

# GOLF.

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

"Far and Sure."

[REGISTERED AS A NEWSPAPER.]

No. 18. Vol. I.]

[COPYRIGHT.]

FRIDAY, JANUARY 16TH, 1891.

Price Twopence.

10s. 6d. per Annum, Post Free.  
India and the Colonies, 15s.



1891.

## JANUARY.

- 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.  
Disley: Third Winter Handicap.  
Dublin: Monthly Medal.  
Royal Epping Forest: Quarterly Medal, &c.  
Redhill and Reigate: Club Medal.  
Aberdeen: Pickop Cup.
- Jan. 19.—Luffness: President's Prize Clubs and Hope Challenge Cup.
- Jan. 21.—Royal Epping Forest: Spurling-Kentish Gold Medal;  
Noakes Cup.
- Jan. 23.—Redhill and Reigate: Dinner at the Métropole—Sir Trevor  
Lawrence, M.P., President, in the chair.
- Jan. 24.—Birkdale: The Captain's Cup.  
Whitley: Crawley Prize.
- Jan. 26.—Cambridge University: General Meeting.
- Jan. 27.—Whitley: The Joicey Cup.  
Pau: Macnab Cup.
- Jan. 30.—Luffness: Club Handicap Medal; Captain's and President's  
Medal.
- Jan. 31.—Seaford: Monthly Medal.  
Prestwick St. Nicholas: Bailie Wilson's Medal.  
Royal Liverpool: Winter Optional Subscription Prizes.  
Royal Epping Forest: Gordon Challenge Cup; Captain's  
Prize.  
Haydock Park: Legh Challenge Cup; Annual General  
Meeting and Dinner.

## FEBRUARY.

- Feb. 3.—Birkdale: Ladies' Prize.
- Feb. 7.—Whitley: Wyndham Cup.  
Birkdale: Mackenzie Cup.  
Lanark: Quarterly Competition for Gold Ball and other  
Prizes.  
Bowdon: First Monthly Medal Competition with Optional  
Sweepstakes.

- Feb. 7.—Haydock Park: Captain's Cup.  
Aberdeen: Burgmann Cup and Scratch Medal.
- Feb. 10.—Pau: Town of Pau Gold Medal and St. Andrew's Cross.  
Whitley: Joicey Cup.  
Royal Epping Forest: Kentish Cup.  
Hayling Island Ladies Club: Monthly Competition for  
Bath Challenge Star.
- Feb. 12.—Pau: Town of Pau Gold Medal and St. Andrew's Cross.
- Feb. 14.—Whitley: Crawley Prize.  
Lytham and St. Anne's: Captain's Cup Competitions.  
Tooting Bec: Monthly Medal.  
Littlestone: Monthly Medal.  
West Herts: Monthly Medal.
- Feb. 17.—Pau: May Jubilee Medal.
- Feb. 18.—Royal Epping Forest: Spurling-Kentish Gold Medal;  
Noakes Cup.
- Feb. 21.—Whitley: Emmerson Prize.  
Birkdale: Club Medal.  
Prestwick St. Nicholas: Meikle and McLaren Prizes.  
Disley: Fourth Winter Handicap.  
Dublin: Monthly Medal (final).  
Aberdeen: Pickop Cup.
- Feb. 24.—Whitley: Joicey Cup.
- Feb. 28.—Birkdale: The Buckley Cup.  
Seaford: Monthly Medal.  
Royal Epping Forest: Gordon Challenge Cup; Captain's  
Prize.  
Royal Liverpool: Winter Optional Subscription Prize.  
Haydock Park: Legh Challenge Cup.

## MARCH

- Mar. 3.—Birkdale: Ladies' Prize.  
Hayling Island Ladies Club: Monthly Competition for  
Bath Challenge Star.
- Mar. 7.—Birkdale: Mackenzie Cup.  
Aberdeen: Burgmann Cup and Scratch Medal.  
Bowdon: Second Monthly Medal.
- Mar. 10.—Pau: Duke of Hamilton's Medal and Pendant; Macnab  
Challenge Cup and Badge.  
Whitley: Joicey Cup.  
Royal Epping Forest: Kentish Cup.
- Mar. 12.—Pau: Havemeyer Cup.
- Mar. 14.—Pau: Annual Meeting to elect Officers.  
Whitley: Crawley Prize.  
Lytham and St. Anne's: Captain's Cup Competition.  
Tooting Bec: Monthly Medal.  
Littlestone: Monthly Medal.  
West Herts: Monthly Medal.
- Mar. 18.—Royal Epping Forest: Spurling-Kentish Gold Medal;  
Noakes Cup.
- Mar. 19.—Pau: Scratch Gold Medal—Ladies' Club.
- Mar. 21.—Disley: Fifth Winter Handicap.  
Birkdale: Club Medal.  
Whitley: Wyndham Cup.  
Royal Epping Forest: Quarterly Medal.  
Aberdeen: Pickop Cup.
- Mar. 24.—Whitley: Joicey Cup.
- Mar. 26.—Pau: Scratch Silver Medal—Ladies' Cup.
- Mar. 28.—Seaford: Monthly Medal.

## HOYLAKE.

We learn from the pages of the "Golfing Annual" that there are now in existence upwards of two hundred greens where Golf is played; of these but a small percentage can lay claim to any great amount of *prestige*, but included in this percentage is undoubtedly Hoylake, which, from small beginnings, has earned its full right to a favourable comparison with Westward Ho! Prestwick, St. Andrews, or any acknowledged classical haunts where golfers most do congregate. Our readers need scarcely be informed that at any rate one "Celebrity at Home" is to be found there, nor need they be reminded that on the Cheshire green the present double champion first began to learn the game which he has now brought to such perfection as to have succeeded in distancing as strong and representative a field of professional talent as ever faced the starter. But Mr. John Ball, jun., comes of a sturdy race—"like father like son"—and owing to wonderful natural aptitude, backed by pluck, concentration, and grit, the tale of Flodden Field has been repeated, affording much food for reflection to the exponents of high-class Golf in the North. But this is perhaps a digression, and we may turn our attention to the links themselves.

Hoylake itself, it must be confessed at the outset, does not at first sight strike the outsider as a place possessing any very enchanting attractions, apart, that is to say, from Golf. It is a true tale that a golfer once went there, taking with him a friend uneducated and alien to the game; the latter managed, by exercise of much self-control, to possess his soul in patience till the end of the round, but then gave vent to his feelings as follows:—"You'll excuse me, my dear chap, but this is decidedly the most blank-forsaken place I've ever been in in my life." Situated in what is known as the Wirral peninsula, at the confluence of the Mersey and the Dee, it is within easy reach of Liverpool, affording a splendid recreation from the cares of business to the sporting denizens of that city. To play the course properly, pretty straight driving is required, for fields that one would rather like to visit on account of the excellence of the lies they afford have to be avoided under penalty of loss of the distance, and, in one case, of a stroke besides. In addition to these, some respectable natural bunkers, supplemented by artificial ones, and rabbit-holes, constitute the hazards, the whole reinforced by rushes, bents, and what are locally known as "cops," or turf embankments with a sandy ditch on each side. It may be as well to remember that on this green a lost ball is held to be a ball which is not recovered, so that if your opponent drives into a rabbit-hole, even though he and you can see his ball there ensconced, but just out of reach, you are free, his protests notwithstanding, to penalise him a stroke and the distance. There is no rule, however, to prevent the employment of specially trained terriers or ferrets on emergencies of this description. The majority of golfers who visit Hoylake will put up at the Royal Hotel, immediately in front of which is the tee to the first hole. Two good drives will get home, but the second has to carry a formidable bunker in front of the green, and, if it is at all heeled, a terrible rabbit country on the right will exact a penalty. Turning sharp to the right, two good drives and an iron will take us home to number two; the hole is on a race-course, flanked on the left by rabbit country, on the right by a ditch, and out-of-bounds field. The putting here is beautifully true, though this may be said also of every green at Hoylake: it is, indeed, one of its leading characteristics. This hole is a good one, for the breadth of the race-course is only some thirty yards or so, and straightness of approach within these limits is a necessity. The third and fourth holes are each represented by a drive and short iron shot, and then comes a long and somewhat tricky hole, in which straightness is of cardinal and prime importance. The teeing ground is close to a ditch and fence on the left, on the other side of which, running almost the whole length of the hole, is a forbidden field. About a hundred and eighty yards or so from the tee runs a cross ditch, at a rather aggravating distance, too far to carry, yet near enough to trap a good shot. The long cleek-driver, such as Mr. Ball, jun., negotiates this hole by two full cleek shots and an iron approach; by these tactics accuracy is ensured, but with a contrary wind, the hole is too long to get up to in this way, in which case he who drives furthest and straightest has the best chance. A second

