that's the only word, and being suggestive of a fight is most applicable as we could not have been in more deadly earnest. I began it, "Your Excellency, Ladies and Gentlemen——" "That be blowed, that's not the way to begin. The idea of putting H. E. before all the ladies. It is no good trying to make a speech if you override all the rules of etiquette, to say nothing of decency. It should be, 'Ladies, Your Excellency and Gentlemen'—that doesn't sound right though," and so it went on, all arguing one against the other and casting reflections on each other's knowledge of etiquette and decency. All I had got down after about one hour's Billingsgate was "Ladies, Your Excellency and Gentlemen." Finally a compromise was made to leave H. E. out altogether as it was his health that was to be proposed. Peace being restored I struck out "Your Excellency" and started afresh thus: "Ladies and Gentlemen, I rise with considerable diffidence to"—"That's all rot" came as an interruption of which I took no notice—"propose a toast in which I am sure you will be, etc., etc."

What it all was I forget now, but we managed to grind out enough rubbish to fill a page and a half of foolscap, which was

carefully taken charge of by Sandy for further study in the morning. I turned in first and was in what my wife calls my "beauty sleep" when I awoke in agony to find the others prodding at me through the floor with forks and things. They, however, settled down after a time and we slept the sleep of those "on the bust."

Early the next morning I was awakened by Sandy saying, "Here, old man, I wish you'd come down and read this blessed (?) speech." He was evidently much disturbed about his maiden effort and we turned out. All the others had a go at it and "passed." "Give it to me, you chaps ought to go back to school and learn to read." I took it on, it was all right as far as given above, but when I got that far I began to feel proud, as I had undoubtedly and absolutely unconsciously acquired either shorthand or Malay, and as none of the others could read either I rather scored for a time by holding out that the rest of the speech was in shorthand. "Well, tell us what it all is." I improvised for some time but they were not to be bluffed and first one and then the other pointed out that what I now said was not what had been concocted overnight, and to make matters worse they all differed in their opinions as to what had been written overnight, and we had to start afresh. Sandy and I got it up, he wrote it this time while the Bobby and the others prepared the feast. Sandy got it fairly off by heart and we started off to help the others. He, however, constantly stopped in carrying a duck or a tin of grapes or something of that sort to refer to his notes, carefully putting his duck or grapes to rest in the jungle and generally putting his foot on it in stowing away his notes. H. E. arrived, lunch was demolished and we worked poor old Sandy to the sticking point. He rose, when, horror of horrors, H. E. got up also. Sandy yielded, and as H. E. said, "Well, now, I think we will have a look at the scenery," Sandy gave a faint and pitiful smile and the speech never came off.—EZRA.

ETHEREAL SCIENCE—PART II.*

(Concluded from page 65).

SINCE 1889 a brilliant investigator of Bonn University, named Cornelius Hertz, has been carrying out experiments which shew in a startling manner the relationship between electric and light waves.

While measuring some minute sparks by means of the micro-meter, to increase the accuracy of his measurements, he enclosed the sparking points in a darkened case. The result of doing so was to decrease the size of the sparks. Removing different portions of his case, he found that one side only affected the size of the spark discharge. This side was screening the sparks under observation from other sparks which were simultaneously being generated by the same apparatus. Thus was discovered the effect of an ultra violet light on

* Extracts from a Paper by Mr. A. S. Baxendale, read before the members of the Selangor Scientific Society, at the Selangor Club, on 15th August, 1895.

a spark discharge. The following were some of his observations. The means he took of observing the effect of different substances on the rays, was by interposing the substance under observation in the space between the primary and side discharge points. He found that:

“The relation between the two sparks is reciprocal.”

“A small spark discharge affects considerably a larger and stronger spark.”

“The effect of the active spark spreads out on all sides in straight lines and forms rays exactly in accordance with the laws of the propagation of light.”

“Most solid bodies hinder the action of the active spark but not all, a few solid bodies are transparent to it.”

All metals proved to be opaque. Some crystals proved to be transparent. Selenite and rock crystal proved to be completely transparent. Liquids proved to be partly transparent and partly opaque. Some remarkable results were obtained in connection with liquids. The addition of salts extinguished the sparks in some cases even before any distinct colouring of the water could be perceived.

Some gases permitted the transmission of the action even to considerable distances. Some gases, however, were very opaque to it.

The intensity of the action increased when the air around the passive spark was rarefied—at any rate, up to a certain point.

The action of the active spark was reflected from most polished surfaces. From polished surfaces the reflection took place according to the laws of regular reflection of light.

In passing from air into a solid transparent medium the action of the active spark exhibited a refraction like that of light, but it was more strongly refracted than visible light.

As regards rectilinear propagation, Hertz says, “Insulators do not stop the ray, it passes right through a wooden partition or door and it is not without astonishment that one sees the sparks appear inside a closed room.”

Now it is time to turn our attention to the ether.

Belief in the existence of the ether was postulated by scientists when unable to otherwise explain the possibility of action at a distance. Not only are the phenomena of heat, light, magnetism, electricity, and gravity acting through space responsible for its hypothetical existence; but, from observation of these phenomena, have grown the different theories of the functions and nature of the ether.

Two of its attributes are absolute density and incompressibility. If these qualities are rightly attributed to it they will prevent our ever being able to produce an ethereal vacuum, but no scientist of any standing now disbelieves in its existence. We may therefore take its existence for granted and also that it is the medium which permits of action at a distance, whether such action is shewn in the form of gravity, magnetism, heat, light, or electricity.

As regards the properties of ether Professor Lodge says:—

“Ether appears to be a perfectly homogeneous incompressible continuous body, which is incapable of being resolved into simpler elements

or atoms; it is, in fact, continuous not molecular. There is no other body of which we can say this, and hence the properties of ether must be somewhat different from those of ordinary matter. But there is little difficulty in picturing a continuous substance to ourselves, inasmuch as the molecular and porous nature of ordinary matter is by no means evident to the senses, but is an inference of some difficulty."

"Ether exists as a continuous connecting medium between all particles, a substance in which they are embedded, which penetrates into all their interstices, and extends without to the remotest limits of space.

"Once grant this and difficulties begin rapidly to disappear. There is now continuous contact between the particles of bodies."

"Gravitation is explicable by differences of pressure in the medium caused by some action between it and matter, not yet understood."

"Cohesion is explicable also probably in the same way."

"Light consists of undulations, or waves, in the medium, while electricity is turning out quite possibly to be an aspect of a part of the very medium itself." (You must recollect that Professor Lodge is speaking of electricity, not electrification and electric radiation.)

Professor Nikola Tesla states that "nothing would seem to stand in the way of calling electricity ether associated with matter—or, bound ether."

Professor Lodge suggests the analogy of a jelly as being a useful one when trying to conceive the form of existence of ether.

He says: "A jelly is composed almost wholly of fluid, yet it is rigid. It is rigid because of an elastic skin to each particle of water; it is like a multitude of little elastic bags of fluid, and we can vaguely say that ether contains electricity as a jelly contains water and that rigidity concerned in its transverse vibrations belongs not to the water in the jelly but to the mode in which it is entangled in its meshes."

I will now leave the question of ether and give you some modern views of the action and nature of electricity.

Helmholtz considered it probable that electricity is as atomic as matter and that an electrical atom is as definite a quantity as a chemical atom and Professor Crooks says that the theory which now meets with most favour as best representing the genesis of the chemical elements is, that at the time each element was differentiated from the all-pervading protyl, it took to itself definite quantities of electricity and that, upon these quantities the atomicity of the element depends.

In regard to this theory it is interesting to compare the explanation of the text books on the chemical action which causes a flow of current through a wire with that which is now given by scientists.

In the best text book on practical electricity which exists the action is thus described:—"The Daniell's cell and all its modifications produce a current by the formation of zinc sulphate and the using up of the copper sulphate, the zinc plate being eaten up to form the zinc sulphate and the copper plate growing by the deposit of metallic copper on it."

You will thus observe that the whole of the attention is directed towards the metals forming the electrodes.

According to later theories the attention should be directed towards the fluid or electrolyte, which in the case of the Daniell cell is acidulated water. Zinc contains a stronger attraction for oxygen than does copper. Hydrogen is not attracted by zinc, it is only attracted by copper. The zinc plate attracts every atom of oxygen within the ten-millionth part of a millimetre. On contact the oxygen delivers over to the zinc plate a charge of say a hundred trillionth of a coulomb. It is probable that the atom contains a further charge with which it does not part. The copper plate attracts every atom of hydrogen in the same manner and it also yields up a charge of electricity amounting to half that of the oxygen atom.

These atoms after discharge become free gas and from the gas thus liberated the exact amount of current generated by the battery can be divined.

As long as the plates are in contact outside the fluid there is a constant procession of these atoms ever travelling towards each plate.

Possibly you may not understand why contact is necessary. The explanation is as follows. The reason that zinc possesses an attraction for oxygen is that zinc is naturally charged positively. It therefore, by the law of attraction, attracts the negative atoms of oxygen. Now supposing the negative current to be unable to flow away, the zinc becomes negative. It no longer attracts the oxygen, it now attracts hydrogen, which dissipates its positive charge and eventually equilibrium is produced.

On completion of the circuit, however, the negative current flows from the zinc plate and then by wire to the copper. The copper thus becomes negative and its attraction for oxygen is then overcome and at the same time its attraction for hydrogen becomes stronger. Now let us look at electrolysis, which is the action resulting in electroplating.

Two metals, called respectively the anode and cathode, and collectively the electrodes, are placed in some liquid called the electrolyte. A current is applied from some outside source and the atoms of the electrolyte at the anode and cathode become disintegrated. These atoms or "ions" become disintegrated because the applied current is stronger than their electrical affinity—formerly called their chemical affinity. Those starting from the anode or positive plate are, of course, positively charged; therefore, by the law of attractions, they are attracted by the negative charge of the cathode and join in a procession towards it. Besides the procession of the atoms (named anions) carrying the positive charge to the negative plate, there is a procession of ions in the reverse direction carrying the negative charge to the positive plate. These atoms are called cations. Cations are caused to flow by exactly the same means as are anions, only in the opposite direction and by a charge of the opposite potential. You observe that the current travels by convection. Until the real action had been closely observed it was naturally supposed that the current travelled through an electrolyte by conduction, the explanation of ordinary commercial electrolysis.

Now let us turn to the question of the passage of electricity through rarefied gases. This is Professor Schucter's theory, propounded in 1890. A molecule of hydrogen gas is made up of atoms containing equivalents of positive and negative charges. The charge to which I refer is not their inherent electricity, with which they will not part under any circumstances, but an extra charge. On sending a current of electricity through a vacuum tube the atoms of a hydrogen molecule become torn apart. The positive atom is attracted to the negative pole and the negative atom goes to the positive pole.

I had intended to touch on several other matters, such as the nature of magnetism and the reasons given by Professor Lodge for supposing it to be nothing more or less than a whirl of electricity. I find, however, that my paper is attaining such large proportions that it will now be necessary to finish it; but before doing so I think that you may find it of interest if I explain to you the difficulty of direct manufacture of light.

I have explained that electric waves and light waves are similar except as regards their size. You know that we produce electric waves easily, but that before we obtain light waves we call in all sorts of media to our aid. The reason is this. Ethereal waves greater than 800 millionths of a millimetre or smaller than 412 millionths of a millimetre produce no optical effect. We therefore require an oscillatory discharge of between 700 and 400 million vibrations per second, and at present we are unable to produce them.

The two existing methods of obtaining light are, by combustion, and by heating substances sufficiently to impart to their molecules a high enough rate of vibration to cause light waves. On this subject Professor Lodge says: "We know how to make atoms vibrate: it is done by what we call heating the substance, and if we could deal with individual atoms unhampered by others, it is possible we might get a pure and simple mode of vibration from them. It is possible, but unlikely; for atoms even when isolated have a multitude of modes of vibration special to themselves of which a few only are of practical use to us, and we do not know how to excite some without others. However, we do not at present even deal with individual atoms; we treat them crowded together in a compact mass, so that their modes of vibration are really infinite."

The discharge of a Leyden jar, which was discovered to be oscillatory some few years ago, gives oscillations of electric rays with a varying frequency dependent on the size of the jar. Professor Lodge considers that a Leyden jar of molecular dimensions might give small enough rays to produce light. Referring to this matter, Crookes says, "Of such production of light Nature supplies us with examples in the glowworm and the fireflies, whose light, though sufficiently energetic to be seen at a considerable distance, is accompanied by no liberation of heat capable of detection by our most delicate instruments."

My attempt this evening has chiefly been to interest you in the later developments of theoretical electrical science, to indicate the

ground which has been covered, and to lead you to a position from which we are likely to be able to espy the pioneers of science forging their way ahead. Watching these efforts is a most absorbing occupation and can be indulged in by all but the intellectually blind.

I do not affirm that any important results are likely to accrue to science from our studies. In nearly any path into which we stray we find either an insurmountable obstacle or else we see in the distance one of the pioneers far ahead of us and still going strong and well. We cannot even catch him up, let alone get out of the wood before him by strolling.

But though we are not likely to attain distinction from our individual work, yet we shall, I feel convinced, obtain pleasure by looking through the vistas opened by others. Conceive for a moment the magnitude of the issues at stake from a practical point of view. Take, for instance, the vast power poured on the earth's surface by the sun in the form of light and heat. It has been calculated to amount to 800,000 horse-power per annum per acre. We want to use this.

Our light, too, instead of using vast supplies of energy must be created easily and directly, and thus an annual expenditure of fuel and money counted by millions of tons and millions of pounds be saved.

We must also control the rainfall and treble the return on agricultural labour.

There is reason to believe that but a short period will elapse before such things are accomplished.—A. S. B.



CORRESPONDENCE.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our Correspondents.]



REGISTRATION OF DOGS IN OUT DISTRICTS.

To the Editor of the Selangor Journal.

SIR,—I was glad to see the notice in the *Government Gazette* enforcing a tax on dogs for the year 1896. The order, however, seems to refer to Kuala Lumpur alone and not to the whole State.

Living, as I do, in a district which is swarming with curs of every description, I sincerely hope that the Government will see its way to enforcing the tax in all the districts.

In many of the roadside holdings there are regular packs of curs kept presumably for hunting purposes, but whose chief amusement consists in attacking the unfortunate horses and people passing. They don't seem to be kept in any sort of discipline.

I believe that half starved curs of this nature are, as a rule, responsible for the outbreaks of rabies which occur periodically.

Hoping you will find room to insert this in your next issue.—I am, etc., R. C. M. KINDERSLEY.

NOTES AND NEWS.

CRICKET and football are to provide the attractions for the Chinese New Year Holidays, challenges for each game having been sent to Singapore. February, 1894, was the last occasion on which matches were played here against the same opponents, when Selangor proved victorious in cricket by an innings and 62 runs and lost the football by 3 to 0. In January of the following year cricket and football teams from Selangor visited Singapore, the result of the game in each case being a draw. In both games next month Selangor should stand a good chance. Mr. Bagnall will be here and the Mr. Hubback who recently arrived is by repute a very good man. It is most likely that the cricket team will be chosen from the following: Bagnall, Bellamy, Carey, Dougal, J. Glassford, Highet, A. B. Hubback, T. R. Hubback, McClosky, E. Neubronner, Paxon, and O. Stonor. The selection of the socker team will no doubt exercise the mind of the Captain, Mr. W. D. Scott, but, from the play we have lately seen, it now should be an easier matter than it used to be to put a strong team in the field.

We are unable to state what the social arrangements for the entertainment of our visitors are to be; but we may rest assured that the committee entrusted with this matter will take every care to secure their comfort and amusement during their stay in Kuala Lumpur.

ON the 1st instant, H. H. Tunku Moharum, wife of H. H. the Raja Muda of Selangor, gave birth to a daughter. The Raja Muda has now four children, one son and three daughters; born (daughter), 17th January, 1892; (son) 9th February, 1893; (daughter) 6th November, 1894; and (daughter) 1st January, 1896.

THE Messrs. Kindersley, of Inchkenneth Estate, have prospected and applied for a block of 320 acres on the Rekoh Road, for the purpose of planting coffee. The late Acting District Officer recently described Rekoh as "the most woebegone village in Selangor," but there is excellent planting land in the neighbourhood, especially on the bank of the river, and if Europeans are to be found

way, there is no reason why a new planting District should not be developed in this vicinity. Messrs. Hicks and Parry have been, within the last few days, prospecting the same neighbourhood.

THE Kajang tigers continue aggressive, and on Saturday night, at Cheras, a carcass which had been poisoned in anticipation was found to have been dragged off into the jungle. On Sunday morning Mr. Hay, who had provided the meal, took a constable with him and followed up the tracks and in a comparatively short space of time came upon a tigress lying beside a dead cub, which had been eating the carcass. On seeing the intruders, the tigress growled and rose, but Mr. Hay, with great promptitude, shot her in the chest, the bullet passing into the heart and killing her instantly. Mr. Hay deserves the greatest possible credit for the plucky way in which he achieved the kill, and though there are other tigers about it is hoped that they will give less trouble in future.

MR. R. LITTLE, of Kudat, brother of the late Dr. Little, of Kuala Lumpur, spent a few days here with Dr. Travers at the beginning of the week. Mr. Little is on his way to Europe on long leave.

MESSESS. RAMSAY AND DOUGAL gave a dance at the Bank on the 11th inst., the occasion being the approaching departure of Mr. Ramsay for Singapore, and of Mr. Dougal to take up his abode on "Edinburgh Estate." Some forty guests were present, and a very pleasant evening was spent—one, indeed, to be remembered by some of the visitors.

THE regular monthly meeting of the Selangor Club Committee was held on Saturday, the 11th instant, Captain Syers (Chairman), Mr. Bligh (Secretary), and Messrs. Cumming, Day, Hüttenbach, Paxon and Scott being present. Messrs. J. Kydd and J. D. Toynbee were elected members. It was resolved that a sale of newspapers and magazines should take place on the 25th inst. (to-morrow) at 6 p.m.

THERE will be a Smoking Concert at the Selangor Club on Saturday (to-morrow), at 9 p.m., Captain Syers in the Chair.

THE Museum Committee held a meeting on Monday, the 20th inst., Captain Syers (Chairman), Mr. L. B. Von Donop (Hon. Secretary),

and Messrs. Hawes, W. D. Scott and Russell being present. The Museum was inspected and the minutes of the last meeting read and confirmed. A letter was read from the Acting Resident, forwarding a photograph of a gavia captured in Perak. Resolved that the thanks of the Committee be conveyed to Mr. Rodger. A letter was read from the Acting Resident, Pahang, with regard to obtaining specimens for the Museum. The Committee acknowledge with thanks the receipt, during December, of the following additions :—Captain Syers, a beetle; Mr. W. D. Scott, sample of nuts (buah brangan); Mr. Ah Joon, a metallic owl; Mr. Kiburgh, a snake; Mr. Weidel, a mousedeer and a beetle; Mr. Stapleton, a grasshopper.

Visitors during December	...	...	1,302
Previously ...	...	...	14,404
			15,706

The total number of visitors for 1894 was 8,808, so that the attendance has nearly doubled. We feel sure that when the Museum is located on the site now occupied by the Post Office the number of visitors will so increase as to justify a much larger expenditure than that now provided for this institution. Those who take an interest in the Museum should be glad to note that Messrs. Hawes and Scott are added to the Committee; the former has kindly undertaken to see to the entomological exhibits.

THE Klang English School, which we think we are right in saying was originally founded owing to the efforts of Mr. Skeat, is now established as a grant-in-aid school, and the following extract from the report of the Inspector of Schools shews that good work is being done :—“ Examined the school with most satisfactory results. Of 26 boys in the register 16 were presented, and all passed—three passing Standard III., three Standard II., and ten Standard I. I consider the teacher deserves the thanks of the Trustees for the good work he has done.” The school obtained a grant of \$191.

“THERE’S no possible doubt whatever” that the best thing in the world to keep a Volunteer Fire Brigade up to the mark is a fire; it makes the members keen at drills, gives an incentive to the lukewarm or indifferent, and supplies that necessity for real work the want of which is so keenly felt by volunteers of all kinds. Fortunately, however, fires in Kuala Lumpur have of late been rare, and although we feel we ought on this account to condole with the

S.F.B., we much prefer to congratulate the community in general on its immunity. Chief Officer Bellamy, quite alive to the necessity for an occasional enthusiastic muster of his men, and seeing no possibility of them being gathered together at a fire, gave the "call" for a festival, which he dubbed the "New Year's Dinner." Accordingly, on Friday last, at the Rest House, the members of the Brigade were employed in discussing something a great deal pleasanter than a burning house, and, to show how nicely Captain Bellamy can arrange these things, were honoured by the presence of several ladies. After dinner came toasts and speeches, and then songs were sung by Mrs. Bellamy, Mrs. Parsons and Mrs. Syers, and Messrs. Bellamy, Brown, Cormac, Hubback and Parsons; Mr. W. H. Lott playing the accompaniments and, with Mrs. Cormac, a pianoforte duet. A very pleasant evening was spent, and there were some who said (not in the hearing of the Chief Officer) that they much preferred a dinner drill to a fire drill.

THE last *Gazette* published contains a notification drawing the attention of parents, householders, employers of labour and the public generally to the necessity for registering all births and deaths, *vide* "Registration Regulation, 1892." Notice is given that every application for waste land under Part IV. of the "Land Code" must be accompanied by a deposit for survey expenses, a commuted scale of which is published. "Rules for Grants-in-aid to English Schools," to come into force from the 1st inst., is referred to on another page. The Rules for a Superannuation Fund, S. G. R., are also published. The main principle of the scheme is that 4 per cent. shall be deducted from salaries, and that Government will, each half year, contribute a sum equal to these deductions, these two amounts forming the Fund. To those at present employed in the Department, membership is optional; but after 1st January, 1897, all who join the service of the S. G. R. must become members. The management of the Fund will be in the hands of a Committee, four to be appointed by the Resident and four to be elected by the members, the Committee electing one of their number as Chairman. Annuities will be paid according to a scale printed with the Rules, but no member will be entitled to superannuation allowance until 1st January, 1900. Members being dismissed the service for dishonesty or fraud will forfeit their contributions and lose all benefits; members resigning the service receive back their contributions.

THE arrival at Kuala Klang of the Outward English Mail is now notified at the Kuala Lumpur Post Office by a flag, which remains

flying from the time the steamer is sighted at the Kuala until the mail is in the office.

It may interest some of our readers to hear that although reports have been persistent that tin miners in this State have done badly during the past year, the returns as published in the *Government Gazette* show an increase in output and in revenue over those for 1894.

	Tin.	Tin Ore.	Duty.
1894 ... Pls.	277,107 ...	Pls. 98,240 ...	\$1,417,186
1895 ... "	252,693 ...	" 167,395 ...	\$1,505,869
	24,414	69,155	\$88,683
	Decrease	Increase	Increase

The increase in the export of tin ore is equivalent at 65 per cent. to pikuls 44,950 of smelted tin, so that after deducting the decrease in smelted tin exported we have a total increase of pikuls 20,536, while the duty shows an increase of \$88,683.

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THE SONG OF THE D.O.

(Air, "Bonny Dundee.")

(WITH APOLOGIES TO ALL WHO WANT THEM).

To the sons of the soil 'twas the D. O. who spoke,
 Ere to-day's sun goes down there are crowns to be broke,
 So rouse up, my gallants, and after our "tea,"
 We will go in hot blood for that De'il o' D.E.

Chorus.

Come, Boy, bring the bitters, and pour out the beer,
 Run the top off the whisky and let it flow clear,
 Uncork my best port, and let us drink free,
 For it's up (to the skies) with that De'il o' D.E.!

There are cracks in the basement and gaps in the roof,
 And the dindings, though old, are not yet water-proof,
 E'en the drains they run upwards, a sight for to see,
 (Which who could achieve but the De'il—or D.E.?)

Chorus, as before.

There are sandflies at Bernam and pikats at Klang,
 There are white ants and "skeeters" where'er ye may gang,
 There are pests of all sorts in the tropics, you'll see,
 But there's no other such a plague as that De'il o' D.E.!

Chorus, only more so.

Yet stay, it's ill wind that blows naebody good ;
 E'en the D.E. has " points," if they're weel understood
 (And just now he's repairin' some quarters for me),
 He's a jolly good fellow, our local D.E.!

Chorus " For he's," etc.

LOCAL SPORT.

TURF CLUB.

QUITE a sporting fever has lately broken out in Kuala Lumpur, the result being four matches last Saturday afternoon on the new Race-course. Although not advertised, most of the European community and a big crowd of natives were present to view the sport.

The first event for decision was a match between Mr. Highet's *Ayrshire* and Mr. Maynard's *Black King*, two likely candidates for the "Mercury Challenge Cup." *Black King*, on the strength of his having run fairly well in Singapore, was a hot favourite, and I think would have justified the confidence of his supporters had not his syce stupidly brought him to the course quite two hours before he was wanted, with the result that he fretted himself into a perfect fever and practically left the race in the saddling paddock. The two horses jumped away together and raced neck and neck along the back straight, and it was not until turning into the run for home that *Ayrshire* began to show a little in front. *Black King*, however, stuck to him gamely and it looked anyone's race until about the mile post, where Abdul called on *Ayrshire* and in spite of Mr. Mitchell's vigorous efforts *Black King* had to give the little horse best, and let him canter in an easy winner. Abdul rode a good race and made the most of his light weight, he being in receipt of about a stone from the black horse.

The next item was a match between Messrs. Cumming and Stonor's 13.3 pony, *Verna*, and Mr. King's griffin, *Busted Flush*, the former being in receipt of about 21 lbs. *Verna* having been tried and found wanting two days previously, the result was a foregone conclusion and was simply an exercise canter for the griffin, who, admirably steered by Mr. King, won just as she liked.

Two griffins, *Elsie* and *Dingo*, next appeared. Mr. Mitchell on *Dingo* jumped away at the start and made the pace a cracker. Mr. Maxwell, however, was not to be denied and was always lying handy, shortly after passing the half mile post *Dingo* began to slow down and they raced together neck and neck until turning into the straight

where *Dingo* cried "Enough" and *Elsie*, having received a couple of reminders from Mr. Maxwell, cantered in an easy winner.

Mr. Hone's griffin, *Bessie*, had no difficulty in disposing of Mr. Cumming's *Queen Bee*, who did not seem to know how to gallop and who will, I should fancy, soon be earning something towards her keep by pulling a trap.

Since writing my last notes the "*Mercury Challenge Cup*" has arrived, and is a most magnificent piece of plate, the only regret being that such a few horses will be eligible to run for it. However, as it has to be won two years in succession by the same owner there is certain to be great competition for it at the Race Meeting after next, especially when it is generally known in what a munificent manner the officers and men of the *Mercury* have expressed their thanks for the hospitality extended to them here. In connection with this race I regret to say that the committee have had to disqualify *K.G.*—a horse specially imported for this event by Messrs. Berrington and Travers—he not having conformed to the conditions of the race. I believe the owners are a bit sore about the decision of the committee, but I certainly fail to see how they could have decided otherwise. The conditions of the race are, that it is a race for Roadsters that have been regularly ridden or driven by a member of the Club resident in Selangor or Sungei Ujong for three months previous to the meeting. *K. G.*, unfortunately, arrived here a bit off colour and was not ridden till a week or so after his arrival, by this time less than three months remained before the race meeting, and the Committee did not, I suppose, feel themselves justified in altering the conditions of the race to suit one horse.—THE MAN IN THE LALANG.

FOOTBALL.

PRACTICE games are being regularly played every week, and good attendances are the rule. This is satisfactory in view of the proposed match with Singapore at Chinese New Year. It has been decided to play two games a week and to have early morning runs by the forwards three days a week for the rest of the available time. As to the composition of the team, most of the players have been decided upon, but one or two places are still doubtful and depend upon circumstances. The back division will be strong and we are lucky in having a very reliable goal keeper, but the forwards are not yet quite what they should be.

The first tie for the Resident's Challenge Cup is fixed for this evening, the 24th instant, between two Kuala Lumpur teams, "Old Rafflesians" and the Mahomedan team. Entries have been received by the Football Sub-committee from the following places. Kuala Lumpur, three teams, and one each from Klang, Kuala Selangor, Ulu Selangor and Ulu Langat.

The Kuala Lumpur players are practising most assiduously. The team captained by Ramasamy includes four or five very fair players, notably two Chinese backs, whose kicking is excellent. The Malay

team is improving very much. We hear that Ulu Selangor has a strong lot of players and that they have great hopes of winning the cup.



SELANGOR STAMPS.

PROBABLY in no part of the world could a better collection of local stamps have been made more easily and cheaply than could have been done in the Straits Settlements and Native States during the course of the past 15 years.

Varieties of surcharges, errors in printing and new stamps followed one another so rapidly that a keen collector could in the course of a few years obtain several hundred varieties, the majority of the face value of which did not exceed two cents.

Selangor can lay claim to being the originator of far fewer of these varieties than can Perak; but owing to the greater number of collectors in Perak who succeeded in obtaining a large number of specimens, while the Selangor stamps have in some cases been absolutely lost, those of the smaller State are, in many cases, more rare than are those of Perak.

In 1878 the first stamps were issued in Selangor. They were surcharged with the star and crescent and the letter S in an oval, on the Straits 2 cents brown. The surcharge was black. The watermark is a crown and C. C. They are exceedingly rare. A later issue of these stamps, with a red surcharge and watermark crown and C. A., is supposed to have taken place in 1882.

It is, however, improbable that any such issue ever occurred, seeing that in 1881 the horizontal surcharge of the word "Selangor" on the 2 cents brown, without the star and crescent, was introduced. The watermark was a crown and C. C. In 1883 the 2 cents brown stamp, with watermark, a crown and C. A., was surcharged with a big letter "S." and a full stop after it.

From then till now all watermarks have been C. A., and with the following exceptions the surcharges have always been the word "Selangor" printed horizontally on 2 cents rose stamps.

In 1889 a vertical surcharge—two different capital types, one large Roman and the other italics—were used in printing the word "Selangor." In 1891 there were issued 6,000 stamps bearing a horizontal surcharge "Selangor two cents" on 24 cents green. There were in each row of 10 stamps five distinct surcharges. These stamps were issued owing to a delay in supply of Selangor "tiger" stamps ordered from the Crown Agents. They have reached a higher value than have the similar surcharges of the other States, and are practically unobtainable in the Straits and Native States.

During 1891 the tiger stamps were issued. At first the two cents rose coloured was the only stamp printed. Afterwards one cent green and five cents blue were obtained. Still later a five cents rose stamp surcharged three cents has been issued (368,000 of them) and the two cents stamp has been altered to yellow.—A. S. B.

GRANTS-IN-AID TO ENGLISH SCHOOLS.

THE current issue of the *Gazette* contains 28 pages of revised rules for English schools in Selangor, upon which the Editor of the *Selangor Journal* has asked me to write a few notes, remembering that, in the good old days, when those who could do nothing else became either schoolmasters or parsons—days alas! now gone for ever—I belonged to the former profession; and was happy enough in it too, until I found there was a third open, and became—well, I won't give myself away, but just do what the Editor asks, by way of a humble tribute to the calling which first was good enough to give me a place.

I see H.E. the Governor recently expressed an opinion that one of these schools was laying the foundation of the future prosperity of the State, so that I hope readers of the *Journal* share his opinion sufficiently to be interested in the new departure.

At first sight the new Code—for it is something more than a revision—appears very ambitious for a State which is only beginning to tackle the subject of native education. I suppose, however, that those who have some practical experience in teaching have been consulted, and do not consider that the new requirements are beyond the resources at their command. There are three distinct divisions in the rules under notice—viz., (1) the regulations for the payment of the Government money; (2) the schedules of subjects to be taught; and (3) the appendices.

The chief point to notice in the *first division* is the very important change from that antiquated and pernicious system which has hitherto obtained in this quarter of the globe, though long since abandoned elsewhere—namely, the system called by the misleading term “Payment by Results”—“a ship sailing under false colours,” as I heard an old marine on “our village” School Board expressively call it. I am glad to see that the Government are at last convinced that they were paying, not for the results which they wanted, but for results which were by all means to be avoided. None of us wish to see the State filled with clever well-instructed rogues, and we may congratulate the Education Department on recognising the fact that education and instruction are not convertible terms.

The next division, which contains a very extensive range of subjects, compulsory and optional, follows, I believe, the lines of the English Code, if my memory is not at fault, with of course a great many necessary alterations. I find little to criticize here, and will only express a hope that experienced teachers may be forthcoming, and also that some system of co-operation between the examiners of the Peninsula may be formulated, so that the inspectors will not find themselves in the unenviable position of having to examine in subjects with which they are entirely unacquainted. We have heard of such a thing happening even in England: “I know nothing of botany,” a Cambridge don remarked, when speaking at a dinner of the Botanical Society; “I haven't even examined in it!” But, on the whole, I think the system of inspectors is not to be recommended.

For subjects for more advanced pupils, the scheme for

mechanics strikes me as being an improvement upon the one by which I was launched (I mention it as it is one of the few subjects with which I am personally acquainted). The simple mechanical powers ought certainly to be taken first, not last, as I think is the case in the English Code; this shews the compilers have learnt that the concrete should come before the abstract, especially when dealing with children. (By the way, who *are* the compilers?)

I should very much like to ask these gentlemen why they have chosen "The Tempest" as an example of Shakespeare's plays for natives to begin upon; it is the last complete work of our great countryman, and contains—I have been taught—the most subtle of his philosophy. In case of "staging" the play, the selection of a Caliban would not be difficult when the "orang bukit" begin to attend the Victoria Institution; unless this object was in view I fail to see the reason for their choice.

I hear from an expert that the scheme for magnetism and electricity is open to objections, that it is, in fact, "mixed." I endeavoured to get a better one from him, but, by the time he had finished Stage I., I was so mixed myself that I had to give it up. As we hope next year to see Kuala Lumpur illumined throughout with the "white light," this subject may be worthy of special attention.

Finally we come to Division III., the appendices. These contain a full and, I must add, very clear explanation of the whole Code and the way in which it is intended to be worked. Its "main objects" are set forth in the "Instructions and Recommendations," which are certainly a most useful addition and contain many valuable hints, both to teachers and examiners. This appendix is quite a new feature in Eastern Codes.

There is a mysterious note at the end of all, the connection of which with the plot cannot be easily seen. I have puzzled over it until my head aches and have at last come to the conclusion that it is either a practical joke or else that an Irishman had the last finger in the pie. I am sorry to end up by singing "'E dunno where 'e are," but I can't help feeling that there is someone to whom the song is applicable.

CHINESE TIN MINING IN SELANGOR.

IV.—THE KONGSI—ITS MANAGEMENT AND OFFICIALS.

THAT the Chinese are capable of managing a large body of men may seem hardly credible, but the rules and regulations by which discipline is maintained in the kongsi leave little to be desired.

Cheating, bribery and corruption amongst the governing body are, it is true, pretty rife, but of this more anon. I shall now proceed to describe the different officials, their duties and chief characteristics, which I have had frequent opportunities of observing and studying.

The Towkay Lombong is the mining manager and resides on the mine. He recruits coolies, exercises a sort of nominal control over the head overseer and clerk and is directly responsible to the advancer for

the good behaviour of the men. But his forte lies in the provision line, and as guardian of the mining stores he is hard to beat. This is the Chinese idea of a mining manager; but from what I could make of him and his actual duties he is practically a go-between or "intermediate" between the advancer and the coolies. In fact, he acts as a "buffer" between master and men, and his utility ends here. There is a curious mining custom which declares that when the advancer is unable to meet the wages of the men the latter have their redress against the mining manager; but as his effects are generally nil this redress most often takes the form of bad language and his maltreatment at the hands of the coolies. It is difficult to understand why an unoffending manager should suffer for the sins of a defaulting employer, so we must adopt the "buffer" theory and not trouble our brains unnecessarily about Chinese puzzles. The weak points of the mining manager are his officiousness and greed. Whenever you visit the mine he buttenholes you and you have no redress. The mine is going to rack and ruin just for sake of a little petty cash. Would you mind leaving in his hands, say, \$10 to go on with? The local blacksmith wants a small advance before he will repair the changkols (hoes); he has engaged a new carpenter, who is an excellent workman but has no tools and would like some money to start on. After this little preliminary, he will submit a list of the expenditure which he has incurred during your absence. The items in it though small are numerous, and if you object to any of them he is ready to give any explanation you prefer and one cannot with decency refuse to pay for such items as the following:—100 ataps to stop the leakage in the kongsi house, \$1.40; cost of bringing back a runaway coolie, 82; 20 sheets of paper for check-roll, 40 cents; brush and ink for the clerk, 50 cents; and two cattles of nails to mend the sluice boxes, 15 cents—the last item covers a multitude of sins and generally fetches you, and the manager knows it. No sluice box, no tin ore! And so on, until he has reduced you to a state bordering on temporary insanity, when further allusions to money matters would hardly be compatible with his personal safety, and he leaves you. You begin to think you are free once more, but this is a delusion. Before you have gone ten paces (that is, if you are going from the store-room to the mine) the clerk runs after you with a list of the very articles which the manager has been enumerating and a reminder about the broken changkols, and just as you get rid of him by consigning him to Gehenna you meet the "kapala" sailing towards you with a smile on his face and the broken changkols in his hand. This is the climax of your misery. You could face a manager or two, but when when you find yourself the object of a conspiracy you submit and grow thin. Moral: Be your own Towkay Lombong. It saves \$300 a year and a premature grave!

The kapala, or head-overseer, holds a very responsible position and is much feared and respected by the men. In his own estimation he is a bigger man than the manager (and so far he is right), but on the whole he appears after that of the latter. The practical power is completely in his hands, and during working

hours he is the supreme head and will put up with no man's interference, be he manager or advancer. So great is his power in the mine that the advancer, by an old custom, cannot go down the mine to test the quality of the tin sand (which is done by panning it out with a coconut shell) without first obtaining the permission of the head-overseer. This rule is not so strictly enforced now and the head-overseer is only asked out of courtesy.

When a "Head" is engaged he forms what may be called his committee of management, which is a select body of men (varying in number from ten to forty or more, according to the size of the mine) called the "ng-pun-ten" or "pong-shoo." These men advise and assist him to manage the coolies, look after the water races, wash the tin-sand and do any other work except carrying overburden, which is only done by the ordinary coolies. The dismissal of a head therefore is a momentous occasion fraught with anxiety, as when a head leaves his committee-men leave with him and until a new head comes and a new committee is formed the work is at a standstill.

When it becomes known that a new head is wanted you will be surrounded by different varieties of the tribe, and the larger the number of specimens from which you have to select the more difficult it becomes to decide to which of them you should commit your happiness. There is the head who has had ten years' experience and is especially good at sluicing in either "Pelak" (Perak) or "Kitlang" (Klang) fashion; then you have one who has had charge of hundreds of men at a time and knows all about drainage and hydraulics; and another who has many followers and can take up the appointment without any unnecessary delay in getting the committee-men together. His name is known far and wide and labour pours in wherever he goes. And lastly there is the "lucky" head-overseer who brings prosperity and plenty wherever he goes (here he mentions one or two El Dorados in which he was formerly employed). The last commodity, however much in demand by some superstitious advancers, should be shunned as he is apt to trade on his "meang seang" (good name) and does little or no work, believing that his mere presence in the mine is alone sufficient to work wonders. Not many years ago the symbol of a head-overseer's authority used to be the parang (the chopping knife used for cutting the mining stakes), and when engaging a new man it was customary for the advancer to take the parang from the old head and hand it over to the new comer saying, "Take this knife; I make you head-overseer." It is a point of etiquette amongst heads that the new head cannot take up his duties until the old one has removed his bedding from the kongsi.

The clerk is the real ruler of the kongsi—that is to say, when the men return to the kongsi from their work, the head-overseer's authority over them ceases and they are completely under the clerk's control. He arbitrates and administers justice in all fights and quarrels that take place within the sphere of his authority, maintains order during meals, visits the beds of the men in the morning when the head-overseer strikes the wooden drum to see that no one oversleeps himself, and enforces a sort of curfew custom by shouting at the top of

his voice at 9 p.m., "All lights out." This is done in all mines to warn opium smokers to put their lamps out so as not to burn the mosquito curtain and set the house on fire. Besides this, he has his clerical work to attend to, keeps the check-roll, gives out the provisions, opium and tobacco and sends his monthly report to the advancer. He has also to accompany the head-overseer or advancer when they are measuring out a paddock for removal of overburden by the "naichang" men, and take with him a slip of paper in one hand and a brush in the other to record the measurements, so that on his return to the kongsi he can make a drawing of the paddock and affix it to the wall of his room. As he does the drawing with the aid of a matchbox, the plan invariably takes the form of a rectangle (the exact shape of the matchbox) irrespective of the correct angles and bearings!

He objects to undue interference on the part of the advancer with his accounts. The arrangement that harmonises best with his own views of his position and responsibilities is that you should hand over to him the entire management of the mine, so that he may turn it into profitable account without allowing you to be worried. Under this arrangement he has a tendency to grow rich, become big of girth and arrogant of bearing, become feared and respected by his neighbours, and finally develop into the owner of a "tiam-chy" (small shop) in the village, the goal of his ambition. When therefore you find that the clerk is aspiring too high and becoming too clever for you, your first duty towards yourself is to cast about for a new hand. But the new man may be worse than the last, and unless carefully watched may shew symptoms of a weakness for bribery and extortion, and cheat the men (if he cannot cheat his master) by adulterating the chandu (cooked opium) and reducing it to such a want of consistency that "the spoon will not stand in it." Ugh! an honest clerk is a myth and exists only in the diseased imagination of unpractical advancers.

The "ngee-koong"—*i.e.*, second or first assistant overseer—is also a great personage. In the absence of the head-overseer he acts as his *locum tenens* and puts on no end of side. He is the head-overseer's right hand man, supervises the washing operations restlessly, watches that the men do not take the "cham" or tally sticks when they do not work, wastes his employers' time and his own energy by moving about and making much ado about nothing. The chams are little flat sticks made of bamboo on which is written in large characters the name of each cooly (corresponding to his name on the check-roll). They are placed in a heap on a table at the door of the kongsi and on returning from work each man picks his cham and throws it into a wooden box made for the purpose. It is considered a most serious offence a man to put in his stick if he has not worked—the penalty is that he forfeits three days' work. The first assistant therefore superintends the gathering of the chams, as he is supposed to know who was in the mine and who was not. He also helps the clerk to keep order in the kongsi and encourages lazy habits in the head-overseer by beating the drum in the morning and turning out the men when his superior prefers the warmth of his bed to the cold morning air outside.

It generally is the case that the first assistant works harder than the head-overseer. This he does with an object. The head-overseer will some day get into trouble with the advancer, and who is more fit to step into the vacant place than himself? But my experience of the first assistant made head-overseer is that the promotion is generally fatal to him. He feels the importance of his new position and forgets the common clay he is made of. He dreams of presents and bribes from the naichang headmen leading to wealth untold, orders the men about with a louder voice than formerly, puts on the airs of a mandarin and makes himself unbearable to the men. The old saying "Put a beggar on horseback, etc." applies most forcibly in the case of such newly made "heads." By degrees, however, his ardour cools: he keeps a man to wake him in the morning and returns to bed as soon as he has called out the men; has water brought to him to perform his morning ablutions and believes that he is an ornament to the mine, until gradually he degenerates into a third or fourth rate overseer, at which stage of his career he can only be dismissed.

The "sam-koong"—*i.e.*, second assistant or third overseer—is not by any means as great a man as the second overseer, but he has very little work to do and is well paid. His duty is to sharpen with a very big chopping knife, called the kiow-toon-tow, one end of the stakes so largely used to shore up the sides of a mine and prevent landslips. He works under the shade of a little atap roof supported on tiny posts, and when he is not working he kills time by incessant yawning, stretching his stiff limbs and striking at imaginary foes with his fists, or taking occasional trips to the kongsi, nominally to sharpen his knife on the hone, but really to gossip with the cakeseller in the verandah.

The fourth, fifth and sixth overseers work in the mine and see that the tin sand is not thrown away with the overburden or otherwise wasted. To do this they go about with coconut shells in their hands and pan out the sand to ascertain whether it carries ore or not. They also assist in the sluicing and make themselves generally useful.

The cook is the hardest working man of the crew. He gets up at the third crowing of the cock and lights the fire under the big rice pan, as he must have everything cooked and ready before five o'clock when he has to shout at the top of his voice "Shik-Fun-Ah!" (Eat rice, ah!) At the familiar sound every man tumbles out of bed, gropes in the dark for his cup and chopsticks (each man keeps his own cup and chopsticks and thus saves the cook from a big washing) and makes a rush for the cook house. By nine o'clock, when the men return from work, he has to be ready with another meal and again with a third big meal at five p.m. His duties are not over until about eight in the evening. In small mines the cook has to work in the mines to earn the "tengah hari," or overtime wages; but in larger ones he is relieved from this work and has besides an assistant to help him and to cut the firewood. On feast days the gardener has to help the cook in dressing the fowls and ducks, peeling onions, and making himself generally useful.

The barber is found in every kongsi. He is only a semi-official,

and though he resides entirely in the kongsi and is amenable to its rules and customs he does not come under the category of a paid servant—for the reason that he shaves on contract at so much per head (one and a half cents). The coolies pay for their own shaving and the advancer guarantees their payment by debiting the coolies with their shaving account and crediting the barber with the same and paying him at the end of every six months. For this service and in return for free board and lodging the barber pays the advancer a royalty of ten per cent. on his gross earnings—besides rendering other little services gratuitously, such as sweeping the store-room, trimming and lighting the lamps in the hall and clerk's room and running errands (this latter only for the clerk) to the village shops.

Hitherto I may have somewhat depreciated the value of the officials of the kongsi, but the barber deserves better treatment. The nature of his calling, which requires his continual presence in the kongsi, enables him to hear all the gossip going on from those with whom he comes in contact, and as an ally and informant respecting the doings of the clerk and the rest of the fraternity his services are invaluable. How are you, for instance, to know that Ah Sing, the sawyer, gave the clerk two fowls and a bottle of brandy and was credited with twenty more planks than he actually delivered; that the second overseer's third cousin has been meddling with the tally sticks though he has not turned out to work for the last week or so; and that the head-overseer was invited to a dinner given by Ah Pow, the big naichang contractor, on the evening of the 16th day of the 8th moon, when his paddock was measured up, but for the information given by the barber? Yes, the barber is your greatest friend and deserves to be cherished and fostered. He does not like to "split on his pal." No, not he. But if master could give him a small "foong-pow" (present) at the New Year and reduce the royalty a little he might know a thing or two.

As it is necessary where several hundred men live together that order and discipline should be strictly maintained amongst them the Chinese miners have wisely adopted a sort of trial by court martial which they call "Beet-chala." The most common offence is assault. In a fight the man that raises his hand first is considered guiltier than the one who is provoked to fight, and if a man is wounded in a disturbance the person who dealt the blow must bear the expenses of his treatment by the village "sinnang" (doctor) and burn several hundreds of crackers as a peace offering. Sometimes the guilty party is fined in pork—that is, he must buy ten, twenty or more cattles of pork according to the enormity of his crime and treat the injured party to a feast. In the case of his assaulting the head-overseer, clerk, or any of the superior officers a whole pig is generally slaughtered at his expense and everyone in the kongsi entertained at the feast. This is only making the reparation due to the kongsi whose rules he has violated; to satisfy the head-overseer or any superior officer whom he may have assaulted he has also to burn several thousands of crackers and to offer up *jos-sticks* before the altar.—J. C. P.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our Correspondents.]

MOUNTAIN RAILWAYS.

To the Editor of the Selangor Journal.

SIR,—My attention was struck a few weeks ago by a paragraph in one of Mr. Bibby's Raub reports stating that from the experience of the work being done by his light tramway, between Raub and Bukit Koman, he felt perfectly certain that a similar line would be quite able to control the whole trade between Pahang and Selangor for some years to come.

I am writing from memory, but think that was the gist of the paragraph. Granting that Mr. Bibby's experience of his line is very limited, yet it must be conceded that his knowledge of the resources, or probable resources, of the Ulu Pahang should be second to none in the States, so that his statement deserves more than a passing notice. It can be taken as a fact that light railways have done good work in India and other parts of the world, and if, as I have heard stated, a tram-line can be placed upon the cart road now being built, at a comparatively small extra cost, I think that the *pros* and *cons* of the matter should be looked into locally before any scheme for opening up Pahang is decided upon. By "locally" I mean by those people who have a knowledge of the Pahang trade, as well as by the Government engineers.

I take it that the arguments against the adoption of this tram-line, are: (1) Break of gauge; (2) the inconvenience which may arise through the P.W.D. having to hand over their road to the Railway Department; (3) that a time may come when the tramway might be unable to cope with the Pahang traffic.

Answering the 1st and 3rd together, from a considerable knowledge of the Ulu Pahang, gathered personally and through many enquiries from the residents, I think it can safely be guaranteed that the capabilities of the porters and tram will not be unduly taxed for the next twenty years. With regard to objection No. 2, I have nothing to say. There seem to be two very strong arguments in favour of Mr. Bibby's idea—1stly, the saving of the enormous cost of an ordinary metre-line over the range, and 2ndly the time which would be gained by putting the tram on the existing cart road, and which would immediately turn it into a revenue-producing concern. In speaking of the enormous cost of the proposed Railway, I am not writing at random, for I happen to know that country passing well, and do not think the Resident Engineer will carp at my figures if I put the probable cost down at something near three-quarter-million dollars.

Now, a sum of money at 4% interest will double itself in about 20 years, so that at the end of that time, if the trade warrants it, the Government would be able to build their new line on the saved interest.—I am, etc., A. B. C.

SELANGOR PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

MINUTES of a general meeting, held at the Selangor Club on Saturday, 11th January, 1896, at 10.30 a.m.

Present: Messrs. E. V. Carey (Chairman), C. Meikle, E. B. Skinner, H. Hüttenbach, L. Dougal, H. Rowe, H. Rendle, R. C. Tollemache, D. Kindersley, R. Kindersley, G. H. Hone, H. O. Maynard, M. Stonor, B. Nissen, E. Boring, W. Nicholas, G. Cumming and Tom Gibson (Hon. Secretary).

Visitors: Messrs. Parry, Hicks and Munro.

1. The notice calling the meeting having been taken as read the minutes of the last general meeting were read and confirmed.

2. The Chairman explained to the meeting that Government had intimated to the Association that the subject of discharge tickets for labourers had been under consideration, and although not prepared to pass a compulsory enactment, would be glad, as an employer of labour, to join in any equitable arrangement for the protection of employers against the wrongful employment of absconding labourers.

A draft of proposed suggestions to Government in connection with the above subject having been distributed to the members present the following form was agreed to after some little discussion—viz.,

"That owing to the facility with which absconding coolies are at present able to obtain employment wherever they may offer their services, thus causing serious loss to employers, and laying the whole community open to the contingency of having the unpleasant charge of crimping preferred against them: it is desirable that immediate steps should be taken to put this question upon a more satisfactory basis, and with this object in view this Association submits for the consideration of Government the accompanying suggestions, the adoption of which it is believed will go far towards rectifying an evil which is becoming every day more apparent and which, unless checked, may lead to very serious results. It is therefore recommended that—

"1. All coolies being fresh arrivals in the State should be furnished with certificates to the effect that they are *bond fide* new comers, and therefore eligible for employment.

"2. All employers of labour, other than day labour, should be required under penalty of a fine of not less than..... to furnish a certificate of discharge to every cooly leaving their employ.

"3. It should be incumbent upon all employers, on a cooly applying for work, to demand from such cooly the production of his certificate, either of arrival or discharge, and anyone found employing a cooly without such certificate, unless able to prove the cooly to have been a servant of his prior to the coming into effect of the rules, should be liable to a fine of not less than.....

"4. Employers should be entitled to demand from every cooly applying for and obtaining work, the certificate which he possesses on his arrival.

"5. In the case of labourers *employed and paid by the day*, whilst their obligation to produce certificates, as in para. 3, should remain the same, employers, upon settling their accounts, should be required to return to labourers the certificates originally produced by them, under penalty of a fine of not less than.....

"6. Such rules should not be enforced for six months after they have been agreed to.

"7. Proceeds of fines to go towards cost of supplying passes."

3. The Chairman informed the meeting that His Excellency the Governor had suggested to the S. P. A. deputation that the Hon. Secretary should address the Resident on the following subjects:—

- (a) Written contracts with coolies;
- (b) Preferential claim to mining rights;
- (c) Arbitration on acquisition of land by Government.

A draft of proposed letter was then read to the meeting and agreed to.

4. Read letter from S. U. P. A. suggesting that the general meeting of the proposed United Planters' Association should be held in Kuala Lumpur at the time of the forthcoming Selangor Race Meeting, and it was agreed that that date would be suitable. The minutes of the S. U. P. A. general meeting, giving Mr. Hill's scheme for the importation of free Tamil labour, were read, and it was resolved that the subject should be left for discussion at the meeting of the United Planters' Association.

5. Read letter from Mr. G. L. Yonge *re* advertising in India; increase in recruiting fees; and forwarding copy of proceedings of the United Planters' Association of Southern India for 1895.

Resolved that the Hon. Secretary write and thank Mr. Yonge for same.

6. The Government Secretary having forwarded several copies of the *Produce World* to the Association it was resolved that the Hon. Secretary acknowledge receipt of same with thanks.

With a vote of thanks to the chair the meeting terminated at 11.40 a.m.

NOTES AND NEWS.

THE Acting Resident, Mrs. and Miss Rodger and a number of European visitors were present, on the invitation of Yap Hon Chin (Bachi), at the Chinese Theatre on the 30th ultimo, to witness a performance by Chinese acrobats and jugglers.

THE holidays for the Chinese New Year notified in the last *Gazette* were Friday and Saturday, the 14th and 15th inst.; this has since been altered, and the Government holidays will be Thursday and Friday, the 13th and 14th.

OUR visitors from Singapore are expected to arrive on Thursday, the 13th inst., and they will be entertained the same evening at a Cigarette Smoking Concert at the Lake Club; on the following night, Friday, the 14th, there will be a Dance in their honour, also at the Lake Club; and on Saturday night a Smoking Concert will be given at the Selangor Club. On the afternoon of their arrival the Football Match will be played, the Selangor team being selected from the following: D. J. Hight, Bellamy, Tollemache, Cook, Lake, Carpmael, Skinner, Roe, W. D. Scott, A. B. Hubback, Hawes, and Poundall. It is just possible, if cricket is over in time on Saturday, that there may be a return match at soccer. The cricket team will be selected from the names we gave in our last issue, with the addition of Mr. C. Glassford, whose name, through an oversight, was omitted from the list.

MR. H. C. RIDGES, Chinese Secretary, with Mrs. Ridges, and Mr. A. B. Lake, of Kent and Uganda Estates, arrived in Kuala Lumpur last evening.—Mr. J. H. M. Robson returned to Selangor on Sunday last, and will shortly resume duty. He will take up his substantive appointment of Asst. D.O., Serendah, a post in which Mr. R. C. Edmonds is now acting.—The post of Assistant Government Secretary, provided for in the 1896 estimates, has been given to Mr. W. D. Scott, who, however, will continue to act as Asst. Magistrate, Kuala Lumpur.—Mr. T. Groves, who has been acting as Factory Engineer, is confirmed in the appointment.—

Mr. E. L. Grove arrived in Kuala Lumpur on the 28th ult., to take up the duties of the newly-created post of Sanitary Board Engineer, Kuala Lumpur.—Mr. A. H. Bagnall will assist Mr. G. H. Fox in the Kajang extension of the railway, the latter being relieved at Klang by Mr. W. D. Fisher. Mr. Debney has started work on the survey for the extension of the railway from Kuala Kubu into Pahang.—Mr. R. W. Duff, Superintendent of Police, Pahang, passed through Kuala Lumpur last week on his return from leave, and was a guest at the Residency for a few days.—We understand that Mr. and Mrs. Leech are about to take up their residence in Kuala Lumpur, and have rented Mr. Pasqual's bungalow on the Maxwell-Batu Road.—Mr. Lutyens, Mr. Leech's Manager, is at present in Kuala Lumpur.

MISS ANNIE MAY ABBOTT, "The Little Electric Magnet," gave an exhibition at the Lake Club on the 4th, and another on the following evening at the Selangor Club.

THE Band played outside the Selangor Club on Saturday night, after dinner. The early evening was wet, and there was not a large attendance.

THE first of the competitions for the Football Challenge Cup presented by Mr. Rodger, took place on the 24th ult., between teams nominally representing "Old Rafflesians" and "Mahomedans." A large attendance of natives lined the roadway in front of the New Government Offices, the services of the Band had been secured, and the match was played on the ground in front of the Club. The "Mahomedans" are certainly to be complimented on their smart appearance, and must be congratulated on winning the first match in the competition, the score being one to nil. At the same time, the want of practice, in some cases utter want of knowledge of the game, on the part of the Rafflesians, ought to have made the task much easier for the Mahomedans than they appeared to find it. To criticise the game from a sports standpoint would be absurd; the players have much to learn—not the least thing of which is how to keep their temper—and with practise will acquire it. Whatever the game may have lacked in scientific play was amply made up for in amusing incident. Mr. W. D. Scott was referee and Messrs. H. F. Bellamy and J. Brown linesmen. The "Asiatics," a team captained by Mr. Ramasamy, is matched to play the "Mahomedans" on the 19th inst.

THE Smoking Concert at the Selangor Club on Saturday, the 25th ult., provided an evening's excellent entertainment. Many anticipated some difficulty in making a programme, but the result proved that the fears entertained were quite groundless; and, for our part, we think that the engagement of the Band for the evening was unnecessary. Mr. Alexander, as usual, did a great deal at the piano, and Mr. W. E. Lott also accompanied; Mr. Cormac gave a solo on the 'cello; but we missed the cornet and the bagpipes of the Messrs. Meikle. Messrs. Bourne, Dougal, Brown, Tearle and Baxendale delighted the company

with their rendering of ballads, etc.; Mr. E. V. Carey sang a hunting song with great success; Mr. A. B. Hubback had some more "new ones;" Mr. H. F. Bellamy literally sparkled as a comic singer, and kept his audience in a continued roar of laughter; and Mr. Munro, of the Batu Caves Estate, a recent comer, sang two or three "drawing-room comics," to his own accompaniment on the piano. We understand that Mr. Munro is a pianiste of no mean order, and we may certainly enter him on our list of "acquisitions." Messrs. Cummings, Parsons and Rendle also sang. Captain Syers made an excellent Chairman and kept the ball rolling merrily till midnight.

GENTLEMEN in the Selangor Government Service who are interested in the recent Memorial to the Secretary of State on the subject of Pensions Rates, are invited to attend a meeting, to be held at the Selangor Club, on Saturday, the 15th of February, at 11.30 a.m., to consider the reply of the Secretary of State, and the advisability of taking further steps in the matter.

A CORRESPONDENT sends us the following:—"It is said that the ladies of Selangor will not be backward in the matter of the Leap-year festival, for it is quite on the cards to celebrate the occasion with a dance, if not on the 29th instant, on a day to be fixed by the Committee of management. Whether the time-honoured privilege of taking the 'initiative in the suggestion of matrimonial relationships,' reserved to the fair sex, will be availed of, it has not leaked out, but the novel feature of the dance will be that the ladies will do the 'asking.' Bachelors of a nervous temperament should turn this timely intimation into profitable account and brush up for the nonce, considering that they will not be similarly honoured by the ladies for a spell of eight years to come."

"I WAS much pleased by a visit which I paid on the 21st and 22nd to inspect agricultural holdings in Rawang. Almost all along the road from Serendah to Rawang land has been taken up in small holdings for planting coffee, though it is a pity that in many cases far too large a road frontage has, in my opinion, been granted. At Sungei Chul there is some excellent four-year-old coffee already in bearing, and now about to produce a heavy crop, which quite reminds one of Klang coffee. I am sorry to record that the tiger scare of the earlier part of the year induced some of the original Malay planters to sell to Chinamen. From Bandar Bharu a natural road, nearly half a mile in length, made by five enterprising Chinamen, leads one to a fine clearing of 125 acres, just beyond the town, and conspicuous from the railway. The road is continued for a similar distance through the clearing, which is being rapidly planted with coffee, and in many parts without bananas or any other auxiliary crop. Beyond this, still further clearings are being made by Malays. The Penghulu has a promising plantation of some 10 or 11 acres just outside the town limits, and beyond are two gardens with some seven or eight acres of three-years-old plants, beginning

to bear, for each of which offers of over \$1,300 have been refused. The Malay who has long sat at his ease, watching his bananas and his sugar cane, seems now to have been thoroughly aroused. Almost every Malay in Rawang and Serendah, who is old enough to have the sense, and the little capital necessary, is going in most enthusiastically for planting coffee; and not in the lackadaisical unmethodical way that one might expect from a Malay, planting the seed one day and pulling it up a few days after to see how it is getting on, but generally in a downright, earnest and business-like manner; not deputing the work to his wife and children, but working hard himself, and keeping his garden as free from weeds as a Chinaman or Javanese. Indubitably the Malay is taken with the coffee craze, if craze it is."—*Ulu Selangor Report for December.*

THE Annual General Meeting of the shareholders of the Selangor Masonic Hall Company, Limited, will be held at the Masonic Hall on Monday, the 10th February, 1896. Agenda:—1. To receive and consider the Statement of Income and Expenditure and the Balance Sheet. 2. To sanction the payment of interest. 3. To elect a Director in place of Mr. H. O. Maynard, who retires by rotation, but who is eligible to serve again. 4. To elect an Auditor. 5. General business.

THE SAMARITAN SOCIETY OF KUALA LUMPUR.

ON the 30th of December last a meeting of English-speaking ladies resident in Kuala Lumpur was held, on the invitation of Mrs. Rodger, at the Residency, to discuss the formation of a society "to provide good nursing and necessary comforts for members and their families in times of sickness." At this meeting it was resolved that a society bearing the above name should be formed, and the following officers were then elected and afterwards included in the Committee: *President*, Mrs. Rodger; *Treasurer*, Mrs. Syers; *Hon. Secretary*, Mrs. Harper; *Committee*, Mrs. Haines, Mrs. Maynard, Mrs. Stafford, Mrs. Venning and Mrs. Watkins. At subsequent meetings of the Committee rules were drawn up and adopted and a scale of charges framed. On Monday, the 3rd instant, at 5 p.m., a general meeting of those interested in the Society was held at the Victoria Institution. The meeting was well attended, and in opening the proceedings, Mrs. Rodger, as President, explained that the object of the Committee in calling a general meeting was to lay a scale of charges for the attendance of the Nurse before members, in order that they might have an opportunity of expressing their views and wishes on the subject.

Dr. Travers, at the request of Mrs. Rodger, then read the scale of charges one by one, and invited discussion. Some amendments to the draft as laid before the meeting were proposed, discussed and carried. The rules and scale of charges, as finally adopted, are as follows:—

RULES.

1. The management of the Society will be entrusted to a Committee of eight ladies, including a President, Treasurer and Secretary.
2. That a General Meeting be held annually to appoint officers and elect the Committee for the year.
3. That the Committee have power to fill vacancies which may from time to time occur.
4. That a family subscription of not less than twenty-five cents a month be paid by members of the Society.
5. That all subscriptions be paid monthly in advance, and be collected during the first week of every month, a counterfoil receipt, signed by the Treasurer, being given for each payment.
6. That no member whose subscription is more than one month in arrear, be entitled to the benefits provided by the Society, until such subscription be paid.
7. That in all cases where nursing is to be provided, a small charge be made for the services of the nurse, according to a scale determined by the Committee beforehand, having regard to all the circumstances of the case—such as position, means, nature of the illness, etc.
8. That no fee be paid to the nurse personally under any circumstances.
9. That the nurse be prohibited from attending infectious cases.
10. That an account be opened at the Chartered Bank in the name of the Society, to which all subscriptions and donations shall be paid.
11. That all cheques on this account be signed by the President and Treasurer.
12. That the Committee have power to make such additional rules as may be necessary for carrying out the practical working of the Society.

SCALE OF CHARGES.

1. That a maximum charge of one dollar and a minimum charge of twenty-five cents be made for the Nurse, if her attendance be required for a period of ten hours, either by day or by night.
2. That for visits of less duration a charge of ten cents or upwards be made, according to the time occupied and the nature of the work required.
3. That cases of midwifery, whether a Doctor be in attendance or no, be charged for at a minimum rate of ten dollars each, this charge to include all necessary attendance by the Nurse for ten days.
4. That in all cases of daily and nightly attendance it is expected that the Nurse be provided with food, and (if she wishes it) with a bath.

Dr. Travers then announced that a book had been provided, in which those present, who desired to become members, might enter their names and the amount they wished to subscribe. The meeting then closed, with a vote of thanks to Dr. Travers for his services.

More than once within the past twelve months the want of a society of this kind in Kuala Lumpur has been severely felt; and those who

have special opportunities for knowing can point to the very great benefits which should arise from its formation. A system of mutual help, when properly organised, is of incalculable value: it should enable assistance to be rendered at a minimum cost and preserve that spirit of self-help and independence which disorganised help so largely tends to destroy.

Of course, one of the main factors in the success of the undertaking will be the degree of support it receives in the way of subscribing members. A great deal of hard, persistent, and sometimes not pleasant, work has to be undertaken by those who endeavour to start, what we may term a benefit society, in a place where such a thing has been hitherto unknown; similar organisations at home are run by men, and men who understand all about them; but here we have a band of ladies entering boldly on what will be no light task, because it has been proved to them how necessary it is that some such movement be set on foot. Too much thanks cannot therefore be given to Mrs. Rodger, and those ladies who have worked with her, for the kindness and energy displayed in this matter. We feel sure that the manner most acceptable to these ladies of shewing appreciation of their efforts will be by becoming subscribing members of the Society, as well as by forwarding donations. As we said above, to make the affair a thorough success it must be warmly supported by all classes. The Committee are unable to move much, especially in engaging the services of a nurse, until some idea can be formed of what the income of the Society will amount to. All therefore who may intend to join should send in their names to the Hon. Secretary, Mrs. Harper, as early as possible, and so ensure the success of what we feel confident will ultimately prove a boon to many in Kuala Lumpur.

A list of subscriptions and donations will, it is hoped, be published in our next issue.



THE LAKE CLUB.

THE additions to the Club, now nearly completed, consist of a large reading room, 36 ft. x 28 ft., on the west side of the building, a bar, 28 ft. x 18 ft., and a card room of the same dimensions, both on the east wing. To make way for these rooms the old bar, store room and reading room were removed, so that practically the extension to the actual building is only 18 ft. on each side.

The reading room, which is also available for dances and similar entertainments, is coloured in pale green with a light terra-cotta dado. It is fitted with ten double windows, four punkahs, and ventilators over all doors and windows, so the room should be fairly cool. The frames of the doors and windows have been "picked" out with light colours, which adds considerably to the general effect.

The floor, of seriah, has been specially constructed for dancing purposes, and with attention and a little "bottling" should prove very satisfactory.

The bar is parallel with the front verandah and is much the same as its predecessor except as regards size. The card room lies exactly behind the bar and is only connected with it by a small opening through which the "refreshments" can be passed. Accommodation has been provided for at least four tables and the room built so as to keep out sound as much as possible.

The Club can now boast of a verandah 100ft. x 12ft. without a break.

The appearance of the building from the gardens is much improved by the additions. This is chiefly due to the fact that formerly the porch somewhat dwarfed the rest, but with 36 ft. extra on the roof, matters have been considerably equalised.

The cost of these extensions has been \$2,300, not including "extras" or furniture, and the whole of that sum and the necessary extras will be provided out of funds in hand. This expenditure has at any rate supplied a long-felt want and there is something to show for it.

The opening dance will take place on Friday, 14th inst., during the visit of the Singapore Cricket and Football teams.

SELANGOR HUNT CLUB, 1895.

THOSE accustomed, some four or five years ago, to drive about the outskirts of Kuala Lumpur on Sunday mornings often met a wild and for the most part hairless pack of dogs, accompanied by even wilder huntsmen, who rarely came back without a bag of some description. This was at the end of the "old days" when a bag of half a dozen pig was thought nothing of. Capt. Syers, however, left for home at last, where he found gentler sport in the wily trout. Little was done in this State for some time in the way of hunting in any organised form, as Dr. Travers, too, was on leave. Before these two returned, however, a kindred spirit evinced itself in the person of Mr. W. A. Leach, who kept a small pack of his own, till his friends, who had often joined him in his hunts, broached the idea of clubbing together to keep more dogs and give them suitable kennels. The matter was brought to a head and a Club called the "Selangor Hunt," was formed on 9th February, the original members being: Messrs. Leach, Paxon, Hanrott, Carpmael, W. D. Scott, Day, Foster and Dr. Scott. Rules were drawn up for the regulation of hunts, etc. Capt. Syers and Dr. Travers soon afterwards returned and joined the Club. Mr. Leach was the first Master of the Hunt, but to the regret of his friends and fellow-sportsmen left the State in May last. The members of the hunt met at Mr. Paxon's house on the eve of his departure, where they entertained him to dinner. The Mastership was resigned to Capt. Syers, Mr. Carpmael undertaking the duties of Secretary.

In September an attempt was made to hunt in the Klang District. This proved a great incentive to sport in Klang, for after two successful and enjoyable hunts, a pack was started there, and the "Selangor Hunt" then left their covers undisturbed.

The pack has also hunted over Cheras, but the sport has mainly been confined to the immediate outskirts of Kuala Lumpur, and the thanks of the Club are due to the planters for extending to its members their well-known hospitality. Especially enjoyable mornings, tiffins and afternoons have been spent at Hawthornden and Klang Gates. Those of our readers who have been invited to one of these hunts can appreciate the head-clearing drive in the cooling morning air, the tramp into the cover, the restrained excitement at the approach of game, the slaughter of "quite the finest I have seen," the exhausted tramp back to the cool attapped bungalow, the tubs, the tiffin, and the extraordinary stories of hunts in "the old days," then oblivion and at last return to town.

On 19th June the hunt invited several of the visitors from H.M.S. *Mercury*, when Lieut. Youel was successful, and a large bag was made. Among the visitors who have brought down their game may be mentioned Messrs. Hemmy and G. Sanderson.

The numbers of the members of the hunt have fallen off, owing to some having left Selangor, and others having joined Hunt Clubs in their own district. With such consistently good sport and the prospect of so much healthy enjoyment it is a pity more men do not join the Club, and references which have been made to the partiality for Sunday morning rest are not without foundation. The present members are: Capt. Syers, Dr. Travers, Messrs. Carmichael, Scott and Day.

The Club have met on 52 occasions and by the following list it will be seen that the total bag numbers 44 head of game, 19 being deer and 25 pig:

Jan.	6	...	Pahang Road Hot Springs	...	1 pig	...	G. Sanderson
Feb.	3	...	Hawthornden	...	2 deer	...	Dr. Travers
"	7	...	Kennels	...	1 pig	...	Chong Song
March	10	...	Pasir Labah	...	2 deer	{	Chong Song
"	17	...	Ampang	...	1 "	{	Dr. Travers
"	31	...	Ulu Klang	...	1 "	{	Chong Song
April	7	...	Klang Gates	...	2 pig	...	H. S. Day
"	15	...	Sungei Besi	...	1 deer	...	Chong Song
"	28	...	Pasir Labah	...	3 "	{	C. Harrold
"		...		...		{	2 G. Sanderson
May	12	...	Batu	...	1 pig	{	1 C. Foster
"	19	...	Maxwell Road	...	1 "	...	Dr. Travers
"	24	...	Pahang Road Hot Springs	...	1 "	...	G. Carmichael
June	19	...	Maxwell Road	...	2 deer	...	Chong Song
"	23	...	Pahang Road Hot Springs	...	1 pig	...	W. D. Scott
"		...		...		{	Lieut. Youel
July	20	...	Batu	...	1 deer	{	Dr. Travers
Aug.	18	...	Batu	...	1 pig	...	Capt. Syers
Sept.	1	...	Pahang Road Hot Springs	...	1 deer	...	Dr. Travers
"	8	...	Klang	...	1 pig	...	Malay
"	15	...	Pasir Labah	...	2 deer	{	G. Carmichael
"	22	...	Klang	...	3 pig	{	Capt. Syers
"	29	...	Batu	...	1 "	{	Chong Song
"		...		...		{	1 Capt. Syers
"		...		...		{	2 H. J. Hemmy
"		...		...		{	Capt. Syers

Oct.	13	...	Cheras	..	...	...	{ 1 pig } { 1 deer }	Dogs
"	27	...	Damansara Road...	...	...	...	1 pig	Dogs
Nov.	3	...	Cheras	...	...	...	2 "	Capt. Syers
"	10	...	Hawthornden	...	...	...	1 deer	Dr. Travers
Dec.	1	...	Pahang Road	Hot Springs	...	...	1 pig	"
"	8	...	Klang Gates	...	...	...	1 "	Dogs
"	15	...	Batu	...	...	...	1 "	W. D. Scott
"	22	...	Hawthornden	...	...	...	1 deer	Dr. Travers
"	29	...	Batu	...	...	...	2 pig	{ W. D. Scott { Chong Seng



THE PAUPER HOSPITAL, KUALA LUMPUR.

TO tell our local readers the whereabouts of the Pauper Hospital is just as needful as was the information once imparted about the milestones on the Dover Road. Yet, as we feel it to be our mission to spread abroad a knowledge of this sunny, prosperous land of Selangor, we will state that this excellent institution is situate on the Pahang Road, about two miles out, due north, from the town of Kuala Lumpur. It is on the road upon which are many of our best known coffee estates, it is on the highway which leads to Ginting Bidai, and since, and while, the Batu Road is blocked it is passed on the way to the Batu Caves. It consists of a group of buildings—it might be described as a small village—standing in 88 acres of well-kept ground (in addition to the 48 acres devoted to the Leper Asylum and Hospital Cemetery), and at once attracts the attention of every stranger, and should, as a charitable institution, arouse a feeling of proper pride in the breast of every Britisher. A broad road, wire-fenced and shaded by fine trees, runs through the ground, the wards, offices, etc., being arranged on either hand, and reached by branch paths running out from this main one, which is flanked at each end by piers and iron gates. The long frontage facing the Pahang Road is laid out in gardens and divided from the highway by a neat bamboo hedge, with a principal gateway in the centre, while the back parallel line falls away to lower ground and lalang land.

Before, however, we go on to write of the impressions of a recent visit, it may be as well to give some idea, culled from Annual Reports, of the growth of what at the present day is a monument to the care which the Government bestows even on the meanest that come under its protection. In the British Resident's report for 1882 the only reference to hospitals we find is under the head of "Expenditure," the sum of \$4,883.02 being set against Medical, that representing the amount expended for the sick throughout the State. In 1883 "a General and a Pauper Hospital (containing 40 beds each) were built at Kuala Lumpur, with Dispensary and all the necessary out-buildings, while the single building which originally served for the treatment of all cases was used as a ward of the Pauper Hospital." The expenditure for the whole State was \$6,167, and the number of paupers admitted that year was 329. In 1884 (the expenditure for

all hospitals being \$10,170) one of the two wards which formed the Pauper Hospital was demolished and a ward to accommodate 40 patients put up in its place; the number of patients amounted to 382 and the percentage of deaths dropped from 32 to 16. During 1885 the number of patients admitted to the Pauper Hospital rose to 835, and towards the close of this year another ward was added. In 1886, out of a total of 2,990 patients admitted to all hospitals in the State, 1,776 were treated in the Kuala Lumpur Pauper Hospital, which had been increased by the addition of another ward (four in all); and the Resident writes that, owing to the large influx of mining coolies and *sinkhehs* (new comers), there was so much overcrowding that yet another ward was being built. In 1887 the number admitted to the Pauper Hospital, together with those remaining from the previous year, was 4,773, and the following year it was 4,832. Up till this time the wards of the Pauper Hospital and the General Hospital had all been in the one compound near the old Gaol (in those days the new Gaol), but in 1889 steps were taken to remove the pauper portion to its present locality on the outskirts of the town, and two wards, of the ten it was decided to build, were put up and occupied. In this year, for the first time in its history—so far as we can see—the number treated in this hospital fell back—3,923 against 4,832 of the previous year, and in the next year it fell to 3,329. It was in 1890 that the buildings on the Pahang Road were fully occupied, including a Lunatic Ward, and a house built for the Surgeon in charge, Dr. J. L. Welch (now in Europe on leave), and it is from this time that the Pauper Hospital as an institution altogether separate from the General Hospital really begins.

Many additions were made to the Hospital during 1891—an operating room, a large kitchen with a vertical boiler for a steam-cooking apparatus, new latrines, bath-rooms, etc. The daily average of patients treated was 362, and the cost of maintenance was \$35,714, the yearly cost per bed being \$98.65. In the following year (1892) the new Leper Hospital, distant some half a mile, was occupied and placed under the Doctor in charge of the Pauper Hospital; the total number treated, exclusive of lepers, rose to 6,137, and the expenditure, including salaries, amounted to \$46,135. In 1893, if we include the Leper Hospital, the Lunatic Wards and the Infectious Diseases Ward, which all form part of this institution, the number treated was 7,198.

In August, 1893, Dr. Welch, who had been in charge of the Pauper Hospital since its formation on the present site, handed over to Dr. W. M. Little, he himself acting as Residency Surgeon. In Dr. Welch's report for that year he writes:—"The demands on the Pauper Hospital have increased so greatly within the last few years, far exceeding original expectations, that the whole of the ground set apart in the original plan has already been taken up and built on. . . . As it seemed highly probable in view of its recent growth that still further extension might shortly be required, a large block of the adjoining land has been added to the original block, which will afford room for almost indefinite expansion." Early in 1894 Dr. Little died, and was succeeded by Dr. A. Hertz as Surgeon in charge. During the y

many important changes and additions (notably the Tai Wah Ward) were made, and Dr. Travers, in his report on the working of the year, writes in very high terms of the excellent work done by Dr. Hertz. In 1895, Dr. F. G. Scott was placed in charge; he, however, after a few months resigned the service, and Dr. Hertz again took up the management, and at the time of writing is still in charge.

The following figures are for 1894, similar returns for 1895 not as yet being available:—

Diets for patients	...	...	...	\$18,769.92
Medical comforts	...	...	...	4,737.23
Contingent expenses	...	...	...	2,058.21
Attendants and cooking...	...	...	...	4,792.65
Furniture	...	...	...	721.65
Upkeep of grounds	...	...	...	589.80
Staff	...	...	...	10,916.81
Total				\$42,586.27

Average daily number of patients	...	...	586
Cost per patient per annum	...	...	\$72.84

These figures include the expenditure on the Lunatic Wards, but do not include the cost of clothing and bedding or drugs, which were paid for out of a general vote for the whole State.

In accordance with an appointment made with Dr. Hertz we, a few mornings ago, found ourselves entering the enclosure to the principal office of the Pauper Hospital, being met on the steps by the Doctor himself, who cheerily bade us enter and be seated while he finished signing some of those returns and official memoranda which seem to crop up so plentifully in all Government Departments. Here we learnt the regular routine of the day's work. At 5.30 a.m. the Clerk and Steward musters the attendants and "toties," these latter corresponding to what in a hospital at home we should term odd men or porters, fires are set going for the early morning meal, the attendants and odd men set about their various tasks; and the Dressers prepare for the visits of the Apothecaries, or, as we should call them at home, House Surgeons, which take place at 7 a.m., certain wards being placed in charge of each Apothecary, of whom there are two, Mr. M. Foenander, who has been in the Medical Department since 1882, and has done excellent work in all parts of the State, and Mr. Lay Fook. By 9 a.m. they have completed their round and meet Dr. Hertz at his office to whom they report the results of their observations, informing him if they consider it necessary for him see a case which does not lie in his round for that day. In the same way that the wards are divided between the two Apothecaries, so the Doctor visits them on alternate days; except in the case of the Admission Ward, the Surgical Ward and the Lunatic Wards, which he visits every morning. By the time the Doctor has completed his round it is nearly 11 o'clock and the meals for the patients are in full swing; and soon after this the staff are also taking their tiffin and resting. In the afternoon the Doctor again sees

those cases which need his personal attention, either in the Surgical Ward or elsewhere; at 3 p.m. the patients have their tea, and at 5 p.m. their evening meal; and between 5 and 7 p.m. the Apothecaries again make the round of their respective wards. At night each ward has at least one attendant, sometimes more, on duty; and two dressers, one at midnight and the other at 3 a.m., patrol the wards to see that all is as it should be. On certain days, in the afternoon, Dr. Hertz will give a lecture on clinical surgery, notifying in the morning of the day the ward in which the lecture will be given. This is the general run of work, but it goes without saying that every member of the staff from the Doctor to a totie is often called on at different hours of the day and night to do things outside the routine—that, however, is the case in hospitals wherever they may be. We may mention here that, for the benefit of the staff, a recreation ground is being laid out, and that we may expect to see a team hailing from the Pauper Hospital competing for the Football Cup recently presented by Mr. Rodger.

The staff at present is as follows:—Surgeon in charge, Dr. Hertz; Apothecaries (two), Mr. Foenander and Mr. Lay Fook; Dispenser, Mr. Sreenivasa; Clerk and Steward, Mr. Sequerah; Dressers, Apprentices and Volunteers, 25; Attendants, 30; Toties, 15; Sikh Watchmen, three; Dr. Hertz was not quite sure whether he should give the name of Father Letessier as one of the staff, as the reverend gentleman is there three times a week visiting all the patients. In addition, we have to count the convalescents among the patients as workers; they have to keep their respective wards clean, do light garden work and various odd jobs; many of the lunatics assisting by pumping water. The hours for patients to work are from 7 to 9 a.m. and one hour in the afternoon. Dr. Hertz speaks in the highest terms of his staff, whom he seems to have imbued with his own enthusiasm.

Passing from the Doctor's Office we enter the Dispensary and Drug Store, a large, light and airy place; here all the medicines are dispensed, both for indoor and outdoor patients; communication by telephone with the Residency Surgeon's Office enabling orders on the chief drug store at the General Hospital to be forwarded without delay. The Doctor here mentions how very popular among the Chinese is iodoform, he is in doubt whether this is owing to their faith in its curative properties, or because they like its strong odour. Across the road from here are the outdoor patients receiving and waiting rooms. In this building the two Dressers, who happen to be available for night duty sleep, in order to be close at hand.

From this point we started off on our visit to the wards, with which, to avoid repetition, we will deal generally only. One of the reforms with which Dr. Hertz is credited is the separation, as far as possible, of the various diseases, a reform which, impossible for the first year or two, is now yearly rendered easier by the new wards built. At the present time we find a ward devoted to wet beri-beri cases (the ward being selected on account of its adaptability for the hot bath treatment, a great factor in the cure of this form of beri-

beri), in seven other wards beri-beri preponderates, there being a case of fever or rheumatism here and there; a ward is devoted to dysentery and diarrhœa, and fresh cases of this nature are not allowed to be kept in the Admission Ward, but are brought here at once; chest complaints are in another ward, and the visitor notices that in this ward a larger and better kind of blanket is given to the patients; ulcer cases are separated, three wards in all being devoted to their treatment; venereal complaints and certain skin diseases have also a ward; the Infectious Diseases Ward is away from the main block of buildings, and the Leper Asylum is half a mile distant.

The description of one ward will serve for the rest, so far as the general appearance of the room and its inmates are concerned. There are, however, some differences in construction, and some of the wards are still of a temporary nature. We select one which Dr. Hertz considers the type of ward for the tropics, it is long, wide and high (140 ft. \times 40 ft. \times 26 ft.), light and airy, with doors at each end, and along each side; it is raised some feet from the ground, and the plank flooring is so laid as to leave a small space (say $\frac{1}{4}$ inch) between adjoining boards, while the ground surface beneath the floor is covered with concrete, raised in the centre and sloping on each side into an open brick drain running round the building; by these means the ward can be thoroughly flushed and cleaned with disinfectants and water and be dry again in an incredibly short time, the water running away at once from the vicinity. When standing at the entrance end of a ward, the attention of every visitor is at once arrested by the neat order and precision of everything it contains, nothing superfluous or out of place can be detected, and a scrupulous cleanliness, which, considering the class whence the patients are drawn, is simply marvellous, is at once noted; in fact, this strikes the visitor as the great characteristic of the whole institution. The bedsteads (sleeping boards, covered with grass matting, and supported on light iron trestles) are ranged down each side of the room with the head to the wall, and in some cases a row of beds runs down the centre, each bedstead is ranged with mathematical accuracy as to line and spacing. At the time of our visit, about 9.30 a.m., all the patients were in the ward, and with one or two exceptions were squatting on their bed-boards dressed in the Hospital clothing of white jacket and breeches; all along the row a touch of brightness was given by the red blanket neatly folded with a regulation fold and placed at the foot of the bed, where also in a light tin frame was placed the "bed-ticket," giving the patient's name, age, occupation, date of admission, disease, treatment, etc., while at the head was the small wooden Chinese pillow; and leaning against the wall, we are tempted to say all almost at the same angle, were the sticks, roughly cut from the jungle, which the majority of the patients find necessary when taking their walks abroad. The sanitary arrangements, so far as sight and smell could judge, were perfect, and in no instance did we encounter any unpleasantness that could have been obviated. Rules regarding these and other matters are written out in Chinese characters and posted up in the ward.

The general air of the patients is that of contentment, we might say cheerfulness, and in almost every case the Doctor's query of

what sounded like "Ho-la?" was answered by "Ho," and a ready smile. Some poor creatures, naturally, took but little interest in their surroundings or the visitors, and the patient who grumbled and wished to have extra opium or additions to his diet was not wanting; yet many cases which the Doctor pointed out as being bad, and probably hopeless, were men who were smiling and cheerful. The degree to which a Chinaman can become emaciated and yet live and smile, is exemplified by more than one of the patients; and Dr. Hertz is struck with the extraordinary indifference the average Chinaman displays to physical pain—or, perhaps, the better thing to say is the stoicism with which he bears it. The great majority of the patients are Chinese, Tamils are seen here and there, but few Malays.

