

1-8
1858
Mar. 21

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.

Grand Coteau, March 21, 1858

Dear Paul,

With a great deal of pleasure, I have received your letter of March 9
as there had been a long time I had not heard from you. I wrote to Alexander by
the last mail. I gave him some news about the family and I hope to receive some
more soon as Papa (Alexander Declouet) is due to come to see me on Thursday.
I am expecting him with impatience.

I had the pleasure to see Mama (Marie Louise Benoit Declouet) and
Aunt Tonton (Josephine Declouet de l'Homme) two weeks ago. I did not speak
to you about Coralie and Constance leaving the convent because I had entirely
forgotten to do so. It gave me a great deal of sadness not to have them any
longer in the Convent because both were my dearest cousins and friends.
Alexander Frere comes rather often to see his sisters and I shall not fail to
transmit your messages. It is probable that he may come today and several
times he asked me to tell you to write to him. I think that Alexander (our
brother) spoke to you about the trick he played on me. I shall not forget this
joker.

Goodbye, dear Paul. You write to me too seldom. Kiss Alexander
for me.

Your sister who loves you,

Blanche Declouet

Handwritten in French. Original on file at Dupre Library at the University of
Southwestern Louisiana in Lafayette, La.