

THE VOLUNTEERS AND HOME GUARDS MUSTERING ON THE FRONTIER.

The telegraphic despatch to Lieutenant-Colonel Miller, commanding the 52nd Battalion, to call out his battalion for active service was received by him on the night of the 24th. Colonel Osborne Smith's orders were that the companies from Waterloo, Granby, Sutton Flatts and Sweetsburg were to muster at Dunham, and await further orders, while the Mansonville company, under Captain Manson, were to guard the pass near that village. The call to arms was quickly responded to, and early on the morning of the 25th the several companies were on the march for the rendezvous at Dunham, where part of Captain Cox's and Captain Flannery's companies arrived by noon, and were subsequently hurried forward by Colonel Miller to Eccles Hill, in sight of which they arrived that afternoon.

Colonel Chamberlin, who had just arrived from Toronto, received in Montreal, on the forenoon of the Queen's Birthday, Colonel Smith's orders to call out the 60th or Missisquoi Battalion, and after telegraphing to Major Rowe at Clarenceville, and to the captains of the five companies which then composed that efficient battalion, to muster their men at Stanbridge village with all dispatch, set out himself to meet them there. The command was responded to with magic celerity, and by 3 o'clock that afternoon several of the companies were on the march towards their rendezvous, where Colonel Chamberlin joined them in the evening. That officer gave his immediate attention to the protection of his frontier, and a detachment of twenty-four men were very soon sent forward as an advanced picket, and arrived at Cook's Corners, about four miles from Stanbridge village, and two from the line 45, and were posted at the back of Eccles Hill, on the road to Franklin, Vermont, where the Fenians were reported to be several hundred strong.

Early, however, as they were called out, and rapidly as they moved, they found themselves anticipated by an irregular body of men who had taken the field before them. Immediately after the raid of 1866, the frontier farmers, having been sufferers from the slowness of military action on that occasion, had organized themselves into a sort of league for their own defence. They had supplied themselves with rifles on the Ballard pattern, which they had chosen after careful examination as best suited to their purposes, and had, by means of personal acquaintances on the other side, made themselves sure of immediate notice of any Fenian movement there. Learning of the