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Title: Letters from James Buchanan to James Campbell

Date: 1852-1854

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Since I wrote to you to day under much ely dear dir / excelement, I have seen M. Baker & spoke as strongly to him as I had written to you. He says that he would be the last man alive to appoint any person on the road who had not strongs supported your election: that Darlington was your ardine & active friend I that he satisfied himself that Juyson, though opposed to your nomination had given your election a warm Lactive support. I lota him that if I had enterlained the least edia a ineasonation that he was about to semove either ellengths or Collins, I should have made a Shong personal appeal to him in their behalf: That the latter was one of the most zealous & uniful supporters I had in the lety of lounts; I that he ought to have made in appointments without first consulting you. He well call to see your I make his explanations himself. He is a good I capable man; but has made a vad mistake both we the thing etself I we the lime of doing it. I think it will be found that the ingenes of one of the Canal Commepeners in favor of the three year rule had a decisive influence on M. Baker.

I hope that ere this you have abandoned all serious notions of resuring. I presume the appointment of Vansant is highly agreeable to your. Some of the appointments have been very shange. Indeed I know not what to make of them. State facts have not been sufficiently developed & I hunt they never may be to fustife your resignation. You are now placed in precisely the same position I was during hart of ell? Tolk's administration.

I am exceedingly descrous to have a long talk with you . - I am obliged to be in Richmond by a previous engagement on Wednesday next & must leave home on Tuesday at 1/2 part we to reach there. How can we arrange to to meet. Could you not come up to Lancarteo in the night line on Monday evening? I will meet you at the cars at 9 O' Clock P. ell, bring you out to my house I we can both leave on Tuesday morning. I shall rely repose your friendship not to leave Philadelphia sooner, unlip you believe you can do it with safety

Ever gralefully I respectfully your friend Hon: James Campbell. - James Buchauau

Wheatland, near Lancaster 5 Feb: 1852

My dear Sir/

Since I wrote to you to day under much excitement, I have seen Mr. Baker & spoke as strongly to him as I had written to you. He says that he would be the last man alive to appoint any person on the road who had not strongly supported your election:- that Darlington was your ardent & active friend & that he satisfied himself that Paxson, though opposed to your nomination had given your election a warm & active support. I told him that if I had entertained the last idea or imagination that he was about to remove either Murphy or Collins, I should have made a strong personal appeal to him on their behalf: That the latter was one of the most zealous & useful supporters I had in the city & County; & that he ought to have made no removals or appointments there without first consulting you. He will call to see you & make his explanations himself. He is a good & capable man; but has made a sad mistake both in the thing itself & in the time of doing it. I think it will be found that the urgency of one of the Canal Commissions in favor of the three year rule had a decisive influence on W. Baker.

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I hope that 'ere this you have abandoned all serious notions of resigning. I presume the appointment of Vansant is highly agreeable to you. Some of the appointments have been very strange. Indeed I know not what to make o them. Still facts have not been sufficiently developed & I trust they never may be to justify your resignation. You are now placed in precisely the same position I was during part of Mr. Polk's administration.

I am exceedingly desirous to have a long talk with you. – I am obliged to be in Richmond by a previous engagement on Wednesday next & must leave home on Tuesday at 1/2 past one ten or eleven to reach there. How can we arrange it to meet? Could you not come up to Lancaster in the night line on Monday evening? I will meet you at the cars at 9 O'Clock P.M., bring you out to my house & we can both leave on Tuesday morning. I shall rely upon your friendship not to leave Philadelphia sooner, unless you believe you can do it with safety.

Ever gratefully & respectfully Your friend James Buchanan

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ells dear Sir / I have received your favor I have

withou in strong terms to Baha.

Mette informs me that Formes was preparers the address & resolutiones I would send theno to him this day. He promused to forward them to me un midiately. Should they not come, I shall prepare the general resolutions muself. I hope you may make it convenient to be on the ground early I that you will call to ver me on your was. - I have written at length to Hust Who has doubtly shown you my letter before this time. Gov: Porter was with me last might. We agree we sprenent that There ought to be a Caucus of my friends the night preceding the meeting of the Convention & that they ought to agree to pap some such resolutions as I have sent to ell. Hust immediately after the organisation of the Convention, This point well be the lug of war. I have written to ell'Kinley to Scarch the pricedents. Tolm Weedman of Schanon writes that the place of cheding by Districts is an innovation on the ancient usage which was changed in 1840 or 1844. I hope this mas know to be the facts
In secret harder I remain Mames Benhavan

Wheatland 26 Feb: 52

My dear Sir/

I have received your favor & have written in very strong terms to Baker.

