

which our text is taken, in the prospect of a siege, is deserving of our attentive consideration. In the hour of alarm and danger, he lifted up his eyes unto the hills whence came his help. He spread his case before God, to whose hands he entrusted his safety, and having received through the inspired prophet Isaiah an explicit assurance of preservation from the invading enemy, he not only kept himself in perfect peace, his heart being stayed on the Lord, but he encouraged his people to place their confidence in the same Almighty Guardian. And yet though thus assured, he displayed the most active, unremitting energy in the use of every means calculated to weaken his assailants and strengthen the defence of his capitol. In like manner, while we trust in God for our preservation and safety, we must, in seasons of danger, use all the means which our experience or sagacity can suggest: otherwise we tempt Him, and have no right to look for His assistance and blessing. The call issued by the Governor General of this Province, under existing circumstances, indicated an appreciation on his part, and on the part of his counsellors, of the duty to which I have alluded. And what shall I say less of the noble response made, and made with alacrity, by the volunteers of our country. In less than twenty-four hours from the issuing of the order—to the credit of their patriotism be it said—the ten thousand required were under arms and at their different posts.

While congratulating you now before me as among that number, permit me, in giving you a few words of advice, to observe—

1.—That success in every department of duty depends upon unity of purpose and concentrated action. Every effective scheme of military tactics has been so framed as to combine the energies of those carrying it out, and bring them to bear on one point. Hence the various gradations of rank, and the peculiar duties belonging to each, yet all tending to the accomplishment of one ultimate object. The distinction of rank, strictly speaking, is an appointment of God, wisely designed for drawing forth and cultivating the latent virtues of the heart, and consolidating the framework of society by reciprocal acts of benevolence and skill. The discipline and efficiency of