

1861
Aug. 29

PERSONAL LETTER from Christine Declouet in St. Martinville to her
brother, Paul Declouet in Virginia.

St. Martinville, August 29, 1861

My dear Paul,

I do not need to ask you to forgive me for not having written to you because you have not written to me since last December. At the present time, I am not asking you to write to me because I know that you do not have time, but when you were at the University, you could very well have written me a few lines.

Miss Laurent shivered with fever. Old Bill is very ill. There are 16 or 18 sick people with fever in the hospital. All of them passed along this same fever.

Mr. Laureal came here Sunday. He related to us what had happened at the theater. Mr. Sabatier played with Mr. Titus. It is said that they acted very well. Alcee Castille played with Mr. Edouard Ratier, one says that Mr. Alcee Castille is very silly. Quaité (Alexander, our brother) is saying that perhaps he will go to the theater to act on Saturday. I don't know if I have already told you that the purpose of this theater is to earn money to send to Mr. Alcibiade's soldiers. Marceline wants to be remembered to you. She tells you that she wants so much to see you.

Corinne (our sister) is feeling well. I believe that without her the time would seem to us twice longer. Goodbye, my dear Paul, I am not writing any longer because I think that Mama (Louise Benoit Declouet) or Ninise (Blanche, our sister) will write in that same letter. Miss Laurent sends her friendly greetings. Kiss from all the family,

Christine Declouet

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