

Sister



Voice of Rui Barbosa – Unpublished excerpt from Rui’s speech on the importance of women.

Plastic wax cylinder recording made by the defunct Casa Edson at the end of the 19th century. The original cylinder belongs to the personal collection of Professor Mauro Rosa.



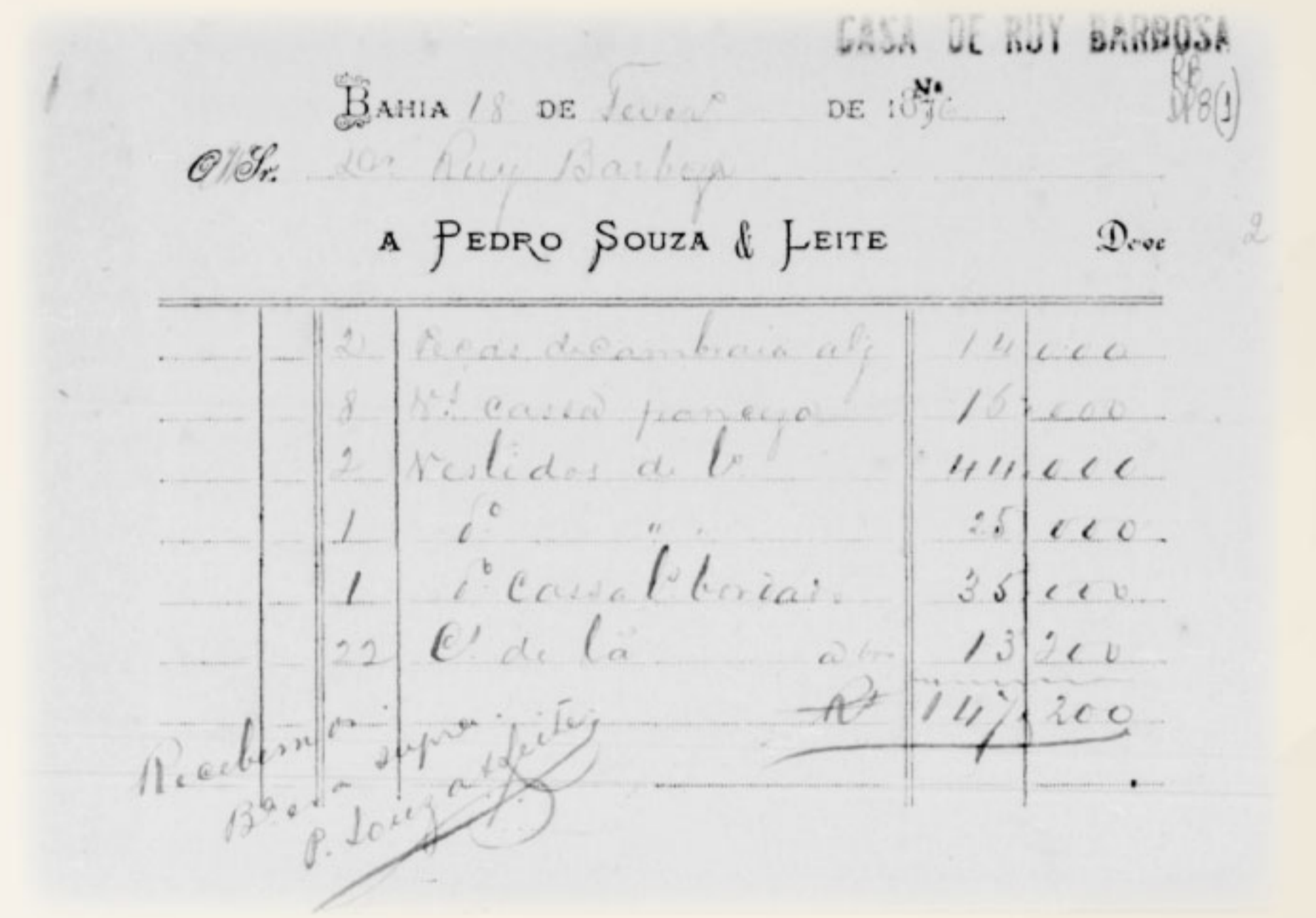
Brites (31/Jul/1851 – 02/Mar/1879)

Brites Barbosa de Oliveira Lopes, Rui Barbosa’s sister, married Januário da Silva Lopes.
Original by “Insley Pacheco, Photogr.”



