GUIDE

TO THE

INTERIOR OF AN
ASIAN BROWN TORTOISE
(TESTUDO EMYS)

IN

RAFFLES MUSEUM
OF BIODIVERSITY RESEARCH COLLECTION,
SINGAPORE

BY

LUCY DAVIS
(KAYPOH ANG MOH)

WITH 33 PLATES

SINGAPORE
PRINTED BY THE MIGRANT ECOCOLOGIES PROJECT
2014
Guide to the Interior of an Asian Brown Tortoise (*Testudo emys*)

This small Asian brown tortoise *Testudo emys* was found in August 1907 just outside The Gap Resthouse below Bukit Fraser/Frasers Hill in a forested area called “The Gap” on the border of Pahang and Selangor. It was collected by Dr Richard Hanitsch, who was Director of the Raffles Library and Museum in Singapore from 1895-1919.

The tortoise is female and is 57cm long, 40cm wide and 19cm high. According to Dr Richard Hanitsch’s 1908 *Guide to the Zoological Collections of the Raffles Museum, Singapore* the tortoise was kept alive for a few days after she was captured and managed to lay 5 eggs before she was killed. Then, prior to being stuffed, she was found to contain “twenty-six [more] fully formed eggs, each about two inches in diameter.”
When Conservator Kate Pocklington opened up this tortoise in order to re-conservate it for exhibition in the new Lee Kong Chian Natural History Museum (opening in the later part of 2014), she found a collection of old newspaper pages that had been crumpled up inside and used as stuffing.

The newspapers are mixed up pages and fragments of the British paper St James' Budget of June 30th and July 7th, 1905 and The Straits Times of September 2nd, 1907.

We have identified 31 clippings from this collection of papers and are reproducing them here; 31 stories to correspond to the 31 eggs that the tortoise had inside her when she was captured.
Google map of “The Gap” in the Malaysian highlands, below Bukit Fraser and on the border of Pahang and Selangor.

The Gap Selangor/Pahang and The Gap Resthouse where Dr Richard Hanitsch would have stayed in 1903. The Gap Resthouse was a popular budget hotel until the early 2000’s but has since fallen into disrepair.
Richard Hanitsch (1860–1940)
Director of the Raffles Museum (1895–1919)
by Yu-Mei Balasingamchow

A German zoologist, Hanitsch was an authority on sponges and marine fauna at the University of Liverpool, UK, before he moved to Singapore. At the Raffles Museum, he focused on entomology, particularly of cockroaches. He published a 178-page monograph on the family Blattidae, as well as related articles in the journal of the Straits branch of the Royal Asiatic Society, of which he was an active member.

In 1908, Hanitsch published the first guide to the museum’s zoological collection, which had grown extensively and was in need of a new building. He was widely credited with improving the museum despite limited funds and resources. When he retired, his dedication to the museum was described as a “labour of love”.

Dr Richard Hanitsch in 1907. Reproduced with kind permission of the Hanitsch/Hanage family.
In 1908, Hanitsch published the Guide to the Zoological Collections of the Raffles Museum, Singapore. The 112-page guide marked the first time that the “fauna of the Malay region, as illustrated by the specimens in the Raffles Museum”, were listed and described in detail for the public, particularly travellers and students. The book also included a number of photographs of specimens, which were taken by brothers Sim Boon Kwang and Sim Boon Eng. The Guide is an important record of the quality and richness of the museum’s zoological collections even in the early twentieth century.

Yu-Mei Balasingamchow
External Curator,
Heritage Gallery, Lee Kong Chian Natural History Museum
“Dr. R. Hanitsch, of Raffles Museum, has gone up Penang Hill in search of fresh specimens of his beloved Blattidae. Dr. Hanitsch is probably the greatest living authority on insects of this family and it is a real delight to him to show the high interest, and in many species the extreme beauty of the universally despised cockroaches.”

*The Straits Times, “Social and Personal” 11th May 1917*

Curiously, (given Hanitsch was a cockroach expert) there were a number of dead cockroaches found in the tortoise when she was opened up for conservation.
DETAIL:

OF

NEWSPAPER FRAGMENTS

THAT WERE

FOUND INSIDE THE TORTOISE
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 1907.

Correspondence.

[The Straits Times is not responsible for the opinions of its correspondents.]

Pronunciation of English.

To the Editor of the Straits Times.
Singapore, August 31, 1907.

Sir,—I am glad that Budah Sin Jihat has bought an American dictionary which he likes, and I don’t think he will ever need to consult it very often.

I am, Yours etc.,
American Teacher.

Chinese for the Civil Service.

To the Editor of the Straits Times.
Singapore, September 2.

Sir,—In your Editorial of the 31st August, you dealt with the question of “Straits-born Chinese,” and contended that they should be treated as equals with the British, under which they enjoy equal footing with the Europeans, and suffer no discriminating treatment. While concurring with you on the former point, I regret that I shall have to express a different opinion on the latter.

John Little & Co., Ltd.

HIGH-CLASS TAILORING.

All orders cut and supervised by a European Tailor.

Exclusive Designs

IN

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit

One Suit
Men and Women.

The Earl of Portsmouth, who with a free hand eye upon fiscal affairs is moving in the House of Lords for a return of Colonial food import prices, is a Liberal peer with the courage of his convictions. He has been a very outspoken critic of the Government, even while he was in the Unionist ranks, and few who heard him will forget his slashing attack on the late Lord Salisbury over the great Shop Seats question.

One of Mr. Gladstone's strongest supporters until the Home Rule Bill cut the bond between them, he sat in the House of Commons as Viscount Lymington from 1880 to 1885, and for North Barnstaple from the latter year till his father's death in 1891 made him sixth Earl and owner of nearly fifty thousand acres—some of which have been in the Wallop family from a period antedating the battle of Bosworth Field. He is one of the cleverest speakers in the House of Lords, and his pet aversion is the "political woman."

