

point to which the military and naval forces centred, which gave that place a status that it could not otherwise have obtained. But Adolphustown was really the centre of the settlements in the central part of Canada, the midland district, consequently the law court was alternately held at Kingston and the Fourth Town, twice a year in each place. The first court in Adolphustown was held in the barn of Paul Huff, which served the purpose in summer. The next occasion was in winter, and some other building had to be procured. Application was made for the Methodist chapel. It was stated that some objection was made on the ground that a "house of God should not be made a den of thieves," referring, of course, to the prisoners, not to the legal gentlemen; but, notwithstanding, the chapel was readily granted for the second court held in Adolphustown. Subsequently a court house was erected by subscription of the inhabitants. The building of the court house was followed by the growth of a village, and amongst its population were some individuals whose names became household words in every Canadian home. Adolphustown continued a place of importance for many years, and even after court ceased to be held, the village, by virtue of its situation and the standing of some of its inhabitants, remained for a long time a place of no small repute.

Adolphustown contributed during the first years of Upper Canada not a few worthy and noted individuals to the public service and welfare of the country. Indeed, this, the smallest of the townships, took the lead for many years in political, as well as other general matters relating to the country. At one general election four representatives were chosen from Adolphustown, namely, two Hagermans, Daniel and Christopher, Samuel Casey and Paul Peterson. Amongst others in Adolphustown who in the early days of the province were elected to Parliament were Thomas Dorland, John Roblin, Dr. Willet Dorland, Willet Casey, Henry Ruttan, Samuel Casey, David Roblin, and John P. Roblin. The most noted name amongst these was that of Hagerman. Nicholas Hagerman, who accompanied VanAlstine, was a man of liberal education, and it was said had studied law in New York; at all events he was one of the first lawyers to be appointed by the Crown in Upper Canada. He continued to live and practice law at Adolphustown until his death. He had three sons, Daniel, Christopher and Joseph, and two daughters. The writer's parents attended school with the Hagerman children for many years and have often been heard to speak especially of "Chris," who was a "saucy boy," and it may be mentioned that Chris did not forget his old schoolmates in after years when he wore the ermine. Whenever he visited Belleville to preside at the Court he would make them a visit.

Christopher Hagerman was a talented son of Canada, and as a