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6-2-1853

Letter from Origen Sibley to George Sibley, June 2, 1853

Origen Sibley
Blakely, Alabama

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Blakeley Ala June 2nd 1853

My dear cousin George,

Your esteemed favor of the 13th ult came to hand only yesterday. When I wrote some 18 months since, I intended as many of our relations worth the then ensuing __, as circumstances as __ permit. I may disappoint __ in going, my business superintendent being compelled to visit a dying sister in Mass, & I being unable to procure any suitable person to take his place, was forced to remain at home. I now contemplate making the visit this summer, & starting in about a month. In the mean time, I took measures to procure as much information in regard to those members of our family whose __ were blank, or nearly so in your sheets as practicable, and acknowledge that I have been remiss in communicating it to you. Desiring to put myself right in your opinion, you must bear with me which I state, that in consequence of sickness many years ago my constitution was nearly ruined, and a __ succeeded which has rendered it very laborious to write, and in addition to this I am now troubled with rheumatism in my right shoulder, which compels me to make several sittings to write a letter of any length.

You enquire in regard to the health of Caroline, granddaughter of Uncle Jonathan, who was a member of my family when I wrote you last. It is a painful record to make. She spent some 15 months with me and my brother Cyrus, sometimes with apparently improved health, and at others the reverse. Her situation was of course made know to her friends __, and in early January last her sister Laura, and a Mr. Harris of Boston to whom she (Caroline) was betrothed, came to see her, and remained here until early in March when more unfavorable symptoms __, she and Mr. Harris were married (March 10th) and the same day I sailed for Cuba on the steam ship Black Warrior. They went into the interior for the benefit of sugar hands __, but with no favorable effect, and she gradually sunk until the 7th April when, (having returned to Havana) she died without any apparent pain, or any visible premonition, until within two hours of her dissolution. She was a vary superior woman, and had her health improved we had planned a visit to you on our way north this spring. As it is I shall go to late to travel __ the Mississippi.

I have made up from various disjointed memoranda, such matter as I have collected during the past year, and shall endeavor to collet more which will be transmitted to you, and I will thank you in return, to favor me with any new facts which you may obtain. Present my best respects to Mrs. Sibley & believe me

Truly an Affectionate Cousin

Origen Sibley