

We could have had no idea that the alarm of hostile invasion caught from the unwonted appearance of a fleet of trading prows (so welcome and usual a sight at this port) which lately manifested itself so ludicrously at Penang, could have communicated itself to Calcutta, and been actually received there as gospel, had we not seen two numbers of *Scott's Gazette* which gives at full length the Sheriff's proclamation, calling on the inhabitants to arm *pro aris et focis*, but seriously recommends the assistance of an armed steamer and a force of European soldiery to be despatched to raise the blockade! *Block tin*—which the said prows imported in great abundance—would have been the only thing this formidable force would have found to raise, instead of a *Blockade*. The whole matter has really been a truly farcical affair, which has considerably contributed to our amusement here, and has had no worse effect than that of exciting a degree of friendly but groundless anxiety on the part of our distant contemporaries.

The following is the manner in which *Scott's Gazette* of 20th ult. remarks on the Sheriff's proclamation, taken, it appears, from a *Penang Gazette Extra*, of 26th April, which never came to our hands.

(PROCLAMATION.)

WHEREAS the HONORABLE the GOVERNOR of Prince of Wales Island, Singapore and Malacca has intimated to me that it is possible an aggression upon this Island may be meditated by a numerous Flotilla, under the direction of the RAJAH MUDA of Perak, which is understood to be now collected to the Southward of this Island; I hereby convene a meeting of all British subjects residing in Prince of Wales Island, at the Sheriff's Office in the Court House at 3 o'Clock this afternoon, for the purpose of taking into consideration and adopting the best means of protecting life and property and in aiding me to maintain the King's Peace.

GOD SAVE THE KING.

R. F. WINGROVE,

Sheriff.

P. W. Island, Sheriff's Office, the 26th April, 1836

"We yesterday gave an account of the state of P. of W. Island, menaced as it appears to be by a hostile flotilla, and the inhabitants of that small settlement perhaps in a state of consternation at the danger to which they are exposed. It is probable that trifling assistance has been rendered from Malacca and Singapore, but the number of troops in those places is too small to afford any efficient relief. Perhaps it is not too late to dispatch an armed steamer thence, with two or three companies of Europeans on board to assist in the defence of the place, or for the purpose of raising the blockade of the port, if already invested."