Lord Barnard has promptly disposed of the report that his services as Provincial Grand Master were to be lost to the Freemasons of Durham, who could ill spare so distinguished a member of the craft. Lord Barnard has a new companion with the Earl of Shaftesbury, who, it is said, is about to become a member of the Order. The Earl is a strong supporter of the policy of the Grand Master, and is expected to take an active part in the work of the Order in the future.

Lord Ducie is a Moreton, but a descendant of one Robert Ducie, to whom the City of London owed much in the way of civic service in the first quarter of the seventeenth century. His gracious Majesty King Charles the First, owed still more to him, but that was in another sense, for Robert Ducie, merchant, banker, sheriff, alderman, Lord Mayor, knight, and finally baronet, was patriotic enough to lend that monarch eighty thousand pounds—a debt which neither the King nor the Government ever saw fit to wipe out.

That was a circumstance, however, which did not apparently cause Sir Robert much perturbation. At any rate, when he died, he managed to leave his son nearly half a million sterling. His second son was created Viscount Donne, but did not long survive that honour, and the family wealth went to his niece, who married a Moreton of Moreton, and became the mother of the first Lord Ducie.

The Earl of Howth, the other peer who was seventy-eight, is fourth Earl, and thirty-sixth Baron of Howth, a barony by tenure which dates back to 1177, when Sir Amory Tristram erected a standing at Howth, defeated the Irish at the Bridge of Iona, subsequently subdued the whole province of Ulster, and finally fell at the hands of O'Connor, King of Connaught.

Lord Howth is a bachelor, and the last of his line, so that if his title is to die, it will be with him. He is one of the ablest of the Irish baronets, and has been a strong advocate of Irish self-government.
DRIFTING APART.

SEPARATION OF AUSTRIA AND HUNGARY.

In following the progress of the struggle between Hungary and Austria one cannot help being struck by the passion and bitterness of the Hungarians, in contrast with the comparative calm of the Austrians. Austria has always treated Hungary with indulgence, and on every occasion when differences have arisen, has yielded in the end, under a sort of protest, for the sake of a quiet life. Hungary, emboldened by success and presuming on its good nature, is pressing on its own terms.

BRITISH CLAIMS.

FEZ, June 30. No change in the situation here. German troops continue to press the British; no further action as yet.

We continue to press the British in the same manner, and have made no progress.

The new position of the country, owing to the prevailing conditions, is the same as that of the British. We have not made any progress.

BRITISH'S CHAMPION IN 1875.

GERMAN ATTACK.

The position is now in a very serious condition, owing to the prevailing conditions.
THE ARTERIES OF EMPIRE.

The unity of the Empire depends largely upon steamships and cables. When people talk about the difficulty or the impossibility of bringing into any sort of political or commercial union British communities which are scattered over the whole surface of the habitable globe, they forget that Australia is nearer to us to-day than California was to New York in the fifties. Private companies have been mainly instrumental in bridging the vast ocean spaces. To one great cable company we owe the facilities with which we transact business between London and Hong Kong, between Montreal and Melbourne. But private companies are limited by their dividend-paying capacity. Already twenty years ago it was recognised that intercommunication was primarily a matter for Governments to direct and control, because Governments alone can look beyond the immediate necessity of making pecuniary profits. And so the Pacific cable, which links up Australia, New Zealand, and Canada, and provides a new and cheap means of communication between England and the South Seas, was taken in hand. After some fifteen years of discussion an agreement was arrived at in 1900, and now the cable is an accomplished fact.

The immediate advantage of the undertaking is that where an Australian merchant could formerly send ten words to London he can now send thirty for the same price. But that in reality is only a detail. The men who started the enterprise had far greater objects than those.
THE PANAMA CANAL TROUBLE.

It is common knowledge in New York and Washington that President Roosevelt's great domestic worry is the matter of the Panama Canal. Until the President appointed Mr. Theodore P. Shonts as chairman of the Isthmian Canal Commission, with full power to put an end to the terrible muddle and tangle into which the Works and Administration alike have been allowed to drift, it looked as though the Panama Canal would never become an accomplished fact.

Now, however, we find wholesale discontent among the canal employees, and hospitals filled to overflowing with yellow-fever patients. The President was very deeply impressed by the opinions of Dr. Amon Jenkins, who, in South America, the West Indies, and elsewhere, has made yellow-fever the study of his life. "The opening or closing key to Panama," remarked Dr. Jenkins to the writer, "is yellow-fever; make no mistake about that. If that key be turned rightly, the canal will be finished economically and soon; but if the fever is allowed to be rampant, we shall have another 'French Folly' on our hands, and may become a laughing-stock among the nations."

The chief engineer of the Panama Canal, Mr. Wallace, is returning home; and in spite of the alluring prospects held out to clerks, store-keepers, and other white employed, American workers in the Canal zone are returning on every steamer with lurid stories of never-ending warfare, full of the stories of never-ending war...
Clippings:

1. The Straits Times, John Little
2. The Straits Times, St. James's Budget, Men and Women
3. The Straits Times, St. James's Budget, Drifting Apart
4. The Straits Times, St. James's Budget, Britons and Teutons
5. The Straits Times, St. James's Budget, Arteries of Empire
6. The Straits Times, St. James's Budget, The Fear of Cats
7. The Straits Times, St. James's Budget, Panama Canal Trouble
8. The Straits Times, St. James's Budget, Potemkin Still at Large
9. The Straits Times, St. James's Budget Cover
10. The Straits Times, St. James's Budget, Mutineers
11. The Straits Times, St. James's Budget, Declarations of War
12. The Straits Times, St. James's Budget, Advance on Vladivostok
13. The Straits Times, St. James's Budget, Fortune from Cotton
14. The Straits Times, St. James's Budget, Goldfinch and Ghostmoth
15. The Straits Times, St. James's Budget, The Seeing Eye
BIRDS IN HYDE PARK.

