

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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MEMO OF FURTHER CONVERSATION WITH REV. P.C. PARKER, JANUARY 1936.

MR. AND MRS. MORTON. JOSEPH MORTON.

"Mrs. Morton was a very liberal woman. For years before Joe died—Joe told me himself—she allowed Joe \$50 a month over and above what his father had left him in his will; about \$1,200 a year annuity. Joe told me that Mrs. Morton offered him \$50 a month, but Joe told me he had replied, 'Give \$25 to my wife and \$25 to me,' and that was how it was paid.

"I" (Rev. Parker) "never asked Mrs. Morton for anything I did not get. She used to send presents to us we did not want. I used to say to her, 'Don't do that,' 'You are no trouble to us'; that would be after she has stayed with us, or we had paid her some little attention.

"She" (Mrs. Morton) "can get a prejudice against a person very quickly. If there was some society which wanted to get money, she gave it if she fancied it; there was Rev. McLeod; I don't know what she gave him, but it must have been a deal.

"There was *absolutely*" (emphatically) "nothing stingy about Mrs. Morton."

MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION WITH QOITCHETAHL (ANDREW PAUL), NORTH VANCOUVER, 12 FEBRUARY 1934.

Query: Can you tell me what Sasamat means? I understand Galiano and Valdes say that they called Burrard Inlet Floridablanca, and that the natives called it Sasamat—at least that portion up about Indian River.

Qoitchetahl: "I never heard it called Sasamat, but I'll find out from Haxten. It sounds to me like Tsaa-tsmat. You know Tsa-atstum, the cool place out at Point Grey; well, both names are from the same derivation, and I presume that the North Arm of the Burrard Inlet might be considered a 'cool place,' especially around Indian River."

INDIANS. ARRIVAL OF FIRST C.P.R. TRAIN.

"You know the story of the Qoitchetahl" (Serpent.) "Well, I have always been told that when the train first came down from Port Moody to Vancouver, the Indians along the south shore of the Inlet took fright and ran. A great long black snake of a thing with a big black head came twirling around the curves, blowing long blasts, 'Hoooooo Hoooooo Hoooooo,' and the Indians thought it was a Qoitchetahl coming back."