

LT.-COL. BRUNEL'S TARGETS.

After the experience had with these Targets and with the system of marking used with them, it may be asserted that they possess many advantages over the old system. So far as could be ascertained, the competitors at the last Dominion competition were entirely satisfied both with the Targets and the signaling. Their general advantages may be briefly stated as follows:—

1. The markers were perfectly safe in the open trenches; there were no splashes of lead whatever.

2. The construction of the trench cost less than the pit or mantlet heretofore in use.

3. The whole of the markers on a line of targets were placed under the direct supervision of an officer.

4. The marking was therefore much better done.

5. The work of marking was much easier to the men, as they were relieved from the constant strain of watchfulness. The passage of the bullet through the canvas was as distinctly heard in the open trench as the hit on the iron target can be heard in the covered pit or mantlet. When the hit is heard the marker pulls down the target, and has it at once in a convenient position for inspection.

6. The signaling was much more satisfactory than the old system. The exact position of the hit was shewn on the target itself and remained there until another hit was made.

7. Firing can be carried on in weather which renders it impossible on the iron targets. A very heavy driving rain would, of course, wash off the paper, but during ordinary showers, such as wash the paint off the iron, and in light drizzling mists, that obscure the plate glass, and make it difficult or impossible to see the shot marks, the work goes on without interruption on the new targets. This was satisfactorily shewn at the last Dominion competition.