

[No place, no date]

Private

My dear Sir/

In April 1846 I made an investment of \$4000, the interest of which it was the & still is my purpose to devote perpetually to the purchase of wood & coal for the use of poor widows & single women during the winter season. I have often witnessed much distress for want of fuel among this helpless class of our community: & I had long since determined to appropriate a fund of their relief.

When at home last spring I received one year [sic] interest on the investment which is now in my hands.

I had fully intended to visit Lancaster this fall for the purpose of placing this charity upon a permanent and secure footing. I now begin to apprehend, however, that the pressure of public business may prevent me from accomplishing this object before the next spring: and as the time is at hand for the purchase of the wood & coal, I have determined to send you a check for the amount. Knowing your benevolent disposition I feel confident you will as Mayor of the City, cheerfully undertake this business. In the mean time [sic] it is my special desire that you should say noting as to the source from which the money proceeds. Please to drop me a line upon this subject & believe me

To be sincerely & respectfully

Your friend

Michael Carpenter Esquire

James Buchanan

[In pencil in a later hand: (1847?)

[On addressleaf: Communication from Hon. James Buchanan

Correspondence between James Buchanan & M Carpenter

Address to Michael Carpenter Esquire/ Lancaster/ Pennsylvania] with red wax seal]

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LancasterHistory