CHAPTER IX.

When the two prisoners with their three captors came in sight of the Canadian volunteers they beheld a scene which was much more military than the Fenian camp. They were promptly halted and questioned by a picket before coming to the main body, and the centry knew enough not to shoot until he had asked for the countersign. Passing the picket, they came in full view of the Canadian force, the men of which looked very spick and span in uniforms which seemed painfully new in the clear light of the fair June morning. The guns, topped by a bristle of bayonets that glittered as the rising sun shone on them, were stacked with neat precision here and there. The men were preparing their breakfast, and a temporary halt had been called for that purpose. The volunteers were scattered by the side of the road and in the fields. Rermark recognized the colors of the regiment from his own city, and noticed that there was with it a company that was strange to him. Although led to them a prisoner, he felt a glowing pride in the regiment and their trim appearance, a pride that was both national and civic. He instinctively held himself more erect as he approached.

"Renmark," said Yates, looking at him with a smile, "you are making a thoroughly British mistake."

"What do you mean? I haven't spok-

" No, but I see it in your eye. You are underestimating the enemy. You think this go. I shall give no orders." pretty company is going to walk over that No one volunteered to accompany the body of unkempt tramps we saw in the constable. woods this morning."

"I do indeed, if the tramps wait to be walked over, -which I very much doubt." "That's just where you make the mistake. Most of these are raw boys, who in your place, even if I wanted to." know all that can be learned of war on a cricket-field. They will be the worst-whipped set of young fellows before night that great indignation : this part of the country has ever seen. Wait till they see one of their comrades fall with the blood gushing out of a wound in his breast. If they don't turn and run, then I'm a Dutchman. I've seen raw recruits before. They should have a company of older men who have seen service to steady them. The fellows we saw this morning were sleeping like logs in the damp woods, as we stepped over them. They are veterans. What will be a mere Ekirmish to them will seem to these boys

the most awful tragedy that ever happen-Some of the volunteers crowded around the incomers, eagerly inquiring for news of the enemy. The Fenians had taken the precaution to cut all the telegraph-wires leading out of Fort Erie, and hence those matter." in command of the companies did not even know that the Fenians had left that locality. you from hitting Stoliker a short time know which, nor do I care." They were now on their way to a point since?" where they were to meet Colonel Peacock's force of regulars, -a point which they were destined never to reach. Stoliker sought an officer and delivered up his prisoners, together with the incriminating paper that everything's all right. I'll be with you in decision was short and sharp, as military I won't hurt Stoliker. But I want to see decisions are generally supposed to be. He this fight, and I won't get there if the ordered the constable to take both of the colonel sends an escort. I'm going to use well. Several times Yates nearly fell forprisoners and put them in jail at Port Col- Stoliker as a shield when the bullets begin ward, and each time saved himself, with borne. There was no time now for an in- flying." quiry into the case; that could come afterwards; and as long as the men were safe in, and Stoliker very reluctantly attached from his revolver. Suddenly with a greater in jail everything would be all right. To this the constable mildly interposed two

"Where is the nearest jail?" county town," replied the constable.

"Very well take them there."

The officer hesitated for a moment. "You "What a shame to have him led off in ness of a struggle. haven't handcuffs with you, I presume?"

the instrument. Welland with them. How far is it across sistance to you. country ?"

Stoliker told him. The officer called one of the volunteers,

and said to him,-

cuffed together, but you take a revolver was the brother's favorite. with you, and if they give you any trouble, shoot them." The volunteer reddened and drew him-

"I am a soldier."

take these men to Welland."

this discussion went on, and a murmur rose and he became grave again when he rememevidently sympathized with their comrade's them. objection to the duties of a policeman. One of them made his way through the crowd, Howard, as the company moved off, "if you He saw the hopelessness of the situation: fresh territory to the colonist, and the land and cried,-

three more of the University students and drop in on them." young Howard pressed forward.

He is no more a Fenian than Governor- left it. General Monck. We'll all go bail for the Meanwhile, two men were tramping not going to Welland this trip, as you may

professor."

asked Renmark.

"No, I am not."

