

THE  
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FOR

**British India and its Dependencies :**

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1817.

A new ship was launched from the Moolna's sloop, Surat on the 19th of Dec. she is called the Bannerman, 1,000 tons, and although completely copper bottomed draws in her present trim only 11 feet, she has been little more than eight months in hand in a place where there has been nothing of the sort for many years past, the figure head is a very striking likeness of the Prince Regent, Byramjee Cowasjee, the part owner gave an elegant tiffin on this occasion to the whole of the European Society, the Nawab beheld the grand spectacle from one of his gardens on the banks of the Tapee.

A dreadful fire broke out in the native lines of the 9th Regiment, at nine o'clock on Saturday night, which from the dryness of the cadjans, in a few minutes, destroyed half the houses of the battalio. This melancholy accident was occasioned by a woman going out and leaving a light in her house, and we are concerned to state, that three children were burnt to death, and two seapoys scorched so dreadfully that their lives are despaired of; the calamity has not ended here, for the fire raged so rapidly, that the men had not time to secure their property, and thus the savings of many years past services were all consumed in the unfortunate conflagration.

An alarming fire broke out about 10 o'clock on Wednesday morning in Colabah in the fisherman's village close to the artillery barracks, nearly all the huts and property of the poor fishermen have been destroyed, and we lament to state that an old man and three or four children have perished in the flames. The conflagration raged with considerable violence for nearly two hours, and had it not been for the great exertions of the fire engine department and those of the artillery, the barracks belonging to the latter would have been consumed. We have not been able to ascertain the cause of this disaster.

#### MARRIAGE.

At Sarat, by the Rev. T. Carr, Ensign Lean Assist. in the Surveyor's department to Miss Eliza Reynolds, niece to Lieut. Gen. Reynolds.

#### JAVA.

*Calcutta Gazette, Jan. 9, 1817.*—By the Cyrus we have received from Batavia letters of the 2d November, communicating very pleasing accounts of the result of the long pending negotiations between the Dutch Government, and the late British Authorities in Java. It will be recollected, that at the time of the surrender of the island, there was at the various residencies and out-stations, a large quantity of unappropriated stores and colonial produce. This surplus was delivered up to the Dutch agents by the British residents, on vacating their offices, upon the implied condition, that it would

be taken into account by the Commissioners General at the day of final adjustment. Upon a reference however of the business to the new Government, they demurred at taking the produce upon any terms, and even at paying for it any part of the sums affixed by the local appraisers. A long and vexatious discussion occurred, in which the captious spirit and artful evasions of the Dutch Commissioners were stoutly opposed and baffled by the rectitude and moderation of the English Authorities. Nothing could shake Mr. Fendall's firmness. Neither menace nor persuasion could induce him to come down one iota in what he conceived to be the just demands of his nation. Thanks to this spirited conduct, he fully succeeded in carrying every disputed point. All the essentials had been agreed upon before the dispatch of our letters; and on the same day, a meeting of the Netherlands Council was to be held, to place the final seal to the negotiations. As this would put the finishing hand to the business by which Mr. Fendall and his coadjutors in power had been long detained, they may be very shortly expected here, having nothing further to protract their stay on the island. Sir W. G. Keir proceeds, we believe, direct to Bombay, in order to have a permanent station on the staff of that Presidency.

Since the foregoing paragraph was written, we have learnt that Government intend immediately to dispatch the Honorable Company's Yacht to Java, for the purpose of conveying Mr. Fendall back to this Presidency. The Honorable Company's ship *Nearchus* will, we hear, also go, in order to take on board Mr. Fendall's suit and baggage.

#### *From the Java Government Gazette.*

—“The ship *Perseverance*, belonging to Messrs. Timmerman and Westermann at Batavia, left China the 10th of May for Batavia; when on the 22d of June, laying at anchor about eight or ten miles to the Southward of Ragged Point, on the coast of Borneo, in the Straits of Macassar, at about half-past ten o'clock p. m. the ship's crew, consisting partly of Javanese, and partly of Malays, mutinied, and murdered the chief officer, who was then on deck. On hearing his cries, the Captain and myself (the Supercargo) together came out from our cabin; the Captain called out to the crew, and asked them what was the matter? when one of them answered, nothing, only that he himself was now the captain of the ship, intending to murder every one of us. The Captain hereupon told him, that if they did not give up their design, he would blow up the ship, and them together with it, whereupon they said that it was well. Meanwhile the Captain, the

