0675

1878 Cooper Morris incoming letters MS 1999

from Mrs Wadkinwaite that you were obliged to return to America rather hastily on account of your health. May pardon this very long statement, but I do not see how to account for my Mother's long silence, than by telling you all about it. Should you and Mrs Morris be still suffering, which we trust you are not, my Mother would be so grateful for a few lines from one of your sons to tell her how you both are. Her last letter from you was dated Augst. 2nd. You will not have heard of our great sorrow, the dreadfully sudden removal of my brother Percy from our midst. He was in more than his usual health & spirits, & in all his happy life & work, when he met with a terrible accident, & was gone in a few moments. It has been a terrible trial for my poor Mother, & she fears

she could not write you of it. He had only entered at St Bartholomew's Hospital on the 1st Oct, having finished the first year of his medical studies at Cambridge. He had been to the hospital on the 24th, had spent the evening in reading aloud to my Mother, & then went to his room to finish his study there. My Mother heard a noise at about 11.45, which made her come my Brother Martin, & then go to Percy's room to call him. On reaching his door she only heard a moan for answer, growing frightened, she begged Martin to burst the door in, & then they found him lying on the ground. He had taken out his revolver to clean, removed five bullets, & overlooked the sixth; on beginning to clean the revolver, it had discharged itself into his breast. Before they could lift him up, he was gone. It has been