

# REMEMBER

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## Remember the name when you buy again

### RIFLE WOUNDS STUDIED.

In the present war we are finding out a few more facts concerning the small calibre bullet wounds, and they may make some people's pet theories totter upon their pedestals, if they are not wholly knocked out.

The truth is we have not solved the entire question, by any means. If there is one fact established, it is that the character of the wound appears to depend upon the striking velocity of the bullet more than upon its calibre, shape or composition, though these are certainly factors. Perhaps we shall reach some definite conclusion before the war is over.

The regular army is using practically the same calibre as that of the majority of the Spanish weapons, which is .301 inch; our volunteers are chiefly armed with the .45 calibre Springfield; the marines and navy have the Lee straight pull rifle of .236, and the Spaniards have a few of their last model Mauser, which has a calibre of .276 (7 millimetres), and a good many old guns of .43.

It would seem as if there was diversity in calibre sufficient for comparison. But the apparent simplicity of the case may cause us to judge too hastily.

The performance of our new navy rifle in the hands of the marines has convinced those of the officers who have opposed small bore weapons of their mistake.

In the first place, I think we may reassess those who have feared the rifle lacked the "stopping power," and was therefore unsuited to use against fanatics or savages. If there is any sort of man who is not stopped by a Lee .236 bullet which hits him in the body or leg at close range, he can only be stood off by a twelve-inch gun.

In every observed case in which the range was less than about 500 yards for the Mauser .301, or 700 yards for the Lee .236, the results were practically the same. In soft flesh the bullet made a small wound in entering, but an enormous hole at the point of exit—and all bullets go completely through the body, not only at this range, but at much greater ranges. When leaving the body they drove the flesh before them and dragged it along with them, altogether making cone-shaped, ragged wounds sometimes two inches in diameter on the surface, particularly when bones were struck.

At the close ranges (limits about as stated but not yet accurately determined), if a bullet strikes a bone the injury is of a shocking character, the destruction of both bone and tissue being very extensive. In almost every case in which the head is perforated at short range the skull is split or burst open—in the cases examined along the top on the center line extending from front to rear. In none of the cases did the break occur in the su-

tures. The fractures were nearly straight, four to six inches long, and opened about an eighth of an inch. One Spaniard was shot in the back by a Lee bullet at less than six hundred yards. It hit a rib, splintered it, and made a wound big enough to put your fist in almost.

One of the marines was shot through the arm at the elbow. The range is unknown, but believed to be very short—perhaps thirty yards—and the bullet was a Mauser of .276 or .301 calibre. The entering hole through the sleeve was so slight as to be unnoticeable, and the hole in the flesh likewise small. The wound at the exit was an inch and a half to two inches across, and a still larger piece of cloth was torn from the sleeve.

This was one of the marines killed on the picket line. The two were found on outposts on one of the paths leading to the camp from the interior. The enemy crept up behind the poor fellows, and when almost on top of them opened fire from fifty guns and fired several shots each. One of the men was struck by twenty-six bullets; the other by fourteen. Parts of the breast, face and front part of the body were torn away by the escaping bullets, and the frightful appearance of the corpses led to the report about mutilation of the dead. One shot entered the base of the brain and escaped through the eye. The skull was splintered near the point of entrance, split along the top and a large wound of exit made, which included the whole eyesocket and part of the cheek.

So far as observed, the tearing effect of the escaping bullets is limited to ranges of four or five hundred yards for the .301 Mauser and seven or eight hundred yards for the .236 Lee. So, also, is the smashing of bones and splitting of the skulls by entering bullets. Within ranges assigned these effects are not always very marked, especially when the upper limit is approached, and, as a rule, the less the range the greater the destructive effect.

Beyond the upper limits there is a zone of complete perforation without tearing or destruction of tissue aside from the narrow path of the bullet. This zone is not very well defined as yet. Beyond it there is another in which the bullet frequently tumbles and causes broad lacerations and large wounds, irregular in depth and direction, and so variable in character that many were thought to have been received at close range.

The greatest advantage of the Lee rifle is the long range at point blank and its very flat trajectory or line of flight at all ranges at which fair marksmen may reasonably expect to hit a single man. This is, of course, due primarily to the high velocity of the bullet and that again to the calibre. A further reduction in calibre would enable us to increase the velocity, but the bullet would be so light as to make its flight

erratic at long range, and the difficulty of cleaning the bore and troubles with the cartridges, jackets of the bullets, extractors and rifling are likely to prevent any reduction in the immediate future.

The deadly character of the present piece is shown in the principal fight in which the marines were engaged, though this took place near the upper limit of the "close" zone, six to seven hundred yards, and much firing was done at over eight hundred yards.

The fire of our men into the cover of the enemy was so rapid that they believed it to be from machine guns, and so well aimed that they could not stand it, and broke for the hills in groups of five or six. Each fleeing party was a target for many rifles, and not more than half escaped unhurt.

