

in the State of Manzanaras, respecting a blockade of Carthagena de Colombia

Francisco Antonio Obregon, Governor of the State of Manzanaras, and invested with extraordinary powers.

1st. That the port of Carthagena is hereby declared in a state of blockade.

2d. To carry the same into execution, and to prevent the importation of provisions, as well as to obstruct and cut off the escape of rebels from the said city, the Commanding Officer of the Squadron, Jose Antonio Padilla, is duly authorised to act in concert and, under the orders of Hs Excellency the Governor General in Chief.

3d. Should any merchant vessel, whether national or foreign, appear before the port mentioned, Captain Padilla will order her to retire, and if, after his notification, the vessel should attempt to violate the blockade, she will be captured and adjudged according to law.

4th. Having already obtained some advantages over that city, and as there is every probability of its surrendering before fifteen days elapse, notice will be given to Consuls resident in this city, enclosing them the present decree, without the usual formality of an anticipated declaration of blockade generally observed in these cases.

Given in the Government house, this 8th day of July 1841.

(Signed) FRANCISCO ANTONIO OBRIGON, in absence of the Secretary, Henrique Ruiz.

Francisco Carmona, Commander in Chief of the Federal State of Manzanaras, in the Republic of New Grenada, and General in Chief of the operating forces.

1st. That, in consequence of the treason of a chief, the city of Carthagena has been delivered over to the Agents of the Central Government, contrary to the deliberate vote of the majority of its inhabitants, the only legitimate basis of power in the present state of civilization.

2d. That the public opinion of the people of the said province of Carthagena, and to fulfil the duty which devolves upon me in that of Manzanaras, to insure its existence under the federal form, I have commenced military operations, both by sea and land, with the object of reducing to obedience the

disaffected of said city, and thus to consolidate the predominance of the opinion voluntarily expressed by the citizens, who, using their natural rights and privileges of a sovereign people, have separated themselves from the Central Government of Bogota, and organized another form, better suited to their happiness and prosperity.

3d. That notwithstanding the hostile measures which it is indispensable to adopt to compel the town of Carthagena to surrender, it is not wished in any way to prejudice the interests of foreign commerce, thus giving to friendly nations, with whom there are existing treaties, a positive proof of the respect which at all times they have for their properties, and the desire on our part to cultivate and increase, as far as possible, friendly and mercantile relations with all the nations in the world.

Decree.

Article 1st. The port of Carthagena is declared in a state of blockade.

2d. To carry into effect the blockade, and in order to prevent the introduction of provisions and elements of war into that city, the Commander, Jose Antonio Padilla, is sufficiently authorised, with the Squadron under his command, to act in every way in accordance with the present Decree, and instructions that will be given him separately.

3d. All coasting commerce is prohibited, not only in national vessels, but also in foreign ones; in consequence, all merchantmen proceeding from whatever port of the Coast of New Grenada, are prohibited from entering the port of Carthagena; and, to this effect, they will be warned to retire, but if they persist, with the intention of entering, if national vessels, they will be seized as prizes, and, if foreign ones, they will be sunk, without taking out any part of their cargo.

4th. All vessels, from any part of Europe, will be allowed eighty days, from the publication of this decree, to enter the port without molestation with whatever merchandize they bring; those from the United States will be allowed forty days; and those from the West India Islands will be allowed twenty days; and further, foreign vessels will be allowed to enter the port, after the expiration of the above term, after being registered by the Chief of the blockading Squadron, who, not finding on board provisions or elements of war which would tend to retard the surrender of the city, but if the reverse, such vessels will be compelled to retire from the