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HISTORICAL

TOMBSTONES

OF

MALACCA.

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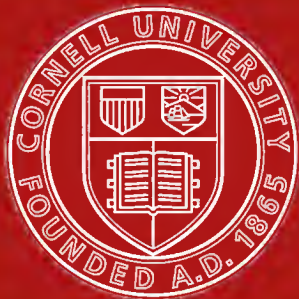
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Historical tombstones of Malacca, mostly



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HISTORICAL TOMBSTONES
OF
MALACCA.

HISTORICAL TOMBSTONES

OF

MALACCA

MOSTLY OF PORTUGUESE ORIGIN,

With the Inscriptions in detail and illustrated by numerous Photographs.

By ROBERT NORMAN BLAND.

LONDON :

ELLIOT STOCK, 62, PATERNOSTER ROW, E.C. 4

1905.

2. 4



INTRODUCTORY NOTES.

THE SERIES OF PHOTOGRAPHS in this book shows most of the Portuguese and Dutch Memorial Stones now to be found in Malacca. Some few are so worn as to be undecipherable, but others are as clear and sharp to-day as they were two or even three centuries ago. The granite stones have worn the worst. Those of the Dutch period (1640-1795) are mostly of a dark close-grained stone that has hardly decomposed at all under the influence of constant heat and damp. Such stone is not to be found in Malacca, and possibly was brought from

Holland. The character of the carving of borders and armorial bearings seems to indicate European and not native workmanship.

Most of the Portuguese stones have been moved to the church built by the Dutch and now used for the services of the Church of England. Being under cover they are now likely to be well preserved. Nearly all the Dutch ones are in the ruined and roofless Church of Our Lady of the Annunciation on the hill of Malacca (renamed by the Dutch the Church of St. Paulus), and are exposed to weather. It is probable that this became a favourite burial place with the Dutch when they had built their own church by the river, and that some of the earlier Portuguese stones were displaced by them. In one case it is clear that a Portuguese inscription has been obliterated and a Dutch inscription placed on the same stone.

At a later date some of the early Dutch tombstones were displaced to make room for the burial vaults of a later generation.

Apart from these stones, there remain but few memorials of the early history of Malacca. The Javanese founders of the Kingdom of Malacca (13th century) have left nothing, nor have their Malay successors. The Malay dominion came to an end in 1511, when the town was stormed by the Portuguese under the

famous Affonso d'Albuquerque. In 1726, Valentyn wrote, "There are in the fortress several strong stone houses and pretty good streets all remembering the Portuguese times," but now there is not a single building distinctively Portuguese of the early period. The Dutch (1640-1795) have left a number of substantial and characteristic buildings, most of which are still in use. The Portuguese occupation, which lasted for 130 years, was a constant struggle with their Mohammedan subjects and neighbours, and, during the last 40 years, with the Dutch. During this period the town stood no less than eight sieges,

Godinho de Eredia, in a work dated 1618, mentions the following buildings in the Fortress of Malacca itself:—

"The Castle, and the Palace of the Governor, the Bishop's
"Palace, the Hall of the Council and of the Brotherhood
"of Mercy, and five churches: the Church of Our Lady
"of the Assumption, Our Lady of the Visitation and
"Mercy, Our Lady of the Annunciation (this stood in
"the Jesuits' College on the top of the hill), the Church
"of St. Dominic in the Convent of the Dominicans, the
"Church of St. Anthony in the Convent of the Augustines.
"There were besides two Hospitals."

Outside the walls were the suburbs of "Tranqueira" (the Palisades) and "Yler." The first had two churches, St. Thomas's and St. Stephen's; the latter one, that of Our Lady of Pity. On Bukit China (the Chinese Hill) stood the Church of the Mother of God and the Convent of the Capuchins of St. Francis. The Church of St. Laurence stood in the suburb of "Suppa," now known as "Bunga Raya." Beyond these, up the Malacca River, were three other churches—St. Lazarus, Our Lady of Guadalupe, and Our Lady of Hope.

It is stated that there were in that time 7,400 Christians in Malacca; four religious houses, eight parishes, fourteen churches, two chapels of the "Hospitaliers," besides oratories and hermitages.

Of all these buildings all that now remains is a ruined church, a ruined bastion or gateway, and a few tombstones.

The Dutch period lasted 154 years from 1640 and has been chronicled in Valentyn's History of Malacca (1726). This, as in the case of the Portuguese, is a record of frequent fighting with their Mohammedan neighbours—trading outports were frequently "cut off," and the town itself was attacked more than once. The Selangor Malays besieged Malacca in 1756; and again, in 1784, only ten years before the first English occupation, a mob of Selangor

and Rhiow Malays under Raja Haji kept the Dutch inside the town and suburbs for nearly six months.

The Dutch built only one church (it is used for Protestant worship to this day), but many of the inscriptions on their tombs show that they were a religious people.

I have thought it possible that others may find an interest in these few surviving memorials of the founders of European dominion in the Far East—people who led perilous lives in uncomfortable surroundings, the Portuguese animated by a religious “furor” which hoped to dominate the world, the more practical Dutch by the hope of commercial supremacy. I am much indebted to Messrs. Copley, Pringle, and Howell for assistance in taking the photographs, and to the Rev. R. E. S. Affonso, Vicar of the Portuguese Church of St. Peter, for help in deciphering the Portuguese inscriptions; also to Mr. Merewether's list, published in No. 33 of the Journal of the Straits' Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society.