The Admission Ward receives all patients upon first entering (except infectious and diarrhoea cases, which are at once taken to their respective wards). Here as a rule, they remain for 24 hours, or until their disease has been properly diagnosed; the Surgeon in charge visits the ward every morning to see those fresh cases about which the Apothecary may wish to take his opinion.

There is also a Vagrants' Ward, a prison-like looking place, with barred openings and locked doors, and occasionally Sikhs to guard the inmates.

Close to the Office and Dispensary is the Operating Room, a square, well-lighted apartment, the walls for some distance from the ground being faced with white enamelled tiles, and the floor of cement with outlets for running off the water when the place is flushed with disinfectants. In the centre stands the operating-table and against the wall facing the door is a cabinet containing surgical instruments, ranged on four shelves. Dr. Hertz informs us that the contents of the two upper shelves belong to Government, but that the instruments laid out on the other two are his private property. The speckless cleanliness observable elsewhere, is, if possible, more in evidence here, and Dr. Hertz says he could wish for nothing better in the way of an operating room and its fittings—"Unless," he adds, "it is in the matter of a washstand more suitable to its surroundings with proper fittings for hot and cold water." The operating days are Tuesdays and Fridays; and the Doctor gave us a long description of the preparatory and precautionary steps taken in each case. Most pauper patients require a deal of "setting-up" with eggs, beef soup and iron tonic to prepare them. Then there is the need for ensuring the absolute cleanliness of the affected parts; the instruments, too, just immediately before using are submitted to a current of steam of 140°: indeed, every precaution is taken to destroy the wily and deadly microbe. Dr. Hertz is very, and justly, proud of the results of his operations, although, as we shall see later on, by the "Visitors' Book," he incurred a certain amount of odium among some of the Chinese when he first started. He can point out to the visitor more than one whom he has relieved of worse than useless limbs, and who have sought, and obtained, after recovery, employment at the Hospital. One notable case we saw, the barber, who entered the Hospital in a terrible condition, but who now goes about on one leg, a clear-skinned,

bright-eyed and cheerful Celestial. A remarkable thing is that in four other cases of amputation, the patients after recovery in each case worked in the Hospital as barbers. There is also a case to which the Doctor refers of a patient who had his leg amputated below the knee on the 3rd of the month and left the Hospital cured on the 16th!

A short covered way leads from the Operating Room to the Surgical Ward, which contained at the time of our visit five patients—four minor cases, and one in which the leg had been amputated the previous day; the patient was progressing very favourably, and appeared quite content, except that he expressed a desire for a little more opium, a request the Doctor did not consider it wise to accede to on account of the effect it might have on the heart's action. On looking at the bed-tickets, we find that each patient is receiving "extras." Attached to this ward are two small, dark rooms used for the treatment of certain eye complaints. Very handy and useful, no doubt, but too warm to be pleasant for the occupants we imagine.

The Lunatic Wards are two in number, male and female—although it is a question if the latter can be dignified by the name of ward. The whole front of the men's ward and part of the back is open to the air, fitted with an arrangement of iron bars; the square interior, which cannot be described as large, contains a table, standing in the centre, and benches and sleeping boards arranged round the sides; on left and right steps lead up to narrow corridors, on either side of which are cells for bad cases; there are the usual appliances of irons, etc., for securing dangerous lunatics. Six attendants are allotted to this ward, four for day duty and two for night; but all sleep in the ward at night. At the time of our visit there were 31 patients, all, with the exception of a Malay and a Manilaman, being Chinese. Some of the patients had just returned from outside work and all were quiet; some were in an apathetic state, taking no notice of the Doctor's entry or his queries, while others responded at once with a smile. One or two maintained a broad grin, and regarded the visit in the light of a joke. Two of the patients, the Malay and a young Chinaman, were, the Doctor said, almost ready for discharge, and there were some of whom he could give no hopes of recovery. Two youths, quite boys, were among the patients, one an unmistakable imbecile and the other a bright laughing fellow, whom the casual observer would regard as sane and intelligent. The cells were unoccupied, save that in one a thin melancholy looking Chinaman, with bandaged neck, was squatting, with the door open. He was, we were told, an old Hospital bird, in and out, knew the diets by heart, and well aware of what "extras" meant. The previous day, while in one of the wards of the Hospital, he preferred a request which was not granted, so later on, when the barber was going his round, he quietly appropriated a razor, and attempted to cut his own throat. Later on, he will appear in Court. The appearance of the Manilaman is very pathetic; the Doctor fancied it a case of softening of the brain. The poor man, who can't understand why he is kept there, stands with his hat under his arm prepared to walk out each

time the gate is unlocked; upon being repulsed he quietly returns to his post by the table, only to go through the same thing again the very next time the gate is opened. It is very sad, and we can't get the dull, troubled expression of the man's face from our memory.

The ward for female lunatics, which we next visited, appears altogether inadequate in space and design. From what we could see, in the short time we were there, it is a small oblong room. The left hand side, on entering, is filled by sleeping boards on trestles, placed closely together, on these the patients were squatting, or in one or two cases, were standing and declaiming (for unlike the men, they, or some of them, were very noisy); a screen runs along the room shutting off some cells opening from the right-hand side, one of them containing a very shocking case; a small apartment, running parallel with the cells, is immediately on the right on entering, and in this were three or four patients. In all there were 11 patients; one a Siamese, one a Javanese and the rest Chinese. The Javanese girl was scrupulously clean and neat in her appearance, wearing a skirt and bodice, with a handkerchief round her neck and folded over her breast. Her talk is polyglot, Dutch, French, German, English, Malay being mixed up with her native tongue. Dr. Hertz gave a terrible sigh as we left the building, and declared that the treatment of lunatics in such a building is a very difficult matter. We attempted to cheer up the Doctor by telling him that Rome wasn't built in a day and that no doubt there will soon be built an asylum worthy of the State.

After this we visit a temporary ward, atap roof and not raised from the ground—to tell the truth, it seems below the road level, and we could not forbear the question as to its condition under heavy rain. When we were there, however, it was a fine sunny day, and the interior of the ward and its inmates had the same well-kept appearance as the best ward in the place. Yet, stay—the inmates of this particular ward? Looking round and viewing the ghastly ravages of disease visible on many of them the visitor cannot help being struck by the inconsistency of the Home Government, which is willing to allow large sums of money to be spent in building wards and providing doctors, attendants and drugs for this particular class of patient, but will not permit those steps to be taken which would undoubtedly have the effect of reducing the number of sufferers. In the opinion of many able men, well acquainted with all the conditions of life in India and Indo-China, it is the one great blot on the English administration in the East, a mistake the miserable effects of which will be suffered by thousands yet unborn.

More than a passing comment must be given to the Tai Wah Institution, which finds a home in the grounds of the Pauper Hospital and is under the medical charge of its Doctor. This institution points, more than anything else, to the excellent effects of the example set by Government in providing shelter, food and attendance for the indigent. We do not wish it to be understood that the Chinese are careless of the sufferings of their fellow-countrymen—an account we recently gave of the origin of the Tung Shin Institution points to the

contrary—but we do contend that the Tai Wah Institution, which as yet is only in its infancy, would never have been started on its present lines had it not been for the bright example afforded the Towkays by the care shown by Government for the sick and helpless. The untravelled Chinaman may still regard the Englishman as a barbarian, but his wandering brother who has lived and flourished under British rule must surely, if gradually, be arriving at a different conclusion. It was in 1892 that the idea of founding the Tai Wah Ward was first suggested to the Chinese, and a Committee, with the Captain China (Yap Kwan Seng) as Chairman, was formed. The consent of the mine-owners was obtained to a charge of three cents being made by Government on each bhara of exported tin, which, together with the Government donation, would go to provide funds for the maintenance of the institution. The scheme was designed for the care of indigent Chinese who from “old age or incurable disease could not be adequately treated in the ordinary wards of the Pauper Hospital.” It was originally intended that the fund should provide the means of enabling this class of person to return to their homes in China, but eventually “it was thought better to drop the whole question of repatriation on account of its being practically impossible to carry out.” Under these circumstances, writes the Acting Chinese Secretary (Mr. F. Fox), “the Tai Wah Institution will have to provide a permanent home for all decrepit and indigent Chinese whom it receives into its care, and it will be consequently necessary, should funds allow of it, to extend and add to its premises until such time as a maximum accommodation is provided for all the incurables of the State.”

The following was the estimated revenue and expenditure for 1895, and statement of cash assets:—

REVENUE.		EXPENDITURE.	
Item.	\$ c.	Item of Expenditure.	\$ c.
Miners' Contribution Tin	5,000 00	Attendants	350 00
Do. do. Tin-ore	1,400 00	Repatriation Expenses	50 00
Fines and Penalties under Regulation XII., 1893	300 00	Diets and Medical Comforts	1,000 00
Interest on Fixed Deposit	350 00	Surgical and other Appliances	200 00
Miscellaneous	50 00	Furniture	100 00
		Clothing and Bedding	250 00
		Contingencies	200 00
		Ambulance	700 00
		Special Donations	50 00
		Balance	4,200 00
Total ...	7,100 00	Total ...	7,100 00
CASH ASSETS.			
Balance in hand on 1st Jan., 1895	\$2,096 52		
At Fixed Deposit	7,000 00		

At the time of our visit the Tai Wah Ward contained 34 inmates, the maximum number that can be accommodated under existing arrangements being 46. Of the 34, 20 are blind or partially blind, 4 paralysed, and 10 suffering from various incurable complaints. The

plan, general arrangement and appearance of the ward are, at the first glance, similar to the ward we have already described; but a closer inspection will show many points of difference. There is a more homelike appearance: whereas in the ordinary wards of the Hospital the only things observable are the bedsteads and the patients, here we notice that under or beside each bedstead there is a box of sorts, in many cases roughly made out of a whisky case or the like, containing presumably the worldly possessions of the occupant of the bed, while at the head of each bed, and fixed to the wall, is a shelf on which are ranged all kinds of things, from opium pipes to needle and cotton, and choice tit-bits of food; along the verandahs, too, here and there, are hutches with chicken, and poultry, the property of various inmates, are round about and popping in and out of the ward. At a little distance off is a pigstye, with pigs, also owned by the patients; while the immediate vicinity of the ward is being levelled for gardens by those among them who are strong enough to undertake this kind of work. Altogether, there was a more settled and permanent appearance about the whole thing than was noticeable in any part of the Hospital we had previously passed through. As in the other wards, nearly all the inmates were squatting on their bed-boards. That peculiarly helpless appearance which nearly all blind persons have when they are sitting idle was very noticeable among those who were afflicted in this way, and we think that some small portion of the fund would be well spent in purchasing from Europe or America some of those appliances by which the blind are enabled to occupy their time in making various things. It is pitiful to think of some of these poor creatures sitting, as we saw them, for the rest of their lives with their hands folded in front of them, seeing nothing, doing nothing. And yet, we must add, if it were not for the Tai Wah Institution their fate might have been infinitely worse. There are some among the blind here, however, who know their way well about the grounds of the Hospital, and who, carrying their wares in a box suspended from the neck by a string, hawk cakes, tobacco, etc., among the other patients; and some again who are employed on earth-work! There is one old, white-haired Chinaman whom it is worth anyone's while to visit the ward to see. He is small, and wizened, but very vivacious; his face is tanned to a deep yellow, and it would take a very clever carver to reproduce the thousands of wrinkles which line his face, and alter their direction with each varying expression. He pleads guilty to sixty-five years of age; but we should say that he is much nearer a hundred. We asked how long he had lived in Selangor, and his answer was forty years, and he volunteered the further information that he had prior to that been in Malacca for twenty-one years. If the old man's memory is not playing him false, he has witnessed some wonderful changes. There are other inmates we would like to write about, but the length of this article is getting beyond all bounds.

In connection with the Tai Wah Fund, is a system of collecting the sick from the roadsides and mines by ambulance carts, drawn by bullocks. Although the original purchase money was defrayed out of the fund, we understand that the Captain China has kindly made himself responsible for their upkeep, and provides the necessary shelter for

housing the animals and carts. There are four carts and they set out on their journeys each morning in four different directions. This system is, or should be in time, the means of getting the pauper sick to Hospital in the early stages of disease—a difficulty which has hitherto caused the Hospital authorities much trouble, and contributed in no slight degree to a high death-rate. In fact, Dr. Hertz said that on one occasion out of 25 admissions, five died in 24 hours and seven within 48 hours after reaching Hospital—so far advanced was the sickness in each case. We ventured to remark to the Doctor that from what we had seen of the carts, they apparently left much to be desired in the way of comfort. Curiously enough, the same idea had occurred to him, and he therefore, upon coming across an ambulance cart on its way to Hospital one day, stepped inside and had a ride, sitting on the narrow seat with which each side of the vehicle is provided. It was an experience he has no desire to repeat. Those of our readers who have travelled from Serendah to Kuala Kubu by “*kreta* post” can appreciate his feelings.

Any description of the Pauper Hospital would be incomplete that did not refer to the kitchen with its steam apparatus for cooking the rice. This appliance enables sufficient rice for 1,000 persons to be cooked at once; and that it cooks well we can vouch, for we were present when the rice was being served out and noticed how well it looked, every grain distinct. The apparatus comprises a vertical steam boiler and three steam chambers, each chamber is fitted inside with ledges on which iron drawers furnished with handles slide in and out, each drawer contains 25 catties of rice, sufficient that is, roughly speaking, for 50 meals; each chamber contains six drawers. The kitchen is large and airy, being open to the air all round, and protected from intrusion by iron bars. In shape it is oblong, the apparatus we have described standing at one end, and the tables for preparing the food at the other, the ordinary open stoves of the country running down the centre. All the food is weighed, before and after cooking, and the Dressers and attendants receive it from the kitchen for distribution among their patients, the buckets for the rice, etc., bearing the distinctive mark of the ward for which they are intended. There are two scales of diet—“E,” ordinary hospital diet, and “G,” a lighter or slop diet. Both of these diets are occasionally augmented with extras, such as eggs, beef soup, fresh milk, fruit, etc., according to the nature of the disease and the condition of the patient. The regular meals are early morning *kanji*, a light fluid meal; a scale diet meal at 10.30 a.m. and another at 5 p.m., with tea in between at 3 p.m. We might add that all the eggs supplied are ducks’ eggs, the Chinaman expressing a great partiality for them. The Doctor says it may be on account of the flavour; but he fancies that size has also something to do with it. The food is supplied by contract, and is received fresh each morning from the contractor by the Hospital Steward; the refuse rice, etc., is also sold by contract.

There is one class of building of which we yet have made no mention; that is, the quarters for the staff. These are dotted round here and there, some inside the Hospital grounds and some skirting

the borders. Chief among these is the house on the Circular Road where the Surgeon in charge resides, a house that will always in the minds of those who were living here during '90-'93 be associated with Dr. Welch, who was for so long identified with this institution. The garden attached to the bungalow was quite one of the features of the place, both Dr. and Mrs. Welch taking the greatest possible interest in its culture, and the hospitality they dispensed within the building to their many friends is too well known to need mention here. It was here we went with Dr. Hertz after having seen all that there was to see, and it was here that we took something to kill any microbes we might have consumed during our perambulations and listened to the Doctor's enthusiastic comments on the grand institution of which he is in charge. Dr. Hertz regards a slight attack of fever in 1893, which caused him to stay in Singapore for a little while, as a most fortunate occurrence, because while there he heard of the vacancy for a doctor in Selangor, and soon afterwards was placed in charge of the Pauper Hospital. The Doctor relates, with much humour, the gauntlet he had to run in facing and combating the opinion of the old stagers, the patients who regarded the Pauper Hospital as their home, who occasionally left its shelter for a short space, but soon found their way back, and who were not disposed to regard the advent of a new doctor as an incident that did not concern them. It was all very well for a Governor or a Resident to appoint a man to the post; but it was quite another matter whether the man appointed was, according to their view, suitable. Again, it happened, from one cause and another, that about this time there were several cases in hospital where, if the patient was to have the remotest chance of living, amputation was absolutely imperative. Consequently, many operations were performed—in every case, be it remarked, with the full consent of the patient. Certain ideas are quickly circulated and soon gain ground in an institution of this kind, and it was not long before the opinion became general among the patients that their ultimate fate was to be chopped to pieces by the new doctor. That this opinion was not confined to the patients is evidenced by an entry in the Visitors' Book made by some Chinese who had been inspecting the Hospital, to the effect that the new doctor was a "red-haired Frenchman, a cruel-hearted man, who delighted in blood." Anyone who has the opportunity should certainly hear this tale as related by Dr. Hertz—who, by the way, is about as dark as they make them in Europe and hails from Denmark. However, all's well that ends well; and Dr. Hertz has lived down all that sort of thing; the Captain China expressed his opinion in the Visitors' Book of the entry we have referred to; and one has only to walk round the wards with the Doctor to understand that his whole heart and soul are in the work, and that his efforts are appreciated by his patients.

The Leper Asylum is really a part of the institution, but a visit would require far more time and space to describe than we can at present spare. Whether we shall, one of these days, "pluck up" sufficiently to pay it a visit remains to be seen.

NOTES AND NEWS.

CHINESE NEW YEAR, the advent of which is always heralded by alarming rumours of failures and riots, is over, and, so far as we hear, the fears entertained by some have proved as groundless this time as in many former years. We understand that the Government, as a matter of precaution, had, in the event of an emergency, made arrangements for advancing money, through the Chinese headmen, to mine-owners in temporary difficulties, and had also taken measures for coping with any disturbance which might arise. Whatever financial pressure there was, however, was met by the assistance of the head Towkays and the Straits Trading Company. It would be absurd to contend that in no instance has failure occurred. There was never a Chinese New Year yet, whatever the price of tin, when some owners did not go to the wall from one cause or another: that is inevitable. A failure here and there, however, is a very different thing to the general bankruptcy predicted. As regards rioting, the appearance of the Chinese community betokened the very reverse, and if there did arise, as there most surely does and always will, any difference between owners and coolies, the prompt action of Captain Syers was quite equal to keeping it within due bounds. Altogether, we can safely say that the New Year has passed off quietly and harmoniously—Chinese crackers and Chinese “music” being left out of the question—and that, although refined tin at present stands at \$32 as against \$36 of the corresponding period of last year, there is *banyak untong* in store both for Towkay and cooly in the 22nd year of Kuang Hsü.

MR. JOHN PICKERSGILL RODGER, according to a telegram of the 7th inst., has been appointed in the *London Gazette* British Resident, Selangor, *vice* Mr. William Hood Treacher, c.m.g., promoted to the Residency of Perak, vacant through the appointment of Mr. Frank Athelstane Swettenham, c.m.g., to the post of Resident-General for the Protected Malay States. Mr. Rodger's first appointment in the Public Service was in Selangor in 1882 as Chief Magistrate and Commissioner of Lands, and in 1884, 1886, and 1887 he was acting as Resident of the State. In 1888 Mr. Rodger was appointed British Resident,

Pahang; in 1891 he was again acting in Selangor, and in 1894, when Mr. Treacher proceeded to Europe on leave, Mr. Rodger came here to act for him. It will thus be seen that, with a short interval in 1889-90, Mr. Rodger has been closely connected with the administration of this State for the past sixteen years.

MR. TOSHIRO FUJITA, the Japanese Consul, Singapore, was in Kuala Lumpur, last week. He was a guest at the Residency.—Mr. C. F. McCausland, a Junior Officer, arrived on the 9th instant. He is attached to the District Office, Kuala Selangor, whither he proceeded on the 17th instant.—Mr. F. Fox, who during the absence of Mr. Ridges has been acting as Chinese Secretary, returned, with Mrs. Fox, to Singapore, on the 11th instant.—Mr. H. Spearing proceeded to Raub, on the 18th instant, on special service in connection with the Pahang Trunk Road.—Mr. W. L. Ramsay, of the Chartered Bank, left for Singapore on the 14th inst., Mr. W. C. Gibson taking his place in Kuala Lumpur.—Messrs. Nicholas and Walsh, who secured the contract for the 5th Section of the Pahang Trunk Road (15 miles), have also had their tender accepted for the 6th section, Tras to Raub (8 miles).—Mr. R. C. Edmonds is acting as Assistant Government Secretary; Mr. W. D. Scott, the holder of the appointment, still acting as Assistant Magistrate, Kuala Lumpur.—Mr. T. N. Christie, of Ceylon, owner of the Lanka Coffee Estate, Klang, is here on a visit.

THE Rev. Mother St. Henry, of the Institute des Dames de St. Maure, accompanied by the Lady Superior of the Singapore Convent and by Mother St. Marcienne of Malacca, visited Kuala Lumpur on the 11th instant. The Rev. Mother is travelling with the object of visiting the convents connected with the Institute, and we hear that there is a probability of a convent being established in Kuala Lumpur. The aim of the Institute is both educational and nursing.

THE Leo Hernandez Burlesque Company gave a performance at the Chinese Theatre last night, a large number of Europeans and Chinese Towkays being present as the guests of Towkay Yap Hon Chin. The Company are advertised to appear at the Selangor Club to-morrow night.

THOSE members of the Government Service who have not already expressed their willingness to subscribe for the Race Cup which it is proposed to offer for the forthcoming meeting, are reminded that contributions should reach Mr. A. R. Venning, who has kindly consented to receive them, as early as possible, to enable a Cup worthy of the Service to be obtained in time for the event.

THE Acting D.O., Ulu Langat, writes :—" Several applications have been sent in for waste land on the right bank of the Langat River off the Rekoh Road. There seems little doubt that the land applied for, together with a great extent of waste land south of the proposed Klang-Kajang Road, forms part of an all but continuous alluvial plain which stretches down to join the Klang planting reserve on the north side of the Langat Road; and if this should prove to be the case, it is greatly to be hoped that the Government will see its way to reserving the whole plain for coffee planters, as it is at present entirely waste, contains no mining land, and is the only portion of the district which is in the smallest degree suitable for a planting reserve."

APROPOS of the above, we hear that Mr. R. C. M. Kindersley has been granted a block of land on the Rekoh Road, which it is hoped may be the means of putting fresh life into that long-abandoned portion of the district.

A KAJANG correspondent writes :—" A baby bear—it is to be feared with all its troubles before it—is the latest addition to the Kajang community. Mr. Lindsay's baby elephant having long since left the field. It was picked up by some of Messrs. Kindersley's coolies who were engaged in prospecting, and is being successfully reared by hand, though its eyes are not yet unsealed. I wonder if it will survive to sit for a fellowship, as was the fate of a bear that belonged to a celebrated Highland chieftain in days of yore?"

DURING the Chinese New Year the S.F.B., as is their usual custom, held themselves in readiness to cope with any outbreak that might occur, by a system of relief watches at the Fire Station. From 6 p.m. until midnight from the 12th to the 16th inst., one or other company had been on duty with the engine under steam ready to turn out at a moment's notice. The Station was connected by telephone with a lookout at the Government Offices who commanded a view of the town and could give the signal and locate the fire. On Friday night, the 14th inst., the alarm was given that a fire was visible at Pudoh, and Lieut. Scott, who was in charge of the watch on duty, immediately set out with the hose reels, etc., followed by the engine with Chief Officer Bellamy, who was at the dance at the Lake Club when the signal was heard. Most of the men not on duty were in bed at the time; but, in less than half an hour the whole Brigade was at the scene of fire, and at work. About 20 atap houses and sheds were found well alight on the north side of the Pudoh Road at the back of

the brick houses, and the first efforts of the Brigade were directed to preventing its further spread. A plentiful supply of water being at hand from the stream which crosses the road close by, this was soon accomplished and the Brigade worked with a will until the fire was extinguished. They left for home at about 2 a.m.

THE Annual General Meeting of the Selangor Planters' Association will be held in the Reading Room of the Selangor Club, on Saturday, 22nd February, 1896, at 10.30 a.m., to receive the Committee's report for the past year and to transact the general business of the Association. 1.—To read and if approved confirm the minutes of the last general meeting. 2.—To consider correspondence with Government *re* discharge tickets to coolies, and other subjects. 3.—To consider resolution proposed by Mr. H. M. Darby and seconded by Mr. T. Gibson: "That the Government of Selangor be asked to reconsider Order No. 603, in *Government Gazette* of 6th Dec., 1895, *re* sale of Government Medicines." 4.—To receive the Committee's report for past year. 5.—To elect a Chairman, Honorary Secretary and three Committee Members for the present year. 6.—To consider any other points of which due notice has been given to the Committee.

A MEETING will be held at the Selangor Club, at 6 p.m., to-morrow (Saturday), to consider the question of the cricket pitch and the means to be taken to improve it. All who take an interest in the game are invited to attend.

WE have received a letter regarding the state of the Kuala Langat Road, Klang. It is stated that "from the 5th to the 9th mile out from Klang the road is impassable; coolies carrying their rice out from the town sink knee-deep in the mud, and reach the estates with the greatest difficulty." The writer says if the Government would take some steps to make a passable walking track until the road can be properly made up, it would be a boon to the planters and the public in general.

THE Selangor Hunt Club, in honour of our Singapore visitors, met on Friday morning. The meet, timed for 6.30, was at the Railway Bridge, Maxwell Road, and hunting commenced between the Rawang Road and the Railway line. Although the tracks of two pig had been found, the jungle was too wet and dense to permit of much progress, and all the efforts of the dogs to find were of no avail. The pack was called off and the Hunt moved on to the patch, near the "Selangor Estate," which proved so successful at the time it was

tried by our visitors from H.M.S. *Mercury*. Plenty of signs of game were found here, and Dr. Travers soon brought down a pig with a shot in the back. The dogs were put in again and quickly turned out another, which Mr. Carey bagged. By this time the sun was getting to the top, so a move was made towards the Selangor Club, where our huntsmen, accompanied by coolies carrying the quarry, made a most sporting entry.

THE Leap Year Dance, with a notice of which we were favoured by a correspondent in our last issue, was held at the Selangor Club on the night of Tuesday, the 18th inst. We have received an account of the dance which describes it as a great success, and says that "the concensus of opinion inclined to the fact that Miss Bartholomeusz was the belle of the ball."

A NOTICE has been issued that all dogs in the district of Kuala Lumpur are to be confined for a period of three months from the 8th February. Anyone acting in contravention is liable to a fine of \$100, and dogs are liable to forfeiture.

THE *Free Press* gives the following as the principal points of interest in the cricket match of Friday and Saturday last:—

"Hubback's splendid wicket-keeping for Selangor and his equally good bowling in Singapore second innings. As an all round cricketer he ranks second to none in the Straits.

"Orman's return to form in batting. He played real good cricket with none of the fancy strokes which he has been so fond of showing us for the last six months.

"Dougal's batting in Selangor's first innings. For clean hard hitting it would be impossible to beat it. Three singles out of 50, shews what 'gentle tapping' it was.

"Neubronner's defence when things were going against his side. It was an effort to save the match made in his best style.

"Mactaggart's good head bowling against a powerful batting side, particularly in the second innings of Selangor.

"The really good fielding and keenness shown throughout the game by both sides. Cricket was played from start to finish.

"The terribly bad state of the Selangor ground. Singapore has a perfect pitch compared with that on which the match was played. It is only to be hoped that both will be relaid before any more representative matches are played on them."

"THE PLAYGROUND."

OUR friends from Singapore, who had been invited to spend the Chinese New Year in "the playground of the Colony," and to try conclusions with us at cricket and football, arrived at Klang on the afternoon of the 13th inst., Messrs. W. D. Scott and A. B. Hubback being there to receive them and bring them along to Kuala Lumpur by the evening train. There were some twenty-five visitors, and arrangements for housing them having been made, they were met on the platform by their respective hosts and taken away to their quarters. On the same night the opening item of the social arrangements, a Cigarette Smoking Concert, was held at the Lake Club. A large and appreciative company was present to listen to the following programme, arranged by Mr. E. M. Alexander:—

Mrs. Stafford	<i>Piano Solo</i> ...	Fantasia Lohengrin
Mr. Dougal	... ..	The Stars of Normandie
Mrs. Haines and Mrs. Maynard	<i>Duet</i> ...	Hark! the Goat-bells Ringing
Mrs. Douglas	... ..	{ Vorrei Morrir! (Encore) In Paradise
Mr. Bourne	... ..	{ The Song of Hybrias the Cretan (Encore) My Old Dutch
Mrs. Syers	... ..	{ Whisper and I shall hear (Encore) My Lady's Bower
Dr. Hertz	... ..	Song
Mrs. Maynard	... ..	The Dear Homeland
Mr. Baxendale	... ..	Queen of the Earth
Mrs. Haines	... ..	Our World
Mr. Bourne	... ..	'Tis all that I can say
Mrs. Douglas	... ..	Parle Moi
Mr. A. B. Hubback	... ..	{ The Dispensary Doctor Such a Nice Man too The Little Nipper

Friday morning opened dull and cloudy so far as the weather was concerned, but the crowd at the Selangor Club was as bright and cheerful as one could wish, and both players and spectators were keen for the game. The Singapore Captain won the toss, and batting commenced at about a quarter to eleven; and during the early hours of play one of the most noteworthy events of the match was the brilliant fielding of the Selangor team. The tiffin hour was from one till two, and play was resumed sharp at the latter hour. It will be seen from the account of the match we give elsewhere, how exciting the game became in the afternoon, how the spirits of we Selangorites became depressed only to be roused into enthusiasm and hope by the splendid innings of Dougal and the excellent cricket of John Glassford. Singapore had just started on its second innings when stumps were drawn at a quarter to six.

On Friday night a dance was given at the Lake Club, the new room recently opened being used as a ball-room for the first time. The appearance of the room was most tasteful, the tints used in the colouring of the walls and mouldings being very effective by lamp-light. If a fault can be found it is that the ceiling appears low, and this may have accounted for complaints about the heat. Dancing,

however, was kept up with great spirit, and the visitors gave every indication of thorough enjoyment. The Resident and Mrs. Rodger were present. A very excellent supper was served at midnight. The following was the programme for the dance:—

1. Waltz... .. El Dorado	7. Waltz... .. Dancing Girl
2. Lancers Round the Town	8. Lancers 'Arry and 'Arriet
3. Waltz... .. Paul Jones	9. Waltz... .. Fiddle and I
4. Polka... .. Flyaway	10. Polka Tout à la joie
5. Waltz... Midsummer Night	11. Waltz... .. Dorothy
6. Barn Happy Darkies	12. Waltz... .. Estudiantina

Saturday morning was not a Government holiday, so the Selangor Club building did not bear the crowded appearance which it had shown the previous day; towards the afternoon, however, the crowd was big enough in all conscience, and we may here remark on the great interest displayed right through the game by the ladies of Selangor, whose presence on the upper verandah gave an added attraction to the contest. Shortly before the tiffin-hour the last of the Singapore men having been disposed of, the second innings of our local team commenced, they having to make 123 to win. Play was resumed promptly at 2 o'clock. But the fortune of war was against us and before 4 o'clock the last Selangor wicket collapsed leaving victory in the hands of our visitors by 27 runs.

The cricket over, the bar at the Club presented a very animated appearance, the one absorbing topic being the state of the wicket. It had been intended to take photos of the contending teams, but from some cause or another this was not done, and the hour between the cricket and football had flown before one could look round. The ground for the game at "socket" had been marked out in front of the Club, so that the game might be viewed from the steps. About this time the weather turned showery and more than once during the football match a rush was made for the shelter of the Club to escape the rain. No one had anticipated that Selangor would prove victorious over the strong combination which represented Singapore football; so no one was very much surprised that the visitors won by 4 to 1. We all thought that Selangor would make a good fight, and in that also we were not disappointed. The thing to do is to practise, to try again, and to deserve better luck next time. An account of the match is given on another page.

There had been some talk of a tennis match, but there was no time. A match at billiards, 300 up, Mr. Braddell representing Singapore and Mr. A. R. Venning Selangor, was played at the Lake Club. The result was another win for the Colony; the loser scoring 240. Alas!

Saturday night was devoted to a Smoking Concert at the Selangor Club, Mr. Paxon in the chair. A long programme had been drawn up by the Entertainment Committee of the Club—a scandalous joke was perpetrated in this programme, by-the-by, a gentleman being put down to sing "I've worked eight hours this day," and the title of the song immediately following it read, "A thing he had never done before"—but the "talent" available among the visitors, the encores and

the speeches made it impossible for the chairman to adhere to it. The concert opened with a selection from the band, and then Mr. J. Brown sang "Mary." Mr. Koelle gave a rendering of "Hilly holly, hilly ho!" which was as spirited as it was original; Mr. Bligh sang "Never introduce your Donah"; Mr. C. Baxendale, "Those girls at the school"; Mr. Bourne, "The Daily Question;" Mr. Tearle, "I fear no foe," and Mr. Munro "Come under the old umbrella," and an encore. Then Mr. Paxon proposed the toast of the visitors, coupled with the names of Messrs. Orman and Robertson. He congratulated Singapore on their victory, due to the way the whole eleven had played, and especially Messrs. Orman and Mactaggart for their share in the success; and referred to the defeat that our football players had sustained as a thing in no way discreditable when it was borne in mind that they were playing against the premier team of the Straits. The toast was drunk with three times three and great enthusiasm. Mr. Orman responded, thanking the company for the way the toast had been received, declaring very kindly that the best team had not been victorious, but that nevertheless Singapore had won. He then called upon all the visitors to drink to Selangor. Then Mr. Dougal had to make a speech, and Mr. Mactaggart; and the health of the umpires, Messrs. St. Clair and Holmes, was proposed, and then they had to speak. Then Mr. Robertson, the Captain of the Football team, had "to say a few words," and Mr. W. D. Scott made a neat little speech, until some began to fear that we should not have any more singing. These fears, however, were ill-founded, for there were plenty more songs, and good ones, too. Mr. Glover sang, and Mr. Dougal was quite in his old form when he sang "Her Golder Hair." Mr. Munro sang again, in fact he had to sing four more songs during the evening. Mr. Spooner sang an Irish song with great success, and in response to a loud encore had to sing another. Dr. Hertz sang a couple of songs. Mr. Braddell caused great amusement by his comical rendering of two songs. Mr. Bourne sang "Come my love" in his usual fine style, and Messrs. Prior and Lutyens, and Captain Isaacke also sang. Mr. Alexander was busy at the piano during the evening, and Mr. W. E. Lott also accompanied some of the songs. Mr. A. B. Hubback, whose name was down on the programme for some songs, was unfortunately absent owing to a severe blow on the leg he received on the football field. "Auld Lang Syne," sung with great heartiness, brought the concert to a close. The concert proper, that is; because when the company, or a great number of them, reached the bar, a supplementary concert was soon organised, and caused great fun. However, there was such a thing as a 6.40 a.m. train for the visitors to contemplate, and so a move homeward had to be made.

By half-past six on Sunday morning those who were returning to Singapore and those who went to see them off had begun to assemble on the platform. Some thoughtful soul had provided a large jug full of "sling"; and gratitude beamed from every eye! At last all were on board, and amid a roar of cheering from train and from platform our visitors were off on their way to Klang.

CRICKET.

THE Cricket Match against Singapore had been looked forward to by our eleven with much enthusiasm and not a little confidence, it being considered that we should be represented by at least the strongest batting side that had ever played for Selangor. But the Fates were unkind. To begin with, our Captain broke his record by losing the toss to Orman, who was also unbeaten in this respect. A heavy local shower on the previous afternoon and a dull morning on the Friday made the winning of the toss the turning point in the game.

Singapore sent in Guggisberg and Woodroffe to the bowling of Dougal and Glassford. Cricket was exceedingly slow for an hour and a half, the bowling being excellent and the fielding perfect.

Guggisberg was out l.b.w. to Perera with the score at 7. Stevens followed, and the total was slowly dragged to 25, at which both batsmen were out. Woodroffe was well caught by T. R. Hubback at the wicket after being in for an hour and ten minutes for 8 runs, an excellently patient innings against good bowling. Gunn and Orman followed, but Gunn was soon out to a good catch in the slips by Paxon—four wickets for 30. On Mactaggart joining Orman a long stand was made. A loud appeal for stumping against Orman was given in his favour. The bowling was frequently changed, but it was not until the score had reached 79 that Mactaggart was bowled by Perera. The rest of the Singapore batsmen did little; Forman was well caught at the wicket, a difficult catch at mid on disposed of Isaacke, and Koelle was well caught by our noted "point" off a hard cut. T. R. Hubback disposed of MacDougall and Orman, and the innings closed at 3.30 for 135; a good total under the circumstances. Orman's 56 was a plucky innings, as no liberties were possible with the bowling. The Selangor fielding was as good as has been seen in the Straits.

Selangor sent in C. Glassford and T. R. Hubback at 3.40 to the bowling of Mactaggart and Woodroffe. Disasters began early as Glassford ran himself out in attempting a second run. A. B. Hubback followed, but was caught and bowled with the score at 7. Bellamy did not last long, being caught at mid off after making 1. Neubronner followed and played more freely than usual but lost Hubback off a bumpy ball at 24. The score was taken to 40 before Neubronner was caught in the out field for a well played 18. Perera had only made 5 when he was finely taken in the slips by Mactaggart. The Selangor Captain followed only to see Bagnall receive a violent blow in the eye; the latter played on pluckily, but was given out caught at the wicket soon afterwards. Hight was out at once, and Paxon was well caught and bowled from a skier by Mactaggart. Nine wickets for 60 and the hearts of Selangor lying very low. Dougal and J. Glassford, however, put an entirely new complexion on the game during the last wicket. Dougal twice hit Mactaggart out of the ground for 6, and his hitting throughout was clean and well-timed. Excitement was intense as the score crept up, and it was not until the score reached 133, or only two less than that of Singapore, that Glassford was bowled by a good ball

from Isaacke. He had made 20 by sterling cricket. Dougal was loudly applauded on his return to the pavilion for his 50 not out, and his success was deservedly popular.

Five minutes remained for batting and Gunn and Forman played out time for Singapore.

On Saturday morning, no rain having fallen, Singapore resumed their innings; the overnight not-out's played a plucky game and carried the score to 31 before Forman was caught by Neubronner off T. R. Hubback for 13. Guggisberg followed and a confident appeal for l.b.w. was this time given in his favour, Gunn was easily caught by Hightet at 37, and Woodroffe followed. The score was steadily taken to 64 before Guggisberg was well caught in the long field by Perera. Glassford who had relieved Hubback at the wickets caught Woodroffe and Stevens off Neubronner—5 for 79. Hubback and Neubronner were at this time bowling well, though Neubronner's leg balls cost rather a large number of byes.

Orman and Mactaggart again made a stand, but were both clean bowled by T. R. Hubback, who also disposed of Isaacke, who made 13. Neubronner and Hubback got rid of Koelle and Saunders for ciphers, and the innings closed for 120—a good score on such a wicket. Hubback's analysis of six wickets for 39 runs was a wonderful performance, and he had hard luck in the earlier part of the innings. Neubronner's four for 32 was also praiseworthy.

Selangor were left 123 to win and had five minutes batting before tiffin, Glassford going to the wicket with Paxon, the latter being let off by Gunn at mid off, a kindness he appreciated by driving Mactaggart for 4. On resuming at 2 p.m. both batsmen played carefully, but at 20 Paxon set a bad example to his eleven by running himself out. T. R. Hubback was caught next ball off Mactaggart by the wicket keeper standing a long way back, and his brother only added 1 before being bowled off his pads. Neubronner followed and played a fine innings. He received a nasty blow behind the ear, but continued to play plucky cricket. Bagnall was out without scoring. Dougal commenced to hit again, but was stumped at 53. Perera shaped well till he was caught and bowled at 71. Bellamy played a steady game but played on at 93, the hopes of Selangor being now very low. Glassford was caught in the slips and Hightet failed, the Selangor eleven only making 95 and losing the match by 27 runs. Neubronner's 41 was a fine display of uphill batting. Mactaggart was mainly instrumental for the victory of Singapore taking in the second innings seven wickets for 44 runs, or in the match eleven for 98. T. R. Hubback took nine for 59 and Neubronner six for 42.

Singapore deserve the greatest credit for their win, all the eleven playing up well. After the trouble that had been taken with the pitch it is a matter of great regret that the result was so disastrous, and it is clear that something must be done to ensure against a shower spoiling two days' sport, and it is to be hoped that the State will come forward on behalf of cricket and of those who are prepared to do their best to secure success for Selangor, and to guard its representatives from being badly injured during inter-State matches.

SINGAPORE.

Lieut. Guggisberg l.b.w. b Perera	4	c Perera b Neubronner	16
Lieut. Woodroffe c T. R. Hubback b Perera	8	c C. Glassford b Neubronner	13
G. P. Stevens b Neubronner	10	c " b "	3
A. Gunn c Paxon b Neubronner	3	c Hightet b T. R. Hubback	12
J. Orman b T. R. Hubback	56	b T. R. Hubback	14
J. Mactaggart b Perera	19	b "	14
T. Forman c C. Glassford b Perera	0	c Neubronner b T. R. Hubback	13
Capt. Isaacke c Hightet b Dougal	4	b T. R. Hubback	13
F. F. Koelle c Bagnall b T. R. Hubback	10	b Neubronner	0
Lieut. MacDougall b T. R. Hubback	0	not out	0
J. D. Saunders not out	8	b T. R. Hubback	0
Extras b 10, 1 b 2, w 1	13	b 21, w 1	22

135

120

SELANGOR.

C. Glassford run out	0	l.b.w. b Mactaggart	12
T. R. Hubback c Forman b Mactaggart	15	c Orman b Mactaggart	0
A. B. Hubback c & b Woodroffe	1	b Guggisberg	1
H. F. Bellamy c MacDougall b Mactaggart	1	b Mactaggart	7
E. W. Neubronner c Forman b Woodroffe	18	not out	41
A. H. Bagnall c Guggisberg b Mactaggart	8	c Gunn b Guggisberg	0
B. J. Perera c Mactaggart b Woodroffe	5	c & b Mactaggart	6
H. C. Paxon c & b Mactaggart	5	run out	12
D. J. Hightet c Gunn b Woodroffe	0	c Orman b Mactaggart	0
L. Dougal not out	50	st Orman b Mactaggart	12
J. Glassford b Isaacke	20	c Guggisberg b Mactaggart	0
Extras b 8, 1 b 2	10	b 2, 1 b 1, n b 1	4

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BOWLING ANALYSIS.

SINGAPORE.

1st Innings.					2nd Innings.				
overs.	mds.	runs.	wkts.		overs.	mds.	runs.	wkts.	
Glassford	12	6	16	0	Perera	8	2	21	—
Dougal	19	7	38	1	Neubronner	26	15	32	4
Perera	28	13	38	4	Dougal	4	2	9	—
T. R. Hubback	12	5	20	3	Hubback	24.5	8	39	6
Neubronner	14	10	10	2					

SELANGOR.

1st Innings.					2nd Innings.				
overs.	mds.	runs.	wkts.		overs.	mds.	runs.	wkts.	
Mactaggart	17	2	54	4	Mactaggart	22.2	6	44	7
Woodroffe	17	5	30	4	Guggisberg	14	5	34	2
Isaacke	4.4	2	20	1	Isaacke	1	—	1	—
Saunders	3	—	17	—	Woodroffe	5	1	12	—
Guggisberg	1	—	2	—					

FOOTBALL.

GREAT interest was centred in this match, which, after a fast game, resulted in a victory for our visitors by 4 goals to 1. Previous to Saturday these teams had met twice: in 1894, when Singapore won by 3 goals to love; and last year, when the game ended in a draw. Singapore team have been playing in such good form lately that we had little hope of being able to win on this occasion, and with our defeat, consequently, not as in the cricket, the expected came off.

Singapore having lost the toss kicked off against a slight breeze. For the first few minutes they kept the ball dangerously near the Selangor goal and Hightet was called on to save one or two good shots. A combined run by the Selangor forwards looked hopeful but the ball was shot behind. The Singapore men came away again and from a splendid shot of Lawson's goal No. 1 was scored.

Soon after the kick off they scored again by a shot from the right wing. Hightet was baulked by Tollemache and had no chance to save

it. These reverses seemed to put new life into Selangor and after playing up in a surprising way Hubback, although limping badly, was able to put on our only goal. The ball after this travelled quickly from goal to goal but no further scoring took place up to this, half time being called with the score standing at 2 to 1 in Singapore's favour.

At the beginning of the second half, Hawes and Roe were very conspicuous and looked as if they would add to our score. The Singapore goal keeper was all there, however, and fisted out two or three shots in capital style. The play in this half was very fast and although we had only 10 men, Hubback having retired, we had as much of the game in the open as our opponents. It was when nearing goal that Singapore had the pull and Robertson managed to lower our colours twice more, making the match a win for his side by 4 goals to 1.

The game all through was a most enjoyable one to player and spectator alike, and there is no doubt about it the better team won. The Singapore back division was very safe, Guggisberg, Woodroffe and MacDougall being very difficult to pass. The forwards worked themselves to the last ounce to win and played a very pretty and effective passing game. Mentioning names means to enumerate the lot, but I cannot help noticing Robertson and Lawson as being specially good.

As regards the play of Selangor I think everyone will admit that our team acquitted themselves well. There was not the same understanding among our men as in the Singapore team, but this is only to be expected when one takes into account the great difficulty there is in getting elevens together to give our team practice. One thing that struck me was that our men always allowed the half-back to throw in. On many occasions we would have made a lot of ground had one of the forwards made the throw, for by the time our half-back came up the Singapore men were all back in position ready to oppose our men. Another thing too that struck me was that our half-backs, all good tacklers, did not tackle soon enough, but seemed to fall back and thereby allowed the Singapore men to get close in on goal. One time especially, Woodroffe, a half-back, was allowed to dribble from beyond the centre line to within shooting distance of goal.

To come to the team, Hight in goal made some good saves and if he had had a man in front of him at left back like Scott, I am certain he would have saved at least two of the goals scored against him. Cook at back was safe, and tackled and kicked well. Tollemache, at left-back, found opponents who were too heavy, apparently, for him to tackle, with the result that the goal keeper was baulked more than once; and his kicking, too, was not up to the form he has often shown in local matches. Lake at right half followed Lawson like a shadow, and broke up the left wing combination very often when they were becoming dangerous. Carpmael, after being winded, played up in splendid form. He seemed always to be in the right place, and those who doubted the wisdom of the Committee for playing him, owing to his] want of speed, have now nothing but praise for his exhibition. C. Glassford, after settling down, played a good game.

notify same to Hon. Secretary before 5 p.m. on 20th March. Owners not accepting will be liable for half entrance fee.

Race No. 4.—The Civil Service Stakes.—Value \$400. A selling race for all Horses to be entered at a stated value of from \$600 to \$300. If entered at \$600 to carry 11 stone with an allowance of 5 lbs. for every \$50 less value. Entrance \$20. Distance one mile.

Race No. 5.—The Planters' Cup.—Value \$150. With \$400 added money presented by the Planters of Selangor. An optional selling race for all Ponies 13.2 and under. Weight as per scale. Ponies entered at \$500 to receive 1 stone from those not entered to be sold with an additional 3 lbs. for every \$50 less value. Entrance \$20. Distance $\frac{3}{4}$ mile.

Race No. 6.—The Australian Cup.—Value \$100. With \$250 added money presented by the Australian Community. A selling race for all Horses, to be entered at a stated value of from \$350 to \$200. If entered at \$350 to carry 11 stone with an allowance of 7 lbs. for every \$50 less value. Entrance \$10. Distance 1 mile.

Race No. 7.—The Mercury Challenge Cup.—To be won twice by the same owner before becoming his absolute property. Presented by the Officers and Ship's Company of H.M.S. *Mercury*. Value \$ with \$150 added by the Club. A race for Roadsters that have been regularly ridden or driven by members of the Club resident in Selangor or Sungei Ujong for three months previous to the meeting. Entrance \$10. Distance 1 mile. Catch weights 11 stone or over. Gentlemen riders.

SECOND DAY.

Race No. 1.—A Handicap for Griffins.—Value \$250 with \$50 to go to the second horse. Entrance \$10. Distance $\frac{3}{4}$ mile.

Race No. 2.—A Handicap for Ponies (that have run in Race No. 2, 1st day).—Value \$200. Entrance \$10. Distance $\frac{1}{2}$ mile.

Race No. 3.—A Handicap for Horses (that have run in Race No. 3, 1st day).—Value \$500. Entrance \$20. Distance $1\frac{1}{2}$ mile.

Race No. 4.—A Handicap for all Horses (that have run in Race No. 4, 1st day).—Value \$250. Entrance \$10. Distance $1\frac{1}{4}$ mile.

Race No. 5.—A Handicap for all Ponies (that have run in Race No. 5, 1st day).—Value \$300. Entrance \$10. Distance R. C.

Race No. 6.—A Handicap for Horses (that have run in Race No. 6, 1st day).—Value \$200. Entrance \$10. Distance $\frac{3}{4}$ mile.

Race No. 7.—A Handicap for Horses (that have run in Race No. 7, 1st day).—Value \$200. Entrance \$10. Distance $1\frac{1}{2}$ mile.

Race No. 8.—A Consolation Race for Griffins.—Value \$200 and \$50 for second horse. Entrance \$10. Distance $\frac{1}{2}$ mile.

CONDITIONS.—1. The meeting will be held under the Straits Turf Club Rules. 2. Race Course 7 furlongs and 100 yards. 3. Entries will close at 5 p.m. on 20th March, they must be made on the Club forms, and should be in sealed covers marked "Entries." Entry forms may be obtained from the Hon. Secretary and from all Secretaries of Racing Clubs in the Straits or Native States. 4. In all races should there be less than 5 entries and 3 starters, a proportionate amount of the Stakes will be deducted.

THE second match in the football competition for the Resident's Cup was played on the Parade Ground on Wednesday, the 12th inst., between the "Mahomedans," the winners of the first match, and the "Asiatics," a team captained by Mr. Ramasamy, of the Post Office, and resulted in a win for the latter by 2 goals to nil. The play of some of the Chinese members of the "Asiatics" was really good. The date of the next fixture is not yet settled.



ACROSS THE PACIFIC.

THERE are now four regular lines of steamers crossing the Pacific, viz. :—

- (a) The Canadian Pacific Royal Mail Steamship line, running between Hongkong, Shanghai, Nagasaki, Kobe, Yokohama and Vancouver;
- (b) The Northern Pacific Steamship line, running between Hongkong, Shanghai, Kobe, Yokohama, Victoria (British Columbia) and Tacoma (Washington territory);
- (c) The Pacific Mail Steamship line, running between Hongkong, Nagasaki, Kobe, Yokohama, Honolulu (occasionally) and San Francisco;
- (d) The Occidental and Oriental Steamship line, which runs the same course and is practically amalgamated with the Pacific Mail Steamship line.

A few remarks about these different lines and the routes they adopt may be of interest to those who contemplate going home *via* America.

The C. P. R. boats, known respectively as the *Empress of India*, *Empress of China* and *Empress of Japan*, are each 6,000 tons gross, travel about 17 knots an hour and are universally acknowledged to be the best and most comfortable steamers which cross the Pacific: they are painted white, and lying in Hongkong harbour look like huge pleasure yachts. People who know our Eastern lines say that none of them can be compared for a moment with the C. P. R. boats: indeed, were it not for some of the Atlantic liners, etc., they would almost head the mercantile marine of the world. The fare from Hongkong or Shanghai to Vancouver is £37, and from any of the Japanese ports touched at £33, but the Hongkong agent at least makes no reduction for Native States officials. This route is naturally very cold in winter and for people who want to get home *via* America offers few attractions once the Rockies are passed.

The best article costs the most money, but if the traveller is content with smaller, slower and older boats, he can get a first-class ticket from Shanghai, Kobe or Yokohama *through to London* for \$375, or to Tacoma or San Francisco for \$200, by a line of steamers known as the Northern Pacific; that is to say, he can get to London *via* Tacoma for very little more than the C. P. R. charge to take him across the Pacific. The three steamers forming the Northern Pacific Steamship line are the *Tacoma* (an old Cunarder), the *Victoria* (also an old Cunarder), I

believe), and the *Hankow*. The last two vessels are the best. People who have travelled on the *Tacoma* and *Victoria* tell me they were comfortable and well fed. The company offered me a reduction of 25 per cent. from the above rates on my producing Selangor Government papers. This means they offered to convey me first class from Yokohama to Tacoma or San Francisco for \$150. A glance at the map will show that Tacoma and San Francisco are hundreds of miles apart, yet I should have transhipped at Tacoma without extra expense, or, had I chosen to travel from Tacoma to San Francisco by rail, the Company informed me they would have issued me a railway ticket and would only have charged me the difference between the rail fare and the steamship fare between the two places. These details are worth mentioning as this route is out and out the cheapest way of getting either to America or to Europe *via* the Atlantic.

Through travellers for Europe would, of course, go straight from Tacoma to New York without indulging in the luxury of a trip to San Francisco and back.

Next comes the Amalgamated United States Mail line, consisting of the Pacific Mail Steamship Co. and the Occidental and Oriental Steamship Co. The Pacific Mail have one magnificent steamer, called the *China*. This vessel is reported to be "extra special" and is the finest steamer running to San Francisco. Next in reputation comes the *Coptic* of the Occidental and Oriental line. The fares by either of these lines are as follows:—

From Hongkong or Shanghai to San Francisco or Vancouver	... £37
" " " to London	... £52
From Japanese Ports " to San Francisco or Vancouver	... £33
" " " to London	... £52

but this Company will issue tickets to members of the Native States Services at the following reduced rates:—

From Hongkong or Shanghai to San Francisco or Vancouver	... £28
" " " to London	... £44½
From Japanese Ports " to San Francisco or Vancouver	... £25
" " " to London	... £44½

A further advantage by this line is that every third or fourth steamer calls at Honolulu, thus breaking the monotony of the voyage.

Some of the United States Mail line steamers fly the Union Jack. The bar system is American to the extent that whisky, etc., is sold by the bottle, not the glass.

In the summer time the C. P. R. is the best route for the wealthy man in a hurry to get home, whilst I should recommend the Northern Pacific line to the poor man. During the winter months, when the Pacific is cold, rough and squally, the United States Mail line to San Francisco offers the greater attraction.

First class French Mail, calling at Saigon, Hongkong, Shanghai, Nagasaki, Kobe and Yokohama, is \$138.50, with a reduction of 15% to N. S. officials. This gives just an outline of the cost and advantages of the different routes, full particulars can be obtained by writing to the respective agents at Hongkong.—J. H. M. R.

NOTES AND NEWS.

THE Resident is recovering gradually from the kick on the knee, which narrowly missed being a very serious one, received from a horse when in Penang; but, at present, he is only able to take carriage exercise.

MR F. A. SWETTENHAM, C.M.G., and Mr. W. H. Treacher, C.M.G., are, we understand, expected to leave England for the Straits next month.

MR. A. J. W. WATKINS, the Resident Engineer for Railways, has attained the much-coveted distinction of "M.I.C.E." The transfer from Associate to Membership has in Mr. Watkins' case occurred at a comparatively early age, and there is every prospect of a long and brilliant professional career in front of him.

MR. A. S. BAXENDALE, Supt. of Post and Telegraphs, who went home on leave in August last, is due in Selangor next week. We are glad to hear that Mr. Baxendale, who had to go to Europe on account of his health, has quite recovered.

IN connection with the recent cricket match, Selangor v. Singapore, bats were presented by Messrs. W. Nicholas and H. C. Paxon for the best local score and bowling analysis, and were won by Messrs. L. Dougal and T. R. Hubback, respectively.

THE Right Reverend Bishop Hose will visit Selangor on 20th March, and will stay in Kuala Lumpur over the Sunday, 22nd March (Passion Sunday). We are glad to hear that the Rev. F. W. Haines, who has for some weeks past been suffering from a severe attack of dysentery, is now much better and hopes to be allowed to conduct the usual services on Sunday next. The Sunday services are:

8.00 a.m. Celebration of the Holy Eucharist
8.30 „ Matins and Sermon
9.30 „ Children's Service
6.00 p.m. Evensong and Sermon.

LOOKING at the important part which the cultivation of Liberian coffee promises to play in the agricultural future of this State, we need offer no excuse for reprinting from the *Produce World* an article entitled "Liberia Coffee." The matter it contains is interesting not only to the planter, but to all who have the welfare of the country »*

heart, and who look forward to the time when the plantations of Malaya and their produce shall have gained a world-wide reputation for richness and, we hope, for safety's sake, for variety. To coffee planters in the Straits the value and interest of the article is increased by the comments which Mr. E. V. Carey, at our request, has very kindly supplied, and which are printed at the end of the article.

MR. H. C. PAXON entertained a party of ladies and gentlemen at his bungalow at Ampang last Monday night. After dinner advantage was taken of the glorious moonlight to visit the Impounding Reservoir. There is a boat on the lake! and the sound of voices singing on the water has a charm that is all its own; and rowing, singing and walking through moonlit jungle paths must be appetising, for on returning to the bungalow no one seemed at all dismayed to find the tables again spread with good things. Of course, the health of the host was drunk, who, also of course, made a speech: a speech quite worth preserving, but of which we only place on record, by request, and without its context, one gem: "The star of good fortune should never fail to shine." A drive in to Kuala Lumpur under a lovely moon was an enjoyable close to an enjoyable night.

THE "Laws of Selangor, 1877-1895," a work compiled by Mr. J. H. M. Robson, and revised by Mr. A. T. D. Berrington, has been published at the Selangor Government Printing Office. Two works on the same subject have previously appeared, one, "Selangor Orders in Council and Government Proclamations," by Mr. H. C. Belfield, in 1889, and another, "Regulations and Rules and Orders," by Mr. C. Kemp, in 1892. "Great assistance," we read in the preface to "Laws of Selangor," "has been received from the valuable publications of Messrs. Belfield and Kemp, who produced books on somewhat similar lines, which, partly owing to repeals effected by subsequent legislation, and partly to the inclusion of matter which is not strictly legislative, hardly meet the present need of a volume confined to the law as it stands now." Owing to the work being, comparatively, a large one for the Government Printing Office, the printing was extended over several months, with the effect that some of the Orders in Council and Regulations had by the date of publication been repealed, but their excision then would have meant the reprinting of almost the whole of the work—the book therefore is not free from the defect of including matter which is no longer law. In the same way, additional rules were framed under some of the Regulations after they had been printed. In both cases slips have been inserted in the book for the purpose of bringing it up to date. One other want has to be noted: the work contains an index to short titles, but not an index to the text. Mr. Robson left Selangor on leave early in December, and the work being urgently required it was determined to publish without waiting for an index. Now that Mr. Robson has returned the index is in hand, and will shortly be issued. Since 1890 the Regulations passed in Council have, in addition to appearing in the *Government Gazette*, been published yearly in

pamphlet form. In scarcely any case, however, have the rules made under the various Regulations been included; and both *Gazette* and yearly pamphlets having in many instances fallen out of print, the need for the present work was therefore most pressing. Its utility over the hitherto yearly publications, is greatly enhanced by its completeness in containing all rules and orders made under each Regulation. The "Laws of Selangor," will be of great value to many in the service of the Government and to the public generally, and together with "Executive Orders and Notifications"—also compiled by Mr. Robson and published last year—will associate the name of that gentleman with the State of Selangor for many a long day.

A KAJANG correspondent writes:—"I hear that Messrs. Skinner, Hicks, and Allen have been granted the blocks they applied for in the neighbourhood of Rekoh. This is excellent news for all who are interested in the future of coffee planting in the District, as it is reported that the applicants hope to start a coffee-curing establishment in connection with neighbouring estates.—A sale of town lots realised the highest prices fetched in recent years, one lot going for \$122."

TAKING the Railway Returns as one of the best and most reliable indicators of progress and prosperity the following figures are reassuring:—The revenue received by the Railway during the period 15th to 21st February (Chinese New Year) amounted to \$21,984.23 being \$2,000 more than any previous collection for the same period. This sum was made up as follows—

Passengers	...	...	...	...	...	\$16,295.67
Goods	...	...	...	...	...	4,592.54
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	1,096.02
						\$21,984.23

The total railway revenue collected and paid to the credit of Government for the month of February was over \$72,000, being \$12,000 in excess of that paid in for the corresponding period last year.

"FOR ways that are dark and for tricks that are vain the heathen Chinese is peculiar." The D. O., Klang, in his report for January, writes:—"Raja Bot came and complained on the 3rd that the value of Klang coffee was gradually decreasing, owing, he explained, to imperfect curing and consequent increased weight, caused by moisture in that product prepared for sale by Chinese. He said it was a common thing for them to expose it the night previous to export for sale to the action of the dew, which considerably increased the weight."

ON 15th February news was received that three junks, infected with cholera and carrying a large number of passengers, had left Deli and might come to one of the ports on this side of the Peninsula. On the 20th two junks with coolies on board arrived at Kuala Klang

and were promptly stopped by the Police. On being visited the same evening by the Harbour Master and Health Officer the junks were found to contain 183 and 73 coolies, respectively, there were no sick on board, which from subsequent events appears strange. The Residency Surgeon, however, gave instructions to maintain strict quarantine for six days, and by the following evening seven cases of cholera with six deaths had occurred on the smaller of the two junks, which contained 183 coolies. Owing to a breakdown in the machinery of the *Abdul Samad* and absence of the *Enid*, no launch was available to guard the junks; advantage was taken of this and one of them was poled in to the shore, the whole of the coolies landing at the Kuala, the staff of Police available not being sufficient to prevent them. With a few exceptions they have all been sent back on board. The *Abdul Samad* was put in order for use by the 21st and placed in charge as a guard ship. The crowded condition of the junk making it almost impossible to cope with the cholera on board, temporary buildings were run up on an island near the Kuala to accommodate all the coolies and the sick were transferred to this improvised hospital on 25th February. In the meantime, cholera spread rapidly among the unfortunate coolies, and by 1st March 32 deaths had occurred among about 50 cases. The *Abdul Samad*, in charge of Inspector Crompton, with a senior Dresser on board, is now in constant attendance, and the hospital and junks are visited daily by the apothecary from Klang acting under instructions from the Residency Surgeon, who visits the quarantine as frequently as possible. On arrival at Klang the coolies were sadly in want of food, water and chandu, which were thereupon provided by Government. No cases of cholera have occurred on the large junk, containing 73 passengers, and after being disinfected and given new clothing they were released on 3rd March. No case of cholera has occurred in Klang or in any other part of Selangor.

THE question of obnoxious smells arising from night-soil buckets while in course of removal came up at a recent meeting of the Sanitary Board, and it was decided that it was not necessary to alter the hours fixed for their removal, but that greater care be taken to see that the buckets while in course of transit are properly water sealed. It is not at all uncommon to meet a cooly with the regulation buckets in the cover of one of which he has knocked a hole for conveniently carrying his *tempurong* stick. These are the gentlemen who should be made an example of.

THE absence of lamps on the path up the hill from the plain to the Government Offices is not only inconvenient, but on dark nights absolutely dangerous.

A MEETING of the Museum Committee was held on the 27th ult., Messrs. W. D. Scott (in the chair), M. A. Hawes, J. Russell, C. E. F. Sanderson, A. R. Venning and L. B. Von Donop (Hon. Sec.) being present. The Museum was inspected, and the minutes of the last

meeting read. A letter was read from the Curator of the Golden Gates Park Museum, San Francisco, with regard to making interchanges with the Selangor Museum. A box of various specimens has already been forwarded to San Francisco. It was resolved that the skeleton of the elephant, shot by Mr. G. Sanderson at Klang, and which is now lying at the Museum, be set up in the entrance verandah. The Committee acknowledge with thanks the receipt of the following additions during January:—From Captain Syers, a rare specimen of a kingfisher; Mr. Meikle, a monkey; Mr. Hawes, a rare specimen of a hawk; Mr. Skeat, a fir branch from Mount Ophir; Mr. W. D. Scott, a specimen of damar and a bird's-nest. Number of Visitors during January, 1,370. The large room at the back of the building, previously occupied by Mr. Samuels, the Taxidermist, is now undergoing alteration and repair, and will shortly be available for Museum purposes.

In the *Perak Government Gazette* of the 21st ult. is a long and interesting account, written by Mr. Arthur Butler, of the installation at Kuala Kangsar of the Orang Kaia Mentri Imaum Paduka Tuan. The new incumbent of the office, Wan Mahomed Isa, is the eldest son of the late Mentri, who was deported for complicity in the murder of the late Mr. J. W. W. Birch, since when the post had remained vacant.

LOCAL SPORT.

RACING NOTES.

NOW that we are getting within measurable distance of the race-meeting the work on the course is becoming slightly more interesting, as all the griffins are being shoved along a bit. It is a great mercy that they are as sound a lot of horses as one could wish to see, the course being as hard as a brick, no rain having fallen for about ten days. So far I have heard of no breakdowns, with the exception of *K. G.*, who walked off the course, a morning or so ago, very lame indeed; I fancy, however, that this is most likely the result of an accident which happened to him whilst being shipped from Singapore. The griffin which takes the public fancy most in his strong work is *Mistral*, the property of Mr. Browne; he is a nice compact little horse and a beautiful mover and I fancy will give a very good account of himself in the race. *Vixen* is a much-improved mare, both in looks and temper; but I rather think is more of a sprinter than a stayer. She will have a great pull in the weights, however, standing as she does barely 14 hands; Dallan has, I hear, been engaged to ride her, so she will have every chance. *Maharanees* has come on a lot lately and has turned out into a fine big mare. I believe her party fancy her chance above a bit, and I hear she went very well in a rough up gallop last Saturday. I cannot say that I myself fancy her very much, as I doubt if she will get the mile with 11 stone on her back. *Nightmare* moves well on a soft course, but goes very short when it is in its present condition;

should we have another spell of dry weather just before the meeting her chance does not look particularly rosy. *Elsie* has been a favourite of mine all along, and she is looking and going as well as any of them. If I were asked to pick four against the field I should certainly include her. *Busted Flush* is not a racy-looking mare, but she has an undoubted turn of speed and ought to come in useful on the second day. *Josephine* and *Bessie* are two more of the cobby sort, and will probably shine more in the shafts than on the racecourse. *Forlorn Hope* has come on with wonderful strides lately and will, I fancy, be able to slip along for half a mile; she does her managing owner the greatest credit and it will not be for want of care if she does not pick up a race. *Budge* and *Mayfly* I have missed seeing the last two or three days. From what I have seen of them I like the look of the latter the most; *Budge* does not look as if she gets enough to eat and is not in the same condition as most of the others. A grey mare belonging to the Kuala Kubu Kongsi is a sporting-looking animal and seemed to move fairly well in the two or three short sprints I have seen her indulged in. *Lady Coquette* will, I hear, most probably be taken out of training; anyhow, her owner does not seem to bother himself much about her as she only comes out to the course now and then and is as big as a bullock. This is a pity, as at one time she certainly looked to me to be one of the most promising of the batch.

The entries for the Miners' Purse, which closed on the 1st inst., are fairly good, though not quite as big as I expected, they are as follows: *Jimmy*, *Locky*, *Redcap*, *The Swell*, and *Philson*. I quite hoped to see both *The Clown* and *Ballater* running here, but I suppose they will be reserved for the big race in Sungei Ujong. They have both been having rather a hard time of it lately, and judging from the running of *The Clown* in Kinta he, at all events, badly needs a spell. Of the horses entered the only really unknown one is *Jimmy*, who is one of the Kinta thoroughbred griffins, and who won both of his races with the greatest of ease; he is also, I believe, running in Taipeng, so the Handicapper will have a chance of finding out something about him. *The Swell* has been bought by a local syndicate and will be our only representative; if he gets a light weight he should give a good account of himself as I am told he has taken to running much more gamely of late. *Philson* has been a disappointing horse up to now, but he has been having an easy time of it since last Taipeng Meeting, so that I hope we shall see him run in his true colours on the 28th of March. *Locky's* great performance in Kinta must be still fresh in everyone's memory; a horse that can do his mile in 1 m. 45 sec. with 9 st. 6 lb. on his back is hard to beat out here, and unless he is crushed out of it I shall expect to see him run a great horse, especially if he is as fit as Mr. Raymond had him at Kinta. *Redcap* ran exceedingly well, getting second to *Locky* both days; he, as everyone knows, is one of the gamest of the game and runs his races right out. Taking all in all, if the Handicapper does his work well we have the makings of a real good race both from a spectacular and gambling point of view, and one which should repay anyone a long journey to witness.—THE MAN IN THE LALANG.

SELANGOR RIFLE ASSOCIATION.

At a Special Meeting of the Committee, held on Wednesday, 26th February, Capt. Lyons (President) in the chair, also present Dr. Travers, Messrs. G. H. Carpmael, W. D. Scott, C. R. Cormac and J. Brown (Hon. Secretary), the following programme for the coming season was drawn up and unanimously agreed to:—

(1) As owing to various alterations being made to the Range it will not be available for practice during March, it was agreed that during the months of April, May and June, Scratch Matches be arranged to take place every Saturday; and that only those members who have shot in at least four of these matches will be eligible to be included in handicap for competitions that may be offered later on. Members not so qualifying to shoot from scratch.

(2) Matches with Perak, North Borneo, Penang and S.V.A. will, if possible, be arranged to take place during July. Teams to be chosen from best shots in the weekly matches above referred to.

(3) All Association prize competitions, including Championship, to take place during August.

THE SELANGOR PLANTER'S ASSOCIATION.

ANNUAL REPORT, 1895.

IN submitting this, the third Annual Report, your Committee are pleased to state that during the year thirteen new members have been enrolled upon the books of the Association and the attached statistics show an increase of 3,546 acres under cultivation and of 1,240 labourers of all nationalities employed on estates.

Great as the above increase is, there is every reason to think that it will be dwarfed by comparison with 1896, judging from the reported large clearings contemplated in the Klang, Kajang and Kuala Selangor Districts.

This result is most encouraging and clearly shows increased confidence in the planting enterprise on the part of the investing public; and doubtless the good prices of \$42.50 to \$45, which have ruled steadily during the year, have much to do with it.

Besides the above acreage under European cultivation a very large area is now planted with coffee by native holders all over the State, but particularly in Klang District where it is estimated that not less than 3,000 acres are under native coffee, and the cultivation is extending rapidly.

MEETINGS.—During the year 1895 six general meetings and 11 committee meetings have been held, and as a rule were well attended. One extraordinary general meeting and one extraordinary committee meeting were also held during the year.

MR. CAREY'S VISIT TO INDIA AND REPORT ON SAME.—Early in the year the Chairman (Mr. Carey) having occasion to visit Southern

India, kindly offered in the interests of the Association to interview the officials of the Indian Emigration Department, and to make enquiries generally in connection with the recruiting of Tamil labour in that country. On his return to Selangor he submitted a lengthy and interesting report of his visit, which has been circulated amongst members. One thing in particular disclosed by the report was the fact that the main obstacle to the recruiting of free labour in India lay in an old Madras General Order dated 15th May, 1888, which contains a rule to the effect that no agent or recruiter shall receive any commission on coolies not entered in the list of indentured coolies.

With a view to having the above restriction removed—or, at least, exceptions made in the cases of mercantile firms of standing—your Committee addressed the Government on the subject, and the outcome of this correspondence was a despatch from the Colonial Secretary, S.S., to Secretary to Government of India, Rev. and Agri. Dept., in which he says that the Governor of the Straits Settlements, Sir C. Mitchell, hopes that the Government of India will secure for the congested districts of the Presidency of Madras and the newly developed territory of the Protected States of the Malay Peninsula, the great boon of a free interchange of labour which will be highly beneficial to both countries. If this step is likely to entail any long delay, then the Governor hopes that the request of the Selangor Planters' Association for a relaxation in the present law of recruiting in Indian labour for the Straits Settlements may receive the early attention of the Madras Government.

DISCHARGE TICKET SYSTEM.—When this question was laid before Government last year no reply was received, but in October last a letter was addressed to the Association by the Government Secretary intimating that Government, although not prepared to pass a compulsory enactment, would be glad as an employer of labour to join in any equitable arrangement for the protection of employers against the wrongful employment of absconding labourers.

Your Committee then submitted a form of rules which in their opinion would meet the case, but the Government Secretary in reply stated that the rules appeared to involve the passing of a compulsory legislative enactment; this the Government was unable to sanction, but would join the members of the Association in a mutual undertaking only to employ coolies in possession of a discharge certificate. As, however, such an undertaking might prejudicially affect Selangor employers of labour as compared with those of the Colony and the other Native States, it would, in the opinion of Government, be advisable to defer taking any immediate further action in the matter—at all events, pending the Federation of the Protected Native States.

LABOUR CODE.—The Acting Resident having appointed a Committee to report on a proposal to adopt the Perak Labour Code in this State, the Chairman of the Labour Code Committee wrote asking your Committee to appoint a representative of the Association to meet the Labour Code Committee and to give them the benefit of the views

of the planting interest in Selangor on the subject. Mr. C. Meikle attended said meeting as representative of the Association.

UNITED PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.—Your Committee are glad to state that the hope expressed in last annual report of forming a powerful Central Association for all the Native States is nearly accomplished, as it has been arranged to hold a general meeting of members of the Selangor, Sungei Ujong and Perak Associations in Kuala Lumpur at the time of the forthcoming Selangor Race Meeting. A United Association on some such lines as the United Planters' Association of Southern India will undoubtedly be of great value to the planting interest and their representations to the Government will carry greater weight than those of any individual Association.

DEPUTATION TO HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR.—The Association being of opinion that the occasion of His Excellency the Governor's visit was a good opportunity to interview him on certain subjects, it was decided to present an address praying for certain reforms which appear to be much needed in connection with land policy and other matters.

A deputation consisting of the whole of your Committee was received by His Excellency the Governor on the 19th December, when he granted them an interview of over two hours. His Excellency was of opinion that the points raised in the address should have been forwarded to him through the Resident, but nevertheless very fully discussed each question *ex officio*.

His Excellency sympathised with us in the matter of our inability to recover advances from labourers under verbal contract, but promised with regard to written contracts that the question of whether any document could embrace a number of contracts should be gone into. His Excellency also recommended that the questions touching (1) the planters' preferential claim to the mining rights on his own land and (2) terms of arbitration on acquisition of private land for public purposes should be reopened, and held out to the deputation the hope that their views would be favourably considered.

In accordance with His Excellency's suggestion your Committee have written to the Resident of Selangor fully on the above three points, but have not yet had an answer.

FINANCE.—Your Committee have the pleasure to announce that the substantial balance of \$510.83 stands to the credit of the Association at the end of the year 1895, and is arrived at as follows:—

Balance in hand at end of 1894	...	...	...	...	\$243.83
Subscriptions paid during 1895	...	...	...	...	385.00
Subscriptions still due	...	...	...	...	35.00
				Total	\$663.83
Less Printing, Postage and Stationery	...	...	...	...	\$69.00
„ Indian Advertisements, etc.	...	...	...	...	84.00
					153.00
Balance at credit	...	...	...	...	\$510.83

STATISTICS OF ACREAGE UNDER CULTIVATION AND
LABOUR EMPLOYED ON THE EUROPEAN ESTATES IN SELANGOR.

	Names of Estates.	Acreage under Cultivation at end of 1896.	Estimated Crop in Pikkuls for 1896.	Labour.			
				Tamil.	Chinese.	Malays and Javanese.	Total.
1	Tremelbyr ...	120	325	47	5	12	64
2	Klang ...	200	...	25	...	26	51
3	Klang Land ...	170	10	26	...	21	47
4	Lowlands ...	435	...	24	...	75	99
5	Highlands ...	65	...	...	...	20	20
6	Batu Unjor ...	135	30	16	...	46	62
7	Golden Hope ...	300	...	...	...	102	102
8	Blackwater ...	50	...	...	...	17	17
9	Datu Dagang ...	320	...	17	8	111	136
10	Simpang ...	...	...	...	...	17	17
11	Beaumont ...	200	...	...	...	35	35
12	Triangle ...	100	...	...	...	35	35
13	Lanka ...	20	...	...	...	15	15
14	Beverlac ...	70	...	34	8	...	42
15	Ebor ...	25	...	...	12	...	12
16	Glenmarie ...	150	310	38	14	10	62
17	Enterprise ...	125	350	18	7	5	30
18	Fenlands ...	105	...	4	1	58	63
19	Denmark ...	85	...	...	...	28	28
20	Pataling ...	240	...	55	30	25	110
21	Weld's Hill*	...	...	...	...	...	...
22	Selangor ...	60	150	20	...	17	37
23	Batu ...	200	200	20	...	90	110
24	Edinburgh*	...	...	...	...	...	...
25	Batu Caves ...	188	720	195	...	...	195
26	Kent ...	153	...	...	...	...	...
27	Uganda ...	74	250	105	...	...	105
28	New Amherst ...	533	400	267	40	...	307
29	The Mount*	...	...	...	...	...	...
30	Wardieburn ...	209	850	117	...	...	117
31	Setapakdale ...	306	150	117	...	33	150
32	Klang Gates ...	160	400	77	...	...	77
33	Hawthornden†	...	...	...	...	...	...
34	Lincoln†	...	...	...	...	...	...
35	Aberscross*	...	...	...	...	...	...
36	Inch Kenneth ...	225	...	50	...	46	96
37	Batang Kali ...	150	...	38	...	14	52
38	Braemar†	...	...	...	...	...	...
39	Balgownie... ..	175	...	57	...	...	57
40	Riverside ...	...	...	19	...	41	60
41	Tapioca Estate ...	1,000	...	20	165	18	203
41	Totals ...	6,348	4,145	1,406	290	917	2,613
22	Return for 1894 ...	2,802	...	938	181	254	1,373
19	Increase in 1895 ...	3,546	...	468	109	663	1,240

* No returns received.

† These Estates do not belong to the Association and have sent in no returns.

SELANGOR PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

MINUTES of a General Meeting of the Selangor Planters' Association, held on Saturday, 22nd February, 1896, at 10.30 a.m.

PRESENT.—Mr. E. V. Carey (Chairman), Mr. Tom Gibson (Hon. Secretary), Messrs. C. Meikle, E. B. Skinner and H. Huttenbach (Members of Committee) and Messrs. Lake, J. Glassford, R. Meikle, Walker, Nissen, Dougal, Christie, Hicks, Stonor, Tollemache and Allen. Mr. Munro (visitor).

1. The notice calling the meeting was taken as read.
2. The minutes of last general meeting were read and confirmed.
3. The following gentlemen were elected members of the Association. Messrs. T. North Christie, J. B. M. Leech, A. Lutyens, F. B. Hicks and M. S. Parry.
4. Read letter from Government Secretary in reply to suggestions from the Association *re* discharge tickets.
5. Read letter from Government Secretary, notifying that His Excellency the Governor had decided to refer to a Commission of five persons, consisting of the Resident Councillor, Penang, the Auditor General, representative planters of Province Wellesley and Selangor and an official from Perak, the following questions in connection with Indian Immigration:—

- (1). What amendments it is desirable to make in Ordinance 16 of 1892, before bringing the same into operation;
- (2). Whether any further action on the part of the Government (as distinguished from individual action by employers of labour) is desirable to promote immigration, or to benefit immigrants; and if so what action is recommended.

It was decided that Mr. E. V. Carey's name should be submitted to the Resident as the Selangor representative.

6. In the absence of Mr. Darby, Mr. Gibson proposed the resolution in his name:

"That the Government of Selangor be asked to reconsider Order No. 603 in the *Government Gazette* of 6th December, 1895, *re* sale of Government Medicines, and that the collection of payments for medicines dispensed at District Dispensaries and Hospitals be made quarterly as is now done in the case of accounts for Hospital patients."

This was seconded by Mr. Walker and carried unanimously.

7. The Annual Report for 1895, having been distributed to members present, was taken as read and adopted *nem. con.*

8. Mr. Carey, vacating the chair, intimated that there was a general feeling amongst members that it was desirable that the Committee

should in future consist of five members instead of three, and on this being put to the meeting the motion was carried, the change being subject to confirmation of the next general meeting.

9. Mr. Carey proposed and Mr. C. Meikle seconded that Mr. Dougal take the chair *pro. tem.*

10. A ballot for office bearers for 1896 was then held, with the following result:—Mr. E. V. Carey, Chairman, Mr. Tom Gibson, Hon. Sec. and Messrs. C. Meikle, E. B. Skinner, A. B. Lake, L. Dougal and A. Walker members of Committee.

11. The meeting terminated with a vote of thanks to the chair at 12.15 noon.



LIBERIA COFFEE.*

THE Liberia coffee possesses certain characteristics in common with other varieties, but, in some instances, in a higher degree. It aids digestion, prevents a too rapid waste of the body, and is an anti-soporific. Being a member of the botanical family *Rubiaceæ*, and akin to the family of the *Cinchonaceæ*, from which the specific antidote to fever, quinine, is derived, it possesses considerable febrifuge virtues, and is useful against malarial diseases. There is little distinction between the chemical constituents of coffee and those of the true kola nut (*Cola acuminata*). The latter excels the former only in a slightly larger percentage of caffeine. The virtues of kola as a remedy for asthma are doubtless possessed by coffee in only a little less degree.

But the Liberia coffee is distinctively and exclusively Liberian. It is found only in Liberia, between the Mannah River and Cape Palmas, and for some distance back, until one reaches the prairie land of the Mandingo Plateau. When taken from its own habitat it degenerates rapidly. It is not found on the east coast of Africa in the same latitude. The coffee there becomes a small berry.

There is this difference in the Liberia coffee. The coffee tree belongs to the Linnæan class and order Pentandria monogynia. The calyx is monopetalous, funnel-shaped, and cut at the edge into five reflexed, lanceolate segments; but the calyx of the Liberia coffee flower is cut into five, six, seven, eight, nine, ten segments, with as many stamens. The number above five, or, in other words, the classes above Pentandria, are not the exceptions; I may say they are the rule. The most frequent numbers are seven and eight, *Septandria* and *Octandria*; five is seldom seen. All these different classes in the flower are found on the same tree.

Two questions arise here: Does this increase in the number of the stamens of the Liberia coffee flower indicate increased fructification, resulting in the enormous berry? Or, does it indicate that the Liberia

* By H. R. W. Johnson, in the Journal of the American Colonization Society, *Liberia*.

coffee, under conditions different from what it experiences at home, will rapidly degenerate?

I am of opinion that both questions can be answered in the affirmative. The latter case has been proved in many countries to which the Liberia coffee has been transferred. If the result arose from a mere difference in latitude, it would only be what is frequently experienced; but the Liberia coffee, in the same latitude, with the same quantity of sunshine and rain, with the same chemical constituents in its food, and with cultivation superior to what it receives in its own home, degenerates when carried from Liberia.

The Liberia coffee tree flourishes in a variety of soils and situations. The soil must be sufficiently fertile and friable. Stiff clay is not suitable for it, not on account of the nature or chemical constituency of the soil, but from its mechanical condition. In the dry season such soil bakes or cakes under a hot sun, and many of the surface roots are dried; others break from the cracking or opening of the soil in small fissures. In the rains this soil does not properly drain; it holds too much water. I have seen coffee trees and vegetables flourish at the base of the hills made by the termites when the clay has a sufficient admixture of sand to render it friable. I frequently use these hills as manure on gravelly soil.

The coffee tree will flourish on hilly ground or level granitic and gneissic rocks, where there is depth of soil. It feeds on the decomposing feldspar and mica, which afford some potash and a trace of lime. I have seen in some sections of the country a good, friable loam, where the rocks crumble more readily than they do near the sea. These soils, being thus gradually renewed, do not become so soon exhausted as others.

The coffee tree will flourish on hilly ground or level land, the precaution being taken that the rich surface soil or mould be not washed from the hills, or that on level ground the water be not allowed to stand, for while the leaves of the coffee tree delight in frequent refreshing showers, its roots are averse to standing water.

The forest land is cleared in the same way as in other tropical countries. The undergrowth is first cut and allowed to dry a little; then the trees are felled, lopped, and, after a few weeks' drying, are burned. The stumps, and often the logs, are not removed. These, by their decay, furnish considerable plant-food and much humus.

Seeds are planted in nurseries, usually about March or April. The seeds should be planted shallow, and the soil kept moist. Under old trees the seeds that fall to the ground, with just a thin covering of the fallen leaves, will sprout and produce good plants. There should be a selection of seeds from the most vigorous and productive trees. Even then there will be some difference in the sprouting of the seeds and the growth of the plants. When this selection is not made the difference is still greater. I have seen the first seed appear above ground in five weeks, while others were two and three months coming. This difference will continue in the subsequent growth of the trees.

The coffee berry usually contains two seeds or beans. A small proportion is "peaberry," one round seed; the other seed in the same

hull is abortive, being scarcely more than the parchment and silver skin. Occasionally there are three beans or seeds in a cherry. Many years ago Mr. Hagan, senior, of Careysburgh, showed me fourteen coffee beans or seeds that had been contained in two coffee berries, seven each. These seeds, of course, were long and narrow, like the segments of an orange or lime. Mr. Hagan said the berries were of an enormous size, almost as large as an ordinary lime. The seeds that I saw warranted this statement.

The plants from the nursery are set out at any time from April to November, when the weather is not too dry. In some countries the trees are shaded; other trees are planted among them to protect them from excessive heat of the sun. I had always thought that our vigorous coffee required no shade, but two severe droughts, experienced in the last six years, seriously lessening the crop, the second one lasting from 15th of January to 1st of April, have somewhat modified my views. Still, as these droughts are exceptional (in my section of country I have observed only four of the severest in twenty-five years), most persons would not feel warranted in undergoing the expense of planting shade trees.

In the third year, under favourable circumstances, the Liberia coffee tree will bear fruit. It produces, however, only a few berries, and some plants will have none. Under favourable conditions I have seen coffee trees paying expenses after five years; but some advantage can be gained meanwhile by planting among the coffee crops which do not rapidly exhaust the soil, especially root crops. The sweet potato is the most useful for this purpose. The custom of making ridges over large quantities of grass and other vegetable matter—a kind of green manuring—not only keeps the soil friable, but leaves more nitrogen for the coffee, as the sweet potato does not require a large proportion of that element.

