Mr Colsworthy Bunie

America

Bunie Recd
4th Sept

Bridgend End Ballymartin near Templepatrick 28th April 1818

Dear Master I take free to trouble you with these few line hoping that it will reach your hand and find you in good health as it leaves me at present thank God for all his mercys we have had much allterations in our small family since you left this Country our son Robert is Dead four years against the five day of May he lay four Months in of a Consumption little Sarah is dead and was lying for three years she died the 12th day of last novem but I hope to hear that you and Mistress Bunie and Children is all living and well enjoyin a good State of health ever since you left this Unlucky Ireland it may be well termed so instead of a Labourer getting 7s for wark the Gentld Man that lives in Castle Upton has brought wages so low as 5s for wark and has his labourers engaged for 12 Months at that rate so that you may understand our situation by what I mention to you we had a extraordinary dear year last Season and there is no great appearance of this year being much better on ace of money there is nothing but Pots if you were to give five guineas for one you could not find it ever since the french War there is hundreds of Clever Young men would engage for there victuals Solomon works at Castle Upton at the wages that have already mentioned and James is along with his father Solomon & William both went on Board of Kings Ship and at the Rejucement William was Discharged and his Master took him back he is putting in his Apprentice Ship at the Ballyclare Paper Mill Solomon is in America we had a letter from him and he wrote it at Orange County State Vermin he made his escape from the Ship in Lucet of his Cousin James Reid that went from Dunathrey so that we have but three Children at home James Peggy and little Bunie thank God they are all Obedient good Children which is all the pleasure that we can expect in this Country if you would give us any encouragement we would soon see you nothing Hope us but the want of Ability the poor lived much better when the Meal was three pounds for hundred had it not been for the Supply that came last year from America the poor would Many have died for want there is hundred Begging just now that never thought of comming to that State there is twenty families of a day traveling if you would have the Goodness to send for Solomon he thinks he could soon relave us all against the next year we could not expect you to take the Whole of us over but he would turn over