

My dear Mr. Hill We are comparatively
 speaking so close to you that I cannot
 please sending you a line. Jack and
 you and dear Mr. Hill got on and also
 to wish you the compliments of the season
 We came here on the 14th and on the
 20th of this month we purpose going to Palermo
 returning from there about the 5th inst.
 then on to Rome Florence &c and down
 by the end of March when I suppose I shall
 have to get on the road down again
 and go afloat. I am sure that you will
 glad to hear of Masco's promotion I am
 delighted myself he was such a pleasant
 fellow and such a good officer I am sorry
 to see poor Geo of the Admits office
 (Captain Starbuck and Lyon) who are here
 of the death of Sir Lyon the Admiral's
 sister I don't suppose that you have seen
 as she was not I think in Greece.
 Both Starbuck and Lyon have been
 in the prison you to Rome and the
 other remains here a few days longer -
 We have been very busy as you may suppose

Right Feiz. and though I like Lopez much
yet I can assure you we often regret
others and the scarpus we used
to have in Malabar Bay. Every one talks
of nothing now but the dreadful earth
quakes. you will see more than I can tell
you in the papers. Subscriptions have
been set on foot by the English Ambassadors
to relieve the poor. who are in a fearful
state at Potenza Jure. Their houses and
means of living being gone. Sir Robert Peel
and a Mr Whitt went down to see and
if possible be of use. Yesterday there
was a meeting at the Chergyrene
house to decide how the collections
should be distributed and I am
sorry to say Men showed temper
to get into the discussions. One
party wishing to send the gentlemen
who volunteered to do so to go to
Potenza and distribute the funds.
as they were wanted. The other party
wished to send the funds over to the

Heapitt an experiment and ~~had~~
Guthrie recalled his subscription of
£5000 because the former party
were in a majority. I did not attend
the meeting because I do not care to entangle
myself with anyone. And I certainly could
or would not get any. Hold my tongue.
I am very glad to see that at least the
crisis is over in America and England.
What fearful failures have taken place
and so the crisis has been made
for the railway between Athens and
the Parnassus. "at least" I should hardly
think it would take long to make it
so there would be no cuttings or tunnels
except just going into Athens.

My mother told me about that silly proposal
between Macky and Boyce. So important,
as it affects the naval the diplomatic and
the naval department at Athens have got
on so dull. I hear that Macky delivers is with
you. He is an old nemesis of mine
in the Cornwallis year ago. Perhaps neither
is just at present not our good and.
Today it is pouring with rain.
The lecture has been postponed here.
In some time and has now gone to

Wotta. I suppose has returned her
but without the old Commodore
Jackson. who is still here.
Craigie a very nice fellow succeeded
him. I am in hopes when I go to the
Admiralty in April that I shall get
appointed to a ship on this station
and if so I should try and be sent
to Russia. We both agree that our stay
is here was the pleasantest time
we have spent anywhere. and you
know my dear W. and Mrs. Hill
do not much, very much we look to that
you go and do it connected to our
happiness. Wotta had a most
surprising fall yesterday out riding
the Sirry stable keeper gave us a
pair of Sicking horses and in the
first time in four years. My wife was
there that personally she turned
out at breakfast on Dec and as
terms corresponded followed. but she

is very much obliged. We had a letter
of Theobald's here on board. Certain-
ly like our friend, but very curious
and shrewd. I am surprised of Luther.
I hope they are getting on well at
Athens and thought I cannot bear
you I get I think there are many
good points in him. I always felt
sure that the appointment of Theobald
to the Commission would make him
in it was certain on a lucrative
point of view to fall far short of his
expectations. I hope all your little
conjectures are quite well. We thought
of you so on Christmas day and
mentally wished you all the
happinesses of the season. We expect
to have a pleasant trip down the
Genna and Milan through ourselves
I long for a better spot. Some place
that one can call one's own and
do what one likes with. I must
however go to sea again before I can
get my Post. I only hope but for
Three years. We are all wondering

If Lord Lynce will retain the command
out here much longer. Almost any admiral
who came after him would be unpopu-
lar. The Alberts time is nearly up - but I suppose
she will remain out at bay as the
Admiral dies. It is a great shame that
out of his flag ship not one promotion
has been made. The Centaur told me the
other day that they had met the Constitution
Captain Bell. She is now at Palermo and
I believe makes the usual tour in the
Summer. If you have time my dear
Mr. Hill will give you direct a line to sit-
down till the 4th of Feb. directed to
care of Messrs Garrison & Co St Lucia
Lodge. We long to see you and your
certainly must plead guilty to the
accusation of very bad writing, it is
always the more so when I am much
disturbed in the letter I am writing
so that must plead - excuse in
you having such badly written letters
I must conclude now and believe me
my dear Mr and Mrs Hill meet
affectionately yours

Wm W. Phelps