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Title: Letter from James Buchanan to Robert Tyler

Date: May 7, 1851

Location: I-Friends-2003-4

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Wheatland 7 May 1851.

My dear Sir,

The information contained in your kind letter is highly satisfactory. I think appearances grow better daily throughout the State.

I do not wonder at Frank Clintons opposition. He is a good, frank, clever fellow. was a member of the Bucklewa Convention in 1848 & also ^{at the same time} a member of the Legislature when I was last elected to the Senate; & in both, was a firm, active & useful friend. Most gladly would I have complied with his request had this been in my power. The appointments of officers in the Mexican war nearly ruined me politically in Pennsylvania. The President was guided in these appointments by the ^{Democratic} members of Congress from Pennsylvania & by some means or other Cameron had a controlling influence over them. Things came to such a pass at last that I solemnly protested against any more military appointments being made from Pennsylvania without my knowledge & against my will; & so many blunders had been committed that the President yielded & after this I believe no more mistakes were made. But it would not do for you to tell all this to Frank Clinton; let it only stated to convince you that I am not ungrateful. As things appear, - far very far from the reality, he has good reason, to be offended with me.

I am glad you have written to Conelson. I will venture
a basket of Champagne, could the truth be known, that his
article noticing the Penn^a. Statesman was produced, either directly
or indirectly, by the machinations of Cameron.

Robert Tyler Esq

from your friend
James Buchanan

Wheatland 7 May 1851

My dear Sir/

The information contained in your kind letter is highly satisfactory. I think appearances grow better daily throughout the State.

I do not wonder at Frank Clinton's opposition. He is a good, frank, clever fellow, was a member of the Buchanan Convention in 1843 and also at the same time a member of the Legislature when I was last elected to the Senate; and in both, was a firm active and useful friend. Most gladly would I have complied with his request had this been in my power. The appointments of officers in the Mexican war nearly ruined me politically in Pennsylvania. The President was guided in these appointments by the Democratic members of Congress from Pennsylvania and by some means or other Cameron had a controlling influence over them. Things came to such a head at last that I solemnly protested against any more military appointments being made from Pennsylvania without my knowledge and against my will; and so many blunders had been committed that the President yielded and after this I believe no more mistakes were made. But, it would not do for you to tell all this to Frank Clinton; and it is only stated to convince you that I am not ungrateful. As things appear, far very far from the reality, he has good reason to be offended with me.

I am glad you have written to Donelson. I will venture a basket of Champagne, could the truth be known, that his article noticing the Penn. Statesman was produced, either directly or indirectly, by the machinations of Cameron.

From your friend
James Buchanan

Robert Tyler, Esq.