

HOW ARTILLERY IS AIMED.

The Art Explained Apropos of the News Now Arriving From Africa.

From the London News.

I notice in many reports from the seat of war that it is mentioned that from the artillery the first shot fell short, the second went over, but after that the firing seemed to become deadly. This may perhaps be read by many as meaning that the first two shots were bad shots, and that the process of getting the correct range was rather slow. The fact is just the opposite. The method by which of late years, taking example from the Germans, we have incalculably improved our artillery practice, depends on the firing of at least those two shots—one over, one under. Indeed, as I shall explain presently, a gunner would on reading such reports be a little tempted to think that the battery commanders had been rather overanxious to think that they had obtained the range before they had really done so. A battery commander is exceptionally lucky if he gets the range by two trial shots. These he does not fire with the deadly "time" fuse which makes his shell burst at the point he wishes in the air, but only with a "percussion fuse," as it is called—that is to say, with one that makes his shell burst only when it strikes the ground. As I am quite sure from reading the various reports that the deadly efficiency of our artillery in its practice as compared with the Boer artillery, despite their much longer range of weapons, has been due to the Boers being ignorant of our methods, it may interest many readers to understand them.

There is very little difficulty for artillery to lay their guns accurately in point of direction right and left. Our instruments are so fine that that can be readily accomplished. The difficulty is to prevent the guns from shooting too short or too long, as it will be observed that both the Boer artillery and the "machine guns," which are practically a number of infantry barrels placed together so as to deliver by mechanical means a vast column of infantry fire, did at Modder Spirit. When a shrapnel shell bursts in the air, or when a shell that does not burst is fired into the middle of a town, it is excessively difficult for the observer some thousands of yards away from the object to know whether it has been a good shot or a quite ineffective one. It has been calculated that the Boers, by an expenditure of little short of 3,000 shells on Ladysmith, many of the shells being large, heavy and costly, have succeeded in killing eight men. Obviously for war purposes artillery would be a very inefficient instrument that represented its best work. Yet substantially when the great change took place which multiplied more than twenty fold the effective range of the guns at Waterloo, that was that kind of practice which we were carrying on.

In those days we had no practice ground for artillery such as we have now at Okehampton and in other places. The Germans had practice grounds connected with every garrison town in the country. There they, having made a horrible mess of their artillery work during a war with Austria in 1866, set themselves to improve their practice. They gradually arrived at the following method. Though when a shell bursts in air you cannot tell whether it has been fired effectually or quite uselessly, you can get certain indications from a shell which bursts on the ground, such as enable you to know whether it has gone under or over the object at which you aim. Thus the shell raises a certain amount of dust and smoke, and if you see that the object is partly obscured by this you may be pretty sure that your shell has fallen short. If, on the contrary, you see the object standing out clear, and the dust behind it, you know that your shell has gone beyond the object.

Suppose, then, that I estimate the range at 3,200 yards. I want to be quite sure of being that I don't fire over the object, because if I do, not only will my shot be useless, but I shall have no means of correcting it. Therefore, at first I fire at 3,100, and if I find that my shot is short, I fire a second round, say, 3,300, in order to go beyond the object. If I see that my shot does go over, I am satisfied that I have established what is called "a long bracket"; that is to say, I have found two ranges, 300 yards apart, between which the object must lie. It does not, however, follow that it lies exactly midway between them, and it is very probable, in fact almost certain, that it will be better to get two shots nearer together within which the target must still certainly lie. I therefore fire another shot to shorten the distance within which I can then know that the target must be. This we call, on the same principle as the other, "a short bracket." I try then to fire a shot actually at the object, and if I seem to get very close to it, I am satisfied that I have "the range."

Even then, however, my work is only half done before I can fire with effect. Hitherto I have not tried at all to get the correct "setting" of the fuse which will make the shell burst in air at the right point. It was necessary first to make sure of the range, but now, in order that the bullets may scatter properly on the target, to make one or two experiments to insure that the fuse will burst

the shell in front of the troops at which I aim, and burst it neither too high nor too low, too near nor too far. It is only when I have made all these trial shots that I know that the battery is really ready to bring an effective fire on the enemy. Day after day, and almost all day long, our batteries at home have been going through the dreary drudgery that is necessary for the perfecting of the mechanism of this system. Year after year they have gone down to carry out the practice very perfectly at Okehampton, or very imperfectly at Shoeburyness while the Irish batteries have had their own practice grounds, and the batteries in the north theirs.

