

**C03-0317-1**

*Kilmarnock Mar 17th 1903*

*My Dear Nephew*

*You may be assured I was not a little surprised to receive a letter from you on the 14th inst. And I'm sorry that I am unable to grant your request, as I never got the history that Stuart wrote, although he told me I was to have it finished. I asked his wife for it after his death, she made some excuse, and said she had not got it. I was sorry not to get it. I think he had got a good deal of information from my father, for he was writing when he was here. I dont think there was anything remarkable in our forefathers, they were Quakers, good men. No warriors or fighting men. My grandfather was well to do, a Diaper weaver, kept looms & hired men to weave by hand, my father learned the trade with him. He had five children, three sons and two daughters, the sons were Elisha, Samuel & James (my father). Ann & Christian were the girls. My father married Rachel Stuart & they had seven children when they left Ireland. They came from the north of Ireland County of Armagh, they sailed from Dublin April 1822. It was July when they landed at Prescott on the St. Lawrence. My father came north from there 30 miles to the Rideau river, where he bought a farm, where he spent the remainder of his days, over 50 years. Now I dont suppose you want the names of our family which were eleven, five boys and six girls. Your grandfather was the oldest son & I'm the youngest daughter. I dont know much about your granmothers family the Woods'. Your fathers' uncle VanCamp is still living and smart, last summer he shingled a carriage house for his soninlaw, though he was over 80 years old. Now I should like very much to have you visit us & see our old place. I can hardly realise you can be a young man. It seems such a short time since your father used to be here playing & fishing.*

*I would like to know what you are doing at the "Soldiers Home", and when you left home. I wonder why your father & mother dont write to me. We have had a months visit from two of my nieces this winter. One was from China, where she had been a Missionary eight years, 'Christian Muldoon'. The other was Rachel Hanna who had been a nurse at the Klondike, four and a half years, just got home this fall. They are both full cousins of your father. We had a very nice time with them. They are in Toronto now.*

*Hoping I shall hear from you again. I will close with kind love to you and your fathers family.*

**C03-0317-1**

*From Aunt Rachel Francis*