

Henriette Feb 28<sup>th</sup> 1851

Dear Brother & Sister

It is with a sorrowful heart that I attempt to address a few lines to you last Sept I was called to part with a beloved child my second & youngest son a promising boy of <sup>18</sup>16 years he died of the dysentery after a distressing sickness of 20 days we had the best medical aid that the County affords but all our efforts were unavailing this afflicting providence has rendered my once comfortable & happy home a spot of desolation it will be six months the 10<sup>th</sup> of March since my dear little Hanson died but the wound is as fresh as if it was last week I had stood by the deathbed of both our Parents to whom I was tenderly attached & thought it was the worst of trouble but it did not equal the pangs that now rend my bosom But further I have to announce the death of our most worthy and much beloved Brother Alfred he died on the 4<sup>th</sup> of this month after a sickness of ten days the disease was congestive fever he has left a widow and three children two daughters young women & a son 13 years of age to mourn the loss of a kind & affectionate husband & father the loss will be deeply felt by all especially the poor & needy to whom he was always kind & benevolent he was highly esteemed by a wide circle of acquaintance who now mingle their tears with us for the loss of one so virtuous & useful His family are in good circumstances with regard to property My ~~eldest~~ son will be 19 next month my eldest daughter <sup>Carolina</sup> in her 16<sup>th</sup> year & Juliette youngest in her 10<sup>th</sup> but the family circle is broken by the loss of our dear little Hanson he was one of

