Montreal 30th July 1817

My Dear Cousin

I with much pleasure received your kind letter of the 2nd of June on the 27th; and though it was long coming, it was not the less welcome. You certainly had good reason to suppose that I had left this place when Mary went, and it seems so extraordinary that I did not, I feel in duty bound to explain my motives. Know then that, at the time Mary and her family left this, I was far from having my affairs settled so as to ascertain what I had to live on in Ireland, and did not chuse to leave anything undun here, I had lands to sell, part of which I have sold since they have been gone, but I still have about 2000 acres unsold which I want to get rid of before I quit the country, if ever I do; for every day some new obstacle comes in the way, so that I think I shall hardly have it in my power to go this fall, The merchant in whose hands the money was lodged that I got for the lands I sold, has failed ~~[illegible]~~ but I fortunately had the bond endorsed by a safe hand, but it is not payable till the latterend of October, so that the delay occasioned by this affair will make it so late that it will I fear ~~[illegible]~~ be impossible to go this year, add to that the reluctance my family have to part from me, and me from them, I must own it seems very ungratefull in me to wish to leave them they are so warmly attached to me, and have always behaved with so much kindness and affection to me, on the other hand Mary and all my relations at home hold out so many inducements to return, that I am at my wits end to know what I ought to do, however I suppose in the course of next summer I hope to have it in my power to go if I live so long Be assured my dear cousin it would afford me much pleasure to visit you and your family on my way if I was some twenty years younger, but between you and I, I begin to think it is too late in the day to be frisking about the world, and if I can get quietly home I shall think I have done wonders.

If any unforseen occurrence should turn up to enable me to leave this country this fall (which I hardly expect) I shall write you before my departure. If I at any time should be the subject of conversation at your fireside, assure your family that they have an affectionate cousin in yours truly

Eleanor Davidson

Address Patrick Fox Esq. Monaghan

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Montreal 30th July 1817
Eleanor Davidson
Rec'd 16th Oct. 1817
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Mam is a lady on a visit with me just now who has a great
joy to tell you that she has an uncle in Dalkeith (the Duke's seat)
who would be glad to hear something of you. If you know him, he is a Mr
Alexander Mathie, who was Mr Fox's Mathie, early Coughlor
of John Mathie, who is now Mr Cameron, if he be living, it is
extremely likely he would be much pleased to hear of him, he must be very old
now.