cross ditch guards the approach to the hole, while rushes are to the right, and also beyond it. But, oh! competitor, avoid the ditches like the plague: they are deep, and their bottoms are hard, neither is there any comfortable rest for the sole of the foot, for they are also narrow. It once happened to the writer to have a partner for a medal, who at this hole selected the ditch on the left into which to hook his tee shot; he whacked his ball up it as far as the first cross ditch, then turning on his tracks hustled it back again along the bottom of the hateful culvert until he had all but reached the original tee, or starting point, by which time, having expended five-and-twenty shots in that hole without any very perceptible progress, he desisted, and rightly, from further effort. If this hole is taken in five, it will be good play. A pretty hole comes next, the tee is usually a few yards behind a turf fence which effectually stops the further progress of a too skimming shot; at a distance of a hundred and forty yards or so is a "cop," which must be carried to reach the hole: it is a long shot for an iron, but a cleek or middle spoon should compass it, and, if all goes well, a three is a probable number. Two shortish holes precede the last hole out, which requires two long straight shots and an iron approach, broken ground to the right, to the left forbidden territory. For perfect play the half-round out may be set down at from 38 to 40, though some of Mr. John Ball, jun.'s performances (notably in his final with Mr. Laidlay in the 1890 Amateur Championship) improve even on the lowest of these estimates.

Turning our backs on the village of West Kirby, some houses of which are close to this end of the links, we proceed homewards. Within the last year a great improvement has been given effect to on the return journey, which formerly, with a crowded green, was spiced with a considerable deal of peril, for the outward and homeward bound streams met each other face to face along a narrow course; but now, by utilising more ground in the direction of the Dee, alongside of which, roughly speaking, the course in the greater portion of its length may be said to lie, comparative, nay, almost absolute immunity from attack is ensured. Two punch-bowls are visited on the way home, at the tenth and twelfth holes, the latter being situated in the newly annexed territory above mentioned. The first is a fairly easy five, the second a four; shortly after this we have a short hole, which young Tommy Morris was wont to describe as the best with which he was acquainted; since his day, however, it has undergone some alteration: it is now an iron shot, often a pretty long one for that club, over some rushes, and over an artificial ditch which runs very obliquely to the line of fire; beyond the green is rough ground formerly honeycombed by rabbits, but now to some extent made easier. A three is the proper number, but disaster is often courted in the endeavour to draw the tee shot too fine, and failing to clear the intervening hazards; the temptation to do so is strong, for the perfect shot is all carry, with scarcely a yard of run. What is known as the Field Hole follows, two drives and an iron; it is by no means easy, on account of the obtrusiveness of sundry ditches at various points of the journey; should everything go right, the third shot should be a very pretty loft over a rush bed, and short of broken ground beyond. It is often good policy to take a short club for the second shot at this hole. The next one, known as the Lake, is also good: it can sometimes be reached by two long drives, but woe betide a heeled ball from the tee, for the chances are that it will be lost in a rabbit-hole; with a cross wind from the left an out-of-bounds field is liable to be visited at the second shot; and this same hazard with its boundary ditches forms the principal point of attraction for similar shots bound for the penultimate seventeenth, a good five. We now turn and finish, let us hope with a four, in front of the club-window, and not far from the starting tee. If for the return journey 39 or 40 is totalled, there will be no room for complaint.

Besides Mr. John Ball, jun., Hoylake can boast the possession of sundry other good men and true, one of whom, Mr. H. H. Hilton, recently accomplished the excellent feat of winning the North Berwick tournament one day, travelling up the same night and winning the medal at Hoylake next day with a score of 82. In the writer's opinion, a description of Hoylake may be appropriately closed by a reference to the genial and popular secretary of the club, Mr. Thomas Owen Potter. It may be said that this gentleman is a friend to every golfer, and more especially to such as are pleased to pay a visit to the Cheshire Links. To

his untiring exertions and enthusiasm is due, in very great measure, the success this club has attained; his "musical evenings," the day's labour over, are appreciated alike by *habitues* of the place and the stranger within the gates, and the latter, whatever his experience of the Links, can have but one opinion of the welcome and cheery word he will be sure to receive from Mr. T. O. Potter.

H. S. C. EVERARD.

#### WEST CORNWALL GOLF CLUB.

The annual general meeting of the above club was held at the club-room on Lelant Towans, on Tuesday, 6th inst., Mr. H. H. Batten in the chair. The treasurer, Mr. P. Marrack, presented the balance-sheet for the year ending Nov. 30th, 1890, which showed that £48 had been expended on the pavilion, its furniture and fittings, and over £40 on the ground and other expenses connected with the working of the club. The sundries came to a small amount, and the new year opened with a balance on the right side. The Right Hon. Lord St. Leven was re-elected president; Messrs. T. B. Bolitho, M.P., C. F. Praed and R. G. W. Tyringham, vice-presidents; Mr. T. H. Cornish, captain; Mr. P. Marrack, treasurer; Rev. R. T. Tyacke, secretary; and W. C. G. Taylor, assistant-secretary. The vacancies in the committee were filled up by the appointment of Rev. W. M. De La Touche and Mr. J. W. Wilkinson. The rule as to the introduction of strangers was amended, their fee being made 5s. for a fortnight's play; 10s. for a month. Mr. P. Marrack was requested to insure the pavilion against fire, and the secretary was desired to have an entrance made on the Hayle side to the pavilion-yard, and to make arrangements for the immediate and regular stopping of rabbit scratches on the green. When this last work is completed and carried out the West Cornwall links will be far away the best nine-hole course in the West of England, as the putting-greens are already large and in good order; whilst other greens have been covered with snow this one has been open and played on every day since the commencement of the cold weather.

At the conclusion of the general meeting a committee meeting was held, at which arrangements were made for matches to be played on the last Saturday of each month up to May, and for a match between the winners on some day in June. A handicapping committee was appointed, new members elected, and other business transacted.

It is very generally recognised that the marvellous health which Mr. Gladstone enjoys is due to the ceaseless vigilance with which Mrs. Gladstone wards off the beginning of physical mischief to her spouse. The following anecdote well illustrates the kind and degree of care which the lady thus bestows on him. Some time ago the Gladstones were spending a part of the winter in Florence, and the King of Italy, hearing of this, dispatched a Court Chamberlain from Rome specially to conduct them over the private living apartments of the Pitti Palace, which are inaccessible to the vulgar tourist. In the banqueting hall of the Palace, the Gladstonian party was shown a unique gold dinner service, wrought by Benvenuto Cellini in his prime. The pieces were handed round for loving admiration, and to the delight of all present it began to be whispered about that Mr. Gladstone (who is a thorough master of the subject) would favour them with a short discourse on the history and merits of the work. They gathered close around him, and in dead silence the Court Chamberlain handed him the great central rose-water dish, which he was to use by way of text. Taking this in his hand, and raising one foot upon a chair—thereby displaying a long length of cotton hose—he was just about to begin his exordium when a still, small voice was heard remarking from the outskirts of the circle—"That's a dreadfully thin pair of socks you've got on, William." The lecture never came off, but Mr. Gladstone was saved from a perhaps dangerous illness by the timely hint, for he went home, changed his socks, and started for a three-mile walk to hear a special Catholic service in honour of some popular hero of mediæval Florence.

#### ADVICE TO YOUNG GOLFERS.

##### I.

It is proposed to publish, in this paper, a series of articles under the above head, which it is hoped will be acceptable to all young players.

The adjective "young" is used in the sense of including not only those who are young in years but also those who are young at the game.

A golfer can rarely choose his links. As the game is merely an amusement to the amateur he must, in ordinary circumstances, play over the green which is most adjacent. Nothing therefore need be said here upon this subject.

In regard to clubs, a beginner should keep in view that it is much better for him to be able to play two or three clubs really well, than to have a large and varied assortment, which it is impossible he can, from their very number, use with the same dexterity. In the course of time he will, no doubt, be able to rely, with considerable certainty, upon playing any club comparatively well, but this can only be after much practice. Moreover, as will be pointed out hereafter, confidence and decision are the very soul of the game, and if a player once hesitate as to which club he should take for any particular stroke, the result will generally be a fizzle. Now, if he has only a few clubs to choose from, he is less likely to be perplexed when a difficult stroke requires to be played. For these reasons, the fewer clubs a beginner has the better consistent with what are really required.

