

Decree.

Article 1. The city and port of Maracaibo and their adjacent coasts are hereby declared to be in a state of blockade.

§ only. The blockade shall for the present be enforced by a naval division consisting of six vessels of war, which force will be hereafter augmented.

Article 2d. Vessels of war, of friendly and neutral States, are permitted to enter, remain at and leave Maracaibo, the Government being persuaded that they will not in any way render assistance to the conspirators.

Article 3d. The blockading force will prevent the entrance of all merchant vessels, and any such vessel which shall attempt to do so, after being notified of the existence of the blockade, will be detained and tried in accordance with the laws and international right.

§ only. For the notification specified in the preceding article, a period of eight days is fixed in respect of the island of Curaçoa and its dependencies; of fifteen days, as respects all others of the Antilles; and of forty days, as respects the United States and the ports of Europe, which periods will be counted from the publication of the present Decree.

Article 4. Vessels arriving from ports distant from the Lake of Maracaibo, which shall present sufficient proof that they had no knowledge of the blockade, shall in no sort of manner be molested, but their entrance into Maracaibo will be prevented, they being permitted to return to wherever they may think proper.

Article 5. The Secretary of State in the Departments of War and Marine will communicate this Decree to all whom it may concern.

Given, signed with my hand, and sealed with the seal of the Executive Government, and registered by the Secretary of State in the Departments of War and Marine, Caracas, the 11th of May 1848, 19th year of the Law, and 38th of the Independence.

(Signed) DIEGO B. URRANEJA.

By order of his Excellency the Vice President of the Republic charged with the Executive Government.

The Secretary of State in the Departments of War and Marine.

(Signed) FRANCISCO MEJIA.

(Translation.)

Resolved, Caracas, May 17, 1848.

In order to prevent inconvenience, or that from any misunderstanding, room be afforded for representations and remonstrances which might not be devoid of some ground, with reference to the Decree of the 11th instant of blockade of the port of Maracaibo and adjacent coasts; it is determined,

1st. That for the term coasts adjacent to Maracaibo must be understood, all the coast comprised within what is properly called the "Bag (Gulf) of Maracaibo," between Cape San Roman on the Peninsula of Paraguaná, and Point Espada on the Peninsula of Goajira.

2d. For the application of the penalties for a violation of the blockade, the period for its notification is hereby extended, as respects vessels arriving from Europe, to sixty days, and to thirty days, as respects those proceeding from Demerara and the Antilles, with the exception of Curaçoa and its dependencies, San Tomas and Santa Cruz; and during such interval of time, the blockading squadron will confine itself, as respects merchant vessels arriving from such places, to a notification of the existence of the blockade, for which purpose they will note this fact on the register or the papers which accredit the nationality and ownership of the vessel visited, and also the circumstance that the vessel has been duly notified of the existence of the blockade, and only in event of any such vessel, after receiving this notification, attempting to enter any place comprised within the limits of the blockade, will there be ground for her detention and trial, in accordance with the laws and practice of nations.

By order of His Excellency,

MEJIA.

Whitehall, November 16, 1848.

The Queen has been pleased to present the Reverend Duncan M'Farlane, Minister of the missionary church at Amulree, to the church and parish of Kinloch Rannoch, in the presbytery of Weem, and county of Perth, vacant by the deposition of Mr. Alexander Macintyre, late Minister thereof.