On the waters within the beautiful setting of the pond garden are several broods of wildfowl of different growths, which may be watched on their native element behaving as confidently as if on the remotest Norfolk mere. A mother wild duck, with a family of ten ducklings only a few weeks old, has evidently said "Country Life," not quite lost her misgivings that they can be too much in evidence. As a rule she sets a good example by coasting along near the bank, under the tunnel made by drooping Osmanda and giant leaves of hemlocks and butter-burrs. But the tiny flock of downy infants are so intent on foraging and so active that they dash out in all directions over the water, catching flies and dabbling in the weeds. A water-lily often serves them in place of a raft, on which they stand and preen their down, for not one has a feather. At least two broods of little black waterhens, also still covered with down, are to be seen, and it is said that some dabchicks are also there. The waterhens do not keep together like the ducklings, but scatter over the pool, where they feed and dive independently. The old birds are so tame that they even settle down to wash their feathers in public.

MUTINEERS' DECLARATION OF WAR.

BUKAREST, July 4.

News has reached here from Constantza that the delegates from the Kniazi Potemkin, after having been refused permission to provide their vessel, demanded the surrender of the despot Grigoi Raftian. This was refused.

Before leaving, the delegates handed the Prefect a number of copies of a proclamation addressed to the Ministers of the different Powers in Romania, which they asked the Prefect to transmit to them. In this proclamation the mutineers solemnly declare war on all Russian vessels that do not join them.

They add that they will respect neutral territory, and all foreign shipping, whether merchant or naval, but that they are going to bombard Russian vessels at any cost. This decision they request shall be notified to the whole of Europe.

The insurgent ironclad has a supply of coal sufficient for one day's steaming, and there are 2000 shells on board.

A history of the mutineers is that the last moment on landing at Constantza. The majority, however, were opposed to this course, feeling that the Romanian Government would deliver them to the Russian authorities.

The miners, who were prevented from landing, threatened to throw themselves into the sea the moment the battleship left her anchorage. The authorities, hearing of this, had the Potemkin followed by several lifeboats for some distance.

There is a possibility that the mutineers will return to Constantza.

Pursuit of the Potemkin.

ODessa, July 4.

A torpedo-boat destroyer was sent out this morning to pursue the Kniazi Potemkin, and,
ADVANCE ON VLADIVOSTOK

ST. PETERSBURG, Thursday.
A despatch from Kronstadt dated yesterday says that in the fighting at Semnanka the Russians lost 1,000 officers and men, and nearly 200 officers and men wounded.

Yesterday a Russian cavalry column on its way to Trakhtenbort met a strong Japanese force, and retired before the fire of the enemy's infantry and artillery, sustaining some slight loss.

JAPAN AND AN ARMISTICE

ST. PETERSBURG, July 5.
I have ascertained, officially, that an armistice cannot be arranged. Japan has made it known that she will not consent to an armistice until the Russian mission has formally accepted the basis of her proposals, which will not be communicated until the conference has assembled at Washington.

GEN. SAKHAROFF'S SUCCESSOR

ST. PETERSBURG, July 5.
Lt. Gen. Roeder, Chief of the Chancellery of the Ministry of War, has been appointed Director of the Ministry of War in the Government of General Sakharoff. General Palmet, Chief of Staff of the Inspector General of Cavalry, has been appointed Chief of the General Staff.

THE JAPANESE LOAN

ST. PETERSBURG, July 5.
The following despatch, dated the 3rd inst., has been received by the Czar from General Linievich:

"There is no change in the positions of the opposing armies. On the 1st inst. our detachment in Korea took the offensive, and occupied Kauzam in and some other places to the south."—Reuter.

BERLIN, July 5.
Herr Rehders, one of the directors of the Deutsch-Asiatische Bank, is present in London in connection with the extension of the new Japanese loan. It is stated that the German banks will take up £3,000,000 at 4% per cent. The four firms which issued the Russian loan in Berlin will not share in the arrangement.—Reuter.

FORTUNE FROM COTTON

Five years ago there was a man on the New York Cotton Exchange who became a bankrupt. He continued as a broker, and paid off $400,000 of his indebtedness. Before the figures of the present season's crop were published he bought heavily, having, it is said, received private information of the position of affairs. In the sensational gamble this week he made $100,000 in the course of the first five minutes. In the next half hour he raked in $50,000. His good fortune is the talk of New York.

The Liverpool Cotton Market prices opened this morning from 10 to 12 points up.

Lieut.-Colonel R. Jones, Indian Army, has been granted extension of five years in his appointment as Military Secretary to the Mysore Government.
and a butterfly, which I have tested in this matter and found to be precisions. The bird is the goldfinch. She may have an anerring calendar of the season and clock of the day, but in the goldfinch it is not so much exactness in hour and season that one notices as exactness in place. I have little doubt that the reason why she has not built again this year in the yew branch in my garden, overhanging the road, is that the tree has been shorn rather close since she nested in it in May, 1904. This fits in with the observations of a neighbour across the downs, where goldfinches are more abundant than chaffinches; the most abundant, indeed, of the family after the red and the green linnets. He is sure that the reason why a pair of goldfinches did not nest again this year in his yew bush is that their favourite branch has been cut off.

A Goldfinch’s Memory.

But the pair of goldfinches in the fir at the garden gate built again this spring—the third season running—on the same branch, and in almost exactly the same spot. The nest, being in an exposed position, has each season been robbed after the eggs have been laid or the young hatched; so that my friend has made up his mind to destroy it himself next spring before the eggs are laid, as he believes it impossible for the birds to get off their young safely whilst they build here. The return of these goldfinches to exactly the same nesting site though there are hundreds of other sites close by equally suited to its habits and style of architecture—argues a very retentive memory for places, and a somewhat unreasonable conservatism. They remember and favour the place, but forget the fatality of it, the loss and distress which they have suffered season after season by building their nest there.

It is the most distinctive and fascinating performance I have ever watched in the veiled summer evening. The swing of the pendulum is usually referred to by those who wish to describe the movements of the ghost moth over the grass tops, but it is not altogether happy as a simile. It conveys the idea of slowness and of a regular, steady beat; whereas, though, on the whole, the motion of a ghost moth over a piece of ground a few feet square is to and fro like the pendulum's, it is often highly erratic; not for long on the same plane, up and down as well as backwards and forwards.

The Ghost Moth’s Ecstasy.

