

Cannon & Cannon
Real Estate and Stocks
18 E. South Temple Street
Salt Lake City, Utah

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Elder Sylvester L. Cannon

Dear Brother: We received yours and Minnie's welcome letters of recent date and were very pleased to hear from you. I have been wanting to write you for some time but have not been able to control my feelings enough to do so. I have not been able to see the reason for which Mary was taken away but have never questioned for one moment that the Lord had His reason for doing so. Perhaps I loved her too much and He wished to chastise me for doing so. I have never doubted for a moment that she was too good for this world. Her spirit was the most congenial of any I ever associated with, and my only ambition left for this life is to take care of our children and live that I may be worthy of her in the eternity. The children are well and all are a great comfort to me. Little Josephine, I sometimes think, is the sweetest baby we have had. All are very devoted to her. — On Sunday evening July 7 I came home from Southern Utah quite sick. That night Mary got up and I fear caught cold. The next day she complained of a sore throat. Wednesday Emily came over, I put a stone up in the bed room. Her symptoms were very similar to quinsy and we doctored her for it. She then was relieved of that and then complained of a pain in her chest which Willard pronounced rheumatism. He said it was not dangerous and none of us were much alarmed. We got these pains stopped but she did not get her strength. About a week

before she died we moved her over to Emily's. I got Dr. Allen to come down and in company with Wm they made a thorough examination and decided that her lungs were affected. I got a trained nurse as soon as one could be found, which was Friday July 26. She seemed to be doing pretty well until Sunday at noon when she had a sinking spell. Up to this time it had never entered my mind that she was in a dangerous condition. The doctors and nurse had kept me in the dark, and I became desperate. I had been having the Elders call every day and sometimes twice a day. During all the afternoon of Sunday we kept administering to her and Sunday night about twenty of the brethren gathered and a circle of them were administering to her the others in another room formed in a circle and in turn each supplicated the Lord to spare her life. Sunday night we thought she had a pretty good night but Monday morning she was very weak. About 9:30 I left her long enough to see how the children were but as soon as I reached home John's telephoned me to hurry back. I returned at once and found her in a dying condition. I laid my hands on her and prayed that God's will might be done. Shortly after she ceased breathing and her sweet spirit took its flight. She was conscious up to the last moment and maintained to the last that she was going to get better. If any one that I have ever known is worthy of the blessings of eternity, certainly my dear Mary was. I trust that we may all live worthy of her. I will be very glad when you and Wm get back because I feel that you with your love and sympathy will help us bear our burdens. Pres. Smith met me the other day and told me they were looking for a successor for you and would let me know in a few days whether you would be released soon or stay a little longer. With best love in which the children join
I remain
Your loving brother Lewis M. Cannon