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up to the middle of April. They communicate nothing of importance. Charles Assey, Esq. Chief Secretary to the Government of Java, came as a passenger on the *Gesina*, and is said to be the bearer of dispatches from the Honourable Mr. Raffles, to the Supreme Government. We have inserted below the only interesting articles to be found in the *Batavia Gazette*. The annexed extract of a letter from an Officer serving on the Island, mentions the expedition which sailed under General Nightingall's orders, early in April.

"Wiltersreeden, March 30.

"We have very little news here. Another expedition is now on foot, and will sail in the course of a week or ten days. General Nightingall accompanies it, 600 of the 59th Regiment, some Artillery and Sepoys go from hence, and all the General Staff likewise. The 78th Regiment and the Cavalry at Samarang, are ordered to be in readiness. The whole will amount to more than 2000 men. Their destination is not yet clearly known. It is however believed to be to humble the Rajah of Bali, who will probably submit without making a trial of his and our strength. The expedition first goes to Soerabaya. A tremendous shock of an earthquake was felt here at half past 10 o'clock last night. I was writing, and suddenly felt my chair to shake under me; the doors shook violently, the oil was thrown out of the wall shades, so as nearly to extinguish the lights. Many persons were roused from their sleep by the shock, but I have not yet learnt that it has done any damage."

We are happy to observe that the homeward bound China fleet, which sailed from Whampoa on the 25th February, under convey of His Majesty's Ship *Phoenix*, had safely passed the Straits of Sunda on the 25th of March.

Since the above was sent to press, we have perused letters of the 18th April from Batavia, from which we learn, that Coffee was selling at 6½ dollars per pecul, and expected to rise still higher. Bengal Cloths were much in demand, and Opium fetched a high price.

The ship *Indian* of this port arrived at Batavia on the 9th of April, and had begun to take in a cargo for the port of London.

The *James Drummond* which had accompanied the expedition to Bali, was after her return, to undertake a voyage to China. She was chartered by the Javanese government, to carry a cargo of sundries to Canton.

The brig *Morning Star* of this port, was, after taking Major Travers round to Soerabaya, to proceed to New South Wales, with Chinese goods. The *Isabella* was lying in Soerabaya roads, and only waited Major Travers's arrival, previously to setting sail for England.—Major Travers was the bearer of dispatches from the Government of Java to His Majesty's Ministers. John Scott, Esq. and Mrs. Scott and family, would also go as passengers on the *Isabella*.

Since our last publication, the long expected ship *Providencia* has arrived from China. She left Canton on the 8th April, and reached Saugor on the 2d instant. She brings scarcely any news. His Majesty's frigate *Doris* had captured the American ship *Hunter* with a valuable cargo. A small American letter of Marque had arrived at Whampoa, with a cargo of Skins from the West Coast of America. It was at first reported, that she brought instructions to the American Merchants to lying in the *Tigris* to make ready for sea, as the *Essex* would soon arrive, and convey them home. This story has been since contradicted, and is rendered improbable, by the fact of the letter of Marque having come from the Northern shores of the Pacific, where she was not likely to have any communication with the *Essex*, which, by the former accounts was stated to be cruising off the coasts of Chili.

The state of the markets in China will be learnt by the following extract of a letter from Canton.

"CANTON, APRIL 3, 1814.

"I must not omit noticing the state in the cotton of this season. It has been unusually great in all the lots imported, some of the bales faring as much as 19lb. Within the last week, the ships *Alexander*, *Windham* and *Experiment* have arrived from Calcutta. You were lucky in getting your cotton so early to market, as that article has fallen a tale per pecul, since yours was sold. The *Windham's* cargo, I believe, is not yet disposed of; but those of the others, all of a very good quality, have been sold at tale 11-5. Opium is nominally at Dollars 1130, but there are no sales; and 8 or 900 chests remain on hand, of which, at least 600 will be undisposed of, when the Madras ships arrive. Nothing but a high price at the sales in Bengal, and the consequent necessity of keeping it up here, can prevent a heavy loss to the speculators of last season."

The Providence has brought round specie amounting to about 7 lacks of Rupees, and bills to a large amount.

We re-publish from the paper of yesterday, a relation of the gallant and fortunate exertions of the crew of the Honourable Company's cruiser *Antelope*, in the destruction of a great fleet of pirate vessels in the Eastern Seas.

