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BANGKOK 1910-1914

I-V

WITH AN INTRODUCTION

BY

D. K. WYATT

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THE BURNEY PAPERS.

VOL. III, PART I.

(March 1827 to June 1833.)

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Capt. J. Low, Supdt. of Province Wellesley, to the Ex-Raja of Kedah.	Letter (enclosure)	<i>Ibid</i> , pp. 206-207.
The Ex-Raja of Kedah to Capt. J. Low.	Letter Translation (enclosure)	<i>Ibid</i> , pp. 207-208.
J. Pattullo, Sec. to Govt., Fort Cornwallis, to Capt. J. Low, Supdt. of Province Wellesley.	Letter	<i>Ibid</i> , pp. 208.
Major H. Burney.	Memo- randum	I. O., Bengal Secret and Political Consultations, Range 126, vol. 14, No 99.

Date.	Subject	Page.
1 Jan. 1830	Informing him that his force has excited alarm in Province Wellesley and warning him not to cross the British frontier.	168
1 Jan. 1830	Advising him to return to Penang since his presence at Province Wellesley is creating unrest.	169
1 Jan. 1830	He is awaiting a reply to his appeal to the Governor General. He will not return to Penang unless his debts are paid and his allowance renewed.	170-171
5 Jan. 1830	He is to repeat to the Ex-Raja that no pecuniary assistance will be given him unless he proceeds to Malacca, and that if he remains in Province Wellesley he must take the consequences.	172
9 Jan. 1830	Memorandum on the Ex-Raja of Kedah. The dependency of Kedah on Siam proved. The non-liability of the English to afford the Raja armed protection maintained. His misgovernment the cause of his downfall. Recapitulation of the terms of the Treaty with Siam in regard to Kedah. Major Burney is of opinion that force cannot be employed to compel the the Ex-Raja to remove to Malacca. He recommends that an allowance shall be continued to him as long as he refrains from exciting disturbances, at the same time threatening him with expulsion from Penang should his followers molest the Siamese.	173-181

TABLE OF

Name.	Nature of Document.	Location
_____	Proceedings in Consultation	I. O., Factory Records, Straits Settlements, vol. 132, pp. 219-220.
_____	Proclamation	<i>Ibid.</i>
J. Pattullo, Sec. to Govt., Fort Cornwallis, to Capt. J. Low, Suplt. of Province Wellesley.	Letter	<i>Ibid.</i> , pp. 2-3 (2d set).
Capt. J. Low, Supdt. of Province Wellesley, to J. Pattullo, Sec. to Govt., Fort Cornwallis.	Letter	<i>Ibid.</i> , pp. 3-4.
_____	Report (extract)	<i>Ibid.</i> , vol. 133.
G. Swinton, Sec. to Govt., Fort William, to J. Pattullo, Sec. to Govt., Fort Cornwallis.	Letter	<i>Ibid.</i>

Date.	Subject.	Page.
30 Jan., 1830	An intercepted letter from the Ex-Raja of Kedah, inciting the inhabitants of Kedah to revolt, produced. He is to be informed that such conduct renders him liable to arrest. A proclamation is to be issued to the inhabitants of Province Wellesley.	182
1 Feb., 1830	Proclamation informing the inhabitants of Province Wellesley that the Ex-Raja's residence there is contrary to the wishes of the Governor of Penang and that no British aid will be given him to recover his country. The inhabitants are warned against supporting him in any offensive measure.	183
5 Feb., 1830	Capt. Low's suggestion regarding the settlement of a boundary line is approved. He is advised not to excite the opposition of the Siamese at Kedah.	184
3 Feb., 1830	The Ex-Raja denies having written the intercepted letter and declares it to be a forgery. He declines to leave Province Wellesley until he receives a reply from the Governor General.	185-186
29 Apl., 1830	Report on the trade of Penang (Prince of Wales Island), Singapore and Malacca with Siam.	187-189
30 Apl., 1830	Instructions with regard to the treatment of the Ex-Raja of Kedah. The Governor General is prepared to resume his allowance, with arrears, on his withdrawal to Malacca. If he refuses he is to be allowed, and required, to return to Penang. In the latter	190-193

TABLE OF

Name.	Nature of Document.	Location.
The Raja of Ligor to the Governor of Penang.	Letter Translation	I. O., Factory Records, Straits Settlements, vol. 133.
R. Fullerton, Chief Commissioner for Singapore, Penang and Malacca, to Lord Bentinck, Governor General in Council, Fort William.	Letter	I. O., Bengal Political Consultations, Range 126, vol. 19, no. 5.
Capt. J. Low to the Ex-Raja of Kedah.	Letter Translation (enclosure)	<i>Ibid.</i> no. 6.
G. Swinton, Chief Sec. to Govt., Fort William, to R. Fullerton, Chief Commissioner for Singapore, Penang and Malacca.	Letter	<i>Ibid.</i> no. 7.

Date.	Subject.	Page.
	<p>case, the Siamese are free to re-establish their export duty at Kedah. The Ex-Raja is to be warned of the consequences of fomenting disturbances. A boundary line at the East of Province Wellesley is to be marked out in accordance with the Treaty of Kedah in 1802. Care is to be taken to avoid irritating the Siamese.</p>	
Translated 18 May, 1830	Complaining of the conduct of the Ex-Raja of Kedah. He repeats the terms of the Treaty as regards Kedah, states that he has carried out his part of the contract and begs the Governor's aid in forcing the Ex-Raja to do the same.	194-196
25 Aug., 1830	He reports the failure of all efforts to induce the Ex-Raja of Kedah to return to Penang or to go to Malacca. His violation of the Treaty leaves the the Siamese free to reimpose export duties on grain. The Ex-Raja's presence at Province Wellesley is a constant source of annoyance. Precautions have been taken to prevent him from raising an armed force.	197-198
14 July, 1830	Ordering him to return to Penang when his subsistence allowance will be resumed and threatening him with forcible removal should he stir up trouble with the Siamese.	199-200
8 Oct., 1830	If a final attempt to induce the Ex-Raja to return to Penang fails, he is to be forcibly removed to Malacca.	201-202

TABLE OF

Name.	Nature of Document.	Location.
A. D. Maingy, Commissioner Tenasserim Provinces, to the Chief Sec. to Govt., Fort William.	Letter	I. O., Bengal Secret and Political Consultations, vol. 361, no. 4.
E. A. Blundell to the Commissioner in the Tenasserim Provinces.	Letter	<i>Ibid.</i> , no. 5.
Capt. J. Low, Assistant Resdt., Province Wellesley, to K. Murchison, Deputy Resdt. at Penang.	Letter	I. O., Bengal Political Consultations, Range 126, vol. 31, no. 46.
Captain J. Low, Assistant Resdt., Province Wellesley, to K. Murchison, Deputy Resdt. at Penang.	Letter	<i>Ibid.</i>
Captain J. Low, Assistant Resdt., Province Wellesley, to K. Murchison, Deputy Resident at Penang.	Letter	<i>Ibid.</i> , no. 6 of no. 46.

Date.	Subject.	Page.
4 May 1831	Reporting the failure of Mr. Blundell's Mission to the Raja of Ligor and describing the measures taken to contradict rumours of concerted action between the English and Cochin-Chinese against Siam.	203-204
15 April 1831	He gives an account of his failure to reach "Bandoung," the capital of Ligor or to have an interview with the Raja. He shows how suspicions have been aroused at Bangkok. A note on Takuapa, its situation, inhabitants and mineral product.	205-208
16 April, 1831	"Tuanku Kudin" is reported to have gone to Kedah with hostile intent. Precautionary measures to be taken should he invade Kedah.	209
18 April, 1831	News of the reported intended attack on Kedah. The Siamese Prince of "Phatalung" is believed to encourage the insurgents. A force from Patani is moving to combine with the Ex-Raja's relatives. Should "Tuanku Soliman" attack the Siamese, retaliation is suggested. The difficulty of ascertaining the strength of the invading parties is pointed out. Ammunition has been purchased at Penang. Note of measures taken to ensure the peace of Province Wellesley.	210-213
20 April, 1831	Notifying the arrest of "Tuanku Abdullah" son of the Ex-Raja of Kedah, in order to prevent him from joining his relations in an attack on the Siamese.	211

TABLE OF

Name.	Nature of Document.	Location.
Captain J. Low, Assistant Residt., Province Wellesley, to K. Murchison, Deputy Resident at Penang.	Letter	I. O., Bengal Political Consultations, Range 126, vol. 31, no. 46.
K. Murchison, Deputy Resident at Penang, to the Resident at Singapore.	Letter	<i>Ibid.</i> , no. 44.
R. Ibbetson, Resident at Singapore, to the Sec. to Govt., Fort William.	Letter	<i>Ibid.</i> , vol. 29, no. 30.

Date.	Subject.	Page.
25 April, 1831	<p>Reporting the sacking of Kedah by a force under "Tuanku Kudin," and accounting for its success. Remarks on the misgovernment of Kedah by the Siamese, the ambitious character of the Rajah of Ligor, the attitude of the Raja of Singora and the probable action of the Government of Siam in consequence of the invasion of Kedah.</p> <p>Notes on the attempt in 1829 and on the various leaders in the present expedition. The ill consequences of an insufficient police establishment at Province Wellesley. An estimate of the force required if the British are compelled to intervene and retake Kedah.</p>	215-226
25 April, 1831	<p>He reports the attack on the Siamese at Kedah by "Tuanku Kudin's" force, the capture of the fort and the flight of the son of the Raja of Ligor. He describes the measures taken for the defence of Penang. No proof that the Ex-Raja of Kedah is implicated in the attack, but an enquiry is to be held into his conduct. Means suggested to preserve friendly relations with Siam. Arrest of three of the insurgent leaders. Reasons for the lack of intelligence regarding the movements of the rebels.</p>	227-231
3 May, 1831	<p>Reporting the capture of Kedah by the Malays and the participation of British subjects in the invasion. The general sympathy with the insurgents is shown by the secrecy maintained. A letter has been addressed to the Chief Minister at Bangkok to allay his</p>	232-234

TABLE OF

Name.	Nature of Document.	Location.
R. Ibbetson, Resident at Singapore, to the "Phra Khlang."	Letter	I. O., Bengal Political Consultations, Range 126, vol. 29, no. 31.
Rear Admiral Sir E. Owen to the Admiralty.	Information	Public Record Office, Admiralty 1/203, Admirals Dispatches.
R. Ibbetson, Resident at Singapore, to K. Murchison, Deputy Resident at Penang.	Letter	I. O., Bengal Political Consultations, Range 126, vol. 31, no. 44. (continued).
R. Ibbetson, Resident at Singapore, to the Ex-Raja of Kedah.	Letter	<i>Ibid.</i>

Date.	Subject.	Page.
3 May, 1831	<p>suspicions. Measures are to be taken to remove the Ex-Raja to Malacca forthwith.</p> <p>Notifying the seizure of Kedah by "Tuanku Kudin." The Resident is persuaded of the Ex-Raja's complicity in the attack. He regrets the violation of the Treaty and is taking immediate measures to prevent a further breach of its provisions. Certain of the ringleaders among the insurgents have been apprehended and every assistance will be given to the Siamese to effect the recapture of Kedah.</p>	235-236
11 May, 1831	<p>Information regarding the attack on Kedah, furnished to Admiral Owen. Details of the capture of the fort and arrest of the ringleader.</p>	237-238
19 May, 1831	<p>Approving the precautions taken to secure the tranquillity of Penang. All British subjects participating in the late attack on Kedah are to be apprehended and punished. Instructions for the treatment of the ringleaders now in custody. The indirect complicity of the Ex-Raja in the invasion is undoubted and he is therefore to be removed to Malacca. Active co-operation is to be afforded the Siamese for the recovery of Kedah.</p>	239-242
22 May, 1831	<p>Repeating the orders from the Supreme Government for his departure from Penang and notifying the arrangements made for his removal to Malacca.</p>	243-244

TABLE OF

Name.	Nature of Document.	Location.
R. Ibbetson, Resident at Singapore, to the Chief Secretary to Govt., Fort William.	Letter (extract)	I. O., Bengal Political Consultations, Range 126, vol. 31, no. 43.
The Raja of Ligor to R. Ibbetson, Resident at Singapore.	Letter Translation	<i>Ibid</i> , vol. 32, no. 53.
H. Nairne, Malay Translator.	Note.	<i>Ibid</i> .
R. Ibbetson, Resident at Singapore, to the Raja of Ligor.	Letter	<i>Ibid</i> .

Date.	Subject.	Page.
8 June., 1831	He does not anticipate any serious trouble with Siam in consequence of the recent invasion of Kedah. He notifies the removal of the Ex-Raja to Malacca and its probable effect on the settlement at Penang. He accounts for the apprehension of only a few of those engaged in the late outbreak. He details the measures taken to co-operate with the Siamese in the recapture of Kedah.	245-247
undated [— 1831]	The 13th article of the Treaty with Siam has been kept by the Siamese but violated by the Ex-Raja of Kedah. The Siamese are now preparing to retake Kedah, but have no hostile intentions against the English. An envoy is sent, <i>via</i> Martaban, with a present for the Governor General.	281-250
undated [—Aug., 1831]	Note on the style of the above letter.	250
14 June, 1831	The Ex-Raja of Kedah is suspected of indirect connection with the late attack on Kedah and has been deported to Malacca. Actual proof of his direct complicity will be welcomed. Orders have been given for ships to assist the Siamese in the recapture of Kedah. The Raja is urged to fulfil the 3rd article of the Treaty and to agree to the definition of the boundary of Province Wellesley.	251-252

TABLE OF

Name.	Nature of Document.	Location
K. Murchison, Deputy Resident at Penang, to R. Ibbetson, Resident at Singapore.	Letter	I. O., Bengal Secret and Political Consultations, vol. 362, no. 21.
A. D. Maingy, Commissioner in the Tenasserim Provinces, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort William.	Letter (enclosure)	<i>Ibid</i> , no. 4.
The "Shwai Gyeen Myo Thoogyee."	Journal Translation	<i>Ibid</i> , no. 5.
H. T. Prinsep, Sec. to the Govr. General, to R. Ibbetson, Resident at Singapore.	Letter	I. O., Bengal Political Consultations, Range 126, vol. 33, no. 2.
R. Ibbetson, Resident at Singapore, to the Chief Sec. to Government, Fort William.	Letter	I. O., Bengal Secret and Political Consultations, vol. 262, no. 22.

Date.	Subject	Page.
1 Aug., 1831	The Raja of Ligor has not succeeded in retaking Kedah. Instructions are desired should he ask for the help of the Company's troops. Note of the effect of the blockade of Kedah river by H. M.'s ships. Their stay cannot be prolonged indefinitely.	253-255
3 Aug., 1831	Notifying the success of his efforts, by means of the agency of a Talaing of Moulmein, to procure the release of 300 Talaings made captive by the Siamese. Return of the captives and measures taken for their welfare.	256-257
8 Feb., to 20 July, 1831	Diary of his journey from Moulmein to Bangkok <i>via</i> the Three Pagodas. His detention at "Moung Thein" Note on the sapan wood forests in that district. Relation of his negotiations to effect the release of the Talaing prisoners. Diary of his journey to "Thampoin, Meinthein, Lagoon and Laboung" to collect the captives, and of his return to Moulmein in their company.	258-273
15 Aug., 1831	The Governor General approves of the removal of the Ex-Raja to Malacca. He regrets the lack of vigilance regarding the designs of his adherents, but deprecates giving any active assistance to the Siamese to recover Kedah. Instructions for the treatment of those concerned in the late invasion.	274-275
8 Sept., 1831	The Siamese have not succeeded in retaking Kedah. Arguments for and against affording them armed assistance.	276-277

TABLE OF

Name.	Nature of Document.	Location.
The "Chou Pia Prah Klang" to the Resident of Singapore.	Letter Translation	I. O., Bengal Secret and Political Consultations, vol. 362, no. 22.
A. D. Maingy, Commissioner in the Tenasserim Provinces, to the Chief Sec. to Govt., Fort William.	Letter	<i>Ibid.</i> vol. 363, no. 9.
R. Ibbetson, Resident at Singapore, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort William.	Letter	<i>Ibid.</i>
R. Ibbetson, Resident at Singapore, to Commander H. Hamley, of the <i>Wolf</i> .	Letter (ext.) (enclosure)	<i>Ibid.</i> no. 82.
—	Log of the <i>Wolf</i> (exts.)	Public Record Office, Captains Logs No. 3591.
C T. Metcalfe, Vice-President, Fort William.	Minute (extract)	I. O., Bengal Secret and Political Consultations, vol. 362, no. 25.
R. Ibbetson, Governor of Penang, to Admiral Sir E. Owen.	Letter (extract)	<i>Ibid.</i> vol. 366, no 12.

Date.	Subject.	Page.
undated [? July 1831].	Acknowledging the Resident's letter of 3 May 1831 and recapitulating its contents which have been communicated to the King of Siam. The King is satisfied that the English had no connexion with the late invasion of Kedah. The 13th article of the Treaty has been violated by the attack on Kedah and the Raja of Ligor has been ordered to restore order. The Resident is requested to deliver up any of the insurgents who may take refuge within British territory.	278-282
10 Oct. 1831	The envoys of the Raja of Ligor have been informed of the Governor General's absence from Calcutta and are returning to <i>Ligor via</i> Mergui.	283
10 Oct. 1831	Announcing the recapture of the fort of Kedah by the Siameze and his intention to induce the Raja of Ligor to settle the boundary of Wellesley Province.	284
10 Oct. 1831	Thanking him for his co-operation in blockading Kedah river and hastening the fall of the fort.	285
11 July to 22 Oct. 1831	Diary of events connected with the Blockading of Kedah river.	286-287
10 Oct. 1831	No force to be detached from Penang to assist the Raja of Ligor to recover Kedah.	288
17 Nov. 1831	Acknowledging his offer of assistance in protecting the trade of Penang and explaining why support was given to the Raja of Ligor.	289-290

TABLE OF

Name.	Nature of Document.	Location.
R. Ibbetson, Resident of Singapore, to Admiral Sir E. Owen.	Letter (enclosure no. 1)	I. O., Bengal Secret and Political Consultations, vol. 366, no. 12.
R. Ibbetson, Resident of Singapore.	Proclamation (ext.)	<i>Ibid.</i>
R. Ibbetson, Resident of Singapore, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort William.	Letter	<i>Ibid.</i> vol. 363, no. 7.
R. Ibbetson, Resident of Singapore, &c.	Engagement (enclosure)	<i>Ibid.</i> no. 8.
The Raja of Ligor to Lord Bentinck, Governor General of British India.	Letter Translation	<i>Ibid.</i> no. 9.

Date.	Subject.	Page.
12 July 1831	Acknowledging his assistance in the protection of trade and the suppression of piracy, and detailing the measures taken to preserve friendly relations with Siam subsequent to the capture of Kedah by the Malays.	291-292
24 June 1831	Ordering the British subjects who have participated in the attack on Kedah to return to their homes forthwith, and stating the penalties incurred by non-compliance with the order.	293
23 Nov. 1831	Reporting his successful interview with the Raja of Ligor and the settlement of a definite boundary to Province Wellesley. Remarks on the boundary line and on the additional territory gained by the English. Co-operation with the Raja of Ligor against pirates is urged as a politic measure. "Tuanku Soliman" is a prisoner in Siamese hands. The difference between the laws of Britain and Siam has been explained to the Raja. Two of his subjects have been enrolled in the Penang police.	294-297
2 Nov. 1831	Engagement between R. Ibbetson and the Raja of Ligor fixing the boundary of Province Wellesley.	298-299
2 Nov. 1831	He has received no acknowledgment of a present forwarded, <i>via</i> Mergui, as a mark of friendship. He is grateful for the assistance rendered him in the recapture of Kedah. He has settled the boundary between Penang and Siamese territory and has sealed the agreement. He begs	300-304

TABLE OF

Name.	Nature of Document.	Location.
Admiral Sir E. Owen to Lord Bentinck, Governor General in Council, &c.	Letter	I. O., Bengal Secret and Political Consultations, vol. 365, no. 40.
The Ex-Raja of Kedah to Rear-Admiral Sir E. Owen.	Letter Translation	<i>Ibid.</i> vol. 365.
The Ex-Raja of Kedah to the Governor-General.	Petition	<i>Ibid.</i> no. 2.
R. Ibbetson, Resident of Singapore, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort William.	Letter (extract)	<i>Ibid.</i> no. 11.
J. G. Ravenshaw and Court of Directors to the Governor-General in Council at Fort William.	Letter (extract)	I. O., Bengal Dispatches, vol. 119, pp. 1235-1251.

Date.	Subject.	Page.
	that assistance may be given to the Siamese in the event of another attack on Kedah. He resents the protection given by the British to conspirators who have fled to Penang and desires that they may be surrendered. He sends silver articles as a token of friendship.	
3 Jan. 1832	Enclosing letters from the Ex-Raja of Kedah.	305
[? 3 Jan. 1832]	He recapitulates his troubles from the time his country was seized by the Siamese until his enforced removal to Malacca and disavows any knowledge of the rising in Kedah. He protests against the sale of his house in Penang and forwards an appeal for redress to the Governor General.	306-308
3 Jan. 1832	Similar in substance to the above letter.	308
25 April 1832	Explaining why he applied to Admiral Sir E. Owen for assistance in blockading the River Purlis, and showing that he had no other means of preventing sympathisers with the Ex-Raja in Penang from joining the insurgents.	309-311
23 May 1832	Remarking on the policy pursued towards the Ex-Raja of Kedah and its effect on relations with the Siamese Government. The failure to induce the Ex-Raja to withdraw voluntarily from Penang is regretted. His stip-	312-314

TABLE OF

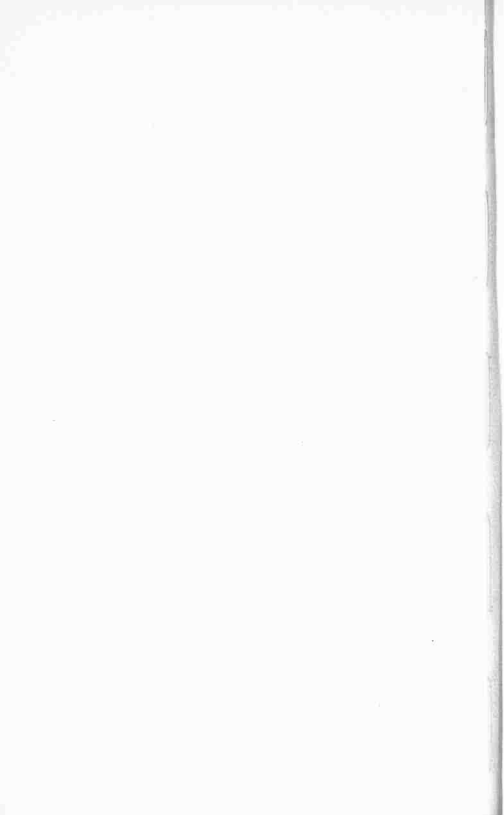
Name.	Nature of Document.	Location.
W. H. Macnaghten, Sec. to the Govr.-General, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort William.	Letter	I. O., Bengal Secret and Political Consultations, vol. 366, no. 1.
R. Ibbetson, Governor of Penang, to the Chief Secretary to Govt.	Letter	<i>Ibid.</i> vol. 369, no. 2.
S. G. Bonham, Resident Councillor, Singapore, to R. Ibbetson, Govr. of Penang.	Letter	<i>Ibid.</i> no. 3.
S. G. Bonham, Resdt. Councillor, Singapore, to the Commander of the Siamese fleet.	Letter (enclosure)	<i>Ibid.</i> vol. 369.
R. Ibbetson, Governor of Penang, &c., to the Resident Councillor, Singapore.	Letter	<i>Ibid.</i>
G. Swinton, Chief Sec. to Govt., to R. Ibbetson, Govr. of Penang, &c.	Letter	<i>Ibid.</i> no. 3.

Date.	Subject.	Page.
	end is to be withheld until he agrees to retire beyond Siamese dominions.	
6 June 1832	The Resident at Singapore is to be authorized to pay the Ex-Raja of Kedah his full stipend of 10,000 dollars a year from the date of his sailing to Malacca.	315
28 Aug. 1832	Enclosing correspondence regarding the appearance of Siamese warships at Tringannu.	316
9 Aug. 1832	Notifying the arrival of Siamese warships off Tringannu, the alarm caused by them and the supposed reasons for their visit. The commander of the fleet has been reminded of the obligation of the Treaty with Siam. Note on the late depredations by pirates and on measures suggested for coping with them.	317-318
9 Aug. 1832	He is reminded of the 12th article of the Treaty with Siam binding the Siamese not to molest Tringannu or Kelantan.	319
28 Aug. 1832	No further remonstrance is to be made to the Commander of the Siamese fleet, pending instructions from the Supreme Government. No action can be taken unless English commerce suffers interference.	320-321
19 Nov. 1832	Notifying the approval of the Supreme Government as regards his warning to the Siamese fleet off Tringannu. No further interference is justifiable.	322

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Name.	Nature of Document.	Location.
J. G. Ravenshaw and Court of Directors to the Governor-General in Council, Fort William.	Letter (extract)	I. O., Bengal Dispatches, vol. 120, pp. 1199-1250.
C. Marjoribanks and Court of Directors, to the Governor-General in Council, Fort William.	Letter (extract)	<i>Ibid.</i> vol. 123, pp. 249-255.

Date.	Subject.	Page.
21 Nov. 1832	Commenting on the proceedings relative to the Ex-Raja before and after the capture of Kedah by the Malays. The participation of British subjects in the rising is regretted and also the circumstances which compelled the British to assist the Siamese in the recapture of Kedah.	323-325
26 June 1833	Approving the removal of the Ex-Raja of Kedah to Malacca and the settlement of the boundary of Province Wellesley.	326



Fort Cornwallis 9th March 1827.

No. 12.

Envoy to Siam

To G. Swinton Esq.

Secretary to Government.

Sir,

In the 90th and 170th paragraphs of the Journal of my late Mission to Siam I reported that I should on a future day submit some account of the journies performed overland through the Siamese dominions by Messrs. Harris and Leal, and as I have now had an opportunity of arranging the papers which were furnished to me, I do myself the honor to tender a copy of the whole for the inspection of His Excellency the Vice President in Council.

I have &c.

(Signed) H. Burney Captain.

Envoy to Siam.

Calcutta 1st March 1827

Fort Cornwallis 9th March 1827.

Bengal Secret
and Political
Consultations,
vol. 344.

No. 12.

Introduction.

During the late Mission to Siam Captain Burney left at Ligor with the Siamese Governor or Rajah of that place, Mr. Harris a sub Assistant Surgeon on the Penang Establishment, and Mr. Leal, an interpreter, respecting whom more will appear in a succeeding paper. The Rajah had pressed Captain Burney to convey to Bangkok on board the Mission vessel one of His Highness's sons and a Commissioner from Siam, with their followers, to make room for whom in the vessel, as well as to ensure in some measure the fulfilment of an engagement which the Rajah had made to join Captain Burney at Bangkok, His Highness was requested to let Messrs. Harris and Leal accompany him to the capital overland. Mr. Harris kept some notes of his journey from Ligor, and the following account has been drawn up from these notes, with some assistance from Captain Burney. It is right to add, that Mr. Harris took great pains to acquire a knowledge of the Siamese language, and to seize every opportunity of affording medical aid to the Siamese, for the purpose of rendering such knowledge and aid subservient to the success of the Mission. His desire of conciliating some of the Siamese Chiefs induced him even to take before them, several nauseous doses, which he found the Phra Khlung and the Rajah of Ligor afraid to let him administer to their children, until they had first seen him fearlessly take such medicines.

The Mission had received from Mr. Crawford at Singapore the following account of Ligor, the general accuracy of which was afterwards proved. "The river of Ta Yung (Tha-wang) leads part of the way to the present town of Ligor, called in the Siamese language Lakon (Lak'hon). After going two

hours up the river the traveller proceeding to Ligor quits his boat, and an hour's walk (half an hour's) conveys him to the town by a good road with an avenue of trees. Ligor is a walled town with ramparts of brick and mortar with four gate ways and a wet ditch (which during the rains communicates with the Thouang River). It is in form an oblong square. There are not above 14 or 15 old cannon mounted (the Mission did not see one). The place contains about 5,000 inhabitants and appears at one time to have been much more populous; but it was twice captured by the Burmans, and may of the inhabitants carried off (Alompra in 1760 and again so lately as 1785 by one of Minderagee's generals). The present chief is a great favorite of the King of Siam, who has much increased his authority, which not only extends over all the tributary Malay States on both sides of the Peninsula, but within the last year over Singora. He has in his hands the power of life and death. The number of males borne in the conscription rolls within the proper jurisdiction of Ligor, exclusive of the Malay tributaries, is said to be 12000."

In addition to the above the Mission collected at Ligor the following particulars. The chief retains in his own hands every particle of power and personally conducts the most trifling details. He has a *Than Belat* or Deputy, but no *Yokobut* or other officer as in most of the Siamese Provinces. The office of Belat is said to be a sinecure, excepting when the chief leaves the country; at which time that Minister and two or three others are formed into a Commission of Government. There are three or four Commissioners sent to His Highness from Bangkok as a kind of Assessors but he seems to treat them with very little consideration. His Highness's wife, a first cousin of the present King of Siam, is said to possess much influence over the Chief, and to be principally consulted by him. Their eldest daughter

is one of the present King of Siam's wives, and she lately presented His Majesty with a son and heir—His Highness's eldest son by a concubine named *Phra Phakdi Borirak* is Governor of Quesah by appointment from the Court of Siam.

The town of Ligor stands on a very extensive plain, which appears to reach to the great central range of mountains, and is covered with paddy cultivation. There is a little pepper cultivated in the interior and some iron collected at a place called Lamphoon. But the tin mines are much neglected and said to be exhausted. The Mission was shown near the landing place on the banks of the Tha-wang, some old brick foundations, alleged to be the site of the Dutch Factory which existed here from the beginning of the 17th Century to the middle of the last. Ligor now conducts no direct trade with China, Cochin China or other foreign port. What little trade it possesses is with Siam and is entirely engrossed by the Chief. There is not a single brick dwelling house in the town but a great many temples and pyramids of that material, and most of them in ruins. One pyramid, or *Phra Chaidi*, with a high gilt spire is visible from the sea and larger than any which the Mission afterwards saw at Bangkok. The Mission could learn no intelligence of the ancient inscriptions on stone said by Leyden in his dissertation on the languages and literature of the Indo-Chinese nations (*Asiatic Researches* vol. X) to exist in the vicinity of Ligor among the ruins of a very ancient temple belonging to the former *Thay jai* race. The Chief's house is of plank with a tiled roof. It is situated within the fort which consists of an old high wall in a most dilapidated condition, and without a gun mounted in any part within or upon it. Indeed the Mission saw scarcely a musket at Ligor, and understood that the Chief had sent the whole of his military means to Queda. The number of women also

far exceeded the proportion of men. Most of the latter were said to be in the interior attending to cultivation, but the Mission had reason to believe that His Highness had left many of them with his boats on the opposite coast.

The Mission Brig had no difficulty in making Ligor port excepting what proceeded from light westerly winds and a strong easterly current, and it met with no difficulty in departing again, although from the high swell and surf, which are raised whenever the northerly winds blow strong, and the shoal at the head of Tantalum Island, it is evident that Ligor roads are not safe for a ship during the height of the north east monsoon. The brig was lying at anchor in three fathoms, about two and half miles from the mouth of the Tha-wang river which is to the north ward of that of Ligor. The two rivers join a few miles inland, and the latter is now little used.

Captain Alexander Hamilton, in his *New Account of the East Indies* in * 1744, gives the following account of Ligor.

* *I.e.* the 1744 ed. of the book published in 1727.

"Ligor lies about 12 leagues to the northward of Saugore, and between them lies a low uninhabited island, called Papier. It reaches from Saugore within three leagues of Ligor River. It is well stored with wild buffaloes, hog and deer, which are free for all persons to kill at pleasure. The road of Ligor lies two leagues from the river and about a league within the river's mouth stands the Dutch Factory, a pretty commodious house, built of brick after the Dutch fashion. The town stands about two miles above the factory. It is built of bamboos and thatched with reed. There are many Pagan temples in it, which have steeples built very high, in form of very sharp pyramids. They are so small, that in the road they look like ships' masts. It produces abundance of tin but the Dutch engross it all."

Hamilton's Island of Papier is now named in Horsburgh's Charts *Tantalum*, which word Mr. Crawford supposes to be a corruption of the Malay Tana, or land of Thaloong, a Siamese Province lying between Singora and Ligor, called also Merdelong and Bandelon, corruptions of *Menang* country, and Ban village of Thaloong. The Siamese do not recognize Tantalum as an island. The north end or our Ligor Point they call *Lem* or *Point Chhoomph-k*, and the channel which divides the island from the main they call *Khlong* or river *Phonang*. Hamilton's *Papier* may be derived from the name often given to the mouth of the Ligor river, *Pak nam Phya* or *Pak-Phiya*. The old Portuguese travellers call Ligor, Lugar and Lungar. The Siamese ministers write *Pha thaloong* whence *Petelong* the early Portuguese name for Thaloong. The Chinese again corrupt it into *Khontelon*.

La Loubère in his Historical Relation of Siam mentions the following anecdote of a French engineer, M. de la Mare, whom M. Chaumont had left at Siam. "When by the King of Siam's order he went to Ligor to take a draught thereof, the Governor would not permit him to go round it under two days, though he could have done it in less than an hour."

* up to the present this Sketch has not been discovered)

The accompanying Geographical Sketch* has been compiled from a slight sketch prepared by Mr. Leal from several native maps and descriptions collected from Pegu and Siamese travellers at Bangkok, from the accounts of four sepoys of the 25th Bengal Native Infantry, who conveyed public dispatches from the Envoy at Bangkok to Martaban and Tavoy and returned with answers, and from a manuscript map of the west coast of the Gulf of Siam received from Mr. Crawford. Horsburgh notices his want of authentic documents regarding the Gulf of Siam and Tenasserim Coast, which have never been surveyed. His chart,

however, has been for the most part followed in delineating the coasts of this sketch.

The Green line marks Mr. Harris's route and the blue Mr. Leal's.

(Signed) H. Burney Captain.

ACCOUNT of an Overland Route from the town of Ligor to Pothiu, a village on the Isthmus of Kraw, by Arthur Harris Acting Assistant Surgeon attached to Captain Burney's Mission to Siam.

Sunday 18th December 1825.

Everything ready for our departure, and the Raja of Ligor having allowed Mr. Leal and myself 8 elephants to carry ourselves, servants and baggage, about noon the Raja, preceded by a Siamese band of musicians, went to the wat or Siamese temple where his daughter lay embalmed. Her remains had been in that state since the month of April or May, and the Siamese priest daily prayed over them. We are told that the Raja had not time to burn the body in a suitable manner, but that he intended doing so upon his return from Siam. About 10 o'clock the Raja came to our house upon an elephant which had very rich trappings, and desired us to mount and follow him, which we did. We passed through the town of Ligor and over extensive plains until half past two, when we crossed the *Tha w'ng* river and arrived at a place called *Nam Jen*,^a where we halted for the day. *Nam Jen* is a small village and contains a Siamese temple, called *Wat Chomlan*.^b We found here an attap house erected for the Raja's accommodation, and a smaller one for ourselves. Before our departure from Ligor some men had been sent by the Rajah to erect similar houses at most of the places where we halted. Our whole party now consisted of about 3 or 400 persons with 80 elephants; nearly 100 Siamese soldiers dressed in scarlet and armed with muskets walked before the Raja's elephants, and before them again a party of Malays was employed in clearing the road and sometimes in making a new path. Besides the Rajah and ourselves the subordinate Siamese officers only were mounted. There were no women and the elephants were chiefly employed in carrying the Raja's baggage, which consisted, we

^a *Nam* is water and *Jen* cold in the Siamese language.

^b *Wat* or *Vat* is a temple or monastery.

were told, of all the treasure and curiosities that he had been able to collect at Queda or to procure from Penang for the King and Wangna of Siam. The Rajah left his women and sick son at Ligor to follow him to Bangkok by water upon the change of monsoon in March. Mr. Leal made the latitude of Ligor by observation $8^{\circ} 17' 16''$ N.

MONDAY 19th December. We continued at Nam Jen all this day in consequence of the Rajah being slightly indisposed. He applied to me for some medicine, but before he would take it, he desired one of his followers, a stout healthy man, to take a dose and report its effects. It was a purgative.

TUESDAY 20th December. We started from Nam Jen about 9 o'clock in the morning and at 10 crossed a small stream *Nam Khao*^a from which the road was very bad and miry, the elephants sinking in mud at every step, until half past two p. m., when we arrived at a place called *Ban Hooa Thaphan*.^d Our halting houses were near a Siamese temple called *Wat Khongloon* and close to the sea side, as we heard very plainly the beating of the waves. But it rained very hard and we were unable to go and see any thing. Our road this day passed through thick jungle and sometimes through paddy fields.

WEDNESDAY 21st December. We left *Ban Hooa Thaphan* about 10 a. m. and after passing over very bad roads covered with water, we arrived with a few of the party only, at 8 o'clock at night, at *Ban Clai*^e a village on the right bank of the river *Clai*, inhabited chiefly by Chinese, who are employed in cultivating pepper. Our halting houses were as usual near a Siamese temple. The Rajah did not come up this day.

THURSDAY 22d December. Mr. Leal and I took a boat and went down to the mouth of the Clai River in about an hour; the banks of the river are

^b Mountain stream, Khao is a hill.

^d Hooa is a head or point in Siamese, Thaphan a bridge. Nam is a village & Khlong a river. Most of the names in Mr. Harris's route have some signification which is pointed out whenever it can be ascertained.

^e This is Horeburgh's *Clay*, but the map in Lobbere's *Historical Relation of Siam* as well as that in Valentyn's works spells it as here. *Clai* is near in Siamese, *Clai* is far.

very high and covered thick jungle. At the village the river is about 100 yards wide, but the mouth is narrower, being blocked up by the sands gathering on the bar and on each side, and here the surf was as high and violent as that at Madras. The bed of the river is sandy and the water very clear. The Rajah arrived late this night and in passing our halting house enquired how we had got on through the bad roads and weather. Mr. Leal took an observation at the mouth of the River Clai and made the Latitude $8^{\circ} 42' 0''$.

FRIDAY 23d December. We were detained all this day at *Ban Clai* in consequence of the whole of the Rajah's baggage not having come up. In the evening he asked us to accompany him to see the village of *Ban Clai*. It contained about 100⁺ persons, chiefly Chinese and the head man was a Chinese. One of the Rajah's followers was attacked this night with cholera, and at the Rajah's request I administered medicine which overcame the disease.

SATURDAY 24th December. We started from *Ban Clai* at $\frac{1}{2}$ past 7 in the morning, at 10 crossed a small stream named *Khlong Punsoo*, at half past 10 another *Khlon*, *Klien*^f, at half past 12 another *Khlong Nam Hoo*^g, near which we passed through paddy fields; at half past 1 we crossed another clear and sandy stream, *Khlong Tha Fhoon*, at 3 another *Klong Thanah*^h, near the foot of a high hill, at 6 p. m. we arrived at a place call *Ban Kuang*ⁱ where we halted for the night. Our road this day lay chiefly through thick jungle and we saw several immense pieces of timber, apparently cut to be removed. Our halting places situated at the foot of a hill on a plain, through which a fine clear stream, *Khlong Kuang*, flowed. The Raja hearing from me that the next was Christmas day directed his people to supply us with such extra articles as could be procured to enable us to celebrate our festival. The Rajah had given us on

f *Klien* is a mine.
g Rippling stream.

h *Tha* is a place and *Nah* outside.
i *Kuang* is a shell. This may be Horsburgh's & Valentyn's *Along* as it appears to be in about the same situation. Above *Kuang* & close to the sea shore is *Lamphoon*, a place possessing iron mines.

the day we left Ligor a supply of claret and cherry brandy which had been sent to him from Penang.

SUNDAY 25th December. We crossed the *Khlong Kuang* at half past 7 a. m., at 11 *Khlong Chhooon*¹, the banks of which were very steep, at half past two we came in sight of an extensive range of mountains on the left side of the road, and at 6 p. m. we arrived at our halting place, near a small village called *Hooa Nah*^k. Our road this day lay chiefly through thick jungle. In the evening the Rajah sent for us while he examined some of the villagers respecting the next day's route.

¹ *Chhooon* is adverse opposed.

^k End of paddy field. *Nah* is a paddy field.

MONDAY 26th December. We left *Hooa Nah* at 8 a. m. and after crossing 3 or 4 small streams and in one place some hilly ground called by the Siamese the *Nine Hills*¹, we arrived at 6 p. m. at our halting place near a small village named *Kanom*^m. Our road this day was through thick jungle, and the Rajah's followers were prepared to meet tigers. It rained all this day very heavily and incessantly.

¹ *Kaw Thoo Khao*.

^m This must be Horsburgh & Valentyn's *Carnom* altho' they place *Carnum* River more to the southward & *Carnom* point a little lower than the 9th degree of Latitude.

TUESDAY 27th December. Heavy rains detained us all this day and we were unable to stir out of the house for a moment.

WEDNESDAY 28th Decr. We left *Kanom* at $\frac{1}{2}$ past 6 a. m., at 12 crossed a stream *Khlong Chekram* and halted on the other side, near a small village of Siamese, *Ban Chekram*, around which there was a good deal of paddy cultivation. The bamboo we saw growing here was of enormous size, and the Siamese use it for keeping water and for other domestic purposes. There was a bamboo bridge constructed over the *Chekram* stream but the elephants passed through the water. The Raja discovering this day that I had a pocket compass made a pretence of borrowing it from me and he did not return it again until I saw him at Bangkok.

THURSDAY 29th December. We left *Ban Chekrom* at half past 7 a. m., at 8 crossed *Khlong Thothonⁿ*, a small stream, at 12 we passed near some hills, the road leading between two of them at some distance from each other, and about 3 p. m., arrived at our halting place near a village *Ban Kode^o* on the side of a very rapid stream, *Khlong Koolut*, which we crossed. Our road this day passed over extensive uncultivated plains, but there was as usual some paddy cultivation around the village where we halted. Mr. Leal and some of the party were here attacked with fever.

ⁿ place of gold

^o Place of fatigue or fatigue spot.

FRIDAY 30th December. We halted this day in consequence of some of the elephants being knocked up.

^p Pring is a fruit the Malay Munnium or Rumunya, whence the name Romania is said to be taken.

^q Khlung is cleared.

SATURDAY 31st December. We left *Ban Kode* at $\frac{1}{2}$ past 6 a. m., at 10 crossed *Khlong Diulea*, at half past 10 *Khlong Sai*, at $\frac{1}{2}$ past 11 *Khlong Ban pring^p* and about 3 p. m. we arrived at our halting place near a small village *Ban Klung^q*. The road this day passed through jungle, but level ground.

^r Hooss is deep and reng a vulture.

^s Kham is to cross or across ferry.

^t The steel or fine iron of this place is said to be the best in the Siamese Dominions. The swords of the great officers of the Court of Siam are manufactured of the steel procured here.

SUNDAY 1st January 1826. We left *Ban Klung* at $\frac{1}{2}$ past 6 a. m., at 10 crossed *Khlong Hooss Young reng^r*. At 12 we saw a hill to our left, at 8 p. m. we arrived at our halting place on the right bank of a large river, *Khlong Thakham^s*, on the opposite side of which, towards the mouth of the river is a large town called *Ban Phoonphen^t*. Our road this day passed through jungle and over some extensive uncultivated plains. In the evening the Rajah took Mr. Leal and myself in a boat some way up the river.

^u The Thakam discharges itself into the sea by 3 channels. At the mouth of the northern is situated Tha-

MONDAY 2d January 1826. We were detained this day in passing the elephants across the *Thakham^u* which was broad and deep. The elephants were obliged to swim over it, and the baggage

thong, a town forming the northern boundary of the Rajah of Ligor's Govt. The southern channel is the Bandon, which name indeed is often given to the whole. The Rajah stopped at the place where the river is usually crossed & where it bears the name of Tha Kham. This is known to be a large stream which leads to Penom 3 days journey from Phoonga near Junk Ceylon. There are numerous islands off the mouth of the Bandon river named by Horsburgh and Valentyn Larchin Isles.

v Don, Inland-
inside.

Leal took an observation and made the Latitude $9^{\circ} 38' 0''$. The Rajah told me that this river Thakham is the northern boundary of his jurisdiction. This day some of the Rajah's followers were attacked with cholera, and I was requested to afford them medical aid, which I did with success.

THURSDAY 3d January 1826. We started at 10 a. m. crossing Khlong Thakham in a boat, down the left bank of which river the road passed for some time. At 4 p. m. we arrived at our halting place near a small village, Ban Kalok. The road this day lay through immense plains with patches of paddy cultivation. At this place there was no houses erected for the accommodation of Mr. Leal and myself and we were obliged to shelter ourselves by putting our two houdahs together, which we covered with some attap leaves stitched together which the Raja had brought with him. The Rajah apologised for our bad accommodation, stating that as far as his authority extended he had been able to have provision made for us.

WEDNESDAY 4th January 1826. We started at 7 a. m., crossed a small river, and passed through a small village, the names of which I did not learn. We then passed through very extensive paddy fields

to be carried in boats. Mr. Leal and I attempted in a boat to go down to the mouth of the river, but it was too late in the day. We saw a branch of the river running down to the southward which we were told led to the town of Bhandon. We visited the town of Phoonphin which contains about 1200 Siamese inhabitants under a Chinese officer, and the houses are on both sides of the river. We saw here several immense pieces of timber and some very long boats like those belonging to the Chiefs at Bangkok. Mr.

v close
arranged.

and halted at 2 p. m. at *Phumrieng*^v, a small village situated inland of the town of Chhaiya. Shortly after the Rajah requested us to dress ourselves in our best suits and prepare to be introduced to the Siamese Governor of Chhaiya, who would come to pay his respects to the Rajah. In the evening we went to the Rajah's house and saw Phya Chhaiya, who showed himself to be inferior to the Rajah, sitting at a respectful distance and joining his hands together whenever he spoke. Phya Chhaiya is an elderly man, and seemed to show no curiosity about us.

THURSDAY 5th January 1826. We paid a visit this day to the town of *Chhaiya* which contains about 2008 inhabitants, some Chinese. Most of the houses were planked. The river of Chhaiya is a large broad deep stream, in which we saw some junks lying. We did not cross it but passed, I suppose at the head of the river. We were told that this town exports a large quantity of paddy. We saw gambling shops in the town, and Chinese and Siamese busily engaged. The town of *Chhaiya* is defended by a stockade fortification and we were told that the inhabitants in the province amount to 18 or 19000 souls, and that there is a great deal of trade here.* Mr. Leal made the latitude of Chhaiya 9°. 57'. 0".

1 As Mr Harris did not cross what he conceives to be the Chhalya river the port of Chhalya is probably nothing more than an arm of the sea supposed by him to be a river. A large broad stream as he describes it would most probably have come from the central mountains or far from the interior. Horsburgh and Valentyn have a place named Patanur near Chhalya, whether a former town or some corruption we cannot learn. Much trade and intercourse pass through the Bandon river and thence, by means of elephants, between Chhalya and Phoonga a town situated in the Bay of Bengal on the continent to the north of

FRIDAY 6th January 1826. We started from *Phumrieng* at $\frac{1}{2}$ past 9, at $\frac{1}{2}$ past 2 passed near a large stone hill, and at $\frac{1}{2}$ past 4 arrived at our halting place near a small village, *Ban Tha Reua*^v, around which as usual, there was paddy cultivation.

SATURDAY 7th January 1826. At 8 a. m. we started, crossing a small stream, *Khleng Thareua*, and at 11 we arrived at the sea beach, along which and on the sands the road continued the

Junk Ceylon. The tin and other produce of which island, whenever required, are conveyed by this route to Bangkok.

^y Reua is a boat. A little to the southward of Tha Reua & close to the sea shore is a small town named Pansong.

^z The Malay name for Cabwaria Littorea.

whole of this day. We saw a prow under sail and the beach was beautiful, lined by Aran^x trees, without any surf and the sand quite hard. We passed the mouths of two streams, Kelong Kanthoree and Khlong Punke Doowut, where the water being deep, the elephants were carried out into the sea. At 4 p. m. we halted on the sea shore where we were obliged to make temporary accomodation with howdahs and attaps. A party of the Rajah's followers went into the jungles and soon returned with posts and other materials with which they built him up a house in a short time. During the night we experienced a very heavy squall.

SUNDAY 8th January 1826. At 7 a. m. we pursued our journey, which continued for an hour along the sea shore. We then turned inland and travelled through thick jungles until 5 p. m. when we passed through a village surrounded with paddy cultivation. at 6 we saw a high hill, and at 7 we arrived at our halting place on the right bank of a large river Khlong Lang^a Sewun, on the other side of which is a pretty large village named Lang Sewun.

^a Sewun is a garden.

^b We have been told that a colony of Malays under a Malay chief was within a few years back settled at a place called Rinnong or Rindong on the western shore of the Isthmus of Kraw, but that the Burmese attacked and laid it waste, when the inhabitants fled and settled at this place Lang Sewun. The name of Isthmus of Kraw appears to have been take from Kraw which is said to be a small inland town between Chhalya and Choom phon, although not set down in any chart or map that we have ever seen. At Lang Sewun Horsburgh has a place named Penomkin, whe-

MONDAY 9th January 1826. We halted this day, giving the elephants rest. I visited the village of Lang Sewun, which is surrounded with Durian and Beetlenut trees. There was a junk in the river which is a fine broad one. I saw Malay^b in the village which contains about 600 inhabitants and exports principally beetle nut.

TUESDAY 10th January 1826. The elephants were early taken higher up the river to cross and we at $\frac{1}{2}$ past 7 passed over in a boat. At $\frac{1}{2}$ past 1 p. m. we crossed a small clear stream with a

that a former town or some corruption of Lang Sewun or Chhoomphon we cannot learn. The Portuguese from whose charts Horsburgh probably took Penomxin use an x for the Siamese letter Chho.

sandy bottom, named *Khlong Thakho* and arrived at our halting place near a village on the other side, called *Thakho*. Our road this day passed over good even ground, with extensive paddy fields on each side.

WEDNESDAY 11th January 1826. We started at $\frac{1}{2}$ past 7 a. m. and at 2 p. m. halted on the right bank of a stream *Khlong Suwi*, near a large village named *Suwi*, which contained, we were told, about 2000 inhabitants, and the Governor of which is a Phra. We also learnt that some of the Burmese inhabitants carried away from Mergui were in this town. The road this day was a good clear one with paddy fields on each side.

THURSDAY 12th January 1826. At $\frac{1}{2}$ past 9
 c Suwf is surf. we crossed *Klong Suwi*^c and at 1 p. m. halted on the
 d Sai is land. right bank of a stream *Khlong Wisai*^d. The road
 this day was of the same description as that on the
 preceding day. The Rajah did not stop at *Wisai*
 but went on we were told, to the next stage to
Chhoomphon.

FRIDAY 13th January 1826. At $\frac{1}{2}$ past 8 a. m. we crossed *Khlong Wisai*, and after passing through some jungle, we came to very extensive paddy cultivation, which surrounds the town of *Chhoomphon*, near and below which we halted at 6 p. m. on the right bank of the *Chhoomphon* river, at a place that had been prepared for the Rajah and where we again joined him.

SATURDAY 14th January 1826. We halted this day. The River *Chhoomphon* is extremely winding, with a sandy bottom, and we saw some junks above us, off the town of *Chhoomphon* where they must have gone up with a high tide, as at the place where we were the river was fordable. The banks were high and we saw no rocks. We could gain no

satisfactory information respecting the point desired by Captain Burney, whether it would be practicable to open a communication between this river and one on the opposite coast and so make a navigable canal across the Isthmus of Kraw. Phya

d This person is the Phya Khlang of the Wangna or Grand Prince of Siam and he was specially sent down from Bangkok with a reinforcement of troops to defend Chhoomphon after the former Siamese Governor had made an irruption into the Anglo-Burmese territory and carried away the inhabitants of Tenasserim and many villages around it. The Governor of Chhoomphon was sent up to the capital where he died in confinement. At Chhoomphon the Siamese forces destined to attack the Burmese at Mergui always assembled & the Phya or Govr. was entrusted by the Court of Siam with the duty of watching the Burmese on the Coast of Tenasserim. Since the Burmese invasion of Siam under Alompra the Siamese Dominions on the Eastern shore of the Gulf between Ligor and the capital is remarkably thinly peopled and Ligor itself has but a scanty population. The Govr. of Chhoomphon it is said is not allowed to trade, and that place since the conquest by the Burmese of Mergui and Tavoy, appears to have been converted into a purely military post or garrison. This accounts for the absence of Chinese and for the entire cessation of that valuable trade which formerly passed Mergui and the Gulf of Siam.

e Horsbergh has a place called Bardia here, a corruption of Bandon San Chhaiya Pothu, or what we cannot discover.

Kray^d the Governor of Chhoomphon attended by some men with musquets waited on the Rajah who introduced us to him. He did not seem to show the same respect to the Rajah as the Governor of Chhaiya had done.

I asked the Rajah here to forward to Mr. Maingy at Mergui a letter which Captain Burney had entrusted to me, but he assured me that this could not be done, as very positive orders had been sent down to Phya Kray from Bangkok desiring him to prevent all communication between the Siamese and the inhabitants of the English territories. From this day the Rajah began to show a good deal of reserve and distrust towards us, and we understood that he had received unpleasant letters from Siam. In the evening I visited the town of Chhoomphon which, though stockaded in the manner as Chhaiya, did not appear to contain so many or such good houses. The only brick building is a temple. The inhabitants were said to amount to about 7 or 8000. We saw no Chinese here. We did not see any of the Burmese prisoners, but we heard that there were a good many at Chhoomphon. Mr. Leal made the Latitude of Chhoomphon • 10°. 55'. 0".

SUNDAY 12th January 1826. At ½ past 7 a. m. we crossed the Chhoomphon

river and pursued our route through paddy fields and some times jungle, until $\frac{1}{2}$ past 5, when we halted near a small village surrounded as usual with paddy cultivation and named *Bang soon*^f.

^f *Bang* is a rivulet—*soon* is the Siamese name for the Malay *aran* tree.

MONDAY 16th January 1826. We started at 7 a.m. passing over a good even road with jungle however on each side, until $\frac{1}{2}$ past 3, when we halted at the head of a small river called *Pathiu*, near the south of which is a small village of the same name containing about 200 Chinese and Siamese inhabitants employed in fishing and making *Balachan*^g, which is conveyed to Bangkok. The Siamese Chief of the village, *Phra Pathiu*,^h came to pay his respects to the Rajah towards whom the *Phra* showed more humble reverence than any other Siamese Chief we had seen. The *Phra* of *Pathiu*^h appeared a quiet mild character of about 52 years of age, and as he had never seen a white face before, he displayed great curiosity respecting the colour of our skin and our dress and customs. On another occasion when I paid him a visit he made me bare my arm and called his women out to see me and they appeared highly delighted.

^g A kind of caviare.

^h *Phra Pathiu* and see *infra*.

Late this night the Raja of *Ligor* sent for me, and with a great deal of kindness and address invited me to inform him truly, whether Captain Burney had appointed me and Mr. Leal to accompany him overland for the purpose of ascertaining the route, and examining the state of the country. The Rajah then made many excuses, complaining that all his elephants were knocked up, and that he would be under the necessity of requesting Mr. Leal and myself to proceed from *Pathiu* to Bangkok in a boat. He begged of me not to be uneasy, that he would appoint some of his best and confidential men to accompany us, that the *Phra* of *Pathiu* had procured a very good and safe boat, and would direct his own son to go with us. The Rajah pointed out to me to notice the very

great trouble and inconvenience to which his desire of fulfilling his engagement with Captain Burney had subjected him, in travelling over such a miserable country and during such bad weather.

TUESDAY 17th January 1826. Finding privately from some of the Rajah's followers that he had received positive orders from Bangkok, prohibiting his taking us with him overland, and seeing him extremely uneasy and anxious, we made up our minds to proceed by sea. To own the truth, I did not regret the conclusion of my land journey. Mr. Leal and I were on separate elephants by ourselves. The elephants had Siamese howdahs with covers and when tired of sitting we could double up our legs and lie down. Although the animals were very quiet and tame, yet their motion was extremely slow and rough, and in difficult roads most fatiguing and painful. The road was so bad that not a day passed without the Rajah being obliged to leave some of his elephants behind and get others in their room from the inhabitants of the villages.

We examined the boat which was 40 feet long but narrow and carried 14 oars. There was a kind of cabin put up for us, and the Rajah certainly took every pains to make us satisfied, directing the *Phra* of *Pathiu* to supply us with every thing that could be procured, and treat us with great respect and attention.

WEDNESDAY 18th January 1826. About 8 a.m. the Rajah of Ligore took leave of us very kindly and pursued his route by land. He left 25 of his followers with a Siamese officer, *Nai Sirootha*^h, and his *Dobash*, *Sultan Shaw*, a native of the coast of Coromandel, who had usually served as interpreter between us and who seemed to possess much of the

^h *Nai* is a head man or chief of a Dept. &c.

Rajah's confidence. The Raja left some of his sick followers also to proceed by sea, in another boat in company with us. We embarked in the boat at $\frac{1}{2}$ past 3 p.m. and dropped down to the village of *Pathiu*, where after having procured all our provisions &c. we were detained until the 27th by strong easterly winds. The village as was before said, contains about 200 inhabitants, occupied principally in fishing. The river is narrow and shallow and at the mouth of it is an extensive mud flat containing beds of oysters. At some distance to the southward, there is another flat, in which cockles of various descriptions are procured. To the north the coast is studded with rocks. There is no good water near *Pathiu* and the inhabitants are obliged to bring what they use from some distance inland. Mr. Leal made the Latitude of *Pathiu* $51^{\circ}. 10'. 0''$.

FRIDAY 27th January 1826. The bad weather abating we left *Pathiu* at 12 a.m. and after rowing for three hours we anchored close to the shore, being obliged to wait for the boat conveying some of the Rajah's sick followers. At 9 p.m. there being a fine breeze, Mr. Leal who took charge of navigating the boat insisted upon proceeding, and we then set sail.

SATURDAY 28th January 1826 We continued under sail all this day in sight of the coast, which appeared low. Mr. Leal accidentally discovered among *Nai Sirootha's* baggage a Siamese black book, containing copies of some letters which the Rajah of Ligor was sending to Bangkok with us. The letters excused the Rajah as much as possible for having proposed to bring us overland, stating that we had been forced upon him but that he had given us no opportunity of seeing the proper route between Ligor and Bangkok and suggesting that our papers should be seized and examined on our arrival at *Pak nam*.

^l Sam 3, roi hundred, and yot peaks. This is Kempfer's "Samajotn" and the "Mountains of Pensels" of Portuguese charts. All Junks bound to China or Cochin China from Bangkok, steer along the western coast as far as Sam roi yot, where they fill up their water and then strike across the Gulf of Siam, due east. It is said that the Portuguese call these mountains Pluthes or combs from their points being arranged serrated on the same line like the teeth of a comb.

^j Near Samroi yot is a Siamese village called Kool or Cal, which Mr. Crawford justly supposes must have converted into the Ciu of European navigators and of Horsburgh's chart, by some writer marking the l in the wrong place. Loubere writes it in his map Coull, but Capt. Hamilton calls it Cul and Kempfer Kul. The last mentioned author describes "the coast hereabouts as very steep and rocky and not unlike those of Sweden."

^k Me mother, nam water the name given to the largest river in Siam or any other country.

^l "Chinese place." On this river and particularly at a place called Nakhon chaisi reside the principal manufacturers of sugar who are all Chinese.

SUNDAY 29th January 1826. We came in sight of the mountains called Samroi yot^l "300 peaks," at the foot of which at a small village of the same name we anchored about 4 p.m. to take in water. We found here that the Rajah had passed by land but had kindly left a supply of provisions for our use. At 7 p.m. we again got under weigh and continued our course along the coast where it was so steep and rough that I thought if the boat met with any accident, I should never be able to get ashore ^j.

MONDAY 30th January 1826. On this day Mr. Leal, who had a compass and quadrant with him, finding that the passage along the coast would be unnecessarily long and tedious, obliged the boatmen to steer a more easterly course and direct for the mouth of the Menam^k. The boatmen objected much and towards evening a stiff breeze coming on, the boat, which had no keel, could not keep her course and was driven to leeward until 10 p. m. when she got aground on the mud flat between the mouths of the Thachin^l and Menam rivers, where we were detained all that night.

TUESDAY 31st January 1826. Fortunately the boat met with no injury and was easily got off at 6 this morning. Between 8 and 9 we entered the Menam and shortly after we anchored off the Fort of Paknam^m. Mr. Leal and I went ashore and visited the Governor or Phya of Paknam who showed a disposition to detain us until he received orders from Bangkok respecting us. But in consequence of the information which we had collected from the copies of

^m Pak mouth, & nam water or river. The title of Chao Phya is generally added to the mouth of the Menam by way of distinction, & this is Kempfer's Pagnam Tonfia.

the Rajah of Ligor's letters we made a pretext for returning to the boat and set sail for Bangkok where we arrived opposite Captain Burney's house about 10 o'clock at night.

INTRODUCTION.

Captain Burney engaged as one of his interpreters, Francis Joseph Leal, a native of the Azores, who had gone to Bangkok viâ Macao and had resided in Siam for nearly 6 years and who happened to be at Singapore as an officer on board a free trader. Mr. Leal's knowledge of the language, and character of the people of Siam, as well as his strict integrity, general intelligence, and fearlessness of character, rendered him of infinite use. He was always employed when any disagreeable communication was to be made to the Siamese Ministers, and when no other interpreter would venture to interpret the whole of what was said. Shortly after his arrival at Bangkok from Ligor, he was selected to take charge of a large party of Burmese prisoners which it became necessary to send back to Mergui overland. Although the Siamese Ministers had at length been persuaded to release these people, some apprehension was entertained that during their route to Mergui, the subordinate Siamese officers might attempt to detain some of them, and Mr. Leal was considered a very fit person to prevent such proceedings. He was requested to keep a diary in his native Portuguese language and how well he executed the service entrusted to him will appear from a perusal of his journal, of which the following translation was made through the kindness of Mr. Swinton. A few explanatory notes only have been added and the orthography of the names adapted to the English language.

Mr. Leal had an opportunity of visiting the whole line of the Siamese frontier from Martaban to *Pak-chan* below Mergui. The topographical knowledge which

he had thus acquired made him an object of great jealousy and dislike to the Siamese Ministers, who proposed a very insidious scheme for detaining him in the country and preventing his leaving it with the British Mission. The scheme however was discovered and Mr. Leal was brought away and transferred to Mr. Commissioner Maingy at Tavoy, where he is now employed.

During his journey from Ligor to *Pathiu* Mr. Leal had a quadrant with him by which he ascertained the latitude of several place between those towns, but unfortunately, at the time he made the journeys described in this journal, he had no means of taking correct observations.

He left Bangkok with 541 Burmese prisoners in 6 junks on the 13th February 1826, sailed from the bar on the 23rd, and arrived on the 1st of March at *Bangnarom*, in about latitude $11^{\circ}.50'.0''$. on the west coast of the Gulf of Siam, whence he commences the following journals.

(Signed) H. Burney Captain.

ROUTE from *Bangnarom* to *Mergui* by land.

TUESDAY 4th March 1826. I set out from *Bangnarom* for *Mergui* accompanied by 541 Burmese including men, women and children at 5 o'clock in the morning. I found the road bad to the extent of two miles and afterwards proceeded 7 miles with the advantage of a good road. I reached a field at 1 o'clock in the afternoon, where there was good water. There I halted until about 4 o'clock and resumed my march until 9 at night, when I arrived at a place where there was a pool. There I passed the night under some apprehension lest the Siamese might kidnap some of the people and as a precaution I placed 20 sentinels.

March 5th. I set out at $\frac{1}{2}$ past 4 o'clock in the morning, met with good road the whole day until $\frac{1}{2}$ past 6 o'clock in the evening, when I found very bad water and was obliged to pass the night there. In this place were two roads, one which I was obliged to pursue, and the other leading to *Banthaphan*. In the same place are two large trees, one to the right and the other to the left. The latter is marked with four crosses, denoting the day of the month and the year, and stands on the road to *Bangthaphan*. The former is marked with two crosses and stands on the road leading to Mergui.

March 6th. I set out at 5 o'clock in the morning and marched until 9 at night. Notwithstanding all my exertions I could get no water during the day, the heat was insupportable and our thirst equally so. I was obliged, as well as those who accompanied me to pass the night without food, but the road good.

March 7th. I set out at 4 o'clock in the morning; at 9 we met with two roads, one leading to the east and the other S. S. E. As I did not know which of them to select I was obliged to remain there the whole day and send forward 20 persons each way to ascertain the route to Mergui. Those who advanced by the S. S. E. returned at four in the afternoon with the information that the road did not continue beyond a certain point. Those who pursued the Eastern Route arrived at 9 in the night with the intelligence that the road continued in a right line. There I passed the night without the occurrence of any thing particular. In this place there is excellent water, a small field, and a large stone to the left with one of its points fractured, which constitutes the mark of the road to Mergui.

March 8th. I set out at half past three o'clock in the morning and arrived at the foot of a mountain

a Khao is the Siamese word for mountain, Kasoon is a ball or pellet.

called *Khao Kasoon*^a at 11 in the forenoon. There I found a small stream on the banks of which I desired the people to dress their rice and refresh themselves until 4 o'clock in the afternoon when I resumed my journey. At 5 I crossed the mountain *Khoo Kassoon* with extreme difficulty in the ascent and descent. At $\frac{1}{2}$ past 10 o'clock at night I arrived in a field where there was a tamarind tree on the right side of the road. There I passed the night without any further occurrence.

b These trees are said to mark in this direction the boundary of the Siamese & Burmese territories & the place is said to be called Sing Khon thee phe.

March 9th. I set out at 4 o'clock in the morning and at 9 arrived in a field where I found three tamarind^b trees, and a beautiful stream. There I desired the people to dress their rice, and as soon as they had done I resumed my journey until 4 o'clock in the afternoon, when I reached a pagoda, where the people entreated me to halt during the night to enable them to adore their divinity. In that spot are 5 mango trees.

March 10th. I set out at 5 in the morning and met with good road the whole day until 7 at night, when I reached the vicinity of the Tenasserim River. There I passed the night.

March 11th. At 1 o'clock in the night I called the people and desired them to fell bamboos for the purpose of making floats to go down to Mergui and as the river was very narrow it became necessary to make floats of 10 bamboos. There were in all 75. On this day great inconvenience was experienced from the many trees which I encountered in the said river. At 4 in the afternoon 2 lads died of fever. At 6 I halted and passed the night there^c.

c The Burmese inhabitants of Mergui go up the Tenasserim River as far nearly as the Latitude of Tavoy to cut Sapan wood, which they bring down the stream in long narrow floats of bamboos. Mr. Leal supposed that the stream on which he had here embarked was the main branch of the Tenasserim &

March 12th. I continued my journey down the river, but with difficulty, meeting with some wide plains whose names I could not ascertain.

that the road from Bangnarom led so much to the northward as is described in the accompanying Geographical Sketch. But some of the more intelligent Burmese prisoners declared at Bangkok that the stream on which they would have to embark was a small branch of the Tenasserim, issuing from the central mountains & falling into that river near the old city of Tenasserim.

d This party most probably came from Tenasserim at which a small force had been posted after the Siamese Govr. of Chhoomphon had the year before plundered it.

e Of the Madras 13th Regt. & Asst. to Mr. Maingy. Mr. Leal, allowing for the detention of 3 days at Bangnarom & of the great portion of the 4th & 8th days route, whilst engaged in ascertaining the direction of the road & constructing bamboo floats, was about 16 days from the bar of the Menam to Mergui, but his progress was necessarily slow owing to the number of women and children among the Burmese prisoners and we were informed that the Kaseon hill might have been crossed at a more easy pass. There are 2 instances on record of the journey between the old capital of Siam and Mergui, at the time the French were driven out of it having been made in 10 days & on one of these occasions the party consisted of prisoners in chains escorted by

March 13th. I set out at 5 in the morning and at 2 in the afternoon saw a Burmese fishing boat and availed myself of it to transmit a letter to Mergui, apprising the Governor of my approach from Siam and that I required transports for the conveyance of the Burmese prisoners who were with me.

March 15th. At 3 in the morning 20 boats approached my float from Mergui, bringing 50 sepoy, 1 subadar and an officer^d. I enquired of him whence he came, and whither he was going. He replied that he came to survey the river, and to ascertain who the persons were on those floats. After some complimentary expressions he withdrew, and I continued my voyage towards Mergui.

March 15th. I arrived at Mergui at 8 in the morning and waited on Captain Briggs^e the Governor. We were engaged in conversation for 2 hours after which I took leave of him and at 8 in the night embarked for Tavoy. I commenced my route from Bangnarom accompanied by 541 Burmese and arrived with 537.

ROUTE from Mergui to Tavoy and back by sea.

March 16th 1826. At 8 o'clock in the night I embarked for Tavoy and used our oars the whole night. At 8 in the morning we had a little easterly wind until 11. when it shifted and we could not sail. We rowed the whole of the afternoon. At 6 my people were quite

a detachment of Siamese soldiers (See p. 383 & 384 Modern Universal History, vol. 7, ed. 1759.) Mr. Crawford was informed that the late King of Siam had constructed a military road from Muang Mai, a little above Bangnarom towards Mergui for the purpose of invading the Burmese territories, and that this road would admit elephants & even wheeled carriages. But in former times there appears to have been a carriage road between the Gulf of Siam and Tenasserim, as in a letter from the Bishop of Tabraca from Siam in 1761, published in vol. 5 of the *Nouvelles Lettres Edifiantes*, page 377, we find the following passage: "J'y ai envoye M. Martin (a Merguy.) Il alla jusqu'a Piply lou l'on a coutume de quitter des bateaux et y attendit inutilement les charettes pendant trois semaines." Piply is the Siamese Phrighri, a large town on the west coast of the Gulf of Siam, in about Lat. 13°. 20' and once the capital of the Siamese Empire. It is to be hoped that our officers at Mergui will shortly be able to reopen and reestablish these old and almost forgotten roads into the rich kingdom of Siam and thus revive the ancient and valuable commerce which was conducted with Siam through this channel first by the Portuguese and afterwards by the French.

fatigued and we were obliged to rest until 10 when we resumed our voyage.

March 17th. At 4 in the afternoon I passed the mouth of the River *Pulloh* and there found the water favorable during half an hour. At half past 5 in the afternoon a violent storm arose from the N. E. accompanied with heavy rain. This continued till $\frac{1}{2}$ past 8 at night, when the weather cleared up, but at midnight it again became cloudy.

March 18th. I continued advancing until 1 at night, when I passed the river of *Pambu*. At the mouth of it is a small bay, about 20 or 25 houses, and and from 30 to 40 persons, who come and reside there for the purpose of selling fish at Tavoy and Mergui. There I remained nearly two hours until my people refreshed themselves, and then resumed my voyage. The wind blew the whole night from the S. W. without any land breeze. Towards the morning there was a calm until 12, when it again blew fresh from the same point S. W. At 4 I saw the mouth of the river of Tavoy, and at 7 entered the bar where a two masted vessel lay at anchor, with sails resembling a schooner and a long boat. As I was in want of water I went on

board of the above mentioned vessel to get some. I saw 2 Chulias who told me that they had no water and that 2 gentlemen were in a small cabin. I enquired their names, but could get no information on that head. I withdrew, and as it was low water I was obliged to wait for the flood tide, when I resumed my voyage.

f of the Penang Service and at present the very able Civil Commissioner of the Ceded Territory.

March 19th. At 8 in the morning I reached Tavoy and immediately waited on Mr. Maingy^f the Governor, who received the letters of which I was the bearer from Siam, and we then proceeded to breakfast. Mr. Maingy informed me that he had received letters from Captain Burney in which he suggested the expediency of sending me to *Chhoomphon* for the purpose of receiving the remainder of the prisoners who were still there. I agreed and after breakfast Mr. Maingy went to prepare the letters which he intended to send to the Governor of *Chhoomphon* of which there were three, one written in English, one in Malay, and the other in the Siamese language, together with a pair of double barrel pistols. I took leave of him at 10 in the night, when I set out from Tavoy for Mergui, and from thence to *Chhoomphon*. It was fine weather during the day and at midnight it rained a little. At Tavoy I was informed by Mr. Maingy that some of the people were very ill disposed and that they had twice attempted to set fire to the city, in which they could not succeed owing to the apprehension of the ringleaders^g.

g Some of the Chiefs of the former Burmese Govt. were secretly working upon the hopes & fears of the inhabitants of Tavoy, who however since those Chiefs were removed to Rangoon have shown themselves to be a very quiet and peaceable race & delighted with the change of ruler.

March 20th. My people had no sleep during the night. I reached the bar in the morning. At 9 o'clock the sea breeze began to spring up, the tide was against us. At 2 in the afternoon I espied a vessel to the westward of the Island of Tavoy. At 5 o'clock we could see her distinctly. She proved to be a brig bound to Tavoy. There was a calm all night until 12, when a land breeze sprung up. Prior to this, at $\frac{1}{2}$ past 11 o'clock I passed close by a little boat in an inverted position, but saw no body, or any thing which could lead me to believe that any serious loss had taken place, and as it was night I could not examine minutely. In the morning there was an appearance of a severe storm from the N. W. At 8 all was dispelled and at 10 the wind increased from the South. At 3 o'clock I reached Mergui and proceeded

to deliver the letters which I brought from Tavoy to the Governor of Mergui, who immediately desired me to examine and collect all the Burmese boats which were capable of proceeding to *Pak Chan*. This order I instantly executed.

March 21st. At an early hour in the morning I began to make arrangements for proceeding to *Chhoomphon* and found not more than 12 boats adapted for the purpose, which I endeavoured to get ready with 112 Burmese. Prior to this, at 11 in the morning I went to prepare 4 boats for the Siamese prisoners who were at Mergui, and to see that they were supplied with the following articles of provisions for the voyage, viz. rice, fish, beetle-nut and chunam, *balachan*, &c.; all their muskets, blunderbusses, spears and all other articles belonging to the said Siamese prisoners were delivered to them. At 8 in the night every thing was ready, but I was detained until the next morning in consequence of a heavy fall of rain.

March 22d. I could not set out in consequence of the continuance of the rain, strong winds and a heavy sea. Thus it continued until 11 at night. Towards the morning of the 23d the weather improved.

ROUTE from Mergui to *Chhoomphon* along the coast by sea as far as the mouth of the *Pak Chan* River, then up that river to the Siamese post of *Pak Chan* about the centre of the Isthmus of Kraw and thence by land to *Chhoomphon* on the west Coast of the Gulf of Siam, and back to Mergui in the same way.

March 23rd. At 8 o'clock in the morning twelve Burmese boats were ready with 112 men, and four Siamese boats with 109^b Siamese Prisoners, who were returning to their native country. At 11 o'clock we set sail for *Pak Chan*. The Burmese boats

^b These were the 4 boats and men of the Govr. of *Chhoomphon's* fleet captured by Lieut. Dreyer of the Madras 19th Regt. whom Major Frith of H. M. 38th had

sent out with a detachmt. of sepoys to put a stop to the Siamese depredations in the vicinity of Mergal in the month of March 1826.

i. Fresh Water Island.

were very small and moved slowly. Those of the Siamese were large and very swift. At 4 in the afternoon I lost sight of them, and conclude that they took the way of *Ko Nam*.¹ It rained heavily the whole night.

March 24th. During the day we used sails and oars. At 4 in the afternoon I passed *Ko Nam Cheut*. At midnight I reached a place where the Burmese had formerly a Factory. There I reposed during the night and found a large bank of oysters and fresh water.

25th March 1826. At 4 in the morning I resumed my voyage. During the day the wind was variable with a strong current to the south. At 6 in the afternoon I reached the mouth of the river² and was obliged to pass the night waiting for the flood tide.

j The exact situation and name of this river are as yet unknown. It is however sometimes called Pak Chan and may be that termed the Chillinga in some Charts. In a Burmese map a place called Channa is put down at the mouth of this river and a little to the northward of the island, we have heard, some ruins of a large town named Chuddine are still visible. But this Coast was never surveyed and the whole of it between Mergui and Pak Chan is said to be intersected by innumerable channels and creeks. The large river noticed by Captn. Forrest as nearly opposite the north end of St. Mathew's island would appear to be lower down the coast (See his chart of the Mergui Archipelago.) Many native travellers declare that nothing would be easier than to make a navigable canal thro' the isthmus of Kraw by joining the Pak Chan and Chhoomphon rivers. Mr. Leal who was requested to examine this matter confirms all the statements previously received and declares that

March 26th. At 1 o'clock at night it began to be high water whilst I advanced up the river sounding from 5 to 10 fathoms. The river is immensely wide. I was obliged to await the return of the flood tide until 10 at night. 4 of the boats which accompanied me were left behind.

March 27th. At 2 in the night I resumed my journey. At $\frac{1}{2}$ past 3 o'clock I reached Pak Chan, went ashore, and proceeded to examine the place. I met 8 Burmese boats and 11 belonging to the Siamese; at the same time I heard some one call out at a short distance in the Siamese language to know who were the people and whose the boats that had arrived there. I replied they were Burmese coming from Mergui and proceeding to Chhoomphon in the service of the Company. They enquired what the

the Pak Chan is a beautiful broad and deep river through-out; that the Chhoomphon is very sinuous in its course with a sandy bed, but that there are no rocks in either river or hilly ground between them, and that in fact even now, during the spring tides the two rivers often unite. Mr. Maingy is about to ascertain this interesting point. Dr Hamilton in the 18th number of the Edinburgh Philosophical Journal notices a communication by water as existing through the Isthmus of Kraw but his information placed it near Junk Ceylon.

k Deputy of
the Department.

nature of the service was. I did not wish to state this, but invited them to my boat to hold a conversation. They declined doing so. On my enquiring who they were they answered they were guards posted to watch in that quarter. In the mean time they withdrew. At 5 in the morning I pursued my journey on foot toward Chhoomphon accompanied by 38 Burmese and after a quarter of an hour's progress, I saw at a distance three persons who, on coming near us, enquired of us whither we were proceeding. I replied towards Chhoomphon and requested of them to show me the way.

They told me to follow them. I did so until 10 o'clock in the forenoon when I lost sight of them. During the day I met very bad roads. At 9 in the night I halted and at 11 about 7 or 800 Siamese approached me with a Chief named Belat Krom^k who came from Chhoomphon to ascertain what I wanted. I replied that I was deputed by the Governor of Tavoy to receive the Burmese Prisoners who were at Chhoomphon. He informed me that they had already gone away. On my asking how many there were, he answered 300 and said further that the Governor of Chhoomphon was at Pathia, and that he was going to Chhoomphon to send for him. He withdrew at 12. All his followers were armed with muskets, swords and spears. It rained the whole of that day and night.

l Chalk or
Chunam Hill

March 28th. At 4 in the morning I resumed my journey until 9 when I reached Khao Poon^l, where I was received by nearly 3000 Siamese. I halted and met Phra Seni. He asked me what number of men I brought with me. I told him to reckon, when he ascertained there were 38. He then asked me what was my object in coming there. I replied that I was to receive the Burmese prisoners who were at

Chhoomphon. He told me they were all sent away to Mergui to the number of 450. On my asking him if I could proceed to *Chhoomphon*, he answered that the Governor was absent, that he was the person who officiated now in that capacity, that there was no place ready for my reception and that I should wait until 4 in the afternoon to enable him in the mean time to prepare a place. He then withdrew with his people. After 4 o'clock I advanced and in half an hour reached a large rice field where I saw about 7 or 8000 Siamese all armed and with different uniforms, some red, some green, and others white. Among them were three Chiefs *Phya Siri*, *Phoo Chwai*^m and *Belat Krom*. I was received at that place by the whole of those people. They were all seated but on my reaching the centre of the assembly they rose and accompanied me to a straw hut, in a corner of which was a bamboo mat to sit upon. I then learned that this was the place intended for my residence until the arrival of *Phya* or Governor of *Chhoomphon*. I observed to the three Chiefs that the place in question was more a sty, than a habitation for human beings. They told me not to be impatient. That they would be with me day and night until the arrival of the *Phya Chhoomphon*. They ordered boiled rice for 38 Burmese, but it proved insufficient even for 10. There I passed the night accompanied by the said Siamese Chiefs.

^m Man who assists-Assistant.

March 29th. In the morning the Chiefs told me that a place was now ready within the city for my abode, but as it was raining violently at this time I was advised to wait until the cessation of the rain, which continued till 2 in the afternoon.

^m The same person whom Messrs. Harris & Leal saw before on their route from Ligor. He returned to Bangkok before the mission left it.

At this period arrived *Phya Krai*^m, the Governor of *Chhoomphon*, who said that he came from *Pathiu*, an assertion not to be credited, since that is 2 days' journey by land and he spent only 12 hours on the route. He entered a pagoda and sent a message to apprise me of his arrival and invited me to meet him. I immediately waited on him and found him cleaning a

tobacco pipe. He enquired about the Burmese War. I replied that peace was already concluded and that the Burmese were ready to pay all the expenses incurred by the company, and that they had actually discharged a great part thereof. I delivered to him 3 letters, one in English, 1 in Malay, and the other in Siamese, the last of which he read and enquired what the other 2 contained. I explained to him that they were in tenor precisely the same as the one he had perused. He mentioned that the Burmese prisoners had been sent to Mergui and that there was not one at *Chhoomphon*. I told him that I suspected that at that place there were many Burmese whom he should deliver over to me. He swore it was not so. I remarked that he should be cautious since I came with 112 Burmese in 12 boats at the cost of the Company and should it hereafter be discovered that any of the Burmese Prisoners remained behind either through forgetfulness or design the Company would exact payment of all expenses incurred in this expedition. *Phya Chhoomphan* laughed heartily at this declaration and ordered 4 trays of eatables of different kinds, but I pretended illness and said I had no appetite under an apprehension of some deceit which the Siamese are very capable of practising. He said there was not a suitable place ready for my reception, but I must have patience and go back to the quarters where I had already abode. I then told him to prepare his letters and it was my intention to return to Mergui on the following day. I took leave and returned back to the straw hut.

March 30th. At 4 o'clock in the morning I got my people ready to depart. 8 of the Burmese requested leave to go and buy tobacco which I granted. Five minutes after they returned, saying they were stopped in the way by 30 Siamese. I prohibited them from going out any more. At 10 the Governor sent for me and told me that his letter was prepared and 2

elephants were ready to conduct me as far as *Pak Chan*. I offered him my acknowledgments, received his letter and took leave accompanied by *Phra Siri* and *Belat Krom*. On my complaining of my boats being very small and expressing my anxiety to proceed expeditiously, they offered me one of the Siamese boats which had come from Mergui. I was accompanied by 50 Siamese and 2 elephants, but the road being bad we could not reach *Pak Chan* that day. At 7 in the evening I halted and passed the night in the field under incessant rain.

March 31st. I set out at 6 o'clock in the morning and arrived at *Pak Chan* at 2 in the afternoon. I was immediately informed that the Burmese had robbed the Siamese of some articles. I punished them in the presence of the Siamese who had accompanied me, in order that they might see that I have not come to deprive them of their property but to perform my duty in a friendly manner.

is 3 points.

April 1st. I set out at 6 o'clock and arrived at a place called by the Siamese *Sam Yot*ⁿ. I observed it to be in ruins. I could get no water. At 5 in the afternoon I got out of the mouth of the river and was exposed during the night to an easterly wind. The boats which accompanied me remained astern.

April 2d. The whole of this day I navigated with oars. In the afternoon I came in sight of a large vessel near an island, 4 miles off, called by the Siamese *Rang Noke*, whither I steered my course. In the mean time the wind freshened from the E. N. E. and the vessel trimmed her sails and disappeared. I was therefore unable to ascertain what ship it was, whence she came or whither she was bound. At 6 I came in sight of an Island called by the Siamese *Ko Vat* or Pagoda Island. During the night there was a calm.

