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## CULLED FROM EXCHANGES.

## A New Magazine Rifle.

T is said that the Danes have adopted a new magazine rifle for naval and military purposes. It fires, on the proving ground at least, at the modest rate of fiften rounds a second, and allowing for reloading, 300 a minute. The magazine holds thirty cartridges. It is heresy, we suppose, to say so, but we are of the opinion that there is an unnecessary fuss made about rapid fire rifles. They have to be aimed to be of much service, and the time to aim cannot be reduced. The Danes, maybe, have read about the need of a ton of lead to kill a man, so propose to try and deliver the ton as quickly as possible. But, as the utmost a soldier can carry is 300 rounds, and supply is not easy in real war-ashore or affoat -there seems a fair chance of Danish warriors being short of their quota of the needful ton at critical moments. Afloat, this is beginning to to be felt; and though the Vickers - Maxim firm, with the bare charge, have done much to save us feeling the "weight of the ammunition problem," any advance in rapidity of fire seems likely to bring the problem back. Given a weapon that fires fast, men in battle are pretty sure to fire it as fast as they can.

## Irrigation in the Southwest.

There was recently begun in Texas what is planned to be the most extensive system of irrigation in the United States, for it involves the utilization of no less than 295,000 acres of land. A main canal will be constructed a hundred miles in length, extending 30 miles from the town of Pecos in a southwesterly direction, crossing the Texas and Pacific Railfoad 6 miles west of Pecos, and to Toyah Lake, 7 miles south of Pecos, where one of the largest reservoirs in existence to