

Montone Puket (Siam)

Malay Peninsula.

BY REV. JOHN CARRINGTON, B. A., M. A.

One of the most beautiful and enchanting spots in the world, and certainly in Siam, lies on the the upper west coast of the Malay Peninsula, washed by the waters of the Bay of Bengal. This piece of land lies between 10° north latitude and about 7° south. It may be said to describe an arc of a circle, one terminus ending in the Salween, Lower Burma, and the other in Kedda, or Saiburee. This includes the adjoining islands which at one time may have formed a part of the mainland. In proof of this there is 1. the structure of the islands, 2. the fauna, 3. the flora. This, too, is the opinion of Wallace, who has discussed this subject at some length.

It does not lie within the purpose of this paper to discuss the ancient history of this Montone, but to write of it more as it is at the present time, and as observed by the writer during five tours through this region.

This is a portion of Siam, Malay Peninsula, the "Tanah Malayu," or Malay Land. At Kra, ^{๓๓}๓, or Kraburee it is about 45 miles wide, and at a line through Junkceylon and Nakon it is about 200 miles in width.

It will be in place here to name the provinces into which Puket Montone is divided. We begin with the most northerly one and name them on down in their order of location :

1. Ranong—^{๓๓}๓—formerly Ranong and Kra. Ranong is said to signify a place of much water ; and indeed this is true in the rainy season.

2. Takuapa—^{๓๓}๓—^{๓๓}๓—the place, or wilderness, of lead ; named thus, perhaps, because the first tin discovered there was supposed to be lead.

3. Pangnga—พังงา—formerly Takuathoong (lead field) and Pangnga. พังงา undoubtedly means, in this connection, very beautiful, as it will be seen that this is a province of great beauty—and not Elephant's tusk, as some Siamese think.

4. Puket, or Thalang, or Junkceylon. It may be the word *puket* is the Malay word *bukit* for hill or mountain. I am not satisfied about this definition. This is a large island separated from the mainland by a very narrow passage of water, and lies south of east of Pangnga. The main town is Tongka—thoongkha—ทุ่งคา, field of grass, or grass field.

5. Krabee—very incorrectly called Gerbee. The Siamese word is กระบี่ meaning a sword. This is a good Siamese word for that weapon, a lower word being *dap*, ดาบ, the high word being พระแสง.

6. Trang, formerly Trang and some other small states. Trang ตรัง is said to mean “adhere” or “joined to.” The application I am at a loss to discover for the present. It may be that this territory was acquired by the Siamese later than that adjoining it in the North or East, and so was called “joined,” that is joined to what they already possessed. This is merely conjecture on my part, and I do not insist.

I have here named these provinces as they will be constantly referred to in what is to follow.

Mountains and Hills.

There runs the whole length of the peninsula a ridge of mountains and hills, irregular in height and width; and really a continuation downwards of the Salween or Tenassarim range. In the Puket Montone these mountains do not reach any considerable height, but are much higher in the Southern part of the peninsula. Indeed one is now said to be 10,000 feet high. It is in what is called the Tahan chain. In my trip across the peninsula after leaving the Krabee Mountain I hardly knew that I was among mountains all the way from Krabee Noi to the Bandon river. This ridge of mountains may be said to be the natural reservoir which with its innumerable springs and brooks supplies the many rivers running to

the coast. Then too they furnish the earth, which in rainy seasons is constantly carried down the streams, to fertilize the plains in the overflow season, and to make new land on the borders of the sea; but this last can never be carried on to any great extent as the peninsula is so narrow and the mountains so comparatively low. Delightfully cool and clear water flows from these declivities to refresh the traveller, the inhabitants and animal life—nature's true beverage. At Takuapa is a delightful spring of water flowing out of the mountain side. This leads us to the next topic.

The River Systems.

