



MOHAMED HANIFF.

OBITUARY.

We regret to record the sudden death on March 25th, 1930, of Mr. Mohamed Haniff, who retired on pension in 1926 after 36 years service in the Gardens Department. Mr. Haniff started work at the Waterfall Gardens, Penang, on July 1st 1890, as an apprentice, and after 3 years' apprenticeship was promoted to be Overseer. His early training under the late Mr. Charles Curtis was sound and thorough, and he retained throughout his career that devotion to and keen interest in his duties which the example of Mr. Curtis inspired. In 1910, the Waterfall Gardens were handed over to the Municipality of Georgetown, with the object of converting them into a reservoir. Mr. Haniff's services were retained by the Municipality as Overseer in charge of the Gardens, and when 15 months later the reservoir scheme was abandoned and the Gardens handed back to Government, Mr. Haniff remained in charge, under the Director in Singapore. His charge of the Gardens continued until 1921, when it was again possible to appoint a European Assistant. He was promoted to the rank of Field Assistant in 1917. In 1925 he capably deputised for the Assistant Curator of the Singapore Gardens during the latter's furlough.

In addition to his horticultural duties, he assisted in numerous field expeditions for the collection of plants and specimens in many parts of the Peninsula. He had a very extensive knowledge of the Malayan Flora, and was a keen and capable collector. His name is commemorated in *Dendrobium Haniffii*, Ridl., a beautiful species which he first collected in Kelantan in 1923.

After Mr. Haniff's retirement he continued to collect plants from time to time, and was always ready to help by supplying specimens and information. In this way he kept in close touch with the Gardens, and had actually been out to collect specimens on the day of his death. All officers of the Department mourn the loss of a friend and of a trusted colleague.