

We received information yesterday of a most barbarous act of piracy and murder committed on the crew of a small boat consisting of four Chinese, all mere lads, on their way from Rhio to this settlement. At the entrance of the Straits of Rhio, in the vicinity of the *Pan Shoal*, she was set upon by a *sampan* containing six Malays who boarded her, and butchered in cold blood, three of the poor Chinese, apparently with no other object than to gratify their diabolical cruelty, as there was nothing for them to plunder,—the other was left on board cruelly mangled, and weltering in blood, and probably owes the preservation of his life to the belief of the savages that he was also dead. He was three days in the most deplorable condition, suffering from his wounds, and subsisting on the leaves of trees growing on the beach, towards which he had contrived to paddle his boat—when he was fortunately fallen in with by a *sampan pukat*, and brought to this place, where his wounds have been attended to. We have seldom or never heard of an act of more cold-blooded and wanton atrocity, even among the savage marauders by whom these seas are infested.