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# A HISTORY OF PENANG 1805-1819

By

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## ABBREVIATIONS USED

<u>BKI</u>	..	Bijdragen tot de Taal-, Land- en Volkenkunde van Nederlandsch- Indië.
<u>IOL</u>	..	India Office Library, Commonwealth Relations Office, London.
<u>JIA</u>	..	<u>Journal of the Indian Archipelago.</u>
<u>JMBRAS</u>	..	<u>Journal of the Malayan Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society.</u>
<u>JSBRAS</u>	..	<u>Journal of the Straits Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society.</u>
<u>JSS</u>	..	<u>Journal of the Siam Society.</u>
Penang	..	Used through the text instead of the official name "Prince of Wales Island."
Sa. Rs.	..	Denotes Sicca Rupees, which were equivalent to about half a Spanish Dollar.
<u>SNL</u>	..	Singapore National Library.
<u>SSR</u>	..	<u>Straits Settlements Records.</u>
\$	..	Denotes Spanish Dollars, which were equivalent to about 2 sicca rupees, and worth at the beginning of the nineteenth century about five shillings sterling.
<u>VKI</u>	..	Verhandelingen van het Koninklijk Instituut voor de Taal-, Land- en Volkenkunde van Nederlandsch- Indië.

## P R E F A C E

Much has already been written about the early history of Penang.<sup>1</sup> This work attempts to examine the principal trends within a fifteen-year period, rather than one particular theme in a longer period. This approach does not imply that an exhaustive account of the period has been attempted. Instead, some of the main trends have been developed in detail [such as the machinery of government and the civil servants who worked it, the judicial and police organisation, the problems of revenue and of land, the agricultural experiments, trade and shipping during the period, and finally the effect on Penang of the founding of Singapore], while other aspects [such as relations with Aceh, the problems of slavery and piracy, the building of a church and the establishment of the Free School] have been omitted in favour of those subjects more closely related with internal administrative policy. This work is presented in the hope that in its small way it may contribute something to the already existing knowledge of the early history of the first British settlement on the Malay Peninsula.

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1. See Bibliography: Unpublished theses and academic exercises.