April 3d. In the morning there was a strong current and I was obliged to wait until the setting

in of the ebb tide, which took place at 11 in the morning. I then resumed my journey. At $\frac{1}{2}$ past 4 in the afternoon I arrived at Mergui, where I understood 53 Burmese had arrived and on enquiring how many the Siamese had released I was informed only 53 and that several had proceeded to Bangkok but the

o The Burmese prisoners at Chhoomphon had been sent back in small parties at different intervals and it is satisfactory to know that the whole 237 arrived at Mergui after Mr. Leal left it although the jealousy of the Siamese Chief of Chhoomphon had forced them to take a month's journey via Bangnarom instead of the direct and easy route of a week or 10 days from Pak Chan to Mergui.

number could not be ascertained.^o The above mentioned 53 Burmese complained that they were prohibited from pursuing the route of Pak Chan by Phya Krai who sent 8 Siamese to accompany them, in order that they may proceed by no other road than that of Bangnarom and that they were not supplied with any provision except a bag of rice. This scanty supply restricted them to one meal in

24 hours. They (the Burmese) complained also that all their wearing apparel had been stolen as well as their knives (it being the practice of every Burman to carry one with him) and on requesting the restoration of these articles they were threatened with punishment.

ROUTE from Mergui to Tavoy by Sea.

April 4th 1826. At 4 in the afternoon my boat was ready to sail for Tavoy, but I could not move as the letters of the Governor were not yet ready.

April 5th. I waited the whole of this day for the letters of the Governor which did not come into my possession until 9 at night when I myself went to receive charge of them and of a packet of books for Mr. Blundell.

April 6th. I set out at 9 in the night with the ebbside having 20 oars to my boat. In the morning I came in sight of the bar of Pulloh. I wished to go to Pulloh in consequence of my having heard at Mergui that Mr. Maingy had gone there. At midday I reached the bar of Pulloh and entered. I discovered a boat coming out which informed me that Mr. Maingy

had proceeded to *Pambu*. I returned. At 10 in the night I reached the mouth of that river and the huts of fishermen, who apprized me that Mr. Maingy had gone to the Island of Tavoy. I instantly set out for that quarter, to meet that gentleman if possible. *Puloh* it is said contains from 7 to 800 souls and several habitations.

April 7th and 8th. (Note—The writer, after detailing some unimportant circumstances relating to his progress reports his arrival at Tavoy, where he was informed that Mr. Maingy had not yet arrived.)

P Of the Penang
Civil Service
and Assistant to
Mr. Maingy.

April 9th. At 7 in the morning I waited on Mr. Blundell P who informed me that Mr. Maingy had not yet arrived and that he could not arrange matters until the arrival of that gentleman or the issue of his instructions. At 9 o'clock after breakfast, I proceeded to interpret a letter which came from *Chhoomphon*. Mr. Blundell told me that he wished to send a copy of that document to Mr. Maingy. At 12 it was ready, but it could not immediately be forwarded as some other public dispatches were not yet prepared. It was fair weather and I took a walk with Mr. Blundell and 4 other gentlemen, namely, Captain. Paynton, the Master Attendant &c. At 7 we returned and went to dinner.

April 10th. Mr. Blundell dispatched a boat with a letter to Mr. Maingy. At 10 o'clock there arrived a boat from Rangoon with passengers who having heard that the English were about to deliver over the country to the Burmese did not wish to continue there, and they furnished the intelligence that all the inhabitants of Rangoon were desirous of leaving the place, some flying to Martaban, some to Tavoy and others to Mergui.

April 11th. Two more boats arrived from Rangoon full of passengers. They brought advices that a vessel remained there to receive troops for

Martaban, that several other boats would arrive in the course of 4 or 5 days with Burmese passengers, and that when the boats above alluded to left Rangoon 8 vessels lay at anchor there, 3 belonging to the Company and 5 Merchantmen.

April 12th. At 4 in the afternoon Mr. Maingy arrived from *Pambu*. He was employed the whole day in writing letters to Rangoon and could not dispatch me on that day. Captn. Warwick of the Ship *Carnatic* discharged the Company's cargo, consisting of canvas, cordage &c, and shipped rice. The weather proved fair during the day, but it rained a little at night.

April 13th. At 10 o'clock two boats arrived from Mergui bound to Martaban for the purchase of rice. At 2 in the afternoon there arrived a Chinese Junk from Penang bringing 4 Chinese carpenters and some Chinese passengers. I was detained in consequence of Mr. Maingy not having time to complete the letters for Siam. I heard at 11 at night of the seizure of 2 thieves. It was fair weather during the day, and it rained all night.

April 14th. The rain continued until 4 in the afternoon. Mr. Maingy was all day employed in writing to Rangoon. At night there was an order for doubling the number of sentinels and after 8 o'clock no person could admit any one within doors without the written permission of the Governor.

April 15th. At 8 in the morning I received orders from Mr. Maingy to get my boat ready to proceed to Martaban. I then went to receive some cordage and half a piece of canvas, the latter for the purpose of making a field tent, and also some sail thread; all these were out of the Company's stores. At midday every thing was ready. At 2 proceeded to receive charge of the Governor's letters. At 3 a fire broke out in 2 Burmese habitations. Prompt

assistance was afforded on the occasion by the troops, the Governor, his second, the Captain of the Corps, 2 Lieutenants, Serjeants, &c. The 2 buildings in question were burnt down but the injury did not extend further. It was suspected that this conflagration was the effect of design, but as yet this point has not been ascertained with certainty.

ROUTE from Tavoy to Martaban by Sea.

April 16th 1826. I set out from Tavoy for Martaban and at the same time the schooner sailed for Rangoon. It was fair weather during the night. Tavoy is a fine city, is said to contain 16,000 souls and has a large tin mine and some silver^q. Towards morning I reached the bar of Tavoy. At 2 in the afternoon I came in sight of 4 vessels which I believe were from Rangoon, 3 of them were large and 1 small. I did not hail them as they were at a great distance.

q A little gold is occasionally found among the tin mines at Tavoy but we believe no silver.

April 17th. At 8 in the morning I saw a brig in a westerly direction. Winds variable. At sunset there was a calm and rain during the night.

April 18th. Until 10 in the morning the wind was from the north. It then blew from the S. E. At 12 a boat passed us bound to Tavoy from Martaban. The wind was favorable during the afternoon. At 6 there was a calm. At 8 I reached the mouth of the river Yé, in which quarter the Burmese said there were 3000 persons belonging to Martaban. I asked them what profit the country yields. This they could not tell.

April 19th. I came in sight of two boats which I supposed to be bound either to Tavoy or Mergui, I could not hail them as they passed at a considerable distance.

Note—The subsequent paragraph describes the state of the weather.

April 20th. I came in sight of the pagoda at the bar of Martaban. At 2 in the afternoon I entered within its points, at 4 I wished to land but could not in consequence of low water and my not having a small boat. At 5 a boat pushed off from shore with 4 Burmese to obtain accounts from Tavoy, who informed me that 200 sepoy were in the country with a Lieutenant and that the English intended to form a settlement* there. At 8 the flood tide set in. I weighed anchor and steered for Martaban.

* Amherst
Town.

April 21st. I reached Martaban at 1 in the morning and anchored off the fort. I waited on Captain Fenwick* and delivered to him the letters which I brought from Tavoy and also stated to him that I was desirous of proceeding to Bangkok. Upon his mentioning some difficulty I told him I would proceed to Rangoon and wait on Mr. Crawford. He stated in reply to this that I might do so and I withdrew with the intention of setting out for Rangoon. But he again sent for me, promised to supply me with 20 people and told me that it was unnecessary to go to Rangoon. I agreed. Captain Fenwick informed me that Mr. Crawford had left Martaban 5 days ago for Rangoon, and that Mr. Crawford was Resident at Martaban. At 7 in the evening the rain commenced and continued until morning.

* Of the Madras
12th Regt.

April 22d. I was waiting the whole day for the 20 men who had not yet come. Captain Fenwick desired his interpreter to get ready a boat to proceed to the bar. At 4 o'clock in the afternoon he was informed that this was done. Captain Fenwick then proceeded to embark and I accompanied him. On reaching the boat it was discovered that it had only 4 oars, upon which it became necessary to defer the journey to the following day.

April 23d. I was obliged to wait this day also, in consequence of the non-arrival of the 20 Burmese

who were to accompany me. At 10 in the morning Captain Fenwick set out for the bar. I walked about the place and was informed by several persons that there were not more than 200 or 300 souls at Martaban, that the rest had gone over to the other side of the River. At 4 in the afternoon there arrived in the bar of Martaban a vessel with troops. I understood that she conveyed 100 sepoy who remained at the bar of the river, where a new town would be formed.

ROUTE from Martaban to the City of Bangkok up the river, across the 3 Pagodas to the Mekhlong and down that river.*

† It is interesting to compare this route with the account of the last invasion of Siam, and of the retreat of their army given in Tome 5me p.444 et seq. de Nouvelles Lettres Edifiantes Paris 1820.

At 4 in the afternoon Captain Fenwick arrived, together with the 20 men who were to accompany me as far as Bangkok, and 2 small boats. The flood tide set in at 10 in the night when I set out accompanied by 20 Mons or Peguers and 3 Burmese.

April 25th. At 2 in the afternoon I arrived at *Müang^u Uthran*. At 6 I reached *Khlang Bang Wilas* where I passed the night.

^u Muang in Siamese is a town place or country, Khlang is a river, Bang a streamlet, Witas ease, pleasure.

April 26th. At 4 in the morning I resumed my voyage. At 7 I met 3 fishermen's boats, all Peguers, among whom were two women. At 9 I reached *Khlong Peli^v*, where I desired my people to refresh themselves. At 6 I came in sight of 10 Pegu boats, in which were about 50 persons belonging to the Siamese troops, who said they were going as far as Martaban for the purpose of purchasing some provisions.

^v Burmese Zemh or Athane ?

April 27th. At 8 I reached *Phra Monque^w*. (The rest of this article relates to some difficulties of navigation which he experienced).

^w Mykwan ?

April 28th. (Note—This article reports his arrival at a place call *Khlong Mykwan*, where the

Burmese say is a large quantity of *Toak* easily cut and conveyed to Martaban.)

April 29th. At 11 o'clock I arrived at *Khlong Mysekleet* where I was obliged to pass the afternoon in consequence of the indisposition and extreme fatigue which my people had experienced.

April 30th. At 6 in the morning, after my people had refreshed themselves, I resumed my voyage up the river *Uthran*. At 10 we reached a strong place which took us an hour and a half. At $\frac{1}{2}$ past 5 I arrived at *Mykesath*. I there landed and reviewed the spot where the Siamese troops resided. I found it to be a fine place. My people did not sleep, being engaged in arranging the articles belonging to them, such as rice, fish &c. They were obliged to leave there 10 bags of rice &c. being unable to transport them.

May 1st. At 3 a. m. I left *Mykesath* for *Sangala* by land. I arrived at *Bochan** where I desired my people to refresh themselves. At 10 I reached a small river called by the Siamese *Namkroot pongyoon*, and from thence a place where there are 3 Pagodas^v or rather stony piles. The middle one had a Chinese umbrella, which the wind had deranged. I desired one of the Burmese to restore it to order, but as he was entering in half of the Pagoda tumbled down. I quitted the place at midday. My people were all laid up with sore legs. At 2 I reached a rock called by the Siamese *Tameum**. There the Burmese left three bags of rice being unable to transport them from thence to *Sangala* the journey being of two hours and a half I reached the *Sangala River** at $\frac{1}{2}$ past 4, where I ordered the people to refresh themselves. On the eastern side of the

¹ So well,

Chan'sascer.

Tameum, rising,
small elevation.

^y This is the boundary in the direction between the Siamese and Burmese territory and is named by the Siamese Phra Chaldi Samong "3 Pyramids or Pagodas" and by the Burmese we believe Kiae pie and Praw Thoungo. It is to be regretted that Mr. Leal had not an opportunity of ascertaining the exact position of these pagodas as there is a difference of upwards of a degree in the position assigned to them in different maps. But that they cannot be in so high a Latitude as 15°. 4. 3. we should infer from the fact of Mr. Leal having been 7 days reaching them from Martaban. Mr. Gibson, the Burmese envoy to Cochin China, places the pagodas in Latitude 14°. 30 Long. 99°. 20, and the mean

between his position and that given in Captain Law's map (Lat. 15°. 43. Long. 98°. 54) has been taken, and the pagodas in the accompanying sketch placed in Lat. 15°. 6. Long. 99°. 7.

c Head of the Khlong River.

a Bed or resting place of elephant. The Burmese Kudeen zein. Much difficulty occurs in distinguishing places on the confines of Siam and Ava from most of them bearing a Siamese, Burmese and Pegue denomination. The names given in the accompanying Geographical Sketch of places on the Uthran River were said in Bangkok to be those in use with the Mons or Peguers.

river is stationed the first Siamese guard at a place called *Singole*. At 5 I crossed the river in a float which I found there, and waited on the Siamese Chief, the head of the guard above alluded to. He received me with civility. The Guard consisted of 60 old Peguers. He told me 40 were in the fields felling timber for making canoes and some had gone to Martaban to purchase provisions. He further stated that Martaban was his native country and he still wished to be free from the Siamese, and return to the land of his birth. On his applying to me for some medicine I supplied him with a small quantity of salts. The said Chief sent 6 of his people to accompany me as far as *Loom Chhang*^a. He had with him a young female, who he said was his wife. He furnished me with lodgings in his house and ordered quarters for my people. The name of this Chief is *Phya Phakdi Song Kram*.

May 2d. At 8 in the morning I reached a small river called by the Siamese *Suaroi*, where my people refreshed themselves. I then resumed my journey, and passed several little streams whose names I could not ascertain. At 6 in the afternoon I reached *Loom Chhang*. My people were exceedingly fatigued and so was I. There I found the second Guard consisting of 32 Peguers. I numbered 27 boats large and small. There were also some persons carrying on traffic with the people of the plains; their trade consisted of cotton cloth, Bees wax, Ivory, Sapan wood, Honey, Buffalo and Deer's Hides, Tigers Skins &c. and cardamons. Here there are 3 rivers, one issuing from *Singola*^b, another from *Thadin deng*, and another flowing towards Bangkok.

b The 1st or Bangole river is considered as the head of the Mekhlong or the river flowing towards Bangkok. The 3d is the Alantay. Tha din deng is place of red earth.

May 3rd. At 9 the boats with which *Phya Phakdi Song Khram* had ordered me to be furnished being ready, I set out and fell in with 10 or 12 boats engaged in the same traffic as above described. I could not ascertain the name of this place^c. I saw several floats and canoes proceeding towards Bangkok. At 7 in the night I was obliged to stop, as it became very dark and the river was very difficult to navigate.

May 4th. At 5 in the morning, after my people had refreshed themselves, I resumed my voyage, but with difficulty. At 4 in the afternoon I met with a wrecked boat with 5 people who were cutting bamboos to make a float. They informed me that *Phya*

^c Phan phu um or Phan oon?

^d This is the Pegu Chief who opened a communication with the British army through Mertaban, to the vicinity of which he was sent early in 1825 with a force from Bangkok with the title of Rang na rong Commander of the Forces, corrupted by us into Rau Rau and Rown Rown

Maha Yotha^d had left *Menam Noi* for Bangkok, accompanied by 7 boats. At 5 in the afternoon I fell in with 7 boats engaged in traffic with the people of the plains, one of which approached me and the men in it begged of me to sell them a little medicine, which they wished to administer to a woman labouring under a fever. I did not sell but gave them some Peruvian bark with instructions how to use the same. At 7 in the night I reached a field called by the Siamese *Thong*^e locally and was obliged to stop there that night it being very dark and at the same time the rain began falling with considerable violence.

^e Thong is a field.

^f During the late war the Siamese constructed two forts at Menam Noi where the Pegu General *Maha Yotha* was stationed with a detachment. But they were employed in cultivating cotton, of which the finest description in Siam is produced at Menam Noi, and in cutting sapan wood and large timber for the Siamese state boats, which articles are all brought to Bangkok from the frontiers of Tavoy by the Menam Noi and Mekhlone. There is no

May 5th. At 5 in the evening, after my people had refreshed themselves I set out and found the passage easier, as the rain which had fallen had caused the river to rise. At 9 I reached *Menam Noi*^f and waited on the Governor of that place, *Phya Tacon Yu*, and also on his Second *Phya Ohhayok*^g. After half an hour's conversation they wished to oppose my passage to Bangkok, but on this they could not succeed. They then agreed to

teak in this direction. Menam, mother of water or river and Noi small. Chhayok is said to be a small post a little above Menam Noi. Mr. Leal does not appear to have noticed it or the Siamese party may perhaps have been withdrawn at the close of the Burmese War. Chhayok may be the Daralk of some maps. This is the place where travellers bound for Tavoy from Bangkok generally begin their land journey. It is the Challiot of Lettres Edifiantes, where the Burmese on their retreat from Siam first conveyed their guns, and where the Bishop of Tabraca, navigating against the stream arrived in 10 days from Phoctret or Pek. From this place the Bishop commenced his land journey with the Burmese, arriving at Tavoy in 14 days, after a most fatiguing march. 2 sepoy's whom Captain Burney sent from Bangkok to Tavoy were nearly a month reaching that place, but they were purposely taken by a circuitous route. They understood that there is a shorter road direct from Menam Noi to Tavoy and they found their journey from Chhayok extremely laborious, passing over hills and through forests in which they could discover no traces of a path. Captain Low in the month of February 1825 travelled from Tavoy to a hill which he conceived to be the Siamese frontier, and which he places in Long. 98°.39. He was six days reaching it and his perambulator measured 54 miles and 3 furlongs, from which he deducts 5 miles and 3 furlongs for the windings of the road. But he appears to make no allowance for the ascent and descent of hills which he crossed, a calculation that would still further

send me to Bangkok and to retain my people namely the 20 Peguers from Martaban who accompanied me, but I refused assent to this proposition. It was at length proposed, that I should remain there until the dispatch of a letter to Bangkok. In this condition too I did not acquiesce as I was short of provisions. I applied for some rice when 2 bags of it were ordered to be given to me together with a Jack and some plantains. I quitted Menam Noi at a little after 11. At 5 in the afternoon there came a boat with 5 persons from that place for the purpose of accompanying me to Bangkok. At 6 I reached the Guard called Thatuko⁹. I did not land to avoid inconvenience. At 9 I reached a beetle nut field and there we reposed.

May 6th. At 1 in the morning I resumed my voyage. At 4 I passed a place called by the Siamese Sam Sing⁹. In that quarter were many vessels and a son of Phya Maha Yotha who was loading them with sapan wood. I did not wait on him as it was still dark. At 12 I reached the other Guard called Danclai⁹. The Chief who commanded there is named Belat Krom. He enquired whither I was proceeding. I replied to this question. He wanted me to leave with him the people who accompanied me, a request with which I would on no account comply. I asked him for a little rice which he refused. This guard consists of 30 persons. In this place was another son of a Phya Maha Yotha in a large boat with his wife. I asked whither they were bound. They answered

reduce the direct distance of his journey. The Longitudes of Tavoy and Bangkok are known and between the two there are several parallel ranges of hills and mountains. Mr. Gibson places the Burmese boundary in this direction in Long. 99°. 20. and the mean between his and Captn. Low's position or Long. 99°. has been taken in the accompanying sketch. Captain Low's boundary would reduce the breadth of the Anglo-Burmese territory by at least 41 Geographical miles.

g The place, take a fruit so named. Dan guard, Chal for. Sam sing three kinds

h Village or place of Chlom or Luange, subordinate Siamese officer.

i Open mouthed - so called from this place being situated at the confluence of the two rivers Mekhlong and Sissonat. Pakphrek is now often known by the name of Kanboori. The old Kanboori or Cambori at the head of the Sissonat river was entirely destroyed during the Burmese invasion in 1766. Pakphrek is the "Phactret" of Lettres Edifiantes and probably the place where the Burmese army, after laying waste the provinces of Ratphre and Kanboori built a new town at the confluence of two rivers, naming it "Miching," perhaps from its being on the Mekhlong River. There is now a town called Mekhlong close to the sea at the mouth of a river of the same name.

j Often termed Rukhabori, the Rappri of Lettres Edifiantes.

k The Siamese Ministers justly complained of this violent proceeding to Captain Burney, who was obliged to

to Bangkok. I inquired after his father, he replied that he had gone down three days ago and that it would be difficult to meet him before reaching Bangkok. At $\frac{1}{2}$ past 3 I passed *Banchiom*^h where I understood were 4 or 500 Peguers. At 6 I arrived at *Pak-phrek*ⁱ. The Deputy Governor supplied me with 5 bags of rice half of which was in the husk.

May 7th. At 6 I reached *Ratphre*^j and landed for the purpose of waiting on the Governor. He deputed his Second to meet me in a Pagoda. The first thing he said was that I could not leave that place until the arrival of orders from Bangkok. After an hour's conversation he sent for my people from the boat and as soon as they were ashore, would not allow them to go back. As I had still 5 servants I left the said Chief, returned to my boat and ordered my people to push off. About 50 or 60 Siamese then advanced to prevent my departure. Some of them seized my boat and refused to let her go off. Upon this I took up a bamboo, and the very first against whom I used it lay extended on the ground, another was struck on the arm, and the 3d on the head, the rest fled and I thus extricated myself and pursued my voyage^k. At 6 I reached *Banchang*^l where I did not stop. *Ratphri* is said to contain 100 persons and *Banchhang* from 3 to 4000 almost all Chinese.

May 8th. (Note—This article relates to his arrival at *Mekhlong* and the state of the river, which was crowded with vessels, floats &c.).

apologise for Mr. Leal, attributing his conduct to an excess of zeal to deliver important dispatches without delay. But had Mr. Leal consented to have stopped here at Menam Noi, there is no doubt, as he well knew, that the Court of Siam would have sent him back to Martaban.

1 Elephant village. The "Bancang" of Lettres Edifiantes where the Burmese on their retreat from Siam left a Siamese Governor.

m Near the Portuguese Factory at Bangkok.

May 9th. At 4 in the afternoon I reached *Thachin*. From *Mekhlony* to that place the tract is inhabited by Peguers. In *Thachin* there is an extensive spot said to contain 15 or 16000 persons. I did not stop there, but came to *Khlony Menam Luang*, where I was obliged to wait nearly half an hour for the flood tide.

May 10th. After midnight I continued my voyage up the little river *Menam* or *Bang Luang*. About 3 in the morning I reached *Menam River* at Bangkok, and arrived at Captain Burney's house at a late hour at night. I did not wish to occasion any inconvenience and I went down to *Sampen*^m and remained there till dawn. I waited on Captain Burney at 8 in the morning, and by the grace of God my route was thus safely completed.

A LIST of all the Cities and Villages, places both great and small, through which I, Francisco Joze Leal passed, and of which mention is made in this route namely:—

Bangnarom has no population.

Mergui is said to contain 5000 persons.

Chhoomphon has a large population said to amount to 10,000 persons.

Pakchan has a guard of 60 persons constantly posted and relieved monthly.

Pulloh is said to contain 7 to 800 persons, in the mouth of the river of *Pulloh* are about 30 or 34 fishermen.

Tavoy is said to contain 16,000 persons.

Ye has a Pegu population to the extent of 30,000 souls (not a tithe of this number).

Marlaban is said to contain between Peguers and Burmese upwards of 80,000 persons.

TERRITORIES belonging to Siam.

Songola contains 150 persons.

Loom Chhang Do. 32 Do.

Menam Noi Do. 150 Do.

Tha tuko Do. 30 Do.

Dan Clai Do. 30 Do.

Bun Chaim Do. from 4 to 5000 Peguers.

Pak phrek is said to contain from 7 to 8000 Siamese.

Rat phre Do. 10,000.

Bun Chhang contains from 3 to 4000 persons, Chinese and Siamese.

Me Khlong is said to contain from 12 to 13,000 Chinese and Siamese.

Thachin is said to contain from 15 to 16,000, Chinese, Siamese and Cambodians.

(Signed) Francisco Jose Leal

Bangkok 10th May 1826.

Factory Records,
Straits Settlements,
vol. 142,
p. 559.

Fort Cornwallia the 6th September 1827.

Superintendent
of Police
3 September
1827.

SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE.

John Anderson Esquire
Secretary to Government.

Sir,

I beg to report for the information of the Honorable the Governor in Council the arrival this morning of about 35 persons, men, women and children, from Setul, who report that they have fled from that place in consequence of orders having been given by the Siamese Government to seize and send to Siam a certain number (about one hundred) of Kedah boys from 13 to 15 years of age, and that the quota of these youths to be furnished by the Setul District is seventy, Lingoo to provide the remainder. Three more boat loads of the inhabitants of Setul are reported to be on their way here and altogether about 150 persons have fled from thence to save their families and children from this oppression. Twenty-three boys had been seized before these people fled. The object of the Siamese is said to be an Establishment of Malayan goldsmiths and other handicrafts for the palace of His Siamese Majesty.

I have &ca. &ca.

(Signed) R. Caunter
Supdt. of Police.

Police Office
3d September 1827.

Factory Records,
Straits Settlements,
vol. 142,
pp. 593-6.

Fort Cornwallis, the 13th September 1827.

To Governor General.

To Govr. Genl.
6 Sept. 1827.

To the Right Honble.

William Pitt Lord Amherst

Governor General in Council Fort William.

My Lord,

We have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's letter of the 23d July, and to convey our assurances of the most implicit adherence being observed to the line of conduct therein pointed out: The Report of Captain Burney addressed to the Right Honble. the Vice President in Council of the 23d April and 2 May having been submitted to us we deemed it due to ourselves to enter into some explanation on those points wherein facts or reasoning appeared to be perverted to our prejudice, and we have to regret that our opinions should have proved so much at variance with those entertained by your Lordship.

2. We have now the honor to enclose copies of all the papers which led to the attack on the pirates in the Korow River, from which it will be perceived that the measure did not originate on any political arrangements, nor was it resorted to by Captain Low in prosecution of such, but conducted under our order arising out of communication from the Police Department in consequence of increasing acts of piracy committed by persons finding shelter on that river. It may be proper to add that since the measure was resorted to not an instance of piracy has been reported.

3. We beg to assure your Lordship that in directing the attack in question, we acted under the belief established by our records, by every map and

chart within our reach, and more particularly by one furnished by Captain Burney himself in April 1825, that the Kreen was and has ever been the boundary between Kedah and Perak; to the latter state therefore all communications were made. If we have been misled by our authorities on this case, we must sincerely regret that it has brought upon us so serious a charge as the infringement of a treaty, and the territory of another state; the very last thing of which we should willingly be guilty. In further explanation of the general subject of your Lordship's letter we beg leave to refer to the enclosed Minute of our President.*

4. We have the honor to enclose draft of letter addressed to the Chief of Ligore on the subject of Nackoda Oodin, the result of our enquiry shall be reported as soon as possible. In respect to the Ex-King of Quedah, as it appears that the Hastings may shortly be expected here, we propose availing ourselves of that opportunity to remove that personage with his family to Malacca.

We have &ca.

(Signed) R. Fullerton
 .. K. Murchison

Fort Cornwallis
 The 6th Septr. 1827.

Minute of the President.

Minute 13th
Sept. 1827.

Referring to the orders recently received from the Right Honorable the Governor General on the subject of removing the Ex-King of Kedah to Malacca, it now becomes necessary that some decided measures should be adopted on the case, but in proposing those measures I think it right for the information of the Superior Authorities with whom ultimate decision will rest, that all the attending circumstances of the case should be clearly, fully and distinctly stated. The orders of the Supreme Government on this occasion appear to be founded on an expression used by Captain Burney to the following effect. "I visited the Ex-King however, and I hope convinced him of the utter groundlessness of such a charge and I am satisfied that if the expediency and advantage of his removing be seriously urged on his Highness, by the officers of this Government, he will consent to proceed to Malacca. I have no hesitation in adding, that the absolute necessity for removing him from this Island appears to me now demonstrated beyond all doubt."

In answer to the injunctions of the Vice President in Council already received on this matter, we have repeatedly assured His Lordship in Council of our earnest wish and desire that the Ex-King should consent to remove to Malacca and I can safely and most conscientiously affirm that every argument has been used in personal communications, and every measure resorted to thro' other channels in order to induce the King to assent to the measure, and all without success; for the courses of failure and sentiments of the King I must refer to the various letters and recorded communications that have passed on the subject.

To induce the assent of the King, the propositions alluded to by the Governor General and now sanctioned, were proposed, but it never was contemplated that these propositions or any others of the nature of a Treaty or reciprocal obligation could take effect without the sanction of the Supreme Authority. We are now then to consider the nature of the order, how far decidedly imperative or open to further reference, and the measures we are to adopt in consequence.

Two propositions are laid down.

1st. That we have a right to dictate the place of residence of a refugee.

2nd. That so long as such refugee resides within our protection, it is our positive duty to prevent his making use of that residence for the purpose of carrying on illicit intrigues against a friendly power. These positions are incontrovertible and with the latter the Ex-King of Quedah has been daily impressed ever since his residence here. But there is another question arises, and that one we have already put to the Supreme Government and as yet received no reply. Namely, whether in the event of the King intimating, as he has done, his desire to quit our protection rather than proceed to Malacca, we are to permit him to depart and seek protection elsewhere. On this point it may be observed that he came here to seek our protection, that he has never been treated as a prisoner, but with every mark of honor and respect suitable to the unfortunate situation in which he has been placed. That it must be doubtful whether we are justified in making him a prisoner, or whether the order of the Right Honble. the Governor General is intended of authorize that extreme measure, nor does it distinctly appear that reference has been made to the latter part of the 13th article, which makes its provision for the future residence of the King conditional

only, as particularly alluded to in my Minute of 18 September 1826.

It is true that on a former occasion, when the Ex-King intimated an intention of quitting our protection, persuasion was used with success to induce him to remain and abandon a course likely to be followed by his own ruin, but it must be recollected that he now stands in a somewhat different state. He was not then required to remove from the Island, the requisition of which arising from the Siamese he deems it a point of honor to resist, even at the hazard of the total loss of our protection to his person. Moreover it must be observed that at the period in question he still entertained hopes of obtaining through our means his restoration to his ancient kingdom. Those hopes are now entirely cut off; the Treaty has been published in every newspaper in India and, I have ascertained, has been fully explained to him. He knows we have engaged to oppose all attempts of his own at the recovery of his kingdom, and he has now arrived at the crisis of his fate; all hopes of aid from us must now be at an end and in whatever plans he may now entertain despair must form a material part.

On the other hand it must be observed, that as he himself has declared, his object in quitting our protection is to retire to Delli or Siak, and there we know his object will be to collect his friends and adherents, and thence make an attempt on Quedah or as he terms it himself, to meet his fate; an attempt that would end probably in his total ruin, but in the meantime produce piracy and confusion all around us. We are moreover to consider, that under the 13 Article of Captain Burney's Treaty and now ratified by the Governor General, we engage not to permit the "former Governor of Quedah (meaning the "Ex-King) or any of his followers to attack or disturb "or injure in any manner the territory of Quedah or

“any other territory subject to Siam.” For any such attack or occurrence, by no means improbable were the King to quit our territory, we might be held responsible for all after events. As all communications recently received from the Supreme Government too manifestly evince the transfer of all confidence in us to another quarter, it behoves us to be particularly guarded in our proceedings, and full in the explanations of the motives under which we act. After maturely weighing the circumstances of the case in all their bearings it seems to me to be scarcely possible to fulfil with effect the 13th Article of the treaty if we permit the Ex-King to quit our territory and protection. The alternative would follow in due course, that observing towards him that line of conduct hitherto pursued, and as far as possible placing our precautionary measures under cover of outward marks of honor and respect, we should nevertheless prevent his clandestinely quitting this Island.

As the ship *Hastings*, expected shortly, will afford a convenient opportunity for the removal of the King, family and followers, and as some notice should be given him for preparation, I propose that Mr. Caunter, the Superintendent of Police, whose knowledge of the language and his having been already employed as a medium of communication render him a fit person, should make the necessary communication attached to the Minute. Although I hope and trust the King will at last be induced to comply with the desire of the Right Honble. Govenner General, it nevertheless becomes necessary that the eventual refusal as well as occurrences arising out of the decided objections of the King should not be entirely lost sight of. I therefore propose that Mr. Caunter should be directed through the means of confidential persons to watch the proceedings of the King and obtain a timely insight into his views and intentions in order that any plan for quitting the Island may be counteracted by further

measures. Some communication may also be required to be made to the officer commanding the troops to select careful and steady native officers to take charge of the King of Quedah's Guard, hitherto considered as one honorary entirely.

(Signed) R. Fullerton.

Fort Cornwallis

The 13th September 1827.

**Factory Records,
Straits Settlements, vol. 142,
pp. 618-619.**

**Supdt. of
Police 13th
Sept. 1827.**

Fort Cornwallis the 13th September 1827.

To R. Caunter Esqre.
Superintendent of Police.

Sir,

The directions of the Right Honble. the Governor General having been recently received for the removal of the Ex-King of Quedah to Malacca, I am directed by the Governor in Council to inform you, that adverting to your situation as Superintendent of Police, your knowledge of the language, as well as well as personal acquaintance with the King, having been frequently employed as the medium of Communication, it has been deemed proper to select you for carrying these directions into execution in the manner least offensive to that personage. You are accordingly directed to obtain an interview with him and in the first place remind him of the protection he has hitherto enjoyed under this Government. You will then intimate to him that circumstances have rendered it indispensably necessary that his place of residence should be changed to Malacca, that it is the earnest wish and desire of the Right Honorable the Governor General as well as of the Governor that he should remove as early as possible, and make immediate preparation accordingly. You will inform him that on his removal to Malacca the pension now drawn by him will be increased to 10,000 Dollars per annum; that the house now occupied by him will be received at the valuation put on it when purchased, and the amount appropriated to finding him another suitable residence at Malacca; that a vessel will be found to convey himself, family and followers to Malacca at the public expense; that he will thus be received and treated by the public authorities with the same mark of honor and respect which have invariably been paid to him

here. You will remind him that being under our protection, we have the right of dictating his place of residence. That is only on these terms that he can expect to derive pecuniary aid from the Government, and in the event of his intimating any desire or intention of quitting the protection of the British Government, you will use every argument in your power to convince him of the ruinous consequences that must result from such a step; that by such he must forfeit entirely all support and protection from us and place himself in a situation wherein it must become our duty to act as his enemy in the event of any attempt of a nature hostile to the existing authorities of Quedah.

In pointing out these as fit arguments to be used by you, it is not the intention of the Governor in Council to bind you to their strict adherence to the letter of them in the first instance, should you find any prospect of success by other reasoning.

As the abandonment of our protection by the King and his quitting the Island would under present circumstances be an event of a very embarrassing nature, it would be advisable that you should employ confidential persons to procure correct information of his plans and intentions, and keep the Governor informed of all that may come to your knowledge, as well as the result of your communication with the King.

I am &ca.

(Signed) John Anderson
Secry. to Government.

Fort Cornwallis
The 13th September 1827.

**Factory Records,
Straits Settlements,
vol. 142,
pp. 659-660.**

Fort Cornwallis The 4 October 1827.

**Minute by the
President,
4 Octr. 1827.**

MINUTE by the PRESIDENT.

I now submit for record two letters received from Mr. Caunter whom I deputed to communicate with the Ex-King of Quedah on the subject of his removal to Malacca, considering him a likely person to have some influence over the mind of the King. I regret to say no good effect has been produced. Since receiving these letters I have had an interview with the King, and after using every argument and speaking to him in most decided language, I regret to say he remains obstinately fixed to his determination not to go to Malacca, but if permitted, to quit our protection entirely and seek it elsewhere. I propose therefore as the last resource to transmit to him the letter attached, and if it fails of effect, we must then consider whether we are to allow him to depart, or to use force in sending him to Malacca. The Board will perceive that the Vice President in Council have sent no reply to our question, but repeat their presumption of his being removed. The Board will also perceive that the order of the Right Honble. the Governor General is peremptory, and directs his removal to Malacca. It is an order therefore we must obey, and does not seem to leave with us the option of any other course.

(Signed) R. Fullerton.

4 October 1827.

Fort Cornwallis The 4 October 1827.

To THE KING of QUEDAH

Enclosure.

I have to announce to my Friend that orders have been received from the Supreme Government, fixing the place of my friend's residence at Malacca. A vessel is prepared for the conveyance of my friend, all his family and followers to that place. My friend must accordingly without fail prepare to depart as soon as possible, no further delay can be allowed. My friend will, so long as he remains at Malacca, be treated with the same marks of attention and respect he has always received, and an additional sum of 4,000 Dollars per Annum will be allowed him for his maintenance. The directions of the Right Honble. the Governor General being positive and peremptory must by every means be obeyed, and nothing can now be admitted against them. Should my friend, after his arrival at Malacca, wish to address the Governor General, his letter will be sent, but so long as he remains at Prince of Wales Island no favor can be shown, and my friend must consider his residing at Malacca the only condition on which he is in future to receive the support and protection of the British Government, and I must conclude by expressing my hope that my friend's acquiescing in the direction and advice of his best friends who have so long afforded him protection, will prevent the necessity of my resorting to stronger measures in order to ensure obedience to the orders of the Right Honble. the Governor General.

(Signed) R. Fullerton.

Fort Cornwallis The 4 October 1827.

Monday 17 September 1827.

Enclosure.

Honble. Sir,

I have had two interviews with the Ex-King and have fully communicated to him the orders of the Supreme Government, explained to him the advantages he will derive by going to Malacca, and the consequences of not doing so. His Majesty appears as yet resolved not to go to Malacca, and says if he must not reside here, he would wish to seek an asylum elsewhere, claims a right to be permitted to go, upon some former promise of Government. He told me Siak was the place he contemplated going to, as he has connections and friends there. His Majesty sometimes hinted at the idea of applying for leave to remain here until another reference on the subject could be made to the Governor General; Sometimes spoke of going himself to Calcutta or sending his eldest son. The result of our last conference was a request that I would allow him four or five days to consider the matter well before he gave a definite answer. From my private informant I understand the King yesterday sent a letter to his younger Brother, Tunku Soliman, inviting him to come and see him, and that the object in so doing is to get T. S. to take charge of His Majesty's sisters and their families in case he should be obliged to get away.

I remain

(Signed) R. Caunter.

To the Honble.

R. Fullerton Esquire
Governor.

Fort Cornwallis The 4 October 1827.

Saturday 22d September 1827,

Enclosure.

Honble. Sir,

I beg to acquaint you that I had another interview with the Ex King last evening, and again tried every argument in my power to persuade him to remove to Malacca, but could not succeed in altering his opinion on that subject. He appears to have a decided dislike to such a step, and frequently explains he should be disgracing himself and country by so doing. His Majesty farther said, that if he cannot be permitted to remain *here* under the protection of the British Government, he wishes to be allowed to depart and seek that protection elsewhere, and as he expressed it, follow his Fate! I pointed out to him distinctly the consequence of not complying with the wishes of the Supreme Government and of you, by removing to Malacca, and reasoned with him as much as possible on the subject, but could not turn his mind or alter his feelings. He made several remarks on the Treaty with Siam as far as it regarded himself and seemed much hurt at it. Our conference ended with his saying, he intended addressing a letter to you to request another reference of his case to the Right Honble the Governor General and permission to remain here until an answer to that is received. This, Honble. Sir, is the result of my interviews with the Ex-King, who I do not think will ever willingly remove to Malacca.

I remain &ca.

(Signed) R. Caunter.

To The Honble. R. Fullerton Esq.
Governor.

**Factory Records,
Straits Settlements,
vol. 142,
pp. 47-49.**

Fort Cornwallis The 15th November 1827.

**Son of the
Rajah of
Ligore 9th
November 1827.**

Translation

of a letter from the Baginda Mooda, Son of the Rajah of Ligore, at Quedah, to Mr. John Anderson.

(After Compliments.)

I beg to acquaint my friend and request he will make the same known to the Honorable Robert Fullerton, Governor of Prince of Wales Island, Singapore and Malacca, that during the present month, Malays, Chooliahs and Chinese traders have been reporting here that the Rajah of Quedah was collecting prows and men in the Prye River, about 70 or 80 prows, and that it is his intention to send Taunku Deen, Taunku Abdullah, Taunku Dayer and To Johan, the family and followers of the Rajah of Quedah, to attack Quedah. I am accordingly in doubt, but inclined to believe it untrue, for the Rajah of Quedah resides under my friend's Government, and my friend would not permit him to do so, because the Right Honble. Lord Amherst, Governor General of Bengal, sent Captain H. Burney to make a Treaty at the Capital, establishing a permanent friendship. I therefore do not credit the report but I herewith send Aluang Paromlok to my friend and request my friend will accompany him to wait on the Honble. Robert Fullerton, Governor of Pulo Penang, that he may explain all my wishes so that friendship may be prolonged.

Moreover in respect to the report of the people relative to the Rajah of Quedah preparing prows at Prye, if it should prove to be correct, I request my friend will prevent them from doing anything contrary to the Treaty of the Right Honorable Lord Amherst, Governor General of Bengal, and I request my friend

will send some person to accompany Aluang Paromlok to examine the place agreeably to the customs of friendship and Aluang Paromlok will bring a full report to me.

Dated 17th Rabealakhir 1243 or 6th November 1827.

(Signed) John Anderson
Malay Tr. to Government.

Penang
The 9th November 1827.

**Factory Records,
Straits Settlements,
vol. 142,
p. 54.**

Fort Cornwallis The 15th November 1827.

**To the Son of
The Raja of
Ligore 12th
Novr. 1827.**

To the Son of the Rajah of Ligore.

Letter

from the Malay Translator to Government to the Son
of the Raja of Ligor at Quedah.

I duly received my friend's letter brought by
Aluang Paromlok respecting the rumours abroad of
the Rajah of Quedah preparing prows in the river
Prye with the intention of sending Taunku Abdulla,
Taunku Dice and To Johan to attack Quedah, and I
read it in the presence of the Honble. the Governor,
who at the same moment gave orders to Mr. Caunter
and Captain Low to send my friend's Envoy with
people to examine and ascertain if there was any
truth in the reports. He has returned and stated
that they are not true. I therefore send him back
and he will no doubt make known all particulars to
my friend, whose mind will now be at ease.

(Signed) John Anderson
Malay Tr. to Government.

Penang,
The 12th November 1827.

Factory Records,
Straits Settlements,
vol. 142,
pp. 54-56.

Fort Cornwallis The 15th November 1827.

Translation

Ex Raja of
Quedah 8th
Novr. 1827.

of a letter from the Ex-Rajah of Quedah to the Honble. the Governor of Prince of Wales Island, Singapore and Malacca.

(After Compliments.)

On the 18th day of Rubealawal I received a letter from my friend, the contents of which have afflicted me much and astonished me extremely. Being imposed on by the treachery of the Siamese I removed to Prye intending to place my children with my brother, Taunku Solymon, and afterwards to return and attack the Siamese. Mr. Cracraft was sent by Mr. Phillips to convey me to Pulo Penang, intending to assist me in returning me to my country of Quedah. My confidence therefore was unbounded as the heavens that the Company would assist me in returning to my own Country, and that I should be enabled to remain there by the power of the Company, agreeably to the engagement made when the island of Penang was granted by my deceased father. I therefore remained at Pulo Penang, placing confidence that the expected assistance of the Company would be given. During the time Mr. Phillips was Governor till my friend's arrival, how many letters did I receive promising me assistance and desiring me to wait, which impressed me with great confidence and hence I have remained now Six Years here.

Now my friend informs me that there is an order from the Governor General directing my being sent to Malacca, and that there is to be no evasion; that if I do not comply of my own will that my friend must use force to carry into effect the Governor General's orders, and it has alarmed me exceedingly to find that I should be unexpectedly sent away to another country; my heart

is distressed and can think no more, and my expectations have been disappointed. However if my friend will not assist me according to the Treaty, it signifies not. I shall go away to some other place, wherever my fate may carry me; but as to proceeding to Malacca, my mind can never be reconciled to it. I am utterly averse to it. I am now only waiting for the fair weather and I shall quit this place and proceed to some other country. With respect to the place I cannot positively state it, for it will depend upon the Chiefs of the places I may proceed to, whether I shall be permitted to reside there, and upon myself to select a place that I like. I only request that my friend will give me a ship and money as a present from the English Company and let not my friend trouble himself about any thing else. Dated 18th Rabealakhir 1243 or 8th November 1827.

(A true Translation)

(Signed) John Anderson
Malay Translator.

Pinang
The 9th November 1827.

Factory Records,
Straits Settlements,
vol. 142,
pp. 57-8.

Fort Cornwallis The 15th November 1827.

Minute by the
President 9th
Novr. 1827.

Minute by the President.

Having now used every endeavour in my power to induce the Ex-King of Quedah to remove to Malacca, as far as threats and promises could have effect, but in vain, and no answer having been received from the Supreme Government, we must now decide on one of two measures, either to make him a prisoner and send him by force, or to permit him to quit our protection and territory, the alternative which he seems to prefer. After the most mature consideration of the case, it appears to me that the latter is the least objectionable course. The forcible seizure and making a prisoner of our ally would of itself be a very severe and questionable measure, nor can [I] say what consequences might result or how far an appeal to the law might operate towards its adoption with success, nor am I certain that the order of the Right Honble. the Governor General referring to the observations with which it is * [] contemplates so severe a measure. The Ex-King has, on a former occasion, been assured of free permission, to quit our territory when he pleased. His forcible retention would be a breach of faith, neither are we bound by the Treaty to retain him at any particular place within our own territory, but to prevent his residence within certain defined countries. I propose therefore that the letter annexed be sent to him forthwith and its terms and conditions rigidly adhered to, unless affected by any orders that may intermediately arrive.

(* blank in
original.)

(Signed) [R. Fullerton].

9th November 1827.

Fort Cornwallis The 15th November 1827.

Enclosure.

To the Ex King of Quedah.

I have now repeatedly informed my friend of the desire and orders of the Governor General of India for the removal of my friend and his family to Malacca. I have used every argument to induce him to comply with the wishes of his real friends and I expected, considering the long protection and continued comfort my friend has enjoyed under British Protection, that he would have been disposed to listen to the advice of those who are the best judges of his welfare, but I am sorry to perceive all my reasoning in vain, and nothing short of actual compulsion can bring about the wishes of the Supreme Government. I write this letter therefore to inform my friend of the only terms and condition on which he can continue to enjoy the protection of the British Government; these are— That he forthwith proceed to Malacca with his family and there reside. He will then in that case receive 10,000 Dollars per annum and be treated in all matters, and with the same respect as he has hitherto been on the Island. He will still be considered as an Ally of the British Government and should any favorable opportunity offer hereafter he may rely on the support and assistance towards his restoration to his kingdom. He must on his part stipulate that he will enter into no designs hostile to the Siamese, calculated to disturb or excite alarm or commotion in any country under their authority. Should my friend decline these terms it becomes my painful duty to announce to him the entire withdrawal of the Protection of the British Government and to direct him to leave their territories within 15 days from this date. In announcing to him this determination it is necessary at the same time to inform him that we are bound by Treaty with the King of Siam,

not to permit him to reside on this Island, on Wellesley Province (Prye), in Perak, in Salengore or in any Burmese Country. We are also bound not to permit him or any of his people to attack Quedah or any other Siamese country. It will be necessary therefore that my friend if he determines to quit our Protection should proceed to the Island of Sumatra or other place at a distance from any Siamese Country, and that he should abstain from any attempt to attack the Siamese: he must otherwise become an enemy to the British Government and be treated as such.

Before my friend determines on quitting for ever the Protection of the British Government, it becomes him well to consider what may be his future fate and that of his family. If once he quits their protection, he cannot expect again to enjoy it, and he will well consider and weigh the advantages he may still enjoy, with the risk of distress and misery and almost certain ruin, he must in his old age encounter by seeking new friends. Having thus fully stated my mind to my friend, I trust he will yet determine on complying with the directions of the Supreme Government. As soon as his determination is known, which must be in ten days from this, a vessel will be prepared to carry him to Malacca or to the place to which he wishes to be carried, but my friend must not expect one day's delay to be allowed beyond the time now fixed. Fifteen days is the utmost limit that will be allowed for his remaining here.

(Signed) R. Fullerton.
Governor.

The 9th November 1827.

Factory Records,
Straits Settlements,
vol. 142,
pp. 67-69.

Fort Cornwallis The 20th November 1827.

To Suptdt.
of Police 10
Novr. 1827.

To R. Caunter Esq.
Superintendent of Police.

Sir,

I am directed by the Governor in Council to desire that you will immediately wait on the Ex King of Quedah, and inform him that the period allowed in the letter to him (of which the enclosed is a translation) for his quitting this Island will expire on the 27th Instant, that a vessel is preparing for his conveyance, and that he must be ready to embark with his family on or before that day. You will make him distinctly understand that this order is imperative, and unless willingly obeyed, the Governor in Council will have no alternative but to force compliance by measures which it is their earnest desire to avoid. You will also ascertain from him the size and description of the vessel required and you will inform him that directions will be given to the Commander to proceed either to Malacca or to such Port on the Island of Sumatra as the Ex-King may name, and in the former case the Ex-King will remain an ally under the protection of the British Government, enjoying their support and assistance on the terms and conditions already explained to him, in the other case, that is of his proceeding to any place beyond the territories of the British Government, he must distinctly understand that all connection support and assistance from us to himself and family will cease and determine for ever. You are further empowered to receive from the Ex-King any communication he may have to make relative to the settlement and adjustment of his affairs here. Should he determine and actually proceed to Malacca, you may assure him the British Government will not withhold their pecuniary assistance in that respect, but in the other case he must

be required to quit the Island as a Person unlicensed to reside here and make his own arrangements. You will as soon as possible, communicate to the Master Attendant the description of vessel that will be required. He has the orders of Government to provide a suitable vessel.

I am &c.

(Signed) John Anderson
Secy. to Government.

Fort Cornwallis
The 16th November 1827.

Factory Records,
Straits Settlements,
vol. 142,
pp. 70-72.

Fort Cornwallis The 20th November 1827.

Ex Raja of
Quedah 15th
Novr. 1827.

Translation

of a letter from the Ex Raja of Quedah to the Honble.
R. Fullerton Governor Pulo Penang &c.

(After Compliments.)

I have received the letter which my friend sent me on the 23d Rabialakhir, in which my friend advises and directs me to go to Malacca, and also refering to other matters which I fully understand. I have well considered all particulars and have been much astonished at the purport of my friend's communication. In respect to my friend's orders to proceed to Malacca, as my words have already been uttered, and I have said I cannot go, if I could I would not deviate from what I have said, for it is the custom of Malay Kings to consider any variation from express declarations extremely disgraceful. Moreover, it is mentioned in my friend's letter that if I do not like to go to Malacca, I may proceed to some other place, excepting only such places as are mentioned, namely this Island, Province Wellesley, Perak, Sakengore or any Burmese country, and if I am disposed to go any where else, my friend desires me to decide on the place and expresses his intention of making preparations for conveying me thither, by the assistance and compassion of the Company. Let not my friend be offended, but I hope my friend will forgive me when I state that if possible I should wish to remove by myself and I request my friend will make arrangements for paying me the tribute of Pulo Pinang, viz., the amount of balance from the time of my quitting Quedah. My present dwelling I also wish to transfer to the Company at the price I paid for it. I also request my friend's assistance to make all those who are indebted to me settle with me. This would be a great assistance from my friend, Were I to conform to my friend's instructions, there

would no longer be any source of confidence left me in respect to a certain time for my returning to my own country, for my age is advanced and I do not know how much longer I shall live.

Moreover I beg to remind my friend that I have a letter from my friend in which he states that he would not compel me to remove to Malacca and that I should be permitted to reside here and receive the same protection I enjoyed from the time I arrived here but now my friend's letter informs me that force must be resorted to. I do not know what to think or say more and I might perhaps express myself incorrectly; but I cannot be satisfied when I reflect that my country was seized from me and my friend will not assist me, for my friend now conforms to the new Treaty with the Siamese, and casts off the Treaty with my deceased father and myself. My friend is only troubling me from day to day urging me to remove to Malacca. Rather than my mind should be kept in this state of trouble any longer, it is better I should relinquish the Company's assistance altogether. I only request the tribute of Pulo Pinang and price of the House, and a settlement of those who are indebted to me. This will be sufficient to enable me to quit Pulo Pinang and I shall have little more to consider of.

Dated 25th Rabialakhir 1243, or 15: November 1827.

(A true Translation)

(Signed) John Anderson
Malay Translator.

Pinaug 17: Novr. 1827.

Factory Records,
Straits Settlements,
vol. 142.
pp. 72-73.

Fort Cornwallis the 20th November 1827.

From the Honorable the Governor
to the Ex King of Quedah.

I have received my friend's letters. The orders of the Supreme Government are positive and must be obeyed. My Friend must depart from this Island on or before the 27th of this month. If the title deeds to the house are delivered and transmitted to the Government before that day the same amount that my friend paid for the house will be paid to him, and if an agent be left for the settlement of all affairs he will receive all proper assistance, but let not my friend deceive himself with false expectations, the period of his remaining on his remaining on this Island cannot be delayed beyond the term fixed.

(Signed) R. Fullerton,
Governor.

Pinang 19th November 1827.

Fort Cornwallis The 29th November 1827.

Translation

of a letter from the Ex Rajah of Quedah to the Honorable R. Fullerton, Governor of Pulo Penang, Singapore and Malacca.

(After Compliments.)

I have to inform my friend that the numerous letters from my friend and his often repeated advice to comply with the orders of the Governor General of Bengal by removing to Malacca, have given me much uneasiness and anxious consideration, that I might not deviate from the wishes of the Governor General of Bengal and my friend's advice, but at the present day I can think no more, and if the Governor General will comply with my request herein stated, I will conform to the wishes of the Governor General by proceeding to Malacca with all my family. The following are the requests I have to make of the Governor General and Council of Bengal. 1st. I request the Governor General will fix a time for my returning to Quedah to be established as formerly. 2ndly. Until I do return to Quedah, I request the Governor General will allow me for my expenses 20,000 Dollars a year, for my family and followers who will have to accompany me are numerous, and 10,000 Dollars would not be enough for my expenses. 3rd. In case the assistance of the Governor General to return me to Quedah be long delayed, I shall be permitted to quit the place and remove to any other country, and if beyond the company's jurisdiction, that the Company shall not detain me. 4th So long as I may reside at Malacca, if any of my slaves abscond to any place whatever the Company will assist in seizing and returning them to me. 5th. I request the Governor General will give me a present of a ship by which I may be enabled to proceed with care and

comfort with my family to Malacca. Such are my requests of the Governor General and my friend. With respect to these five articles, when my friend has acceded to them, there will be no further delay in my removing, and in a day or two however I shall be prepared to go to Malacca, but if my friend is not disposed to accede to the several requests above stated I do not feel inclined to go to Malacca, for if I do go there I shall certainly be exposed to great difficulty and distress. In respect to the allowance of 10,000 Dollars a year granted me while in charge of my Government of Quedah, it is of no consequence.

Dated 4th Jemadilawal 1243 or 23: November 1827.

(A true Translation)

(Signed) John Anderson
Malay Translator

Penang
26: November 1827.

Fort Cornwallis The 29th November 1827.

Letter

to the Rajah of Quedah.

I have received my friend's letter of the 4th of Jemadilawal and have only to inform him in reply that if he is not on board ship for Malacca by 10 o'clock on Thursday morning next, all connection between my friend and the British Government must cease, and all payments will also cease from this day.

(Signed) R. Fullerton.

The 26th November 1827.

**Factory Records,
Straits Settlements,
vol. 142,
pp. 176-8.**

Fort Cornwallis the 17th December 1827.

To The Honorable the Recorder.

**To the Honble.
the Recorder.**

Honble. Sir,

We do ourselves the honor of submitting to your perusal, extract of a letter received some time ago from the Right Honble. the Governor General and copy of the article of the Treaty with Siam to which it refers.

2. You will perceive that the orders for the removal of the Ex-King of Quedah are of a peremptory nature, and such as require the most perfect obedience on our part. All possible means have therefore been taken and every possible encouragement held out to induce the King to proceed to Malacca, but without effect, and we are now satisfied that nothing short of actual force will produce his removal as desired. Before, however, we proceed to that severe measure, it becomes necessary well to consider the law of the case, whether we are warranted by any Act or Statute to use force on such an occasion.

3. The Ex-King was expelled from Quedah in the Year 1822 by the Siamese Chief of Ligor, was invited and received by us and has since resided here under our protection, having been permitted to purchase a house for himself and has been treated with every mark of honor and respect due to his unfortunate situation, with an allowance of 6000 Dollars per annum for his maintenance. Various attempts have at different times been made by negotiation with the Siamese to bring about his restoration, of which the article enclosed is the last.

4. We are perfectly aware that it rests entirely with yourself to give an opinion or not on the case, but we doubt not that the circumstances in which we are

placed will in this respect meet with due consideration. There is no other Law Authority within our reach on whom any dependence can be placed, and while we are most earnest in our desire, as indeed, our duty requires of us, to carry into effect the orders of the Supreme Authority of India, we are nevertheless most anxious to avoid recourse to a measure the immediate consequence of which we cannot foresee, provided there exists any doubts of its strict legality, and in this case we should prefer the only alternative that remains, another reference to the Supreme Government.

(Signed) R. Fullerton.
R. Ibbetson.

The 5th December 1827.

**Factory Records,
Straits Settlements,
vol. 142,
pp. 179-180.**

Fort Cornwallis The 17th December 1827.

**The Honble.
the Recorder.**

To the Honorable Robert Fullerton
Governor in Council
&c. &c. &c.

Honorable Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of yesterday's date. There are many reasons that oblige me (with much regret) to decline giving any answer to your question, whether you are warranted by any Act or Statute to use force on the occasion alluded to.

First. If force is employed the King of Quedah may claim the protection of the Court, of which I am a judge; whether such protection can be afforded or not I need not stop to enquire,

Secondly. If force is employed and death ensues, the party causing death will probably be brought before the Court here.

Thirdly. I infer that as you are now "satisfied that nothing short of actual force will produce the removal of the King of Quedah as desired"; and as you state "the orders for his removal to be of a peremptory nature, and such as require the most perfect obedience on your part," that you are prepared to employ force, in case I am of opinion that you are warranted by any Act or Statute to use it on such an occasion.

Whether you are warranted by any Act or Statute, or by the Law of England, or Nations, or not, I think, from your own Statement, that such proceeding, will bring the character of this Government to a level with that of the Rajah of Ligore, and disgrace the British name among all civilized nations, and I

cannot consent to have my name mixed up with such a transaction.

I have &c.

(Signed) J. T. Claridge

The 6th December 1827.

Fort Cornwallis The 17th December 1827

**Factory Records,
Straits Settlements,
vol. 142,
pp. 214-6.**

**To the Son of
the Rajah of
Ligore.**

To the Son of the Rajah of Ligore.

I am directed by the Honble. the Governor of Prince of Wales Island, Singapore and Malacca, to acquaint my friend that ever since the ratification of the Treaty concluded by Captain Burney on behalf of the Right Honorable the Governor General with the Court of Siam, every means of persuasion have been employed by the Government to induce the Ex-Rajah of Quedah to remove to Malacca ; but he has made every possible objection to conforming to the desire of the Governor General and the Governor of Penang in this respect.

The Rajah has however promised to remove from this Island and to proceed to some place not interdicted in the Treaty. It is expected he will proceed to some port on the East Coast of Sumatra, Delhi or Siack, and a conveyance will be found by this Government for him to such place as he may fix upon for his future residence.

Every proper measure of precaution has been taken to prevent the Rajah removing clandestinely from hence, but I am directed to suggest to my friend the propriety of keeping a strict watch on his part, in case any of the adherents of the Ex-Rajah should make an attempt to disturb the peace of the Quedah Country. My friend will no doubt take this caution in good part.

I am instructed to add that the Honorable the Governor has long been expecting the arrival of some accredited Envoy from the Rajah of Ligore to reside here, as suggested by the Governor some months ago, and approved by the Right Honorable the Governor General. These Agents would be able to keep my friend and his father fully informed of all proceedings going on here in which they may be interested, and as

some time may elapse before an answer can be received from your father it would be better if my friend sends one or two from Quedah.

(Signed) J. Anderson
Malay Translator.

The 6th December 1827.

Factory Records,
Straits Settlements,
vol. 142,
pp. 243-4.

Fort Cornwallis The 27th November 1827.

Son of the
Rajah of Ligore
15 Decr. 1827.

Translation

of a letter from the Baginda Muda, son of the Rajah of Ligore at Quedah to the Malay Translator.

(After Compliments.)

I beg my friend to inform the Honble. the Governor of Prince of Wales Island, Singapore and Malacca, that the letter sent me by Mr. Crab has duly reached me, informing me of the preparations making for the removal of the Rajah of Quedah from Pulo Penang, in conformity to the Treaty; the contents of the letter I fully understand. In respect to the Governor of Pulo Penang and my friend having made preparations to remove the Rajah of Quedah from Pulo Penang agreeably to the Treaty, I am extremely delighted, and when the intelligence [? reaches] the Chow Piya of Ligore, he will also be much pleased, and be greatly obliged to my friend. In respect to what my friend says desiring me to send an Agent to reside at Pulo Penang, I shall make the same known to the Chow Piya of Ligore and whatever he may be pleased to direct I will conform to [and] communicate the same to my friend.

A true translation

(Signed) John Anderson

Malay Translator to Government.

Dated 27 Jemadilawal 1243
or 15th December 1827.

Factory Records,
Straits Settlements, vol. 142,
pp. 193-198.

Fort Cornwallis The 17th December 1827.

To the Ex King
of Quedah.

To the Ex King of Quedah.

As the day fixed for your departure for Malacca has arrived, and you have made no preparation indicative of any intention to embark on the ship prepared for you, I must conclude that you have finally determined on rejecting the terms offered to you for the continuance of the protection and future support of the British Government. I have only now therefore to fulfil the painful duty of announcing to you the course of conduct which will be observed towards you by this Government, and before I proceed to that part of the subject, I must here recall to your recollection the circumstances under which you sought and have enjoyed the protection of this Government. You were driven out of your country by the Siamese troops of Ligore, an asylum was offered to you on the Island which you accepted. Your person was demanded by the Siamese as a fugitive dependent of the King of Siam. The demand was refused and you were saved from the hands of your enemies. You have now resided more than ten years on this Island. You have been treated with every mark of honor and respect due to your past, and with every mark of kindness and attention due to your present situation, and you have received from the British Government a pecuniary allowance adequate to all your reasonable wants. Neither have your Political Interests been neglected. Various negotiations have been set on foot at different times, and at considerable expense, for no other purpose but to obtain your restoration to your lost rank and situation. Every thing that could be done has been done to promote your interests, short of engaging in actual hostility on your account (a measure which you had no right to expect or demand) by the intervention of the British

Government. Your friends, relations and dependents have been restored to you. In the mean time, circumstances of a political nature connected with another state, and arising out of the very arrangement which restored to you your family, have rendered it necessary and expedient that your place of residence under our protection should be changed from this Island to another neighbouring British Settlement, not a place inhabited by people of another race, language or religion, but by Malays of the same as your own, and where in point of the most scrupulous prejudice no objection can possibly arise. In order to induce you the more readily to comply with the wishes of the British Government favourable terms have been offered, which you had no right whatever to expect or demand. The pecuniary allowance was offered to be increased from 6,000 to 10,000 Dollars per annum, every accommodation was offered you with a view to your rendering yourself more comfortable in your new than you have been in your old habitation. You have been assured that the same marks of honor and respect would be paid to you. You have been assured that your interests would not be lost sight of, that on any future opening that might hereafter offer by negotiation your interests would not be forgotten, and lastly that you would at Malacca be in all respects considered as in exactly the same relative situation with the British Government, as that on which you stood at present. From your late letters I was led to hope that you were disposed to attend to the advice of your best friends, but I am concerned to find that in your ultimate determination the advice of the ill disposed has prevailed. It only remains for me therefore to remind you of what you have already been informed; that when a fugitive Prince seeks protection from another state the latter has the right to dictate the place most convenient to itself for the residence of the • You have already been informed that Malacca was fixed on for yours, preparations were made for conveying

you thither at the public expense. Instead of at once embracing the opportunity offered for securing to yourself and family a safe and honorable retreat from the future * , you have spurned the proffered boon; while owing your safety and existence to this Government, you have assumed the right of dictating to them terms and conditions as if you were in fact as in name a real Sovereign, and rejecting those held out to you, have declined proceeding to the place allotted for you. It follows that you have thereby completely forfeited all right, title or claim to the protection of the British Government. You will no longer therefore be acknowledged here as King of Quelah. Those marks of honor hitherto paid you will be withdrawn; all pecuniary allowance from the Government will now cease, and you must make your own arrangements for your maintenance. The British Government no longer undertakes to protect you from your enemies, nor do they engage to use any influence or exertion whatever under any circumstances to promote your future interests. Having declined the conditions on which you were to proceed to Malacca, those conditions are of course at an end. Whether any pecuniary assistance will ever again be given to you or to any branch of your family must depend on the merciful consideration of the Right Honble. Governor General, and with him it will rest to determine whether you are to be permitted to reside in this Island. While you are here you will be considered no more than any other Malay Inhabitant. No letters whatever will either be written to you or received from you bearing the style or title till now employed. If you have any thing to say you will address yourself to Mr. Caunter, the Superintendent of Police.

(Signed) R. Fullerton
Governor.

The 16th December 1827.

* blanks here in the original.

President's Minute.

As it now appears clear that the Ex King of Quedah will not quit this Island except by compulsion, and as every thing that could be done short of that has been done to induce him to remove and without effect, it only remains to submit the papers that have passed to the Supreme Government. Desirous of carrying the orders of the Right Honorable the Governor General into full effect, and anxious at the same time to avoid any discussion on doubtful points of law arising out of the case, as well as other unpleasant results which might have attended the forcible seizure of that person, we thought it right to attempt, at least, to obtain the benefit of the legal opinion of the Honble. Recorder on the case. The application was made to him under circumstances of peculiar embarrassment, of which he was fully advised. It rested entirely with him, of course, to give or withhold his opinion, but I certainly did not expect that he would have assumed to himself the right of questioning, much less of arraigning, the political measures of the Supreme Government, or of addressing us in a style altogether unprecedented and quite unbecoming the relative situation in which he is placed towards this Government.

It will be perceived by the correspondence that from the 8th to the 12th December the Ex King had evinced a disposition to comply with the wishes of Government, and even intimated his intention of proceeding to Malacca; the exertions of Captain Low and Mr. Caunter had so far succeeded as to induce him to set about preparations for his departure, and a vessel was in readiness for the reception of himself and followers when he suddenly changed his mind, and

completely altered his whole style of conduct and communication with the Commissioners; so sudden a change, and the extraordinary demand of a written paper from me, agreeing to permit him to proceed from Malacca where he pleased, a document which, consistently with the Treaty, could not be given him, sufficiently showed that he was acting under no common advice, and could not but raise a suspicion in my mind that the adviser was a legal one.

It has been ascertained that Sir J. Claridge, the Recorder of this Court, has been the only European Gentleman with whom he has of late held any intercourse, and that visits with him had been interchanged about the period in question. That a public officer, holding the rank and station of Recorder, should have given advice or encouragement to any person in the situation of the Ex King in direct counteraction of the political arrangements of the Supreme Government, and in direct contravention also of a ratified Treaty, or even interfered at all in such arrangements I could scarcely have believed. What passed at the meetings of the Recorder and Ex King I cannot of course say, nor do I think it right at present to take means to ascertain, but duly considering all that has passed, the letter of Sir J. Claridge, the subsequent conduct of the Ex King, the sudden change in his determination, simultaneous with those visits and communications, I can have no doubt whatever in my mind that encouragement has been given and that hopes of assistance from a higher quarter have been held out to the King, which have entirely done away not the influence of this Government only, but of the Supreme Government itself, over the mind of the Ex King. Aware as Sir J. Claridge must have been of the views and objects of the Supreme Government, of the obligations of the Treaty, in respect to the Ex-King, of the situation in which he stood, for they were all explained in our letter, the admission of visits or of any intercourse

whatever, giving countenance thereby to resistance, was in itself an act of impropriety too obvious to admit the excuse of inadvertence, for if the influence attached to the station of the Recorder is to be used in obstructing the measures of the Supreme Government, or of this, not legally before the Court nor even cognizable by it, and in which it has no concern, the legitimate authority of the Executive Government must be completely subverted, the means of executing their proper duties destroyed, and the supremacy of the Recorder established, which I consider myself warranted in saying is too clearly the grand object in view throughout the whole course of his conduct since he came to this Island.

In our proceedings with the Ex King we have been guided entirely by the principle laid down, "That when a fugitive Prince seeks the protection of another state, that state affording it, has the unquestionable right of determining the place of residence of the refugee, as may be most convenient to itself." The Ex King of Quedah has hitherto enjoyed our protection, and has been allowed to reside on this Island. Circumstances have occurred to render it necessary and expedient that he should remove to Malacca. He has been distinctly and repeatedly informed that his residing there is the condition on which alone he can enjoy the continuance of our protection. After more than three months' negotiation, in which every argument has been used, every inducement held out, he peremptorily refuses to remove. It follows therefore, that he has forfeited for the future, all consideration for his interests (right or claim to protection he never possessed). I propose therefore, that the letter, draft of which is annexed, should be sent to him, in the latter part of which an opening is left for any alteration of resolution that may be necessary on receiving the final orders of the Supreme Government, but I confess that his conduct has been such as to

destroy in my mind every feeling of commiseration, and I think we should earnestly recommend to the Supreme Government making his proceeding to Malacca in the first instance, the only condition on which any future consideration will be allowed. the residence of his family there or of that portion to which the Supreme Government may be considerations of humanity be disposed to grant pecuniary assistance, should also be insisted on.

From the letters received from Messrs. Low and Caunter it would appear the residence at Malacca is not now the sole ground of objection, that the object of the Ex King is to remain here, and that force would be required to remove him from this Island. It will be necessary therefore that we should be favoured with the sentiments and instructions of the Supreme Government in what manner we can lawfully proceed. There seems little reason to doubt the exertion of all the influence of the professional judicial authority on the Island against us, and although the Governor and Members of Council concurring in opinion as judges of the Court might by their overwhelming vote counteract any practical effect, it would nevertheless be most desirable that we should act in such case under the best legal opinion that can be obtained. This Government (the whole of these Settlements being within the jurisdiction of the Court of Judicature) possesses no power of enacting legislative regulations to meet such a case. Act 35, Geo: 3, Cap: 84—Sec. 6, the only one framed in respect to aliens, does not apply; the removal of suspected or disaffected persons has often been and may still be required. It has been done hitherto from the obvious necessity of the case, but as there appears now on the part of the Recorder a disposition to try every act of Government by the most strict and precise rule of law, a test which few newly established or acquired Settlements can bear, it is probable other questions will arise. The

pension hitherto allowed to the Ex King is entirely a political one, granted in consequence of former political connections with the King and his father. Its resumption therefore is certainly not cognizable in a municipal court. Adverting however to the course hitherto pursued by the Honorable the Recorder, we deem it by no means improbable that a claim on the Honorable Company may be urged, nor should we be much surprized to find the Treaty of 1801/2, whereby we bound ourselves to pay 10,000 Dollars for the possession of the Island set up in the Court as the grounds of a suit against this Government.

(Signed) R. Fullerton.

Fort Cornwallis
The 27th December 1827.

Factory Records,
Straits Settlements,
vol. 144,
pp. 15-16.

Fort Cornwallis January 1828.

Supt. of Police
8 Janry. 1828.

To the Honble. R. Ibbetson Esquire
Resident Councillor.

Honble. Sir,

I have the honor to report that during the last two or three days between 12 and 1300 of the inhabitants of Purlis and Setul have fled from there and come to this Island and Province Wellesley. The reason assigned by these people for their emigration is the tyrannical and oppressive Government of the Siamese, who they state intend compelling the population of these States publicly to swear allegiance to that Government, and to enforce the rite by torture or captivity.

I have &ca.

(Signed) R. Caunter
Supt. of Police.

Police Office
8 January 1828.

**Factory Records,
Straits Settlements,
vol. 144,
pp. 43-5.**

Fort Cornwallis The 9 July 1828.

**Governor Genl.
in Council
Fort William
29 February.**

To the Honorable R. Fullerton Esquire
Governor in Council
Prince of Wales Island.

Honorable Sir,

• • • • •

4. With respect to the Ex Raja of Quedah we deem it sufficient at present to observe, that we do not consider it advisable to attempt his forcible removal from the Island. The communication which you have made to him, adverted to in the 4th paragraph of your letter, is entirely proper, and we authorize you distinctly to inform him, in the name of the Supreme Government, that while he persists in declining to retire with his family to Malacca, or if he prefer it to Siak or Delhi, all pecuniary assistance and allowances will be withheld, and he will forfeit all claim to the future consideration and favor of the British Government. Should the Ex Rajah offer to proceed alone to Siak or Delhi, leaving his family at Prince of Wales Island, it will be sufficient to inform him that until he consents to their removal to Malacca, if they do not accompany him to either of the two places above mentioned, no allowance will be granted to himself or them. His Lordship in Council does not conceive that the Ex Rajah possesses the means of equipping from Siak or Delhi any formidable armament for the recovery of Queda, or has energy sufficient for the undertaking, and as far as regards apprehended acts of piracy, in the event of his settling on the East coast of Sumatra, it will always be in our power to treat such acts as they merit. It may be hoped, however, that without having recourse to the extreme measure which the Law of Nations authorizes for the suppression of pirates, we shall possess sufficient security for the

Ex Raja's goods conduct in the continuance of his pension which will be liable to resumption at our pleasure.

We have &c.

(Signed) Amherst
W. B. Bayley
C. T. Metcalfe

Fort William
29 February 1828.

Factory Records,
Straits Settlements,
vol. 144,
pp. 93-4.

Fort Cornwallis the 10 September 1828.

Supt. of Police
10 Sept: 1828.

To John Anderson Esquire

Secretary to Government

P. W. Island, Singapore and Malacca.

Sir,

I beg to submit the following information which I have collected relative to the Ex King of Quedah.

The Honorable the Governor in Council has been made aware that two of his sons have taken up their abode lately at Qualla Muda and are now there with their families, and have also been joined by some, indeed many, of the dependents of the Ex King from hence. I am informed now that it is his intention shortly to join them there, and there is now a vessel belonging to him lying to the Southward in which his property here is to be embarked, after which he will take an early opportunity of leaving this with the greatest secrecy.

It is said that he has engaged in some confederacy with some of his former subjects at Quedah to make away with the few Siamese who are stationed there; and he is then to be reinstated in his former station.

It does not appear however that he has made any warlike preparations among his own immediate followers, though I understand he has secretly been conveying gunpowder to his adherents at Quedah. The date of his intended departure I have not as yet been able precisely to ascertain, though I hear it will be between the 1st and 12th day of the ensuing Moon, and after the performance of certain religious rites which must take place between those days.

I am &c.

(Signed) J. Pattullo
Supt. of Police

Fort Cornwallis
10 September 1828.

Factory Records,
Straits Settlements,
vol. 144,
p. 98.

Fort Cornwallis The 17 September 1828.

Supt. External
Police 12:
sept: 1828.

To John Anderson Esquire
Secretary to Government, P. W. Island.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 10th instant, desiring by order of the Government that I should adopt measures in concert with the Superintendent of Internal Police for preventing the clandestine escape of the Ex Rajah of Quedah from this Island.

I now beg to report that I have made arrangements accordingly. At the same time I deem it my duty to state that from the numerous facilities for escape which this Island affords to any individual who is not actually in confinement, and whose person is not attachable, it is not improbable that the Ex Rajah may (if he really meditates such a measure) be enabled to elude the utmost vigilance of the Police and to effect his escape.

I have &c.

(Signed) James Low Captain
Supt. External Police,

P. W. Island.
12: September 1828.

Fort William 30 January 1829.

No. 5.

Tavoy 30 November 1828.

To A. D. Maingy Esqre.
Civil Commissioner.

Sir,

I beg leave to transmit through you, for the information of the Supreme Government, the substance of some intelligence received by me via Singapore from the Portuguese Consul at Bangkok, Don Carlos de Silveira, as well as the original of a memorandum forwarded to me by Mr. R. Hunter, shewing the benefits which he had derived from the Treaty with Siam during a late visit to Bangkok.

That a Burmese deputation had been sent to Siam, and that the messengers had been detained on the frontiers of that country, agreeably to the practice of the Siamese, are facts which have been known on these Coasts for some time past, and the sentiments reported by the Portuguese Consul to have been expressed on the occasion by the King and Wang-na of Siam respectively, correspond with my knowledge of the characters of each of those personages.

Mr. Leal has received at the same time a letter from Siam, apprizing him that the Rajah of Ligor has been appointed to command the naval part of the expedition under equipment at Bangkok for the war with Cochin China.

I have &c.

(Signed) H. Burney.
Deputy Commissioner
Tenasserim Provinces.

Fort William 30 January 1829.

No. 6.

SUBSTANCE of Intelligence received from Don Carlos de Silveira at Bangkok by Captain H. Burney at Tavoy.

It is very probable that the Siamese will lose all their influence over the LAOS Provinces, and if these join together, they will be able to annoy the Siamese very much. A letter from the Court^a of *Phya Aphuy Puthan* gives information of a party of Laos from *Chung-mai*^b having crossed the *Menam Khong*^c, and attached a party of Siamese who were seizing Laos people to carry them as slaves to Bangkok.

The prisoners were all retaken, many of the Siamese were killed and the remainder were obliged to fly, leaving behind their arms and provisions. The king ordered more troops to be sent, but it being the rainy season, few people went. The letter was received on the 30th May 1828.

July 7th. Ten or twelve days ago, the King received a letter from the King of Ava, brought by an ambassador, who remains at *Menam noi*^d. This was kept a profound secret till the day before yesterday. I have heard that the letter is written in a very elegant, insinuating style, but the contents a short of

a. Commander in Chief of the Siamese Army in Southern Laos near Kinchan or Lanchang

b. Symes's Zeme - Northern Laos.

c. Great Cambodia River. There must be some mistake in this. Ch-hung-mai, the Zeme or Jehenay of European maps is in about Lat: 20° and Long: 101, and Kinchan the Lan-chang of European maps and the Winkjon of the Dutch ambassadors is in Lat: 18° and Long: 103 upon the Great Cambodia River, Menam Khlong. Perhaps another Laos Principality, Chhiung rai, nearer the river, is meant.

d. A Siamese frontier post to the northwards of the 3 Pagodas and N. E. of Tavoy.

Seremiad. His Majesty says that what had formerly been predicted by the Saints had come to pass, that in the course of time the Burmese country would fall under the dominion of a Christian Power, but that it could not remain so long, as the English are not of the same religion as the Burmese and Siamese. The principal object of the letter is to induce the Siamese Government to join with the Burmese in driving the English out of India. I believe the letter contains other particulars which I have not yet been able to learn. The King proposed to send the ambassador back from the frontier but the Wang-na recommended that he should be received, that they might learn all that he had to communicate and then inform the English of it. The King however insisted upon sending back the Ambassador without any answer. The Burmese are not crushed enough yet.

The 14th July the Dutch Ship *Concordia* arrived from Batavia with an Agent Mr. Schinimar. The cargo consists of arrack, white cloth, chintz and some other articles not suited for the Siamese market. Up to this date, 7th August, nothing has been sold.

On the 20th July a letter from Khorat brought the details of an act of treachery committed by Chao Kenchan ^e. Phya Ophny Puthan was stationed at Pabo 25 Coros ^f distant from Menam Khong, and Phya Pechai Sou Cram with Rummichan on the banks of that river, that they might seize the remainder of the inhabitants of Kinchan. An Embassy consisting of 100 people arrived from Cochin China who immediately crossed the river to confer with the Siamese officers of Chao Kinchan.

^e The Prince of Lanchang or Langang of European maps, who has lately been driven out of his Principality.

^f A Coro is 2½ Siamese fathoms of 6½ English feet each.

The Ambassador said he had come from the King of Cochin China to propose the restoration of that Prince to his own territory, and to obtain for him the King of Siam's pardon, that another embassy was to proceed by sea to Bangkok, with presents, and that Chao Kinchan would return to his own city in a few days. The Siamese Officers being satisfied with what the Ambassador said went the same day to tell the General, Phya Aphuy Phuton, the result of the interview. He was also much pleased and desired them to bring the Ambassador to him. The next day Chao Kinchan arrived at Kinchan. He accosted the two Siamese officers in the most friendly manner, embracing them and talking to them as if they were his brothers, and begged they would accompany him to see the General the next day. They met accordingly, and were all seated close together, when one of Chao Kinchan's people fired a musket at Phya Pichai Son Cram and killed him on the spot. Rammichan ran away and threw himself into the river, but was killed by a spear. About 500 Siamese were killed and many taken prisoners with their arms and a great quantity of paddy. The General having only 250 men with him fled to Non Bon Lambu, about 4 days' journey from Pabo. The King was very angry when he heard of the stupid conduct of those officers. War with Cochin China seems inevitable and preparations are making for it. People are busy making the gun boats and the *Phra Khleng* is going to Bamplassoy Chantibun and Thong jai^g to hasten their completion at those places.

11th August 1828. Mr. Schiniman, the Dutch Agent from Batavia, was exempted yesterday, as a special favour from the King, from paying duty on the goods he had brought and had free liberty given him to buy and sell as he pleased, in consideration of the same indulgence having lately been granted by

g. On the frontiers of Cambodia.

the Batavian Government to 7 junks belonging to the King trading to that place.

The Agent had waited so long for the King's decision that he had determined to sell his cargo for any thing he could get for it, and pay any duties and charges the Siamese pleased, and he was certain that the Government of Batavia would make the first junk that arrived there from Siam, pay the duties of the 7 junks, and also for all his losses. The goods he has brought are not suited to the market, as they are of too good quality, nevertheless he will be able to sell them without loss. The white cloth is very broad and strong enough, fine red handkerchiefs and beautiful bed covers, some pretty good muskets of 1 and 2 barrels, and narrow chintz in long pieces, and some striped cloth to make trousers and also 28 Leaguers of Batavia Rum.

(Signed) H. Burney

Deputy Commissioner
Tenasserim Provinces.

Tavoy
30th November 1828.

Fort William 30th January 1829.

No. 7.

MEMORANDUM transmitted by Mr. R. Hunter
to Captain H. Burney at Tavoy.

Duties to spec: G. Noormahul to Siam, say according to the old Plan would have been vizt.

Import Duty on 90,000 Rs. at 8 Per Cent	Rs. 7,200
Brig's measurement Duty	„ 1,700
Paknam and Paklat Charges	„ 160
5000 Ps. Sugar bought by me $1\frac{1}{2}$ Rs. ...	„ 7,500
382 Bs. Tin ad 3 rs.	„ 1,146
140 Ps. Stic Lac @ $1\frac{1}{2}$	„ 210
100 Ps. Sapan wood difference of price 4r. before, now $1\frac{1}{2}$	„ 250
6 Ps. of Ivory ad 10	„ 60
	Rs. 18,226
According to your Treaty the Brig measuring 3 fms. 1 rubt. & $\frac{1}{6}$ at 1700 Rs.	} Ra. 5,596
	Ra. 12,630

In favour of new Treaty twelve thousand six hundred and thirty Rs. besides if I could have got Camboge or Ivory to have invested all my funds, the balance would have been much more in favour. Now we have no trouble with clerks, weighmen, &c. &c. &c.

(Signed) R. Hunter.

Factory Records,
Straits Settlements,
vol. 145,
p. 3.

Fort Cornwallis The 3rd January 1829.

Captain Low
2d January
1829.

To J. W. Salmond Esquire
Acting Deputy Secretary to Government.

Sir,

I have the honor to enclose a copy of a letter received by me from the Raja Muda at Quedah requesting that certain people who have left that country to reside in Province Wellesley may be sent back.

