

The Times | October 5, 1832

A paragraph in the *Singapore Chronicle* contains an account of the severe and just punishment of an atrocious act of piracy by the Malays:—

(From the *Singapore Chronicle*, April 26.)

“Our readers may remember our having noticed last year (No. 18, last series), a most atrocious act of piracy and murder, committed on the west coast of Sumatra, by the inhabitants of Qualla Batu, on an American vessel, when the officer in charge of the vessel and most of the crew were crissed by the natives, and the vessel plundered of specie to some amount. Late accounts from Batavia inform us that an American frigate of 60 guns (the *Potomac* or *Petonia*, we are uncertain which), now at that port, has lately returned from Qualla Batu, having taken signal vengeance on the place for the savage act, by opening a heavy fire of grape shot on the village and the people, who were collected on the beach for the purpose of selling their pepper, by which upwards of 150 Malays are said to have been killed, and the whole village destroyed. This, we think, is a punishment the Malays of that coast have well merited by their numerous acts of treachery, murder, and rapine, which they have committed, even recently, on peaceable vesse's that have gone thither for purposes of commerce. It is to be hoped the Malay states on the west coast, some of which are little removed from barbarism, will learn a wholesome lesson from Qualla Batu.”