

# Dickinson College Archives & Special Collections

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## Documents Online

**Title:** Letter from William Reed to Unknown Recipient

**Date:** December 19, 1860

**Location:** I-SpahrB-1957-10

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2500

Lincoln  
& Buchanan

From  
Wm. B. Reed  
1860

Washington. Dec. 19. 1860

My Dear Sir,

You will hardly thank me for such a letter as I  
can see since you but still a word of hopefulness will be  
welcome, even hopefulness without a precise reason. Both Mr.  
Appleton and I take this view. The President told me last  
night he thought things looked better. All depends on avoiding  
collision - and he must be supported in his effort to that  
end. He has no doubt of the safety of the forts and this arises  
from assurance - and if he can avoid collision that he will  
be able to hand over the government strong to Mr Lincoln.

Mr Morris and Mr. Verree ought to be compelled by  
public opinion to vote for Mr Crittenden's plan - Frink and all

Make discreet use of what I say, showing it of  
course to your colleagues & - And when Mr.

Truly  
yours

W. B. Reed.

I shall remain till the end of the week.

Minister to China  
An the  
close friend of Buchanan

William Bradford Reed



DICKINSON COLLEGE

CARLISLE - PENNSYLVANIA

OFFICE OF THE LIBRARIAN

William Bradford Reed, 1806-1876, to

Washington, Dec. 19, 1860

My Dear Sir:

You will hardly thank me for such a letter as I can now send you but still a word of hopefulness will be welcome, even hopefulness without a precise reason. Both Mr. Appleton and I take this view. The President told me last night he thought things looked better. All depends on avoiding collision - and he must be supported in his effort to that end. He has no doubt of the safety of the forts and this aside from assurances - and if he can avoid collision that he will be able to hand over the government strong to Mr. Lincoln.

Mr. Morris and Mr. Verree ought to be compelled by public opinion to vote for Mr. Crittenden's plan - and all

to Make discreet use of what I say, showing it of course  
&c. And believe me

Truly y

W. B. Reed

I shall remain till the end of the week.