The rivers are numerous, but of no great length. The most northerly one is Pak Chan, ปากฉัน, incorrectly named Pakshan. This stream has its source above Kra, and winding down in a southern direction is enlarged greatly at about the place called Ban Nam Chut, and then becomes really an inlet of the sea. Good sized vessels can move up it to an anchorage opposite the Laoon river on the Siamese side, and Malewan on the Burmese side, for this river here separates Siam from Burma. Malewan, มลิวัด, according to Pallegoix, means wild jasmine. The Siamese Mali flower is very sweet.

The next large river is the Takuapa. This stream is very tortuous, and flows mainly from South to North. It is muddy, showing that there is considerable mining going on above. This stream flows through considerable rice country as yet uncultivated, which could be made to produce vastly more than it is now doing. The delta of this river is cut up into many islands, with two main entrances, one north, one south, presenting much beautiful scenery.

The Takuathoong and the Pangnga rivers are unique for rugged mountain scenery. In passing from one to the other of these towns one branch of the river flows through a tunnel under a mountain, through which boats come and go. This cave tunnel is of exceeding beauty, immense stalactites hanging from its ceiling, of many tons weight. The grandeur of this sight is beyond words to describe.

As we cannot delay to mention all these rivers in this Montone we speak of but one more, the Trang. This, too, like the others has its source in the hill country and flows south to the sea. It

winds its way through a large valley of considerable productiveness, which could produce with more extensive cultivation many times the present output of rice. This river is navigable ordinarily by steamer some four hours journey up from the sea.

Puket, or Junkceylon, has really no river worthy of the name. At Tongka the stream hardly in any serviceable way reaches the town.

Climate.

The climate of this region does not differ materially from that of similar latitudes in the Kingdom: and the rainy and dry seasons are about the same.

Flora.

The entire coast is covered with mangrove trees, and in some places these reach several miles inland. These peculiar trees present a unique sight to one journeying up these rivers and along the coast. The mangrove is the rhizophosa. The fruit or rather germ of this tree is like a bulb with a spike attached to it growing on the limbs. This bulb is really in two sections, and contains rather than a pulp the rudimentary stems and leaves. When developed to a certain degree of ripeness it falls from the tree spike down-ward, the spike being driven into the mud of its own weight. The rudimentary roots are in this stem or spike and develop and grow in the mud, and as the tiny stems and leaves grow and swell in the bulb it gives off the upper half and henceforth it is a visible young mangrove tree. These forests present a peculiar appearance with their high bare roots, looking like huge spiders or crabs with trees on their backs. This is a great and almost inexhaustible supply of fire wood, the bark being excellent for tanning leather, and on account of its astringency is sometimes used as a medicine. Then too, there are the mango, mapring (maprang of Bangkok), cocoanut, pradoo tree, vines of all kinds, jackfruit, etc. In crossing from Krabee to the Bandon river I passed through two large forests in which are many large tall trees; and there were wild grape vines all the way, some in bloom and some bearing fruit not yet ripe, so that at times the fragrance was like that of a home vineyard at blossom time. The grapes I first discovered in Krabee province. They are sometimes used by the people in curries. I also discovered

the old fashioned home cat-mint or cat-nip used as a medicine. In various places are growing what may be styled semi-tree and semi-vine. Its peculiarity is that at the base of their flowers grow leaves almost purely white, while all the other leaves are green. There too is a tree which bears a strange fruit—strange in that its seed, as large as a lima bean, grows on its outside at the end opposite its stem. This is called “mamuang himaphan,”

