

list, from others. Reduced to their first principle, they should mean "pushing," pushing yourself across a ditch or a wall, pushing your sword into the body of the enemy, pushing your musket-butt down upon his head through his helmet. What we want, therefore, speaking rudimentally, is that our officers should study pushing in every variety, as contra distinguished from pulling, and this they can do only on the greensward, in the open air, and amid the shouts and rivalry of a hundred competitors. The German gymnastics on large the muscles enormously, and successful practitioners habitually exhibit their "biceps" with great exultation; but, has a matter of fact, what is gained in bulk is lost in elasticity. American Freeman had a muscular development like the Farnese Hercules, but little Tom Sayers, with arms of moderate circumference, and hands not much bigger than a lady's, gave a very good account of the leviathan, in a fight which has become part of the history of England. A little occasional exercise with the dumbbells or the Indian clubs would undoubtedly be beneficial, but, neither should be too heavy. We must remember that by working within our strength we increase it; if we strain it too much, the result is exhaustion, and if perserved in, disease and early decay.

The Germans think that everything may be reduced to a science, but they are much mistaken. Athletic sports must be sports before everything. What we want is the cricket-field, with its excitement, its running and racing, its wild hurrahs, and its constant vicissitudes. Or let us have bowls or rackets, or jumping or foot-racing. When our officers perform indoor exercise, there is nothing like fencing, which, by the way, his highness especially recommends. It is no answer to say that the small-sword has gone out of use, because what is learnt with the small-sword can be done afterwards with the broadsword. Fencing gives, first, a good military carriage; second, a quick and ready eye; and third, a firm and steady hand. It exercises the body briskly and equally all over, and does not develop one set of muscles to an ungainly bulk at the cost of shrivelling up or attenuating all the rest. The Germans are, it is true, good marchers, but they do not learn that in the *ecole gymnastique*. They are made to march by an iron discipline, and if they fall out they are either punished or disgraced. Let those extol the German system remember that the colors, and that the business of his officers and non-commissioned officers is to "take it out of him" during that time. What becomes of him, or how he wears after he has returned to his native village, nobody can learn; but we suspect that the amount of work which is got out of the German soldier whilst on active service, is obtained at a tremendous wear and tear of the human material. A London cabman is supplied by his employer with two horses a day, and he is expected to travel over thirty miles with each of them, bringing home to his proprietor as the result a certain fixed sum of money. He fulfils his engagement, but at a tremendous expense in horseflesh. His proprietor says, "Keep up your payments, and I'll keep up your stud," and so his horses are not uncommonly replaced six or seven times within twelve months. The German military system is the exact counterpart of this, and therefore it is idle to say that the soldiers acquire endurance and extraordinary pedestrian powers by means of their gymnastic studies. The school gymnastics, if practised to an extent, gave tem-

porary strength, at the cost of permanent weakness. They are gone through merely as a task, and have none of the hilarity or good humored emulation of our old English field sports. It must be remembered also that although the muscles may be pulled about with comparative impunity, and even made larger and stronger by such pulling, the great viscera, such as the heart, lungs, and liver, will not bear such handling. Rowing, the most deleterious of all our national exercises, is all pulling, all muscular development, and we know how frequent are heart and lung diseases, and bilious fevers, amongst our crack oarsmen.

If our officers, then, mean—and we are quite sure they do—to take his royal highness's suggestions to heart, to go to bed betimes, and do all their pleasure in the morning, and in the open air, they will attach little importance to the pulling at ropes and bars and the acrobatics of the gymnasium, but meet their mon on the turf for running, for jumping, for cricketing, and for bowling. Football is a fine game, but the excitement is tremendous, and might sometimes lead to a momentary forgetfulness of the proper distinctions of rank. But in the other games which we have enumerated there is no such danger. The strife may be *bona fide*, each player may honestly do his best, and the winner will receive his *kudos* without any infringement of discipline. *Inter se*, the officers have the foils; and an occasional turn at the billiards (without gambling), would not be bad exercise. But let the great force of our future athletes be thrown into the open air games, and there is little fear but that a steady adherence to them (always in moderation) will make our officers as good marchers and fighters and escaladers as any men of their class and profession in the world.—*London United Service Gazette*.