R. N. BLAND.

MALACCA,

November, 1904.

Translation of Armenian Inscription:—

(Taken from “ History of the Armenians in India ”).

Hail! thou that readest the tablet of my tomb wherein I now do sleep.

Give me the news, the freedom of my countrymen, for them I did much weep.

If there arose among them one good guardian to govern and to keep.

Vainly I expected in the world to see a good shepherd come to look after the scattered sheep.

I, Jacob, grandson of Shameer, an Armenian of a respectable family whose name I keep,

Was born in a foreign town in Persia, new Inefa, where my parents now for ever sleep.

Fortune brought me to this distant Malacca, which my remains in bondage doth keep.

Separated from the World on the 7th July, in the year of our Lord

1774,

at the age of 29.

My mortal remains were deposited in this spot in the

Ground which I had purchased.

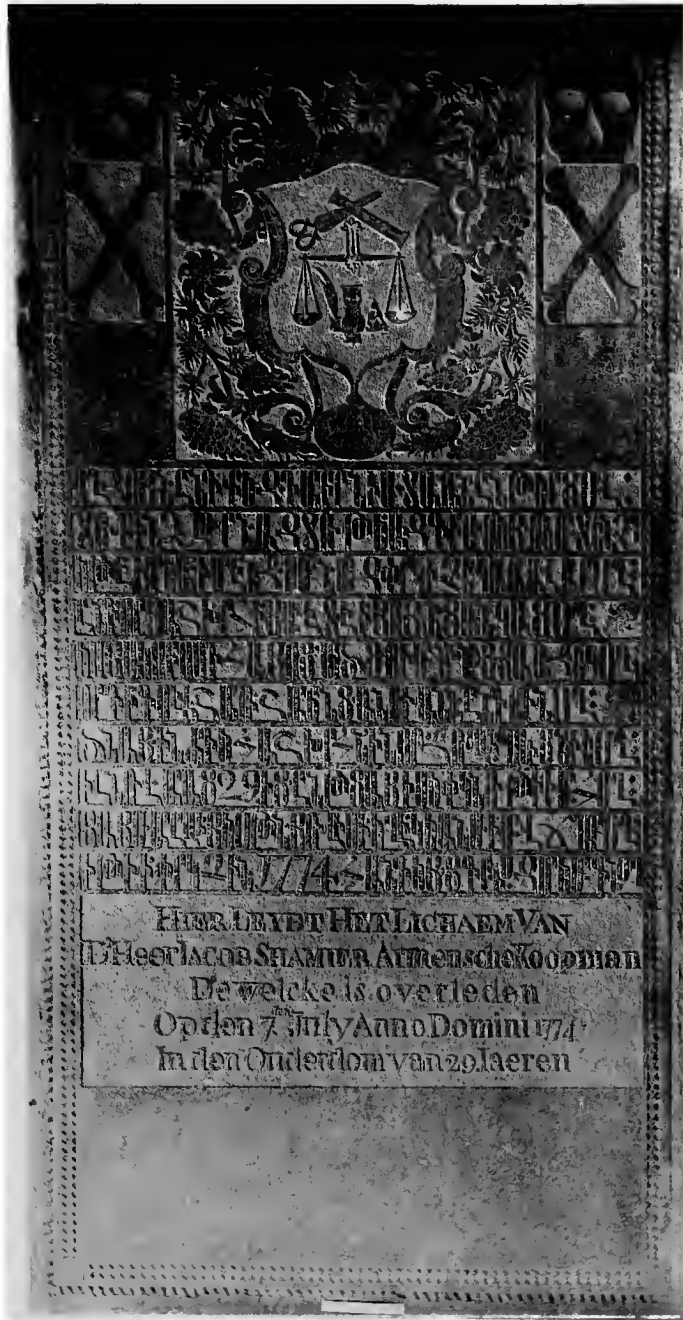
Dutch Inscription:—

Here lie the remains of HEER JACOB SHAMIER,

the Armenian Merchant,

who was buried on the 7th July, in the year of Our Lord 1774,

in the 29th year of his age.



STONE NOW IN CHRIST'S CHURCH, MALACCA.

(It has probably been moved thither from an older Dutch Cemetery.)

Portuguese Inscription:—

Sepultura de PEDRO DE MENDONÇA
e de seus (H)erdeiros feita na era
de 1617 annos.

Grave of PEDRO DE MENDONZA
and of his heirs.
Erected in the era of 1617 years.

CHRIST'S CHURCH,
MALACCA.





NOW IN CHRIST'S CHURCH, MALACCA.

Sepultura do P^e (Padre) SIMÃO SOARES,
Chãtre (Chantre) d'esta sé.
Falleceo em 30 d'Agosto de 1619.

Grave of the Priest SIMON SOARES,
Chanter of this See.
Died on the 30th August, 1619.



NOW IN CHRIST'S CHURCH, MALACCA.

É do P. (Padre) IOÃO LUIS BARBOZA,
Châtre (Chantre) Ñ (que) foi d'esta Sé e Vigrº (Vigario) de S. Thomé.
Falleceo em 24 de Março de (1)620.

