

Wheatland 12 December 1866

My dear Sir,

I reached home yesterday afternoon after a brief but agreeable & satisfactory visit to my brother Edward['s family and to Philadelphia, and found your favor of the 10<sup>th</sup>. I am truly rejoiced to learn that Harriet & the little boy are doing so well. May God prosper them both!

Among others I saw Mr. Macalester in Philadelphia who pressed me to stay with him. I learned from the most authentic source that he is a member of the Union League and even violent in his republicanism. For this I did not care; but he gave Mr. Peabody who was his guest a dinner and John W Forny was of the Company. On the day of the Governor's election he went up to Ferrisdale to vote for Gary whereupon his son Charley hearing of it followed him and voted for Clymer. Harriet will be glad to hear this news. Lily is still at Florence, so says her father.

Harriet Buchanan's father tells me she is not engaged; but yet it is evident from his conversation that he expects she will be. If Mr. Rogers therefore be such as you describe him& is in business or has a fortune to support a wife, I wish him great success. Bob & Harriet will start the world – part of Jobs Turkeys (?) & so the will probably ~~remain~~ continue. I have not seen mother Nevin or any of the young ladies since my return home; but believe all are well.

I fear that it may be some time before I can pay you a visit. Home is the best, if not the most agreeable place for a man in his 76<sup>th</sup> year during the winter. Should I live & preserve my health, I shall, with the blessing of Heaven pay you a visit in the spring.

From your friend

Very respectfully

Henry E Johnston E

James Buchanan

P.S. Tell Harriet that there were many friendly inquiries for her & the little Boy wherever I went. I was struck with the apparent earnestness & solicitude expressed by Mrs. Cadwalder. The Judge gave me a dinner on Monday last at which several of the principal men of Philadelphia were present & among the rest, General Meade with whose department & conversation I was much pleased. Indeed it was one of the most agreeable dinners at which I was ever present.

