The New Orleans Bee.

Office, 73 Chartres street. NEW ORLEANS, TUESDAY MORNING, APRIL 29, 1862. Vol. XVII—New Series. Vol. XXXV.—Whole No. 12,373

NEW ORLEANS:
TUESDAY MORNING, APRIL 29, 1862.

OUR SITUATION.

Under the proper head will be found a narration of the last twenty four hours. They are eminently of a character to surprise and satisfy the community. We have no disposition to dispute the supremacy over this city which the Federal authorities have secured by the presence of a large number of vessels of war, thoroughly armed, in our river. We have no desire both of opposing them, or of driving them away. They are, for the time being, masters of New Orleans, and may treat it as they think fit. But this very fact lends them to observe the usages of conquest as practiced among civilized and Christian nations. They have to quarrel with the town flag. That is simply the emblem of the sovereignty of Louisiana—to which her rights would be endangered had she never seceded from the Union, or if she were voluntarily to return to it to-morrow. Why, then, should the Federal authorities endeavor to force the Mayor and Council of New Orleans to remove that flag? Does it come in conflict with the sentiment flag of the United States? Not at all, since nothing is more common than both flags to float together from equal lofty height during celebrations of anniversaries of memorable events.

Unquestionably Commander FARRAGUT has the power to displace the State flag. This, so far from being denied, is frankly acknowledged by the civic authorities. Let him send a body of marines and remove the banner, if he thinks proper. We are quite certain this, however reluctantly may be the spectacle, his messengers will receive no molestation. But why insist upon compelling the authorities of New Orleans to sustain the grievous humiliation of hauling down that flag? Because the fortune of war is against the Southerners, does it justify the blind abandon of all fairness and courtesy on the part of the victors? We should suppose just the contrary. We should imagine that the Commander of the Federal fleet would be glad to perform his duty with as much delicacy as possible, and in such a manner as to spare the people of our unfortunate city any portion of humiliation they might otherwise be required to endure. Besides, if we understand the contest now in progress, the Federal Government is making war not on the State of Louisiana, as a State, but as an integral member of the Confederate States. Let the Federal Commander look around, and see if he does not occupy a Confederate flag flying on any public edifice. He will discover none. Such a flag might justly be objectionable if, but the simple emblem of our State can carry with it as little that is offensive, as if it represented the sovereignty of Massachusetts or Ohio.

Perhaps the discussion on the subject may be more a question of form than any thing else, but we ask in all frankness and respect if it possible that Commander FARRAGUT can seriously contemplate the barbarous and horrible contingency of a bombardment of a defenseless city containing more than 75,000 women and children, because the municipal authorities declined lowering the State flag, while admitting that he possesses and may exercise the right to take it down? It seems incredible, and yet the letter of the Federal Commander plainly threatens some such penalty, and advises the removal of the women and children. How and where can they be removed? We have no place to escape the danger of shelter, the city; all where to go unless to the dismal swamps which skirt the town, and which are filled with water, and abound with deadly miasmas. Such course would be required to remove and establish even if we had all the trains of both the Jackson and Opelousas Railroads at our disposal. We have nothing of the sort. We cannot for a moment bring our mind to the conviction that Commander FARRAGUT is prepared to hurl into execution the threat contained in that letter. We prefer to believe that he would be guilty of no such act of inhuman cowardice as that of bombarding defenseless women and tender and helpless children—especially when all difficulty could be avoided by the Federals themselves hauling down the hate flag, and substituting for it the flag of the United States. Let us repeat, we have no place, for their own sake, for the safe keeping of their women and children, and their reputation as the inhabitants of an enlightened country, abstain from such a course. We would consign its authors to an everlasting infamy.

CORRECTION.—In our city intelligence yesterday it was stated that Gen. Duncan in the letter to the Mayor had declared that he did not see the necessity of holding the forts if the city surrendered. We are assured by correspondence explicitly that this is an error, and that General Duncan made no allusion whatever to an abandonment of the forts.

THE CASUALTIES AT THE FORTS.—The following is a list of the killed and wounded on the two forts during the bombardment. It was handed to the Mayor by Dr. Fenner, surgeon of the steamer McRae:

Wounded—At Fort Jackson: John Williams, Theodore Krause, J. C. Grainger, Thomas Bailey, C. A. Connell, Michael Sullivan, John Livingston, ——— Dripper, Richard Ford, James Ford. At Fort St. Philip: Sergeant Finner and Louis Long. On board the steamer McRae: Lieut. T. B. Hagar, Lieut. Thomas Arnold, George Kendrick, Wm. Ingalls, Thomas Hanna, Charles Moore, Henry Thevenet, Capt. Corbet, Francis Hannigan, Corporal and pilot Douglas.