"We can't bother the colonel about every

"A man's liberty is no triviality. What in the name of common sense are you fight. Stoliker, curtly.

ing for but for liberty?" have to go to jail for them. I'm coming it. I don't believe in the word 'can't' Yates talkative, argumentative, and inreluctantly to the belief that jail's the most either with or without the inverted com- structive by turns, occasionally breaking comfortable place in Canada, anyhow."

"But this is an outrage," cried the pro-

fessor, indignantly. "Of course it is," replied Yates, wearily ; "but the woods are full of them. There's always outrages going on, especially in socalled free countries; therefore one more or less won't make much difference. -Come, officer, who's going to take me to Welland? or shall I have to go by myself? I'm a Fenian from 'way back, and came here shortly. especially to overturn the throne and take it home with me. For heaven's sake know your own mind one way or other, and let

us erd this conference. The officer was wroth. He speedily gave the order to Stoliker to handcuff the prisoner to himself and deliver him to the jailer at

Welland. "But I want assistance," objected Stoliker. "The prisoner is a bigger man than I am." The volunteers laughed as Stoliker mentioned this self-evident fact.

"If any one likes to go with you he can

"Take this revolver with you," contin-

ued the officer, "and if he attempts to escape shoot him. Besides, you know the way to Welland, so I can't send anybody "Howard knows the way," persisted

Stoliker. That young man spoke up with "Yes, but Howard isn't a constable, and Stoliker is. I'm not going."

Renmark went up to his friend. "Who's acting foolishly now, Yates?" he said. "Why don't you insist on seeing

the colonel? The chances are ten to one that you would be allowed off." "Don't make any mistake. The colonel will very likely be some fussy individual who magnifies his own importance and who will

send a squad of volunteers to escort me, and I want to avoid that. These officers always stick by each other: they're bound to. I want to go along with Stoliker. I have a score to settle with him."

"Satan reproving sin. Who prevented

wrong now." "See here, Renny," whispered Yates, here? "you get back to the tent and see that Yates had handed to him. The officer's an hour or so. Don't look so frightened.

objections. In the first place, he said, he the right wrist of Yates, who embarrassed him. The steel band of the handcuff nipped was with the volunteers, not in his capacity him with kindly assistance. The two the wrist of Stoliker, who, with an oath and as constable, but in the position of guide manacled men disappeared down the road, a cry of pain, instinctively grasped the links and man who knew the country. In the second place, there was no jail at Port Col- tinue their morning's march.

from his place in the ranks. "I say, pro- just tumbled into a heap. The next in "The jail of the county is at Welland, the fessor, how did you happen to be down this stant he held aloft the revolver, crying

"I have been camping out here for a week "But I am here as guide," repeated or more with Yates, who is an old schoolfellow of mine.

that way! But he seemed to rather like "Yes, I have," said Stoliker, producing the idea. Jolly fellow, I should say. But pistol at him, "what have you to say before I wish I had known you were in this neigh- I fire?" "Well, then, handcuff them together, borhood. My folks live near here. They and I will send one of the company over to would only have been too glad to be of as- cept that you will be hanged at Welland, just as it is equally true that the stock of

"They have been of assistance to me, and exceedingly kind as well."

Have you met Margaret?"

"You are to make your way across "Yes," said the professor, slowly, but his knew. Now, if you should want this pistol minister to stave off a prospective danger by country to Welland and deliver these men glance fell as it encountered the eager eyes again, just watch where it alights." And imposing an export duty on coal. up to the jailer there. They will be hand- of the youth. It was evident that Margaret Yates, taking the weapon by the muzzle,

"Fall back, there," cried the officer to

self up. "I am not a policeman," he said. you gave me a gun and let me take part ?" as he could to the spot where the revolver hundreds of millions of tons have been con-"No," said the officer, with some hauteur; fell. "Very well, then, your first duty as a "this is no place for civilians." Again the soldier is to obey orders. I order you to professorsmiled, as he reflected that the whole asked Yates, "or is it some spell that will present reign. Just the same thing may be company, as far as martial experience went The volunteers had crowded around as were merely civilians dressed in uniform, among them at the order of the officer. They bered Yate's ominous prediction regarding The duplicate is at Welland."

