

OFFICIAL PAPERS
ON THE MEDICAL STATISTICS AND TOPOGRAPHY
OF
MALACCA AND PRINCE OF WALES ISLAND
AND ON THE PREVAILING DISEASES
OF THE
TENASSERIM COAST.

1830

OFFICIAL PAPERS
ON THE
MEDICAL STATISTICS AND TOPOGRAPHY

OF
MALACCA

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AND
Prince of Wales' Island

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ON THE PREVAILING DISEASES OF THE
Tenasserim Coast.



BY

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HOSPITAL FORT CORNWALLIS.



PINANG.

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PREFACE.

Four of the following Papers were originally intended to be presented to the Medical and Physical Society of Calcutta; but—as the Honorable Court of Directors had, in their public letters, complained of the total want of information on the Medical Statistics and Topography of the Stations in the Straits of Malacca, and called for documents elucidatory of these subjects,—they, along with one expressly drawn up for the occasion, were forwarded to the Government of Fort Cornwallis, with the hope, that a plain statement of facts might in some degree supply the existing deficiency, and tend to remove the vague and erroneous reports that have gone abroad respecting the insalubrity, especially of Prince of Wales' Island. Government was pleased to form a favourable opinion of the communications, and ordered a limited number of copies to be printed for transmission to the Honorable Court, and for distribution among the friends of the respective parties.—As an instance of the ideas entertained by some regarding the unhealthiness of this Island it may be sufficient to remark, that in a popular standard-work (*Hamilton's E. I. Gazeteer Ed: 1828*) it is stated seemingly as a matter of surprise, that a Governor should have withstood the baneful effects of the climate for three years!

Circumstances have prevented the printing of a Paper on the Topography and Diseases of Singapore, drawn up by a talented Medical Officer of the Madras Establishment, who has been stationed there some time; but this is to be the less regretted, as these subjects have been already ably elucidated by Mr. CRAWFURD, himself a professional man, in his “*Embassy to the Court of Siam and Hue.*”—Since he wrote, great improvements have been made in the town and roads: and a new cantonment has been established for the troops, on a dry and elevated situation, about a mile to the N. W. of the town. To Europeans, tho' the appearance of the Island would seem to argue against its salubrity, Singapore has hitherto proved remarkably healthy.—Natives, as might be expected from the similarity of the climate, and other circumstances influencing health, suffer equally, and from the same diseases as at Malacca and Pinang; and the observations contained in the following pages will in most instances be applicable to the station now in question.

Pinang, }
30th June, 1830. }

ERRATA AND ADDENDA.

In the Preface, after "Singapore has hitherto proved remarkably healthy" add "which may be attributed to the swamps in the neighbourhood of the town being overflowed at each tide."

In the Contributions to the Medical Topography of Malacca, Page 2 line 23, for *especially* read *especially*; in note at bottom for *Thurnberg* read *Thunberg*.

Page 4th line 13 from bottom, for *in they* read *in the* and for *the cultivate* read *they cultivate*.

Page 5th line 10 from bottom; for *melongema* read *melongena*.

Page 12th line 8, for *solanin* read *solanum*.

IN THE NOTES ON THE PRÆGÆNIC ULCER &c.

Page 6th line 2 from bottom, dele *as*.

Page 7th line 12 from bottom for *evacuations* read *evacuations*.

Page 8th line 13 from bottom, for *threatened* read *threatened*.--line 15 for *Ipecachuanhæ* read *Ipecacuanhæ*; bottom of the page, after *anodynes* add *emollient enemata and Castor oil. Diarrhæa soon yielded to anodynes and Oleum Ricini or to the Pulv. Ipecac: Com-*

Page 9th bottom note for *circincetus* read *circinatus*.

Page 11th line 7 for *grs.* read *gr.*--line 20 after *ounce* add *l.* line 31 for *omnid* read *omnia*.

IN THE CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE MEDICAL TOPOGRAPHY OF PRINCE OF WALES' ISLAND.

Page 4th line 11 from bottom for *about* read *about*.

Page 20th line 30 for *Maismata* read *Miasmata*.

Page 23d remove the † after *respect* in line 4, and place it after *heat* in line 5.