มะม่วง หิมพาน, *i. e.* the mango of the forest. This fruit is exceedingly juicy and instead of containing real pulp, it contains a mass of fiber. It is not unpleasant to the taste and it is consumed in large quantities by the people. A strange tradition is related of it, saying that one day a priest walking along stepped on one of these fruits and mashed the seed out of it, and though before that incident the seed always grew within the fruit, ever after it has grown on the outside. Trang seems to be the only province in which enough, or nearly so, of rice is grown for its home consumption. All the other provinces import rice in considerable quantities. This may be accounted for largely on the ground that this is a mining region, and some provinces being given much to cattle and buffalo raising; for indeed many of the valleys are little more than touched agriculturally. Two kinds of rice are grown, the hill and the plain. The hill rice is grown by digging small holes on the hill sides, and a few grains put in each. It is a pleasure to walk through the pepper gardens of Trang. These are abundant. The pepper is a vine and not a tree, and is grown on stakes or certain kinds of soft wood trees, the garden looking much like a *plu* garden. The only difference between black pepper and white is that the dark hull is taken off the former and we have the latter. Trang pepper is noted for its fine quality.

Fauna.

Wild elephant, rhinoceros, tiger, buffalo, cattle, monkeys of many kinds, all sorts of reptiles, and insects innumerable, abound. As the mountains and forests on the Puket side cannot differ from those on the Gulf of Siam there must be many very beautiful birds. On my way down the Bandon river the Chinese had two bundles of these beautiful feathers, and at Bandon town, the day after rain, many bundles of exceedingly beautiful feathers were out

in the sun to be dried. Then on this side, too, there must be the same. The peculiar bird called hornbill abounds in this region, and his flesh is a good article of food. There are wild ducks and pigeons. In some parts just before sunset a peculiar metallic ring is heard among the trees. This is believed to be the sound of a peculiar beetle. The "cheene" or Gibbon or "oungka," both white and black ones, abound in large numbers, screaming all day long in the hills and on the mountains. These are of the hilobate species, a kind of Ape noted for its agility in climbing and jumping. Some of the people say that once upon a time Mrs. Cheene was the cause of her husband being killed in combat, and these screams heard, are her pathetic calls for him to return to her.

Geology.

This we can but touch upon. Granite, sandstone, and limestone abound. Lime is burned at Pangnga and shipped in native crafts to Tongka. Of silver and gold we can say nothing. Of coal—well, some has been seen, and was, I believe, considered quite inferior. But this Montone can boast of tin, both as to quality and quantity. Puket, Takuapa and Ranong lead in this metal.

Industries.

The first is tin. So far, the mining has been surface work, *i. e.* from a few feet to, say, twenty deep. The soil is washed from the ore in sluice boxes. The smelting is done in small furnaces, about three feet in diameter and three or four feet in height, the fuel mixed with the ore being charcoal, which is burned in pits accessible to the smelting places. Usually hand-bellows are used for accelerating and intensifying the fires. At Ranong, however, an engine is used which can serve some six furnaces. At this place I saw also a system of pounders raised by pegs on a windlass moved by water power, and left to fall of their own weight, for the purpose of pulverizing the old slag to be resmelted to save the residue of tin. The ore is brought down to some of the towns to be smelted, in various ways—on elephants, carried, etc. Much tin must be lost in these primitive styles of working. Of this metal there must be still vast quantities in these plains, hills and perhaps mountains. At Tongka steam is used for pumping up water for mining purposes.

Then there are agricultural pursuits. I have seen fine rice growing in these provinces. The hill rice is of poor quality. The territory is capable of producing more than is needed for home consumption. Cattle raising is on a good scale in sections. It was said in Takuapa that there were as many buffaloes in that province, as people. The Chinese raise a great many pigs, and at one town in Krabee I noticed there drying a considerable amount of copra (cocoanut). In all the land I saw but one brick yard—at Ranong town. There does not seem to be much weaving done—what little of this is done, is, I suppose, for home use only. There is a certain amount of fishing, but perhaps only for home supply. As the yang tree abounds, no doubt something is done in the line of yang oil, and torches. To a certain extent the markets are supplied with fresh vegetables, but not in great abundance. Plenty of fine sweet potatoes are at times in Tongka for sale, and good fish in Tongka market. Quite pretty mats are made at Panguga, and in Tongka usually pouches, and money bags woven out of reeds, are for sale. It is said that the finest of these, and some of them are very fine, but difficult to obtain, are made on Long Island. This island belongs to the province of Panguga. Their boats, and the equipments thereof, are very rude and poor.