Daughter and granddaughter of Brites Barbosa de Oliveira.

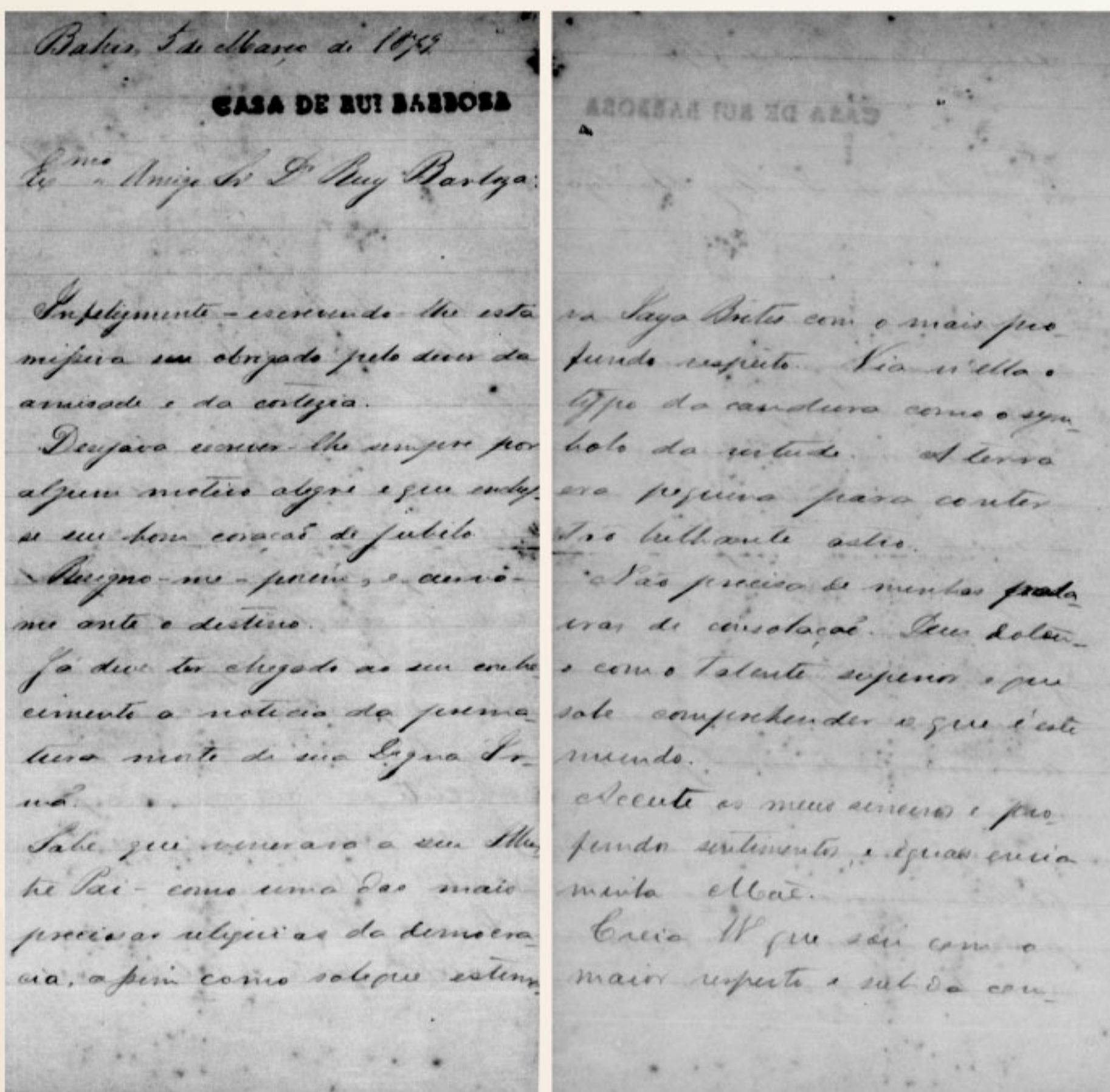
“The two brothers exchanged letters when away from each other, above all congratulating each other on birthdays. That Brites was justifiably jealous of her father’s preference for her brother is likely, but despite this, they were friends and “understood each other perfectly well.” When talking to her, Rui acted like an older brother. It has been told, in order to encourage him to study the piano, she tried to accompany him during lessons, but later she gave that up, because “music was not his forte.” (MAGALHAES, 2013)



