was on the right hand side of  $\Lambda$ , as in example (2), the same principle holds good, as in example 1, but the forward guns in this will be the right-hand ones, as shown in the sketch

If the wind is fair for the birds as they rise to fly toward the next field of cover, the straighter the line of guns and beaters is kept the better.

If the wind is right against the guns, you should, as before pointed out, be driving the birds homewords from the fields they were first driven from, or you will lose them perhaps for

When walking against a side wind invariably direct the guns on the down wind flank of the line to keep well forward, for, even when driven homewards, some of the birds may tend to fly back with the wind; and if not being driven homewards, they are sure to do so; for instance, in example 3 if will be seen the forward gun; intercept the flight of the birds as they rise to turn the flank of the line on the right by wheeling with the wind.

Partridges that sky

wheeling with the wind.

Partridges that sky
back hiph over the flank
guns (as when they refuse to face a strong
wind) offer very pretty
chances. Should a low
bird, however, turn back
and slant from right to
left babind you do not and slant from right to left behind you, do not step round after him to fire; you will gain a steadier position, and hence a more accurate aim, if you turn short to the left and thus meet the flight of the bird with the gun. The latter is a quick, though easy motion, and the former is the reverse.

When shocters are

PARTRIDGE SHOOTING.

(EXAMPLE 3.)

A and B, are two root fields. Small arrows.—Guns and beaters walking formard. Lorge arrow.—Foints to the direction from which the wind blows. In more within about 40 yards; whilst if he walks 40 yards from the hedge he covers about 80 yards with his gun, or, say 40 yards on either hand. from the hedge he covers aboay, 40 yards on either hand.

If coveys of partridges will not lie to the gun, but as they often do, continually rise and skim away out of shot in front of the shocters from one field of cover to the next, there is one way only of bringing them to bag. This method is an entire change of tactics on the part of the shocters, and consists in heading the birds by the aid of a few beaters who drive them back over the guns, the latter afterwards walking them up again before the broken coveys have had time to collect together. This maneuvre does not at all necessitate a number of men and shooters; three or four of the latter, and a half dozen assistants can manage very well, and I have, by the assistance of a few short drives taken at intervals during the day, on several occasions succeeded in making a good bag of birds over land that had the day before been walked with indifferent succees by a much larger party. The simplest plan of how to do this is shown in example 4.

Here we have two large turnip fields, A and B. We will suppose the birds are very wild, and rise in coveys or packs, and that though they fly from A to B as the guns walk A forward to B, and back from B to A as the guns return, still not many coveys are broken up, or birds bagged.

Now try this form of action. First place a boy with a flag, or hat, or handkerchief in hand, and direct him to stand as prominently as he can at the end of the field B at C. Next line your men and guns as per arrows in sketch, and leave another boy behind you at D.

Walk the line (eide arrows) forward through A, driving the partridges into B; they will aste to in root of them, who will also often have an effect in causing the birds to drop into cover independently instead of in coveys.

When the guns reach the field B, they stand in as good

When the guns reach the field B, they stand in as good concealment as they can find behind its fence (vide small

behind its fence (vide small circles).

The beaters now leave the guns, half of them walking up one side of the field, well away in the open, and half up the other side; this will drive any birds that are inclined to run out of B at its sides back towards its centre, and, as the men walk the adjacent fields they may, perhaps, frighten any birds in that have run out. Finally the beaters reach the

Finally the beaters reach the boy at C. All now form line along the fence at the top end of B, and drive the field down

of B, and drive the field down to the guns.

As the birds fly over the guns, though perchance not many are killed, the coveys will split up and scatter all over the field A, the boy at D assisting by his presence to cleek their flight. Now is the struct to score off these hitherto unapproachable particles.

unapproachable partridges.

Do not stop to gather the birds you killed in the drive out of B; they can be picked up later on, for they probably lie on the stabble or other bare field between A and B; and a driven partridge is usually a case of hit or miss, dropped like a stone

or untouched. Without a moment's loss of time hurry round to the further end of A, half the party walking in the open on one side of A and the other half on its other side, the importance of doing which is great in keeping the birds in A. Now walk A up once more towards B, then B back to A, and if you do not kill a good share of the birds on this occasion in both fields I shall be much surprised.

if you do not kill a good share of the birds on this occasion in both fields I shall be much surprised.

On Marking Dead Birds.

