THE DAILY STREET THE PERSON THE TENTS OF THE PROPERTY OF SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 1959

RORNEO AND RAJAH BROOKE.

[Continued from our Eleventh Page] mpon receipt of this news, had put into Sara-wak. Without delay the feet sailed for Bruni. An immediate explanation was de-manded of the Sultan. The reply was a volley from the forts which commanded the river. Without ceremony the ships returned the fire In a brief time these strongholds were stormed, and Bruni itself was at the mercy of the enemy The Su tan fied to the swamps. Sailing out of Borneo river, the fleet swept along the whole morthern const, taking in rapid succession the forts of the Illanum pirates who had instigated the murders at Brutt, and inflicting upon them a signal chastisement.

By this time the Sultan, wearied of jungles, sighed for his palace. He wrote a cringing letter, promising amendment, agreeing to ratify all his former engagements, and as a sign of his arms former engagements, and as a sign of his true penttence was ready even to pay royal accors to the memory of the men whom he had slain. There was no further difficulty in respect to the cession of Labuan, and it was taken possession of December 24, 1846—Mr. Brooke being appointed Governor. It is said that the possession of this It is said that the possession of this sland goes far to make England mistress of the Chinese Sea—a statement easily to be credited by any one conversaft with the English policy. At any rate, he who observes how, at apparently insignificant stations—on little islands, on a marshy peninsula—mere dots on the man—England has established her commercial depots—at Hong-Kong in the North, at Labuan in the centre, and Singapore in the South—will gain new respect for the sagacity which in the councils of the mother country always lurks behind the red-tapism of which we hear

After an absence of nine years, Rajab Brooke revisited England in the year 1847. He was the hero of the hour. Every honor was showered upon him. He was invited to visit Windsor Castle, received the freedom of London, and then, or soon after, was knighted. Owing to his representations of the readiness of the Dyaks to receive instruction, a meeting was held in London, at which funds were obtained to build a church and school-houses. Two missionaries and their families were sent to Sarawak. The buildings were erected long since, and these Christian means are in full since, and these Christian means are in full activity. Brooke's language upon the proper qualineations of a missionary exhibits in a striking light his straightforward resolution and enlarged liberality. "Above all things, I beg of you to save us from such a one as some of the committee desire to see at Sarawak. Zealots, and involcrants, and enthusiasts, who begin the task of tuition by a torrest of abuse against all that their pupils hold sacred, shall not come to Sarawak. Whilst our endeavois to convert the natives are conducted with charity, I am a warm friend of the mission. But whenever there is a departure from the only visible means God has placed at our disposal—time, reason, patience—and the Christian faith is to be beralded in its introduction by disturbances and heart-burnings and bloodshed. I want it not: and you are quite at liberty to say, that I would rather that the mission were withdrawn."

About the year 1850 Mr. Brooke became the object of a virulent attack, continued several years, both in the public prints and in Parliament. Prompted originally by the petty malice of those whose tool for the advancement of their personal schemes he had refused to become, this attack was taken up by a few persons of influence, who seem to have misunderstood utterly both his character and work. He has been termed a mere adventurer. He has been accused at avance of turer. He has been accused of avarice, of wringing from the natives great sums, and receiving from England large salaries as Consul at Borneo and as Governor of Labuan. It has been asserted that he has been guilty of wholesale slaughter of the innocent, interiering with tribal wars under the pretense of extirpating piracy. None of these charges have been sus-tained. On the contrary, it has been conclu-sively shown that he has sunk more than 220,000 of his private fortune in this enterprise. The piracy, so mildly called intertribal war, is undoubtedly robbery, both on the sea and on the land, and conducted with all fitting accompaniments of cruelty and bloodshed. This persecution has not been borne by its object with much patience, and, indeed, like Rob Roy's Highlander, "he does not seem to be famous for that gude gift." "I am no tame lion to be cowed a pack of hounds. These intertribal wars are such as the wolf wages against the lamb. I should like to ask the most peaceable man in England what he would do if a horde of bandits frequently burst forth from Brest and Cherbourg, rayaging the shores of the Channel, and carry-ing women and children into captivity, with the heads of their decapitated husbands and fathers? Would be preach? Would be preach when he saw his daughter dishonored and his son murdered? And then would be proclaim his shame and cowardice among men What do some gentlemen expect? They particularly desire to suppress piracy. Do they really imagine that piracy is to be suppressed by argument and preaching?"