Platt informs me that Forney was preparing the address& resolutions & would send them to him this day. He promised to forward them to me immediately. Should they not come, I shall prepare the general resolutions myself. I hope you may make it convenient to be on the ground early & that you will call to see me on your way. I have written at length to Hurst who has doubtless shown you my letter before this time. Gov: Porter was with me last night. We agree in opinion that there ought to be a caucus of my friends the night preceding the meeting of the convention & that the ought to agree to pass some such resolution as I have sent to Mr. Hurst immediately after the organisation of the Convention. The point will be the tug of war. I have written to M'Kinley to search the precedents. John Weidman of Lebanon writes that the place of electing by Districts is an innovation on the ancient usage which was changed in 1840 of 1844. I hope this may prove to be the fact,

In great haste, I remain as ever your friend James Buchanan

Wheatland, mear Lancaster 23 August 1852

elly dear Six /

I have received your favor of the 19 "Instant; I which to you should shall vest Junear Sura a not, I am glad that I have stated to him the standing & character to yourself, Sovern a Solto & Jenuar Brawly. I had supposed that your visits was a matter agent upon among you a codict reception.

Ithis was written for the purpose of assuring you a codict reception.

Just a vest might countered the effects of our opposite the state of our opposite the state of survival to the state of survival to our friends to cannot precede that the state of survival or our friends to cannot precede that the world be what in delicate or wifespoo.

The Democrates Convention have ples week, a most important dies to perform, then the judicious stackers of a Canal Commissione may depends the result of the Paristanteses election in this State of perchance in the time. The momerine ought to be a man of high Character for abelies of uncompro "mising intends with has move heretofus buse connected, where here for buse connected, when the public works. The present Board are now were when mowed with suspeccion; of I have get to made the first man, whether they replace of this region who does not condemn the contract with Bringham & Cook.

How James Campbelle.

Wheatland, near Lancaster 23 August 1852

My dear Sir/

I have received your favor of the 19th Instant; & whether you shoul shall visit General Pierce or not, I am glad that I have stated to him the standing & character of yourself, Governor Porter & General Brawly. I had supposed that your visit was a matter agreed upon among you three; & my letter was written for the purpose of assuring you a cordial reception. Such a visit might counteract the efforts of our opponents among the fishy Democrats in this State & be of service to our friends & I cannot perceive that it would be either indelicate or improper.

The Democratic Convention have, this week, a most important duty to perform. Upon the judicious selection of a Canal Commissioner may depend the result of the Presidential election in this State & perchance in the Union. The nominee ought to be a man of high character for ability & uncompromising integrity who has never heretofore been connected, either directly or indirectly, with the public works. The present Board are now every where viewed with suspicion; & I have yet to meet the first man, whether Whig or Democrat, in this region who does not condemn the contract with Bingham & Dock.

from your friend very respectfully James Buchanan

Invate & Confedential

Wheatland, near Lancaster 22 April 1853.

On opening the Tennoylvanian this evening, I find that Shaler hus been appointed Disheet allowing for Western Tennighvania. Thus Cameron, Morchead, Dawson de have got the great holitical power & influence of the Marshal & District allowers of the west under their absolute control. Every & The Juries well be political Cancuses of their friends from the different counties of the west. The same those will happen in the East. Wynhoop has care himself into the arms of Cameron who has become his Bail. He well be used, with effect by that auch intregues, as his appointments already prove. The faction which was defund has been galvanuid by the present administration they mas penhaps be enabled to defeat poor Brawles, as they ded yourself. Certain it is that they are bellers hortele to home & Governor Begler: & the Luncasteriair is stil against General Seeres. Icans are now interlained by the live Gernoeras of Cumbuland County that the Iresident well appoint Brallow the Postmarte at Carlesle. This may have one good effect as to will unite Judes