Is (the Grave) of IOÃO LUIS BARBOZA,
Chanter of this See and Vicar of San Thomé,
who died on the 24th March, 1620.



NOW IN CHRIST'S CHURCH, MALACCA.

1. Sepultura de BRAS G^{LZ} (GONÇALVES),
Mordomo que foi d'esta Casa de Nosa Srã (Senhora) e falleceo
Domingo de Pascoa (?)
-

Grave of BRAZ GONÇALVES,
Major-domo of the House of Our Lady,
who died on Easter Sunday (?)

2. S + (Sepultura) D. (de) I. LOPES D'AMOREIRA
e D (de) seus herdeiros.
-

Grave of I. LOPES D'AMOREIRA
and of his heirs.

SERVA
DE BR
MORDO
ALFORES
TA CASA DE
NOSSA SRA
E SE O
GOP

S. D. I. LOPES
DAMOREI
A. E. D. SEVS
FERDEIRO

NOW IN CHRIST'S CHURCH, MALACCA.

1.

Falceo (falleceo) A. 28 de Dezembro era de 1578.

_____ Died on the 28th December, 1578.

2.

Aqui jaz DOMİGAS FRÃ,
Filha de Luiz Frñ e de Antª de Faria,
falleceo aos ? de Avril
de 1581 Ano.

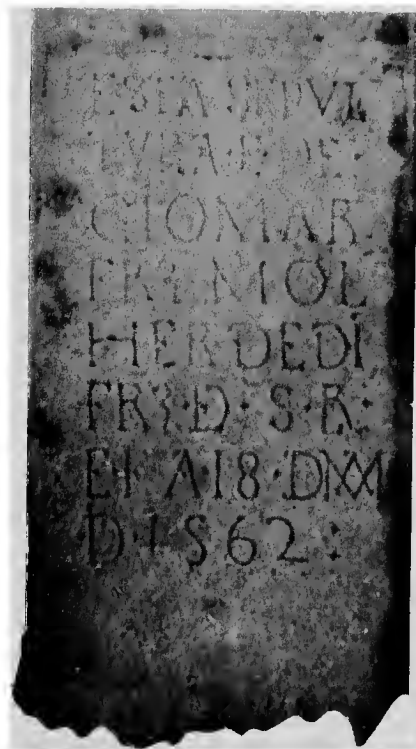
Here lies DOMINGAS FRANCO,
Daughter of Luiz Franco and Antonia de Faria,
who died on the — April, 1581.



NOW IN CHRIST'S CHURCH, MALACCA.

Esta Sepultura é de GIOMAR FRÑ,
Molher D (de) Di Frñ e de S. (seus) er (herdeiros) e F (falleceo)
A (aos) 18 de M (Março) D (de)
1562.

This is the Grave of GIOMAR FRANCO.
Wife of Di—— Franco and of his (her) heirs.
Died on the 18th March, 1562.



NOW IN CHRIST'S CHURCH, MALACCA.

Esta sepultura he (é) de LUIS D'ABREU
e de seus descendêtes Q (que) a
elles pertence.

This is the Grave which belongs to
LUIS D'ABREU
and to his descendants.



NOW IN CHRIST'S CHURCH, MALACCA.



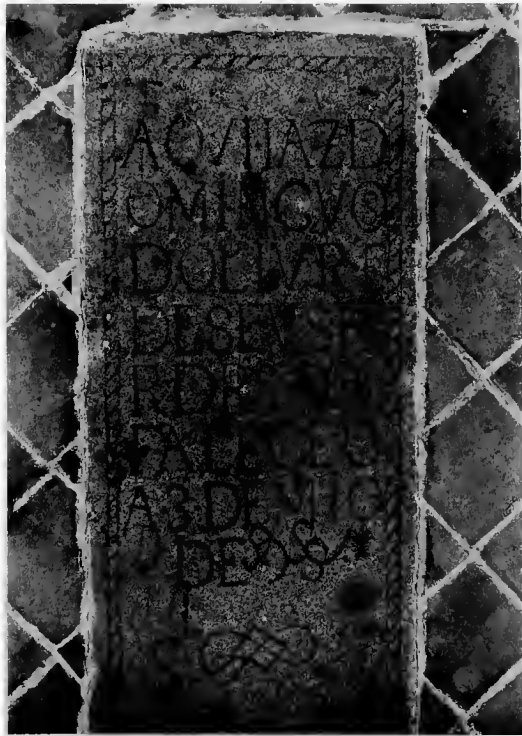
STONE, PROBABLY DUTCH, WITHOUT INSCRIPTION,
IN NAVE OF CHRIST'S CHURCH, MALACCA.

Aqui jaz DOMINGUOS D'OLIV(EI)RA
e (é) de seus herd(ei)r(o)s
aql (aquella) falleceo A.D.
3 de Maio de ?

Here lies DOMINGO D'OLIVEIRA,
who died on the 3rd May.

1598 (?)

Erected by his heirs.



THIS STONE LIES OUTSIDE ST. PETER'S CHURCH
(PORTUGUESE), IN MALACCA.

Aquy esta sepultura TARCAN
Filho de Ovanjan,
que falleceo em 8 de Janeiro,
1746.

