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1854, August 12 - Louisa Eldridge

Lousia Eldridge

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Antigua August 12th 1854

My dear Madam

I take the liberty in addressing you a few lines, feeling anxious to learn some tidings relative to Mrs Mary Martin, who was a near neighbour of yours at the time I visited her along with my husband Mr Robert McNeil; who was a near relation to Mrs Martin. The time I allude too, was in 1819 which is rather a long period to refer too - We had the pleasure of meeting your husband the Major at dinner, but was prevented the pleasure of seeing you from indisposition, which circumstance we regretted very much, in as much, as our stay was so short.

Mrs Martin was delighted at seeing my husband and also myself, and wished us to remain with her altogether, however.

she ~~was~~ exacted a promise
on our leaving, that as soon
as Mr Mr Irish could settle his
affairs in Antigua, he was to return
and take up his residence with
her, being her nearest relative and
all she proposed she thought he
was best entitled to, his Mother
having taken care of her in
early life, however it pleased
God, to deny us the pleasure
of meeting again; I lost my kind
and affectionate husband, and
shortly after my little daughter
Agnes, my only child; which
circumstances I communicated
to Mrs Martin, and received
in return a very kind and
affectionate letter, recommen-
ding me to go on, but so many
things came in the way and
my Estate was so much embarrassed
that I was prevented going to

however with all my endeavours
to prevent it, it was at last
sold, and I left without a home
and perfectly penniless; I thought
to retrieve my fallen circumstances
and formed a second marriage,
but alas! it increased my tribula-
tion fold. that is to say from
misfortune for he was a good
man, and made me an excellent
husband, however, ^{from} distress of mind
I lost him, from which period
up to the present, I have been
in great distress - I have written
Mrs Norton repeatedly telling
her of my melancholy situation
and have never been favoured
with an answer, from what
cause I am quite at a loss to
conjecture; Perhaps my dear
Madam as you were so much

acquainted with her you will
do me the kindness to write me
a few lines, letting me know
if she is still alive and if
dead, how she has left her pro-
perty, should she be still in life
(which God grant she may be)
May I ~~not~~ take the liberty in asking
you to bring me before her notice,
and use your kind influence
in my behalf, any relief would be
most acceptable, And send my
dear Madam with the fervent
prayer that I may hear some
good tidings from you

Remain
yours very Truly
Louisa Eldridge

No 1

At the time I paid my visit
to Mrs Martin she had staying
with her a young woman called
Betsey Hambleton, perhaps she can tell

what has become of my sister