

Waimate

April 24<sup>th</sup>

My dear Papa

I know you will all be pleased to hear of my safe arrival there is a mail off to morrow so I must let you know how I am getting on I had a letter from Mr. Peach waiting for me & asking me to go down to him at Waimate. So I wrote of to him to say I would be there in a day or two. I stayed at Christ Ch until Wed morning then came down to Timaru stayed there one night & now I am writing this in Mr. Peach's little room it is a nice little place & he is going to see if he cant get me some work I like New Zealand very much indeed it is a splendid country the weather is quite hot in the day time but cold at night. the sun shines beautiful and everything looks like summer in England I had your letters all right & one from

Marianne as well, but as for Francis I had no news from Francis him & don't know where he is. We had a quieter passage than we expected & a very good one for weather but the food was very bad indeed & if I had not had some of my own I don't know what I should have done but I managed to make it last out well. My hand is almost as well as the other but it has a very bad scar but that won't matter. Work is very dull indeed here now, at Christ Ch there is no work to be had at all, unless potato digging at about 1<sup>2</sup> a sack and your grub and that will not get you ~~any~~ fortune, but I don't mean to leave this country until I have got it if it takes me until I get an old man. Mr & Mrs Peach wish to be remembered to you & he said you would find farming much better out here than at home

he keeps a few horses & carts timber about for other people, he only has two of his children at home the others are out somewhere at school. Mr Sam Islip lives 25 miles from here I am going to see here to-morrow, & another Islip lives at a sheep station 80 miles from here. I expect you saw the arrival of the ship a day or two after we got in. Mr Peach has sent you a newspaper with all about it, in I expect you will get it with this letter. We met a ship on the voyage homeward bound & I sent two letters home to you & my diary up to then. I send the other half with this. I have got my luggage safe but I had a lot of trouble with it there was a ship came in the same day that we did with you emigrants from Shent so they are thinning you a bit. I have not much more news to tell you this time, or much time

to write it in, Mr. Peach is going to  
take me up in the bush with him  
for a walk, I shall write to some of  
you a long letter next mail & shall  
have more to tell you, but I hardly  
know what I am about yet being  
so long on the water, the first few  
days my legs ached so bad I could  
scarcely get about, but to day I  
feel as well as ever I did in my  
life & this country will suit me well.  
I shall hope to have some long letters  
from you by the next mail with  
more news about Portenhall, I often  
think about you all & used to wish  
some times on board that I was  
at home, but now I am here  
I know I am all right & shall  
get on, Remember me to all friends

Love to all

Believe me

Your affec<sup>al</sup> son

Harry