

1857  
May 2

PERSONAL LETTER from Dr. Pierre L. Nee in New Orleans to  
Alexander and Paul Declouet at Brookland Academy in Greenwood Depot,  
Virginia.

New Orleans, May 2, 1857

B. FAVROT  
COLLECTION

My dear Declouet, my dear Paul, my dear children and friends,

You must have known through your father who wrote to you that a deplorable accident happened to your little sister Christine which made me go right away to the Attakapas with your cousin Claire (Nee); that we came back with your father (Alexander Declouet) and mother (Marie Louise Benoit Declouet) and the dear little sick girl.

The laryngotomy operation was performed, everything turned out marvellously. The prune seed which she had swallowed and was lodged in the trachea and the wind-pipe (breathing area) came out as soon as the larynx was opened. Unfortunately the day after the operation the dear little Titine (Christine) suffered an eruption of scarlet fever, but luckily scarlet fever as is seldom seen, a scarlet fever with hardly any fever nor sorethroat, your dear and good mother during my colleagues' visit, as I was absent, appeared to them as also having scarlet fever. Luckily they made an error and your good mother dined at the table and since that time has not been upset by anything.

I would not be able, my dear friends, to tell you about your dear father's and mother's worry and care in this occasion, but you understand it better than I can express to you when you think of the fatherly and motherly tenderness they feel for all of you.

Little Christine is cheerful as much as possible and has a good appetite. What remains only is the healing of the scar of her wound and I think this will happen within a few days. Then, when she is well enough she

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(con't.)

will return to the Attakapas. Your father who went back to the Attakapas three days ago will come for your mother and the dear little convalescent girl who with your dear mother kisses you with all her heart. Your aunt Claire (Benoit Nee), Claire (Nee) and Erasme (Nee), join me to kiss you and especially my dear young friends. Believe me to be your old affectionate uncle and friend,

B. FAVROT  
COLLECTION

Pierre L. Nee

P. S. For several days I have postponed writing to you. Finally, I am doing it today although I am a little tired by my errands in a bad weather and a little late at night, but such as they are. You will have to accept those lines. If you answer by return mail your mother may still be here.