

**The Daily Review.**

Towanda, Pa., Friday March 19, 1880.

EDITORS:  
S. W. ALVORD. NOBLE N. ALVORD.

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**Bogardus Beaten.**

Western newspapers are devoting considerable space to the late shooting match in which young Fred Erb, Jr., of St. Joseph, Mo., defeated Captain A. H. Bogardous, champion wing shot of the world. The match was for \$200 and fifty per cent. of the gate money; each to shoot at one hundred birds from five traps. The traps were arranged in a sort of semi-circle, the marksmen not knowing from which trap the pigeon would be pulled.

No pigeon match that ever took place before in the northwest created as much interest as this one did. Members of clubs of the Missouri valley and clubs in the northwest, as well as hundreds of other sharpshooters, were present. The wind was boisterous and cold before the shooting began, and when young Erb fired the last shot, dropping his twenty-third bird in succession, the thermometer was working down to zero, and a fearful gale swept over the grounds.

As soon as they were ready to begin their shooting, the St. Jo. boy asked the venerable captain, who had defeated the best English shots on their own soil to open the ball. The captain replied that he was always on hand, stepped promptly to the score and cried "Pull" A pigeon rose from trap 2, but dropped before the deadly pellets ere he had a chance to look around. Young Erb then faced the champion and toed the score with nerve and confidence. Shooting alternately with the captain the boy dropped thirteen birds before he missed, the captain missing his third and tenth. While some of the pigeons brought down by both marksmen were stemwinders, many were so terrified or tame they had to be closed up.

When each had shot fifty birds the score stood: Erb, 46; Bogardous, 43. This rather astonished the backers of Bogardus, who were in the majority, while the many backers of the St. Jo. boy, who had predicted his winning from the start were jubilant, but not boisterously so. Young Erb had to make fifty shots yet with the great marksmen. As the shooting continued the birds favored the boy a little, and the veteran experienced hard luck. He said the wind and dust troubled his eyes.

The boy had never shot before under the five-trap rules. Each dead shot gave him greater confidence. He stepped to the score, and as the birds rose at any part of the semi-circle, he took his range with lightning rapidity, bringing them down with unerring aim. When his last bird fell the score stood, Erb 53, Bogardus 53.

The *St. Jo. Herald* says: "The enthusiasm on the result cannot well be imagined. The crowd pressed forward with outstretched arms to take the victor by the hand, and some were satisfied to even touch him. He was a bigger man than Grant.

An ocular marvel from the Canton (Tex) *Chronicle*: "In the year 1870 and 1871 Mr. Blair had a very severe spell of sore eyes, which terminated in the total loss of his sight. He remained in that condition for a period of six long years, during which time he could not distinguish day from night. In 1877 he went back to Tennessee, the place of his birth and had his eyes operated upon. After the operation had been performed he turned his head and looked toward the town of London, a distance of three miles, and could see the cars running and the people passing to and fro and was enabled to recognize men at a great distance he had not seen in forty years. Mr. Blair has been in town, and we gathered these facts from him.

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