Mr Alexander Kinnie

Armagh

Sam Rice
P. Mr Elliot

Bridgend End Ballymartin near Templepatrick 28th April 1818

Dear Mother I take free to trouble you with these few lines hoping that it will reach your hand and find you in good health as it leaves us at present thank God for all his mercys we have had much afflictions in our small family since you left the Country our son Robert is Dead four years against the five day of May he lay four Months in of the Consumption little Sarah is dead and was lying for three years she died the 12th day of last novbr but I hope to hear that you and Michael Kinnie and Children is all living and well enjoyin a good state of health ever since you left this Unhappy Ireland it may be well knowne so instead of the Labourer getting 7s for work the Gentleman that lives in Castle Upton has brought wages as low as 5s per week and has his labours engaged for 12 Months at that rate so that you may understand the 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 bills if you were to give five guineas for one you could not find it was since the french war there is hundreds of clever young men would engage for three Pitthirds 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 Vennin he made his escape from the Ship in Lieu of his Civiln Dance had that went from Dundrey so that we have but three Children at home James Peggy and little Kinnie 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 stops us but the want of Ability the poor lived much better when the Meal was three pounds or 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 6 day traveling if you would have the Goodness to send for Solomon he thinks he could con telave us all against the next year we could not expect you to take the trade of us over but he would turn over