

is a list of pew holders of whom there are twenty-eight in 1818 and a most remarkable pastoral letter of Rev. Jno. Bethune in 1815. There is also the deed of St. Andrew's church site of Martintown, April 10th, 1811. A very curious document in the possession of Mrs. Barbara McKenzie, Williamstown, is called: Black River tithes, 1791, being so many bushels of wheat, with thirty-three names, mostly two, one being four of oats, and several giving peas. To this are attached little notes explanatory signed by John Bethune or simply J. B. as: "N. B.—Mr. McKenzie will please exempt also from this list—of the late 84th Regt. provided he will premise not to swear any more or play the fool.—J. B." Another, a regimental discharge, to John Mackenzie, dated 24th December, 1783, signed: John Johnson, showing that the bearer had served honestly and faithfully and was entitled to the portion of land allotted to each private. It begins "His Majesty's Provincial Regiment called the King's Royal Regiment of New York, whereof Sir John Johnson, Knight and Baronet, is Lieut.-Colonel Commandant."

The contract for the erection of the present Manse is dated 1822, and is for the sum of £239 Halifax currency, one third to be paid in produce, the second third in cash and the remaining third, February, 1824. The Manse still stands with a large lawn in front, with spacious rooms, and it has the appearance of a modern house although nearly a century old.

Another remarkable thing is the valuable gifts received at the Centenary Celebration; a pulpit by Rev. A. MacGillivray, D.D., of Toronto, a former pastor: Communion table, Col. D. M. Robertson; Elder's chairs, His Honour Judge James McLennan; Individual set, Henry Hunt, M. D., Toronto; Bible and Book of Praise, Bonar Congregation, Toronto; Velours Curtains and Fixtures, Mrs. Farquhar Robertson; One thousand dollars endowment, David Grant, South Branch.

But a word must be said about the old Manse now known as the "White House," and its owner for some time, a most remarkable man, perhaps the most remarkable inhabitant of Williamstown, David Thompson, the noted geographer, explorer and astronomer. Born in London, England, of Welsh extraction, he received lessons in navigation and at the age of fourteen was apprenticed to the Hudson Bay Company for seven years. In 1797 he wrote in his journal, May 23rd. "This day left the service of the Hudson Bay Co., and entered that of the Company of Merchants from Canada. May God Almighty prosper me." Till 1812, he remained in the employment of the North West Company, surveyed their posts, and explored from sea to sea as he says when at the mouth of the Columbia River. In 1816, he was employed by the British Government to survey the boundary line between the United States and Canada from Maine to the Lake of the Woods. The maps made by him still govern. In some respects he was indeed remarkable for those days, as he never used alcoholic liquors, and while other posts were bar-rooms of the lowest type no liquor was allowed in any post under his charge. Also to the Roman Catholic Frenchmen in his charge, he often read chapters of the Old and the New Testaments with explanations, they listening attentively. In an article in the Geographical Journal by Mr. J. B. Tyrrell, F.G.S., called "David Thompson the Great Geographer," a fine tribute is paid to him: "His work was detailed and exact. It has been my fortune to follow Thompson's course for thousands of miles, and to take observations in the same places, where he took them, and it is impossible for me to speak too highly of the