

The Rajah of Salengore arrived in the roads on Sunday morning last on board of his own brig, and landed on the following day under a salute of 15 guns, to pay his respects to the local authorities and to receive their assurances of a continuance of friendly relations. His Highness has, we believe, made application to be supplied with a suitable dwelling during his residence here—but we are not aware whether such has been accorded to him. Palsy in power, and reprobate in character, as the most of these native rajahs are, we still think it an advisable course on the part of our government, when coming in contact with them, to treat them with some ceremony and shew of respect—altho' they are themselves too sensible of our power and importance to regard it in any other light than as a mark of condescension. We are not however quite sure that his Highness of Salengore altogether merits any such tokens of regard—as he is reported to have treated most slightly and cavalierly the letter sent to him by the Commissioners on the subject of piracy, as also not to have deigned any reply to no less than two official communications from the Resident Councillor of Malacca. It is also, we believe, no ill-founded rumour which ascribes to his instigation the murder of several Malacca Chinese, to prevent their being evidence of the death of a comrade, who was butchered in their sight by one of his own immediate followers. Until called to clear his character from such imputations, it is scarcely fitting that he should be received in any British Settlement with such tokens of respect as have been accorded to him.

The object of the Rajah's present visit is, we believe, to procure the interposition of the Straits government in the settlement of some pecuniary disputes with the neighbouring Rajah of Perak—or at least its countenance in the assertion of his claim. It appears that the late Rajah of Salengore had rendered important service to the state of Perak when overrun by the Quedans and Siamese in 1818, having in fact reconquered the country from the invaders for its legitimate ruler. Whether there had been any previous agreement to indemnify the Salengore Rajah for these services and which was sought to be avoided, we know not; but it seems that Chief was in no great hurry to withdraw his forces from Perak—an arrangement was however concluded between the two chiefs of which the most important stipulation was that the Rajah of Salengore should have an equal share with the Rajah of Perak of the duties upon all the tin exported from the latter country, and which was at the rate of six dollars the *blar* or about two dollars a picul. In order that none of the stipulated amount of duty on tin should escape him, the Salengore chief deputed one of his sons to take up a station on the Perak river, thro' which all the tin passed, and there get in his share of the tax. This it seems continued for some time, until it appears the deputy became odious by his rapacity and in an unfortunate hour for the Salengore Rajah, some act of undue violence connected with the levying of the duty was had recourse to against some traders bound for Penang with tin, upon whose representation, backed by that of the Rajah of Perak to the government of that Settlement, then in the hands of Mr. FULLERTON, and in the earlier days of his administration, a force was sent to expel the intruder from the Perak river should he not quietly evacuate it. No resistance was offered or attempted—and the Perak chief by these means came again to the receipt of his usual revenue from the tin-trade of the country, which he has ever since continued to enjoy. This the Rajah of Salengore now says is contrary to the agreement, and that he has been thereby defrauded of more than 20,000 dollars of the duties, of which it was stipulated he was to receive a half share, which he now claims as a debt from the Perak chief, and to aid him in the recovery of which it appears he has now come to address himself to the authorities here. Whether they will pay any attention to his request we know not—but, if what we hear is true, it would not be at all amiss if the government read his Highness a lecture upon the propriety of fulfilling his own engagements to British subjects, while he shews himself so earnest in claiming the performance of those of others to himself.