

story of it was not unworthy of being repeated, and I deemed it not inappropriate to the occasion. But it is a good rule to be sure of one's facts, however unimportant, ere propounding them as true. And I had at hand the proof by which I afterwards established, even to the entire satisfaction of my friendly correspondent, the perfect accuracy of my version of the occurrence in every particular of place and circumstance as I had given them. My authority, which I now adduce, was the late Colonel Macdougall, long an Elder in this Church, who was a Captain in the 79th Regiment at the time, and from whose lips I had, more than once, the statement as I rehearsed it. He was connected with some proceedings in the Regiment with reference to it, and knew, of course, all about the matter—having even been the medium through whom the remonstrances of the men of the regiment against the attempts of the commanding officer to prevent them from going to St. Andrew's Church, were conveyed to that officer, whose unwise opposition to the wishes of the soldiers, and his unwarrantable refusal of their request, had led to the occurrence.

I attempted to pause for an instant and exclaim, alas! how many difficulties do beset the writing of History! My friendly critic who has a great regard for the historic verities, was at the trouble of procuring some old contemporary newspapers and other documents, all the way from Ireland, confirmatory of his claim that a similar event had happened in Belfast; which I, of course, accepted as conclusive as to that fact, and we concurred finally in the conclusion that there must have been two distinct and nearly similar occurrences. The one at Belfast in 1826 or 1827, and the other at Toronto in 1831 when this Church was opened,