

James Buchanan Family Papers, Part 2 Papers of Harriet Lane Johnston, Series 3 Ephemera

Call Number: JBFP, Part 2, Series 3

1 box 9 folders

Repository: LancasterHistory (Organization); PV7

Shelving Location: Archives South

Scope and Content Note: James Buchanan Family Papers, Part 2 Harriet Lane Johnston, Series 3 contains ephemera. This small collection of ephemera contains invitations both to and from Harriet Lane, her calling cards, a blank invitation, envelopes, and an acceptance of an invitation from Harriet Lane to Sir Edmund [Prideaux].

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

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.lancastrhistory.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:

Johnston, Harriet Lane

Subject Headings:

Baltimore (Md.)

Ephemera

Invitation cards

Johnston, Harriet Lane, 1830-1903

Lancaster (Pa.)

Visiting cards

Washington (D.C.)

Wheatland (Lancaster, Pa.)

Search Terms:

Baltimore, Maryland

Buchanan Collections

Calling cards

Ephemera

Finding aids

Harriet Lane Johnston

Invitations

James Buchanan

Lancaster

Manuscript groups

Visiting cards

Washington, DC

Wheatland

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.



Lancaster**History**

Box 1 Part 2, Series 3, Subseries 1

Series 3, Subseries 1, Folder 1 New York, 1860

Invitation to Miss Lane to attend a ball in honor of the Prince of Wales at the New York Academy of Music on the 12th of October, 1860, with a list of members of the invitation committee. Blank envelope.

Series 3, Subseries 1, Folder 2 Invitation from Harriet Lane to the Misses Franklin. Invitation missing. Envelope addressed to the Misses Franklin.

Series 3, Subseries 1, Folder 3 Wheatland

Calling card of Miss Lane, Wheatland.

Series 3, Subseries 1, Folder 4 Wheatland

Calling card of Miss Lane, Wheatland.

Series 3, Subseries 1, Folder 5 Washington, D.C., [1856-1860]

Blank invitation: Miss Lane requests the honor of _____ company on _____ evening at _____ o'clock. Executive Mansion.

Series 3, Subseries 1, Folder 6 United Service Club, Park Mall, London 23 May 1854

Sir Edmund [Prideaux]'s acceptance of an invitation to introduce Miss Lane and her uncle to the "eminent personages before alluded to." In two pieces. Envelope addressed to Miss Lane, His Excellency Hon'l J. Buchanan, 56 Harley Street. With one embossed stamp, two stamps, and 1 wax seal intact.

Series 3, Subseries 1, Folder 7 Calling card of Mrs. Henry Elliott Johnston, Baltimore.

Series 3, Subseries 1, Folder 8 Envelope addressed to Miss Harriet Lane.

Series 3, Subseries 1, Folder 9 Calling card of Miss Lane, Wheatland.

