

Matapuna

Aug 13<sup>th</sup> / 79

My dear Papa

Another mail is going out to-morrow, so I expect I must try & send you a few lines, though I am afraid I must not much tell you. Mr. Beach forwarded yours & Nellie's letter to me last week. I could not make out how it came till I opened it. We are getting on about the same out here. The weather has been splendid for the last month just like summer at home & this is the first month of spring so I hope it will keep fine for a time. I see by the papers that the English harvest is not so good as was expected but I hope it will not be so bad as it has been for the last few years I expect you are thinking about soon beginning to cut some of the corn.

It seems so funny to think of you  
busy with harvest, while we are  
just getting ready for seed time  
there is not much winter seeding  
done here, it is nearly all put in  
in the spring Mr. Lees is going to  
put 30 ac<sup>s</sup> of spring wheat in  
~~next week up the river keep~~  
~~fine then it will be time to put~~  
in oats potatoes, mangolds, carrots  
& chicory for that is what he is  
going to grow this year, I never  
saw chicory growing untill I  
came here it is white stuff & is  
something like a carrot but grows  
deeper in the ground & is a good  
deal of trouble getting up. He has  
just sold his potatoes at £5-10 a  
ton so he ~~is~~ did well by them  
Mr. Peach has been trying to get a  
situation as manager of a farm  
about two miles from here belonging  
to a Mr. Mainlove a very large

farmer he has lots of farms &  
altogether he owns 60,000 acres.  
Mr. Lees told me this morning  
that he heard Mr. Peach had got  
it, but he did not know if it  
was true or not. I hope he has  
for it will be nice to have them  
near us, My time will be up in  
October I dont know ~~what to do~~  
I shall stay here or not, times  
are still very bad & lots of men  
out of work but I expect they  
will get better as the summer  
comes on It is now four months since  
I landed the time seems to go very  
quickly, but I am well & happy  
I think I feel better now than ever  
I did in my life I am sure I am  
stronger than ever I have been before  
& I believe it is not taking drink  
but I never think of it now I think  
now that I have done without it so  
long I can manage to do without  
it altogether & I dont think I will

taste another drop as long as I am  
out here, if ever I do at all.

We often talk old times over me  
& Albert for he is here still &

think we shall stick together  
for a time at least. The hills are

still covered with snow but it

rather I hope is coming down here  
soon, when he can get away so

I may perhaps see him. I went  
to town the other evening & had

dinner with Mrs. T. she likes  
to here of the Pertenhall folks &

wished me to call & see her any  
time I was in town she wished

to be remembered to you & now  
I must conclude for I am going

to write a sheet to Ma  
Love to all

Believe me  
your affec<sup>ate</sup> son

Larry

P.S. I have  
send me