

have attained in the rapid use of this weapon shows what practice will do in this way.

We print elsewhere some hints on revolver shooting which may prove useful to any who may wish to improve himself in the use of the "Officers Arm."

The Montreal *Star* of Oct. 25th has the following item which will be specially interesting to our Montreal readers:—"The military authorities are looking about for temporary quarters for the Infantry school about to be established in this city. For this year no special building will be erected, but if possible some houses in the vicinity of the Drill Hall will be leased for the accommodation of the detachment of the Royal Regiment of Canadian Infantry to be brought here for the purpose of instruction. The drilling will take place in the Drill Hall and on the Champ de Mars. On the success of this winter's temporary school will depend the Government's decision as to the building of barracks and the establishment of a permanent force in Montreal.

It will be interesting to those who doubt the shooting qualities of the Metford barrel to read the following from the Volunteer Shooting Record.

A magnificent shooting score was made on the Kinnegar range, Holywood, Ireland, on Friday, the 28th ult., by Captain R. W. Barnett, of the 22nd Middlesex. Firing with a new Metford by Gibbs rifle at 1,100 yards, he made in twenty consecutive rounds 67 points out of a possible 100, the shot for shot score being as follows:—55455545555555555555—total, 97. The evening was a fine one, light and wind being perfect; but Captain Barnett's score is interesting as showing the result which can be obtained even at this extreme distance, under the best conditions, as concerns weapon, ammunition, and holding. A few years ago Mr. Metford and Mr. John Rigby, the leading experts in the art of rifle manufacture, created some surprise by publicly stating at Bisley that 1,100 yards was too long a range for accurate shooting. In the light of Captain Barnett's recent achievement, which constitutes a "world's record" for the distance, these opinions may probably need to be reconsidered.

One hundred and forty five members of the 37th Battallion (Simcoe) took part in their regimental matches.

New Brunswick and Quebec are suffering from governments that considered \$300 or \$400 a year spent in educating their defenders in the skilled use of their weapons a great piece of extravagance. Thousands they will spend cheerfully in boodling contracts but hundreds must be counted when they are to be spent in such a cause.

#### OUR SERVICE CONTEMPORARIES.

In connection with good company records in team matches and high scoring by individual members of one company, we reprint the following extract from the columns of Tuesday's Liverpool Mercury:—"H. Company, 2nd Liverpool, cannot be surpassed for shooting by any company in the volunteer force. As evidence of this take the record of the company club during the past season. Two members, Sergeant Hooton and Private Stocks, have an aggregate of 471 each for five shots, an average of 94.2; while Private P. H. Dodd averages 93.6, Private W. G. H. Hay, 93.4, Lance-Corporal Pownall 93, Private R. T. Harvey, 89.4, Private R. Thornton, 58.2, and Private W. D. Skinner, 58. Sergeant Hooton, who is noted for his shooting at 600 yards, averaged 31 points per meeting at that range. The company established a record a year or two back by compiling 918 points for ten men in a team shoot, and more Queen's badges are held by its members than by the members of any other company in the force. No fewer than five of the nine 2nd Liverpool men who got into the 'hundred' last year belonged to this company."—Vol. Record, Sept. 22.

Our esteemed contemporary *Le Stand*, of Paris, tells a good story apropos of quasi dangerous ranges, which will be appreciated by sufferers from the more or less unfounded scares of risk to life and limb now so rife in connection with local shooting grounds. A rifle range, situated in the neighbourhood of a certain provincial town in France, was frequently used by the line regiment in garrison thereat, and as often as this took place as surely would complaints be made by the country people of bullets whistling about them and over their heads. On two occasions firing was suspended for a time and the butt behind the targets raised, with, however, no satisfactory result, as the bullets continued to whistle as before. As the Colonel commanding the regiment thus endangering the safety of the good provincials could not raise a mound as high as the Pyrenees, he hit on another and, as the result proved, better expedient. He visited the range on the next practising day in order to judge for himself of the truth or otherwise of the continuous complaints.

He—the Colonel—ordered the firing to commence, and be continued for an hour or so. At its conclusion he despatched mounted officers to scour the country in rear of butts, with instructions to bring before him all persons who could state that they had heard the whistling of bullets that day. Several were found, who asserted—good, honest souls—that they had heard the sounds of missiles careering through space as heretofore. It need scarcely be mentioned that these people's reputation for veracity was somewhat rudely shaken by the Colonel's announcement that the firing had been carried on with blank cartridge. From that day to the present the yokels of this particular district have, for very shame,

left the whistling bullets grievance severely alone. Our chief object in recounting this little 'histoire' is to point a moral to those of our readers who happen to be located in the vicinity of rifle ranges, and may perhaps have fancied, like their chuckle-headed prototypes across the channel, that they have heard bullets "whistling through the air" in rear of the butts.

Outing for October is an exceedingly attractive and beautifully illustrated number. Many breezy and seasonable sketches of sport, travel and recreation, and two complete stories, afford a variety of reading matter calculated to suit all tastes. The editorial and record departments are strong and contain much useful information about amateur sports.

We clip from it the following which will be of interest to our readers:—"The sole merit of the homing pigeon for military purposes lying in its service as a messenger, breeding and training are directed to the development of the most resolute homing qualities. The gradual training of the birds begin as soon as they attain sufficient strength for their first short flights. They are first made familiar with the appearance of the locality about their station, but further training contemplates the invariable employment of the same birds over practically the same course. Thus the mark 'E' indicates that the bird is trained to return from the East, 'N' from the North, etc. The bird has strong proprietary instincts and dislike of change, and is shown by the tenacity with which it seeks its loft after liberation. All possible deference is paid to this trait in its character, no bird being forced to vacate the nest or perch originally assigned to it except for urgent reasons.

"The young birds in their first season are trained to return from a distance of one hundred miles, which is accomplished, as is all their training, by teaching them to return first from a very short distance, gradually increasing it at each successive lesson. The second season the distance is somewhat increased, and the third season a return of three hundred miles or over is accomplished."—"Naval Messenger Pigeon Service."—Outing for October.

LORD ABERDEEN AS A SNORER.—The question of snoring was recently discussed by various correspondents in the Westminster Budget. Here is a story bearing on the point, which Lord Aberdeen tells of himself:—"He left London at midnight in a sleeping-car for the north. In the morning, when he was awakened, he saw a stranger opposite him. "Excuse me," said the stranger, "may I ask if you are rich?" Somewhat surprised, his lordship replied that he was tolerably well-to-do. "May I ask," continued the stranger, "how rich you are?" "Well, if it will do you any good to know," was the reply, "I suppose I have several hundred thousand pounds." "Well," went on the stranger, "if I were as rich as you, and snored as loudly as you, I should take a whole car, so as not to interrupt the sleep of others."

Shooting at Runemede, on the 25th ult., in the final competition of the season of the South London Rifle Club, Mr. Walter Winans won the revolver championship of the club, with 322 points out of a possible 336, five scores at 20 yards and three at 50 yards; one score only a day counting during the season. He has also subsequently added another highest possible of 42 points to his scores for the revolver championship of the North London Rifle Club.