

Transcription of a letter written by Aunt Rachel to her nephew Edgar dated June 27th 1903. I have tried to maintain the spelling, but the hand writing and structure are not familiar. ALL of the PUNCTUATION was ADDED to make the letter more easily read. Transcribed by Donna A. (Stark) Francis - 4/2/1998.

Kilmarmock June 27th 1903

Dear Edgar. I have been a good while about attending to your request but yesterday was a wet day & I thought it a good time to rummage the old desk where father kept all his letters. I selected three or four, I thought you might be interested in them. These were before the days of envelopes or postage stamps. The first envelopes were all yellow like this one, fastened with a wafer. One of these was written by your granfather soon after his marriage and one by uncle Jonathan before he was married, this Pedlow was a cousin of Fathers, our granmother was a Pedlow. Joseph and Jane Greer were Father's sister's children that he speaks of. The other a short one from Uncle Elisha, he was a very affectionate brother. I have learnend that my great granfather came from Wales to Ireland and he was a lumber merchant, so you see that business runs in the family. I was out to Pakenham last week to visit them, Johnie Francis is quite bad with rhumatism is going next week to Banff hot springs. He has the home farm a lovely place. He has two dears in a park, one of them had a young fawn. A very pretty animal all spotted with white spots. It was wild as if in the bush when it sees one coming it drops down in the grass so you cannot see it. When Johnie found it, it lay as if dead he lifted it up to stand on its feet but it would not stir. The mother was watching all the time and when she came near, it went out of his hands like a shot, bounding away with the mother, his mother. George and Maggie are moved to the village, so he will leave the place with his sevants. George will go out once in awhile. I cannot make out much of history for you. Even if my sister Jane was living she could tell a lot, she was nine years when she left Ireland. She remembered granfather quite well & others of the old people, but there is no one for one to ask now. You can keep these old letters, there is no one here cares for them. They are kind of curiosity now. I

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had letter from ..(smudged).. Mrs Davis, I some expect her in July. I will close with kind regards to your people from your affectionate Aunt.

Rachel

Comments by Larry E Francis:

If Aunt Rachel is Rachel Francis (b.1830) then Edgar must her Grand nephew Edgar Francis (b1882). "Father" must be James Francis (b.1784), Joseph and Jane Greer must be the children of Ellen Francis Greer. Uncle Elisha must be Elisha Francis (b1775). Sister Jane must be Jane Francis (b1813). I have no good guesses about Johnie, George and Maggie, Mrs.Davis, or the Pedlow cousin of "our granmother".