I request permission to observe that the numerous parties of Malays which have lately emigrated from Quedah have been driven to that extremity by the *harsh and oppressive* measures of the Siamese Chiefs.

I have suggested to the Raja Muda that references of this nature should be made to Government, not to me.

I have &ca.

(Signed) James Low.

Fort Cornwallis
The 2 January 1829.

ORDERED that Captain Low be informed that unless the people are Criminals, they cannot be forcibly returned.

Fort Cornwallis 23rd February 1829.

Factory Records,
Straits Settlements, vol. 145,
pp. 1-2 (2d set
of paging.)

Rajah Muda.

Translation

of a letter from the Rajah Muda, son of the Rajah of
Ligore at Quedah, to the Malay Translator.

I request my friend will inform the Honble. the
Governor of Pulo Penang that Twanku Koodin, the
nephew of the Rajah of Quedah, and Twanku Daggang,
Twanku Jaffar, the two sons of Twanku Long Puteh,
with Panglima Manan and two peons formerly in the
English service at Kwala Prye, and two persons named
Che Men Alli and Che Ahiya, who reside at Tanjong
Tokong, and Panglima Saiu, Panglima Punghu, Imam
Semahun, Che Haji, Panglima Hoosein, Panglima
Meir, Panglima Hoosein who resides at Teluk Ayer
Tawar, Che Rhio, Awang Lahat, Che Akkub who reside
at Pulo Penang, took English colours, stating that
they were going to look for a livelihood, and they went
and seized 16 people who were guarding the birds'
nests at Pulo Metia, and 8 people of Salang. In re-
turning they seized 30 people belonging to Pulo
Langkawi. On the 12th of Shaban, Twanku Din,
Twanku Daggang, Twanku Jaffar and the Panglimas
who are named above, came to the sea beach in the
night. Twanku Din, Twanku Daggang, Twanku Jaffar
and all the Panglimas above named came on shore and
approached the Fort where I reside and attacked it,
and fought with and fired upon the Siamese. Twanku
Din, Twanku Jaffar, Twanku Daggang and the Pang-
limas above named fled to their prows and these people
are concerting to commit mischief and to infringe the
Treaty made by the Right Honble. Lord Amherst,
Governor General of Bengal. I therefore request my
friend to seize them according to the custom of the
English.

Moreover, respectable Chinese, Malays and Chooliahs are reporting that the Rajah of Quedah is going to send Twanku Abdullah, Twanku Din his sons, and Twanku Long Puteh the husband of Twanku Jam Jam, with some Malays at Kwala Prye to go across the country to do mischief to Quedah. If such is true as stated, I request my friend will prevent them, and that there may be no infringement of the Treaty made between the English and Siamese. Written on Thursday the 16 Shaban.

A true Translation.

Penang

The 23rd February 1829.

Factory Records,
Straits Settlements,
vol. 145,
pp. 2-3 (2d set
of paging)

Fort Cornwallis 23rd February 1829.

Letter

To Rajah Muda. from the Acting Resident Councillor to the Rajah Muda, son of the Rajah of Ligore at Quedah.

I have this morning received my friend's letter dated 16 Shaban, in reply to which I have to acquaint him that the Honble. the Governor lately proceeded to Singapore, but the purport of my friend's letter shall be communicated to him immediately. Meantime, I lose no time in dispatching two vessels to look after the pirates who have been making incursions on the Quedah coast, and I have given directions to the officers of Government here to keep a most vigilant watch over the proceedings of the Ex Rajah of Quedah and his followers, and to prevent, by every possible means, all attempts to disturb the peace of my friend's Government at Quedah. My friend may be assured of the anxious desire of this Government to observe the stipulations of the Treaty as strictly as possible, but he must also be sensible how difficult it is to watch closely the proceedings of such a multitude of Malays and refugees scattered about in this quarter and it will be necessary for my friend to take proper precautions for defence, while every exertion shall be used to prevent any hostile equipments here.

(Signed) J. Anderson
Acting Resident Councillor.

Penang
23rd February 1829.

Fort Cornwallis 23rd February 1829.

Factory Records,
Straits Settlements,
vol. 145,
pp. 3-4. (2nd set
of paging).

To J. Pattullo Esquire
Superintendent of Police.

Sir,

I herewith transmit for your information copy of a translation of a letter just received from the Rajah Muda, son of the Rajah of Ligore at Quedah, and to request you will proclaim by beat of gong throughout the town, that any persons residing under this Government aiding or abetting the Rajah of Quedah or any of his followers in making an attack on Quedah or any of the places on the coast will be treated as pirates, and if you have any reason to believe that the proceedings of his relatives and followers, as reported by the Young Chief at Quedah, have been by his connivance or assistance, you are authorized to inform him that if he is detected in any endeavours to subvert the existing Government at Kedah, he will be put into restraint.

You are also authorised to engage any additional number of peons you may require to keep a vigilant watch over the proceedings of the refugees, to seize the parties mentioned in the Young Chief's letter, if found within the jurisdiction of the Island.

The two armed cutters will be dispatched to Quedah this evening to look after the pirates.

I am &c.

(Signed) J. Anderson
Acting Resident Councillor.

23rd February 1829.

Factory Records,
Straits Settlements, vol. 145,
pp. 9-11 (2d set
of paging).

Fort Cornwallis 25th February 1829.

Governor in
Council.

To the Honble. R. Fullerton Esquire
Governor in Council.

Honble. Sir,

With reference to my letter of the 23rd instant I have now the honor to transmit for your information annexed copies of a letter from Captain Low, Superintendent of Police, Province Wellesley, with my reply, and orders to the Master Attendant. The Officer commanding the troops having upon the recommendation of the Master Attendant and my requisition sent 12 sepoys on board the two gun boats, the vessels sailed yesterday in pursuit of the pirates.

2. Mr. Pattullo the Superintendent of Police has also handed me a letter to his address from the Ex Rajah of Quedah, of which the enclosed is a translation.

3. Whether the proceedings already noticed are by the Ex Rajah's direct authority or not, it is impossible for me to say, but it is not, I dare say, probable, that he will be anxious, so long as he remains on this island in the midst of his late subjects, to discourage with much sincerity either them or his relatives who have the means to annoy and distress the Siamese, even if he does not retain influence over them, which he disclaims. The Chiefs named Twanku Din and Twanku Long Puteh are notorious pirates, and it is generally believed that their attacks on the Quedah coast do not arise from any devotion to the interests of the Ex Rajah, the object being plunder, with a total recklessness of the ultimate result as far as regards the welfare of that Chief.

4. In adopting the precautionary measures which I have the honor to report, I have had reference to former proceedings on record and especially to the commands of the Right Honorable the Governor General in Council in the dispatch under date the 26th November 1827* (paragraph 5), an extract from which, as well as a copy of the last communication made to the Ex Rajah through the Superintendent of Police on the 4 November last*, are annexed for more immediate reference.

* *This document has not been traced.*

5. The Siamese have a very small force at Quedah, and this, it is supposed, offers a great temptation to attack by some of the more desperate refugees, assisted by pirates from other quarters. A question naturally arises whether the British Government is to be expected to guarantee the present possessors of Quedah in the tranquil possession of the country and guard the coasts as formerly engaged with the Malayan Government, and whether the Siamese should not be bound to keep a sufficient force for their own protection as well as to cooperate against the numerous pirates infesting the neighbourhood, as the Malayan Chief did in former years. This Government has been constantly called upon by the Siamese Authorities at Quedah to prevent any infringement of the Treaty and to keep the numerous Malayan refugees in order, and this has been done as far as possible; but the best precautions will sometimes not avail, and we are burthened with an increased expense in maintaining armed vessels, additional police &c. to keep a disorderly mass of refugees in check.

I have &c.

(Signed) J. Anderson

Acting Resident Councillor.

Fort Cornwallis

The 25th February 1829.

Fort William 1st May 1829.

No. 16.

Tavoy 28 February 1829.

To A. D. Maingy Esqr.
Civil Commissioner.

Sir,

I do myself the honor to report to you, that the messengers whom I dispatched to Bangkok with letters to the Portuguese Ex-Consul have just returned with a letter from the Deputy Foreign Minister of which I enclose a translation. The Portuguese Consul informs me that the Cochin Chinese had deputed two Missions to the Court of Siam in order to effect a reconciliation between that Court and the Prince of Southern Laos or King Chin,* but that both Missions have entirely failed, and that subsequently the Prince had been captured and brought to Bangkok where preparations are being made for executing [him] with very great tortures. The circumstance of this Prince having been apprehended will, Mr. Silveira imagines, put an end to the differences which had for some time past existed between Cochin China and Siam, and the Court of Bangkok with this view, was about to depute a Complimentary Mission to Cochin China.

• • • • • •

I have &c.

(Signed) H. Burney.

Dy. Comr.

* Viang Chan. (1)

Fort William 30th April 1830.

Bengal Political Consultations, Range 126, vol. 14.

No. 93.

Memoranda from the King of Quedah.
the 16th March 1829.

The Kingdom of Quedah descended from my ancestors to me with the dignity and title of King, in respect of which the Kings of Quedah have been in the custom of presenting the Boongah Mass or Gold Tree as a mark of respect to the King of Siam, but the Kingdom of Quedah was in no wise a tributary state to the King of Siam, with whom my ancestors many times went to war. On my taking refuge on this Island, I understood I was to receive the protection of the King of England, and that my children were to receive the same protection. When I was on the throne I sent my son and my minister to Siam, to the King of Siam, at which meeting the King of Siam told my son that he wished to send an army to attack the country of Perak. My son and the Bandara (Minister) consulted together and were aware that if the Siamese were to send an army to Perak they must pass through Quedah, and that would occasion great surprise and disquiet among the subjects of Quedah, and might cause a war to take place between the countries of Siam and Quedah. On this the Bandara (Minister) engaged with the King of Siam respecting the country of Perak that he would collect an army and go and attack them, and that there was no occasion for His Majesty to trouble himself on the subject. The King of Siam was much pleased, and I paid all the expenses of the war on taking Perak. There afterwards came the message of Rajah Lagore (King of Ligore) as King for rice and paddy for the supply of the army which was going against Cochin China; I prepared all the rice and paddy accordingly, and after this came a letter saying that the Rajah Ligore had sent peons to receive the rice and paddy. When the peons

arrived they were allowed to come into the river. They sent for the Bandara Laksamana and the Tumangong (my ministers then in charge) and demanded the rice and paddy. The Bandara answered the rice and paddy were ready. While talking together they suddenly seized the Bandara Laksamana and the Tumangong and murdered them, and many more of my establishment were murdered by them. At that time I was at Marahbooh River, so that no immediate news could come to me. The Siamese came into Marahbooh River and fired, and plundered the country, and murdered all the inhabitants. When my family heard of this outrage, they became so alarmed that I was obliged to take them on elephants and brought them to Prys in Province Wellesley, my wish being to put them all under the charge and care of my brother Rajah Solywan at Prys, and then to return and attack the Siamese. About this time a messenger from Governor Phillips by Mr. Cramer, Major Combs and Mr. John Anderson came to Prys requesting me to meet the Governor and stated that Governor Phillips sent them to conduct me and my family over to Poolo Penang, the Governor wishing to assist me agreeably to the engagement of the Company with my father, through Mr. Light, who came into Quedah by desire of the Company and who by Treaty were engaged, that if any enemy should come from sea against Quedah, the Company would themselves fight those enemies, and if the enemy came from the land the Company should assist with money, expenses, arms, guns, powder and shots, and further if the slaves of Quedah people should run away to Poolo Penang, the Government should allow them to be taken back, and further to pay yearly the sum of ten thousand dollars as rent or income and many more points were made in the Engagement which will be found in the books of the Secretary's Office of the Government. This gave me great assurance that the Company would not fail to assist me, and I

accordingly brought my family over to Poolo Penang. Immediately on my arrival at Poolo Penang, Governor Phillips gave me all the respects due to my rank, and requested of me to remain in Poolo Penang, stating that he would send letters to the Governor General and Council in Bengal to grant me assistance to retake the country of Que-lah from the Siamese, and reinstate me, agreeably to the Engagement of the Company with my father. In the year 1238 on the 19th of the month Mohorum, Governor Phillips sent a letter requesting me to wait until the return of Mr. Crawford from Siam. Governor Phillips gave me for my expenses five hundred dollars per month, avowing, should I still wish to go away from Poolo Penang he would not stop me, and that I was free. And further in the year 1238 on the 25th day of the month Rajah, Governor Phillips sent another letter, informing me that he had received an answer from the Governor General and Council of Bengal in regard to my wish to go from Poolo Penang to endeavour to get my country back. That the Governor in no wise wished to debar me from carrying my intention into effect, and that the Governor General had given his promise, that every assistance should be given for my ease and comfort as long as I should remain in Poolo Penang, and further that the Governor General had a strong wish to assist me and use his influence with the Siam Power to get back my country. In the year 1238 on the 3rd day of the month Looliahedah Governor Phillips wrote to me another letter respecting my income, during the time of my residence in Poolo Penang, and that I should get 500 dollars monthly. That in the year 1825 on the 1st day of October, Governor Phillips sent another letter respecting me and my family stating that it was his wish to reinstate me and family in our former dignity and respectability as heretofore, and recommending me to wait until a fair opportunity should offer. That in the year 1242 on the 19th day of the month

Jaffer, Governor Fullerton's letter to me states the Engagements of the Siam Government with Mr. Burney, which has been communicated to me, expressing a wish for me to quit Poolo Penang, at which place I sought refuge. I have well considered these points, and I do not wish to change my place of residence or to avoid the protection of the Honble. the East India Company, or to throw a doubt upon British good faith, or the Laws of Hospitality. After that letter two or three other letters I have received from the present Governor desiring me to go to Malacca, and accompanied by threats, with which I could not comply consistently with good feeling, and recollecting that I came to Poolo Penang on the solicitation of Governor Phillips, who professed his wish to ratify the Company's and my father's Engagement. It is now the endeavour to send me off to a distance from my late kingdom, so that I may forego all opportunity of reinstatement in my kingdom, so as to accommodate treaties with my enemies to which I have not been consenting. I do not wish to go to Malacca and as I came to Poolo Penang with the invitation of Governor Phillips, who promised to let me return to my country Quedah, and as it was on the faith that the Company would not evade their promise, or throw aside their sacred engagement, on this offer that I consented to remain on this Island. In the year 1238 on the 1st day of the month Rajab, on Thursday, Governor Fullerton, by letter, orders me to remove to Malacca, or Siak, or Dellie and threatens that if I do not submit to and follow his commands that what he terms my allowance would be stopped, and no more respect would be shown to me, that I must consider myself the same as the inhabitants in general, and I am forbidden to write to or send any letter to him, the Governor, and I am degraded with the uncourteous threats of being referred to the common police, an act I am confident which would not be sanctioned by the Honble. Company towards a Monarch, though under

afflictions. Not contented with such insult solely, this Governor causes the Gong to beat through the Island prohibiting any person from selling any vessel, balls, gun powder and arms to me and any of my people. I have still to state, that in order to add to my distressing fate, bordering almost upon want, the rent or payment due to me as heir to my father, and by which Prince of Wales Island and Province Wellesley are held of the Crown of Quedah, has been purposely kept in arrear during the last fifteen months, an injustice, unless redressed, which will drive me to the highest authorities with my complaints, which are too numerous to be detailed in this paper.

It is therefore to the Governor General of India that I call for redress of my grievances, namely, that notwithstanding my misfortunes I may be treated with that respect which is due to me as the King of a country, the Government of which I have been unjustly deprived of. That the solemn Engagement entered into on the part of the Honble. Company on my taking refuge in Prince of Wales Island be in all things performed. That the rents or payments by which the said Island and Province Wellesley are held, be immediately paid up, and regularity in future be observed respecting such payments.

That my residence in Prince of Wales' Island may be rendered more respectable, and that so long as I do remain in the Island, a Guard be assigned as formerly, and that I may be at liberty to return to my own kingdom when I may think fit, nevertheless upon such terms as may be reciprocally suitable to the interest of both parties.

Fallen and reduced as I am at present, I shall look forward to a better understanding between myself and the Honble. Company when the fair statement of my case shall be known, together with a detail of the

wrongs and insults I have endured and I challenge the production of my proof that during my residence in this Island, I have deported myself otherwise than with submissive conduct, even under oppression.

I beg to annex to this paper a translation of the notice I received from the Police Magistrate on the 28th February last, on which I need make no observation at present.

This letter is as a mark of faith and clearness and presents that love which comes from me the Police Magistrate and is to reach my friend Yong do Pertuan Quedah who is honored and celebrated. The occasion is that Mr Anderson has received a letter from Quedah stating that Tuanko Long Pootee, and Tuanko Din were causing disturbances with the Siamese. Mr. Anderson having duly considered that if they were not authorised by my friend they never would have done so! This is to acquaint my friend, if it should be found to be true and that my friend has given such encouragement, or my friend is really concerned in this business, and it should so appear to me, on that very moment my friend will get the punishment of being put under arrest and a guard of sepoy. Of this take notice, written on the 23d February 1829.

(Signed) J. Pattullo
Supt. of Police.

From the King of Queda.

Fort Cornwallis The 24th March 1829.

Factory Records,
Straits Settlements, vol. 145,
pp. 2-3 (3d set
of paging)

Supt. of Police
Province Wellesley
dated 24
March 1829.

To John Anderson Esquire

Secretary to Government

Prince of Wales Island.

Sir,

I have the honor to forward for the information of the Honorable the Governor in Council three several reports received this day from the Thanadar of the Muda District, by which it would appear that the Siamese have sent an armed party to the Chinese Farmer's village on the north bank of the Muda River, and that their object is to apprehend Tuanko Long Putih the pirate, who has been lately creating disturbance at Kedah. The party it seems are awaiting fresh orders from the Siamese Chief.

It is reported that Tuanko Long Putih is lurking in the jungle, either within the Province or close on the border.

I have &ca.

(Signed) James Low

Supt. of Police, Prov: Wellesley.

Province Wellesley
24th March 1829.

ORDERED that the Superintendent of Police of Province Wellesley be directed to afford every assistance to the Siamese in apprehending the pirate Tuanko Long Putih.

**Factory Records,
Straits Settlements,
vol. 144,
pp. 6-8 (3d set
of paging).**

**Chief at Quedah
dated 26 March
1829.**

Fort Cornwallis The 7 April 1829.

Translation

of a letter from the Rajah Muda at Quedah, son of the Chow Piya of Ligore to the Acting Resident Councillor of Pulo Penang.

(After Compliments.)

I beg my friend will acquaint the Honorable Robert Fullerton, Governor of Pulo Penang, Singapore and Malacca, that during the last month Tuanko Din with certain Panglimas named came and entered the Quedah River with 15 or 16 prows during the night, landing and committing a disturbance, intending to attack the fort in which I reside: these circumstances I have already made known to my friend in a letter which I sent by Hakim Itam and Che Mat last month—all was stated therein.

During the present month the Rajah of Quedah sent Tuanko Long Puteh, the husband of Tuanko Janjam and the Rajah's brother-in-law together with Tuanko Long Putih's three sons, also Pangkooloo Pa-Ally who resides at Penaga (Province Wellesley) also Che Etam residing at Miniah, also Tuanko Akkil who resides with Tuanko Janjam, Hadji Abdullah who resides at Pulo Penang, near the house of the Ex Rajah of Quedah, together with the people of Penaga, about 300 people more more or less. All these came armed and equipped intending to attack and take Quedah. On the fourth day of this month Tuanko Long Putih arrived at a place called Padang Pusing and seized a Chinese Compong erecting a stockade and seized some Malay people of Quedah, impressing them into his service to assist in making war. In consequence of this the Malays were frightened and fled in numbers, a part came to me and reported that Tuanko

Long Putih and his 3 son Panghooloo Pa Ally, Che Itam, Tuanko Akkil and Hadji Abdullah, with a great many ryots, were committing great oppression upon the inhabitants, and exciting a great disturbance: on receiving this intelligence I sent Aluang Kromluk and some Siamese in that direction. When these Siamese reached, * Tuanko Long Putih with the before mentioned persons fought with those persons under Aluang Kromluk from the morning till noon, Tuanko Long's forces were routed and fled across the river of Kwalla Muda entering my friend's territory, and now residing with Tuanko Jamjam at a place called Pematang Bindahari. Tuanko Din, the nephew of the Rajah of Quedah, and Tuanko Long Putih, brother-in-law of the Rajah, and the other people already mentioned went and carried on war in the Quedah country, thereby breaking the Treaty of the Right Honorable Lord Amherst, Governor General of Bengal, which was made by Captain Burney at the capital with the great King, also with my father the Chow Piya of Ligore, who established a friendship with the Right Honorable Lord Amherst Governor General of Bengal and the Honorable Robert Fullerton, Governor of Pulo Penang, Singapore and Malacca and my friend. Moreover as the Rajah of Quedah sent these people, Tuanko Din and Tuanko Long Putih and all the others mentioned to go and attack Quedah I request my friend to search and seize these persons, and punish them according to the custom of the English. I request my friend will let me know what proceedings he may take in the matter, agreeably to the rules of friendship.

Dated 18th Ramlan 1244.

A true Translation

(Signed) John Anderson

Malay Transl. to Government-

Penang

The 26 March 1826.

Fort William 1st May 1829.

No. 15.

Commissioner in the Tenasseri n Provinces.

To G. Swinton Esqre.

Chief Secretary to Government

Fort William.

Sir,

I have the honor to enclose translation of a letter in the Talain language brought me lately by some traders from Baugkok. It is addressed to Major General Sir A. Campbell, to whom the bearers of the letter were desired to communicate the circumstance of a party of Burmese having been sent into the Dominion of Siam and of their having been seized and confined at [the] town of Kamboori where the Court of Siam ordered that they should remain until such time as the Major General signified his wishes whether the Burmese should be delivered up to him.

I told the bearers and I addressed a communication to the same purport to Maha Yotha, that I should be happy to take charge of these Burmese and the Taliens returned to Siam professedly with an intention of obtaining orders for bringing the men to me. Should the men arrive it is my intention, after examining them, to send them over to Rangoon with a Letter to the Woonggy stating that I had taken charge of them, fearing that they might receive some injury at the hands of the Siamese and requesting the Woonggy to ascertain from the Men themselves for what purpose the Chief Oozanah had sent them to Siam.

I beg also to enclose a copy of a letter from
the Deputy Commissioner.

I have &c.

(Signed) A. D. Maingy
Commissioner in the
Tenasserim Provinces.

Amherst
12th April 1829

Fort Cornwallis The 8 June 1829.

To A. Sterling Esquire
Acting Secretary to Government.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of a letter and other papers from Mr. Swinton, relative to the residence of the Ex King or Rajah of Quedah in the Island of Penang.

2. I conceive that if an attempt were made to remove a fugitive Prince from any part of the Presidencies in India where English law prevails, the local Court would, upon application being made to it, have the power to interfere and decide on the legality of the removal. And this appears to me to be one of the difficulties which have arisen from the introduction of the English system of laws into a country where the manners of the people, the nature of our Dominion, and the powers requisite for the Government, are so different from what they are at home. The Statute 55 Geo. 3d, C. 84, S. 6. seems to have been framed with a different view, and to be applicable only to the Subjects of a foreign State, who are not natives of parts within the limits of the Charter of the United Company.

3. I conceive that the Treaty made between the United Company and the King of Quedah in 1802 is at an end, so far at least as relates to the Ex King or Rajah himself. It is of the nature of those Treaties which the writers upon International Law have termed 'real,' and even if it were looked upon as "personal" it is one of those which would be terminated when the Rajah of Quedah had lost his power and fled from the country. In the Treaty the Rajah who executed it not only speaks in express terms of "his Dominions" but undertakes on his part to perform many articles of the treaty which

require the exercise of the powers of Government. The stipend of 10,000 dollars is granted for considerations which he is no longer able to fulfil, and it would not be consistent either with the Law of Nations or with common reason that the Treaty should be obligatory upon one party and wholly without influence on the other. I will add that a Treaty between independent states (and that in question appears to me of this class), is not, even while in force, cognizable in a Municipal Court, but is a proper subject for the consideration of the respective Governments who are parties to it, on principles of international law.

4. If however, the Ex Rajah should prefer a claim grounded on the Treaty of 1802 for the stipend originally payable under it, the Court will have to decide upon their authority to entertain the question. In what manner or at what time it may be proper for the United Company to offer an objection to the jurisdiction, I am not able to say without a further knowledge of the forms of proceeding to be established in the Court at Penang, but from the directions contained in the Charter (p. 28) I take it for granted that they will be of the most simple kind, and that no difficulty can occur in bringing forward the point in question. If it should happen that the Court determines that it is competent to enter upon the enquiry, and should decide against the United Company, an appeal is given by the Charter to the King in Council, and of the result, I cannot bring myself to admit a doubt.

I have &c.

(Signed) Jno. Pearson
Advocate General.

Fort William
The May 9 1829.

Bengal Secret
and Political
Consultations,
vol. 55.

Fort William 10th July 1829.

No. 2.

To G. Swinton Esqre,
Secretary to Government
Political Department
Fort William.

Sir,

I am directed by the Honble. the Governor in Council to request you will submit to the notice of the Right Honble. the Governor General in Council the enclosed correspondence with the Rajah of Ligore, relative to some recent disturbances in the Quedah territory and the proceedings of the Ex Rajah of that country; his relatives and late subjects.

I have &c.

(Signed) J. Anderson
Secretary to Government.

Fort Cornwallis
the 11th May 1829.

Fort William 10th July 1829.

Bengal Secret
and Political
Consultations,
vol. 355.

No. 4.

Translation of a letter from the Chow Piya of Ligore to the Honble. R. Fullerton, Governor of Prince of Wales Island, Singapore and Malacca.

(After Compliments.)

I beg to inform my friend that I sent for my son the Rajah of Quedah to come to Ligore, and appointed Pra Sena Nuchit to act as Raja Muda for my son together with Pra Sethi SongKram Belat and other Siamese Chiefs to take care of Quedah and carry on its affairs agreeably to the Treaty.

On the 27th day of 3d month Pra Sena Nuchit my son, the Raja Muda, Pra Sethi SongKram Belat, who were at Quedah, sent a letter to my son, the Rajah of Quedah, stating that on the 12th day of the 3d month Tuanko Din, the nephew of the former Rajah of Quedah, Tuanko Dagong, Tuanko Iaafar the son of Tuanko Song Putih, with Panglima Maa n Panglima Amwang Lahat, Panglima Sayon, Panglima Hussain, Panglima Min, Chee Rou, Chee Auggor, Chee Mat Ally, Chee Jaga and Che Akhil, in all 13 Malay Panglimas, with 13 Prows and crews and arms, entered the mouth of the Quedah River, and at midnight they brought their prows close to the shore where they landed, passing along the sea shore, with the intention of doing mischief at Quedah ; but they did not carry it into execution, for when they approached close, information was given to Pra Sena Nuchit, who is acting for my son, informing him that Tuanko Din with all his followers were coming along the sea shore, and Pra Sena Nuchit, who is acting for my son, on hearing this report sent Pra Sethi SongKram Belat with other Siamese Chiefs and a party of men to attack and oppose them in order to preserve the country. They fell in with Tuanko Din

and commenced fighting with muskets, and one of the Siamese Chiefs was shot by one of Tuanko Din's people, and it being flood tide Tuanko Din and his party fled with their prows to sea.

Moreover on the 7th day of the 4th month Pra Sena Nuchit, who is acting for my son, and Pra Sethi SongKram Belat sent me a letter acquainting me that Tuanko Abdullah, the son of the former Rajah of Quedah, and his brother in law Tuanko Song Puteh, concerted with Wan Aboobehas and Wan Harrum, together with Malay people of Prye and Kwala Muda to come into the country to attack Quedah, as Tuanko Abdullah, the son of the former Rajah of Quedah and Tuanko Din did once before; they thought on this occasion to come and repeat the mischief. These Malay relatives and adherents of the late Rajah of Quedah, who are residing near Pulo Penang, were aware that the Rajah of Quedah had gone to *Ligore*, and they concerted to commit mischief at variance with the Treaty. I request my friend will give orders to the cruizers to examine the sea and coasts and discover any persons committing mischief and such as are found doing so punish them according to custom. Such I make known to my friend that he may be aware. I have sent back my son the Rajah of Quedah to Quedah, to be established agreeably to the Treaty which is fixed between the Siamese and English for the purpose of pursuing friendship between them while the earth and sky continue. I request my friend who is exalted, to punish these wicked people with severity and restrain them from such pursuits at sea and on shore and all the people of the country will cultivate and plant paddy, and carry on business in security.

The above is what I have made known in a former communication. Moreover on the 16th day of 3d month, Aluang Burin Deja, a Siamese Chief of Purlis, sent a letter informing me that Tuanko Din and followers brought prows to Purlis and seized Che Daud

and Che Alli, and sent letters to induce the people at Purlis to create mischief in Purlis, by which means the people of the country are unsettled and cannot gain a livelihood. I therefore send Koon Aksorn to make this known, so that my friend may be informed. Moreover I perceive that so long as the former Rajah of Quedah had been residing near there has been much of these proceedings, and they will not cease. I therefore request my friend to take into consideration how the Treaty between Quedah and Pulo Penang may be conformed to, so that they may become one for my friend, and I trust that means may be taken to stop the proceedings of these wicked people.

Dated 13th Rama—year Pi kuln.

Penang the 5th May 1829.

(A true Translation)

(Signed) J. Anderson
Malay Translator to Government.

Letter from the Honble. Governor of Pulo Penang,
Singapore and Malacca, to the Rajah of Ligore.

I have duly received my friend's duplicate letter relative to the proceedings of Tuanko Din and Tuanko Song Puteh, respecting which my sentiments have already been conveyed to my friend. I have now only to repeat that no protection is afforded to these evil disposed people within the British territory, and the armed vessels belonging to this Government are constantly employed in pursuit of the pirates in the vicinity of this Island.

(Signed) R. Fullerton
Governor.

Penang the 11th May 1829.

To

The Honble. R. Fullerton Esqre.
Governor &c. &c. &c.

Honble. Sir,

Agreeably to your desire I have now the honor to submit translations of the 7 notes handed to me by Koon Aksorn, the bearer of the Rajah of Ligore's letters; no allusion is made in the letter to these notes which profess to be copies of papers found by the Siamese on Tuanko Song Puteh's making a hasty retreat from a small stockade near the borders in the Quedah territory, on his late predatory expedition.

I have &c.

(Signed) J. Anderson
Malay Translator to Govt.

Fort Cornwallis the 11th May 1829.

Translation of a Note from the Ex Rajah of Quedah to Tuanko Song Puteh.

I formerly sent a letter to you desiring you to arrange with my son, Tuanko Abdullah, to proceed to Quedah, in consequence of Paduka Maha Mantri having called you and your three sons; but I have now received certain intelligence that Paduka Maha Mantri has been put to death by the Siamese. It will be better therefore to consult with your two sons not to proceed to Quedah at present, for all the inhabitants of Quedah are now in great dread of the Siamese, and it is my opinion that if you and your sons were to go to Quedah accompanied only by Quedah people you would certainly all suffer as Paduka Maha. Such being the case, you should stop for a time until the Rajah of Bengal arrives, when I will see him for a little and we will go together. I am only waiting for this cause.

Moreover you must give intimation to Tuanko Din as herein mentioned.

Dated 23d Rajab 1244.

From the Ex Rajah of Quedah to Tuanko Song Puteh and (his wife) Tuanko Jam Jam.

I have received information that Tuanko Dagang has proceeded to Pulo Lacavy to follow Tuanko Din. I am of opinion it was not proper to let him go, because it may possibly lead to difficulty with the English and I am waiting only for the Rajah of Bengal, in order that I may settle all my business and and if they do not confirm to the old Treaty, I will arrange for quitting Pulo Penang and proceed where I please.

With respect to the Rajah of Bengal the reports are that he will arrive here in 10 or 11 days. It is better therefore to wait and hear what is the determination of the people. Wherefore I request you will recall your son (that is Tuanko Dagang).

Dated 6th Rajab 1244.

From Tuanko Din to Tuanko Song Puteh.

With respect to your directions conveyed by Panjaung that I should endeavour to make arrangements for getting you out of the Krian, the cruizers are keeping very strict watch at present from the harbour to Puloo Bunting, and I should not perhaps be able to pass you, which would be productive of great embarrassment; but I will proceed to Kwala Muda and will endeavour to make arrangements.

From Tuanko Daiu, youngest son of Ex Rajah of Quedah, to Tuanko Song Puteh.

The letter which you sent me by your two sons has reached me and I understand its contents and I am very happy to be together, but I am much distressed in consequence of my father being in Pulo Penang with the English. You are acquainted with all circumstances. I shall therefore consider and communicate with the Rajahs in Pulo Penang in respect to the contents of your letter, for I am extremely desirous to assist in this work. My brother, Tuanko Abdullah, also is collecting people to send them to you.

28th Shaban 1214.

From Tuanko Jam Jam (sister of the Ex Rajah of Quedah) to Tuanko Song Puteh, her husband.

My mind is extremely anxious and distressed in respect to the business you are about to be engaged in, but what can I say? I rely on the Almighty that He will protect you and pray for safety of you all. I hope you will consider well and conciliate all the people who accompany you. With respect to Raja Abdullah, he is an old man and will be like your brother; do not therefore conceal anything from him. I entreat that you will take the advice of proper people, for you are not acquainted with the road, and you must take care of the people with you—those who are Pangulas to treat them as such and the ryots as ryots. I merely remind you of this, without presuming to instruct you. Do not be anxious about me here who rely on the protection of the Almighty.

From Tuanko Din to Tuanko Song Puteh.

I have received a letter from Tuanko Abdallah brought by Che Ribu in which he requests to fix a day that he has for accompanying us on the expedition and I have returned answer by Che Saleh fixing the 7th day of the month for proceeding. I waited from the 7th till the 11th and on that night I went on shore, but mistook the road, and it was nearly day light, so that I could not enter the fort. I therefore returned to the boat, the young Rajah (Siamese) mounted his elephants. There were 20 Siamese at the fort and 20 at Koobang Rattan, the rest Malays. I therefore request you will arrange with your sons and let us attack and seize this fort at once within these 3 or 4 days. Do not let Lebby Ally and his followers and arms remain. I do not wish to make a long story; you can enquire all of Che Ribu.

No. 7.

From Tuanko Abdurramman, son of Tuanko Song Puteh, to Datri Bandar Rajah Ulama Satiya of Purlis.

The letter which you sent by my father Tuanko Song Puteh has duly reached me and I understand its contents. I have also received the tin which you sent me.

In respect of my father's intention of proceeding to Purlis, that cannot now be carried into effect. He is building a stockade at Guroon, and those who are concerned in this business must make haste. I therefore beg you to send Tein Sela Satiya to my father at Pindang, using all dispatch day and night, for my father intends to proceed to the attack in one or two days. I proceed by sea to meet my brother Tuanko Din. This business you must settle definitely and I trust to the assistance of the Almighty. All other matters will be connected with Tein Sela Satiya when he meets my father, Tuanko Song Puteh, at Pindang.

(True Translations)

(Signed) J. Anderson—Malay Translator
to Government.

Factory Records,
Straits Settlements,
vol. 145,
pp. 49-50 (3d set
of paging).

Fort Cornwallis 22nd June 1829.

Chow Pya Ban
5 June 1829.

Translation

of a letter from Aluang Piya Ban to the Malay Translator.

After Compliments.

I send this letter to my friend and for the purpose of making known to the Honorable the Governor of Pulo Penang, Singapore and Malacca that I proceeded to Pulo Langkaivi to drive out Tuanko Din who was committing disturbances there and oppression upon the inhabitants, and Tuanko Long Patih also did the same. They received intelligence that I had taken my departure for that place and they fled to Kuala Muda, whither I have pursued them. I therefore send a man to make known this to my friend according to the rule of friendship.

Moreover the Rajah of Ligore has given me orders that I shall do nothing that may be disagreeable to the English and if any persons commit any misconduct upon the inhabitants of Quedah, I am directed to give intimation to the Governor of Pulo Penang. The Siamese and English have established a friendship that will last as long as the sun and moon continue. I am now come with a great number of prows, people of Quedah are also accompanying me as I am apprehensive of the attempts of the wicked people. I have therefore brought many prows and let not my friend entertain any doubts. This I make known.

My object also in entering the Murbow is to examine the place, and to establish some people there so that wicked people may not resort there. I intend to remain two or three days and then return. This I also make known.

Not having brought with me my Malay writer I cannot send this letter in Malay according to former custom.

Dated 8th of 7th month, year cow.

A true translation from the Malay into which language it has been previously rendered from Siamese.

(Signed) John Anderson
Malay Translator to Government.

Prince of Wales Island
The 15th June 1829.

**Factory Records,
Straits Settlements,
vol. 145,
pp. 53-55. (3d set
of paging).**

Fort Cornwallis The 22nd June 1829.

**Supt. of Province
Wellesley 19
June 1829.**

To John Anderson Esquire

Secretary to Government

Fort Cornwallis.

Sir,

I have the honor, in reply to your letter of the 16th instant, to report for the information of the Government that Tuanko Long Putih, the person therein alluded to has been notoriously connected with the pirates of Sine and other places in the Straits during a long course of years.

He reached Penang under very suspicious circumstances and seems to have been since actively engaged in aiding and abetting and fomenting the late disturbances in Quedah, which with reference to the existing Treaty with the Siamese threatens to interrupt the amicable relations subsisting betwixt the British and them.

The Siamese authorities of Quedah had even sent people in search of Long Putih towards the Muda River or the North boundary of this Province, and they appeared to consider that the Treaty alluded to provided against British protection being afforded to him, especially as he was connected by marriage with the Ex King of Quedah, and had openly manifested hostile designs against the Quedah country.

The Tuanku's followers, men whose occupation is piracy, were also going at large, and I had reason to suspect that they were connected with the gangs which were committing almost nightly robberies on the property and violent assaults on the persons of the inhabitants of this Province. Under these circumstances and with reference to the general instructions before received from the Government in similar cases,

I directed that Tuanku Long Putih should be told that it would be advisable for him to go out of the Province. But I positively enjoined the Police Officer intrusted with the message not to compel him to go. The Tuanku returned an insolent message that he did not intend to leave the Muda District (the only place in the Province, to my knowledge, where he has resided). I therefore considered it my duty to report the circumstance to Government. Since then I have had no communication with the Tuanku, but I have learned that he *did* leave the Province for his own convenience and to further his own schemes against the Siamese of Qeslah, and that having been beat back by the latter people from the Lancavy Islands, he again took shelter in the Qualla Muda district within the British territory. He has here lived unmolested ever since.

I have &c.

(Signed) James Low
Superintendent of Police
Province Wellesley.

Province Wellesley
The 19th June 1829.

Factory Records,
Straits Settlements,
vol. 145,
pp. 57-9. (3d set
of paging).

Fort Cornwallis The 1st July 1829.

Supt. of Prov:
Wellesley 20
June 1829.

To John Anderson Esquire
Secretary to Government
Fort Cornwallis.

Sir,

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9. I respectfully request to suggest that the concurrence of the Siamese authorities in a settlement of a boundary line would be highly satisfactory, since the 3rd article of their Treaty provides for it, and the petty Siamese officers close to the frontier have occasionally expressed doubts as to the boundary, and may afterwards make them matter for altercation.

10. If the Siamese would agree to a natural boundary, even should that be a little beyond the limit of 60 orlongs inland, it would be advantageous to all parties.

I have &ca.

(Signed) James Low.

Province Wellesley
Land Office
20th June 1829.

Factory Records,
Straits Settlements,
vol. 144,
pp. 61-62. (3d set
of paging).

Fort Cornwallis The 7th July 1829.

Supt. of Lands
Province Wellesley 28:
June 1829.

To John Anderson Esquire
Secretary to Government
Fort Cornwallis.

Sir,

I have the honor in reply to your letter of the 27th instant to state, that it appears to me to be very possible to effect a settlement of the boundaries of Province Wellesley in concert with the Siamese Chief at Quedah, since the 3rd Article of the Treaty of Bangkok expressly gives him the power to act in such a case along with the British authority nearest to the boundary to be adjusted.

By a little conciliatory management, the Siamese deputies who should be sent from Quedah might be induced at once to settle a natural [boundary] instead of attempting an actual measurement, a thing they could not effect of themselves, and which cannot be effected at present without great expense and waste of time.

I have &c.

(Signed) James Low
Superintendent of Land and Police.

Province Wellesley
Land Office
28 June 1829.

Factory Records,
Straits Settlements,
vol. 160,
pp. 164-5 (2d set
of paging).

Singapore the 10 October 1829.

Minister at
Siam.

Minister at Siam.

From Chau Pria Prah Klang, an officer of rank in
Kroong-Sri Ayuddhya (Siam).

To the Governor of Singapore.

The English and the Siamese having always been on terms of friendship, and Singapore being at the present time under the authority of the English, in consequence of which the merchants of Siam resort to Singapore and those of Singapore to Siam, when any circumstances of difficulty arises we ought mutually to afford every assistance for their relief which lies in our power, in order that the merchants may trade freely and without prejudice to their affairs. For this reason we are strict in observing the rules of a friendly intercourse.

In the year Chuat, Phia-Kraisi loaded goods belonging to the King on two Topes, the Nokedah of one of which being a Chinese named Toh, of the other Cham-Ammun! of the name of Chai being the supercargo of the first. They were directed to take the topes with their cargoes to Saigon. Having arrived there and unloaded, Phia-Kraisi was taken sick and died suddenly. As soon as the two Nakodahs were informed of the death of Phia-Kraisi, they laid a plan to get possession of the two vessels, and all the money which had been realised on account [of] the proceeds of the sale of the goods. To this day they have never returned to Siam. Nakodah Cham, we have learnt gave his tope in charge to another Chinaman, who took it to Samarang. The tope of Nakodah Toh, it is reported, was about to be sold to a merchant at Singapore, the Nakodah himself intending to return

to China. A China man of the name of Leng in the employ of Loang-apeipanit when to trade at Singapore. He it is who has given the information of the intended sale of the vessel by Nakodah Toh.

Should Leng prefer any complaint on this account we request the Governor of Singapore will assist us by settling the case in a proper manner. The tope has been detained in the hands of one Ootia by Leng. This information has been conveyed to us by a Chinese of the name of Ling-ing, who has written us a letter on the subject. We have in consequence ordered Koon Nakti Wanit to take his passage to Singapore in the vessel of Muttoo Khan, a Bombay merchant. When Koon Nakti Wanit arrives at Singapore to settle the case of the tope, we confidently hope the Governor of Singapore will fulfil the part of a friend. Our wish is that the Governor would cause the tope with the Nakodah, crew and property to be delivered into the hands of Koon Nakti Wanit to bring back to Siam, as a pledge of a long and friendly alliance.

Written on Thursday the 14th day of the ninth month in the year 1198 (corresponding with 12; August 1829).

(Signed) Edward Presgrave
Translator.

Fort Cornwallis the 10 October 1829.

To Supt. of
Province Wel-
lesley, 9 Oct.
1829.

To Captain Low
Superintendent of Province Wellesley.

Sir,

It is scarcely necessary to apprize you, that in defiance of every remonstrance to the contrary the Ex Rajah of Quedah quitted this island yesterday, and has taken up his residence at Tulloh Ayer Tawar on the opposite shore.

By this further act of folly and obstinacy the Ex Rajah has forfeited the little remains of consideration that was due to his misfortunes, and it will be obvious to you, who are already so well acquainted with the views and sentiments of Government upon the subject, that increased vigilance in watching his acts should now be more than ever resorted to.

The suspicions of the Siamese will naturally be excited by this apparent approximation of an inveterate enemy towards their frontier; and they will no doubt magnify their apprehension in a degree not warranted by actual circumstances. Still to allay them must be our object, and as they will no doubt have their own informants upon all that passes, the readiest way to assist in effecting this will be to show by acts that the measure has not the sanction of authority. With this view you will prohibit the assemblage about the residence of the Ex Rajah or elsewhere on his account of any concourse of people beyond what has hitherto been usual as attendants upon his person, and also intimate to him without reserve, that any attempts on his part to deviate from such directions can only be effected at the risk of his personal liberty. He has already been informed that in consequence of former conduct he is considered and will be treated but as

any other British subject, and of this he may again be reminded should he evince the slightest disposition to pursue a contrary procedure.

You are authorized to entertain a secret intelligence to assist you in the watch it now becomes so necessary to maintain, and you will immediately communicate to me any circumstances of a suspicious nature that may occur.

I am &c.

(Signed) R. Ibbetson
Resident Councillor.

Fort Cornwallis
The 9 October 1829.

Factory Records,
Straits Settlements,
vol. 130.

Fort Cornwallis the 14 October 1829.

Supt: Province
Wellesley,
13 Oct. 1829.

To the Honorable Robert Ibbetson Esquire.
Resident Councillor.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 9th Instant relative to the Ex Rajah of Queelah.

I request to state that every exertion will be made within my power to conform to the instructions therein conveyed, although from the very reduced and scattered state of the Police, and the small number of the military guard, I am apprehensive that should any disturbance of magnitude ensue, which however, it is not likely will happen, it would be difficult to quell it promptly.

I have no doubt that the Siamese will take or pretend to take alarm at the Ex Rajah's approaching so near to their frontier, yet I do not believe that he would be able, even if allowed, to collect many retainers here, with the exception of a few debtors, as he is not popular amongst those of his former subjects who are settled in the province, and is besides apparently too poor to bribe.

I have communicated to the Ex King those parts of my instructions which I have been directed by you to impress on his mind.

I have &c.

(Signed) J. Low Captain
Supt. of Province Wellesley.

Province Wellesley
13th October 1829.

Factory Records,
Straits Settlements,
vol. 130.

Fort Cornwallis the 26th October 1829.

Supt. of Province
Wellesley
26 Oct. 1829.

To

The Honble. R. Ibbetson Esquire.
Resident Councillor.

Sir,

I have the honor to solicit instructions with reference to the following subject.

Should the Ex Rajah of Quedah attempt to cross the Siamese or other boundary of the province, will I be permitted to seize him or to stop him if practicable by means of the police and the few sepoy's stationed here.

1 Guard of 1 Havildar
 1 Naick
 12 Sepoy's.

Six only of which can be spared for a few hours in an emergency.

I have &c.

(Signed) J. Low
Superintendent. of Police.

Province Wellesley
26 October 1829.

Factory Records,
Straits Settlements,
vol. 130.

Fort Cornwallis the 26 October 1829.

To Captain
Low 26 Oct.
1829.

To Captain Low
Superintendent of Province Wellesley.

Sir,

I hasten to reply to your letter of this date regarding the Ex Rajah of Quedah, and to convey to you my desire that should he attempt to pass over to the Territory of the Siamese, you will endeavour to prevent him by every means at your disposal. Our Government has engaged by Treaty with the King of Siam "not to permit the former Governor of Quedah or any of his followers to attack, disturb or injure in any manner the territory of Qu. . ., or any other Territory subject to Siam" which leaves the line of policy to be pursued by us not to be mistaken. You will intimate in time whether any increase to the Military Guard already at your disposal will in your opinion become necessary, of which you will only be enabled to judge by events as they arise.

I am &c.

(Signed) R. Ibbetson
Resident Councillor.

Fort Cornwallis
the 26 October 1829.

Fort Cornwallis the 29th October 1829.

Rajah of
Ligore.

Translation of letter from the Chow Pya of Ligore to the Honorable R. Fullerton, Governor of Prince of Wales Island, Singapore and Malacca.

(After Compliments.)

The letter which our friend sent to Quedah in which our friend expressed a desire to have the boundaries of the territories belonging to the India Company accurately defined, we received in safety on Wednesday the 5th of Rabilawal and perfectly understood its contents. The boundaries of the ground belonging to Quedah and the English from the commencement have been defined in a Treaty made with the great men of Quedah and deposited with the English. A copy of this treaty we have ordered to be made and sent to our friend in which the boundaries are defined. Should our friend have any doubts respecting the authenticity of the copy, let him seek for the Treaty deposited at Pulo Penang, which he will perceive is the same as the one we have sent. Whereas we have always been well inclined to the English, and never charged them with any evil intention in any of our letters, why has our friend sent a letter enquiring about the boundaries of the territories at which we are very much astonished.

Wherefore we have sent Koon Akorn with a letter to our friend, in order that he may enquire in a friendly manner, what are our friend's intentions in doing this. Moreover in the year 1774 of the Siamese, corresponding with the year 1828 of the English, a treaty was made between the two nations signed and sealed by the Right Honorable Lord Amherst, who governs Bengal, A Sterling Esquire, Right Honorable Lord Combermere, the Honorable J. Herbert Harrington Esqre., the Honorable W. B. Bayley

Esquire and G. Swinton Esqre., and sealed with the Company's arms in which every thing relating to this business has been inserted and agreed upon. At that time also Captain H. Burney and Captain McFarquhar brought the Treaty to us, which we received and forwarded to His Royal Highness the Emperor of Siam who ordered it to be confirmed and issued letters to all the Governors of the Siamese countries to observe it as long as there was heaven and earth.

This we make known to our friend. Written on the 5th of Rabilawal 1245.

A true translation

Malay Translator

Penang
26 October 1829.

Fort Cornwallis the 29th October 1829.

Rajah of Ligore.

Rajah of Ligore.

Translation of a letter from the Rajah of Ligore to the Honorable R. Fullerton Esqre., Governor of Prince of Wales Island, Singapore and Malacca.

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At the time Koon Aksorn was about to start for Pulo Penang, some of my people who are living on the sea shore towards the west, suddenly came and informed me that the Rajah of Quedah had ordered Panglima Putih to take a letter and collect people by persuasion to make war on the Siamese in Quedah. This man was seized by them, and the letter found in his possession. Upon ordering my people to examine it, they clearly made out the name of Ahmed Tajuddin Umkarram Shah, which is certainly the chop of the King of Quedah. This letter I send to my friend who will be able to identify the chop and know the contents. It is mentioned in the Treaty that the English and Siamese shall be in amity with each other, as long as there is a heaven and earth, and shall not give any cause of contention to each other.

The Rajah of Quedah has raised a commotion, and does not wish to keep the Treaty, so that the people of Quedah are continually disturbed, and cannot gain their livelihood by buying and selling, contrary to the Articles of the Treaty. We therefore request our friend to persuade him to keep it.

A true translation

(Signed) H. Nairne.
Malay Translator

26 October 1829.
Penang.

Fort Cornwallis the 29 October 1829.

Translation of the intercepted letter sent by the
Rajah of Quedah.

This Proclamation we make known to Panglima Pootee, and desire him to order all our friends at Satul and Lungo, who intend going to Teluk Barat to return here, as we are about to leave Pulo Penang to reside at Pulo Langkawi, so that we may collect our adherents, as we wish to try our fortune in fighting with the Siamese; and take care they do not neglect this order directing them to come.

Written on the 24th Ramathan
26th October 1829,

A true translation

(Signed) H. Nairne
Malay Translator.

Fort Cornwallis the 29th October 1829.

Rajah of Ligore.
(29 Oct. 1829)

Letter from Mr. Ibbetson to the Rajah of Ligore.

I have received my friend's letter dated 26th ultimo, in reply to a former one from the Honorable Robert Fullerton, regarding the boundary line between our territory and that of Quedah. My friend has not properly understood that letter or he would not have been astonished at the request it contained.

There was no intention to charge the Siamese with any evil intention towards the English, and my friend will perceive in reading the Treaty again, copy of which has been received, that the length and breadth only of the English territory is there mentioned, but which has never been measured, and this makes it difficult to decide whenever wicked people disturb the peace of the Country whether that disturbance is upon English or Siamese ground.

What the Honorable Robert Fullerton therefore requested from his friend was merely that he would depute Commissioners to make this measurement in company with other Commissioners of the Government, so that when a proper line was marked out there could be no mistake hereafter. The North and South boundaries are already defined by rivers and the West by the sea. There remains therefore only the East to be defined and if a natural boundary could be chosen for that also, such as rivers or hills, it would save a great deal of trouble and expense in erecting marks. I have further explained to Koon Aksorn the wishes of the Honorable Robert Fullerton upon this subject.

With regard to the Ex Rajah of Quedah writing to his adherents and friends, my friend must be aware how difficult it is to prevent the secret transmission of letters. Were the Ex Rajah to attempt by open force to disturb the peace of Quedah such would be repelled

by us with force, and my friend may rely that even his letters to this purpose would not be permitted to pass if we know of them. He shall be admonished of this proof of his evil intentions.

(Signed) R. Ibbetson.

Resident Councillor.

Factory Records,
Straits Settlements,
vol. 130.

Fort Cornwallis 6th November 1829.

Secy. to Govt.
28 October 1829.

To the Honble. R. Ibbetson Esquire
Resident Councillor
Prince of Wales Island.

Sir,

I am directed by the Honorable the Governor in Council to acknowledge the receipt of your Communication of the 15th instant forwarding copies of papers recorded by you relative to the Ex King of Quedah, and to the Coffree Pensioners from Bencoolen.

With regard to the former the Honorable the Governor in council approves of the communication made by you to Captain Low, and adverting to the necessity there is for the prevention of any violation of the Treaty with the Siamese, and to the necessity there will be to keep a most strict surveillance over the motions of the Ex King and his followers, recommends that in the event of his endeavouring to stir up any disturbance or attempting to leave the Company's Districts, that you immediately station a strong guard over his house and person.

The strictest vigilance of the police at Province Wellesley will be required to watch and report to you any suspicious circumstances, and the Honorable the Governor in council approves of the authority given by you to Captain Low to employ the best and most efficient means of obtaining secret intelligence.

In order to quiet the suspicions of the Siamese Government which are not unlikely to be raised by the removal of the Ex King so close to their frontiers, the Honorable the Governor in Council directs that a letter be addressed to the authorities of that state at Quedah explanatory of the disapproval of this Government of the step so injudiciously taken by the Ex

King of Quedah, and assuring them at the same time that all precautions will be taken to prevent any breach of the Treaty, and inviting intelligence from those authorities should it come to their knowledge that the Ex King is making any clandestine attempts to subvert their authority or to raise a rebellion amongst the subjects at Quedah.

• • • • •

I have &c.

(Signed) J. Pattullo
Secretary to Government.

Malacca
The 28 October 1829.

Fort William 30th April 1830.

Bengal Political
Consultations, Range
126, vol. 14.

No. 96.

To Geo. Swinton Esq.

Chief Secretary to Government

FORT WILLIAM.

Sir,

I am directed by the Honble. the Governor in Council to transmit to you for the information of the Right Honble. the Governor General in Council copies of the accompanying correspondence with the Resident Councillor of Prince of Wales Island relating to the Ex King of Quedah and to a request which it was deemed necessary to make to the Siamese authorities to fix the boundaries of the territories of the respective Governments on the Peninsula.

2. The object of this request was not to raise any doubts or demands on the part of our Government. The number of bad characters who had lately taken advantage of the uncertainty existing, and who were in the frequent habit of coming down to plunder and murder the peaceable inhabitants settled within our districts, rendered it imperative to have some definitive boundary settled, to enable Government to adopt means for repressing the marauders and restoring tranquillity to the country. This could not be effected without the chance of collision with the Siamese authorities, and under that consideration they were requested to appoint Commissioners.

3. Doubts had also been raised in the Court of Judicature in some disputes about lands, so as to the extent of our territory on the Quedah shore, which made it the more requisite to have the boundary fixed.

4. These reasons were fully stated in the letter

from the Honble. the Governor to the Siamese authorities, and have subsequently been explained to the Agent of the Rajah of Ligore, which will it is hoped allay any suspicions on the part of the Siamese Government.

5. The Honble. the Governor in Council regrets extremely that notwithstanding every endeavour to keep the Ex Rajah of Quedah from intercourse with his late subjects there, and the repeated warnings which have been given him, that he has nevertheless taken the measures he has for removing himself and his family to the opposite shore.

6. Every possible precaution will be used to prevent his causing a breach of the Treaty with the Siamese Government. From a reference to the Resident Councillor's correspondence it will be perceived that no bad consequences are likely to result from his removal to Province Wellesley, but it is evident that while the Ex Rajah continues to reside within the territories of Prince of Wales Island the Siamese Authorities will always view his proximity to Quedah with much suspicion, and the acts of our Government with much distrust.

I have &c.

(Signed) J. Pattullo
Secretary to Government

Malacca the 23d November 1829.

Factory Records,
Straits Settlements,
vol. 132,
pp. 108-9.

Fort Cornwallis the 30th January 1830.

To John Pattullo Esquire
Secretary to Government
Fort Cornwallis.

Sir,

I have the honor to report for the information of the Honorable the Governor in Council, that the Panghulu Mukun of Pantai Oracora in the Kuala Muda district has this moment stated to me that a party of Sixty Armed Siamese were seen by him yesterday evening in the jungle close on the boundary, and that their force is reported to amount to 300 men.

As the spot they are thus reported to occupy is on the south side of the Muda River where it has never been usual for others than trading Siamese to come, I request to be favored with instructions regarding them.

I have dispatched the constable of Muda to demand of *Khoon Ban Pot*, the Siamese Commander of the party, his object for occupying his present position, and will have the honor to forward the reply which he may give without delay.

The people within the frontier are much alarmed, but I am inclined to believe that the party has only been sent to watch the Ex-King of Quedah.

The Quedah Chief ought in such case to have communicated his intentions.

I have &c.

(Signed) James Low
Supt. of Province Wellesley.

Province Wellesley
The 30th December 1829.

Fort Cornwallis the 30th January 1830.

To

The Superintendent of Province Wellesley

Sir,

The Honorable the Governor in Council concurs with you in opinion that the Siamese party seen on this frontier are sent there for the purpose of watching the movements of the Ex King, whose extraordinary conduct has of late been such as to give to the Siamese authorities just cause of alarm. The Governor in Council approves the notification made to the head of the Siamese party and can only direct that you will add to it an injunction against their passing the frontier. It may also be advisable to admonish the Ex King on the dangerous position in which he has placed himself and recommend his returning to the Island forthwith.

I am &c.

(Signed) J. Pattullo
Secry. to Government.

Fort Cornwallis
The 31st December [1829].

Factory Records,
Straits Settlements,
vol. 132,
pp. 201-202.

Fort Cornwallis the 30th January 1830.

To
John Pattullo Esquire
Secretary to Government
Fort Cornwallis.

Sir,

I have the honor to report that the Siamese Armed Party alluded to in my last letter has suddenly removed further within the Siamese territory and that I have sent a (Siamese) letter to warn the Chief not to trespass on the British territory.

Adverting to the movements of this party, to the circumstance of another having assembled at the Marboo River, and to the report just received that a third is preparing rafts up the Muda River for a descent, and also to the great alarm which has thus been created amongst the population, I solicit that I may be favored with the instructions of the Honble. the Governor in Council as to what course I am to pursue in *the event* of any armed Siamese or other armed men in their service passing the boundary of the Province, and not departing when warned so to do.

I have &c.

(Signed) James Low
Supt. of Province Wellesley.

Province Wellesley
1st January 1830

Factory Records,
Straits Settlements,
vol. 132,
p. 203.

Fort Cornwallis the 30th January 1830.

Supt. of Pro:
Wellesley
2 Jan. 1830.

To Captain Low,
Superintendent of Province Wellesley.

Sir,

I am directed by the Honorable the Governor in Council to acknowledge receipt of your letter of 1st instant in consequence of your previous communications of the 30th and 31st ultimo. A party of thirty sepoys have been sent over, which will be immediately increased to the strength of a Company.

No armed party of Siamese are to be permitted to cross the boundary, and in order to prevent alarm whereby our inhabitants may be induced to quit their habitations it will be advisable to detach small parties to cover the frontier.

As it is evident that the Ex King of Quedah's residence in the province is the originating cause of all this commotion, he must be desired to return forthwith to this island as his remaining where he is will no doubt be urged as the grounds of these movements of the Siamese, whereby so much alarm and inconvenience is likely to result.

I am &c.

(Signed) J. Pattullo
Secry. to Government.

Fort Cornwallis
The 2 January 1830.

Factory Records,
Straits Settlements, vol. 132,
pp. 203-5.

Fort Cornwallis the 30th January 1830.

Supt. of Pro:
Wellesley
4 Jan. 1830.

To John Pattullo Esquire,
Secretary to Government.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 2d Instant, and to report for the information of the Honorable the Governor in Council that the several instructions it contains have been complied with.

I beg to enclose a copy of my letter to the Chief of the Siamese party which appeared on the frontier; also a copy of my letter to the Ex Rajah of Quedah with a translation of his reply.

I considered this reply so unsatisfactory that I rode early yesterday morning to his house (a Malayan cottage) and had an interview with him in presence of witnesses.

I strongly remonstrated with him on the extreme impropriety of his conduct in coming over to this coast, a hasty step which, before he took it I had so strenuously advised him not to take, and which he must have well known to be directly contrary to the wishes of the Government and to his own true interests. I pointed out to him that by remaining in Province Wellesley he is inducing the Siamese to collect their troops near our frontier under the supposition that he means to attack Quedah, and that he has thus already raised a commotion which may end in his own ruin, and that whatever his private intentions are, his presence here can only tend to create alarm amongst the Ryots of the Province and to excite the Siamese to further acts of, perhaps, a more serious nature. He was informed that it is in some degree inconsistent with the amicable relations now subsisting betwixt the

British and the Siamese that he should settle so close to the Quedah boundary, and that his persisting to remain here now cannot fail to prove displeasing to the Right Honble. the Governor General, whose good opinion he seems so desirous of. I showed to him that his present residence is one of great danger, since any party of desperate men who might be hired by his enemies could easily land on the beach in the night and murder or carry off him and his family without the chance of his being assisted, as the few police peons at the nearest Thannah would be unable to cope with a determined band: that the party of sepoys which his conduct has imposed on the Government the trouble of sending over, is intended to protect the Ryots, *not him*, and that he should not delay a moment in returning to Penang for good, or at the least for a while and until the sentiments of the Governor General might be made known to him.

The Ex Rajah replied—"There can be no restriction to my going where I please. The Governor General did not forbid my coming here. (But the Ex Rajah is quite aware that such an extraordinary step could never have been contemplated by his Lordship). I have chosen this coast for my residence because living is cheap, and I can live quietly. I have no intention to molest the Siamese in any way. I am now waiting the reply of the Governor General to my Representation of the hardships I have suffered and as for my personal safety it will be better for me to die by the hands of the Siamese who have usurped my rights than to live in poverty and neglect in town or on Penang."

"I am however ready to return immediately to Penang if the Government may be pleased to pay my debts and to restore to me my former allowance, otherwise I will not remove. If I should be driven out, that I cannot help."

With the knowledge I have of the Rajah's disposition I am fully persuaded that he will adhere to his resolution.

I have &c.

(Signed) James Low Captain
Supt. of Police P. W.

Province Wellesley
4 January 1830

Fort Cornwallis the 30 January 1830.

Enclosure 1.

Translation of a Letter from Captain Low to the Commander of the Siamese Party beyond the frontier of Province Wellesley.

Captain Low desires to inform the Commander of the Party of Armed Siamese which has come close to the Boundary beyond Pantar Amora, that his appearance there has excited alarm amongst the Ryots close to that frontier, because it has not been customary for any party of armed Siamese to approach in that direction.

Captain Low warns therefore the Commander of the party or of any other party of Siamese, neither to cross the British frontier with their men nor to allow a single armed man to cross it.

Dated the 8th day of Yi month of the year Chula-Eka Sok or 1st January 1830.

(Signed) James Low
Supt. of Police
Province Wellesley.

True Translation
James Low Captain
Supt. of Police.

Factory Records,
Straits Settlements,
vol. 132.
pp. 206-7.

Fort Cornwallis the 30 January 1830.

Enclosure No. 2.

(Translation.)

Letters of the same tenor addressed by Captain Low to the Ex Rajah of Quedah

My friend has come to reside at Tulloh Ayer Tawar, and the Siamese having been apprized of the circumstance have considered it of great importance as affecting them, and have taken measures accordingly, the result of which is uncertain.

My friend therefore had better now return to Penang. 1st January 1830.

(Signed) James Low.

Supt. of Police P. W.

A true Translation

James Low Capt.

Supt. of Police.

**Factory Records,
Straits Settlements,
vol. 132,
pp. 207-8.**

Fort Cornwallis the 30th January 1830.

Enclosure No. 3. Translation of a letter from the Ex Rajah of
Quedah to Captain Low.

I have received my friend's letter from the Panghulu of Tulloh Ayer Tawar, which I perfectly understand and with which I am gratified. I am very much distressed to find that my friend believes that the Siamese have designs on my account.

Now my friend plainly informs me and desires that I should return to Penang. When I proposed coming to this shore I acquainted both Mr. Ibbetson and Mr. Nairne and my friend with my intention. However desirous I am to stay on the island and to await a reply from the Governor General, yet I cannot do so as I have no money and am moreover much in debt and under difficulties. My friend and every one in Penang must know that at Tulloh Ayer Tawar where I am residing with my people, and which is under my friend's management, things are cheap and expenses are small, almost nothing. My friend and every other person must be aware of the operations of the Siamese up to the present time, both respecting Pulo Penang and this Coast, which are under the Company. I am sure in my mind that no other people will dare to molest the territory of the Company. While here I trust in my friend. I am now awaiting a reply from the Governor General of Bengal to the last representation I had to make, and as a promise was made to me that a Reply would be sent down soon, I am glad that my friend has desired me to return to Penang. Therefore I request my friend's assistance to settle this matter and to arrange for the settlement of my accounts and for the renewal of my former allowance. If such be effected I will return to Penang and live as before, and await the reply from the Governor General.

It is only on account of the distress to which I have been put for want of money that I am now living here. My friend and all people are aware of the situation in which I am placed, and other circumstances regarding me. I have trusted to the power of the King of England during all the period that I have lived under the Government of Penang. Dated the 6th day of Rujub—1st January 1830.

(A true translation)

(Signed) James Low Captain
Supt. of Province P. W.

Factory Records,
Straits Settlements, vol. 132,
p. 208.

Fort Cornwallis the 30th January 1830.

To Supt. Pro:
Wellesley.

To
Captain Low
Superintendent of Province Wellesley.

Sir,

I am directed by the Honble the Governor in Council to acknowledge receipt of your letter of 4 instant intimating you have fulfilled the various instructions conveyed in my several letters to your address, and further submitting the result of an unsuccessful Communication you had with the Ex Rajah of Quedah relative to his immediate return to this island.

In reply I am directed to desire you will inform the Ex Rajah that the terms on which he will receive any pecuniary assistance from Government have already been fully explained to him—Namely, that he proceeds and resides at Malacca. That in respect to the dangerous situation he has now placed himself in he has been fairly warned and must abide the consequences. Government will not take any further interest in what concerns him or his personal security, and if he persists in his present conduct must cease to consider him in any other light than a common individual subject to all the laws of the place where he resides.

I am &c.

(Signed) J. Pattullo
Secy. to Government.

Fort Cornwallis
the 5 January 1830.

Fort William 30th April 1830.

No. 99.

Memorandum by Major Burney on the Ex King
of Quedah.

With respect to the poor King of Quedah few persons will give themselves the trouble to read through the voluminous mass of papers from which alone a right knowledge can be acquired of the history of our connexion with the State of Quedah, and of the title of the Ex King to our interference on his behalf. It is very easy from a little superficial acquaintance with the subject to take up a popular view of his case, and to dilate on the cruelty and injustice of deserting an ally, to whom the British faith was pledged etc. etc. But I hold that the following facts have been clearly substantiated.

1. From the earliest times according to Malayan historians themselves a great portion of the Malayan Peninsula has been tributary to Siam, in the same manner as our Bible shows us it has always been the practice in Asia for great States to bind neighbouring Chiefs to send gifts, give assistance in wars, and do such other things as the strong may require from the weak.

2. All the first European travellers and voyagers who visited the Malayan Peninsula and Siam found most of the Malay States, and among them Quedah, subject to Siam, and all the Governors of Penang between Mr. Light and Mr. Fullerton considered and treated Quedah as a State dependent on Siam.

3. There was no Treaty made in the first instance with Quedah, but the father of the Ex King, the reigning Monarch in 1786, offered Penang to the Bengal Government upon certain conditions two of which proposed to bind the British Government to protect Quedah from all enemies.

4. The real motive, as reported by Mr. Light himself, of the old King then seeking our alliance, was
 (* Sic ? Dutch.) to defend himself against the British* Government at Malacca, which had just made Treaties with the neighbouring Malay States of Perak and Salengore, had established a factory up the Perak River, and had deputed a Mission to Quedah.

5. Sir John Macpherson, then Governor General of Bengal, refused to accede to the conditions above mentioned because he conceived them likely to involve the British Government in disputes with both the Burmese and Siamese, and he sent Captain Light back with such refusal to the old King, who, notwithstanding that the Bengal Government declined to bind itself to more than stationing an armed vessel to guard Penang and coast *adjacent*, was persuaded to cede Penang and allow Captain Light to settle upon it.

6. Shortly after the cession the King of Siam gave a proof that he considered Penang as subject to him, for he sent orders to Captain Light to prepare boats etc. to aid Siam in an attack upon the Burmese; and the old King of Quedah himself, when he quarrelled with Captain Light, applied to the King of Siam to drive the English out of Penang.

7. The quarrel arose out of this correspondence. The Governor General had observed in reply to the 2d of the King of Quedah's conditions of being allowed 30,000 Spanish Dollars every year, that "the East India Company would take care that the King of Quedah should not be a sufferer by an English Settlement being formed at Penang," yet Mr. Light was not authorized to make any pecuniary remuneration to His Highness. In the year 1791, after a short war with Quedah, the first regular Treaty was made, but in that Treaty we did not bind ourselves to defend that State in any manner, and only agreed to pay His Highness 6,000 dollars every year upon condition that he permitted a free export of provisions from Quedah to Penang.

8. In 1802, Sir George Leith made another Treaty with Quedah, obtaining a cession of a tract of territory on the sea coast, and consenting on our part to increase our annual stipend from 6 to 10,000 dollars, upon the same conditions as before, a free export of provisions from Quedah to Penang. In this Treaty also no engagement was made for the British Government to defend Quedah.

9. The Bengal Government from the earliest down to the latest date of our connexion with Quedah, pointedly desired to avoid all engagements or proceedings that might involve us in disputes with the Siamese, and deprecated all idea of encouraging the King of Quedah to throw off their dependence on Siam.

10. Whatever doubts may arise as to the right of the old King of Quedah to cede Penang and Province Wellesley without the previous permission of the King of Siam, an uninterrupted occupation on our part of so many years, precluded the Siamese Ministers from questioning our right, and they made no difficulty therefore in recognising Penang and Province Wellesley as British Possessions in the late Treaty with Siam.

11. Upon the death of the King of Quedah (the father of the present King) an uncle assumed the Sovereignty, to remove whom and recover the throne the present King went up to Bangkok, performed homage before His Majesty of Siam, received an honorary title from him, and an order to the uncle to resign the throne to the nephew; with which order the present King of Quedah returned and by which he became King of Quedah.

12. The present King of Quedah some years after he has himself visited Siam sent up his eldest son and prime minister to do homage before the King

of Siam, and again acknowledged Quedah to be dependent on Siam.

13. But the King misgoverned his country, disgusted his own Chiefs and dissatisfied those who had placed him on the throne. He monopolized all the trade of the country, gave a preference in his councils to a cunning foreigner, a native of the coast of Coromandel, and secluded himself with his women from his subjects, who knew him only by the severity of his punishments. Even his own brothers repeatedly revolted against him, and some of them went to Siam and laid complaints against him, to answer which the King of Siam summoned him in vain, five or six times to appear at Bangkok.

14. The King of Quedah further, contrary to the positive stipulations of his Treaty with the British Government, levied a very heavy duty upon the exportation of grain from his country to Penang.

15. At the time the present King received the throne of Quedah from Siam, he entered into certain conditions with the Siamese, who charged him with not having fulfilled them, and for this reason as well as for his alleged misgovernment, the King of Siam sent a force to Quedah in 1821 to seize the King and take him up to Bangkok, but His Highness fled with his women and treasure the moment he heard of the arrival of a part only of the Siamese force.

16. Before Governor Phillips agreed to receive the fugitive King at Penang he was required to promise that he would remain in quiet at that Settlement, and not undertake any hostile measures against the Siamese from thence. But the King never abided by this agreement, for he opened a secret correspondence with the Burmese Government at Tavoy, and the King of Ava instigated repeatedly his subjects to revolt against the Siamese, and even deputed his own

friends and followers from Penang to go and attack the Siamese of Quedah.

17. When Mr. Crawford proceeded as Envoy to Siam, " he admitted at once in his negotiations with the Siamese Ministers the dependence of Quedah on Siam, stating that the point had been fully enquired into by the most noble the Governor General of India," and been conceded without hesitation.

18. Five years after when Major Burney was deputed as envoy to Siam, he was not authorized to offer to the Siamese Court the equivalent which the Penang Government recommended to be offered, as the only means of effecting the restoration of Quedah to the King (the cession of a part of the Tenasserim Coast). He found that the resentment and passions of the Siamese were violently excited against the Ex King for his conduct for fomenting insurrections amongst the people of Quedah, and opening a correspondence with Ava contrary to his engagement with Governor Phillips, and he became convinced that the King of Quedah had no chance, either by his own means, or by means of any amicable negotiation with Siam on our part, of ever recovering his throne.

19. Major Burney during his Mission became convinced also, that there was no other way of restoring the King to his dominions, but by our sending a military force overland, and that if such a proceeding were adopted, admitting for the sake of argument that the views of the Home Authorities and the whole course of our policy from our earliest connexion with Quedah would have justified such a proceeding, it would have been impossible to say how much further we might have been drawn on. The King of Quedah would have required the continued presence of our military force to have enabled him to keep his seat. His dominions are far too poor to support the expense of any British force. They are full of jungle and hill,

and in contact with jealous and ill governed petty Siamese States.

20. Before Major Burney proceeded to Siam, Governor Fullerton declared his conviction that no good understanding could be maintained between Penang and Siam, as long as the King of Quedah remained at Penang, and that the question, as regarded his restoration ought to be settled one way or other as soon as possible.

21. Acting upon the above conviction, and bearing mind that the King of Quedah had repeatedly expressed a wish to leave Penang, Major Burney, when he relinquished the cause of the King of Quedah in his negotiations at Bangkok, was induced to consent *conditionally*, that the King of Quedah should not remain at Penang, but that the British Government should provide for him in some other territory. The Siamese on their part, consented to release the wives, sisters, children, and immediate friends of the King of Quedah (70 persons) and provided the King of Quedah were removed from Penang, to abolish the heavy export duty which they were levying upon grain at Quedah.

22. The Siamese, immediately after the Treaty was ratified by the Governor General, released and sent to Penang the 70 persons above alluded to, and abolished the export duty, but the King of Quedah refused to quit Penang, although it was offered to him, that if he would proceed to Malacca or any other British territory, he should be allowed a monthly pension of 1,000 Drs., being double the amount of the stipend which he had been receiving at Penang, since the date of his finding an asylum there.

23. Major Burney never supposed that *force* would be used to remove the King from Penang and he was well aware that the stipulation in the Treaty regarding the King would require His Majesty's concurrence.

But to provide for the King's refusal, Major Burney made the stipulation *conditional*, giving the Siamese the power of continuing to levy the export duty upon grain, if the King declined to become a party to the Treaty, which however was useful to His Highness in one way. It effected the release of 70 of his relations and immediate adherents about whose captivity he had been, for five years before, suffering great uneasiness.

24. The British Government had an undoubted right to prohibit and prevent the Ex King of Quedah from disturbing the peace subsisting between it and Siam, and admitting that the King has a right to a provision from us, we have on the other hand a right, and indeed it is our bounden duty according to the Law of nations, to take care that he shall not, from under the shelter and protection which we ensure to him at Penang, commit acts of hostility against a power with which we are at peace. The stipulation in the Siamese Treaty, engaging the British Government not to permit the King of Quedah or his followers to attack or disturb the Siamese, was well understood by the Siamese Ministers and Major Burney to apply only to our not aiding the King, or permitting him from under our protection to commit acts of hostility. The Siamese Ministers ridiculed the idea of the King being able to do anything without our aid

The King of Quedah is not, and never was, an independent Prince. He was never so acknowledged by the British Government, which on the contrary, on occasion of intercourse with Siam, acknowledged her supremacy over Quedah. The Ex King of Quedah will not, and indeed cannot, remain quiet at Penang, so near the place of his former rule, He has taken every opportunity of molesting and intriguing against the Siamese and all his attempts have only served to bring ruin and desolation upon his followers, to excite the ill will of the Siamese against us, and to interrupt peace and commerce between Penang and

the Siamese States in its neighbourhood. The King of Quedah has no chance unless aided by the British Government in recovering his throne, and as long as he continues to reside at Penang, the Penang Government itself admits, no good understanding can be established between the Siamese and ourselves.

Major Burney is still of opinion that if suitable means had been used by the Penang Government in 1827, the King of Quedah might have been induced to remove from Penang. But he is not disposed to look at the Treaty between the King and ourselves with the eye of a Lawyer, and to argue, that the sum 10,000 dollars per annum, which he had agreed to pay the King of Quedah was on condition that he should fulfil certain things on his part, and that as he is now unable to fulfil them our Treaty with him becomes null and void.

The King being in distress, it better suits the character and dignity of the British Government to acknowledge his claims upon its justice, and to continue the payment of a stipend to him.

But let one more trial be made, and not through the Government of Penang, but through some private individual, to persuade the King to remove from Province Wellesley to Malacca or any other British territory, and offer him even 2000 drs, a month if he will consent to such an arrangement. If he still persist in refusing, pay him as before, his stipend of 10,000 dollars per annum, but fairly inform him that if he or his followers molest the Siamese from under our protection, we shall be under the necessity of removing him forcibly from Penang, and of delivering up to the Siamese such of his followers as go over to Quedah and commit hostilities against the Siamese. If the King of Quedah prefers remaining at Penang, we must apprise the Siamese of the same, and request them to re-establish the export duty upon grain at Quedah,

agreeably to the stipulation in the Treaty which provides for such a contingency.

It is quite characteristic of a Malay to refuse to hear reason " upon compulsion ", and to undergo any sufferings rather than swerve from a fit of obstinacy. But the poor King of Quedah has now put himself into the hands of a lawyer of no great fame, Mr. Trebeck, who has composed for him the address presented to the Governor General which, it is needless to add, is full of untruths and inaccuracies.

(Signed) H. Burney
Calcutta 9th January 1830.

Fort Cornwallis the 30th January 1830.

READ a letter from Rajah Mooda of Ligore, residing at Quedah, forwarding an intercepted letter, written by the Ex Rajah of Quedah, for the purpose of instigating the inhabitants Quedah to join him in offensive measures against the Siamese authorities.

RESOLVED that the Superintendent of Province Wellesley be furnished with a copy of the above letter, and be desired to demand from the Ex Rajah of Quedah whether such letter was written by him, and take care to inform him that he will, by a repetition of such conduct subject himself to be placed under a Military Guard.

The BOARD further resolve that the following Proclamation relative to the Ex Rajah shall be published warning all persons in Province Wellesley from joining with him against the Siamese, also that the following letter be written to the Rajah Mooda, inclosing copy of the Proclamation.

PROCLAMATION.

The Honorable the Governor in Council is pleased to proclaim and publish for general information the following circumstances connected with the Ex Rajah of Quedah.

The Ex Rajah has gone to live in Province Wellesley contrary to the express wish of the Honorable the Governor in Council and continues to reside there in defiance of every remonstrance of this Government.

The Siamese have supposed that the peace of the Quedah country is endangered by the [? proximity] of the Ex Rajah to that territory and the native population of Province Wellesley has become alarmed. The Honorable the Governor in Council therefore with the view of preventing the Raja of Quedah from acting so as to molest the Siamese or disturb Province Wellesley has deemed it proper to station a detachment of Troops near the frontier, and to interdict the Ex Rajah from attempting to influence any of the inhabitants to make common cause with him.

Further it has been reported to the Honorable the Governor in Council that the Ex Rajah has lately written letters to some of his adherents in Quedah purporting that he has been promised the aid of the British Government for the purpose of regaining his authority in that country. It is proper therefore that all the Malayan inhabitants of Quedah and Province Wellesley should know that these assertions of the Ex Rajah are totally false and only invented by him to create mischief and [blank] the English and Siamese. Let the people of Province Wellesley beware therefore of lending their aid to the Ex Raja in any measure relating to the Quedah territory.

By Order

(Signed) J. Pattullo
Secy. to Government.

1 February 1830.

Factory Records.
Straits Settlements, vol. 132,
pp. 2-3 (2d set
of paging).

To Supt. of
Prov: Wellesley
5 Febr 1830.

Fort Cornwallis the 13th February 1830.

To Captain Low

Supt. of Province Wellesley.

Sir,

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of 2d Instant forwarding a suggestion for settling definitely the boundary of Province Wellesley.

The Honorable the Governor in Council is of opinion that Tuanku Solyman as proposed by you may be used as an instrument for settling the boundary, being the frontier chief, but care must be taken not to excite the blame of the Siamese authorities at Quedah, who will have to confirm the line settled. The attempt therefore may be made under the present manifest inconvenience from an indeterminate boundary although some doubts of success may be entertained, but the contemplated payment of money or release from debt had better be kept out of sight for the present.

I am &c.

(Signed) J. Pattullo
Secry. to Govt.

Fort Cornwallis
the 5 February 1830.

Factory Records,
Straits Settlements,
vol. 132,
pp. 3-4 (2d. set of
paging.)

Fort Cornwallis the 13 February 1830.

Supt. Province
Wellesley
3 Feb. 1830.

To,

John Pattullo Esquire
Secretary to Government
Prince of Wales Island.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 2: Instant and to report for the information of the Honorable the Governor in Council that in compliance with the instructions it contains I this morning visited the Ex Rajah of Quedah and explained to him its contents in presence of witnesses. The counterpart of the Malayan letter referred to was then read over to him.

The Ex Rajah expressed himself to the following effect—"I neither wrote that letter nor directed that it or any such should be written. My enemies the Siamese have fabricated it. Is it probable that I who am waiting for the reply of the Governor General should act so imprudently? The Siamese may perhaps have forged my seal as the man who made it is in their service, but the handwriting of the letter will be a proof that it is not mine. I have only one person who writes for me. I request to be favoured with a sight of the reported original, and in the meantime to be *allowed to take a copy* of this one which has now been read over."

I complied with the latter request and at the same time strenuously advised the Ex Rajah to return to Penang as the only course he could pursue if really desirous of recommending himself to the favorable notice of the Governor General. I regret however to observe that his determination to stay here until

he receives the expected reply alluded to remains unshaken.

I have &c.

(Signed) James Low
Supt. of Police Prov. Wellesley.

Province Wellesley
3 February 1830.

Fort Cornwallis the 29th April 1830,

Report on the Trade of the 3 Settlements, Prince of Wales Island, Singapore and Malacca.

TRADE OF PRINCE OF WALES ISLAND.

External. The trade of Prince of Wales Island is carried on with the following places as will appear in the statements. vizt. Calcutta, Madras, Bombay, England, China, Java, Ceylon, Siam, Coast of Tenasserim, Acheen, Dehli, Quedah, and a few petty native ports,

SIAM, Imports } The total Imports from Siam in Goods
from. } amounted to Sicca Rupees 216,788
of which the following are the principal articles.

Beche de Mer	6,120
Birds' Nests	13,080
Oil	1,843
Paddy	2,880
Pepper	4,810
India Piece Goods	4,800
Rice	4,800
Sugar	5,200
Tin	38,250
Tobacco	129,500
China Sundries	1,000
Siam Do.	2,700

with a few minor articles of Specie. These were imported in Dollars to the amount of Sa. Rupees 6,315.

SIAM, Exports } The Exports amounted to 96,093
to. } in goods of which the following
were the principal articles.

Betel Nut	3,523
Opium	26,950
India Piece Goods	57,600
China Tobacco	7,360

with a few petty articles.

The imports being as above Sicca Rupees	2,16,788.
The exports	96,093.

The Excess of Imports is 1,20,695.

• • • • •

SINGAPORE TRADE.

