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Title: Letters from James Buchanan to Daniel Sturgeon

Date: 1844-1849

Location: MC 1998.10

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Sancasters 12 November 1844. I have just received yours of the 9 Instant: I it gave me the first intimation that defe Mellie would be a Candidate for the U.S. Sonate. I do not believe that he hus any such intention. His location would not such: Lig had thought of such a then some of his Lancaster freends would prove heard of it. To far as I can learn the Democrats are generally friendly to your election: and my own infrisen is that they well be so eladed unless its may be necessary to rally asson Some other person to defeat Sorter. This necessity can only be. with how to exist, if it should exist at all, after the meeting of the Legislature. If the Western members should unite in your favor, there would probably be but lettle difficulty, I expect to leave for Washington, Dea Philadeephia, carly next week. It I should hear that elleller is a Candidate I will inform you of it! and if you do not hear from me on that subjects you may conclude that your informalion is unfounded. In harte Ever zt. friend Sincerely! us hi cefully James Bulanan Dr. Slugeon.

Lancaster 12 November 1844

My dear Sir/

I have just received yours of the 9th. Instant: & it gave me the first intimation that Jesse Millet would be a candidate for the U. S. Senate. I do not believe that he has any such intention. His location would not suit: & if he had thought of such a thing some of his Lancaster friends would most probably have heard of it.

So far as I can learn the Democrats in the East are generally friendly to your reelection: and my own impression to that they will be re elected support you unless it may be necessary to rally upon some other person to defeat Porter. This necessity can only be exist known to exist, if it should exist at all, after the meeting of the Legislature. If the Western members should unite in your favor, there would probably be but little difficulty.

I expect to leave for Washington, via Philadelphia, early next week. If I should hear that Miller is a candidate I will inform you of it: and if you do not hear from me on that subject you may conclude that your information is unfounded. In haste

Ever yr. friend Sincerely & respectfully James Buchanan

D. Sturgeon.

ely dear der

Wheatland 24 December 1849.

I have received your very acceptable letter of the 22 Instant & deeply negret with you the state of feeling on the Slavers question at Washington. On the Sulycet, the South have always been indiscreet of somelines ungrateful towards their friends so the Morth; but when we consider that the leves & personal securely of those the hold most dear are endangered by the incepant agitation of this question, we ought to make many allowances. This agilation to my knowledge has been incepantly keft up at the North of by Northern Members of Congress we every shape which ingentule could devise for the last fiftien or sufleen years. At length to has reached the slaves Themselves & the alternative before the close of the Sepion may be the defeat of the Wilmot house, at all lenter a mero humbres except for the purpose of agilation & the disolution of the Union. Should this be the alternative, the Manhees themselves well be the first to back out.

Je is not certain that I shall visit the South during the present writer; but I shall be in Washington, God willing, about the middle of January. Whether or when I shall publish a letter of the question of Slavery I have not get determined. Should I purceive that such a letter would be likely to do good, it shall be forthcoming. I have seduced my mew to writing; but they are wong own dish I may be modified according to events.

Two valued Democratic friends, Samuel Edwards of Samuel Sciper of Orlaware County have weged me to write to you in favor of the County have of Mediciphus, the Collector of the Sort of Mediciphus, Their I shale not do; because I know not how I would not myny wine I a member of the Senate. One thing is certain, that the Comoratio park well gave nothing by his rejection. On the certain, it will enable to the Invalent to appoint a more popular of a more proscriptive Whis in place. But there may be good cause for his rejection, independently if have considerations of in that event it would not be proper to regard political correquires.

As a general rule the two policy appears to me to be to

As a general rule the true policy appears to me to be to confirm the President's nominations, when the nomine is a man of good character & nothing can be alleged against him except that he is a Why.

documents.

Hon: Daniel Sluigeone Jan.

James Buckanan

My dear Sir/

I have received your very acceptable letter of the 22d Instant & deeply regret with you the state of feeling on the Slavery question at Washington. On this subject, the South have always been indiscreet & sometimes ungrateful towards their friends in the North; but when we consider that the lives & personal security of those they hold most dear are endangered by the incessant agitation of this question., we ought to make many allowances. This agitation to my knowledge has been incessantly kept up at the North & by Northern members of Congress in every shape which ingenuity could devise for the last fifteen or sixteen years. At length it has reached the Slaves themselves & the alternative before the close of the Session may be the defeat of the Wilmot Proviso, (at all times a mere humbug except for the purpose of agitation) & the dissolution of the Union. Should this be the alternative, the Yankees themselves will be the first to back out.

It is not certain that I shall visit the South during the present winter; but I shall be in Washington, God willing, about the middle of January. Whether or when I shall publish a letter on the question of Slavery I have not yet determined. Should I perceive that such a letter would be likely to do good, it shall be forthcoming. I have reduced my views to writing; but they are in my own desk & may be modified according to events.

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Two valued Democratic friends, Samuel Edwards & Samuel Leiper of Delaware County have urged me to write to you in favor of the confirmation of Mr. Lewis, the Collector of the Port of Philadelphia. This I shall not do; because I know not how I would vote myself were I a member of the Senate. One thing is certain, that the Democratic party will gain nothing by his rejection. On the contrary, it will enable to the President to appoint a more popular & a more proscriptive Whig in his place. But there may be good cause for his rejection, independently of party considerations & in that event it would not be proper to regard political consequences.

As a general rule the true policy appears to me to be to confirm the President's nominations, when the nominee is a man of good character & nothing can be alleged against him except that he is a Whig.

I shall rely upon your friendship to send me the important documents.

from your friend very respectfully James Buchanan

Hon: Daniel Sturgeon