

Wheatland 30 July 1867

My dear niece,

I was grateful to receive yours of the 26th on yesterday and to learn that you are all well. I am sorry to say that I have no news to communicate which would interest you much. The little doctor's wedding is over and the happy couple have returned from their brief bridal tour; and the gossip will soon pass away. I have not seen him yet.

I infer from your letter that there is no great crowd of fashionable folks at Bedford. And that you have not been able to display to a crowd of distinguèes all the articles of finery contained in the seven large trunks which passed through York for ~~Bedford~~ the Springs. I take it for granted there were the trunks of the Misses Johnston.

William Buchanan's health has improved considerable since his arrival here. It is a melancholy spectacle – that of a youth just entering upon life affected with an inevitable disease and wholly unconscious of his situation.

It is by no means certain that I shall visit Cape May though my good friend Mr. Baker has offered to accompany me there for a few days. The older I grow the more I dislike to leave home. Your own arrangements ought in no degree depend on my plans. I may go on any day & I may not go at all.

The Rev: Robert J. Nevin, Mr. Coffin a student of divinely, and young Mr. Jenkins, the son of "brother John" passed yesterday afternoon & evening with Miss Annie. After it was too dark to play croquet they remained with us until bed time. There is no more on young Jenkins than I had supposed. You know he is student in General Lee's college and I think the family will not be able to make him a radical Republican. It is said, and I fear truly, that Dr. Nevin's Bacalaureate [sic] last week to the graduating class was in a considerable degree political.

I did not see at the Doctor's wedding any ladies of the upper tendom [?] of Lancaster except Mrs. Thomas E. Franklin, Mrs. Reynolds, & Mrs. Brenton. Becky Black was here from Thursday last until Monday (yesterday) as charming as ever though she did not look so well as when she left us. When I took her in I found Mr. & Mrs. Shroder awaiting the cars for Bedford and I presume they are now there. Blanche Nevin was with them looking, I am sorry to say, rather badly.

I look forward with agreeable anticipation to your visit in August & September. On your arrival I presume Annie & William will return home as we shall not have room to accommodate them; as we must have some spare room for strangers.

With my kindest regards to Mrs. Buchanan, Mr. Johnston, the Misses Johnston & Mr. & Mrs. M'Kebbin I remain ever yours affectionately.

James Buchanan

Mrs. Henry E. Johnston

