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## Documents Online

**Title:** Letter from James Buchanan to Franklin Pierce

**Date:** March 8, 1853

**Location:** MC 1998.10, B3, F11

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Wheatland, near Lancaster 8 March 1853.

My dear Sir /

I desire, most respectfully but most earnestly, to recommend the appointment of James C. Van Dyke Esquire, as District Attorney for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania. I feel a strong personal desire that he should obtain this appointment, having been on terms of intimate friendship with him for a number of years, commencing with his marriage to a grand-daughter of our glorious old Democratic Governor, Simon Snyder.

But if such were his <sup>only</sup> claims, I should not request his appointment. He is a gentleman of fine talents, ~~very~~ <sup>well</sup> qualified as a lawyer for the place as his testimonials well abundantly prove, & of undisputed & indisputable integrity & honor.

As a politician, he is active, zealous & influential; & perhaps no man of his age in the City & County of Philadelphia has labored harder to secure the triumph of Democratic principles in our last State & Presidential elections. He is & has been a real working man.

I feel confident that our friend Judge Campbell will confirm all I have said in relation to Mr. Van Dyke.

I believe that his testimonials are stronger & more numerous than those of any other Candidate; & it would be a source of deep regret to me, should he fail in obtaining the appointment.

His Excellency

Franklin Pierce.

Yours very respectfully

James Buchanan

Genl. Buchanan

Recommending Lt. C. Van Dyke  
for Colly East. Dis Pa

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