

RIFLE COMPETITION.

RIFLE CONTEST BETWEEN THE REGULARS AND VOLUNTEERS.

The challenge match between 20 men of the 60th Royal Rifles and an equal number of the 63rd Halifax Volunteer Battalion came off at Bedford yesterday. A number of the officers of the two corps and a few other spectators were present. The weather, though it appeared threatening in the morning, proved very favorable for the marks men. Several of the best shots of the 63rd made small scores, yet the shooting, altogether, was good. The ranges were 200, 300, 400, and 500 yards; 5 rounds at each. The men were divided into three squads. Two of these squads gave a majority of 39 for the Volunteers. The third gave a majority of 38 for the Regulars, leaving the Volunteers the victors by a single point. It must be noted, however, that the 60th Royal Rifles used the Martini Henry rifle, which, according to army regulations, is counted as fifteen per cent. better than the Snider-Enfield, which the 63rd used, and that discount is allowed in all matches where the two rifles compete. Had the match been concluded according to the terms, the 63rd would have been declared the winners by 171 points, but as the Volunteers accepted the challenge to fire on even terms there is only a majority of one point. This victory over a crack shooting regiment of the army speaks well of the skill of our volunteers. The best scores of the day, it will be seen, were made by Sergt. Bowler of the 60th and Sergt. Bishop of the 63rd, each of whom scored 65.

Annexed is the score:—

63rd VOLUNTEERS.		Totals.
Lieut. Walsh	52	52
Sergt Corbin	59	59
Sergt Connors	51	51
Sergt Egan	55	55
Corpl Paulin	61	61
Private Campbell	52	52
Private Goulding	58	58
Lieut Mumford	59	59
Sergt Bishop	65	65
Sergt Stenhouse	61	61
Sergt Sheppard	61	61
Sergt Larkin	64	64
Sergt Scott	53	53
Private Mersen	51	51
Lieut Fultz	55	55
Lieut McInnes	60	60
Sergt Taple	58	58
Sergt Power	53	53
Private Morris	52	52
Corpl Hickey	48	48
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60th ROYAL RIFLES.		Totals.
Lieut Holbeck	62	62
Sergt Parker	51	51
Sergt Walsh	49	49
Prvt Burrell	56	56
Sergt Wilson	38	38
Sergt Murphy	56	56
Col Sergt Leach	57	57
Qr Mr Toole	58	58
Sergt Bowler	65	65
Sergt O'Neil	57	57

Corpl Mackey	53
Corpl Brock	60
Prvt Nadin	51
Col Sergt Underhill	61
Capt Whitaker	62
Sergt McCardle	57
Corpl Duane	59
Prvt Bowler	61
Sergt Tuwood	64
Col Sergt Thompson	61

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The first annual meeting of the United States National Rifle Association opened at the Creedmoor range, Long Island, on Wednesday, the 5th inst. The U.S. Army and Navy Journal graphically describes the difficulties under which the opening match was shot, arising from the state of the weather, unskillful scorers, and other causes incidental to the infancy of the institution of this description, and with the exception of the weather, will all be easily overcome, and even the exception can be remedied in a great measure by holding the annual tournament at an earlier period in autumn.

The prizes are stated to be nearly worth \$10,000. Our contemporary says:

Several new features have been introduced in the range, and among the most serviceable of them was the establishment of telegraphic communication with the grounds by the railroad company, press despatches being forwarded over the wires free of charge. The butts and line of firing were also connected by means of the system used by the New York fire alarm, and this was found to be of infinite service during the meeting. The shooting in the first two competitions, as before stated, was exceedingly poor; the strong wind and prevailing completely demoralizing our amateur riflemen, few of whom knew anything about "windage," etc. The shooting by no means came up to the practice in any of the matches—sixteen at 200 yards, standing, being the highest out of a possible score of twenty in the first two competitions. The shooting in the first division match commenced at 3 p.m. The first stage of this match, 200 yds. was finished before 5 p.m.; and the second stage, 500 yards, was commenced on Thursday morning. The following is the result of the different competitions as far as ascertained up to the time of going to press:—

COMPETITION I.

Judd Prize.

Weapon, any military rifle. Distance, 200 yards. Position, standing. Five rounds. Number of entries, 96.

	Totals.
First Prize—W. Robertson, 79th inf'try.	16
Second Prize—J T B Collins	16
Third Prize—C A Strube, 22d infantry.	16
Fourth Prize—Robert Campbell, Victoria Rifles, Montreal	15
Fifth Prize—Sergt Vanil, 9th Infantry.	15
Sixth Prize—J F Richards, 7th Inf'try.	16
Seventh Prize—Lt. Col. Gildersleeve, 12th Infantry.	15
Eighth Prize—J L Price, 7th Infantry.	15

COMPETITION II.

Sportmen's Match

Open to all comers. Weapon, any rifle. Distance, 200 yards. Five rounds. Position, standing. Number of entries, 129.

	Totals
First Prize—O Schneelock, 32nd Inf.	16
Second Prize—A Robertson, 12th Inf.	16
Third Prize—J T B Collins	16
Fourth Prize—C B Waterbury, 12th Infantry	16
Fifth Prize—A Anderson 4th N J	16
Sixth Prize—Gen. J V Mesrolo, 11th Brigade	15
Seventh Prize—Leo Backer, 22nd Inf.	15

In these two competitions, ties occurred between Messrs. Robertson and Collins, and General Mesrolo and Leon Backer.

Our contemporary says of the second day:

"The weather on Thursday was delightful, though a strong wind discomposed the riflemen somewhat in their shooting. Fortunately this was parallel to the line of fire, so that a slight deviation served to compensate for this. A band in attendance from Willett's Point added to the attractions, and the grounds and number of ladies showed the growing interest which Creedmoor is awakening. Next week we shall be able to give a more complete review of the shooting and institute some comparison of what has been done heretofore at Creedmoor and elsewhere. The score of the later competitions came to us too late for report this week.

The second stage of the Second Division competition at 500 yards, which had been postponed on Wednesday on account of the lateness of the hour at the time it was closed, opened on Thursday at nine o'clock, and was completed early in the day. The result was as follows, according to the score as it was recorded at headquarters at the close of the match:

COMPETITION III.

First Division Match.

Open to teams of twelve from each regiment or battalion in the First Division of the National Guard. S.N.Y. Weapon, Remington rifle, State model. Distance, 200 and 500 yards. Five shots each distance. Position, standing at 200 yards; any position at 500 yards. Number of entries, 96, comprising teams from the Sixth, Eighth, Ninth, Twelfth, Twenty second, Sixty-ninth, Seventy first, and Seventy-ninth.

	Totals.
1st. 22nd Inf.	233
2nd. Private Cocks, 32nd Inf.	29
3rd. 12th Inf.	235
4th. 9th Inf.	299
5th. Sergt. Wood, 12th Inf.	28
6th. Lt. Col. Gildersleeve, 12th Inf.	28
7th. Sergt. Major Roux, 22nd Inf.	28
8th. Sergt Freeman, 22nd Inf.	28
9th. Drum Major Strube, 22nd Inf.	27
10th. Private Smith, 12th Inf.	26
11th. Private Robertson, 79th Inf.	25
12th. Private Backer, 22nd Inf.	24