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1858

Dec. 25

PERSONAL LETTER from Blanche Declouet at Sacred Heart Convent in Grand Coteau, La., to her brothers, Alexander and Paul Declouet, at Brookland School in Greenwood Depot, Virginia.

Grand Coteau, December 25, 1858

Dear Brothers,

At this time of a new year I am coming to offer you the wishes I am making for your happiness. I wanted and I should have written to you more often since your return to Greenwood, but I could not do it because of my great occupations. I hope, my dear brothers, that you will not be angry with me, are you? Have you received the letter Papa (Alexander Declouet) sent to announce to you the birth of a little sister, at least, I believe that he wrote to you as he was telling me in his last letter that he had several to write. Since that time, I heard that both Mama (Marie Louise Benoit Declouet) and our new little sister are doing well, so do the other sisters. I wish with all my heart that this may continue.

Goodbye, dear brothers. I wish you a good and happy year. I pray God to keep you in good health and grant you a happy success in your studies.

Your sister who cherishes you,

Blanche Declouet

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