The trade of Singapore is carried on with the following places, England . . . Java, Rhio, Siam.

• • • • •

SIAM, Imports } The amount of imports is Sicca
 from. } Rupees 7,71,057, of which the
 principal articles are—

Specie to the
 value of
 Sa. Rs. 21,193.

Brandy and Spirits	1,894
Earthenware	6,746
Iron Ware and Mongery	14,741
Ivory	4,946
Joss, Paper and Sticks	2,505
Nankeens	22,355
Oil	21,298
Pepper	3,641
Piece Goods Europe	8,420
Piece Goods India	4,536
Rice	79,095
Salt	42,967
Sticklac	74,748
Sugar	353,067
Sugar Candy	1,305
Tin	19,323
Tobacco	8,493
Wood Sapan	72,633
Woollens	3,262
Sundries India	22,687

exclusive of small articles amounting nearly to Sicca
 Rs. 2,380.

SIAM, Exports } The Amount of Exports is Sicca
 to. } Rupees 603,246 of which the principal
 articles are—

Specie in
value of
Sa. Rs. 36,942.

Bees Wax	5,633
Camphor Malay	3,725
Copper Sheathing	3,447
Earthen Ware	3,578
Glass Ware	13,081
Gold Dust	9,767
Opium	114,201
Pepper	1,263
Piece Goods Europe	181,729
" " India	186,274
Rattans	22,160
Raw Silk	2,904
Spelter	2,105
Sago	1,317
Woollens	8,756
Sundries Europe	26,170
" India	13,708

A Comparison of the trade of Siam shews an excess of Imports of nearly Sicca Rupees 1,67,811.

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MALACCA TRADE.

* * * * *

The trade of Malacca is carried on with the following places, Calcutta . . . Ceylon, Siam . . .

* * * * *

SIAM. The only trade with Siam consists of the following Import of Articles.

Oil	11,035
Paddy	2,725
Rice	76,685
Salt	25,680
Sticlac	2,460
Sugar	11,975
Tobacco	1,500
Siam Sundries	8,500

exclusive of small articles amounting to about 380 Rupees.

* * * * *

Fort Cornwallis the 23 June 1830.

Factory Records,
Straits Settlements,
vol. 133.

Chief Secy. to
Govt. Fort
William 30 April
1830.

To John Pattullo Esquire
Secretary to Government
Prince of Wales Island

Sir,

* Copied from
Bengal Political
Cons. vol. 14.

Your Dispatch of the 23 November 1829*, submitting copies of correspondence with the Resident Councillor of Prince of Wales Island relating to the Ex King of Quedah, and to an application which it had been deemed necessary to make to the Siamese Authorities to fix the boundaries of the territories of the respective Governments in the main, has been under the consideration of the Right Honorable the Governor General in Council, in connection with several letters addressed to His Lordship by the Ex Rajah, and I am now directed to state to you as follows.

2. It appears by your Dispatch that the Ex Rajah has passed over from Prince of Wales Island to Province Wellesley, and endeavoured to renew an intercourse with his late subjects, thereby pursuing a course tending to make the Siamese regard the acts of our Government with distrust.

3. We have an undoubted right to prohibit the Ex King from disturbing the subsisting harmony between us and Siam, and we are bound by Treaty not to permit the former Ruler of Quedah or any of his followers to attack, disturb or injure any territory subject to Siam, omitting all agreement from which an inference might be drawn, that the Ex King of Quedah being no longer in a condition to fulfil certain things on his part, our engagements with him are at an end, and his right to protection and the enjoyment of stipulated stipend void, the Governor General in Council is disposed to think, that it better suits

the character and dignity of the British Government to acknowledge the claims of the distressed and fallen Prince to commiseration and relief, in return for the benefits conferred by his predecessors and himself when in prosperity.

4. Under this impression the Governor General in Council is pleased to overlook the past impropriety of conduct on the part of the Ex Rajah which led to the resumption of subsistence allowance, as well as his late proceedings in availing himself of his propinquity to his late dominions, to open a correspondence with his adherents in the Quedah territory hostile to the Siamese, and to resolve, that another attempt shall be made to induce him to conform to the wish of the British Government that he should retire to Malacca or some other place more remote from Quedah than Prince of Wales Island.

5. It being understood that Captain Low is held in esteem by the Ex Rajah and possesses some influence over him, that officer or some one else at Penang, to whose advice the Rajah may be disposed to attend should be employed to point out to him in a friendly manner his real position and true interests and be authorized to promise as a consequence of his embracing the proposal to remove from Penang to Malacca, or any place distant from Quedah, that all arrears of his late stipend of Six thousand Dollars per annum shall be discharged, a free passage be provided for himself and his family and the full stipend of ten thousand dollars per annum be settled on him from the date of his fixing his residence at the place mutually agreed on.

6. But if the Ex Rajah pertinaciously persist in adherence to his own views he must be immediately removed from Province Wellesley to Prince of Wales Island, and be permitted there to enjoy his subsistence allowance of 6000 Dollars per annum, of which the

repayment may be reckoned to commence from the 1st of January last. He must at the same time be distinctly apprized in writing, that if he and his followers persist in keeping up a clandestine intercourse or correspondence with persons in Quedah, and molest the Siamese from under our protection we shall be under the painful necessity of forcibly removing him from Penang, and of delivering up to the Siamese such of his followers or adherents as may go over to Quedah, or attempt in any manner to disturb or injure the territories subject to Siam.

7. If the Ex Rajah perseveres in his intention of residing at Penang the Honorable the Governor in Council is requested to apprise the Siamese of the refusal of the Ex Rajah to retire from thence, and to inform them they are at liberty to reestablish the export duty upon Grain, agreeably to the terms of the Treaty.

8. Relatively to the question of the Eastern boundary of Province Wellesley, I am directed to remark, that amongst the correspondence submitted with your dispatch the Governor General in Council does not find a copy of the Honorable the Governor's letter to the Rajah of Ligore, requesting him to appoint Commissioners for the purpose of ascertaining it. In the Treaty of 1802 with the King of Quedah, it was stipulated that a tract of territory on the sea coast between two rivers to the North and South, and measuring inland to the East from the sea side sixty orlongs should be ceded to the Honorable Company, the Eastern boundary was never, it seems, traced, or any one appointed to undertake the duty. Indeed until late years, the boundary in that directions is understood to have been mere jungle and waste, and scarcely worth marking off. Recently increasing population has now rendered it desirable to have the boundary defined, but it is believed that at Penang there is a Map of Province Wellesley executed by a Mr Fletcher, a surveyor, in

which the boundary line appears. If therefore doubts continue to exist, and they probably may, owing to a difference between the Penang and Quedah Measurement of the orlong, His Lordship in Council is of opinion, that instead of alarming the Siamese or exciting their jealousy, it will be better that our own officers should measure out the sixty orlongs and establish the line, leaving the Siamese when they choose to take up the question to prove our measurement erroneous.

9. To satisfying them however that we have no intention of encroaching beyond the line so marked out it may be advisable to furnish them with a copy of a Map of the Boundary, explaining to them that we claim no land beyond that line which marks the limits of our possessions to the Eastward, as held by us since our first acquisition of that Territory.

I have &ca.

(Signed) Geo. Swinton
Chief Sec. to Government.

Fort William
30th April 1830.

Fort Cornwallis the 31 May 1830.

Rajah of Ligoré.

Translation of a letter from the Rajah of Ligoré to the Honble. the Governor of Pulo Penang, Singapore and Malacca.

(After Compliments.)

I beg to inform my friend that it has been reported to me that the Ex Rajah of Quedah has removed from Penang and taken his residence at Prye for the purpose of doing evil things, and planning with the Malays to invade and attack Quedah, in direct contradiction to the treaty at present existing between the Siamese and the English, drawn up by Captain Henry Burney on the 20 June 1826, in which it is mentioned in the fourteenth article of the Treaty that all matters relating to the Quedah Country shall be adjusted according to the 13th article of the Treaty, by which the Siamese are allowed to have the Government of the Quedah country; and the inhabitants of the two countries viz. Quedah and Pulo Penang are allowed to trade on the same amicable terms as formerly; the Siamese on their part binding themselves not to take any duties from provisions and cattle that are reared in the Quedah country, such as cows, buffaloes, ducks and fowls, paddy and rice, not to put any taxes at the entrances of any rivers, or farm them out, to allow all the slaves and companions of the Ex Rajah of Quedah to go where they please; the English on their side binding themselves not to have any intention of taking the Quedah country, not to make war, or raise any disturbance there, not to allow the Ex Rajah of Quedah or any of his friends to make war or raise any connection in Quedah, or any countries belonging to the Siamese, that they would endeavour to induce the Ex Rajah to take up his residence in another country, and not allow him to

remain at Pulo Penang or Prye (meaning Province Wellesley) or Perak, or Salengore, or in a Burmese country ; should the English not remove the Ex Rajah to another country according to the terms of the Treaty, then that the Siamese should be at liberty to impose duties on rice, paddy &ca. as formerly was the custom ; and any Siamese, Malay or Chinese who wish to leave Penang and settle at Quedah shall not be prevented from doing so ; such is the purport of the 13th article of the Treaty mutually executed by the Siamese and the Bengal Government, a copy of which with the Bengal chop is deposited with the Siamese, and a counterpart with the Siamese chop is deposited at Bengal ; all which circumstances are known to the Penang Government : this Treaty the Siamese have ratified, and will continue to keep as long as there is a heaven and earth ; should the Treaty not be adhered to it will be a disgrace to the party breaking it. At the time I arrived from the Siamese country, I released Tunku Jamjam the younger sister of the Ex Rajah, and Wan Nang, and Wan Ee, and all the companions and slaves of the Ex Rajah, allowing them to depart wherever they pleased. I also took off the duties from rice, paddy &ca. in all things fulfilling the terms of the Treaty, which however the Ex Rajah of Quedah does not follow, as he has gone to take up his residence at Prye, a place in which he is forbidden to live by the Treaty, showing evidently that he does not wish to follow the Treaty, but to act in contradiction to it ; I therefore request my friends the Honble. Robert Fullerton, Governor of Prince of Wales Island, Singapore and Malacca, and the Honble. Robert Ibbetson, the Resident Councillor and Raja Muda of Penang, and the great men who reside at Penang under the authority of the Bengal Government, to consider and fix on a way of putting this right according to the terms of the Treaty so that there may be no hindrance to the friendship which at present exists between the Siamese and English and that the inhabitants of the two

countries may continue to trade with each other as formerly. As soon as my friend is acquainted with the contents of this letter I hope he will contrive to settle this business according to the Treaty, and send me back an answer by Kun Aksorn, my envoy, and the bearer of this letter who has orders to return and make me acquainted with my friend's answer. Written on the 23d of the month Ramlan.

A true Translation

(Signed) H. Nairne.

Malay Translator to Government.

Penang

The 18 May 1830.

Fort William 8th October 1830.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
Range 128, vol. 19.

No. 5.

To the Right Honorable
Lord W. C. Bentinck, G. C. B.,
Governor General in Council &ca. &ca. &ca.
Fort William.

My Lord,

I have now the honor to transmit copies of all letters and other communications which have passed in consequence of the orders conveyed to the late Government in Mr. Secretary Prinsep's letter of the 30th last, relative to the Ex King of Quodah. I regret to say that every attempt made by Captain Low, Mr. Nairne, as well as myself to induce him to quit Province Wellesley has failed, the Ex King after having given hopes and every assurance of taking up his residence on this Island, seems again to have relapsed into the same sullen state of obstinacy which has generally marked his conduct since the completion of the Siamese Treaty, and I now entertain the most serious conviction that nothing short of the application of actual forcible compulsion can produce his removal, nor any thing short of a military guard detain him even if removed. Legal doubts that have been started as attending the case induce me to abstain from having recourse to that extreme measure. The positive refusal to reside on this Island or to go to Malacca may be considered as the virtual rejection of the liberal and considerate terms held out to him, and if left to his fate the British Government can have nothing to reproach itself for whatever may happen to him. The Treaty it will be observed in respect to his residence is only conditional.

“The English engage that they will make arrangements for the Governor of Quedah to go and live in some other country and not at Prince of Wales Island

or Prye, or in Perak, Salengore, or any other Burmese country. If the English do let the former Governor of Quedah go and live in some other country as here engaged, the Siamese may continue to levy an export duty upon paddy and rice at Quedah."

There is no particular prohibition against his residence at Prye (Province Wellesley) more than Prince of Wales Island. In either case the Siamese are at liberty to impose duties on grain as provided for. The residence of the Ex King there is no doubt extremely inconvenient, and must induce the necessity of a much greater degree of vigilance to prevent the infraction of a preceding provision, by any attack upon the Siamese territory by his followers, and although any serious danger to the Government of Quedah from any such attack is entirely out of the question, the residence of the Ex King on Province Wellesley is further objectionable as tending to keep up constant alarm, and measures must be taken to convince the Siamese that such has not our sanction, but is in direct defiance of our orders. A general Publication must be made that he is so residing there. The keeping of arms in his house and the assembly of armed men for his protection must be prohibited and the inhabitants must be cautioned against affording him any assistance or acting in any way in his support, and such a course may still have the effect of inducing the Ex King to remove, an object to which Mr Ibbetson and his assistants will no doubt continue to direct their utmost attention and exertions.

I have &ca.

(Signed) Robt. Fullerton
Chief Commissioner for the
Affairs of Singapore, P. W.
Island and Malacca.

Prince of Wales Island
The 25th August 1830.

Fort William 8th October 1830.

Bengal Political
Consultations, Range
126, vol. 19.

No. 6 contd.

Translation of a letter from Captain Low to the
Ex Raja.

After Compliments.

The instructions of the Right Honorable the Governor General in Council of Bengal have been received to the effect that should my friend persist in not following the line of conduct which the Supreme Government desires my friend to pursue, namely to proceed to Malacca, it will be required of my friend to proceed thereupon to Pulo Penang, for such are the orders of the Supreme Government, and they must be attended to. My friend cannot be allowed to remain longer on this coast. Moreover when my friend shall have gone over to Penang my friend will, so long as he shall continue to reside there, receive from the Honorable Company a yearly subsistence allowance of 6,000 Spanish Dollars, and repayment at that rate commencing from the first day of January last (1830) being at 500 Dollars per month.

This is settled by order of the Supreme Government, and it is also settled that if my friend or any of my friend's followers go and league with people in Quedah so that any disturbance with the Siamese authorities shall ensue, or clandestinely correspond with persons in Quedah, or do any thing within the British territory under the British Flag which may molest the Siamese in any way, the Supreme Government will be under the painful necessity of forcibly removing my friend from Penang and of delivering up to the Siamese such of his followers or adherents as may go over to Quedah or attempt in any manner to disturb or injure the territories subject to Siam. My friend I trust will quit this coast and go to Penang within six days hence

and my friend may stay where he pleases on that Island. This negotiation must be considered at an end after the receipt of a reply to this letter.

Written and dated on the 14th day of July 1830.

A true translation

(Signed) James Low.

Fort William 8th October 1830.

No. 7.

To R. Fullerton Esqr.
Chief Commissioner for the Affairs
of Singapore, Prince of Wales Island
and Malacca.

Sir,

* See *ante*,
No. 5.

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your dispatch, No. 126, dated the 25th August,* relative to the Ex Rajah of Quedah.

2. The Raja having rejected the liberal terms which you were authorized by the [instructions of] 30th April last to propose to him, and it appearing that nothing short of compulsory means will effect his removal from Province Wellesley, the Governor General in Council now deems it essentially necessary to the preservation of tranquillity in that quarter, that he should be removed by force if necessary, after once more declaring the positive orders of the Supreme Government for his immediate retirement to Malacca or such other place of residence as he may choose to fix on equally or farther removed from the neighbourhood of the Siamese.

3. In the event of his complying with this order the Governor General is still willing to allow him the full stipend already authorized by the instructions of the 30th April last, while he shall remain at the place fixed for his future residence.

4. If he compel you to employ force for his removal, you will be pleased to authorize the British authority at Malacca to pay him the inferior stipend of six thousand dollars for the support of himself and his family while he shall remain there, with a distinct intimation that it will be forfeited if he at-

tempt to return to the vicinity of Quedah or by any other act of disobedience and contempt of the order of the British Government.

I have &ca.

(Signed) G. Swinton
Chief Secy to Government.

Fort William
8th October 1830.

Fort William 10th June 1831.

No. 4. To The Chief Secretary
to the Government.

Sir,

I had the honor to report to you on the 26th February last, having, in consequence of a friendly letter from the Rajah of Ligore, deputed Mr. Blundell to that Chief. I now beg to forward for the Honorable the Vice President in Council copy of a letter from Mr. Blundell stating his having failed in reaching Bandoung, the Rajah's usual place of residence.

2. The failure of Mr. Blundell's Mission is to be ascribed to a report, which has occasioned considerable alarm, not only among the Chiefs tributary to Siam, but also at Bangkok, of our having received on this coast envoys from Cochin China, with whom measures have been concerted for the conquest of Siam. This report has emanated from the two Cochin Chinese vessels that lately quitted Calcutta having been driven into Rangoon by distress of weather.

3. The mischief which such a report was likely to produce has, I hope, been checked. Letters have been addressed by me to the Siamese Chiefs explaining the circumstances under which the Cochin Chinese vessels put into Rangoon.

4. The envoys from the Rajah of Ligore to the Governor General, alluded to in Mr. Blundell's letter, have arrived at Moulmain. I shall forward them by the first steam vessel proceeding to Calcutta. They have brought with them a number of presents and about twenty thousand rupees for the purpose of purchasing a small steam engine.

5. I am happy to state that the expense incurred on account of Mr. Blundell's Mission to the Rajah of Ligore does not exceed four hundred rupees.

I have &ca.

(Signed) A. D. Maingy
Tenasserim Provinces.

Tavoy
4th May 1831.

Fort William 10th June 1831.

No. 5. To the Commissioner
in the Tenasserim Provinces,
Moulmain.

Sir,

I have the honor to report to you my return to Tavoy, having failed in the object with which I was diputed by you, with presents to the Rajah of Ligore.

2. I arrived at Tuccopa on the 17th February, where a letter and message awaited me from the Rajah of Ligore, thanking me for the compliment paid him by my visit, aud expressing his regret it was not in his power to receive me, as he had just then been called to Bangkok to assist at the Funeral of the Second King of Siam, but that he sent two of his sons to receive me. These young men arrived at Tuccopa on the 22d. I expressed to them my great regret that I should not meet with their father, but intimated my intention to accompany the images of Gautama which I had brought with me as presents, across the country to their father's residence. To this every possible objection was urged, concluding with the question of why I wanted to cross the country now their father was absent and they had been commissioned by him to receive any communication I might have to make. I had no satisfactory reply to make to this as the ostensible object of my visit could not now be accomplished and I did not consider myself warranted to excite the jealous suspicions of the Siamese by insisting on going across the country without some adequate object in view. I confined myself to stating that not thinking any difficulties would be raised to my going even if their father were absent, which I was not inclined to believe, until it was confirmed to me by them, I had sent away the vessel

that brought me ; That Tuccopa was a wretched place to reside in and that I should prefer travelling to remaining there. On their still making objections I endeavoured to alarm them by saying I should consider their frivolous excuses as tantamount to a refusal to allow me to proceed, that I should report the same to my Government and that I could not answer for the light in which you would view so suspicious a circumstance as my being not allowed to proceed beyond the place I was then at. I told them also I much feared such a want of civility in them would very probably tend to put a similar end to the Mission their father was sending through you to the Supreme Government by your refusing to provide them with a passage to Calcutta. These hints however had not the effect which I anticipated of procuring me an invitation to accompany them on their return home.

3. From what I had learnt privately when at Tuccopa I imagine the Rajah of Ligore could not have allowed me openly to visit him without incurring the suspicions of the Court of Siam in a greater degree than at any former period, as it appears they are greatly excited by Major Burney's Mission to Ava and the circumstance of two Cochin Chinese vessels having lately visited both Calcutta and Rangoon to which latter place, I believe, they were driven by stress of weather on their return.

4. I was treated during my stay at Tuccopa with great hospitality and attention, the Rajah's sons doing every thing in their power to make me comfortable. I informed the young man I thought it very probable I should be enabled to gratify them next year with a trip in the steamer and would cross over the country from some part or other of the coast and bring them back with me. They wished to know from whence, but I told them I was not yet myself aware of that.

5. Finding my health daily failing me owing to my long confinement in such an uninteresting and unhealthy place (at that season of the year) as Tuccopa, I resolved upon waiting no longer for the vessel that brought me, but came away in a native boat and arrived at Mergui on the 14th ultimo, in a state of much suffering from anxiety of mind and exposure to the weather.

6. Tuccopa is nothing more than a small village situated about thirty miles up a small river of the same name. The river has a north west course and discharges itself by several mouths, the southermost of which is in North Latitude $8^{\circ} 55'$, and the northern in north Latitude $9^{\circ} 20'$, forming Sunderbunds navigable for small craft. At Tuccopa the river is at this season very narrow and shallow. There is very little cultivation in the neighbourhood and the few people whom I saw seemed in miserable circumstances.

Nearly the whole population, however, with the Governor of the place at their head, have been employed during the last three years at Bandoung (the present residence of the Rajah of Ligore) in building boats for that Prince, without being allowed to visit their wives and families during that period. The only produce that renders Tuccopa of any value to the Siamese is that of tin of which about two thousand peculs are annually obtained. The monopoly of the collection is vested in one person direct from the Court of Siam, but I could not ascertain what he paid for it.

This man has a number of personal slaves (forming at present almost the only inhabitants at Tuccopa) who are employed in collecting the ore, and at the same time both sublets his privilege to others and obliges all others who collect the ore to sell it to him at a fixed price. It is collected in the bed of the river near the foot of the hills at about a day's journey east of the place and brought in on elephants.

7. The route across the country to Bandoung is described as of easy access and during the rains as requiring very little land journeying, the Tuccopa river can then be ascended to near the foot of the hills, across which, a day's journey, the Bandoung River is met with in which a boat will reach that place in four or five days. In the dry season one day's journey on this side of the hills and two on the other are taken, in consequence of the shallowness of the river. The hills are described as far from steep.

I have &c.

(Signed) E. A. Blundell
Deputy Commissioner.

Tavoy the 15th
April 1831.

Fort William 22nd July 1831.

No. 48. To K. Murchison Esqre.
Deputy Resident at
Prince of Wales Island.

Sir,

I have the honor to report Tuanku Kudin left this Province this morning and it is reported that he has gone towards Quedah and that thirty boats collected from Penang and various parts of this coast (which went with passes as petty traders) await him at some place betwixt this and Quedah. When I have received fuller information on this subject I will have the honor to apprise you of it. Should Tuanku Kudin as formerly invade Quedah it will perhaps be necessary that I should make a requisition for an increase of troops to prevent any disturbance on the frontier, and to drive back those individuals who may, in defiance of every proclamation to the contrary, have left the province with Tuanku Kudin to molest the Siamese.

I have &ca.

(Signed) James Low
Assistant Resident.

Province Wellesley
the 16th April 1831.

Fort William 22nd July 1831.

No. 48 cond. To K. Murchison Esqre.
Deputy Resident at
Prince of Wales Island.

Sir,

I have the honor to supply the following additional information on the subject of the reported intended attack on Quedah, as stated in my letter of the 16th instant.

1. It is widely reported that the Chief of the Siamese, Prince of Pondelon or Daloong, [Phatalurg] has given private encouragement to the armament.

2. A force rated at 3000 men (which may be reduced to perhaps 500) have, by reports entitled to some credit, come down from Patani and have, in conjunction with Malays from within the Honble. Company's jurisdiction, seized on two Siamese posts, a day or two distant only from the North East frontier of this Province, from whence they have either marched or intend in a few days to march on Quedah. From private information I have every reason to think it highly probable that Tuanku Soliman, the Ex Rajah's brother now governing the Siamese districts Eastward of our Eastern line of frontier, intends to join this force. He is in alliance with the Patani Chief and many of his people, headed, it is said, by his son Tuanku Mahomed and his nephew Tuanku Mahomed Kapi, have already joined the force alluded to above. I am also inclined to credit this information on the grounds that it affords the most ready explanation of the recent extraordinary conduct of Tuanku Soliman.

Should this Chief evacuate his post to attack the power in amity with the British, I would respectfully suggest, as a measure conducive to the general tranquillity and as consistent with the Treaty of Bangkok, that with the consent of the Siamese authorities at Quedah, the Tuanku's Post of Kotah be seized and kept for the Siamese until the affairs of Quedah shall have been settled.

3. I find it extremely difficult to get information as to the strength of the invading parties, their rendezvous and their routes, since I have no gun boat as formerly at command, and people not concerned in the expedition are afraid to cross the frontier or put to sea. But from all I can learn the party in boats and the lower land detachment have formed a junction at Lala [on the] river Murbow, and there await some concerted signal to attack Quedah Fort, which it is supposed will take place in a day or two.

4. On my return from the Northern frontier yesterday I observed a large Purlis trading boat lying in a creek, the crew of which told me that two days before, *i. e.* on the 15th instant, their boat was seized along with another boat which was in company, by Ahmud, commonly called Tuan Kechil, son of Rajah Kaji Kassim, merchant in Penang, who ordered them to accompany him to attack Quedah, but that they slipped their cable during the ensuing night and escaped, the other boat remaining. This took place on the beach at Qualla Muda and *within the Honble. Company's jurisdiction.*

5. The ammunition, cartouch boxes and other warlike stores for the expedition have been purchased in Penang, and the Bengal or Hindostan men who have been enlisted at 5 dollars monthly besides rations, have received sepoy's coats, which were easily obtained in the Penang shops, the owners of which had purchased them from Sepoys and other persons.

This last appears to me to be an exceedingly unfortunate circumstance, since whatever may be the issue of the expected contest, the intention of the ringleaders is evident, and cannot fail to make an impression on the Siamese unfavorable to British faith.

6. The Province is internally quiet at present, but with such movements as are taking place all around precautions are necessary, especially as gangs of robbers may be expected to take advantage of the posture of affairs to plunder our outer districts.

7. I have done all that my limited means will allow of to ensure the internal peace of the Province.

1. A Proclamation has been issued confirming one promulgated formerly, and declaring that those who accompany this expedition will run the risk of all the penalties which their conduct may subject them to.

2. No boats are allowed for the present to leave the Coast for Quedah.

3. All boats returning from Quedah will be detained and the crews examined and proceeded with accordingly.

4. Lists are making out of the people who have left the Province to go with the expedition.

5. Depositions will be taken as they can be obtained against the ringleaders.

6. A Post has been established with four Sepoys and two Peons at the mouth of the Muda river, to which six more Sepoys will require to be added.

7. Another post is preparing on the North bank of the Pry River at the frontier, near Tuan-ku Soliman's residence, where I intend to post two peons and 8 or 10 Sepoys if supplied.

8. A letter has been addressed to the Quedah Siamese Chief, expressive of my regret that people should be so daring as to venture into Quedah in defiance of British Proclamations to the contrary, and offering, if he desires it, to apply to the Deputy Resident for such aid as may be wanted. Also informing him of the reported disposition of Tuanku Soliman's people and his (Soliman's) suspicious behaviour at the present time, and offering to apply for aid to occupy that place for the Siamese until affairs have been settled.

9. A Post has been ordered to be immediately formed on the high road to Quedah leading out of our North East frontier, to which place a temporary guard of twelve men will be sent if the Detachment I have already applied for be granted.

8. Under whatever aspect present affairs are viewed the ultimate total ruin of Quedah seems inevitable. This Province it is to be hoped will not sustain any injury and it is most likely that the greatest part of the remaining population of Quedah will seize the opportunity offered by the confusion which will arise to emigrate into the Company's territory.

I have &ca.

(Signed) James Low,
Assistant Resident.

Province Wellesley
the 18th April 1831.

Fort William 22nd July 1831.

No. 6 of No. 46. To K. Murchison Esqre.
Deputy Resident at
Prince of Wales Island.

Sir,

I have the honor to report that certain intelligence has been received that several near relatives of the Ex King of Quedah, with numerous adherents, have gone northward of the Honble. Company's territories with the avowed purpose of attacking the Siamese in Quedah, and as I have special reasons for believing that Tuanku Abdullah, son of the Ex King, meditates a speedy junction with these lawless characters, I have, in order to maintain the peace of this Province, and our amicable relations with Siam, taken on myself the responsibility of placing Tuanku Abdullah under restraint, which was happily effected during the middle of last night. Tuanku Din will accompany him.

He will be forwarded to the jetty at Penang during the evening and delivered into the charge of any person you may be pleased to direct to await his arrival there.

I have &ca.

(Signed) James Low
Assistant Resident.

Province Wellesley
20th April 1831.

Fort William 22nd July 1831.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
Range 126,
vol. 31.

No. 46 contd.

To K. Murchison Esqre.
Deputy Resident at
Prince of Wales Island.

Sir,

It is unnecessary for me to report to you, since you have been already acquainted with it, the sacking of Quedah by the piratical force under Tuanku Kudin and others, the success of which, from the reports made to me by people who have returned, may be mainly attributed to the misplaced and culpable bravery of about 80 or 40 natives of Hindostan (most of whom were discharged Sepoys) who led the attack, and whose appearance under Ahmed or Tuan Kechil, merchant of Penang, their commander (and who wore a British officer's uniform, it is reported), at their head, so paralyzed the efforts of the Siamese that they made but a short resistance and fled, after killing, it is said, fifty or sixty of the assailants.

I have now the honor to submit a few remarks which may serve to elucidate the object of this inroad or attack on Quedah, which so manifestly tends to interrupt the existing amicable relations betwixt the British Government and the Siamese.

Quedah having been reduced by the invasion of the Siamese from an independent Principality or nearly so, to a mere Province of Siam, it is very natural that its former occupiers should wish to regain possession of it. But nothing has yet been adduced, that I know of, *directly* implicating the Ex King in the last irruption into that country—although he must be exposed to strong suspicions.

This is the second attack which has been made within the last three years *by the very same individuals*

on Quedah. On the former occasion they were beaten off, nor did the Siamese deign to supplicate the Penang Government, as far as I know, for *military aid*, relying, as they have in this last attack done, on their own strength, and the terror with which they fondly believed their former prowess had inspired the Malays.

The Siamese, it is notorious, have misgoverned Quedah, although bound by the 13th Article of the Treaty of Bangkok "to take proper care of its people."

They have carried upwards of 1,000 of the children of its inhabitants into slavery in Ligore and Siam, thus exasperating the people to rebellion, and relying on the terror of their arms, they have endeavoured to rule Quedah by aid of the very men whom they oppress, and have scarcely ever before maintained attack or insurrection.

In opposition to my remonstrances several years ago, they employed as their admiral or Laksamana, a man named Pu Kursu, a noted pirate who dared not venture to Penang, and whose protection by the Siamese was reported by me to Government.

This person joined the present invading force with his followers.

The whole country has risen, I am informed, in favor of Kudin and a large Patani force has joined him.

The Rajah of Ligore, it is well known, has ever shown in his conduct a degree of mental and bodily vigour and of ambition, rarely to be found conjoined in any true Siamese. He is in fact the son of a Chinese by a Siamese mother.

When I was in Phoonga the Chief informed me that the Rajah of Ligore had tried to supplant him at the Court and to get Phoonga and Junkceylon annexed

to his government. In this he was disappointed, for it should seem that the Court of Bangkok, after he had seized Quedah, were rather jealous of his growing influence, and when I visited Trang in 1824 the Emperor had fettered him with a Council of two Chiefs.

He contrived however by his interest at Court to lull the suspicious excited by the reports of his enemies, the Chiefs of Daloong or Sangora, that he wished to assert independence, and he got the Chaiya and Choomphon Provinces annexed to his government, giving him a considerable additional command of men. He might perhaps be now able to collect from two to three thousand troops within a month's time from within his own jurisdiction alone, and by requisitions on the lower provinces of Siam, perhaps nearly ten thousand men.

The Governor of Sangora has long been his bitter enemy, and has been constantly representing to the Court at Bangkok that he has misgoverned and destroyed Quedah.

The Court acted so far on these complaints as to direct the Ligorian to proceed to the capital to explain matters—an order he has found plausible means to evade, and no doubt will in future decline complying with.

His secret influence with people about the Court, which is to my knowledge great, alone insures his head after such behaviour.

The Governor of Sangora has been long a concealed friend of the Ex King of Quedah, a natural consequence of his dislike of the Ligorian and of his own private views, directed to the destruction of the latter, and he and the Ex King have long kept up a private correspondence. About a month ago a special messenger named Moon Rak and nine followers came overland and through this Province from Sangora

charged, as my police officer at Panga discovered, with a confidential communication to the Ex King. They evaded my questions, merely stating that they wished to purchase some fire arms. I did not give the subject much consideration at the time but it is, in coincidence with recent events, entitled to some notice.

That the Chief of Sangora would place the Ex Rajah, if he could, on his former throne, he becoming subservient to Sangora, I have scarcely a doubt. But knowing as I do the efficiency, as well as the unbending and despotic temper of the Siamese Government, I cannot conceive it to be at all probable that either the Sangora, the Phoong, the Thaloong or any other Siamese Governor would venture, even in thought, to afford *military aid* to the Ex King for the recovery of his country. And on such an exigency as the present, none of these Chiefs would dare to hesitate a moment in complying with any requisition of the Ligorian for troops to support the honor of the Court, especially as Ligore is a Province of the first rank. But the Ex King cannot well, I should think, be blamed for endeavouring to effect his restoration through the *intercession* of the Sangora Chief with the Emperor of Siam.

As it was the Court of Siam itself which gave the order for the expulsion of the Ex King of Quedah, on account of his delaying to pay to it the customary homage of an inferior State, it will therefore in all probability resent the present attack as an insult to its dignity, rid itself of any impression which the Sangora Chief may have made on it favorable to the Ex Rajah's interests and order an expedition against Quedah of too formidable a nature to be resisted by feeble or disunited Malays.

But it is likely too, that impelled by his known recklessness and ferocity of disposition, the Ligorian

will forthwith assemble his troops and inflict his vengeance on that devoted country, converting it into little better than a jungle. There is indeed no data by which we can calculate the probable effect which the late attack may have on that semi-barbarous Court (Siam) or to what lengths it may go, inflated as it is by vanity and believing as it no doubt will that we have connived at, if not abetted, the insult offered to its power.

Their slumbering ambition may be awakened, it may lead them to consider the Treaty as broken and stimulate them to renew the scenes of desolation which followed their arms in former times on the Peninsula of Malacca, over which they have ever been impatient to extend their depopulating and degrading sway. Perak and Salengore would in such a case be the first States to suffer.

But I fervently trust such a consummation may be averted.

Tuanku Kudin the nephew, Tuanku Long Putih the brother-in-law, with Jaffir an illegitimate brother of the Ex King are the Chiefs of the present expedition from this quarter now in Quedah.

In February 1829 the Siamese Chief of Quedah complained to the Penang Government against the individuals whose names are given in the margin, and who he describes as pirates who had just been repulsed in an attempt to surprize under *British colours* the Quedah Fort.

Tuanku Kudin the nephew of the Ex King of Quedah, Tuanku Dagang and Tuanku Jaffar, the two sons of Tuanku Long Putih, with Panglima Mannan, two discharged Honble. Company's peons from Prye, Che Man Ali and Che Chiya both from Tanjong Tokong, Panglima Sam, Panglima Imam Semahum, Chee Hadji, Panglima Hoosain, Panglima Mun, Panglima Husain, Che Rhio, Awang Lahat, Che Akul.

He also reported about the same time that the Ex King and his sons with Long Putih, husband of Tuanku Jumjum, the Ex King's sister, intended to attack

Quedah, and requested that they might be prevented

from so doing. The Honble. the Governor in Council then issue a proclamation that all persons molesting Quedah would be treated *as pirates*, and the Ex King was informed that he would be put under restraint should he act in a hostile manner against Quedah.

These Chiefs attacked the Siamese by sea and land in 1829 and being beaten off with loss Tuanku Kudin then returned to Province Wellesley and fixed himself at the mouth of the Muda river *on our side*. Here, at the instigation of the Siamese, it is said, he was attacked in the night time by some Chinese, who barred his door, placed a quantity of gunpowder below the house, and blew him up with his family. His wife and child were killed and he himself so dreadfully scorched that it was not believed he would have survived. After this event he seems to have thought only of revenge.

When I took charge of Province Wellesley, Tuanku Kudin had established himself at Bukit Tungal, on the Kreean River in this Province, the previous occupier of which, Toon Kunoo, he had shortly before inhumanly murdered and robbed, and whose wife he had seized. Here he began to commit oppressive and piratical acts which compelled me (not being then a magistrate) to forcibly expel him from our territory.

He remained for some time away, but on finding that other characters equally notorious as himself could live with impunity at Penang he went there, and eventually set himself down close to my residence in this Province, defying my authority.

Being *then* a magistrate I could not proceed against him without formal affidavits &c. and I was informed by authority that unless I chose to run the risk myself he could not otherwise be apprehended, or if apprehended, legally detained in custody; and that Government could not with a Court of Judicature

here, bear me out if I seized him without the requisite legal formalities. He has therefore continued to reside wherever he liked. At the same time the Government declared that "he ought not to be permitted to remain within the Honble. Company's territories."

Tuanku Long Putih has twice attacked Quedah since the Treaty was made betwixt the British and Siamese, as has Jaffar also.

The former was often, previous to this period told by me to quit the Province, but he applied for protection to, and was supported by the Ex Rajah, and finally sent me a reply in insolent terms that he would not go.

To my request what was to be done, the Honble. the Governor in Council was pleased to direct that "should he remain quiet he did not perceive any advantage from disturbing him."

I reported to Government that this pirate, Long Putih, had attacked Quedah and had returned to live in Province Wellesley.

On my ordering him out, he declared he would not go, and I found that he had applied to the Honble. the Recorder for the protection of the Court. I therefore thought it useless to proceed further in the matter.

Tuanku Abdulla, now under restraint, was an active agent in the expedition before this last one against Quedah, and by all accounts was just going to join Tuanku Kudin when apprehended along with Tuanku Din and Joonoos by my order a few days ago. His intention could in this last instance therefore scarcely be doubted. He was found in the very same position on our frontier which he occupied previous to his former attack on Quedah. Mr. Pattullo,

then Superintendent of Police, reported to Government that "two of the Rajah's sons (Abdullah and Din) have taken up a position on the Muda River to join the Ex Rajah and escape."

The people who have so inconsiderately and culpably left Penang and this coast with this present expedition appear to me separable into three parts or classes. One, at the head of which is Tuanku Kudin himself and to which Tuan Kechil seems to have attached himself, went for the sake of plunder and to gratify a restless disposition. The second class also, headed by Kudin, Long Putih and by other Chiefs, seems to have been actuated by the spirit of revenge and hatred. And the third has obviously followed for the purpose of collecting and bringing away their friends and relatives into our territories.

The second class, with the Hindostan men, will remain there probably until expelled by the Siamese.

When the Siamese do appear, some resistance may be made by a few of Kudin's party, but it is to be apprehended that the bulk of the population will seek refuge in Province Wellesley. And as they will be pressed hard by the Ligorians it is even *possible* that under the exasperation of the moment his troops may pass our frontier and devastate the Honorable Company's frontier territory if not opposed by an adequate force. The population would then have every reason to assist the regular troops in defending the frontier.

Tuanku Soliman, who lately gave me so much trouble about the boundary, and who avoided all communication of a friendly nature, has sent to me a letter couched in deprecatory terms, which serves to confirm my suspicions of his being concerned in the attack on Quedah. I have informed him verbally that all matters at issue have been referred to the Ligor Chief, to whom he may apply as to his proper lord.

Should Soliman fly into our territory I fear I must detain him in custody, that the Siamese may not have additional cause to think that we encourage treason on the part of their public servants.

It may perhaps be asked how it happened that the movements of Tuanku Kudin and others were not known.

During the last four years scarcely a month has passed over without reports of expeditions on the part of Kudin and others against Quedah or remonstrance from the Siamese regarding these people being protected and the permission given to the Ex King to remaining at Penang, and one expedition did actually attack Quedah in the year 1829 as before stated, but was quite defeated.

The Siamese believed themselves invincible, and the people of Penang considered Kudin and his party too contemptible for notice.

The police, however they might be convinced that Tuanku Kudin would again try his strength on a befitting occasion, could never obtain such evidence as a magistrate could act upon; where the interests of a portion of the population, and the feelings of the whole, are, as in the present case as regards the Malays, ranged on one side, the difficulty of detecting combinations is very greatly increased, and it has not been hitherto customary or authorized that any public officer should seize persons on bare suspicion only.

Lately too the Police Establishment was reduced to such narrow limits and the pay was so low that every possible inducement existed for designing men to attempt to corrupt them and bribe them to connivance.

I rather believe however that they have generally resisted the temptation. Yet with such a weak and

scattered police, without any Intelligence Department, or allowance for one, or any gun boat or other boat, it has often been found impossible by me to obtain even common information.

My control has never extended over the petty trading boats of this coast, which get passes at Penang and are then beyond the cognizance of my police.

Every body now says he knew of the intended attack—so we all did by report I dare say. But did any person come forward and declare that he personally knew when, how, or where it was to take place? I had long ago believed that such an expedition would be sent a *second* time and reported to the then Government accordingly. But no discretionary authority was ever given to me to act on presumptive evidence only. I could not have done so without incurring a very serious responsibility with reference to my situation as a magistrate, and the existence of the Charter of the Court of Judicature and the probability of a new Court of Judicature being soon reestablished.

Had Abdullah and Din and Joonoos resisted, which they seemed at first disposed to do, much blood might have been shed. But as noted disturbers of the public peace I trust their detention by me will be deemed a measure of urgent necessity and will be justified by that necessity.

I frequently wrote to the Siamese Chief informing him that Kudin and others meditated an attack and offering to assist on our frontier. And I very lately complained to him against Tuanku Soliman for encouraging armed men to cross our frontier into *his district*. Yet that Chief, although he profusely thanked me for my information, treated it lightly, never deigned to ask for military aid, and seemed secure in his own means.

The boats which left Penang and Province Wellesley at intervals with the professed purpose of trading had Custom House passes and of course could not be cognizable by my police while the owners refrained from overt acts. Generally speaking these trading boats conveyed the arms and stores, passed the Honble. Company's jurisdiction and formed a rendezvous in the creeks betwixt us and Quedah, the ringleaders living all the while quietly at Penang and Province Wellesley without any arms or warlike stores near them, as if quite unprepared for any act of aggression. When all was ready they slipped off in small sampans and joined their party.

Should assistance ever be afforded from Penang to the Siamese under circumstances like the present, my impression derived from local acquaintance with the country and people, of the force which would be required effectually to drive out such a banditti as that of Kudin and his party from the Fort, and to retain it until the return of the Siamese may be here (and I trust to its being considered as not intrusively so) stated.

To carry the Fort, backed as Kudin is by the whole native population of Quedah and as report speaks by a strong body of men from the populous and more warlike province of Patani, *not less* I consider than two full Companies of Sepoys of 100 men each if possible, a party of artillery and Golaundauze to throw a few shells in, and an adequate number of strong boats, manned, would be wanted.

Each boat to have a gun or mortar mounted on a platform to be lightly covered in, and to carry a supply of provisions for a month at the least.

It would depend on circumstances after the Fort should fall what force would be required to garrison the place, and whether any land operation might be necessary. But I apprehend the latter could not be

undertaken very *extensively* with such means as Penang at present affords, without reducing its defensive strength too much. Perhaps it might be requisite to dislodge the insurgents from Allooster the former Capital lying about 5 hours up the river, and where they are now in force.

I believe that the appearance of British troops at Quedah in aid of the Siamese would instantly convince the inhabitants of the futility of holding out, and induce them to return to their homes or seek a refuge from the expected vengeance of the Ligorian by emigrating to Penang and Province Wellesley.

In such event too it might be politic to issue a Proclamation that any householders or persons domiciled at Penang or Province Wellesley who should be found in arms *opposing the Honble. Company's troops* would be treated as traitors and enemies to the British.

I beg to state, that having deemed it my duty in the present exigency to make a temporary arrangement in my military capacity with the Officer Commanding the troops, I am ready and will feel proud to act either in that capacity or in my political one, in any manner which may be considered most conducive to the public interest.

I have &ca.

(Signed) James Low
Assistant Resident.

Province Wellesley
the 25th April 1831.

Fort William 22nd July 1831.

No. 44.

To the Resident.

Sir,

It is my painful duty to report a series of events which have terminated in the expulsion of the Siamese from Quedah and the capture of the place on Tuesday the 16th instant by a flotilla force under the personal command of Tuanko Kudin, a notorious character, whose suspected addiction to piracy must be well known to you.

2. This flotilla is stated to consist of 35 or 40 boats of very small burthen, carrying perhaps from 300 to 400 men, amongst whom were 30 or 40 disbanded Sepoys of the late local corps, clothed and accoutred like the Company's troops.

3. Mr. Peterson, the Provisioner, happened to be at Quedah at the time, purchasing bullocks &c., and was an eye witness of the whole affair. He states that Kudin's flotilla approached in rapid pursuit of the Siamese boats which had been cruising at the mouth of the river, and were abandoned without resistance. That on nearing the Fort, the Siamese discharged about 40 cannon shots from the fort guns without effect; that Kudin's party then made a vigorous attack, succeeded in setting fire to the combustible building inside the fort and took it by escalade, in the midst of the smoke and confusion.

4. The Siamese garrison, consisting of 200 men, after a very feeble defence, fled in the direction of Ligore, whither a detachment of Kudin's force have gone in pursuit. The King (who is the son of the Ligore Rajah) fled in the same direction on the night preceding the attack, and a vague rumour prevails that he has been overtaken and put to death.

5 It is further understood that a very considerable land force has been collected from our own territories; that it had occupied a position on the Siamese western frontier and from thence has proceeded against Ligore. In this body also, there are many disbanded Sepoys, wearing the Company's uniform. It was at first supposed that the land force was to cooperate with Kudin in the attack upon Quedah, but I incline to the belief that Ligore is its real destination.

6. On receiving the first intimation of these movements, which was on Saturday the 14th instant, I requested the Commanding Officer to throw over a strong party of Sepoys to occupy our North East frontier, in order to protect our own territory and to be prepared to act as circumstances might require. The Company's boats Emerald and Diamond were sent out to cruize in the vicinity of Quedah River and collect information, but Quedah had fallen before they reached their cruising ground, and I have now employed them in watching our own coast in order to intercept plunder or the return into the Company's territories of those who have been engaged in the expedition.

7. I have confined my immediate view to the preservation of our own frontier and an endeavour to open a communication with Ligore, both by the direct overland route and by the way of Trang, but it is necessary to be prepared for future events and I therefore solicit your earliest attention to the predicament in which we are placed with relation to the Siamese by this most unfortunate affair.

8. By the Article of the Treaty of Bangkok it is stipulated that "the English shall not disturb nor attack Quedah, nor permit the former Governor or any of his followers to attack, disturb or injure in any manner the territory of Quedah, or any other territory subject to Siam." We must examine whether the

Treaty has been violated either in this particular article, or in its more extended signification.

9. It does not appear to me that the Ex King himself is implicated either directly or indirectly at present, at least, I have no direct evidence against him, and although his sons Abdullah and Din have undoubtedly been concerned in the plot, they have been arrested *before* they crossed the frontier and the letter of the 13th Article has so far been observed.

10. But it cannot be denied that the general spirit of our friendly relations with Siam has been violated on this occasion. English subjects both from Penang and Province Wellesley have joined the invading force, the arms and ammunition have probably been procured in our bazar, the boats have cleared out from our own port and bear the passes usually granted to boats of their ostensible character, and we neither interfered to prevent the attack nor gave our allies timely notice of its approach. On these grounds [it appears] to me that we are bound to offer such reparation as we now can for the injury we have (though unintentionally) permitted, and join the Siamese in active cooperation if they require it. This line of conduct is further recommended by the obvious anxiety of the Supreme Government to preserve our friendly relations with Siam, and it is evident that the suspicion of bad faith which now attaches to us can only be removed by decided and unequivocal measures.

11. The hostile armament has been furnished from various sources comprehending several of the petty Malayan States in our vicinity, who feel a deep interest in the overthrow of the Siamese power at Quedah and the restoration of a Malayan dynasty, but I consider such a combination to be quite unequal to a protracted struggle with a State so superior as Siam in energy and warlike resources, and policy seems to require our prompt co-operation with the Siamese both to secure

the ultimate tranquillity of the Peninsula and to maintain the friendly provisions of the Treaty of Bangkok.

12. The capture of Quedah must also be viewed in another point of view, divested of any connection with Siamese Politics as a piratical aggression, and particularly offensive to us from the manner in which the equipment has been furnished. Tuan Kechil, one of the leaders of the flotilla, and who was conspicuous in the attack (dressed in the uniform of a British officer), is a British subject born on this Island. He is now in custody in the Fort, having been arrested in the act of bringing plunder for sale in our bazar. Kudin is not a British born subject, but I imagine he and the rest of the insurgents who were engaged in the attack upon Quedah are all liable to be treated as freebooters.

13. Having submitted these points to your consideration I must now beg your attention to the predicament in which Tuanko Abdullah, son of the Ex King, and Pungooloo Joonoos are placed. Captain Low has reason to believe that Abdullah was about to cross our frontier to join the forces proceeding against Quedah and he arrested him within the Company's jurisdiction under circumstances that left no doubt of his intentions. Pungooloo Joonoos was apprehended under similar circumstances. They as well as Tuan Kechil are now confined in the Fort and I request your instructions in the event of the charges against them being fully substantiated.

14. As soon as the mass of contradictory evidence (or reports) can be sifted, I shall have the honor to lay before you a separate dispatch regarding the conduct both of the Ex King and his son Abdullah. I have already stated my impression of the King's innocence, but I shall watch his proceedings and shall not hesitate to put him under arrest if he makes any movement indicative of his being in league with Kudin's faction.

15. Before concluding this imperfect [account] I must advert to the want of timely intelligence through which most of the dilemma in which we are placed with the Siamese has arisen, and I beg to remark,

1st. That the preparations, though extensive, were carried on with much tact and secrecy.

2nd. The whole native community were favorable to a movement directed against the Siamese, whose cruelty and oppression at Quedah have excited universal odium. The Mahometan part of the population (Arab and Malayan in particular) were further influenced by feelings of religious animosity.

3rd. The Pungooloo Mookims at Province Wellesley, on whom Captain Low has greatly relied for information, joined the insurgents, and our Island Police are numerically weak and ill paid, and had no interest in betraying the party in whose favor their wishes, at least, were engaged, and

4th. We have neither guard boats nor establishments of any kind for keeping watch in the harbour and examining native craft. I now find that some of the European merchants were aware of the preparations, though possibly, not of their precise destinations, but whatever was the extent of their information, they did not disclose it to any Government Officer until the aggression had actually taken place.

I have &ca.

(Signed) K. Murchison
Deputy Resident.

Prince of Wales Island
the 25th April 1831.

Fort William 3d June 1831.

No. 30.

To the Secretary to Government
Fort William

Sir,

I have the honor to acquaint you for the information of the Honble. the Vice-President in Council, that a hasty private communication from Mr. Murchison, received yesterday, informs me of the capture of Quedah by a strong party of Malays, headed by the noted pirate Tuanko Kudin, and that report speaks of a still stronger force having actually proceeded over-towards Ligor itself, headed by Tuanko Long Pootee of Siak, and joined by the Ex-King's two sons Tuanko Din and Abdullah, also Tuanko Soliman, the Ex King's brother, who hitherto has continued to hold, under the Siamese, the same domain bordering on Province Wellesley that he did under his brother's government. I am further concerned to state that many of our own subjects, even some of the Panghooloo Mukims, or headmen of Province Wellesley, are also of this party, together with about thirty of the disbanded local corps who were dressed up in their old uniforms with the view no doubt of leading the Ex King's enemies to the supposition that he was assisted by the English Government.

The secrecy with which this expedition has been fitted out argues very forcibly the general interest in favor of its success. There never was a doubt but that every Malay State in the Peninsula of Malacca and East coast of Sumatra are more or less interested in the fate of the Ex King, and would always contribute to aid his restoration upon any certain prospect of success; but that not a single individual among the many hundreds of our own subjects who must have known of this intended expedition

should have come forward to give intelligence to the local authorities of what was going on appears the most surprizing, particularly when it is considered, that considerable numbers of Siamese may be reckoned among them. There is this certainly to be said, that any number of Malay boats might be collected in readiness for an expedition, upon the numerous creeks and rivers upon the coast, beyond our jurisdiction, without the slightest outward show of any preparation, and a land force in like manner where the country is so thinly inhabited, might equally be collected with the same secrecy. Arms such as the people use are easily collected by degrees, and secreted in boats and other hiding places beyond the possibility of search, evidenced by the fact that not even the Siamese themselves had any intimation of what was about to happen until the enemy was at their gates.

To efface, as far I am immediately able to do, the very suspicious light in which this affair cannot fail to be viewed at the Court of Siam, I have addressed a letter, copy of which is enclosed, to the King's Minister: And with reference to the late correspondence regarding the removal of the Ex King to Malacca, I shall at once proceed to Prince of Wales Island for the purpose of carrying that measure into effect, for although Mr. Murchison appears to think him perfectly innocent of actual concernment in this attack, there is not a shadow of doubt upon my mind, but that he has aided and abetted it by every means in his power, except being personally present.

As for our own subjects who have taken the serious and responsible part of injuring the state of our alliant, I shall imprison them wherever they are to be found, to be dealt with hereafter, and act generally in such a manner as to evince to the Siamese,

our respect for Treaties, and extreme disapprobation
of what has happened.

I have &ca.

(Signed) R. Ibbetson

Resident at Singapore.

Singapore

Resident's Office

3d May 1831.

Fort William 3d June 1831.

No. 31.

To His Excellency The Chao Pia Prah Klang
Chao Kun Kosa &ca. &ca.

I am seriously concerned to communicate to your Excellency for the information of His Majesty the King of Siam, that intelligence has this day reached me of a considerable force, headed by the noted pirate Tunkoo Kudin, having attacked Quedah by surprize on the 18th ultimo, and succeeded in taking it. There exists, at present, I am sorry to say, but little doubt on my own mind of the Ex King having been materially concerned in supporting this attack, although he positively denies the fact, and is at present residing apparently in quiet at Prince of Wales Island. I am further privately informed that many of the invading party were equipped like English sepoy, of course purposely, with the view of leading to the supposition that the attack was countenanced and assisted by the English.

To efface this impression in particular, I have considered it my duty as well as inclination, thus hastily to explain the nature of my own feelings upon this unforeseen event, and to assure His Majesty, that had timely intimation reached me of this intended piece of treachery, it should have been forcibly prevented. I ought to have explained to your Excellency that the charge of this Settlement, as well as those of Prince of Wales Island and Malacca, are now confided to my management by the Right Honble. the Governor General of India and that in consequence I am immediately about to proceed to Prince of Wales Island for the purpose of preventing any further violation of the existing Treaty between our respective Governments and to enforce obedience where I perceive it likely to be evaded, and I have to solicit you will assure His Majesty that no trouble or expense on my part

shall be spared, in bringing to punishment any subject of ours, or individuals residing under the protection of the English Government, who shall be found guilty of having engaged in this flagrant attempt to disturb the peace and harmony of our respective Governments. I am not yet informed of the exact force which has thus seized upon Quedah in the manner above described, although I feel confident from the necessarily mixed and discordant nature of its members that it cannot long retain possession; of this, however, I desire to assure your Excellency, that the assistance of the English Government shall at all times be available to cooperate with the forces of His Majesty in its recapture, whenever I am informed of His Majesty's intentions upon that point. A man known by the title of Tuan Kechil, also Tuanko Abdullah and Janoos, have already been apprehended and remain in confinement at Prince of Wales Island, and I have given strict orders for the arrest of all others found under similar suspicions. I write this in extreme haste to assure your Excellency of the continued friendship and good will of the English Government and in the earnest hope of soon receiving in return the sentiments of His Majesty.

Dated Singapore, this 3d day of May 1831.

True Copy

(Signed) R. Ibbetson

Resident at Singapore.

(Public Record
Office.)
Admiralty I/203.
Admirals'
Despatches.

Extract from a letter dated Penang 11 May 1831.

" The Malays, worn out with the cruelties of the Siamese, have risen upon them, driven the whole Siamese force away from Quedah and both parties are busily employed in cutting each others throats as fast as they can. We are however perfectly quiet here and likely to remain so, unless the Bengal Government will assist the Siamese in regaining possession of the neighbouring country, which by a Treaty the British have bound themselves to do when in hopes of creating a diversion in our favour during the late operations against Ava. But I rather think Lord William Bentinck will pay them off in their own coin, as all their assistance consisted in promises which were never kept, as not one Siamese made his appearance in the Burman territories during the whole war. Our supplies come in as usual and the intercourse is kept up as far as regards the trading community. Rice fortunately for the poor inhabitants is abundant and cheap. The Malays deserved great credit for the manner in which they carried the fort, which is a regularly built one of brick and of greater extent than our own, with a deep ditch round three parts of it. The secret was so well kept that all the inhabitants of the opposite coast started together, under a Malay Chief who had collected a great many of the disbanded sepoys of our former local corps, for whom fresh regimentals had been made up, agreeable to their old patterns, with one young man dressed as a British Officer. The distance hence is not more than fifty miles along shore. They got into the mouth of the river, on one side of which the fort is situated, at daybreak planted scaling ladders and mounted the walls, carrying everything before them—in half an hour they had full possession. We have the young man who headed the storming party here in safe

keeping, as it will be difficult, if not wholly impossible, to persuade such suspicious vagabonds as the Siamese that the whole were not Company's troops, headed by one of their officers."

(The above was enclosed in Rear Admiral Sir E. Owen's letter to the Admiralty, No. 203, 18 June 1831, in which he merely says of it—" The accompanying information, although not strictly official, is by a channel which leaves me no doubt of its authenticity.")

Fort William 22nd July 1831.

No. 44 Contd. To the Deputy Resident.

Sir,

* See ante,

Your letter of the 25th ultimo* conveying intelligence of the capture of Quedah by a flotilla force under the command of Tuanku Kudin, reached me yesterday.

The precautions you have taken to secure the immediate tranquillity of our own territory appear in every way so perfectly judicious that I shall at once proceed to remark upon the other points brought to my notice, and requiring more immediate attention in the present interval of quiet, proceeding from the absence of any Siamese force in our immediate vicinity, and first with regard to subjects of the British Government, who have thus attacked and injured without authority another State in strict alliance with our own:

There cannot be a question, if the injury thus given had been sanctioned by the English Government, the Government so sanctioning it would have been guilty of the offence, and answerable accordingly to the Government of Siam, and it therefore behoves us, in proportion as we are anxious to avoid this imputation, to render to the State thus injured by our subjects every reparation in our power, and which can be done effectually only by punishing the offenders as far as the nature of the case admits. I am not prepared at the present moment to state what that may be, but in the interim feel no hesitation in desiring that individuals of this description, proved to have been in arms against the Siamese in the late capture of Quedah, be apprehended and confined if found within our territory. Under this view of the case, Tuan Kechil and

Joonoos will remain in custody pending further instruction, but as Abdullah was not actually found in arms, and further, is not a British subject, it is my intention to remove him hence with his father, until when it would not be safe to give him liberty, and he must therefore remain under present restraint.

With regard to Tuanku Kudin, whose addiction to piracy is so notorious, I would not hesitate if in my power, together with all other public robbers of his particular description and engaged in the present attack on Quedah, to deliver them up, if requested, to the justice of the Siamese, and you will accordingly have him apprehended with that view if he presumes to return within our territories; but I believe it is contrary to the Law of Nations to treat in the same manner any persons but such as by the frequency and heinousness of their crimes may justly be declared the enemies of the human race.

That the 13th Article of the Treaty with Bangkok has seriously been violated by these acts there cannot in my judgment be a doubt, although from the measures now in progress, aided by the precaution I took at Singapore of writing to the Minister of Siam, I trust the suspicions of that jealous Government will gradually subside, as the real truth becomes developed.

The Ex King has certainly evinced considerable tact in avoiding the appearance of open and direct control, but it is hardly to be supposed that he has really been ignorant of what was going on, and if not ignorant, that he could possibly have demeaned himself as a mere *passive* spectator of events. Indirectly therefore I consider him to have been the prime instigator of the attack; the leaders of the expedition are his near relations, they have lately been living in close communication with him, and in the seduction of the Pangholoos and people of Province

Wellesley I fear may also be traced the Ex King's object in residing there so long, and his late reluctance to quit that Province until all things were matured. Not the least remarkable feature in the case is his affected indifference as to the event which cannot possibly be natural.

Under these impressions, together with the conviction that tranquillity cannot otherwise be restored, I have resolved to enforce the orders of the Supreme Government for his removal to Malacca, or such other place of residence as he may choose to fix on, equally or further removed from the neighbourhood of the Siamese.

The second article of the Treaty provides that should any place or country subject to the English "do any thing that may offend the Siamese, the Siamese shall not go and injure such place and country, but first report the matter to the English who will examine into it with truth and sincerity, and if the fault be with the English [they] shall punish according to the fault." In this respect we have already anticipated what may be considered the wishes of the Siamese, and should they eventually require it on the terms of the Treaty, I quite concur with you that we should also yield them our active co-operation in the recovery of Quedah: Full justice would thus be rendered them and retaliation entirely prevented.

You have correctly stated in my opinion the principal causes which enabled the adherents of the Ex King to fit out their expedition with such tact and secrecy, but I place no faith in the assertion that any of the European merchants knew what was about to happen. When the reported force from "Patani and other Malay States" shall have failed, or effected their object, the same pretence to superior intelligence will again spring up, but at a moment, as in the former instance, when it is not worth notice. The most intelligent Chinese merchant in this settlement has lost

a considerable quantity of merchandize, seized at Quedah by Tuanku Kudin. This ignorance of passing events on his part, entirely rebuts the presumption in my opinion that any thing approaching to a precise information was in the least known generally on the Island.

Our present establishments were never intended for times like the present, but these will not continue long, and the removal of the Ex King in the course of this month will soon disconcert the measures of his supporters, and good order and quiet be gradually restored. Intelligence certainly is particularly required, and I need hardly suggest to you that able agents should at once be employed as a temporary measure, both here and at Province Wellesley.

I have &ca.

(Signed) R. Ibbetson
Resident Singapore.

Prince of Wales Island.
Resident's Office,
19th May 1831.

Fort William 22nd July 1831.

Copy of a letter from R. Ibbetson Esqre. to the
Ex King of Quedah.

(After Compliments.)

My friend is desirous that I should put in writing the substance of what I have twice communicated to him in person Vizt. that the orders of the Supreme Government for his removal hence are imperative and must be carried into effect; I here quote for my friend's information the order in question.

"His Majesty having rejected the liberal terms which you were authorized by the letter of the 30th April last to propose to him, and it appearing that nothing short of compulsory means will effect his removal, the Governor General in Council now deems it essentially necessary to the preservation of tranquillity, that he should be removed by force if necessary, after once more declaring the positive orders of the Supreme Government for his immediate retirement to Malacca, or such other place of residence as he may choose to fix on, equally or farther removed from the neighbourhood of the Siamese."

Thus my friend will see that if to preserve peace and quiet with the Siamese at a time when peace and quiet actually prevailed, it was then considered necessary that my friend should remove to a great distance from the former, how completely those predictions are now verified by the late capture of Quedah by my friend's relations and adherents, and how much more urgent in consequence is the cause for his removal. Argument and persuasion have already been so frequently employed with my friend in vain, that it now falls to my duty reluctantly but distinctly to inform him that the latter must cease. On my way hither I have hired a house at Malacca for my friend, and I

have now also hired a ship to convey my friend with his family and followers either to that settlement, or any other place of residence my friend may select, "equally or farther removed from the neighbourhood of the Siamese." The stipend of 6,000 Dollars per annum will be paid to my friend so long as he remains at the place now fixed on for his future residence ; but I must distinctly inform my friend that this will also be forfeited if he attempt to return to the vicinity of Quedah, or by any other act of* contempt and disobedience of the Governor General in Council.

• sic, ? show.

(Signed) R. Ibbetson
Resident Singapore.

Dated 22nd. May 1831.

Bengal political
Consultations,
Range 126,
vol. 31.

Fort William 22nd July 1831.

No. 43.

Secret Department.

To the Chief Secretary to the Government
Fort William.

Sir,

* Copied from
Bengal Political
Cons. vol. 29.

* See ante 25
April and 19 May.

With reference to my letter dated 3rd May last,* I have now the honor to transmit for the information of the Right Honorable the Vice President in Council copy of a correspondence* which has passed between the Deputy Resident of this Settlement and myself regarding the capture of Quedah and the removal of the Ex King to Malacca.

The measures it became necessary to take to effect the latter object are explained in the enclosed copy of my correspondence with that Chief, and the third enclosure contains copies of reports from Captain Low which will be useful in elucidating the management and tact displayed by the King's adherents, and in assisting the judgment as to the degree of culpability attributable to the latter. I by no means however concur with Captain Low in the view he has drawn of the probably hasty proceedings of the Siamese Government regarding their subjugation of Perak and Salengore.

In the tumult which will follow the retaking of Quedah some trifling collisions may possibly occur upon our borders, but it is too obviously their interest and inclination to keep well with us, [and not] rashly to pursue a conduct diametrically opposed to it.

The Ex King sailed hence for Malacca on the 6th Instant, not without evincing to the last considerable opposition, which only ceased on a movement of the police accompanied by Military, which convinced him

that it would be useless and that my determination was fixed.

* * * * *

I consider the removal of the Ex King hence to Malacca as an important epoch as regards the future tranquillity of this settlement, and effected as it has been without actual force, and at a time when those most prejudiced in his favour could not but admit the expediency of the measure, the opinion that it is a harsh one will gradually subside.

* * * * *

It is not my intention to encumber myself beyond necessity by apprehending people indiscriminately who have been engaged in this attack on Quedah. One or two of the Punghalooos or other conspicuous characters, if possible those who have made off with muskets given them in charge for the protection of the Province, and who may legally in consequence be committed to stand their trial, will suffice as an example to lead others to consider the impropriety of their conduct, but it appears doubtful how far I should be warranted in confining subjects less equivocally situated, and I shall therefore be cautious how I interfere beyond what may be necessary for the due preservation of the peace.

I am daily in expectation of the arrival of the Siamese before Quedah, and I have stationed the schooner "Zephyr" and "Emerald" cutter off the Quedah and Mirabow Rivers to co-operate with them at sea. Their commanders have been directed to consider Kudin and Long Putee as pirates, and to treat them as such should they fall in with them at sea.

This co-operation, together with the removal of the Ex King to Malacca will sufficiently convince the Siamese of our honest participation in their success, and efface the unfavorable impression which late events cannot fail to have excited regarding our good faith.

I hope soon to inform you that quiet is again pretty generally restored, and so complete I think will be the success of the Siamese, that any further attempts of the Malays will not again be made, at least for a long period.

I have &ca.

(Signed) R. Ibbetson
Resident Singapore.

Prince of Wales Island,
Resident's Office,
the 8th of June 1831.

Fort William 12th August 1831.

No. 53.

Translation of a letter from the Rajah of Ligore
to Robert Ibbetson Esqr. Resident.

After Compliments.

I make my friend acquainted with the following circumstance. At the time Captain Henry Burney proceeded to the Siamese Country to make a Treaty at Pra Maha Nakon Sri Jutia (Siamese name of Bangkok) he took away the Treaty with him in order to get the seal of the Right Honble. the Governor General affixed to it, a copy of which he deposited with me, and I gave him a copy with the seal of the Siamese Emperor attached to be deposited in Bengal; and I have been informed that he left a translation of this in the English Language at Penang. Now in the 13th section of the Treaty it is mentioned that the English do not desire to take the Quedah country and that they will not foment or raise disturbances or insurrections against Quedah; that they will not allow the Ex King or his slaves or ryots to attack or raise disturbances at Quedah or any countries under the Siamese authority, and many other subjects are clearly laid down in the Treaty which Captain Henry Burney translated and left at Pulo Penang. My friend also has sent letters to Quedah stating that the English have great pleasure in ratifying the Treaty and would prevent the Ex King from attacking Quedah, and if he persisted in his attempts that he should suffer the punishment due from the English, and as my friend has sent a number of letters to this purport the Siamese have placed great confidence in them and acted according to my friend's suggestions. The Siamese have also fully performed all the articles of the Treaty. But now the Ex King, who resides in the English territories has prepared a number of prows for the

purpose of attacking Quedah and thereby broken the Treaty. As the Ex King has not obeyed the orders of the English, but has caused the Treaty to be transgressed, contrary to the orders of the English, I hope my friend will pursue such measures as in his opinion may be most proper. The Siamese have kept the whole Treaty. They dwelt in security meditating how the good understanding and friendship with the English might be continued, but as the Ex King has been the first to attack Quedah, contrary to the Treaty, the Siamese are now making preparation to enter Quedah, but without any intention of committing a single hostile act against the English. I hope therefore my friend will not be suspicious, and assist the officers of the Ex King who have acted contrary to the Treaty, and will send me a reply stating in what way the Ex King will be punished. I have fulfilled the Treaty and am anxious to increase and strengthen my friendship with the English, and am desirous that the countries of Quedah and Pulo Penang should be considered as one, so long as the heaven and earth are in existence, and that there may be no end to the great friendship between the two countries, so that, if Pulo Penang stands in need of assistance from the Siamese it may be granted, and if, on the contrary, Quedah stands in need of assistance the English may give it in a friendly way as is proper.

I have sent an Envoy with goods from the Siamese country as a present for the Governor General of Bengal, through the Martaban country, and have requested Mr. Maingy to give him every assistance in his power so that he may arrive in safety in Bengal, as I am desirous of encreasing and strengthening the good understanding and friendship. As the Malay scribe is not very well acquainted with his business, should there be any improper

expressions, I hope my friend will not on this account take offence.

Written on the 26th day of the 6th month 1246.

A true translation

(Signed) H. Nairne
Malay Translator.

This letter is written altogether in a very humble strain, quite different from his former communications.

(Signed) H. N.

Fort William 12th August 1831.

To the Raja of Ligor.

I have received my friend's letter dated wherein my friend correctly states the nature of the Treaty existing between the English and Siamese particularly that portion of it contained in the 13th Article and which my friend complains has been infringed by the act of the Ex King. My friend will be happy to learn that in consequence of my suspicions to that effect, and the continual trouble and disturbance occasioned by his followers and adherents, the Ex King has already been punished by removal to Malacca, much against his inclinations, and even under the most sacred protestations of his innocence, and it would therefore be a source of inward satisfaction to myself if my friend can really adduce undoubted evidence that "he has prepared a number of prows for the purpose of attacking Quedah" because such proof, particularly if confirmed by any letters of his own, would at once convince me of his want of faith, and prevent my placing the least reliance in his word. That the Ex King's friends and relations have attacked Quedah, contrary to the Treaty, I regret to say there cannot be a doubt; and my friend hopes "I will not be suspicious and assist the officers of the Ex King, who have acted contrary to the Treaty." My friend will see from what I have already done that suspicion dwells on the side of my friend only, for independent of having, as already stated, sent away the Ex King, I have also ordered boats and ships off the mouth of the Quedah and Mirabow Rivers, with the view of intercepting "Kudin" and "Long Puteh" should they run seaward from the forces of my friend, and if they venture into Province Wellesley they will also meet their fate. I feel that there is but one thing

now wanting to establish the future tranquillity between my friend and the English in this quarter, and that is the demarcation of the Province Wellesley from the territory of Tuanko Soliman, whose people, participating apparently in the fate of their former sovereign, seem to imagine they make acceptable offerings to his unsullied dignity by creating disturbances along our frontier, I fear encouraged by Tuanko Soliman, his brother, whose conduct lately has been very equivocal, arising no doubt from similar feelings.

My friend says " I have fulfilled the Treaty and am anxious to increase and strengthen my friendship with the English." Now the 3rd Article of the Treaty provides for the definition of this boundary, although my friend has hitherto evaded any adjustment of so simple a measure. Let my friend and I then now go hand in hand in this affair, nothing will more effectually tend to the suppression of disturbances than well defined boundaries, because the evil disposed cannot then assemble in multitudes upon the borders of either party without one or the other being answerable for their conduct, whereas at present all is uncertain and in quelling disturbances there is constant litigation as to the territory in which it has arisen, instanced at the present moment with the people of Bukit Sambul, who call themselves the subjects of the Tuanko Soliman and the friends of Tuanko Kudin, and where report says the latter intends to take refuge when driven from Quedah. I shall be happy to hear from my friend in reply to this letter, and in the mean time beg to assure him that he may implicitly rely upon me for giving effect to the stipulations of the Treaty existing between our respective Governments.

(Signed) R. Ibbetson
Rest. Singapore.

Dated 14th June 1831.

Fort William 14th October 1831.

No. 24.

To the Resident of Singapore.

Sir,

I have deferred reporting to you officially upon the progress of events at Quedah, in the hope that each succeeding day would bring me tidings of the recapture of the Fort by the forces of the Ligore Rajah, but as so much time has already elapsed without producing any very decided proofs of the Ligorian's success, or of his ability to take the Fort by assault, I once more solicit from you distinct instructions for my guidance, in the event of the Rajah making formal application to me for direct and powerful co-operation, which I conclude he will soon do, and would have done at an earlier period had not his pride checked such an admission of his own weakness. Indeed, he has already made application to me for co-operation to a certain extent, for Tuanko Solyman having at length unequivocally joined Kudin with a force of 600 or 800 men, the Ligorian has urged me to occupy Solyman's territory contiguous to our own. But this I shall decline, because after the fall of Quedah, Solyman's lands will come quietly within the scope of our territorial arrangements with the Ligore Rajah, and it would be premature and an unnecessary exposure of the Company's troops to take and maintain possession of a post easily assailed by the Quedah forces under present circumstances.

In your early letters you certainly recognized the principle that we were bound to co-operate in the recapture of Quedah if the Ligore Rajah required it, but in reply to my letter on the occasion of your departure from Penang, requesting you to give me distinct instructions how to act in the event of our

co-operation being formally solicited, you merely said that large or expensive measures would be unnecessary, and thus I am left to act upon somewhat conflicting instructions. Should any pressing emergency occur, I must act according to the best of my judgment, on the general principle you originally laid down, but I consider such an occurrence as improbable, and that you will have time to send me your orders before any decided movements are required. I beg then to ask you if I am to comply with the requisition of the Ligore Rajah for Sepoys and Artillery to act decisively against the Fort under the Direction of British officers.

His Majesty's Ship Wolfe and the Emerald have been blockading the Quedah River ever since your departure, but I apprehend that Captain Hamley's other duties will not allow him to remain there much longer, and on his departure Kudin will get ample reinforcements from the Lankavies and other places, and will certainly be able to destroy the Ligorian's flotilla.

Just before the Wolfe resumed her station Kudin's prows attacked the Siamese boats and gained some advantages over them, and had not the frigate bore down the advantage would have been more decided. Captain Hamley has performed another service of some importance by dispersing a considerable flotilla from the Lankavies with reinforcements for Kudin. In all my letters to the Ligorian I have strongly urged the necessity of expediting his attack upon the Fort, pointing out also that the Wolfe could not continue the blockade much longer, but I begin to doubt his ability to take the fort by assault, and the question seems to be whether we are to take it for him, or allow the insurrection, with all its evil consequences to our own subjects, to go on for an indefinite period.

I earnestly request you to give me a distinct reply for I am unwilling to act upon my own responsibility in a matter which ought to be regulated by your orders.

I am &ca.

(Signed) K. Murchison

Deputy Resident.

Prince of Wales Island
The 1st of August 1831.

Fort William 2d September 1831.

Bengal Secret
and Political
Consultations,
vol. 262.

No. 4.

To the Chief Secretary to Government
Fort William.

Sir,

*Copied from
Home Series,
Misc. Vol. 677.*

In my letter to your address of the 3d February last* I reported my intention of renewing my efforts to release from slavery the 300 Taliens whom I had ascertained to be in captivity at Zemmai and Laboung. I now have the honor to state, for the information of the Honorable the Vice President in Council, that the result of my endeavours have been attended with complete Success, and I may with safety assert that the fulfilment of no part of my duty as a public servant has ever brought with it so much pleasure.

2. Having succeeded in obtaining a list of the names of the persons whom I considered I could with any degree of justice claim as British subjects, I determined in February last to depute an Agent to the Minister of the King of Siam, to explain to them the ground on which my claim was founded; also to obtain from them, if possible, an order from the King of Siam to the Chiefs of Northern Laos for the unconditional release of such of the captives as were desirous to return to this Province.

3. I selected as my agent to Bangkok the late Myo Thoogee of Shwai Gyeen, the Chief of our Talien inhabitants at Maulmain, and one of the most intelligent and gentlemanlike natives I have ever met with. A translation of the notes kept by him during his absence from Maulmain is herewith forwarded.

4. Nothing could have been more friendly than the disposition shewn by the King of Siam in the discussions between his Ministers and the Shwai Gyeen

Myo Thoogyee, by whom I am assured that his detention at Bangkok would not have exceeded ten or fifteen days had it not been for the violent opposition made by the Wangna, or Second King, to the orders issued authorizing the appointment of a Siamese officer to accompany the Shwai Gyeen Myo Thoogyee to Laboung and Zemmai for the purpose of ascertaining the justice or otherwise of the claim made by me.

5. As might have been expected every effort was made by the Chiefs of Northern Laos to defeat the object of the Shwai Gyeen Myo Thoogyee's visit to them but they had opposed to them a clever and shrewd native, whose information regarding the disposal of the slaves was correct, and who also had the advantage of being personally acquainted with many of them. It was therefore difficult to deceive him, and the whole of his conduct is marked with so much decision and judgment that the Chief of Laos actually became alarmed and restored to him, in addition to the captives originally claimed, 29 inhabitants of this Province who had been seized on our frontier by the Red Karians and sold by them at Zemmai and Laboung.

6. I have distributed food and clothing to the 219 captives who have lately arrived at Moulmain. It is my intention to settle them on the banks of the Salvein River as wood cutters, and I entertain no doubt of the return to this Province during the next North East Monsoon of the 75 persons who were unable to accompany the Shwai Gyeen Myo Thoogyee.

* * * * *

I have &c.

(Signed) A. D. Maingy
Commissioner in the Tenasserim
Provinces.

Maulmain
The 3rd August 1831.

Fort William 2nd September 1831.

No. 5.

Translation of a Journal kept by the Shwai Gyeen Myo Thoogyee on the occasion of his being deputed by the Commissioner in the Tenasserim Provinces to Bangkok for the purpose of getting released from slavery a number of Taliens said to be held in captivity by the Chiefs of Zemmai, Laboung and Layoung.

1831

Tuesday 8th Feby

Having made the necessary preparations for my journey and received instructions from the Commissioner I quitted Moulmain at 3 o'clock in the afternoon and arriving at the village of Nantay about sunset I put up there for the night.

Wednesday 9th

Having obtained boats at Nantay I proceeded up the Altaran river, and at night put up at the village of Altaran.

10th February

Encamped in ascending the Altaran river. Met with several parties of wood cutters. At night slept in the jungle.

11th & 12th Feby.

Continued to ascend the Altaran river.

13th

Dismissed our boats and commenced our journey towards the three Pagodas. During the last three days we have seen large parties of wood cutters employed in felling some very fine teak.

14th 15th & 16th

Travelled through extensive teak forests, the timber extremely fine, but at a great distance from any river, and therefore difficult to be removed.

17th

Passed the three Pagodas and slept on the banks of the Thoungala, a river in the Siamese territory which falls into the Kamboori river.

18th

Left the Thoungala river and crossed the river. This river takes its rise about five days journey from Tavoy and also falls into the Kam-

boori river. It is narrow and very winding. At night slept at Kahdyne tshin, Siamese post containing a few houses and about one hundred men. There met with a great many Kariens engaged in the cultivation of cotton. I was detained at this place until the morning of the 23d instant, but not prevented from moving about. I was detained under the pretence that no boats could be procured for myself and my party. I was however aware that my movements were purposely retarded in order that my arrival might be announced at Kamboori.

23d February

Reached Beelut, another Siamese post of 100 men armed with muskets. I was again detained at this post for three days in spite of all my endeavours to get away, and I believe that excuses would have been made to keep me at Beelut some days longer had I not threatened to get the Chief of the post punished.

26th do.

I slept at Dan Kaboh, another Siamese post of 20 men.

27th do.

I slept at Dan yeik another post of 20 men.

28th do.

I slept at Datlayo another post of 20 men.

March 1st

Arrived Moug Thein and was detained there for ten days in order that my arrival might be announced at Bangkok. I remonstrated violently against this unnecessary detention, but I could not persuade the Chief of Moug Thein to allow me to move until he received orders from Bangkok permitting me to proceed [to] Kamboori. I met at this place a son of Maha Ayothias. He was there with 200 men for the purpose of collecting sapan wood for the King of Siam. Each man was expected to collect 150 Viss of sapan wood.

The sapan wood forests in this quarter are said [not] to be very extensive. I was told that not less than 3000 men are annually employed in cutting sapan wood for the King of Siam without

receiving pay for their services. The most of these men are said to be employed in the direction of the Tenasserim sapan forests. Since my quitting the Three Pagodas I have met with no teak forests. Within the last few days I have seen a great many Careens conveying cotton on small bamboo rafts to Bangkok.

- 11th March* I was permitted to proceed. We were in our boats for two days and two nights.
- 13th do.* Reached Kamboori, which is surrounded with a stockade and contains about 300 houses. There are 20 old guns in this village. Paddy is cultivated here, the first I have seen since my departure from Maulmain.
- 14th do.* Reached Bammay, a large village and surrounded with good gardens. Tobacco appears to be cultivated in large quantities.
- 15th do.* Reached Bampan, a village containing about 40 houses.
- 16th do.* Reached Phee-ap, another large village containing 300 houses and surrounded with a wooden stockade. I saw a great deal of cultivation and many large gardens. The Siamese appear to take great pains with their tobacco.
- 17th do.* Quitted the Menee River and crossed a small lake leading to the Mai Tshan Rizer. At the entrance of the Mai Tshan River there is a battery of fifteen guns. This battery is about a dain (two miles) from the sea. Another dain beyond this battery there is a village containing 50 houses, and two dains beyond the village to the capital. The banks of the river are covered with houses and fruit trees.

On the 19th we reached the Capital and at about 10 in the morning the Chief of Kamboori and Maha Ayothia's writer took me to a house allotted for myself and my followers. The house in question belongs to a son of Maha Ayothia's

and is distant from Maha Ayothia's house about twenty yards. The house is large and spacious and had not been previously occupied.

On the 22nd Maha Ayothia's writer came and called me requesting me to go to Maha Ayothia's house. The writer informed me that the King had sent one of his Woongyees to Maha Ayothia's house for the purpose of ascertaining the object of my mission. On my arrival at Maha Ayothia's house I explained to the Woongyee the object of my being deputed to Bangkok, and I then delivered to Maha Ayothia the letter addressed to him by the Commissioner, after which a good deal of general conversation followed regarding the health of the commissioner, the number of houses and inhabitants at Maulmain, the number of troops and the terms of friendship existing between the English and Burmese. Being asked by the Woongyee whether I had any letters from the Commissioner to the Woongyees I replied that I had; upon which the Minister requested me to deliver the letter to him, in order that it might be read before the King. The Woongyee having received the Commissioner's letter quitted me and I returned to my own house. In the afternoon, seeing the Woongyee returning from the Palace to Maha Ayothia's house, I went to him and enquired what had taken place at the Palace. He told me that the Commissioner's letter had been read in the presence of the King and the Ministers, and that on hearing its contents the King had observed that he had no wish to detain any British subjects but on the contrary he was desirous that they should not be allowed to communicate or intermix with his subjects, and added he would at once give an order to have the Commissioner's claim enquired into, and that if any British subjects should be found residing as slaves with the Chiefs of Northern Laos, that they should be restored and delivered over to the Commissioner's Agent. I was also told that the Ministers

would fix a day for receiving me and hearing what I might have to state.

