

1860  
Mar. 5

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

St. Martinville, March 5th 1860.

My dear Paul,

Yours of the 23 ult. was received since yesterday morning. You must have by this time learned that I arrived from Cuba. I stayed in Havana very nearly 3 weeks and enjoyed myself very well all the time I spent over on the island. It is the prettiest country I ever saw. It beats the scenery of the Blue Ridge all to pieces. All the planters were buzily engaged grinding their cane. I saw one sugar house but it was not a very fine one. I also saw a coffee plantation it is very curious to see. I ate more oranges and bananas than ever did before. I have not yet sent you your cigars. I am just waiting for a thousand from Cuba which were not quite ready when I left. A gentleman who ordered them will send them pretty soon. I think it will be better for me to carry your cigars along with me when I'll go next month.

The new house is nearly all furnished and we shall go in it before long. We are now changing the saw mill of place it will be on the other side of the canal. Hypolite is working now on the chimney it will be ready in about a week.

Nothing new here to tell you. Tell to Buck Ridley I am waiting for his answer.

Goodbye. My best respects to all the I. V. A. Let me know if B. Gordon and Charles Wallace came back at Brookland.

Your brother, Alexander Declouet, Jr.

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