



# GOLF.

A Weekly Record of "The Royal and Ancient Game."

"Far and Sure."

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## Fixtures.

DECEMBER.

- Dec. 13.—West Herts: Handicap Medal.  
Lytham and St. Anne's: Captain's Cup Competition.  
Guildford: Monthly Medal.  
Tooting Bec: Monthly Medal.  
Monifieth: Foursome, Archie and Bob Simpson with W. Young and Geo. Wright.  
Wilpshire and District: Gray Medal.  
Royal Epping Forest: Gordon Challenge Cup and Captain's Prize.
- Dec. 17.—Royal Epping Forest: Monthly Competition; Spurling-Kentish Gold Medal; and Noakes Cup.
- Dec. 19 and 20.—Brighton and Hove: Winter Prize Meeting.
- Dec. 20.—Disley: Second Winter Handicap.  
Royal Epping Forest; Gordon Challenge Cup.  
Formby: Sweepstake Competition.  
Epsom: Monthly Medal.  
Dublin: Monthly Medal Competition.  
Redhill and Reigate: Club Medal.  
Whitley: Emmerson Prize.  
Birkdale: Club Medal (2nd round).
- Dec. 23.—Royal Isle of Wight: Christmas Meeting.  
Whitley: The Joicey Cup.
- Dec. 26.—Bembridge: Gold Medal, Eaton Memorial Putter and Fisher Prize.  
Clapham: Challenge Handicap Cup.  
Felixstowe: Club Prize, value 2 guineas.  
Southport: Club Prize.  
Seaford: Monthly Medal.
- Dec. 26 and 27.—Guildford: Christmas Meeting.

- Dec. 27.—Buxton and High Peak: Monthly Competition, under Handicap, with Sweepstake.  
Felixstowe: Monthly Challenge Cup.  
Royal Ascot: Mr. Haig's Prize.  
Royal Epping Forest: Gordon Challenge Cup and Captain's Prize.  
Royal Liverpool: Winter Optional Subscription Prizes.  
Haydock Park: Legh Challenge Cup.  
Royal Wimbledon: Monthly Medal.
- Dec. 27 and 29.—Ashdown Forest and Tunbridge Wells: Christmas Meeting.
- Dec. 29 and 30.—Royal Eastbourne: Winter Meeting.

1891. JANUARY.

- Jan. 1.—Prestwick St. Nicholas: Club (scratch) and Handicap Medals.
- Jan. 6.—Birkdale: Ladies' Prize (3rd round)
- Jan. 10.—Whitley: Wyndham Cup.  
Wilpshire and District: Gray Medal.
- Jan. 13.—Whitley: The Joicey Cup.  
Pau: Arthur Post Medal and Pendant, and the Brooke Challenge Cup and Badge.
- Jan. 15.—Pau: Brooke Challenge Cup, and the Anstruther Shield and Badge.
- Jan. 17.—Royal Liverpool: Winter Optional Subscription Prizes.  
Lytham and St. Anne's: Captain's Cup Competition.  
Birkdale: Club Medal (3rd round).  
Whitley: Emmerson Prize.
- Jan. 24.—Birkdale: The Captain's Cup.  
Whitley: Crawley Prize.
- Jan. 27.—Whitley: The Joicey Cup.  
Pau: Macnab Cup.
- Jan. 31.—Seaford: Monthly Medal.  
Prestwick St. Nicholas: Bailie Wilson's Medal.  
Royal Liverpool: Winter Optional Subscription Prizes.

OUR CHRISTMAS NUMBER.—A special Christmas number of GOLF will be published, containing a series of excellent golfing sketches, a golfing story, and much other matter interesting to golfers generally. Correspondents will greatly oblige by sending communications intended for publication in the Christmas number not later than Friday the 19th inst.

CLERK.—"Mr. Bulger, I want to ask a favour of you."

MR. BULGER.—"Well, James, what is it?"

CLERK.—"A beloved aunt of mine is to be buried to-day, and I would like to go to the funeral."

MR. BULGER.—"Very well, James; but wait a few minutes, and we'll go together—I want to attend the Golf tournament myself."

## IS GOLF INJURIOUS TO STUDENT LIFE?

The most presumptuous because ignorant, and the most conceited because superficial, criticism of the best of all games appeared a short time ago in the *Spectator*. To the main charges a true "Critic on Golf" replied in our columns with arguments unanswerable. But after a dose of five columns he considered it advisable to waive for a time a point raised by the pessimist challenger about the prejudicial effects of absorption in Golf on the intellectual work of students. On this we would make a few general remarks.

The "critic in the *Spectator*" admits that the supreme advantage of Golf to men of middle age is, that for the time being it completely absorbs all their energies of brain and body. Even though he considers that such an advantage "has of late been chanted *ad nauseam*," we are delighted to have him repeating it. But that absorption does not weaken the man. We remember reading with astonishment Sir Walter Simpson's extraordinary epigram, as given in his excellent volume on the "Art of Golf," viz.:—"Excessive golfing dwarfs the intellect." Imagine Professor Tait reading that! Would not the sarcastic enthusiast cry out, with one of his characteristic leers, "It's all humbug." No doubt absolute idiots, ignorant whether they are playing two more, or one off two, play very steadily; but there is no brilliancy in their game; "they play for certainty and not for fame." Well-regulated enthusiasm and confidence in previous successes will master the play of the fatuously vacant, and will certainly secure more thrilling pleasure.

The "critic," however, does not believe that "what is good for the goose is good for the gander." He frankly acknowledges that the absorbing element of the game is good for grown-up people; but he considers that that element is "a grave danger to lads in their teens." The attraction of Golf for the young player is, he says, "infinitely more seductive and demoralising than the enthusiasm for any other game." No doubt he has the distinguished authority of Mr. Goschen (though he omitted to quote from the admirable address to the Aberdeen students), for holding that German clerks are preferred by merchants in London, because they think of business out-of-doors as well as indoors, and have no games at all to take up their time; whereas the English clerks are thinking, even before closing-time, of the absorbing game. But is that a high ideal for a youth? Certainly not. He is training himself for business, grinding business, alone. He may make a fortune; but it will be at the expense of his higher and more social qualities. Moreover, the anticipative pleasure of a game of Golf is not keener than that of football or cricket. It is a better game, but one does not look forward to its play with greater keenness than the others.

But wherein lies the "seductive and demoralising" enthusiasm, as studied by our critic? Hear it, golfing students! "There is," he says, "nothing but self-discipline to prevent a student from giving up to Golf the morning hours which he ought more profitably to give to his books." The man is writing simple nonsense. What student ever thinks of rising early, burning with the martial fire to defeat a golfing opponent? The "morning hours" of study at St. Andrew's (to which he refers), are in the neighbourhood of the "wee short oor ayont the twal," when the "midnight oil" has been replenished. Whoever heard of the ordinary student (*i.e.* one who is not a mere grinder) rising half an hour before the bell calls him to his nine o'clock class? No game would make him jump a minute earlier from his bed; yet he can study through the night, when no out-door game whatever can be played—except moonlight Golf by those who are mentally influenced by the full moon.

We must read his next queries in the light of the words "seductive and demoralising." "One would like," he says, "to hear from the professors of St. Andrew's a full and candid statement in answer to such questions as: 'Has the proximity of their University to one of the finest golfing courses in the world been beneficial to it, or the reverse?' And: 'Do the best golfers, as a rule, make the best students?'" By these queries he means to insinuate that St. Andrew's students are more "demoralised" than the students of other Universities, especially when the nearness of the links assists in the seductive

wiles of the game; and that even at St. Andrew's the best students are not golfers. In fact he assumes that Golf and study are incompatible:—Golf is a waste of time.

To this challenge we have paid some consideration; for it is a serious though unwarrantable insinuation. We have recalled to our mind the names of good golfers who were good students in our school and college days at St. Andrew's, about thirty years ago. We can mention all their names with honour, and some with proud distinction, as men who have taken a good place in professional life, with students of other Universities, who did not succumb to the base voice of the charmer in student life. Professors Birrell and Menzies of St. Mary's were regular players during their Arts' course. Professor Stewart, of Aberdeen, was no mean player, when a very distinguished student at St. Andrew's. Was Andrew Lang a poor student? Or Argyle Robertson? Or James Stuart, M.P.? Has the Earl of Aberdeen shown any traces of demoralising, or uncultured judgment? Judge Aikman, Professor Pirie, Sheriff Henderson, were keen players. Nor do we forget the style of Henry Cook, Robert Cox, and J. Cunningham, all distinguished graduates. Among teachers who have made their mark in their profession are Dr. J. S. Mackay (first in nearly all his classes, University Examiner, Head Mathematical Master in the Edinburgh Academy, and the authority in this country on the history of Geometry), Dr. Browning (University Examiner), George Younger (graduate with first-class classical honours, and University Examiner), Dr. Adam Wilson, (Classical Master in Dundee High School and University Examiner), James Balsillie, Thomson Whyte, and many other graduates who played Golf well. Then among the clergy, where will we begin or end? We have Dr. Barty of Kirkholm, Dr. Andrew Gray of Dalkieth, Dr. James Robertson of Whittinghame; we remember with pleasure these graduates with honours, Messrs. Lundie of Kinlochberrie, Forgan of Montrose, Aitken of Dundee, Robertson of Dundee, and W. W. Tulloch of Glasgow; these ordinary graduates we also esteem, many of whom will yet deservedly receive the divinity degree *honoris causa*, the Revs. James Crichton of Annan (a veritable admirable Crichton, who was first in every class), David McLaren of Humberie (equally distinguished), George Lunan of Newtyle, Imrie of Edinburgh, Kean of Berwick, Millar of Glasgow, Sime of Dundonald, Proudfoot of Montrose, Ritchie of Criech; besides Messrs. Maclaren of Alyth and Hogarth of Moonzie. We cannot be blind to the deep interest taken in the game by the late lamented Principal Tulloch, who found in it a soother, an absorber which his powerful and hard-wrought brain required. And we are proud of that Lord Rector of St. Andrew's University, who certainly does not show any weakening of intellect by his devotion to Golf—the Right Hon. A. J. Balfour, Chief Secretary for Ireland. Professors Campbell, Heddle Knight and others also grace the game; they are not equal to their students in Golf, yet they delight in the game. If it were demoralising or injurious to study, would they countenance it?

There is a health-giving power in Golf which is well-nigh necessary for the successful work of many a student. The writer was for three years *facile princeps* among amateurs at St. Andrew's when attending the University; he had to teach for a living several hours a day, yet he was the only first-class honours' graduate in mathematics for fourteen years, and for six years was Mathematical Examiner in the University. This is only mentioned by the way; for there is ample proof to combat the insinuation of the "critic" of the *Spectator* without this reference. We only mention the fact to give an opportunity of stating, that but for the glorious and absorbing game of Golf we could not have been able to go with fresh and healthy vigour to our study; that we never saw anything demoralising in its indulgence in a reasonable way; that the so-called evil associations of the game as to professionals and caddies had no influence over us at all, for we rarely had enough to engage a caddie; that we throw back with contempt the uncalled-for terms with which the "critic" has clothed a noble and pure game; and that the game will live even among the students of St. Andrew's, in spite of his ignorant suspicions. But we will wait with due respect for a more powerful and clenching reply by some of our golfing professors; unless they may think it beneath them to "kill a dead man."

J. G. McPHERSON.

## GOLF AND CURLING.

At this season of the year when John Frost is beginning to interfere with Golf, and to assert his rights by making the game at times quite unplayable, no apology is needed for coupling together in the columns of this journal, Golf and Curling. The Editor in one of his very first "Tee Shots" (No. 1, p. 6), says, "When 'icicles hang by the wall,' and Golf cannot be readily enjoyed, let curlers 'soop' their hardest, and spread the light as to an exceedingly interesting and healthful pursuit." I am therefore under his protection. But I am at the same time called upon to make "a few remarks" (as the clerical phrase goes) on another passage in GOLF. This is found in an article on "The Best of Games" (No. 7, p. 98), from the pen of Dr. McPherson in which, after claiming for the game of Golf a right to this title, the writer says:—"Mr. Kerr in his excellent work on curling, claims for his favourite pastime the title of 'Scotland's ain game;' but his enthusiasm has got the better of his judgment, for from Scotland the game of Golf has radiated all over the civilised world, and Scotch children are teathed with a Golf club handle." I do not know Dr. McPherson personally, but I congratulate this journal on having him among its contributors, for I know that he is one of the ablest of literary critics, and one of the best of all-round men. This is not the first kindly reference he has made to my volume on Curling, his reviews of which prove that he is familiar with what the *Daily News* in a leading article on the book designa'ed "The other Scotch game." I would not for the world break a lance with the minister of Ruthven—I am not called on to do so. The article, however, requires some little attention; and perhaps between us those who are interested in the subject may arrive at a proper understanding as to the relationship between Golf and Curling. "By all who have handled a club," says Dr. McPherson, "in anything like a decent way, Golf is acknowledged to be the best of games." As true is it that all who are keen curlers, and all curlers are keen, maintain that the best of games is curling. With one hearty voice they sing the song of which (wrongly, I think) the Ettrick Shepherd is said to be the author, and which begins thus:—

"O' a' the games that e'er I saw,  
Man, callant, laddie, birkie, wean  
The dearest far aboon them a'  
Was aye the witching channel-stane.

Chorus—"Oh! for the channel-stane!  
The fell good game, the channel-stane,  
There's no a game that e'er I saw  
Can match auld Scotland's channel-stane."

Another popular song among curlers is by Henry Shanks, the Bathgate Club laureate, and this is its first verse:—

"Old England mayher cricket boast  
Her wickets, bats, and a' that;  
And proudly her eleven toast,  
Wi' right good will an' a' that.

"For a' that and a' that,  
It's but bairns' play for a' that;  
The channel-stane on icy plain  
Is king o' games for a' that."

I might quote hundreds of passages from curling-songs to the same purpose. But let one or two suffice to show that in their enthusiasm the singers have not forgotten what Dr. McPherson ventures to call "the best of games."

