

**James Buchanan Family Papers, Part 1 Papers of James Buchanan, Series 3
Campaign and Inaugural Materials**

Call Number: JBFP Part 1 Series 3

1 box 33 folders .5 cubic ft.

Repository: LancasterHistory (Organization); PV7

Shelving Location: Archives South

Scope and Content Note: The James Buchanan Family Papers, Part 1, Series 3 contains documents and ephemera from Buchanan's Presidential campaign, inauguration, and inaugural ball. The items date between 1833 and 1869. Subseries 1 includes ephemera from the 1856 Presidential campaign and Subseries 2 has ephemera from Buchanan's inauguration and inaugural balls. The materials from James Buchanan's Presidential campaign include portraits of the candidates of the election of 1856, various political cartoons, a Democratic ticket from Virginia with engravings featuring Buchanan, a booklet, the results from the 1856 election, a handout promoting the Democratic ticket, and a song written about the life of James Buchanan set to the Democratic tune of "Poor Old Horse let him die." The inauguration materials include multiple invitations to the Grand National Inauguration Ball, *Harper's Weekly* and *Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper* articles and illustrations of certain inauguration scenes.

Creators: James Buchanan Foundation for the Preservation of Wheatland (Lancaster, Pa.)

System of Arrangement: James Buchanan Family Papers, Part 1 Papers of James Buchanan is arranged into six series.

Series 1 Correspondence

Series 2 Financial and Legal Documents

Series 3 Campaign and Inaugural Materials

Subseries 1 Presidential Campaign

Subseries 2 Inauguration/Ball

Series 4 Speeches and Writings

Series 5 Ephemera

Series 6 Miscellaneous Materials

Conditions for Access: Please use digital images and transcriptions when available. Original documents may be used by appointment. Please contact archives@lancasterhistory.org at least two weeks prior to visit.

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Language: English

Biographical and Historical Note:

James Buchanan was born on April 23, 1791 to James Buchanan and Elizabeth Speer. He was the second child born out of ten children, and he would go on to outlive all but one of his siblings. Most popularly remembered as Pennsylvania's only President and as a lifelong bachelor, Buchanan committed a lifetime to politics. In 1821, he left his law practice and embarked on his political career after having been voted into the U.S. House of Representatives. He would remain in the House for five consecutive terms before serving as the U.S. Minister to Russia, a Senator in the U.S. Senate, the U.S. Secretary of State, the U.S. Minister to Great Britain, and finally, the 15th President of the United States. He died in his bedchamber at Wheatland at 8:30 AM on June 1, 1868. He was 77 years old. [<https://www.lancasterhistory.org/about-wheatland>, accessed 10/24/2019]

Source of Acquisition: These documents were collected by the James Buchanan Foundation for the Preservation of Wheatland.

Custodial History (Provenance): These documents were collected by the James Buchanan Foundation for the Preservation of Wheatland. This collection was relocated from the Wheatland mansion to Lancaster County's Historical Society archives in the Spring of 2009.

Accruals: No further accruals are expected.

Preferred Citation: James Buchanan Family Papers, Object ID, LancasterHistory, Lancaster, Pennsylvania.

Subject Headings:



LancasterHistory

Balls (Parties)
Elections
Inauguration
Invitation cards
Political campaigns
Political cartoons
Presidential candidates
Presidents--Election

Search Terms:

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Balls (Parties)
Invitations

Related Materials at LancasterHistory:

James Buchanan Family Papers
MG-96 James Buchanan Collection
Historical Society of Pennsylvania microfilm
Photograph collections
Curatorial collections
Wheatland Mansion

Related Material in Other Repositories:

James Buchanan Papers, Dickinson College Archives & Special Collections
<http://archives.dickinson.edu/collection-descriptions/james-buchanan-papers>

James Buchanan and Harriet Lane Johnston Papers, Library of Congress
<https://www.loc.gov/collections/james-buchanan-and-harriet-lane-johnston-papers/>

James Buchanan Papers, Historical Society of Pennsylvania,
<http://www2.hsp.org/collections/manuscripts/b/Buchanan0091.html>

James Buchanan Papers, Penn State University Libraries,
<https://libraries.psu.edu/findingaids/1458.htm>



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Processing History: Finding aid prepared by RC, 2013. This collection has been documented, preserved and managed according to professional museum and archives standards. The collection was cataloged using DACS conventions.