Killed—At the Forts: Lieut. Pastras, Corporals Smith and Morris, and privates Thomas, George Sails, Poach, Shields, Clark, Wood, Hayden, and Whitby. On board the steamer McRae: Mary Seymour, David C. White and Michael Fay.

GEN. GLADDEN.—The Charleston *Mercury* of the 16th speaks as follows of the death of General Gladden:

It is with a pained yet heartfelt sorrow that we announce to the Dixie will upon learning that death of their gallant commander, Gen. Gladden, who died from a wound received on the battle field of Shiloh. Had Gen. Gladden done nothing else for the country than to have organized and disciplined the Maxtown war, as leader of the Palmetto Regiment after the fall of Barker and Dickinson, that regiment that stood glory upon our arms, and that would have enabled him to the gratitude of his people no less than their admiration, by the promotion of that noble band, and now in the surviving field officers in grade—but he has done more than this. He has given to the country a model officer, a gentleman and soldier, a man of the truest courage, and the highest order of military genius. Distinguished in the service of his country, in the bloody fields of Contreras and Chapultepec, he received honorable wounds, which became a citizen of Louisiana, and received honorable mention upon this, his native soil, he continued to command a noble brigade, he has again distinguished his martial fame, served him to the last with his best blood. Energetic and decisive in what he undertook, he had the confidence, fearlessness and manly bearing of a soldier, and during soldier—and, withal, the gentleness, and kindness and courtesy of a true gentleman, inspiring confidence, he led troops to victory. Let us all remember his name, honor and emulate his deeds.

THE NEW GOVERNMENT FLAG.—The Washington *Intelligencer* understands that the new Confederate flag, to be reported to Congress this week, consists of horizontal lines of red and white, with a saltier (yellow), the bottom of the former, which replaces the union.

THE FIRE DEPARTMENT.—The patriotic sacrifice of the members of the Engine and Hose Companies of our city is directed to the higher, until the commencement of the Chief Engineer of the Fire Department, to be found in our advertising columns.

Seat of the War.

Our news from the North, of which a telegraphic synopsis was given in yesterday's paper, is up to the 14th instant. From the New York *Herald* of that date we take the following:

THE SITUATION OF AFFAIRS.

The rebels, if the following be true, are again on the retreat without a fight. Gen. McDowell sends a dispatch from his headquarters inclosing the fact that Fredericksburg and vicinity have been evacuated by the rebel troops, who had gone down to Richmond, Yorktown, &c. In his dispatch the General states how he obtained the information, which, if the source be reliable, is very important.

The news from Yorktown is not of a very material character. Three slight skirmishes occurred on Friday, but resulted in a trifling loss to our forces. One thing appears certain, that the rebels are concentrating their troops to resist the onward march of Gen. McClellan, and by Gen. Magruder's orders, which we publish to-day, it will be perceived that the rebels had their defensive works in good order and ready for action on the 15th of March, in anticipation of the very movement so promptly made by Gen. McClellan. It also appears certain that one hundred thousand rebel troops are at Yorktown, and about fifty thousand more in the neighborhood of Eastwood and Gordonsville. It would further appear that it is not the intention of the rebel leaders to allow the Merrimac to come out and engage our vessels in the neighborhood of Fortress Monroe, but merely to keep our ships of war all there, watching the actions of the rebel craft, so that if it should be part of the plan of Gen. McClellan to have the gunboats to assist him in his movements along the Peninsula, the presence of the Merrimac alone, it is supposed, will keep them at the station and prevent such a co-operation. The impression was general yesterday that the Merrimac was aground off Craney Island; and, if the sheold be so, there is but little excuse for our naval force ill its opportunity is not taken advantage of to destroy her.

From Gen. Banks the War Department are in receipt of a dispatch which states that Gen. Jackson's whereabouts was unknown at last Gen. Beauregard was dead. It is probable, however, that there is some mistake in the news, and that the intelligence of the death of Gen. A. S. Johnston, which has been confirmed by Gen. Beauregard's dispatch, has in some measure been confounded with that of General Beauregard himself.