second Officer, and myself, returned into the cabin, where we got up a barrel of gunpowder, loaded all the muskets and pistols we had, and in this situation we were waiting for them, in case of their coming down. In about an hour, they threw down every thing that was loose on the deck, and broke the lanterns which was in the cabin; we also heard them work with one of the guns, being loaded with double shot, which after having got up the hatch, they tried to point down; but, as we understood, they were unable to point it low enough for the purpose of their intention, the Captain told me that in case of their coming down he would blow up the quarter deck, on which the greatest part of the crew were standing, because he saw no possibility of saving the ship, or defending their lives any longer. We then brought one barrel of gunpowder into the fore part before the cabin, and laid a train to it from the cabin; I placed myself in one of the stern windows with a couple of loaded pistols, so did the Captain and the second Officer; on a sudden they came down, upon which I fired off one pistol, when at the same time I heard a horrible noise, and almost without sense I found myself in the water near the wreck; when coming up, I was surrounded by pieces of plank, &c. I got hold of a large log of wood which appeared to be the boom, astern of the main braces. The whole after part of the ship being on fire, I got along side, and came over by the gangway, where I saw the most shocking sight man ever beheld.—The greatest part of the crew, laying within the flames, some without arms and others without legs, crying very hard. One of them laying close to the gangway got hold of my leg on coming over, calling out to the other, who, with about eight or ten men, was endeavouring to get the long-boat over the ship's side, which they effected, after which I saw one coming up to me with a criss in his hand, and leaping upon the forecastle, intended to jump overboard; but when he saw me on the bowsprit, he went back, and called out to me to leave the ship and follow him into the long-boat, which I refused. On the bowsprit, with me was sitting a Chinese passenger, Aley, who would not leave me; we in the mean time saw the remainder of the crew leave the ship with the boat, others of whom being wounded, slung themselves overboard when the fire came close to them. At about one o'clock the flames came up from all the hatches, and the ship went down. When I came up the second time, I got hold of the fore yard, which was just above water, there I found the above mentioned Chinese again, who assisted me in getting over the yard, and one Javanese, who was wounded severely in his foot. The

ship was now standing on the ground, being in low water, only eight fathoms where she was laying, the main-top and mizen-top were entirely on fire as she was laying wind right, it blowing a fresh southerly wind, I had hopes to save the fore-top, as our only resource. I went aloft, and got out the top-gallant-studding sail halyards, which I fastened close to my waist, letting it down to the Chinese in the top, which he continued to make wet, and I continually hauled it up, to quench the fire, yet I was obliged successively to retire down below, until the fire had got down as far as about a fathom above the cap. At day break I could see none of the boats from the fore-top-sail yard. The above-mentioned Javanese told me that he intended to swim ashore, leaving us one of the studding sail booms. The third day after, several dead bodies came floating up; fifth day, which was the 27th, about eleven o'clock, we saw to our great joy, the prows coming out, and afterwards a great number of them; one of which took us on board, and brought us to Passir, where we arrived about seven o'clock P. M. I was the fourth day after carried to the Raja of that country, where I found the seacunny Leonard Hoogerward, the carpenter Francisco, and six Javanese, among whom was one of the principal mutineers (being a Joromoddie on board). As I understood, he had related there that the ship had caught fire, without knowing how: when in their presence I was questioned about it, I said the same, because I was apprehensive my life would be in danger, the Javanese being very well with the natives on shore; but afterwards I told the Raja the real circumstance, and requested him to secure the Javanese, which he told me he could not do. In the mean time I brought it so far, that on the 17th of July I was informed by the Captain of the Bugees at Passir, that I should be sent to Macassar by order of the Raja, with a prow belonging to a Hadjee, which was to sail on the 22d of the same month. When I left Passir, I took with me the above mentioned seacunny, the carpenter, and the Chinese, and arrived on the 14th of August at Macassar.

“Six or eight days before I left Passir, three of the above-mentioned Javanese had run away in a prow, without knowing whither they went. One died since of his wounds, and two still remained on shore on my departure. I requested the Raja to take care of them, and if possible, try to get the other three back again, who I believed, had gone no further than Cootee.”

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CEYLON.

During the march of the British forces upon the capital of Kandy, Lieutenant