Five clubs are all that are necessary, viz.: a driver, or play-club, a brassy, a cleek, an iron, and a mashie. The best use of them can only be learned by actual experience. It may however be stated, in a general way, that the driver is intended for strokes from the tee or starting-place, and for full strokes where the ball lies clear on the green. The brassy is used for playing off a road, or hard ground, and where the ball does not lie clear on the green, such as when it is in a "cup" or among heavy grass, the cleek, where neither driver nor brassy can be used, also for playing long strokes approaching to the hole, and for short strokes (or putts as they are called) within 20 yards of the hole. The iron is used for lofting the ball where necessary, and for approaches, and the mashie for short lofts and approaches and for playing out of sand.

Of these clubs the driver, which is almost perpendicular in the face (*i.e.*, that part of the head with which the ball is struck), will send the ball the greatest distance. In the brassy the face is lofted (or sloped back) more or less, and it therefore sends the ball higher.

The cleek again, among the iron clubs, should have least loft, the iron somewhat more, and the mashie most of all.

In playing matches it is well to have a spare driver and brassy at hand to supply the place of a club breaking. The above are the clubs which are recommended, although it may be stated that a very good game can be played with a driver and a cleek, with perhaps the addition of an iron or a mashie.

Besides the clubs above mentioned several others are made, such as spoons, putters, &c. Spoons are much the same as drivers, but with a good deal of loft on the face. They are subdivided into long, mid, and short, depending upon the length of shaft, and are meant to be used where the ground on which the ball lies is not on the same level as that on which the player stands. Spoons are now fast becoming obsolete, and are in fact unnecessary. Of putters, which are used, as the name signifies, for putts only, there are a great variety both of wood and metal, but none of them are really required. The majority of professional players now-a-days putt with the cleek. The niblick also should be mentioned. It is the best club for taking the ball out of sand or bad lies, but requires to be used with precision. The mashie is the next best, and is useful in other ways as well; it is unnecessary to have both.

A number of modifications have within the past few years been made upon the old-fashioned club.

These modifications consist principally of the bulger, a club with a convex or rounded (instead of the ordinary flat) face—lofting irons which have been patented—and shafts with wire cores (on the same principle as fishing rods). The bulger has been very much praised by Mr. Horace G. Hutchinson, who is certainly a good authority on golfing matters, but on the other



hand, it does not appear to find favour among professional golfers; and in the last important match, viz., that played between Willie Park the ex-champion, and Andrew Kirkcaldy, the bulger was conspicuous by its absence.

The patent irons again are clubs which a beginner is better without. They are undoubtedly useful, but require dexterous handling, and the occasions for which they are specially adapted are of comparatively rare occurrence on most greens. As yet the advantages of the wire-core have to be proved. Willie Park, of Musselburgh, has recently patented a driving-club which is intended in a measure to supersede wooden clubs, but it has not had time to have a fair trial. Beginners are much better to learn with the clubs before recommended; and if after practice they think that an addition to their set would improve their play, this can easily be made.

In choosing his clubs the player should take care to see that the driver and brassy are about the same weight, the brassy, if anything, the heavier of the two. This also applies to the cleek, iron and mashie, the cleek the lighter, and the iron and mashie heavier, if anything. No rule can be laid down as to the weight of each club. Some players prefer heavy clubs, and others light clubs. The weight depends upon the player. It is better to begin with light clubs than heavy ones, as the latter tend to develop and encourage a bad style of play. Weight in a golfing sense does not mean the number of ounces avoirdupois which a club may weigh. It refers more to the relation which the actual weight of the head bears to the shaft of the club, and the general feel which the club has in the hands of the player.

The length of the club also depends upon the player, who should choose what appears best to suit himself. Most young players are apt to fall into the fault of selecting clubs which are too long; but it should be kept in mind, that there is less command over a long club than over a short one, and any little distance lost on a drive through using the latter, will be more than made up by the surer hitting which will be obtained thereby.

In wooden clubs the heads are generally made of either beech or appletree. Beech is undoubtedly the best. Appletree though it lasts longer is too hard. If an appletree head is chosen, it should have a leather face put into it. The best shafts are of hickory, and all others should be rejected. There are white hickory and brown hickory, but the one is as good as the other. If split hickory shafts can be obtained so much the better, but they are more expensive and more difficult to get. The only difference between split and sawn hickory is that the former, as its name implies, is split off the log. This insures the grain of the wood being straight, and hence the shaft has more elasticity.

In regard to the suppleness of the shaft, there is the greatest difference of opinion, not only among amateurs but also among professionals, and, as a matter of fact, one of the best known cracks, who, at the beginning of his career, used clubs with very stiff shafts, afterwards showed a partiality for the very opposite extreme. It is, however, admitted on all hands that with stiff shafts more accurate play is obtained, and this alone should be a sufficient recommendation. A beginner therefore should select clubs with stiff shafts. Of course, this advice must be followed with discretion, the shafts, although stiff, ought to be springy and not rigid, otherwise they will be fatiguing to play with. A good shaft should bend evenly from the top of the lashing which secures the head to near the leather on the handle, the greatest curvature being between the top of the lashing and the middle of the shaft, the cleek iron and mashie should have much stiffer shafts than wooden clubs.

Heads which have plenty of wood in them across the top and have also a good depth of face should be selected in preference to others. Large heads are always clumsy and objectionable. In a cleek the blade should be very much the same thickness throughout. Irons and mashies should have blades thicker at the bottom than at the top, as this helps to loft the ball.

A good club ought to be well finished in every detail. The bone and lead should fit nicely into the head, as unless this be the case it is apt to break. Varnished or stained heads where the grain of the wood can be seen should be preferred to those which are painted.

J. A.

## Review.

NEW SCOTCH ANECDOTES. By J. Gordon McPherson, F.R.S.E., Minister of Ruthven. One Shilling. (Glasgow: Thomas D. Morison.)

This little book is a standing reproach, were that indeed needed, to the stupid libel of Sydney Smith regarding the perception of humour by the Scottish people. Its contents, which remind us somewhat of Dean Ramsay as a gleaner in the same field, are redolent of a peculiarly rich, worldly-wise kind of humour which has that flavour of causticity about it so characteristic of the genuine Scottish character. The stories here presented to us are not likely to provoke that robust, lustrous laughter at what is merely comic, as seen in the pages of Rabelais; but none the less will the enjoyment be keen because the humour is mingled with the elements of sagacity and prudence, or because the reader laughs half in sorrow at certain phases of human nature which are sometimes melancholy, sometimes full of pain and pathos, and sometimes revelations of human folly and woe. Dr. McPherson has been collecting these stories at first hand for many years, and they now appear in print for the first time. The majority of them have been collected from among the classes of society the author knows best—the clergy, the professors, the students, the farmers, and the golfers of Scotland, but more particularly in the districts of Kirkcaldy, St. Andrews and Strathmore, where the author has passed the greater part of his life. The book, of course, has no unity of design. Each story stands by itself; and therefore the reader who wishes to enjoy an hour's relaxation at the fireside can take up the book and open it wherever he chooses, being always certain to light upon some story which will amuse and repay perusal. Take as an example the very first story in the book:—

### HIGHLAND ELOQUENCE AND EXPRESSIVENESS.

An English gentleman had spent a month in a charming fishing quarter in the North of Scotland. On the river, he very often came across three neighbouring "worthies," who had small farms at cheap rents. Their quaint stories, told with inimitable facial expression, wiled away many a weary hour to him, when the fish would not "take."

On leaving, he invited them to come and see him in England. It was no sham invitation, for he afterwards sent them return tickets. Knowing their national liking for the "mountain dew," he provided himself with a good supply of extra strong "Long John."

After a hearty dinner, &c.—this &c. once caused roars of laughter in the General Assembly after being unconsciously uttered in a similar connection by the Rev. Robert Thomson of Glasgow—the three Highlanders thought it would be right to show their gratitude by complimenting their host for his kindness.

Accordingly, number one rose to his feet and said: "You've peen ferry goot to me intet, sur, an' to my twa frents here, miverroo too; put this'll pe ta finest whusky that I never tastit any mair."

When he resumed his seat, after this extra burst of eloquence, number two made a great effort to second the vote of thanks by rubbing on the same string, and praising the excellent, because strong, spirits: "Naather did I too."

The rapture of these remarks took away number three's breath; but he was able to chime in: "And so did I naather."