Later intelligence from Port Royal indicates that the operations of Gen. Hunter's department are progressing favorably; but to enable him to carry out to the fullest extent his programme, and facilitate matters on the coast, it is necessary that he should be speedily reinforced with fresh troops, and we presume the War Department is not blind to the necessity.

A vague rumor has been in circulation with regard to the Merrimac and the success of Major-General McClellan's operations on the Peninsula, operates to check business.

The British war ships from Vera Cruz have brought the great bulk of the English contingent from Mexico to Bermuda, who are said to be in a most pitiful, suffering and yellow fever.

ANTICIPATED CAPTURE OF SAVANNAH, GA.—The North is evidently looking forward to the capture of Savannah. One of their papers says:

Let us hope for the capture of Savannah. The capture of Savannah, the second in importance among the ports of the Southern Confederacy, would be indeed a brilliant link in the chain of Union victories. It would, indeed, be a dreadful and almost crushing blow upon the heart of the rebellion. It would lend tens of thousands in Georgia to begin to reckon the value of secession, and to compare the value with the cost.

HELPING THEIR ENEMIES.

Much as the Federals outwardly affect to ridicule the rebellion, it is very certain they have no compunction in making our money wherever they can. A New York paper gives the following illustrations of their instinct of gain, and their readiness to wink at the "rebellion" if a dollar is to be made. Our New York authority says:

It is with sorrow as well as with indignation we learn that a documentary proof has been forwarded to Washington from Havana to show that certain parties in New York who have been supplying the rebels with munitions of war through Cuban ports. A correspondent of the *Express* says it had been no uncommon circumstance to find water-proof musket caps, saltpetre and powder, packed in corn, white beans, or other articles, to elude the vigilance of our customs authorities, and then addressed to agents in Cuba, who sell them to the owners of the small craft which expect to run the blockade.

Our Consul General, Robert W. Shufelt, has sent a report of all the facts to the State Department; it should receive prompt attention, and the names of the parties implicated should be given to the public, that the general execration may fall upon them. It is stated also, upon the same authority, that the most active feature of present business in Cuba is the buying up and collection from rebel agents for Northern shippers. This is not so great a crime as the supply of munitions of war, but it is one upon which any man can reconcile it to his loyalty to furnish money for the use of the rebels, which can, of course, purchase in the markets of Cuba the very articles which are most promptly needed in the seceding States.

MEDALS FOR THE FEDERAL SOLDIERS.

The Northern papers say that medals have been struck by order of the Chamber of Commerce of New York, for officers and soldiers of Forts Sumter and Pickens—two for each fort. A New York paper then describes them:

A portrait of Sumter is upon one set, and that of Anderson upon the other. The smaller Pickens medal, which is for the soldiers, bears on the reverse a view of the fort, and the smaller (Sumter) presents a segment of the battlement, on which a soldier is in the act of planting the American flag. The larger medals have the same portraits. The reverse of the Pickens medal presents the solid masonry of a fortification, guarded by a Corkscrew. They are all in fine bronze, and of unusual excellence as works of art.

WAR TAX OF NEWSPAPERS IN THE NORTH.—The Northern papers are grumbling against the "war tax" imposed upon them by Congress. The mode in which they are taxed is very novel and effective.

In the first place there is a tax of three mills per pound, or about fifteen cents per ream, upon the white paper. Secondly, there is a tax of five per cent. upon the annual receipts from advertisements. Thirdly, there is a stamp duty upon telegraphic messages. Fourthly, comes a tax of three per cent upon the aggregate income of the newspaper establishment. Fifthly, comes on gas, oil, gins, and several other items. And, sixthly, a tax of three per cent. on job printing.

FREEDOM OF THE PRESS AT THE NORTH.—The Federal War Department had promulgated an order forbidding the newspapers to publish facts with regard to the operations of the army or navy. The influence is that fictions, which are furnished in abundance, may be published *ad libitum*. The New York *Express* indulges in some scourgeous comments on the new rescript. We subjoin a few extracts:

What the personal risk is, remains to be seen before a single specified case is tried and treated by the party that arrests. It is clear to us that under such "law," or rather suspension of all law, the business of newspaper publishing, or conversation, is an operation as risky on earth. Both the property and the life of the journalist are in peril—if he chances to err, in the judgment, in the matter of property, there is no judicial redress, if death be the sentence. Prudence, of course, forbids all comment upon these very extraordinary proceedings, beyond saying that journalists in this country, under such martial law, must run down to what it is in Constantinople, Rome or Vienna—that is, into mere criticisms upon the specs, or the fine arts, or puffs of court movements.

