

substitute, have in their respective capacity the only exclusive right and power to levy taxes and impositions upon the inhabitants of that Colony, and that every attempt to invest such a power in any person or persons whatsoever other than the General Assembly aforesaid is illegal, unconstitutional and unjust, and has a manifest tendency to destroy British as well as American freedom."

To understand these resolutions it is necessary to observe that a distinction was made between *taxes* and *duties* on Imports and Exports so that the former of those terms did not include the latter, a distinction as whimsical as any other connected with the question of trade and fiscal relations at this period. As no responsible ministry intervened between the Assembly and the Governor, the latter did not hear of this transaction in time to prevent its consummation, but on receipt of the intelligence he instantly dissolved the Assembly; the prudence of which act may well be questioned because these men were sure to be returned by the constituencies and to come back with embittered feelings.

The Assembly of Massachusetts had during the preceding year petitioned the King complaining of a variety of grievances, and amongst others of the resolution of Parliament which announced an intention to impose *Stamp Duties* on the Colonies. On the sixth of June they entered into a resolution setting forth the expediency of holding a *General Congress* of deputies from all the lower Houses of Assembly in the Colonies, for the purpose of consulting together relative to the grievances under which they laboured and to take measures by address to the King and Parliament for redress; it was also resolved that letters signed by their Speaker by order of the House should be sent to the Assemblies of other Colonies communicating this resolution and appointing the first day of October following as that of meeting in New York; they also nominated their own deputies and voted £450 (four hundred and fifty pounds) for defraying their expenses. Although the character of the leading men in the New England Colonies did not stand high in the opinion of those of the South and Middle Colonies, and this act had all the appearance of dictation, it nevertheless met with universal approbation.

THE WIMBLEDON PROGRAMME.

From the *Volunteer Service Gazette* (England.)

The Prize List for Wimbledon, which has just been issued, contains several important and novel features. The chief of these are, the expansion of what used to be Mr. Bass' Prize into a so-called "Enfield Nursery" Competition, the re-arrangement of the prizes and conditions for the "Albert," and the redistribution, on an entirely new system, of the Carton Prizes.

In addition to these, there are many smaller changes, so that it may be well to adhere to our usual custom of going through the list in detail, and pointing out the modifications which it is proposed to make. We

should, however, mention that the present is only what may be called the first edition of the List, and that, in one or two cases, the details of competitions are not fully decided upon. There may also, of course, be additional prizes to be announced.

The Queen's Prize, we need hardly say, is practically unchanged in its conditions, except that, as has been previously announced, the number of competitors which may be sent by each battalion is increased by two. Thus a battalion of ten companies might send in all twenty-two men—i.e., two per company as at present and two extra men. Also it will be noticed that the entrance fee is in this, as in all other cases, increased so as to include the charge for two sighting shots at each range. Competitors have, as was announced some time ago, to bring their own Government or stamped long Enfields, the War-Office having no muzzle-loaders to give or lend. The condition as to ammunition is, as regards both the first and second stages of this prize, and in many other cases, rewritten, to preclude if possible any unfair dealing on the part of a competitor. It is now distinctly stated that where the ammunition is to be that issued on the ground, it must "in no way be tampered with."

The Prince of Wales' Prize remains as it was, and the prizes in the St. George's Challenge Competition are as in 1868. The winners of the first ten prizes inclusive will each receive, in addition to his money, a miniature "jewel." The badges—to the design of which exception has, it may be remembered, been taken—are to be much improved in form. The number of shots in the first stage of this competition is reduced from seven to five. The entrance fee will be ten shillings and six pence instead of ten shillings.

We are once more to have at Wimbledon the contest for the International Challenge Trophy between English, Scotch and Irish Volunteers, with Enfield rifles. The winning twenty, of course, holds the "Trophy;" the highest scorer, to whatever team he may belong, holds for a year a valuable Challenge Cup, given by the Gunmakers' Company, and also receives £10. The highest scorer in the winning twenty receives a prize of £10.

