

OUR CANADIAN PORTRAIT GALLERY.

No. 38.—ASA WESTOVER, Esq.,
CAPT. OF THE MISSISQUOI "HOME
GUARDS."

In this number we print a portrait of Mr. Westover, whose name, in connection with the affair of the 25th May, has become famous throughout the country. Mr. Westover is a native of Missisquoi, a true British Canadian borderer, and one who has apparently been endowed with the spirit of chivalry and daring which has made the border name a favourite in the story of almost every land. He is a well-to-do, perhaps we might say wealthy, and respectable farmer, who has spent nearly his whole life, of half a century or thereabouts, in the County of Missisquoi. He is, therefore, well known throughout his neighbourhood, and such has been the tenor of his life that wherever known he is held in high esteem. He is a crack shot, a personal friend having assured us that he has seen him repeatedly bring down a squirrel at a hundred yards. It was therefore fortunate for the Fenians that Messrs. Westover and Ten Eyck were at dinner when the former crossed the line, or assuredly there would have been more dead Fenians on the battle-ground. To their great disappointment, not anticipating an immediate advance, these gentlemen had both retired about noon to a house not far distant to take some refreshment; and they only returned to the scene of action just as the Fenians were retreating in disorder. They, however, took an active part in the further proceedings of the day which have already been detailed in our columns. Capt. Westover, with his immediate companions in arms, deserves a share of that commendation which has been so well earned by, and so liberally bestowed upon, the Volunteers of the country. The following ex-



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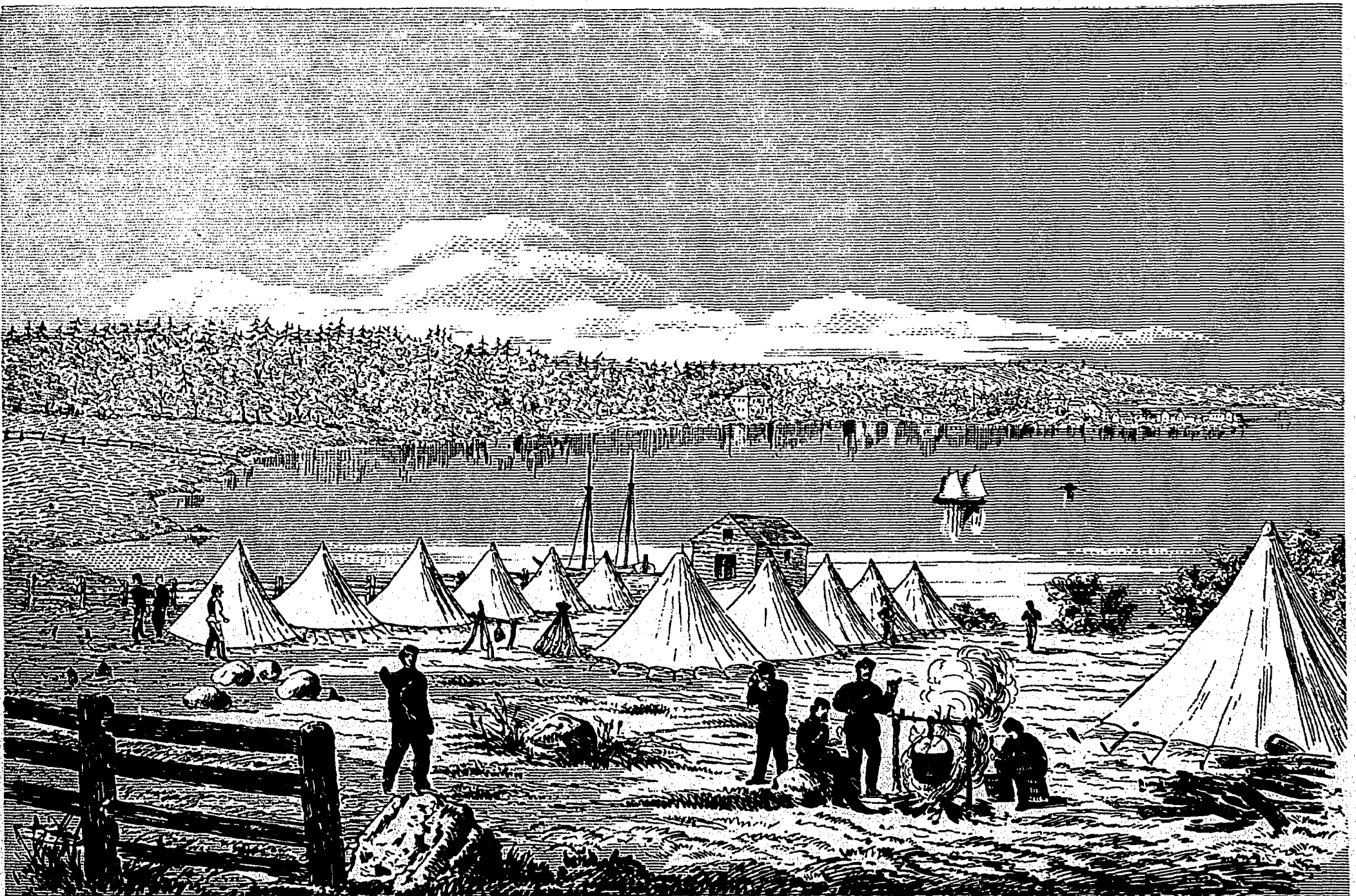
tract from a letter to the Editor of the *Montreal Daily Witness*, will explain the organization of the "Home Guards."

"I would mention that my friend, Mr. Andrew Ten Eyck, has been associated with me in the organization of the Home Guards, and deserves equally as much credit as myself for any service rendered by them; and I should wish his name to be mentioned in connection with it as well as my own."

"Subjoined, I give a slight sketch of our organization, as requested by your reporter; and in connection therewith, it may not be amiss to add an account also of our first encounter with the enemy."

"After the Fenian raid of 1866 we felt so much humiliated and disgraced at having been obliged to submit to their outrages without resistance, that we resolved at once to take some steps to prevent a recurrence of the disgraceful scenes then enacted in case of another invasion of our country. We therefore called a meeting of our immediate neighbours, sixteen in number, and entered into an agreement to provide ourselves with the best breech-loading rifles that could be procured, and I was deputed to make the selection."

"Not wishing to take the entire responsibility, I requested Mr. James G. Pell, one of our best riflemen, to accompany me, and we proceeded to visit the various rifle manufactories in Massachusetts, finally deciding on the Ballard sporting rifle, 30-inch heavy barrel. After my return I was requested to order the same kind for about forty more of the inhabitants of Dunham. While all remained quiet along the border we gave ourselves no farther trouble in the matter, knowing that we were provided with arms and ammunition in case of necessity."



RED RIVER EXPEDITION.—CAMP AT SAULT ST. MARIE. From a sketch by Rev. Mr. W.—See page 518.