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Box 5 Series 3, Subseries 1 Presidential Campaign

Folder 1 New York, 1 December 1856

A "stupendous sheet of pictures" published by *The Brother Jonathon* (newspaper) boasts portraits of the Presidential candidates of the election of 1856: James Buchanan and John C. Breckenridge (Democrats), John C. Fremont and William L. Dayton (Republicans), and Millard Fillmore and Andrew J. Donelson (Know Nothings). *Housed in JBFP Oversized Box 1.*

Folder 2 Boston, 26 July 1856

Ballou's Pictorial front-page coverage of candidates James Buchanan and John C. Breckenridge with portraits and biographies. 2 copies; copy 1 has minor tears on left and right margins. *Housed in JBFP Oversized Box 1.*

Folder 3 2 Spruce Street, New York, [1856]

"The Great American Buck Hunt of 1856." Large cartoon depicting James Buchanan and a stag "Old Buck" as he bounds toward the White House being hunted by John C. Fremont, mired in black mud as his "Kansas" gun explodes. H. W. Beecher and Horace Greeley, likewise, are stuck in the Abolition Bog and Millard Fillmore, standing on the Union Rock, vows to bring down "that Old Buck." Lithograph by N. Currier. *Housed in JBFP Oversized Box 1.*

Folder 4 2 Spruce Street, New York, [1856]

"The Right Man for the Right Place." Large cartoon depicting Know Nothing candidate, Millard Fillmore, separating Republican candidate, John C. Fremont (with a rifle), and Democrat, James Buchanan (with a dagger). Lithograph by N. Currier. *Housed in JBFP Oversized Box 1.*

Folder 5 2 Spruce Street, New York, [1856]

"'Buck' Taking the Pot." Large cartoon depicting James Buchanan holding four aces and a big pot of Union Soup, while John C. Fremont with a large ladle called Abolition stumbles over the Rock of Disunion and a blindfolded Millard Fillmore holds a small spoon in one hand and a lantern in the other hoping for a sip of the soup. Lithograph by Nathaniel Currier. *Housed in JBFP Oversized Box 1.*

Folder 6 2 Spruce Street, New York, [1856]

Large cartoon entitled "A Serviceable Garment – or Reverie of a Bachelor" depicting James Buchanan as a tailor holding a once new Federal coat, patched and turned into a Democratic coat with an unsightly Cuba patch on front. Lithograph by N. Currier. *Housed in JBFP Oversized Box 1.*



Box 5, Series 3, Subseries 1

Folder 7 New York, [1856]

Large cartoon entitled "The 'Ostend Doctrine,' Practical Democrats carrying out the Principle" satirizing the Ostend Manifesto of 1854 urging the wresting of Cuba from Spain with James Buchanan being accosted by a gang of armed ruffians relieving him of the money, his watch, his coat and his hat. N. Currier (Firm), New York, NY. Louis Mauer, artist. *Housed in JBFP Oversized Box 1.*

Folder 8 New York, [1856]

"The Balls are Rolling – Clear the Track." Large cartoon favoring Fremont and Dayton as proponents of the Constitution, Liberty and Union sit like an eagle above the fray and Pierce and Buchanan are being crushed by the platform adopted by the Democrats at the Cincinnati convention, with Kansas being the major scene of conflict. Lithograph by N. Currier. *Housed in JBFP Oversized Box 1.*

Folder 9 New York, 1860

Large cartoon set in a cock-fighting ring, entitled "The Great Match at Baltimore, between the 'Illinois Bantam' and 'the Old Cock' of the White House," depicting Buchanan as a "used up old rooster" beaten by Stephen Douglas, with Breckenridge being put into the ring by Henry Clay and an onlooker commenting on Buchanan's demise. Currier & Ives. *Housed in JBFP Oversized Box 1.*

Folder 10 No date

Campaign card depicting a cartoon figure when looked at one way shows a happy face who voted for James Buchanan, and turned upside down shows a frowning face who voted for Fremont.

