

In the course of Tuesday, the Speaker of the House of Assembly, Colonel the honourable Allan M'Nab, arrived from the Gore district at the head of about 60 men, which he had assembled at half an hour's notice, and other brave men flocking in to me from various directions, I was enabled by strong piquets to prevent Mr. M'Kenzie from carrying into effect his diabolical intention to burn the city of Toronto, in order to plunder the banks, and having effected this object, I determined that on the following day I would make the attack.

Accordingly, on Thursday morning I assembled our forces under the direction of the adjutant-general of militia, Colonel Fitzgibbon, clerk of the House of Assembly.

The principal body was headed by the honourable the Speaker, Colonel Allan M'Nab, the right wing being commanded by Colonel Samuel Jarvis, the left by Colonel William Chisholm, assisted by the honourable Mr. Justice Maclean, late Speaker of the House of Assembly, the two guns by Major Carfrae, of the Militia Artillery.

The command of the militia left in the city remained under Mr. Justice Macaulay, and the protection of the city with Mr. Gurnett, the mayor.

I might also have most advantageously availed myself in the field of the military services of Colonel Foster, the commander of the forces in Upper Canada, of Captain Baddeley, of the corps of Royal Engineers, and of a detachment of eight artillerymen, who form the only regular force in this province, but having deliberately determined that the important contest in which I was about to be engaged should be decided solely by the Upper Canada militia, or, in other words, by the inhabitants of this noble province, I was resolved that no consideration whatever should induce me to avail myself of any other assistance than that upon which, as the representative of our gracious Sovereign, I had firmly and implicitly relied.

At 12 o'clock the militia force marched out of the town, with an enthusiasm which it would be impossible to describe, and in about an hour we came in sight of the rebels, who occupied an elevated position near Gallows-hill, in front of Montgomerie's tavern, which had long been the rendezvous of Mr. M'Kenzie's men.

They were principally armed with rifles; and, for a short time, favoured by buildings, they endeavoured to maintain their ground; however, the brave and loyal militia of Upper Canada, steadily advancing with a determination which was irresistible, drove them from their position, completely routed Mr. M'Kenzie, who, in a state of the greatest agitation, ran away; and, in a few minutes, Montgomerie's tavern, which was first entered by Mr. Justice Jones, was burned to the ground.

Being on the spot merely as civil governor, and in no way in command of the troops, I was happy to have an opportunity of demonstrating to the rebels the mildness and beneficence of Her Majesty's Government, and well knowing that the laws of the country would have ample opportunity of making examples of the guilty, I deemed it advisable to save the prisoners who were taken, and to extend to most of these misguided men the Royal mercy, by ordering their immediate release.

These measures having been effected, and the rebels having been deprived of their flag, on which was inscribed in large letters, "*Bidwell, and the glorious minority*"—"1837, and a good beginning!" the militia advanced in pursuit of the rebels about four miles, till they reached the house of one of the principal ring-leaders, Mr. Gibson, which residence it would have been impossible to have saved, and it was consequently burned to the ground.

The infatuated followers of Mr. M'Kenzie were now completely dispersed. Deceived and deserted by their leader, they sought for refuge in all directions, ashamed and disgusted with the murder, arson, highway and mail robbery which he had committed before their eyes, and, detesting him for the overbearing tyranny of his conduct towards them, they sincerely repented that they had ever joined him; and I have been credibly informed that their wives and children now look upon Mr. M'Kenzie as their most malignant enemy. Mr. M'Kenzie has fled to the United States. Mr. John Rolph has absconded. Mr. Bidwell, who took no part in the affray, has amicably agreed with me to quit, and has quitted this province for ever. Dr. Morrison, and the Captain Van Egmont, are our prisoners. Mr. Lount and Mr. Gibson have fled, and I understand are making for the United States.