It has seemed to me in the half light as if the ghost moth were dangled, and danced on some finest of invisible elastic strings. But it is really impossible to convey by words a good idea of the ghost moths’ aerial dance. The exertion, the ecstasy of the dance must, I believe, be intense and exhausting. I have stood within touch of the dancers more than once of late, and after a spell have seen one of them blunder down hastily among the thick, wet grass. Dividing the grasses and searching among them, I have found the Corybant, as though feeble and tired out, climbing a few inches up a stem and folding his wings for a rest of twenty-four hours.

Pick the grass round which he coils his legs, and shake it, he will only flutter slightly and cling the tighter. Whilst the passion of the dance enfolds, consumes him, the ghost moth permits of a near approach, and will twirl and gyrate within a foot of your kindled match or taper. There seems to be little or no rivalry or jealousy between the dancers, though they are near enough at times to brush and strike against one another, as in the excitement of the performance they will strike sharply against
Rapid Reviews.

Half Hours with the Microscope, by Edwin Lancaster, M.D. (C. Arthur Pearson, 1s.), has proved so popular that a third edition has been called for, and published. To Dr. Lancaster's extremely interesting and admirably clear little book fresh matter and woodcuts have been added, along with a valuable chapter on Polarised Light and the structure and uses of the Polariscope, by Mr. F. Kitton. Reader and author are to be equally congratulated, and the little book should win its way to further favour.

The Imperial Drug Trade, by Joshua Rowntree (Methuen, 5s.), calls itself, by subtitle, "a restatement of the opium question in the light of recent evidence and new developments in the East." That is to say that it is an indictment, from Mr. Rowntree's natural point of view, carried out with the enthusiastic vigour associated with his name, of the trade in opium between India and China. The author strives to be moderate in language and argument, with at least partial success; he is of course something of a fanatic, and represents the extreme between which and the present state of affairs may lie the path of philanthropy not wholly divorced from common sense. At all events, his book has deep interest for all, whether they find themselves wholly, in part, or not at all in agreement with his conclusions. And the chapters devoted to Japan, her policy, and its possible or probable effect on the future of this question, is timely and arresting.

Gladstonian Ghosts, by Cecil Chesterton (C. S. Browne, Langham, and Co., 2s. 6d.), is an essay in political criticism that lacks shrewdness neither in matter nor of manner. Mr. Chesterton is a
MUTINEERS' GUNS.

REFUSAL OF COAL EXPECTED TO RESULT IN BOMBARDMENT

Theodosia has been forbidden by the Czar and his Councillors to supply the mutineers with food. However, the order came too late, as provisions had already been given or sold to them. Whether the lard and tobacco and other things asked for were also forthcoming is not certain. Coal at any rate was refused, perhaps because the burghers hadn't any, and as a consequence they are fearful of being bombarded and have removed themselves and their belongings to a safe distance inland.

Meanwhile Admiral Kruger and his ships with their fresh crews, including a certain number of railwaymen in the engine rooms, and his torpedo-boats manned by officers disguised as sailors, must be close to Theodosia. They have their teeth set and they mean business, as every day's delay acts as an encouragement to the turbulent element at Sebastopol and in the Caucasus to make a fresh attempt at revolt.

A Turkish rumour has it that two officers from an English steamer have been persuaded to embark on the Potemkin, which recalls the story of English adventurers who embarked on Rojestvensky's fleet. Whether the railwaymen on Kruger's ships will serve better than those
The Straits Times, St. James's Budget, Rapid Reviews

The Straits Times, St. James's Budget, Turkish Nervousness

The Straits Times, Steamer Sailings

The Straits Times, St. James's Budget, The Kaiser's Invitation

The Straits Times, St. James's Budget, Outposts of Empire

The Straits Times, St. James's Budget, In the Country

The Straits Times, Indian Labour, Swatow Rebellion

The Straits Times, St. James's Budget, British Seamen

The Straits Times, St. James's Budget, A Great Painter

The Straits Times, St. James's Budget, Modern Science and the Church

The Straits Times, Politics in Church
HOW THEY COME ON THE MARKET.

"A Barrister," writing in the "Army and Navy Gazette" of this week, draws attention to the fact that recently very many Nelson letters and documents have found their way into London sale-rooms, and points out that, in the course of a few days, a well-known firm of auctioneers will offer for disposal to the highest bidder the original Despatch, announcing the battle of Trafalgar and the death of Nelson, from Admiral Collingwood to Lord Robert Fitzgerald, Minister Plenipotentiary, Ambassador, etc., Lisbon, dated "Euryalus," off Cadiz, 24th October, 1805.

The document begins—

"I lose no time in communicating to your Lordship the glorious event of the 21st instant, when the British Fleet of 21 sail, commanded by the Right Honourable Lord Viscount Nelson, fell in with (off Cape Trafalgar), and after a most severe combat, defeated, the combined fleets of France and Spain, consisting of 33 or 34 sail of the line, under the command of Admiral Villeneuve—Gravina was commanding officer of the Spanish fleets. Twenty ships of their line struck to the British flag."

He then goes on to recount how both the French and Spanish Admirals are prisoners on this frigate, to which

"I have shifted my flag for more conveniently communicating my orders to my shattered Fleet."

He also refers to the "Exceeding bad weather which has involved me in difficulties."

In respect to the death of Nelson he says:

"This great day has not been without considerable suffering on my part in loss of officers and men; but what the British Navy and the British Nation will have ever to lament is the death of the Commander-in-Chief, Lord Nelson, who in the middle of the action, fell covered with glory."

In the Pickle, England, the weather will admit of communication, for I have not a frigate that I can possibly spare me. No difficult service I have had to perform here, and wish to be at your Lordship's immediate send a message to the King."

that the large sum of £14,000 has been handed over to King Edward's Hospital Fund.

This makes a total contribution of £46,000 during the five years that the League has been in existence. This steady increase is, indeed, most satisfactory; and I am well aware that such results could not have been attained without much personal trouble and sacrifice of time on the part of the members of the League. The Princess desires me to express her regret that she is unable to be present here-to-day, and in her name, as well as in my own, I desire to once more thank you for the splendid work you have done on behalf of the League.

