

Greetings to you, honoured Ambassador, from the Marquis Flavien du Libellue, trade envoy of the eastern Ducal Houses to the Prosperous Empire.

Thank you for your response; I had begun to fear that there would be none. My condolences on the death of your deputy.

On the matter of the opening of the port of Robec, I am glad to hear that the offer is being considered, but must admit to some confusion. You say you have presented it to those who deal with such — is it not yourself who is the one the Empire has nominated to deal with such? Is it not your say-so on which a decision on this matter is made? It was my understanding that the Empire invested its ambassadors with authority in their foreign dealings — was this an incorrect assumption, and I should have been addressing the trade offer to another more appropriate Imperial minister?

If it is yourself to whom this should indeed be addressed, then I hope you will come to a wise decision on the matter with promptness. Obviously, this offer was now made some time ago, and those of Ducal status with whom I made the arrangement are losing interest due to having seen no active progress from the Empire on the matter. As such, the offer will no longer be available after the Autumn Equinox; I am afraid we would have to take a lack of any movement on it by then as an indication that the Empire does not hold trade with us to be of import. Such a disregard is not something that the Dukes will appreciate very greatly, and of course it would render ineffective all our attempts to convince our wise priesthood to lift their ban on trading mithril to the Empire.

On the matter of the knight commanders — I can at least confirm that yes, they would still be willing to take up arms against the Grendel attacking your territories, at the price indicated; to reiterate, thirteen ingots of green iron, seven ingots of orichalcum, two ingots of weltsilver, nine measures of ambergelt, seven measures of beggar's lye, fifteen measures of dragonbone and seven measures of iridescent gloaming. They are itching for a chance to test their mettle in glorious battle — but I am afraid that, if the Empire is not interested in acquiring their services, then they will look elsewhere from this season for such opportunities.

I hope that we will see some progress towards our mutual prosperity and strength — that we will see actions that prove your kind assurances that the Empire has only intentions of a benevolent relationship with our proud nation.

Marquis Flavien du Libellue

House Libellue

Trade Envoy