

# British Policy in the Malay Peninsula and Archipelago 1824–1871

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This work attempts to describe and analyse, through the interpretation of British documentary evidence, the development of British policy in the Malay world between 1824 and 1871. Though these are the dates of two treaties with the Netherlands, it is not a history of Anglo-Dutch relations in the East Indies. It is a history rather of British policy towards the various forces in the region, defined, as it was, in a number of centres of decision-making.

The work is in three main sections. The first deals with the British connexion with the Malay peninsula, and seeks to show that the period cannot be characterized by the phrase 'non-intervention'. The second deals with Java and the archipelago, and the third with the Borneo-Sulu region. A theme of these sections is the effect of Dutch commercial policies on the British attitude towards the extension of the Netherlands empire and towards the Brooke venture. British concern over the activities of other colonial powers is a theme common to all three sections.

This book originally appeared as a whole number of the *Journal of the Malayan Branch Royal Asiatic Society* dated 1957. In this new edition, a number of minor errors have been corrected, and an index and maps have been added.

Nicholas Tarling is at present Professor of History at the University of Auckland. He is the author of a number of papers and books on South-East Asian history, including *Anglo-Dutch Rivalry in the Malay World, 1780-1824* (Cambridge and Queensland University Presses, 1962), in some sense an introduction to the present volume.