Sheart & Woodburn we offer who have been devided for Some years. There of the true Democracy there is, as at ought to be, "any body but Bratton". He is an inclatter Suspicious, malignation man who is incapable of making or preserving personal quends; but is a convenient instrument for lamoron, Beetern I that Set I hence then suffert. He descoursed your appointment; 2 his selections will be exceedingly unpopular, as it will new life & vigor into that correct faction; I thus with succeed in alunating his hove friends. Oh for "one blast succeed in alunating his hove friends. Oh for "one blast upon the Bugle Horn of Old Hickory. They desire now to defeat ellagranos L get an anything under the Port office Ochartment & these the hope to manage the West in their own was. It is a remarkable fact, that I have not succeeded we obtaining the appointment of single individual whom I reconsmunded beyond the limits of my own lounts. I shall not give another recommendation to the President . ell support has been falal to my friends; & I shall injure them no more in this manner. But I am too proud to complain I shall do so no more, except to the President humself. I shall certainly lete him what I think of all this,

though to Should cost one my mepiest which I value very lettle. I would do any them but lay down my lefe for my fuends; I am deeply sorry that my support has any them to many of them I am such advert has a such them so much appear. I am such advert to hearthy such of politichs; I you are the only humon to whom I can have the satisfaction of unburshening my mind. The querillas are in high hopes of Barrets appointment. Should that be made, to fur of Barrets appointment. Should that be made, "Thellos occupations gone".

I gave M. Campbell a preping invitation to Wheatland, with her cheldren which I help you will advise her to accept. Harries were now soon be at home I the place is truly beautiful.

General Suries has followed the compromising holies of M. Solk in New York as and which I have to freder that The result well protected; I I venture to freder that The result well be similar. I constabilite you on the acceptant of the Washington Republic to the administration.

Hon: James Campbello.

from your friends

Aus enpectfuls

Sames Buchanaus

Private and Confidential

Wheatland, near Lancaster 22 April 1853

My dear Sir/

On opening the Pennsylvanian this evening, I find that Shales has been appointed District Attorney for Western Pennsylvania. Thus Cameron, Morehead, Dawson &c have got the great political power & influence of the Marshal & District Attorney of the West under their absolute control. Every A The Juries will be political caucuses of their friends from the different counties of the West. The same thing will happen in the East. Wynhoop has cast himself into the arms of Cameron who has become his Bail. He will be used, with effect by that arch intriguer, as his appointments already prove. The faction which was defunct has been galvanised by the present administration & they may perhaps be enabled to defeat poor Brawley, as they did yourself. Certain it is that they are bitterly hostile to him & Governor Bigler: & the Lancasterian is out against General Pierce. Fears are now entertained by the true Democracy of Cumberland County that the President will appoint Bratton the Postmaster of Carlisle. This may have one good effect as it will reunite Judges

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Stuart & Woodburn in opp who have been divided for some years. Their cry & that of of the true Democracy there is, as it ought to be, "any body but Braton". He is an irritable, suspicious, malignant man who is incapable of making or preserving personal friends; but is a convenient instrument for Cameron, Beetem & that set, & hence their support. He denounced your appointment, & his selection will be exceedingly unpopular, as it will deserve to be. The President seems determined to infuse new life & vigor into that corrupt faction; & thus may possibly will succeed I hope not in alienating his true friends. Oh for "one blast upon the Bugle Horn" of Old Hickory. They desire now to defeat Magraw, & get an auxiliary under the Post Office Department & then they hope to manage the west in their own way. It is a remarkable fact, that I have not succeeded in obtaining the appointment of a single individual whom I recommended beyond the limits of my own County. I shall not give another recommendation to the President. My support has been fatal to my friends; & I shall injure them no more in this manner. But I am too proud to complain & shall do so no more, except to the President himself. I shall certainly tell him what I think of all this,

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though it should cost me my mission which I value very little. I would do any thing but lay down my life for my friends; & I am deeply sorry that my support has done them so much injury proved fatal to so many of them. I am sick almost to heartily sick of politicks; & you are the only person to whom I can have the satisfaction of unburdening my mind. The guerillas are in high hopes of Barrets appointment. Should that be made, "Othello's occupations' gone".

