

To Karaiskaki - Piraeus 17/29 April 1827

Sir

The destinies of Greece, the fate of your army, & the character of its chiefs are now wholly in the hands of your excellency. You remain alone will be held responsible for all that shall happen.

The hour of clemency for Greece is past. The sword alone can decide the contest. Courage is a characteristic of men who deserve to be free. Let then the conduct of a few atrocious individuals be effaced by a march direct to Athens, at least to relieve the wounded and the children now doomed to destruction if prompt exercised shall not be made to save them.

I have ordered provisions to be landed for your march & for your return: Money cannot be spared from the naval service to be consumed in inactivity. ~~Because you bring credit & the voluntary aid of Europe become alike at once annihilated.~~

Your Ex. has hitherto treated my friendly advice, in a manner which I did not anticipate, but the world will judge between the course you have taken & that which I wished you [1] for the benefit of your country to pursue.

I shall wait your excellency's reply from Athens three days, when it will be my duty if the fortress shall not be relieved, to attend exclusively to naval affairs.

I hope your excellency will reflect on the glory you may yet attain by saving your Country, & on the ruinous consequences of persevering in inaction until the scant resources of war shall be exhausted.