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MISCELLANEOUS.

Topics of the Week.

Canon Liddon's sermon on "Religion and Arms," delivered recently in St. Paul's Cathedral before the London Rifle Brigade, has just been published. It is an interesting, instructive and eloquent discourse. Speaking more particularly to the volunteers, Canon Liddon says: "There are more reasons than one why the volunteer movement should be looked upon with interest by those who have at heart the interests of religion. It not only adds greatly to the strength of the country, and so, indirectly, to whatever of religious efforts is associated with the well-being and enterprise of England throughout the world; it strengthens the country without involving those drawbacks which, from a moral point of view, are more or less and inevitably associated with large standing armies. A volunteer force, while capable of rendering invaluable service in the defence of our homes, cannot easily be employed, like the great armies of the continent, for the furtherance of an aggressive or ambitious policy. And, moreover, the volunteer is a soldier who does not thereby cease to be a civilian; and, if this should be held to imply any professional inferiority—a point on which obviously I could not venture an opinion—it is not without decided moral advantages. The conscripts who made up the vast hosts which the first Napoleon poured across Europe, from Madrid to Moscow, were young men, taken from their homes almost in boyhood, and necessarily exposed to the mischiefs which the early removal of domestic influences surely involves. If these evils are now generally lessened by systems of shortened service, they cannot be held to be altogether done away with. The volunteer soldier lives not in barracks, but at home; and he enjoys these great advantages which the effort and discipline of a soldier's life confers, without forfeiting the aids to purity and unselfishness which belong to the duties and restraints of home. This does not mean that he escapes that sacrifice of time, and it may be of health, which military service often exacts; and the widows and orphans of our volunteer forces have a claim upon the charitable assistance of the country, all the more emphatic in that the time and toil of their departed relative have been unremunerated, except by a sense of duty."

In a report recently made on the Pennsylvania National Guard, Adjutant-General Hastys has this to say of those members who wear the soldier's uniform without appearing to realize his responsibility:—"Experience has shown the futility of wasting time or money on a poor company or inefficient captain. With the growing public interest and pride manifested in the organization, and with volunteer organizations in every quarter of the State knocking at the door for admission, there is no longer room for any other than first-class company organizations.

There are over 100 applications on file for permission to raise companies of infantry, and they are constantly coming in. Occasional requests are received for authority to raise a battery or cavalry company. It is evident from these applications that the strength of the Guard could easily be doubled in a short time. It is, therefore, undoubtedly for the best interests of the service to muster out all laggard and inefficient organizations and replace them with those who are anxious to enter the service.

Lord Wolseley is giving his encouragement to a movement on foot in London, England, for the formation of a cadet corps of young lads living in Southwark, the plan having already been successfully tried in Whitechapel. The work has grown out of that connected with Red-cross Hall and garden, where a gymnasium and boys' club have attracted a certain number of lads who might be expected to volunteer for such a corps. The corps will be attached to the 4th Volunteer Battalion Royal West Surrey Regiment by the kind permission of Colonel Haddon. Capt. Salmond has agreed to take the command, and the other officers will be appointed. The lads will be drilled regularly, will have a uniform, arms, and a band of their own, and will march out on Saturdays. A place for drill, both indoors and out, has been secured without cost; but to start the corps well a sum of £300 is required. At a meeting called in this connection, Lord Wolseley said one of the best ways of giving them healthy recreation was the ordinary army drill. It was for that reason that the great volunteer movement—if there were no military object to be gained by it—was of great use in the physical training of the people. He felt he was justified in saying that the authorities of the War Office would give every encouragement to this project.

Another disclaimer of that anonymous letter published in the *Broad Arrow* anent the Minister of Militia, has been received, this time from General Oliver, lately in command of the Royal Military College, who wishes it stated that he was not the author, which some might think possible from the fact that it has been attributed to an officer once in Canada but now resident in England. Our information on the subject, very positive in its character, pointed to another person than General Oliver; and that officer is known in Canada to be too honourable to deal such a stab in the dark, and too well posted on Dominion affairs to make such a foolish exhibition in the press.

A deluge in miniature which descended upon the camp at Gananoque last week made it imperative that there should be an issue of rubber sheets to keep the men from exposure to the damp ground. The exceptionally cool weather had occasioned the issue of two blankets per man, at the assembly of the camp, in place of one as prescribed by the regulations. The last week of the camp, therefore, the men were perfectly satisfied with their sleeping accommodation. It is to be hoped that this allowance, which has for many years been vainly asked for, will be a permanency for the future.

Under the head of "The Rifle" in this issue there appears the details of a remarkably high score made last week by Capt. Hartt of the St. John Rifles. He has long had the reputation of being one of the most reliable of the Dominion marksmen, and on occasions like this, when closely pressed, he has time and again distinguished himself by his coolness and skill. Capt. Hartt was one of those who declined a proffered place on this year's Wimbledon team. He now has the Canadian record for this season, the highest heretofore noted being 98, by Staff-Sergt. McVittie at Toronto.

European Gossip.

(Correspondence Volunteer Record.)

Free passes for one admission to the Exhibition have been granted to every soldier forming part of the garrison of Paris. A limited number of tickets, with free railway fares, will be also given to their comrades in the provinces who may have deserved the selection of their officers for the indulgence by their exceptional good conduct and ready discipline.

The *Berliner Tagblatt* contains the following advertisement in one of its late issues:—"300 mark (£15) premium is offered to anyone who will secure to an officer (*Hauptmann*, or Captain), who has already given evidence of his administrative capacities, the appointment of Mayor (*Bürgermeisterstelle*) in a small country town." This appears a novel method of assuring a safe retreat from active service to a position on half-pay.

It is not unusual to see females acting as markers or loading the Flaubert rifles in many of the shooting galleries at French fairs and other places where firing goes on under the conditions so frequently described in your columns. At Macon, recently, an amateur at the targets sent his bullet, by misadventure, through the head of a young woman who superintended the practice, and killed her on the spot. He was honourably acquitted on trial.

