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1859
Dec. 15

PERSONAL LETTER from Christine Declouet in St. Martinville, to her brother, Paul Declouet at Brookland School in Greenwood Depot, Virginia, followed by a letter from his mother, Louise Declouet.

St. Martinville, December 15, 1859

My dear Paul,

Quaite (Alexander, our brother) went to see Tonton (Josephine Declouet de l'Homme). Mr. Jouan left. On the same day Mr. Jouan left, one talked a great deal about his wife, Miss Laurent began. The pond was frozen. Miss Laurent fell into it, the ice had broken. Maria is sick.

Miss Laurent sends her greetings and also everybody. I wrote to Aunt Claire (Nee). Didi's little girl has canker sores and Ernestine also. Lutetia tells you good day. Goodbye, my dear Paul, Mama kisses you and says she will write to you soon.

Christine Declouet

My dear Paul,

Two words only to put in Christine's letter. Christine and I have received your letter. I shall answer in a few days. We are going to go to town after New Year's Day. You will be the only one missing. We shall write from town to tell you all that we are doing. Mr. Charles Kerr paid us a little visit. He inquired about you and asked me to give you his friendly regards. The Simon family left for the city and Alfred was entered in the College of Jefferson. Stanislas Landry left for the Jesuits in Mobile. Christine received a letter from Claire (Nee) yesterday. They are all very well and are anxious to see us. Finally, at home, nothing is talked about except this famous trip to town. I think that Clouet (Alexander, your brother) spoke to you of his trip to Havana for

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(con't.)

a month or two only. I do not remember if I announced to you the death of poor old Marguerite some time ago. I wish you a great deal of pleasure during your Christmas vacation and above all, be good and behave like a sensible man. Moreover, when one is in strangers' home, one must behave very carefully. Above all, be polite and reserved. You will tell us all about that after you return to Greenwood. Clouet received admirable Christmas gifts from Greenwood. This amused us. We had a severe cold weather during the last days and Gabi (your sister) complained a great deal as she insisted that you must have been freezing over there.

Your mother,

Louise Declouet