

Portland Oct 3<sup>rd</sup>  
Dear Madam  
On Wednesday last  
my father received the terrible  
intelligence of my poor father's death  
of the fever of the country at Granada  
Nicaragua - Since that day we  
have been waiting & hoping to hear  
from you, supposing it possible that  
you might know of it, and feel a  
natural reluctance to be the first  
to communicate it to my father. I now  
write to you to ask if you can furnish  
us with any further particulars -  
He had the intelligence in what appears  
an authentic shape, from a Mr Venables  
who writes a very manly letter to father, stating  
to him, that James & himself together  
entered the Army - were at the same time  
released from N.G. he was appointed Clerk

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on the same Court and at the same  
time that James received his  
appointment - Mr Venables says that they  
were ill at the same time of the fever,  
and alludes to seeing your son Albion  
the day before he sailed - He states  
that James died on the 21<sup>st</sup> of August  
which must have been immediately  
after your sons departure -

I tell you all this, feeling sure that if it is  
new to you, that it will be of interest  
to you from your friendship for my dear  
father - and also to beg you if you have  
further information - to write as soon  
as you can to us - and also if you know  
nothing of this, to ask you, and through your  
your sons - to do us the very great  
kindness of obtaining all the intelligence  
that is possible on this subject  
Knowing that your sons are in constant  
communication with Nicaragua - I  
am confident that they are the proper

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that is possible on this subject  
Knowing that your sons are in constant  
communication with Nicaragua - I  
am confident that they are the proper

persons to whom to apply - you can  
understand my parents feelings and  
their anxiety and I am very sure  
that any thing that lies in your  
power you will do to aid them.  
On obtaining all possible particulars  
Sometimes I am almost inclined to  
doubt the authenticity of the letter  
but then my common sense interferes  
and I am forced to credit it

If, My dear Madam, as is possible  
you know of any thing which might  
make this melancholy event still  
more trying to my parents - I shall  
trust to your discretion when answering  
this letter to conceal or soften it all;  
I shall be in New York in a fortnights  
time & then shall see you - and  
much as loved him yet a sisters love  
is not a fathers nor a mothers, and I  
can then talk to you and learn  
every thing -

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You will pardon the incoherency and  
illegibility of this letter and attribute  
it to its true cause.  
Yours sc  
Mary Neal Sherwood.

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