

MALAYA

N. E. Goldenworthy. Singapore, 28th June 1956

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Text by

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Collecting the catch from the purse of a shore seine at Penarik, on the Trengganu coast



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MALAYA

YESTERDAY

Pulau Pinang bandar-nya baharu.
Kapitan Light menjadi shahbandar.
Jangan di kenang zaman dahulu,
duduk mengalir ayer mata.

*On Penang's isle the town is new
When Captain Light was harbour-master
Pass not the old times in review
Lest welling tears but flow the faster.*

* * * * *

TODAY

Pulau Sembilan tinggal delapan
Satu merajok ka Kuala Kedah.
Sudah-lah nasib perminta badan,
Kita di-bawah perintah Allah.

*Of the nine Isles eight remain
One has sulked away to Kedah.
Fate, alas, does life ordain,
We are neath the will of Allah.*

* * * * *

TOMORROW

Pilih, pilih tempat mandi,
Esa telok kedua pantai.
Pilih, pilih tempat menjadi,
Esa elok kedua pandai.

*Choose well the spot where you would lave,
First a bay and then a strand.
Choose well the country that you crave
Here's a green and pleasant land.*

Translations after A. W. Hamilton.