The competitors for the Irish Challenge Trophy, the Oxford and Cambridge Match, and the China Challenge Cup, require no notice; and then we come to what used to be the "Bass" Prize, but which is now called the Enfield Nursery, Mr. Bass' Prize being given to breechloaders. The Enfield Nursery Prize consists of twenty prizes divided into one of £10, one of £7, one of £6, four of £5, five of £4, and seven of £3. The entrance fee is raised from 5 shillings to 6 shillings. The competition is restricted, as Bass was, to efficient Volunteers who have never won a prize at Wimbledon or at any County Association meeting. Noting that the Carbine Prizes are done away with, and that the remaining Volunteer competitions—viz., the Martin's Cup for marksmen, the Belgian Cup for volley-firing, and the Consolation Prizes—remain as they were, we come to the Albert, the conditions for which, as we have stated, have undergone considerable modification. In the first place, the value is reduced from £670 to £598, the value of the prizes in the first stage being £498, as against £520 last year. The so-called Range Prizes are done away with, and in the first stage prizes are all given for aggregate scores at three ranges—200, 600 and 800 yards—there being no 500 yard shooting. The prizes vary from one of £40 to ten of £5 each. The entrance fee is £3 3s. In the second stage, instead of three ranges

with seven shots at each, there is to be only one range of 1,000 yards with fifteen shots.

The Alexandra and the Windmill undergo no change; but when we come to the Association Cups, we find that, both for any rifle or Enfield "Ladies," being members of the N.R.A., are entitled to a nomination. The nominees must be members of the N.R.A." We believe, however, that with this indulgence will be coupled a condition that a member competing both as a lady's nominee and in his right must not fire his two sets of shots without a certain interval of time, to be specified, having elapsed between them. In other words, precautions will be taken against the now rule operating to give any competitor the chance of a whole row of sighting shots before really entering the lists.

Any Rifle Nursery Prize has lost its second stage, it being, we imagine, thought right to assimilate it in all respects to the analogous prize for Enfields. Passing over the Ladies' Prizes as requiring no notice, and observing that the "Army Prizes," are now the "Army and Navy Prizes," and that the restriction to marksmen is withdrawn, we come to the Cartons, in which most important alterations have been made. Formerly, it will be remembered, by far the largest amount of money was given to the "most central shots," the "greatest number of cartons," which really implies the best shooting coming off a bad second. This is to be entirely altered. £100 is to be added to the prizes of each rifle, and the prizes will be redistributed so as to give the larger share to the greatest number of cartons. A minimum will, however, be fixed as to the number of cartons, to insure no prize being taken without a really good score.

The distribution of the prize money in the breechloading Competitions is still, we observe, not yet fully settled, but the aggregate amount is increased from £100 to £330, Mr. Bass' Prize being transferred to this competition.

The rest of the prizes call for little remark. In the Public Schools competition, the triggers are to be of a 6 lbs. pull, and in the Winners' Prize (the Peek and the Dudley), the absolute definition of a qualifying minimum at the lower ranges is withdrawn, the matter being left in the hands of the executive to fix a minimum if necessary. The conditions of the Rifle Club Match may probably have to be reconsidered.

The special Army Prize of £100, given by an officer, will this year be competed for, we believe, by rapid firing by each *file* of the detachments sent up for the Army and Navy Prizes.

THE INFANTRY SHAKO.

The *Post* says that the Duke of Cambridge, Honorary Colonel, has it in contemplation to recommend that a small black horsehair plume be substituted on the shako of officers and men, in place of the round black ball now in use. The Rifle Brigade and rifle regiments of militia will also wear the black plume. Moreover, the mounted officers of infantry are to have a gold cord with acorns attached to their shakos, which will hoop to a loop, or pass round the neck, so as to prevent the shako being blown off in windy weather, which is now so frequently the case; or, what is worse, to prevent an officer holding his shako on with his drawn sword. The rifle regiments are to have a black cord instead of gold.

The Cunard steamer *China*, in her last trip from Liverpool to Boston, made the passage in seven days, twenty-two and a half hours; the quickest time on record.