Provincetown, Feb 18 1841

Dear Brother,

Well a trembling hand I write these few lines to you to inform you of sad news the death of our dear brother Osmun last Monday night just as we were going to drink our tea. Hartford came in with the sad news only think dear we have but one dear brother left to us here on earth but what a consolation to think of the name he is left behind we can not say ought of him where can a better brother be found than he was to us and what a dutiful son he was to God! Brother it is hard for mother to get along with but she has others left. I try to comfort her and tell her she has you and Daniel left for her declining years. We can not mourn for our dear brother for he is gone to his heavenly father who one upon can do better by him than we could. John he was so good to live here with us we could not see his bright example while here on earth but now he is gone to his long home where he is at rest only think of his goodness to us he has been a father to us and he is gone to reap his reward in heaven. I can not write much on the subject now for my mind is not compos'd as it ought to be only think what a stroke it has on other relations. Daniel better with pleasure only think of his goodness toward us he will make up the loss in our family. I think mother will not be able to come this week for Reuben thinks the weather is too hard yet but I think she will be better when she gets up the better for her where she has been to cheer her she will come up as soon as she can. No other sons get any house you can or you think if is fit. Give our love to our friends and tell them we want to see them. This is from your affectionate Sister J. H. J. John E. Thomas
Dear Brother, I forgot to tell you where he died. Out to the West Indies, with the yellow fever.
Provincetown Feb 10 1841

Dear Brother

With a trembleing hand I write these few lines to you it is to inform you of sad news the death of our dear brother Orsamus last monday night just as we were going to drink our tea Hartford came in with the sad news only think that we have but one dear brother left to us here on earth but what a consolation to think of the name he has left behind we can not say ought of him where can a better brother be found than he was to us and what a dutiful son he was to Mother it is hard a thing for mother to get along with but she has others left I try to comfort her and tell her she has has[sic] you and Daniel left for her declining years We can not mourn for our dear brother for he is gone to his hevenly father one who can do better by him than we could John he was to good to live here with us we could not see his bright example while here on earth but now he is gone to his long home where he is at rest only think of his goodness to us he has been a father to us and he is gone to reap his reward in heaven I can not write much on the subject now for my mind is not composed as it ought to be only think what a stroke it is to us Mother received Daniel letter with pleasure only think of his goodness toward us he will make up the loss in our family I think mother will not be able to come this week for Reuben thinks the weather is to hard yet but I think the sooner she gets up the better for her where she has sons to cheer her she will come up as soon as she can Mother says get any house you can or you think is fit Give our love to our friends and tell them we want to see them This from your affectionate Sister S H T John E Thomas

[marginal notes:
we should like for you to write in the country to aunt and the girls
Mother says she thinks of coming up next week

[over page]
dear Brother I forgot to tell you where he died out to the Wsest Indies with the yellow fever