I gave Mrs. Campbell a pressing invitation to Wheatland, with her children which I hope you will advise her to accept. Harriet will now soon be at home & the place is truly beautiful.

General Pierce has followed the compromising policy of Mr. Polk in New York against which I protested; & I venture to predict that the result will be similar. I congratulate you on the accession of the Washington Republic to the administration.

from your friend very respectfully James Buchanan

Legation of The United States. My dear Ser / London 2 January 18534 Jong looked for come at last. I have lecevice your wilcome letters of the 10 ultimo. And first let me say, I am much pleased with your report. It is an able, Senseble of business paper; -en Morte just what its ought to have been . You have no friend who has been more gratifued than myself weeks agour success we the Jost office Office Office Office Office of the I have unticipaled from the beginning. I am getting along here as well as I carred. though I have not become acclimated to their waster weather. It has been colder, more changeable & fat more damp here since the first of Occumber than I & have ever experienced at home in the same season Since yesterday moining I have been made happy to reflect that in the course of the next year I shall be at home, Mould a kind Irovidence preserve my lefe & me heacet. I have been somewhat annoyed by the question of

coslume to which lady like I have no doubt the Lucen allactus much importance. On this subject I have kept my own counsels firely much except to declare that I would put on neither gold lace not embisiders. The drefs of an American gentleman is precessed, The drep of the Court servants Ly I were to adopt this of mught be mestation for one of themod expore my suf to redicule. I have unt recently learned from unquestionable auchorite that the Lucien would be entired a two sentemen of that day we America satisfied, Should I adopt the civil dreps of Evashington? I its will be difficult for me to resist this suggestion. I have not get sure the pulsant; but I believe the drep is sufficiently plain, though doubtless of an antique fashion. It would be very difficult for an american minister to justify himself the a refusal to appear as Washington ded, - when the Court drip; gold lace & embroiders have been quelled in the highest quarter January 4. I have this moment received the Lancartes Journal of the 20 " weltime from which I learn that the New York National True Democrat has been afrailers mer. It would be difficult for me to imagine the cause of abuse from that quarter . I consented to basish myself from a home I love, with the commont propelle reluctance, to condeavor if hopether to surve the Incidence of the Country, in selling

our important quishors with England; LI consider it a hard measure of justice to be afront allached by an administration Sournal, whilst in a Foreign Cando.

I succeed hope that you may be correct no your of union that the Democrary of other States were not take any part the the New York controvery. They ought to be left to themselves. Brodhead & Cameron, having apparently come out in opportion to the administration, well be one out in opportion to the administration, will be of effected service to it among the line Comoraes of the State, & so moter its be. How long are we or rather the State, & so moter to be. How long are we or rather your, to be broatled with such disorganisms?

you have presented a goodly list of candidates
for the Senate, I among them are several names worther
the Allace. Achough I do not entertain the most
exacted openion of Governor Byter, as you will know;
exacted openion of Governor Byter, as you will know;
yet its appears to me that the great interests of the
Jet its appears to me that the great interests of the

The climate here has been shocking ever since ong She climate here have a coat of snow on the ground arrivals of now we have a coat of snow on the ground which would justify sleighing; but they have no sleight which would justify sleighing; but they have no sleight which suffered so much from colds as since I have never fath suffered so much from colds as since the middle of Occamber, not even us sleifum. This does not arrive from its intensity, so much as from the expresse not arrive from its intensity, so much as from the expresse

& challing danifines & fog of the almosphere. This Government is extremely averse to going to was week Rufria. They have extanted every effort of deplomances to avoid it; but apparently in vaco. Should war commence in carnet, God only knows where et may end. This country is un eye sore to the Despole Towers of the Continent on account of its comparative lebore I they all detert it for this reason, as well as on account of its arrogance. They have the liberty of the Suep here in perfection as were as the protection of inductions of these restils, though these afsertion, is authorist explensive in a Court of Law. John Bule seems to have made up his mind to fights wish a determined spirit, should this prove to be necessary, the is exceptively annoyed with the honors hand to Jetho ellitetide. I wish I could write you my news at length in the June condition of G. Bretain. The old Why L Jorg harter are effete. They were both chentrally controlled by defence to unito for the preservation of their own power against the popular element. The extension of the franchise will mereare the power of the people; I it is refremely doubtful whither any Reform Bile will hap at the next sepreon of Sarliament. It is true the lower classes we the Country are abjected oringing to their superiors; but this were have an end. Please to remember me, in the kinder terms, to ell? Campbell & the Measontons & believe me, ever to be Ingerely your friend Hon: James Campbelle. James Ruchanans

