

1861

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PERSONAL LETTER from Christine Declouet in St. Martinville, to
Mar. 21 her brother, Paul Declouet at Brookland School in Greenwood Depot, Virginia.
St. Martinville, March 21, 1861

My dear Paul,

I am writing to tell you that all of us were very happy to see our dear Papa (Alexander Declouet) and we shall be very happy also to see Quaité (Alexander, our brother). Cousin Alfredo (Lastrapes?) came here yesterday with Miss Palmyre Lastrapes.

Marceline sends her greetings. She tells you that she is sick almost all the time. Ortance is ill. Mr. Laureal came to see her this morning and he came to see Miss Laurent at the same time. Miss Laurent has been feeling a little better in the last few days. Mrs. Communy had come to see Miss Laurent and while she was here she cut Ninise's (Blanche, our sister) hair. When Quaité is here, you will be the only one not being with us. When you write, tell us if you abstain from meat, I do. Gabi (Gabrielle, our sister) has a cold. She had fever. Gaspard broke the vase which matched the clock in the dining room and Mama (Louise Benoit Declouet) put the other one in Miss Laurent's room.

Good bye, my dear Paul.

Your sister who loves you,

Christine Declouet

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