Mr. Brooke's enemies have three times pressed their accusations before the House of Commons, and three times have been defeated by overwhelming majorities—the last vote being 230 to 19. Finally, to end the controversy, a royal commission was appointed to visit the scene of these transactions, and upon the spot to decide their merits. The report of this commission has not reached us, if indeed it has ever been made public; but the practical results of it are certain. Mr. Brooke has severed his official connection with the British Government by a resignation of the offices which he held under it; while he retains his sovereignty at Sarawak, with the undiminished love of his subjects and an unimpaired influence over the native tribes. There seems to be no doubt that the intelligent publicipginion of England fully sustains him. And it is safe to predict that with that opinion the final verdict of history will coincide. That, placed in circumstances of great difficulty, he may have taken steps not to be squared with the nicest morality, is possible; for that is what must be said of every man who has borne the burden of great public re-sponsibility. Neither is it surprising that a man of such boldness of speech and such almost Cromwellian vigor in action should have enemies; that is a necessity. But that he has been a true and sagacious friend of the natives, and that his career has been for the increase of human happiness, are facts as certain as can be. His best defense is his works. In 1842, when he took the Government of Sarawak, it was a feeble province, torn by dissensions, crushed by slavery, and ravaged by lawless vio-lence. Now it is a peaceful, prosperous commonwealth. In 1842, its capital, Kuching, was a wretched village, whose houses were miserable mud huts or tents of leaves, and con-taining but fifteen hundred inhabitants. Now it numbers fifteen thousand-sn increase

rivalling that of our Western cities. In 1842, no boat put to sea without terror, As a result, the amount of trade was contemptible. Now Sarawak has enterprising native merchants, owning vessels of two hundred tons, having regular transactions with Singapore and all the neigh boring ports. This trade, as early as 1853, em-ployed twenty-five thousand tons of shipping, and the exports for the year were valued at more than a million of dollars. In 1842, deaths by violence were of almost daily occurrence. Twelve years later, a resident could boast that for three years only one person had lost his life by other than natural causes. How would life by other than natural causes. How would American cities appear in comparison with this poor Dyak and heathen metropolis? Well does Rajah Brooke proudly ask, "Could such success spring from a narrow and sordid policy?" Mrs. McDougall, the missionary's wife, says:—"We have now a beautiful church at Sarawak, and the bell calls us there to worship every morning at 6, and at 5 every evening. Neither is there anything in this quiet, happy place to prevent our thus living in God's presence."

Mrs. McDougall adds a story which shows the estimation in which the natives hold their Rajah. "Pa senna paid me a visit at Sarawak. The Rajah was then in England. But Pa Jenna, coming into my sitting-room, immediately espied his picture hanging against the wall. I was much struck with the expression of respect, which both the face and attitude of this nuturities awage assumed as he stood before the

best, and, saturage the picture with a bow, such as a Roman Catholic would make to his patron saint's altar, whispered to himself, 'Our great Rajah.' And this man was a rectained next.

great Rajah." And this man was a reclaimed prate.

This reverential love of the natives is the one thing which does not admit of a doubt. The proofs are constant and irresistible. Some years since, a lady with a few attendants was pushing her boat up a Bornean river, many leigues away from Sarawak, when she encountered a wild Dyak tribe on a warhke expedition. The sight of more than a hundred half-naked savages, crowning a little knoll which jutted into the river a half-dozen rods in advance of her boat, dancing trantically like maniacs brandishing their long knives, and yelling all the while like demons, was not cheering. Yet at the sight of the Barawak fing raised at the sight of the Barawak fing raised at the bow of the boat, every demonstration of hostility ceased. She was overpowered by their noisy welcome, and received from them the kindest attention. A dozen years ago, at the very time that the accusations of cruelty and wholesale slaughter of innocent people were most recklessly made, a party of Englishmen, and among them the adopted son of the Rajah, went on an exploring expedition to the extreme northeast corner of Borneo, more than six hundred miles from Sarawak. While they were seated one evening around their fire the whole air resounded with the cross they were seated one evening around their fire, the whole air resounded with the cries, "Tuan Brooke! Tuan Brooke!" and pre-sently the natives drew near, and expressed their joy at seeing a son of the grea Rajah, and wondering that he who had so blessed the southern Dyaks did not extend his protection to their northern brethren. One anecdot more. During the Chinese insurrection, of which we shall soon speak, a Malay chief, fighting desperately against the insurgents, was mortally wounded, only lingering long enough to be assured of the Rajah's victory, and to exclaim with his dying breath, "I would rather be in hell with the English than in heaven

