

ing. The British authorities recognize that these things are necessary for the instruction of the linesmen, but apparently consider them superfluous in the case of the auxiliary. How does the training of the average British volunteer, who fires through his third class and then religiously avoids the range for a year, compare with the instruction of the German, who, nine months out of the twelve, is marched to the butts for practice once or twice every week? Truly we are a practical people!—*United Service Gazette*.

Revolver Shooting.

THE remarkable advance that has been made in rifle making and rifle shooting is about to be repeated in pistol making and pistol shooting. The ingenuity of fire arm inventors is being brought into requisition, and the demand now is for a revolver that will shoot as well as a rifle at 50, 100 and 200 yards. To obtain this desideratum it will be necessary to have the barrel, sights and ammunition of the pistol as near perfection as possible. A large number of officers in the regular and volunteer military forces of Great Britain have turned their attention to practising with the revolver with astounding results, and now in this country among the volunteer organizations those officers who desire to become accomplished shots with the pistol are giving a good deal of time to practice. We see no reason why a pistol may not be made to shoot with accuracy at 200 yards and do more execution than the best rifle in use 20 years ago. During the coming season there are to be some interesting matches, and we look forward to some scores as surprising as those made at short range with the rifle. The pistol shooting of the olden times, upon which such men as Capt. Paul, John Travis and Recorder Hackett made national reputations, is thrown as far in the shade nowadays as the shooting of the old flint lock musket of half a century ago.

The veteran Conlin is keeping abreast of the times and has selected a number of the best revolvers now in use for his patrons, and the crack shots of the metropolis are trying their hands at the various targets. Capt. Ira A. Paine, the champion professional shotgun and pistol shooter, has been making some remarkable shooting at Conlin's gallery. The following are some of the best scores made at Wimbledon with revolvers at 20 yards, in the meeting of 1886, with some of the best shots made in this city in the gallery of James S. Conlin, up to the present date:

BRITISH REVOLVER SHOTS—Possible 36.

Commander Scott, Royal Navy.....	35
Major Glendouwyne, Welsh Regiment.....	35
Capt. Oxley, 1st V B Royal Fusiliers.....	35
Lieut. Hunt.....	34
Lieut. H. C. Blair, 78th Canada.....	34
Lieut. Straker, 3rd West York Regiment.....	33

The arm used is the army revolver; the target is 11½ in., counting from 2 to 4 bulls-eye 3¼ in. across; from centre of bull to edge of 5-ring 2½ in., each ring is 1-16 in. apart. Six shots to the string.

REVOLVER SHOOTING IN THIS CITY.

Capt. Ira A. Paine, .32-cal. S. & W. revolver, 6 shots, possible 72.
Frank H. Lord, split 2 cards in 3 shots, hit 2¼ in. bullets in 3 shots.
George Bird, split 6 cards in 10 shots, cards placed on edge.
Senor A. Fernandez, 3 full scores of 5 shots each, 75, possible 75.
D. A. Davis, 3 full scores of 5 shots each, 75, possible 75.
H. W. Wikham, at the "word," S. & W. Pocket revolver, 49, possible 50.
Pierre Lorillard, Jr., 7 shots, S. & W. .32-cal., rim-fire, 41, possible 49.
Charles F. Jones, 6 shots, S. & W. .32-cal., 9 in. barrel, 35, possible 42.
Dr. E. E. Marsh, 269, possible 300, S. & W. pocket revolver.
Juan Frederico Centellas, 14 shots at 23 paces, with .38-cal. Colt measuring 17½ inches.
J. T. B. Collins, 10 shots at French target, 58, possible 70.
P. J. Lauritzen, 5 shots, .32-cal. S. & W. pocket revolver, 23, possible 25.
J. B. Miller, 6 shots, Massachusetts Ass'n. target, 63, possible 72.
A. L. Brennan, 6 shots, French target, 33, possible 42.
W. C. Southwick, 6 shots, French target, 32 possible 42.
Maynard Byxby, 6 shots, Massachusetts Ass'n. target, 64, possible 72.
Dr. J. S. Howe, 6 shots, Colt .38-cal., Creedmoor target, 27, possible 30.
H. F. Worthington, 6 shots, French target, 30, possible 42.
D. A. Davis, 60 shots, S. & W. Pocket revolver, 273, possible 300.
F. J. Rabbeth, 10 shots, Massachusetts Ass'n. target, 86, possible 120.

B. UHLSYE—*Forest and Stream*.

An American Idea on the English Small Arms Muddle.