I have read many directions of how to do this in theory, but I have never seen these theories put into practice with the least success. The fact is, it is utterly impossible for any keeper or beater to remember where birds fall if several are down together. A man can, no doubt, by the assistance of cortain selected landmarks, keep his eye on one bird and walk straight up to it, but he cannot go forward to do so if other birds are likely to rise, and, perhaps, by the time the guns have reached the spot at which the first bird fell there are several others that have had to be marked also, and how about bird number one then? The marker can only guess its position at best, for he has probably shifted his several times. If you had the whole field to yourself, and could walk where you wished in it, and had only one bird to mark and gather, it would be an easy job to retrieve it, I have no doubt. The only person who can really mark dead birds is the one who shoots them; he has far the best chance, if he will only practise his memory, and train his eyes for the men who accompany the shooters to carry four or five thin sticks painted white, and for them to place these in the ground at the spots the birds are supposed to have fallen at. Direct the men to place their sitcks prist, and to look for the birds afterwards, it takes no time to do this, and many an bird will be saved to the bag. If any bird is not found within a reasonable time, leave its stick to mark the spot either for a man with a dog to remain to seek it, for further scarch the following day by a keeper. This is the only practical method of finding a large percentage of dead and wounded partridges that I could ever discover.\*

## BIG GAME SHOOTING IN JAVA

BIG GAME SHOOTING IN JAVA.

Sig.—In reply to H. J. H. P.'s inquiry in the Field of Jan. 2 last, I beg to say that my experience has only been in the western parts of Java in the Residencies Krawang, Batavia, and the Preanger. The best time to come out for shooting would be in August, September, October, and November, when the forests are being burnt off, in the hot season. The best places to go for tigers would be in the South of S

When I go after them I take only one native with me to spoor up. The fewer people in the forest-after them, the more successful will one be in getting shots. Perfect silence and a study of the wind are the study of the study of the west of Glava, say from the residency of Bustam on the west to Chilachap (Banyumas) and only or twenty-five miles broad, abounds in hills, adde, valleys and morasses, and is very thinly inhabited. You have either to camp out in the forest or put up in the kampong villages); all provisions must be taken, with the exception of rice, potatoes, fowls, salt, fish, and vegetables.

The cost for scoles are paid per day 25 and 30 cents, Java (5d. or 6d.) Driver the same. Natire hunters, 40 or 50 cents (8d. or 10d.) If put up in a kampong, I guilder per night could be paid as compensation to the owner of the house. Riding poines cost 2 guilders per day, and carts 4 guilders per day 40 for seven the same. Samatra abounds is very difficult on account of the almost impenetrable jungle and forests, and the uncertain character of the people, but it is a fine country to go to.

Anyone visiting Java could go from Batavia to Garut, in the Preanger Residency, by rail-a twelve hours' journey—thence sixty mile statle, rhinoceros, and deer are reported to be very plentiful, and there is a chance for a tiger also, as none goes there to hunt. From this place you can hunt the coast line towards the Bantam Residency for the 200 guilder tigers, which would pay for the cost of the expelition if hala is, the worth coast of Sumatra might be tried. One must land at Telok Betong, a residency two in the Lampong District, twelve hours steam from Batavia, right across of the cryption of the coast of the coast of the residency, prelaps because there is more game

## LONG AND SHORT CARTRIDGES AND CHAMBERS.

LONG AND SHORT CARTRIDGES AND CHAMBERS.
Sin,—In reference to the letter of "Shrike" in your last issue,
I am not surprised at his being troubled to ascertain the state of the
chambers in his gar with the wadding test, as this is always extremely
uncortain, unless carried out by one of great practical experienced
and the state of the property of the state of the
he adopted of a concentrator or piece out from a shell is equally
liable to misland, as in this case, obviously, all depends upon whether
the chamber is a close or slack fit for the shell. I write this, as
probably "Shrike" would be glad to know how to conduct small
experiment without the possibility, with ordinary care, of falling into
experiment without the possibility, with ordinary care, of falling into
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procasily Shrike would be giad to know how to conduct such an experiment without the possibility, with ordinary care, of falling into experiment without the possibility, with ordinary care, of falling into Haring ascertained as nearly as possible the size of the chamber by a wadding, take a punch of the same gauge, and cut a dise with it from a piece of sheet lead, bore a hole in the centre wherein to put a wormer or gimblet. Should the dise be too large, pass a rather fine file round the edge, holding the dise in the thumb and two fingers of file round the edge, holding the dise in the thumb and two fingers of care to begin the next sweep just where the previous one left off; by this means the dise is reduced without in any way interfering with the perfect roundness. On the other hand, if the dise is too small, place it on a smooth level metal surface, and give it a few taps with the face of a hammer antificently, wide to over the whole dise, taking not be more spread on one side than the other. Having got an exact if, replace the dise on the holder, taking care that it stands at right angles; oil the inside of the bore and the edge of the dise, and pass it into the barrel. Should it expand it will pass forward with a jump, less may be discovered with the greatest accuracy and certainty, and is, in fact, the means usually employed to this end in the gun trade.

