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THE FENIAN RAID.

When our June issue went to press, Canada was reposing in seeming security, and the once-dreaded Fenians had become a laughing-stock: but before it came into the hands of our readers, the whole Province from east to west was agitated by the tidings of an actual invasion, armed men were rushing to the frontier, and our brothers' blood had been already shed. The first Sunday in June, 1866, will be long remembered as the most un-Sabbath-like Lord's day many had ever seen. The sanctuaries were but half occupied. Railways and steamers were hurrying soldiers to the front. Newspapers were issuing extras every few hours, yet too seldom for the excited crowd that filled the streets. And at night, our dead and wounded were brought home to Toronto, while rumours multiplied of attacks and danger all along "the lines" of over a thousand miles. We have never seen the popular heart stirred to its depths as it was during that week, in which we seemed to live more than during whole months of common life. Now, by God's mercy, we have subsided into quietness, not knowing, however, when danger may break forth once more. It seems to us that so great an occasion should not come and go without mention, even in a non-political journal like ours. In such an emergency there are no parties,—the nation is one. Our part here is to look at the whole subject from the Christian's point of view, that we may "have understanding of the times and know what Israel ought to do."

It is a great satisfaction to feel that we had done nothing to provoke this outrage. Canada has done Ireland or the Fenians no wrong. None of our people that might be robbed, wounded, or murdered, could feel in his conscience that he had deserved such violence.

Looking at the doubtful, or more than doubtful, character of some of the wars in which England has been engaged, we have often felt as if we could hardly adopt the second stanza of the National Anthem. But in this case, we feel that we can come before a Holy God, and on His day, and in His temple, sing,—