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## COMMERCIAL ACTIVITIES OF KORAÏS IN AMSTERDAM

### Preface

Several years ago, while helping a colleague to classify the archives of the Dutch embassy in Turkey, I discovered between those papers a sizeable archive of a Greek merchant, Dimitrios Kourmoulis, who had been established in Venice and later in Amsterdam. Kourmoulis was a friend of Koraïs, but had never drawn the attention of Greek historians and a few words, published in a letter of Koraïs, have remained unnoticed: «La mort du pauvre Cormuli m'a vivement affecté. Quoique je n'aie point l'honneur de connoître sa veuve, faites lui sentir, je vous prie, la part que je prends à son malheur et mes regrets pour la perte d'un ami que j'estimois infiniment». In fact there is some resemblance in the bad luck they had as merchants. Both Kourmoulis and Koraïs had troubles with their Smyrna partners; in the case of Kourmoulis it went so far that he was even murdered by his partner.

Putting the papers of Kourmoulis into some order I soon found a number of letters written by Koraïs to Kourmoulis during the years 1773-1776. Thanks to the help and encouragement of Miss Maria Mantouvalou I was able to find in Kourmoulis' archive many other documents referring to Koraïs and to begin an analysis of these primarily commercial documents. Also in other Dutch archives (the consulate of Smyrna, the notaries of the city of Amsterdam and the Dutch East India Company) I found traces of the business activities of Koraïs. All this material put together might give an interesting supplement to the existing material on Koraïs' Amsterdam period and enable us to make a quantitative and qualitative appreciation of Koraïs as a merchant in Amster-

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1. This material is published in the appendices.

life of this period which should serve as a supplement to what Iliou has written in his excellent introduction to the letters of Korais' clerk Stamati Petro.

### **A. Some general remarks on the place of the Greek merchants in Dutch Levant trade**

#### **a. Traders**

The most important part of the activities of Diamant Coray & Co consisted in direct trade between Holland and the principal ports of the Ottoman Empire, Smyrna and Constantinople. Essentially this trade was an exchange of European and colonial products against Levantine products. The Levantine products, amongst which crude and spun cotton were the most important, were of vital necessity to the European textile industry, and the quick expansion of Dutch Smyrna trade in the 1770's stands into direct connection with the industrial expansion of Western Europe<sup>2</sup>.

Originally the trade between Holland and Turkey was entirely dominated by the merchants of a few big Dutch towns assisted by small colonies of Dutch merchants in Smyrna and Constantinople. The Dutch merchants in Smyrna bought the European products from relations in Holland and sold them to dealers in the bazars, while they bought from the same dealers cotton and other Levantine products. Trade between France or England and Turkey went according to British and French law exclusively through the intermediary of British or French merchants who were established in Turkey, but trade with Holland, Italy and Austria could pass without such obligatory mediation. In this dam.<sup>1</sup> I have joined some notes on the private and intellectual

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2. There exists no comprehensive study on the Dutch Levant trade, but there is an extensive anthology of the Dutch sources in the *Bronnen tot de geschiedenis van de Levantse handel*, of which the volumes 4/1 and 4/2 (edited by J. G. Nanninga, 's-Gravenhage 1964-1966) cover Korais' period in Amsterdam. The expansion of Dutch Smyrna trade can be seen in the consular accounts of Smyrna, Algemeen Rijksarchief of the Hague (further cited as A.R.A.), Archives of the consulate in Smyrna, series dd.

way Greek firms could export directly to Holland without the intervention of the Dutch firms of Smyrna and Constantinople. In the 18th century we also find Greek merchants established in Holland, foreigners being entirely free to establish themselves there as merchants. Some of these Greeks even fulfilled the formalities to become citizens of Amsterdam and in this way they became legally Dutch subjects. Koraïs also became a citizen of Amsterdam in 1774<sup>3</sup>.

In order to avoid overheads the Levant merchants tended to form kinds of trusts, getting control of the entire circulation of the merchandise, from raw material to manufacturing, transporting, importing and retailing. In this way the great firms held offices in Holland and in the Levant, took a hand into the production of Dutch woollen cloth, exported it to the Levant on chartered vessels to their business partner in Turkey. The business partners in Turkey often acted as moneylenders to village communities in Turkey and so were involved in the local cotton production for the payment of their loans.

Especially some Greek firms, who had a narrow link between their chief office in Smyrna and a «daughter company» in Amsterdam, were very active in such attempts at concentration. In this way they were able to cut overheads, lower prices and undercut their competitors<sup>4</sup>.

3. About the Dutch practice of freedom of trade: J. G. Nanninga, «De Nederlandsche koopman in de Levant en de vrije handel», in *Historische opstellen, opgedragen aan H. Brugmans*, Amsterdam 1929, p. 109-140. Early history of the Greek community of Amsterdam: V. Skouvaras, *Ἰωάννης Πρήγκος*, Athinai 1964, 38-106. B. J. Slot, «Ὁ Δημήτριος Κουρμούλης καὶ τὸ διεθνὲς ἐμπόριον τῶν Ἑλλήνων», *Μνημοσύνη* 5 (1974-5) 16-17 and B. J. Slot, *Σχέσις μεταξὺ Ὀλλανδίας καὶ Ἑλλάδος ἀπὸ τὸν ΙΖ' αἰῶνα μέχρι τὸν Καποδίστρια*, Athinai 1977 [Κείμενα καὶ Μελέται Νεοελληνικῆς Φιλολογίας ἀρ. 114], p. 16-17. Koraïs' registration as a citizen of Amsterdam in Municipal Archives of Amsterdam, poorterboek 26, date 17 V 1774.

4. A.R.A. Archives of the embassy in Turkey anterior to 1811, nr. 1215 (Pavlo Mavrokordato to Dimitrios Kourmoulis 13 II 1774). A.R.A. Archives of the consulate in Smyrna g. 8 (7 VII 1780) which sketch the extent of the Mavrokordatos network. Money-lending to village-communities with the tax-revenues in natura as a security is a very ancient practice in the Aegean trade, cf. K. D. Mertzios, «Μία διαθήκη ἐκ Σίφνου», *Ἐπετηρὶς τοῦ Ἀρχαίου τῆς Ἱστορίας τοῦ Ἑλληνικοῦ Δικαίου* 8 (1958) 103-111.

As practical examples we will now give some details on the structure of three different business houses which were engaged in the trade between Turkey and Holland. We are able to do so because parts of the archives of all three firms have survived.

a. *David van Lennep & Willem Enslie* (Φανλενεπ in Korais' orthography) was a large Dutch firm, established in Smyrna. In Korais' time there were three large Dutch firms in Smyrna who together controlled almost half of the entire trade between Holland and Smyrna. The other half was divided among one very great, five considerable and a large number of small native firms, most of them Greek. From the surviving papers of Van Lennep we get an image of a wide-spread activity. Their trade with Holland had a yearly turnover of a million or more guilders; they had also considerable trade with Livorno, Venice and Marseilles. The firm had its own agents in central Anatolia where Turkish products were bought. Van Lennep did also much banking business; the firm was developing into one of the most important merchant-bankers in the Levant. The directors of the firm, both liberal Calvinists, belonged to the ruling aristocratic families of Amsterdam. Their social prestige was very high. Korais knew Van Lennep personally, since the Swiss Dentand, who was the home-teacher of Van Lennep's children, was a close friend of Korais. Regarding Van Lennep's partner William Enslie we have the catalogue of his library, which shows him to be an educated person with an interest in the literature and thought of his time<sup>5</sup>.

b. *Thomas de Vogel & Co* was a medium-sized Dutch firm in Amsterdam during the years 1750-1770. He had relations with Greek firms in Turkey. Another member of the De Vogel family had a large business firm in Smyrna. De Vogel did not only trade

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5. Statistics on Van Lennep in Bronnen, 4/2 pp. 1523-1528. A letter-book of this firm of 1778 has been preserved in A.R.A., Archives of the consulate in Smyrna; q. Korais on Van Lennep: A. Korais, 'Αλληλογραφία, I Athinai 1964, pp. 307, 503-504. An interesting picture showing the Van Lennep family and Dentand in the Rijksmuseum, Amsterdam, photograph in *Alle schilderijen van het Rijksmuseum te Amsterdam*, Amsterdam-Haarlem 1976, p. 226. Catalogue of Enslie's library in A.R.A. Archives of the consulate in Smyrna b (15 IX 1794).

with Smyrna, but also with the Caribbean and with the Baltic. He had his own ships. In its trade the Amsterdam firm was careful and conservative, and its letters contain some interesting remarks on the way Greek merchants in Amsterdam conducted their trade. The Smyrna firm was taken over in 1777 by one of its partners, Esaie Fercken, whom we know through Korais' correspondence. It became the largest Dutch firm in Smyrna and in its office Korais' brother was employed<sup>6</sup>.

*c. Joannis Avgerinos.* The Dutch firms of Turkey and Amsterdam usually were independent of each other, even if they had joint ventures in some cases. The Greeks usually worked with large networks of firms in Europe and in Turkey, which seemed independent but which were in reality daughters of one big company. The only Greek firm of that time which has left enough documents to enable us to know the details of its structure is the firm of Avgerinos. In its definitive form, which it took in 1778, it was a society of 7 partners, all Chians, of whom 4 took an active part in business as heads of the firms established in Smyrna, Amsterdam, Trieste and Constantinople under their own names. In 1773-1776, when this society had relations with Korais, there were three establishments: in Smyrna under Joannis Avgerinos, in Constantinople under Loukas Kalvokoressis and in Venice under Dimitrios Kourmoulis. Kourmoulis was a personal friend of Korais and had learnt Dutch in Amsterdam, where he had been a clerk in the office of Thomas & d'Isay. In the archives of Kourmoulis there are some 50 documents on Korais: correspondence of Kourmoulis with his partners referring to Korais, correspondence with Korais himself and accounts.

The structure and way of doing business of this firm are known in detail from its archive, which may serve as an example of how Greek business firms, like the one Korais joined, operated. Formally the offices in Venice, Smyrna and Constantinople were

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6. Archives of De Vogel in Municipal Archives of Amsterdam. Several letters of the Amsterdam branch of the family to Van Lennep in Smyrna have been published in *Bronnen* 4/2, pp. 1181-1267. Statistics on the trade of the Smyrna-branch in *Bronnen* 4/2 1523-1528. On Fercken: Korais, *'Αλληλογραφία* I, pp. 31, 55.

independent business ventures, but in reality the Smyrna partner was leading the operations and the results of other offices were yearly entered into a central account.

The society of Avgerinos, Kalvokoressis and Kourmoulis was of medium size. When it was at its zenith, in 1779-1780, its annual turnover reached a value of 500,000 guilders, of which approximately 3/4 was trade with Holland. We might estimate that the Korais-Stathi Thomas combination of 1773 had approximately the same size<sup>7</sup>.

**b. Merchandise, insurance, ways of payment and profits.**

The business of an Amsterdam office of a Greek merchant society mainly consisted in buying as cheaply as possible European merchandise of the kind which would find a ready market in the Levant, and selling as quickly and as expensively as possible the Levantine merchandise his partners in Constantinople, Smyrna or Chios were sending to him<sup>8</sup>.

The most important of European merchandise was heavy European woollen cloth. This cloth was made by a very difficult, laborious and expensive process in small factories all over Europe. The Greek merchants bought Dutch woollen cloth from producers in the Southern border region of the Dutch republic and from some Dutch cities which bought German woollen cloth (Lipsikanka) from Bohemia, Saxony and Silezia. This cloth usually went to Turkey in parcels containing some 300 meters of cloth in 10 to 15 pieces, dyed in different clear colours. A parcel mostly contained pieces of green, turquoise, bright blue, violet, crimson, lead grey and brown. Such a parcel would cost at the Amsterdam Exchange about 4500 guilders. This high price is not remarkable if we consider that each piece of 30 meters contained about 40 kilos of wool and was dyed with expensive colorants. The Greek merchant bought this cloth through the mediation of Dutch merchants who were often also producers in the large cities of

7. A description of this firm and of their archives in B. J. Slot, «Ο Δημήτριος Κουρμούλης και τὸ διεθνὲς ἐμπόριον τῶν Ἑλλήνων κατὰ τὰ ἔτη 1770-1784», *Μνημοσύνη* 5 (1974-5) 115-149.

8. The articles exchanged in the Dutch Levant trade are enumerated in A.R.A., Archives of the consulate in Smyrna, cc and dd.

Holland. These Dutch merchants also sent cloth to Turkey for their own account; in such cases the Greek merchants of Amsterdam often acted as brokers for a commission of 1-2%<sup>9</sup>.

A difficulty in the trade of woollen cloth was that in the course of the intricate production process mistakes were easily made which could cause blemishes of the colour or irregular shrinking. The merchants avoided opening the parcels (which had anyway been inspected and sealed with leaden seals by a special board of control), in order to avoid the occurrence of false folds in the expensive cloth. Defective manufacturing was often discovered upon sale by the retailer in the bazar in Smyrna, and this could lead to documents like these from which extracts are published here in appendix 2, nrs. 2, 3, 5, 13.

The other main products Koraïs and his colleagues bought in Amsterdam did not come from Holland, but from the Dutch colonies in Asia. Such products were sold at the big auctions of the *Kompania*, as Koraïs called the Dutch East India Company<sup>10</sup>. Among the colonial merchandise were spices like pepper, cinnamon, cloves and nutmeg, which came from Dutch colonies in Indonesia, India and Sri Lanka, and also cotton cloth, called *panikà* by the Greek merchants, which came from Dutch colonial establishments in Bangla Desh and India. Especially after 1770 the *panikà* became very important in the Dutch Levant trade; this evolution seems to be related with the decline of the interior trade of the Ottoman Empire (formerly Indian cotton cloth had been imported into Smyrna through interior Asiatic trade by Armenian merchants) and also with the decline in the manufacturing of cotton cloth in Turkey<sup>11</sup>. These *panikà* consisting of thin tissues and cotton muslins, especially the cheaper kinds, were sold in Smyrna. In international trade they were called by their Indian names: *cassa* (turco-greek: *χασέ*), *seersucker* (in turco-greek *μουαπετχάνια*, but Koraïs, disliking Turkish words, writes in his

9. A.R.A., Archives of the embassy in Turkey 1185 (ledger of Kourmoulis in which commissions constitute an important part of the revenues).

10. A.R.A. Archives of the embassy in Turkey 1213 (Koraïs to Kourmoulis 6 XII 1774).

11. This increase can be found in the consular accounts, A.R.A., Archives of the consulate in Smyrna dd.



Noi 10 novembre dell' Anno 1726 in Smirna  
 Comparso in questa cancelleria il D<sup>no</sup> Tando Anonij di me giorno  
 Philip Haan cancelliere et gli sotto scriveri Testimoni le Sr<sup>te</sup> Jannifora  
 & Candilli di S<sup>ra</sup> Mercante Cortezesi in p<sup>re</sup>senza di me cancelliere sommo  
 e tutti li quali dichiarano come probato, qualmente di avere comprato di  
 questi Sr<sup>ti</sup> Coraj, Avanzo Fratelli di marca mercante armenio, piazza  
 12 porte Sabini con gr<sup>o</sup> della Topica d' Alessandro da Meleto, vicini  
 in una botte di Luorio sotto la marca R N<sup>o</sup> 4 mercante con un picco di  
 giunta Lunghezza, si sono trovate come si troue in appresso dettata cioè

La poma N <sup>o</sup> 618	Coraje	65. $\frac{1}{2}$	incarnato mibusarros	picchi 54. . .
623	"	63. $\frac{1}{4}$	ciliegea	53. $\frac{3}{4}$
633	"	63. . .	Croffleronari	53. . .
606	"	62. $\frac{1}{4}$	Caumerari cronaki	50. . .
642	"	64. . .	principe	53. . .
631	"	63. $\frac{1}{2}$	arancine	54. . .
530	"	59. $\frac{3}{4}$	simile	49. $\frac{1}{2}$
607	"	65. . .	rope	53. $\frac{1}{2}$
641	"	63. $\frac{1}{2}$	simile	53. $\frac{3}{4}$
624	"	66. . .	Limone	54. . .
647	"	65. $\frac{1}{2}$	Marchino celeke	53. $\frac{1}{2}$
629	"	64. . .	Orbi Scuro	53. $\frac{1}{4}$
Coraje 767. . . maluraron picchi				532. $\frac{1}{4}$
Si era per dire in p <sup>re</sup> senza 149/6 107. $\frac{1}{4}$				
picchi 639. $\frac{5}{16}$				
Coraje picchi 632. $\frac{1}{18}$				
maneuca p <sup>re</sup> 26. $\frac{55}{100}$				

Quali picchi 26.  $\frac{55}{100}$  sono omologati in stato allij compratori come son,  
 p<sup>re</sup>senza della presente attestato, et p<sup>re</sup>valitate di tutto qui sopra dichiarata  
 sotto scrivero la presenti con loro proprie mano auanti di me cancelliere  
 et gli Sr<sup>ti</sup> michel josi & Dick Knipping Testimoni Regaly  
 sa lxi. uenti e sette uenti e sette picchi e mezzo. (firmato da Coraj, Jannifora, Candilli)  
 Michel Jose  
 Dick Knipping  
 Philip Haan  
 Cancelliere

Document on the trade of Korais' father from the minutes of the Dutch chancery in Smyrna ARA, consulaat Smyrna, series d.

letters about seersuckers) and mulmul (turco-greek μερμερ, Korai̇s uses a greicisation of the dutch word malmolens: μαλμολενς).

The principal articles of exportation from the Levant were crude cotton, red or white spun cotton and angora wool. These were sold through the mediation of brokers in Amsterdam to Dutch or foreign textile factories. Stamati Petro correspondence contains in a rather corrupted form the names of several of these brokers in Levantine merchandise<sup>12</sup>.

In order to spread the risks, large part of the business was done by shared participation. In this manner a parcel of cloth was not sent from Holland to Smyrna for the account and risk of one merchant alone, but shares in the parcel would be sold to one or more other merchants who would later also share the profits or losses. Also the Greek merchants of Amsterdam did considerable business as agents for merchants other than their own partners. For this work they got the ordinary commission, and this could yield them a considerable income<sup>13</sup>.

An official Greek insurance company was only founded at the end of the 18th century, but already from 1770 on we find in our papers Greek merchants as underwriters on ships and cargoes. Dimitrios Kourmoulis held an insurance business in Venice together with some other Greek merchants. Korai̇s also is referred to as doing business as an insurer<sup>14</sup>.

In the course of the Turkish-Russian war of 1769-1774 the Russians in the Aegean began to confiscate merchandise on neutral ships that belonged to Ottoman Greeks. The risks of insuring Greek merchandise then became too great for the small Greek insurers. They then began to re-insure current policies with

12. Σταμάτη Πέτρον, *Γράμματα*, edited by Ph. Iliou, Athens 1976, p. 11, 14, 21, 22, 27. These names can be identified with help of *Lijste der namen en woonplaatsen van de makelaars*, Amstelredam 1774, and *Naamregister van alle de kooplieden, voornaame handel drijvende of negotiedoende winkeliers en fabricanten der stad Amsterdam*, Amstelredam 1774 (address-books of all brokers and merchants in Amsterdam for the year 1774) where they figure: Velis as Albert Wils, Menis as J. Meneven, Tekleborch as Tekkelenburg & Co, Chelet as Jan Helt & Zoon, Chenisos as Heynis, Somertek as Michiel van Soomerdijk and Vain Berg as H. van Wayenberg.

13. A.R.A. Archives of the embassy in Turkey, 1185.

14. *ibid.*, nrs. 1193 and 1196, appendix 1 nrs. 22,30.

European firms, while they did not underwrite new ones. For several years most Greeks did not underwrite themselves any more policies, but they kept on acting as insurance brokers, the Greeks of Amsterdam obtaining policies from Dutch underwriters for cargoes belonging to Smyrna Greeks<sup>15</sup>.

In most studies on the history of the Levant trade during the time of Koraïs we find the remark that the largest part of the trade was done by barter, called «troc». Nevertheless from the archives of the three contemporary merchants we have used we saw that in the 1770's troc had become rare and that most payments were made in bills of exchange<sup>16</sup>. The advantage of payment in bills over barter was that it was easier to consider if any business operation was lucrative or not; barter tends to hide losses. A disadvantage of payment in bills were the costs involved in the traffic of bills of exchange, but part of these costs could be compensated by judicious speculation. Greek merchants became very busy speculating on the international values market, and in the time of Koraïs they were well acquainted with all the intricacies of the use of bills of exchange<sup>17</sup>. The opinion of Svoronos that there was more ready money available to merchants in Turkey during the second half of the 18th century than before, owing to the appearance of bills of exchange seems not to be correct. Bills of exchange were already in frequent use during the 17th century. In the second half of the 18th century we often come across scarcity of means of payment in the Levant because local investors tended to divert money they earned in trade to the consumptive sector, where higher interest rates could be obtained. This caused a chronic lack of liquid means for financing business in Turkey<sup>18</sup>.

In an earlier study about Dimitrios Kourmoulis we have shown that the profits in the Levant trade were not as extra-

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15. *ibid.*, nrs. 1215-1216, (letters of J. Avgerinos and L. Kalvokoressis to Kourmoulis April-June 1773).

16. B. J. Slot, *Δημήτριος Κουρμούλης*, p. 118-119.

17. A.R.A. Archives of the embassy in Turkey 1215 (letter of L. Kalvokoressis to Kourmoulis 23 III 1774).

18. Slot, *Δημήτριος Κουρμούλης*, p. 125-126.

vagantly high as has been supposed. In Kourmoulis' trade we found an average profit of 5% on the total turnover. Notwithstanding this rather feeble percentage, profits on turnovers of many hundreds of thousands of guilders could provide a very considerable income. Koraïs could make a very good living and even some *dolce vita* in Amsterdam from his part in the profits and from the commissions he earned. We see Kourmoulis taking about 2000 guilders a year from the till of his firm for his private expenses, and this is far above the average income of a higher middle class person.

### c. Problems of financing business

The weak side of the enormous expansion of Greek trade during the second half of the 18th century was that the big turnovers the Greeks made were not always financed by a large capital of their own. It is not unusual that merchants with a capital of 30,000 piasters would have merchandise worth 300,000 piasters in circulation<sup>19</sup>. Here lurked a big danger. The expansion of Greek trade was based on low profits which enabled the Greeks to undercut the prices of their competitors: they got enough income because of the large turnovers. But to keep up such a large trade a merchant with a small capital had to borrow enormous sums against rates of interest which were often very high. When there was a moment of slowing down in the circulation of merchandise, when there could be no quick sales, the burden of interest on the borrowed money could become so heavy that with the profits also the entire small capital of the merchant could disappear. When this happened bankruptcy was inevitable, usually with a debt of astronomic proportions. In many of the bankruptcies of Greek firms in the 18th century the overburden of interest on slow trade was a principal factor<sup>20</sup>.

The Greek firms had several ways to obtain the money to finance their large turnovers which they could not cover with their own capital. The simplest, but the most expensive way was

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19. Slot, *Δημήτριος Κουρμούλης*, p. 137, a capital of 30.000 piasters and a turnover of 563.873 guilders in one year.

20. Slot, *Δημήτριος Κουρμούλης*, p. 126.



to borrow money on the free market in Turkey from «sarafides» or from merchants who had surplus money. The rate of interest in Turkey was very high, up to 12%<sup>21</sup>. A less expensive way was to borrow money not in Turkey but in Europe. Officially, most merchants in Turkey could not borrow directly in Europe; money-lending as it existed in Turkey was not a common practice in Europe. But there was a very common «unofficial» method. European merchants sent merchandise to Turkey but they did not expect immediate payment: the merchandise was ordinarily paid only after 3 or 6 months, often in natura, not in money. Especially if the Greek firm had a representative in Western Europe it was easy to finance business in the unofficial way. A very clear example is found in Korais' letter to Paterakis of 23 IX 1774. Korais' partner in Smyrna had received merchandise worth 50,000 piasters from Korais. He did not pay these, but left Korais in Amsterdam to keep the Amsterdam creditors quiet and invested the proceeds of the sale of the Amsterdam merchandise in operations in the Levant<sup>22</sup>. In this way the European partner would often get into serious difficulties. There was still another way of financing which was used in the 18th century: by way of circulating bills of change. This was a very dangerous game. We find several examples of it in Kourmoulis' correspondence<sup>23</sup>. An example: Kalvokoressis in Constantinople had to pay some debt in Constantinople but he had no money. He paid his creditor with a bill of change he drew on Korais in Amsterdam. The creditor sent the bill to a relation in Amsterdam, who tried to get his money from Korais. But Korais paid him with a bill of change for the amount and the discount on Kourmoulis in Venice. The new bill was sent to some merchant in Venice, who got in his turn a bill of change for the amount and the discount on Kalvokoressis, who at last paid his debt: the amount and the accumulated discounts, after

21. Slot, *Δημήτριος Κουρμούλης*, p. 125.

22. Bronnen, vol. 3, 's-Gravenhage 1952, p. 293. A.R.A. Archives of the embassy in Turkey 1195. Korais, *Ἀλληλογραφία* I, 8; cf. A.R.A., Archives of the embassy in Turkey 1215 (letter of L. Kalvokoressis to Kourmoulis, XI 1774).

23. A.R.A. Archives of the embassy in Turkey 1215 (letters of L. Kalvokoressis to Kourmoulis 22 III 1774, 19 IV 1774 and 6 V 1774).

a period of several months. For this extension of time he had to pay the discounts, but these were often less than the ordinary rate of interest with the sarafides. It was a dangerous game because it could easily lead to overextension of credit and serious accidents. Conservative merchants refused to play in this game, honourable people like Korais also had qualms, but to the more adventurous people it was attractive because it offered the possibility of speculation with international courses of exchange. With some luck the discounts were reduced by profits through clever speculation. Many merchants fell victim to this game: there were several bankruptcies of it in 1773. Thus when one member of the circle got too many bills at once, he would be unable to pay; other merchants then would refuse his bills of change, and bankruptcy would be inevitable<sup>24</sup>. The bankruptcy of Avgerinos in 1784 took this shape: Kourmoulis was unable to pay the enormous bills his partner sent him from Constantinople because his partner in Smyrna did not pay his debts to him<sup>25</sup>. Accidents with bills of change were the principal cause of the Amsterdam economic crisis of 1773. It is not strange that at that moment Korais refused to participate in a game with bills of change proposed by the Constantinople merchant Loukas Kalvokoressis.

### B. Korais as a merchant

There exist several untrue traditions on Korais' life as a merchant in Amsterdam. His own autobiography is one of the sources of the mystifications; other untrue stories were made up by his enemies. All judgments on Korais' achievements as a merchant date from a time much later than the events, with the exception of a series of letters written by Korais' own clerk Stamati Petro, a person who had an extreme dislike for his master. Our account of the events is chiefly based on statistical sources

24. *ibid.*, 1215 (letter of Kalvokoressis to Kourmoulis 24 XII 1774). On the bankruptcies in Amsterdam in 1773: *Nieuw Nederlandsche Jaarboeken* 8 (1773), pp. 79-108, 208-246, and A.R.A. Archives of the embassy in Turkey 1213 (letter of Stephanos Isaïou to Kourmoulis 12.I.1973).

25. Slot, *Δημήτριος Κουρμούλης* 125-128.

from the archives of the Dutch consulate of Smyrna and on the correspondence in the archive of Dimitrios Kourmoulis, a friend and colleague of Korais.

Korais tells in his autobiography that he was sent to Amsterdam as a representative of the business firm of his father, Joannis Korais, who was a silk merchant. According to Korais, his father wanted to extend his business to Holland, in imitation of his father-in-law, Rysios<sup>26</sup>. This is only partially true. In the Dutch archives there are several documents on the trade of Joannis Korais and Adamantios Rysios<sup>27</sup>. They show that both had conducted trade with Holland during the years 1740-1750, not in silk, but in felt, angora wool, crude and white or red spun cotton and drape: the ordinary trade with the Levant. Later this trade stopped and we find Joannis Korais together with his brother Pandelis importing drape from Leghorn<sup>29</sup>.

It is shown by the letters of Stamati Petro that Korais did not go to Holland as a representative of his father, nor as a silk trader. Korais' business in Amsterdam was to be the head of an Amsterdam business house which would belong to a newly established Greek network of firms, directed by Stathi Thomas in Smyrna. This firm would do the ordinary Levant trade<sup>29</sup>. Usually such networks were owned in parts by several merchants, and the heads of the working companies were shareholders. It is fairly certain that the Korais family had a share in the enterprise of Thomas, but Joannis Korais did not actively participate in the working of the enterprise. Korais' story about silk trade is im-

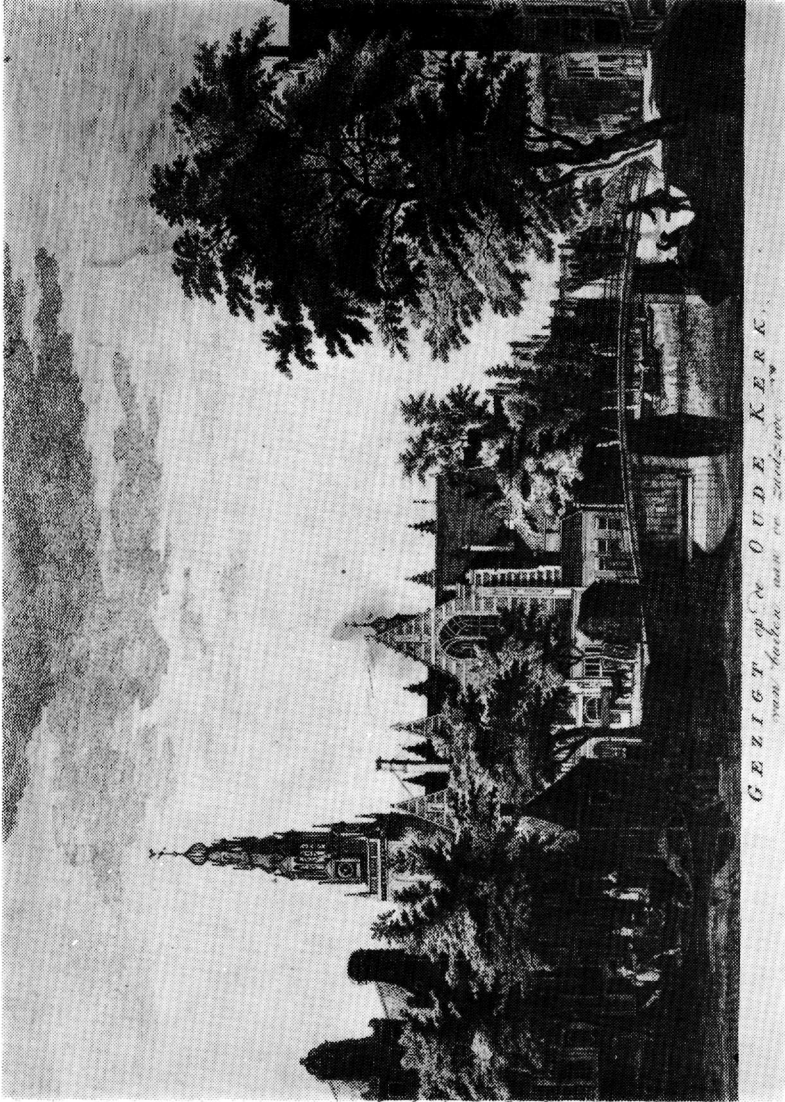
26. A. Korais, *Άπαντα*, Athinai 1960 I, 405.