That is why, despite the fact that, as this campaign has shown, though it was well known before, they require a new gun, they have yet, gun for gun, defeated the Boers whenever the conditions admitted of their getting within range of them. That is why the Boers have not been able to make Ladysmith untenable; while, as Lord Methuen has declared, it was the fire of our artillery that made the capture of the Modder river position possible. From another point of view, it is interesting to note that the commander with his whole battery, in order to produce a decisive result, has, under the excitement of action and the bewildering effect of the enemy's fire, to carry out on the field of battle the trained habit of the practice ground. It is in this respect that our artillery has proved itself so superior to the Boers, despite the heavy nature of the guns they have dragged into the field.

INSURANCE TANGLE.

Remarkable Instance of the Uncertainty of Life and Death.

Robert Bond of Mount Brydges, Ont. Paid Total Disability Claim by Insurance Company—Last Stages of Bright's Disease and no Hope—Dodd's Kidney Pills Subsequently Cured Him.

MT. BRYDGES, Ont. Jan. 8.—One of the most complications that ever happened in connection with a claim for insurance in Canada was the Robert Bond claim in the Provincial Provident Institution of St. Thomas, Ont.

Robert Bond is a resident of this town. He took sick and was finally declared by the doctors to be in the last stages of Bright's Disease and a hopeless case. He was now totally incapacitated and claimed total disability from the Provincial Provident.

They looked up his claim, amounting to six hundred dollars, sent their physicians to examine the case, and on their recommendation paid the money.

Then it was that Mr. Bond quite innocently got ahead of the insurance company. He started to take Dodd's Kidney Pills. Be it remembered he was in the last stages of the most fatal disease known, previously considered incurable. Mr. Bond used in all twenty boxes before he was cured, but in the end he was cured, perfectly.

The insurance company could do nothing. Their own doctors had reported him incurable. Bond himself had lost all hope of recovery. They had simply reckoned without Dodd's Kidney Pills, the only remedy for Bright's Disease in existence.

Mr. Bond has never had any return of the old complaint. He has used no other remedy of any kind since, and considers that Dodd's Kidney Pills saved his life.

The Tugela River.

The Tugela river is the longest, if not also the broadest, river in Natal. Rising in the Drakensberg mountains, and therefore in Orange Free State territory, it flows fairly swiftly down to the sea, and forms the boundary near its mouth between Natal and Zululand. It is in such a hurry to leave the Free State Boers that it makes a rapid and precipitous leap of 1,800 feet from the Drakensberg into British territory. This is one of the greatest waterfalls in the world, and it is not surprising that the river is named Tugela, meaning startling. By the time it reaches Colenso it has been reinforced by the Little Tugela, and is spanned by a bridge. This is the point which was the scene of General Buller's reverse.

A DYSPEPSIA CURE

Ever Reliable and Welcomed by the Most Delicate Stomach is Dr. Von Stan's Pineapple Tablets.

Let the worst dyspeptic eat a pineapple a day for six months, and, so greatly would his health improve, he would look and feel like a new person. The reason is plain. The pineapple holds a generous supply of vegetable pepsin, which, next to the juices of the stomach, is the greatest digestive known. Very few people can obtain the daily pineapple but everyone can get Dr. Von Stan's Pineapple Tablets which are mainly composed of this precious fruit juice. They are eaten as candy, are as harmless as ripe fruit, and always give satisfaction. They cure all digestive troubles. Box of 60 Tablets, 35 cents.

For sale by Garden Bros.

From the Whitsett Courier.

We have taken two subscriptions and a three miles walk on Tuesday last. Gus Nobles has shaved his beard and two

B. B. B. Banishes Blemishes.

There is no other remedy equal to B. B. B. for making the blood pure, rich and red, and the skin clear and smooth.

Here's proof from Bertha J. Tozer, North Esk, N.B.

"I have had pimples on my face for three years, and about two years ago I took an attack of nervousness. I got so bad I could not sleep and lost my appetite and was very weak and miserable. I was taking different kinds of medicines but seemed to be getting worse. A friend advised me to try Burdock Blood Bitters, I did so, taking in all four bottles. As a result I sleep well, have a good appetite, my face is free from pimples, my skin clear and my health is in every way perfect."

notes for 30 days.