Folder 11

Envelope depicting Buchanan as Judas, who was elected by fraud and trickery; under his administration the treasury was robbed; duplicity and cowardice marked his career; and sold his country to a band of Southern conspirators; and is pointed at with the finger of scorn.

Folder 12

Democratic ticket for Virginia depicting engravings of Buchanan and J. C. Breckinridge and the list of electors for the state. Election on Tuesday, 4 November 1856.

Folder 13 [1856]

Booklet of 32 pages providing "Short answers to reckless fabrication, against the Democratic candidate for president, James Buchanan." Addressing such topics as the "drop of blood" falsehood, the War of 1812, Buchanan and Andrew Jackson, Buchanan and Henry Clay, Buchanan and the laboring man, Buchanan's character at home, Buchanan and Pittsburgh, opinions of neighbors, Buchanan's character, Buchanan and the Ostend Manifesto, and James B. Clay, son of Henry, praising Buchanan.



Folder 14

Results of the 1856 Presidential election as compiled by the *Journal of Commerce* and reprinted by the *Saturday Emporium*, which considered the figures official. Also compares the figures of the elections of 1840-1856.

Folder 15

Article from *The Lancaster Democrat* describing a rally in favor of Buchanan and Breckenridge along with a poem "Nail Up the Flag." Dedicated to the Wheatland Glee Club, with two Buchanan quotes favoring the laboring man.

Folder 16

A "calling" card depicting "the cock that will crow in the morning" awakening all Pennsylvania to vote for "her mountain Buck, a Democrat born." Published and distributed by William C. McRea, 232 Chestnut Street, Lancaster.

Folder 17 [1856]

Handout promoting the national Democratic ticket and a set of Presidential Electors from Connecticut: Samuel Ingham, Augustus G. Hazard, Richard D. Hubbard, Ralph I. Ingersoll, James A. Hovey, and Royal I. Canfield.

Folder 18 [1856]

List of the Delegates to the Democratic Convention, to be held in Cincinnati June 2, 1856. Lists each state with number of votes and delegates. Pennsylvania has 27 votes and the following delegates: Arnold Plummer, Henry D. Foster, David R. Porter, James L. Reynolds, Edward G. Webb, John McCarthy, James C. Van Dyke, Chambers McKibbin, John Robbins Jr., Charles W. Carrigan, Joseph Lippincott, John G. Benner, Owen Jones, Thomas J. Roberts, John Rutter, Charles D. Manley, John D. Stiles, Ed Nicholson, J. Glancy Jones, P. K. Miller, H. B. Swarr, Joseph B. Baker, John Weidman, J. M. Kreider, William L. Dewart, C. M. Straub, H. B. Wright, J. G. Montgomery, John N. Hutchinson, H. B. Beardsley, V. E. Piolett, C. L. Ward, W. F. Packer, John H. Morrison, Henry Welsh, John Stuart, A. P. Lusk, John Cessna, John C. Everhart, Richard White, Jacob Forney, Alex McKinney, John L. Dawson, William Hopkins, Andrew Burke, Charles Barnett, Samuel W. Black, James A. Gibson, M. C. Trout, John N. McGuffin, J. L. Gillis, J. Y. Jumes, J. Porter Brawley and Wilson Laird. *Housed in JBFP Oversized Box 1.*

Folder 19 Lancaster, near Wheatland, 1856

The life of the Hon. James Buchanan, as written by himself, and set to music by an old Democrat to the tune of "Poor Old Horse Let Him Die!" Price "Half a Jimmy!" [Copyright secured in Cuban Bonds.] 12 p. A song liberally sprinkled with "footnotes" that "prove" the contentions presented in the poem that Buchanan is no real Democrat. The appendix sets landmarks for honest Democrats.

Folder 20 1856

Democratic election ballot for Massachusetts, with Buchanan heading the national ticket. 10 x 45 cm. *Purchased from Kleinfelter's Auction Gallery, Lebanon, PA, 11 March 2008.* 48 x 32 cm. *Housed in JBFP Oversized Box 1.*

Box 5 Series 3, Subseries 2 Inauguration Materials

Folder 1 Washington, D.C., 4 March 1857

Invitation to Dr. Samuel Welchens, Lancaster, for the Grand National Inauguration Ball, Judiciary Square, Washington; includes names of managers between two columns representing the states with the inscriptions "Constitution of the United States" and "The Union Must be Preserved" on the bottom. With envelope.

