

University of Virginia  
Nov. 6<sup>th</sup> 1850

Dear Pa,

Yours of Nov. 2<sup>nd</sup> with  
check enclosed came duly to hand,  
and as the work of the week  
is over I will endeavour to mail  
you a few lines. It has never  
been my intention dear Pa to  
spend money foolishly as I  
have seen, & still see a great  
many of my acquaintances do;  
I know very well that money  
does not grow on trees, but comes  
from hard toil & labor, and <sup>know</sup>  
that you are not in the  
condition with your large fam-  
ily to give me a great deal  
of money to spend on myself  
& education while I am here.  
Yet a certain quantity is requir-

site, but I intend making that quantity as small as possible.

My book list will be much larger than I expected it would be, as I have had to buy some books which are not published in America, & therefore they cost a great deal more than they are really worth -

Politics is the sole absorbing theme here at the present moment, the students have mass-meetings every night, and as I have more important things to attend to, I seldom go. A great many are wearing the blue cockades, thus showing that their sentiments are disunion & civil commotion.

I don't suppose that you have heard yet how Virginia went, and as I have better advantages for hearing I'll

tell you as far as heard from - Bell 446 ahead, and counted to hear from which gave Litcher about 263 majority, thus leaving Bell about 183 ahead. I sincerely hope that Bell may carry the State as so as to make the Dem. of Va. keep quiet for a time. Bell carried Kentucky by some 12,000 majority, Tennessee by a small majority, and is thought to have carried Missouri -

Give my love to all - Write soon to  
Your affectionate Son  
J<sup>m</sup> Brown

To  
A. Brown Esq.

**Broun, William. William Broun to Edwin Broun,  
Charlottesville, VA, November 16, 1860.**

**FileName:** ua24-19\_cwl\_18601116

Handwritten letter from William Broun to his father, Edwin Broun. November 16, 1860. References the 1860 Presidential election. University of Virginia. Charlottesville, Virginia, United States. 3 pages.

**Subjects:** American Civil War (1861-1865); Broun, Edwin, 1819-1904; Broun, William, Captain, 1842-1908; College students--Political activity; College Students; John Bell, 1796-1869; John Letcher, 1813-1884; Personal correspondence; Presidents--Election; Succession; University of Virginia;

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University of Virginia November 16, 1860

Dear Pa,

Yours of Nov. 2nd with check enclosed came duly to hand and as the work of the week is over I will endeavor to write you a few lines. It has never been my intention dear Pa to spend money foolishly as I have seen, & I still see a great many of my acquaintances do. I know very well that money does not grow on trees but comes from hard toil and labor and I of course know that you are not in the condition with your large family to give me a great deal of money to spend on myself and education while I am here. Yet a certain quantity is required...

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...but I intend making that quantity as small as possible.

My book bill will be much larger than I expected it would be, as I have had to buy some books which are not published in America & therefore they cost a great deal more than they are worth.

Politics is the idea absorbing them here at the present moment; the students have mass meetings every night, But as I have more important things to attend to I seldom go. A great many are wearing the blue cockades, thus showing that their sentiments are disunion and civil comminations.

I don't suppose that you have heard yet how Virginia went, and as I have better advantages for hearing I'll...

[pg.02]

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...tell you as far as heard from.

Bell 446 ahead, and counties to hear from which gave Letcher about 213 majority, thus leaving Bell about 183 ahead. I sincerely hope that Bell may carry the State so as to make the Dem. of Va. keep quite for a time. Bell carried Kentucky by some 12% majority, Tennessee by a small maj. and is thought to have carried Missouri.

Give my love to all. Write soon to.

Your affectionate Son.

Wm. Broun.

To

E. Broun Esq.

[pg.03]

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**Notes:**

1. **Blue Cockades:** Echoing their use when Americans rebelled against Britain, cockades - usually made with blue ribbons and worn on clothing or hats - were widespread tokens of Southern support for secession preceding the American Civil War of 1861-1865. [<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cockade>].
2. **Election 1860:** Constitutional Union John Bell 74,481 44.63% 15 Southern Democratic John C. Breckinridge 74,325 44.54% 0 Democratic Stephen A. Douglas 16,198 9.71% 0 Republican Abraham Lincoln
3. **John Letcher** (March 29, 1813 - January 26, 1884) was an American lawyer, journalist, and politician. He served as a Representative in the United States Congress, was the 34th Governor of Virginia during the American Civil War, and later served in the Virginia General Assembly. He was also active on the Board of Visitors of Virginia Military Institute.