"The curling ne'er in Eden was essayed  
Yet glorious spiels no great way off are played."

So says Professor Gillespie of St. Andrews in 1821, and among a crew of jolly curlers in that golfing district, which he paints in the style of Burns' "Jolly Beggars," one is made to sing out boldly as follows:—

"There's daily Golf at St. Andrews,  
And tea and turn out nightly;  
But I prefer the curling-stane  
That skims the ice sae lightly.

"For oh! I like baith dear and weel  
The curling-stane to handle;  
I wadna gie the blithe bonspiel  
For a' their cards and scandal."

The Bathgate poet returns to the theme, and not only cricke but Golf and other sports are nowhere in his estimation compared with curling.

"I've played at Golf, I've played at bowls,  
At cricket and football;  
I've been a sportsman in my time  
But curlin' dings them a'.

"It is the game o' games, my lads,  
The game o' mirth and glee;  
And worth and skill and friendship tak'  
First honours at the tee.

"Then pledge auld Scotland's roarin' game  
Wi' a' the honours three."

Not only in song is the praise of curling celebrated. Let only one writer be quoted to show what prose can do to maintain even against Golf the unsurpassed glory of "the other Scotch game." That writer is "Rockwood," one of the best authorities on sports, and this is what he says:—"Can the 'supprie-wristed golfer' as he sees his ball swinging to the sea-breeze which comes over from Arran, clear the Cardinal at Prestwick, or roll 'dead' from a long put on the velvet turf of North Berwick, feel more proud than when he sees his stone thread a port which the opposing rink thought impassable, and with a 'soop' or two from the besom of the skip lie shot at the tee? And you yachting men of blue serge and pipe-clayed shoes, glorious and free as your pastime is, ask John Houston of 'the terrible Fiona' whether he prefers the 'heep, heep, hurrah!' as he shoves the helm 'down' and 'all standing' gybes through the smoke of the winning gun to the loud roar which proclaims his success in 'chipping a winner' on the pond of the Thistle Club at Largs. No; for genuine enjoyment, say sportsmen of all classes in Scotland, 'gie me curling.' If, as I believe, Dr. McPherson is a curler as well as a golfer, these passages and many others which I might quote, prove that he is a singular exception to the rule, if he ventures as against curling, to call Golf "the best of games." It is too easy for me to say *tu quoque*, and to return his charitable compliment by saying, that in his excellent article, his enthusiasm has got the better of his judgment. When enthusiasm is held in restraint, (it is not a bad thing after all) and a dispassionate judgment is attempted on the merits of the two great national games, the usual remark falls to be made—"there is much to be said on both sides." Curlers can say that no excitement is so healthy as theirs; their game makes the blood tingle through their veins at the time of year when the circulation gets sluggish, and Nature is made to brace the flagging energies when she would otherwise weaken them; the game is also singularly free from the unhealthy excitement caused by gambling, though great stakes have been made at times, as in the match for 1,000 guineas between the Duke of Hamilton and the Laird of Garthland in 1784. Further, curlers may say, without contradiction, that no game so truly unites all classes—it is a game of liberty, equality, and fraternity, in the highest sense of the words. It is also a game of benevolence, for curlers, at their "beef and greens" do not forget meal and coals to cheer the hearts and warm the hearths of the poor. The curler can join issue with Dr. McPherson when he says that Golf is the cheapest of all high-class pastimes. And so he can go on, *ad infinitum*.

On the other hand, the golfer can plead that he certainly makes less noise at his play; that Golf requires far greater scientific skill than curling; that it can be played for a longer period of life, and through at least three out of four seasons of the year. If he is in want of a list of the virtues of his favourite pastime, where can he better turn than to Dr. McPherson's article. Or let him quote Andrew Lang's unfortunate "Cambucator" (GOLF, No. 3, p. 38): "Here no man swears(?); here all is peace and honesty, and brotherly kindness, for I would have you know that Golf is the tranquil man's diversion, the old man's exercise, the dull man's whetstone, the sick man's purge, and the wise man's business, for hereby he winneth many half-crowns."

What then is the decision to be given on the controversy? Is Golf, or is curling, "the best of games?" I think, upon the whole, I shall come nearest to what Solomon would have done, by refusing to give a verdict on either side. "*Baith's best*." In writing the "History of Curling," I naturally said all I could

say for that game, and interpreted as sympathetically as possible the enthusiasm of the curling fraternity, but at p. 66 of that work I find myself expressing the hope that I would never be found depreciating the merits of Golf that I might exalt those of Curling. Dr. McPherson takes for granted that curling is my favourite game. It may be so; but my lines have certainly not fallen in pleasant places if I have no liking for Golf. My parish is full of bunkers, and without the assistance of a niblick and a long spoon I would be very helpless. It includes the larger part of the links of North Berwick and Luffness, the whole of the links of Gullane and Archerfield, and soon it will include the new ground of the Honourable Company of Edinburgh Golfers. In summer it is Golf, Golf, everywhere; and as a member of the parish schoolboard, I am sorely vexed at times at the piteous appeals of teachers lamenting the absence of the boys, who play truant to act as caddies. I might be excused if I hated Golf. But I don't. I love the game, though I fear neither my skill nor my success entitles me to be held in remembrance like my learned brother of Ruthven.

With all my curling enthusiasm, I confess that I have got more good from Golf than I have ever got from curling, simply because I have played more at it. While I am a member of two curling clubs, I have to plead guilty of being a member of no less than eight Golf clubs. Can this record be beaten by any other member of the cloth? To sum up, I am of opinion that in this, as in other cases, comparisons are odious. They ought not to be made. The games of Golf and of curling are complementary the one to the other. They ought to stand together in the estimation of all good Scotsmen. They have done so with many. In that curious old book, "The Muses Threnodie," to which, through my friend, Colonel Fergusson, I drew the attention of Mr. Andrew Lang, and to which he refers at p. 21 of Badminton "Golf" for one of the earliest references to the game, I find that curling was allied with Golf at Perth in the beginning of the seventeenth century, when Henry Adamson wrote of himself and his cronies and their amusements. Only lately we lost Admiral Maitland-Douglass, of Scotsraig, who was the champion curler of his day, and one of the best golfers that ever swung a club on St. Andrew's Links. The alliance between Golf and curling is therefore traditional, and it would be well if Englishmen, and others who have taken to Golf, were able to take to curling when frost drove them off the links. With a love for the two games, and facilities for practising them, any mortal may be counted happy; he requires little more in the way of recreation to ward off fleshly ills, and give him health for his life's work. The writer of the capital song in a recent issue of GOLF (No. 8, p. 117), does not know the pleasure of combining the two games, when, after describing the joy of golfing at other seasons, he goes on to say:—

"And then when King Winter comes, surly and scowling,  
And Nature is struck at his presence aghast,  
We'll snatch a few rounds though his tempests are howling,  
And find a new joy to contend with the blast."

There is no fun in that; there is no fun in putting when the green is like iron, and the best split hickory will not keep the club-head from flying in the air if the golfer ventures to play over ice-bound links; the red-painted ball deserves to be lost in a snow-wreath, as it generally is, for it is a vain attempt to evade the teaching of Nature. Curling is meant to be the winter game. The only reason for not making it such is the want of frost, but wherever frost comes, let it be cultivated by the golfer, and he may be sure he shall find his cup of recreation-bliss perfect and complete.

"Ye puir feckless chieles wha drink doctors' vile drushocks,  
Throw them a' to the dogs, and be guided by me,  
Get stanes and a broom, tak' a turn at the curlin',  
And pains and disease in a jiffy will flee,  
Though bonny the spring wi' its green herblets tender,  
And bright tho' the warm smile o' summer may be,  
Yet welcome the storms and the snaws o' December,  
The ice, and the stanes, an' the besom to me."

I must now deal with the statement of Dr. McPherson, that in claiming for curling the title of "Scotland's ain game," I have allowed my enthusiasm to get the better of my judgment. I presume he claims the title for Golf at the same time as he claims for it the other title, "best of games," and at the close of his article he

speaks of Golf as "the national game of Scotland." In this case I must insist on giving curling the title I have given it, not from my own judgment or enthusiasm, but according to the immemorial usage of my countrymen. In doing so I am not required to deny that Golf originated in Scotland, or that the game, as Dr. McPherson says, "has radiated from Scotland all over the civilised world." But I am not sure that the antiquity of Golf in Scotland, on which so much stress is laid, is such strong evidence of its Scottish origin as is generally supposed. Dr. McPherson says that the oldest Golf club—the Edinburgh Burgess—was formed in 1735. My historical information about ancient golfing societies compels me to correct this statement. The writer of the "Historical Sketch" for "Kay's Portraits," places the Bruntsfield Links Club alongside of the Burgess in antiquity (although Clark's "Golf" gives 1760 as the date of its foundation). It is more than likely that the present Honourable Company, formerly the Edinburgh Company, is the oldest Scotch Golf club, for its regular minutes begin in 1744, and it is known to have existed a long time previously, its local habitation then being Leith Links. The Blackheath Club is, however, understood to be the very oldest of Golf clubs. In the *Golfing Annual* I find the date of its institution given as 1608. P. M. Thornton, in GOLF, No. 3, p. 35, says: "James I. of England established the Blackheath Golf Club." Andrew Lang, in the Badminton "Golf," says that while the game may have begun at Blackheath in the time of James I., the minutes of the club were kept very much later, when it was known as the Knuckle Club, the name which it bore up to 1822, when it was called Blackheath Club, and when the *ἀπόρρητα* of the Knuckle Club were destroyed. If it be scarcely so ancient as it says it is, there is little doubt that of all golfing societies Blackheath is the oldest. I should like to see the point thoroughly discussed, and if the editor of GOLF desires, I may again return to it. It is a serious matter if along with the modern fact that an Englishman holds the double honour of being chief among both amateur and professional golfers, we must accept this ancient historical fact, and acknowledge that the oldest Golf club is an English one. Must Golf not therefore be "England's own game," for how could it have been played in Scotland or anywhere else without a club? Seriously speaking, I think the game is of older date in England than is supposed, and that its undoubted antiquity in Scotland, as shown by its prohibition in the old Acts of Parliament as far back as the beginning of the fifteenth century, does not prove its Scottish origin. I have acknowledged in the case of curling that positive evidence of its origin in Scotland is not forthcoming, while it is just as true that it cannot be proved to have originated, as some say it did, in the Low Countries. When I claim for curling the title "Scotland's ain game," I do not therefore commit myself to the assertion that its Scottish origin is proved, or that the Scottish origin of Golf is not proved. I know that Golf was earlier, perhaps, than curling a popular game in this country, that it was a royal game, and that Scotland has the credit of cultivating it as a pastime until it became popular in other countries; but there are peculiarities about curling which certainly entitle it to be called the national game, if one game is to be selected from all others for that distinction. Grant that Golf has spread more widely throughout the world. This cannot be denied, and is not to be wondered at. One reason for its wide-spread acceptance is really that there is so little about it peculiar to Scotland and Scotchmen. Its very universality takes away its nationality, and it is all in its favour that it can cast aside its Scottish connection and become naturalised everywhere. This is not so with curling. It also has been taken to other countries, but wherever it is found it may be detected as "Scotland's ain" by its words and phrases, its wit and humour, and even by the garb of the players. The orthodox gear of the golfer, the peaked cap, belted coat, knickerbockers, checked stockings, and yellow boots, surmounted with white spats, are in no sense suggestive of Scotland, and it would be positively dangerous for a man in kilts to play the game. But come where you may on a company of curlers, something would soon remind you of auld Scotland, some word, some joke, some article of dress like a Tam o' Shanter or a Highland plaid. If they drink anything, these curlers, it will be "the auld kirk," and their feast at night will be "beef and greens" as here of yore, washed down with toddy and accompanied with the "auld Scotch sangs," finishing

off to a certainty with "Auld Lang Syne." Scotland goes where curling goes—the two cannot be separated, and if those who adopt the game are not Scotchmen to begin with they do not play long without knowing something about Scotland, and becoming part Scotchmen. But it is useless to try and explain fully why it is that we can and shall continue to call curling by the title we have given it. "I dinna ken what it is, but there's jist a something about her that maks her the lass for me," was the way in which a countryman described his feelings towards "his ain kind dearie o'." And so there's jist a something that makes curling "Scotland's ain game." We could philosophize about it to a large extent, but possibly we should not be any nearer to a true explanation of the fact. Let us therefore close our remarks by wishing well to Golf, and to the journal which so worthily bears that name, but at the same time let us, in spite of the learned writer's views to which we have referred, adhere to our statement that Curling is "Scotland's ain game."

JOHN KERR, M.A., F.S.A. Scot.

## Tee Shots.

East Lothian golfers will doubtless learn with regret the death from cancer, a few days ago, of Mr. F. C. Burnet, late of Beanston. Mr. Burnet had been lying ill at his home at Putney for nearly a year, suffering from this terrible malady. One of the most pathetic incidents of his illness was the gift to a brother golfer, another well-known East Lothian player, of his last dozen balls. Conscious that the noiseless footstep of death was stealing ever nearer to him, Mr. Burnet sent a message to his friend making the bequest, and adding the inexpressibly touching remark, "I shall never have any need for them." Mr. Burnet was not only a first-rate golfer, but one of the best shots of his day, and a keen huntsman. His father was factor to the Earl of Wemyss, and the son had thus opportunities of being reared in the best school of scientific agriculture and the management of land. After farming on his own account at Beanston for some time, he became commissioner for the management of the estates of the Earl of Dudley, an appointment which he relinquished some years ago. At the formation of the Tooting Bec Golf Club he was one of the original members, and was a frequent prize winner. As a cleek player he was unrivalled. It is related of him that he could back himself to clear the bunker hole at Luffness with his cleek—a carry of 160 or 170 yards.

