

Hampshire Telegraph and Sussex
Chronicle etc (Portsmouth),
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SINGULAR DESTRUCTION OF A VESSEL.—A frightful occurrence took place at Malacca, on the evening of the 12th of November. The schooner Alma, of that port, had arrived here from Singapore in the course of the day with a considerable amount of cargo, but only that part of it consisting of opium and about 3,000 dollars in specie was then landed. The vessel anchored at Pulo Jawa, about a mile from the town of Malacca, being the place where small trading craft of the Alma's class generally lie. Amongst the other cargo still remaining on board were fifteen piculs of gunpowder, contained in seventy-five kegs, besides about a picul belonging to the vessel, which was in a small copper magazine. A heavy thunderstorm occurred during the course of the evening, and about half-past seven the Alma blew up, it is supposed from having been struck by lightning. There were twelve persons on board at the time, consisting of the Chinese captain and four of the crew, and seven Malays, passengers from Singapore. One man was picked up alive, although dreadfully wounded, and sent to the hospital, and the bodies of three others were found at Illier, about a mile from the place where the schooner was anchored. There were no other vessels lying very close to the Alma, those nearest being the gunboat and a large trading prahu, but as far as we can learn no injury was done to these vessels or any one on board of them.