

Within the last few days two cases have occurred of native traders having appeared at the Police to complain of their being attacked by pirates in the neighbourhood of *Tringanu*. According to the statement of one of these parties, the prahus that attacked him were three in number, of the *Lanchang* kind, armed as pirates, and numerous manned. They came in sight off *Susulara* lying between Calantan and *Tringanu*, and kept up the chase for a considerable time, firing a great many shot at him, several of which penetrated his vessel, and would, he said, have done considerable damage had their ammunition been of a better description. As the Sultan of *Lingin* has of late been threatening an expedition against *Tringanu*, to compel the payment of tribute which he pretends he has a right to from that territory, we rather take it that these are the vessels of some of his people which have found their way there, and have already commenced operations in the customary manner by indiscriminate attacks on trading vessels, than that they are *regular pirates*—who we think would scarcely venture to present themselves thus openly in such a well known locality, and in the neighbourhood of which they were lately handled with such severity. It is true indeed that after the destruction of the pirate quarters at *Gallang* by the *Andromache*, a considerable number of that horde found refuge in *Tringanu*, and may have betaken themselves to their old courses, but there seems an equal probability that the prahus in question belong to *Lingin*. They at any rate require to be looked after, as one of them was formidable enough to attack a tope single-handed, and may cause considerable mischief to the native vessels coming and going between that quarter and Singapore.

With respect to the menaced expedition from *Lingin* against *Tringanu* to which we have alluded, our government will no doubt provide against anything of the kind being attempted. We hear indeed that steps have already been taken with that view—and which will in all probability have the effect of diverting the Sultan from his projected enterprise, and save us the trouble of sinking or dispersing any flotilla he might have despatched, in case he had persevered in his intention. In demanding tribute from *Tringanu*, the Sultan is reviving some claims appertaining to the former sovereignty of *Johore*, and must therefore, we suppose, regard himself as the chief living representative of that dynasty. This is a character however which the British government can never permit him to assume with respect to the Malayan states of the Peninsula—having all along recognised and negotiated with his brother, the late Sultan *HUSSAIN*, as sovereign of *Johore*, or at least as the chief representative of the dynasty of the *Johore* princes—for, as to the empire, it has been dismembered for nearly the last thirty years, each of the great nobles upon the decease of Sultan *MAHOMED*, which occurred about that time, seizing upon a fragment and appropriating it to himself. The son of Sultan *HUSSAIN* still lives, and succeeds of course to all the empty titles & dignities enjoyed by his father—who we believe never asserted during his lifetime any right to demand tribute from the state of *Tringanu*, & the other states on the East Coast of the Peninsula, or at least never attempted to exercise it. We recommend his Highness of *Lingin* to imitate his late brother's *forbearance* in this particular, and not to listen to the whisperings of a vain ambition. If he is tired of having nothing to do, let him assist his excellent friends the Dutch in pirate-hunting, or in forming establishments on the Coast of *Sumatra*,—a service for which they will probably be more grateful—and in which, in his assumed capacity of sovereign of the *Johore* empire, he has already shewn himself useful by lately resigning to them his claims to *Indragiri*.