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Title: Letter from James Buchanan to M. S. Blackman

Date: November 29, 1841

Location: MC 1998.10, B1, F27

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Sancasta 29 November 1841.

My dear Sw/

I owe you many thanks for your kind

lelle of the 17th Instant.

I have move yet deemed myself a candidate for the highest office, non-have I considered its proper to decline. I am content that public opinion shall lake its course enterely satisfied with whatever may be the result. The apparent devision of openion which has existed in the ranks of the Democracy of Tenneyloania on this subject, has probably prevented the State from exercising that moral influence over her dista states to which sho is entitled. It is difficult to conceive that any State can obtain the Presidence, whilst her own preference remains we doubt ; especially when the fuends of another Candidate, sustained by a howeiful State, are excelled themselves throughout the Union. I have offer thought that the want of state pride which has so signally charactered Senns, luania has been of great advantage to the Union. We are the Sleady wheel horse of the Confederacy; and whilst we do not as fure to the high offices & hours of the Republic, we exert a greater influence in teeping other States with upon the Ocensorale true to the principles of Ocensorace which

(an alone perpetuate our glorious Institutions. Alchaugh I believe that Tennylvanea must evence her preprenee for a candidate of her own in a different manner from what she has done or well do in order to scence success; yet as one of those in consequent with the two highest offices who have been mentioned, I have not yet determined to decline. I shall awaits events, without faling much solicitude on the subject. Repeating my thanks for your kind letter, I remain yours sincorely. Mr. S. Blackman En James Suchawauf ment an viva con secon the chartery, while he see proposed with

The street where the the confederacy; and while we do not solve to the

high offices i hours of the Republic, or wester a further coffee on the

where there with whom the Promocerate land to the provider for Commoney with

Lancaster 29 November 1841

My dear Sir/

I owe you many thanks for you kind letter of the 17th. Instant.

I have never yet deemed myself a candidate for the highest office, nor have I considered it proper to decline. I am content that public opinion shall take its course entirely satisfied with whatever may be the result. The apparent division of opinion which has existed in the ranks of the Democracy of Pennsylvania on the subject, has probably prevented the State from exercising that moral influence over their Sister States to which she is entitled. It is difficult to conceive that any State can obtain the Presidency, whilst her own preference remains in doubt; especially when the friends of another Candidate, sustained by a powerful State, are exercising themselves throughout the union. I have often thought that the want of State pride which has so signally characterized Pennsylvania has been of great advantage to the Union. We are the steady wheel horse of the Confederacy; and whilst we do not aspire to the high offices & honors of the Republic; we exert a greater influence in keeping other states well upon the Democratic true to the principles of Democracy which

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can alone perpetuate our glorious Institutions.

Although I believe that Pennsylvania must evince her preference for a candidate of her own in a different manner from what she has done or will do in order to secure success; yet as one of those who have been mentioned in connection with the two highest offices, I have not yet determined to decline. I shall await events, without feeling much solicitude on the subject.

Repeating my thanks for you kind letter, I remain yours sincerely.

James Buchanan

M. S. Blackman Esq