

THE
G.C.V.O. WEEK.

Private file
No. 378/1914

THE
G. C. V. O. WEEK.



AN ACCOUNT OF THE CELEBRATIONS AT KUALA KANGSAR
FROM SEPTEMBER 21st TO SEPTEMBER 28th, 1913, TO
MARK THE PRESENTATION TO HIS HIGHNESS THE
SULTAN OF PERAK OF THE INSIGNIA OF
THE G. C. V. O.



BY
THOMAS FOX,
EDITOR OF THE "TIMES OF MALAYA."



IPOH, PERAK, F. M. S.
THE TIMES OF MALAYA PRESS, Ltd.
FEBRUARY, 1914.

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H. H. THE SULTAN OF PERAK.
(Idris Mersid-el Aazam Shah, G.C.M.G., G.C.V.O.)

PREFACE.

The object of this book is to retain in a permanent form the impressions of what was officially designated, (as being the simplest means of expressing it) the G.C.V.O. Week. I was moved to publish it by a belief that the celebrations, marking the conferment of the G.C.V.O. upon His Highness the Sultan Idris of Perak, were on a scale, and of a character, unique in the whole history of the State.

The book has no pretension, beyond that of being a record of a memorable week, and as such I hope it will be received.

My thanks are due to the Honourable the British Resident of Perak, (Mr. R. G. Watson, C.M.G.) for granting me access to official documents, and for his assistance in other directions; to the Directors of the *Times of Malaya* for their permission to make use of information contributed to that journal, and to M. Nara, Ipoh, for liberty to reproduce the photographs appearing in these pages.

The book is published by the authority of the F. M. S. Government.

T. F.

IPOH, PERAK, F.M.S.
February 7th, 1914.

CHAPTER I.

INTRODUCTION.

ON June 3rd, at a reception given in the Town Hall, Taiping, by the Sultan of Perak in honour of King George the Fifth's birthday, Mr. R. G. Watson, C.M.G., the British Resident, intimated that the King had been pleased to confer the Order of the G. C. V. O. upon the Sultan. It is generally known that the Order of the G. C. V. O. is more of a personal honour from the British Monarch than any of the other, and probably in many cases better known, honours, from time to time conferred on men who have played some distinguished part in Empire life and progress, and it was with special pride that the official and civil community alike learned of the King's decision. Under these circumstances the members of the F.M.S. Government felt that they would be neglecting an evident duty by allowing the occasion to pass without marking it in some manner that could be looked back upon as an epoch in the history of the State.

From the idea sprang the celebrations that took place at Kuala Kangsar from Sunday, September 21st, to Sunday, September 28th. The idea grew with the feeling that it was probable that such an occasion for elaborate ceremonial would not present itself within the span of another generation. The preliminary difficulty

was to decide upon the nature of the celebrations—whether they should be arranged with a sole acknowledgment of the susceptibilities, character, customs and aspirations of the Malays, or whether they should be on broader lines, with a bending of the knee to general communal interests. Fortunately, it was agreed that they should be confined to Malayan conceptions. The course was a wise one. The reason is not far to seek. Primarily the intention was to make an acknowledgment of Malayan sentiment and to mark the occasion of the presentation of the Order as a stage in State history, and obviously this could not be done by the introduction, and the support, of the Western element. It was a Malay week pure and simple. It was never alleged that an attempt was made to cater for Europeans. But as a consequence the Europeans were the gainers, inasmuch as they were privileged to witness festivities which to most must have been unique, and which in respect of the majority will never again be seen. Above all, the Malays were provided not only with a week's entertainment, but by virtue of the nature of the celebrations, were brought into touch with the significance of the occasion. They realised that the celebrations were the outcome of the honour which the King of England had seen fit to confer upon their Sultan. In thinking of the King of England the personal element may not have been very strong with the Malays, but it was perfectly clear that they had a glimmering of the power vested in the English Ruler. They have a vague and rather crude idea of the interest

the one Ruler has in the other, and while perhaps not grasping the exact relationship, they yet realise the importance of any honour bestowed on their Ruler by the King of England. The logical outcome then is that they perceived in the Order, and the celebrations that surrounded it, the investment of an added power upon their Sultan.

To those who only England know the task of assimilating the conception that in elaborate ceremonial there lies the germ of high statesmanship may present some slight difficulty. And yet it should not be, for the medium is not unknown in the West. In England the Crowning of a King is carried out with all the ceremony that marked the occasion several centuries ago; Parliament is opened by the King and Queen with a pomp and display out of keeping with the sweep of modern constitutional democracy; and even to-day, as it was hundreds of years ago, the Lord Mayor of London has his assumption of office marked by a public spectacular show. These things, it might conceivably be argued, are an empty pandering to the conceptions of an age that had nothing in common with the modern tendencies of citizenship. But it is doubtful if a movement to dispense with them as legacies of semi-barbarous times, when they may have carried a greater significance than they do now, would be received with any degree of popularity. It may also be argued that the formal dinners conceived to mark some auspicious occasion, or to honour some distinguished individual, are but a lesser concept of spectacular shows. There may

be justifiable grounds for the muffled grumble against such functions as celebration dinners, but real earnest opposition is negligible, and it is to be assumed that long after this generation has passed away dinners will continue to flourish. All these things mark an occasion. They are the recorders; they prepare the mind for the reception of the ideal, the precept or the more material enactment which they are conceived to promote. That is accepted as a principle by both East and West. The West may adopt an air of scepticism or generous toleration of the propagation of the spirit of Eastern splendour, but, in accordance with its custom, the West as readily absorbs that spirit. The Administration of the F.M.S. recognised two primary factors. They appreciated the high nature of the honour conferred upon the Sultan, and they further recognised the necessity of making the presentation of the insignia a mark in the history of the State. The celebrations were largely conceived in the British official mind, but it was an official mind with a deep understanding of the customs and the aspirations of the people and a clear conception of the effect of ceremonial and symbolism.

That is the explanation of the G. C. V. O. Week.





HIS EXCELLENCY THE HIGH COMMISSIONER OF THE F.M.S.
(Sir Arthur Young, K.C.M.G.)

CHAPTER II.

ARRANGING THE PROGRAMME.

To those who do not know the Malay a week may appear as an inordinately long period in which to mark the bestowal of even the highest honour in the power of the King of England to grant. But the Malay will not be hustled. He is fundamentally incapable of squeezing his pleasures close, and if an attempt had been made to compress the ceremonies into a couple of days, as could easily have been done, it is highly probable that the inwardness of the occasion would have been lost.

The arrangement of the programme was a matter of extreme delicacy, requiring the exercise of profound commonsense, considerable experience and an infinite amount of tact, to avoid the introduction of any element that could be interpreted as likely to clash with Malayan customs and traditions. The idea broadly was to convey the impression that the insignia had come direct from the King of England to the Sultan in his Palace at Kuala Kangsar; there were to be no intermediary agencies. To create this impression it was essential that the insignia should be conveyed from some part of the river to a spot at Kuala Kangsar, and from there to the Astana Nagara. Adhering to a strictly correct line

it would have been necessary to sail up the river, but the exigencies of tide and current could only be circumvented by sailing down. In point of correct detail this was an important departure, but the impression aimed at was equally as well met. It was at first intended to make the celebrations even a little more elaborate than they actually were. The original suggestions allowed for an attack by rebel spearmen on the party bringing the insignia, this being an acknowledgment of past fighting days, before the peaceful settlement of the country, when life was held cheap and death faced every hour of the day, when rapine and murder were rife, and progress stifled—days of semi-barbarism. The idea was eventually dropped and the final programme was:

Sunday, September 21st.

Ahad Shawal 19.

His Excellency the High Commissioner arrives at Kuala Kangsar at 11.57 a.m. by train from Penang, and is received at the station by His Highness the Sultan.

His Excellency and His Highness proceed by carriage to the High Commissioner's Lodge, escorted by His Highness' bodyguard.

Monday, September 22nd.

Ithnein Shawal 20.

His Excellency's A. D. C., accompanied by Raja Chulan and Raja Haji Abubakar and others, starts at 2 p.m. from Enggor Pontoon Bridge with the G.C.V.O.

insignia and arrives, in a procession of boats directed by the Orang Kaia Sri Adika Raja, at Saga, opposite Kuala Kangsar town, shortly before 4 p.m. The A.D.C. is received by the Raja Muda and Chiefs of Perak. The Raja Muda and the A.D.C. mount an elephant and in procession with the Chiefs and Penghulus on elephants cross the river Perak to Kuala Kangsar town and, accompanied thence by the raiats, past the Police Station, and over the bridge, convey the insignia to the Lodge, arriving there at 5 p.m. Fireworks 9.30 p.m. on the D. O's Hill.

Tuesday, September 23rd.

Selasa Shawal 21.

10 a.m.—Sports on land for school boys at Kuala Kangsar, lasting until 4 p.m.

5 p.m.—Football Match in Malay College grounds.

Wednesday, September 24th.

Rabu Shawal 22.

12-30 p.m.—Presentation at the Astana Nagara of addresses by the various communities to His Highness the Sultan, who is accompanied by the Honourable the British Resident and the Members of the State Council.

2. p.m.—Water sports on the river opposite Kuala Kangsar town.

8 p.m.—His Excellency the High Commissioner gives a dinner party at which His Highness the Sultan is present. Illuminations.

9-30 p.m.—Chinese procession forms in the town and proceeds thence past the Council Chamber to, and round, His Excellency's Lodge, arriving there at 10 p.m. and returning by the same route to the town.

