

Early Vancouver

Volume Five

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

2011 Edition (Originally Published 1945)

Narrative of Pioneers of Vancouver, BC Collected During 1936-1945.

Supplemental to volumes one, two, three and four collected in 1931, 1932 and 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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[LETTER FROM L.A. LEFEVRE.]

Tuesday,
14th Jan. 1936

Dear Major Matthews:

Just a line to thank you for the poems by the late Mr. Bursill. Miss Plunkett was very much pleased by your kind remembrance of her.

You are right in thinking that I came to Vancouver before the first regular passenger train. Mrs. Abbott, the wife of the first Gen. Superintendent of the C.P.R. here, with her family, were with me, and Mr. Abbott sent his private car to meet us in the mountains. We came through only in the day-time, the road bed not being yet in good order.

Forgive this hasty scribble as I am very busy getting ready to leave for California on Friday. We enjoyed your visit the other day, and I hope to see you again after I return. Again, thanks for the poem.

Yours sincerely,

L.A. Lefevre.

(One of the two women, probably the first two, to cross the Rockies by C.P.R. train.) J.S.M.

FURTHER CONVERSATION, MRS. J.M. LEFEVRE, APRIL 1936.

FOUNDER, IMPERIAL ORDER, DAUGHTERS OF THE EMPIRE, VANCOUVER. (I.O.D.E.)

Mrs. Lefevre: "I was on my way to England, and stopped off at Toronto, and Mrs. Murray mentioned it to me; of course, there were many chapters in England, and some in eastern Canada, but none in Vancouver. So when I came back to Vancouver, I called a meeting; there were nine present; it was in our house in Georgia Street; our third house. The first house was on Hastings between Seymour and Granville, and the second where the Customs House is now."

SIR WILLIAM VAN HORNE.

Mrs. Lefevre showed a letter, date 1904, from Sir William Van Horne, complimenting her very highly of a poem she had written, and said he was going to use his influence to have it published in the London *Times*, but said she, "It never was."

DR. LEFEVRE'S OFFICE.

Dr. Lefevre's office is shown in the photo of their Hastings Street home—overlooking the C.P.R. Docks—as a small building, attached to the eastern side of the house. (The Lefevres are members of the Roman Catholic Church.)

Read and approved by Mrs. Lefevre. April 1936.
J.S. Matthews.