

1876
Nov. 5

PERSONAL LETTER from Jane Roman Declouet in New Orleans, to
her husband, Paul L. Declouet in St. Martinville.

New Orleans, November 5, 1876

Dear Paul,

Yesterday, I received your two letters, one from the 31st and the other of the 1st and I did not try to answer because the mail was not going out today, Sunday. You will feel comforted by receiving fresher news. I had fever most of the time yesterday, but the night was good and I feel well today. Dr. Landry ordered quinine for me and advised me to continue for some time to take one pill a day to end this fever which has a tendency to return. I did not suffer from it, I did not go to bed. I received Delphine who spent the day with us to take advantage of the sewing machine. Minette paid us a nice call and in the evening, Mr. and Mrs. Blache, Alexandre and Emma Sanchez came. The latter brought me a little glass of syrup for the children. They found it delicious especially my big George (our son). Anyhow, the darling seems well. His good disposition came back and when I hear him speaking I go into raptures. The little girls are as sweet as can be and Edwige (our daughter) above all often speaks about you and Charley (our son). I forgot to tell you Dr. Souchon's remark upon their arrival: "Those children are splendid. If you have children, this is the way they should be!".

Alexandre is a real friend. He has been almost as moved as I was when he saw me kissing my dear children upon their arrival. He tries to catch and caress them when they pass, the old one pinches them.

It is almost three o'clock and your three sisters have not come back from their visit to Delphine's with the big boy. The two little girls did not

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(con't.)

accompany them because their hats are at the modiste's for a better fit.

In a few days, I shall have to pay the old dunce \$160 and although you don't want me to regret it, I suffer to have to spend so much. I shall draw a check for \$200 and try to make the balance last. We really have here all that is needed for the service. Old Nainaine is lazy but with our servants help, we are satisfied. Your vest came and I do not think we will have any difficulty to exchange it. It will not be tomorrow or the day after because we are not going out on those days. We will be entirely with the children and you over there.

Edwige (our daughter) gave me some messages and I am transmitting them. Tell Papa I wish he would be here with Charley so that I have all my family with me. I thank him a great deal for his little carriage, I find it very pretty. We hired an organ to play for us and we ate ice cream thinking of him and Charley. My letter has been interrupted by Alexandre's visit and as he accompanies Edwige (Lauve) and Christine (your sister) to his home, I have only time to close my letter so that it can leave tomorrow morning. So, good night, kiss my Charley and let him kiss you for all of us.

Yours forever,

Jane