March 23d & 24th Nothing particular occurred. I saw Maha Ayothia, whose conversation had reference to the power and strength of the English and to their system of Government. He after expressed a wish to live under British rule, but observed that he must die in Siam as the King of Siam would never allow him to quit his dominions. Some of my followers met with their relations who had 18 or 20 years ago fled to Siam. These men had an opportunity of visiting the different batteries on the banks of the river, and stated that they contained about 170 guns and 200 Suijals. They also stated that a large iron chain was moored across the river in order to prevent shipping from passing the batteries.

March 25th Maha Ayothia's writer told me that the Ministers had assembled at the Palace and requested my attendance. I reached the Palace at 11 o'clock and there met the Chief Woongyee and Mengyee Maha Ayothia, besides Woongyee Chakree and Prah Narine. A Talien of the name of Memig Ba acted as Interpreter. The usual questions were then put to me regarding the health of the commissioner and state of the country. I was also questioned respecting the situation held by me. The Chief Woongyee then observed that Mya Pien and Nga Chau, the two head men alluded to in the Commissioner's letter, could not be British subjects, as they and their relations have been subjects of the King of Siam since the days of the King who owned the first white elephant, and that he had been assured of this by the Chiefs of Northern Laos, and further that Nga Pein and Nga Chau had held appointments under and received letters from the King of Siam, and that consequently the English

could have no claim to them. I replied that the Chief Woongyee must have been deceived, and that I was prepared to prove that the Taliens in captivity at Zemmai and Laboung are British subjects and that they had been seized and sold as slaves after they had received a protecting pass from the great English General Sir A. Campbell, and that moreover such protecting pass port had been shown by Nga Pein and Nga Chau to the Chiefs of Zemmai and Laboung and that I had brought it with me in proof of my assertion. The Minister then observed that if what I had then said should prove to be correct, that the King of Siam had been deceived by the Chiefs of Northern Laos, and that as friendship and peace subsist between the Siamese and the English, that the Chiefs of Zemmai and Laboung should be ordered to deliver to me the captives enumerated in my list, provided they were willing and desirous of placing themselves under the Government of the English; and further that as the Commissioner had requested in his letter to the Woongyee that I might not be detained at Bangkok longer than was necessary, that people should be appointed to accompany me with order from the King to the Chiefs of Zemmai and Laboung to release all such persons as I could prove had been seized and carried into captivity after they had received a protecting pass from Sir A. Campbell. I then observed that there are several inhabitants, British subjects, with the Chiefs of Zemmai and Laboung, who were residents of Moulmain, and who had been seized and sold by the red Kurreens.

March 26th

A dreadful fire broke out this day and consumed, it is said, 1000 houses. Several persons also lost their lives.

March 27th
to
April 22nd

I ascertained that the Wangna or Second King had addressed the King and opposed the release of the captives at Zemmai and Laboung, observing that the English never allowed the Siamese to remain quiet but are always making applications to them for the release of persons whom they claim as their subjects, and that always meeting with a ready compliance from the King of Siam to their demands, that they are never likely to be satisfied ; therefore it would be better to check at once such demands, otherwise, of what avail are our fire arms and ammunition if we do not use them. Owing to the opposition made by the Wangna my departure was delayed. I received this information from Maha Ayothia and Pia Narine, who also stated that the King of Siam in reply to the Wangna had observed that he had no desire of going to war with the English, with whom he was living on terms of friendship, and that if he had enemies he would prefer conciliating them than having recourse to arms. My detention being longer than I anticipated, and seeing no preparations being made for my departure, I solicited the Chief Minister and Maha Ayothia to obtain leave for me to quit Bangkok and to be furnished with letters to the Chiefs of Zemmai and Laboung for the delivery of such slaves as I could prove to belong to the English. I also solicited that the Chief of Yahein, who was then at Bangkok, might be allowed to accompany me, and that to him authority might be delegated for ensuring the release of the slaves. I was informed that His Majesty objected to the Chief of Yahein being the person selected to accompany me to Zemmai and Laboung, lest on my arrival at those places I might experience difficulty, delay and evasion, in consequence of the Chief of Yahein being related to the Laos Chiefs, and that another Siamese officer should be appointed for that purpose. I was

afterwards [informed] that the Chief of Thampeing had been ordered by His Majesty to accompany me to Zemmai and Laboung, and that I should be allowed to quit Bangkok as soon as that Chief arrived there and had received his instructions. Within the last seven or eight days several alarming fires have broken out in this city and destroyed a great number of houses, amongst them the residence of the Wangna, it having been set on fire by lightning.

On the 22d April the Chief of Thampein having arrived at Bangkok and received his instructions, we left the city in boats and ascended the Maipieng River. Maha Ayothia sent seven of his own men to accompany me. In [the] evening we arrived at the village of Bantoon and slept there.

On the 23d passed Bantaphan, a village containing about 20 houses. The banks of the river between Bangkok and this village are well cultivated. Slept at Darawaddy, the former capital of Siam, and once in possession of the Burmese. It is now occupied by cultivators and contains about 500 houses.

- April 25th* Reached the village Thepak containing about 20 houses.
- do. 26th* Reached the village of Mong Ein containing about 50 houses.
- do. 27th* Reached the village of Kanoon and put up for the night at Khantawan, formerly a city but now containig no more than 100 houses. In the vicinity of the villages through which I have passed during the last 3 or 4 days I saw every where extensive paddy fields. The cultivation of tobacco appeared to be greatly attended to.
- 28th April* Reached the village Odoon containing upwards of 100 houses.

29th April

Reached the village Thento, containing upwards of 20 houses. We passed this day through some teak forests.

30th do.

Reached the town of Meing then Eit containing upwards of 300 houses

May 1st 2nd & 3rd

We passed through to the villages of Banphan containing 50 houses; also Bankoon containing 20 houses. On the 4th arrived at Thampein, the Chief of which place having been ordered to accompany me, we were here delayed for two days to enable him to collect men to accompany us. This town contains from 150 to 200 houses. On the 5th of May we left Thampein and travelled through some fine teak forests.

May 6th

We reached Yahein and remained there until the morning of the 9th. This town contains about 500 houses. Its inhabitants are principally employed as wood cutters, and I met with at Yahein some of the finest specimens of teak timber I have ever yet seen. There is an excellent bazar at Yahein, much visited by the inhabitants of Laboung and Zemmai, who come to it for the purpose of purchasing foreign articles brought from Bangkok. I may here observe that the owner of almost every house in Yahein is possessed of an elephant. These useful animals are principally employed in moving timber. I saw no stick lac here.

On the 9th we quitted our boats and proceeded on elephants. On the 10th we arrived at Bandat and slept there. There are about 50 houses in this village.

11th May

Travelled through a forest containing oil trees and slept in it during the night.

12th do.

We crossed the Nawayong Creek and reached the village Baynapike containing about 20 houses. The inhabitants of the village are wood cutters and are possessed of some good cattle besides elephants.

- 13th May* We reached Meinthein, a town containing 400 houses. The Chief of Meinthein is independent inasmuch as that he is merely tributary to Siam and not under the Chiefs of Zemmai, Laboung or Yahein. A large quantity of teak is taken to Bangkok from Meinthein. We remained here for three days owing to our requiring more elephauts.
- 16th do.* We proceeded on our journey with 20 elephants and on the 17th arrived at Baynanyeen, a village containing 20 houses.
- 18th do.* Slept at the village of Banthanckein containing about 30 houses. I here for the first time met with stick-lac. The lac was seen on most of the trees belonging to the villagers.
- 19th do.* Arrived at the town of Lagoon containing 2000 houses. The town is divided into three distinct divisions, each division being surrounded by a wall. Two divisions on the right bank of the river, and one division on the left. I remained here for six days, in order that the heads of the neighbouring villages might be collected for the purpose of accompanying me to Laboung. I received great kindness from the Chief of Lagoon and met with a few Kukas, inhabitants of Moulmain, trading here. Cattle was extremely abundant and could be purchased at 5 and 6 rupees a head. Several Chinese were also trading here. The bazar was well supplied, and I have no doubt but that a lucrative trade might hereafter be carried on between the inhabitants of Moulmain and those of Lagoon.
- 26th 27th & 28th May* Continued our journey through the jungle.
- 29th do.* We reached Laboung. During the last four days we have passed through some very fine forests containing principally teak. We found on our arrival at Laboung a shed constructed for us without the town, where I was allowed to remain

for 8 days. During this time I was inactive, but was employed in collecting information regarding the persons whom I came to claim and finding out who possessed them.

June 2nd

The Chief of Thampein requested me to attend at the Palace, where I met the Chiefs and all the principal officers of the cities of Lagoon, Laboung and Zemmai, and also the son of the Chief of Beeay (the town of Beeay is situated S. East of Lagoon, distant seven days' journey). The son of the Chief of Beeay had with him a party of 500 armed men. I was first asked by the Chief of Laboung the usual questions regarding the health of the Commissioner, and was then called upon to give an account of my journey from Maulmain to Bangkok, the period of my stay there and the nature of the reception which I received from the Ministers of Siam. Several questions were also put to me regarding Maulmain and the strength and power of the English, and I was finally asked the object of my visit to Laboung. I then explained to the Chief of Laboung what had brought me to his country and informed him that it was in support of the claim which had already been made to him by the Commissioner for the release of the British subjects which he and the neighbouring Chiefs retained in captivity, as slaves. That a list specifying the names of the persons detained by him had already been sent to him by the Commissioner but that the Commissioner's demand not having been attended to I had been deputed to the Court of Bangkok for the purpose of obtaining an order from the King of Siam to the Chiefs of Laos for the immediate delivery of the British subjects detained by them, and that being furnished with an order from the King of Siam I had come to claim [its fulfilment]. On receiving this information the Chiefs retired.

On the 5th the Chiefs having again met I was sent for and was requested to bring with me Naga Chau and Naga Pein, both of whom had accompanied me from Maulmain, both of whom had escaped from Laboung. These men were questioned by the Chiefs regarding the period of their residence at Laboung, and whether they had not received Siamese letters. I observed that such sorts of questions would only lead to unnecessary discussion, that the Chiefs of Laboung and Zemmai are well aware how they obtained these men, and that Naga Pein, when first brought in captivity to Laboung produced the protecting pass, which he had received from Sir A. Campbell. After a considerable deal [of] unpleasant discussion, [I] called upon the Chiefs to state whether they intended to abide by the orders of the King of Siam delivered to them by the Chief of Thumpein. The Chiefs after consulting together for some time consented to my questioning the captives. The list containing their names was now produced, and the name [of the] first person mentioned in it was called and [he was] questioned regarding his inclination to return to Maulmain or remain at Laboung. To which he replied that he was unwilling to quit Laboung. I at once discovered that another person had been substituted for the person I claimed, and on my exposing their attempt to deceive me, I was assured that the man mentioned in the list was dead. A similar attempt was made to deceive me when the second person was called in and examined, on which I distinctly told the Chiefs that unless they dealt fairly with me that I should at once [return] to Maulmain. At this moment one of my followers informed me that the person first claimed and said to be dead, was at my house, and had come to me to seek protec-

tion. On his being brought before the Chiefs they pretended that he went by another name amongst them. I now asked the Chiefs if they were not ashamed of themselves, and repeated my determination to quit them unless they attended to my demand. I further pointed out to them how seriously they might suffer by disobeying the orders of the King of Siam, and I called upon the Chief of Thampien to carry into effect the instructions he had received at Bangkok, apprising the Chiefs of Zemmai and Laboung that I had the names of several of the inhabitants of Maulmain who had recently been purchased by them, and that unless those persons as well as the Taliens, for the release of whom I had brought an order, were immediately given up to me, I was convinced the English Chief would consider their conduct as most unfriendly and that the peace and good will subsisting between the Maulmain Chief and the Chiefs of Northern Laos would be interrupted. This threat appeared to alarm them, it being at once determined by them that every man named in [the] list should be called up and examined. The examination lasted for 9 days and every difficulty was secretly opposed to my recovering the captives. Many of them received large bribes to remain [in] Zemmai and Laboung. The list with which I was furnished contained the names of 298 persons. Of these 18 were dead, 25 had been persuaded by bribes under promises of obtaining situations not to return to Maulmain, and 25 of the men claimed by me were at Mein-Woohgyee. An order for their release was however made out and an assurance given that their departure should not be questioned or disturbed. On collecting the captives whose release I had obtained, I found them to amount to 210, so that I had actually succeeded in obtaining the emancipation of 80 persons beyond the number included in my list. I regret

to state in the course of my enquiries I ascertained that there yet remain in captivity with the Chiefs of Northern Laos between 4 and 500 inhabitants of the Province of Amherst who have been seized and sold as slaves at Zemmai and Laboung since the capture of Martaban by the English. The Chiefs of Zemmai and Laboung were extremely desirous that I should furnish them with a receipt for all the persons delivered over by them to me, but this I refused granting until they consented to furnish me with 20 elephants for the conveyance of our provisions as far as our boundary river of Thoung Ein. After having made every arrangements for my departure a claim was started by the Chief of Laboung for the cost of the grain which the slaves had consumed during their captivity, and also for the hire of ploughs and buffaloes which had been lent to them. I ridiculed this claim and asked the person who was sent to make it if his master, who called himself a Prince, was not ashamed of himself in making so unjust a demand. My observation was considered by the Chief of Laboung as insolent, but the Chief of Lagoon espoused my cause and observed that so far from being insolent I had displayed a great deal of good sense and argued rightly against the demand made by the Chief of Laboung.

June 19th

Having made every arrangement for my departure I proceeded to the village of Duongto, where I remained for two days in collecting the captives; on my again examining these people I found several of them too unwell to follow me, no less than 50 being laid up and unequal to undertake so long a journey during the S. West Monsoon. Having appointed two natives of Bengal, Jummun and Summud Ally, in charge of these people, I left this village on the 21st

June, bringing with me 210 persons released from captivity.

22nd June

We arrived at the village of Mein hoot containing 50 houses. Here we remained for four days procuring elephants. From the 26th June to the 10th July we were journeying through the jungle and had many difficulties to encounter on account of the heavy rains and the delay in crossing the river. On the 3rd [the] men in charge of the elephants refused to proceed any further and nothing but threats and having a very strong party with me induced them to proceed. Had I not had recourse to measures of violence towards the people in charge of the elephants, a great number of my followers must unavoidably have perished. On the 10th we reached the Thoung Ein, the boundary river, and here most fortunately met with Binya Rajah the brother in law of the Chief of Zemmai whose title is Chokara Maha Woon. From this person I received two baskets of rice and he further assisted me with 3 elephants, agreeing to accompany me as far as Maulmain. For the use of his elephants and the rice which he had supplied I could not persuade him to receive any remuneration. I suspect that Chokara Maha Woon had been sent by the Chiefs of Zemmai and Laboung to the boundary river for the purpose of preventing my taking with me any of the Kariens who might be anxious to place themselves under British rule. The want of boats occasioned my delay for three days in crossing the boundary river. On our arrival at Wen weet we obtained 8 baskets of rice from a Karreen Sokay, for which I gave him a receipt. On the 13th 14th and 15th we continued our journey, and always managed at night to put up at Karien villages. From each of the Karien villages we procured some rice, and for which

receipts were granted. On the morning of the 16th I left my followers at Lyne Boon, a Karien village, and getting into a small boat, I descended the Saluen river and reached Maulmain on the 20th.

A true Translation

(Signed) A. D. Maingy
Commissioner in the Tenasserim,
Provinces.

Maulmain
The 3d August 1831.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
Range 126,
vol. 23.

Fort William 9th September 1831.

No. 2.

To the Resident at Singapore.

Sir,

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter to the address of Mr. Chief Secretary Swinton No. 2 dated 8th June last,* with its enclosures. and in reply to convey to you the Governor General's entire approbation of the measures taken by you to effect the removal of the Ex Raja of Queda from Penang to Malacca, and to express his Lordship's satisfaction at the final accomplishment of this desirable object.

* Copied from
Political Con-
sultations, Range
126, vol. 31.

2. With respect to the proceedings of the adherents of the Ex Raja, who, fitting out their expedition from Penang, have succeeded in capturing Quedah from the Siamese, and for the expulsion of whom measures are now taken under the direction, it is stated, of the Chief of Ligor, the Governor General cannot avoid expressing his regret that so little vigilance was exerted to prevent an occurrence of such ill aspect towards a nation connected with us by Treaty. The circumstances which gave encouragement to these adventurers, and enabled them to concert and prepare their measures are fully explained by Captain Low, but will never be comprehended by the Siamese, who, it may be expected, will look upon this buccaneering expedition as having been fitted out under the connivance, at least, of the British authorities at Prince of Wales Island. Sensible of the difficulty of the position in which you are placed by this untoward event, His Lordship is fully prepared to admit the expediency, if not the necessity of some steps on our part for the purpose of undeceiving the Siamese Chiefs as to the fact of our participation in the enterprise. The removal of the Ex Raja is of that description, and the prompt measures taken by you to effect it merits therefore the highest approbation, but the extent to which our co-operation should be given to the Siamese with the

same view for the recovery of Quedah is a question of considerable nicety, and as no obligation to the effect is incurred under any Treaty, His Lordship is inclined to think it may be the better policy to avoid any operations of a hostile character either by land or sea.

3. If those concerned in the enterprise against Quedah return for refuge or asylum into the British territory they must be seized and punished for the offence under the Proclamation issued, but there can be no reason to prevent their taking refuge elsewhere, if they do so peaceably. The insurgents are certainly entitled to expect of us neutrality, but His Lordship would confine the measures of a hostile character, if any be taken against them, to the prevention of further assistance of men or arms joining them from Penang or Province Wellesley. Except in so far as may be required for this specific purpose, His Lordship doubts if it can be necessary to maintain a strict blockade of the mouth of the river on which Quedah is situated, but he concludes that you will see the expediency of avoiding at any rate joining the Siamese in operations by land.

4. A copy of your letter and of this reply and likewise of the reports of Captain Low, explaining the origin of the expedition against Quedah will be communicated for the information of His Excellency the Naval commander in chief, a detachment from whose squadron will be in the Strait, available for any service that may be required by circumstances. You will of course communicate fully and unreservedly with the Commanders of His Majesty's vessels that may be on duty in those seas.

I have etc.,

(Signed) H. T. Prinsep,
Secy. to the Govr. Genl.

Simla

15 August 1831.

Fort William 14th October 1831.

No. 22. To the Chief Secretary to Government
Fort William.

Sir,

* not traced.

Contrary to the expectations expressed in my dispatch of the 8 June last No. 2,* the disturbances at Quedah still continue active as ever, and without decided co-operation from us in favor of the Siamese, the success of that power I fear appears doubtful. So long as other expectations were entertained, I considered that temporizing measures such as the partial blockade of that river, with the view of preventing as far as possible the further ingress of our own subjects to their assistance, and the removal of the Ex King, by further establishing their confidence in us, would have sufficiently encouraged the Siamese to effect the rest with vigour. But this now appears extremely problematical, and a question arises whether, by not more strenuously endeavouring to prevent the former Governor of Quedah, or any of his followers from attacking, disturbing or injuring in any manner the territory of Quedah, the spirit of that Treaty is not broken.

From the Minister of Siam dated * in reply to mine of the 3 May 1831.
From Mr. Murchison dated 1 August 1831.

Blank in original.
See *infra* for these letters.

With reference to this point I have the honor to transmit for the purpose of being laid before the Honble. the Vice President in Council copies of two letters noted in the margin, and further to state that [in] an interview a few days back with Mr. Hunter (a gentleman long resident at Bangkok and frequently noticed in the correspondence of Messrs. Crawford and Burney), who was present at the reading of my letter to the Minister, I received the most gratifying account of the satisfaction which it produced, established by the fact that His Majesty, in consequence of it, instantly created him (Mr. Hunter) a Grandee of the Realm.

After the many friendly protestations on our part, should the Siamese now have cause to suspect us even of indifference from the passiveness of our acts, and find, from the want of our co-operation, that they have more to contend with than, single-handed, they are able to effect, they may still arrange some compromise with Soliman and Tuanko Kudin, leaving us to get on as we best may, having by our acts fully established the ill-will and hatred of both parties. The consequence of such a proceeding would be the desertion of our population at Province Wellesley and insult and robbery from all around us, whenever opportunity and motives of revenge prompted them to annoy us. But on the other hand it may be also argued, what right have we to assume an interference in the Government of a nation, the people of which are able to set themselves at liberty from the authority of an usurper. The Treaty of Bangkok is not an offensive and defensive one, nor is the point at which we should desist from aiding the latter at all defined. Ineffectual efforts have been made to assist them, but when these are to cease becomes the question.

I shall as soon as possible repair to Prince of Wales Island, and be ready to act as circumstances and mature reflection dictate but the dilemma is perplexing, and one upon which I would fain have had the instructions of Government.

I have &c.

(Signed) R. Ibbetson
Resident Singapore.

Malacca
Resident's Office
The 8th September 1831.

Fort William 14th October 1831.

No. 22 Contd.

Translation of a letter from the Chou Pia Prah Klang, Minister of the King of Siam, to the Resident of Singapore.

In a letter which the Resident of Singapore has sent by a vessel belonging to a Chinese trader of the name of Eish it is stated, that on the 18th of April 1831 a noted pirate called Tuauko Kudin at the head of a worthless gang attacked and took Quedah and that it was the opinion of the Resident that this was done with the knowledge and concurrence of the Ex Rajah of Quedah, who some time ago took refuge in Pulo Penang, although he denies it, and is apparently residing quietly at the latter place. Some of the people who invaded Quedah were equipped like English soldiers, with the view of inducing the belief that the attack was countenanced by the English, whereas they knew nothing about it. On the contrary, that had it come to the knowledge of the Resident of Singapore, that he would have immediately prevented it, for he is desirous of observing the relations of friendship and alliance with Siam, and was on the point of setting out for Penang in order to seize any persons infringing the Treaty between the two nations. Three individuals named Tuanko Bakie (suppose Kechil) Tuanko Abdullah and Yanoos had been arrested and confined at Penang, and all others concerned in the plot were ordered to be seized. The Resident of Singapore is of opinion that owing to the discontented nature of the people engaged in this affair that there is a want of unanimity and that they are not likely to agree amongst themselves for any length of time. On the part of the English, that

there was every desire to assist the Siamese nation and uphold the existing Treaty of friendship.

That the Governor of Bengal had entrusted the Government of Penang and Malacca to the Resident of Singapore. All these circumstances the Chou Pia Prah Klang has communicated to the King of Siam, and has received His Majesty's commands to reply that in sending so clear and satisfactory a letter, in arresting Tuanko Kudin (suppose Tuanko Kechil) Tuanko Addullah and Yanoos, and giving orders for the seizure of all others concerned in the invasion of Quedah, all idea that the English had any participation in the matter will be effaced. For upholding the existing friendly relations between the two countries, the King of Siam expresses his thanks to the Resident of Singapore under whose management the affairs of Penang and Malacca will be wisely managed and the friendship of the two nations will descend to posterity.

With regard to the Treaty which was entered into some time ago, it is provided in the 13th article that the Siamese shall have the management of the Quedah country and its people. That the inhabitants of Penang and Quedah shall have the liberty of trading as formerly.

On buffaloes, oxen, ducks, fowls, fish, paddy, rice and all kinds of provisions which the people of Penang and the shipping may require the Siamese shall not impose any duty, neither shall they farm out the mouths of the rivers in the Quedah country, though they are to be entitled to the* and proper imposts. The Siamese engage that on the Rajah of Ligore's return to Siam the family and followers of the Ex Rajah of Quedah shall be freely released. The English are not to take possession of Quedah either by force or otherwise or to allow the Ex Rajah or his followers to create any disturbance or trouble whatever in any part of Quedah or other dependency

* blank

of Siam, but to use their endeavours in placing him in some other country and not allow him to settle either at Penang, Quedah, Salengore or Burmah. In case of the non-fulfilment on the part of the English of this stipulation the Siamese are to be at liberty to impose a duty on paddy and rice in Quedah as formerly. In the event of the Siamese, Chinese or Malays residing at Penang wishing to remove to Quedah, the English engage to offer no opposition to their doing so. Such are the stipulations of the 13th Article of the Treaty, every part of which the Siamese have strictly observed, and have not deviated from the path of friendship. But the Quedah country has now been thrown into confusion in consequence of Tuanko Pangeraw (the Ex Rajah) having disregarded the orders of the English at Penang, refusing to settle himself in another country agreeably to the Treaty, but has fomented disturbances repeatedly and although he did not accompany the invasion himself, he ordered his dependents to go and incite the Malay pirates to attack Quedah and therefore, according to the laws of Siam, he is equally guilty with those who were actually present and concerned.

Before this event took place the Rajah of Ligore made frequent remonstrance to Penang relative to the disturbances created in Quedah by these Malayan pirates belonging to Tuanko Pangerang, of which the English must long ago have been aware. On the 19th day of the 4th month of last year (Siamese style) the Chief of Pulo Penang sent a letter to the Siamese Chief of Quedah stating that Tuanko Pangeran would not be permitted to make war on Quedah, that if he disobeyed the orders of the English he would be punished, and that if his people created any disturbance, they would be seized and sent to the Siamese Chief of Quedah, who confided in this communication and did not suspect that Tuanko Pangeran would then plot with Tuanko Koodin, Tuanko Abdullah and [Yanoos], these worthless Malays, and attack Quedah, which has

now been laid waste. The Rajah of Ligoré has however been ordered to equip a force, put an end to this war, restore tranquillity, and place the country on its former footing. He accordingly set out on the 23rd of the 6th Month of this year (Siamese style) after which the Resident of Singapore's letter was received. The Rajah of Ligoré was ordered, in case any difficulty should arise with the English, in carrying these instructions into effect, to send a letter and a messenger to the authorities at Penang, and seeing that they were not concerned in the invasion of Quedah to observe scrupulously the friendly stipulations of the Treaty. When he arrives at Quedah, Tuanko Koodin and the adherents of Tuanko Pangeran will not be able to resist him and they will fly into the English districts, and no sooner than he returns they will come back and create confusion again, and the Quedah country will never be at peace. Tuanko Kudin and Tuanko Long Putih will turn pirates and the English and Siamese traders will not be able to pursue their traffic in security. Tuanko Pangeran and this portion of the Malays will plot against Quedah, take refuge in the English dependencies, and the Siamese, although anxious to follow and punish them will be hindered by the Treaty of friendship which they are bound to observe. However if the mischief is so often repeated the forbearance of the Siamese will be greatly tried and owing to Tuanko Pangeran and these worthless Malays the friendship between the two nations will be lessened. If therefore the Resident of Singapore be desirous of perpetuating the good understanding between us he must look well to this affair in all its bearings. Tuanko Long Putih and Tuanko Koodin harass the trading prahus from Penang to Malacca and are thorns and foes to both parties. It is not expedient therefore that they should be allowed to remain in any of our dependencies.

If the Resident of Singapore will send Tuanko

Abdullah, Tuanko Bakie (Kechil) and Yanoos to the Rajah of *Ligore* together with those Malays who have been guilty of this act of perfidy in attacking *Quedah* and may have taken refuge in the English territories, the *Quedah* Country will be perfectly quiet and peaceful and the friendship between the Siamese and English will not be disturbed, but will on the contrary be increased and descend to the latest posterity. Written in the Siamese and also in the Malayan language on the 22nd day of the 7th Month of the present year (Siamese) and delivered to Mr. Hunter of the Ship *Madeline*. One copy has also been sent overland to the Rajah of *Ligore* for transmission.

Translated from the Malayan copy

(Signed) R. Wingrove
Assistant Resident
Singapore.

Fort William 11th November 1831

To the Chief Secretary to Government
Fort William.

No. 9.

Sir,

I have the honor to report for the information of the Honble. the Vice President in Council, that in pursuance of the instructions conveyed in your letter of the 16th September the Vakeels from the Rajah of Ligore have been apprized of the removal of the Ex Rajah of Quedah to Malacca and also that the tenor of the letters addressed by Mr. Ibbetson to the Siamese Government has been fully explained to them.

2. Having further communicated to them the impossibility of their seeing the Governor General, in consequence of His Lordship's absence from the Presidency, they have determined for the present to forego their intended visit to Calcutta, and have, at their own request, been provided on the Honble. Company's Ship the Enterprize with a passage to Mergui. They take with them to Ligore the letters and presents intended for the Governor General.

3. On their departure from Mergui I shall not fail to address a friendly letter to the Rajah of Ligore, making known to him that his vakeels might on two occasions have proceeded on Steam Vessels to Calcutta, and that they have during their stay at Maulmain been treated with civility and attention. The tenor of Mr. Ibbetson's letters to the Siamese Government shall also be translated into Siamese for the information of the Rajah of Ligore.

I have &c.

(Signed) A. D. Maingy
Commissioner in the
Tenasserim Provinces.

Amherst

The 10th October 1831.

Fort William 25th November 1831.

To the Chief Secretary to Government
Fort William.

No. 81.

Sir,

With reference to my letter dated the 8th ultimo regarding the affairs of Quedah, I have the satisfaction to announce to you, for the information of the Honorable the Vice President in Council, the fall of that fortress to the forces of Siam on the morning of the 5th instant, which settles in the most satisfactory manner the pre-existing difficulties alluded to upon this subject.

As the present is a favorable opportunity for defining the boundary of Province Wellesley, it is my intention to seek a personal interview with the Rajah of Ligore expressly for this purpose. Any considerable acquisition of territory in that direction, although easily obtained, may not be desirable, and I therefore contemplate merely the demarkation of a boundary in the manner provided for in the 31 article of the Treaty of Bangkok, to be formed by nature, such as rivulets and hills, as far as possible, and in which some small addition of country will probably be included, the consequence of which cannot be otherwise than beneficial; but I shall of course avoid definitely accepting any thing beyond this, otherwise than subject to the approval of Government.

I beg to enclose copy of a letter addressed by me to Commander Hanley of H. M.'s Ship Wolfe, to whose indefatigable exertions the termination of this war is mainly to be attributed.

I have &c.

(Signed) R. Ibbetson,
Resident Singapore.

Prince of W. Island
Resident's Office,
The 10th October 1831.

Fort William 25th November 1831.

No. 82.

To H. Hamley, Esqr., K. L. A.
H. M. Ship Wolfe.

Sir,

Your return to this port from the blockade of Quedah River, with accounts of the fall of that fortress to the forces of Siam, affords me the fairest opportunity of tendering to you my cordial and sincere acknowledgments for the persevering and cheerful zeal with which, at my request, you have so ably co-operated in hastening this desirable event, under circumstances too so truly vexatious to the spirit of British Seaman, unaccustomed to the timid and protracted mode of undisciplined native warfare.

• • • • •

I have &ca.

(Signed) R. Ibbetson
Resident Singapore.

Prince of W. Island
Resident's Office,
The 10th October 1831.

(Public Record
Office.)

Captains' Logs,
No. 3591.

Extracts of the Log of H. M. S. *Wolf* under
Commander Hamley.

11 July 1831. A.M. 10.30. Observed a great many armed proas to the N.W. steering towards Queda, which port we were blockading, manned and armed the extra boats, pinnace and cutter, sent them in company with the Emerald cutter under the command of Lieut. Burridge to prevent their getting in. 11.10. made sail towards the boats. 12. proas retreating from the firing of the boats with precipitation.

P.M. 0.30. One of the proas being disabled surrendered. Lieut. Price took possession of her. On examination found on board one gun of about 8 Pr., two swivels mounted, several muskets with numerous other implements of war, destroyed the whole of them. 3.50 tacked, boats returned . . . made for anchorage . . . 5 came alongside a Siamese proa to communicate

7 August. A.M. 3.30 manned and armed the extra boats, pinnace, cutter and gig and sent them in company with Crocodile's boats towards the fort of Queda.

11 August. P.M. Supplied the Siamese with one case of powder of 120 lbs per order of Capt. Montagu.

[There are constant references to communications with Siamese proas.]

8 Sept. A.M. 9.30 came alongside a proa in distress, being full of men, women and children. Supplied them with water, rice and bread.

13 Sept. A.M. 10.20. Communicated with a Siamese proa. P.M. 3.30 Cutter rescued from the Siamese 1 man and 2 Women.

14 Sept. A.M. 8.30 Sent cutter to communicate with Siamese. Supplied a boat in distress with

rice and water. P.M. 2. Supplied a Malay proa in distress with rice, water and bread.

15 Sept. A.M. 8. Observed much firing between the fort and Siamese.

17 Sept. A.M. Daylight. Observed heavy firing between the Siamese and the Malays. 9 Observed several Malay Proas escape from the harbour. 11 made sail after them.

P.M. 3.30 Sent cutter to board chase. 5.30 Cutter returned, chase being Malay proas full of women and children.

18 Sept. P.M. Sent boats to anchor 2 Malay proas, being deserted and adrift. Found on board ammunition, guns and other arms and two men, one being dead, the other severely wounded in the head, brought him on board. One of the proas sunk.

19 Sept. A.M. 9 Sent pinnace to Malay proa. Siamese took possession of her.

4 Oct. A.M. 10 Came alongside a Siamese proa. Observed a large fire at Quedah fort. P.M. 1. Sent the cutter to Quedah fort. 5.30 cutter returned.

5 Oct. A.M. 8 Sent cutter to Quedah fort.

19 Oct. A.M. 8 Sent cutter to Quedah fort, 10 Ditto returned with Siamese proa.

21 Oct. A.M. The Captain and officers went on shore to the Rajah of Ligore.

22 Oct. A.M. 7 Weighed and made sail [for Penang].

Fort William 14th October 1831.

No. 25.

Minute by the Vice President.

10th October 1831.

* * * * *

With respect to Mr. Ibbetson's application on the subject of Quedah he may, I conceive, be instructed, pending the receipt of orders from the Governor General, that he is not to detach any force to the aid of the Rajah of Ligore for the recovery of Quedah.

(Signed) C. T. Metcalfe.

Fort William 4th June 1832.

**Bengal Secret
and Political
Consultations,
vol. 366.**

No. 12.

To His Excellency Sir E. Owen, K. C. B.,
Rear Admiral and Commander in Chief.

Sir,

I am honored with your Excellency's letters dated the 12th instant, and beg in the first instance to tender my acknowledgments for the obliging offer of assistance it conveys, either to model or arm the boats about to be equipped and employed by Government in the protection of the trade. Two are now building at Malacca, and I am daily expecting four more from the Rajah of Ligoré, which when realized, I shall most thankfully avail myself of your Excellency's offer. The boats are to be fitted with masts and sails in the Malayan fashion, each to carry one large gun, and being in length from forty to forty five [feet], they will be calculated I hope in point of size to afford all the convenience and accommodation necessary for Sepoys or other fighting men.

Although I cannot but regret the decided tone of disapprobation with which your Excellency views Captain Montague's co-operation with the forces of Siam, I must nevertheless confess, that except in aid of those of the Honble. Company, and even then only if engaged under the express authority of the Supreme Government, would I have requested any decided assistance from H. M.'s ships, for it was a point which I considered of paramount importance, first to ascertain, before so acting, how far our Government, under all the circumstances of the case, was pledged to support the Siamese at Quedah. The question I felt could properly be decided only by the two Supreme authorities, the Governor General and the Emperor of Siam, and in adopting such measures in the interim, as were best calculated in my opinion to undeceive the latter as to any participation on our part with the

followers and adherents of the Ex King; without at the same time actually joining the Siamese in any operations by land, I did all that it was competent in me to attempt. I am happy in knowing that my conduct generally in this affair has been approved of, as intimated to me in Mr. Secretary Prinsep's letter of the 15th August last* copy of which, with other correspondence on the same subject, has I am aware been forwarded to your Excellency.

* (Copied from
Ben: Pol: Cons:
Range 120,
vol. 33.)

I have no official report of the transactions of Commander Hamley K. L. A. off Quedah, other than what he has kindly communicated to me in person, of all the trouble and difficulties he had to contend against in that disagreeable duty. When I last quitted this station in June I was in daily expectation that peace would be restored and his aid no longer required; but I have never been aware that he acted otherwise than in the blockade of Quedah River which I am happy to observe meets with your Excellency's approbation.

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I have etc.,

(Signed) R. Ibbetson
Governor.

Resident's Office
Prince of W. Island.
The 17th November 1831.

Fort William 4th June 1832.

No. 12 Contd.
Encl. No. 1.

To His Excellency Sir E. Owen, K. C. B.,
Rear Admiral and Commander in Chief.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's letter dated the 26th February last, and to record my cordial acknowledgment of the unremitting attention with which you have protected the trade in this quarter, the effect of which is apparent in the fact that not a single instance of piracy of a serious nature has been brought to my knowledge since your departure from the Straits.

The Supreme Government have authorized the building of six large row boats to be employed in the manner you have suggested and I am now engaged in hastening their equipment. I am sanguine in the expectation, that assisted by the vessels your Excellency can occasionally spare for the service, piratical depredations will at least on this side of the Straits, soon become a novelty.

Captain Hamley will no doubt have furnished your Excellency with copy of my correspondence with him regarding the late capture of Quedah from the Siamese, by a force under the command of the relations and adherents of the Ex King, by which the 13th Article of the Treaty of Bangkok has no doubt been violated, in defiance too of repeated proclamations by the late Government in these Straits; and of the consequences which might have been expected to result from such proceedings. As the first step towards the maintenance of our friendly relations with the Government of Siam I removed the Ex King with his family to Malacca, and have tendered to the Siamese the aid of the marine forces at my disposal to assist in blockading

the mouth of the Kedah River, whilst they are effecting their attack by land. Captain Hamley most readily fell in with my request to proceed there with the Wolf for the purpose of distributing translations of the enclosed proclamation which I issued in the hope that it might further tend to disperse the forces of the Malays, although I fear without more effectual assistance than I am at present disposed to give them, the Siameese will make slow progress in recapturing the Fort of Quedah until they have collected their scattered forces and assembled in great numbers, as the country itself appears partially to have risen in favor of the invaders, which gives a character to the insurrection quite different to the one contemplated in the Treaty. For the peace and quiet of all concerned I shall be glad that matters are finally brought to issue, as nothing can be more injurious to the traffic and cultivation of places situated near such a warfare than its long continuance, independent of other evils when it is over, vizt., the certainty that most of the Malays will turn to pirating when they are worsted.

I have etc.,

(Signed) R. Ibbetson
Resident Singapore.

Malacca
Resident's Office
The 12th July 1832.

Fort William 4th June 1832.

Proclamation.

No. 12. Contd.

Whereas with the view of upholding the faith of Treaties and of preserving our friendly relations with the Government of Siam, it may immediately become necessary to co-operate with it in the recapture of Que-dah, conformably with the 13th Article of the Treaty of Bangkok, dated the 20th June 1826, and whereas many British subjects having joined the present piratical attack upon that capital by Tuanku Hudin, his followers and associates—This is to give notice, that such subjects abovementioned as do not peaceably return to their homes within five days after the promulgation of this notification will subject themselves to all the penalties attached to British subjects found in open arms against its own Government, and that of our ally, contrary also to express Treaty, and the repeated orders and proclamations of the late Government in these Straits.

(Signed) R. Ibbetson
Resident Singapore.

P. of W. Island
24 June 1831.

Fort William 30th December 1831.

No. 7.

To the Chief Secretary to Government
Fort William.

Sir,

Conformably with intention contained in my letter of the 10th ultimo, I have had an interview with the Rajah of Ligor at Quedah, and have now the honor to report to you for the information of the Honorable the Vice President in Council the success which has attended it, having at last obtained a definite boundary to Province Wellealey, which for so many years had been a principal desideratum with the late Government, and now made more important than ever in consequence of the hostile feelings and disputes which are constantly arising between the subjects of our Government and the Malayan inhabitants on that line of frontier.

Number 1. The accompanying copy of the Agreement upon this subject between the Rajah and myself will afford for the present a general outline of the boundary established, but I hope ere long through the assistance of His Excellency the Naval Commander in Chief to be able to transmit a correct plan of the whole, and in the interim therefore merely to observe by way of explanation that "Mooda" River continues as formerly our boundary to the North, as does the Kreau River to the South. That the three brick pillars mentioned in the agreement will be erected at an expense not exceeding three hundred rupees, and the boundary road of about thirty five miles in length, in a line meandering from one pillar to the other, as the nature of the country will best admit, will be made by the convicts. The addition of territory obtained in this negotiation may be estimated at as much again as we originally possessed under the

former title ; that is, instead of 2½ miles inland from the sea, it will now average about five, with this further advantage, that the soil and country beyond our former boundary is superior in every respect to the mangrove swamps nearer the coast. The whole extent of the newly acquired territory is uncommonly rich in rice ground with a considerable population, now daily increasing by the runaways from Quedah and Purlis, and good management alone will be necessary, not only to raise a tolerable revenue, but also to ensure such supplies for the Island, as under all ordinary circumstances, will make us independent of neighbouring countries.

Number 2, 3. The enclosed translation of the accompanying letter from the Rajah of Ligora to the Right Honourable the Governor General speaks so plainly for itself that little observation appears necessary from me. His request for military aid in the event of the Malays recapturing Quedah involves questions of considerable importance, only, of course, to be adjusted by the highest authorities at Bangkok, but it displays the workings of his mind, and confirms me in the belief that his fears and wishes are those precisely, which every one acquainted with the existing state and feelings of the Malays at Quedah would naturally possess. To a limited extent I am decidedly of opinion that co-operation might be useful were it only to operate in the suppression of piracy. Hitherto for instance, in consequence of the suspicious jealousy of the Siamese towards us, pirates were never chased up rivers beyond our own immediate boundary, whereas now, our presence on the contrary would be courted by them where ever we pleased to go, and without immediate co-operation, in the sense implied in the request of the Rajah, a sufficient display on these occasions might be made as to induce a belief on the part of the Malays that such would doubtless be our conduct,

and thereby deter them from the attempts anticipated ; for, as justly observed by the Rajah of Ligore, the prosperity of this Island is so intimately blended with that of Quedah in these matters, that I do consider decided measures necessary at present to efface the impression so generally prevalent among the Malayan population that the opposition of the Ex King's adherents to the Siamese is rather pleasing than otherwise to the feelings of Englishmen. They have, I know, been encouraged in this belief by actual observation of the fact, and nothing but the sad reflection of the past has awakened them to a sense of the reality, that Government views their conduct differently.

4. Tuanku Soliman is at last a prisoner to the Siamese, by which we are rid of a treacherous and troublesome neighbour, now to be succeeded by military posts of the latter, opposite to ours, along the frontier of Province Wellesley. This will effectually maintain quiet there for the future, and enable Captain Low (whose time has lately been solely occupied in maintaining the peace) to settle the district under the newly received land Regulations, by which union of events, with his ever zealous endeavours, and great accession of population, I hope to see Prince of Wales Island ere long pay for itself.

5. In several conversations with the Rajah of Ligore I succeeded in explaining to his ultimate comprehension the difference which existed between the laws of our country and his, where by the latter it was permitted at the will of its Chief to surrender any individual to another state at pleasure. It smoothed considerably the vexation he had experienced at finding his worst enemies, after narrowly escaping him, could find protection nowhere but at Prince of Wales Island.

6. As another proof among the many I have already given him of our sincerity in his cause, I

suggested that he should furnish two intelligent Siamese, whom I would entertain and pay in the Police, as peons. The idea originated with myself upon his observation that we harboured all his enemies, to which I replied that our people did not know them. He was infinitely pleased with the proposal and as they will be really serviceable in detecting combinations of the nature alluded to, and also tend to guard us at a cheap rate against the charge of inattention to his interests, should any untoward event again occur, I hope the measure will be sanctioned.

7. Enclosed is a Memorandum of the expenses of this negotiation which I trust will not be considered to have been improvidently incurred.

I have &ca.

(Signed) R. Ibbetson
Resident at Singapore.

Resident's Office
Prince of Wales Island
The 23d. November 1831.

[The total amounted to Sa. Rs. 1360. 13. 2.]

Fort William 30th December 1831.

**Bengal Secret
and Political
Consultations,
vol. 363.**

No. 8.

ENGAGEMENT betwixt Robert Ibbetson Esqr., Resident of Singapore, Pulo Penang and Malacca, who has come into the Quedah country, and the Chou Phaya of Ligore Si Tamrat, who is under the dominion of Somdet Phra Phootheree Chow Yo Hooa who is the Supreme Ruler over the Great Country of Sri Ayuthaya, vizt. Siam. With reference to the third article of the Treaty betwixt Somdet Phra Phootheree Chow Yo Hooa, who is the Supreme Ruler over the Great Country of Sri Ayuthaya, and the British Government, it is now agreed on betwixt the above contracting parties vizt. the Chow Phaya of Ligore Si Tamrat and Robert Ibbetson Esq., Resident of Singapore, Pulo Penang and Malacca, and with respect to the subject of the boundary betwixt the British Territory of Province Wellesley, and the country and Government of Quedah, that the said boundary shall be as follows—From Summatool on the South Bank of the Soongee Qualla Moods by a road leading to the River Pry, at a spot ten orlongs East of the River Soogee Dua Hooloo, then descending the middle of the Pry River to the mouth of the River Soongee Sintoo, then ascending the Soongee Sintoo in a straight direction eastwards, and up to the hill Bukit Maratajum, then from Bukit Maratajum along the range of hills called Bukit Berator to a place on the north bank of the River Krean, five orlongs above and east of Bukit Tungal, and it is agreed that brick or stone pillars shall be erected, one at the boundary of Lunatool, another at the boundary on the Pry River, and a third at the boundary on the Krean River. Two copies of this Agreement have been made out and to these have been affixed the Seal of the Honourable English Company, and the signature of Robert Ibbetson Esqr., Resident of Singapore, Pulo Penang and Malacca, and the Chop or Seal of the Chow Phaya

of Ligore Si Tamrat, one copy to be retained by each of the above contracting parties, and the said agreement has been written in three languages, the Siamese, Malayan, and English, on Wednesday the Second day of November one thousand eight hundred and thirty one of the English era.

(Signed)



R. Ibbetson

Resident of Singapore
Prince of Wales Island
and Malacca.



Seal and Signature
of the Rajah of
Ligore.

Fort William 30th December 1831.

Bengal Secret
and Political
Consultations,
vol. 263.

No. 9.

This letter from Chau Phriya Sri Thammasook-raj Chat De Cho Chai Mahai Sooriya teebadee Apaiya peeree bra Krommabahu Chau Phriya Jigor Si Tamrat to the Right Honorable Lord Bentinck Governor General of British India.

After the usual Compliments.

I am desirous to acquaint my friend that formerly I took Captain Henry Burney to pay his respects to the Emperor of Siam, Somdet Phra Phooot thee Chau yu Hua, who is mighty and exalted, at the capital Phra Maha Nagara Sri Ayuthya, in order to make a treaty of friendship and alliance which might last so long as the sky and earth should endure, and I expressed my clear conviction that this friendly alliance would be yet more firmly cemented. Now my friend knows that Quedah and Pulo Penang lie so close together as to resemble a single country. If Quedah is in peace the rice fields will be cultivated and food will be abundant in store and trade will be carried on betwixt Penang and Quedah, thereby linking them together and maintaining a friendly intercourse, and I am of opinion that this state of things will exceedingly strengthen the alliance betwixt the English and Siamese. Moreover in a former year when my friend visited Penang and the news of that event had reached Ligore, I thought it to be a favorable opportunity to endeavour to improve the good understanding then subsisting betwixt my friend and me. I therefore prepared a few articles of Siamese manufacture of various descriptions and, it being inconvenient and too late to send them by way of Penang, I dispatched some of my people with them to Mergui, with a request to Mr. Maingy to assist in forwarding them to my friend in Bengal. But I am yet uninformed

whether these things have reached their destination or not. There is another subject I wish to notice. Tuanku Din and Tuanku Lang Putih, relatives of the former Rajah of Quedah, having excited a rebellion in the Quedah country, I was obliged to bring down my forces to quell it. This having been effected, and Tuanku Din having been killed, I have regained my authority over Quedah. Now Mr. Ibbetson, the Rajah of Singapore, Pulo Penang and Malacca, and Captain Low have gratified me by coming to visit me in Quedah. These two gentlemen, as also Mr. Murchison, the Resident of Pulo Penang, have afforded me such aid in all my late operations that I feel myself deeply indebted to my friend and now return him my sincere thanks. Moreover the Rajah of Singapore (Mr. Ibbetson) asked me to settle the land boundary betwixt the territory appertaining to Penang and that of the Siamese. I was exceedingly pleased at this request, and immediately complied with it. In an old agreement with the Company the measurement in land from the sea was considered to be sixty orlongs. I have moreover now given much more than formerly in order to gratify the Raja of Singapore and Captain Low. Certain hills and rivers have also been fixed on as land marks, and points have been also fixed on at which stone boundary pillars are to be erected. A written agreement has likewise been made out in duplicate, and to this has been affixed the seal of the Honourable English Company, the signature of the Rajah of Singapore and my own seal, and copies have been mutually interchanged betwixt us in token of friendly alliance, With regard to Tuanku Soliman who occupied or resided close to the frontier line, I have ordered him to quit the place, for I cannot countenance a man who has behaved so wickedly towards the English as he has. The ports hitherto occupied by his people shall be in future held by Siamese. The Rajah of Singapore acquaints me that should an enemy attack these my frontier posts and the Siamese there be unable to resist him the

latter will be permitted to seek shelter within the English territory.

I am still under some little apprehension respecting the condition of the Quedah Province on account of its distance from that one in which I reside and as the attention which I am obliged to pay to the many other Provinces under my Government prevents me from personally superintending the affairs of this one.

Adverting to the probability of the Malays again conspiring to act as they have lately done in the various rivers of Quedah, and to my friend's not being perhaps all aware of the oppression and devastation which these wicked pirates have committed over the face of the country up to this day, the Rajah of Singapore has informed me that in the event of the Ex Rajah's of Quedah's relatives again creating any disturbance he will assist me in quelling it, but that he cannot assist should any other Rajah so act. On this account I am anxious to have an addition, or supplement made to the Treaty with the English Company, and to the following affect, that should any rebellion or disturbance arise in the Penang territory, information, if desired, should be sent to Quedah, and if required, then Quedah shall send a force to aid Pulo Penang; and if any rebellion or disturbance shall arise in Quedah, then if necessary, a letter shall be sent to Pulo Penang to ask the aid of a force to put it down. Thus would the two countries become as one, and peace would be permanently established. My friend must be well aware that Penang, equally with Quedah, is injured by these disturbances.

I have another request to make of my friend. All those who conspire against my country are my enemies. Yet they have all fled to Pulo Penang, where they live unmolested, and are only watching a good opportunity to come again and excite to rebellion and mischief in my country. There is one man

vamed "Seid Abdullah man," an old inhabitant (of Quedah) who owes me many dollars, and who occupied places of trust under me. This man has been guilty of rebellion and has besides amassed considerable wealth by means of robbing and plundering in Quedah. With this plunder he has fled to Penang where he is now living at his ease.

I therefore earnestly solicit that my friend will order this man to be delivered up to me, as such an example will overawe my enemies. So long as the latter have such a secure place of refuge, my country will not keep quiet. There is another man called "Tuanku Mahamed Iriwa" lately a resident in Quedah with his family. This man has his relatives there. He has been a strong supporter of Tuanku Din, and was made by him one of his Panghulus (Chiefs). He also came and fought with the Siamese at Koobhoo. But he was here defeated and driven back to the Fort, at the mouth of the river, where he continued to oppose my troops. When my force was about to take that Fort he went to Purlis (in Quedah) and there incited the Malays to insurrection, and to make an attack on my army. But when my troops went to meet him he was unable to oppose them, and therefore fled to Penang. I am desirous also to have him sent to me and request my friend to assist me. Should my friend comply it will thus be noised abroad, that my friend is favorably disposed towards me, and all the rebelliously inclined will be disheartened. For what can I do with these pirates, and wicked persons of Quedah who have fled to Penang. I have no recourse against them, and they have no apprehension of consequences, but only consider how they may best conspire at a future period. I greatly desire to cement more firmly the friendly relations existing betwixt my friend and me, so that Penang and Quedah may become like one country. I have therefore one other wish to express to my friend. If offenders or wicked persons fly from Penang to Quedah I will seize and

deliver them up. And if offenders or wicked persons of Quedah fly from it to the British territory I request that they may in like manner be delivered up to me. My friend will act in this manner and approve or not according as he shall see best. Should he approve of (the proposition) I apprehend that it will prove an excellent arrangement. I have given a copy of this letter to the Rajah of Singapore, in order that he may direct a translation of it to be made into English, and I have requested him to forward my letter to my friend accompanied by two silver articles of Siamese manufacture (a rice and a betel holder) as token of my regard, and an earnest of my desire for maintaining a lasting and firm friendship which can never be broken; and as I am anxious to have my friend's sentiments in regard to these amicable proposals, I request my friend will reply by letter. This letter is dated on Wednesday on the twelfth day of the moon's decrease in the 12th Month in the year of Hare (or 2d November 1831).

True Translation

(Signed) R. Ibbetson
Resident Singapore.

Fort William 20th February 1832.

No. 40.

Southampton Penang
3d January 1832

To His Excellency

The Right Honble. Lord Wm. Bentinck, G. C. B.,
Governor General in Council &ca. &ca. &ca.

FORT WILLIAM.

My Lord,

As I was about to sail this morning the accompanying letter from H. H. the late Raja of Queda was sent to me with a request that it might be forwarded to your Excellency.

I have the honor therefore to enclose it together with a translated copy of one which I received at the same time.

And I have &ca.

(Signed) E. W. C. R. Owen,
Rear Admiral Commanding
in Chief.

Fort William 20th February 1832.

Translation of a letter from the Ex Rajaà of Quedah to His Excellency Rear Admiral Sir Edward Owen, K. C. B.

(After Compliments.)

I have already fully informed my friend of the oppression I have received from the Siamese in having my country treacherously taken away from me. At that time I brought my family with me, with the intention of placing them with my younger brother Tunko Soliman at his residence at Pry, as I was anxious to form some plan of retaking the country of Quedah from the Siamese, because my ministers, people and army were still unbroken. On a sudden Mr. Cracraft, Mr. Anderson and Captain Coombs came as envoys from Governor Phillips for the purpose of persuading me to take up my residence in Pulo Penang, stating that the Company were desirous of assisting me, in compliance with the terms of the Treaty which they have made with my deceased Father and Uncle through the medium of Captain Light and Sir George Leith, Bt., Lieutenant Governor, Vizt. that the Company would render assistance in every case of difficulty down to the latest posterity. Now this was in both Treaties which were to continue so long as the sun and moon continued to revolve. On hearing this, my confidence in the assistance of the English Company was increased ten fold, and in consequence thereof I came to reside at Pulo Penang, and and for about twelve years there were no symptoms of any thing being done as I was led to believe would be the case. In the mean time Captain Burney went and made a Treaty with the Siamese without my knowing any thing of the circumstance and on his return from the Siamese country, I was suddenly ordered

to remove to Malacca. As I would not consent to this my monthly stipend from the Company was stopped by Governor Fullerton. I then asked permission to reside at Province Wellesley for the purpose of gaining a livelihood. Shortly after Nearne came to shew me the translation of an order which had just been received from Bengal; in this I was ordered to take my residence again at Pulo Penang. Whilst determining what to do, I received a letter from the Resident, Mr. Murchison, inviting me to come to Penang in compliance with the orders of the Governor General of Bengal. He also gave me a house and the ground attached to it with my old stipend from the Company. Upon this I removed to Pulo Penang to the house which had been given me, and remained there three or four months under the protection of the Company, when the disturbance between the people of Quedah and the Siamese took place. Of this I was entirely ignorant and never countenanced the expedition which had been made. On a sudden the Resident, Mr. Ibbetson, said he had an order for me to retire from Penang and go to Malacca or some other country equally distant from the Siamese territories. At this I was extremely startled and astonished, as I had not been guilty of doing any thing wrong. However being desirous of respecting an order emanating from such an authority, I complied with it, and went to reside at Malacca until I could receive the orders of the Governor General of Bengal in answer to a petition I sent him. I gave the house and ground, received as a gift from the Company, to my family to reside in. Now Mr. Ibbetson has taken away this house and intends to dispose of it by auction, thereby causing great distress and inconvenience to my family, who have no other place to live in, as I went to Malacca in compliance with orders received, and am now greatly distressed to hear such news of my family. Moreover, however great my distress has been during former years, it has been much

increased since coming to reside at Malacca, where I have been constantly afflicted with fever, and in consequence thereof have made a petition stating my complaints to the Governor General*, which I have forwarded with this to my friend by my nephew, Mahommed Hukih, and as I have no other person to confide in except my friend, I trust to his kindness to forward my letter to the Governor General and perhaps by the blessing of providence and the kindness of my friend I may receive an answer and be put a little more at rest. Such is the purport of this letter. Written on Tuesday the 16th Rajib 1247.

(True Translation)

(Signed) H. Nairne.

[* The petition of the King of Quedah to the Governor General is the same in substance as this document. It is dated 3 January 1832 and a translation appears in Bengal Secret and Political Consultations, Vol. 366 (No. 2 of Consultation of 7 May 1832).]

Fort William 4th June 1832.

No. 11.

To the Chief Secretary to Government
Fort William.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 13th February last, with enclosures, calling for explanation regarding the grounds of my application to Rear Admiral Sir Edward Owen, to blockade the River Purlis.

* * * * * *

Information derived from various quarters at that date, left no room to doubt that Tuanko Long Pootie, with other relations and adherents of the Ex King, recently driven from Quedah, had again proceeded, as on the former occasion, up the various rivers and creeks bordering upon Province Wellesley; from whence, as well as from Prince of Wales Island, they were recruiting their scattered forces, and obtaining supplies of arms and ammunition, without the possibility of prevention by our police, and where to have pursued them would have answered no good purpose, when in the words of Sir E. Owen, I could not "treat as pirates any against whom no acts of piracy had been specifically alleged, or proof obtained." What was then to be done to prevent a second attack upon the Siamese similar to the former, and that by a force again fitted out from Penang and Province Wellesley? I could not blockade the mouths of the various creeks up which these people were recruiting, for independent of the numerous vessels which such a service would require, on what pretence could I possibly have attacked them, without encountering the risk of judicial process, to assist them in which there would not have wanted either money or advisers? To have met

them at sea, I should have been equally at a loss but off Quedah or Purlis. I was there sure to be told, there are the relations and adherents of the Ex King, who having been fitted out at Penang and Province Wellesley, are now come to attack us in violation of Treaties and your promise to prevent them. Here a more ostensible reason for intercepting their further progress would have been presented, and to act in any manner further than this I never for an instant contemplated. The term blockade is perhaps too extensive in its meaning to be properly applied to such a service, but His Excellency Sir Edward Owen, from my personal communications, must have been fully sensible at the time of what I have now stated; but probably desirous to evade a troublesome and disagreeable call, he took, I think, a somewhat fanciful view of my intentions, which I felt at the time, but did not reply to.

(7 23d. Nov.—
Copied from
Ben. Sec. and Pol.
Cons. Vol. 363.)

I hope my letter of the 24th* November last will support the statement I have here offered, and that under the perplexing circumstances of the case I could not consistently have acted otherwise than I did. I considered it just possible that a last attempt might probably be made by the Ex King's relatives and adherents to assist the insurgents, in which case I had no other means than the one I proposed of even attempting to prevent the further assistance of "men or arms joining them from Penang or Province Wellesley," the effect of which, had it succeeded at that moment when quiet was almost restored, would have gone far to efface with the Siamese, the favorable impression, then established, of our sincerity. I knew the Malays also to be at their last gasp, and that the most effectual way to prevent "a long, a teasing and a vindictive warfare" was to put down by every possible means the resuscitation of its spirit within our own territory; knowing also that to a man, Europeans as well as Natives would have contributed towards

the enterprize had they perceived me indifferent to the result.

I have etc.,

(Signed) R. Ibbetson
Governor.

Singapore
25th April 1832.

23 May 1832.

Bengal Dis-
patches, vol. 119,
pp. 1235-1251.

Bengal
Political Department.

Our Governor General in Council
at Fort William in Bengal.

• • • • •

Para. 13. Our political relations with the States in the Malay Peninsula are, to a certain extent, defined by the Treaty with Siam; and the policy to be observed towards those States is simple and obvious. We considered that their subjugation by the Siamese Government would be injurious to our interests, and we therefore induced the King of Siam to engage not to attack them, and bound ourselves on the other hand to prevent them from attacking him. In any other case than those contemplated in this engagement our policy is to abstain from all interference with these States.

14. The Siamese Government has engaged to allow the export of provisions from Quedah to our territories free of all duty, but this concession was conditional upon our not permitting the Ex Rajah of Quedah to reside in Prince of Wales Island, Province Wellesley, Perak, Salengore, or the Burman territories. This condition we have not fulfilled. The Ex Rajah not only refuses to proceed to Malacca, although an increase of his stipend was tendered to him on that condition, but has actually taken up his residence in Province Wellesley near the frontier of his ancient possessions, at which proceedings the Siamese authorities have naturally taken umbrage. We perceive however from the opinion of your Advocate General, that you would not be legally warranted in forcibly removing the Ex Rajah from the Settlement.

15. Major Burney's surmise that the late Government of Prince of Wales Island might, by greater address and a more conciliatory demeanour, have persuaded the Ex Rajah to withdraw voluntarily, may or may not be well founded. It at least appears not improbable that the Ex Rajah might have been induced to do what he himself suggested, namely, to proceed to Delli, or Siak, or some other part of Sumatra, if the Penang Government had not signified to him that his going to those places, though it would not be prevented, would deprive him of his stipend, and of the countenance and protection of the British Government. When your Government afterwards caused intimation to be made to him that his stipend would still be continued wherever he might reside, provided it were not in any of the places named in the Treaty of Bangkok, the favorable moment was past, and he refused to quit Penang. His allowance was accordingly stopped, and continued under suspension from January 1828 to the latest advices.

16. Your final resolution was, to remove the Ex Rajah by force if necessary, from Province Wellesley, but to allow him to reside at Penang and draw his stipend as before, the Siamese authorities being consequently released from the engagement (hitherto faithfully observed on their part) not to impose any duties on the export of grain.

17. What has been done in pursuance of this resolution of your Government we are yet uninformed; and it is possible that the stipend of 6000 dollars per annum may have been restored to the Ex Rajah under a pledge which cannot now be recalled, of his being allowed to remain at Penang.

18. We may allow that it is no violation of the Treaty of Bangkok, to permit the Ex Rajah to reside at Penang, provided we waive the commercial benefit which was promised us in consideration of our ejecting

him. This however is a sacrifice of the substantial interests of our own subjects in the important particular of the price of their food, which we do not deem ourselves warranted in making from deference to an individual whose anxiety to remain in the neighbourhood of his former possessions affords a strong presumption that he cherishes designs, which we are bound by Treaty to hinder him from attempting to realize. It may be that we have not legal power to expel him from the Settlement, though, if so, we should conceive that a similar objection must apply to the meditated employment of force to remove him from Province Wellesley. But we have the power of retaining his stipend under suspension, until he is willing to purchase its restoration by choosing some unobjectionable place of abode. And this measure we desire may be adopted, unless, as we are apprehensive, you have already entered into engagements which preclude such a proceedings.

We are,

Your affectionate friends,

(Signed) J. G. Ravenshaw
&ca. &ca.

London
the 23d May 1832.

Fort William 25th June 1832.

No. 1. To the Chief Secretary to Government,
Fort William.

Sir,

I am directed to inform you that after a careful perusal of the whole of the correspondence connected with the case of the Ex King of Quedah, together with the letters from that Chief received through His Excellency the Naval Commander in Chief and a person named Bastian, who was deputed by the Ex King to Calcutta; His Lordship has come to the conclusion that under all the circumstances of the case the character of the British Government for generosity and justice requires that the Ex King should receive the benefit of the full stipend of 10,000 dollars a year, authorized to be settled upon him by the instructions of the 30th April 1830* on condition of his retiring to Malacca or some other place more remote from Quedah than Prince of Wales Island.

(* *Straits Settlements* vol. 133.)

If His Honor in Council concurs in this view of the subject, it is requested that orders may be issued to the Resident at Singapore to pay the Ex King the full stipend of 10,000 dollars with arrears from the date of his sailing for Malacca.

In this concession His Lordship further thinks all the minor claims of the Ex King should be considered as having merged.

I have &ca.,

(Signed) W. H. Macnaghten,
Secy. to the Governor General.

Simlah
6th June 1832.

Fort William 19th November 1832.

Secret Dept.
No.2.

To the Chief Secretary to Government
Fort William.

Sir,

I have the honor to transmit to you for the purpose of being laid before the Honorable the Vice President in Council copy of a letter from Mr. Bonham dated the 9 instant and of its enclosures, with the copy of my reply thereto, regarding the appearance of some Siamese war boats at Tringannu, and the evil consequences likely to arise to our trade in that quarter should any warlike attack by the former be made upon the latter.

For the reasons stated in my letter above alluded to I shall refrain from further remonstrance pending the present reference.

I have &c.

(Signed) R. Ibbetson
Governor P. W. Island, Singapore
and Malacca.

Prince of Wales Island
28th August 1832.

Fort William 19th November 1832.

No. 3. To R. Ibbetson, Esq.,
Governor &ca. &ca. &ca.
Prince of Wales Island.

Sir,

I do myself the honor of informing you that I have received authentic intelligence of the arrival of 5 Siamese war boats at Tringannu, which has caused considerable alarm to the inhabitants of that Settlement, and some uneasiness to the Chinese traders of this, as should the Siamese proceed to hostilities, our commercial interests with the ports on the east coast of the Peninsula are likely to be much affected.

I believe the ostensible reason for the visit to Tringannu is to search for certain persons who have fled from the State of Patani, it being understood, however, that the Siamese have a large force at a place called Ligile in Patani, close on the borders of Calantan, induces a belief that they may intend to invade both Calantan and Tringannu, both of which states they are bound, by the Treaty entered into by them with Major Burney, to respect.

In order therefore to prevent, as far as possible, a catastrophe so pregnant with danger to the commercial interests of this Settlement, I have written to the principal Commander of the Siamese flotilla, and brought to his notice the Treaty existing between our Government and that of Siam, by which the latter is bound not to molest either Calantan or Tringannu, copy of which I herewith enclose.

I beg further to add, that of late the trade of this Settlement has suffered by pirates infesting the coast from hence to Tringannu; this I have brought to the notice of Captain Plumbridge, and could that officer

be induced to take a cruize as far as Tringunnu, and examine the islands on his passage, I anticipate considerable benefit in every respect. Such a proceeding would at all events disperse the pirates, and his appearance at Tringunnu would keep in check the Siamese, who would at once conceive that the visit had been caused by them, and would by no means call on us for further interference.

I have &c.

(Signed) S. G. Bonham
Resident Councillor.

Singapore
The 9th August 1832.

Fort William 19th November 1832.

To Chow Phya Calahom
Principal Commander of the Siamese
War Boats at Tringannu.

After the usual Compliments.

It has been brought to my notice that five Siamese war boats have lately arrived at Tringannu, and that furthermore an army with elephants and many people are at a place called Ligile, in the country of Patani on the borders of Calantan. This letter is therefore sent to bring to the remembrance of the Siamese, that by the 12th Article of the Treaty entered into between the English and Siamese on the first day of the seventh decreasing Moon 1188 year dog 8, according to the Siamese Era, corresponding with the 20 day of June 1826 of the European Era, it is agreed as follows :—

“ Siam shall not go and obstruct or interrupt commerce in the state of Tringannu and Calantan. English merchants and subjects shall have trade and intercourse in future with the same facility and freedom as they have heretofore had, and the English shall not go and molest, attack or disturb those states upon any pretence whatever.”

I trust therefore that the Siamese war boats will proceed in friendly manner towards those states as they have agreed to do, and not molest them, as by doing so they interfere with the English trade.

(Signed) S. G. Bonham
Resident Councillor.

Singapore
9 August 1832.

Fort William 19th November 1832.

To the Resident Councillor, Singapore.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 9th instant with its enclosure, on the subject of the appearance of five Siamese war boats at Tringannu, and submitting your opinion, should the former proceed to actual hostilities with the latter, that our commercial interests with the ports on the East Coast of the Malay Peninsula are likely to be much affected.

Upon this point I am also decidedly of your opinion, but for the following reasons I am not the less doubtful of the propriety of interference.

In the first place the commerce of "*English merchants and subjects*" has not yet been interfered with.

In the second, it does not appear that we have more right to complain of the appearance of Siamese War Boats at Tringannu, than would the Siamese have a right to complain of the appearance of ours in that country. On the contrary indeed it appears to me from the context generally of the Treaty of Bangkok, that Tringannu and Calantan are both viewed more in the light of dependencies on Siam, than of states entirely independent of that power.

In the Treaty just alluded to, it must be observed, that the same prohibition which in Article 12 interdicts our interference with Tringannu and Calantan, Article 14 equally maintains with regard to the interference of Siam with Salengore. The object of this (the result of mutual suspicion) appears to be to stop on the one hand the extension of our Dominion towards Siam on the East Coast, whilst on the other,

the Dominion of that power is equally checked from approaching nearer to our Settlements on the West Coast.

At the period when the Treaty was concluded, the country of Perak had all but fallen a prey to Siam, but the troops of the latter not having assembled in numbers sufficient to strike the blow, advantage was taken to stipulate (Article 14) "that the Rajah of Perak shall govern his country according to his own will;" and made by us to comprehend the the object of this clause. The Rajah was not long in deciding that point and the Siamese were reluctantly forced to give up a prize which a little more energy or foresight on their part would have secured for ever. Perak, instead of Salengore, thus became the barrier to their further usurpations in this quarter; and will so continue whilst our secret influence in that country is greater than theirs.

Under this view of the case you will refrain from further remonstrances pending a reference to Government, and further instructions from me; the measures you have already adopted will be sufficient I doubt not to prevent serious inconvenience for some time.

I have &ca. &ca.

(Signed) R. Ibbetson
Governor &ca. &ca. &ca.

Prince of Wales Island
28 August 1832.

Fort William 19th November 1832.

No. 3.

To R. Ibbetson Esqr.
Governor of Prince of Wales Island,
Singapore and Malacca.

Sir,

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your dispatch No. 17 of the 28th August last regarding the appearance of some Siamese war boats at Tringanu and to acquaint you in reply that the Honorable the Vice President in Council entirely approves the tenor of your letter to Mr. Bonham to refrain from further remonstrance with the Governor of Siam pending the reference to the Supreme Government.

(sic) states

2. The Vice President in Council directs me to state that you have properly pointed out to Mr. Bonham the spirit and intent of the Article in the Treaty with Siam relating to Tringannu and Calantan, and justly remarked to him that you were doubtful of the propriety of our interference, while as yet the commerce of English merchants and subjects had not been interrupted. The Treaty in question does not confer on the *rotes of Tringanu and Calantan any right to demand our interference in their favor to defend them against the Governor of Siam, and the Article itself, on which Mr. Bonham has founded his remonstrance to the Commander of the Siamese war boats, distinctly provides against our going to molest, attack or disturb these states, while it is quite silent with respect to the right of Siam to do so, so long as the English are permitted to carry on their trade and intercourse with them as heretofore.

I have &c.

(Signed) G. Swinton
Chief Secretary to Government.

Fort William
19th November 1832.

21st November 1832.

* * * * *

Proceedings relative to the Ex King of Quedah, previously to the capture of Quedah by the Malays.

Para. 4. The Ex King had refused the proposal made to him to quit Province Wellesley, where his presence was most injurious to our interests, and to return to Penang upon the promise of restoring his former stipend. You had accordingly given orders to Mr. Ibbetson, the Resident at Singapore, if the resistance of the Ex King should continue, to effect his compulsory removal, not to Penang but to Malacca, residence at which place he was to be permitted to draw his allowance of 6,000 dollars if removed by force; 10,000 if he should, even at this late period, by a voluntary acquiescence, render the employment of compulsory means unnecessary.

5. On receiving these instructions, Mr. Ibbetson communicated to you his intention personally to superintend the arrangements for the Ex King's removal.

6. Before, however, Mr. Ibbetson had left Singapore for this purpose, he received a letter from Mr. Murchison stating that soon after his arriving at Penang he had "discovered the chief causes from which the frequent negotiations with the late King of Quedah to induce him to take up permanent residence on this Island had proved unavailing:" he "therefore perceived that by a little management that object might be accomplished: "it is not necessary" (he says) "to trouble" Mr. Ibbetson "either with a recapitulation of these causes, or with any detailed account of the measures by which the late King's confidence and good will towards the British Government were gradually restored: it will suffice to report that after a few personal interviews he

“ very cordially embraced the proposals he had so frequently rejected, and has now distinctly accepted the terms offered by this Government on the condition of his residing permanently on the Island.”

.

Capture of Quedah by a strong party of Malays headed by the noted pirate Tuanko Kudin. Proceedings in consequence.

Subsequent recapture of Quedah by the Rajah of Ligor.

11. There are several unpleasant circumstances connected with these events. In an act of aggression upon a State not only at peace with us, but which we were bound by express Treaty not to suffer any persons under our authority to molest, a great number of our own subjects took part: among others about thirty disbanded Sepoys dressed in the British uniform. It appears also that some of the boats composing the flotilla were collected from Prince of Wales Island; and Captain Low states in express terms that “ the ammunition, cartouch boxes and other warlike stores for the expedition have been purchased in Penang.” Yet no British authority had the slightest suspicion of what was going on until the expedition had set out.

12. Further, the leaders in the expedition were the nearest relations of the Ex King of Quedah; and there is no room for doubt that their proceedings were greatly encouraged and facilitated by the Ex King's residence in Penang and in Province Wellesley, which we were expressly bound by Treaty to prevent; if indeed the aggression was not actually stirred up by himself, under favor of those opportunities. And the restoration of his pension and of all the marks of favor which he had formerly enjoyed, happening at the precise moment when it did, is confidently asserted by Mr. Ibbetson to have promoted the objects of the expedition more than would have been done by “ an actual supply of 6,000 dollars to Tuanko Kudin ” by the Ex King.

13. Under these circumstances the local authorities had absolutely no option; and they accordingly removed the Ex King to Malacca; in which removal, knowing that force would be employed in case of refusal, he quietly acquiesced. But this did not cure the mischief which had been already done.

14. In order to make amends to the Siamese Authorities for our neglect of the obligations of the Treaty, and to remove the unfavorable impression which that omission must have produced upon their minds, Mr. Ibbetson thought it incumbent upon him to aid the recapture of the place by blockading the mouth of the river. Your instructions discouraged any attempt on the part of the local authorities of Prince of Wales Island to mix themselves "up in any operations of a hostile character either by land or sea," but those instructions did not arrive until all was over, the Siamese having retaken Quedah, aided by our co-operation to that extent. The case was unquestionably one of conflicting obligations, but it is much to be regretted that by our own default we should have been placed in a position from which we could not extricate ourselves but by giving our assistance to replace the Malays of Quedah under the yoke of a government which from all that we learn appears to be most deservedly odious to them.

• • • • • •

We are

Your affectionate friends

(Signed) J. G. Ravenshaw
&ca. &ca.

London

21 November 1832.

Bengal
Political Department.

• • • • •

Settlement of the
disputes about
Quedah.

2. We trust that the settlement which now appears to be effected, of the causes which disturbed the good understanding of the authorities in Prince of Wales Island and Siam, will be permanent. You have done what the obligations of Treaty required of you in removing the Ex Rajah of Quedah to a place not directly contiguous to his former territory, the peace of which he had disturbed; and you have dealt with sufficient liberality by him, in restoring him to the enjoyment of his full stipend of 10,000 Dollars per annum.

3. It was of importance, with a view to prevent future disputes, that the boundary of Province Wellesley should be well defined, an object which Mr. Ibbetson appears to have successfully negotiated with the Rajah of Ligore.

• • • • •

We are,

Your affectionate friends,

(Signed) C. Marjoribanks
&ca,

London
26th June 1833.

Printed for private circulation.

THE
BURN EY P A P E R S .

Vol. III.

PART II.

(August 1830 to June 1840.)

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J. R. Carnac and Court of Directors to [the Government of India].	Letter (Extr.)	I. O., India and Bengal Despatches vol. 14, pp. 105-106.
H. T. Prinsep, Sec. to Govt., Fort William, to S. G. Bonham, Governor of Penang.	Letter	I. O., India Political Consultations, Range 194, vol. 61, no. 209.
Captain James Low, Acting Resident, Penang, to S. G. Bonham, Governor of Penang.	Letter (Extr.)	<i>Ibid.</i> vol. 72, no. 41.
S. G. Bonham, Governor of Penang, to H. T. Prinsep, Sec. to Government, Fort William.	Letter	<i>Ibid.</i> vol. 69, no. 35.
Capt. S. Congalton to H. T. Church, Resident Councilor, Singapore.	Letter	<i>Ibid.</i> no. 36.

Date.	Subject.	Page.
1 Nov. 1837	The above petition will be forwarded to the Governor General, but a change of policy is unlikely.	417
15 Nov. 1837	Approving the withdrawal of the Ex-Raja of Kedah's stipend on his proceeding to Perak.	418
14 Mar. 1838	Requesting his attention to the case of Mrs. Breesley, said to be detained in captivity by the Siamese.	419
20 Mar. 1838	Showing that the European inhabitants of Penang have little ground for their petition in favour of the Ex-Raja of Kedah. The Birds Nest Islands are a Siamese possession. Reasons for the decrease of the import of cotton to Kedah subsequent to Siamese occupation. Proof of the dependence of Kedah on Siam at an early date. The Siamese have loyally endeavoured to carry out the Treaty of Bangkok and have refrained from taking advantage of the hostile attempts of the Ex-Raja on Kedah.	420-421
24 May 1838	Transmitting correspondence regarding the case of Mrs. Breesley, said to be held in captivity by the Siamese.	425-426
24 May 1838	Recounting his interview with the Acting Raja of Sangora, his demand for the delivery of the two Europeans, said to be at Sangora, and the Acting Raja's persistent declaration that they had gone to Bangkok.	425-430

TABLE OF

Name.	Nature of Document.	Location.
The Acting Raja of Sangora to S. G. Bonham, Governor of Penang.	Letter Translation	I. O. India Political Consultations, Range 194, vol. 69, no. 37.
H. T. Prinsep to the Governor of Penang.	Letter	<i>Ibid.</i> no. 38.
S. G. Bonham, Governor of Penang, to H. T. Prinsep, Sec. to Government, Fort William.	Letter	<i>Ibid.</i> no. 40.
S. G. Bonham, Governor of Penang, to H. T. Prinsep, Sec. to Govt., Fort William.	Letter	<i>Ibid.</i> vol. 74, no. 43.
The "Chou Phya Praklang" to S. G. Bonham, Governor of Singapore, Penang and Malacca.	Letter	<i>Ibid.</i> no. 41.
S. G. Bonham, Governor of Penang, to Capt. Stanley.	Letter (Extr.)	P. R. O., Admirals' Despatches Ad. 17219.

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Date.	Subject.	Page.
20 May 1838	The two white women were sent to Bangkok on the 16th May, in accordance with orders from the Minister there. There is no truth in the report that boats missing from Penang are at Sangora.	431-432
11 July 1838	Approving his proceedings regarding Mrs. Breesley and authorising him to take measures to procure her release from Bangkok.	433
30 May 1838	Commenting on the petition of European merchants in favour of the Ex-Raja of Kedah and controverting every statement in the petition.	434-437
8 Aug. 1838	Enclosing a letter from the "Praklang" showing that Mrs. Breesley has not been in captivity at Sangora.	438
21 June 1838	He recapitulates the substance of a letter from Governor Donham, regarding Mrs. Breesley and the release of four Siamese from a pirate ship. He states that the two so-called European women at Sangora are Burmese, and he narrates their history. They are now at Bangkok. Nothing is known of the whereabouts of Mrs. Breesley.	439-442
22 July 1838	He is requested to take the <i>Wolf</i> to Kedah and to disperse a fleet assembled with hostile intention in "Mirboo" river, but to avoid recourse to arms, if possible.	443

TABLE OF

Name.	Nature of Document.	Location.
S. G. Bonham, Governor of Penang, to H. T. Prinsep, Sec. to Government, Fort William.	Letter	I. O. India Political Consultations, Range 104, vol. 75, no. 57.
The Siamese Govr. of Kelah to J. W. Salmond and Capt. J. Low.	Letter Translation	<i>Ibid.</i> no. 58.
[S. G. Bonham, Governor of Penang] to "Tuanku Mahomed Asahad" and his brother.	Letter	<i>Ibid.</i>
"Tuanku Mahomed Asahad" to S. G. Bonham, Governor of Penang.	Letter	<i>Ibid.</i>
S. G. Bonham, Governor of Penang.	Proclamation	<i>Ibid.</i>
S. G. Bonham, Govr. of Penang, to Capt. R. Crozier of H. M. Sloop <i>Victor</i> .	Letter	P. R. O., Admirals' Despatches Ad. 1/210.
Captain R. Crozier to S. G. Bonham	Letter	<i>Ibid.</i>

Date.	Subject	Page.
30 July 1838	Reporting the disturbed state of Kedah, owing to the hostile actions of the nephews of the Ex-Raja, and describing the measures taken and projected to ensure the integrity of Kedah to the Siamese. Instructions are desired regarding the leaders of the rebellion, should they be captured.	441-448
9 July 1838	Reporting the presence of "Tuanku Mahomed Taip" and his brother with a fleet in the "Murbout" river and begging the co-operation of the English to expel them.	449-450
n. d. [July 1838]	Complaints have been made of their piratical proceedings, and they are now said to be preparing to retake Kedah. They are warned against the continuance of acts of violence or against any attempt to invade Kedah.	451-452
n. d. [July 1838]	Denying that he has been guilty of piracy and stating that he has only fought against the Siamese in self-defence.	453-454
27 July 1838	Warning British subjects against acting in co-operation with the Ex-Raja of Kedah's adherents, and notifying that the rebel fleet is about to be expelled from "Merbow" river.	455
1 Aug. 1838	Informing him of the whereabouts of the Malay flotilla and instructing him to prevent them from attacking Kedah.	456
5 Aug. 1838	He arrived at Kedah to find it in the possession of the Malays under	457-459

TABLE OF

Name.	Nature of Document.	Location.
S. G. Bonham, Governor of Penang, to H. T. Prinsep, Secretary to Government, Fort William.	Letter	I. O. India Political Consultations, Range 194, vol. 75, no. 59.
The Siamese Govr. of Kedah to the Resident Councillor, Province Wellesley.	Letter	<i>Ibid.</i>
S. G. Bonham, Govr. of Penang, to the Siamese Governor of Kedah.	Letter	<i>Ibid.</i>
Captain James Low, Principal Assistant, Province Wellesley, to the Siamese Governor of Kedah.	Letter	<i>Ibid.</i>
J. W. Salmond, Resident Councillor, Penang, to the Siamese Governor of Kedah.	Letter	<i>Ibid.</i>

Date.	Subject.	Page.
6 Aug. 1838	"Tuanku Mahomet Saad." Account of the capture of Kedah and the feeble resistance of the Siamese. Remarks on Kedah Fort.	460-461
20 July 1838	Notifying the capture of Kedah by the nephews of the Ex-Raja. The <i>Victor</i> arrived to find the fort in the hands of the Malays. Its fall was the result of Siamese remissness. The number of the insurgents is insignificant, but it is impossible to prevent outside assistance from reaching them. The advisability of assisting the Siamese in recovering Kedah or of remaining neutral is discussed. Definite instructions are desired.	460-461
20 July 1838	Notifying aggressive acts by the adherents of the Ex-Raja of Kedah, and requesting that they may be dealt with in accordance with the Treaty of 1826.	465
31 July 1838	Efficient assistance has been given by the British to protect Kedah by sea. The Siamese are responsible for its protection against internal revolt.	466
31 May 1838	The present unrest is the consequence of permitting fugitives from justice to reside in Siamese territory. These should be driven from the frontier.	467
10 June 1838	He request him to disperse the insurgent Malays who have left the frontier in obedience to Capt. Low's order. He remonstrates against the danger incurred by English settlers during the struggle with the	468-469

TABLE OF

Name.	Nature of Document.	Location.
S. G. Bonham, Govr. of Penang, to H. T. Prinsep, Secretary to Government, Fort William.	Letter	I. O., India Political Consultations, Range 194, vol. 75, no. 61.
The "Chou P'hya Praklang" to S. G. Bonham, Governor of Singapore, Penang and Malacca.	Letter Translation (enclosure)	<i>Ibid.</i>
Capt. W. Warren to Capt. R. Crozier.	Letter (extract)	P. R. O. Admirals' Despatches Ad. 1/219.
H. T. Prinsep, Secretary to Government, Fort William, to S. G. Bonham, Governor of Penang.	Letter	I. O., India Political Consultations, Range 194, vol. 75, no. 62.

