

Troy May 1<sup>st</sup> 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 <sup>it</sup> 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 revolution, tho' not all you could have wished. I rejoice that all that has happened, is of a nature to exalt your own fame, as it will go down to future times as the great benefactor of your own. You might it is true have taken <sup>to yourself</sup>, 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 the standers 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 women in those districts

regions of the earth are oppressed beyond all other  
Oppression. The negro slave is free compared with  
them - Sold by parents to men whom perhaps they  
loathe, and by them if suspected put to a suret  
death. Our plan tho I have not so much for  
spoken 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 our  
hometown 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 knows  
The appellation above all earthly titles.

Remember me if your daughters are with 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 - one to  
Mathilde and several to yourself. Perhaps my  
warm devotion to yourself and family may  
be even too prominent in the memoirs of my  
stay in Paris - but the heart loves to speak  
its inward feelings, and mine is

Yours in the truest friendship  
and the most gratitude

Emma Willard

Gen. La Fayette