

Unknown

"A Fenian Song"

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A Fenian Song

1. The Queen's Own Regiment was their name;
From fair Toronto town they came

To put the Irish all to shame -

The Queen's and Colonel Boker!

2. What fury fills each loyal mind!

No volunteer would stay behind.

They flung their red rag to the wind -

"Hurrah, my boys!" said Boker.

3. Now helter skelter Ohio,

See how they play that "heel and toe"!

See how they run from their Irish foe -

The Queen's and Colonel Boker!

From Penguin Book of Canadian Folk Songs, Fowke

Note: In 1866, some 1200 Fenian troops, mostly from
Meagher's

Irish Brigade, invaded Canada, crossing at Buffalo.

The first

Loyalist resistance came from the Queen's Own Rifles,
a Toronto-

garrisoned force consisting largely of young college
gentlemen,

and led by Colonel Alfred Booker. The Loyalists were
routed, in

one of the Fenian's only victories.

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