Here is buried TARKAN,
Son of Ovanjan,
who died on the 8th January, 1746.

SAN LOURENÇO





THIS STONE LIES IN THE RUINED CHURCH BY THE
RIVER AT BUNGA RAYA IN MALACCA
(S. LOURENÇO).

Portuguese Inscription :

JOHANNES DONACO,
an Armenian of Erevan, in Ispahan, in Persia,
who died at the age of 30,
on the 31st December,
1736.

CHURCH OF ST. PETER,
MALACCA.





IN THE PORTUGUESE CHURCH OF ST. PETER, MALACCA.

Esta sepura (sepultura) é de R. C°.
e de MADANELA (Magdalena) TRINADA (Trindade) sua Molher,
que foi mordomo d'esta
Casa de Nossa Sñra (Senhora) Madre de Deos
muitos annos,
ho qual falleceo aos 29 de Março de 1568 an(n)os.

—
PATER NOSTER.

—————

This is the Grave of R. C° (?)
and of MAGDALENE TRINDADE his wife.
He was Major-domo of this House of Our Lady the Mother of God
for many years,
and died on the 29th March, 1568.

—
PATER NOSTER.



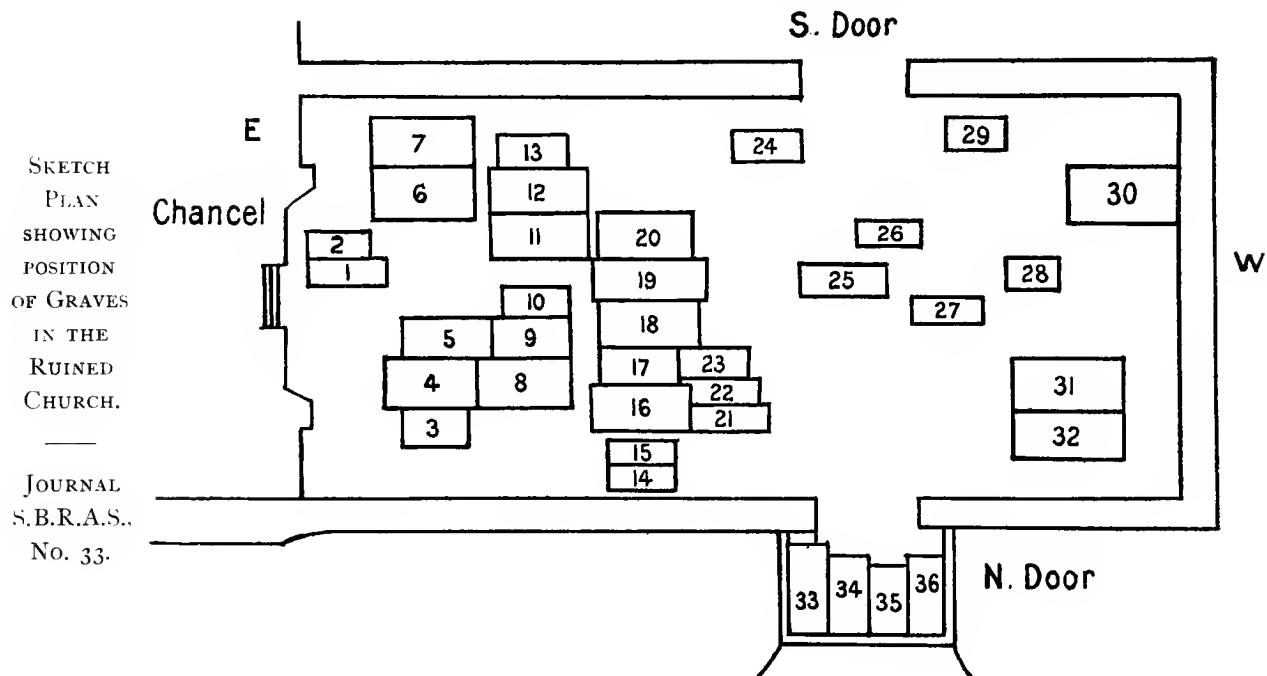
THIS STONE IS IN THE RUINED CHURCH
ON THE HILL OF MALACCA.

S. de ANT^o (ANTONIO) PINTO DA FONSECA,
Commendador da Ordem de Sam Tiago (São Thiago),
Provedor Geral (General) que foi das Fortalezas da India,
Capitam Geral do Mar e Terra nas paragens do Sul.

Falleceo aos 27 de Dezembro de

1635.

Grave of ANTONIO PINTO DE FONSECA,
Commander of the Order of St. James,
Provedor-General of the Fortresses of India,
Captain-General of the Sea and Land in the parts of the South.
Died on the 27th December, 1635.





THIS STONE IS IN THE RUINED CHURCH
ON THE HILL OF MALACCA.

Hereunder lies buried JOHAN VAN ZIJL,
born at Vijanen,
in his life Chief Merchant and Fiscal of this town.
Died the 3rd January, 1656.

(JOHAN VAN ZIJL was Attorney-General or Fiscaals Generaal
in Malacca 1650-1655).



IN RUINED CHURCH ON THE HILL OF MALACCA (ST. PAUL'S CHURCH)
(the Portuguese Church of the Madre de Deos afterwards renamed by the Dutch).