Old trees give berries of a more uniform size, the beans are more solid, and the pulp (cherry hull and mucilage) is not so much in proportion. The old trees are the first to bloom. They first stop their vegetable growth under the influence of the "dry season's" sun, and begin to elaborate their sap into fruit buds. As early as September or October small yellow dots begin to peep from the axils of the leaves. They come slowly, though, as is the case with every stage of the coffee. There are several blooms, usually one or two small ones in December; but the principal ones come in January, February and March, according to the rain that falls in the blooming season.

But however thickly the little yellowish green spikes may stick out from the axils of the leaves, and however bright may glow the sun, they will not unfold until there comes a shower sufficient to soak the ground. There may come several showers, but if they are not thorough the spikelets will remain closed. After a hard shower they gradually unfold, and on the fifth day there is the full bloom. Why should the Liberia coffee-blossom take five days to unfold like other coffee? It will not confine itself to the class *Pentandria*, like other coffee, as has been already intimated, but persists in classifying itself *Septandria*

and *Ocotelea* principally. Or does the class (number of stamens and segments of corolla) have any influence on the number of days required to unfold the coffee-blossom?

The Liberia coffee will bloom in any month of the year, but the above mentioned are the principal blooms. There is often a tolerably good bloom in the "middle dries," July and August. The berries will begin to ripen about the end of October or first of November. Picking usually begins in December.

Drying the coffee in both hulls conserves the aroma better, and those who have experimented say the coffee is heavier; but there is this difficulty: even when machinery is capable of hulling the cherry-dried coffee there is trouble in fanning. The cherry hull, when dried, is not brittle, but tough and leathery, and will not break into small pieces, but remains large and often adheres to the parchment hull, and is consequently heavy. The blast of the fans that will throw out the hull will blow out also many of the beans.

I am of opinion that for preparing the Liberia coffee the Ceylon method is preferable. The cherry coffee is first pulped, and, after soaking and partially fermenting for twenty-four to forty-eight hours, so as to free the bean from the mucilage, it is washed and dried. Free from mucilage, the bean dries more readily, and is more easily denuded of the parchment hull. The parchment coffee is then placed in a circular trough. Two wheels, scalloped on the periphery, called "edge runners," attached to either end of a beam working on a pivot, are made to revolve rapidly around in the trough by hand, animal, water, or steam power.

Different situations give some difference in the quality of the product. The coffee grown on high rocky ground is a little smaller in the bean, but possesses a finer aroma than that grown in low alluvial lands, as with most fruit.

The question arises here: How are the estates kept up? They are kept up, and they are not kept up. Some persons do try to manure their old trees, but the fact that many of these old trees do not yield as they once did proves that the cultivation is insufficient. One trouble is that, as is the case in most countries where good land is plentiful and cheap, we open more land than we can thoroughly cultivate. The man with ten thousand trees does not reap twice as much as the one with five thousand, and the farmer with thirty thousand trees does not get thrice as much as he that has ten thousand. I mean as a general thing. Then, again, as in most countries where land is plentiful and cheap, when a field is exhausted the cultivator who has made some money and can afford to wait will sometimes find it more profitable to open a new field than to manure. We have no cattle farms to get a sufficient quantity of animal manure, and when it is considered that the freight alone on a ton of fertilisers would buy at the former Government price twelve or fifteen acres of fertile land, or at the present price, six or eight acres, who can blame the planter for the course he adopts?

The coffee pulp is a manure. It contains a little nitrogen, but, being mostly carbonaceous, its tendency is to produce pulp of

proportion to seed. The earth from the termite hills, when sufficiently friable, has been used with success. Decayed vegetable matter is useful. But the coffee tree to attain its highest development must have manures containing a large percentage of nitrogen. I have not detected on the roots of the coffee tree any "nitrogen traps" or bacteria nodules that promote nitrification, but for many years I have been of the opinion that the coffee tree collects a small portion of its nitrogen from the air.

There is some advantage in topping trees, even from a manurial point of view. By topping, not only is the crop more conveniently harvested, but the wide-spreading branches shelter the surface roots from the sun, the grass is kept down, and the earth worms, under cover of the fallen leaves, work rapidly, and the little nodules of earth that they excrete in the course of a few years cover the ground under the trees and afford fertilising matter.

The farms generally are weeded twice a year. A Ceylon coffee-planter, after seeing some farms in grass, remarked that in no other country would the coffee tree live in as much grass as it withstands here, much less bear a respectable crop of coffee. This proves the hardiness of the Liberia coffee and the suitability of the climate. Grass, however, does injure the coffee; more so than do weeds. Most of the weeds are deep-rooted and sub-soil feeders, while grass, like the coffee, is a surface feeder, and robs the coffee of food and moisture that the latter needs for its own support.

Weeding with hoes is better than cleaning with cutlasses or bill-hooks. The loosening of the soil by hoeing is beneficial. In the dry season the two or three inches of surface soil loosened by the hoe serve as a mulch and check the evaporation of the soil-moisture.

As to the products of the coffee tree, more depends on soil and cultivation than on age. I have seen trees at eight years of age under favourable circumstances yielding more than others at twenty years under adverse circumstances. As to longevity, the Liberia coffee being a forest tree and not a shrub, and being indigenous, we are unable to fix a limit to its duration. Dr. J. W. Lugenbeel, the Colonial Physician of the American Colonization Society, in his pamphlet on the climate, productions, etc., of Liberia, published in 1848, mentions a coffee tree in Monrovia, on the lot of Daniel Hilvard, one of the old settlers, that bore the previous year four and a half bushels of cherry coffee, equal to thirty-one and a half pounds of dry marketable coffee. That tree and four others planted at the same time are still standing on the lot, now occupied by the grandson, the Hon. T. W. Howard, Treasurer of the Republic, and give every year a good crop of coffee.

The Liberia coffee tree is not subject to the diseases that affect other coffee. It has been planted in many lands, because it will resist the disease of those countries; it will flourish at lower altitudes than other coffee, and, while it degenerates, it still gives a larger and finer berry than the coffee of those other countries.

Some years ago I showed to two Ceylon planters some leaves from several of my coffee trees that appeared to be affected. While the

discolouration of the leaf was not the same as that caused by the disease *Hemeleia vastatrix* that has been such a scourge to Ceylon coffee, yet I desired to ascertain all I could concerning it; but the affection appeared to be caused by some temporary circumstance that after awhile disappeared and left the trees in their normal condition. Up to the present I have been unable to detect any indications of the above-mentioned disease.

Even were the Liberia coffee subject to diseases, the large proportion of iron in all the soils of Liberia would be effective for good, as iron is said to be a preventive of coffee disease.

In one or two instances I have observed what might be termed "black rot" in a few trees that stood in very wet soil near the woods, where they had insufficient sunshine, the fruit when half grown turning black and dropping off.

The borer, a fly or beetle, occasionally attacks the coffee tree. On comparison with a specimen in the British Museum it is found to be *Xylotrechus quadripes*. It bores a perfectly round hole in the tree or a branch of the tree and deposits its larva. The borer usually works upward, and all the tree above the boring dies. If it bores at the surface of the ground the whole tree dies. In a tree on my farm the borer or borers had entered the middle of the trunk. It or they had bored three holes downward and three upwards and had deposited six larvæ. By cutting off the tree where the boring began the lower half of the tree was saved.

The planting of coffee is creditably extending in Liberia, although it is quite a mistake to say the greater part of the coffee area has been planted in the last three years.

Several circumstances delayed the cultivation of coffee in Liberia. At first the colonists were led away by the seductions of trade; but trade in a great measure failed, because many were not adapted to it, and trade besides, sought new routes. Then the many thousands of dollars expended by the various missions in early days attracted many in that direction. Lastly, many considered politics an easier and more rapid way of making a living.

Scarce seasons and scarcity of money at last forced us to the soil. Sugar was the first experiment, and some had good success, especially during the American Civil War, when high prices obtained, but when prices fell we had not the capital and could not afford the improved machinery to compete with other sugar-growing countries, and so many went into coffee farming; and coffee is really the best for us.

There were other circumstances that delayed the development of the coffee industry. Coffee was planted sometimes in uncongenial soil and situations. Not understanding the physiology of the plant, many persons allowed the fibrous feeder to be injured or destroyed, supposing life to depend on the taproot. In some instances the plant was set in the ground 'in a small hole made with a crowbar, as one would plant a post. The six months' rain alone, in some cases, prevented the plant from dying; but a tree might stand in that situation for seven years or more without bearing; hence arose the idea that it

required seven years or more for a coffee tree to bear. There is one other circumstance that retards the growth and production of a coffee tree, previously alluded to. When seeds are gathered indiscriminately for a nursery the foremost plants will be transplanted, and will continue growing and bearing more and more each year, while other plants in the nursery will stand there struggling hard for existence, and their case is scarcely improved by setting them out in the field.

NOTES ON "LIBERIA COFFEE."

THE foregoing extremely interesting paper, written evidently by an experienced and observant man, and coming at a time when we in Selangor are thirsting for information which will help us to cultivate our Liberian coffee to the best advantage, will be welcomed by all of us who look to our coffee to take us back some day and keep us in our homes across the sea.

To be absolutely honest, we Selangor planters know very little about Liberian coffee—not a tithe of what we ought when we consider how long ago it was planted and proved to grow successfully in this country—and it is high time we awoke to the fact and endeavoured to collect, and benefit by, the experience of others.

In the above article the writer, Mr. H. R. W. Johnson, states that a friable soil is what suits Liberian coffee best in Liberia, and condemns stiff clay, but modifies the remark by adding that clay will do well with "a sufficient admixture of sand to render it friable," the idea being that too stiff soil does not permit of sufficient drainage in wet weather and cracks and opens in dry. With this view our planters will, I think, all agree; but I would go further, and say that nothing suits coffee over here better than a strong moisture-retaining soil. Wherever the feeding roots of our trees can keep in touch with moisture, there the coffee is most vigorous and free from disease. For this reason, amongst others, flat land is most sought after, and I imagine few planters would now-a-days care to plant up hills from choice. At the same time, we are at one with the planter of Liberia in that coffee is "averse to standing water," always provided that the water is on, or within a foot of, the surface. There are few estates here, however, on which cannot be found sturdy well-grown trees flourishing and cropping freely in places where water may be found a foot or 18 inches down, but the *surface* soil *must* be firm to the tread and show no outward sign of the moisture below.

In cases where the soil has become hard and hide-bound, forking lightly so as not to injure the feeding roots, and subsequently mulching with lalang or the loppings of shade trees, has been found to be highly beneficial over here, and I have no doubt that if we adopt the suggestion of planting the sweet potato in young coffee and shade our estates in moderation (a system by the way to which Mr. Johnson says he is a convert) we shall have far less to fear from excessive and prolonged drought.

In Liberia they are evidently very free from virulent attacks of disease, and this no doubt accounts for the fact that the writer of the

pamphlet omits to add that besides keeping the ground cool, shade trees have the effect of checking both leaf-disease and bug, whilst a high Indian authority states that shade is the only known remedy for the insidious borer, to the existence of which pest a reference is also made.

In Liberia it appears that under favourable conditions "coffee trees pay expenses after five years." Of course everything depends upon the cost of production and the ruling market price of coffee, but there is no doubt whatever that with coffee at \$40 or even \$30 per pikul in Selangor it at present more than pays for its keep in the 3rd to 4th years, or when the trees are from $3\frac{1}{2}$ years to $4\frac{1}{2}$ years old from seed, as such a clearing would give certainly 3 pikuls an acre, equivalent at \$30 to \$90, whilst expenditure per acre on areas exceeding 100 acres should not be more than say \$70 for the year.

The blossoming seasons appear to be much the same as our own, except that whilst probably our heaviest blossoms are in January and February, we have others which are considerably more than sprinklings pretty well all the year round. I have not noticed how many days the bud takes to develop into the full blossom, but verifying Mr. Johnson's figures with regard to the segments of the calyx of the flower I find the average in every 10 blooms to be 1 of nine segments, 4 of eight, 3 of seven, and 2 of six, whilst I have found none of five segments. This result corresponds closely with Mr. Johnson's observations.

Their coffee is cured by the Liberian planters in much the same way that it is over here, either by pulping, washing and peeling, or by drying in the sun and hulling. The former is the method advocated on the score that the cherry hull will not dry crisp and brittle, although the coffee is said if dried in the cherry to possess a fuller aroma. In Selangor we can dry the skin and render it sufficiently brittle and light to be separated from the coffee and taken away by the blast of a fan worked in conjunction with a huller, but the bean of coffee so cured is not to be compared as regards colour—which is, apparently, what buyers look most to—with that of coffee prepared in a drier previous to peeling nor is anything like the same proportion of "silverskin" removed. It was always said in Ceylon, in the days when the Arabian variety flourished, that no coffee was so flavoury in the cup as that dried in cherry, and this apparently applies to Liberian also; but what the trade wants, and is most willing to pay for, is colour, so colour we must go for, and this is best secured by the use of a drier such as that now working on Wardieburn Estate.

It will astonish Selangor men to hear that when the soil in Liberia becomes exhausted by a succession of crops, the planters there instead of manuring proceed to open more land, which is described as fertile, plentiful, and cheap. The same epithets may undoubtedly be applied to our forests in Selangor, but I fancy not many men would abandon their old clearings and start new ones, even though the price of a ton of fertilisers was equivalent to the cost of 100 acres of virgin land.

The process of topping is resorted to in Liberia, though we are not told at what height, the objects being cheap gathering (the crop

being brought within the coolies' reach) and additional spread, which of course means a larger plucking surface, whilst the other advantage claimed for wide-spreading trees is that they keep the grass down more than those which are allowed to run up. We, however, weed our estates so regularly over here that though the greater the spread the coffee acquires the less is the cost of weeding, this fact even combined with cheap harvesting would not be considered a sufficient reason for topping our coffee. There are many of us, however, who believe that by cutting the heads off our trees, we not only drive the strength of the tree outwards into the primary and secondary crop-bearing branches instead of letting it run off into "top," but by this process also secure a sturdier, healthier and equally heavily cropping tree. As nevertheless opinions are divided on this subject, some planters claiming that trees allowed to run up give larger returns, it is important to note that nowhere does Mr. Johnson, who would scarcely be likely to lose sight of such a material point, make any allusion to this whatever. By inference therefore the Liberian coffee tree in the habitat to which it is indigenous yields no less when its growth is artificially cut short and directed in an unnatural direction. It appears to me perfectly clear, then, that we can gain nothing in the way of increased returns by letting our coffee run up, whilst the disadvantages of this system, some of which have been already noticed, are innumerable. The question we now have to solve, is at what height to top.

Mention is made in the pamphlet of one tree which yielded $31\frac{1}{2}$ lb., or $23\frac{3}{4}$ cattiees of marketable coffee; a clearing of such trees planted $12' \times 12'$ and all yielding the same, would give a return of over 70 pikuls an acre!

It is stated that "the Liberian coffee tree is not subject to the diseases that effect other coffee." This is strong evidence in favour of Mr. Johnson's theory that this variety deteriorates with its translation to other countries, for deterioration is due primarily to disease, and here we have every disease which attacked the unfortunate Arabian coffee in Ceylon, though of a distinctly less virulent type, except perhaps the yellow Indian borer and grub at the roots, both of which may, however, be present, more especially the latter, the adult insect of which, a small brown cockchafer, was identified only a few days ago by an old Ceylon planter, who has had bitter experience of them in the past, but, so far, they have not made their ravages felt. The borer, *Xylotrechus quadrupes*, is known here, but is uncommon, and so far has not done much harm; not nearly as much indeed as the pink underwing grasshopper, which, puncturing the bark on the branches of young coffee in spiral curves, inserts an egg at each orifice with the result that much good work is destroyed; as the coffee grows older these mischievous insects infest it in less numbers and do little damage.

Mr. Johnson concludes his instructive paper by warning planters against utilising the refuse plants in their nurseries, on the score that they are slow to come on in the field; over here, however, in carefully planted nurseries of selected seed our young plants come up with extreme regularity and but a small percentage are unfit to put out.

NOTES AND NEWS.

MHARI RAYA, the 16th inst., the national holiday of the Muhamadan community, was the occasion of Malay sports on the Parade Ground, Kuala Lumpur, and attracted in the afternoon a large number of native sightseers. A programme was drawn up of twenty-four events—mostly of a humorous nature, such as egg-and-spoon race, sack race, a biscuit-eating competition, etc.—concluding with a football match. The day was fine throughout, and the promoters of the sports have every reason to congratulate themselves on the success of the meeting.

Mrs. RODGEE will give an "At Home" at the Residency to-morrow (Saturday) afternoon at 5 p.m., to meet the Bishop of Singapore, Labuan and Sarawak and Mrs. Hose.

THE Right Rev. Bishop Hose and Mrs. Hose arrive in Kuala Lumpur to-day, and will be guests at the Residency. The Bishop will celebrate the Holy Eucharist at St. Mary's at 8 a.m. on Sunday and take part in the other services during the day. There will be a Church Parade of the members of the S.F.B. at the evening service on Sunday. Members are requested to parade at the S.F.B. Station in full dress at 5.30 p.m., and thence march to church.

WE are glad to be able to state that the Rev. F. W. Haines, although still very weak, is getting better, and hopes to be able next week to get away to Perak Hill.

MR. L. P. EBDEN, Collector of Land Revenue, will shortly be going on long leave, rendered necessary, we are sorry to say, by the state of his health. It is not yet known who will act for him.—Mr. A. S. Baxendale resumed the duties of Superintendent, P. and T., last week.

THE Rev. W. G. Shellabear, Superintendent of the American Methodist Mission Press, Singapore, and the Rev. R. W. Munson, Presiding Elder of the Mission, were recently in Kuala Lumpur, with the object of making arrangements for starting a branch of the

American Methodist Mission in this town, of which the Rev. R. W. Munson will be in charge.

MR. H. C. PAXON has been engaged by Government for the preliminary survey that is being made for the route of the proposed railway into Pahang, and, when the Kuala Lumpur Sanitary Board have taken over charge of the Waterworks, will join Mr. Debney, who is already at work on the survey.

INVITATIONS have been issued for the marriage of Mr. D. J. Highet and Miss F. E. Carpmael, on Tuesday, the 7th of April, at St. Mary's Church, Kuala Lumpur, at 2.45 p.m. and afterwards at the residence of Mr. A. J. W. Watkins. The newly wedded couple will leave Kuala Lumpur the same afternoon for Penang, *en route* for a six weeks' tour in India.

It is rumoured that in July next a grand Durbar will be held in Kuala Lumpur to inaugurate the Federation of the Malay States. All the signatories to the Agreement of Federation will be present, together with H.E. the Governor, the Resident-General and the British Residents of the various Protected States.

At the March meeting of the Selangor Club Committee, the following gentlemen were elected members of the Club: Messrs. A. M. Barnwell, W. W. Douglas, W. C. E. Gibson, E. L. Grove, R. P. Kissoch, E. Leney, A. Lutyens, San Ah Wing and J. Zehnder.

ON the question of erecting bandstands on the Parade Ground and in the Public Gardens being discussed at a meeting of the Sanitary Board, the Captain China and Towkay Lok Yew very generously offered to find the necessary sum for erecting a temporary stand on the Parade Ground.

THE following cutting is from the London *Morning Leader*:—
 "Mr. William Hood Treacher, who has been made British Resident at Perak, is an official who is still in his middle age, and whose boast it is that he received his C.M.G. before he was forty. An Oxford man, he entered the colonial service immediately after leaving the University. His first important position came to him when he was but thirty-one years old. This was the Governorship of British North Borneo. Seven years afterwards he had his first official experience at Perak; this was in the capacity of secretary. In 1891 Mr. Treacher was made

Acting British Resident, and it was no doubt the judiciousness of his conduct at that period which induced the authorities to make the present appointment. However, in 1892 Mr. Treacher was transferred to Selangor. He is a man of considerable attainments, who owes his present position in the service primarily to his force of character."

A FULL attendance of brethren, including several visitors, was held at the regular monthly meeting of Read Lodge, on the 16th inst., in order to wish Bro. Charles Stewart, Tyler, a safe voyage and a pleasant time during his approaching trip to Europe on long leave, and at the banquet held after Lodge the toast of "Bro. Charles Stewart," proposed by Wor. Bro. A. J. W. Watkins, was drunk with musical honours. During the evening, in Lodge, the Worshipful Master, Bro. H. C. Paxon, presented on behalf of the brethren Past Master's Jewels to Wor. Bro. C. E. F. Sanderson and Wor. Bro. J. Russell. In proposing the toast of "Mason's Wives," the W.M. referred to the great indebtedness of the Lodge to Mesdames Charter, Harper and Tearle for the care and time devoted by them to the preparation of the banquet and the setting out and decoration of the tables.

THE formal opening of the Kuala Lumpur Waterworks will take place early in April, most probably on the 2nd, at the Impounding Reservoir, Ampang, Mrs. Rodger performing the ceremony of turning the valve which permits the passage of the water from the reservoir to the filter beds. Given a fine afternoon, it should be a very pleasant outing, and the inhabitants of Tangga China Village on the Ampang Road will have quite a lively time with the number of vehicles that will be flying through.

THE Spring Meeting of the Selangor Turf Club, Saturday and Monday, 28th and 30th of March, will have taken place before we publish our next issue. There is every prospect of some good sport, and as this will be the first meeting on the new course, we hope that it will prove a success in every way. Racing will commence each day at 2.30, and tickets to admit non-members to Grand Stand may be obtained from Mr. H. S. Day, Hon. Sec., \$2 each. Fortunately, it is proposed to celebrate the birthday of His Highness the Sultan of Selangor, on the 30th, by a public holiday, so, in that case, the racing will not interfere with public business. On the night of Saturday, the 28th, Mrs. Rodger will give a Dance at the Residency, and on Monday evening there will be a Smoking Concert at the Selangor Club. It is anticipated that there will be a large number of visitors to Kuala Lumpur during the Races.

THE Sungei Ujong and Jelebu Club will hold their meeting on Monday and Tuesday, the 6th and 7th of April. It is expected that a large party of visitors from Selangor will be present at Seremban, and that we shall be rather quiet in Kuala Lumpur during the Easter Holidays.

IF a man signs to play cricket or football, as the case may be, on Wednesday or Saturday afternoon, and then, not only fails to attend, but quite forgets to send word that "circumstances over which, etc.," prevent him keeping his *engagement*, it is not to be wondered at if those who are waiting on the ground feel rather disgusted. Several of our players do not live in town, and to them it is doubly annoying, having a couple of days previously, perhaps, seen a list of names of quite respectable dimensions down to play, to find on coming in but a poor attendance. Of course, in the majority of cases, it is mere thoughtlessness, but that does not make it any the less annoying to those who have, what we may term, respected their signatures, and it should be borne in mind that not only is it very disheartening to those who take a lot of trouble in endeavouring to keep alive these manly British pastimes, but that the habit of signing and not attending is calculated to kill sport.

ON Tuesday, at the Lake Club, and on Wednesday, at the Selangor Club, Mr. Danbury, from Singapore, gave entertainments with a phonograph; the rain on each afternoon, however, prevented a large attendance of visitors. The exhibition is a very good one and well worth attending. By the aid of the ear-tubes one can hear with great distinctness comic songs by Mr. Batty and others, with pianoforte accompaniment; Malay songs; speeches by H.E. the Governor, Archdeacon Perham, Major McCallum, Mr. Severn, etc., etc., as well as operatic selections by a brass band. Mr. Danbury, however, appears to have let some golden opportunities slip by, for we understand that he was for some time engaged under Mr. Murray Campbell on the railway in Siam. Perhaps at that time our "phonographist" did not contemplate visiting Kuala Lumpur, else, what a chance! He might have obtained a characteristic speech from his respected chief and turned it on—if that is the proper expression—to delighted audiences in Kuala Lumpur; it would have been a certain draw and reminded many here of old times. Again, what could have been more easy than for Mr. "Tim" Bailey, before that gentleman left for Europe, to have given into the receiving trumpet his very latest views on the Klang coffee land; or better still, to have made the phonograph the medium for imparting the contents of the "sealed letter." These are opportunities

lost; but the idea may be acted on to the benefit of others. Mr. Danbury no doubt intends visiting the neighbouring State of Perak; there they may be in need of advice—*verb. sap.*

IN connection with the fountain that is to be erected in Old Market Square, Messrs. Rosher and Co., of London, have been asked to furnish a suitable design, to cost not more than £300 free on board.

THE Registration of Dogs (Kuala Lumpur) Regulation should have come into operation at the beginning of this year, but owing, we believe, to want of staff to carry out the work of registration, the fees up to the present time have not been collected neither have the provisions of the Regulation been enforced. At a recent meeting of the Kuala Lumpur Sanitary Board, in whom the working of the Regulation is vested, a letter from Government was read approving of the appointment of a clerk in connection with the registration, and it was resolved by the Board "that, in view of the recent Government order prohibiting for three months from 8th February dogs being at large, the registration be postponed until that period had expired." It will therefore be necessary for owners of dogs to register them early in May. Registration fee, each dog, \$1.

MR. C. H. A. TURNEY, Senior District Officer, in his February Report, on Kuala Langat, writes:—"The Sakeis from Segga, Pakrepan and Kolim, in the Klanang Mukim, came to see me. The people number some 60 souls and they would like a Batin recognised by the Government. I think it would not be a bad idea to allow them to select one and have their selection endorsed, as the man's services could be utilised in many ways with benefit to the Sakeis and the Government. These Sakeis work for Javanese and others clearing jungle, and are paid \$5.50 for felling and lopping a patch 40 feet square. At slack times they cut rotans and attend to their primitive gardens. I found the men shy but the women garrulous, and it was funny to hear a man after he had gained a little confidence speak of his wife as his 'mem.' They were all well clad and looked as if they were well fed also."

THE preliminary announcement of a sale of agricultural land in Kuala Selangor appears in the last *Gazette*. The sale will take place on a date in May next, when about twenty blocks of land will be put up to auction; each block is about 320 acres and consists of virgin forest. Upset price, \$1 per acre; annual quit-rent, 50 cents per acre. Ten blocks are north of the Selangor River; four blocks on the road

towards Rawang; and five blocks on a track from Klang-Kuala Selangor Road to Bukit Rotan.

“TRAVELLING the other day with a gentleman from Manila, who has known that country for the last sixteen years, the conversation turned upon cigars, and he was good enough to give me the names of a few of what he considered the best brands and the best cigars of each brand. He told me that he had visited several of the factories and had seen how the cigars in each were prepared for the market, and he had no hesitation in remarking on certain objectionable practices in the preparation of the leaf which, in his opinion, seriously detracted from the merits of some of our Manila cigars. It may interest the readers of the *Journal* to know the cigars he recommended. I know that Messrs. Gosling and Co., of Singapore, keep some of these cigars, as do also Messrs. John Little, I fancy; but, at the same time, it must be remembered that a good article costs money and some of the cigars on the subjoined list cost \$10 a hundred. Most of them, however, are made up in boxes of 50. Possibly there are a few readers of the *Journal* who do not know the order of strength, which is usually found printed on the back or sides of the box. They are as follows:—Claro, Colorado Claro, Colorado, Colorado Maduro, and Maduro; Claro, of course, being the mildest. This is the list of desirable cigars as given me by my friend. They are all in the Havannah shape:—*1st Brand*: Compania General de Tobacos, Regalia Antonia Lopez, Brevas Imperialis, Casales. *2nd Brand*: La Insulas, Londres, Conchas. *3rd Brand*: La Constancia, Conchas Finas. To keep cigars in really good condition, one cannot do better than purchase a patent cigar-keeping bottle as now sold in Singapore. Lime or some other moisture absorbent is contained in the lid. The bottle itself is quite big enough for club use.”—J. H. M. R.

OUT of the leading articles, letters, and contributions of “Our Special Correspondent” which have been appearing in the Straits newspapers on the question of coffee-land at Klang, we reprint a letter, from Mr. E. V. Carey, addressed to the Editors of the *Free Press* and *Straits Times*.

“Dear Sir,—In the interests of prospective, as well as actual, proprietors of Klang land in other countries, I trust you will permit me to point out that although some thousands of acres in this district may be ‘peaty’ and at present unsuitable for planting, by far the larger proportion is excellent land in every respect. Owing to the unfortunate fact that almost the entire area disposed of at the two

auction sales was of the undesirable character which has since led several buyers to temporarily suspend operations, it seems not improbable that the coffee enterprise in Klang will in future be eyed with disfavour so extreme that the men who stick to their guns will be regarded by the uninitiated as little better than lunatics—not that this will affect them much, as the laugh will be on their side in the end—but it seems a pity that so erroneous an impression should get abroad and remain uncontradicted, and that the development of a really rich agricultural district should be retarded for so insufficient a cause.

“ It cannot, I think, be denied, in view of the disastrous effect which the recent severe extremes of wet and heat have had upon the already planted coffee, that this peaty land must be allowed to settle and consolidate under the influence of the elements before it can be safely cultivated, but that it is purely a question of time is manifest from the fact that the Datu Dagang’s field, which is always quoted as the finest coffee in the State, is growing on soil precisely similar, but now settled down and dry.

“ On the other hand, equally recently planted coffee, growing in stiff clay over a far larger area than that which has now been abandoned, may be seen in twenty different directions flourishing vigorously and full of vitality and promise—and there is no getting over the fact that one of our Ceylon visitors, who has recently stopped work on his present block, has put in five fresh applications for land, for wet land too, and curiously enough land situated in Klang. To put the case in a nutshell, there is an abundance of good planting soil in the district, and some which requires time to settle, and which, if opened straight away, has been found wanting when subjected to drastic climatic trials.

“ Any amount of draining, whilst it would, of course, have helped the peaty land to consolidate, would never have rendered it fit for immediate planting, but it is, none the less, a matter of the greatest regret that the Government have not strictly adhered to, and at all costs carried out, their advertised drainage guarantee. Sir Charles Mitchell’s maiden effort at land reform has not proved an unqualified and brilliant success, but if he takes to heart the lesson which the recent denouement in Klang should teach him, he will realise that to make a pile in coffee is not by any means as easy or certain as it looks, and that the planter—who, it must not be forgotten, is a direct revenue producer through the export duty on his coffee alone to the tune of from \$4 to \$5 annually for every acre of forest he reclaims—requires every assistance and encouragement, or he will turn his attention elsewhere.”

MALAY JOTTINGS.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

IN "Malay Sketches," under the heading of "A Malay Romance," we read how one of our own Selangor Rajas carried off the wife of ex-Sultan Abdullah of Perak. The Raja referred to is old Raja Daud, of Ulu Langat, who not only did what the author describes but after the death of the lady in question was bold enough to go back to Perak and walk off with a lady (named Che Puteh, I think) who was also the wife of a Perak Malay. To see him now one would think he had never been outside his native village, such a quiet simple old soul does he appear. The solace of his declining years is an opium pipe. He is a charming old man to meet and never forgets to exhibit that punctilious courtesy which is such a happy trait in the character of so many Malays. Anyone wishing for a native account of those tragic episodes which culminated in the murder of Mr. Birch should get old Raja Daud to tell them all about it, as he was practically on the spot during those troublous times.

WHEN the history of Selangor comes to be written the name of Haji Gaia will loom out in bold relief as one of the most illustrious of the royal ladies of this fair land. Though long past the heyday of her youth the venerable old lady, clad in irreproachable trousers and tennis shoes, is still an impressive personality and a talker of no mean force. By her marriage with that notorious prince, Raja Mahdi, who is indifferently classed as a rebel, a belligerent Raja, or as the firebrand of Selangor, in the late sixties and early seventies, she was within measurable distance of playing a very important part in the State. But the fates and H. H. Tunku Dia Udin combined were too much for her fighting husband, who ended by finding himself under detention in Singapore. He claimed Klang as an inherited province, and until he abandoned his claims was not allowed to return to Selangor. Whilst in Singapore he was one day visited by the Governor, accompanied by Major McCallum, and when, having in vain tried to reason with him, they turned to leave the room, Raja Mahdi caught up his fiddle and played the opening bars of "God Save the Queen"!

HABIB SHEIK was a man whose features betokened a refinement of all the material elements which went to make up his simple nature. He had a pretty wife and a baby boy to whom he was devoted. Everybody liked him and everybody respected him. He was quite a young man, not more than six or seven and twenty. One day when his name was mentioned somebody said, "Oh, he's ill, suffering from fever." All Malays seem to suffer from fever, more or less, so that nobody was surprised. Chancing to be passing his house that evening we looked in to find Habib groaning and writhing about on the verandah. Nobody seemed to be looking after him, but presumably his wife was inside the house. Two hours afterwards we were told he was dead. Three years have passed and the very name and existence of the once popular Habib have been forgotten.—R.

WHAT CAN WE DO FOR THE MALAY?

SELANGOR came under British Protection twenty-one years ago. When Sir Andrew Clarke was Governor and Mr. Braddell Colonial Secretary, "Sultan Abdul Samad, Ruler of Selangor, "Klang, Langat, Bernam and Lukut, with their dependencies, "being desirous of better Government in his country," asked for "an English officer to assist him to open up and govern his country." His country was then an unexplored, almost unknown, expanse of jungle, dotted here and there with Malay hamlets along the banks of the rivers and a few Chinese mining camps in the interior. Now, at the end of a period of twenty-one years, we find that the aged Sultan has long since transferred the administrative and executive functions of Government into the hands of his "English officer," who, assisted by a staff of Englishmen, has made the State of Selangor a magnificent illustration of our proud boast that as a successful colonising power England has had no rival since the days of Rome. It is no idle boast that the progress and development of Perak and Selangor rank amongst the brightest and happiest examples of British administrative ability during the last quarter of a century. Thanks to the acumen of the Sultan, his undoubted loyalty to his word, and the good sense of the passive-natured Malay, it has been possible to convert the State into a prosperous, safe and popular immigration ground equally for the Chinese, the Javanese and the Indian; to have made it attractive to the European planter; to have built about seventy miles of railway already out of current revenue; to have established substantially-built towns connected by well-made roads in all parts of the State; and, lastly, to now experience the happy conviction that even if no Asiatic or other race on earth really loves us, at least the people of Selangor are contented and personally cordial in their relations with all Englishmen who come in contact with them. It is true that Chinese industry has provided the funds with which the English administrators have worked out the salvation of the country, but Chinese industry without the probity and governing instinct of English gentlemen has never counted for much, as may be seen in China itself. Chinese industry (tin mines) has given us the material, but the *orang puteh* has also laboured and suffered much in building up the fabric. Generally speaking, the Malay has looked on. He was too ignorant, too lazy, too passive to have done much while the heat and burden of the day lasted; yet all the time he was unconsciously learning an object lesson; it was slowly dawning upon the Raja class that possibly all work was not a disgrace. A grandson of a Sultan will now draw a small monthly pay to superintend scavenging coolies: this would have been looked upon with great surprise probably, if not horror, twenty years ago. At the present day I think the majority of Malays who can read and write consider it an honour to be in the Government Service. With the exception of the police and forest rangers, however, there are not many of them so employed. Why? The English govern the State on behalf of the Malays. The Malays will send their soldiers to fight shoulder to shoulder with the soldiers

of the Queen if occasion ever arise. Then let us cement still further the existing bond of good feeling. And can this be done in any better way than by encouraging the younger generation of Malays to take up subordinate posts in the Government Service, which, as already stated, they are quite willing to fill. Then, to repeat the query, why are there so few of them thus employed? There are several reasons. During the time the Malays were waking up to the advantage of taking some active participation in the Government of their country or obtaining employment under those that were, other nationalities, such as the Chinese, Ceylonese and Indians, were quietly dropping into and being trained in some of the posts that the Malays might have got. Secondly, the necessity of giving Penghuluships to native chiefs who had no qualifications for such posts beyond their former position or "royal blood" has not always favourably impressed European officers with a belief in the adaptability of Malays, especially when they can neither read nor write. Thirdly, the Government have not taken any particular steps to encourage Malays to enter Government Service. Why should not every Government peon and punkah-puller, every process server, every telegraph messenger, most of the postmen, and so on—be Malays? One could give a whole list of the very lowest positions they could fill, such as ticket collectors, under-guards, porters, stokers, mandors on the railway, etc. (I see the railway authorities are getting in the thin end of the wedge, but Tamil station masters who know telegraphy being a necessity Tamil porters are likely to hold the field. If the Resident Engineer for Railways, won't get very angry, may one suggest that Tamil porters should be induced to get their hair cut, as when cropped they look much smarter.)

The P.W.D. might surely find many subordinate posts that Malays above the peon-porter class could fill. The Government might insert applications for Malay clerks in the vernacular papers and generally encourage the employment of Malays in preference, though not to the exclusion of other nationalities. That there are difficulties in the way of employing Malays nobody denies. (As a question of policy the Government are not inviting discussion.) There is the difficulty of selection in a place like Kuala Lumpur, but so long as Captain Syers is there, his assistance alone would soon procure the right man for the specified work: not to mention that the Police Force itself might be even more popular than it is now if the men knew that it might lead to other posts outside after their agreements had expired. Lastly, there is the very serious difficulty to any scheme for encouraging young Malays caused by the early age at which they leave school and the want of inducement in the way of prizes to make them learn much when they are there. At fourteen the boy is too young to do anything except sleep behind a pair of bullocks, and at seventeen three years of happy-go-lucky existence has demoralised him. The Victoria Institute may remedy this amongst boys of the better class, but the average Malay—the peasant Malay who forms the bulk of the Malay population—even when he has been the bright boy of

his particular local school—is allowed to disappear into oblivion. I would suggest that each year the Inspector of Schools (always sympathetic in such matters) should furnish the Government with a list showing the most promising and intelligent of the senior boys in each vernacular school throughout the State (one from each school) and that some attempt be made to attach these youngsters to different Government Offices for three years on an annually rising salary of \$6, \$7 and \$8 a month, after which openings might be found for them as demarcators, forest-rangers, Malay writers, assistant gurus, process servers, etc. In this way the Selangor boys would always have something to look forward to. The pay of the Malay writer at a certain outstation is \$10 a month, and some time ago the Inspector of Schools was unable to find a Selangor schoolboy to fill it, stating that the pay was too small to induce the boys to leave their parents—they could get the same pay almost at home as uneducated coolies driving bullock carts. If a Malay is sufficiently educated to take up the post of Malay writer it is only fair to pay him more than a coolie or uneducated constable. A scheme of this sort would cost a few hundred dollars a year, but what is that to a State like Selangor, and do not the Malays deserve something for the cordiality with which they always treat the white men who govern them? In broaching a subject like this, it is best to deal only with the lowest posts in the service first, expansion and development can and will come with time if the Government policy of the future should happen to be that of always employing Malays where possible in subordinate posts of the service and by appointing some sympathetic officer (the Inspector of Schools, say) to take the younger generation of the courteous Malay under his guardian wing at the time of leaving school.—J. H. M. R.



EAST COAST ETCHINGS.*

ANOTHER very welcome addition to the literature about Malayia has appeared under the above title. The style of the work approximates rather to that of Mr. F. A. Swettenham's "Malay Sketches" and "About Perak"—which set out to portray the inner life of the native, to depict his thoughts and feelings, and to view him from a native stand-point—than to those other works about the country to which an intending visitor often turns for light information concerning the Malay—notably, "Sarong and Kris" and "The Golden Chersonese," and even "The Chersonese with the Gilding Off." It would be impossible, we suppose, to find two men who are more in sympathy with the Malay than Messrs. Clifford and Swettenham, and this in some measure accounts for a certain similarity in the tone of "Malay Sketches" and "East Coast Etchings." The workings of love and sport, anger and death, are regarded through Malay glasses and described accordingly. That

* *East Coast Etchings*. By Hugh Clifford. Singapore: "Straits Times" Press, 1896, Price, 82.

this gives the reader a better insight into manners and customs than a mere outside description, goes without saying; and that it furnishes most interesting reading is equally certain.

Mr. Clifford claims for this work that it describes conditions of Malay life which cannot at the present day be found in either Perak or Selangor—they have faded away, or retired into obscure corners, under the influence of the European—and our author laments that the West Coast Malay “has become sadly dull, limp and civilised,” and asserts that he “loves him in his truculent, untamed state.” Well, we had him in Selangor, “in his truculent, untamed state,” some twenty years ago, and a pretty beauty he was with his piratical raids: we fancy that few sigh to have him back as he was in his unregenerate days. It strikes us that Mr. Clifford’s tenderness for the Malay makes him a trifle hard on European progress.

The work contains thirteen chapters, or “etchings,” and the author’s intention is to give “European readers some idea of a state of society wholly unlike anything to which we are accustomed, and which must inevitably be altered out of all recognition by the rapidly increasing influence of foreigners in the Malay Peninsula.” Whether this is a consummation devoutly to be wished is a point that readers of the book must settle for themselves, all we will do is to strongly advise our readers to obtain the book, feeling sure that it will give them an insight into life on the East Coast nowhere else obtainable, and prove exceedingly interesting reading. The papers about Kelantan and Trengganu are the result of the mission to those States with which Mr. Clifford was entrusted about this time last year for the purpose of securing the leaders of the Pahang Disturbances, and the opportunities for observing the people and customs of countries seldom, if ever, visited by Europeans—certainly not in the more remote parts to which Mr. Clifford penetrated—were not lost, and enable him to give the reader a glimpse of native ways—*vide* “Tale of a Theft”—that is simply horrifying. On the other hand, the account given, under the heading “The People of the East Coast,” of the industry and ingenuity of the people of Trengganu, which Mr. Clifford dubs the Birmingham of the Peninsula, is rather cheering, except that they are given to manufacturing “cheap imitations.” There are tales of love and of stabbing, stories about tigers, descriptions of bull-fighting and cock-fighting, and many others things which the railway that is to be run into Pahang will no doubt tend to drive away, and so render that abode of romance as commonplace as Selangor is described as being at the present day.

.....
A NOVEL EXPERIENCE.

EXCEPT to one already acquainted with the canyons of the Sierra Nevadas—those yawning mighty chasms stretching in all directions, and some of such a stupendous depth that one might truthfully say that the sun rarely penetrates to their extreme bottom—it would indeed take an able pen to convey an idea of their rugged beauty. To a traveller, as he moves along the winding

bottom of such a canyon, all he sees in front of him are its two sides, which as they bend abruptly, to the right or left, as the case may be, merge together, seeming to block any further progress, and lead him to suppose that there the canyon ends; but on reaching this point the view again opens out into fresh vistas of beauty, and on either hand the sides of the canyon, dense with the dark green foliage of pine and oak, tower up many hundreds of feet, all overhung by the dark sapphire blue of a true Californian sky.

It was in such a canyon as this that a friend of mine and myself determined to try our luck as gold-miners, all we needed being the locality in which to make our initial efforts, and this was supplied by a slight acquaintance of ours, whom we afterwards had to name "Truthful Billy," on account of the rather "tall stories" he was always so fond of relating to us. Provided with a most elaborate outfit, including everything from a "rocker" down to salt, we started for our prospective mine. Nothing more perfect in beauty could be desired than the situation in which we found ourselves: our cabin overlooked the river in whose bed, now exposed by summer droughts, lay our expected El Dorado, whilst on our right was a magnificent waterfall caused by the whole river pouring itself over in one mighty leap of a hundred feet, and on our left the canyon seemed to terminate, the two sides towering up over us many hundreds of feet, and we were surrounded on all sides with the most charming scenery, embracing hill, river, and waterfall. The next morning we were up at daybreak and after getting all in order started on our road to fortune. Steadily the whole day we worked, my friend and myself taking turns with the "rocker" and pick and shovel, only stopping now and then to clear up the black sand deposited on the linen receiver, in which the dark yellow colour of the gold shone up. For three days we worked like this and by that time we had collected a small bag of black sand; we therefore determined to have a day off. Wading the river we followed a trail up the opposite side of the canyon till we finally reached more level land. Overhead the sun shone in glorious splendour out of a perfect sky of blue, not a single cloud to mar its beauty. From the oaks the doves called to each other in dreamy echoes; now and again we came on a bunch of quail feeding in the shade of the manzanita and chapparal, and which scattered with a loud whirr of wings on our closer approach, whilst at every step we disturbed myriads of grasshoppers which dispersed in all directions. As we passed along one could not help noticing the crumbled masses of ruins on all sides, convincing one that here had been enacted a part of the history of many of those hardy, and often rough and reckless, miners of whom we read. What vicissitudes they must have seen! Sometimes in plenty, then nearly starving. Till at last another boom breaking out at some other camp, they deserted their old cabins, which gradually crumbled away leaving only a heap of ruins.

After much climbing we reached the town we sought, once most flourishing as the main overland route from the east passed through it, but now practically deserted, the railway carrying all the traffic

which formerly crossed the plain on pack mules and in "prairie schooners" and passed through here to the gold-fields. Happening to look over a bridge we noticed an aged man, removing the boards of an old sluice through which the tailings of a large hydraulic mine had once passed, hoping, no doubt, to discover in the crevices of the boards a few small particles of gold as yet overlooked. Though so old he was working harder than many men one third his age—but in this perfect climate one never seems to feel the effects of age at all. How times must have changed! on the road by which we returned, we passed a most magnificent brick house built for an hotel for the convenience of the many travellers along this then frequented, but now practically deserted, route; there it stood in all its grandeur, the finest building in this part of the country out of Sacramento, the capital of the State.

On getting back to camp our friend seemed very pleased to see us again, perhaps thinking gold-mining had no lasting charms for us, or that his tales might have had a deterrent effect as regards renewing his acquaintance. But next morning we were up at dawn and went to work with a will. All day long the "rocker" rocked, stones rattled as they rolled about from side to side on the tin receiver and a stream of muddy water poured out carrying all the tailings with it; and so for the next three days, and then we determined to have a weekly clean up. Seated that night on the plateau in front of our cabin, impenetrable darkness around, and in the centre of us an extemporised furnace, which, as the force of the blow-pipe caused the charcoal to glow and glow again, reflected on our faces the lurid light of the fire, the scene must have made a worthy study for a disciple of Rembrandt. The operation which we were trying to perform was to extract the gold from the quicksilver previously mixed with the black sand to separate one from the other; but the surprising part was that the harder one blew instead of seeing the quicksilver gradually dissolve away leaving a nugget of pure gold, it became gradually less and less as it disappeared intermittently in the ashes; we still, however, had a nice lump left, which, we consoled ourselves, must be pure gold, but to our dismay the whole of that, without any warning, disappeared like the rest. Thus ended our week's work—

All had vanished into air, thin air

And like the baseless fabric of a vision, left not a wrack behind.

But it was not quite so bad, for on searching in the canvas bag in which we had mixed the quicksilver and black sand, we still saw spots of gold mixed as before, the quicksilver having passed through without amalgamating it at all. The next day "Truthful Billy" collected this carefully and, putting it into one of those small bottles peculiar to "patent" pills, we saw the result of our week's work before us in a slight film of gold at the bottom! Rain threatening and the first premonitions of malaria, which developed into a rather severe attack, forced us to return whence we came, most pleased with our week as one of complete change, and with our brief experience as gold miners.—S. C.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our Correspondents.]

TEMPORA MUTANTUR ET NOS MUTAMUR IN ILLIS.

To the Editor of the Selangor Journal.

SIR,—When we see Kuala Lumpur of to-day, it is difficult to imagine that twelve years ago it was only a little village, an out-of-the-world place, cut off entirely from civilisation. Kajang, Kuala Kubu, Kuala Selangor and all our out District Stations are better off to-day than Kuala Lumpur was then. Indeed, at that time it was a bold step the handful of European residents took in starting the Selangor Club. But it was crowned with success beyond expectation. One of the rules said that the Resident (then Mr. Swettenham) was to be President, and the Chief Magistrate (Mr. Belfield) Vice-President, and with these two men, both keen cricketers, and Mr. A. R. Venning as their energetic Honorary Secretary, the Club prospered and flourished. The Selangor Club was the rendezvous of all the beauty, fashion and society of Selangor, and it was only natural that the Resident, the leading gentleman in the State, should have been elected President of "the" Club.

Meanwhile, over twelve years have passed. Selangor has grown. Telegraphic communication has been established to all parts of the world; railways have been opened in every direction; numerous new Clubs have since been started—the Rifle Association, Hunt Club, Scientific Society, a Golf Club, Lake Club, Turf Club, Planters' Association, Masonic Lodge, Church Work Association, Samaritan Society, Recreation Club, etc. A beautiful steam yacht lies at the Klang Harbour at the Resident's disposal. A brass band plays twice a week in public. A *Government Gazette* and even a *Journal* are published and printed in the State. A bank is established, and you can remit money to any part of the world direct from Kuala Lumpur. A brick church now stands on the plain, where the stables of the Selangor Club used to be. The Post and Telegraph offices were only two little cages on the spot where now the fine Railway Offices stand as a monument to the natives of a wise and liberal European Government under British Protection. A most imposing passenger station adorns the capital, the metropolis of Selangor, and new arrivals from Europe wonder if by chance they are not back at Home again, when they see the electric light and all modern improvements the moment they alight on the platform. Waterworks have been executed and water laid on to every street and bungalow in the town. Above all, the visitor is struck by a grand pile of buildings designed for Government Offices. Courts, barracks, bungalows, and a picturesque and well-

situated Government House are to be seen on the surrounding hills. Shady roads and drives are leading all over the country. A beautiful Public Garden is kept for the recreation and benefit of the inhabitants. An old resident of former years might well wonder, if he were suddenly placed back amongst us, if this is really the same Kuala Lumpur he had known twelve years ago.

There is absolutely nothing to remind one of those old days. The old Selangor Club is gone, iron bridges are spanning the rivers, a new Residency, new Government Offices—everything is new, altered and changed. The old residents are mostly dead and buried long ago or back in the old county at Home. Some of them who were in the prime of their life then and on the top of the social ladder, have gone down and have grown old in heart and in soul, as well as in years. Others again, who were only children or youngsters at that time, are now grown up men, and have taken their place and are making a name for themselves.

Of course, we all know that this is the way of the world, and as sensible people we take things as they are, satisfied with the position we have and grateful for the good things Providence puts in our way.

The Selangor Club still exists, but it no longer occupies the proud position of years ago, and to be President of the Selangor Club no longer means to be the ruler of the social world as it used to be in the old days, when the Selangor Club was the only Club in the place.

Everything has altered; but one thing has remained unchanged through all these evolutions and revolutions, and that is the rule of the Selangor Club, that the Resident should be ex-officio President and the Chief Magistrate Vice-President.

The Resident is an honorary member, and honorary members have no vote, but yet he is President of the Club with two votes.

We might get a new Chief Magistrate to-morrow who does not care for cricket or football, who might refuse even to become a member of the Club, yet ex-officio, much as he may possibly hate and dislike the idea, he has to be Vice-President.

Surely this rule should be altered. As long as we have the patronage and support of the Resident, the interests of the Selangor Club might safely be entrusted to a President and Vice-President elected by the members themselves.

Twelve years have worked their changes, and we have altered during that time too, and I have not the least hesitation in saying that this old rule does not suit the present state of affairs, and is, I am afraid, to a great extent the cause of the Selangor Club being in a less popular and more prosperous position.

I am, etc., I

NOTES AND NEWS.

HI^S HIGHNESS THE SULTAN of Selangor held his usual annual levée for Malays on the morning of the 26th March, at Jugra, and the Raja Muda held sports, as he did last year, for the school children, and a *Kunduri* for the visitors on the same date. Invitations to attend were issued by the Raja Muda on behalf of the Sultan to all Penghulus, Imams and principal Chiefs and Headmen, of whom a large number from Ulu Districts went down by the morning train on the 25th, and were conveyed by the *Esmeralda* and launch. The Selangor Band was also commanded to attend and travelled down at the same time. The yacht had previously made the round to Bernam and Kuala Selangor to pick up visitors, and left Jugra again with the band and others on the evening of the 26th after the proceedings were over. We hear that "W. S." was present, so we may in our next issue be able to give some details of the ceremony and sports.

THE Races, the chief topic of local interest for some time past, are over and whilom "Sports" sink into the comparative insignificance of ordinary business men. The heavy rains which had been falling right through the month fortunately ceased for the meeting, and although the heat during the afternoons of Saturday and Monday was rather oppressive, yet the time-honoured phrase of "glorious weather" is not out of place. Of the races "The Man in the Lalang" writes, and it is only for us to note the general success of the arrangements and the improvements of the present over the former racecourse.

THE proximity to town is a great advantage, although Java Street cannot be described as a pleasant way of getting to the suburbs, but on the Ampang Road proper the going is good, and once past the bridge the road is wide enough for any amount of extraordinary traffic. Its capacity was tested on each afternoon, the most noticeable thing being the wonderful number of 'rikishas going and coming—we t Kuala Lumpur contained so many—while of comparatively few; of bullock carts full of

passengers there were a fair number, and also a continuous stream of native pedestrians: the whole effect being that of a popular holiday.

The entrances to the course were pointed out by notice boards all in their pristine splendour, although this does not apply to the plank bridge over the drain running past the main entrance. The Grand Stand is reached in the first instance by a staircase at the back, whence there is a broad flight of steps leading to the lawn; beneath the Grand Stand is a long and commodious refreshment bar, part of which is partitioned off for the "Calcutta Engine." Directly in front of the stand is the Judge's Box, to the left is a Stewards' Stand, the space underneath being utilised as a bandstand; to the right is a Native Stand, and further along to the right the stables and paddock. The lawn is railed off on left and right, and outside these rails on each hand vehicles are allowed to take up a stand whence their occupants may view the racing. The general view from the stand is a pretty one, Weld's Hill Estate being the most noticeable feature in the immediate foreground. The great advantage over the old run is that the horses can be seen from the stand right round the course.

THE appearance, taken all round, of the buildings, lawn and course on the afternoons of Saturday and Monday was more in keeping with what one expects at a race-meeting. Things were more compact and well arranged than it was possible to make them on the former site and the Hon. Secretary and Committee of the Selangor Turf Club are to be congratulated on the successful issue of these details. The large gathering of visitors, among whom there were a number of ladies, gave a fine air of animation to the whole scene, and after Mrs. Rodger had presented the Resident's Cup to Mr. George Cumming, the *Mercury Cup* to Mr. H. O. Maynard, and the Miners' Purse to Mr. Tambusamy Pillai, and three cheers had been given for Mrs. Rodger and another for the Resident and yet another for the "Hon. Sec.," the heartiness with which the calls were responded to showed that the general feeling was one of satisfactory enjoyment.

THE "Race Dance" at the Residency on Saturday night went off most successfully, and a large company assembled to enjoy the hospitality of the Resident and Mrs. Rodger. The floral decorations were of a simple but exceedingly tasteful character, the wreaths encircling the columns of the ball-room being ^{effective.} The feature of the evening, the cotillon, was arranged by Miss Rodger and Mr. Gerald Browne, and

to carry away as mementoes of the dance, the various knick-knacks used for the selection of partners. At twelve o'clock the company sat down to supper.

PROGRAMME.

DANCES.

1	Waltz...	...	...	"Myosotis"	...	...	Caroline Lowthian
2	Lancers	...	...	"Round the Town"	...	...	W. Williams
3	Waltz...	...	...	"Venetian Song"	...	...	P. Bucalossi
4	Pas de Quatre	...	...	"Go Bang"	...	...	G. Carr
5	Waltz...	...	...	"Louisiana Lou..."	...	...	C. Kiebert

COTILLON.

1	Waltz...	...	...	"Espanola"	...	...	Waldteufel
2	Galop...	...	...	"Round we go"	...	...	Dawson
3	Waltz...	...	...	"In old Madrid"	...	...	Meissler
4	Polka...	...	...	"See me Dance"	...	...	Solomons
5	Waltz...	...	...	"Garden of Sleep"	...	...	Bucalossi
6	Waltz...	...	...	"Dorothy"	...	...	Cellier
7	Waltz...	...	...	"Wein, Weib, und Gesang"	...	...	Strauss
8	Polka...	...	...	"Oh, Honey, my Honey"	...	...	Caryll
9	Waltz...	...	...	"Rosen das dem Suden"	...	...	Strauss
10	Last figure of the 'Arry and 'Arriet Lancers		...	...	...	...	Coote
	(Grand chain and Galop—"Express"		...	...	...	...	Dawson
	Grand chain).						

THE Smoking Concert announced for the Monday night at the Selangor Club, was preceded by an excellent Cigarette Concert, arranged at the last moment by the Entertainment Committee, and afforded us poor jungle-wallahs quite an unexpected treat. These concerts in which ladies take a part are always so thoroughly enjoyed that it is a great pity they are not of more frequent occurrence; and although we cannot hope very often to have the great pleasure of listening to such a fine voice as that possessed by Mrs. Salzmann, we have quite enough charming singers among us to ensure success. On this occasion we were exceedingly fortunate in having as visitors, in addition to Mrs. Salzmann, both Mrs. Dare, who sang, we believe, for the first time in Kuala Lumpur, and Mr. W. Dunman, who is a well-known and old favourite in Selangor. The concert room at the Club has only just been repainted, and there was scarcely time to arrange it in the way that it has often been arranged for this class of concert, and the decorations, owing to the Secretary of the Club being in charge of the refreshments at the races, were left in the hands of the *kabuns*, who placed some quaint devices in greenery round the walls. The audience, which included Mrs. and Miss Rodger and a large number of ladies, was a very appreciative one, and the musical fare placed before them so good that any minor details that

were wanting were not noticed. Mr. Munro opened the concert with a pianoforte solo, and later on sang two comic negro melodies, accompanying himself on the piano. This form of song is a very welcome addition to our Cigarette Concerts, and Mr. Munro's appearance at the piano is always looked forward to. Mrs. Dare sang "All Souls' Day." Mr. Bourne was in fine voice and sang "Fair is my love" in excellent style. Mrs. Douglas, whose recent advent in Selangor has added a delightful singer to our local talent, sang in an artistic manner, "My mother bids me bind my hair," which could not but elicit an encore—too early in the programme, however, to be acceded to. Mr. Dunman sang "How shall I woo her," and in response to a loud encore "The Last Watch." Mrs. Travers' pure and sweet-toned voice was heard with good effect in "A youth once loved a maiden," and in "The tears that night and morning" as an encore. Mrs. Salzmänn, who carried off the honours of the evening, sang "The Carnival," and "Jock o' Hazeldean." Mr. Hubback's rendering of "The Coster's Courtship" was a great success, and "Jimmy on the Chute," which he gave as an encore, brought the Cigarette Concert to a close.

PROGRAMME.

Mr. Munro	...	...	...	<i>Piano Solo</i>
Mrs. Dare	...	...	...	All Souls' Day
Mr. Bourne	...	...	...	Fair is My Love
Mrs. Douglas	...	...	...	My Mother bids me bind my hair
Mr. Dunman	...	...	...	{ How shall I woo her ?
				{ (Encore) The Last Watch
Mrs. Travers	...	...	...	{ A youth once loved a maiden
				{ (Encore) The tears that night
				and morning
Mr. Munro	...	...	...	{ Come under the old umbrella
				{ (Encore) Wait till the moon am
				atop of the hill
Mrs. Salzmänn	...	...	...	{ Carnival
				{ (Encore) Jock o' Hazeldean
Mr. Hubback	...	...	...	{ The Coster's Courtship
				{ (Encore) Jimmy on the Chute

THE Cigarette Concert over, the ladies departed, and after a short interval Mr. Spooner, as Chairman, rallied his forces for a Smoking Concert, and started off with two recent additions to Kuala Lumpur society, Mr. W. R. Swan and Mr. C. Basagoiti, who gave a pianoforte and banjo duet, and later on Mr. Basagoiti gave some solos on the banjo. An excellent concert followed, in which several of the visitors took part, in one or two instances furnishing some very powerful singing. The chairman had to give one of songs during the evening, and Mr. Alexander

as well as to accompany. The evening may be called a very jolly one, and both localites and visitors seemed to thoroughly enjoy themselves. "God save the Queen" was played about half-past twelve, and a parting cheer for the Chairman was given at the finish.

AMONG the visitors to Selangor for the Races were Mrs. Dare, Mrs. Salzmann, Mr. and Mrs. Warrack, Major Pearse, Captain W. L. Warren, Royal Artillery, Captain H. L. Talbot, Acting Commandant, Perak Sikhs, Lieut. L. A. F. Dawson, Northumberland Fusiliers, Mr. W. J. Caldwell, Mr. W. Dunman, Mr. Paton Ker, Mr. A. Keyser, Mr. McKellar, Mr. Raymond, Mr. J. Tait, Mr. G. Tait, and Mr. F. W. Talbot.

THE opening of the Kuala Lumpur Waterworks has been postponed to Saturday, the 11th inst., at 4 p.m. The ceremony will take place at the Impounding Reservoir, Ampang.

MR. PERCY STEPHENSON, of Beverlac and Ebor Estates, returned to Selangor last week after twelve months' absence in Europe.—Mrs. Travers leaves to-day for a two-months' visit to Ceylon.—Mrs. E. V. Carey and Mrs. H. O. Maynard leave for Europe about the middle of this month.

AT a recent meeting of the Trustees of the Victoria Institution the following resolution was passed: "That in view of the difficulty of forming a quorum and transacting business with the present number of Trustees, a circular be sent to all the original subscribers, asking for authority to appoint four additional Trustees—two Europeans and two Asiatics—thus raising the number to sixteen."

IN the last *Government Gazette* are republished the Rules issued in 1889 regarding the possession of land or engaging in commercial and agricultural pursuits by public officers.

THE Government launches, *Enid* and *Abdul Samad*, will, subject to other requirements, leave Klang, one for the Kuala Langat and one for the Kuala Selangor coast ports, every Monday, returning on Thursdays. The hour of departure from Klang will be 8.30 a.m.

WE are glad to state that the danger from cholera which recently our shores has now passed away; the quarantine of the banks" is terminated,

FROM the beginning of this month all roads and bridges within the town limits of Kuala Lumpur will be under the charge of the Sanitary Board. At a meeting of the Board the Chairman drew attention to the condition of the rivers and their banks within the same area, pointing out the importance of keeping the channels clear of fallen trees and of accumulations of rubbish. He suggested that the banks should be trimmed and planted with trees, and steps taken to give them an ornamental appearance and to prevent excavation by persons in want of material for filling, etc. The Board resolved that Government be asked to place the rivers and their banks within town limits under the control of the Board, and that the banks may be permanently reserved as recreation grounds under Section 5 of Regulation III. of 1891. At the same meeting it was resolved to request Government to reserve the piece of land lying between the Sungei Besi Railway Station and the market as a public recreation ground. This, as everyone who knows the place will admit, would effect a wonderful improvement in the appearance of the town. On getting out of the train at Sungei Besi, the land in question is most unsightly, and the Chairman says that at slight expense it could be levelled, turfed and planted with ornamental trees.—There was nothing in the last published minutes about putting a lamp on the dangerous portion of the path leading from the Plain to the Government Offices.

THE notice of sale of Kuala Selangor forest land is published in a *Government Gazette Extraordinary*, of to-day's date, together with a sketch plan, areas of blocks, cost of title and registration fees, cost of survey, annual quit-rent, upset price, and "Conditions of Sale." The sale will take place in the District Office, Klang, at 2.30 p.m., on Monday, the 18th of May.

ST. MARY'S CHURCH, Kuala Lumpur—Service will be held as follows: Good Friday, April 3rd, Matins and Litany, 8-30 a.m.; Easter Sunday, April 5th, Matins, 8-30 a.m., Choral Evensong, 6 p.m.

A MEETING to discuss the formation of a Central Planters' Association was held at the Selangor Club on Monday, the 30th ult., at 6.30 p.m. The meeting had been originally called for Saturday, the 28th, at 9 a.m., but owing to the unavoidable absence of representatives from Perak, it was postponed till the Monday, but even then the Perak people were unable to attend. Mr. Carey opened the proceedings, and, seconded by Mr. Dougal, proposed Mr. T. H. Hill in the chair.

The Chairman, having referred to the objects of the proposed Association, it was unanimously resolved: "That in the opinion of this meeting an Amalgamated Planters' Association for the Protected Native States is desirable." A Provisional Committee was appointed, consisting of the Chairman and Secretary of the Selangor, Sungei Ujong and Perak Planters' Associations, respectively, Mr. J. B. M. Leech (to represent Pahang), and Mr. T. H. Hill. A vote of thanks to the Chairman brought the meeting to a close at 7.30 p.m. There were twenty-seven gentlemen present.

On the 30th of last month the mining rights in 147½ acres of land at Serendah changed hands for \$19,500. Numerous kongsis have been at work on this block for years past, but the sale price shows that even now there must be plenty of tin still to be obtained. On the same day eleven house lots in Serendah town were sold for \$19,530, but considering the value of house rents now obtainable in Serendah the advantage probably rested with the buyer.

THE Committee of the Selangor Museum met on the 26th ult., Captain Syers (Chairman), Dr. Travers, and Mr. L. B. Von Donop (Hon. Sec.) being present. A scale of charges for preparing specimens for the public was submitted and approved. It was resolved that a collector be sent to the coast to obtain the specimens of fish which are wanting in the present collection. A letter was read from the Director of the Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery *re* exchanging specimens of interest. Resolved that steps be taken to effect the exchange, and that the Director be asked to kindly forward specimens of the various ores found in Tasmania. The Committee acknowledge with thanks the receipt of the following additions to the Museum during February: From Captain Syers, a rare wild cat; Mr. Rowe, a flying squirrel; Mr. Hawes, a young monkey and a fruit bat; Mr. Kickebusch, a snake; Mr. L. B. Von Donop, a Pahang coin; Dr. McClosky, a centipede.

Number of visitors for February	...	...	...	2,549
Previously	...	...	...	1,370
			Total	3,919

THE Annual General Meeting of the Selangor Golf Club was held on Saturday, the 21st March, at the Selangor Club, the President, Mr. Berrington, being in the chair,

A short statement of the affairs of the Club during the past twelve months was made by the President, and a balance sheet showing a fairly satisfactory financial position was presented and passed.

The voting for officers for the ensuing twelve months resulted in the reelection of Mr. Berrington as President and Mr. C. G. Glassford as Captain; the other members of Committee appointed being Dr. McClosky and Messrs T. J. McGregor, J. G. Glassford, W. Tearle and D. J. Highet. Mr. J. G. Glassford was presented with the championship medal, which he holds during the year 1896, and Mr. McGregor with the President's challenge medal, and a gold memento; Messrs. McGregor, C. G. Glassford, Berrington, McClosky and Hubback also receiving silver mementoes, as winners of different monthly handicaps.

These competitions continue to be held as before on the third Thursday and two following days of each month, and at the end of the year the monthly winners compete for the gold medal and memento.

It was announced that it is hoped that a team of Singapore Golfers will visit Selangor in June, and play a match on the 28th, Coronation Day.

Mr. C. T. Staples, the Hon. Secretary, will be happy to receive applications for membership and remittances for overdue accounts, which at present form the chief item of the balance in favour of the Club.

The record of the course now stands at 40, and is held by Mr. C. G. Glassford, being one point better than Mr. J. G. Glassford's record round in 1894.

WE hear from Kajang that Messrs. M. Sidney Parry and G. E. Parry have each been granted a block of 320 acres in extent. The land adjoins that already granted to Messrs. Hicks, Allen and Skinner. Mr. Skinner is expected shortly to take up his residence at Kajang.— On Wednesday, the 18th March, some very successful Malay sports were held at Kajang, before an appreciative crowd of spectators. The sports, which contained one or two novel features, such as a four-legged race, and a race of bullock-carts drawn by Malay teams, were more keenly contested than usual, there being as many as 30 competitors for some of the events, which consequently had to be run in heats; but perhaps the feature of the day was the Penghulus' race, in which the venerable Said Jahya of Cheras received a considerable handicap and was not so badly beaten as his years might warrant, the race being won by the Penghulu of Kajang with Raja Jafar a good second and Sergeant Bahi, who also took part in it, a good third.

Raja Mahmud and—as has been said—Said Jahya were not far behind, and the race came to an end amidst deafening applause from the "gallery." Altogether it was a most enjoyable afternoon to all who took part in it. These sports are said to have been the first of their kind held in the District.



THE SELANGOR RACES.

WE have waited for an expected article until it is too late, owing to the holidays, to commence to write a description. We simply give the winners of the various events:

FIRST DAY.

- No. 1.—The Resident's Cup.
Messrs. Cumming and King's Nightmare
- No. 2.—The Miners' Purse.
Mr. F. Cecil's Locky
- No. 3.—The Civil Service Stakes.
Mr. W. H. Tate's Mattie
- No. 4.—The Planters' Cup.
Mr. F. Weld's Bush Rat
- No. 5.—The Australian Cup.
Mr. Anthony's Parmesan
- No. 6.—The Mercury Challenge Cup.
Mr. Maynard's Black King
- No. 7.—A Handicap for Griffins that ran in Race No. 1.
Mr. Tambusamy Pillay's Maharani

SECOND DAY.

- No. 1.—Handicap for Griffins.—
Mr. Nicholas' Elsie
- No. 2.—Handicap for Horses that ran in race No. 2, 1st day.
Mr. F. Cecil's Locky
- No. 3.—Handicap for all Horses that ran in Race No. 3, 1st day.
Mr. Alma Baker's Jimmy
- No. 4.—Handicap for all Ponies that ran in Race No. 4, 1st day.
Mr. J. J. Tait's Fair Rosamond
- No. 5.—Handicap for all Horses that ran in Race No. 5, 1st day.
Captain Warren's Lardla
- No. 6.—Handicap for all Horses that ran in Race No 6, 1st day.
Mr. Maynard's Black King
- No. 7.—Consolation Race for
Mr. Hone's

MALAY JOTTINGS.

THE history of modern Selangor may be divided, like "all Gaul," into three parts, or rather epochs. Selangor before the arrival of His Highness Tunku Dia Udin (commonly known as Tunku Kudin); Selangor during that noble's reign as Viceroy of the country; and Selangor under British administration.

A powerful Malay noble of commanding intellect, a prince of the blood royal, brother of the then Sultan of Kedah, and son-in-law to the Sultan of Selangor, Tunku Kudin was not the man to sit idle when once he got a foothold in the country of his adoption. It happened in this way. Tunku Kudin came to Selangor in 1867, and married a favourite daughter of the present Sultan. At this time the Sultan lived in Klang, and being only too pleased to get somebody to help him, appointed Tunku Kudin Viceroy of Selangor within a year of his arrival (the appointment being confirmed in 1871), and gave him Langat as a place of residence, with the revenue derivable therefrom for his own use. The Tunku having to go to Kedah soon afterwards, on account of his mother's death, heard that the Sultan had returned to Langat and had authorised Raja Ismail to attack Raja Mahdi in Klang. Raja Mahdi, a grandson of Sultan Muhamad (uncle and predecessor of the present Sultan), had attacked Raja Ismail's father, the Governor of Klang, had driven him out of the country, and had since then practically set up in Klang as a ruler on his own account. The Sultan himself, openly at least, sided with neither party, preferring to let them fight it out between themselves. H.H. Tunku Dia Udin on hearing this news returned at the head of 500 Kedah men and at once called upon Raja Mahdi for obedience, at the same time sending him a copy of his documentary authority as Viceroy. Raja Mahdi said it was a forgery. Leaving 50 Kedah men to guard his family at Langat, Tunku Kudin took the field and after some stockade fighting drove Raja Mahdi out of Klang. This was about 1870. The Sultan then gave Klang to the Tunku as a residence instead of Langat. Raja Mahdi's next move was to capture Kuala Selangor from Raja Musab, the Sultan's eldest son. But the arrival of H.M.S. *Rinaldo* trumped this trick by a bombardment in the July of 1871, and Raja Mahdi disappeared for a time to Johore *via* Sumatra, and Tunku Kudin undertook to garrison Kuala Selangor with Sepoys and Malays, having Raja Yacoob, another of the Sultan's sons, in command. Raja Yacoob did not stay long, and the place again fell into the hands of the Tunku's enemies. During this time Syed Mashor and Raja Mahmoud were acting on the offensive at Petaling, and it was not until nearly a year later that, having routed these turbulent chiefs, the Viceroy was enabled to personally lead an expedition against Kuala Selangor, which he took after driving out Raja Musab, who at this time found favour neither with the Sultan or Viceroy—his father and brother-in-law. Tunku Kudin's power was now firmly established, and history will not only hand down his name as the most distinguished noble of modern times in Selangor, but a man who resolutely put his foot down upon piracy, even when was strongly suspected, if not actually known, that several of

leading nobles of the country were engaged in this exciting recreation. When the famous Morib pirates were captured and tried at Kuala Jugra in 1874—with H.M. ships *Thalia* and *Rinaldo* lying outside the bar—His Highness Tunku Dia Udin sat as President of the Court, and solemnly passed the death sentence upon seven out of the eight prisoners—one being reprieved on account of his youth. It may not be generally known that before Mr. J. G. Davidson was formally appointed as the first British Resident of Selangor, he had for some three years been the personal friend and adviser of Tunku Kudin, whom he had assisted both personally and with funds.

For some years after the arrival of a British Resident H.H. Tunku Dia Udin sat as President of the newly formed State Council, and then finally retired from active participation in the Government of the country on a well-earned pension. He still keeps up his Klang residence however, for his wife Tunku Chi, and generally spends a month or two at least there every year. His actual style of living is very different to that of the ordinary Malay. He keeps a Chinese cook and has his table laid in the European fashion, which fashion he follows, by the bye, in the matter of clothes as well. He occasionally dines out at European houses and is not above enjoying the delights of the table; otherwise he is a strict Muhammadan. To this day he is a man of commanding personality.—R.

AN IDEAL SPOT.

WHILST sitting on my verandah, around me on all sides an impenetrable Malayan jungle, dreamily watching the smoke as it lazily curls up out of my pipe, how naturally my thoughts flow back to scenes I love best.

Rapidly they again pass in vivid succession. I see the hotel, in which I spent so many happy days, perched on the coast against whose shores the vast Pacific unceasingly rolls, framed by a dark green background of redwoods towering up two, yes, even three, hundred feet. How many pleasant recollections cluster round this white house. How many times have I started from it with rod and creel to lure with fly the most unsophisticated of their tribe, and again, when the salmon arrived, returned laden with those to whom the spoon had proved too deadly an attraction. Or, when the river, discoloured with past rains, made fly-fishing impracticable, with what anticipation have I sallied forth, armed with long rod and line, to entice a larger but less spirited fish from the sea. How often have I left it for the hills deer-shooting, frequently whilst still new to the sport returning without even seeing one. Afterwards as I became imbued with the cunning partly gained by experience, and partly derived from a genial old hunter, my mentor in Western deer-shooting, I experienced better luck and generally returned with one, whilst on one eventful occasion two fell to my gun.

As I am wading up the river whilst my artist friend, is dreamily along the bank. At last I reach a

favourite spot in which I have always had good sport, but never before have my flies been greeted with such a mad rush as on this memorable occasion; at every cast I hook two, sometimes three and twice four. A rise like this, lasting a little over three hours, is quite a novel experience, and when it is over, entirely exhausted with casting and landing so many fish, I am only too pleased to rest from my labour of death.

Another scene quickly follows. On the banks of this same river, embowered in the thick foliage of pepperwoods, lies an ideal spot, quite worthy of the charming party who have made it their summer retreat. What a kindly welcome I always received from all on reaching their camp, and how many pleasant recollections still linger with me, of the trees surrounding the camp, the rustic bridge spanning the river, and the table, canopied only by the branches and sky above, round which we so frequently met.

Again the scene is changed. Stealthily creeping along an hour before dawn I finally reach the spot I am seeking: what anxious moments of waiting as I eagerly watch surrounding objects growing more distinct; until, noiselessly making my way into a large opening through which recently a forest fire has raged, I eagerly scan around. What a sight greets me; deer everywhere—the first deer I have ever seen. How graceful they look as they move slowly along nibbling at the young shoots. But this is no time for sentiment; I sight one fifty yards on my right; I pull the trigger, a loud report, and I see him sink without a movement. Simultaneously on all sides there is a tremendous crashing of branches as the others dash headlong down to the bottom of the canyon. I look round thinking they have all gone; but no, right away on the edge of the brush I see a big buck with his head up sniffing the air, trying to discover from which side to expect danger. Carefully raising the sights, with a long steady aim I fire. He drops, but rises again and is off, though hard hit. I promptly follow him up, passing the dead one on my way, and find near where he was standing a trail of blood marks, and following up these, I soon come upon him. He struggles up, but a finishing shot gives me the second deer for this one morning.

Again the scene rolls on. I seem to see the river on which I am being steadily rowed by my friend whilst I am spinning the spoon to whose deadly glitter three salmon have already fallen; we are just preparing to return when I feel a strike, a steady stroke and the hooks are sent firmly home, a responding tug and he is off causing the reel to whirr, and the line to run out with lightning-like rapidity. "Back the boat!" I shout to my friend as I see my 100 yard line already coming to an end. He quickly responds and none too soon. I soon recover a large portion of the line only to be confronted with a new danger. The brute is making for a large mass of roots sticking up in the middle of the river. It is now or never as I give him the butt. Then the line slackens. Have I succeeded in turning him or is he off? I quickly recover my line and to my joy feel an answering tug as he now makes across the river. Now watch him as he rises out of the water a living mass of silver, feel him as he shakes his head trying to shake

done to "buck up" cricket and cricketers again, and I am sure if our Cricket Captain was to rouse the keenness, which I am certain is in all cricketers in Selangor, we may not have cause to be as ashamed of our efforts at Whitsuntide as we were so completely and thoroughly last February.—I am, etc., A. B. H.

THE SELANGOR CLUB.

To the Editor of the Selangor Journal.

SIR,—You published in your last issue a letter, signed "H. H.," drawing comparisons between Kuala Lumpur as it was twelve years ago and as it is to-day; and especially pointing out how the changes have affected the Selangor Club.

Your correspondent has, however, made a slight error in his historical *résumé*.

When the Selangor Club was instituted it is true that Mr. Swettenham was Resident of Selangor, but he was not in the State.

Mr. Belfield was not Chief Magistrate, but was acting in that position.

The reason why the Chief Magistrate was made Vice-President was because the Chief Magistrate was Mr. J. P. Rodger, who was then Acting Resident, and to whose action in providing the site and in finding the funds for the building, the starting of the Selangor Club was due.

It was expected at the time that Mr. Swettenham would return in a few months, and that Mr. Rodger would then revert to his position as Chief Magistrate, and it was desired, when that happened, to retain his interest in the Club, and to show the appreciation of the members of what he had done for the Club by making him official Vice-President.

Had it been foreseen that Mr. Rodger would continue to act as Resident for five years and would never again take up his substantial appointment, it is probable that the rule making the Chief Magistrate ex-officio Vice-President would not have been passed.

I think your correspondent is in error in saying that the Resident as President of the Club has two votes.

As Resident and an Honorary Member he has no vote whatever, but as President of the Club he has a casting vote, which of course is very rarely used.—I am, etc., ORIGINAL MEMBER.

To the Editor of the Selangor Journal.

SIR,—To the great majority of your readers, I am sure the very eloquent and interesting summary of the progress made by our town during the last twelve years must have afforded as much pleasure as it did to myself. To the resident of twelve years ago, whether still here or living at home or in another State, your correspondent's lett-

must have called up a picture of the past in which all that was then painful or irksome has faded away whilst most of the pleasures remain depicted in all their brilliancy; whilst to those who have more lately come amongst us, the contrasts suggested between the comforts and elegances now attained and the more rough and rugged style of life only then possible, cannot fail to cause something of that very curious self-complacency which almost persuades us that the improved conditions are in some way due to some superiority in ourselves over our predecessors.

This, however, is an age of criticism, and as there are spots on the sun, so even your correspondent's letter appears to me to be open to question in those paragraphs which refer to the Selangor Club.

In the first place it appears to me to be confusing cause with effect to speak of the President of the Selangor Club as having been the ruler of the Social World; the Resident is naturally the leader of our social world, whether he happens to be also President of the Selangor Club or not, and the Selangor Club still has as its President the ruler of the social world.

Nor do I quite follow the reasoning of your correspondent in attributing the less popular and prosperous condition of the Club to the rule to which he objects. The natural inference to be drawn from his penultimate paragraph is that the interests of the Club suffer in some way from the members not having its management sufficiently in their hands. But the members elect the majority of the Committee in which the management of the Club is vested and which appoints the Secretary and other employés of the Club, and so, I think, may fairly be considered to have sufficient control of the Club's affairs.

It is of course possible that any Chief Magistrate may dislike the idea of being Vice-President, but I am quite sure that your correspondent would be one of the first to scout the idea that any gentleman would, because any duties devolving upon him might be distasteful, on that account perform them in a manner which he deemed prejudicial to those whose interests he was appointed to guard.

But, Sir, your correspondent may say that ex-officio officers cannot be expected to take the same *active* interest in the Club's affairs as men elected from time to time. This may be the case, but it is by no means necessary that they should; surely seven members of Committee can look after the routine work of what is after all but a small Club, particularly with the assistance of a paid Secretary, and in any case of trouble or difficulty its President and Vice-President are never likely to be wanting.

Past experience is certainly against your correspondent, for I think that during the whole time that the Club has been in existence our Vice-Presidents for the time being have shown at least as lively and active an interest in the welfare of the Club as any other member of Committee and have presided over the great majority of its meetings.

Surely the simple explanation of any decrease in the popularity and prosperity of the Selangor Club lies in the fact that it is not now the

only Club, and that many of its members, forgetting that their own support is necessary for the prosperity of an institution which has practically no other source of revenue and profit than that derived from within, prefer to take their pleasure elsewhere and cast the blame upon arrangements or defects of management for which they, through their own elected Committee, are responsible.

I am, etc., MARCH HARE.

To the Editor of the Selangor Journal.

SIR,—Your correspondent, "H. H.," must be of a sanguine temperament if he thinks the Government is likely to waive its control over the affairs of the Selangor Club without withdrawing its favours.

I cannot see how his Sirens (the popular President and Vice-President) are to replenish its diminished coffers, sing they ever so sweetly.

The fact is that the "Spotted Dog" has had its head cut off by the Lake Club, and the Recreation Club will shortly perform the like operation as to its tail; while the other clubs and societies will continue to prey upon its vitals. While I have neither a financial nor a sentimental interest in the Club I still recognise its utility.

Dulce est libère in loco (never quote unless you can quote incorrectly). Fain would I see the Club on a sound financial footing.

For are not all the members severally pecuniarily liable?

The Selangor Club should take all the sporting institutions under its ægis; the members of each to continue their subscription as usual.

And cricketers should do something for themselves, as subscribers to other pastimes do, and pay a small subscription monthly to a Cricket Club.

They would have a pull over all other clubs, because they could get a large number of members who are not cricketers themselves but who have at heart the development of the national game.

The Selangor Club and cricket would both benefit by such an arrangement and the members of the former would be saved the trouble of looking out for King Log or King Stork.

The Captain of the eleven would, ex-officio, be President of the Cricket Club, and the members of the Cricket sub-Committee might be *pro tem.* the Committee of the Cricket Club.

Thus meetings would be avoided and time saved.

It is only necessary to send round a list asking for a monthly subscription sufficient to pay the estimated expenditure.

The most expensive item, the ground, would very likely be provided for by the Government in the Sanitary Board estimates.

The members of the Selangor Club recently declined to have their subscription raised, and very reasonably, I think. But who would refuse to join a Cricket Club with the Federation Scheme in view? *Not*

Yours faithfully, F. L.

NOTES AND NEWS.

THE Easter Holidays in Kuala Lumpur were just as quiet as they have been in the past two or three years: except for the excitement of the wedding on Easter Tuesday and the function at Ampang on the following Saturday. The four days' holiday is very acceptable to those who want to go away to a neighbouring State or to the Colony, but it is rather deadly to those who remain in Kuala Lumpur, when there is nothing doing. Commercial men growl about the closing of Bank and Offices, and some Government men growl about the accumulation of work that will await them on their return to office; but the growl is nothing to the howl that would go up if the holiday were curtailed. It will be all right in time, when the S.G.R. runs down to the sea, and we have a "Sea View" Hotel, a Marine Parade, an Aquarium, with band, and a Yacht Club: four days will not be enough then.

A CINDERELLA DANCE was given at the Lake Club on Monday night, the 13th inst. The Resident and Mrs. and Miss Rodger were present, and Mrs. Birch and Mrs. Hooper were among the visitors. This, the first of a series of similar dances, proved in every way a great success.

MR. AND MRS. E. W. BIRCH, Mrs. Hooper and Mr. F. St. G. Caulfeild arrived in Kuala Lumpur last Saturday afternoon, but too late to attend the opening of the Waterworks at Ampang. There was a dinner-party at the Residency on Sunday night, at which the above visitors were present. On Monday morning Mr. Birch and Mr. Caulfeild left overland for Perak *via* Kuala Kubu and Tanjong Malim, to examine the new portion in Perak of the Trunk Road from Malacca. Mrs. Birch and Mrs. Hooper remained in Kuala Lumpur as the guests of Mr. and Mrs. Ebden.

MR. C. H. A. TURNER, Senior District Officer, will, we hear, soon be going on long leave; it is expected that Mr. W. W. Skeat will act as District Officer, Kuala Langat, and so renew his acquaintance with the sub-district of Sepang, in the progress of which place he used to take so great an interest. It is not yet definitely decided who will act as District Officer, Ulu Langat.

WHEN Mr. L. P. Ebden goes on leave Mr. J. H. M. Robson will act as Collector of Land Revenue, Mr. R. C. Edmonds acting in Mr.

Robson's place as Assistant District Officer, Serendah. In his monthly report for February, Mr. D. G. Campbell, referring to Mr. Robson's recent arrival in Serendah, wrote that it was the fourth time he had been in charge of that portion of the Ulu Selangor District. We may now speculate, as vacant posts in any Federated State are to be open to the Native States Service generally, whether it will ever reach five.