27. A.R.A. Archives of the Directors of Levant Trade nr. 135 (annex to letter of treasurer of Smyrna 27 XII 1735, bill of lading in which figures Rysios, importing pistols and exporting cotton cloth) and nr. 137 (annex to letter of treasurer 23 XI 1747 bill of lading in which figures Joannis Korais exporting Angora wool).

28. A.R.A. Archives of the consulate in Smyrna d. 6 (10 XI 1746, chancery deed signed by the firm of Joannis and Pandelis Korais, brothers).

29. A.R.A. Archives of the embassy in Turkey 1215 (Kalvokoressis to Kourmoulis 6 II 1773 and XI 1774) cf. also Korais, *Άλληλογραφία* I, p. 7. Erroneously Iliou writes (page v') that Pateraki was the representative of the society in Chios; Pateraki was established in Constantinople as is seen from A.R.A. Archives of the embassy in Turkey 1105A.





View of the «Fluweelenburgwal», now Oudezijds Voorburgwal, the canal on which Korais lived in 1773-1774. The engraving is contemporary to Korais and his house can be distinguished on the right. It is the fifth house past the corner, where the woman and child are passing. From Wagenaar, Amsterdam in zijne opkomst, Amsterdam 1760-1767, vol. 2. ARA, library.

probable because Holland was not an important market for Levantine silk any more; silk sold in Holland mostly came from China. Why did Koraïs tell this story? Did he have a loss of memory or did he try to show his father as a merchant who sold aristocratic products? In fact Koraïs' father was an important personality in Smyrna; we should not believe Stamati's remarks that Koraïs' family was nothing special<sup>30</sup>. Joannis Koraïs was a member of an important business house (Bakchatoris), he was sometimes dimogeron of the Greek community in Smyrna, and from a letter of the Dutch consul in Smyrna we get the impression that he was a highly respected person<sup>31</sup>.

During the years 1773-1774 Diamantis Koraïs was the representative in Amsterdam of the society presided by Stathi Thomas. Stathi was a rich Greek merchant who, from ± 1760 till 1772, had been a member of the Amsterdam firm of Stathi Thomas & Stephanos Isaïou (d'Isay in Western sources). This was a very large and successful enterprise which acted in Amsterdam as agent for a number of Greek firms, among which Mavrokordatos and Anastas, the largest Greek firm of Smyrna. For unknown reasons the firm of Thomas & Isaïou split up in 1772. Stephanos Isaïou remained in Amsterdam as the sole owner of a rapidly expanding enterprise. His wealth became proverbial<sup>32</sup>. His firm is mentioned still many years afterwards as Koraïs' bank relation<sup>33</sup>. Stathi Thomas was not as successful as his partner. After the separation he began a business house in Smyrna. It is a little strange that he did not have his former partner d'Isay as his agent in Amster-

30. Iliou, p. 33.

31. A.R.A., Archives of the consulate in Smyrna, d. 30 (deed of 15 IV 1770 signed by the dimogeronτες Mpalis Kantzimalis, Nikolaos Mantzouranis, Giorgaki Toufektzoglou and Joannis Koraïs). cf. *ibid.*, d 41 (26 IX 1781, dimogeronτες Joannis Bachtzalis, Stathi Thomas, Kostaki Mutafoglou and Joannis Pittakos). On the social position of Joannis Koraïs also *ibid.*, g. 8 (letter of the Dutch consul to the Russian ambassador in Constantinople 8 III 1780).

32. The importance of the firms of Stephanos and Mavrokordatos can be seen from A.R.A., Archives of the consulate in Smyrna, cc and dd. The possibility mentioned by Iliou, p. *μα'* that the *πλούταξ* Koraïs wrote about was Stephanos is a certainty: no other merchant contemporary of Koraïs was at that moment a rich man in Amsterdam.

33. Koraïs, *Ἀλληλογραφία*, I, pp. 478, 479, 508, 509, 411, II, 334-335.

dam; instead his firm began an agency of its own directed by his new business partner Diamantis Korais. Maybe Stathi and Stephanos had had some quarrel; Stathi seems to have been a rather difficult character<sup>34</sup>.

Dutch statistics show that Stathi did not have much luck with his enterprises<sup>35</sup>. After an energetic beginning trade slackened and almost came to a standstill. Mutual recriminations followed: Korais' Patmian clerk Stamati Petro, who had been sent with Korais to Amsterdam by Stathi as some kind of spy, sent highly coloured reports to Smyrna about the incredible stupidity of Korais<sup>36</sup>. Korais wrote his views in an already published letter to the partners who were agents of the firm in Constantinople, Petrokokkinos and Paterakis<sup>37</sup>. In this letter Korais offers a profound analysis of some important aspects of Levantine trade. This letter shows that Korais had employed his large intellectual capacities in his work and that he understood the system of Levantine trade excellently. His idea was to imitate some large Dutch firms and Isaïou and to take the production of woolen cloth for exportation to the Levant into the firm's own hands. We know Korais wanted also to take transportation into his own hands by chartering ships instead of being dependent on other transporters<sup>38</sup>. Stathi did not want this. It is possible that the separation of Stathi and

34. As witnessed by his many changes in partners: Before 1772 with Stephanos, 1772-1774 with Korais, Petrokokkinos and Paterakis, 1775-1776 alone, 1777-1778 with Bartendorff, 1778-1782 with Ralli and Petrokokkinos.

35. See appendix 3, nr 1-2.

36. Several cases in Iliou, *Σταμάτης Πέτρον*, pp. 10-11, 14-16, 22, 28 (about sale of cotton yarn; we can observe here that Stamati is lying; his assertions should be compared with the cotton-prices of the Amsterdam Exchange, as published in N. W. Posthumus, *Nederlandsche prijsgeschiedenis I*, Leiden 1943, p. 132) 33-34, 37, 38, 41, 47.

37. Iliou, *Σταμάτης Πέτρον*, p. 59-71 = Korais, *Ἀλληλογραφία I*, p. 9-14.

38. The case of the chartering of a ship by Korais in Iliou, who seems to have formed a false impression on the basis of Stamati's remarks. Korais did charter a Dutch ship, which remained the property of its captain, Abraham Langendijk. Later there were ships owned by Greek merchants in Amsterdam, but this was not the case with the ship *De Nieuwe Hoop*, which was chartered by Korais. The contract in Municipal Archives Amsterdam, NAA 15689/520, see appendix 2 nr. 4. The cargo of this ship during the period Korais chartered it is enumerated in appendix 3 nr. 3.

Stephanos had something to do with divergence of opinion between the two partners about the modernization of business methods. Stathi was a profoundly conservative merchant.

From several sources we can see that Korais wanted to do business as a first class merchant, not as backstreet trader. He installed himself in a prosperous neighbourhood of Amsterdam, near the Exchange. His address was immediately printed in the address book of the Amsterdam merchants<sup>39</sup>, and he seems to have distributed printed pricelists of the Amsterdam market in Greek<sup>40</sup>. He was very active and went personally to the great auctions of the Dutch East India Company, while other merchants usually employed brokers<sup>41</sup>. He chartered a ship and wanted to enter into the manufacturing of woollen cloth. He was an advocate of modern ways of payment but was against tricks with bills of exchange as practised by the Avgerinos firm. In his letter to Paterakis and Petrokokkinos he showed a clear understanding. In short: he was not the boy of the Levantine ghetto Stamati Petro would like him to be.

Stathi did not like this way of doing business. He preferred speculative ventures in the interior trade of the Ottoman Empire above slow but sure investments. Stathi is an example of a speculating medieval merchant, while Korais is an adept of early modern capitalism. When Korais sent to Smyrna large quantities of European merchandise, Stathi did not reply by sending Levantine merchandise for an equal value, but he used the proceeds of the sale of the European products to speculate in the interior trade of the Ottoman Empire, leaving Korais to cope with the people he had borrowed money from to buy his exportation merchandise. In this way Stathi got an enormous debt with Korais.

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39. *Naamregister van alle de kooplieden...*, Amstelredam 1773 p. 23. This is the only specimen I know of the 1773 edition of the «Naamregister»; it is in the municipal archives of Amsterdam. The mention of Korais is printed here in appendix 4 nr. 1.

40. Iliou, p.p. 73-77. Iliou's interpretation (p. 73) is not entirely correct, this piece of printing is not a «fattura» but a price-list of the Amsterdam Exchange which existed in Dutch already from the 16th century on; during the 18th century they are known in many languages.

41. Appendix 3 nr. 4.

The outcome was that Korais had no longer any money or credit to buy European merchandise and trade slackened<sup>42</sup>.

In these circumstances Korais began to tread very wearily and slow down business as much as possible. He had still another reason to do so: in 1773-1774 there was a serious financial crisis in Amsterdam. Two of the leading bankers went bankrupt and the crisis spread all over Europe. Even in Smyrna a large Greek firm, Ambrosios Mavrokordatos, went bankrupt. This happened in Korais' own close surroundings: he was a close friend of the son of the Amsterdam agent of Ambrosios Mavrokordatos, Riga Nioti. From Kourmoulis' correspondence we know that Korais, like Kourmoulis himself, had become afraid to take risks: the whole Kourmoulis correspondence of that time is full of warnings by the Levant partners to the European agents not to lose *kouragio* and to go on with business<sup>43</sup>.

There may have been several reasons for the lack of success of Korais as a trader. His principal partner, Stathi Thomas, was not a very good trader, and his ideas were incompatible with those of Korais. There was also the crisis: a difficult moment to begin a business venture. Also there was a possible lack of commercial abilities in Korais himself. According to Stamati Petro, Korais' was the worst imaginable merchant, an incompetent money squandering Don Juan. Stamati's has been until now the only available opinion on Korais as a trader, and because of that, Korais has been accused of being the only cause of the lack of progress of the business. On the basis of the material we have found we can not say that Stamati's slander is very plausible to us. A merchant as stupid as the Korais described in Stamati's letters would have gone bankrupt within a few weeks. We have contrary information in the correspondence of Kourmoulis. Avgerinos and Kalvokoressis were very satisfied with Korais' actions as their

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42. The difficulties in which Korais was at that moment are shown in a letter by Stamati who wrote that Korais had to pawn merchandise destined for exportation, Iliou, p. 49. See also above, note 22.

43. The crisis is mentioned by Stamati: 'Ηλιού, 49. Many remarks on the crisis in A.R.A. Archives of the embassy in Turkey 1215-1216 (letters of Kalvokoressis and J. Avgerinos spring-early summer 1773). See also note 23.

agent, even at the moment that they had already become aware of a large conflict with Stathi: they hoped that Korais would continue acting for them and that he would not stop trading because of his quarrel with Stathi<sup>44</sup>.

In August 1774, Stathi Thomas, probably influenced by Stamati's letters, was planning to end his partnership with Korais. This we know from rumours recorded in Kourmoulis' correspondence<sup>45</sup>. His partners asked Kourmoulis to keep it secret from Korais, but by some means Korais got some information of it, and was also planning a separation himself<sup>46</sup>. At the same time he seems to have started a simpler life and left his house on the Oudezijds Voorburgwal for a house near the harbour<sup>47</sup>. Stamati went on to act as an agent for Stathi<sup>48</sup>.

For some time we have no statistical account on Korais' trade: manifests of Dutch shipping for the first half of 1775 are lacking, but we see that in 1775 he entered into a new partnership, which shows that he had still some capital available. The new partnership was with Ambrosios Rallis in Smyrna and with Antonios Paterakis in Constantinople—it seems that the Constantinople partner of Stathi's firm had chosen the side of Korais. But Korais' new firm was only a relatively small affair which did not do much business. Korais seems to have had a bad experience in his relations with Stathi and not to have over-

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44. A.R.A. Archives of the embassy in Turkey 1215 (letter of Kalvokoressis to Kourmoulis 23 VII 1774 and XI 1774; in a letter of 6 III 1774 there is reference to possible jealousy of Stefanos and his partners because of the amount of business Kourmoulis' firm had with Korais).

45. *ibid.*, letters of 23.VIII, 5.IX and XI 1774.

46. *ibid.*, letter of 23 VIII 1774; Iliou 64.

47. *Naamregister van alle de kooplieden...*, Amstelredam 1774 p. 23.

48. Details on Stamati's subsequent activities can be found in A.R.A., Archives of the consulate in Smyrna cc. Stamati was not such an exemplary merchant as he sees himself, he is recorded among the bad debtors of the Dutch East India Company: A.R.A. V.O.C. b 998. In 1799 Stamati left Amsterdam and returned to Patmos. On his passage through Constantinople he arrived with letters of recommendation from Amsterdam at the Dutch embassy and received from the ambassador the office of Dutch consul in Patmos, but he was soon dismissed because of neglect of duty: A.R.A. Archives of the embassy in Turkey 874.

come it<sup>49</sup>. He showed little interest in trade, and he did not conduct much business: a little with Rallis and a little with Demetrios Bakchatoris, business partner of his father<sup>50</sup>. Already in 1776 the new society was ended, because, according to the words of Joannis Avgerinos *o Korais den porpati kala*; this was the same Avgerinos whose firm had been so satisfied with Korais in 1773-1774 that they wanted to transfer their considerable trade from Stephanos d'Isay to Korais<sup>51</sup>.

This was the end of the business career of Korais. He still remained for two years in Amsterdam, but we find no mention of him in Dutch trade statistics. We will end this account of Korais' business ventures with the refutation of an old legend. In the literature we find the accusation that Korais would have gone bankrupt in Amsterdam and that he would have absconded without paying his debts. This story cannot be true. If a merchant in Amsterdam went bankrupt, his business was put into the hands of the Desolate Boedelkamer, a special court of law for bankruptcy. The archives of this court have been very well preserved, but there is no mention of a bankruptcy of Korais in them. It is also improbable that Korais would have incurred large debts. To avoid a bankruptcy, Korais might have made an agreement with his creditors to pay slowly, —and maybe absconded afterwards—. But there is no such agreement in the protocols of the Amsterdam notaries who acted for Korais. Indeed we see Korais in some financial problems in 1776, but in 1777 these seem to have passed<sup>52</sup>. If Korais had had serious debts we would expect to see in the notarial protocols and in the registers of the chancery deeds of Smyrna a lot of protests of bills of exchange and of powers of attorney to collect debts, but there is nothing except one protested bill of exchange for a relatively small amount which was paid afterwards. If Korais had left bad debts, he would have had them with Ambrosios Rallis, his former partner, or with

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49. Appendix 3, nr. 5.

50. Appendix 3, nr. 6.

51. A.R.A. Archives of the embassy in Turkey 1216 (letter of Avgerinos to Kourmoulis, 14 VI 1776).

52. Appendix 2, nrs. 9-11.

Stephanos d'Isay, who had helped him sometimes in Amsterdam<sup>53</sup>. But he had later relations with both... and this would be inconceivable if he had left debts. There was no reason for a bankruptcy: Korais had brought his trade slowly to a standstill, and so he could not have suffered heavy sudden losses. The end of Korais as a merchant resembles the end of the firm of Prigkos the same year in Amsterdam, slowing down, and then leaving; an ending not glorious, but honourable<sup>54</sup>.

### C. Some Remarks on the intellectual life in Amsterdam and on the possible contacts of Korais

In the 18th century the Netherlands were an aristocratic republic with a federal constitution. In this republic there was a monarchical element: the stadhouder, hereditary commander of the army and navy who had also a large indirect political influence. Discontent about corruption and the imperfect working of the constitutional system had brought into being a wide opposition movement. This movement had begun with supporting the monarchical element, but the stadhouder was unable to remedy the existing problems. Thereupon disillusioned members of the opposition aimed their criticism against the stadhouder and began advocating a democratic republic. Shortly after Korais left Amsterdam, during the years 1781-1787 there were revolutionary upheavals.

Intellectual life in Holland had easy access to international currents of thought and to the literature of the enlightenment.

Freedom of the press had made Holland into the printing-house of modern Europe. As far as we can see most innovations in European thought did not at first cause vehement emotions in Holland; things were rather phlegmatically accepted or rejected. But in a sudden way there arose in 1768 an emotional discussion

53. Stephanos: Korais, *Ἀλληλογραφία* I, pp. 478, 479, 503, 509, 511 and II, 334-335 Rallis: *ibid.* I, 104 (this mr. Ambrosios is Ambrosios Rallis), II, 410.

54. On the departure of *Bronnen* see: Bronnen 4/1 pp. 233, 235, 236. A.R.A. Archives of the consulate in Smyrna cc show a clear decline of Prigkos' trade since 1772 as it slowly moved to an absolute standstill.



in which progressive thinkers and conservatives became the two opposing groups. It was the translation into Dutch of Marmontel's novel *Belisaire* (which appeared in 1767) which caused an enormous upheaval of pamphlet literature on the crucial question of the moral equality of Christianity and non-Christian religions<sup>55</sup>. The thesis of the moral value of «natural religion» had been immediately rejected by the Sorbonne, but in Holland a group of liberal theologians and scholars defended Marmontel's views. Their most important spokesman was Petrus Burmannus secundus professor of Classical literature at the Amsterdam Athenaeum<sup>56</sup>. He was the leading personality in a circle of important intellectuals and politicians, who assembled in his country house of Santhorst. Among its members we should at least mention the name of the great classical scholar Valckenaer, who was so much admired by Korais. At Santhorst Rousseau was revered, there was a spirit of deism and antimonarchicalism and republicanism inspired by classical antiquity, Grotius and the glorious period of the Dutch republic of the 17th century<sup>56</sup>. Outside the immediate circle of Santhorst there was among the supporters of Marmontel's thesis the leading Amsterdam theologian and clergyman Adriaan Buurt, who moved in the high society of this town and who was advocating the interesting thesis that the base of theology and religion should be founded on the objective base of the natural laws of mathematics<sup>58</sup>.

We can affirm that Korais must have had very early contacts with this intellectual circle, because his teacher Bernard Keun, «predikant» at the Dutch Reformed Church of Smyrna, was a friend of Adriaan Buurt and represented the same kind of a-

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55. J. F. Marmontel, *Belisarius*, Amsterdam 1768.

56. Biography of Burmannus in *Nieuw Nederlandsch Biografisch Woordenboek* (NNBW), Leiden 1911-1937, vol. IV pp. 358-362.

57. About the Santhorst-circle: J. Hartog, *Uit de dagen der Patriotten*, Amsterdam, s.a., pp. 3-49.

58. *Brieven van- en aan J. D. van der Capellen tot den Poll 2* (aanhangsel) Utrecht 1883, p. 23 and 32 contains some interesting remarks on Buurt's opinions in the correspondence between two people of advanced ideas. Buurt is considered to figure among the principal philosophers of his time.

dogmatic ethical religion. Keun became elected member of the Academy of Haarlem, one of the strongholds of advanced thought in Holland<sup>59</sup>. Keun's principal, the Dutch consul count Daniel Jean de Hochepeid, was personally known to Korais; he was also an advocate of modern ideas<sup>60</sup>. Another acquaintance of Korais, the rich merchant David van Lennep, had his children educated by the Swiss Dentand, a friend of Korais and also an advocate of modern ideas, while in the house of Van Lennep lived his partner Willem Enslie, who had a library containing several modern works<sup>61</sup>.

When Korais went to Amsterdam, Keun brought him into contact with his old friend Buurt. We have already mentioned Buurt's views on the matter of Belisaire and his views on the logical base of theology. Buurt was an irenic theologian. He wrote a large handbook on theology which was considered by later theologians to be extremely weak on the doctrinal and exegetical sides and to be tediously ethical and moralistic: a typical work of the enlightenment<sup>62</sup>. Buurt had a large interest in mathematics and natural history. He collected naturalia (a real penguin seems to have been the showpiece of his collection) and also antique coins<sup>63</sup>. At Buurt's house Korais studied mathematics and so

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59. On Keun's membership of this academy: Korais, *Ἀλληλογραφία* I p. 148. J. A. Bierens de Haan, *De Hollandsche Maatschappij der Wetenschappen 1752-1952*, Haarlem 1952, gives the history of this very exclusive society. Many people whom we encounter in Korais' correspondence were members, while Petrus Burmannus secundus was among its founders. We mention the members L. Valckenaer, J. H. van Swinden and D. Wyttenbach.

60. The views of the consul are shown in his correspondence with his son-in-law Heidenstam, A.R.A. Archives of the consulate in Smyrna.

61. See above, note 4.

62. There is a good biographical article on Buurt in the biographical dictionary of Dutch protestant theologians: *Het Protestantsche Vaderland, Biografisch Woordenboek van Protestantsche godgeleerden in Nederland*, I, Utrecht 1903 p. 733-744. An opinion on the value of Buurt's theological writings in A. Ypey and I. J. Dermout, *Geschiedenis der Nederlandsch Hervormde Kerk*, Breda 1819-1827, vol. IV p. 62-63. A testimony to Buurt's prominence in Amsterdam in J. Wagenaar, *Beschrijving van Amsterdam, vervolg* Amsterdam and Haarlem 1794, 21th part p. 88.

63. Two learned travellers have met Buurt and describe his collection in their books: J. J. Björnsthäl, *Briefe auf Reisen durch Frankreich, Italien,*

must inevitably have come in touch with his teacher's views. Keun wrote later that Korais had studied in Amsterdam «theologie naturelle»<sup>64</sup>, the classical term for such a-dogmatical deism with a strong moralistic tendency which was a horror to all orthodox traditional theologians. Buurt's wife, Josina Carolina van Lynden van de Park was the daughter of a noble family who had tasted the pleasure of modern thought. She wrote a booklet on logic, which served Korais as a handbook in this discipline. She seems to have been a lady of advanced views and even something of a feminist. Both were reasonably rich people<sup>65</sup>. Korais seems to have reciprocated the benefits received by teaching Buurt to speak Greek, because a poem written at the death of Buurt in 1781 tells us that Buurt was able to speak «Greek with the Greek», which is a clear allusion to his relation with Korais, which seems to have been commonly known in Amsterdam<sup>66</sup>.

We can hardly doubt that Buurt, who did so much like to show his little museum to important visitors, would not show that other curiosity: the learned Greek. This gives a clear meaning to Korais' remark to Lotos that «he had known wise people in Amsterdam»<sup>67</sup>. We may certainly suppose that he was acquainted with such a prominent inhabitant of Amsterdam as the lord of Santhorst, Petrus Burmannus, a contact which is the more interesting because it is known that Korais was working on classical texts during his stay in Amsterdam<sup>68</sup>. We might mention here also that Burmannus' favorite pupil and editor of his posthumous works, Van Santen, had later some correspondence with Korais<sup>69</sup>.

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*der Schweiz, Deutschland, Holland, England und ein Theil des Morgenlandes, Stralsund 1777-1783, vol. 5 pp. 134-136 and 444-448. K. P. Thunberg, Reise durch ein Theil von Europa, Africa und Asien 1770-1779, Berlin 1792, pp. 125-127.*

64. The «theologie naturelle» — studies of Korais are witnessed by Keun in a letter to Guys ; see I. Anastasiadou, «Γκός-Κεῦνος-Κοραΐς», in 'Ο 'Ερανιστής, 15, 1978-1979, pp. 257.

65. A biographical article on J. C. van Lynden in the *NNBW* VII, 800.

66. This poem has been printed as a pamphlet, a copy is in the literary Municipal Archives of Amsterdam.

67. Korais, 'Αλληλογραφία I, p. 65.

68. Iliou, p. λς'.

69. Korais, 'Αλληλογραφία I, 209.

Moreover the great activity of the Amsterdam editors of French books could not have been unremarked by Koraïs; indeed it was certainly noticed by Buurt, who had a rich library. Last but not least we should remark that Koraïs' landlord of 1772-1774, the French merchant Pierre Geraud, moved in scholarly circles. His daughter Maria was Koraïs' great love who died so young in 1773<sup>70</sup>.

In such intellectual surroundings Koraïs must have been strongly influenced by advanced views on theology and society. He did not yet publish them, but he must certainly have had a good knowledge of them.

### Final conclusions

There has been some ambiguity in the appreciation of the importance of Koraïs' Amsterdam period. On the one hand we

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70. It was in fact this mention by Stamati (Iliou, p. 30) which enabled us to identify exactly both the house Koraïs lived in and the girlfriend. I asked my colleague Mrs. E. Lievense of the Amsterdam Municipal Archives to find me the name and address of a family who had two houses on the Fluwelen Burgwal (this I knew from the addressbook, see note 38), and who had a daughter who died in March 1773 at the age of 18 years. By going through all the registers of deaths and burials all girls dying in early 1773 were noted, and from the baptismal registers the dates of birth were verified. In the registers of the Walloon church (where also Koraïs liked to go: Iliou p. 19) D.T.B. 1132, f. 111, she found a girl who answered the specifications: Marie, daughter of Pierre Geraud, a merchant in coffee and tea from Perpignan. The registration of sales of houses afterwards showed that Geraud had two houses on the Fluwelen Burgwal (now called Oudezijds Voorburgwal), namely numbers 63 and 65. It was then discovered that in nr. 59 lived Adriaan Buurt. Geraud must have been living in number 63 which he bought first; nr. 65 with the inscription God is mijn burcht, 1686 (God is my fortress) is the house in which Koraïs lived. The neighbour on the other side, also referred to in Stamati's letters was J. H. Kerkring. The canal on which Koraïs lived is shown in a contemporary engraving which even shows a glimpse of Koraïs' house. It is a pity that, while almost all houses on this canal are still in their old shape, number 65 has a modern facade, in which however the old inscriptions have been preserved. The building is now the Chinese church. Geraud is referred to in the travel description of a German scholar whom he guided through Amsterdam: H. Sander, *Beschreibung seiner Reisen durch Frankreich und die Niederlanden, Holland, Deutschland und Italien*, Leipzig 1783, p. 138-139.

have assertions by Korais himself that his stay in Amsterdam had been one of the great blessings in his life, on the other hand we have the murmurations of Stamati on his lazy, stupid boss and some other negative reports from his adversaries. Until now the only support of a positive appreciation of the Amsterdam period has been Korais himself, and those observers and biographers who are friendly to Korais tend to believe him, whereas his adversaries put the accent on the negative side which has been depicted in such dark colours by Stamati.

The material we have assembled in Holland tends to confirm the general outline of Korais' own views, even if we have found that Korais was not always truthful. But certainly Korais was not such a stupid merchant as he has been described, he had some sound understanding and there are also some positive reports on his business activities. As a merchant he was not very courageous, and his lack of activity seems to have had some connection with a fear to take risks, not necessarily with laziness. On the other hand we found that neither Stathi Thomas, nor Stamati Petro were such excellent merchants as they have been assumed to be simply because of their criticism of Korais' supposed mistakes. We lack the material to pass any definitive judgment now, however, on the basis of the new material we can say that the case against Korais has not been sufficiently proven, and that matters certainly did not end in such a bad disaster as has been supposed. On the whole, the episode of Korais as a merchant in Amsterdam is not only of some importance as part of the life-story of such an important personality as Korais, but also as an enlightening case-story of a Greek merchant in the West.

Finally, we have made some remarks on a problem which will never be completely solved. The question is how far Dutch influences have been important in Korais' political and religious views. At least we have been able to say that in Amsterdam (and probably already in 1769 in Smyrna) Korais had been in touch with modern Western thought. People like Keun and Buurt, possibly even more prominent people of advanced views, have been in contact with Korais, and probably the value Korais attributes to the schooling in Buurt's house in his autobiography is completely justified.



## Korais' correspondance with D. Kourmoulis 1773-1776\*

## 1

*Βενετίαν πρὸς τοὺς Κυρίους Δημήτριον Κουρμούλην καὶ Συντροφίαν  
Ἄμστελδᾶμ 21 Σεπτεμβρίου 1773*

Ἐν Κωνσταντινουπόλει Σύντροφόςας Κύριος Λουκάς Καλβοκορέσης (ἀπὸ τὸν ὅποιον εἶναι καὶ ἡ ἐγγεκλησμένη) μᾶς δίδει τὴν εἶδησιν νὰ τοῦ ψωνήσωμεν μερικὰ πανικὰ τῆς Ἰνδίας, διὰ τὰ ὅποια νὰ γροικηθωμεν μὲ τὴν ἀθθεντία σας σύρωντες ἐπάνω σας διὰ τὴν ποσότητα. τὸ ὅποιον θέλει φροντίσομεν μὲ πρότην ἀφορμὴν διὰ Σμόνην ἢ διὰ Κωνσταντινούπολιν; ὅθεν ἐν τὸ μεταξὺ ἠγαπούσαμεν νὰ ἠξεύρωμεν καὶ παρὰ τῆς αὐθεντία σας, ἂν εἴσθε εἰς γνώμην νὰ τιμίσετε ταῖς τράτταις μας, ὅπου διὰ τὴν ποσότητα τῶν αὐτῶν πραγματειῶν ἠθέλε σᾶς σύρωμεν, ἢ ἀνήσως δὲν εὔρωμεν τὸν τρόπον νὰ σύρωμεν νὰ μᾶς τὴν ριμετερετε ἢ αὐθεντία σας αὐτόθεν ἀφ' οὗ λάβετε τὴν εἶδησι παρ' ἡμῶν. ταῦτα καὶ μένομεν εἰς τὰς προσταγὰς σας.

Εἴμεσθε σὺν θεῷ εἰς τὰς 8,, Ὀκτωμβρίου, μετὰ τὴν βεβ(αίωσιν) τῆς ἄν(ωθεν) Κόπ(ιας) μὴν ἔχοντες ἕτερόν τι νὰ προσθέσωμεν, μένομεν καὶ πάλιν εἰς τὰς προσταγὰς σας ἄοκνοι.

*Δ. Κοραῆς καὶ Συντροφία  
D. Coray et Comp.*

## 2

*Βενετίαν, πρὸς τοὺς Κυρίους Δημήτριον Κουρμούλην καὶ συντροφίαν.  
Ἄμστελδᾶμ 10 Δεκεμβρίου 1773*

Ἐσπερον ἀπὸ τὴν τελευταίαν μας 16,, Νοεμβρίου (μὲ ὄλον ὅπου εἰς τὰς 7,, τοῦ τρέχοντος σᾶς ἐστείλαμεν μίαν ἐπιστολὴν ἀπὸ τοὺς ἐν Κωνσταντινουπόλει συντρόφους σας) δὲν σᾶς ἐγράψαμεν πλέον, ἐλπίζοντες ὥρα τῇ ὥρα νὰ τελειώσωμεν τὴν Κομμισσιόνεσας. τῶρη μὲ τὴν ἀφορμὴν τῆς τιμίας σας 26,, Νοεμβρίου πρῶτον μὲν σᾶς εὐχαριστοῦμεν ὅτι θέλει τιμήσετε τὴν ὑπογραφὴν μας, ὅταν σᾶς παρῶρησασθῇ.

\* Letters nrs. 1-19 and 21 from: ARA, Archives of the embassy in Turkey, 1213; nrs. 20 and 22-23 from *ibid.*, 1208. In the edition of the letters I have retained the spelling of the original. I express my gratitude to Mis M. Lazana, Miss Joanna Petropoulou, Mr. G. Sbiliris and specially to Mr. A. Karathanassis and Alexis Politis who helped me with the transcription of the documents.

