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The first question is, "Is the 20 years' service required to obtain a pension to be in addition to the 15 years which qualify a man to volunteer for this corps?" Although the memorandum attached to Lord F. Somerset's letter appears to be conclusive on this point, yet several references have been made on the subject, seeing, that thereby it will require a total service of 35 years, at least, to entitle a man to discharge with pension.

The answer to this must be, that it is intended that 20 years' service shall be given in this battalion, in addition to the previous 15, which qualifies for volunteering, to give a man a claim to retirement on pension.

In the letter which I had the honour of addressing to Lord Hill, on the 12th August last, and which was communicated to your Lordship, I proposed, either that men who had acquired one good-conduct badge, that is to say, who must have given seven years of creditable service, at least, should be permitted to volunteer, by which means, with 20 years' further service in the Canadian Battalion, they would generally not acquire a right to retire upon pension until about the age of 50; or, if this suggestion were not adopted, that the period of service in the Canadian Battalion should be reduced from 20 to 10 years for the man who had previously given 15 years' line service.

By the arrangement under which this battalion is to be raised, 35 years' total service, at the least, will be required to entitle a soldier, not declared to be medically unfit for further service, to his discharge on the same pension as if he had continued to serve in the line. The maximum pension, which, under the warrant of 1829, a soldier can claim, is 1s. 2d. a day after 25 years' service. All the men now volunteering, or who can volunteer for the next seven years, have their right to pension regulated by this warrant. They will, therefore, be only entitled after 35 years' service in the line, and in the Canadian Regiment to 1s. 2d. as a maximum. The men enlisted under the warrant of February 1833, who can only volunteer after 1848, have a claim to pension of 6d. a day after 21 years, increasing 3d. a day for every subsequent year of service completed, to a maximum of 1s. a day; but under the good-conduct warrant, these men may, by obtaining three or four badges, carry with them to pension the amount of their good-conduct pay. Thus a man, after having served in the line 33 years, having been for five years in possession of four badges, may obtain a pension of 1s. 4d. a day. He cannot claim discharge and pension from the Canadian Battalion until after 35 years. It is true, that to obtain this pension, he must be discharged from the line unfit for service; but this becomes in the line a necessary consequence of such an extent of duty. I cannot, therefore, but consider that the service required in the Canadian Battalion to entitle a man to discharge and pension, without positive disability, although less severe than that of the line, is too long to afford a sufficient inducement to extensive volunteering.

The second question is, "Will the soldiers of this corps be entitled to receive the good-conduct pay granted to the Guards, or the extra-pay for 14, for 21, and 28 years' service, in addition to the ordinary pay of the Guards?"

The answer to this question is, that the men serving in the Canadian Battalion have, in addition to the ordinary pay of the Guards, a claim to all the advantages of additional pay, or good-conduct pay, to which the Guards or other regiments are entitled.

The third question is, "Will they retain their present advantage of being allowed to retire with a gratuity and a free discharge for length of service, reckoning their former service in the line towards obtaining that indulgence?"

The warrant of 1829 allows free discharge as an indulgence after 15 years' service, with 3 months' pay abroad.

After 16 years' service with 6 months' pay

17	—	12	—
18	—	18	—

21 — with a pension of 10d. a day.

The warrant of February 1833 allows free discharge as an indulgence after 15 years' service, without any gratuity, but after 18 years (to settlers in the Colonies only) free discharge and 10*l.*; after 19 years, with 12*l.*; after 20 years, with 14*l.*; after 21 years, with 16*l.*; after 22 years, with 18*l.*; after 23 years, with 20*l.*; and after 24 years, with 24*l.*

The good-conduct warrant allows free discharge after 16 years, with right of registry