

discuss here whether this system has on the whole worked well; but, when the strain comes, as it has come, and the fighting material of the country is called upon, it certainly is worth considering whether the wise provision of the Militia Act should be ignored.

As to the power to enrol men, section 26 of the Dominion Act reads as follows: "When men are required to organize or complete a corps at any time, either for training or for an emergency, and enough men do not volunteer to complete the quota required, the men liable to serve shall be drafted by ballot. If there are inscribed on the Militia Roll more than one son belonging to the same family residing in the same house, only one of such sons shall be drawn, unless the number of names inscribed is insufficient to complete the required proportion of service men." This section has not been put into force, and the country has depended upon voluntary enlistment. The result has been that very often all the sons of one family feel it their duty to enlist, whilst all the sons of another family stay at home. Surely it is simple justice that the burden of defending their common country should be divided.

The period of service is defined by section 73 of the Dominion Act as follows:—

"73. In time of war no man shall be required to serve in the field continuously for a longer period than one year; provided that,—

"(a) Any man who volunteers to serve for the war, or for a longer period than one year, shall be compelled to fulfil his engagement; and

"(b) The Governor-in-Council may, in cases of unavoidable necessity, of which the Governor-in-Council shall be the sole judge, call upon any militiaman to continue to serve beyond his year's service in the field for any period not exceeding six months.

"(2) This section shall not apply to the permanent force."

Taking the sections of the Act as we have stated them it is clear that the duty of every man to defend his country is fully