

Washington 13 September 1860

My dear Sir/

I send you the Mortgage etc. Perhaps you had better have the assignment recorded. I observe the omission of word dollars, after Three Thousand; but it is not material. If I knew a good place in Lancaster County I would lend some money there.

Mr. Baker in writing to me yesterday says he had sent you the policy of Insurance in the Lancaster County Mutual Insurance Co & if I desire an assignment of the Policy this will be made. I leave it all to you, though it would seem not to be necessary. Do as you please & I shall be content.

Private

Some knave or fool got up a lie from the whole cloth & it was telegraphed over the county that I was about to purchase or had purchased a place somewhere else & would not return to Wheatland. If my successor should be as happy in entering the White House as I shall feel in returning to Wheatland he will indeed be a happy man. I am just now in my own mind checking out the course of my last message. In it, should Providence continue his blessing, I shall have nothing to record but uninterrupted success for my country. The trouble about the slavery question would all have been avoided, had the Country submitted to the decision of the Supreme Court delivered two or three days after my inaugural. To this all law abiding [sic] men will come in less than one year. Meanwhile I know I have lost political friends in Lancaster for sustaining the [empire ?] of the Constitution & the laws as expounded by the Co-ordinate Judicial Branch of the Government; but all will yet be well.

Your friend always
James Buchanan

William Carpenter Esquire

[On back: Letter from/ Jas. Buchanan/ President/ Sept. 13. 1861, in pencil under date, 1860]

