



GOMBAK TRAGEDY.

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MR. E. R. DE ZYLVA DROWNED.

Sequel to Gallant Rescue.

A sad fatality occurred at Ulu Gombak on Wednesday last, says the *Malay Mail*, when Mr. E. R. de Zylva was drowned while attempting to rescue his two children who had got into difficulties while bathing.

Mr. de Zylva, who was Extra Assistant Conservator of Forests, F.M.S., was on duty at Ulu Gombak, and in the evening his children, in the company of Mr. O. La Brooy and the latter's children, motor-ed down to meet him.

It was suggested that they should have a bathe in the Ulu Gombak River. About 4 p. m., when the bathers emerged from the water, Mr. de Zylva's little daughter asked permission to have another dip. The request was granted and on her getting into the water it was seen that she was in difficulties.

She shouted for assistance, whereupon her brother, aged 14, went to her rescue. He, though a good swimmer, was unable to keep above the surface of the water. Mr. de Zylva then threw off his coat and jumped in.

He succeeded in bringing both children out of danger but collapsed suddenly and disappeared from sight, and was not seen again. Divers went into the pool and, some time later, the body was recovered.

Mr. de Zylva, who was 49 years of age, came to Malaya 23 years ago from the Royal Botanical Gardens, Ceylon, and had served the Government ever since. He was an ardent sportsman, was associated with the late Mr. William Hay in big game shooting in Malaya, and was a crack shot, having served in the Ceylon Volunteer Force.