In various countries the dog of the regiment has not only been esteemed and caressed during its lifetime, but on its interment after death, has frequently been consigned to the grave with some semblance of military honours. Our transatlantic cousins, if a French journal is to be believed, have gone further in evincing their respect for the four-footed animals that have done service with the colours. Recently, at Cincinnati, the battle-charger of General Buckland Burney (?) died at the venerable age, for its species, of 37 years. The "old horse," which had borne its owner, unscathed, on many a well-fought field during the Secession War, was carried to its grave, in a corner of the public cemetery, on a gun-carriage, and escorted by aged Militiamen who had participated in the bitter conflicts between the North and South divisions of the Great Republic. The veterans fired the three regulation volleys over the remains of their animal comrade as a finale to the proceedings.

More foreign soldiery have arrived in Paris to add to the attractions at the Exhibition in the native or stranger military sections. Seven horsemen, mounted on gaily-caparisoned Arab steeds, who form part both of the body guard of the Bey of Tunis and of the gendarmery of the Franco-African Protectorat, are now to be daily seen amongst the wild and tame tribes congregated together on the Invalides grounds. They sport a characteristic Oriental uniform, like the troops of the feudatory Princes to our rule in India. Loose pajamas of silk in vivid striated colours and close-fitting deep waistcoats of the same material and hues, richly embroidered with gold lace. Broad sashes of bright tints encircle their waists, in which are stuck long-butted and barrelled pistols, dear to the recollections of rural boyhood in England as "sparrow shooters," but the Tunisian "barkers" gleam with inlaid gold and silver arabesques on wood and metal alike. A curved yataghan and a scimitar, long, heavy, and nearly as broad in blade as the planing-axe of a shipwright, make up the equipment of the tawny-complexioned soldier-police, whose sole identity in costume, otherwise, is composed of a blue burnous in which they are draped from head to foot. Their individual belongings in the shape of apparel rival the advertised description of Joseph's coat of many colours. They are more imposing than important as combatants!

In France, as a general rule, the dead obtain a far greater degree of respect than the living, however slight might have proved the claims of the deceased either to the honour or favourable regard of posterity. Statues, busts, commemorative tablets or memorials in some shape or other abound in Paris streets, and in fact throughout the whole land, dedicated to a host of personages of more or less note in native history. The fame, good or bad, the features and records of the life and acts are

cherished of certain individuals who, in other countries, would have been, if not forgotten, at least merely remembered but by name, in the narrative of the events of their time with which the departed mediocrities were connected. The bloodthirsty Danton will shortly figure amongst the statue-array of Paris, and it is but one instance, how far this form of hero-worship, and the direction to which it is extended, is carried on in France. There is an association in Paris whose sole aim is to perpetuate by divers monuments all the past glories, and apparently also, all the disgraces in the national annals. The last idea of these funereal enthusiasts is to erect a cenotaph or some other kind of mortuary construction on the plains of Waterloo, only 74 years after the event, to face the Netherlands Lion on the mound of bones, the Gordon memorial, and the monument to the German Legion that have stood on the classic field for many a decade since the First Napoleon met his final match.

THE PARIS FIRING COMPETITION.

The preliminaries for a scheme to organise a gigantic firing competition for long and short barrels in military usage, to take place during the period of the Universal Exhibition at Paris, have just been definitely arranged. The Central Society of "Tir et Gymnase" have taken the matter in hand, and from their own body, and other Associations throughout France, affiliated for similar objects, a committee of direction has been formed. The deliberating assemblage is very strong, on the principal, apparently, of wisdom dwelling with a multitude of counsellors, and thus 42 persons will lay their heads together to settle the details of the programme of events. The board consists of one Councillor-General, five Municipal Councillors, two members of the Administration of the Central Society, four members of the Army, two representatives of the Press (special) and 24 of the best-known French marksmen.

It is settled that the meeting will be held on the Vincennes ranges, and is to last 20 days, from the eighth to the 27th of August, inclusive, and the firing is to be exclusively limited to the national military firearms, long range rifles and regulation revolvers. One hundred targets are to be fixed for rifles at varying distances to the extreme limit of 975 feet or the altitude of the Eiffel tower, and for revolvers at the range of 97—5 feet. Although the competition is not to be considered as an international trial, yet foreigners will be allowed to try their fortune, upon particular invitation (?). How many of our Wimbledon Sixties will be bidden to this friendly lead remains a query, with the dubious sentiments generally entertained in France towards the English nation.

The outlay necessitated to meet the expenses of the Paris rifle meeting, in paying the committee, arranging the ground, erecting stands, butts, etc., engaging assistants and satisfying the police and troops for their extra services on guard, besides the value of the prizes, is calculated at 150,000-frs. (£6,000). The shooting fees and gate money, with reserved seats, are estimated to produce but 165,000-frs. (£6,600), and as unforeseen, though inevitable, expenses to the amount of 175,000-frs. (£7,000) have had to be considered in excess on the working expenditure, the Government and the City of Paris have come forward with offers to make up the difference to the Central Society and promoters of the Paris Exhibition Firing Competition of 1889.

It appears from the preliminary returns of the British army, that the average strength of the regular army during the year was 211,105 men, as compared with 191,290 in 1879, and 186,668 in 1869.

