

James Buchanan Family Papers, Part 2 Papers of Harriet Lane Johnston, Series 2 Financial and Legal Documents

Call Number: JBFP, Part 2, Series 2

1 box 14 folders .20 cubic ft.

Repository: LancasterHistory (Organization); PV7

Shelving Location: Archives South, Side 18

Scope and Content Note: James Buchanan Family Papers, Part 2 Harriet Lane Johnston, Series 2 contains the financial and legal documents of Harriet Lane Johnston. The series is divided into three subseries. Subseries 1 contains lists, bills, receipts, ledgers, and accounts. Subseries 2 contains legal papers concerning stock in the Baltimore and Ohio Rail-Road Company, as well as an acknowledgement of George B. Willson's purchase of Wheatland. Subseries 3 contains the last will and testament and codicils of Harriet Lane Johnston and a broadside advertising of the 340 items from Wheatland to be auctioned by Davis & Harvey Auctioneers in 1884.

Creators: Johnston, Harriet Lane, 1830-1903.
James Buchanan Foundation for the Preservation of Wheatland.

System of Arrangement: James Buchanan Family Papers Part 2, Papers of Harriet Lane Johnston, is arranged into five series.

Series 1 Correspondence

Series 2 Financial and Legal Documents

Subseries 1 Bills, Receipts, Ledgers, Accounts

Subseries 2 Legal Papers

Subseries 3 Estate Papers

Series 3 Ephemera

Series 4 Henry Elliott Johnston

Series 5 Miscellaneous Materials

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Language: English

Biographical and Historical Note:

Born on May 9, 1830, Harriet Lane was the youngest surviving child of Elliot Toll Lane and Jane Buchanan Lane. When both of her parents died of consumption, now known as tuberculosis, Harriet went on to be her Uncle James Buchanan's ward in 1841. A well-educated lady, Harriet attended several boarding schools before graduating from the Georgetown Academy of Visitation Convent at the age of 18. When James Buchanan served as the U.S. Minister to Great Britain, Harriet Lane joined him for a time and served as a hostess. During her time in England, which she noted as "the realization of a beautiful dream," she befriended none other than Queen Victoria. When her Uncle assumed the presidency, Harriet Lane assumed her role as hostess. She is considered the first First Lady, as the title had initially been given to the president's hostess during Harriet's time in Washington.

After Buchanan's presidency, Harriet Lane married Henry Elliot Johnston, a banker from Baltimore, on January 11, 1866. She was 35 years old. The couple went on to have two sons, both of whom would pass away from rheumatic fever in their early teenage years. Two years after losing her youngest son, Harriet lost her husband to pneumonia. By 1884, Harriet was a childless widow. She would go on to leave a legacy for generations to come, including establishing a children's hospital in Baltimore called The Harriet Lane Home for Invalid Children (today the Harriet Lane Clinic at the John's Hopkins Children's Hospital), preserving her Uncle's letters and manuscripts, bestowing her art collection to the Corcoran Gallery and the Smithsonian American Art Museum in Washington, D.C., and constructing the St. Alban's School, a school for choir boys. She died on July 3, 1903. [<https://www.lancasterhistory.org/about-wheatland/>, accessed 10/24/2019]

Source of Acquisition: The documents in JBFP, Part 2 were collected by the James Buchanan Foundation for the Preservation of Wheatland.

Custodial History (Provenance): 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

People:

Buchanan, James

Johnston, Harriet Lane

Subject Headings:

Broadsides

Buchanan, James, 1791-1868

Johnston, Harriet Lane, 1830-1903

Receipts (Acknowledgments)

Wheatland (Lancaster, Pa.)

Wills

Search Terms:

Broadsides

Buchanan Collections

Finding aids

Harriet Lane Johnston

James Buchanan

Manuscript groups

Receipts

Wills

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>



LancasterHistory

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

Processing History: Processed and finding aid prepared by REC, 2012-2014. Finding aid proofread by MM, 2014-2015. This collection has been documented, preserved and managed according to professional museum and archives standards. The collection was cataloged using DACS conventions.

