

sight altogether by mistaking the metal of the breech for the foresight, as, sometimes happens when both are shiny. Very handy to unload, and action appears simple and not liable to get out of order. Colt's double action. Good pull-off. Carries very high. Of all the revolvers, added the lecturer, I tried, I liked Wilkinson's much the best, combining a good serviceable pull-off both when cocked and in continuous practice. With great accuracy and good balance it is also the easiest to load. Major Kitchener quoted the opinion of Col. Brabazon, 10th Hussars, on double-barrel pistols as follows: "I can only say that I infinitely prefer a double-barrel and breachloading pistol carrying a heavy bullet and with a simple loading action to a revolver. I have seen so many lives jeopardised through reliance being placed in revolvers stopping a man. This a revolver seldom does. I could enumerate many cases, some of which have come under my own personal observation, and in one case where I myself was nearly being the victim of confidence placed in a revolver, when the revolver, though hitting the man aimed at, failed to stop him. The action of most revolvers is complicated, easily getting out of order and very difficult to keep in order. Once empty, you have not time to load them in action. At El Teb I nearly lost my life through my revolver jamming. I rode at a man, and my revolver (one served out to us from the *Jumna*—a navy revolver) would not go off. This is not the first time I have seen this happen to others, and once before, in Afghanistan, it happened to myself. These are my objections to a revolver and my reasons for preferring a pistol: 1st. The revolver bullet is too light and the charge too small to stop a strong man, unless you happen to hit him in a vital part. 2nd. They easily get out of order. 3rd. They frequently jam. 4th. They take a long time to load. 5th. You have to take them to pieces to clean them. 6th. They are very difficult to make good practice with as they throw very high. 7th. One must be in a very bad way if you want to fire more than one or two shots. 8th. As a rule, one does not reload until all the chambers are empty, and then you have not time to do so. You are also very liable to be left under the circumstances in a position when you want at least a couple of shots, while you have only one barrel loaded. A pistol carries a heavier bullet and efficaciously stops your man. Lieut. Arle told me he owed his life at Abu Klea to my having given him one of my pistols, with which he shot the man who wounded him; he dropped him dead. It is handier and comes up better than a revolver, and makes much better practice. With simple breachloading one can easily pop in a cartridge; it does not take a second. In fact, pistols are much easier cleaned and kept in order, carry a heavier bullet, really stop a man, handier to carry and to use, make better practice, and are in my opinion in every way preferable to a revolver. In conclusion Major Kitchener remarked, "It has often been said that that army which first learns how to take the best advantage of the most recent development in the improvement of modern man-killing weapons, possesses a marked advantage over a more old-fashioned adversary. In military matters changes of all sorts are constantly necessary for those who would keep pace with the rapid march of modern ideas and educated intelligence. Our progress may be said to depend on change. To my mind it is a question for serious consideration whether our cavalry, good as it is, but armed as it is, would in a cavalry action be any match for an enemy armed with revolvers, as the Russians now are. Too great attention can hardly be paid at the present time to this point. The question of the best method of arming cavalry has been constantly discussed. The pistol, the sword, the lance, the rifle, have all in their turn had their adherents. I am not an advocate of converting the cavalry man and his horse into a travelling armoury, but I believe that a light handy, quick-firing, hard-hitting revolver is essentially a cavalry weapon." The chairman, in proposing a vote of thanks to the lecturer, remarked upon the want of interest in revolver shooting, and expressed the opinion that in future warfare the revolver would be used a great deal more than it ever had been.

The new English army rifle is sighted up to 2,000 yards, and at that range has a lower trajectory than any other weapon, the maximum elevation at that range being about 300 feet.

In the early part of 1860 Major General Moody (then colonel) Lieut. Governor and Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works for this province, caused to be laid out naval and military reserves at Burrard inlet—any person who will take the trouble to glance over the map, on which the reserves are shown, will at once be convinced of the clear-sightedness of the designer. The military reserve at the 1st narrows commands the entrance to the inlet, and in these days of heavy guns and torpedos we could defy the combined fleets of the world. Even allowing that by accident this defence should fail, batteries on the point at this junction of the North Arm and Port Moody with long range guns could enfilade the whole inlet. The capacity of the North Arm is more than sufficient to shelter the combined fleets of Europe. This, and taking into consideration the security on its shores for magazines, storehouses, and arsenal, together with the facilities for repairing ships in the natural drydock at Bidwell bay, shows that the selection is incomparably superior to any other place on the Pacific coast, and also renders Port Moody (the terminus of the Canadian Pacific Railway) absolutely impregnable.—*Mariland Courier*.

Q. R. A. Meeting.

THE following circular has been received just in time for insertion in this issue, and we have much pleasure in adding to its publicity:

MONTREAL, 31st July, 1886.

SIR.—Please inform competitors that the following additions and alterations have been made to the programme for the matches for August 10th and 11th:

AMMUNITION.

