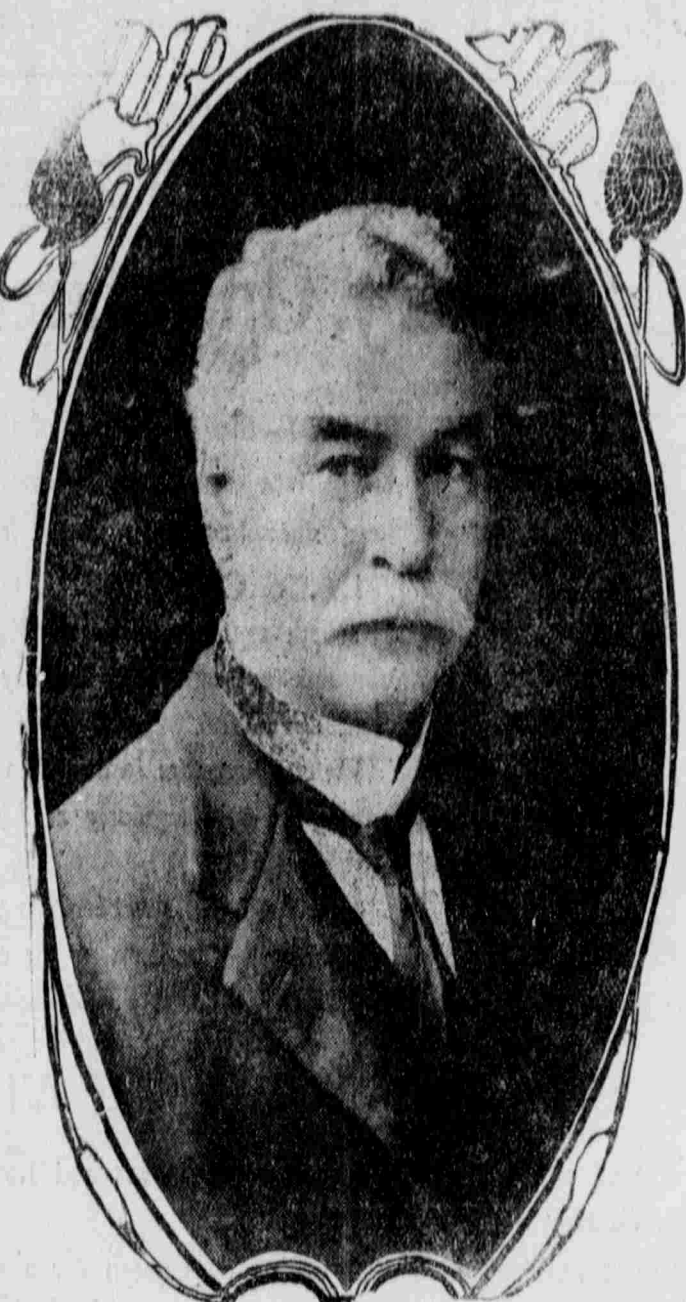


# OUR NEXT DOOR NEIGHBOR

All About the Great Island of Borneo, Which Adjoins the Sulu Archipelago.

FRANK G. CARPENTER.

TO FIGHT FIRE IN MANILA.



Former Chief of the New York fire department, Hugh J. Bonner, has been selected by President Roosevelt to take charge of the fire department at Manila. He will show the Filipinos how to fight fire in New York fashion.

SINGAPORE—New oil fields have been recently opened up in Dutch Borneo, and a large number of the English capitalists of the far east are interested in them. Many are investing in the different plantations in British North Borneo, and others are sending out prospectors to look up gold, coal, iron and diamond mines in different parts of that great island. It will not be long that America will be doing the same. Some of the shrewdest of our financiers are watching the lower parts of our Philippine Islands. Prospecting is going on in Mindanao and in the island of Palawan, and the value of the land fisheries and other possessions of the Sultan of Jolo are being carefully weighed.

BORNEO OUR NEXT DOOR NEIGHBOR.

From our military station on Bongao, in the Sulu archipelago, it is but a step to Borneo, and you can there almost hear the guns which are fired at Sandakan, the capital of British North Borneo. The distance is only forty miles and the sound carries easily over the water. Our soldiers in fact, are within forty miles of Borneo, and there are regular ships from Jolo to Sandakan. Such a steamer as the port while I was in Jolo, and less than a day's ride upon it would have landed me there. A part of Borneo belongs to the Sultan of Sulu, and as the sultan is now an American citizen, his possessions there may be called American. Although they in reality are the property of the British, having been leased by the sultan to the North Borneo company.

