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PALEMBANG.

Accounts from the eastward of the 2d of May, relative to the affairs of Palembang, mention, that the sultan's defences are very extensive, and that it does not appear at all certain that the second expedition of the Dutch will be more successful than the former. The sultan is now engaged in repairing the ills done to his country during the residence of the Dutch. A very unfortunate circumstance, it is said, occurred when the Dutch were driven out, which has not been stated in any former account. The fire rafts, intended to act against their shipping, by some accident became entangled, and, getting aground near the Arab town, the latter caught fire, and, with the whole native town of Palembang, was soon reduced to ashes! The number of houses burnt is not estimated at less than 40,000.—*Penang Gaz. Sept. 2.*

BANCA.

A very gallant affair is reported to have taken place on the 2d of August last, off Coba, on the Island of Banca, in which twenty Malay pirate prows were defeated by the little brig Pallas; Capt. Roberts, of 150 tons; the prows, one of which bore a white flag with a black dagger and skull, surrounded the brig, and kept up a constant fire upon her, which was returned with such effect, for upwards of two hours, as to induce them to pull in shore. A breeze springing up at the time, the brig made all possible sail, and firing a broadside, sunk one of the boats. The Pallas was very much injured in her hull and rigging, and in twenty-six broadsides which she fired during the action, expended two hundred pounds of powder, two hundred and sixty round of shot and forty canister ditto, and thirty-four bags of musket balls, each bag containing twenty-six, and two hundred and forty-two ball cartridges!—*Cal. Gov. Gaz. Nov. 23.*
