

amongst a considerable number of the people of the United States. Great Britain was then engaged in a terrible struggle with France, at that time the most dangerous of all despotic powers. We are all familiar with the events which led to the declaration of war by the United States, and with the famous decree of France, which pronounced the whole of the harbors of Great Britain in a state of blockade. It was no wonder then that Great Britain should by way of retaliation proclaim the ports of France to be in a state of blockade. These British orders in council were laid hold upon by the American Republic as a reason for a grievance against Great Britain, though that country was entirely opposed to having trouble with the States. The United States assigned one reason and then another trivial in their nature, but undoubtedly the real motive which actuated them was their desire to add another state to their Union. General Hull, of the United States army, with 3,000 troops, crossed the river at Detroit, and on landing issued a proclamation to the inhabitants in which he said: "You will be emancipated from tyranny and oppression and restored to the dignified station of freemen. Had I any doubt of success I might ask your assistance, but I have not. I come prepared for every contingency. I have a force which will break down all opposition and that force is but the vanguard of a much