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Title: Letter from James Buchanan to J. Randolph Clay

Date: September 27, 1845

Location: MC 1998.10, B2, F11

Contact:

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

717-245-1399

archives@dickinson.edu

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Washington 27 September 1845.

My dear Sir /

The President has thought proper to recall Mr. Todd & you will be left in charge of the Legation ad interim. This has been your fate or your fortune. It is probable that Mr. Todd's successor may not leave the Country before the Spring; but this is uncertain. I have suggested to the President the propriety of appointing you chargé d'affaires that you might draw your salary regularly & not be compelled to appeal to Congress. He has some objections to this course; but will decide the question before the departure of the next steamer from Boston.

I have presented your name to him over & over again for promotion. He always speaks in the highest terms of your services & of his desire to ^{do something for you} ~~serve you~~ but he is so prejudiced for diplomatic appointments by his

political friends, that he has not yet been able to carry his good intentions into effect. I shall not encourage hopes which may not be realised; but you may always rely on my friendship.

We have little news here except what you will see in our public Journals. I think, from present appearances we shall have no war with Mexico; but this is yet uncertain. The Convention of Texas has adjourned & their proceedings have been marked with wisdom & propriety. I do not believe that the New State will encounter any further difficulties in taking her position in the Union. The annexation will be consummated most probably on or before the first of January.

Senifer has arrived & has given me a most amusing & interesting account of his mission. He speaks of you & of Mr. Clay in the highest terms of praise. He will return here in a few days when he will make

a favorable report of you to the President. He is
in perfect good humor.

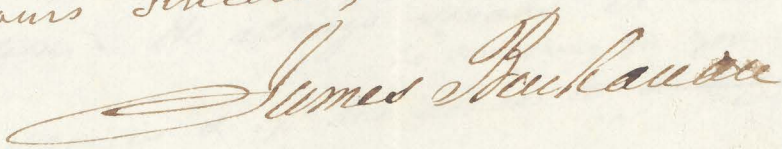
I think that the prospects are very fair
that Mr. Polk's administration will be popular.

I have never labored so hard as since I came
into this Department; but the business has now been
almost brought up.

Should an occasion offer, in your intercourse
with Count Nesselrode, you may present him ^{my} ~~best~~
respects & assure him that I have not forgotten the
many acts of kindness which he extended towards me
during my residence in St. Petersburg.

The hour has arrived for closing the mail
to be sent to Boston & I therefore ~~leave~~

With every sentiment of friendship & regards
I remain yours sincerely,

J. Randolph Clay, Esq. 

Washington 27 September 1845

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James Buchanan.

J. Randolph Clay