The documents you have found occasion to analyse, have been rec.d. for which please accept my acknowledgments.

Yr. very respt.

J. Buchanan

23 Jany. 1824

Washington Feb.y 14, 1824

Dear Sir

I have the pleasure to acknowledge your letter on the subject of Mr Pottinger's appointment as one of the officers of the Senate. Previous to the death of the late incumbent Mr Turner, the Secretary of the Senate was authorised to appoint a temporary clerk, and recently the Senate have determined to elect all their officers biennally, commencing with the first Session of the next Congress. Until that period there can be no ground to sustain the application of Mr Pottinger, — whose views it would gratify me to assist in promoting.

We have passed this week in the House, by a majority of thirty, the Internal improvement bill, — under the operation of which, should it become a law, the entire route of the Chesapeake and Ohio canal, from tide water in the Potomac to the margin of Lake Erie in Ohio, will be surveyed the next season — the course designated and with the estimates of cost, reported at the next Session of Congress. With this full information, we shall be prepared to urge our claims for money. — The proceedings at Richmond and Annapolis, in regard to the act of incorporation embarrass us here. The two Legislatures will adjourn, I fear, without granting a charter. The amendments in the Senate of Maryland make their bill incompatible with the Virginia act — and unless they recede and adopt that law, our hopes must be deferred a twelvemonth.

The friends of Mr Crawford will meet to night in Caucus. It is said Mr Gallatin will be their candidate for the second office. —

with great respect
Dear Sir
yr. obed. servt.
J. Lee

Hon
John Buchanan
Hagerstown
Washington County
Md

MdHS 1974 [1317-1454]