The *Volunteer Service Gazette* thus refers to a subject now agitating the minds of the volunteers of Great Britain: "Many of our correspondents are writing to us to urge the desirability of permitting officers and sergeants of scarlet volunteer infantry wearing sashes instead of pouch-belts. We confess that we cannot in the least see why this permission should not be granted. We should have thought, indeed, that the war office would have encouraged volunteer corps to assimilate their uniforms as much as possible to those of the regular battalions of their territorial regiments. We are quite aware that many officers of militia, and perhaps, some of volunteers, believe that the prohibition of the sash to the latter is intended as a mark of inferiority. As we have often pointed out it is nothing of the sort. The volunteer infantry were originally all equipped after the fashion of two of the most famous regiments in the British Army, the (then) 60th and the Rifle Brigade. Therefore, the Rifle Volunteers were directed to use the "short manual" of the green soldiers of the regular army, and, like them, to dispense with "Colours" which, it is distinctly said in the original Volunteer Regulation, were "not appropriate to rifle corps." So, also, the officers of "rifle volunteers" wore, like those of the regular rifle corps, pouch-belts instead of sashes, and steel scabbards in lieu of the leathern ones then used by the company officers of scarlet-clad infantry of the line. But now that the equipment of red infantry volunteer officers is nearly the same as that of the corresponding officers of Regulars, we think that the pouch-belt ought to give way to the sash.

Spring Meeting of the National Rifle Association.

This meeting took place at the Royal United Service Institution, on Tuesday 28th May, his Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge, the President of the Association being in the chair. Among those present were: Members of the Council—Brigadier General Lord Wantage, K. C. B., V. C., Chairman of Council; Col. Sir Henry Fletcher, Bart, M. P., Vice-chairman; Earl of Wemyss, Lord Kinnaird, Gen. Sir W. McMurdo, K.C.B., Brigadier General Sir Henry Wilmot, Bart, C.B., V.C.; Colonel Sir Henry Halford, Bart, C. B.; Col. Hon. A. Egerton; General Philip Smith, C. B.; Col. Marsden, Col. Burt, Col. Wilson, Major Waller, Maj. Flood Page, Henry Whitehead, Esq.; Col. Humphry, Executive officer; Captain Mildmay, Secretary; Members of the Association—The Earl of Ducie, Cols. Ford and Walker; Majors Bryan, Day, Godsall and M'Kerrell; Captain Knight, Quartermaster Fielder, Dr. Rae, Messrs. T. L. K. Edge, W. Gregory, C. F. Lowe, J. R. MacDonnell, C. Pickwick, T. Ponting, J. S. Oxley, W. S. Seabrooke, St. Clair, J. J. Steward, and J. Wyatt.

His Royal Highness opened the proceedings by going briefly through the few and unimportant alterations in the prize list and regulations which have been already noticed in our columns. He mentioned that Messrs. Purday had given a new prize for sporting rifles and Messrs. Stanley a valuable bicycle for a competition with an unlimited number of shots in a given time. Col. Stanley Bird, commanding the St. George's Rifles, had informed the Council that in consequence of the death of Col. Charles Lindsay, and the management of the St. George's Vase fund having devolved upon him, he and his committee and trustees had made arrangements for handing over the fund and the affairs of the St. George's Vase to the Council of the National Rifle Association. The conditions of transfer were of the most liberal nature, and Col. Bird and the officers of the St. George's had received the thanks of the council. The new arrangement was a much better one than the old. Referring to the visits of the Canadian and Indian teams, his Royal Highness was glad to see that distant parts of the empire would be represented, and that an American team was also coming to Wimbledon. His Royal Highness then continued: I am very much gratified to think that at this time I am in a much more favourable position in regard to yourselves. (Hear, hear.) I have for a long time, as is very well known, had an opinion that the annual meeting of the association must go elsewhere, and the fault which I suppose I committed—I have been very often blamed for it, but I do not say it was a fault—was, I told the truth. I said the time had arrived when you could not expect to go on any longer at Wimbledon. I always suggested, as an alternative site, Pirbright. Many of my friends did not see it in the same light; but I believe some of them have entirely changed their views already, and are quite of opinion that, once established at Pirbright, this annual meeting will be far more suitably placed for such a gathering than at Wimbledon itself. I believe the ranges are infinitely better. As far as the gate money is concerned, I admit there has been a difficulty; still, when difficulties arise you must meet them. Thanks to the attention of my gallant friend (Lord Wantage) and the other members of the council, the N.R.A. have, I understand, made arrangements which will give great satisfaction; and I hope that, whilst I have hitherto been blamed for having suggested that Wimbledon would not do any longer, I may live to hear that everybody is obliged to me for having pointed out that it will not do to remain in the precincts of London, in which Wimbledon really is. I have been accused at times of being always prepared to do something disagreeable to the volunteers. How such a notion has arisen I cannot imagine. Ever since the Volunteer movement has been in existence I have done everything in my power to support it. Frankly I say that different suggestions have been put before me from time to time by those who thought them prudent and wise, and circumstances have happened when I have not thought them prudent and wise, and therefore I have not accepted them. It would be ridiculous for me to accept every idea that comes from quarters however well-disposed, and the authorities must know something of these questions. I have certainly had to study them and have been prudent, I hope, in not agreeing to things which I considered had better be left alone. On the other hand, when I thought that the time had arrived for certain changes to be made, I have been invariably quite prepared to enter into the matter. I do not see why I should say it, but I cannot bring to my mind that I have done anything that could be construed into raising difficulties as regards the volunteer movement. I have suggested improvements, which I believe to be improvements, and which I think you will find to be so, in the choice of your quarters for the Wimbledon meeting. I hope it will be a success. I have felt sometimes in coming here, that, although president of the association, my views and those of the gentlemen surrounding me did not agree, and it is not a pleasant thing to be a chairman when one knows that many of one's friends take a different view to your own. I have done my best to keep matters smooth. I trust the next meeting at Wimbledon will be successful; but I may add that I hope it will be the last to be held there, and

that its successor at Pirbright will be equal in results to any which have yet been held. (Cheers.)

Col. Ford (Essex Volunteers), proposed the following resolution: "That the members of the N.R.A., in general meeting assembled, hereby tender their best thanks to his Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge, for his consideration, which has enabled the council again to select Wimbledon Common for the association's annual meeting for the year 1889."

Major M'Kerrell, in seconding the motion, as the mover of an amendment at the last meeting which was rejected, desired to say that his two main objections to Brookwood, as regards the line of fire and the expenditure upon drainage, had been entirely overcome, and he thought it possible to accommodate at Brookwood twice the number of competitors at Wimbledon. He withdrew the opposition which he had thought it his duty to offer, and wished to support the council. (Cheers.)

