

AN ERROR OF JUDGMENT

We regret to hear that Mr. **James ELEY**, the son of our respected townsman, Mr. James ELEY, who was for many years a member of the Ryde Detachment of Volunteers, and is now a member of the City of London Volunteers, is seriously ill.

It appears that on Saturday last the corps to which he belonged was in a competition in which they had to march to Bisley, a distance of 11 miles, in three hours, in full marching order-- that is to say, carrying 40lbs per man. They were to compete for a prize given by the *Daily Telegraph*. Mr. ELEY reached the common, and then dropped from heat apoplexy, caused by the heat of the day. A sergeant was similarly affected, and the other men were so exhausted that they could not take part in the competition.

Mr. ELEY is now very ill and unable to leave his bed. He is, however, progressing favourably, and it is only a question of time and rest. Two other men who attempted the same feat have since died---one a soldier in the regular army.

We understand the conditions were that the teams were all to start at a certain time in the morning, those who were late losing so many points. It seems an error of judgment on the part of someone that a time could not be fixed making the start earlier in the day. Forced marches in the hottest time of the day should not be attempted, save in the event of actual warfare. What good purpose do they serve?