A Golf club was formed at Lossiemouth sixteen years ago, and the opening game was described not too lucidly by the local reporter. He said:—"Mr. Sheriff Smith and Mr. David Forsyth, Town-Clerk of Elgin, inaugurated the game on Tuesday last. The ground on which they played was the open space between Major Culbard's house and Mr. Forsyth's. They had four holes, and a stroke and a-half between each. When there is plenty of room the distance between each should be two strokes and a-half. As it was, however, the game of Tuesday was a very good one." "They had four holes, and a stroke and a-half between each," is a little puzzling to the golfing intellect. The reporter evidently meant that the distance between each hole was that of a drive and an iron shot, or, roughly speaking, 200 yards. By "two strokes and a-half" he probably meant to indicate that the distance between each hole would be two full shots and an iron, or from 300 to 400 yards. It is to be hoped that newspaper men at Elgin have improved their knowledge of golfing terminology since that embarrassing paragraph was penned.

A correspondent writes:—"The sketch of the scene at the end hole on St. Andrews links which appeared in your last week's issue has been much appreciated by a large number of your Scotch readers. The central figure, 'Auld Da,' who, by the way, is the progenitor of three generations of golfers, is a genuine specimen of the canny Scot. As the sketch shows, his business during the golfing season is to supply the wants of the thirsty golfer, and he is

often quizzed as to the profits of his trade. During the last summer a well-known Writer to the Signet accosted Da with the remark, 'You will make a good deal in the summer, Da!' The old gentleman was not, however, to be surprised into any admission on that point, his reply being 'Ale sellers should na' be tale tellers.' Another gentleman bent on the same inquisitive errand asked Da how many dozen of lemonade he would sell in a week. Unfortunately for the questioner he was not a 'customer,' and he was ignominiously put to rout with the reply, 'Deed, sir, no very mony if I did na' sell ony mair than I sell to you.' 'Sic impudence' was Da's caustic commentary of these too inquisitive golfers when telling his story to the writer."

\* \* \*

Saturday was, although very cold, rather a busy day at Wimbledon. The London Scottish medal was being played for, and there were a good few visitors, amongst the latter were Mr. Horace Hutchinson and Mr. E. F. S. Tylecote. In the afternoon, Mr. H. Hutchinson and the Hon. Ivo Bligh played Mr. E. F. S. Tylecote and Mr. Alfred Lubbock, and giving three strokes won.

## Correspondence.

### THE GOLFING FINGER.

To the Editor of GOLF.

SIR,—It may be of interest to your readers to know how I got my golfing finger—a finger that I am rather proud of, for since I have got it I won a silver cup with it at Brighton. How I got it was in this wise. I was in a railway carriage at West Kirby Station, starting for London, when my servant handed in through the window my bag of Golf clubs and my red coat. The latter, good enough for the links, looked, I thought, a little too loud to be too prominent in a railway carriage, so I, in great haste—for the train was about to start—rammed it as best I could into the Golf club carrier. The fingers on my right hand being rigidly upright, I shoved down with all my might and succeeded in hiding the coat in the carrier—but oh, at what a cost! A pang of terrible agony ran through my whole frame, but it was most keenly felt where my second finger ought to have been. Pulling my hand quickly out I found the second finger of my right hand lying flat on the palm. I made a frantic pull at it to get it straight, but did not succeed. I said to Hobbs, "Pull, man, as hard as you can!" He pulled, but could not get it straight. In an agony of mind, not well knowing the purport of my words, I shouted to the station-master—a stout, strong man who was near: "Harding, catch hold of Hobbs, for heaven's sake." The guard of the train, standing close behind, had just dropped the flag for the train to start, rushed to the help of the station-master, catching him round his big waist to prevent him I suppose "going under," a sharp whistle and a sudden jerk told us all that the train had started. "Hold on, Hobbs, like grim death." He did; so did Harding, and so did the guard; and as a consequence they were dragged some distance along the platform, and to my joy my finger was pulled straight. I wrapped it in newspapers, and tied a string round it, and upon arriving at Euston I drove to my doctors, who asked me how I set my finger. I told him. He laughed most unsympathetically, and said, "I have heard of legs, arms and fingers being set in many funny ways, but never heard of one before set by a locomotive." It was then bound up in splints after the most approved fashion, which stayed on all right until the Brighton meeting when, in taking a tempting drive with my brassy, the splints flew off and my ball landed on the green. I said nothing but resumed my play, when I looked next time at my finger it assumed a graceful curve-like shape, but I could not grasp so tightly with my right hand as heretofore. To this accident I attribute my lucky discovery of the Golfing finger.

I am, Sir, &c.,  
CUMMING MACDONA.

1, Garden Court, Temple, Nov. 28th.

### THE CARRY OF THE SPOON, BRASSIE, CLEEK AND IRON.

To the Editor of GOLF.

SIR,—Would Mr. Hutchinson, or one of your correspondents equally competent, state what is the length of the carry and run of the following clubs—mid-spoon, brassie, cleek and iron. It must, of course, be assumed that the player is in the front rank, and that all the conditions, as to lie of the ball, and smoothness of the course, are favourable, but that there is no wind.

With the majority of duffers the distance they can drive the ball with the first of those clubs is much the same, and the choice they make is governed by the lie of the ball or state of the wind, but I should like to know what the relative strength of these four clubs is.

Lastly, is not the mid-spoon on the road to the limbo of disuse that has engulfed its two brothers, and do not most good players use the brassie where formerly they might have used the mid-spoon?

I am, Sir, &c.,  
AN EARNEST INQUIRER.

Dec. 1st, 1890.

### THE LAYING OUT OF GOLF LINKS.

To the Editor of GOLF.

SIR,—Mr. Stevens would do well to consult some practical golfer of extended experience in the laying out of Golf links—say Tom Dunn, or old Tom Morris.

A Golf course should be from three to four miles in length if eighteen holes are wanted—but two miles would give a fair nine-hole course. One hundred yards is not too wide, but it will suffice. The cost will depend upon the work which has to be done in order to make the course fit for play—such as mowing, rolling, levelling putting-greens, cropping them with the lawn mower, sanding them, getting rid of heavy bent grass or worms. Probably four or five hundred pounds would be needed. Whip up members at a guinea ahead for the first hundred, and then put on an entrance-fee of two or three guineas, but only if the club is likely to be a large one, not otherwise. Trees are not by any means conducive to good Golf, and much less to good temper. Mr. Stevens is better without them. The ground ought to be rented as simple pasture land, and obtained cheaply. Sheep are good for Golf links, but not cows; so that play would not interfere with pasturage. The rent, therefore, ought to be a small one; but much will depend on the individual bias of the proprietor.

I am, Sir, &c.,

December 6th.

A.

### A RUB ON THE GREEN.

To the Editor of GOLF.

SIR,—A. and B. are playing a match without caddies.

On approaching the hole, A. removes the flag, placing it four or five feet in rear of the hole, for B. to play, and he having done so, A. plays, and his ball accidentally strikes the flag. Is there a penalty? Can B. claim the hole, or is it simply "a rub on the green"?

Yours truly,

H. F. G.

24, Croftdown Road, Highgate Road, N.W.,  
December 2nd.

[B. cannot claim the hole, but A., profiting by the negligence of B. in not removing the flag, enjoys a rub on the green.—ED.]

### LENGTH OF DRIVES AND RED COATS.

To the Editor of GOLF.

SIR,—In this week's issue Mr. Edwards asks the question, "Has any one ever seen a Golf ball carry 180 yards with no wind to help it?" Allow me, with all modesty, to answer in the affirmative. On several occasions I have driven off the tee a guttapercha ball 180, and more than once 200 yards, without any wind, until the ball stopped. If asked, Where? I answer at Musselburgh, St. Andrews, and Carnoustie. The balls sup-

plied by Tom Morris, of St. Andrews, and Thornton and Co., Edinburgh, both of them carry long distances. Eclipse balls I never could use.

When I began Golf in 1874, and before going abroad, I had the opportunity and pleasure of witnessing several long drives made by the late Davie Strath and young Tom Morris. In 1886 I wrote to the *Field* asking what Mr. Edwards now does, and George Lowe, of Hoylake, replied that he had seen Mr. B. H. Blyth drive 260 yards with a slight following wind. Mr. H. Hutchinson is right in stating that 180 yards is a long drive, and I do not for one moment compare myself as a player with the late champion; but having in my travels taken the trouble to test practically, and to compare the distances covered and carried by the Golf ball driven with the play club, long spoon, cleek, and light sand iron, against those thrown by hand, as in cricket, and base ball, and from a lacrosse stick, I find that the lacrosse record is 145 yards, thrown by Mr. Ross McKenzie, of the Toronto Club. It must be stated, however that all these balls are of different size and manufacture. As I am always open to reason and conviction, and give my knowledge for what it is worth, I await with pleasure the opinions of other players better able to judge than I am.

It is to be hoped that Mr. Nicholson's suggestion, to return to and universally adopt the red coat, will meet with the approval of all true lovers of the game, like your humble servant.

I am, Sir, &c.,  
"SAND IRON."

To the Editor of GOLF.

SIR,—In connection with this question, I may mention a somewhat interesting and curious competition that took place a few years ago at Hayling. A well-known Hampshire cricketer, who looked upon Golf at that time as a sort of "old man's solace," but has since become an ardent convert, backed himself to drive, with a stump, a Golf ball lobbed to him as far as I could with a driver off a tee. It was ultimately arranged, after some argument that it should be decided by the carry only, and the bet was decided on a perfectly calm day. With a short springy driver (though I cannot flatter myself that I am by any means a long driver, being thin, light of build, and short of stature), the measured "carry" with the tape line was 152 yards. Then my opponent had his innings, and, after many failures, he hit the ball fair, and the measured carry was 132 yards. So I won the bet. But I fancy that with a long play club I think I should not have much difficulty, especially with the great improvement in balls, in increasing the carry to about 160 yards, which used to be the required distance to carry on to the green of the 16th hole, if I remember rightly, at Westward Ho! and this used to be done constantly by the great Horace and "the Allans." I do not think myself that 180 yards can be called a long drive for a first-class player, but it may be looked upon as a fair average distance for ordinary players.

Yours faithfully,

BETA.

To the Editor of GOLF.

SIR,—With regard to the controversy going on in your columns as to "long drives," I write to ask if any of your readers can give reliable information as to the following myth.

It relates to the (alleged) longest drive on record. I have often heard the story, and fancy I have read an account of it, but cannot now remember where. It is told of a sergeant of the 93rd Highlanders, a very powerful man of over six feet, who handled a golf club for the first time at Prestwick. Playing with a strong following wind, he essayed to cross the "cardinal" from the tee and succeeded! The ball landed over the bunker (a carry of at least 200 yards), and went almost to the hole—its total length measuring 326 yards!

Sir, will any Prestwick authority kindly say whether there is any vestige of truth in this story, and if so, how much?

Yours truly,

SCEPTIC.

### QUESTIONS ON THE RULES.

To the Editor of GOLF.

SIR,—Your correspondent, "Sticker," has raised in his admirable letter of last week, probably the most interesting

and important subject which can claim the attention of golfers. On the questions which he puts han; many of the most delicate problems connected with the proper playing of the game; and if Golf is not to degenerate into a kind of lawless hockey, the committee which, I understand, is sitting to revise the St. Andrews rules, ought carefully to mark and provide for the interesting points of dispute which have been raised in your columns.

The great fault I find with the present rules is their poverty of definition, their ambiguous and sometimes confused expression. They are too restricted in their scope. They have been made for the game as played at St. Andrews, where the whole catalogue of difficulties to be met with may be set out in the rules with detailed elaboration. But the game has gone far beyond the bounds of St. Andrews, Musselburgh, or North Berwick; and what golfers want is a wider and more comprehensive application of definitions, so as to meet the largest number of most typical difficulties.

Your correspondent well remarks upon the ambiguity of the rule about "impression." Some old golfers maintain that you may poke your club behind the ball in a bush, a tuft of rushes, on a hard road, or at the bottom of a hard ditch, because, technically speaking, you cannot make an "impression" on a hard substance. Other golfers, and to their credit be it said, young golfers, struggle for the *spirit* of the rule, and insist that you may not ground your club, either in a ditch, on a road, on a path, on a wet piece of a cricket pitch, in bent grass, on grass *in* a bunker, or in a bush. This I believe to be the true *spirit* of the rule; but what we want is an authoritative definition of "hazard," so as to include all these objects and possible positions for the ball. The rule should be so drawn, and so expressed, as to leave no doubt anywhere as to its intention.

I am, Sir, &c.,

O. P. Q.

To the Editor of GOLF.

SIR,—I beg to give a categorical reply, as far as I can, to the queries of "Stickler."

1. "Any other hazard," refers to hazards *omnium generum*.
2. The strict hazard must be observed.
3. You may not ground the club in a dry ditch.
4. It is a sore temptation, but bad golf, to touch the ground with any club when the ball lies in an oasis in a bunker.
5. The mass of mud, as described, is a temporary hazard; the only exception is "ground under repair."
6. I think that "Stickler" is right about the bare spots; as to cricket pitches, these must be treated as temporary hazards.

Yours faithfully,

KORUNEPHOROS.

### GOLF AT SANDWICH.

To the Editor of GOLF.

SIR,—In answer to "Novice's" query about getting to Sandwich from Folkestone, it appears from "Bradshaw" that a train leaves Folkestone at 8.22, reaches Dover Town at 8.34, leaves Dover Town at 8.35, and reaches Sandwich at 9.16, rather under an hour instead of the two and a-half hours he states. I say it appears, because I have not tried the journey.

I have played at Sandwich with a man who came from Shorncliffe, so I conclude that the trains meet at Dover. The train back leaves Sandwich at 5.32, and appears to reach Folkestone at 6.32. This leaves time for two rounds, breakfast, lunch, tea, and about two hours' smoking. No other trains seem to suit.

Yours truly,

J.K.

To the Editor of GOLF.