By particular request the association will have on hand a supply of the "Special" D. C. Snider ammunition, the same as is prepared for the D. C. R. A. matches in September. This will be sold at fifty cents for thirty rounds (not less than thirty rounds sold at one time). Martini ammunition will be sold at twenty-five cents for ten rounds.

PRESENTATION OF PRIZES.

Competitors are requested to bring their *full dress uniforms*, as the prizes are expected to be presented on the evening of Wednesday, 11th August, under the distinguished auspices of the patron and vice-patrons of the association.

MATCH NO. 9, EXTRA SERIES.

Entrance fee is twenty-five cents each time for each entry. The entries and prizes for 500 yards and 600 yards are quite distinct.

MATCH NO. 6, MILITARY.

Page 11, 6th line from bottom, read "times" instead of "minutes."

W. M. BLAIKLOCK, CAPT. & BT.-MAJOR,
Secretary P. Q. R. A.

Manitoba R. A. Annual Prize Meeting.

THE programme of the Provincial rifle association has just been issued. There are sixteen different competitions, and the prizes in money and cups aggregate over \$2,500. The matches will take place at the association range, Stoney Mountain, commencing at 10 a.m., on the 12th inst. The competitions are as follows:—

1. Open to gentlemen nominated by lady members of the association; 200 yards, 7 shots; prizes \$150.
2. Nursery prizes amounting to \$140, for persons who have not previously won a prize amounting to \$5; 7 shots at 400 yards.
3. Open to all members of the association; first stage, 600 yards, 7 shots, prizes \$100; second stage, 1,000 yards, 7 shots, Martini-Henry rifles, prize a cup presented by Sir Donald Smith, valued at \$250.
4. Open to all members, Sniders, 200 yards, 7 shots, prizes, cup and money valued at \$175.
5. Open to all members, Sniders, 500 yards, 7 shots; prizes, cup presented by the Lieut. Governor and cash \$175.
6. Open to all members, Sniders, 600 yards, 7 shots; Hudson's Bay cup \$200, and money \$75.
7. Open to all members, aggregate of scores in competitions 4, 5 and 6; prizes, El Padre cup valued at \$200, and cash \$200.
8. Teams and individuals, 200, 500 and 600 yards; cup and cash valued at \$300.
9. Province of Manitoba prizes—Open to efficient member of the active militia, members of the staff, men of the N.W.M.P., and of the infantry school, Sniders, 500 and 600 yards, 7 shots; cup and cash valued at \$270.
10. Militia grand aggregate prizes—Prizes, silver and bronze medals and badges. The ten winners to compose the provincial team to the Dominion matches.
11. Consolation match, 400 yards, 7 shots, Sniders; cash \$75.
12. Extra series match, 200 yards, 7 shots, Sniders.
13. Extra series, 500 yards, 7 shots, Martinis.
14. Extra series, 500 yards, 7 shots, Sniders.
15. Extra series, 600 yards, 7 shots, Sniders.
16. Extra series, 600 yards, 7 shots, Martinis.

Correspondence.

CONGRATULATIONS.

To the Editor of the Canadian Militia Gazette:

SIR,—Your bright little sheet in its new clothes was quite welcome on my desk the other day, after its long holiday. No doubt its pages in the future will teem with wit and bright suggestions, after the mental rest it has achieved this spring, and your subscribers will look forward to something spicy each week from the facile pen which presides over your notes and comments. I see Noodle has not been asleep all spring, for your last issue (I mean your first issue of Vol. II) shows his keen eye to be ever vigilant and on the watch for the Major-General commanding. I hope Noodle may long be spared to our force (who is he, anyway?) because his criticisms have much force in them, are softly given, and if they hit, don't hurt. Now, Mr. Editor, if all your subscribers were as glad to see THE GAZETTE again coming up like a Jack-in-the-box, freshly painted, and smiling as usual, you ought to be a proud man. I believe you are, from what I can hear, but nobody seems to have told you so, and neither would I (reports having reached me of your size and fighting weight), but hundreds of miles separating us, I feel tolerably safe—at least till your next issue. I need not remark that there is nothing in this letter, but it will serve to show you that we have a kindly feeling towards you in this part of the country, and if you have kept us out of our paper for 2½ months and pocketed all \$1.50's that have been sent you, yet we know you are a well meaning, though perhaps a misguided fellow, and so we trusted you up to \$1.50, and now we are reaping our reward in seeing our colonial service paper again to the fore. For myself I wasn't uneasy for my \$1.50, because I hadn't paid my second subscription, but I inclose it herewith, now that the coast is clear, even if only as an example to others to "go and do likewise."

FELICITAS.

[We print this as a sample of many encouraging notes which we have received. We thank Felicitas and our other friends for their good wishes, and are very sorry we have not time to reply to them all personally.—EDITOR.]