

boat mentioned in the Secretary of War, ~~letter~~,
yet as she seemed to have been making some
equipments, and was evidently intended for a
cruiser, Capt. Hilty thought it proper to make
some enquiries respecting her - He did so, as far
as was consistent with his resolution not to alarm
those concerned in her until he should have put
himself in a condition to seize her, if he should
find it necessary - The cautious manner in which
this consideration obliged him to proceed, rendered
his intelligence very incomplete - On the whole
however it appeared that she had added to her
number of Guns and made some alteration to her
waist since her arrival with the fleet, but where
the additional Cannon were procured he could
not learn - Although the regulations on this
subject had not then appeared, it occurred to him
that Military equipments (though partial ones)
were not permitted in our ports, and while he
was considering whether the circumstances he had
discovered would justify him in detaining the
vessel and had returned to fell's point to make
a final observation and enquiry, he learned that
an intimation of his design was on its way to
her Commander - apprehending therefore that she
would