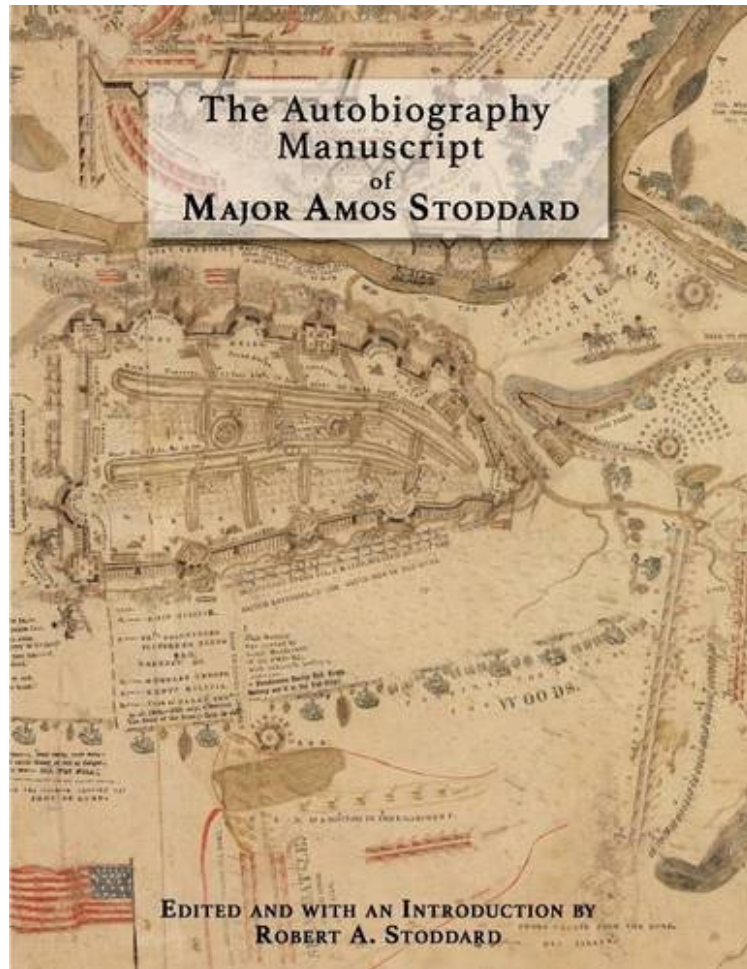


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From Robert Stoddard Publishing : The Autobiography Manuscript of Major Amos Stoddard: Edited and with an Introduction by Robert A. Stoddard before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Autobiography Manuscript of Major Amos Stoddard: Edited and with an Introduction by Robert A. Stoddard:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Very thorough and enjoyable By D. P. Wilkens As a sometime blogger and scholar on topics related to the War of 1812, I was sent this book for review by the author/ editor. I think it is an excellent addition to the body of published work on the military history and politics of the early Republic. Although this is a self-published title, it has a higher "production value" than most-- it is well-written and edited, with

high quality color facsimiles of some of the documents the author used. The book is organized into two main parts: an introduction which includes some genealogical background on Major Amos Stoddard and his career after the Revolution and up to his death from a Tetanus-infected wound during the Siege of Fort Meigs in 1813. The second part is Major Stoddard's own recollections of his life as a young man, including his service in the Continental Army. His manuscript is well-worth reading for any scholar of the American Revolution, because it includes such incidents and campaigns as the execution of Major Andre, the camp at Valley Forge and the Siege of Yorktown; Stoddard also discusses his experiences during Shay's Rebellion in the period after the war. Since the autobiography manuscript ends abruptly in the 1790s, before Stoddard rejoined the regular Army, the editor has included a fairly detailed study of his career in the introduction of the book, although this leads the reader to read the "end" of Stoddard's life story before reading the early part, if they read this book straight through from cover to cover. Overall, I would say this volume is well worth having for anyone interested in the Revolution, early Republic or War of 1812 and a very valuable contribution to research on this era of American History.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. This Book Should Be In Your Library
By Charles M. Province
I can't say enough good things about this book. I have to admit that I thoroughly enjoy volumes like this. The research and detailed references within these pages indicate that it was, indeed, written by a scholar. The attention to detail is outstanding and the images in the book are marvelous. I especially like the fact that this is a true story displayed in the personal handwriting of the subject. Mr. Stoddard has done an exemplary job of publishing a beautiful volume about one of his ancestors and it would enhance any library.

The Autobiography Manuscript of Major Amos Stoddard is part biography, and part autobiography. It is the story of the life and times of Major Amos Stoddard, the first civil commandant and governor of Upper Louisiana. Amos Stoddard tragically died at the siege of Fort Meigs (Ohio) during the War of 1812. His biography is provided as an introduction by the editor. This introduction provides the most complete and comprehensive account of the life of Major Amos Stoddard ever published. The introduction is followed by a typescript of his unfinished, handwritten manuscript autobiography, penned in 1812 prior to his death, which was recovered from his military chest in 1850 and which has languished in archive obscurity for the past 165 years. This typescript is provided in its entirety for the first time since it was written over 200 years ago. The typescript is highly noted and provides extensive detail and explanation of the content of autobiography manuscript. Amos Stoddard was (seemingly) the Forest Gump of his time. He was witness to many of history's best (and least) known events. He crossed paths with many of the most important (and some of the most despicable) figures in American history. A narrative written by Joseph Plumb Martin in 1830, nearly fifty years after the end of the Revolutionary War, titled, *A Narrative of some of the Adventures, Danger and Suffering of a Revolutionary Soldier*, is considered by some to be the best account of the American Revolution ever written by an ordinary soldier. However, now, another young volunteer from Massachusetts, Amos Stoddard, gives us from memory, and without the use of notes or a diary, the story of his participation in that struggle. He relates his sufferings as a teenager not yet conditioned to the hardships and deprivations of revolutionary-era military camp life, and of his attendance at some of that war's most significant events. He also provides the best first-hand account ever documented of a few of the armed skirmishes between Massachusetts state militia forces and rebel insurgents during Shays' Rebellion. He goes on to describe how a young man, with only a basic education, and who had never known independent civilian life, after being abruptly discharged from military service and thrown into a civil society in considerable disarray, finds his way to learning a skill, pursuing an education, earning a highly-respectable civilian occupation, and ultimately leaving his mark on history. He provides us a chronicle of international travel in the 18th century and the story of an unscrupulous swindle that resulted while in pursuit of securing a family estate. He also shares his intellectual interest in the political discourse of the time, and provides a comical tale mocking an Englishman for his audacity in placing an advertisement for a wife.

About the Author
Robert Stoddard resides in San Diego, California with his wife Vera. Robert hails from Aberdeen, Washington. He is a graduate of Golden Gate University in San Francisco, California.