

Medern Pigeon Shooting.

In two recent pigeon matches between two well-known experts, each match being at 100 pigeons cach, all the pigeons were killed except one, that is 399 were killed out of 400 shot at. This leads us to remark that there is something radically wrong about the present methods in vogue for trapping and shooting live birds. Where, as at present, the shooter stands at about 30 yards, with gun to shoulder, it is but the work of the fraction of a second for even the veriest "duffer" to cover his bird before it has had time to get under way, as a rule, and in many instance; he has to wait for the bird to rise before giving it its quietus. Really sporting shots are rare under such conditions, and the killing 100 of these birds in succession, does not rank very high as a feat with the shot gun. To knock a block off a post at 30 yards 100 times in succession would not be considered a feat of marksmanship worth noticing, and yet some pigeon matches rank very little high cr.

The essence of one's enjoyment with the gun or rife, is the feeling that your game has a fair chance to put its powers of flight and escape against your skill and a true sportsman will decline to enter the cont st where his quarry is unfairly handrapped. For this reason we think pigeon shooting might be raised to a higher piane, if some means were devised to give the bird a chance to get up some speed and to exercise to some extent the means of escape nature has given it.

Some device by which the bird would he screened from the view of the shooter until it had gained its speed, would be better than that now used, and it should not tax one's ingenuity very much to effeet this purpose. One scheme suggested is to trap the bird from the centre of a semi-circular screen, say, lifteen yards wide and five yards deep at the centre and raised 12 inches from the ground, and completely covered. This would be closed at the side next the score, and open along the whole of the other or circular edge. The hird would be released from one trap at the back and would have the whole range of the covered screen in which to get up speed and choose its course of flight. Trapping could be done from a pit at the back of the screen. This might not be a perfect scheme to effect a cure for the evil mentioned, but it might be a considerable improvement. If not, no doubt some of our ingenious sporting friends can suggest one.

Walkerville Gin Club.

The following records were made at the Walkerville Gun Club shoot on Saturday, Sept. 29th, A. W. Reid winning the regular club event, twenty targets, by breaking 19 Webster, in class B, won with 18: Targets 10 10 10 10 10 *24 10 8 13 6 8 8 10 T. Reid 8 Ω 9 17 A. W. Reid · . .6 .. Maccionald... 5 G Webster Я .. 8 Wear Green *Club event. 9

The principal event of the day was the centest for the King trophy and Essex County Championship between A. W. Reid and E. G. Swift, both of Walkerville. Mr. Reid had won the Trophy at the Walkerville Labor Day shoot, and this was the first individual challenge for it. The match, at fifty singles and ten 1a rs, was won by Mr Reid with the splendid score of 65 out of 70, Mr. Swift see ring 52. The trophy has been up for competition several times, the best previous score by any winner being 61.

The following is the full score for the King Trophy:-

SINGLES.

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				1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0-4G
E.	G.	Swift.		1	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	1
				1	1	1	1	0	1	ı	1	0	0
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DOUBLES.

A. W. Reid	11	10 11	11 11-
			11 11-10
E. G. Swift	11	10 11	11 11
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Total:—			
A. W. Reid			Gī
E. G. Swift		•••	52

Mr. A. W. Reid was called upon to defend his title to the championship of Essex on Oct. 13th, Mr. Thos. Wear being challenger, and backing his opinion with the customary deposit of \$5.00. The result was a second victory for Mr. Reid. The scores were: Reid, 58; Wear, 51.

On Tuesday, Oct. 6th, W. R. Crosby defeated Fred. Gilbert for the "E.C." cup with a score of 126 to 123 out of 100 singles and 25 pairs.

John Formly, of Formly, England, has secured a United States patent on a means for sighting firearms by the eye alone This invention comprises a back sight divided by vertical and horizontal wires, said horizontal wires being so spaced that each corresponds to a known range, and a fore sight comprising wires extending in a different direction relatively to those of the spaces in said back sight, the lower part of the said double fore sight serves as a means for enabling the scale of the back sight to be used twice over and keeping the size of the back sight within reasonable limits. A framed back sight divided by vertical and horizontal wires being so spaced that each corre-ponds with a known range, for use in conjunction with a single or double fore sight consisting of a frame mounted on a barrel and having wires diagonally stretched therein in such manner as to divide up the spaces of the back sight.

A back sight consisting of a folding frame having wires stretched vertically and horizontally across same, said horizontal wires being so spaced that each corresponds with a known range, and a sliding sight across same in combination with a fore sight consisting of a single or double folding frame having wires stretched diagonally across it or them and a head-sight below same, the thickness of the metal forming the frames being in all cases presented to the eye and the breadth of the said metal being disposed longitudinally of the gun, substantially as described for the purpose stated.

The following reply to a query pertaining to it is worth reading and noting. It appeared recently in the London Field:

In order to enlighten our correspondent and others interested in the above subject. we have made a large number of experiments. Three 12-bore shot barrels, with highly polished bores were used, made of three different kinds of metal, viz., Krupp's special gun steel, Whitworth's fluid pressed steel, and a very soft steel made by the Siemens-Martin process. Both hard and soft shot were used, with various kinds of wadding. The results of our trials may be summed up in a few words. The leading of gun barrels is caused entirely by the absence of a suitable lubricant. So long as the barrel is highly polished, it matters little of what metal it is composed. In the absence of a lubricant of proper consistency hard shot leads more than soft shot. Various lubricants were tested, their value for this purpose being in the following order: Mutton suct, Russian tallow, Webley's "Semper Idem," vasseline, almond oil and olive oil.

Corroborative evidence of the above was