

# LancasterHistory Research Collections



 LancasterHistory

## Letter

<https://collections.lancasterhistory.org/en/permalink/f0712833-aafe-49a7-a0db-317020683545>

**Description Level:** Item

**Collection:** James Buchanan Family Papers, Part 3 James Buchanan Henry

### Description:

Letter from J. B. Henry to Mary Hagner Nicholson looking for her next letter; hopes she enjoyed her last party; Piccolomini is singing, but he is not going to hear her; visited her sister Emily but she was out; the Ingrahams told him that Mary and Miss Margie were coming to town for a few days; list all the parties he hates to attend including Miss Saunders' ball; General Cass's dinner; the Douglas's ball; Mrs. Riggs' and Mrs. Merricks' ball; and a reception at the President's; still has a cold; infers she is the reason for his appreciating life more; Dr. Dan is flitting about on the social circuit; hopes Dr. Dan will find a "sweet little aunt" at Belvidere; the Scharffs are enjoying married life; Bob Magraw returned to Baltimore; the Cobbs and others on the Rev. Cutter's expeditions dropped in on the Scharffs; and James Buchanan Henry will take to Scharffs to a reception and a large State dinner. Envelope with postmark and removed stamp addressed to Miss Mary H. Nicholson, care John L. McKim, Esq, Baltimore. Washington, D.C.

**Custodial History:** The James Buchanan Family Papers were collected by the James Buchanan Foundation for the Preservation of Wheatland. This collection was relocated from the Wheatland mansion to the LancasterHistory archives in the Spring of 2009. Digitization of the James Buchanan Family Papers was funded by the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, PHMC Appl ID # 201808013051, 2019-2020.

**Date Range:** 1859/02/04

**Creator:** Henry, James Buchanan, 1833-1915

**People:** Cass, Lewis  
Cobb, Mary Ann Lamar Cobb  
Cobb, Howell  
Cutter, Edward Francis  
Hagner, Daniel Randall  
Douglas, Stephen Arnold  
Williams, Rose Adele Cutts Douglas  
Henry, James Buchanan  
Ingrahams, Duncan Nathaniel  
Magraw, Robert M.  
Merrick, Mrs.  
Henry, Mary Hagner Nicholson  
Piccolomini, Marietta  
Riggs, Mary Turpin Bright  
Saunders, Miss  
Scharff, Christian Henry  
McKim, John  
Magruder, Emily Erving Nicholson

**Subjects:** Personal correspondence  
Letters

**Search Terms:** Correpondence  
Correspondence, Personal  
Letters  
Buchanan Collections  
James Buchanan Presidential Library

**Extent:** 2 items, 10 pages to scan, 4.5 x 7 in.; 3.5 x 5.5 in.

**Object Name:** Letter

**Language:** English

**Accession Number:** JBMS1996.340a-b

**Object ID:** JBFP 3.1.1.047

**Parent Object ID:** JBFP Part 3 Series 1

**Other Number:** JBFP Part 3, Series 1, Subseries 1, Folder 47

**Location:** LancasterHistory, Lancaster, PA

**Room:** Archives South

**Container:** JBFP Part 3, Box 1

<b>Associated Material:</b>	<p>James Buchanan Papers, Dickinson College Archives &amp; Special Collections,  <a href="http://archives.dickinson.edu/collection-descriptions/james-buchanan-papers">http://archives.dickinson.edu/collection-descriptions/james-buchanan-papers</a></p> <p>James Buchanan and Harriet Lane Johnston Papers, Library of Congress,  <a href="https://www.loc.gov/collections/james-buchanan-and-harriet-lane-johnston-papers/">https://www.loc.gov/collections/james-buchanan-and-harriet-lane-johnston-papers/</a></p> <p>James Buchanan Papers, Historical Society of Pennsylvania,  <a href="http://www2.hsp.org/collections/manuscripts/b/Buchanan0091.html">http://www2.hsp.org/collections/manuscripts/b/Buchanan0091.html</a></p> <p>James Buchanan Papers, Penn State University Libraries,  <a href="https://libraries.psu.edu/findingaids/1458.htm">https://libraries.psu.edu/findingaids/1458.htm</a></p>
<b>Related Item Notes:</b>	<p>James Buchanan Family Papers  MG-96 James Buchanan Collection  Historical Society of Pennsylvania microfilm  Photograph collections  Curatorial collections  Wheatland Mansion</p>
<b>Notes:</b>	<p>May 2020 PastPerfect Conversion</p>
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## Images

