POLITICAL AND STATISTICAL ACCOUNT
OF THE
BRITISH SETTLEMENTS
IN THE
STRAITS OF MALACCA,
Viz.
Pinang, Malacca, and Singapore;
WITH A HISTORY OF
THE MALAYAN STATES
ON THE PENINSULA OF MALACCA.

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IN TWO VOLUMES.
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PREFACE.

The writer of this work has little occasion to trouble his readers with any prefatory introduction, further than a statement of his reasons for its obtrusion on the public, and an acknowledgment of the sources from which his information has been principally drawn. Should it be found, that the latter has been neglected on the occasion of quotation, he here begs to offer his apology, and to tender the "amende honourable" for the accidental omission. The authorities, to whom he stands most indebted, are Mr. Marsden, Mr. Crawfurd, Sir Stamford Raffles, Mr. Anderson, Captain Lowe, Dr. Ward, and the Straits Weekly Press. He feels extremely grateful for the liberal and ready access afforded him to the Govern-
ment Archives, by the Straits functionaries, and for the kind assistance of his friends, Brigadier General Wilson, C.B., the Honourable Mr. Garling, and Mr. Westerhout, of Malacca.

The original matter embraces the result of observations, made during a residence of three years in the Straits, and a constant intercourse, with the Native Chiefs on the Malayan Peninsula, put together at various periods, as leisure permitted. This, and other causes beyond the writer's control, compel him to throw himself upon the reader's indulgence for any want of connexion, or for any repetitions that may appear. Some of the papers on the Native States have already been published in the pages of the journals of the Asiatic Societies of Bengal and Madras, but have since undergone revision.

The ambition of the writer has not been to produce what is commonly termed an amusing book, but one which might convey his mite of usefulness to the Public. He indulges the hope
also, that it may perchance excite attention to a portion of the British possessions, daily becoming of more vital interest in our system of colonial policy, from the present unsettled and stormy aspect of affairs in China. Should these objects be attained, or in any degree promoted, his toil will be amply recompensed; if not, he must rest content with having, to the best of his circumscribed means and ability, at least made the endeavour to be of service to his country, and to the public at large.
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ERRATA.

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Page 10, line 1, for Pohang read Pahang.
13, . . 3, for artizan read artisan.
39, . . 27, for Tringaun read Tringanu.
140, . . 13, for p. 29 read p. 13.
196, . . 6, erase the comma after Qualla.
245, . . 13, for Ranjow read Ranjows.
268, . . 26, for Kamschatka read Kamtschatka.
350, . . 25, after navigation read and.
366, . . 18, for fine, cleft, read five-cleft.
400, . . 12, for flow read flows.
418, . . 12, for head read heads.