see any of them don't tell them I'm here, - If he attempted to search for the key in available for colonization, instead of becom-"Hello! this is the professor. This is especially Margaret. It might make them the long grass the chances were ten to one ing less, is, for all practical purposes, Mr. Renmark. He's no Fenian." Two or uneasy. I'll get leave when this is over that Stoliker would stumble on the pistol greater than it was fifty years ago. True

recognized Renmark, and pushing up to The boy spoke with the confidence of the reporter would be once more at the has already been appropriated, while the him, greeted him warmly. He was evident- youth, and had evidently no premonition of mercy of the law. ly a favorite with his class. Among others how his appointment would be kept. Ren- "Stoliker, you're evidently fonder of my that of Great Britain. But, vast as is the mark left the road and struck across coun- company than I am of yours. That wasn't population of the United States, they would "It is nonsense," he cried, "talking try for the tent, which he reached without a bad strategic move on your part, but it easily sustain, if they were peopled as Engabout sending Professor Renmark to jail. further molestation, finding it as he had may cause you some personal inconvenience land is peopled, twenty times their present

steadily along the dusty road towards Wel- be disappointed to learn. I have gone with plying at its present rate for 250 years, and The officer wavered. "If you know land, the captor moody and silent, the you as far as I intend to. You will now might pour the whole addition to its numhim," he said "that is a different matter. prisoner talkative and entertaining. come with me." But this other man has a letter from the Yates's conversation often went beyond "I shall not move," replied the constable, period they would not be more thickly commander of the Fenians recommending the entertainment, and became, at firmly. him to the consideration of all friends of times, instructive. He discussed all the "Very well, stay there, said Yates, The States, however, are only one of the the Fenian cause. I can't let him go affairs of both countries, showed a way twisting his hand around so as to grasp the countries which are available for European out of all political difficulties, gave chain that joined the cuffs. Getting a firm colonists. How thick stand their numbers "Are you the chief in command here?" reasons for the practical use of common grip, he walked up the road down which on the fertile territory of Manitoba, or on reasons for the practical use of common grip, he walked up the road down the sense in every emergency, passed opinions they had tramped a few minutes before. the still larger and undeveloped regions the place, as you live next door. Are you "Mr. Yates is a friend of mine who is various parts of the country, told stories ground, but was forced to follow. Nothing Northwestern-America! How little do we here with me on his vacation. He is a new of the war, gave instances of men in cap- was said by either until several hundred still know of our great Australasian terri-York journalist, and has nothing in common tivity murdering those who were in charge yards were thus traversed. Then Yates tory, and how much of it still remains with the invaders. If you insist on sending of them, deduced from these ancedotes the stopped. him to Welland I must demand that we be foolishness of resisting lawful authority "Having now demonstrated to you the centuries! taken before the officer in command. In lawfully exercised, and in general showed fact that you must accompany me, I hope any case he and I stand or fall together. I that he was a man who respected power you will show yourself a sensible man, Stoli-

ing to more practical matters, he exclaim- less exhausting for both of us, and

there between here and Welland?"

Stoliker had never counted them. "Well, that's encouraging, anyhow. If of the memory that it requires an effort avoid meeting people and having me explain of the memory to enumerate them, we will likely have something to drink before we go through the fields."

"Thanks, Renmark, thanks," said Yates, man has his failings. I'll be only too happy fields and walked along peaceably together, "but I don't care to see the colonel, and I to give you some instructions. I have ac- Stoliker silent as usual with the grim confishall welcome Welland jail. I am tired of quired the useful practice of being able to dence of a man who is certain of ultimate all this bother. I came here for rest and drink both on and off duty. Anything can success, who has the nation behind him with quiet, and I am going to have them if I be done, Stoliker, if you give your mind to all its machinery working in his favor;

> Stoliker did not answer, and Yates of the other rendered conversation diffiyawned wearily. "I wish you would hire a rig, constable.

ever since three this morning." "I have no authority to hire a buggy."

fuses to move ?"

saves bills at the livery-stable." They came to a tempting bank by the cloudless sky,—how can human spite and one of the small streams tributary to Rainy road-side, when Yates cried,-"Let's sit down and have a rest. I'm Does it not all make you feel as if you were completed log cabin situated in an opening

tired out. The sun is hot and the road dusty. You can let me have half an hour : | and conscience white?" the day's young yet." "I'll let you have fifteen minutes."

a sigh. troops on the roads."

