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1861  
Jan. 12

PERSONAL LETTER from Christine Declouet in St. Martinville, to  
her brother, Paul Declouet at Brookland School in Greenwood Depot, Virginia.  
St. Martinville, January 12, 1861

My dear Paul,

I have received your letter of December 16 which gave me a great pleasure. It showed me that you think more often of me than Quaité (Alexander, our brother) because during the time he has been in Paris he wrote to me only once.

You asked me if I want you to bring me some snow but I will not get much of it because by the time you are here all the snow will have melted. Mr. Joseph Canard's little girl came here on Sunday. She was wearing the woolen dress that Mama (Louise Benoit Declouet) had given her. I am learning the first piece that Ninise (Blanche, our sister) had played with Miss Laurent, it is William Tell. Melanie is here. She is telling you to try to be less naughty when you come back. She is telling you that she remembers when you locked her in the dairy. You are asking news of our little horse but he must be more an old nag than ever because since you left, we did not ride him. Corine (our sister) had a cold, she lost a little weight but now she is well.

Goodbye, my dear Paul. With fond kisses,

Christine Declouet