

The Story of Cascade Lodge No. 10

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It was once said to be the largest town west of Chicago and north of San Francisco—bigger than Victoria and New Westminster. It was born of gold fever, and had its own Masonic Lodge. No, it's not Barkerville.

It's Yale.

Most BC Masons likely know that Kamloops Lodge is No. 10 and Cascade Lodge in Vancouver is No. 12. Those who have leafed through the *History of the Grand Lodge of British Columbia* will have learned a short-lived lodge was warranted in 1881 for the town of Yale on the Fraser River to be called 'Cascade'. It was given number '10' on the Register, but the warrant was forfeited. The *History* regurgitates a short story on the lodge written by MW Bro. Robie L. Reid in his *Historical Notes and Biographical Sketches*. This is an attempt to fill in some blanks about the first lodge warranted by our Grand Lodge.

The Grand Lodge returns for 1882 reveal the lodge met on the second Tuesday of each month and had 15 members, as follows:

Alexander Lindsay, WM	William Dodd
Issac Oppenheimer, SW	Joshua Deer Frickelton
Benjamin Douglas, JW	Thomas William Gray
William Teague, Secretary	Ernest Barron Chandler Hanington
Richard Deighton, Treasurer	Henry Hoy
John Allison	Edward Pearson
Walter Edward Blackett	Henry Pressey
Stephen Tingley	

The Yale listing in the British Columbia Directory for 1882-83 has a bit more information. It lists Pressey as the Tyler, though the returns say no other officers than those mentioned above had been selected.

The available masonic careers of the members are as follows:

ALLISON received his degrees in Union No. 9 in New Westminster. He was initiated Nov. 6, 1876, passed Dec. 11, 1876 and raised Jan. 1877. He was JD in 1878 and 1879, then SW in 1880. He was suspended NPD in 1884, but was restored and demitted July 15, 1903.

BLACKETT affiliated with Ashlar No. 3 in Nanaimo in 1884, giving his Mother Lodge as Tyrian Youth No. 28 (likely No. 45, GLNS). He was a Steward in 1886, and SD in 1887. He died a member of the Lodge.

DEIGHTON's Mother Lodge hasn't been uncovered, but he can be traced to the founding of Vancouver Lodge No. 421, GLScot., in Victoria. He was appointed the first SD of the Lodge and was installed by proxy on Oct. 20, 1862. At the next installation on Dec. 27, 1862, he was appointed a Steward. Deighton demitted in 1865, affiliated with Cariboo No. 469 GLScot., in Barkerville in 1868, then demitted in 1885. For some reason, he never joined Union Lodge when he moved to New Westminster, even though his partner Douglas was a member. However, he was granted a masonic funeral by dispensation of the Grand Master, and it was conducted by Union Lodge.

DODD was initiated in Union No. 9 on May 3, 1875, passed Sept. 6, 1875 and raised June 5, 1876. While still a member of Union Lodge, he affiliated with Kamloops No. 10 in 1887, and

was Tyler that year. He demitted from Kamloops Lodge in 1888, and Union Lodge in 1905. His son William Edward Dodd joined Kootenay No. 15 in Revelstoke and was a charter member of Nicola No. 53 in Nicola, while son Leonard joined Cariboo No. 4 and was a Grand Steward in 1922-23.

DOUGLAS was a member of the Craft in BC before the Grand Lodge was formed. He was initiated into Union No. 899 UGLE on Dec. 8, 1870, passed Feb. 24, 1871 and raised Mar. 9, 1871. He demitted from the Lodge, then affiliated with it on May 3, 1875. Douglas is listed in the returns of 1885 to 1891 as Treasurer, and was made an honorary member of the Lodge after he retired. He was also given the rank of Past Grand Treasurer in June 1888 for his work in erecting a masonic hall in the Royal City that year. His newspaper obit claims he also had the distinction of being coroneted a 33 degree Scottish Rite member, but there was no Consistory in British Columbia at the time, and the Scottish Rite office in Vancouver has him listed as a 14 degree member.

