

# **Dickinson College Archives & Special Collections**

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## **Documents Online**

**Title:** Letters from James Buchanan to John Prince Durbin

**Date:** 1835-1836

**Location:** MC 1998.10

### **Contact:**

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My dear Sir,

Washington 4 December 1835

The reason why your letter did not receive an immediate answer was that I had left Lancaster for New York before it arrived.

I now enclose you \$50 & would send more; but did not bring with me a greater amount than I thought would be necessary for my expenses until my pay here should commence.

I am pleased to hear that the conduct of my ward is satisfactory to you. He is somewhat extravagant in his habits - & I wish to teach him economy but not meanness. He was much indulged during his father's life time; and then supposed, I presume, that he would inherit a large estate. I should be glad therefore you would keep a vigilant eye over his expenditures; though I wish him to have as much money as a boy in his situation ought to use.

By the returning mail I shall at all times send what you may deem necessary.

Rev: J. P. Durbin.

P.S. Please to acknowledge the receipt of this.

Yours very respectfully

James Buchanan

Washington 4 December 1835

My dear Sir/

The reason why your letter did not receive an immediate answer was that I had left Lancaster for New York before it arrived.

I now enclose you \$50 & would send more; but did not bring with me a greater amount than I thought would be necessary for my expenses until my pay here should commence.

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By the returning mail I shall at all times send what you may deem necessary.

Yours very respectfully  
James Buchanan

Rev: J. P. Durbin.

P.S. Please to acknowledge the receipt of this.

Dear Sir /

Washington 25 May 1836.

William Hopkins informs me that he owes  
but two debts in Carlisle; the one to Mr. Sangston about \$14 &  
the other to Mr. Charles Ogilby about 2 or 3 dollars. He says the  
whole amount does not exceed \$17. I feel inclined to pay them.

When you think proper you may direct them to furnish you the  
Bells receipts, <sup>to me as guardian</sup> provided they do not exceed seventeen or eighteen  
dollars; & I shall send you a check for the amount.

The articles belonging to Mr. H. you may dispose of at any  
time you may deem best. Of course those to be sent for are not  
to be sold.

I am truly sorry to trouble you with these small matters;  
but I hope it may be in my power on some occasion to serve  
you in return.

Yours very respectfully,

Rev: J. P. Durbin

James Buchanan

Washington 25 May 1836

Dear Sir/

William Hopkins informs so that he owes but two debts in Carlisle; the one to Mr. Sanguton about \$144 the other to Mr. Charles Ogilby about 2 or 3 dollars. He says the whole amount does not exceed \$17. I feel inclined to pay them. When you think proper you may direct them to furnish you the Bills receipts to me as guardian, provided they do not exceed seventeen or eighteen dollars; & I shall send you a check for the amount.

The articles belonging to Mr. H. you may dispose of at any time you may deem best. Of course those to be sent for are not to be sold.

I am truly sorry to trouble you with these small matters; but I hope it may be in my power on some occasion to serve you in return.

Yours very respectfully  
James Buchanan

Rev: J. P. Durbin

Dear Sir,

I have no doubt the Bank at Carlisle will give you cash for the above; which will make \$165 which I have advanced for my ward ever since he went to ~~Carlisle~~ Dickinson. He left home, as I understood, fully provided with every thing he wanted.

I regret very much to learn that he has behaved so badly.

Without money he could not have done so. Your regulation is an excellent one about the expenditures of the students, if it be properly enforced. I shall, however, promptly send you any sum you may require - & shall always consider you & not myself responsible for its expenditure.

Yours very respectfully  
James Buchanan

Rev. J. P. Durbin.

[*Washington 31 December 1836*]

Dear Sir,

I have no doubt the Bank at Carlisle will give you cash for the above: which will make \$ 165 which I have advanced for my wards use since he went to ~~Carlisle~~ Dickinson. He left home, as I understood, fully provided with every thing he wanted.

I regret very much to learn that he has behaved so badly. Without money he could not have done so. Your regulation is an excellent one about the expenditures of the students, if it be properly enforced. I shall, however, promptly send you any sum you may require - & shall always consider you & not myself responsible for its expenditure.

Yours very respectfully  
James Buchanan

Rev: J. P. Durbin.