This company pays somewhere between \$500 and \$100,000 a year for them on a perpetual lease. It gets other lands through a concession from the sultan of Brunei, the ruler of the native state adjoining its possessions in North Borneo, and it has in both leases a stipulation here which might have belonged either to the Germans or the United States had we sooner awakened to a greed for foreign territory. While I was in Jolo I met a young German named Shuck, who has a big estate not far from that town. He is the only foreigner outside Uncle Sam who owns any property on the island of Jolo, and his estate was granted to him by the sultan. The older Shuck was a German trader who imported all sorts of things for the old sultan, the father of the man now on the throne. The old sultan gave Shuck a commission to sell his North Borneo property for him, and Shuck offered it to Prince Bismarck. The Germans were not then anxious after foreign territory. I believe they had their hands full with the French war and other European questions. At any rate Bismarck wrote Shuck that Germany did not want the property. Shuck reported this to the sultan, and the sultan angrily told him that he had not managed the business as well as he should. Shuck grew angry in turn and told him he could take it back and handle it himself, and the result was that the sultan a year or so later leased the territory to the British North Borneo company for \$5,000 a year. The company gives a similar tribute to the sultan of Brunei, but the total payments of this kind are only a little over \$10,000 per year.

BRITISH NORTH BORNEO.

For this bagatelle the North Borneo company has secured one of the finest pieces of property in the far east. It has a territory about as large as South Carolina, or bigger than the island of Ceylon. It owns the tip end of North Borneo, and it has a coast line of about 500 miles. It has a number of excellent harbors and especially Sandakan, is one of the best along the Pacific. The harbor is fifteen feet deep and five miles wide, with thirteen rivers running into it. It is surrounded by hills and upon these hills Sandakan is built. I met a number of men in the Sulu islands who had been over there and I have a lot of information as to how the town looks today and what the British North Borneo company is doing. Sandakan has about 7,000 people, of whom half are Chinese. There are only a few hundred Europeans, but they have all the institutions of an Asiatic colonial port. They have a club, a museum, a scientific society and a racing association. There is a fairly good hotel, a newspaper and a large number of stores. Most of the Europeans are officers and business men. In 1888 the territory was made a British protectorate, but the British North Borneo company still manages it.

AN ENGLISH LAND TRUST.

This company has a capital of \$10,000,000.

RECRUITS FOR DIPLOMATIC CORPS.



Men Who Will Add Luster To Official Functions At Washington.

THE NEW BELGIAN MINISTER.

A Principality which the English Got for a Song—The British North Borneo Company and What It Is Doing—Englishmen Who are Making Money in Coffee, Tobacco and Pepper—Rubber Plantations and Their Prospects—How the Americans Lost North Borneo Through the Sultan of Brunei—A Look at Rajah Brooke's Possessions—They Are Known as Sarawak and Produce Diamonds, Gold and Bird's-Nest Soup—How An English Nobleman Became An Oriental Prince—Something About Dutch Borneo and the City of Bandjermassin—A Queer Sultan, Who Paid a Yankee Electrician \$50,000 for Electric Lights for His Palace—He Has an Income of \$35,000 Monthly—Wears a Diamond As Big As a Buckeye—Queer Stories From the Far East.

THE DUTCH IN BORNEO.

The extreme northern and northwestern parts of the island alone belong to the British, the remainder being the property of the Dutch. I learned much about the Dutch possessions during my stay in Java and at Soerabaya with a short distance by steamer of Bandjermassin, the largest city in Borneo and the capital of the Dutch part of the island. The Dutch Steamship company has a service which goes there three times a month, and it sends steamers once a month from Singapore to all the ports of Dutch Borneo.

HOW WE LOST NORTH BORNEO.

The British possessions now comprise British North Borneo, Sarawak and Brunei, which lies between them. All of these countries are merely under British protection, being governed by companies or proprietors who have arrangements with the natives outside of the English king.

The Sultan of Brunei rules that little country, which is about twice as large as Massachusetts. He once owned much of British North Borneo, and he and the Sultan of Sulu having it together. We once had a consul named Moses at Brunei, who obtained concessions from the sultan of this great property of North Borneo and had our government pushed the matter at that time it might have been what Bismarck lost and what the British North Borneo company now possesses. This American consul, having obtained the property, organized the American Trading company of Borneo and made a settlement on the Kinaua river. His company set out plantations and imported Chinese cheap labor to work them, but for some reason or other they were not a success and the company failed. The property then went back to the sultan and the British got it under a new lease from him and also from the Sultan of Sulu.

