

127
69

Bicravage,
Hardwick. May, 6 Nov. 1874.

My dearest Arthur,

I see you have never received a letter I sent
to you directed "Poste Restante, Florence" - to tell
you how dangerously ill I had been at Paris at the
beginning of last month, on our return from an un-
satisfactory Swiss tour. It was a case of distension of the
bladder, threatening its rupture - much aggravated & he-
lived by the unskillfulness of a surgeon - but relieved in
time by one of the first operators in Paris, so that I have
been able to make my way home - but journeying, & the
attempt to take duty too soon I suppose, have thrown me
back, & the doctor will not now allow me to leave the
house, since last Sunday. I am not now suffering any
pain (except sometimes after an operation) but - the attack
having commenced on 5 Oct. - Sunday, it was not till
that day-morrow that I could obtain any relief except
by artificial means. There seems however every reason
to believe that with due care my restoration may be
complete. - But, how great has been the mercy of my
God in all this! Had it happened to me in some ob-
scure Swiss or French town, how different the result