Page 25th line 33 for *Ciminals* read *Criminals*.

Page 31st line 11 for *speedy* read *speedily*, and for *deaths* read *death*.

Page 39 line 16 from bottom for *name* read *mane*.

Page 43d line 14 for *inflamattoh* read *inflammation*.

Page 45th line 11 from bottom, for *disease* read *diseases*.

Page 47th line 1st for *Survy* read *Scurvy*.--line 10 from bottom, for *greater* read *greatest*.

IN THE OBSERVATIONS ON THE REMITTENT FEVER OF PRINCE OF WALES' ISLAND.

Page 2d line 15 for *this is* read *constituting*.

Page 8th line 6 from bottom dele *morbid*.

Page 18th line 30 for *practise* read *practice* for *Diarrhæ* read *Diarrhæa*.

IN THE OBSERVATIONS ON THE ULCERS OF RANGOON &c.

Page 3rd line 6 from bottom for *Magosa* read *Margosa*, line 1st from bottom for *Hydrag.* read *Hydrarg.*

Page 9th line 11 for *fatility* read *fatality*--line 39 remove the comma after *party* and place it after *attacked*.

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ERRATA.

In the Paper on the Medical Topography of Malacca P. 5, bottom note, for *horiss* read *horis*; for *proedat*, read *procedat*.

In that on the Topography of Prince of Wales Island, P. 1. 8th. line from the bottom, for *taken* read *takes*—page 31st 8th. line from the top, for *tropicpl* read *tropical*.

In Table XV. For *Natives* in the General Hospital read *Europeans*, and vice versa.

N. B.—A few typographical errors, notwithstanding the most careful correction, can scarcely be avoided, with native compositors; the reader is requested to mark these if any, in the course of perusal.

APPENDIX.

TABLE OF THE FRUITS FOUND IN THE BAZAR, MALACCA.

N. B.—Buah, the Malay term for Fruit in general, is always prefixed to the specific name.

MALAYAN NAMES.	LINNEAN, &c. Do.	REMARKS.
Angoor	Vitis vinifera	Grapes. Cultivated occasionally successfully, but not abundant.
Asain gloogoor	} Tamarindus indica	} Principally used in the composition of curries, for which the Malays are famed. The fruit is also used, with water, as a cooling laxative drink in fevers.
— kambing cejoo		
— kundisun		
5. Babesāram	Morus indica	The Mulberry. Used by the Natives as a mild emollient.
Bāchang	Mangifera foetida	The Horse mango. A very coarse fruit, of unpleasant odour.—Much eaten by the lower classes, and producing Cholera, Diarrhoea and Dysentery.
Bāngkūdā	Morinda citrifolia	The leaves of this plant are used by the Javanese in various diseases, as astringents. * Bontius mentions their use in Diarrhoea and Cholera. Internally they act as a mild emollient diuretic." Horsfield in Trans: Bat: Soc: Vol. VIII. p. 25.
Batee	(Not ascertained.)	
Beenjai	Mangifera cæsis of Dr Jack.	A very large oblong, brown color'd rather agreeably tasted fruit, like the common Mango.
