

latter appeared to us to resemble a Turkish mosque; but it was not so in the opinion of the Brahmin, who pointed out the difference in the shape of the dome, which is more flattened, and has a small lantern apex. Into it no one was admitted but the believers in the doctrine of the Brahmins.

There are several mosques for the different sects of the followers of Mahomet, and the mixture of other observances among the creeds of some of them is very great; for those who propagated the tenets of Mahomet in the East, engrafted them upon many of the ancient modes of worship. The Malay who is a Sonnite, disdains to have any thing to do with the Hindoo or Shiite Mahomedan ceremonies; and none but those who are hired to carry the temple, join in the processions of the latter.

I have mentioned that convicts were sent to Singapore. I was not able to ascertain their exact number, but I believe it amounts to some fifteen hundred. They are employed upon the public works; and a large prison in the suburbs of Singapore is provided for their safe-keeping at night, or when not at work. Much complaint is made in consequence of its being situated in low and marshy ground, which subjects the inmates to frequent sickness. Prisons in this part of the world do not seem to have claimed the attention they have received in other countries, and I heard the whole internal arrangement of their jail spoken of as deficient both in order and cleanliness. A sufficient number of turnkeys and attendant officers is not kept, and there is no classification of the prisoners. Many spoke of an intention of erecting a new jail, on account of the necessity of removing the prisoners from the present low swampy site. Although a surgeon is appointed for attendance on the prisoners, yet he is of little use; for every one seems to be so reckless of life in the East, and so bent upon securing a fortune as soon as possible without incurring death, that whatever retards the one and puts in jeopardy the other, is looked upon with disfavour and treated accordingly. No European looks upon the East as a home, and all those of every nation I met with invariably considered his sojourn temporary. The habit of constantly expressing this feeling gives a stranger the impression that those he meets with are devoid of happiness and contentment, and this with comforts and conveniences, nay, luxuries of life around them, which they would be very far from enjoying in their own country.

The market was well filled with venders, so much so, indeed, that the passages through it are rendered narrow and tortuous; the principal article for sale was fish, fresh and dried, and prawns. This kind of fish is numerous and abundant. The part of the market where they