

1/2  
1/2/59

S. Richards

June 2<sup>nd</sup> 1859  
Martin Died  
May 23<sup>rd</sup> 1859

Received of the  
estate of Martin  
Richards

*[Faint, mostly illegible handwritten text, likely a ledger or account book entry.]*

2/2

6/2/59

Lincolnton N.C. June 20 1859

My Dear Son,

Your of March 27<sup>th</sup> was duly received, & I was glad to hear from you and family, I should have answered it long before this had it not been for the sorrowful intelligence I have been expecting to have to send you. We now have to mourn the loss of a dear son, your brother Martin W. B. Richards, who died May 23<sup>rd</sup> after a long and distressing illness, we feel the loss much, we feel that those ties that bind to earth are being severed. He was a man much respected, and much beloved. He has left a wife, and two little sons, the youngest will soon follow its father we think, ~~as~~ as it is very infirm.

I do not feel that I can write any more now, more than to say my wife and I are very feeble, no one with us but Gracees, and she seems to be pining away, Nancy and Ruth are in Concord, Huldah is in Belmont with Phoebe Davis is on the banks a fishing, Starnham is in very poor circumstances, and has very poor health, I think he will soon be done with earth, do write me soon.

Yours in much sorrow,

Richard