

THE
ASIATIC JOURNAL

AND
MONTHLY REGISTER

FOR
British India and its Dependencies :

CONTAINING

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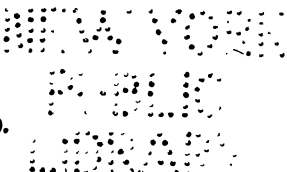
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1820.



lect that the king has a great wish to extend his commercial relations, that he intends to build more ships, and is about granting permission to erect a Portuguese factory. Several American and Portuguese ships have visited Siam this last year, and obtained full cargoes of sugar.—*Bomb. Gaz. May 3.*

PENANG.

PIRATES.

Feb. 19, 1820.—The pirate prows, we understand, have lately infested the entrance of the channels to this harbour, and have committed great depredations on the small prows and boats proceeding in and out. Several have within the last week been obliged to return, by being fired into, with many of their crews severely wounded.

It is stated that these prows come into the harbour on pretence of trading, and having obtained information of the departure of the smaller prows and boats, with the nature of their cargoes, they sail out at the same time, or quit a day or two before, and waylay them at the entrance of the channels, where they attack and plunder them; it appears therefore difficult to prevent this mischief, as they clear out of the harbour in the usual manner as regular trading prows.—*Pr. of W. I. Gaz.*

RETURN OF SIR RALPH RICE.

Feb. 23.—A salute from the ramparts of Fort Cornwallis, on Monday morning, announced the return of the hon. Sir Ralph Rice, Kt. Recorder of this Island, from China, on board the Portuguese ship *Carmo*; and we are happy to add with renovated health.—*Ibid.*

SINGAPOOR.—RHIO.

The Prince of Wales Island gazettes, which have reached us during the last week, extended to the 23d of Feb., and contain some few articles of local intelligence, and others regarding the disturbed state of affairs at Rhio, where the brother of the Sooltaun had been killed in a tumult, which has by some been described as the consequence of a mistake on the part of the Dutch; who were alarmed at the firing of guns during a Malay festival, and by others as a wanton retaliation of the murder of Mr. Smislaert. It has been moreover stated that in consequence of these disturbances, and the general aversion manifested to the Netherland's government, a considerable number of the Bughese tribe and other inhabitants of the neighbouring parts had been induced to seek protection under the mild government of the English at Singapore.

This information may be correct, and we have no reason to suppose it otherwise. Generally speaking, however, the recollection of excesses which have been already occasioned in those parts by an avaricious spirit of mercantile competition, suggests to us the propriety of receiving with a considerable degree of caution, not only the Dutch accounts of their own proceedings, but those likewise which may, from time to time, be communicated respecting them by their rivals in the eastern trade. We certainly find it difficult to comprehend upon what principle any of the Asiatic tribes can feel that affection for Europeans which it is so much the fashion for us to boast of as a nation, and to despise as individuals.—*Cal. Journ. March 15.*

SUMATRA.

MORTALITY AT ACHEEN.

By the *Magnet* we have received Penang papers to the 22d of January inclusive. They state that the epidemic continued to rage with great violence at Acheen, where the King and his followers were encamped at the mouth of the river, all in a wretched sickly state. The daily amount of casualties there was estimated at about sixty, while in the interior the number of victims was much greater in comparison.—*Hurk. Feb. 24.*

CREW AND CARGO OF THE BRIG JOHNNY *Saved through the humane assistance afforded by the Rajah of Anahoo.**

In the *Hurkaru* of Friday last, we reported the loss of the brig *Johnny*, Capt. Bacon, on the west coast of Sumatra, and that her cargo as well as her crew had been saved. We have since been more fully informed regarding circumstances connected with this shipwreck, which are so highly creditable to individuals resident on that coast, that we should be wanting in our duties if we withhold the detail from the public.