καὶ δεύτερον δὲ σᾶς λέγομεν ὅτι τὰ πανικὰ τῆς Ἰνδίας ὄχι μόνον εἰς τὴν Κομπανίαν ἐδόθησαν ἀκριβᾶ, (ὡς σᾶς προεγράφαμεν) ἀλλὰ καὶ ἔμειναν εἰς τὰς αὐτὰς τιμὰς καὶ πηγαίνουσιν ἀναβαίνοντας καθημέραν, τόσον ὅπου τὰ μαλμόλενς ὅπου ἐφωνήσαμεν πρὸς f. 12,,—,—13—B(an)co δὲν τὰ εὐρίσκομεν πλέον μίτε εἰς τὰ f. 13,,—,— καὶ καθεξῆς ὅλα τὰ ἄλλα εἶδη κατὰ ἀναλογίαν. ὅθεν ἡμεῖς δὲν ἐκοίναμεν ἄλογον κατ' οὐδένα τρόπον νὰ δόσωμεν τὸ ἀργύριον σας εἰς πράγματα ἀκριβᾶ, ἀπὸ τὰ ὁποῖα δὲν ἐλπίζεται κέρδος. διὰ νὰ μὴν μείνῃ ὁμως ἡ κομμισσιῶνε σας παντελῶς ἀνερόγητος, μάλιστα ὅπου εἶχε προφωνήσομεν εἰς τὴν Κομπανίαν 50,, μαλμόλενς διὰ λογ. σας (καθὼς εἰς τὸν καιρὸν τὸ ἐμάθετε) ἐπροσθέσαμεν ἀκόμη ἄλλα 50,, μαλμόλενς ἀπὸ τὰ ἐδικὰ μας καὶ αὐτὰ φωνισμένα εἰς τὴν Κομπανίαν, τὸ ὁποῖον δὲν ἤθελε τὸ κάμωμεν βέβαια δι' ἄλλον τινὰ νὰ τοῦ χαρίσωμεν φανερᾶ ὑπὲρ τὰ f. 60,,—,— καθὼς ἐλπίζω νὰ τὸ καταλάβετε καὶ ἡ ἀθηντεία σας. καὶ λοιπὸν αὐτὰ τὰ 100,, κομμάτια εἰς μίαν κασσέλαν θέλει τὰ ἱμβαοκάρωμεν αὐριον εἰς τὸ καρᾶβι τοῦ καπ. φόλκερτ ἔντριξ, ὁ ὁποῖος μισσεύει μὲ πρῶτον καλὸν ἄνεμον διὰ Σμύρνην καὶ Κωνσταντινούπολιν ἢ *vice versa*, εἰς παράδοσιν τῶν ἐκεῖ συντρόφων σας, σηγουράρωντας τα ἐξ ὁλοκλήρου κατὰ τὴν προσταγὴν σας. ἡ ποσότης αὐτῆς τῆς κασσέλας θέλει εἶναι σχεδὸν ἕως f. 1350,, ὁμοῦ μὲ τὰ ἔξοδα σηγουριτᾶν καὶ προβιζιῶνε. καὶ λοιπὸν μένουσιν εἰς χεῖρας μας σχεδὸν f. 650,, τοῦ λογαριασμοῦ σας, τὰ ὁποῖα θέλει τὰ οἰκονομήσετε καθὼς ἀγαπάτε, σύρωντάς τα ἐπάνω μας, ἢ γράφωντάς μας νὰ σᾶς τὰ ὀμιεττέρωμεν, ἢ καὶ παραγγέλωντάς μας νὰ σᾶς τὰ φωνίσωμεν εἰς ὅ,τι ἄλλο εἶδος πραγματείας ὀρίζετε, τὸ ὁποῖον ἴσως φθάσει νὰ σταλθῇ καὶ πρὶν τῆς πῆξεως τῶν νερῶν, ἂν ὁ καιρὸς μείνῃ καθὼς εἶναι. μάλιστα ἂν ἐζητούσετε τὴν γνώμην μας, σᾶς ἐσυμβουλεύαμεν διὰ ἓνα κοντὶ χρυσάφι, ὅπου μὲ τὸ νὰ δίδεται ταῖς περισσότεραις φοραῖς ἀνανλον, καὶ μὲ τὸ νὰ μὴν ἔχῃ καὶ ἄλλα πολλὰ ἔξοδα εἶναι σχεδὸν τὸ ἐπικερδέστερον. ἂς εἶναι καὶ τοῦτο πρὸς τοῖς ἄλλοις διὰ νὰ σᾶς δείξωμεν πόσον φροντίζομεν διὰ τὰ ἰντερέσσασας. ταῦτα καὶ προσμένοντες τιμίαν σας ἀπάντησιν μένομεν εἰς τὰς προσταγὰς σας

Δ. Κοραῆς καὶ Συντροφία

3

Copy of the previous letter, by another hand, evidently that of Korais' clerk. Korais added the postscript in his own hand.

Σμύρνη πρὸς τοὺς Κυρίους δημήτριον Κορμούλην καὶ Συντροφία  
Ἄμστελδᾶμ 10,, δεκεμβρίου 1773—



ἄστερον ἀπὸ τὴν τελευταίαν μας 16,, νοεμβρίου (μὲ ὄλον ὁποῦ εἰς τὰς 7,, τοῦ τρέχοντος σᾶς ἐστύλαμεν μίαν ἐπιστολὴν ἀπὸ τοὺς ἐν Κωνσταντινουπόλει συντροφουσας) δὲν σᾶς ἐγράψαμεν πλέον; ἐλπίζοντες ὥρα τῆ ὥρα νὰ τελωσωμεν τὴν Κομμισιῶνε σας. τῶρη μὲ τὴν ἀφορμὴν τῆς τιμίαςας 26,, νοεμβρίου, πρωτον μεν σᾶς εὐχαριστώμεν ὅτι θέλει τιμίσετε τὴν ὑπογραφήν μας, ὅταν σᾶς παρησιασθῆ; δεύτερον δὲ σᾶς λέγομεν, ὅτι τὰ πανικὰ τῆς Ἰνδίας, ὅχι μόνον εἰς τὴν Κομπανία, ἐδώθησαν ἀκριβᾶ ὡς σᾶς προεγράψαμεν, ἀλλὰ καὶ ἔμνην εἰς τὰς αὐτὰς τιμᾶς, καὶ πιγένουσιν αναβέροντας καθ' ἡμέραν, τόσον ὁποῦ τὰ μαλμόλενς ὁποῦ ἐφωνήσαμεν πρὸς f. 12,, B[an]co δὲν τὰ ευρισκομεν πλέον μίτη εἰς τὰ f. 13,,— καὶ καθεξῆς ὅλα τὰ ἄλα ἴδοι κατὰ ἀναλογίαν. ὅθεν ἡμεῖς δὲν ἐκρίναμεν εἰλόγον κατ' οἷδονα τρόπον, νὰ δώσωμεν τὸ ἀργιουσας εἰς πράγματα, ἀκριβᾶ ἀπὸ τὰ ὁποῖα δὲν ἐλπίζετε κέρδος, διὰ νὰ μὴν μείνει ὅμως ἡ Κομμισιωνέσας παντελῶς ἀνεργίτως, μάλιστα ὁποῦ εἶχε προφωνησωμεν εἰς τὴν Κομπανία 50,, μαλμόλενς διὰ λογ. σας καθῶς, εἰς τὸν καιρὸν τὸ ἐμαθέτε) ἐπροσθέσαμεν ἀκόμη ἄλλα 50 μαλμόλενς ἀπὸ τὰ ἐδικάμας καὶ αὐτὰ φωνησμένα εἰς τὴν Κομπανία, τὸ ὁποῖον δὲν ἤθελε τὸ κάμωμεν βέβαια διὰ ἄλον τινὰ νὰ τοῦ χαρίσωμεν φανερᾶ ὑπὲρ τὰ f. 60,,—,— καθῶς ἐλπίζω νὰ τὸ καταλάβετε, καὶ ἡ αἰθεντία σας, καὶ λοιπὸν αὐτὰ τὰ 100,, Κομμάτια εἰς μίαν κασσέλα, θέλει τὰ ἱμπαρκάρομεν αὔριον εἰς τὸ καράβι τοῦ καπ. Volkert Hendriks, ὁ ὁποῖος μισσεύει μὲ πρότον καλὸν ἀνεμον διὰ Σμύρνην καὶ Κωνσταντινουπόλι ἢ Vice Versa, εἰς παραδῶσιν τῶν ἐκεῖ συντροφῶσας, συγορῶροντάς τα ἐξολοκλήρον κατὰ τὴν προσταγῆσας. αὐτῆς τῆς κασσέλας ἡ ποσότης θέλει εἶναι σχεδὸν ἕως f. 1350,,— ὁμοῦ μὲ τὰ ἔξοδα σηγορητᾶ καὶ προβιζιῶνε, καὶ λοιπὸν μένουσιν εἰς χειρας μας σχεδὸν f. 650 τοῦ λογ.σας. τὰ ὁποῖα θέλει τὰ ἡκονομίσετε καθῶς ἀγαπάτε συροντάς τα ἐπάνω μας ἢ γράφωντας μας νὰ σᾶς τὰ ρημετέρομεν, ἢ καὶ παραγγελοντάς μας νὰ σᾶς τὰ φωνησόμεν εἰς ὅτι ἄλο ἴδος πραγματίας ὀρίζετε, τὸ ὁποῖον ἴσως φθάση νὰ σταλθῆ καὶ πρὶν τῆς πῆξεως τῶν νερῶν, ἂν ὁ καιρὸς μείνη καθῶς εἶναι, μάλιστα ἂν ἐζητούσατε τὴν γνώμην μας, σᾶς ἐσυμβουλεύαμεν, διὰ ἓνα κοντι χρισάφη, ὁποῦ μὲ τὸ νὰ δίδετε τῆς περισσώτερες βολές ἀναβλο, καὶ μὲ τὸ νὰ μὴν ἔχει καὶ ἄλα πολὰ ἔξοδα εἶναι σχεδὸν τὸ ἐπικερδέστερον. ἂς εἶναι καὶ τοῦτο πρὸ τῆς ἄλλοις, διὰ νὰ σᾶς διξῶμεν πῶσον φροντίζομεν διὰ τὰ ἱντερέσασας. Ταῦτα καὶ προσμένοντες τιμίαν σας ἀπάντισιν μένωμεν.

εἴμεσθε «14» τοῦ αὐτοῦ,, μετὰ τὴν βεβ. τῆς ἂν. Κόπιας. χωρὶς τιμίαν σας σᾶς λέγομεν ὅτι τὴν ἄνωθι Κασσέλαν μὲ πέτζαις 100,, μαλμόλενς, σημειωμένην <sup>LC</sup> no. 1,, τὴν ἐφορτώσαμεν εἰς τὸ ἄνωθι καράβι τοῦ καπ. φόλκετ ἐντοῖξ. ὁ ὁποῖος δὲν προσμένει παρὰ καιρὸν διὰ νὰ μισσεύση. γράφετέ μας εἰς ἀπόκρισιν ἂν ἀγαπᾶτε νὰ ἔχετε τὸ Ἴσον τοῦ λογ. φωνήσεως τῆς αὐτῆς κασσέλας διὰ ῥεγολάνσας. Ταῦτα καὶ μένομεν εἰς τὰς προσταγὰς σας.

A. Κοραῆς καὶ Συντροφία.

## 4

Βενετίαν. πρὸς τοὺς Κυρίους Δημήτριον Κουρμούλην καὶ Συντροφίαν.  
Ἄμστελδᾶμ 18,, [Ἰανουαρίου] τῶν 1774.

πρώτον μὲν σᾶς ἐπευχόμεθα τὸ νέον ἔτος παρὰ κυρίου πλήρες πάσης εὐδαιμονίας. ἔπειτα ἀποκρινόμεθα εἰς τὴν τιμίαν σας „31,, δεκεμβρίου τοῦ παρελθόντος ἔτους λέγοντες σας ὅτι ἐπειδὴ ὁ Καπ φόλκερτ ἐντριξ ἐμίσσευσεν εἰς τὰς 12 τοῦ τρέχοντος διὰ Σμύρνην καὶ Κωνσταντινούπολιν, δὲν εἴμεσθε πλέον εἰς καιρὸν νὰ τελειώσωμεν τὴν παραγγελίαν σας διὰ τὸ χρυσάφι. ὅθεν αὐτὰ ὀποῦ εὐρίσκονται εἰς χείρας μας f. 647,,17:8: κορέντε τῆς ἐδῶ πιάτζας (κατὰ τὴν κάτωθι σημείωσιν) τοῦ ἐδικοῦ σας λογαριαζμοῦ ἡμπορεῖτε νὰ τὰ σύροτε ὁπότεν ἀγαπάτε. μάλιστα ὀποῦ καὶ καράβι πλέον νὰ φύγη δὲν εἶναι ἕως τὸν μᾶτον μῆνα. καὶ θαυμάζώμεθα πῶς νὰ μὴ μᾶς γράψετε νὰ τὰ ὀμεπτερώσωμεν ἡμεῖς, ὀποῦ αὐτὸς ἦτον ὁ συντομώτερος τρόπος νὰ λάβετε τὸ ἐδικὸν σας ταχύτερον.—

ἐδῶ ἐγκεκλεισμένον ἔχετε τὸ ἴσον τοῦ λογ. ψωνήσεως τῶν γνωστῶν πανικῶν σταλμένων πρὸς τοὺς συντρόφους σας. περὶ δὲ τοῦ χρυσαρίου σᾶς λέγομεν πάλιν ὅτι ἀνίσως τὸ θέλετε νὰ τὸ στείλωμεν μὲ τῆς ἀνοίξεως τὰ καράβια, πρέπει νὰ μᾶς ἀνανεώσετε τὴν ὀρδίνειαν σας καὶ πάλιν, ἢ τῶρα, ἢ εἰς τὸν καιρὸν διὰ κυβέρνησίν μας ταῦτα καὶ μένομεν εἰς ἐκπλήρωσιν τῶν ποθεινῶν προσταγῶν σας.

#### Α. Κοραῆς καὶ Συντροφία

ἡ κασσέλα τὰ πανικὰ ἐστη- σεν μεσιτικά 1,, τὰ [[χίλια διὰ τὴν ἀντίκρου ποσ[ότητα]]	f. 1350,,2,,— 2,,—,—	ἐσῶραμεν μπάγκου
	f. 1352,,2,,—	f. 1907,,—8
σᾶς μένομεν χρεῶσται δι' ἐξόφλησιν	647,,17,,8:	ἄτζιο 4 <sup>7</sup> / <sub>8</sub> 92,,19,,—
	f. 1999,,19,,8	f. 1999,,19,,8

#### 5

βενετιαν. πρὸς τοὺς Κυρίους Δημήτριον Κουρμούλην καὶ Συντροφίαν.  
Ἀμστελδᾶμ. 25,, Ἰανουαρίον 1774

Ἡ τελευταία μας ἦτον 18,, τοῦ τρέχοντος, εἰς τὴν ὀποίαν σᾶς ἐφανερῶναμεν τὸν μισσευμὸν τοῦ φόλκερτ ἐντριξ εἰς τὰς 12 τοῦ αὐτοῦ (περικλείοντες σας καὶ ἴσον λογ. ψωνήσ(εως) μίας κασσέλας πανικῶν φορτωμένης εἰς τὸν αὐτὸν) τὸ ὀποῖον ἐστάθη καὶ αἰτία ὀποῦ δὲν ἐπροφθάσαμεν νὰ στείλωμεν καὶ τὸ κοντίον χρυσάφι. ὅθεν καὶ σᾶς ἐλέγομεν νὰ σύροτε τὸ περισσευμασας f. 647,,17,,8,, C(orgen)l(e) τῆς ἐδῶ πιάτζας.

Τῶρη μὲ τὸν ἐρχομὸν τοῦ ταχυδρόμου ἐλάβομεν ἀπὸ τοὺς ἐν Κων-

σταντινοπόλει συντρόφους σας Κ. λυγκῶν Καλβοκορέσσην καὶ Συντροφίαν, ἐπιστολήν, εἰς τὴν ὁποίαν μᾶς δίδουσι προσταγὴν νὰ ψωνίσωμεν καὶ πάλιν μερικὰ εἶδη πανικῶν, καθὼς θέλει καταλάβετε ἀπὸ τὴν ἐγκλεισμένην πρὸς τὴν ἀθηνείαν σας ἀπὸ τοὺς αὐτοὺς κυρίους, οἱ ὅποιοι μᾶς λέγουσι νὰ γροικηθῶμεν (καθὼς καὶ πρότερον) μὲ τοῦ λόγου σας διὰ τὴν ψώνησιν τῶν αὐτῶν πανικῶν, προσθέτοντες καὶ τοῦτο, ὅτι σᾶς γράφουσι, νὰ μᾶς ἀξιήσετε τὴν αὐτὴν κομμισσιῶνε, ἂν εὐρίσκεσθε εἰς καιρὸν. μὲ τὸ νὰ μὴν εἶναι ὅμως διάβασις διὰ τὸν λεβάντε ἕως τὸν μᾶϊον μῆνα, καθὼς ἀπὸ τὴν προλαβοῦσαν μας ἴδετε, δὲν ἠμποροῦμεν μίτε ἡμεῖς νὰ βάλωμεν εἰς πρᾶξιν τὴν αὐτὴν κομμισσιῶνε, πρὶν τὸν ἀπρίλλιον. καὶ λοιπὸν παρακαλοῦμεν νὰ μᾶς δώσετε τὴν ἄδειαν (εἰς ἀπάντησιν) νὰ σύρωμεν ἐπάνω σας διὰ τὸ κόστον τῆς αὐτῆς κομμισσιῶνε εἰς τὸν καιρὸν ὅπου πρόπει νὰ τὰ ψωνήσωμεν, βεβαιοῦντες σας καὶ πάλιν ὅτι θέλει βάλλωμεν ὅλην μας τὴν προσοχὴν νὰ σᾶς εὐχαριστήσωμεν τὸ κατὰ δύναμιν. ταῦτα καὶ μένομεν εἰς τὰς ἐπιθυμητὰς προσταγὰς σας.

Α. Κοραΐς καὶ Συντροφία

## 6

Copy of the previous letter by Korais' clerk, with considerable differences in the spelling. We publish here only the postscript, which Korais added in his own hand.

βενετία πρὸς τοὺς Κυρίους Δημήτριον Κορυμούλην καὶ Συντροφία  
Ἰαμστελδᾶμ 25,, Ἰαννουαρίου 1774—

.....  
εἴμεσθε σὺν θεῷ εἰς τὰς 28,, τοῦ αὐτοῦ, μετὰ τὴν βεβ. τῆς ἂν. κόπιας, μὴ ἔχοντες τι νεώτερον νὰ προσθέσωμεν, μένομεν καὶ πάλιν προσμένοντες τὰς προσταγὰς σας.—

Α. Κοραΐς καὶ Συντροφία.

## 7

Only the supplement, dated April 12, and the two postscripts are in Korais' own handwriting. The letter itself has been copied by his clerk.

βενετία πρὸς τοὺς Κυρίους Δημήτριον Κορυμούλην καὶ Συντροφία.  
Ἰαμστελδᾶμ 5,, ἀπριλίου. 1774:—

ἡ τελευταία μας ἦτον 15,, φεβρουαρίου. τῶρῃ ἀποκρινόμεθα εἰς τὴν τιμίαν σας 4,, τοῦ αὐτοῦ. ἐπειδὴ πλησιάσῃ ὁ μισεμοὺς τῶν καραβίων,

τοῦ μὲν ἄντρισεν διὰ Σμόρην, τῶν δὲ ἔντριξ καὶ μαχέλεσεν διὰ Κωνσταντινουπόλιν καὶ Σμόρην, ἐκρίναμεν εὐλογον νὰ κάμωμεν αρχη φωνήσεως τῶν πανικῶν, ὅποῦ ἡ αὐθεντίας καὶ οἱ Συντροφοίσας μοῦ εἰσαγγεῖλετε καὶ λοιπὸν εἰφωνήσαμεν ἕως τώρη.

100,, χαζινὲ μερομέρια πρὸς f.  $15^3/4$

100 χασάδαις ..... 15 —

96 αὐτοὺς .....  $11^{1/2}$

60 μερομέρια .....  $13^3/4$  τὰ ὅποια εἶναι τελσίς καθὼς μᾶς

ἔλεγαν οἱ Συντροφοίσας ἀπὸ Κωνσταντινουπόλεως καὶ ὄχι τελσίη καθὼς μᾶς γράφετε (ἴσως μὲ λάθος) ὅποῦ θέλει νὰ εἶπῃ μὲ χρυσαῖς ἄκραις, τὰ ὅποια εἶναι ακριβωτέρα. μὲ τὸ νὰ μὴ μᾶς ἐδιωρίζετε τιμὴν μᾶς ἐφάνη εὐλογον νὰ πάρωμεν ἀπὸ διαφόρους τιμάς. σᾶς βεβαιώνομεν ὅμως ὅτι εἶναι ὅλα ἐξαιρέτου ποιότητος κατὰ ἀναλογίαν τῆς τιμῆς των, καὶ φωνησμένα μὲ προσοχήν. μὲ πρωτὴν ἀφορμὴν θέλει φωνήσω καὶ εἶτι ἄλλο μᾶς φωτίση ὁ θεός, διὰ ἀναπλήρωσιν τῶν f 8000 „—, — κατὰ τὴν προσταγήσας, ἔξω ἀπὸ τὰ σουράγια Κομμάτια 50,, τὰ ὅποια δὲν εὐρέθη τινὰς νὰ μᾶς τὸ ἐξηγήση τί θέλει νὰ εἰποῦσι καὶ ἂν ἠμπορεῖτε νὰ μᾶς τὸ σαφηνήσετε καθαρώτερα ἢ νὰ μᾶς στείλετε κανένα μουστρακη θέλει μῆνυτε καὶ εἰς αὐτὸ δουλευμένος

εὐρίσκοντες ἀφορμὴν ἐπητηδεῖον θέλει σύρωμεν ἐπάνωσας τὴν ἄνω εἰρημένην ποσότητα—

οἱ Κύριοι συντροφοίσας ἀπὸ Σμόρνης ἐφορτώσαν 10 μπάλαις βαμβάκια εἰς καπ. Ἀβράαμ. Langedijk διὰ λογ. ἴδιον των καὶ εἰς παραδοσιν μας διὰ τῶν ὁποίων τὴν ξεκαθάρισιν μᾶς γράφουσι νὰ γροικηθῶμεν μὲ τὴν αὐθεντίαςον. Τὸ αὐτὸ καράβι ἔφυγεν ἀπ' ἐκεῖ 21 Ιανουαρίου περασμένου καὶ δὲν ἐφάνη ἀκόμη. σηγουρητῶν δὲν μᾶς ἔγραψαν περὶ τούτου καὶ ἂς εἶναι πρὸς εἰδησίαν σας. ταῦτα καὶ μένομεν εἰς τᾶς ἐπιθυμητας προσταγασας.

Εἴμεσθε σὺν θεῷ εἰς τὰς 12,, τοῦ αὐτοῦ. μετὰ τὴν βεβ. τῆς ἄν. Κόπιας, μὴ ἔχοντες τί νεώτερον, μὲ τὸ νὰ μὴν ἐτελειώσαμεν ἀκόμη τὴν ὀλόκληρον κομμισσιῶνε σας καὶ μένομεν καὶ πάλιν εἰς ἐκπλήρωσιν τῶν προσταγῶν σας.

Δ. Κοραῆς καὶ Συντροφία.

Ε.Γ. εἰς τὰς 8,, τοῦ τρέχοντος ἔφθασεν εὐτυχῶς ὁ καπ. γιάκοπ σήμμα καὶ εἰς τὰς 9,, ὁ καπ σεῖμπραντζ καὶ οἱ δύο ἀπὸ Σμόρνης. ὁ καπ Langedijk δὲν ἐφάνη ἀκόμη.

Ε.Γ. Δόσετε παρακαλῶ τὴν ἐγκεκλεισμένην τοῦ κυρίου Κιονμιτζόγλου.

## 8

The first part of the letter repeats the end of the previous one and is written by Korais' clerk. By Korais' hand: from *Εἴμεσθε σὺν Θεῷ τὰς 22 τοῦ αὐτοῦ*... to the end.

*Βενετίαν πρὸς τοὺς Κυρίους Δημητρίον Κορυμῶλην καὶ Συντροφία.  
Ἀμστελδᾶμ 12,, ἀπριλλίου 1774*

*εἴμεσθε σὺν Θεῷ εἰς τὰς 12,, τοῦ αὐτοῦ μετὰ τὴν βεβ. τῆς ἄνωθι Κόπιας, μὴν ἔχοντες τί νεωτέρον μὲ τὸ ναμὴν ἐτελειωσαμεν ἀκόμη τὴν ὀλοκληρον κομμισιωνεσσας μενόμεν καὶ πάλιν εἰς ἐκπλήρωσιν τῶν προσταγῶνσας.*

*Ε.Γ. εἰς τὰς 8 τοῦ τρέχοντος ἔφθασεν ὁ καπ. γακοπ σήμαν καὶ εἰς τὰς 9 ὁ καπ. σεῖμπραντζ καὶ οἱ δύο ἀπὸ Σμύρνην. ὁ καπ. Langediijk δὲν ἐφάνη ἀκόμη.—*

*δώσετε παρακαλῶ τὴν ἐγκεκλεισμένην τοῦ κυρίου γκιουμιτζόγλου.*

*Εἴμεσθε σὺν Θεῷ εἰς τὰς 22,, τοῦ αὐτοῦ, μετὰ τὴν βεβ. τῆς ἄνωθι Κόπιας, σᾶς λέγομεν ὅτι τὴν κομμισσιῶνε σας δὲν τὴν ἐτελειώσαμεν ἀκόμη ὀλόκληρον, μὲ τὸ νὰ προσμένῃ ἕνας μας φίλος πανικὰ ἀπὸ λόνδρον. καὶ μᾶς λέγει ὅτι εἶναι καλά. ὅθεν ἐκρίναμεν εὐλογον νὰ προσμείνωμεν ὀλίγας ἡμέρας. ὡς τόσον τὴν ἐρχομένην ἐβδομάδα θέλει σόρωμεν ἐπάνω σας 4 ἢ 5,, χιλιάδαις φιορίνια ἀκόντο, καὶ ἔστω πρὸς εἶδῃσιν σας.*

*Ὁ καπ. λανγεδέικ ἔφθασεν ἔφθασεν εὐτυχῶς εἰς τὰς 17,, καὶ ὁ φροστ εἰς τὰς 20,, τοῦ τρέχοντος. ὁ μισῆρ λουκῆς σύντροφος σας μᾶς γράφει μὲ τὴν τελευταίαν του ὅτι τὰ πανικὰ ἂν εἶναι καὶ ὑπὲρ τὰς 8 χιλιάδαις φιορίνια, ἄς εἶναι, καὶ ἠθέλαμεν εἰς τοῦτο καὶ τὴν γνώμην τῆς ἀθθεντείας σου. ἀκόμη μᾶς γράφει νὰ περάσω εἰς τὸν λογ. σας f 20,, διὰ τὰ ὁποῖα εἶχε τὸν ντεμπιτάρομεν. γράψετε μας παρακαλῶ μὲ τίνα ἔχομεν νὰ ἀνοίξωμεν λογαριασμόν, δηλαδὴ ποῖον ἔχομεν νὰ ντεμπιτάρομεν τόσον δι' ἐκεῖνα ὅπου ἔστειλαμεν ὅσον, καὶ δι' ἐκεῖνα ὅπου μέλλει νὰ στείλωμεν, μὲ τὴν ἀθθεντείαν σου, ἢ μὲ τοὺς ἐν σμύρνη συντρόφους σας διὰ εἶδῃσιν μας. ταῦτα καὶ μένομεν μὲ ἐπιθυμία τῶν προσταγῶν σας.*

*Δ. Κοραῆς καὶ Συντροφία.*

## 9

The first part of this letter repeats the letter n<sup>o</sup> 8 and is written by Korais' clerk. We publish here only the part which Korais' added in his own hand.

*Βενετίαν. πρὸς τοὺς κυρίους Δημήτριον Κορυμῶλην καὶ Συντροφίαν.  
Ἀμστελδᾶμ 22,, ἀπριλλίου 1774.*

.....

Εἴμεσθε σὺν θεῷ εἰς τὰς 29,, τοῦ αὐτοῦ, μετὰ τὴν βεβ. τῆς ἄν. Κόπιας, ἀποκοινομαί εἰς τὴν τιμίαν σας δεδομένην 13,, ἀπριλλίου. τὸ πῶς δὲν ἐβιάσθημεν εἰς τὴν ψώνησιν τῆς κομμισσιῶνεσας θέλει τὸ καταλάβετε ἀπὸ τὴν ἄνωθι Κόπιαν. καὶ ἐκεῖνα τὰ ὀλίγα ὅπου ἐφρονίσσαμεν ἕως τώρη κατὰ τὴν σημείωσιν ὅπου σᾶς ἐστείλαμεν εἰς τὰς 5,, τοῦ τρέχοντος, εἶναι ψονισμένα μὲ τοιαύτην προσοχήν, ὅπου ἐλπίζεται κέρδος, καὶ ὄχι ζημία. Τὰ πανικὰ ἐδῶ εἶναι εἰς ταῖς αὐταῖς σχεδὸν τιμαῖς ὅπου ἦτον καὶ εἰς τὸν καιρὸν ὅπου μᾶς ἐδώκετε τὴν κομμισσιῶνε. τὸ πῶς νὰ ἐδοκίμασαν ἀζητησίαν εἰς Κωνσταντινούπολιν, ἡμεῖς τοιαύτην εἶδησιν δὲν ἔχομεν ἀπὸ τοὺς συντρόφους μας—

σήμερον ἐσύραμεν ἐπάνω σας τρεῖς καμπιάλαις διὰ νὰ πληρώσετε μίαν μόνην φορὰν εἰς ὀρδινεῖαν τῶν κυρίων Gerrit & Willem Reesen δονκάτα μπάγκου τῆς αὐτόθι πιάτζας 2180.— τὰ ὅποια τὰ ἐνεγοτζίραμεν πρὸς  $88\frac{5}{8}$  καὶ εἰς τὸ ἐξῆς θέλει ἔχετε τὴν εἶδησιν πόσα φιορίνια κορέντε ἕκαμαν τῆς δλάνδας. δὲν ἀμφιβάλλωμεν ὅτι θέλει τιμήσετε τὴν ὑπογραφήν μας μὲ τὴν συνειθισμένην σας ἐτοιμότητα εἰς τὴν πληρωμὴν.

Τὰ καράβια μισσεύουσι σὺν θεῷ μετὰ 20,, σχεδὸν ἡμέρας (καθὼς λέγουσι) καὶ τότε κοντὰ λοιπὸν θέλει τελειώσωμεν καὶ τὰ λείποντα τῆς κομμισσιῶνε σας φιορίνια τρεῖς χιλιάδας σχεδὸν ταῦτα καὶ μένομεν εἰς τὰς ἐπιθυμητὰς προσταγὰς σας.

