

## **James Buchanan Family Papers, Part 5 Papers of Other Members of the Buchanan Family, Series 1 Correspondence**

**Call Number: JBFP Part 5 Series 1**

1 box 26 folders, 41 items, 165 pages .5 cubic feet

Repository: LancasterHistory (Organization); PV7

Scope and Content: James Buchanan Family Papers, Part 5 Papers of Other Members of the Buchanan Family, Series 1 Correspondence contains papers from members of the Buchanan family, excluding James Buchanan, Harriet Lane Johnston, James Buchanan Henry and Edward Young Buchanan. Subseries 1 is correspondence from members of the Buchanan Family and Subseries 2 is correspondence to members of the Buchanan Family. The letters span over one hundred years, from 1809 through 1925, with the bulk of the items from 1845 to 1873.

The earliest items are excerpts of letters written by James Buchanan and his parents at the beginning of his law career and from his early political years. There is a collection of typed transcripts of letters to Maria Lois Buchanan, affectionately known as "Lodie," from her family who was taking care of James Buchanan at Wheatland from March through June 1868. The remaining letters are between various family members concerning the family and their well-being, as well as the purchasing of homes and financial matters.

Creators: Buchanan family

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

System of Arrangement: James Buchanan Family Papers, Part 5 Other Members of the Buchanan family is arranged into two series.

**Series 1** Correspondence

**Subseries 1** Letters from Members of the Buchanan Family

**Subseries 2** Letters to Members of the Buchanan Family

Series 2 Financial and Legal Documents and Family Records

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Language: English

Biographical and Historical Note:

Many additional members of James Buchanan's family are included in this part of the collection. Including the following relations: James Buchanan (1761-1821) and Elizabeth Speer (1767-1833) James Buchanan's parents; Harriet Buchanan (1802-1840), James Buchanan's sister; James Buchanan Lane (1814-1863), James Buchanan's nephew and Harriet Lane's older brother; Jessie Magaw, James Buchanan's niece from his sister, Maria Buchanan Magaw (1795-1849); Mary Nicholson Henry, James Buchanan Henry's first wife; and Louisa Anderson Henry James Buchanan Henry's second wife; Reginald E. Henry (Louisa and James' son) and Robert Edward Henry, Jr. (Louisa and James' grandson); Edward Y. Buchanan's wife, Ann Elizabeth Foster, and his daughters, Anne Buchanan (1838-1927), Harriet Buchanan (1841-1912), Henrietta ("Netsie") Buchanan (1844-1906) and Maria Lois Buchanan Cassatt (1847-1920) (referred to as "Lois" or "Lodie"), and Alex J. Cassatt (Lois Buchanan's husband). The letters to Maria Lois Buchanan show a good chronological history.

Source of Acquisition: These documents 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:

Subject Headings:

Letters (LHo-LOC sh 85076240)  
Wheatland (Lancaster, Pa.) (LHo-LOC sh 88004274)  
Personal correspondence

Search Terms:

Letters  
Correspondence  
Personal correspondence  
James Buchanan  
Buchanan Collections  
Harriet Lane Johnston  
Finding aids  
Manuscript groups

Related Materials at LancasterHistory:

James Buchanan Family Papers  
James Buchanan Collection, MG0096  
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>

Processing History: 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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## **Series 1 Correspondence**

### **Subseries 1 Correspondence from Buchanan Family Members**

**Folder 1** Letter and envelope from Louisa Anderson Henry (James Buchanan Henry's second wife) to Mrs. John R. Magruder thanking her for her recent help. Stapleton, NY. 24 September (circa 1873). (2 items, 3 pieces)

**Folder 2** Letter from Anne Buchanan on behalf of her father, Edward Young Buchanan, to Mr. Swarr regarding checks to legatees. Oxford Church. 10 November 1873. (1 item, 1 piece)

**Folder 3** Letter from Henrietta Buchanan on behalf of her father, Edward Young Buchanan, to Mr. Swarr regarding financial matters. Oxford, PA. 6 January 1876. (1 item, 1 piece)

**Folder 4** Letter from Louisa Anderson to her brother, William Anderson, advising against his intention to purchase a farm. Garden City. 26 February 1883. (1 item, 1 piece)

**Folder 5** Letter and envelope from Reginald B. Henry (son of James B. Henry and Louisa Anderson) to his uncle, Dr. Frank Anderson regarding a fire in town and Christmas. Brooklyn, NY. 1 January 1889. (2 items, 2 pieces)

**Folder 6** Letter and envelope from Alexander Johnston Cassatt (husband of E.Y. Buchanan's daughter, Maria Lois Buchanan) to J. C. Patterson, Esq. regarding the doping of race horses. There is also a small typewritten transcription of the first two paragraphs of the letter. Philadelphia, PA. 8 October 1900. (3 items, 3 pieces)

**Folder 7** Letter and envelope from Robert E. Henry, Jr. (James Buchanan Henry's Grandson) to his mother, Virginia Henry, while he was at Yale regarding his friends and items that he needs from home. New Haven, CT. 15 January 1925. (2 items, 2 pieces)

**Folder 8** Letter attributed to Harriet Lane Johnston to H. W. North, Esq. asking him to serve as a pall bearer at the funeral of James Buchanan. Letter and envelope edged in black with envelope with stamp and postmark addressed to H. M. North, Esq., Columbia, Pa. Written on edge of envelope: Buchanan, Recd June 3 1868, request to act as pall bearer. 2 June 1868. Letter and black-edged envelope were a gift of Mrs. Joseph B. Hutchinson. (3 items, 8 pieces)



