

## Chapter I.—Continued

### DESCRIPTION OF RIFLE.

The Mark III. Ross Rifle is 50½ inches long, and weighs 9½ lbs. It is a multiple loader rifle, with a straight pull bolt action, and fires the British S. A. .303 ammunition.

For descriptive purposes it is divided into four parts, as follows:—

1. **The Stock**, comprising all the wooden part seen except that part above the barrel which is called the hand-guard. It is in one piece of Italian walnut, hollowed out to receive the barrel, the mechanism, the oil bottle and pull-through.

2. **The Barrel**, which is 30½ inches long, is of forged steel, bored to .303 diameter, and then rifled with four grooves, having one spiral turn in 10 inches. The bore, including the rifling, is .311 diameter.

The barrel is screwed into the receiver at the breech by right hand machine threads, and held in position on the stock by the lower and upper bands.

3. **The Receiver**, as its name implies, receives and retains the three operating parts of the rifle, (1) the bolt, (2) the trigger action, and (3) the magazine. The Receiver comprises all that steel part of the rifle in rear of the barrel, and is secured to the stock by the front and rear receiver screws.

4. **The Bolt**—that portion of the mechanism which opens and closes the breech. It is divided into two main parts, the bolt and the bolt sleeve.

After the magazine has been loaded from a charger the bolt, on being pushed forward, pushes a cartridge ahead of it into the chamber, loading the rifle and cocking it, and (after the explosion of the cartridge) on being withdrawn brings the fired case with it until it reaches the ejector, when it is thrown out to the right.

To entirely remove the bolt from the Receiver, put down the bolt stop to the second (or horizontal) position, and withdraw the bolt to the rear.

To insert the bolt in the Receiver see that the lugs of the bolt head are in a horizontal position, the bolt stop in the second position, and that the grooves on the sides of the bolt sleeve fit into the guide rails of the Receiver

#### ACTION OF THE MECHANISM.

This should be explained in detail by first withdrawing the bolt and explaining its construction, and