

The Steamer *Diana* left the roads yesterday morning bound for Malacca and Penang, with the Hon'ble the Governor on board. We have certainly reason to be thankful to Lord AUCKLAND for sending a *Smoke-Ship* to the Straits—if he will only be pleased to let her remain there—for she not only sinks a pirate prahu one day, sends destruction among a fleet the next, and lands a batch of prisoners

here a few hours after, but straightway she speeds up the Straits to Penang for the Recorder, that the rogues may have a full Bench to try them, and they are in presence of their judges almost before the shot of her guns has ceased to ring in their ears! To be more particular—on the 16th of May the *Diana* attacked and sunk off *Sangora* a Malay pirate prahu, killing all the crew 9 in number, except two, whom she made prisoners—releasing from slavery at the same time four Siamese whom the pirates had just captured—on the 18th May she attacked the Illancon fleet, with results which are already well known to our readers, and on the 23rd anchored in the roads with her prisoners. On the 26th she started for Penang, and landed Sir WM. NORRIS here on the 3rd of June—on the 7th a special Session for the trial of the pirates was opened, and by the 9th they were all convicted. This we think affords a signal example of the advantageous and useful purposes for which Steam vessels may be employed in the Straits, and makes us desirous of seeing the advantages of Steam navigation extended, and its powers more variously employed in every direction around us. By means of Steam vessels our influence throughout the Peninsula may be strengthened, so as at all times to be used with benefit and effect—while commerce must increase under the security which it is the means of affording. Even the King of Siam quakes at the thought of an English Steamer visiting the outskirts of his dominions—and the establishment of a more extended Steam navigation in this quarter, appears to us to open up prospects, both political and commercial embracing the most happy results.

