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## PENSIONS.

Parliament in all probability will be in Session before our next number makes its appearance, and it will doubtless have something in store, which will be of interest to the Permanent force of Canada. For several sessions the question of granting pensions to the regular military force of the Dominion has been brought forward by its friends, and found many advocates. Its chief promoter has been Lieut.-Col. Prior, commanding the British Columbia Brigade of Garrison Artillery, to whom the Force owes a deep debt of gratitude. When last May this gentleman most eloquently pleaded our cause, the matter was not pressed, as the Minister of Militia promised that during the interim he would look seriously into the matter. We trust that he has done so, and that the result has shown him not only the fairness of the demand, but the absolute necessity which exists for Canada to establish a scale of pensions for her soldiers. If she expects to retain within the ranks of her permanent Militia the best class of men, this can only be done by granting them a pension—after they have had a long period of service. The pay of a soldier, officer or private, either in the British or Canadian service, is exceedingly small. In the former, his pay increases by length of service, and after 12 years he can retire on a pension which at all events will enable him to live. In the latter, after four years service an increase of 50 cents a day is given to an officer, none to a private, but there is no further increase, no matter how long he may continue in the service. It is well known to be a fact that at the present moment we have officers in the Permanent force of Canada who have served their country, and risked their lives in its defence, who, if compelled to retire now,