Today Brunei is still ruled by the sultan under the English. He has a capital city built upon piles in a bend in the river about fifteen miles from the sea. His capital is surrounded by hills, and standing upon these you can see the houses apparently floating upon the water. Brunei is the greatest water city of the world. It is all water and houses. The boats anchor among the houses and the market is made up of stalls each of which is a canoe, and among which other canoes move about carrying the purchasers from stall to stall. The sellers are women, each of whom wears an enormous hat.

THE DOMAIN OF RAJAH BROOKE.

The most important of the English possessions in Borneo is that which now belongs to the Charles Brooke, nephew of Sir James Brooke, who became famous the world over under the title of Rajah Brooke. The country is known as Sarawak on the map. It is about as large as the state of New York, and has a coast line of 400 miles. It produces diamonds, gold, silver, quicksilver, coal, India rubber, rattans, camphor, bird's nests, sago, pepper and gambier. It has a number of navigable rivers, and it is indeed a valuable piece of property.

The story of how the English came into possession of this country is curious. Sir James Brooke landed in Sarawak in his own vessel in 1839. He found it in a state of anarchy. The people were composed of different tribes who were fighting with each other. There was a rajah named Mudi Hassan, who was the nominal ruler, and head hunting was the principal business. Slavery was common and chaos reigned.

Before I tell what the English are doing in Sarawak and Brunei let me give you some idea of the enormous extent of Borneo. It is the third island of the world in size, Greenland being the largest and New Guinea coming next. It has a coast line about as long as from New York to San Francisco, and the island itself is as long as from New York to Wilmington, N. C. Borneo would make more than five states of the size of New York, or seven the size of Ohio. It would make nine South Carolinas or more than six Missouris, or more than six Pennsylvanias, with plenty of land to spare. It is not an unhealthy country. There are parts of it that are very high, especially in the north. It has mountains and plains, vast forests and great beds of coal. It has diamond mines and gold mines and in all probability other mineral deposits, which are yet unknown. The country has not been prospected, for the greater part of it is in the hands of savages, a large number of which engage in the rather dangerous business of head hunting, thus discouraging immigration and investigation.

The capital of Sarawak is Kuching, a town of 20,000 people, situated on the Sarawak river, about twenty miles from the sea. The place is well fortified. It has public gardens, good roads and many comfortable homes. The English live in bungalows and they have all the surroundings of civilization. Among other things there is a lady's club, a gentlemen's club and a newspaper, which is known as the Sarawak Gazette. There are Roman Catholic and Protestant missions, a reading room, and museum and several factories. There are coal mines not far in the interior, and timber is being shipped from Sarawak to Hongkong and elsewhere. The country has now a revenue approximating \$1,000,000, and its annual exports amount to more than \$3,000,000. The military consists of 750 Dyaks, under English officers.

South and east Borneo has a population of more than 600,000, and seventeen government stations. Bandjermassin contains about 40,000 people, and is one of the oldest settlements in Borneo. It lies in the heart of a country which is rich in gold, diamonds and coal, and it is a place of considerable trade. It is on a little branch of the Barito river, its houses covering the banks for about two miles. The most of the houses are shacks built upon piles, for the river often overflows. The Barito itself is filled with craft of all descriptions, with bamboo rafts and floating houses. Not far back of the town are extensive coal fields, and farther up are the ruins of temples and other Hindu buildings.

THE SULTAN OF KOTI.

It is around and on the east coast of Borneo, just about opposite the northern part of the Celebes that the river Koti empties into the Makassar strait. The Dutch steamers call at Koti, and one can go up that river to the capital of the sultan. The first town of any size is Samarinda, which is quite a trading port, having a large number of houses built upon piles. The capital of the sultan is at Tangarung, still farther up, where his majesty has a two-storied palace roofed with galvanized iron.

This structure is said to be the only two-storied building in the country, and it is lighted by electric light, which were put in by a firm of enterprising Americans who are doing a big business in the far east. I think they got \$50,000 for the job, and a man who pretended to know the first figures by suggesting to his majesty that he have thicker wires at a very materially increased expense, as thick wires would carry more and better electricity than thin ones.

The sultan wanted every room of his palace lighted, and especially the quarters devoted to the harem, this branch of the contract necessitating many push buttons and numerous fixtures, for his majesty has forty wives and eighty-four children, and every wife and every baby wanted to press the button.

