

It is right the intending reader of this pamphlet should be informed that it has been declared by the University of Toronto to be prejudiced in tone, based on secondary authorities, and inaccurate. (Review of Historical Publications by the University. Vol. 18). In 1881 I spent a week at Ottawa, examining documents in the Archives bearing on the war of 1812. The perusal gave me a shock, for they revealed the fact, altogether unsuspected by me, that the existing histories of Canada abounded in perversions and suppressions of the truth, and in pure inventions. Since then I have maintained my acquaintance with the additions to the Archives, and pursued, so far as limited leisure and means would permit, investigations in other quarters. What I regard as of peculiar value, was noting down the reminiscences of survivors of those times whom I found on the banks of the Chateauguay and Salmon rivers. So prolonged and so careful has been my sifting of everything relating to the campaign chronicled in these pages, that I feel warranted in claiming that it is not only a reliable narrative but that it is just to both the contending armies. That Time will vindicate this claim I feel assured, and that the pamphlet will yet be given the merit of telling, in a way any school-boy can comprehend, how Canada was saved in the Fall of 1813 by the blunders of the enemy and the skill and daring of Colonel Morrison.

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