10-30 p.m.—His Excellency the High Commissioner and his guests proceed in motor-cars to view the illuminations.

The Chinese processionists return to Taiping and to Ipoh by special trains.

Thursday, September 25th.

Khamis Shawal 23.

3 p.m.—The A. D. C., with the insignia, is conducted by the Raja Muda and Chiefs and Penghulus on elephants from the High Commissioner's Lodge to the Astana Nagara by the long route.

4 p.m.—Arrival of A.D.C. and insignia. The school children and Malays, with kris and spears, and the Hajis pass the front of the Astana and are drawn up beyond it. His Excellency and His Highness and invited guests enter the Astana. His Highness retires to the Robing Room. The company invited take their seats in the Throne Room. The A.D.C. and Raja Muda dismount, and the elephants are dismissed to the river. The A.D.C. with insignia, the Raja Muda, the Chiefs and Penghulus enter the Astana Nagara. The State band and the orang kalau dengan nobat play. The A. D. C. passes through the Throne Room with the insignia. His Excellency enters the Throne Room. A procession is then formed from the Robing Room, consisting of the

A.D.C., bearing the insignia, followed by His Highness the Sultan, supported by the Honourable the Chief Secretary and His Highness the Sultan of Selangor, and this procession approaches His Excellency the High Commissioner, who then makes the presentation to His Highness of the insignia of a Knight Grand Cross of the Royal Victorian Order. Sultan's salute by Malay States Guides. Prayers by the Mufti. Homage by the Chiefs.

5 p.m.—His Excellency in the State landau, escorted by His Highness the Sultan's bodyguard, and followed by the Honourable the Chief Secretary and the Honourable the British Resident and His Excellency's house-party, in motors, leaves the Astana Nagara, and returns to the Lodge by the short route. High Commissioner's salute by Malay States Guides.

9-30 p.m.—Fireworks at Changkat Nagara.

Friday, September, 26th.

Jumaat Shawal 24.

3-30 p.m.—His Highness the Sultan lays the foundation stone of the State Mosque at Kuala Kangsar in the presence of His Excellency the High Commissioner, the Honourable the Chief Secretary and the Honourable the British Resident.

8 p.m.—His Highness the Sultan gives a dinner party, at which His Excellency the High Commissioner, the Honourable the Chief Secretary and the Honourable the British Resident are present.

Saturday, September 27th.

Sabtu Shawal 25.

4 p.m. — Fish drive on the river Perak.

Sunday, September 28th.

Ahad Shawal 26.

Morning.—His Highness the Sultan drives in the State landau with the bodyguard to the Lodge, and takes His Excellency the High Commissioner to the railway station to catch the 11.57 a.m. train.





THE HONOURABLE THE CHIEF SECRETARY OF THE F.M.S.
(Sir E. L. Brockman, K.C.M.G.)

CHAPTER III.

ATTENDING TO DETAILS.

During these days of preparation the Government Officials of the District certainly did not fall within the scope of an eight hours' day. Details innumerable had to be carefully considered and settled; every little seemingly trifling question had to be treated with due respect, for without the proper association of detail, the whole fabric must fall. If it was the decoration of the State coach, estimates had to be secured and instructions given; if it was the construction of the State barge, style and size had to be considered; an official of one district would query a point, it was a small point, but it had to be correctly interpreted; contractors found at the last moment they were lacking in something, and that had to be rectified.

How many Malay School children should be invited? How many elephants would be required? How many lamps would have to be utilised for the illuminations? The queries came from all over the State. Then, there were the matters of finance. So much money was required for this purpose and so much for that. One District Officer would write to the

Resident, intimating that the funds at his disposal were inadequate to cover the necessary expenditure, and an additional sum had to be remitted. The Malay, it is to be feared, with all his charming philosophy of existence, is attracted by money values in a manner unknown a little over a decade ago, and it must be confessed that the fact detracts from the estimate of character. It is one of the elements that inevitably fastens on to a "civilizing" or developing process, and the uncertain and often detrimental way in which it works, provides substance for the narrow opinions of opponents of any policy of native education and uplifting. Both the policy and the opinion of detrimental results can be exaggerated, and while one ought to be loth to influence a race towards an inclination that may create temporary material advantages, but with a lessening of the even tenor of existence, even with the disadvantages, the policy of development is more than worth the while. Nevertheless, the Malay, in seeking to leave his natural paths of life for the momentary handling of money, is deserting the substance for the shadow.

Officialdom at Taiping and Kuala Kangsar worked on the plan of *a maximis ad minima*: nothing was too much for them and nothing too little, and when Mr. H. Berkeley, the District Officer, Upper Perak, stated that he would be coming in from his native fastness with a following, the variety and character of which would excuse one recalling the bad, bold days of the Border Raiders, they only wearily smiled.

Writing from Grit on September 4, Mr. Berkeley stated:—"I start to-morrow with

- 47 elephants
- 25 buffaloes
- 87 school boys
- 65 actors
- 24 cooks

and over 100 men to help. Must go by easy stages to arrive about the 19th."

For a great part of the journey, passing through a virgin country, scarcely bearing the marks of European initiative and enterprise, rough and difficult, and at places almost impenetrable, this Englishman, who has spent nearly 30 years among the Malays, and knows them probably as no living European does, with his mixed procession of boys, actors, elephants, and buffaloes, bore down, "by easy stages," in 14 days, upon the Royal town of Kuala Kangsar. This is one of the most intimate touches of the celebrations and, better than anything, it brings home to the mind a sense of the two extremes that meet in this delectable country—the extremes of West and East, West in the form of British Officialdom, with its wealth of noble tradition, and East in the life of the up-country Malay, who, under the wing of the British rule, yet is barely touched, and wholly uninfluenced by the European; the link with the West is the gentle whispers of hope that reach the solitudes of their jungle kampongs. Cynics may hold that chivalry and romance

are dead, that this is an age of calculators, sophists and economists, and perhaps they are partly correct. This is an age when money dominates action; but in the secret and untravelled places of Malaya there are yet found members of a race whose life spells romance.

The little army worked its weary way down from Upper Perak, and one morning as the grey mists were lifting, disclosing the glistening balls of dew on the fronds of the tall palm trees, the dark green leaves of the rubber and the coarse surface of the lalang, entered the streets of Kuala Kangsar, the pad of the elephants, the hollow sound of the wooden bells suspended from their necks, the laughter and chattering of the children, and the talk of the men, all mingling in a medley of sound, which must have wakened the slumbers of the stoutest sleeper; they passed along the stiff winding road to the small plain stretching from the foot of the hill at Bukit Nagara to the river bank, where for the week were a series of encampments.

The Officials, as has been stated, smiled at Mr. Berkeley's army of men, boys and beasts. It was that smile that carried them through the worry of the days of preparation. But there were obviously moments when hopes ran low, as instanced by the District Officer, Kuala Kangsar, writing on August 16 to the Resident of Perak: "I think after to-day I begin to see daylight. There is a great mass of detail to be tackled." And again, five days later: "I wish

we were a little more forward, but I think we are beginning to move." On another occasion he wrote, "I am in despair".

Far happier were the meanest peasant's lot,
Than to be placed on high, an anxious pride,
The purple drudge and slave of tiresome State.

But all came right. There was a centre upon which all threads converged, and at which they were knotted and drawn taut.

The wish of the Government was to make the occasion unique. The first consideration was of necessity for the Malay, but with a paternal sense of duty, Government invited a large number of European guests to witness the celebrations, the full official list being as follows:—

H. E. Lady Evelyn Young
Lady E. L. Brockman
H. E. Major-General T. E.
Stephenson, C. B.
Miss. Stephenson
Lieut: D. MacG. Black
The Hon: the British Resident
of Selangor
Mrs. E. Burnside
The Hon: the British Resident
of Negri Sembilan
Mrs. A. H. Lemon
The Hon: the British Resident
of Pahang
Mrs. E. J. Brewster

Mr. Justice Woodward, His
Honour the Judicial Commis-
sioner, Perak
The Hon: Mr. E. B. Skinner,
M. F. C.
Mrs. E. B. Skinner
The Hon: Towkay Eu Tong Sen,
M. F. C.
The Hon: Mr. W. F. Nutt,
M. F. C.
Mrs. W. F. Nutt
The Hon: Mr. G. H. Day,
M. F. C.
Towkay Chung Thye Phin, M.C.
Towkay Foo Choo Choon, M. C.
The Inspector of Schools, Perak.

