

Wheatland
January 19, 1866

My dear niece/

I have received your favor of the 15th and am rejoiced to learn that my little namesake has been baptized in due form according to the ritual observations of the church to which you belong. The sponsors were in all respects the proper persons. May a kind Providence preserve his life and his health and may he become the joy and comfort of his parents!

Fortunately, as the winter turned out, I did not go to Philadelphia this week and the [?] will be forthcoming on Wednesday next. Mrs. Shunk has no indention of accompanying her husband to Washington, as Mary Black supposed; I expect her to return home with me on Thursday or Friday next; and I shall be right glad of it.

I believe little Frank Shroder has entirely recovered; at all event he is out of danger.

You ask where is Miss Snyder? I do not know but believe that by this time she must be with her cousin, Mrs. Elsegood, the wife Rev. Mr. Elsegood, Easton, Pennsylvania. He is a gentlemen & agreeable pleasant man & belongs to the High Church and she is a charming sprightly, little woman & withal rather pretty.

Well! Henrietta has got to Baltimore and I have no doubt will render herself agreeable. I hope she may pick up a beau there, because I think one preacher in a family is enough. I was over at Dr. Nevin's the other day. Blanche told me she had heard that Harriet was to be married to a gentleman in Baltimore. I asked her who had given her this news & she believed Miss Lightner. I told her I did not believe it. The gentleman is Octavian Norris.

You inquired of the Cigars & the cheese. Neither is very much to my liking; but the stockings are all I could desire. Pray send me no more cheese.

Mrs. Lane and myself are now on quite friendly terms and I hope this may continue: strange to say I rather think it will.

With my best love to Harriet and Henrietta. I am & my kindest respects to Mr. Johnston, I am,

Yours affectionately,

James Buchanan

Mrs. Johnston.

