memoir in 1839 titled 'Travels in South-Eastern Asia, embracing Hindustan, Malaya, Siam and China; with notices of Numerous Missionary Stations, and a full account of The Burman Empire.' The diary was published in London by Charles Tilt, Fleet Street. In those days publishing industry of London was far superior than those existing in USA. Most American authors would want their books published from London.

Rev. Malcom gave a very interesting account of Chittagong in his diary. He writes 'this town lies about ten miles from the mouth of the river, (Karnafuly) on the right bank, and is the head-quarters of a Company's (East India Company) regiment, and the civil officers of the province.' Rev. Johannes, who had been staying there for the previous sixteen years, received Rev. Malcom in Chittagong. Rev. Johannes also arranged for Rev. Malcom's travel to the interior of the Chittagong town. Chittagong was also known as Islamabad, writes Rev. Malcom. The town was situated 'on and among abrupt hills, which furnish beautiful sites for mansions of the English, some of which command a view of the sea. The natives live along the valleys, among plantain, olive, mango, orange, and almond trees, with neat gardens of esculents. The streets are in good order, and the bazaar abundantly supplied with every sort of domestic and foreign produce.' Rev. Malcom recorded the town having only 12000 inhabitants. Adjacent to the town were many villages with affluent people records Rev. Malcolm. What impressed Rev. Malcom was the language, the mode of building, and the general aspect of everything was according to him was Bengalee. The traders of Chittagong would own 300 vessels, each having a capacity of 40 to 100 tons and these vessels were based in Chittagong. Besides, the port had berthing facilities for foreign vessels as well.



Rice and salt were exported from Chittagong. Rev. Malcom writes boats of 'indescribable construction' berthed in the port. These vessels mostly from Maldives would carry cowries, tortoise-shell, cumela, cocoa-nuts and coir for rope making. On return they would carry rice and other household items notes Rev. Malcom. Rev. Malcom saw Rev. Johannes conducting his service in English and Bengalee. He was very fluent in both languages. His predecessor Rev. Peacock established a very large school in 1818. Rev. Johannes would spend considerable amount of time in the school, set up by his predecessor. Practically all the students of the school were converted Christians.

Rev. Johannes would take Rev. Malcom regularly to the local bazaar to meet local people and talk to them. Sometimes both would try to convert one or two. Though the inhabitants would give them a patient hearing it was very difficult to convert them. Rev. Malcom writes they 'seemed firm in their own faith.' One day 'a Mussulman Yogee passing by, smeared with cow dung and Ganges mud,' gave a very patient hearing to both the priests and finally declared that their religion was good for them and his religion was good for him. Both the priests were surprised by the strong belief of the Yogee in his faith.

When Rev. Malcom was visiting Chittagong, the town already had 2000 Portuguese inhabitants. They had two churches. Their priests had no knowledge of either English or Bangla. They would preach in Latin and most of those who attended the service of the Portuguese understood little. Rev. Malcom found the locals to be very tolerant to the religious views of other faith. The town was 120 miles long and 60 miles wide. Most of Chittagong was fertile, and rice and salt were the principal commodities of export. Salt was abundantly used for curing fish (*shutki*). The inhabitants were generally poor, writes Rev. Malcom but the Company (East India) annually collected 1,200,000 rupees as revenue from the district.

How long Rev. Howard Malcom stayed in Chittagong is not recorded in his memoir.

One fine day Rev. Malcom boarded a medium sized vessel bound for Akyab. On way his vessel entered the Cruscool River. On the banks was a Mogh village having about 600 houses. Rev. Malcom broke journey at Cox's Bazaar before setting off for Akyab.

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