The motion having been carried unanimously,

The Duke of Cambridge expressed his gratification, and reiterated that he was always anxious to assist the Volunteers. All that he had wanted to be understood was that he had had a very decided opinion, and that he adhered to it, but with every desire to make the change as useful, as easy, and as little to the detriment of the association as possible. Therefore, when asked whether the association might come to Wimbledon for another year, he was very glad to say yes, and he was pleased that they were coming. He hoped that they would be successful there, and equally as successful at Bisley.

Mr. C. F. Lowe said that there was an intimate connection between the St. George's competition and the Grand Aggregate. The latter had been raised to its present important position at his suggestion. He went on to advocate an improvement in the method of training recruits in musketry, but was reminded that that was not a question for the present meeting. Subsequently he began to discuss the hardship which would be inflicted upon the Massachusetts team at Wimbledon by their Queen's "regulations," sights being prohibited in military competitions here, but he was again ruled out of order.

Lord Wantage admitted that he must place himself in the category of those who had had their doubts about Bisley Common, but he was satisfied that in it they had a ground which would satisfy all their wants. It had the inestimable advantage of being in close proximity to Aldershot Camp, and in Sir Evelyn Wood, who had been elected a member of the council that day, they had a firm and fast friend. The widespread interest taken in the National Rifle Association was due, he believed, to the fact that it was the keystone of Volunteer organization. In the future they desired still more to carry out the theory governing the competition for the Queen's Prize, and in so doing they would be carrying their organization into the very heart of every regiment and company of the Volunteer force. The new ground afforded great opportunities, and they would avail themselves of every suggestion.

Lord Wemyss, who was strongly in favour of the Bisley site, paid a high tribute to the loyal feeling which had prevailed among all the members of the council and of the association, and in particular to the frank way in which Lord Wantage had co-operated with the majority of his colleagues on the council, though he must have been naturally predisposed in favour of the site in Berkshire, which he had so generously offered to the association. He concluded by moving a hearty vote of thanks to H. R. H. the chairman for presiding. This was seconded by Sir Henry Wilmot.

Colonel Burt, in supporting the motion, said that though he had been in favour of Cannock Chase, he heartily accepted the decision which had been come to, and would do everything in his power to make Bisley successful. (Hear, hear.)

In responding, the Duke of Cambridge said: I thank you very much for the compliments which you have paid me. I have presided over a great many of your meetings, and I confess there was a moment when I thought my presence created difficulties. However, to-day I feel I am again in possession of that unanimity and general support which is not only essential to the chairman, but to the association itself. There has been a variety of opinions, and sometimes strongly expressed, but everybody has felt that once a site was adopted they would put their shoulders to the wheel. It would not have done to have said it before; but I look upon this association in itself as a civil association; it is absolutely independent of the Government. I am bound to say that I think the association in having an individual connection—not a Government connection—with the centre station of the army has an immense advantage. It does not bind you to anything. It brings you all together. One of our great difficulties in this country is that we have an excellent little army, and an excellent little navy, and excellent volunteers and militia, but they have all hitherto been disposed to work alone, and to have a certain amount—I don't say an improper amount—of jealousy of one another. The great object of defence is not jealousy, for the desire of being better than one's neighbours is *esprit de corps*. But the jealousy of putting other people down in order to put yourself up is very objec-

tionable, and I think the time has come when every part of our forces should have one sentiment, one heart, and one feeling, not only for defence but amongst themselves, and it is this national sentiment we ought to encourage. (Cheers.)

The proceedings then terminated.

The Rifle.

A new prize has just been added to the Wimbledon programme, being a bicycle, value £20, given by Messrs. Starley Bros., St. John's works, Coventry. The conditions are: Distance 200 yards; number of shots, unlimited, to be fired within one minute; position, standing; entrance fee 2s. 6d. for each entry; to be competed for in the second week of the meeting.

Toronto.

The members of the Wimbledon team left last night for Montreal. Capt. Bruce, of the Grenadiers occupies the enviable position of having put three members of his company (G Co.) on the team in one year, viz., Sergts. Curzon, Mitchell and McVittie. We doubt if this was ever done before. Since they attained their position G Co'y. has been broken up and reorganized and Sergt. Mitchell and McVittie have been temporarily attached to A Co., the members of which gave them a great send off the other evening. To G Company and that energetic rifleman, Captain Bruce to whom the Grenadiers owe it that they have ever produced a team at Ottawa and done so well, is the entire credit due.

In spite of the threatening weather the Haiston Rifle Association had a good turn out on Saturday at the weekly practice match, but no good scores were made, Sergt. White being first with a score of 49. The following are a few of the scores made:

Sergt. White.....	49	Pte Mead.....	30
Corpl. Brooks.....	46	Sergt. Spence.....	28
Pte. Irving.....	45	Pte. Hamilton.....	24
Pte. Suter.....	42	Pte. Robinson.....	22
Staff-Sergt. Dent.....	40		

At Regina.

On the 15th June a telegraphic match between the Brandon County Rifle Association and the Assiniboia Provincial Rifle Association (of Regina) took place. The scoring of the Regina team only been forwarded, and it is not stated what rifle was used, though presumably the Snider. The shooting was at 200, 400 and 500 yards:

J. F. Mowat.....	26	28	22	76	F. Nash.....	25	21	12	58
Major D. Mowat.....	26	20	20	66	R. Sweet.....	23	20	10	53
H. A. Carruthers.....	29	21	14	64	Dr. Willoughby.....	25	19	8	52
J. A. Kerr.....	24	16	20	60	J. T. Stemshorn.....	27	14	7	48

The eight members of the match team along with the following took part in the usual weekly spoon competition:

R. J. Steel.....	25	17	16	58	J. W. Jowett.....	25	24	17	66
S. Varder.....	27	18	13	58	S. S. Phillip.....	24	13	9	46
W. Williamson.....	26	7	20	53	C. F. James.....	25	21	13	59
W. J. Chaffey.....	20	26	13	59	Major C. James.....	14	23	11	48

J. F. Mowat took the silver table spoon with his score of 76, and Secretary-Treasurer Jowett the teaspoon with his 66, Carruthers running a close third with 64. President Mowat's score of 66 was barred four points for previous victories.

