

Transcription

**"Virginians can never fight our southern brethren"**

Christiansburg  
April 15th 1861.

Hon. Sir:

Our Community, has been thrown into the most intense excitement by the news here, that Lincoln has made a requisition upon Va. for Nine Thousand soldiers, to fight our southern brethren.

Virginians can never fight our southern brethren, and whilst we will do all in our power to render to you our support and to defend you and your family from assaults. Please do not ask us to Join a northern army to fight our southern friends, neighbors, fathers & brothers. It will not it shall not be so. I hold my self in readiness dear governor to march my men to your support and to your defence, but not to support Lincoln nor to his defence.

When ever you want me for the purposes above indicated—Or whenever you wish my services in upholding the honor of our proud old mother let me hear from your end, I think, I mistake not when I assure you, that we of the south west will notify you that we are worthy to be numbered among the gallant Sons of old Virginia.

What will be the end of the foolish course persued by Lincoln?

Yr truly your friend

JAS C TAYLOR

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**Citation:** James C. Taylor to Governor John Letcher, April 15, 1861, Executive Papers of Governor John Letcher, Acc. 36787, State Government Records Collection, Record Group 3, Library of Virginia.