"By a letter from Banks of the beginning of April, we learn, that a most gallant action was fought on the 29th of March, off Palo Pagan, by Captain Hall and the crew of the H. C. Cruiser *Antelope*, who with the ship's boats, assisted by two armed Prows, attacked and dispersed an immense fleet of Malay Pirate boats, at least eighty in number, taking thirty, of which four sunk after they had struck. The engagement lasted from 9 A. M. to 4 P. M. and so desperate was the resistance made by the Malays, that only 14 prisoners were taken alive out of the 30 boats which had been captured. Each of the pirate boats had 4 small brass-guns mounted, and a numerous complement of men. When we recollect the severe loss, which ships of war have frequently sustained in taking and destroying vessels of this description; we are at a loss to express our admiration of the skill and gallantry, which could have enabled so small a force as that of Captain Hall, to engage successfully with such desperate odds. We are informed, that Captain Hall speaks in warm terms of the conduct of his first Lieutenant Mr. Smith, as well as of the rest of his officers and ship's company."

Saturday last being the anniversary of His Majesty's Birth day, the troops in Garrison were assembled at day break on the Esplanade facing Chowringhee, in the following order. On the right stood the Body Guard, close to whom were drawn up a party of Artillery and a brigade of guns; next was drawn up his Majesty's 24th Regiment of foot. The Native details of the Garrison of Fort William, consisting chiefly of the Sepoys of the 20th or Bengal Marine Regiment, and a Company of the 19th Native Infantry, and a part of His Majesty's 66th Regiment, formed on the left. His Excellency the Right Honourable the Governor General and Commander in Chief, accompanied by the principal members of the General Staff, having proceeded on horseback from the Government House, along the Esplanade Row and down Chowringhee Road, arrived at the ground, on which he was received by His Excellency the Commander of the Forces and General Blair. Immediately after his Lordship, followed Her Excellency the Countess of Loudon and Moira with Lady Keir, and the Family, in the State Carriages. The procession was filled

up by the House Establishment, State Horses, &c. &c. His Lordship previously to reaching the ground, was saluted by 19 guns from the Artillery; and afterwards, on his taking post at the Reviewing General's Flag, by the rest of the troops: the band and the drums striking up a march. His Excellency then moved to the right of the line, and proceeded down it, inspecting the men. He was followed by the Officers of the Staff, and accompanied by the Countess of Loudon, and the whole Cavalade under the control of the master of the Horse. On his Lordship's return to the front, the line broke into open column of divisions right in front, and marched past in review. On reaching their former ground the troops re-entered the original alignment, when the Artillery fired a Royal Salute, and the infantry fired three volleys, in which they were joined by the Cavalry with their Pistols. The Music at this time continued playing *God save the King*. After this, his Lordship again went to the right, and rode along the line, complimenting each corps on its appearance, as he passed. The Governor General then left the ground, and received on his departure a salute of 19 guns; after which the troops returned to garrison.

The anniversary of His Majesty's birth day having happened to be Saturday, the entertainments usually given on that occasion were deferred until Monday, on the evening of which the officers, civil and military, belonging to the King's and Company's service, and the principal inhabitants of Calcutta, were invited to a concert and supper at the Government House. The approaches to the Great Hall were splendidly lighted up with a profusion of Crystal lamps. In front and above the gate facing the north, the Prince Regent's arms were represented to a blaze of variegated lamps. The great Saloon above was appropriated to the Concert and Promenade. It was elegantly and simply adorned with fastuous and borders of white and red roses. The assemblage was very numerous, and the guests were received at the upper end of the Saloon, by the Right Honourable the Governor General, and the Countess of Loudon and Moira. The bands played many beautiful pieces of music, until midnight, when supper was announced. The procession moved to the supper room in the following order. Four servants in state livery, followed by four Aides-de-Camp: The Right Honourable the Governor General with Lady East leaning on his right arm and Lady Nugent on his left. The Countess of Loudon handed by the Chamberlain with his white wand, and supported on the right by the Chief Justice Sir Edward Hyde East. The company then succeeded as they stood, and descended the great stair, the band striking up *God save the King*. The Supper room was fitted up in a tasteful and exquisite manner. The tables were embellished with painted obelisks, supported by fluted pillars, disposed so as to give an appearance of circular porticos. Within these the lamps were concealed by silken transparencies, representing lively landscapes. Above, the body of the structure was decorated with the arms of England, His Majesty's initials, and many other beautiful and appropriate subjects. The supper consisted of every procurable delicacy, and derived an additional relish from the fascinating qualities of the airy Champaign which plentifully sparkled on every side. About half past one, the Company retired from the Supper Rooms. The Governor General and Lady Loudon were accompanied by stables by Ladies East, Nugent and Keir, and several Members of the Staff. The rest of the guests immediately called for their carriages.