Purchasing document from the Pedro Souza & Leite store describing part of his sister Brites’ trousseau, paid for by Rui Barbosa.

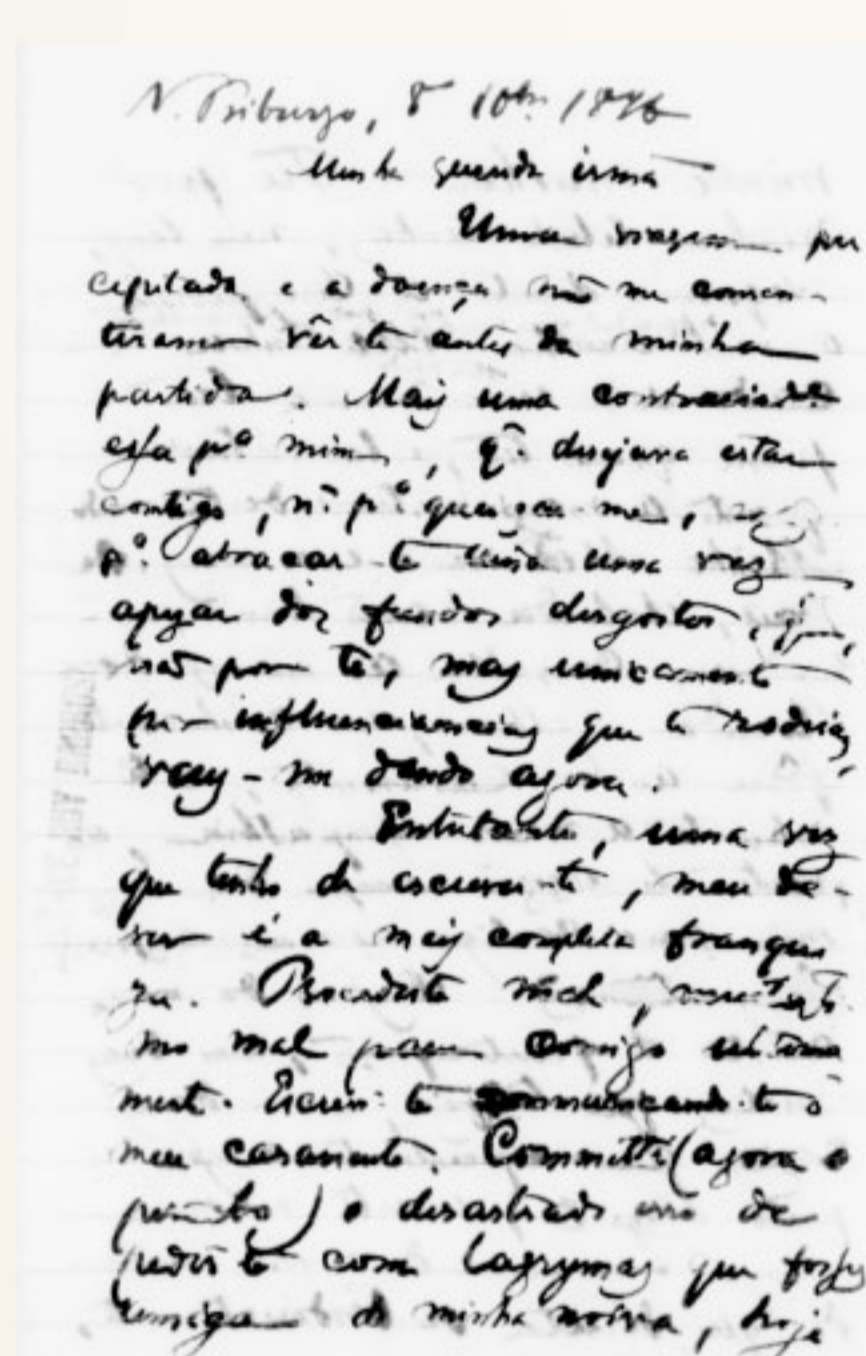
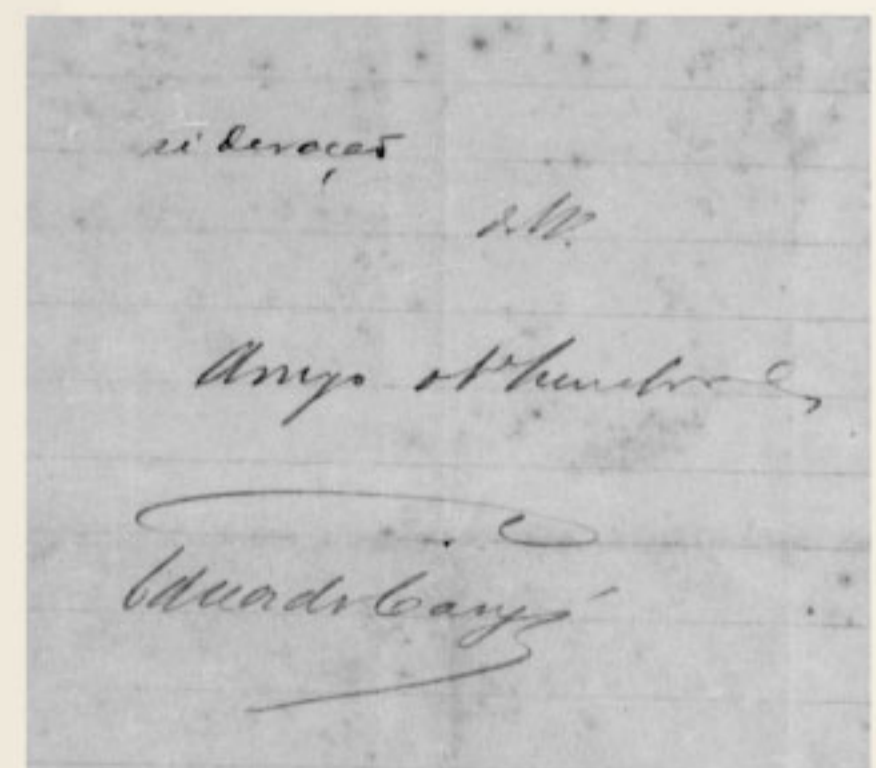
After the death of his father João Barbosa, Rui became responsible for Brites and prepared the trousseau for her wedding to Januário da Silva Lopes, making an eight hundred milreis loan with the firm Teixeira Queirós & Hasselmann.

