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PAHANG IN REVOLT.—Even among England's "little wars," that which has just broken out in **Pahang** has a very diminutive appearance. Indeed, it is not a war at all, but a rising, partly political, but mainly, we suspect, industrial, against the native ruler. But **Pahang** is under British protection, and no small amount of British capital has latterly found investment there; we should be bound to take action, therefore, even if the insurgent chief had not challenged conclusions by pronouncing against our Protectorate. In itself, the affair is trumpery enough, but the whole Malay Peninsula is full of dangerous elements, and were this rising in **Pahang** to succeed, even temporarily, there would not fail to be commotions in neighbouring States. The Sultan appears to have convinced our Resident that he can suppress the revolt without assistance from the Straits Settlements. Perhaps he might crush it off-hand if the rebels would only oblige him by coming out into the open. But if he has to hunt them in the jungle, it seems quite on the cards that his forces will be worn out before they get to close quarters. It is the metallic wealth of **Pahang** which gives it whatever value it possesses for Europeans. Until discovery was made of rich lodes of tin, and rumours of gold-fields began to spread about, the English in the Straits Settlements never gave **Pahang** a second thought. Lying on the east side of the peninsula, inhabited by a sparse, but unruly population, and presenting an uninviting aspect to the explorer, the country, which extends to some 10,000 square miles, offered no inducement to British enterprise to undertake its development. But the revelation of metallic wealth "beyond the dreams of avarice," gave it sufficient attractiveness to tempt the company promoter on to the scene, and having obtained a splendid concession from the Sultan, that irrepressible genius set to work with the developing business so energetically that a large proportion of the population is now engaged in mining.