GREAT SCORING AT ST. JOHN.

St. John, N.B., June 21.—The June competition of the county association was held at Drury range on Tuesday afternoon last, the weather being fine with a strong left fresh wind. The prizes were eleven in number and included the D. R. A. silver medal. Martini rifles, at "Queen's Ranges." Pte. Alfred Langstroth, 62nd Fusiliers, and Capt. Hartt, Rifles, tied with 91 each. As one of these competitors had left the range before the conclusion of the firing, the ordinary "shoot off" could not be had so it was decided to allow the two to agree upon a method of settling the matter. They accordingly repaired to the range with a Martini on Thursday afternoon the 20th inst., and fired over Queen's ranges, 7 shots, making the following noteworthy scores. Weather fine—wind, 11 o'clock, requiring 4 degrees at 500 yards, and about 3 at 600:

	200	500	600	Total.
Capt. Hartt.....	445554—32	354555—32	555555—35	99
Pte. Langstroth.....	443454—29	554545—33	555335—31	93

It will be noticed that up to the fourth shot at 600 yards there were only 2 points between the contestants. This match practically finishes our Martini shooting until the week before the D. R. A. matches.

MONTREAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION.

The second spoon competition of the Montreal Rifle Association, held on the 15th inst., resulted as follows, the shooting being with Snider rifles, at 200, 500 and 600 yards, and rain interfering at the last range.

A. Thomson, silver ladle.....	93	J. Riddle.....	85
G. D. McMartin, table spoon.....	90	D. Smith.....	84
M. Pope, dessert spoon.....	89	Capt. Thomas.....	84
J. J. Bell, tea spoon.....	85		

REMARKABLE SCORING IN ENGLAND.

Two noteworthy scores were made at the third shoot for 1889 of the English Twenty Club, held on the 27th May, in decidedly unfavorable weather.

Corpl. Brown, of Cuckfield, who shot under the supervision of Capt. Cortis, on the Brighton range, made the magnificent score of 102 out of a possible 105. The weather was favorable, there being a dull light, moist atmosphere, and the wind steady from the rear. Corpl. Brown, who is referred to by the Div. Supt. as a good steady shot, finished with 18 consecutive bull's-eyes. Below is the full score:—

200 yds.	500 yds.	600 yds.	Total.
4 4 4 5 5 5—32	5 5 5 5 5 5—35	5 5 5 5 5 5—35	102

Lieut. Moore, of Allendale, who won the Wilmot at Wimbledon last year, and was elected to the Club this season, made the grand score of 100. He shot at Morpeth under the superintendence of Lieut. Lockhart, who describes the conditions as being on the whole favorable, except that at 500 and 600 yards the competitors had to shoot through the grass. Despite this, however, the squad of eight members averaged over 90 points. Mr. Moore's shot for shot record was as follows:—

200 yds.	500 yds.	600 yds.	Total.
5 5 5 5 4 4—33	5 4 5 5 4 5—33	5 5 4 5 5 5—34	100

The Importance of Team Shooting.

(Volunteer Record.)

With reference to the re-organization of the National Rifle Association, now that it is laying out its new home, we last week suggested, not merely the desirability but the actual necessity of "encouraging" more and more team shooting, and especially shooting bearing some faint resemblance to that demanded by the exigencies of modern warfare. It may be useful on the present occasion, to point out another direction in which the Association can very largely extend its sphere of usefulness. There can be no doubt that the shooting powers of a small section of the Volunteer force has arrived at such a pitch of perfection, that any competitor who once gets outside the centre, is, practically, outside a prize. This is highly gratifying, as far as it goes. It has, however, a dark side. This very perfection has without doubt, alienated the vast bulk of the force from shooting at prize meetings, if not, indeed, altogether. The consequence is that much the same names appear each successive year, at, or near the top of the prize list. Now is the time for the Association to inaugurate a new departure, with a view of drawing into the scattered fold the multitude of the scattered sheep who, as regards shooting anyhow, have decidedly gone astray. The solution of the problem is undoubtedly beset with difficulties, but they are not such as should be considered insurmountable. Handicapping has been suggested again and again, but a better and a simpler method of equalization would be that of classification. Supposing there were, say £10,000 to be given in prizes at any particular meeting, the half might go to the "cracks," three-fifths, and two-fifths of the remainder might advantageously be allotted to the mediums, and the absolutely unknown, respectively. By this means the black sheep, so to say, would gradually meander back to the fold, and perchance, in the course of time, the whole lump would be leavened with the manifold virtues, which, at present are the exclusive property of the few. Until such time as this, or some similar plan is adopted, the National and County Rifle Association may pipe as coaxingly and as loudly as they like, but the Volunteer flock, as a whole, will never dance again. In the early days of the movement, one man, as Paddy would say, was as good as another, and a good deal better. Now all this is changed. A race of giants at shooting has sprung up, which completely overtops and overshadows the rest, and which simply romps in, where shooting prizes are concerned. *Les autres*, the great majority, keeps dead aloof, simply because they, very naturally, see no fun in paying entrance fees to amuse others, and without having the faintest hope of seeing any return for their outlay. The "Nursery" series here and there introduced, is certainly a start in the required direction, but it is so faint a one as to be hardly discernable. What is wanted is a comprehensive change which shall commend itself to the many, and induce them, one and all, to take up arms against that sea of troubles, which is typified on the modern rifle range by the "string" of bull's-eyes made by the giants in question, to "encourage" their less experienced comrades meanwhile, who are tremblingly and anxiously waiting to follow at the same targets and under the same conditions, skill, nerve and experience alone excepted.

