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Title: Letter from James Buchanan to W. Hunter

Date: December 14, 1836

Location: MC 1998.10, B3, F20

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Legation of The United States.

London 14 December 1855.

My dear Sir /

I send by the Bag,
a communication from Edward
Ellice, a distinguished member of
the House of Commons, to C. A.
Davis of New York. This I
should not do, were not Mr.
Ellice now at his seat in Scotland,
& I have no opportunity of explaining
to him & ~~I have no opportunity of~~
~~explaining to him~~ the reason why
I could not send it. If I had
a little latitude of discretion on

On this subject, I am very sure I should not abuse it.

Whilst we adhere to the new regulations on this side, I know they are not observed on the other. Indeed, it is evident the Bags are opened at New York & Boston on their way here; whilst we are obliged to transmit all letters requiring despatch by the common Mail.

When I see Mr. Ellice I shall explain to him the reason why I can send no more of his communications by the Despatch Bag.

The report I send by the Bag, is at the request of the person to whom it is directed who desired me to obtain ~~for him~~ information ~~of~~ upon an important religious subject. I had expected a friend to go out by the Steamer who would have taken both communications; but he is too unwell to leave. It worries me to think that I cannot use the Bag for such purposes, without an explanation & apology. I thought General Thomas would have put this matter right.

I am expecting the President's message on Monday with intense anxiety. I had thought of attempting to settle the Cranston

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written on my own hook; but did
not like to assume the responsibility.

With my kind regards to
the Governor, General Thomas &
my old associates in the Department,
I remain always your friend.

James Buchanan

W. Hunter Egner.

P.S. At the last moment, a communication
from the State Paper Office to Mr
Bancroft was delivered at the door
& the messenger immediately left. I do
not like to send it by mail & it is
too late to send it back to the office

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