

To the Spezziotes

25 August 1827

Gentlemen,

I have been made acquainted with the occurrences which took place at Spezzia in consequence of the detention of certain Austrian vessels in the Adriatic by the schooner under the command of Koutsis & Anargyros Lebesi which vessels were authorized to cruise between Clarenza & Prevesa & had no authority to act otherwise than in the blockade of the gulph of Patras. The circumstances attending this affair have proved sufficiently grievous to you, but it is impossible for me to abstain in the situation I hold from calling your attention to this matter to require that these captains shall hence forward be suspended from having any command, over vessels to be paid for public service.

I have also to call your attention to the fact, that 100 dollars were sent for the purpose of cleaning the bottoms of the fireships at Spezzia, that that service had not been performed two days ago when the [1] captains of these waited on me. I have therefore to require that two other commanders be appointed from the bravest of your islands, & of now be willing, I beg to notify to you that we have volunteers on board the Hellas.

I have recommended in consequence of the information relative to the enemy's fleet.

I shall be gratified of the conduct which I disapproved of can be explained in a satisfactory manner; but if it cannot I want your reply informing me that justice has better done ~~by the~~ in matters so deeply affecting the interest of the community at large.