

Praze St Erth
July 20th (1871?)

Dear Joe,

I received your very welcome letter last Sunday morning. I was greatly surprised to hear from you. I really did think you had forgotten us but now I can say you are a friend in deed and not in word. please to accept My Dear Joe our thanks for the five pounds you sent us for it has given me almost a new life. you can't think what an affect your letter has had on me when I think you sent all that money to the poor little children and said you were sorry it was not more. if it was only one pound think what a help that would be to me at this time. I have a few friends with fair promises but nothing else to part with. Dear Alfred's death is come an old thing to many but the children is no nearer rear than an year ago but you Dear Joe who I repeat it never promised me anything sent all that money in the very time I so much needed it. we have short of meat sometimes this summer. I never said anything to anyone nor allowed the children to. I thought certain people might guess without it. I think most of my two youngest Lizzie and Alfred. two so pretty little children as you ever saw. Alfred is thirteen months old. he can run as fast as the rest so I suppose you would like to hear how we are getting on. I think to me we shall do bye and bye. I do belong down to Melanetr mine in the account house got one pound a month. William Roberts is working on the flours for ten shillings per month. he is nine years old. is a very good boy. is allways ready every day to work. he has not lost an hour since April. he is very small. he was for years allways sick but is very well now. he neve complain. is as cheerful as a lark. you said you suppose Nell had forgotten. Joe you are told of scores of times. they are both going to meet you when you come home. you have been daily expected ever since Jimmy is come. they can't think how you might not come to(o).

Nell have not laugh nor done so much else but moped like everyone in a bad temper ever since her poor Father is dead. I

have to go to work from seven to five so she has to stay at home with baby and Lizzie and do what she can while William R. and I go to work. I did fell to go every day from baby while he was so young altho I was very glad to have it to do. I would rather work as hard as I do than to apply to the parish for relief. I have not done yet and no one knows how hard I have had it. all say how well we are getting on and I am very proud to hear it.

Laura is with your Mother still as you know. she has been freed from many hardships on that account. they say they will keep her longer. she is very comfortable there.

Mary your wife was up here last Sunday. I never saw her looking so well in my life. like a girl. she has almost been over carried all this summer with thoughts of your coming home. My poor dear Alfred can never return any more. she has the thought of your coming to her. I hope to see you soon to(o). I could talk for a week to you.

I suppose you will not have the patience to read this through. your family will write themselves. I should be glad to have a letter again. will you Dear Joe write to me. I remain Dear Joe your affectionate sister Mary Trownson.

it is now half past five. I am in the account house. Jimmy is out in the engine house and William R. on the flours.