

4317 Cottage Grove Ave

Ill. America

July 22nd 1903

Dear Parents & Brother

It's about time I should think about answering your welcomed letters which I received one with shamrocks for St Patrick's Day and was delighted to have it on that day. It seems to be the hardest work I can do to get started to write. Don't you know I have not answered John's letter which I received a year ago. I am so busy all the time that I don't get much time for writing. A large and busy city like this and competition so great that you got to keep on the move in order to do business.

I am glad that Father & Mother are living such a happy life. I only wish I could leave my business. I would take a trip once again to see you all. Dear Brother, you will find enclosed the sum of three pounds to help in keeping that dear old couple happy. I can imagine what a hard time you are having raising such a large family and no help, but God will reward you hereafter and your own children. The best friend I got left here a few days ago to visit old Ireland after being thirty years away. His wife and little girl are with him. He is a native of Cork. His name is Jerry Sullivan. He told me he was going to travel through Ireland and I wanted him if he went in that direction to stop and see you all for me. Don't go to any trouble for him for he is just the same as if I went. A very plain man but wealthy. He may not come to see you. He may change his mind. I suppose you will be surprised to know that we have an increase in the family since April 5th. A girl and we called her after Mother, Kathleen. Delia got along fine and we are all well and happy. The boy is able to walk to the shop now and able to speak some words.

I am glad the land bill passed the House of Commons and that the king and queen are getting such a good reception in Ireland. I think it will do much towards bringing peace and prosperity to Ireland. I think the young people of Ireland are fast improving from what I see of them in the last few years. I suppose John, Kate and Delia are very big now. They will soon be able to come...

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

1 May 2021.