THE KAISER'S INVITATION.

The German Emperor has sent the following telegram to Lord Lyveden from the imperial yacht Hohenzollern at Kiel, in reply to a telegram from the British municipal visitors on leaving Germany:—

"I hear, to my great satisfaction, by your Lordship's kind telegram from Cologne, that the members of the British committee for the study of foreign municipal institutions have been in every way pleased with their excursion through the towns of Germany.

"The hearty and hospitable reception they met with on the part of my authorities, as well as on that of the burghers and the German people, I hope, encourage your countrymen to come to visit your German cousins in their own country, thus strengthening the relations between our two nations by personal intercourse.

"William, jr."

CANADIANS AND TARIFF COMMISSIONERS.

The arrangements for the forthcoming conference are completed.

CHRIST CONGRESS ARRANGEMENTS.

As regards physique, at my rate I can test this—that I saw in a cricket match the other a young wicket keeper—I think he was a keeper—who measured so many inches that not help thinking of Frederick the Great's who stuck at nothing to procure tall soldier who would have kidnapped that young man ground without hesitation and without demur. I have not the pleasure of his acquaintance, but I have known other old Epsomians, and will speak with thorough belief and confidence of them; and, in many of the way in which they conduct our affairs, and in all the various vocations which they have chosen. We have here a splendid teaching and it will be be assured that the race week of monastic seduction for the boys—laughter no contamination is allowed to reach them. I believe they know the name of the Dorset (laughter) until they have sat the vacation. For those who intend to be dried is the rudimentary element of health, that is the supplementary salt to an admiring world. Great laughter, that with those advantages and without it, I know, any drawback, we, the president of Epsom College, may look cheerful to the next jubilee. (Loud cheers.)
THE OUTPOSTS OF EMPIRE.

UNDER THE RED ENSIGN.

Now it is to your tackle then go to a desk and write a letter to a clerk who sits! The pair of them look as if they are owls, and make a monotonous sound. No making signs, sending no scraps of paper or books, if it detected, Presently I set out and went up to the bench was given my papers. Since the sun; black holes are the only things I am not crossing the country. In the country.

BY G. A. B. DEWAR.

The first thing I remember was the arrival of the Postman Home here in London; and no doubt, if I had been simply holiday-making, I could have had a jolly enough time with this as my headquarters. But I was on business, being resolved to pass for a master's certificate. I had to go in and out of doors. This is not to say it was a crammer, for the sea I had a look at a log-book, giving it the best possible opinion to work and weather. I fancy this is so with most sailors, though I suppose it should be. I made arrangements to study under Captain McCarthy, close to the Home, and at ten o'clock the next morning, I was shown to my desk, like a schoolboy, and at school.

It was schoolboys over again for us sailors, sure enough; no talking or smoking, and strict attention to discipline. This might be a bit irksome at first; indeed, I felt so, for when a sailor is ashore he feels, he must be on holiday; but it is clear enough that, the real work is to be accomplished in these

JUNE 30, 1905.

The Ghost of the Moth's Fantasy.

It seemed to me in the half-light as if all the inhabitants of the night were taking a walk. It was a delightful sight, the moths danced about the light; they were all white, and their wings were transparent. But it is really impossible to describe the more by words a good idea of the ghost moth's aerial dance. The excitation, the excitement, the dance must! But I will have a look, to give the dances more than the mere outline. And after a spell have one of the moths have been dropped into the darkness, they can be seen flying about the light. But the wings are in a kind of a thin layer, they can be seen fluttering about the spot. The wings are in a kind of a thin layer, they can be seen fluttering about the spot.
Straits Times. Monday, September 2, 1907.

Swatow Rebellion.

Indian Labour.

Planter on the Immigration Bill.

Singapore Merchant Resists Extradition.

A Plea for Representation.

Complaints Against Mandarins.

In our edition of Saturday we mentioned that a Shanghai lawyer was cited for contempt of court, and in the following telegrams, dated Shanghai, August 26:

The United States Court for China ordered the prosecution of Attorney General of Hong Kong, in which Mr. Curtis was arraigned for contempt of Court. The prosecution was dismissed after the lawyer was allowed to practice in that Court.

In the Hong Kong Police Court on June 20, the Chinese authorities sought the extradition of In Ki Shing on a charge of committing armed robbery. The Crown submitted a plea of not bound to answer which was held by the witness to be false. The application was made by Mr. Berkeley, instructed by Mr. Sing. The prisoner was cross-examined by the Prosecution. Before the prisoner was called to the stand, the lawyer asked whether it was only in his interest to answer the charge. The Court ordered a new trial and dismissed the default.

Mr. Curtis has intimated his intention to appeal to the Supreme Court of the United States.
BRITISH SEAMEN.

A COMPARISON WITH THE FOREIGN VARIETY.

(By a British Vice Consul.)

Jack Tramp, A.B., Britisher, holds no two opinions of the subject's importance. He is one of a type: unwashed and unshorn, you may see him any day lounging outside a public-house in the West India Dock-road. He has a shabby cap, showing a list to starboard, on his unkempt head, and an empty, stubby pipe, with a list to port, in the corner of his mouth. He's so interested in the question that he will readily discuss it with the most casual stranger over countless pints of beer, should the listener be willing to pay the score, and if the gamut of liquid refreshment he rung to his satisfaction his oratory will sometimes become very distinctly marked. In fact, he will try to convince you by strength of adjectives alone that it is time that the Board of Trade stepped in for his protection against the "farmer." "Aint I a British object?" he queries, in thickening tones; and one has to admit, though sadly, that he thoroughly fulfills his own unconsciously trenchant insinuation: and in spite of the gappy lining of his shabby cap being the only roof which he is ever likely to own, he is bravely prepared to bet any amount that his "Union" will alter the wrong very soon. Poor Jack!—we shall meet him again in New Orleans, Sydney, or Seattle, and we shall find him as thirsty and argumentative as ever. He will be "on the beach" again, whilst Jan Maat, Olafsdøen, Thosopoulos, the Greek from Cardiff, or his garlic reeking shipmate, Alceo: Jose, applies for and gets his job.

