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Home > The Singapore Free Press and Mercantile Advertiser (Weekly) > 21 January 1896 > Page 4 > SELANGOR NOTES

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The Singapore Free Press and Mercantile Advertiser (Weekly), 21 January 1896, Page 4

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Previous Article







SELANGOR NOTES.

(Selangor Fournal.)

H. E. Major-General H. T. Jones-Vaughan, C.B., General Officer Commanding the Troops, S. S., accompanied Lieutenant R. H. Isacke as Staff Officer, arrived last Saturday by the evening train from Klang, and was received by Mr. J. P. Rodger, Acting British Resident, and a Guard of Honour at the Kuala Lumpur Passenger Station. His Excellency arrived at an opportune moment, for proceeding along with Mr. Rodger to the Masonic Hall he was enabled to gazed upon the infancy, youth and beauty of Kuala Lumpur assembled for the Christmas Tree Festival. On Monday afternoon at 4-30 His Excellency inspected the Sikhs on the Parade Ground. To the eye of the civilian the men went through their marchings, drill and bayonet exercise with a smartness and cleanliness of movement that was pleasant to watch. In addition to the ordinary inspection drills, several movements were executed at the request of the General. Mr. and Mrs. Rodger and a large number of spectators were present at the inspection. At the finish of the parade, a general move was made in the direction of the Fire Brigade Station, where Chief Officer Bellamy and his men were waiting to receive His Excellency and other guests, the Acting Resident having intimited his intention of inspecting the Brigade. A thorough inspection of the appliances and gear having been made, a wet drill, similar to the one arranged for H.E. the Governor, was performed. Chief Officer Bellamy was warmly complimented on the general equipment and the efficiency displayed. At 6 30 on Tuesday morning a body of Sikhs entered the jungle near the Residency gates with the object of storming the Guard House in the grounds, a small defending body, under the command of the General, having previously taken up a position there. Surprises, in the form of flanking parties, were tried on both sides; but we are unable to say with which side victory rested.

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21 January 1896

Reel Number: NL1932









Table of Contents 🔨

Page 4 V

SELANGOR NOTES.

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PUNJOM GOLD.

PUNJOM GOLD. The Secretary of the Punjqm Mining Company, Limited, has the following telegram from the

AUSTRALIA AND IMPERIAL DEFENCE.

AUSTRALIA AND IMPERIAL DEFENCE. According to these remarks in a Hongkong contemporary, prior

(EDVIEGD N/ 1440145)/ /-View Full Table of Contents





were inspected. During his stay His Excellency inspected the Rifle Range and visited the Golf Links and the new Racecourse, and on Monday night was, together with Mr. Rodger and many others, invited by the Captain China to witness a performance at the Chinese Theatre. His Excellency left Kuala Lumpur on Wednesday by the afternoon for Klang, on his way to Sungei Ujong and Jelebu.

Mr. Hubback, a brother of Mr. A. B. Hubback, will arrive at the end of this week; he has been appointed a District Engineer and will be placed in charged of the Coast Districts.—Mr. E. B. Skinner will shortly relinquish charge of the Batu Caves Estate, as he is about to open up coffee in connection with Messrs. Hicks and Allen, two of the latest additions to our planting commity.

Not only for coffee planting is there a demand for land in Kuala Selangor. We hear that an application has been received for a very extensive concession for pepper and gambier; also that a gentleman, lately visiting the district, expressed a desire to take up a thousand acres for coco-nut cultivation. This latter application is for land subject to tidal influence, which renders the area applied for useless for any other purpose. It is to be hoped that the application, at any rate, will be granted, for in that event the concessionaire has stated his willingness to import the necessary plant and machinery for the extraction of oil and the working of fibre, and start an industry that would bring wealth to the natives and to the Government. A high authority once informed us that our "tin won't last for ever," and that we were "going on the right lines in developing our agricultural resources." Therefore, let the development be encouraged.

A general meeting of members of the Selangor Planters' Association will be held in the Reading Room of the Selangor Club to on Jan. 11th.

The following is a draft of resolution to be

brought forward at the above meeting :

That owing to the facility with which Tamil absconders are at present able to obtain employment wherever they may offer their services, thus causing serious loss to employers, and laying the whole community open to the contingency of having the unpleasant charge of crimping preferred against them: it is desirable that immediate steps should be taken to put this question upon a more satisfactory basis, and with this object in view this Association submits for the consideration of Government the accompanying suggestions, the adoption of which it is believed will go far towards rectifying an evil which is becoming every day more apparent and which, unless checked, may lead to very serious results. It is therefore recommended that-

I. All Tamil coolies being fresh arrivals in the State should be furnished, both at sea ports and the terminal Police Stations on roads leading from neighbouring States, with certificates to the effect that they are leader for the state of the state of

eligible for employment.

2. All employers of Tamil labour, other than day labour, should be required under penalty of a fine of not less than....to furnish a certificate of discharge to every cooly leaving their employ.

