

COPY.

10, Downing Street,  
Whitehall, S.W.

29th January, 1915.

My dear Buxton,

I am much obliged for your letter, and for the enclosure. The notes which you have sent me are extremely interesting and of much value. I hope that you have sent a copy to Edward Grey, so that the views which you so ably express shall receive the fullest consideration.

Yours sincerely,

(signed) H.H. Asquith.

20 CAVENDISH SQUARE, W. 1.

TELEPHONE,  
MAYFAIR 2238.

26 Feb 1918

My dear Buxton

Many thanks  
for sending me  
the interesting statement  
in regard to former  
opinion.

Yours sincerely  
W. Asquith

Pro  
Five Italian pts.  
Keep in touch.  
a chance of showing  
conspires.  
Prep for cabinet.  
Kensington  
Telephones 3845  
Telegrams Apartments

Con.  
Let well alone.  
Wd be most favourable.  
not complete shd deal w  
Italy + other pts in a memo.  
Kensington Palace Mansions,  
(+ H H wd feel perturbed.)  
De Vere Gardens, W.

Jan 30

Dear Mr Asquith

In reply to your very kind  
note regarding the memorandum  
on the Balkan situation, I  
have, as you suggest, sent it to Sir  
Edward, & at his request my  
brother & I have seen one of the  
Foreign Office Staff who is concerned.  
It appeared that the chief  
difficulty felt was that the position  
of the Entente might be injured  
as regards Italy, on account of  
her claims in Dalmatia.

May I therefore say a word  
on this point, mentioning 3 pts  
wh struck me at Rome in Dec  
a month ago.

The late Foreign Secretary was a great apostle of the colonial policy in Asia Minor, & even the "reform-socialists", who opposed the Tripoli venture, support it. Signor Bissolati, their leader, who is the Ramsay MacDonald of Italy, & is also a protégé of the King, told us this most forcibly.

Believe me  
Yours sincerely  
Noel Burton

2 Aug 1914

Three points struck me as important, in the political situation at Rome -

- 1) Sir Rennel Rodd expresses a clear opinion that Italian claims do not genuinely clash with those of Serbia.
- 2) That the only party in the Chamber which claims Dalmatia (the "nationalist") numbers six deputies.
- 3) That the potential demand for a colony in Asia Minor is very great, & could be used as a lever, both to eclipse the question of Dalmatia, & also to influence Italy towards going to war.