SIR,—In answer to "Novice's" letter in your last:—First: Littlestone is only seven miles distant by road from Folkestone, and a species of mail-cart for travellers, parcels, &c., was running daily between the two places. Whether it is continued in the winter I do not know, but information on this point could be obtained from the Station Hotel, Littlestone. Next: Messrs. Deighton and Smith, operative and agricultural chemists, Bridgnorth, sell an inexpensive preparation called a worm destroyer, which I have tried with success. It killed the worms,

and kept the ground free of them for six months, so that an application twice a year would probably answer the purpose. On the other hand, it would possibly be necessary to apply some sort of dressing occasionally to prevent impoverishment. This would depend on the nature of the soil. The cost is about 1s. 6d a green.

I am, Sir, &c.,

P. V. BROKE.

December 8th, 1890.

### THE DRAINAGE OF PUTTING-GREENS.

To the Editor of GOLF.

SIR,—Let your correspondent "R. G. H." dig the holes on the greens pretty deep and fill the bottoms with sand, or a coil of loose grass. Sand is preferable because it absorbs all moisture; but my observation has shown me that both remedies are pretty effective in preventing the unpleasant experience of a very muddy ball at each tee.

Yours faithfully,

Edinburgh, December 6th.

M. R.

To the Editor of GOLF.

SIR,—In answer to "R.G.H.," I would recommend the use of hole-guards with a centre iron in the middle. They are already in use in many greens where the surface water lies at the bottom of the holes.

Yours faithfully,

PUTTER.

### THE PACE OF A GOLF BALL.

To the Editor of GOLF.

SIR,—The flight of the Golf ball described by Professor Tait in your last issue, will interest all your readers, and dispose of much mist and loose talk, particularly as to length of "carry." If I may be allowed to question any of his figures, and, of course, I do so under correction, I must put my finger on the *time of flight* 3.6 seconds, and say that, after many careful observations, I find the time is from 5 to 6.5 seconds. I never in one instance brought it so low as 3.6. Whether the ball (of such comparatively light material) *soars*, and is, so to speak, reluctant to obey the law of gravity by the spin by the undercut of the club head, I cannot say; but I do maintain that, co-operating with other observers, we were unable to realize the Professor's time of flight. With him, I hope, too, that his appeal to golfers to *look keenly and note* will meet with many a response from those who care to provide him with the data he seeks.

As to A. L.'s reiterated statement of Rolland's carry of 235 yards, if A. L. will mark off 10 gunter's chains (220 yards), and invite any long drivers (Rolland, Willie Fernie, Kirckaldy) to compass it in a carry, he will see that I have used "mist and loose talk" rightly.

"Celt" is correct when he says 180 yards is a very long carry. Our present Golf ball may not be perfection: with more elasticity and greater density, the carry of the ball will be increased. "Hearsay" is not to be relied on in Golf drives.

Yours truly,

AN OLD GOLFER.

### THE ELEMENTS OF GOLF.

To the Editor of GOLF.

SIR,—I have read with interest Mr. Franklin Adams' "Description of the Game," and as I have had a considerable experience in the drawing up of Rules, &c., I beg to offer the following suggestions:—

That the word "course" should be substituted for "links," and that in this connection the fourth paragraph should come immediately after the first.

It would also be better, and lead to less confusion in the mind of a beginner, if he started with an 18-hole course, a foot-note being used to explain the exceptions. I take it also that the principal use of the flags is to show the position of the hole to all players approaching; it would be well if a clause were added to the effect that these flags should be *removed* when the players are on the green, and *replaced* when they have holed out, which

in passing I think as well to remind your correspondent is the term used for holing a ball.

The last section about caddies as servants is, I think, hardly necessary; what is of more importance is for a beginner to know that he may ask advice on all points of the game from the caddie, who is carrying for him—and perhaps that the caddie should tee his ball carefully, and after each stroke follow it with his eye, and find it for him, but not touch it in any way until it is at the bottom of the hole.

It appears to me also that the whole of the section under the heading "Play" can be omitted with advantage, as it is repeated almost verbatim, with the exception of the actual act of teeing, under the heading of "The Game." The sentence referring to "the honour" at the second hole, would come in better after the words, "The player now walks to the second tee," as it is at this particular point that the question of who was entitled to drive first would naturally arise. I think it would be well also to explain immediately after the teeing business what a stroke is, and that every attempt to hit the ball, whether it moves or not, either on the tee or through the green, must be counted. The method of counting should also be made more clear, not only "odd, one or two more" as it is put, but "three, four, five, six" more (though I am afraid that even that will not always be found enough), and also the corresponding terms of "like," "one off two," "three."

It would also simplify matters considerably by relegating all other descriptions of matches until after Handicapping and Penalties, the latter, indeed, I consider should come, if not in an earlier part, at any rate before the former, as it is an essential part of the game, and one that the beginner should thoroughly understand before he begins a match.

With regard to the order of the different kind of matches, I should put the foursome next to the single, and then competitions. Threesomes are merely makeshifts, and not to be encouraged, so they had better be left out.

I have not had time at present to go into the matter further. I trust that the suggestions I have made may be of use to your correspondent in the very difficult task that he has undertaken.

Yours faithfully,

BETA.

### GOLF ON SUNDAY.

To the Editor of GOLF.

SIR,—I enclose copies of letters which have passed between the Bishop of Chester and myself on the subject of Sunday Golf.

The Bishop in the charge referred to says:—"There is an obvious need of recognised and suitable Sunday recreation. Under the influence of Puritanism, this day has too often and too largely been made a day of gloomy restraint, pressing with unnatural severity upon the young and uneducated. This day of rest and refreshment, as well as of worship and religious instruction, has for multitudes become a day of sluggish and wearisome inactivity, and those 'filthy tiplings' which the famous 'Book of Sports' anticipated as one of the results of Sabbatarianism, have become scandalously and perniciously common."

The Bishop Sanderson quoted says:—"That recreation and pastimes on Sunday should be used with moderation, so that they may rather make men fitter for the work of their vocations the rest of the week, than any way hinder, or disable them thereunto, by over-wearying the body, or immoderately affecting the mind, that they be used not doubtingly. He that is not satisfied that he may use bodily recreation on Sunday ought, by all means, to forbear, lest he should sin against his own conscience."

Staines, December 7th.

Yours faithfully,

A. H.

[COPY.]

Staines, 20th October, 1890.

MY LORD,—With reference to your late visitation charge, may I take the liberty to ask whether you can recognise the game of Golf—without caddies—that is without work—as a suitable recreation for Sundays?

I am, your Lordship's obedient Servant,

To Rt. Rev. Lord Bishop of Chester.

A. H.

Dec Side, Chester,

23rd October, 1890.

DEAR SIR,—As far as my knowledge of Golf goes, I should regard it, when played without caddies, as in itself, a peculiarly suitable form of bodily recreation for Sunday. But may I ask you to read in the proof of my charge, which I am sending you, pages 47-9—the way in which the question is dealt with by Bishop Sanderson. Making due allowance for our changed circumstances, I think that his treatment of the case is all that can be desired.

You will observe that other considerations have to be recognised by one who would act conscientiously and for the public good, as well as for his own private enjoyment.

Believe me to remain, dear Sir,

Yours faithfully,

F. J. CESTR.

To A. H.

### AN EXCHANGE COLUMN.

To the Editor of GOLF.

SIR,—The addition of an Exchange Column to your excellent paper would, I believe, prove a great boon to your subscribers, and would, I think, tend to increase their number. I have spoken to a great many golfers on this matter, and they all seem to think you would be conferring a boon to the golfing fraternity by so doing. I take it that most golfers have a number of clubs that they are unable to play with (many of them in all respects equal to new), which they would gladly get rid of for others more suitable to their individual peculiarities of play. Perhaps this letter may be the means of ventilating the subject, and you will add a foot-note asking readers for their views on the question?

Yours truly,

HENRY WORSLEY (Exchange).

Park Road, Golborne,

Dec. 8th, 1890.

### GOLF AT EALING.

To the Editor of GOLF.

SIR,—To supply a need long felt among golfers resident in Ealing and the neighbourhood for a links close at hand, a preliminary committee has been formed, and about sixty names have been already received. A course has been laid out in a very large meadow on Hanger Hill, by Patrick, of Wimbledon, and promises to give satisfaction. It is nearly  $1\frac{1}{4}$  miles round, and is only 10 minutes' walk from the Ealing stations on the District and G. W. R. If a sufficient number of people send in their names as willing to join, we shall take over the ground and form a permanent club in the spring. It is proposed to limit the number to 200, with an annual subscription of  $1\frac{1}{2}$  guineas, and an entrance-fee after the first 100 members. I shall be pleased to receive the names of intending members, or give any further information. Hoping you will find room for this letter in your columns.

I remain, yours faithfully,

F. CARVER, Hon. Sec.

### PROBLEM No. 2.

I should say, in answer to "Dormy One," that the inference of "A" is correct, that the balls in the case cited by him had been changed at a former hole, and that although "B" found his own ball on the right, notwithstanding the fact that he drove to the left, he must find the ball he drove from the tee, otherwise give up the hole.

### PROBLEM No. 3.

The answer to Problem 3, I should say, is that the ball ought to be replaced without a penalty.—G.



## GOLF AT ST. NEOTS.

Mr. W. T. Linskill, Secretary of the Cambridge University Golf Club writes:—Kindly allow me space to say a few words of praise regarding the newly opened green at St. Neots. By request I drove thither on Tuesday the 25th of November, accompanied by three friends, members of the C.U.G.C.

"The course at present consists of nine holes, the laying out of which reflects great credit on the good judgment of Hurry, a Cambridge caddie, and who is appointed custodian of the St. Neots green till Christmas. None of these holes are to be termed short, and in most of them there is some formidable hazard to overcome. The soil is gravel, and the nature of the turf good, but at present the grass is in places exceedingly rough, and wants plucking, mowing with a scythe, and liming or salting. The putting-greens give promise of much better things; plenty of beating and rolling are wanted, and a good dose of sand and soot to harden them and kill the obtrusive worms, while here and there a little draining would do no harm. The hazards are numerous and varied, and consist of a river, a gravel pit, a high fence, an unplayable garden, several wide rush-grown ditches, or burns, and bushes in place of the orthodox whins.

"It is difficult as yet to say what would really be a good score for the nine holes, but my friend, Mr. D. M. Brown, holed one round in 47—a creditable achievement, and, I should imagine, hard to beat even when the green is in its best condition. I should strongly advise all golfers round St. Neots to commence playing at once, and non-golfers to begin learning at once on what may fairly be termed a very sporting little inland links."

## GOLF AT STAUNTON HAROLD.

The Golf course at Staunton Harold, Earl Ferrers' seat in Leicestershire, of which mention was recently made in *GOLF*, was planned out a few days ago by Tom Dunn, the Tooting Bec professional. He states that it has capabilities of turning out to be an exceptionally fine inland green. The course is in the deer park, which is adjacent to the house, and consists of nine holes, although more could be made if desired. The chief feature that strikes the eye on arriving at the starting point is the undulating nature of the ground. The first hole requires a fine drive to carry the trees, and then a full shot with the iron to land on the putting-green, which lies in a hollow. The turf here is excellent, and the formation of the green is all that a golfer could wish for. The drive for the second hole is void of any obstacle, but the iron approach requires some very fine calculation. The hole is situated at the back of a mound of Scotch fir, and on the farther side of it is a steep bank. The third hole is full of sport, the player having to face a quarry backed by another mound of trees, and farther on is a bed of rushes, beyond which is the putting-green; with a very long drive it is possible to reach the green. There is no especial difficulty to get over in the drive to the fourth hole, excepting rushes, but the ground approaching the hole is characterised by its undulations, the hole being quite hidden from view and requiring careful examination before one can venture their iron. Playing to the fifth hole, a long drive is necessary to carry the rushes, when the hole, which is on uprising ground, can be easily reached with the iron. Striking to the sixth, a good drive lands one over all the rough grass and rushes on to

the high ground again, and at some distance on the putting-green lies half way down a fine grassy slope. The seventh and eighth holes need little comment beyond the excellence of the turf; but the ninth, after a good drive from the tee, requires a very correct iron shot to avoid the trees which surround the hole. Altogether the course provides a variety of sporting strokes rarely to be met with in most inland links.

In addition to the larger course, a ladies' links, consisting of 12 holes, has been formed on the lawn in front of the house.

## NORTH BERWICK TOURNAMENT.

## AN IMITATION.

North Berwick when the month was new  
All sunless lay with obscured view:  
And gloomier every golfer grew,  
As rain kept falling rapidly.

But Berwick saw another sight,  
When on the tee the sun shone bright,  
Greeting the pairs in friendly fight,  
Who sought to win her pottery.

Glowing and fresh from morning tub,  
Each eager golfer grasped his club,  
And dour-faced caddies strove to snub,  
The carrier to the adversary.

Then through the air the play club sang,  
Then trusty iron loudly rang;  
And answering to every bang,  
The guttie speeded merrily.

But fiercer yet their club they'll ply,  
Whilst o'er the plain the divots fly,  
And louder yet the wailing cry,  
Of players bunkered hopelessly.

'Tis noon: but no one surely knows,  
Northwards or south the trophy goes;  
And every moment higher grows,  
The patriotic rivalry.

The struggle deepens; on, ye brave,  
Who rush to green or sandy grave:  
Drive, Scotia, drive: thine honour save,  
And putt with all dexterity.

Few, few, shall end where many meet,  
Their fate is writ on scoring sheet,  
And many a turf beneath your feet,  
Shall mark a golfer's sepulchre.

November, 1890.

G. ROBISON.

## GOLF FOR GIRLS.

The winter of the tennis player's discontent (writes "D" in the *Queen*) is fast approaching. Why should it not be made glorious by the joys of Golf? Every girl will soon be grieving over the abandonment of the racquet; why should she not seek consolation in the club? It is the crowning virtue of the game, whose praises are now being so loudly sounded, that it can be played practically all the year round. In frosty January, when the grass sparkles and glistens, it is even more enjoyable than in leafy June. Yet, despite the manifest need of a winter equivalent for the summer's tennis, Golf as a game for ladies is still in embryo. There are only about a score of clubs which admit ladies as members, and so little is the sex associated with the game, that not a word has yet been heard from Mrs. Grundy on the enormity of a petticoat being seen on the Golf links.