FRICKELTON was “a member of an Eastern lodge in good standing” (presumably in Ontario) at his death, and was given a Masonic funeral by Union Lodge by dispensation.

GRAY joined Union No. 9. He was initiated on Jan. 8, 1877, passed Feb. 5, 1877 and raised Mar. 25, 1877. He was Secretary in 1879. He was suspended NPD in 1893, restored on Apr. 16, 1900, then suspended again in Dec. 3, 1913. His son, A.W. Gray, was also a member of Union Lodge.

HANINGTON received his degrees in Albion No. 1, St. John, N.B. He was initiated on April 5, 1878, passed May 3, 1878 and raised June 7, 1878, then demitted the same year. He affiliated with Vancouver and Quadra No. 2 on Mar. 19, 1879, and demitted in 1881. Hanington became a Steward the year he affiliated.

HOY had the most prominent Masonic career of all the petitioners. He affiliated with Union No. 9 on Dec. 3, 1877 from St. John's No. 4 in Winnipeg. Hoy was initiated Oct. 6, 1875, passed Nov. 3, 1875 and raised Dec. 8, 1875, receiving certificate No. 23 from the young Grand Lodge of Manitoba. His first office in Union Lodge was JW in 1878. He was SW in 1879. WM in 1880, Chaplain in 1883, SW in 1884, and WM again in 1885 and 1886. Hoy was appointed a Grand Steward in 1880, was elected Junior Grand Warden in 1887, and Senior Grand Warden in 1888. He served on several Grand Lodge committees and was the Grand Representative for the Grand Lodge of Ohio until his death.

LINDSAY was initiated in Cariboo No. 4 on Nov. 11, 1874, passed Nov. 21, 1874 and raised Dec. 7, 1874. He was WM in 1880, and Grand Standard Bearer in 1880-81, at which time he demitted. We find him next in 1897 at Cumberland No. 26, from which he demitted in 1900.

OPPENHEIMER was, according to Reid, a member of Union No. 58 in Sacramento, California. But that isn't what a dusty book of the records of the Scottish Provincial Grand of B.C. says. He was initiated in Cariboo No. 469 on Oct. 7, 1871, passed the same month, and raised Nov. 4, 1871. He demitted in 1875 and joined Vancouver and Quadra No. 2. He was JD of that Lodge in 1879, and next we find him as SW in 1884, and WM in 1885. He was Grand Pursuivant in 1884-85, and Grand Director of Ceremonies in 1885-86 and 1886-87. In 1888, he had been appointed by Grand Master A.R. Milne as a special deputy to look at the affairs of Mt. Hermon No. 7, then was appointed the first DDGM for District 2 (then covering Lodges in Vancouver and New Westminster) when the first Districts were created in 1888. Oppenheimer demitted from No. 2 in 1889 and joined Mt. Hermon Lodge, from which he demitted in 1903, but resumed his membership in 1908 and held it until his death. He was Grand Representative

to Arkansas 1887-1904. He also had the pleasing duty of moving in Grand Lodge in June 1888 that Cascade No. 12 be granted a warrant.

PEARSON was initiated in Cariboo No. 469 on Feb. 1, 1868, passed Feb. 22, 1868 and raised Mar. 14, 1868, then installed as JD on June 24, 1868. He was JW at the formation of the Grand Lodge of BC in 1871 and SW in 1872. That was his last office in the Craft. He demitted from No. 4 on Aug. 21, 1889, affiliated with Vancouver and Quadra No. 2 and demitted in 1895.

PRESSEY's Masonic history hasn't come to light.

TEAGUE received his degrees in Tregullow No. 1006 in St. Day, Cornwall, evidently in the 1870s when he returned to England to get married.

TINGLEY was a member of Union Lodge at the time it joined the Grand Lodge of B.C. and remained a member until his death.

We'll return to our cast of characters in a moment. First, let's learn a little bit about Yale and why a Lodge formed.

In 1848, the Hudson's Bay Company established a small wooden fort and called it Fort Yale, after James Murray Yale, one-time chief factor at Fort Langley.