MR. G. CARPMAEL, late of the P.W.D., whose term of agreement with the Government had expired, left Kuala Lumpur last Tuesday for Europe. During the three years he has been here he has made many friends, socially and "sportingly," and many will regret the departure of good-tempered, bluff old "Pusher."

MR. A. C. NORMAN, of the P.W.D., has been granted a four-months' extension to his leave; he will now be due in Selangor in October next.—Mr. Browning, an Engineer for the P.W.D., has arrived from England, and will assist Mr. Spearing on the Pahang Trunk Road; he has, with Mrs. Browning, proceeded to Raub.

MR. F. BELFIELD, lately of the Pahang Service, has taken up the duties of Assistant Magistrate, Kuala Lumpur. Mr. W. D. Scott, who has been acting as Asst. Magistrate for the past two years, now fills the post of Asst. Government Secretary. Mr. Belfield, we are sorry to say, met with a carriage accident at the junction of Java Street and Batu Road; he was a good deal scratched about but incurred no serious injury.

MESSRS. WICKS and DARKE, Surveyors, engaged by Mr. J. Wellford in Australia, for the Survey Department, have arrived in Selangor.

MESSRS. A. C. HARPER and Co., of Kuala Lumpur, are now the Agents in Selangor for the Straits Steam Ship Company, Ltd., of Singapore.

TAKING advantage of a visit from two members of the Kajang Recreation Club to Serendah during the recent holidays (Messrs. E. Clarke and C. Glover), a billiard and a rifle match were arranged between the Kajang and Serendah Recreation Clubs, Messrs. G. Bourne and E. Spinks representing the latter Club. Serendah easily won the rifle match, but the Kajang representatives managed to pull off the billiards (best out of three games of 150 up). Each Club won one game, and in the last game Serendah scored 143 when their opponents ran out. Mr. Bourne played a fine game throughout. The table at the Serendah Club is the gift of Towkay Lok Yew (D) who has several large tin mines at Serendah.

A CORRESPONDENT writes:—"Visitors to Kuala Kubu should not miss a visit to the new Chinese Temple in course of construction there. The workmanship displayed by the builders is most remarkable. The interior walls bear wonderful pictures showing no mean artistic qualities. The bas-relief work forming parapets to some of the interior walls would appear to represent distinctive features of Chinese scenery, altogether unfamiliar to Europeans, but,—and this is the most curious thing about the whole building—one of these figure pictures includes a railway train with engine complete on the point of crossing a railway bridge. The whole of these bas-relief representations are made up like paper maché relief work. The idea of conservative Chinamen allowing their imagination to run riot to the extent of picturing trains in China is really a sign of the times."

A HEAVY storm, with lightning and thunder, burst over Kuala Lumpur on the afternoon of the 2nd inst., causing some damage to property and loss of life. A house at the corner of Yap Ah Loy Street, opposite to the premises formerly occupied by Messrs. Chow Kit and Co., was struck; the lightning entered at the roof, ran along the ceiling boards and down an iron rod to which a lamp was hanging, in the middle of the shop, killing instantly a Chinaman who was sitting beneath the lamp, and causing a nasty wound in the head of another who was close to him. During the same storm the eave of a corner house on the Ampang Road, within a stone's throw of the S.F.B. Station, was struck, the electric current burying itself in the roadway, leaving two holes, about six inches in diameter on the surface but enlarging considerably below. No one was injured at this point. Since then there have been several other heavy storms, but without, so far as we hear, any damage to speak of.

A RULE, under the "Railway Regulation, 1890," has been published in the *Gazette*, by which the Railway administration may take such steps as may seem proper for the regulation of passengers and vehicular traffic on railway premises. With regard to passenger traffic, the points that most forcibly strike one are that it is composed almost entirely of Chinese, and that one observes very few Chinese officials—inspectors, guards, porters, station attendants, etc.—which perhaps accounts for some of the uproar on a crowded platform; as to vehicular traffic, the approach to the Kuala Lumpur passenger station, at any rate, is admirably adapted for the erection of two gates, an "Out" and an "In," with high iron railings, parallel to the road, between them, enclosing the very pretty and ornamental flower-beds—which, however, occupy valuable ground that could be much better utilised as a stand for gharries and rikishas.

A GENERAL Meeting of the Selangor Planters' Association will be held in the Reading Room of the Selangor Club on Saturday, the 25th April, at 10.30 a.m., to transact the general business of the Association and to consider any other points of which due notice may be given to the Committee. Draft Agenda of business:—1. To

read and, if approved, confirm minutes of the last General Meeting.
 2. To confirm change of Rule 15, as adopted at last General Meeting.
 3. To consider correspondence with Government. 4. To consider any other points, of which due notice may have been given.

A MEETING of those interested in cricket was held at the Selangor Club on Monday, 13th April, when the report was received from the Committee appointed to report on the best manner and the cost of constructing a pitch. Mr. Paxon, on behalf of the Committee (which consisted of Messrs. Grove, Highet, A. B. Hubback and himself), described their recommendations in detail, which were, briefly, the construction of a pitch, 40 yards square, at the Church end of the ground, the cost of which they estimated at \$1,207. A discussion ensued as to the means of raising the money, and it was finally decided—somewhat to the chagrin of those who had anticipated that the Government would readily come forward—to raise as much as possible by voluntary subscriptions as a first step. Mr. Rodger generously headed the list with \$100. Subscriptions are now invited towards the above object.

A MEETING of the Selangor Museum Committee was held on the 10th inst., Captain Syers (Chairman), Mr. L. B. Von Donop (Hon. Secretary), Dr. Travers, and Messrs. A. R. Venning and Hawes being present. Among other business it was resolved that steps be taken for the publication in the *Selangor Journal* of the scale of charges for preparing specimens for the information of the public. Attention was drawn to a collection of butterflies deposited in the Museum, the property of Mr. J. Lindsay; and it was resolved that that gentleman should be communicated with as to its disposal. A copy of the "Journal of the British North Borneo Branch, R.A.S." was laid before the Committee, and it was resolved that copies of this interesting publication be obtained for the Museum. It was resolved that the additional room, recently completed, should be reserved for the specimens of fish, fishing stakes, nets, models of boats, etc., now in other parts of the Museum. The Committee acknowledge with thanks the receipt of the following additions during March:—From Mrs. Charter, a beetle; Mr. S. G. Pillay, a beetle; Mr. W. D. Scott, a snake; Captain Syers, a snake.

Number of visitors for March	...	...	1,817
Previously	...	...	3,919
			— 5,736

THE revenue for the year 1895 amounted to \$3,805,211, and the expenditure to \$3,083,386. On the 1st January, 1896, the excess of assets over liabilities amounted to \$2,311,509.

	1893.	1894.	1895.
Revenue...	\$2,765,351	\$3,334,468	\$3,805,211
Expenditure	2,605,588	2,817,292	3,083,386
Excess of assets	Jan. 1, 1894.	Jan. 1, 1895.	Jan. 1, 1896.
over liabilities	\$1,090,239	\$1,610,436	\$2,311,509

WE are requested to inform our readers that all spirit, claret and beer bottles, of any size, are very acceptable as medicine bottles for the Government Dispensary at the General Hospital, also that all medicine bottles should be returned to the General Hospital when empty. Any pictorial papers are always a great boon to patients who cannot hold up a book, and would be received with many thanks.

THE WEDDING.

THE marriage of Mr. D. J. Highet with Miss F. L. Carpmael was celebrated at St. Mary's Church, Kuala Lumpur, on Tuesday afternoon, the 7th instant, the Rev. W. H. C. Dunkerley, Colonial Chaplain, Malacca, officiating in the absence, through ill-health, of the Rev. F. W. Haines. Mr. Highet has for nearly six years been a popular figure in Kuala Lumpur society, and Miss Carpmael, who came, on a visit to her brother, last November, has in that time made a wide circle of friends, so that a great deal of interest has been evinced in the marriage and there was a full response to the large number of invitations issued. It would take a great deal of our space to attempt to give—and would sure to be incomplete—a list of those who were present. Mrs. and Miss Rodger were at the Church, and, together with the Resident, attended the reception which the bride and bridegroom afterwards held at the residence of Mr. Watkins; Dr. Highet, of Singapore, and Mrs. Highet, were visitors here for the wedding; for the rest, leaving out of account those who were unavoidably away through the Sungei Ujong races, we may safely say that very few Kuala Lumpur people were absent, while, on the other hand, there were several in from the out stations. The weather, which has been very fickle of late, and looked threatening between one and two o'clock on the wedding day, cleared up and became as bright as one could wish long before Mr. Highet, with Mr. Dougal as "best man," reached the church. Miss Carpmael soon followed and, preceded by the clergyman, and leaning on her brother's arm and followed by her two pages, Masters "Dibs" Bellamy and Vernon Maynard, proceeded up the nave while the congregation sang "The voice that breathed o'er Eden." The tall and graceful figure of the bride showed to great advantage in a handsome white satin dress, the bodice trimmed with chiffon lace and orange blossoms, with sprays of the same flowers ornamenting the skirt, a white tulle veil and wreath of orange blossoms; she carried a shower bouquet of choice white flowers, and of her wedding presents wore a diamond cross, a ruby and diamond brooch and a gold curb chain bracelet. The two pages, who were dressed alike and looked exceedingly pretty, wore pale green velvet and white silk, and had on gold links, the gift of the bridegroom. The pulpit and chancel had been tastefully decorated with greenery and flowers, and when the bride and bridegroom were standing at the altar rails, attended by the pages, the effect, aided by the costumes of the ladies and the bright sunshine, was most charming. When the ceremony was over and while the bridal party were in the vestry signing the register, Mr. W. Lott played the "Wedding March."

Upon leaving the church, Mr. and Mrs. Highet drove off to "Norwood," the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Watkins, and there received the congratulations and good wishes of Mr. Carpmael's many guests. The accommodation was severely tested, for at about four o'clock a drizzling rain began to fall which prevented the company assembling in the grounds. However, it is wonderful what a number of people can be accommodated in a roomy house like Mr. Watkins' with its numerous verandahs, and while some chatted with the newly wedded pair, and among themselves, others could take advantage of the opportunities given in different places of drinking "Health and Happiness," while others again gazed at the array of wedding presents set out in one of the rooms.

Notwithstanding the rain, Mr. A. Koch, of Messrs. Lambert and Co., of Singapore, who had come up for the purpose, took a photograph of the bride and bridegroom; and then another one of them, together with Dr. and Mrs. Highet, Mr. Carpmael, Mr. Dougal and Mr. and Mrs. Watkins. By this time the rain had ceased, and preparations were made for taking a group of all the guests, including Mrs. and Miss Rodger, with Mr. and Mrs. Highet, in travelling dress, in the centre, Mrs. David Highet wearing a costume of fawn-coloured cloth with vest of white silk. Directly the photo was taken everyone had a mad desire to obtain rice, and, while waiting for the last appearance of the happy pair before leaving for the railway station, did their best to shower it on their neighbours. It was just as well, for when the carriage drove past the porch, the occupants, having in a wily manner already taken their seats, were so carefully covered up that they presented anything but a fair mark for those who had saved their rice. Several of their friends followed on to the railway station, where a train was waiting, to see the happy pair off on their way to Ootacamund, where they are spending the honeymoon.

LIST OF WEDDING PRESENTS.

Diamond cross ...	Mr. Mrs. & Miss Aston	Flower glasses ...	Mr. Maclaren
Cheque ...	Bachelors of K. L'pur	Fruit stand ...	Mr. and Mrs. Maynard
Japanese plaques ...	Mr. Bogardt	Fruit spoon ...	Master Maynard
Ice pail ...	Mr. and Mrs. Carey	Mantle border ...	Mr. W. Meikle
Silver tea service ...	Mr. E. & Miss Carpmael	Salad bowl ...	Mr. and Mrs. Nicholas
Dessert knives and forks ...	Mr. and Mrs. F. Carpmael	Silver salts and peppers ...	Mr. Paxon
Case of cutlery ...	Mr. G. Carpmael	Cheque ...	Railway Department
Ruby & diamond brooch ...	Messrs. P., W. and F. Carpmael	Topaz cross ...	Miss Ransford
Curb chain bracelet ...	Mr. R. H. Carpmael	Butter knife ...	Mr. Ridges
Japanese tea set ...	.. Clarke	Teapot ...	.. Rochfort
Tantalus ...	.. Dougal	Ivory card case ...	.. Russell
Cheque ...	Mr. and Mrs. Ebden	Fruit stand ...	Messrs. Sanderson
Dessert set ...	Mr. and Mrs. Edgelow	Jam dish ...	Mr. Shaw
Cigar case ...	Mr. Fisher	Kettle ...	.. Shepherd
Salad bowl ...	.. J. Forbes	Tea spoons ...	Mr. and Mrs. Spooner
Standard lamp ...	.. C. Foster	Interchangeable bracelet, ring, pin and brooch...)	Staff of Per. Way. N. Sec., S.G.R.
Triple mirror ...	Mr. and Mrs. Gausson	Blue vases ...	Mr. and Mrs. Stafford
Shoe buckles ...	Miss K. Gausson	Curry spoons ...	Capt. and Mrs. Syers
Fish knives & forks...)	Mr. Gibbs	Fish knives & forks ...	Mr. K. Tambusamy Pillai
Table lamp ...)	Messrs. Glassford	Lamp table ...)	Messrs. Toynbee and Traill
Cigarette case and card case ...)	Mr. Grove	Fan ...)	Miss K. Tremeller
Napkin rings...)	Mr. and Mrs. Haines	Umbrella holder ...)	Messrs. Trotter and Hubback
Gold bangle ...)	Miss Harper	Japanese tray ...)	Mr. and Mrs. Capt. V
Toilet set ...)	Mr. Hemmy	Japanese screen ...)	Mr.
Butter dish ...)	Dr. and Mrs. Highet	Breakfast stand ...)	Mr.
Card Tray ...)	Mr. Hone	Locket ...)	M
Chinese screen ...)	Mr. & Mrs. D'A. Irvine	Cheque ...)	M
Glass flower stands...)	Messrs. Kindersley		
Gold watch ...)	Mr. Lok Yew		
Tea set ...)	.. Macbean		

OPENING OF THE WATERWORKS.

ON Saturday, the 11th inst., the formal opening of this large and important work took place at Ampang. Although the down-pour of rain was heavy and continuous in the early afternoon, yet the weather cleared at about four o'clock, enabling most of the visitors to make the journey out dry overhead, and by the time the Resident and Mrs. Rodger arrived at Ampang the weather was beautiful, and the neighbourhood of the Reservoir and the view of the surrounding country from there were looking lovely. Messrs. Spooner and Paxon had spared no pains to secure the comfort of the visitors, and a large tent covered a most tempting display of refreshments. Mr. J. Macbean, Managing Director of Howarth Erskine, Limited, the firm that had the contract, was present from Singapore, as was Mr. Jackson Millar, the chief partner in Messrs. Riley, Hargreaves and Co.

MR. SPOONER, addressing the Resident, Mrs. Rodger, and the ladies and gentlemen present, said: "Mr. Paxon and I have asked you to come this long way to assist in opening one of the most important public works that have yet been undertaken in the Native States of Malaya, which Mrs. Rodger has kindly consented to open: a work on which will depend the health and comfort of the population of Kuala Lumpur. The number assembled here to-day shows the appreciation of the public of a work on which so much care, thought and money have been expended for their benefit. Before giving a cursory history and description of the works, permit me to offer you our best thanks for the trouble you have taken in coming so far and for the honour you have done us. The idea of supplying the town of Kuala Lumpur with water by gravitation originated in 1888, when Mr. Swettenham was Resident, when some investigation was made up the Klang and Ampang Rivers; but it took no tangible form until early in 1891, when Mr. Paxon arrived in the State from the Crown Agents as Hydraulic Engineer, and immediately set about looking for a suitable supply and site for a reservoir. By July, 1892, actual work on the Impounding Reservoir commenced—though the road to it and some buildings were constructed some time before—consequently, the works have occupied $3\frac{3}{4}$ years in execution, and have cost \$570,000 on an estimate of \$389,000. This time cannot be considered excessive when the magnitude and delicacy of the works are appreciated. The excess over the original estimate is accounted for by the sickness that was experienced at the commencement at the Impounding Reservoir, and the necessity for carrying out extra works to insure the reservoir being watertight and the advisability of increasing the catchment area. They are designed to supply a population of 25,000 with 20 gallons a day per head; but, as the population of Kuala Lumpur is not known for certain and is probably over 25,000, care has been taken in carrying out the work to provide against this contingency and to supply sufficient water for nearly 37,000 people. The scheme can be extended for an expenditure of another \$84,000 so as to provide for a population of 100,000. Beyond this number it will be necessary for the, I presume, then, Municipal Councillors of Kuala Lumpur to extend the scheme beyond

the scope at present laid down, and I hope in the interests of Selangor, and Kuala Lumpur in particular, that that day is not far distant. The works consist of the Impounding Reservoir, three miles of brick-lined channel, filter beds, pipe mains, Service Reservoir and town main, with their distributions. This reservoir, which is situate 420 feet above Kuala Lumpur, is $10\frac{1}{3}$ acres in extent at top water level, and contains a supply for 25,000 persons for $70\frac{1}{2}$ days, or, with the minimum inflow, for 90 days. The greatest depth of water is 32 feet, of which 20 is available, and the depth at the bottom of the valve well is 47 feet, where the scour valve is situate. The main pipe line is $6\frac{3}{4}$ miles in length and sustains a pressure at its lowest levels of 150 pounds per square inch. It may be interesting to some of you to learn that such pressure is 10 pounds over that exerted in Mr. Watkins' locomotive cylinders. The carrying capacity is 80 cubic feet per minute, and the diameter 10 inches. There are 17 miles of town mains of different calibre. The Service Reservoir, which is situated 190 feet above Kuala Lumpur, is a circular tank of 154 feet in diameter with a depth of 15 feet and contains about three days' supply. The Impounding Reservoir has been constructed by Messrs. Howarth, Erskine, Limited, and as they were the contractors for the extensive works in connection with the Singapore Impounding Reservoir extension, the work on which is well known, I think we have a sufficient guarantee that what they have done here may be relied on. All the other works have been carried out departmentally and they speak for themselves. It is unnecessary for me to eulogise on the ability, care, trouble and anxiety bestowed on them by Mr. Paxon and the able manner in which he has brought them to a satisfactory completion; but I take this opportunity of thanking him for the assistance he has rendered me and the loyalty and courtesy he has shown his senior colleague in the conduct of the works. He, as the executive officer in charge of the works, will, I have no doubt, now tell you something about them."

MR. PAXON: "Mr. Rodger, Mrs. Rodger, ladies and gentlemen, I can add but little to what Mr. Spooner has said with regard to the works, as he has given you all the figures of interest in connection with them. I should like, on my own behalf, to thank Mrs. Rodger for coming here to open the works this afternoon, and Mr. Rodger especially for the great interest he has shown in them during the whole time that he has been in Selangor. The works have been carried out under very great difficulties, as I may say without blushing, difficulties which cannot be realised except by those who have had an acquaintance with them from the beginning. Mr. Rodger by frequently visiting the works has helped those in charge to develop renewed energy under trying circumstances. I should like to say, in connection with one point not touched on by Mr. Spooner, that while it is easy to enlarge, at an opening ceremony, upon the amplitude of the works and the supply of water, no waterworks ever constructed could prove successful without great care in maintaining them; and this important point should be borne in mind by those who will have charge of the works in the future, and all undu-

should be prevented. As Mr. Spooner has explained, the reservoir before you contains some 70 days' supply—a very moderate estimate—and the scheme is capable of practically unlimited extension, without undue expense. In conclusion, I should like to refer, as this is the only public occasion on which I can do so, to the great assistance which has been afforded to me by Mr. Inspector O'Hara, who has been connected with the construction works nearly since their commencement, and I remain under a sense of obligation to him for his untiring and valuable assistance in carrying them out."

THE RESIDENT: "Mr. Spooner, Mr. Paxon, ladies and gentlemen, it gives me very great pleasure to be present here to-day at the opening of the Kuala Lumpur Waterworks, of which I saw the commencement in 1891. The original idea of providing a good water supply for the town dates back to the year 1888 or 1889, and the initiative in this, as in several other of the principal works in Selangor—notably the Railway—was taken by Mr. F. A. Swettenham, then Resident of Selangor. In the early part of 1891 Mr. Bellamy was in charge of the P.W.D., Mr. Spooner not arriving in the State until nearly the end of that year, but Mr. Paxon, the Hydraulic Engineer, specially sent out by the Crown Agents, in connection with these Waterworks, has been engaged on them throughout. I remember, visiting this spot early in 1891, when the present reservoir and bund were merely potentialities of the future, and being shown a tiny water gauge—then the only sign of what was contemplated—with which statistics were being collected, resulting in the successful completion of the work we are assembled to celebrate to-day. At that time there was no trace of any of the present imposing works, as the engineers were engaged in taking levels, contouring hills and estimating catchment areas, and construction was only commenced during the year 1892. I will not attempt to follow, in detail, the figures given by Messrs. Spooner and Paxon, but the statement that this reservoir contains a sufficient water supply for 25,000 persons, for more than 70 days, without any assistance from rain, is a striking one, and, as a drought of even half that period is practically unknown in this part of the world, is very reassuring as to the continuance and sufficiency of our water supply. Again, although the present town of Kuala Lumpur does not contain 25,000 inhabitants, one is glad to know, having regard to the probably rapid growth of the town selected to be the capital of the Federated Malay States, that these works can be increased, without difficulties or excessive cost, so as to provide sufficient water for a town containing 100,000 inhabitants. The time occupied in completing this work has been somewhat longer than was originally anticipated, but, having had considerable experience of the many special difficulties—engineering and other—which attend the execution of public works of any magnitude in the Native States, I don't propose to adopt an apologetic tone in referring to this. In Selangor, as in many other parts of the world, unforeseen difficulties supply one of the best tests by which an engineer can be tried, and when such difficulties are met and successfully overcome, as they have been in the present case, the

engineers in charge as well as the contractors, may fairly be congratulated on the result. In addition to Mr. Spooner, the State Engineer, and Mr. Paxon, the Hydraulic Engineer, I have pleasure in mentioning Mr. O'Hara, the Inspector, and also the local representatives of Messrs. Howarth, Erskine and Co., the contractors—namely, Messrs. Shepherd and Foster. I am glad to see here to-day not only the engineers and contractors who carried out this work, but also several European and Asiatic members of the Sanitary Board, which will in future be in charge of these Waterworks, and which represents the embryo municipal life of our community. The value of a supply of pure water can scarcely be over estimated, and this value was strikingly exemplified at Kuala Lumpur, last year, when, owing to an outbreak of cholera among the prisoners, a special water supply was laid on to the new gaol from this reservoir during the month of August, and the epidemic ceased forthwith. As the hour is growing late, we must not further delay the opening ceremony, and I will only add, now speaking, as I feel sure I may do, on behalf of all present, cordial congratulations, both to engineers and contractors, on the successful completion of a work which, with the one exception of the Railway, is the most important ever undertaken in Selangor."

Mr. Spooner then invited Mrs. Rodger to open the Waterworks, and with Mr. Paxon accompanied her along the footbridge to the valve well; Mrs. Rodger turned the handle attached to the 15-in. valve, and the water, delivered into one of the filters, quickly covered the sand. To show the company present the effect of the head available (62 feet), a hose was played upon the filter when it was covered with water. Mrs. Rodger then declared the Waterworks open, and the supply to the town was thus inaugurated. Mr. Spooner then asked her acceptance of a memento of the occasion in the shape of a silver shield with a miniature valve key and lever attached, the shield being engraved with a record of the occasion. Both the Impounding and Service Reservoirs being full, the water was overflowing and the spectators visited the overflow tunnel, down which a large quantity of water was running. Owing to the rain in the afternoon the paths were not suitable for ladies to walk on and consequently some of the best views of the reservoir were lost to them; but the site where the tent was erected, close to the valve well footbridge, was certainly the best from which to obtain a fine view of the general surroundings, including a view of Kuala Lumpur six miles away. The company started to return to town just before dusk.

SAMARITAN SOCIETY OF KUALA LUMPUR.

WE give below a list of monthly subscribers and a list of donations to the above Society. We should say the *first* list, because although the Society has only been in existence for something like three months, yet the good work already done and the advantages of belonging to it are so obvious that there is little doubt but that both lists will be greatly augmented as the benefits arising from the Society become more widely known.

We are very glad to note the success which has attended the efforts of the ladies who organised this Society, and would remind our readers that it is only by generous co-operation with them that the officers of the Society will be able to meet the increasing demands of our rapidly enlarging town.

MONTHLY SUBSCRIBERS.

Mrs. Abrams ... \$0.25	Mr. Hone ... \$1.00	Mr. Reid ... \$0.50
Mr. Alexander ... 1.00	„ Hurth ... 1.00	„ Rendle ... 0.25
„ G. W. Altendorf 1.00	„ Huttenbach ... 0.50	Mrs. Reyne ... 0.50
„ Anchant ... 0.50	„ Jansz ... 1.00	„ Rodger ... 2.00
Mrs. Andree ... 0.50	Mrs. Kennelley ... 0.50	Mr. Rowe ... 1.00
Mr. Askey... ... 0.50	Mr. Ketschker ... 0.50	„ Samuels ... 0.50
„ Bartholomeusz 0.50	„ Kindersley ... 1.00	Mr. Shepherd ... 1.00
„ Bellamy ... 1.00	„ King ... 0.50	Mrs. Smart ... 0.50
„ Bligh ... 1.00	„ G. Koch ... 1.00	„ Spooner ... 0.50
Mrs. Brown ... 1.00	„ Koek ... 1.00	„ Stafford ... 1.00
Mr. Cameron ... 0.50	Mrs. Keun ... 0.25	„ Staples ... 0.50
„ D. Campbell... 0.25	Mr. Kylasam ... 0.25	Mr. M. Stonor ... 0.25
Mrs. Charter ... 0.25	„ Labrooy ... 0.25	Mrs. Strugnell ... 0.25
„ Chartres ... 0.50	„ A. Leembruggen 0.50	„ Summer ... 0.50
Mr. Cook ... 1.00	„ C. Leembruggen 1.00	„ Swan ... 0.25
„ Crompton ... 0.50	„ G. Leembruggen 1.00	Captain Syers ... 1.00
„ G. Cumming... 0.50	„ Lutyens ... 1.00	Mr. Tambusamy... 1.00
„ Doorasamy ... 1.00	Captain Lyons ... 1.00	Mrs. Tearle ... 1.00
„ Ebden ... 1.00	Miss Maartensz ... 0.25	Mr. Tisbury ... 0.50
„ Fernando ... 0.25	Mr. R. A. Maartensz 0.25	Mrs. Travers ... 1.00
„ Fox ... 1.00	Dr. McClosky ... 0.25	Mr. Van Geysel ... 0.50
„ Galloway ... 1.00	Mr. Macreath ... 1.00	„ VanLangenberg 0.50
„ Glover ... 1.00	„ F. Maynard ... 0.50	„ Valberg ... 1.00
Mrs. Groves ... 0.50	Mrs. Maynard ... 1.00	Mrs. Venning ... 0.50
„ Haines ... 0.50	Mr. G. Neubronner 1.00	„ Watkins ... 1.00
Mr. Hampshire ... 0.25	„ O'Hara ... 0.50	„ White ... 0.50
„ A. C. Harper... 1.00	„ O'Neil ... 0.50	„ Wilson ... 0.25
Mrs. Harper ... 1.00	Mrs. Pasqual ... 1.00	„ Wood ... 0.25
„ Hendriks ... 0.25	Mr. D. Prentice ... 1.00	Mr. Yzelman ... 1.00
„ Hoffner ... 1.00	Mrs. Rae ... 0.50	„ Zehnder ... 1.00

DONATIONS.

Mr. Bartholomeusz \$2.00	Mr. Groves ... \$2.00	Mr. Robson ... \$5.00
Mrs. Basagoiti ... 1.00	„ A. C. Harper 5.00	„ Russell ... 5.00
Mr. A. S. Baxendale 10.00	„ S. E. Harper... 15.00	„ Smart ... 1.00
„ T. G. Boyd ... 5.00	„ Hone ... 5.00	Inspector Spinks 2.00
„ Boyer... ... 1.00	Captain Isacke ... 5.00	Mr. C. Stewart ... 5.00
„ J. Brown ... 5.00	Mr. R. Keun ... 1.00	„ W. Tearle ... 2.00
„ M. Burke ... 5.00	„ Kylasam ... 5.00	„ R. Tollemache 10.00
„ Carpmal ... 5.00	Mrs. Leembruggen 2.00	„ W. Van der
„ W. W. Cook .. 10.00	Mr. Macreath ... 5.00	Stratten ... 1.00
„ Cormac ... 5.00	„ E. Neubronner 1.00	„ E. Watson ... 1.00
„ Fiddes ... 10.00	„ W. Nicholas... 5.00	„ Wilson ... 1.00
Mrs. Fox ... 5.00	„ J. E. Pasqual 5.00	„ Yzelman ... 0.50
Mr. Glover ... 5.00	„ C. Phillips ... 10.00	

A sum of \$73.17 has to be added to the above donations, the result of two collections at St. Mary's Church—one on Christmas Day (\$47.55) and another when the Bishop preached on Sunday, the 22nd ult. (\$25.62); also some medicines, lint, etc., kindly presented by Miss Mackay, and such necessary comforts as a water-bed, sheets, several ladies have been kind enough to supply.

LOCAL SPORT.

ALTHOUGH poorly supported as to entries by the racing clubs of the Straits Settlements, I think that both Sungei Ujong and ourselves are to be congratulated on having provided four days' excellent sport in which some really interesting racing was to be witnessed. Being the opening meeting of the Selangor Turf Club, it was naturally an anxious time for those closely connected with the management, but I am glad to say, from what I can gather, that not only will the debenture holders receive their 10% dividend, but that a handsome profit also will be reaped by the Club, a portion of which it will be almost immediately necessary to devote to the improvement of the course, which being new is naturally far from perfect.

It is well worth noticing that both here and in Sungei Ujong the greatest amount of speculation took place on the Griffin Races, and therefore it was from these races that the Clubs derived the greatest benefit; this shows, I think, the folly of giving large prizes in the Native States. Take, for instance, our Miners' Purse and the Sungei Ujong Derby, in both of these races, although the stakes were, respectively, \$1,000 and \$1,500, only two horses competed, and neither of these races can be said to have evoked the least interest. For some reason or another the racing men outside the Native States cannot be induced to send up horses. Whether because of the risk of shipping, or of the difficulty of getting away themselves to see their horses run, I cannot say, but the fact remains, and for the future we must recognise that the only support we can actually depend on is that provided by the neighbouring States of Perak and Sungei Ujong. This being the case the best thing to do, as far as I can see, is to go in largely for griffins—say two batches of horses, one of the class of those lately procured by the Kinta Club, price I believe, \$375, and one of the class as ordinarily imported for Singapore, price \$250. If this were done, it would ensure at least five good races during the meeting, for which no very extraordinarily big stakes need be given, and if we could only get two or three griffins taken up and trained by members of the Club not resident in the State, some interesting racing would be witnessed.

The racing both here and at Seremban has been fully described by the Straits papers, so that I need not say much about it, except that the handicap for Selangor griffins run at Seremban gave us the opportunity of again seeing the veteran "jock" in the saddle. *Nightmare* being allotted the welter weight of 12 st. 12 lbs., the owner refused to run her unless Abrams would ride; this, after very little pressing, he consented to do, and tipped the beam at 13 st. 2 lbs. The race needs very little description; Abrams, always holding a nice position and riding quite in his old form, was not to be denied, and won a well judged-race by about a length. Such an ovation has rarely been accorded to any jockey as he received on his return to scale, and after the "All right" had been given, he was nearly torn to pieces by his enthusiastic admirers. It was certainly a great performance, both on his part and on that of the black mare. It is to be hoped that this is not the last opportunity we shall have of seeing this really finished horseman don silk.—THE MAN IN THE LALANG.

MALAY JOTTINGS.

IN continuation of a former jotting about H.H. Tunku Dia Udin it may be of interest to record that Major-General Sir Harry Ord, c.B. (a former Governor of the Straits), always held a very high opinion of Selangor's Viceroy, and when the Perak War brought that State into notoriety, several years after he had relinquished his governorship here, General Ord took the trouble to address a memorandum to the Colonial Office in which he suggested that H.H. Tunku Dia Udin was by far the best fitted of all the native rulers of the Peninsula to be entrusted with the Government of Perak.

MALAYS seldom lie from malice. Prevarication with them must either rank as oriental diplomacy, or as exhibiting a desire to please. "Is it far to the next village?" asks the weary foot-sore traveller. "No, quite near," answers the obliging Malay, well knowing that it is nothing of the kind, but guessing this answer will give greater pleasure than if the truth were told.

"Well, I can't talk to you any more," says the Tuan at a rent audit; "if you don't pay your rent—three dollars and ten cents—to-day, your goods will be attached." "Oh, but give me another month," says the humble Malay peasant for the third or fourth time; "I haven't a cent in the world, I really haven't, everybody knows I haven't." At last, after this sort of conversation has been going on for a quarter of an hour and provided the Tuan has kept firm, the humble peasant looks at his friends as much as to say "What a hard-hearted brute!" smiles sweetly, unwinds a dirty rag from his waist, and after much untying of knots calmly and serenely produces the amount. He has done his best to keep it and feels happy.

THE LAST OF OUR FIGHTING RAJAS.—With the exception of Raja Mahmud, who was banished from the State early in 1890, Syed Mashor, now Penghulu of Kerling, may be considered the last of the old fighting Rajas of Selangor. He is an Arab, or half Arab, Syed hailing from Pontianak, and was for many years one of the most daring and desperate fighters of the old régime. The régime which existed when Tunku Dia Udin was Viceroy and practical ruler of Selangor, between 1868 and 1875. After Raja Mahdi had captured Kuala Selangor from Raja Musa, Tunku Dia Udin organised an expedition to drive him out and appointed the warrior Syed to command his armed forces. Just at this time, however, Syed Mashor's brother (Syed Abdullah) was killed at Langat, which so incensed Syed Mashor that he went over bag and baggage with all his men to the side of Raja Mahdi, and stanchly stood by that fighting outlaw to the last. In 1872 a number of Chinese traders, in petitioning the Singapore Chamber of Commerce to help them with its influence to obtain British protection for life and property in Selangor, twice mention the name of "Syed Masahoor" as a pirate, a disturber of the peace, etc., and ask that he, Raja Mahdi and Raja Mahmoot should be "put down." Mr. C. J. Irving, of the Colonial Service, writing at the end of 1873 or the beginning of 1874, stated in a memorandum relative to the affairs of the Native States that "the Selangor forts had fallen into Tunku

Dia Udin's" hands and that "Syed Mashor, perhaps the most dangerous of his opponents, had been taken prisoner and sent to Pahang." Apparently he was not long there, for we read in another official pamphlet (by Mr. Swettenham) that Syed Mashor fled to Perak in 1874, where he lived on charity. In November, 1875, Mr. Davidson, Resident of Selangor, writing to Mr. Birch, the Resident of Perak, in a letter commencing "We are on the eve of great disturbances in this Residency," asks that Syed Massahore and another Raja may be arrested for "fire raising and promoting disturbances in this Residency"—the word Residency presumably signifying State in this instance. A few days later Mr. Birch was murdered and we next hear of Syed Mashor promising Mr. Swettenham that he will not create any more disturbances in Selangor or return there without Mr. Swettenham's leave: both of them at that time being in Perak. That Mr. Birch thought well of Syed Mashor is patent from the fact that he wanted to appoint him Penghulu of Batang Padang. After this Syed Mashor and four other Selangor Rajas (all refugees, I think) offered their services to the British Commissioners in Perak and gave considerable assistance to the troops. Mr. Swettenham reported in 1876 that Syed Mashor and other Rajas who had always been looked upon and treated as dangerous characters had in the Perak War fought on the English side entirely for friendship's sake, for which they received no pecuniary reward; Syed Mashor having been particularly active in tracking the murderers of Mr. Birch. For this, the then Secretary of State sent out five presentation swords to be given in recognition of their services. The swords were not given to them at the time, if ever at all. After a time Syed Mashor was allowed to return to Selangor, where he now lives as Penghulu of Kerling. During the first Pahang outbreak, in 1892, he rendered certain services to this Government. In personal appearance he is somewhat different to the average Malay, and one has no difficulty in believing that the fighting instinct must have been very strong in him at one time.—R.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our Correspondents.]

THE SELANGOR CLUB.

To the Editor of the Selangor Journal.

SIR,—I am obliged to your correspondents for the notice they have taken of my letter. "Original Member" corrects me in some minor details, which do not alter the position; but he gives very valuable information in support of my opinion that the rule of the Selangor Club should be altered. He informs us that it was never the intention of the original members to make every Chief Magistrate Vice-President of the Selangor Club, but that their intention in framing that rule was to show "to Mr. Rodger" the appreciation of the members for what "he" had done for the Club by making "him" Official Vice-President. Another reason for altering the rule, which does not even express what the members intended.

"March Hare" manfully tries to defend a weak case. He says, because the Resident is the leader of our social world, the Selangor Club still has as its President the ruler of the social world. This is quite a different matter. I said, to be President of the Selangor Club in those days meant to be ruler of the social world; but "March Hare" wants the ruler of the social world of now-a-days to be President of the Selangor Club; or, in other words, where in former days to be President of the Selangor Club was an honour and distinction to the gentleman holding the position, "March Hare" would like to retain that gentleman as an honour and distinction to the Selangor Club.

"March Hare" further says that the members elect the majority of the Committee, and may, therefore, fairly be considered to have sufficient control of the Club's affairs. All depends upon the President and Vice-President. If they are elected by the members the rest of the Committee are of not much consequence. The President is there to rule the Club and the other members are only the 0 behind the 1—without the 1, 0 means "nothing." "March Hare" then proceeds to say that it is possible that any Chief Magistrate might dislike the idea of being Vice-President, but he is quite sure that I would be one of the first to scout the idea that any gentleman would, because any duties devolving upon him might be distasteful, on that account perform them in a manner which I deemed prejudicial to those whose interests he was appointed to guard, etc. This is not a question whether a gentleman would do his duty, it is also not a question whether they have done it in the past, and "March Hare" has also shown no reason why we should not expect elected Presidents and Vice-Presidents to show an equal amount of interest as that exhibited hitherto by the "Officials."

I have been particularly careful to avoid anything approaching criticism of the services rendered by our Presidents and Vice-Presidents, because they were always the British Resident and the Chief Magistrate of Selangor—gentlemen who, through the high official position they occupy in the State, are above the criticism of every peaceful citizen of the State. But on account of their exalted position they should also not be drawn into our petty Club affairs. It was different twelve years ago, it is different now. To-day, the position of the British Resident should be to the Selangor Club that of an Honorary Member and a "Patron," and any visit of of the Resident to the Club should be considered an honour and distinction, and should be appreciated by the members as such.

Now, "March Hare," take another view of the matter, suppose the Resident or Chief Magistrate was appointed ex-officio Churchwarden, and the next Resident or Chief Magistrate was a Roman Catholic—would you consider it a part of a Roman Catholic Resident's or Chief Magistrate's duty to act as Churchwarden in a Protestant Church. Absurd! isn't it? What has the position of Chief Magistrate "officially" to do with the management of a club or a church? I never contended that one and the same gentleman could not be Chief Magistrate or Resident and President of a Club at the same

time: I only say he should be a member of such Club, be desirous of being President and be elected by the members. The latter I consider most essential, and in fact indispensable. "March Hare" blames the members who prefer to cast blame upon arrangements or defects of management for which they (to a certain extent) through their own elected Committee are responsible.

Most members believe that Government has reserved the right to control the Club's affairs through the Resident as President and the Chief Magistrate as Vice-President, and two more members of Committee to be nominated by the Government, and they naturally do not take much interest in a Club where, as they think, they have nothing to say and where they have no voice in the management, and, as the rules are at present, it is really quite immaterial whom they elect on the Committee. The Government, in consideration of a sum of \$3,000 contributed towards the expense of building the Club, has only reserved the right to appoint two members of the Committee, for the rest the members can do and leave what they like; and I agree with "March Hare" that if they do not show their interest in the Club by altering the rule which prevents them electing their own Committee, they have only themselves to blame, and if their Club does not flourish and prosper it is then only what such a Club rightly and fairly deserves.

Now to "F. L." I do not expect Government to waive its legal voice in the control of the affairs of the Selangor Club. Government's right to control is the appointment of two members of Committee, they made this a *conditio sine qua non* when they contributed the \$3,000 and I would be the last to advocate any attempt to infringe on anybody's rights. (I think the debenture shareholders, who have invested over \$6,000 in the Club, should also have the right to nominate somebody to represent their interest on the Committee; as it is, they have no voice in the matter, which I consider a great unfairness and injustice.) A popular elected President and Vice-President would attempt to do all that's in their power to make things lively and attractive at the Club, during their term of office; but it is quite different with an official President and Vice-President, who attend to it only as a matter of duty and who probably, and quite justly too, consider the appointment a great nuisance, unnecessarily attached to their official positions. The Lake Club has cut the "Spotted Dog's" head off: but if the "Spotted Dog" had been properly managed the Lake Club would in all probability never have been started, and one of the reasons for the success of the new Club is that they have no "official" Presidents and Vice-Presidents, but members elected by the members, who have accepted the appointment because it is a pleasure and an honour to them and not only an unpleasant duty. According to my humble opinion, your correspondents have failed to bring forward any arguments to show that an alteration of the rule, as suggested by me, would or could do any harm to the Club, it would probably be a relief to the Resident and Chief Magistrate, and whilst it can do no possible harm, it might on the other hand do a great deal of good.—I am, etc., H. H.

NOTES AND NEWS.

MR. F. A. SWETTENHAM, C.M.G., Resident General of the Malay States, will, we hear, arrive early next month. Mr. Treacher, c.m.g., Resident of Perak, will return to Perak early in July. We are sorry to learn that Mr. Treacher's daughter Enid has been very ill, and has had to undergo a serious operation in the throat.—Mr. Vane, whose latest advices date from Scotland, and who still complains of the cold at home, has become a devotee to "biking." Her many friends in the Peninsula will be sorry to hear that Mrs. Vane has been seriously ill; happily, at the date of the last letter, she was nearing recovery.—It is rumoured that Mr. J. S. H. French is married.—Mr. A. R. Venning, Treasurer, is passing a month's vacation at the bungalow on Bukit Kutu; he will, however, come down to Kuala Lumpur for a day or two next week to attend the Sanitary Board meeting. Mr. C. C. Trotter, Auditor, is acting for him during his absence.—Mr. and Mrs. Haines have returned from Perak. Mr. Haines, whose health has much improved, conducted the services at St. Mary's Church last Sunday.—Mrs. Carey and Mrs. Maynard, with their children, left on the 23rd ult. for Europe, Messrs. Carey and Maynard accompanying them on the *Neera* as far as Singapore. Mrs. Turney and family were also on board as passengers for Singapore. Mr. and Mrs. Bellamy went to Singapore on Sunday last to see their daughter, Hilda, off, who is going home in charge of Mrs. Maynard.—Mrs. Parsons, whose health has not been good of late, is leaving for Europe early in the month.—Mr. G. H. Fox, of the S.G.R., is going home on nine months' leave on the 15th inst.—Mr. Steve Harper, Senior Inspector of Police, has been ordered home on medical certificate. Mr. and Mrs. Harper will be leaving about the end of the month. Inspector Beck, with Mrs. Beck, has returned from leave, and has relieved Inspector Spinks at Serendah, who has gone home on long leave.—Dr. J. L. Welch and Mrs. Welch will arrive in Kuala Lumpur during the month.

MR. W. W. SKEAT has been appointed an examiner in Malay.—Mr. M. H. Whitley has been appointed a Junior Officer, and stationed at Ulu Langat.—Mr. O. F. Stonor has been appointed to act as

District Officer, Ulu Langat.—Mr. G. Bridges, Junior Officer, now in England, has retired from the service on the ground of ill-health. Mr. Bridges joined the Selangor Service in January, 1895.

THE SULTAN OF ASAHAN, accompanied by his younger brother and his uncle, a Raja of Bedagei, paid a visit to Selangor last week. His Highness and party arrived in Kuala Lumpur on the evening of the 23rd. The following morning, at an interview with the British Resident, the Sultan stated that the object of his visit was to see some of the coffee plantations of Selangor of which he had heard so much in Sumatra. The Raja Muda's house on the Batu Road was placed at his disposal, and Captain Syers was attached to the party. During the next three days, the Government Hospitals, Barracks, Museum, Public Gardens, Weld's Hill Estate, the tin mines on the Batu Road, and the Straits Trading Company's Godown were visited and the Sikhs at drill inspected. During his journeying about the town and suburbs his admiration for our roads was unbounded. A visit was also paid to Wardieburn Estate, Mr. Robert Meikle showing the party round. His Highness was greatly interested in the machinery and methods for cleaning and curing the coffee, and was especially struck with the large drying room and apparatus that have been erected on this estate. Before leaving he placed an order with Messrs. Meikle for two pikuls of selected seed. His Highness left for Penang, by the *Teutonia*, on Tuesday, having expressed himself as greatly pleased with all he had seen, which he said fully bore out the reputation which Selangor had for its great prosperity and progress under British Protection.

THE RESIDENT drove over to Dusun Tua early on Saturday, the 25th. He was met at the 9th mile on the Cheras Road by the Acting District Officer, Ulu Langat, and proceeded to Ulu Langat, where a short stay was made, the Resident inspecting the Ulu Langat school-boys, who had turned out for the occasion, and conversing with Raja Daud, the Penghulu, and other leading inhabitants of the town. The town and neighbourhood, which have long been declining, is believed to have passed the lowest point of their decline, and to show sure signs of returning prosperity in the large area of land which is being taken up for coffee planting in this locality, almost the whole of the jungle on one side of the road between the 9th mile and Sungei Serai having been given out to native colonists, and many further applications having been received. It is stated that the failure of the Sungei Lui mines was due in a great measure to bad management, as this valley is known to contain good ore. Perhaps the Captain China,

who paid a visit to Kajang a few days ago, and one of whose party has been prospecting in this direction, may be able to do something to revive the fallen fortunes of this once so promising a town. The Resident spent the night at the Dusun Tua bungalow, and returned *via* Cheras (where several of the new brick shop-houses are rapidly approaching completion) to Sungei Besi and Kuala Lumpur, on the following day, after expressing himself as much pleased with the progress made by the district since his last visit. In Kajang four new brick shop-houses are all but completed, and Lok Yew is about to commence building, whilst others are only waiting for a supply of bricks from the two new brick-fields near Kajang. At Semenyih, Ah Ngee has recently acquired mining land, and has built three brick and tile shop-houses, Lok Yew has applied for several building lots in the same town, and the Captain China has applied for a large area of mining land at Ulu Jelok. There are upward of a dozen Europeans now residing in or near Kajang, and the completion of the new building for the Recreation Club is anxiously awaited. There is much new enterprise in the district now, and we wish it all possible success.

THERE was a pleasant dance at the Selangor Club on the 24th inst. Mrs. Rodger was present during the early part of the evening, and there was a very fair attendance of members.

MR. C. STEWART, of the S.G.R., who came out in April, 1888, left on the 26th inst., for nine months' leave in Europe. He was entertained at a Concert and Dance at the Masonic Hall the evening before his departure, a very large number of his friends being present.

MR. BELLAMY, as Chief Officer, S.F.B., has, at the request of the Sanitary Board, made a report on the Chinese Theatre, as to the provision of exits and entrances, and the arrangements generally for safety for the public in case of fire. The Board has passed a resolution conveying its thanks to Mr. Bellamy for his careful report and for the painstaking manner in which he has dealt with the subject; and further resolved that three additional entrances be constructed by the owner, failing which the theatre will be closed.

THE alms dish, which Mr. A. R. Venning had promised to St Mary's Church, has been received, and on Sunday last was dedicated to the service of the Church by the Rev. F. W. Haines. The dish, the work of the Keswick School of Art, is a very handsome one in brass *répoussé* work, designed after an Old English style; it has a border of grapes and vine leaves, and in the centre an ornamental cross, surrounded by the words "Let us do good unto all men."

A NOTIFICATION, dated 14th April, orders that all dogs found at large in the district of Kuala Lumpur up till 20th June shall be destroyed.

THE street lighting in the town of Kuala Lumpur, which has of late been very unsatisfactory, has been taken out of the hands of the contractor for 1896 and given to Mr. Hampshire. We hope the new contractor will give instructions that great attention shall be given to the lamp or lamps which the Sanitary Board are going to place on the (at night time) dangerous path up the hill from the Plain to the Government Offices.

IN an article, "Racing in the Native States," in the *Straits Times*—which, by-the-way, affords food for much reflection—it is stated that: "The big stake, in fact, is an utter failure. It probably never will be a success, and, without it, the Native States' meeting must lapse into what it really should be—namely, a social assembly with racing as a merely incidental item of the programme. This would be to the advantage of the Native States racing. . . . There is no reason why racing in the Native States should not be very successful, useful and pleasant; but there is just the possibility that it may be carried a little too far."

"It is to be regretted exceedingly that Mr. W. Forsythe, the owner of blocks 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 41, 43, 44, 56, and 57, and Mr. T. N. Christie, of block 37, all of which lie between the Jalan Kabun and the Langat Road, have considered it advisable to abandon their estates, known as Datu Dagang, Sempang and Lanka Estates. The decision arrived at is attributed to the land having been found peaty and unsuitable for coffee culture. To say that the land would not grow coffee when thoroughly drained is, in my opinion, a grave mistake. From enquiry made of Haji Mohamed Tahir, the pioneer coffee planter of Klang, the former owner of the show piece of coffee, aged some 14 years, and the one man that set the example of coffee culture which has resulted in the district having now 3,224 acres under coffee cultivation and some 2,402 acres about to be opened up, I ascertained that the land on which he first planted coffee was, when first cleared, identically the same as that abandoned. It is to be feared that very exaggerated ideas of the now supposed worthless Klang land will, in consequence of the lengthy correspondence in the papers on the subject, spread far and wide, and be the cause of keeping away many intending investors of capital. It is, I consider, therefore, due to the district that the facts of the present state of coffee culture within it should be made known generally, as well as the fact †

principal owner of the lands lately abandoned inspected his selections prior to the sale by auction, and on the date of the sale sent instructions by telegram for certain blocks (included in those abandoned) to be purchased."—*Report by D.O., Klang, for February.*

THE following are the terms offered by Government to purchasers of land sold for planting purposes at the public auctions held at Klang on the 11th February and the 12th August, 1895 :

"(a) The Resident will receive any application which may be made before the 1st July next, by the owner of any lot or lots so purchased, for the legal surrender by him of such lot or lots to Government, on the understanding that the owner will be permitted to select, subject to the Resident's approval of the land selected, a corresponding area of waste agricultural land elsewhere in Selangor before the 1st July, 1897. No such application will be entertained after the 1st July next and no such selection will be permitted after the 30th June, 1897.

"(b) The land selected will be granted by the Government free of premium, in consideration of the payment already made for the corresponding area at Klang, and will be subject only to cost of survey of the land selected, and preparation of the new grant, which will be on similar terms of quit-rent, cultivation, etc., to those of the original grant.

"(c) The Government will exempt the land so selected from payment of quit-rent for a period equal to that for which quit-rent has been paid by the grantee on the land abandoned at Klang.

"(d) Any person surrendering land purchased at Klang, who deems that the outlay actually incurred by him on the land abandoned should secure for him a longer remission of quit-rent than that indicated above, may apply to the Resident for further consideration, stating his outlay in detail, but no longer remission than four years in all will be granted in any case."

"MYNAB," in the *B.N.B. Herald*, makes the following comments on Mr. E. V. Carey's "Notes" on Mr. Johnson's article on Liberian coffee, published in our issue of 6th March: "To judge from these notes it would seem that coffee planters in Selangor have arrived—not without good reason, no doubt—at conclusions directly opposite to those we have reached in North Borneo; we are quite with the writer when he states 'nothing suits coffee over here better than a strong moisture-retaining soil,' but when he goes on 'for this reason amongst others flat land is most sought after and I imagine few planters would care to plant up hills from choice,' he makes it clear that the conditions in Selangor must be quite different from those in

North Borneo, where we never plant on the flat and always ask for undulating land, not so hilly that much wash of soil is entailed but sufficiently so to let the rain run off with little or no cost for drainage. This is the lay of land we like best, but it cannot of course always be got in perfection. The next statement of the writer's is, to say the least of it, rather appalling, 'There are few estates here on which cannot be found sturdy well-grown trees flourishing and cropping freely in places where water may be found a foot or 18 inches down.' And this on the flat, too? All I can say is, that in North Borneo ninety per cent. of the trees would go out from root rot in a couple of years under similar conditions. Are our Selangor friends quite sure they are right? A good deal of discussion has been proceeding in the Singapore papers as to some of the coffee lands in the Straits, not necessarily of course any of those referred to in the *Selangor Journal's* notes; during this discussion reference is made to the heavy percentage of 'struck' plants (what is a 'struck' plant?); while as to soil we are cheerfully given our choice of all peat, half peat, land with water 18 inches below, blue clay, or sand. For myself I should decline to have anything to do with experiments as to whether coffee died soonest on 'blue clay' or 'peat.' On the question of topping, the *Selangor Journal* writer has a fairly open mind. This question of topping is a most important one. I have lately seen a lot of trees on two estates in North Borneo which were undoubtedly much damaged by being topped too low, but there was still one point not clear: whether they had not been allowed too great a growth before being topped; however this may have been, in a great many cases the trees almost died, and had not fully recovered their cropping power at the end of two years, while others, untopped, growing close by, were clothed with a luxuriant foliage and were heavy with fruit. Speaking for myself, seven feet is (now) the lowest height at which I would top, while I am sure that trees should not be topped too far down when they have once grown up—always keeping in mind, on the other hand, that to top green wood stems is to kill the tree bark for a foot or 18 inches lower than the cut top."

In the Annual Report for 1895 on the Public Gardens, Mr. Venning writes: "The gardens continue to improve in appearance, and become more and more attractive with the growth of the numerous palms and other trees which have been distributed through them, and which are now beginning to make a show; and I am glad to be able to report that there has been an increase during the past year in the number of those who make use of them as a place of public resort and recreation." In this connection we may well quote from

an article, "Calcutta: Past and Present," in the *Pall Mall Magazine*, as showing what may be accomplished here when the vote provided is sufficient for more than bare upkeep: "Opposite the King of Oude's palace is that lovely park of lawns and walks and noble trees—the Botanical Gardens of Calcutta. A century ago they were founded by Colonel Alexander Kyd, for 'the collection of plants indigenous to the country, and for the introduction and acclimatisation of plants from foreign parts.' The object of the founder has been fully realised. Trees of the rarest kinds, from Nepaul and the Cape, Brazil and Penang, Java and Sumatra, are gathered together in that spot. The mahogany towers there, and the Cuba palms form an avenue like the aisle of some lofty cathedral. Noble mango trees and tamarinds are dotted above the grassy lawns; and there are stately casuarinas around whose stems are trained climbing palms. There are plantains of vast size and beauty from the Malay Archipelago, and giant creepers from South America. The crimson hibiscus and scarlet passion-flower dazzle the eye, and the odour of the champak and innumerable jessamines float upon the breeze." In the same article, the description of the original site of the Calcutta Zoological Gardens answers exactly to that of our Public Gardens: "He [Sir Richard Temple] found a swamp, and converted it into a garden with lawns, flower-beds, and wide walks, lined by the endless variety of shrubs and plants to be found in the East. The waters of the swamp have been converted into an artificial lake, by whose banks palms are growing in the greatest luxuriance." This is just the record of what Mr. Venning has done for Kuala Lumpur.

A PAPERCHASE CLUB is the latest addition to sports and pastimes in Selangor, and has been started with the object of affording some sport to those who are fond of horse-riding. The Club numbers some twenty-five members, and Mr. A. H. Bagnall has been elected Master and Mr. W. Gibson Hon. Sec. and Treasurer. The first meet was held on the 18th ultimo, at the old racecourse; more than a dozen members met, and the run, which was very successful, was round the old racecourse, across country and round the new racecourse, six flights of hurdles being placed on each course. The next meet will be on Thursday, the 7th instant, at Hawthornden, starting from Mr. Toyntee's house and finishing at the grand stand at the old course.

THE half-yearly general meeting of members of the Selangor Club was held on Wednesday, the 29th ult., at 6.30 p.m., Mr. J. P. Rodger, British Resident, President; Mr. A. Berrington, Chief Magistrate, Vice-President; Captain Syers, Mr. Cumming, Mr. Day, Mr. C. Sanderson, and Mr. W. D. Scott, Members of Committee; Mr. Bligh, Secretary; and about fifty other members being present.

The following agenda was read before the meeting:—1.—To read and if approved confirm the minutes of the last General Meeting. 2.—To report for the last six months. 3.—To

pass the accounts. 4.—To elect five members of Committee for the ensuing six months. 5.—To nominate gentlemen for the offices of Cricket Captain and Football Captain for the ensuing twelve months.

The minutes of the previous general meeting having been passed, the following report—which together with accounts for the past six months and estimates for the ensuing six months had been posted to members—was taken as read.

“Gentlemen,—Your Committee beg to lay before you the half-yearly statement of accounts. Our liabilities on the 1st of October, 1895, were \$7,233.68; they now stand at \$8,294.20, an increase of \$1,060.52. In spite of this increase our financial position has improved; we refer to the increase of assets over liabilities. The balance sheet shows an excess of assets over liabilities of \$4,028.33 against \$3,784.41, the amount of excess of assets over liabilities on the 14th October, 1895. Our actual cash balance is \$1,809. A sum of \$425.18 has been expended on the Club under the heading of “Repairs.” The Club has been repainted and colour-washed throughout, and it is hoped that it will be some time before so large an expenditure will again be incurred under this heading. The result of the past half-year’s Working Account shows a profit of \$243.92, after writing off $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. depreciation of building, 10 per cent. depreciation of furniture and a sum of \$231.72 as bad debts. The estimated surplus of revenue was \$2.55. The Committee recommend the extra expenditure of \$120 on the estimates for the ensuing six months under the heading of “House Allowance to Secretary.” The Secretary has now held office for close on two years, during which period he has performed his duties to the satisfaction of the various Committees under which he has worked, and as the Club will be able to afford the amount asked for, your Committee recommend that the extra expenditure be sanctioned. The number of members, which on the 1st October, 1895, was 180, is now 205. The Committee wish to express their thanks to the various sub-committees for the assistance rendered during the past half-year, and the thanks of all are due to the gentlemen who have audited the accounts now laid before you.”

The accounts were then passed; and the estimates were passed with two amendments, (1) proposed by Dr. Travers, seconded by Mr. Hüttenbach, that the \$120 provided for house allowance to Secretary be struck out, and (2) proposed by Mr. Bagnall, seconded by Mr. Dougal, that the \$150 provided for “Games: Cricket, etc.,” be increased to \$200. The ballot for five members of Committee resulted in the election of Captain Syers, Dr. Travers and Messrs. C. Sanderson, W. D. Scott and Russell; Messrs. E. V. Carey and G. Cumming being nominated by Government as members of Committee. Mr. Dougal and Mr. W. D. Scott were elected by ballot as Cricket Captain and Football Captain, respectively, for the ensuing twelve months. A vote of thanks to the Chairman terminated the meeting.

WE are glad to see that we are again having cricket matches on Saturday afternoons, and it is pleasing to hear that players are plentiful. The game last Saturday, “Over 5 years in Selangor” v. “Under

5 years in Selangor," was very interesting. The former side had rather a long time in the field, brought about by a fine innings by A. B. Hubback; he retired when he got his century, his first in the State, and we hope he will give many more such displays. His batting was very free and in his long innings he didn't give a chance. The Under five years declared their innings closed with the score at 174 for five wickets. The Over five years went in in a very bad light, and at call of time had lost three wickets for 32. C. Glassford and Dougal being not out with 14 and 11, respectively. Whitley, the new Junior Officer at Kajang, got all three wickets, and in practice we should think he will prove a much-wanted addition to our bowling strength. In view of the Perak match the Cricket Committee hope to see more of his play before the 23rd of May.

FOOTBALL as well as cricket will be played at Taiping at Whitsuntide, a challenge for the former game having been received from Perak; accordingly there will be a match, Kuala Lumpur v. Out-Station, on Saturday, 9th May, and the team to represent Selangor will probably be chosen by the form shown on that occasion.

ON Monday next the usual service by launch to Jugra will be suspended, the *Abdul Samad* going to-morrow morning instead. The *Enid* has gone to Singapore to be docked.

THE ALLEGED "DECADENCE" OF KUALA LUMPUR.

IN a letter, printed in this issue, our attention is drawn to a paragraph published by the *Perak Pioneer*, in which a correspondent of that paper states that, visiting Kuala Lumpur after an absence of two years, expecting to find the town "greatly expanded," he found instead that it had "gone down." To those who have *not* been away for two years, this statement, to put it mildly, seems most remarkable; because during that period building has been continuous. The correspondent might truly have said that two years ago there were many gaps in the principal streets of the town which are now filled by fine shophouses. During 1894 the Kuala Lumpur Sanitary Board passed 53 plans for new buildings; in 1895 the number was 79; and up to the present date 40 have been passed for the current year. These numbers do not include the many buildings erected in and about the town during the past two years as Government quarters, offices, etc. Surely the "correspondent," of whose presence we were bereft for two long years, must be hard to satisfy if he cannot see here evidences of expansion.

The friend within our gates then writes: "Houses which used to be at a premium are now to be had at ordinary rents, and there is not a street where several empty houses are not to be found." "Premium," "ordinary rent," may mean anything or nothing: we can, however, give an instance of the latter which came under our personal obser-

vation a few weeks back: a man, with a family, employed in Singapore, obtained a situation in Kuala Lumpur at an increased salary, but on arriving here found that the increased house-rent he would have to pay was about double the increased salary he was going to receive. He went back to Singapore, and we think that it would be a difficult matter to make that man believe in our "ordinary rents."

That empty houses may be found in Kuala Lumpur is simply a matter of course: there was never a large town yet, however prosperous, in which an unoccupied house could not be seen here and there. But of our empty houses, in nine cases out of ten it will probably be found that the owner is standing out for a high rent, and the tenth will probably be empty owing to some superstition on account of the last occupant having been unfortunate in business. We are credibly informed that the new houses on the Batu Road and elsewhere are, in almost every case, let long before they are finished.

In his report on the Kuala Lumpur Land Office for 1895, Mr. Ebdon, Collector of Land Revenue, writes: "I venture to say that the town lands sold during the past year would not have commanded half the price realised had they been offered for sale two years ago."

After all, why should we complain? Great places, like great men, always have their detractors; why should Kuala Lumpur be an exception? It may be that *our* correspondent has been rather happy in the heading he has given to his letter.



BRITISH RULE IN MALAYA.*

WHEN British officers first entered the Malay States as advisers they found that a very small revenue was raised in each by the taxation of every single article that entered or left the country. As a rule the tax was proportionately higher on the necessaries of life than on luxuries. In a few years our influence abolished the duty on every article of import, except opium and spirits, while the export duty on tin, the principal product, was much reduced, and on many of the less important exports it was altogether removed. This policy, with the appointment of British officials to all important Government posts, the organisation of police forces, and above all the putting of everyone who applied for land in possession of what was meant to be an indefeasible title, gave so much confidence that immigrants from the unprotected Malay States, from the Dutch possessions, from China, and from India, poured into the peninsula, and the revenues increased by such marvellous strides that I will venture to give you a few figures to illustrate the actual results of our policy in Malaya.

"The first year of which it is possible to give any statistics is 1875; and the [total] revenues of the various States then, and at intervals of five years since, are as follow:

* Extracts from a paper read by Mr. F. A. Swettenham, C.M.G., at a meeting of the Royal Colonial Institute, on 31st March, 1896.

	1875.	1880.	1885.	1890.	1894.
Revenue ...	\$409,289	- 881,910	- 2,208,710	- 4,840,064	- 7,511,808

I give the expenditure during the same period, because it shows that all the revenues were spent in the States; and when, as was the case everywhere at first, and is still true of Pahang, the revenues were not sufficient to meet the expenditure, the difference was covered by loans from the Colony or the wealthier States.

	1875.	1880.	1885.	1890.	1894.
Expenditure .	\$436,872	- 794,944	- 2,261,955	- 5,119,411	- 7,162,396

"The opium question has so recently been the subject of exhaustive enquiry that I will refrain from further allusion to it, except to say that Eastern people are not altogether lacking in intelligence, and they unfortunately know that if the great mass of Europeans are free from the opium habit, they indulge in intoxicants, and European Governments profit by the indulgence. To the Eastern it appears preposterous and illogical that people at the other end of the world, alien to him in religion and sympathy, should busy themselves over his moral obliquities when their own are so open to criticism."

"It was perhaps natural that those in this country who understand nothing of the conditions of society in the Malay Peninsula, who judge Chinese and natives of the Malay Peninsula and archipelago by their own standards of morality and their own somewhat narrow—I had almost said ignorant—conception of the daily life of human beings in parts of the world beyond the reach of their study, should desire to see licensed gambling abolished in countries where British officers influence the administration: but while I must deny myself the opportunity of giving you the multitude of reasons advanced by those who, with full knowledge and experience of the subject, hold contrary views, I will only say that where the gamblers are Chinese, and the conditions of life such as prevail in the Malay States, you may stop *licensed* gambling, but you cannot put a stop to the far more pernicious practice of *unlicensed* gambling. In the wake of unlicensed gambling follows a train of evils that make the attempt at cure (and that a fruitless attempt) far more objectionable than the disease."

"We have organised a civil service to whom the main credit belongs for working out the existing results of British influence. The members of this service have shown a zeal and devotion beyond all praise, and I almost regret to say, that we have carried on the administration with such economy that it has cost one-third or one-fourth the amount paid in British India for similar services under perhaps less trying conditions."

"I do not think we should aim at giving Malays the sort of higher education that is offered by the Government of India to its native subjects, but I would prefer to see the establishment of classes where useful trades would be taught. It is unfortunate that, when an

Eastern has been taught to read and write English very indifferently, he seems to think that from that moment the Government is responsible for his future employment, and in consequence the market for this kind of labour is overstocked, while many honourable and profitable trades find difficulty in obtaining workmen, because of the prejudice against anything like manual labour."

"I am no prophet, but I see no reason why the prospects of the future should not be measured by the experience of the past. The keynote of that success is liberality, especially in the treatment of Malays, the owners of the land; in encouragement to all those willing to risk their capital and health in a new country; and in the construction of useful public works, which so far have always returned, directly or indirectly, the money spent on them. Our main aim now should be the encouragement of planting, because I take it that the permanent occupation and cultivation of the soil is a more worthy object than the desolation of the face of the country by surface mining. Planting in Malaya has had much to contend against: but the Englishman who goes to the East to plant is usually the *fine fleur* of his kind, and the men who have made Ceylon what it is, who recovered there from the most crushing blow, and from the ashes of Arabian coffee have raised a yet more successful product, are not to be denied, and they have proved to demonstration the value of the Malay Peninsula for the growth of Liberian coffee—proved not only that it will grow, but that it will pay, and will last. There may be a fortune in other tropical products, but I will not go into the attractive but doubtful region of possibilities. The facts are that in the Malay States there are millions of acres of unexplored and uninhabited jungle, magnificently timbered and watered, and capable of producing any species of tropical agriculture that flourishes under the equator. This land has facilities of access that, if not unrivalled, are certainly great, and improving every year. The labour question was a difficulty, but a high authority on planting once said to the members of this Institute, 'As to labour supply, experienced planters of the right sort, if supported by a liberal Government, may be trusted to overcome any difficulty in this direction.' I will undertake to say that the planters in the Malay Peninsula are of the right sort, and that if they get that liberal support which I believe it is to the interest of Government to give them, Mr. John Ferguson, who knew the temper of the men he was speaking of, will be found to have gauged them accurately. At present, you understand, that we rely almost for existence upon the export of tin. It may last for ages, but it is certain that we have already seen some fields of the mineral worked out. It goes, and as there is nothing behind it, we must find something to replace it. We exact a high duty, and that money we invest in railways that give us a good return and open communications that make our waste lands available for agriculture. That seems a good enough reason why we should encourage the *bonâ fide* planter; but, in my opinion, it is a far better one that we should try to secure a settled population to till the soil and convert some of our millions of acres of jungle into cultivated

fields that will supply their owners with subsistence. Our first duty, I take it, is to attract immigrants, and the best way to keep them is to settle them on the land. When once they are there, not only will they personally contribute to the revenue by paying land rent, and other direct and indirect taxes, but the Government can always impose a moderate duty on any produce exported."

"We are already within measurable distance of a through railway from Province Wellesley to Port Dickson, and, if Englishmen in the Straits of Malacca had showed anything like the energy exhibited in Africa or Australia, a port of such commanding importance as Singapore would have years ago become the terminus of a Malay Peninsula railway that would at least have traversed the whole of the western States."

"In conclusion, I wish to say one word about the European and the manner in which he should be treated by Government officers in order that he also may share in the advantages that can be gained by risking his life and fortune in a new country. I have heard Europeans, especially Frenchmen and Germans, say that they would rather live in a British Colony than in one governed by officials of their own nationality. They give many good reasons for the view they hold, and it is only necessary to mention here one of them—it is the general statement that British officials are more get-at-able, more practical, more sympathetic, and more business-like than either French or German Colonial officers. In spite of that independent testimony—on the correctness of which I can hardly with propriety offer an opinion—I think that the English official has something to learn in his treatment of men of his own colour who approach him in his official capacity. In Malaya so much has been done by Orientals, that the achievements of the white man look very small indeed. Roughly speaking, the Chinaman has supplied the revenues, and the Government, under the direction of British officers, has laid the money out and made the country what it is. Of private European enterprise, except in planting and a few mines, there has been practically none. I think there would have been more if further encouragement had been offered, but some British officials appear to acquire, in the course of their service, a habit of looking with suspicion on all their own countrymen who have any official dealings with them. It seems remarkable that it should be so, but almost anyone can bear out my statement, and I think everyone who has influence should use it to discourage an attitude which, if assumed by a senior officer, will very soon be imitated by his juniors. I have never been able to sympathise with this frame of mind myself, because I have, I am glad to say, in a somewhat long experience, never seen anything to justify it. Ten men may ask a Government official for something, undertaking on their part something in return. Nine may fulfil their promises and the tenth may fail. Because of that one failure, or even if the proportion were higher, it is not a sufficient reason for the official to regard

all future comers as untrustworthy. I don't think anyone who knows my official life will accuse me of want of sympathy for the native. I have been trying to tell you how absolutely necessary I think it is for the successful government of natives; but those to whom the administration is entrusted must not ignore Europeans. Government officers are there as the temporary stewards of a property—the servants of the public. It should be their object to encourage every legitimate enterprise for the advancement of the country and the profit and prosperity of those who dwell therein. I trust I shall not be understood as advocating extravagance or carelessness for the interests entrusted to us; but between due caution and restrictions which make profitable enterprise almost impossible, there appears to me to lie the whole art of successful government. It would perhaps seem absurd to remind Government officers that they have not inherited their positions, nor do they hold them for their own benefit or for the indulgence of any personal caprice. Beyond the preservation of peace and the protection of life and property, to which I do not refer, the official is there to open the country by great works: roads, railways, telegraphs, wharves; he is there to encourage capital, and to do everything in his power to make the lives of the people of all classes and nationalities safe, pleasant, and profitable. The climate of the Malay Peninsula, especially to those who must go out of their houses and work in it, is not by any means a good one for Europeans. It is hot, damp, and enervating; full of malaria, and those who live there are constantly exposed to all the diseases common to the tropics. With proper care, of course, most of the risk may be avoided, but careful precaution is a necessity. Now, with these attractions on the one hand and Africa on the other, is it likely that any rich, able, energetic Englishman will hurry to the Malay Peninsula to invest his capital and devote his energies to a life in that distant and unknown region? If, however, he does go there, if he is willing to take all the risks, what do you suppose it is for? Not, I imagine, in order that he may lose his health and his money in some fruitless attempt to achieve the impossible, nor yet that he may, by toiling for the rest of his life, secure a return of five or six per cent. on his money. He goes to what is called "make his fortune," and I greatly regret that though every Colony in Australia, though South Africa, America, and numbers of other countries have produced thousands of wealthy men to be the best form of advertisement of the advantages offered, the Malay Peninsula has, hitherto, done little more for European investors than absorb their money. It is a curious fact that, so far as I know, Crown Colonies hardly ever produce really rich Colonists, while the constitutionally governed Colonies can tell them by hundreds and thousands. I believe the reason is that in Crown Colonies there is a narrowness and want of liberality in the treatment of *bona fide* commercial undertakings, that makes it impossible to obtain much success, and in consequence the capital, the energy, and the brains go elsewhere. I have laid stress on this point, because I think that it is one of the most important. There is probably no one so keenly interested in Malaya as I am. My connection with the Protected States has never ceased since I went to Perak in January,

1874. I have watched the conversion of the various States from jungle places into a country that some of us are almost proud of, and I do not wish now to see advancement checked. I hardly think this is a time to be less liberal, for I do not believe that any country can develop into greatness when it has to rely for prosperity on one industry, especially when that industry is practically limited to the praiseworthy efforts of thousands of Chinese to win from the soil alluvial tin by methods which, if they are successful, are certainly primitive. The Chinaman, as a unit of taxation, is almost unapproachable; but tin mining specially appeals to his gambling instincts, and, when it fails, he does not become a planter or a trader, he simply goes away to mine elsewhere, or find some other enterprise which contains the elements of risk and possible gain. The trade which often suggests itself is burglary. When first Residents were appointed to the Malay States many experienced planters in Ceylon applied for land in the Peninsula, but they were, rightly or wrongly, so dissatisfied with the terms offered that, with very few exceptions, they withdrew their applications. Some, however, came to Malaya, and have proved what persistence and unremitting care and labour can do. This, then, is a second and a better opportunity to secure European planters, and I trust that this time we may be able to offer them such reasonable terms that they will come to stay."

CORRESPONDENCE.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our Correspondents.]

GREEN SPECTACLES.

To the Editor of the Selangor Journal.

SIR,—The following is taken from a recent number of the *Perak Pioneer*:

"A correspondent, who has just returned to Kuala Lumpur after an absence of a couple of years, says that from the various accounts he expected the town to have greatly expanded, but he finds it has not. On the other hand, he thinks it has gone down. Houses which used to be at a premium are now to be had at ordinary rents and there is not a street where several empty houses are not to be found."

After reading this, I was not at all surprised to learn from the following issue of the same paper that it was under contemplation to establish a Workhouse in Kuala Lumpur. Indeed, it will be wanted. My object, however, in sending you this cutting is to draw your attention to an omission on your part which deprives many of your readers of much curious information about the Peninsula generally and Selangor in particular; I refer to your neglect to quote "news" from this paper. I doubt if the statements it made about the Selangor Government Savings Bank would have been noticed in the *Journal* if someone had not written you a letter about them. You left it for the *P.P.* to inform us that when Mr. Ramsay, the sub-agent of the

Chartered Bank at Kuala Lumpur, was transferred to Singapore, Mr. Dougal relieved him. It is as likely as not, if I omit to point it out, that you will not notice the appalling statement made by the same paper that "the Selangor State Railway now charges four cents per pikul of tin-ore carried per mile." That's rather tall; nearly a dollar railway freight on a pikul of tin from Kuala Lumpur to Klang. I had been working it out at decimal four cent per mile.

Neither did we learn from you the astounding intelligence that—but, never mind, I think what I have written is sufficient to prove that your readers lose much interesting news by your neglect.

I am, etc., GRUB STREET.

A PROTEST.

To the Editor of the Selangor Journal.

SIR,—I must very solemnly warn those who have to do with the publication of that light and frivolous paper called the *Selangor Government Gazette* that they are incurring a grave personal danger in publishing holus-bolus, instant and without due warning no less than five new Acts by the State Council in one single issue of the gossipy *S.G.G.* An outraged official class which for months has been smarting under a continuous and galling fire of Circulars and Executive Orders from the new Secretariat Maxim gun cannot much longer be restrained. Their blood is rising as salary and dollars fall. A reference to the leading statistical records of the day show that the ordinary D.O. has received 8,754 special orders. There is a myth that one of the D.Os. actually remembers 902 of these bomb shells, which at one time or other have ploughed through his now shattered brain. By the aid of the Rontgen system of photography and an Edison's phonograph I am in a position to inform you that on the appearance of the last *Gazette* a special and secret meeting of all the magistrates took place in the jungle near Kuala Lumpur. At this meeting it was unanimously resolved that the five new Acts be treated with silent contempt and passed as read. Whilst strongly objecting to this additional brain tax every speaker professed to be prepared to administer any law at a minute's notice with his eyes shut before he had read it. Whilst the fact that it now takes a wheelbarrow to move all the printed law books from one office to another was remarked upon as showing the enormous amount of information which it is possible for a single human being to forget. The meeting then began to discuss whether it would be more advantageous to join the Fenian movement, God's American Volunteers, Gowan's Soda-water Co., the Corner in Australian Surveyors or the Little England party, and were just starting to indulge in choice and excited diatribes against certain great and good men we know of, when somebody accidentally dropped a whisky cork into the phonograph, and I have never been able to find out what happened afterwards. All the phonograph can do now is to reiterate *ad infinitum* with maddening monotony a noise which resembles the opening of a soda-water bottle.—I am, etc., A SUFFERER.

NOTES AND NEWS.

THE Resident, Mrs. and Miss Rodger will leave in the *Esmeralda* on the 26th inst., to attend the Queen's Birthday Ball at Government House, Singapore.

THE *London Gazette* announces that the Queen has been graciously pleased to give directions for the following promotion in, and appointment to, the Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George, in recognition of services rendered in the recent expedition to Ashanti, etc.:—To be an Ordinary Member of the Second Class, or Knights Commanders of the said Most Distinguished Order: William Edward Maxwell, Esq., c.m.g., Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Gold Coast Colony.

MR. GERALD BROWNE, who has been acting as Government Secretary, Selangor, since July, 1894, has, with the approval of the Secretary of State, been confirmed in that appointment. The official announcement will be made when the various Residential changes are gazetted. Mr. Browne, whose first appointment in the Public Service was that of Cadet in Fiji in 1879, has also filled the following posts: Clerk to High Commission for Western Pacific, 1879, also Private Secretary to Governor, New Zealand, 1880; ditto, Ceylon, 1883; ditto, Natal, 1886; Clerk of the Executive Council, Natal, 1886; Secretary for Zululand, 1887; Private Secretary to Governor of Ceylon, 1890; Secretary to Central Irrigation Board, Ceylon, 1891.

MR. H. N. RIDLEY, Director of Gardens and Forests, S.S., arrived on the 3rd inst., to organise a Forest Conservancy Department for the State.—Mr. C. H. A. Turney, Senior District Officer, left by the *Sappho* on the 5th inst., on long leave.—The Rev. F. W. Haines was unable, owing to an attack of fever, to hold service last Sunday. He is at present in hospital.—Dr. Jesser-Coope, Residency Surgeon, Pahang, passed through Kuala Lumpur early in the week for Pekan *via* the Ulu.—We hear that Mr. E. L. M. Edwards has been granted an extension of leave. He is now due in November.—Mr. and Mrs. Highet will return to Selangor by the *Sappho* next Sunday.—Mr. Arnott, Surveyor, from Australia, arrived on Sunday last; he has been engaged for the Survey Department.—Three Native

Officers for the Selangor Sikhs, one Subhadar and two Jemadars, arrived in Kuala Lumpur on the 13th inst.

MR. A. S. BAXENDALE, Supt., P. & T., in a letter to the Editor of the *Selangor Journal*, writes:—"Sir,—I should be glad to receive authority from those leaving the State for any length of time, and not wishing to have their papers re-addressed to them, to deliver their newspapers to the General Hospital or the Samaritan Society."

THE commission appointed by H.E. the Governor to report on the question of Indian immigration to the Straits and Native States has recently been sitting in Penang. The Hon. A. M. Skinner (President), Mr. J. Turner and Mr. E. V. Carey were during the early part of the week taking evidence in Selangor. The Commission will next meet in Perak.

THE Selangor Branch of the Church Work Association will hold a sale of work at the Victoria Institution, at 4 p.m., on Saturday, 6th June.

ON Monday next the sale of 19 blocks of land in Kuala Selangor will be held at the District Office, Klang, at 2.30 p.m. Some of the lots comprise the land which was so favourably reported on by "coffee-planting experts" from outside the State.

THE recent attempt at a 'rikisha strike arose through the Secretary, S.B., refusing to allow a very inferior kind of cloth to be used for the hoods; a decision which the Board upheld. In a petition which was sent in, however, it was stated that the Secretary wanted to put the pullers in uniform: this was untrue, the Secretary's orders being that their apparel must be neat and clean. It was likewise stated that the Secretary insisted on the lamps being purchased from the Board: this was also untrue. 'Rikishas must be provided with lamps of the pattern the Board has in stock, but they may be bought anywhere the purchaser likes. The lamps are the same as used in Singapore and the Board sells them at cost price.

THE recent stoppage on the Ulu-Selangor extension of the railway, was, as in previous cases, due to abnormal rain. The 1.55 afternoon train of Monday, the 4th inst., had reached Kuang all right, and proceeded, but was stopped by a small slip at about the 16th mile. After an ineffectual attempt to get through, the train was sent back; but meanwhile a part of the embankment in Kuala Lumpur side of the Kuang Station had been washed away, and the train was entrapped. Arrangements were then

the passengers down, and they arrived at two the next morning. The gap in the embankment was 54 feet wide, and a roaring torrent was rushing along a stream bed whose normal flow would be easily carried by a 2-ft. pipe. Large gangs were at once put on and the damage was repaired by Saturday night.

THE meet of the Paper-chase Club on the 7th inst., resulted in a fine burst across country and round the old racecourse, although at the start a rather nasty hurdle, which Mr. J. Toynbee had very kindly put up, had to be negotiated; the ground to right and left, however, was nice and soft, if rather damp.

THE Cricket and Football teams to compete against Perak will leave by the *Esmeralda*, on Saturday, the 23rd, returning by the *Mena* on the 26th. The composition of the teams has not yet been definitely settled; but, whoever may compose them, a very strong aspiration for their success will go with them from Selangor.

A CORRESPONDENT informs us that a Rifle Association is the latest addition to the attractions of Ulu Langat, and that Mr. O. F. Stonor, the acting District Officer, has been elected President. From a practise held last week, it is anticipated that the new club will be able to give a good account of itself.

THE return Football Match, Outstations *v.* Kuala Lumpur, was played on Saturday last on the Parade Ground. This was one of the best and most hotly contested matches that have been witnessed here for some time. The outstations were without Roe, who was unavoidably absent. On the other hand, the Kuala Lumpur team had undergone considerable change. But they were most evenly matched as the result proved, and it would be well if these teams could meet more often. The play was fast all through, and it can hardly be said that either side had the advantage. Both goals in turn were frequently threatened; but the custodians were equal to the task of defending them and prevented any points being scored, the game ending in a draw. Dr. McClosky acted as referee and the teams were as follows—

Outstations.—*Goal*, Whitley; *Backs*, Nissen and Tollemache; *Half-backs*, Hemmy, Skinner and Kindersley; *Forwards*, Clarke, Muttiah, Dougal, Hay and Hicks.

Kuala Lumpur.—*Goal*, Hubback; *Backs*, Bellamy and Scott; *Half-backs*, Lake, W. E. Lott and Phillips; *Forwards*, Day, Rendle, Brown and F. H. Lott.

It is seen that no less than seven of the outstations players were from Ulu Langat; this speaks well for the Ulu Langat District.

which should soon be able to put a strong team in the field on its own account.

THE holidays for Whitsuntide and the Queen's Birthday will be Monday and Tuesday, the 25th and 26th inst. The usual Queen's Birthday Sports will, we understand, be held, in conjunction with Police Sports, on the 25th, and be for natives only. The arrangements as to programme, etc., are not yet known; but, as in former years, much depends on the support given by the towkays and merchants of the town.

A GENERAL meeting of members of the Selangor Club (Captain Syers in the chair) was held on the 13th inst., to confirm the minutes of, and resolutions passed at, the meeting held on the 29th ult. The minutes were confirmed; on the resolution which was passed at the last meeting "That the \$120 provided for house allowance to Secretary be disallowed" being put to the meeting for confirmation, Mr. Hüttenbach proposed and Mr. Chichester seconded that the resolution be not confirmed. Mr. Hüttenbach said that although he had at the former meeting seconded the resolution, he had since, on thinking the matter over and becoming more fully acquainted with the work the Secretary performed, come to the conclusion that the recommendation of the committee to grant the allowance should be upheld, and he therefore voted against the confirmation of the resolution. On a show of hands, the chairman declared that the resolution passed at the last meeting was not confirmed. The other resolutions passed at the previous meeting were then confirmed, and a vote of thanks to the chairman, proposed in very complimentary terms by Mr. Hüttenbach, closed the meeting.

A MEETING of the Selangor Museum Committee was held on the 8th inst., Captain Syers (Chairman), Mr. L. B. Von Donop (Hon. Sec.), Dr. Travers and Messrs. C. E. F. Sanderson and W. D. Scott being present. The Museum was inspected and the minutes of the last meeting read and confirmed. It was resolved to purchase some useful books of reference. The Chairman stated that the native collectors employed from time to time have proved far from satisfactory. It was resolved to send the taxidermist to Pulau Angsa to obtain specimens of fish not at present in the Museum. It was stated that some of the bones belonging to the elephant killed at Klang were missing; Mr. Sanderson, who was about to visit Klang, undertook to try to recover them. The question of holding a soiree at the Museum next month was discussed. The Committee acknowledge with thanks the receipt of the following additions during April:—
From Mr. J. Brown, two cicadas; Mrs. Harper, a mantis; Mr. A. J. W. Watkins, a rare snake.

