

Sealth and Angeline



PRINCESS ANGELINE.



TOMB OF ANGELINE.

The history of the metropolis of the Pacific Northwest holds within its grasp with an ever-tightening clutch the tradition and description of two Indians, known in their own tongue as "Chief Sealth" and his daughter, by some supposed to be called "Kick-i-somlo;" in the American tongue, "Seattle" and Angeline. The city of Seattle is named for this man and to his daughter the pioneers owed their escape from massacre.

Sealth was a chief of the Suquamish and Allied Tribes. He is presumed to have been born about 1786 on what is now Bainbridge Island at what was known by the early settlers and Indians as "Ole Man House", near Port Madison, which was a point of early settlement for the whites. There is where the first mill was erected on Puget Sound. The old house is now being torn down and destroyed in an effort to build there a modern sawmill of gigantic proportions. The chief was friendly to the whites. He died in 1866 and was buried near Port Madison. In the spring of 1890, Arthur A. Denny, Hillory Butler, Samuel L. Crawford in company with others secured funds and erected over the famous Indian's grave a stone monument in the shape of a cross upon which is chiseled the legend:

"SEATTLE"

Chief of the Suquamish and Allied Tribes
Died June 7, 1866.

The Firm Friend of the Whites and for Him the City of Seattle was named by its Founders."

On another side the inscription reads:

"Baptismal Name, Noah Sealth,
Age Probably 80 Years."

At the base of the monument is the word in large letters:

"SEATTLE"

The symbolic letters, "I. H. S." are also engraved upon the tombstone.

It was during the Indian war of 1855-56 that Chief Seattle's great and continuing friendship for the white settlers was manifested. To his white brothers he remained steadfast until his death. In the main corridor of the University of Washington, at Seattle hangs a large oil painting of Chief Seattle a reproduction of which is made for this article.

Chief Seattle was the father of six children five of which died and were forgotten when one, a daughter, "Kick-i-somlo," became famous. Mrs. Catherine Maynard is accredited with renaming this Indian Princess whom she called, "Angeline." In writing of "Princess Angeline," Hon. Thomas W. Prosch, says:

"Among the four children of Seattle, chief of the Indian tribes of the middle portion of Puget Sound,

was one daughter, named Wewik. She was supposed to be born about the year 1816. The chief and his children were very friendly to the white people, and did all they could, a half century ago, to induce them to locate in their country. The grateful settlers named their town after the old chief. When war was made upon the white settlements by other Indians, in 1855-56, Seattle and his tribes refused to join the hostiles, and during the struggle were either neutral or gave their assistance to the pale-faced strangers they had invited among them.

"After the death of her father, in 1866, Wewik came to a new home provided for her by the citizens in the then promising town, now important city, of Seattle. Here she lived the remainder of her days. As long as she was able she worked for a living. When no longer able, the pioneers saw that her wants were supplied.

"A white woman one day in the later years of the 60's, called her Angeline. The new name fastened to her, and thereafter Wewik was universally known as Angeline. A few years later some one spoke of her as a Princess. The title struck the popular fancy, and thenceforth the then aged, somewhat decrepit and unattractive Indian woman was termed the Princess Angeline.

"All the towns-people knew Angeline, and all the strangers were eager to see and know her. Her picture was taken by hundreds of photographers, and has been sold to tens of thousands of persons; it has also appeared in many publications, and has been very popular on Chinaware. It is no exaggeration to say that she has been pictured more frequently and variously than any other three persons in the state of Washington.

"Angeline outlived her brothers. She died May 31st, 1896. Her old friends saw that she had a Christian funeral, from the church, that she was buried among the pioneers in the cemetery of the city, and that a stone monument was erected over her remains. Peace to her."

Princess Angeline, when she died, was buried in a coffin made in the shape of a canoe. Prior to the coming of the whites Angeline had been the wife of "Dokub Kud," an Indian, half Skagit and half Kowichan, who had died leaving her two daughters, one of whom married a worthless white named Joe Foster, whose treatment was so ill that the woman hung herself. Of this marriage was a son named in honor of his grandparent, "Seattle," who lived with Angeline until her death in a squalid shack on the water front in Seattle.

Many traditions are related of Angeline, among which is one of a dangerous trip she made to apprise the settlers of a planned attack for their massacre during the Indian



CHIEF SEATTLE.

War before referred to, in which she made a dramatic entry to the settlement and saved their lives.

Another story is told how an effort was made to give Angeline in her declining years a home of luxury and ease in one of the public institutions of King County. She accompanied the humanitarians to the quarters prepared for her, which were commodious and well furnished. Then she took one look around her and with a cry of awe and terror exclaimed:

"Skookum House! (Big House)," and then fled back to her squalid and fishy smelling cabin by the sea on the water front at Seattle, where she died.

Her remains repose in Lakeview Cemetery, Seattle, where a granite headstone has been erected in her memory, a picture of which is herewith printed.

A great deal has been said and written of Chief Seattle and Princess Angeline, but it is all contained in this—they were, truly and indeed, consistent and abiding friends of the white settlers, who pioneered in this wild and dangerous Pacific Northwest.