Ten years later, gold was discovered on a gravel bar on the Fraser just two miles south of Yale. Gold fever caused a massive influx of people to the region from all over the world, the majority of whom had been involved in the California Rush of 1849. There were Freemasons among them, as we shall see. Yale grew quickly as steamboats could come up the Fraser River from Vancouver only as far as Yale because the water got too rough. Miners and their supplies were had to be transferred to horses and wagons at Yale and taken to places farther north by road. A lot of money could be made in Yale, especially in 1862, when the provincial government paid for the Cariboo Wagon Road from Yale to Barkerville.

When the gold in the Cariboo petered out, so did Yale, but it became busy again when construction got underway in 1880 for a railway linking British Columbia with the rest of Canada. Yale became the main supply centre for all the work in the Cascade Division of British Columbia. By May 1881, the local newspaper, the Inland Sentinel, boasted Yale had *"more saloons to the acre than any place in the world...and it requires considerable lubrication to keep them [the CPR workers] in working trim."*

It was about this time, talk of establishing a Masonic Lodge began. The Minutes of the Lodge apparently no longer exist, so we don't know when the first organisational meeting was held, but we can piece together a few things from the Grand Lodge correspondence files. A letter was sent to Grand Secretary Edgar Crow Baker on Apr. 28, 1881, telling him of *"a resolution re. formation of a Masonic Lodge at Yale."* The letter was written by Alfred Smither, a clerk for Douglas and Deighton, who was never listed as a member of the Lodge. The Grand Secretary responded *"your letter may already be regarded as an application for dispensation"* and he requested a regular petition for a warrant.

Apparently, the meeting which produced the resolution also resulted in plans for a "Masonic re-union" to celebrate the Queen's birthday on May 24th, as Baker received a letter dated May 12th from Lindsay saying plans for it *"remain postponed until some day after"*. Lindsay had a question about numbers, as Baker told him *"seven only are necessary for the petition for a Lodge."*

The petition had to be approved by the nearest Lodge - Union No. 9, about 115 miles away in New Westminster. It was approved June 8, 1881, and the Grand Secretary wrote Lindsay on June 22nd after the meeting of Grand Lodge, telling the new Lodge it had

permission "to proceed under dispensation to convene and hold a Lodge for all the purposes of Freemasonry." Again, Lindsay had questions, and wrote four days later about regalia, and about members affiliating before receiving the Warrant.

Another question was put to the Grand Secretary in late June. Yale's fire captain, A.F.C. Engent, belonged to a Lodge in California, and had died. Ben Douglas wrote about the \$184 in funeral expenses and also asked about a Bro. George Chapman Bent of the Nicola Valley, who apparently wished to join the Lodge.

By July 5th, Baker wrote Lindsay, giving the Lodge another "dispensation to admit others till the Charter issued." That was expected to take place October 29th.

But fate - actually, a sleeping drunk - intervened on August 18, 1881. The Inland Sentinel reported:

"About 4 p.m. the alarm was given that the 'Caledonia Hotel' was on fire, and from the cries on the street and whistling of the locomotive engine at the time on Douglas street, our towns people were soon in motion toward the scene of the fire -- which soon burst out of the roof of the building near the chimney. In a few moments the whole roof was a mass of flame, which fanned by a gentle wind darted right and left."

The hope was the fire would be checked by pulling down Frickelton's drug store and by the brick walls of the Oppenheimer Brothers store. It wasn't. Most of the town centre was wiped out. People were too busy saving their property than helping to fight the fire. The Sentinel reported on two "heroines", one a wife of one of the members of the Lodge: "mostly from the exertion of Mrs. J.B. Harrison and Mrs. Presey (sic) may be seen that solitary home in the block standing...These ladies ought to put masculines to shame for not making proper exertions to check the flames." Oppenheimer and his brothers lost their store and new, two-storey warehouse, though the roof had been soaked in water. They had thrown goods from the business over the bank to the edge of the Fraser so as not to be burned - and \$4,000 worth was looted by whites and natives. The Victoria Colonist reports one man loaded up a canoe and took off with some ill-gained merchandise. Oppenheimer was fortunate - he had \$45,000 insurance, likely because a fire engulfed the town 13 months earlier. And priorities being priorities, the Sentinel reported (in rather poor English) the first new structure in the charred city "was started on the sight of the Branch Saloon...Here again was 'creature comforts' dealt out to a merry throng and quite a business still goes on."

