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Advance toward the Town—No preparations for Defense.

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length a cannon was placed at the west gate, and small detachments of troops were stationed here and there, behind the strong picket-fences that lined the road-side from Springwells to Detroit. The British troops, having breakfasted only a mile below us, formed and commenced marching toward the town.

“‘What ails our men!’ exclaimed my mother, as the troops continued to advance; ‘why don’t they fire upon them?’

“‘Perhaps they might kill us,’ I suggested.

“‘We might as well be killed,’ she replied, ‘as to fall into the power of the “red-coats” and Indians. But we must try to find a safer place than this, for if General Hull is not a coward, we shall have bloody work to-day.’

“Supported by my mother, I succeeded in reaching the foot of the stairs, where my father, who had obtained leave of absence from the fort for half an hour, met us, and, taking me in his arms, carried me to our old retreat in the ravine. After telling me that my husband was on duty at one of the outposts, he returned to the fort. Kind friends made me a bed on the cold damp earth, my children were brought to me, and, when all was done for my comfort that could be, my restless mother again sought the house, to watch the movements of the belligerents.