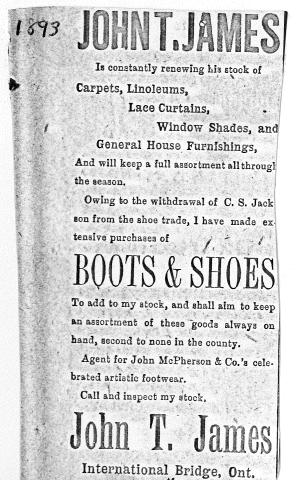
Born in 1854, Mr. James came to Fort Erie around 1872 when he worked in the store of Mr. Raisford. It was in the heart of the village, on the river road just opposite the ferry Landing. Between 1875-1881 he farmed in Ridgeway.

In 1881 he bought a General merchandice store on Jarvis St. which he rented from the Ridgeway owner E.B. cutler, for a period of nineteen years. He exstended the business and in 1900 he built a new brick store on the S.West cr. of Jarvis and Central. The old frame building belonging to E.B. cutler was still standing in 1934. He remained in this business till 1927 when he sold out to the i.o.o.f. Lodge. He ran the Bridgeburg Review for three years.

He built a dozen houses ,one church and three factories. At the time he owned the complete block bounded by Central Ave.: the M.C.R. yards: Robinson and Jarvis St. including the site of Pratt & lambert. he also operated the Crystal Beach Planing mill from 1904-1922..

The Mansion House which he owned onCourtwright St. and which housed the Canada free press and later the Fort Erie Times Review, was destroyed by fire

in 1901.



E.B. Cutler building: