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Title: Letter from James Buchanan to Robert Flenniken

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Wheatland, near Lancaster 5 May 1851.

My dear Sir /

I have necessed your kind favor of the 29th welling of the good news which we contains. I had been before induced to believe that the momentation of General Lane in Indiana was intended to let General Cap down easily who is in buth & in fact out of the way except for the purpose of breaking me down in Senny towns: I in this I do not believe they well succeed.

You ask what are my paspeds of carrying New York in Convention? I answer that I do not know. The party is three to devided I the different sections so hostile to each other than I have further left aloof. Newhow section is histile to me though I am not the first choice of cither. All depends upon Tennylvane. Should the corne out decided at the proper time, I thenk, from present upon appearance, there would be little difficulty.

Sinte the death of my good friend William Beatty I have laken no part in regard to the question of Canal Commissione. ellips Cameron & Co have determined, if properties, to distract the Reading Convention by introducing a Caps Resolution there; & failing in this, against ale right & pushed the rules of the parts, to admit the Frazer delegates from the County over the heads of the regularly dawn this as a triumph over me clected delegated. By pursuing this Counc, they when conclusively that they are not the tries friends of Caps; but ments wish to Surance that

to do my injure. It is understood here that the friends of Searight will unde in there measures; and if so, you will percuive at once that they will newpority come into conflict not only with whom where the to help down dependent in the parts of the buse friends of Bigles. It is both the true holies of the parts & judice to all concurred to adopt the maxim Sufficient unto the day is the end thereof." To preceptate The Insidential question prematurely on the Readers Convention would unvolve us in inexpricable difficulties. I have heard from Sittsburg from Fagette County well declared be that some of the friends of Mr. Scaright have ofunds declared be What City that the Frazer delegales from this County were the hue deligates I ought to be admitted. Indeed this impression here is, though I know not on what authority, that there Inager deligates already have are understanding with Cameron who is understood to be the leaders friend of Searight. Now you well percent, under there circumstances, how impossible it will be to prevent the four which both you I I so much defirecate. I repeat, Again, however, that since the death of M. Beatly, I have latin no personne had on the question of Canal Commissioner. I do not yet know whether I shall visit the west during the approaching summer; but if I should, I shale Certainly wind Greene County & give you due & timely molice. from your friends There respectfully Sames Suchanan R. I. Flannihen Ez

My dear Sir/

I have received your kind favor of the 29th ultimo & thank you for the good news which it contains. I had been before induced to believe that the nomination of General Lane in Indiana was intended to let General Case down easily who is in truth and in fact out of the way except for the purpose of breaking me down in Pennsylvania: & in this I do not believe they will succeed.

You ask what are my prospects of carrying New York in convention? I answer that I do not know. The party is there so divided & the different sections so hostile to each other that I have purposely kept aloof. Neither section is hostile to me though I am not the first choice of either. All depends upon Pennsylvania. Should she come out decidedly at the proper time, I think, from present appearances throughout the Union there would be little difficulty.

Since the death of my good friend William Beatty I have taken no part in regard to the question of Canal Commissioner. Messrs. Cameron & Co. have determined, if possible, to distract the Reading convention by introducing a Cass resolution there; & failing in this, against all right & justice & the rules of the party, to admit the Frazer delegates from this county over the heads of the regularly elected delegates & claim this as a triumph over me. By pursuing this course, they show conclusively that they are not the true friends of Cass; but merely wish to pursue this course for my by means of his name

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to do me injury. It is understood here that the friends of Searight will unite in these measures; and if so, you will perceive at once that they will necessarily come into conflict not only with my friends but with the true friends of Bigler whose interest it is to keep down dissention in the party. It is both the true policy of the party & justice to all concerned to adopt the maxim "Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof." To precipitate the Presidential question prematurely on the Reading convention would involve us in inextricable difficulties. I have heard from Pittsburg that some of the friends of Mr. Searight from Fayette County have openly declared in that city that the Frazer delegates from this county were the true delegates & ought to be admitted. Indeed the impression here is, though I know not on what authority, that the Frazer delegates already have an understanding with Cameron who is understood to be the leading friend of Searight. Now you will perceive, under these circumstances, how impossible it will be to prevent the issue which both you & I so much deprecate. I repeat, however, that since the death of Mr. Beatty, I have taken no personal part on the question of Canal Commissioner.

I do not yet know whether I shall visit the West during the approaching summer; but if I should, I shall certainly visit Greene County & give you due & timely notice.

from your friend very respectfully James Buchanan