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1858

Jan. 17

PERSONAL LETTER from Blanche Declouet at Sacred Heart Convent in Grand Coteau, La., to her brother, Paul Declouet at Brookland School in Greenwood Depot, Virginia.

Grand Coteau, January 17, 1858

Dear Paul,

I have just received a letter from Alexander (our brother). Tell him that it gave me a great pleasure. Tell him also that I request him not to write to me in English, as I will not answer him. As to myself, I do so because I am compelled to it, but he is free. I sent him a letter by the last mail. We had a big holiday on the first of the year and I had a good time with my dear little sisters (Christine and Gabrielle), because, as you know, Mama (Marie Louise Benoit Declouet) came to spend New Year's Day with me. She spent two nights at Grand Coteau and the nuns let me sleep with her. Papa (Alexander Declouet) has not been able to accompany her but I expect him this week. Henriette (Lebreton Benoit, our aunt) came to see Douce a few days ago and she came as far as here to pay me a little visit. It made me very happy.

Good bye, dear Paul. I received yesterday some news from the family. Everyone at home is in good health. Kiss Alexander for me.

Your sister who loves you a great deal,

Blanche Declouet

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