

H. M. Sloop *Hyacinth* anchored in the roads on Tuesday morning; she was last from Malacca which she left on the 26th instant.

The Steamer *Diana* sailed on Saturday morning last to Penang, for the purpose of affording an opportunity to Sir W. Norrist to be present at the forthcoming Session for the trial of the pirates and other delinquents.

The captive pirates brought in by the *Diana* appear to be at present the reigning object of curiosity in the settlement; and among others of the Lieges we went to have our look at the *lion*. There is certainly nothing either formidable or very ferocious in the appearance of these savages; and with one or two exceptions they are about as miserable a looking crew as we ever beheld—some half dozen of them being mere boys. In the attack of the Steamer they lost, we believe by their own account, nearly all their best fighting men; the others being reserved for the less honorable occupation of pulling the oar, cooking &c. and this may account for the inferior display of physical vigour presented by the survivors. It is impossible to suppose that lads so very young as several of them are, would voluntarily embark in a course of blood and plunder, and associate themselves with a set of ruffians to be tyrannised over at the ferocious will of their masters—for it is easy to conceive that their situation was one of the most complete bondage. Accordingly, the story which all these boys tell, is that they were carried off by violence from their own homes, and compelled to serve on board the pirates. Many of the men among them indeed give the same account of themselves—but whether true or false, there is not of course the same moral improbability against their voluntary connection with piracy, as exist in the case of their more juvenile companions. The owner of the prahu which was destroyed is among the captives—and he says that their commission from the Rajah of Sooloo, was to plunder as far as the Coast of Siam, and that had it been known that it was contrary to our law to go there it would not have been attempted! They appear to consider themselves in fact as having been engaged in the lawful discharge of their duties as subjects of his Highness of Sooloo—who we doubt not will be very sorry to hear of the descomfiture of the expedition, in as far as it will deprive him of a large expected return of booty.

The prisoners deny that the prahu in which they were, was the largest of the fleet—and state that, the largest was the one which had their chief on board, the Orang-Kaya of *Kalan*, and was one of those that escaped. *Bangee* is the name of the port from whence the pirates commenced their cruise.

In our last number we omitted to notice the capture of a Malay pirate prahu by the Steamer between Sangora and Calantan, and before she joined the *Wolf* in the attack on the Illanoons. They killed several Malays on board of her, and took the survivors prisoners. This prahu also had on board several slaves, captured by the pirates along the coast.