What deserves special reprehension is—if we may be allowed time to criticise, with a halter around our necks—the indulgence given such men as Wendell Phillips, to roam the country, touching the subversion of the Constitution and the laws, while other men, of opposite political faith, for exactly the same thing, are incarcerated in Fort Warren, Fort Lafayette, or other pestilent thereafter. The partiality, the inequality, the injustice of this mode of treatment are so glaring that we marvel the common sense of the President does not see the wrong of his ministers and arrest it. Upon all such partialities and injustice, he should remember history is making up its record, and that the stern measure, which cannot be justified by the exigencies of the case, will hold him responsible for those repeated inequalities of his ministers.

The army news—what there is—the reader cannot be half so well informed of as are the Confederates in Richmond, who now know much better what our army is doing than the press and loyal people of the United States. Hence the citizens are full of all sorts of gossip, and of all sorts of lies.

An English Opinion of the Blockade.

[From the London Standard, Feb. 6.]

The tide of destitution is rising fast. Another month, and the prosperous parts of our manufacturing industry will be entirely submerged beneath its destroying flood. Already the bread-winners of some hundred thousand mouths are dependent for their own sustenance, and that of their belongings, upon the scanty doles of the relieving officer and the spasmodic charity of employers and shopkeepers, tortured themselves by the vision of impending bankruptcy. Each of their fellows as are still earning wages cannot conceal from themselves that their wages are but a form of charity. It does not pay the mill-owner to work, and he shelters at the prospect of some thousand fellow-beings reduced to utter penury. This cannot last long. Even if the mill-owner is willing to go on working at a loss, he must stop, bankrupted by the material for which he works is unattainable. When the pleasant month of May opens, and the world is invited to admire the products of English industry and intelligence, Lancashire and Yorkshire, which have contributed so large a part to the brilliant display, will be vast tracts of hopeless pauperism, and the country which, standing by itself on the eve of its commercial and utterly careless of the danger, will itself suffer in every part from the mortification of such important disasters.

And all this suffering and sorrow might be averted. If strong men are wanting, and weak women and children perishing from want of sufficient nourishment, it is from no one of those decrees of fate which man can only read and submit to. The elements have not warred with man and conquered him. Neither parching heat nor biting cold has destroyed the harvests upon which we reckoned. Nature has been bountiful to man; but man has set himself to neutralize her bounties. In the Southern States of the North American continent there are stored some millions of bales of that raw material for the want of which the mills of Lancashire are closed, and the "hands" which used to work them are starving. The owners would gladly sell what we want to buy; but a Government whose yoke they have thrown off presumes to interfere, and to prolong a revengeful struggle for the mere assertion of a right which, by this life-spending commerce. Hard as it would be that innocent neutrals should bear the burden of a struggle in which they have no interest, the interdiction must be maintained to which our remonstrance if that law by which the relations of nations to each other are regulated allowed its legality. Englishmen have an inborn respect for that law. Let it be once set aside upon any section of them, they offer no resistance when once its determinations are authoritatively pronounced. If the American Government had not, by its own acts, practically justified the act of Captain Wilkes, we should have bowed to the rule and stomached the outrage. If the blockade of the Southern coasts has been legal we have had to submit to privation, although every hour of its prolongation offered new victims to the twin demons, Famine and Pestilence. But the blockade of the South by the United Government is a fabrication, and entitled to no recognition on the part of other nations. It is a fraud upon neutrals, and their submission to it is a criminal complicity in a gross violation of the laws of nations and nations.

Of all the requisites which go to legitimatize a blockade, and the want of any one of these requisites entirely destroys its validity—the first is that the squadron allotted for the purpose of its execution must be competent to cut off all communication between the blockaded place or port. The proper definition of a blockade is—a denial and almost crushing blow upon the heart of the rebellion. It would lend tens of thousands in Georgia to begin to reckon the value of secession, and to compare the value with the cost.

HELPING THEIR ENEMIES.

Much as the Federals outwardly affect to ridicule the rebellion, it is very certain they have no compunction in making our money wherever they can. A New York paper gives the following illustrations of their instinct of gain, and their readiness to wink at the "rebellion" if a dollar is to be made. Our New York authority says:

It is with sorrow as well as with indignation we learn that a documentary proof has been forwarded to Washington from Havana to show that certain parties in New York who have been supplying the rebels with munitions of war through Cuban ports. A correspondent of the *Express* says it had been no uncommon circumstance to find water-proof musket caps, saltpetre and powder, packed in corn, white beans, or other articles, to elude the vigilance of our customs authorities, and then addressed to agents in Cuba, who sell them to the owners of the small craft which expect to run the blockade.

