Those who argue that Canadians are too much occupied with the development of the vast natural resources of the country to devote time and money to the cultivation of a military spirit and the training of a strong military force, do so either ignorantly or foully unpatriotically. As the private and natural wealth of the country develops, so the need to protect it increases, not diminishes. As Francis of Verulam put it:—"The sinews of war are not money, if the sinews of men's arms be wanting, as they are in a soft and effeminate nation." We find Virgil expressing the same idea:—"The wolf cares not how large the flock is."

Those who would discourage the fostering of a military spirit on the ground that such a spirit is a menace to peace, certainly read history with their eyes shut, for the records of the past show that it is as certain that the art of war is the only safe protectress of all arts as that "a severe war lurks under the show of peace." (Mars gravior sub pace latet.—Glaudianus.) To have real peace assured so far as it ever can be, the country must be able to rely upon the tangible result of military spirit, a trained national defensive force. Extemporized armies are only useful as auxiliaries; spasmodic military training counts for little. In the science of war, as in all others, there is no period of inaction, no time of rest.

The record of the Governor General's Body Guard is a long and extremely honorable one. It is very interesting historically as demonstrating what the military spirit of a succession of patriotic and self-sacrificing men can accomplish under great disadvantages and repeated discouragements; and if the present book does not clearly bring out these salient points, it falls short of the designs of its compiler.

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