

# Dickinson College Archives & Special Collections

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## Documents Online

**Title:** Letter from James Buchanan to William L. Hirst

**Date:** April 23, 1852

**Location:** MC 1998.10, B3, F7

### Contact:

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Private & Confidential

Wheatlands, near Lancaster 23 April 1852.

My dear Sir /

When I received your favor of yesterday I had already ~~written~~ anticipated your request: I now send you a copy of the letter. -

Wheatlands, near Lancaster 23 April 1852.

Dear Sir / When in Lancaster yesterday I learned the painful news of Judge Coulter's death. The thought, however, flashed upon my mind, that this providential event had afforded you the opportunity of doing justice to a much injured individual, & carrying into effect the will of more than 176,000 of your Democratic fellow Citizens expressed at the Ballot Box. As one of these, I respectfully but earnestly recommend the appointment of Judge Campbell to the vacant Judgeship of which he was fraudulently deprived by disorganizers who have already weakened, & if not effectually put down, will eventually destroy the Democratic party of Pennsylvania.

As your Attorney General, you have enjoyed the best opportunities of knowing his moral & intellectual worth; & how utterly destitute of foundation were the charges against him of want of capacity. I have no doubt he would prove an ornament to the exalted Station for which he was nominated by the Judicial Convention -

Yours very respectfully,  
J. B.

His Excellency, Wm. Bigler,  
Secy.

I have thus promptly performed the agreeable duty of friendship; although judging from past experience, my recommendations have but little weight with the Governor. I do not doubt

his friendly feelings; but they are without fruit. I believe it  
is a maxim of law that men are presumed to intend the  
natural consequences of their own actions; & the Governor  
judged by his appointments would not appear to be my  
friend.

I have just received the Harrisburg mail & learn  
that Judges Woodward & Bell are pressed for this  
appointment. Although I would greatly prefer the latter  
to the former; yet I have no second choice.

from your friend  
very respectfully

William L. Huston Esq

James Buchanan

Private & Confidential

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William L Hirst Esq