This may be partly explained by the ungallant attitude of golfers towards the sex. Until quite recently they were warned off every green in Scotland, and the presence of women was barely tolerated even as spectators. The golfer's hapless wife

or daughter has been loath to accompany him to St. Andrew's or North Berwick, and silently contemplate the pleasures she has not been permitted to share. Broader views and more magnanimous feelings are beginning to animate the golfer's breast. In the Badminton book, which was recently published under the editorship of Mr. Horace Hutchinson, the kindlier policy is advocated, and the probability of women claiming an equality in their play with men is even taken into account. The writer, moreover, opines that it will not do for the men to take too high ground in this matter. "Want of strength is not a sufficient objection, because everyone knows that clean hitting more than strength is required. . . . Again, it will not do to urge that the game is unfeminine. It is not more unfeminine than tennis and other sports in which ladies nowadays engage freely." For the present, however, I do not propose to concern myself with the question whether women are to remain satisfied with the compromise now arrived at; whether they can rightly aspire to play the "long round" with male companions, or whether they are to regard as a final concession the ladies' links—"a kind of Jews' quarter," Mr. Hutchinson calls them—now provided on some of the larger greens. It is more to the purpose to urge the wider and larger use by ladies of the rights on the golfing green which have been already won for them.

According to an authoritative writer, "putting little balls into little holes—with the addendum that the victor is to him who achieves this object in the least number of strokes—may be taken as a fairly accurate general description of the game." Brief as this definition is, it is capable of little expansion, for Golf, like most other games, can really be understood only by practical illustration. Nor can any useful attempt be made to explain the somewhat extensive and peculiar terminology of the game. Two words most frequently employed will, however, have a familiar sound for the ladies, the "tee" and the "caddie." In beginning the play for each hole, the ball is struck off a small mound of sand called the tee. In striking it a club is employed, which is only one of many implements, such as niblicks, baffing-spoons, &c., called into requisition for overcoming such obstacles as bunkers, whins, or hazards, which, being interpreted, mean sand pits, hillocks, and furze bushes. To bear the burden of all these implements, the players employ lads, professionally known as "caddies."

It must be added that the game can be played in "couples" or "foursomes," having in this respect the social convenience of lawn tennis. Indeed, from the social point of view, Golf is the equal, if not the superior, of tennis. The players keep together over the whole course—or rather links—and there is scope for pleasant bits of talk between the play. Of course, your golfing fanatic would scorn such a statement. It is recorded, indeed of "a promising young player," that after going the long round with a party, in which were one or two ladies, he remarked, "It's all mighty pleasant, but it is not business." One is tempted to ask in reply: "Why should it be?" If women take up Golf it will be, I apprehend, as a recreation, and not a business. It is probably only in Scotland that they will care to devote all their thoughts to the length of their "drive," and even in Scotland only two or three ladies have sought to rival the records of male players. In this spirit of emulation there is the one danger that lurks in the game. Played in a rational spirit, golfing movements are indubitably graceful, and fitted to the physical powers of women. If there is that hankering after an equality with male golfers, to which Mr. Hutchinson refers, both these qualities may be sacrificed. In striving after the long "drive," grace will be sacrificed to force, and the strength subjected to an excessive strain. But, played in moderation, no game can better exercise all the muscles and sinews without overtaxing any. It is, perhaps, on the whole, an advantage that it takes a girl out of her own back-garden on to the hill or common, where, for a mile or two over the links, the fresh breath of heaven fans the grass and hedgerow.

It may well be many years before a ladies' Golf club produces its Miss Bracewell or Miss Dod. On the other hand, many masculine devotees of the game may contemplate with something like contempt the introduction of the feminine element as detracting from the thoroughness of the sport. But if the *via media* I have indicated is happily preserved, there is no doubt but that Golf will become as popular with women as lawn tennis.

## THE ILKLEY GOLF CLUB.

THIS club was instituted on July 1st, 1890, and has as its office-bearers the following gentlemen:—Captain: the Rev. Irton Smith; Hon. Secs.: Mr. Edward Fletcher and Mr. Bery Hirst. The number of members is 102, and the local professional is George Kay. The links are within ten minutes' walk of the station and the club-house, which is in the Ilkley Wells House Grounds, and is near the first teeing ground. At present, the course consists of nine holes, and is situated on Roushold's Moor, about 500 feet above the sea level, and commands an extensive view of the beautiful Wharfedale scenery.

The links were laid out by George Strath, the Southport professional, and they are being rapidly brought into good condition. The putting-greens have been relaid, and they are well placed. The hazards are of a very sporting character, consisting of several brooks, ravines, and stone walls. The length of the course is about  $1\frac{3}{4}$  miles. There is capital accommodation at the Wells House, and other hotels, and visitors can play by introduction of a member of the committee on payment of 5s. weekly.

A NEW GOLFING GLOVE.—In our issue of November 28th attention was called to a new golfing glove which has just been brought out by Messrs. Lunn and Co., 257, Regent Street. After adequate trial of the new glove, one or two alterations were suggested as the outcome of the test, notably the covering of the back of the hand for cold weather, and the substitution of a button for a buckle and strap at the wrist. Those improvements have been carried out with commendable promptitude, and the result is a more complete and satisfactory glove in all respects. Now we have a glove of the ordinary shape and size, with a thin, embossed coating of india rubber covering the palm of the fingers, and with a button at the wrist. The back of the hand is covered, and ventilation is provided by a number of small holes in the palm, between the fingers and over the back of the hand. The hand, while in play, is therefore kept refreshingly cool and absolutely free from any trace of perspiration, while the covering of the back of the hand tends not only to conserve a moderate amount of warmth in the outer surface, but keeps the india-rubber coating in the palm more rigid and less liable to crumple. The pre-eminent value of the glove, however, consists in the absolutely secure grip the india rubber gives of the club, no matter whether the leathers be greasy or wet. Such a glove golfers have long been in search of; now they have found it.

## Competitions.

### WARWICKSHIRE GOLF CLUB.

The November competitions of the above club were brought to a successful termination on Saturday, the 29th November, with the monthly contest for the club cup. The links have maintained their excellent condition throughout the month, in spite of the heavy storms of rain and snow, which threatened at one time to swamp the course. The putting-greens have also been keen and true, showing in this respect a marked improvement on their usual appearance at this time of year.

The annual general meeting was held at the Wheatsheaf Hotel, Warwick, on Saturday, the 1st ult. There was a large attendance of members, the chair being taken by Mr. R. W. Lindsay. The annual report and statement of accounts having been unanimously adopted, the Hon. R. H. Lyttelton, Warwick

and Mr. R. O. Milne, Leamington, were elected to fill the vacancies on the committee caused by the retirement in rotation of Col. Parker and Mr. F. D. Perry. Among other business it was resolved that the bronze medal competitions (instituted in 1886) should be discontinued, and that a bronze medal be presented to the winner of each annual challenge cup as a memento; secondly, to erect immediately, in the Old Paddock of the race-course, a workshop for a professional, and a shelter for the caddies (these will be completed by the new year); thirdly, to purchase a cup, to be played for in 1891, on the same terms as the club cup of 1890.

The annual competition for the Shaw gold challenge medal (scratch), carrying with it the captaincy of the club for the year, was held over the links on Wednesday, November 12. Mr. H. F. Thursby, of Sydney Lodge, Leamington, had kindly presented a handsome silver inkstand, to be retained by the winner of the medal, and Mr. F. D. Perry, one of the retiring members of the committee, gave a silver medal, to be retained by the compiler of the lowest handicap score. Twenty-seven members entered for the competition, which was played off in beautiful golfing weather, the condition of the course being all that could be desired. Mr. W. O. S. Pell, for the second year in succession, won the Shaw medal and Mr. Thursby's prize thus becoming captain of the club for the year. Mr. Moncreiff, and Mr. Gibsons were only one point behind. The handicap medal and half-crown sweepstakes fell to Mr. P. A. Leaf, a recruit of the last few weeks, who played an astonishingly fine game for a beginner, and gave great promise of future victories at Golf. Mr. Gibsons had the misfortune to be second equal for this prize also, in company with Mr. Norman Brown. Scores:—

Gross. Hcp. Net.			Gross. Hcp. Net.				
Mr. P. A. Leaf ...	109	25	84	Capt. Cowan ...	113	19	94
Mr. N. W. Brown ...	103	16	87	Mr. W. MacLaren ...	111	17	94
Mr. H. J. C. Gibsons	93	6	87	Mr. A. Rotherham ...	103	8	95
Hon. and Rev. R. C. Moncreiff ...	93	5	88	Hon. R. H. Lyttelton ...	104	7	97
Rev. E. H. Oldham ...	99	11	88	Mr. F. C. H. Blair ...	106	7	99
Mr. W. O. S. Pell ...	92	4	88	Mr. T. Latham ...	106	7	99
Mr. R. F. T. Perkin ...	117	26	91	Rev. G. W. Barnard ...	112	12	100
Mr. C. G. Graham ...	104	12	92	Rev. H. W. H. Green ...	128	25	103

No returns from Rev. W. C. Bedford, Rev. A. E. Bedford, Messrs. M. T. Brown, H. Everard, A. L. Chance, J. W. Liddell, R. W. Lindsay, B. Meade, A. Moore, Rev. J. P. Way, R. O. Milne.

The November competition for the Everard cup was held over the links on Saturday, November 15th, in perfect golfing weather. A large number of members were on the links during the day, fifteen of whom competed for the cup, the winner proving to be Mr. C. G. Lefroy, with a meritorious total of 89 net. As one of the original members of the club, Mr. Lefroy was warmly congratulated on his maiden victory on these links. Score:—

Gross. Hcp. Net.			Gross. Hcp. Net.				
Mr. C. G. Lefroy ...	100	11	89	Mr. A. Moore ...	125	30	95
Hon. and Rev. R. C. Moncreiff ...	95	5	90	Mr. C. G. Graham ...	108	12	96
Rev. E. H. Oldham ...	101	10	91	Mr. B. Lucy ...	117	18	99
Mr. P. A. Leaf ...	111	16	95	Mr. T. H. Ashton ...	105	4	101
				Col. Parker ...	128	24	102

No returns from Major Armstrong, Messrs. B. Meade, R. O. Milne, Capt. Pratt, Capt. Shaw, and Mr. R. H. Smith.

The Savile challenge cup was played for as a tournament by holes, the first ties on Saturday, November 22nd. Several members entered for the cup, to which a bronze memento medal was attached for the first time. After a spirited competition, a final tie between Mr. C. G. Graham and the Rev. R. C. Moncreiff, was won by Mr. Moncreiff by three up and two to play.

The eleventh monthly competition for the club cup (briefly noticed last week) was played over the links on Saturday, the 29th ult. Snow had fallen almost incessantly for the previous forty-eight hours, and the handful of members who put in an appearance for the competition found a coating of fully two inches over the whole common, with deep drifts in places. Mr. Moncreiff and Mr. Graham, however, armed themselves with red balls, and, securing the services of two fore-caddies, were the first to leave the Wheatshaf at 11 a.m. The scores returned were suggestive more of a high-class cricket match than of a medal competition, as will be seen from the following:—

Gross. Hcp. Net.			Gross. Hcp. Net.				
Mr. N. W. Brown ...	122	12	110	Hon. and Rev. R. C. Moncreiff ...	127	5	122
Col. Boothby ...	122	4	118	Mr. F. C. H. Blair ...	146	7	139
Rev. E. H. Oldham ...	130	10	120				

Mr. Brown was, therefore, for the first time, returned the winner of the cup, Col. Boothby being second.

BRIGHTON AND HOVE GOLF CLUB.

The last medal competition of the year took place on Saturday, December 6th. The weather was very cold, and a strong cross wind rendered good scoring almost impossible, only four players making a return. Mr. H. E. Acklom won the medal after a tie with Mr. W. Carr. The prize kindly given by Mr. W. O. Bailey for the six best net returns made for the Berens medal during the year was also won by Mr. Acklom with an average of 87.4.

Gross. Hcp. Net.			Gross. Hcp. Net.				
Mr. H. E. Acklom ...	103	10	93	Mr. C. O. Walker ...	108	14	94
Mr. W. Carr ...	102	9	93	Mr. W. Renshaw ...	112	18	94

Twelve players made no return.

The tournament for Mr. W. Carr's prize, which was to have begun on Monday, December 15th, has been postponed till the spring meeting.

THE ASHDOWN FOREST AND TUNBRIDGE WELLS LADIES' GOLF CLUB.

A match between the above club and the Limpsfield Ladies' Golf Club took place on Tuesday, Nov. 25th, at Forest Row. Result:—

ASHDOWN.			LIMPSFIELD.		
	Holes.			Holes.	
Miss Andrews ...	5	...	Mrs. Parsons ...	...	0
Miss Birch ...	11	...	Miss Stewart ...	...	0
Miss Stewart ...	2	...	Mrs. Smith ...	...	6
Mrs. Bell ...	0	...	Mrs. Landale ...	...	2
	18				2

WORCESTERSHIRE GOLF CLUB.

The monthly meeting was held on Wednesday, Dec. 3rd. The day was foggy and the ground wet and heavy. Owing to alterations now going on at one of the usual greens, a spare green was introduced, which slightly shortened the course; but, for all that, Mr. E. F. Chance's round of 84, over the heavy course, was a really fine performance. Scores:—

Gross. Hcp. Net.			Gross. Hcp. Net.				
*Mr. E. F. Chance ...	84	3	81	Mr. H. D. Acland ...	103	12	91
Mr. W. E. Paterson ...	94	11	83	Mr. R. R. Brown ...	111	20	91
Dr. J. P. Bookless ...	96	10	86	Mr. W. M. Binns ...	106	14	92
†Mr. R. E. Lyon ...	106	22	86	Mr. A. H. Lechmere ...	109	17	92
Mr. H. W. Buck ...	108	21	87	Dr. H. E. Dixey ...	117	25	92
Major Lewis ...	97	9	88	Rev. H. Foster ...	95	+2	97
Mr. H. N. Erskine ...	104	15	89	Mr. J. W. Jeakes ...	122	25	97
Mr. J. Foord-Kelecy ...	103	13	90				

\* Wins the monthly cup, senior medal, and sweepstakes. † Wins junior medal.