I was told in Java that his majesty's income amounts to \$25,000 a month, although he himself claims that he has not more than \$1,500 a month. His revenues come from duties on exports and imports. He charges 10 per cent on everything except salt and opium, which he farms out as monopolies to the highest bidder. He has coal mines, which are worked by convicts, and he sells his coal to the Dutch government. He is also a banker, lending his people money at 4 per cent interest. Inasmuch as he has control of the courts and the police he has no trouble in collecting his dues. His majesty is fond of cock fighting, and has more than sixty fighting cocks, which he keeps in his palace. Each cock has its own wicker cage and it is washed twice every day. He is a great gambler, and every evening there are gambling parties in the courtyard of the palace. He dotes on diamonds, and when in state wears one as big as a buckeye on a string about his neck. At such times he dresses in a governor general's uniform, wearing a gold cord weighing about four pounds. Some of his soldiers wear European uniforms, including his musicians, who are gorgeous in the extreme.

FRANK G. CARPENTER.

WHENCE COMES THIS MIGHTY HEALING POWER.

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PROF. THOMAS A. ADKIN.

President of the Institute of Physicians and Surgeons.

In all parts of the country men and women doctors and surgeons, clergymen and educators, are wondering at the remarkable cures made by Prof. Thomas A. Adkin, discoverer of the Adkin Vitasopathic treatment.

Prof. Adkin heals not by drugs, nor by Christian Science, nor by Osteopathy, nor by Hypnotism, nor by Divine healing, but by a subtle magnetic force of nature in combination with certain vital magnetic remedies which contain the very elements of life and health. A reporter recently talked with Prof. Adkin and was asked to give his readers of this paper who are sick or who are worried by the ills of those dear to them to write to him for assistance. "Some people have declared," said Prof. Adkin, "that my powers are of God; they call me a Divine healer, a man of mysterious powers. This is not so. I cure because I understand nature, because I use the subtle force of nature to build up the system and restore health. But at the same time I believe that the Creator would not have given me the opportunity to make the discoveries I have made or the ability to develop them if He had not intended that I should use them for the good of humanity. I therefore feel that it is my duty to give the benefit of the science I practice to all who are suffering. I want you to tell your readers that they can do everything except salt and opium, which he farms out as monopolies to the highest bidder. He has coal mines, which are worked by convicts, and he sells his coal to the Dutch government. He is also a banker, lending his people money at 4 per cent interest. Inasmuch as he has control of the courts and the police he has no trouble in collecting his dues. His majesty is fond of cock fighting, and has more than sixty fighting cocks, which he keeps in his palace. Each cock has its own wicker cage and it is washed twice every day. He is a great gambler, and every evening there are gambling parties in the courtyard of the palace. He dotes on diamonds, and when in state wears one as big as a buckeye on a string about his neck. At such times he dresses in a governor general's uniform, wearing a gold cord weighing about four pounds. Some of his soldiers wear European uniforms, including his musicians, who are gorgeous in the extreme.

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DOES NOT DISAPPOINT.

The New Discovery for Catarrh Seems To Possess Remarkable Merit.

A new catarrh cure has recently appeared which so far as tested has been remarkably successful in curing all



form of catarrh, whether in the head, throat, bronchial tubes, or in stomach and liver.

The remedy is in tablet form, pleasant and convenient to take and no special secrecy is maintained as to what it contains, the tablet being a scientific combination of blood root, red gum and similar valuable and harmless anti-septics.

The safe and effective catarrh cure may be found at any drug store under the name of Stuart's Catarrh Tablets. Whether the catarrh is located in the nose, throat, bronchial tubes, or stomach, the tablets seem to act with equal success, removing the stuffy feeling in head and nose, clearing the mucous membrane of throat and trachea from catarrhal secretions, which cause the tickling, coughing, hoarseness and gastric so annoying to every catarrh sufferer.

Nasal catarrh generally leads to ulceration, in some cases to such an extent as to destroy the nasal cavity, and in many old cases of catarrh the bones of the head become diseased. Nasal catarrh gradually extends to the throat and bronchial tubes and very often to the stomach, causing that very obstinate trouble, catarrh of the stomach.

Catarrh is a systemic poison, inherent in the blood, and local washes, douches, snuffs, and sprays, have no effect on the real cause of the disease. An internal remedy which acts upon the blood is the only rational treatment and Stuart's Catarrh Tablets is the safest of all internal remedies, as well as the most convenient and satisfactory from a medical standpoint.

Dr. Eaton recently stated that he had successfully used Stuart's Catarrh Tablets in old chronic cases, even where ulceration had extended so far as to destroy the septum of the nose. He says: "I am pleasantly surprised almost every day by the excellent results from Stuart's Catarrh Tablets. It is remarkably effective in removing the excessive secretion and bringing about a healthy condition of the mucous membranes of the nose, throat and stomach."

Dr. Eaton will sell complete treatment of the Tablets at 50 cents and a little book giving the symptoms and causes of the various forms of catarrh, will be mailed free by addressing F. A. Stuart Co., Marshall, Mich.

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