To the honorable the Secretary of the Navy,

Sir

I beg leave to recommend to you Samuel Edwards for the appointment of a Midshipman in the Navy. He is a native of the State of Pennsylvania, now a little over fourteen years of age, and has received a good English education. He is an Orphan boy, entirely dependent upon his uncle for support, and from his great desire to enter the Navy I feel confident that he will make a useful Officer, if he can obtain an appointment.

May 4<sup>th</sup>, 1836

Very Respectfully, Your Ob<sup>t.</sup> [obedient] Serv<sup>t.</sup> J. Edwards

I concur in the foregoing recommendation; I should be much gratified if young Mr. Edwards could obtain a midshipman's warrant. His relations are highly respectable & influential; & I feel confident from what I have heard of him that he would be a useful & valuable officer in the Navy.

James Buchanan

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