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Miss Mary H. Nicholson  
Care of Mrs L. McKim Log  
Baltimore



Washington Thursday  
4<sup>th</sup> Feb. 1859.  
My own darling Mamma,  
I have been looking  
long & patiently for your letter  
- your mobby letter - I hardly  
expected it last night tho'  
when you are at Annapolis it  
always arrived the same evening  
but I had strong hopes of  
seeing it this morning & I  
therefore looked anxiously over  
the letters to see if your dear  
familiar hand was there.

but alas no - so I have to  
try to wait patiently until  
this evening when it will  
doubtless be here. What, I  
wonder, have you been doing with  
yourself since I left - did you  
enjoy the party and concert  
very much. Picochini sings  
here in opera next week - I am  
sorry it is not in concert for  
you know I do not go to the  
theatre or opera. I called  
to see your sister Emily but  
she was out - I left your  
messages for her however.

If I have not seen Dr. Howe  
since Monday evening when  
I called to get him to  
Prescribe for me - but I  
hear that he is flying  
about at all of the balls &  
parties & having a gay time -  
An fellow you must try &  
do all you can for him  
while you are at Belvidere  
for I would like very much  
to have such a sweet  
little aunt, so be very  
industrious & see what  
can be done -

She might then find  
out what we talk about  
& what it takes us so  
long to tell each other!  
The Schaffs are getting  
on very well & are as happy  
as two birds - Schaff says  
all bachelors! he does &  
thinks them poor forlorn  
Creatures! perhaps he is  
right who knows?  
Bob Magraw returned  
to Baltimore yesterday &  
before going told me he

were going to come up  
 into his delightful home,  
 & ask you to take a  
 ride - I hope you will  
 go if you feel like it.  
 The Cobs, & most of  
 the people who were on  
 the New Cutter expedition have  
 called on the Schaffs &  
 to-day I will take him  
 around to the reception &  
 on Friday they dine here at  
 our large State dinner - it will  
 be an interesting sight for  
 them -

MS. A. 9. 2. 40. b

But I must close this  
 lengthy epistle - remember  
 me most kindly to my  
 Belvidere friends -  
 your affectionate & devoted  
 Whistling

They told me at Ingham's  
 that you had some idea of  
 coming down next week for  
 a few days & bringing Miss  
 Margie with you - I hope this  
 few days part is not true.  
 We have had a great deal  
 of excitement this week in  
 the gay world as you will  
 see by my list of entertainments  
 Monday - Miss Saunders ball  
 Tuesday - Harmon concert & Gen. Cas. King  
 Wednesday - Dinner at Swends, <sup>at Gen. Hill's</sup> & party  
 Thursday - Ball at Temple (not noted)  
 Friday - Pres. State dinner - dinner at  
 Gen. Lawson - Ball at Mrs. Higgin &  
 Mrs. Merricks  
 Saturday - Morning reception at President

MS. A. 9. 2. 40. b

For this you will see what  
 a gay week it has been -  
 But I have not stirred out of  
 the house & have not <sup>yet</sup> will  
 not go to any of them. This  
 week as I want to try and  
 nurse myself out of this  
 cough if I can - so you  
 see what a prudent young  
 man I have lately become -  
 I think I appreciate the  
 value of my life much  
 more than I used to & I  
 "guess" you know the cause  
 better than any one else -

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