

# THE END OF THE BIG SHOOT.

## A SPIRITED CLOSING DAY AT THE DUN-ELLEN TOURNAMENT.

DUNELLEN, N. J., Oct. 11.—The big Middlesex Gun Club tournament was concluded to-day. Four days have been spent at the traps, and during that time about 2,200 live birds have been shot at, and many thousands of inanimate targets have been shattered. This has been one of the largest, if not the largest and best tournament ever held in this section of the country. The management put forth their best efforts, and offered \$1,350 in guaranteed purses as an inducement for visitors from afar. This amount is exceptionally large to be offered by any club, and it speaks well for their popularity among shooters when the result proved that guaranteed events overfilled, and the club was thus relieved of the necessity of dipping into its treasury. All surplus money was added to the purses and divided pro rata among the winners.

Among the new contestants to-day were Gus Beser of Troy, N. Y.; John D. Voorhees of Bound Brook, N. J.; James Van Brackle of Matawan, N. J.; Phil Daly, Jr., of Long Branch, and Lieut. George E. Albee of New-Haven, Conn. An interested spectator and a man who is well known among shooters throughout the entire country was Charles W. Dimick of Boston, President of the American Shooting Association, under whose rules and system of classification this tournament has been held. These rules were but lately formulated, and are being generally adopted by gun clubs so that there shall be one universal style of shooting in all tournaments.

The early morning was occupied with regular event No. 2, at five live birds, entrance \$3 50. Beal, Penrose, Cubberly, Mahlon, Walton, C. Smith, Budd, Sigler, McMurchy, and Lamberson each killed five and divided \$25 50. Those killing four were S. G. Smith, Voorhees, Teekay, Van Brackle, and Hughes, and they divided \$18. Lindsley and Cannon killed three and divided \$10 20.

The unfinished event of Thursday was then concluded by a shoot-off of the ties for first and second money. That event was at seven live birds for a purse of \$100; entrance, \$5. Twenty men tied on seven and the shoot-off was most interesting. It was "miss and out" and the unfortunate man who allowed his bird to skip past both charges of shot at once lost his chance for any part of the purse. Penrose, Cannon, and Lindsley killed eight straight, shooting out the others and dividing first money, which was reduced to \$72 by some men drawing out their pro rata share. Cannon is an old soldier, whose left coat sleeve hangs empty and limp, but the strength seems to have been transferred to his right arm. He shoots a gun weighing nine and a quarter pounds, and the strain must be tremendous while holding this out at arm's length waiting for the bird to rise. His shooting is an instance of sheer pluck, and he received liberal applause for some of his long second-barrel kills. Eleven men tied for second money and on a shoot-off Quimby and "Bob White" staid the longest and divided \$54. Collins, Forest, and C. Smith divided third money, and Snedeker Teekay took fourth.

When this event was finished, the grand sweepstake match, at 25 live birds, entrance fee \$25, for a guaranteed purse of \$400, was called. It commenced at 11:15 A. M. and finished at 4:15 P. M. Nineteen men entered, and they all shot with care and deliberation. William Wolstencroft of Philadelphia was the fortunate. He made the only straight score of 25, and won first money, which was 40 per cent. of the whole entrance fee, and amounted to \$190. Rolla Helkes of Dayton, Ohio; William Sigler of Montclair, N. J.; Moses Williams of Elizabeth, and Charles Van Camp of Trenton each made 24 and divided \$142 50. Fred Beal, Charlie Budd, Bob White, Phil Daly, Jr., Charles Smith, E. W. Manley, and E. Lamberson made 23 each and shot off the tie, the luck of dividing \$95 falling to White, Smith, Manley, and Lamberson. Nult, Lindsley, H. McMurchy, H. A. Penrose, and Mahlon Fox divided \$47 50, as they each killed 22.

Darkness had not yet quite fallen at this time, and it was possible to run off another sweep, so at it they all went as if it were the opening day of the shoot. The entrance fee was \$6 25. Penrose, Budd, S. G. Smith, McMurchy, Williams, C. Smith, and Fox killed 5 and decided to shoot off the tie. Ten more birds each were necessary to decide this, and the first money went to Penrose, Budd, and McMurchy. Van Camp and Daly divided second and Erb and Cannon divided third.

In addition to these events, some extra live bird sweeps were shot from plunge traps on the outside of the inclosure. As most of the contestants in these events appeared in the others, the scores are not given.

Thus ended one of the most successful shoots ever given by the Middlesex Club, and one in which every participant thoroughly enjoyed himself. This time next year will probably see another noted gathering on the same grounds, when the sixth annual tournament is given.