

(1857)  
Mar.

PERSONAL LETTER from Blanche Declouet at Sacred Heart Convent in Grand Coteau, La., to her brother, Paul Declouet at Brookland School in Greenwood Depot, Virginia.

(March, 1857)

My dear Paul,

If I did not write to you sooner you can be sure that I had some reasons for that, because I had already started your letter when I had the surprise to see Mama (Marie Louise Benoit Declouet) arriving so that I have been obliged to begin your letter again. I had been telling you things which have changed. I assure you that I have never been as happy and more surprised that at the time I was told that Mama was there. She came at the time when we were going to have supper. The party was complete, Papa (Alexander Declouet), Mama, Tante Tonton (Josephine Declouet de l'Homme), Christine (our sister) and Gabie (Gabrielle, our sister) were all there. It is Christine who came to class to look for me to take me to the parlor.

The nuns had the kindness to let me spend the night at Grand Coteau with Mama as she had remained so long without seeing me. I assure you, dear brother, that it is with much joy that I kissed Titine (Christine) and Gabie for you and for Alexander (our brother) also. Please, tell Alexander that as I have already written to him twice I am taking advantage of a little free time I have now to send you a few lines and that from now on I shall write to you every week. I thank you for what you and Alexander have sent me. Can you believe that since you have been to New Orleans it is only last week that Mama brought me the little objects that you had sent me. Gabie and Titine refused to eat their little whistles they kept them for me.

Goodbye, dear Paul. Kiss Alexander for me. Your sister who loves you with all her heart,

Blanche Declouet

(1857) Dear Alexander,  
Mar.  
(con't.)

You may be surprised to see that I am addressing to you a letter for Paul but it is because I do not have his address.

I beg you to give him my letter and to tell him to send me the name of this College if he is still there,

Blanche