

Calvert Downes Station
Bucktown
Ireland
1 Sept 1885

My dear Mother

It seems such an awful long time since your letters to me were written (25th Dec 84) that you will, long ere this reaches you have given up all hope of an answer but the fact was that the epistles reached me both at the same time, about the end of June, & as the steamer arrived on his return journey in twenty-four hours there was no time to more than answer one from the Father & as that contained the news of poor Uncle R's death I could not part off replying to it. The mail we got before that was some time in January & when we will get the next of the last only knows we can only hope that it will be before Quas & bring news of the Cap

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Your letters were a most unexpected & very pleasant surprise, as whenever I hear of a relative or friend of mine getting married I at once get mentally record out that persons' name from my very small list of possible or probable correspondents, having my surprise attending yours but I hope you will continue to favor me with the occasional "when time" to the humor out of you. I had a letter also from the Water after Uncle R's decease, mostly filled with particulars of his death, funeral &c which I answered shortly at the time - Colle. who need to write occasionally at uncertain intervals has given up altogether & the others I never did correspond with so yourself the Water & a chance outside and all I have to depend on for letters - If we get anything like a fair supply of newspapers it would not be so bad, but the mail collects for so long a time in Bucktown that when there is any chance of a mail coming out the accumulation of papers is