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Malacca.

PIRACY.

We have to record an act of daring violence, which occurred lately near Malacca. About a month ago, five Malays went in a small boat to Pulo Besar, which is close to Malacca, about five or six hours pull from the town, to cut wood, and while thus employed they were surprised by some pirates who lurk thereabouts. Four of these men were seized, one escaping on the island, which is uninhabited. The pirates sailed to the northward, and tried to sell their prisoners, but as no one would purchase, they brought them back a few days ago, and sent them in a boat belonging to the pirate prahu, with five men well armed, to a place near Malacca, from whence they dispatched one of the prisoners to the town to demand a ransom of ten dollars for each. The messenger, on his arrival gave information to the resident on the subject, and the following morning (the 2d instant), two boats were despatched with twenty-eight men in them, along with the cutter Emerald. The boats were armed with three muskets and three pistols with six ball-cartridges each. The Emerald's boat joined them with the commander in her. The boats of course came up with the pirate one, which was waiting for the return of the messenger. A naumachia was the consequence, which proved in favour of the pirates, as a man in one of the Malacca boats was shot through the leg, while none of the five pirates, as we

hear, were touched. However, during the action two of the prisoners watching their opportunity jumped into the water and escaped to the Malaeca hoats, while the remaining one, either through fear of being shot in the water, or having been tied to the boat, was brought away by the pirates, who finally escaped from their numerous assailants to the praint, which had sailed on in the way to Singapore. The wounded man is now in the hospital. We must refrain from any comments on this noble feat,—Sing. Chron., May 8.