Such destruction naturally concerned the Grand Secretary, who wrote on the 29th that he was worried the collars and jewels sent to the Lodge arrived safely and later reported the "regalia has been burned and damaged as Douglas and Deighton's succumbed to fire." Nothing is mentioned in the news accounts, and the Sentinel went into an exhaustive damage report. It is possible the Lodge never met in Yale at all. T.W. Paterson's book 'BC Ghost Towns - Fraser Canyon' has a contemporary drawing, now in the BC Archives, of 'Payday in Emory, 1881' with, as Paterson puts it, "what appears to be a Masonic Hall". It's hard to tell from the book's reproduction if the false-fronted wooden building has the square and compasses on the front. It could be the Lodge was expected to meet at Emory, five miles south of Yale, and that Gray and Hoy built a hall there. Then again, the building could have been for the Chinese Freemasons, as there was a substantial Chinese population working on the railroad. We may never know.

October 29th arrived, and Baker wrote Lindsay requesting the return of the dispensations so the warrant be granted. Whether that happened, we don't know, but the Lodge was still a

going concern, as Baker wrote Smither on Dec. 18th enclosing three copies of the latest Grand Lodge Proceedings with a now-cryptic note that it was *"unwise to restrict the rights of electing officers."*

But the end was in sight for the Lodge. The next letter from the Grand Secretary came five months later on May 3, 1882, telling Lindsay to complete its returns, and asking about donations to the Fund of Benevolence. Four days later, Baker wrote Union Lodge, saying the *"intention to go to Yale [has been] delayed on account of [the Lodge] not being ready."* On May 14th, Lindsay obviously wrote with bad news, as the Grand Secretary responded on the 25th: *"I regret exceedingly that the Brethren in and about Yale could not manage to prop the thing up for a time. Please send returns which will be those (16 or 19) mentioned in the application."*

The Grand Master in 1882 reported Cascade Lodge's *"jewels and property were preserved"*, though the Grand Lodge history says *"the lodge room and most of its contents"* were destroyed, and that *"it has not been able to meet for business."* Regardless, a letter was sent to the brethren in Yale informing them the warrant would be re-issued without further fees once the Lodge was able to function. The offer was extended again by Grand Lodge in 1883, but no application was ever made. The fire and construction of the CPR changed Yale's population - the BC Directory for 1884 reveals Lindsay, Oppenheimer, Pressey and two other petitioners had left. Deighton and Douglas were to follow later that year, and when the railway construction ended, the CPR workers from Yale moved to Yaletown in Vancouver, leaving little left of the largest town west of Chicago and north of San Francisco.

All 15 members of the lodge can be found in the 1881 Canada census for Yale, with some scant biographical information. With that as a starting point, here's some of what we know about them (age reported in the census in brackets):

JOHN ALLISON (27) worked at the Emory Sawmill. He was a Scotsman. A reference is made to him in the Inland Sentinel of May 12, 1881, the day after a 25-ton locomotive for the soon-to-be-built rail line was landed at Emory. *"Mr. Allison hitched on three yoke of the Mill oxen, and assisted by a dozen men a hard draw brought the 'iron horse' a few dozen yards."*

WALTER EDWIN BLACKETT (28) had no occupation reported, but the Sentinel of the above date gives us a clue: *"Mr. W.E. Blackett has a force of men to work erecting an Engine house adjoining Pacific street."* Blackett was a Nova Scotia native, the son of John C. Blackett and Mary Shaw of England. He married Rosa Van Houten in Nanaimo on Dec. 17, 1884, and made his home there, where he worked on construction there and in the Comox area. He also spent some time in the employ of Dunsmuir. Among his accomplishments was the construction of E&N Railway extension to Wellington. Blackett was working on the works of the steamer 'Dunsmuir' in Baynes Sound, then he and a co-worker took a small skiff to head back to shore. The boat overturned, and Blackett drowned on Sept. 15, 1888. His body was found in landing freight from the steamer.

