Montreal 13th Sept. 1829

Geo. Simpson Esq.

My dear Sir

Absent from home I have not the necessary papers regarding the case of Louisa Mackenzie by me. However I can convey to you a sufficient idea of her claim on the Estate of her late friend Mr. K. Mackenzie.

The deceased Mr. Kenneth Mackenzie & Donald my brother were very intimate & Donald at the request of Kenneth ordered Louisa from Athabasca to Fort William, a distance of many thousand miles - where Kenneth took her under his kind protection - on the express condition that he should provide for her during the rest of her days. And he was to settle £500 on her for her support in case of accident or of his leaving the country. This was Donald's explanation to me some time after his friends decease. The letter which contains this explanation with other favorable circumstances is in the hands of Mr. Moffatt. Whether Kenneth made any memorandum of these conditions I do not know - none of his papers after the period of his death were sent down to us - It may be that they were all lost at Fort William during the troubles which unfortunately deprived him of life and the worth which concurs of a man blessed with first rate abilities. In the Spring of 1816 the year of his death he told Donald that he had lodged the sum of £500 for Louisa in the hands of Mr. Daniel Mackenzie. Since Margaret Mackenzie's death Mr. Moffatt wrote Mr. Daniel who returned for answer that no such sum was ever placed in his hands by Mr. Kenneth Mackenzie. Kenneth made his will on the spur of the moment - certainly not thinking it to be his last - otherwise this will would be more explicit. By the first clause in this will he bequeaths to his daughter Margaret Mackenzie half of his property and by the second clause he settles £25 a year on Louisa the mother - while her daughter was in her charge or unless she should be otherwise provided for. This annuity was

demand from the mother for seven years after the death of her friend when a Suit was instituted and a Judgment obtained in her favor - then the arrears were paid received and the annuity has been duly paid ever since. Mr Moffatt Dr McLaughlan and myself were the Executors appointed. At the end of the year when we had our duty ended Mr Moffatt as the fittest became Curator & Tutor - a lucky circumstance being an eminent man of business he lost no time in securing the property of the father and he was a kind & an affectionate friend and protector to the daughter to the very moment of her death - for which kindness connections are under everlasting obligations to him. Unfortunately the deceased died without leaving the deceased Margaret McKenzie without legal heirs - the property therefore falls to the Crown who I understand generally relinquishes such rights in favor of persons or persons whom the deceased might select if there had been a Will. Now it is very natural to suppose that in such a case Margaret McKenzie would not have forgotten her mother Louisa MacKenzie. This poor Woman who is now deprived of a fine promising daughter on whom she had placed her future happiness ought to come under the favorable consideration of those who claim the property and who may have it without difficulty or delay if they consent to give to Louisa in lieu of all demands simply an equivalent to what had been promised in the first instance. That is - the Mortgage of £500 on the late Mr Ogilvys property as described in Mr Moffatts letter addressed to the Revd Mr John MacKenzie Lochcarron a copy or duplicate of which you had the goodness of taking in charge yesterday after perusal. As you intend

paying a visit to the Highlands I hope if convenient that you will see this friend attended - for I know of no one more equal to it than yourself. Wishing you a safe & speedy passage and a happy meeting with all your friends and acquaintance on the other side of the great waters. I remain

My dear Sir

Yours most faithfully

Rod McKenzie

No. 4
A Copy of letter to Gov.
Sumpter 13th Apl 1865
concerning Louisa McLenger

Lochcannon Manse 18th Decr 1829.

Dear Sir

"Your last communication concerning my late Niece's property arrived here in September in my absence. I have since forwarded a Copy of the same to my brother and nephews and Niece at Portia. My Mother lived here for some time back, and is still in life.

I have since employed Mr Mackenzie of Applecross W.S. at Edinburgh in order to obtain the opinion of English Counsel and the Gentleman consulted by him has recommended a Memorial to be prepared and presented to the Lords of the Treasury as is generally done in Similar Cases, praying from His Majesty a Grant of her my Niece's property to the Heirs of my late Brother Kenneth Mackenzie, and then are by the Laws of England, the Mother, Brothers & I believe the Children of the Sister.

Should Louisa Mackenzie as you think get a Grant of any part of her Daughters property - I should Suppose in terms of the Will that her Annuity would in that Case ~~case~~ become the right of the residuary Legatees."

The forgoing is an Extract from a Letter addressed to Geo Moffatt Esq by the Revd John Mackenzie Minister of Lochcannon. North Britain

105

Extract from a letter to J. Moffatt Esq from Revd. J. McKenzie of Lochalsh 18th. Decr. 1829 Regarding the claim of Louisa McKenzie