

## NEW SOUTH WALES RIFLE ASSOCIATION.

The twenty-ninth annual prize meeting was held at the Paddington rifle range, near Sydney, from the 21st to 26th October, 1889, when an unprecedentedly large number of competitors took part in the match. Some idea of the increase may be gathered from the following: In 1888 the entries for nine individual matches were 1,841, while this year the entries for ten individual competitions reached 4,068. Much of this increase arises from the establishment of reserve rifle companies all over the colony; many of them have not been formed more than six to ten months, no less than forty-eight sent representatives to the prize meeting, while many were successful. The range is far too small for the requirements of such a meeting, there ordinarily being only room for twenty-five targets all told; but thanks to the public spirit of Lieutenant M. J. Keating, of the Naval Artillery Volunteers, who formed one of the Australian team to Wimbledon three years ago, and who has invented a most simple and ingenious target with a new system of marking combined, the executive committee were enabled to put through this large number of competitors all in very good time. Lieutenant Keating offered to put up eleven of his new targets free of cost, excepting the necessary earth work for the mounds for markers, etc. This was readily accepted by the Council, and was the means by which the work was got through. The targets were new to the markers, many of whom had not seen one previously, yet excepting some little slowness in the first day or two, there was nothing at all to complain of; the targets worked through the whole six days and did not give the least trouble, and were never out of action. The weather was favourable, and only one day did it rain—when the best shooting was made. The shooting on the whole was not so good as previous years, and it is most remarkable that nearly all the good shots were either very low down or entirely out of the prize list. This is in part attributed to the ammunition which the Government issued for the matches, it being Kynoch's 1885 solid drawn; some of it was very bad, thousands of the cases burst, in some instances causing damage to the competitors, though fortunately no one was seriously injured. The total value of the prizes competed for was about £2,400, the largest winner being Private Kennedy with about £146 while of the 580 individual entries there are about 290 winners, so that the money is widely distributed. It may be well to mention that M.H. rifles are used with windgauges on the sliding bar.

## KEEP YOUR EYES OPEN.

Mr. C. F. Lowe writes to an English sporting journal: "There is another experiment which demonstrates the advantage of two eyes over one-eyed shooting, as per red book. Fold a piece of cartridge paper in two and cut a hole in the middle; pass it over the muzzle of a Martini-Henry rifle, so that it rests against the foresight; then point the rifle at a target, and close the left eye, according to regulation. You can see the sights with the right eye, but the view of the target is intercepted by the paper screen. Then open the left eye, and you will see the target and bullseye; bring the images of the sights, conveyed to the brain by the right eye, into line with the image of the bullseye, conveyed to the brain by the left eye, and pull the trigger; if the rifle is loaded you will hit the target. I have often puzzled men on a rifle range with this experiment, and bamboozled them by talking about invisible apertures, etc., and ended by advising them to shoot with both eyes open, as I do myself, along with Mr. Edward Ross and a crowd of well-known marksmen, not forgetting the Boers, who taught us such a bitter lesson in South Africa."

## HIGH SCORING.

The *Volunteer Record* publishes this list of scores of 100 points and over, out of 105 possible, made in the mother country during the past season in bona fide competitions: 102—Corpl. Brown, Sussex; 101—Sergt. West, St. Helens; Corpl. Horder, Salisbury; Major Dickenson, Alsten; Capt. Scott, Durham; Pte. Chicken, Wigton; Armr-Sergt. Hill, 5th Lanark; Sergt. Stevens, Bristol; Major Pearse, Devon. 100—Pte. Harcastle, Derwent Club; Corpl. Proctor, Birmingham; Capt. Biddle, Devon; Corpl. Chicken, 1st Lanark; Lieut. Moore, Allendale; Capt. Cowan, N.L.R. Club; Pte. Humphrey, Bristol; Sergt. Bethune, Queen's Edinburgh; Pte. Hodgson, Keswick; Sergt. Trash, 18th Middlesex; Major Ellis, Liverpool; Corpl. Cowen, Hexham; Sergt. Williams, Northern Counties R. C.; Sergt. M'Lardie, Renfrew; Pte. Gilbert, F.A.C.; Lieut. Bumstead, Massachusetts V.M.; Corpl. Frost, 4th West Surrey; Sergt. Dearden, Leeds; Sergt. M'Onie, 3rd Lanark—twice; Pte. Kerr, 1st Lanark; Pte. Fenwick, Auchterarder—twice; and Sergt. Saunders, Bristol.

The *Hartford Courant* says: "Among the victims of the grippe is Joseph Howe, one of the 600 who made the famous charge at Balaklava. Until the Russian influenza got hold of him he had no fear of anything Russian, and still looks back with pleasure upon the day when the 17th Lancers were running their spears through the Russians who worked the guns on the hills, which the 600 afterwards captured."

A Rio Janeiro correspondent of the *New York Times* writing on Brazilian matters says: The file of the army is composed of the very worst, and most worthless element of society—thieves, vagabonds and scoundrels of every description. They are all negroes or mulattoes, and utterly ignorant, without honour, and wholly lacking in patriotism. But such being the material of which the file of the army is composed, it will readily be seen upon what a slender thread the provisional government would depend if the body of intelligent people once became thoroughly aroused and arrayed against it. But the Brazilians are not a fighting people. It would require a great deal to work them up to the point where they would be willing to risk their lives for opinion's sake. They will be content with any decent and fairly-respectable set of rulers.

## To Our Subscribers.

The SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT which appeared in our columns some time ago, announcing a special arrangement with Dr. B. J. KENDALL Co., of Enosburgh Falls, Vt., publishers of "A Treatise on the Horse and his Diseases," whereby our subscribers were enabled to obtain a copy of that valuable work FREE by sending their address to B. J. Kendall Co. (and enclosing a two-cent stamp for mailing same), is renewed for a limited period. We trust all will avail themselves of the opportunity of obtaining this valuable work. To every lover of the horse it is indispensable, as it treats in a simple manner all the diseases which afflict this noble animal. Its phenomenal sale throughout the United States and Canada makes it a standard authority. Mention this paper when sending for "Treatise."

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