

**Looking Out for the Hornet—The Owners of the Enterpe Asking for a Convoy.**

The following correspondence has just been made public:—

NO. 153 MAIDEN LANE,  
NEW YORK, Oct. 1, 1899. }

TO HAMILTON FISH, Secretary of State, Washington, D. C.:—

On the 23d ult. we chartered to José Pezant, of this city, the steamship *Enterpe* for Havana, to load at Cold Springs with artillery. We are informed by rumor that a pirate is waiting off Sandy Hook to intercept her. We respectfully inquire what protection in such an event have we from the United States government? An early answer will much oblige. Yours respectfully,  
C. H. MALLORY & CO.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,  
WASHINGTON, Oct. 2, 1899. }

GENTLEMEN—I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 1st inst., stating that you are informed by "rumor" that a pirate is in waiting off Sandy Hook to intercept the steamship *Enterpe*, bound for Havana, and inquiring what protection in such an event the United States government will afford you. You do not state whether the *Enterpe* is a registered vessel of the United States. Assuming, however, that such is the case I have to say in reply that while on a mere rumor a convoy cannot be given to the vessel; the United States will, if a vessel carrying their flag is molested on the high seas, use all their power to punish the offenders and to prevent a repetition of the offence. I have the honor to be your obedient servant,  
HAMILTON FISH.

TO C. H. MALLORY & CO.

**The Case of the *Enterpe*—No Questions Asked of the Destination of War Materials Purchased in the United States—The Spanish Gunboats to Be Detained.**

The refusal of the government to detain the steamer *Enterpe* arose from the fact that it was not considered that, in taking out a cargo of arms and munition, she was guilty of any breach of the neutrality laws. It was established as a principle some time ago that any person or persons could purchase arms and munitions of war from our government and that no questions would be asked as to their intended use or destination. The administration does not propose to vary from this policy. It was known here that the ordnance on board the *Enterpe* was intended for the Spanish gunboats now being built at New York, and that the object was to take it down to Cuba and put it on board the gunboats when they reached there. In fact, this matter of the *Enterpe* is but part of a plan to get the Spanish gunboats afloat in Cuban waters. The government here is fully apprised of it, and its determination not to allow the gunboats to depart under any pretence is unaltered. The sailing of the *Enterpe*, therefore, will be of no advantage to the Spaniards, as the ordnance on board of her is useless without the gunboats.