be in hell with the English than in heaven with my own countrymen."

The loyalty of the native population was thoroughly tested in the year 1857. It was the time of the second British war against Coina. Now the Chinese are in one sense the most cosmopolitan of races. Wherever bread is to be won or gold amassed, there they go thus becoming scattered all through Southenstern Asia and the adjoining islands. In one aspect they are a great blessing. They are a most laborious and thrifty race, of almost incalculable benefit in the development of the material resources of a country. But in some respects they are also an element of danger. respects they are also an element of danger. They never identify themselves with the country in which they dwell. They simply come to get a living out of it. They band themselves in secret societies or other exclusive organizations, and seem to get no real love for the land which gives them bread, or the people among whom they live. Under a peaceful rule, this race had greatly multiplied at Sarawak. Some branches of industry had indeed almost fallen into their hands. Especially in all mining operations was their help a positive necessity. For the Dyak, though industrious enough in his little plantation, will not work, except on compulsion, in the mines. These places are bitter to him with the memory of forced labor and inrequited misery. Besides, he believes that the bowels of the earth are filled with demons, and no amount of pay gives him courage to face these. As a result, the conduct of the mines was left to the Chinese, and they were unwisely permitted to work them in large companies of several hundred, under their own overseers. This gave them the advantages of a compact organization: to a dangerous degree they became a State within the State.

When the war in China broke out, the Chinese residents at Sarawak, sympathizing with their countrymen, were naturally greatly excited; and when tidings came that the English fleet had been repulsed from before the Canton forts, they were emboldened to take the desperate step of attempting to put to death or to drive out of the country Rajah Brooke and the rest of the English people, that they themselves might take possession of it. About dusk on a Febru-ary night, six hundred of them gathered under their chiefs, armed themselves, went on board cargo-boats, and began to float down the board cargo-boats, and began to nost down the river towards the capital. At midnight they attacked the Rajah's house, Its immates were lorced to flee to the jungles. The Rajah rose from a sick-bed, run to the banks of the stream, dove under one of the Chinese boats, awam the river, and took refuge with the swam the river. Several of his countrymen were murdered. His own house, filled with the price less collections of a lifetime, together with a costly library, was burned.

It was a gloomy morning which succeeded the night of this caustrophe. Though he did not doubt for a moment the ultimate suppression of the Rebellion, what ruin might not be wrought in the few days or weeks which should elapse before that event! And where, now that he had been driven from his capital, he should find a base of operations to which he might gather the scattered native forces, was the perplexing ques tion of the hour-when, joyful sight, he beheld a merchant steamer sailing up the river! He bailed her, went on board, and with a sufficient force steamed up to Sarawak. With his appearance the last vestige of hope for the insurrection disappeared.

Meanwhile stirring events had taken place. At first the natives were stunned. They were roused at dead of night, to find the Chinese in possession of the town, their Rajah's house in flames, the Rajah missing, while the rumor was that he had been killed. For a time they wandered about listlessly, vacantly staring each other in the face, and it seemed as though they were about to submit without a struggle. In the midst of this gloom and uncertainty, up spoke a Malay trader, whose veins, despite hi perceful occupation, were full of the old pirate blood:—"Are we going to submit to be gov-erned by these Chinese, or are we going to be faithful to our Rajah? I am no talker, but I will never be governed by any but him, and tonight I commence war to the knife with his

