

NOTES ON EARLY AMHERSTBURG.

While looking for some information upon a subject in connection with the early history of Upper Canada, I had occasion to look up some of the records in the Haldimand Papers. I found that a large quantity of these records dealing with Southern Ontario had been printed by The Pioneer and Historical Society of Michigan in their annual volumes. I came upon some references to early Amherstburg, and becoming interested I carefully followed up the record as far as therein contained. To my surprise I found that Fort Malden did not exist in the early days, but that Fort Amherstburg did. Then I turned up a number of historical books and papers and found that many others had made the same mistake, and that some who should have been acquainted with the military history of that section had been misnaming the fort and had been perpetuating the mistake. I found that three different forts had been constructed, or partly constructed, at Amherstburg at different times, and that the first was officially known as Fort Amherstburg, the second was known both as Fort Amherstburg and as Fort Malden, and that the third, constructed subsequent to 1837, bore the name Fort Malden.

Thinking that perhaps these records might be interesting to many of the citizens of Amherstburg and that the Michigan Reports may not be readily available, I concluded it would perhaps be worth while to reproduce these records in somewhat connected form. At the same time I do not claim for this article anything more than a gathering together of some scattered items to which many additions may be made by further search of the originals at Ottawa or elsewhere.

In closing this introductory note it may be worth calling attention to the fact that while the Dominion Government has performed a most commendable service in gathering together these documents at Ottawa, yet it seems somewhat strange that we are indebted to The Pioneer and Historical Society of Michigan, assisted by State friends, for placing so much of these records in printed form for our use.

C. C. JAMES.

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