Aunt Polly Williams died last night. Aunt Polly was as old, if not older, than the oak tree which stands near the town hall.

Bill Green laid a ten pound catfish on our table yesterday. Thanks, Bill! But where's that beef you promised us?

Justice Long came up Tuesday and disposed of seven cases and 16 watermelons.

RHEUMATIC STING.

South American Rheumatic Cure Sway, the Wand and Suffering Ceases in a Trice.

Mr. A. S. Kennedy, 44 Sussex Ave., Toronto, says: "I had been attacked very frequently with acute muscular rheumatism, affecting my shoulders and arms. I used South American Rheumatic Cure and found immediate relief after a dose or two. My family have used this remedy with the most satisfactory results. I think it truly a very efficacious remedy for this very prevalent ailment." Sold by Garden Bros.

Base Insinuation.

"Don't talk like a fool, Joshua," said Mrs. Harix; "to hear you tell it folks would be thinkin I asked you to marry me, and, goodness knows, I never ran after you fer a minute in my life."

"Well, I hain't sayin you run after me, Melinda," replied the old man, "but that don't prove nuthin nohow. I reckon the trap never runs after the mouse neither, but somehow it 'peers to gather him in just the same."

Dreading an Operation

Wearry of experimenting with salves, suppositories and ointments and dreading a surgical operation, scores and hundreds have turned to Dr. A. W. Chase's Ointment and found in it an absolute cure for piles. The first application brings relief from the terrible itching, and it is very seldom that more than one box is required to effect a permanent cure.

Old Gentleman—"Do you mean to say that your never thrash you?" Little Boy—"Never! We have moral suasion at our school." Old Gentleman—"What's that?" Little Boy—"Oh, we get kep' in, and stood up in corners, and locked out, and locked in, and made to write one word a thousand times and scowled at, and jawed at, and that's all."—Collier's Weekly.

Actor—Puglist—Say, wot do youse really tink of my actin'?

Critic—Well—er—if you don't mind I'd prefer to tell you over the telephone.

NOTICE.

The Election of

MAYOR

—AND—

TOWN COUNCILLORS

For the Town of Woodstock, will be held on

Monday, the Fifteenth day of January next,

At the following places:

POLLING PLACES FOR DISTRICT NUMBER ONE.

All Rate-payers whose surnames commence with any letter of the Alphabet from A to L, both inclusive, who reside in District number one, comprising Kings and Queen Wards, shall vote at or near the Council Chamber in the Town Hall.

All Rate-payers whose surnames commence with any letter from M to Z, both inclusive, who reside in the said District number one, shall vote at or near the Town Hall (up stairs.)

POLLING PLACES FOR DISTRICT NUMBER TWO.

All Rate-payers whose surname commence with any letter of the Alphabet from A to L, both inclusive, residing in District number two, which comprises Wellington Ward, shall vote at or near the Brunswick Hotel.

All Rate-payers whose surnames commence with any letter of the Alphabet from M to Z, residing in said District number two, shall vote at or near William Karnes.

NOMINATION OF CANDIDATES FOR MAYOR AND COUNCILLORS.

Nominations of Candidates for Mayor and Councillors shall be filed with the Town Clerk at the Council Chamber in the Town of Woodstock between the hours of ten of the clock in the forenoon and the hour of twelve of the clock, noon, of Thursday, the Eleventh day of January next. Blank nomination papers can be had on application at the office of the Town Clerk.

Dated this Eighteenth day of December A. D. 1899.

J. CHIPMAN HARTLEY, Town Clerk.

CONFEDERATION LIFE ASSOCIATION. OF TORONTO.

Established 1871. Income \$1,200,000.

Policies Unconditional. Extended Insurance and Paid Up Policy after TEN years. Low Rates. Profits Unexcelled.

WENDELL P. JONES, Special Agent.

G. W. PARKER, Gen. Agent.

NORTH AMERICAN LIFE ASSURANCE CO.

Head Office, Toronto, Ont.

President—JOHN L. BLAIKIE.

Vice-Presidents—Hon. G. W. ALLAN and SIR FRANK SMITH.