ONE WIND HAS FIRED SOME 20,000 TRIAL SHOTS AT MARKS. Brighton, March 23.

## GUN ACTIONS AND GUN BARRELS.

GUN ACTIONS AND GUN BARRELS.

SIB,—In accordance with the editorial note appended to our letter in your last issue, we forward to-day, by passenger train, the gun in question and both pairs of barrels.

When we obtained the new harrels we did not trouble to have the old ones made interchangeable, thinking that they would not be used again, but we have now made them to interchange, only a slight alteration in the lump being necessary. You will notice that the lever does not come quite home with the old barrels, but that is not of importance. one quite home with the old barrels, but that is not of importance fore-and also came off, but this we have replaced. The action itself, although it has withstood the shock of close upon 290,000 heavy shots, is still in good order, and has not required any attention beyond oiling but a new joint; pin was put in some time ago, and, of course, a new striker pin has been needed now and then.

The way in which the action has stood shows it to be a first-class piece of work. It possesses the advantage of being easily taken to the contract of the country of the country

Witton, near Birmingham, March 22. COMBERLAND, Manager, The gun is an ordinary 12-bore, with 30in. barrels, and weighs 61. The gun is an ordinary 12-bore, with 30in. barrels, and weighs 61. The action is without a foll-head or other top connection, and is fitted with an ordinary Furdey bolt only. The gun is in good condition, and appears to be still equal to almost any amount of work.—

SHOOTING NOTES AND QUERIES.

SNIPE STRIKING TELEGRAPH WIRES.—I caught a snipe the other day in rather an unusual manner. My spaniel put up a few snipe in a small marsh near Browndon; I noticed one fall to the snipe in a small marsh near Browndon; I noticed one fall to the its left wing was broken. A single relater to make the marsh about 25ft. From the ground, and the snipe was unlucky enough to fly against it, although it was a very bright, clear day.—J. D. HUGLER, Lieut, R.N. (Portsmouth).

FOSSIL DEER HORNS.—"Otter," who wrote to the Field on the 5th inst. re-Scotch Deer Heads, may like to know that I have a very fine pair of red deer horns, which were found whilst excavations were being made for the new weir at Shepperton. The horns were embedded in blue day some 1ft, below the surface of the soil, consequently and the sound of the soil, in the population of the soil, since in the sound of the soil, since in the soil of the soil, since in the soil of the soil, since in the soil of th

ference above bay tine, 7in.; outside measurement of longest horn, 30in.; nine points on right, eleven points on left.—O. G. BURIOW (Fair View, Weybridge).

REARINO PHEASANTS ON STALE GROUND.—In reply to "Bucks," I can confidentially recommend him to apply barrels of "Bucks," I can confidentially recommend him to apply barrels of being reared year after year in the same field in one instance. I being reared year after year in the same field in one instance, in the same field in the same field in the same field in one instance, in the same field in the same fin

several consignments of prairie grouse were record Grantley Berkeley and other gentlemen. Some of this country, but we believe that none of the exp successful.—Bb.

ass country; but we believe that none of the experiments proved sencesuful.—EDo.]

FODD OF WILD PHEASANTS IN THE ENGLISH LAKE INSTRUCT.—During the last antenna cock pheesant was killed near here, which, upon a careful dissection of his crop, was found to contain the extraordinary number of missty-three acorus. The bird was in splendid condition and beautiful plumage. The second bird, a cock also, was killed during the heavy snow and hard froat we have had during this winter, having had no opportunity of food but what might be found in the woods, &c. This sales proved a remarkably fine bird, a surprising fact when it seemed to be a mystery how they could crist under the circumstances. However, this was discovered upon another dissection of the crop, common polypody (Polypodium vair). This is an evergreen (the froad even in severe froats lasting till new ones are produced), growing luxuriantly on tree trunks, moist rocks, and mossy banks, easily distinguished by its large, round patches of orange or tawny-brown spore cases. No other of our native ferms having its fractifications at all similar in appearance.—J. THEOROLD (Windermere).

HENDOLD (Windermere).

HEAVY SHOT AT BRENT GEESE.—On Jan. 14, 1891, not very r from the English coast, I bagged fifty-two Brent at one discharge my swivel gun. The charge fired was 3 oz. Capt. Latour's aree-grained powder and 1lb. of No. 1 shot. Can anyone tell me

