

Philadelphia
18th July 1857

My dear Sir,

The newspapers announce that you are at the "soldiers Home" and I hope you have time to read a letter of friendship and not of business. Mrs. F has gone to L- to her Father[']s, and as you were the first to know of your engagement I will tell you that she expects to be confined in about four months, and should it be a son, he will bear your name, in honor of His fathers friend, and should his life be spared, I pray to God, that he will not disgrace it.

Phila, is now a deserted village; all who can leave are off to the watering places. Baker is doing as well in the Custom House as any man could do; and indeed, excepting Forney & the Pennsylvanian we have a political calm. Kansas is settled to the satisfaction of all good citizen; & in Utah, the stain is to be wiped out very soon. The calm has come and confidence & tranquility are about to reign. I have never seen Forney in better spirits or in better health. He has his office in the old U. S. Hotel building and it is constantly crowded with his friends; and subscribers are pouring in upon him. He has taken a dwelling house on Washington Square, where he can have a private office near to his place of business. Rice of the Pennsylvanian abuses him bitterly, but F says that will increase his subscription, and the "Press" will speak for itself. Forney never spoke more kindly or more friendly of you than he does at this moment.

There is much local talk here about the removal of the Post Office, and with the exception of the few individuals who own property in the vicinity of the Penna. Bank, the feeling is unanimous in favor of removing it to the old U. S. Bank in Chestnut Street. The whole city indeed, cry with one voice for it and no one act would be so universally popular as this.

The harvests were never better in Penna. than at present, and the weather is now favorable-- the money market is easy and on all sides we have health, abundance & prosperity. We are truly a favored people; but I fear we are not grateful. Next week I will commence my weekly Friday trips to Lancaster. When I will of course see Miss Hetty Parker who I still think should be with you at Washington.

With respects to Miss Lane, James Henry and yourself I am as ever
Faithfully truly yours
J. M. Foltz

James Buchanan
President of the
United States