It may be useful, however, to remind golfing readers that Dr. McPherson was one of the best golfers of his day, and when at St. Andrews he could cope single-handed with the very highest professional talent. Naturally, therefore, some of his stories have well-known golfing characters as their subjects, as witness the following:—

### MATTHEW GORUM THE GOLFER.

Matthew Gorum (*né* Alexander) was one of the characters on the Golf links of St. Andrews a quarter of a century ago. There was no golfer in Scotland who visited St. Andrews then but would know Matthew.

He was, when young, a crack hand at the game. Then he could have driven a ball with a click from off the face of a watch or the neck of a bottle without doing any damage. But he took to drink, and that often to great excess. It was a great lark to get Matthew to try his skill when he was "half on." A bet would be taken, a ball would be put on the neck of the bottle, he would scientifically—as of old—take his aim, but, alas! the hand having lost its cunning, he would smash the bottle to the enjoyment of the onlookers.

At times he would think shame and leave the links. Different professions he tried. Selling razors paid him best, for his were made to "sell," not to "shave." A dozen songs he would buy for a penny, and sell again at a halfpenny a piece.

Phrenology was for some time his hobby. The working men got their "heids redd" without a comb. He was often in jail for breaches of the peace; but he would not kill.

On one of his last visits to St. Andrews he was pretty well dressed, but exceedingly debauched looking. Old James Wilson, the club-maker, made the remark:—

"Hullo, Matthew! ye're here again; aye turnin' up like the ill baw-bee!"

"Ay, I'm here."

"Weel, what are ye turnin' ye're haund to noo? Freachin'?"

"I'm jist thinkin' aboot that. But I'm i' the teetotal line i' the noo."

"The teetotal line! stop yer blethers, man; ye've haen half-a-bottle the day a'ready."

"Ye see, James," said Matthew, familiarly clapping his interrogator on the shoulder, "Maister Dick, he's lecturin' on the teetotal questin, an' he keeps me. For when he terrifies the folk aboot the wreck o' drink, I'm brocht in drunk as the awfu' example."

This is a sensational way of enforcing abstinence by keeping a drunk man who is in the teetotal line.

#### A GOLFER'S ENTHUSIASM.

The game of Golf suits all ages and both sexes. All can take a very deep, yea, a passionate interest in it. From the most brilliant player to the most pitiful tyro, everyone has room for enthusiasm when matched with a player of the same grade.

Professor Sellar, now of Edinburgh University (and recently dead), used to try Golf when at St. Andrews. He was a sledgehammer, poor player; but his enthusiasm in the game knew no bounds.

One day a passer-by asked the Professor's caddy, "How's the Olympic playin' the day?"

"Oh," answered the caddy, with his open hand at the side of his mouth to prevent his master from hearing, "He's tappin' every ba', an' dammin' jist awfu'."

#### LAWFUL WISHING OF EVIL.

The late Allan Robertson of St. Andrews was the greatest golfer that ever lived. He played with toys of clubs and very small balls; but he seemed to be able to do as he liked with them; in fact, he just "played with" them.

He was the pawkiest player of his day. Sometimes it suited him to lose a match by scientifically missing a "putt." But generally he would lead on his opponents (for it was generally foursomes in which he played), making them almost certain of victory until within five holes of the end, when he would put on a spurt, and at the hole "wile the wether into the hoose," till he would "jist snod them at the Burn."

One day many years ago—for he died in 1859—he could have stood for his portrait at "Hell" bunker in the long-hole, so meditative was he, yet with a smothered chuckle which only showed itself through his merry eyes.

His opponent's ball was in that bunker, about which Pat Alexander once wrote, as a realisation of Dante's awful thought—"All hope abandon ye that enter here!"

Time about, the two opponents kept hitting the ball in the terrible depths.

Allan could hold his tongue no longer, and he said with characteristic emphasis—"Eh, men! but it appeals to some o' the finest sentiments o' humanity to see your enemy in Hell bunker."

Only a golfer can understand the justifiable delight.

There are also a number of fresh stories concerning the harsh discipline imposed upon scholars by Thomas Carlyle and Edward Irving when employed as teachers in a school at Kirkcaldy. Altogether, the book is a most readable one, and the author is to be congratulated on having made a solid contribution to one of the most entertaining departments of literature.

A novelty for the "festive season" is the "silent cab call." This consists of two electric lamps, one red (for four-wheelers), the other green (for hansoms), suspended outside the house, which are lit by pressing a knob in the hall. Of course, at present such a call is only available at clubs and large hotels; but, as the electric light spreads, one may hope these lamps (which cabmen in clubland are already beginning to understand) will eventually replace the miniature fog horn and the whistle in present use.



Mr. J. McIsaac, Treasurer of the Moray Golf Club, Elgin, writes:—"Our club was instituted about two years ago, and is now in a flourishing condition, there being over 100 members. We have a very beautifully situated course of eighteen holes, stretching westward along the shore of the Moray Firth from the village of Stotfield, Lossiemouth. Some time ago we had a visit from old Tom Morris, who after playing over the links expressed a very high opinion of them. There are plenty of natural hazards, the greens are nearly all of natural turf, and all that is needed for bringing the course next to perfection is plenty of play and attention to the putting-greens.

The climate is excellent, snow seldom lies, and there has practically been no interruption to play this winter. Hotel accommodation or private lodgings can readily be had, so that any golfer who wants a change of air and a good game cannot do better than give the course of the Moray Club a trial.

\* \* \*

Many of our readers will doubtless remember the condition of Bruntsfield Links, Edinburgh, two or three years ago, before they were shut up as dangerous to the public, and the new Braid Hills Course made. The links were intersected in all directions by roads and footpaths, and it was hardly possible to play a stroke without hitting some unfortunate pedestrian. About this time a local golfer, whose partner was an unsophisticated beginner, "frae ta Hiellands," and other two friends were indulging in a foursome over this historic green. At the first hole coming home the Edinburgh man drove, and his partner accordingly had the next shot. The ball happened to lie in dangerous proximity to a footpath, and as ill-luck would have it, the beginner in playing the stroke sent the ball into a knot of people, where it caught a passer by a "hot un" in the ribs. The Highlander went up to apologise to the "chenteleman," and was met with the demand, "Why didn't you shout Fore?" coupled with some forcible remarks which are better left unrecorded in print. The reply was, "Because she has only played two."

\* \* \*

*Scene.*—Starting place on a spring holiday, about twenty couples waiting to get off. Two players step forward, and each insists that it is his turn to go next. Fight appears imminent.

FIRST GOLFER refers to his caddie in support of his contention that he has prior right.

CADDIE restores peace by saying to second golfer, "All right, sir. You go first, and we go before you."

SECOND GOLFER hesitates to consider what this means. By the time he has come to a conclusion first golfer has played his tee shot and is out of range.

\* \* \*

"My sermon to day," said a clergyman, looking placidly over the congregation, "will treat of Sabbath desecration, and I trust that I will be able to point out its wickedness to good effect. Before opening my discourse, however, I will announce that a Golf match is in progress south of the church, and for convenience of worshippers the score will be recorded on the blackboard by our esteemed member, Brother Teeshot. My text is, 'Remember the Sabbath Day to keep it holy.'"

The gathering of yachts off the Riviera, which is usual at this period of the year, has begun, and the season promises to be a good one. The "Karon," formerly called the "Amy," which was built in Scotland for Mr. Steward in 1886, and was recently sold to the Duke of Leuchtenberg, nephew of the Czar, has arrived at Nice from Naples. She is commanded by officers of the Russian Imperial Navy. The "Sainte Berthe," which ran into an Italian barque three weeks ago, off Mentone, during a storm, is undergoing repairs. Mr. Gordon Bennett's new 14-knot boat "Serada," recently built at Dartmouth, is also being overhauled. The same owner's "Namouna," which is fitting out at Venice, where she has been lying up since her return from Ceylon in the summer, is expected to arrive shortly. After a short stay she will go on a long cruise. The "Lorna Doone," an English-built boat, belonging to an Italian, is here. The "Saint George," which is making her maiden trip to the Mediterranean, is expected.

\* \* \*

An extraordinary capture of eels is reported to have taken place at Sutterton, Lincolnshire. Upon making holes in the ice on some pits which were frozen over a shoal of eels came to the holes to get air, and several men succeeded in taking no less than 12 st. in this manner. This is the most remarkable catch of eels known to have taken place in the Fens.

\* \* \*

"Give me my flask," said a golfer to his venerable caddie, when the far hole out had been reached. "Michty forgie me!" exclaimed the caddie, taking the flask out of his pocket, "the' cork maun hae cam oot o' th' bot'l, for there's no a drap in't." Very like a whale!

