

1857
Mar. 29

PERSONAL LETTER to Alexandre Declouet at Brookland Academy
in Greenwood Depot, Virginia from E. D. Eshlitte at Yale College.

Yale College March 29, 1857

My dear friend,

T. B. FAVROT
COLLECTION

I had the pleasure last evening to receive your letter. I was not a little surprised as you can well imagine. Accept thanks for your kind remembrance of me; and hereafter, be assured it will give me great delight to hear from you as often as you will find time to write. You have taken a wise step in coming to Virginia to complete your education. The University I doubt not is one of the first institutions in the land. I wish you great success in your studies. They may seem tedious to you, but be not discouraged. Persevere and be resolved to overcome every difficulty and you will find college life not so disagreeable after all. I am glad to hear that there are so many Louisianians at the University. You will face more at home than I do here for there are but a few students from our state in Yale College. I am so near the end of my course I will graduate in June (the 17th). Should you have nothing to do during the summer months you would do well to come to New Haven with your brother (Paul Declouet). I would be most happy to see you both and I will do all in my power to make your stay agreeable. I do not intend to leave for Louisiana before mid September and therefore I expect to be home by the first of October. I assure you I am very anxious to return to Louisiana. It is now five years since I left home. I presume I will find everything very much changed.

Paul (Declouet) now is no longer "petit Paul" as we were wont to call him at St. Charles College. He must be quite a young man. Ask him

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(con't.)

to honor me with a letter.

I am very happy to learn that the New Orleans & O. Railroad is almost to be completed. I dearly wish I could return directly home by railroad. Steamboats are too slow a way of travelling in this go-ahead age of ours.

How are the crops this year in Louisiana? Letters from my relative give me no information on the subject.

When you write to your father (Alexandre Declouet) please remember me to him.

I have nothing interesting to communicate. New Haven is a very monotonous place and it is no easy a matter to gather materials here for a letter. To speak of a common place topic, I presume the weather is perfectly delightful where you are now. Mr. Jack Frost has not yet left us. It is quite cold. Nothing of vegetation is yet perceptible. Warm weather begins here about the middle of May.

Hoping this may find you in good health and hand as well.

I remain as ever

Your friend,

E. D. Eshlitte

P. S. Remember me to Paul (Declouet).

T. B. FAVROT
COLLECTION