

Wheatland 28 May 1866

My dear niece,

I have received yours of the 25th, with its enclosures. Misses Henrietta Jane & Lois arrived here on Friday & with Miss Jessie constitute a lively & agreeable party. Laura & Clemmie left us on Monday last for Litchfield, Connecticut after a most agreeable visit. I trust you may now be satisfied until they shall come again. Mr. & Mrs. Brenton dined here on Saturday & will leave Lancaster to day on their European tour. Miss Patty Nevin was the only other person who dined with them out of our own family.

I have hitherto forgotten to tell you that Leo is no more & his death was remarkable. He was bitten in the mouth, not severely by Thomas's dog & instantly fell dead.

My Bond of the 1 July 1862 to you for \$3300 which you do not understand was discharged on the 2 April 1864 and I gave you a check for the amount of principal & interest due (\$3498) on the Chemical Bank of New York. I have your receipt for the same, in your own hand writing. The reason why the Bond was not delivered up at the time is that it was among your papers in New York. I have ever been very careful to keep all the accounts between us with strict correctness & explained all to you. My first check for the amount was on the Farmers Bank of Lancaster dated on the 2 April 1864; but you desired to have the money in New York & I lifted this & gave you a check on the Chemical Bank dated on the 11th April for the same sum.

You have paid your state & county tax for the year 1865; but I do not believe you have paid your School Tax for that year. If the notice you have received be for School tax for that year, I presume it is all correct. You will have no tax to pay here for the year 1866. We have no local news of interest with which I am acquainted. The Nevins are kind & sociable as ever. I have not seen nor heard from Mrs. Lane nor the boys since I last wrote.

Give my love to Annie, and also to Bessie my sister in the faith from which I hope she may never apostatize.

With my kindest regards to Mr. Johnston, I remain yours affectionately

James Buchanan

Mrs. Henry E Johnston

P.S. I forgot to say that I learn [sic] George W. Franklin has left the law & has gone into his father in laws [sic] hardware store. You ought not to expect Mr. Johnston to be with you during the hours of business. You must learn to submit to this privation. Nothing from Mr. Schell.

