

under arms. He replied that it was his wish that all the militia of the town should take arms, which they immediately did; and joined the body that escorted us into the town; and there they continued under arms till nine at night, when we were dismissed. During our continuance in the tavern, a committee from the body under arms was chosen to determine in what manner the prisoners were to be disposed of. After an hour's debate Mr. Prebble and Mr. Freeman were accepted as our bondsmen to be forthcoming the next day. Upon which we were dismissed for the night, and were guarded to our respective homes by the cadet company. But this guard did not prevent one of the countrymen from attempting to fire upon us. I heard the gun snap and saw the flash of the pan. A wad that had been carelessly left in the gun prevented its firing; by which means I believe Mowatt's life was saved.

"Many of Thompson's party and some of his officers knew nothing of Mowatt's dismissal until he had got on board the ship. Simmons of that party told me the next day, that had he known of Captain Mowatt's release he would have lodged his lead in him, at the same time clasping his hand to his gun and saying, there was enough there to do his business.

"Upon the whole such was Captain Mowatt's conduct, that though I am naturally timid, it so inspired me with resolution to which I heretofore had been a stranger, and although I had never seen a gun fired in anger, I verily believe, that had I possessed a weapon, I would have defended myself with becoming resolution. Moreover, I verily believe we would have been murdered by the rebels, had it not been for Hogg's officer-like conduct.

"The next morning the officers sent for Captain Mowatt, who, as was his duty, refused to go from His Majesty's ship. By this time they were joined by several other companies from the country and made up a body of five hundred armed men. They possessed themselves of a large house in the centre of the town, belonging to one of my parishioners, and converted it into a barrack, turned out his family, his wife