

1855  
March 17

PERSONAL LETTER written on this date at St. Martinville  
by Alexander DeClouet to his son Alexander at Louisiana College,  
Convent, La.

T. B. FAVROT  
COLLECTION

Received on the 24th. 19th.

St. Martinville, March 17, 1855.

My dear Clouet (Alexander)

A few words in haste only in order that you won't be too long  
without news. Yesterday I received your letter written in English and  
previously one to Mamma. Needless to say how much pleasure they  
gave us. I am grateful to you for writing as often as you do and I  
regret that I cannot do likewise as much or as often as I would want.  
But you have no idea how busy I am and how tied down by work. Hurry  
up and learn in order to come back to help me and assist me a little.  
I have much energy right now as a young man, but God knows how long  
that will last. In a few years age will begin to weigh heavily and will  
make itself felt, but it is a great consolation for me to think that I will  
be able to rely on my two boys who will then be able to replace me and  
learn to work with me. But education before all. I will do all I can to  
go to see you next month and to attend upon the invitation of Mr. Dufau  
the meeting of the members of the corporation. Monday after next I am  
supposed to go to the wedding of my god child Celestine Delhomme,  
Alexander's sister. She is to be married to Mr. Beridro (?) of  
Lafayette. I will probably go to the convent tomorrow or next Thursday.

Mimi wrote to you last week, so I won't write about them. Your  
little sisters are so sweet and they make time pass by very agreeably.  
Gabrielle is (?) and is as interesting as well as spoiled and saucy. It is  
not by just a little that she ressembles Paul. Quick-tempered, brooding,

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naughty, but kind. I suppose that Paul is no longer as bad-tempered.

But I must kiss you and send my letter to St. Martinville. Your dear mother embraces you and cries sometimes because she would like to see you. Goodbye, be good children.

Your father who cherishes you.

Alex. de Clouet

T. B. FAVROT  
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The original written in French and on file at Tulane University.  
Translated by Tulane University March 1968.