

EG. 204
US Legation Constantinople

Feb. 4/64

My Dear Sir - The mystery
touching my non-accreditation
to King George's court is at last
explained. Hearing nothing from
Washington on the subject, I
requested my friend S. J. Cox
Democratic member of Congress
from Ohio, member of the Committee
on Foreign Affairs, to question Mr
Seward on the subject. The reply
of Mr Seward revealed the fact
that he intended to make a
job of what Congress intended
to be a serious affair. He said
he desired to give the mission
to Greece to his friend King
who has recently been appointed

Minister to Rome & to unite
the Minister to Greece with
that of Rome for the benefit
of his friend King. He said
the Greeks are great rascals
& require close watching -
that King would have
nothing to do at Rome &
that the Minister to Turkey
could not have time to
attend to Greece also as
he must be always at
his post. Mr Cox reminded
him that there is only 48
hrs of travel between London
& Athens & that there is
telegraphic communication
to & that several ministers
to Turkey are also accredited
to Greece - and that Congress
when it made the appropriation
did it on the recommendation
of your letter which was

communicated to it suggesting
the union of a mission to
Greece with that to Turkey -
that without this underst-
-anding the appropriation
would not have been voted.
This appeared to alarm
Mr Seward & he then said
he had not yet given the
mission to King - did not
know what he should do
with it &c &c.

Coz writes me
that he has an idea of
amending the appropriation
when it comes up again
so as to require the duties
to be performed by the
Minister to Turkey, but
I have written to him
to dissuade him from all
action on the subject. What
an absurd idea that of
uniting a mission to Rome
with that to Athens. It

is simply ridiculous & a
waste of the public money.
Better by far, if the Roman
miser is so useless &
suppress it altogether &
create a miser of the
same class in Greece.

I know
Mr King very well. He is
a son of Chas. King Pres^t of
Columbia College & is a warm
friend of mine & a most
worthy gentleman in every
respect. He has been in
the War & has won the rank
of Brigadier General by his
gallantry & services. He is
a grandson of the celebrated
Rufus King & is worthy of
his ancestor. Iff 3000
is the given away & any
body in these flush
times of debt & expenditure

I know of no man
 upon whom it can be left
 exceptimably bestowed than
 upon my friend King &
 who has also been a life long
 friend of Howard's. I regret
 however that the good intentions
 of Congress have thus been
 frustrated & that your long
 long desire to have a dipl-
 -omatic representation to
 Greece on a permanent basis
 is thus baffled. If Congress
 understands that the approp-
 -riation is to be thus misapplied
 it will strike ^{it} out altogether
 & thus the whole affair
 will fall to the ground.

Nothing can be done
 under the circumstances on

Yr part, were you ever
disposed to give yrself
further trouble & nothing
in mine except through
the medium of my friend
Cox.

That Congress intended
this measure for me is clearly
shown by the enclosed
paragraph from the N. Y.
Tribune of March 11
1863, a copy of which
I enc sent you. Please
return the enclosed
newspaper slip when
you write again.

It is
probable I may have
occasion to visit the U.S
on a cruise of 4 mos
which has been granted
to me to use at my pleasure
as Mrs Brown's promise
in September to give another
year to the house of Brown
& she would like to be

near her mother in such
an extent.

I see you have
also had a winter of exception-
al severity at Athens ~~as~~
we have had here. You
must have suffered more
however from the rarity of
such temperature & the
high winds that intensify
cold at Athens. Here in
Winter we are prepared
for any kind of weather
as our winters are always
horrible in the extreme
being a combination of
rain, snow, cold, mud
damp & every other disagree-
able feature of the elements.

I regret to see
the sad state of your
politics - faction & party
spirit running riot as
in times past - love of
country sunk in love of

place - and disorder
& insubordination prevailing
through all branches of the
civil & military service. The
formation of a Bulgarian
Ministry at the opening of
the new reign was a tremendous
mistake & one which I fear
will lead to disastrous
results eventually.

Here we are
actively preparing for the
worst looking for war as
a near probability. The utmost
efforts are making to put the
Army & Navy in an efficient
war condition, but there is a
sad want of money. The troops
& civil employes have not
been paid for several mos.
The hope that Mrs Hill & myself
have not suffered from colds &
that you are in the enjoyment of good health
permits me to join me in affectionate love to
Mrs Hill.
Yours truly
E. J. Morris