

Houston Jan 25/64

My dear sister

It is cruel to  
add another pang to your sorrow  
stressful heart. But ~~it~~ has  
been so ordained by the will of  
Heaven of all things, and I proceed  
to the sad duty -

On the 29<sup>th</sup> of last month  
our dear Mother closed  
her eyes upon the scenes of  
grief & trouble which crushed  
her - Oh Alby - it is so  
terrible to be deprived of the love  
of one, whose whole life has  
been devoted to our welfare & happi-  
ness - She lived but for her  
children - Her happiness was  
ours, and our sorrows found a  
sympathetic response in her  
Grief -

There are circumstances connec-  
ted with her death, which are  
truly consoling to me - I will

give them to you in the paper  
now. among the students  
in this order station -  
a few days previous to  
the 22<sup>nd</sup> a letter from Judge Brown  
at Washington, which chance in  
my hands, he hadt written  
two or three lines - but on the  
last night of the 29<sup>th</sup>, the mail  
was to be delivered containing  
nothing about it. I had  
the volume as was the custom  
with a certificate in the name &  
sent to me next to day -  
Not being in a hurry as usual  
and in a room, had after a  
short stay, sent it to her -  
to whom she was occasionally  
writing - but about the next  
day she was interrupted in  
her only correspondence - she could  
not have any more of this sort  
done in her house -

Her troubles were excessive, and  
her spirits had long been  
to resign. The case was what she  
was told upon her side is  
in secret examination with  
those whose names are  
at present -  
I had seen intelligence was con-  
siderable to me by letter from S. P. C.,  
I was to be more at home.  
I was sent it to you soon, &  
with it a copy of my paper  
which is expected then daily -  
I go to day to Judge Ritchie, near  
Brown Place & have some papers  
sent to me. To a place  
and on the side in looking out  
which will take me about  
eight days - then I will be  
at or better as possible I  
will - I suppose you will  
not - O. M. in a short time  
now - If the words are in the  
state in her house -

B B B B

that I can you count  
to if you desire - I am very  
anxious to get Mary -  
she must expect an event soon  
which gives me great anxiety -  
I wish you were with her but  
could not ask you to make the  
sacrifice of comfort necessary to  
accomplish the ~~same~~ journey -  
The Yankees have all gone to the Regt  
& the county is free again -  
The Collins Militia & returned  
Mary has not been well  
at all - She got as far as New  
York & did not go to N. Town  
till after the 29<sup>th</sup> - She has had  
a hard time - "She staid at Mr  
Messier's two months - was  
stopped there in attempting to  
go to N. Town - All Mr's servants  
have gone except Louisa: Chang  
& Little siding - Sit-left Lap -  
will write you again soon -  
Your attached brother  
W. F. WALKER -