

Fig. 84 A set of the more conservative type of hairpins worn by Singapore (and Malacca) nonyas of the pre-World War I generation. Up to the time of World War II, only nonyas sporting the baju kurong wore this type of hairpin. The design is bold and simple. Silvergilt. Lengths vary between 13 cm and 17 cm. From Singapore.



Fig. 85 Two other variations of the so-called 'Portuguese hairpins' from Malacca. Notice that the 'crowns' are modelled after the shape of a cockle shell, while the only type of ornamentation permitted are the facetings on the upper portion of the stem. Silvergilt. Lengths vary between 9 cm and 12 cm.



Fig. 87 A set of five 'Portuguese hairpins' reputedly worn by the Portuguese nonyas of Malacca during the nineteenth century. Such hairpins were, however, not made by Portuguese silversmiths but by Chinese jewellers, as the stamped Chinese marks clearly indicate. The 'crowns' of these hairpins are more reminiscent of old Malay-styled hairpins than the Straits Chinese varieties. Silvergilt. Lengths between the shortest and the longest vary between 13.5 cm and 16.5 cm. From Malacca. Author's collection.