Number of visitors during April	...	...	1,347
Previously	...	...	5,736

Total for year ... 7,083

THE returns for the whole State show that 8,982 criminal cases were brought before the Courts in 1895 against 6,096 in 1894, and 2,091 civil suits against 2,711 in the previous year. The total numbers of cases, civil and criminal, for the last six years have been

1890.	1891.	1892.	1893.	1894.	1895.
5,474	6,159	7,998	8,500	8,807	11,073

These cases are distributed in the proportion of about 65 per cent. to Kuala Lumpur, and about 35 per cent. to the eight out district Courts, of which latter Serendah and Kuala Kubu have the largest shares.

IN concluding his report on the S.F.B. for 1895, Chief Officer Bellamy writes:—"I take this opportunity of expressing my gratitude to the Government for the free and gracious support I have invariably received in commanding the Brigade, and to all the officers and men who have with advice, energy and co-operation stood by me, in steadily and persistently building up the Brigade to its present condition of efficiency, which I consider is such that it is able to cope with, and beat, any conflagration ever likely to break out in Kuala Lumpur at present, with the exception of the system of giving the alarm, which will never be satisfactory until it is in the hands of the Brigade itself, and independent of any other body or individual."

"I SHOULD like to suggest that an education, without school fees, at the Victoria Institution should be available to all who have passed the third standard at a vernacular school (this standard includes reading and writing in the Roman character). Malays are beginning to realise the advantages to be derived from an English education. There are many subordinate appointments in the Government Service which the Malay could satisfactorily take up if only qualified. The danger is less than in England that the youth of the country will be educated away to the town, off the land and its cultivation. It can be provided against by making the curriculum of the Victoria Institution more technical in the upper standards, and by teaching the first principles of horticulture, agriculture, the use of tools, etc. This would be a fitting introduction to an evening continuation school which, I think, might be started at Kuala Lumpur with every prospect of success."—*Inspector of Schools' Report for 1895.*

MR. KEYSER had a rather narrow escape recently, in his monthly report he writes:—"Great floods were frequent during the month and to one of these I nearly fell a victim. On a journey to Jerang the boat was swamped in the rapids below Rawit and destroyed. Had it not been for the presence of mind of my boatman and police orderly it would have got broadside on and we should have been swept before it and involved in its fate. As it was we were extremely fortunate in escaping collision with the sunken rocks and emerging from the water with no greater loss than our property and provisions. As the ordinary path was flooded we walked to Jerang *via* Durian Tipus, some 19 miles, which, without food, proved an unpleasant experience."

MR. LEOPOLD CAZALAS gives the following description of the Hari Raya festivities at Kuala Pilah:—"On the 16th was 'Hari Raya.' The usual stream of picturesquely dressed people paraded the streets making calls. Ten years' experience of the people here have demonstrated to me that their weakness for fine clothes and for adorning themselves with gold and silver ornaments has increased in proportion as facilities for procuring money has advanced. What were not so long ago unobtainable or little understood luxuries have become ordinary purchases. A greater love for perfumes, silk handkerchiefs, Chinese silk cloths, shoes and socks is displayed, and I regret to say a fondness for tweed suits, felt caps, smoking caps, and even the solar topi has been created. A month or two preceding the Hari Raya, the Sri Menanti Malays may be found spread over many lands endeavouring to find money to provide for the abnormal expenses of the Hari Raya, and on the eve of the great festive day the shops are crowded with these men and their wives. . . . On the 25th the Kuala Pilah land sports took place before a very large gathering of Malays. The gaily dressed throng moving about under umbrellas and sunshades of soft colours, the string of decorated carts, each one with its load of eager faces come to be amused, the row of shops with every coign of vantage filled, and the long line of fluttering flags and streamers made the scene one to be remembered. An enclosure, dressed with flags and yellow cloth, was reserved for the ladies of the Yam Tuan's household, and opposite the road was a similar one for the Yam Tuan and Chiefs and the Residency party. All the Treaty Chiefs, except the Datos of Rambau and Jelebu, were present, and altogether a very successful day was spent. The next day the river sports took place and with equal success. In the afternoon there was a display of sword play and *bersilat* before H.H. the Yam Tuan and Chiefs, and Mr. Paul, R.A. The *bersilat* is the art of self defence practised among Malays. The display was extremely good, and was watched by the Chiefs and spectators with keen interest. A theatrical company, composed of Malay men and women, engaged for the occasion, performed for several nights to a large appreciative audience."

WE give in this issue another of the interesting series of articles on "Malay Customs," by "W.S." Also four extra pages.

MALAY JOTTINGS.

FROM all accounts, one of the most truculent Malay nobles with whom it was necessary to deal in the early days of British Protection was Raja Berkat, known officially as the Tunku Panglima Besar. He was one of the two "Orang Negri" nominated as members of the first Selangor State Council, and, if for no other reason, would be famous as the father of that man of war, Raja Mahmoud, who, as already mentioned, was banished from the State in 1890. Another

of his sons, Raja Manan, has long since acquired the habit of promptly and punctually drawing his pay as Penghulu of Sepang; a post which requires very little energy owing to the almost entire absence of any Malay population. At odd times, during the last few years, secret societies in Sepang have been the means of almost provoking a repetition of the old Malacca riots. On these occasions Raja Manan, with sword and kris, and his son with a shot gun, have moved up from their lonely kampong on the Sepang River to the Chinese settlement at Sepang itself, have taken up their quarters in the town (usually with the owner of the 25,000 acres of land which gives employment to the Chinese population), and have plainly shown that if there is to be any fighting "Raja Manan means to take a hand, and don't you forget it." Hitherto Raja Manan, with a drawn sword, has always had the desired effect. But to return to his father, Tunku Panglima Besar. In 1878 the Collector and Magistrate of Kuala Selangor, Mr. Neubronner, received a letter from Tunku Panglima Raja offering him \$40 in connection with a civil case the Tunku had undertaken against a Malay man. Whereat the soul of Mr. Neubronner was greatly angered and he proceeded to arrest the Tunku for bribery. The Resident was of opinion that the Tunku by his action had forfeited his right to sit on the State Council, and proposed that he should be asked to retire into private life on a pension. But the Colonial authorities in those days were still haunted by Lord Carnarvon's chimerical fright of doing anything to develop the Native States in the way of practical administration by English officials, beyond "tendering advice," so that all the thanks this met with in Singapore was that the Legislative Council of the Colony passed what was practically a vote of censure on the Resident, and the Tunka Panglima Besar, having received a reprimand from the Sultan, again took his place in Council.

In his Annual Administration Report for 1893, Mr. Treacher wrote: "I would wish to impress upon District Officers that it is an important part of their duties to encourage the native headmen, to put work in their way and to assist in training them to take part in the administration of affairs. I should like to see a much larger number of Malays filling Government posts in the Railway, Posts and Telegraphs, Public Works and other departments which are now occupied by foreigners from Ceylon, India, China and elsewhere, and, as the system of Government education advances, this object, if kept in view, should be attained." Unfortunately, District Officers in Selangor have been handicapped by the appointment of elderly political personages to vacant penghuluships; the real working penghulus, who come from the Malay clerk class of men, are not *orang negeri* at all. There are plenty of smart Malays coming on, but with few exceptions they are not of the blood royal of Selangor.

A general order issued by the Captain-Superintendent of Police in 1895 was as follows:—"In future only Malays will be eligible for enlistment in the Malay contingent. At present there are many Tamils and half-bred Indians who know little about the language and nothing

about Police work, these will be replaced by men of a better class as soon as possible."

THE GRAVITY OF MALAY CHILDREN.—On paying a surprise visit one day to the Malay School at Serendab, I found all the boys in their usual places, some reading, some writing and some doing arithmetic. But no master was to be seen, nor does the school boast of a pupil teacher to act in his absence. "Where is the ghuru?" I asked. "He is not here; he is ill," replied one of the boys. "How long has he been away?" "Eight days," was the answer. I then looked at the school register and found it neatly written up to and including the day of my visit. Every absent boy's name being marked with the customary cross. "Who has been keeping this?" I asked. "Me," answered a small Malay schoolboy. And sure enough here was the little chap of about 10 years of age calmly bossing the school and seeing that his school-fellows tried to learn something in the absence of the master. And they all seemed to take it quite as a matter of course, and submitted to his ruling with great good temper and respect. A fine future may be predicted for this urchin. Time after time, in Malay schools, have I put the question "If \$5 is divided amongst three boys, about how much will each get?" But this feat of mental arithmetic has proved too much for the head boys and even some of the pupil teachers. My juvenile schoolmaster friend answered it correctly!—R.

BUKIT KUTU.

SELANGOR has a Sanatorium. Everybody probably does not know this, as only some two dozen people have visited it this year; a reminder therefore that there is a pleasant bungalow on the top of Bukit Kutu, may not be out of place, when so many Europeans in this State are requiring a change of climate.

Bukit Kutu is 3,300 feet high and from the top of the hill to Kuala Kubu Station on the S.G.R. is only about nine miles. The road is good all the way, but somewhat steep at places towards the top. Some eight short cuts through the jungle reduce the distance by about a mile and a half; but the paths are very rough and can only be traversed on foot. The matter of transport is always the difficulty in climbing hills of any great height. Riding ponies would be the best means of getting up and down this hill; but, as there has been so little demand for them, the supply when required is not forthcoming. A party went up lately and the ladies were carried in chairs; but this was not a success, as the coolies are not used to the work and were tired out long before the top was reached. A light sort of sedan chair with shoulder straps attached to the poles would be the most comfortable way of getting up the hill and would afford the traveller protection against sun or rain.

To those used to level roads a climb of 3,300 ft. in this climate is no light undertaking if it has to be done on foot, and many would ask themselves whether the pleasure to be obtained at the top of the hill is worth the toil of getting there. From personal experience and the evidence of others I can say it is, and that anyone going up for a few days will not regret the visit.

The climate very much resembles an English summer, the thermometer going down as low as 56° and seldom rising above 80°. A variation of 24° during the day is sufficient to make the dweller of the plains feel that he is in a different climate, and the change soon has a beneficial effect on his appetite and bodily comfort. As soon as the sun is below the horizon the air feels chilly and by 8 o'clock the blaze of a wood fire in the grate is fully appreciated; and the visitor feels many miles nearer the old hearth at home.

The bungalow is very substantially built, and with more furniture could be made very comfortable. The floors are very rough, and appear never to have been cleaned since the place was whitewashed and painted. There are four bed-rooms, two of which are only partially furnished, a dining room and a sitting room, the two latter are fairly furnished and are very comfortable. At present one has to take up all bed and table linen, which is strange seeing that every Rest House is provided with such things, and but for the inventive faculties of the caretaker very little cooking could have been done for us for want of the proper utensils; but all this may be improved when the bungalow is more popular.

There is a very pleasant walk from the back of the bungalow to some huge boulders on the opposite ridge of the hill. Some local geologist might explain how these boulders got placed in their present position. Volcanic or glacial agency, Mr. Geologist?

Some Sakei paid us a visit with a quantity of fresh vegetables, which they were anxious to exchange for old sarongs and rice. We were unable to barter in kind, and paid them in cash, which they did not seem to like. There were three women in the party and they were certainly in need of more raiment. I would suggest to any one going to the bungalow to take a few old garments suitable to the wants of these people, who, I understand pay periodical visits to the place in the hope of getting such articles. The marriage ceremonies of these people are performed on the large rocks or boulders mentioned above; and there are probably some ancient traditions regarding this spot. The top of the hill is a paradise for butterflies and winged insects. The short time that we were there fourteen different specimens of butterflies were caught, and some very beautiful specimens of the beetle tribe, a carpet snake and centipede were also added to the collection.

There is no game on the hill, but on the main range, a couple of miles off, pig and deer are found.

Two jungle musicians entertained us every evening, they were named the trumpeter and bagpipes player; their scientific names will

probably be given us, on the return of an ardent entomologist who is going up the hill in the cause of science.

The exposed position of the bungalow renders it very liable to be struck by lightning and the knowledge of this does not add to the pleasure of the visitor.

The main range of mountains shuts out all view of Pahang, but Kuala Klang, Kuala Selangor, Pulau Angsa and the mountains of Sumatra can be seen on a fairly clear day.

To make a visit to the hill thoroughly enjoyable a party should go up, as the want of companionship is soon felt and a sense of loneliness is not conducive to health. A week or a fortnight at Bukit Kutu would probably do one as much good as going to Penang Hill, and the expense would be considerably less. There are at present two trains a day between Kuala Lumpur and Kuala Kubu, with a probability of three in the future, so that only nine miles of transport has to be arranged, which is one thing very much in favour of Bukit Kutu as compared with other hill resorts. There is very little doubt but that this hill will be very popular when it becomes more known; and it is to be hoped that many will derive that benefit from a visit there, which the Government contemplated when they generously sanctioned the expense for building the bungalow and making a good road to it.—W. T.

In connection with the above article, we print the following rules which have been framed for the use of the bungalow:

RULES FOR THE OCCUPATION OF TREACHER'S HILL
BUNGALOW (BUKIT KUTU).

(Elevation 3,300ft.)

1. This bungalow has the following accommodation:—Two furnished sitting rooms and four bed rooms, two of which latter are furnished. Bed, towels, table-linen and blankets are not supplied.

2. Applications, whether by Government Officers or private individuals, for the use of this bungalow, should be made in writing to the District Officer, Ulu Selangor, to whom all fees must be paid.

3. When more than one application is made for the occupation of the bungalow, priority will be given to applications from public officers in order of date; after which, applications from private individuals will be taken in order of date; but an application made on the ground of ill health, supported by medical certificate, may at any time be accepted, as giving the first claim.

4. Except by special permission in the case of sickness, no officer or private individual will be allowed to continue his occupation of the bungalow after fourteen days, if there be any other applicant for it.

5. The person in charge shall keep an inventory of the furniture and furnishings, which he shall produce to every occupant, who will be required to pay for anything found to be broken or missing, or for any damage done to the house, out-buildings, trees, plants, etc., during his occupation.

The Bungalow is reached by bridle road from Kuala Kubu, passable for horses or ponies. The distance from Kuala Kubu is about nine miles. The journey takes about three hours.

SCALE OF CHARGES FOR THE BUNGALOW.

Government Officers.

Up to 14 days	Free.
For any period after 14 days, per diem ...	\$1.

Persons not in Government Service.

One day	\$ 2.00
After 1st day up to one week, per diem ...	1.50
One week	10.00
Two weeks	15.00
Three weeks	20.00
One month	25.00

MALAY CUSTOMS IN SOUTHERN SELANGOR.

MARRIAGE.

IN a "Descriptive Dictionary of British Malaya," under the word "marriage," we find:—"The only terms for marriage in Malay are the Arabic and Persian ones, respectively *nikah* and *kahwin*, the native ones having probably been displaced by these and forgotten." Both these words are used in Selangor, the first (*nikah*), which properly signifies the mere ceremony or "wedding," being more commonly used by the better class of Malays than the more comprehensive *kahwin*, which corresponds pretty nearly to the English word "marriage." Words expressing the married state with reference to one of the parties only, however, are in frequent use: such as *ber-suami* and *ber-istri* (applied to husbands and wives of the higher classes), and again *ber-laki* and *ber-bini* of the common people, and yet again there is the word *be-rumah-rumah* applied indifferently to either of the two parties or to both, and which is the politest word that can be used with reference to the common people, but is never applied to Rajas; in whose case *ber-suami* or *ber-istri* alone is used.

When the term of betrothal is drawing to its close, a suitable day (which is generally a Tuesday *) is chosen for the work of decoration (*ber-gantong-gantong*) by the parents of both parties and notified to the relations and friends who wish to assist.

Both houses are decorated with vertically striped hangings (*plang tabir* †) and ornamental ceiling-cloths (*langit-langit*), and mats, rugs, carpets, etc., are laid down. In the bridegroom's house little more is done beyond erecting a small platform or dais (*petarana*) about six feet square, and raised about ten inches from the floor, upon which he is to don his wedding garments when he goes to meet his bride. A similar platform (*petarana*) is erected in the bride's house, and

* Or occasionally a Sunday.

† *Tabir*.—These hangings are of two kinds (1) *tabir ampai* or the tapestry which hangs down: (2) *tabir gulong* or the tapestry which is rolled up.

another called *rambat* in front of her door, at the outer corners of which two standard candlesticks (*tiang rambat*) are fixed, each of which may be as much as 6 ft. high, and which carry three candles, one in the centre, and one on each side, the latter supported by ornamental brackets (*sulor bayong*.) The *rambat* measures 14 ft. in length by 5 ft. in width and is 14 in. in height.

A double dais is then built as follows, generally opposite the doorway but standing a little way back from it, and facing the *rambat*, so as to leave a vacant space (called *téla kechil*.) between the threshold and the dais, which latter is then covered with scarlet cloth (*Kain berumpok dengan sakalat*). The lower dais (called *ibu grei*) is raised about 12 inches from the floor, and measures from 10 ft. to 12 ft. long by 8 ft. wide. The upper dais (called *grei penapah*) is erected on the top of the lower dais, but is a little smaller and is only raised about 10 inches above the lower one. The upper dais is covered with a mattress and both it and the lower dais are decorated with borders so expensive as to run up to \$150 each at the wedding of a Raja. The mattress is covered in its turn with a quilt (called *lihap* or *pelampap*), which is made of coloured silk stuffed with cotton; and this quilt is yet again covered with white cotton sheets, upon which are piled a number of ornamental pillows.

A mosquito curtain is added, and the completed couch is called *palammin*. The head of the *palammin*, it must be added, where the pillows are laid, should be on the right hand side of the door at entering.

The question of the pillows is of great importance, as their number should afford an indication of the rank of the contracting parties. They consist of a set of small square pillows piled upon a set of larger ones. The larger ones are about 5 ft. in length and 2 ft. by 1½ ft. in width, are covered with rich embroidery at the ends and placed in a horizontal row (*Sa tunda*), with their sides just touching, in the front right-hand corner of the mosquito curtain, so as to leave a clear passage of about 3 ft. behind them, by which the bride and bridegroom may issue to the *peraduan* after the ceremony.

The front pillow—i.e., the one which is nearest the centre of the couch—is called *bantal tumpu*.

The correct scale of pillows is said to be as follows: (a) for the Sultan, or a member of his family (except the offspring of a morganatic marriage), seven large pillows, arranged in a horizontal row as described, and counting from the left.

On the top of the 2nd big pillow, he is entitled to 1 small pillow					
"	"	3rd	"	"	3 (piled vertically)
"	"	4th	"	"	5 " "
"	"	5th	"	"	7 " "
"	"	6th	"	"	9 " "
"	"	7th	"	"	11 " "

Being a total of 36 *

* This makes a grand total of 43, a number suggestive rather of Muhammadan influences.

In the case of a well-to-do person—e.g., a Penghulu or *Orang Besar*—the following scale should be applied:—

On the top of the 2nd big pillow	he is entitled to	1	small pillow
“ “ 3rd	“ “ “	2	“ “
“ “ 4th	“ “ “	3	“ “
“ “ 5th	“ “ “	4	“ “
“ “ 6th	“ “ “	5	“ “

or 15 small pillows in all, the 7th and 1st places being empty.

The common people are really only entitled to four pillows (including the *bantal tumpu*), covered by three small ones; but they generally please themselves in the matter and do not adhere at all closely to ancient custom.

The extraordinary piling up of pillows required for the wedding of a Raja necessitates measures being taken to prevent the small pillows from falling, and this is accordingly done by stuffing the space between each pile with wool or cotton and covering it in front with embroidered cloth-work, the upper border of which is carried diagonally from the top of one pile to the top of the next. This stuffing is called *penyelat*, and is not of course necessary in the case of a commoner's wedding, where the pillows are not piled sufficiently high to be in danger of falling.

The big pillows are white (with the exception of the embroidered ends), unless they are intended for a Raja, when yellow is of course substituted.

The smaller pillows are red and are called decorated pillows (*bantal ber-tekat*, or *bantal prada*). They are occasionally twelve in number (and are then called *bantal prada duablas biji*), but this number is said to be a deviation from the stricter custom. The mosquito curtain (referred to above) varies in size according to the *palamin*, but may be put down at from 7 to 9 *hasta* in length by 8 ft. in width and must reach to the ceiling-cloth. Its upper edges (*kansor*) are stiffened externally with a frame of four bamboo rods (*galah klambu*), and decorated with a sort of diamond shaped fringe intended to resemble leaves (*daun budi*). The front of this mosquito curtain is rolled up to within 2 or 3 ft. of the top instead of being drawn aside as usual. At the back of the curtain is suspended a bamboo clothes-rod called *buluh sangkut-kan kain*. This rod terminates at each extremity in a *sulor bayong* (or ornamental piece of scroll-work covered with scarlet cloth, which issues from a short stem of horn or ivory called *dulang-dulang*). Each *dulang-dulang*, moreover, has small hollows (*mbat-mbat*) at the top, two in the front which are filled with perfume (*ayer mawar* or *ayer wangi*), and two at the back which are filled with flowers.

Between the suspending cords (*tali penggantung*) of the clothes-rod—which, by the way, are also covered with scarlet cloth—an inner fringe (*daun budi dalam*) is sometimes added at the top of the curtain.

Nothing else should be put inside the curtain at the wedding of a Raja, but at an ordinary wedding small typical articles of marriage furniture are usually added as follows:—

Three or four small clothes boxes (*saharah*) such as are kept by every Malay family, and *peti kopor* (boxes whose corners are strengthened and decorated with brass) are ranged upon the mattress just below the clothes-rod. Upon these should be placed (a) the *bangking*, which is a kind of lacquered wooden jar, or urn, standing from about half a foot to a foot in height, and containing a portion of the lady's wardrobe, (b) the *Bun*,* which is either *pechah d'latan*—i.e., octagonal—or *pechah anam*, hexagonal, as the case may be, and which may be described as a box of tin or sometimes of lacquered wood, containing (1) a couple of combs (*sikat dua bilah*), one with large and one with small teeth; (2) a small cup or saucer of hair oil (a preparation of coconut oil), or *minyok attar* or *kateneh* (pomatum); (3) a small pen-knife for paring the nails; (4) a pair of scissors; (5) a preparation called *chelak*, which is a sort of black ointment intended for application to the inside edge of the eyelids; and (6) a Malay work-box (called *dulang* by Selangor Malays and *bintang* by Malacca Malays, who are said to have taken it from Java or Palembang), which is a circular box of painted or lacquered wood and furnished with a lid, and which contains needles, cotton, and the rest of the Malay housewife's paraphernalia.

Near the door of the curtain is placed a kind of small earthenware jar or pitcher, called *gelok* (*gelok Kedah* and *gelok Perak* are the usual "makes"); this pitcher stands upon a small circular brass tray (*bokor*), and its mouth is covered with a brass saucer or plate (*chepir*), on which is laid the brass ladle or scoop (*penchedok ayer* or *batil*), which is used for taking water from the pitcher; and which when it is in use, is temporarily replaced by an ornamental cap woven from leaves of the screw-palm. A couple of candle-sticks placed near the waterjar, a sarih tray (*tepah* or *puan*), a basin (*batil besar*) for washing off the lees of henna, and a "cuspadore" (*ketor*), all of which are placed inside the curtain, complete the preparations for this portion of the ceremony.

The day concludes as far as the workers are concerned with a meal in which all who assist in the preparations take part, and the meal is followed by various games, such as the recitation or the chaunting of passages from the Koran (*main zikir*—or commonly *jikir*—*ma'ulut* if it is unaccompanied, and *berdah* if accompanied, by musical instruments). At a "grand" wedding either the story of *Che Megat* (*Che Megat Mantri*) may be substituted, or a royal cock-fight (*main denok*), or a performance by dancing girls or fencers (*pendikir*) may take its place.

This performance is kept up (with intervals for rest and refreshment) till four or five in the morning, when the guests disperse to their respective homes to sleep off the night's fatigue.

Whilst the games are progressing (at about 9 or 10 p.m.) the first staining of the finger nails of the bride and bridegroom is commenced, the ceremony on this first occasion being conducted in the seclusion of the inner apartments and hence called *ber-hinei churi*. Leaves of

* "C. and S." give "*Bun*, DUTCH, a large tin or copper box for tobacco or sarih leaves.—Van der Tuuk." "*Bun*" is given as a "trunk" in a Dutch Dictionary.

henna are taken and pounded up together with a small piece of charcoal and the "mash" applied to the finger nails of both hands (with the exception of the middle fingers, *jari hantu*) and the centre of each palm is touched with the dye, the area stained being as much as would be covered by a dollar. A line (of a finger's breadth) is also drawn along the inner side of the sole of each foot, from the great toe to the heel (*hinei kaus*).

A couple of what we should call "pages,"* of about ten years of age, are seated right and left of the bridegroom and are called *Pengapit*.

The bride usually provides herself with one or more girl companions, but these "hide" themselves when there is company, their place being taken by more staid duennas who are called *Tukang Andam* (i.e. "coiffeurs") and a mistress of the ceremonies, called *Mainang* (*Mah Inang*).

On the second day, the guests having returned to their homes (as was said above), sleep off their night's fatigue, and do not reassemble till nightfall, about 5 p.m.

When the last has arrived, (at about 7 p.m.) supper is served, and at about half past eight the games recommence and after a round or so (*zikir sa-jurus*), say at about 10 p.m., the bride at her house and bridegroom at his, respectively, make their first appearance in public clad in their wedding garments, for the staining of the finger nails (*ber-hinei*). On being seated between the two candlesticks, which are lighted to facilitate the operation, a tray is brought forward furnished with the following ingredients—charmed flour, washed rice, saffron rice, parched rice and crushed henna leaves, a censer is next produced, and a brass tray with a foot to it (called *sembrip*) is loaded with *nasi berhinei* (pulut rice mixed with saffron) and 10 to 15 eggs dyed red with a mixture of sepang (brazil) wood and lime and stuck upon ornamental sprays (made of bamboo and coloured paper) are planted in the rice (just as our sprigs of holly are planted in our Christmas pudding). The bride (or bridegroom) is then seated in a "begging" attitude, with hands, palm upwards, in the lap, the back of the hands resting on a cushion placed in the lap: one of the guests then takes a

* This is of course in the case of an ordinary wedding. The procedure at a Sultan's or Raja's wedding is of course far more elaborate. In the case of a Sultan, his train is made up as follows:

1. Sixteen maidens as scarf-bearers (*yang men-bawa kain dokong*), wearing a yellow scarf (about 5 hasta in length) one end of which is passed over the right shoulder and under the left arm, the remainder thrown over the left shoulder.

2. Sixteen maidens carrying lighted candles and scarves with embroidered ends (*tampam-tampam*), which are about 23 inches long by 6 inches wide, and are worn slung over the right shoulder with the embroidery displayed in front.

3. Eight youths called *penjawat*, whose offices are distributed as follows:—

i. and ii. The first two acting as pages (*pengapit*).

iii. One bearing the Royal "kris."

iv. One bearing the Royal sword.

v. One bearing the Royal betel-coffer (*cherana sirih*).

vi. One bearing the Royal (yellow) umbrella.

vii. One bearing the Royal tobacco-coffer (*chepoh*).

viii. One bearing the Royal "cuspadore" (*ketur*).

These eight youths are provided with scarfs similar to those last described, which are also worn slung over the right shoulder but are called "*scati*."

The other princes of the blood compose their trains as follows:—

1. Eight maidens (instead of 16) wearing the scarf called *kain chindei*.

2. Eight maidens bearing lighted candles and wearing the scarves called *tampam-tampam*.

3. Eight youths (*penjawat*).

pinch of incense from the tray, and burns it in the brazier (*tempat bara*); next a pinch of parched rice, a pinch of newly-washed rice, a pinch of saffron rice, and squeezing them together in the right fist holds them for a moment over the burning incense, and then throws them towards the sitter, first on the left, then on the right and finally into the lap. Then the "charmed flour"* is brought; a leaf of the plant called *daun sa penoh* and a leaf of *lenjuang merah* are tied up with *ribu-ribu* (a kind of small wild creeper) and the ends cut even, and this improvised paint-brush dipped into the charmed flour which is then dabbed once upon the forehead of the sitter and once on the back of each hand.

A pinch of the henna is then taken and similarly dabbed upon the centre of each palm, the hands being turned over for the purpose.

The sitter then salutes the guest by raising his (or her) hands with the palms together before the breast in an attitude of prayer, the guest replies by a similar action and the ceremony is at an end.

The same operation is gone through by from five to seven or even nine persons (*Orang Waris*) the last operator reciting a prayer.

While this ceremony is proceeding music has struck up, and a special dance called the Henna Dance or *menari hinei* † is going on, the most peculiar feature of which is a small candle which is placed in a brazen cup and carried by the dancer, ‡ who has to keep it from being extinguished by the wind arising from his rapid movements.

The step is also a special one and is called *Langkah tar'-hinei* (*tari hinei*) and the tune is called *Lagu Berhinei*.

The ceremony over, the rice (*nasi ber-hinei*) is eaten by those present and the remainder distributed to the guests playing *zikir*.

On the third night the same ceremonies are repeated without variation.

On the fourth morning (called Hari Langsong) everybody puts on their finest apparel and jewellery.

The bride's hair is done up in a roll (*sanggul*) and this is surmounted with a headdress of artificial flowers (called *grak gemper*), cut out of *prada lerésék* ("crackling tinsel") and raised on fine wires; her forehead is bound with a band or fillet of tinsel—gold leaf (*prada Siam*) is used by the rich—which is called "*tekan kundi*," and which is carried round by the roots of the hair (*gigi rambut*) down to the top of each ear (*pelipis*); for the rest the bride is clad in a *baju pengantin*, which has tight sleeves down to the wrist, or sleeves with gathers (*simak*) over the arm, and is generally made of red cloth (*siten berbunga* or "flowered satin" in the case of the rich, *kain kasumba* for the poorer classes); it fits tightly round the neck, has a gold border, (*pendepun 'mas*) and is fastened with two or three gold buttons, and fits closely to the form; the wealthy add a necklace (*vantei merjan* or *doko*) round the bride's neck. She also wears her bracelets and earrings (*subang*), and perhaps anklets (*keronchong panchalagam*). A silk sarong, taking the place of a skirt, and girt about the waist

* *Tepung tawar* lit. means Flour Antidote, or "Propitiatory Flour" and it is said to be a charm against Evil (*Membuang Sial*): it is no doubt a reminiscence of idol-worship.

† Not at a "Raja's" wedding. ‡ This game is called *menyetang* or *ber-lebat*.

with a waist-cord (but *not*, in these parts, fastened with belt and buckle), and a pair of silk trousers completes her attire.

The groom, on the other hand, is clad in his best jacket and trousers, with sarong fastened at the side and girt above the knee (*kain kembang*) his head is adorned with the *sigar* (a peculiar head-dress of red cloth arranged turbanwise with a peak on the right-hand side from which artificial flowers depend (*gunjei*) and which preserves its shape by being stuffed with cotton wool. Its border is decorated with tinsel and it has a gold fringe (*kida-kida*). In each ear is stuck a small bunch of artificial flowers (*sunting-sunting*), and two similar bunches are stuck in the turban (one on the right and one on the left).

The richer bridegrooms, however, wear what is called a *lester* (not *dester*), and Sultans formerly wore a *songko teleng*—i.e., a sort of gold cap reputed to contain 18 "bongkal" of gold.

The remainder of the company are of course dressed "in all their best."

The "Rice of the Presence" or "Presentation Rice" (*nasi adap-adap*) is then prepared for the *setakona*,* which may be described as a framework with an octagonal ground-plan built in three tiers, and made of *pulai* or *meranti* or other light wood; it has a small mast (*tiang*) planted in the centre, with cross pieces (*palang-palang*) in each of the upper stories to keep it in its place: the framework is supported by four corner posts on which it is raised about a foot and a half from the floor. The vessel is then filled to the top with "saffron rice" (*nasi kuniet*) and in the rice at the top are planted the afore-described coloured eggs. Into a hole at the top of the mast is fitted the end of a short rattan split into four branches, each of which are again split into three twigs, on each of which is stuck a red egg called *telor-joran*, an artificial flower, and an ornamental streamer of red paper called *layer*. †

The *setakona* is erected in front of the *palammin*, on which the bride takes her seat at about 4 p.m. to wait the coming of the bridegroom, the members of her bridal party, including the *Imaum*, continuing the *Zikir Ma'ulut* in the reception room from 9 a.m. until the bridegroom's arrival. The arrangements are completed by placing ready for the bridegroom the *lapih nikah*, consisting of a mat (of mengkuang leaves or, in the case of a Raja, a small quilt, whose borders are decorated in the manner called "Jong Sarat"), five hasta of white cloth (which are rolled up, and put on one side) and a sirih tray. Returning to the bridegroom, holy water or *ayer sembahyang* is fetched in a *cherek* (a sort of metal can) or bucket, in which the bridegroom washes his face and hands, and then proceeds to put on his wedding garments, as described above.

* According to Clifford and Swettenham, *astakona* means rice piled in eight tiers used on festal occasions. Whether it has that meaning in other states I do not know, but in Selangor the name undoubtedly refers to the octagonal ground-plan of the framework.

† I may point out the extraordinarily close resemblance, generally speaking, between our wedding (and birthday) cakes in England and the "Setakona," or wedding cake of the East. It may be only a coincidence, but if so it is a very curious one, that rice (of all things) is thrown after the happy couple when they drive away from the door to start the honeymoon. It seems to me quite possible that we have here preserved a tradition of oriental customs. The mast, with its branches carrying artificial flowers, streamers and coloured eggs, is of course emblematic of a fruit tree, the eggs representing the fruit and the streamers its leaves.

A scarf (*salendang*) is slung across his shoulder. The marriage procession (*perarakkan*) then sets out, the women heading the procession (*peganjor*) and the men following, with the bridegroom carried upon somebody's shoulders (*di-sompoh*), and right and left come the musicians (beating drums, tabors, etc.) together with the rest of the company engaged in the *Zikir*, while those who are skilled amuse the company with exhibitions of Malay fencing (*main silat*), dancing, and various games of skill.

The arrival of the bridegroom at the bride's house is the signal for a mimic conflict for the person of the bride, which is called "Melawa" and is strangely reminiscent of similar customs which formerly obtained in Europe. On arriving at the door, the musicians strike up their liveliest tune, and as the bridegroom is carried up the steps he has to force his way through an amazonian force consisting of the ladies of the bride's party, who assemble to repel the invader from the threshold. A well-directed fire is maintained by others, who pour upon the foe over the heads of the defenders repeated volleys of saffron rice (*bras kuniet*); or at the wedding of a Raja *ambor-ambor*—i.e. clippings from a thin sheet of silver or gold which are thrown among the crowd as largess. In some cases a rope of piece of red cloth is stretched across the path to bar the progress of the bridegroom's party.

Recollecting, however, it may be presumed, the Malay equivalent for the proverb that "faint heart never won fair lady," the bridegroom persists until his efforts are crowned with success and he makes his way (assisted possibly by some well-meant piece of treachery on the part of the garrison) to the reception room, when the mat already alluded to is unrolled and the white cloth suspended over it. Here the bridegroom takes his seat and the priest comes out to perform the wedding ceremony.* This, strangely enough, is performed with the bridegroom alone, the priest saying to him in the presence of three or four witnesses and his surety (*wali*), generally his father, "I wed you A— to B— daughter of C— for a portion of two bharas," and to which the bridegroom responds "I accept this marriage with B— for a portion of two bharas" (or one bhara, in the case of a widow or widower). Even this short sentence, however, is a great deal too much for the nerves of some Malay bridegrooms, and has been known to take a couple of hours of abortive attempts before it could be "passed." As soon, however, as this obstacle has been surmounted, the priest asks the witnesses if they will bear witness to its correctness, and on their replying in the affirmative, the ordeal is followed by the *bacha salawat*, which consists of repeated shouts from the company of "Peace be with thee." The ceremony completed one of the brothers or near relations of the bridegroom leads him into the bridal chamber, and seats him in the usual position on the right side of the bride who sits with her feet curled up on her left. Even the process of seating the couple

* It is said that this is a departure from the old custom according to which the wedding ceremony takes place the day before the procession (except at the re-marriage of a widow who has no children, *kawin janda berias*). In the case of the re-marriage of a widow who has no children by her former husband there is no procession at all, and the ceremonies are somewhat abridged.

(*bersanding*) is a very fatiguing one; as each of them has to bend the knees slowly until a sitting posture is reached, and then return to a standing posture by slowly straightening the knees, a gymnastic exercise which has to be repeated thrice and which requires the assistance of friends.*

The seating having been accomplished, friends put in the right hands of bride and bridegroom respectively handfuls of rice taken from the *nasi sëtékona*; with this the two feed each other simultaneously, each of them reaching out the hand containing the rice to the other's mouth.

The bridegroom is then carried off by his friends to the outer chamber, where he has to pay his respects (*minta maaf*) to the company, after which he is carried back to his old post, the bride in the meantime having moved off a little in the mosquito curtain.

The sweet-meats are then brought and handed round, the *satakona* is broken up and the bundles of rice wrapped in plantain leaves which it contains distributed to the company as largess or *berkat*. Each of the company gets one of the *telor chachak*, the *telor joran* being reserved for the Imaum and any person of high rank who may attend—*e.g.*, a Raja.

This completes the wedding ceremony, but the bridegroom is expected to remain under the roof (and eye) of his mother-in-law for about a year (reduced to 44 days in the case of "royalty"), when he may be graciously allowed to remove to a house of his own. No Kathi is present at marriages in this part of the State, nor has it ever been the practice so far as I can find out for him to attend. Sir S. Raffles gives as part of the formula used in Java:—"If you travel at sea for a year, or ashore for six months, without sending either money or message to your wife, she will complain to the judge and obtain one *talak* (the preliminary stage of divorce)," and this condition should strictly be included in the Malay formula as well. It is now growing obsolete, but was formerly repeated first by the priest, and then by the bridegroom after him. The marriage pledge (*isi kahwin*, Arabic *mahar*) is here generally called *blanja kahwin* or *mas kahwin*. No wedding ring is given.

For three days lustrations are continued by the newly married pair, but before they are completed, and as soon as possible after the wedding, friends and acquaintances once more put on their wedding clothes, and proceed to the house to pay their respects, to bathe, and to receive largess.

Raja Bôt attaches great importance to the lustrations following the wedding, which, he says, ought not to take place later than the

* A couple of matronly ladies are generally told off for this service, the ceremony being as follows:—

1. They raise first the man and then the woman slowly to a standing posture; when it is reached the bridegroom says to the bride, "Take heed, care for thy husband, care for my good name, care for me." (*Baik-baik jaga laki awak, jaga nama sahya, jaga-kau aku*); to this the bride responds in similar form, *mutatis mutandis*, and they are then as slowly re-seated.

2. They are similarly raised, and repeat as before, in turn, the words "assuredly I will not do thee any shame whatever," (*sahya ta' boleh buat satu apa kamalu-an diatas awak*).

3. When raised for the third and last time they say "I ask the Lord God to give us both long life, and that all our handiwork may prosper" (*sahya minta kepada Tuhan Allah ber samaana panjang umor, semua kreja dengan selamat*).

seventh day after a Raja's wedding ; and he describes the fuller ceremony as once arranged by himself. "A small bath-house was built at the top of a flight of seven steps, and water was pumped up to it through a pipe, whose upper end was made fast under the roof of the shed, and terminated in the head of a dragon (*naga*), from whose jaws the water spouted. The steps were completely lined with women, of whom there have must been a very great number (no men being allowed to intrude), and the Raja and his bride bathed in their presence. This royal bath-house was called *Balei pancha persada*, and should be used not only at "royal" weddings, but at coronations (*Naubatkan*) ; it is described in the following lines:—

' *Naik balei pancha persada
Dihadap uleh segala Beduanda,
Dudok semaiam dengan bertakhta,
Mandi ayer yang keluar di mulut Naga.*'"

It must not be supposed that, with such a mass of detail, many things may not have been overlooked, but it may be remarked as some sort of a practical conclusion to this article that this Malay wedding ceremony, even as carried out by the poorer classes, evidently the embodiment of the tradition of a *royal* wedding ; and in all probability a Hindu one. In support of this idea I may mention in addition the fact that the happy pair are actually called *Raja Sari*, i.e., *Raja Sa-hari*, the "sovereigns of a day"), and it is a polite fiction that no command of theirs, during their one day of sovereignty, may be disobeyed.—W. S.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our Correspondents.]

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A COMPLAINT.

To the Editor of the Selangor Journal.

SIR,—I should like, if you will spare me a small space in your paper, to draw your attention to what appears to me, and to others—who, like me, have the misfortune to live in the Ulu—to be a great and unnecessary hardship, not to say serious inconvenience. Owing to the recent heavy rains, the railway has suffered one of its periodical little breakdowns ; but, not thinking that a sufficient punishment for our sins, the Post Office authorities have kept us for three days without our letters, and none are at hand yet. Surely a system of "runners" should not be a difficult thing to arrange, and no doubt, if the breakdown lasts sufficiently long, we shall eventually get our letters by that means. Such a system, however, should be inaugurated immediately the collapse of the railway takes place, and it is to be hoped that the Post Office will really try and "buck up" next time—due in about six months—and give us our letters as usual.

I am, etc., A SUFFERER.

SERENDAH, 7th May, 1896.

NOTES AND NEWS.

ON the 25th instant the Sikh contingent paraded at 6.45 a.m., under command of Captain Lyons, in honour of Her Majesty's Birthday. A "Feu de Joie" was fired, and three cheers were given for the Queen. After "marching past" the contingent returned to Barracks.

DR. AND MRS. WELCH arrived in Kuala Lumpur on the 17th inst. Dr. Welch resumes charge of the Pauper Hospital. Dr. Hertz will shortly proceed to Europe, on leave, on medical certificate.—Mr. S. E. Harper left for Singapore, *en route* for Europe, on the 19th inst., a large number of his friends were at the Kuala Lumpur Station to see him off. Mrs. Harper followed on the 26th.—Mrs. Travers, who has been visiting in Ceylon, will return with Dr. Travers from Singapore on Sunday next.—Mr. C. Baxendale has returned to Kuala Lumpur.—Mr. G. Ketschker, the lessee of the Kuala Lumpur Rest House, who has been seriously ill of late, left yesterday for a short visit to Germany. Mrs. Ketschker will conduct the business during his absence.—Mr. and Mrs. Ebden will most probably leave Selangor for Europe on the 7th inst.—Mr. C. N. Maxwell will shortly go home on four months' leave.—Mr. Henry Walker, of British North Borneo, paid a visit to Selangor during the week with the object of looking round some of our coffee estates before going home to England.

THE following announcement appears in the London *Daily Telegraph* of the 26th ult.: "FRENCH-CROSTHWAITE.—On the 22nd inst., at St. Jude's Church, Southsea, by the Rev. Mark Dyer French, late Vicar of Appledore with Ebony, Kent, father of the bridegroom, assisted by the Rev. J. S. Blake, Vicar of St. Jude's, Julius Stephen Hay, youngest son of the above, to Emma St. Barbe, second daughter of the late William Crosthwaite, formerly of Ferrybank House, Fife, N. B."

THE sad news of Mr. N. W. Roy's death in Bangkok on the 11th inst. was heard with great regret in Selangor, where he had many friends. The late Mr. Roy first came to Selangor in 1889, and was engaged upon the Ulu Selangor extension of the S. G. R. from that date until its completion to Kuala Kubu in October, 1894, first under

the contractor, Mr. Murray Campbell, and afterwards under Government. He had a great reputation as a hard and persevering worker, indefatigable and never tiring; his hospitality, too, was proverbial, and few Europeans are here who have not been entertained at "Roy's House" at the various points between Kuala Lumpur and Kuala Kubu where he pitched his camp.

At the examination in the Malay language held at Klang early in the month, Mr. E. J. Roe passed in the final and Mr. C. Severn (who paid a flying visit to Selangor to attend the examination) qualified in Standard I.

MR. ALEXANDER KOCH (Messrs. G. R. Lambert and Co., Photographers, Singapore), intends, we hear, to open a Studio in Kuala Lumpur, which will be under his personal supervision at stated intervals during the year.

THE Collector of Land Revenue writes: "The position of a penghulu at head-quarters is more trying than in an out-station, for the reason that he has to deal with different departments under separate control, and the general good conduct and efficiency displayed is consequently the more creditable. More is required of a penghulu now than in former days. It is satisfactory, therefore, to note an increasing readiness on the part of young Malays of good family to join the service of the Government in capacities which will give them an insight into land affairs."

THE Paperchase meet on the 21st inst. was the occasion of an accident that at first wore a very serious aspect. The proposed run was round the old racecourse, and afterwards, going quietly by road, round the new racecourse, hurdles and jumps being arranged at each place. A large number of spectators had driven out to the course on the Circular Road, and soon after the run started, Mr. King on *Black-king* and Mr. Maxwell on *Vixen* both took the water jump together, they cannoned slightly on landing, and Mr. King was thrown. He was rendered quite unconscious, and, Dr. Hertz having arrived, was removed to the Hospital, where he remained insensible till the following day. Grave fears were at first entertained as to the extent of his injuries. It is since ascertained that no bones are broken, and that it was a case of concussion. Mr. King, we are happy say, is on the road to recovery and is progressing as rapidly as can be expected.

THE returns from the Inspectors of Engines show that 151 engines were at work for mining purposes as against 131 year 1894.

The Inspectors report that the general condition of the engines inspected was satisfactory. "The engines are being slightly better kept as to cleanliness, adjustment, etc., but some particular towkays seem totally indifferent to the condition of the machinery and will not incur the very small outlay for waste, emery-cloth and bathbrick which is necessary to keep the engines in proper working order." The Registrar of Mines writes: "I would again point out the necessity of framing a Regulation providing for the employment of none but certificated drivers. Many instances might again be cited in which ignorant drivers have worked their engine at a danger to life and property."

FIRES have recently occurred in Sungei Besi and neighbourhood, and at about 5 p.m. on Tuesday last there was a fire in Kuala Lumpur town, the top-story of a house in Old Market Square being completely gutted. The adjoining house on each side was slightly damaged by fire and water, but the Brigade are to be complimented very highly on the manner in which the progress of the fire was stopped. Lieutenant Cormac, Senior Officer in charge, reports that, although a holiday, there was little delay in getting to work, and that by 6 o'clock the Brigade had full command over the fire. The danger to the block of buildings will be understood when it is stated that in a house next to the scene of the fire, a large stock of matches and damar was stored; the goods were hastily thrown out while successful efforts to "stop" were being made. Mr. Ebden was on the spot shortly after the fire broke out and rendered valuable aid to the Brigade, as did Mr. H. Askey, who also volunteered. Lieutenant Von Donop was present, but Chief Officer Bellamy and Lieutenant Scott were away in Perak.

IN planting enterprise of recent years, in the Malay States, Selangor has held the premier position; while, from returns lately published in the *Perak Government Gazette*, it would appear that we have also attained the foremost place as producers of tin. The total weight of tin and tin-ore exported from Perak during 1895 was pikuls 400,956.83; from Selangor, 420,088.15, being an excess over Perak of pikuls 19,131.32. The Perak figures for 1895 show an increase over their 1894 output of pikuls 5,274.86; Selangor has exceeded its previous year by pikuls 44,750.65.

THE Singhalese Buddhist Carol party commemorated the birth of "Prince Sidharta Buddha" by going in procession round the town and its outskirts on the night of the 25th inst. between the hours of

8 and 11 p.m.; that was the advertised time; but as it was nearly 3 a.m., on the 26th, when we heard them, we feel sure that the Carol Party must have been quite as anxious to get to bed as we were unwilling to be disturbed, and we would strongly advise them in future to get it over a trifle sooner. The proceedings were in connection with the Sasanahbi Wurdhi Wardhana Society, whose temple in the Brickfields Road, the foundation stone of which was laid by Mrs. Spooner in August, 1894, is now approaching completion.

QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY.—Popular Sports on the Parade Ground, Kuala Lumpur, on Saturday, 6th June, 1896. The public of Selangor are invited to attend a Meeting at the Selangor Club, on Saturday, the 30th May, at 6 p.m., for the purpose of electing a Committee to arrange the above-mentioned Sports.

IN July next a sale of 27 blocks of virgin forest in the Klang district will be held; each block will be about 320 acres, the upset price will be \$1 an acre and the annual quit-rent 50 cents.

THE Committee of the Selangor Club, elected on the 29th ult., held its first regular monthly meeting on the 16th inst., Mr. J. P. Rodger, President, Mr. A. T. D. Berrington, Vice-President, Captain Syers, Dr. Travers, and Messrs. E. V. Carey, G. Cumming, J. Russell, C. E. F. Sanderson and W. D. Scott, and Mr. Bligh, Secretary, being present. The following gentlemen were elected as members of the Club: Messrs. W. Hay, F. B. Hicks, M. S. Parry, T. R. Hubback, J. B. Leech, J. S. Dysart, R. W. Munro and J. H. Pye. The following sub-committees, subject to the consent of the various nominees, were formed: *Finance*—Messrs. H. S. Day, W. Gibson and W. E. Venning; *Cricket*—Messrs. A. H. Bagnall, C. Glassford, A. B. Hubback and E. W. Neubronner; *Football*—Messrs. M. A. Hawes, A. B. Hubback, A. B. Lake, and F. H. Lott; *Tennis*—Messrs. A. S. Baxendale, W. Gibson, E. W. Neubronner and C. C. Trotter; *Billiards*—Messrs. H. S. Day, W. Nicholas and W. E. Venning; *Reading Room*—Messrs. Charter, J. Brown and St. L. Parsons; *Entertainment*—Captain Syers, Dr. Travers and Messrs. A. S. Baxendale, A. B. Hubback, St. L. Parsons, C. E. Spooner and W. Tearle. After discussing proposed alterations to the rules of the Club, and other business, the meeting adjourned until the 20th May.

At the adjourned meeting, on the 20th, the same gentlemen (with the exception of Mr. Carey, who was unavoidably absent) were present. The Secretary suggested for the consideration of the Committee

formation of a sub-committee for the purpose of reporting on structural and other improvements to the Club, and it was resolved that the following gentlemen be appointed—Dr. Travers, Mr. C. Sanderson and Mr. W. Nicholas. It was resolved that in future a charge of five cents per cup be made for tea served over the bar. An application for the use of the Club on Saturday, 6th June, in connection with Police Sports was considered. It was resolved that the annual sports in honour of the Queen's Birthday be held on the same occasion, and that notices be issued calling a public meeting for the 30th inst., to draw up a programme and make the necessary arrangements. The alterations to rules were again discussed, as well as the estimates for the current half-year, and it was resolved that an extraordinary general meeting be held on the 6th June to consider both these questions.

MINUTES of a General Meeting of the Selangor Planters' Association held in the Selangor Club, Kuala Lumpur, on 2nd May, 1896, at 10.30 a.m.

Present: Messrs. E. V. Carey (Chairman), A. B. Lake, E. B. Skinner, A. Walker, L. Dougal (Committee Members), Hüttenbach, Hurth, Shepherd, R. Meikle, Parry, Hicks, Prior, J. D. Toynbee, Gunn, Rendle, M. Stonor, Hone, C. G. Glassford, J. G. Glassford, Kon Soon Kiat and Tom Gibson (Hon. Sec.)

1. The notice calling the meeting was taken as read.
 2. The minutes of last general meeting were read and confirmed subject to the substitution of seven for five and five for three in para. 8, re-election of new Committee.
 3. The change in the wording of rule 15 as adopted at last general meeting was passed, subject to a protest from Mr. H. Hüttenbach against the change without due notice being given.
 4. The following correspondence with Government was then read
 - (a) Reply *re* collective contracts for coolies;
 - (b) Reply *re* mining rights in the case of agricultural lands;
 - (c) Reply *re* arbitration on acquisition of private land for public purposes;
 - (d) Reply *re* sale of medicines for use on estates at Government Dispensaries.
 5. Resolved that Hon. Sec. acknowledge receipt of said communications.
- Mr. Carey read correspondence with Government *re* duty on transactions in condition of land sales.

7. Proposed by Mr. Carey, seconded by Mr. Skinner, that the sum of \$15 per mensem be allowed to the Hon. Sec. as part payment of a clerk. Carried unanimously.

8. Proposed by Mr. Carey, seconded by Mr. Lake, that the Singapore papers be asked to publish weekly telegrams from London giving the closing market prices of Liberian coffee, white and black pepper and tapioca. Carried unanimously.

9. Proposed by Mr. Carey, seconded by Mr. R. Meikle, that steps be taken to procure an analysis of the port wine commonly sold in the bazaars, with the object of asking the Government to impose a prohibitive import duty; the mixture in the opinion of the Association having a most injurious affect upon the health of coolies and others who consume it and who are at present able to procure it at a nominal sum.

After some considerable discussion Mr. Prior proposed and Mr. Walker seconded the following amendment—

“That no steps be taken pending further enquiries,” which on being put to the meeting was carried.

10. Before the termination of the meeting Mr. Hüttenbach made a personal statement with regard to his actions as a member of the deputation to H.E. the Governor.

The meeting terminated with a vote of thanks to the chair at 11.45 a.m.

“REGULATION XII. of 1893 was repealed during the year under review and Regulation II. of 1895 was introduced in its stead. The chief change in the law thereby brought about is the abolition of the registration of brothels and their inmates, and also the absence of any provision for the inspection of brothels. This new Regulation came into force on 17th May, the date of its publication in the *Government Gazette*. As to the abolition of the registration of the inmates of brothels I make no comment, but I think it is a great mistake to abolish the registration of brothels and also the provision which formerly existed for their proper supervision. As long as brothels are allowed to exist, their keepers should be compelled to register them, and the houses should be open at all times to inspection by the head of the Chinese Secretariat or any officers duly authorised by him for that purpose. Thorough inspection is essential and invaluable, so that the inmates of brothels may know that Government officers are continually moving among them to whom they can appeal for assistance in case of need.”—*Annual Report, Chinese Secretariat, 1895.*

SELANGOR *v.* PERAK.

CRICKET.

THESE teams met at Taiping, on Monday and Tuesday, and after a pleasant game, in which some excellent cricket was shown, the result was a draw. I think I can safely say that Selangor could never turn out a stronger team than at present, but for this match we were not all in the best of condition. Through illness we were without Neubronner, a great loss to our side; C. Glassford, who only came out of hospital on the Friday previous to the match, could not be expected to be in his best form. Messrs. A. B. Hubback and Bagnall were also prevented through illness from practising for some time, but they both did so very well that the less said about their want of practice the better.

Perak had a very strong batting side and they were lucky enough to win the toss, which meant a great deal to them as the wicket was simply perfect and consequently all against the bowlers. Voules (who ought to have been caught and bowled when he had made 10) and Ingall, the first two Perak batsmen, set a splendid example to their side, 88 being on the board when Ingall had to give in, the heat being almost unbearable. He showed excellent form for his 37 and it was lucky for us that he could not continue. Nearly all the other batsmen got runs, and the total was 274 when the last wicket fell. Voules got a very useful 64, and Fox, Marks and Birch batted exceptionally well for their runs.

Our bowling, which at first was entrusted to T. R. Hubback and Whitley, was all through very good. Hubback had very bad luck. He beat the batsmen repeatedly, and then just missed the wickets. Whitley bowled well, but Dougal was seedy and only bowled six overs. John Glassford was by a long way the most successful bowler, as his analysis of five wickets for 60 runs shows. Up to tiffin, when the score stood at 180 for five wickets, the wicket was very easy. Rain prevented the game being resumed until after 4 o'clock, and it was when the ground was soft that John Glassford bowled with most success. He kept a splendid length all through. The hot sun in the morning made a few of our men slack, and I have seen Selangor field better many a time. T. R. Hubback did a lot of bowling and was consequently only at the wicket for a time. His display was excellent. Bagnall, McClosky, Duder and C. Glassford fielded well and Pereira might be classed along with them but for a bad miss of Captain Talbot at long leg off Hubback.

We were glad we had not to bat on Monday as we were all rather tired. Play started on Tuesday morning at 9.30. The wicket had

undergone quite a change from the previous day. It took stronger hitting to put the ball to the boundary and altogether runs were more difficult to make. T. R. Hubback and C. Glassford started to the bowling of Birch and McKenzie and with only eight runs up Hubback was caught, bowled off a bumpy ball from McKenzie; a very bad start for us. McClosky, who succeeded, made a useful stand with C. Glassford and 42 runs was on the board ere the latter was bowled by Birch. Glassford had batted in quite his old style for 23, but he could not put so much pith into his strokes as usual. A. B. Hubback next arrived only to see McClosky well caught by Ingall at short leg for a well-played-for 10. Whitley next joined Hubback and a very good stand was made. The latter was a bit out of it to start with but he gradually settled down and played a rare good innings. Whitley, too, again showed us what a good bat he is, his strokes behind the wicket being particularly neat. These two were not separated until the score was 98. Whitley had got 22 and the partnership had added 55 for the wicket. At 113 Hubback, who had a substitute running for him, was given run out, a bit of very hard luck. Considering his want of practice he showed surprising form and seemed in for a big score. Of the others, Bagnall and J. Glassford were the only ones who did anything. Both batted well and had added 28 for the last wicket when Bagnall was out l. b. w. for 14, leaving J. Glassford not out with 16 to his credit.

The Perak bowling was very much on the spot and no liberties could be taken. Birch bowls much faster than he used to, and has come on too both as regards pitch and break. McKenzie and Fox also bowled very well. The fielding was A 1 and all did well, but I think Voules, Marks, Fox, Sayers and Ingall are worthy of special notice.

Being 124 behind we had again to face the bowling after tiffin and our start was even worse than the first innings as we lost both McClosky and C. Glassford for 14 runs. Whitley ran himself out at 34 and T. R. Hubback was bowled by a good one from McKenzie at 39. It was only when Bagnall found A. B. Hubback that the first stand was made. They took the score to 62 when the latter was out l. b. w. He had again batted excellently, and altogether his batting in both innings was one of the features of the match. Duder, who succeeded, batted well for 21 and had hard luck in being caught off a very bumpy one from Birch. J. Glassford was next in and he and Bagnall put a different complexion on the game. Both batsmen played in fine style and they deserve the greatest credit for making such a stand when it was so much wanted. As there was now no chance of finishing the match stumps were drawn at 4.45 to allow of the football being played, leaving Bagnall with 16 not out and

J. Glassford with 38 not out in which were 6 fours. The match was left drawn. We were 45 runs on with four wickets in hand. A slight shower of rain about 3.30 on Tuesday afternoon, which made the ball greasy and the wicket easier, no doubt helped us much to this result. The bowling and fielding of Perak was again very fine.

The following are the scores and bowling analysis:—

PERAK.

A. B. Voules 1 b w, b Whitley	64
A. L. Ingnall retired	37
S. Fox c T. R. Hubback b Whitley	17
E. McKenzie c McClosky b J. Glassford	17
H. L. Talbot c " b "	22
E. J. Watson b Whitley	21
O. Marks b Glassford	33
D. K. Sangster b Glassford	5
E. W. Birch b Dougal	26
R. S. F. Walker b Glassford	9
W. Sayers not out	9
Extras b 12, 1 b 10 w 1	23
	<hr/>
	274

SELANGOR.

1st Innings.		2nd Innings.	
T. R. Hubback c & b McKenzie	4	b McKenzie	4
C. Glassford b Birch	23	b Birch	11
Dr. McClosky c Ingnall b Birch	10	b Birch	0
A. B. Hubback run out	43	1 b w, b McKenzie	37
H. M. Whitley st Voules b McKenzie	22	run out	5
G. H. Duder c Marks b McKenzie	4	c Sangster b Birch	21
A. H. Bagnall 1 b w, b Birch	14	not out	41
Hendrius b Fox	1	to bat	
L. Dougal b McKenzie	0	"	
B. J. Perera 1 b w, b McKenzie	0	"	
J. Glassford not out	16	not out	38
Extras, b 9, 1 b 4	13	b 9, 1 b 5	14
	<hr/>		<hr/>
	150		169

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

PERAK.

	overs.	mds.	runs.	wkts.
T. R. Hubback	17	2	52	0
Whitley	30	4	92	3
Perera	7	1	39	0
Dougal	6	0	17	1
J. Glassford	21	7	69	5

SELANGOR.

1st Innings.				2nd Innings.					
	overs.	mds.	runs.	wkts.		overs.	mds.	runs.	wkts.
Birch	18	5	39	3	Birch	17	5	50	3
McKenzie	23	8	47	5	McKenzie	21	4	63	2
Sangster	3	0	6	0	Fox	13	4	29	0
Fox	12	1	34	1	Ingnall	4	2	13	0
Sayers	2	0	7	0					

FOOTBALL.

TEAMS representing the two States met at Taiping, on Tuesday afternoon. This is the first football team that we have ever sent to Perak and it was very unfortunate that we were without Hawes, Lake and A. B. Hubback.

Quite a big crowd was present when Voules kicked off for Perak at 5 o'clock. From the start the game became interesting and both goals were frequently visited. The home forwards were showing rare

form and from a free kick Perak obtained their first goal ten minutes after starting. Unfortunately for us, about ten minutes afterwards, Rendle, who had been suffering from high fever all Sunday, felt he couldn't stand the pace, and although he didn't leave the field he was of little further use to his side. Clarke was drawn back to half and we played with four forwards during the remainder of the game. Williams and Mackenzie, the strong wing of Perak, made many visits towards Whitley, but Scott and Phillips were very safe. One time Mackenzie had the Selangor goal at his mercy and it was lucky for us that he was ruled off-side. Our forwards were not letting their opponents have it all their own way, however, and Roe gave Colonel Walker one or two good shots to save. In saving one of them the Colonel was penalised for carrying the ball and Selangor had a good chance to equalise. Unfortunately, however, the ball was sent past. With the exception of a fine pass by Hubback to Hicks, from which the latter ought to have scored, there was nothing further of note during the first half, which ended one to nothing in favour of Perak.

The second half was a repetition of the first. The ball was carried from one end of the field to the other at a great pace, and both sides made strenuous efforts to score. The defence on both sides, however, was very good, and twenty minutes had gone ere Voules scored what proved to be the winning goal. Had Bellamy tackled Voules instead of falling back on Whitley, I think this goal might have been saved. With nine minutes still to go, Roe, with a long shot, scored for Selangor and, but for the play of Freddy Dennys at this stage of the game, I think we might have equalised. For the last minute or two Whitley must have had an anxious time, and we were glad when the whistle sounded, leaving us with such a small defeat as two goals to one.

Considering the team that did duty for Selangor, and also that we played fully three-quarters of the time with practically ten men, I think we ought to congratulate ourselves that we escaped so lightly. Whitley in goal could not have saved the two goals scored against us, but he was slow in getting the ball away. Bellamy and Scott at back worked hard, and put in some really good saving. Scott, in particular, worked hard and was certainly the saviour of his side. At half Skinner and Phillips were all there, and it was very difficult to get past them. The forwards were a weak lot, but Roe and Hubback deserve a word of praise. These two always started the runs, and but for them we would have fared badly. We all know what Roe can do, but Hubback is a new man at the game; it is my impression that, with a few months' practice, we shall have few forwards like him.

For Perak Colonel Walker was safe in goal, and Allan at full back was very steady. Freddy Dennys more than anyone else should have the credit of Perak's victory. His play was really excellent, and he was by far the best man on the field. Graham also played well and Dishman made up a good half-back line. The latter, however, should learn to throw in properly. Forward—Williams, Mackenzie and Voules made a good trio, and had the left wing been equally strong they would have been hard to stop.

The game was contested in the friendliest spirit and we hope to see many more football games played between these two States. Mr. P. Scott, of Penang, acted as referee and Messrs. Grenier and F. H. Lott as linesmen. The following are the teams:—

PERAK.—*Goal*, Col. Walker; *Backs*, Watson and Allan; *Half-backs*, Graham, Dennys and Dishman; *Forwards*, Williams, Mackenzie, Voules, Gleeson and Keyt.

SELANGOR.—*Gaol*, Whitley; *Backs*, Bellamy and Scott, *Half-backs*, Rendle, Skinner and Phillips; *Forwards*, Day, Hicks, Roe, Hubback and Clarke.

GOLF.

ON the arrival of the teams in Perak on the 24th, it was learned that the arrangements for the day were that the golf match was to be played off at once, so immediately after tiffin a start was made. Messrs. C. G. and J. G. Glassford, Selangor, opposed Messrs. Baker and Voules, Perak, and Messrs. McClosky and McGregor, Selangor, opposed Messrs. Marks and Cumming, Perak. The play was very even, the Selangor men holding their own up to the eighth hole, where the match stood all square, though the course was quite strange to them. The first foursome finished all even, but the Selangor men in the second foursome lost the ninth hole through getting into one of the many ditches, so that at the end of the four-somes Perak stood one hole up—a not unsatisfactory result for Selangor, considering the nature of the course. Later in the afternoon the singles were gone on with, and the Selangor team, having in the foursomes learned something of the course, had a very easy win of fourteen holes up.

The Perak golf course is a comparatively short, narrow one, requiring straight driving—in fact, it is dangerous to use a driver if one is not well acquainted with the course and its ditches, paths, roads, trees, bushes, flower beds, drains, streams and ponds are too numerous to mention. The greens are well kept; the soil being damp, a soft mossy turf is grown.

The following are the scores in the match:

SELANGOR.		PERAK.	
C. G. Glassford	0	Baker	0
J. G. Glassford	0	Voules	0
McGregor	0	Cumming	0
McClosky	0	Marks	0
Perak 1 up			
SELANGOR.		PERAK.	
C. G. Glassford	1	Baker	0
J. G. Glassford	0	Voules	0
McGregor	0	Cumming	0
McClosky	0	Marks	0
Selangor 4 up			

"C. H. A. T."

THE doyen of the Selangor Service is Captain Syers, and long may he remain so. There is only one other official who has had anything approaching the same length of service and that, of course, is Mr. C. H. A. Turney, who after 20 years of it has just gone on long leave again. A year or two ago, when travelling on the old *Abdul Samad*, he gave me the brief outline of a nearly thirty-years' career in Government service—and, by the powers, is not such a career worth recording that it may go down to posterity in the undying pages of the *Journal*?

Charles Henry Arthur Turney was born in 1851, and came to reside in Singapore when nine years of age. When about fifteen or sixteen, he joined the Labuan service, where he became chief clerk in the Surveyor General's Department. During the eight or nine years Mr. Turney worked in Labuan he served under three different administrators: (Sir) Hugh Low, (Sir) Pope Hennessey and (Sir) Bulwer Lytton, as well as our late Resident, Mr. W. Hood Treacher, who was then Acting Auditor and Colonial Secretary. He described life in Labuan as being very monotonous, the only amusement being riding. At first they were only in communication with the outside world once every three months, but afterwards the Oriental Coal Company put on a steamer to carry Labuan coal to China and Captain Ross (of the Cocos Islands family) also put on a steamer to run monthly to Singapore, I think Mr. Turney said.

Coming to Singapore, Mr. Turney was engaged in the Police Court Department, at a time when Captain Douglas (afterwards Resident of Selangor) was Acting 1st Magistrate. His next promotion was to the Colonial Secretariat, where he conducted the clerical work of the Native States branch. This was when Messrs. A. P. Talbot, O'Brien and Hill were but cadets in the Colonial service. At the end of 1875 Mr. Turney was sent to Selangor as Treasurer. The ship which brought him to Klang was the s.s. *Raja Brooke*, and he remembers to this day that neither the Captain nor the Government officials in Malacca seemed to know exactly where Klang was, and that he had to pay £1 a day for his food on board.

At this early stage of British Protection the Residency was at Klang, which, in spite of being only an atap village, contained more houses than it does now. Mr. Davidson was Resident, and Captain Douglas had succeeded Mr. F. A. Swettenham as Assistant Resident at Bandar (Kuala Langat). Mr. Turney's initial salary was \$100 a month, which was increased by another \$50 after six months. On the strength of this he married. [N.B.—The dollar was worth more then.]

The first regular steamer that Mr. Turney remembers running to Klang was the s.s. *Telegraph*, and afterwards the s.s. *Rainbow*, which was subsidised by the Government, who also had the *Rosebud* built for them by Messrs. Riley, Hargreaves, in Singapore, a year or two before they purchased the *Abdul Samad* from Hongkong. During Captain Douglas's time the Residency was transferred to Kuala Lumpur, and Mr. Turney was left at Klang as Collector and Magistrate, Mr. Hawley being appointed Treasurer. H.H. the Sultan never came to Klang for years after British officers had been established there. When Mr. Innes—who at one time had acted as Resident—left the Selangor service, Mr. Turney went to Jugra, and Mr. Perks, an Inspector of Police, took up the Klang appointment. At this time Jugra, as a town, did not exist, the native village being at Bandar. In spite of the fact that there were no roads, the officer at Jugra was in charge of both the Kuala and Ulu Langat districts. In 1883 Mr. Turney was appointed Collector and Magistrate, Ulu and Kuala Selangor, residing at the latter place. Kuala Selangor he described as "a miserable village built on stilts over a mud puddle." Mr. Swettenham visited the place, promised pecuniary assistance, and a decent village sprang up.

With the exception of a path to Permatang Pasir, all travelling had to be done by boat (no travelling allowance in those days). Mr. Turney appointed Haji Mat Salleh, of Rawang, and Dato' Kota Pinang, of Serendah, to the penghuluships they now hold at these places. In 1884 Mr. Turney was Acting Chief Magistrate and Commissioner of Lands, and in the same year he was appointed Senior District Officer and Assistant Protector of Indian Immigrants, Klang, a post which he held for eight and a half years. Mr. Turney may be justly called the father of modern Klang. Few other officers have had such an influence over natives—both Malay and Chinese—as Mr. Turney.

The secret of this success is probably due to Mr. Turney's unflinching good temper, and to the fact that he is never in a hurry and can always find time to listen to anybody, no matter how long their story. For the last two or three years the "S.D.O." has been stationed again at Jugra. The town was built when he was there thirteen years ago, and according to C. H. A. T. the actual township had not progressed a bit during all these years. Since then, however, the people (assisted by Government) have started to build in brick, so that Mr. Turney's atap-created village of Jugra must be rapidly passing into oblivion, accelerated no doubt by the galvanic enthusiasm of the present resident British Officer.

There are few more hospitable people in the State than Mr. and Mrs. Turney, and all those who have once partaken of a curry at their table are not likely to forget it; likewise, we shall not forget the many and peculiar stories we have heard from the man whose stock of Selangor yarns and anecdotes is boundless. May the holiday improve his health, and may Mrs. Turney and the children have a good time of it, to which hope all their old friends join in, of course—R.

ON GOING TO BED LATE.

WHEN the world was young, Mr. Editor, I promised to supply you with an article bearing the above heading. My reason for not carrying out my promise earlier is that on completion of a rough draft for the article, I read what I had written to a friend for whose opinion I entertain the highest respect. The end of the reading was hailed with a loud silence, which lasted till I said, in as unconcerned a manner as I found it possible to assume, "Yes, I feared it was all bally rot." My friend's reply was intended to be reassuring, but it struck my sensitive ear as wanting in that spontaneous warmth of enthusiasm which is ever accorded by great genius to the meritorious. He said, thoughtfully and judicially, "Oh, I don't think I should say it was *all* damned rot."

Immediately after this occurrence—which resulted in the destruction of my draft—I went on leave, and not till my return from a two-pair-back to this land of pomp and audit queries did I find a suitable occasion for rewriting this article. Possibly some of the rot has been eliminated. It may be that a sentence has been introduced here and there of which my friend would approve. I will not risk the valuable life of this effusion, however, by asking his opinion again.

I take it that the fact that most forms of dissipation lead to late hours is responsible for the widely spread impression that late hours connote dissipation. Having arrived at this conclusion, it is easy to see that keeping late hours is a vice, and therefore going to bed early is a virtue.

To continue, taking my own case as an example, I am not only vicious, but am a most abandoned villain, because in addition to frolicking in the paths of vice I despise and dislike the virtuous. My experience has been that those who go to bed early never wake up. I grant that they get out of bed and dress in the morning and pursue (should I not say, are pursued by?) a vocation throughout the day; but their going to bed for the purpose of sleeping is a work of supererogation. Personally, I do not believe that regular burning of the midnight oil leads to the consumption of the midnight whisky. It is the irregular burner that becomes the regular consumer. For those with whom early rising is a necessity, and is incompatible with late retirement, I am only filled with the deepest pity.

There is a time in our lives when the fact of going to bed late is in itself a joy to us. Probably we can all of us remember how "staying up" till ten was the chief delight of those stirring times when we went out to a "party." Possibly we were bored with the dancing; even sweethearts and sweetmeats failed to interest us; still, the "party" was looked back upon with pleasure because we had stayed up till long past our usual bedtime. I can remember distinctly how I have come back loaded with trophies from a Christmas tree, and the succeeding day, instead of delighting myself with the thought of those present joys, have hugged myself with rapture on the remembrance of the late hour named by my nurse in answer to my anxious enquiry as to the time, while the simple rite of being "tucked up" was in course of execution.

Most of us cease to find pleasure in boasting of the late hours we observe very soon after we are allowed to do what we "darned well please" in the matter of going to bed. Some of those, however, who look on going to bed late as being a form of dissipation, and believing that a lurid halo suits them, derive pleasure from recounting what "dissipated" hours they have been keeping lately. It was a blithering idiot of this kind who, after recounting some pallid sins (poor ones, but his own), used to wind up with the remark, "Had I been a rich man I should have been a most *notorious* sinner."

We are always told when young that great workers go to bed early and rise early. The most successful men are naturally those who go to bed late and rise early. Mr. Gladstone is the only famous man of whom I have heard that he goes to bed early. From the number of those who observe late hours I select the following essentially hard workers, Lord Kelvin, Mr. Chamberlain and Sir Richard Webster. To me it appears extraordinary that any one can hope to turn out his best work in the daytime. "Untroubled night, they say, gives counsel best." Work frequently bores most of us in daytime. Having once settled down to it at night it never seems to pall. The quiet and freedom from interruption or other distraction cause night work to have a fatal attraction to many. Out here, too, the coolth of the night makes it specially suitable for work. What much broader views we take of our subject after a few hours of soft pure moonlight than we do at the end of an exasperatingly hot day, when our bodies, and souls, seem to have become a quivering mass of nerves.

The danger of working at night is that one is apt to become too absorbed in the subject and that the brain subsequently, when it should be at rest (permitting sleep), is busy working in the same groove into which it was directed. Inertia carries it on as inertia carries on a steamer when the propeller has ceased to revolve. This way madness lies.

So far, I believe no one has observed the difference in work carried out by gas or lamp light and that done by electric light. It has been ascertained that the most valuable and accurate work done in the world has been carried out on bright and sunshiny days and that most of the inaccurate work done by great men is to be accounted for by dull weather.

One of my chiefest reasons for preferring late hours is that I so dearly love a moonlight night. If there is anything more lovable than the tropical moonlight when the silver light bathes jungle and hill, toning down the too vivid greens and lighting up the banks of cloud and mist, it can only be the splendour of the moonlight on the desert (in North Africa, for instance) where the very air sparkles and the silver flood of light thrown down by the moon on the vast white plain (the desert appears dead white in moonlight) seems to be tossed back to the sapphire vault above. An Alpine night, where glossy clouds and sparkling ice and snow are contrasted with vast dead black shadows and monstrous boulders, cannot be considered as lovable. It is majestic. The monotonous roar of the mountain torrents makes it almost fearsome. That ideal deal of buying a man at one's own

estimation of his value and selling him at his own valuation, would, I verily believe, generally result in loss if he named his price under these conditions.

One is inclined to think that Voltaire and Rousseau, though they spent a considerable portion of their lives in Switzerland, would not have written as they did, had they ever gone out of doors at night and listened to what the "spirit of the summit" would have told them.

Revenons.

I believe that a man or woman who lived and died without ever sitting up late would never make any friends, because they would never have exchanged confidences with any one. Mutual confidences never take place, except at night. At other times explanations may be made and secrets told, but mutual confidences are not exchanged; and it is only after they have taken place that your friend's character unfolds itself, and then it shows far fewer creases than you expected to see.

Perhaps I ought to state what hour I consider "late." Like most things it becomes a matter of comparison. If it were the fashion anywhere to go to bed at eight, old age combined with learning would be necessary attributes to prevent a reputation for debauchery and dissipation clinging to the man who stayed up till ten. In Kuala Lumpur I look upon midnight as being a late hour.

On those occasions when night comes to us as the "nurse of blame" or "image of hell" it matters not greatly what time we go to bed. Her aspect is as forbidding in the study as in the bedroom. She seldom appears in these forms, however, except to those ill in body and broken in spirit. Then the halting hours, lengthening as by geometrical progression, bring nought but sorrow and pain with the hope of dawn—the dawn of eternal day for choice.

Let us forget her in this form and think of her as "gentle, loving, blackbrowed night," bringing in her train peace, rest and sleep. Perchance we are weary—even that fact has cause in it for satisfaction, if we think of each succeeding night as the resting stage after our daily journey, because the weariness of the traveller depends chiefly on the height climbed.

What matters, too, the darkness that she brings? The surrounding gloom enables us the better to appreciate the radiance before and behind us, illuminated as these prospects are by the brilliance of the future and the brightness of the past.

At last the curtain is dropped over our mental vision by—

"What is more gentle than a wind in summer?
 What is more soothing than the pretty hummer
 That stays one moment in an open flower
 And buzzes cheerily from bower to bower?
 What is more tranquil than a musk rose blowing
 In a green island far from all men's knowing?
 More healthful than the leafiness of dales?
 More secret than a nest of nightingales?
 More serene than Cordelia's countenance?
 More full of visions than a high romance?
 What but thee! Sleep?"

HARLEY

NOTES AND NEWS.

THE date for the inaugural ceremony of Federation has been postponed, and will probably be at the end of August or in September. The Resident-General is expected here early next month and will probably use the Government Secretary's house as his residence.

MR. L. P. EBDEN, who joined the Selangor service in January, 1889, left Kuala Lumpur on Tuesday, the 9th instant, on long leave. Few officers in the State have the intimate knowledge of the intricacies of our local land laws possessed by Mr. Ebden, whose services in connection with the working of the Land Code have extended beyond Kuala Lumpur district, and whose advice on matters in the out-districts has been in frequent request, while his duties as Registrar of Titles included, of course, the whole State. There is no doubt that the strain of work as Collector of Land Revenue and Registrar of Titles has been great and continuous during the past five years, and it is not to be wondered at that Mr. Ebden's health broke down some few months ago. All his brother officers in Selangor hope to welcome him back, after his vacation, in full health and vigour, and a number of them assembled at the railway station to see him off. Mrs. Ebden, who, we are sorry to say, has not been well for some time past, left on the preceding Saturday, by the *Esmeralda*.

MR. T. H. KERSHAW, Registrar of Deeds and Official Assignee, Singapore, has been appointed Legal Adviser to the Federated Native States.—Mr. John Anderson, of Singapore, was in Kuala Lumpur for a few days at the beginning of the week.—Mr. J. Harris, an old-established coffee planter of Kediri, Java, has been looking round our estates recently. He is opening up a connection for the sale of best selected seed coffee.—A meeting of the provisional Committee of the Central Planters' Association was held at the Selangor Club on Monday last.

THE date of the C. W. A. sale of work announced in our last issue had to be altered, owing to the Sports, from the 6th of June to Thursday, the 2nd of July. It will be held at the Masonic Hall, at four o'clock.

MRS. COMERFORD, certificated nurse, has been engaged by the Kuala Lumpur Samaritan Society, and will enter on her duties on the 15th inst. Mrs. Stafford and Mrs. Chartres have kindly undertaken the duties of Visiting Lady for June and July, respectively.

"It is a peculiar matter to record of a Mohamadan State, but in Rembau, whilst arranging for a site for pig pounds near the new Chenong township, I discovered considerable competition amongst the people about which valley should be set aside for the purpose, they were fully alive to the benefit the pigs were as vehicles for manuring the padi fields in the lower part of the valley. Dato' Mentri said that many almost useless padi fields had become very fruitful in consequence of the pigs kept in Rembau during the last ten years; indeed, it is very plainly perceptible at Kendong."—*Mr. Hale, D.O., Tampin.*

MR. TURNER, in a monthly report, bears testimony to the great interest H. H. the Raja Muda takes in the question of education for Malay girls. He writes: "The woodwork for the school is in course of preparation, but in the meantime the boys' old school is utilised for the tuition of the girls. A schoolmistress has been appointed and paid for by His Highness, and out of a registered number of 36, 26 girls were present at the time of my visit. The studies consist of the Koran and reading and writing Malay. Besides this, a portion of the day is taken up in conveying lessons in weaving, plain sewing in all its branches, knitting, crotchetting, bead work, ornamental work in gold thread, and gold stamping on cloth. The culinary art is also taught, and the girls, after some stay in the school, should be a great help to their parents and themselves, and make very desirable wives and mothers. To show the keen interest taken by the Raja Muda in the education of the girls, apart from the fact that he is erecting the school at his own expense, and paying the salary of the mistress out of his own funds, he has bought a pair of bulls, and is getting a cart to fetch the girls from their homes to the school and back; promises to buy the material for work for those whose parents can ill afford to do so, and very generously assents to sell the work for the girls and give them the profits on the sale after deducting cost of materials. The ages of the girls present varied from 7 to 17 and the work shown as their production was varied, unique, artistic and really good. Her Highness Tunku Muhoram received us, and pleasantly explained the use of the different articles on view. After refreshments, we visited the boys' school after school hours. The concrete flooring has sunk, and wants repairing. The Raja Muda has laid out a lawn tennis ground, and intends teaching the boys the game."

WE were quite wrong in our last issue in claiming for Selangor the foremost place as tin-producers, and had we exercised that brilliant intellectualism which has ever characterised the *Selangor Journal* we should have seen that the Perak returns give 65 % of the tin-ore exported, while Selangor gives gross weight. As it is, we are indebted to a local correspondent's discernment, whose communication we print below. After all, what does it matter? From the beginning of next month we are all one family, and the success of any one State in whatever direction should be, and will be, a matter for rejoicing in the sister States :

Dear Editor,—The figures given in your No. 19 relating to exports of tin are incorrect as you have taken Perak returns as representing 100 % of tin-ore, whereas they are only 65 %, which is the dutiable rate. Taking the returns as published on 14th January last, Perak exported during 1895—

Tin	...	...	...	...	...	pls.	280,321.36
65 % piculs	120,497.69	=	100 % tin-ore				185,381.06
							<hr/> 465,702.42
Selangor exported tin	...					pls.	252,693.48
100 % tin-ore	...						167,394.67
							<hr/> 420,088.15
These weights leave Perak	...					+ pls.	45,614.27

THE Public Gardens, Kuala Lumpur, are just now bright with young foliage on numbers of the trees; the principal drive, too, has recently been put in order, as well as the paths, and together with the large expanses of well-kept lawnlike grass-land give a general impression of careful upkeep. A great deal of judicious clearing has also taken place of late, and the vistas to be obtained from many of the walks are fine and pleasing. Indeed, the gardens at present are at their best, and we never remember to have seen them look more charming. The groves of palms planted at the main entrance and near the Club house are too young yet to be very noticeable, but in a year or two will add greatly to the general beauty of the grounds. The new plant house, which should form a valuable addition, is nearing completion; and the new road which runs high up alongside the hills on the west side of the lake will furnish one of the prettiest drives in the State.

THE two following paragraphs appear in the Residency Surgeon's report for 1895;—

"I regret to say that the general health of many of the European officials of the State, more especially those occupying the more responsible positions, has not been at all good during the past year. I attribute this to a very great extent to a want of sufficient change and occasional rest from work. If the record of leave taken by the European officers is examined, it will be found that not more than half the vacation leave authorised by regulation is ever taken. The value

of an occasional change and short rest from work in this climate cannot be too highly estimated, and this is of necessity more apparent to the medical officers of the State than to anyone else. An officer, run down in physical and mental health by pressure of work and want of rest, is incapable of doing satisfactory work, and I can say with confidence that every day's vacation leave forfeited by an officer is a distinct loss in good, energetic work to Government. Every facility and encouragement should be given to officers to take leave. The present arrangement that an officer be allowed to take accumulated vacation leave for three months in any two years, provided that he is not absent on such leave for more than three months in respect of, and during, two consecutive calendar years, renders it almost impossible for an officer to take all the leave for which he is eligible. If at the end of his two calendar years without leave, the exigencies of the service do not permit of his going on leave at once, he begins to forfeit the leave due to him in respect of his service over and above two years, so that, if from the fact of the service being shorthanded, or for any other reason, he cannot take leave for three years, he forfeits six weeks' vacation leave, which perhaps later on would be of very great benefit to him. Could an officer be permitted to retain his right to this leave and take it subsequently, provided that he does not take more than six weeks' leave in respect of one year's service or more than three months' accumulated leave in any one calendar year, I feel sure that more occasional short leave would be taken and that not only the health of the individual officers, but the general interests of Government would be greatly benefited thereby."

"A large number of dogs were attacked with rabies and a Chinaman died in the Pauper Hospital from this disease, having been bitten by a dog six weeks previously. District Surgeon Dr. Hertz, a gate-keeper in the railway, and a Tamil child on Weld's Hill Estate were also bitten by rabid dogs. In the first two cases advantage was taken of the Pasteurian treatment at Saigon, with success, but the Tamil child was taken to India by her parents. The death of Mr. Kelly at Tanjong Malim, where he was attended by the Apothecary from Kuala Kubu, is another most distressing case of this disease. The treatment by inoculation discovered by M. Pasteur is an extremely simple one, and it is to be regretted that with a large and competent staff of medical men in the Straits Settlements and Native States it should be necessary to go to Saigon or Batavia to avail oneself of it. An institute could be established in connection with a hospital in some central place at a very small cost, which could be shared by the various Settlements. If this were done, not only would everyone bitten by a dog be able to undergo the treatment without delay or risk, but the very considerable expense incurred in passage to Saigon and back, hotel expenses, etc., would be saved. A large number of stray dogs were destroyed by the police in the Kuala Lumpur district during the year, and on more than one occasion a notification ordering the confinement of all dogs for stated periods was issued. It is, however, of little use tying up or licensing the dogs in Kuala Lumpur as long as large numbers of them, multiplying without the least check,

are kept on the mines on the outskirts of the town, it is these dogs, many of them not properly fed or cared for, from whose ranks are produced the strange pariahs that run about the town in a rabid condition, biting everything they come in contact with."

