My dear Eskridge /

I shall have to meet Mr. Soulé & Mr. Mason at Ostend on Monday next, & having much to do, must write briefly. Harriet will accompany me.

I enclose a note to Misses Prentice & Henderson which you will please to read. Should you not be able to find a receipt, then put a seal upon it & drop it in the Post office. If you should find one, then write to them. I have no distinct recollection on the subject.

Annexed is a draft dated on the 13th for \$19"36, on the Hon: Benjamin Patton, Trevorton, Northumberland County Pennsylvania, for six months subscription to the London Times. I have sent him the receipt & informed him I would send an order to you for the amount, or he might send the money to you at once. He will doubtless be punctual. If you should not hear from him for a fortnight after this reaches you, you might then send him the order & ask him to remit you the amount.

I have no news of interest to communicate. The cholera is now gradually subsiding in London; & in this locality we have been signally blessed. The number of cases since the commencement have been but comparatively few.

<u>Please say nothing to any person, except Mr. Reynolds about my visit to Ostend.</u>
It will probably make noise enough in the world, but let it come from other quarters.

Remember me kindly to all my friends & believe me to be ever yours affectionately

James Buchanan

Col: Eskridge Lane.

Judge Patton sent me a check on Bank of Pittsburg for the amount of this draft which I deposited to Mr. Buchanan[']s credit. \$19"36

[following portion crossed out]

Legation of the United States London 13 October 1854

Hon. Benjamin Patton

Sir /

Please to pay to the order of Col: Eskridge Lane Ninteen [sic] dollars & 36 cents, the sum which I advanced for him on the 5th Instant to Mr. John Miller, Dispatch agent of the United States for subscription etc. to the London Times.

James Buchanan

Paid by check in Bank of Pittsburg

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