Tom Ratlin, A.B., English, is of another stamp altogether. He is well clothed, bronzed, bearded, and a seafarer from crown to sole. His clear, honest face seems to carry a breath of the deep salt sea with him. He is quickly picked up by a skipper or a mate in want of hands. As a guest he is modest and inexpen-

A GREAT PAINTER.

"G. x Watts: Reminiscences." By Mrs. Russell Barrington.

(21s. net.)

To have been privileged to be admitted into close and very real friendship with Watts, our one great imaginative painter—"a man of the highest aims and most consistent life, is an experience which places Mrs. Russell Barrington in a singularly favourable position for recording a multitude of interesting details of his methods of work. The result of an intimate association between the artist, herself and her husband, extending over a period of close upon thirty years, it is not merely a warm appreciation of the achievement of the master, an explanation of his often somewhat obscure allegories. It gives, in an essentially refined and sympathetic way, an insight into the life and soul of the painter who not only had a mission but who combined with the preaching of it, by means of his canvases, a setting forth of the beautiful which has had no little effect, even at this comparatively short space of time, on the art of the day. The value and interest of Mrs. Barrington's book, which only very occasionally emphasizes important and trifling details, lies in the descriptions of Watts at work in his studio and of the intellectual creation of his noblest pictures.
HIGHER EDUCATION.

IMPORTANT EXTENSION OF EVENING SCHOOL WORK.

In addition to the general work of the evening schools, the Board of Education has decided to encourage during the coming winter specially organised courses of study.

In a memorandum issued today the Board states that organised courses in connection with evening classes have a high educational value, and it is to be desired that every large institution should provide in this way for the requirements of at least the more important groups of its students. There are now, indeed, in various parts of the country, schools which carry on well-arranged courses of instruction extending over three or four years, but these are for the most part devoted to technical subjects.

The board is anxious that there should be a Commercial and General course, and will make a special grant for students who take such a course. The board stipulates, however, that the equipment of the school, the qualifications of the teachers, and the standard of general education of the students should be suitable. The course must extend over a period of not less than four years, and in its arrangement regard must be paid to the occupations of the students. No student may be admitted to the second or any later year of the course who is not qualified by his progress in the work of the preceding year, or by a corresponding standard of attainment.

The course may include general, literary, and commercial subjects, art and science.

The board also announces that physical training has been included in the field for which aid is given. Evening schools which take up the subject must aim at the general physical
The Straits Times, Choice Dippins, Pathe Freres
(27)

The Straits Times, St. James’s Budget, A Corsair to be Watched
(28)

The Straits Times, St. James’s Budget, Dartmoor in Summer
(29)

The Straits Times, St. James’s Budget, Imperial Science
(30)

The Straits Times, Listings
(31)

The Straits Times, Assassination of Persian Premier
(32)

The Straits Times, St. James’s Budget, Pigeons Carry Secrets
(33)
Choice Drippings.

Price per dozen $0.60
Per Case of 13 dozens $7.25

THOMPSON, THOMAS & CO. STAMFORD RD., SINGAPORE.

The Australian Stores.

BOOK-KEEPER WANTED.

WILSON & Co.

TO-NIGHT!
HUGE SUCCESS!

Grand Cinematograph, PATHE FRERES.

“The Harlequin’s Diary.”
“The Drunken Mare.”
“The Dog Detective.”
“The Mines and the Decazaville.”

To-night, 2 SHOWS.

7-30 P.M., SHARP & 9-30 P.M., SHARP.

HOTEL WISSE.

Batavia.

Required: A Smart, Energetic and Capable

a home that is not more stable than it is due to the strength
he is endowed with. He is independent and stable.

under the Church and the matter is especi
training the Lord and the people.

a “C” man.

remains under the rem
dates still not elected.

the部副ie of the pro

5th
The newspapers have ceased publication and passenger traffic between Tiflis and Batum has been suspended for the last two days, while the goods traffic between Batum and Baku has already been interrupted for a fortnight.

An attack has been made on the Exarch of Georgia but with what result is not known.—Reuter.

A CORSAIR TO BE WATCHED.

In view of the recent depredations on British shipping by Russian corsairs, some anxiety has been felt amongst British shipowners and underwriters as to the whereabouts of the Volunteer cruiser Kuban, which seemed to have disappeared.

Inquiries were accordingly dispatched to the principal ports in the Eastern archipelago, and early this morning the news of the Kuban was received. The cruiser left Saigon on June 30, ostensibly for Odessa, but nothing has since been heard of her. Ship captains in the neighbourhood have been warned to keep a sharp look out.

[The Kuban was also near Saigon on the 15th June, so it would seem to have made that port its base. It was formerly the Augusta Victoria of the Hamburg American line.]

THE MUTINEERS' RESOLVE.

CONSTANTINOPLE, Wednesday.

(Delayed by Censor.)

The British steamer Cranley (Captain Steele), the first vessel to leave Odessa since the beginning of the disturbances, arrived here to-day.

Captain Steele states that when he left Odessa on Monday evening a large number of steamer, mostly British, were lying in the roadstead waiting to load or unload their cargoes, without taking orders.
I think he must have been the only business man amongst them, for not a single one of the others could make head or tail of the account books which he left behind him.

**DARTMOOR IN SUMMER.**

We live in an age of discovery, but since Mr. Hall Caine unearthed Mansfield, and Mr. Thomas Hardy brought Wessex into the fierce glare of publicity, and the inimitable "Rita" proved to us beyond the shadow of a doubt that a cancerous growth called the "Smart Set" was eating into the vitals of Society, no discovery worth speaking of has been made, at any rate by the literary section of the community, until now, when Mr. Eden Phillpotts has found out and made manifest to the world that there exists in the West of England a truly attractive spot—someone who ought to know better has termed it the "Garden of Eden"—namely, Dartmoor. I knew Dartmoor well before it was "discovered," and even in those primitive days it attracted me. Mr. Baring Gould and others had sung its praises in books and essays and newspaper articles. Sir Arthur Conan Doyle had explored its fastnesses with the aid of able detectives and fearless hounds. But none of these literary artists had gone so far as to discover it almost in the sense that Columbus discovered the United States and Cabot the Colony that Kipling of recent years so deeply offended by referring to as "Our Lady of the Snows." That crowning glory was left to Mr. Eden Phillpotts, himself a native of the county in which Dartmoor lies, and, therefore, perhaps, afforded an unfair advantage. Now that he has placed the moor before us in all its grandeur, however, in his admirable novels, it is interesting to note that of late years a rather remarkable change has come over Dartmoor.