The *Johnny*, it appears, was driven on shore a little to the Southward of Anahoo, and her crew were no doubt pleased with the idea of saving their lives with the sacrifice of what their ill-fated vessel contained. Had they been driven on the coasts of Kent or Cornwall, their feelings would have been nearly the same, and their anticipations might have been fulfilled. As it was, they beheld, as soon as they were aground, the Malays from the southward approaching to plunder, and they must have submitted to the hardship of finding every visitor help himself

* See this incident referred to *ante*, under the head of Bombay, where a similar instance of humanity on the part of the Imam of Muscat is recorded.

to what he liked, had it not been for the Rajah of Analaboo, whose ideas of honor and hospitality would reflect lustre on the most eminent in more civilized countries. This worthy chief, on discovering the disastrous situation of the Johnny, repaired immediately to the spot with his people, drove off the marauders who had come to profit by the distresses of the scene, proceeded actively to work in saving the cargo, and did not quit the place until the whole had been got on shore and secured. Seven days and nights were thus passed by the Rajah, during which his exertions were unceasing in the day-time, and at night he reposed upon the beach, to ensure the protection of the property around him, having some branches of cocoa nut trees for his couch, and the firmament for his canopy. Had it been practicable to get the vessel off, he would have also remained longer, and directed the utmost exertions of his people to that object.

Deriving our information from the best authority, we are able to add, that the generous and friendly conduct, thus exhibited by the Rajah of Analaboo, although it may appear extraordinary to persons who have formed sweeping ideas to the disadvantage of the Malay character, only justifies the very high opinion which those accustomed to trade on the west coast have hitherto maintained respecting that chief. It accords so well with his former professions and behaviour, as to demonstrate his sterling worth, and to place the sincerity and goodness of his heart in a very amiable point of view. Highly creditable as such an action would be under any circumstances, its merit is not a little enhanced by the reflection, that had the brig been driven on shore on almost any other part of the coast, in possession of the natives, the cargo would not only have been plundered speedily, but the commander and his men would have been hardly able to retain, from the rapacious hands of the plunderers, a single jacket to shield themselves from the inclemency of the weather.—*Hurk. April 13.*

JAVA.

ISLAND OF TIMOR ANNEXED TO THE GOVERNMENT OF JAVA.

By a proclamation from the Gov. gen. in Council of the 16th Dec. 1819, the island of Timor, which was, by the resolutions of the Commissaries gen. of the 24th Jan. 1817, united to and considered as one of the Molucca Islands, is now separated from them, and declared to be immediately dependant on Java. The restrictions which have been hitherto in force in the Moluccas, with regard to the free trade, are to be considered as no longer in force on the island.—*Bat. Courant, Jan. 1.*

ISLAND OFF JAVA BENT ASUNDER.

Jan. 27, Japara, 1820.—“During the late stormy weather, since the 3d inst., an island, which we find by the map of Java to be called Fisherman's Island, has been rent asunder. It is known to the natives under the name of Palo Pontangan. As soon as the weather will permit, a further investigation will be held regarding this extraordinary event.”—*Id. Feb. 5.*

MARRIAGES.

Nov. 17, 1817, at Batavia, T. G. C. Vesscher, Esq. son of C. A. C. Vesscher, Esq. to Miss Cornelia, eldest daughter of C. J. C. Vesscher, Esq.

Feb. 20, 1820, at Batavia, C. S. H. Chasse, Esq. son of the hon. T. P. Chasse, Esq. second in council at Batavia, to Miss Maria, second daughter of C. J. C. Vesscher, Esq.

DEATH.

July 13, 1820.—At Batavia, in the 22d year of his age, after an illness of only four days, deeply lamented, Edward, second son of T. Chapman, Esq. of Whitby.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

INSTITUTION FOR THE EDUCATION OF THE NATIVES.

The institution established some few years since by the present Gov. of the colony for the education of the natives has, it is said, confirmed the fact, that the Aborigines of New South Wales, notwithstanding the opinions to the contrary, are equal in intellectual qualifications to any of the natives of the Pacific Ocean.

The annual assemblage of the native tribes under their respective chiefs took place at the end of the last year, when the native children of the institution appeared before their parents and friends. The following notice upon this interesting subject is from the Sydney Gazette:—

“The heat of the day was too intense to allow of a very particular examination of the native children belonging to the institution, but their writing and drawings were publicly exhibited, and excited alternate emotions of admiration and applause; after which the children passed round the circle, and received the affectionate embraces of their parents and friends, all of whom beheld with a gaze of admiration, and apparently of gratitude and delight, the improved personal appearance of the little ones, who were neatly and uniformly dressed in the English manner; but what their parents must have felt at finding their children's progress in writing and drawing, as an earnest of their advancement to civilization, can better be conceived than described. The specimens produced of their drawing were received with evident symptoms of the highest pleasure and astonishment.