December. 1827

Sir,

I have received your letter (1108) ~~on the subject~~ informing me that it is the desire of the government that a national vessel shall be dispatched to Scio, in the event of my being prevented from personally proceeding in the Hellas to that island.

In reply to this instruction, I have to state to you, that it is impossible for me, consistently with the duties which I owe to Greece to place the national squadron whilst it shall continue under my command of any part thereof under circumstances to be treated by the ships of war of the allied Powers ~~for the pacification of Greece~~ after the manner set forth in the letter of the 24th October addressed by the three Admirals ~~of the allied Powers~~ to the Legislative assembly a determination which is even more painful to me than the grief I feel [1] at finding myself involved, notwithstanding all my precautions, in the restrictions & penalties justly denounced against privateers and pirates. I cannot trust myself to say more on this subject, lest I should be led by my feelings to pass the bounds which I prescribe to myself as an officer when ~~addressing~~ treating the conduct of the government of the country which he serves. -

If Scio remains unprotected, if Candia is deprived of the aid, it might have received from the national Marine, if the ships of war are incapacitated from extending the bounds of Greece ~~rendering the slightest service to the course,~~ I have the consolation to know that I have used my utmost endeavours to prevent the evils I foresaw; one of these however I was far from anticipating is that the revenues ~~& that is the~~ which I was authorized to collect for the service of the Marine ~~by the National Assembly~~ would have been withdrawn from my control; I expended for other purposes, and more particularly these sums [2] so diverted should be placed to the account of the Marine, without the objects for which they were employed having received my sanction or even being known by me.

I have struggled during eight months in the service of Greece against difficulties far greater than all I ever encountered before, and I would most willingly continue to contend with these did I find the slightest cooperation in any quarter. But, as the government has withdrawn "de facto" the resources decreed, & the seamen decline to embark without pay in advance, and the funds (arising from the philanthropy of other European nations) which supplied the Navy with the means of subsistence, are wholly exhausted l have no resource, but to lay the ships up in port until ~~a change shall take place in the conduct~~ means to defray the expenses of the navy shall be found. I have myself during the last month paid the Greeks in the naval service! But ~~I regret to add that no provision~~ whilst I see that even [3] the share of prize claimed by the Government is diverted from the use of the naval service, I shall not continue to be answerable for future expenses, nor for the liquidation of the just claims of the foreign officers, which they have had the patience to wait for leave in arrears for many months.

I enclose you a copy of a letter I addressed to captain Leblanc, ultimately connected with the affairs of the Navy. I beg you will lay it before the government.

It is true that the letter of Admiral Codrington, dated on the day previous to the document signed by the whole of the admirals is of a different tenor. ~~but that~~ It expresses however an individual opinion or the wish of ~~an individual~~ one government ~~regarding the action employment of the Greek vessels against their enemy~~, in the same manner as the orders given by Admiral De Rigny to the French ships of war, ~~with the support of which I am acquainted~~ but neither of these documents ~~can be considered~~ do I consider as any title ~~to guide~~ for my conduct, when I recollect the tenor of the letter (776) addressed to me by order of the Government.