



"Cayuga." "Jackson." "Pensacola." Confederate Ram. "Mississippi." Confederate Boat. Confederate Boat. "Varuna." "Oncida."

PASSAGE OF THE SECOND DIVISION OF THE FEDERAL SQUADRON PAST FORTS JACKSON AND ST. PHILIP, APRIL 24, 1862.—FROM A SKETCH BY WM. WAUD.

Daylight of the morning of April 24, 1862, saw the beginning of one of the most remarkable naval engagements of modern times, in the successful attempt of Farragut's Union fleet to run by the defences of New Orleans—Forts Jackson and St. Philip and a numerous fleet of gunboats. Both forts fired rapidly and incessantly at the passing ships, frequently hitting them, but neither stopping nor sinking any. The Confederate ships came to meet them, and soon the two fleets were mingled, giving and receiving broadsides in rapid succession, while the rebel rams and fire-rafts did good service until they were sunk. One of our vessels was run ashore and sunk, and several of the Confederate boats met that fate, but in an hour nearly all the Union ships were safely passed and steaming on up the river. The mortar-boats did not participate in this movement, but renewed their bombardment and compelled the surrender of the forts on the 25th. Meanwhile the ships, the "Cayuga" still leading, went on, and next day took possession of New Orleans.