

Early Vancouver

Volume Three

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

2011 Edition (Originally Published 1935)

Narrative of Pioneers of Vancouver, BC Collected During 1933-1934.

Supplemental to Volumes One and Two collected in 1931-1932.

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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EXTRACT FROM *THE TIMES*, THURSDAY, 23 MARCH 1876.

"The late Vice-Admiral the Hon. George Fowler Hastings, C.B., recently Commander-in-Chief, Sheerness, was the second son of Hans Francis, twelfth Earl of Huntingdon, by his first wife, Frances, third daughter of the Rev. Richard Chaloner-Cobbe, and was born in 1814." (28th November.) "He entered the Navy in 1824, and passed his examination in 1832. In the following year he obtained the rank of Lieutenant. After which he was appointed to the *Excellent*, Gunnery Ship at Portsmouth." (In May 1834, to the *Revenge* in the Mediterranean, and in 1837 to the *Rhadamanthus*, also in the Mediterranean, and one of the first steam vessels of her Majesty's service.) "He obtained his commission as Commander in 1838; was early in the succeeding year made an inspecting commander of the Coastguard, and in" (August) "1841 was appointed to the command of the *Harlequin*, 16, of the East Indian and China Station. While in that sloop, besides sharing in the closing operations of the Chinese war, he received the thanks of the Commander-in-Chief of the Station for his gallant conduct in leading the boats of the *Harlequin*, *Wanderer* and *Dido* in the attack on the piratical towns of Murdoo and Qualloo Batto, in the island of Sumatra. He was promoted to the rank of Captain in 1845" (31 January) "when the *Harlequin* was paid off." (Commanded the *Cyclops*, steam frigate, west coast of Africa, 1848-1851, and from August 1852 to May 1857, the *Curacoa* in the Mediterranean and Black seas.) "Captain Hastings was appointed to the *Curacoa* in August 1854, and commanded that steamer in the Black Sea Fleet during the" (Russian) "War. For his services in the Mediterranean and the Black Sea he was made a Companion of the Order of the Bath" (2 January 1857) "and received the Turkish Order of the Medjidie of the Third Class." (Real-Admiral, 1863. Commander-in-Chief, Pacific Station, flagship *Zealous*, 20 guns, one of the earlier built wooden ironclads, November 1866 to November 1869.) "In 1866 he was appointed to the command of the Pacific Squadron, in succession to Rear-Admiral the Hon. J. Denman, and in 1873 was appointed Commander-in-Chief at the Nore. He became Rear-Admiral in 1863, and Vice-Admiral in 1869." (Commander-in-Chief, Nore, 1873 to 14 February 1876. Died suddenly a few weeks afterwards, 31 March 1876.) "He was the senior on the list of Vice-Admirals, and by his death Rear-Admiral A. Cumming, C.B., becomes Vice-Admiral, and Captain A.W. Acland Hood, C.B., A.D.C. to the Queen, obtains Flag rank."

May 21st 1934.

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To

Major J.S. Matthews.

Dear Sir,

I received your most interesting letter and the two photographs today and have forwarded them on to Mrs. Hans Hastings (the widow of Admiral Hastings's eldest son), as she will possibly find some photos, or bits of information which might be useful to you among her late husband's papers, or get them from the Admiral's youngest son, or his daughter (Mrs. Henry), both of whom are alive.

My husband, who died in 1925, was in Vancouver with his uncle as a young lieutenant and loved the place and the life out there. He retired as an Admiral, as soon as he reached that rank.

I hope Mrs. Hans Hastings will be of some assistance. Anyway you are sure to hear from her.

Yours faithfully,

E.C. Hastings.