Dickinson College Archives & Special Collections

http://archives.dickinson.edu/

Documents Online

Title: Letter from James Buchanan to George PlittDate: November 1, 1853Location: MC 1998.10, B3, F14

Contact:

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

717-245-1399

archives@dickinson.edu

Legation of The United States. London 1 November 1853. My dear Sur Jour letter of the 18 wellenso has afforder

The Since pleasure; though I mourn over the defeat of my good friend Badger. Please to ressente me to him,

in the Kindest larnes. I hope he bears it like a man. He may console humister with the reflection that there's a belle

dag a comung". I fear that I shale get into great deficielles here,

Socially, on account of the dreps aicular of Governor Mary. I shall not have to decide the question under the Queen opens Parliaments which were not be unlie Sebucary negt, while The Rupo-Turkish questions should cause there afsembling at an carlier period. The fashionable season in London commences about the middle of ellarch & ends about the middle of august. The rest of the year, the nobelets & genitize are absente. I have at lengthe succeeded in obtaining a suitable furnished house for 2 700 per annumo: but shall not be able to obtain hopselsion of it for a month to come. They allow I 80 for office units - when I could have procured are equally comfortable hours for 2500, but without accommudations

for the Legation.

I have just received Sophie's letter. W. Billings called here with it; but was lold at the door, which was the butto, that I was just finishing important despediches to be sent to Liverpool this afternoon I could not be sene. He will call tomorrow, uslue of shall be very happy to comply with M. Plitte' request.

I am glad that our good quenas let: Formes has,

under equisiting accumstances, given up the edea of a Paper un New york. The two unfortunate deversions of actuart for the humant the parts there ought to be permitted to fight to out without foreign interference. I observe, however, that the Sennsylvanian has taken sides week "the Softer". I fue a deep interest in Sorney; I cannot doubt his re-electer to the Clubship.

Sophue's lelles is adminable & fall of agreeable Gopipo. California is a new Country; L Harry Magraw Sams determined to increase its population as safe al as popuble . Good luck to humid Emily . I admino M. Thompson . She is a noble,

kind heartes & elizant woman . Some consider her

many of Imprudento; but choro who censures, bee envy her. Should oceasion offer, please to leve her, that I both love & admine her. This expression is not too strong, proceeding as it does from an clarky sculleman " Sophie says that my return home is anyeously looked for by my friends. Heaven only knows when this wete take place. My way is to do my duty I not to leave it undone on account of haronal inconvenience. I shall succeed the my mipuon, with the blessing of God, of this be populasis not I shall leave a fair record belund. My agreement with General Purce was for two years ; & I presume I Shall have to uncain here unles the end of that lorm. State I shall be delighted, should any circumstance take me home at an earlier period; but not to lake any other Office. I dervie that my political life should close with this mission. Lord Clarenson & myself week I thenks soo along this week tosaha, Thus far, I have been much pleand wat his . I find I must close on the Bag wele close weekow my letter. Remember me vay kindly to lol: Martin & Mr. appraiser westcotte. Also to James Honry & lett here that I am stad to learn from M. Slett that he is a good student. Should Sophie be writing to M? Polh, I should be glad to be remembered to her. - Give my kendert love to Sophie I believe me to be, in unappected harte, ever your friend James Buchouse George Matt E

Legation of The United States London 1 November 1853

My dear Sir/

Your letter of the 18 ultimo has afforded me sincere pleasure; though I mourn over the defeat of my good friend Badger. Please to remember me to him, in the kindest terms. I hope he bears it like a man. He may console himself with the reflection that "there's a better day a coming."

I fear that I shall get into great difficulties here, <u>socially</u>, on account of the dress circular of Governor Marcy. I shall not have to decide the question until the Queen opens Parliament which will not be until February next, unless the Russo-Turkish question should cause their assembling at an earlier period. The fashionable season in London commences about the middle of March & ends about the middle of August. the rest of the year the Queen nobility & gentry are absent.

I have at length succeeded in obtaining a suitable furnished house for £700 per annum: but shall not be able to obtain possession of it for a month to come. They allow £80 for office rent,- when I could have procured an equally comfortable house for £500, but without accommodations

[Page Break]

for the Legation.

I have just received Sophie's letter. W. Billings called here with it; but was told at the door, which was the truth, that I was just finishing important dispatches to be sent to Liverpool this afternoon & could not be seen. He will call tomorrow, I shall be very happy to comply with Mrs. Plitt's request.

I am glad that our good friend Col: Forney has, under existing circumstances, given up the idea of a Paper in New York. The two unfortunate divisions of the party there ought at least for the present to be permitted to fight it out without foreign interference. I observe, however, that the Pennsylvanian has taken sides with "the Softs". I feel a deep interest in Forney; I cannot doubt his re-election to the Clerkship.

Sophie's letter is admirable & full of agreeable gossip. California is a new Country; & Harry Magraw seems determined to increase its population as rapidly as possible. Good luck to him & Emily!

I admire Mrs. Thompson. She is a noble, kind hearted & elegant woman. Some consider her

[Page Break]

imprudent; but many of those who censure, her envy her. Should occasion offer, please to tell her, that I both love & admire her. This expression is not too strong, proceeding as it does from an "elderly gentleman".

Sophie says that my return home is anxiously looked for by my friends. Heaven only knows when this will take place. My way is to do my duty & not to leave it undone on account

of personal inconvenience. I shall succeed in my mission, with the blessing of God, it this be possible;- if not I shall leave a fair record behind. My agreement with General Pierce was for two years; & I presume I shall have to remain here until the end of that term. Still I shall be delighted, should any circumstance take me home at an earlier period; but not to take any other office. I desire that my political life should close with this mission. Lord Clarendon & myself will, I think, get along very well together. Thus far, I have been much pleased with him.

I find I must close or the Bag will close without my letter. Remember me very kindly to Col: Martin & Mr. Appraiser Westcott. Also to James Henry & tell him that I am glad to learn from Mrs. Plitt that he is a good student. Should Sophie be writing to Mrs. Polk, I should be glad to be remembered to her. Give my kindest love to Sophie & believe me to be, in unaffected haste, ever your friend

James Buchanan

George Plitt Esq