

## **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**

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**MEMO OF CONVERSATION WITH MISS MURIEL CRAKANTHROP, 856 EAST 59<sup>TH</sup> AVENUE, OVER THE PHONE, 3 SEPTEMBER 1938, WHO KINDLY TELEPHONED IN RESPONSE TO A NOTE ASKING FOR INFORMATION ABOUT THE BUGLE HORNS USED BY THE WESTMINSTER-BURRARD INLET STAGES.**

**STAGES. LEWIS STAGE. MRS. LYNN OF LYNN CREEK. STAGE HORNS.**

Miss Crakanthorp said: "Mother says she does not remember anything about the horn the stage driver blew on the Westminster-Gastown stage, but she remembers the stages coming in to Gastown. They used to come in with a flourish, and grand finale, four horses at a gallop, pull up with a great how-do-you-do between the Sunnyside Hotel and the Deighton Hotel, and the passengers would all get out, and be 'sized up' by the assembled onlookers; everybody wanted to know who'd come in by the stage; an event of the day when the stage arrived; nine passengers; one sat with the driver, and eight in the back. The fare was one dollar, or two dollars return. And of course the mail was thrown down, and hurried into the post office; it was at Hastings at one time, then Hastings Mill, then Carrall Street, depending on the year, until the C.P.R. came in 1887. Then after the excitement was over, the stage and horses would trot 'round to the stables on Trounce Alley, back of Jonathan Miller's house.

"Mother says the trip from New Westminster to Gastown took about two hours, and the road was rough; you know how rough the old Douglas Road was" (see Rev. C.M. Tate narrative in *Early Vancouver*, Vol. 2), "well, in the earlier days it was rougher than that. You remember the big hill on the Douglas Road; Mother says below that was the roughest. Mother says the trip over was always an ordeal for her; she got 'seasick'; lots of people did. Mother says Mrs. Lynn, of Lynn Creek, if she could not have the front seat with the driver, would walk—walk to New Westminster and back—rather than ride on the stage; she got so desperately seasick on the stage.

"Lewis had that stage, and of course he had several drivers, and one was Mr. Green, with a long beard down to his middle, and he chewed tobacco, and he would talk, talk, talk, and the juice got on his beard; and the ladies were feeling squeamish, and that's that story.

"She doesn't recall anything about the stage horns."

Note: Mrs. R.D. Smith, born Burrard Inlet, 1 October 1877, says, 2 April 1937 conversation, "The stage, at the foot of about Abbott or Carrall streets, the stage just came so far, as far as it could get ... Harry Frieze" (sic) "the stage driver, up there on the stage with his bugle; he used to put the bugle up to his mouth and blow it—on the stage—and Maggie took my little hat, and I watched her drive off with the stage."

**MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION WITH MRS. ALICE CRAKANTHROP, WHO, TOGETHER WITH HER DAUGHTER, MISS MURIEL, CALLED THIS AFTERNOON AT THE CITY ARCHIVES, TUESDAY, 25 APRIL 1939.**

**FIRST WEDDING AT HASTINGS SAWMILL. MISS ABBIE PATTERSON. CAPT. F.W. JORDAN.**

Mrs. Crakanthorp said: "Here is the wedding certificate for the first wedding at Hastings Sawmill, 2<sup>nd</sup> December 1874, and I think the second on Burrard Inlet. My sister found it, after all, in a bible at her home at San Francisco; sent it to me, and wrote that it was sent expressly to you, as City Archivist."

At this point, Miss Crakanthorp handed me the certificate, a half sheet of plain white paper, on which is written:

This is to certify that Frederick William Jordan, Captain of the ship "Marmion," and Abbie Lowell, eldest daughter of Capt. Patterson, Burrard Inlet, were today united by me in the bonds of holy matrimony in the presence of a large company of friends, and the following witnesses: William Soule, Ada Miller.

Burrard Inlet,                      James Turner,  
British Columbia,              Wesleyan Minister.  
2<sup>nd</sup> December, 1874.