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Title: Letter from James Buchanan to Joel R. Poinsett

Date: 1838-1839

Location: MC 1998.10

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225 19 Mashington 6 July 1838. Dear Sir j I again repeat my carriet recommendation of the appointment of Abelliam. S. Ramony Esquire of Cartislo, Venne, as a Taymasteer in the Army. I have already wrellen I said so much in his favor; that I dean it unnecessary to add none on that subject. Should there be no vacancy in the office of Tagmastee, I should be glad if you would confor upon him any other appointment of a Similar nature; provided it would not interfere with his appointment as Day master. yours very respectfully James Buchanay Hon: Jack. R. Soinselle

Washington 6 July 1838

Dear Sir/

I again repeat my earnest recommendation of the appointment of William S. Ramsey Esquire of Carlisle, Penna, as a Paymaster in the Army. I have already written & said so much in his favor; that I deem it unnecessary to add more on that subject.

Should there be no vacancy in the office of Paymaster, I should be glad if you would confer upon him any other appointment of a similar nature; provided it would not interfere with his appointment as Paymaster.

Yours very respectfully James Buchanan

Hon: Joel R. Poinsett

When upon your suggestion, I left ell. ellowheads letter with you, on Wednesday last, you were good enough to inform mo What you would, on the next day, answer the three questions contained in it. This information I immediately communicated to M. Moorhead & stated that from my conversation with you, the prospects was favorable"; but that he ought not to come on to Washington unter I should forward him your answer.

This answer, which I received yesterday evening, upplies only to the there question. The two first are, "would there be any probable chance of ell Bring In myself getting the contract provided we would produce the strongest kind of recommendations of give good security for the performance. While the contract be given at the same prices it is now held at. There questions you have doublist overlooked in the heary of busines.

I had no idea that we are branch of the public services; & harticularly we one so important & where the expenditure has been so large, that the work was some by a simple order from the Ordnana Orpartment, without any contract. I presume you well not Juffer this practice to continue; - but if you Should, is close any prospect that elleps ellowhead & Birney might receive notes the Ordnace Department upon the Jame terms with elleps ell'Cleng & G, or has cold Bremeford determined to your their orders to some other persons?

Mi Moorhead is a gentleman of vory high Character, as well as great capacity for business; and I am descrows of giving him the information which I Inomised him after my interview with you on Wednesday last. I should not wish to bring yours very respectfully lum here, weekout any prospect of success. James Suchauang

Hon: Joel . A. Soinsell

Dear Sir/

When, upon your suggestion, I left Mr. Moorhead's letter with you, on Wednesday last, you were good enough to inform me that you would on the next day, answer the three questions contained in it. This information I immediately communicated to Mr. Moorhead & stated that from my conversation with you, "the prospect was favorable"; but that he ought not to come on to Washington until I should forward him your answer.

This answer, which I received yesterday evening, applies only to the third question. The two first are, "would there be any probable chance of Mr. Birney & myself getting the contract provided we would produce the strongest kind of recommendations & give good security for the performance? Will the contract be given at the same prices it is now held at"? These questions you have doubtless overlooked in the hurry of business.

I had no idea that in any branch of the public service; & particularly in one so important & where the expenditure has been so large, that the work was done by a simple order from the Ordnance Department, without any contract. I presume that you will not suffer this practice to continue;- but if you should, is there any prospect that Messrs Moorhead & Birney might receive orders upon the same terms with Messrs McClung & Co, or has Col: Burnford the Ordnance Department determined to issue their orders to some other persons?

Mr. Moorhead is a gentleman of very high character, as well as great capacity for business; and I am desirous of giving him the information which I promised him after my interview with you on Wednesday last. I should not wish to bring him here, without any prospect of success.

yours very respectfully James Buchanan

Hon: Joel R. Poinsett