

Missolonghi 15th May 1864

My dear M^r. Hill

Many thanks for your
 charming letter ^{containing} so much
 news, I have also to
 thank you for having deli-
 vered my letter to Balbi,
poor old man he is much
 to be pitied, we hear he
 is a great favourite with
the Ionians, that is with
 the moderate party, not
such fellows as Lombard
 however

however, they will vote for him
they say, Vedrens! I am sorry
to hear from good authority
that they are so fanatic at
Corfu, that they even refuse
to buy the furniture &c. of the
English who are leaving, this
does not promise well for the
future, the Bishop is at the
head of these fanatics, and I
fear they will be foolish
enough to make a fresh
Kalabaka, but this time
England would probably
leave them to the tender
mercies of the Turks,
they certainly want a little
putting

putting down to prove to them
they are not, with all their
ancestors, the first of God's
creatures.

Small pox is creating sad
havoc amongst our small
population, several Ionian
labourers having died yesterday
the remainder are clearing
out giving your humble ser-
-vant much work in signing
Passports. By giving up the
Ionian islands England
will be on better terms with
Turkey as half our disa-
-greeables were on their acc't.
So probably England will
have

have more influence with
the Turks, which will pay
better in Cotton & Railways &c.
than in Greece.

We shall soon see if the Greeks
will be clever enough to get
keep up the roads &c. made by
the English or whether they will
return to the state in which the
English found them. Let us see what
M. Bourée will make of his diplomacy
now his colleagues leave him
champ libre.

With our united regards to Mr.
Hill & family Believe me

yours truly

J Black

Mr. Dampier's son Mr. Dampier's
son!

Ms. A. 10. 1. 1. 1. 1.