Date.	Subject.	Page.
	Malays and reproaches the Govr. for having neglected precautions for defence.	
13 Aug. 1838	He encloses a letter from the "Praklang," complaining of the actions of "Tuanku Mahomed Saad," nephew of the Ex-Raja, and his coadjutors. He desires instructions how to proceed against those who supply the insurgents with arms. The Siamese have fled from the sea coast.	470-472
24 June 1838	He expresses the thanks of the King of Siam for the assistance afforded by the British against the pirates at Saugora. He details the depredations committed by "Che Mataleo" and "Tuau Kumut Suat," partisans of the Ex-Raja of Kedah, who have escaped to English territory. He begs that measures may be taken to seize them.	473-476
12 Sept. 1838	He arrived off Kedah on the 22nd August. The Siamese chief had fled, and the whole coast from Kedah to Trang was in the hands of the Malays.	477
26 Sept. 1838	He acknowledges receipt of the news of the seizure of Kedah by the adherents of the Ex-Raja and admits that the English are bound by the Treaty of 1826 to endeavour to prevent such risings, though they are not obliged to assist in the recovery of lost forts. He reviews the present situation of affairs, the prospect of the ultimate success of the Siamese, and the present Malay predominance. He	478-483

TABLE OF

Name.	Nature of Document.	Location.
S. G. Bonham, Govr. of Penang, to H. T. Prinsep, Sec. to Government; Fort William.	Letter	I. O., India Political Consultations, Range 195, vol. 8, no. 17.
S. G. Bonham, Govr. of Penang, to the Resident Councillor, Penang.	Letter	<i>Ibid.</i> no. 18.

Date.	Subject.	Page.
	<p>approves the Proclamation discountenancing British subjects who have joined the insurgents, and authorizes the imprisonment of the leaders and their adherents, pending a discussion as to their punishment. He discusses the question of the specific aid to be given to the Siamese, approves the measures already taken to blockade the ports held by the insurgents, and directs the Governor to refrain from taking part in any land enterprise. The treatment of the Ex-Raja is to depend on the extent to which he is implicated in the late rising.</p>	
31 Dec. 1838	<p>He encloses documents regarding the present state of affairs at Kedah, and gives his reasons for not going in person to Penang. The form of the Proclamation to the inhabitants of Penang and Province Wellesley was based on the Proclamation of 1831. The Siamese are not in a position to provide troops for the recapture of Kedah. The difficulty of maintaining the provisions of the Treaty of 1826 is emphasized. The Ex-Raja disavows all connexion with the insurgents, and there is no proof of his complicity with the ringleaders.</p>	481-486
10 Nov. 1838	<p>Directing him to request the naval commander at Penang to carry out the orders of the Supreme Government. Three gun boats are sent to assist in the work. If necessary, an active blockade is to be proclaimed and measures taken to enforce it. A copy of the Ex-Raja of Kedah's letter, dis-</p>	487-489

TABLE OF

Name.	Nature of Document.	Location.
S. G. Bonham, Govr. of Penang.	Proclamation	I. O., India Political Consultations, Range 195, vol. 8, no. 18.
Captain W. Warren to J. W. Salmond.	Letter	<i>Ibid.</i>
S. G. Bonham to the "Chow Phya Praklang."	Letter	<i>Ibid.</i> no. 19.
S. G. Bonham, Govr. of Penang, to the "Chou Phya Praklang."	Letter	<i>Ibid.</i>

Date.	Subject	Page.
(? Nov. or Dec. 1838)	<p>claiming any participation with the insurgents is to be sent to the ring-leaders.</p> <p>Warning British Subjects against taking up arms in favour of the Malay insurgents, notifying the blockade of the coast of Kedah and the dissociation of the Ex-Raja from the acts of the insurgents.</p>	490
15 Dec. 1838	<p>He reports the promulgation of Governor Bonham's Proclamation at Kedah, "Purlis and Satoh," and the manner of its reception at each place. "Lingor" has been retaken by the Malays and Lancauy Island is in their hands. "Hadjee Buckie," one of the rebel leaders, has been captured.</p>	491-492
2 Sept. 1838	<p>He notifies the capture of Kedah by the Malays. The Siamese Chief disregarded warnings of the rising until too late, and the force in the fort was inadequate to defend it. A ship has been sent to Trang to assist the Siamese in dispersing the Malay fleet.</p>	493-494
28 Sept. 1838	<p>In accordance with instructions from the Supreme Government, measures have been taken to maintain the Treaty of 1826. British ships have blockaded Kedah river, but no Siamese force has appeared to operate by land. The blockade cannot continue indefinitely, and information is desired as to what steps the Siamese have taken for the re-occupation of Kedah.</p>	495-496

TABLE OF

Name.	Nature of Document.	Location.
The Ex-Raja of Kedah to S. G. Bonham, Govr. of Penang.	Letter Translation	I. O., India Political Consultations, Range 195, vol. 8, no. 20.
S. G. Bonham, Govr. of Penang, to H. T. Prinsep, Sec. to Govt., Fort William.	Letter	<i>Ibid.</i> vol. 10, no. 64.
The Raja of Ligor to S. G. Bonham, Govr. of Penang.	Letter (abstract)	<i>Ibid.</i> vol. 10, no. 65.
[S. G. Bonham] to the Raja of Ligor.	Letter	<i>Ibid.</i>
R. Hunter to S. G. Bonham, Govr. of Penang, Singapore and Malacca.	Letter	<i>Ibid.</i>

Date.	Subject.	Page.
3 Oct. 1838	Disclaiming any connexion with the insurgents at Kedah.	497
18 Jan. 1839	He has received reports of a Siamese force preparing to advance to retake Kedah, but has no confirmation, nor have any Siamese appeared. The blockade of Kedah river is affecting the insurgents by stopping supplies. Plunder was the sole cause of the rising. "Hadjee Bakkie," one of the ringleaders is arrested, but it is doubtful if he can be brought to trial.	498-500
n. d. [Jan. 1839]	Kedah was captured during his absence in Siam. The insurgents are relatives of the Ex-Raja and have broken the the Treaty of 1826. He desires the help of a ship and the support of the English against the rebels.	501
6 Jan. 1839	The coast of Kedah has already been blockaded by British ships for more than a month, and an adequate Siamese force to drive the Malays from the fort is awaited.	502
[Sept. 1838]	News of the seizure of Kedah has reached Bangkok. The Raja of Ligor, who has been ordered to retake the place, begs for assistance and friendly co-operation from Penang. The Siamese themselves are anxious regarding the attitude of the English in relation to Kedah. Facilities of trade are allowed to the writer's firm at Bangkok.	503-504

TABLE OF

Name.	Nature of Document.	Location.
S. G. Bonham to H. T. Prinsep.	Letter	I. O., India Political Consultations, Range 194, vol. 10, no. 65.
H. T. Prinsep, Sec. to Govt., to S. G. Bonham, Governor of Penang.	Letter	<i>Ibid.</i> vol. 8, no. 21.
J. L. Lushington and Court of Directors to the Government of India.	Letter (Extract)	I. O., India and Bengal Despatches, vol. 19, pp. 673-675.
S. G. Bonham, Govr. of Penang, to H. T. Prinsep, Sec. to Government, Fort William.	Letter	I. O., India Political Consultations, Range 195, vol. 15, no. 48.
The Raja of Ligor to S. G. Bonham, Governor of Penang.	Letter Translation	<i>Ibid.</i> no. 49.

Date.	Subject.	Page.
21 Jan., 1839	He ascribes the late outbreak at Kedah to European influence. If the blockade is to be continued and the Siamese assisted to drive the Malays out of Kedah, an enactment prohibiting the buying of plundered property or trading with the insurgents is necessary.	505-507
6 Feb., 1839	The Governor General approves the Proclamation to the inhabitants of Penang and Province Wellesley. No further instructions regarding the insurgent Malays are necessary. Dr. Richardson has been deputed to Siam and communications to that Court can be sent through him.	508
6 Feb., 1839	Regretting that the conduct of the Ex-Raja of Kedah led to hostilities and to his forcible removal to Malacca, where he is to be compelled to remain.	509
28 Feb., 1839	Enclosing copies of correspondence with the Raja of Ligor, the "Praklang" and Mr. Hunter at Bangkok. Comments on the dilatoriness of the Siamese in retaking Kedah. The blockade by British ships continues, but the insurgents can obtain supplies from Sangra unless prevented by the Siamese.	510
[? Feb., 1839]	Accounting for the delay in dispatching a force to Kedah, and begging that the English man-of-war may continue to assist in the blockade. A present of a teapot is sent.	511

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Name.	Nature of Document.	Location.
The "Chow Phya Praklang" to S. G. Bonham, Governor of Penang.	Letter	I. O., India Political Consultations, Range 195, vol. 15, no. 49.
R. Hunter to S. G. Bonham, Governor of Penang.	Letter	<i>Ibid.</i> vol. 15.
R. Hunter to S. G. Bonham, Governor of Penang.	Letter	<i>Ibid.</i>

Date.	Subject.	Page.
19 Jan., 1839	He recapitulates the contents of the Governor's letter of 2 Sept. 1838 and of a letter lately received by Mr. Hunter. He notifies the approval of the King of Siam of the naval assistance afforded by the English in blockading Kedah river. He accounts for the unprotected state of Kedah when seized by the Malays. The Governors of Ligor, Sangora, "Talang, Chia and Chumpon" have been ordered to co-operate against the Malays, but news of their movements has not reached Bangkok. If the Raja of Ligor desires the assistance of the English, it is hoped that it will be given.	512-515
21 Jan., 1839	He remarks on the intentions of the Siamese with regard to Kedah. At the time of its capture the Governors of Ligor and other subordinate provinces were at Bangkok for the ceremony of burning the King's mother. He explains why troops were not sent direct from Siam and why the Raja of Ligor did not at once invoke British assistance against the Malays. The arrival of an English Mission to Siam is reported, but its object is at present unknown. The petition of the Penang merchants has not reached the "Praklang."	516-517
22 Jan., 1839	News has just reached Bangkok that the Raja of Ligor is unable to expel the Malays from Kedah without reinforcements from Siam. The probable action of the Siamese Government is discussed.	518

TABLE OF

Name.	Nature of Document.	Location.
The "Chou Phya Praklang" to S. G. Bonham, Governor of Penang.	Letter	I. O., India Political Consultations, Range 195, vol. 18, no. 51.
H. T. Prinsep, Sec. to Govt., Fort William, to the Governor of Penang.	Letter (extract)	<i>Ibid.</i> vol. 10, no. 66.
G. W. Blundell Commissioner in the Tenasserim Provinces, to H. T. Prinsep, Sec. to Govt., Fort William.	Letter	<i>Ibid.</i> vol. 12, no. 89.
Capt. W. Warren to S. G. Bonham, Governor of Penang.	Letter	<i>Ibid.</i> vol. 15, no. 52.
S. G. Bonham, Governor of Penang, to H. T. Prinsep, Sec. to Govt., Fort William.	Letter	<i>Ibid.</i> vol. 17, no. 22.

Date.	Subject.	Page.
29 Jan., 1839	He recapitulates the substance of the Governor's letter of the 28th Dec. 1838. This has given great satisfaction to H. M. the King of Siam, who is grateful to the English for blockading Kedah river. The Raja of Ligor and other Chiefs were ordered to attack the Malays. The former has been successful at "Sâtoon," but he could not pursue the rebels for want of boats. The Governor is requested to assist him. The King of Siam ascribes the rising at Kedah to the fact that the Ex-Raja is under the protection of the English.	519-521
27 Feb., 1839	Acknowledging his letter of the 18th January, and directing him to communicate with the Court of Siam, through Dr. Richardson, regarding the disturbances at Kedah.	522
26 Feb., 1839	Notifying the arrival at Moulmein of the annual deputation of Siamese officers from Bangkok. There is no further news of Dr. Richardson's Mission.	523
20 Mar., 1839	Reporting the recapture of Kedah by a Siamese force and the escape of the Malay Chiefs. When Purlis is retaken the blockade will be raised.	524-525
15 April, 1839	The Siamese have regained control of Kedah. The encouragement afforded the refugees by inhabitants of Penang has protracted hostilities. The gun boats will be detained until the dispersal of the rebels is complete. Capt. Warren's services are commended.	526-527

TABLE OF

Name.	Nature of Document.	Location.
Capt. W. Warren to S. G. Bonham, Governor of Penang.	Letter	I. O., India Political Consultations, Range 195, vol. 17, no. 23.
Capt. W. Warren to Admiral Maitland.	Letter (Extract)	P. R. O. Admirals' Despatches, Ad. 1/220.
H. T. Prinsep, Sec. to Govt., Fort William, to S. G. Bonham, Governor of Penang.	Letter	I. O., India Political Consultations, Range 195, vol. 18, no. 52.
H. T. Prinsep, Sec. to Govt., to S. G. Bonham, Governor of Penang.	Letter	<i>Ibid.</i> vol. 22, no. 57.

Date.	Subject.	Page.
11 April, 1839	Giving an account of the actions between the Malays and Siamese subsequent to the recapture of Kedah fort, the retaking of Purlis, the escape of three of the insurgent leaders to Lancary and the destruction of four of their war prows at that place.	528-529
13 April, 1839	Reporting his return to Penang. The Siamese force arrived on the 7th March but did not regain possession of the whole province of Kedah until the 6th April.	530
2 July, 1839	Replying to his letter of the 5th March. The policy of the Government of India towards Siam will depend on the result of Dr. Richardson's Mission. A guarded answer is to be written to the "Praklang."	531
21 Aug., 1839	Communication with Dr. Richardson appears to have been cut off and the Siamese are restricting intercourse with Moulmein, the Governor is instructed either to write to the "Praklang" or to depute an officer to Bangkok to remonstrate with the Court of Siam against such an unfriendly return for the assistance recently rendered them at Kedah. The Governor is informed that an inroad by Shan subjects of Siam into Burmese territory has caused a difference with the Burmese, who demand compensation from the British Government.	532-534

TABLE OF

Name.	Nature of Document.	Location.
W. B. Bayley and Court of Directors to the Government of India.	Letter (extract)	I. O., India and Bengal Despatches, vol. 23.

Date.	Subject.	Page.
2 June, 1810	Commenting on the Petition of merchants at Penang against the rule of the Siamese in Kedah, approving the help afforded the Siamese against the Malay insurgents, and the passing of an act providing for the punishment of such offenders in the future. Tuanku Abdul'lah is to be warned of the consequences of fomenting any further disturbances.	535-536

(Extract from Rear Admiral Owen's letter to the Admiralty, No. 140, 6th August 1830.)

(Public Record
Office.)

Admirals'
Despatches.
Ad. 1'198.

Southampton, Penang,
6th August 1830.

Sir,

* * * * *

I beg to add the following brief sketch of the present state of the coasts of this part of the Peninsula, according to the slight knowledge I have obtained for the information of their Lordships. . .

I need not inform you Sir that this island and settlement formed part originally of the territory of Quedah between which and Malacca are the little Sovereignities of Perak and Salangore. Quedah was equivocally a feudatory of Siam and being compelled by that power to make war on Perak, both became weakened, and during our war with Ava the Siamese Government sent a force which drove out the King of Quedah.

That territory is still in the hands of the Siamese who were proceeding next to take possession of Perak when the Government of this island interposed, and Perak still preserves a nominal independence. The Rajah is a weak and timid person very well disposed but without energy, pressed as he is on one side by the power of Siam and on the other by the more active Rajah of Salangore. Many of his people have emigrated and he is left in poverty and weakness. The countenance of the Government of this Island is his only security, he feels how much he is dependent on it and wishes to place himself and dominions under its protection. . . .

The present Rajah of Salangore is said to be a restless and not unintelligent young man. He has pressed much on Perak and is desirous to annex it to his own territory as a barrier between him and the Siamese. The Chief of Perak feels it is impossible to

reist, and if we do not interfere would prefer uniting with Salangore to falling under the dominion of Siam.

On the east coast of the Peninsula the territory of Tringanu is likewise feudatory to Siam.

The Empire of Siam is in policy, religion and manner very similar to that of Ava with which it has been much at war. It has a French Mission, of which the head is a titular Bishop, established in the Capital. The branches extend over all parts of the territory and there are on this island four priests of that nation dependent on the said Bishop and corresponding with the Missionary Society in Paris. They have established a school in which about eighteen Chinese youths are now receiving an ecclesiastical education preparatory to their being returned to their own country where they are to act as missionaries. The Chief of these four priests was some years in China. The youths they state are all sent from thence for the express purpose of being thus educated.

The French Mission is confined to the territories of Siam, the Catholic affairs of the territories southward of it, namely Perak, Salangore, Malacca, Johore and Pahang being all considered to belong to the Mission of the Portuguese from Goa.

The Government of Siam is said to be under great apprehension respecting the British Power since the termination of the Burmese war, and this Government has been desirous to avoid all measures which can lead to a misunderstanding with them by exciting fears or jealousy. There is nevertheless no treaty formed with any of the Native Governments in this vicinity nor any public measures taken to secure our influence with them or to unite their exertions for the common benefit.

I have &c.

(Signed) E. W. C. R. Owen

Rear Admiral Commanding in Chief.

(Enclosure D. to Rear Admiral Owen's letter to the Admiralty, No. 171, 6 Oct. 1830.)

(Public Record
Office.)

Admirals'
Despatches.
Ad. 1/188.

Southampton, Penang,
5th October 1830.

Sir,

With reference to our conversation of this morning and looking to the latter part of the 2d. Article of the Treaty with Siam . . . it appears to me that whilst immediate means are taken, as was agreed between us, to ascertain whether the piratical force is still in the Marbou River, it will be proper in your communication with Quedah to consider that force as Siamese: To call on the present Governor of that Province in consequence to declare for what purpose they had been collected: To complain at the same time of the two acts of piracy and demand the punishment of the offenders. Should he disclaim all knowledge of the vessels so collected, he must then be called on to drive them from his port or to assist in their destruction.

If you agree with me in these propositions, I will send the Southampton to convey your messenger (who should be a person in your confidence). I will give Captain Fisher orders to take the necessary measures in conjunction with that person after an answer is obtained and to act as, on the information they receive, the occasion may require: if this meets your views I will at once call on you and concert the farther measures.

Who have &ca.

(Signed) E. W. C. R. Owen.

R. Ibbetson Esqre
Deputy Resident.

(Public Record
Office.)

Admirals'
Despatches.

Ad. 1/198.

(Enclosure E. 2 in Rear Admiral Owen's letter to the Admiralty, No. 171, 6 Oct. 1830.)

From Mr. Ibbetson to the Governor of Quedah.

I have to acquaint my friend that many pirate prows have lately passed through this harbour committing trifling depredations, and have now taken up a position in the Quella Mirabou, from whence they issued and captured two China junks which quitted this harbour about eight days ago on their way to Quedah.

On reference to the 2d Article of the Treaty between the English and Siamese my friend will observe that "should any Siamese place or country " that is near an English country collect at any time " an army or a fleet of boats, if the Chief of the " English country enquire the object of such force the " Chief of the Siamese country must declare [it]." Now I do not mean by this to impute that my friend has in any way aided or abetted in collecting these pirates, on the contrary, I am sure he will assist in destroying them, and it is with this object in view that I now address my friend.

I have deputed Captain Low to deliver this letter to my friend accordingly and he proceeds in His Majesty's Ship Southampton to explain to my friend what is required of him ; and if my friend cannot send immediate assistance in the shape of armed boats to co-operate with those of His Majesty's Ship Southampton to request at least that my friend will depute a confidential agent to proceed with Captain Low to Quella Mirabou in order that no misunderstanding may hereafter arise between the English and Siamese as to the nature of the attack that may be made upon those marauders.

The Commander of the Southampton is a King's officer of considerable rank who, in concert with Captain Low and my friend, will arrange the measures that it may be necessary to adopt.

(Enclosure C. in Rear Admiral Owen's letter to the Admiralty, No. 179, 14 October 1830.)

H. M. S. Southampton, Penang,

16th October 1830.

(Public Record
Office.)

Admirals'
Despatches.

Ad. 1/198.

Sir,

In compliance with the directions contained in your letter to me of the 14th instant, I have the honor to report for your information that the nature of the force sent out to co-operate with us by the Siamese Governor of Quedah was for the most part nothing more than the common boats of the country, having a very small brass swivel, or wall piece, in the bow and another abaft, several of them having only a single mast, and rowing from 10 to 14 oars. They were I understood put in requisition by the Governor of Quedah upon the occasion, as were the crews, who were the common people of that place, without having been in any way previously organized; there was nothing in any of them like soldiers and they had only from three to one musket in each and these of a very bad quality. I am not aware of the rank of the person who commanded them but I understand he had charge of the police of the river and immediate coast. He seemed to be a man of some intelligence and I understood from Captain Low had previously lived at this island or in the neighbourhood, but having been engaged in some unlawful pursuits he made his escape to avoid punishment. The boat that he was in and which appeared to be about the largest, rowed fourteen oars, had three of these small pieces, one forward and two aft; he had but three muskets, was rigged with two masts, with a crew I understood of sixteen men. The whole force was of the poorest description, but I understood from the person commanding them they were much inferior to their usual armed force of boats being got up on the spur of the moment, the crews taken from the streets, and the very worst arms put on board.

I have &ca.

(Signed) Peter Fisher
Captain.

To His Excellency
Rear Admiral Sir E. W. C. R. Owen,
K. C. B. &c. &c. &c.

(Public Record
Office.)

Admirals'
Despatches.
Ad. 1/204.

Enclosure A2 in Rear Admiral Owen's letter to the Admiralty, No. 254, 9th August 1831.

To Wm. Hamley Esqr, K. L. A.,
H. M. Sloop Wolf.

Sir,

With reference to my letter of the 15th inst., and to your reply of the same date I have the honor now to acquaint you that the state of the war at Quedah appears by report very near its close, and that although nothing decided has occurred within the Fort, the Siamese have nevertheless regained every inch of country within half a mile of it, confining its inmates, already distressed for provisions and even water, to very narrow limits.

The disturbed state of the country in the interior of Malacca makes it indispensable that I proceed there immediately in the Zephyr, and it would be very satisfactory to myself, as well as extremely beneficial to the public interests, if you could continue at this settlement until the final overthrow and dispersion of these pirates. It is impossible to calculate precisely upon the undertakings of Native Powers, but as far as I am able to judge from information daily received, the present state of things cannot possibly continue many days and may indeed be over ere I quit this place on Sunday next.

I do myself the honor to enclose extract of my instruction to Mr. Murchison* by which you will observe the line of policy I am adopting is, if possible, to punish the leaders of these pirates, without inflicting unnecessary severity upon the deluded wretches who have been induced to accompany them.

(* Dated 19 May 1831—Copied from Ben. Pol. Cons. Page 126, vol. 31.)

In consequence of the Treaty between our Government and Siam it is of political importance that every demonstration of assistance on our part should

be particularly evinced on the present occasion, and it is with this view principally, as well as to show the pirates themselves that we are perfectly prepared for them, that I have thus long blockaded Quedah River. This show of co-operation not only I hope ensures our good understanding with the Siamese but will also I trust avert any premeditated injury from these marauders themselves.

I have &c.

(Signed) R. Ibbetson
Resident Singapore.

Prince of W. Island
Resident's Office
19 June 1831.

(Public Record
Office.)

Admirals'
Despatches.

Ad. 1/205.

(Enclosure in Rear Admiral Owen's letter to the
Admiralty, No. 301, 5 October 1831.)

Southampton, Trincomalee.

5 July 1831.

Sir,

The insurrection of the Malays of Quedah against the Siamese authorities has quickened the desire I felt to reinforce the vessels I had sent before for the protection of our trade within the Straits of Malacca.

I now send Captain Montague of the Crocodile for that purpose. He will consult with you on all things relating to the interests of Prince of Wales Island, as well as with Mr. Ibbetson and the other authorities in your vicinity.

As he will do so fully in every particular I need not now say more than to express the sincerity of my good wishes.

I have &c.

(Signed) E. W. C. R. Owen.

To K. Murchison,
Deputy Resident
Prince of Wales Island.

(Public Record
Office.)
Admirals'
Despatches.
Ad. 1/205.

(Enclosure A3 in Rear Admiral Owen's letter to the Admiralty, No. 313, 13 November 1831.)

Service Secret Department.

To Wm. Hamley Esqre
H. M. Sloop Wolf.

Sir,

I do myself the honor to enter into communication with you regarding the operations now in progress at Quedah, and to make a request that until the present insurrection (in a state so contiguous to our own) shall have subsided you will afford to this settlement the great benefit arising from the presence and services of a man of war in the vicinity of Quedah.

Yesterday I received despatches from the Rajah of Ligore dated the 13 ultimo,* stating that he was in movement against Quedah at the head of a large land force and that his flotilla was making a correspondent advance from Purlis to the Quedah River. The messenger who brought these despatches estimates the land force at 15,000 men with 500 elephants, and the flotilla as consisting of 80 prows each containing 80 men.

I cannot gather more precise information or whether there is any battering train with the land or sea forces, but I infer they possess nothing beyond "Ramlakers" (long swivels) and muskets, and it seems doubtful whether the Siamese (numerous as they may be) will succeed in carrying the Fort if its garrison be as strong, well appointed and disciplined as your reports and other information lead me to suppose.

Presuming that you will kindly afford every aid in your power to the Local Government in this emergency, I proceed to state my request that in the first instance you will enforce a strict blockade of the

(* The letter
does not appear.)

Quedah River. The Honorable Company's Cutter Emerald will be placed under your orders, and her Commander Mr. Collins is well qualified by local knowledge to afford you valuable assistance in effecting this object. You will distinguish the Siamese boats by the elephant in their flags and it would be desirable to send Mr. Collins to communicate with the leaders and to explain our purpose.

Should Tonku Kudin, or any of the insurgent chiefs or their forces, endeavour to escape to sea I have no hesitation in requesting you to treat them as pirates. But I particularly request you to use every means to distinguish such persons as these from the mere peasantry, many of whom have been compelled or cajoled by Tonku Kudin to remain within the Fort. Individuals of this description, seeking refuge in our territories may be permitted to pass unmolested . . .

Should the Siamese attack upon the Fort prove unsuccessful, and should the Rajah of Ligore, or the Chief of the Siamese, apply to you for actual aid I must leave it to your own judgment to decide how far you can comply with the requisition. I shall merely state to you that Mr. Ibbetson has recognised the doctrine "that the British are bound by the spirit of the treaty of Bangkok" to afford "actual co-operation to the Siamese if they desire it," and that the pledge of the Government has been given to the Rajah of Ligore to that effect . . . There is considerable reason to hope that the strength of the Siamese armament and the unequivocal demonstration of our feelings on the occasion, which will be evinced by the actual conjunction of the English and Siamese naval forces, will dishearten Kudin's faction and enable the Siamese to regain possession of the Fort without any co-operation on our side beyond a mere blockade of the river.

. . . The interference of the British Government arises solely from the Treaty of Bangkok . . . If

the Ex King's relatives (followers) were not implicated in the insurrection our co-operation with the Siamese would not be *imperatively* required. If Kudin and the present leaders therefore should have evacuated the Fort and effected their escape, I would urge you not to proceed to direct hostilities without previously consulting me upon the subject.

I have &ca.

(Signed) K. Murchison
Deputy Resident.

Prince of Wales Island
July 8. 1831.

(Public Record
Office.)
Admirals'
Despatches.
Ad. 1/205.

(Enclosure A5 in Rear Admiral Owen's letter to the Admiralty, No. 313, 13 November 1831.)

His Majesty's Sloop Wolf,
Off Quedah, 11 July 1831.

Sir,

In reference to Mr. Murchison's letter dated 8 July 1831,* I have the honor to acquaint your Excellency that I arrived off Quedah in the afternoon of the 9th and found that the night previous thirty-six Malay prows had come out of Quedah and beat off the Siamese flotilla consisting of thirty-two prows. The following morning a reinforcement of twenty Siamese prows arrived which with our appearance induced the Malay prows to enter the Quedah river under the Fort and the Siamese to resume their position.

* See ante Ad.
1/205 No. 301.

This morning thirty-three prows were discovered coming in as from the Lancavies and steering for Quedah. As I had no doubt they were going to join Tuku Kudin against the Siamese, I felt it my duty from the spirit of the treaty with the Siamese to warn them off and if they persisted in going on to use force in dispersing them. It being at the time a calm I immediately sent the boats manned and armed in command of the first Lieutenant Mr. Burrige with orders to take the Emerald Cutter in tow and proceed towards them and if they did not immediately disperse to compel them to do so. A light breeze having sprung up I slipt from my anchor and made all sail in support of the boats. On the approach of the boats they all drew up together and sent a dispatch boat to say they were going to Quedah to join Kudin against the Siamese, on which Lieutenant Burrige informed them they were not to go on and if they persisted after a sufficient time given he would fire on them. Their boat having returned among them some minutes, and they showing no disposition to retreat, the two

(Public Record
Office.)

Admirals'
Despatches.

Ad. 1/205.

(Enclosure in Rear Admiral Owen's letter to the Admiralty, No. 301, 5 October 1831.)

J. W. Montague Esqre.

Captain of H. M. S. Crocodile.

Sir,

Adverting to a letter with which I have been honored by His Excellency Sir Edward Owen, by which I find that the services of His Majesty's Ship Crocodile have been made available for the purpose of suppressing the insurrection at Quedah and of piracy generally, I do myself the honor to state to you in what manner and to what extent the force under your command may be applied with reference to the first of these objects.

The invasion of Quedah, by Tuku Din, the nephew of the Ex Rajah of Quedah, and his followers is held by Mr. Ibbetson, the Resident, to be a violation of the 13th article of the Treaty of Bangkok . . . and Mr. Ibbetson infers that as we have failed to prevent the aggression, we are bound to repair the injury by co-operating in the recapture of the Fort if required by the Siamese to do so. Should the Rajah of Ligore, who is the representative of the Siamese and now carrying on the siege or blockade of the Fort make any requisition to you for direct co-operation, you are therefore at liberty to afford it, if you ascertain that it can be effectually given without too serious a loss of life; but I would suggest that as no harm can arise from a short delay, it may be safer for you to refer to me before you engage in any extensive enterprise, as my information of the Siamese movements on the land side may enable me to judge more correctly than you can do how far an attack by boats would be likely to succeed.

The blockade of the river seems to be the chief duty which at present devolves upon you, and although

you cannot effectually blockade such a river the appearance of His Majesty's Ship, in friendly co-operation with the Siamese flotilla may have such a beneficial effect in depressing one party and encouraging the other that I must request you to maintain the blockade as rigidly as you can. Captain Hamley will put you in possession of all the information he possesses, and this, with the services of Mr. Collins of the Honorable Company's Cutter Emerald, will enable you to contribute every possible aid which His Majesty's Ships can render in a service of this description.

I have &ca.

(Signed) W. Murchison
Deputy Resident.

Prince of Wales Island
3 August 1831.

(Public Record
Office.)
Admirals'
Despatches.
Ad. 1/205.

(Enclosure A to Rear Admiral Sir E. Owen's letter to the Admiralty, No. 301, 5 October 1831.)

H. Majesty's Ship Crocodile,
Off Quedah, 8 August 1831.

Sir,

I have the honor to inform you that I arrived at Penang on the 1st instant, and finding from Mr. Murchison the Resident, that the services of the Crocodile would be required to assist the Wolf in the blockade of Quedah, I lost no time in proceeding here, when I found the Wolf, Emerald, Company's Cutter, and between 30 and 40 Siamese Row boats, armed with small guns and ramlackers. Since my arrival here I have been in constant communication with the Rajah of Ligore and on his assuring me of his intention to storm the walls of Quedah yesterday morning at 4 o'clock, I sent all the boats of two ships with the Emerald Cutter under the command of Commander Hamley together with the Siamese flotilla to the mouth of the river, ready to co-operate with the Rajah's troops in the event of their storming the walls. A sharp contest took place about the time appointed which lasted till 9 o'clock and I fear the Siamese have been defeated at the stockades or outposts of Tuku Din, the Malay Chief, and nephew to the Ex Rajah of Quedah. He has a strong force, and prows locked to each other across the river, and about a cable's length outside them an iron chain is extended to each bank of the river, with piles to keep up the bight. The boats returned to the ships at half past ten, since when I have had no further information from the Rajah.

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I have &ca.

To Rear Admiral
Sir E. W. C. R. Owen, K. C. B.
Commander in Chief

(Signed) J. W. Montague
Captain.

&ca. &ca. &ca.

(Public Record
Office.)
Admirals'
Despatches.
Ad. 1/205.

(Enclosure in Rear Admiral Owen's letter to the Admiralty, No. 314, 13 November 1831.)

To His Excellency Rear Admiral
Sir E. W. C. R. Owen, K. C. B.
&ca. &ca. &ca.
Prince of Wales Island.

Sir,

* * * The Quedah country towards the interior I regret to say is not yet entirely quiet although that prospect is not, I trust, far distant, but the antipathy of the Malays to the Government of Siam, and the facilities of revolt offered by a wooded country enables them with but very slender means to renew offensive operations which may always be apprehended unless the latter maintain considerable forces in the country * * *

I have &ca.

(Signed) R. Ibbetson
Resident.

Malacca
Resident's Office
4 September 1831.

(Public Record
Office.)

Admirals'
Despatches.
Ad. 1/208.

(Enclosure E in Rear Admiral Owen's letter to
the Admiralty, No. 313, 13 Novr. 1831.)

H. M. Sloop Wolf,
Off Quedah, 4th October 1831.

Sir,

. . . The Siamese forces continued to make gradual approaches to the Fort of Quedah until the morning of the 4 instant when, many of the Malays as opportunities offered by night, having made their escape and Tuku Kudin being reduced in numbers to a few Chiefs and about one hundred men without provisions or ammunition, the walls were scaled, the place violently carried, and most of the Malays killed in the assault. Kudin, after being wounded in five places, retreated with ten of his followers to a small room within the fort. The Siamese, wishing to take him alive, attempted to get him out by setting fire to the roof. Seeing his fate sealed he and a principal Chief killed each other, the remaining nine rushed out from the flames and were instantly killed. There was no further opposition.

A great many Malays that had been kept in the fort against their will particularly old men, women and children, made their escape at different times since the blockade and came off to this ship for protection to whom I gave passes and sent to Penang. I have the satisfaction to know that the lives of between three and four hundred persons of this description have been saved by His Majesty's Sloop being here.

The Siamese being now in quiet possession of Quedah and the services of His Majesty's Sloop under my command being no longer necessary I shall proceed to Penang . . .

I have &c.

To His Excellency

Rear Admiral Sir E. W. C. R. Owen
K. C. B. &c. &c. &c.

(Signed) W. Hamley
Commander

(Public Record
Office.)
Admirals'
Despatches.
Ad. 1/205.

(Enclosure C in Rear Admiral Owen's letter to the Admiralty, No. 313, 13 November 1831.)

His Majesty's Sloop Wolf,
Off Penang, November 7. 1831.

Sir,

I took no part in the hostilities between the Malays off Quedah and the Siamese flotilla further than by a blockade of the river to prevent supplies of arms and ammunition being thrown in, and the large force of prows collected there annoying our trade . . . I had frequent communication with the Rajah of Ligore, through his Chiefs. Many of his applications were that I would with my boats and people attack the Fort which I constantly and decidedly refused, stating to him that I had come there for the purpose of blockading the river only, and preventing the Malay prows making their escape to our settlements; all their applications were of this nature requiring assistance and co-operating with them, which I refused except as above stated. I had one communication from Tunku Kudin the Malay Chief requesting me to allow his prows to come out to attack the Siamese flotilla which I refused to permit . . . Our operations were chiefly confined to a blockade of the river, boarding such vessels as might be passing, and watching the Malay prows in the river. During our stay there the Siamese land forces were constantly engaged with the Malays and latterly in attacking the Fort of Quedah. Of those operations I know nothing more than from seeing the firing and from reports brought out by the Siamese flotilla.

I have &c.

(Signed) W. Hamley
Commander.

To His Excellency
Rear Admiral Sir E. W. C. R. Owen,
K. C. B., &c. &c. &c.

(Public Record
Office.)
Admirals'
Despatches.
Ad. 1/205.

(Enclosure A in Rear Admiral Owen's letter to the Admiralty, No. 313, 13 November 1831.)

His Majesty's Sloop Wolf,
Penang, 9 November 1831.

Sir,

. . . Your Excellency will perceive by the first requisition I received from Mr. Ibbetson . . . that he expected from the information he had received to hear of the fall of the Fort of Quedah every hour. Numerous reports also reached Mr. Murchison, contradictory and not to be depended upon, from the opposite shore.

Being extremely anxious to proceed to the other end of the Straits in execution of your Excellency's orders, I determined to run up to Quedah myself to ascertain the real state of affairs. On mentioning this to Mr. Ibbetson in the course of conversation he asked me to take up some proclamations which he had then ready and distribute them in the neighbourhood of the fort. These proclamations (five in number) were in the Malay language and as I understand calling on the peaceably disposed Malay inhabitants in the neighbourhood of Quedah not to join in the insurrection against the Siamese and if they were disposed to come into the Honorable Company's territories in Province Wellesley they would there find protection.

With the view of ascertaining how matters stood, I went in His Majesty's Sloop to Quedah. On my arrival there I sent a boat with a Lieutenant into the river, attended however by all the ship's boats, manned and armed (in command of the first Lieutenant) in case of a surprise. I directed the second Lieutenant who was to go into the river to make every observation in his power of the state of the place for my information (but not [on] any account to enter the Fort) and to distribute the proclamations to any persons at the landing place if he had an opportunity.

One of the proclamations was directed to Kudin, the Malay Chief, and taken to him by one of his followers, the others given to persons on the beach. The boats met with no obstruction to their purpose and then came off. I found that the Siamese had not come in any force, and at this time those who had left Ligore were not within many miles of the Fort of Quedah, neither had any Siamese flotilla arrived off that river. I clearly perceived from the ship as well as from the reports of the officers that the Fort had been put in a state of defence and every precaution taken to guard the river by a strong chain passed across it, and the armed proas (some with twelve pounders) moored at the entrance for its defence. We also observed a large armed force of Malays on the walls and about the Fort. I likewise gained information from many fishermen I spoke from Quedah to the same purport. Having performed this service I returned to Penang and Mr. Ibbetson having gone to Malacca, I communicated in conversation to Mr. Murchison my observations . . .

I have &ca.

(Signed) W. Hamley
Commander.

To His Excellency
Rear Admiral Sir E. W. C. R. Owen, K. C. B.,
Commanding in Chief
&ca. &ca. &ca.
Penang.

(Public Record
Office.)

Admirals'
Despatches.

Ad. 1/295.

No. 314.

Southampton, Penang.

13 November 1831.

Sir,

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I request that you will please to lay the whole [of the correspondence previously mentioned] before the Right Honorable The Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, who will learn thereby that the Malay expedition which surprised the Fort of Quedah had its organization, equipment, arms and ammunition from this Island.

It has however extensive ramifications and had received a turn tending to interest the whole Peninsula as a war of Mahometanism against idolatry.

The part taken by this Government has for this reason it is feared given a bad impression at this moment to the Malays in general

Involved as the merchants of all these settlements are in the supplies for the Malays the part this Government has found itself compelled to take in support of the violated articles of the treaty of Bangkok, however right in principle and policy, has been unpopular as pressing on their interests.

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I have &ca.

(Signed) E. W. C. R. Owen
Rear Admiral
Commanding in Chief.

To Captain

The Honorable George Elliot
&ca. &ca. &ca.
Admiralty.

(Public Record
Office.)
Admirals'
Despatches.
Ad. 1/207.

(Enclosure to Rear Admiral Owen's letter to the
Admiralty, No. 32, dated 4th February 1832.)

Che Mah Hakin, Jarvic Pakan, residing at Quedah, states that he is employed as clerk by the Siamese Authorities at Quedah. That about 12 days ago he left Quedah by the orders of the Rajah of Ligore to procure a physician. That on his arrival here having got a person to go to Quedah, he left Penang three days ago with thirteen people. That having arrived at Tanjong Jaya he fell in with another prow about 1½ Coyans burden which fired at deponent's boat. That the Siamese in deponent's boat having returned the fire twice jumped out of the boat and escaped to the shore, leaving deponent and his wife and two Malays who were captured by the pirates. That towards the evening deponent was put into a boat and ordered to bring back sixty dollars for the ransom of his companions. That he arrived at Penang last night and is now come forward to give this information. The pirates informed him they would wait at Tanjong Jaya two days for the money.

Sworn before me this 13th day of
January 1832 after having been
duly explained to deponent in the
Malay language.

(Signed) H. Nairne
Justice of the Peace.

Fort William 23 May 1833.

No. 38.

To the Chief Secretary to Government,
Fort William.

Sir,

I have the honor to acquaint you for the information of the Right Honorable the Governor General in Council that I last month visited in person the small settlement that has been lately forming near the southern boundary of these provinces by refugees from the neighbouring Siamese States under the government of the Rajah of Ligor. They consist of upwards of 100 families who have fixed on a site about 15 miles up a small river named Bauhypeen in Latitude 10. 55 N. and were busily engaged in clearing the land around their village for grain cultivation and also in collecting tin ore.

2. As it would be highly desirable to encourage the resort of these people to our territories and their settlement in this distant and for many years uninhabited quarter, I would beg leave most respectfully to suggest to his Lordship in Council that an increase of 50 Rupees a month be allowed to the Mergui Establishment for the purpose of fixing among them a respectable native head man, who would regulate their settlement and be their medium of communication with us. There is every reason to look for an annual increase to their numbers as they assured me the whole population in our neighbourhood would gladly take refuge among us from the vexatious and tyrannical Governor of Ligor.

3. The soil of that part of the country where they have settled appeared admirably calculated for every species of cultivation, and though the hopes which had been formed regarding the quantity of tin

ore to be found have not yet been realized, there is still room to expect ultimate success. An active and intelligent Chinaman, with a small party of his countrymen, has fixed himself at the place and is preparing to work on a large scale during the ensuing rains and a party of Malays are also engaged in the same manner.

I have &ca.

(Signed) G. W. Blundell
Officiating Commissioner in
the Tenasserim Provinces.

Molamyne
The 4th April 1833.

Fort William 23d May 1833.

**Bengal Political
Consultations,
Range, 126,
vol. 67.**

No. 39.

To Commissioner in the Tenasserim
Provinces.

Sir,

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 4th ulto., and in reply to acquaint you that the Right Honorable the Governor General in Council has been pleased to sanction an increase of 50 Rupees per mensem to the Mergui Establishment for the purpose of paying an individual for superintending the settlement of Siamese refugees who have recently located themselves near the southern boundary of the Tenasserim Provinces.

I have &c.

(Signed) W. H. Macnaghten
Sec. to the Government.

Fort William
23 May 1833.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
Range 126,
vol. 70.

Fort William 18th July 1833.

No. 106.

To W. H. Macnaghten Esqre.
Secretary to Government
Secret and Political Department.

Sir,

In addition to the statement I formerly rendered Government, regarding the resources, revenue and commerce of Siam, I now respectfully beg leave to send herewith an account of the names of the different Provinces, Cities, Towns &ca. of that kingdom, together with the population of each, which being with respect to trade the next in extent to China of any native state in Asia, may not be unacceptable. The exports are nearly fifty thousand tons annually, giving employment to 200 vessels of various descriptions and burthens from 50 to 1200 tons each, and still encreasing. The greater part of the goods procurable there are extremely well adapted for the Europe market, the particulars of which are fully described as well as their place of growth in the account I gave in to the Secret Department on my arrival here, which I collected for the use of Government with much care and attention during my residence at Bangkok of years after commercial pursuits, the longest period any British subject ever remained at the place.

I have &ca.

(Signed) D. E. Malloch.

No. 14 South Road
Intally 8th July 1833.

Fort William 18th July 1833.

No. 106a

Names of Provinces, Principalities, Cities, Towns and Villages of Siam, with the Population of each consisting of Siamese, Chinese, Peguers, Cambojeans, Tavoyans, Cochin Chinese, Laos, Malays, Moors and Christians taken from the Public Records by an Officer of the Siamese Government and delivered to Mr. D. E. Malloch at Siam 20th January 1827.

	Siamese	...	...	48,090
	Chinese	...	...	60,700
	Peguers	...	...	15,000
	Laos	...	...	3,500
Bangkok Population.	Cambojeans	...	...	1,000
	Tavoyans	...	...	700
	Cochin Chinese	...	...	500
	Malays	...	...	2,000
	Moors	...	...	1,500
	Christians	...	...	950

KRUNG was formerly the Court of Siam and the City at
Muang Ju.

Siamese	...	...	...	...	15,000
Chinese	...	...	...	...	10,000
Laos	...	...	...	...	500
Combojeans	...	...	...	...	200
Peguers	...	...	...	...	200
Malays	...	...	...	...	300
					<hr/> 26,200 <hr/>

Population.

Names of Provinces Cities Towns and Villages.	Siamese	Chinese	Laos	Cochin Chinese	Cambo- jeans
Muang Ju [In?] ...	60	50	30	...	..
Muang Phrom ...	120	75	75	...	...
Muang Sing ...	90	45	40	...	...
Muang San ...	220	220	230	...	...
Muang Chainat ...	600	700	150	...	...
Muang Manuram ...	90	150	70	...	...
Muang Sakee Krang ...	450	300	70	...	...
Tha Sung Kung Taphao	150	900	..	...	...
Muang Uthai ...	40	75	30	70	...
Muang Sakhon ...	450	700	300	...	...
Muang Phichet ...	300	150	70	...	...
Muang Phipalok ...	1,500	1,200	300	...	...
Muang Phixai ...	1,500	1,500	300	...	...
Muang Trang ...	70	150	700	...	...
Muang Phree ...	70	300	1,500	...	...
Muang Noa ...	40	150	1,000	...	...
Bangpho ...	600	700	150	...	...
Muang Sangkolok ...	2,500	1,200	300	...	...
Muang Sokhathai ...	1,000	300	150	...	...
Muang Capheeng ...	300	300	300	...	...
Muang Raheeng ...	300	300	220	...	...
Muang Meetac ...	150	40	150	...	...
Muang Thra ...	150	300	600	...	...
Muang Lara Bae ...	3,000	1,500	4,500	...	...
Muang Phelxahan ...	150	150	150	...	...
Muang Khorat ...	1,500	900	1,500	...	900
Muang Rang Rory ...	150	150	150	...	300
Muang Khan ...	150	70	300	...	150
Carried forward ...	16,400	12,725	13,485	70	1,350

Population

Names of Provinces Cities Towns and Villages &c.	Siamese.	Chinese.	Laos.	Cochin Chinese.	Cambo- jeans.	Malaya.	Peguana.
Muang Surin	150	70	150	...	200	...	...
Muang Songkha	150	70	200	...	1,500	...	...
Muang Nokhan Vat	150	150	...	...	1,500	...	...
Muang Battabong	150	1,500	...	...	9,000	...	...
Muang Sang	700	450	...	...	...	1,500	...
Muang Koenbea	3,000	750	750	...	1,500	3,000	...
Muang Canbari	300	70	...	...	200	...	...
Muang Sisavat	...	...	...	...	...	...	150
Muang Sayok	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Muang Phitcabari	2,200	300	450	...	...	3,500	...
Muang Hamphan	1,500	450	...	...	...	3,000	...
Muang Chaija	3,000	700	...	...	...	4,500	...
Lakhong	7,500	900	...	...	...	12,000	...
Muang Talang	750	150	...	...	...	1,000	...
Muang Songkhla	5,000	850	...	...	...	5,500	...
Muang Talung	9,000	1,200	...	...	...	10,000	...
Muang Takua Thang	1,500	300	...	...	...	2,000	...
Muang Talibeng	450	...	...	...	...	700	...
Bangplaso	600	500	...	...	...	800	...
Kangpoming	300	150	...	...	...	400	...
Rajong	700	450	...	...	...	1,000	...
Chantaban	8,000	2,000	...	...	...	10,000	...
Thung Jai	700	1,000	...	...	...	800	...
MALAY.							
Muhang Tana	200	...	...	...	...	300	...
Muhang Tepha	800	...	...	...	...	1,200	...
Muang Nongchik	1,000	...	...	...	...	2,000	...
Muang Tain	5,000	350	...	...	...	8,000	...
Muang Jaring	6,000	150	...	...	...	12,000	...
Muang Calantan	2,500	...	...	...	...	5,000	...
	61,300	12,510	1,550	...	12,850	88,400	150

4.

Population.

Names of Provinces Cities Townes &c.	Siamese.	Chinese.	Laos.	Cochin Chinese.	Cambo- jeans.	Malays.	Pegners.
Muang Brang Khana	4,000	650	...	...	...	7,000	...
Muang Mong Sui	600	...	...	...	...	1,800	...
Muang Pein	1,200	...	...	...	...	4,000	...
Muang Ranzee	700	...	...	...	...	2,000	...
Muang Sai	2,500	...	..	...	...	5,000	...
Muang Sam	2,400	...	...	...	...	...	...
Muang Pak	1,200	...	...	...	...	...	...
Muang Savannphan	750	...	...	...	...	...	...
Muang Siket	1,750	...	...	...	...	...	...
Muang Roiet	3,700	...	...	...	...	...	...
Muang Vieng Chan	150,000	2,000	...	...	...	...	...
Muang Pasuk	7,500	450	...	...	...	...	...
Muang Luang Phabang	14,500	450	...	...	...	...	...
Muang Chieng Mai	75,000	900	...	...	...	...	...
Muang Lamphung	37,000	900	...	...	...	...	...
Muang Chieng Seen	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Muang Chieng Rai	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Muang Ule Khan Khong	700	...	...	...	...	...	...
Muang Khanajuk	300	500	...	...	...	...	...
Bangkhang	400	500	...	...	...	...	...
Muang Pachim	150	300	...	...	...	...	...
Pævamthathin	150	300	...	...	...	...	...
Lakhow Haisi	150	1,500	...	...	...	...	...
Muang Saphan	450	750	...	...	...	...	...
	305,100	9,200	...	...	...	19,800	...

	Siamese.	Chinese.	Laos.	Cochin Chinese.	Cambo- jeans.	Malays.	Peguers.
From Page 4	805,100	9,200				19,800	
do. do. 2	16,400	12,725	18,485	70	1,350		
do. do. 3	61,300	12,510	15,500*		12,350	88,400	150
do. do. 1	48,090	60,700	35,000	500	1,000	200*	15,000
(* sic. incorrect.)	430,890	95,135	18,535*	570	14,700	100,200*	15,150

Total 675,180 (Average) 2 Women to every Man.

From Page 1 Moors 1,500

do. do. 1 Christians 950

Grand Total Men 677,630 Besides Women and Children.

(Signed) D. E. Malloch.

[Note.—The writing of this document is very indistinct, and in many cases it is impossible to distinguish between a and u, h and k, etc. Consequently only obvious alterations have been made].

Fort William 19th September 1833.

No. 49.

From the Rajah of Ligore.

A letter expressing kindness, sincerity and purity of heart, which will remain as long as the sun and moon and other heavenly bodies continue to revolve, from me Chou paya Sitam sookrat Tiboodi Apy Piri Boora Kroompahoo, the Governor of Likorisi-tamrat. May the Lord of all worlds cause this to arrive in the presence of my friend the Right Honorable Lord Bentinck Governor General of British India, who is high and great among the English, wise, prudent and renowned in all countries both far and near.

In the first place, I wish to give information to my friend, that Tunkudin and Tunku lung patih, descendants of the Ex King of Quedah, raised a rebellion in the country of Quedah. I engaged in a war with Tunkudin, and when I had taken Quedah, I returned home. Tunkudin died in battle. The Honorable Robert Ibbetson Resident in Singapore Pulu Penang and Malacca and Captain James Lowe accompanied me to the country of Quedah. Now the King of Singapore, Pulu Penang and Malacca (i. e. Mr. Ibbetson) requested me to ascertain the boundaries of the respective territories of Pulu Penang and Siam. I therefore settled the boundaries of these two countries with much pleasure. According to the documents of the Company their territory formerly extended from the sea shore to sixty roolongs* inland. I have now given more than formerly, according to the wish of the King of Singapore, Pulu Penang and Malacca and Captain James Lowe. I have prepared a document for the signature of the

* A roolong is said to be about twenty fathoms. This term belongs to a Siamese cycle.

Honorable English Company, which the King of Singapore, Pulu Penang and Malacca signed. I also added my signature as a token of good understanding and friendship on both sides.

I formerly took the liberty to send a kind letter to my friend, with a salva and a box, and a gilt mootam, the manufacture of Siam, which I committed to the care of the King of Singapore, to be conveyed to my friend in the country of Bengal in the month Jamadulawal, in the year of the palandah. Concerning this letter and the presents which accompanied it I have received no information. Subsequently I sent some of my people with presents, the manufacture of Siam, to Mr. Maingy at Moulmain, hoping that, by his means, they would be forwarded to my friend in Bengal. While my people were at Moulmain, they received information concerning the attack made on Quedah by Kudin. This intelligence disconcerted them, and not knowing whether they might, under these circumstances proceed to Bengal or not, they informed Mr. Maingy that they would return to me with the presents. This was the reason of their not proceeding to Bengal.

At the present time I send Nymeh with others of my people who will embark at Pulu Penang and convey to my friend, as a token of respect the following presents namely :—

- Seven Siamese historical pictures
- One vessel for containing cold water
- One large tea pot
- One large bowl
- One small Do.
- One Stand for a Do.
- One vessel for rinsing the mouth
- Two small gilt bowls
- One Do. Do. box
- One Dish or stand for the Do.
- Four snuff boxes

Two pieces of cloth of gold thread, the manufacture
of Siam

Six pieces of flowered silk

Two pieces of the colour of the tonjoong purit

Eight pieces of the colour of the lunga seed

Six rolls of silk

These are a few articles which will show my friendly intentions, and at the same time serve as a specimen of the manufactures of Siam.

The Siamese are not accustomed to go to Bengal, but when they shall have once been I shall be able to show my respect by sending them again, for I earnestly desire to be on friendly terms with the English. I have now to state, that I have settled the boundaries between the Siamese and the English, according to the wishes of the King of Singapore and Captain James Low. As the countries of Pulu Penang and Quedah are near to each other I hope that my friend will consider that they ought to increase in friendship and attachment as long as the earth and sky shall continue. Moreover I should be much pleased to see a steam vessel. I have entrusted the management of my concerns to Nymeh, and I hope my friend will treat him with due respect. I beg that a steam vessel may be sent for me to see it. I should be very much gratified by a constant intercourse with Bengal.

I write this letter Monday the eighth day of the month Tulkaidah in the year 1247.

Fort William 19th September 1833.

No. 50.

To the Rajah of Ligore.

To His Highness Chau Phraja Sri Thamassoo
Kharat Chat Deecho Chai Mahai Soomja
Teebadee Apauga Peeree Bora Krommapaho
Chau Phraja Ligor Si Tamrat.

My honored and valued friend,

I have been highly gratified by the receipt of a letter from my friend which was delivered to me by Nymeh, who also presented to me sundry articles specimens of the manufacture of your country, as tokens of your friendship and regard for me. I accordingly receive them as such and as our friendship is reciprocal, I have transmitted a few articles in return by Nymeh who has taken charge of them and will on his arrival present them to you in my name. I hope you will make me happy by accepting them as tokens of my favor towards a person who is so attached to the British Government as yourself.

I take this opportunity to apprise you that Mr. Ibbetson forwarded your former letter and presents to me, which were duly acknowledged.

It will always afford me sincere pleasure to comply with your request that a steam vessel be sent to Ligore, but at present it is out of my power as the distance is great, and no vessel is immediately available for the performance of so long a voyage. I shall not however lose sight of your wish on this subject and if a model, such as you wish to see, should be procurable in Calcutta, I shall have much pleasure in sending it for your inspection. In the mean time I send you a picture of one. Believe me to be always desirous of receiving intelligence of your Highness's health and welfare.

In conclusion &c.

Fort William
19 September 1833.

Fort William 31 October 1833.

Secret Department.

To

The Officiating Chief Secretary to Government
Fort William.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter transmitting one from the Ex King of Quedah for the purpose of being translated and reported upon and directing me to intimate to the writer of it that no document of that description will be attended to by the Supreme Government unless they are forwarded through the regular channel.

* * * * *

In reporting upon the Ex King's letter it will be proper to explain that prior to my receipt of it I had received from Mr. Garling the following communication dated the 10 ulto.

“ His Highness the Ex King of Quedah addressed me requesting permission to proceed to Penang for the purpose of bringing away his relations and promising not to land. Viewing this as the suggestion of his advisers and as a measure pregnant with future embarrassment I declined acceding to his wishes, and intimated to him my expectation that he would not take any steps which might involve me in an unpleasant duty. I informed the Ex King that as I had your general views I did not think that I ought to send the reference to you.”

2. “ The Ex King having again addressed me and enclosed copies of two documents, I have apprized him that translations of this address and its enclosure should be forwarded to you.”

3. "Permit me to request your direct instructions "and should you not comply with the Ex King's "wishes I beg to be informed if I am at liberty to "secure the person of the Ex King should he attempt "to remove or quit Malacca."

To this communication I replied from Singapore on the 23rd. "You will intimate verbally to the Ex "King of Quedah that before he can be permitted "to quit Malacca it will be necessary that he state the "precise country to which he wishes to proceed when "the propriety of granting his request will be taken "into consideration. It is an idle waste of words and "time again to enter upon this oft repeated subject. "The Ex King has constantly told me that he "could not trust himself elsewhere than under "the protection of the British Government and it "is therefore idle and worse than useless on his part "to forward indefinite promises or wishes on the "subject."

A second letter from Mr. Garling dated the 9th instant forwarded further letters from the Ex King.

To these I deferred replying until my arrival at Malacca when I took that opportunity of noticing two questions at once, vizt., his desire to proceed to Salangore or Perak as submitted to you and his wish to proceed to Delli directed to myself.

I have not considered it worth while to transmit the enclosures alluded to in Mr. Garling's letter of the 10th because that letter contained a mere general request for leave to proceed anywhere he pleased, his right to do which he attempted to support by a kind of promise he endeavoured to show was contained in some garbled extracts from my former letters.

In reporting therefore upon his letter to your address the only question which appears to arise is the comparative expediency of granting one or other

of his requests. By residing at Perak or Salangore he would be able to annoy the Siamese as much as if he were resident at Prince of Wales Island, for both of those countries being hostile to Siam, would willingly join in any attempts on Quedah aided by his money and further supported by the prospect of plunder, opportunities for which are never wanting in disturbances of that kind. Not ostensibly appearing in such transactions, the Ex King also would elude the proof necessary to convict him and thus be ready in the event of failure again to seek the protection of our Government.

I do not consider there are equal objections to his residence at Delhi. The people of Sumatra are totally beyond the reach of Siamese control and would not be influenced by similar feelings to co-operate in expeditions against Quedah. Money of course would tempt the needy, but that expended all other means would fail.

For these reasons I am decidedly of opinion that his residence on Sumatra would be less inconvenient even than his present residence at Malacca, where he is under the control of evil disposed European advisers, who are constantly urging him and his dependents to commit acts as repugnant to his own interest as they are unbecoming towards our Government.

* * * * *

I have &ca.

(Signed) R. Ibbetson
Govr. P. W. Island,
Singapore and Malacca.

Malacca
26 August 1833.

Fort William 31st October 1833.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
Range 126,
vol. 75.

No. 26.

To the Ex King of Quedah

Written 31 October 1833.

My esteemed Friend,

After Compliments,

I have had the pleasure to receive my friend's letter written on the 14 Mohurram 1249. I much rejoice to find that my friend's son Abdoollah arrived in safety in Malacca.

It was proper in him to report to our friend the kind condescension with which he was treated by the Governor General during his stay at Calcutta.

I regret to find that our friend does not enjoy good health. I represented to the Governor General our friend's wish to remove to Perak or Salangore but this has been declared to be inadmissible.

The augmentation of our friend's allowance was granted for his comfort and the Governor General will be happy to find that it has been the means of satisfying our friend and inducing him to refrain from preferring groundless complaints and to pay implicit attention to whatever may be recommended to him by the Governor of Prince of Wales Island.

I remain with much consideration &c.

(Signed) W. H. Macnaghten
Secretary to Government.

Fort William 7th January 1835.

No. 33.

To the Secretary to Government
Political Department, Fort William.

Sir,

At the express desire of the Ex King of Quedah, I enclose for the information and orders of the Right Honorable the Governor General of India in Council copy of a letter to my address from that Chief. The purport of it is clearly set forth in the letter itself, vizt., to be allowed to proceed to Penang for the purpose of conveying to Malacca certain relatives.

Adverting however to the trouble that the authorities experienced formerly before they could remove him to Malacca, I can by no means recommend that the prayer of his letter be granted.

What the direct object of the Ex King's wishing to visit Penang is, I am at present unaware, but I am satisfied seeing he has a son of 30 to 40 years of age who can escort his daughters to Malacca should they be willing to go, that the motive assigned by him is not the true one. If he is permitted to visit this settlement his presence will doubtless be viewed with suspicion by the Siamese, and I have great doubts if he will be prevailed on to return without being compelled by positive force.

The Ex King has now been absent from Penang near four years, and is, I believe, nearly reconciled to Malacca as a place of residence, and if the Government merely desire me to say that his wishes cannot be complied with, I think it will be no more than what he expects.

I have &c.

(Signed) S. G. Bonham
Acting Governor.

Prince of Wales Island
1st December 1834

Fort William 7th January 1835.

India Political
Consultations,
Range 193,
vol. 65.

No. 24.

Translation of a letter from Sultan Ahmed Tajiodien Allim Shah, with the usual compliments, addressed to the Honorable Samuel G. Bonham Esqre., Governor, &c. &c.

We have to state that situated as we are we are very unhappy on account of our children and family being away from us residing at Pulo Penang which place is a great distance from Malacca. Our children, grandchildren and relatives have been several times very ill and in great danger without our being enabled to embrace them. We are also now advanced in age and sickly and are consequently the more impatient to have our relations about us.

To send merely to fetch these our relatives to have with us here is difficult as we have no one we can trust. It is true we have our son Abdullah, but he is yet young and knows nothing of sailing about, and our relatives have refused to trust themselves to him in such a voyage, for they have none of them ever been at sea, nor seen any other sea but that in crossing to Pulo Penang. They have heard there are many dangers between this and Penang, and the chances of being taken by pirates on the way which frightens them greatly. If we were to think of trusting them to others we could not do so properly as it is not the Malay custom for females of respectability to mix with men, even to show their faces is considered a sin, independent of the shame. Therefore it is that we have great hopes of our friends assisting us to go ourselves to bring away our relatives in order that they may reside with us.

We can go and remain at Qualla Kreaan, or at Jurao, where it will be easy for them to join us. We trust our friend will assist us by this permission. In

the Secretary of Bengal's letter he states to us that in any of our wishes we were to address ourselves to the person at the head of the three settlements. Now with the assistance of God, our friend presides over these Settlements and we trust will not prevent our wishes especially as we have already got the Secretary's letter which we can show our friend if he wishes.

If it shall occur to our friend that we are wishing to return to live at Penang, we beg to state that we have no intention of the kind, as we have no farther comforts there, our servants and people having since we left it dispersed and deserted our relatives there when in distress. Even if the Government wishes us to return to Penang we should not wish to do so, so that if our friend wishes to have any kind of written document from us to this effect we are ready to give it.

Further, if our friend should be afraid of our doing anything to disturb the Siamese residing at Quedah, we have to state that we will do nothing of the kind, we have no means of making war. Our friend must be well aware that it requires a great deal of money, and where are we to get it. Even for our present expenses we are dependent on Government for the money, and with the amount we are obliged to support our expenses both here and at Penang.

With all that Government allows us we are not enabled to save any. We are barely able to pay the current expenses of our servants here and of our relatives at Penang. Should we therefore wish to wage war with Siam and had the means of doing so, even in that case, if it was against the wishes of Government, we would never do it.

The Government have made an engagement with the Siamese, and it is with their assistance only that we have been enabled to withdraw our relatives

and friends from their hands. It would therefore be extremely bad in us to forget the kindness of Government.

We therefore wish our friend to accede to our wishes at this present juncture, whilst the north winds are yet not so strong, and we shall be greatly obliged to our friend for his kindness.

Of our property here at Malacca, together with our servants, we shall leave all as they are, excepting such as are necessary to carry with us.

We beg our friend to give the necessary directions to Mr. Garling or to Mr. Lewis for the care of our property during our absence, and that one or two proas may remain with our people during the night to take care of our house and property.

Written on Sunday, 30th of Jemadil Akhir 1250.

(A true translation)

(Signed) W. T. Lewis
Assistant Resident

7 November 1834.

Fort William 7th January 1835.

No. 35.

To the Acting Governor of
Prince of Wales Island.

Sir,

I am directed by His Excellency the Right Honorable the Governor General of India in Council to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 1st ultimo, submitting translation of one from the Ex King of Quedah requesting permission to proceed to Penang to convey his relatives to Malacca and stating your opinion that the application should not be complied with.

2. In reply I am desired to acquaint you that for the reasons assigned in your letter the Governor General in Council entirely concurs in the opinion you have expressed as to the inexpediency of complying with the request perferred by the Ex King on this occasion.

I have &c.

(Signed) W. H. Macnaghten
Secretary to Government in India.

Fort William
7th January 1835.

Fort William 4 July 1836. (sic)

(No. 78 contd.) To the Resident Councillor

Malacca.

Sir,

I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated 6 June regarding the movements of the Ex King of Quedah.

2. Concurring as I fully do in the sentiments so amply expressed by Mr. Ibbetson in his correspondence with the Supreme Government I feel disposed to allow the Ex King to proceed to either Battabarrah or Delhie under the following conditions, which you will be so good as to explain both verbally and in writing so as to preclude all misconception.

The Ex King is to make his own arrangements for passage and is to proceed with his followers direct either to Battabarah or Delhie, apprising you which of the two places he prefers, where he is to domicile himself peaceably, abstaining from all political intrigue, and on no pretence whatever seeking to visit Penang or any of the Malayan States on the Peninsula under the penalty of forfeiting the friendship of the English Government and the stipendiary provision he now enjoys.

4. In making this communication you will of course treat the Ex King courteously. At the same time, whilst impressing upon him a proper sense of this mark of favor on the part of the Supreme Government you will make him understand that I very much disapprove of the attitude of opposition to Government which he appears to have been assuming.

I have &ca.

(Signed) K. Murchison
Governor.

Singapore
23 June 1835.

Fort William 3d August 1835.

No. 17.

Political Department

To the Secretary to Government
Fort William.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated 31st October 1833, intimating with reference to Mr. Ibbetson's dispatch as per margin that the Honorable the Governor General of India in Council felt disposed to allow the Ex King of Quedah to quit Malacca and domicile himself at Delhi on the coast of Sumatra.

*Dated 26th
August 1833.
(Copied from
Beng. Pol. Cons.
Range 126,
vol. 75.)*

2. As I concur entirely in the sentiments conveyed to the Supreme Government by Mr. Ibbetson in the 9th and 10th paragraphs of the letter above adverted to I have given authority to the Resident Councillor at Malacca to carry into effect the arrangement which the Honorable the Governor General of India in Council has been pleased to sanction, intimating to the Ex King that he is to proceed direct either to Battabarra or Delhi to domicile himself quietly at one or other of these places, to abstain from political intrigue and on no pretence to visit Penang or any of the native states on the Malayan Peninsula under the penalty of forfeiting the protection of the British Government and the stipendiary provision he now enjoys.

3. As I conceive it to be very desirable that his own request to quit the British Settlements in the Straits should be complied with, I have thought it best to pass over lightly, though not without animadversion, the vexatious opposition to Government which the Ex King has from time to time evinced.

4. Lately in the early part of June he addressed the Resident Councillor at Malacca intimating his intention to quit the settlement on the 14th of that month. I did not receive Mr. Garling's letter in time to give him instructions how to act in such an event, but I intimated that I would not sanction the employment of forcible means to arrest the Ex King's person, as I conceive that such a proceeding is no longer justifiable on the political grounds which might have warranted the step at an earlier period, and that if the Ex King should be weak enough to act in direct opposition to the orders of the Supreme Government he should be sufficiently punished by the stoppage of his stipendiary provision, but I do not apprehend the probability of his carrying this threat into execution and under this supposition I have thought it best after reprimanding him to allow the indulgence of the Supreme Government as to his place of residence to be carried into effect. Should he however have done so I shall withhold his stipend until I can report upon the case and obtain the orders of the Supreme Government upon it.

5. In the mean time, I take for granted that if the Ex King conducts himself with propriety in availing himself of the permission of the Honorable the Governor General of India in Council to reside at Delhie in preference to Malacca, it is not intended that any reduction should be made in the stipendiary allowance he now enjoys.

I have &c.

(Signed) K. Murchison
Governor

Prince of Wales Island
the 3d July 1835.

Bengal Political
Consultations,
Range 126,
vol. 82.

Fort William the 7th April 1836.

No. 6.

Political Department.

To

W. H. Macnaghten Esqr.
Secretary to Government
Fort William.

Sir,

I do myself the honor to report for the information of the Honble. the Governor of Bengal that in accordance with the sanction of the Supreme Government the Ex King of Quedah has proceeded to the native state of Delhi on the coast of Sumatra and that in order to enable him to meet the expenses incidental to the arrangement I have authorized the Resident Councillor at Malacca to make to the Ex Rajah an advance of 2 months stipend which I trust will be considered as a reasonable indulgence and one that involves little or no risk.

I have &ca.

(Signed) K. Murchison
Governor.

Prince of Wales Island
24th February 1836

Fort William 4 July 1836.

No. 78. To the Secretary to Government
General Department—Fort William.

Sir,

I regret to have occasion to report for the information of the Honorable the Governor of Bengal that there is some ground for apprehending that another attempt is in preparation against the Siamese at Quedah by the Ex Rajah, in combination with the piratically disposed Chiefs of some of the neighbouring Malay States.

2. The grounds for suspicion are as follow. The Ex-Rajah quitted Malacca under the sanction of the Supreme Government with the ostensible view of locating himself either at Batabarrah or Delhie on the coast of Sumatra, and on the express understanding that he was not to touch at Penang or any of the Malayan States of the Peninsula; he has nevertheless proceeded to a place named Bruas in the Perak territory on a mere pretext, and I have reports both from Malacca and from the Assistant Resident at Province Wellesley that he is engaging in an extensive intrigue to recover possession of Quedah. These reports are vague and in many points inconsistent, and reaching me when they do, when the vessel by which this letter is despatched is on the very point of sailing, I should not have troubled the Supreme Government with the communication of intelligence which may prove to be exaggerated, if not altogether erroneous, if I did not consider it advisable both to guard against the contingencies which may arise out of this matter and, with reference to the unquestionable increase of piracies, to suggest the propriety of requesting his Excellency the Naval Commander in Chief to send another sloop of war to the Straits

pending the preparation of more efficient local means of defence.

3. I shall report more fully in a subsequent letter. All that I can now state is, that bearing in mind the views of the Supreme Government communicated to my predecessor on the occasion of the former attack upon the Siamese at Quedah, I shall abstain from any direct measures of hostile interference, but that I shall employ every means short of that to neutralize the buccaneering purposes of the Ex Rajah, to whom as well as to the Malayan Rajahs, I have strongly expressed the extreme dissatisfaction with which the British Government would view any such attempt. His Majesty's Ship Wolf and the Honorable Company's Schooner Zephyr are both at Singapore, engaged against the pirates in that quarter. On the return of the latter, which I look for daily, I shall be enabled to adopt more decided measures of precaution by stationing her at Perak to prevent the egress of the Ex King with a piratical flotilla which, with the additional precaution of sending a military force to Province Wellesley to check the passage of the insurgent forces through our territory and the prepared state of the Siamese at Quedah to repel any attack, give me every hope that the main object of the marauders would be effectually frustrated although the mere attempt would unquestionably foster piracy and disorder in this part of the Straits.

I have &c.

(Signed) K. Murchison
Governor.

Prince of Wales Island
17 April 1836.

Fort William 4 July 1836.

India Political
Consultations,
Range 194,
vol. 14.

No. 78 contd. To the Secretary to Government
General Department
Fort William.

Sir,

I have the honor to transmit duplicate of my
 • See ante No. 78. letter dated 17 instant * and hastily avail myself of a
 passing opportunity of making a further report for the
 information of the Honble. the Governor of Bengal
 altho' I am still unable to afford precise information
 regarding the object with which the Malayan flotilla
 has been collected on the coast of Perak.

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7. That the Ex King is intriguing with Perak and other states is evident, and there can be no doubt as to the intention to attack Quedah. Captain Low has arrested several of the Ex King's emissaries, who were endeavouring to gain over the Malays of Province Wellesley to join in the attempt. The Ex King is besides on the Perak territory against the wish of the British Government and is obviously supported by a large flotilla collected by the Rajah Mooda and other Malayan Chiefs. There is then every ground to believe that he is in a position which would justify the English, with reference to the 13th article of the Treaty with Siam, to interpose. The Article stipulating that he shall not reside on the Peninsula is conditional and the Siamese at Quedah have only to exact the trifling condition, but the more important Article binding the English "not to permit the Ex King or any of his followers to attack, disturb or in any manner injure the territory of Quedah" is likely to be infringed, and it is to me an important consideration

whether the Perak state has not, by co-operating with the Ex King against Quedah, placed herself beyond the pale of the neutral provisions of the Treaty with Siam, which guarantee that neither Siam nor the English shall attack her, and I am under a strong persuasion that I should be justified in removing the Ex King from Bruas forcibly and putting him under restraint until the Honble. the Governor of Bengal might decide upon his future destination. A measure of this description would also tend more effectually than any thing else to break the league and check the efforts of his adherents. At present, however, I am not in a position to ensure the success of the attempt and failure would be extremely pernicious. I must be guided by circumstances but I am strongly of opinion that such a step would be the best policy. I have not forgotten the views laid down by the late Governor General of India on the occasion of the former attack on Quedah. His Lordship was of opinion that under the peculiar circumstances attending it, the Governor, Mr. Ibbetson, was justified in sending the Ex King to Malacca and in giving a degree of co-operation to the Siamese which would not otherwise be warranted. On this occasion the circumstances are entirely different, but perhaps nearly equivalent in their effects upon the feelings of the Siamese Government. There has been no preparation of insurgent force within our own territory; on the contrary the Ex King's emissaries have been arrested. The Siamese have had timely information. The Ex-King and his adherents have been warned and his attempt against Quedah has been denounced by Proclamation. Nevertheless he has left Malacca by permission of the British Government and has gone to Bruas, from whence if we do not remove him, the Siamese may with some ground infer our connivance. I have just received letters from the Governor of Quedah requesting me either to remove the Ex-King or to allow him (the Governor of Quedah) to do so, and it

is not easy to give a substantial reason for not doing one or other if the Ex-King is decidedly plotting against the Siamese. In the present juncture I have confined myself to the assurance that I shall adopt all possible measures to induce the Ex-King to quit Bruas. I must anticipate a remark on the part of the Governor of Bengal by explaining that when the Ex-King left Malacca there was not the slightest indication of this movement, it was of course a matter of policy to conceal it that he might leave Malacca with the sanction of the English Government and that he might draw as much cash from us as possible. It is fortunate that I refused him more than two months' stipend.

8. It may be important to favor me as soon as possible with directions how to act; whether it be considered sufficient to deprive the Ex-King of all future countenance and support (of course this is his position at present) or whether I am to employ force to ensure the fulfilment of the Treaty with Siam. If that Article be construed largely its observance can be ensured by no other means than by putting the Ex-King and all his family under a military guard.

* * * * *

I have &ca.

(Signed) K. Murchison
Governor.

Prince of W. Island
28 April 1836.

(Public Record
Office.)
Admirals'
Despatches.
Ad. 1217.

(Enclosure in Vice Admiral Bladen Capel's letter to the Admiralty, No. 29, 8 July 1837.)

To the Secretary to Government
Fort William.

Sir,

* * * I have now the honor to submit for the information of the Right Honorable the Governor of Bengal, though in a brief and hurried manner, a further report upon the state of affairs at this settlement in connexion with the position of the Ex King at Bruas on the coast of Perak.

2. It is unquestionable that he meditates another attack on Quedah though it is probable that the measures I have taken may retard the attempt and possibly prevent it altogether. But such being the declared purpose of the Ex King, and his presence on the coast of Perak and the intrigues he is carrying on having the most decided tendency to excite disturbance on Province Wellesley and piracy generally, and requiring precautionary measures on our side which involve no small expense, I urgently solicit of the Right Honorable the Governor of Bengal as to the measures which are to be applied to the Ex King personally.

3. His position at Bruas is on several accounts so obnoxious that I should feel strongly inclined to remove him by force, but I am now aware that the attempt to seize him would be attended with bloodshed and a chance of failure, and I confess that I am not disposed to take such a responsibility on myself. The case presents a choice of difficulties—if the Ex King remains where he is, or elsewhere on the Peninsula, a pernicious and extensive excitement will be fostered, and jealousy on the part of the Siamese will be engendered, leading to collision on our frontiers. If, on the other hand, he be removed forcibly, it is now evident

that he and all his family must be kept under perpetual surveillance to ensure the strict observance of the treaty with Siam, and the alliance between the Ex King and the English, which his own infatuation has now broken, will have to be removed to the extent at least of maintaining him and watching him perpetually.

4. If the old man could be induced to move over to Delhi there can be no doubt that such would be the best alternative, but I consider this to be now hopeless. For the present I must content myself with the measures already reported, which have apparently had the effect of separating the state of Perak from the Ex King's cause and have greatly tranquillized the settlement.

• • • • •

I have &ca.

(Signed) K. Murchison
Governor &ca. &ca.

Prince of Wales Island
14 May 1836.

India Political
Consultations,
Range 194,
vol. 14.

Fort William 4 July 1836.

No. 78 contd. To K. Murchison Esqre.,
Genl: Dept: Governor of Prince of Wales Island
Singapore and Malacca.

Sir,

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your two letters dated the 17 and 18 April* last conveying your apprehension that another attempt is in preparation against the Siamese in Quedah by the Ex Rajah, in combination with the piratically disposed Chiefs of some of the neighbouring Malay States, and further that an extensive movement was in preparation amongst various Malayan Chiefs both of the Peninsula and of Sumatra, that they had collected in force in the adjoining territory of Perak and that reports had reached Mr. Garling of its being intended by them eventually to attack the three British settlements in the Straits, stating also the measures of precaution and defence adopted by you in consequence at Prince of Wales Island.

* See ante under
this No. (78).

2nd. In reply I am directed to express the hope of His Lordship in Council that the means that will be at your disposal after the arrival of Captain Chads with His Majesty's Ship *Andromache* and of His Majesty's ship *Raleigh* which has also been ordered by the Naval Commander in Chief to reinforce the Naval armament in the Straits will not only have relieved you from all apprehension for any of the British Settlements, which His Lordship in Council cannot believe there can have ever been real ground for entertaining, but will have led to effectual measures being taken for the suppression of the piratical combination to which you allude in connexion with the general plan explained at length in my letter dated the 4 ultimo and its enclosures.

3d. The Right Honorable the Governor General of India in Council doubts not that the designs ascribed to the Rajah of Quedah will by the measures above alluded to be effectually frustrated. Although indeed His Lordship in Council would not wish that Captain Chads with the naval force at his disposal should be long diverted from the execution of the general scheme of measures for the prevention of piracy which has been specifically entrusted to him, still his services will of course be available in case of any movement decidedly hostile on the part of the Ex Chief of Quedah or of the Rajah of Perak or of any other chiefs who may espouse his cause against the Siamese and so likewise for the maintenance of existing relations and treaties.

4. You will receive from the Political Department any further instructions in respect to the Ex Rajah of Quedah that may be called for by his recent proceedings, the correspondence in respect to that Chief having been conducted in that department.

I have &c.

(Signed) H. T. Prinsep
Secretary to Government.

Fort William
The 1st June 1836.

Fort William 1st August 1836.

No. 103.

General Department.

To H. T. Prinsep Esqre.
Secretary to Government
Fort William.

Sir,

I now do myself the honor to report for the information of the Right Honorable the Governor of Bengal, that all indication of a hostile movement upon Quedah by the Ex Rajah supported by confederate Malayan Chiefs has disappeared and there is every ground to believe that tranquillity in this quarter is securely reestablished.

2. The Ex King is still stationed on the coast of Perak, where he has been joined by his family from Penang. He is residing in a small dismantled brig, and being discountenanced by the Rajah of the country, poverty must ere long compel him to make submission to the British Government. In the event of his doing so, I beg to recommend that he be again sent to Malacca and there placed under such a degree of surveillance as will effectually prevent his engaging in political intrigue. He has violated the condition on which his stipend was sanctioned by the Supreme Government, as well as his promise to me prior to quitting Malacca, and it is abundantly proved that the indulgence lately accorded to him of being permitted to enjoy his stipend whilst residing at a Native State must be withdrawn, and the only question is whether he should be placed under restraint at a British Settlement or allowed to be at large on a declared understanding that all connexion between himself and the East India Company is finally dissolved.

3. Of these two courses, I beg respectfully to recommend that the former be adopted, chiefly because it best provides for the due observance of the Treaty with Siam, by which we engage "to prevent the Ex-King from attacking Quedah," partly also, because I conceive that the Right Honorable the Governor of Bengal may be disposed to regard the proceedings of this unfortunate person with some degree of pity, in consideration of his advanced age (he is said to be 70 years old) and making due allowance for the natural desire of a dethroned Prince to regain his country. I advocate this plan only on the supposition that he makes submission, and on the understanding that his future stipend be reduced to a mere maintenance vizt. about Spanish Dollars 200 per mensem, which, considering his large family, will leave him no surplus funds for improper application.

4. I hold depositions taken by Captain Low on arresting the Ex-King's emissaries in Province Wellesley, also letters from the Ex-King in which he does not conceal his desire to regain Quedah, asserting at the same time his claim to the full stipend of 10,000 Dollars per annum in virtue of the original Treaty between his father and the Penang Government as a consideration for ceding Penang to the East India Company. This engagement was declared by the Supreme Government to have become null and void when the Siamese took possession of Quedah, and subsequently he was allowed a similar stipend under certain conditions which he has entirely violated. I refrain from troubling the Right Honorable the Governor with these documents unless called for, as their production is not necessary to establish the fact of his having violated the terms on which the last stipendiary arrangement was sanctioned.

5. To what extent the state of Perak was implicated in the coalition cannot now be exactly determined, because the measures adopted appear to have

deterred the Rajah Moodah from any overt act, which, it may be presumed, he would otherwise have committed, as he had unquestionably collected a flotilla of fifty-two proas, many of which were armed without any other assignable motive, and particularly as it is known that the Ex-Rajah or his emissaries had spread the belief that the British Government had permitted him to go where he liked, and to attempt the recapture of Quedah. Whatever may have been the original object of the state of Perak there can be no doubt that it is decidedly separated from the interest of the Ex-King.

6. So great is the difficulty of obtaining correct information in these countries, from exaggerated reports and the effect of panic, that I cannot even now say with precision whether the measures to which I had recourse were or were not more extensive than the occasion strictly demanded. The total incidental expenses amount to Company's Rupees 5,000, which though large at a first glance will, I trust, be considered moderate when due allowance is made for the effect of a sudden transition from a very reduced peace establishment to one calculated for the defence of a harbour and an extensive and assailable frontier.