Hereunder lies buried NICOLAUS BASLIJ,
in his life a Free Citizen.
Ob. 9th April, 1678.



IN ST. PAUL'S CHURCH, MALACCA.

Hereunder lies buried MATTHIJS JANSEN, of Thonderen,
Free Citizen.

Died the 5th February, 1673.

(The Portuguese inscription on the lower part of this stone has been obliterated.
The device is apparently a bottle.)

PAGE 15, No. 28

Thus far extends the Grave of Harbour Master PEDEL.

(This looks as if Shabandar Pedel had trespassed on some one else's tombstone.)



ST. PAUL'S CHURCH,
MALACCA.



Hereunder lies buried REYNIER D' DIEU,
in his life Chief Merchant in the service of the Honourable Company.

Buried on the 17th July, 1655.

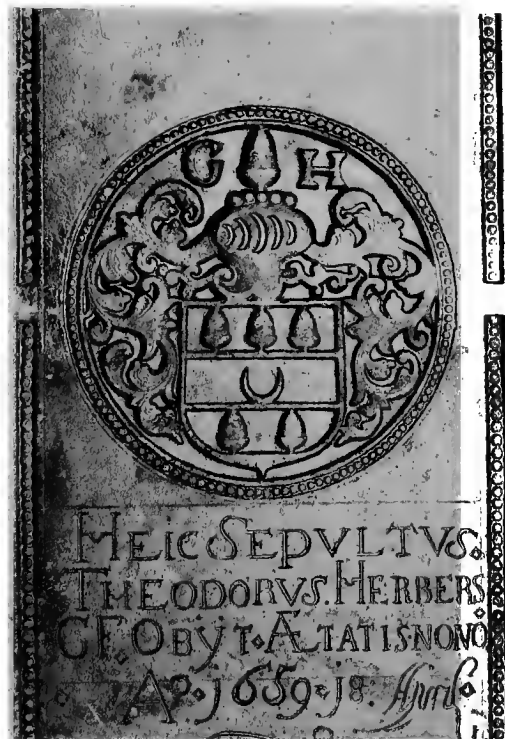
Here lies buried THEODORUS HERBERS.

Died in the 9th year of his age,

18th April, 1659.



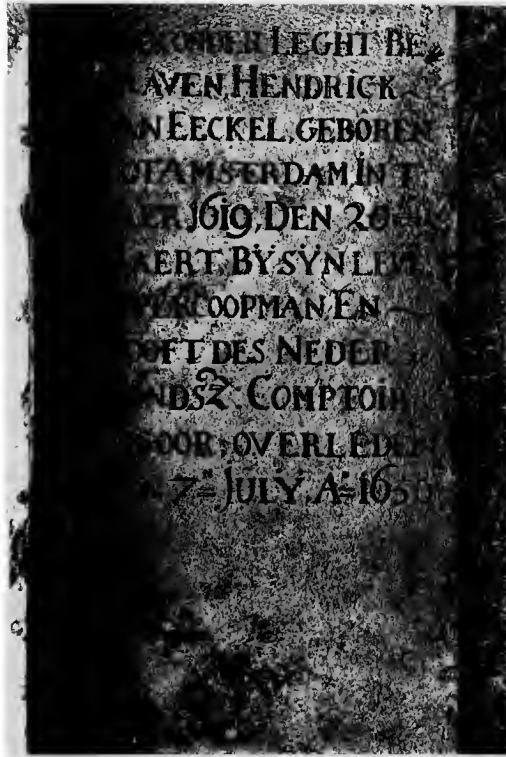
ST. PAUL'S CHURCH
 MALACCA.



Here lies buried HENDRICK VAN EECKEL,
Born at Amsterdam the 20th March, 1619,
in his life Chief Merchant and Head of the Netherlands Factory at Ligor.
Died 7th July, 1650.

PAGE 13, No. 22.

Here lies buried PIETER PIETERSEN of Enchuijsen,
in his life Visitor of the Sick and Deacon of the Church,
Died 27th May, A.D. 1644.



ST. PAUL'S CHURCH,
MALACCA.



D. O. M.

To the pious memory of AGNETA TRIP,
Chaste, fruitful, and beloved Wife.

This Monument was erected by Arnold van Alsem, Advocaat Fiscaal,
14th February, 1697.

(Arnold van Alsem is mentioned in Valentyn's list as a Barrister in Malacca from 1695 to 1703.)

PAGE 14, NO. 25.

Here lies MONSGN^R. PETRUS
of the Order of Jesus,
Second Bishop of Japan.
Died in the Straits of Singapore
in the month of February,
1598.



ST. PAUL'S CHURCH,
 MALACCA.