The War and its Compensations.

(U.S. Army and Navy Journal.)

Colonel Barr in his paper on the costs and compensations of war, to which we last week referred, estimates the total cost of the war of 1861-65 at eight thousand millions of dollars (8,000,000,000), which represent the work of 2,270,000 men for seven years, or that of one third of the adult male population capable of bearing arms, for the period named. The total losses by death from disease and casualties of battle during the war, on both sides, approached three quarters of a million, but from these should be properly deducted a number representing the probable total deaths among the same number of men under the conditions of peace. Coming to a consideration of the compensation of the war Colonel Barr concludes that they are commensurate to the costs, great as they were. He omits, however, altogether from his calculations the great factor of increase in individual manhood and capacity for accomplishment which has put so many of the soldiers of the war, north and south, at the head in our great industrial enterprises. Taking the nation as a whole, no one who has studied into the matter can question that it is greater in numbers, in wealth, in productive capacity, and in every element of supremacy than it would have been without the war, and this after making every allowance for losses resulting from the conflict. As Colonel Barr says: "The war destroyed lethargy and left our people with excited activities. The demonstration of the Republic's enduring strength aroused a confidence that caused hundreds of thousands of labourers from less favoured lands to flock to our shores, who, making homes throughout the country and cultivating its virgin soil, largely increased our food products and created new markets for the productions of skilled labour, so that to-day, though all our ports were closed we could live supremely content." Colonel Barr might have added the conditions of comfort for the average citizen have greatly improved. The tables in "Hewe's Citizen's Atlas," which were brought down to 1887, show that the wages of labour have increased from thirty to sixty per cent. since the war, while the necessaries of life have decreased, sugar, butter, wheat, salt, beef and pork, brown shirtings, merramic prints and mousselines de laines being included in computation. Our production of cereals and our manufactures have largely increased, as well as our importations and the duties upon them. The only thing in which we appear to have fallen off is in our shipbuilding and ship-carrying trades. The shipbuilding in the year of maximum depression 1886, was but one-half of the amount in 1860 and one-sixth of the amount in 1855. The American carriage, which was in 1826 twelve times and in 1860 twice that of foreign carriage, was in 1887 only one-sixth of the foreign carriage.

Gleanings.

Russian officials have tested and reported favourable upon a Russian invention for applying the revolver principal to the barrels of Berdan rifles. It is said that by this arrangement a machine gun is obtained which will fire 480 shots a minute.

The parchment commissions of several officers of the British army who fought at Waterloo and in the Peninsula have been offered for sale to the relatives and friends of these officers. It is supposed they have been obtained in some manner from the War Office, and the authorities are causing investigations to be made.

A Russian naval officer is reported to have invented a carcass for night service which is said to have some advantages over the electric light, as it does not, like the latter, discover the locality of the ship from which it is emitted. Fired with a small charge from a gun or mortar it floats on dropping into the water, sending up at the same time a large and very brilliant flame, which burns for some time. If fired with a percussion fuse against a solid target, it bursts, deluging everything in the neighbourhood with a liquid which at once bursts into flame and cannot be extinguished by means of water. It can, therefore, be used for incendiary purposes.

A British artillery officer, Major Anderson, recently lecturing before the United Service Institution, Simla, on machine guns, estimates the machine gun as equal to fifty rifles. The advantages of the gun are, he contends: 1. the power of opening an effective fire at long ranges, say from 2,000 up to about 800 yards, at a rate for a brigade of 3,200 shots a minute, which is equivalent to the fire of 1,500 men. 2. With this aid the attacking line could advance in full force not leaving any one behind for long range firing, so that the full power of the brigade, bar, and ninety-six men could be utilized for the attack proper, and could, under favourable circumstances, be placed under cover about 600 yards from the enemy in full strength. 3. As the men would reach this point with their pouches (and pockets, if necessary,) full, there would be no fear of a want of ammunition, and the difficulties inherent in the supply of ammunition in the field would be sensibly diminished, and that at the most

critically points in the whole day—the moment when the troops close. Finally, the advance having been made without firing, the whole condition of the men would be calmer, steadier and less excited than if they had, as it is the ordinary custom, advanced from 1,500 or 1,500 yards, firing at every 50 or 100 paces. Their shoulders would be strong and fresh to commence firing from, and, lastly, their rifles would be cool.

When war is concluded all animosity should be forgotten.—*Wellington.*

Resignation, bravery and the sentiment of duty in the officers and non-commissioned officers are virtues without which it is impossible to have a respectable army. All should know that firmness and fortitude in reverses are more honourable than enthusiasm in success; because it only requires courage to carry a position, whereas heroism is indispensable to make a difficult retreat before a victorious and enterprising enemy, without being disconcerted and ever presenting to him a front of steel.—*Jomini.*

An army officer is quoted by the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch* as saying: "Desertion is the great curse of the army, and one of the most unpleasant features of the whole thing is that the foreign-born recruits stick much more closely to their duty than the native Americans." At least three-fifths of the army is of foreign birth, but scarcely half the deserters.

Paymaster J. W. Wham, U.S.A., is quoted as being very emphatic in his eulogy of the good fight made by the colored soldiers on the occasion of the recent robbery in Arizona. He says he never saw a lot of soldiers come nearer doing their whole duty. They returned the fire promptly and fought manfully, and much better than ordinarily could be expected of soldiers not used to being under fire.

Colonel H. R. Milner, 17th U.S. Infantry, commanding Fort D. A. Russell, writes a strong letter deprecating the misrepresentations in regard to the causes of desertion. "Good soldiers do not desert the service, and no better soldiers can be found than in this command. Old soldiers very rarely desert—desertions being generally confined to recruits. With all the comforts, recreations and indulgences in this garrison, there have been nine desertions from this command this month, all without just cause. All the talk about young men being disgusted by the brutality or coarseness of the old soldiers is simply "rot." As a rule the old soldiers give the new ones their first lessons in decency. The youngest men are proverbially the worst."