7. The absence of the Schooner Zephyr was particularly unfortunate as it left us with no maritime force beyond one little gun boat commanded and manned by natives. In this position I considered it an imperative duty for the preservation of the public peace, the maintenance of the Treaty with Siam, and the prevention of buccaneering war on our very coasts, to adopt such prompt and decisive measures as would distinctly prove (which mere correspondence could not have done) that the British Government was decidedly opposed to any infraction of the Treaty with Siam. I trust that the Right Honorable the Governor of Bengal will be of opinion that this emergency justified my proceedings, and that the expenses

will be sanctioned. I need hardly say that the amount will ere long be absorbed in the forfeiture of the Ex King's pension, even if my proposition to allow him a maintenance be adopted.

8. On the return of Mr. Bonham and Captain Chads from the mission on which they are now employed I shall take occasion to report at large on the condition of the Malayan States. I now confine myself to a remark, which I offer respectfully to the notice of the Right Honorable the Governor, that the system of non-interference which has formed the basis of our intercourse with the Malayan Chiefs for several years, has a good deal contributed to the present piratical and unsettled condition of the Straits.

I have &c.

(Signed) K. Murchison
Governor.

Prince of Wales Island
25th June 1836.

(Public Record
Office.)
Admirals'
Despatches.
Ad. 1/217.

(Enclosure in Vice Admiral Bladen Capel's letter
to the Admiralty, No. 29, 8 July 1837.)

To K. Murchison Esqre.,
Governor of Prince of Wales Island,
Singapore and Malacca.

Sir,

• • • • •

2. If it should be ascertained that the Ex King
is availing himself of his residence at Perak to commit
or encourage aggressions upon the Siamese he should
be instantly removed and by force if necessary.

3. In the event of its being necessary to resort
to force for the purpose the Ex Rajah should be
sent back to Malacca and there detained, under
such arrangements as shall effectually prevent his
being the means of disturbing the public peace in
future • • •

4. But in the first instance, and before resorting
to force, the Ex Rajah should be required to repair
without delay to Batabara or Delhi, on the coast of
Sumatra or to return to Malacca, on pain of forfeiting
his entire stipend, and he should be distinctly ap-
prized that he will no longer receive support from the
British Government in the event of his again incur-
ring its displeasure.

• • • • •

I have &ca.

(Signed) W. H. Macnaghten
Secretary to the Government
of India.

[Fort William
4th July 1836.]

India Political
Consultations,
Range 104,
vol. 16.

Fort William 1st August 1836.

No. 104. To K. Murchison Esqre.
Governor of Prince of Wales Island
Singapore and Malacca.

Sir,

In continuation of my letter to your address under date the 4th ultimo,* I am desired to acquaint you that a copy of your letter dated the 25th June last relative to the proceedings of the Ex Rajah of Quedah has been forwarded for consideration and orders to the Political Department, and to state at the same time that the circumstances detailed in your letter above referred to have not induced His Lordship in Council to alter his views as to the treatment which should be shewn towards the Ex Rajah, and you will accordingly be guided by the instructions with which you have been already furnished as regards that individual.

* Copied from
P. R. O.
Ad. 1/217, No. 29.

I have &c.

(Signed) W. H. Macnaghten
Secretary to the Government of
India.

Fort William
1st August 1836.

India Political
Consultations,
Range 194,
vol. 24.

Fort William 24th October 1836.

No. 11.

To the Secretary to Government
Fort William.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated July 31st * conveying the directions of the Right Honourable the Governor of Bengal for my guidance in regard to the Ex King of Quedah.

* Copied from
P. R. O.
Id. 11217. No. 29

In reply I beg permission to state that after due consideration it appears to me that those discretionary orders are not exactly applicable to the circumstances of the Ex Rajah's present position and that I therefore deem it most prudent to abstain from any decided measures for effecting his removal from Perak without further orders, either in reply to this letter or to my former communication dated 25th June last. *

* Copied from India
Pol. Cons.
Range 194,
vol. 10.

Your letter now under acknowledgment directs me to remove the Ex King by force, if force should be necessary; but the whole arrangement seems to be based on the supposition that he is still engaged in hostile machinations against Siam. This, I beg respectfully to state, is not the case at present. He is and has been for some months perfectly quiet, though it cannot be doubted that on his first arrival at Perak he engaged in such an intrigue, and is probably deterred from renewing it only by want of means and the defection of his allies.

In his various letters to me he urges his demand for payment of the arrears of his full stipend, and expresses his readiness to go to Delhi; but all the information I can collect disposes me to think that he will never voluntarily quit Perak. In fact while he expresses his desire to go to Delhi he invariably stipulates that his slaves now at Penang shall be sent to him, a condition with which he has been repeatedly informed the British Government cannot comply.

I therefore recommend that the local Government be authorized to effect his removal either to Malacca or to Delhi by force, if he will not voluntarily remove from Perak within a given time, without reference to the question whether he is or is not now engaging in hostility against the Siamese Government of Quedah, but I think it right to state that the successful exertions of Captain Chads, and the anti-piratical measures about to be applied by Government are likely to render it a matter of small importance whether the Ex Rajah receives his stipend at a Native or a British Port, that is to say at Delhi, Batabarrah or Malacca.

I have &ca.

(Signed) K. Murchison, Governor
P. W. I., Singapore and
Malacca.

P. W. Island
22d September 1836.

Fort William 24 October 1836.

No. 12.

To the Governor of Prince of Wales Island,
Singapore and Malacca.

Sir,

I am directed by the Right Honorable the Governor General of India in Council to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 22d ultimo* * * *

* See ante No. 11.

2. In reply I am desired to state that His Lordship in Council is very unwilling to sanction a resort to force for the purpose of removing the old Ex Rajah from Perak where it does not appear that he is engaged in hostile machinations against Siam. But His Lordship in Council desires that no part of his stipend be allowed him until after he shall have removed to Malacca or to some place in Sumatra; that he be distinctly apprized of this resolution, and that as he will receive no stipend in arrear, it will be best for him to leave his present abode at the earliest practicable period. By this means he will in all probability be quietly induced to comply with the wishes of our Government.

I have &c.

(Signed) W. H. Macnaghten
Secy. to Govt. of India.

Fort William
24th October 1836.

India and Bengal
Letters Received
vol. 10.

To the Honorable the Court of Directors
of the East India Company.

Honorable Sirs.

• • • • •

Prince of Wales
Island Singapore
and Malacca.

* See letter of 24 Feb.
1836 - Beng. Pol
Comm. vol. 32.

Para 251. By the 55th paragraph of the letter from the Government of Bengal dated the 29th November No. 8 of 1836* Your Honorable Court were apprized of the permission granted to the Ex King of Quedah to quit Malacca and proceed to Delhi on the coast of Sumatra. Although he was allowed to do so on the express understanding that he was not to touch at Penang or any of the Malayan States of the Peninsula, yet it appears that he proceeded to the Perak territory, where his conduct excited apprehensions that in combination with the practically disposed chiefs of some of the neighbouring Malay states, he was meditating another attempt against the Siamese at Quedah, and further that an extensive movement was in preparation among various Malayan chiefs both of the Peninsula and of Sumatra with a view eventually to attack the three British Settlements in the Straits. As regarded this latter design we felt satisfied that no real grounds existed for entertaining any apprehension.

252. Subsequent communications announced that all indication of a hostile movement upon Quedah by the Ex King, supported by confederate Malayan Chiefs, had disappeared and that there was every reason to believe that tranquillity was generally re-established in that quarter.

253. The instructions issued to the Government of Penang on this occasion were to the effect that if it should be ascertained that the Ex King who was still at Perak, was availing himself of his residence at that place to commit or encourage aggressions upon the Siamese, he should be instantly removed and by force if necessary.

254. In the event of its being necessary to resort to force for this purpose we desired that the Ex King should be sent back to Malacca and there detained under such arrangements as should effectually prevent his being the means of disturbing the public peace in future. In that case the expense of maintaining himself and family was on no account to exceed the amount of the stipend formerly enjoyed by him, namely 6000 dollars.

255. Our desire was further signified to the effect that in the first instance and before resorting to force the Ex King should be required to repair without delay to Batabaree or Delhi on the coast of Sumatra, or to return to Malacca on pain of forfeiting his entire stipend, and that he should be distinctly apprized that he would no longer receive support from the British Government in the event of his again incurring its displeasure, and further that in consequence of his having violated his engagement, the Supreme Government no longer considered itself under any obligation to continue to his family after his death the stipend which he now enjoys, but that whether they should receive any and what degree of support must depend upon his and their future behaviour.

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We have &ca.

(Signed) Auckland
&ca. &ca.

Fort William
30th January 1837.

India Political
Consultations,
Range 104,
vol. 30.

Fort William 5th June 1837.

No. 41. To W. H. Macnaghten Esqre.
Secretary to the Government of India
Fort William.

Sir,

• See Admirals'
Despatches.
Ad. 1217.
• See vol. 16 of
this series.
• See vol. 21. Do.

Adverting to your letters of the 4th July,* 1st August* and 24th October* last it becomes my duty to report to you for the information of the Right Honorable the Governor General of India in Council, that I have been necessitated in consequence of the conduct of the Ex Rajah of Quedah to remove him forcibly from Bruas, and that he is now in the harbour on board his own brig the Julia under the guns of His Majesty's Sloop Zebra.

2. By your letter of the 24th October last I became aware of the anxiety of the Supreme Government to abstain if possible from force in the accomplishment of this object, and I trust that the correspondence annexed will satisfy His Lordship in Council that I took every means to induce the Ex King to remove peaceably before I had recourse to it.

3. Before I left Singapore I sent up the Honorable Company's Schooner Zephyr to afford him a passage. She was accompanied by H. M. S. Raleigh, and Captain Quin landed and had an interview with the Ex Rajah. At that time he had committed no overt act showing that he was engaged in hostile machinations against Siam, and I therefore did not then think it necessary, or consistent with the instructions contained in your letters, to countenance or direct his compulsory removal. Captain Quin therefore after using every exertion to induce the Old King to remove from Bruas was compelled to return without him.

4. On my arrival at this station I soon ascertained beyond doubt that the Ex King was doing all in his power to disturb the relations existing between the British and Siamese Governments, and which in fact the Ex King, as will be seen by his letters when remonstrated with, admitted, and that he was clandestinely issuing Proclamations to the Malays and Musulmans of this place and its vicinity calling on them to assist him in the recovery of Quedah.

5 I at the same period received a letter from the Siamese Governor of Quedah stating that a number of armed boats were collecting at the Lancavies at the instigation of the Ex Rajah for this purpose, (which the Ex King had admitted to be the fact) and calling on me to fulfil the stipulations contained in Captain Burney's Treaty of 1826

6. At the Lancavies Island, about 60 miles to the northward of this station, I found everything to be in anarchy and confusion in consequence of the proceedings of these boats, some of which undoubtedly belonged to the place and were under the command of one Che Mat Allie, a person on whom the Ex King has lately conferred some title of honor, and the depositions enclosed will fully prove this fact.

7. I may here remark that on remonstrating with some of the Ex Rajah's relations on the impropriety of that Chief sanctioning these outrages and stating that acts thus committed bordered on piracy, I was answered that Che Mat Allie and his companions, the persons who from the depositions and by the letters from the Siamese Governor (the latter since the capture of the Ex King) it will appear were the perpetrators, were not thieves, but the places from whence the birds' nests were procured formed part of Quedah, that that country belonged to the Ex King and therefore he had a right to collect his revenues thereon.

8. It is hardly necessary to say that I could not sanction such proceedings and I therefore deemed it right to take means for the apprehension of the Ex Rajah himself, being satisfied so long as he remained in this neighbourhood it would continue to be the scene of these disorderly outrages and I therefore addressed a demi-official note to Captain Stauley of H. M. S. Wolf, requesting him if circumstances admitted of it, to repair to this station. Before however an opportunity offered for dispatching it, H. M. Sloop Zebra fortunately arrived, and after communicating fully with Captain McCrea on the subject, that officer undertook to remove the Ex King, and for that purpose left this station for Bruas on the 17 instant.

* * * * *

* 28 April 1837.
See Ad: 1/217.

10. Captain McCrea's letter* explains the necessity of bringing the Ex King to this station. I have given orders to have his brig put in a sea worthy state, when she will be dispatched with him, under convoy of the Zebra to Malacca, which is the cheapest and most convenient arrangement that could be possibly made for his removal to that settlement. And the Resident Councillor has been instructed, pending further instructions, to act strictly up to the orders contained in the 3d paragraph of your letter of the 4th July last.

11. Captain McCrea speaks highly of the endeavours of Syed Abdool and Rahman Ben shahab to prevent bloodshed and to induce the Ex King to accompany him peaceably to Malacca. This person married a sister of the Old King, is an influential person and has been very useful to me since the Ex King has been here, as indeed has Hashim, designated by Captain McCrea as the Secretary.

12. There appears to me no chance of inducing the poor old King to view the condition he is now in.

and to which he has through his own obstinacy and perverseness reduced himself, in its true light at all [or] to reconcile him to the restraint that must now of necessity be imposed on him, and I think it therefore proper to have some one about him who is interested in him but in whom I can place confidence. Syed Abdool Rohman is a person exactly of this description, and in consideration of his services I have presented him in the name of the Governor General with a gift of 200 Rupees and Hashim with 100, which I trust will meet the approbation of His Lordship. And here I would respectfully urge that it would in my opinion be very advisable to pension the former at 50 Rupees per month. This measure I feel assured would much tend to promote concord between the local authorities and the Ex King, and enable me to keep myself informed at a comparative cheap rate of any future intrigues or cabals in which the poor old King will very probably attempt to embark.

13. This dispatch has been penned in great haste, but with reference to circumstances that have transpired at this Settlement during the past year, I am desirous of obviating any misapprehension or anxiety that might arise from the Government being only partially informed of the real state of things.

I have &c.

(Signed) S. G. Bonham
Governor Prince of Wales Island
Singapore and Malacca.

Prince of Wales Island

29th April 1837.

Fort William 5th June 1837.

India Political
Consultations,
Range 104,
vol. 39.

No. 42 (2). To the Ex King of Quedah.

After Compliments.

I have received my friend's letter to which I can only reply stating that I am ordered by the Governor General of Bengal to see that my friend does not molest Quedah. If therefore any of my friend's boats or my friend himself is found proceeding to the north of Bruas for this purpose he and they will be apprehended and brought here. Such are the orders our ships have, because my friend must not proceed to Quedah. Come to me here and I will hear all you have to say. The Captain of the Zephyr will communicate to you all necessary information. The Zephyr is to be sold. If my friend does not now avail himself of her, he cannot hereafter have her.

Dated Singapore 24th February 1837.

This letter was sent to the Ex King at Bruas by Captain Quin of H. M. S. Raleigh, but the old Rajah could not be induced by peaceable means to return to Malacca or Singapore.

(Signed) S. G. B.

Fort William 5th June 1837.

No. 42 (3). To the Ex King of Quedah.

(After Compliments.)

I have received this morning a letter from the Siamese Governor of Quedah stating that the Ex Rajah of Quedah is assembling a fleet of boats to attack Lancavie and subsequently Quedah. I have already told the Ex King that this will not be permitted. If therefore after this warning I find the Ex Rajah's boats molesting Quedah, a vessel of war will be forthwith sent to destroy them, and notice of this my intention has been forwarded to the Siamese Governor of Quedah who has further been informed that the Ex King will not be allowed to enter the Penang territories, and that so long as he resides in the territories of Perak or Salengore he is not under the protection of the English. The Ex Rajah had better proceed to Singapore where I will shortly join him. He can afterwards proceed to Bengal if he thinks fit.

Penang 27th March 1837.

While this letter was in the hands of the writer to be put into the Malay language yours to the address of Mr. Salmond has arrived, which as I am here has been handed over to me by that gentleman. I again tell you until you return to Singapore or Malacca you will have no money. Such are my orders from Bengal. Moreover I again repeat you will not be permitted to molest either Lancavi or Quedah, and our boats and vessels have strict injunctions not to let your boats pass up. Go to Malacca or Singapore and I will meet you and endeavour to arrange about your affairs, and bring with me such of your family as you may wish to join you and the baggage &c. now in possession of Mr. Norman McIntyre.

Fort William 5th June 1837.

India Political
Consultations,
Range 194,
vol. 39.

No. 42 (4).

From the Ex King of Quedah.

After Compliments.

*See ante for 24
Feb. The letter of
28 Feb. does not
appear to exist.

I have received my friend's two letters under date the 24th and 28th* of February 1837, by the hands of Mahomed Akib, their contents I fully understand. It is with the utmost astonishment I learn that my friend wants to prevent me from attacking the Siamese in Quedah, and taking back my country. My friend, as well as the whole world knows that this country descended to me from my ancestors, that the Siamese have treacherously taken it from me, and that it is my determination to take it back from them. My friend also well knows that the Siamese did not take it with the concurrence of the English Company. It is the Siamese themselves who have done me this great injustice. I earnestly entreat that the Company and friends and all the adherents of the Company in Pulo Penang, Singapore and Malacca will not interfere in this matter between me and the Siamese. If it be within my power, I will certainly take back my Country from the Siamese. Moreover I pray that my friend will instruct all captains of cruizers not to molest either my people, or those who wish to assist me in this affair, who bear my passport with my Chop, when they fall in with them. I beg and pray my friend will do this favor for me, because I conceive that neither the King of England nor the Governor General of Bengal can consider it wrong in my taking my own country from the Siamese and not the country of another. If the Company had taken the Country I could say nothing. Let me hear decidedly from my friend his intentions in writing and do not, my friend, be annoyed with me in this matter.

Dated 27th Dalhadjah, Monday 1252 (3d April 1837).

Fort William 5th June 1837.

No. 42 (8).

Translation of a Notification addressed by the Ex
Rajah of Quedah

To

All Mohametaus of whatever degree who are his
Adherents.

This Notification is addressed by me The Sultan
Ahmad Tajooddin Hallim Shah, Rajah of Quedah, to
all my Mohamedan adherents of whatsoever caste and
degree and to all my own people of Quedah. Be it
known to them that I intend immediately to proceed
to Pulo Lancavi and from thence to my country of
Quedah. Whoever are desirous of assisting me wher-
ever they be let them assemble at Pulo Lancavi.

Now as to the guard boats and vessels at sea (The
Company's) let no one be apprehensive, because we
have sent a letter to our friend Governor Bonham,
who is set over Prince of Wales Island, Singapore and
Malacca, and also to our friend Mr. Salmond, who is
the Resident at Pulo Penang requesting that they
should give instructions to all the guard vessels (Iagi-
Iaga) that should they meet any of my followers and
friends south or north, or any of my people who are
proceeding to assist me in my affairs with the Sianese,
that on my pass being produced they shall allow them
to go unmolested, because I cannot be considered by
either the Governor General or the Rajah of Europe
to be acting improperly in this matter. I shall be
held faultless therein because I am only returning to
my own country.

Dated 2st Dalnigur 1252 (27th March 1837).

The paper of which this is a true translation was
given to a person in Province Wellesley and is now
in my possession and bears the Ex King's seal. It
cannot fail to be observed how much he wishes it to
be believed that the British Government sanctions his
proceedings.

(Signed) S. G. Bonham

Fort William 5th June 1837.

No. 42 (7).

Proclamation.

The Honorable Mr. Bonham, Governor of Prince of Wales Island, Singapore and Malacca, proclaims to all classes of persons as follows. At present the British and Siamese are at peace, and agreeably to the Treaty betwixt them are mutually bound to preserve peace and amity. Now it has been reported to the Honorable the Governor that persons are assembled or intend to assemble at Pulo Lancavi and elsewhere to the northward of this Settlement with the object of disturbing these existing relations. Persons so acting must abide the consequences, for men of war and armed men will be sent to destroy any assemblage of boats or bodies of men who shall be assembled for such an evil purpose.

Dated at Prince of Wales Island on this 7th day of April 1837.

(Signed) S. G. B.
Governor.

Fort William 5th June 1837.

No. 42 (a).

Substance of a letter from the Siamese Rajah of Quedah to the Honorable the Governor and to Mr. James Low.

(Compliments.)

The letter sent by the hands of Nye Juikoot I have duly received. It is therein stated that the report of the Ex King of Quedah collecting men to attack my country does not appear certain but that a letter would be dispatched to the Ex King warning him not to meditate any thing of the kind. I have since learnt by the Commander of my gun boat that on the 5th instant he fell in with 20 prahus at Qualla Ta-Boong-ow (about five hours sail from Quedah), partly from Tanjong Tokong (Penang) and partly from Penagah (Province Wellealey) steering for the Lancavi Islands and bound thither by direction of the Ex King. I am of opinion that if the Ex King is permitted to continue remaining at Bruas he will undertake some grand project. I beg my friend will compel the Ex King to go and reside in some place within the meaning of the Treaty. I also beg my friend will arrange matters so as to be conformable to the treaty made by Captain Burney in the capital of Siam.

Written 7th April 1837.

Fort William 5th June 1837.

No. 42 (10).

Substance of another letter from the Siamese Rajah of Quedah to the Honorable the Governor.

Mat Ally had been deputed by the Ex King of Quedah for the purpose of assembling men and boats and taking their station at the Lancavies. On hearing of this I dispatched my gun boats to disperse the party which has accordingly been done. The gun boats are yet cruizing after the Malays. If Mat Ally is not taken there will be no end to the intended invasion, because the Ex King at Bruas is at the head of the affair. On the tenth of Mohurram Tunka Dyeer, Tunka Mahomed Akip, Hadjse Baki, Panglima Poeer and Tahir, with three prahus, entered Marbu River and attempted to persuade the inhabitants to join them in the meditated attack. Their endeavours however were fruitless, and they were obliged to quit Marbu. I trust my friend will take steps to prevent any attack and inform Tunka Dyeer &c that they are acting contrary to Treaty. I should be glad if my friend could give me an order to seize the Ex King at Bruas which will restore peace and tranquillity. It is rumoured here that a ship has been to Bennoa (!) (Capital of Siam) and brought a letter from the Governor General of Bengal stating that the Ex King of Quedah is residing in Bruas contrary to the tenor of the Treaty. I beg my friend will let me know if this is correct, that I may make the same known to the Rajah of Ligore. I trust my friend will cause the removal of the Ex King to Malacca in accordance with Treaty.

Written 22d April 1837.

These two letters received the day the Ex King was brought into this harbour.

(Signed) S. G. B.

Penaug.

Fort William 5th June 1837.

No. 42 (12).

POOTI, a Malay, being duly sworn deposes as follows. I am employed by Ko Leet and Baba Long Tee in one of their prows, collecting birds' nests on the coast of Quedah, and am their agent on that service generally. They have now 22 persons employed there. About 18 days ago I was on board one of them, that commanded and owned by Noquedah Mahomet Seelly, at Pulo Puria, when Tunko Jaffier came there with six prows. He came on board of our prow and said he wanted duty in the name of Yem Tuan (Rajah of Quedah). The Noquedah replied that if the Rajah of Quedah returned to Quedah he would pay him duty, at present he was paying duty to the authorities of Siam. Tunko Jaffier said that if the Noquedah would not pay duty he would take the prow and all on board to the Rajah of Quedah at Bruns. Tunko Jaffier had remained on board of the said prow ten days when the Noquedah advised me to take the boat (sampan kee-chee) and go and speak to Baba Long Tee at Puria. I arrived there in two days and saw Long Tee who desired me to come to Penang and make report to the police. When I left Mahomed Seelly's prow she had on board one and a half pecul of white birds' nests and three peculs of black birds' nests, and Tunko Jaffier had taken charge and command of all.

Sworn before me at George Town, Prince of Wales Island, the 27th April 1837.

(Signed) Wm. Ballhetchet
Justice of the Peace.

X

Mark of Pooti.

Fort William 5th June 1837.

No. 42 (15).

KOON RAT BANGSA, Malay man, being sworn deposes as follows. I am a Noquedah and left Trang about one month and a half since in a five Coyan boat, bound to Penang, with a crew of nine men. When in the mouth of the Purlis River five boats appeared. Wan Kay and Wan Chee were the leaders. The latter showed me a paper with a large chop affixed to it and said it was the chop of the Ex King of Quedah (Yam Tuan) and who was about to enter Quedah. Immediately afterwards Wan Chee and about twenty Malays entered my boat. Wan Chee gave orders to seize the whole of us, our hands were fastened behind our backs and the boat plundered of all its arms. * * * We were taken to the Lancavies. Several other boats were then at the Lancavies. * * * On hearing of the approach of the Siamese, the fleet sailed for Bruas, remained one day at Pulo Adang, where a storm coming on Wan Kay's boat, in which I was, separated from the others and the next day, now eight days ago, we arrived at Teluek Bahang, north point of this island, from whence I made my escape. Yesterday I applied for and obtained a warrant to apprehend Wan Kay, but before the warrant could be put in execution Wan Kay departed the Island. I estimate my loss at 500 dollars or upwards.

Sworn before me at George Town, Prince of Wales Island, the 29th April 1837.

(Signed) Wm. Balhetchet
Justice of the Peace.

Mark of
O
Koon Rat Bangsa.

(Public Record
Office.)
Admiral's
Despatches.
Ad. 1/217.

(Enclosure in Vice Admiral Bladen Capel's letter to the Admiralty, No. 29, 8 July 1837.)

His Majesty's Sloop Zebra,
Penang, 25th April 1837.

Sir.

In pursuance of a request from the Honorable S. G. Bonham that I should co-operate with him in removing the Ex King of Quedah from his abode at Bruas, as well as dispersing a fleet of boats that were collecting to assist him in his meditated attack on Quedah, I have the honor to acquaint your Excellency that this sloop [sailed] from Penang the 17th instant, anchored the 18th off Bruas River in five fathoms water, and eight miles from its mouth.

The 19th, at eleven A. M., the pinnace, two cutters, gig and gun boat in proceeding, manned and armed, to the river, were, on the flats, overtaken by a squall, which lasted two hours and rendered their situation extremely critical.

Two war proas were at anchor and driving; one of these, carrying three guns and sixty men, for a time gave shelter to some of the boats. At 1 P. M. the weather cleared up, and finding that these proas and likewise two others were in the service of the Ex King and making for the river, dispersed them.

Leaving the gun boat to guard the entrance, went up to Bruas and found the Ex King guarded by a stockade and some hundreds of Malays, armed with spears, kreeses and guns of all kinds.

Desirous of drawing him from this position by persuasion I gradually opened the purpose of our visit, and in pointing out the imprudence of his meditated attack on Quedah, urged him to consider the security of his income, the welfare of his children, the fatal consequences that might attend his removal by force, and concluded with a supplication that he would spare me

this painful duty, and quietly retire to Malacca or any of the places stipulated in the Treaty. To this he replied—"I have made up my mind to go to Quedah, moreover it is against the dignity of a King to be moved in such a manner. Dead you may take me, but never alive." He however added, "consideration should be given to what you have said and you shall have my answer in the morning." We returned to the gun boat (four miles below the town) for the night, and finding that another war proa, commanded by one of the Ex King's sons, had been stopped during our absence, we disarmed and turned her out of the river.

The morning (the 20th) only brought a request for further deliberation and leaving orders with Lieutenant Lefebvre to follow with the gun and other boats when they floated, I accompanied by Mr. Stewart, in the gig, paid a second visit to the Ex King. This visit was as unsuccessful as the first and on retiring he seemed to smile at the force we had brought to carry him away.

Half way down the river the boats were met advancing, and being followed by the Ex King's Chief, in the hope that the effusion of blood might still be spared, I sent him back to say that a blank cartridge would be fired on our opening the town. This blank cartridge was returned by a shot from the Ex King's brig, a general discharge from the stockade and a line of between three and four hundred Malays extended on its front. The firing then became general and at the expiration of one half hour, the brig, stockade and all visible points were completely silenced by the severity of our fire, and particularly from the pinnacle's gun under Lieutenant Lefebvre. The cutters under Lieutenant Gaitskell and Mr. De Lisle were not less gallantly led and it would be impossible to witness a finer spirit than that which was displayed by the officers and their respective crews.

A flag of truce was hoisted at the stockade and the Chief, Syed Abdorrahman bin Shabab, came to declare the Ex King's readiness "to go wherever we might choose to take him." The next day, at high water, he, amidst the repeated cheers and exertions of the crews, was brought down in his brig to the mouth of the river and on the 22d warped over the flats and anchored alongside of the Zebra.

That part of the river which fronts the stockade is not more than forty feet wide, and in the jungle on its sides large bodies of Malays were opposed to the boats, but notwithstanding the strength of the position I am happy to say that our loss has fallen far short of what might have been expected, having had one killed, one mortally wounded, two severely and one slightly. I had no means of ascertaining the loss of the Malays, but from the number that were seen on the ground, I fear the slaughter must have been great.

The condition of the Ex King's brig, her want of provisions, having sixty people on board, the sick and the wounded, made it necessary that we, at this season, should return to Penang before proceeding to Malacca, where I have been requested to take him on my way to Singapore.

• • • • •

I have &ca.

(Signed) Rt. C. McCrea
Commander.

His Excellency
Vice Admiral The Honorable
Sir T. Bladen Capel, K. C. B.
Commander in Chief
&ca. &ca. &ca.

Fort William 5th June 1837.

India Political
Consultations,
Range 194,
vol. 39,

No. 44. To the Governor Prince of Wales Island,
Singapore and Malacca.

Sir,

I am desired by the Right Honorable the Governor General of India in Council to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 29th April last forwarding copy of a correspondence connected with the removal of the Ex King of Quedah from Bruas.

2. In reply I am directed to observe that the Governor General in Council has learnt with much regret that the Ex King was so ill advised as to decline obedience to your requisition for his departure from the coast of Quedah, but His Lordship in Council is sensible at the same time of the absolute necessity of the measure to which you had recourse with a view to the preservation of the public tranquillity and our pledged faith with the Siamese Government.

3. His Lordship in Council has every reason to be satisfied with the manner in which you have acquitted yourself of the difficult and delicate duty confided to you. A copy of the 9th paragraph of your letter together with a copy of the communication addressed to you by Captain McCrea will be forwarded for the consideration of the Naval Commander in Chief, and His Lordship in Council has no doubt His Excellency will duly appreciate the meritorious services of that officer. A copy of the letter addressed to His Excellency on this occasion is sent herewith for your inspection.

4. The Governor General in Council sanctions your having presented Syud Abdul Ruhman with a gift of 200 Rs. and Hashim with a gift of 100 Rs., and

he approves the measures which you proposed to adopt relative to the custody of the Ex King and his removal to Malacca.

I have &c.

(Signed) W. H. Macnaghten
Secretary to the Government of
India.

Fort William
5 June 1837.

Fort William 1st November 1837.

India Political
Consultations,
Range 194,
vol. 54.

No. 19.

To the Right Honble.

Lord George Auckland, G. C. B.,

Governor General of India in Council.

(enclosed in a
letter of 18 Sept.
1837).

The Petition of the British and other
Merchants and Inhabitants of Prince of
Wales Island.

Humbly Showeth

That your Petitioners confiding in your Lordship's known sense of justice, and viewing with deep concern the unfortunate condition of His Highness Sultan Ahmud Tanjud din Haliin Shah, Ex King of Quedah, and of the inhabitants of that country, respectfully beg leave to bring to notice circumstances connected therewith which in their opinion merit serious consideration.

2. That His Highness and his predecessors had long been faithful allies of the East India Company and never given any cause of offence, had greatly encouraged a considerable trade with this Settlement, and on occasions of very pressing emergency, as of the Java expedition of 1811, by abundantly supplying His Majesty's ships and those of the East India Company with provisions on moderate terms, had rendered the most important services to the British Government.

3. That this Island and its dependency, Province Wellesley, were originally granted to the East India Company by His Majesty's father, when a Treaty was made by which he considered that he and his successors could always rely upon the assistance of the British Government; When therefore His Highness's country was invaded by the Siamese in the year 1821 and by an act of base perfidy on their part he

was compelled to seek an asylum in a foreign state, the local authorities of this Island, generously sympathising in His Highness's misfortunes, and justly deeming that the faith of the British Government was pledged to maintain his rights, in adherence to the spirit of the Treaty, they invited His Highness to come hither and for several years held out to him a promise that he should be restored to his Kingdom. But it is with great concern that your Petitioners are compelled to state that so far from any effort having been made to restore him, every attempt made by him to recover his Kingdom has been frustrated, chiefly by the means of the assistance rendered by the British Government to the Siamese, and lately, while residing in a foreign jurisdiction, his person has been forcibly seized by one of His Majesty's ships, after the slaughter of many of his devoted followers.

4. That it is well known that ever since the Siamese invasion of Quedah in the year 1821, and more especially since the year 1826, when a treaty was concluded by which the Emperor of Siam was acknowledged by the British Government as Sovereign of that Kingdom, frequent disturbances have agitated, not only Quedah, but the adjacent states, creating serious alarm in the minds of the inhabitants of this Island, who on a recent occasion were called upon by the local Government to arm themselves for the public safety, and that the same excitement, so adverse to the prosperity of these countries, will it is feared continue to prevail while affairs remain on their present footing.

That all the stipulations made by this treaty with the Siamese in favor of the Malayan inhabitants have been grossly violated by the Siamese, who have grievously oppressed them, and carried away into slavery great numbers of the young men, women and children; have imposed a tax upon the exportation of rice and provisions; have farmed the rivers of the country

and have otherwise monopolised the trade ; acts of cruelty and oppression which have excited a general feeling of indignation throughout the neighbouring Malayan States, have destroyed the trade and greatly depopulated the country.

6. That not only your petitioners but the Native Inhabitants of this Settlement, and of the surrounding Countries, are impressed with the belief that the honor and good faith of the British Government have been compromised by the Treaty made in 1826 with the Emperor of Siam, and by the subsequent treatment of the Ex King of Quedah, while it is notorious that no advantage whatever has been derived from the said Treaty, made as it was, against the faith of the old Treaty of Alliance with the Ex King's predecessor ; and as the Siamese have violated without scruple the stipulations of the Treaty made with them, and this Island and its dependency will continue to be disturbed while the country of Quedah is suffered to remain under the oppressive sway of its present masters, your Petitioners deem it their duty most respectfully to represent, that the interference of Government is impartially called for to put an end to a state of things so prolific of mischief to British interests in this quarter, and they therefore humbly solicit that such measures may be taken for the purpose of redeeming the credit of the British Character and restoring its influence in the States of the Malayan Peninsula and the Eastern Archipelago as in the wisdom of your Lordship shall appear to be just.

And your Petitioners shall ever pray

[Here follow 30 signatures.]

Fort William 1st November 1837.

India Political
Consultations,
Range 194,
vol. 54.

No. 20.

To S. G. Bonham Esqr.
Governor of Prince of Wales Island,
Singapore and Malacca.

Sir,

I am desired to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 18 September last, to the address of Mr. Secretary Macnaghten with its enclosed Petition, and in reply to state that the representation of the Merchants and other inhabitants of Prince of Wales Island will be forwarded to the Governor General, but the President in Council cannot hold out to the Memorialists the hope that it will be found possible to change the course of policy which the British Government has for some time pursued in respect to the States and Chiefs of the Malay Peninsula.

I have &ca.

(Signed) H. T. Prinsep
Secretary to the Government
of India

Fort William
the 1st of November 1837.

India and Bengal
Despatches,
vol. 14, pp. 105-106.

15 November No. 29 of 1837.

India
Political Department.

• • • • •

Proceedings
relative to the
Ex King of
Quedah.

Para. 126. Mr. Trevelyan's Memorandum has satisfied us that the course you adopted of restoring to the Ex King his entire stipend of 10,000 Dollars per annum, was the only one consistent with justice.

127. We regret however to learn that the Ex King, under pretence of availing himself of the permission granted him for residing at Delhi in Sumatra, proceeded to Perak and engaged in an intrigue for repossessing himself of his former dominions. By this direct breach of his engagements, you were justified in causing intimation to be made to him that you were no longer under any obligation to continue his stipend to his family after his death, and that unless he immediately repaired to Batabaree or Delhi, or returned to Malacca, his whole stipend would be withdrawn. In case of his availing himself of his residence at Perak to commit or encourage aggressions, you very properly directed that he should be removed, by force if necessary, and detained at Malacca on a reduced stipend.

We are &ca.

(Signed) J. R. Carnac
&ca. &ca.

London
the 15th November 1837.

India Political
Consultations,
Range 194,
vol. 81.

Fort William 14th March 1838.

No. 209.

To S. G. Bonham Esqre.
Governor of Prince of Wales Island &c.

Sir,

I am desired by the Honorable the President in Council to transmit for your information and guidance the enclosed copy of a letter this day addressed to the Commissioner in the Tenasserim Provinces on the subject of Mrs. Breesley's case and of the letter from the Commissioner with its enclosures* to which it was a reply and you are requested to give your early attention to the subject of these papers and bring them to the notice of the Commander of any one of Her Majesty's Ships of War that may be on the station in order that an effort may be made to release Mrs. Breesley from captivity if she be still detained prisoner at Songkra.

* These documents do not exist

I have &ca.

(Signed) H. T. Prinsep
Secretary to the Government
of India
Political Department.

Calcutta
14th March 1838.

Fort William 15th August 1838.

No. 41.

To the Honorable S. G. Bonham Esquire
Governor of Prince of Wales Island,
Singapore and Malacca.

Sir,

• • • • •

Birds Nest.

The Birds nest Islands have appertained to the Siamese from time immemorial, indeed the Quedah Chiefs could not have claimed them as pendants to their tributary state, since they do not lie off the Quedah coast but *form part of the now Malayan Siamese possession* on this coast of the Peninsula.

But as the Siamese are not fond of the sea, the Rajahs of Ligor, always acting under the authority of the Court of Bangkok, had all along rented these islands to the Quedah Rajahs for the time being at an annual rent of six or seven thousand dollars, by which the latter gained about five or six thousand dollars which was about one half of the value of the quantity collected there, and is about half of its value at this day.

• • • • •

Cotton.

Before the Siamese occupation the average annual quantity of Cotton imported into Quedah, but not all it should seem from Penang, was 264 bales valued at about Spanish Dollars 9,240. The present quantity is rated at 106 bales valued at about 2,634 dollars. The reduced population accounts for the difference. But cotton is still consumed by the Malays forming the emigrated population and perhaps in sufficient quantity to counterbalance this

deficiency, although I venture to think from observation amongst the people, that owing to the cheapness of fine goods, weaving has gone almost into disuse with numbers who formerly so employed themselves.

• • • • • •

It would occupy too much space here were I to recapitulate the arguments advanced by me in the first part of my Historical Sketch of the Straits (which I lately had the honor to transmit through you to the Right Honorable the Governor General in Council) to prove that Quedah from the earliest period of its history has been directly dependent on Siam, that its Rajahs have held their office by the sufferance of the Emperor, and that their own uncontradicted records, and notoriety still attest the latter fact. It will also I hope have appeared that the Quedah Chiefs from having their minds deeply tinged with the intolerant spirit of Islamism disliked to be under the dominion of what they termed an infidel nation and therefore in order to free themselves from it had determined to league with some European power, and that finding the British to be the most convenient and potent of the rival European nations on the East, the Rajah for the time being concluded the Treaty which used * Penang, but that he studiously avoided any disclosure of his state of vassalage to Siam, a disclosure which we may believe might, had it been then made, have modified if it would not have checked the negotiations for the cession.

* *sic. ? ceded.*

It was this politic reservation which for so many years interposed betwixt Quedah and Siam that moral influence of the British name, but it was attended by the never failing consequences of duplicity. It placed the relations between Quedah and Penang in a false position, and it exasperated the Court of Siam against both. Against Quedah for presuming

to attempt escape from its rule exerted for centuries, and against the latter for having been the instrument of that attempt.

3. With reference to the first and third paragraphs of the petition I can only refer to the Treaty of Bangkok and to the view of Quedah politics I have ventured to [depict] in the Historical Account alluded to.

4. The population of this station is perfectly quiet and with the exception of a remnant of the Ex Rajah's old Chiefs and their friends seem to feel very little interest in Quedah politics. It is not much to be doubted that the *Native* mercantile community have on various occasions helped on with no sparing hand the very movements which they now affect to despise or at least to be alarmed at. It is also known that most of the leaders of the disturbances have been men of Arab extraction and others not natives of Quedah.

5. Soon after the Treaty of Bangkok had been concluded the Siamese Governor of Quedah endeavoured to conform to its stipulations in so far as the then condition of that country would admit. But the frequent insurrections of the Malays there, in concert with Penang Malays and combined with attacks from without by the Ex Rajah's adherents, such attacks it may also be observed being at the same time infractions of the above Treaty, compelled the Siamese Government to employ towards the inhabitants a more rigid system of rule than they had begun with.

It became also necessary to remove the most dangerous insurgents to Ligor, and these people were accompanied by their families. It is probable that in the execution of this measure a few may have suffered unjustly, and that the constant intriguing of the Ex Rajah's people with the Quedah population

may have rendered it impossible for the Siamese to act up to the full spirit implied in the 13th Article of the Treaty of Bangkok.

Although the Ex Rajah's adherents had thrice attacked and disturbed Quedah, and subsequently the Ex Rajah himself had left Malacca and had established himself at Bruas with openly avowed design of invading Quedah, the Siamese Governor of that place, harassed as he was by preparations for defence, did not take advantage of the latter part of the 13th Article of the Treaty and so shut its ports to British trade. On one or two occasions when a scarcity has threatened that country, the exportation of rice has been suspended, but the moment the danger disappeared the prohibition was removed and certainly this is what they have a right to do on the principle of self preservation. The fact is that the sale of rice is a *sine qua non* with the local Government of Quedah, rice being almost the only article which the people have to export. My local position on the frontier of Quedah must always have rendered it almost impossible that I should not have been apprized of any serious infraction of the Treaty.

I must admit that in my capacity of Principal Assistant I have had frequent occasions to notice to the Quedah Siamese Chief irregularities on the part of his inferior officers, which had they not been checked in time might have grown to such a height as to induce acts of infringement on the Treaty. But a remonstrance has generally had the desired effect. It would always be easy for the merchants to point out to the local authority at Penang any infraction of the Treaty. But such should be supported by some proof to enable him to act or remonstrate.

The Siamese no doubt regard our Treaty pretty much in the same point of view as any other native Eastern Government does. The Treaty of Bangkok is

a little in advance of Siamese political economy and doubtless some vigilance will be necessary to prevent them insensibly sliding off from it, although they may be well aware of its general advantages, both positive and *negative*.

The Siamese adhere to the stipulation not to farm the mouths of rivers "in Quedah."

• • • • •

The assertion that the Siamese have violated without scruple the existing Treaty is vague and gratuitous and (as I believe and have in part explained in paragraph 5) substantially unjust.

• • • • •

I have &c.

(Signed) James Low
Acting Resident.

Prince of Wales Island
The 20th March 1838.

Fort William 11th July 1838.

No. 35. To H. T. Prinsep Esqre.
Secretary to Government
Fort William.

Sir,

* Copied from vol.
61 of this series.

Adverting to your letter of the 14th March last* and its enclosures I have now the honor to report that previously to its coming to hand I had directed the steamer Diana to proceed to Sangora for the purpose of attempting the liberation of Mrs. Breesley and her attendant. The Diana returned yesterday, and I now transmit copy of a letter from Captain Congalton to the address of the Resident Councillor, and translation of a Siamese letter to myself from the Chief of Sangora.

2. On the whole, altho' some of the replies of the Acting Chief of Sangora are somewhat obscure, from what I have heard from Captain Congalton and from an European gentleman residing at Bangkok on this subject, which has recently been received at this settlement, I am tolerably certain the European females whoever they may be, have been sent to the capital. By the first opportunity I shall address the Praklang or Minister and I have little doubt, if Mrs. Breesley or any unfortunate females are detained in captivity at Sangora, or at any other place in the Siamese Empire, and the fact is proved to the satisfaction of the Court of Bangkok that they will be released.

3. The questions and answers about the "Sampan Pukat" arose in consequence of my having desired Captain Congalton to make enquires on the coast respecting certain boats which had a short time

before left Singapore with property on board belonging to merchants of the place and which were missing, and supposed to have been run away with by their own crews.

I have & ca.

(Signed) S. G. Bonham
Governor Prince of Wales Island
Singapore and Malacca.

Singapore
24th May 1838.

Fort William 11th July 1838.

No. 36.

To The Honble. T. Church Esqra.
Resident Councillor.

Sir,

I have the honor to report to you for the information of the Honorable the Governor the arrival of the H. C's Steamer Diana from Sangora, Calantan and Tringano. On my arrival at Sangora on the instant, I handed and delivered the Governor's letter to the Siamese in charge of that place, the Rajah having been called up to Bangkok by order of the King of Siam. After reading the letter he told me that the two white women had just left Sangora (three days ago) and that the King of Siam had sent for them. I then told him that I thought he misunderstood the Governor's letter, and that he had better read it over again before he gave so decided an answer, that it was well known that the white women had been now detained some years in Sangora, and as the Governor of Singapore had sent the steamer for the express purpose of taking them to their relations that I should not leave until they were delivered to me, and if he did not, that I had orders to go on to Bangkok with a letter to the King, that he had better [send] some of his people to-morrow to see in whose house they were living and that I would land the following day and receive them. He said that he was sorry that I did not seem to believe what he said, but that they were sent for from Siam and that they left three days ago. On my return on board the Diana I found Mr. Mitchell had called a small fishing canoe alongside, who also said they knew that two white women had been living a long time in Sangora, and that they had left three or four days ago for Bangkok. During the following day I made every enquiry amongst different classes of people, and they all agreed that about three

or four days ago the women had left. On the 15th I went to the Acting Rajah again, when I put the following questions to him.

Where did the two white women come from when they first came to Sangora?

From Bangkok.

Do you know by what name they went when they first came?

When they first came here I was at Bangkok.

You now say they are both gone to Bangkok a few days ago, do you know for what purpose they have gone there?

I do not know.

Had either of the women any children while they remained here?

Neither of them had any.

Do you recollect what language either of them spoke when they first came to Sangora?

Both spoke Siamese.

How many years is it ago?

I do not know.

What is the name of the person that sent you the letter requesting the women to be sent to Bangkok?

Akhour, half Siamese, half Chinese.

Do you know if the King intends sending them to Singapore, or overland to the Burmah country?

I do not know anything about what is to be done with them.

In what kind of vessel did they leave Sangora for Bangkok ?

A kind of schooner. I was informed by the No-
quedah of a Chinese junk
that they left in two fast
sailing and pulling boats,
and that both the ladies
dressed the same as the
ladies at Singapore and
that they were both very
white.

Do you recollect how many days ago since the Sampan Pukats that has been away left Singapore ?

Sampan Pukats never
come here, otherwise I
would have detained them.

Do you know if she is at Bandalore [!] now ?

Do not know any thing
about her.

Boats can go up the river from Sangora to Ban-
[!] dalore ?

I have nothing to do
with Bandalore [!] and
cannot tell if boats can go
or not.

Can boats go from Li-
gore to Bandalore [!] ?

I know nothing about
it, do not know Ligore,
knows Lykong close to
Siam.

I have now no more questions to ask you, but I still think the information regarding the two women is not correct, as when the other gentleman (Captain Randel) came overland from Penang the Rajah told him there were no such women here. I now wait for an answer to the letter of the Governor of Singapore, and if you are not telling the truth, you will have to answer for it to the King of Siam. At 5 P. M. having received the letter weighed and steamed to the eastward, at 7 came up with and took a small pirate prow that was trying to get in shore of us, to prevent which I was obliged to fire several rounds of grape shot,

killing seven out of nine men that composed her crew. I found also in the bottom of the boat two men and two women, Siamese, that they had taken about noon. One of the women said that she had often seen the two white women, and that she was in the compound of the Rajah the day the two white women left Sangora for Siam.

I have &ca,

(Signed) S. Congalton

Singapore
24th May 1838.

Fort William 11th July 1838.

No. 37.

(Translation.)

Letter from Sontire Noorack Acting Rajah of Soongara to the Honorable Samuel George Bonham Esqre, Governor of Penang, Singapore and Malacca.

I received your letter brought by Captain Congalton stating that an English gentleman proceeded from Penang to Soongara for the purpose of getting possession of a woman of the name of Breesley, the wife of an English captain who was killed by pirates, and stating also that you wished to have this woman and her attendants sent to Singapore, and expressing a hope that you may not be disappointed.

Your letter further states that a Sampan Pukat belonging to Chinese of Singapore is missing, and that you were given to understand that the crew had plundered her of her cargo and escaped in her to Soongara.

I fully understand the contents of your letter.

On Captain Congalton's arrival at Soongara the Rajah of Soongara, to whom your letter was addressed, had previously left Soongara for Bangkok in obedience to the commands of His Majesty of Siam.

On the arrival of the Rajah of Soongara at Bangkok he addressed a letter to me which reached my hands on the 3d day of the 6th month (corresponding to the 1st May instant) informing me that he was ordered by the Minister of Bangkok immediately to produce at Bangkok the two women who are in some manner connected with the English and about whom letters have been addressed to the Minister of Bangkok by the Rajah of Lamboon and the Governor of Penang, Singapore and Malacca, and who have been

supposed by these persons to be residing at Soongara for a long time ; which letters treating upon different other subjects have been duly received by the Minister of Bangkok.

In consequence of my having received the above letter from the Rajah of Soongara, now at Bangkok, I sent to Bangkok the two women above mentioned on the 18th day of the 6th month same year (corresponding to the 16th May instant).

Concerning the Sampan Pukat which you say the crew ran away with into Soongara I have sent people to make enquiries about her, the result of which has been that the Sampan never came into Soongara at all, and I hope you will not feel dissatisfied with what I have here said regarding it.

Dated at Soongara on Tuesday the 22nd day of the 6th month in the dogs year or 1200 (corresponding to the 20th May 1838).



True Copy

(Signed) S. G. Bonham
Governor

India Political
Consultations,
Range 194,
vol. 69.

Fort William 11th July 1838.

No. 38.

To the Governor of Prince of Wales Island,
Singapore and Malacca.

Sir,

I am directed by the Honorable the President in Council to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 24th May last* on the subject of the captivity of Mrs. Breesley and her attendant, and stating the opinion founded upon information obtained, that certain European females have been sent to the capital, where it is your hope that if the circumstances of Mrs. Breesley or any females being detained in captivity is proved, the Court of Bangkok will be disposed to order their release.

* See ante No. 37.

2. In reply I am desired to state that His Honor in Council approves your proceedings [in] connexion with the Chief of Soongara on the subject of the liberation of Mrs. Breesley, and begs that you will take any other occasion that may offer of urging on the Siamese Government to procure the release of this unfortunate lady and any other person in similar circumstances of distress.

I have &ca.

(Signed) H. T. Prinsep
Secretary Governt. India.

Fort William
11th July 1838.

India Political
Consultations,
Range 194,
vol. 72.

Fort William 15th August 1838.

No. 40.

To H. T. Prinsep Esquire,
Officiating Secretary to Government
Fort William.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge your letter of the 27th December last and its enclosure from Mr. Secretary Macnaghten to your address of the 24th of the preceding month, touching the contents of a petition* from the merchants and other inhabitants of Penang, relative to the present state of the Ex Rajah of Quedah, which

* See No. 19 of
India Pol. Cons.,
Range 194, vol. 54.

1st. States, that in consequence of the occupancy of Quedah by the Siamese the station of Penang and its vicinity is frequently in a very disturbed state, so much so that on a recent occasion the inhabitants were called on by the local authorities to arm themselves for the general safety.

2d. That in consequence of that excitement the prosperity of the adjacent countries is injured and the trade of the petitioners thereby much decreased.

3d. That the stipulations of the Treaty of Bangkok have been grossly violated, by which a general feeling against the British Government has been engendered throughout the neighbouring Malayan States; and

Lastly Urging that some steps may be taken to restore the credit of the British Government in this quarter, by which I infer the petitioners mean to suggest an abandonment of the Treaty concluded by Major Burney with the Siamese, and the re-instatement of the Ex King of Quedah.

As regards the first case of complaint, I have only to say that since the final removal of the Ex King of Quedah from Bruas to Malacca I have not heard of

* Copied from
vol. 39 of this
Series.

28 April 1836
Copied from India
Pol. Cons. Range
194, vol. 14.

14 May 1836
Copied from Ad.
1|217 P. R. O.

25 June 1836
Copied from India
Pol. Cons. Range
194, vol. 16.

any circumstances occurring in the remotest manner affecting the public peace at Prince of Wales Island. As reported in my letter of 29th April 1837* to the address of Mr. Secretary Macnaghten, excitement to a very limited extent did undoubtedly exist at that time and which was created while the old King was at Penang, by a party who wished that he should be permitted to land; this being refused, and the mob assembled for the occasion seeing their request would not be acceded to peaceably, retired. This temporary excitement was produced by the old King's appearance at Prince of Wales Island, which his absence soon removed; and Penang as far as I am aware has been perfectly tranquil ever since. The serious alarm, it is alleged, the inhabitants were on a recent occasion subject to, and their having been called on by the Local Government to arm themselves was fully reported on by my predecessor, Mr. Murchison, in letters dated as per margin, and I have only to add that the circumstance which caused the Petitioners then so much alarm turned out to be the Rajah of Perak with 30 or 40 boats laden with tin coming to the Penang market from his own country. I mention this particularly because I have, when at Penang, heard this matter made the subject of considerable merriment. If any panic existed at all, it certainly only extended to the European part of the population and I am satisfied in reality but to a very small proportion of it. I may as well here remark that I was at Penang in July 1836, as a Commissioner for the suppression of piracy, and having at the time no direct interest in the station, had ample means of ascertaining the grounds and the extent of the alarm, which the Petitioners say was then so prevalent.

On the second point it will be seen that I place no faith whatever in the allegation that the mercantile interests of Penang have suffered from the alarm and excitement said to exist in consequence of the occup-

ancy of Quedah by the Siamese, nor do I believe there has of late been any just cause for any alarm whatever, and as regards the second part, vizt. that the mercantile interests of the place have suffered by the transfer, I must beg to refer you to Captain Low's letter forming an enclosure to this dispatch. The trade between Quedah and Penang in its most flourishing days scarcely exceeded a lac of dollars. Had the whole been lost it certainly could have been scarcely felt, but on the reverse it appears to me from Captain Low's statement that the trade with Quedah now and the consumption of the inhabitants that fled into our territories on the capture of Quedah by the Siamese, at least amount to as much as the trade between Penang and Quedah in 1819/20.

On the third point I have only to say that no authenticated facts of a violation of the Treaty on the part of the Siamese have ever been brought to my notice, nor as far as I can trace by the records of this Office to that of any of my predecessors, and I am not satisfied therefore that they exist or ever did. I can safely say I never heard of them until I saw the present petition nor can I admit that the neighbouring Malay States have any general feeling of ill will against the British. They would undoubtedly have been better pleased had their own countrymen been upheld by our Government in the occupancy of Quedah, but not from any feeling of attachment towards the Ex King personally, but simply because they object to seeing a Musselman population subject to a native following another religion. This feeling is engendered and studiously kept alive by the Arabs residing at Penang and by all Mahomedans who have performed the pilgrimage to Mecca, to whom the simple Malays pay unbounded respect, which, of course, is not extended to them by the Siamese.

The fourth point, though from a mercantile body, treats of matters entirely political. The whole of these

questions are fully before Government and must have been so at the time of the ratification of Captain Burney's Treaty. To many of its provisions public opinion in the Straits is undoubtedly opposed and I think always has been, but at all events, whatever might have been the result had the British Government at the time of the seizure of Quedah in 1821 stood forward in favor of the Malays, I believe those best informed on the subject generally admit that Quedah at that time acknowledged herself to be tributary to the King of Siam. The non-continuance of the payment of the customary tribute was indeed, I am told, the immediate cause of the expulsion of the Ex Rajah.

I have & ca.

(Signed) S. G. Bonham
Governor Prince of Wales Island,
Singapore and Malacca.

Singapore
The 30th May 1838.

India Political
Consultations,
Range 194,
vol. 74.

Fort William 12th September 1838.

No. 43.

To H. T. Prinsep Esq.
Secretary to Government Fort William.

Sir,

* Copied from
vol. 69 of this
series.

In continuation of my letter of the 24th May* I have the honor to enclose translation of a letter I have just received from the Chau Phya Praklang the first Minister of State at Bangkok by which I think, as the translation bears the signature of Mr. Hunter, a resident at that place, and with whose signature I am acquainted, it is manifest that Mrs. Breesley is not nor ever has been at Sangora and that the two Burmese women, probably concubines of English captains, are not detained in the Siamese territories contrary to their wishes.

I have &ca.

(Signed) S. G. Bonham
Governor of Prince of Wales
Island, Singapore and Malacca.

Prince of Wales Island
8th August 1838.

Fort William 12th September 1838.

No. 44.

The letter of his Excellency the Chou Phya Praklang First Minister of State to His Majesty the King of Siam, to the Honorable Mr. Bonham, Governor of Singapore, Penang and Malacca.

I have received your letter stating that you have received orders from the Right Honorable the Governor General of Bengal to send a letter to the Governor of Sangora to ask his assistance to release two European females and that the letter was sent by a fire ship. The Acting Governor of Sangora returned an answer to your letter, a copy of which you forwarded to me. In your letter you wish to know if the females have arrived here, and if so you would rejoice, because they would be under the powerful protection of the Chou Phya Praklang, and that he would return them to their friends.

When the fire ship returned she captured one Malay pirate boat which had on board four Siamese as prisoners, two men and two women, and that you were happy to release four Siamese subjects and would when opportunity offered return them to Sangora, and that all the pirates in the boat were nearly killed; afterwards the fire ship saw six large pirate boats attacking a Chinese junk, and that the fire ship went to her assistance and killed about 100 pirates, and took 30 pirates as prisoners to Singapore to be punished according to English law. Governor Bonham hopes that the road between Siam and Singapore will now be open for the merchants of each country to continue to trade and that the merchants of both countries may know that the Siamese and English have a treaty to protect them &c.

Mr. Blundell has sent a Pegu messenger named Mong Soie Cha with letters, he arrived here at the

same time as the Governor of Sangora.

* ? *Nicholas—*
See end of letter.

The King enquired of the Governor of Sangora respecting the European females. He answered that the two women at Sangora were not Europeans, that they were natives of Rangoon one named Emila, the other Emilong. Emila was the wife of a captain named Nickales* and Emilong was the wife of a Captain Mikila. In the Siamese year 1180, which is twenty years ago, Mirgui belonged to the Burmese. Captain Nickales took the two women in his ship from Rangoon bound to the Nickobars, he met with a storm and put into Mirgui. The Governor knew that there was two Burmese women on board from Rangoon, and wished to seize them. Captain Nickales, being informed of that, took the two women with the intention of going to Penang. When they arrived opposite Takoppa, near an island called Malla, the guard boats seeing two Burmese women on board (the Siamese and Burmese being enemies) seized them and sent one to Tukkopa and one to Ligor to see if any information could be got from them respecting the state of affairs in Burmah. The Rajah of Ligor and Governor of Takoppa sent the two women to Bangkok. Captain Nickales went in a war junk to Quedah and from thence to Penang, where he asked a letter from the Governor of Penang and returned to Quedah. The Governor of Quedah sent him and the letter to Sangora, the Governor of Sangora sent Khun In Montien with the letter to Bangkok, which was shown the King. When His Majesty knew that these two Burmese women were the wives of Englishmen and that one of the husbands had come to Sangora to receive them and having letters from the Governor of Penang, the king sent the two women by Khun In Montien to the Governor of Sangora to be given to Captain Nickales. The Governor of Sangora delivered the two women to Captain Nickales. He said it was the wet season and he could not take them overland with him

but left them under the charge of the Governor of Sangora. He also borrowed one hundred Spanish dollars from the Governor of Sangora and promised when the rains were over he would return, pay back the \$100 and take away the two women, but he never returned. Three years afterwards the Governor of Sangora sent Khun Pakdei Wonsa with a letter to the Governor of Penang to request that he would tell Captain Nickiles to come and receive Emela and Emelong. The Governor of Penang in answer said Captain Nickales was not in Penang but if he ever came there he would tell him to go and receive Emela and Emelong. He has never come to receive them, therefore they have always resided at Sangora. The Governor of Penang's letter was written in Malay dated A. D. 1825, which is a good evidence in this business.

The new Governor of Penang sent Captain Randall last year to Quedah with a letter, the Governor of Quedah sent Captain Randall and the letter on to Sangora. In the letter the names of the women and their persons were wrongly described. The Governor of Sangora told Captain Randall that he knew of no such women as he was asking for.

On account of this I sent a war boat to Sangora to bring Emela and Emelong to Bangkok and gave them to Mr. Hunter (who is by the King's orders, Luang Visoot) and Mong Soie Cha, the messenger from Moulmein to question and examine the two women, and Mr. Hunter and Mong Soie Cha understand all this business clearly.

These two women the King gave to Captain Nicholas a long time ago and even now His Majesty wished to send them by the Peguan messenger Mong Soie Cha. The women refused to go being the wet season, and Emelong says her husband Captain Mikila died in Malacca and at the time of his death she was

with him. Emela says Captain Nickelas has left her twenty years and she has heard nothing of him.

But if Captain Nickiles is still alive the Chou Phya Praklang will send Emela to him as his wife.

Mr. Blundell sent a letter here respecting an English female named Mrs. Breesley, the wife of an Englishman called Captain Breesley, that had been killed by his crew of Lascars upwards of eight years ago. This has nothing whatever to do with the Governor of Sangora. What person knows that Mrs. Breesley is in Sangora, or that has seen her there, let them be sent here and I will examine into the truth of the story.

The Honorable Mr. Bonham, Governor of Penang, Singapore and Malacca and Mr. Blundell, Resident of Moulmein, have sent letters here asking for Mrs. Breesley, therefore if she was here she would most certainly be given up, as we do not wish anything to interrupt the existing friendship.

Siam 21st June 1838.



True Copy
(Signed) S. G. Bonham
Governor.

Translated into
English by
(Signed) Robt. Hunter
Siam.

(Public Record
Office.)
Admirals'
Despatches.
Ad. 1/219.

(Enclosure to Rear admiral Maitland's letter to the Admiralty, No. 73, dated 1 November 1838.

To Captain Stauley,
Commanding H. M. S. Wolf.

Sir,

It has just been brought to my notice, that there is a fleet of boats in the Mirboo River . . . fitting out for the purpose of attacking Quedah . . . I intend sending the gun boat Diamond to Quedah to inform the Siamese authorities of that place of the circumstance, and I think if you get under weigh in the Wolf also, and run down to Quedah, remaining there for one day, and looking on your return into the Mirboo River, that the movement would have the desirable effect of tending materially to the dispersion of the boats which are now there, and of obviating the unpleasant alternative of my being compelled to ask you for assistance to remove them by force.

My object at present is to avoid hostile measures against this confederacy, in the hopes they may yet see the expediency of returning from the Siamese territories, but should you find them by any chance at sea engaged in combat with the Siamese, it is my request that you assist the latter in dispersing the former, and dealing with them as enemies . . . It is the wish of Government to break up this association of deluded people, with as little violence as possible, though after the warning they have received, should they be found in a state of active operations, they must of course stand the consequence of their indiscreet and obstinate behaviour.

I have &c.

(Signed) S. G. Bonham
Governor of Prince of Wales
Island, Singapore and Malacca.

Prince of Wales Island
22d July 1838.

Fort William 26th September 1838.

No. 57.

To H. T. Prinsep Esquire
Secretary to Government Fort William.

Sir,

I regret to acquaint you for the information of the Honorable the President in Council that the State of Quedah is again in a disturbed state, originating in Tuanku Mahomed Saad and Tuanku Mahomed Taib, two nephews of the Ex Rajah, with some followers, having posted themselves in the Merbo, a river in the Siamese territory of Quedah about 15 miles to the northward of Prince of Wales Island, from whence they nightly make incursions into the country and plunder the inhabitants.

2. Tuanku Mahomed Saad and Tuanku Mahomed Taib are persons who were formerly in captivity at Bangkok and released by the Siamese as stipulated for in the 13th Article of Captain Burney's Treaty "being the kindred of the Ex Rajah" and would otherwise have been put to death. Their adherents are generally the refuse of the inhabitants of Prince of Wales Island and Province Wellesley, which it is impossible for me to prevent leaving the settlement whatever it suits them.

3. Enclosure No. 1 having been handed to me by Mr. Salmond among other papers which it is unnecessary at present for me to trouble the Government with, I requested Captain Stanley in Her Majesty's Ship Wolf to proceed to Quedah to see the state of defence in which that place is, as well as to show the insurgents that I was on the alert to prevent their taking Quedah and also to assist the Siamese in any sea operations against them should the Malay fleet be found at sea. I also gave him a letter to the Tuanku Mahomed Saad, copies of which and his reply are enclosed Nos. 2 and 3.

4. Captain Stanley returned on the 26th instant and informed me that he had been detained for a day at Quedah to enable the authorities at the mouth of the river to communicate with the Chief of the Siamese who resides some little distance inland, the result of which was a message that the Siamese were in hourly expectation of a reinforcement of men from Purlis to the number of 2,000 and some boats, and that with the boats they already had (fifty or sixty in number) they were in no alarm for the safety of Quedah itself, but that they wished the Wolf to remain until the arrival of the expected reinforcement, and then that she might be permitted to proceed with the Siamese fleet to drive the Malays out of the Merbo.

5. As it is difficult to make the Siamese comprehend that the constant attacks and acts of aggression on their country made by the R^x Rajah's followers and other ill disposed inhabitants of this station have not the tacit concurrence of the British Government, and which I believe to be sedulously circulated by interested and designing persons under its protection, I should have been disposed to approve of the plan of proceeding, to convince the Siamese of our determination of maintaining the provisions of the Treaty entire, but the Wolf is under order for England, and it is impossible to say when the promised fleet would arrive at Quedah and be able to put to sea, and it was therefore impossible to detain her for this service.

6. The Government will observe from the reply of Tuanku Mahomed Saad that he does not deny his intention of attacking the Siamese territories, and Captain Stanley, who on his way down from Quedah went on shore at Merbo and had a personal communication with him, reports the same; and farther, that he says he is determined never to permit Quedah to remain at peace, so long as he lives. At Merbo were found 25 to 30 boats of inconsiderable strength under

the command of a man named Hadjee Mustapha, a native of Java, but a *subject of the British Government*, by reason of his holding lands in our territory.

7. I must here remark that I am thoroughly satisfied the insurgents are fully aware that they cannot by any means keep possession of Quedah even if they could take it. The heads of the confederacy are possibly actuated by a hope of revenging themselves on the Siamese, the followers simply by the hope of plunder to which charge the former are also undoubtedly liable.

8. On the return of the Wolf to prevent as far as possible the necessity of having recourse to force to drive these freebooters from the Mirbo river I sent one of our gun boats with a Proclamation, copy of which is enclosed, No. 4. My messenger returned yesterday stating that the people who were there heard it read, but declined moving out of the river. It is my intention therefore as a temporary measure to keep a strict watch on the Malays at Mirbo, and if I find that they put to sea and attack the Siamese, to aid the latter by means of Her Majesty's brig Victor, Captain Crozier, who is now here, having promised me his co-operation so that I shall I hope have the means of at all events preventing the Malays from investing Quedah itself, leaving it for the present to the Siamese to drive the Malays out from their own territories.

9. I should I confess have been better satisfied by at once sending a force into the Mirbo river, which is only, as before observed, fifteen miles to the northward of this island to disarm the marauders and burn any boats obviously intended for purposes of hostility, leaving sufficient small ones to carry off the people from the vengeance of the Siamese, but I have at present scarcely a sufficient force to effect the object without a chance of some opposition. This, on the arrival of the steamer I shall be able at once to effect

without any such chance under Captain Crozier's directions and should I find that the confederacy only increases in numbers by delay I shall venture to anticipate the approval of Government to the measure.

10. I shall of course take care that no proceedings are on any account commenced by land, except such as may be found necessary to drive these free booters out of the river should they remain there. My sole object is to remove from our immediate vicinity a confederacy injurious to our commerce which disturbs the internal peace and welfare of this settlement, and which I conceive we are bound to disperse by the Treaty above alluded to, Article 13.

11. Until I hear from the Government approving of what I have done, or directing some other course of policy to be observed, I must of course act on the principles I have detailed and if I find this predatory association likely to gain strength by inaction [on] our part, thereby inducing the ill disposed of our community to believe that they will be permitted to ravage a country in amity and connected by Treaty with us, I shall at once dispel all such impressions by a hostile attack on Tuanku Mahomed Saad and his followers.

12. Referring to the second article of Captain Burney's Treaty I would request the consideration of Government to its provisions that I may be instructed how to deal with Tuanku Mahomed Saad should he or any others described in the Proclamation as British subjects fall into my hands. I am particularly anxious on the subject, as one of the heads of this expedition, Hadjee Mustapha, was with me in Her Majesty's Ship *Andromache* as a pilot, was once commander of one of our gun boats and is now a land holder in Province Wellesley, where his family resides, and where he will in case of discomfiture retire. That this question may be considered in all its bearings I

think it right to say that it is possible he has committed no overt act of hostility against the Siamese *while resident on British ground* but as a British subject he has done so while on Siamese ground, by assisting in fitting out an expedition expressly for the purpose of infringing a Treaty which he is, as a subject, I conceive, bound to respect, and by associating himself with persons whom we are expressly pledged not to permit to molest, attack or injure the Siamese territories.

I have &ca,

(Signed) S. G. Bonham
Governor of Prince of Wales
Island, Singapore and Malacca.

Prince of Wales Island
The 30th July 1838.

Fort William 26th September 1838.

No. 58.

Translation of a letter from the Siamese Governor of
Quedah.

To the Honorable J. W. Salmond Esquire and
Captain J. Low.

After Compliments.

I wish to acquaint my friends that Tuanku Mahomed Taip, who lately attacked the Siamese post on the Muda River, has joined his brother Tuanku Mahomed Saad and Che Mat Ali and entered along with them the Murbout river with a fleet of boats. It is my intention to send guard boats to endeavour to drive them out and to seize and send them to Ligor. Formerly these two first named persons were released from imprisonment at Ligor by virtue of a treaty betwixt the English and Siamese by which the relatives of the Ex Rajah of Quedah were to be restored. It is also stipulated in the Treaty that the English will not permit the Ex Rajah or any of his relatives or followers to disturb the Country of Quedah. It was on this account that the Emperor of Siam allowed Tuanku Mahomed Saad and Tuanku Mahomed Taip to return. Now it seems to me that this conduct of these two persons is *under the control of the Company*^a. It behoves my friend therefore to restrain them and drive them away agreeably to treaty before they have increased their force and resources, and urged on to a serious issue, so that the friendly relations produced by the Treaty may be maintained inviolate henceforth, and the good faith of the English may remain unquestioned. Moreover the great Emperor of Siam has not yet

^a "Belongs to, or is really in the Company's business." The [?text] of the original is not Malayan. The letter has not been written by a Malay, and this passage has been translated nearly verbatim.

been informed of these events and I wish on this account to acquaint my friend with the same, in a friendly manner as agreed on in the Treaty. For this is a matter of importance. Moreover Tuanku Abdullah has come to Penang from Malacca to stir up the Company's people to enter Quedah and join Tuanku Mahomed Saad and Che Mat Ali to disturb and molest it contrary to the Treaty.

This letter dated on Monday the 2d of the decrease in the month Rubin at Khair (9th July 1838.).

(A true Translation)

(Signed) James Low
Principal Assistant.

Fort William 26th September 1838.

[July 1838.] To Tuanku Mahomed Asahad and Wan Mat Alli.

Since my arrival here many complaints have been made to me of acts of violence having been committed by you and your followers at sea on Chinese and others; and in some instances of your having taken and put to death certain inhabitants of this Island, for which if you are taken you may be held answerable to the laws of England.

From enquiries I have made of Tuanku Abdullah I find you consider yourselves at war with Siam, and are only endeavouring to retake Quedah from that power. This I am willing to believe is the case, but, if the information I have received of your proceedings be correct, you have certainly committed outrages on persons under British protection altogether unwarrantable. You are aware that by the Treaty between the English and the Court of Siam the English are bound not to permit "the followers of the late Rajah of Quedah to attack, disturb or injure in any manner the territory of Quedah or any territory subject to Siam." Now as it is clear that you are either invading Quedah or committing acts of piracy or both, and as it is my duty and agreeable to my orders from the Governor General of India to suppress piracy as also disturbances between the Malays and the Siamese, this is to inform you in a friendly manner, that if I hear of my further acts of violence on your part against persons going peaceably to and fro by land or sea, or of any further attempts to invade the territory of Quedah, I shall at once send a force to treat you as enemies in the one case and as pirates in the other, especially as a few days ago when at Malacca the Ex King disavowed all connexion with your proceedings. You cannot therefore plead that

you are acting under his sanction.

And moreover I expect that after the receipt of this notice you will break up your camp at Qualla Merbow and peaceably disperse your followers.

Fort William 26th September 1838.

[July 1838.]

Letter from Tuanku Mahomed Asahad to the Honorable S. G. Bonham, Governor of Prince of Wales Island, Singapore and Malacca.

(After Compliments.)

I have duly received the Honorable the Governor's letter complaining of acts of violence and piracy committed at sea.

I left Pulo Penang with one prow to seek livelihood in the neighbourhood of Panguh, not with the intention of doing any mischief but to procure it in an honest way. I have succeeded in obtaining a little paddy and rice. In returning I was detained by contrary winds at Pulo Bunting, and while I was there the Siamese Rajah of Quedah sent against me 27 prows, large and small, to seize me, but I did not allow myself to be seized by them, but gave them battle, which lasted from 6 till 4, at which hour it began to blow and by the blessing of God, the Siamese prows got into confusion. However, they got possession of one of my prows with cargo. After escaping from their injustice I reached the territories of the Perak country. I have been a great sufferer by all this. All those who perceived the injustice of the Siamese towards me pitied me and assisted me with 12 prows and men, and I sailed with them in search of food. On reaching Pulo Telibong the Siamese with 30 prows surrounded me to seize me, but I fought with them; when a breeze sprung up they separated. On my way from Pulo Klong I touched at Pulo Lun-kawa, where the people entreated me to save their wives and children from the Siamese, and I accordingly embarked them on board of my prows, when the Siamese surrounded me with 30 prows. It happened to be night and 4 of my prows got into the hands of

the Siamese, but on the following morning I fought with them and escaped from their cruelty. All those people who have suffered oppression and injustice from the Siamese, on hearing these reports, united together and joined me, which increased my followers to a large number. From thence I returned to Pulo Budun and while I was there a Siamese Chief of Merbout came and invited me to enter the river and asked me to assist him in carrying his wife and children into the Company's territory. Not many days after this the Siamese sent against me 30 prows with which I fought and defeated them. They returned back to Quedah. Again the Siamese sent [prows] against me, 39 in number. Amongst them were 7 Chinese topes, a boat and a schooner. With these also I fought and defeated [them], and about fifteen days after the Siamese again sent 54 vessels, 10 of which were Chinese topes, whilst my fleet consisted of 20 prows. However, I fought with them and defeated them. During the time I remained at Murbow I fought thrice, and once was attacked by land. The women I brought from Lan-kawa and Murbow I sent them all into the Company's territory. Such has been the injustice of the Siamese against me. My uncle Tuanku Soleman and his child Tuanku Umbam and his two children, Tuan Mahomed, Tuanku Yoosoof, the Datu Bandahara of Quedah, Sree Pakurma, jayah of Pulo Lunkawa, the father of Wan Mahomed Alli and several other great men did the Siamese kill without the slightest fault. Where am I to look for assistance after such cruelty except in the Governor who I trust and hope will pity me that I have suffered so much injustice.

Fort William 26th September 1838.

Proclamation.

Prince of Wales Island, 27th July 1838.

Whereas by the Treaty existing between the British and Siamese Governments dated 20th June 1826 it is incumbent on the former "not to permit the former Governor of Quedah or any of his followers to attack, disturb or injure in any manner the territory of Quedah or any other territory subject to Siam," And whereas the Governor of Prince of Wales Island, Singapore and Malacca has just received a requisition from the Siamese authorities at Quedah to expel from their territories Tuanku Mahomed Saad a nephew of the former Governor of Quedah, who is collecting an hostile force in the River Merbo for the purpose of disturbing Siamese possessions, And whereas it is alleged that certain persons professing to be British subjects and holding lands and having their families within the limits of Prince of Wales Island and its dependencies are at this moment aiding and abetting the said Mahomed Saad, And whereas it is the determination of the said Governor to maintain entire the provisions of the said Treaty. This is to notify to whom it may concern that in compliance with the said requisition a force is about to be sent to the Merbow River and other places in the Siamese Territory for the purpose of expelling the said Mahomed Saad and his adherents therefrom, and that immediately after this notice all persons professing to be British subjects are hereby required to withdraw themselves from the Siamese territory and return peaceably to their homes, otherwise they will be considered as having forfeited all claim to protection as subjects, and if found in arms will be dealt with as declared enemies.

(True Copies)

(Signed) S. G. Bonham
Governor.

Public Record
Office.
Admirals'
Despatches.
Ad. 1/219.

(Enclosure to Rear Admiral Maitland's letter to the Admiralty, No. 73, dated 1 November 1838.)

To Captain R. Crozier,
Her Majesty's Sloop Victor.

Sir,

(* See India Pol.
Cons. Range 194,
vol. 75.)

Adverting to the personal communication that has passed between us on the subject of the threatened attack on Quedah, I have the honor to enclose for your information copy of a dispatch* that I yesterday addressed to the Supreme Government, which will put you fully in possession of the objects I have in view, the principal one of which is to prevent Quedah itself falling into the hands of the Malays.

I have this morning heard that the Malay flotilla has moved from the Mirboo River, to another called Sugie, a few miles on this side of Quedah, from whence, if practicable, it is very desirable it should be driven, as so long as the boats composing it remain there, it is impossible to say how soon the insurgents may possess themselves of Quedah.

I am aware however of the very small force at our disposal: until therefore the steamer arrives from Calcutta, or Her Majesty's Sloop Hyacinth and a gun boat can be brought up from Singapore, I do not see that much can be done beyond the Victor occasionally showing herself off Quedah, which will probably prevent the Malays from attacking that place by sea.

My letter to the Government will inform you of the steps that I think should be taken should the Malay flotilla be found at sea.

I have &ca.

(Signed) S. G. Bonham
Governor of Prince of Wales Island,
Singapore and Malacca.

Prince of Wales Island
1st August 1838.

Public Record
Office.
Admiral's
Despatches.
Ad. 1/219.

(Enclosure to Rear Admiral Maitland's letter to the Admiralty, No. 73, dated 1 November 1838.)

H. M. Sloop Victor,
Penang Harbour, 5th August 1838.

Sir,

I beg to acquaint you that I proceeded to Quedah in Her Majesty's Ship under my command, taking with me the gun boat "Diamond."

In passing the Mirboo River I sent the gun boat in, desiring Mr. Stewart the Commander to ascertain whether all the proahs comprising the Malay flotilla had sailed from the Sungei Sala River: At 9. P. M. Mr. Stewart rejoined me, and reported they had all left, not leaving a hut standing on the banks of the river.

We experienced light airs and calms during the night, and also on the following day, and did not anchor till 3 P. M. off Quedah in 4 fathoms water, about 4 miles from the entrance of the river.

On consulting the Commander of the gun boat, it was considered too late to land that evening; and about 5 P. M. a Malay Chief came off to inform me that Quedah had been stormed and taken the previous day, by the party under Tuanka Mahomet Saad, and that his brother Tuanka Mahomet Taib was in possession of Toompoo, a town situated on the river a day and a half's march from Quedah, and had with him between 3000 and 4000 men.

At 8 A. M. the next day, I landed at the Fort of Quedah, accompanied by two of my officers and Mr. Stewart and had an interview with Tuanku Mahomet Saad. The Chiefs Tuanku Wan, Mahomet Ally, Haidjee Mustapha and others were present, with about 200 men the garrison of the Fort.

The account of the capture of Quedah and Toompoo

was confirmed by Tuanku Mahomet Saad and the other Chiefs, with a loss on their side of two killed and four wounded; and thirty killed and twenty wounded on the part of the Siamese.

The Malays attacked Quedah with thirty-three proahs having on board seven hundred men, and three hundred went by land; these were joined by several hundred of the Quedah Malays, on their march. In the Fort they stated there were only fifty or sixty Siamese, who ran away after firing a few shots at them, having been previously deserted by the Malays who garrisoned it.

As far as I could discover, the whole population round Quedah were in favor of Tuanku Mahomet Saad, and he told me he expected 15,000 fighting men would join him, in the course of a week, from Parlis, Settol Langar and Tanjong Settar; and I did not meet or hear of a single Siamese to take charge of your despatch to the Rajah of Quedah, who, I was informed, had retreated to Ligor.

The Fort of Quedah mounts 24 guns of large calibre, sixteen smaller ones on the low ground, fronting the entrance of the river, yet it is by no means a formidable fortress, from the decayed state of the gun carriages, and only being able to point the guns in one direction: and with the naval force in the Straits of Malacca, I consider the Fort might be carried without much difficulty, or great sacrifice of life; but until the Siamese drive the Malays back from the interior of Quedah the possession of the Fort would be useless, for I heard of no Siamese Chief to give it up to, or men to defend it.

As the Malays had surprised and taken six proahs from Troong that quietly entered the Quedah River, thinking it in the possession of the Siamese, I dispatched the gun boat to warn them at Parlis, the

Sungoo River, and at Troeng, that the Malays had taken Quedah.

Tuanku Mahomet Saad informed me he left the Mirboo River, with a Malay flotilla, the same evening your proclamation had been read to them, and proceeded to Sugie Sala, and from thence to Quedah on the 1st August.

I sailed from Quedah yesterday at 1 P. M.

I have &ca.

(Signed) Richard Crozier
Commander and Senior Officer
in the Straits of Malacca.

The Hon. S. G. Bonham
Governor of Prince of Wales Island
&ca. &ca. &ca.

Fort William 26th September 1838.

India Political
Consultations,
Range 104,
vol. 75.

No. 59.

To H. T. Prinsep Esquire,
Secretary to Government, Fort William.

Sir,

*See ante in this
vol.

Adverting to my letter of the 30th ultimo * on the affairs of Quedah, it is now with regret that I have to report that the nephews of the Ex King succeeded in driving the Siamese out of the Fort of Quedah on the 2d instant.

2. In the letter above alluded [to] I enclosed copy of a proclamation I had sent to the Mirbow river and elsewhere calling on all British subjects to return to their homes, and it appears that the day after it had been read the Malay flotilla left the river and proceeded to Sungu Sala and from thence to Quedah.

3. On the 30th ultimo Mr. Salmond handed me a letter dated the 20th of the same month from the Siamese Chief, written, it will be observed, before Her Majesty's Ship Wolf had gone to and returned from Quedah. I nevertheless lost no time in requesting Captain Crozier in Her Majesty's Sloop Victor to proceed to that place with a reply to the Chief, and also for the purpose of intercepting the Malay flotilla should it have put to sea, and of rendering the Siamese such assistance as they might require. Captain Crozier left this port in the execution of this service on the 2d, arrived at Quedah on the 3d, where he found the Fort in possession of the Malays. His proceedings on the occasion are fully detailed in his letter to my address dated the 5th instant.*

* See *Ad. Dispatches* 1|210.

4. The fall of Quedah is entirely attributable to the remissness of the Siamese Government. The population of the province is, as is known to the Government, essentially Malay, amounting probably to 20,000

souls, for management of which the Siamese have not certainly more than 500 of their own countrymen, a body totally inadequate to the object in view. The Fort of Quedah when taken had only sixty Siamese in it.

5. The insurgent's force amounts to probably 500 people and will not I think increase much, but will, if left to itself, of its own accord disperse, with the exception of the Chiefs and a few followers, more especially so when it is known that the Rajah of Ligor is aware of the state of things in Quedah, and the peasantry begin to discover that the insurgents live upon the produce of their labour, for from the best information that I can obtain I am satisfied that plunder has been the principal object of the Malays on this occasion.

