

RIFLE MATCHES.

To the Editor of the VOLUNTEER REVIEW.

SIR,—I send you a partial list of the rifle match of the Sherbrooke Rifle Association, Fired for by the members of the Association and the 53rd Battalion; the new cavalry corps said to be raised in Sherbrooke not flying their appearance.

The match took place on the 1st and 2nd ultimo.

First day—1st prize, 23 entries. Four prizes.

Ladies' Challenge Silver Cup, \$50—cash \$12. \$62.00.

Range 400 and 600 yards.

1st Prize Jas. F. Morkill S.R.A., formerly a Trooper in Major Stevens' old troop of cavalry in 1871, contesting with some of the best shots here, (Silver Cup, \$50).

2nd Prize, Captain Armstrong, 53rd batt., 29 points.

3rd Prize. A. D. Bostwick, G. T. R., 29 points.

4th Prize, A. McKechnie, S. R. A., 27 points.

2nd Match 200 and 400 yards, 36 entries, 4 prizes, \$32.

J. F. Morkill, S.R.A., 19 points.

2nd. Fessets, 53rd Batt., 20 points.

1st. Sergt. A. E. Shaw, 54th Batt., 20 points.

Captain Armstrong, 54th Battalion, 19 points.

A. Bostwick, G. T. R., 19 points.

A. McKechnie, S. R. A., 18 points.

Ensign Ryther, 53rd Battalion, 17 points.

Captain Rolf, 53rd Battalion, 17 points.

3rd. G. A. Shaw, 54th Battalion, 19 points.

Did not get the ties.

No. 3 Match, five members of each company to compete.

Prizes—Silver Challenge Cup, \$50, cash \$20—\$70. Taken by No. 6 company, the other 5 companies failing to furnish their quota of five men.

No. 4 Match 7 prizes—\$55.

1st Prize, A. P. Doyle, S.R.A.

2nd " Captain Rolf, 53rd Batt.

3rd " Corpl. Stacey, do.

4th " Capt. Armstrong, do.

5th " Sergt. Stacey, do.

6th " Jas. F. Morkill, S.R.A.

7th " J. Fessete, 53rd Battalion.

[The Consolation Match of about \$50. I have no return, the absence of the Secretary, Lieut. Morehouse, is my apology for not giving you a full and detailed statement.

The Annual Match of the 35th Battalion, or "Simcoe Foresters," will take place at the Queen's Park, Burrie, on Friday, the 25th October, inst., when several volunteer prizes will be competed for.

One of the most frequently reiterated assertions of those who denied the truth of the statements concerning the misbehaviour of the studded shot, namely, that the fault was in the fuzes, is now definitively answered by the fact that studded shells *without fuzes* have come to grief in the firing from the 16 pounder at Shoeburyness.

CORRESPONDENCE.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

The members of No. 1 Troop of Montreal Cavalry held a very pleasant social meeting and re union at the "Carleton" on Monday evening, Colonel Muir in the chair, supported on either side by Colonels Lovelace (instructor of the troop) and Ogilvie, Major Smith, Lieut. Tees, &c., Cornet J. R. Mitchell, acting as Croupier. A very pleasant time was spent.

The annual rifle matches of the Prince of Wales' Rifles took place last week at Point St. Charles. The day was fine but a strong wind blowing across the ranges made good shooting somewhat difficult. The match was open to all volunteers; in the opening one there were forty competitors, and the competitions were well filled. The following are the scores:—

No. 1.—Maiden Stakes—Ranges 200 and 500 yards, five shots at each—Sergeant Jones, 33 points, prize \$10; Capt Mudge, 31, \$5; Sergeant Batchelor, 28, \$2; Sergt. Doran, 25, \$2; Pte. Cox, 21, \$2; Pte Kenna, 21, \$2.

No. 2.—Ladies' Prize.—Corp. Hill, 41 pts, prize \$20; Sergt. Stuart, 33, \$10; Sergt. Porteous, 32, 5; Sergt. Wilson, 31, 1; Sgt. Tuzo, 18, 1; Sergt. Daran, 26, 1.

No. 3.—Colonel's Prize—Ranges, 200, 500 and 600 yards, 7 shots at each.—Sgt. Quinn, 55 points, prize cup and \$10; Sergt. Wilson, 48, 2; Corp. Hill, 47, 2; Sergt. Stuart, 46, 2; Sergt. Jones, 45, 2; Pte. Morrison, 41, 2.

