

Wheatland, near Lancaster 19 January 1852

My dear Harriet,

"Long looked for come at last." I have received your favor of the 9<sup>th</sup> Instant & am now writing late at night the cold winter wind howling around Wheatland & the drifts of snow so large that we are almost excluded from the rest of the world. I have passed one quiet day. I should have gone to the inauguration this morning; but the road is yet impassable.

Susan Reynolds left us on Saturday. She had been with us for nearly a week. Her brother the Doctor, on his way to Philadelphia brought her thus far to pay you a short visit. The sleighing was good & she appeared to enjoy herself with James. Besides, Mr. & Mrs. Lane were more civil to her than could have been expected, considering the manner in which they have hitherto treated his relations. She went away favorably impressed with Mrs. Lane. I should have a good opinion of the Doctor were it not for the hair on his face.

I hear often of Mary but never from her. I am glad you have made the acquaintance of Mayor Lynch. He is one of the most influential & valuable friends which I have ever had.

Mrs. Wilkins has certainly not rushed, with eager haste, to do herself the honor of paying a visit to a lady so distinguished as yourself. I should think, however, that you might find many such examples of neglect to strangers in Lancaster.

I shall not be able to visit Washington before the beginning, possibly not before the 10<sup>th</sup> February. When will you return home? Take care that you don't wear out your welcome.

Eskridge did good service in the late political struggle in Lancaster County. I was much gratified with his conduct.

My former impression still continues. Whatever may be the result I am truly thankful to a kind Providence, that he has not suffered me to be defeated in my own township, my own County or my own State. Should I be successful, very well. If not, this will not cost me a penny. I shall then hope, should Heaven prolong my days to pass some time in peace & tranquility after a stormy life before my final reckoning.

I believe I have no news worth communicating. Kate Reynolds was expected home tomorrow; but it will be improbable for her to come.

Miss Hetty & James send their love to you.

Yours Affectionately

Miss Harriet Lane

James Buchanan