“I agreed to my sister’s union, as I had no reason to oppose it. All that, by any possible means, I could gather about the groom, whether about his person or his life, whether from the insiders or from outsiders, induces me to believe that he deserves the hand of Brites, and to expect a good family man from him. As far as means of livelihood are concerned, we still have as many as we need to live independently. He is a businessman, in his beginnings, it is true, but God willing, he can be very happy, as far as I was humanly able to calculate myself. As for the rest, it is in God’s hands, whom we are all dependent on.” (BARBOSA, Rui, 1876)

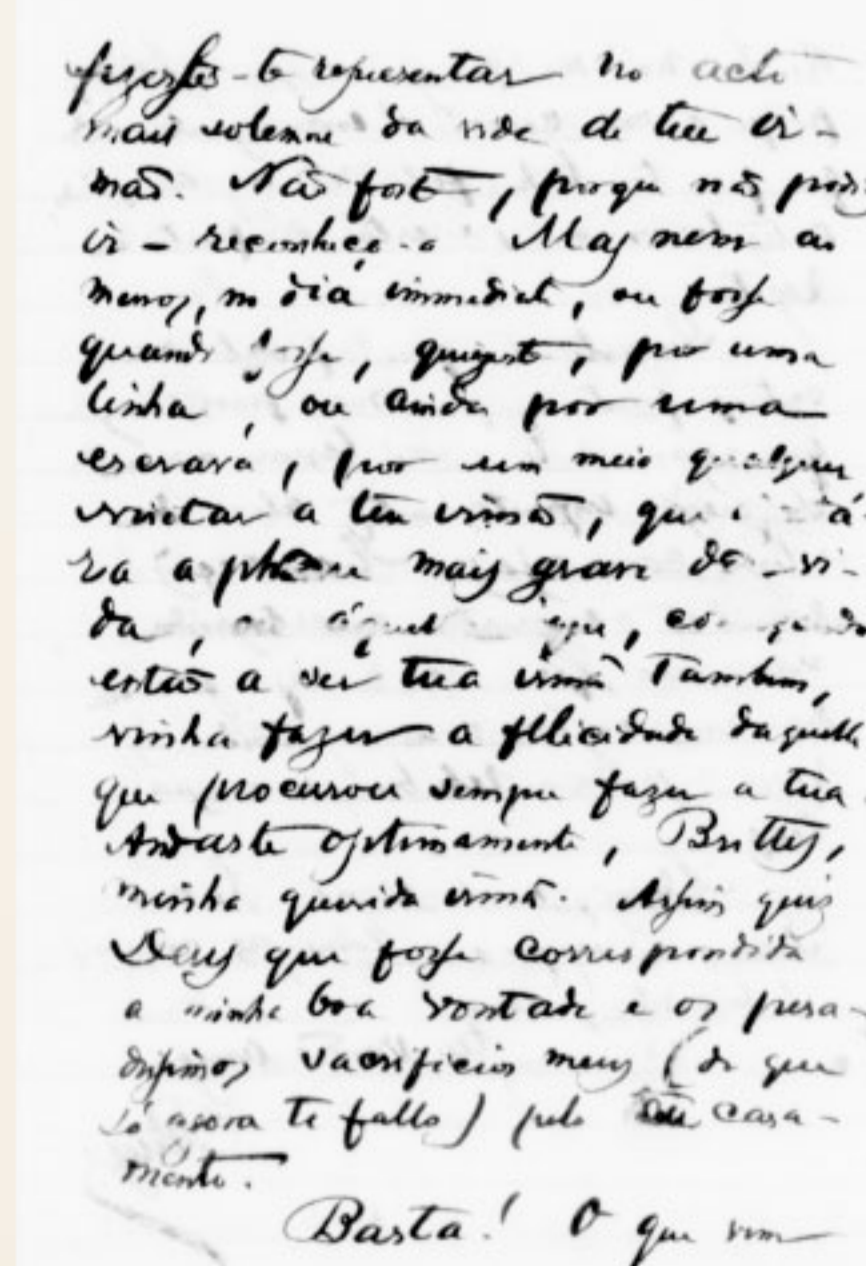


Correspondence sent by Carlos Carijó announcing the death of Brites.