Commerce—Imports and Exports.

I have no official figures referring to imports: but I have observed a great variety of things imported into these provinces, some of which I will name: Rice, piece goods, oil, crockery ware in all lines, flour, spirits, lamps, corrugated iron, hardware in the line of hammers, hatchets, locks hinges, screws, nails, wire, etc., all sorts of tin utensils, soaps, biscuits and other tinned provisions, teas, all sorts of sewing materials and accompaniments, as threads, cottons, needles, etc. In a word there are in all these provincial towns shops well stocked with such goods in great variety.

Exports—Pepper, tin, buffaloes, cattle, pigs, torches, wood, fowls, and many other articles in a smaller way.

The means of import and export, are junks, which are always seen coming or going, or lying at anchor in the various rivers,

Then there are regular steamers calling in at the anchorages of all these main rivers, carrying passengers and cargoes in and out—and the variety of articles surpasses in number those we have enumerated, by far.

We have to thank Mr. Giles for the following figures showing some of the exports from this Montone.

Tin.

Muang Province	Wt. tin-ore		Wt. of Tin	
	Piculs.	Catties.	Piculs.	Catties.
Puket	7488	07	32,355	39
Trang	8	01	645	52
Ranong			5,130	30
Takuapa			10,444	80
Pangnga			5,475	29

The above figures are for the year 123, and show Puket as first, Pangnga 2nd and Ranong 3rd. Mr. Giles has kindly furnished me also with the following table of exports for the same year, which we are very glad to get as it is fresh information.

Statement showing some articles exported from Puket—year 123.

No.	Muang.	Pepper.			Buffaloes.	Bullocks.	Pigs.	Fowls.
		Weight.		Value.				
		Haps	Catties	\$				
1	Puket	—	—	—	—	—	895	4674
2	Trang	9662	19	58002	1336	246	21883	56296
3	Krabi	475	40	2852	27	—	43700	3973
4	Pangnga	40	52	1215	—	—	—	—
5	Takuapa	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
		10178	11	62069	1363	247	66478	64943

None of these articles exported from Muang Ranong.

The Provincial towns.

It is added information to refer, at least, to these. Ranong town is divided into four sections and contains a population of about 1,200 souls, mostly Siamese and Chinese. Many of the buildings are tolerably good, many are frail. There is a good court-house building, and the jail is a good brick building, which with its surroundings is kept in most excellent condition. The buildings used for governmental purposes are all that is desirable. There is a school here well conducted. Many good roads are here kept up.

Takuapa is largely of brick buildings, in fair condition, with much need of more lime as white-wash, and more cleauliness. Here are some good roads, and good well water, with a fine spring flowing from the side of a mountain near by.

Puket has fine government buildings. The roads and city are being improved a good deal. The city has a good market, and the main street is lined on both sides with good substantial brick buildings. There has been here much advance in improvements, for which his Excellency the High Commissioner deserves much credit. Population about 10,000.

Panguga has good roads, is a brick town and is well kept.

Krabee is well kept, but its buildings are of a frail nature.

Trang town is a comparatively new city, it having been moved from the old site. It has many excellent roads, fine public buildings, a good school-house and clean quarters for prisoners. The High Commissioner is entitled to much credit for improvements and good order here. It should be said also that the steam-boat landing is well kept. Indeed throughout this province are many miles of fine roads.

I should like to add here that in visiting all these and other places in this Montone our treatment and entertainment have always been all that could be desired, and frequently more than could be expected.

