

Early Vancouver

Volume Four

By: Major J.S. Matthews, V.D.

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Narrative of Pioneers of Vancouver, BC Collected During 1935-1939.

Supplemental to Volumes One, Two and Three collected in 1931-1934.

About the 2011 Edition

The 2011 edition is a transcription of the original work collected and published by Major Matthews. Handwritten marginalia and corrections Matthews made to his text over the years have been incorporated and some typographical errors have been corrected, but no other editorial work has been undertaken. The edition and its online presentation was produced by the City of Vancouver Archives to celebrate the 125th anniversary of the City's founding. The project was made possible by funding from the Vancouver Historical Society.

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MEMO OF CONVERSATION WITH AUGUST JACK KHAHTSAHLANO, WHO CALLED AT THE CITY ARCHIVES, 2 JUNE 1939.

PETER PLANT. ADA YOUNG. FIRST WEDDING, MOODYVILLE (REPUTED). KHAH-MY.

Major Matthews: Judge Howay writes in the *B.C. Historical Quarterly*, April 1937, "Early Settlement of Burrard Inlet," page 111, that Peter Plant and Ada Young were the first to be married on Burrard Inlet. What about it, August?

August: "Peter Plant married Addie, a half-breed. Addie was my cousin; my aunt Khah-my was Addie's mother, and Khah-my was cousin to Billy Neuman's mother.

"Addie was daughter of my aunt Khah-my, who was my father's" (Khay-tulk, or "Supplejack") "sister. Aunt Khah-my married a white man; he was, of course, my uncle by marriage, but I don't know his name, and have not found out if anyone knows it. He, the white man—my uncle—was dead before I can remember, but he lived in Gastown. Their daughter Addie married Peter Plant. After her white man died, Khah-my married an Indian, Charlie Tse-nark of Musqueam.

"I asked Billy Neuman" (sic) "the other day if Peter Plant had a father when he" (Peter) "came here, but Billy says, 'No.' Billy said Peter Plant was a young man when he came here, and Billy is now pretty close to 80. Billy was a longshoreman at Moodyville. Addie's mother was cousin to Billy's mother. Billy's mother died long ago; she was full Indian; his father was a German.

"Peter Plant and my cousin had five children, two sons and three daughters. Frank Plant, Jesse Plant, Lizzie, Delia and Lena; Lena was the youngest. The oldest son Frank was grown up but not married, when I was a boy; Delia was about the same age as myself. The two eldest Plant children, Frank and Jesse, went to school at St. Mary's Mission, Mission City, and I think these two boys also went to school in the United States. Two girls went to the Hastings Sawmill School in Gastown." (See roll of pupils.)

"My cousin Addie was so much older than I am that she had four children, Frank, Jesse, Lizzie and Delia when I was a boy, and her children were at school. I think Lena is living yet; wife of a captain of a boat at New Westminster. Jesse was a foreman at a logging camp, and I think is working for the Hastings Mill people yet."

(Note: the roll of pupils at Hastings School, December 1886, shows "Mary Plant," "Jesse Plant.")

Major Matthews: Who was Mary Plant?

August: "Don't know; perhaps she died."

CHIEF MATTHIAS JOE.

Major Matthews: Listen. (Reads from article in *The Beaver*, a Hudson's Bay Company magazine published in Winnipeg, June 1939.) What do you think, August, of this description of the carving, and meaning of the totem pole, Capilano family?

August: (throwing himself back in chair, and laughing boisterously) "You can't beat that; that's good." (Sarcasm.)

Note by J.S. Matthews: August Khahtsahlano cannot read nor write, but is today probably the best informed and most reliable Indian authority on Squamish Indian fact. He regards Chief Matthias, sometimes, with amusement; sometimes, with disdain, and terms him "good show man; good for tourists, all right."