For between fifteen and twenty years ago a great part of the moor was regularly infested at about this season by hordes of, if not precisely "savage," at any rate, very uncouth trippers. Whether these unseemly vandals have for some reason grown tired of picnics or have found that it is that they have come

---

**BANQUET.**

**THE BIRTHDAY OF DOMINION.**

presided, on Saturday, held at the Hotel Cecil Day. Some 500 guests on them being the Duke of Westminster, the Earl of Lonsdale, the Earl of Aberdon, the Bishop of Ripon, Sir A. Mallock (Postmaster-General, F. Dixon-Hartland, William Seymour, General E. R. Fremantle, Sir H. Collet, Sir Edward Huxton, Sir Arthur Bigge, and Sir Archibald Geikie.)

imposing the toast of "The idea that the ninetieth presided at a Dominion Day was somewhat slow at first, but the Puffin Railway joined in, and went by leaps and bounds, 35 years ago, on wheat sent out, but, on that was necessary had to outstrip States. Last year, very little wheat—amongst others, 190,000,000 bushels of which they might possibly come in competition in this country. So good was the harvest of 450,000,000 bushels, at £100,000,000,000, and the Bremen, which would have been the Canadians had a good one, they had told that their share might not only add a home for all the people from London, but give the Americans, who had been among United States, gone to come in. If people like to go to it. Within 9 American States, had gone to finding that they would be better off with one scheme of common government and administration.

---

**IMPERIAL SCIENCE.**

**COMPRESSIVE EDUCATIONAL SCHEME PROPOSED.**

The preliminary report has been issued of the proposal by the President of the Board of Education (the Marquis of Londonderry) to inquire into the present and future working of the Royal College of Science (including the Royal School of Mines), and into questions connected therewith.

The committee recognize the admirable work accomplished by the Royal College of Science, but at the same time, they say that it is agreed that there is an urgent national necessity for increased facilities for advanced instruction and research in science, especially in its application to industry. The committee state that they are satisfied that the moment is ready for the opportunity of a comprehensive scheme. Such a scheme, however, could only be accomplished by realising certain material improvements in the field of science which have been made, and by the co-operation of certain influential bodies interested in such institutions as are dealt with in the committee's proposals. It had therefore, become necessary for the committee to approach those bodies and the persons who had made the offers in question. But before proceeding any further in this direction, the committee felt that their position would be strengthened if they could be assured that their proposals would meet with the approval of the Government. Accordingly, they decided to present this preliminary report.

The conditions which, if fulfilled, would be the committee's opinion, ensure the success of the scheme are:

1. The gift of a large capital sum (say not less than £100,000) for building and initial equipment.
2. The gift of an additional fund (say not less than £40,000) for South Kensington.
3. The willingness of the Board of Education to allow their college at South Kensington to be brought into a scheme of common government and administration.
4. The similar willingness of the City and Guilds of London.
In the light of recent events, one can scarcely withhold a large measure of sympathy to that unfortunate statesman Lord Rosebery. Forced into a position to which he was by nature and temperament unsuited, and bound out of it by popular clamour when he had failed in the impossible task of reconciling irreconcilable elements, he is today written down a mere failure, and the real good work that he did is in danger of being overlooked. For it must not be forgotten that it is to him we owe the introduction of the doctrine of continuity into the Foreign Office. At the time when Lord Beaconsfield and Mr. Gladstone led alternate governments, there were constant and recurring reversals of foreign policy, a fact which naturally disturbed the public sentiment. Lord Rosebery, on the other hand, adopted the principle of continuity, and by so doing he was able to maintain a stable and harmonious system of foreign relations. His policy was based on the idea that in international affairs it is more important to maintain a consistent course than to make sudden and radical changes. This principle was well illustrated by his handling of the Afghan crisis. Instead of attempting to force a solution through military action, he sought to achieve a peaceful settlement by negotiation. This approach was ultimately successful, and it served as a model for future diplomatic efforts. In conclusion, Lord Rosebery's contribution to the development of the Foreign Office and the British foreign policy is immeasurable. His legacy should be remembered and celebrated by all those who are concerned with the conduct of international relations.
New Military Command.

Strengthening the Mediterranean Forces.

(From our own Correspondent.)

London, August 9.

It was notified in the House of Commons last evening, that a new military command has been created, which extends from Gibraltar to Khartoum, including Malta, Crete, Cyprus, and Egypt. Mr. Haldane also stated that the King had selected his brother, the Duke of Connaught, to be the first to fill the post, with headquarters at Malta.

By the way, some years ago, before the Kaiser unfolded his little naval programme, there was an island in the North Sea which belonged to Britain. To mark its value to the British Empire, the only use to which it was put was to serve as a bathing-place to Germans, for whose protection against intruders some 200 troops were stationed in ancient barracks, and the visitors were supplied with bathing-machines ad lib. The island is still there, where it used to be, but it has changed hands and is much altered in appearance. We called it Heligoland and exchanged it for some useless swamps in Africa, and the Kaiser has turned it into an inexpugnable fortress and an invincible position to the mouths of the Weser and the western entrance to the

Indian Labour.

Planter on the Immigration Bill.

A Plea for Representation.

Mr. H. Herbert M. Darly, Vallang Klang, writes as follows to the Pinang Vallang Klang:—

Sir,—I trust you will allow your paper to make a few words in support of a leader in your issue of the last week.