Folder 2 New York, 14 March 1857

Front page of *Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper* depicting the swearing-in ceremony of James Buchanan with a general description of American inauguration oath above the large ambrotype of Chief-Justice Taney administering the oath as John C. Breckenridge and another figure look on. The back page shows an exterior view of the railroad station with well-wishers and an interior view of the reception within, with a commentary of the festivities and those attending. Copy 1 comprises pages 217-218 and 231-232 and is torn around the edges; copy 2 is the entire issue containing numerous pictures of Wheatland, his dog Lara, personal items, Buchanan in front of the national capitol (full-page) and four scenes in Lancaster.; copy 3 is the entire uncut issue. *Housed in JBFP Oversized Box 1.*

Folder 3 14 March 1857

Harper's Weekly compares the eighteenth inauguration (Buchanan) with the first one of George Washington with four representations of each affair. *Housed in JBFP Oversized Box 1.*

Folder 4 New York, 21 March 1857

Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper shows on page 136 the scene outside the York railroad station enroute to Baltimore with a description of York; and page 237 shows his arrival at the National Hotel in Washington and his arrival at the White House. *Housed in JBFP Oversized Box 1.*

Folder 5 New York, 28 March 1857

Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper on page 253 shows James Buchanan arriving at the White House for the Presidential Reception; page 256 carries a biography of Chief Justice Taney; and page 25 is a full-page illustration of the first Presidential Reception held in the East Room of the White House on 6 March 1857. *Housed in JBFP Oversized Box 1.*

Folder 6 Washington, D. C., No date

Invitation to the Grand National Inauguration Ball, Judiciary Square, Washington; includes names of managers between two columns representing the states with the inscriptions "Constitution of the United States" and "The Union Must be Preserved" on



the bottom. Invitee unknown.



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Box 5, Series 3, Subseries 2

Folder 7 Philadelphia, 26 January 1857

Invitation to the Grand National Inauguration Ball to be given by the 12th Ward Democratic Association of Philadelphia at the Assembly Rooms, Louisiana Avenue, Washington City on Tuesday evening, 3 March 1857. Tickets \$5.00. Includes list of managers. With envelope, stamp, postmark and wax seal, addressed to "Hon. James Buchanan, Lancaster Penn."

Folder 8 Washington, D. C., [1857]

Invitation to the Grand National Inauguration Ball, Judiciary Square, Washington; includes names of managers between two columns representing the states with the inscriptions "Constitution of the United States" and "The Union Must be Preserved" on the bottom. Invitee unknown.

Folder 9 Philadelphia, 1857

Invitation to Miss Harriet Lane to the Grand National Inauguration Ball at the Assembly Rooms, Washington City, Tuesday evening, 3 March 1857.

Folder 10a Philadelphia, 1857

Invitation to James Buchanan to the Grand National Inauguration Ball to be given by the 12th Ward Democratic Association of Philadelphia at the Assembly Rooms, Louisiana Avenue, Washington City on Tuesday evening, 3 March 1857.

Folder 10b Philadelphia, 1857

Invitation to the Grand National Inauguration Ball to be given by the 12th Ward Democratic Association of Philadelphia at the Assembly Rooms Louisiana Avenue, Washington City on Tuesday evening, 3 March 1857. Invitee unknown.

Folder 10c Philadelphia, 1857

Invitation to the Grand National Inauguration Ball to be given by the 12th Ward Democratic Association of Philadelphia at the Assembly Rooms, Louisiana Avenue, Washington City on Tuesday evening, 3 March 1857. Invitee unknown.

Folder 11 Washington, D.C., [1857]

Invitation to the Grand National Inauguration Ball, Judiciary Square, Washington; includes names of managers between two columns representing the states with the inscriptions "Constitution of the United States" and "The Union Must be Preserved" on the bottom. Invitee unknown.

