

1857
June 4

PERSONAL LETTER from F. de Parada at Spring Hill College, in
Mobile, Alabama, to his friend Alexandre Declouet, Jr. at Brookland
Academy in Greenwood Depot, Virginia.
Spring Hill, June 4, 1857

T. B. FAVROT
COLLECTION

Very dear Alexandre;

I have just received your charming letter and am replying
immediately so that I will have the pleasure of receiving another one from
you soon. I was greatly worried in learning of the painful operation of your
good little sister. How she must have suffered this poor child! But thank
God she is now cured, and I am to congratulate you about this.

It will give me the greatest pleasure to receive the landscape you
have drawn, I shall have it framed and hang it in my room so as to have
your work always before me, my dear Alexandre. So please send it as
quickly as possible.

Nothing new here, except that we had a big parade on the bay and
on the return we serenaded all of Mobile with our brass band. All the
newspapers mentioned it and I enclose one of the articles. The heat is
beginning to make itself felt, and the crops are magnificent everywhere, Co
willing that it should continue. However a misfortune has happened lately,
the steamship Louisiana which sails to and from Texas, caught fire six
miles from Galveston. About fifty persons perished. I suppose that the
newspapers give you all the political news which are not very interesting at
the moment. You probably know that Walker is actually in New Orleans.

Goodbye my very dear Alexandre, I will write more next time, and
in the meantime be assured of my deepest affection.

Your devoted friend,

F. de Parada.

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(con't.)

P. S. Say hello to Paul (Declouet) for me.

NEWSPAPER ARTICLE enclosed in the letter.

T. B. FAVROT
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Pic Nic - The students of the Spring Hill College went out a pleasuring yesterday, the Professors having given them a pic nic, chartering the fine steamer Magnolia for that purpose. The boat left the wharf early in the morning for Daphne, where they were entertained as "Uncle Billy" knows how to entertain those who make his place a visit. After spending the greater part of the day in rambling about in the woods, fishing, etc, as their several tastes seemed to dictate, they returned to town at about four o'clock in the evening, and in a short time a long row of carriages might have been seen wending their way to "St. Joseph's", the rear being brought up by an omnibus loaded with musicians, who discoursed most eloquent music from numerous brass and other wind instruments. The young collegians seemed to show the greatest satisfaction with their trip, and for which they are indebted in no small degree to the officers of the splendid craft which carried them off and brought them safely back, to mine host of the Daphne Hotel, and to their Alma Maters.

Letter Handwritten in French; Newspaper Article written in English. In 1980 original owned by Mrs. Marty Sims of Nederland, Texas.