

Mr. Erwin to Mrs. Coley - Death of Mrs. Erwin.
The Woodlands Dec 15th 1835

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My Dear Sir
I find myself scarcely equal to the task which duty imposes, that of writing you at this time, and speaking of the late dreadful calamity with which it has pleased God to affect us - by which at the same fatal blow, has been taken from you a daughter, unequalled in filial devotion & love, and from me a wife, the most devoted, kind & virtuous with which man was ever blessed.

Other friends have I have given you the particulars of this sad event, which will spare me the pain of repeating to you the heart rending news which was so unexpectedly produced by the hand of Providence.

My home, lately the happy one which I have shared for years with a beloved wife, who returned my affection with a devotion almost unknown, who whether I was weary or busy honored me with a love and confidence, which I would not have exchanged for the whole world besides, that home is now to me unapproachable, every object that presents itself, each tree & flower one so dear when objects of her care, now seem only to make known to me my loss & my misery. The beloved object who gave life and animation to all, has left me to lament over my wretched fate.

Dec 15 1835

Mrs. Erwin Esq

89. 19th Rowell

71. 15th Rowell

Five shillings

Postpaid