

Lloyd's Weekly Newspaper  
Sunday, November 14, 1875

THE FIGHTING WITH THE MALAYS.

PENANG, November 8.—Intelligence received here from Perak announces that the Malays are besieging the British residency. The troops despatched hence on the 4th inst. to Perak have reached that place. Mr. Swettenham, assistant-resident at Salangore, is safe. All the native rajahs are suspected of complicity in the murder of Mr. Birch, and at Passir Sala the Malays are stated to be making great preparations for resistance. Sultan Ismail is reported to be collecting large forces with the object of attempting to expel the British.

PENANG, November 9.—The Pluto has returned here from Perak with the news that Mr. Birch's body has been recovered in a mutilated condition. In the fighting with the Malays Captain Innes has been killed, and Lieutenant Elliott (10th regiment) seriously wounded. Lieutenant Booth and eight men of the 10th regiment have been slightly wounded.

(“TIMES” TELEGRAMS.)

PENANG, November 9.—The body of Mr. Birch has been found, tied to a tree. All this side of the Malay peninsula is greatly excited, and a general outbreak is feared. Governor Jervois is at Perak. Troops have been telegraphed for from Hong Kong. The Modeste, man-of-war, from Labuan, and the Thistle and Fly, gunboats, have arrived near Perak. There are about 400 troops at Perak.

PENANG, November 10.—The Rajah of Lilla has ordered the districts of Larut, Salangore, and Perak to take up arms. Johore and Queda are friendly. The troops have retired to Baturabet, Sultan Abdoola's residence, 10 miles below the residency. The Ringdove and Egeria gunboats are expected from China. One thousand men with artillery are on their way from India. The Malays are ejecting the Chinese inhabitants who are friendly to the English, and are recruiting their forces in the outlying districts. A religious war is expected.

The following despatch has been issued by the Colonial office:—

“Telegraphic intelligence has been received from Singapore that the besieged British residency on the Perak river was relieved on Saturday, the 6th, by Captain Innes. On Sunday a force composed of a detachment of the 10th regiment, the armed police, and the Sepoys of the Resident's guard, attacked a stockade further up the river, and near the scene of Mr. Birch's murder. The attack failed, Captain Innes was killed, Lieutenants Elliott and Booth and eight men of the 10th wounded, and one reported missing. The Governor was on his way to Batu Rabit, a point on the river half-way between the sea and the British residency. Orders have been given for the immediate despatch of reinforcements from Hong Kong and Calcutta.”