

1/4

1842
Gimshille
Mr. M. A. Almon Richards
express
via Houlton
me

Richards

Richard Richards
Nov. 24 - 1842



Richards

3/21/42

Lincolnville March 21-1882

Dear Sam,

I take a few moments to write you, hoping these lines will find you in the enjoyment of one of Heaven's best blessings, viz: health and strength both spiritual and temporal. I am as well as usual ~~in~~ as regards my health, your Mother is quite well and so are some of the small children, Nancy, Lois and Phoebe are well. Mary is at Camden quite well - gave them to be Doctor'd by Eastabrook - you must make up your mind to bury her before long, also to ~~send~~ ~~my~~ ~~best~~ ~~wishes~~ ~~and~~ ~~pray~~ ~~for~~ ~~your~~ ~~greater~~ ~~applicat^{ions}~~. If you have received my last letter you recollect I told you there had been a letter received from the Capt. of the Schooner in which ~~Stoddard~~ ~~had~~ ~~stated~~ that the crew were all well, but another letter received last Monday, stated that Farnham was sick and in the hospital at Norfolk - on Tuesday we got the news that Farnham had died and sadly filled our hearts. Thus it was that the feelings of our hearts could not be expressed as soon as we were we departed to relieve us from a burden we had long laboured under. ~~As~~ we were much loved - one that was much beloved by his sisters, while thus filled with grief ~~we~~ received a letter on Saturday, reading as follows, (I write it word for word)

2/14

3/21/42

Norfolk March 8 - 1872

Dear Father -

By the request of your son I write these few lines to you hoping to find you well, but they leave him quite to the reverse at present - he has been sick most all the way and is now at the hospital in Norfolk he has been here nine days and the Doctor says he has got the consumption and thinks he will not get well again but he does not tell him so, and I think it would be a good plan for you to come and see him if you can as well as not

The sends his best respects to all his friends and wants you to write to Almon that he is sick and in the hospital, and he wants you to write him a letter as soon as you get this. Direct it to Norfolk, Va. and write all the news about the family, and he wishes to send Howard Hoag

Dear L Randall

From Farnham Richards

Forget me not my dear friend
'Till life's delusive scenes shall end
And when my form you cannot see
Look on these lines and think of me

Dear L Randall

3/4

2/21/42

The grief of my heart

All we can say is that he was alive the 8th of March, had then been nine days in the hospital making three weeks this day, doubtless his case is decided before this

Almon - I cannot put my feelings on paper - my feelings cannot be expressed - he is out of my reach - I can grant him neither aid nor assistance - I hope he yet lives - ~~but~~ I have wrote him, but I think he is beyond the reach of my letter, in case he is dead when my letter arrives I have written to some friend to inform you and to give me all the particulars in relation to his death and burial -

Almon, how necessary it is to be prepared for sudden death, we must die and that shortly, two, surely life is a vapour and it will soon be gone, May God in his mercy preserve you in body and in health, enable you to prepare to follow your dear brother, I write this for I think he is gone, and if permitted he would say -

Dear brother - stop as you pass bye As you are now so once was I that was now so you must be prepared to die and follow me.

Almon, write me as soon as you get this - we all want to see you - Come as soon as you can - I am your affectionate father till death does us part - Jeremiah Richards

near my other letter if you received it

2/21