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MARGARET (GUNN) ALLISON & SON FRANK

Margaret Elizabeth daughter of William Gunn (1800-1868) and Frances Hannah (Arndell) of Sorell and Glen Dhu, Launceston) married in 1852 Henry Allison, auctioneer and alderman of Launceston and son of Capt. Francis Allison of Streanshalh. After Henry's death (c 1862) Margaret took her four children (William Race (Willie) (1854-1931), Isabel (Issie), Frank (1858-1936) and Amy to live with her parents at Glen Dhu.

The papers include correspondence of Margaret (Gunn) Allison, mainly with her Gunn relatives and also papers of son Frank and his family.

Frank Allison (1858-1936) was the Second son of Henry Allison and Margaret (Gunn), born 29 June 1858. He was employed in the Post Office as a supervising clerk but in 1911, owing to a bad leg, he moved to Evandale, where he had a small piece of property, and became local post master at a reduced salary. He married in 1882 Emma Hume, a fellow member of the church choir of St. Paul's Church, Launceston and they had several children including Jack (A.J.), George, Percival, Rachel, Leila, Maggie.

CORRESPONDENCE OF MARGARET ALLISON

A2/

- 1 ✓ Henry Allison to Margaret Gunn 29 Jan. 1852
Letter: journey, cricket game, tea with Dryburgh, friends, Mackersey wanted an opossum to send to Stephenson's wedding as there would be a good many blacks there dancing round a fire and they could roast one, the children, love to Gunn family.
(1 doc)
- 2 ✓ William and Frances Gunn to daughter Margaret Allison 1861-1864, 1868
William Gunn: bad eye, minor news, letters written in sloping illegible hand (1861, 1862, 1864); Frances H. Gunn: Kitty's fall but baby the largest and fattest seen; the children - Willie, Iss, Frank, Amy; Margaret's room would be kept until she came home (1863). Also statement by Mrs F.H. Gunn that she had given her husband's regimental sash to her daughter Margaret.
(7 docs.)
- 3 Gunn brothers and sisters 1845 - 1864
Margaret Gunn to her sister Frances and reply: health, family, dress design (1845).
William Gunn from Glasgow: he had asked parents for consent to his marriage with a Miss Brown, he was more mature than when he left home, was Vice-President of the Andersonian University and reporter to Uncle's paper - written on paper with printed heading "Office of North British Daily Mail" (1851), reluctant to give advice but thought children should obey their mother before their aunt (1859); settlements and mortgage.
Ronald Thomas Gunn, from Hobart: jam missing from his box, thanks Papa for the cover for his desk (1852).
James Gunn, from Glen Dhu: will ask John to wash Margaret's windows - John had been to the Launceston Derby "and is pretty well gone", mulberries for tea,

going to Show, lessons, hive of bees bought from Mrs Bracket for 15s (Feb., Mar. 1860).

Issie, from Broad Marsh, Arndell: hot journey, lost purse, cut finger on new bread knife, Emily good with children (ND).

(8 letters, some cross-written, in chronological order)

A2/

4 Mary Bedford 27 Aug. ND

From Streanshalh: sympathy from herself and "Willie". Signed "Your affectionate sister".

(1 doc)

5 Friends and relatives 1851 - 1890

Lucy Charles (?) from Sydney: congratulations on approaching marriage, mutual friends (30 Oct. 1851).

Cousin Emily E. Maddox, from Launceston: children Loui and Baby, friends, George going to Melbourne to play the cricket match, local match natives [born] against English, death of Miss Barnard (17 Mar. 1852)

C. Benson: sending crochet pincusion as token of friendship, heard of M's marriage, M's brother's return from Scotland (2 Sept. 1853)

Sydney Charles Waller (?): alegorical poem on roses and poppies (1874)

Winston C. Simmons, from Richmond: cheque enclosed, balance owed (1883, 1884)

Julia A. Connell, Glen Connell: sympathy on death of Issie (11 April 1885), the old lady's death - 92 a long span, Biddie and children (9 Oct. 1890).

"L.S." (?), sister (?): death of Issie (ND)

(9 docs, some cross-written)

6 Margaret Allison to John Roberts [solicitor] 22 May 1879

Draft of letter inquiring whether her father had left a legacy to her children.

(1 doc)

ACCOUNTS

7 Household bills 1867 - 1868

Bills for clothing, photographs (T.D. Webb, Launceston and M.P. Dowling, Launceston), receipt by Margaret Allison for cheques cashed for expenses including H.A. Brook - "schooling for Willie", quarter's board and lodging at Glen Dhu for herself and family, etc.

(10 docs.)

HENRY ALLISON HUSBAND OF MARGARET

8 John Roberts to Allison 17 Nov. 1854

His recent visit, won a horse race, cricket, fancy dress ball, remembrances to Mrs Harry and the small boy.

