

Copy of a Letter to
Uncle James

Lancaster Octr 23, 1848

Your Letter of the 17th Inst has been received~ on Saturday last Mr Hager, Fortney, and myself went to Wheatland and Mr Hager appraised the matting; the old col'd & White Matting ~~he appraised~~ at 6 ¼ & 8 cts per yard and the New col'd Matting ~~he appraised~~ at 15 cts per yard, and [] lot of col'd matting at \$1.50 for the lot; I think the appraisement a very fair one. It is about half price for the new matting without any thing being allowed for putting it down~ Fordney will send you an exact memorandum ~~of the business~~ and also one to Mr. Meredith.

Miss Hetty must have misapprehended me in supposing I expressed any intention to her of purchasing your house~ I told her what I did you, that the location of the property please & suited me better than any other now in market, that I liked the house very much though larger than I now required, that the price asked might be beyond my means~ I think your interests would be advanced by selling it, as such property here will not rent to an advantage; what could be had for it I am at a loss to say, but will with pleasure render you any assistance I can in disposing of it, if you inform me of your wished~

As to myself, I have determined to purchase a property provided I can get such an one as I should.

I am induced to this conclusion, because I should not like to furnish the house I am now in when it is or will soon be in the market, and when such furniture might not answer the house I may purchase~

Mary is now at housekeeping where Harriett can have an home, and should Eskridge remain here he can board as other young men do either at public or a private house~

Patty has her two children to engage her time and attention and my business occupys my whole time [section crossed out]

We are all well, and quite in love to you and regards to Miss Hetty~

Your Affect Nephew

James B. Lane

Hon. James Buchanan

Reverse:

Copy of letter to

Uncle James

Oct 23, 1848

saying I had no intention of purchasing his house

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LancasterHistory