Karteria Petala
Dec. 2nd 1827

My Lord

I had the honor to write to you from Cape Papas informing you that I had come out of the Gulf of Lepanto & was waiting to embark the troops of General Church. I now beg leave to acquaint you that I arrived at Dragomestie the day before yesterday, with the three puzes which have been serving as transports to Gen Church's army for six weeks. We brought over 600 soldiers, artillery, horses etc etc- & I am now returning to Cape Papas to embark a second division.

I heard of the gun boat Helvetia, M Fabricius being at Kataculo & sent immediately to order him to join me, which he did and is now at Cape Papas. While at Kataculo the gun boat was attacked by a Turkish Brig of 24 guns M. Fabricius defended himself with much spirit & obliged the Brig to retire. I have since heard that [1] the same Brig is now off Prevesa - If the service here will permit any absence, I think of going to look after her. The Gulf of Lepanto is now left entirely in the hands of the Turks & I wish to send the gun boat in to assist the expedition against Salona, but the crew having been so long about here, suffering much hardship & without pay are very dissatisfied. I have given the boat a new mast, anchor, cable, provision, ammunition etc & I will even advance them a little money if they will go into the Gulf. I should hope however that your Lordship will reimburse me for these expenses extra of my own Vessel. As you may imagine I am almost entirely without coal & cannot get a sufficient quantity of the Pitch pine to him the other pine will not answer & therefore I am reduced to sails. General Church had ordered round here an Ipsariote Brig he had at kenkness & I wrote to Mr Keering to request him [2] to put coals on board of her – which I understand Mr Keering refused. From the manner in which I have been frequently heated, one would imagine that this Vessel was not a Greek but an enemy, vessel. I trust your Lordship will remedy this & put me on a fair footing with the other Greek National Vessels. I wish your Lordship could also continue to let me have some money to cover the expenses of this Vessel which for these months that we have been absent from Poros cannot be supposed lifting it I conceive it important under existing circumstances to keep the blockade of Patras, Missolongi & the Gulf. I will remain as long as my destitute situation will permit me. Since I have been here, I do not think any Vessels have entered the Gulf.

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