

1876  
July 23

PERSONAL LETTER from Charles Wright Declouet in Galveston,  
Texas, to his father, Paul L. Declouet, in St. Martinville.  
Galveston, July 23, 1876

Dear Papa,

Naine Vige (Edwige Lauve ) was afraid for the first bath. I was not. I have a pretty outfit, blue and black, which Nenene (?) made for me. Vinge (Edwige, my sister) is a little afraid but she goes bathing just the same. Lizzie (Victoria, my sister) does not want to go in. When she sees the wave arriving, she screams, "the foam, the foam!" and has to be taken out right away.

We are going to a big picnic on Tuesday 5 miles from Zont's place. It is too bad you are not here. We saw a big fish this morning. Naine Vige did not want to keep bathing.

Goodbye, my very dear Papa. I am very good, thinking how this pleases you. Take good care of l'Eveille and tell me if he is still a rascal. Zont is too lazy to get up for the morning bath. I kiss you a thousand times.

Your son who loves you,

C. W. Declouet

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