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PERSONAL LETTER from Alexander Declouet, Jr. at McDowell's College prison in St. Louis, Missouri, to his brother Paul Declouet at the Marine Hospital in St. Louis, Missouri.

McDowell's College prison, St. Louis, Mo.
April 21st, 1862

Dear Paul,

I learned day before yesterday; yesterday, I should have said, by Mrs. Schaumburg, that you had been removed to the Marine Hospital in this city. I hope your leg is still improving as fast as when I left you and in the course of a few days you will be able to walk about as before. I don't think you will find much difficulty in getting exchanged or paroled when your wound gets well. You will doubtless be at home long before me. The first day I got here I was put in a large room with Roorke and Hebert together with about one hundred prisoners, of the roughest kind; the first night I spent in there I had quite a spell of fever. Happily it did not last long and has not yet come back on me. Last night the doctor of the prison was kind enough to have me removed at the other end of the building among some officers and citizens, who are very kind and nice gentlemen indeed.

The two days I have been here have seemed a month long to me. If I stay much longer in prison I am sure my hair will turn as white as snow.

Please try to write me a few words to let me know how you are getting on. How I do wish I was with you, it is too sad to be both in the same city and to be separated. Mrs. Schaumburg is kind enough to come up here every day and she brings me some things to eat every time. She gave me a fine quilt a large blanquet, and some clean clothes. I think she tried to have me paroled to go to her house but I don't think she will succeed.

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(con't.)

Well goodbye dear Paul, let me hear from you some times if
you can.

Your devoted brother,

Alexander Declouet, Jr.