Washington 13th Jun 1857

My dear Sir/

I need not say I have a sincere desire to oblige you & have accordingly requested the Secretary of war to find a place for your nephew. The result has been the enclosed letter to me from Captain Mergis which you will please to return. If you think well of it you can address to Captain Mergis the letter which he suggests. If not, I will look out for some other place for him.

I shall, unexpectedly, have new funds on the 1 July \$5000, -- & I would have this money secured by a good mortgage in Lancaster County. If you know of such an opportunity, please to inform me. In haste,

Ever your friend James Buchanan

William Carpenter esq [sic]

[Matted front of envelope: James Buchanan, Free/ William Carpenter, Esq/ Lancaster/ Pennsylvania; postmarked Washington 14 March; red wax seal]

