

coming within the proper range two field pieces were planted on the northeast side of the church and began to play upon them in excellent style, while another field piece was sent round in rear of the village and stationed where it commanded a street leading directly to the front door of the same edifice. The three regiments and the cavalry in the meantime made a circuit round the village in rear, and took up positions to intercept the rebels when they should be compelled to abandon their position. The church having at length been set on fire the rebels were seen flying in every direction, not without many of them having been killed and taken prisoners. The nunnery and presbytere, situated on either side of the church, which were occupied by the rebels, were also destroyed, as well as several other houses in the village, particularly those of Scott and Chenier. The loss sustained on either side has not been actually ascertained, but it is reported that eighty of the rebels had been killed and more than 100 taken prisoners. Dr. J. O. Chenier was killed in the yard of the church, and Fereol Peltier and the Commander-in-chief Girod are said to have taken to flight towards St. Benoit immediately after the first fire. On the part of the troops we have no account of any being killed except two men. Mr. A. Gagy, whilst storming the sacristy, was severely but not dangerously wounded in the left shoulder. The blaze arising from the burning houses of St. Eustache was distinctly seen the same night from the rising ground in rear of this city towards the old race course. From a minute survey taken at the time, the number of houses destroyed by the conflagration, exclusive of the church and presbytere, which were reduced to ashes, amounted to about sixty. A wounded prisoner, one Major, from St. Benoit, stated that when the attack was made upon St. Eustache the rebel force at that place amounted to about 1,000 men. It is supposed that nearly 200 of the rebels fell or were suffocated in the flames of the buildings, which had been fired and from which they defended themselves. Upwards of twenty bodies were found in the churchyard and in the garden attached to the nunnery, forty rebels were killed in attempting to make their escape towards the woods. In imitation of General T. S. Brown at St. Charles upon pretence of bringing up reinforcements, the rebel commanders, Girod and Peltier, are said to have made their escape soon after the fire

of the troops commenced, but they have not since been heard of, except calling at Inglis' tavern, about four miles from St. Eustache, where they stated that the troops had been completely defeated. These heroes are now supposed to have taken refuge in the woods, but it is probable they will soon be traced out." The regiments engaged were apparently the Royal Artillery, Royal and 83rd regiments and the Montreal Cavalry and Rifle (volunteer) corps. I have given a pretty full account of this engagement for the reasons already given, as also to enable you better to understand the few views of the affair which I am going to try and show you after these remarks are finished. I am indebted to another veteran soldier, Colonel Wily, of the 88th regular regiment in those days, and as you all know for a long time holding important positions on the militia staff, who also is, I am glad to see, with us to-night, for a sketch of the

DIFFERENT ENGAGEMENTS AT THAT TIME, viz.: The first blow struck in November, at Longueuil, in which the Montreal cavalry were roughly handled. Then the fiasco under Colonel Gore at St. Denis, a few days afterwards, Colonel Wetherall's smashing the rebels at St. Charles where they suffered some loss. But "you cannot make omelettes without breaking eggs," comments the gallant colonel. Later on in 1838-9 there were troubles along the frontier by American sympathizers, two engagements taking place at Lacolle and Odelltown, both repulsed with loss, and in Upper Canada a landing was effected at Prescott under one Hindenlung, a Pole, who was captured and afterwards tried by court martial and shot. That was the way they treated rebels in those days. But we must pass on, although there is much subject matter gleaned from my reading connected with the events of these years that I should have gladly brought before you, inasmuch as, apart from the historical, there is to many of you a

#### STRONG PERSONAL INTEREST

connected with them. I find the names of McGill, Moffatt, R (Judge) Mackay, Routh, Molson, Geddes, J. G. McKenzie, Hugh Allan, Fletcher, Greenshields, John Grant, Gagy, Esdaile, A. Clark, Meredith (chief justice), and many others—some in our midst to-day, many, the majority, gathered to their fathers—signing a document for a public meeting for Monday, the 3rd July, 1837, for the purpose of giving expression

to their adopted parently Papineau made an Several many men but wh amongst battles well—in military at all fo stalwart to die, f safety o privileg ing book written in-law seen a army, a '37, I c from his written to as to

"Yo You are and adde from st a prin honor of Gre imagin France Englan disabus out del is phys you m tribute mighty or char as that great 2 belong me, it would judice rather and to French and th the go great not co which