- Mr. W. P. Hume.
 Mrs. W. P. Hume
 Col. Murray, Commandant of
 the M. S. G.
 Mr. H. Berkeley, the District
 Officer, Upper Perak
 Mr. C. D. Bowen, the Acting
 District Officer, Kinta
 Mrs. C. D. Bowen
 Mr. V. Hill, the District Officer,
 Lower Perak
 Mrs. V. Hill
 Mr. Ellerton, the District Offi-
 cer, Kuala Kangsar
 Mr. E. C. H. Wolff, the District
 Officer, Larut
 Mrs. E. C. H. Wolff
 Mr. T. W. Rowley, the Acting
 District Officer, B. Padang
 Mrs. T. W. Rowley
 Mr. E. Pratt, the District Of-
 ficer, Krian
 Mrs. E. Pratt
 Mr. A. B. Hubback, the Gov-
 ernment Architect
 Mrs. A. B. Hubback
 Miss. K. Ellerton
 Mr. H. Welham (Straits Echo)
 Mr. W. Petrie (Malay Daily
 Chronicle)
 Mr. G. R. Ironside (Malay Mail)
 Mr. T. Fox (Times of Malaya)
 Mr. C. W. Harrison, the Actg.
 Secretary to Resident, Perak
 Mrs. C. W. Harrison
 Mr. G. C. Valpy, the Protector
 of Chinese, Perak
 The Senior Medical Officer,
 Perak
- Capt. Graham, the Dy: Com-
 missioner of Police, Perak
 Mr. J. P. Harper, the Supdt:
 Revenue Surveys, Perak
 Mrs. J. P. Harper
 Miss. Harper
 Mr. W. Hargreaves, the Head
 Master, Malay College, Kuala
 Kangsar
 Mrs. W. Hargreaves
 Mr. S. G. Hobson, the Sup:
 Posts and Tel., Perak
 Rev. A. B. Champion, the Chap-
 lain, Perak North
 Miss. Champion
 The Rev: Father Chevauché
 Mr. W. H. Tate
 Mr. A. Grant Mackie, Ipoh
 The Hon. A. Payne-Gallwey,
 M.F.C., Ipoh
 Mr. J. H. Tatlock, Ipoh
 Mrs. J. H. Tatlock, do
 Capt. H. F. Nutter, M. S. V. R.,
 Ipoh
 Mrs. H. F. Nutter, do
 Major Haymes, M. S. G.
 Mrs. R. L. Haymes, Taiping
 Mr. P. MacDermot, Matang
 Mrs. P. MacDermot, do
 Mr. W. H. Dinsmore, Ipoh
 Mr. D. A. Dalziel, do
 Mr. B. W. Ellis, the Chair-
 man, San: Board, Ipoh
 The Magistrate, Ipoh
 Miss. F. Sykes, Taiping
 Mr. A. Keir, do
 Mr. P. R. Pinhorn, Bruas
 Mr. O. S. Dawbarn, Ipoh

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| Mr. F. W. Mager, B. Gajah | Mr. R. V. Morris, K. Kangsar |
| Mrs. F. W. Mager, do | Mr. G. T. Holford, do |
| Mrs. C. Bailey, Teluk Anson | Mr. M. Rex, do |
| Mr. M. D. Maude, do | Mr. J. E. Kempe, do |
| Mrs. M. D. Maude, do | Mr. R. S. Jervoise, do |
| Dr. C. B. Pasley, Taiping | Mr. A. Goldie, do |
| Mrs. C. B. Pasley, do | Mrs. A. Goldie, do |
| Miss. Henry, B. Gajah | Dr. H. E. Hughes, do |
| Mr. S. C. Raffles, Ipoh | Mrs. H. E. Hughes, do |
| Capt. Cargill, M. S. G. | Mrs. E. Colomb, do |
| Mr. G. H. Richards, P. Buntar | Towkay Chung Ah Yong, do |
| Mr. J. Rigby, Ipoh | Mr. E. E. Lesslar, do |
| Mrs. J. Rigby, do | Mr. Sengal Rayan, Ipoh |
| Lieut. G. F. Turner, M. S. G. | Rev: W. E. Horley, do |
| Mrs. G. F. Turner, Taiping | Mrs: W. E. Horley, do |
| Capt. F. E. Spencer, M. S. G. | Mr. R. M. Latham, do |
| Mr. M. B. Shelley, the Magistrate, Larut | Mrs. R. M. Latham, do |
| Mrs. M. B. Shelley, Taiping | Mr. R. F. Stainer, Taiping |
| Mr. A. J. Slater, Teluk Anson | Dr R. M. Connolly, Ipoh |
| Mr. E. Spinks, the Asst: Commr: of Police, Taiping | Mrs. R. M. Connolly, do |
| Mrs. E. Spinks, Taiping | Mr. F. O. B. Dennys, do |
| Mr. F. T. Tree, Ipoh | Mr R. McCrystal, B. Gajah |
| Mr. G. Walker, P. Buntar | Mr. S. G. Sims, Ipoh |
| Mr. W. L. Wood, Taiping | Mr. E. L. Bailey, do |
| Mrs. W. L. Wood, do | Mrs. E. L. Bailey, do |
| Dr. A. Woods, Kuala Kangsar | Mr. Gordon Brown, S. Siput |
| Mrs. A Woods, do | Mr. B. C. Griffin, P. Buntar |
| Dr. E. M. Layman, do | Mr. J. E. Cumming, Ipoh |
| Dr. L. S. McLean, do | Mrs. J. E. Cumming, do |
| Mr. H. F. Waters, do | Mr. F. T. Velge, Taiping |
| Mrs. H. F. Waters, do | Mr. G. Moir, do |
| Mr. E. A. G. Stuart, do | Mr. A. E. Kershaw, do |
| | Mrs. A. E. Kershaw, do |
| | Mr. B. C. M. Johnston, Ipoh |
| | Mrs. B. C. M. Johnston, do |

| | | | |
|----------------------|---------------|------------------------|----------|
| Rev. E. A. Hone, | Ipoh | Mr. F. B. Ivens, | Ipoh |
| Mrs. E. A. Hone, | do | Mr. F. N. Sanderson, | do |
| Mr. D. Ritchie, | Gedong, Krian | Mrs. F. N. Sanderson, | do |
| Mrs. D. Ritchie, | do | Capt. Maloney, M.S.G., | Taiping |
| Miss. Ritchie, | do | Dr. H. F. Skae, | Ipoh |
| Mr. T. Boyd, | Gula, Krian | Mrs. H. F. Skae, | do |
| Mrs. T. Boyd, | do | Mr. F. J. Bryant, | B. Gajah |
| Mr. H. W. Metcalfe, | Ipoh | Mrs. F. J. Bryant, | do |
| Mrs. H. W. Metcalfe, | do | Mr. W. N. Buckmaster, | Taiping |
| Mr. A. N. Kenion, | do | Mrs. W. N. Buckmaster, | do |





THE HONOURABLE THE BRITISH RESIDENT OF PERAK,
(R. G. Watson, Esq., C. M. G.)

CHAPTER IV.

THE WEEK OPENS.

Sunday, September 21st.
Ahad Shawal 19.

The memorable week opened with the arrival of the High Commissioner and Party at Kuala Kangsar from Penang, where His Excellency had been on a brief official visit from Singapore. He was accompanied by Lady Evelyn Young, Mr. R. G. Watson, the British Resident of Perak, who had joined the train at Taiping, Captain Oliver, A.D.C. to the High Commissioner, and Mr. Marriott, Private Secretary to the High Commissioner. His Excellency was received at the station by His Highness the Sultan and the Raja Muda, while other notable people on the platform were: Mr. C. D. Bowen, D. O., Kinta, and Mrs. Bowen; Mr. E. C. H. Wolff, D. O., Larut, and Mrs. Wolff; Mr. T. W. Rowley, D. O., Batang Padang, and Mrs. Rowley; Mr. H. B. Ellerton, D. O., Kuala Kangsar, and Miss Ellerton; and Mr. V. Hill, D. O., Lower Perak, and Mrs. Hill.

His Excellency was received with a salute from the Mule Battery of the Malay States Guides, under Captain Spencer, and after inspecting the Guard of Honour, under Captain Maloney, M. S. G., proceeded,

with His Highness the Sultan, in the State coach, to the Astana Nagara, the Royal Bodyguard providing the Escort. The Raja Muda, Lady Evelyn Young, Captain Oliver and Mr. Marriott followed in a motor car.

The State Capital was *en fete*. A saunter through the town disclosed gaily bedecked streets, triumphal arches that suddenly burst upon one in a glorious medley of colours, and innumerable parties of Malays taking their pleasures philosophically, in keeping with the quiet Malayan temperament. Your Malay is a born philosopher, and undoubtedly enjoys life all the better for it.

The dawn of the Sunday morning had barely broken when parties of Malays trooped along the quiet roads of Kuala Kangsar, to the camp under the shadow of the Astana Nagara Hill, where Government had made provision for the feeding of the multitude free of charge, two substantial meals a day being served under the superintendence of Mr. H. Berkeley, D. O., Upper Perak. Each Malay on this Sunday morning was wearing his finest and his gaudiest clothes. A detailed description of the colour scheme is hopeless. The colours were decidedly loud and if affected by Europeans would be hideous. But although the colours combined in a single garment were individually distinct, and set up a sharp contrast to each other, there was nothing of the incongruous. Each portion belonged to a different colour tribe, but by some inherent quality the Malay was able to produce a perfectly harmonious and effective whole.

Monday, September 22nd.

Ithnein Shawal 20.

It was on the Monday that the real festivities commenced. Of the whole week, Monday and Thursday stood out. The great event of the day, and probably the most picturesque of the whole week, was the conveyance of the G.C.V.O. insignia down the river, in the specially constructed State barge, and the procession of the elephants from a spot on the river bank, opposite Kuala Kangsar town, to the Sultan's Palace.

The spot selected for the start of the river procession was Enggor Pontoon Bridge, as being the most convenient. The barge was constructed of ordinary planking, supported on crossed bamboo poles, laid about six inches apart. There was a large canopied saloon, with smaller saloons in front and behind. As with other things, the colour scheme received considerable attention, and while at close range the full effect was lost, as the barge began to move down stream the harsh colouring was softened by the distance. The responsibility for conveying the insignia from the bridge to the High Commissioner's Lodge lay with Captain Oliver, who shortly before two o'clock arrived at the bridge, and, accompanied by the Raja Chulan and Raja Haji Abubakar, stepped on board. Then the signal was given; the barge was loosened from its moorings, and silently, but with a due sense of their responsibilities, the bargemen plied their poles and the State craft moved gracefully

down the river. Around were scattered numerous small boats, gaily bedecked in colour schemes that left nothing to the imagination; they were formed in procession to accompany the main party.