A MEETING of St. Mary's Church Committee was held at the Selangor Club on Friday evening, the 5th instant, when there was a full attendance of members present. The Hon. Secretary, Mr. H. St. Leger Parsons, presented a statement of accounts for the past year, which showed a small balance in hand. Several of the old monthly subscribers have recently left the State, and the Committee hope that others will come forward to take their places in order to keep the funds on a satisfactory basis. Among other matters the question of purchasing an organ for the church was discussed, and it was decided to invite subscriptions for this object, the present harmonium has been in use for many years and is about worn out and a new instrument is greatly needed. The Hon. Secretary will be glad to receive the names of all those willing to help in this direction. We hear it is also suggested to have a Bazaar or Fancy Fair later on for the same purpose.

A MEETING of the Committee of the Selangor Museum was held on the 5th inst., Captain Syers (Chairman), Mr. L. B. Von Donop (Hon. Sec.), and Messrs. M. A. Hawes, J. Russell, C. E. F. Sanderson, W. D. Scott and A. R. Venning being present. The meeting was very fortunate in having present Mr. H. N. Ridley, Director, Botanic Gardens and Forests, S. S., and member of the Singapore Museum Committee, who furnished much useful information and advice to the meeting, and offered to arrange exchanges with the Singapore Museum. It was resolved that various works of reference be obtained. It was resolved that Mr. A. S. Baxendale and Dr. Welch be asked to rejoin the Committee, and that, if willing to act, their names be submitted to the Resident. The work of setting up the skeleton of the large elephant shot in Klang is at present at a standstill, some three or four of the bones being missing. Mr. Hawes has undertaken the work of setting out the moths and butterflies in a cabinet provided for that purpose. Several of the drawers are now complete, and will well repay the visitor for a journey to the Museum to inspect them. The room that has lately been added, and which is devoted to marine objects, including model fishing huts, boats and nets, will also prove a great attraction, and arrangements are being made for adding largely to this class of exhibits. The Committee acknowledge with thanks the receipt of the following additions to the Museum during May:—

From Mr. J. P. Rodger, a specimen of stanniferous quartz from Ulu Slim; Captain Syers, small beetles; Mr. Watkins, a geucko stinto; Mr. Crompton, a Malayan cobra; Mr. Ridley, a monkey; the Rev. C. Letessier, a Malayan cobra.

Number of visitors during May	...	...	1,357
Previously	...	...	7,083
			8,440
Total for year	...	8,440	

AN extraordinary general meeting of members of the Selangor Club was held on Saturday evening last, Mr. J. P. Rodger, President; Mr. A. T. D. Berrington, Vice-President; Captain Syers, Dr. Travers, and Messrs. G. Cumming, J. Russell, C. E. F. Sanderson, and W.D. Scott, members of Committee; Mr. Bligh, Secretary, and about twenty others members being present. The minutes of the last general meeting having been read and confirmed; it was resolved that Rules XXIV.—XXIX. be altered in accordance with a draft already submitted to members; it was also resolved that the estimates for the six months ending 30th September as originally put before members at the general meeting on 29th April, with the addition of \$50 to "Games: Cricket, etc.," be passed. A vote of thanks to the chairman closed the meeting. The rules now read:—

XXIV.—There shall be two ordinary general meetings of the Club in each year—the first in April, and the second in October—to receive the report of the General Committee on the affairs of the Club, together with a statement of the accounts for the past half year, and an estimate of the receipts and expenditure for the current half year; to elect five members of the General Committee; and to transact any other business on the agenda of which fourteen days' notice in writing shall have been given to the Secretary. A notice specifying the subjects to be dealt with at such meeting shall be posted in the Club and shall be sent by circular to each subscribing member ten days before the date of the meeting, together with a copy of the General Committee's report and financial statements.

XXV.—At either of the ordinary general meetings it shall be competent to any member to bring forward any question, objection, or amendment relating to the report or financial statements of the General Committee, provided that three clear days' notice thereof shall have been sent to the Secretary. Upon receipt of such notice, the subject of it shall be added to the agenda paper, and shall be put before the meeting in due course.

XXVI.—At either of the ordinary general meetings, it shall be competent to any member to propose any alteration of the Rules of the Club, provided that such alteration shall have the support of two-thirds of the General Committee, and shall have been sent to the Secretary six weeks before the meeting. Such proposal shall be placed among the agenda in the notice calling the next ordinary general meeting, and shall also be posted in the Club for a fortnight previous to such meeting.

XXVII.—No alteration of the Rules of the Club shall be passed except at an ordinary general meeting, and by a majority of two-thirds of the members present and voting thereat. Any member who is unable to attend any general meeting may vote thereat by sending to the Secretary a written proxy to record his vote either for or against any resolution of which due notice has been given. No general proxies shall be allowed.

XXVIII.—The General Committee may convene extraordinary general meetings of the Club, and shall do so on receipt

competitor did not clear the hurdle he came a cropper, previously a slight kick knocked the hurdle over.

The chief and most pleasing feature of Saturday's sports was the provision made by the Committee for children's races; there were several of these in the morning and in the afternoon, and care had been taken to provide a quantity of ten-cent pieces, so that each youngster, even if he did not win a prize, had something to receive. A very laughable event was the biscuit-eating competition for boys, and caused a great deal of fun; to watch the injudicious lad who crammed all his biscuit into his mouth, munched it into a state resembling sawdust, and could then get no "furrader," made one want a drink. Breaking pipkins suspended from a cross-bar was also rather funny. The competitor, blindfold, had to break them with a stick, and when successful, unless he was smart, received the contents over him, consisting of flour and water; on this occasion some hygienic wag had also mixed in a little Jeyes' Purifier. Other humorous events were sack races, wheelbarrow race (one boy acting as wheelbarrow while another held his legs), three-legged races and pick-a-back race. The 'rikisha race was run by 'rikisha-pullers, consequently the finish did not supply the excitement and wild confusion of vehicles on top of one another which has sometimes been the case with amateurs between the shafts.

There were the usual flat races, hurdle races, high and long jump, and putting the shot, and the Bandsmen had a couple of handicaps. Hitherto each competitor has had to play his particular instrument as he raced, and the humour of the scene has been great; it was feared, however, that this might result in damage to the instruments, so this competition was shorn of its fun, and Mr. Big Drum, who used to figure so largely and get such a capital handicap, dropped into comparative obscurity. As usual, the tugs-of-war furnished plenty of excitement; although contests between different nationalities were not held. The Malays pulled against their own countrymen, and the same with the Chinese, Sikhs and Tamils.

The weather throughout the day was fine, but rather hot for the sports officials. Still, it was "Queen's weather;" it rained each day for some time beforehand and it has rained each day since; but on the day of the sports it did not rain at all. The Resident was present in the morning, and again in the afternoon, accompanied by Mrs. and Miss Rodger, and the upstairs verandah of the Club was filled with a large company of ladies, children and gentlemen. The crowds on the Club steps and round the course were quite as great, if not greater, than in former years, and viewed from the new Government Offices presented a scene worth remembering.

In addition to a long list of Stewards the following officials were given on the programme:

Judges.—Messrs. Chow Kit, G. Cumming, L. Dougal, Capt. Lyons, Mr. C. E. Spooner, Capt. Syers and Haji Ali.

Handicappers.—Messrs. G. Cumming, D. J. Highet and W. D. Scott.

Starters.—Messrs. J. Brown, A. C. Harper, Loh Song Chye, H. St. L. Parsons, H. C. Paxon and Tambusamy Pillay.

LOCAL SPORT.

THE RODGER FOOTBALL CHALLENGE CUP.

At the commencement of 1896 the Acting Resident offered a Challenge Football Cup, open for competition to any District Association football team in Selangor, the members of which are of other than European nationality, subject to the approval of the Selangor Club Football Sub-committee.

The entries for 1896 were as follows:—

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|----------------|
| 1 The Raffles football team. | } Kuala Lumpur |
| 2 The Selangor Asiatic football team. | |
| 3 The Mohamedan football team. | |
| 4 Ulu Langat District team. | |
| 5 Ulu Selangor District team. | |
| 6 Kuala Selangor District team. | |
| 7 Klang District team. | |

Rule 11 of the rules governing the competition reads: "Should more than one team enter from any one district, the teams so entering will play their ties in the home district, the winning teams in each district will then be drawn against each other." Consequently the Kuala Lumpur teams had first of all to decide which of them was to obtain the honour of representing their district.

The first tie was played in Kuala Lumpur, on 24th January, between the Mohamedan and the Raffles football teams, resulting in a win for the Mohamedans by one goal to nil.

The second tie, between the Mohamedans and the Selangor Asiatic team was played on 12th February at Kuala Lumpur and resulted in a win for the latter by two goals to nil, thus leaving the Selangor Asiatics to represent the Kuala Lumpur District in the competition proper.

In the first round Klang drew a bye, the Selangor Asiatics were drawn against Ulu Selangor, and Kuala Selangor against Ulu Langat. The Selangor Asiatics defeated Ulu Selangor at Kuala Kubu on 2nd May by three goals to nil, and Kuala Selangor scratched to Ulu Langat.

In the second round Klang again drew a bye, and the Selangor Asiatics were drawn against Ulu Langat. This tie was played at Kuala Lumpur on 30th May; the Ulu Langat team was outclassed and suffered defeat by three goals to nil. The referee made a mistake during this match, giving hands against Ulu Langat when it should have been the other way. This was unfortunate for the Ulu Langat team as a goal was scored against them from the free kick, as this goal was scored when well into the second half it had little effect on the result of the game. The absence of the sporting European community of Ulu Langat to back up their district was much commented upon.

The final, Selangor Asiatics *v.* Klang, is being kept in view for Federation, and will be played at Kuala Lumpur some time next month. The Selangor Asiatics, under the able captaincy of Mr,

Ramasami, should win the final, having proved victorious three times during the competition; should Klang win the cup, they will be extremely fortunate, having reached the final stage without a contest.—W. D. S.

SELANGOR RIFLE ASSOCIATION.

DISTRIBUTION OF PRIZES.

At the conclusion of the Sports on Saturday last the prizes won during the past season of the Selangor Rifle Association were presented by the Resident, Mr. J. P. Rodger. They made a handsome display on the Reading Room table and were much admired. For value prizes the Association allow winners to select articles, subject to the approval of the Committee, and this course was fully justified. Mr. J. Brown is to be complimented and congratulated on carrying off the two handsome trophies, No. 2, presented to the Association by Mr. Quay Guan Hin, and No. 3 by Mr. G. H. Hone, on behalf of the Malay States Tin Mining Co. Particulars and conditions of the competitions and the scores have appeared in our columns from time to time. The following is the list of prizes and winners:

1. Championship of the Association, 1895, ... C. R. Cormac
(The winner had selected for his prize a double-bass Viol)
2. Quay Guan Hin Cup J. Brown
3. Malay States Tin Mining Co's. Cup "
4. Handicap 1st prize Double-barrelled Gun... R. Charter
" 2nd " Rifle W. D. Scott
5. Competition for those who had never won a prize in the Association:
 - 1st Prize, Silver Watch Dr. Travers
 - 2nd " Repeating Rifle ... G. Shepherd
 - 3rd " Pair of plated Tankards A. Poundall

The Resident said it gave him great pleasure to present these prizes. As Hon. President of the Rifle Association he took an interest in its proceedings. He considered it a most useful institution and hoped the Hon. Sec. would always let him know when competitions were being held and he would endeavour to be present. The improvements now being carried out at the range, he thought, would be much appreciated by members, and as we may expect shortly to have a very good road all the way, doubtless we shall get more visitors to take interest in the shooting in future. Mr. Rodger also signified his intention of offering a prize for competition.

AN Ulu Langat correspondent writes:—"The second quarterly Billiard Handicap at the Kajang Club was brought to a close on Monday evening last with an easy win for O. F. Stonor, *owe* 30, *versus* D. Hay -10. The winner, who has played well throughout the handicap, was in very good form in the final game, compiling breaks of double figures several times during the evening, his best ones being for 31, 20, 18 and eventually winning a good game with an unfinished

break of 20. The innings of 31 secured the prize for best break during the handicap. Hay, who has already won the first handicap of the year, did not play in his usual good form at the start, but played much better towards the end of the game."

A TEAM from Singapore will visit Selangor to play Golf on the 28th inst. Further particulars will be given in our next issue. The Monthly Silver Medal Competition of the Golf Club will be held on the 18th, 19th and 20th June. The Monthly Medal for May was won by Mr. Tearle.



TOWARDS UTOPIA.

THE East is essentially a land of bathing. The white man tubs himself, the yellow man, the brown man and some of the black men rub themselves—with water. The remainder prefer oil. The first question a white man asks on arrival is "Have you a swimming bath?" Hitherto a swimming bath has been practically an impossibility in Selangor. Thanks to the Kuala Lumpur Waterworks, this impossibility has ceased to exist. It now only remains for somebody with a little capital, plenty of common sense, and the assistance of the Government, to erect one or more swimming baths as a means of laying up for himself the treasures of this world before departing to enjoy those of the world to come.

A small trader in Kuala Kubu, Serendah or Kajang, our three busiest out-station centres—wishes to remit \$3, \$7 or \$13, say, in payment of a debt or as a gift, to anybody living elsewhere in the State, how can he do it? The only way, as far as I know, is by making up a conglomerate parcel of a bank-note and postage stamps if over \$5. Or, supposing he wishes to remit money outside the State, say \$60 to Singapore for merchandise bought, or \$17 to Malacca to an old father, what does he do then? Why, waste a day by going in to the Kuala Lumpur Post Office for a money order. Whether internal and external trade would benefit by an extension of our present money order system beyond Klang and Kuala Lumpur must be left to experts to decide. A "payable parcel post" has been a great success in India, why should it not be so here? The system of being allowed to affix stamps in payment to a telegraph form, which has been in force for years at home, would, I believe, be found of considerable benefit even in Selangor.

It is not generally known if the Government recognise any official code—the "A.B.C." or otherwise. The unfortunate official who has to telegraph that he has missed his steamer, is very sorry and may be expected by the next, would find the use of a code very comforting—to his pocket. Imagine the Government receiving this telegram in the form "Shrub Triangle Carpet."

Without being too blatantly sycophantic, there is no harm in publishing the merits of the Government towards the people of this

country, in so far as such merit relates to their physical comfort and well-being. The abolishment of all import taxes on food stuff, the establishment of free hospitals in every corner of the State, and the granting and upkeep of many open recreation grounds have done much for the material condition of the people. The way that the indolent Malay is taking to football and thus developing a taste for the "energetic rush" of modern life is capital. Yet there remains still another step which would add to the physical fitness and strength of the younger Malay population, if no other—and that step is the establishment of gymnasia at all the more important centres, especially where there are many police. Free gifts are not always appreciated, but if the Government would give the building and a donation I've no doubt the rest could be collected and a very decent little gymnasium be erected and maintained at each head centre. A Malay would take to gymnastics as readily as the Siamese do (one of the two winners of the English Public School Challenge Shield for gymnastics a few years ago was a Siamese boy being educated in England).

It is doubtful if our admirable Savings Bank obtains the patronage it deserves outside Kuala Lumpur. Why? Continuous advertisement in the vernacular, might or might not increase the number of depositors. The Malay is still uncivilised enough to turn his spare cash into jewellery; and, furthermore, he has no great liking for the rushing, bustling atmosphere of a district office where he may have to wait an hour before being attended to. Anybody who knows the working of a district office will understand this. With twenty or thirty people waiting to be attended to the weakest, shyest and most bashful naturally go to the wall. The District Officer is often absent or in court. If I were a native under the circumstances, I should stay at home and bury my money or lose 20 per cent. of it in buying jewellery for my family, the possession of which would raise me and mine in the estimation of our neighbours, instead of keeping a bank book which nobody would see or possibly understand if they did. This is all very well for the present. But the time is not far distant when money will be coming in for the coffee produced by ever-increasing thousands of acres now being planted by natives all over the State. If the Government Savings Bank can obtain a fair share of that well-earned increment two most praiseworthy objects will be attained. Habits of thrift will gradually be established among a somewhat thriftless people and the Government will be making a considerable profit under "Interest," besides having extra capital always on hand: thus sharing in the general prosperity of the country.

The "Chetty ring" charge at least 24 per cent. interest on loans, and it is to the chetty everybody must go if he wants money, especially if he wants it in a hurry. Some misguided people seem to think that to borrow money is little short of a crime. As a matter of fact, it is only criminal to borrow money from a chetty if you happen to be a subordinate Government official, for then the proceeding, being suicidal, may possibly be criminal. I refer rather to legitimate borrowing. During the last year or so, the Government itself has been lending

money to *bond fide* builders in some of the townships—obtaining interest on their money and helping to accelerate building activity generally at the same time. Government officials in Selangor are forbidden to own or deal in landed property in the State, consequently good investments are few and far between. As an inducement to thrift and economy I would suggest the formation of an Investment Fund conducted under the auspices of the Government in which any Government officer might take shares. The money so obtained to be employed in loans, building investments, etc.—for which 10 to 12 per cent. with good security could undoubtedly be obtained. The shareholders would have no voice in the management and distribution of the fund, which might be entrusted to three gentlemen, say, who did not want to invest themselves. The shareholders in a Bank do not know or enquire how every cent of their money is laid out, nor would the shareholders in this investment: if the scheme were under the auspices of the Government. This is the idea, not the scheme itself. As the pension rate continues to be reduced, there will be the more need to lay up a nest egg whilst there is still an opportunity.

Although the Native States are well up to the mark in most things we still lack that necessary adjunct of European civilisation known as a first-class resident dentist. No permanent resident dentist in Kuala Lumpur—the third largest city in the Straits—would have courage enough to charge that colossal tariff which rules in Singapore. If he did he would soon be like Abner Dean of Angels. A veterinary surgeon not afraid of outstanding accounts might make a decent living here if he would also keep and train a few horses.

Would not a railway omnibus pay its way in Kuala Lumpur? At present the facilities for removing one's luggage from the railway station are extremely limited. A furniture warehouse (insured) is also a need of the immediate future. At present people leaving the State for a short time have no place in which to store their furniture with a feeling of security. To leave it with "friends" usually results in something being lost or stolen, for although we can believe in our friends, it is more than we can do in our friends' servants.

The amalgamation of all the different sporting clubs and associations in one central home and under one central control, supported by separate sub-committees, would seem to be a step dictated by economy, in the interest of all parties. Four of the out-station clubs have now identically the same rules. Perhaps there is no object to be gained by any closer association, but a member posted at one club might with advantage be posted at the others.—E.

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THE GREAT DURBAR.

THE DURBAR was announced to commence on Monday, the 7th, and a committee of management had been sitting daily for a month previously arranging everything down to the smallest detail. To quote from the official circular No. $\frac{1105+20}{6}$ "The committee will not arrange any political surprises, administrative

reforms, increases of salary or unlooked-for bonuses; but otherwise they have an entirely free hand to render this great occasion memorable in the history of the world. The Resident relies on the good sense of the committee that none of the proceedings shall be slow." As the "Man from Bentong" appeared in the list of gentlemen forming this committee it was evident from the commencement that the deliberations of that body, at all events, would be anything but slow.

The main idea of the committee right through was this:—The Durbar should be worthy of the British Empire. The Malay Sultans and the Malay nobles with all their attendant followers gathered together should have such a right royal time of it, that the same should not be forgotten unto the third and fourth generations; also that there should be no opportunity for the word humdrum—everything was to be novel, bright and impressive.

That the committee did not belie the trust reposed in them may be gathered from the account which follows.

The liberal and enlightened members of the Chinese community had most kindly offered the loan of several landaus each drawn by a pair of fine horses; three of these turn-outs met each royal party on arrival, and by the kindness of their owners were kept at the immediate disposal of the respective royalties throughout the Durbar week. [Each royal party had four Government peons attached to it as messengers.] The committee were much exercised as to the form of conveyance to be placed at the disposal of H.E. and the R.-G., and suggestions—embracing the fire-engine with floral decorations, a Kuala Lumpur ghary drawn by members of the committee, 'rikishas with No. 1 American cloth hoods and pullers in regulation uniform—were made and discussed, when it was suddenly remembered that Kuala Lumpur boasted a four-in-hand, which might be hired.

The first of our distinguished visitors to arrive in Kuala Lumpur was our own aged and beloved Sultan, Abdul Samad, K.C.M.G. He arrived about ten o'clock on Saturday morning and was met at the station by the British Resident surrounded by a brilliant staff of officials, all wearing straw hats with Selangor ribbon. As the train came to a standstill the band struck up "For he's a jolly good fellow" and the guard of honour, which extended from one end of the covered-in station to the other, presented arms.

Supported by the Raja Muda and Raja Kahar the Sultan passed through the crowd of Europeans, who with hats off paid silent testimony of loyalty to the aged chieftain who had sat on the throne of Selangor for nearly forty years. Having taken his seat with the Resident the whole party, including a large number of Europeans, drove off in procession through the principal streets of the town which, thanks to the Sanitary Board, were one mass of bunting and decoration.

On the arrival of the Resident-General in the evening, accompanied by the ever-popular Resident of Perak, the Sultan of Perak and suite, including the Perak Band, the same ceremony was gone through again, except that the band played "See the conquering Hero comes," and it was noticeable that the Perak flag had been added to the deco-

rations in the station, whilst the glittering helmets of the Selangor Fire Brigade added *empressement* to the scene. One gentleman who had appeared in a top hat was left a hopeless wreck in the Refreshment Room.

At different times during the next day there arrived in Kuala Lumpur H.E. the Governor and suite, the Resident of Negri Sembilan and suite, the Dato' Klana and suite, the Resident of Pahang and suite, the Sultan of Pahang and suite and Messrs. Smith, Brown, Jones and Robinson. With the exception of the last four gentlemen, who were unaccountably overlooked, a brilliant reception was accorded to each distinguished party. That evening, after our distinguished visitors had time to settle down in their temporary quarters and partake of Selangor hospitality in its material form, there was an open air reception in the Residency grounds. A few unregenerate sinners who exist in Selangor wore tall hats.

Next morning at 7 a.m. there was a review of the Selangor Sikhs and the Fire Brigade, followed by a procession round the town; a procession extending over a mile in length, the like of which had never been seen in Kuala Lumpur before. One hardly imagined there were so many carriages in the place. But the great event of the day was not to come off till the afternoon, owing to the heat. Four p.m. was the time appointed. At the end of the Parade Ground nearest the Church there had been erected by the P.W.D. a vast open-sided atap building with a sloping raised dais at one end with room to seat about 50 people whilst sitting accommodation was also provided for another 250 people below, the rest had to stand. Of all that was said during this impressive ceremony, space will only permit of the recapitulation of extracts from one or two speeches. His Excellency the Governor in the course of an eloquent speech, in which he explained the objects and advantages of Federation, was understood to say that in common with Lord — he considered the Native States Services as second to none, and that as a mark of his appreciation, all officials except those serving under agreement would have their salaries increased by 25 per cent all round. (Great applause, and some groans, during which telegrams were handed in from the Queen, Mr. Chamberlain and a Perak Junior Officer; the first two were congratulatory messages but the third one was not read out.) Continuing, H.E. said he agreed with the Residency Surgeon of Selangor that the Native States Officers worked hard and did not generally speaking take enough leave. He was therefore in favour of allowing the accumulation of leave. (Frantic applause, during which several high officials were observed to wink at each other.) The Sultan of Selangor then said "Benar." The Resident-General, who was resident adviser to our beloved Sultan 20 years ago, then rose amidst continued cheering and in a speech of ten minutes' duration, after congratulating the P.W.D. on the new offices, sketched the past, present and future position of the Native States. (Dense applause, during which several collar studs went snap.) The Resident spoke a few sympathetic words about the Sakeis and Selangor as he knew it of old, followed by a graphic description by the Resident of a neighbouring State of a truculent East Coaster before the days of

British Protection. A leading Towkay wanted to discuss the price of tin as affecting the export duty, but was ruled out of order. The band played at intervals during the speeches, but this was rather to hide the diffidence of the interpreters than to interrupt the proceedings. John Little's best champagne was served in the meantime in an ante-room enclosed for the purpose.

Finally, amidst the waving of the united flags as the people stood for "God Save the Queen" a stentorian voice shouted "Sudah" and the great public ceremony was at an end.

In the evening a Fancy Dress Ball at the Spotted Dog and a Malay mayong in the Durbar atap building finished the day. Next morning, Tuesday, our distinguished visitors were driven to see the Waterworks and the new Gaol. In the afternoon there was a Gymkhana Meeting and in the evening a Public Banquet in the Durbar building. The next day a special train took our distinguished guests to Rawang, where the electric engine excited great wonder, thence to Serendah and so on to Kuala Kubu where a Malay curry and champagne awaited the travellers. Returning to Kuala Lumpur the evening was passed witnessing a football match on the Parade Ground and a Battle of Flowers in the Lake Club Gardens, every conveyance being profusely decorated. The next day, Thursday, was spent in visiting the Factory, the Museum and one of our most flourishing coffee estates, and in the evening the Sultans were "At Home" to callers; after which, at about 10 p.m., a magnificent display of fireworks took place outside the old Club, and then finally on Friday all Kuala Lumpur assembled at the station to bid our guests a sorrowful farewell. It was a noble sight! Never in the annals of the State has there ever been, or perhaps will there ever be again, such a mighty gathering of distinguished and remarkable men. Everybody wore a clean collar and nearly everybody had their boots cleaned. His Excellency, who was in great form, called for three cheers for Her Majesty coupled with the names of her noble allies, and as the massed bands struck up our great uncovering hymn a horse bolted outside and I awoke to find it was all a dream.—(Effect of a stodgy meat pudding at a late dinner.)



CORRESPONDENCE.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our Correspondents.]

METEOROLOGICAL RETURNS.

To the Editor of the Selangor Journal.

DEAR SIR,—In the *Government Gazette* of the 5th of June last I notice that the Meteorological Report by Dr. Travers for last year is published, but without the important returns. Surely this omission is an oversight, as the value of these returns, especially in a young planting district such as Kuala Lumpur, cannot in my opinion be over-estimated.—Yours truly, AGRICOLA.

NOTES AND NEWS.

THE RESIDENT-GENERAL is expected to arrive in Kuala Lumpur on the evening of Tuesday, the 30th instant.—Mr. T. H. Kershaw, Legal Adviser to the Native States, arrived in Kuala Lumpur on Sunday last, and is at present staying with Mr. Calloway, at Weld's Hill.—Mr. Hugh Clifford, Resident of Pahang, arrived at the same time. He stayed at the Residency until Tuesday morning, when he left for Pekan, accompanied by the Resident of Selangor as far as Raub.—Mr. C. N. Maxwell left on short leave for Europe on Tuesday last, Mr. E. J. Roe, Junior Officer, from Kuala Kubu, arriving in Kuala Lumpur on the previous day to act for him as Asst. D. O., Kuala Lumpur, during his absence.

MR. F. F. King, whose recovery from the accident he met with on the 21st ultimo has been very gradual, left on the 19th inst. for a trip to Australia. He expects to be away for about two months. Mr. L. U. Stafford, to whom a license has been issued, takes charge of his Survey work for Government.

OUR old friend Mr. J. Lindsay appears to have been having a not by any means pleasant time in Siam, where he is employed as a Government Surveyor. According to a paragraph in a Straits paper his camp was raided by his coolies, who stole all his whisky and then bolted; from a private letter we learn that he has been suffering severely from fever; at the date of writing, although still in hospital, he was happily out of danger. We can imagine that he is sighing for the salubrity of Selangor.

MISS STRATTON has been engaged by the Crown Agents as Mistress for the new Girls' School, the buildings for which are now in course of construction, and may be expected to reach this early next month, when parents and guardians should communicate with her. It is probable that the school will be started in another building, if one can be temporarily hired for the purpose.

DR. TRAVERS left on the 24th inst. under instructions to proceed along the Pahang Trunk Road as far as Kuala Lipis, in order to advise as to the establishment of centres for medical relief for coolies employed on the road. He will be back about the 3rd proximo.

MEMBERS of the Lake Club are reminded of the Cinderella Dance on Monday, the 29th, at 9 p.m.

ALL dogs in Kuala Lumpur should be registered at the Sanitary Board Office before the 31st of next month, the registration fee being \$1 for each dog. Any dog found out of doors after that date not bearing a registered number for the current year may be destroyed or impounded, and the owner, on conviction, will be liable to a penalty not exceeding \$10.

THE water rate, which will be levied as from the 1st of July, will be 4 per cent. on the annual value of houses and buildings within Kuala Lumpur town limits. The rules relating to supply and control are published in the last *Gazette*.

THE Church Work Association (Selangor Branch) will hold a sale of work at the Masonic Hall on Thursday, 2nd July. Entrance free. Tea and refreshments will be provided at a very small charge. The band will play from 4 to 6 p.m. Doors open at 4 p.m.

THE sale by auction of State agricultural land in the Klang district will take place on Monday, 13th July, at the District Office, Klang, at 2.30 p.m. Twenty-eight blocks, of an area of about 320 acres each, more or less, will be offered for sale.

A SALE of town lots, Kajang and Semenyih, 10 lots in each town, will be held on Monday, 6th July, at the District Office, Kajang, at 2 p.m. In view of the railway running through these places the bidding should be brisk and good prices be realised.

ACCORDING to a monthly report of the Ulu Langat district written by Mr. Skeat, we may some day possibly see, in the neighbourhood of Kajang, a coffee plantation worked by Christian Chinese. The estate would be financed by Towkay Goh Ah Ngee, who has already built a Roman Catholic Church at Balau.

THE writer of "Towards Utopia," printed in our last issue, asks: "Would not a railway omnibus pay its way in Kuala Lumpur?" No doubt it would; but a railway delivery van would not only bring in a good revenue to the railway, but be an inestimable convenience to the general public.

THE Chairman of the Sanitary Board has received from England a design for the fountain which it is proposed to erect in Old Market Square. It has been made by Messrs. Doulton, of Lambeth, and shows a bright and handsome structure composed of the well-known ware with which the name of that firm is associated.

A CORRESPONDENT, in a letter we publish, draws attention to the want of a public hearse, and suggests that Government should provide one. Two years ago we endeavoured to raise by public subscription a sufficient sum to purchase a hand-bier, but met with very little success; we were told at the time that the idea was a very unpleasant one, and showed a very morbid state of mind. Very likely; but we are still of opinion that it would be far better for the public to provide a hearse, than to ask Government to do so, and we would suggest that a special fund be raised for this purpose; the cost of upkeep could be met from the charges made for the use of the hearse, and if the Samaritan Society would only kindly undertake the management, as a branch of that institution, we think that much of the unpleasant inconvenience that has been suffered in the past would disappear in the future. With regard to the Cemetery and its upkeep and registration of graves, that will be provided for by rules under the Regulation recently passed, which the Sanitary Board has under consideration.

THE regular monthly meeting of the Committee of the Selangor Club was held on Saturday, the 13th inst., Messrs. E. V. Carey, G. Cumming, J. Russell and C. E. F. Sanderson, Dr. Travers, and Mr. Bligh (Secretary) being present. Messrs. Pfenningworth and Beattie were elected members of the Club. In connection with the recently appointed sub-committee for improvements to the Club, it was decided to put up a notice in the Club that suggestions from members regarding improvements would be received up till the end of the month. It was resolved that a general meeting should be held on Saturday, 27th inst., at 6.30 p.m., to confirm the minutes and resolutions passed at the general meeting held on the 6th inst.

THE following notice has been issued to members of the Selangor Scientific Society:—

“In view of the fact that only three members of the Selangor Scientific Society responded to the call for a general meeting on 12th May, it was decided that though the smallness of the attendance was in itself a reason for winding up its affairs, yet that it would be inadvisable to make any attempt to dispose of the funds standing to its credit without obtaining an expression of the wishes of a larger number of the members than were then present. The balance now in the hands of Mr. Baxendale is \$70.

“It was intended to propose that this sum should be handed over to a Debating Society, should such a society be formed; but the proposal for the formation of such a society having been abandoned, it is left to the members to decide whether the money should be paid into

the account of the Church, Museum, Samaritan Society, Library, or any other institution, or otherwise disposed of.

“The difficulty of returning the money to the members in the proper proportion practically puts this suggestion out of the question.

“Members are therefore begged to express their views in writing, and to suggest the names of three members of the Society to form a committee with power to dispose of the funds, as far as possible, in accordance with the wishes expressed by the majority.”

THE State Engineer returned last week from his tour of inspection along the Pahang Trunk Road, and we understand that satisfactory progress is being made right through. The labour force employed on the work numbers fully 5,000. It is now possible to drive to Sangka Dua from the Selangor end, and of the section on the other side of the range, which is being done departmentally by Mr. Spearing, 14 miles of formation is completed. The intermediate sections, which are being done by Messrs. Howarth Erskine, Ltd., and Messrs. Nicholas and Walsh, respectively, are being pushed along at a good rate. There are about a dozen Europeans, employed by Government and contractors, on the work.

OUR Volunteer Firemen have been practising early and late for the last month, in view of the competitions which are to take place to-morrow and Monday on the Parade Ground. Few of the spectators will have any idea of the amount of hard training and constant practice necessary to bring the men up to the state of efficiency generally displayed on these occasions, not to speak of the laborious work entailed on the Chief Officer in planning and carrying out the details. From all accounts and judging from the practice drills, the competitions will be hotly contested, there being little to choose between several of the squads, and all are more or less confident of winning; besides, several of the previous records have got to go, and to beat a record by even one-fifth of a second means a lot more than is generally supposed. There are 13 events without counting the grand *finale* of the burning house, and the entries are as numerous as ever. A new departure, this year, is that a lithographed plan of the ground accompanies the programme.

THE first game of cricket since the Perak match was played last Saturday. The sides were an XI. v. a XVI. captained by A. K. E. Hampshire. The former were not as strong as they might have been, C. Glassford, T. R. Hubback, A. B. Hubback and E. W. Neubronner all being absentees. The XVI. were put in to bat, but did badly, all

being disposed of for 58. The XI. did little better, their innings finishing for 78. The wicket, bad as it usually is, was worse than ever, in fact it was the worst ever known on the Parade Ground. Swan batted steadily for the XVI., Hicks proved their best bowler and Skinner deserves credit for a very excellent catch. For the XI. Bagnall and Whitley batted best and the latter, with Perera, did most of the bowling. Owing to Fire Brigade sports we understand there will be no match next Saturday (27th June), but on the following Saturday there is some talk of a match, Kajang *v.* Planters. The latter side will be weakened by Kajang claiming the planters in their district; but all the same, the match should prove an interesting one. We understand the Resident has kindly offered a bat for the best batting average and a ball for the best bowling analysis during the season 1896-97. It is to be hoped we shall see great competition among the players to win these.

A KAJANG correspondent sends the following:—"On Saturday afternoon (13th inst.) at Kajang, an amusing game of cricket was played by Europeans, captained by O. F. Stonor, *versus* Eurasian Clerical Staff, captained by Muttiah, the conditions being that the Europeans should be allowed the use of the left hand only, both for bowling and fielding, and the use of changkol handles for batting. The match caused an amount of fun to the large gathering of natives, who keenly watched the game. For the Eurasians Ah Jim and Muttiah both played well, each getting into double figures, the innings eventually being completed for 66 runs, while for the opposite side the hitting of Stonor, Whitley and Bagnall rushed the score up so quickly that each of these players retired, the Europeans winning the first innings by 17 runs. On the completion of the second innings of the Eurasians 60 runs were required by their opponents to win, which number was quickly reached by the loss of only one wicket; Bagnall and Whitley again playing well for 35 and 23, respectively. The game throughout was a great success, and much appreciated by all who watched its progress."

THE RESIDENT has kindly intimated his intention of giving a Challenge Cup—to be called "The Resident's Cup," to be shot for annually by members of the Selangor Rifle Association, under the following conditions:—

Vanishing Target,	7	shots at	100	yards,	standing	
"	7	"	200	"	"	or kneeling
Moving Target	7	"	100	"	"	
"	7	"	200	"	"	or kneeling

Musketry Instructions, 1894, to be adhered to. Any rifle of not less calibre than .450.

The cup to become the property of any member who wins it three years in succession, and to be held for twelve months by the winner in each annual competition.

The Resident adds: "My wish is to encourage rifle shooting at short ranges, and to induce men to join the Association who, although accustomed to game shooting, have had little or no target practice."

THE following letter has been received by the Selangor Rifle Association through Dr. Travers:—

"S.V.A. Head Quarters Office, Singapore, 20th June, 1896.

"SIR,—I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your challenge to shoot a friendly match between your Association and this Corps. I have now much pleasure in accepting it. Up till now, I have been unable to do so definitely, as our Martinis have been called in, and it was uncertain whether the authorities would re-issue any to us.

"To prevent any misunderstanding, I will recapitulate the terms of the challenge in detail:—

"*Eight men a side.*—Martini-Henry rifles. Ranges 200, 500 and 600 yards. Two sighting shots at each range (optional).

"*Position.*—Kneeling at 200. Prone at 500 and 600 yards. All other conditions as at Bisley.

"*Umpires.*—Two, one in the butts and one at firing point.

"*Rifles* to be tested that they lift 6lbs. weight.

"*Sighting Shots* in every case must be declared before the shot is fired.

"*Match* to be fired on Saturday, 25th, or Sunday, 26th July, optional, but each team must fire on one day only.

"*Scores* to be telegraphed on Monday, 27th.

"You will observe I have suggested Saturday or Sunday in case of stress of weather.

"I will conclude by saying that this will be the first and last match we shall be able to shoot against you with Martini rifles, as we shall in future be armed with the Martini-Metford carbine.

"I have, etc., R. DUNMAN, Capt., *Acting Commandant, S.V.A.*

MR. WATKINS' annual report on the Selangor Government Railway shows that the gross receipts for 1895 amounted to \$791,611.73, being an increase of \$126,424.60 over the 1894 receipts; the net revenue from the year's working being \$425,291.87, and the percentage of net profit upon capital expended to 31st December, 1895, being 11.06%. The estimated revenue for the year was exceeded by \$70,611.73. The number of passengers, all classes, carried was

1,583,208, being an increase of 455,755 over the previous year. At the end of the year the department had 13 engines, and two more under order from England. On 31st December, 1895, 70 miles were open for traffic and 14 under construction. It is estimated that revenue to the amount of \$25,000 was lost through the slips on the Ulu Selangor extension, caused by the abnormal rains and floods in October and November last. During 1896 it is intended to erect carriages building works.

We understand that much important work in connection with railway extension may be undertaken in the immediate future. At present, work on the Kajang extension is being rapidly pushed on under the management of Mr. A. H. Bagnall; Mr. Fisher is in charge of the Kuala Klang Wharves and the Kuala extension; while Messrs. Debney and Paxon are engaged on the survey of the railway into Pahang. In addition, a preliminary survey of the country lying to the south of Kajang and in the direction of Seremban, which is about 30 miles distant, is to be put in hand at once, as well as another survey, with the object of extending the line from Kuala Kubu northwards to the Perak frontier, which is 16 miles distant. These lines, should they be constructed, would complete the Selangor system of what may some day be a Peninsular Railway. The question of a possible extension of the railway to Kuala Selangor, branching off the main line near Kuang, is, we believe, also under consideration.

MR. SPOONER'S annual report on the P.W.D. gives an expenditure under all heads of \$1,042,492.08. The largest works in hand during the year were the Pudoah Gaol, the new Government Offices, the Waterworks and the Pahang Trunk Road. During the year 58 new buildings, or sets of buildings, were erected for Government, the total number in charge of the department at the end of the year being 602. In referring to the P.W.D. Factory the State Engineer writes:—"The satisfactory result of the half-year's working, under very trying circumstances, is due to Mr. Groves's exertion and management, and I take this opportunity of thanking him for assisting me in proving that what I promised for the Factory is capable of accomplishment." During the year 307,125 pressed and 1,202,401 plain bricks were made at the Government Brickfields at a gross cost of \$13,183.17, equalling \$99 and \$84.35 per laksa, respectively. On roads, streets and bridges \$482,361.72 was spent; and 433.94 miles were upkept during the year, being an increase of 45.51 miles over the previous year. The Waterworks as provided for at present will cost \$577,572, being \$23.10 per head for a population of 25,000. The cost of extending them to their full capacity, including duplicating the mains

and filters, sufficient for a population 100,000, is estimated to be \$357,188, bringing the average cost per head down to \$9.34.

MR. CORMAC'S report on the Posts and Telegraphs shows an increase in both branches of the department. The number of postal articles dealt with was 1,051,538; the value of stamps sold was \$17,406.02, being an increase of 57% over the previous year. The total number of messages passing over the lines was 176,490; the amount collected, \$12,860.15. The telephone mileage at the end of the year amounted to 52, and the number of telephones to 34. During 1896 it was anticipated that postmen would be supplied with bicycles, Selangor post-cards would be issued, and plain linen covers for registered letters be on sale. The Acting Superintendent writes:— "Government messages show a decrease of 6%, which is very satisfactory. I am always glad to see a decrease on these messages as they bring in no revenue and are very often sent by officers when there is really no occasion to do so, seeing that there are so many incoming and outgoing mails a day."

It is a remarkable thing how every now and then there is a desperate rush of letters to the Editor: for this issue we have had seven; the first four of them received we publish. We have referred elsewhere to the letter on "Funerals"; then there is a letter on the "Midday Gun," apropos of this arrangements are made that the gun will be fired, in a slightly altered position, on Mondays only, pending other arrangements, to meet the inconvenience caused by the absence at present of any town clock or other means of publishing a time for general observance; a letter suggesting that the funds of the "late" Scientific Society should go towards buying papers for the new Kuala Lumpur Recreation Club—for ourselves, we would prefer to see the money given to the fund for scholarships at the Victoria Institution; then a letter in answer to "Agricola," which will perhaps set some of our readers wondering whether the writer of the original letter was one of the managers who was supplied with a rain-gauge but failed to send in returns. The fifth correspondent, after commenting on the "Birth Customs" and "Marriage Customs" of Malays, asks when we are going to give a description of a "Malay Wake." If the writer of this letter had any conception of the trouble and research the author has to undergo, to say nothing of the worry entailed on the poor printer, we feel sure he would have let the subject alone. However, the question has been asked, and we make it public.

WE have a letter from a correspondent complaining of a want of civility on the part of an officer of the Sanitary Board, Kuala Lumpur;

we are confident that a letter addressed to the Secretary of the Board would meet with careful consideration, and prompt attention.

WE have also received another long letter which has for its text an expression used by the writer of the article "The Great Durbar"—viz., "The Lake Club Gardens." The writer argues that the term used exactly expresses the opinion of many inhabitants of Kuala Lumpur, who regard the Public Gardens as being part and parcel of the Lake Club, and therefore do not frequent them for fear of being regarded as trespassers. Our experience does not agree with this: some of the most constant visitors to the Gardens are not members of the Lake Club. The writer also makes a suggestion, which is worth considering, that the Band should play on some half dozen moonlight nights during the year in a central part of the Gardens.

A CORRESPONDENT writes:—"Kuala Langat has now started a Recreation Club and the first game of football was played not long ago on the ground near the school. H. H. the Sultan and many of his suite were spectators of the game, and watched it with the closest interest, and if only the ground, which is very rough, could be improved, football would undoubtedly 'catch on' here as it has done elsewhere. A Malay theatrical troupe, the members of which, from princess to clown, are engaged in planting coffee in the district, has for some time past been giving nightly performances in the village street, much after the style of the miracle players of old times in England. H. H. Raja Mohamad Bakir is now at Langat, and in company with the Raja Muda attended a gathering at the Senior District Officer's old bungalow before he left for Klang. Of Sepang it will be sufficient to remark that the gravelling of the streets and various other improvements have given it quite a prosperous look, and that preparations are being made for the building of two brick-and-tile houses there, whilst those who are on the look out for novelties can see an entire Sakei village at Sepang engaged in the universal pursuit of coffee planting. A chapter could be written, in such a connection, about the New Sakei, but motives of common humanity bid us pause.

"The Datoh Dagang of Klang, Haji Mohamad Tahir (who deserves a 'silver coffee tree' if ever any one did), and who is visiting Jugra in company with Raja Bôt, declares that the soil about Bandar, Langat and Bukit Jugra is richer and will produce heavier crops than any of his Klang land.

"Tin sand is met with at intervals all along the road from Sepang and Labu to Bangik and Reko, and I shall be surprised if the miners do not discover the richness of the Labu valley now that Kajang is opening up so fast. It is wonderful that they did not discover it before."

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WE have received some "additional notes" to the article on "Marriage Customs;" they will be printed in our next issue.

In April last year one or two gentlemen interested themselves in the idea of starting a Recreation Club in Kuala Lumpur, more or less on the lines of the existing Recreation Clubs at out-stations, for the benefit of Government employés and others who had as yet no Club of their own. A public meeting was called at which it was resolved to invite subscriptions for the purpose of establishing a Club of this sort in Kuala Lumpur. Towkay Loke Yew, Towkay Yap Kwan Seng, Mr. Tamboosamy Pillay, Mr. J. P. Rodger and several other gentlemen gave very handsome donations to the fund so started. A provisional committee was appointed, with Dr. Travers as Chairman, to undertake the collection and disbursement of funds, the erection and furnishing of a suitable building together with the superintendence of all matters connected with the proposed Club until such time as the building should be finished and the gentlemen about to join should have elected their own committee of management at a general meeting to be called for that purpose.

The labours of this provisional committee are now nearly at an end. The Club building is almost finished, the furniture is being ordered and it has already been decided to raise a further sum of \$800 for the purchase of a billiard table by the issue of \$25 debentures bearing interest at 8 per cent. It now only remains for the public to take up these debentures and for the gentlemen desirous of joining the Club to send in their names to the Hon. Secretary (Mr. Goonting) before the 11th July. After which a general meeting of all those who have thus signified their intention, will be called to elect the President, Vice-President and Committee of management. Proposed Club Rules will be submitted to this general meeting. Amongst these rules are the following:—

IX.—The entrance fee for resident members on election shall be of a minimum of \$1 and a maximum of \$5, to be computed at the rate of \$1 in every \$25 or portion of \$25 of a new member's monthly income. In cases where a new member is unwilling to state his monthly income, the maximum entrance fee of \$5 must be paid.

X.—The monthly subscription for resident and visiting members shall be computed at the rate of 1 per cent. of monthly income, with a minimum of 25 cents and a maximum of \$1. In cases where a new member is unwilling to state his monthly income, the maximum monthly subscription of \$1 must be paid.

Gentlemen desirous of taking up the 8 per cent. debentures should apply to the Honorary Secretary, Mr. Goonting.

THE attention of our local readers is drawn to a notice in our advertisement pages in which visitors to Kuala Lumpur are requested to register their addresses at the General Post Office.

THE Sasanabhi Wurdi Wardana Society, Kuala Lumpur, advertise in the last *Government Gazette* a list of subscribers to the building fund of the Buddhist Temple on the Brickfields Road.

THE Singapore golfers are expected to arrive by the *Hye Leong*, on Saturday, and to play two rounds of the course on Monday afternoon, the 29th instant. The team will be Mr. J. B. Robertson, *Captain*, the Hon'ble J. M. Allinson, Mr. J. Adamson and Lieut. H. S. Ainslie. The Selangor team will be chosen from the following: Messrs. C. G. Glassford, J. Glassford, T. J. McGregor, A. J. McClosky, M. A. Stonor, D. J. Highet and A. Berrington.

The Club will be glad to see anyone who takes an interest in the game on the course, and refreshments for the inner man and woman will be provided.

We print below the local rules for the Petaling Course, dated 30th January, 1896.

I.—A ball may be lifted and dropped, under a penalty of one stroke, from the following hazards:—

- (a) The nullah between the first and second holes;
- (b) Any water or mud between the nullah and the second hole;
- (c) Yap Hon Chin's boundary ditch;
- (d) The side ditches of any road;
- (e) The ditch round the Bengali huts between the fifth and sixth holes;
- (f) Any unplayable position, in match play only (the opponent is to decide whether a position is unplayable or not).

II.—Water lying between the nullah and the second hole is not to be treated as temporary water.

III.—Paths and roads are the only other hazards, besides those enumerated in Rule I., in which the Club may not be grounded.

THE moonlight band last Wednesday night provided a very pleasant evening; the weather was fine, the Club verandah was lit up with fancy lanterns, the upstairs room was cleared for dancing, and there were plenty of people present to enjoy themselves either by listening to the band or by taking advantage of the many dance pieces on the programme.

IN an article on "Cultivation of Coffee in Grenada," quoted from the *Grenville News* and republished in the *Produce World*, are given the following advantages and disadvantages of Arabian and Liberian coffee cultivation, respectively, to which we have added one or two foot notes:—

ARABIAN COFFEE.

Advantages.

1. That it has a more established position in the market than Liberian.
2. That it has a more pleasant flavour and is better liked.
3. That it realises a better price.
4. That it is supposed to be an earlier bearer.
5. That it is more easily pulped.

Disadvantages.

1. That it is not so hardy as Liberian.
2. That it is not so long lived, generally speaking.
3. That it requires a better soil and higher elevation in order to give satisfactory results.
4. That it cannot stand the wind.
5. That it is more expensive to cultivate.
6. That it is much more liable to fungus, blight, and vegetable pests.

LIBERIAN COFFEE.

Advantages.

1. That it is, altogether, a much hardier plant than the Arabian variety.
2. That it does not get fungus, or only in such a way that the health of the tree is in no way affected.*
3. That it is much longer lived, as a rule.
4. That it is a heavier-bearing tree when once started; an acre of full-bearing Liberian coffee is estimated to give 12 to 16 cwt.†
5. That it is a tree, not a bush, and in consequence is not injured by drought.‡
6. That, being a deep-rooted plant, it is not affected by drought, while a very slight shower is quite sufficient to bring out and set the blossom. Even in the very driest season, when the other plants appear on the very point of destruction, these look cool and green, not turning a leaf.
7. That the cost of cultivation is comparatively little.§ There is no pruning to do beyond pulling off the suckers for two or three years to prevent the tree from running up into too many stems; the crop is carried on in the same wood (and extensions of it) year after year, and there is, therefore, no old wood to cut out. The shade of a tall, thick tree like this, where they pretty well cover the ground, would effectually prevent weeds from becoming troublesome, and, as the roots are deep down, the debilitating effects of weeds, even if they did grow, would be very little felt.
8. That the berries (of a size of a walnut) remain firmly fixed on the tree for many weeks after they are ripe enough to pick; eventually

they fall off, and may be gathered off the ground. In the case of a scarcity of labour this might be an advantage.

9. That in Grenada it grows as well on such high-lying estates as Mount Felix, Belvidere, Adelphi, and Castle Hill, as it does at sea-level. In Liberia its range is from sea-level to 500 feet altitude.

10. That it is perfectly adaptable to open field culture, even in places exposed to the wind.

11. That, unlike the Arabian coffee, it has two flowering seasons, and during these seasons there is more or less successional flowering—a quality which it shares with the coffee tree.||

12. That its blossoms set to fruit with more certainty than do those of the Arabian coffee—a quality of great value in an island where high winds and torrential rains are not unknown.

Disadvantages.

1. That it gives very little return before its 4th or 5th year.¶ We have, however, known it to fruit in Grenada at its second year.

2. That the value in the London market, from a sample lately sent home, is about ten per cent. lower than that of ordinary coffee.

3. That it is far more difficult to pulp.

4. That its flavour is not considered at first so agreeable as that of Arabian coffee.

* 2. By "fungus" leaf disease is meant, not the white underground fungus.

‡ 4. 12 to 16 cwt. equals 9 to 9½ pikuls, an unduly sanguine estimate which might here be procured off picked fields with liberal manuring; but it is not safe to rely on more than 6 to 7 pikuls per acre all round, good and bad.

‡ 5 and 6. I consider Liberian coffee on hilly land very sensitive to drought, in the flats where it is within reach of water this is not so.

§ 7. Initial cost of opening Liberian is small by comparison with Arabian, there being only about one-third the number of plants to the acre. Subsequent alteration is also for the same reason cheaper with the exception of gathering of crop; although the Liberian cherry is much larger it is far harder to pick, and ripens gradually and in small lots, whereas gathering of Arabian is practically confined to about three months in the year.

|| 11. This is an unintelligible para: Arabian has two blossoming seasons, Liberian blossoms more or less all the year round. What is meant by "a quality which it shares with the coffee tree."

¶ 1. It fruits in its 3rd year here; is almost in full bearing by its 5th year.

CENTRAL PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION OF
THE FEDERATED NATIVE STATES OF MALAYA.

MINUTES of a meeting of the Provisional Committee held in Kuala Lumpur on Monday, 8th June, 1896.

Present: Messrs. Carey, Hill, Wickwar and Gibson.

1. Mr. Hill was unanimously voted to the chair.

2. Mr. Gibson was asked to act as Secretary.

3. The following rules were then decided upon:—

I. That this Association, which has been formed to advance and protect the interests of the planting community, be styled the "Central Planters' Association of the Federated Native States of Malaya."

II. That a suitable office or place of business be rented in Kuala Lumpur.

III. That a Chairman, who is re-eligible, be elected by general ballot of all members for the year.

IV. That a Secretary, who is re-eligible, be elected by general ballot of all members for the year.

V. That a London Agent be appointed. His business shall be to watch the interests of the Association in Europe, and to undertake such business as the Committee may from time to time direct.

VI. That votes shall be in the names of Estates, and that Proprietors, Lessees, or their authorised Agent shall register with the Secretary the name, district, and representatives of the Estate they subscribe for.

VII. That gentlemen who may desire to join the Association shall submit their names to the Committee and on election be entitled to all the privileges of membership on payment of the registration fee and subscription.

VIII. That each member on registration shall pay a fee of \$5, except as hereinafter provided, and an annual subscription of \$5 to meet the expenses of rent, printing, subscription to the newspapers, and other contingencies, and the money shall be invested in the names of the Chairman and Secretary *pro tem*.

IX. That the Committee shall be empowered to affiliate any District Association that may be established, subject to the rules and constitution of the "Central Planters' Association of the Federated Native States of Malaya."

X. That members of affiliated District Associations shall have all the rights and privileges of the Parent Association on payment of an annual subscription of \$5 without the payment of the registration fee; but should such members cease to belong to an affiliated District Association, and wish to continue members of the Parent Association, they will be called upon to pay the registration fee of \$5 if they have not previously done so.

XI. That members of the Association unable to attend General Meetings may be allowed to vote by proxy, such proxy being in one of the forms hereto annexed:—

Form No. 1.

This proxy authorises.....to vote for me at the meeting of the Central Planters' Association of the Federated Native States of Malaya to be held on the.....on all questions that may arise at the meeting.

(Signed).....

Form No. 2.

This proxy authorises.....to vote for me at the meeting of the Central Planters' Association of the Federated Native States of Malaya to be held on.....on the resolution relating to.....and on any amendments that may arise thereon.

(Signed).....

XII. That the Association's financial year shall close on 31st January, up to which date the accounts of the year shall be made up, and that subscriptions for the ensuing year, commencing with the Annual General Meeting in February, be then due, and must be paid before the privilege of voting can be exercised.

XIII. That all members of the Association found on the Register on the 16th February be considered members for the new year commencing after the annual February meeting, unless they have previously intimated their wish to withdraw from the Association, and shall be liable for their subscriptions.

XIV. That a General Meeting of the Association shall have the power from time to time of electing such gentlemen Honorary Members of the Association as may seem desirable.

XV. That gentlemen whose membership lapses through their absence from the country may, on returning, rejoin the Association by payment of subscription for the current year.

XVI. That a Committee be appointed (of whom three shall be a quorum) for the transaction of business. Such Committee shall be appointed yearly, and former members, if willing to serve, shall be re-eligible.

XVII. That Committee Meetings be held at the discretion of the Committee; special meetings of the Committee may be convened by the Secretary with the Chairman's sanction, or that of three members of the Committee. Due notice to be given to all the members of the Committee, and the business to be stated in the notice.

XVIII. That a General Meeting may be convened by the Committee or five of its members, or by seven members of the Association, thirty days' notice being given of such General Meeting, and the business to be brought forward shall be stated in the notice. The presence of seven members shall be necessary to form a quorum at a General Meeting.

XIX. That an Annual General Meeting of the Association shall be held in February of each year for the election of Chairman, Secretary, and Committee, at which a report of the year's proceedings shall be read and the accounts laid on the table.

XX. That any member having an original motion to propose shall be required to give notice of the same to the Secretary in time to allow him to give fifteen days' notice to members.

XXI. That copies of such resolutions, proceedings, or correspondence as it may be thought advisable to publish shall be forwarded to the newspapers for publication.

XXII. That the annual report shall be printed and sent to each member; also to any institutions, associations, editors of papers, or individuals, either in the Straits or elsewhere, as may be deemed expedient by the Committee.

XXIII. That the Straits newspapers, *Government Gazettes*, and such agricultural periodicals as the Committee may deem fit, shall be filed in the rooms of the Association.

XXIV. Any alteration of rules or questions affecting the constitution of the Association shall require a majority of two-thirds to carry it, and shall only be brought forward at the Annual General Meetings.

4. The following resolution was afterwards proposed by the Provisional Committee—viz., "That the Committee for the current year shall consist of four members from Selangor, three from Sungei Ujong, two from Perak and one from Pahang, and that in subsequent years the number of members to serve on Committee from the various States be proportionate to the members on the rolls of the affiliated Associations." In connection with the above resolution it is proposed to invite the Secretaries of the Selangor, Sungei Ujong and Perak Associations to submit to the Acting Secretary of the Central Planters' Association of the Federated Native States of Malaya the names of their representatives in terms of proposed resolution.

5. Resolved that a meeting be called to adopt the rules and elect office bearers at a date coincident with the coming Durbar at Kuala Lumpur. It was further resolved that the Association should prepare an address to the Resident-General of the Federated Native States of Malaya on the occasion of his assuming the reins of office.

6. The meeting terminated with a vote of thanks to the chair at 11.45 a.m.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our Correspondents.]

FUNERALS.

To the Editor of the Selangor Journal.

SIR,—We are always finding new wants in Selangor, and, in most cases, promptly satisfying them in one way or another; there is, however, one which has often been discussed and has been mentioned in the *Journal* before, but which still remains a very serious want indeed. I refer to the general arrangements with regard to the care of the Protestant Cemetery and conduct of funerals. At present a sudden death among the European community causes serious embarrassment in many ways: there is no one whose business it is to see to any of the necessary arrangements. We have no undertaker, and the duties are as a rule divided amongst kind friends who volunteer to help, but who generally act independently of one another, so that even at the last minute it is occasionally found that something has been forgotten, causing delay and disorder.

As the town of Kuala Lumpur is not yet large enough for anyone to start a business as undertaker it would surely be only right for Government to give some assistance in this difficulty.

The first need is a hearse to take the coffin to the cemetery, at present, through the kindness of Captain Syers and the good feeling shown by the Sikhs who are asked to volunteer, coffins are, in nearly every case, carried to the grave on the shoulders of the Military Police, this is of course an anomaly and is purely a matter of courtesy which we ought not to look upon as even a usual custom, or to expect.

Could not Government purchase a hearse and put it in charge of the Sanitary Board? It might be drawn by the Fire Brigade horses, their services would not often be required and I am sure that we might rely on the kindness and courtesy of the Chief Officer of the Fire Brigade to lend the horses for this purpose.

One of the Inspectors or other officers of the Sanitary Board might be given a monthly allowance for generally superintending all the arrangements of funerals; gardeners should be selected as gravediggers to act under his instructions, and it would be a great advantage if the Cemetery was put under his charge, subject to the supervision of a senior officer of the Board. A careful plan should be made of the grounds and the situation of each grave marked down and numbered.

A definite charge could be made by the Board, which would be sufficient to cover all expenses, and I am quite sure that anyone would willingly pay a little more if they could be sure that everything would be arranged decently and in order when required.

In conclusion, I beg most earnestly to bring this subject to the attention not only of the public but of Government, with the hope that the matter may be carefully taken up and satisfactory arrangements made.—I am, etc., ORDER.

MIDDAY GUN.

To the Editor of the Selangor Journal.

SIR,—“What is the time?” “What has become of the time gun at noon?” Nearly everyone in Kuala Lumpur has been asking these questions during the last fortnight. Many and varied were the conjectures as to the cause of the silence of this most noisy but useful reminder that we had reached another noon and must all set our watches, if we wished to catch trains or keep appointments. Some said that people had grown nervous lately and could not stand the sudden shock; that some lady's back hair had been shaken down or a child frightened into a fit; others said that it was because not only were glasses and plates broken in the Club, but it was considered that the tower of the new offices might fall down—this suggestion was indignantly derided by the Public Works Department, who regard the noble structure as second only to the Pyramids in stability. All were wrong—as often happens—and the real reason of the unaccustomed silence was that having been requested to temporarily stop the gun on account of a case of serious illness in close proximity to it, the Captain-Superintendent of Police had rightly acceded to the request.

It is believed that in a very short time the familiar bang will resound forth from some other place, where it is likely to be as serviceable as in the past without giving annoyance to anyone. Until then

we may be late for dinner and for appointments with impunity, but I am afraid that the trains will not wait any longer for us than in the past.—I am, etc., STOP WATCH.

SCIENTIFIC SOCIETY.

To the Editor of the Selangor Journal.

SIR,—In connection with a circular now being sent round to members of the late Scientific Society, asking them to give their views with regard to the disposal of a sum of \$70 now in the hands of the Secretary. I would suggest that the amount be given to the New Recreation Club as a donation to the Reading Room to be spent in the purchase of papers. Funds are urgently required for this purpose.—I am, etc., A MEMBER OF THE SCIENTIFIC SOCIETY.

METEOROLOGICAL RETURNS.

To the Editor of the Selangor Journal.

SIR,—Until I saw "Agricola's" letter in your last issue I hesitated to publish the readings of monthly rainfall for 1895, under the impression that no interest was taken in them. As it would seem, however, that at least one of your readers has expressed a wish to see them, I enclose a chart showing an abstract of the monthly rainfall at Kuala Lumpur for the last 17 years with the monthly rainfall for 1895 drawn in a broken line upon the same chart. It will be seen that although the general tendency has been to follow the average, there has been a very considerable divergence in several months. Thus January was a very dry month, only 2.56 inches of rain falling, the average being 7.57. February was wetter than usual, and in April the average rainfall was largely exceeded. June, July and August are strangely near the average, which shows the probable permanency of a dry season during these three months. October shows the enormous rainfall of 23.44 inches. This month is usually the wettest in the year, but this establishes a record for Kuala Lumpur. The heavy fall of rain in this month was general throughout the State. The months of November and December were considerably dryer than usual.

I had hoped to give similar charts to the one published for the principal planting districts in Selangor, recognising that the rainfall varies greatly in different parts of the State, and hoping with the assistance of our planters to collect statistics of rainfall which would be invaluable as a guide in future years.

You will doubtless be surprised, however, to hear that although rain-gauges have been lent to several managers of estates on the *quarantee* that returns of rainfall would be sent regularly to the Residency Surgeon, with one exception (that of Glenmarie Estate, Batu Tiga) no returns have been received by me. This shows a deplorable lack of interest and energy, which is, to say the very least of it, not encouraging.—I am, etc., E. A. O. TRAVERS.

NOTES AND NEWS.

MRS. RODGER, will hold an "At Home" at the Selangor Museum on Friday, the 24th inst., at 9.30 p.m.

A GUARD of Honour and representatives of the official and mercantile communities attended at the Kuala Lumpur passenger station on Wednesday afternoon, the 1st inst., to await the arrival of the Resident-General; the British Resident and the Resident Engineer having gone on to receive him at Klang. Soon after five o'clock word was received in Kuala Lumpur that the arrival could not take place until a much later hour in the evening. The Guard returned to barracks, and the crowd melted away. Mr. Swettenham eventually arrived at about 8.30 p.m.

DR. J. L. WELCH and Mr. A. S. Baxendale are gazetted as members of the Museum Committee.—Mr. A. C. Norman's leave has been extended to the end of July.—Among recent visitors to Kuala Lumpur were Mr. A. L. Ingall, of Perak; Mr. J. W. B. Maclaren, of Singapore; Mr. J. S. Neave, of Singapore; and Mr. A. Richardson, of Singapore; the Hon. J. M. Allinson, Lieut. Ainslie and Messrs. Robertson and Adamson were in Kuala Lumpur as the representatives of Singapore golf.—Mr. W. Nicholas, who has been suffering, off and on, from fever for some time past, left on the 7th for a trip to Colombo, where he will be joined by Mrs. Nicholas on her way out from home.

THE duties of Visiting Lady for the Samaritan Society will be undertaken by Mrs. Chartres during the month of July, and by Mrs. Ridges during the month of August.

A SALE of work in connection with the Church Work Association was held in the Masonic Hall on Thursday, the 2nd inst. The stalls presented an attractive appearance and the different articles, the work of members and associates, found a ready sale at a cheap rate. The sum realised, including \$20 from the tea and refreshment stall, was \$147. The following ladies rendered valuable assistance and by their kindness and energy helped to make the sale the success it undoubtedly was: the Vice-President, Mrs. Rodger, and Miss Rodger, Mrs. Haines, Mrs. Spooner, Mrs. Douglas and Mrs. Lutyens (tea stall), Mrs. Chartres, Mrs. Venuing, Mrs. Lyons, Mrs. Charter, Mrs. Reyne, Mrs. Wilson, and the Misses Maartensz.

THE last *Selangor Government Gazette* contains some of the appointments in connection with the Federation of the Protected Native States. The Regulation (VII. of 1896) to provide for the appointment of a Judicial Commissioner is also published in the same *Gazette*. Mr. L. C. Jackson, of the Oxford Circuit, has been appointed Judicial Commissioner for the Federated Native States.

"PETER JACKSON," the famous Boxing Kangaroo, lately showing in Singapore, has arrived in Kuala Lumpur, and will give an exhibition to-morrow night (Saturday), and again next week. The tent will be pitched on the vacant ground near the High Street Police Station.

DR. HARLEY'S Lode Star Company gave three shows at the Selangor Club last week, the final one on the Saturday being advertised as under the patronage of the Resident-General and the British Resident, an announcement which had the effect of giving the company a large and fashionable audience—the patrons, however, did not attend the performance. Dr. Harley invests many old tricks with much new interest owing to his voluble patter, and his scientific gag was quite in advance of our late lamented S.S.S. His cardboard dancing sailor trick was excellent, his "Physiognomania" was equally good, and his ventriloquial act was well done and very amusing: indeed, the "Doctor" is quite a host in himself, and has such a bland and smiling manner that he has no difficulty in carrying his audience with him. He was assisted by Miss Lillian, in the "Little Magnet" business, and by Miss Dagmar with songs and dance. In addition, he had on view during the week some kinetoscopes and a phonograph.

AT the sale of town-lots in Kajang, on the 6th inst., the Captain China bought five lots for \$1,000; the same buyer and Towkay Lok Yew also purchasing most of the Semenyih town lots that were put up to auction at the same time.

A GENERAL MEETING of the Selangor Planters' Association will be held in the Reading Room of the Selangor Club on Saturday, the 18th July, 1896, at 10.30 a.m., to transact the general business of the Association and to consider any other points of which due notice may have been given to the Committee. Draft Agenda of Business:—1. To read and, if approved, confirm minutes of last General Meeting; 2. To again consider Mr. Carey's resolution *re* sale of port wine to coolies; 3. To consider Mr. Walker's resolution *re* Javanese and Malay labourers giving a month's notice before leaving the employer's service; 4. To consider any other points of which due notice may have been given. Tiffin will be arranged at the Rest House as usual.

A GENERAL MEETING of the members of the Selangor Club was held on Saturday, the 26th ult., Mr. A. Berrington in the chair. The resolutions passed at the extraordinary general meeting held on the 6th ult., were confirmed; the alterations to rules embodied in one of these resolutions were printed in our issue of 12th June.

THE annual report on the Sanitary Board shows a revenue for 1895 of \$133,608 and an expenditure of \$121,103; the figures for 1894 being \$123,225 and \$71,205, respectively. During the year 44 summonses were taken out for cruelty to animals, a conviction was obtained in each case and the fines inflicted by the Court amounted to \$443. The Chairman reports that the sanitation of the town is improving year by year with the filling up of swamps, the abolition of cesspools, and the construction of gravelled and drained lanes.

MR. Geo. M. Stafford, Acting Chief Surveyor, in his report on the work of the department for the year 1895 writes:—"The introduction of the system of licensed surveyors working on fees took place during the year, and has proved a decided success, inasmuch as the work is executed more rapidly and all the revenue surveys are carried out without cost to the Government. It has also enabled the Government to undertake the survey of mining lands (instead of their being demarcated as of old)."

"THE proportion of European officers is insufficient to secure proper supervision over the Malay contingent. There are only five officers, including myself, to look after more than 500 men, and of this number one or more is always on leave. I have repeatedly pointed out that we should have more, but without effect so far. There should be an Inspector at Sungei Besi and another at Klang, as these are both important stations, and an extra man in Kuala Lumpur is also desirable, as at present there is only one for duty day and night. The Assistant Superintendent spends the greater part of his time in the Police Court conducting cases, and can do very little in the way of out-door work. This is a mistake. What we want is an Inspector with a knowledge of court work who could look after cases and leave the Assistant Superintendent free for visiting stations and exercising general supervision."—*Captain Syers' Report for 1895.*

A RIFLE Match between 10 of the Police, including Capt. Syers, Capt. Lyons and Inspector Crompton, and 10 of the Rifle Association, came off on the morning of 29th June. Seven shots each at 400 yards kneeling or standing, military targets. The rain came down gently during the whole of the shooting, but in spite of this the Police

made some very good practice and put on a total of 194. The Association, on the other hand, made a very poor show, only one of their number putting on a really good score, W. D. Scott, 26. As a matter of fact they had taken on the match at a range and position at which probably not one of them had ever fired previously, in order to equalise the chances, and they did not reckon on the Police having so many good shots. The Association score was 153, the Police winning by 41 points. We look forward to the return match.

THE Rifle Match between Perak and Selangor will take place on the 19th of this month, and the match between the Selangor Rifle Association and the Singapore Volunteer Artillery on the 25th or 26th inst. The team to represent Selangor is not yet chosen, but members likely to be included in the team are requested to attend all the practices, as the time is so short.

It is proposed to have a Billiards Pyramids Handicap at the Selangor Club, entries to close on the 20th inst. There will also be a lottery in connection with the handicap. In the Pyramids Handicap just concluded at the Lake Club, Mr. W. Gibson beat Mr. Hone in the final round.

THE cricket match, Planters *v.* Kajang, played on Saturday, the 4th inst., resulted in a win for the out-station team.



GOLF.

THERE was quite a respectable little crowd on the Petaling Course on Monday, 29th June, to see the first foreign match which has been played by the Selangor Golf Club over its own ground. Our visitors from Singapore arrived at dusk on Saturday evening, and were met at the station and told off to their respective hosts, and mostly got lost immediately in the crowd which attended the Fire Brigade Competitions. However, they all turned up at the course next day, and put in some practice rounds.

On Monday afternoon at a quarter to four Robertson and J. Glassford started the match, the former topping his drive and the Selangor man getting away a beauty. The Singapore champion, who had lately been ill, was decidedly off his game and often got off the course, whilst his opponent was driving and approaching like a book, and finished the first round 6 up.

Following the first pair came Adamson and C. Glassford, both playing well, but the strange course told on the former and he finished 4 down on the first round.

Ainslie in the third match was altogether too much for McGregor, who was not very well, and the former, playing very steadily, came in 5 up. Allinson and McClosky had a good fight, neither playing his best game, which ended one hole up for Singapore; so Selangor was four holes to the good on the first round, and things looked well for us.

But in the second round J. Glassford only increased his lead by 2, and C. Glassford added the same number to his score, whilst McGregor and McClosky each lost 4 more holes to their opponents, and the match was a tie, amid lamentations over this and that fozzled shot which, properly played, would just have won the match for us or for them.

It was, perhaps, something of a disappointment to the Club to find that notwithstanding the advantages we had over the visitors in being able to choose our team from men on the spot, instead of having to depend upon those who could get away for a trip, and in playing over a course familiar to our men, and very different to that to which our Singapore friends are accustomed, we could only just hold our own with them, and could not knock off any of the many holes scored against us on their course last Christmas.

However, the little meeting was a decided success, and much enjoyed by both visitors and ourselves. Mrs. Highet and Mrs. Tearle very kindly provided and presided over tea, and quite a gallery of ladies came down to see the game; the Club Pavilion sported a flag for the first time; the weather was perfect and the greens in very fair order.

As to the course, all sorts of nice things were said of it by our visitors, which have left us under the fixed impression that it is the only course worth playing over in the far East. Notwithstanding which, it is to be hoped that the Club will manage to find funds to do a lot of work on it which is badly needed. Its natural advantages are great, but the lies from which a well-driven ball has to be played are too often very rough still, the greens are nearly all too small, and the teeing grounds need remaking. If we could see our way to doing this work, we should no doubt find teams of our neighbours ready enough to let us take our turn in being the hosts at a big gathering of golfers, such as is now more or less a yearly institution in the Colony.

S.F.B. COMPETITIONS.

THE usual forerunners of this annual show were not wanting this year: the dwellers in the town are first apprised by a visit from the collector of subscriptions towards the fund for defraying expenses and buying prizes; next by the zealous and incessant drilling in the neighbourhood of the F.B. Station; later on the Parade Ground begins to show signs of the approach of what some alliterative soul has called the Fire Festival of the Bellamy Boys—and, to quote a cricketer who stood watching a rehearsal in which hose-carts, coal-cart, engine, etc., were careering round the pitch, coming events cast their shudders before.

Each year something fresh crops up in the way of drill, or arrangement of ground, or design of building to be burnt; but one thing is always the same, and that is the enthusiastic energy which every member of the Brigade from the Chief Officer to the youngest member of the "Call and Torch Corps" devotes to the preparation and carrying out of their annual show. Not only each evening, for some time beforehand, was there a display, but even of a morning the engine was seen in the neighbourhood of the plain, and a series of startings and haltings and manœuvres taking place outside the Bank. This is, of course, all watched with great interest by the natives who constantly fringe the Parade Ground; and they attend in increasing numbers as the erection of the various structures approaches completion, and have eyes for nothing but the deeds of daring-do performed by Fireman Charter on the summit of frail scaffolding.

Some alterations in the arrangement of the ground were made this year, and here we may remark on the very excellent way in which the ground was kept during the greater part of the time on each afternoon, showing a marked contrast to the day of the Public Sports; it is only fair to add, though, that the Public Sports day was a Police holiday, and the Police formed a large part of the crowd, while during the recent drills their services were at the disposal of the S.F.B. The engine, for the purposes of drill, was placed in its usual position near the Club, but the "burning house," or rather the house for burning, instead of being erected near the site of the old Club was placed at the Bank end of the ground, and a S.F.B. refreshment tent was erected opposite the Guard House.

The staging for ladder-drill and fire-escape and the cross-bar for rope-throwing were to the left of the Club opposite the new band stand, while further along towards the Church and adjoining the atap-roofed pavilion the Captain China's spacious tent was put up. On the Saturday this tent was filled with seats for spectators, and on Monday used for displaying and presenting the prizes: it was too far off to be of much use for the former object. In fact, the large space occupied this year rendered it necessary for the sightseer to shift about somewhat, and when the wet drills were in the hand the upstairs portions of the Bank and the Post Office were much in demand as stands for ladies. The telegraph-board was mounted high enough this year, but not in a central position; it afforded Mr. Alexander, however, the opportunity of performing the great ladder feat with much grace and winning some well-deserved applause.

The programme has always been in two parts, morning and afternoon, with two or three hours' interval midday; but this year the competitions were held on two afternoons, Saturday and Monday. We understand that to carry out a long programme on one day is far too wearying to the men; and this we can well believe, for to simply stand about and look on all the afternoon is rather tiring. At the same time, it is just a question if two days of S.F.B. drills isn't a trifle too much, and whether it wouldn't be better to curtail the programme and so get it through on one date. On looking at the list

it will be seen that most of the drills are duplicated, one lot being reserved for firemen of under two years' service. It is only fair and encouraging to new members to make provision for enabling them to share in the annual distribution of prizes; but there is no reason why recruits' competitions should form part of the public show. In many of the competitions long and unavoidable waits occur, occasioned by the "making-up" of hose, etc., for each squad, and the "general public" get weary when there are a number of entries for a drill of that nature; it might, therefore, effect an improvement if those competitions for which there were several entries were divided into heats, and only the final heat reserved for the show day—for instance, the time taken over the rope-throwing competition was long, and interest flagged. The programme also contained some new drills, the chief of which was the steamer competition of the tournament in London organised by the National Fire Brigades Union.

The weather each afternoon was fine, and on the Monday it was pleasantly cloudy; the spectators assembled largely on both days, but from four till six on Monday there was a counter attraction for Europeans in the golf match, *Selangor v. Singapore*, which was being played on the Petaling Links. The natives, however, never wavered in their allegiance, and a large crowd took up a position on the east side of the ground each day—whence it was possible for them to have seen little, if anything, of the drills—patiently waiting for the burning house act; they apparently had an idea that at any moment between Friday night and Monday night the "burn" might occur, and they didn't mean to lose it.

At a little before two o'clock on Saturday afternoon the Brigade, men and appliances, headed by the engine, with Chief Officer Bellamy on the box, appeared on the Gombak Bridge approaching the Parade Ground at a solemn pace, and before long business had commenced with Competition No. 1. The events of chief public interest on the first day—if we omit the transport cooly race, which the public seemed to thoroughly enjoy and appreciate—were the two-men and one-man drills and the steamer competition on the lines of the London tournament. In the two-men drill Engineer Wilson and Fireman Rae made the very excellent time of $35\frac{1}{2}$ sec., previous best time being $39\frac{1}{2}$ sec., Firemen Brown and Poundall being second with $37\frac{1}{2}$ sec. The one-man drill produced some exceedingly smart work. Engineer Wilson finished his drill in $29\frac{1}{2}$ sec., but on the Judges overhauling they found that the branch wanted half-a-turn to send it home; they did not penalise and the competition went on. Inspector Wood ran through in $29\frac{1}{2}$ sec., Fireman Brown being third with 32 sec. The Judges then decided that the two former should again compete for first prize, and Inspector Wood beat his previous time by doing the drill in $28\frac{1}{2}$ sec.; Engineer Wilson, in his second trial, having the misfortune to miss getting home at once with the suction hose, did not run the drill through. There were three prizes for this competition—\$20, \$10 and \$5—and each of the winners beat the previous record, which was 34 sec. On the Monday, when the prizes were presented, Inspector Wood very generously handed over this prize to Fireman

Yzelman, one of the smartest members of the Brigade, but who had been unable to compete in any of the drills owing to an injury to his finger, received during practice. The company competition for the silver cup presented by Government, was won by "A" Company, under Lieutenant Cormac, in 79 sec.; previous best time being 94 sec.

The last event on the programme for Saturday was the N.F.B.U. tournament steamer competition. The scene of operations was in front of the Post Office, and the engine had to be driven round the Parade Ground; the horses were more than restive, and they object to sparks, so there ensued a long wait to get up steam, after the horses had been taken out, and then it was a very troublesome matter to get them hitched on again; the crowd at this time was enormous on the road round the ground, and it was a fortunate thing that no accident happened during the two spins round with the engine before the drill began. No. 1 squad, Firemen Brown, Rae, Poundall and Charter, at length got to work and did the good time of $55\frac{3}{4}$ sec., the London record being 50 sec. The horses were brought up to take the engine round for the next squad, but all endeavours to get them in were futile, and they plunged and reared in an alarming manner, the Chief Officer at length determining to give up the attempt: a decision which was a relief to most people.

Monday afternoon's programme opened at about 2.30 with a new drill, embodying the use of the hydrant. The attendance at the Club during the early part of the afternoon was not large, but our native friends were in good force round the edge of the ground. On the Saturday afternoon an alarming rumour had been going round that the hose described as 100 ft. on the programme was but 75 ft. It was felt that this rather knocked at the value of our records, and the expression of regret was general. Fortunately there was nothing, or extremely little, in the rumour, for when on Monday the hose was run out and the tape laid along it was found to be but a foot or two short of the 100 ft. The life-saving drill and the ladder drill were the best things of the second part of the programme, the former being won by Firemen Brown, Charter and Poundall ($54\frac{1}{2}$ sec., against a previous $72\frac{3}{4}$ sec.) and the latter by Firemen Brown, Rae and Poundall ($38\frac{1}{2}$ sec., previously $47\frac{1}{2}$ sec.) Fireman Brown is very nippy on the ladder.

Owing to the Chief Officer's decision not to use the horses on the Monday in the tournament competition, it was decided to start a fresh competition, the question of how and when the original one was to be decided and the position of the only squad that had competed being left in abeyance. The drill, under the new conditions, that is, without horses, was won by Lieut. Scott, and Firemen W. E. Lott, Zehnder and Herft in $54\frac{1}{2}$ sec.; a member of the squad that had done so well on the first afternoon had the misfortune to get his coupling fouled with a washer, and so spoilt what at first looked like a rosy chance.

This concluded the competitions, and after a short interval Mrs. Hodger arrived and, having been presented by Master "Dibs" Bellamy with a bouquet almost as big as himself, gave the prizes to the various winners, a list of whom we give below. The Chief

Officer called for three cheers for Mrs. Rodger and then for a cheer for the Resident, and a final cheer was given for the Judges. By this time the crowd was simply marvellous, and to the vast majority of the spectators the real business of the show was only just about to begin. The design of the building used in the fire-fighting exhibition was a skit on the new Government Offices—domes, pinnacles, finials and all—and the designer evidently thought that the building should be three storied and that blank wall spaces might be let out for advertisements. From the moment the idea of resemblance to the new offices was grasped until it was consumed this building was of the most absorbing interest to crowds of natives. It was getting dusk when the first alarm was given by a glare inside of some "red-fire," and the escape and ladders were quickly run up to the top floors and some lay figures rescued. In the meantime the rest of the Brigade were preparing to get to work with the hose, and one of the crowd who had come provided with a pocketful of gigantic fizgigs gave a pyrotechnic display off his own bat. At length the fire began to blaze up with a will, and it lit up an assemblage that for point of numbers has scarcely ever been exceeded in Kuala Lumpur: the Parade Ground and the road round it were densely packed, the bridge and the hill up to the offices were covered with people, the new offices were crowded chock-full along the verandahs and sightseers occupied every available coign of vantage; Mrs. Rodger and a large company of ladies and gentlemen watching the exhibition from the Bank and the Post Office premises. The whole made a strange and varied scene and the flames brought into view a mass of people that for variety of colour, race and costume it would be hard to equal in any other part of the world. The materials used for the structure were so inflammable and the fire burnt so fiercely that it was almost impossible to get the hose near enough to play upon the flames; when this was accomplished, however, the effect was soon observable, and the men had to hold off every now and then for fear that the fire would be extinguished too rapidly and so curtail the pleasure of the on-lookers. At length, however, after a series of whistlings by the Chief Officer and another set of whistlings by the engine, and a scurrying about of hose-carts, and a making up of hose-reels, etc., the S.F.B. Competitions for 1896 were a thing of the past. From the times we give below it will be seen how successful the meeting was as a record-maker, and this result must be eminently satisfactory to Chief Officer Bellamy, who devotes so much time, care and attention to the S.F.B., and who must feel that, while his men give such evident proof of progress as these times indicate, his own labours are not thrown away.

The Resident, Mr. J. P. Rodger, was unfortunately unable to be present on either afternoon, business calling him to the Ulu. Captain Syers and Messrs. Spooner and Sanderson were the Judges, on the Monday Mr. Grove acted in place of Mr. Sanderson, and somewhere about golf time Captain Syers disappeared; but Mr. Spooner stuck to his post during each afternoon, as did Mr. George Cumming who discharged the duties of timekeeper all through the competitions; Mr. A. C. Harper was also down as a timekeeper, but he did not act,

being too busily engaged, he explained, in thinking out some new drills for 1897. Mr. A. S. Baxendale was Registrar, and Captain Lyons was down on the programme as Clerk of the Course. Mr. Alexander was in charge of the telegraph.

In affairs of this kind it becomes quite natural to associate certain persons, year after year, with the necessary preparation and arrangement, and without at all disparaging the amount of work put in by the Inspector, the Engineer and others, yet we always, in addition, of course, to Chief Officer Bellamy who bulks so largely—indeed, S.F.B. and H.F.B., are almost synonymous—in the competitions, think of Fireman Charter and Sect'ry Lott.

REEL AND HYDRANT DRILL.—Squad of any three men to get a reel to work with standpipe and hydrant key, from hydrant, with two branches; one (100 feet) length of delivery hose to be coupled to standpipe, dividing breeching fixed, and one (100 feet) length of delivery hose to each arm of breeching, and two branches.

First prize—Insp. Wood, Eng. Wilson and Allen, 52 sec. *Second prize*—Rae, Brown and Poundall, 56½ sec. This is a new drill, so no comparison can be made with previous times.

The same drill for members of under two years' service. *First prize*—Herft, Cooper and W. E. Lott, 88 sec. As only two squads entered, no second prize was given.

TWO-MEN ENGINE DRILL.—To get the engine to work with one length of suction hose with basket strainer attached, one (100 ft.) length of delivery hose to each outlet and two branches.

