

was seen that every book was in as perfect a condition as when packed, Mr. Merriman's wonder and admiration increased.

"Nothing could be better," he exclaimed, "they are just as good as when I packed them ten years ago."

It is needless to say that when my story got abroad it excited a good deal of astonishment in Melbourne, and I became the lion of the hour. The matter came up in Parliament and I was voted a grant of £5,000 sterling, as an acknowledgement of my services to the colony. Some of my gems brought a large price and I realized something more than £10,000 and the buillion I brought with me from Aku. The boat I sold for a good price and turned the money over to Sam who immediately set up a laundry, which became the most popular in town, for everybody wanted to hear Sam's yarns about the Malays, and, thanks to my teaching, he could double discount any Chinaman in Melbourne in speaking English. The chaps who lost their custom declared Sam to be "velly bad man,"

As I had no desire to go to sea again, and had nothing to do ashore, I accepted an offer from Mr. Merriman to assist him in the library. My extensive reading and knowledge of books, here stood me in good stead. I rose step by step until I became first assistant, and when that good old man died seven years ago, I was unanimously elected to succeed him, my fitness being universally admitted. Six months ago I got tired of being so long from home, so resigned my office, gathered up my little fortune, and here I am.

"But what became of Dirck Minuit?" asked my mother.

"O, Dirck, I came near forgetting him. When we got settled in Melbourne, Dirck wanted to go home to