Karteria Jan 7. 1828
Dragomestie

My Lord
I have the honor to acquaint you that Gen. Church arrived before Vasiladhi on the 2nd inst.: & I resigned to him that fort on the third requesting him to refund the expenses of taking it; these consist of 5 dollars per man bounty besides the provisions of the flotilla employed in the blockade- The Genl. has promised to repay this although not without expressing some surprise at the demand; yet the guns he receives in the Fort would pay the whole sum.

On the same day I received an official letter from Gen Church requesting me to inform him what cooperation he might expect from the Navy in a projected attack of his on Anatolico. According to the wish of Gen Church I agreed to send all the boats at my disposal that night to attempt to capture an island named Poros commanding the entrance into the lake of Anatolico where the Turks had a past & we heard he was filling up the passage & about to place guns only [1] on another island which would render him entirely masters of the entrance. I soon discovered that what Gen Church calls the cooperation of the Navy is in reality the Navy executing the service & the army looking on at its leisure ready to take possession if success attended the arms of the former - I had understood that I was to be supported by two rockets boats of Gen Church & by the launch of a Psariote Brig carrying a carronade to throw grenades; but these did not appear. A dozen Palicaries arrived from Gen. Church & were embarked in the expedition. At 3 ½ am of the 4th inst. I arrived with five boats out of mine (the rest having unaccountable kept behind) at a narrow part of the passage of the Lake across which the Turks had built a wall & stationed a gunboat behind it. The Turkish boat was soon put to flight; the Sailors jumping into the water soon cleared away a passage for the boats & the five of our boats rowed upon Poros the Turks keeping up a brisk [2] fire of musquetry from that island & of cannon from Anatolico. We were now within pistol shell of Poros when I found to my surprise a fort on it which I had been assured there was not or I would not have attempted the attack, knowing that in our warfare there holds are not to be thus taken. Seeing no reasonable hope of succeeding I ordered a retreat & having repassed by the way we entered & found Genl. Church's detachment laying flat in the bottom of their boats out of gunshot. To say that my officers Capt. Hane M. A & Lt Falanga also M. Fabricius commanding the gunboat Helvetia accompanied me, is to commend them for their accustomed zeal & gallantry – I could not conclude without mentioning the name of Chrysanto who after having aided at Vasiladhi was with me here in his own boat & displayed much courage he had one man wounded, the only loss we sustained – Perceiving that Anatolico was not to be taken by us - that Gen Church's troops were (without provisions) somewhere in a marsh where our boats could not get to embark them & that they might have marched on the mainland close to Anatolico.
Being without provisions in this ship & seeing no possibility of rendering any service by remaining longer before Vasiladhi I [3] returned to this port to provide for our immediate wants & in the hopes of meeting Dr. Goss and procuring from him some funds for the maintenance of my crew which I think your Lord will see the necessity of providing me with as I have not received more than 2,000 dollars during five months & I have latterly been maintaining this ship in provisions & fuel besides furnishing money & provisions to the Gunboat & flotilla inside Vasiladhi.

I have the honor to be
My Lord
&tc &tc
Frank Abney Hastings

To His Excellency
Admiral Lord Cochrane

&tc &tc &tc