Looking down the river, over the jungle covered hills, several clouds could be seen hovering, and fears were entertained that before the journey was completed rain would exercise a damping influence. The clouds rose fold upon fold, each a little lighter than the other, until an open lake of blue was touched. But, if anything, the lowering clouds added to the impressiveness of the scene. Previously the sun had been beating fiercely down, burnishing the water and throwing a hard glare upon the craft and the wooded banks. As the clouds gradually sailed majestically over the sky, the light softened off, and as the eye followed the course of the barge beyond, there lay a smoothly running sheet of water, on which the rays of the sun glistened, and into which the poles of the bargemen gently broke, creating a hundred little ripples, which closed in and left behind a placid sheet of water. The progress of the barge was slow, but that only tended to enhance the effect of the scene. The centre of a group of boats, gaily decorated, and directed by the Orang Kaya Sri Adika Raja, the barge moved down the stream, gradually becoming smaller and smaller as the distance between those watching on the bridge became greater and greater, until at last the bend in the river was reached. Gracefully the barge swung round and was lost to sight. But long after, the muffled noise of

the tom toms was carried over the waters, reaching the ears of the listeners as a dull subdued sound. It was all most impressive, and not only by the Malays but by the Europeans who were privileged to witness the ceremony it will not soon be forgotten.

There are those who assert that Malayan scenery possesses no real beauty, that wherever you go a monotonous stretch of green is presented. That assertion can easily be controverted. It is true that the type of beauty of England and Scotland or any of the European countries is not found, but while it may be natural, it certainly is unfair to set up comparative values in this respect. Malaya has its own type of beauty, and if one is at all a lover of Nature one does not have to seek far for pleasure.

Standing on the pontoon bridge the chief charm of Malayan scenery was witnessed. Leaving out of account altogether the special conditions; for the moment forgetting the historic occasion, and missing the State barge and festooned boats, there remained as pretty a scene as one could wish to feast eyes upon—the broad, slow moving river, upon which was thrown a changing light, effected by the extent and the density of the clouds, and the wooded banks rising in almost sheer perpendicular. The banks narrowed down, until they seemed to close up entirely where the bend was reached, and at the imaginary junction, had all the appearance of melting into a seductive aspect of hazy blue space, beyond which, to continue the trend of

the moment, one could easily conjure up a pleasant fairyland. It was not unlike certain parts of Scotland, only that misty softening created an indefinable something that could not be witnessed in Scotland. Then add the special conditions, the State barge, decorated in a scheme of Royal colours, and followed by a procession of boats, and also keep in mind the significance of the occasion, and you have an Eastern picture the like of which it is highly improbable will ever be seen again in this part of the world. Small wonder that all were impressed, and that the Malays returned to their kampongs to talk over the events that had just transpired.

Meanwhile, large crowds had gathered on the right bank of the river at a spot opposite Saga. Elephants were already assembled at the other side. A great number of the elephants from Upper Perak had never known a metalled road, seen a horse or heard a motor car, and on this account there was some uneasiness lest they should cause trouble. Thanks to the efforts of Mr. Berkeley, who was singularly untiring, the elephants behaved themselves with the utmost propriety.

The State barge was not expected to reach Saga till nearly four o'clock, but shortly after one o'clock hundreds of Malays and many Europeans had already taken up their station at points of vantage. Everywhere the utmost good humour prevailed, and the exemplary conduct of the crowd was an object lesson to the Europeans present. A crowd is more or less the

same all the world over ; but there is no aspersion cast when it is stated that no mass of Europeans could have conducted themselves with the patience, good nature, and unselfishness displayed by this Malay crowd. There was no hustling and bustling, and while undoubtedly each desired to secure as good a place as possible for witnessing the proceedings on the river, and the subsequent elephant procession, no attempt was made to usurp a neighbour's place. One could not but be impressed by the fact. In many ways it was like a holiday crowd at Home. And yet it was typically Oriental. As at Home people wandered about, chatted and lay stretched on the open grass spaces, the while keeping an eye on the river to note the first sign of the barge and the accompanying boats. The inevitable cigarette was there, and at least in one instance a Malay indulged in the pleasures of a pipe. But the pipe did not complete the "Europeanization". He was dogged in European attire, a real "knot," but, in passing let it be said, as a consequence, he was out of harmony with the general Oriental picture. But with all the lounging on the grass, with all the chatting and joking, and in many ways the outward demeanour of a holiday crowd at Home, the Eastern aspect predominated and the scene was far more picturesque, and far more interesting than ever was presented by any crowd at Home. In addition to those on land many people had taken up their positions in boats, and though the river was kept clear, for a large stretch beyond Saga, house boats and the less pretentious sampan were moored

around. About this time rain began to fall, and there was every reason to fear that the remainder of the afternoon was to be spent in a downpour. But fortunately in less than five minutes it had ceased and almost simultaneously with the arrival of the State barge the sun broke out. It was then indeed Royal weather—a happy augury

As the moments passed all eyes scanned the utmost visible reaches of the river to catch the first glimpse of the State barge. About three-twenty it made its appearance, a suffusion of yellow, blue and white, and within another fifteen minutes it had drawn up at a specially erected stand at Saga, where Captain Oliver, the Raja Chulan, the Raja Haji Abubakar and the others came ashore. It had been arranged that the A.D.C. should be received by the Raja Muda, but he was too indisposed to carry out the ceremony, and the duty devolved upon one of the other Rajas.

The A.D.C., the Rajas, Chiefs and Penghulus then mounted the waiting elephants and crossed the river to Kuala Kangsar, past the Police Station and past the bridge to the High Commissioner's Lodge. The first two elephants were animals with a history. The leader was Ekor Panjang, the recognised leader of the Upper Perak elephants, and the second Kulop Chandan, the Sultan's elephant. On the leading animal was the Sultan's A.D.C. and the Panglima Besar; on the second Captain Oliver (conveying the insignia) and Raja Harun, Private Secretary to the Sultan; the third carried Raja



ELEPHANTS CROSSING THE PERAK RIVER AT SAGA

After the arrival of the State barge from the Enggor Pontoon Bridge, on Monday, September 22, 1913.

The second animal, the Sultan's elephant, carries Captain Oliver, who conveyed the Insignia to
His Excellency the High Commissioner.

Chulan and Raja Haji Abubakar; the fourth Raja Johore and Raja Abdul Aziz; the fifth Raja Abdul Malec and Raja Abdul Hamid; the sixth Raja Haji Suib and Raja Sah Rudin, the Chiefs and Penghulus following on the other animals. In all there were seventy-seven elephants in the procession.

At the Lodge Captain Oliver dismounted, and advancing to the portals, where were assembled the High Commissioner, supported by General Stephenson, the Honourable the British Resident of Perak, the Honourable the British Resident of Pahang, and the District Officers of Perak, handed over the insignia to His Excellency, who, in turn, presented it to his Private Secretary for safe keeping. The Chiefs were then formally introduced to His Excellency, who subsequently briefly addressed them. This concluded the formal ceremony, though the company remained for some little time.

In the evening the High Commissioner gave a private dinner party at Government Lodge, at which there were present: Sir Edward Brockman, the Chief Secretary, and Lady Brockman, Major General Stephenson, and Miss Stephenson, Lieutenant D. M. Black, Mr. R. G. Watson, Mr. and Mrs. Rowley, Mr. and Mrs. Harrison, Mr. and Mrs. Wolff, Mr. and Mrs. Bowen, Mr. and Mrs. Hill, Mr. and Miss Ellerton, Mr. H. Berkeley, Captain Oliver, and Mr. Marriott.

A memorable day's proceedings closed with an excellent display of fireworks on the D.O.'s Hill.

Thousands gathered from all parts to witness the display, and judging by the general shouts of admiration, everyone derived the maximum amount of enjoyment.



CHAPTER V.

PRESENTATION OF ADDRESSES.

Tuesday, September 23.

Selasa Shawal 21.

Tuesday was largely devoted to the children, the chief item being the land sports on ground opposite the handsome Malay College. The boys were marshalled at Bukit Chandan, where they were living in an encampment, and led by their penghulus, they marched briskly up the steep hill, and down the winding, descending road to the Royal town of Kuala Kangsar. Steady and in perfect order they walked, their little supple limbs jerking out with a lightness derived from a happy heart, their eyes, full of innocent mischief, turned sharply to right and left; they good naturedly badgered each other and frequently a ricksha cooly, wearily toiling up the hill with a fare, or rushing recklessly down past the marching line of small manhood; their merry laughter sounded on the clear air. The Malay boy is a fascinating little imp—a small, happy, contented, loveable mass of humanity.

In this way they covered the two odd miles that stretched between their encampment and the sports

ground, and once they reached the latter, with hearty whoops, freed for the time from discipline, they romped about, as under similar circumstances would have done English school boys. The sports, supervised by Mr. R. S. Jervoise, were heartily engaged in, and witnessed with evident interest by His Excellency the High Commissioner and the Chief Secretary.

The afternoon concluded with a football match between Kinta and Bukit Chandan, both teams being entirely composed of Malays, several members of the Royal family figuring in the latter. The match ended in a draw, there being no scoring. His Highness the Sultan was present at the match with members of his family and suite. His Excellency the High Commissioner and the Chief Secretary were also present.

