

# THE ANCIENT CAPITAL

## AND ITS VICINITY,

—OR—

### Niagara One Hundred Years Ago.

IT has frequently been remarked, by those who visit this historic ground, that notwithstanding much apparent interest in the subject, it is still very difficult to obtain much definite information regarding the many points of interest in our neighborhood. That some attempt should be made to bring together a few facts seemed desirable, and the Rev. Canon Bull, the respected President of the Lundy's Lane Historical Society, some time ago asked the present writer to attempt the task. This must prove the apology for the appearance of this imperfect sketch. That something of the kind had not been attempted years ago, and by an abler pen, is to be regretted, when some of the old pioneers were living, and could tell what they had seen, and done, and suffered ; but now, alas, none remain to tell the tale. Fortunately for the attempt now made is it that, for some years, the present writer, in the course of reading, has jotted down anything bearing on the subject, and now finds these memoranda a slight store of material from which to draw.

This is indeed historic ground, and many heroic deeds were here performed. To present a consecutive history of these is not intended, but merely to give a few strands, which may be expanded and strengthened, relating to Forts Niagara, Mississagua and George, Butler's Barracks, Navy Hall, and the old town known by so many names. A place that can boast that in it was held the first Parliament for Upper Canada, that it was the scene of a battle, that in it was published the first paper in Upper Canada, that it contains almost the oldest church records in Ontario, that it was given to the flames by the red hand of war, that here resided two governors, who, if not