

Washington 26 April 1828

Dear Sir/

I received yours of the 17th Inst in due time; but have hitherto neglected to answer it because I could not do so with any degree of certainty. I cannot as yet state the day which will suit me best to attend at Lancaster. I have no doubt, from the general liberality of Mr. Douglas, as well as from the kindness which he has always manifested towards me, he will be willing to accommodate us so far as he can, consistently with his duty. It is probable that the last day assigned for the Dauphin business would suit me the best. I cannot leave this City until a final disposition shall be made of the Tariff. It is a subject in which the Union generally & our State particularly is so much interested that I cannot desert it.

It is probable the Senate will dispose of it finally in the course of the week after the next. I may & probably will be amended I some particulars by that Body. Should that be the case, it must be returned to the House for their concurrence. At that time I could not be absent. In order to be certain, therefore, if Mr. Douglas would fix the day which I have suggested, it would gratify me very much. I would thank you to call upon him & endeavor to make this arrangement & inform me of the result. Also, what will be the last day assigned for the Dauphin business. [sic] I shall write by this mail to Mr. Gerardus Clarkson admin [? of Mr. Passmore.

from your friend
James Buchanan

General Gabriel Hiester.

(Turn over)

N. B. Should the Tariff be finally disposed of before the second Monday of May, or should it be ascertained that it will not reach our House for some days after I will attend on that day – & return to this City. The arrangement with Mr. Douglas my therefore be conditional. Please to write soon.

[On third page: James Buchanan/ Washington/ Apl. R6th 1828/ answered May 1.

[Page 4 is the envelope with free franking and wax seal addressed to General Gabriel Hiester, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania]

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