Richmond 14th Febry 8th 1857

My dear Robb - I had no time to answer yours of the 18th ult, before I went to Washington and being sick not whilst there, and not since untill to day. - I met Mr. Buchanan and he was very kind and confidential. He heard all and his visit did good. He saw that I was right about the error of some of his proclivities to Men. Indiana settled the bright light contest - Bright & Hitch come recommended for the Senate. Weight for some high appoint. - The conflict however, multiplied on various points, and he himself became satisfied that time was a precious element in the formation of his cabinet. The last moment might suggest the best ideas, and he wisely held every consideration in abeyance and will hold all sub judice until the very latest period. He, therefore, has determined upon one man for any one place. This is as I desired, and he found that it will not do to listen only to the Faneys clique. This is about all I can say. They pressed Bryant's opinion of me to go into the Senate. The latter idea I repelled. The former I made no objection to but
but if that be done, though his friends will be in placable. I have given my advice freely and it will now abide the test. As to yourself—keep on bowing—be friendly with Holy. MR. Buchanan is very kind towards you, but he is evidently astounded or constriicted by a forny antagonism. He repels you openly opposed. Keep still. I saw John who has written another very able letter which he showed me. Caution him to put a restriction on him self if he could attain an enviable position. I am now very careful. I must cut short.

Your's truly,

Henry M. D.

Ro. Lytle.