

Plainfield, New Jersey, Nov 18 1868

My dear Sir:

I have your letter relative to a note you hold for \$600 given to myself & wife to the late Mr. Buchanan. I regret that it is out of my power at this time to pay it. At the time the money was advanced to my wife she was building a wharf at the farm on the Potomac River (Chas. Co. Md.) before the wharf was completed it was destroyed by ice & heavy gales. The profits to be derived from this wharf were predicated for the payment of the debt. Mrs. Magaw wrote Mr. Buchanan of our misfortune who in reply said we need not give ourselves any uneasiness about the matter, saying "it could be paid in any way we pleased." I therefore paid him some small sum by draft from Cleveland, O. where I spent last winter. I think not more than \$60. out of that amount I am sure. These sums should have been kept up but a small leave of absence (sick) pay would not provide the necessary comforts and attention my health required. I have just been placed on the Retired list with still smaller pay which makes it impossible for us to offer you anything at present. My wife has been so unfortunate as to lose all she had or she would be willing to give up anything, toward the liquidation of the debt.

Yours faithfully, etc.

Samuel Magaw

H B Swarr Esq

Ex<sup>tor</sup> late Jas. Buchanan. Lancaster, Penna—

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