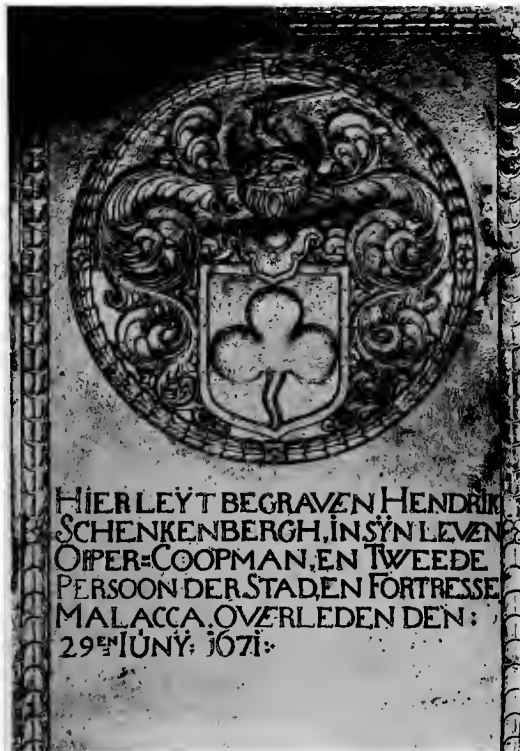
Here lies buried HENDRIK SCHENKENBERGH,
in his life Chief Merchant and Second Personage
of the Town and Fortress of Malacca.

Died the 29th June, 1671.

(He was Chief Merchant or Supercargo in Malacca 1668-1670.)

Here lies buried BALTHASAR SONMANS,
only Son of Mathaeus Sonmans and Johanna Rijcke.
Born the 30th July, '67 and died the 3rd of August of the same year.

Here lies buried JOHANNA RIJCKE,
Wife of Mathaeus Sonmans, only Daughter of Isaack Rijcke and Maria Bort.
Born the 2nd February, 1655, and died the 25th January, 1673.



ST. PAUL'S CHURCH,
 MALACCA.

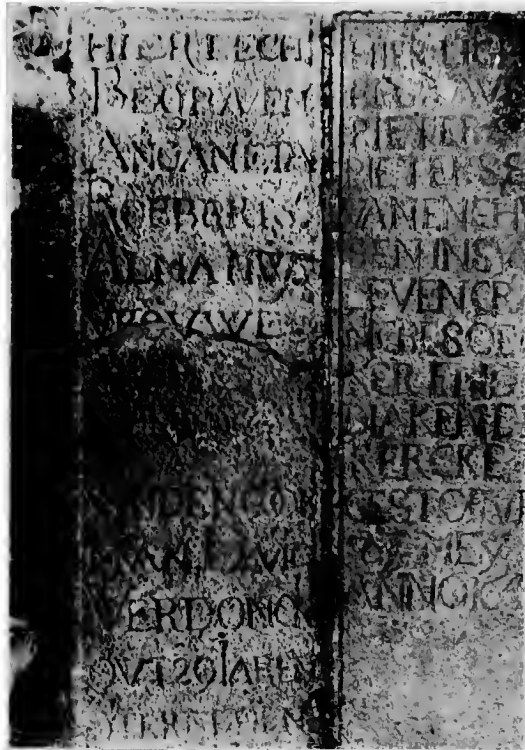


Here lies buried ANGANETA ROBBERTS,
Venerated Wife of the Merchant David Verdonck.
Died 6th February, 1652.

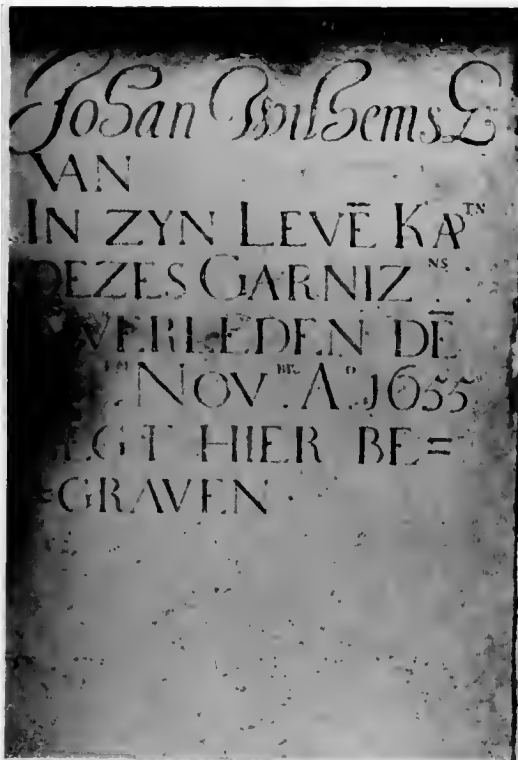
PAGE 12, NO. 20.

Here lies buried JOHAN WILHEMSZ of _____
in his life Captain of this Garrison.
Died 26th November, 1655.

(This name is not mentioned in Valentyn's list of the Captains of the Garrison of Malacca.)



ST. PAUL'S CHURCH,
MALACCA.



The Souls of the first son and daughter God took to Heaven's throne
and left their bodies here below.

Hereunder lies buried DANIEL MASSIS the younger,
Born on the 21st June, 1658, died the 19th February, 1660,
and Sophia Massis
Born the 21st June, 1664, and died the 11th November, 1665.

(Probably son of Johan Massis "Winkelier" at Malacca 1569 ; afterwards Commandant at Perak and at Ligor.)

PAGE 18, No. 36.

Here lies buried HENDRICK EVERTSEN,
in his life Citizen, Captain, and Free Merchant here.
Obit 22nd January, 1698,
Aged 52 years.

ST. PAUL'S CHURCH,
MALACCA.