Progress, solidity and gain for policy-holders characterized the operations of this sterling home Company for 1898.

ITS MOST SUCCESSFUL YEAR.

The following figures illustrate the gains made over 1897, its previous most successful year.

Assets	increased	\$364,651.39	now totalling	\$3,137,828.61
Cash Income	"	85,570.32	"	785,130.81
Net Surplus	"	45,917.33	"	474,029.08
Insurance in force	"	1,874,830.00	"	20,595,708.00

A policy in the North American is a safe and remunerative investment because the Company's financial position is unexcelled.

L. GOLDMAN, Secretary.

WM. McCABE, Managing Director.

HUGH S. WRIGHT, District Manager, Woodstock.



WRITE YOUR BUSINESS LETTERS

on good Letter or Note Paper with your name, business and address tastefully printed on it.

Enclose Your Business Letters

in good Envelopes with your address printed in the corner. We can sell you this printed stationery about as cheaply as you can buy it unprinted.

Parchment Butter Paper

is a specialty with us. We can give it to you in large size 24x36 inches, for tub linings or, in printed or unprinted wrappers for one or two pound prints. This paper is the very best on the market and we buy it in such quantities that we can sell it as cheaply as any office in the province.

THE DISPATCH,

Queen Street,

Woodstock, N. B.

Mrs. Stamford Hill—I hear you are trying joint housekeeping with the Lovejoys. How does it work, dear?
Mrs. Mincing Lane—Oh, splendidly! We never have the slightest disagreement.
Mrs. Stamford Hill—Ah, the Lovejoys are so sweet and amiable! I'm sure they would put up with anything rather than quarrel!—Punch.

Little Dick—"Uncle Richard, what is bric-a-brac?" Uncle Richard—"Bric-a-brac is anything you knock over and break when you are feeling for matches in the dark."—Puck.

Examine the Tongue

The skilled physician reads your condition by a glance at your tongue. If it is coated and you have a bitter taste in your mouth in the mornings he knows your liver is torpid and sluggish and prescribes the use of Dr. A. W. Chase's Kidney-Liver Pills. They cure biliousness, stomach troubles, and all liver and kidney disorders. One pill a dose, 25 cents a box. At all dealers.

Planning a Surprise.

"We ought to do something to advertise Crimson Gulch," said Derringer Dan.
"Yes. I've got a scheme, an if it wasn't for fear o' hurtin the admiral's feelin's I'd put it through. We could attract notice all over the globe by bein the only town in the country that never asked Dewey to come around and take dinner."

C. P. R. TIME TABLE.

In effect October 2nd, 1899.

DEPARTURES—Eastern Standard Time. (QUEEN STREET STATION).

6.20 A MIXED—Week days—for McAdam Jc. M St. Stephen, St. Andrew, Fredericton, Saint John and East, Bangor, Portland, Boston.
8.35 A MIXED—Week days—for Aroostook M Junction, Presque Isle, etc.
11.28 A EXPRESS—Week days—for Presque M Isle, Edmundston, and all points North.
1.55 P MIXED—Week days—for Fredericton, M etc., via Gibson Branch.
3.20 P MIXED—Week days—for Bath and M intermediate points.
4.18 P EXPRESS—Week days—for Saint John and East, Vancorbora, Sherbrooke, Montreal, and there with IMPERIAL LIMITED for all points West, Northwest, and on the Pacific Coast, Bangor, Portland, Boston, etc.
8.05 P MIXED—Week days—for Debec June M tion and Houlton.

ARRIVALS.

7.40 A. M.—MIXED—Week days, from McAdam Junction.
11.28 A. M.—EXPRESS—Week days, from Saint John, St. Stephen, St. Andrews, Boston, Montreal, etc.
12.15 P. M.—MIXED—Week days, from Fredericton, etc., via Gibson Branch.
1.30 P. M.—MIXED—Week days, from Presque Isle.
4.18 P. M.—EXPRESS—Week days, from Presque Isle, Caribou, Edmundston, etc.
5.40 P. M.—MIXED—Week days, from Houlton.
7.47 P. M.—MIXED—Week days, from Bath and intermediate points.
9.40 P. M.—MIXED—Week days, from St. John, Portland, St. Stephen, etc.