Four players made no returns.

COVENTRY GOLF CLUB.

The competition for scratch and gold medal and captaincy of the club, and prizes for lowest handicap score, was played on a very unfortunate day—the ground being hard with frost and quite an inch of snow, good Golf was quite out of the question. Mr. E. F. Chance took the gold medal, and Mr. W. Wyley the handicap prize.

W. Wyley ...	125	40	85	C. P. Newman ...	141	40	101
H. Smith ...	106	16	90	R. Hill ...	132	30	102
H. Rotherham ...	107	14	93	Rev. W. C. Bedford ...	120	18	102
G. A. H. Addison ...	125	31	94	A. E. Jagger ...	136	34	102
G. F. Twist ...	109	14	95	W. H. Herbert ...	144	40	104
T. Latham ...	111	16	95	H. J. Nutt ...	133	29	104
E. F. Chance ...	100	5	95	Rev. L. Wood ...	125	16	109
E. Blackburne ...	129	34	95	Dr. Fenton ...	147	35	112
F. Twist ...	119	22	97	Rev. F. R. Evans ...	128	14	114
F. Smith ...	114	16	98	F. Collins ...	154	49	114
Ken. Rotherham ...	119	20	99	W. Hillman ...	130	16	114

Several players made no return.

## STINCHCOMBE HILL GOLF CLUB.

The concluding monthly medal competition of 1890 was brought off on the 3rd inst. The recent snow had left the ground dead and heavy; in spite of besom and roller, the greens were more or less pulpy, and the prairie grass, which on this course forms a leading item in the punishment of evil-doers, was no longer crisp and bristly, but lay in lank masses as tough as bootlaces. These circumstances seem to have militated against low figures; and, if we except the winners, it will be seen that the rest of the play was somehow rather bad. Scores:—

## GENTLEMEN.

Gross. Hcp. Net.		Gross. Hcp. Net.	
Mr. G. B. Jenkinson	112 28 84	Rev. N. Gresley	128 28 100
Mr. J. W. Rolt	119 30 89	Mr. H. Goldingham	123 22 101
Rev. T. H. Philpott	113 22 91	Mr. A. Hoare	110 7 103
Mr. A. Graham	118 22 96	Capt. Huntington	138 35 103
Mr. F. K. Peto	120 22 98	Mr. J. Bengough	140 35 105

## LADIES (nine holes).

Gross. Hcp. Net.		Gross. Hcp. Net.	
Miss C. Graham	60 7 53	Miss H. Ridding	79 15 64
Mrs. Lynche Blossie	73 13 60	Miss Ridding	78 13 65
Mrs. Rolt	85 25 60	Mrs. Gillanders	92 25 67
Miss J. Cornwall	85 25 60		

The next handicap day has been fixed for Wednesday, January 7th, when the new club-house will be formally opened and "warmed." In honour of the event, and to mark the time of year the committee have determined to offer special Christmas and New Year's prizes. It has also been arranged to hold the annual general meeting of the club on that day, when the captain, committee, and officers for the ensuing year will be elected.

## NOTTINGHAM GOLF CLUB.

The following are the monthly competition scores for November:—

Gross. Hcp. Net.		Gross. Hcp. Net.	
R. D. Oswald	89 scr. 89	J. McMeeking	93 3 90
C. F. Dobson	113 27 86	D. W. Allen	122 27 95
J. Johnstone	114 12 102	C. S. Wardle	109 12 97
J. Doleman	97 +3 100	G. C. Hine	128 27 101
S. Groves	118 18 100	J. C. Warren	96 scr. 96
S. Davidson	115 18 97		

On Thursday, the 27th ult., the links were covered with snow, and the competition was postponed for a week.

## BEVERLEY AND EAST RIDING GOLF CLUB.

The competition for the club badge, club prizes, and sweepstakes took place on Westwood, on Wednesday, 3rd inst. The badge and sweepstakes went to Mr. Edward Hodgson, and the second and third prizes to Mr. Ford and Captain Whittle. The day was close and foggy, and the greens were heavy and sloppy from the recent snow. Mr. Hodgson's victory was a most popular one, and his excellent play was brought out more markedly from the fact that he had to give eight points to every other player. His score of 44 for the last nine holes is the best that has been played on the ground. Score:—

Gross. Hcp. Net.		Gross. Hcp. Net.	
Mr. E. Hodgson	97 +8 105	Mr. H. L. Winter	119 3 116
Mr. G. Ford	116 8 108	Major Caulfield-	
Captain Whittle	122 12 110	Stoker	122 6 116
Captain Maunsell	130 16 114	Mr. A. Hodgson	140 24 116
Mr. W. Crosskill	144 30 114	Mr. G. A. Robinson	120 2 118
Dr. Macleod	118 2 116		

The annual dinner was afterwards held and was a great success, the captain, Dr. Joyner Fraser, presiding.

## WILPSHIRE AND DISTRICT GOLF CLUB.

The Mitchell Club and club handicap competitions were played off on Saturday, the 29th ult., in thoroughly winter weather. Snow completely covered the ground, and rendered the use of red balls a necessity. Only some eight couples turned up, but these had a most enjoyable time, although high scoring was the order of the day, the greens being very hard and bumpy, making good putting an impossibility. Mr. Herbert Thompson won the Mitchell club, presented by Messrs. Mitchell and Co., of Manchester. Mr. James Crabtree and Mr. James Fish won the prizes of the club.

## CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY GOLF CLUB.

The competition for the St. Andrews' medal, which, owing to the snow, had to be put off on Monday, December 1st, was competed for on Wednesday and Thursday, December 3rd and 4th. The ground had only partially thawed after the recent severe frost, and was very greasy, while the weather was foggy and raw, with pouring rain and wind on Thursday. Two worse days for scoring it would be impossible to imagine. Result:—

Gross. Hcp. Net.		Gross. Hcp. Net.	
Mr. C. R. Luzmore	94 11 83	Mr. R. A. Nicholson	89 scr. 89
Mr. T. H. Watson	94 10 84	Mr. C. H. Pasteur	100 10 90
Mr. C. E. S. Innes	102 16 86	Mr. A. Munro	112 20 92
Mr. G. Townsend		Mr. P. W. Everett	102 9 93
Warner	95 7 88	Mr. C. A. Cancellor	109 16 93
Mr. J. E. Pease	96 8 88	Mr. R. H. Benson	122 22 100

No returns from D. A. M. Brown, W. T. Linskill, E. C. Percy Boyd, I. Heron Maxwell, R. McFarlane, L. Dale, H. Smith Marriott, E. Selby Smith, A. F. Forster, A. C. Chaytor, H. A. Adamson, G. C. Skipwith, C. M. Hutchinson, H. M. Braybrook, G. H. Duckworth, A. F. Watson, C. F. Badeley, T. Whish, G. L. K. Finlay, G. R. M. Harvey, A. M. Joshua, A. M. Chance, S. Norton Dumbleby.

Several others played, but did not compete for the medal.

The erection of the new club-house is to be commenced this month.

Next term is a busy one for golfers. The Oxford and Cambridge match will come off, as usual, early in March.

The light blues also play Great Yarmouth, Epping Forest, and Royal Cromer, while a match between past and present Cantabs is talked of.

The Linskill cup, Pirie medal, St. Andrews' medal, and Clarke prize will be competed for, and there will be the usual weekly handicaps.

It is most satisfactory to note that over ninety new members have been elected this term.

## THE CLAPHAM GOLF CLUB.

The "Cronin" medal was played for on Saturday, Dec. 6th, when the following scores were sent in:—

Gross. Hcp. Net.		Gross. Hcp. Net.	
Mr. J. B. Wood	97 9 88	Mr. J. Lidiard	125 25 100
Mr. J. Verran	101 12 89	Mr. A. J. Robertson	109 8 101
Mr. T. R. Pace	108 15 93	Mr. D. F. Russell	124 20 104
Mr. J. W. Grover	113 20 93	Mr. P. Thornton	128 20 108
Rev. J. H. Ellis	106 9 97	Mr. G. W. Chapman	132 24 108
Mr. T. Ravenhill	119 22 97	Mr. W. H. Last	152 30 122
Mr. T. C. Last	123 25 98	Mr. J. Hoppood	166 30 136
Mr. H. Stevenson	116 16 100		

There was rather a troublesome wind, as a certain editor found at the third hole, but the grass cutting which the County Council had kindly ordered made the going easier than it had been for some time. The annual general meeting was held in the evening, when Mr. Grover was re-elected captain for the ensuing year, and Mr. T. Ravenhill was appointed hon. sec. and treasurer.

## UNITED SERVICE GOLF CLUB, PORTSMOUTH.

The Davies monthly medal was played for on Saturday, Dec. 6th, in a strong easterly wind. The following scores were sent in:—

Gross. Hcp. Net.		Gross. Hcp. Net.	
Capt. Hamilton, R.E.	114 30 84	Mr. L. G. Bonham-	
Dr. Mulvany (M.S.)	98 12 86	Carter	120 24 96
Lt. Haig, R.E.	108 20 88	Capt. Vidal, R.E.	109 12 97
Lt. Gardner, R.N.	92 3 89	Captain Larking,	
Capt. Dumbleton, R.E.	90 scr. 90	P.M.D.R.E.	137 33 104

No returns from Capt. Stevens, Lieut. D. Morrison, and Mr. K. M. Morrison.

## BANK OF SCOTLAND GOLF CLUB.

The first annual general meeting of the members of this club was held on Wednesday, 3rd inst., when the following office-bearers were elected for the ensuing year:—captain, Mr. J. S. Leslie; secretary and treasurer, Mr. James Clark; members of committee, Messrs. Cunningham, Lamond, M'Glashen, and M'Intosh.

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY v. ROYAL EPPING FOREST.

The Cambridge University played eighteen of the Royal Epping Forest Golf Club, over the Cambridge green, on Saturday, December 6th. The green was in very fair condition, and the day clear, with no wind but bitterly cold. One round or eighteen holes was played, and the University players proved victorious by 37 holes. The names of players and the result was as follows :—

UNIVERSITY.		ROYAL EPPING FOREST.	
	Holes.		Holes.
W. T. Linkskill	0	J. G. Gibson	3
R. A. Nicholson	2	A. Anderson	0
D. A. M. Brown	8	P. V. Broke	0
E. C. P. Boyd	6	W. Rhodes	0
Charles Pigg	0	J. Gould Smith	5
H. M. Braybrook	2	E. C. Greig	0
A. M. Chance	3	J. W. Greig	0
J. Low	0	A. Darlington	6
R. J. Younger	0	Dr. Hawkins	4
J. E. Pease	9	J. M. Kerr	0
H. P. Freen	0	G. Thompson	0
A. M. Joshua	3	C. G. Tunks	0
G. T. Warner	8	J. R. Dunlop Hill	0
T. H. Watson	8	J. Walker	0
C. F. Badeley	4	J. G. Glover	0
C. M. Hutchinson	6	R. C. Kerr	0
P. W. Everett	0	H. T. Kemlo	5
C. A. Cancellor	1	S. R. Bastard	0
	60		23

Majority for Cambridge, 37 holes.

HARRISON GOLF CLUB (EDINBURGH).

The second annual *soirée* and concert of the Harrison Golf Club, was held last Friday night in St. Michael's Hall, Tynecastle, Edinburgh. Mr. John Harrison occupied the chair, and there was a crowded audience. The club, which has been in existence for about two years, has a membership of over fifty, with Mr. L. G. Ross as captain. Being a morning club, most of the competitions are held in the park from which the club takes its name. After the announcement of the prizes for the year, an excellent programme of music was gone through. "The River of Years" by Mrs. Cleugh, "Anchored" by Mr. Bonar, the duets by Miss Pearson and Mr. Brown, and Messrs. Lunn and Bonar, were particularly well received. Messrs. Strang and Frater furnished the humorous element, and Mr. H. Crombie acted efficiently as accompanist. A character song, "The Bobbies," by Masters R. and W. Strang delighted the audience; and Councillor Mackenzie, in the course of a short speech, made the cheering announcement that the parks committee of the Edinburgh Town Council intended making great improvements in the Braids courses. The meeting was brought to a close with the singing of "Auld Lang Syne."

OXFORD UNIVERSITY GOLF CLUB.

The club heard definitely last week from the owner of the links on Headington Hill that the lease of the links would not be extended after next March. It will be a great blow to the club, as the present links suit them admirably, being very good for an inland course, and being also so close to Oxford. The club have not decided yet where their new quarters will be, but they will probably be on the old Cowley Marsh or Cumnor. The weekly handicap on Friday resulted as follows :—

FIRST CLASS.			
Gross. Hcp. Net.		Gross. Hcp. Net.	
G. B. Grundy	91	9	82
F. H. Stewart	100	15	85
H. Pelham	95	9	86
J. E. King	102	16	86
T. P. Powell	104	16	88
R. C. Carter	108	18	90
W. M. Lindsay	113	18	95

  

SECOND CLASS.			
Gross. Hcp. Net.		Gross. Hcp. Net.	
J. G. Smith	99	20	79
L. Armitstead	114	32	82
G. R. H. Wilson	109	25	84
E. G. M. Carmichael	109	25	84

Fifteen members made no return.

REDHILL AND REIGATE GOLF CLUB.

