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(Coll. S-1919, Misc. Box 91/2)

Date: Oct. 3, 1856 Description: Letter from Mary Neal Sherwood

Portland Oct 3rd

Dear Madam

On Wednesday last my father received the terrible intelligence of my poor brothers 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 – We 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

In the Same Count and at the dans time that Samed recined bis appointment - Im Tenables Jays That The wer do at the Same time of the fever and alludes to leing your don alone That Samed died on the globy Which much have been immediately after your Soul departure -I title you all this, full & Sive that if thes her to you, That it will be of mlines to you from your freadship for my dear Jather - and also to beg you of further sufrmation to will as some as In Can to us. Ind also of you know nothing of this, to ask you, and Through your your sous to do us the very make Rindress of operaining ale The fullyand That is possible on This Subject Showing that your sous are in Constant Communication auto Meanina. an confident that They are the prepen

in 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 21st 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 you have

father – And also to beg you if ^ any further information – to write as soon as you can to us. And also if you know nothing of this, to ask you, and through you 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

www. waskle but Then My Common Dence beliefere and of our med to endit in his melanchoris fruel to your descrition when anxioens This letter to conceal on soften it all I shall be a hew Jork in a forthight Time of They Shall See you - and much as loved him yet a sisters love

persons w 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 in 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 everything –

You will pardon the incoherency and illegiblity of this letter and attribute it to its true cause.

Yours sc Mary Neal Sherwood.