Δ. Κοραῆς καὶ Συντροφία

### 10

The first part of this letter repeats the end of the previous one and is written by Korais' clerk. We publish here only the part which Korais' added in his own hand:.

Βενετία πρὸς τοὺς κυρίους Δημητρίον Κορμυόλην καὶ Συντροφία.  
Ἀμστελδᾶμ 29,, Ἀπριλλίου 1774—

.....

εἴμεσθε σὺν θεῷ εἰς τὰς 6,, μαῖου, μετὰ τὴν βεβ. τῆς ἄνωθι Κόπιας ἀποκοινομέθα εἰς τὴν τιμίαν σας δεδομένην 20,, τοῦ παρελθόντος. Βλέπομεν τὴν ἄδειαν ὅπου μᾶς δίδετε, νὰ ἀξήσωμεν τὴν κομμισσιῶνε σας ἕως f. δέκα χιλιάδας, ὅθεν κατ' αὐτὸ πηγαίνωμεν ψονίζοντες μὲ τὴν ὑπομονὴν μας πρᾶγμα τῆς ἀρεσκείας μας, καθὼς καὶ χθὲς ἀγοράσαμεν ἀκόμη 100,, κομμάτια μαλμόλενς σαβασπούρια πρὸς f.  $13\frac{1}{2}$

μπάγκου, και ἐλπίζω εἰς ὅλας μας αὐτὰς τὰς πράξεις νὰ μείνετε εὐχαριστημένοι ἐξ ὀλοκλήρου, ἐπειδὴ σᾶς βεβαιούμεν εἰς τὴν τιμὴν μας ὅτι ἂν ἦτον ἐδικὰ μας, δὲν ἤμπορούσαμεν νὰ λάβωμεν περισσοτέραν προσοχὴν ἀπὸ ὅ,τι ἐλάβομεν. αὖριον μελετοῦμεν σὺν Θεῷ νὰ φορτώσωμεν ὅσα ἕως τὴν ἔχουμεν φωνισμένα εἰς τὸν καπ. Andriessen, ἐπειδὴ λέγει ὅτι ἔχει νὰ μισσεύσῃ τὴν ἐρχομένην ἐβδομάδα κατ' εὐθειαν διὰ τὴν σμύρνην, καὶ ἐκρίναμεν εὐλογον νὰ μοιράσωμεν τὸ πρῶγμα σας εἰς δύο καρᾶβια διὰ τὸ συμφερότερον σας, τὸν λογ. τῶν αὐτῶν θέλει τὸν ἔχετε ἐντελῆ, ὅταν φωνήσωμεν καὶ τὰ λείποντα, τὸ ὅποιον ἴσως ἀκολουθήσῃ τὴν ἐρχομένην ἐβδομάδα. ἢ μάγκα ὅπου ἔβαλα εἰς τὸ αὐτὸ πρῶγμα εἶναι τοιαύτη  $\frac{1}{DL}$  ὅπου σημαίνει καὶ τῶν τριῶν σας τὰ δνόματα—

Εὐρίσκοντες ἀφορμὴν ἐπητίδειον σήμερον ἐσύραμεν ἐπάνωσας τρεῖς καμπιάλας διὰ νὰ πληρώσετε μίαν μόνην φορὰν εἰς προσταγὴν τῶν κυρίων Gerrit & Willem Reesen δονκάτα μπάγκου τῆς αὐτόθι πιάτζας χίλια: 1000,— τὰ ὅποια τὰ ἐνεγοτζιάρουμεν πρὸς grotten  $88^{\frac{5}{8}}$  πρὸς εἰδησιν σας. τὰ δὲ προλαβόντα δονκάτα 2180 πρὸς  $88^{\frac{5}{8}}$  (ὡς εἰς τὴν κόπιαν ἔστεισαν ..... f. 4830,,1,—

ἄτζιο μπάγκου πρὸς  $4^{\frac{3}{4}}\%$  229,,9,—

καὶ διὰ τόσα σᾶς ἐδώσαμεν πίστιν ..... 5059,,10,—

Κατὰ τὸ μοστράκι σερσονκέρια ὅπου μοῦ περικλείεις ζητοῦσι ἀκατέβατα πρῶτον κόστον φιορίνια 48,, καὶ δὲν σᾶς δίδω βουλὴν εἰς αὐτὰ ἐπειδὴ εἶναι ἀκριβώτατον πρῶγμα, καὶ δὲν εἶναι καμμία ἐλπίς κέρδους.—

Περὶ δὲ τῆς προτάσεως ὅπου μᾶς κάμνεις, δὲν μοῦ κατοφαίνεται τόσον νὰ σοῦ εἰπῶ ὅτι δὲν ἤμπορῶ, ὅσον μοῦ κατοφαίνεται συλλογιστόμενος, ὅτι ἴσως δὲν τὸ πιστεύσης ὅτι δὲν ἤμπορῶ. πιστευσόν μοι ὅμως ἀδελφὲ ὅτι εἰς ἄλλην ἀφορμὴν ἤμπορῶ διὰ λόγον σου νὰ δεχθῶ καὶ νὰ πληρώσω ὅσον μοῦ συγχωρεῖ ἡ δύναμις μου μὲ κάθε μου εὐχαρίστησιν ἐπειδὴ ἤξερῶ ποῖον δουλεύω. εἰς τούτην ὅμως τὴν περιόστασιν νὰ μοῦ ξανασύρῃς ἐκεῖνα ὅπου σοῦ σύρω, μοῦ εἶναι (νὰ ζῆ ἢ φηχί μου) ἀδύνατον ἐπειδὴ εἶναι πρῶγμα ὅπου ἐγγίζει εἰς τὴν ὑπόληψιν, καὶ ὅποιος τὸ ἀκούσῃ (ὅπου δὲν λείπουσι νὰ τὰ περιεργάζονται τὰ τοιαῦτα) θέλει νομίσει ὅτι τὸ κάμνω διὰ νὰ ἔχω ἀργύριον εἰς τὸ χέρι μου, διὰ τὰς ἀνάγκας ἐκεῖνας ὅπου θεῖω ἐλέει δὲν ἔχω, καὶ στοχάσου ὡς φρόνιμος, τί ἤμπορεῖ νὰ μοῦ προξενήσῃ τοιαύτη φήμη, ὅθεν σὲ παρακαλῶ νὰ μοῦ συμπαθήσης καὶ νὰ μὴ νομίσης ὅτι τὸ κάμνω διὰ νὰ σὲ ξεφορτωθῶ, ὅτι λανθάνεσαι. Ταῦτὰ καὶ μένω εἰς τὰς ἐπιθυμητὰς προσταγὰς σου.—

Α. Κοραῆς καὶ Συντροφία

## 11

The first part of this letter repeats the end of the previous one and is written by Korais clerk. We publish here only the part which Korais added in his own hand.

βενετία. πρὸς τὸν κύριον Δημήτριον Κορομούλην καὶ Συντροφία.

Ἀμστελδᾶμ 6 μαΐου 1774.

.....  
 Εἴμεσθε σὺν θεῷ εἰς τὰς 20,, τοῦ αὐτοῦ, μετὰ τὴν βεβ. τῆς ἄνωθι Κόπιας, χωρὶς τιμίας σας, σᾶς περικλείομεν κοροσιμέντο διὰ δύο μπά-  
 λαις πανικὰ τῆς παραγγελίας σας, ὅπου ἐφορτώσαμεν εἰς τὸ καράβι  
 τοῦ καπ. *Andries Andriessen* μὲ τὴν μάγκαν ὡς εἰς τὴν κόπιαν N<sup>o</sup> 2 a 3  
 ἀπὸ τὰς ὁποίας τὸ μὲν N<sup>o</sup> 2,, περιέχει 100,, μαλμόλες καὶ 98,, τατζή-  
 πια, τὸ δὲ n<sup>o</sup> 3 60,, μαλμόλες καὶ 96,, τατζήπια. Τὰ δὲ λοιπὰ τὰ ἀφή-  
 σαμεν νὰ τὰ ἱμπαρκάρωμεν εἰς τὸν καπ. μαχέλεσεν ἡ καπ. ἔντριξ, ὅπου  
 φεύγουσι (καθὼς λέγουσι) εἰς τὰ τέλη τοῦ τρέχοντος, ἀπὸ τὰ ὁποῖα  
 ἔχομεν ἀκόμη ἀγορασμένα μία μπάλα χάσαδες, πρὸς f. 51,, καὶ ἀγκαλὰ  
 θέλει σᾶς φανοῦσι ἀκριβᾶ, σᾶς λέγομεν ὅμως ὅτι ὁ πωλητὴς τὰ ἀγό-  
 ρασε πρὸ ἕξ χρόνων ἀπὸ τὴν κομπανίαν πρὸς f. 23, καὶ ἀφ' οὗ τὰ ἐφύ-  
 λαξε τοσοῦτον καιρὸν, ἀπεφάσισε πλέον νὰ τὰ δώσῃ εἰς αὐτὴν τὴν ἐπι-  
 ζήμιον διὰ λόγον του τιμῆν, εἶναι πράγμα ἐξαιρετον, καὶ τὸ ἐστειρήθημεν  
 ἡμεῖς διὰ νὰ τὸ δώσωμεν τῆς ἀθθεντείας σας, καὶ ἐλπίζω νὰ πωληθῇ  
 μὲ εὐχαρίστησίν σας. τὰ 23,, φιορίνια ὅπου σᾶς λέγω εἶναι ἀληθέστατον,  
 καὶ οὕτω πρέπει νὰ τὸ γράφετε καὶ τῶν συντροφῶν σας διὰ νὰ ἠξεύρουσι  
 πῶς ἔχουσι νὰ φερθῶσι εἰς τὴν πώλησιν. ἀπὸ τὰς παραγγελίας σας μοῦ  
 λείπουσι ἀκόμη ἕως f. 2000,, σχεδὸν πρὸς ἀναπλήρωσιν τῶν δέκα χι-  
 λιάδων φιορινίων, τὸ ὁποῖον θέλει κάμωμεν μὲ πρῶτην ἀφορμῆν, διὰ  
 νὰ τὰ φορτωσώμεν εἰς ἓνα ἀπὸ τὰ ἄνω εἰρημένα καράβια, καὶ νὰ σᾶς  
 στείλωμεν καὶ τὸν λογ. ἐντελῆ. Ἐσύραμεν ἕως τῶρα δι' αὐτὰ τὴν μὲν  
 ἀπν φοραν ὡς εἰς τὴν κόπιαν

	f. 2.180 κορέντε...	f. 5059,,10,,
τὴν δευτέραν φοραν f. 1.000 μπάγκου	2215,,12,,8	
ἄτζιο 4 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub> %	105,, 5,,—	2320,,17,,8
		7380,, 7,,8

ἐσύραμεν καὶ σήμερον διὰ  
 τὴν ὑστερην φορὰν f. 960,, πρὸς 88<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>  
 τὰ ὁποῖα μὲ τὸ ἄτζιο μπάγκου (τὸ ὁποῖον δὲν ἠξεύρομεν ἀκόμη) γί-  
 νονται σχεδὸν f 2230,, κορέντε, τὴν ὁποῖαν εἴμεσθε βέβαιοι, ὅτι θέλει



τιμήσετε ὡς καὶ τὰς προλαβούσας μας, αὐτὴ εἶναι εἰς δύο καμπιάλαις διὰ μίαν μόνην φορὰν εἰς προσταγὴν τῆς χήρας πίτερ ὄφερμὰν καὶ συντροφίας. ταῦτα μὲ βίαν καὶ μένω εἰς ἐκπλήρωσιν τῶν προσταγῶν σου

Δ. Κοραῆς καὶ Συντροφία.

## 12

The first part of the letter repeats the end of the previous one and is written by Korais' clerk. We publish here only the part which Korais added in his own hand.

βενετία. πρὸς τοὺς κυρίους Δημήτριον Κουρομούλην καὶ Συντροφίαν  
αμστελδὰμ 20,, μαῖου 1774.

.....

Εἴμεσθε σὺν θεῷ εἰς τὰς 24,, τοῦ αὐτοῦ, μετὰ τὴν βεβ. τῆς ὀπισθεν κόπιας, ἀποκρινόμεθα εἰς τὴν τιμίαν σας δεδομένην 11,, τοῦ τρέχοντος. θέλει ἀνοίξωμεν λογαριασμὸν μὲ τοὺς ἐν σμύρῃ συντρόφους μας. τοὺς ὁποίους θέλει ντεπιτάρωμεν καὶ διὰ τὰ f 20,,—, τοῦ μισέρο λουκῆ.

ὁ καπ. andries andriessen ἐμίσεισεν εἰς τὰς 20,, τοῦ παρόντος, τοῦ ὁποίου ἀλησμονήσαμεν νὰ σᾶς στείλωμεν τὸ κοροσσιμέντον εἰς τὴν κόπιαν, καὶ ἰδοὺ πού σᾶς τὸ περικλείομεν διὰ νὰ τὸ στείλετε πρὸς τοὺς ἐν σμύρῃ συντρόφους σας. πρὸς τοὺς ὁποίους στέλλομεν καὶ ἡμεῖς σήμερον τὸ αὐτὸ μὲ τὴν πόσταν. ὁ μαχέλεσεν καὶ ἐντριξ μισσεύουσι μετὰ δεκαπέντε ἢ εἴκοσι ἡμέρας, καὶ μὲ αὐτοὺς θέλει εἶναι ὅλα τὰ ρέστα τῆς κομμισιῶνε σας, στέλλωντας καὶ τὸν ἐντελῆ λογαριασμὸν πρὸς τοὺς συντρόφους σας (καὶ τὸ ἴσον πρὸς τὴν ἀθθεντείαν σου) πρὸς τοὺς ὁποίους ὡς τόσον γράφομεν τὰς τιμὰς διὰ ρέγολαν των, μήπως φθάσῃ ὁ andriessen πρὶν τὸν λογ. φωνήσεως.

Ταῖς μύστραις πανικῶν ὁποῦ μᾶς ζητῆτε, τώρα πλέον δὲν εἴμεσθε εἰς καιρὸν μὲ τὸ νὰ ἐφορτώσαμεν μέρος εἰς andriessen ὡς ἄνωθι, καὶ τὰ λοιπὰ εἶναι σχεδὸν ὅλα μπαλαρισμένα διὰ νὰ ἱμπαραρισθῶσι. καὶ διὰ τοῦτο θέλει ἰδοῦμεν νὰ πάρωμεν μύστραις ἀπὸ κανένα πωλητὴν νὰ σᾶς ταῖς στείλωμεν κατὰ τὴν ἐπιθυμίαν σας, ἢ νὰ προσμείνωμεν τὸν νοέμβριον ὁποῦ πωλεῖ ἡ κομπανία καὶ τότε νὰ σᾶς στείλωμεν ἀπὸ διάφορα εἶδη—

Ταῦτά καὶ μένομεν μὲ ἐπιθυμίαν νέων σας προσταγῶν—

Δ. Κοραῆς καὶ Συντροφία

Βενετιαν. πρὸς τὸν Κύριον Δημήτριον Κορμούλην καὶ Σντροφιάν.  
Ἀμστελδᾶμ. 8., Ἰουλίου 1774.,

Ἀποκρινόμενοι εἰς 4., τιμίας σας δεδομένας 18., μαῖτον ἀπὸ „8., καὶ 22., Ἰουλίου σᾶς λέγομεν ὅτι ταῖς μύστροις πανικῶν δὲν ἐδυνήθημεν νὰ ταῖς ἀποκτήσωμεν ἕνα μὲν ὁποῦ πανικὰ ἔμειναν πολλὰ ὀλίγα ἐδῶ, καὶ πηγαίνει ἡ τιμὴ ἀναβαίνουσα καθ' ἡμέραν ἄλλο δὲ ὁποῦ καθέννας δὲν τὸ κάμνει νὰ λάβῃ τοιοῦτον κόπον νὰ ἀνοίξῃ ὄλαις ταῖς μπάλα(αις) τοῦ μαγαζιοῦ του νὰ κόψῃ μύστροις ὅθεν εἶναι ἀνάγκη νὰ ταῖς μαζεύσωμεν ἀπὸ καιρὸν εἰς καιρὸν ἀπὸ ἐκεῖνα ὁποῦ ψονίζωμεν διὰ τὸν λεβάντε. μὰ μὲ ὅλα αὐτά, αἱ μύστροι μοῦ φαίνεται ὅτι δὲν σᾶς χορησιμεύουσι τόσον. ἐπειδὴ πρέπει νὰ ἡξεύρετε ὅτι κάθε μπάλα ἔχει μέσα καὶ αἰσ καὶ δευτέρας ποιότητος, ἔξω ἀπὸ αὐτό, μὲ τὸ νὰ εἶναι εἰς μεγάλην ζήτησιν, ἡμπορεῖ νὰ διαφέρῃ ἡ τιμὴ ἀπὸ μίαν πόσταν εἰς ἄλλην. καὶ λοιπὸν δὲν ἡμπορεῖ νὰ βάλῃ τιμὰς θεμέλιον.

Ἐδοχαιστοῦμεν διὰ τὴν ἀποδοχὴν τῶν καμπιάλων, ὁποῦ διὰ τὰ

(22)	(23)
Clercq en Zoon, (Jacob de) op de Keizersgr. over de Weftersmarkt, op Postgral en de Oelfzee.	Coevenhoven en Zoon, (P. van) op de Nieuwvand. by de St. Nicolaasgr. in Cathene Lywaten.
Clercq, (Hank de) op de Princegrat by 't Weesperveer, in Oij.	Cogelion, (Steffano) op de Binneckant tusfchen de Bantemer-en-Schippesgraten.
Clercq, (P. de) op de Keizersgrat by de Remonstrate Kerck.	Coite, (Guil. le) op de Princegr. by de Vyzeftion.
Clercq, (Piet. en Steph. de) op de Heeregrat by de Heereftroat, op de Onkzee, en Voorlandten.	Coite, (P. J. le) in de Nieuwe Doelstr. Ichullis over de Doelen, in Juweeten.
Clercq, (Steph. de) ten huize als loven.	Coine (Pierre Jacques le) ten huize als loven.
Clicquet en Comp. op de Heeregr. by de binne Amftel, in Carocnen en Lywaten.	Coignon, (Abr. Lodew.) in de Kalverftroat ten huize van F. Barbaz, in Rottingen.
Clifford en Zoonen, in de Calverft. by de Osfend. ten huize van den Apoth. Riga, op Vrankryk, Engelaed en Spanjen.	Colling, (Diet.) in de Houttuinen.
Clifford en Teyflec, (George) op de Keizersgrat tusfchen de Vyzeftion en Reguliersgrat op Vrankryk, Engelaed en Spanje.	Colonius, (Dirk Herman) op de Cingel over de Beulingflood, in Carocne Lywaten.
Clifford en le Chevalier, (W.) op de Cingel over de Romynsgrat.	Colonius, (Georgz. Hend.) op de Cingel by de Witte Mooten.
Clokkener en Zoon, (Wed. George) in de Warmoesftroat, in Zyde.	Comman en Th. C. Zer Muihlen, (Barent) in de Kalverftroat tusfchen de Heiligeveeg en Ouffchuis, in Hoedemakers Stoften en Rederyen.
Clokkener, (Pieter) in de Warmoesftroat, over de St. Jansftroat, in Baijnen.	Comte Aine, (F. le) op de Princegr. by 't Molier. ten huize van J. C. Chatsneux.
Cloppenburg en van Lankeren, op de Floweele kungwal by de Hougftroat.	Coninck, Junior, (J. de) op de N. Dyk gde huiz van den Daan, O. Z. ten huize van H. J. Houtfcler.
Cobulch, (Jan Herra) op de Cingel tusfchen de Beulingflood en Keytoeg, in Coffy en Thee.	Coninck Willemsz. (Abr.) op de Waal.
Cochinowich, (Jan Will.) in de Nes by de Halveeg, in Rederyen.	Coninck Abrahamsz. (Will.) op de Bultenkant by de Kraanfuis, in Rederyen.
Cock, (Jan) op de Binneckant by de fchippesgr. in Wyden.	Cooper, (Wm.) in de Warmoesft. by de Papenbragt, te May op de Pypemarkt en boft van de Azynmackerf. in Engelifche Manufact.
Cock, (J.) op de Leyersgrat by de Baangrat in Sulker.	Coops en Schaep op de Keizersgr. over de Groenft. Pakh. 't Comp. in de N. Teertuinen, in Teer en Pech.
Coeq en Zoon en Comp. (Henz.) op de binne Amft. tusfchen de Heere en Keizersgrat, op Spanje ten huize van J. F. Lijzer.	Coorndierf, (C.) op de Cingel over de Jan Rede peortz Poowen, in Engelifche Manufacturen.
Coeman, (Cm.) op de Floweeleburgwal over de St. Annuftroat, in Vianens Linen &c.	Coppello (P. v. d.) op de Princegr. by de Beersft.
Coetzd., (Joh.) op 't Roekin by de Enge Kapelsteg, in Lakenen &c.	Coe, (Fr. le.) op de Leidseftroat tusfchen de Heere en Keizersgrat, op Vrankryk.
Coe.	Coray en Comp. (D.) op Floweeleburgwal over de Oude Kerk te May op 't Nieuwe Waals Eyland by de Kraanfuis, op de Levant.
	Corbaz, (Wed. B. T. van) op het Kamperhoof by de Oude Teertuinen, in ftraalmeerswaeren.
	Cor.

Page from the Naamlijst van alle de kooplieden . . . (addressbook) for the year 1774, with the reference to Diamant Coray & Co. ARA, library.

πανικά σᾶς ἐσύραμεν, τὰ ὁποῖα ἐφορτώσαμεν εἰς τὸν καπ. ἔντριξ τὰ ἐπίλοιπα μπάλαις 2,, καθὼς βλέπετε ἀπὸ τὸ ἐγκυλισμένον κονοσιμέντον καὶ λογ. ψωνήσεως τῶν αὐτῶν. ὁ αὐτὸς ἔντριξ δὲν προσμένει παρὰ καιρὸν διὰ νὰ μισσεύσῃ. τὸ αὐτὸ κονοσιμέντο θέλει στείλετε πρὸς τοὺς ἐν σμύρῃ συντρόφους σας πρὸς τοὺς ὁποίους ἐστείλαμεν ἡμεῖς τὸ πρῶτον—

περὶ τῆς ζητήσεως ὁποῦ καὶ πάλιν μοῦ κάμνης, σὲ βεβαίονω ὅτι μοῦ εἶναι ἀδύνατον καὶ ἄς ἔχω συγγνώμην, μάλιστα τὰ φοροῖνια ἀναβαίνουσι καθ' ἡμέραν εἰς τὴν πόλιν ἀντὶ νὰ καταβῶσι—

τὴν ἐρχομένην ἐβδομάδα ξεπίπτει ἡ διορία τῆς τράττας τοῦ μισέρο λουκῆ, καὶ θέλει σύρωμεν ἐπάνω σας f 2.000,,—

περὶ δὲ σηγουριτᾶς καὶ ἡμεῖς περνοῦμεν πάντοτε εἰς τοὺς φίλους μας  $\frac{1}{3}\%$ . διὰ πολὺ σας ὅμως χατήρι ἡμποροῦμεν νὰ τὸ κάμωμεν διὰ  $\frac{1}{4}$ , ἂν μᾶς ὑπόσχεσθε ὡς τιμημένοι ὅτι θέλει τὸ φυλάξετε μυστικόν. τὸ δὲ  $\frac{1}{8}$  μᾶς εἶναι ἀδύνατον. ἔρρωσθε

Δ. Κοραῆς καὶ Συντροφία.

## 14

The first part of this letter repeats the letter n<sup>o</sup> 13 and is written by Korais' clerk. We publish here only the part which Korais added in his own hand.

Βενετίαν πρὸς τὸν κύριον δημήτριον κουρμούλην

Ἄμστερδάμ 8,, ἰουλίου,, 1774.—

.....  
 εἴμεσθε σὺν θεῷ εἰς ταῖς 22,, τοῦ αὐτοῦ μετὰ τὴν βεβ. τῆς ἄν. Κόπιας, χωρὶς τιμίαν σας σᾶς λέγομεν ὅτι σήμερον ἐσύραμεν ἐπάνω σας εἰς τρεῖς καμπιάλαις διὰ νὰ πληρώσετε μίαν μόνην φορὰν εἰς προσταγὴν τῶν ἐνταῦθα κυρίων Gerrit & Willem Reesen δονκάτα μπάγκον τῆς αὐτόθι πιάτζας 850,,15,, τὰ ὁποῖα τὰ ἐνεγοτζίωσαμεν πρὸς 90 groten ὁποῦ κάμνουσι ..... μπάγκον f 1913,,18,,—

ἄτζιο πρὸς  $4\frac{1}{2}\%$  ..... 86,, 2,,—

f 2.000,,—,,—

καὶ οὕτως ἐξοφλεῖ ἡ καμπιάλε ὁποῦ μᾶς ἔσωραν οἱ ἐν κωνσταντινουπόλει συντρόφοι σας f 2.000,,—,,— τὴν αὐτὴν καμπιάλε μας δὲν ἀμφιβάλλομεν ὅτι θέλει τὴν τιμήσετε μὲ τὴν ἔτοιμον ἀποδοχὴν, καὶ εἰς τὸν καιρὸν τὴν πληρωμὴν. Ταῦτα μὲ βίαν καὶ μένομεν εἰς τὰς προσταγὰς σας.—

Δ. Κοραῆς καὶ Συντροφία

## 15

The first part of this letter repeats the end of the previous one and is written by Korais' clerk. We publish here only the part which Korais added in his own hand.

*Βενετίαν. πρὸς τὸν κύριον Δημήτριον Κορνομούλην.*

*Ἀμστερδὰμ 22. ἰουλίου, 1774.*

.....  
 εἴμεσθε σὺν θεῷ εἰς τὰς 5,, ἀγούστου, χωρὶς τιμίαν σας, σᾶς περικλείομεν λογαριασμὸν πωλήσεως 10,, βαλῶν βαμβακίου σταλμένων ἀπὸ τοὺς ἐν Σμύρνη συντρόφους σας (πρὸς τοὺς ὁποίους ἔστειλαμεν τὸ ἴσον) μὲ καπ. *Langediijk*, μὲ τὸ νὰ μᾶς εἶχαν γραφή νὰ γροικηθῶμεν μαζί σας μετὰ τὴν πώλησιν. τὸν αὐτὸν λοιπὸν λογαριασμὸν εὑρίσκοντες ἄνευ λάθους, θέλει διορίσετε τὰ εἰς χεῖρας μας f 900,,19,,8 καθὼς ἀγαπᾶτε. ταῦτα καὶ μὲ ἐπιθυμίαν νέων σας προσταγῶν μένομεν

*Δ. Κοραῆς καὶ Συντροφία.*

## 16

*Βενετίαν. πρὸς τοὺς Κυρίους Δημήτριον Κορνομούλην καὶ Συντροφίαν.*

*Ἀμστελδᾶμ. 2. Σεπτεμβρίου 1774.*

Εἰς ἀπόκρισιν δύο τιμίων σας 3,, καὶ 19,, τοῦ παρελθόντος μηνός, ἴδομεν τὴν ἀποδοχὴν καὶ πληρωμὴν τῶν Καμπιάλων μας καὶ σᾶς ὑπερευχαριστοῦμεν, ὄντες ἔτοιμοι νὰ κάμωμεν καὶ ἡμεῖς τὸ αὐτό, διὰ τὴν ξεκαθάρισιν 10,, βαλῶν βαμβακίου ὅπου μέλλει νὰ μᾶς σύρτετε. περὶ δὲ τῶν ὄσων σᾶς ἐμένομεν χρεῶσται ἀπὸ τῆς πρώτης τῶν πανικῶν ψωνήσεως μὲ καπ. *φόλκερτ*, αὐτὰ ἐκλείσθησαν εἰς τὸν λογαριασμὸν τούτων τῶν ὄστων πανικῶν μὲ *Andriessen* καὶ *Hendrix*, καθὼς τὸ ἀπαιτοῦσε τὸ πρόπον, καὶ καθὼς φαίνεται ἀπὸ τὴν σημείωσιν ὅπου σᾶς ἔστειλα τῶν καμπιάλων ὅπου κατὰ καιροὺς σᾶς ἔσθηρα, καὶ ἀπὸ τὸν λογ. ψωνήσεως τῶν πανικῶν.

τὰ πανικὰ κατὰ τὸ παρὸν δὲν εἶναι ἐλπίς νὰ καταβῶσι ἕως εἰς τὸν καιρὸν ὅπου ἔχει νὰ πωλήσῃ ἡ Κομπανία τὸν ἐρχόμενον νοέμβριον, καὶ τότε πάλιν ἀμφιβάλλω, ἐπειδὴ ἔφερε πολλὰ ὀλίγον πρᾶγμα καὶ φέτος, ἀπὸ τὸ ὅποιον εἶναι διακόσια κομμάτια μόνον σηρσουκέρια, καὶ τὰ λοιπὰ κατὰ ἀναλογίαν. Ταῦτα καὶ μένομεν εἰς τὰς προσταγὰς σας

*Δ. Κοραῆς καὶ Συντροφία.*

Βενετιαν. πρὸς τοὺς κυρίους Δ. Κουρμούλην καὶ Συντροφίαν.

Ἄμστελδᾶμ. 6., Δεκεμβρίου 1774.

Εἰς ἀπόκρισιν δύο τιμίων σου 30., ὀκτωμβρίου, καὶ 18., Νοεμβρίου, πρῶτον μὲν σᾶς λέγω ὅτι τὴν καμπιάλεσας f 862,,3,,8., βάγκου, τὴν ἐδέχθην καὶ τὴν ἐπλήρωσα εἰς τὸν καιρόν, ὄχι ὅμως κατὰ τὸ συμφωνημένον αὐτοῦ ἄγγιον πρὸς 4<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>%, ἀλλὰ πρὸς 4<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>% ἐπειδὴ ἔπρεπεν αὐτῆ σας ἢ συμφωνία νὰ εἶναι ἐγγράφως μέσα εἰς τὴν Καμπιάλε, ἢ κἂν νὰ τὰ σύρετε κορέντε f 900,,19,,8 τὸ ὁποῖον ἦτον τὸ εὐκολώτερον. ἄλλέως δὲν Ἴσχύει. ὄθεν σᾶς ἐδώκαμεν χρέος διὰ f 2,,3,, ὅπου ἐπληρώσαμεν παράνω, δηλαδ. τῶν Κ. Ι. Αὐγερινοῦ καὶ Συντροφία.

