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recd July 22. 1803

Wm. Smith

J. H. Hill

Athena

Greece

Send by )

Prof. Hendrick

of Rochester N.Y.)

U.S. Legation

Athens February 2/53

My dear Sir

This will serve to introduce  
 to yr acquaintance & kind regards Prof. J.  
 C. Kendrick of Rochester who visits Greece for  
 purposes of learning & taste. You will soon  
 discover & appreciate his profound & various  
 lingual knowledge & I am certain the purposes  
 of his tour to Athens will be much advanced  
 by the privilege of yr society & conversation.

An unusual prep of engagements  
 has prevented me until this moment from  
 replying to yr kind letter of Nov , which by  
 the way reached me nearly a month after its  
 date. I am glad to know that the King's question is  
 likely to have a pacific termination & that an  
 'imprimary of peace' is not likely to be a cause  
 of ill blood between nations of kindred feelings. It  
 is singular that the massive column of Jupiter  
 Olympus after breasting the storms of ages should

have been prostrated so suddenly by the short  
lived pest which swept over yr city. I regret to hear  
that your own Christian Shrine was also a sufferer,  
but I suppose it is again in a state of preparation.  
Neither Mrs M. nor I will ever forget the pleasant  
sound of yr Protestant Church going bell, reminding  
us that we were once ~~more~~ again in a land of  
religious toleration, nor the sweet serenity of those  
beautiful Sabbaths when we worshipped at  
yr pure altar with the wrecks of classic  
heathenism still surviving around, as memorial  
of the credulity & weakness of the human  
mind unilluminated by divine revelation. Long  
may yr humble & chaste little church stand  
as the pincers of the Christian recivilization  
of Greece & long may you by the favour of  
Providence live to minister in its sacred functions.

The election of Gen. Pierce & the return  
of the Democratic party to power of course  
will soon terminate my Diplomatic career  
at Naples. Mrs Morris is such a thorough

patriot that she will not regret returning to her  
home & kindred and to plain Republican life after three  
years of association with Kings, Diplomats &c. She is  
a rather fiercer in her American Republicanism than  
ever, probably from the indifferent specimen of Monarchy  
& Aristocracy we have in this latitude. She will never  
however cease to look back with interest on Mrs Hill  
yourself & yr family at Athens & will always be glad  
to have it in her power to serve you both & yr cause. As  
you will see Gen. Peice has made a narrow escape  
with his life after losing his son ~~by~~ a shocking death  
~~but~~ I am afraid will seriously affect the health of  
his wife. The Presidency of the U.S. seems to bring  
ill luck to its possessors. I feel so much interest  
in the proposed contribution of a block of marble on  
the part of Greece to the Washington - Monument that  
you will excuse me I hope for enclosing ~~the~~  
scrap from the American papers relating to the  
Turk block. I do hope you will urge the  
early adoption of this measure by the Greek  
Parliament conscious as I am that it will  
be hailed with delight in the U.S. & that it

will have a happy action as a matter of policy  
in rekindling & cementing the accustomed good  
feeling between the two countries. Let me have the  
first copy of Ypsilas' speech in support & an  
account of the proceedings & I will procure  
their insertion both in the English Journals,  
Galvani & the American papers. I hope the  
war in Montenegro will have the effect to destroy  
the Turkish domination in Albania & to throw Mac-  
donia once more into Greece, though that perhaps  
is hoping too extravagantly. The Turkish Empire is  
evidently on the decline, if it is not near its fall.  
Take care if you please of my excellent friend Judge  
King of Philadelphia who will be in Athens probably in  
April or May from Egypt & Syria. He is worthy of  
yr attention. Our winter at Naples has been one  
continued spring & but one fall of snow has whitened  
the peaks of the higher mountains that surround  
the gulf. I am glad to hear of the durability of the Capri &  
of its good properties. I was afraid it would suffer from the  
voyage. Com. Sturgham has not been at Naples since  
September last. He has wintered at Naples. Mrs M. joins me in  
the most affectionate remembrance to Mrs Hill, with our respects to  
Miss D. & E. J. C. Believe me truly yr obliged friend  
Rev. J. H. Hill. Edward Joy Morris

P.S. You have probably heard of the death of Commodore C. W. Morgan at Washington on the 4th of Aug.