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1860
Apr. 27 PERSONAL LETTER from Alexander Declouet, Jr., in Paris, France, to his brother, Paul Declouet, at Brookland School in Greenwood Depot, Virginia.

Paris, April 27th, 1860

My dear Paul,

A few lines only to let you know that I arrived safely in Paris since yesterday evening. As I have seen but very little of Paris you must not expect that my first letter will be a long one.

I wrote to you a letter on board the steamer the evening I arrived at Cowes, and giving you a few accounts of the great prize fight between Heenan and Sayers.

By this time you must have read all the accounts in full in the papers. Yesterday Schaumburg and I went and took dinner at a restaurant and after dinner we walked around the Palais Royal and saw some of the most magnificent jewelry in the world. It took us at least 2 hours just to look at that. You cannot have the least idea of Paris before you see it. New York is nothing at all when you compare it to Paris.

I just now come from my bankers who are the most polite and most obliging men I ever met. This is the way you must direct my letters: Chez Messieurs Borde & Co., 63 Rue Taitbout, Paris France. Please write to Jim Bryant and give him my direction just as I gave it to you above, immediately as you receive this.

I am sorry indeed to send you such a short letter, but have patience and wait until I go to Italy and then I will write to you general histories. Of course I cannot write long letters for I have not yet seen anything.

You must write as often as possible for you must recollect that I am

1860 a stranger surrounded by strangers and it will be my only pleasure to
Apr. 27 receive letters from you all.
(con't.)

Schaumburg sends his best love to you and all his other friends. I
do the same.

Give my best respects to Mr. and Mrs. D. and tell them I often
think of them. (Mr. and Mrs. Dinwiddie, Brookland School principal)

Next time I write my letter will be much more interesting.

Your brother,

Alexander Declouet, Jr.

P. S. Try to get permission from home to let you come over either right
after or in your vacations; you could easily complete your education here
by following lectures.

Yours,

A. D.