(1 doc. mould damaged, fragile)

9 Susan Allison to son Henry 18 Mar 1855

From Streanshalh: William, welcome rain after drought, Henry's sale, death of William Gatenby, hopes to see the "dear little boy", will invite herself to stay with Margaret, election, poor Dry dying, love from father, Mary and all at home.

(1 doc)

10 Notice of Municipal Council Meeting 28 July 1855

Addressed to Alderman Allison.

(1 printed paper)

FRANK ALLISON

Second son of Henry Allison and Margaret (Gunn), born 29 June 1858. He was employed in the Post Office as a supervising clerk but in 1911, owing to a bad leg, he moved to Evandale, where he had a small piece of property, and became local post master at a reduced salary.

- A2/
11 Birth certificate 1858
Copy of birth registration of Frank Allison, son of Henry Allison and Margaret (Gunn) born 29 June 1858 in Launceston and baptism certificate.
(2 docs)
- 12 Rev. A. Barkway to Mr & Mrs Frank Allison 25 May 1882
Presenting a gift to Mr and Mrs Allison's wedding day in recognition of their services to the choir of St. Paul's Church, Launceston.
(1 doc.)
- 13 Margaret Allison to son Frank and grandson Jack 2 Oct. 1884
To Frank: visiting Miss Connell at Glen Connell, glad Emma well, Mary's little boy; to grandson Jack: his long walk, his prayers, hope his Mamma found grandma Hume better, M. deaf like "poor Julia".
(2 docs.)
- 14 Post Office, 1899, 1909 - 1923
Frank Allison's correspondence relating to his post office and telephone work.
(16 docs)
- 15 Farm and orchard work 1909, 1911, 1915
Correspondence with son Percy (or "Val") about about the farm and orchard planting trees in new orchard, the mare, potatoes, grass etc. Also letter from R. Brown about farm work.
(10 docs.)
- 16 Sons and daughters 1908 - 1917
Letters to Mum and Dad, signed G, Leila (or Lil), Ray (Rachel), Maggie, A.J. (Jack) and A.J.'s children Gwen and Jean: work - girls in domestic service, Leila in New Zealand - had to leave hospital as could not afford the books to study so now waitress in hotel, Maggie in Melbourne, reference to a "flying machine" at Caulfield (1913)
(21 docs)
- 17 William R. Allison to brother Frank 5 May 1916
Emita, Flinders Island: wreck of "Toroa" on reef - passengers saved but it should have been possible to save livestock and cargo. [W.R. Allison was Warden of Flinders Council]
(1 doc)
- 18 M. Jones 1909
Identifying photograph of uncle.
(1 doc)
- 19 W.W. & Maud Lamb to Frank and Mrs Allison 1911
From Victoria about Maggie: unwilling to let her stay longer owing to the awkwardness and scandal of her position, her baby a seven months baby and so too delicate to be removed from its mother but not expected to live, references to the nurse and undertaker.
(4 docs)

- A2/
20 Letters to Mrs Allison from friends 1915 and undated.
Miscellaneous letters from friends, mostly signed with initials only or Ada, Emily or H.J. Scott referring to weather, shopping etc. Also two letters of sympathy on loss of "brave son" (1915).
(8 docs.)
- 21 Rachel Allison c 1907 - 1924
Miscellaneous letters from sisters and other relatives or friends, including uncle William R. Allison, Flinders Island (1924). Also letter from Annie Bowen to George: his visit (1907) and Maggie to Mrs Annear (1913).
(19 letters, some in poor condition, many undated)
- 22 Frank Allison summons for debt 1895
Summons for small debts owed by Frank Allison to Jane Hogg of Broadland House School for expenses in educating his daughter, and to the Executors of Dunning, draper of Launceston, for children's clothing.
(2 docs.)
- 23 Household bills 1890, 1908, 1913-1916
Bills for groceries, garden seeds and tools, rates and land tax etc and cheque stubs.
(bundle of c 50 papers - poor condition)
- MISCELLANEOUS
- 24 Freemason's "Third Degree" admission ceremony 16 Sept. 1889
Frank Allison's memorandum of the form of ceremony of admission to the third degree of masonry, with note that he was steward 1889 - 1891.
(foolscap booklet, ms)
- 25 Birth dates of ?nephews and nieces 1879-1884
Scrap of paper with note of birth dates of William Norman Allison 11 June 1879, Mary Isabel Allison 25 January 1881 (died February 19 1881), Edith Frances Ardel Allison 13 February 1882, Ethel Marguerite Allison 4 May 1884.
(small piece of note paper)
- 26 Miscellaneous printed papers
Esk Cricket Club annual reports 1887-8, 1890-91, 1896-7; Northern Tamarian Cricket Association report 1892-93; notice of meeting Masonic Hall, Lefroy, 1889 (list of names on back including "Allison"; By-Laws of Lodge of Perfect Unanimity (ND); "The King Island Record, Lubricating Oils advertisement (c 1923).
(9 papers)