

ESTABLISHED 1888

Isaac Ellis Pedlow

DRY GOODS IMPORTER

*Address all business correspondence
to the firm*

Renfrew, Ont. Canada

13th May 1934

Mr E.A.Francis
Marshalltown, Iowa, U.S.A.

Dear Mr Francis:--

I am very much ashamed of my self for delay in answering your letter of March 3rd with its unique and breezy opening salutation, "Good Morning". But as sometimes happens, it was duly received and put aside, and with the very best intentions, for "a more convenient season", which has not even yet arrived, so here goes anyway.

To get down to brass tacks at once, on subject of your letter. James Francis and Henry Pedlow, of Lissacurran, near Lurgan, Co., Armagh, IRELAND, were married to sisters named Ann (Nancy) Stuart and Margaret (Maggie) Stuart. The former to Margaret Stuart and the latter to Ann Stuart. This Henry Pedlow was my father's father, therefore my grandfather. My father and the list of the James Francis family given at the bottom of your chart were first cousins. Your father, a brother of Mrs Kearney, would be my second cousin, and our relationship would be another stage removed.

The main facts of this were secured in 1892 when on a trip to this old land, from an old laborer who had known the Francis family, and who had taken them and their belongings in a waggon to Belfast where those who were born then sailed from for Canada. This old fellow, about 90 years old at the time, when I was leaving to return to Canada and Renfrew, where I was living then, asked if I had ever met any of Jimmy Francis' family in AMERICA. He then told me the story, mentioning names of

the children, Margaret, Jane, Samuel, Jonothan, Elisha, &c. &c.. These names, strange to say, being biblical, made an impression on me, and I really did remember some such living in and around Renfrew. On my return to Renfrew, the first person, almost, I met in my place of business was Maggie Francis, daughter of Jonathan Francis and sister of the late Allan Francis, George and Harvey and Jonathan of Pakenham, Lanark Co. I told her my story, found out the her grandparents were named James and Margaret, she being called after her grandmother, found out also the other facts about the family names of her uncles and aunts, so after a check over of the information obtained from the old farm laborer in Lissacurran, Maggie Francis and I shook hands as cousins.

She communicated her discovery to Mrs Jane Muldoon who was at that time, 1892, living at the old home at Kilmarnock near Smith's Falls on the Rideau Canal. The result of this was an invitation to visit her, which took place shortly afterwards. This resulted in complete coroboration of my facts. And while there I secured some letters from an old trunk that was full of such, that wre written by my grandfather Pedlow to Jimmy Francis, sometime in the early twnties of the last century. Over a hundred years ago. These letters I have still in my possession. They establish the relationship, as above, beyond the shadow of a doubt. Mrs Muldoon (Jane) was able to describe my old home in Ireland, just as well as I could have done. The Francis family stayed at my old home in Ireland for three or four weeks after they had disposed of their property, and while waiting for the boat to sail from Belfast. I know well where the Francis family lived before they came to Canada. Their home was about a quarter of a mile from our home, and that much nearer to Lurgan, our nearest market town. Their home is not in existence now.

You will gather from this, that according to my information, which has been checked over many times, James Francis' wifes name was Margaret, (Maggie) not Rachel. They had a daughter named Rachel, their youngest child, and Rachel is a family name among the Pedlow's.

You will notice that this discovery was made by me after most of the older generation had passed away, and as the younger people did not seem interested. I just allowed the matter to rest there.

Alex Fraser, of Renfrew, handed me some correspondence he has had with you on this subject, some short time ago. But at the moment, this is about all the main points I can call to memory. If however, you think I can clear up any other points in this connection, I will be very pleased to hear from you again. With sincere regards, and in full confidence that we are cousins, of some degree, I am,

Yours faithfully,

Isaac E Pedlow

Enclosures.

Note: The enclosures may have been the return of Edgar's family tree chart that was sending out to everyone for corrections and additions.

Note: In the upper left corner of the original letter the following notation was made -

I disposed of this business

five years ago - In 1929.

Am now a third year

student in Arts & Commerce

at Queen's University, Kingston, Ont.

In my 74th year.

Born Feby 6th 1861.