

## THE NATIVES OF BORNEO

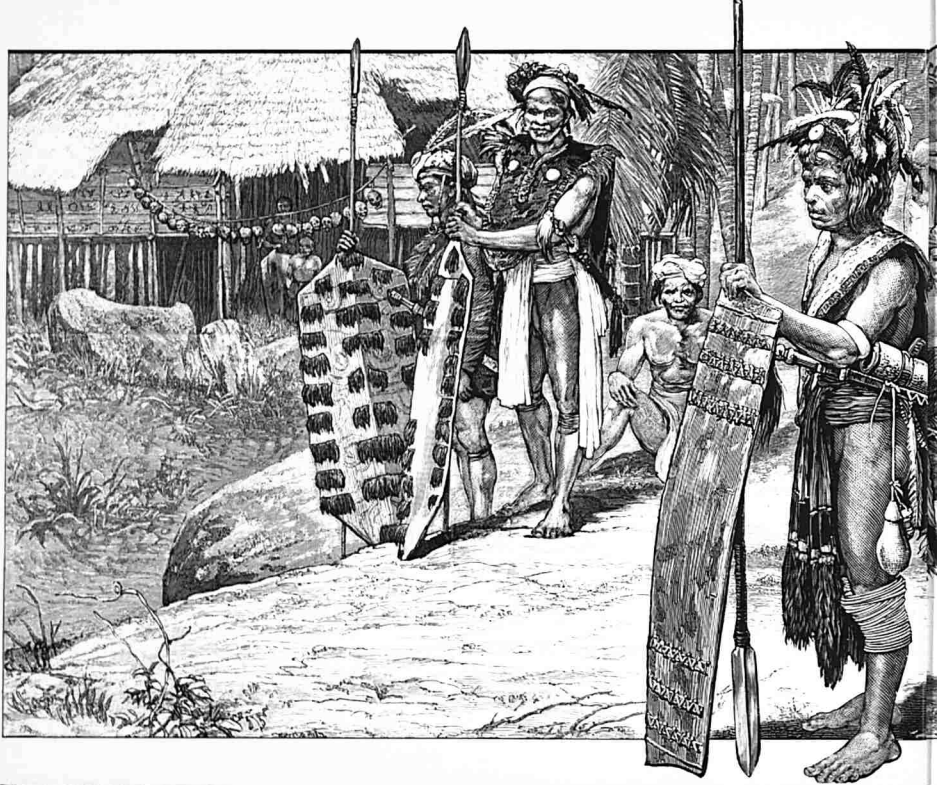
The figures of various natives of Borneo, which M. Regamey has grouped together in his drawing for the large Engraving to form our second Supplement of this week, are all copied from a set of photographs by August Sachtler, a German photographic artist at Singapore, who lately accompanied the English Rajah of Sarawak, in the steam-boat Heartsease, up the large river which traverses the interior of Borneo. In the foreground is a Dyak warrior, of the tribe dwelling on the Bantang Lepar river, in the territory of Sarawak. He is in full war costume. His shield, made of a soft but very tough wood, cannot easily be pierced by a spear thrown against it. The spear which he holds in his hand is also a blow-pipe. With this he shoots the arrows carried in a bamboo quiver at his left side. Those arrows are poisoned with the juice of the upas-tree, mixed with juices of other herbs found in the jungle. Their venom will cause death a few minutes after the person is wounded. To the left, half-way back, are a couple of other warriors, belonging to the Kamida tribe, which inhabits the banks of the Rajang river. The foremost of these men is a great chief. They wear swords hanging at their left sides; and these swords are curiously made. The blade is convex on one side and concave on the other, so that it will cut only in one way. Some of the warriors use the sword with



their left hand, instead of their right. Their shields are adorned, as we see, with tufts of human hair, and we observe that the house, in the background, is decorated with a ghastly festoon of human heads. Turning to the right-hand side of the central figure, we perceive three young women seated on the ground, with a box and a basket before them, talking quietly to each other. They are differently dressed; the one in the middle is a Dyak girl, attired in a gala costume for a ceremonial feast, such as they get up on the solemn day when they present food to the ghosts and demons haunting their household, or at

the celebration of a victory which has brought in many enemies' heads. She has bracelets of polished shell, and heavy brass ring on her legs, bought from the Chinese traders. Her neighbour wears a jacket and petticoat of cotton, their own spinning and weaving, dyed of some gaudy colour. At the other side of her is a Shannowit girl, from beyond the Rajang, whose ears are weighed down by enormous earrings, of brass, copper, or lead, each a pound and three quarters, or even more than two pounds. The holes pierced for these rings are so much enlarged, in some cases, that it is said the woman can put her hand through them. But these Dyak females are hard-working servants to their haughty lords. They cultivate the soil, pound the rice, fetch the water, and cook the meal; they paddle their boats up the river to pick the betel-nut and the sirih-leaf, which they sell to the Malays for a chewing-mixture. They have pretty arts and devices for the ornamentation of clothing, of weapons, and of household furniture. Such are the amenities of social life among the savages of Borneo, these fierce Sarebas and Sakarran people, whose acquaintance we made through Rajah Brooke, some five-and-twenty years ago.

ILLN, 4 JANUARY 1873





# RAJAH BROOKE'S BORNEO

The Nineteenth Century World of Pirates  
and Head-hunters, Orang Utan and Hornbills,  
and Other Such Rarities as Seen Through  
the Illustrated London News  
and Other Contemporary Sources

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It has been found impossible to reproduce all of the illustrations in this book to the  
high standard that the publisher desires and the reader expects. Nevertheless  
some illustrations of less than perfect quality have been retained  
because of their intrinsic historical value and interest.

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