

MALAY PIRATES.

A supplement to the *Canton Register* of May 24 contains accounts of some very gallant actions against the Malay pirates: that on the part of Lieutenant Elliot merits marked notice. It appears that he was cruising off Manilla in a Government falwa (a large open boat), with a crew of 43; armed with one large brass gun in the bow (an 18 or 24 pounder), four swivels in the stern, and small arms. The boat pulled 26 oars. Passing round a point of land between Cape Capones and Corregidore he suddenly found himself almost in the midst of 26 double-banked Malay pirate proas, each containing about 40 men. He ordered an immediate attack, and was promptly obeyed by his Tagalese crew. The long gun was quickly doubled-shotted with grape, without stopping the boat's way, and when within hail the pirate chief (a renegado), who led the van—or rather the horn of a crescent (for they were moving to surround the gallant boat)—hailed Lieutenant Elliot, who, when almost in contact, fired his bow gun; the aim was so good and deadly, that the pirate chief's boat, with her crew, immediately sank. He next attacked the second chief's proa; and when with bowsprit almost over her he fired; she also almost immediately sank. The remaining 24 proas, seeing the sudden and unexpected destruction of their chiefs, fled; Elliot chased, but they rather outpulled him; not so fast, however, as to escape about 62 rounds of shot, mostly grape. The fight continued about three hours. The falwa had two men killed and 12 wounded—two since dead. In the early part of the action the four swivels rebounded from their pivots and were lost. When the particulars of the action were reported to the Governor, he immediately made Elliot a captain, and gave him a cross of honour. The petty officers and crew have been rewarded, and the families of the killed will be provided for by the Manilla Government. The disparity of force in this action is amazing; one boat and 43 men opposed to 26 boats and upwards of 1,000 Malay men!