20. Bidāra	Rhamnus jujuba	A subacid fruit of a bright yellow color about the size of a cherry the pulp enclosing an elliptical shaped seed. "The Bark of this tree is possessed of mild tonic virtues; it is recommended in weakness of the stomach, and in diseases of the intestines." Horsfield loc: cit: p. 23.
Bilimbāng bisee	Averrhoa carambola	} Two well-known, pleasant tart fruits, resembling strongly unripe gooseberries.
— bāiū	— bilimbi	
Brāmhāng	(Not ascertained.)	A sour fruit, used for making chattnies and curry.
Brāngūn	Fuji species	In appearance and taste strongly resembling the European chestnut.
25. Cāmpādoe	Arctocarpus integrifolia	The Jack. Farinaceous, mucilaginous, and nutritive.
Chirimi	} Averrhoa acida, or Cicca disticha	} A pleasant tart fruit. "The root of the Cicca disticha, is said to be emetic, and great activity is ascribed to it." Hors: loc: cit: p. 33.
Dālima	Punica granatum	
	Lansium domesticum, Blume. "Bijdragen tot de Flora van Nederlandshe Indië" 4 de stuk, p. 175.	Pomegranate. The rind is used as an astringent, and the bark of the root as an Anthelmintic by the Natives.
Dōkōō		This delightful fruit is the produce of a large tree. It grows in clusters—each is about the size of a cricket ball. The brownish thin skin being broken displays the pulp in six cloves, of a pleasantly acid taste, inclosing a greenish kidney-shaped seed. It is by many reckoned the finest fruit in the Peninsula. The month of July is the season at Malacca, in which it is had in greatest perfection.
Dōriān	Durio zibethinus	This fruit is well-known from the descriptions of Travellers. Those who have overcome the prejudice excited by the disagreeable foetid odour of the external shell, reckon it delicious. From experience I can pronounce it the most luscious, and the most fascinating fruit in the universe. The pulp covering the seeds, the only part eaten excels the finest custards, which could be prepared either by Ute or Kitchener. Bontius says, it proves laxative, diuretic and carminative; but when eaten in too great quantities, that it predisposes to inflammatory complaints. The Natives consider it to possess aphrodisiac qualities. It is certainly in some measure exciting.
20. Gājoōk	(Not ascertained.)	
Gāyer	Do.	The seeds used by the Indian boys as Marbles.
1. Jambū inōrah	Eugenia Malaccensis	} Some of these when in perfection, have a fine flavour—but in general they are insipid being in taste something between a good turnip and a bad apple. The first species, is commonly called Jambū Malacca, and is certainly the finest. The fourth goes under the name of Rose-apple.
2. — āyer	— aquee	
3. — būiū	— jambos	
25. 4. — āyer inawar	— rosea	
5. — kling	Myrtus cumini.	

