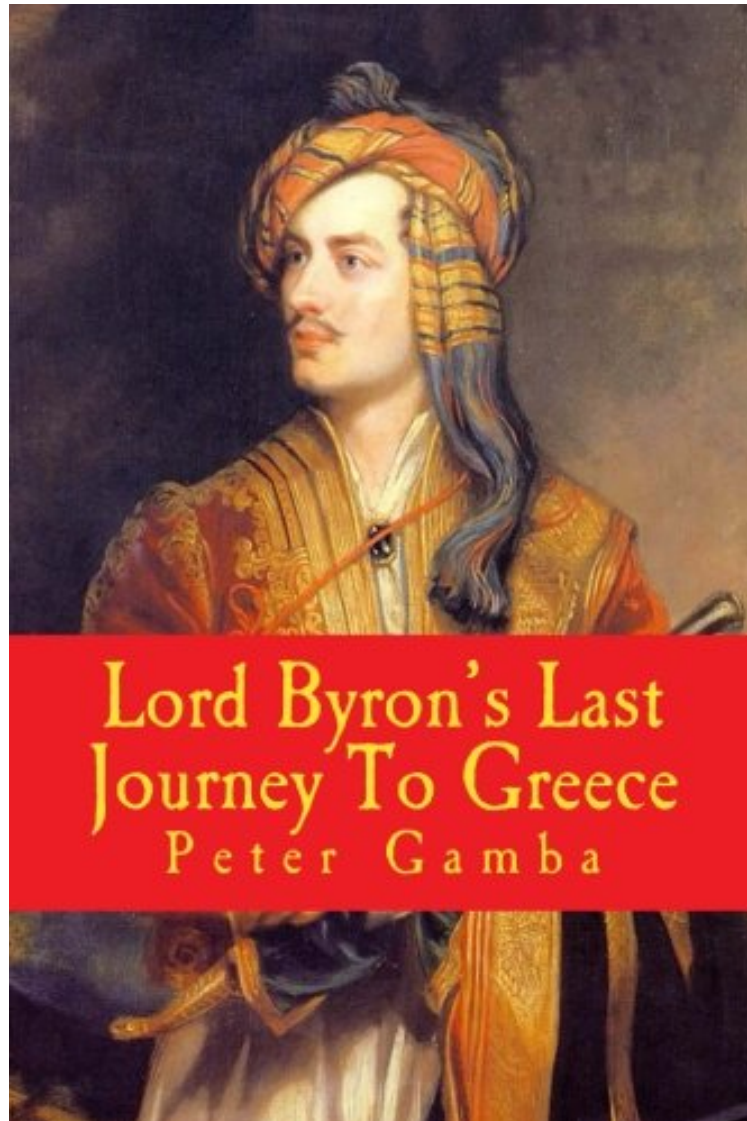


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## Lord BYRON's Last Journey To Greece: New Edition

*Peter Gamba, Count Pietro Gamba, George J. Kiernan*  
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**Peter Gamba, Count Pietro Gamba, George J. Kiernan : Lord BYRON's Last Journey To Greece: New Edition**  
before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Lord BYRON's Last  
Journey To Greece: New Edition:

There are few either in the Old or the New World, whithersoever the light of civilization extends, who have not

proclaimed themselves friendly to the regeneration of Greece. People of all nations, parties and sects the most opposed to each other, whether in politics or religion, have apparently always been unanimous in the wish of seeing that country liberated from the dominion of the Turks. Who would renounce the name of Christian, and incur the appellation of barbarian?—It would be useless and tedious to state the well-known causes which have contributed to awaken an interest so general, and to enlarge upon the influence which they might have had on the determination of Lord Byron to proceed to Greece. If, as there are many who are fond of making vows for the liberation of Greece, a crusade had been planned in her favour, and the obstacles to be encountered had appeared trivial, Lord Byron would never have joined in the undertaking; he was not one to follow the crowd, or to engage in enterprises free from danger. Doubtless, he bewailed the calamities of Greece, and none could have more earnestly desired her liberation from that shameful yoke which has reduced her to a state so degraded and deplorable. But such a wish might not have led, but for particular reasons, to any ulterior determination. Lord Byron had once intended fixing his residence in Italy, but the political state of that country gave rise to feelings of disgust. He likewise had some thoughts of going to the United States of America, where he was known and esteemed;—I once saw him nearly on the point of departure. He often felt the want of some other occupation than that of writing; and frequently said, that the public must be tired of his compositions, and that he was certainly more so. Towards the end of February, 1823, he turned his thoughts towards Greece. No one could accuse him of being a blind enthusiast. In his travels during his younger days, he had imbibed a greater personal esteem for the character of the Turks than for that of their slaves. He may have persuaded himself that his personal endeavours and his pecuniary resources might possibly contribute to the liberation of Greece. No undertaking could interest him more strongly; the object, the scene, the danger, were powerful incentives. It appeared that no Christian power was likely to take part in the struggle of the Greeks. Most of the Europeans who went to their assistance had either perished, or, discontented, had abandoned them. It was generally believed, that a powerful expedition was preparing on the part of the Turks; the eyes of all Europe were then turned not towards the East, but the West. Spain alone occupied the public attention. Such a state of things would have made others desist: it stimulated Lord Byron. In the mean time, he received a letter from his friend Mr. Hobhouse, informing him of the interest that the English were beginning to take in favour of the Greeks; that a committee had been formed, many of whom were his friends; that Mr. Blaquiere had been sent into Greece to learn more exactly the state of affairs, and that he would touch at Genoa, to communicate with his Lordship. In the middle of April, Mr. Blaquiere arrived in company with Mr. Luriotti, afterwards Greek deputy in London. They begged his Lordship to concur with his other friends: he replied, that he was fully disposed so to do, and to assist the cause not only with his means, but personally, if the Greeks would accept of his services, and if his going to Greece would be of any advantage to that country. He then decided on as early a departure as possible. Mr. Blaquiere was to send information, and we were to be ready on the receipt of his letters. I undertook the preparations. A physician acquainted with surgery was requisite, but a known and skilful one was difficult to be found in Genoa. I wrote to Leghorn and Pisa, but the time was too short.