No. 4.—Open Match—Ranges 200, and 600 yards, 5 shots at each:—Sergt Metcalf, G T R 25 points, prize \$15; Pte. Blair, G T R, 21, 10; Sergt. Turnbull, G T R 21, 5; Sergt. Murphy, P W R, 20, 2; Lt. Cambell, V V R 20, 2; Lt. Andrews, V V R 13, 5; Sergt. Wilson, P. W. R. 18, 2; Sergt. Porteous, P W R, 17, 2.

No. 5.—Association Match—Ranges 200 and 500 yards, 5 shots at each:—Sergt. Wilson 28 points, prize \$5 and revolver; Corp. Hill, 24, dressing case; Sergt. Quinn, 22, 2; Sergt. Dorhn, 17, 2; Sergt. Jones 16, 2.

No. 6.—Consolation Stakes—Ranges 200 yards, five shots each:—Lt. Tatlow, 14 pts. prize \$5; Lt. Balfour, 13, 3; Sergt. Young, 13, 2; Q.M. S. Harman, 11, 1; Pte. Larkin, 11, 1.

Aggregate Prizes.—Corp. Hill, 112 points, prize \$5; Sergt. Wilson, 107, \$3.

The proceedings of the day were brought to a close at six o'clock, when the prizes were distributed by Captain Mudge.

RIFLE MATCH.—An interesting rifle match between the members of No. 1 company, 1st brigade G.T.R. Artillery, came off on Saturday last the 12th inst., at Point St. Charles ranges. The officers subscribed the sum of \$25, which was divided into six prizes, viz.: 1st prize \$8, with the Govr. prize of \$5 added for the best shot in the company, won by Gunner Dennison; 2nd prize, \$6 Sergt. Marcom; 3rd prize, \$4, Gun. Pollexfen; 4th prize, \$3, Sergt. Major Clarke; 5th prize, \$2, Gun. Matthews; 6th prize, \$2, Gun. Kirkham.

The St. Johns battery of Artillery numbering about 60 officers and men, who have been performing their annual drill upon St. Helen's Island have left for home.

The horse epidemic is increasing, and if it continues much longer, we wont have a horse in the street.

Weather continues wet and disagreeable. B.

THE MITRAILLEUSE.—Russia is apparently the only military power which still believes in the real efficacy of the mitrailleuse. The Czar has provided his army with fifteen batteries of "Gatlings" one for each infantry division; but England it appears has only ten or a dozen in store, and the French War Department is said to have condemned the thing outright. This might be thought to be the result of national disappointment, considering with what a flourish the horrible engine was introduced at Satory, and all the expectations which were raised by the slaughter done on the poor horses at that camp. But the Germans also, who captured what they call the "bullet squirt" by scores and took them with ammunition and equipments to Berlin, appear to care very little about this machine as an implement of war. The experiments made at Woolwich by the Royal Artillery of Great Britain, tend in the same direction. Experts say that the mitrailleuse, even in its best form, is only useful for defending narrow passages or sweeping a well defined path at close quarters. Its effect would be great at a breach, or in protecting the flank of a main ditch; but grape and canister are far more formidable at regular ranges, and shrapnel demoralizes troops sooner, and reaches them even under cover. Accordingly there is little desire to employ the Gatling in such numbers as was once thought necessary; it shoots wild at long ranges throws its missiles too much into one spot. Still, when we call to mind what terrible havoc the "bullet squirt" wrought at Gravelotte upon the advancing columns of Prussia, the fear arises that artillerists may too much neglect this implement of destruction. Its long deadly growl was very depressing to an enemy, and its powers of mischief properly applied, are, and must be considerable. As a substitute for field guns it may be pronounced a failure; but possibly the question of improving it and keeping a proper supply on hand ought not to be slighted.

TACTICS OF THE PRUSSIAN ARMY.—It is said of an excellent Prussian officer of high rank that he goes to sleep thinking of tactics, wakes with the same idea in his mind, and expects all the officers under his command to do the same. Allowing for some exaggeration, the whole Prussian army may be said to be in a like condition. No officer is considered worthy of the name unless he is capable of taking command of a detachment of the three arms, large or small, according to his rank, not only to drill it, but to execute with it, intelligently, any of the minor operations of war. This is what was meant when, during the war, commanders of armies, corps or divisions asserted that their great superiority over the French consisted in the fact that they need only give an order by word of mouth, being sure that it would be executed in the best possible manner. Their whole system of tactics is based on this supposition, and their drills are so managed as to attain the same object. Even the men are expected to act with intelligence, and without waiting for special instructions. It is said that wood fighting is one of the special powers of Prussian troops—witness the wood of Benatek—and the officers clinch their arguments about tactics by saying, "What General or Colonel would pretend to keep his men in hand in a wood." By tactics they mean the whole art of leading troops against an enemy, present or close at hand, as well as defending themselves against an enemy's attacks.