Early Vancouver

Volume Seven

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Narrative of Pioneers of Vancouver, BC Collected between 1931-1956.

About the 2011 Edition

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Here are the names of the family as they were born: Charlotte; Ruth (dead); Moses (dead); Isaac, Thomas (dead); James; Joseph (dead); Samuel, Victor and Jennie. I knew them all. The last five born in Vancouver.

from Reuben Hamilton

CONVERSATION WITH MRS. W.M. GOW, 984 BURRARD STREET, WHO VERY KINDLY CALLED AT THE CITY ARCHIVES THIS AFTERNOON AND STAYED FOR A CUP OF TEA.

A.M.J. FARR. W.G. BABCOCK. WILLIAMS AND CRAIG. MAUD TEMPLETON. TEMPORARY CITY HALL.

Mrs. Gow: "This photo" (about 1890) "of an old butcher shop, with a wooden sidewalk in front, a barrel high up, and staircase on the right, and with the number '14' upon it, and with a calf in the street, is the butcher shop which stood on the south side of Hastings Street East, a few doors from Carrall Street. The date is about 1890, about then, the same ground as the 'Temporary City Hall' stood, 16 East Hastings Street.

"The man I do not recognise, but the woman is Mrs. W.J. Babcock; the first young lady I think, but am not sure, is Maud Templeton, daughter of Mayor Templeton; the next is Ethel Babcock, I am sure of that, and the little boy may be the brother of Maud Templeton, that is Boy Templeton. He was the youngest and they always called him 'Boy.'

"I think that Mrs. William Farr and Mrs. Babcock were sisters.

"I do not know who the man is who is seated but it might be that the two men are Williams and Craig—the partner butchers.

"The part of the building on the left belonged to Menzies" (of McCain and Menzies.) "He was a house mover."

(See photo Bu. N. 382, P. 394.)

Mrs. Gow and her father came to Granville 9 March 1885.



Item # EarlyVan_v7_031

[photo annotation:]

Hastings street at Carrall street, circa 1890. No. 14 Hastings St; see figures "14" on post; the subsequent location of the "Holden Building," used as "Temporary City Hall" from 1929 to 1936. Mrs W.M. Gow, 984 Burrard st, dau. of Mr A.R. Coughtery, pioneer butcher, 1885, said, Nov. 14, 1951: - "This two story building stood on the south side of Hastings St, just east of Carrall; it was Williams' butcher shop, (Williams and Craig). I do not recognise the two men; they may be the two partners. The woman is Mrs (W.J.) Babcock; of that I am sure; they lived upstairs; you can see the outside stairs on the right. I think the girl next to Mrs Babcock is Maud Templeton, daughter of Mayor Templeton, whose store was across the street; the next is Ethel Babcock, and the little boy may be Roy, the youngest of the Templetons. The part of the building on the left belonged to Mr Menzies, of McCain and Menzies, house movers." Wood plank sidewalk. Earth road. A folding door of long slats, seen on the right, closed the shop, and permitted free and full circulation of air. On Dec. 29, 1951, a granddaughter of Frank J. Russell, 2832 Willingdon Ave, Burnaby, pioneer, 1889, now 81, told me her grandfather told her to say that Mrs W.J. Babcock was his sister. Mr Ian Earl Russell, son of E.J. Russell, and of the firm of Farr, Robinson & Bird, Ltd, told me that Mrs Babcock, (his aunt) was aunt to Major Percy Farr, founder of the firm. Mrs William Farr and Mrs Babcock were sisters. Butcher cart in street; scales on floor in rear; carcasses on hooks on right hand wall. City Archives. J.S.M.