\* \* \*

The latest arrivals at Pau for the season include Lady Howard de Walden and Miss Holden, Lady St. Levan and the Hon. Misses St. Aubyn, and Lady Wynn. Lord Henry Bentinck, who has been on a visit to Baroness Bolsover, has left. M. Léon Say, who is the representative of Pau in the French Chamber of Deputies, has been on a visit to his constituents, accompanied by M. Alphand, the Director of Public Works in Paris, their visit being in connection with some proposed embellishments of the ancient capital of the Basque country. They were entertained at luncheon during their visit by the members of the Pau Golf Club. The weather at Pau is so cold that the races which were to have been held there on Wednesday had to be postponed.

\* \* \*

Great progress has been made with the new carriage access to the first teeing ground of the Braid Hills Golf course, Edinburgh. Beginning about a hundred yards west of the access for foot passengers which was made to accommodate those using the short-cut across the Braids Farm, the new road rises with an easy incline till it reaches a spot immediately behind the smallest of the two wooden erections used for the sale of refreshments at the beginning of the Golf course. With the exception of a piece of rock which projects for about five yards right across the new footpath on the south side of the carriage way—and which rock is now in process of being blasted away—all the levelling has been done, the kerb laid, and a first coat of metal put on the road.

\* \* \*

Of late a great deal has been talked and written concerning the billiard championship, which has, by common consent, been accorded to John Roberts, jun., for some years. Indeed, the champion cup is Roberts's absolute property, having passed into his hands in consequence of his retention of the title over a certain period, the limit of which was defined when the trophy was presented for competition. Since 1885 no one has ventured to challenge Roberts according to the terms imposed by the originators of the contest. The table on which championship matches have been played since the early part of 1870, as most followers of billiards must be aware, from the statement having been of late so frequently repeated, differs materially from those

in ordinary use. It is exceedingly difficult to make more than a few spot strokes in succession, and not only this hazard, which is especially prejudiced by the placing of the top spot nearer to the cushion, but all hazards are rendered more difficult of execution on account of the smallness of the pockets. Players who have made their name since the younger Roberts first won championship honours have practically ignored the table so constructed, and have gone on making themselves proficient at the very stroke which primarily brought about the changes referred to above. So remarkable has been the success of several, and especially W. J. Peall, that breaks of surprising magnitude have resulted. The player just named, who is the maker of the highest break on record, has several times challenged Roberts to a match on an ordinary table, and it is Peall's contention that the championship should be decided on a table which is commonly accepted by all classes of players. In this contention Peall has many supporters, the argument raised being that the game for the championship should be played under the same rules as those which govern ordinary play. In order that this question should be thoroughly thrashed out, the Billiard Association—a lethargic body—called a meeting for Wednesday the 7th at noon. This was held at 140, Fleet-street, and as several of the best amateur players, a large majority of the most prominent professionals, and quite a representative gathering of billiard-table manufacturers assembled, due importance must be attached to the meeting.

\* \* \*

Mr. A. H. Colles-Orme, who was unanimously voted to the chair, explained that suggestions would be gladly received from all those who had been invited, whether members or not, so that there might be something definite and satisfactory to lay before the general meeting to be called at a subsequent date. Messrs. Peall, Roberts, Remington-Wilson, H. B. Smith, W. J. Innes, R. W. Inman and A. H. Colles-Orme spoke at some length. Both the "spot-barred champion" and the "all-in champion" were agreed as to the desirableness of abolishing the championship table; but the former very rightly suggested that there should be a regulation pocket for all match tables, in order that the value of breaks might be correctly estimated. At present that was impossible. He would not, however, advise the shifting of the top spot, as that would seriously disorganise the game. He viewed it as absurd to allow the commercial side of billiards to enter into a contest for the championship. Mr. Roberts argued that the endeavour should be to make the game as attractive to the public as possible, and, in defence of the position he had hitherto taken up with regard to the championship, he submitted that the best test of exceptional ability was the surmounting of exceptional difficulties; also that the spot has never been barred on a championship table, but simply rendered more difficult of execution. He had rigidly adhered to the spot-barred game because that was the best practice he could have to enable him to maintain his right to the title, and also because it was the game which gave most pleasure to the public. Mr. C. Dawson suggested that the size of the pocket might be altered to a measurement between 3½ in. (ordinary table) and 3 in. (championship table). Mr. Remington-Wilson said that if he were asked to formulate a championship he should make it the best of 101 games of 100 up on an ordinary table and under ordinary rules, with the spot-stroke in. A special general meeting of the Association is to be held on Friday, January 16th.

\* \* \*

The frost in London entered on its sixth week on Monday. This second spell promises to be as low in its average range of temperature as the first. The Serpentine has been in these days a sight worth seeing. The number on the ice on one day was estimated at 30,000. An intense frost has prevailed in Annandale. The river Annan was frozen over with a single night's frost. A most unusual sight was observed in the streets of Annan during one forenoon, sea-gulls walking up and down eagerly searching for food. In the Solway the wild ducks continue to swell in numbers, and a good many sportsmen are out daily in boats. Redshanks, plover, snipe, and many other well-known birds are present in thousands. Wild geese are also requesting Blackshaw merse after darkness sets in.





## A RECORD OF LOWEST SCORES.

To the Editor of GOLF.

SIR,—I see in your last issue a suggestion by "Sceptic" that you should establish in your columns a record of the longest drives that have actually been made on each of the Golf courses in the country. It seems to me that a record of the lowest scores would be of far greater interest and value. It would certainly be satisfactory to ascertain the greatest length that a ball has ever been driven; but a list of the "records" of the various courses would, I fancy, be more welcome to the majority of your readers. I would propose that the secretaries of the different clubs should be asked to furnish particulars of the occasion on which the "records" of their greens were established, giving the date (if possible), the name of the player, and the details of the score. Would it not be possible to publish four times a year a list of all these lowest scores in the columns of your paper?

Yours, &c.,  
ERIC.

January 4th, 1891.

[We shall publish the scores suggested with pleasure. First of all, however, it will be necessary for those making the record scores to furnish us with the properly authenticated material.—Ed.]

ANOTHER CRY FROM THE CROWDED LINKS,  
OR A ROUND WITH "MCGINTY."

To the Editor of GOLF.

SIR,—On looking over a back number of GOLF, I find, to my joy, a long letter in answer to my "Cry from the Crowded Links," signed by one "McGinty," who tears me limb from limb without mercy. This, I suppose, is the usual penalty of giving unasked advice, especially to duffers, of whom McGinty proudly claims to be the chief. From the angry tone of his letter I think I must have touched him on the raw, and I believe firmly that he is one of the paper and pencil fiends, who obstruct the progress of their brother golfers, and make the links hideous with their awful contortions. To judge from his description of himself, this great man hits harder and straighter with his pen than with his clubs, and I like him for it. He has, however, failed to observe that my letter was written for the benefit of beginners at the noble game, and not for McGinty and his clan, who are evidently hardened sinners.

Can the golfing mind conceive a more hideous spectacle than the clan McGinty, all clad in red, following slowly their great chief armed with pencils, bulgers, and, no doubt, many new and curious clubs, patented or otherwise, which the wily club-makers turn out for the noble army of duffers? Far be it from me to deny the freedom of the green to beginners, with whom I have the warmest sympathy; but I strongly protest against the green when crowded being made a practice ground.

I had the misfortune to play behind a novice at North Berwick last August, who was being coached by a professional

and who, when he missed an iron shot, had several balls put down by his mentor which he calmly proceeded to play towards the hole. At last, warned by cries of "fore," and, also, I fear, by balls passing rather close to his head, he not at all graciously allowed us to pass. This was an extreme case, but it shows what golfers have to put up with at times. My friend, McGinty, seems also to take umbrage at my advice to young players to cultivate a golfing style. I freely admit that much advice is useless to him. He also curiously enough offers to bet the enormous sum of half a crown, that he can produce one or more players, whose styles he admits are only fit for a chamber of horrors, who will give me half one and a beating. Now, I don't know whether the friends of McGinty will be sufficiently pleased by his opinion of their style to engage in such a match, but, if so, he will always find man and money ready as far as I am concerned.

I have searched the records of many clubs in the attempt to find the performances of the great McGinty, but hitherto in vain. I do not despair, however, of meeting him some day, and when I see some more ludicrous contortions than usual, a style more suggestive of anguish, and books and pencils of more than usual size, then shall I exclaim with rapture, "Have I found thee, O mine enemy! Can this indeed be McGinty?" I think on the whole, in this cold weather, I would rather strip and have a round with McGinty than play one behind him.

I am, yours truly,  
J. R. HUTCHISON.St. James's Club, Piccadilly, W.,  
January 8th, 1891.