"That' so," assented Yates, sleepily. his body leaned towards the constable, who Yates broke into a run. sat bolt upright. Yates's left arm fell across "They're at it!" he cried, "and all on it were a tin plate and a knife and fork. A the knees of Stoliker, and he leaned more account of your confounded obstinacy I compass hung upon a nail, and a packer's and more heavily against him. The con- shall miss the whole show. The Fenians outfit reposed in one corner. The pack stable did not know whether he was sham- have opened fire, and the Canadians have was nearly new, and upon one side of it ming or not, but he took no risks. He kept not been long in replying." his grasp firm on the butt of the revolver. The din of the firing now became inces-Yet, he reflected, Yates could surely not sant. The veteran in Yates was aroused. meditate an attempt on his weapon, for he He was like an old war-horse who again pack I found nothing to establish the idenhad a few minutes before told him a story feels the intoxicating smell of battle-smoke. tity of this man, whom I shortly after asabout a prisoner who escaped in exactly The lunacy of gunpowder shone in his certained met death in as desperate a battle that way. Stoliker was suspicious of the gleaming eye. good intentions of the man he had in "Come on, you loitering idiot!" he cried the cabin after my investigation of the in-

"Here, sit up," he said, gruffly. "I'm not paid to carry you, you know.' "What's that; What's that? What's officer of the law that will be a different you, Stoliker. I though it was my friend Renmark. Have I been asleep?"

cleverer man than he.

"Either that or pretending,-I den't "Oh! I must have been pretending,"

"Well, I was wrong then. You are answered Yates, drowsily; "I can't have dropped asleep. How long have we been

"About five minutes." "All right." And Yates's head began to droop again.

This time the constable felt no doubt about it. No man could imitate sleep so the usual luck of a sleeper or a drunkard. The bugles sounded for the troops to fall Nevertheless Stoliker never took his hand one clasp of the handcuff around his own lurch than usual Yates pitched head-first left wrist while he snapped the other on down the bank, carrying the constable with while the volunteers rapidly fell in, to con- between, with his right hand, to save his wrist. Like a cat Yates was upon him, Young Howard beckoned to the professor | showing marvellous agility for a man who triumphantly,-

"How's that, umpire? Out I expect." The constable with set teeth, still rubbed his wounded wrist, realizing the hopeless-

"Now Stoliker," said Yates, pointing the

"Nothing," answered the constable, "exinstead of staying a few days in jail."

"What? You know them? All of them? if you are a man-catcher. Still you were much larger than they were fifty years ago, not in very much danger, as perhaps you when a great geologist persuaded a great tossed it as far as he could into the field. putting his hand into his pocket he took would have been declared impracticable

"May I march along with them? or can out some small object and flung it as nearly | then, and the stock of available coal, though "Is that how you mark the place?"

enable you to find the pistol?"

Yates whistled a prolonged note and

before Yates found the key, in which case that, in the United States, most of the land

before I get these handcuffs filed off. I'm numbers.

all the same in the end. You can Stoliker, how many taverns are do nothing until you get help. I am going to see the fight, which I feel sure am going to see the fight, which I feel sure will be a brief one, so I don't want to lose any more time in getting back. In order to

One difference between a fool and a wise "I never drink while on duty," said man is that the wise man always accepts the inevitable. The constable was wise. "Oh, well, don't apologize for it. Every The two crossed the rail fence into the forth into song when the unresponsiveness

