

**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**

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### **WELLWOOD. LIGHTKEEPER. POINT ATKINSON.**

"Well, my sister visited Point Atkinson before they left there to return to Ontario. She told me Mr. Wellwood would only give her five dollars for the cow, and of course he could not sell it to anyone else, anyway. And she" (Mrs. Wellwood, presumably) "would only give her" (Mrs. Woodward) "two bits for down pillows, so she laid them on the rocks, and let the feathers blow away."

### **GENEALOGY.**

"Mrs. Woodward and I were married in Toronto; a home wedding, but Presbyterian; third June 1896. She was Miss Mary A. Burnett, daughter of Alexander and Elizabeth Burnett, of Toronto.

"Our children are:

1. Kenneth Burnett, born June 1897, at Kamloops; married, has two sons, and is school inspector at Rossland, formerly at Prince George.
2. Harriet Irene, deceased, single, died in 1923, buried at Nanaimo.
3. Eugene Douglas Burnett, born January 1<sup>st</sup> 1910, single, University of B.C.; working in the General Post Office, Vancouver.

"Clayton McCall" (C.M. McCall, 2124 Williams Street, Vancouver), "Clayton's mother's aunt, married Hallam Woodward, my father's brother, who died in May 1938 at the age of 98 and six months."

### **SAM GREER.**

Major Matthews: Who was Eliza Jane Hall. Sam Greer's preemption at Chilliwack was crown granted to her; why was it crown granted to her; who was she?

Mr. Woodward: "We *never did* find out; she may have been married to him; I don't know about that; but she got twenty-four hours to leave the country; she killed her baby. Sam did nothing much to his preemption; that's why there is no certificate of improvement. Rube Nowell—they spell it Newell, but pronounce it Nowell—he was sending to Germany for his sweetheart, and Sam said to him, 'Get me one, too, while you're about it,' so his second wife Louisa came out; that's how she came here." (Note: Mrs. Louisa Greer always spoke with a pronounced foreign accent.)

### **MEMO OF CONVERSATION WITH MR. JOHN WRIGHT, 4320 CAMBRIDGE STREET, (GLENBURN 262), WHO KINDLY CALLED AT THE CITY ARCHIVES, 15 OCTOBER 1938.**

Mr. Wright said: "I arrived in Vancouver from Stewiacke, Nova Scotia, on the 20<sup>th</sup> December 1887; went over to Vancouver's Island, Victoria, Chemainus, for a couple of months, and returned to Vancouver on the 29<sup>th</sup> February 1888."

### **ROYAL CITY PLANING MILLS. BREWERY CREEK. WATER WELLS. VICTORY SQUARE.**

"I went to Bermuda in 1871, and then when I came to Vancouver—my family followed me in November 1889—I went to work for the Royal City Planing Mills on Carrall Street. The company boarded us at the boarding house nearby, and provided us with cabins near Hart's Opera House on Carrall Street, but we had to look after ourselves otherwise.

"The Royal City Planing Mills got their water from a stream in Mount Pleasant, east of Westminster Avenue—it was piped from the stream, Brewery Creek, and they had a tank; that was the best water available; very good water, but when the mill was not running, there was no water, and we had to go up to a spring in the hillside; I don't know exactly where it was, but it was up towards Victory Square; not quite so far; there was a natural spring there, and all the people who lived around there dipped from it until the water works were completed in the spring of 1889. That was before my family came.

"Then, when my family came from Nova Scotia in November 1889, we lived first on Carrall Street, and had a little store on that street and sold candies, soft drinks and small groceries; we were there about two years, and then I built a house on Harris Street—in the 800 block opposite the Strathcona School; that was in 1890.

“Then I went teaching at Langley in 1892, and was there teaching for thirteen years, and then was teaching for thirteen years in country places; the last place was Squamish; was there three and one half years, and retired in 1905.”

#### **GENEALOGY.**

“I was married at Halifax, Nova Scotia” (Presbyterian) “on 1<sup>st</sup> January 1874, to Sarah Tupper, daughter of Samuel Tupper, a distant relative of the family of the statesman. We had three children, all living.

1. Horace Tupper Wright, born November 9<sup>th</sup> 1874 at Dartmouth, Nova Scotia; he has two sons and a daughter, all married. Horace was drowned in 1904, and of his sons, one resides in Westminster, another in Prince Rupert, and his daughter, Mrs. Potter, lives at Langley.
2. Annie, was born at Stewiacke, Nova Scotia, 25<sup>th</sup> December 1877, and is now Mrs. Frederick E. White, lives at Harmsworth, Fraser Valley, and has one daughter, Mrs. Pettigrew, who lives in West Vancouver, and she also has one daughter.
3. Martha, born Stewiacke, Nova Scotia, 21<sup>st</sup> October 1880, now Mrs. Charles Fothergill, of Vancouver Heights; Mr. Fothergill is in charge of Confederation Park. They have three children, Charles, unmarried, and two daughters, Margaret, a high school teacher in North Burnaby, and Norah, Mrs. Henry Chapman, of the Fire Department.

“Mrs. Wright died in March 1905 and is buried at Langley; we still have a property there.”

#### **MEMO OF CONVERSATION WITH MR. JOHN WRIGHT, 4320 CAMBRIDGE STREET, WHO CALLED AT CITY ARCHIVES THIS AFTERNOON, 26 OCTOBER 1938.**

##### **WESTMINSTER ROAD. FALSE CREEK ROAD.**

Mr. Wright: “There was a daily coach between Westminster and Vancouver in 1888; lots of ruts in the road, and no ditches for water to run off; just a narrow trail.

“If you were riding on horseback and it happened to be a wet day, the branches of the trees would droop and bend so far down that they would take your hat off if you did not dodge.”

##### **BIBLE IN SCHOOL. LORD’S PRAYER IN SCHOOL.**

“No. I never read the bible in any school in British Columbia, and I started teaching in 1892, and taught in country places such as Squamish, Langley, etc., for thirteen years, until 1905. In Nova Scotia, where I taught before I came to British Columbia, we read the Bible in schools regularly; it was permissible, but not compulsory there, but in my day, it was never done in British Columbia.

But. We always, I always, started the day’s work here in British Columbia with the Lord’s Prayer—first thing, every morning.”

##### **GRANVILLE, B.I. “KLOSHE KANAWAY CHAKO.”**

A Mr. P. Wylie, 222 Keefer Street, tells me that one of the storefronts on Water Street at the foot of Carrall Street, where the Indians landed in their canoes to bring furs, vegetables, etc. for sale (see “Street End Case, January 1905, Appeal Court, Victoria Registry, evidence of Joseph Mannion, page 176) bore the sign, overlooking the water and float, on its front in big letters: “KLOSHE KANAWAY CHAKO.”

Mr. Wylie says, interpreted, it means “Good, fresh, cheap,” but August Jack Haatsalano (see *Early Vancouver*) says, “Kloshe, i.e., good; Kanaway, i.e., everyone; Chako, i.e., come here; in full, “Good, everyone come here.” He says another interpretation is “Let’s all go.”

J.S. Matthews.