6. On reference to the records of this office I observe that Mr. Ibbetson, on a former occasion similar to the present, was of opinion that unless more decided assistance was rendered to the Siamese than Government appeared desirous of affording, their success in driving the Malays out of Quedah would be doubtful. The reply to that letter dated the 28th November 1831 from Mr. Secretary Swinton remarked that the instructions already furnished on the 15th August* were to guide generally the operations of the local authorities, but that the necessity of further instructions was superseded by Quedah having again come into the possession of the Siamese.

* See *Beng. Pol. Cons., Range 126.*
vol. 33.

7. The principle of these instructions appears to be the observance of neutrality as much as possible, confining our hostile measures to the simple prevention of assistance being afforded to the insurgents by men and arms from the British possessions.

8. With due respect I must here remark, that it is entirely out of my power to prevent this or any other assistance being given to the insurgents, for

even if the Quedah river is blockaded, boats can always land anywhere on the coast between our northern boundary, the Mooda River, and the Quedah River, a distance of between 40 to 50 miles, and that the inhabitants of Province Wellesley can always moreover pass in and out of Province Wellesley to Quedah whenever they see fit.

9. I have no doubt whatever but that the Siamese will shortly appear in considerable strength in the interior of the Quedah territory, and that the force will be sent as formerly under the Rajah of Ligore who will have little difficulty in driving the insurgents out of the interior. In this case the Ligorian will most probably call on us, under the provisions of the Treaty, to co-operate with him in taking possession of Quedah Fort.

10. I have already observed that the Siamese Government maintain a very inefficient force of their own countrymen in Quedah, arising I believe in the entire worthlessness of the country in a financial point of view, and probably conceiving that they have the British Government at hand to help them against the inhabitants of Quedah under the provisions of the Treaty, whereby we are bound not to permit the Ex King or his followers to molest or disturb Quedah.

1831. 11. It of course remains entirely with the Supreme Government to dictate what course of policy is to be adopted on the occasion. We have assisted the Siamese already in wresting Quedah from the hands of the Malays and they have now again, through their neglect and want of proper precaution, lost it. It may be therefore considered we are now at liberty to decline further assistance, and if I was satisfied that the Malays could retain Quedah I should venture to recommend the principle of non-interference.

12. But, on the contrary, I am satisfied that the Siamese will never allow Quedah to remain under

Malay control, and that it has both the means and desire to retain it in its possession. The Siamese Government will not of course be well pleased when it finds that Quedah has been overrun by a band of freebooters, more especially so when it discovers that the very men, Tuanku Mahomed Saad and Tuanku Mahomed Taib, nephews of the late King, and who were released from captivity through our agency, are the leaders of the expedition. The Malays are told by the inhabitants of this Island, that the British care very little about the Treaty, and that it was made at a peculiar time (during the Rangoon war) and to serve particular purposes which now no longer exist &ca. &ca., and as they certainly have great cause to dislike the Siamese they readily believe all and every thing of the sort that is told them whether by designing or idle people. Should Government be pleased to consider itself bound either by treaty, or that it is desirable under the explanation now afforded, to co-operate with the Siamese, I would respectfully suggest that when the Siamese have retaken the interior of the country that I should be authorized to attack Quedah Fort either with or without them, and put them again in possession of it, but I would respectfully but urgently recommend that if the British interfere at all active co-operation be afforded to the Siamese, which will tend to show them that we are really anxious to uphold the provisions of the Treaty entire, and to convince the Malays that what they hear buzzed about in the Bazar of this Island is unfounded, and that they have no hope of the British Government remaining passive.

18 I have already expressed my conviction that the Malays will never be permitted to occupy Quedah (unless indeed some arrangement could be made with the Siamese through our intervention). Our permitting the former therefore to remain in Quedah I certainly consider a very doubtful policy, as it can only tend to cause excitement and confusion in our

possessions, seeing that they will be the places of outfit on the part of the Malays for their expeditions and of refuge for either party in cases of discomfiture. Still however it appears to me that we had better stand neutral altogether than not take an active part.

14. Should Government decide in assisting the Siamese to the extent I have ventured to suggest Quedah will be in their possession again in a month or two after the Siamese force is brought from Ligore. Should we act otherwise they will still get possession of Quedah in the end, but probably not for months, during which time this station and its vicinity must continue in a very undesirable state, while if the Malays see that we are determined to attack Quedah Fort and put the Siamese in possession, they will, I have little doubt, immediately retire.

15. In his letter the Siamese Chief complains of not having answers sent in return to some of his former letters. This complaint is not, I find, founded in fact, as copies of translations of letters recently sent him, and herewith enclosed, will show, nor must it be forgotten that on the 24th ultimo Her Majesty's Sloop Wolf went expressly to see him at Quedah, at which time the Chief, according to Captain Stanley's account, said he was in hourly expectation of a reinforcement of 2000 men and some boats, but that with what he had he was in no alarm for the safety of Quedah.

16. From Captain Crozier's letter* will be seen the steps [that] have been taken to inform the Siamese authorities of Quedah having fallen into the hands of the Malays.

I have the honor &c.

(Signed) S. G. Bonham
Governor of Prince of Wales
Island, Singapore and Malacca.

Prince of Wales Island
The 6th August 1838.

* See Ad. Dispatches 1/219.

Fort William 26th September 1838.

Letter from the Siamese Governor of Quedah to the address of the Resident Councillor and Assistant at Province Wellesley.

This is to acquaint my friend that the adherents of the Ex Rajah of Quedah residing at Pulo Penang and Province Wellesley have come over and committed acts of aggression against the inhabitants of Quedah and driven a great many from their habitations. I have frequently brought this to the notice of my friend but have received no reply to any of my letters.

I wish to be informed by my friend how far the report respecting Tuanku Abdullah's intentions of attacking Quedah is correct. Should such be the case I request my friend will agreeably to the Treaty put a timely check upon the hostile proceedings of Tuanku Abdullah.

Dated 20th of July 1838.

Received at Penang 29th July and by Mr. Bonham on the 30th.

Fort William 26th September 1838.

Letter to the Siamese Governor of Quedah in reply to the foregoing.

I have received your letter to the address of the Resident Councillor. On the 24th the Wolf was sent to communicate with you and to render you every assistance, and he arrived on the evening of that day at Quedah. She remained all the 25th and left Quedah the 26th. You then told the Captain of that ship that you in two days expected 2000 men and a fleet of boats from Purlis. By the treaty you are bound to take proper care of Quedah and if you dont drive the Malays off from the land, I shall write to the Praklang at Bangkok when I return to Singapore and request him to send a proper force to take charge of Quedah. I will destroy Tuanku Mahomed Saad's boats if they attack you at sea, but on the land you must take care of yourself. The British Government is not bound to protect you against an internal revolt, though it will assist you in destroying any boats that may be ascertained to have been fitted out by persons belonging to Penang, or which belong to the inhabitants of Penang, for the purpose of invading Quedah.

(Signed) S. G. Bonham
Governor

Penang
The 31st July 1838.

Fort William 26th September 1838.

Translation of a letter from Captain James Low
to the address of the Siamese Governor of Quedah.

(After Compliments.)

I have received my friend's letter and wish to acquaint my friend that my friend is aware that I have all along been writing to my friend and to his local officers requesting them not to countenance the residing in the Siamese territory, near the mutual boundary, of those persons who had fled from justice from the British side. Those letters have never been attended to, and my friend's officers have followed their own course. Those murderers and robbers who have fled thus from justice at various times, and have been assembled near the British frontier, have found an asylum under my friend's people. At present too the people who have long resided at Kobo, under the government of my friend, have joined Tuanku Mahomed Taib and his followers, who are about thirty in number. Should any of the people within this province attempt to assist those evil disposed persons I shall prohibit them, but at present I do not know if there be any such or not.

I shall assist my friend in every reasonable and proper way. I request that my friend will drive off all evil disposed people from the frontier and send sufficiently strong parties to maintain his posts there.

Dated 31st May 1838.

True translation

(Signed) James Low.
Principal Assistant.

Fort William 26th September 1838.

To the Siamese Governor of Keddah.

(After Compliments.)

I have to acquaint my friend that I have received information from Captain Low in Province Wellesley that my friend's people at the various posts along the mutual boundary have been driven out and forced into the British Territory by a rebellious subject of my friend Tuanku Mahomed Taip and his gang of marauders, and that Captain Low has afforded my friend's people every requisite protection. He also reports that he ordered the above party of Malays to quit the frontier and not disturb it any longer or else he would expel them by force which they forthwith did. But as they may have gone further into the Keddah country, I trust my friend will be speedily enabled to assemble a force to disperse them. I must further acquaint my friend that when his people were fighting with the Malays the shot passed thickly over into the English bank of the river, thereby endangering the lives of the settlers there, and that damage was thereby done both to houses and fruit trees, and that had Captain Low not prevented them the sepoy and police stationed there would have fired in return. But he wished that my friend's people should drive off these marauders. It will be proper that such risk should not be run again: for the distance across the Muda River is about two orlongs only. My friend I trust will reflect that had he and his officers attended to Captain Low's warnings the disturbances would have been most probably checked at its commencement, for Tuanku Mahomed Taip could have been seized at Koobboo where he was residing. But my friend and his officers have neglected the ordinary precautions for defence, notwithstanding the remon-

strance of the Penang Authorities and those of Captain Low, and have not only left the frontier posts unguarded but have placed confidence in desperate Malays, most of whom have fled from the English territory for crime.

My friend must also be aware that there has not been a single reply received from the Rajah of Ligore to any one of the many letters sent to him during the past two years by the Penang civil authorities or by Captain Low.

As yet none of my friend's troops have arrived.

(Signed) J. W. Salmond
Resident Councillor.

Prince of Wales Island
The 10th June 1888.

Fort William 26th September 1838.

No. 61. To H. T. Prinsep Esquire
Secretary to Government, Fort William.

Sir,

* See ante in
this vol.

In my letter of the 30th July* I alluded to two persons named Tuanku Mahomed Saad and Wan Mat Alli, to whom I had written on the subject of their hostile proceedings against the Siamese State of Quedah, and likewise enclosed a copy of my letter to their joint address, and of the reply of Tuanku Mahomed Saad thereto, and I now forward a translation of a letter which I have recently received from the Praklang or First Minister to the King of Siam bearing on the same subject, as the complaint it contains against these people, coming direct from the capital of the Empire, may induce the Government to authorize stronger measures to be taken against these freebooters than, considering the circumstances under which Quedah is occupied by the Siamese, it might otherwise be disposed to sanction.

2. Tuanku Mahomed Saad is, as I have already said, a nephew of the Ex Raja, being the son of Tuanku Doad, a brother of the Raja. His wife and two or three children reside in this Island, which report says he occasionally manages to visit. Wan Mat Alli is the son of the Sii Paka Majoya, who was the head man at Pulo Lancavy, a large island opposite to Purlis, during the time the Ex Rajah held possession of Quedah. He is not, as far as I can discover, a British subject, but he undoubtedly must be considered as a "follower of the Ex Rajah."

* See ante in
this vol.

3. Since writing my letter of the 6th instant* I have received authentic intelligence of Tuanku Abdullah, the eldest son of the Ex Rajah of Quedah, having arrived at Quedah Fort, and here he has been

proclaimed Rajah. This Tuanku Abdullah accompanied a person called Bus-tian to Calcutta, alluded to in a letter from Mr. Macnaghten to Mr. Swinton dated 6th July* 1832.

* 7 6 June. See
*Bengal Secret and
Political Cons.*
vol. 366.

4. These persons have undoubtedly been the cause of the present predatory capture of Quedah by the Malays, who have been instigated thereto by seeing that on a former occasion they were permitted to do so with impunity, the Chiefs at the same time giving out that all the English at Penang are in their favour and that they will be upheld by the British Government.

5. At present the people of Penang and Province Wellesley go to and return from Quedah whenever they see fit, and no doubt supply the insurgents with arms &c. The punishment for this species of offence is I observe provided for in the proposed penal code for India, Sections 114 and 115, page 80 of the printed copy. But I confess I am ignorant of the steps that should be taken against offenders of this sort, as the law now stands. It appears advisable therefore that the reference contemplated in the concluding part of the penultimate paragraph of your letter of the 15th February 1831, dated at Camp Muhil, should be made, and the result be communicated to me as early as convenient.

6. Since writing the above, the gun boat Diamond, which was dispatched to the northward by Captain Crozier on the Victor's leaving Quedah for the purpose of giving information to the Siamese authorities of the state of things at that place, has returned, and Mr. Stuart, the person in charge of her, informs me that the Siamese had all fled from the sea coast and that he could not find any Siamese Chief to whom he could deliver my letter, and that the Malay Chiefs who are acting under the Siamese Government are in great alarm, lest the proceedings of their countrymen

at Quedah should bring down the vengeance of the Siamese on them.

I have the honor &ca.

(Signed) S. G. Bonham
Governor Prince of Wales Island,
Singapore and Malacca.

Prince of Wales Island.
The 18th August 1838.

Fort William 26th September 1838.

Letter of Chou Phya Praklang, first Minister of State to His Magnificent Majesty the King of Siam.

To the Honorable S. G. Bonham Esquire
Governor of Singapore, Penang and Malacca.

I received your letter informing me that you sent the Fireship to Sungora, and on her return encountered and captured a piratical boat, in which were four Siamese subjects, two men and two women, natives of Sungora, and when an opportunity offers you would return them to Sungora. Afterwards the fire ship on her passage down saw six large piratical boats attacking a Chinese junk. She went to their assistance and fired upon them, killing nearly one hundred pirates and taking thirty prisoners, which were to be punished according to English law &ca. &ca.

The Acting Governor of Sungora sent a letter here informing me that he had sent the guard boats out after pirates. They fell in with and captured a pirate boat. On being questioned he said that there was another boat in company commanded by Panglima Ame. When off Patani they fell in with the boat of Panglima Assam from the Island of Kalang. They sailed together with the intention of committing piracies in the vicinity of Sungora. When the fireship returned she sunk one piratical boat and took another. His (Che Ama) boat escaped the fireship being furthest off and night coming on. The letters from Sungora confirm Governor Bonham's letter.

The Ministers of State informed His Majesty the King of Siam of the contents of Governor Bonham's letter and His Majesty was graciously pleased to learn that Governor Bonham had sent the fireship to Sungora and that she had encountered and taken pirates in the

vicinity of Sungora, also that she assisted a Chinese junk and destroyed six large boats, killing about one hundred men and taking thirty prisoners, for which His Majesty the King of Siam thanks Governor Bonham seeing that what Governor Bonham has done is proper between two friendly countries.

All the merchants of this country are very glad that the fireship was so fortunate in her attack upon the pirates. The junk of Phra Pra Suit Wanit, which trades to Singapore, was attacked by pirates and saved in consequence of the assistance given her by the fireship. The Malay pirates, His Majesty hopes, will after this example be afraid to put to sea, and that the merchants may trade to and from Singapore safely.

Last year [the] Governor of Junkceylon sent a letter here stating that Che Matalee, residing in an island called Lancavi, now has removed to a long island abreast of Junkceylon. He owes to several people at Punguh large sums of money. Three years ago on the death of the late Governor of Junkceylon he ran from the long island and joined the Malay Governor of Quedah. The old Governor sent Che Matalee to call together all the bad people from the neighbouring islands on the west side for the purpose of committing acts of piracy on the merchants' crafts trading from Junkceylon, Takappa, Quedah &c. to Penang. Che Matalee returned to the long island and settled as a pirate. He attacked a Chinese boat returning from Penang. The Siamese guard boats went to her assistance and saved her and caught two of her pirate boats; one boat contained seventeen men, the other seven. Matalee ran to Pera. This year we received a letter from the Governor of Quedah stating that Chee Matalee called together several people, the followers of the old Rajah of Quedah from the vicinity of the English country, and proceeded to the island called Lancavi. He sent his uncle Chee Momun, and his father in law, Tuan Long-a-Rue, to call all the

people at Lancavi to join Matalee in his piratical practices. The Chief of the Island, Chee Su-On, caught Chee Momun and Tuan Longa-Rue. Chee Matalee and Tuan Kumat Suat went to Pulo Bunting. The Siamese war boats went to seize them. They made their escape and went outside Penang, somewhere in the vicinity of Pera. On the 19th of April 1838 Chee Matalee and Tuan Kumat Suat and their people with fourteen boats returned to Pulo Bunting and recommenced their piratical depredations and sent a letter to collect all their followers for the purpose of attacking Quedah. The Governor of Quedah sent a letter to the Governor of Penang. The fireship arrived at Penang from Singapore. The Governor of Penang sent the fireship to catch Matalee and his people, but after a search of four days could not find them and returned to Singapore. After that the Governor of Quedah sent eighteen guard boats to the northward in pursuit of the pirates. They fell in with the piratical boats and engaged them, one of which they nearly sunk. The people had to leave her and got on board of some of the other boats. They all ran and night coming on they made their escape into the vicinity of the English stations of Penang, consequently the Siamese war boats could not follow them over the English boundary, and returned to Pulo Bunting. Chee Matalee and Tuan Kumat Suat, when the war boats leave, come out to sea and seize on merchant boats, and when the war boats make their appearance the pirates run for Penang. This they have done two or three times, and now all the merchants are afraid to carry on trade to Penang. Chee Matalee and Tuan Kumat Suat are partizans of the old Rajah of Quedah, all of which are under the English flag. All these pirates are enemies to the Siamese as well as the English countries. Therefore, for friendship's sake sent the fire ship and catch Chee Matalee and Tuan Kumat Suat who are sea pirates. Afterwards I suppose all would be quiet and the

merchants from Quedah, Junkceylon, Takooatung, Takoppa and Punguh will be able to trade as heretofore.

Seal

Bangkok
The 24th June 1838.

Translated into English by

(Signed) R. Hunter, Siam.

Public Record
Office.

Admirals'
Despatches.
Ad. 1/819.

(Enclosure to Rear Admiral Maitland's letter to the Admiralty, No. 73, dated 1 November 1838.)

Her Majesty's Sloop Hyacinth,
Penang Roads, 12th September 1838.

Sir,

I sailed from Penang on the morning of the 22d August, arrived off Quedah the same evening but too late to communicate with the shore.

The following morning Mr. Stewart, the Commander of the Diamond gun boat, landed and was informed that the man we went in search of had effected his escape with the Siamese, when the Malays took possession of that place. . . .

I anchored off Pulo Telibon on the evening of the 29th: two days elapsed before I communicated with that place, and on doing so I found it had been taken possession of five days previously by Makon Alli, a Malay Chief, I believe, well known to Mr. Bonham, without any loss of life, and taking a few Siamese prisoners only.

The whole line of coast from Quedah to Trang being now in possession of the Malays I proceeded to visit Panjang On the 8th I sailed for Penang and have to report the arrival of Her Majesty's Sloop in that harbour to await your further orders.

I have &c.

(Signed) Wm. Warren
Commander.

Commander Richard Crozier
Her Majesty's Sloop Victor.

India Political
Consultations,
Range 194,
vol. 75.

No. 82.

Fort William 26th September 1838.

To the Governor of Prince of Wales Island,
Singapore and Malacca.

Sir,

* See *ante* in
this vol.

* ? *Lankari.*

I am directed by the President in Council to acknowledge the receipt of your letters dated respectively the 30th July* and 6th* and 13th August, on the subject of the enterprise against Quedah headed by Tuanko Mahomed Saad and Tuanko Mahomed Taib, and aided by Wan Mutalla, son of a Chief of the Island Lunkaru.*

2. It appears that the two first named Chiefs are nephews of the Ex Rajah of Quedah, and that having collected a body of Malay rovers they availed themselves of the general disaffection felt by the Malays against the Siamese supremacy and mastered the principal part of Quedah in the early part of August, overpowering the weak garrison left there by the Siamese.

3. By the treaty concluded by Lieutenant Colonel, then Captain Burney, in June 1826, the British Government is bound to do its utmost to prevent such enterprises and to afford explanation of any gathering of troops or boats that may take place, but it is not stipulated that we are to assist in the recovery of the lost forts.

4. You ascribe the success of the Malays to the neglect and improvidence of the Siamese, but as you think there can be no doubt of their exerting themselves to recover the lost places and to put down the insurrection, and that they will bring force enough to make their success in the end certain, you think that we are bound, as well by policy as by a sense of justice and good faith to give assistance to the Siamese in operations they may engage in for the purpose.

5. It appears from your last letter above acknowledged that the eldest son of the Ex King of Quedah, Tuanko Abdoolla, has since gone to the Fort of Quedah and been proclaimed King, and the rise against the Siamese is stated to be so general along the Malay coast that a Siamese officer could not be found any where with whom Mr. Stuart could hold communication when sent in command of the gun-boat to deliver letters and information.

6. The Siamese have applied for your assistance in putting down the present insurrection, which they treat as a piratical enterprise, and have suggested that the Government steamer should be employed in seizing and destroying the vessels of the Malay Chiefs engaged in it, which they assert find protection in the British territory, and there appears to be no doubt that the population of Penang and Province Wellesley are favorable to the enterprise of the Malays and that it has been aided by recruits and resources derived from the British territory, if indeed it has not been fitted out there.

7. The President in Council entirely approves the Proclamation issued by you in July last,* recalling all subjects of the British Government who might have been induced to take part in the expedition against Quedah, and the other steps taken by you to prove to the Siamese that the insurrection has no countenance from the British Government, are also confirmed and approved.

* See *ante* in
this vol.

8. The question however remains what specific further assistance you are called upon to give to the Siamese when they shall appear in force to put down the insurrection, and whether British subjects or Malay [*illegible*] whose residence is in British territory, when proved to have joined it and to have taken an active part against the Siamese, after and with knowledge of your proclamation, can be brought to punishment and in what manner.

9. With respect first to this last question the President in Council has no hesitation in deciding that the heads of the present enterprise, if they fall into the hands of the English officers or authorities, must be kept in close confinement, with a view to their being punished in any manner that the law will permit. If the British law as enforced and administered in the Straits will not meet the case His Honor in Council would seriously consider whether they should not be delivered up to the Siamese to be dealt with according to the laws and customs of that country, for the offences committed within its frontier. This alternative is always open to the Government and it will ensure that the parties will readily submit to any treatment that may be ordered by Government under the condition of its refraining from a resort to it.

10. The two nephews of the Quedah Rajah, who obtained their release in consequence of the provision in their favor contained in the treaty with the Siamese concluded in 1826 and who have now used their liberty to engage in hostilities against Siam, in direct violation of the stipulations of that Treaty, have in the opinion of the President in Council placed themselves in the predicament to merit very severe treatment.

11. Hadjee Mostafa also, who is stated to have once commanded a Government gun boat and to be still a land holder in Province Wellesley must similarly be kept in close confinement in case of his falling into the hands of the British authorities, in order that he may be dealt with as other British subjects who have taken part as leaders in this enterprise.

12. It is the intention of His Honor in Council to consider in the Legislative Department the expediency of passing a law prescribing a specific punishment for this and similar offences committed in the

territory of our allies. His Honor in Council has no doubt that the rigorous imprisonment of these persons in the interim, while the further proceedings to be held in respect to them are under consideration, will be justifiable and proper, and the alternative of delivery to the Siamese being always, as before observed, open, the prisoners will willingly submit to abide the result of the deliberations of the Government on their future treatment. If in your opinion there will be inconvenience in keeping the leaders of this expedition in confinement in the settlements under your administration, you will consider yourself fully authorised to use your discretion in sending them to Calcutta to be dealt with as may seem fit.

13. But although by this severity towards the leaders, if captured on the seas or after return to British territory, the Government may satisfy the Siamese, when the present disturbances have been quelled, our ally will naturally expect some early demonstration in aid of the operations undertaken to subdue the insurgents, and to prove that we have not countenanced or encouraged the enterprise.

14. Upon this difficult point the President in Council can only at present convey his approbation of the steps contemplated by you vizt. the employment of the steamer Diana when she rejoins and the gun boats at your disposal, with any of Her Majesty's Ships of War that may be in the Straits, in blockading the ports attacked by the Siamese so as to prevent supplies of men, arms, provisions or munitions of war of any kind being thrown in by sea.

15. His Honor in Council entirely approves your refraining altogether from taking part in any land enterprise and His Honor in Council would not allow the men of the Government vessels to be landed to aid in any storm of works or other operations of that kind which would identify them with the Siamese, and fix

on them the stain of participating in any acts of savage barbarity that might be perpetrated during or after a successful assault.

15. The blockading force may consider itself at liberty to accept any general surrender which may be tendered and the places given up must then immediately be given over to the Siamese authorities. It will be impossible also to refuse to accept the submission of individuals attempting to escape after the siege of a place has been formed, and the delivery of such to the Siamese, except in extreme cases or under assurances that their lives will be spared, might be thought inhuman.

17. It remains only to consider whether as this enterprise has been led by the nephews of the Ex Rajah and his son has been proclaimed King as the result of its success, any measures of the rigour are called for against him. His Honor in Council leaves it to your discretion to take steps to secure the person of the Ex Rajah and place him under restraint or otherwise accordingly as you shall see reason to believe that he is furnishing aid in men or money or in any other way to the enterprise. Of course, pending an enterprise undertaken by the family of this Chief for the recovery of his rights of sovereignty from a state in friendship with us, the Government can sanction no payment of stipend to any members of that family so as to incur the more than probable risk that the money would be employed in hostilities against our ally.

18. His Honor in Council trusts that the above explanation of the view taken by the Government of India of the principal questions involved in the embarrassing relations subsisting with the Siamese, as affected by this Malay enterprise, will suffice to enable you to act promptly with confidence in the juncture. You will of course communicate on the subject of any

operations that may be in progress with His Excellency the Naval Commander in Chief when he shall pass through the Straits on his return from China, furnishing him with a copy of the correspondence to enable him the better to judge what aid to afford you from Her Majesty's Squadron and what instructions to give to the Commander left to direct the operations.

I have &c.

(Signed) H. T. Prinsep
Secretary to Government of India.

Fort William
The 26th September 1838.

Fort William 6th February 1839.

No. 17.

Political Department.

To H. T. Prinsep Esquire
Secretary to Government Fort William.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 26th September last on the subject of the affairs of Quedah, and I now enclose for the information of the Honorable the President in Council copy of the instructions I forwarded to the Resident Councillor at Penang for his guidance, and his reply which with Captain Warren's letter of the 15th instant will put Government in full possession of all that has heretofore passed and of the state in which matters now are.

Government will observe that in consequence of there being no civil officers here besides Mr. Church to perform the duties which at Penang occupy the time of the Resident Councillor, Recorder and an Assistant, I have been unable to quit this station, and that I was therefore compelled to leave it to the discretion of the Penang authorities to enforce the blockade of Quedah River and coast or otherwise before the arrival of the Siamese force, and it appears that it has been considered advisable to do so. I shall, however, forward [? messengers] to Penang tomorrow, and be able to ascertain how far the adoption of the measure was proper, when should it not appear likely to have the effect of inducing the Malays to withdraw from Quedah and return to their homes it will be a matter for consideration if the flotilla should not be recalled until the Siamese make their appearance in sufficient force to retake the country.

I found some difficulty in wording the Proclamation giving publicity to the inhabitants of Penang and Province Wellesley, of the state of affairs at Quedah,

so as to meet the anomalous position in which it appears to me we are placed by the present unhappy enterprize. I therefore had recourse to the form and style of that adopted on a former occasion under similar circumstances and which formed an enclosure in Mr. Ibbetson's dispatch to Mr. Secretary Swinton dated 4th July 1831, and is referred to in a letter from that Department of the 15th August* following without comment, and I presume therefore not disapproved of. Copy is herewith annexed.

* Copied from *Bur.*
Pol. Cons. Range
126, vol. 33.

I likewise enclose copies of two letters that I have addressed to the Minister at Siam, that of the 28th instant is still here, but a vessel will sail in a few days for Bangkok, so that in two months from this date an answer to both may be expected.

From information derived from Mr. Hunter, a gentleman residing at Bangkok, whose opinions are worthy of every consideration, I have reason to think the Court of Siam have been very anxious to ascertain the views and intentions of the Supreme Government at the present crisis. From the same authority I also learn that the Rajah of Ligore (the same person who was so conspicuous during the outbreak in 1831) has been sent from Bangkok to retake Quedah but I suspect without any troops, the Siamese Government having left it to him to gather, if he can, a force from the Provinces, which will account for the non-appearance of any Siamese force on the frontier of Quedah. I am also told on good authority, the Siamese are in expectation of being shortly attacked by the Cochin Chinese, which further tends to corroborate the opinion that no troops can at present be spared from the capital for the recapture of Quedah.

It is very satisfactory to me to see that His Honor in Council appears to consider this question embarrassing and perplexing; it is, in fact, much more so than Government is aware of from the circumstance of the most influential part of the population of the place, European and native, being adverse

to the claims of the Siamese, and favourable to the Malay cause; entirely overlooking the necessity that exists for maintaining the provisions of the Treaty, and of course giving every sort of encouragement to the insurgents to continue in their present course.

It may be right I should here add that I have heard that letters in reply to mine of the 2d September last* have been sent from Siam and I suspect have been carried on in the vessel on which they were dispatched. I am ignorant of the contents of the dispatch, but as no force has yet reached Quedah, I have purposely not adverted to it, as I am thereby enabled to write in a strain that will I trust beget an explicit avowal of their intentions and thereby enable Government to judge if there is any necessity for the further continuance of support and assistance on our side should a sufficient Siamese force not have appeared at Quedah before the replies arrive.

I likewise enclose translation of a letter received from the Ex Rajah wherein he expressly disavows all connexion with the insurgents. I have had no reason to be satisfied that he has rendered them any pecuniary assistance, of which indeed as yet they have not been in want, having had a very good market I suspect at Penang, through Chinese Agency, for the sale of the plunder they have been able to collect from the Ryots at Quedah. I have not therefore as yet curtailed the Ex Rajah's allowances and which I do not understand to be the wish of Government, unless it is evident that he is aiding and assisting the Enterprize, but which will, of course, be immediately carried into effect should I have tolerable proof that he is assisting the insurgents with the proceeds of the Government stipend.

I have the honor &ca,
(Signed) S. G. Bonham
Governor,

Singapore
the 31st December 1838.

Fort William 6th February 1839.

No. 18.

To the Resident Councillor
Prince of Wales Island.

Sir,

On the 20th August last I had the honor to address you on the subject of the state of Quedah and to forward for your guidance a copy of my correspondence with the Supreme Government and some other documents connected therewith. At that time I hoped to have been able to return to Penang at an early date, but as I have found, and I still find it impossible to do so at present from Mr. Church being unprovided with an Assistant, I consider it my duty to enclose to you copy of a dispatch I have recently received from the Supreme Government on the same subject and to request that you will put yourself in communication with the Naval Commander at Prince of Wales Island and will request him to carry into effect, as far as he is able, the wishes and orders of Government.

At present I can only send the three gun boats but I hope in a short time to be able to place the steamer Diana at his command also.

I am not aware how matters, at present, precisely stand at Quedah, but if you consider that by enforcing the blockade of the coast at once, though the Siamese forces may not be in possession of the interior, the measure may tend to a more speedy settlement of the question than by remaining quiescent until their forces have appeared and taken possession of the interior, you will not hesitate to carry fully into effect the directions of Government and prohibit any further assistance being thrown into Quedah by declaring it, and as far as you can by putting it under a strict blockade. In this case means should be taken to prevent any boats for the future entering that river,

by which measure some of the insurgents, seeing that we are bent on driving them out, may probably at once be disposed to abscond.

Should it be considered by you advisable to proclaim the blockade at once, you will have the goodness to procure translations of the accompanying proclamation and send them for distribution to Quedah and elsewhere by the Naval Officer directing the operations. A copy should also be sent to the Master Attendant's Office for the information of all persons leaving Penang, and no further port clearance for Quedah be granted.

I take this opportunity of sending you a copy and translation of a letter from the Ex Rajah of Quedah to me, denying all participation in the proceedings of his son and others against Quedah. A copy of it should be sent to the insurgents that they may not hereafter be permitted to plead in extenuation that they are now and have been acting under his instructions. The Ryots also seeing that the Mahamed Saad and the other leaders of this enterprize have no authority for their present proceedings and that their proceedings are disavowed by the Ex Rajah may be possibly induced to disperse.

Should any of the leaders of the expedition be taken, and it is very desirable the principal ones should be, you will of course detain them in strict custody and report the matter to me without delay,

* *There is apparently an omission here. ? [bound by the instructions].* but considering yourself* conveyed to me in the concluding part of the 12th paragraph of Mr. Prinsep's letter.

These are all the suggestions that at present occur to me but which I hope will be sufficient to enable you to carry on the necessary operations consequent on the orders of Government until my arrival, which I hope will not be now long delayed.

I have communicated freely with Captain Warren on the subject and he is perfectly aware of the wishes and orders of Government thereon, and I feel assured he will do every thing that is necessary to put them into most effectual execution.

I have &ca.

(Signed) S. G. Bonham
Governor.

Singapore
The 10th November 1838.

Fort William 6th February 1839.

Proclamation.

Whereas with the view of upholding the faith of traders and of preserving our friendly relations with the Government of Siam it has become necessary to co-operate with that power in the recapture of Quedah conformably with the 13th Article in the Treaty of Bangkok dated the 20th June 1826, and whereas many British subjects have joined the present piratical attack upon this capital by Tuanku Mahomed Saad and Tuanku Mahomed Taib and their followers and associations, This is to give public notice that such subjects abovementioned, as do not peaceably return to their homes within ten days after the promulgation of this Proclamation will subject themselves to all the penalties attached to British subjects found in open arms against their own Government and that of an ally.

And it is hereby also notified that the whole coast of Quedah is hereby declared to be under effective blockade and that any vessels or boats attempting to enter into those territories will after [? this notice] be liable to detention unless provided with a pass from the authorities at Prince of Wales Island.

And in order that no one may hereafter plead ignorance of the circumstances under which Quedah has recently been captured by Tuanku Mahomed Saad and others, it is hereby further notified that the former Rajah of Quedah has written to the Governor of Prince of Wales Island, Singapore and Malacca, a letter dated Malacca the 3d October last, disclaiming any participation in the capture of Quedah from the Siamese by those now in possession of that Country.

(Signed) S. G. Bonham
Governor.

Fort William 6th February 1839.

To the Honorable J. W. Salmond Esquire
&ca. &ca. &ca.

Sir,

I have the honor to acquaint you for the information of Mr. Bonham that I landed at Quedah on the 7th and had a communication with Tuanku Mahomed Saad, who is in command of that place. After stating the object of my visit I handed him the Proclamation and stuck two others against the walls of the Fort, much against his will, and was anxious to know if I was acting under the orders of the Supreme Government. Upon answering him in the affirmative and asking him his determination, he said he must have time to consider. I was to have had an interview the following day with Tuanka Abdullah, the Ex King's son, but being anxious to promulgate the proclamation I sailed for Parlis, leaving the gun boats, Nos. 2 and 3, and Her Majesty's Sloop's pinnace to watch this place to prevent any supplies of arms or ammunition being thrown in.

On the 9th I landed at Parlis and issued the proclamation and the following day at Satoh, where I found Mahomed Alli with 40 war proahs and a schooner of six guns equipped and in preparation for sea. He, like his confederates, wished for time before he gave his determination. However I gave them all a positive assurance of the determination of the Supreme Government to replace the Siamese in possession of the country.

Having reason to suppose the Siamese had possession of Lingor, I dispatched Mr. Stewart on the "Diamond" with a proclamation and a letter to the Chief of the Siamese forces to convince them of our

earnestness in their cause. On his arrival at that place he found it had been retaken by the Malays last Monday without any loss, and therefore returned without effecting the desired object.

On my return off Quedah I am happy to inform you I found that Hadjee Buckie, an influential Chief and one particularly mentioned by Mr. Bonham, was captured by the boats in endeavouring to get into Quedah. I now send him to Penang in charge of an officer with a view of his being kept prisoner until this affair is settled, whatever the Government may determine hereafter.

* *This letter has not been found.*

In adverting to your letter of the 5th* with a petition annexed thereto, I beg to acquaint you that on the 13th I arrived in Bap harbour in the Island of Lancava, which place I found in possession of the Malays. Having remained there some hours and communicated with the shore I could hear nothing of the petitioners, and have reason to suppose most of the signatures attached to it were by persons living in Penang.

I send by this conveyance three Chinese inhabitants of Penang who were wrecked on their way to Moulmein, and who have been detained at Lancava by the Malays against their will.

I have &c.

(Signed) W. Warren
Commander.

Her Majesty's Sloop Hyacinth
Off Quedah.
The 15th December 1838.

Fort William 6th February 1839.

No. 19. To the Chow Phya Praklang,
Prime Minister to the King of Siam.

I regret to report for your Excellency's information that the state of Quedah has again fallen into the hands of the Malays and which it was entirely out of my power to prevent as your Excellency will learn by the following statement.

For some months past it has been known that in Quedah Province Malay people have been collected from various parts, which has been brought to the notice of the Siamese authorities. On the 24th July, having reason to know that there was a fleet of boats in the Merbow River which is in the Siamese territory and fearing that they intended making a descent on Quedah, I sent Her Majesty's Ship Wolf to Quedah to inform the Siamese Chief of the fact and to warn him. On the arrival of the Wolf the Siamese Chief told the Commander, Captain Stanley, that he was aware of what was going on but that he was in no alarm, as he daily expected a considerable force from Purlis, and that with the boats he then had at his disposal the Fort was quite safe. Captain Stanley also told the Chief that if the Siamese boats would accompany him he would assist them to drive the Malays from the Merbow River. The Chief desired Captain Stanley to await the arrival of the expected boats from Purlis, but this he could not do, and as the Chief appeared to be in no immediate alarm the Wolf returned to Prince of Wales Island.

Your Excellency will see that the English could do no more, for it would have been improper for an English force to have landed on the Siamese territories without the presence of the Siamese authorities. On the 30th July I received a note written by the

Chief of Quedah on the subject of these Malays, written on the 20th of the same month, being four days before I sent the Wolf to his assistance though not received by me until six days afterwards. Thinking it proper to answer this letter I sent on the 1st of August Her Majesty's Ship Victor with the reply, but on the arrival of the vessel Quedah Fort was found to be in the possession of the Malays and no Siamese Chief could be found to whom to deliver the letter. The Chief of Quedah will of course tell his own story to Your Excellency, but of this it is right your Excellency should be informed, that when the Fort was taken there were only sixty Siamese in it, that only one Siamese was killed and only two of the besieging party.

All these matters I have reported to the Governor General of India and hope in less than two months to receive instructions, when I shall again communicate with your Excellency and with the Authorities in Quedah, should the Siamese have acquired possession of the interior.

I take this opportunity of observing that report says there were only 300 Siamese in Quedah Province, to which small force must be attributed the present confusion; had an adequate force of real Siamese been there, the present untoward event could not have occurred.

Her Majesty's Ship Hyacinth left Penang on the 20th for the purpose of proceeding to Trang to advise the Siamese of what had happened at Quedah and to assist the Siamese in dispersing the Malay flotilla should it be found at sea creating confusion and injuring the Siamese.

With every &ca.

(Signed) S. G. Bonham
Governor.

Singapore
The 2d September 1838.

Fort William 6th February 1839.

To the Chou Phya Praklang

Prime Minister to His Excellency the King of Siam.

On the 2d September last I had the honor to address your Excellency relative to the occupation of Keda by the Malays and informing you that I should report the whole matter to His Excellency the Right Honorable the Governor General of India in Council, which having been done I have received instructions to maintain as [far as] possible the provisions of the Treaty existing between our respective nations entire, that friendship and good faith may be preserved.

In obedience to the instructions from my superior, steps have been taken to blockade the Quedah River and the coast of that Country as much as possible by a sloop of war, three gun boats and the steamer Diana, to prevent further supplies of men or arms, provisions, or munitions of war of any kind being thrown into Quedah by sea

The sloop and gun boats have now been on this service for nearly a month, and were sent under the presumption that an adequate force would have been sent by the Siamese Government to retake Quedah from the Malays, but as yet no Siamese force has arrived, or even indeed been heard of.

The services of these vessels were sent by the British Government to assist the Siamese, thereby showing its wish to faithfully perform the stipulations contained in the Treaty and I feel satisfied that your Excellency cannot do otherwise than acknowledge its having fully performed its part. As yet I have received no reply from your Excellency to my letter of the 2d September and I am therefore entirely at a loss

to know if any and what steps have been taken by the Siamese Government to recover its lost possession but I think it proper your Excellency should be informed that unless some measures are very shortly adopted by the Siamese for its reoccupation the resources now at my command for the purpose of affording assistance will be no longer available.

With every &ca.

(Signed) S. G. Bonham
Governor.

Singapore
The 28th December 1838.

Fort William 6th February 1839.

No. 20.

Translation of a letter from Sultan Ahmud Tajad-
in Alim Shaw to the Honorable S. G. Bonham Esquire,
Governor &ca. &ca.

After Preamble.

I declare to my friend that the Quedah country
is my country and that all those who have gone there
and have done any thing without my knowledge are
bad people (are to blame) even my own children who
will not listen to my words are likewise to blame.
I wish to have this arranged as I am residing in the
Company's territory. In consequence I now ask for
assistance from the Company that can drive away all
the people that have done this. Let me not be im-
plicated in the affair because I am old. Such im-
proper acts I could not think of doing. With regard
to myself until I shall have received answers to my
letters from Bengal and England I would do nothing
of the kind. I think some people in Penang must
have assisted with arms, ammunition and money to
have enabled the parties to go and do what is not
proper in Quedah, thereby giving me a bad name to
the Company. I trust my friend will sift this matter
properly so that it may be properly known and that
I may be free from all suspicions entertained by the
Company (Government). This is what I wish to
make known. Written on the 13th day Rajah Hejira
1254 (3d October 1838.)

(True Translation)

(Signed) S. G. Bonham
Governor.

Fort William 27th February 1839.

No. 64.

To H. T. Prinsep Esqre.
Secretary to Government
Fort William.

Sir,

Since my arrival at this station I have made every enquiry in my power respecting the present state of Quedah and the probability that exists of the Siamese coming down in sufficient force to drive the insurgents out of the Province but I have been entirely unable to gain any satisfactory information on the subject.

2. On the 4th instant a deputation of Siamese arrived overland from Siam, and brought me a letter from the Rajah of Ligore, copy of which with my reply are enclosed. I at the same time received a letter dated so far back as September last from Mr. Hunter, a mercantile gentleman residing at Bangkok, which is enclosed. The persons composing the deputation* over that at Seetool and Lungu, places about forty or fifty miles to the northward of Quedah Fort* there are already 6000 Siamese and that the Rajah of Ligore has with him at Ligore 4000 more, and that both bodies of men are ready to move as soon as the Rajah hears that the British Government is disposed to assist him. What credence is to be given to this statement it is doubtful to estimate, but there is no doubt that at present the places abovementioned are in possession of the Siamese.

* Omissions apparently occur in these places.

3. Captain Warren of Her Majesty's Ship Hyacinth, who yesterday came in for water and left again early this morning, informs me he thinks that the insurgents are beginning to feel the effects of the blockade from the want of salt and opium, and that overtures had been made to the officers of the boats by some of the insurgents requesting to know if they would be permitted to leave the country. They were

told they would be provided they took nothing with them. I had also heard similar reports here. The fact is that from the blockade the insurgents, being unable to get their plunder to Penang, are not so readily supplied with opium and salt and other necessities as they were formerly,

See vol. 8 of this Series.

4. In my last letter of the 31st ultimo I hinted that the principal part of the plunder acquired by the insurgents was brought to this Settlement, and then attributed its introduction to Chinese agency. I now regret to say that no doubt exists on the subject but that the Chinese are not the sole receivers of this ill gotten wealth as will be seen by enclosed copy of a note from a merchant of this station.

5. From this document will be observed that Tuanku Mahomed Saad, the head of the insurgents, was indebted to a mercantile firm the sum of forty dollars and on being requested to pay it since he has been in possession of Quedah he has done so with fifteen head of cattle. These cattle of course must have been the property of persons in Quedah and I have no doubt that many more debts due by Mahomed Saad and his associates have been paid in [a] similar way.

6. In my mind there is no doubt that the attack on Quedah by the Malays originated entirely with a view to plunder. It is generally understood that the whole of the Province has been devastated, so much so indeed that when at Malacca on my way up here the Ex King requested me strongly to put a stop, if possible, to present proceedings by driving the Malays out of Quedah, adding that if it ever so turned out he should be permitted to return to his country he should find it a desert and useless.

7. The Supreme Government has before it Captain Burney's report of his mission to Siam and from it will ascertain the value the Court of Siam appeared at that time to attach to the possession of Quedah.

8. I confess I am entirely at a loss to report when the Siamese are likely to appear, and when they

do, how long it will be before they will probably succeed in driving the Malays from Quedah. In my letter to the Rajah of Ligore I have urged on him the necessity of dispatch and intimated that I cannot answer how much longer my superiors may be disposed or able to continue to assist the Siamese should any further delay take place.

9. The Hyacinth, steamer and three gun boats are now on the coast and are able, I am in hopes, to prevent supplies from being thrown into Quedah or the plunder of the insurgents finding an outlet by boats, but still they have opportunities of driving cattle and bringing portable articles into Province Wellesley. These, though morally certain that they are stolen property, I am unable to seize, as the nominal owners would immediately rush to the Court and the result of a suit would, to say the least of it, be very doubtful, as it would be impossible nearly to prove that the persons in possession were not the rightful proprietors.

10. I have at present in the Fort one of the principal leaders, by name Hadjee Bakkie. He was present at the capture of Quedah Fort and is the person alluded to in the 4th paragraph of Captain Crozier's letter of the 5th August last* which formed an enclosure of my dispatch dated the day following, and there is no doubt of his having taken a very active part throughout. The manner in which he was taken [is] stated in Captain Warren's letter of the 15th ultimo,* and yet so far as I am aware there is at present no certain means of bringing him even to trial, much less of ensuring conviction and punishment.

I have &ca.

(Signed) S. G. Bonham-Governor
Prince of Wales Island,
Singapore and Malacca.

Prince of Wales Island

18 January 1839.

* See Admirals
Dispatches 1/219.

* See vol. 8 of this
series.

Fort William 27 February 1839.

No. 65.

Substance of a letter from the Rajah of Ligore to Samuel George Bonham Esquire, Governor of Penang, Singapore and Malacca.

I beg to inform my friend that I have been absent from Quedah on a visit to the Emperor of Siam where I was detained from indisposition, and during my absence the Malays captured and ruined the country of Quedah. In the Treaty existing between the English and Siamese, article 13, it is stipulated that the English will not permit the old Rajah of Quedah or his followers to attack or molest [Quedah]. The old Rajah's relatives Tunku Mahomed Saad, Tunku Mahomed Akip and others who were apprehended in the invasion of Quedah by the Siamese were set at liberty after the completion of the said Treaty. Now Tunku Mahomed Saad, Tunku Mahomed Akip and Che Mahomed Ally have, contrary to Treaty, invaded the Quedah country. Che Mahomed Ally with a fleet, is now attacking the subjects of Siam at Sital. I beg my friend will allot a ship and render assistance as on former occasions; I rely much on my friend's support in this instance which will tend to increase our mutual friendship. As a token of friendship I send two cups and a tray of composition metal of Bangkok. I took charge of a letter from Mr. Hunter which accompanied this and beg to be honored with a reply thereto.

Written on the 27th day of the 1st month year
Dog.

Fort William 27 February 1839.

No. 65 contd. To the Rajah of Ligore.

I have this day received my friend's letter dated 27th day of the 1 month year Dog, informing me of your arrival at Ligore. I have already written to Bangkok to the Praklang one letter dated 2nd September,* the last 28th December.* In the last I advised the Praklang that the coast of Quedah and its rivers were under blockade to prevent the supply of men, arms or ammunition, by a sloop of war and gun boats, which had been there for nearly a month, but that if the Siamese force did not shortly appear that I could not permit them to remain much longer. I beg my friend will therefore send an adequate force to drive the Malays from Quedah and take possession of the country.

* See ante vol. 8 of
this series.

6th January 1839.

Fort William · 27 February 1839.

No. 85 contd. To the Honble. S. G. Bonham Esqre.
Governor of Singapore.

Dear Sir,

We have just learned at the Court of Bangkok that the Malays have revolted, attacked and driven out of Quedah the Siamese authorities, and in consequence His Siamese Majesty has ordered my friend the Rajah of Ligore, who is now here, to go and retake Quedah. He will leave this in two days and he has requested me to give him these few lines by way of introduction to you. On his arrival in Quedah he will write you fully respecting the state of affairs there. He requests me to state that with the late Governor Ibbetson he was personally acquainted, and that on all occasions he found him very friendly towards the Siamese Government and himself (the Rajah) personally, and he begs in the present instance that the English Government will continue to cherish the friendly feelings towards the Siamese Government which they have shown on former occasions, that as heretofore they will discountenance the Malays in their treacherous attacks on Quedah, and will if found necessary give assistance to retake Quedah and reinstate the Siamese authorities there in terms of the article 13 of the English Treaty with the Siamese.

I have been called upon repeatedly by the Ministers, and asked my opinion as to what steps the English would pursue, whether they would assist the Siamese or Malays, or remain neutral. I replied that my opinion was that they would assist the Siamese, as they had done on former occasions. At all events if they did not assist the Siamese they would remain neutral, as it was not at all probable that they would assist the Malays to take Quedah, having a Treaty

with the Siamese to the contrary. The answer seemed satisfactory, as the Praklang said in that case we can easily conquer the Malays. He made one of his secretaries write down my reply for His Majesty's information.

The firm with which I am connected are the only English merchants here, and I must say that the Siamese authorities allow every facility to trade, we of course paying the heavy duties as agreed in the famous [treaty] of 1826.

I remain &ca.

(Signed) Robt. Hunter.

[September 1838.]

Fort William 27 February 1839.

Prince of Wales Island
21st January 1839.

My Dear Mr. Prinsep,

* See *ante* in
this vol.

On the 18th* I addressed you a very unsatisfactory letter on Quedah affairs, in as much as you will find from it there appears to be no immediate prospect of the Siamese driving the insurgents out of the Province. Young will however tell you all I really know and from him [you] will be able to ascertain the real nature of this outbreak. I am sorry to say so, but I confess I cannot help thinking that some of the European gentry have been at the bottom of these proceedings from the commencement; that they are now encouraging and inciting the insurgents by supplying them with arms &c. is not denied. It is currently reported the principal insurgent was indebted to many of the merchants of this place. How he has paid one European firm my official communication explains. The principal difficulty we have to contend against is to prevent the plundered property of the Quedah ryots from being brought to our market by the insurgents. If this could be effectually prevented no supplies would be sent to them, and I think in that case the mob would disperse, but as long as [the] Malays can live by plunder instead of by labour there is but a small chance of their returning to peaceful avocations. I am not aware how this difficulty can be alleviated except by passing an enactment somewhat similar to that proposed in Macaulay's Code, page 30, declaring all persons resident in our territories liable to a certain punishment who shall be found trading with the insurgents: perhaps however this position is provided for in Section 114 of that Code.

It has just come to my knowledge that a Siamese woman, an inhabitant of Quedah, has been brought to this station by a Chinese merchant, she says against her will, and that she was given with some other persons to the Chinese by the head of the insurgents (no doubt in payment of something or other.) This is a question tangeble* however by a British Court and I shall have him prosecuted for the felony if I can inedit* 15 Geo. IV. Cap. 113. Sec. 9., but I very much doubt the result as it is not impossible under present circumstances that the*

the Bill. To the same Chinese was also sent a large horse the property of the late Chief (Siamese) of Quedah, but in this question I cannot interfere and here lies the mischief; the property was not stolen in our territories and I therefore think that no indictment would be [? accepted or received] against him for receiving stolen property—again the question would be mooted if said horse was not stolen.*

* sic.

* sic? under.

* This letter is so badly copied that in this and other places it is impossible to make sense of it.

* word here illegible.

If the Government therefore determine to continue the blockade and to assist the Siamese until they have driven the Malays out of Quedah, some act prohibiting all intercourse between the inhabitants of the Settlements and those at present in possession of Quedah and rendering such of our inhabitants as may hereafter be detected in trading with the insurgents, that is in buying their plundered property or in selling them arms or other necessaries, liable to be tried for felony, and if found guilty to be transported or to any other punishment the Government may think more commensurate with the offence.

This is however a matter in which I can render but little assistance at this distance. Young knows the difficulties and perplexities under which we labour and can explain them, and the authorities in Calcutta, being aware of the objects to be attained and those to be guarded against, must be infinitely better qualified than I am to suggest the proper remedy and form the

necessary enactment, but whoever undertakes it, should it be decided to pass such an enactment, should be reminded that his workmanship will have to undergo the ordeal of an English Court of Justice with its concomitant technicalities [*illegible*] and that no portion, if possible, should allow any latitude of construction,

I remain, My dear Mr. Prinsep, yours very truly,

(Signed) S. G. Bonham.

Fort William 6th February 1839.

No. 21.

To S. G. Bonham Esquire
Governor Prince of Wales Island,
Singapore and Malacca.

Sir,

I am directed by the Honorable the President in Council to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 31st December last together with its enclosures and in reply to state that His Honor in Council approves the proclamation issued by you to the inhabitants of Penang and Province Wellesley with reference to the state of affairs at Quedah and does not consider that any further orders are required at present from the Supreme Government in addition to the instructions furnished to you on the 26th September last, in regard to the occupation of Quedah by the Malays. You will of course keep the Government informed of the approach of Siamese troops and of their proceedings. It may be proper that you should be informed that Dr. Richardson has been deputed to Siam by Mr. Commissioner Blundell and any communication you may have to make to the Court of Siam on the subject of the proceedings of the Malays in Quedah may fitly be addressed through him.

I have &c.

(Signed) H. T. Prinsep
Secretary to Government of India.

Fort William
The 6th February 1839.

India and Bengal
Despatches,
vol. 19, pp. 673-5.

6 February No. 4 of 1839.

India
Political Department.

Miscellaneous.

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Removal of the
Ex King of
Quedah from
Brwas to Malacca.

Para. 69. The Ex King of Quedah having in spite of the repeated remonstrances of Mr. Bonham, the Governor of the Eastern Settlements, collected a force for the avowed purpose of invading his ancient possessions, it was impossible, consistently with our Treaty with Siam (to which an appeal was made by the Siamese Governor) to avoid interference. We regret that the Ex King's perseverance in the course he had adopted made it necessary for Captain McCrea, of Her Majesty's Sloop Zebra, to have recourse to actual hostilities, but the loss was not great, and the Ex King has been removed to Malacca, which place he must not be permitted again to leave.

• • • • •

We are &ca.

(Signed) J. L. Lushington
&ca. &ca.

London
6th February 1839.

Fort William 24th April 1839.

India Political
Consultations,
Range 195,
vol. 15.

No. 48.

To H. T. Prinsep Esquire
Secretary to Government Fort William.
Sir,

I have the honor to enclose for the information of Government copies of letters to my address from the Rajah of Ligor and from the Prakiang at Bankok. Copies of letters to which they are answers form enclosures to my dispatches of the 18th ultimo* and 31st December* respectively.

* Same series vol. 10.

* " " " 8.

Among the enclosures will also be found copies of two private letters from Mr. Hunter which will enable the Government to form some judgment of the temper of the Siamese Government on the subject of Quedah, and of its feeling towards the British Government generally.

I regret to say that I am still unable to afford any information as to the probable time that may elapse before the Siamese will be able to drive the insurgents out of Quedah, the culpable neglect and dilatory manner of proceeding on the part of the Siamese having allowed the Malay faction to gain a head and an importance which it could not have done had it been suitably opposed at the commencement.

The Hyacinth, steamer and gun boats are still on the coast and I believe the blockade on this side of the Peninsula to be effective, but I have every reason to think the insurgents, if they do not do so now, will shortly be able to draw their supplies from Sangora and other ports on the eastern side of the Peninsula unless prevented by a force being sent from Siam, which Mr. Hunter appears in his last communication to think will now be the case.

I have the honor &ca.

(Signed) S. G. Bonham
Governor Prince of Wales Island,
Singapore and Malacca.

Prince of Wales Island
The 23rd February 1839.

Fort William 24th April 1839.

No. 49.

Letter of the Rajah of Ligore to the Honorable
S. G. Bonham, Esquire, Governor.

After Compliments.

I have had the honor of receiving my friend's letter by Nai Shong Dit. In it my friend advises me that the man of war cannot continue long in her present position and urging me to dispatch with speed a force to Keddah.

Some delay has occurred in getting the large Siamese force sent off because the rains have been very heavy. I solicit the favour of my friend therefore that he will allow the man of war to remain a little longer until the Siamese force shall arrive. I had further sent Nai Shong Dit to buy a vessel and had directed Nai Chow to go to Bangkok. But the latter has been prevented by sickness, so I have been obliged to dispatch Nai Shong to that capital. I have for these reasons now sent China Hoh to buy a vessel (at Penang.) This vessel will go to guard (the Quedah coast). I hope my friend will oblige me by directing the Commander of the Man of War to assist the people of this vessel should they engage the Malayan fleet. I trust that the English and Siamese will for ever continue friends. I have sent China Hoh and Nai Eang who will give my friend every information.

Dated 3rd Month 13th of the increase on Monday
(i. e., the 13th of the present lunar month.)

(A true translation)

(Signed) James Low

Principal Assistant.

P. S. I beg my friend's acceptance of a teapot washed with gold, which is not so worthy of acceptance as other Siamese manufactures, of which I may be able to send specimens.

Fort William 24th April 1839.

Translation

The letter of the Chow Phya Praklang, Minister of State to His Majesty the King of Siam, to the Honorable Mr. Bonham, Governor of Singapore, Penang and Malacca.

I have received your letter per Nocquadah Ismael's vessel, a Bombay trader, dated 2d September 1838,* informing me that the Malays had collected a force at Mirboo, a country belonging to Quedah, and that you had sent Her Majesty's Sloop of War "Wolf" Captain Stanley, to inform the Governor of Quedah, and that the Governor of Quedah told Captain Stanley that he was aware of what was going on, that he daily expected assistance from Purlis, and that with the Fort and gun boats the place was quite safe, and that Captain Stanley also informed the Governor of Quedah that if the Siamese boats would accompany him he would assist to drive the Malays from Mirboo River. The Governor of Quedah desired Captain Stanley to await the arrival of the boats from Purlis, but that Captain Stanley could not stop and returned to Penang, and that the English could not assist more for it would not be proper or according to English custom for an English force to enter a Siamese country without the presence of the Siamese authorities, and that on the 30th July you received a letter from the Governor of Quedah on the subject of the Malays, written on the 20th* of the same month, four days before you sent the Wolf to his assistance and not received by you until six days afterwards. On 12th August in token of friendship you sent Her Majesty's sloop of war "Victor" with a reply, but on the arrival of the vessel the Quedah Fort was found in the possession of the Malays, and no Siamese Governor to be found to deliver the letter

* See vol. 8, same series.

* See Range 194, col. 75, same series.

to, and that you had on 20th August, sent the Hyacinth to Trang to assist the Siamese in dispersing the Malay flotilla should it be found at sea, but that the Hyacinth had not returned and that you had sent a letter to the Governor of Bengal, and that in two months you expected an answer, when you should communicate to me the same, and all other information in your letter I perfectly understand the whole.

And from your letter I, the Chow Phya Praklang, am fully convinced that you are true hearted towards Siam and all your letter was fully made known to His Majesty the King of Siam.

And His Majesty was pleased to approve of your proceedings in sending letters and war ships, which was proper between two great and powerful nations and for which His Majesty the King of Siam feels much obliged to you and desires me to write you a letter of thanks.

I am aware that you have gone to Penang, and I sent a letter viâ Ligor and Trang, but owing to the Malays the boats could not leave Trang for Penang.

Early this month, Mr. Hunter, who is Luong Awood Wiset, received a letter per "Samuel Horrocks" from you and communicated its contents, in which you complain that you had not received an answer to your letter of 2d September, and that you had sent war ships to blockade Quedah and that you had prohibited the exportation of rice and warlike stores to the Malays from Penang and that you had now Her Majesty's Ship of War Hyacinth, and three gun boats off the Quedah river, and that you asked to know what the Siamese intended to do respecting Quedah; and that you are afraid if the Siamese do not come quickly and in force you will not have the means of assisting them, as all the ships of war are

called to the Bombay side. Every thing in your letter to Luang Awood Wiset I understand.

The reason of the Malays taking Quedah was on account of the Governors of Ligor, Singora, Talang, Chia, and Chumpon all having been called here to attend a religious ceremony of great magnitude and that the Governor of Quedah was at that time in Talang. I received a letter from the Siamese officers at Ligor in September informing me of the loss of Quedah, and I reported the same to His Majesty, on which His Majesty ordered the abovementioned Governors to go and fight the Malays, and the Governors left this in October to prepare for war. Since then I have received letters from the several Governors of Ligor, Singora, Talang, Chia and Chumpon, informing His Majesty that the Malays had taken Quedah, Purlis and Trang, and [were] advancing towards Talang and Singora. The Rajah of Ligor prepared his troops and sent and drove the Malays out of Trang. The Governor of Talang he sent his troops to intercept the Malays, and the Governor of Singora sent his troops to fight the Malays at Ban Makhaur and has beaten them. Now the four Governors of Ligor, Talang, Chia and Chumpon have joined their forces together and marched to Satoon, after which they will march and retake Quedah. The Governor of Singora will also march his troops against the Malays near Singora. This is what the above Governors have written they were going to do, but what they have actually done I have not yet heard, as at this season the communication between Ligor and this is extremely difficult.

In your letter to Luang Awood Wiset you stated that you had sent a war ship and three gun boats to blockade Quedah and that you had prohibited the exportation of rice and warlike stores from Penang to the Malays of Quedah, for which I feel much obliged. You being head Governor have done all that is proper,

and eternally cemented the friendship of the two countries Siam and England, and on account of that friendship the existing treaty will last as long as Heaven and Earth.

The Malays in the small countries friendly to Phya Sia, otherwise the Ex Rajah of Quedah, who have assisted him to retake Quedah, the Siamese will beat them into subjection. That you agreed to assist in the beating of the Malays I have already thanked you for.

It has been my intention to have sent this letter over land viâ Ligor but was afraid it might have been detained as the former one was, therefore I send it by the Siamese ship Caledonia, to the care of Resident of Singapore, with a request to forward the same to you at Penang.

Supposing the abovementioned Governors go and fight in Quedah, and the Rajah of Ligor send you a letter requesting assistance, I ask you as a favor to assist him.

Bangkok 19th January 1839, corresponding in Siamese to the fourth day of the third month of the dog year.

Fort William 24th April 1839,

To Honorable S. G. Bonham Esquire
Governor, Penang,

My dear Sir,

I had the honor to receive per Samuel Horrocks your favour of the 19th December,* which was the only letter received by that vessel.

* *The letter does not appear to exist.*

With regard to the intentions of the Siamese Government respecting Quedah it is rather a difficult matter to get at. The King on hearing of the loss of Quedah, ordered the Rajah of Ligor and Governor of Singora to go and drive the Malays out of Quedah. All the several Governors were here at the time assisting at the great ceremony of burning His Majesty's mother, and at the same time the Royal order was given for Phya Si Pipat (brother to the Praklang) to collect a force of 7000 men and a sufficient number of war boats and to proceed to Singora as soon as possible. In the interim I suppose they received letters from Quedah-stating that the Malays were few in number and that the force of Ligor and Singora would be sufficient to drive the Malays out of Quedah. Consequently the expedition under Phya Si Pipat never went.

The Rajah of Ligor will be very hard pushed before he calls upon the Siamese Court for assistance, as when here, he said he could easily beat the Malays if the English did not assist the Malays, and that if we gave them the same assistance as in the case of Tuankoo Kudin the war in Quedah would soon be stopped. Per this opportunity the Praklang has sent you a long letter in answer to yours of 2d September. I have translated it into English, and by the Praklang's order sent it to the care of the Resident of Singapore with a request to have it sent to you by the first favourable opportunity.

We have just had notice of an English official having reached Kanburee [?] on his way from Moulmein

to the Siamese Court. He in the Siamese letter is styled Chee-A-Woongu, Governor of Moulmein. Mr Blundell has gone to Calcutta, it may perhaps be my old friend Captain McFarquhar, who was assistant to Captain Burney in making the former Treaty of 1826. The Praklang was very anxious that I should tell him the object of his mission. I said I thought it probable that another Burmese war might be contemplated and that the Governor General might wish to know the intentions of the Magnificent King. He said they would always be sure to assist the English to beat the Burmese. Boats and officers have been sent off to receive the Mission, and if it [is] only to ask the assistance of the Siamese against Burmah, the Mission will be attended with success, as our friend would expect to gain a little territory by the movement.

I do not think the King would be induced by any consideration to relinquish his claim to Quedah until it is under his sway again, as to give it up now would be like acknowledging his want of power to take it. After once getting possession the friends of the Malays would have a better chance of success, though even then I am afraid it would be but small unless we could give them ground instead on the other frontier.

The Praklang desires me to inform you that he has never received a letter from the merchants of Penang, and if one was sent it has most likely fallen into the hands of the Rajah of Ligor, who would take care not to forward it to Bangkok. One of the Bombay ships will sail for Singapore in five or six days and I will by her write you again and let you know how the mission gets on, and its object, &c.

I remain &c.

Signed Robt. Hunter.

Bangkok
The 21st January 1839.

Fort William 24th April 1839.

To S. G. Bonham Esquire
Penang.

My dear Sir,

Just before I left Bangkok last night the Praklang received a dispatch from the Rajah of Ligor stating his inability to expel the Malays from Quedah, and that at the very least he must have 3,000 soldiers from Bangkok. What effect this communication will have on the Royal Golden mind of His Majesty is hard to say. At all events he will be very savage with the Chief of Ligor and if he do not play his cards well I would not for a very high premium insure *his life* unless he might contrive to live without a *head*. The Siamese ship Caledonia is all ready loaded for Singapore and her cargo is partly on my account, so that last night as soon as the dispatch arrived, and before it was known at Court, I came down here to get the ship off ere the King can send down an order to stop her, which he will be sure to do. There is no doubt now but that His Majesty will set about the business in real earnest. Had he and the Chief of Ligor taken my advice at first Quedah would now have been in the possession of the Siamese, by just the show of a large force, which I advised them to send; instead of which they sent no force at all [and] gave the Malays courage, which will occasion great loss of life which might have been avoided had they managed properly.

The Praklang's son is just coming on board so I will shut up this scrawl and refer you to my letter and the Praklang's per this opportunity.

I remain &ca.

(Signed) R. Hunter.

Off Siam Bar,
22d January 1839.

Fort William 3d July 1839.

No. 51.

The Letter of Chou Phya Praklang Minister of State to His Magnificent Majesty the King of Siam To the Honorable Mr. Bonham, Governor of Singapore, Penang and Malacca.

(* See vol. 8 of
this Series)

I have received your letter of the 28 December 1838* on the 24 January 1839 per ship W. S. Hamilton, Captain Brown, informing me that you had written to his Excellency the Right Honorable the Governor General in Council respecting the affairs of Quedah, and that you had received instructions from the Supreme Government to maintain as far as possible the friendship between the two nations according to the existing Treaty, and that faith and friendship may in future be increased.

* See vol. 8 Do.

You also inform me that you have sent to blockade Quedah River and sea coast and that you had sent one large ship of war and three little ones and a fire ship to prevent further supplies of men, arms or provisions being thrown into Quedah, and that these vessels have been a month on that service to assist the Siamese and as yet there was no appearance of a Siamese force. Had a Siamese army gone they would have seen that the English were ready to assist them, but as the Siamese troops had not gone and as you had not received an answer to your letter of 2d September* you did not know what were the intentions of the Siamese towards Quedah and whether they intended to recapture it or not.

That the services of the men of war were sent by the English Government to assist the Siamese, but that unless the Siamese force comes quickly, the sources of assistance now at your command will be no longer available. Your letter contains other matter all of which I understand, and all the ministers of

state see with pleasure that it is the wish of the Right Honorable the Governor General in Council to strengthen the good friendship which exists between the Siamese and English nations, and that the Ministers of State, knowing such would give joy to His Majesty agreed in Council to inform him of the kind intentions of the Supreme Government and that they did so accordingly,

His Magnificent Majesty was pleased to hear that you had acted so well and at once you had made the affairs of Quedah your own, sent ships to blockade the Quedah river and prevent the importation of provisions, munitions of war &c. and that you had sent letters to Siam stating that you had received instructions from His Excellency the Right Honorable the Governor General in Council to preserve good faith and friendship with the Siamese, for which His Majesty presents his thanks to His Excellency the Right Honorable the Governor General, also to all his Ministers in Bengal, Bengal being a large Country, the head of all English Countries in India. His Majesty also feels very much obliged to the Honorable Mr. Bonham for having sent and blockaded Quedah and that the friendship between the Siamese and English will be everlasting.

You also wish to know what the Siamese intend to do respecting Quedah. His Majesty ordered the Rajah of Ligor, Phya Talung, Phya Singora, Phya Chia, and Phya Chumpon to prepare a force in the west and go and fight the Malays, all of which I have already informed you* of their proceedings* in my letter to you per Caledonia (a Siamese ship.) Since then I have received a letter from the Rajah of Ligor informing me that he had sent his forces against Chee Matalee at Satoon and taken possession of Satoon and all the Malay stockades, fourteen in number, and that Chee Matalee and all Malays, men, women and children fled to their boats, sixty or seventy in number,

* sic.

some small and some large, and anchored outside the river. The troops of the Rajah of Ligor could not follow them, having no boats, all His Majesty the King knows and is very displeased with the Rajah of Ligor.

His Majesty knows that Tuanka Masa at and Tuanka Masa-A Hip, the Malay Chiefs, who are now at the head of the Malays in Quedah, are nephews of the old Governor of Quedah and His Majesty thinks the reason that the Malays rose against Quedah is because the old Rajah is under the protection of an English flag, and if you find out that the old Rajah has done wrong, show him his error and make him send an order to his nephews to withdraw from Quedah. He will do this as he is afraid of the English.

The Rajah of Ligor in December last sent you a letter per Nai Thong Det and Nai Choie. What assistance the Rajah of Ligor requires I beg for the sake of friendship that you help him.

The above written in Bankok 29 January 1839.

[True Translation

(Signed) S. G. Bonham]
Governor.

Fort William 27 February 1839.

No. 66.

To Governor of Prince of Wales Island,
Singapore and Malacca.

Sir,

I am directed by the Honble. the President in Council to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated 18 ultimo enclosing copy of a correspondence with the Rajah of Ligore and of a letter from Mr. Hunter, a British merchant residing at Bangkok, relative to the Malayan insurgents at Quedah.

2. In reply I am desired to state that Dr. Richardson having been deputed from Moulmein on a mission to Siam with the sanction of the Government it will be proper that you should use the services of that officer for your communication with the Court of Siam with respect to the disturbed state of affairs in Quedah. Through Dr. Richardson also you will be able to receive accurate information in respect to the intentions of the Siamese Court.

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I have &c.

(Signed) H. T. Prinsep
Secretary to Government of
India.

Fort William
27 February 1839.

Fort William 27 March 1839.

No 89.

To H. T. Prinsep Esquire
Secretary to Government of India
Secret and Political Department
Fort William.

Sir,

I have the honor to report for the information of the Honorable the President of the Council that the usual annual deputation of a few Siamese officers to this place have arrived from Bangkok. The letters brought by them merely request that they may be treated with civility and kindness and were written* that orders were immediately issued for every mark of respect [to be shown] to them.

(* There is evidently an omission here.)

I have not received any report of Dr. Richardson's proceedings since he quitted Moulmain.

I have &ca.

(Signed) G. W. Blundell
Commissioner in the Tenasserim
Province.

Moulmain
26 February 1839.

Fort William 24th April 1839.

India Political
Consultations,
Range 195,
vol. 15.

No. 52 Contd.

To the Honorable S. G. Bonham Esquire
&c. &c. &c. Governor of Singapore and
the Straits of Malacca.

Sir,

Since I had last the honor of addressing you nothing particular transpired up to the 7th instant. when from 60 to 70 boats of various sizes and descriptions containing about a thousand women and children came out from Quedah imploring protection &c. the Siamese having in the night made their sudden appearance in the neighbourhood. The two following days the same thing occurred. After partially relieving their wants, they were safely conveyed to Wellesley Province and Penang, since which time the Siamese have been cautiously approaching and attacking the Malays with every success.

This day I am happy to inform you the Malays evacuated the Fort and the Siamese immediately took possession of it where their flag now flies; but I regret to say the whole of the Malay Chiefs that were in the Fort have effected their escape, and from all I have interrogated they differ so much I have not yet been able to satisfy myself in what way they got away. However I have the pleasure of informing you that very few or no lives have been lost in regaining this part of the Country and Fort &c. The women and children that were taken in the Fort by the Siamese were all at liberty about their usual avocations and not a single instance of cruelty has been committed. I am able to speak positively having been at the Fort a few hours after they had possession of it.

They will in a day or two march to Purlis, which place they will easily possess. That being done I shall raise the blockade, withdraw Her Majesty's Sloop, the Honorable Company's Gun Boats and "Diana" Steamer and return to Penang.

I have &c

(Signed) Wm. Warren
Commander.

Her Majesty's Sloop
Hycinth, off Quedah.
20th March 1839.

Fort William 12th June 1839.

India Political
Consultations,
Range 195,
vol. 17.

No. 22

To H. T. Prinsep Esqre.
Secretary to Government
Fort William.

Sir,

Adverting to my letter of the 23rd February last, I have the gratification of enclosing for the information of the Right Honorable the Governor General of India in Council, copy of a letter to my address from Captain Warren of H. M. Sloop Hyacinth, and my reply thereto.

From Captain Warren's letter and from other sources of information, I think that the State of Keddah may again be considered under the rule of the Siamese, but I am not certain where the Malay Chiefs have taken refuge. The contest has been much protracted by the encouragement that has been afforded to them by the inhabitants of this Island and as they may be yet stimulated to a renewal of hostilities I shall leave the gun boats here, and request Captain Warren to remain in this vicinity for a short period longer. So long as the Hyacinth remains here there is no chance of a renewal of hostilities, and every day tends to disperse the people engaged in the revolt and to break up the confederacy.

My opinion of Captain Warren's services in bringing this matter to a conclusion will be seen in copy of my reply to that officer. It is within my knowledge that the officers and men have been greatly harassed and fatigued, and that from a want of officers, both her Lieutenants being dead, the Captain and Junior Officers have been incessantly on duty, the latter in the boats, some of them for two months at a time. I therefore respectfully trust that I may be permitted to pay the Captain and crew of the Hyacinth Batta on the same principle and at the same rates

which were sanctioned to H. M. S. Wolf when employed on a similar duty in 1832, as will appear in a letter of Mr. Secretary Swinton in the Political Department dated 24th September 1832 to the address of Mr. Governor Ibbetson.

I have &c.

(Signed) S. G. Bonham
Governor Prince of Wales
Island, Singapore and Malacca.

Prince of Wales Island
15 April 1839.

Fort William 12th June 1839.

India Political
Consultations,
Range 195,
vol. 17.

No. 23.

To the Honble. S. G. Bonham
&ca. &ca. &ca.

Sir,

* See vol. 15 of
this series

In my letter of the 20th March* I then informed you of the Siamese having retaken Quedah Fort, subsequent to which, from their supineness and inactivity they allowed the Malays to reassemble and partially surround the village of Allorganoo and Head Quarters of the Siamese. For three successive days they had partial fighting, each day ending in favour of the Siamese, the third day the Malays were entirely dispersed and the Chiefs Tuanku Mahommed Saad and his two brothers declared the war at an end, and escaped in the direction of Province Wellesley sending directions to the people at Purlis to make their escape in the best manner they could. It then only remained for the Siamese to take possession of the Purlis, but from their tardy movements they did not do so until the 6th Instant. The population of this place I think fully equal to Quedah, and the wretched state of the women and children was beyond description. I afforded them every assistance in making their escape and am happy to say most of them got away, some few of the last who had not the means of doing so I sent down in the Honorable East India Company's Steamer Diana.

I regret however to inform you that, notwithstanding the vigilance of the boats, Whau Mat Allie and his two confederates Hadjee Mustapha and Van Smaell effected their escape over to Lancavi on the night of the 3d instant. From all the information I could collect it was supposed he was going there to collect his war prahus and go with them to Butto Barra. I then proceeded to Lancavi and finding two

schooners of 5 guns each and one Topé laden with rice and gun powder and four war prahus, one with 4 guns and the others with two each, ready for sea and evidently intended to convey his plunder and followers, I immediately determined upon destroying them which I fully accomplished the same afternoon.

The whole state of Quedah being now in possession of the Siamese, the service upon which Her Majesty's Sloop under my command, with the Honorable East India Company's Steamer "Diana" and gun boats being at an end, I have withdrawn the whole force and returned to Penang, in reporting which I must beg to acknowledge the cordial support and assistance I have received from Mr. Congalton of the Steamer "Diana" and Mr. Stewart of the gun boats during this vexatious and harassing duty.

I have &c.

(Signed) W. Warren
Commander.

Her Majesty's Sloop Hyacinth
Off Penang.
11th April 1839.

**Public Record
Office.
Admirals'
Despatches.
Ad. 1220.**

(Enclosure to Rear Admiral Maitland's letter to
the Admiralty, No. 70, 8 July 1839.)

Her Majesty's Sloop Hyacinth.
Penang, April 13th 1839.

Sir,

. . . [On the 11th instant] I returned
to this anchorage . . . having performed the
service entrusted to me.

Owing to the tardiness of the Siamese this service
has been protracted so long: On the 7th ultimo they
suddenly made their appearance in the neighbourhood
of Quedah with a force from six to seven thousand men
and a hundred elephants . . . On the 20th
the supplies of the Fort being entirely cut off and the
great scarcity of water compelled the Malays to take
advantage of the dark night and evacuate the Fort.
. . . It was not until the 6th instant they got
entire possession of the Country.

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I have &c.

(Signed) W. Warren
Commander.

Rear Admiral Maitland.

Fort William 3d July 1839.

No. 52.

To. S. G. Bonham Esqre.
Governor of Prince of Wales Island
Singapore and Malacca.

Sir,

I am directed by H. H. President in Council to acknowledge the receipt of your letter under date the 5 March last forwarding translation of a letter from the Praklang the Minister for Foreign Affairs at Bangkok, respecting the affairs of Quedah.

2nd. In reply I am desired to state that the Government of India is disposed to reserve the determination of the course of Policy to be adopted towards Siam until informed of the result of Dr. Richardson's Mission.

3d. The letter of the Praklang, so far as it relates to local matters connected with the Settlement of Quedah, may be acknowledged by yourself in ordinary course, but in reply to it no reference should be made to the views or wishes of the Government of India, so as to leave it open to the Government to take at any time its own course as well in respect to those operations as to other matters that may arise out of the mission in question.

I have &ca.

(Signed) H. T. Prinsep
Secretary to Government.

Fort William
3d July 1839.

Fort William 21 August 1839.

India Political
Consultations,
Range 195,
vol. 22.

No. 57. To the Governor of Prince of Wales Island
E. Settlements.

Sir,

With reference to my letter dated 3 July last regarding [the statement] to be made by you to the Government of Siam in reply to the letter of the Praklang on the subject of the late Quedah insurrection, I am directed by the President in Council to forward for your information an extract of a letter from the Commissioner in the Tenasserim Provinces, from which you will perceive that there is reason [to think] the communication with Dr. Richardson has been cut off, no letter either public or private having been received from him for a long time; further it appears that intercourse with Moulmain has been [restricted] to the Inhabitants of Zimmé territory and they are no longer permitted to resort to Moulmain for traffic, bringing with them cattle and other articles of supply which at this time are more than ever required.

2d. This conduct of the Siamese Authorities after the essential aid rendered by our Government in the recovery of Quedah is looked upon by the President in Council as a very ungracious and unfriendly return. It is the desire of His Honor in Council that you will take an early opportunity of addressing to the Praklang a remonstrance on the subject of these proceedings and of explaining to the Court of Siam in a forcible manner that the obligations of friendship in which the British and Siamese nations were bound by the Treaty of Bangkok were reciprocal, and that if the conduct of the Siamese Authorities toward the British Government and authorities be unfriendly and free communication with them be denied as appears to

be the case with Dr. Richardson, if moreover the commercial intercourse, which for some years has subsisted between the Shan subjects of Siam and the British Tenasserim Provinces, be suddenly interrupted at a juncture like the present, the Court must expect the British Government will consider itself absolved from the obligation of rendering to the Siamese any friendly assistance in case of future hostilities in which they might look for aid and co-operation.

3d. If the letter be addressed to the Prakiang on the above subject His Honor in Council thinks it cannot be too clearly laid down that the Government of India will look upon the course taken by the Siamese Authority in the Shan territory, in their proceedings towards the British Stations on the Tenasserim Coast, as the test of the friendly or hostile disposition of that Court. His Honor in Council leaves it to your discretion either to convey this remonstrance merely by letter or to depute an officer for the purpose of giving force to the message and quickening a disposition to return a satisfactory reply, according, as from your knowledge of the Court of Siam, may appear best with a view to the object (now of very great importance) of obtaining from the Provinces of that Empire the supplies required by our troops at Moulmain.

4. It may be right that you should personally know that at this present moment a principal cause of difference and discussion with the Burmese has arisen out of an inroad by Shan subjects of Siam into the Burmese territory for which compensation is demanded from the British Government under construction put by the* upon the 10th article of the Treaty of Gandaboo by which it is alleged by the Ministers of Ava our British Government entered into a guarantee to Burmah against such aggression.

* blank in original.

5. It is not the wish of His Honor in Council that any direct mention of this cause of difference

with Burmah [should be] inserted in your letter to the Praklang at Bangkok, but His Honor in Council has thought it right to make you aware of the circumstance to enable you to meet any explanation that may be offered by the Siamese Court and that you may be prepared to state it as a ground for requiring that a good understanding should be maintained between the officers of the two Governments [of] the territory bordering on the Ava dominions.

I have the honor to be &c.

(Signed) H. T. Prinsep
&c. &c. &c.

Fort William
The 21 August 1839.

[To the Government of India.]

India
Political Department.Miscellaneous.

* * * * *

Affairs of Quedah.

Para. 53. The statements in the Petition from merchants and others at Penang, respecting the injurious effects produced upon the trade of the Settlements by the Siamese occupation of Kedah appear to be exaggerated, if not groundless; and their attempts to induce you to take measures in violation of a solemn Treaty are wholly indefensible.

54. We approve the instructions which you issued to the Governor of the Eastern Settlements on the subject of the successful attempt of the son, nephews, and other adherents of the Ex King of Kedah to get possession of that place and its territory. We are bound by Treaty not to permit such attempts on the part of the Ex King or his followers; and as it was not in the power of our local officers to prevent the expedition, you had no alternative but to afford to the Siamese authorities co-operation by sea to the extent of preventing supplies from being thrown into any port which the Siamese forces might attack. We would at the same time suggest to you the propriety of intimating to the Siamese Government that they must not expect us to take the responsibility of defending their conquest for them. The territory of Kedah appears on this occasion to have been left wholly defenceless.

55. You have since informed us that the Siamese have succeeded in expelling the Malays from the Fort of Kedah, and we are glad to learn that no cruelties were committed by them on recovering possession of the place.

11 MAY 1882

56. We regret to find that no adequate means were afforded by existing enactments for punishing either the authors of this enterprize or those inhabitants of Penang who furnished them in various ways with important assistance. You have in consequence passed Act No. X of 1839, which appears well adapted to guard against such offences hereafter, so far as respects the settlements in the Straits; the more general question (in consequence of some doubts suggested by Mr. Amos) being reserved for more mature deliberation.

57. The parties concerned in the present enterprize cannot of course be punished under an Act passed subsequently to their offence, but the Ex King's son Tuanko Abdoolah should be informed that in case of his hereafter undertaking or countenancing any expedition on the part of his adherents against Siam, he will forfeit whatever claim he possesses to succeed hereafter to his father's stipend of 10,000 dollars.

* * * * *

We are

Your Affectionate Friends
(Signed) W. B. Bayley
 &ca. &ca. &ca.

London
the 2d June 1840.