The *New Orleans Times*, in an article on "Cavalry Horses," commends the suggestion that a government breeding establishment be founded in a Western State, and says: "Cannot the United States afford to pay as much for its cavalry horses as Great Britain does? The total number of enlisted men in our cavalry is under 7,000, considerably less than half the strength of the British regular cavalry. Why should this small American cavalry force be hampered and handicapped in the performance of its duties, and reduced to a condition of comparative inefficiency, for want of proper horses, when the country has more money than it knows what to do with?"

The Turkish correspondent of the *Revue du Cercle Militaire* states that a commission of Turkish and German officers, which in 1886 experimented with certain rifles, and proclaimed the superiority of the 11-mm. Mauser to all the others, propose the immediate purchase of 200,000 of them from Germany. The Sultan was about to ratify this, when he was informed that it was a plot to make Turkey take over old German weapons, badly transformed, from the arsenal of Spandau. The arrangement was set aside and Herr Mauser was called in, who offered to provide a special calibre of 9½-mm.; but, says the correspondent, the Ottoman treasury has been unable to make its promised advances, and the factory of Oberndorf has been incapable of producing the rifles rapidly, so that now only 45,000 have been delivered, and there is talk of modifying the commission to meet a desire for a calibre of 8-mm.

In a recent paper on explosives Mr. C. Napier Hake stated that a dynamite cartridge 1 ft. in length occupied only 1-24,000th part of a second in explosion. At this rate a ton of dynamite cartridges about ¾ in. diameter, placed end to end, and measuring one mile in length, would be consumed in about ¼ of a second by detonating a cartridge at either end; while a similar train, if simply ignited, would occupy several minutes for its combustion. Referring to the operation of the Explosive Act of 1885, Mr. Hake said that during the years 1868-70, inclusive, when no sort of inspection existed, the annual fatalities amounted to forty-three. The average number for the four years preceding the act was thirty-seven, with thirty-three factories at work. There are now 112 factories in operation, many of them manufacturing new explosives, and yet in 1888 only six fatal accidents were recorded. Of the 400 varieties of explosives described in Major Cundill's "Dictionary of Explosives," very few have come into use.

The news from the Soudan, and from East Africa generally, reveals a very unsatisfactory state of things. It is plain that the dervishes are moving again for some purpose or other, and, although at present there has not been any serious fighting, what has happened is quite sufficient to keep the Egyptian Government in a state of perturbation. The latest news throws great doubt upon the rumors to which currency was given some days ago, to the effect that the Maudi had been defeated and killed. It is now clear that the dervishes have practically annihilated the army of King John of Abyssinia, killing the King himself, and this could scarcely have happened if the Mahdi had been dead and his forces dispersed.—*Army and Navy Gazette.*

On the left-hand corner of the membership certificate of the Society of the Cincinnati, issued in 1785, is represented a strong-armed man, bearing in one hand a Union flag, and in the other a naked sword. Beneath his feet are British flags, a broken spear, shield and chain. Hovering by his side is the eagle, the U. S. national emblem, from whose talons the lightning of destruction is flashing upon the British lion, and Britannia, with the crown falling from her head, is hastening to make her escape in a boat to the fleet. The Union flag of this certificate is composed of 13 alternate red and white stripes and a white union, in which is painted the present arms of the United States adopted in 1782. A flag of this kind may have been in use in the Army earlier.

The *Alta California* does not think that the United States need trouble themselves about the Esquimalt forts, for, says our contemporary, "we have prompt railway communication with the Sound ports, both from the east by the Northern Pacific, and from the south and east by the California and Oregon. We could promptly supply a Sound fleet and fill Washington Territory with a land force that could cut the Canadian Pacific and isolate British Columbia while the great guns at Esquimalt would be as powerless against us as they would be against the moon. We need not shiver in our boots until we have outbuilt Esquimalt. Those works may forcibly defend Great Britain against a European enemy, but they need not disquiet us.

A company has been formed in England, of which Admiral Sir Henry Keppel is chairman, to explore the hulk of the French man-of-war *Orient*, which was sunk in Aboukir Bay in 1798 by Nelson. Lieut. Ponsonby, R.N., who has been employed in the Egyptian Coastguard, has reported the results of his examination of the wreckage in the bay by means of divers. He has laid down the positions of the *Orient* and four other vessels, and as it is generally believed that Napoleon, when at Malta, previous to sailing for Egypt, shipped on board the *Orient* specie to the value of \$3,000,000, besides two immense silver gates, the spoil of a raid upon a Roman Catholic church in Valetta, and an immense quantity of other unenumerated valuables, it is plain that an effort to recover so rich a prize is worth undertaking. A number of articles of all kinds have been recovered already, but there have not been the necessary appliances for undertaking the work in a practical manner. Besides which, the ships are completely covered with a hard coating of deposit from the Nile, and the decks and sides required to be broken in with dynamite cartridges.

The *Vulcan* was launched at Portsmouth, May 18. The same day at Trieste was launched an armored cruiser of 3,800 tons displacement, intended as the *Ersatz*, or substitute, for the obsolete Austrian wooden central battery battleship *Lissa*, built at Trieste in 1869. She will carry two 9.27 in. 14½ ton Krupps, and six 5.87 in. 4 ton Krupps. The side armour is very limited, and the chief protection is furnished by a steel deck. The total cost is \$760,000, exclusive of armament. Another cruiser, intended to replace the obsolete wooden ironclad *Kaiser*, is also being built. She will be of 4,200 tons displacement. Baron Sterneck, the chief of the Austrian Navy, has been violently attacked for his determination to replace 10,810 tons of ironclads by only 8,000 tons of what is practically protected shipping; and there is an outcry for more battleships, in which however, the Baron is profoundly a non-believer.

