

1852
Jan. 13

PERSONAL LETTER from Henriette St. Clair in St. Martinville,
to her nephew, Alexander Declouet, Jr. at St. Charles College in Grand
Coteau.

January 13, 1852

My dear Clouet,

B. FAVROT
COLLECTION

Your father (Alexander Declouet) told me that you intended to write to me, you had promised it to me and I was waiting on a letter from you to answer it, but I prefer to be the first one to write. I shall be sure to have a little answer. Since your departure, we often speak about you and Paul (your brother). On New Year's Day, I looked for some little thing for you, I found nothing. If you need any toy, write me and I will look for what will please you, act with me as with your mother, dear.

It is beautiful here today. The snow covers the ground, all the roofs and the trees look like marquis with powdered wigs, the aspect is really charming. Should you be here you would make snowballs with Paul to fight with the little Negroes. It is so cold that I have trouble writing, my fingers are frozen. Every one feels well here, we kiss both of you while waiting for the time to visit you. Good bye, dear child, I urge you to study well and to be noticed by your assiduity and good conduct.

Your aunt who cherishes you,

Henriette St. Clair

Handwritten in French. In 1980 original owned by Mrs. Marty Sims of
Nederland, Texas.