

produced a class of men capable of cutting down the timber in the forest, hewing it into shape, designing the model, laying down the keel, building the ship, and after she was launched and rigged, stepping on deck as Master, and navigating her to any part of the world where there were profitable freights to carry. The woods were full of such men in those days, and I have no doubt we have the same kind of men in Nova Scotia today if they had the same opportunities.

In New Glasgow in those early days, most of the active business men were either ship builders themselves, or had interests in ships; but the man who more than any other made New Glasgow known abroad as a ship buiding centre was the subject of this sketch. The late Captain George McKenzie was born in Halifax on December 12th, 1798. His father died when he was only about four years of age, and his mother, after the death of his father, moved with her family to Fisher's Grant. His sister Christian, who was eight years older than himself, subsequently married James Carmichael.

In 1821, when McKenzie was about twenty-three years of age, he embarked on his first ship-building venture. He became associated with John Reid of Little Harbor. They launched a schooner at Boat Harbor in the autumn of that year and called her the *James William* in honor of his young nephew, James William Carmichael, then about two years old. (Nearly one hundred years later the firm of J. W. Carmichael & Company, Ltd. launched the first steel schooner built in Nova Scotia and revived the old name, by calling her the *James William*.) McKenzie