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Title: Letter from James Buchanan to Daniel Sickles

Date: October 25, 1852

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Contact:

Archives & Special Collections
Waidner-Spahr Library
Dickinson College
P.O. Box 1773
Carlisle, PA 17013

717-245-1399

archives@dickinson.edu

Philadelphia 25 October 1852

My dear Sir /

I am thus far on my way to New York to attend your Mass Meetings; but after much reflection & consultation with discreet friends I think I ought not to proceed further. I have for many years been associated in the public Councils with the late Mr. Webster; & although uniformly opposed to each other on all important questions of public policy, I owe & I feel great respects for his memory. It, therefore, occurs to me that it would be undilicate, if not improper, for me so soon after his death & whilst he is unburied to leave my own State & make a political speech in New York in which I must necessarily condemn the policy of the administration of which he was a leading member. Indeed it was my intention to discuss pretty freely in Tammany Hall its foreign policy. This, of course, would now be out of the question.

I am very much disappointed; because I have never raised my voice in that world-renowned Hall & I had fully prepared myself to say something which might meet the approbation of every good Democrat. Though Mr. Webster was nine years older than myself, yet we may be considered as contemporaries. I shall rely upon you to make my apology; & I feel conscious that your own sense of propriety will approve my conduct.

Daniel C. Sichel's Esquire.

from your friend
very respectfully
James Buchanan

Philadelphia 25 October 1852

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