

## Alexander “Sandy” Murray, M.L.A. (1839-1913)

Alexander was born in Kildonan on April 18, 1839, the son of James Murray (Scott) and Elizabeth Holmes (Metis). He was educated at St. John’s College under Bishop Anderson and won a scholarship in 1857. In 1861 he married Letitia Flett (also Metis), the daughter of the Reverend George Flett and Frances Fanny Cook. They had seven children.

Alexander was one of the founders of the Winnipeg Board of Trade, in 1873. He was elected to the Manitoba Legislature in 1874 and re-elected in 1878 for the constituency of St. Charles. He vacated his seat to serve as Police Magistrate in East Marquette, but remained in the position briefly. In 1879, he was elected to the legislature for Assiniboia, and re-elected in 1883 as a Liberal-Conservative. In April he was appointed Speaker of the House in which capacity he served until December 1886. He was appointed Minister of Municipal Affairs on July 7, 1887, and remained in office until April 30, 1888. He then accepted a post in the Municipal Commissioner’s office which he held for many years. He was twice a delegate to Ottawa as a promoter of “Better Terms.”

He died at the family residence in St. Charles on May 12, 1913, and was buried in Headingley Cemetery.



Compiled by Lawrence Barkwell  
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**DOMINION OF CANADA.**  
PROVINCE OF MANITOBA } I. *Alexander Murray*  
County of *St Charles* } of the Parish of *St Charles* in the County  
County of *St Charles* } of *St Charles* in said Province, *Member of*  
Parish of *St Charles* } *Parliament* -  
make oath and say as follows :

1. I am a Half-breed head of a family resident in the Parish of *St Charles* in the said Province, on the 15th day of July, A.D. 1870, and consisting of myself and *wife & children* and I claim to be entitled as such head of family to receive a grant of one hundred and sixty acres of land or to receive Scrip for one hundred and sixty dollars pursuant to the Statute in that behalf.

2. I was born on or about the *18th* day of *April* - A.D. *1839* in the Parish of *Kildonan* in said Province.

3. *James Murray, a Scotchman, was* my father; and *his wife, Elizabeth Holmes, a half-breed, is* my mother.

4. I have not made or caused to be made any claim of land or Scrip other than the above in this or any other Parish in said Province, nor have I claimed or received, as an Indian, any annuity moneys, from the Government of said Dominion.

*A. Murray*

Sworn before me at the Parish and County aforesaid on the *18th* day of *August* A.D. 1875 having been first read over and explained in the *English* language to said deponent who seemed perfectly to understand the same and *signed* in my presence.

*Mathew*  
Commissioner.

*Affelt. N° 961.*  
*Claim N° 920.*  
*Scrip N° 6969 to 6976. #160.0.*  
*Scrip issued on 12th July, 1876.*  
*5-4-86.* *J.A.C.*