Wheatland, near Lancaster, 22 May 1856

My dear Miss Walterston /

I, in vain, attempted, whilst recently in Washington, to find time & opportunity to pay you a visit. I twice ran away from my friends to call upon yourself & Mrs. Beale; but was intercepted on the way. I know you will make every allowance for my situation whilst in Washington; but yet I feel it due to the warm friendship & sincere esteem which I have ever entertained for you to drop you this note. I trust that 'ere long I may enjoy the pleasure of seeing you & enjoying your society conversation which you know have always been so attractive to me. In the midst of company I have only time to subscribe myself your sincere friend

James Buchanan

P.S. Please to remember me kindly to yr. mother.