

## FEDERATED MALAY STATES.

### REPORT ON THE WORK OF THE SUPREME COURT FOR THE YEAR 1913.

#### COURT OF APPEAL.

##### CRIMINAL.

There were 85 appeals to this Court during the year out of 253 convictions by a Judicial Commissioner. Six appeals were allowed, in one case a new trial was ordered, and the remaining 78 were dismissed or summarily rejected.

##### CIVIL.

There were 41 civil appeals during the year as against 35 in 1912, Perak accounting for more than the whole increase.

Of the appeals, eight were wholly and three partly successful.

The Court sat as usual six times during the year: four times in Kuala Lumpur and twice in Ipoh.

#### COURT OF A JUDICIAL COMMISSIONER.

##### ORIGINAL CRIMINAL JURISDICTION.

In Perak and Selangor there were 22 convictions for murder during the year. Sentence of death was carried out in nine cases. There were altogether 253 convictions in this Court and 114 acquittals. The corresponding figures for 1912 were 338 and 153.

##### APPELLATE CRIMINAL JURISDICTION.

There were 201 appeals from Magistrates as against 217 in 1912. Of these, 54 were successful, in 25 the sentence was varied, and one was sent back for trial.

##### ORIGINAL CIVIL JURISDICTION.

One thousand four hundred and thirty-seven civil suits, etc., were entered during the year as against 1,429 in 1912 and 1,116 in 1911. As compared with 1912 the figures for 1913 show:

An increase in Selangor of	...	...	...	...	...	123 cases
An increase in Negri Sembilan of	...	...	...	...	...	34 "
A decrease in Perak of	...	...	...	...	...	131 "
A decrease in Pahang of	...	...	...	...	...	16 "

##### APPELLATE CIVIL JURISDICTION.

One hundred and four appeals from decrees of Magistrates were entered as against 96 in 1912.

##### ASSIZES.

During the year the Court held 11 assizes in Kuala Lumpur and six in Ipoh for the despatch of criminal business. Assizes for the despatch of criminal and civil business were held 11 times at Seremban, four times at Bentong, three times at Kuantan, and six times in Taiping.

##### REVENUE.

As this is paid in stamps it is difficult to give any very accurate statement as to the amount of this.

On the civil side about \$23,607 was collected in Perak, Selangor and Pahang; the figures for Negri Sembilan are not available.

The total estimated to have been received in 1912 was, approximately, \$21,502.25.

##### APPEAL TO PRIVY COUNCIL.

One appeal was decided during the year, that of Loke Yew *v.* the Port Swettenham Rubber Company, Limited. The appeal was successful.

## STAFF.

During the year Sir Thomas Braddell was appointed Chief Judicial Commissioner. He took up the appointment in September.

Mr. Justice Sercombe Smith, who was acting in that appointment at the beginning of the year, went on leave in April and was succeeded by Mr. Justice Innes until September.

Mr. Justice Woodward sat in Ipoh throughout the year. Mr. Justice Edmonds was appointed an Acting Judicial Commissioner in June and continued to act until the end of the year.

Mr. N. Walker, who was Registrar at the beginning of the year, was in June succeeded by Mr. Hereford.

Mr. Rigby acted as Assistant Registrar, Ipoh.

During the absence of Mr. Justice Woodward in Singapore for the Court of Appeal, the Perak Assizes were taken by Mr. Justice Edmonds.

The sittings of the Court were practically continuous throughout the year.

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