Our Consul General, Robert W. Shufelt, has sent a report of all the facts to the State Department; it should receive prompt attention, and the names of the parties implicated should be given to the public, that the general execration may fall upon them. It is stated also, upon the same authority, that the most active feature of present business in Cuba is the buying up and collection from rebel agents for Northern shippers. This is not so great a crime as the supply of munitions of war, but it is one upon which any man can reconcile it to his loyalty to furnish money for the use of the rebels, which can, of course, purchase in the markets of Cuba the very articles which are most promptly needed in the seceding States.

MEDALS FOR THE FEDERAL SOLDIERS.

The Northern papers say that medals have been struck by order of the Chamber of Commerce of New York, for officers and soldiers of Forts Sumter and Pickens—two for each fort. A New York paper then describes them:

A portrait of Sumter is upon one set, and that of Anderson upon the other. The smaller Pickens medal, which is for the soldiers, bears on the reverse a view of the fort, and the smaller (Sumter) presents a segment of the battlement, on which a soldier is in the act of planting the American flag. The larger medals have the same portraits. The reverse of the Pickens medal presents the solid masonry of a fortification, guarded by a Corkscrew. They are all in fine bronze, and of unusual excellence as works of art.

WAR TAX OF NEWSPAPERS IN THE NORTH.—The Northern papers are grumbling against the "war tax" imposed upon them by Congress. The mode in which they are taxed is very novel and effective.

In the first place there is a tax of three mills per pound, or about fifteen cents per ream, upon the white paper. Secondly, there is a tax of five per cent. upon the annual receipts from advertisements. Thirdly, there is a stamp duty upon telegraphic messages. Fourthly, comes a tax of three per cent upon the aggregate income of the newspaper establishment. Fifthly, comes on gas, oil, gins, and several other items. And, sixthly, a tax of three per cent. on job printing.

FREEDOM OF THE PRESS AT THE NORTH.—The Federal War Department had promulgated an order forbidding the newspapers to publish facts with regard to the operations of the army or navy. The influence is that fictions, which are furnished in abundance, may be published *ad libitum*. The New York *Express* indulges in some scourgeous comments on the new rescript. We subjoin a few extracts:

What the personal risk is, remains to be seen before a single specified case is tried and treated by the party that arrests. It is clear to us that under such "law," or rather suspension of all law, the business of newspaper publishing, or conversation, is an operation as risky on earth. Both the property and the life of the journalist are in peril—if he chances to err, in the judgment, in the matter of property, there is no judicial redress, if death be the sentence. Prudence, of course, forbids all comment upon these very extraordinary proceedings, beyond saying that journalists in this country, under such martial law, must run down to what it is in Constanti-

A late number of the New York *Herald* announces that "three thousand bales of Upland cotton seeds" have been received in Washington for "distribution!" This implies the attempt at cultivation, than which law more absurd could have ever been made.

IMPORTANT ARRIVAL.—The French steamer Milan arrived yesterday, and is now lying at Algiers, above the Opelousas Railroad depot.

CITY INTELLIGENCE.

The Fourth Day of the Blockade of the City.

We could hardly find in the history of no matter what country, a spectacle similar to that which we give now to the other nations. Here is a large city blockaded by a hostile squadron which is itself not better off—thanks to the guns in Forts Jackson and St. Philip, and the latter are besieged by the blockading fleet of mortar boats below the river. Will Captain Farragut take the city or shall it? Some may be reminded of the gross soldier who sought a Tartar, or the heedless gentleman who drew an elephant at a lottery. Both were equally embarrassed by their pets. This fact may account for these continual threats made by Captain Farragut, though he never did or will realize them. Yesterday morning he sent to the Mayor, by officers who came with a flag of truce, a second letter, which ran as follows:

U. S. FLAG SHIP HARTFORD,
At Anchor off the City of New Orleans,
April 28, 1862.

To His Honor the Mayor and City Council:

Your communication of the 26th inst. has been received, together with that of the City Council.