Box 1 Part 2, Series 2, Subseries 1

Series 2, Subseries 1, Folder 1 28 November 1868

Receipt from Harriet Lane Johnston to H. B. Swarr dated November 28th in the amount of \$2019.19 for rent of lots, "the estate of E. E. Lane, dec'd & interest in the ten percent of purchase money paid by the purchasers at sale of said lots." With 2¢ U. S. Interrev. stamp

Series 2, Subseries 1, Folder 2 2 April 1869

Statement listing lots #1-15 in Orange Street part of the estate of the late E. E. Lane: Lots #1-3 sold to [The___] D. Kelly; lots #4-6 sold to Jno. K. Bitner; lots #7-8 sold to W. W. Hensel; lots #9-10 sold to Geo. K. Reed, and lots #11-15 sold to Hirsh Brothers for a total of \$4427.20. H. B. Swarr (attorney for Harriet Lane Johnston) acknowledges receiving \$2213.60 from S. H. Reynolds for R. S. Jenkins on 2 April 1869.

Series 2, Subseries 1, Folder 3 24 December 1869

Receipt from Samuel Horst to Harriet Lane Johnston per H. B. Swarr, twenty-four dollars and 75 cents, for school tax assessed against her Wheatland Estate, in Lancaster Township for the year 1869.

Series 2, Subseries 1, Folder 4 11 July 1870

Statement of income and expenses for the trust of James Buchanan, signed by Harriet Lane Johnston on July 11, 1870, for receipt of the balance of \$534.13 from H. B. Swarr.

Series 2, Subseries 1, Folder 5 Wheatland, 6 August 1870

Signature of Harriet Lane Johnston for receipt of \$180 interest less \$9 commission on \$6,000 of Pennsylvania State Stocks from H. B. Swarr, Esq., executor.

Series 2, Subseries 1, Folder 6 Paris 1872

Bill of sale from Jaquel, Paris, for a set of pink and white china with a gilt laurel wreath border with monogram H. E. J for 2206 francs and a dessert set of the same with flowers and fruits for 1806 francs. Entire cost is 4457 francs or \$1,008.24, including packing and box.

Series 2, Subseries 1, Folder 7 1 January 1876

Signature of H. E. Johnston, attorney in fact for Mrs. Harriet Lane Johnston, for receipt from H. B. Swarr of \$963.30 income from trust under the will of James Buchanan. Bears round stamp of Johnston Brothers & Co. Baltimore. Dec 31, 1875.

Series 2, Subseries 1, Folder 8 3 July 1876

Statement of interest totaling \$1014 to Harriet Lane Johnston trust, executors H. B. Swarr & E. Y Buchanan under the will of James Buchanan, deceased. Signed by Henry



E. Johnston, who incorrectly states the amount accruing to his wife after trustee commissions.

Series 2, Subseries 1, Folder 9 5 January 1877

Statement of interest to Harriet Lane Johnston from H. B. Swarr & E. Y Buchanan, Trustees of Mrs. Harriet Lane Johnston. For interest as of January 5, 1877, for \$1014.00 less \$50.70 commissions. Acknowledged by H. E. Johnston on Jan. 6, 1876.

Series 2, Subseries 1, Folder 10 Wheatland, 10 July 1884

List of items including cords of wood and chickens totaling \$55.73 that Mr. G. Wilson bought from Harriet Lane Johnston with her acknowledgment dated 14 July 1884.

Part 2, Series 2, Subseries 2

Series 2, Subseries 2, Folder 1 Baltimore, 31 March 1871

Certificate from the Baltimore and Ohio Rail-Road Company for 16 shares of stock valued at \$100. each owned by Mrs. H. L. Johnston. On back of the certificate: witnessed by H. E. Johnston.

Series 2, Subseries 2, Folder 2 120 Park Street, [Baltimore] 22 May 1884

Acknowledgment of George B. Willson that he has bought Harriet Lane Johnston's Wheatland estate for \$20,000, half to be paid now and the rest in installments; sale includes plants for the garden, bookcases in library, 2 cows, one horse, all farming implements; she may continue occupying the house until 1 July next with free supply of ice, fruit, and vegetables. Approved by Harriet Lane Johnston. Written on Harriet Lane Johnston's stationery.

Part 2, Series 2, Subseries 3

Series 2, Subseries 3, Folder 1 2 July 1903

Last will and testament and codicils of Harriet Lane Johnston. Printed by Law Reporter Co, Washington, D. C. 34 pages. *Gift of Talbot T. Speer, Baltimore Business Forms, Baltimore, MD, 14 September 1964.*

Series 2, Subseries 3, Folder 2 17 September 1884

Broadside advertising 340 items from Wheatland to be auctioned by Davis & Harvey, Auctioneers, at their Art Gallery, No. 1212 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia, on 17 September, 1884. Note at top of sheet: Compare this bill with statement in Klein's *Story of Wheatland*, p. 61. Broadside in three pieces. *Housed in JBFP Oversized Box 3.*