Wednesday, September 24th.

Raba Shawal 22.

Harking back over the past it will be seen that in the remotest times of which we possess any definite knowledge, man has found the means of expressing his sense of the merits of some individual.

Different substances have symbolised various kinds and degrees of quality, and the direct or indirect presentation to the person desired to be honoured has been the customary outward expression of high appreciation. The practice has come down the ages, being touched and altered here and there in the passage, until to-day the agent of conveyance is less material than in earlier

years, when substantial gifts were the only means of creating an impression. The fusion of the present with the past is the action of the same spirit, which embodies that deep and sincere recognition of merit and personal power; only the outward semblance is different. Whereas in days almost hidden in the misty past tangible and substantial gifts, carrying considerable commercial value, were essential, the present age is satisfied with the expression of the sense in the lightest outward form. From the tangible gift has evolved the present day form of address—the set words directed to some person of high merit. In the East the address is a popular medium of expression, and the desire of nearly every small community to present the Sultan with an address to mark the high occasion had to be officially suppressed. The number was limited to eight, represented as follows:

The Civil Service of Perak.

The Non-Official European Community of Perak.

The Kathis.

The Perak Chinese.

The Kuala Kangsar Chinese.

The Malay Football Association, Singapore.

(of which His Highness the Sultan is President).

The Chetties.

The Tamils.

The ceremonies took place in the Throne Room of the Astana Nagara, and were witnessed by a number of Europeans and the Members of the State Council.

The Throne Room is a little over a hundred feet in length and less than half that in breadth, magnificently upholstered in the Royal gold of the State, and richly laid with carpets that have obviously at one time reposed in some London warehouse. The Throne itself faces the east and the light is thrown upon it through five open windows on each side. There is a modern touch about the interior, altogether out of keeping with the Oriental life and the Oriental dress.

Those presenting the addresses had to enter at the far end of the room from the balcony and in compliance with the force of Royal power and dignity, obsequiously proceed to within a few feet of the Throne; the occasion linked up the hands of the beautiful and the bizarre, the grave and the naive, a spectacle thoroughly Reinhardtic in character.

The first address presented was that of the Civil Servants, read by Mr. C. W. Harrison, Acting Secretary to the Resident. In this the distinguished career of His Highness was outlined, his two meetings with the present King-Emperor were emphasised, and a tribute was paid to his breadth of vision, his judgment, sound commonsense, and enlightened rule.

In his reply, His Highness paid a tribute to the work of the Civil Servants, who had done their part in making the country what it is to-day. He referred to his own personal connection with the Service, and named the high officials with whom he had been associated during the course of his reign.

The address of the unofficial European community of Perak was next presented by Mr. A. Grant Mackie, who was supported by Messrs. J. H. Tatlock, Oscar Dawbarn, V. H. Pearson, H. F. Nutter, W. H. Tate and F. O. B. Dennys.

This address laid stress on the progress made during the reign of His Highness, extolled his virtues as a Ruler, congratulated him upon his latest honour and wished him many years of rule.

After thanking them for their appreciation, the Sultan remarked that the prosperity of the State was in a large measure due to the pioneering work of the Europeans. He referred to the blessings of the British rule, and expressed the hope that the Europeans would continue to be the strong force they had hitherto proved themselves to be.

To each of the other addresses His Highness delivered a brief speech, in which he referred to the part each community was playing in the history of the State. Addressing the Chetties he created a laugh, in which the deputation themselves joined, by stating that while he recognised the assistance they were to the community at large, he hoped they would keep down the rate of interest.

At the conclusion of the presentations, His Highness descended from the Dais and, walking round the room, shook hands with those present.

Water sports were the outstanding feature of the afternoon.

The sports were arranged to take place at Saga, close to the spot at which the party landed on Monday afternoon, and for the convenience of the Sultan, and the High Commissioner and party, the Royal barge was moored close to the left bank. The sports started about three-thirty, but it was some time later before the High Commissioner, Sir Edward Brockman and Mr. R. G. Watson put in an appearance. Of the trio Sir Edward was the first to arrive, accompanied by Lady Brockman. Some little time later the High Commissioner, Lady Evelyn Young, and the British Resident came on board. Soon after the sports commenced, His Highness the Sultan arrived in the State houseboat, gorgeously decorated in the Royal yellow, the rowers wearing uniforms of the Perak colours, white, yellow and black. He was formally received by His Excellency, the Chief Secretary and the Resident, after which he seated himself with His Excellency and Lady Evelyn Young, and witnessed the sports with every evidence of enjoyment.

As for the sports themselves, the programme consisted almost wholly of boat races. There were small boats, and large boats, broad boats and narrow boats, and things that looked like no boats at all. The main thing is that all moved through the water, some considerably faster than others. The competitors showed a delightful disrespect of science in rowing or paddling, and

cared not by what means, so long as they got to the end of the race first. Consequently, it was no uncommon thing for a boat's crew to finish off in the water, either through the flooding of their boat, or as a result of a wild eagerness to perform extraordinary balancing feats. But they took it all with great glee, and derived quite as much fun from the situation as did the more fortunately placed spectators.

While the races were on, quite a social party was in progress on board the State barge. The Sultan and the high officials moved freely about, and evinced the keenest interest in the proceedings, the Sultan never hesitating to show his favour for a particular event or a particular set of competitors. During the afternoon tea was served by Miss Ellerton, who acted the hostess in a most charming and capable manner.

The sports at an end, the party proceeded back to land in various boats.

The Chinese had their innings in the evening. Throughout the day they had been pouring in from all quarters, notably from Ipoh and Taiping. Every train deposited its load of passengers, and long streams of motors, rickshas, and foot passengers were encountered in a walk towards the station immediately following the arrival of any train. It was a jolly crowd, too. The Chinaman may be a keen business man, but away from business he knows how to enjoy himself. He was out all the way for enjoyment, and he did it right from

the start. Rickshas raced each other, and while it was exciting dodging them, the cheery laughter and hearty shouts quickly disposed of any tendency to angrily protest. The main purpose of the invasion was to take part in the torchlight procession, obviously arranged at no little expense and certainly at considerable trouble. The time set apart for the commencement of the procession was nine-thirty, but the patience of the multitude could not be sustained till that hour, and the participants had what might be termed a preliminary canter, during the course of which several portions were lost to each other, leaving the horrible feeling that they might land somewhere beyond the extreme point they were expected to touch. But couriers were dispatched post haste, and coming upon one portion here and another there, at last successfully drew them upon a central point and formed them into the semblance of a complete procession. These were the unrehearsed incidents which created additional interest.

Once the processionists were finally marshalled it was nine-thirty, and then they entered upon their official tour. The route was through the Government Lodge grounds, past the Lodge, and down into the town, where the principal streets were paraded. The High Commissioner gave a dinner party, and when the near approach of the procession was unmistakably announced by the beating of tom toms, the clash of cymbals and the vocal efforts of the singing girls, the Sultan, the High Commissioner and the other members of the party

watched it pass. It consisted of a long stream of cars, chief among which was a representation of H. M. S. "Malaya." Unfortunately, before the procession had covered half the mapped route, rain began to fall heavily, and brought the proceedings to a rather abrupt termination, although it did not altogether damp the high spirits of the Chinamen, who were loth to give in. The illuminations were carried out in front of Government Lodge on a lavish scale, and were a pleasant surprise to all who saw them. Every walk of the terrace was artistically picked out with small lights, while in the centre there was a large scroll surrounding the happy sentiment: "Long live the Sultan, G.C.M.G., G.C.V.O."

The Railway Department had wisely provided two special trains, leaving about midnight, one for Ipoh and the other for Taiping, and the crowds of Chinese who availed themselves of the facilities showed how essential was the provision.

The following were those present at His Excellency the High Commissioner's dinner party:

H. E. the High Commissioner
 Lady Evelyn Young
 H. E. the General Officer Commanding the Troops, S.S.
 Miss Stephenson
 The Hon. The Chief Secretary
 Lady Brockman
 The Hon. Mr. R. G. Watson,
 C.M.G.

H. H. The Sultan of Perak
 The Rajah Muda of Perak
 H. H. the Sultan of Selangor
 Raja Harun
 Raja Abdul Rashid
 Raja Chulan
 The Hon. Mr. E. Burnside
 The Hon. Mr. E. J. Brewster
 Mrs. E. J. Brewster

The Hon. Mr. Eu Tong Sen
The Hon. Mr. E. B. Skinner
Mrs. E. B. Skinner
The Hon. Mr. W. F. Nutt
Mrs. W. F. Nutt
The Hon. Mr. G. H. Day

The Hon. Mr. A. H. Lemon
Mrs. A. H. Lemon
Mr. D. M. Black, A.D.C. to
General Stephenson
The Private Secretary to the
High Commissioner
The Aide-de-Camp to the High
Commissioner





Official group taken outside the Astana Nagara, immediately following the presentation of the G.C.V.O. to His Highness the Sultan, on Thursday, September 25th, 1913.

CHAPTER VI.

INVESTITURE OF THE SULTAN.