I regret that you have both by public proclamation, and the continued display of the flag of Louisiana on the Court-house, given me reason to think that you have misunderstood my intentions in this part of the city authorities and in local is down. Moreover, when my officers and men were sent on shore to communicate with the authorities, and to notify the foreign consuls of the Commissioner, with the orders I order not to use their arms except in self-defense, they were insulted in a manner, and the flag which had been hoisted by my orders on the Mint, was pulled down and dragged through the streets.

All of which go to show that the fire of the fleet may be expected with very little or any warning, and in such an event the lives would be all probability be set by the people themselves upon the heads of the misguided population, which I have heretofore endeavored to avert from their I desired by all means to avoid.

I have to request, therefore, that you will cause the women and children to be removed from the city, as I have regularly understood your determination.

I am very respectfully, your obedient servant,

D. G. FARRAGUT,
Flag Officer Western Gulf Blockading Squadron.

This threatening letter was commented upon by the Mayor to the Common Council, which held, for the purpose of receiving it, a secret joint session, at two o'clock in the afternoon, and in the presence of the Consuls of foreign nations. The Council fully approved the sentiments contained in the Mayor's message, which accompanied this letter, and ran as follows:

MAYORALTY OF NEW ORLEANS,
City Hall, 28th of April, 1862.

To the Common Council:

Gentlemen: I herewith transmit to you a communication from Flag Officer Farragut, commanding the United States fleet in front of the city, which I have informed the officer bearing the communication, participate in the blockade of the city or port. The proper definition of a blockade is—a denial and almost crushing blow upon the heart of the rebellion. It would lend tens of thousands in Georgia to begin to reckon the value of secession, and to compare the value with the cost.

In the meantime, permit me to suggest that flag Officer Farragut has not made good his threat to bombard the city of New Orleans. He has been distinctly informed that at this moment the city has no power to resist the force of his fleet, and that the surrender of the commander of the United States naval forces may be considered as complete. The only question remaining unanswered by you, or by me, embraces the question whether you will be willing to incur the odium of tearing down the symbol of sovereignty by attempting to achieve, through a wanton destruction of life, what you have failed to accomplish without bloodshed, and without a threat to them from the guns of the fleet which the Confederate States entrusted to your keeping.

Now, we don't know what Captain Farragut will decide to do: most of the gentlemen who were thinking, Sunday, the Mayor's parlor, to the lookless gentleman who drew an elephant at a lottery. Both were equally embarrassed by their pets. This fact may account for these continual threats made by Captain Farragut, though he never did or will realize them. Yesterday morning he sent to the Mayor, by officers who came with a flag of truce, a second letter, which ran as follows:

U. S. FLAG SHIP HARTFORD,
At Anchor off the City of New Orleans,
April 28, 1862.

To His Honor the Mayor and City Council:

Your communication of the 26th inst. has been received, together with that of the City Council.

I regret that you have both by public proclamation, and the continued display of the flag of Louisiana on the Court-house, given me reason to think that you have misunderstood my intentions in this part of the city authorities and in local is down. Moreover, when my officers and men were sent on shore to communicate with the authorities, and to notify the foreign consuls of the Commissioner, with the orders I order not to use their arms except in self-defense, they were insulted in a manner, and the flag which had been hoisted by my orders on the Mint, was pulled down and dragged through the streets.

All of which go to show that the fire of the fleet may be expected with very little or any warning, and in such an event the lives would be all probability be set by the people themselves upon the heads of the misguided population, which I have heretofore endeavored to avert from their I desired by all means to avoid.

I have to request, therefore, that you will cause the women and children to be removed from the city, as I have regularly understood your determination.

I am very respectfully, your obedient servant,

D. G. FARRAGUT,
Flag Officer Western Gulf Blockading Squadron.

This threatening letter was commented upon by the Mayor to the Common Council, which held, for the purpose of receiving it, a secret joint session, at two o'clock in the afternoon, and in the presence of the Consuls of foreign nations. The Council fully approved the sentiments contained in the Mayor's message, which accompanied this letter, and ran as follows:

MAYORALTY OF NEW ORLEANS,
City Hall, 28th of April, 1862.

To the Common Council:

Gentlemen: I herewith transmit to you a communication from Flag Officer Farragut, commanding the United States fleet in front of the city, which I have informed the officer bearing the communication, participate in the blockade of the city or port. The proper definition of a blockade is—a denial and almost crushing blow upon the heart of the rebellion. It would lend tens of thousands in Georgia to begin to reckon the value of secession, and to compare the value with the cost.

In the meantime, permit me to suggest that