

Early Vancouver

Volume Five

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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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Footnote or Endnote Reference:

Major James Skitt Matthews, *Early Vancouver*, Vol. 5 (Vancouver: City of Vancouver, 2011), 33.

Bibliographic Entry:

Matthews, Major James Skitt. *Early Vancouver*, Vol. 5. Vancouver: City of Vancouver, 2011.

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car, and it is easily understandable that he got confused, but knew there was something going on, but did not know just exactly what.”

MEMO OF CONVERSATION WITH COLONEL EDWARD MALLANDAINE, CRESTON, B.C., PIONEER OF VANCOUVER, WHO VERY KINDLY CALLED AT THE CITY ARCHIVES DURING A SHORT VISIT TO VANCOUVER, 8 JANUARY 1940.

Colonel Mallandaine tells me he is a Reeve of Creston—three years—terms, 1936-7-8, and 1939, '40 and '41; that he has been a stipendiary magistrate since 1899; i.e., in 42 years; that he is Past Deputy Grand Master, District No. 8, Freemasons, and that he has sold the Creston Water Works, \$35,000. Col. Mallandaine is the boy who appears in the famous photograph of Sir Donald Smith (Lord Strathcona) driving the last spike at Craigellachie, B.C. (C.P.R.), November 1885.

We “toured” the City Hall; introduced him to His Worship Dr. Telford and others; spent an hour or more together. It was an extraordinary experience for both of us. For one who had voted at the first election of civic authority in Vancouver to inspect the great edifice, the “City Hall,” and recall the day when he had voted in Constable Jonathan Miller’s little cottage on Water Street, and cast his vote for the first Mayor and Alderman of this great city. It was an experience for His Worship Dr. Telford to meet such a man; it was a privilege for me to be his escort, to be able to talk with, and touch, so remarkable a link with the beginning of a great railway and a great city. It was a privilege which few value as they should; we are too near to the event.

FIRST ELECTION, 1886. MAYOR M.A. MACLEAN.

Major Matthews: Col. Mallandaine, did you vote at the first election for mayor and alderman?

Col. Mallandaine: “Certainly, and helped to drag Mayor MacLean up and down Water Street in a two-wheeled cart; I don’t know if it was a butcher cart or not, but it had two wheels; some were in the shafts, some pulling ropes; we could not go far; just up to the end of the street, turn around, and pull the new mayor back again to where we started.”

ST. JAMES’ CHURCH.

Major Matthews: Wish you would write down a few things you think ought to be preserved in writing.

Col. Mallandaine: “How about St. James’ Church? I’ll write you about the start of St. James’ Church.”

We parted on the south entrance steps. He is flying back to Creston tomorrow. What a remarkable age he has lived through. To stand in the tower of this huge building, and look over a city spreading seven miles deep by ten miles wide, and reflect upon the day when he saw it all as a wilderness of towering forest; an experience which, and such as, will never again be the experience of any man.

J.S. Matthews.

MEMO OF CONVERSATION WITH MRS. WILLOUGHBY HOWELL, 2 FEBRUARY 1940.

Née Frances Errington (the Erringtons of Lulu Island are cousins) who came to Vancouver 6 March 1889, lived in Vancouver until 1894, when she went to live on their own farm on No. Thirteen Road, right in front of the Sea Island Airport—across the road. (It would seem their farm must have been on Sea Island.) Mrs. Howell, in company of Miss McColl of Addressograph Department, City Hall, kindly called at the City Archives; rather small of stature, but just another one of those charming, gracious, kind pioneer women with white hair, the wrinkles which experience have brought, and the same courageous persistence.

Mrs. Howell said: “Mr. Howell’s father was an officer in the Royal Welsh Fusiliers stationed with the Imperial Forces at London, Ontario, and Mr. Howell was born there on June 26th the year the Prince of Wales” (King Edward VII) “came” (1860) “to Canada, and Mr. Howell’s mother was at the military balls, and the Prince of Wales paid her much attention. I was born at Glanworth, Ontario, 15th July—I shall be 76 this year” (1940.) “Then Mr. Howell and I were married at Christ Church, Glanworth, on the fifth or seventh January 1888; Anglican church, and we lived there a year, and then we came by C.P.R. to Vancouver, and lived on Pender Street for a while, and then near the corner of Howe and Pender. Mr.