Kalimachi Oct. 26th, 1827

My Lord

It is now nearly nine months since I left you in Marseilles with your orders to proceed to Leghorn to ship a crew for you. You must no doubt think I have deserted your Lordship not having heard from me since we parted. You must also think that I have treated you very ill by not having reported myself to you on my arrival in Greece and explained to your Lordship the reason of my not having complied with your orders and the cause of my delay. I have written twice since my arrival here but as I have not heard from your Lordship, I presume you have not received my letters. After having left you at Marseilles I proceeded and arrived of Leghorn but when I arrived there the Hour on which I had the credit for the sum necessary for the shipping the Crew Mr. Senn &c had returned the Credit to Marseilles. However, as I was determined to accomplish my mission at my own expense Mr. Senn, very generously offered to freight a vessel and lend the crew out should your Lordship not come off Leghorn. However, after I had shipped forty-nine men early one morning I discovered the Schooner Unicorn off the harbour. I immediately made every preparation to come off to her but was ordered by the police, which I found impossible to avoid, not to go off unless she came to anchor. At the same time, she went off without my being able to communicate with her.

Two days afterwords when I was consulting with Mr. Senn what was best to do we discovered a Turkish brig coming into port from Alexandria we therefore concluded the best plan would be to take my crew to Greece in her. I instantly communicated my intentions to my crew and asked them of them were willing to take this Brig. They all consented in one voice. I then purchased pistols, muskets, sabers etc and was prepared to embark [1] on this glorious expedition-when to my great astonishment I was arrested by the police- and ordered to quit the Country in one-hour short notice. I endeavoured to demonstrate and requested to know the reason why I was ordered to quit the Country in that manner until the hour had passed when a coach drove up to the door at the police office and I was ordered to embark with only this answer that I had conspired with other Englishmen to capture a Turkish brig lying in their waters for which I must have.

I know not how I was betrayed. Therefore my Lord after being conducted out of the country every plea I had contemplated was at an end. On my arrival in Greece, I came to Poros in order to find you, but I understood that you were on a cruiser. As I had a parcel of letters to deliver to General Church, I proceeded to Egina when there he informed me that as your Lordship was absent, he would employ me until you returned as he was then going an expedition with Gun boats which he requested me to fit out and take command of until I heard from you. I have not accepted a commission from him as I have always considered myself under your Command. I enclose your Lordship his letter to me that you may more plainly see that I have not deserted. I have written you twice before but not having received an answer this has been the cause of my not having been with you before. If your Lordship will please order, where I may find you and if my services is still acceptable to you, I will lose no time in coming to you. Please enclose in your answer the letter of the General which I have here in enclosed.

I have the honor to be my Lord your
Lordship's obedient servant
John Allen