"Stoliker, how supremely lovely and

did not look it. With clouded brow he They sat down together. "I wish a eagerly scanned the empty fields, hoping for team would come along," said Yates, with help. But if [the constable made no reply in this neighborhood. The cabin was built a sigh there was an answer that electrified Yates of hewn logs of a small size and chinked "No chance of a team, with most of the and put all thought of the beauty of with mud mixed with gravel. I should horses in the neighborhood stolen and the the country out of his mind. The dull judge the cabin had been erected early last report of a musket far in front of them sud- spring and deserted soon after, or, in fact, denly broke the silence, followed by several before it had been fully completed. I lift-He was evidently done out, for his chin scattering shots and then the roar of a ed the tatch and the door opened readily. dropped on his breast and his eyes closed. volley. This was sharply answered by the It was a typical settler's home. There was His breathing came soft and regular, and ring of rifles to the right. With an oath a rude fireplace and a frying pan. A table

charge; he was altogether too polite and to the constable, who had difficulty in keep. terior, fully satisfied that something out of good-natured; and, besides, the constable ing pace with him, -" come on, or by the the ordinary had befallen the man who had dumbly felt that the prisoner was a much gods, I'll break your wrist across a fence occupied it. Under ordinary circumstances, rail and tear this brutal iron from it."

first time that day Stoliker quailed before it possible. It was easier than I anticipat-"Now, don't do anything rash. You've that?" cried Yates, rapidly, blinking his the insane glare of his eyes. But, if he was ed. Leading into the forest to the south done nothing so far, but if you assault an eyes and straightening up. "Oh, it's only afraid, he did not show his fear to Yates. | was a slight trail almost obliterated, but "Come on, you !" he shouted, springing still discernible to the practised eye of a ahead and giving a twist to the handcuffs woodsman. I followed it for a distance,

> see the fight as you are." The sharp pain brought Yates to his my path lay the skeleton of a large man. senses again. He laughed, and said, "That's Near by lay a Winchester rifle with 1 the ticket. I'm with you. Perhaps you broken stock, and close beside the skeleton would not be in such a hurry if you knew lay a broad axe with a very rusty blade.

"That's all right," answered the little of constable, panting. Two sides are firing. I'll shield you on one side, and you'll have

to shield me on the other.' Again Yates laughed, and they ran silent- had been attacked by wolves and overly together. Avoiding the houses, they powered by numbers. That he had sold came out at the Ridge Road. The smoke his life dearly was evinced by the skeletons rolled up above the trees, showing where of the wolves. I soon became convinced the battle was going on, some distance be- that the battle had not commenced where yond. Yates made the constable cross the the skeletons were found, and in this I was fence and the road and take to the fields right. I followed the trail still further and again bringing him around behind Bartlett's found the skeletons of four other wolves, house and barn. No one was visible near but each was some distance from any of the house except Kitty Bartlett, who stood | the others. These must have been the at the back, watching with pale and anxious first of the wolves to die, and had been face the roll of the smoke, now and then killed by the rifle. The man was evidently covering her ears with her hands as the making for his cabin as rapidly as possible sound of an extra loud volley assailed them. and covering his retreat with his rifle. It

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

Coal and Population.

It is quite true that the temperate regions of the world are becoming more populous, coal in the world is being gradually ex-Yates laughed. "That's not bad, Stoliker, hausted. The coal supplies of the United and I really believe there's some grit in you, Kingdom are, for all practical purposes,

Since that time new coal fields have been discovered, new mines have been opened Stoliker watched its flight intently, then old mines have been worked at depths which sumed in the interval, is actually larger than it was at the commencement of the said of the great countries in the Western "Neither," answered the constable, and Southern Hemispheres, which are bequietly. "It is the key of the handcuffs. coming the new homes of the Teutonic

Almost every new trade route, almost "I say, Mr. Renmark," cried young looked with admiration at the little man. every new colonial railway, has opened out population has increased till it has doubled

The Anglo-Saxon race might go on multibers into the States, and at the end of that peopled than the Netherlands are now. available for approbation in the coming

The world's fair will be held this winter am exactly as guilty or innocent as he is." and the exercise thereof. Suddenly branch- ker, and come with me quietly. It will be in the same old way—on the knees.

A DESPERATE BATTLE.

The Story of a Deserted Cabin in the Cana. dian Wilds.