## THE WIMBLEDON SILVER IRON COMPETITION.

To the Editor of GOLF.

SIR,—Surely it is a mistake to have the silver iron competition at Wimbledon played for at this time of the year. It generally happens that the matches have to be put off owing to frost or snow; and not only that, but many of the matches have to be postponed owing to the darkness. Many men can only play on a Saturday afternoon, when it soon gets dark, and owing to the darkness and to the crowd they cannot get on quickly, and so cannot finish. I should suggest that the iron competition ought to begin about February, or later. Then the competitors have a chance of playing late on Saturday, which is the only day when many players can possibly manage to get down. I think the last competition is an example. How few have entered this time, for the sole reason that they think they will not have the time to play out the heats; and they have often given up their matches on that account in previous years.

Yours faithfully,  
WIMBLEDON.

January 8th, 1891.

## WHAT IS A GOLF CLUB?

To the Editor of GOLF.

SIR,—Your correspondent, "Progress," has misapprehended my contention. I did not say that what is oldest is best, but that I pinned my faith in the matter of Golf clubs to the result of the accumulated experience of our best golfers and club-makers, extending throughout centuries, and shown in the form of the club as we all commonly know it. I am far from having a closed mind on the subject of new inventions; on the contrary, I welcome them; but I do say that I am sceptical of their power to oust from the favour of golfers as a widely extended class the old form of club. New inventions are generally the result of experimental efforts on the part of ingenious, versatile minds, to correct primarily some defect in their own mode of play. This I believe, was the case of Mr. Henry Lamb, and probably Willie Park also, because both those players seemed to have been working to evolve the bulger at the same time; and the bulger was designed to correct a too pronounced tendency

either to pull or to heel balls off the tee. Again, the same idea has been carried out by Willie Park and Forrester of Elie in the bulger cleek; and while thousands of players have adopted those weapons by preference, simply because they minimise or check some individual defect in play, there is a much larger class of players—notably the best professionals—who adhere to the ancient and established form of club.

It is the club which is handled by the greatest number of players that ought to be accepted as the standard weapon. "Progress" errs when he implies that inventions, either in putting or driving weapons, have just been brought to light. All the old club-makers tried their hand, laboriously and patiently, at new putters, cleeks, irons and drivers, and after a short spell of test a reversion to the old club became inevitable.

I have not seen the new putter mentioned by "Progress," but I have seen countless others embodying the same idea. They have generally been handled by players who were never likely to attain medal form, and whose putting with the aid of a coal-hammer was neither so accurate nor so true as the man who, with less ostentation, took his cleek or his ordinary wooden putter. I have seen these men boggle horribly over a short putt where the balls were nearly stymied, their idea apparently being that it was the correct thing to cannon hard on the opponent's ball. No; those novelties will not do, because they are designed on a wrong theory. In order to putt, it is neither necessary to stand rigid, as if your feet were nailed on the putting-green, and right over your ball, nor to swing the club from the elbows. It is fine, delicate wrist play that is wanted, with the body slightly behind the ball. The eye gets the true line in this position just as well as if the player toed his ball and hit with his hammer. As I said before I shall put my money on the cleek and the wooden putter against the coal hammers.

Yours faithfully,  
G. M.

January 9th.

#### REMARKABLE GOLFING INCIDENTS.

To the Editor of GOLF.

SIR,—The article of your correspondent, "J. McB.," detailing some remarkable golfing incidents, has recalled to memory the following circumstance, which happened to myself.

I was playing a foursome one day at North Berwick, and we had arrived at the first bent hole going out. Both balls were lying close to the hole. It was my turn to play, and the ball of our opponents was lying nearly on the lip of the hole, but a direct stimy, ours being about 10 inches off. I was just settling down to play the loft, when a ball, which we afterwards learned came from a party who were coming in, rolled very slowly between my legs, and knocked away the ball of our opponents a few inches, and remained in the exact spot where the ball of our opponents originally lay. A hot argument of course followed as to what was to be done. I forget exactly how it was settled, but the incident was certainly, as the caddies said, one of the most extraordinary, and beats record, I think.

I am, Sir, &c.,  
BETA.

To the Editor of GOLF.

SIR,—Would you kindly insert this account of an exploit of mine among the golfing incidents which are sure to be recorded, and at the same time it may interest some of your readers.

At Gullane, in 1877, a cousin, who was spending a holiday with us, was a gentleman of sporting tendencies. Observing me approach the house one day with an iron in my hand, he offered to bet me that I could not strike a ball within a yard of, or hit, him at a distance of 70 yards. He said that he would give me a shilling for every ball I struck which I passed within a yard of him, if I would pay him the like amount for each one beyond a yard.

I accepted the bet, and with the said iron struck three teed balls from a distance of 72 yards, and was successful in hitting him three times in succession on the hat (which was on his head) and gained the bet. He never once moved or flinched.

It has been my good fortune to hole in one stroke the eighth hole at St. Andrews twice, also the last or grand stand hole at Musselburgh thrice.

Your St. Andrews correspondent will find the information he wants, viz., "How often has the eighth hole there been done in one stroke," in vol. 2 of the "Golfing Annual," p. 161.

Will you or some of your well-informed readers inform me whether or not a ball found (after a drive from the tee) firmly wedged in a rabbit scrape, not hole or burrow, and unapproachable by a niblick, can be lifted, and with what penalty? Must the ball be played just the same as if it were lying in a bunker, and played, let me remark, at a risk of introducing agriculture and cutting up the turf. My opponent compelled me to do this, and refused to allow me to lift the ball out and drop it over my shoulder, the result being that the hole cost me nine instead of my usual five strokes. If allowed to lift, under what number and paragraph of St. Andrews Rules?

I am, Sir, &c.,  
VIATOR.

Allanton, N.B., January 9th, 1891.

#### COST OF A CLUB PAVILION.

To the Editor of GOLF.

SIR,—We are making Golf links at Burnham, which will be open for play in about a month, and we are anxious to erect a suitable corrugated iron pavilion, match-boarded inside, containing say a saloon, dressing-rooms, small bar, lavatories, &c., if the cost is not too heavy.

Our club at present numbers over 60 members, which we have every reason to believe will be largely augmented when play is commenced, as the links promise to be very good, and have been laid out by Gibson, the Westward Ho! professional. I should be very glad if any of your readers could give me some information as to the probable cost, dimensions required, and other particulars.

Yours faithfully,  
T. HOLT,  
Somerset Court,  
Near Burnham, Somerset.  
Hon. Sec. Burnham Golf Club.  
January 8th, 1891.

#### GOLF IN INDIA.

To the Editor of GOLF.

SIR,—I have received GOLF regularly up to date. I think it ought to be a success, and I sincerely trust it will. I look forward to it every week.

We have started a small links of from three to five holes, wherever we can get a piece of ground big enough. This is the greatest difficulty, as we are hemmed in by jungle on every side. However, we have a fairly good course at Toassai, our headquarters. It consists of seven holes, and has a fair amount of hazards. I will describe it more fully another time.

Again wishing you every success.

I am, Sir, &c.,  
R. W. ROBERTSON.

Ruaidie Estate, Munzerabad, Mysore.  
22nd December, 1890.

#### QUESTIONS ON THE RULES.

To the Editor of GOLF.

SIR,—I trust it may not be too late to again refer to the rule relating to "impression on sand," a discussion on which was initiated by me in your issue of December 5th, and continued in the succeeding numbers of GOLF.

O. P. Q., "Korunephoros," and Mr. H. S. C. Everard took, as will be remembered, the view that (broadly stated) the club must not be grounded in a hazard, while Mr. Hugh Lugton considered the prohibition to apply only to sand, or at all events to soft ground, where the lie of the ball may be improved.



Mr. Lugton seems to me to write with unnecessary severity, and to misunderstand the object of the questions I put in the first instance. My desire is not to discuss which would be the more correct interpretation of the rule, if it were itself a matter of "first impression," but to know what is the understanding with respect to this rule upon which the best players play the game. It is admitted that the unwritten law of Golf has the same force as the *lex scripta* itself, and if by common usage the rule in question has been, and is, treated by the best and most practised golfers as forbidding the grounding of the club in a hazard, then undoubtedly that is the practice to be followed by all golfers, even though, if the wording of the rule were to be strictly construed anew as in a Court of Law, it might not strictly support that practice. What I therefore ask is, practically, this: "How is the game played with regard to the grounding of the club in a hazard by the best players on the best greens, where it has been longest practised, and is most thoroughly understood?"

