

Galveston February 22<sup>th</sup>

My Dear Brother

I have news of the most painful character to tell to you, that is the Death of Dear Martha she died last Friday the 16<sup>th</sup> I should of written to you immediately but Charley was taken sick the day before her Death, with intermitting fever and Nephritis, and has been very low ever since today is the first I have daired to hope of his recovery, Charles mood of written but he has gone down on the Island about 25 miles he was ordered to go some three weeks ago but on account of Marthas being so low he put it off untill after <sup>her</sup> Death, I am looking for you on here the last of this month, if you received the letter we sent you by Express, and Capt Dayton, and I think that kept Martha up a long time she was very anxious to see you once more, she told me to tell you she kept her strength as long as she could and for me to tell you to take the Children and go to Church Sundays not stay home all day Sundays she was well aware how fast she was failing.

she told Cecil two weeks before she "Died"  
that she could only live two or three weeks,  
she wished to see the minister and there is  
no baptist minister here so we called the Methodist  
at her request and a few days before her Death  
she partook of the Sacrament, she has been a  
great sufferer for the last six weeks and perfectly  
helpless. she has never been able to comb her  
hair since we arrived here, her cough increased  
all the time and what she raised was the  
most corrupted stuff I ever saw, for one  
week before she died she had spells of  
being in great distress and short breath  
we was afraid she would die in one  
of them but she did not she died very  
easy and was not sensible of what  
was taking place no more than if she  
was going to sleep. I cannot think of any more  
to write now, I am very much worn out  
but will write again soon, and send a bill  
of the expences, and the Doctors bill, I will  
send her trunk on Hair by the first  
reliable person give my love to all the Dear  
Children, and Hannah and reserve a share for yourself  
sister Sarah



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