

Chambersburg, Feby 3d 1817

Dr daughter, We expected to have the pleasure of seeing you and Miss Lane on Saturday last hearing you were to come in a Sleighing party --- I thought it would yield me great pleasure to see you at any time, but when I consider that your engagements are such that you cannot visit your friends without injury to those studies which your are now engaged in, I am pleased you did not come as was expected. Girls in your situation ought to be very circumspect in their Conduct. They ought never leave the School without the Consent of those who preside over the institution. It is a hateful thing to see the young ladies of a boarding school sauntering about the Streets, and if they are restricted shew a sullenness of temper degrading to a female. I hope you will never act that part --- I believe that the present institution where Mrs. Carson [?] presides is as well Calculated to give instruction to young Ladies as any I know of, if its pupils will only do their duty. I wish you, my Child, to attend strictly to the Rules of the School, be obedient to your Tutors, affectionate and kind to your Companions. Your brother James was well the last time we heard from him. Write to him frequently; I know he will answer your letter and a Communication with him in this way might be profitable to you. William goes Constantly to the Lattin [sic] School and learns well. Be cautious in your Conversation and modest in remarking upon the conduct of others. I have been told that Miss M. Lane and you is [sic] not on friendly terms as you ought to be. See that the fault is not yours. I would be unwilling to think that a Lady of her breeding and good parts would constantly give you offence. We are all well and so is your Sister Lane & her family. Your mother and the family send their Love to you from your loving father,

Jas. Buchanan, Sr.

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