I do not desire to underrate the skill or knowledge of Mr. Lugton in the slightest degree, but I think those players who refrain from grounding the club at all may feel themselves pretty safe in the approval of Mr. Everard and Mr. Horace G. Hutchinson, who, I think, Mr. Lugton, would with the rest of us admit are men "who have studied the game and the rules," and who not only "think they know the rules thoroughly" but probably are quite right in so thinking.

Mr. Everard kindly replied to my questions in your issue of the 19th ult., and to his letter I refer your readers. For Mr. Hutchinson's opinion I may quote the Badminton book on Golf, where, in the course of some remarks in the chapter on "Etiquette" as to grounding the club in sand, Mr. Hutchinson says, (p. 259), "Do not be deceived upon this point; it is not that by resting the club on the sand that the lie of the ball is materially improved, but it is that by the faint impress a guide is given to the eye if the sand be soft, or, if it be hard and caked, a guide is given to the hand by the sense of touch, of the distance from hand to ball."

Mr. Lugton appears to me to be somewhat unfortunate in his illustrations. He speaks of many of the best golfers, who would never think of resting their clubs on the hard bottom of a dry ditch, putting down their irons "on precisely the same kind of ground, provided they can but see a sufficient number of green blades to enable them to say that the ball 'lies on grass.'" Precisely, that is our point. In the one case the ball is in a hazard and in the other rest. And with reference to hazards, is not the *reductio ad absurdum* of which Mr. Lugton speaks his own; for who would propose to treat the cup in which your ball lies where a "square inch of turf has been cut away by a previous player" as a hazard? Surely not golfers "who have studied the game and the rules."

Mr. Lugton says that he "admits the difficulty of defining the occasions where the ground may or may not be touched, on account of the absence of any definition of a hazard." But how would any such definition (unless it should limit a hazard to a place where the ground is soft) help the solution of the question before us? If the ground of the hazard be hard, Mr. Lugton would allow a man to put down his club because he can make no "impression," so the point would remain as unsettled as ever.

Again, Mr. Lugton very properly asks, "who is to say whether an impression has been made in playing" the ball? That is our argument. It is impossible to say, and the only safe practice is to treat it as penal to ground your club at all in a hazard. If you do it, and you at all events can have no difficulty in telling whether you have touched the soil or not, you must suffer the punishment.

I don't think there is the difficulty about the meaning of "hazard" that Mr. Lugton supposes to exist. All the ordinary hazards found on seaside links are well understood and defined by immemorial usage, and it is easy to fix by bye-law what is to be regarded as a hazard and what is not, on those new links where special difficulties present themselves.

There is one point in Mr. Lugton's letter with which, at all events, I cordially agree, and that is the expression of the hope that some understanding may be come to as to grounding the club and a definite rule framed. May that hope be speedily realised.

As I have ventured to discuss Mr. Lugton's remarks pretty freely, I ought not to shelter myself from responsibility under anonymity, and therefore, though I remain as much a "Stickler" as ever, I sign myself,

Yours faithfully,

Nottingham,

January 12th, 1891.

JOHN C. WARREN.

## THE SHORT HOLE AT ST. ANDREWS.

To the Editor of GOLF.

SIR,—Your St. Andrews correspondent in alluding to Mr. Hall's feat of holing the short hole in one stroke, wishes to know on what other occasions a similar feat has been performed. If he will turn to the "Golfing Annual," vol. ii., pp. 160, 161, he will there find some information, and I may say the initials D. W. M. are those of Colonel Mackinnon. In addition to these, I may say that Mr. D. J. Lamb, in a match against Mr. A. F. Macfie, within the last twelve months or so, won the eighth hole in one stroke. Mr. Macfie's tee-shot having been laid stone dead before Mr. Lamb played—so dead, indeed, that it was all but in the hole, too.

I have also holed the two short holes five times in one stroke, three times going out and twice coming home, one of the latter occasions being in a strong gale of wind dead ahead; the shot a full play club drive.

Yours faithfully,

H. S. C. EVERARD.

The Club House, St. Andrews, N.B.

Jan. 12th, 1891.

## GOLFING AT HAYLING ISLAND.

To the Editor of GOLF.

SIR,—With some friends I have been here some days. There are so many golfing links unfit for play at present that it may interest many of your readers to know that at Hayling the ground is quite free from snow, and although rather hard, a most enjoyable game can be had in clear, bright sunshine. Every comfort that can be desired is to be had at this hotel, which is very much improved under the new management. I enclose my card and subscribe myself,

The Royal Hotel, Hayling,

Havant, Hants,

Jan. 12th, 1891.

AN OLD GOLFER.

We are pleased to hear that Messrs. Blackwood and Sons, Edinburgh, have arranged to publish immediately a volume containing the articles on GOLF which the well-known golfer, Dr. J. G. McPherson, has contributed during the past year or two to the "Scots Observer," GOLF, "Rod and Gun," and "Baily's Magazine?" Dr. McPherson has agreed to do this by request of many golfers of the old school, who wish the almost forgotten prestige to be resuscitated, and many golfers of the new school will be glad to read his candid criticisms. The volume is dedicated by permission to the Right Hon. A. J. Balfour, M.P., Chief Secretary for Ireland.

Another story or two about Frank Burnet should not be amiss. He was very neat-handed, and used to make successful balls and club-heads, one of the latter being now in the writer's possession. On one occasion his antagonist took notice of Frank's play-club, which was stamped with his own name. "Where got you that club?" said he. "The wood was growing on one of my hedges a fortnight ago," replied Frank.

On another occasion a friend was visiting him, and happened to admire a neat bone papercutter and bookmarker of the *à la Mordan* type. "What do you think that was yesterday?" said Frank with an odd smile. "I give it up," said the visitor, knowing his little ways. "Part of the handle of a tooth brush," replied the indomitable, who we verily believe could have constructed something useful or ornamental out of any raw material in use.

## A MOVED BALL—WHAT IS IT?

A GOOD many years ago I listened with edification to an argument on the quay at Newhaven. It was carried on by three Scotch youths, in whom I recognised Edinburgh students of some distinction. They had supped well in anticipation of a midnight passage to Dieppe, and the metaphysical instinct was strong. The apple of discord that had fallen among them was the old syllogism of schoolmen: "You cannot move to where you are; you cannot move to where you are not; therefore you cannot move." A few benighted Southrons who were on the quay could not appreciate the subtilty of the argument.

I am often reminded of this incident when I hear the frequent disputes now-a-days about what constitutes a moved ball. The position at Newhaven is however reversed: it is the English golfer who does the hair-splitting, while the Scotsman settles the point with more robust intelligence. Perhaps Scotch players may think the point was settled long ago. So it was for them, but unhappily Englishmen are not content to play the game as they have been taught. They will find out by-and-bye, that a game which has been played to perfection in Scotland for centuries will never be played better anywhere else. But meantime our English friends spend sleepless nights in devising new clubs; putters so beautifully balanced, that they are as certain of holing as the Princess of Wales is of making a bull's-eye every time she fires at Bisley; and drivers with secret chambers charged with electricity that are to project the ball from tee to hole-distance a simple matter of detail. To these pleasing dreams we may leave them. Meantime the question of the "moved ball" presses.

A week or two ago I had some correspondence with a genial golfer in the Midlands on this subject. He wrote to say that in his club the "moved ball" difficulty was constantly arising. This happens elsewhere in England. The St. Andrews rule is clear enough, but the wisdom of the Southron could not accept it; hence all the doubt and contention. In Scotland the point was, as has been said, settled long ago. The old practice however was not the same as now. One of the best known amateurs in the North gave me his experience the other day. He was playing in a foursome at Musselburgh. His partner in addressing the ball on the putting-green caused it to oscillate. Willie Park, who was carrying for one of the players on the other side, claimed a stroke. There was a very considerable sum of money on the match; and it was agreed to refer the point to one of the most experienced members of the Honourable Company, who not only played constantly, but had made the rules and history of Golf matter of special study. His decision was that the penalty could be exacted. "If a ball moved, it moved; if it didn't move, it didn't move; that was the end of it." This *obiter dictum* was accepted. It was crude enough; but it accurately represented the spirit in which the rule was interpreted at

the time. Soon after however a different view was taken. In a big match between old Tom Morris and Willie Park the same question arose. Old Tom has a weakness for placing his putter very close behind the ball in addressing it. On this occasion he got his putter closer than usual; and in pressing the club before he played he caused it to push the ball forward. There was quite a perceptible movement. When the pressure on the putter was taken away the ball rolled back. Willie Park claimed a stroke. The umpire—I forget who he was—decided against him. He said that the ball had fallen back into its original position and that no advantage had been gained; therefore there was no reason for imposing a penalty. This first part of the proposition went perhaps too far, because golfers have to suffer from many accidents when for the moment they see no earthly reason why they should be penalised; but apart from that point, the decision of the umpire was in the exact terms of the new St. Andrews rule.