*Thursday, September 25th.**Khamis Shawal 23.*

Thursday was the day round which the week's festivities revolved: with the investiture of the Sultan Idris with the G. C. V. O. in the Throne Room of the Astana Nagara they reached their full significance. The day had been declared a State public holiday, and in the early morning the people, drawn from the principal centres, flowed into the little Royal town. It had been ordained that the barriers across the road to Bukit Chandan should not be passed by vehicles after one o'clock, this step having been deemed necessary to prevent any interference with the elephants coming down from their camping ground at the Astana Nagara to join the procession at the point of assembly. Consequently as early as ten o'clock cars and rickshas poured along the narrow, winding road which leads from the town to the Palace of His Highness the Sultan. As the hours passed the crowds increased and on the grassy slopes, stretching towards the river, with its back-ground of shadowy hills, the people sat. It was a mixed crowd, and the clothing affected set up sharp

contrasts—the European carrying the dignity and staidness of conventional attire and the Malay his garments of varying hue. The Malay is a consummate judge of colours, a compensating quality to the illimitable green of the landscape. The white dusty road to the Astana Nagara after one o'clock was devoid of vehicles and given entirely over to pedestrian traffic. Europeans, Malays, Chinese and Indians alike trudged over the two miles in the midday heat of a garish Malayan day.

Pretty ladies, attired in cool white, and accompanied by white trousered, black coated men, wearily tramped along the sunlit road; the Malay, like the Chief of Scottish historical story, in silence strode before the patient, happy, dusky better half, by whose side cheerily trotted little Malay toddlers; the Chinamen plodded steadily on, following each other at a distance of about a couple of yards, and the Indians came in close knit groups, of purples, mauves and orange—a gathering of humanity widely divergent in thought and action, but all alike to-day in a common desire. The road was dotted with them; on the air resounded many different tongues—a veritable path of Babel.

During the hours of waiting the people disported themselves in various ways—wandering through the camp at the foot of Bukit Nagara, picnicing in *al fresco* fashion, and generally engaging in social intercourse.

At 3 p.m. the A. D. C. to the High Commissioner was conducted by the Raja Muda and Chiefs and Peng-

hulus, on elephants, from the High Commissioner's Lodge to the Astana by the long route. The procession consisted of a Malay band, followed by Malay school children, accompanied by their teachers and carrying banners aloft. Then followed 200 Malays, armed with krisis, and 200 armed with spears, warriors all, by their presence symbolising the physical force that surrounds the Throne. The Kathis and Hajis followed, attired in full orders, and touching the whole with a note of solemnity and quiet dignity. Then lumbering slowly came some seventy huge elephants, under the superintendence of the D.O. Upper Perak, with spearmen striding by their side, as much for effect as from any apprehension of trouble, although Mr. Berkeley had to appease the leader by placing his hand on one of its tusks while it covered the greater part of the road. Bringing up the rear marched four jogan and 200 Malays. Everywhere enthusiastic shouts greeted the procession, showing how it had appealed to the Eastern mind

After the procession had passed the turn up to the long route (Simpang Gentong) His Excellency the High Commissioner, in the State landau, with the Royal Bodyguard, left the Lodge, immediately followed by the Honourable the Chief Secretary and the Honourable the British Resident, and members of His Excellency's House Party, in motors, and proceeded to the Astana Nagara by the short route in order to arrive there before the procession, the party passing along the drive in the park between two lines of Malay States Guides,

whose bright scarlet tunics, derived from the scheme of uniforms affected by the Highland regiments during the time of the Mutiny, splashed the dark green of the surrounding vegetation, adding to the natural beauties of the scene. Nature has used a lavish hand in Malaya, but she has been rather prone to the one colour, and anything that sets up a sharp contrast is acceptable to the eye. This may be the explanation of why even the most drastic colours affected in Eastern dress do not disturb the tone conception of the European.

At the Astana, facing Kuala Kangsar, and commanding a magnificent sweep of hill and valley and verdure-clad mounds, a special stand for the guests had been erected by Malays under the charge of Mr. R. V. Morris. The wood was cut from the jungle, prepared, and the whole structure erected by Malays. In this stand a number of guests took up their station, and prior to the arrival of the official party engaged in a *tete a tete*. About a quarter to four His Excellency the High Commissioner drove up in the State landau, with the Honourable the Chief Secretary and the Honourable the British Resident following. They were received at the Astana Nagara (where the M. S. V. R. provided a Guard of Honour under Lieut.-Col. Hubback) by His Highness the Sultan, who accompanied the party to the stand to witness the procession.

Then came the first indication of the approaching procession. As a dull, muffled sound, the music of the Malay band was borne over the intervening hills, the

sharp cheers of the school children breaking in now and again. Nothing could yet be seen, but the sound as it came nearer and nearer swelled in volume, till, with one grand burst, as the last bend was turned, it reached the ears of the waiting people. The procession moved slowly up the road past the front of the stand, to the main entrance of the Palace, where Captain Oliver dismounted from his gorgeously howdahed elephant, carrying the precious insignia, His Highness, His Excellency, other high officials and invited guests meanwhile proceeding to the Throne Room. Along both sides of the room the European guests sat, implanting in an essentially Eastern setting the touch of the West. On both sides, hugging the walls, stood gorgeously attired umbrella bearers, mute and immobile, holding aloft the outward semblance of their office, and round the foot of the Throne squatted several Malay ladies, who, evidently impressed with the significance of the occasion, sat with hands clasped and eyes downcast. The scene and the ceremony were of the East despite the intrusion of a little of the Western element. The Malays and the Hajis and Kathis obtained a harmony of colour, without the loss of individuality in dress. In the case of the high officials there was of necessity something approaching uniformity, but even then it was not the drab, hard uniformity created and sustained by the unimaginative conception of the Western mind; there was the mark of personality on every uniform. Uniforms, fortunately, were in a minority, and amongst those standing round in some

unknown or unrecognised capacity there was the finest gradations of colours. Those more closely allied to the Royal House stood grouped near the Throne.

His Highness the Sultan retired to the Robing Room, and His Excellency the High Commissioner seated himself on the right of the Dais, with the British Resident on the left. Captain Oliver proceeded from the far end of the room and formally presented the insignia to the High Commissioner, who as formally accepted and acknowledged it. It lay on a dark blue cushion on a small table in front of His Excellency. This part of the ceremony complete, the Sultan slowly made his way to the Throne from the Robing Room, followed by his supporters (His Highness the Sultan of Selangor and the Chief Secretary) and stood a little to the left of the High Commissioner on the steps of the Dais. His Excellency, slowly lifting the ribbon of the order, said: "I am fully sensible of the honour of being privileged to present you with the insignia of the First Class of His Majesty's personal order, which the King has conferred upon you. This I now do with the greatest pleasure." His Excellency took a step towards His Highness, who bent slightly forward while the ribbon was placed over his right shoulder. This accomplished, His Excellency pinned on the order. The presentation was complete. From outside there boomed the guns of the Mule Battery of the Malay States Guides, and the cheers of the people rang out.

The Sultan briefly conferred with the High Commissioner, the Chief Secretary and the British Resident, on the steps of the Dais, and then took his seat, the Chief Secretary now being immediately on his left, with the British Resident next, while the Sultan of Selangor was seated next to the High Commissioner on the right of the Throne. The Sultan then received the homage of the Raja Chulan, Tungku Mentri and the Dato Sri Adika Raja, a function that must have appealed forcibly to the Europeans present as being the embodiment of the best in Eastern ceremony. This concluded the proceedings. The Royal Party walked down to the far end of the room, and the invited guests passed out behind the Throne, after witnessing one of those rare ceremonies, which, with all their panoply, their artistry and pomp, show how far in advance of Western conceptions in respect of elaborate ceremonial is the Eastern mind.

Now, in the cool of the late afternoon, and presented with a scene ranking as one of the finest in the Federation, the people showed no great disposition to disperse. For some time most of them wandered about, witnessed the departure from the Palace of the notables and chatted till they too found it time to retrace their steps. Motors whirred down the road to Kuala Kangsar town, rickshas jogged along, dodging the motors, and pedestrians, Europeans and natives alike, footed it, dodging both motors and rickshas. Darkness swiftly swooped down, and soon the blinking lights of canvas

town at the foot of the Astana Hill broke through the soft, sensuous, brooding night, like so many weary eyes.

And so a historical day ended.





H. H. THE SULTAN OF PERAK

Proceeding to lay the Foundation Stone of the Mosque near the Astana Nagara on Friday, September 26th, 1913.
He is immediately followed by H. E. the High Commissioner.

CHAPTER VII.

THE NEW MOSQUE.

Friday, September 26th.

Jumaat Shawal 24.

The proceedings of Friday had no direct connection with the investiture of the Sultan with the G.C.V.O., but that by no means deprived them of a very real association with the happenings of the week. For several years past His Highness has been moved by a desire to see the erection of a Mosque in close adjacency to his Palace, where he and the Royal Household could carry out their devotions. From the idea evolved the completed scheme which on Friday, September 26th, was officially marked by the laying of the foundation stone by His Highness, on a hillock near the Astana Nagara. The ceremony was more or less formal and was without all the outward show and splendour which marked the G.C.V.O. functions earlier in the week. Beyond a few Malays, who, it would not be too much to assume, had wandered along wholly by accident, only a number of invited guests were present. For the occasion a gaily bedecked stand had been erected, for the Royal Party and guests. The Sultan arrived

some time before the High Commissioner. The arrival of His Highness was quite unostentatious. With a general acknowledgment of the salutes of the assembled guests, he entered that portion of the stand specially set apart for him, and after taking a cursory glance at two plans of the Mosque, seated himself at a small table to await the arrival of the High Commissioner and party. He had not long to wait. His Excellency, accompanied by Sir Edward Brockman, Mr. R. G. Watson, and General Stephenson, walked up the knoll between the lines of gaily attired Malay attendants, whose presence lent the only real Oriental touch to the proceedings. The officials were accompanied by Lady Evelyn Young, Lady Brockman and Miss Stephenson. His Highness rose as the party approached, shook hands with the High Commissioner and gracefully bowed to the ladies. He then took up his position at the table, with the High Commissioner seated on the right and the others wherever chairs could be found. The Sultan, addressing His Excellency in Malay, gave a brief outline of the circumstances leading up to the ceremony. He mentioned that the idea for the erection of a Mosque occurred many years ago during the office of Mr. Caulfeild as State Engineer. But the project eventually fell through without anything tangible having been done, and it was allowed to lie dormant till the time when Mr. Marks acted as British Resident of Perak, Government announced their intention to vote \$200,000 for the erection of a Mosque, and event-

ually the scheme which they were carrying out was evolved and plans prepared by the Government Architect, Mr. Hubback, and accepted. His Highness before he concluded expressed his thanks to His Excellency for all he had done in the matter.

