

Early Vancouver

Volume Six

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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

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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MEMO OF CONVERSATION WITH AUGUST JACK KHAHTSAHLANO, WHO KINDLY CALLED AT THE CITY ARCHIVES, 16 JULY 1940.

CHINALSET. "JERICHO CHARLIE." BIRTH OF AUGUST JACK KHAHTSAHLANO.

Major Matthews, reading from a slip of paper photostatted with three others, all birth certificates: August, what does this mean? (reading)

Auguste, fils de Shinaotset et de Menatlot, Squamishs, baptise à l'âge d'environ 16 mois le 12 fevrier, 1879.

N. Gregone,
O.M.I.

August: "That's me: when I was a little boy, they call me Menatlot. My mother marry Chinalset" ("Jericho Charlie") "when I was little. I was born the same day my father died. But the priest, he's got it all mixed up. My father was Khay-tulk" (or Supplejack) "and my mother Qwhy-wat. Menatlot was Chinalset's first wife, and my mother was Chinalset's second wife, and he was her second husband. The proper way to pronounce it, if it is a girl, then it is Menatel-lot, and if it is a boy, Menahtia."

KHAY-TULK. SUPPLEJACK.

(If August was 16 months old on 12 February 1879, and was born the day his father died, then Khaytulk or "Supplejack" must have died about October 1877.)

CHIEF KHAHTSAHLANOUGH. PETER PLANT.

"My grandfather, Chief Khahtsahlanough, have sons, Khay-tulk, Khar-luk, Keeolst, all brothers, and Khah-my, their sister; Khay-tulk, my father; Khah-my, my aunt, marry white man; her half-breed daughter marry Peter Plant."

BROCKTON POINT.

(Looking at photo No. P. St. 124, N. St. 25, being "53 looking north from Brockton Point, 1885," photo by L.A. Hamilton; huge boulder on shore in foreground.)

"Ooooooh, yes. Just west of Brockton Point; gone now. Don't think it has an Indian legend to it, but we used to catch lots of devil fish under it" (octopus); "nine legs; lots; pretty nearly every day we go back catch more."

OCTOPUS. INDIAN FOOD.

Major Matthews: What for?

August Jack: "Cook 'um; boil; the part you eat is the legs. But you got to wash 'um good" (well.) "Don't know why they wash, but they do it, after he's boiled. If you don't do it" (wash them) "they's tickle" (tingle) "your mouth like needles; just like when your foot 'goes to sleep,' you get 'needles.' Don't do you no harm; he's just 'strong,' that's all, but you gets 'needles' in your mouth if you don't wash him after he's boiled."

CHANTS. SHAALSH. SIWASH ROCK.

(Siwash Rock's kitchen.) "Chants? It's a kind of flat sandstone on the beach; holes in it; all shape holes; on the beach it's covered with water when the tide's in." (See *Early Vancouver*, Vol. 2, page 20.)

(Looking at very close up photo of Siwash Rock, marked "Siwash Rock," "Devine," "Vancouver" and two men concealed on left hand side of rock, part way up.)

CHIEF LAHWA. "NAVY JACK."

"That cottage on far shore is" (left of rock) "'Navy Jack's,' and this one" (right of rock) "is Lahwa's. He lived on the west bank of Capilano Creek; there is little creek there runs into big one, and he lived on the point. Then, after he's father" (Old Chief Ki-ap-a-la-no) "died, he moved over to the east bank at Homulcheson."