Washington 19 January 1840

My dear Sir/

I have received a letter from Judge Hayes which I consider it best to enclose to you, although it was evidently not written with that intention. I think the reason which he urges is very strong for placing him in the same situation with in regard to salary with the District Judge of Pittsburg [sic]. You will take the case into consideration & after weighing all the facts & circumstances I know will come to an honest & conscientious conclusion. Should this be favorable to the Judge I shall be grateful. Please to keep the letter which is intended by me for your perusal only & return it to me at your convenience.

Ever your friend

James Buchanan

James A. Caldwell Esq.

[on addressleaf: Free franking with JB's signature, Washington postmark, and remains of a seal addressed to James A. Caldwell Esq/ Harrisburg/ Pennsylvania]

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