The party then proceeded to the stone. His Highness was presented with a silver trowel, with which he sprinkled a little water on the stone bed, and after prayers had been offered up by the Mufti, the stone was slowly lowered into position, and "well and truly laid."

The following was the inscription on the trowel: "Presented to His Highness Sultan Idris Mersid-el-Aazam Shah, G. C. M. G., G. C. V. O., on the occasion of the laying of the foundation stone of the Abudiah Mosque, Kuala Kangsar, Perak, 26th September, 1913."

The stone itself was also inscribed in Malay to the effect that it was laid on September 26th as a memorial of His Highness' long and successful reign, and also to commemorate the presentation of the insignia of the G. C. V. O., conferred upon him by King George the Fifth, and presented to him by His Excellency Sir Arthur Young, the High Commissioner.

Amongst those present at the ceremony were:

| | |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| His Highness the Sultan | Lady Brockman |
| His Excellency the High Commissioner | General Stephenson |
| Lady Evelyn Young | Miss Stephenson |
| Sir Edward Brockman | Mr. E. G. Watson, the British Resident |

Mr. W. P. Hume
 Mrs. W. P. Hume
 The Sultan of Selangor
 The Raja Muda
 The Datoh Muda
 The Raja Chulan
 The Datoh Sri Adika Raja
 Mr. E. Burnside
 Mr. E. J. Brewster
 Mrs. E. J. Brewster
 Mr. C. W. Harrison
 Mrs. C. W. Harrison
 Mr. C. D. Bowen
 Mrs. C. D. Bowen
 Mr. V. Hill
 Mrs. V. Hill
 Mr. H. Berkeley

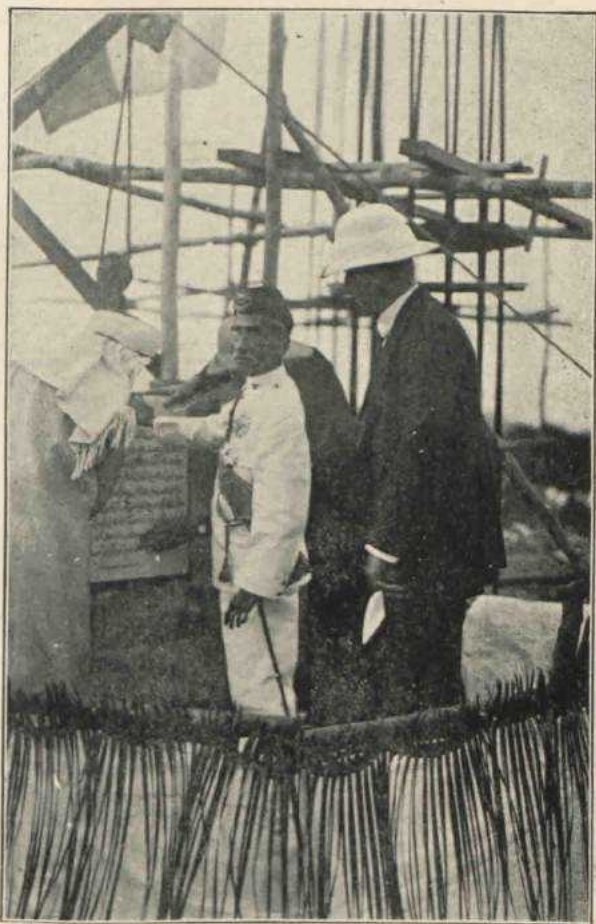
Mr. W. Hargreaves
 Mrs. W. Hargreaves
 Mr. E. C. H. Wolff
 Mrs. E. C. H. Wolff
 Mr. T. W. Rowley
 Mrs. T. W. Rowley
 The Hon. Mr. E. B. Skinner
 Mrs. E. B. Skinner
 The Hon. Mr. G. H. Day
 The Hon. Mr. W. F. Nutt
 Mrs. W. F. Nutt
 The Hon. Mr. Eu Tong Sen
 Mr. E. A. G. Stuart
 Mr. J. E. Kempe
 Mr. R. S. Jervoise
 Mr. H. F. Waters
 Mrs. H. F. Waters

The proceedings were in charge of Mr. Hubback, Government Architect and Mr. Huxley, Assistant Government Architect.

The following particulars of the architectural features of the new mosque show that the building when complete will be one of the most impressive structures in the F.M.S. and an ornament to an already beautiful town.

The plan is to be an octagon of 60 ft. for the mosque proper with a wide and imposing verandah all round, making the whole octagon 96 ft. in diameter.

To the North West will be the mihrab, to the South East the tank and fountain for ablutions in an octagon 30 ft. in diameter formed by columns, and to the North East and South West the porches 27 ft.



H. H. THE SULTAN OF PERAK, laying the foundation stone of the Mosque near the Astana Nagara, on Friday, September 26th, 1913.

square for the carriages. The whole will be surrounded by a circular ornamental wall 135 ft. from the centre of the building, with two approaches and gates through the wall.

The Architect decided on the design being in the Saracenic style with domes and minarets, and the whole building is to be constructed entirely of concrete.

The inner mosque will be covered with a double dome 60 ft. in diameter, constructed on the Kahn reinforced steel system, rising to a height of 140 ft. and surrounded by four minarets 126 ft. in height, containing staircases by which the Imam will ascend to the top of the minarets to call the faithful to prayer. There will be double domes on the carriage porches, a bathing enclosure and the mihrab, whilst small minarets are to show at all the corners of the double octagon.

There will be an imposing staircase in marble between the bathing enclosure and the main building, giving access to the minarets.

It has been decided to have the whole building on a platform 4ft. 6in. above ground level, with marble steps surrounding it.

Only the choicest of Italian marbles are to be used. The outer columns of the verandah, staircase and bathing enclosure will be in red marble and the inner columns in Verde Antico, whilst all columns will have bronze caps and bases. All the minarets

and piers are to have bands of rich marble, the internal walls will be picked out in marble panels and the mihrab will have a dado of red onyx 7ft. high with a floor of Greek Cippolino marble.

The floors of the inner mosques, verandahs, bathing enclosure, steps up to verandahs and staircase are to be in white marble with black borders. The ceiling over the main octagon is to be of fibrous plaster, specially designed for the building, made by the Bromsgrove Guild of London, and to be carried at the octagonal corners by marble columns with bronze caps and bases.

It is the intention to obtain the light through eight large semi-circular ornamental windows, high up in the inner octagon, and glazed with rich red ruby glass.

The cost is estimated at \$224,000, and it is expected that the building will take about two years to complete.

The Architect is Mr. A. B. Hubback, F. R. I. B. A., the Government Architect to the F. M. S., by whose Department the work is being carried out, under the supervision of Mr. W. S. Huxley.



CHAPTER VIII.

THE FINAL FUNCTIONS.

In the evening a dinner party was given at the Astana Nagara by His Highness the Sultan, the following guests being honoured :

| | |
|---|---|
| H. E. The High Commissioner | Mr. C. D. Bowen, District Officer, Kinta |
| Lady Evelyn Young | Mrs. Bowen |
| H. H. the Sultan of Selangor. | Mr. E. C. H. Wolff, District Officer, Larut |
| General T. E. Stephenson, General Officer Commanding the Troops, S.S. | Mrs. Wolff |
| Miss. Stephenson | Mr. V. Hill, District Officer, Lower Perak |
| The Hon. E. L. Brockman, Chief Secretary | Mrs. Hill |
| Lady Brockman | Mr. T. W. Rowley, District Officer, Batang Padang |
| The Hon. R.G. Watson, British Resident of Perak | Mrs. Rowley |
| The Hon. E. Burnside, British Resident of Selangor | Mr. H. B. Ellerton, District Officer, Kuala Kangsar |
| The Hon. A. H. Lemon, British Resident of N. Sembilan | Mr. H. Berkeley, District Officer, Upper Perak |
| Mrs. Lemon | Mr. C. W. Harrison, Secy. to Resident, Perak |
| The Hon. E. J. Brewster, British Resident of Pahang | Mrs. Harrison |
| Mrs. Brewster | The Hon. Mr. W. F. Nutt, M.F.C. |
| Lieut. C. O. Oliver, A.D.C. to H.E. the High Commissioner | Mrs. Nutt |
| The A.D.C. to General Officer Commanding the Troops, S.S. | The Hon. Mr. E. B. Skinner, M.F.C. |
| Mr. H. Marriott, Secretary to High Commissioner | Mrs. Skinner |
| | The Hon. Mr. G. H. Day |