περὶ δὲ τῆς νέας παραγγελίας πανικῶν ὅπου μᾶς δίδεται, μοῦ κακοφαίνεται ἀδελφὲ νὰ σοῦ εἰπῶ ὅτι τὰ πανικά φέτος ἐδόθησαν εἰς τὴν κομπανίαν εἰς τιμὰς ὑπερόγκους (καὶ ὄχι μετρίας καθὼς ἡ ἀθθεντία σου τὸ ζητεῖς) μὲ ἓνα σχεδὸν 15., καὶ 20., τὰ ἑκατὸν παράνω ἀπὸ τὰς τιμὰς ὅπου ἔτρεχον πρὶν τῆς πωλήσεως, τόσον ὅπου δὲν προσμένεται καμμία ὠφέλεια ἀπὸ αὐτά, μήτε σᾶς συμβουλεύω νὰ τὰ ἐπιχειρηθεῖτε κατὰ τὸ παρόν. ὅσον τὸ κατ' ἐμὲ εἰς τὰς τιμὰς ὅπου εὐρίσκονται κατὰ τὸ παρόν δὲν τολμῶ νὰ ἀγοράσω μήτε μίαν πέτζαν, ὄχι διὰ τοὺς φίλους, ἀλλὰ μήτε διὰ τὸν ἑαυτόν μου τὸν ἴδιον. ἀγκαλὰ καὶ ἐδῶ ἡ Κάμερα τοῦ ἄμστελδᾶμ ἐπώλησε πλέον, εἶναι ὅμως καὶ ἄλλαι Κάμεραι εἰς ἄλλας προβίντζιας ὅπου δὲν ἐπώλησαν ἀκόμη, αἱ ὁποῖαι τελειώνουσι καὶ αὐταὶ εἰς τὰς 15., τοῦ τρέχοντος, μὲ ὅλον τοῦτο καθὼς ἐπροεῖπα δὲν θέλει βάλω εἰς πρᾶξιν, τὴν προσταγὴν σας, ἐπειδὴ λυποῦμαι νὰ δώσω f 20., εἰς τοὺς χασάδες ὅπου ἀγόρασα f 17.,—,— καὶ μακάρια ἢ ὦρα νὰ ἔφθαναν αἱ εἰδήσεις εἰς Κωνσταντινούπολιν πρὶν νὰ πωληθῶσιν ἐκεῖνα ὅπου διὰ λογ. σας ἔστειλα εἰς Κωνσταντινούπολιν μὲ καπ. ἠλίαν ἔντριξ. ταῦτα καὶ μένω εἰς ἐκπλήρωσιν τῶν προσταγῶν σας —

Δ. Κοραῆς καὶ Συντροφία

Ε.Γ. μετὰ τὴν τελείωσιν τῆς ἐπιστολῆς, ἐσυλλογίσθην νὰ σᾶς προβάλλω ἓνα ἄλλο νεγότηζιον, καὶ τοῦτο μὲ τὸ νὰ καταγίνομαι νὰ σᾶς εὐχαριστήσω μὲ παντοίους τρόπους. αἱ τζόχαι κατὰ τὸ παρόν τόσον εἰς Κωνσταντινούπολιν, ὅσον καὶ εἰς σμύρνην πωλοῦνται μὲ ἰκανὴν ἀπόλασιν, καὶ ἤμπορῶ νὰ εἰπῶ ὅτι τὴν σήμερον εἶναι πολλὰ ὠφελιμότεραι ἀπὸ τὰ πανικά, ἐὰν στοχασθῇ τινὰς τὰς ὑπερβολικὰς τῶν πανικῶν τιμὰς. ὄθεν ἂν σᾶς φαίνεται εὐλογον νὰ κάμετε μίαν δοκιμὴν μὲ τέσσαρας ἢ

πέντε μπάλας, ἀπὸ ἐκείνας ὅπου ἐγὼ στέλλω διὰ λογαριασμόν μου Ἴδιον, μου φαίνεται ὅτι θέλει μείνετε εὐχαριστημένοι, καὶ ἀπὸ τὸ πρόβλημά μου καὶ ἀπὸ τὴν δούλευσίν μου. ἔρωσθε.

## 18

The first part of this letter repeats the letter n<sup>o</sup> 17 and is written by Korais' clerk. We publish here only the part which Korais added in his own hand.

Βενετία. πρὸς τοὺς κυρίους Δ: Κορμούλην καὶ συντροφία.

Ἀμστερδάμ 6,, Δεκεμβρίου 1774

. . . . .

εἴμεσθε σὺν θεῷ εἰς τὰς 9,, τοῦ αὐτοῦ. μετὰ τὴν βεβ. τῆς ἄν. Κόπιας, δὲν ἔχομεν τι νεώτερον νὰ προσθέσωμεν, τῆς λέγομεν μόνον, ὅτι τούτην τὴν στιγμὴν ἐλάβομεν τὰς ἐπιστολὰς τῆς Κωνσταντινουπόλεως δεδομένας 3,, Νοεμβρίου εἰς τὰς ὁποίας μᾶς σημειοῦσι, ὅτι ὁ καπ. ἡλίας ἔντριξ ἐυρίσκετο εἰς τὸν μαρμαρᾶν, καὶ ἔστω πρὸς εἶδησιν σας. Ταῦτα καὶ μένομεν εἰς τὰς προσταγὰς σας. . .

Δ. Κοραῖς καὶ Συντροφία.

## 19

This letter is written by Korais' clerk. The upper side of the letter is ragged. The brackets indicate the missing words.

Βενετιαν. πρὸς τὸν κύριον Δημήτριον κορμούλην καὶ συντροφ.

[Ἀμστελδά]μ 30 Δεκεμβρίου,, 1774—

ἡ τελευταία μας ἦτον 9 Δεκεμβρίου,, ἡ παροῦσα δὲν ἔχ[...], πάρεξ νὰ σᾶς εἰπούμεν ὅτι σήμερον ἐπήραμεν ἐπάνω σας εἰς τρεῖς καμπιάλες, διὰ νὰ πληρώσεται μ[ί]αν μόν]ην φορᾶν, εἰς προσταγὴν τῶν ἐνταῦθα κυρίων Gerrit Willem Reessen Δουκάτα 260 πάγκον, καὶ σᾶς παρακαλοῦμεν νὰ τιμήσετε τὴν ὑπογραφὴν μας μὲ τὴν αἴτιμον ἀποδοχὴν καὶ εἰς τὸν καιρὸν τὴν πληρωμὴν εἰς τὸ ὅποιον δὲν ἀμφηβάλομεν. καὶ διὰ ἐξώφλυσιν τῶν αὐτῶν, ἴδου ὅπου σᾶς περικλείωμεν μίαν ῥημέσσαν τῆς αὐτῆς ποσότητος, διὰ νὰ τὰ λάβεται ἀπὸ τοὺς αὐτόθι κυρίους Δημήτριον Νατάρην καὶ συντροφίαν δίδοντάς του καὶ τὴν ἔσωθεν ἐπιστολὴν τῆς εἰδήσεως ἀφοῦ πρῶτον τὴν βουλόσεται. ἡ αἰτία ὅπου τὸ κάμνωμεν τοιοῦτοτρόπος, εἶναι μὴ πῶς καὶ ὁ εἰρημένος Δημή-

τριος Νατάρης ἔφηγεν ἕως τῶρα ἀπὸ αὐτοῦ, καὶ ἂν οὕτως ἔχει, ἢ μὲν καὶ ἐπήγεν εἰς τὴν Ἄγκωνα θέλει του τὴν στείλεται ἐκεῖ νὰ τὴν ἀτζε-τάρη, ἢ δὲ καὶ ἐπήγεν εἰς τὴν Σμύρνην, ὅχι ἄλλο πλέον, θέλει τὰ σήρεται πάλιν ἢ ἀθθεντεία σας ἐπάνω μας νὰ τὰ πληρῶσωμεν. ταῦτα καὶ παρακαλῶντας σας νὰ ἔχωμεν συγνώμην διὰ τὴν ἐνόχλησιν μένωμεν εἰς τὰς προστ[αγασας].

Δ. Κοραῆς καὶ Συντροφία

Ε:Γ: ὁ καπ. Magelsen ἔφθασεν εἰς τὰς 9 τοῦ παρελθόντος καὶ ὁ καπ. Elias Hendriks εἰς τὰς 11 τοῦ αὐτοῦ εἰς κωνσταντινούπολιν καὶ ἔστω πρὸς εἰδήσιν σας.

20

Copy conserved in the letter-book of D. Kourmoulis. Sender: D. Kourmoulis from Venice.

Ἀμστερδ(αμ) πρὸς τοὺς εὐγενεῖς κυρίους Διαμαντὴ Κουράη καὶ  
Συντρόφ(ια), Βενετία 13 Μαρτίου 1776.

Εἰστερημένη ἀπο εἰτιάν εὐς τόρα δεν ἠξήθημεν νὰ σας παρηκαλέσομεν δια καμῆαν μας παραμηκρῆν δούλεψην τόρα δε ἐβρήσκοντας εἰτιάν με το φοροτομα ὀπου εκαμαν ἰ ἐδικη μας εἰς το καράβι του καπ(εταν) Βελῆμ Ἔτεσον, ὕγγλεξε διὰ λογαριασμὸν τος καὶ εἰς παραδοσίν σας εἰς 10 μπάλες μπαμπάκη καθὸς ἀπὸ αὐτοῦς θελή ἔχετεν τὴν ἠδισιν δια τες ὀπιες 10 μπάλες μπαμπάκη θελετεν πιασι σιγουρετα εἰς το ὀφελιμότερον γράμηο κατὰ το στησιμον ὀπου στοχαζόστεν νὰ στεσον εἰς τες τιμές ὀπου τρέχουν καθὸς ἢ ἠδη διλαδι ὁ μισερ Ιω(αννης) Ανγερεῖ(νος) καὶ Συντροφ(ια) ἀπο Σμῖρνη θέλη σᾶς ἔγραφαν καὶ παρηκαλοῦμεν νὰ μῆν ἀμελῆσετεν παρᾶ ἔνταντο νὰ τεληωθῆ ἰ ἀντὶ σιγουρητᾶ ὀστοσον ἡμᾶς ἀν μᾶς χρηαστοῦν μερικᾶ φηροῆγηα θελομεν σας τραβῆσι ἀκόντο δια το αὐτὸ πρᾶγμα f. 900/α 1000/—B(ap)co καὶ σᾶς το σιμηόνομεν δια ρε-γουλᾶν σας καθὸς καὶ εἰς τον καιρὸν τραβόντας τα θελή σας σιμιόσομεν καὶ μενομεν. . .

21

Βενετιάν πρὸς τοὺς κυρίους Δ. Κουρμούλην καὶ Συντροφίαν.  
Ἀμστελδᾶμ 26 Μαρτίου 1776

Κατὰ τὴν προσταγὴν σας ἐμπεριεχομένην εἰς τὴν ἐπιστολὴν 13,, τοῦ ἐνεστῶτος, ἔκαμα τὴν σηγουριτᾶν τῶν 10 βαλῶν βαμβακίου τῆς

συντροφίας σας, φορτωμένων από τους εν σύμψη κωριους I. Αύγειων και Συντροφίαν εις τὸ ἐγκλέζικον, εις παράδοσιν ἐδικήν μου, περὶ τῶν ὁποίων ἔχω τὴν εἶδησιν ἀπὸ τούτων χωρὶς ὁμως προσταγὴν σηγουριτᾶς, με ὄλον τοῦτο ἐνόμισα χρέος μου νὰ ἀκολουθήσω τὴν θέλησιν σας, ὅθεν καὶ ἐσηγουράρισα f 1200,,—, — πρὸς 3 p(er) c(en)to τὸ αὐτὸ καρᾶβι δὲν ἐκατενοδώθη ἀκόμη.

Ἴδα τὸν σκοπὸν ὅπου ἔχει νὰ σύρη ἐπάνω μου σχεδὸν f 900,,—, — καὶ ἐλπίζω ἔως τότε νὰ εἶναι φθασμένον τὸ αὐτὸ καρᾶβι. τὰ βαμβάκια ὀνομάζονται εἰς τὰ 25 χρ. θεμέλιον ὁμως δὲν πρέπει νὰ βάλωμεν εἰς αὐτὴν τὴν τιμὴν, ἐπειδὴ δὲν εὐρίσκεται μήτε μία βάλα εἰς τὴν χώραν κατὰ τὸ παρὸν ταῦτα καὶ μένω εἰς τὰς προσταγὰς της.

Α. Κοραῖς καὶ Συντροφία.

## 22

Copy conserved in the letter-book of D. Kourmoulis. Sender: D. Kourmoulis from Venice.

Αμστερδ(άμ) πρὸς τοὺς κωριους Διαμωτὶ Κοραῖον καὶ Συντροφίᾳ  
Βενετία 5 Απρηλίου 1776

Εἷς ἀποκρησιν τις τιμησας εἷς τας 26 του ἀπερασμένου ἡδομεν τιν τελησιν τις σιγουρετᾶς εἷς τας 10 μπαλες μπαμπάκη με ἐγγλεξικο εἷς f. 1200,,— πρὸς 3 τὰ % ὀλπίζοντας τότε κόντα νὰ φθάσι τὸ αὐτὸ καρᾶβι εἷς τα αὐτόθεν καὶ νὰ μᾶθομεν καὶ γλήγορα τὴν καλὴν ποδλησιν τον αὐτόν μπαμπακίον δια το οπίον το νέτο ρηκαβᾶτο ἔχετεν νὰ ἀγορηθητεν με ἡμᾶς καθὸς θελη σας ἐσιμησαν ἰ ἐδικὶ μας ἀπο Σμῆρον κατὰ τον μπόνου που ἤχαμεν νὰ σας τραβήσομεν καμπιᾶλε δια τα ἀνοθεν μπαμπάκηκα το ἐκολουθησαμεν σῖμερον καὶ σας τραβοῦμεν φιορῖνηα μπᾶνκον χηλῆα καὶ δέκα ἐπτα στεβρα, λεγο f. 1000,,/17,, εἷς τιν ὀρδι(νιαν) του Κᾶρλον Μαριᾶ Μαράτση ντι Τομάζο. Εἷς οὗτο περικαλόντα σας τιν αὐτὴν λετερᾶν μας νὰ τὴν δεχθητεν με τιν ἡπογραφήν σας καὶ εἷς τον καιρον τιν ἐτιμον πληρομῆν ἀπεροντας τα εἷς τον λογαριασμον μας φανερονοντας μας καὶ ἡμας εἷς τον καιρον δια πόσα φιορῖνηα κορεντε μέλη νὰ σας κρεντιτᾶρομεν καὶ μενομεν. . .

## 23

Copy conserved in the letter-book of D. Kourmoulis. Sender: D. Kourmoulis from Venice.



*Αμστερδᾶμ. Προς τοὺς κρηθόνς Διαμαντὶ Κορῶη καὶ Σιντροφ(ία)  
Βενετία 10 Απρηλίου 1776*

Εἰς τας 5 του τρέχοντος σαστῆλαμεν τραβέσι εἰς ορ(διαν) του Κάρολου Μαροῦα Μαράτζη ντι Τομᾶζο ἀκόντο δια τες 10 μπᾶλες μπαμπακηα οπου σε δική μας εφόρτοσαν εἰς το καρᾶβη του καπ(εταν) Βη-λαμ Τεην Ηκλεξε f. 1000/.17/. μπ(αγ)κο και δεν αμριβᾶλομεν ος τιν αυτίν λετεράν μας θελετε τιν τιμῆσι με τιν ηπογραφῆν σας και εις τον ξεπεσμόν τῆς διορηῆς τις με τιν ἐτιμον πληρομῆν τόρα ερχομεθα νᾶ σας ηποῦμεν ὅτι σέ δική μας απο Σμῆρρη μι(σερ) Ιω(αννης) Αυγεο(ινος) και Σιντροφ(ία) μας σιμηονουν με γραφῆν τος του 11 φεβρουαρίου οτι τα αυτᾶ μπαμπᾶκηα τα ηγεν αγορᾶσι απο τον ανηγηον τους Παβλῆ Τζῆφο και Σιντροφ(ία) και επι ταυτα εμετα δεν και οντας φορτομενα τα αυτᾶ μπαμπακηα με ὅλα τους τα δυνατα δεν ημπόρησαν να καταπίσουν τον αυτον Παβλῆ Τζῆφο να τος τα αφῆσι αλα αὐτός τα ηθελεσεν και μᾶ-ληστα να τα γηρῶση και εις τιν βετουβα Ουμπερφελτ & Σερουριερ και αὐτο μας εκακοφᾶνην πολᾶ στοχαζόμενη να κᾶνουν προᾶγματα ἐξο του δρόμου μᾶλισταν ὅταν μῆα βολα εἶτον εις παραδοσιν σας να τα αφῆσουν ετζη και ανγαλᾶ και δεν ελιψαμεν να τος γράφομεν τα προποντα μα τι το ὄφελος οπου κατα τιν γραφῆν οπου σας φελὸν η ηδη γραμῆνη 11 Φεβρουαρίου βλεπετεν οπου σας διορηζουν τες 10 μπᾶλες τες αυτῆς να τες παραδοσετεν με το ακριβον τους την αυτης βητουβας Ουμπερφελτ & Σερουριερ καθος η ηδια θέλη σας τιν παραδοσι και μῆα βολᾶ ὅπου τὸ προᾶγμα ηκολοθήσεν οὔτος προεπι να τις τιν δοκαιτεν να λαβετεν τα εξοδᾶ σας ομοιος και τα f. 1000/17 Β(αν)σο σας ετραβῆσαμεν ακοντο δια αυτᾶ μπαμπᾶκηα θέλετεν λᾶβη απο τιν ηδια καθος αποφε τις το γροᾶφομεν τις αυτῆς Βητουβας Ουμπερφελτ και ας εχομεν αποκρησιν σας εἰς τα πάντα το τη επραξετεν με αυτειν δια ορεγουλᾶν μας και μένομεν.

#### APPENDIX 1

#### **Correspondence of Greek and Dutch merchants in Constaninople, Smyrna, and Venice refering to Korais.**

In the following pages I have collected the references to Korais and his commercial activities, which I found in the correspondence of D. Kourmoulis. I would like to note that all these documents are long business letters in which Korais occupies a relatively small part. Three letters, those of Uberfeld & Serruriens, I publish whole. In the edition I have retained the spelling of the originals.

## 1

6 February 1773. Loukas Kalvokoressis (Constantinople) to D. Kourmoulis (Venice).

.....εἴβαλα καὶ ἐγὼ ἀλὲς 2 χ(ιλιάδες) καὶ τα ἐστίλαμε σίτρο-  
φικὰ ὡσπιος εἶναι ὁ μ(ισέ)ρ ἀντονίς πατερακίς. τοῦ σιορ διαμαντι ὠποννέ  
στιν ὀλαντα ὁ σίτροφός καί του σιὸρ σταθί.....

## 2

23 March 1773. Rigas Niotis (Amsterdam) to J. Kourmoulis and D. Baltatzis (Smyrna).

.....πρὸς τούτοις σᾶς λέγω ὅτι ἐχθὲς μοῦ ἐπαρόρυσιάσθη μίαν σας  
καμπιάλα δοσμένη. 27 Ἰανουαρίου διὰ φιορίνια 1149,,12:8 τὴν ὅποϊαν  
μετὸ νὰ μὴν ἤμουν σὲ κερὸν νὰ τὴν πληρώσω δὲν τὴν ἀτζετάρισα ἤμῃ  
ἐπίγα μαζὺ με τὸν ἄνθρωπον εἰς τὸ σπίτι τοῦ μ(ισέ)ρ κοροαί καὶ τὴν  
ἀτζετάρισεν αὐτὸς διὰ λογαριασμόν σας ἀντὶς ἐμένα, καὶ εἰς τοῦτο  
δὲν ἐγίνικεν κανένα ντιζόρδινο, εἰδὲ ἡ αἰτία ὅπου δὲν τὴν ἀτζετάρισα  
εἶναι ὅπου δὲν ἠμπορῶ νὰ κάμω καμμίαν πούλισην ἀπὸ ταῖς πραγμα-  
τεῖαις ὅπου μοῦ εὐρίσκονται.....

## 3

6 April 1773. Ioannis Avgherinos and Co (Smyrna) to D. Kourmoulis (Venice).

.....καὶ ἐτζὶ μὲ οὐτο. το εφθῆς νὰ πιανεις παλι σιγουρότα ἐξαπο-  
φάσεως λαβανόντες τὴν παρονμοῦ διατη μῆτε ο μ(ισε)ρ λορετζη δε  
το θε και γραφί το στον πεθερον ο στεφανος. και μή τε ο πεθερος δεν το  
εγουστερίσε πως επιχειριζουμεσταν τετιαν δουλια ανγαλα και ο πεθερος  
δεν ηξεβροί παστρικά τή λογίς καμνομε ὁμοίως δεν το εγουστερίσεν ο  
παλις και το στεφανο δεν θες σιντροφο ανακαλ(α) διορίσετον οτη οσες  
σιγουρότες πιανι εις το εξὶ ναμὶν σου περη παρανο απο 1/16 γι 1/8  
το πολή. Και αν ο στεφανος δεν το στερεξι δεσ μπας και το στερεξι ο  
διαμαντης Κοραης. μα εγο θαρο αν στερεξι σιντροφία καθὼς σου γραφο  
και ηναι καλητερο μας. πλεον καὶ καλὰ τον σιγουραδορο δεν θελο να  
τοῦ καμνομεν αλιωτικα παρα με τετηρο εφθῆς.....

## 4

22 April 1773. Loukas Kalvokoressis (Constantinople) to D. Kourmoulis (Venice).

... και λαβένοντας την γραφίν μου εϋθής να γράψης τοῦ μ(ισέ)ρ διαμαντῆ στην δλάντα ὄσες σιγουριτῆς ἔχης πιασμένες στην πάρτη σου. να σου πηᾶσι την σιγουριτᾶ μόνο στο καλο κατενόδιο και ημπορὶ νατακορδάρεις με τον διαμαντὶ να σοῦ πέρονη 1/16 γι 1/8 ἀνημπορέσις να εϋγίς ἀπὸ αὐτὴν τῆν συντροφία εἶναι πλέον καλιότερα. εἰ και δε μπορῆς να πηάνης τὴν σιγουριτᾶ στην δλάντα....

## 5

11 May 1773. J. Avgherinos and Co (Smyrna) to D. Kourmoulis (Venice).

... περησιγουρητᾶς, δημήτρη, σου λαίγω, ὅτι δὲν εἶναι τοῦ δρόμου να κάμνομεν ἐμῆς τῶ σιγουραδώρω, ἀληώτικα, παρὰ να καμνης τῶ σιγουραδώρω ἐσῆ αὐτοῦ, περὸ να τὰ ξανασιγουράρης, ἐσῆ, στην Ὀλάντα, περὼ μαι χάριση, τοῦ σταίφανου, και ὅτι μήνη, ἐκόνω να συμφονήσετε, με τῶν σταίφανω, να τῶ μηράζετε στὸ ἀναμεταξῆ και πλαίον ὄντας, ταίτιας λογῆς, δουλαίβης, ἐσῆ αὐτοῦ, ἀδωροδοκῦτως, δουλαίβη, και ὁ σταίφανος ἀδωροδοκῦτως, και μαι τέτηον τρόπων κάμνοντας τῶν σιγουραδώρων 1/4 τὰ % να μᾶς μένοι δηαφορο τῶχω καλήτερα, και ἔχω και τῶ κρέντιτῶ μας στον τόπω, και δὲν μᾶς κατακορήνη κανῆς, ὅπιος τῶ ἀκουση, μαλῆστα ὁ σταίφανως μπορῆ να σπαρανηάση ἀπὸ πόλητςαις, καθῶς ξεύρεις μπορῆ να τῆν μπιάνη, και εἰς τῶ καλὸ ἀρήβω, ὅποῦ μπορῆ, να ἔχωμεν ἀπὸ αὐτὰ ἄλλα ἀβάντζω, και ἄτζη, να τῶ ἀκολουθήσης με τῶν σταίφανω, και ὄχη με δηαμάντη κουραῆ....

## 6

23 July 1773. Ioannis Avgherinos and Co (Smyrna) to D. Kourmoulis (Venice).

... ταῖς ὀρδηνῆς, ὅποῦ ἦχες, δόσης τοῦ σταίφανου διὰ μερηκὰ πανηκᾶ στοχάζωμεν ὅτι τῆς κάμνη με μαιγάλω ἀγόνα μάληστα δὲν της ἐτέλεπεν και ὄλαις μόνω προφασήζετε ὅτη δὲν ἐβορήσκω χάοτζη τοῦ λαιβάντε και ὅτη ἐπρόσμενα πράγμα ἀπὸ τῆν ἐγκλητέρα και πιγαινάμενω τῶ πράγμα ἀπὸ τῆν ἐγλητέρα ἀνέβρη πράγμα χάοτζη τοῦ λαιβάντε θέλλη μᾶς προβλέψη και τα ραίστα τῶν ληπῶν μην βολᾶ, ὅποῦ τῶ πράγμα φαίνεται πῶς ἔρχεται ἀπὸ τῆν ἐγκλητᾶρα και λαῖς πῶς ἔχης τῶν τρόπων εἰς τῆν λόντρα, ὅποῦ να κάμοις να σοῦρκεται πράγμα ὅτη λογῆς θές, μήαν βολᾶ ὅποῦ φαίνεται ὅτη ὁ στέφανος μᾶς δουλαίβη ἀνγκαρία τῶν μαπατοῦμεν και μπορῆς να προβλέπης ὅσο πανηκο και ἀν θαίμε ἀπὸ τῆν λόντρα, και ἀπὸ ἐκῶ να σταίλειται εἰς ῥότερονταμ, εἰς

τοῦ ἔντοικ νταιμποκ γῆ εἰς ἄμστερταμ εἰς τὴν βήντουβετακ, νὰ μᾶς  
 τῶ σταίλη ἐδῶ, γῆ ἀνθές, στωδηαμάντη κουραῆ πλέον ὁποῦ σου φανῆ  
 πῶ εὐλογω πλῆν ἐγῶ γράφω σήμαιρη τοῦ λουκῆ εἰς τὴν μπόλη, νὰ  
 σου στήλη βῆα τῆς ὀλάντας μόστρες καὶ νὰ σοῦ βάλῃ καὶ τὴν ντιμῆ  
 πόσα τάχη ψονησμένα ὁ σταίφανος τόσων χασέδες, ὅσῶν καὶ μερομᾶ-  
 ρηα, ἀγγαλᾶ τὰ μερομᾶρηα εἶναι δῖο λογηῶ τῶ ἕνα σῶί τῶ  $5/4$   
 ἔχουν περησώτερω ἐξήτω τῶν δὲ  $6/4$  ὄχη τόσων, καὶ λαβαίνοντας  
 ταῖς μόστρες εἰδῆς στήλε της εἰς λόντρα νὰ σοῦ προβλαίφουν ἀπὸ κάθαι  
 σῶη :50: κομάτηα, περῶ νὰ εἶναι ἡ κουαλητάτως ἤδηα καὶ ἀπαράλαχτη  
 ὅσῶν ταῖς μόστρες ὁποῦ θα σου στήλη ὁ λουκῆς ὁμοῖος νὰ τοῦ δόσης  
 ὄρδηρηα καὶ διὰ 100 κομάτηα μουχαμπετχανῆα, ὅσῶν τῆ μόστρα, ὁποῦ  
 ἔλαβες βῆα τῆς ἀγκόνας ἀπὸ ἀδελφοῦ μου, ὁμοῖος ἡμπορῆς νὰ δόσης  
 καὶ ἄλλη ὄρδηρηα, διὰ ἔτερα 50 γῆ 80 κομάτηα, κάτη, ἄλα φτινᾶ μηκρᾶ  
 τζημποῦκνα τὰ πέρονον εἰς ὀλάντα f. 11 τῶ κομάτη καὶ ἀνούτως καὶ στο-  
 χαστοῦμεν ὅτι ἡμποροῦμεν νὰ δουλευθοῦμεν εἰς αὐτῶ τῶ ναιγότηηω  
 μὰ χέρη ἐγλητέρας, τότε παρατοῦμεν τῶν σταίφανω ἐπειδῆ καὶ τῶ  
 πανηκῶ εἶναι ψηλῆ τέχνη καὶ σᾶν μπέση σὲ ἀτζαμῆ χαιόρηα μπορῆ νὰ  
 σου στήλη πράγμα ὁποῦ νὰ χάσι 10 τὰ % καὶ 15: μὰ ἀπὸ τῶ σταίφα-  
 νω καρταιρῆς δηάφορω 20: καὶ 25: τὰ % καὶ ὄχη ζημῆα, ἐπειδῆ καὶ  
 ἐπίρῶν τῆν μπράξη τοῦ ψοῦνους καὶ δηατοῦτο νὰ δῆς νὰ προφθάσης  
 αὐτᾶ ὁποῦ σουλαίγω διὰ νὰ δούμεν τὴν μπρόβα καὶ ἀνη πρόβα εἶναι  
 καλῆ καὶ εἶναι χάριξη τοῦ λαυβάντε ἀκολουθοῦμεν πλέον ἀπάνω εἰς  
 ἐκῦνα καὶ τέτης λογῆς κλωτζοῦμεν τῶν σταίφανω στόχασου νὰ δῆς  
 τῆ κάμνη ὁ σταίφανος, ἐσένα γράφη ὅτη τῶ πράγμα ὁποῦ σταίλη εἰς  
 τὴν μπόλη μὲ λανχαινταῖκ, ὅτη τῶ σταίλη, εἰς παραδόσην τοῦ λουκῆ  
 καὶ ἐμένα, γράφη ὅτη τῶ σταίλη εἰς παραδόσην τοῦ πεθεροῦ μου καὶ  
 ἐγῶ νὰ ἀρηκωθῶ μὲ τὸν μπεθερῶ ὅτηνως θαίλω νὰ τῶ παραδόση,  
 κατάλαβαι ὁποῦ θαρῆ πῶς ἡμεστεν ζόα καὶ δὲν καταλαβαίνωμεν τῆ  
 θαιναπῆ αὐτῶ σαναλαίγη δὲν σεμπισταίβωμε, ἐπειδῆ καὶ ἡ λαίτερες  
 ὁποῦ θατραβήξω, τοῦ δημήτρη, δὲν ἡξεύρω, ἀνήνε σηγοῦρως, ὁποῦ νὰ  
 ταῖς πλαιρόση, διὰ τοῦτῶ καλοῦκακό σαναλαίγη ὁ νοῦστου, ἄσταρε-  
 κουμαντάρω, στωμπεθερόν του, πλῆν δηὰ τοῦτα, ὀλὰ ἐγῶ θα κάμω  
 τῶν κουφῶ, καὶ δὲν τουλαιμεντάρωμε τῆποτας, ὁποῦ νὰ δῶ τὰ ἀπο-  
 τελέσματα τῆς ἐγλητέρας, ἄλλω, τὰ 30 μου χαμπέτχανῆα τὰ κύτρηνα  
 καὶ 20: ἀσπερδερεᾶ, ὁποῦ σοῦ γράφη ὁ λουκῆς νὰ παραγγήλης τοῦ σταί-  
 φανου λῆψε καὶ γράψε τω, τοῦ δηαμάντη κουραῆ καὶ σῆτροφήα, διὰ  
 νὰ σοῦ τὰ προβλαίψη καὶ στὸν ἤδηον καιρῶ τοῦ γράψε νὰ σοῦ προ-  
 βλαίψη 50 μερομέρηα  $5/4$  δηὰ νὰ δοῦμεν καὶ αὐτοννοῦ τὴν προκοπῆν

του και δηὰ τὰ ἄσπρα τῶν ἀντῶν τοῦ γράφης νὰ σοῦ τραβήξῃ πόλητζα γῆ θαίλη τοῦ στήλω προᾶγμα ἀπὼ δῶ ἐγὼ πλέον, γράψε του δτη τοῦ βωλῆ.....

