May 11, 1833

My dear General,

Sometimes when I think of you I feel such a desire to see you, that I am tempted to go again to France. Are you not coming to America? You intended when I was in Paris, and why not come now? Why not leave France to herself and come to us? Do not my dear friend, too much regret what has happened there. Much has been gained by your resolution, the not all you could have wished. I rejoice that all which has happened is of a nature to exalt your own fame as it will go down to future times. It is the great benefactor of your son. You might as the great benefactor of your son. You might have taken yourself, the government of France, when you gave it to other hands. But if you had, the selfish and the ambitious would have said—there is no such thing as disinterested benevolence, even Lafayette has yielded to the dictates of ambition. Now, I regard you as standing among individuals as America among nations, a reputation in yourself of thestanders against humanity.

I send you a copy of an appeal which I have lately made in favour of promoting female education in Greece. It appears to be favourably received and our Ladies in different parts of the country are forming societies to aid in the project. The sermon in those darkened...
regions of the earth are preserved beyond all other oppressions. The negro slave is free compared with them—sold by parents to men whom pleasure they loathe, and by them, if suspected, put to a secret death. Our plan the I have not so much for the purpose of this, in my appeal, does yet contemplate the planting of a tree whose leaves may be for the future healing of the degraded women of their homeland countries. If we succeed in educating the Greek women, and elevating them to moral dignity, it must inevitably work a change in the customs of the surrounding nations. I think you will be gratified to know that a spirit to attempt such an enterprise is abroad among the daughters of your own America, and that it was moved at first by her, you have called your friend, and who proved the appellation above all earthly titles.

Remember me to your daughters and you as you speak with them. In looking over my papers to prepare my Journal for the press (which I am about to give to the Greek cause) I am again and again touched with the feeling of their kindness to me while I was in France. I have written letters which I think have not been received—due to Mathilde and several to yourself. Perhaps my name devotion to yourself and family may be even too prominent in the memory of my stay in Paris, but the heart loved to speak its unordained feelings, and mine is

Yours in the truest friendship and the warmest gratitude,

Emma Willard

Gen. La Fayette