

1851  
June 26

PERSONAL LETTER from Alexandre Declouet, in St. Martinville,  
to his son, Alexandre Declouet, Jr. at St. Charles College in Grand Coteau.  
Thursday, June 26, 1851

My dear Clouet:

It has been a long time since we had the pleasure of hearing from you. Since I left New Orleans and since my return I have had only indirect news from you. You must not my dear child, be so long without writing us. If I have not written myself as often as I would like it is because I could not do otherwise. As soon as I get back from town (where I arrived the 15th) my intention has been to go to see you. But since your mother wishes to go with me but has not been able to leave either last Thursday or the preceeding Thursday, I decided to wait until next Thursday (the 3rd July). Caroline and Claire were to leave the Saturday of this week so we can not get away at the time of their departure.

Last Monday, we had the pleasure of a visit from your uncle, of your aunt Laclavi and of Clara (nee Mossy), but they stayed just a short time with us, arriving Sunday afternoon ; and after having baptised your dear little sister Christine, who was very pretty and sweet. For some time now she can walk by herself and she is in good health. Your sister Blanche, although not ill, is very thin and changed. She is doing a little schooling with her aunt Mimi and she needs it. I have been thinking of getting a teacher, but have not yet decided, as we do not have a room for her.

Goodbye my dear child, I am hoping that Paul (your brother) is conducting himself in such a manner as to give more satisfaction to his teachers and to us too. You must know how much we want to see you and to

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(con't.)

kiss you. Is it true (as we have heard) that the Father President has lost an eye? We do hope it is not such a misfortune. Perhaps it has been exaggerated. But if it is true, please convey to him our deepest concern and sympathy.

Again goodbye my child, I will see you next Thursday unless something important prevents me.

Your father,

Alexandre Declouet

. B. FAVROT  
COLLECTION,