RICHARD DEIGHTON (59) and Ben Douglas were together in the saddlery business in Yale, and both were Justices of the Peace. To answer the obvious question, he is not related to that pioneer of Vancouver, Gassy Jack Deighton. Richard was born in Methven, Perthshire, Scotland of English parents in 1821, and was in Victoria by 1861. His next movements are unclear, but we do know he was mining at Harvey Creek, where he was named Justice of the Peace in 1873, Magistrate the following year, and Postmaster for a short period that winter. He also got into the saddlery business with Douglas in Barkerville, Yale and later New Westminster. Both bought lots in Granville in 1885 from David Oppenheimer. Deighton never

married, and died in the Douglas home on March 14, 1886, age 64 3/4ths years, then was buried in the masonic cemetery in New Westminster. One newspaper obituary lauds him thus:

“As justice of the peace, his decisions were looked up as essentially just. In business, his word was as good as his bond. He had a kindly social disposition and his society was eagerly sought and well praised.”

WILLIAM DODD (49) was an accountant. He was born April 4, 1837 in Matten, Northumberland, England, the son of John Dodd and Margaret Dobson. He was educated in England and stayed until he was 25. He came to BC in 1862 via Panama and San Francisco, and after stopping in Victoria, made his way to Lillooet. He then moved to Yale where he walked three times a distance of 300 miles to the Cariboo to mine and prospect for the next nine years. Afterwards, he joined the Barnard Express, where he was in charge of the Yale operations. In Yale in 1874, he married the former Clarice Louise McCall of Langley, of United Empire Loyalist stock. Future Grand Master Marcus Wolfe was a witness at the wedding. Dodd was later a Notary Public, and served as government agent, assessor and collector from in Yale 1886 to 1911, when he retired. He was also J.P. for Yale starting in 1905. His wife died in Vancouver in 1909, and Dodd died after a four week stay in Victoria on May 6, 1921.

BENJAMIN DOUGLAS (42) was even more prominent in his later years than his partner; a speculator, politician, and the man for whom the Douglas border crossing is named. In fact, some flags in the Royal City were flown at half-staff upon his death. He was born in Huntingdon, Quebec to Benjamin and Ellen Douglas on May 6, 1839. His father was a Scotsman who was Justice of the Peace and served for many years as the collector of Port Francis. At age 12, Douglas left home to seek his fortune, spent time in Kingston, New York, then left for California in 1862 and arrived in B.C. by the fall. He spent a year in the Cariboo, then returned to Victoria to ply the saddle trade. He went for a short time a logging camp on Puget Sound, then returned to Victoria before being attracted by the Yale and the Cariboo, where he ran a saddlery business with Deighton from 1866 to 1884, “one of the largest enterprises of its kind in the Interior.” Douglas also was a Justice of the Peace, and postmaster of Yale from 1873 to 1880. The two men returned to New Westminster to take up business there. Railways were becoming big business, so that’s where Douglas had his eyes focused, after acquiring much property in Granville and New Westminster. He, David Oppenheimer (Issac’s brother) and Henry Edmonds (all members of Union No. 9) were principals in the New Westminster and Vancouver Tramway Company, which ran the first interurban service between the two cities, in April 1890. Its depot in New Westminster was at the Douglas-Elliott block, the largest building in the city. Douglas was also a director of the New Westminster Southern Railway, a Great Northern-controlled company building a line from Blaine (which explains why the Douglas border station was so named) to Brownsville (named for Ebenezer Brown of Union Lodge) across the Fraser River from New Westminster. He served on the Royal City’s Council on 1885 and 1886 and refused a Conservative nomination for the Commons. Douglas died in New Westminster on Feb. 25, 1900, leaving six children, one of them named for his former partner, Richard Deighton, and another being elected Queen of the May for New Westminster in 1887.

