

**C35-1108-1**

ESTABLISHED 1888

# Isaac Ellis Pedlow

DRY GOODS IMPORTER

*Address all business correspondence  
to the firm*

*Renfrew, Ont. Canada*

8th Nov 1935

Dear Cousin Francis:-

(You see I still stick to the old style introductory remarks, the force of habit I suppose) Your breezy and much welcome letter, like young Lord Lochinvar, came out of the west; or to be more exact. I-O-W-A-R as it is sometimes pronounced; this morning. And having, on occasion, "The do it now habit" here goes with the come back.

No, and yes. I was not successful in securing the nomination, and I was therefore a whale of a success in be allowed to stay at home, to "keep the home fires burning" this winter, and succeeding winters for the next five years, and by that time, if I survive, your Renfrew cousin will be full four score, too old by many moons for public or any other service.

Well, I didn't reach America, and I suppose that does include Canada, before the American revolution, when they began making tea in Boston Harbour, but I did reach this section of America, long before Sir Edward Carson started the Irish rebellion in the old sod. And, anyway, I am glad to find a place in the select thousand Stuart aggregation of the twentieth century, and who claim connection with Bonnie Prince Charlie, or is it with Queen Mary of the same surname? Or *James the VI and I*.

I was in Lissacurran and Lurgan during the past summer, and there is not a single or married person for that matter living there, of my own or the two preceding generations alive at the present time, and present residents there know very little of their ancestors. Certainly nothing of the Stuarts for there are none of that name there now. One might secure some information from the registry office in Lurgan, but that would require personal investigation, on the spot. Where the original Stuarts hailed from I am not in position to say. The Pedlow's are I believe of either Danish or Huguenot stock.

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I have not the means of checking back on my story of the original Stuart-Pedlow-Francis connection. This was given me by an old army pensioner in 1892, and who had been in the employ of my father both before and after his service for his king and country in British India. Pat McGinnis was then over ninety years old, so he by this time is in the "Kingdom Come". At that time he wondered if "I had ever met any of Jimmey Francis' children in America". It was this enquiry, a random shot, that led to my enquiry on my return to Canada. I then discovered, beyond the shadow of a doubt that I was living among the descendents of this man. He may have been in error about the christian names of my grandmother and yours, but I wrote his information down at the time. However, the wieght of evidence adduced by you seems against his claim in this regard. On the very day I returned home to Canada, Maggie Francis, daughter of Jonathan Francis of Pakenham, son of Jimmey Francis of Kilmarnock, was in my store, and I told her the story, asking her if her grandmother Francis' first name was Maggie, and she replied yes without a moments hesitation. It was then that I announced to her the discovery, and that we were cousins. This led to an invitation from Mrs Muldoon, who was then living at Kilmarnock, to visit her, which I did. While there, I obtained some letters written to her father by my grandfather, which I still have in my possession. Mrs Muldoon was able to describe my old home in Lissacurran better than I could today, and she said that the Francis family lived at the Pedlow home for three or four weeks before they sailed from Belfast for Canada. She was the oldest of the family, and was born at Lissacurran, Ireland.

Next time.ahem!!! I fancy I hear Mrs Pedlow say. Well next time I go over to Ireland, I am going to "take a day off" and see if it is not possible to "dig in" on a little bit of this missing link in our family history, because to tell the truth you have got me interested. Anyway, in that case I will be sure to hold a return ticket, in case I get arrested for some treasonable act on the part of my forebears. There is no knowing just what may have happened a couple of hundred years ago, in the family tree development.

King, our new premier, is down in Washington this week with President F.Roosevelt to fix up the line fences between the United States and Canada, so here's hopin' for success. That fortynineth parallel seem to have developed some kinks that need attention.

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Yours faithfully,

*Isaac E Pedlow*