

Wheatland 17 March 1865

My dear Miss Lane,

I was rejoiced to receive yours of Tuesday last & I am gratified to learn that your visit has proven to be so agreeable to yourself. I highly approve your determination to leave Washington on Wednesday next. You will then, I think, have been there quite long enough.

I have no news to communicate of the least interest of importance. Thomas will remain with his "fine hat." When I came to consult father Keenan about a successor he said Thomas must remain & so he will remain. I am glad of it though I did not select him; because it seemed impossible to get any one proper to fill his place. The person recommended by Thomas was not suitable, in the opinion of the good Father.

I am glad that "the most amiable relations seem now to exist" between Mr. Johnston & yourself. I hope this may be ever, so during a long, prosperous, and happy life. I hope that on visiting Baltimore you may be pleased with his relations & that you may make yourself agreeable to them. On this much will depend. I still think, however, you might go to the Whites; but I would not make this a point. As to the visit of Mrs. Gilpin – that is neither here nor there & is of no account in any way except so far as it may gratify yourself.

Miss Annie & myself get along very agreeably & I think she is a favorite of Miss Hetty & from appearances I have reason to believe she is also a favorite with Dr. Carpenter. The Nevins are as usual. Blanche has been here often & is as bright & sparkling as ever. Miss Annie had a little party the evening before last & all went off well. I am anxious to learn what you think of Mr. Phillips after having explored the premises. I am sorry you did not see Maria Weaver. I think you ought to send for her before you leave Washington. A little drop of kindness & sympathy to a relative in her forlorn situation would prove a cordial to her feelings & I hope to your own.

Lily, as you know, has always been a great favorite of mine & I am glad that both she & Mr. Berghmans have acquitted themselves so well towards you. Please to give my love to her & remember me kindly to him.

Miss Hetty has recovered her usual health; but is getting old. My own health is now good; but I suffer from indigestion. My visit to New York is necessarily uncertain, though it is my intention to pay a visit there.

Yours affectionately

Miss Harriet R Lane

James Buchanan

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