

Canada left under similar conditions while the men were fighting for their homes." His grandfather reports that he had ridden all day long without seeing an able-bodied man, the women and children and very old men alone being seen working in the fields, the rest were all with the army. "With a people animated with this spirit," he adds, "we can understand how a population of 70,000 in Upper Canada, with the assistance of a small British force, were able to preserve their freedom against the assaults of a nation of 8,000,000, which, during the war, called out under arms no less than 576,622 men."

On one occasion the colonel's grandfather was sent with a large sum of money, about \$40,000, from York around to the army headquarters on the Niagara frontier. Approaching St. David's he learned that the village was captured, and the gallant officer, feeling that discretion was the better part of valour, galloped away, pursued by the enemy's cavalry, and with great difficulty escaped. When York was captured in 1813 he was sent with a party of men to set fire to the ships in the docks and also a frigate in the harbour. The officer in command objected, and the vessel and all on board were captured and our Colonel's grandfather was detained prisoner of war for six months.

By a fine poetical justice, in 1895, the Canadian Government requested Lieut.-Colonel Denison to unveil the monument at Lundy's Lane where was won the victory that practically ended the war. Canada retained every foot of its soil, and the Canadian militia, with slight help from abroad, had repelled invasion at several points of its far-extended frontier.

The Denisons devoted themselves to the peaceful evolution of their country till the rebellion of 1837

brought several of its members again into military service. Both the Colonel's grandfathers were engaged in the defence of Toronto. His father, who was stationed at Chippewa, saw through a powerful telescope, the American steamer *Caroline* carrying field pieces to Grand Island for the rebels. This information was immediately conveyed to the commanding officer, Sir Allan McNab. The result was that an expedition was ordered that night to cut her out from her moorings. She was set on fire and sent over the Falls.

Colonel Denison has rendered very important service in the organization of the Canadian militia. This work indeed was begun by his grandfather and carried on by his father and uncle, who raised a troop of volunteer cavalry and purchased uniforms and equipment at their own expense. For many years the Denison troop furnished the Governor-General's military escort at state functions. The gallant officer whose record we abridge was a major at twenty-two, lieutenant-colonel at twenty-seven, and was probably the youngest cornet, lieutenant, captain, major, and lieutenant-colonel in the Canadian cavalry.

Colonel Denison has always taken a very keen interest in discussing the military defences of Canada, and has been styled by Haliburton, "the watch-dog of the Empire." His zeal has sometimes been criticised, as on the outbreak of the American war, but the increase of the military organization of the country from 7,000 to 30,000 active militia, which was rendered necessary in order to guard our frontier, vindicate his foresight. The need of guarding our extended frontier against Fenian raids still further confirmed his judgment.

During the American war there were many southern refugees in