

Wheatland 25 January 1868

My dear Sir,

I was rejoiced to learn from yours of the 17<sup>th</sup> Instant that Harriet and the Baby are recovering after a severe illness. Had I known their condition I should have been very uneasy; but thank God! I have now no cause for apprehension.

Henrietta & Lois are still with me. Both of them are sprightly and agreeable and keep the house from being dull & solitary. I believe Lois intends to pay you a visit this winter; but when I do not know.

Jan: 27, I had written this far on Saturday afternoon when Harriet's letter arrived which afforded me the pleasing assurance that the mother and the child are now nearly, if not altogether well.

I am now about going on to Mr. Powell's funeral. He is at peace after a long but not a painful illness.

Mrs. Lane passed the day here on Saturday. She had been at Bellefonte but for a single day to see her son John. Eskridge was with her here who is a smart & interesting child. Blanche Nevin is now staying with us for a few days and is not well but improving.

I know of no news except that I believe Mr. North & "Minnie" Franklin are engaged. I think I infer this from unmistakable signs. Mrs. Franklin and the young lady were here a few days ago & they both bear a reference to the subject kindly.

Robert Nevin is now preaching in Rome under the wing of the Pope. The pastor of the Episcopal church (I presume at the American Legation) is now at home on a visit and his place is temporarily filled by Mr. Nevin. He is expected home in June next.

Mr. Cassat of the Penn<sup>a</sup> R. Road was here I presume to visit Lois. He is a nice, good looking and gentlemanly young man.

With my kindest love to Harriet I remain very respectfully your friend

James Buchanan

Henry E Johnston Esq.

P.S. Thomas & Rosana have returned (on the 9<sup>th</sup>) and are behaving as I could wish. They were very anxious to return.

