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in a manner less disconsolate and less figurative, reporting that the old Sultan had died a natural death—that his son who succeeded him had turned out an arch tyrant, making free to an insupportable degree with the lives and property of his subjects that his misconduct had occasioned an insurrection—and finally that the Pangerans or hereditary Chiefs had seized upon the legitimate culprit and put him to death by the bow-string. In his room these King-makers, for so it appears they have always been, had set up his nephew as Sultan to commence a new score of despotism, according to the immemorial usage of the stationary and incorrigible east.

Palembang.—By a native vessel lately arrived from Palembang, we learn that the fugitive Sultan of that place who was in a state of insurrection against the Netherlands authorities had been thrice defeated by the Dutch troops, but still continued to hold out. The quarter belonging to himself and his followers in the town of Palembang has been destroyed and razed to the ground. It is probable that the possession of Bencoolen will not only give the Dutch facilities for suppressing the present insurrection, but add considerably to their means of establishing a permanent dominion over the kingdom of Palembang—certainly the portion of Sumatra the most improved and possessing the greatest advantages.

Malacca.—Mr. Cracroft the Commissioner, is proceeding with spirit to reform the administration of Malacca. The farms of the public Revenue are arranged upon a more liberal footing than heretofore without detriment to the government. The exportation of hogs, poultry, and black cattle to Singapore, contraband under the Dutch government, is declared to be free. The tax on weights

and measures—on cargo boats, and on fresh fish have all been abolished, and besides these great improvements the currency has reformed and the Spanish Dollar divided into centimes assumed with justice as the most fit and proper standard. Under such liberal measures as these we can have no doubt, but that we shall soon see the commerce and industry of Malacca rapidly advancing, and the settlement contributing with Penang and Singapore to the advancement and support of the national interests.

Singapore Institution.—The reputation of the Singapore Institution and of its learned and zealous supporters Dr. Morrison has within the last fortnight brought to this place a student all the way from the United States of America, a young gentleman of the name of Hunter of a highly respectable and opulent family of New York. The object of Mr. Hunter's parents as we are given to understand is to obtain for him a thorough knowledge of the Chinese language, as subservient to his future mercantile pursuits. We wish every success to this very liberal and enterprising scheme, which becomes the enlightened spirit of the American people and the magnitude of their commercial relations with the Chinese Empire.

Pirates.—About a month ago the wreck of a Junk was discovered drifting through the straits without any person on board. A number of Malay boats belonging to the settlement immediately went out and plundered her of every thing she contained. On their return, however, information having been lodged at the police they were stopped and the property was taken from them and placed in safe custody. No person either dead or alive was found on board but from her construction she was known to belong to the

island of Hai-nan and her history has been since identified. It appears that about 40 days ago a Chinese Junk of Hai-nan struck upon the Romania reef in entering the straits. The crew, 22 in number, immediately abandoned her, taking to their boat, and bringing along with them a few chests of raw silk. After rowing some way along the shore of the Peninsula they were attacked by three Malay prahus. Their being totally unarmed and offering no resistance did not prevent this ferocious Banditti from committing the most brutal excesses. They threw their spears at them and upon getting into their boat, began stabbing with their krisies. The Chinese were compelled to jump overboard, but even after this were pursued and attacked, so that five only reached the shore in safety of whom three were badly wounded. The persons who escaped wandered for two days in the forest, when they at length came by accident to a Malayan village, where they were received kindly and safely conducted to this settlement. By the depositions given here it would appear that they had only been six days out from Hai-nan when they suffered shipwreck.

The English Schooner *Mary Anderson* in coming from Malacca with a cargo of Pegu rice was run ashore on Tuesday the 9th instant, at 11 o'clock at night. By daylight next morning she was surrounded by Malay boats, who, however, offered no molestation, although evidently intent on their usual habits of plunder. In the course of the day, one of His Netherlands Majesty's Gun boats, and two native Brigs came down to her assistance and having failed to get her off the sand bank took out her crew and a small part of her cargo which they brought safe to Singapore. They had no sooner quitted the vessel, than 40 or 50 Malay prahus that were hovering about went to the wreck and commenced plundering it. The cir-

cumstance of the Shipwreck was no sooner reported at Singapore, than an Officer and 25 Sepahees were sent out for the protection of the vessel with proper assistance to bring her off. This attempt was completely successful, and through the sea and intelligence of Lieutenant Chester, who commanded the party, the Malays were surprised—the principal part of the cargo recovered and two of the chief depredators brought to the settlement. The Schooner was also floated and brought in safely the next day. We are happy to state, that no resistance was offered and have only to regret the loss of a Sepahee who was drowned in passing from, one boat to another during a heavy squall.

NAVAL INTELLIGENCE.

On the morning of the 30th ultimo, the Ship *Toy-lang* and Brig *Buduang*, the two vessels belonging to his Cochin Chinese Majesty left our roads for the straits of Malacca.—They saluted the garrison with 15 guns, which was returned.

On the 29th ultimo the *Signal station* was removed, the flag being hoisted upon the easternmost St. John's Island—it is however scarce 200 yards from its original position, and now commands a complete view East and West of the entrances of the Singapore Straits.—The bearings given in the Calcutta Directory for entering the roads will not be interfered with.—*Ibid* May 12.

Arracan.—An Officer of the Quarter Master General's Department proceeded on the 13th of April, to reconnoitre the road by which the Burmese Chiefs and the remainder of their Army fled from Arracan. He succeeded in tracing them for about 22 miles through a mountainous country, covered with thick jungle, and from the point whence he returned, he dispatched five hurcarras, whose report is added to his own Memoir.