SIDE ONE

Mr James Chester,

My dear Sir,

I am charged with the painful duty of announcing to her friends, our severe loss in the decease of Maria Ringgold. She expired this morning at an early hour:- her illness had not been protracted, nor her sufferings very great. In communicating to you this gloomy intelligence; I have to desire you to apprize your mother of this truly melancholy event; and also your sister Miss Fanny Chester. Here are few persons to whom the deceased was more tenderly attached, than to your mother and Sister; and I could not, without much caution, communicate the occurrence directly to them, although but barely