

1860
Feb. 8

PERSONAL LETTER from Alexander Declouet, Jr., in Havana, Cuba, to his brother, Paul Declouet, at Brookland School, in Greenwood Depot, Virginia.

Havana, Cuba
Wednesday February 8th, 1860

My dear Paul,

You must have learned by this time that I was going to take a trip up to Cuba. Here I am at last, I arrived here this morning. I have no time to tell you every little particulars which happened during the voyage. I left New Orleans last Sunday at 8 A. M. on board the steamer Moses Taylor. I also left all our family in New Orleans but they intended to leave the same morning for Mr. Narcisse Landry's place on board the D. T. Kenner. I have been awfully sea sick on the Gulf and I don't feel quite right yet. I have just written a long letter home one to Uncle Nee, to Mr. 's Darby and Tremoulet and this one to you. So you see that I am pretty tired writing, so you read my letter it will be all right. I wrote to you several times when I was in New Orleans. I wish to God I had you and Schaumburg here as traveling companions. What fine time we would have together. I could not tell you much about Havana yet. The only thing is that the streets are very narrow and the side walks (boinquettes) about 2 feet wide you can imagine what it is. Our father (Alexander Declouet) before I left had already bought at McCracken store all the furniture for the new house. He bought two beautiful desks for us. Our beds will be those which were in our mother's (Louise Benoit Declouet) room in the old old house. I could not tell you exactly when they all will go back to Attakapas. I shall not stay here longer than the end of this month. I'll be in New Orleans if nothing happens sure for the 29 inst, or the 4 of next month. Gabi (Gabrielle Declouet) and Tititte were enjoying themselves

1860 very well in New Orleans when I left they went at Vincent's every day. Well
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(con't.) good bye my dear Paul. I wish I had time to write you a longer letter but
it is all I can write to you now.

Tell all my friends not to write to me here at all and you it is no
use for you to direct any letters here for me as I am going to stay but a
short time.

Your beloved brother in I. V. A.

Alexander Declouet, Jr.

P. S. My best love to all the I. V. A. and other friends.