

2-22-1870

Order for materials, 22 February 1870

A. Moorman

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Sudlow Dec. 2. 1872

My Dear Mrs Aldrich

Received a letter from Mother this morning saying she saw the death of Richard in the Jackson paper. It struck deep into their hearts she said and it has into mine, for I loved him as a friend, and I felt that through all the sorrows you had passed that he seemed to be your shining light, being such a manly business man far beyond his years, & with his active brain he would be able to help your husband through his great trial and now at this time when he was so much needed to have him taken away it seemed as if

our good God could not be
kind but dealt blows where
it should be most felt and
not to allow trial to come
alone, yet I suppose we should
think it is for the best yet
it is ^{so} hard to do it, but without
him we could not be sustain-
ed at such a trying hour and
to him & him only can we look
for help. When I last
saw Richard I was laying
on my bed sick, my friends
hardly thinking I should
get well, but though he looked
thin I had no idea he was
going to leave us so soon
and hearing it has given me
a great shock, as I consider-
ed him one of my strongest
friends. Allow me to extend
to you & Mr. A, one drop of

comfort in this trying hour
and to Lizzie & Marvie in los-
ing such a good brother, as
I knew him to love him &
I feel I am a mourner with
you all.

Your Friend
John G. Gardner