JOSHUA DEER FRICKELTON (57) is listed in the census as a medical doctor of German origin. He was also the town druggist. He was born in London, Ontario. He had been practicing five or six years at Yale before his death on January 17, 1884 in New Westminster of cancer. The Mainland Guardian newspaper of New Westminster eulogised that he “*had been for*

some years in the province...His arduous efforts to stay the progress of smallpox in Yale was worthy of the praise of all."

THOMAS WILLIAM GRAY (33) ran the Emory Sawmill, and was a prominent New Westminster citizen as well. He was born in Simcoe, Ontario on Feb. 20, 1848, the son of Matthew Gray of Belfast and Eliza Cormley of Ontario, and came west in 1875, after learning the miller's trade and operating a flour and sawmill in Elora, Ontario. He first worked in New Westminster for Dominion Sawmills and Royal City Mills, then opened the firm of Turnbull, Gray and Scoullar with Henry Hoy before heading up the Fraser. Paterson in 'BC Ghost Towns - Fraser Canyon' writes:

"First to build their lots in Emory were...Gray and Hoy...By June, Gray and Hoy's steam-powered sawmill was in production...operating night and day and producing 21,000 feet of lumber per 24 hour shift."

Gray was the first postmaster in Emory, from Nov. 1881 until early in 1882. In 1893, we find Gray in Nelson, where he operated the Nelson Mills for ten years, followed by two years in Dawson, Y.T. New Westminster beckoned in 1906, and Gray returned to operate the Pitt River Lumber Company and the Ladysmith-Wellesley Mill. Gray served on New Westminster Council in 1879 and 1880, but his son was even more prominent in politics, and his name is known today. A. Wellesley Gray was Mayor of New Westminster in 1914, and later Minister of Lands in the Patullo government. Wells Gray Provincial Park is named for him. Thomas Gray died in New Westminster on August 14, 1917.

HENRY HOY (36) was simply listed in the census as a carpenter. He was born on a farm in the parish of Largo, Fifeshire, Scotland on Mar. 2, 1845. His parents were John Hoy and Anne Belfrage. He was educated at the public schools but was early apprenticed to be a carpenter, and later worked as a journeyman in London. In 1869, Hoy came to Canada and worked in Toronto for four years before spending a year in Chicago. He was in Winnipeg from 1874 until 1876, then moved to New Westminster in February. His career in Yale is documented above. Politics became an interest, and after serving as an alderman, he became Mayor of New Westminster in 1894. Hoy actively pushed for a bridge across the Fraser River to Brownsville (also being pursued by railway interests fighting with the CPR, including Ben Douglas), but despite a bill being passed in the Legislature and a budget set, the project was shelved. As a general contractor, Hoy was noted for a number of fine buildings, including the house of Judge William Howay (of King Solomon Lodge) and the first BC Penitentiary (run by Arthur Hill McBride, father of Sir Richard McBride and both of Union Lodge). He also constructed the New Westminster Masonic Hall at Columbia and Lorne Streets (the property cost \$3,000) in 1887, and rebuilt it after it was gutted by fire in 1888. When a \$2.5 million fire in 1898 burned much of the city, he eventually erected another Masonic Hall on the former site of the Olive Baptist Church at 508 Agnes Street. Hoy married Marion Bonson in New Westminster in 1878 and died Feb. 9, 1931 after being struck by a car while crossing the street.

ERNEST BARRON CHANDLER HANINGTON (30) was the physician and surgeon in Yale, and was from a prominent New Brunswick family. He was born in Shediac on Jan. 20, 1851, one of nine children of Daniel Lionel and Margaret Anne (Peters) Hanington. His father was Premier of New Brunswick (and was 15 when Ernest was born), and his grandfather William Hanington arrived in the colony in 1785 from London and was a judge and tax collector. He was likely named for Ernest Barron Chandler, a governor of New Brunswick and father of Confederation. Hanington was educated in Shediac and Sackville, then received his

medical education at McGill. He was the House Surgeon at St. John from 1875 to 1878, when he left for Victoria. Andrew Onderdonk's CPR construction crew needed a chief medical officer, and Hanington did the job from 1880 to 1885, then returned to Victoria, where he was a visiting physician at Royal Jubilee Hospital. Under Dr. I.W. Powell (our first Grand Master), he was the Treasurer of the B.C. Medical Council from 1887 to 1889, then served as President in 1890. He died at Oak Bay on May 11, 1916.