Allen Medal handicap competition, Dec. 6th, 1890 :—

	Out.	In.	Gross.	Hcp.	Net.
Mr. D. Pym	45	46	91	18	73
Mr. W. Bavery	46	51	97	16	81
Mr. A. Schacht	44	45	89	4	85
Mr. F. P. Browne	55	46	101	13	88
Mr. W. H. Pelly	50	57	107	14	93
Mr. F. C. Milford	50	59	109	16	93
Mr. G. Allen	51	51	102	8	94

Eleven others played, but made no returns. The date for the club medal competition has been changed from the 20th to the 26th inst. (Boxing Day).

MINCHINHAMPTON GOLF CLUB—(GLOUCESTERSHIRE.)

The monthly medal competition took place on Saturday, December 6th. The day was windy and bitterly cold, and but few players went round.

The annual general meeting of the club was held in the afternoon of the same day, in the new club-house, and was fairly attended. A most satisfactory balance-sheet was presented by the treasurer, showing that, although the club is not yet two years old, subscriptions have been received from 121 gentlemen and 94 ladies, besides temporary members. The secretary and treasurer were unanimously re-elected, and a committee appointed for the ensuing year. The handsome new club-house erected by the Old Lodge Club, consisting of smoking room, dining room, ladies' boudoir, lavatories, &c., and warmed throughout with hot water, is now furnished, and is much appreciated by members.

The following are the medal scores :—

Gross. Hcp. Net.			Gross. Hcp. Net.				
Mr. H. H. Bishop	110	20	90	Rev. E. H. Hawkins	101	9	92
*Captain Lucy	116	25	91	Mr. L. Winterbotham	126	30	96
*Mr. A. S. Winterbotham	101	10	91	Mr. Lawrence Grist	113	15	98
				Mr. Sotheron Estcourt	131	24	107

\*Tied.

Mr. W. Davies, Mr. W. H. Bishop, Mr. E. N. Witchell, and Mr. F. W. Winterbotham made no returns.

In the ladies' competition Miss Golightly was first with 119, less 5=114, and Mrs. M. Davies second.

SEATON CAREW GOLF CLUB.

The "Gray Trophy" again came round for competition on Saturday, a boisterous day, the wind blowing coldly across the course not only made straight driving difficult but benumbed the hands of the players: under such trying circumstances a score anything like the usual scratch-register was hardly to be expected. From the score of Mr. Simpson's it appears to a great extent overcome; with the exception of the first two holes, the remainder of the first round was negotiated with an average of six strokes each, and, with the exception of two holes in the second round, a similar average was maintained, thus showing what may be considered as good steady play. We need hardly say that the winner was much congratulated on his success.

With one stroke only separating him from the winner, Mr. P. B. Kent also played a capital game, especially in the second round; but unfortunately, as with most players, the first holes made a telling addition to the score. Mr. Kent's second round of 79 was the best on merit of the day.

Mr. R. Elliot was also in good form, his approach play being very accurate. Scores :—

	1st round.	2nd round.	Gross.	Hcp.	Net.
Mr. H. Simpson	88	93	181	36	145
Mr. P. B. Kent	87	79	166	20	146
Mr. R. Elliot	90	82	172	25	147
Mr. L. Bunting	94	99	193	40	153
Mr. W. S. Merryweather	95	98	193	40	153
Mr. G. Newby	82	85	167	10	157
Mr. O. Trechmann	92	90	182	22	160
Mr. G. E. Casebourne	95	105	200	40	161
Mr. C. B. Williamson	102	80	182	16	166

Messrs. Philip Wood, A. Massingham, J. W. Marshall, S. Walker, C. Trechmann, C. Cooper, A. F. Trechmann, A. B. Crosby, A. B. Wilson, A. R. Paton, A. Robinson, and others made no returns.

### TYNESIDE GOLF CLUB.

The competition for the winter handicap took place on the Ryton Willows last Thursday afternoon. This was the fourth bi-monthly contest, and was played in dull weather, some heavy showers interfering with the comfort of the players. The links were in a bad state owing to the recent heavy rains. The hon. sec., Mr. G. F. Charlton, was declared the winner (playing from scratch), his score being 97.

The tie between Mr. R. T. Thomson and Dr. W. T. Wilson in the last competition held by this club was played off at Ryton on the 2nd inst. The result was in favour of Dr. Wilson, who was fortunate in meeting Mr. Thomson when he was out of form. Dr. Wilson 98, less 6=92; Mr. R. T. Thomson 97, owes 1=98.

### FORFARSHIRE.

The Monifieth Golf Club wound up the season with a veritable field-day on Saturday last, when a great number of prizes were played for. Fortunately the frost had disappeared, but the weather was somewhat unsettled. The turn-out of players was very large. The principal trophy—the Mudie Gold Medal (scratch)—was carried off by Robert Stiven, who came in at 83, while the silver average medal was gained by D. D. Davidson with a score of 99, being 13 below his registered number. Some time ago Mr. Samuel M. Low presented a medalet to the club for the best aggregate score of three out of four medal matches. The final for this trophy was also played at the same time on Saturday, and the winner was George Wright, with an aggregate score of 250, thus made up:—81, 85, and 84.

For the clubs presented by Mr. David Anderson, of the Grange, who takes a great interest in the Monifieth Club—two clubs for each class—the conditions being the best aggregate score of the three last matches, the final was played on Saturday with the following result:—1st Class: Tie between George Wright, his scores being 84, 82, and 84=250, and David Robertson, whose scores were 75, 87, and 88=250; 2nd Class: Thomas Brimer, 89, 85, 91=265; 3rd Class: J. Johnston, 97, 96, 98=291. Prizes to each class for the best aggregate score of the same three matches, with odds (or most below their registered number) were presented by Mr. James Barrie, and gained as follows:—1st Class: D. Robertson 250, below 5; 2nd Class: Thomas Brimer 265, below 11; 3rd Class: J. Johnston 291, below 24. A number of balls were presented by the Captain to be competed for in the final competition, the conditions being—Best score, first and second scratch in each class; first and second most below average: 1st Class: most 4's; 2nd Class: most 5's; 3rd Class: most 6's; also a consolation prize in each class for the highest score. The following are the results:—1st Class: 1, scratch, George Wright 84; 2, tie between D. Dempster and Alex. Hutcheson, both 85; Best average, 1 and 2, tie between Geo. Wright, 84; Alex. Hutcheson, 85; D. Anderson, 86; Thos. Christie, 90; and Sam. M. Low 91, all two above. Most 4's: John Fairweather, having 8. Consolation highest score: R. Don, 98. 2nd Class: 1, scratch, R. Stiven, 83; 2, Geo. Pearson, 87. Best average: 1, R. Steven, 83, below 9; 2, Geo. Pearson 87, below 8. Most 5's: D. D. Smith, having 11. Consolation prize, highest score: tie between Walter Livie and J. Chalmers, both 104. 3rd Class: 1, scratch, David Reid, 98; 2, D. D. Davidson, 99. Best average: 1, D. D. Davidson, below 13; 2, tie between R. B. Cowans 103, and Thomas Douglas 104, both 7 below. Consolation prize: highest score gained by Thomas Douglas, 104.

The winners of sweepstakes decided in the above competitions were:—1st Class: tie between Geo. Wright, 84; Alex. Hutcheson, 85; D. Anderson, 86; T. Christie, 90; Sam. M. Low, 91—all two above. 2nd Class: 1, Robert Stiven, 83, below 9; 2, Geo. Pearson 87, below 8; 3, D. D. Smith 89, below 2; 4 and 5, tie between J. Johnston 98, and W. Fox 99, both one below. 3rd Class: 1, D. D. Davidson 99, below 13; 2 and 3 tie between R. B. Cowan 103, and Thos. Douglas 104, both 7 below. It may be added that the members of the Monifieth Club have shown the greatest possible interest in all these competitions. Evidence of this is afforded in the large attendance at the matches, each competition having brought out from twenty-five to thirty couples. The annual supper of the club comes off this (Friday) evening within the Royal Hotel at Monifieth.

### ROYAL LIVERPOOL GOLF CLUB.

The second competition for the winter optional subscription prizes, under handicap, took place at Hoylake on Saturday. The early part of the day was in favour of good scoring, but during the afternoon the wind freshened and it was very cold. Twenty-eight couples competed, and on the cards being handed in it was found that Mr. Arthur Turpin had secured a win in for the first optional subscription prize with his score of 86, less 3=83. A win in for the second optional prize resulted in a tie between Messrs. C. J. G. Duranty and G. N. Francis with their respective net scores of 86. The first sweepstake was won by Mr. A. Turpin, the second by Mr. A. H. Higgins, the third being divided between Messrs. C. J. G. Duranty, W. E. Fairlie, and the Rev. T. P. Williamson. The play resulted as follows:—

Gross. Hcp. Net.			Gross. Hcp. Net.				
Mr. Arthur Turpin...	86	3	83	Mr. Wm. Thomson.	108	17	91
Mr. A. H. Higgins...	91	7	84	Mr. A. Travis	111	20	91
Mr. W. E. Fairlie...	88	2	86	Mr. J. Hornby	103	11	92
Rev. T. P. Williamson	95	9	86	Mr. T. W. Crowther	98	4	94
Mr. G. N. Francis...	106	20	86	Mr. L. S. M. Munro	100	6	94
Mr. C. J. G. Duranty	116	30	86	Mr. Geo. Hamilton	101	7	94
Mr. J. H. Wild	101	14	87	Mr. G. B. Cadell	105	11	94
Mr. J. H. Silverbach	106	19	87	Mr. Herbert Farrar	97	2	95
Mr. John Farrar	99	11	88	Mr. Chas. Holt	110	15	95
Mr. Wm. Bates	111	23	88	Mr. J. A. Smith	112	16	96
Mr. F. Hermon	94	5	89	Mr. A. C. Jones	114	18	96
Mr. Geo. Bell	107	18	89	Mr. H. J. Simpson	105	8	97
Mr. John Ball, jun...	93	+7	90	Mr. Theo. Turpin	120	20	100
Mr. A. G. Rankine	101	11	90	Mr. E. Whineray	105	3	102
Mr. H. Pierce	110	20	90	Mr. W. S. Paterson	129		Not
Mr. W. H. Wilson	105	14	91	Mr. W. Dodd	113		hcp'd.

Twenty-four competitors made no return.

The ties of the St. Andrews Day competition of the second club handicap prize were decided by the above medal round with the following result:—Mr. W. E. Fairlie, 88, less 3=85, (winner); Mr. Hugh Pierce, 110, less 22=88; Mr. J. Hornby, 103, less 12=91; Mr. H. M. Blythe had 20 in the handicap but made no return.

### DUBLIN GOLF CLUB.

The semi-final heat for the captain's prize was played on Saturday in fine, but very cold weather. The links were wonderfully dry, considering the recent heavy fall of snow. Three new holes have been made in the course, which are a great improvement, and the new greens are most promising. Excellent hazards guard each hole in the form of bunkers and a heavy ditch, and altogether the new holes are most sporting.

The following is the result of the play:—Mr. J. W. Peisley White (10) beat Mr. J. Lumsden, jun. (2) by 4 up and 3 to play; Mr. D. Christie (21) beat Mr. G. N. McMurdo (18) by 3 up and 1 to play. Mr. White therefore meets Mr. Christie in the final.

### WHITLEY CLUB.

The Wyndham cup competition was competed for last Saturday on the Whitley links, being the third competition for this, the gift of the captain (Mr. F. W. Wyndham). The weather was favourable for the game, and ten couples in all started for the contest. The course was in nice condition, owing to the care bestowed on it by the professionals engaged by the club. That well-known North of England player, Mr. R. T. Thomson, playing in his best style, carried off premier honours, and at the same time established another record for this course by beating that previously made by the hon. sec. (Mr. Radcliffe) by one stroke. His score was 84 for the 18 holes plus 2, total 86. Dr. A. Wilson was second with handicap 8, net 96. The remainder of the players did not make any returns.

### BON-ACCORD CLUB.

The members of this club competed on Saturday last, over the usual course on Aberdeen links, for the monthly scratch and handicap medals. When the cards handed in were compared, it was found that Mr. William Smart had gained the scratch medal with a score of 91; while Messrs. J. W. Murray and Charles Ward tied for the handicap with scores of 93 (5 off) 88, and 100 (12 off) 88 respectively. The following were next in order:—Mr. Henry Glass, 98; and Mr. James Florence, 99.

NORTH BERWICK.

Over the North Berwick links last week the royal and ancient game was more regularly engaged in than it has been for some time past. The favourable golfing weather of Saturday was responsible for a comparatively large influx of players per rail, and amongst the visitors for the day were Mr J. E. Laidlay and Mr. Leslie M. Balfour. These first-class amateurs enjoyed a friendly round of the green in the forenoon. Each was in unexceptionable form, and as a consequence excellent and interestingly equal play characterised the game. The match remained undecided until the home hole was reached, standing dormy one in favour of Mr. Laidlay at Pointgarry—in disc. Playing faultlessly for the "Home," Mr. Balfour gave his opponent a rather long pull to halve the hole and win the match. Mr. Laidlay proved equal to the task, and accordingly gained a very fine match by one. The same player drove from the tee and had a short game in the afternoon. Amongst others over the green in the course of the day were Mr. W. G. Bloxson, Mr. Menzies, Captain R. G. Suttie, and Mr. J. R. Whitecross (a veteran member of the Tantallon Club). Captain Suttie and Mr. Whitecross engaged in a friendly single of two rounds. In the forenoon the latter, playing admirably, was successful over his opponent by four up and three to play. A splendid match in the afternoon ultimately lay in favour of Mr. Whitecross by three up and one to play. It may be here observed that in their palmy days Provost Brodie and Bailie Whitecross were enthusiastic golfers, and in a foursome made a very formidable couple indeed.

