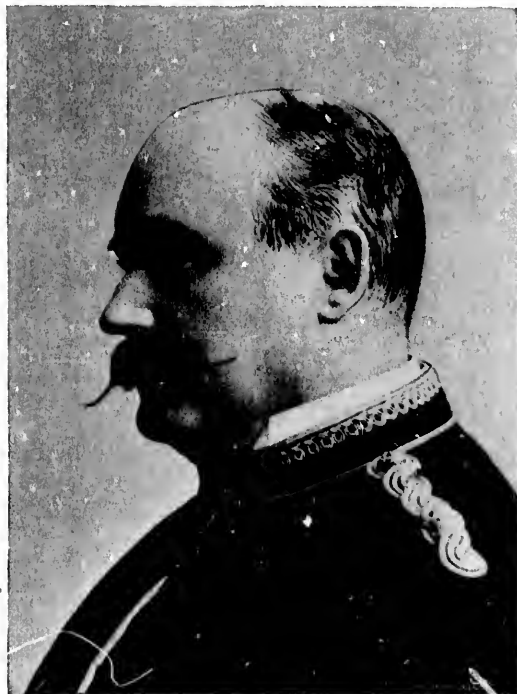


of that sort to learn when the day of action arrives. You will never be called upon to take part in aggressive warfare—to tarnish the silver wing of peace, and desolate homes; but not the less courageously will our own homes be defended; and let the foe who would tread on Canadian soil beware! He could only dare this in ignorance of the defence around us—men with the hearts and souls of men who will not flee even from the face of death if there lies their post of duty.

"Imbued with feelings of devoted loyalty to our beloved Queen, we have, at the call of her representative in this province associated ourselves together for the purpose of acquiring a knowledge of the use of arms, not for mere pastime or parade, but to enable us to do our duty as men, should ever our services be required in defence of the British Empire on this continent. We know not what the future has in store for us; we pray for peace, but should it be the will of the All-wise Disposer of events



LIEUT.-COL. MOORE, COMMANDING 13TH BATTALION.

"I have much pleasure in handing over to your safe keeping these colors, in full confidence that you will be *Semper paratus* to defend them."

Major Skinner was in command of the 13th on the occasion, and he made reply as follows:—

"Mrs. Buchanan:

"Madam,—In the name and on behalf of the officers, non-commissioned officers and men of the 13th Battalion Royal Canadian Volunteer Militia, I thank you for your very beautiful gift.

to afflict our beloved country with the horrors of war, I feel every confidence in assuring you that the 13th Battalion will be found ready to do battle for our Queen and country, whether assailed by foreign enemies or domestic traitors.

"I would again thank you, Madam, for those splendid colors. I trust they will be the means of inspiring us with renewed energy and attention to our duties, and I confidently express the hope that so long as an officer or man of this regiment can wield a weapon in their defence, they shall remain unsullied from the stain of dishonor."