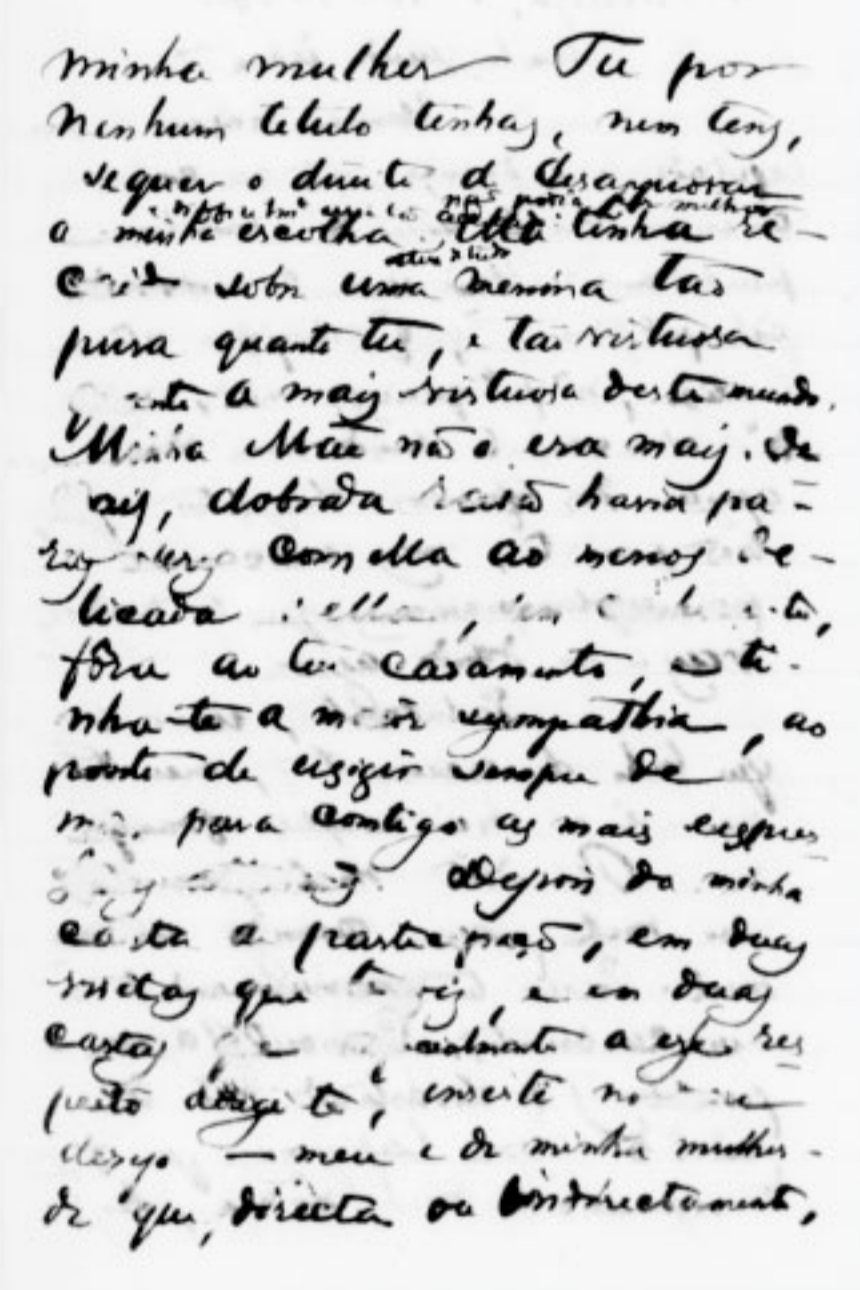
Brites had a daughter, Amália, on March 2, 1879. She died in Bahia as a result of complications when giving birth of her second son, Cristiano.