This broke the spell. Both Malays and Dyaks, in city and country alike, rose en masse, and after a severe fight, prolonged till the reappearance of Mr. Brooke, drove the Chinese to the forests, and pursued them with unre-lenting fary. Many of the insurgents perished by the sword. Many more wandered about till they died of starvation. Some threw them-selves down in their tracks, expiring from tatigue and utter wretchedness. Some hung themselves to escape their misery. In despair and exasperation, they even turned their arms against each other. Of the six hundred who made the original attack, sixty escaped. Of the four thousand who composed the Chinese population, a forlorn and wearied remnant of two thousand took refuge in the Dutch part of the island. This lamentable destruction was the result neither of the order nor the permission of the Rajah. It was accomplished by the unreasoning fury of an outraged people. In a few days the iormidable insurrection was ended. The places of the insurgents were filled as rapidly as they had been vacated. Scarcely a trace was left of the ravages of the rebellion; and it accomplished nothing, save to convince all doubters that the government of the province rested, as all stable government must rest, on the good-will of the subject.

At the beight of the subject.

At the beight of the insurrection a striking incident occurred. While their brethren were being hurled in utter confusion across the Dutch borders, several hundred Chinese fled from those very Dutch territories and sought retuge in Sarawak. Though harassed by care, the Rajah did not neglect their appeal, but sent trustworthy men, who piloted them safely through the incensed Dyaks, who on their part through the incensed Dyaks, who on their part by no means appreciated the virtue of such a step, but thought, rather, that every man "who wore a fail" ought to be put to death, though they bowed to the better judgment of their chief.

The latest accounts represent the province as continuing in a state of unabated prosperity. Its bounds, by more recent cessions, have been so largely increased, that its shore line is now three hundred miles long, and the whole population of the State two hundred and fifty thousand. The haunts of the Statebas and Sakarran pirates are included in the new limits; and those cure-dreaded freebooters have learned the habits of honest industry. Indeed, fluring the days of the insurrection the State lound no

more fathful or courageous defenders than they, although their old corsair blood was visible in the releatless tenseity with which they tracked the flying foe. Sir James Brocke, with increasing years, has retired somewhat from the active care of the Government, leaving the conduct of affairs very much to his nephew, Captain Brooke, whom he designated as his heir and successor, and who is represented as being also heir in a large degree to his uncle's principles, courage, and sagaenty.

and sagacity.

Rajah Brooke sought persistently for many years to give perpetuity to his life's work by placing Sarawak under British protection. He made repeated offers to surrender to the Queen all right and title which he had acquired, on any terms which would secure the welfare of the terms which would secure the welfare of the natives. But these offers have been definitely rejected; the seeming protection which Sarawak enjoyed through the position of its ruler as Governor of Labusu, has been withdrawn, and the little State left to work out unaided its destiny. What shall be the final fate of this interesting experiment—whether there shall arise succesexperiment—whether there shall arise successors to the founder wise enough to maintain the Government so bravely established, or whether the infant State shall perish with the man who called it into existence, and become only a memory, it is impossible to foretell; but, living or dead, it annals will always be a noble monument to him whose force of character and undaunted persistency created it.

The earlier portraits we have of Rajah Brooke depict him as a man of a peculiarly trank, open, and pleasing exterior, yet with a countenance marked by intelligence, thought, and energy; but underneath all a certain dreaminess of expression, found often in the faces of those born for adventure and to seek for the enterprise of their age fresh fields, new Eldorados hidden in strange lands and unfamiliar seas.

The later portraits give us a face, plain, sagacious, yet full of an expression of kindly benevolence. The exigencies of a busy life have transformed romance into reality and comm ense; the adventurer and knight-arrant has but obeyed the law of his age, and become a noble example of the power of the Angio-Saxon mind to organize in the face of adverse circumstances a State, and te construct out of most unpro-mising elements the good fabric of orderly social life.—Atlantic Monthly for December.

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No. 927 CHESNUT ST., BELOW TENTH. B. SCOTT, Jr., AUCTIONEER. SHOTWELL SWEET CIDER.

Our usual supply of this celebrated CIDER, made from Harrison Apples, just received. ALBERT C. ROBERTS,

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