## 7

6 August 1773. Loukas Kalvokoressis and Co (Constantinople) to D. Kourmoulis (Venice).

.....ἔχο σκοπὸ ναγράψω μετοῦτην τὴν πόστα τοῦ διαμαντι κουραϊ και συντροφ(ία) διανα μας φωνίσι 50: χασέδες και 50: μερμέρια και μερικὰ μονχαπέτχανῆ και τοῦ γράφο βαρκάροντάς τα να σου τραβιξι πόλιτζα και στέλε τον και μία γραφιεδική σου διανα σου τὴν εστειλι και θέλει τοῦ γράφης και ἐσεῖ ταχριαζόμενα...

..... και ἀθές γράψε τοῦ διαμαντι ἐκεῖ ποῦ τονγράφο 50: ναμας στήλι ἀπεκάθε σόει 100: ἀν σου ερχεται και βουλικὰ, ὅμως νὰ εἶναι και προᾶγμα παστρικό ὅσᾶν ετοῦτο και γράψε τον πλέον και ἐσὶ ἐκεῖνο οπου καταλαμβενης να μας δουλευη με καθε επιμέλια.....

## 8

6 September 1773. Loukas Kalvokoressis and Co (Constantinople) to D. Kourmoulis (Venice).

.....διαμοῦστρες πανικό οπου μον ζητᾶς σοῦστηλα απερβίας ολαντας και ἔγραφα και τουγιᾶνη νασουστηλη απο την σμύρνη με κοράβι ἀπὸ κάθε σόει μία π(ή)χη ὅμος ογιᾶνης λογιάζο πῶς ξεχάνη τεῖ γραφι με την απερασμένη πόστα μουῖγραφε νασικόσομε τες ορδινης απο τον στέφανο και να του γράφομε τοῦ κοραεῖ τόρα πάλε μου γράφι να γράφο τοῦ στεφάνου ὅμως ἐγὼ του στεφάνου δὲν τοῦ γράφο και σουλέγο ανι μὲν και ἔχης γραμένα τοῦ κοραεῖ ναστήλη τὸ προᾶγμα που τοῦ γραφα ἄφιστονε ναποστήλη και γράψε και σεῖ τοῦ στεφάνου α θές να μᾶς στήλι 50: χασέδες τὸ 6/4 και 50 μερμέρη 5/4 διαναμῆν καταλάβι και ο στέφανος πῶς εγράψαμε τοῦ κοραεῖ τοῦτο μόνον σουλέγο ανιμὲν και κόβγι ονοῦσον πῶς κάμνης τὴν δουλιαν σου ἀπο την λόντρα μην γιρέβγισ κουραεῖ και στέφανο.....

## 9

7 October 1773. Loukas Kalvokoressis and Co (Constantinople) to D. Kourmoulis (Venice).

. . . . .ὁ στέφανος γράφι πῶς μας εβραζοκάρισεν μὲς τοῦ κλας χερὲς· τὸ καράβι τὸ ἠπόλιπο πραγμα ὅπου τοῦ ἡγες ορδινῆα καὶ δὲν ἔχει πλέον ναστήλι καὶ εγουστάριζα ναγράφης τοῦ κοραὶ να μας στήλει καὶ αὐτὸς μερικὸ να κάμομε μια δοκιμὴ ἐπειδὴ της καὶ βλέπο τα στελείματά τοῦ καὶ εἶναι καλὰ καὶ ἀλλιθινὰ φτινὸ τερα ἀπο τοῦ στεφάνου. . . . .

## 10

23 October 1773. Loukas Kalvokoressis and Co (Constantinople) to D. Kourmoullis (Venice).

. . . . .Ἰδοῦ οποῦ τοῦ στέλουν καὶ την παρὸν γραφὴ καὶ δὸς την τοῦ διαμαντι τοῦ διαμαντι γράφο σίμερις στὴν ολάντα δια τα πανικὰ ὅπου τοῦ ορδινῆα να μου ταστ[είλει] ἐξόχος τα μοχαπετχάνηα τοῦ οποιῶ τοῦ στέλο καὶ μία γραφὴ δικησον καὶ σου ἔχο μέσα ἓνα πανητὸ ὀπίο εἶναι τὸ ροῦχο του ἀχαμνὸ καὶ διανατο στοχαστῆς το φάρδος του εἶναι που σου το στέλνο καὶ να γράφης στὴν λόντρα να μας παρονε ἀπὸ αὐτὰ 100: κομάτια τὰ ὀπῆα τα ἠφεθεν ο πεθερός καὶ λογιαζο να του ἡγεν 11 f: καὶ αὐτὰ κατα το παρὸν δὲν ἔχουνε ἐδὸ καὶ ἀνιμὲν καὶ ερτον τόρι ἠμποροῦ νατα δόχο τὸν π(ή)χη  $12^{1/2}$  ὅμως να του γράφης να εἶναι το πανη του καλο καὶ ψιλὸ διατει αὐτὸ εἶναι χοντροῦ γράφε μου α(ν) εἶναι η γραφὴ ἀνηκτη διατει ἔχο ὑποψία ναμίντην ἀνήγι ἐδὸ τὸ πατεροάκη ο ἀντόνης ἄλο μέσ την μεγάλιν σαρακοστή τεϊχένη να εἶναι ἐδὸ τα μοχαπετχάνηα. Τα ψηλοτζημπουκα ομίος καὶ τα μεγάλα καὶ να γράφης στην λόντρα νασουτα ετοιμάσουν καὶ ἀνημὲν καὶ στην λόντρα σου τα κάμουν γράφε τοῦ διαμαντι να μὴν μας τα στήλι καὶ μιτα ἂν εὔρη ἐκεῖνα πουτοῦ γραφα τὸν 11: f. καὶ ἀπο αὐτὰ τῶν ἔντεκα φιορινηὸν ναπασχίσις ναστήλις καὶ ἐσεῖ ἀγγαλὰ ἐκεῖ σου γράφο περβία ολάντας δια να (γρ)άφης τοῦ κοραεὶ. . . . .

## 11

20 November 1773. Ioannis Avgherinos and Co (Smyrna) to D. Kourmoullis (Venice).

. . . . .μάλιστα τόρα ὅπου τὰ πανηκὰ ὅπου ἦλθαν τόσον τὰ δικὰ μας, ὅσῶν καὶ μ(ισέ)ρ δημήτρη, μαὶ τὸ καράβη, λάχεντηκ τὰ ἀποῦλησαν στὴν μπόλη εὔθῆς καὶ κατὰ τον λογαριασμον ὅπου κάμνο τζήρακα, ἀφίνου 25 γῆ 30 τὰ % καὶ δηατοῦτω δημήτρη να δόσης πάλη κομμαισηον τοῦ σταίφανου εἰς ολάντα να σοῦ ψουνήση f. 12000: φιορ. χαρτζη πόλης καὶ να δόσης καὶ τὴν ὀρδηνῆα ξέχωρα, πάλη τοῦ κου-

ραῖ νὰ ἀκολουθήσῃ τὲς ὁρδηνῆες ὁποῦ τοῦ ἔδοσαν ὁ λουκῆς ἀπὸ τὴν μπόλη. . . . .

## 12

22 November 1773. Loukas Kalvokoressis and Co (Constantinople) to D. Kourmoulis (Venice).

. . . . . νὰ δόκῃς πάλε κομάτι ὁρδηνη ἀποπανικὸ σασονγράφον πῶς το ἔστειλαν. καὶ του κοραῖ καὶ τοῦ μ(ισέ)ρ στεφάνου. νὰ μὴν καθόμασταν. μπατάλει. . . . .

## 13

6 December 1773. Loukas Kalvokoressis and Co (Constantinople) to D. Kourmoulis (Venice).

. . . . . τοῦ κοραεῖ θενεγράφο σίμερις μετην πόστα διαναμον κάμι μερικὸ πρᾶγμα τοῦτο ὁποῦ σοῦ γράφο. χασέδες κοματια 100: χαζενέ 100: σουραγιά 50: μερμέρ(η)α τελεσίς 50: τὰ ὀπῆα καθῶς σουτα γραφο ἔτζη νατου γράφης καὶ εσεῖ. ὁμως γράφε καὶ τοῦ στεφάνου ναμασστήλι καὶ αὐτὸς τα εἶδια με περισσότερο πρᾶγμα. εγῶ αὐτουνοῦ. δὲν του γράφο. ὁμος ἔσεῖ τοῦ στεφάνου μὲ ἓνα ὁμορφον τρόπο του γράφης. . . . .

. . . . . ναδόσις ὁρδινία πλέον του στεφάνου καὶ τοῦ κοραῖ οπουναμας φουσιον πρό τι ἄνιξι ἔως 20: χιλ(ιάδες) f. πρᾶγμα εἶδιο. πλὴν τοῦ κοραῖ ναγραφης αὐτὰ οπουσουγραφο ναμας φουσίσι. καὶ ἄν του γραφης καὶ αὐτουνοῦ παραπάνο πρᾶγμα ἄς εἶναι ὁμος να εχει ταματιάτου ανηχτὰ ναμῆν εἶν τεῖποτες ἄχαμνὸ πρᾶγμα καὶ την πάθομαι. τοῦτο σουλέγο να κάμης ταχμήνη ναγράφης τοῦ κοραῖ ἔως 8: χιλ(ιάδες) f. πρᾶγμα καὶ τοῦ στεφανου ἔως 12: ναγεμίσι ησοῦμα ἔως 20: χιλ(ιαδες). . . . .

. . . . . τὸ πρᾶγμα οπου ἔχο ὁρδινία τοῦ σ(ιὸ)ρ κοραῖ να τοῦ γράφης καὶ τοῦ λόγου σου διανατο προβλέψη πρὸς τὴν ἄνιξι πρᾶγμα καλὸ καὶ φιλὸ καὶ δια αὐτουνο την πλερομι ἀγρικηθήται μαζή. . . . .

## 14

December 1773. J. Avgherinos and Co (Smyrna) to D. Kourmoulis (Venice).

. . . . . εγο κάρτερο ναδο τις τζόχες ἄν δινοῦν χερτὶ καὶ βγαζοντας τὴν χασουρα τοῦ καμπιον αν μενει προβεζιον νασου ὁρδιναρο 8 μπαλες καὶ διαπλερομι τῶν αὐτῶν τραβα καμπιαλες στὴν μπολη γι ρεμιτερο τις εγο

απο εδο εις φιορινια και ανρότας, πόσα μαηδια παρι εξοδα η πιχη η τζοχα. παρι εις τήν ολαντα και εδο καθε πιχη 12 μα. και καταφτο καμε τον λογαριασμον σου και ερεβνισε τόν διαμαντη κουραϊ εις αμστερντάμ ποσα δίνη (;) ο μομας τής τζοχες του τής τερες πραγμα φνω η οπίες εδο πουλιονται γροσια 3 και 25 μαηδια και στοχασου να δινι χειρὶ ορδιναρίσέτον μετα καραβια τής ανιξις να μαστηλή 3 μπαλες στενα το κάροτο η καθε μπα(λα) να εχη 3 κοκινα 3 μορινα 2 μενεβισια 2 κεφτια 2 σουρμαγια 1 ας με φιλησι φιστικι και ενα κρουσουνη βαθι πολα και πλεόν καμετόν λογαριασμόν σου και αν βλεπι πώς βιενι η χασουρα του καμπίον ορδιναρισετα εφθου και ας ἦνε μπιλε και 4 μπαλες μα να ἦνε απο τα πολα καλά.

. . . . .αλλο σουλεγο στη να γραφισ το σύν(τομότερο) εις αμστερντάμ εις λιβόρνω τόν φίλο μας ποσ εις το εξις στη πράγματα στελοῦ. εδο δια λογαριασμον μας νατο στελοῦν αλόρδινε και φορτοῦν διαλογαριασμον καιριζικον εδικον τος. συντητη τάδε στον διαμάντη και στέφανο πλεον επιδι και ηνε ρομεϊ καμε πλεον το σίνφέροτερο και γράφε τος ος καθος θα καμοῦν με τα δικά τος πράγματα να καμοῦν και δια τα δικά μας πλῆν σουλέγο ὅτη αὔτη και η διο στεφανος και διαμαντης εχοῦν ιδιο γραματηκοῦς ολαντεζους στα σκροιτοροια τος και λογιαζο στη εχοῦν νατοστελοῦν εις το ονομα τους.

## 15

23 January 1774. Loukas Kalvokoressis (Constantinople) to D. Kourmoulis (Venice).

. . . . .διατες ὀρδινηές ὀποῦ γράφης ναδίνομαι εις το αμστερδάμ. ἐγὼ ὄσες ὀρδινηές θενα δόκο τοῦ στεφάνου ἐσένα τογρόφο πρώτα και ἐσι ἀπὸ αὐτοῦ τοῦ δίνεις την ὀρδινηά. Καθὼς και με ἄλες μου σου τόγραφα. δια ναδὸκης ὀρδι νήα εἰδὲ τοῦ κουραϊ τοῦ γράφο ἐγὼ ἀπὸ ἐδὸ και δὲν σουμέλι. και σάντων δόκο ὀρδινηά σου δίνο τήν εἰδησιν. Καθὼς τοῦ ἦδοκα μια ὀρδινα και σου το γραφα δια να αγοικηθηται με τὸν ἴδιον. μόλον τοῦτο ναπασχίσης ἀπὸ τήν λόντρα νακαμης δουλία. διατει απεκη θαρὸ πὼς βγένη λάδι καλύτερα. . . . .

## 16

6 March 1774. Loukas Kalvokoressis and Co (Constantinople) to D. Kourmoulis (Venice).

. . . . .εἰς το καραβι το φιάμαιγγικό. ὀποῦ μᾶς εἰχέν ο κουραεῖς τα 100,, κοματια τα πανικα και τα εἰχέν ψοννισμαινα πρὸς 12 f: και τα εἰδοσα



14,, μαί διορία μαιρες 91,, είδοσά και ολο τοπραμα τοῦ μ(ισέ)ρ διμητρή και να γραφίς του κουραῆ ανιμαί και εβρι προματίς αρέσιας τοῦ ἔκν πουτοῦγραφές να φουνίσι 8 χρ. (;) f. προμα ἄς φουνισι και παραπανό τω οπιο τίς το γραφὸ και ἔγο και να επιμαίλιθι στο φουνὸς ναειναι κάλο και φτινο διάτι ἔχι ετιά. και να τοῦ γραφίς οπὸς σου το γραφο ἔγο πὸς ολονκίς μοῦγραφι κατι ετίες και να επιμαίλιθίς να φουνίσις μαιστοχασί και χορίς ἄλο να τίς το γραφίς δια να βαλί τηγε πίμαίλιατοῦ νὰ μᾶς φουνισι προμαφτινο διατι αφτος θενά θαρί πως ειναι τιποτίς διαλογοῦ τοῦ τουτι ἡετια και θενά βαλί ταδικάτατοῦ ἔγο τον είχα γραφι διανα δοκι τοῦ σταματί τοῦ περοῦ 20 f: δια να μοῦ παρι 1/4 τουλοτοῦ τα ωπία ταδοσέν του σταματί. και μοῦ γραφι οδιαμαντίς δια να ταπεράσο ἔγοεδο ομὸς εγο εδο λογαριασμο δικο τοῦ δεν ἔχο. μονο τοῦ γραφο σιμαίρις νὰ το γραφι εσένα να τα περασις στο λογαριασμο ποῦ εχέτέν μαί τὸν διαμαντι και ἔσιτα περασ ἔαπανομοῦ και γραφε τίς το διατιτίς το γραφο καίεγο.

..... και στοχασοῦ που μορι ναρι το προμα ἐδὸ νὰ πουλιθι και τα ἄσπρατός να ειναι ακομὶ αδοτὰ το ωπίο γραφετο και τοῦ κουραῆ εἰσὸς καίτο καμὶ και ἄφτός. τοῦ κουραῆ ναγραφίς ναμίμπαρι ο στεφανὸς χαμπαρι πὸς μᾶς φουνιζι εμᾶς. διατι τουτα ποῦ μᾶς ειραν τορι ἐδὸ μαίροτίσέν ο πεθέρος και τούπα πως ειναι τίς χιράς. και τα στέλι τοῦ γιανὶ δία λογαρίασμοτίς και μοῦ ειπέν ποσαχούν και τοῦ ειπα 12 f. λεγι πάς και ἔχις γιανίσι και γραφετου και τουτο νὰ μι βαζι πλεόντι μαρκα μοῦ. γραφο τίς το και ἔγο μονὸ ας βαζι ἀλλι μαρκα αν ιναι καίσου φενετε ἔβλογοῦ νὰ παραγγίλις τοῦ κουραεῖ χασέδές ἔχουν 11 f. και απο εκινές νὰ μᾶς παρι 100 κοματία δίατι αφτι φετός ειτον πολὰ χαρτζι μὰ πίο ωπίσο δεν ιξέρο. τι θεναιναι χαρτζι. και πλεὸν οπιτονεφοτίσι ο θέος ἄς κάμι εις το καλιότερο.....

## 17

22 March 1774. Loukas Kalvokoressis (Constantinople) to D. Kourmoulis (Venice).

.....ἡς αποκρίσιν σοῦ εἰσενά σοῦ γραμα δόσμαινό 19- Φλεῦ(α)ρίου κάτατοπαρόν δεν εχο τι νὰ πάγο εις μακρός. ενά προμα ἔσιλογίσιτικα το ωπίο το εἴγραφα και του γιανι να δον μαί ἄβγενὶ τιποτίς. εἴγραφα του πως ἄν ιναι και θελίσι ἡς τιν ολαντα νὰ τον τραβιξο μία πολιτζὰ f. 10000 και ερκομαίνος ει διορῆα νὰ σου τραβιξη παλή εσενά. και ερκομαίνος παλή η διορία νὰ μου τραβάς παλι' ἐδο και πέρονα στο ανάμαίταξι: 4 γῆ

5 μίνες και εγω τα άσπρα τάβαζο στο διαφορό. γιαλι δουλία καμνό. όμως δενιζέρο σά σουτραβιξι ό κουραῆς εσένα άπο τιν ολαντα αχανι τιποτίς. και αν ιναι και δε χανι θαρό πός εἶναι δουλία. διατι εγω σα θενά τραβιξο δια τινολαντα πολιτζά περοτο f 33,, παραδές και στόν καιρο ποῦθενά μον τραβιξις. εση εμπορις νά παρις τιν λιτροά πός 5 λιτροές και 2 σολδία τó γροσι και εκυνό οποῦ θένα χασίς εισισανμου τραβιξις το καιρόδρο. εγω εδο ποῦ περονό τó φιορίνι 33: παραδές το ωπίο θέλο νά μου γραφίς τιμπορις νά ζιμοθίς εσι οσαν μον τραβιξις και αν ιναι και καμίς το λογαρίασμό σου και βγένι τηποτίς δουλία γράφε εφθίς τοῦ κουραεῖ. πός του λουκή ειγραφα δια νά σου τραβιξι μία πολιτζά f. 50: χιλ. και εροκομαινός και τινετζεταρις και σανερτι ειδιορία τίς τραβαμου διαεδό νά τί μπλέροσο και γραφίς μον και εμαινά και τουτραβο. πέρο στοχασου καλα νά μην ινε και άλι χασουρά και χασομαί. και τοτές χανόμαι και καμομαι τασιλανια ζοῦλοτές.

δια το πραμα τίς λοτρας να καμίς οτι μπορις νά κατοροτοσις δουλία επιδι και στοχαζομαι ποῦτοφερονοῦ εἶ εκλεζι και το δινοῦ παρακατο απο ωσα πουλουμάι εμις 8 και 10 τὰ % ὅστε φένετε πός το περονοῦ παρακατό άπο τιν λοτρα και τος δινι χαιρι και το πουλουνέ πλέον και μι το συμφέροτέρο ποῦ σε φοτίσι ό θεός. τουτο μονό σοῦλέγο οπου νά γραφίς τοῦ κουραῆ νά μάς ψοννίσι πραμαφτινό παρόπανό από 14 f πραμα να μι μάς ψοννίζι ενα καρτο απανο ενα καρτο κατο άπο 11 f. ἔος 14: νά μάς ψοννίζι διατι τοπραμα ποῦ μποροῦμαι νά καμομαι καιρόδός 2,, παραδές εἶναι απο το φτινó πράμά όσαν χασεδές και οσαν τά μάλμολίνια ποῦ μας εφοννίσε. και σουράγια ὡποῦ μάς εἰχέν ψοννίσι ὀ στεφανός. και νά τοῦ γραφίς ἔξαπαντός πός παρόνο άπο 14 f. ποάμα νά μι ψοννίζι. . . . .

## 18

19 April 1774. Loukas Kalvokoressis (Constantinople) to D. Kourmoulis (Venice).

. . . . . τοῦ γιανι ειγραφα διατεκίνο ποῦσου γραφα τίς αλές πός ἔχο σκοπο νά στίλο μία πολιτζα του κουραῆ f. 2,, γι 3 χιλ. και εροκομαινός ειδιορία νά σουτραβιξι εσένα και εροκομαινός εσένα ειδιορια τραβιξε μον τα νάτα πλέροσο εγω. και μου γραφι ό γιανίς νά τιν καμο όμως τιχενι νά το γραφίς τοῦ κουραῆ ναχίτινενια. ειγουν τινίδισι πός α σουτραβιξι καμα πολιτζα ο λουκίς νάτινεδέχτις και εροχομαι(νος) ειδιορία τραβαμου εμενα να τιν μπλέροσο. . . . .

## 19

6 May 1774. Loukas Kalvokoressis (Constantinople) to D. Kourmoulis (Venice).

...έγο σιμαίρις έτραβιξα τοῦ διαμαντι κουραῆ μία λέτερά f. 2000,, καί τα επίρα 33,, παραδές καί τοῦ γραφὸ ὡπὶ ερχομανὸς ἡδιορία τις αυτὶς πολιτζὰς νὰ σουτραβιξι εσενὰ νὰ τα πλέροσις καί του γραφο καί τουτο πὸς σοστα 2,, χιλ. f. νὰ του τραβιξίς μίτε παρανὸ μίτε παράκατό το ὡμο κάμαι καί ἐσί 2,, χιλ. f. να μου τραβιξίς μίτε παρανὸ μίτε παρακατο διάτι θέλονα δο τὶν μπροβα. εἶδὲ σα σοῦ χριστων ἄσπρα ἐσένα τραβαμουῦ ξέχορίστα πολιτζὰ διατὶ τουτα τα ἄσπρα θὰ τα βάλο στο ἤντερεσο νὰ δο τι απομενι γι ζίμιονομαι. ὁ μ(ισὲ)ρ ἀποστολις σκοῦλουδὶς μοῦ εγραψὲν ὁποῦ του ερέσταριζὲς γρ. 59,,9,, σολδια καί τουτα δοσὰ ἄσπ. 12,,3,, γραφέ μου οποταν σουχριστωνὲ ἄσπρα βρι- σκὶς στινορα ὁποῦ σουχριαζουτὲν δια να μοῦ τραβιξίς πολιτζα....

...  
δια τὶς 2 χιλ. τὰ f. μὴ τιχὶ να τα πέρασις στο γιανὶ το λογαρίασμο κάθο- λου. μονὸ ξεχωρίστα θελο νὰ μοῦ πίασις τουτον το λογαρίασμο διατὶ ετζὶ μου το γραφὶ καί ο γιανὶς νάμιτον ανεκατοσομαι καί ετζὶ το γραφε καί του κουραεὶ....

## 20

23 July 1774. Loukas Kalvokoressis (Constantinople) to D. Kourmoulis (Venice).

...βερεσὲ πράγμα νὰ βγάλης ὄξω διατὴ ἔχομαι καλὲς ὀρπίδες. τοῦ κουραῆ τῶ φόνος. μοῦ ἀρέσι καλύτερα παρα του στεφάνου ὅμως δεν βεβεόνο ἀδενέρτη να το δοῦμαι καί νὰ το πούλισομαι. μα κατα της- παχάδες που ἐφούνισεν ὁ στέφανος λογιάζο δεν κάμνομε τήποτης....

...  
Το καράβι ποῦ ἤχεν ὁ κουραῆς τῶ πρᾶγμα ἐπεῖγεν εἰς την σμῦρον. στο- χάσου τῶρη ποῦ ἐγίνικαν ἡ ἀγαπες μίπος καί ἔχης ὀρπίδες πᾶςκεζητηθὴ τίποτης τείποτης πράμα γιαμπαμπακια γι τείποτης ἄλλο. διατὴ στοχά- ζομαι καί ἐσί πράμα δεν ἔχης μαῖσα νάμηνκαθοῦμεσταν ὄλιμας μπατάλλη.

## 21

23 August 1774. Loukas Kalvokoressis (Constantinople) to D. Kourmoulis (Venice).

...ἄλο τα πανικὰ ποῦ μοῦ στίλέν ο κουραεὶς τα ἐποῦλισὰ κοματία 354: καί τα ἐδοσὰ ενα μαὶ ταλὸ πρὸς λίτρες 14,, [μαῖδια] 31,, μακρὰ διορία



## 23

6 October 1774. Loukas Kalvokoressis and Co (Constantinople) to D. Kourmoulis (Venice).

... και ἂν ἔχη τὸν τρόπον ἄς γράψῃ στήν Ὀλάντα νὰ σᾶς ψουνίσουν μία τετρακοσαριά κομάτια πανικά τὸ ὅποῖον μοῦ φαίνεται νὰ παραγγείλης καὶ τοῦ στεφανοῦ, ὁμοίως καὶ τοῦ κουραῆ νὰ μᾶς ψουνίσουν κομάτι προῶμα ἀρκετόν, ἐπειδήτης καὶ ὀρπιζομεν νὰ καλοποληθῆ τὸ ὅποῖον σοῦ τὸ γραφα μὲ ἄλλην μου πῶς εἰς τὴν ὀλάντα τὸ πέρουν βερεσαι καὶ μὴν θαρῆς πῶς εἶναι ἀπὸ καλοσύνη τοῦ στεφανοῦ νὰ μὴν σοῦ στείλῃ τὴν πόλιτζα καὶ τὸν στεφανὸν νὰ τὸν κρατῆς μὲ τίποτης καλοπιάσματα καὶ μὲ τζηριμόνια διὰ νὰ κάμνωμεν τὴν δουλείαν μας, ἐπειδὴ καὶ ὁ κουραῆς ἴσως νὰ μὴν μπορέσῃ νὰ ψουνίσῃ φέτως βερεσαι ἔστωντας καὶ ἔχουν τίς χωρισαῖς ὅμως πρέπει νὰ τοῦ γράψῃς καὶ ἴσως καὶ τὰ ψουνήσῃ καὶ ἄς ψουνήσῃς καὶ αὐτὸς ἄλλα 500 κομάτια κάμει πλέον ὅτι σε φωτίσῃ ὁ θεός, διατὶ σοῦ λέγω πῶς τὸ πανικὸν ἔχει νὰ τιμηθῆ. διατὶ φαίνεται πῶς δὲν ἦρτε, μήτε ἀπὸ στεριάς καθὼς εἴροκονταν ἄλλαις βολαῖς μία μαιγάλη σούμα....

## 24

23 October 1774. Loukas Kalvokoressis and Co (Constantinople) to D. Kourmoulis (Venice).

δημήτρη χαιρετώσαι, τὴν γραφὴν σου ἤλαβα δοσμένη 24: τοῦ ἀπερασμένου τὰ ἀτλάζια ἕως τὴν σήμερον δὲν ἐφανήκανε. εἶδα καὶ ταῖς ὀρδίνες ὅπου ἔχεις δοσμέναις καὶ πάγη καλά, ὅμως πανικά μοῦ φαίνεται νὰ δόσης καὶ ἄλλαις ὀρδίνες, μὲ τὸ νὰ εἶναι εἰς σέτιμαῖς καλαῖς τόρι, διατὶ καθὼς λέναι οὔτε δὲν εἶναι νὰ ἔρτον ἀπὸ στεριάς καὶ ἐπὶ τούτου σοῦ γραφα νὰ παραγγείλης καμπόσω προῶμα, τὸ ὅποῖον μοῦ τό πεν καὶ ὁ πενθερός διὰ νὰ γράψῃς τοῦ στεφανοῦ καὶ ἂν θὲς γράψῃς το καὶ τοῦ κουραῆ....

## 25

November 1774. Loukas Kalvokoressis (Constantinople) to D. Kourmoulis (Venice).

... ἐγὼ ὀρπιζῶ μὲ τὰ καράβια νὰ μᾶς ἔχουν καὶ ἄλλο πανικὸ ὁ στεφανος κατὰ τὴν ὀρδινα πού σου γραφα νὰ δόκης καὶ τοῦ στεφανοῦ καὶ τοῦ κουραῆ καὶ ἂν ἴμεν καὶ ὁ κουραῆς καὶ καταλαβένεις πῶς δὲν ἔχει κανένα φόβον δόστου πάλιν καμία κομαιοῖναι καμία 10: πογγίον

πράμα νὰ μοῦ ψοννίση, μα θενὰ μοῦ πῆς καὶ τί ξέρω ἐγὼ ἂν ἔχη φόβο. ἐγὼ σοῦ λέγω πῶς αὐτοὶ ἔχουν νὰ χωρίσουν καθὼς μου λαίμαι ἐδώ, μὰ ἴσως ὁ κουραῆς ἔχη κρέντιτο ἐκεῖ καὶ μπορεῖ νὰ ψοννήση καθὼς καὶ πάντα καὶ γράφε του νὰ δῆς μὲ ἕναν εὐμορφον τρόπον ὁποῦ νὰ μὴν σὲ καταλάβῃ πῶς δὲν τὸν ἐμπιστεύβουσαι ὁποῦ νὰ σοῦ βαρκάρῃ τὸ πράμα καὶ νὰ σοῦ στέλῃ τὴν πόλιτζα τοῦ καπετάνιον καὶ εὐφθὸς ἅ σου τραβᾷ πλέον καθὼς γνωρίζῃς κάμαι. καὶ τὸ ψόνος τως παραπάνω ἀπὸ 14 ἕως 15 f. τὸ πολὺ πολὺ νὰ μὴν ψοννίσουν ἐπειδὴ τῆς βλέπω καὶ ὁ κουραῆς ψοννίζει μὲ στόχασι. καὶ καθὼς του γραφα ἔτζη φέρεται πῶς μοῦ ψόνισεν 100: χασέδες μόνον ἐπῆρεν ποῦ δὲν τοῦχα ὀρδιανὴν νὰ μοῦ ψοννίση σεφτήν τὴν τιμίν. μὰ ἤρτεν ῥάστι τὰ λιφικάνικα ὁποῦ καστερῆς νὰ σοῦ κάμουν ὀρπίζι νὰ ἔβρουν καλὴν τύχην. . . . .