| | |
|---|---|
| The Judicial Commissioner, Perak | Raja Alang Iskandar |
| Mr. W. P. Hume, Commis- sioner of Trades and Customs | Raja Harun |
| Mrs. W. P. Hume | Raja Abdul Rashid |
| Mr. A. Grant Mackie | Raja Shuib |
| Mr. H. F. Nutter | Raja Abdul Aziz |
| Mrs. Nutter | Raja Yusuf |
| Mr. W. H. Tate | Raja Mansur |
| Lieut. Col. A. B. Hubback | Raja Malik |
| Mrs. Hubback | Raja Tauphy |
| Mr. E. Pratt, District Officer, Krian | Raja Abdulrahman |
| Mrs. Pratt | Raja Abdul Hamid |
| Mr. W. Hargreaves | Raja Johor |
| Mrs. Hargreaves | Raja Salim |
| The Hon. Towkay Eu Tong Sen, M.F.C. | Raja Kamarulzaman |
| Towkay Chung Thye Phin, M.C. | Tengku Mahkota |
| Towkay Heah Swee Lee | Dato' Stia, Bentara Kiri, Selan- gor |
| Towkay Foo Choo Choon | Orang Kaya Besar |
| Towkay Gan Ngoh Bee | Orang Kaya Mentri |
| The Rajah Muda, Perak | Orang Kaya Seri Adika Raja |
| Raja Chulan | Orang Kaya Stia Bijaya di-Raja |
| Raja Mohamed Iskandar | Orang Kaya Laksamana |
| Raja Haji Abubakar | Orang Kaya Shahbandar |
| | Orang Kaya Panglima Kinta |
| | Raja Mahinud |

His Excellency the High Commissioner proposed the health of His Highness, paid a tribute to his qualities as a Ruler, and congratulated him upon the conferment of the G. C. V. O.

In reply His Highness said :

"I thank Your Excellency most sincerely for the kind words in which you have proposed my health. Perak came under British Protection by the treaty of

Pangkor. Sir Andrew Clarke was then Governor. A Resident was appointed. A Resident was also appointed to the other Malay States which came under British protection. When Sir Charles Mitchell was Governor of the Straits Settlements I agreed to a Federation and Sir Frank Swettenham was appointed Resident-General. Subsequently, a Federal Council was formed. Later on it was deemed advisable to abolish the appointment of Resident-General and a Chief Secretary was substituted. All Your Excellency's predecessors have taken a great interest in forwarding the prosperity of the States. I will not detain Your Excellency now by a long reference to their work, but would like to make special mention of some of the important events that have taken place during Your Excellency's term of office.

"It gives me great pleasure to say that under Your Excellency's able guidance the States are enjoying continued prosperity. The States of Johor, Kedah, Kelantan and Trengganu also enjoy the benefits of British protection.

"It has long been my wish, and that of the other Rulers, to make a fitting gift to the Government of England to show our loyalty to the Throne, and it was decided only during Your Excellency's High Commissionership that that gift should take the form of a battleship.

"I am thankful to Your Excellency for the trouble Your Excellency has taken in visiting Upper

Perak on a tour of inspection. It is gratifying to me to note that not only does Your Excellency interest yourself in the affairs of administration but also in that of the religion of Islam. It was last year that I received a letter from the Chief Secretary, Sir Edward Brockman, informing me that Your Excellency had approved a sum of \$200,000, for the construction of a Mosque at Kuala Kangsar. Soon after this I received a letter from a friend in England expressing surprise at the large sum of money approved by Your Excellency, and suggesting that part of it should be devoted to some other purpose. I did not agree with the opinion expressed by my friend and, therefore, did not reply. Shortly after it was found that the sum approved was insufficient, and Your Excellency was good enough to sanction a further sum of \$26,000. No words of mine can sufficiently express my thanks to Your Excellency for all that you have done.

“It is an additional pleasure to me that Your Excellency has been selected to make the presentation of the insignia of the G. C. V. O. I shall remember with everlasting gratitude the honour thus conferred on me by His Most Gracious Majesty the King.

“I desire once more to thank Your Excellency and to wish you long life and prosperity, and that further honours may await you.”

A fish drive had been arranged for the Saturday, but in consequence of the high state of the River Perak



H. B. ELLERTON, Esq., D. O.,
Kuala Kangsar.

it had to be abandoned. The Chief Secretary and Lady Brockman, accordingly, curtailed their stay, leaving for Kuala Lumpur by special train at midnight on Friday. His Excellency the High Commissioner and the Lady Evelyn left for Singapore on Sunday, and were accompanied by His Highness the Sultan to the little station of Kuala Kangsar, where a large number of Europeans and natives had assembled to give the King's representative a hearty send-off. The Cadets of the Malay College, Kuala Kangsar, under Lieut. E. A. G. Stuart, provided the Guard of Honour.

By Sunday a change had taken place at Bukit Nagara. During the whole week it had been a Malayan township—something more than a village—where the guests from the jungle kampongs ate, lived, slept and enjoyed their entertainments—wayangs, rong-gengs, dancing girls, shadow dancing—at the expense of a paternal Government, which has in the natural course of things made the interests of the Malays its chief consideration. Two meals per day were served, and sometimes as many as three thousand men and women were present at a single meal. With the dispersal of the Malays to their jungle homes, Bukit Nagara was unfamiliar. The lifting of the early morning mists on the Sunday disclosed a deserted plain; the people had stolen away in the night, leaving hardly a sign behind.

And, as with the people, the elephants the night before had entered upon the return journey to their

native wilds in Upper Perak. Rain fell for the greater part of the evening, and the huge beasts passed through the town and disappeared into the blackness, leaving behind the hollow sound of the bells and the soft pad of the feet. As one went another came, to be swallowed up as completely as had the others. Like a ghostly army drawn from prehistoric times they passed—seventy-seven of them. And at their head walked an Englishman, barefooted, and attired in sarong and baju. This was the Overlord of Grik, round whose life Romance daily weaves her threads. Truth at times strides far ahead of fiction.

The following is a complete list of the various Committees appointed to carry out the details of the celebrations :

Water Sports.—Dato Sri Adika Raja.

Land Sports.—Raja Chulan, Dato Panglima Kinta, Che Bahaudin, Messrs. R. S. Jervoise and M. Rex.

Elephants.—Raja Chulan and Mr. H. Berkeley.

Construction and Laying out of Padang—Mr. R. V. Morris.

Feeding the People.—Mr. Berkeley.

Decorations and Illuminations.—Mr. J. E. Kempe, Dato Stia, Dato Penglima Kinta and the Tunku Mentri.

Theatrical Performances—Mr. Berkeley and the Dato Sri Adika Raja.

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Mr. H. B. Ellerton, the D. O., was Chairman of all Committees.

Although he was not officially represented on any of the Committees a large share of the work of the preparation and the carrying out of the programme naturally devolved on Mr. C. W. Harrison, as acting Secretary to the British Resident, who was the fountain head. Mr. Harrison had a great deal of spade work to perform, and that the preliminary arrangements were carried out so satisfactorily is in a large measure due to his initiative and grasp of detail. Mr. Ellerton, the local D.O., throughout the week kept his finger on the pulse of affairs. It is no easy matter being a D.O. when your district is invaded by half the officials and most of the natives of the State, and is the centre of celebrations not only of an unique character, but on an extensive scale. Mr. Ellerton, however, carried out his duties in a courteous, affable and obliging manner, and to the satisfaction of all. The police arrangements, under Captain Graham, were excellent and it is a tribute to the capacity of the force, and to the natural honesty and law abiding tendencies of the Malay, that although thousands of persons flitted from place to place, not a single report of a crime, or of an accident, was made during the whole week.

It would be strange if there were not those in the F.M.S., as in most parts of the world, who, on principle are opposed to conferment of honours as being empty acknowledgements of vanity and of no real worth as

manifestations of power. The whole history of civilisation, however, gives continual proofs of the practical effect of such decorations, and it cannot at this time of the day be denied that they exercise a real influence upon the administrative work of the men who have carried the British flag to the uttermost posts of the earth, and there have kept it flying, to the glory and prestige of the Empire. The conferment of the G.C.V.O. on his Highness was well deserved. Under the peculiar constitution of the Federal States there is too great a disposition to belittle the power exercised by the Rulers, and to assign to the British Administrators the whole credit for the development that has marked the recent history of the F.M.S. It is true that but for the advent of British rule the conditions of the F.M.S. would be far less stable than they are to-day, but to infer that the real power of the Sultan has been relegated to the men who at the moment happen to administer the affairs of the country is wrong. The Rulers of the Federal States have power and influence, and there have been no lack of occasions when that power and influence have been used in framing the policy of the country. In the Sultan of Perak the people are blessed with a Ruler of wide and practical outlook, whose views have been enlarged with much travel, and whose native ability has been directed to the best advantage in the development of the country. Not only as Ruler, but as a member of the Civil Service, he has done valuable work, and throughout has led an active life. Those early days spent as a civil servant made him peculiarly

fitted for the exalted position he was called upon to fill in 1887, and the experience he then gained made his high inborn qualities of all the greater worth to the State he was later destined to rule. The years of his reign have been years of peace and prosperity, and of steady improvement in the living conditions of the people. The order is, accordingly, a well deserved tribute to the capacity and energy of a man, who, in every sense of the word, is a sagacious, considerate and far-seeing Ruler, and the enthusiasm which marked the celebrations was a striking indication of the love and respect held for His Highness by Europeans and Orientals alike.

THE END.

