

Early Vancouver

Volume Four

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

2011 Edition (Originally Published 1944)

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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Contact Information

City of Vancouver Archives
1150 Chestnut Street, Vancouver, B.C. V6J 3J9
604.736.8561
archives@vancouver.ca
vancouver.ca/archives



The bell is of bronze, about six inches wide at mouth, about six inches high, and bears the words, "1878," "SAIGNEI-EGIER," "CHIANTEL," "FONDEUR"; has two Maltese crosses, twelve marguerites, and four other ornamentations in raised moulded bronze. It was intended to be hung by a strap for which a "ring" about three inches long by half inch wide is provided.

J.S. Matthews
10 November 1937.

MEMO OF CONVERSATION WITH MRS. JENNIE BECK (MRS. N.D. TILLEY BECK), 1568 WEST 12TH AVENUE, OVER THE 'PHONE, 20 APRIL 1937.

Mrs. Beck is employed in the Day Nursery of the Welfare Association.

Mrs. Beck said: "No, I do not recall the arrival of the first train, May 23rd, 1887; I was too young; you see, my brother was eight years older than me. People expect me, as the sole remaining member of our family Vancouver to recall all about the first telephone central in my father's store, but I do not recall anything about it. Mother died in 1931.

"Father, I think, was on the first government survey of a route for the C.P.R. over the Rockies, but I was not more than 18 months old, about, when the first train arrived."

S.T. Tilley's famous stationery store and telephone central was at 10 Cordova Street (west of Carrall Street), and it was there that W.H. Gallagher, now sole spectator living of the first meeting of the first City Council, got the pad of stationery on which the minutes of that meeting were kept. See *Early Vancouver*, Vol. 1.

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL, LORD BESSBOROUGH.

At the Vancouver Pioneers' banquet, Georgian Room, Hudson's Bay store, 26th or 27th March 1934.

During the course of his speech: "The secret of happiness in old age is the contemplation of one's own work, and to see that it is good."

MEMO OF CONVERSATION (OVER THE 'PHONE) WITH MRS. SIMON BLANEY, 1970 McNICHOL AVENUE, KITSILANO BEACH, WHERE SHE HAS RESIDED FOR MANY YEARS, 2 AUGUST 1938.

MR. AND MRS. S.J. RANDALL. MOODYVILLE SAWMILL.

Mrs. Blaney said: "Father" (Squire Jones Randall) "was master mechanic at Moodyville Sawmill; Mother, née Rebecca Whitney, daughter of William Whitney, was the youngest of a family of twelve, pioneers of Oregon. Father came out from England to Oregon; he died in Vancouver on or about 13th June 1915."

FIRST ELECTRIC LIGHT.

"Father came to Moodyville, first in or about 1870; then he was up and down many times from Moodyville to Oregon, and finally in 1881 came permanently. We, that is Mother, did not come until 1882 because there was no place for us to stay; then they built the house for us next door to the Patterson family; we had known them in Oregon.

"Perhaps, as Fred Patterson and his sister, Mrs. Crakanthorp, say, Father did install the first electric light on Burrard Inlet at Moodyville; very likely. Yesterday I asked my brother-in-law, Mr. Wight, 'Who installed the electric light at Moodyville?' and he said, 'Your father did.'"

S.S. MAGGIE. POINT ATKINSON.

"What your directory of 1885 says about the mill working at night is quite true; I know they worked at night. And Father installed the engines in the first steamer built on Burrard Inlet; I don't know what her name was; it may have been the *Maggie*, I don't know, and he installed the first foghorn at Point Atkinson; the present one is the second one. You see, Mr. Erwin, the lightkeeper, and our family, were such friends."