### THE IRISH TEAM.

The Irish team of riflemen, who are to compete with an American team, sailed on Saturday for the United States. The match is to be contested at Creedmoor, L. I., on the 26th instant. The precise number that started is not known.

Mr. A. B. Leech of Dublin, the founder of the Irish Rifle Association in 1867, accompanies the team, and it is expected that a number of other distinguished persons will also come.

The match is to be shot at the 800, 900, and 1,000 yards ranges, fifteen shots at each distance, an outer counting 2, a centre 3, and bull's eye 4.—The highest possible score a man can make is 180; per team, if only six on a side shoot, 1,080. The size of the target is six feet high by twelve in width. The bull's eye is three feet square, the outer embracing the three remaining feet on either end of the target. The bull's eye is painted black, the centre and outer white, being separated by black lines. The bull's eye is signalled by a white disk, the centre by a red disk, and the outer by a black disk.

According to agreement, the Irish riflemen will practise two days on the range before the match. This is necessary, as they have to shoot in a strange country and in a different light and atmosphere. Moreover, the marksmen may be more or less demoralized by their sea voyage. The experience they have had, however, is in their favour.—The match is to be the first of the kind shot in this country.

As a comparison between the American

and Irish riflemen, the scores made by the former on Wednesday and Saturday of last week, and that made by the latter at Wimbledon in 1873, may be cited. On Wednesday the eight best scores of the American team footed up 1,153; on Saturday, 1,151. The Irish team scored 1,195 points for the Elcho Challenge Shield, the largest score ever made for it in twelve or thirteen competitions, except by the English team in 1872, when the score stood 1,203.

The Irish team have been challenged by the Canadians, a large number of whom will visit Creedmoor during the coming season. It is expected that the match will be shot at Creedmoor before or after the annual meeting. Besides the All-comer's match, Irishmen will be entitled to shoot in several others, among them the Bennett \$1,000 match.

The names of the gentlemen who won the Elcho Challenge Shield are—S. S. Young, J. K. Millner, John and William Rigby, J. Wilson, R. R. Joyce, John Floyd, and E. Johnson. Mr. Young is the only military man among them, being a private in the Eleventh Worcester. He has spent several years in India, and lives near London. He is about 30 years old. Mr. Millner is a wool merchant, the son of an old and respected Dublin resident, and is 26 years old. Mr. Floyd is a gentleman of large fortune, and is a deputy lieutenant and magistrate. He is 35 years old.—Mr. John Rigby, who is 40 years old, and his cousin, William Rigby, who is 35 years old, are the makers of the well-known Rigby rifles, and live in Dublin. The former has shot in the team every year since its organization. The latter won a prize of £50 at Wimbledon in July last, scoring 61 points out of a possible 70. Mr. Joyce is a merchant of Belfast, and is 30 years of age. Mr. Wilson is also a merchant of Belfast, and about 30 years old. The former won a prize, £20, at Wimbledon this year. Messrs. Joyce and Wilson, 1871, at Wimbledon, scored 161 points apiece for the Elcho Challenge Shield, the highest individual score ever made for it. Mr. Johnson is a well-known jeweller of Dublin, and is 30 years old.—*N. Y. Sun*.

The trial of Bazaine was concluded on the 17th M. Lachine in defending Col. Villetle, said: "His clients conduct in this matter was the most honorable incident of his career. Col. Villetle was a type of chivalrous devotion to his Chief." The Counsel then proceeded to examine the evidence in regard to the escape and argued that it was in exact accordance with the account given by Madame Bessine. The Judge delivered a lengthy and explanatory judgment; he considered that the escape by the rope was proved, but declared that Col. Villetle assisted in the preparations. The wardens were adjudged guilty of negligence. Raoul, one of the accused who has not been arrested and who did not appear for trial, was condemned in *contumaciam* to ten months imprisonment. Col. Villetle and Plantin were sentenced to six months; Dorneau to two, and Gigoux to one month's imprisonment.

There is great excitement and indignation among the inhabitants of the Galician and Transylvanian frontiers, in consequence of the violation of territory by six hundred Waldensian peasants who forcibly crossed into the district of Czur. The Government of the district telegraphed to Pestah for military aid.