The members of the Bass Rock Club mustered on Saturday to decide the destination for the ensuing year of the handsome allowance trophy. The badge is offered for monthly competition, the member gaining it most frequently during the various contests being honoured by the possession of the trophy for the following year. Among the members generally interest in the result of the competition suffered somewhat owing to the fact that Mr. James Mitchell had already thrice gained the badge and was the probable winner. Mr. Mitchell, who is one of the youngest members of the club, was unfortunate in his game on Saturday, his card showing the high return of 91 for the round. He was, however, declared the holder of the trophy for the ensuing year, the lowest score for the day being returned by a member who had only once previously been successful in the handicap monthly contests during the year. This was a register of 78 by Mr. John Forrest who, as scratch champion of the club, has the honour, but doubtful advantage, of plus five for a handicap. The details of Mr. Forrest's actual score were as appended:—

Out ... ..	5	5	5	4	3	5	3	3	4	4	=	41
In ... ..	5	5	4	2	4	6	6	5	3	7	=	37
Total ... ..												78

ABERDEEN.

The members of the Aberdeen Club held their usual monthly competition on Saturday last over the Balgownie Links for the scratch medal and Colonel Burgmann's cup. The weather, barring a few slight showers, which, however, did not interfere with the play, was on the whole favourable, and there was a large turn-out of competitors, though very few handed in their cards. On a comparison being made, it was found that Mr. W. R. Reid, with the splendid score of 83 (3 off) 80, had carried off both prizes. The following are a few of the lowest scores:—

Gross. Hcp. Net.		Gross. Hcp. Net.	
Mr. W. R. Reid ...	83	3	80
Mr. J. R. Whyte ...	93	6	87
Mr. F. McCrae ...	89	0	89
Dr. J. Macdonald ...	97	6	91
Mr. G. Turriff ...	97	6	91
Mr. D. Littlejohn ...	95	3	92
Mr. W. F. Orr ...	95	0	95
Mr. W. G. Jamieson ...	98	3	95
Mr. G. G. Wilkie ...	98	3	95

GLASGOW CLUB.

Golfers in the west of Scotland were favoured with lovely weather on Saturday, and some of the greens were crowded. At Glasgow it was the usual monthly handicap medals day, and the favourable conditions attracted a large turn-out of competitors to Alexandra Park—no less than fifty-two couples starting, a very unusual start for a monthly medal. The list included nearly all the cracks of the club, and as a result there were several low scores. That of D. Bone's was the lowest,

viz., 73, albeit, that he had two sixes where no such figures should have been. The details of Mr. Bone's score, which is among the lowest made in a club competition, are as follows:—

Out ... ..	3	4	4	6	4	3	3	4	3=34	} 73
In ... ..	3	4	5	3	5	4	5	4	6=39	

Mr. Bone's score was the lowest score for the medal, but as he had previously won it he could not again take it during the season. Mr. F. G. Tulloch had a 78, but as he also had won it during the season he could not take it, and it accordingly fell to Mr. R. Philp with 81, less 3=78. Mr. A. H. Doleman went round in 79; Mr. James Shaw, 82, less 2=80.

The Wilson medal fell to Mr. J. Hutton with 81, less 6=75; J. Stevenson, 89, less 11=78.

The Scott medal was won by Mr. M. L. Macaulay with 89, less 16=73; and among the other scores were Dr. J. Watt, 92, less 17=75; Mr. W. M. Shanks, 94, less 16=78. The other scratch scores below 90 were:—Mr. D. G. Rose, 81; Mr. J. S. Carrick, 83; Mr. F. K. Weir, 86; Mr. D. G. Miller, 87; Mr. J. Brown, 87; Mr. G. K. Thomson, 89. To-morrow (Saturday) the twelve winners in each division play off to decide the possession of the Club, Wilson, and Scott medals.

KING JAMES THE VI. (PERTH) v. ST. ANDREWS UNIVERSITY.

The return match between these clubs was played on the North Inch on Saturday. Sixteen couples started. The weather was favourable, and the greens were in fair condition. In the first match at St. Andrews King James VI. were defeated by 17, but in the present match Perth defeated St. Andrews by exactly the same number. Considerable interest was manifested in the leading couple, Messrs. Dunsmore, Perth, and Carmichael, St. Andrews; the former losing by a hole on each round. The following are the respective scores of the players:—

		CARMICHAEL.											
First round ...	...	5	5	6	3	4	4	4	5	4	5	5=55	
Second round...	...	4	5	5	4	4	3	5	5	5	5	5=55	
		DUNSMORE.											
First round ...	...	4	5	6	5	4	4	4	5	5	4	6	4=56
Second round...	...	5	5	5	5	4	4	4	5	5	5	4	4=55

KING JAMES VI. ST. ANDREWS UNIVERSITY.

	1st Rnd.	2nd Rnd.		1st Rnd.	2nd Rnd.
R. Dunsmore ...	0	0	T. Carmichael ...	1	1
R. Keay ...	0	1	John T. Paterson ...	3	0
R. Halley ...	0	1	P. C. Anderson ...	2	0
Jas. Paterson ...	2	0	D. W. M. Hodge ...	0	3
Jas. Donaldson ...	2	0	R. Johnstone ...	0	2
D. S. Grant ...	0	0	R. Barclay ...	0	2
G. T. Cairncross ...	6	1	R. L. Proudfoot ...	0	0
Jas. C. Dow ...	2	0	J. Williamson ...	0	0
A. Jamieson ...	0	0	Alan Cant ...	4	0
J. Hay, jun. ...	0	0	H. M. Kyle ...	0	1
A. T. Mackay ...	1	7	C. A. King ...	0	0
J. Robertson ...	0	0	Walter Anderson ...	3	3
Alex. Robertson ...	0	0	Alex. McKenzie ...	5	0
J. F. Haig ...	5	6	P. O. Macdonald ...	0	0
Wm. Garvie ...	1	3	W. W. Wilson ...	0	0
Rector Chambers ...	5	4	Andrew Hewit ...	0	0
	24	23		18	12

Majority for King James VI. Club, 17 holes.

CLEVELAND CLUB.

The challenge cup competition promoted by the club took place on the 5th and 6th inst. The late rains in the neighbourhood had made the course somewhat heavy, but the play was good, and some excellent scores were made. Mr. D. Crawford was returned the winner. Scores:—

Gross. Hcp. Net.		Gross. Hcp. Net.	
Mr. D. Crawford ...	116	24	92
Mr. H. Roberts ...	98	scr.	98
Mr. J. W. Kyle ...	120	20	100
Mr. W. Young ...	116	10	106
Mr. J. Rodham ...	117	10	107
Mr. P. Rame ...	129	22	107
Mr. A. Scott ...	135	27	108
Mr. D. McKay ...	111	3	108
Mr. C. McKenzie ...	114	5	109
Mr. J. Scott ...	123	12	111
Mr. C. Scott ...	128	15	113

The remainder of the competitors made no returns.

## THE LUNDIN GOLF CLUB, LARGO.

This club held its December competition for the handicap medal on Saturday, 6th December, the cross-wind being considerably against low scoring. The cards showed good scoring, however, especially that of Mr. Bremner, who registered 39 out and 49 in. The following are the three best scores:—Mr. Davidson 97, less 8=89; Mr. Bremner 88, owes 2=90; Col. Mackinnon 95, less 0=95.

## THE LUNDIN LADIES' GOLF CLUB, LARGO.

This club promises to be one of the most successful in the country. It is a young club, having only been in existence since last summer, but the membership, however, is very considerable. The nine-hole course used last summer was considered very good, having numerous hazards of various descriptions, and wonderfully good putting-greens. Complaints were ever being made by the fair players at not having sufficient scope to wield the club between holes—a complaint very prevalent in ladies' clubs. This club is now fortunate enough to avoid such complaints, for it has succeeded in securing a course, through the kindness of Mr. Forgan, the tenant, at a reasonable rental. The course is a circular one of nine holes, and the ladies now find they can bring into requisition any kind of club, as the length between the holes varies from 270 to 70 yards. The course is not without hazards—the want of which forms another grievance with the ladies—for at each hole there are difficulties, whether in the shape of whins, bunkers, water (occasionally), or rabbit-holes and “scrapes.” The putting-greens are all natural, and the turf is better in most cases than on some gentlemen's links, where care has been taken for years to put them in order. Apart from the superiority of the ground as a Golf course, it is situated amid scenery not to be surpassed on the shores of the beautiful Forth. At its head there are the neat cottages known as Lundin Links, in the foreground with Largo Law peeping over just to see that the ladies don't “top, toe, or heel” the ball. At its feet lies the far-famed Largo Bay, and at its east arm the quiet little village of Lower Largo, while at its west arm the grand old woods of Lundin afford the not least pleasant aspect to the visitor's eye. Another thing greatly in favour of this club's success is the ample accommodation to be had for visitors at any time of the year. Houses can always be had for the week, month, or year, and living is by no means expensive, as is the case in many places where Golf is the central attraction. The “turning” hole of this new course is within a few yards of Lundin Links station, and Largo station, where all fast trains stop, is ten minutes' walk from the ninth hole. Mrs. Gilmour, Montrave, has consented to become patroness of the club, and Mrs. Salmon, Elphinstone, Lundin links, the secretary. The services of a man are being employed to put the course in a further state of perfection, if that be possible. The North British Railway divides this links from the commencement of the “Lundin and Leven” gentlemen's links. Both courses are now private.

## ASHDOWN FOREST AND TUNBRIDGE WELLS GOLF CLUB.

A professional match was played on Saturday over the links at Forest Row, East Grinstead, when Douglas Rolland, Limsfield (late of Malvern), beat Harry Hunter, Ashdown Forest, 14 up. A foursome was afterwards played, in which H. Hunter and F. Skene beat D. Rolland and J. O. Scott 4 up 3 to play. Rolland played a magnificent round.

Rolland's figures were as follows:—

Out ... ..	4 4 5 3 4 4 4 4 5=37
In ... ..	4 4 5 4 6 3 4 3 4=37
Total ... ..	74

This is the more creditable to Rolland when it is remembered that Saturday last was only the second time that he had ever seen the Ashdown Forest links. The men are to play a return match at Limsfield at some future date not yet arranged.

## ROYAL ASCOT GOLF CLUB.

The monthly competition for club prizes took place on Saturday, December 6th, and attracted a large number of competitors. Owing to the severe north-east wind, however, many members failed to make returns. Mr. J. Oswald won the handicap and scratch prizes with a score of 88, less 8=80.

Gross. Hcp. Net.			Gross. Hcp. Net.				
J. Oswald ... ..	88	8	80	H. Sawyer ... ..	108	15	93
C. C. Clarke... ..	104	22	82	R. A. H. Mitchell... ..	94	scr.	94
C. E. Austin Leigh	102	13	89	F. Tarver ... ..	104	10	94
W. R. L'Amey ... ..	104	14	90				

No returns from C. E. Ferrard, F. F. Mackenzie, J. J. Patton, E. H. Saulez, C. E. Haig, H. C. Clarke, H. H. Longman, E. Ponsonby, F. A. Govitt, H. F. de Paravicini, L. B. Keyser, Col. Edeu, H. Eden, Lord C. Cunningham, W. Durnford.

It has been decided that Mr. C. E. Haig's prize shall be played for on Saturday, December 13th, having been postponed from Saturday, November 29th, on account of snow.

## ST. ANDREWS CLUB-MAKERS' GOLF CLUB.

This newly organised club brought its first competition to a successful termination on Tuesday. The members have had presented to them a handsome gold medal, and in addition to this trophy, which is to be played for twice a year, a number of prizes, mainly subscribed for by the club-makers themselves, invest the competition with an additional attraction. In the first round, an old ex-champion, Jamie Anderson, and W. Auchterlonie, tied for the medal at 89, but in a decisive round the younger man beat Jamie by long odds, and won with the remarkably fine score of 80, the details of which are as follows:—

Out ... ..	4 6 7 4 4 5 4 3 5=42	80
In ... ..	5 3 3 5 5 4 4 5 4=38	

The other prize winners were:—Davie Anderson, scratch, 91; George Brews, scratch, 91; David Auchterlonie, with odds, 91; John Cuthbert, with odds, 91; David Herd, with odds, 93; Bob Martin, scratch, 93.

## ALDEBURGH GOLF CLUB.

The silver monthly challenge medal was played for on Saturday, the 6th inst., and resulted again in a victory for Mr. T. B. Pettit. Owing to very boisterous weather few members entered.

The next competition will take place on December 27th instead of the first Saturday in January.

## ROYAL ANCIENT GOLF CLUB.

The monthly handicap competition took place on Wednesday in rather adverse circumstances, the weather being cold with a high and troublesome wind. There was, however, a good representative field of the resident members. The result was as follows:—

Gross. Hcp. Net.			Gross. Hcp. Net.					
Mr. J. H. Blackwell,	jun. ... ..	91	scr.	91	Mr. W. R. Sharp ... ..	105	9	96
Mr. H. S. C. Everard	95	scr.	95	Mr. W. Logan ... ..	104	7	97	
Mr. Tomson Glover	109	14	95	Mr. M. A. Canch ... ..	117	18	99	
Mr. A. F. Macfie... ..	95	+1	96	Mr. J. L. Luke ... ..	107	6	101	
Mr. R. Gilroy ... ..	100	4	96	Col. A. Fordyce ... ..	111	6	105	
Mr. A. Briggs ... ..	100	4	96					

CADDIES' COMPETITION.—The annual competition among the first-class caddies employed by the Aberdeen Club took place on Wednesday, December 3rd, over the Balgownie Links course. A sum of £4 10s. was subscribed amongst the members of the club, and divided into ten prizes. The following is the result of the competition:—

Gross. Hcp. Net.			Gross. Hcp. Net.				
Mearne, £1 1s. ... ..	80	0	80	Macdonald, 8s. ... ..	103	15	88
Cheyne, 15s. ... ..	99	15	84	Gillanders, 7s. ... ..	101	12	89
Annand, 10s. 6d. ... ..	86	0	86	Ogilvie, 6s. ... ..	119	20	99
Anderson, 10s. 6d. ... ..	98	12	86	Sutherland, 5s. ... ..	131	22	109

Curtis, 4s. 6d., and Urquhart, 2s. 6d.  
Curtis and Urquhart were partners, but did not finish the round, Urquhart giving up.