We planters accept the principle that the tax should be imposed to meet the labour difficulties of the country; but we do not consider the proposal of the Immigration Bill to be in harmony with the interests of the community. We do not believe that the labour difficulties that we are now experiencing are due to the excess of population. We do not believe that the labour difficulties that we are now experiencing are due to the excess of population. We do not believe that the labour difficulties that we are now experiencing are due to the excess of population. We do not believe that the labour difficulties that we are now experiencing are due to the excess of population.

You say in your leader: “The Bill includes the Hon. John Turner and Mr. R. W. Harrisse, who are interested in the planting interests on the Council. And Mr. Turner represents the Planters’ interests in the Legislative Council.”
LETTERS
FROM THE
TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY
DESTINED FOR THE INTERIOR
OF AN
ASIAN BROWN TORTOISE
Stories from the twenty-first century
left inside a tortoise

We have commissioned a series of “notes for a tortoise from the twenty-first century” which we will leave inside the tortoise when Raffles Museum of Biodiversity Research Conservator Kate Pocklington closes up our tortoise after cleaning. These notes come from relatives of Dr Richard Hanitsch as well as people who have enjoyed a close connection either to the museum or to the tortoise. Some of the notes are private and are only to be read if and when the tortoise is opened up again in future. Other notes will be made public at a later date.
A Sonnet for my Grandfather

I catch a glimpse of you in the mirror.
It’s a certain look I have whilst shaving.
And though I never saw you in the flesh,
it’s something that connects me close to you
and makes me curious. Do we share the
same hands that drew the detail of a wing,
or wrote a paper that defined a new
species from a recent expedition?

Could I have managed to survive those days
in jungle wildernesses, gathering
new specimens to help us understand
the tree of life that holds the natural world?

Tomorrow I shall pause to look again
to see if you appear and raise a smile.

Peter Cutts
25th February 2014

Some of the letters that will be placed inside the tortoise are written directly to our tortoise, others are about Dr Richard Hanitsch. Another set of letters contain more general concerns about humans, nature and memory, seen from twenty-first century Singapore.

A number of these letters are private and are destined solely for our tortoise, or for readers in a distant future.

However, some of our letter-writers have agreed to make their contributions public. We will be adding to this public collection as the letters come in. Here is a poem written by the actor, writer and director Peter Cutts, who is in the process of writing a play about his grandfather, Dr Richard Hanitsch.
Greetings from Richard Hanage (Hanitsch)

I am delighted to be able to write a note to be put inside the tortoise and wonder when and who will be reading it in the future.

My name, until I was about 15 years old, was Richard Hanitsch as I am the eldest son of the Dr Richard Hanitsch’s second son, Philip, who was born in 1897.

When I was about 15 my parents decided to anglicise the name and so now my name is Richard Hanage. At school, before the name was changed, I was called ‘Spinach’. That name continued with me even though it was less appropriate. Perhaps ‘Cabbage’ would have been a better fit phonetically.

My father, Philip, was born in Singapore and was brought to school in England by his mother at the age of about six. She stayed in England a few years and then returned to Singapore. From that time he will have seen little of his parents until they returned to England, first Ethel, his mother came back finally in about 1913, and then Richard Hanitsch himself returned in 1919 and they settled in Oxford, at 99 Woodstock Road.

Richard Hanitsch worked part-time in the University Museum in Oxford, and I understand that he often was sent insect collections from people from across Europe who had been exploring areas in and around Malaya and his role was to identify the specimens and, hopefully, find some new species amongst them.

For this work he received an honorary MA in 1935, of which he was very proud.

I was born in August 1939 in Doncaster, in the North of England, and I understand that I met Richard Hanitsch before he died in August 1940. Not surprisingly I have no recollection of this meeting. My father was educated in England as a civil engineer and after two or three jobs he went to work in Malaya on road construction in the early 1920’s, and was involved in building the causeway between Malaya and Singapore. We have a photograph of it that he took at the time. I believe he spent several years there and enjoyed the work and the social life, winning several prizes playing tennis.

He eventually came back to England where he met my mother in Kings Lynn and they were married and moved to Doncaster, where I was born.

Philip, and his older brother Karl Vernon, fought in the First World War, and this must have caused Richard Hanitsch some anxiety partly because of the danger they were in and also because they were fighting against Richard Hanitsch’s original homeland. Although he was naturalised as a citizen of the United Kingdom and Colonies in 1910, it is clear from some of his diary notes that he still followed events in Germany quite closely.

My father spoke sometimes of his childhood in Singapore, which he remembered with affection, but it was not until much later that I realised how much Richard Hanitsch had done for the Raffles Museum, as it was called then. We have gradually accumulated materials about him and his family, and I visited Singapore myself in 1967 on the way back from a work assignment in Australia. I met the then Director of the Museum and he kindly showed me round. At the time Singapore had one sky-scraper and was very proud of it. I believe the city has changed a lot since then!

In 1977 I visited the University Museum in Oxford where Richard Hanitsch worked and they showed me some of his specimens, labelled in his handwriting and still in the cabinets that he pinned them into. Amazingly, there was somebody at the Museum who actually worked alongside Richard Hanitsch in the 1930s. He showed me the laboratory bench where they both worked together. The Museum also kindly gave me some materials written by Richard Hanitsch which were duplicates in their collection, and a book of logarithm tables given to him by his brother Hugo in 1881, when he was 21 years old.

When I walked unannounced into the Museum in Oxford I introduced myself as ‘Richard Hanage’ and the person I spoke to did a ‘double-take’, realising that I was a relative of Richard Hanitsch. Now, very late in my career, I am doing research for a Ph.D. and hope in 2016 to be Dr Richard Hanage. I rather hope that I will have the opportunity to walk into the National Museum in Singapore and introduce myself as ‘Dr Richard Hanage’ and see what the reaction is.

As to this tortoise and its contents, I send the readers of this note my best wishes and would love to know what has happened in the Museum, in Singapore, and in the world, since these letters were put inside it.

Richard Hanage (Hanitsch), grandson of Dr Richard Hanitsch.
10 Mar 2014