

in the team. No. 1 may have pointed his gun with unerring aim, but if No. 5 forgets to serve the vent at the proper moment, he endangers the lives of his comrades, and the whole team, instantly disqualified by the ever-watchful umpire, is sent away. In the shell competition now proceeding, the unerring aim of the best *pointeur* in the world, will be of no avail, if No. 7 miscalculates in boring the fuse on which the bursting of the shell at the proper moment depends.

The same inter-dependence of all on each in the team rules in the repository competitions going on to-day simultaneously with the shell firing. In one of the two tests prescribed, a gun weighing nearly three tons has to travel 50 yards, from platform to platform, and to cross in its course a 9 ft. space marked off to represent a deep ditch of that width. If any man of the 19 who, by a combination of dexterous and powerful effort, may be successful in moving the gun along, should incautiously set his foot upon the marked off space, he will be considered to have fallen into the ditch, and all his comrades will be instantly disqualified by the umpire. It is not, therefore, surprising that the artilleryman who understands the significance of every individual action in a complicated whole, should appreciate more highly a contest in artillery work, than what seems to him so much more tame and simple, viz., a rifle shooting match.

New York Times.

CANADIAN AND AMERICAN ARTILLERYMEN.

The victory of the Canadians in the artillery contest at Shoeburyness, which as usual has followed closely the annual rifle meeting at Wimbledon, will not occasion surprise, in view of the excellent record of the winners in the contests of previous years. The Dominion may well be proud of the success of its volunteers in this arm, of which it has rather made a specialty. In marked contrast is the comparative neglect of light artillery proper among our militia. Not only is this noticeable in the small proportion of batteries to infantry in some States, but in the degree of drill and training, secured for them, compared with what is seen across the border. Even when artillery companies are formed they are sometimes provided with Gatling guns as their weapon. A year or two ago an effort to hold an artillery camp at Peekskill, demonstrated the weakness of the State National Guard in this arm. Of course the difference in expense entailed by providing not only the pieces, but especially the horses and equipments, has much to do with this neglect, and no doubt, too, it has hitherto been remembered that there are at call many thousands of skilled artillerymen in vigorous middle life, veterans of the civil war.