

**Early Vancouver**

**Volume Seven**

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

**2011 Edition (Originally Published 1956)**

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

**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 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the City's founding. The project was made possible by funding from the Vancouver Historical Society.

**Copyright Statement**

© 2011 City of Vancouver. Any or all of *Early Vancouver* may be used without restriction as to the nature or purpose of the use, even if that use is for commercial purposes. You may copy, distribute, adapt and transmit the work. It is required that a link or attribution be made to the City of Vancouver.

**Reproductions**

High resolution versions of any graphic items in *Early Vancouver* are available. A fee may apply.

**Citing Information**

When referencing the 2011 edition of *Early Vancouver*, please cite the page number that appears at the bottom of the page in the PDF version only, not the page number indicated by your PDF reader. Here are samples of how to cite this source:

Footnote or Endnote Reference:

Major James Skitt Matthews, *Early Vancouver*, Vol. 7 (Vancouver: City of Vancouver, 2011), 33.

Bibliographic Entry:

Matthews, Major James Skitt. *Early Vancouver*, Vol. 7. Vancouver: City of Vancouver, 2011.

**Contact Information**

City of Vancouver Archives  
1150 Chestnut Street, Vancouver, B.C. V6J 3J9  
604.736.8561  
archives@vancouver.ca  
vancouver.ca/archives



pleasure in recalling many a hot chase after the puck on the ice arena sixty years ago. It is thought that he is the only surviving member of the original Stanley Cup hockey team.

The original hockey team of Ottawa was called "The Rebels," and at a banquet, 18 March 1892, tendered to the Ottawa Hockey Club which had won the championship of the Canadian Amateur Hockey Association, Lord Kilcourse, on behalf of His Excellency, John Stanley, Governor General, offered a cup emblematic of Canadian Hockey championship. This cup is now the famous Stanley Cup, the competitions for which are now being played.

In writing Major Matthews, City Archivist, recently, the aged earl said:

I remember so well its initiation. It was in connection with a small group of hockey enthusiasts of whom four or five, if not more, were members of the staff of my father, Lord Stanley, Governor-General. We formed a team of ourselves; our name "The Rebels." I'm glad to think that from that very small beginning there has developed the present contest for the "STANLEY CUP," which you tell me is now the greatest ice hockey contest in North America, and that means in the world.

### **THE OPENING OF STANLEY PARK, OCTOBER 1889.**

#### **THE CHILDREN'S GREETING TO THEIR EXCELLENCIES LORD STANLEY, GOVERNOR GENERAL, AND LADY STANLEY.**

We come! We come!  
We come, good friends, to greet you.  
Our hearts are free and happy are we,  
Yes! happy are we to meet you.

There was a platform erected on Georgia street, across from the old Hotel Vancouver at Granville street, and there the scholars of Vancouver Schools stood. I was one of them. The above verse was sung by the school children upon the occasion of the visit of Lord and Lady Stanley to Vancouver in 1889.

Excerpt from letter, 11 May 1954, from Mrs. N.E. (Jane) Lougheed, 2941 West 45<sup>th</sup> Avenue, to Mrs. Jean Gibbs, Assistant Archivist, Vancouver.

### **THE RT. HON. THE EARL OF DERBY, K.G.**

6<sup>th</sup> Feb. 1948

The Rt. Hon.  
THE EARL OF DERBY, K.G.

Dear Mr. Stroyan:

I have the honor to call your attention to the press notices announcing the demise of Lord Derby. Lady Derby survives. Other descendants include the Rt. Hon. Oliver Stanley, P.C., who was Secretary of State during the late war, grandson.

It is known to you, but, merely to refresh your memory, Lord Derby, as A.D.C. to his father, His Excellency The Governor-General, Baron Stanley of Preston, was present, with his bride, now his widow, at the dedication ceremony at the end of the pipe line road, Oct. 1889, when His Excellency exclaimed that he dedicated Stanley Park "to the use and enjoyment of peoples of all colours, creeds and customs for all time." And "I name thee Stanley Park."

A beautiful, but peculiar illuminated scroll had been presented to Lord Stanley, and to which he was replying. The original is now in the City Archives, suitably framed, as in 1939, the late Lord Derby generously, at our request, represented it to the Citizens of Vancouver. I enclose a printed copy of it; one well worth reading.

I also enclose you a photograph of two letters, not yet one year old. They were received following our sending him the admirable photo, "The Merry Children of Vancouver" in Stanley

Park. He says that Lady Derby and he look back with pleasure to that time when they were first married (they were on their honeymoon), and that she is in good health, but he is 82 and very infirm. You may recall that, in 1943, at the occasion of the re-dedication we cabled him felicitations, and his most recent letter, two months ago, reads: "It is very kind of you to have sent me a Christmas cake and dried fruit, and I appreciate your thought of Lady Derby and myself. They will make a welcome addition to our rather limited fare of these days."

Lord Derby, during his many years, was one of the great statesmen of the Empire; Lord Mayor of Liverpool; president (British) Board of Trade, Postmaster General, Ambassador to France, and originator of the "Derby Scheme" of recruiting during the first World War.

While they had the opportunity, it seems to me, the gentlemen of the Parks Board did all that was possible to extend to Lady Derby and to him those courtesies which were his due. You may recall that, in 1943, they were invited to be your guests at the re-dedication ceremonies and festivities, which invitation, on account of his health, they had to decline. The Citizens of Vancouver have tried their best to convey, while time permitted, evidences of their esteem and fond recollections. He was, we believe, the last survivor of the original Stanley Cup hockey team, of Ottawa.

Lady Derby, who was beside him at the time the park was dedicated, survives.

With best wishes

Most sincerely,

CITY ARCHIVIST

P.B. Stroyan, Esq.,  
Superintendent, Parks Board  
Vancouver.

**1888-1948. STANLEY PARK, VANCOUVER, B.C. OPENING AND NAMING, 27 SEPTEMBER 1888.  
60<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY, 27 SEPTEMBER 1948.**

Address of Major J.S. Matthews, City Archivist, Vancouver, at a banquet to commemorate the sixtieth anniversary of the naming and opening of Stanley Park, Vancouver, Canada, given by the Board of Park Commissioners in the Stanley Park Pavilion, Stanley Park, on 27 September 1948, at 6:00 p.m.

Mr. Chairman; Your Worship; Ladies and Gentlemen:

All present, save myself, are now, or have been, Park Commissioners, are relatives of Commissioners, or are Park officials. I alone speak for the citizens; thousands of them, some gone, some here now, others coming in the long years to be. I bring you their united good wishes, their gratitude for your sixty years of labour, and their encouragement as you commence your sixty-first.

"Westward the stream of empires wends its way.  
The four first acts already passed.  
The fifth shall end the drama with the day.  
Time's noblest offspring is the last."

Bishop Berkeley penned those lines forty years before the Spaniard, Narvaez, sailing in and out and 'round about in English Bay, 1791, was the first European to see Stanley, Park, and name it Punta de la Bodega—our Ferguson Point. The Bishop had in mind the empires of Babylon, Greece, Carthage, and Rome, the "four first acts," and, lastly, America, "Time's noblest offspring." He died in 1753 when Captain Vancouver was a babe in arms; when New York had a population of 22,000, and when British Columbia was shown on the maps as the "Western Sea."

Narvaez was the first white man to see the western mainland shore of Canada, and he saw it at Stanley Park; there was no earlier discovery. In the City of Vancouver Bodega is the oldest name.