While regretting in our last paper, the indisposition of the amateur who was to fill the part of Sir Fortinax Maccyphant in

the *MAN OF THE WORLD*, as a temporary interruption to the pleasure which the public expected from his excellent talents, We were far from anticipating, that the interruption would be of any duration. Circumstances however have occurred, we understand, to induce this gentleman, as well as another of the managers to whom the public have been also much indebted, to withdraw entirely their support from the establishment:—a measure likely we apprehend, to be attended with serious prejudice to the character, and success of a Theatre, which has been once snatched from imminent discredit by their exertions, and which is in our opinion greatly dependant at present, upon their countenance and aid.

#### BOAT RACES.

Of the sailing match which was decided on Saturday, we do not mean to say much. A perspicuous account of its principal incidents has already appeared, and we need only agree in the statement of its yielding much sport. We never saw a more picturesque sight, than that of the boats stretching up to the station boat during the first round. A strong breeze had sprung up, and every sail was filled; they glided beautifully through the water. No. 1, Row Boat, had by much the advantage. She reached the station boat, while all the others were much in her rear. In tacking however, she to avoid being run down by her fellow competitors, was forced to stand in shore, by which means she lost way. In endeavouring to gain her lee way, she was borne down by too great a press of sail, and upset in the middle of the river. Her crew consisting of natives, committed themselves to the waves, but a slight was presented by her able pilot scarcely to be forgotten. As she lowered in the water, he gradually ascended her opposite side, till she was quite upside down, when he perched himself on the keel, and sat there dryshod, enjoying the consolation of reflecting that his coolness had saved him from a good ducking. Some doubts were at first entertained as to the winner of the prize, a silver bowl; but we hear it has been determined to belong to the *Falsh Packet*.

On Tuesday evening a rowing match yielded much amusement. Ten boats entered, each paying a gold mohur, and the last two. The race was run from the edge of the river facing the Respondents. On the opposite side a vessel was moored off the premises of Mr. Jones. This boat was to be rounded, after which the rowers were to return to the starting flag. The boats were of various descriptions, *Boliahs*, *Diagies*, *Gigs*, &c. some rowed by oars and others by paddles. All the boats moved off in fine style, and stretched across the river, nearly in a line. Soon however, it was perceived, that the chief struggle would be between a dingy managed by Mr. Hettson, and a gig belonging to Captain Hudson, and manned by six picked Europeans from the *Marianne*. The latter gained the day, coming to the shore about a quarter of a minute only before the dingy, and performing the task, a distance of nearly two miles, in nine minutes and a half. It is believed that her victory would have been doubtful, if the Manjhee of Captain Hudson's dingy had not twice fallen overboard during the contest.

A pressure of matter prevented our sometime ago inserting an account of an excursion made by some gentlemen of Poornee, to the country between Sicgully and Rajemuhl, in quest of Rhinoceroses, during which, we understand, they succeeded in killing 6 or 7, and wounding many others. By a letter from a Correspondent, who was with the party alluded to, we find, that of late frequent instances have occurred of Rhinoceroses crossing the Ganges; and infesting the low lands in the southern part of the district of Poornee.

Towards the end of last month, a Rhinoceros was seen near the Indigo Factory of Rampore Kolassee, belonging to Mr. M—— and after a long chase, was killed by that gentleman. The same Rhinoceros had a few days before alarmed the people of another Factory to the Westward of Kolassee. Mr. Charles B——d, happening to be at the Factory at the time, and having last year killed a small one in another part of the district, was on this occasion induced to attack him on foot and alone; but paid dearly for his hardihood. Slipping while near the Rhinoceros, the velocity of the animal prevented his escape; and while on the ground, he was very severely wounded by him in the head and back. The attention of the Rhinoceros being diverted by the shouts of the Natives, he left Mr. B——d, and made across the country for Kolassee where he was killed. The prevalent idea that the Skin of the Rhinoceros is hardly Penetrable by a leaden ball from a fowling piece, seems to be erroneous, as we have been assured by a Gentleman who has on one or two occasions killed them, that he has tried on the carcase of a dead Rhinoceros, if a leaden ball from a Manton's double barrel gun, would enter or not, and always found it to penetrate. A mixture however of one third of tin with two of lead is deemed a better composition, as the balls are then much harder.