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AMERICANS AT REKO.

LOOKING through the *Selangor Journal* the other day, I came upon what is perhaps the most extraordinary episode in the history of European penetration of Malaya.

Somewhere about the year 1855 a party of twelve Americans and 60 *Orang Hitam* (negroes) sailed up the Langat river, in Selangor, took possession of the village of Reko, and began mining at a place called Sungai Tangkas.

They neglected, however, to obtain the permission of the district chief, with the result that the Malays launched a night attack, killed three Americans and six or seven negroes, and set fire to the wooden house in which they were living.

The survivors fled downstream and made a fresh settlement near Passangan, but after a short stay they left the Langat river and were never heard of again.

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