. . . . .  
 διὰ τον κοῦραι ερωτίσα καὶ μου εἶπαν πὸς αὐτὸς ἐχί να λαβι ἀκομι αποδὸ ἀπο τους σιτροφοῦς του εὐς 50 ποῦγγια ασπρά καὶ α θες δὸς του καμία ὀρδιανία. ἄλο δὴμητρι. ὁ μ(ισέ)ρ λιναρδὶς μοῦλεγι ὅτι ἐξιμοθὴν ἀπο το πράμα ποῦ του στ[ει]λὲν καὶ κοντέβι νὰ φαγί τα σίκοτιαμοῦ. τορὶ ἐχί σκοπο νὰ γραφι στὴν ολαντα τοῦ κοῦραι δια να τοῦ ψοννίσι κοματι πανικο γι του κουραι θε να το γραφι γι τοῦ στεφανοῦ. καὶ ετζι μοῦ εἶπὲν πο[ς] ψοννίζοντᾶς το θε νὰ τὸς γράφι δια να σοῦ τραβιξοῦν πόλιτζα νὰ τα πλέροσις καὶ νὰ τραβιξίς παλι εσὶ αποαντοῦ νὰ τα πλέροσι εδὸ στο ωπίο θαρο πὸς δὲ σοῦ φερνὶ καμία τιμῆ καὶ ανιμεν και τος γραφι μαι τινέροχομαινὶ σουδνινο τινίδισί καὶ τος τογραφις καὶ εκινὸ ὠποῦ πέρνις απο ολοῦς δινὶ και τουτὸς. . . . .

## 26

24 December 1774. Loukas Kalvokoressis (Constantinople) to D. Kourmoulis (Venice).

. . . . . ἄλλο δὴμητρι, ὁ στεφανὸς βλέπω ὁποῦ δὲν μοῦ γράφει ἂν μᾶς ἐψούνησαν φέτος πανικῶ καὶ φοβοῦμαι πὸς μᾶς ἔφηρεν ἔτζη ὁμοίως καὶ ὁ κουραῆς καὶ δὲν ἔχω ἀπ' ἄλλοῦ τίς ὀρπίδες μου μόνον ἀπὸ τὴν λόντρα νὰ μοῦ γράφῃς πῶς μᾶς ἐψούνησαν καὶ ναδηρεν ὁ θεὸς διατὶ τὸ πράμα φαίνεται νὰ ἔχη ζήτησι. εἰδὲ τίς παχαδες ὁποῦ σοῦ γράφῃ ὁ γιάνης, αὐτὰ τόπον δὲν πιάνουν κατὰ τὸ παρόν· ἐπειδὴ καὶ ἀκούγω πῶς ἔχει μεγάλη ἀκρήβειαν, καὶ πρόπει νὰ γράφῃς ὅτινος θες ἀπὸ 13: ἕως 16 νὰ μᾶς ψοννήση. ἐπειδὴ καὶ 21 f. τόρι δὲν ἐβρίσκει. . . . .

. . . . .  
 ἐγὼ σοῦ γραφα καλῶντχαι πολαῖς βολαῖς πῶς κάλια ἔχω τὸ κρέντιτο

τὸ δικό σου παρὰ τί να σοῦπεν καὶ σοῦ λέγω νὰ μὴν τύχη καὶ ἔρθης εἰσὲ ἀνάγκην. μόνον τραβὰ μου πόλιτζες. ἐγὼ καρτεροῦ μὲ τὴν πόσταν, πᾶς καὶ μοῦ τραβίξης ἀκόμη 5: γῆ 6: χιλιάδες γρ. διατὶ ἡ ἄλλη ὀποῦ ἐτραβίξεις ἀκόμη κατὰ τὸ παρὸν δὲν ἤρθεν. στοχαζέσαι τι εἶναι ἡ πόλιτζαις. καὶ μὴν καρτεροῦς νὰ κατηβοῦν παρακάτο, καὶ ἄς εἶναι καὶ εἰς τὰ 98,, ἐγὼ ἄθεν ἔβρω νὰ τραβίξω πάλι καμμία πόλιτζα στὴν ὀλάντα 3: 4: χιλ. f. ἤθελα νὰ τραβίξω μὰ ὁ κουραῆς μοῦ γραφεν νὰ μὴν τὸ κάμω πλιᾶ διὰ νὰ σοῦ τραβίξη πάλιν ἐσένα ἀπὸ αὐτοῦ. μὰ ἀνίσως καὶ ἡμπορῆς νὰ τοῦ γράψης ὀποῦ νὰ τὸ ἀκολουθοῦμαι καὶ τὸ τζετάρη, νὰ ξέρης πῶς εἶναι δουλεία καλή· ἐγὼ ἤκαμα λογαριασμὸν καὶ ἀπομένον ἀπὸ τὴν πόλιτζαν ὀποῦ σοῦ ἐτραβίξα 6: τὰ % μὲ ξένα ἄσπρα καὶ πλέον κάμε τὸ ταχμίνη σου. . . . .

## 27

6 January 1775. Loukas Kalvokoressis (Constantinople) to D. Kourmoulis (Venice).

. . . . .στοχαζομαι καὶ ταῖς γραφαῖς ὀποῦ γράφεις διὰ τὸ πανικῶ καὶ ἔδωσες ὀρδινία τοῦ στεφανοῦ καὶ τοῦ κουραῆ διὰ νὰ σοῦ φουνήσουν, στοχαζομαι ὀποῦ ἐμεῖς ἐφέτως ἐμείναμεν μὲ δίχως φουνος. ἐπειδὴ τῆς καὶ ὁ στεφανὸς γράφει τοῦ πεθεροῦ ἐδῶ πῶς δὲν μᾶς ἐφούνησεν, ὀμοίως γράφει καὶ ὁ κουραῆς τοῦ συντρόφου του διὰ νὰ μοῦ εἰπῆ ὅτι ὄντας ἀκριβῶ τὸ πράγμα δὲν μᾶς ἐφούνησεν. καὶ στοχαζομαι ὀποῦ ἄλλοῦ πούπετις δὲν ἀπόμειναν ἡ ὀρπίδες μας παρὰ εἰς τὴν λόντρα καὶ ἄμποτε νὰ ἔδεινεν ὁ θεός, να μᾶς ἐφούνησαν. . . . .

## 28

5 March 1775. Ioannis Avgherinos and Co (Smyrna) to D. Kourmoulis (Venice).

. . . . .καὶ νὰ περάσης ἐσὴ εἰς ὀλάντα ἡδαὶ καὶ στοχαζαισαι ὅτι δαιν σημφέρη νάχαμεν κει σπήτη εἰς βαινετήα καὶ πῶς ἡμπορῆς νὰ κάμνης καὶ τοὺς ἡδῆους τζήρους καὶ με φηλῶν χαιρη στὴν βενετία βαίβεια δὲν χορηζαιται νὰ ἔχωμεν σπήτη καὶ πλέον δὲν φροντήζω ἀνθρώπων διὰ αὐτοῦ, μόνω κυβερνοῦμεσταν με τοὺς φήλους τοὺς αὐτόθεν καὶ καλᾶ. δημήτρη κατὰ τῆς γνώμες ὀλονών μας θὲν ὀλη νᾶ πᾶς κάληα ἡς ὀλάντα παρὰ νὰ κάθαισαι αὐτοῦ ἐπιδῆ καὶ ηναι τωπως σταινωσ καὶ πραγματιες δὲν μεπεροῦν. δὲς ὀποῦ στὴν ὀλάντα καθημερηνῶς ἀλάγουν τὰ πράγμα καὶ αὐτοῦ εἶναι τόρα τόση χρώνη καὶ δὲν μπορῆ νὰ παρη νὰ πάρη κανάνας κάπως, ἀπάνω του καὶ θα βαλθῶ να στείλω πράγμα στὴν ὀλαντα

νὰ κτηποῦν τῆς κομεσηόνες ξένη νὰ χάσκομεν ἔμης καὶ δηᾶ τούτω στοχάσουτην καλᾶ καὶ σηλογήσουτη καὶ νὰ ἔχω ἤδησην τῷ τῆ στοχασμῶν καὶ ἀπόφασιν ἔκαμες διὰ τούτα ὅλα, ὅπου σοῦ γράφω ὁ ναγγηροὶ νὰ ραιγουλαροῦσόμεν καὶ ἡμῆς νὰ πηᾶσωμεν τὴν δουλίᾳ μας καθὼς πρέπη διὰ νὰ ἡμπορέσωμεν νὰ εὐγάζωμεν τὰ εξοδὰ μας ὅλη καὶ νὰ μᾶς μένη καὶ τίηποταις τῶν κάθαι χρόνων, ὄχη σὰν τώρα ἰοπου βλεπω καὶ μετάβῆας βγάζωμεν τῷ δηαφορῶν μας ἢ τζήγκα  $7\frac{1}{2}$  καὶ 8 τὰ % μάλιστα τώρα, ὅπου ὁ κουραῆς ἔχη νὰ ἔλθῃ ἔξω πᾶς ἔσῃ στὸ ποδάρη του καὶ ἡμπορῆς νὰ σήρης τῆς κορησπονταίντες του ὄλαις ἔσῃ ὅπου νὰ δολαίβονται, μὲ ἔσένα καὶ ἡμπορῆς νὰ κάμης καὶ φήλους ὀλανταίζους νὰ σταίλουν στο σπήτη μας ἐδῶ πράγμα καὶ διὰ τούτω στοχάσον, δημοίτρη καὶ μέτρησε τὰ πράγματα καλὰ νὰ δῆς πος εἶναι πῆο εὐλογῶ νὰ περάσης εἰς ἀμστερνταμ(ον) παρα νὰ καθεσαι ἀντοῦ και αν τουτους τοὺς χρόνους ἦσουν εἰς ἀμστερντάμον, ἠθέλαμεν νὰ φαμεν καλῶ φωμῆ ἀπο πανηκᾶ και ἀπο πράγμα ὁπου σταίλουν ἀπο ἐδῶ. . . .

## 29

3 July 1775. Stamatis Avgherinos and Co (Constantinople) to D. Kourmoulis (Venice).

. . . . σήμερον τραβῶ του σταίφανου μοῖαν καμπιάλαι διὰ νὰ πλερόση f: 2330: τοῦ σιορ διαμάντι κουραῖ διὰ ἀλατόσα ὅπου ελαβα ἐγῶ ἐδῶ ἀπὸ ἀντόνι πατεράκι πρὸς ἄσπρα τζοροντικα  $101\frac{1}{2}$  καὶ γράφο του σιορ σταίφανου διὰ νὰ σᾶς τὰ ξανατραβίξη καὶ τοῦ τὰ τραβῶ μὲ τῷ θάρος τοῦ πραγμάτου ὅπου τοῦ ἐφορτόσαμεν εἰς παραδόσιν του καθὼς θέλετε ρεγουλαροῦσῆ. . . .

## 30

12 January 1776. Ioannis Avgherinos and Co (Smyrna) to D. Kourmoulis (Venice).

. . . . ἤδα τὰ γράφης περὶ 2 μπᾶλες βαμπάκι πελοῦτζη καὶ πᾶγη καλὰ. καὶ ἀπᾶνο εἰς αὐτὸ ελποίζω νὰ εἶδρον τὴν ἡδιαν τύχην καὶ τὰ βαμπάκοια ὅπου σοῦ στέλω μὲ καπ(ιταν) διμιτριος τὲς 10,, μπᾶλες μπαμπάκοια ὅπου στέλω τοῦ κουραῖ μὲ καπ(ιτάν) τέιν ἐγγλέζο δὲν τοῦ ἔγραφα διὰ σιγουρητὰ διὰ αὐταῖς, καὶ πλέον κᾶμε τοῦ σιγουροϊτᾶν ἐσὸν αὐτοῦ γῆ ἂν δὲν θὲς καὶ εχης χοῆα διὰ νὰ τοῦ τραβίξη ἀπᾶνο εἰς αὐτὰ ἡμπορῆς νὰ τοῦ δώσης ὀρδινηαν νὰ τὰ σιγουρόρη ἐκεῖνος. διὰ νὰ ἦσαι ἐλεύθερος εἰς τὸ νὰ τοῦ τραβίξης. ὁμοίως καὶ τὸ σιμεσίριον ὅπου στέλω τῆς βίρτου-



βας οἰμπερφελτ ὀποῦ σοῦ στέλω τὴν γραφὴν της — διὰ τὰ τῆς τὴν  
στήλης.....

## 31

23 April 1776. Uberfeld & Serrurier (Amsterdam) to D. Kourmoulis  
(Venice).

*Venezia SS(ignori) Demetrio Curmulli e Compania*

*Amsterdam à 23 Aprile 1776*

*Da tutti gli Cap(ita)ni che la Rio(erentissi)ma v(ost)ra casa di  
Smirne SS(igno)ri Giovanni Avierino e compagnia hà caricata dalle  
Merci per suo conto alla n(ost)ra consegna, vi diremo in riscontro di  
grame v(ost)re 27 pass(at)o e 10 cadente non esservene uno di comparso  
che cap(ita)no Andries Jurians, ch'arrivò in Texel il 17 del cor(rent)e  
per il che vené felicissimo. Il medemo é attualmente in contumaccia  
e fasto, che terminata l'avrà ritiraremo le 3 balle in 6 ballotti filati  
bianchi per procurarne la più pronta ed avvantaggiosa vendita ci  
sarà possibile e come fosserro n(ost)ri medesimi per indi darvene  
conto del netto prodotto e gionggendo altri navi, sopra le quali n'avete  
interesse? non mancaremo di darvene parre e teneremo sempre un  
tal ordine per v(ost)ra quiete e regola.*

*Alli SS(ignori) Diamanti Coray e Compagnia abbiamo con-  
segnata la v(ost)ra lettera, e ci siamo con essi intesi che doppo pagata  
la v(ost)ra tratta di f. 1.000.17.b(an)co che noi glieli rimborseremo con  
le spese d'assicuratione di f. 1200, al premio di 3 per % che toccorono  
sopra le 10 balle cottoni che per v(ost)ro ci devono consegnare per  
vendere all v(ost)ro maggior vantaggio quando saranno in n(ost)ro  
potere per darvene pur conto ed avviso del successo. Con ch'à com-  
mandi v(ost)ri disposti rimanendo vi salutiamo cord(ialment)e e di  
V(ostra) S(ignoria) umile*

*V(edov)a Uberfeld Serrurier*

## 32

7 June 1776. Uberfeld & Serrurier (Amsterdam) to D. Kourmoulis  
(Venice).

*Venezia SS(ignori) Demetrio Curmulli e Compagnia*

*Amsterdam a 7 Giugno 1776*

*Doppo l'ultima n(ost)ra 7 p(rossim)o p(assat)o non sono da*

*Smirne più comparse alcune navi, ma abb(ia)mo in riscontro di grame v(ost)re 16 Aprile e 15 Maggio ritirate dà Cap(itan) And. Jurians, e vendute al più alto prezzo che si poteva sperare; cioè à 22 p. le 3 balle in 6 ballotti filati bianchi che ci hà spediti la Riv(eren-tissi)ma v(ost)ra Casa di Smirna, de quali ne mandiamo oggi conto di vendita consimile al qui compiegato del quale vé né servirete.*

*Gli detti filati soffersero avarea onde quando terminata l'avremo con gl'assicuratori, vi diremo ciò che ci avranno dovuto buonificare.*

*Gli Cap. Claas Gerrits, e Thein hanno altresì discarricato ed abbiamo ritirate le mercanzie state spedite alla n(ost)ra consegna dalla preffatta v(ost)ra casa, ma come chò del Legno Bossolo é in calma, da puoca buona qualita e ci vensero offerti solam(en)te f. 4 le 100 così siamo costretti col resto di riponerlo in magazzino ed attendere miglior sorte, come in sequito intenderete gl'effetti dalle n(ost)re operationi.*

*Dalli SS(igno)ri Diamanti Coray e Compagnia abb(ia)mo ritirate altresì le 10 balle cottoni, in questione de quali né procuraremo pure, l'esito il più pronto ed avvantaggioso ci sarà possibile e come fosserò n(ost)ri medesimi; valendo gli p(ri)mi p(ri)mi di Kirkegasa da 24 a 24<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> d. e le altre qualità à proportione. Alli Sudetti SS(igno)ri Diamanti Corrai e Compagnia vi diremo con sequente n(ost)ra ciò che gl'avremo pagati per v(ost)ra regola, avendo prattanto l'onore di riverirvi e di V(ostra) S(ignoria) umile*

*L'acclusaci per Rotterdam*

*V(edov)a Uberfeld Serruriens*

*ebbe il suo corso à Gov(ern)ο*

14 June 1776. Ioannis Avgherinos (Smyrna) to D. Kourmoulis (Venice).

... .δεν σουγραφα πλέον τι άφτα ηδε οπου μουγραφίς ότι εις ολάντα  
δενμπάς έπίδι και εμαθές αυτου και ος πουναπας εις ολαντα ναμάθις  
θα περάση κερός, σου λέγο και εις αυτο ότι εσηδεν ησε κενουριος  
αλαξέβρις τήν ολαντα καλότατα και τήν μπρότιμερα οπουθαπας ησε  
καπάτζος νακαμίς κάθε λογίς νεγοτζιον οσαν ναμίν ηγες φήγίς πότες  
άπό εκί. γλοσά ξέβρις ανθρωπους εχίς γνώριμους και εγο páλι εις καθετι  
θελι γράφο και να παρακαλεσò του μπεθεροῦμου οπου να γράφι του  
στέφανου νασου βοηθι εις τα πάντα άγκαλά και θαμουπίς και μετι  
μάτι θαμεδι ο στέφανος σου λέγò ότι δια χατηροί του πεθεροῦ μου θέλι

σεκιτάζι δσάν σίντροφόντου μάλιστά θέλη ξεβρις και ετοῦτο ὅτι τὸν σιορ διαμᾶντι τον εχόρισαν ηγκά (;) συντροφίαν οποῦ ἔκαμε εξετίας οποῦ ἀκούσαν ὅτι δεν πορπατι καλλὰ και θεναβι εξο και αφτὸς θεναρτι και ο πρίγγος και λιπὸν μένι το σπίτη τοῦ στέφανου και το ἔδικό μας και ὄντας διο σπιτιὰ ρομέκα ἦν ελπίδά νὰ ἀποκτήσομεν και ἐμῖς φιλοῦς βαζοντας και ἐγὼ, ἐδω ταμπορετά μου εἰς τοὺς φίλους μου οποῦ να σοῦ στείλουν και ἐχῆ ὁθεος μπάρεμου μέσα σα 4 γῆ 5 χρονοῦς οποῦ θακαθίσης ηγε ελπίδα ναβροῦμε μιὰν χρονία στοῦ τοῦς τοῦ χρόνου δποῦ ναμαὶ ευχαριστίση ναβις και ἐσῆ ἔξο με κάθε καλὴν καρδιὰ να λογαται καὶ ὅτη ἐλιπες ἀπὸ τὸν τόποσούν μα ἐπόκτισες ηδε καθὸς την κρατοῦμε χαιρι δὲν ἔχι και ἀτόσου το δια κρῖσον μιγιρέβις να σοῦ το δοσο ἐγο νατο καταλάβις και μάλιστα ἐσῆ ὅπου ξεβρις τὸν ντοπον πιγενάμενος ἐκὶ θεοῦ θελοῦντος να πιασις σε 2 καμέρες σὲ ἐνᾶν τιμιμένο σπίτι και γιτονία και νὰ περνὰς και ἐσῆ τιμιμένα καθὸς ξέβρις τοὺς ολαντέζους πὸς θέλου σόβαροὺς ἀνθρώπους και ἀπεριφάνεφτους ναγιρεβου τῆν δοῦλιᾶν τοὺς τος δίνουν περισότερον κρέντιτο ἄπο ἐκινὸ οποῦ τὸς τιχενὶ καθὸς δὲν σελαθάνι και ημὲ και ἐγο βεβαίωτατος εἰς ἐσενα δτι θέλις περνὰς καθὸς πρέπι τημημένα νατοακοῦγο και ἐγο να χερομε και οχη νακουσὸ καμιὰν βολὰ τίπότας παραστρατημα καθος ἐκαμεν τορηνὰ ο κουραῖς και ἐχάσεν τῆν κίβερνισῆν του και ἐξιμοσέν και τοὺς σιντροφοῦς του διὰ το οπιὸ βάζο κάθε πῆστι ησε σένα ὅτι θελῖς περάσις τιμιμένα και με κάθε λογίς καλὸ στοχασμὸν και ηκονομίαν στα πᾶντα δσάν ναιμοῦ ἐγο ἀτός μου. πρὸς τοῦτις καμνόντας το ἀπόφαση δια ναπὰς τιχενὶ νάχις και γραματικο ὅστε ναμάθη ο κοσταντίς και διὰ τοῦτο σουλέγο ὅτι τοῦ ρίγα ὁ γιος βρισκείται ἐκὶ και λέγι να ἐνγι ἐξο ἐπίδι και δὲν ἐχι κίβερνισι και ημπορις να τοῦ γράφις ἐφθις να διορίσι γι να τον καμῖς ἀπο αὐτοῦ ἀκορδο ηδαι και δὲν θες διαναμῖν γενὶ σιχισις ηναι ἀλὸς ἐκὶ τοῦ παπα ηεροθεου ἀνιπιὸς ὅπου ην πᾶντρεμένος και ξεβρις και ἀφτὸς τεφτερια και πιγενάμενος ἐκὶ ἀν ην ἀκόμα ἐκὶ τοῦ ρίγα ογιὸς τοσιλογασέ πλεὸν πιος σουσηφέρι ἀπὸ τοὺς διὸν και κρατίς τὸν ἐναν και οὔτὸς ἐντίς οποῦλαβίς τὴν μπαροῦσα μου να σφιξίς τες δοῦλιεσου να ξεμπερδέφις κατι κοῦτζοῦκλικιὰ ἀνέχις και ταρεστα οποῦ ἐχις ναδόσις γι ναλάβις εἰς Βενετία κάμνις ἐπητροπὸν τὸν σιὸρ παραγιανὶ και τα πᾶστρεβι α σοῦ φενεται ἐβλόγο και σοῦ ξαναλεγο διμιτρι και ἐλπίζο και εἰς τὴν παραγιὰ ὅτι θελι μοῦ ἀποκριθίς ὅτι ἐκαμες ἀποφάση διαναμισέφις ἀπο αὐτον και οχη να μοῦ γράφις σᾶν πρὸτα να πέσις εἰς πησμα να μοῦ ἀποκριθίς πὸς κακαλὰ δὲνμπας διατὶ αὐτῆ τῆ ἀποκρίση λάβο βεβεα καλιὰ ἐχο ναημοῦ θανατομένος.

εἰς τὸν γγερὸν οποῦ εχο ναλάβο τετιὰ μὴν ἀπόκρισην καὶ εξανᾶτίας  
 λάβο τὴν ἀπόκρισιν τῆς θελισῆός μου σοῦταζο ὅτῃ λαβονοτάς την ἂν  
 καὶ μετὰ 10 μέρες μοῦ ἀκολουθισή θάνατος θέλι αποθάνο με καθέμου  
 καλῖν μοῦ εὐχαρίστισιν διὰ τὴν οπιὰν ἐπίζο ὅτῃ θελεὶ λάβο. . . .

## 34

12 July 1776. Uberfeld & Serrurier (Amsterdam) to D. Kourmoulis.

*Venezia SS(igno)ri Demetrio Curmulli e Compagnia*

*Amsterdam à 12 Luglio 1776*

*Doppo la n(ost)ra 25 pass(at)o, con la quale vi dissimo l'arrivo  
 in Texel di Cap(ita)n Bakker, ciò che ci buonifficorono gl'assicuratori  
 per l'avarea sofferta le 3 balle, in 6 ballotti filati per Cap(itan)  
 Jurians, e ciò ed avevamo pagato à questi SS(igno)ri Diamanti  
 Coraj e Compagnia verso la doppia quittance mandatavi per le  
 10 balle cottoni e d'essi ritirate, riceviamo grame v(ost)re 19 ed 28  
 p(rossim)o p(assat)o, alle quali nulla ritroviamo à far replica solocché  
 onoraremo le due tratte fatteci ad uso, all'ord(in)e Federico P. Fauz  
 di f. 225.2 e di f. 944.18 per darne debito alla Riv(erentissi)ma  
 v(ost)ra casa di Smirne, SS(igno)ri Gio. Avierino e Compagnia à  
 fronte de detti filati con dargliene avviso.*

*Doppo preffatta ultima n(ost)ra, non passò nulla di favore-  
 volenel negotio e massime nel Legno Bossolo e cottoni sodi, qua-  
 li rimangono in un otusa calma, con nissuna dimanda del primo  
 e quasi alcuna delli secondi; ad onta di ciò? c'è nonostante ri-  
 uscito di piazzare le 10 balle cottoni sodi n° 11 a 20 —————→  
 per Cap(ita)no Theim, ma con gran penna n'abbiamo potuto fare  
 23<sup>3</sup>/<sub>8</sub> gr. perchè la trista qualità loro non meritava un tal prezzo, del  
 quale la detta v(ost)ra casa di Smirna alla quale con p(ri)ma man-  
 daremo il conto di d(ucati) avrà ragg(ion)e d'esserne contenta e qu' in-  
 gionto vé n'accompagniamo altresì coppia per servirvene come di noi in  
 tutte le v(ost)re occorrenze, perchè à v(ost)ri vantaggi sempre disposti  
 offerendoci vi riveriamo cord(ialment)e et di V(ostra) S(ignoria) umile  
 V(edov)a Uberfeld Serrurier*



*R. Niottis' signature*

R. Niottis' signature

6 August 1776. Uberfeld & Serrurier (Amsterdam) to D. Kourmoulis (Venice).

*Venezia SS(igno)ri Demetrio Carmulli e Compagnia*

*Amsterdam à 6 Agosto 1776*

*Favoriti con grame v(ost)re 12 e 24 p(rossim)o p(assat)o in riscontro ommetendo le repliche in quello andiamo d'accordo, v'accusiamo la ricevuta dalla di carrico di 4 balle fil d'Angora e 2 balle filati bianchi speditici gli SS(igno)ri v(ost)ri di Smirne colla nave di Cap(itan) Cornelis Evers, che sé le ritroveremo dalla qualità eccellente, ce gli fatte, vè nè faremo vedere un conto di vendita aggradevole; nell'altra ritrovassimo lettera dalli preletti SS(igno)ri v(ost)ri, quali ci ordinano no la sicurezza di f. 4000 sopra detti fili d'Angora e di f. 600 sopra le 2 balle filati, quali rimane effettuata all Premio del 2 per %. Nella medesima loro lettera ritrovassimo pur di carrico di Partite 764 Legno Bossolo, 10 balle cottoni sodi e 3 balle doppie filati caricati per loro conto nella nave di Cap. Jochem Andriesen che desideriamo gionga ben torto e che siano dalla qualità in richiesta per potervene anche di questi farvene vedere solecite ed avvantaggiose deffinitioni.*

*Compiegati ritrovarete coppie di 2 conti di vendita di due Partite cottoni per Cap(ita)n ambi di balle, 10 l'una venduta à d. 23<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> e l'altra à d. 24; la p(ri)ma montante f. 1253.8 e l'altra f. 1259.7. così quello dalle 3 balle filati bianchi per Cap(ita)n Claas Gerritsz riuscitaci di vendere à d. 182 montando f. 649.3., de quali ne farete il necessario rimarco; delli cottoni soffersero danno, quale però non sorpassando il 10 per % non toccò gli sicuratori, è quello che di più ci spiace si è il peso loro à qui malamente corrisposto, ch'il tutto non é mancamento n(ost)ro perchè vi dovrete ritrovar contenti dalle n(ost)re operationi, mentre abbiamo aggitto come meglio non avressimo potuto per noi medesimi e come nissun altro non avrebbe saputo meglio fare nelle circostanze presenti del commercio per le Merci che la ricercané per così dir morta. Ora non ci rimane più ch'il Legno Bossolo del quale non ci vengano offerti ne meno gli f. 4 le 10 balle cottoni ritirate dalli SS(igno)ri Diam(anti) Coray e Compagnia e le 5 balle detti per Cap(itan) Pr Bakker, quali sendo d'una s'infima qualità, non possiamo dirvi come nè riusciremo;*

*sendo bene qui faccile à noi di vendere, come é faccile à voi di dircelo, ma di vendere con onore e senza perdita? non e si fattibile.*

*Gli preffatti SS(igno)ri v(ost)ri di Smirne ci scrivono lo stesso, che ci scrivete voi circa il volerci far tratta dell'intero montante dalle Merci, che ci spediranno sopra; di che vogliamo dirvi che vogliamo ben fare ogni n(ost)ro possibile per facilitare gl'affari de n(ost)ri amici, ma contuttociò non possiamo risolverci d'abbracciare una tale propositione, non solo perche é difficile à fissare un intero valore dalle Merci à Caggione dei canggiamenti dalle circostanze del Neg(ozio) e de prezzi m'altresi perché gli molti altri n(ost)ri affari richiedano alle volte il pronto n(ost)ro danaro potremmo in un tal caso ritrovarci in penna, ed imbarazzati con le forti accettazioni e le Merci dormendo in Magazzino come accade sovente per più motivi. Se ci potessero assicurare che le lor Merci si vendessero prontamente e che non saressimo mai in più di vedere gli n(ost)ri Magazini ripieni senza potergli veder vuoti à contento; abbracciar simo immediatamente la loro propositione, ma come ciò gl'è interamente impossibile; la prudenza vuole di non potergli aggradire e comeche siamo assicurati ch'il n(ost)ro modo di pensare faranno conoscere le n(ost)re ragioni ben fondate, ci lusinghiamo che non gli farà perdere di coraggio di continovarci la loro amicizia e gl'ordini loro, tantopiù per l'onestà dei n(ost)ri pontuali maneggi véné meritaremo sempre più la continovatione, per il che ci raccomandiamo ancora à voi nel miglior modo prometendovi che rifletteremo gl'interessi dei n(ost)ri amici per gli più grandi dei n(ost)ri doveri. Con che à v(ost)ri vantaggi disposti offerendoci vi riveriamo cord(ialment)e di V(ostra) S(ignoria) umile*

*V(edov)a Uberfeld Serrurier*

36

25 November 1776. P. Mazokopakis (Amsterdam) to D. Kourmoulis, (Venice).

... ἔχω θλίψιν διὰ τὴν κατάστασιν τοῦ κοινοῦ φίλου Κουραῖ· ἔλαβα καὶ ἔτερον γραφὴν του καὶ ἐδώρικα εἰς δάκρυα διατι μὸν ἔκαμεν μέγα πόνον ἢ διηγησίς της, μέσα εἰς τὴν ὁποῖαν μὸν συνδροφεύη μία διὰ τὴν αὐθεντία σας καὶ σὰς τὴν κλίνο, τὴν ὁποῖαν ἔπρεπε νὰ τὴν λάβετε ἐδώ, μὰ ἄκουσον τὸ γεγονός· Κυριακὴ ἐμνησεύσετε καὶ τὸ Σάββατον

εἶχε ἐλθῆ ἢ πόστα καὶ ἐγὼ ἔλαβα τὸ αὐτὸ γράμμα τὴν Κυριακὴ μὲ τὰ τὸν μησευμὸν σας 3: ὥραις, ἐρωτῶ τὸν πόστα λέτερε εἰς τὸ σπίτι διὰ ποίαν ἀφωρομὴν δὲν μοῦ τὴν ἔδωσαν τὸ Σάββατο εἰς ριάλτο καὶ μοῦ λέγει πῶς ἐν φάλο τὴν ἐπήρεν ὁ Παναγιώτης τοῦ Πάσχου καὶ πάλιν τοῦ τὴν ἐπίστρεψεν ἐρώτησα τὸν Παναγιώτη εἰς ριάλτο τὴν προῶτη ἡμέραν διὰ νὰ μάθω τὴν ἀλήθειαν καὶ μοῦ εἶπεν πῶς γραφὴν μου δὲν ἐπήρεν ἐν φάλω νὰ ἐπίστρεψεν τὴν πράξιν λοιπὸν Συμπεραίνω ποῖος τὸν ἐμεταχειρήσθη καὶ ἀπὸ ἄλλαις φοραῖς ὅπου ἔχω καπάραν μὰ πωρεῦμαι μὲ φρόνισιν διατὶ τοῦ μεριτάρη κατέμπροσθεν πολλῶν νὰ τοῦ σπᾶση κανεῖς τὰ μούτρα του μὲ τὰ λόγια ὅπου τοῦ πρόπονν καὶ τόσον περισσότερον διὰ ἄλλαις πολλαῖς ἀφορμαῖς διὰ νὰ μοῦ ἐπαρῶσισῆθῃ ἕνας φίλος τόσον δολερός καὶ πῖβουλος. . . .

