

1861
April*

6-16

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

My dear Paul,

I write to you every week and you don't want to answer me. All of us are busy making lint. We have a hat box almost full of it. Papa (Alexander Declouet) says that he will bring this lint to the Virginia's soldiers when he leaves*. Little Uncle (Jean Baptiste Benoit) joined Mr. Charles Tertrou's company. Little Uncle came here Saturday with Mr. Charles de l'Homme. They left on Sunday. Corinne (our sister) is well. She sits down at the table every day for supper. When one asks her, "where is Quaité (Alexander, our brother)?" she looks everywhere and then when she finds Quaité she is too happy. When one asks her, "where are the chickens?", she looks through the yard. She knows everyone in the house.

Goodbye my dear Paul. All the family kisses you,

Christine Declouet

* Alexander Declouet left for Virginia on April 21, 1861.

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