

Chicago

April 23rd 1891

Dear Father & Mother

I received your fond and welcomed letter which gave me pleasure to hear that the accident that happened Brother Michael wasn't much. I was overjoyed at the news for I was certain one of ye were dead. I was very uneasy dreaming every night that I was carrying Mother to the grave. But thank God the injury wasn't much. I hope you will be in for good health when I hear from you again. Myself & cousins are in good health. I never felt better thank God.

Dear Mother, I am sending you the small sum of three pounds which is enclosed here for a present. I hope you will not forget to put clothes on yourself and wear them in remembrance of me. As it is my first time sending you anything for the purpose don't refuse my offering. I would send you more money this time but this is the country that your best friend is your pocket.

Dear Mother & Father I never can forget thanking you for your goodness in raising me respectable for I am respected wherever I go for my conduct. You want to know Brother how I enjoyed myself Patrick's Day. I enjoyed myself well but not as well as if I was in Milltown. I could have more fun ____ in Milltown than one pound here. There is good money for a man's labour but it soon goes again. Everything you want is so dear you won't get a good suit of clothes under 6£ but I assure you it would be a long time in Ireland before I could earn as much money as I did here for the last year. I wrote to Patt & John 6 weeks ago. I expect a letter soon. I mean to let you know that Michael McHugh has a splendid clothes shop or dry goods store as they call it here. Winnie is working with him. He is doing great business. I hope Brother you will let me know all news about home or if many come to this country this year. I would like if Sister Honour would write to me for I would like to see her writing and to hear words from her lips as she is my only sister. I would write to her but I have no news that would delight her but any simple news from the old spot gives me pleasure. I hope Bridget & parents & also Tom Godwin, Honour & Old Tom & all your little children are well & not forgetting my aunts & all the friends.

As I am getting near the end I must conclude in sending ye all my fond love.

From your affectionate son

Thomas McHugh to John McHugh same address. Write soon.

xxx kisses to Mother.

Transcribed by Margaret Marlow with some adjustments for punctuation, spelling and grammar.

25 April 2021.