

1858
May 2

PERSONAL LETTER from F. de Faroux, in Spring Hill, to his friend, Alexandre Declouet, Jr. at Brookland Academy in Greenwood Depot, Virginia.

Spring Hill, May 2, 1858

T. B. FAVROT
COLLECTION

My very dear Alexandre,

I received your good letter which gave me great pleasure, as I heard that in the University of Virginia there was an epidemic of a bad fever which killed several students, and as you had told me formerly that your boarding school was not far from there, I was most anxious, especially as I had not heard from you for a long time. I believed for a while that you were going back home and were on the way. Finally, I heard that you were in good health and it is all I wanted to know. You say that you are going up there but do not expose yourself to this fever, my dear friend, be very prudent and keep warm, Paul (Declouet), too. I think that the world must have turned, since you tell me that it is warm up there and that the wheat is already coming up, whereas here, we are having infernal weather, first it is very hot, and then suddenly it is cold enough to crack the rocks. We are still wearing winter clothes in the month of May! Imagine that. They say that in Louisiana there is a lot of sickness, but what is sure is that the Mississippi river is higher than it has ever been. In New Orleans there is a flood which threatened the entire town, fortunately 400 workers were hurried there and were able to curb the waters. At Baton Rouge, at Plaquemine and other places, crevasses through which the water flowed ruined many plantations. Let us hope that it will not last long.

In politics, I suppose that you read the newspapers. In New Orleans they are having elections for Mayor which will be held in about a month, the

1858
May 2
(con't.)

Democrats have not offered a single candidate, and the Know-Nothings have two. They speak of drying the swamps which surround the city and to that effect, taxes will increase, and the good inhabitants of New Orleans do not protest.

**T. B. FAVROT
COLLECTION**

Henry says hello. He says he has been very lazy, but that he is going to write to you.

Goodbye, my dear, sweet and kind Alexander. I am looking forward so much to seeing you in July, and it will be time. I shake your hand tenderly.

Always yours,

F. de Faroux