

1855
Dec. 26.

PERSONAL LETTER written on this date at St. Martinsville by
Alexander DeClouet to his sons Alexander and Paul DeClouet at
Louisiana College, Convent, La.

T. B. FAVROT
COLLECTION

St. Martinville December 26, 1855

My dear children (Alexander and Paul)

A few lines in great haste. My fingers are frozen and I can hardly hold my pen. I am all alone, three days ago your Mamma together with Christine, Gabi and Melanie are at Tonton's. They left in very bad weather which has only gotten worse since then. Everything is frozen. The sugar cane--that goes without saying, but I hope to save what is left. For three or four days the grinding has been stopped; the roads are very bad and almost impassable; it is impossible to supply cane to the sugar house. I still have two (?) in the field near the woods (60 arpents) and 6 or 7 farther out. What misery. The poor mules are pitiful! 230 barrels made and if the sugar cane does not spoil too fast I will reach 300. Nothing else new, besides I shouldn't be writing like this and I do it only so that you would not be without any news. I'm sending someone to the post office and I hope to receive letters from you. I expect your Mamma only if the weather improves and doesn't take a turn for the worst.

Tell me if you have been cold. I have just written to Mr. Dufau and I told him to stop Paul's piano lessons if not more attention is given than was done last year. I have also written to Cousin Terry. It was time that I write him, and I hope that my letter reaches him.

Goodbye. Love me as I love you.

Your father and friend,

A. (Alexander) de Clouet