Pruden, William. (b. 1833)

William Pruden was born on January 14, 1833 in the Mackenzie River district, the son of Peter Pruden (b. 1807 at Ashton House) and Josephte Jolicoeur, the daughter of Louison Jolicouer and Susette (Cree). William married Sarah Truthwaite, the daughter of Jacob Truthwaite and Elizabeth Vincent on March 29, 1854 at St. Andrew's. He subsequently married Mary Hart in July 1908, in Selkirk, she was the widow of Captain John Hawes (1842-1906) from England.

Children:

- John Peter, born March 20, 1856 at St. Andrews, he married Elizabeth McDonald.
- Sarah, born June 7, 1857 at St. Andrew's.
- Anne Elizabeth, born May 10, 1859 at St. Peter's.
- Jane Mary, born January 16, 1861, circa 1879. Jane Mary was married to Edwin Hodgson, son of Catherine Davis and John Hodgson (1826-1909).
- William, born November 23, 1862. In 1887 William Jr. married Alice Leask in St Peter's, she was the daughter of Fanny Cochrane and William Leask (1839-1901).
- Jacob, born September 30, 1864, he married Catherine Waddell.
- Thomas "Short Tom", born October 29, 1866, he married Isabelle Taylor.
- Rachel, born March 5, 1869, died in infancy.
- Charles Albert, born December 1873.

The family was recorded in the census of 1870 in St Clements, on Lot 88: Wm. Pruden, age 40; wife Sarah, age 32. Children: Peter (age 15), Sara (13), Marie (12), Jacob (10), Bella (8), John (7) and Anne (age 5).

William received patent to Lot 33, 122 acres, Parish St Clements on July 19, 1876; he received HB allotment at St Clements SE-19-13-7-EPM + N1/2 of NE-18-13-7-EPM.

The family was recorded in the census of 1881 in St Andrews: William Pruden, age 49; wife Sarah, age 46. Children: John Peter (age 25), Elizabeth Ann (21), Elizabeth (19; John Peter's wife, Elizabeth McDonald), William (18), Jacob (16), Tom (14) and Chas Albert (age 7).

The family was recorded in the census of 1891 in Selkirk: Wm Pruden, age 58; wife Sarah, age 51. Children: Jacob (age 24), Thomas, (22) and Charles (age 16). Lodger: Mary Daniels, age 12 (b-1879).



Compiled by Lawrence Barkwell Coordinator of Métis Heritage and History Research Louis Riel Institute