The difference in loss on the two sides, of course, no argument for or against the arms used. The Spanish Mauser is an excellent weapon. It has few, if any, superiors. The condition of the pieces found on the field after the fight was very bad. The mechanism was in fair condition, but the sights were generally useless. Many were rusted so that they could not be raised; some were broken off, and others so bent that they lost all value. Not one showed evidence of having been recently used, although the marines were beyond the point blank range of the guns. Most Spaniards and Cubans appear to fire from the hip or a little higher. Very few brought their pieces to the shoulder and took aim.

### Biography of a Man Who Had Been Dead.

He was looking lank and lean; he wore a threadbare suit of black and under one arm he carried a volume; under the other there was an umbrella which had seen better days, says the Detroit Free Press. He entered so quietly that Dodson, who was busy at his desk, did not hear him.

"I have here—" he began softly. Dodson wheeled in his chair and took in the situation. "I don't care what you have!" he roared. Don't you see that sign, 'Peddlers and Book Agents Not Wanted,' or are you blind?"

"The life of Samson—" continued the agent with an apologetic smile.

"Why didn't you say so before?" said Dodson, subsiding.

"In one volume, price \$1.50," continued the long thin man in black.

"I'll take it," said Dodson shortly.

"Good day, sir."

A few minutes later a friend of Dodson's happened in and picked up the volume.

"Hello, old man," said he, as he looked it over. "I didn't know you went in for biblical subjects."

"I don't see the joke," answered Dodson testily. "I believe that in times like these every patriotic American citizen should familiarize himself with the lives of our prominent men who are at the front making history

for this glorious country. We neglect these things too long. I propose to keep up with the times."

"You will have to hurry if you do," answered his friend drily. "This particular Samson without the p has been dead for 3,000 years."

### Alexander Overran in His Conquest.

West of India are vast lands that Afghanistan, Persia and Turkey in Asia. How many scores of millions or even hundreds of millions may they not contain? Many of the uplands of Persia are practically unknown to the civilized world, but they can support a great population. No one knows how many people Arabia contains.

Nobody knows how many Eskimos there are dwelling in the lands of eternal ice that encircle the north pole; many of the islands of the vast Pacific swarm with inhabitants living on the open bounty of nature, whose free and careless life has captivated the imagination of highly cultivated men like Robert Louis Stevenson; and when the census is completed, if it proves practicable, what will it probably show the total population of the globe to be?

The editor of a periodical was rash enough to remove a few lines from a poem which he had accepted, whereupon the author wrote him a letter which wound up thus:

"And now, O slaughterer, vivisector, mangle, maimer, destroyer, disfigure, deforner, defacer, crippler, mutilator, good-by! Put this in your pipe and smoke it!"

A Michigan man recently married his mother-in-law. Perhaps it was the only way he could get rid of her. Years ago a daring Clevelander reversed this operation and married his stepdaughter. It is a pleasing remembrance that he soon afterwards removed to Chicago.—Cleveland Plaindealer.

Why does the average man swear to love before marriage and love to swear afterward?—Chicago News.

### Magnificent Train Service

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P. S.—If you go west via Omaha and the Burlington Route, you can stop off and see the Trans-Mississippi Exposition.

The hotel stood on a corner of a main street and a comparatively unfrequented side street. One evening I overheard the little old black man talking very savagely with another around the corner on the side street, and among other things he said:

"Yes, sah, an' ef I hits you dey woun't be but two licks struck. I'll hit you an' you'll hit de groun'!"

"You done heah whut I say."

### A Beautiful Girl's Affliction.

From the Republican, Versailles, Ind.

The Tuckers of Versailles, Ind., like all fond parents are completely wrapped up in their children. Their daughter, Lucy, in particular, has given them much concern. She is fifteen, and from a strong, healthy girl, three years ago, had become weak and kept falling off in flesh, until she became a mere skeleton. She seemed to have no life at all. Her blood became impure and finally she became the victim of nervous prostration. Doctors did not help her. Most of the time she was confined to bed, was very nervous and irritable, and seemed on the verge of St. Vitus' dance.

"One morning," said Mrs. Tucker, "the doctor told us to give her Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People, which he brought with him. He said he was treating a similar case with these pills and they were curing the patient. We began giving the pills and the next day could see a



change for the better. The doctor came and was surprised to see such an improvement. He told us to keep giving her the medicine. We gave her one pill after each meal until eight boxes had been used when she was well. She has not been sick since, and we have no fear of the old trouble returning. We think the cure almost miraculous."

FRANK TUCKER,  
MRS. FRANK TUCKER.  
Subscribed and sworn to before me this 28th day of April, 1897.

HUGH JOHNSON, Justice of the Peace.

These pills are wonderfully effective in the treatment of all diseases arising from impure blood, or shattered nerve force. They are adapted to young or old, and may be had at any drug store.

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