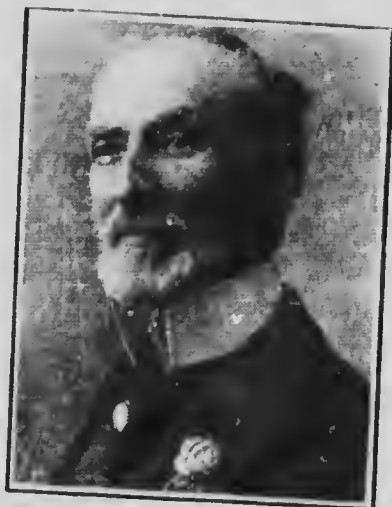




Toronto, April 1th, 1916.

Lt. Col. A. E. Belcher, the composer of these verses, is of F. E. Loyalist descent on his mother's side (she being of the old Grafton family), was born in Toronto in 1844.

He has had a long commercial, municipal and political experience.

Although having written a book in 1882, entitled "What I Know About Commercial Travelling," which is now out of print, but had a large sale at that time, he never wrote any verses for publication.

He received the inspiration for writing most of these verses during church services in St. Paul's (Anglican).

The first one composed, "Stand Up, the Trumpet Call is Sounding," was at the time sung in some of the churches, which gave so much encouragement that further effort brought added results.

Having for years advocated the universal military training of boys, some eight organizations in which he had membership endorsed the principle, and encouraged the sending out of a little booklet to prominent persons. In doing so, he took the liberty of sending some verses with it.

With one exception, the training was strongly endorsed. The kind and encouraging expressions used by any who replied, although unsought, have been most highly appreciated and valued.

Herewith are published some extracts from various letters received, which have been an incentive to well-doing. While enjoying the pleasure of writing the verses, he trusts others will enjoy reading them, and some good be accomplished.