## **Series 1 Correspondence**

### **Subseries 2 Correspondence to Buchanan Family Members**

**Folder 1** Excerpts of correspondence from James Buchanan, Sr. and Elizabeth Speer Buchanan to their son James Buchanan from 1809 through 1826 regarding Buchanan's early political career. Letters from 1809 through 1813 are written out twice. There are also two envelopes where the excerpts were kept. 1809-1826. (4 items, 13 pieces)

**Folder 2** Letter from Mrs. Nicholson to her daughter, Mary Nicholson Henry right after her marriage to James Buchanan Henry regarding how much she misses her and wishes her well in her marriage. No date. (1 item, 2 pieces)

**Folder 3** Empty envelope addressed to Miss Mary E. Nicholson. Annapolis, MD. No date. (1 item, 1 piece)

**Folder 4** Letter from Mrs. Nicholson to Mary Nicholson Henry regarding Mary's infant who is sick. Circa 1862. (1 item, 1 piece)

**Folder 5** Letter from James Buchanan, Sr. to his daughter Harriet Buchanan reminding her to be wary of her conduct while in school. Chambersburg, PA. 8 February 1817. (1 item, 1 piece)

**Folder 6** Letter from Mary E. Merritt, the headmistress at Harriet Lane's school, to Harriet's brother, James Buchanan Lane, regarding Harriet's behavior, specifically her correspondence with a young man and her trips out of school. (The letter is dated 1825, however, this must be incorrect. Harriet was born in 1830. The letter mentions James' recent wedding—James was married in 1845 which was when Harriet was in school. Charlestown, VA, now West Virginia.) Charlestown, VA. 15 October 1845. (1 item, 1 piece)

**Folder 7** Copy of letter from James Buchanan Lane to James Buchanan regarding the purchase of the *Lancaster Intelligencer*. Lancaster, PA. 13 December 1847. (1 item, 1 piece)

**Folder 8** Copy of letter from James Buchanan Lane to James Buchanan regarding payments received to Buchanan's account and questions regarding other accounts. Lancaster, PA. 14 April 1848. (1 item, 1 piece)

**Folder 9** Copy of letter from James Buchanan Lane to James Buchanan regarding the upcoming purchase of property from John Benedict for Mary (possibly his sister, Mary Elizabeth Speer Lane) and paying off the lien on the property to Dr. F. A. Muhlenberg. Lancaster, PA. 2 May 1848. (1 item, 1 piece)

**Folder 10** Copy of letter from James Buchanan Lane to James Buchanan regarding the purchase of the home for Mary and her husband and the payment of Dr. Muhlenberg's lien on the property. Lancaster, PA. 15 May 1848. (1 item, 1 piece)



**Folder 11** Copy of letter from James Buchanan Lane to James Buchanan advising that, Ms. Hetty misunderstood his intention and that he has no plans to purchase James Buchanan's house. Lancaster, PA. 23 October 1848. (1 item, 1 piece)

**Folder 12** Envelope and note from unknown to a Miss Nicholson advising that the author saw her dear father the night before. 8 June 1858. (2 items, 2 pieces)

**Folder 13** Letter from Leila R. Ingraham to Mary (possibly Mary Nicholson Henry) regarding her upcoming visit to Mary. 28 October 1859. (1 item, 1 piece)

**Folder 14** Letter from C. J. McKe to Mary Nicholson Henry regarding Mary's health. 22 June 1863. (1 item, 1 piece)

**Folder 15** Transcriptions of several pieces of correspondence to Maria Lois Buchanan Cassatt from a number of individuals, including: A. J. Cassatt; her sisters, Anne Buchanan, Alice Buchanan and Henrietta Buchanan; her mother, Anne Foster Buchanan; her brother, Henry Buchanan; her cousin, Harriet Lane Johnston; and her father, Edward Y. Buchanan. All the correspondence is to Mary while she was visiting her cousin, Harriet Johnston, in Baltimore. Mary stay was extended when Harriet left to see to James Buchanan at Wheatland in his last days before his death and Mary stayed with Harriet's son. Some of the originals of Harriet's letters are in Part 2 of this collection. Lancaster, PA; Altoona, PA; Oxford Parsonage, PA; Philadelphia, PA. 23 March 1868 through June 12, 1868. (1 item, 34 pieces)

**Folder 16** Letter from Elizabeth Bowne to Louisa Anderson, torn, extremely fragile and illegible, as well as a small envelope addressed to Louisa Anderson in Staten Island and two acrostic poems for Louisa Anderson. Staten Island, NY. 11 December 1872. (3 items, 4 pieces)

**Folder 17** Letter and envelope from Mrs. E. M. Watson to Louisa Anderson acknowledging receipt of the invitation to her wedding reception which she will not be able to attend. Lynchburg. 18 December 1872. (2 items, 2 pieces)

**Folder 18** Letter and envelope from Jessie Magraw to James Buchanan Henry advising that they will be living in Maryland and inviting him to visit. Annapolis, MD. 6 November 1902. (2 items, 2 pieces)

**Folder 19** Letter from W. H. Buckler, secretary of the special committee to consider the proposed agreement between the Harriet Lane Home and Johns Hopkins Hospital to Mary Speer advising of a meeting to discuss the agreement. Mary Speer also has notes written on the letter regarding her meeting with Mrs. J. L. Whistler to give her Harriet Johnston's sable stole in exchange for Harriet Johnston's pearl earrings. Baltimore, MD. 17 April 1905. (1 item, 1 piece)