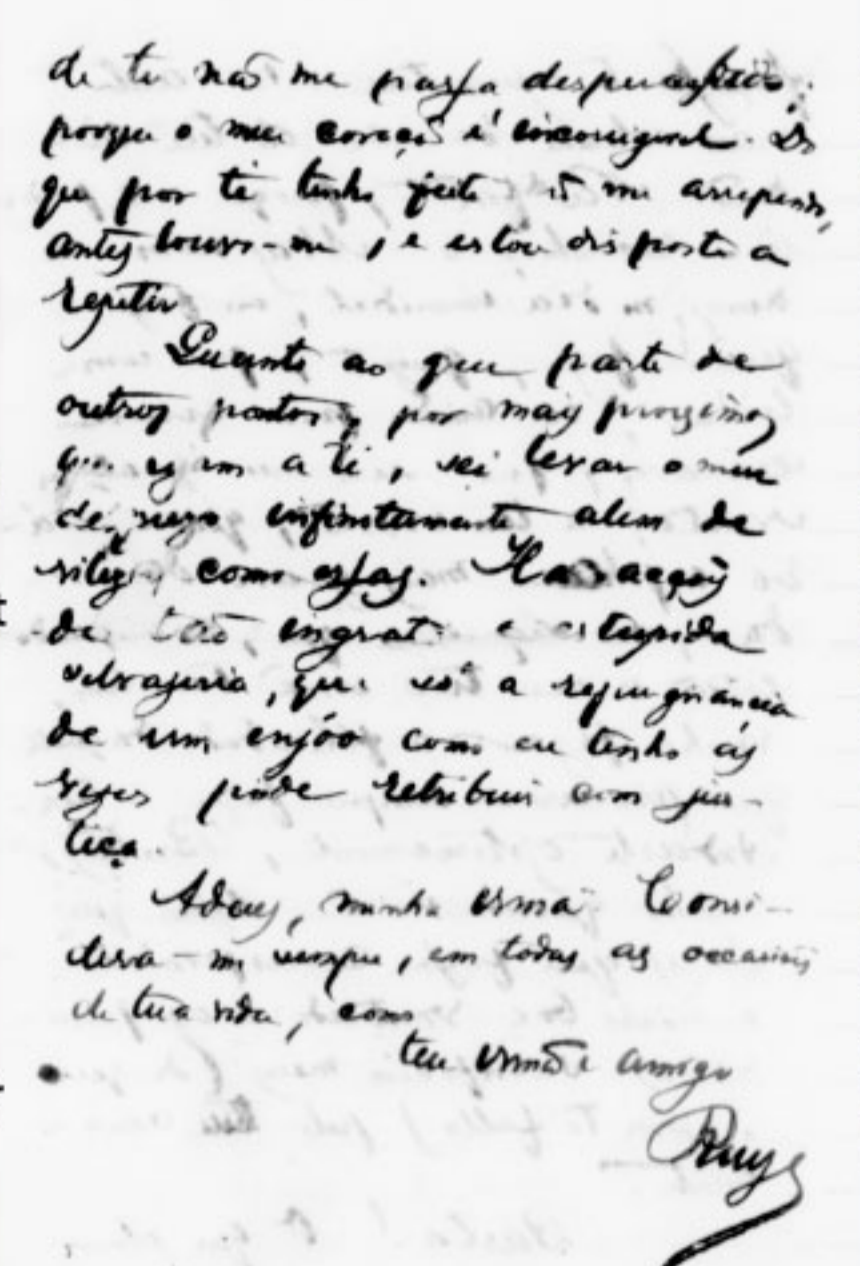
01 Nova Friburgo, December 8, 1876.
My dear sister
A hasty trip
and illness didn’t allow me
05 to see you before my departure.
Another annoyance for me, who
wanted to be with you, not to complain to you, [but] to [yet] [again] embrace you.
10 In spite of the deep displeasures [that], not for you, but solely for several influences around you, you have caused me.
However, as
15 I have to write you, it is my duty to be as open as possible. You’ve acted wrongly [illegible] me badly toward you of late. I’m writing you to tell you about 20 my marriage. I made (I see it now) the crass mistake of tearfully ask you to be a friend to my bride, now



01 you would be present in the most solemn act of the life of your brother. You didn’t come, because you couldn’t go - I admit it. But not 05 even the next day, or whenever you could, were you willing, either by a single line or even by a slave, by any means visit your brother, who [illegible] 10 ent the most severe phase of his life, or that of the one who then had just become your sister. She also came to make happy him who always tried to make you happy.
15 You did great, Brittes, my dear sister. So God wanted my goodwill and my very heavy many sacrifices to be rewarded (which only now I tell you about that I made for your marriage.
Enough! What comes



01 my wife. You had and do not have any grounds or even the right to disapprove of my choice. It had 05 fallen on a girl as pure and you, and as virtuous as the most virtuous women in this world. My Mother was no more than her. She [illegible] all she [could] and no word
10 [illegible] to her, not even for Courtesy; she, without knowing you, went to your marriage and had the deepest sympathy for you, to the point of demanding from 15 [me] toward you the most expansive [care]. After my letter informing you, in two other letters that I especially addressed to you, I insisted on [my] wish - mine and my wife’s - that, directly or indirectly,



01 from you doesn’t go unnoticed by me; because my heart is incorrigible. What I have done for you, I do not regret, rather praise myself, and I am willing to 05 do it again.
And regarding other matters, however close they are to you, I know how to take my [contempt] infinitely beyond [villainies] like those. There are such ungrateful and stupidly savage actions that only the disgust of nausea as I feel can sometimes properly answer them.
Goodbye, my sister. Think of me always, in all times of your life, as your brother and friend
Ruy