3. It should be incumbent upon all employers on a Tamil cooly applying for work, to demand from such cooly the production of his certificate, either of arrival or discharge, and anyone found employing a cooly without such certificate, unless able to prove the cooly to have been a servant of his prior to the coming into effect of these rules, should be liable to a fine of not less than ...

4. Employers should be entitled to demand from every Tamil cooly applying for and obtaining work, the certificate which he possesses on his arrival.

5. In the case of Tamil labourers employed and paid by the day, whilst their obligation to produce certificates, as in para. 3, should remain the same, employers, upon settling their accounts, should be required to return to labourers the certificates originally produced by them, under penalty of a fine of not less than.

6. Such rules should not be enforced for six

months after they have been agreed to.

7. Proceeds of fines to go towards cost of supplying passes.

ON HOLIDAY.

The following note comes to us from Kobe; the writer says he is in excellent health, had a splendid passage, and is now in the midst of freezing weather: -That the Native States can, and do, produce some of the ablest administrators of our time nobody would deny, I am sure! Still, Selangor is not quite so well known as it should be. To ask the Canadian Pacific Steamship Company in Hongkong for a reduced passage rate to America on the grounds of being a Selangor Government Official, and then to be answered with "Selangor? Where's Selangor? Is it a British Colony? No; sorry, can't do it. You must pay full fare, 'is annoying and derogatory to the aforesaid important State! Luckily, however, the Pacific Steam Navigation Company are more up to date (although the C.P.R S.S. Co., said they wouldn't be) and at once recognised Selangor as a British possession.

It must have been my "Entirely under the control of the Governor in Singapore, don't-cher-know," that fetched them. But when, within half an hour, an old Hongkong resident asked after the Selangor Fournal my spirits revived, and I comforted myself with the thought that after all Selangor is a most wonderful place, which has but to be known to be appreciated, as Chow Kit says in his advertisement. Then came Shanghai—the Paris of the Far East—Selangor not known, forsooth! Why, everybody knows about the Native States; and when Selangor is mentioned you could cut the surrounding pro-

fanity with a knife, and anybody talking about tin mines is likely to meet with a sudden and untimely end. Native States celebrities in North China! One of the first of our old friends I heard of was Count Bernstorff. Now what on earth is he doing? you ask. A.D.C. to a Chinese Viceroy. How's that? The Count seems to have fallen on his feet. Next, I met Mr. Williams, who formerly managed for Messrs. Maynard in Kuala Lumpor. He is in the same line of business up here, and except that he looks a little older and a trifle stouter seems as fit as ever. I grieve to relate that he unblushingly stated that he preferred Shanghai to Kuala Lumpur. There's no accounting for tastes. Mr. S. Hart, formerly of Kuala Lumpur and war correspondence fame, is also reported to be knocking about Shanghai. But it is Sungei Ujong that has the honour of fathering Shanghai's best-known representative from the Native States. For does not Captain Mackenzie now command some six hundred mixed European-Sikh-Chinese Police, besides serving as Adjutant to the Shanghai Volunteers? That distinguished corps which comprises four companies of foot, one of cavalry, one of artillery and one of Engineers. Words fail me in attempting to describe the absolutely palatial police stations, the admirable way in which 47 miles of streets are patrolled and the splendid detective system in vogue in the Settlement, which numbers some two hundred and fifty thousand people. The French Settlement adjoining numbers some hundred thousand persons whilst the Chinese city itself at the back of these two must number some three hundred thousand. There is free intercourse between all these places, yet the police in the English and American settlements (united) managed to recover property worth \$44,850 out of the property worth \$46,327 reported stolen-in 1894. Capt. Mackenzie (Deputy Supt. of Police) has been Acting Superintendent for the last four months. He first joined the Marines, then the Indian Staff Corps, next went as Adjutant to the Houssas on the West Coast of Africa, and thence came over to the Penang Police, from where he was appointed to Sungei Ujong. Small worder then that first and foremost Captain Mackenzie is a soldier. His fifty European Police are armed with the Lee-Metford and his Sikhs with Martinis, and all, including the Chinese must drill at least once a week. He resides in a flat in the Central Police Station. The flat has a private entrance, electric light, and water laid on. It is furnished in the latest and most orthodox English style, thick carpets, rugs, blazing fires, etc.-in fact coming off the steamer the place was like a little paradise. Mrs. Mackenzie, who still looks back on her residence in the Straits with pleasure, told me that they live in an unceasing whirl of balls, dinners and tiffins throughout the winter. In fact, so numerous are the gaieties of Shanghai that the dates of the different balls are inserted in the daily papers some six weeks in advance. Life in Shanghai is gay and luxurious in the extreme,









and Capt. Mackenzie's position involves himself and Mrs. Mackenzie in the thickest and forefront of it all. What a change after Seremban, which can hardly be called a very gay place.—J.H.M.R.

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