Legation of the United States London 2 January 1854

My dear Sir/

"Long looked for come at last." I have received your welcome letter of the 10th. ultimo. And first let me say, I am much pleased with your report. It is an able, sensible & business paper; - in short just what it ought to have been. You have no friend who has been more grateful than myself with your success in the Post Office Department; but this I had anticipated from the beginning.

I am getting along here as well as I can though I have not become acclimated to their wretched weather. It has been colder, more changeable & far more damp here since the first of December than I have ever experienced at home in the same season. Since yesterday morning I have been made happy to reflect that in the course of next year I shall be at home, should a kind Providence preserve my life & my health.

I have been somewhat annoyed by the question of

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costume to which lady like I have no doubt the Queen attaches much importance. On this subject I have kept my own counsel pretty much except to declare that I would put on neither gold lace nor embroidery. The dress of an American gentleman is precisely the dress of the Court servants & if I were to adopt this I might be mistaken for one of them & expose myself to ridicule. I have unq recently learned from unquestionable authority that the Queen would be entirely satisfied, should I adopt the civil dress of Washington & the gentlemen of that day in America, & it will be difficult for me to resist this suggestion. I have not yet seen the portrait; but I believe the dress is sufficiently plain, though doubtless of an antique fashion. It would be very difficult for an American minister to Justify himself in a refusal to appear as Washington did, when the Court dress; gold lace & embroidery have been yielded in the highest quarter.

January 4. I have this moment received the Lancaster Journal of the 20th. ultimo from which I learn that the New York National True Democrat has been assailing me. It would be difficult for one to imagine the cause of abuse from that quarter. I consented to banish myself from a home I love, with the utmost possible reluctance, to endeavor if possible to serve the President & the country, in settling

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our important questions with England; & I consider it a hard measure of justice to be assail attacked by an administration Journal, whilst in a Foreign land.

I sincerely hope that you may be correct in your opinion that the Democracy of other states will not take any part in the New York controversy. They ought to be left to themselves. Brodhead & Cameron having apparently come out in opposition to the administration, will be of essential service to it among the true Democracy of the State, & so mote it be. How long are we or rather you, to be troubled with disorganizors?

You have presented a goodly list of candidates for the Senate, & among them are several names worthy of the place. Although I do not entertain the most exalted opinion of Governor

Bigler, as you well know; yet it appears to me that the great interests of the Democratic party, State & National, requires his re-nomination & re-election.

The climate here has been shocking ever since my arrival & now we have a coat of snow on the ground which would justify sleighing; but they have no sleighs. I have never felt suffered so much from cold as since the middle of December, not even in Russia. This does not arise from its intensity; so much as from the extreme

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& chilling dampness & fog of the atmosphere.

This Government is extremely adverse to going to war with Russia. They have exhausted every effort of diplomacy to avoid it; but apparently in vain. Should war commence in earnest, God only knows where it may end. This country is an eye sore to the Despotic Powers of the Continent on account of its comparative liberty & they all detest it for this reason, as well as on account of its arrogance. They have the liberty of the Press here in perfection as well as the protection of individual rights, though these assertion of these is ruinously expensive in a Court of Law. John Bull seems to have made up his mind to fight with the honors paid to John Mitchell.

I wish I could write to you my views at length in the present condition of G. Britain. The old Whig & Tory parties are effete. They were both essentially controlled by the Aristocracy. This aristocracy will now hereafter be compelled in self defense to unite for the preservation of their own power against the popular element. The extension of the franchise will increase the power of the people; & it is extremely doubtful whether any Reform Bill will pass at the next session of Parliament. It is true the lower classes of this country are abject & cringing to their superiors; but this will have an end.

Please to remember me, in the kindest terms, to Mrs. Campbell & the Pleasontons & believe me, ever to be.

Sincerely your friend, James Buchanan