We now come to speak of the inhabitants of this Montone. According to the *Bangkok Times* of December 11th, 1905, the population of Montone Puket is 178,599. This is the official census for the year. This census makes the number of Malays 34,903 and Chinese 32,408. Now say the various people aside from these named and the Siamese are 10,000, then there are some 101,288 Siamese in the Montone. A total of 178,599. It is far from a necessity in this paper to say much concerning the Siamese, Malays and Chinese; these being so well known to all. We have just a few words concerning the Chow Nams, Sea-gypsies, ^{น้ำ} ^{คน} ^{น้ำ}, or water people, and the Negritos or aborigines of the peninsula. These with a sprinkling of Burmese and Indian traders compose the 10,000.

The Sea-Gypsies are called by the Siamese Chao Nam, water people, and by Kean Orang-laut; laut is Malay for sea. Kean says, "They are no longer the vile people dwelling more on sea than on land, and living by fishing and robbing." There is no doubt that they now dwell much in boats, though they have villages on land, and live by means of fishing, but they may have also other ways of maintenance. I learned that they are a law abiding folk and give next to no trouble. I have seen them in the markets and towns, and have visited them at their homes, and found them friendly and innocent. Kean says, "The Orang-laut have risen considerably in the social scale since the spread of English power and influence through Malay land and North Borneo." I was enquiring of a gentleman from Borneo recently, and he says there are many of the Laut people there. They are "described by De Barros under the name Cellates, or people of the Straits." These opinions and many of their characteristics go to show that these people are from the south, and a fragment, I think, of the Malays.

There is a very pretty and quaint saying concerning these modest, inoffensive people. It is said that when two young people of them fall in love and decide to marry, they commence together to build a boat. Their boats have wooden bottoms and from these the sides are built up with reeds and then dammared and oiled. When the boat is finished and ready for habitation these two lovers commence life together therein, and are henceforth man and wife. May peace and happiness and prosperity go with them.

Negritoës.—These are without doubt the aborigines of the land. I have seen some of these people in the province of Trang, and cannot, of course, doubt their existence. They are in the Andaman islands, and I believe in Sumatra and many other islands. As I have seen them, they are modest and quiet. And they looked upon the Siamese and Chinese and myself with something of wonderment, not fear. They were not averse to receiving a few atts. Their errand seemed merely to visit the town and market to obtain a few simple things and return to their forest homes. They are said to live mainly by the chase, and in leaf huts. They, as I saw them, are rather short, not large featured, and have genuine African woolly hair. Whether they came to the peninsula from the Andamans, or Sumatra, or other islands, it must be that their place of primary origin is Africa. I have heard it said of them that sometimes when overcrowded by other natives their odor overcomes the Negrito and he faints. This is perhaps because he is so accustomed to open, free air. It is a fair question, why should these people be denied the advantages of education, civilization and Christianization?

The use of the Siamese language by the Siamese themselves of this Montone is very peculiar. They drop whenever they can the initial letter or syllable of a word. For example, ตลาด, market, becomes ตาด; กว่า, more, becomes วา. In Tongkah the vowel ^๕ becomes ^๕ อี; หนังสือ is pronounced หนังสือ. In Krabee the peculiar letter ง is displaced by ห or ฮ; and ง่าย, easy, becomes ฮาย and งาน, work, becomes ฮาน; ไอ, ai, is changed into โอย, oi; so ไปไหน becomes ไปย ไหนย. Then the tones are all misplaced and really new ones substituted for the true ones. Perhaps these peculiarities have crept in because of the long isolation of this part of Siam from the Bangkok region; then, too, many years ago according to the history of Siam many captive Laos from Chiengmai were consigned to the Malay Peninsula, and indeed the Siamese language peculiarity of this section does not sound unlike the Laos dialect. พรุ่งนี้, to-morrow, becomes ต่อพรุ่ง; and ไม่เข้าใจ, do not understand, becomes ไม่รู้ฟัง, etc., etc. There is no distinct Siamese

literature in this section. The people constantly ask us for the Siamese books that have been published in Bangkok. We find on our tours that our Scriptures and other Christian books are read and understood well by these people. It is a good sign, too, that so many of the women can read. It is a day of good beginnings in this Montone, of schools. In the Montone, there are some 1,000 Buddhist priests; and some 400 novices or nanes. There are of course among the Malays many Mahomedans; and there are some Christians with one Protestant mission located at Puket; and one Roman Catholic mission.