Here rests CONSTANTYN JOHANNES ROOSELAAR,
Son of the very honourable Heer Pieter Rooselaar,
Councillor Extraordinary of India,
also Governor and Director of this Town and Fortress of Malacca.
Born, 13th July, 1703; died, the 18th January, 1707.

(This inscription is only partly shown in the photograph.)

(Pieter Rooselaar was Governor of Malacca 1707-1709.)

PAGE 15, No. 31.

Here in the Hollow under this Stone
lies THEODORUS VAN DE KERCKHOVEN.

In his life he was his father's and his mother's joy ;

he loved his brother dearly.

One year less three days was this tender plant

when God caused the soul to leave the body,

and frequently after his interment

people asked about him.

1660. On the 5th November, in the year sixteen hundred and six times ten,
was he borne to earth :

in this town of Malacca was the occurrence seen.

(This translation does not do justice to the rhymed couplets of the inscription.)

ST. PAUL'S CHURCH,
MALACCA.



ST. PAUL'S CHURCH,
MALACCA.



Here lies buried DAVIDT WALRAVENS,
Born the 18th September, 1623, and fell asleep in the Lord
the 28th May, 1645.



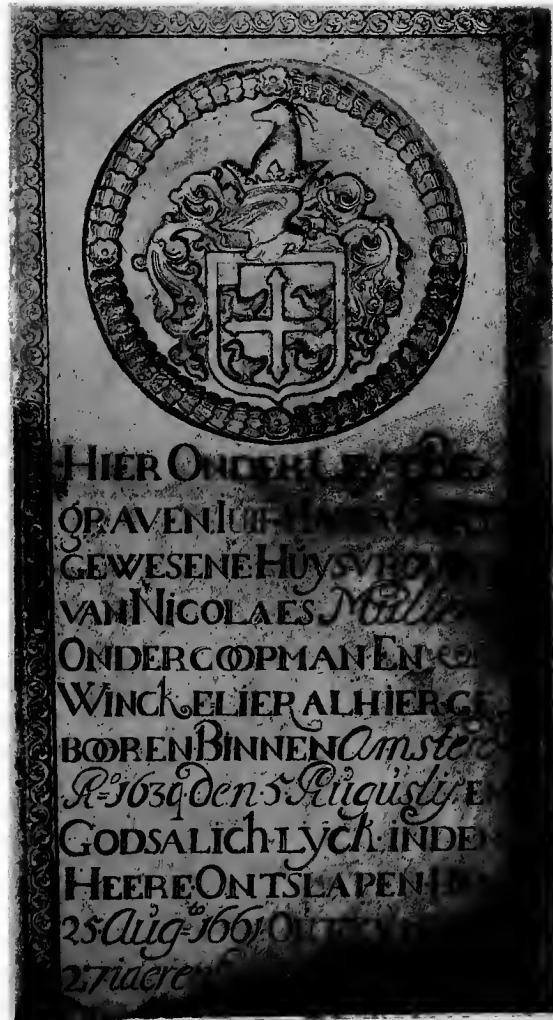
ST. PAUL'S CHURCH.

This Stone is in the
Old Cemetery at
the foot of the Hill.
No inscription.



Hereunder lies buried JUFFROU MARIA BORT,
who was the Wife of Nicolaes Müller,
Under-Merchant and Warehouse-keeper here.
Born at Amsterdam the 5th August, 1639,
and piously fell asleep in the Lord the 25th August, 1661.
aged 22 years and 20 days.

(Probably a daughter of Balthasar Bort, Secretary in Malacca, 1646; Governor 1668-1679.)



ST. PAUL'S CHURCH, MALACCA.

Hereunder lies buried MARIA NCELMANS,
Wife of Theodorus Zas, Minister at Malacca,
who piously fell asleep in the Lord on the 14th March, 1660.



ST. PAUL'S CHURCH, MALACCA.

Hereunder lies buried ANNA REIJNIERSE VAN SCHOONHOVEN,

Wife of the Sr. Jan Beeck, Free Merchant.

Born on the 24th August, 1643; buried on the 28th November, 1670;
aged 27 years, 3 months, and 4 days.

She has been taken away by Death
Too soon from her husband.
She who was his help-meet,
(And) was still so necessary to him.

OLD CEMETERY
AT FOOT OF
ST. PAUL'S HILL.





IN THE OLD CEMETERY AT FOOT OF ST. PAUL'S HILL, MALACCA.

Three to whom Nature gave one house and joint dwelling
now lie here together enclosed in this tomb.

Obiit	}	1647
		29th December,
		25th February,
		19th March,
		1660

The "Gaffel-boyer" is our grandfather's first discovery.

Our father's first house now closes our mouths.

("Gaffel-boyer"—an old-fashioned Dutch vessel.)



ST. PAUL'S CHURCH, MALACCA.

Here lies buried MARIA QUEVELFERIUS,
the distinguished wife of Johannes Riebeck,
first Commander and Founder of the Fort and Colony of the Cape of Good Hope
in Africa under the rule of the East India Company,
now Commander and Governor of the City and Province of Malacca.
Born at Rotterdam, 20th October, 1629; died 2nd November, 1664.

She to whom Rotterdam gave the light and Leyden education,
whose wedding was celebrated in Schiedam,
here lies now in this tomb.

(Johan van Riebeck was Commander and President of Malacca, 1662-1665.)



