

During the afternoon, Major Kennedy, Captain Rutherford and Lieutenant Hutchinson went over to the battle-ground and took some excellent sketches of Holbrooke's store, the bridge, the barricade, and the buildings near the lines. That evening a treat was afforded all by the band, which played for about an hour in front of the officers' quarters. After they finished, Sapper Walker, of the Engineers, read, at request, a piece of poetry on the Fenians, which he had composed during the afternoon, and was loudly cheered by all.

Now that the *fiasco* seemed nearly ended, the volunteers began to be impatient for their return home. Many had left important situations, where their services were much required, and others had been obliged to close their offices and suspend business altogether, and, should their return be long delayed, serious loss might result. The excitement, too, of the first few days had subsided into the weary monotony of an idle camp life, which already began to prove irksome to the more active, and many were the hopes expressed that night that the morrow might see them on their road homewards.

About half-past two the following morning, the camp of the Garrison Artillery was startled by hearing the sentry stationed on the south side of the barn challenge three times and then fire. Captain Hatt, who was on duty at the time, immediately ran with the rest of the guards to his support, and in a minute the whole force, roused by the report of the rifle, were up, out and equipped. Colonel Ferrier, who had been informed at a late hour the previous evening by Major Whyte, of the 50th, that the United States troops at Fort Covington had been overpowered by Fenians, the arms which had been seized on the 28th retaken, and that the Fenians were now marching down upon our camp, and might be expected at daybreak the following morning, at once gave the order to sound the "assembly." Major Kennedy, of the Engineers, Major Cole, and Major Dowler, of the Artillery, were despatched with companies in different directions to ascertain if there was any ground for alarm, and a thorough search was made of the fields behind the barn, where the sentry said he had heard a sound, first, as if of approaching footsteps, and afterwards as if a rail in the fence had given way beneath the weight of some one crossing. Nothing was discovered, however, to justify any alarm. When day broke, a young calf was seen grazing in the fields, and was supposed to have been the cause of all the trepidation. The report that Major Whyte had given Colonel Ferrier proved false, and affairs accordingly soon assumed again their previous monotony. One unfortunate accident, however, occurred in the confusion. Sapper Walker, who had read the poetry on the previous evening, in his haste, got his foot entangled in some tent-ropes, and, falling heavily, broke the