No doubt one good remedy to cure the misuse of the Siamese language in this section, is the full establishment of schools manned with Bangkok men as teachers, or with men selected from the region and educated in Bangkok. Then, too, the pupils should be forbidden the use of any but pure Siamese during school hours.

The Siamese materia medica and the medical practice of the Montone are much as in the region of Bangkok. A doctor, I saw waiting for a steamer, had a fine supply of medicinal wood with him. One might almost wonder whether or not he was carrying fuel or fire-wood. Their medicines are largely decoctions and pills as large as marbles.

This theme should not be dismissed without further notice of the exceeding great beauty of the Montone. Ranong town is surrounded by mountains of much beauty. No matter which way the eye looks it is charmed with settings of grandeur. A road winding its way up toward the tin mines in the mountains beguiles the traveler with the variety of ferns on either hand and also with the wildness of the jungle, and foliage of many tints of green, to say nothing of the dash of flowers and blossoms now and again. Soon the Ranong hot springs are reached. In this water an egg can be cooked in five minutes. The sediment about is probably salt-peter. This water has been analyzed far enough to show that it is harmless as a drink, but not sufficiently well, so far as I know, to prove its medicinal value, if it has such. There are also hot springs in Krabee province at Long Klong. Near Pangnga town is a cave in a mountain lined with rich and shining beauty of stalactites, evidently lime stone. There runs through and out of this cave a pure stream

of cool water, so welcome and refreshing to the thirsty traveler, that he drinks again and again thereof. About the boundary line between Pangnga and Takuathoong, as they were before the union of the two provinces, is a land tunnel beneath a mountain forming a passage way entirely through. This is of much beauty naturally. It has been fashioned into a sort of Buddhist sanctuary. Then as the mountain encompassed plain of Pangnga is entered, the little valley is seen to be surrounded by rugged mountains covered with shrubs, vines, trees and jungle. Here it is terraced, and there it presents a side almost perpendicular, and yonder a gradual rise like the huge back of an elephant. In about the middle of this plain or valley is an elevation presenting a vantage ground for a fine view of as fine a piece of scenery as ever ravished the human eye. To one side of the valley is built a phrachdee (pagoda) almost against a mountain side. This is on a hill and it is reached by steps; the top once gained and a long breath taken to relieve fatigue, there is as in a semi-circle spread out before the vision the gem of all the Montone. Far away the rugged mountains wall in, lest it should escape by some enchantment, a panorama of rare beauty, the trees and jungle of the mountains, the various trees, vines and plants of the level country, the river like a silver band winding through it in its search for the sea, to one side a partial view of the little city, the tamarined, the cocoanut, the pradoo trees and all the others vying with one another in endeavour to captivate and capture the human eye. Move to the east side and the sun seems not to rise until nine o'clock, move to the west side and the sun seems to set at four in the afternoon, so the cool waves of morning air and light come, floating into being the day on the one hand, and dissolving the day into night on the other hand. The two entrances to this valley among the mountains are at the north and at the south, so that the breezes entering at the north sweep down, cool and refreshing, to the south and the traveler feels that this is the place to abide in.

But we must hasten to the sea and away. All up and down the coast the rock islands and others bewilder one. These seem to have, geologically, been pushed right up out of the sea. And such fantastic and charming scenery meets the eye—wonderful shapes resembling ships, and elephants, and hay stacks, and camels, and dogs, and turrets, and turtles, and kangaroos, and swans, and

bouquets of flowers, at night like specters chasing one another on the sea, the sun setting in the splendour of many colors of blue, and purple, and emerald, and green, and red, and yellow, until the ship carries us away and beyond their sight.