ST. PAUL'S CHURCH, MALACCA.

Those whom the bond of marriage had joined together in one
rest also by one another under this stone.

Here lie buried Mons^r. GILLIS SYBEN,
born at Haerlem,
in his life Chief Merchant and second personage,
died here the 27th August, 1663 ;
and his Wife ANNA ODAME, of Schravenhage,
died the 6th July, 1669.

(Gillis Syben, Secretary at Malacca 1649 ; Attorney General, 1656 ; Chief Merchant, 1661.)



ST. PAUL'S CHURCH, MALACCA.

To the memory of JUFFROU JOHANNA DU MOULIN,
Wife of Heer Balthasar Bort,
Councillor Extraordinary of India, Governor and Director
of the Town and Fortress of Malacca.
Died 17th March, 1676.

JOHANNA DU MOULIN rests under this stone,
whose immortal soul,
when she had trodden this world's path just two months and two days
less than twenty-three years,
God came and bore away to its last rest.
Submissive to God's will, she felt no pain in parting from the body.

(Emanuel du Moulin was Harbour Master, 1656-1660.)



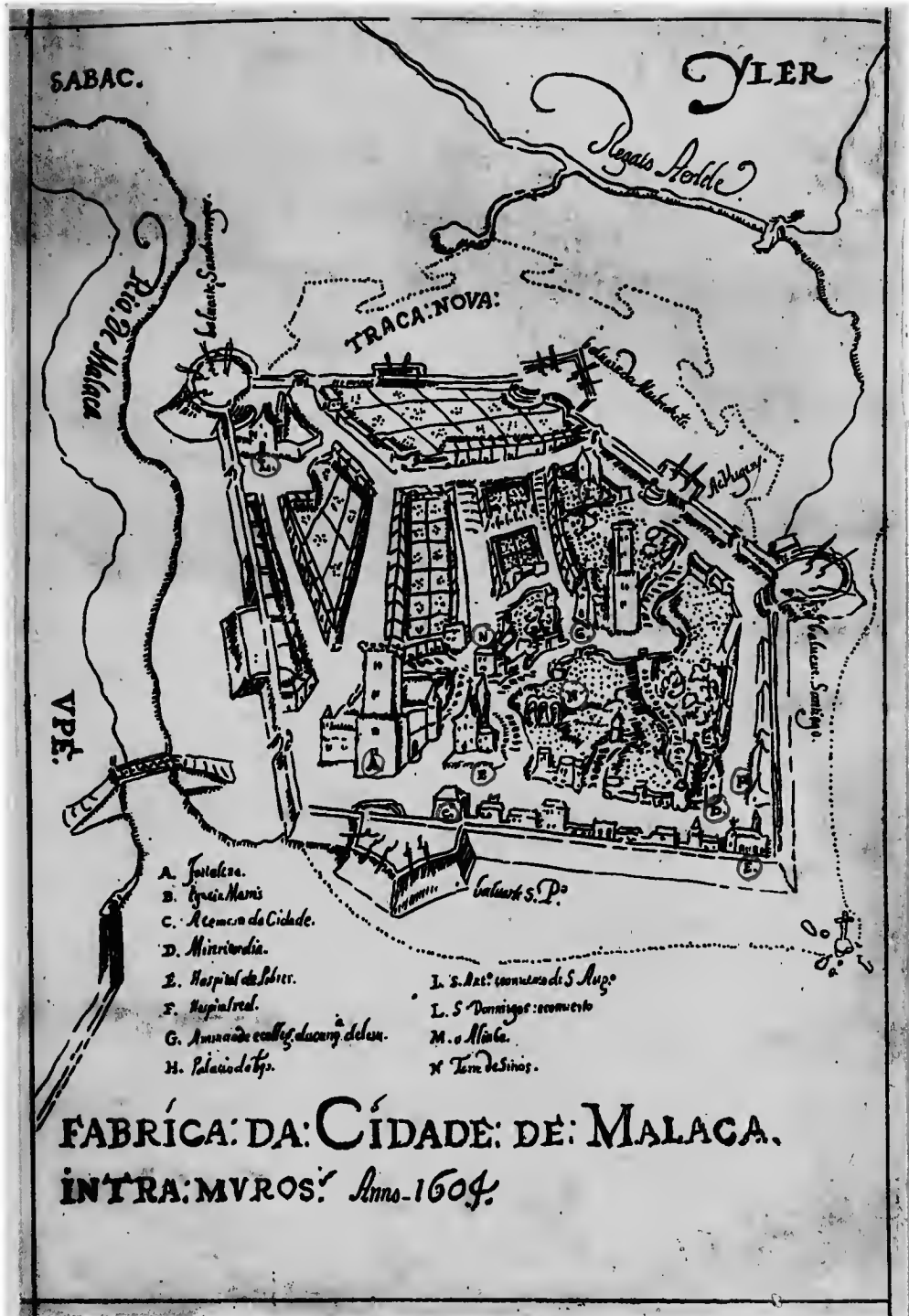
ST. PAUL'S CHURCH, MALACCA.



GATEWAY TO FORT.



THIS ILLUSTRATES THE METHOD BY WHICH THESE STONES
WERE PHOTOGRAPHED.



FROM A PLATE IN GODINHO DE EREDIA'S "MALACCA."

