

gines and machinery are to remain in working order, and she will be placed in a certain marked area and then fired at by the torpedo-gun.

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Colonel K. G. Henderson, C. B., half-pay, late Assistant Adjutant-General for Recruiting Home District, and formerly of the King's Royal Rifles, has been selected to command the garrison of Alexandria, with the local rank of Major-General, in succession to Major-General Sir W. F. Butler, K. C. B., about to be transferred to an Infantry brigade at Aldershot.

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The full supply of 70,000 Lee-Metford rifles has arrived in India. Every British Infantry regiment serving in that country is now supplied with the weapon, which is reported upon, we are told, "in the most eulogistic terms."

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At the Jubilee Hotel, Plymouth, on Monday, Oct 4, Mr. Henry Thomson, R. N., presided over a company of between seventy and eighty Crimean veterans to consider the question of holding a dinner annually on the anniversary of the fall of Sebastopol. The Chairman said it was forty years since they fought shoulder to shoulder against the hosts of Russians in the Crimea. They all knew from practical experience the united way in which both the army and navy fought together during that long struggle, and he was glad to see both services represented at the meeting. (Applause.) It was by united action that the struggle was won, and if they were united now they might celebrate in a proper manner the anniversary of the taking of Sebastopol. (Applause.) After considerable discussion a dinner committee was formed, consisting of Messrs Henry Thomson, R.N., (chairman and treasurer,) William Lee, R.A., W. Floyd, R.N., Duncan Ford, William Robinson, A. Warren, and Harris, (secretary.) It was decided to hold a dinner on the 17th instant at the Jubilee Hotel, and the committee were empowered to make the necessary arrangements.

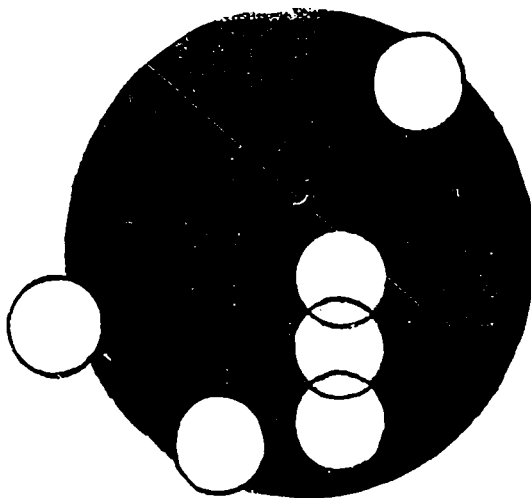
HIGHEST POSSIBLE WITH SMOKELESS S.V.

Smokeless S. V. is made specially and only for revolvers. The highest possible was made on September 20th, 1893, by Mr. H. Andrews, at the North London Rifle Club, Ilford range. The Volunteer Service Gazette, in its report, said: "The great performance of the day, however, was the possible with the revolver, by Andrews—a feat untouched during the season."

* Mr. Andrews - - - - -	42
* Lt. Varley, H. A. C. - - - -	40
* Pte. Skilton, L. R. B. - - - -	37
* Capt. Cowan, R. E. - - - - -	35
* Pte. Lowe, Queen's - - - - -	35
Corp. Carter, 3rd M.A.V., penalised -	34
Mr. Rand, penalised - - - - -	34
* Lt. Howard, 3rd Surrey - - - -	33
Major Munday, H. A. C. - - - -	33
* Capt. Richardson, 2nd N. F. - - -	30
—* Spoons.	

The making of the highest possible was considered of such importance as to receive a special notice next day in the Times, Daily Telegraph, Daily News, Standard, as follows: "Revolver Competition.—In the revolver competition at the North London Rifle Club, at Ilford, yesterday, H. Andrews, of Woolwich, succeeded in making the highest possible score of 42 points (placing every shot in a 2in. ring at 20 yards), beating all previous record made at the club, Mr. Winan's score of 41 points having hitherto been the highest."

Mr. Andrews has favoured us with a copy of his target—the bull is 2 inches in diameter—distance 20 yards.



The revolver used was a "Colt," 450.

The first prize in the revolver competition at the Ulster Rifle meeting, September, 1893, was won by Mr. C. F. Lowe, who made 41 out of 42 with Smokeless S. V., beating all competitors using black powder. Smokeless S. V. shows itself to be the most perfect smokeless revolver powder made.