First prize—Eng. Wilson and Rae, 35½ sec. (record). *Second prize*—Poundall and Brown, 37½ sec. Previous best time, 39½ sec.

The same drill for members of under two years' service:—*First prize*—Herft and Zehnder, 37½ sec. *Second prize*—Parsons and W. E. Lott, 46½ sec.

LIFE-SAVING DRILL.—A squad of three men to raise 5 lengths of scaling ladders to platform and carry down dummy.

First prize—Brown, Charter and Poundall, 54½ sec. (record). *Second prize*—Lieut. Scott, Rae and Phillips, 68 sec. Previous best time 72½ sec.

The same drill for members of under two years' service:—*First prize*—Herft, Cooper and W. E. Lott, 81½ sec.

ROPE-THROWING.—To throw one end of a 60-foot hemp rope over a bar not less than 30 feet from the ground.

First prize—Herft, 32 feet. *Second prize*—Buchanan.

ONE-MAN DRILL.—To get the engine into working order with one length of suction hose with basket strainer attached, and one (100 feet) length of delivery hose from hose box, and branch.

First prize—Inspector Wood, 28½ sec. (record). *Second prize*—Engineer Wilson, 29½ sec. *Third prize*—Brown 32 sec. Previous best time 34 sec.

The same drill for members of under two years' service:—*First prize*—Poundall, 33½ sec. *Second prize*—Herft, 36½ sec. *Third prize*—Zehnder, 37½ sec.

COMPANY COMPETITION (Organisation 1896) for SILVER CUP, presented by the Government of Selangor.—Squad of four men in charge of Lieutenant to get the engine into working order with four branches, six (100 feet) lengths of delivery hose and breechings, and two lengths of suction hose with basket strainer attached and fixed to engine. Prize—Silver Cup, to be held for one year by Lieutenant of winning Company. A prize (value \$5) was also presented to each member of winning Company and a cup to second.

First prize and Challenge Cup—"A" Company—Lieut. Cormac, Eng. Wilson, Brown, Buchanan and Charter, 79 sec. (record). *Second prize*—"C" Company—Lieut. Scott, Rae, Phillips, Allen and Zehnder, 81½ sec. Previous best time, 94 sec.

ESCAPE LADDER DRILL.—Three firemen to run escape ladder 50 yards, pitch, and raise ladder to platform, carry up hose and branch and make joint at foot.

First prize—Brown, Rae and Poundall, 38½ sec. (record). *Second prize*—Eng. Wilson, Allen and Insp. Wood, 43½ sec. Previous best time 47½ sec.

STEAMER COMPETITION of TOURNAMENT in LONDON, organised by the NATIONAL FIRE BRIGADES UNION.—(Wet drill with target).—Four men, engineer and coachman, pair horses, three 50-foot lengths of canvas delivery, with screw couplings and ¾-inch jet, suction (not less than 15 feet long) attached to engine. The first prize is presented by Messrs. Merryweather and Sons, Limited.

Only one squad went through this drill—*viz.*, Brown, Rae, Poundall and Charter, with Wilson as engineer, and Chief Officer Bellamy as coachman. Time 55½ sec. The drill was performed in a remarkably smart manner, and, considering that the time is taken from the engine crossing a line 50 feet from the stopping place until the water strikes the target, will take some beating.

It was considered unadvisable for the other three squads to proceed with this drill on the Monday, owing to the horses not being sufficiently under control in the large crowd attending the show. Another drill was therefore organised on the same lines, except that the men themselves pulled the engine. This was won by Lieut. Scott, W. E. Lott, Zehnder and Herft, in 54½ sec.

TREACHER'S HILL.

NOW that the Sanitarium on Treacher's Hill is beginning to be frequented by those in search of temporary change of climate, it may interest some of your readers to have a few further particulars concerning it, which a recent visit enables me to afford.

First, as to getting there. I would not recommend any but fairly good pedestrians to go there on foot, for although it is only 9 miles from Kuala Kubu, and the road is good, it is a steep pull, especially for those whose systems have become relaxed by long residence in our enervating climate. A horse, if fairly quick, will take you to the top in 2½ to 3 hours without going out of a walk, and ladies can

procure chairs in Kuala Kubu, the bearers of which, if their fair burdens are not of too ample proportions, will carry them up in 4 or 5 hours.

The house is very comfortable, and there are good fireplaces in both the sitting rooms, but they are not often necessary, as although the air is fresh and invigorating it is seldom really cold.

During my month's stay there, the minimum thermometer registered on one occasion $59\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$, once 62° , and once 63° , but the ruling temperature at night varied from 64° to 68° . There is no maximum thermometer, but I took the readings daily at about noon, when the lowest temperature recorded was 66° and the highest 78° . During the first fortnight, when the weather was cloudy and showery, the usual midday temperature was 72° , and during the second half of my visit 74° . On two occasions there was heavy rain and wind at night, but we experienced no inconvenience from the storms beyond the noise, as the house is sound and well closed.

The front of the house looks due west, and the view from it is magnificent, with the Kuala Selangor hill far away in front and the sea usually visible for some distance beyond it. I notice that a correspondent has stated in a recent number of your paper that he saw the hills of Sumatra on clear days from here. He is certainly to be congratulated on the excellence of his sight, for the said hills must be at least 200 miles away. Looking a little to the right, the Pulau Sembilan at the mouth of the Perak River, and beyond them the Dindings, are to be seen, and still further to the north Gunong Bubu, while to the left Pulau Angsa is clearly visible and also Pulau Klang and Pulau Ketam and the mouth of the Klang River. The town of Kuala Kubu immediately in front and over 3,000 feet below, of Rasa a little to the left, and of Serendah to the south-west, are almost the only breaks in a vast forest stretching to the sea, where on a clear night the revolving light on Pulau Angsa is to be seen flashing against the sky. The delightful bay window in the sitting room looks straight in the direction of Kuala Lumpur, which, however, is hidden by intervening hills, but I succeeded in making out a coffee estate which is probably Hawthornden or Lincoln; the corresponding window in the dining room looks down on lonely jungly hills in the neighbourhood of Sangka Dua, while directly in front the main range is seen with the Semangko peak immediately opposite, and, with a glass, bits of the new Pahang Road can be made out through the trees as it winds its way across the Gumut and up the broad valley of the Semangko River to the gap which it traverses on its way to Raub and Kuala Lipis. Looking further round to the north-east a fine range of mountains in the Pahang country is to be seen, which must be of considerable height, but with the name of which I am not acquainted.

So much for the climate and the view; but, Mr. Editor, I have been asked more than once what one is to do there, for I am told one cannot spend a week doing nothing but feeding on fresh air and looking at the view, however fresh the former may be and however lovely the latter. To such enquirers I would say, if your soul is satisfied with the Lake Club and the Selangor Club; with criticising your

neighbours' dress and admiring your own; with tea and scandal; or poker and whisky and soda, by all means stay in Kuala Lumpur, for that is the very place for you. On Treacher's Hill your only neighbours will be the untutored savages whose conversation is neither piquant nor risqué, while as to their dress—well, I can only say that a pious haji from our party who spent the night at their kampong was so shocked that his modesty compelled him to sleep under a tree rather than risk his reputation by taking shelter in a dwelling occupied by such unconventional females. To those, however, who have any capacity for admiring the beauties of nature, Teacher's Hill, as a resort for a period of rest, is charming. The walks, which are being extended, will be sufficient for all ordinary purposes of exercise. The garden, when Mr. Campbell, who takes so great an interest in the Sanitarium, has completed the extensions which I believe he contemplates and has stocked them with the numerous plants which thrive at that elevation, will enable us to renew acquaintance with many familiar friends of the old country.

The surrounding jungle is full of beauties of every kind and description, from the gigantic fir tree whose cones cover the ground to the minute ferns which carpet the rocks and spread over the tree stems, while the resounding chatter of the various kinds of monkey which inhabit these forests, the strident cries of the numerous hornbills, the thrilling call of the Argus pheasant, and the sight of the exquisite butterflies which flit about in the sunlight, afford never-ending entertainment to the naturalist.

The clearing which has been lately made at the east end of the hill will be a useful addition in many ways. It will provide space for excellent kitchen gardens, where cabbages, tomatoes and other sought-after vegetables can be grown for Kuala Lumpur market. It will enable grass, which is much wanted, to be grown for horses and cows. There is a capital site on it for the erection of a cowshed and also one suitable for a tennis court, while from the further end there is a path which leads through the jungle to some picturesque rocks which will afford a pretty view of the main range and of the intervening valley when a few of the intercepting trees have been cleared away. Altogether there are great capabilities in the site of this Sanitarium, and, given a fair provision for its upkeep and improvement, I feel sure that in a year or two it will be much in demand and that the inhabitants of the State will bless Mr. Treacher for the benefit he conferred on them when he instituted it.—A. R. V.

P.S.—A former correspondent in your issue of 15th May asks whether the remarkable boulders piled up on one another and forming the highest point of this mountain are the result of volcanic or glacial action. I do not pretend to much knowledge of geology, but I think it is tolerably evident that they owe their present position to neither of these agencies.

The formation of the mountain is granitic and the granite boulders left piled up on its top are, I imagine, the hardest parts of the rock,

which still remain notwithstanding the process of denudation which is always going on. In the course of countless ages, some of the hard parts above have been by slow degrees deposited on similar hard parts lower down by the weathering away of the softer intermediate and surrounding parts, which by the action of rainwater have gradually decayed and been carried down to fill up the valleys and form the lower slopes of the hill.

This appears the most likely solution; but perhaps some one with greater knowledge of the subject will put us right.—A. R. V.

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MALAY CUSTOMS IN SOUTHERN SELANGOR.

MARRIAGE.

(ADDITIONAL NOTES).

THE publication of the notes on marriage customs has, as I expected, enabled me to collect further information, for which, as it happens to be of a specially interesting character, I trust no excuse need be offered.

On the 3rd day after the *hari langsong* there is a very curious ceremony, called *mandi tolak bala* or *mandi ayer selamat* (bathing for good luck).

On the night in question the relatives of the bridegroom assemble under cover of the darkness and make a bonfire under the house of the newly-married couple by collecting and burning rubbish; into the fire thus kindled they throw coconut husks and pepper, or anything likely to make it unpleasant for those within, and presently raise such a smoke that the bridegroom comes hastily down the steps, ostensibly to see what is the matter, but as soon as he makes his appearance, he is seized by his relatives, and carried off bodily to his own parents' house, these proceedings being known as the stealing of the bridegroom (*churi pengantin*). Next day there is a grand procession to escort him back to the house of his bride, which he reaches about one o'clock in the afternoon, the processionists carrying presentation rice (*nasi adap-adap*) together with the eggs stuck into it as on the last day of the wedding, two sorts of holy water in pitchers, called respectively *ayer selamat* and *ayer tolak bala*, and a sort of urns or pitchers, called *gumba*, containing blossom-spikes of the coconut and arecanut palms, and coconut-shoots rudely carved into the semblance of palm-blossom or krisses, together with a large number of rude syringes manufactured from joints of bamboo and called *penah ayer* or "water-arrows."

Similar preparations are made by the relatives of the bride, including her *nasi adap-adap*, and all these articles are set out separately on the ground in the place selected for the bathing ceremony, a bench being added for the bride and bridegroom to sit upon during the ceremony, which commences with the customary rite of *tepong tawar*, after which the *ayer tolak bala* and the *ayer selamat* are successively thrown over the pair.

Now, the proper custom is for all the bride's relatives to surround the bridal seat, and the bridegroom's relatives to stand at a distance, for the proceedings which follow, but in order to save themselves from the wetting the women of both parties assemble round the bride and bridegroom and are protected by a sheet which is hung between them and the men. For all the young men now proceed to discharge their water arrows, and as they are stopped by the sheet they proceed to turn their syringes against each other, until all are thoroughly wetted.

Meanwhile the young shoot of a coconut palm, twisted into a V-shape (like the "merry thought" of a fowl) is presented to the bridegroom, who takes hold of one end and presents the other to the bride, and blowing on it (*sembor*) thrice, they pull it till it untwists itself, and the *lepas-lepas* rite is concluded. Finally, a girdle, consisting of a single thread, is passed seven times over the heads and under the feet of the bride and bridegroom together, after which the bridegroom breaks through the thread and they are free to return to the house. This latter ceremony is called *lat-lat*. They then return to the house, divest themselves of their wet garments, and put on their wedding attire, after which the *ber-suap-suap-an* rite is performed, with both vessels of presentation rice, and then all parties disperse for the usual games.

In conclusion, I may give a different scale for the number of pillows used at a wedding, which I believe is or was in use at Klang. According to this new scale, the common people are allowed three big pillows including a *bantal tumpu*; a well-to-do man, four (inclusive); and a headman, five (inclusive); rajas presumably having one or two more. According to this scale it is only the big pillows that are of any great importance, and the people are allowed to use as few or as many as they like. The topmost small pillow, however, is always triangular, and is called *gunong-gunong-an*. But it is, as I said before, useless to expect uniformity in such matters, after the levelling of ranks which has taken place, and is still taking place, in Selangor.

W. S.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our Correspondents.]

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SELANGOR CRICKET GROUND.

To the Editor of the Selangor Journal.

DEAR SIR,—I have been meaning for some time to write to you a few lines about the recent Perak-Selangor Cricket Match.

The team Selangor sent, even without the valuable help of E. W. Neubronner, was the strongest that has ever represented the State either at home or away.

The wicket was very fast and true and was perhaps the best wicket that any out representative match has been played on in Malaya, though I have seen even better wickets in practice games in Taiping.

Perak was as good as Selangor at each department of the game, but the chief reason why Perak got the best of the match was because the Perak men played in better practice and fielded with more certainty.

It would be quite impossible for two teams, if evenly matched, to play an even match when one of them has been in the habit of always playing back and with uncertainty on an uneven bumpy wicket while the other has been accustomed to play forward on a fast true one; and again I repeatedly noticed the Selangor men hanging in the field and watching the ball, while the Perak men went forward to meet the ball with their hands and feet together. The Perak men had confidence in their pitch and fielding ground: the Selangor men could not entirely forget the Selangor cricket field.

I don't write in any boastful spirit when I write of our superiority in the matter of grounds. I write because this inter-State match gives us in Perak the most genuine pleasure and because we are very anxious (perhaps partly selfishly) to see your Selangor ground taken thoroughly in hand. And if I may advise the committee of the Selangor Club on a matter in which, as they know, I take the keenest interest, I would say to them: Go to the Resident General, as soon as he gets to Kuala Lumpur, and ask him, *first*, to lay down that a square of 40 yards in the middle of the ground is to be most strictly reserved as a cricket pitch, and not be given up to football, athletic sports, or the drilling of heavy-booted Sikhs.

Nothing is so likely to spoil a ground as a squad of men going through physical drill on, as the Scotch members of the Selangor team would say, "a saft day." And, *secondly*, to give \$1,500 towards taking up the ground for 40 square yards, draining it and relaying it and then planting on it one kind of creeping grass: as was done in Taiping.

As to this remaking of the ground, we in Perak will give all the information we possess, and as our ground was converted from a swamp into a first-class cricket ground, the information may be relied upon.

Mr. Swettenham loves a game of cricket, and, like me, he has reached that time of life when we don't like to stand up for pleasure and be hit indiscriminately on the waistcoat, eye and ear; so, if your committee goes to work with a will, I fancy he will be ready to help.

Of course the Government will ask the inhabitants of Selangor to subscribe at least \$1,000, if it gives \$1,500, but that won't be an insurmountable difficulty, and, now that all the Native States services are amalgamated, I think your committee might fairly ask Perak, Negri Sembilan and Pahang men to help with their mites to make a second good pitch in the Native States. At all events, we in Perak will help in our small way.

I apologise for writing at such length and remain,

Yours faithfully,

E. W. B.

TAIPING, 25th June, 1896.

NOTES AND NEWS.

MRS. RODGER held an "At Home" at the Residency on Thursday, the 16th instant. Mr. F. A. Swettenham was present. Mrs. Rodger will hold an "At Home" at the Selangor Museum at 9.30 to night (Friday).

MRS. TREACHER has presented a handsome green-and-gold altar frontal to St. Mary's Church, and on Sunday, the 12th inst., it was dedicated to the service of the sanctuary by the Chaplain, the Rev. F. W. Haines. It is a source of gratification to the congregation to have this proof that Mrs. Treacher continues to take an interest in the Church which was built during her husband's reign as British Resident.

THROUGH the death of Mrs. Crompton, who died very suddenly on the morning of the 11th instant, and was buried the same afternoon in the cemetery attached to the Church of St. John the Evangelist, a comparatively old resident has passed away. Mrs. Crompton, who was 34 years of age, came to Selangor in 1888. Much sympathy is felt for Mr. Crompton, who is left with a family of three young boys.

MR. H. C. RIDGES has been appointed a Marriage Registrar under the "Christian Marriage Regulation."—Dr. A. J. McClosky has been appointed Hon. Surgeon, S.F.B.—Mr. A. Butler, late of the Perak service, has arrived in Kuala Lumpur and taken up his appointment of Secretary to the Resident General.—Captain H. L. Talbot is expected in Kuala Lumpur within the next day or two to take charge of the Selangor Detachment of the Malay States Guides.—Mr. R. G. Watson will leave Perak on Mr. Berrington's arrival there to take up the appointment of Senior Magistrate, Selangor.

The appointment of Captain Syers as Commissioner of the Federated Native States' Police has caused a general and widespread feeling of satisfaction in Selangor, where it is regarded as a just and proper reward for arduous and devoted services extending over twenty years.

MR. BERRINGTON's many friends in Selangor, while offering him their congratulations on what must be considered promotion to the appointment of Senior Magistrate, Perak, will regret his departure from Kuala Lumpur. Since his arrival in Selangor in 1890, Mr.

Berrington has earned the reputation of possessing a quiet but firm determination to—if a slang expression may be pardoned—"play the game," whether in office or on a club committee, in adhering to rules. Officially he has held what may possibly be termed the most trying position in the State—that of Chief Magistrate; while, socially, his absence of flurry and fair and impartial advice has been of invaluable assistance to many committees. An enthusiastic golfer and an excellent whist player, yet his loss in sporting circles will be most felt as our champion billiard player. It was the desire of a large number of members of the Selangor Club to entertain him at a dinner in recognition of his valuable services as Vice-President, but the shortness of the notice of his departure prevented this. Mr. Berrington, we believe, will leave Kuala Lumpur for Klang by the midday train on Sunday.

TOWKAY YAP KWAN SENG, Captain China, last night (Thursday), at his Garden House, Kuala Lumpur, gave a dinner in honour of Mr. Berrington, on his departure for Perak. The well-known dining hall, in addition to many Chinese tablets and tapestry scrolls, was very prettily decorated with festoons of blossoms, etc., the table was tastefully set with floral adornments, and the Selangor Band—playing in a manner quite worthy of the recently-new instruments—was in attendance. Mr. Rodger and a large number of the official and mercantile friends of the guest of the evening were present, and sat down to a dinner which was served with that lavish hospitality for which Captain Yap Kwan Seng is so famous. After dinner the toasts of the Queen and of the Resident-General and British Resident were followed by that of Mr. Berrington. In proposing this, the toast of the evening the Captain China dwelt on the great confidence Mr. Berrington had won from the Chinese community in his capacity as Chief Magistrate, and although at first they had been inclined to grumble at the time he bestowed on the cases, they had all learned that his work was thorough and sound, that they had in Mr. Berrington a judge who devoted the same patient attention to the cases of all, whether rich or poor, gentle or simple; the Captain China also referred to Mr. Berrington's love of golf and thanked him for teaching him (the Captain) the game; he (the speaker) liked the game, it gave one a good appetite and good sleep, but he was of opinion that it was a game for single men and not for "benedicts;" and concluded by wishing Mr. Berrington a pleasant voyage and hoping that, before many years had passed, promotion would bring him back to Selangor. The toast was drunk with great enthusiasm and in the course of his reply Mr. Berrington said he had often enjoyed a similar evening beneath that hospitable roof, sometimes on the occasion of a departure

like the present, but it was a wonderful difference to be the departing one oneself, and though Perak might be called the leading State he frankly confessed he was loth to go, but was under "hukum"; he thanked the Captain China for the great assistance he had rendered in those judicial enquiries where his help was needed. He was really sad to be saying *adieu* to Mr. Rodger, to Captain China, and to his many friends, but he hoped it was really *au revoir*. He referred to the very pleasant and cordial relations that had always existed between himself and Mr. Rodger, both officially and socially, and to the kindness and assistance he had always experienced at his hands, and concluded by extending an invitation to his Selangor friends to visit him in his new home. The Captain China then proposed the health of Captain Syers, and congratulated him on his recent promotion. In replying to the toast, which was very cordially received, Captain Syers said that when, many years ago—in fact, soon after Mr. Swettenham arrived—he took up an appointment in the State, he did not anticipate then what he should be to-day; he felt how much he owed to the Resident for the favourable view he had always taken of his (the speaker's) endeavours, and to the great assistance he had invariably received both from him and from the Captain China. The healths of Mr. Kershaw and of Mr. Butler were then proposed and drunk; the former, in expressing his thanks, saying that they had drunk to a stranger very kindly and that he hoped when they knew each other better they might find that they had not made a mistake. Mr. Rodger, in proposing the last toast of the evening, that of the Captain China, took the opportunity of thanking the company for the way in which the toast of the "Resident General and British Resident" had been received, and said how sorry Mr. Swettenham was at his inability to be present that evening. He referred to the great work done by Mr. Swettenham in the past and said that many of the great improvements in Selangor, of which we are so justly proud, were due to Mr. Swettenham's initiative—notably the Railway and the Waterworks. The prospects for the future of the Federated States, with Mr. Swettenham at the head of affairs, was great; the mercantile community would find in him a liberal and generous director of the Government, while officials would find him one of the most just and fair of men, who allowed no petty motives to interfere with a due appreciation of the officer who did his work. Speaking of Mr. Berrington, Mr. Rodger said that it was with mingled feelings he regarded his departure; he had to congratulate him on his promotion but was very sorry that he was leaving us; he referred to Mr. Berrington's official work, and how he had hitherto served the State both as Legal Adviser and Judicial

Commissioner; he spoke of his social qualities and his keenness as a sportsman, especially referring to what he had done for golf in Selangor and to the great services he had rendered the Selangor Club as its Vice-President; and he, also, hoped that Mr. Berrington might return to us. He then called on the company to drink to the health of the Captain China, referring to his hospitality, the assistance he had always rendered the Government, and expressing the hope that he and the Chinese Towkays who, he knew, were at present passing through a trying time, the price of tin being low and the duty on opium high, would flourish and be assisted in that by the railway and roads, which it was intended to open up in many directions. The speeches ended, Messrs. C. Baxendale, Dougal, Spooner, Alexander, Cummings and Ridges sang some songs, the latter adapting his song to the occasion by describing how, with his golf-clubs on his shoulder, Mr. Berrington was off to Taiping, Perak, in the morning.

THE Government English School for Girls will make a start on Monday, 3rd August, under the charge of Miss Stratton, and until the school building (now being erected near the High Street end of the Brickfields Road) is ready for occupation, the school will meet at the Masonic Hall, Damansara Road. The school fee will be 50 cents monthly; school hours, 10 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. and 1 to 3 p.m., Saturday and Sunday whole holidays.

THE regular monthly meeting of the Selangor Club Committee was held on the 18th inst., Captain Syers (Chairman), Messrs. E. V. Carey, G. Cumming, J. Russell, C. E. F. Sanderson, W. D. Scott and A. R. Bligh (Secretary), being present. The following gentlemen were elected members of the Club: Messrs F. M. Bell, A. J. Cooper, J. W. Darke and C. F. McCausland. It was resolved, subject to their acceptance, that the following gentlemen be added to the list of honorary members under Rule II.: Mr. W. H. Treacher, c.m.g., Mr. E. W. Birch, and the British Residents of the Federated Native States.

THE half-yearly sale of papers and periodicals subscribed to by the Selangor Club will take place in the Reading Room, at 6 p.m., to-morrow, Saturday, the 25th.

A MEETING of the Committee of the Selangor Museum was held on the 8th instant, Captain Syers (Chairman), Mr. L. B. Von Donop (Hon. Sec.), Dr. J. L. Welch, and Messrs. A. S. Baxendale, A. R. Venning and J. Russell being present. The Museum was inspected and the minutes of the previous meeting read and confirmed. A valuable collection of curios, purchased through Mr. D. H. Wise,

while acting as British Resident, Pahang, had been received since the date of the last meeting; the Committee passed a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Wise for his kindness in the matter. The Committee also acknowledge with thanks the following additions to the Museum during the month of June:—From Captain Syers, a coconut beetle and caterpillar; Mr. Wood, a leaf insect; Mr. Glassford, a pole cat; Mr. C. Meikle, a python; Mr. Lake, a fire-back pheasant; Mr. Valberg, a small snake; Mr. Sanderson, a rare insect; Mr. A. S. Baxendale, six earthen vessels (*labu tanah*); Mr. Wee Hup Long, a young crocodile; Mr. Sequerah, two moths.

Number of visitors during June, 1,419			
Previously	...	...	8,440
	Total	...	9,859

PILLAR letter boxes about the town are found to be of great service to the public, and when it happens that the Post Office authorities find that one is placed in a position where its presence is not taken advantage of, it is removed to somewhere else. We understand that this is the case with the box at the "Seven Dials," and that it will be shifted unless it is more used. We believe that on one occasion a postman, who has since left the service, neglected to clear this box, and caused delay in the delivery of three letters, thus giving the box a bad name. The public, however, need be under no apprehension of a recurrence of this inconvenience, as steps are now taken to enable the authorities to tell if the boxes are regularly cleared.

THE account we had intended to give of the cricket match, *Kajang v. Planters*, played in Kuala Lumpur on the 4th inst., was late in coming to hand and was crowded out of our last number. Fortunately, for our safety, we print it in the present issue—we say fortunately, because we have been given to understand that had we put in an appearance in any part of the Ulu Langat district any time during the past fortnight we should have been mobbed for the omission. The rumour that the planters had offered us a heavy bribe—so soon as coffee regains \$45—to suppress the account, is entirely without foundation.

A correspondent sends the following note on the land sale held at Klang on the 13th instant:—"Of the 9,102 acres offered for sale 5,213 acres were sold. The purchasers were—Mr. T. N. Christie, 263 acres; Mr. Melville White, 622 acres; Mr. Metcalfe, 241 acres; Mr. Fairhurst, 324 acres—total 1,450 acres, by Mr. T. Gibson; Mr. A. Orchard, 340 acres; Mr. Norman W. Grieve, 640 acres; the Oriental Estates Company, 1,201 acres—total, 2,181 acres, by Mr. E. V. Carey; Mr. W. W. Bailey,

by Mr. A. Walker, 928 acres; Mr. T. N. Christie, by Mr. C. Meikle, 350 acres; and Mr. H. C. Rendle, for himself, 304 acres. There was no competition, all sales being at upset prices, though a flutter was caused in at least one manly breast, by the appearance at the last moment of Towkay Lok Yew and of a businesslike-looking stranger who, it subsequently transpired, had nothing more evil in his mind than the sale of some patent cooking stoves. The proceedings were watched with apparent interest by the 'Tuan Besar' of Kuala Selangor, and though we missed the mirth-provoking patter of our only auctioneer, the 'Raja' of Klang conducted the sale with much dignity and grace. Nor was the situation without its humour, for the evident satisfaction of the 'veteran' at getting what he wanted at his own price, enabled that old man to reel off calculations with the ease and rapidity of a Colenso, and then to frolic and gambol in a way which would have been the despair of the most light-hearted kid."

A REGULATION has been passed by the State Council to provide a fund from which widows and orphan children of Government servants may be granted pensions. Any person joining the service on the fixed establishment after the date of publication of this Regulation (15th July, 1896) whose salary is not less than \$20 per month and who is restricted by law to one wife at a time, will have to contribute to the fund, a monthly abatement of 5 per cent. of salary being made for this purpose. Those in the service prior to the passing of the Regulation may contribute to the fund by signifying their desire to do so within the next three months.

AN opportunity is given to those who may think of donning "specs," by a visit to Kuala Lumpur of Mr. N. Lazarus, Oculist-Optician, who will be staying at the Rest House for about a week.

WE may remind our readers that all dogs within town limits of Kuala Lumpur must be registered by the 31st inst.

THE two following paragraphs are taken from Mr. Skeat's report on the Ulu Langat District for 1895:—

"In connection with the question of native coffee planting, I would point out that the system of planting 'catch crops' in moderation is by no means universally condemned by planters. In fact, an authority well qualified to speak on this subject writes as follows:—'Whilst the young coffee trees are growing, the vacant ground may be planted in maize, plantains, tania, sweet potatoes and other such food products, according to the desire of the planter or the requirements of the local markets. This system, which is called catch cre

really a very good one, although some planters disapprove of it. The unoccupied part of the land will be giving some return, and the tillage of the soil necessitated by the cultivation will do good to the young coffee plants. Besides, the shade produced by the plants grown for the catch crops will prove beneficial to the coffee, and the weary waiting for returns from the cultivation will be broken by the sale of the produce. Of course, care must be taken not to allow the catch crops to encroach too much on the coffee, and after the second year they should be discontinued.'

"In September a sensational find [of tin] was made: the Javanese coolies employed upon the construction of the Sungei Cheow Road came upon large lumps of ore lying upon the road formation at about a mile from Kajang, but being ignorant of their real character, proceeded to clear the road of them, until a Chinese who was passing (after a heavy shower of rain) picked up a few pieces from the drain. This was on the afternoon of the 16th September, but so quickly did the news spread that before 4 p.m. that day six mining applications for an area aggregating 90 acres had been sent in, and by the 26th of the same month 44 applications, covering an area of 915 acres, had been received. Of these some have been withdrawn, but licenses have at the time of writing been already issued for 31 lots covering very nearly 500 acres. A large portion of the jungle in this locality was felled and kongsis erected, so that work might be started immediately after the Chinese New Year. Most of the land is known to be good, some bores bringing up as much as half a kati of ore at a time, the depth averaging 17 to 18 feet. By the middle of April some 2,000 coolies should be at work, and it will be the mining centre of Kajang mukim."

"My experience of Malay planters in this district is that they, according to their means, undertake too much work to start with, which results in general failure; everything is being done for them in the way of road making and they have not the least cause for complaint at present, indolence has undoubtedly a great deal to do with their poor results and ignorance as well; however, I have the greatest hopes of being able to report progress when Europeans are allowed to cultivate land here, as their systematic way of draining and knowledge of opening up new country will be of the greatest benefit to the natives. When mentioning natives I do not allude to the Banjer, Kedah and Kelantan Malays, who have lately settled in the district, their work has been good in every respect and money could be never better spent than in making advances to encourage a further coloni-

"In closing my report I should like to be allowed to refer to the future prospects of the district, and though the returns I have presented show only slight increases for the past year, it should be remembered that these increases are derived from revenue collected solely from a native population. I attribute the steady progress in land revenue to the encouragement given to new settlers by the Government, by the opening up of the district by means of roads and tracks, and advances which have been made to the headmen of certain districts, who in every case have given substantial security and paid the instalments as agreed upon regularly."—*Mr. Holmes' report on the Kuala Selangor District.*

LOCAL SPORT.

RIFLE MATCH BETWEEN LARUT (PERAK) AND KUALA LUMPUR (SELANGOR.)

THE second annual Rifle Match between the two States was shot off this week, the Selangor team firing on the 19th and Perak on the 20th inst.

It was originally intended to fire eight a side but a letter was received from Col. Walker the previous week to amend this and make it teams of five a side.

Of the local team, Charter, who has been firing exceedingly well in practice, was unfortunate enough to get an attack of fever a few days previous to the match, and although he declared himself quite recovered and had come from Ginting Bidai to shoot, the result proved otherwise, as his score will show. Dr. Travers' 92 and Cormac's 90, made in previous week's practice, were not forthcoming on this occasion, each of them spoiling a good score by a miss at 600 yards. Poundall surpassed all expectations, while Brown shot very steadily.

The morning was fine; there was scarcely sufficient light until 7 o'clock, when the firing began at 500 yards in the presence of a small company including Messrs. G. Shepherd (Umpire) A. B. Hubback, C. P. R. Kindersley and W. D. Scott; Mr. G. Herft kindly presiding in the marker's butt. The scoring was not encouraging at first and with Charter's 15 at 500 yards and 8 at 600 yards, the fortunes of the team looked very gloomy and they felt that they were playing a losing game; however, a better stand was made at the short range and the match ended with a total of 364, an average of 72.9 per man. The following is the home score:—

	SELANGOR.			Total.
	300 yards.	500 yards.	600 yards.	
J. Brown ...	4 3 4 3 5 4 3—26	5 4 4 5 4 4 4—30	3 4 2 4 5 4 3—25	81
A. Poundall ...	3 5 5 3 5 3 4—28	4 5 5 3 4 5 5—31	2 5 2 2 4 5 2—22	81
C. R. Cormac ...	4 4 3 5 4 4 5—29	5 5 5 5 4 3 5—32	2 4 2 2 5 3 0—18	79
Dr. Travers ...	2 4 3 4 3 4 4—24	2 5 2 3 5 5 5—27	3 5 5 5 5 2 5—25	76
R. Charter ...	4 4 2 4 4 2 4—24	0 0 3 2 2 5 3—15	2 0 0 4 2 0 2—8	47
Total ...	131	135	98	364

A telegram from Perak gives their total score at 320, an average of 64 per man; but up to the time of going to press the details are not to hand. Selangor wins the match by 44 points.

CRICKET.

KAJANG *v.* PLANTERS.

THIS long-talked-of match was played in Kuala Lumpur on Saturday, the 4th instant, and resulted in a win for Kajang by 20 runs. The match started at 11 o'clock, an hour at which we might occasionally start our Saturday games. Stonor having won the toss went to the wickets along with Whitley. Carey and Dougal started the bowling and runs came slowly to begin with. When Whitley had made 6 runs he was badly missed by the Tamby fielding as substitute, but with 23 runs on the scoring sheet Stonor was well caught at point by Lutyens. Bagnall filled the vacancy, and almost immediately gave the Tamby another chance, which, unfortunately for the planters, was again not taken advantage of. These two batsmen now got to work and some good fast cricket was witnessed, bringing on many bowling changes—Lutyens, J. Glassford and Lake all having a try. Just before tiffin Bagnall gave Jackson an easy chance at mid off which was not accepted and at the adjournment the score stood at 108 for one wicket. The tiffin did not improve the batting, for on restarting Whitley and Bagnall were soon got rid of and, with the exception of Hay, none of the others did anything, the innings closing for 141. Whitley and Bagnall are to be congratulated on the stand they made for their side. Both batsmen played good free cricket. For the planters J. Glassford, Carey and Lake all bowled well and, with the exception of the mistakes in the field made by the Tamby and Jackson, which proved very expensive, the fielding was good.

The planters began with C. Glassford and Gunn, to the bowling of Hicks and Hay. The start was a very bad one, Gunn being caught at point and C. Glassford bowled with but 5 runs scored. To lose C. Glassford so soon was a great disappointment to his side. Lutyens, who succeeded, did not stay long, and with three wickets down for 14 runs matters looked very bad. Carey and J. Glassford both hit hard and brought the total up to 45 ere the former was caught. Dougal was next in and began to hit at once. These two batsmen seemed as if they were in for a lot of runs and brought on many bowling changes, but at 63 Glassford was bowled for a good 24 and a few overs later Hicks found the way to Dougal's wicket. Tollemache and Lake then became associated and as both men were playing good cricket and brought up the century the planters became more hopeful. At 101, however, both these batsmen got out. C. Meikle batted well for 10, but the remaining batsmen did little and the innings closed for 121. Hicks and Hay did most of the bowling and did it well. The fielding all round was good. A few chances were missed, however, which had they been accepted would have lessened the planters' total considerably.

The game was a very enjoyable one and the Kajang men are to be congratulated on their victory, the more so as it was accomplished without the aid of Whitley in the bowling line.

The planters, we hear, are thirsting for revenge and we hope to hear soon that a day has been fixed for the return.

The following are the scores:—

KAJANG RECREATION CLUB.		SELANGOR PLANTERS.	
Whitley c Lake b J. Glassford	51	C. Glassford b Hay	5
Stonor c Lutyens b Dougal	5	Gunn c Bagnall b Hicks	0
Bagnall c J. Glassford b Carey	49	Lutyens b Hay	3
Hicks b Glassford	7	Carey c Hay b Muttiah	17
Hay c C. Glassford b Lake	15	J. Glassford b Hay	24
Clarke b Carey	2	Dougal b Hicks	17
Lency b Glassford	0	Tollemache b Hay	10
Skinner c Lutyens b Lake	0	Lake b Hicks	15
Kindersley c Lake b J. Glassford	3	C. Meikle b Hicks	10
Muttiah c Glassford b Lake	0	Jackson not out	4
Shepherd not out	0	Hammerton b Hay	4
Extras, byes 11	11	Extras, byes 12	12
	141		121

UNDER 27 v. OVER 27.

THIS game was played on Saturday last. The "Youngsters" were captained by A. B. Hubback, whom we were glad to see in the field again, and having won the toss elected to bat. With the exception of A. B. Hubback, Keyt and Labrooy—who got 18, 13 and 15, respectively—none of the others could do much against the bowling of Carey and Dougal, the innings closing for 75 runs. Carey, who took six wickets, bowled in excellent form all through the innings. The "Over 27" side started with Bagnall and C. Glassford. Both men immediately settled down to score. After making 12 Bagnall was out to a very brilliant catch by Labrooy at third man. Dr. McClosky joined Glassford and then followed some excellent cricket. Change after change in the bowling was tried but with no result, until at 154 the doctor was caught at short slip off a ball that bumped badly. McClosky's innings of 34 was an exceedingly patient and good one. With a few more runs added, C. Glassford retired with 105 to his credit. With the exception of a difficult chance at wickets when he had made 94 his innings was faultless. We have seen this batsman play many good innings before, but we are quite sure he never played a better than his last Saturday's one, and that, too, against very good bowling. Highet, who succeeded, failed to score, and Tisbury and Carey played out time, the former having 19 and the latter 8 to his credit. The total was 186 for four wickets. Seven bowlers were tried, but only Pereira, J. Glassford and A. B. Hubback succeeded in getting a wicket.

SELANGOR, 1895.

(EXTRACTS FROM MR. J. P. RODGER'S REPORT).

VARIOUS questions have arisen during the year in connection with the Land Code—*e.g.*, as to the position of a customary land holder, whose holding is included within the limits of a township; the title to be issued in respect of a building allotment in cases where a number of houses constitute a "village" in the ordinary acceptance of the term, although not within the technical meaning attached to it in the Land Code; and the registration of transfers and charges in respect of leases issued under former Land Regulations. Pending a general assimilation of the land laws of all

the Protected Native States—one of the most urgently needed measures awaiting federation—these and other questions have been only provisionally settled. The appointment of a Commissioner of Lands and Mines for all the federated States is, in my opinion, much required; but I am glad to say that Mr. Ebden, the Registrar of Titles, reports a marked improvement in the manner in which the Selangor district land records are now kept, as compared with previous years. It will be a matter for consideration whether, after federation, revenue surveyors should be attached to the Land Office, as in Perak, or be under the Survey department, as in Selangor. Valid arguments may be adduced in favour of either method, as the former saves delay in dealing with land applications, while the latter has the advantage of being carried on in connection with all trigonometrical and other surveys, under one directing officer for the whole State.

Alternative schemes for lighting the town and neighbourhood of Kuala Lumpur with electric light, one prepared by the Telegraph department, recommending steam, the other by the P.W.D., recommending water power for generating the electricity required, have been referred to England for the opinion of an expert, and it is hoped that, whichever motive power may ultimately be adopted, it will be possible to provide for this form of lighting on the estimates for 1897.

The *Victoria Institution*, founded as a memorial of Her Majesty's Jubilee, and opened in 1894, has done excellent work during the past year. This school provides a good English education for boys of every nationality, on payment of \$1 monthly, and the average number on the register was 158, the average daily attendance being 142 (90%). The number of boys on the register rose from 126, in January, to 201, in December. The nationality of the boys at the latter date was as follows:

Europeans	...	...	...	...	...	4
Eurasians	...	...	...	...	...	25
Malays	...	...	...	...	...	8
Indians	...	...	...	...	...	60
Chinese	...	...	...	...	...	104
						<hr/>
				Total	...	201

The number presented for examination was 153; the number of passes obtained 770; the percentage of passes 85%. In addition to the ordinary passes, 39 were obtained in special subjects. The Inspector reports that the results of the examination, held at the end of the year, were generally satisfactory, more especially having regard to the fact that English was a foreign language to the great majority of the boys examined.

A new Education code was introduced in 1895, drafted with much care and ability by Mr. B. E. Shaw, headmaster of the *Victoria Institution*, and modelled on the general lines of the latest English code,

which has recently been adopted, with a few modifications, by the Education department in Ceylon. The main feature of this code is that it provides for assessing the Government grant on a basis of the general efficiency of the school, and substitutes this principle for that of payment by the results of individual examination—a system which is now, I believe, generally condemned by educational reformers. Pending federation, however, it has been decided to only partially adopt the provisions of the new code.

Great progress has been made in the planting industry—almost exclusively in connection with the cultivation of Liberian coffee—and both Europeans and Asiatics are now planting coffee in every district of the State. The prices realised at the auction sales of land at Klang, to which reference has already been made in this report, were very satisfactory, but I regret that the experiment was not tried of offering for sale a few blocks of larger area than the usual 320 acres. For practical planting purposes the dimensions of a block of this description are materially reduced by the necessity, in some cases, of retaining protective belts of jungle, in others by the existence of portions of land unfitted for cultivation, and in all by the excision of sites required for dwelling houses, stores, cooly lines and drying places. Companies and syndicates, and even individuals, desirous of planting on a large scale, are averse from purchasing one block of 320 acres, with only the possibility of being able to acquire, at a reasonable cost, a sufficient number of adjacent blocks to make up the area required for their plantations, and many of them consequently abstain from bidding at all. In my opinion, it is inadvisable to establish any immutable rule as to the area of blocks of land put up for sale by auction, as, for some applicants, an area of 320 acres is too large, whilst for others it is far too small. To attract the greatest number of intending purchasers, and to provide for the requirements of planters of every description, I think that blocks of very varying area should be surveyed and offered for sale, and, provided that a fair annual quit rent be reserved, and an effective cultivation clause inserted in every grant, it appears to be practically immaterial, from a Government point of view, whether land is cultivated in blocks comprising one hundred or one thousand acres, or any less or greater area. Again, the compulsory sale by auction of all agricultural lands in the Klang and Kuala Selangor districts, and within a radius of five miles from the town of Kuala Lumpur, although it has produced several thousand dollars in premium, has greatly delayed the alienation of land applied for, owing to the necessity for accurate and complete preliminary surveys, in the case of land offered for sale in this manner.

Another point, needing serious consideration, especially in the Klang district, is the question of drainage. An elaborate drainage scheme was prepared by the Government, in connection with some 20,000 acres of land at Klang, alienated or about to be alienated for planting purposes, and a proposal was submitted to the various planters interested, under which the whole scheme would have been

carried out by Government, the cost being defrayed by a rateable assessment on all the land comprised in the area affected. In the case of land drained before alienation, the assessment would have been paid by the Government in the first instance, and recovered, in the event of subsequent sale, by means of a charge on the land. Unfortunately, this scheme was not adopted in its entirety, owing to the refusal of some of the planters concerned to accept it, and only some portions of the drainage proposed were actually carried out. The difficulties of obtaining the unanimous assent of all the persons interested to any comprehensive scheme are obviously so great that it will, in my opinion, be necessary to legislate either for the assessment of a compulsory district rate, to provide for cases of extensive drainage or irrigation works, undertaken by the Government, or for the power of the majority to bind the minority of the persons concerned, as is done in the case of planters' roads in Ceylon. General drainage schemes, involving heavy initial outlay and requiring much engineering skill, can at present be practically only carried out by Government in this State, and I fear that much loss and delay will result from the Klang scheme not having been adopted, as much of the land affected by it cannot be considered well fitted for the cultivation of coffee until it has been thoroughly drained, and the ground cleared and consolidated.

While the question of drainage is the most important one for European coffee planters, that of irrigation is of equal importance to the native cultivators of rice. A preliminary survey, in connection with an extensive irrigation scheme in the Kuala Selangor District, has been in progress during the year, and is now approaching completion. If the scheme proposed is eventually carried into effect, several thousand acres of rich land will be rendered available for the permanent cultivation of swamp padi; but, as I wrote last year, it will probably be necessary to colonise the land with planters from India or China, or with Malays from Java or Sumatra, if it is to be effectively worked, as the local Malays are neither energetic nor industrious, nor are they much influenced by the motive power which actuates most Muhamadans to save money—namely, the desire of making a pilgrimage to Mecca. Coffee and rice are at present the two chief agricultural products in Selangor, but pepper, gambier, tapioca, sugar cane, etc., are all grown successfully, on a small scale, and the increase or diminution of area, under different forms of cultivation, closely follows the fluctuation of market prices: although rice, being the staple article of diet of the bulk of the population, must always be largely cultivated so long as suitable land remains available. A good example to other planters of the Malay race is set by the Javanese, who cultivate their plantations with much care; but they have hitherto preferred planting Liberian coffee, owing to the prevalent high prices, rather than rice, and the greater proportion of rice consumed in Selangor is still imported from Burmah and Siam. Having regard to the very backward condition of native rice cultivation, throughout the State, I think that an improved system of cultivation should be introduced and carried out in every district, the local headmen

being assisted by Government to purchase buffaloes, ploughs, new seed, etc. At present such assistance can only be given on a very small scale, as the aggregate of all loans to Malays, for *bona fide* agricultural enterprise, or the purchase of seed-corn or buffaloes, is limited to \$5,000.

Another important question, mooted during the past year, was that of a Government note issue for the Colony and Protected States, the payment of such notes being guaranteed, jointly and severally, by all the Governments interested, among which the profits would be divided, in rateable proportions, the head-quarters of the issue being in Singapore. When this scheme, of which the general details have been formulated, although it has not yet been brought into force, was submitted to the Selangor State Council, it was adopted with acclamation by all the native members, most of whom have a vivid recollection of the panic ensuing on the failure of the Oriental Bank in 1884, and who expressed themselves most strongly in favour of a note issue secured by Government guarantee.

The extension of the main trunk road into Pahang has been pushed on as rapidly as possible, but the progress made with some of the contract work was not satisfactory, and it has now been arranged to station two Selangor engineers on the Pahang side of the boundary, in addition to the Pahang Superintendent, P.W.D., and to carry out four sections of the road departmentally. As stated in my last Annual Report, the earthwork of this road should be practically completed before the end of the current year, and the latest contract period for the completion of metalling expires early in 1898. It is also proposed to connect the district of Bentong with the trunk road at Tras, either by constructing a new road, or by improving the existing jungle path. The distance between Bentong and Tras is approximately 22 miles, and one of the principal Chinese miners in Selangor has undertaken to commence extensive mining operations at Bentong, provided that improved transport facilities are afforded.

A preliminary railway survey has been commenced, in connection with the possible extension of the Selangor Government Railway into Pahang, and, should it be found that no excessive cost is involved in crossing the dividing range of mountains, I have every hope that this extension will be carried out in the course of the next few years, as I believe that it is not only of vital importance for any rapid development of the resources of Pahang, but also that it will prove directly remunerative to the Government of Selangor. The former reason alone, however, would suffice to justify the proposed extension, as Selangor, having taken over the financial responsibilities of Pahang, is now interested, both directly and indirectly, in rapidly developing the natural resources of that State.

Notwithstanding the comparatively low price of tin, especially during the latter part of the year, the State has continued to prosper and the revenue for the year under review (\$3,805,211) is the highest ever yet realised during a similar period. The introduction of European capital into the more remote districts of the State, in

connection with coffee planting, has been of great value to the natives, both in providing them with employment—such as clearing jungle, cutting drains, etc.—and in furnishing a ready local market for their fish, fruit and poultry. Selangor is fortunate in possessing many *bona fide* planters, as distinguished from mere land speculators, and I hope that the number of such planters will annually increase, so that the material prosperity of the State may rest on a permanent basis of successful planting enterprise, when the deposits of alluvial tin, from which the revenue of the State has hitherto been mainly derived, have been partially or wholly exhausted. In the general interests of the State, no effort should be spared to encourage the introduction of European capital, for planting and other purposes, and such encouragement may well be given by facilitating the acquisition of land, as well as by the development of roads and railways.

In conclusion, I have great pleasure in recording the generally excellent and efficient manner in which the Government Officers have carried out their duties—a record which reflects all the more credit on them, as several departments are in a state of transition, pending federation—and from every district, I am glad to say without exception, the officer in charge reports a steady increase of population, a rise in the value of land and houses, and an increased area of land under cultivation.

PAHANG.

ALTHOUGH, after nearly eight years of British Protection, mining and agriculture have, with the exception of four concessions, been almost at a standstill, no one, who compares the recent history of Pahang with that of the older States on the western seaboard, has far to seek for the reasons. When it is considered that no Chinese population already existed—as was the case in Perak and Selangor—in Pahang when the State passed from purely Malay rule; that most of the country has, till quite lately, been locked up by unworked concessions; that the inhabitants of the State have, for the past five years, suffered either from actual or apprehended disturbances of the peace, it is hardly surprising that so little progress has been made.

“There are few districts that do not contain tin or gold in some quantity, but the natives have neither capital nor enterprise, and until attention is paid to prospecting these deposits there is little chance of alluvial mines, which were the making of Perak and Selangor, being worked here on an appreciable scale. As regards facilities of communication, parts of Pahang, which are known to contain alluvial tin, are better off than was the Kinta district of Perak, at a time when it became a populous mining field in the face of these difficulties. There is, however, this great difference, Perak and Selangor had not, in the early days of protection, to compete with neighbouring States possessing easy means of transport and a ready-made mining population, but these facilities, which are at present denied to Pahang,

attract Chinese labour and capital to the older States, where it is a noticeable feature of progress that, since improved communications have existed, the miners usually wait for roads before breaking new ground, instead of, as formerly, opening extensive fields far ahead of the roads and trusting to the future for improved means of transport.

"These are the chief causes of want of progress in the past. I am glad to be able to report that the future presents a brighter aspect. One obstacle has now been removed by the capture of the rebel chiefs; the work of improving road communication has commenced; and, if the assistance of the richer Federated States can be liberally granted, the prosperity of Pahang may be regarded as assured.

"The number of years that may elapse before the loans already granted shall have been wiped off chiefly depends on the extent by which those loans can be augmented. The natural resources of the country are such that it may be confidently asserted that a liberal expenditure in opening up communications will prove to be the most economical policy, in the end, so far as Pahang herself is concerned, and will do not a little to increase the ultimate prosperity of the western States, all of which will be more or less directly connected by road or rail with Pahang at no very distant date."—*Mr. D. H. Wise, Report for 1895.*

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CORRESPONDENCE.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our Correspondents.]

RECREATION CLUB, KUALA LUMPUR.

EXCEPT the well-to-do there are very few other men (but not the class of clerks) who can afford to offer money liberally and disregard of any advantage to this class of institutions. It is an obvious fact that the income of the subordinate clerks of the Government Departments here is very scanty. This being so, may I ask, whether is it fair to disreward and disregard their donations which they offered merely with the hope of some advantage to themselves towards the building fund of the above Club, although in many cases these "donations" were acts under mere obligation, if not ill-afforded hard cash, and thus even the word "donation" cannot be properly applied to this sort of subscription. Now a circular with detailed Rules and Regulations for the Club has been issued requesting to enrol as subscribers those who wish so; but some clerks who paid donations and who were expecting a return for it, do not like to enrol their names as subscribers as no return is available under the framed rules and a donor has to pay fees and charges equally as a non-donor and both enfranchise to equal rights. Is this fair? No! not at all. To be fair—the sums paid must be refunded on compulsory condition to join the Club on receipt of their respective sums donated. If this is done there will have no room for abuse and no one party is over-assessed as at present. Rich donators are excepted from this suggestion.

FAIR-PLAY.

NOTES AND NEWS.

THE RESIDENT and Mrs. Rodger will leave in the *Esmeralda* to-day for Malacca, returning, with Miss Rodger, on Sunday.—

The Resident-General is expected back by the *Mena* on Monday next.—Colonel Walker was in Kuala Lumpur during the early part of last week. He inspected the Sikhs, barracks, etc., and left on the 30th ult. Captain Talbot, who is gazetted second in command of the Malay States Guides, will shortly arrive and be stationed in Kuala Lumpur.—Mr. H. Newton, late Acting Municipal Engineer, Singapore, now appointed to the post in Bombay lately held by Mr. Thompson, the present Singapore Engineer, paid a visit to Kuala Lumpur and inspected the Waterworks.—An old Selangor official, Mr. Fenton Walker Hill, has recently been in Kuala Lumpur for a day or two, and Mr. Jackson Millar.—Mr. French's leave has been extended for three months from 11th September.—Mr. Norman returned from leave on the 26th ult. Mrs. Norman will come out in a few months' time.—Mr. Nicholas, with Mrs. Nicholas and family, returned last week.—Mr. H. F. Bellamy's re-election as Chief Officer of the Selangor Fire Brigade has been confirmed by Government.—Mr. F. A. Toynebee has returned from Europe, having greatly benefited by the change.—Mr. F. Wellford, who is planting in the Kuala Selangor District, has returned from a trip to Australia. We understand that his brother, Mr. J. Wellford, Chief Surveyor, is at present in England.—Mr. R. G. Watson, Chief Magistrate, Selangor, arrived on the 28th ult.

THE "At Home," at the Museum, given by Mrs. Rodger on the 24th ultimo, was well attended, but there were not the great numbers that the Committee had hoped to see: everything, however, is for the best in this best of all possible States, and had there been many more present it would have been a difficult matter to move about in the building. The exterior of the building was gay with rows of paper lanterns and the rooms were well lighted; outside, a beautiful night, a bright moon, the Selangor band, chairs, the Captain China's tent furnished with tables which Mrs. Rodger had hospitably caused to be loaded with good things, all combined to a pleasant evening, and it was quite midnight before the guests had departed. In addition to the exhibits before the Museum, a number of interesting objects were kept on the occasion, notably sporting trophies

belonging to Captain Syers, Dr. Travers and Mr. W. D. Scott—as well as a six-legged pig! The thanks of the Committee are due to Mrs. Rodger for her kindness in presiding and providing, and to the many who assisted in various ways, as well as to Mr. L. B. Von Donop, the Hon. Sec., who, as a matter of fact, bore the burden of all the arrangements.

— WE learn that Mr. H. C. Holmes is resigning his post as District Officer, Kuala Selangor, to undertake the management of Major Pearse's coconut plantations and factories in that district. In that case, the service will lose one of its pleasantest and most popular officers, and we can only, in common with his many friends, wish him every success in his new venture.

— THE difficulty in a district like this is to convince the parents that it is for their good that their boys should be educated. They complain that the staple industries of the district—*i.e.*, cutting ataps, clearing jungle, or working fishing stakes—do not require that their sons should be able to read and write, and that on leaving school their boys are flung back on their hands without any knowledge of woodcraft such as might enable them at once to earn their living, or any prospect of obtaining a living by means of their acquirements. It is easy to answer such arguments by book, but mere words do not help the case. At Kuala Lumpur, at Klang, at Ulu Selangor and Ulu Langat, where the far greater variety of industries must necessarily simplify the choice of a livelihood, such difficulties are either not felt at all or not felt keenly. What, I think, would to some extent meet the case, is that arrangements should be made to enable the most promising boys trained in the vernacular out-station schools to proceed to a more advanced school at head-quarters. If some sort of affiliation scheme could be arranged with the Victoria Institution by which English could be substituted for Romanised Malay in the vernacular schools, and boys after learning the rudiments of English in the village schools were enabled to proceed to Kuala Lumpur, to continue their education in the higher standards at the Victoria Institution, an important advance would, I am sure, have been made. The only immediate difficulty is that of finding masters for the local schools who could teach English, and that it is a difficulty which the Victoria Institution should itself be capable of overcoming; on the other hand, if it is found impracticable to form the requisite bond of connection between the Victoria Institution and the vernacular schools, the only alternative that suggests itself is to establish a more advanced (central) school of vernacular education at Kuala Lumpur, and presided over by a good Malay scholar, wherein a far higher level of education in the Malay tongue might be aimed at. I can see no difficulty about this, and it would do much to organise the local schools, and to stimulate the higher study of Malay by at least some Malays, if that is desired, though to stimulate the study of English would, I think, be best of all.”—*Report by D. O., Kuala Langat, for June.*

YET another prospective sanitarium site. A trig. station is to be made on Bukit Bunga Buah, a mountain which, looking from the Government Offices, appears to be behind Batu Caves, and ascends apparently to a sharp point; it is, as the crow flies, about 16 miles distant, and is 4,700 feet above sea level. A member of the Survey Department, engaged on the preliminary work, who was stationed up there for a week or so, describes the summit as a fine level plateau, covered with moss, some firs, rhododendrons and a very stunted growth of forestry. With an ordinary thermometer he took some readings, which we print below. The surveyor describes the breezes prevailing all through the day as being piercingly cold, and he set up his camp some distance below the summit. The readings were taken when he went up each morning, again at midday and when he left for his camp, the thermometer lying on the ground. It is a pity he did not possess a minimum thermometer, as the readings would have been very interesting.

THERMOMETER UNDER SHADE.

Date.	Time.	Temperature.	Remarks.
16 7 '96	7.30 a.m.	65°	Cloudy
17 7 '96	7.45 "	69°	"
18 7 '96	7.25 "	69°	Fine
19 7 '96	8.00 "	67°	Cloudy
20 7 '96	8.00 "	70°	Fine

NOT UNDER SHADE.

16 7 '96	{ 12 noon	82°	Fine
	{ 2 p.m.	75°	
17 7 '96	{ 12 noon	70°	Cloudy
	{ 2.30 p.m.	78°	
18 7 '96	{ 12 noon	83°	Fine
	{ 2.15 p.m.	67°	
19 7 '96	{ 12 noon	78°	Cloudy
	{ 2.30 p.m.	70°	
20 7 '96	{ 12 noon	83°	Fine
	{ 2.30 p.m.	68°		Cloudy

THE glory which we tried to snatch for Selangor as the largest tin-producer of the Peninsula did not come off, so we are going to fall back on pineapples, and if anyone in the neighbouring States can beat a pine raised by Mr. E. V. Carey on the New Amherst Estate, we'll—well, we'll be prepared to eat it. The pine in question weighed 24 lbs., with a few inches of stalk, and was 26 inches in circumference.

It is a simple thing enough to cut or pinch off the top of a coffee-plant; yet there are good and bad seasons for doing it, as well as good and bad ways. The stem and primary branches are the only permanent parts of the plant, and the only parts on which an original

error will be *permanently injurious*. The stems should be firm and upright and primary branches strong, equal among themselves, and standing firm at right angles with the stem. Nature has made no provision for renewing a primary that has been lost, consequently the place it should occupy on the stem remains vacant, and so much space for disposing the bearing wood is lost. The case is very much the same if any of the primary branches be much weakened in proportion to others on the same plant; they never regain the ground once lost, and consequently never throw out into the space they alone can occupy their due proportion of secondaries. The most common cause of the loss or weakening of the primaries is an exhausting maiden crop—maiden being that which is borne on the primaries. The effect of an exhausting crop on any coffee branch is the contraction of the sap-vessels and the loss of the leaves. This extends so far that it will die and drop off, or it may be only so much that it will be thrown back in its growth, while such as have not suffered to the same extent leave it behind so far that it never recovers the lost ground. The loss of a primary branch is a loss that can never be remedied, and the same quantity of bearing wood can never be so conveniently arranged on the plant where any of them are wanting; a heavy maiden crop should therefore be avoided by all means. If the plant be stopped at the beginning of or during the flowering season, the sap forced back from vertical development will rather be expended in the formation of blossom and fruit than in strengthening and enlarging the wood; the topping should therefore be performed *after* the flowering season is over.

It is better to grow wood to be cut off and thrown away than to weaken and deform the plant by premature bearing. If the stem be stopped immediately above the highest permanent pair of branches, there is some danger of splitting when the branches become heavy. This danger will be avoided by letting the stem run one joint above the highest branches left, and taking off the pair attached to it within the first pair of leaves (*i.e.*, top the plant and cut off the top pair of primaries, also leaving a knot or cross). By this means the top of the stem will be strengthened, and as the suckers always spring from the highest buds left on the stem, their removal will be facilitated. In cutting out the secondaries after crop, the cut should be made exactly at the junction with the primary, so that *no stump may be left to turn the succeeding shoots out of their natural direction*, or carry disease into the plant. For some time after pruning, the plant is full of sap, and seeks an outlet in every direction, expanding every bud and barking over every wound that happens to be in the line of the bark; but if a pointed stump be left, that must rot off before the bark can close over the spot, and in the meantime the hands of the labourers are cut by the sharp points, unless they exercise a degree of caution by no means favourable to the rapid progress of the work. The quantity of wood to be left for an average crop depends entirely on the soil, climate, and situation of the particular spot. No rule can be laid down that is universally applicable as to the number of secondaries on each primary, but everyone may soon ascertain the

point for himself by observation. At the end of the crop season, the plant should have an equal number of one and two-year-old secondary branches, the former to bear next crop and the latter to be cut out. If it is found that there are more of the former than the latter, it is certain that the past crop was less than an average one, and if all the young wood be left, the next will be above the average; if, on the other hand, the older wood predominates, the past crop has been large, and the next will be a deficient one. The crop of each succeeding year will be equal when the old wood cut out and the young wood ready to blossom are equal in numbers, if not in length, at the time of pruning.—*Produce World*.

MINUTES of a General Meeting of the Selangor Planters' Association, held in the Selangor Club, on Saturday, 18th July, 1896, at 10.30 a.m.

Present: Messrs. E. V. Carey (Chairman), C. Meikle, Dougal, Walker, Lake, Skinner (Members of Committee), R. Kindersley, D. Kindersley, Shepherd, C. Glassford, J. Glassford, Rendle, Munro, J. D. Toyne, Hardy, Inniss, Parry, R. Meikle, Hone and Tom Gibson, Honorary Secretary. Visitor: Mr. E. A. Watson.

1. The notice calling the meeting having been taken as read, the minutes of last general meeting were read and confirmed.

2. Mr. Carey said that since the last meeting enquiries had been made and it had been ascertained that port wine did not come under the excise law, so he again proposed the following resolution—viz., "That steps be taken to procure an analysis of the port wine commonly sold in the bazaars, with the object of asking the Government to impose a prohibitive import duty; the mixture, in the opinion of the Association, having a most injurious effect upon the health of coolies and others who consume it and who are at present able to procure it at a nominal sum." Mr. R. Meikle seconded the resolution which was carried unanimously.

3. Mr. Walker substituted the following resolution for that on the agenda, due notice of such change having been given—"That the Chief Magistrate be asked to advise the Association, whether a cooly under a continuing monthly agreement is entitled to give notice on any day during the month and to demand his discharge on the same day in the following month, or whether, having commenced to work during any month, he is under an obligation to work to the end of that month before he can give notice to terminate his agreement. The Regulation is somewhat vague upon this point and it is one of sufficient importance to merit elucidation." In the absence of Mr. Prior, Mr. Carey seconded the resolution, which was carried unanimously.

4. Read letters from the Managers of the *Straits Times* and *Singapore Free Press* to the effect that they were not prepared to grant the Association's request *re* publishing the closing London market prices for produce.

5. Read letter from Mr. Gunn offering to supply the market at the same price charged to the subscribers of the Singapore

6. Resolved to let the matter stand over until replies were received from the *Penang Gazette* and *Perak Pioneer*.

7. Read letter from Gonapathy Pillai offering to supply ground-nut ponnac.

8. A copy of Labour Commission's Report was laid on the table and it was intimated that the report would be posted to any member on applying to the Hon. Secretary.

The meeting terminated at 11.30 a.m. with a vote of thanks to the chair.

MINUTES of an Extraordinary General Meeting of the Selangor Planters' Association, held at the Selangor Club, on Saturday, 1st August, 1896, at 10.30 a.m.

Present: Messrs. E. V. Carey (Chairman), Dougal, Lake, Skinner, Walker, C. Meikle (Members of Committee), Nissen, Douglas, Prior, Rendle, Parry, E. Meikle, Tollemache, Jackson, Tambusamy Pillay, Shepherd, J. D. Toynbee, R. C. Kindersley, Pasqual, D. Kindersley, Nicholas, Cumming, Stonor, Hurth, Kon Soon Kiat, C. Glassford and Tom Gibson (Hon. Secretary). Visitors: Messrs. M. Cumming and C. Baxendale.

1. Notice calling the meeting and minutes of last General Meeting were taken as read.

2. The Chairman explained the object of the meeting and read minutes of the last Sungei Ujong Planters' Association meeting and copy of a letter addressed by him to Mr. Wickwar in connection therewith.

Proposed by Mr. Dougal, seconded by Mr. Prior:

"That in nominating four members to act on the Committee of the Central Planters' Association, this Association understands that the Chairman and Secretary are to be chosen out of the ten names submitted by the various Associations, in terms of the resolution to be proposed at the Central Planters' Association meeting during the Durbar."

Carried with one dissentient.

3. A ballot having been held, Messrs. Carey, Gibson, C. Meikle and Dougal were declared the Selangor Planters' Association nominees.

4. In support of the suggestion of the Provisional Committee of the Central Planters' Association, it was unanimously decided that an address should be presented to the Resident-General on the occasion of his public assumption of that office.

5. The proposed address, which had been drawn up by Mr. T. H. Hill, was then read and with some few alterations adopted *nem. con.*, and after considerable discussion, in which several members took part, it was eventually settled that the presentation should take the form of an artistically-decorated and handsomely-inscribed parchment, the preparation of which was entrusted, by common consent, to Mr. T. H. Hill.

The Meeting then terminated at 12 noon with a vote of thanks to the chair.

LOCAL SPORT.

RIFLE MATCH—SELANGOR RIFLE ASSOCIATION V. SINGAPORE
VOLUNTEER ARTILLERY.

IN this match, which had been arranged for the 25th or 26th of July, Singapore shot first, choosing the afternoon of Saturday, 25th inst. The shooting at 200 yards was a good deal interfered with by a gusty wind, which was against all steadiness, the score totalling 144. At 500 yards a considerable improvement was shown, Sergt. Morrison making the excellent score of 33, the total being 167. At 600 yards the shooting was steady and fairly even, Sergt. Morrison again heading the list with 31. The total score at this range was 158. The total for all three ranges was 469, or an average of 78.1.

Selangor, having selected the morning light as the most suitable for the range, began to shoot at 7 a.m. on 26th July. The weather was favourable but the light dull. At 200 yards the scoring was fairly good, Cormac putting on 30 very steadily and Brown and Travers 29 each. The total of 160 was 16 points better than Singapore at this range.

At 500 yards, however, the light was not so good, and there was a decided falling off, the 32s and 30s which had been fairly common in practice were by no means attained. Brown made 29, which was top score, and Travers, after putting on three bull's-eyes in succession, accidentally lowered the sight of his rifle, and only finding it out after the shoot was over spoilt a promising score by three outers. Scott being rather out of practice at the long ranges scored the poor total of 17, including one miss. The total at 500 yards was 148, leaving Singapore 3 points ahead.

With the exception of 31 made by Brown the shooting at 600 yards was not good, and three misses did not improve matters, the total score being 139. Total at all ranges, 447, leaving Singapore the winners by 22 points, Selangor's average being only 74.5.

The shooting of the Selangor team was, with the exception of Brown, not as good as was anticipated. Charter, who was to have been in the team and is a well-known steady shot, was unfortunately not well and his place had to be taken by Scott, who had comparatively no practice and could not be relied upon to shoot steadily.

There is in Selangor at the present time the material for a very excellent shooting team, and it is much to be regretted that, owing to absence on duty and other reasons, the names of one or two men who are well known in connection with rifle shooting in Selangor should have been omitted from the team.

As a result of steady practice Brown may be congratulated on making the highest score in the match, beating Sergt. Morrison of the S.V.A. by one point.

The Singapore Volunteer Artillery are about to be armed with the Metford carbine, so that no return match will be shot against them

until the Selangor Rifle Association are armed with similar weapons. The following are the full scores :—

	SINGAPORE VOLUNTEER ARTILLERY.			Total.
	200 yards.	500 yards.	600 yards.	
Sergt., Morrison ...	4 3 4 4 3 4 2—24	... 5 5 5 5 5 4 4—33	... 5 5 4 4 5 3 5—31	... 88
Capt. St. Clair ...	4 3 4 4 5 4 3—27	... 4 5 3 5 2 5 5—29	... 5 3 2 5 4 3 5—27	... 83
Gunner Flanagan ...	4 2 2 2 4 3 4—21	... 3 4 4 5 4 4 3—27	... 3 5 5 4 5 4 3—29	... 77
" Phillips ...	4 3 5 2 3 2 3—22	... 4 5 4 2 2 3 5—25	... 5 5 2 3 5 4 3—27	... 74
" Maw ...	5 3 4 3 4 3 3—25	... 3 2 5 5 5 4 4—28	... 5 4 5 2 2 3 0—21	... 74
Sur. Capt. Mugliston	2 4 3 4 4 4 4—25	... 3 2 5 4 3 5 3—25	... 5 0 5 3 5 2 3—23	... 73
	144	167	158	469

	SELANGOR RIFLE ASSOCIATION.			Total.
	200 yards.	500 yards.	600 yards.	
J. Brown ...	... 5 4 3 4 5 4 4—29	... 5 5 2 4 5 4 4—29	... 5 5 5 5 2 4 5—31	... 89
Dr. Travers ...	... 4 5 3 5 4 4 4—29	... 5 5 5 2 4 2 2—25	... 4 4 5 4 3 5 2—27	... 81
C. R. Cormac ...	... 5 5 4 4 4 4 4—30	... 3 4 4 2 5 2 3—23	... 2 3 4 5 4 5 2—25	... 78
G. Herft ...	... 3 3 4 4 3 4 4—25	... 5 5 3 5 3 4 3—28	... 2 4 4 2 3 2 4—21	... 74
A. Poundall ...	... 4 4 3 4 3 3 3—24	... 5 3 4 3 2 4 5—26	... 0 5 3 5 3 2 2—20	... 70
W. D. Scott ...	... 3 4 3 5 4 2 2—23	... 2 4 3 2 2 0 4—17	... 4 0 2 2 3 4 R—15	... 55
Total ...	160	148	139	447

RIFLE MATCH AT KAJANG.

THE newly-formed Kajang Rifle Club engaged in their first match on the evening of Friday, 24th July, against the Police of the Ulu Langat District. The original idea was to shoot seven rounds apiece at each of three ranges: namely, 100, 200 and 300 yards; but, owing to a delay at starting and the comparatively large number of competitors (10 aside), this had to be curtailed to seven rounds standing at 100 yards and five rounds lying at 300 yards. At the end of the shooting at the shorter range the police held a lead of 3 points, every man of them having topped 20. On retiring, however, to 300 yards the Englishmen soon passed them and finally won by 15 points. For the winners, C. F. Glover, with 41, and D. C. P. Kindersley, with 38, were best, while Sergeant Baik and P. C. Jatoh, each with 40, shot well.

In explanation of the smallness of the totals it should be mentioned that the last part of the shooting took place in an exceedingly dim, if not religious, light, which was a source of annoyance to the competitors. The meeting, however, was a success, and a return match is to take place shortly.

The Kajang Rifle Club is fortunate in its President; for Mr. O. F. Stonor, who occupies that position, has very kindly offered a medal to be shot for by the members in monthly competitions during a period extending over one year; at the end of which time a final match will decide the ultimate destination of the trophy. This will no doubt supply a purpose in life for those members who are at present slack in turning up on practice days, and eventually result in the appearance of a Kajang team in Kuala Lumpur capable of holding its own with—say, the Planters.

We give below details of Perak's score in the recent Rifle Match; it came too late for insertion in our last issue:

	PERAK.			
	300 yards.	500 yards.	600 yards.	Total.
Whittall ...	5 4 4 4 4 4 4—29	5 0 2 4 4 4 4—23	2 2 4 3 5 4 5—25	77
Barnard ...	4 2 2 3 4 4 3—22	5 5 3 5 5 2 4—29	2 5 2 0 2 2 5—18	69
Talbot ...	0 4 2 4 3 3 4—20	2 3 5 2 4 3 2—21	4 4 3 2 3 3 4—23	64
Baker ...	4 4 4 4 3 2 3—24	5 4 4 5 5 2 2—27	5 2 0 0 0 3 2—12	63
Adam ...	3 3 2 3 3 4 3—21	2 3 2 2 2 3 5—19	0 0 0 0 2 0 5—7	47
Total ...	116	119	85	320

Selangor's total was 364.

CRICKET.

ON Saturday, 1st inst., a game was played between P.W.D. with S.G.R. v. The Rest. Dougal, by way of a change, won the toss, and sent in C. Glassford and McClosky to the bowling of T. R. Hubback and Labrooy, McClosky was caught after making 6 and Carey, who followed, was disposed of for a similar figure; but Keyt stayed with Glassford for a long time, and these two put on 64 runs for the next wicket; Glassford, still keeping up his extraordinary run-getting form, retired when he had reached 101; and finally the innings was declared closed with 8 wickets down for 183. Glassford's innings was a splendid one, and absolutely free from fault, or even lucky strokes, and in his present form is an exceedingly hard wicket to get; Keyt also batted very well. The fielding was hardly smart and some players do not seem to understand the art of keeping their legs together.

The P.W.D. and S.G.R. had about an hour's batting, and scored 86 for two wickets, Bagnall 41, and T. R. Hubback 24, both not out, being the principal scorers; so the game ended in an even draw.

FOOTBALL

FOOTBALL practice, which has been in abeyance among Europeans at the Selangor Club since Whitsuntide, was revived on Wednesday the 29th ult. A scratch eleven, including Messrs. Roe, Scott, Watson, Bellamy, Dougal, Hubback, etc., played against Ramasamy's team, which is to meet Klang in the final for the Resident's Cup. As an instance of the value of persistent practice the match was instructive; Ramasamy's team, which may be seen practising every evening, not excepting Sundays, beat the Club eleven, who were much the heavier team, by three goals to one. They played a fast and combined game throughout, while their opponents were evidently out of form. It is a good thing for the Club football players that they have at last found a team to meet them in practice on something like equal terms. Hitherto the great difficulty has been to get together a sufficient number to make up two sides, but there should now be little trouble in getting an eleven to play against at any time. The practice should be of great advantage to both sides. The return match was played on the 5th inst., when the Club team beat Ramasamy's by one goal to nil.

The final for the Resident's Cup, Ramasamy's Team v. Klang, takes place on the Parade Ground to-morrow, at 4.45 p.m.

PYRAMIDS HANDICAP AT THE SELANGOR CLUB.

CONDITIONS.

1. The player who takes the greatest number of balls in three games to be the winner of each tie.
 2. All ties must be played after 9 p.m.
 3. The loser of each tie to pay for the game.
 4. 1st round to be played off by 12th August; 2nd, by 25th; 3rd, by 31st; 4th by 7th September; final, by 19th September.
 5. These dates will be strictly adhered to, and any player not putting in an appearance on the date on which his name has been, with his consent, posted to play, will be scratched.
 6. The winner to take the amount of entries.
- N. B.—Players are requested to arrange dates and hours of play, and signify as in rule 5.

HANDICAP.

1. W. E. Venning	... -6	12. Hay	... .. -2
2. C. C. Thompson	... -5	13. Rendle	... .. -1
3. G. Cumming	... -5	14. W. Gibson	... .. -1
4. Tisbury	... .. -5	15. Travers	... .. -1
5. Bourne	... .. -4	16. C. Glassford	scratch
6. Day	... .. -4	17. F. E. Maynard "
7. Roe	... .. -3	18. A. C. Harper "
8. J. D. Toynbee	... -3	19. J. Glassford	... .. +1
9. Hawes	... .. -3	20. Hone	... .. +1
10. H. O. Maynard	... -2	21. Tambusamy Pillai	... .. +3
11. Nicholas	... .. -2	22. A. R. Bligh	... .. +3

1st Round.

- | | | |
|------------------|-------|---------|
| 1. Hay | } | Byes. |
| 2. Hone | | |
| 3. Roe | | |
| 4. Travers | | |
| 5. C. Glassford | | |
| 6. Bligh | | |
| 7. Toynbee | | |
| 8. A. C. Harper | | |
| 9. F. E. Maynard | | |
| 10. Tisbury | | |
| 11. Tambusamy | plays | Gibson |
| 12. Nicholas | " | Rendle |
| 13. J. Glassford | " | Cumming |
| 14. C. Thompson | " | Bourne |
| 15. Hawes | " | Day |
| 16. Maynard | " | Venning |

2nd Round.

1. Harper plays winner of 11
2. Bligh " Tisbury
3. F. E. Maynard .. winner of 13
4. Winner of 16 .. Hone
5. " 15 .. Travers
6. Glassford .. winner of 15
7. Roe " " 12
8. Hay " J. D. Toynbee

3rd Round.

- | | | |
|----------------|-------|-------------|
| 1. Winner of 3 | plays | winner of 7 |
| 2. " 1 | " | " 8 |
| 3. " 6 | " | " 4 |
| 4. " 2 | " | " 5 |

4th Round.

1. Winner of 3 plays winner of 3
2. " 1 " " "

Final Round.

Winner of 1 plays winner of 2

"CROCS."

A CORRESPONDENT of the *Journal*—which has the largest circulation of any newspaper in the State, the *Government Gazette* not excepted—once gave a graphic and stirring account of the method of catching crocodiles on the Sepang River.

That was one story, and the pleasure of crocodile's nesting (to coin a phrase on the analogy of bird's nesting) is another. The latter is usually performed by natives, and it is not every day, in the new Selangor, that a European gets a chance of it, and an account of it will, it is hoped, interest many who have not had an opportunity of doing it themselves.

A few days ago a Perak Malay called on me with something tied up in a cloth, and opening the bundle displayed a number of crocodile's eggs which were evidently *new-laid*: on my asking where he got them, he replied up the Sungei Hantu (Ghost River, a very appropriate and suggestive name). The Sungei Hantu running into the Jugra passage, just above the Kuala, I asked if it would be possible to get some more; he replied that, as the tide would be running down for another three hours, it would just be possible if we went at once; but that we had better take a gun or two, as the parent crocodile would be sure to be watching, and might turn on us when disturbed. This was satisfactory (all things considered), and no time, I need hardly say, was lost in getting the boat ready, and before long we were travelling rapidly down-stream *en route* for Sungei Hantu. I must add, however, that in addition to the two guns recommended, we carried a coil of small rope, with which Che Noa (my new friend) had agreed to snare the crocodile if chance permitted.

The journey up the Sungei Hantu was not the most pleasant part of the business owing to the uncovering of the mangrove swamp by the retreating tide; it is, moreover, a very small "sungei." After dragging the boat over sundry and divers logs, and punting her along until the stream tailed off into a mere thread of dirty water; we had to get out and walk! Only those who have tried it know what getting out to walk through a mangrove swamp (more especially *young* mangrove) means; but we, being fortunate, were not often deeper than our knees in mud, and never deeper than our waists. After about a mile of travelling through this great "Syrtonian bog" one of us wished that he could imitate the action of a certain mythical personage in crossing the bog referred to and fly over it. We responded promptly enough when our guide called a halt, and told us we were near. Proceeding slowly and cautiously, and following his lead, he presently pointed out to me a low mound on the top of which glistened something that told us we had found what we were looking for. There they lay, "as sure as eggs is eggs," and stepping forward hastily I began stuffing them into my pockets. I had just picked up five or six of them when an exclamation from a boatman who had followed us made me look round, and there sure enough, was the "old lady" herself, *apparently* fast asleep close by a salt-water pool. I naturally lost no time in the remainder of the eggs and we then set to work to stalk Noa, who had promised a display of his skill, going

first with the rope. On getting within reach he hitched the noose on to the end of a long stick, and attempted to slide it off by pushing it with another stick over the jaws of the crocodile, which had now slid into the water. At the first attempt the noose touched her snout, and she immediately gave a loud hiss, not unlike the hiss of a big snake, and followed this up with a very respectable and buffalo-like bellow. A moment later, and she made a desperate and for the moment successful rush to get away, and it took us some time to follow up her tracks, when we came upon her lying in another pool. The same tactics produced the same result, but the second rush being shorter than the first, we followed her pretty closely, and as she obligingly opened her jaws and bellowed, Che Noa adroitly slipped the noose over the top jaw and passed the other end of the rope round the stems of some nipah palms. A tremendous splashing was the result, but in a few more moments Che Noa had slipped a second noose over both jaws and right down to the neck, and she was a prisoner without the firing of a shot.

She proved to be a small but adult specimen of the *Buxia tembaga* or brass crocodile, and as she had only deposited two layers of eggs, some twenty-four in number, it is probable that she had not yet finished laying, as the Malays about here say that the eggs are often if not usually deposited in three layers, as many as sixty eggs being sometimes found in a single nest. The nest was formed of clay and dead leaves and twigs which had been scraped together round about the spot until they formed a low truncated mound; and I noticed some dead bertam leaves which had been laid across it, whether on account of their thorniness or not, I am unable to say, but as crocodiles are said to be particularly fond of using the leaves of the piei (*lempiei*), which is also a thorny shrub, it is possible that this may have something to do with it.

I may add that it is not generally wise to keep a captured crocodile alive overnight, as he happens to be one of the *clientèle* of a certain powerful "Hantu" named "Lang-suir," who comes to the assistance of his follower at night and endows him with supernatural strength, which enables him, if he is not very sufficiently tied up, to get loose, which might be awkward. You should also never bring him into the house, on account of an understanding, prejudicial to yourself, which exists between him and the common house lizard or chichak.—W. S.

A TRIP THROUGH PAHANG.

ON the morning of the 9th of June, having sent my guns and other impedimenta on ahead, I left Wardieburn, intent on a sporting jaunt through the neighbouring State of Pahang. The morning was fine and the air delightful, and if anything more was needed to make the first part of my journey pleasant it was supplied by the presence of the General and Patsy. The 18 miles between us and Ginting Bidai were soon covered, the General enlivening the journey by relating strange facts of interest, causing Patsy every now and then to break the stillness of the jungle with h

melodious voice and silvery laughter, and we arrived at our first halting place long before the General had exhausted his stock of things worth knowing. The view from the Ginting is magnificent: on a fine day, like that on which we were there, Klang Straits, Jugra Hill and other notable landmarks are clearly visible, and many of the houses and public buildings in Kuala Lumpur are easily distinguished; while, looking towards Pahang, ranges of mountains and vast stretches of forest give the scene an air of grandeur.

We arrived about lunch time, but the appearance of the roofless bungalow was not cheerful, a recent storm having carried away all the ataps; the out-buildings, however, were watertight, and to these Mr. Q. bade us a warm welcome. We ate and we drank, and we listened to one of the most thrilling tales of adventure that has ever stirred our blood. We heard of the noble manner in which our host had led a band of patriots, defending hearth and home against a gang of foreign filibusters, for three days and three nights without food or drink. It struck me as being one of the many noble instances of British pluck unrecorded in the annals of history; the General—who had during the recital seemed a bit abashed as if in fear for his laurels—declared that the only parallel which occurred to him was the Jameson disaster; while Patsy tried to recite "Who fears to speak of '98" and to sing "The wearing of the green" at one and the same time.

A gradual but increasing chilliness of air and a numbness of the limbs, awoke us to the fact that old Time had been a-flying, and we turned about to see what arrangements were to be made for sleeping. The cook's private apartment was just the thing, and there we resolved to stow ourselves away. The dweller on the plains, however, is not accustomed to the luxury of a real cold night, so after blankets had been routed out, it was decided that the next best thing to do was to prepare hot grog—and we found it, like a beverage we are more accustomed to, "grateful, comforting."

The morning saw us once more on the march, and after a pleasant tramp of 12 miles, mostly down hill, we reached Kapala Goa, on a bend of the River Benus. Here there is a pretty little camp, and we stopped to refresh the inner man. It is near this point, just below the camp, that the famous tunnel was to be cut, through which the iron horse would snort along to Kuala Lipis, carrying Ghoorkas in times of danger and "Our Special" in times of peace—according, that is, to a Straits paper. It seems passing strange, however, that the department concerned should be wasting time in making surveys in the neighbourhood of Sangka Dua and Semangko when the possibilities of the route, and the tunnel, near Kapala Goa have been pointed out. We discussed this point and then went on our way.

Late in the afternoon we reached Kapong, some 19 miles further on. It is here that the General lives. The bungalow is finely situated on the right bank of the Bentong River, and the grounds round the house are well laid out and planted with fruit trees, the dwarf coconut trees and the various kinds of nuts, especially taking my fancy. Some

25 acres are planted up with coffee and the cultivation is being rapidly extended; the soil appears excellent, and from what I saw there should be some very good crops from this estate. A fine view of the mountains is obtained from here, Gunong Raja, over 5,000 feet, forming the highest point, while directly opposite the bungalow rises the peculiarly shaped peak called Gunong Raka. On this occasion time did not allow me to visit the tin mines; but that is only a pleasure deferred. There are four Malay kampongs in the neighbourhood, the largest being named after the River Benus, which runs through it; they are all prettily situated, and padi cultivation is carried on on a comparatively large scale.