## APPENDIX 2

### Notarial and Consular Deeds

Fourteen documents of this kind have been found in the archives of the Dutch consulate in Smyrna and in the notarial protocols of the city of Amsterdam. Most of them are of a very common type: protests on merchandise of insufficient quality, protests of bills of exchange, powers of attorney. All these documents, with the exception of nr. 2 expressly mention Diamantis Korais. We have joined nr. 2 because we found in the bill of lading of the ship which this document refers to that the parcel of cloth in question was sent by Korais.

We should not get from this collection of what mostly seem to be commercial mistakes the false impression that Korais was a bad businessman; these papers come from large bundles with many hundreds of such papers, also on highly successful merchants. Also there is no indication of a bankruptcy of Korais in the protestation of a large bill of exchange in 1776 (nr. 9). If there had been such a thing, Stefanos would never have endorsed another bill on Korais as he did later (nr. 12).

In the subsequent descriptions of the documents the notarial protocols of Amsterdam (in the Municipal Archives of Amsterdam) have been indicated as N.A.A.; the protocols of the consulate of Smyrna (A.R.A.) have been indicated as C.A.S.

### 1

Amsterdam, 14 IV 1773

N.A.A. 15689/413

Notary E. M. Dorper.

Diamant Coray & Co authorize Jan Jacob Stapel, solicitor at the court of law of Amsterdam, to represent him in all actions of law.

witnesses Jacobus Jacobsz and Isaac Potholt

## 2

Smyrna, 20 IV 1773

C.A.S. series d 33

Johann Frederik Mann, chancellor of the Dutch Nation in Smyrna. The chancellor declares to have seen a quarter piece of violet wool-len cloth, 38 ells long, coming from a parcel with the mark  $\longrightarrow$  brought in by the Dutch ship San Isidoro, captain Elias Hendriks, to Stathi Thomas, and sold by Stathi Thomas to the Greek merchant Mikes Pitsipios. The piece is stained and insufficiently dyed because of defective manufacturing. Four arbiters have been elected: Stefano Albertini and Jacob de Vogel for the sellers and Mathaios Rodokanakis and Giovanni Leondi for the buyers. They have judged that the buyer shall be given 31/2 ells in compensation.

Witnesses: Salomon Rodrigues and Isaac Sereno.



## 3

Smyrna, 30 IV 1773

C.A.S. series d 33

Johann Frederic Mann, chancellor of the Dutch Nation in Smyrna. The chancellor declares that 3 pieces of leadcoloured woollen cloth, long 459, 460 and 468 ells, coming from a parcel marked  $\longrightarrow$  sent by D. Coray & Co to Stathi Thomas, and sold by Stathi Thomas to the shopkeeper Georgios Apalira, have been returned by the buyer because the cloth was stained. The chancellor has seen the cloth in presence of the witnesses Hendrik Bartendorff and Salomon Rodrigues and he has considered it to be a fault of manufacturing. Seller and buyer have agreed on reduction a on the price for 8 ells on each piece.



## 4

Amsterdam, 24 V 1773

N.A.A. 15689/510

Notary E. M. Dorper.

D. Coray & Co. charter the ship of Captain Abraham Langendijk, named De Nieuwe Hoop, of 80 lasts, for the price of 7500 guilders plus 5% ordinary avary compensation, plus 10 gold ducats present for the captain. The ship will sail to Smyrna and Constantinople and remain for 15 days in Constantinople and for 35 days in Smyrna where it will take in a new cargo from the partners of Coray.

Witnesses: Jacobus Jacobsz and Isaac Potholt

## 5

Smyrna, 25 VIII 1773

C.A.S. series d 33

Johann Frederik Mann, chancellor of the Dutch Nation in Smyrna. The chancellor has gone, on the request of Stathi Thomas & Co to the office of this firm. There he has been shown a chest, marked nr. 57, in which there were 46 pieces of seersucker, sent by D. Coray & Co on the ship De Nieuwe Hoop, captain Abraham Langendijk. According to the invoice the



price was: 26 pieces à f 43 and 20 pieces à f 32, but all the pieces are of equal size. These have been compared with a piece of seersucker shown to the cancellor by Stathi Thomas, coming from a chest marked nr. 1, containing 46 pieces of seersucker, among which according to the invoice 9 pieces costed f 33 and 37 pieces f 40<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>. These pieces had a size of approximately 20 ells, which shows that in the former chest 26 pieces would be 4 ells short.

Witnesses: Justin Philibert Marin and Hendrik Bartendorff.

Note: the parcel nr. 1 was sent by Korais to the Greek business firme of the Brothers Metaxa in Smyrna

## 6

Amsterdam, 30 VIII 1773

N.A.A. 15690/729

Notary E. M. Dorper.

On request of Diamanti Coray & Co the notary has asked Jacques Brentano Semenza, merchant in Amsterdam, why he did not pay a bill of change drawn on him by G. Rougier and Sons in Marseilles in favour of Coray for the amount of f 1800 Amsterdam bank money. Brentano has answered: «qu'il n'acceptoit point la dite lettre faute d'avis», on which the notary has protested according to custom.

Witnesses: Christiaan Holtschenkopff and Johannes Wilhelm van Braam.

## 7

Amsterdam, 11.XI 1774

N.A.A. 15695/701

Notary E. M. Dorper.

Stamati Petro witnesses on request of Diamant Coray & Co about the abuse the broker H. van Wayenburg made in december 1772 of the fact that Coray did not speak Dutch at the occasion of the sale of 900 pound ginger.

Signed by D. Coray, S. Petro and J. J. Storch, sworn translator, and by the witnesses J. Jacobsz and J. C. Wagner.

With annexed a copy of a declaration signed by D. J. van Hogendorp on behalf of the Burgermasters of Amsterdam that Stamati Petro has sworn his testimony.

## 8

Amsterdam, 4 V 1775

N.A.A. 15697/211

Notary E. M. Dorper

D. Coray & Co give power of attorney to Joannis Korais and Demetrios Bakchatoris in Smyrna in order to collect all money debtors in Smyrna owe Coray.

Witnesses: J. Jacobsz and J. C. Wagner.

## 9

Amsterdam, 3 IX 1776

N.A.A. 10884/508

Notary S. Dorper.

On request of Stephanus d'Isay & Co, merchants in Amsterdam, the notary has asked D. Coray why he did not pay a bill of exchange drawn on him by Michail Patrikios of Smyrna for the amount of f 4104/4. Coray has answered «Nous ecrivons au tireur la raison pour laquelle nous ne payons point sa lettre». The notary has protested according to custom, and subsequently Stephanus d'Isay have declared that they will pay the bill «pour compte et honneur du tireur».

Witnesses J. J. Clement and J. C. Wagner.

Annexed a letter of the notary to Coray of 3 IX 1776 on which Coray has written his answer, and a copy of the bill of exchange drawn by M. Patrikios on D. Coray in favour of Joannis Mavrokordatos & Joannis Anastasios of Smyrna, endorsed by the latter in favour of Pavlos Mavrokordatos & Co in Constantinople and endorsed by Pavlos Mavrokordatos in favour of Stephanus d'Isay & Co.

## 10

Amsterdam, 3 X 1776

N.A.A. 16885/586

Notary S. Dorper,

On request of Leonard de Vijver jr., merchant in Amsterdam, the notary has asked D. Coray why he did not pay a bill of exchange drawn of him by Antonios Morosinis and Leon Gialoussis of Smyrna for the amount of f 500 current money. Coray answered: «nous écrivons aux tireurs les raisons de non-payement», on which the notary has protested according to custom. Witnesses: J. C. Wagner and A. G. Hoefhamer.

The bill has been accepted under protest by S. D'Isay on 4 IX 1776.

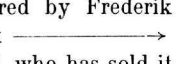
Wit annexed: letter of the notary to Coray on which Coray has written his answer, 4.IX 1776, and with copy of the bill of exchange, drawn 23 VII 1776 by Morosini & Gialoussis on Coray in favour of De Vijver.

## 11

Smyrna 9 X 1776

C.A.S. series d. 36

Abraham Keun, chancellor of the Dutch consulate in Smyrna.

On request of Ambrosio Ralli & Co, merchants in Smyrna, the chancellor has gone to the shop of Thodori Avgerinos in Smyrna. There he has seen 16/4 pieces of woollen cloth, being a parcel manufactured by Frederik Weerman Brijt, and sent by D. Coray under the mark  nr. 1 on the ship St. George, captain J. P. Hansen to Ralli, who has sold it to Avgerinos. The pieces are not of sufficient length, it is estimated that there are 4 ells short, for which compensation has been required.

Witnesses: Nicolo Sotira and Giuseppe Sorbi

## 12

Amsterdam, 7 X 1776

N.A.A. 10885/574

Notary S. Dorper.

A repetition of the protest nr. 9, with exactly the same text on a different date.

## 13

Smyrna, 4 X 1777 (copy)

C.A.S. series b vol. 7

Abraham Keun, chancellor of the Dutch consulate in Smyrna.

On the request of Joannis Mavrokordatos, Joannis Anastasios & Co the chancellor has asked D. Bakchatori to accept a bill of exchange drawn on Bakchatori by D. Coray in favour of G. & W. Reessen of Rotterdam for the amount of f 1821/11/8. Bakchatoris has replied: «non l'acetto perchè non ho ne denari, ne effetti ne avanzi del traente». On which the chancellor has protested according to custom. With Italian translation and copy of the bill of exchange, drawn 22.VIII 1777 by Coray on Bakchatoris in favour of Reessen and endorsed by Reessen in favour of Stephano d'Isay from Amsterdam and by d'Isay in favour of Mavrokordatos & Anastasios.

## 14

Smyrna, 7 XI 1777 (copy)

C.A.S. series b vol. 7

Abraham Keun, chancellor of the Dutch consulate in Smyrna.

On the request of Joannis Mavrokordatos, Joannis Anastasios & Co the chancellor has asked Joannis Korais for payment of the bill of exchange mentioned in nr. 12. Korais answered that he was not able to pay it immediately, but he was expecting money owing to him from the bezesten, and when he would receive this money, he would pay the bill of exchange immediately.

Witnesses: Giorgaki Amira and Giuseppe Sorbi


## APPENDIX 3-1

*Turnover of the firm of Stathi Thomas, Antonio Pateraki and Diamantis Korais, drawn from ARA, consulaat Smyrna, dd2 and LAT 1102.*

		22-8	22-2	22-8	22-2	22-8
		1772	1773	1773	1774	1794
		till	till	till	till	till
<b>A. From Amsterdam to Smyrna</b>		22-2	22-8	22-2	22-8	22-2
		1773	1773	1774	1774	1775
woollen cloth	pieces	26	110 <sup>1/2</sup>	125 <sup>1/2</sup>	167	331 <sup>1/2</sup>
velvet	ell	1202			989	
linen	pieces		200			
indian cotton, «mermer»	pieces	450	475		200	

indian cotton, «cassa»	pieces		616	170	170	
indian cotton, «seersucker»	pieces		64	46		
indian cotton, «bethilje»	pieces		22			
indian cotton, «humai»	pieces				20	
indian cotton, «imperials»	pieces			56		
indian cotton, various	pieces		50	266		30
canvas	pieces	624	102	680		
iron rods	quintal		86			
nails	quintal		226	3	55	34
needles	pieces			500000		
coffeemills	pieces				162	
tin	quintal	26	26			
iron wire	quintal			7		
lead shot	oka			85		
Delftware spewing basins	pieces			1515		
locks	dozen				740	
iron-heaters	pieces				120	
fieldmirrors	dozen			100		
Nürnberg mirrors	pieces			350		
thimbles	gross			400		
spectacles	dozen			400		
Delftware plates	dozen			148		
china cups	pieces	1600	5400	10867	3200	200
arsenic	quintal			14		
Saint Martin wood	quintal				95	
cobalt-blue	quintal			8		
lead white	quintal		74			
red lead	quintal			15		
vermillion	oka			45		
sal-ammoniac	quintal		5			
cloves	oka	50	55	95		38
nutmeg	oka		55	0,95		38
pepper	oka	1650		1650	1650	1650
cinnamon	oka		152			
scamonea	oka	480		380		
ginger	quintal			44		
cardamon	oka			38		
allspice	oka		220			
coffee	oka		720			
sugar	quintal				17	33
cheese	quintal				16 <sup>3/4</sup>	

*A. Korais 3/1/1804*



*D. Korais 1/1/1804*



Korais' signatures

		22-2 1772 till	22-8 1772 till	22-2 1773 till	22-8 1773 till	22-2 1774 till	22-8 1774 till
<b>B. Exportation from Smyrna</b>							
tobacco	oka	280					680
gum	quintal		11				
dry fruits	quintal					635	
carpets, small	pieces	195					
carpets, large	ells						1378
sponges	pieces					85000	
cotton, crude	quintal	697 <sup>1/2</sup>	125	905	55 <sup>3/4</sup>	30	157 <sup>1/2</sup>
cotton, yarn	quintal		10 <sup>1/2</sup>	118 <sup>3/4</sup>	79 <sup>1/2</sup>		48 <sup>1/2</sup>
angora wool, spun	oka		1750				1947
felt, red	quintal		13 <sup>1/2</sup>				
felt, black	quintal		6	—			
<b>C. From Amsterdam to Constantinople</b>							
cotton tissue, various	pieces				780		100
velvet	ell				2396		730
spiouter	oka				2640		
cotton tissue, «seersucker»	pieces				460		
books	value in grosia				225		
jewel	value in grosia				300		
woollen cloth	pieces				49		46 <sup>1/2</sup>
tin	barrels				150		
pepper	oka				3520		
amber	oka				13		
ambergris	oka						90
cloves	oka				100		
nutmeg	oka				90		
handkerchiefs	dozen				24		
iron wire	quintal				85		
copper wire	quintal				7 <sup>1/2</sup>		
seedpearls	oka				4		
pearl locks	dozen				304		
needles	thousand				1000		
sealwax	oka				124		
vermillion	oka				39		
tin plates	quintal				3 <sup>1/4</sup>		
nails	quintal				6		
canvas	pieces						353
grindstones	oka						300
Total value	grosia				41.243		11.165

**D. From Constantinople to Amsterdam**

vitriol	oka		920
scamonea	oka		110
palmwood	quintal		110
Total value	grosia		1.120

E. Trade of Korais with several merchants in Smyrna, 22-2-1773 till 22-8-1773, drawn from ARA, consulaat Smyrna, cc.

**Amsterdam to Smyrna**

pepper	oka	1650	1375	Thomas & Co.
cinnamon	oka	128	1512	» »
indian cotton, «mermer»	pieces	200	800	» »
indian cotton, «cassa»	pieces	160	960	» »
china cups	pieces	2400		» »
nutmeg	oka	45		» »
cloves	oka	60		» »

**Smyrna to Amsterdam**

cotton, crude	quintal	822 <sup>1/2</sup>	6570	Thomas & Co.
» »	quintal	117 <sup>1/2</sup>	940	Giorgios Tufektzioglu
» »	quintal	80	640	Michail Patrikios
» »	quintal	37 <sup>1/2</sup>	300	Mike Pitzipios
cotton, spun	quintal	137	2740	Thomas & Co.
» »	quintal	112 <sup>1/2</sup>	2250	Giorgios Tufektzioglu
borbati (cotton cloth)	pieces	180	120	Thomas & Co.
» » »	pieces	150	100	Kostas Mantzuranis
carpets	pieces	195	230	Thomas & Co.
silk	batman	80	2000	Thomas & Co.
»	batman	20	500	Bachtziali
felt	quintal	12	404	Thomas & Co.
angora wool	oka	1100	2200	Thomas & Co.
gum	quintal	3	34	Mantzuranis
opium	oka	480	1805	Thomas & Co. <sup>1</sup>

1. This opium was received by Hendrik Bartendorff, a Dutch merchant in Smyrna who also acted as a broker for Thomas.



Stathis Thomas' signature

## APPENDIX 3-2

*Tariff-value in grosia of the turnover of the Amsterdam - Smyrna trade of Stathi Thomas & Co, Smyrna, and the later firms in which Stathi was a partner, 22-8-1771 till 22-2-1779.*

	to Amsterdam	to Smyrna
22-8-1771 - 22-2-1772	10.839	
22-2-1772 - 22-8-1772	7.980	7.765
22-8-1772 - 22-2-1773	7.153	14.645
22-2-1773 - 22-8-1773	9.719	29.053
22-8-1773 - 22-2-1774	2.190	27.034
22-2-1774 - 22-8-1774	970	30.114
22-8-1774 - 22-2-1775	7.234	5.862
22-2-1775 - 22-8-1775 <sup>1)</sup>	8.713	28.970
22-8-1775 - 22-2-1776	2.600	12.530
22-2-1776 - 22-8-1776	6.066	3.115
22-8-1776 - 22-2-1777	1.058	5.670
22-2-1777 - 22-8-1777 <sup>2)</sup>	4.890	8.673
22-8-1777 - 22-2-1778	8.041	8.238
22-2-1778 - 22-8-1778 <sup>3)</sup>	(4.177) 1.350	30.658
22-8-1778 - 22-2-1779 <sup>4)</sup>	(8.693) 913	(11.579) 2.169

1. From here on the Amsterdam partner of the firm is Stamati Petrou.
2. From here on the firm is called Stathi Thomas & Bartendorff.
3. Between parentheses: trade booked under the name of Ralli, Petrokokkino & Thomas.
4. Also 917 for merchandise sent to Amsterdam by Thomas alone.

## APPENDIX 3-3

## A. For Smyrna (ARA, consulaat Smyrna z. 2, 19-8-1773):

to *Vitali, Kourmouzi & Co*

15 barrels lead shot

to *Nikolo Pittako*

200 pieces St. Martinswood

to *Stathi Thomas*

2 chests woollen cloth

2 barrels with nails and needles

10 barrels lead shot

3 chests with 400 dozen spectacles, 100 dozen field-mirrors and  
310 Nürnberg mirrors

4 chests with delftware spitting basins

6 packs wollen cloth

2 barrels with cloves and nutmeg

18 packs canvas  
 1 barrel iron wire  
 1 chest cardamon  
 8 barrels cobaltblue, arsenic and red-lead  
 9 parcels seersuckers (8 shipped to Constantinople)  
 30 parcels pepper (20 shipped to Constantinople)  
 70 pieces canvas  
 1 parcel cotton tissue (cassa)  
 2 chests china cups  
 1 chest cotton tissue (cassa)  
 8 barrels ginger  
 9 chests with knives and delFTWARE plates  
 2 mirrors for private use

*to Metaxa Bros.*

1 chest seersuckers

*to Stavriano & Konstantino Mantzourani*

11 barrels (shipped to Constantinople)

*to Antonio Avgerino & Co.*

3 parcels (1 shipped to Constantinople)

*to Ioannis Mavrokordato, Ioannis Anatasio & Co.*

1 chest velvet

*to Johannes d'Isayas Savalan*

1 pack woollen cloth

*to Stathi Thomas*

200 pieces lead.

**B. For Constantinople (ARA, legatie Turkije 1102A and 1102)**

*Hendrik van Kleeff to Willem van Lelyveld & Sons*

2 packs (woollen cloth)

1 parcel (woollen cloth)

*Cramer & van Rensselaar to van der Schroeff & Co.*

2 packs (woollen cloth)

*Jean Heemskerk jr. to order*

2 packs (woollen cloth)

*Johannes Brinck & Crull Morré [Ioannis Prigkos] to order (Fronimo)*

1 chest (cotton tissue)

*Diamant Coray & Co to Antonio Pateraki*

2 barrels

6 barrels

2 barrels



- 1 barrel (these barrels contain: iron wire, seed pearls, locks, copper wire)
- 3 barrels (these barrels contain needles, gum and vermillion)
- 1 barrel
- 3 barrels
- 1 barrel
- 2 chests (velvet and amber)
- 3 packs (pepper)

*Ioannis Fronimo to order of Dimitrio Fronimo*

- 1 chest (handkerchiefs)

*Jan Baalde to order (= Hudsch & Timoni)*

- 1 chest (velvet)

*Weduwe Isaac Fremeaux to Bornmann & Co*

- 8 barrels (needles)

*Johannes Brinck & Crull Morré to Dimitrio Fronimo*

- 1 chest (cotton tissues)

*Christoffel Gemke to order (= Peter Tooke)*

- 3 parcels (cotton tissues)

*Foa Bros to order (= Dimitrio Fronimo)*

- 1 barrel (iron wire and copper wire)

*Gilles Granpré & Son to Bornmann & Co.*

- 3 packs (woollen cloth)

*Diamant Coray & Co. to Antonio Pateraki*

- 1 chest (tin plates)
- 3 barrels (nails)

*Muilman & Sons to Benjamin Barker*

- 2 barrels (butter)

*Muilman & Sons to G. Abbott & Sons*

- 2 barrels (butter)

*Stefanos d'Isay to Pavlos Mavrokordatos*

- 14 barrels
- 1 pack
- 1 pack
- 2 packs

**C. From Smyrna to Amsterdam (ARA, consulaat Smyrna z. 2, 13-12-1773)**

*Franel & Morier*

- 5 barrels (yellow arsenic)

*Stathi Thomas*

11 pack cotton yarn  
30 packs crude cotton

*Hendrik Bartendorff*

1 chest (silk tissue)  
18 packs crude cotton  
28 packs crude cotton  
42 packs crude cotton  
1 pack cotton yarn  
269 barrels raisins  
1 chest drugs (opium)

*Abraham Langendijk*

10 packs crude cotton

*Vitali, Zingrilara & Co*

5 packs cotton yarn

*Dimitrio & Nikolo Bakchatori*

30 packs cotton  
3 packs felt

*Rafael Kardamitzis (all presents)*

3 barrels  
1 chest  
1 box

*Vitali, Kourmouzi & Co*

8 packs angora yarn  
1 pack silk

*Dimitrio Fronimo*

3 packs felt  
1 chest gum  
1 chest drugs

*Vitali Kourmouzi & Co*

1 chest gum  
3 packs felt

*De Vogel & Co.*

41 packs crude cotton  
36 packs angora yarn  
1 box drugs (scamonea)

L. Kalvokoressis' signature

Total value of mercandise sent from Amsterdam to Smyrna		
	Grosia or Piasters	21.257
Total value of merchandise sent from Amsterdam to Constanti- nople: Grosia or piastres		37.365
Total value of merchandise sent from Smyrna to Amsterdam		
(as usually the ship did not take cargo in Constantinople)		<u>17.016</u>
	Grosia or piasters	75.638

## APPENDIX 3-4

*Entries referring to Korais in the ledgers of the Dutch East India Company.*

*A. Ledger of the Hoorn chamber, 1772, ARA, VOC nr. 14614 f. 104*

Hoorn 1772.

DIAMANT CORAY & CO

	<i>debit</i>	<i>credit</i>
(47) 31 December	(36) 31 december,	
For cotton cloth	from the bank	f. 3257/16
250 pieces (112) f. 3313/6	(58) 30 April 1773,	
	from the bank	f. 6/10
	(65) 31 May 1773,	
	from the account of forward	
	— and backward payments	f. 49/14
		<u>f. 3313/6</u>

Note: The journal, VOC f. 47 shows that this entry concerns 3 packs containing 260 (!) pieces of several kinds for different prices.

*B. Ledger of the Amsterdam chamber, ARA, VOC nr. 7188 f. 338*

Amsterdam 1772

DIAMANT CORAY & CO

	<i>debit</i>	<i>credit</i>
(110) 31 January 1773	(64) 30 Nov. 1772, cash	(45) f. 645/15/8
For cotton cloth,	(69) same date, cash	(45) f. 2200/—
461 pieces (429) f. 6707/4	(72) same date, cash	(45) f.
(102) For merchandise bought	(155) 31 May 1773, cash	(195) f. 1100/—
from returning	(188) same date,	
sailors: cotton cloth,	forward payment	(195) f. 103/10/8
15 pieces (431) f. 390/—	(272) 31 Dec. 1773, cash	(495) f. 1183/4
(241) From the cashier for	(394) 31 May 1774,	
overpayment (459) f. 1100/—	advance payment	195) f. 18/—
(292) 31 January 1774		
For cotton cloth		
100 pieces (429) f. 1201/4		
	<u>f. 9398/16</u>	<u>f. 9398/16</u>

## APPENDIX 3-5

*Turnover of the Smyrna-Holland trade by the firm of Ambrosio Ralli during the time Korais was a partner in this firm.*

		22-2-1775	22-8-1775	22-2-1776
		till	till	till
		22-8-1775	22-2-1776	22-8-1776
<b>Amsterdam to Smyrna</b>				
beaver hats	dozen	10		
linen	pieces		10	
chintz, small	pieces		4	
chintz, large	pieces		18	
cheese	quintal		35,56	
woollen cloth	pieces		7	33 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>
<i>Total tariff value</i>	<i>grosia</i>	20	1539	4375
<b>Smyrna to Amsterdam</b>				
angora yarn	oka	1000	958	985
cotton yarn	quintal	65 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>	30	
crude cotton	quintal	95		
gum	quintal		27	8
scamonea	oka		70	
sal ammoniac	quintal		7 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>	
julep	oka		135	
<i>Total tariff value</i>	<i>grasia</i>	3320	3352	2060

## APPENDIX 3-6

*Exportations by Korais, 1775-1776 to Ambrosio Ralli and to D. & N. Bakchatori.*

			tariff value	
woollen cloth	pieces	52 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>	5562	Ralli
» »	pieces	28	3500	Bakchatori
velvet	ells	820	2460	Ralli
gum	quintals	8	90	Ralli
goldthread	miticals	3740	1870	Bakchatori
china cups	pieces	10262	855	Bakchatori

Note: Last reference to Korais in manifest-series in Dutch archives in the manifest of the ship *Meles*, arrived in Smyrna 10 June 1777, carrying 1 parcel books addressed by Korais to Bernard Keun. To be remarked among the manifests of the same year a manifest of the ship *Cornelia Petronella*, in which an entry for 3 chests of books, value 200 grosia, sent by Stefanos Isaiou, but under the mark D<sup>+</sup>C, which was the ordinary way in which Korais marked his merchandise when he was still active.

## APPENDIX 4-1

*From the addressbooks of Amsredam merchants.*

*Naamregister van alle de Kooplieden, 1773.*

Coray & Comp. (D.) op Fluweelenburgwal over de Oude Kerk, op de Levant.

[D. Coray & Comp. on the Fluweelenburgwal, opposite the Old Church, on the Levant].

*Naamregister van alle de Kooplieden, 1774.*

Coray & Comp. (D.) op Fluweelenburgwal over de Oude Kerk te May op t' Nieuw Waals Eyland bij de Kraansluis, op de Levant.

[D. Coray & Comp., on the Fluweelenburgwal — actually called Oudezijds Voorburgwal — opposite the Old Church; after May on the New Walloon island near the Kraansluis, on the Levant].

## APPENDIX 4-2

*Death of Maria Geraud.*

GAA, burial register of the Walenkerk (Walloon church) on the date of 31 March 1773: *Maria Geraud, second daughter of Pierre Geraud, of the Fluweelenburgwal opposite the Old Church in a hired grave* (birth-register of the same church — Walenkerk — on the date of 14 March 1755: *Marie, daughter of Pierre Geraud and Jeanne Garasch*).

## APPENDIX 4-3

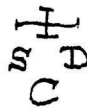
*Korais as a citizen of Amsterdam*

GAA, Burgemeesters nr. 1430 (register of bought citizenships of the city of Amsterdam).

*17 May 1774*

*Diamant Coray van Smirna, koopman.*

[Diamant Coray from Smyrna, merchant].



Korais' commercial marks.

## GLOSSARY

- ἀκόντο (Italian: a conto) in cash  
 ἀλόρδινε (Italian: all'ordine) to the order of  
 ἀπερβία (Italian: per via) by way  
 ἀσλάνι (Turkish: aslani talleri) the Dutch lion dollar  
 ἀτζετάρω (Italian: accettare) to accept  
 ἄτζιο (Italian: agio) the difference in value between cash and money on bank accounts  
 banco (Italian) money on bank accounts, slightly higher in value than cash  
 δουκάτα (Italian: ducato) account unit in the Venetian Banco Giro, in this context never real money  
 ζουλότι (Polish: zloty) the Polish silver dollar  
 κάμερα (Dutch: Kamer) the local directions of the Dutch East India Company (established in Amsterdam, Middelburg, Delft, Rotterdam, Hoorn and Enkhuizen)  
 καμπιάλε (Italian cambiale) bill of exchange  
 κοιμπανία (Dutch: Companie) the Dutch East India Company  
 κονοσιμέντο (Italian: conoscimento) bill of lading  
 κορισπονταϊντες (Italian: corrispondente) correspondent  
 κρέντιτο (Italian: credito) credit  
 λιψικάνικα woolen cloth from Saxony, Silezia and Bohemia, called after its principal market: Leipzig  
 λότο (Italian: lotto) the Dutch State lottery  
 μαλμόλες (Dutch: malmolen from the Hindustani malmal) cotton muslin  
 μερμέρ (Turkish: mermer) = malmal  
 μοστράνι (Italian: mostra) sample  
 μουχαμπετχάνια (origin unknown) = seersucker, a thin striped cotton tissues  
 μπάγχο vid. banco  
 μπαράτω (Italian barattare) to exchange  
 ντεμπιτάρω (Italian debitare) to put on the debit-account  
 ντιζόρδινε (Italian: disordine)  
 πόλιτζα (Italian: polizza) policy, in this context mostly used for bill of exchange  
 σερσουκέρι (Anglo-Indian: seersucker) thin striped cotton tissue  
 σιγουραδόρος (Italian: assicuratores) insurer  
 σιγουριτά (Italian: sicurtà) insurance  
 σούντιτος (Italian: suddito) subject  
 σουράγια (Turkish: sura) cross-threaded silken tissue  
 τανσίπι/τατσίπι (Hindustani: tanjeep) fine cotton tissue  
 τελεσίς μερμέρ (Turkish: tellesi mermer) cotton muslin with inwoven gold or silver threads  
 τζορούτικα ἄσπρα (Turkish: cürüt = rotten?) money of bad alloy  
 χαζινὲ μερμέρ some kind of cotton muslin, hazine means in Turkish chest or treasure