ALEXANDER LINDSAY (32) was a telegraph operator, born in Glasgow, Scotland in March 1848 to Daniel and Isabella Lindsay. He arrived in BC about 1872 and two years later married Emma Parker, one of the first white babies born in the Victoria area (1854). At the time, he was an accountant living in Van Winkle, a little mining settlement forgotten today, not far from Barkerville. Lindsay was not only a telegrapher in Yale, he replaced Ben Douglas as postmaster from March 1881 to when he left sometime before Apr. 1, 1884. We next find him in the Cumberland area in 1891, where he managed a couple of hotels, ran a boarding house in 1895 and 1896, then became a CPR telegrapher. Lindsay was also Secretary of the Union Fire Department and a trustee of St. George's Presbyterian Church (where W. Bro. J.A. Logan was Rector, and which was dedicated by Bro. R.R. Maitland). He was related to James Dunsmuir's business secretary, so perhaps it's not surprising we see him in Victoria in 1903 as manager of payroll for Dunsmuir's Wellington Colliery. He died in Victoria on Dec. 30, 1922.

ISSAC CELLA OPPENHEIMER (45) is listed as running a general store, though the Oppenheimer Brothers likely owned the largest grocery company in the province. He was born in 1835 in Bleiskastel, Saar, Bavaria, one of a number of sons of Solomon and Johanna (Kahn) Oppenheimer. He was educated at the Collegiate School at Frankfurt-am-Main, then emigrated to the US in 1848 along with brothers David, Charles and Gottfried, all of whom became Masons. Their first stops were Lafayette and New Orleans, Louisiana, then they headed to San Francisco and Sacramento behind the 49ers before deciding to move north in 1858. After spending a year in the drygoods business in Victoria, Issac and David Oppenheimer went to Barkerville to open a branch of the family business, which expanded to Hope, Yale and Lytton the following year and included groceries. Always community-minded, they founded the Barkerville Fire Brigade after the gold town burned down in 1868. Evidently, the grocery trade along the Cariboo Wagon Road was a lucrative one, as the two brothers purchased the entire benchland near Emory Bar "for a song" in fall of 1879 and began selling lots in Emory City. They were later able to buy part of the Hastings Mill site in Granville between Carrall and Gore Streets. Besides the real estate business, they moved from the retail into the wholesale grocery business. The two also found time to skin CPR mogul William Van Horne in an all-night poker game. Issac Oppenheimer remained in Victoria for a time, and it was he who led a petition in January 1886 to incorporate the city of Vancouver. He spent two years on Vancouver Council, 1887 and 1888, while brother David was mayor. The grocery business was foreclosed on in 1891, and Issac left Vancouver in 1901 for the US. He died at the home of his son Sid in Spokane on Dec. 1, 1922 at age 88.

EDWARD PEARSON (44) was a teamster, born in Stockport, England on Aug. 28, 1836. He came to the coast by way of Cape Horn in 1862 and joined the gold rush. Pearson owned a tinsmith shop in Barkerville, and a photo taken shortly before the 1868 fire shows a portion of it. He later worked on the BC Express on the old wagon road from Yale to Barkerville. Pearson is also listed as a Justice of the Peace for Boston Bar in the 1884 BC Directory. Moving to Victoria,

he opened the firm of Clark and Pearson, hardware and tinsmithing merchants. He retired due to ill health in 1912, and died Oct. 24, 1923 in Victoria.

HENRY PRESSEY (34) was a salesman; an American of English parents. He lived with Frickelton in Yale.

