

evening, the Rangers assembled on the parade ground in Huntingdon, preparatory to leaving, accompanied by the Borderers who had assembled to escort them out of the village. Before they started, Mr. Shanks, the Mayor, took the opportunity to address them, thanking them for their brave services, and expressing in the highest terms his appreciation of their gallant conduct:—

“Situated as we are on the frontier of the neighboring Republic, and exposed to the menace of a horde of lawless and blood-thirsty scoundrels, it is particularly gratifying to know that we have men amongst ourselves fully equal to the task of self defence,—men who have shewn, by their heroic conduct under fire, that through their veins courses that patriotic blood which has brought down upon the British soldier, at once, the envy and admiration of the world.

“Officers and men, let me assure you, that your gallant conduct within the last ten days, has inspired the whole country with a feeling of confidence they did not hitherto possess—with a feeling of confidence in our own ability to defend ourselves against Fenians, or aught else, that may invade our soil.

“It is not due to the prohibitory proclamation of President Grant, making cool-blooded murder a crime, nor the prompt execution of his orders when at length they were given, to prevent and arrest those miscreants, that we owe our present security. No, ample time was given them to do their worst. But it is to you, officers and men, under God, we owe that national, social, and domestic peace which we now possess.”

Lieutenant-Colonel Fletcher acknowledged the compliment paid by the Mayor in an appropriate speech. He said the people of the village of Huntingdon deserved the highest praise for the manner in which they had treated the volunteers. It was a serious thing for a place of its size to have so many hundred men suddenly billeted upon it, yet the people were equal to the occasion, and, at many sacrifices to themselves, had handsomely entertained them. It might be said it was for their own interest to do so, that these men had come to defend their property. That was true, but it was also true that in defending this frontier they were defending the rest of the Province. The information he had received of the designs of the Fenians, left him no room to doubt that if they (the Fenians) had only got a foothold in Canada—had held this village for a few days—that they would have been joined by thousands who pretended to be their enemies, and that the invasion would therefore have become a very serious affair. That this danger had been averted, was solely to be ascribed to our volunteers. As to the United States soldiers who were sent to preserve peace, they had not disguised their sentiments, and had been heard to say that they would sooner help the Fenians than fight against them. He trusted the volunteer movement would receive a fresh impetus from late events, and that they would always stick to the red coat. Had they been dressed in dark green or blue on the morning of the fight, their