

# THE CUBAN PRIVATEER.

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**Ball on Board the Hornet at Wilmington—  
Legal Points in Her Favor—The Presi-  
dent's View—Rumored Orders for  
English and French War Vess-  
els to Treat the Hor-  
net as a Pirate.**

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WASHINGTON, Oct. 6, 1863.

The determination of the government as regards the Hornet remains unchanged. She will be left to the tender mercies of the United States Commissioner. President Grant to-day, upon being asked what would be done with the privateer, said, good naturedly, "She must take her course now with the law courts; it's a question of law now, not of feeling." As to what will be the decision of the United States Commissioner there seems to be some doubt. Many lawyers here contend that the Commissioner, under international precedents, which are not mentioned, however, will be obliged to discharge the vessel and her officers, while other people connected with the government declare that the administration cannot allow her to be let off.

A report has been prevalent here to-day, and found its way into print, that Secretary Fish yesterday received despatches from both the French and English governments to the effect that they had notified their fleets to overhaul the Cuban privateer Hornet and sink her when found. They were further instructed to treat the officers and crew as pirates and hang them. On inquiry at the proper quarter it has been ascertained that there is no truth whatever in this report; further that it was not known in diplomatic circles that the Hornet had been captured until twenty-four hours after she was in government custody, when the fact was unofficially mentioned to several of the foreign representatives, the British Minister included. The government received a telegram on Sunday night, and it was in consequence of the facts therein stated that an order was immediately sent to detain the vessel for judicial proceedings.

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**Entertainment on Board the Privateer—Her  
Speedy Release Anticipated—No Justifica-  
tion for Her Detention.**

WILMINGTON, N. C., Oct. 6, 1863.

The entertainment this evening on board the Cuban sloop-of-war Cuba was attended by a large number of ladies and gentlemen.

There are no new developments concerning the status of the Cuba, but the public mind here is unanimous in the opinion that she will be released as soon as an investigation is made. Her release by the United States authorities at Philadelphia and by the British authorities at Halifax, and the fact that she is a vessel of war regularly commissioned by the Cuban government, and not fitted out in any United States port, seem conclusive that there is no justification for her detention. George Davis, ex-Attorney General of the late Confederate States, is one of the counsel for the Cubans.