PROBABLY at no time in the world's history has so much attention been given to the selecting of military rifles for troops of the various nations as during the past year. At no time has most of the nations possessed so many practical riflemen, competent to judge of the merits and requirements of a military rifle, as to-day. In England, where military rifle-shooting has been in vogue for a number of years, there are many members of the volunteer force, who have watched the improve-

ments made by different nations, experimented and gained a knowledge which make them alert to detect defects or merits.

It has been the custom of England and America to recognize and adopt only such ideas as emanated from boards created to produce the necessary weapons for a country's defence, and all fair-minded judges will admit, that by pursuing such a policy inferior inventions are adopted, while those of recognized merit are ignored by governments, and are applied to arms produced by the private armory, sold sometimes to semi-barbarous nations, who use them with deadly effect on the armies of a more intelligent nation, who have to combat with inferior weapons.

For months past the English papers have printed many protests against the continuance of the system of ignoring the suggestions of practical riflemen, who are not members of the Small Arms Committee, and so persistently have been these attacks as to finally make it apparent that recognition is to be given to improvements made outside of the Hythe and Enfield schools.

England and America have been persistent in pursuing these dogmatic principles which have made their national arms inferior to the rifles of other countries who have been supplied by private armories of these two countries. Should encouragement be offered to the world to perfect the military rifle strides towards perfection would be rapid. Confining any such work to a limited number of individuals means discouraging improvements; inviting a nation's artisans to contribute their ideas means encouraging improvements.—*The Rifle*.

Nova Scotia Rifle Association.

THE annual meeting of the Nova Scotia provincial rifle association was held in the Y. M. C. A. class room on the 1st instant. The meeting was one of the largest held for some years. Some important changes were made in the rules. The council handed in their twenty-third annual report recapitulating the history of the association's work during the year. The treasurer's report showed the receipts to be \$2,475. The expenditure included \$1,383 given in prizes. There is a balance of \$298 on hand. It was decided that next year the entries be by time ticket as at Ottawa, that all ranges above 500 yards be shot with the Martini-Henri rifle, that one of the present cup matches be with the Martini-Henri, and that no other competition be shot with more than two ranges, and two competitions only be shot with the Martini-Henri rifle. The matter of deciding when the next inter-provincial should be held was left with the council to decide; also the selection of a team to represent the association in that match. The Minister of Justice, J. F. Stairs, and C. H. Tupper, M's. P., were appointed to represent the association at the Dominion association. The question of handicapping any rifles in the long range competition was left in the hands of the council. For every \$10 subscribed for the ladies' competition, it was decided to make two prizes. Capts. Brown, Harris and Bishop were appointed a committee to count the ballots for the new council. They reported that the following had been elected: Capt. Garrison, H. G. A.; Col. McDonald, 66th; Capt. Weston, 66th; Capt. Bishop, 63rd; Col. McIntosh, 63rd; Capt. Barnhill, 78th; Capt. Cunningham, 63rd; Col. Mowbray, staff; Capt. Curran, H. G. A.; Capt. Harris, H. G. A.; Capt. Crane, 63rd; Col. McKinlay, retired; Lieut. Maxwell, H. G. A.; Gen. Laurie.—*Halifax Evening Mail*.

Correspondence.

The Editor desires it distinctly understood that he does not hold himself responsible for the opinions expressed by correspondents.

MOUNTED INFANTRY.

To the Editor of the Canadian Militia Gazette.

SIR,—In these days of short, sharp and decisive campaigns, both great and small, the attention of all military men has been bestowed on a force of infantry, capable of rapid movement, as a means of gaining or defending a strategic point, with the least loss of time.

All will, I feel sure, admit that the Dominion of Canada, should in justice itself, spare no expense in making its small permanent force as trained and capable as possible.

A company of mounted infantry has been wisely organized, having, I am told, on its peace footing 50 horses.

It seems to me, and I fancy all thinking men will agree with me, that, in such a small regular force as Canada's, taking into consideration the immense advantage of striking quickly, the whole of the permanent infantry should be trained to act, if occasion requires, as mounted infantry.

I hold that there should be no distinction as regards uniform between mounted and unmounted infantry, so that if the company at Winnipeg had been made a fourth one of the infantry corps, and the number of horses voted to them had been proportioned among A, B and C companies, the drill could be easily learnt in its simplest form, and by that means, on the organization of a fifth company at London, 500 highly trained infantry would be available, in connection with the cavalry and batteries, to make a dash at any point required, thus gaining time for the calling out of the militia at large.

Of course in such an event, each company should have at its headquarters a full complement of saddles, etc., etc.