

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL D.S. FARQUHAR, DSO

Lieutenant Colonel D.S. Farquhar originally belonged to the Coldstream Guards. He was serving as the Military Secretary to the Governor General of Canada when the Regiment was formed. He accepted the position of Commanding Officer of the Regiment on 12 August 1914 and commanded the unit throughout its mobilization and training and into operations around St Eloi in France during January to March 1915. His gallantry caused him to be mentioned in dispatches twice. He died of wounds received at the Battle of St Eloi on 20 March 1915.

Lieutenant Colonel D.S. Farquhar joined the Coldstream Guards from the Militia in 1876. During the South African War he was promoted to Major and took part in the advance on the Tugela, including the action at Magersfontein, Poplar Grove, Omeisfontein, the Trench and Sand River and at Home near Johannesburg, Pretoria, Diamond Hill and Bell Busk. For his exploits during the war, he was awarded the Distinguished Service Medal and also Mentioned in Dispatches. He was on active service in South Africa as a special services officer from 1903-1904 and was serving as a General Staff Officer in 1913 when he was appointed as Military Secretary to H.R.H. the Duke of Cornwall. He volunteered to serve as the first Commanding Officer on 12 August, 1914 and was instrumental in the formation of the Regiment, its training for war and its early deployment to the front.

Lieutenant Colonel Farquhar commanded the Regiment during all operations in December 1914 to March 1915. He was twice Mentioned in Dispatches during this period. He was wounded on the night of 19/20 March at St Eloi and died of the wound before morning. He was buried in the Regimental cemetery at the base of the line.