Tragic Death of a Brave Man After Killing a Dozen Hungry Wolves.

An experienced hunter and explorer named R. C. Emmons arrived in Superior last Tuesday from the Rainy River country. Mr. Emmons has been in the north for the past three months, making explorations along the Canadian boundary. His lips are sealed so far as information about his trip which relates to the country through which he has made explorations is concerned. But he had a story to tell, and it was of a tragedy enacted in those far-off, dim forests. The tale runs thus :

"The country was very wild, and the thought often occurred to me that if I should meet with an accident my dis-I'm tired of walking. I've been on my feet quiet and restful are the silent scented appearance would be as complete a mystery spreading fields! How soothing to a spirit as if I should suddenly be transported to tired of the city's din is this solitude, broken the planet Jupiter, for I would never be "But what do you do when a prisoner re- only by the singing of the birds and the discovered. It was sad pleasure to find, drowsy droning of the bee erroneously however, the blanched skeleton of some "I'd make him move," said Stoliker, termed bumble! The green fields, the unfortunate fellow who has preceded me shady trees, the sweet freshness of the sum- to the heart of this wilderness, and who "Ah, I see. That's a good plan and mer air, untainted by city smoke, and over met with death in its most terrible form. all the eternal serenity of the blue and But I will not anticipate. I was following human passion exist in such a paradise? River, when I came suddenly upon a halfan innocent child again, with motives pure in the timber. I saw at a glance that it was deserted, and now my interest and If Stoliker felt like an innocent child he curiosity were aroused by this unexpected EVIDENCE OF FORMER EXPLORATIONS

> stood in the centre of the room, and upon were printed with some attempt at art, the initals O.A.M. I am thus particular about details, for beyond the initials upon the for life as ever man had. I went outside lif he had decided to quit the place, he The savage face of the prisoner was trans. would have taken his pack. Here was a formed with the passion of war, and for the mystery, and I was determined to solve it well known to those who have to deal with about ten rods I should think, when I refractory criminals. "I am as eager to emerged into another small opening. Here I made a startling discovery. Directly in that I am going into the thick of the fight Within a radius of sixty feet lay the skeleand intend to use you as a shield from the tons of nine large timber wolves. It required only a moment for me to grasp the story

THAT MAN'S TERRIBLE FATE.

The scene was like an open bool. He Stoliker lifted up his voice and shouted for appears that the wolves were desperate, however, and within ten rods of his cabin and safety he was compelled to make a stand fight for his life against hopeless odds. His rifle was empty of cartridges when found, and it is evident the man had retained his axe throughout the early part of the fight in anticipation of this last desperate rally. The man must have fought like a demon in that moment of his dreadful extremity. He must have been conscious when he resorted to the axe that his days were numbered, and thought only of selling his life as dearly as possible. A dozen wolves is a poor price for a man who can fight as this one evidently could. All alone in this gloomy forest perished a man whose identity may never be known. He must have friends somewhere, however, and it may yet be revealed. The incident must have occurred early last spring, when hungry wolves, travelling in packs, do not hesitate to attack man. They are terrible brutes when emboldened by hunger, but ordinarily they are sneaks and seldom permit themselves to be seen by men."

A Frightened Member.

A man in a neighboring town was going home to his wife and family. It was growing dark. His road home from the station was a lonely one, and he was getting along as fast as possible, when he suddenly suspected that the man behind was following him purposely. The faster he went the faster the man went, until they came to a church-yard.

"Now," he said to himself I'll find out if he's after me," and he entered the church-yard.

The man followed him. Vague visions of revolvers and garroters grew upon him. He made a detour of a splendid mauscleum. Still the man was after him round and

At last he turned and faced the fellow, and asked: "What the dickens do you want? What are you following me for?" "Well, sir, do you always go home like this? I am going to Mr. Brown's house with a parcel, and the baggage agent at the station going home at all to-night?"

Youth is a period of building up, in habits, hopes, and faiths. Not an hour but is trembling with destinies -not a moment once passed of which the appointed work can ever be done again, or the neglected blow struck on the cold iron:

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