Oxford
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Dear Howard,

Your letter was not exactly a surprise as from what you have said we have been expecting the news which it contained almost daily during the past week or two but though it was not unexpected it is very hard to realize its truth and I can tell a little what it must mean to you all at home.
Your Mother has been so kind to send so much here, I trust that she will be very happy with it. I only wish we could have been able to call on you.

We went to see her just before you came and she looked so white and ill. I was startled to hear that she might not be long with us and I did not realize how close she was to our last visit. It was sad to hear that she would be our last. Time flies.

I cannot write about it to you, but it was comforting to let you know that I was sympathizing and thinking of you. With very best wishes,

Yours affectionately,

[Signature]