OFFICER'S DUTIES AT STRIKES.

In these days of strikes it is essential that military officers should make themselves acquainted with the law of riot, seeing that they may at any time be called upon to assist the civil power in suppression of serious disturbances. The precise amount of responsibility devolving on an officer in command of a body of men ordered to the scene of a riot is, unfortunately, less clearly defined than it ought to be. As far back as 1837, Sir Charles Napier complained that officers were burdened with excessive responsibility in such matters, being under the obligation of deciding whether, in the last extremity, the orders of a magistrate should be obeyed. He contended that an officer ought not to be liable to trial by the ordinary Court of Justice for anything he may do in executing the duty imposed on him by the civil magistrate. Lord Thring, however, did not share this view, holding that the law compelled every man to act upon his own responsibility, and to decide for himself how far he was justified in resorting to violence. This is a plain common sense view of the matter, which commends itself to British minds. Our officers should co-operate intelligently with the civil power, and use their technical knowledge in cases of riot. There have been cases, for example, in which timid magistrates have desired the military to use their rifles prematurely, and other cases in which the civil power has hesitated to act when prompt action was necessary. Many officers are better able to judge than magistrates, in most cases whether it is necessary to fire, and for this reason it is desirable to give them as much discretionary power as possible. There is a very common impression that

the military have no power to fire upon a mob until a whole hour has elapsed after the reading of the Riot Act. This is not precisely the fact, as under certain circumstances a magistrate would be legally justified in directing troops to fire almost immediately after the reading of the Act, and officers would be equally justified in obeying the order. The law is far from clear, although based on the sound principle that circumstances must govern cases, and that no citizen, whether soldier or civilian, can be absolved from responsibility. Lord Thring sums up as follows: "At the same time the law has made liberal allowances for the difficulties of persons so circumstanced, and persons whose intention is honest and upright, and who act with firmness to the best of their judgment, need seldom fear the result of inquiry into their conduct."—Naval and Military Record

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A curious experiment is said to have recently taken place at Grenoble to test the efficacy of long-range rifle firing. Colonel Andre, of the 2nd Regiment of Artillery, having expressed the opinion that the fire of Infantry at 2,000 meters (2,187 yards) would prove quite ineffective, his assertion was promptly traversed by Colonel Lallemand, of the 14th Regiment of the Line, who undertook to refute its accuracy by organising a series of trials at that range. To ensure thorough impartiality a committee of Artillery officers were elected to supervise the experiments and verify the results, which proved so successful that more than fifty bullets out of 300 fired struck the target. Colonel Andre is said thereupon to have declared himself satisfied that under similar conditions it would be impossible for Artillery to withstand such a fire, and further that it would be impossible even for a battery to take up a position on open ground.

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There has been quite a ringing of the changes among regimental colonels in the army. General Sir Edward Selby-Smyth, from the Seaforth Highlanders, goes to his old regiment, the Queen's. General E. Elmhurst, C. B., from the South Staffordshire Regiment, becomes once more associated with the Norfolk Regiment. Lieut.-General F. G. Wilkinson, from the Queen's rejoins his old regiment, the Oxfordshire Light Infantry, and General Sir W. Park, from the Worcestershire Regiment, has the privilege of donning once more the garb of Gaul as Colonel of the Seaforth Highlanders. These transfers left the Colonelcy of the Worcestershire Regiment open. It has been given to General Sir G. W. A. Higginson, whilst the other vacant colonelcy has gone to General Sir Robert Hume.

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Major-General Sir John McNeil, V. C., Equerry to the Queen, is raised from the £500 to £600 a year rate of pay in consequence of the retirement of Major-General Du Plat.

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The Government of India having been addressed on the subject of the training of the British Infantry battalion at Aden in camel riding and camel corps drill, have decided that there is no necessity for training the men for this purpose.

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Acting on the announcement of the Secretary of State for War that the Queen's decoration is to be given to non-commissioned Volunteer officers of not less than twenty years' efficient service in the same manner as it has already been bestowed on past and present commissioned officers of the same length of efficient duty, the War Office authorities are calling for returns from all the military districts in Great Britain of those who are eligible,