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## Documents Online

**Title:** Letter from James Buchanan to Unknown Recipient

**Date:** February 7, 1829

**Location:** MC 1998.10, B1, F9

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Dear Sir/

Washington 7 Feb: 1829.

Enclosed I send you the Intelligence which contains a short debate on the subject of amending the constitution. I would thank you to publish the whole of it or my remarks. General Smyth's proposed amendment is in the following words - "No person who shall have been elected President of the United States, shall be again eligible to that office"

I shall also send you the Intelligence of Wednesday last. It contains a defence of my <sup>who petitioned to prohibit Sunday Mails</sup> constituents, & they are very numerous against the charges against them in the Report of the Committee of the Senate.

We have no news here, except that we are hourly expecting Gen: Jackson.

On Wednesday next I perceive you choose delegates to go to Harrisburg. I sincerely hope they may be friendly to Barnard. It would be a disgrace to the State, if the family with Sutherland at their head should be able to control its destinies & place a plant toll of their own in the Executive chair. He has no influence here, & it is but a small compliment to our population to have it believed abroad that he has ~~great~~ influence at home. King & Sutherland now control the American Sentinel; & by means of it, they expect to rule in Pennsylvania.

I have lived with Barnard all winter. He is a high minded, independent honest man. He is just such a character as the Jackson federalists ought to desire should be elected Governor, because he possesses sufficient firmness to do them justice. He never will become the tool of any man or set of men; & this is the very reason why the family prefer every other candidate.

Do you suppose they would object to him - even if they believed it, ~~for~~ <sup>no</sup> because he voted for Clarke - or because he counselled Shulze to pursue the part which he did during the Presidential contest, or for any other cause, provided he could be made subservient to their views? Certainly not.

The truth is that there is not a single charge true which they have published against Barnard; & as to the imputation which they wish to make, that he would continue the Adams offices of Shulze - I believe it as much as I believe that you would pursue that policy in case you were elected Governor.

From your friend  
James Buchanan.

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