

last year, and he forewarned  
me that if I wished to do  
anything on my studies not  
to commence visiting the ladies  
so I took heed at his word  
& now I am glad that I  
did for I can judge from  
those around me who do  
visit them - Give my love to  
all, & write soon - Remember  
me to all the servants, particularly  
Eveline & David, and <sup>tell</sup> them  
that I wish them a merry & pleas-  
ant Christmas - My Cousin Mary  
that I expect to have the pleas-  
ure of being at her wedding  
next summer - Good bye -

Yr. affectionate Son  
Wm. Brown

Wm. Cousin Joe  
going to be married? -

Give me Aunt Vandell's address  
and that of Mr. Lund's family.

University of Virginia  
Decem 23<sup>rd</sup> 1860

Dear Mr,

Your highly prized  
and much appreciated letter  
of the 5<sup>th</sup> inst. came duly to  
hand some days ago, and  
as I have some time be-  
fore me now I intend  
to attempt to write you at  
least a letter longer than  
yours; for if it is fashiona-  
ble to write short letters  
I don't think that fashion  
ought to embrace in its  
shadowy arms mother & son -  
I am very sorry to hear  
that Pa is unwell & look-  
ing so badly, and sincerely  
wish that I might accord  
the privilege of being at home

and helping him in his manifold duties. I know that he has a great deal to attend to, and this with its cares & perplexities are enough to might down and cause most any one to break down.

The box will be most acceptable I can assure, at any time, - I would like to have a pair of pants of the goods you sent me, but don't think that it is at all necessary to have a coat made as I can get along without it, and there is no necessity of incurring the additional expense.

Christmas is almost here and I feel very lonesome as nearly every one has gone (from my boarding house), either home or to some other place; but here I am and don't expect to leave, unless for a few days to visit some acquaintances up near Bloom

field, who have very kindly returned returned me an invitation to spend the whole holidays with them. As I have not been accustomed to study during Christmas week I got a "leave of absence" from the Chairman of the faculty so that I might have that time free.

On last Wednesday 20th I had an examination in Latin, and I pretty confident that I got through with at least some credit, and how I hope so.

I have not visited a single day, since I have been here, thinking that it would interfere with my studies, now haven't I been very considerate?

The reason I accepted the resolution was from the advice of a young gentleman who was here

**Broun, William. William Broun to Harriet C. Johnson  
Broun, Charlottesville, VA, December 23, 1860.**

**FileName:** ua24-19\_cwl\_18601223

Handwritten letter from William Broun to his mother, Harriet C. Johnson Broun.  
December 23, 1860. University of Virginia. Charlottesville, Virginia, United States. 4  
pages on two sheets of paper.

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William, Captain, 1842-1908; Christmas; College Students; Personal correspondence;  
Slavery; University of Virginia; Virginia--Bloomfield; Virginia--Northumberland;  
Virginia;

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University of Virginia

December 23rd 1860

Dear Ma,

You highly praised and much appreciated letter of the 5th [ish] came duly to hand some  
days ago and as I have some time before I know I intend to attempt to write you at  
least a letter longer than yours; for if it is fashionable to write short letters I  
don't think that fashion ought to embrace in its "shadowy arms" mother & son.

I am very sorry to hear that Pa is unwell and looking so badly, and sincerely wish  
that I might allowed the privilege of being at home...

[pg.01]

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...and helping him in his manifold duties. I know that he has a great deal to attend  
to, and this with its cares and perplexities are enough to weigh down and cause most  
and one to break down.

The "[?]" will be most acceptable. I can [?] at any time. I would like to have a pair  
of [?] of the goods you sent me. But don't think that it is at all necessary to have a  
coat made as I can get along without it, and there is no necessity of incurring the  
additional expense.

Christmas is almost here and I feel very lonesome and nearly everyone has gone, from  
my boarding house, either home or to some other place. But here I am and don't expect  
to leave, unless for a few days to visit some acquaintances up near Bloom...

[pg.02]

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...Field. Who have very kindly extended me an invitation to share the whole holidays  
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free.

On last Wednesday 20th I had an examination in Latin, and I['m] pretty confident that  
I got through with at least some credit, any how I hope so.

I have not visited a single lady since I have been here thinking that it would  
interfere with my studies. Now haven't I been very considerate?The reason I accepted  
the resolution was from the advice of a young gentleman who was here...

[pg.03]

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...last year and he forewarned me that if I wished to do anything on my studies not to commence visiting the ladies, so I took him at his word & now I am glad that I did for I can judge from those around me who do visit them. Give my love to all & write soon. Remember me to all the servants. Particularly to [E?] & [B?] and tell them I wish them a merry pleasant Christmas. Tell cousin May that I expect to have the pleasure of being at her wedding next Summer.

Good bye.

Your affectionate Son.

Wm Broun.

P.S. When is cousin Joe going to be married? Give me Aunt Van Ellen's address and that of Mr. [Lund's] family.

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