APPENDIX.

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APPENDIX CONTINUED:

MALAYAN NAMES.	LINNEAN, &c. DO.	REMARKS.
Jambon bong — bijee or portugel.	Anacardium occidentale .. Pavium pyrifera ..	Cashewnut. Fruit coarse, not much eaten. Nut astringent. Common guava.
30 Jintue jintue	(Not ascertained.)	{ A handsome looking jungle fruit—an orange pulp surrounds a small seed about the size of a pea, and the whole is enclosed in a trilobular capsule of a deep orange color, hanging in clusters from the branches. Taste sour.
Kadondong	{ Phyllanthus Chrysobolanum of Marsden .. Spondias. Horsfield.	{ The Bark of this is used by the Natives as an astringent.
Kilēpa	Cocos nucifera ..	Cocoa nut. Of this Rumphius enumerates 13 varieties.
Kānāng	(Not ascertained.)	{ A fruit of the appearance of a Mango—sour, used principally in curries.
Kāpas	Bombax pentandrum ..	{ The fruit of the Cotton tree, taste sweetish, much eaten. Seeds occasionally eaten. The gum of the tree is astringent and sometimes given in bowel complaints.
35. Kārkāā	(Not ascertained.)	
Kārimāng	Myrtus tomentosa ..	A very common and rather handsome plant, bearing a dark purple color'd fruit, about the size of a fig; pleasant in tarts, or preserved;
Kāriā tāng	(Not ascertained.)	{ A very hard brownish black fruit, about the size of an egg, containing a frinous substance; boiled and eaten like Yam.
Kāriā tāng	Terminalia catappa ..	{ A large tree—the fruit and kernel being very like those of the common almond.
Kayoo kālit	(Not ascertained.)	{ A small brown color'd fruit, of sweet taste, common in the jungles.
40. Khorra	Phoenix dactylifera ..	Dates—mostly imported from Arabia.
Kichānee	(Not ascertained.)	{ Resembling the Sootool in appearance. Pulp sweet, tough.
Kiloor	Guilandina moringa ..	{ Ben nuts of old authors. The whole tree is esculent—the seeds and leaves are aromatic, and used in curries. The root is an excellent substitute for Horse radish. It is a valuable external stimulant. Rumphius says in large doses, it produces strangury and abortion.
Kitapan	Callicarpa japonica ..	{ “ The leaves, are recommended in Gonorrhoea as a mild diuretic.” Horsf: loc: cit: p. 20.
Klājang	(Not ascertained.)	{ A small and very handsome fruit, consisting of an outer shell strongly resembling that of the Rambutan, of a bright red color, within which is the seed surrounded by a whitish pulp, the part eaten.
45. Kolit lawang	Laurus kultu lawan ..	{ Small sweet jungle fruits, eaten by the children as hips and haws are in England.
— layoo	(Not ascertained.)	
Kooence	Do.	A small subacid fruit, of the appearance of a Mango, with the same flavor and a very fine scent.
Koriuchee	Do.	A small very dark brown fruit consisting of a hard outer shell, containing a flesh color'd pulp, hanging in bunches. Sourish taste.
Kras	{ Camirium cordifolium. The Juglans camirium of Loureiro ..	{ A fruit of the size and appearance of the Winter apple, resembling in all its qualities the walnut of Europe.
50. Kūmbūt	(Not ascertained.)	
Lagūndee	Vitex trifolia ..	The seeds of a large capitate flower, used in curries.
Lampāneo	(Not ascertained.)	{ A small greenish subacid fruit growing in numerous clusters, excellent in tarts. “The root, and a bath or cataplasm of the leaves, is applied (by the Javanese) externally in Rheumatism and local pains in various parts.” Horsf: loc: cit: p. 16. The leaves are said to cure intermittent fever, to promote urine, and relieve the pains of the cholice. Ed: They are stimulant and aromatic.
Langiē	Lansii domestici var.	{ Small jungle fruit, eaten by the Malays.
Lanjoot	Mangifera speciosa ..	{ A very pleasant, subacid and favorite fruit of the Malays and others. In appearance, it is like the Dookoo already described. The seeds of it are said to possess Anthelmintic properties.
55. Leemoo gā'āng	Citrus decumana ..	The oblong large, coarse looking, green color'd fruit of a variety of mango—rather prized by the Natives.
— inānie	aurantioid ..	Pumplemoose or Shaddock—rind, a very agreeable bitter.
— kustoorce		Several varieties of orange both indigenous and imported are to be met with.
— jambooa		
— japoona	{ Citri varia speciosa ..	Different varieties of Limes and Oranges, the list of which might be greatly increased. Some of them are made into excellent preserves.
— neepus		
60. — soosoo		
Lontar	Borassus flabelliformis ..	The seeds of the Palmyra tree form very good preserves, and are only used for that purpose.
Malāka	Phyllanthus emblica ..	{ A handsome tree and fruit. From its abundance round the site of the town at the first arrival of the Malays, Malacca is supposed to have derived its name. The fruit has astringent properties.

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APPENDIX CONTINUED.

