Karteria Loutraki
Oct 27
1827

My Lord

I have received your letter of the 23^{d}. Capt. Thomas in a letter of his tells me another story; he says he took the boats out to prevent them falling into the hands of the enemy's vessels at Lepanto. This as it may I believe Thomas is honest in his intentions but allows himself sometimes to be directed by those who are not so. I fear my man Mr. Darley who is the most culpable of all (he was sent to deliver letters to Gen. Church which service he never executed) has paid dearly for his misconduct. I am ready My Lord to do all & anything for the good of the service but I fear Gen Church has no means. I had him on board for two days making reconnaissances round the Gulph & from what I can gather the money said to be at Corfu is a Chimera. I suspect he has not a shilling anywhere & cannot stir. He talks this time of expeditions, & I have always assured him of my readiness to aid him, but we cannot be consuming months after months in the hopes of his receiving supplies. I must limit the period of his embarkation & if he cannot then act, I think I shall be justified in quitting him. I shall try however to destroy the other vessels in the Gulf [1] first. We are in great want of firewood.

I am laying in a stock of wood, but we have not yet been able to succeed perfectly with it. I have taken out the way & filled the ashpits, this we find does better than with any hay in but we cannot as yet keep up steam with it. I hope however ultimately to succeed in fartain coal are nearly finished- To show you how Gen Church goes on, his gunboat has only advanced twenty feet from the beach & yet he will not send away that swindler Allen who commands her- I told him I would not meddle with her until he dismissed that man & things remain thus- Gen Church while on board received letters announcing the unlooked-for destruction of the Turkish fleet still I have not entirely credited it & I am in anxious expectation of some decisive information about it. I am obliged to your Lordship for the fuses. I hoped to have had also some rockets. We are beginning to get short again of provisions, rice, biscuit. The loaded prize is [2] condemned with a ridiculous clause for me to pay the crew. They say nothing of the other Vessels. I send Capt. Hane to Egina to haste the condemnation of the Light vessel and counteract the intrigues which I have no doubt Toombase has recommenced - I shall also endeavour by him to have more biscuit- we have now but for a fortnight.

I have the honor to be
My Lord
Your very obedient.
very humble servant,
Frank Abney Hastings
Capt. Karteria

To his Excellency
Admiral Lord Cochrane
etc etc etc