My preparations for the journey down river occupied me two days: my modest intention was to slaughter elephants and seladang with a rhino or even hippo thrown in. I was informed, by those in the know, that there were certain likely places on the Semantan River, and I meant to try. After a touching farewell with the General and Patsy, I started, with two rafts, down the river on the morning of the 13th, and at the end of the day had reached Sabai, a village on the Bentong. During the night the trumpeting of elephants was heard close at hand, and at daybreak I was out following up the track. We went as hard as we could, but it was nearly four in the afternoon before we came up to the herd. I quickly spotted the bull, and with one lucky shot bowled him over. By this time I was quite played out, so leaving him where he fell, I followed the Sakai who had accompanied me to a deserted hut, some three miles away. Here we camped for the night. We had little food, the night was cold, I hadn't a blanket or change of clothes, and I couldn't sleep; so there was no difficulty in making a very early start in the morning, armed with a Sakai axe, for the scene of the previous afternoon's sport. We soon despoiled the elephant of his tusks, which were 38 inches long and well shaped, and made our way along to the raft. A swim, a change of clothes, a meal and a rest were each taken in turn and thoroughly enjoyed.

Continuing my journey down river on the 16th, and passing Kuala Pertang at about 10 a.m., I saw fresh elephant tracks on the river bank. I at once followed them up, and within half an hour came upon a herd of five; they were walking towards me feeding and quite unconscious of danger. Waiting a moment or so, I selected one and fired, but as he was standing at an angle the bullet only glanced off, although he was within nine or ten feet of me. He turned and I gave him a second shot behind the shoulder, when he ran for about 50 yards and then leant against a tree. The rest of the herd were clearing off so I turned my attention to them, in the hopes of getting in another shot; but I could not overtake them. Returning I found the one I had shot lying dead. He was an enormous beast, nothing I have seen came near him in size. I measured round his foot, and found it to be $44\frac{1}{2}$ inches, so reckoned he stood quite 10 feet high. There were two wounds on the back, one an old one and the other quite recent, caused by Sakai spears. Strange to say, he hadn't a tail—(this is no traveller's tale). We got back to the river and went on our way, anchoring our rafts for the night at Kuala Kawang on the Semantan.

It was somewhere near midnight when a snorting and hubbub of alarming noises roused us up, and we found ourselves in the midst of an inquisitive herd of buffaloes, who evidently resented our occupying a favourite resort of theirs. Happily, and much to our satisfaction, they eventually moved off without attempting to board our rafts.

The next day we moved on to Kuala Kepong, but arrived too late to track; so I strolled round with a gun and bagged a few birds. The 18th was equally barren, no fresh tracks of seladang were to be seen. The next day, however, we struck a track, but although I followed it up for some time I did not get a shot: plenty of work, but no sport. On the 20th no better luck, although I visited a salt lick and Sungei Tigah. We then dropped down to Badie, where we happened on fresh tracks at once. The afternoon was too far advanced, however, to attempt to follow them up. Early next morning we started off, and at Badie Padang came upon three seladang feeding, but before I could get within range they had taken to the jungle. Going on we came up to them, and found them wallowing in a pool; my tracker, unfortunately, trod upon a twig which roused them and they were off like a flash. Yet, again, we followed and found them, but the *lalang* was too tall for a clear shot. I fired the *lalang* and returned to the raft, tired out and disgusted. We then went on down to Kuala Semantan, where I stayed the night with Mr. T. The following day, the 22nd, I obtained a prau and went up the Sungei Pahang, the current was very strong and our progress was slow. Next morning we continued our way up stream and I called on Ungku Chik, who accompanied me as far up as Sungei Lotong. I at once started for the nearest padang, but after trying several tracks my Sakai became fogged as to our whereabouts, so we had to try back for the raft. Starting early the next morning for the same padang we came on a herd, and after half-a-mile's stalk through swamp came within range. I was creeping forward to make a sure thing of it, when a terrific bang, which sounded right in my ear, startled me as well as the herd, the latter making off at full speed. Turning round I found that my faithful attendant had let off one of the barrels of my second gun which he was carrying. The bullet had hit a branch within an ace of my head. I was disconcerted: thoughts of widows and orphans floated through my mind. This was not the sort of sport I appreciated; so gently chiding the untutored wild man, I pensively made my way back to the boat.

We pursued our way up river till we reached Padang Lepas, and after an hour's tracking came on three seladang. I stalked them for about a mile and a half with all possible speed, as the evening was closing in. Getting within 150 yards of the nearest, I had a shot, but missed. The animals, beyond huddling together, took but little notice, and I managed to put in another shot, this time at about 200 yards, and hit one on its hind-quarter. This made them move at a good pace, but I noticed that one of them stumbled. It was soon quite dark, and we did not get back to the boat till 9 p.m. The following morning I went out to look for the wounded beast, and after some searching found it; it soon winded me, however, and was off. After going on

for a little more than half a mile I came up with her and found her to be a big cow; she was waiting, facing me, shaking her head. I fired at her head and dropped her.

I tried round for tracks the next day but without success, and passed the night in a Sakai camp. The following morning I made my way to the Sungei Lotong, where I expected to find the boat, and while sitting on the bank awaiting its arrival I heard the trumpeting of elephants on the opposite shore. We lost no time in going after them, and soon came upon a bull; getting within about 30 yards of him I fired for his ear and dropped him; but he began to roar, and soon a cow and a calf came out to him. I fired a second shot, which hit him in the neck. The cow assisted him to his legs, and he moved off, roaring terribly. I was without cartridges, the men who were carrying my 8-bore and the ammunition having carefully hidden themselves away. I roared for them almost as lustily as the elephant was roaring, and to my delight they soon emerged from their hiding places. I followed up the wounded elephant, and soon came up with him, when a shot from the 8-bore put an end to his troubles. He was not a large one of his kind, but he had very nice tusks.

We now turned back to go down river, and, travelling all night, reached Kuala Semantan at about 9 in the morning, where I was most hospitably entertained by Mr. T. I stayed there the day, starting off the following morning on the way down stream. From Kuala Semantan, for a distance of about 120 miles, the Pahang River is quite the finest I have seen in the Peninsula. In many places it is more than a mile wide, and on each hand at intervals are prettily situated kampongs, well populated and with plenty of cultivation. Large islands, too, some of them more than a mile in length, are frequent, and add greatly to the beauty of the scenery. I was particularly struck with the open nature of the country, and the large stretches of meadow land, on which herds of buffaloes were grazing. To float down on a raft is a very enjoyable mode of travelling, and after a very pleasant trip I reached Pekan on the 8th of July.

Pekan, on the Pahang River, some six miles from its mouth, is the capital of the State, and at present the seat of Government; the Sultan also residing in the neighbourhood. The few Europeans living there are nearly, if not all, Government officers, and during my short stay I met with much kindness from them. From Pekan I went on to Kuala Pahang, a charming little place, the surrounding country open and the fine stretch of sea beach fringed with casuarinas—forming a striking contrast to the muddy mangrove swamps with which we are familiar on our side. It was not hard to believe that the reputation it has as a healthy spot was well deserved. While here, Mr. F. was my host, and treated me right royally.

Though the journey across the Peninsula from the west to the east coast is now an everyday occurrence for men, I had not previously heard of any lady accomplishing the trip; it has, however, recently been done by Mrs. L., who, together with her genial husband, started from Kuala Lumpur, and returned *viâ* Raub, Kuala Lipis, Pekan and Singapore.—R. S. M.

NOTES AND NEWS.

THE formal inauguration of the Federation of the Protected Malay States has now been definitely fixed to take place on 15th September and the four following days. A Committee, consisting of several gentlemen, official and private, has been formed to make and carry out the necessary arrangements. The Sultans of Perak, Pahang and Johor, the Yam Tuan Besar of Sri Menanti, and of course our own Sultan, are expected to visit Kuala Lumpur, and there will no doubt be others. It is proposed to give entertainments and amusements to the visitors by means of a trip to Kuala Kubu, a picnic at the Batu Caves, visits to coffee estates, a gymkhana, dances, fireworks and processions.

MR. H. C. BELFIELD has been appointed Commissioner of Lands and Mines for the Protected Malay States. He will, for the present, continue to reside in Perak.—Mr. W. D. Scott is acting as District Officer, Kuala Selangor, *vice* Mr. H. C. Holmes.—Mr. E. M. L. Edwards, Asst. Supt. of Police, is due back from leave at the end of the current month. Mr. H. M. Hatchell, at present acting in that post, shortly goes home on long leave.—Mr. Stokoe, who came out at the end of 1889, and who from one cause and another has been unable to get away, expects to be soon enjoying a well-earned vacation at home.—The Rev. W. Eccles Hodgkinson, Military Chaplain, Singapore, preached before a large congregation at St. Mary's Church, Kuala Lumpur, on Sunday last.—Mr. L. Davidson, from Ceylon, is on a visit to Selangor for the purpose, it is stated, of prospecting coffee lands in the Native States on behalf of Messrs. Finlay, Muir and Co. Mr. and Mrs. Davidson are guests at the Residency.

THE gathering of little folks at the Residency on the afternoon of the 13th inst., was so large that the Resident-General, who was present, may be excused if he thought that a large number of them had been borrowed for the purpose from the neighbouring States. The occasion was a real home-like tea-fight for the Sunday school-children of the Christian Churches in Kuala Lumpur, and even Mrs. Rodger must have been surprised, and pleased, at the number of her young guests. After a sumptuous tea, the youngsters had races for prizes and scrambles for coins, and were regaled on ices, and the gentlemen who had been invited to see and to assist, appeared

to be obtaining just as much fun out of the treat as the children were. The party broke up at dusk with cheers for Mrs. Rodger, each child carrying off a nice book as a memento of the occasion.

THE opening of the Durbar in Kuala Lumpur, the 15th September, will coincide with the first decennary of the formal opening of the Selangor Government Railway. In one way this is a pity, because it is an event of sufficient interest and importance to justify the railway authorities in having a festival and high jinks on that account solely.

THE Government School for Girls, Kuala Lumpur, of which Miss W. Stratton is head mistress, was opened on 3rd August in its temporary quarters, the Masonic Hall, Damansara Road. It started with eighteen children, but its numbers have since increased to twenty-seven, and the names of several more pupils have been received. The attendance has been very regular, with the exception of one or two pupils who were detained at home through illness. The children appear to find a great pleasure in going to school, generally arriving early and showing a desire to learn. The school is at present divided into Upper and Lower, each of these divisions containing two classes, as considerable disparity of knowledge was shown. All the ordinary subjects are taught and besides these Swedish Drill, Drawing and Singing have been introduced. In the lower school, especially, Drill, seems to be very much appreciated, it being a great source of amusement. A French class will be started next month, provided there are a sufficient number to join it; it will be open to non-members of the school and will meet three times a week. Advanced classes in other subjects can also be formed if desired.

TOWKAY LOK YEW has purchased the tin mines of the Negri Sembilan Syndicate, of which Mr. F. W. Hill was manager. The District Officer, Kuala Pilah, reports, "Lok Yew wishes to start mining here on a large scale, and if he does so there is no doubt that it will be greatly to the advantage of the district."

PERSONS desirous of obtaining information by telegraph as to the movements of steamers, are requested to prepay the answer when making enquiry from the Harbour Master, or to apply to the Steam Ship Agents for the information.

A CORRESPONDENT, "M.," writes, with regard to catch crops in coffee plantations, that plantains should never be included in this form of cultivation, as they rapidly impoverish the soil. Our correspondent kindly adds: "A few more hints on the subject, on application."

THE final tie for the Resident's Cup, Ramasamy's Team *v.* Klang, was played off on the Parade Ground on Saturday, 7th August, and after a well-contested game ended in a draw. The result was a great surprise to every one, as it was thought that Ramasamy's team would win easily. The game was fairly even, but if one or two of the Kuala Lumpur team had been a little less selfish and passed the ball oftener, their side would doubtless have scored more than once. The teams played half an hour each way, and on the call of time, as neither team had scored a point, it was decided to play an extra 10 minutes; but although each team made most determined efforts they were unable to score, and the game terminated in a very even draw. Mr. W. D. Scott was referee and Messrs. Bellamy and F. H. Lott were linesmen.

ON Saturday, the 15th inst., Dougal captained a side of Dissyllables *v.* The Rest, which was in charge of Bellamy. The Dissyllables took first innings, but started badly, Hubback being caught and bowled with three on the board and later C. Glassford was run out after making 14; however, thanks to some free hitting by Bagnall, J. Glassford and Highet—the latter, by-the-bye, showing a return to form—the total reached 109. The Rest started much better than their opponents as McClosky and Neubronner stopped in for a long time and played in careful but good style, Lake also got runs, and at the drawing of stumps the side had made 94 for the loss of only three wickets, and thus had much the best of the draw. The wicket was a terrible one, and it is certainly wonderful that men will turn out Saturday after Saturday to try to play cricket under such disheartening circumstances.

A MEETING of the Committee of the Selangor Rifle Association was held on Wednesday last, Captain Lyons (President) in the chair, and the following programme was arranged:—

(1) Quick Firing Competition, open to all comers. A valuable prize is offered by a member of the Association for the best score of seven shots in 70 seconds at 200 yards, kneeling or standing, Martini or Snider rifles, to take place on 24th September, at 4.30 p.m.

(2) Novice Prize—\$25, offered by Dr. Travers, to be competed for by those who have never won a prize in the Association, seven shots at 200, 500, and 600 yards, to take place on 26th September, at 6.30 a.m.

(3) The Championship of the Association, to be shot for on 27th Sept., at 6.30 a.m. A prize of \$50, with the championship for the year, will be awarded for the highest score at 200, 500 and 600 yards; \$25 will be given for the next best score.

The members of the S.R.A. will be "At Home" on the Rifle Range on 24th September, when a competition with Morris tubes, open to

lady visitors, will be held, a prize, given by the members, being offered for the highest score. Details as to time, etc., will be published later on.

THE regular monthly meeting of the Committee of the Selangor Club was held on the 15th inst., Messrs. C. E. F. Sanderson (Chairman), Carey, Cumming and Russell, Captain Syers, Dr. Travers, and Mr. Bligh (Secretary), being present. Messrs. A. Butler, E. C. Crick, G. E. Cropley, B. C. Doral and L. U. Stafford were elected members of the Club. Mr. W. D. Scott, owing to his transfer to Kuala Selangor, resigned his seat on the Committee. Resolved that Mr. L. Dougal be invited to fill the vacancy. Resolved, on the recommendation of the entertainment Sub-Committee, that a dance be given on Friday, the 28th inst., and a smoking concert during September. The Committee, on behalf of the members of the Club, passed a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. A. T. D. Berrington for the valuable services he had rendered while occupying the office of Vice-President of the Selangor Club.

At a meeting of the Provisional Committee of the new Recreation Club, Kuala Lumpur, held on Monday, the 17th inst., at the Selangor Club, it was resolved that a general meeting of members should be called for Saturday, 5th September, to elect officers, to pass rules, and to transact any other business which might appear on the agenda to the notice of meeting. A billiard table will shortly be ordered, \$600 of the purchase money having been raised by debentures. A sub-committee—consisting of the Chairman, Mr. Robson and Mr. Jacobs—was appointed to arrange a contract for the supply of refreshments. Newspapers, etc., have already been ordered. It is hoped that the Club House may be ready for the use of members by the middle of September, and Mr. Rodger has kindly consented to “open” the building.

THE following supplementary rule under the Harbours Regulation has been issued by Government. “The master of every vessel, with the exception of launches and other vessels used in the Government service, entering the Port of Klang, is prohibited from passing any other steam vessel between the river mouth and the wharves at Klang, unless the latter is moored.”

RULES regarding Cadetships in the Civil Service of Hongkong, the Straits Settlements and the Protected Malay States are published in the last *Gazette*. Selection will be made by open competitive examination, a Cadet will receive a salary of \$1,500 per annum, until he has passed a local Board of Examiners in Languages, Law, etc., when it

will be increased to \$1,800, and he will be eligible, as vacancies occur, for appointments ranging from about \$2,400 per annum and upwards.

THE Police are drawing attention to the danger of allowing the class of vagrant whose ostensible object is collecting empty bottles to enter the compound or prowl round one's premises. "It has been proved," says the Captain-Superintendent, "that men of this class are invariably thieves, who take advantage of their opportunities to steal anything they find lying about, and not infrequently assist others in committing robberies by supplying them with information." Owners and occupiers are advised to have the bottle-collector warned off, and if he refuses to go, or appears again, to have him arrested for trespass.

THE question of lighting the town of Kuala Lumpur by electricity has not been lost sight: the Sanitary Board have received papers from Government relating to the scheme, and the Town Engineer has reported upon them. Writing of lighting, we once more draw attention to the want of lamps on what a contemporary calls "Sepoy Hill."

THE banks and foreshores of rivers within town limits having been placed in charge of the Kuala Lumpur Sanitary Board, we shall soon see an improvement effected in their appearance, as well as in that of the back premises of the houses abutting on them. It is intended next year to build retaining walls along some of the banks, providing wide promenades for pedestrians; the walks will be planted with trees and furnished with seats.

Most people will be glad to see that the row of stables and sheds at the corner of Clarke Street, facing the Parade Ground, are being demolished. Occupying such a fine site, they have been an eyesore ever since they were first put up; but when they became the immediate neighbours in the frontage line of the new Government Offices, it was evident that their time had come. The space will be laid out as a garden, and trees will soon hide the bare walls of the Straits Trading Co's. compound and the end house of Chow Kit's block. When a decent building replaces the present hideous "General Post Office," and a handsome structure is raised on Dhoby's Green at Gombak Bridge, the visitor to Kuala Lumpur, standing on the Parade Ground, will have no difficulty in realising that he is in the capital of the Protected Malay States.

It has been decided to erect the large and ornamental fountain for town of Kuala Lumpur in front of the Central Market.

THE CULTIVATION OF LIBERIAN COFFEE.

I.—INTRODUCTION.

MY endeavour shall be to give to young and inexperienced planters some hints, which may prove useful to them and prevent them from making the mistakes which I and many others have made through the want of some kind of guidance or book of reference.

The art of planting is not so great as some planters like to make out, and it is not necessary to have any special education or qualification to become a good planter—it is only necessary that you should know what you are about. And it is there where the biggest mistakes are made: simply and solely through want of experience.

Youngsters, fresh out from home, and people who have never learned to plant coffee or to work with coolies, start their own plantations and very often they lose their money. And if the plantation is not ruined entirely but recovers before they have lost everything, and even if they make a fortune afterwards, they will nevertheless have wasted a good many of the most valuable years of life—years which no money in the world can ever replace; they will have wasted a fortune which they might have saved, and their trees—although they may recover through careful treatment—will never be the same healthy trees as those properly looked after from the very beginning.

Let me therefore give a warning to those young and inexperienced planters, not to risk their money under any consideration in an estate under their own management.

If you are in a hurry and you have the capital, engage an experienced and trustworthy planter to manage your estate for you, but keep away from it yourself: don't work on your own estate as an assistant. If you want to learn planting, do so on some other estate, but don't attempt to manage your own before you are sure that other people would not be afraid to entrust you with the management of their estates. If proprietor and manager live together on the same estate, it rarely gives satisfaction.

It is quite true, that nobody can have the interests of the estate more at heart than the proprietor himself, and so long as he gets the advice of an old hand and is told exactly what to do, he will not be such a fool as to disobey the hints given to him; but the old hand who is to come and look after him and his estate can only give his advice on matters on which it is asked, but there are hundreds and thousands of little things which you will never think of asking about, and in consequence you will make many mistakes without knowing it.

There is one great difficulty in coffee planting, as there is in everything else—it is the great difficulty of getting good men. Either the men you can get are ignorant or they are rogues, they are sick or lazy, or they drink, or they are bounders and loafers, etc., and should

you really by chance get hold of a thoroughly good and experienced all-round man, he will probably get sick and die, or he will leave you to take up a better billet.

A man who possesses all the good qualities which I have mentioned will not work on an estate for a small salary, such a man would make his way anywhere and need not bury himself on a coffee estate in the jungle of the Malay Peninsula.

Then there is the difficulty for the young planter to know whose advice he is to follow, for one experienced planter will tell him to do a thing one way and another will tell him to do it exactly the other way, and if A is told that B had said this whilst he had said that, A will not hesitate to tell you that B is a fool, who knows nothing whatever about coffee; and B again, if you ask him about A, will give you the same candid opinion about A. There is no doubt about it, one half of the planters consider the other half fools, and generally they are both more or less right.

There are many ways which lead to Rome, and each of them is right. As long as you only know what you want and how to do it; as long as you have a "system"; and as long as you follow that system, you cannot go far wrong. It is only when you do not know your own mind and have to gather advice from right and left, without being capable of judging for yourself which is good and which is bad, you will come to grief. Your coolies are the first to find this out and they will not be slow to benefit by it.

There are a good many planters who have come to grief over coffee and have cursed their bad luck: the estimates submitted to them were all wrong, their soil was bad, their coolies were bad and useless, their crop was small, and altogether they had been working under exceptional difficulties. Well, it may be that in years afterwards the same people will have to confess that their luck was good, the estimates all right, their soil very rich, their coolies good and useful, their crop might have been large, and that altogether they had worked under exceptionally favourable auspices and circumstances, every facility and advantage had been put in their way, but their failure was due to themselves, to their own ignorance and want of experience, and very often their own obstinacy in ignoring good advice when they could have had it.

My dear readers, you will perhaps wonder who it is who thus gives you all these lessons with an air of authority—you will have to wait some time for this information.

I once read a very good book on planting, it was highly recommended to me, but when I found out the name of the author, my friend, who had recommended it to me so strongly before, said "Oh, then it cannot be any good." And that will probably be my fate too, when you have found out my name; but in the meantime you will read my notes unprejudiced and judge my work on its own merits and on its merits alone.

But let me inform you that I do not claim to be an authority. I have had 20 years' experience as a planter, and I have found out by

this time how ignorant I am and how very little one really does know about coffee, or anything else.

I don't know just exactly what should be done in all cases, but I know in many cases what should not be done; and since I know that I know nothing, I claim to be wiser than those men who are not aware of their own ignorance.

II.—THE SELECTION OF LAND.

There is no difficulty in selecting land in a country like Selangor. The Government is anxious to induce planters to settle in the State and each District Officer again will try and secure you and your capital for his district.

One piece of land may be better than another; but, on the whole, nearly all the land along the Malay Peninsula is suitable for the cultivation of Liberian coffee. If you have your choice, pick out a piece of land near a town, with virgin jungle, and, if possible, a flat piece or of a gentle slope. Even if your quit-rent should be 50 cents an acre instead of 25, it will be preferable to have land near a town, as you will find the vicinity of a town a great inducement for coolies to work on the estate and you will never experience the same difficulty to procure labour as your brother planters who are living eight or ten miles out in the country.

Then there are the social advantages, you can drive to your club every evening, meet European ladies, have a game of billiards or a rubber of whist—things not to be despised in an out-of-the-world place.

Left to yourself on an estate with nothing but jungle all around you and no other company than your own coolies and a few monkeys, dogs and cats, and perhaps some goats, you will soon get sick and tired of your life, and no money in the world, no riches which you may be able to gather, will ever compensate you for the loss of the best years of your life thus unnecessarily thrown away in exile.

No doubt it sounds very romantic to live on an estate where you only hear the roaring of the tigers, the trumpeting of elephants, and where for days and weeks on end you never see a white man's face except your own; but in the long run even the nicest of romantics will not satisfy you, and you want something to strengthen you to lead the hard life you have chosen: you want the company of ladies now and then to keep you in touch with the ways and forms of society; and to appreciate thoroughly your own quiet and comfortable life in your humble hut, you must go and live occasionally for a few hours amongst the scandalising set of society.

My advice to select if possible a flat piece of land is based on the difficulty and expense of draining hilly ground compared to low land; the rich top soil is constantly washed away in hilly ground, and you require to do more manuring than in flat land.

There are many more arguments to be brought forward in favour of low flat land to hilly land, but it is not so much my intention to argue every point at length as to give in a few short articles my advice

to new men—what in my opinion is best for them to do and what in their place I would do myself—taking into consideration the experience I have gained and for which I had to pay dearly.

If you wish to take up land in Selangor address yourself to the officer in charge of the district where you wish to settle, and in every case you may be sure he will assist you to select a nice and suitable piece of land under the best possible and most favourable conditions to be obtained.

These conditions generally are :

\$1 to \$3 premium per acre ;

25 cents to \$1 quit-rent per acre per year ;

Grant in perpetuity, with a cultivation clause to open one-fourth of the area of your concession within five years.

III.—THE OPENING UP OF AN ESTATE.

Having obtained your land, the next step is to open it up. It is necessary to have a point from where to start your operations. If possible, try and get your communication with the rest of the world first. Easy means of communication and approach to your land will save you a lot of money and greatly facilitate the opening up; it will lead to a systematic opening of your estate, and a good start at the beginning very often ensures half the success of a young enterprise. Having your road of communication, you will start to build the cooly lines and your own bungalow. Don't be extravagant, but at the same time don't be penny wise and pound foolish. Give the work out on contract as much as possible, even if you have to pay much more than you think you could do it for yourself with your own men under your own supervision, it will pay you in the long run.* If you pay high prices it will attract opposition and the opposition will offer to do it for less and the rates will gradually go down and you will save by contract labour. Contract labour saves a lot of time, and time is very often more valuable to a planter than money. If you are late you may probably lose a whole season, and this perhaps for the sake of trying to save a few dollars which you may imagine were asked in excess of what under ordinary circumstances you would be justified to consider right and fair—in such case pay up and look cheerful.

Put your pride in your pocket and don't listen to any nonsense that you are spoiling rates by paying too much. You want the work done in a certain time; well, get it done; of course, as cheap as possible, but if you cannot get it done for the price you are prepared to pay, you must pay what the men are prepared to do it for.

* This refers only to opening up an estate; later on, I would strongly advise every planter to do just the contrary—namely, to do all his work with his own men, even if it should be more expensive. You will do the work with your own men much better than a contractor, who will, of course, try and rush the work as much as possible and charge heavily for every alteration or the slightest deviation from the original plan. Besides, doing work with your own men will teach you its real cost, and be a guidance to you for estimating the probable cost of similar works. If a planter pays \$200 for a piece of work which every cooly knows he could have had done for half the money, he lowers himself in the eyes of his coolies, who will laugh at his ignorance and also try to take him in, when they have a chance.

The next thing is to cut the jungle. You may be in a hurry and start felling, thinking of making the roads and drains afterwards, but this would be a great mistake and an expensive one too. What you have to do first is to lay out the ground, cut your rentisses in the jungle with the compass, about six feet wide, keep these lines clear and make your contractors remove any trees that may fall across when felling jungle.

Having marked your 50 or 100 acres, or whatever area you may intend to open, I would recommend dividing the clearing again into smaller squares, say of 10 acres each, I would cut all lines true east and west and north and south. Thus, every 10 chains I would cut a north-south line and this would be intersected every 10 chains again by an east-west line, thus dividing your clearing into squares of 10 acres. Keep all these lines open; cut a small drain alongside and keep it always as a path.

Having reached this stage you are at liberty to cut the jungle to your heart's content. The main drains are made, the dividing paths are cut—the contractor must keep them clear; you have easy access to any and every part of your new clearing and you can start operations now wherever you like.

In giving out the contract for cutting the jungle, I would recommend giving to no contractor more than 10 acres for every four men he employs, and I would insist in noting myself the names of these men, and no advance should be made to the contractor on account of their work except in the presence of these men. Although one and the same contractor may have taken on several contracts, do not by any means mix them in one account, but keep a separate note of every contract and distinctly note for account of which work each advance was given.

This may all seem very simple, and many of my readers will wonder why I give as information that which everybody knows; but I have seen planters getting into such a hopeless mess and fix with their contractors' accounts and such great trouble with the men, that I think I should not forget to mention even the smallest and apparently insignificant item. Of course everything is simple to us when we know it, but the difficulty is to know what others don't know, and I therefore start from the point of supposing my readers to know absolutely nothing.

You have now finished the approach road, you are living in your own bungalow on your own estate, the cooly lines are ready, the intended clearing has been demarcated, the contractors have started felling the jungle and will keep your demarcated lines clear, the whole of what you have done has been carefully marked on your map and it is now time to get gradually a batch of coolies.

Hitherto everything has been done by contract and I would not recommend you to engage any coolies until you have reached the above stage of proceedings.

Contract price for cutting jungle per acre, from \$2 to \$10, according to its nature and the position of your estate.

Erection of an ordinary cooly line of 70 ft. by 30 ft., \$40 to \$100, exclusive of material.

A decent bungalow for yourself and kitchen and out-houses, \$250 to \$1,000, including material.

Cutting a road 18 ft. wide with drains 3 ft. by 2 ft. on each side, 20 cents to \$1 per depah of 6 ft.

It is impossible to say exactly what you should pay, or what the work could be done for, the great and enormous difference in the above quotations varying from 1 to 5 times the amount for the same work, shows that it wants a man of experience to know what to pay to get his work done well and cheaply at the same time.

Before I conclude the chapter on opening up, I would like to call your attention to the advisability of contracting to cut always at least 20 depahs of jungle more than you intend planting up, this has the advantage of admitting light into the clearing and if you wish to extend later on, you need not be afraid of any trees falling across your coffee or blocking up your paths.

(To be continued.)

MALAY CUSTOMS IN SOUTHERN SELANGOR.

FUNERAL.

WHEN a man dies, the corpse (called *Maiat*, except in the case of a Raja, when it is called *Jenaja* or *Jenazah*), is laid on its back, and composed with the feet towards Mecca and the hands crossed (the right wrist resting upon the left below the breast bone and the right fore-finger on the top of the left arm). It is next shrouded from head to foot in fine new sarongs, one of which usually covers the body from the feet upwards to the waist and the other from the waist to the head. There are generally three or four of these sarongs, one over the other, but in the case of the rich as many as seven may be used, each being made in one piece, so as to cover the body from the head to the feet, the cloth being of fine texture, of no recognised colour, but richly woven with gold thread, etc. The body is laid upon a mattress, which in turn rests upon a new mat of *pandanus* leaf, and finally all but the very poor display the hangings used on great occasions. At the head of the corpse are then piled five or six new pillows, with two more on the right and left side of the body resting against the ribs, whilst just below the folded hands are laid a pair of betel-nut scissors (*kachip besi*), and a bowl for burning incense is placed on the matting at either side. Some say that the origin of laying the betel-nut scissors on the breast is that once upon a time a cat brushed against the body of a dead person thereby causing an evil spirit (*badi*) to enter it, so that it rose and stood upon its feet. The "contact" events

* One explanation is that the betel-nut scissors symbolise the sword which was laid on the breast of the faithful during I know of no satisfactory explanation, though it is true substituted.

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the dead body from rising again should it happen by any mischance that a cat (which is frequently the only animal kept in a Malay house and which should be driven out of the house before the funeral ceremonies commence) should enter unawares and brush against it. From this moment until the body is laid in the grave the "wake" must be religiously observed and the body be watched both by day and night, to see that nothing which is forbidden (*pantang*) may come near it.* The Imaum, Bilal, or Khatib, or in their absence the Pah Doja, or Pah Lebai, is then summoned, and early notice of the funeral is given to all relations and friends to give them an opportunity of attending. Meanwhile the preparations are going on at the house of the deceased. The shroud (*kain kapan*) and plank or planks for the coffin are got ready; of coffins there are three kinds, the *papan sakinging* (the simplest form generally consisting of a simple plank of pulai or jelutong wood about six feet long by three spans wide), the *karanda* (a plain oblong plank box, of the same dimensions), and the *long* (consisting either of two planks which form a sort of gable with closed ends called *kajang rungkop*, or the *long betul*, which is like three sides of a box with its sides bulging out, both ends open, and no bottom). No varnish or paint is used in Malay coffins, but the planks are washed to ensure their cleanliness, and lined with white cloth (*alas puteh*). About three inches of earth is put into the *karanda* ordinarily, but if the coffin is to be kept about a span's depth of earth, quicklime and several katis of tea leaves, rush-piths (*sumbu kumpai*) and camphor are also laid in it, in successive layers, the rush-piths at the top. Afterwards, when the corpse has been laid on the top, tea-leaves are put at front and back of the corpse as it lies.

The next operation is to wash the corpse, which is carried for this purpose into the front or outer room. If there are four people to be found willing to undertake this disagreeable duty, they are told to sit upon the floor in a row all looking the same way and with their legs stretched out (*belunyor kaki*) the body being then laid across their laps (*riba*). Several men are then told off to fetch water in jars, scoop it out of the jars and pour it on the body in small quantities by means of the "scoop" (*penchedoh ayer*), which is usually a small bowl, saucer or coconut shell (*tempurong*). It frequently happens, however, that this unpleasant task finds no volunteers, in which case five banana stems are sometimes turned into improvised "rollers" (*gallang*) on which the body is raised from the floor during the process of washing (*meruang*). When the body is ready for washing, a chief washer (*orang meruang*) is engaged for a fee of about a dollar; this is usually the Bilal or Imaum, who "shampoos" the body whilst the rest are pouring water on it. The body then undergoes a second washing, this time with the cosmetic called "ayer bedak" or "bedak langir," which is prepared by taking a handful or rice (*sagenggam bras*), two or three "dips" of lime (*cholek kapur*), and a pinch of gambier

* Tradition says that formerly the corpse was watched for three days before burial, and that sometimes it was kept for a week or even a longer period. One Raja Snei is reported to have been kept 40 days in her coffin above ground! It is also stated that before the introduction of Mohammedism, the dead were burned.

(*sachubit*)—the last three being the usual concomitants of a single “chew” of the betel-leaf—and the whole being pounded up together with the rice. When pounded they are mixed with water (*di-banchoh*) in a large bowl holding about two gantangs, the water at the top is poured off into a vessel of similar capacity, and scooped up and sprinkled as before on the corpse. The next washing is with juice of limes. Four or five limes (*limau nipis*) are taken, the ends cut off, and each lime slashed cross-wise on the top without completely severing the parts. These limes are then squeezed (*de-ramas-kan*) into another large bowl containing water, and the washing repeated. The final washing (*ayer sambilan*, so called from the water being scooped up, and poured over the body thrice to the right, thrice to the left and thrice in front from head to foot) is performed with fresh water, as at first, and the whole ceremony when completed is called *bedara*. The washing completed, the orifices—*e.g.*, ears, nostrils, eyes—are generally stopped with cotton, and the body is carried back to its mattress, and laid in a shroud of white cotton cloth about seven feet by four feet in width (*salabuh*), so that the edges meet over the breast. After which the last kiss is given by the nearest relatives, who must not, however, disturb the corpse by letting their tears fall upon its features. The shroud is usually three-fold in the case of poor people, but wealthier families use five- and even seven-fold shrouds. In these parts, however, each shroud is usually a separate piece of cloth. In addition, the dead body of a child is sometimes covered with a fine sort of white powder (*abok tanah or tayamam*), which is put on the face and arms. Five knots are used in fastening the shroud, the ends being drawn up and tied (*kochong*) by means of the unravelled hem or selvage of the shroud torn into tape-like strips, which is also bound thrice round the body at the breast, the knees, and the hips, respectively, after which the body is laid on the mattress or mat again, this time with the head to the north, and on its right side looking towards the west (Mecca), which is the position it is to occupy in the grave. Prayers are then offered by four or five prayers-men (*orang memyembahyang*), who know the burial service by heart, the Bilal or Imaum joining in the service and all turning towards the west in the usual way. One prayers-man is sufficient, if no more are to be had, his fee ranging from 50 cents to a dollar in the case of the poorer classes and among the rich often amounting to \$5 or \$6. This service is held about 1 p.m. so as to give plenty of time to carry the body to the grave and return before nightfall.

A jugful of agila-wood (*gaharu*) and sandal-wood water is then prepared, a small piece of each wood being taken and grated on a stone over the jug until the water becomes appreciably scented; and about 20 leaves of the sweet-scented pandanus (*pandan wangi*) are then added, together with a bunch of fragrant betel-palm blossoms, and other scented flowers, such as the champaka and kenanga, which are shredded (*di-iris*) into a wooden tray and mixed together whilst fragrant essences such as *ayer mawar* (rose-water), *ayer labenda* (lavender-water), *minyak attar or turki* (attar of roses, etc.), are added when obtainable. A *sirih* holder or tray containing all the articles

required for chewing *sirih*, is then got ready together with a new mat of pandanus-leaf in which are rolled up five *hasta* of white cloth, and a brass bowl or alms box in which latter are to be placed the contributions (*sedekah*) of the deceased's relations. The preparations are completed by bringing in the bier (*usongan*), which has to be made on purpose, except in towns where a bier is kept in the mosque.

In the case of the single plank coffin, the body is laid on the plank (which is carried on the bier) and a sort of wicker-work covering (*lerang-lerang*) of split bamboo is placed over the corpse, so as to protect it on its way to the grave. In the case of the *karanda*, the body, laid in the coffin, is carried on the bier, and in the case of the *long*, there being no bottom plank in this form of coffin, the body lies on a mat. In each case the bier is covered with a pall (*kain tudong*) of as good coloured cloth (*never white* but often green) as may be obtainable. There are generally two or three of these coverings, and floral decorations are sometimes thrown across them, the blossoms of the betel palm and the scented pandanus being woven into exquisite floral strips (*jari lipan*) about three feet long by two fingers in breadth, and laid at short intervals across the pall. There are generally from five to six of these floral strips, the betel blossom alternating with the pandanus. The number of bearers depends on the rank of the deceased; in the case of a sultan as many as possible bear a hand in sending him to the grave, partly because of the *pahala* or merit thereby obtained, and partly (no doubt) for the sake of the *sedekah* or alms given to bearers. The procession then starts for the grave; none of the mourners or followers here wear any special dress or sign of mourning such as the white sash with coloured ribbon, worn at Singapore sometimes (except the *kabong puteh* or strip of white cloth which is distributed as a funeral favour at the death of a sultan). The only mourning which appears to be known to Malays is the rare use of a kind of black edging for the envelopes of letters and that is no doubt copied from the English custom, though I may add that a letter which announces a death should have no *kepala*. Loud wailing or weeping is forbidden by the Imaum, for fear of disturbing the dead. The mosque drum is not beaten for funerals in these parts, nor is the body usually carried into the mosque, but is borne straight to the tomb. On arrival at the grave (which has been dug early in the morning), if the coffin is a single plank one, a cavity on the left side of the grave pit is excavated by the grave-digger to receive the corpse, the cavity being called *liang lahad*. Three men then lower the corpse into the grave where three others are waiting to receive it, and the corpse is laid in the cavity on its right side (*mengiring ka-lambong kanan*) and looking towards the west (Mecca) with the head lying towards the north. Four pegs (*daka-daka*) are then driven in to keep the plank in a diagonal position, and prevent it from falling on the body, while the plank in turn protects the corpse from falling earth.

The *karanda* is lowered into the centre of the grave in the same way as a European coffin; the body, however, being invariably composed in the position just described; whilst the *long* acts as a sort of lid to a

shallow trench which is dug (*di-kroh*) for the reception of the corpse in the middle of the pit. The five bands swathing the corpse (*lima tali-pengikat maiat*) are then removed, and at this point the bystanders occasionally hand lumps (*sa-kepal*) of earth to the men standing in the pit, who, after putting them to the nostrils of the deceased, deposit them at the side of the grave, when they are shovelled in by those standing at the top.* The filling of the grave then proceeds, but as it is forbidden (*pantang*) to let the earth strike against the coffin in its fall, the grave-diggers, who are still standing in the pit, receive it as it falls upon a sort of small hurdle or screen made of branches, and thence tilt it into the grave. As the grave (which is usually dug to about the level of a man's ear) fills up, the grave-diggers, who are forbidden to shovel in the soil themselves, tread down the earth, and level it, and they are not allowed to leave the pit till it is filled up to the top. One of the relations then takes a piece of any hard wood and rudely fashions with a parang a temporary *nisan* or *nishan* (grave-post) which is rounded off for a man, and flattened in the case of a woman; one of these grave-posts is placed exactly over the head (*rantau kapala*) and the other over the waist (*rantau pinggang*), not at the feet as in the case of Europeans. Thus the two grave-posts are ordinarily about three feet apart, but tradition says that over the grave of a *krahmat*, or saint, they will always be found some five or six feet apart, one at the head and one at the feet, and it is said to be the saint himself who moves them. To the knob of the grave-post is tied a strip of white cloth as a sign of recent death.†

Leaves are then strewn on the ground at the left of the grave, and the five *hasta* of white cloth alluded to above are spread out to form a mat, upon which the Imaum takes his seat, the rest of the company being seated upon the leaves. The *ayer gaharu chendana* (eagle-wood and sandal-wood water) is then brought to the Imaum who pours it out in three libations, each time sprinkling the grave from the head to the foot. If any water is left the Imaum sprinkles it upon any other graves which may be near, whilst *bunga rampai* or shredded flowers are then similarly disposed of. Next is read the *telkin*, which is an exhortation (*ajaran*) addressed to the deceased. *It is said* that during the process of reading the *Telkin*, the corpse momentarily revives, and still lying upon its side raises itself to a listening position by reclining upon its right elbow (*bertelku*) and resting its head upon its hand. This is the reason ‡ for removing the bands of the shroud, as the body is left free to move, and thus in groping about (*meraba-raba*) with its left hand, feels that its garment is without a hem or selvage, and then first

* I may add that in pre-Muhammedan days certain articles are said to have been buried with the corpse—viz., "bras sa-priok, asam, garam," together with (in the case of a man) rough wooden models of the deceased's weapons.

† Tradition says that originally only one grave-post (*nisan*) was used, and that the earlier form of a tomb was a circular mound with a single grave-post in the centre. It is said that such mounds were formerly used in Sungei Ujong, but I am unable to say if this is so. Sultan Zeinal Abidin of Johor is also described as having a tomb of this description at Kota Tinggi.

‡ Of course if the *karanda* is used, the bands have to be removed before it is nailed down. On their removal, these bands are handed to the next of kin, who tear them up and plait the strips into a rough sort of bracelet, which they wear as long as it lasts in memory of the deceased. Similarly little children are made to pass thrice underneath the *karanda* of their parents when it is first lifted in the chamber, to prevent them from pining for the deceased.

realising that it must be really dead, composes itself to listen quietly to whatever the Imaum may say, until at the close of the exhortation it falls back really lifeless! Hence the greatest silence must be observed during the exhortation. The Imaum then repeats by way of "doxology" the *tahalil* or *meratib*, la-illa-ha-illallah (there is no God but God), in company with the rest of the assembly, all present turning their heads from side to side, and repeating the words a hundred times, commencing slowly till thirty-three times are reached, they increase the pace up to the 66th time, and conclude with great rapidity. The contributions in the *batil* are then divided among the entire company as alms (*sedekah*). The master of the house then invites those present at about 5 p.m. to partake of the funeral feast, which in no way differs from an ordinary Malay banquet, the more solid portion of the meal (*makan nasi*) being followed by the usual confectionery and preserved fruits. The Imaum then reads prayers and the company breaks up. The decorations for the funeral are left for three days undisturbed. During these three days, the nearer neighbours are feasted, both in the morning and the evening, at the usual Malay hours, and for three days every night at about 10 p.m. the service called (*mengajikan maiat*) is read from the Koran, by the Imaum or somebody hired for the purpose. This is an important duty, the slightest slip being regarded as a sin. At the end of the three days there is yet another feast at 1 p.m. (*kanduri meniga hari*), when those who are further off are invited, and after this meal the *tahalil* is repeated as before.

On the 7th day a similar feast (called *kanduri menujoh hari*) is followed by the *tahalil*, which necessitates a further distribution of fees (*sedekah tahalil*); but in the case of poor people this second *tahalil* may be omitted, or the master of the house may say to the company "I ask for the praying fees" (*Sahya minta sedekah tahalil*), in which case the *tahalil* is free.

Yet another feast is held on the 14th day (*kanduri dua kali tujuh hari*), when the ceremonies are at end, except in the case of the richer classes who keep the *kanduri ampat puluh hari*, or 40 days' feast, and the *kanduri meratus hari*, or 100 day's feast, whilst the anniversary is also kept as a holiday by all who wish to show respect for the diseased. This closes the usual funeral ceremonies, but a day is generally chosen at pleasure in the month of Ramthan or Ma'ulut for the purpose of offering prayers and feasting the ancestors.

The only difference made in the case of the death of a woman is that the washing of the corpse devolves upon women, whilst in the case of very young infants the *talkin* is sometimes omitted. The woman's *nisan* as has been explained is distinguished by its shape. The temporary *nisan* may be replaced by a permanent one at any time after the funeral. At the time the grave is made up, four planks (*dapor-dapor*) with the upper edges and ends roughly carved and scooped are placed round the grave mound (*tanah mati*) to keep the earth from falling down. Whenever the grave is thus finally made up a feast is held, but from the necessities of the case this pious duty is generally left to the rich.—W. S.

NOTES AND NEWS.

THE GOVERNOR is expected to visit Kuala Lumpur, with Lady Mitchell, on the 18th inst., and we understand that we shall see the Residents of the Native States back again to meet His Excellency. A Gymkhana Meeting is projected for Saturday, the 19th, and the Railway Sports—of which we give the proposed programme below—in celebration of the tenth anniversary of the opening of the line, will be held in the morning of the same day.

THE keenness which animated the Committee of fifteen at their two hours' meeting on the 22nd ult., in the Government Secretary's Office, has been, unfortunately, thrown away. It has been definitely decided that no "Durbar" to inaugurate the federation phase of Malay States history is to take place this year. Whether it will be held at all seems doubtful.

DURING the early part of last week, a Land Code Conference was held at the Residency under the presidency of the Resident-General; the Residents of Perak, Selangor and the Negri Sembilan, the Legal Adviser, the Commissioner of Lands and the Secretary to Government, Perak, being present. It was Mr. Treacher's first visit to Kuala Lumpur since he left in October, 1894, and we hope that he had no difficulty in noting many signs of progress and improvement round about our capital. The appearance of the new Government Offices—the laying of the foundation stone of which was the last public function at which he was present—must, we feel sure, have made him agree with the generally expressed opinion that for general design and workmanship it is a building second to none in the Peninsula.

MR. H. C. BELFIELD, Commissioner of Lands, P.M.S., will make a stay of some weeks in Selangor, visiting most of the out-station Land Offices.—Captain Syers's appointment as Commissioner of Police, P.M.S., has been gazetted, and he will be leaving for Perak next week. Mr. Wagner, the new Deputy Commissioner of Police, is expected on Sunday, the 6th inst. Captain Talbot, Second in Command, M.S.G., arrived by the *Mena* yesterday (Thursday), from Perak. Captain Lyons returns to-day by her to assume his new appointment at Kinta, whither he leaves with general regret and good wishes from

Selangor. Mr. Edwards, Assistant Superintendent, resumed duty on the 26th ult.—Mr. H. C. Holmes' resignation is gazetted as from the 17th ult. He intends to take a trip to Ceylon before starting operations in Kuala Selangor. Apropos of this, we hear that Mr. W. A. Leach, late of the Government Factory, has been engaged for the Coconut Plantations and Factory in Kuala Selangor.—Mr. A. C. Norman, District Engineer, Kuala Lumpur, who has been an Associate of the Royal Institute of British Architects since 1881, has obtained the higher title of Fellow.

ARRANGEMENTS will be perfected, and things settle down, in time, but at present Perak appears to be a sort of Rachel mourning for her children. But Perak must cheer up: there are others in the same boat. We are quite as loth to lose a Berrington and a Lyons as they are to part with a Watson and a Wagner. Looked at in a proper light, it is really a matter for mutual congratulation, each State being able to make a closer acquaintance with two officers who are hailed as good men and true.

MR. D. MACREATH, of the Dispensary, Kuala Lumpur, and Miss Durant were married in Singapore on the 27th ult. Mr. Tearle gave the bride away, and Mr. Bidwell was "best man." Mr. and Mrs. Macreath are expected back by next Sunday's *Sappho*.

THE election of Worshipful Master for Read Lodge for the year 1896-7 will take place at the regular monthly meeting to be held at the Masonic Hall on 21st September. A supper will be laid in the Hall after the close of Lodge.

THE Dance at the Selangor Club, on the 28th ult., was a quiet, enjoyable evening; the room was not by any means crowded. The Committee is not strong in married members, but one of them, Dr. Travers, was present with Mrs. Travers. Give a dog—especially a spotted one—a bad name, and you may as well hang it: one lady was agreeably surprised to find that high-kicking is not a feature of the Lancers as danced at the Selangor Club, and further that it is not customary for the gentlemen to divest themselves of their coats!

THE Rules of the "Selangor Government Railway Mutual Guarantee Fund" are published in the *Gazette* dated 28th August, the establishment of the Fund has the following objects in view:—

- "(a) To guarantee the Government against loss by defalcation;
- (b) To provide employés with the means of obtaining the security required by Government on the most favourable terms obtainable;

and (c) To secure the co-operation of every employé against dishonesty amongst his fellow-servants by making him participate in any loss caused by defalcations."

THE prospectus of the Colonial Nursing Association, is also published in the same *Gazette*. The engagement of a Nurse-Matron for the General Hospital, the formation of the Kuala Lumpur Samaritan Society, which has also engaged a trained nurse, and the presence of Mrs. Strugnell, lifts us, in a measure, out of the category of British communities in foreign parts that suffer from the want of skilled nursing.

THE following is the proposed programme for the Railway Sports, to take place on Saturday, 19th September, on the Parade Ground, commencing at 7.30 a.m.:—(1) 100 yards flat race; (2) Bicycle race, one mile, handicap; (3) High jump; (4) 200 yards flat race; (5) Tug of war between departmental teams; (6) Hurdle race, 120 yards; (7) Long jump; (8) Quarter-mile flat race; (9) Sack race; (10) 100 yards flat race for Europeans; (11) Obstacle race. The entries are confined to employés of the S.G.R.

SEPTEMBER will become a really remarkable month in the annals of Selangor: it was in that month that the Railway was opened and it was also during that month that the *Selangor Journal* was started—two great undertakings, fraught with much that goes toward the progress of a State [pardon our modesty]; it was in September, too, that the Durbar was to be held—but isn't. It is with the Railway, however, that we like to compare ourselves, because our treatment of the public is so very different. There is no sentiment about the Railway: if one wants to go by train to, say, Kuala Kubu, but hasn't the wherewithal to purchase a ticket, it is of no use explaining, through the small opening in the booking office, that it is all right, and the fare will be sent later on. The S.G.R. doesn't do business in that style; the S.G.R. lacks sympathy. But if that same one writes to us, and asks that the *Journal* may be forwarded regularly—why, such is our childlike confidence and belief in all, that the request is complied with. Now, however, that we have arrived at the last number of a volume, and look to the fact that with the next issue Vol. V. will commence, and bearing in mind also the number of subscriptions still outstanding for Vols. I. II. III. and IV., we experience a great and envious admiration for the manner in which our fellow-factor in Progress deals with the public. We can only hope that our confidence with not sustain too rude a shock—even in the case of subscriptions so long overdue as those for Vol. I.

THE following is taken from the minutes of the Kuala Lumpur Sanitary Board: "A letter from the Government Secretary is read referring to a proposed reserve on the Parade Ground of 40 yards square for cricket purposes, and asking whether the Board has any objection to the control of that space being given to the Selangor Club. Resolved that the Government be informed that the Board, while willing and indeed anxious to afford every facility to the Club to improve the cricket pitch and to keep it in first-class order, has no power to alienate the control of any open space maintained by it for the health and recreation of the public. By-laws Nos. 35, 46, and 47 made by the Resident under Regulation VII. of 1890 refer to this matter."

MR. HALE, District Officer, Negri Sembilan, in a long and interesting report on Rinderpest, writes: I take it for granted that the disease called by the natives "penyakit ta'un" is rinderpest: without having very intimately watched the symptoms here, I think I have seen enough to convince me that it is so. I subjoin the symptoms as set forth in the Handbook published under authority of the Board of Agriculture in 1895. "Symptoms of the plague are rise of internal temperature; the animal stands with its head hanging down, ears drawn back and coat staring; it refuses all food and occasionally shivers. A mucous discharge flows from the eyes and nostrils. The extremities are cold; the breathing is laboured, and frequently accompanied with moaning. The inner part of the upper lip and roof of the mouth, and all visible mucous membranes are reddened and not infrequently covered with an eruption of minute pimples and later on with a branlike exudation. The bowels are occasionally constipated; but in most instances diarrhoea soon sets in, the evacuations being slimy and very frequently of a dirty yellow colour. The prostration of strength is great, the animal staggering when made to move. In milch cows the secretion of milk is rapidly diminished and soon ceases altogether. The disease usually ends fatally in from six to ten days." The cart cattle of this country are very rarely attacked by the disorder; in fact, I only remember one case since I have been in the Negri Sembilan—eight years. I had the animal slaughtered and buried in quicklime at once. The water buffaloes, on the contrary, are very subject to the disease, scarcely a year passes without one or another district in this State losing nearly every buffalo.

"THE recent dry weather has somewhat delayed the padi season, and planting operations will, it is expected, take place towards the end of August. In spite of the heavy crops reaped during the last season the area under this form of cultivation shows no material increase; but, with the encouragement now being shown to this industry, a large increase may be expected next year. Many parts of the district are admirably suited to rice cultivation, and a moderate expenditure in draining and irrigation, with cash advances to cover initial expenses, should form sufficient inducement for numbers of settlers from Banjar, Menangkabau and elsewhere."—*Ulu Langat Report for July.*

THE following are the additions to the Selangor Museum during the month of July, 1896:—From Dr. Travers, a gigantic owl; Mr. Russell, a young iguana; Mr. Charter, four spiders and a beetle; Mr. Glassford, a pole cat; Mr. Robson, a scorpion; Master Charter, a young iguana.

The number of visitors in July	...	...	1,565
Previously	...	...	9,859
Total			11,424

Additions during the month of August, 1896:—From Captain H. C. Syers, a bear; Mr. Lake, a hawk, a young wild boar, and a rare white hawk; Mr. Williams (Kuala Kubu), a seven-footed calf; Mr. Watkins, a walking leaf insect.

The number of visitors in August	...	...	2,003
Previously	...	...	11,424
Total			13,427



THE LAKE CLUB ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

THE annual general meeting of the members of the Lake Club took place on Saturday, the 29th ultimo, at 6.30 p.m., Mr. Alexander and about 35 members being present. The following agenda was laid before the meeting:—

- I.—To receive and, if approved, pass the accounts.
- II.—To elect a President and seven members of Committee for the ensuing year.
- III.—To consider the question of improvements to the carriage shed and dressing-rooms.
- IV.—To discuss any other business which may be brought before the meeting.

The minutes of the previous general meeting having been passed, the following report—which together with a financial statement for the year ending 30th June, 1896, had been posted to members—was taken as read:

“Gentlemen,—Your Committee beg to submit the accounts for the year ending 30th June, 1896, and members will be pleased to see that the financial position of the Club continues to be satisfactory.

“The additions to the building sanctioned at the last annual general meeting have been carried out, and out of the profits of the year’s working, your Committee have deemed it advisable to write down the value of the Club building and furniture as shown in the statement of Assets and Liabilities.

“With regard to the available funds, your Committee recommend that a part be devoted to the construction of a permanent carriage shed and dressing rooms.”

No objections being raised, the statement of accounts was then passed in the usual way.

The next business before the meeting was the election of a President for the ensuing year. Mr. Alexander thereupon retired from the chair to which Mr. Venning was voted, that he might conduct the election of a new President for 1896-1897. Mr. Venning then proposed that Mr. Alexander be re-elected President for the ensuing year, without going through the formality of a ballot. Agreed.

The ballot for seven members of Committee resulted in the election of Mr. A. R. Venning (35 votes), Mr. A. J. W. Watkins (34 votes), Mr. E. V. Carey (32 votes), Captain Syers (29 votes), Messrs. Spooner and Cumming (28 votes each), and Mr. Dougal (22 votes). The only other gentlemen receiving more than two votes being Messrs. Travers, Browne, Highet and Watson. On the result of the ballot being announced about half the members present retired; from which fact it would appear that the question of expenditure, new building, etc. is one which the average member feels he can safely leave in the hands of his Committee. Mr. Alexander then explained that the late Committee had deemed it right to lay the subject of improved stable and dressing-room accommodation before the general meeting in order to elicit the opinion of members as to the advisability or otherwise of undertaking such improvements. Mr. Robson asked what sort of stable accommodation it was proposed to erect. Mr. Spooner, as a member of the late and the new Committee, informed the meeting that the idea was to erect a new carriage shed with brick piers and tile roof, the interior pillars of wood and the floor to be gravelled, the whole building to afford that increase of accommodation which at present was so much required. The better dressing-room accommodation, which was a long-felt want, would be carried out in conformity with previous alterations to the Club building. Better ventilation and more space would be obtained, proper lavatories erected and water laid on. Mr. Hüttenbach suggested that the two works should be dealt with separately. Mr. Venning explained that the idea of the Committee in bringing forward the matter was only to obtain the general acquiescence of the members, when this had been notified plans would be drawn and the approval of members asked for at a later meeting. The members present thereupon signified their approval of a motion that action should be taken as suggested.

Mr. Dougal then rose to address the meeting. The gist of his remarks being, that there was a feeling amongst certain members of the Club that in view of the satisfactory nature of the balance sheet and the low figure at which the building had been written down, the time had come for a reduction of the monthly subscription. Mr. Venning was dead against the idea. He pointed out that although the balance sheet was fat on the credit side, the new carriage shed and dressing rooms had yet to be built and paid for, and he felt sure that members would not be content with an atap roof to their Club for ever. Mr. Hüttenbach also spoke against the reduction of the subscription fee, which, he said, he should prefer to see increased in the case of new members. No formal resolution was moved and the meeting then dispersed.

JUGRA: THE ABODE OF ROYALTY.

HAVING caught the 6.40 a.m. express, by dressing *en route* to the station, we reached the place without spot at eight. For the benefit of recent arrivals in Selangor, it may be mentioned that Klang is the place without spot. Many years ago the Raja *de facto* of a neighbouring State happened to arrive at Klang in the early morning without having given the local hotel keeper warning of his approach; the result was disastrous, and in his wrath the great man poured forth his curse upon the place and all its ways by writing a withering invective to the *Selangor Journal* under the title of "Spots on the Sun." Thereupon the inhabitants of Klang were greatly disturbed and rose as one man to prove in print that on the surface of Klang's fair fame there could be no spot—not even on the billiard ball, where it should have been.

On arriving at Klang we find two, and sometimes even three, jinrikishas awaiting the train. These vehicles rattle and wobble—they are comparatively old and superlatively dirty. But what a joy to ride in them. My coolie took me for six miles over an excellent road, where but a short time ago a horse could not walk with safety, owing to the treacherous nature of the road's surface. Then followed a walk of a few miles to Telok, a short journey in a boat, and then four miles overland from Bandar to Jugra, through what ought to be smiling coffee gardens, but which are, as a matter of fact, neglected kabuns overgrown with lalang. The District Officer, however, pointed out traces of a new-born activity. A result of his own personal persuasion. At different points along the road we saw places where the lalang had been recently dug up. Let us hope that at last the lazy, indolent, good-tempered Malay of our one somewhat stagnant district is going to follow the example of his harder-working cousin the Javanese, who has now settled down in every district, where one and all of them are making a small fortune from the soil of Selangor.

Jugra, the old Jugra, has in a great measure improved itself off the face of the earth. In its place there has sprung up one little street of brick-and-tile houses. But, oh, the dreariness, the loneliness, the utter lost-to-god-and-man atmosphere of the whole place! To leave the bustling life of the Ulu for the paralysis of Jugra—what a change! Elsewhere we feel that British protection, prosperity, trade, crime, the people and ourselves are all going forward at a rush. In Jugra all is peace! M'yes. The only recompense for a European officer stationed at Jugra is the opportunity afforded him of really mixing and making friends with the Malays. In the Ulu they are too scattered, and in Kuala Lumpur few white men know ought beyond the Clubs. Heaven help them to pay their bills!

After dinner we went to bed, to sleep the sleep of the good. Little did we guess what was in store for us. At about two in the morning, just as the Angels of Dreamland had driven out the Evil Spirits of a Late Dinner, I awoke with a start to find a mysterious figure standing by my bedside. I saw at once that it was a man. This reassured me

a little. Then the stillness was broken by the voice of my kind host saying—"Blank, blank, you *must* get up; the Sultan has been burgled." "Umph! Oh! Has he? Well, it's a bit rough springing this on a man at two in the morning, with the Angels of Dreamland hanging around."

Then followed a council of war and action. I cannot give away State secrets, but our action will be found recorded in the archives of the State. Early the next morning we went to call upon His Highness. He received us in a sarong. As far as we could see he had no other clothes on. He was most affable and apparently was going as strong as ever. He laughed and chatted away as if the whole affair was a joke. But we had a suspicion that His Highness did not want us to interfere with him or to suggest the advisability of banking his money. It appears that the thief or thieves went up to the Istana under cover of the darkness and then, cutting away part of the planking under the house, went in and abstracted two ammunition boxes, each containing \$50 in copper. One of the Sultan's young Malays, out after duriens, happened to see a suspicious character and gave the alarm. One box was recovered, the other not. At least, so said His Highness's clerks. But there was a good deal of mystery about the incident.

If anybody can make things lively at Jugra and work up new ideas, Mr. Skeat is the man; but, as Mr. Turney always said, Jugra will never do much until it has vastly-improved communication with the outside world both by road and steamer.

I have seldom seen either the Bandar or Jugra landing stages when they were not in a state of either partial or total collapse. To erect a landing stage at Jugra which will last means a big job.

Back to Klang, past magnificent coffee estates and so on to the Third Greatest City of the Straits and the Capital of all Malaya.—X.



THE CULTIVATION OF LIBERIAN COFFEE.

IV.—ENGAGING COOLIES.

YOU have now advanced so far that it is necessary to have some labourers on your plantation. You have to cut the drains in the lines demarcated in the jungle, which is being or has been felled; you have to make your nursery, if it has not already been done; clear the jungle, etc. Some men go to the trouble and expense of sending to India to get schedule immigrants; but this has very seldom proved a success, even in cases of old-established estates. In your case it would be a thousand times worse, your coolies would abscond, or get sick and die, or be utterly useless to you. Try to get a good overseer and send him out to engage coolies on the spot. There is no legislation in this State to protect the employer against the coolies absconding—at least, there is no legislation to facilitate the prevention of running away. There is absolutely no possibility

for you, with the best and most honest intentions in the world, to make sure that the men you engage have not absconded from an employer with whom they are under an agreement, and to whom they are still under advance. You may engage the men quite *bonâ fide* and they may at any time be arrested and taken away from you by their original or any other lawful employer from whom they have absconded.

Government could easily pass some regulation to prevent such occurrences by giving each new arrival a certificate and by compelling every employer to give his coolies a certificate of discharge. But Government won't, and there is an end of it. It is no use arguing about it: you have to take the fact as it is. If you engage any coolies you may save yourself the trouble of asking them where they come from. Look at them, if they are fit for work engage them; but, as a protection to yourself, do not, under any consideration, give them any advances or make a contract with them except the usual one month's notice verbal agreement. If they won't work except for an advance, let them go, there are many others who will.

The usual pay is 25 to 30 cents a day for a man and 20 cents a day for a woman. Six days' work in the week entitles them to seven days' pay—that is, they get their Sunday paid too. Overseers and mandors get from \$10 to \$15 a month; on some estates they get a commission for every man who turns out to work. Many planters give some money to the mandor or kangany and he again gives his advances to the coolies (in fact, a cooly is nearly always in debt). This saves the planter a lot of trouble, but I strongly condemn this system. The overseer should be an entirely disinterested party, and if any advances are to be given you should give them yourself; but it will always be safer not to give any, neither to your kangany nor to your coolies. If your kangany advances the money to the coolies, he has all the influence over them and you are entirely in his hands.

To secure your independence work with Javanese and Tamils and, if you have sufficient experience, also with Malays and Chinese; you can then always play the one against the other, and as the different nationalities never agree with each other, one will watch and control and compete against the other. In case of a strike you will never be left entirely without labour, and the coolies of one nationality will think twice before they make their terms, if they know that you are in such a position that you can do without them.

Before I proceed any further, I would like to mention a few words about the working hours and task work. The working hours on the different estates vary considerably. On some estates the coolies work from 6 a.m. to 10 a.m. and from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. = 8 hours. On some from 6 a.m. to 11 a.m. and from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. = 9 hours. On some from 6 a.m. to 11 a.m. and from 1 p.m. to 6 p.m. = 10 hours. But on most estates the working hours are from 6 a.m. to 2 p.m. = 8 hours.

The last is by far the most convenient to the planter and that's why most of them adopt it, it leaves them free to enjoy themselves in the afternoon, to go and play tennis and football. The coolies, too,

prefer it to any other system; they may sit down during the working hours and take their meals, and if found sitting under the shade of a coffee tree, you may take it for granted that they are at just that moment taking their food; surely you could not expect a man or any human being to work continually from 6 to 2 o'clock = 8 hours, in one stroke? No man or beast could stand it without getting sick, and the consequence is—they do not do it. You may argue as much as you like, but the fact remains that a man working from 6 to 2 = 8 hours cannot do the same amount of work as a man who works from 6 to 11 and from 1 to 5 = 9 hours, and has two hours' rest in the heat of the day and starts labour again in the afternoon with fresh strength and energy.

If this system is followed your coolies will be strong and healthy and you are able to control your labour; because, if you like, you as a European can also work from 6 to 11 and from 1 to 5, but it is impossible without ruining your health to work from 6 to 2 in a burning sun. There are cases, when you are working miles away from your lines, when it is better to work right through instead of losing time in walking long distances home and back again, but these are exceptions.

Most of the planters will see the correctness of my remarks, but the coolies in this country are an independent lot and they will refuse point blank to work from 6 to 11 and from 1 to 5, and the planter, in nine cases out of ten, will give in or has to give in. After all, why should we bother ourselves in introducing a new system, the old one has worked all right, and, even if you might do better, we are quite satisfied with the results of the old style. Life is far too short to take anything serious, especially in the East, and therefore many planters will rather let things slide than have trouble and inconvenience.

"Aye," says the cooly, "that is your way of looking at it, but I look at it in quite a different way. You say why should we waste the beautiful working hours from 2 to 6? Well, Sir, why do you want us to waste the beautiful working hours from 11 to 1? We start at 6, and at 11 when we are just beginning to like it and get accustomed to it, you want us to stop and to walk home in a blazing sun. We never feel the heat, whilst we are at work, we never feel tired even, but when we walk home at 11 o'clock and lie down for a minute, we do feel it, and we feel it so much that we go to sleep without taking any food. Not that we would not like it or that we don't feel hungry; but we are too tired—lazy, probably, you would call it, Sir—that we cannot get ourselves to cook our food and we just drop down to have a little rest and eat afterwards. But having worked for five hours in a burning sun, you can imagine what a task it is to arouse ourselves at one o'clock, and when the horn is blown to turn out to work again; there is not a man awake and we have to go out without having had a bit of food. We pull ourselves together, but it is in vain; we feel stiff and sore, more tired than we were at 11, and just fancy the idea of tearing yourself away from a cool and comfortable home out into a blazing sun to work! Wouldn't you rather, much rather, work right

through and be free for the rest of the day—even if you had to work a little harder and longer? And say, Sir, what object has life for us, if we have to work from morning to night? From 11 to 1 we cannot do anything and at 5 o'clock we are about done up, and before we know where we are, it is night again and dark. And to go on like that from morning to night, day after day, week after week, year in and year out, nothing but work, work, work, and no pleasure—why, we had better take a rope and hang ourselves."

"My dear Tamil cooly, you have missed your vocation, you should have been born a millionaire. In our country, coolies work to live, and they have to work pretty stiff to keep alive, and if any labourer would only get nine hours' work a day and have a whole day every week to himself to enjoy it as he likes, he would consider himself very lucky; none but a lunatic would think, in our country, if he were a day labourer, that he should be paid by his employer to enjoy his life; he is paid to work, to work from morning to night and not to enjoy himself. The hours of the day are for work and the hours of the night are for rest, and of the 24 hours of the day we only ask you for nine, the remaining 15 are yours and once in six days we give you a holiday. Surely we could not be more liberal, and you are unreasonable."

"Pardon me, Sir; if that is the position in your country, I thank my stars that I am not a European day labourer, but only a Tamil cooly. Here nobody is left out in the bitter cold and starved to death, shivering for the want of warm clothes and a shelter where to lie down to die; we don't know misery here, and we require no clothes. Our God has provided us with all we want. His sun shines on all of us alike, fruit grows in abundance and water flows down the river, we have sweethearts, wives and children—Sir, we are rich; why should we burden our life with work, when nature has provided us with everything that we need?"

The State Engineer of Selangor may claim the honour of having shown sufficient backbone and pluck to force the coolies of the P.W.D. to yield to his system of working from 6 to 11 and from 1 to 5, instead as before from 6 to 2, or from 6 to 10 and from 1 to 5. He has rendered the planting community a great service by this and saved his Government a fortune in the cost of labour; the benefit of this will be more evident in later years when the number of coolies employed will be so much larger.

But not every planter has the pluck and the perseverance of the State Engineer of Selangor; but, as many might say, what had he to risk or to lose by it? If he had failed, he could say that he honestly had tried to improve matters, and Government could not have blamed him for any loss through strike or delay in having their work carried out; but to a planter, should he lose all his coolies, perhaps just at a time when he may probably want them most urgently, it may mean utter ruin—anyhow, a great loss of money—and no consolation of knowing that he had tried to improve matters would ever compensate or satisfy him or his employers.

Another important point in dealing with your coolies is to get a full day's work out of them for a full day's pay. This is done by

many planters by giving their men task work—*i.e.*, a man may weed 300 trees, or cut 50 holes, or pick a box of cherry; if he has completed his task he gets his day's pay; if not, he gets only half a day or nothing at all. You need not trouble how long he takes over it, that's his own look out. He may do it in five hours and thus get four hours to himself. This is not fair to the planter, who pays for nine hours' work and gets only five; or the cooly may take 10 hours over the task given to him, and yet not be able to finish it; in that case, it is not fair to the cooly, who has worked 10 hours instead of nine and yet does not get his day's pay. The fairest way would be to give a man contract work—*i.e.*, if 300 trees' weeding is a fair day's task, to pay him 30 cents for it or one cent for every 10 trees, he would then be paid for what he has done and you would receive the work for which you have paid him.

But this, again, has a great disadvantage: a cooly might in that case make \$10 or \$15 a month and another perhaps only \$2 or \$3. On the whole, this system spoils the rates: it drives the wages up, and it stands to reason that if a cooly can earn \$15 on contract work, he will not be satisfied to work for \$8 only on daily wages.

Thus, however the young planter looks at the position, he finds trouble and difficulty and no solution out of his fix—how to give justice to everybody without harming himself.

My dear young planter, I know that the above will be your thoughts. Every young planter will try and experiment and finally find out for himself that it is impossible to satisfy everybody; but take the consolation, my friend, that nothing is perfect in this world—not even a Planter!

I am afraid that after having said so much for and against the various systems, the young and inexperienced planter who may look to these notes for advice will find himself now in a greater fix than ever as to what to do, and I therefore consider it my duty to give him a clear and decided statement of what I would advise him to do, and that is: "Start work at six in the morning and give your coolies task work and when a cooly has finished his task let him have a day's pay and let him go home; but not before he has finished his task." If you follow my advice your coolies will earn their full pay, whatever that may amount to per month or day, and they will be satisfied. If you don't, you will have no end of trouble and your work will be much dearer than otherwise.

To measure up the work of a few coolies on a small estate is quite a different thing to measuring 200 or 300 coolies' work on a large estate, and keeping a separate account of each cooly's work; you would require a special accountant to do it, and then even there would always be disputes. Don't forget, also, that in this country, when the season sets in, it rains regularly nearly every afternoon; and although, in theory, you can do more work in nine hours than in eight, I would advise you to work from 6 to 2 and not from 6 to 11 and from 1 to 5 p.m., you will find that in practice you get more work done in these eight hours.

V.—THE NURSERY.

I take it for granted that your nursery has been ready long ago, and that it is now showing thousands of healthy young plants; but, as a precaution, I would like just to mention, in a few words, the process of making a nursery:

1. Lay out beds about 2 ft. to 6 ft. broad and as long as you like, and as many of them alongside of each other as you like.

2. Thoroughly dig up the ground; remove all roots, etc.

3. Leave sufficient room between the beds for a man to pass conveniently.

4. Cover the whole of the seed-beds with a slight roof of bertam leaves, which your coolies will cut in the jungle, fix that roof on jungle wood about 4 ft. to 6 ft. above the ground, so that a man can move about conveniently under them.

5. Have your nursery well drained.

6. Sow your seeds (which are coffee beans in parchment) about 6 in. apart from each other and about $\frac{1}{2}$ in. deep under the ground; but, before putting them out in the nursery, soak the seeds for a day or two in water. It does not matter which way you put your seeds in the ground, they will come up all the same.

7. Water your nursery regularly and keep it clean of weeds, but don't water it more than necessary. There are planters who say that if you water your seeds regularly they get accustomed to regular nourishment, and that if you plant them out afterwards and they don't get the food they are accustomed to they will die. That's about the same as if a mother starved her child, for fear it might not be able to get such nice food later on in life and therefore miss it all the more. There are actually planters who purposely select bad soil for their nursery, because, they argue, if my seedlings are accustomed to bad soil and bad nourishment, the moment I plant them out into the field, where they get the benefit of good soil and nourishment, they will grow strong and healthy; but I am convinced that a strong and healthy young plant from the nursery will stand transplanting, and the hardships connected with it, better than a sickly, weak, badly nourished and neglected thing, and, if all the planters in the world were to contradict me and try to overrule me with the authority of years of experience, it would not shake my confidence in the truth of this.

I have, after all, spent more words about the nursery than I at first intended, and now that I have fairly started I could go on for any length of time. The more I think about it, the more I come to the conclusion that the nursery is a very important matter on a coffee estate—in fact, the most important of all. It is the foundation of your future wealth, all the success of your young enterprise depends upon this nursery; if you use bad seed you will get sickly trees, however healthy they may look, and very often you will perhaps only discover it years afterwards, just about the time when you expect to reap the benefit of years of worry and care; your trees will get from bad to worse and finally die, the result of bad seed. Therefore be careful in the selection of your seed; don't begrudge to pay a few

dollars more for good sorts; don't show your smartness by buying your seed so much cheaper than other people, it would be a fatal mistake—the best seed, be it ever so much dearer, will always be the cheapest in the long run.

For an acre of Liberian coffee planted 10 ft. by 10 ft. you require 435 trees, one pikul of coffee seed will give you about 50,000 to 60,000 plants, or about sufficient for one hundred acres; but, to be on the safe side, make a nursery big enough to hold 100,000 plants and buy two pikuls of seed. It is always useful to have a nursery in reserve, and even if you don't require the plants yourself, you will never find any difficulty in selling them to your neighbours—the difficulty will only be to get your money afterwards.

Within two months your seed will come up, and about six months after you have first sown it the young plants will be fit to be planted out into the fields; but this is a matter for lengthy discussion, and let me therefore say that I would not transplant them before they are at least six months old.

Your cover of bertam leaves has meanwhile got thinner and thinner and you may now remove it altogether and let the young plants be exposed to wind, rain and sun—in fact, to all the eventualities of their after life, to which they have anyhow to get accustomed sooner or later.

This finishes my chapter about the nursery. A nursery is a lot of bother, and some young and smart planters avoid this by letting others have the trouble of making it and buy the young plants from them, quite forgetting to pay for them; but as this is a trick you can only do once with the same man I would not advise you to follow it.

(To be continued.)



THE FORESTS OF SELANGOR.*

KLANG.—The forest region here is for the most part low and swampy and there is much mangrove. The timber is on the whole of no great value except for firewood, and for poles, fishing-stakes, etc. There is, however, a certain quantity of merabau, petaling and other hard woods in the drier parts. Malabera (*Fagrea fastigiata*) was apparently fairly abundant at one time, but not much seems to be left now. This is a very valuable timber for piles, as, if used with the bark on, it appears to resist toredo better than any other timber in the Malay Peninsula. Much of the country suited for this timber is unsuitable for any other cultivation, and it may well be considered whether it would not be worth while to plant this tree in some of the low swampy districts of Klang and Kuala Selangor.

The supply of firewood and mangrove bark in these two districts is practically unlimited; but the distance at which the chief centres lie where much is used or is likely to be used, and the consequent cost of freight, at present reduces the actual value of this forest. But if it

* Extracts from an official report by Mr. H. N. Ridley, Director, Botanic Gardens and Forests, Straits Settlements.

were possible to get this firewood conveyed to these centres at a lower rate, much of the use of more valuable timber as firewood would be saved.

Kuala Lumpur District has for some time been noted as a forest reserve, to prevent further denudation of trees. There are but few remaining, however, and those chiefly of secondary growth. The large tracts of abandoned tin mines are at present of little value; but if planted with trees, could be made of considerable value as a timber supply, and would doubtless exercise a beneficial climatic effect on the surrounding country. There is also a large tract of *lalang* country extending northwards which might with advantage be replanted, as it will never be of any use till this is done; but this would be a more expensive work, owing to the necessity of extirpating the *lalang* first.

Rawang.—The hills here are covered with timber, but by far the most important are those producing the original camphor-tree (*Dryobalanops camphora*), a very valuable tree, only met with in one other place in the Peninsula—viz., on the Indau River in Johore. The tree not only produces the valuable camphor and camphor-oil at present too expensive for the home-markets, but also a timber of great value. The forests contain little or no trees, not indeed even undergrowth, except camphor-trees of all ages, and if, as I hope, it may be possible to extract the camphor from chips of wood and from the leaves, as is done with the camphor laurel in Formosa and Japan, an important industry might be started here.

Dusun Tua.—I visited this place in order to inspect the main range of hills at Bukit Itam and Ginting Peras, but examined the woods in the neighbourhood of the hot springs. Where the higher class timber had not been thinned out, there was a good deal of merabau, gombang, and petaling. Much of the low country here has, however, been cleared of all valuable timber and produces only secondary jungle, and a considerable quantity of bamboos. I note that here, as well as on the main range, where there is much bamboo there is little good timber, either because the bamboo absorbs too much of the groundwater or because the ground being more sandy is less suited to the growth of timber.

Kuala Selangor District is less inhabited and less opened up for cultivation than the other districts. Great tracts of country are covered with mangrove or swampy forest and produce no timber of any value except mangrove and malabera. The extensive wooded district north of the Selangor River towards the Perak boundary may perhaps be better, but as there were no tracks or paths I was unable to explore this uninhabited region. Gombang, serayah, kumpas and pauh kijang seemed to be the most useful trees here; but at Rantau Panjang, for about two miles along the road to Rawang, I found the woods drier and containing better timber and peculiarly rich in getah percha. I have never seen anywhere in the Peninsula so many trees of this plant together as there are here. It is probable that these woods will form the best getah percha reserve in the State.

The Reko Woods.—Between Sepang and Kajang lies an extensive tract of forest country through which the main road connecting these

places runs. Much of the country round Sepang and Kajang as far as Reko is either under cultivation or has been so, and it is probable that a great deal more will be taken up. But the greater part of the forest country is not likely to be required for this purpose or for tin-mining. The forest is rich in merabau, pauh kijang and petaling, and contains also some quantity of tampinis, kranji and tembusu.

The Hill Districts.—All the points I visited on the main central range—viz., Bukit Kutu, Bukit Itam, Ginting Peras and Ginting Bidai—are densely wooded and contain much valuable timber, especially merabau, petalang, pauh kijang, penak, tampinis, mersawa and serayah. Ginting Peras is especially rich in the latter, and contains much gombang as well.

Of Timber in General.—By far the most important timber in the State is the merabau (*Azelia palembanica*). This tree is still very abundant, and the supply will be temporarily increased as new country is opened up by road making. It is the best timber in use for sleepers, as well as for almost all durable work—piles, beams, etc.—and for furniture. But although there is a great deal of it left, it must not be overlooked that the demand for it is and will increasingly be very great, and that the tree, like teak, is a very slow grower.

Taking the single item of sleepers as giving an idea of the amount required for use in the State, I make the following calculation. Each sleeper measures 6 feet 6 inches long by 9 inches wide and $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches thick, and contains $1\frac{1}{17}\frac{1}{2}$ cubic feet, say (to simplify the calculation) 2 cubic feet; one mile of railway (single rail) requires 1,980 sleepers. One merabau tree of very large size may be estimated to give a log of 60 feet long with a diameter of 2 feet. This is equivalent to 188.50 cubic feet of timber, so that one mile of railway requires 21 trees of the largest size. Now the best sleepers last for upwards of 15 years, the worst about two; if the average be taken at eight years, then in 16 years 42 trees will be required for one mile of rail. This is probably much underestimated, for comparatively few trees give as much timber as this, allowing for waste, timber shake, etc., but it serves to give an idea of the amount of merabau required for a single item; and when the amount required for bridges, piles and buildings is considered, it will be seen that the requirements for railways alone is likely to be enormous. As far as I can estimate, the merabau grows at about the same rate as teak, but we have no reliable data for this. It is certainly a very slow-growing tree, and we estimate the age of the largest sized trees not less than a century. We may safely reckon that in comparatively a short time the stock of available trees will be exhausted, and at present we have no timber to take their place. Merabau fruits very heavily when comparatively young, but it must be remembered that every tree cut down reduces the supply of seeds, and it would be advisable to start plantations of this tree before the seed supply is exhausted; indeed, the sooner the better.

Petaling is said to split more when exposed to the sun than merabau, but might be used for sleepers. The tree is very much smaller, about a foot through and about 60 feet tall, giving a beam of, say, 30 feet by 1 foot. It is a valuable timber, but seldom fruits.

Tampinis, which is probably the most durable timber in the Peninsula, is scarce all through the State. It is a fast grower for a first-class timber, and fruits readily, and might very well be planted.

Tembusu may almost be said to be absent from the State. I would strongly urge the planting of this valuable timber. Though it never attains the size of merabau, yet from its easy culture, and value of its wood, it would probably be the best timber to plant, especially in the plains. It will grow in almost any soil, and is the only tree of any value which I have seen which can stand grass fires with little or no injury.

Of the trees remarkable for their absence in this State the bintangors (*Calophyllum*), giam, chengei and ebony are the most striking. The bintangors, valuable for poles and posts, might be planted in the plains, especially round Kuala Lumpur, as they grow fast and there is a good demand for them.

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CORRESPONDENCE.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our Correspondents.]

RIFLE SHOOTING.

To the Editor of the Selangor Journal.

SIR,—In connection with your remarks on the match between S.R.A. and S.V.A., in a recent issue of the *Journal*, which read as follows: "There is in Selangor at the present time the material for a very excellent shooting team," etc., I think that the following details with regard to recent shooting in England may prove of interest.

The scores made on the local range are steadily improving, and will bear comparison with some of those at the leading rifle meeting in the old country. In the ordinary practice, on Saturday 22nd ult. five members turned out, making an average of over 80. Poundall put on a highest possible at 500 yards (7 bulls), this is the first time that it has been done on the Selangor range.

At the Bisley meeting, in July, the Kolapore Cup, shot for by teams of 8, representing England, Canada, Jersey and Guernsey, was won by Canada with an average of 82, the highest score in the competition being 89. The National Challenge Trophy, shot for by teams of 20, representing England, Ireland, Scotland and Wales, was won by Scotland with an average of 82.18, while only three scores out of the 80 topped our highest in the S.V.A. match. In the Queen's Prize (competed for by over 1,800 riflemen from all parts of the British Empire, and in which 600 prizes of the aggregate value of £2,420 are given), scores of 82 got into the second stage (300), the highest score being 96 (Bronze Medal), only seven made highest possibles at 500 yards, and none at 200. All the above shooting was under the same conditions and targets—viz., 7 shots each at 200, 500 and 600 yards with Martini-Henry rifles. The fine scoring in the other

competitions at Bisley was almost invariably made with the Metford and other small-bore match rifles.

It is worthy of note that five members of the S.V.A. team who shot against Selangor on July 25th and made an average of 79.2—with the Martini-Henry—in shooting against the Fusiliers at Singapore the following week averaged 89.4, *with the new magazine rifle*, clearly showing the superiority of that weapon as compared with the Martini-Henry.—I am, etc., Z.

DANCE AT THE SELANGOR CLUB.

To the Editor of the Selangor Journal.

SIR,—I shall be much obliged if you or one of your correspondents will assist me in the following difficulty :

Some months ago I received an invitation to a dance at the Selangor Club; and, coming into Kuala Lumpur for the purpose, spent a most enjoyable night, meeting all my friends there, and having a very jolly dance.

About a week ago I received a similar invitation, and again came to Kuala Lumpur, in anticipation of a similar enjoyable evening. The floor was excellent, and the band and other arrangements everything that one could possibly wish.

I was much surprised, however, to find that there were only about fifteen ladies present, so that I had great difficulty in getting any partners at all. The following day I asked one or two ladies why they were not present, and to my astonishment they replied that they had had no intention of going, and gave me to understand that it was by no means *the thing* to go to one of these dances.

It seemed to be *the thing* a few months ago, and I am utterly at a loss to know why those who went to the former dance should have absented themselves from this one.

As a poor out-station member, who is not up to all the vicissitudes of Kuala Lumpur society, I shall be much obliged if you can inform me how I am to know, on receiving a similar invitation in future, whether to accept is *the thing* or not.—Yours, etc., OUT-STATION.

BANYAK BISING.

To the Editor of the Selangor Journal.

SIR,—With the greatest diffidence in the world let me venture to draw attention to the general absence of that quietude which should prevail during the progress of games in a billiards handicap. It may be excusable that the "buyer" of one of the players should wish to encourage the man who carries his money by calling out at each stroke, "Shooting, Sir!" "Well tried, Sir!" "Shooting, indeed!" "Shot, Sir, shot!" but it is a question whether the encomiums do not defeat the object in view: they certainly irritate many of the onlookers. But what is to be said about the men who, during the progress of a match, relate funny stories in stage whispers—even when the subject is such a mirth-provoking one as the use and abuse of stoves!

I am, etc., DIAM.

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