WILLIAM TEAGUE (47) was the BC government agent in Yale. He was born to Josiah and Michel (Cundy-Pentreath) Teague on July 27, 1835 in St. Day, Cornwall, England. He left England for the US at age 12, then took a three month journey via Panama to California, arriving at age 19 years and three months. He mined and prospected for three years at Chip's Flat and Monte Christo near Downieville in Sierra County. Then, came word of gold on the Fraser River, and he joined 1,500 passengers on the 'Oregon', the first steamer to ply the waters direct from San Francisco to Victoria. The journey took 4 1/2 days and began on July 5, 1858, and before it left, Teague waited for two weeks, making his bed on the floor of the What Cheer House. Upon his arrival, the Cornishman went to Hope, where he was appointed constable in April 1859, and chief constable the following year. Next, he appeared at Cornish Bar and mined there and in Yale until April 1864, then staked claims near Barkerville, walking 600 miles to find them. He found time to return to England to marry in 1871. In 1873, he was appointed Provincial Government Agent of Revenue at Yale, and held the job for 12 years before resigning. Teague was also a Justice of the Peace, and was later postmaster of Yale from 1886 to 1889, before succumbing to the mining bug again. He discovered gold in the Ladner Slates near Hope in 1906 or 1907. He died in 1916.

STEPHEN TINGLEY (40), "the most famous whip on the Cariboo road", was the manager of BC Express Company Stage lines. He was born Ft. Cumberland, New Brunswick on Sept. 13, 1839 to Caleb and Debra (Lindsay) Tingley, of English descent. He travelled to San Francisco via Panama in 1858, and in 1861, we find him in Yale, and soon in the Cariboo. Tingley walked over 600 miles from Esquimalt to the Cariboo (presumably not on the water), carrying 100 pounds of provisions. Tingley mined for two years "without material success", so returned to Yale to run a harness shop. Then, Frank J. Barnard (a member of Quadra No. 8) made him a partner in the Barnard Express, and he operated the first mail coach from Yale to Richfield in 1864. He shared a home with William Dodd. Tingley left the region only twice. Once was in 1868, when Barnard sent him to Mexico to negotiate the purchase of 250 unbroken horses for the stage line. To keep costs down, Tingley drove the animals overland through the US to BC. The second time was a trip back east to claim his bride, who was killed in the only accident Tingley was ever in. He and his wife and children were returning to Yale from the Alexandra Bridge on a buckboard when (depending on the source) his horse was either spooked by some native girls riding past or by a wheelbarrow and bolted. They went over a bank on the narrow road, and his wife died (he remarried within a year to a local girl). Tingley was also famous for carrying an accused murderer to court in Yale. He made the 380 mile trip on the winding wagon road averaging a then-hasty 16 miles an hour, even though he changed teams at every roadhouse. After 28 years, he sold his interest in the company, after Barnard had sold out to him, and retired in Ashcroft. He died on October 9, 1915 in New Westminster. George W. Grant, in his book 'Ocean to Ocean', describes Tingley as "*a steady New Brunswicker, who had been on the road since it was built, in summer and winter, daylight and dark, storm and shine, and who never missed time.*"

Other Masons lived in Yale at the time, but for some reason, did not sign the dispensation for the new lodge. One was 31 year old Marcus Wolfe of Cariboo No. 4, who later

became Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of BC. Wolfe is listed as 'Confidential Clerk' to, and lived with, Issac Oppenheimer. Alfred Smither, the clerk to Deighton and Douglas in correspondence with the Grand Secretary, was a member of a lodge in England, and later affiliated with Union No. 9. Rev. Darrell Horlock, later the first Master of Kamloops No. 10, was there in 1881, as was Frank Hassard, later a charter member of Spallumcheen No. 13 in Lansdowne. But there was one man who later had a connection with both Cascade and No. 10. Listed in the 1881 census for Yale is a 44 year old railway engineer who is the namesake of a busy Vancouver Street. He was a member of Civil Service No. 148 in Ottawa at the time. Later, he became a charter member of Kamloops No. 10, and of Cascade No. 12. But Cascade No. 10 never enjoyed the membership of Bro. Harry John Cambie.