

(1861) PERSONAL LETTER from Gabrielle Declouet in St. Martinville, to
July 16* her father, Alexander Declouet in Richmond, Virginia.

St. Martinville, July 16, (1861)

My dear Papa,

I am writing to you with pleasure. We went to see Quaité (Alexander, my brother) drilling on Sunday. A horse ran away with a soldier and did all sorts of foolish things. Little Uncle (Jean Baptiste Benoit) came to drill here yesterday. Quaité gave to Christine (my sister) and to me a pretty book. When one asks Corinne (my sister) where is Quaité's flag, she looks on top of the house. Yesterday, I had a good time at Babinville. You should come to see us. You should send Paul (my brother) to see us. When Ninise (Blanche, my sister) asks Corinne where is her little girl, she looks at Ninise's mantel piece. Lutetia wrote to Miss Laurent Saturday.

Tell Paul he has not written to me for a long time. Norbert went to St. Martin, he brought Bravo to St. Martin to give him away.

Mrs. Simon came here yesterday with Cousin Mathilde and her little girl. Quaité showed us the magic lantern you had shown us once. Goodbye, my dear Papa. Your little girl who loves you,

Gabrielle Declouet

P. S. In what regiment is your company?

*Alexander Declouet left for Richmond in July, 1861.