Addenda.

Since composing the above, the writer recollects the following:

1. At Pangnga there is a curious phenomenon. Just at the base of a mountain, at periods of about twenty-four hours each, is heard the noise of rushing waters, and then a flow of these waters filling a small pool six feet long and wide. As the rocky formation of these mountains contains caves and tunnels and all sorts of wonders, this is simply a syphon, or a syphon and a half, which fills with the running water and then empties itself periodically.

2. The writer noticed a tree in the province of Krabee, which flourishes also in other parts of Siam, called the sadow tree (ต้น สะดอ). The tender leaves and bloom of this tree, the Siamese use as an appetiser or tonic in their food. Its taste is a bitter one, leaving in the mouth after chewing the leaf a taste exactly like that of quinine. The writer has believed for years that this tree belongs to the cinchona family of trees. It is well worth a scientific investigation.

3. In the province of Takuapa, the writer discovered a cork tree, "*Quercus suber*." Upon my return there about two years ago the tree was dead. There did not seem to be any natural reason for its death, as it had reached a height of about thirty feet and measured some eight or ten inches through the trunk. Perhaps some of the natives had noticed our close observation of this tree and through some superstitious notion on their part destroyed it, or supposing its bark contained medicinal properties cut too much of it away and thus stopped the flow of sap.

4. One night at Ranong we felt a distinct shock of earthquake. This "tremor," no doubt, had vital relations with the hot springs which are about two miles from the town, and perhaps will be heard from again.

5. The writer has further learned that, from the islands off Trang and Kedah edible birds' nests are taken, at a value of 32,000 ticals each year.

ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING, 15TH JANUARY, 1906.

DISCUSSION ON REV. J. CARRINGTON'S PAPER.

Dr. H. Campbell Highet was in the chair, and the business before the meeting was the paper on Monthon Puket, by the Rev. John Carrington, M. A.

In introducing the lecturer, the Chairman said Puket should be becoming distinctly familiar to members of this Society. They had already had an interesting archæological paper on that region by Mr. Bourke, and more recently they had sent them a remarkable historical work by Colonel Gerini, which might fitly be called encyclopedic. They were now to have another word—he did not know if it was to be the last word. Anyhow he had much pleasure in introducing Mr. Carrington, who took a great deal of interest in the work of the Society, and he was sure they would all listen with interest to what he had to say about Puket.

Mr. Carrington then read his paper.

At its conclusion the Chairman said that while archæological and historical papers had their value, no less value should be attributed to such a survey as they had had from Mr. Carrington. Touching further on one point, he added that it had been of interest to him to learn that the Siamese in Monthon Puket dropped the first syllable of their words, as on the occasion of a visit he had paid to Kelantan he had found that the same thing held good there with regard to Malay. 'Ampat,' for example, was pronounced 'pat.'

Commander Ring, of the Navy, gave an interesting note on the Orang Laut (Chao Nam). A year or two ago, while stationed at Puket, he had to go out to find and chart a sunken rock on which a steamer was reported to have struck. He had with him a number of these people, who carried long hollow bamboos. By putting one end of these bamboos in

the sea and listening at the other end they were able to direct the progress of the gunboat, and finally, when they told him to anchor, the boat was quite near the rock, though there was at the time a dead calm and there was nothing on the surface of the water to indicate a rock. He had mentioned this to Professor Mohn, of Christiania, who was amazed, remarking that there was nothing new under the sun. The very latest device for locating rocks, etc., on the banks off the coast of Norway, was by using a telephone with wires connected down under the water. Monthon Puket was a part of the country of great interest, and he would be pleased to write some notes on it for the Society.

On the motion of the Chairman a very hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the Rev. Mr. Carrington for his paper, and the proceedings terminated.

