

## **Early Vancouver**

### **Volume Six**

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

**2011 Edition (Originally Published 1945)**

*Narrative of Pioneers of Vancouver, BC Collected During 1940-1945.*

*Supplemental to volumes one, two, three, four and five collected in 1931, 1932, 1934, 1939 and 1944.*

### **About the 2011 Edition**

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“Mr. Horne lived down on the corner of about Pender and Howe Street, and used to take his meals at the Hotel Vancouver. So one day I met him at the Hotel Vancouver; he said, ‘Good evening’ as I passed, so I sat down and we talked. He was a fine man. I think Mr. Horne was mixed with Mr. McKee in the street railway, what we call the B.C. Electric Railway now, and there were a lot of IOUs when it got into financial difficulty, and some of them were not Mr. Horne’s, but, as I understand it, he paid the whole lot of them.

“Anyway, we sat on the verandah of the Hotel Vancouver, and we were talking and he told me that he thought a lot of us young Englishmen. He said he didn’t play cricket or football or baseball, but he thought a lot of the young Englishmen who did. He was a very quiet man, I don’t think he belonged to any club; he was so busy looking after his financial interests. I think he married a” [blank]; “they did not live together and I think had agreed to separate.

“He said to me as we sat there that he had no ‘vices.’ Did not smoke or drink; collected his own rents, and had a rule that if the rent was not paid, he would collect 10 per cent extra when it was overdue. So I said to him that he was full of vice; that to charge 10 per cent extra interest was a vice; to collect interest on rent was vice. So I told him how much better it would be if he stopped charging that ten per cent extra on the rent. He told me that evening that he thought he was worth three million. He was in the Provincial Parliament. He was a good representative, and a good alderman at the right time; I liked him.

“The last time I saw him before he died he was all doubled up, and I just stopped him bumping into a telegraph pole; he did not see it.

“Mr. Horne was a just and upright and honest man.”

#### **EXCERPT FROM CONVERSATION WITH MRS. ROBERT DONALD SMITH, NÉE McCORD, 914 PENDER STREET WEST, 20 JULY 1936.**

##### **BEN C. McCORD. MARGARET McCORD.**

“My father” (Mr. McCord) “came to British Columbia during the gold rush to Cariboo; then he too came to Burrard Inlet and went logging for Jerry Rogers at Jericho Beach. He was married to my mother by the Rev. Thos. Derrick at the little church on what is now Water Street; I think you know it as the Indian Church, or Wesleyan Methodist Church; anyway, it was the first church we had in what is now Vancouver. I am their only child, and was born on the 1<sup>st</sup> October 1877. Subsequently I was christened in the same church. Mother died 26<sup>th</sup> April 1925 and is buried in Mountain View Cemetery; Father went over the Skagway Trail in 1898, died the following year, and was accorded the first Masonic funeral in Dawson City. My first recollections of the little old church are that the Indians used to come to it as well as whites; I was in it many times. It was just a little old building, about as big as these two rooms” (16 x 19) “and only now and again would the minister come. The back” (north end) “of the little building protruded a little over the beach; it was to the west of the ‘Parsonage.’”

##### **DEATH OF MRS. R.D. SMITH (MINNIE McCORD.)**

Mrs. R.D. Smith, née Minnie McCord, died on or about 3 September 1937, and was buried from Armstrong and Co. Undertaking Parlours on Dunlevy Avenue. Her husband was present at the funeral. I also attended.

J.S. Matthews.