MALAY NAMES.	LINNEAN, &c. Do.	REMARKS.
Māngis (or) Māngistān	<i>Garcinia mangostena</i>	The far-famed Mangosteen. This fruit has been justly praised by all who have ever written upon it. It is too well known to require description.—The <i>habitat</i> of it is extremely limited.—We believe that it does not extend further to the northward than the old Fort of Tennesseim in lat: 1.° 40.—and all attempts to cultivate it on the continent of India have failed. The shell of the fruit is strongly astringent and decoctions of it are used by the Natives in bowel complaints.
65 Māngistan ontan	<i>Embryopteris glutinifera</i>	Wild Mangosteen.
Māngis doḍol	<i>Mangifera indica</i>	Two varieties of Mango; the first of which is very excellent—but much inferior to the graft mangoes at Madras. The common coarse
— pāo	— <i>amboinensis</i>	Māngis is very abundant and much used.
Māta kūching	(<i>Not ascertained.</i>)	A small fruit growing in thick bunches, consisting of a rough brownish color'd round shell containing a deep purple colored seed, sur-
— pālandḡ	(<i>Not a certained.</i>)	rounded with a whitish opalescent looking pulp like a cats eye, hence its Malay name—much prized.
70 Nām nam	<i>Cynometra cauliflora</i>	A small sweetish tasted jungle fruit.
Nanas	<i>Ramelin-ananas</i>	A fruit of the size and shape of a kidney, of a brownish green color growing on the stem of the tree; the outer shell is the part eaten and
Nanka	<i>Arctocarpus integrifolia</i>	when good has some resemblance to an apple.
Nasee nasee	<i>Phyllanthus alba</i>	Pine apple, very abundant and very cheap. "The unripe fruits are diuretic and employed as a remedy in Gonorrhœa." Hors: loc: cit: p. 27.
Neebong	<i>Caryota urens</i>	A variety of Jack Fruit—well known.
75 Nōna	<i>Annona reticulata</i>	A small white sweetish fruit in clusters—not much prized
Pāta	<i>Myristica moschata</i>	The small flat pulpy fruit of this palm is made into a good preserve for the table.
Pāpāya	<i>Carica papaya</i>	The Bullock's heart, a much prize fruit.
Pinaḡ	<i>Areca catechu</i>	Nutmeg. Made into a preserve, when in a half ripe state.
Pisang	<i>Musa parvifera</i>	A pleasant, well known fruit. The seeds are employed by the Natives as Anthelmintics.
80 Poolasan	<i>Nephelii species</i>	Common Betelnut. Sometimes employed in decoction as an Astringent in Diarrhœa.
Rāmbōiān	<i>Nephelium lappaceum</i>	The Plantain. Of this about 40 varieties might be enumerated. The best are the Pisang mas, P. raja, P. oodang, and P. medgi.—De-
Rambai	<i>Lansii species</i>	coctions of the root are used as emollient applications.
Rambaya	<i>Metroxylon sagu</i>	A very delicate, and pleasant fruit.
Rookām	<i>Carissa spinarum</i>	Differs from the preceding in size, and in having long bristle-like processes on the outer shell.
85 Saḡak	<i>Calamus zaiacca</i>	This pleasantly subacid fruit, about the size of a small plum, hangs in graceful clusters from the branches of a large tree. The pulp
Santool	(<i>Not ascertained.</i>)	surrounding the seed is the part eaten.
Sappan	<i>Cesalpinia sappan</i>	From the pith of this tree Sago is prepared. The flattish fruit is made into preserves for the table.
Serj kaja	<i>Annona squamosa</i>	A common fruit, of a purplish color clustered round the stem, good in tarts, or making jellies,
Sika duduk	<i>Melastoma</i>	Fruit used as a preserve.
90 Sookoon	<i>Arctocarpus incisa</i>	A fruit of a yellow brown color, about the size of a moderately large apple—consisting of a thick hard rind containing 5 or 6 cloves,
Soongool oolān	(<i>Not ascertained.</i>)	resembling the Mangosteen; taste sourish.
Sorbu rāsu	<i>Do.</i>	Little used.
Soopoom	<i>Do.</i>	Custard apple. Well known.
Sorboot	<i>Do.</i>	A common wild fruit—rather astringent, little prized.
95 Sow, or Sāo	<i>Do.</i>	The Bread fruit. Little used.
Tampang	<i>Do.</i>	A kind of mango—oblong, large, pulp surrounding the seed of a rich sweetne's.
Tanjong	<i>Mimusops elengi</i>	A sour fruit of the Mango kind, used in curries and in making chattinies.
Tampooes	<i>Lansii species</i>	A jungle fruit.
Tampoonee	<i>Arctocarpus affinis?</i>	A handsome deep red jungle fruit, about the size of a hen's egg, consisting of a sweetish pulp surrounding 3 small brown seeds.
100 Tōmi tōmi	<i>Flacourtia inermis</i>	This fruit exactly resembles, an overgrown strawberry; externally it is of a greenish color mixed with red; internally of a fine pink color.—Taste subacid.
		Of little value as a fruit. "The bark is a mild tonic; it has been found useful in fevers and as a general roborant; used in decoction."—
		Horsf: loc: cit: p. 39.
		A small subacid fruit.
		A fruit in external appearance like a small Jack, and like it also containing rows of seeds, but without kernels. The pulp of a yellowish color, is of an agreeably subacid taste, and is highly prized both by Natives and Europeans.
		A small reddish fruit; used in making tarts and jellies.

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