"H. F.," writing from Amiens to the *New York Times*, says: "Here waiting on the platform of the station are some two score soldiers of the 101st Regiment of the line. It is five years since I first saw the French soldier, and he has during the interval gained nothing except the liberty to wear his beard instead of shaving, if he likes, and the knowledge that all the regimental bands in the army now play the "Marseillaise" in the same key and pitch. These have not helped him to look smarter or brighter. He is the same slouchy, sleepy-looking little creature that he was, with the skirts of his heavy gray-blue overcoat thrown back so that he may thrust his hands to the very bottom of his trousers pockets. He obviously jokes with his non-commissioned superiors, and they say that he dislikes most of his commissioned masters. If I were a French private I am sure I should do the same, for these gentry in the frogged black jackets and tight, gold-ribbed red breeches are, as a rule, very disagreeable-looking young gentlemen. They were not so formerly. Even old Republicans confess that the relations between officers and men

were much better—that is, thinking of the regiment as a family and a unit—in the old days, while the Napoleonic traditions still was stronger in men's minds. I fancy the relation between the generals themselves is better now, on the other hand, than it was then, and that the upper organization of the army is much stronger than it was in 1870, or than people generally think."

The fourth annual meeting of the Association for the Employment of Reserve and Discharged Soldiers was held at the offices of the Association, at 12 Buckingham street, Strand, London, on the 27th May. It appears from the annual report that the Association was established in 1885, and that its main object is to find employment for warrant officers, non-commissioned officers, and young soldiers returning to civil life, and to the army reserve, after a few years' service in the ranks. For this purpose a central office was established in London, and there are also twenty branch offices in some of the principal towns of the United Kingdom. Four of these latter have been opened during the last year. The names of men desirous of obtaining employment are registered, and their characters and qualifications carefully enquired into. Every effort is made to publish the aim and objects of the Association to employers. This is done partly by advertisements, and partly by personal visits. It may also be noticed that only men of good character are registered, and that no fees are charged to the men or to those to whom they are recommended for employment. Several employers of labor have expressed great satisfaction with the men sent to them, and have notified their intention of applying for others as vacancies occur in their establishments. As to results, it appears that during the twelve months ended 31st of March last, 796 men were registered in London alone, of whom 368 obtained situations, or about one per diem. At the various offices of the Association 3,598 applications were registered during the year, and 1,289 men, on reverting to civil life, were provided with situations through the medium of the Association, and the committee are making every effort to extend the sphere of its influence. With regard to the situations obtained for these men, it is interesting to note that they include the police, foremen of works, clerks, indoor servants, coachmen, grooms, employment on railways, and other miscellaneous work, so that the Association offers a considerable selection for the employers of labor. The committee quote from the last annual report of the Inspector-General of Recruiting, who says: "The question of the civil employment of army reserve men and discharged soldiers necessarily forms an important factor in connection with army recruiting, and there is good reason to believe that, if well conducted men had a better assured prospect of obtaining employment on return to civil life, a healthy stimulus would in time be imparted to recruiting, and that men of a better class would be thereby induced to join the ranks."

In his address before the Iron and Steel Institute, London, May 8th, the President, Sir James Kitson, said: "The days of the giant hammers are numbered, and the Titan you see illustrated on the walls, whose blow disturbs a whole district, will be supplanted by the silent, slow working, but irresistible press. The 4,000 ton press of John Brown & Co., made by Tannett, Walker & Co., the president had seen working upon an ingot, the original size of which was 52 in. in diameter at the bottom and 46 in. at the top. The weight was about 34 tons. This was in four heats reduced to 29 in. in diameter for a gun tube 28 ft. long. Cammell & Co. have a 5,000 ton press made by Davy Bros., of Sheffield. The name of Haswell, of Vienna, the address mentioned as a pioneer in this field, while Sir Henry Bessemer obtained a patent for an invention in the same direction so long ago as 1856, a drawing being shown in that year at Sir Henry's experimental works at St. Paneras, for the hydraulic pressure of steel in its fluid and solid state; while in 1869 the same talented inventor was granted a further patent for casting under pressure. Sir Henry Bessemer's inventions," continued Sir James, "cover a large field, and are the fruit of more than 60 years of mental activity." In view of this prophecy it is interesting to put on record this list given of the heaviest steam hammers in Europe.—England, one 30 ton at Elswick; one 35 ton at Woolwich Arsenal. Germany, one 50 ton at Krupp's. Russia, two 50 ton. France, four 20 ton., three 25 ton., one 35 ton, two 40 ton, one 50 ton, one 80 ton, two 100 ton.

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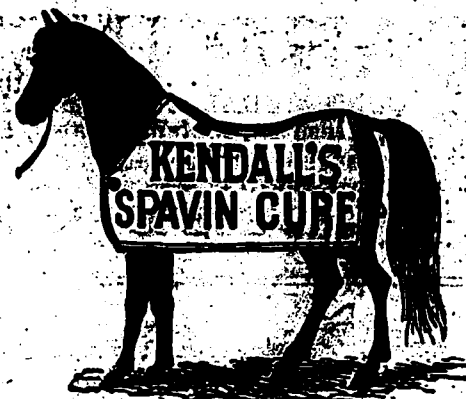
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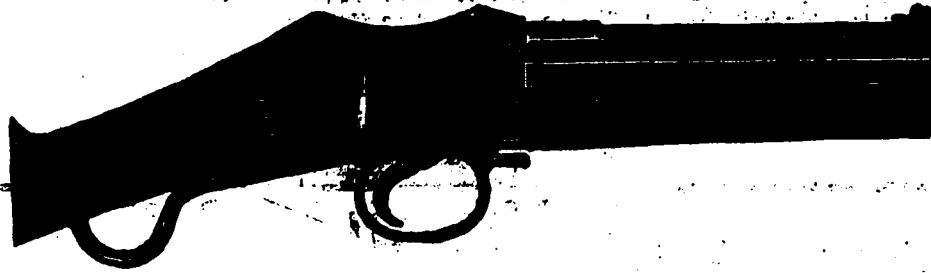
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