The St. Andrews rule has been adopted on almost all Scotch greens. I have looked through a large number of club rules and find they have all reproduced the language of the Royal and Ancient. That language is plain and intelligible. It is this:—

"A ball is considered to have been moved if it leaves its original position in the least degree and stops in another; but if a player touches his ball so as to make it merely oscillate and not leave its original position, it is not considered to have moved."

Now, beside this, let me place the English rule. I take it from the book of one of the largest clubs near London—let it be otherwise nameless.

"If, after it has been played from the tee, the player by accident touch his ball with his foot or any part of his body, or displace it with his club, he loses a stroke."

With a rule like this, can any one be surprised that there should constantly be disputes on English greens. It would almost seem as if the Royal—but I forgot, names are not to be mentioned—had instructed a committee of lawyers to draw up a rule that would be prolific of disputation. What does displace mean? The best definition of the word I can find is "to put out of or remove from the usual or proper place." Does that help the golfer much in his effort to penetrate the mystery of this rule. The proper place of the ball is the hole, and it is not usual to object to its being "displaced" from there. However, let our English friends console themselves. Let them in a due spirit of humility adopt the rule that governs play in Scotland, and the "moved ball" difficulty will disappear.

J. P. C.

## EDINBURGH ST. ANDREW GOLF CLUB.

The monthly medal of this club was competed for on the Braids on Saturday afternoon. Mr. James Knowles was the winner with the scratch score of 39, nine holes only being played.



## THE ROYAL BOMBAY GOLF CLUB.

The Royal Bombay Golf Club began the season on Thursday, 20th November, the opening match being the first competition for the Forty-two Medal. There was a very good muster, sixteen names having entered, though one was unable to play. As was to be expected so early in the season, the scores were not very good. Only one player—MacDonald—did the round under 50, whilst of the other scratch players, Nixon was 51, and Stiven seemed bent on studying gardening—a form of study which is not conducive to small scores. Two men tied for first place. Page, who is literally a beginner, never having handled a club until three or four months ago, did the round in 53, and with a handicap allowance of eight points, his handicap score was 45. Taylor, who is also, comparatively speaking, a beginner, did 54, which his allowance of nine points reduced to 45 also. Most of the other players ran up high scores, which will doubtless be materially reduced as the season advances.

On Wednesday the tie was played off, when Page made the excellent score of 51, which, with eight points off, made his handicap score 43. Taylor came to grief several times, and his round was 59, which, with nine points off, reduced his score to 50; the tie thus ending in an easy win for Page. The following are the scores:—

Gross. Hcp. Net.	Gross. Hcp. Net.
*W. G. Page ... 53 8 45	D. MacDonald ... 49 scr. 49
*A. Taylor ... 54 9 45	J. Begbie ... 58 9 49
M. F. Reid ... 51 5 46	

\*Tie.

The tie was played off with the following result:—

Gross. Hcp. Net.	Gross. Hcp. Net.
*W. G. Page ... 51 8 43	A. Taylor ... 59 9 50

\* Winner of first competition for the Forty-two medal.

On Thursday of the succeeding week a cleek competition took place, cleek and iron being allowed. There was again a very fair muster, fourteen having entered. Again the scoring was high, as was to be expected from the restriction to the metal-clubs. Nixon played a very good round, finishing with 49; but Buchanan, who did the round in 54, had seven points, which reduced his score to 47. The following are the scores:—

Gross Hcp. Net.	Gross Hcp. Net.
*J. G. Buchanan ... 54 7 47	D. Carmichael ... 60 10 50
C. E. Nixon ... 49 scr. 49	D. MacDonald ... 52 scr. 52

\*Winner of cleek handicap.

ST. ANDREW'S MEDAL AND HANDICAP.—On Wednesday and Thursday, the St. Andrew's Medal, one of the scratch prizes, was played for, and there was also a handicap on the two days' play. The entries on this occasion fell off, but a field of ten entered. As was expected, the scratch players headed the score, Stiven and MacDonald being equal on the first days' play with a score of 47, whilst Nixon, who was not playing quite as well as usual was two points behind, 49. On the second day Stiven and MacDonald began indifferently, MacDonald taking twenty to the first four holes, whilst Stiven took eighteen or two ahead. At the sixth hole the score was all even, and then MacDonald took a stroke less to each of the next three holes; and as both got down in three at the last hole, MacDonald, with 47, was three points ahead on the two days' play. Nixon made the same score as on Wednesday, which made his total one point behind Stiven's score. Mean-

while, the handicap was attracting attention. Milne, with the liberal allowances of twelve points on the round, came in on Wednesday with 54, or, with his points off, 42. As no one was near this he was expected to win easily; but Begbie, who had taken 56 on Wednesday, did a very good round on the second day, whilst Milne ran his second round up to 59. In the end these two players tied for the handicap, and the tie will be played off to-day. The following are the scores:—

## ST. ANDREW'S MEDAL.

	1st round.	2nd round.	Total.
*D. Macdonald ...	47	47	94
J. Stiven ...	47	50	97
C. E. Nixon ...	49	49	98

\* Winner of St. Andrew's Medal.

## HANDICAP.

	1st round.	2nd round.	Gross.	Hcp.	Net.
*J. Begbie ...	56	51	107	18	89
*W. Milne ...	54	59	113	24	89
M. F. Reid ...	53	50	103	10	93

\* Tie for first place.

## NOTTINGHAM GOLF CLUB.

The following is an abstract of the principal scores of members who have played four or more times in the monthly competitions from July to December, 1890:—

	Handicap.	Net Average Score.
Mr. C. F. Dobson ...	27	86.16
Mr. S. Davidson ...	18	87.75
Mr. J. McMeeking ...	3	89
Mr. P. W. Allen ...	27	92
Mr. S. Groves ...	18	92.8
Mr. J. C. Warren ...	Scr.	93
Mr. R. D. Oswald ...	Scr.	94.5
Mr. J. Johnstone ...	12	95.6
Mr. J. Doleman ...	Owes 3	96.25

Messrs. Dobson and Davidson take the first and second prizes respectively. Mr. Davidson also takes the prize for the lowest score in any of the monthly parts of the competition by reason of his score for December, which was 104, less handicap 27, or 77 net. Twelve members in addition to those named above played in the competition, but less than four times each.

The following are their names and net average scores:—D. A. Crawford, 88; R. Tullie, 91; J. Harris, 93.3; E. Williamson, 94.6; Jas. Henderson, 95; G. C. Hine, 97; E. L. Manning, 98; F. Bannister, 99; C. S. Wardle, 101.6; R. Evans, jun., 103; W. R. Hamilton, 103.7; W. H. Hutton, 104.

## FORMBY GOLF CLUB.

The third of the winter monthly competitions, which should have taken place on December 20th, but had to be put off on account of snow, was brought to a conclusion on January 3rd, with the following result:—

Gross. Hcp. Net.	Gross. Hcp. Net.
Mr. J. Shepherd ... 96 5 91	Mr. F. E. M. Dixon 104 4 100
Mr. E. Hewer ... 101 6 95	Mr. G. R. Cox ... 104 3 101
Mr. J. E. Dean ... 109 12 97	

Two other players made no return.

## DISLEY GOLF CLUB.

The competition for the annual cup, presented by the hon. sec., was played on Saturday, January 10th, and there was a large number of members present. The weather was calm and fine, but there was a good deal of snow lying on the ground, and the greens were frozen hard and the putting was most difficult; in consequence, good scores were impossible. Mr. James Milne, quite a young player, came in first. The best scores were as follows:—

Gross. Hcp. Net.	Gross. Hcp. Net.
Mr. James Milne ... 120 25 95	Mr. H. Garrett ... 135 28 107
Mr. T. Midwood ... 136 36 100	Mr. J. Mills ... 146 36 110
Mr. T. Cummins ... 114 12 102	Rev. J. Bourne ... 128 18 110
Mr. John Milne ... 129 25 104	Mr. A. Monkhouse 129 18 111

No returns from a large number of members.

In the evening the annual meeting was held, and the committee, in presenting their report, stated that the club had made very satisfactory progress during the first year. The accounts showed a deficit, but this was accounted for by the heavy expen-



diture incurred in laying out the greens, and in fitting up the club-room; but this will soon be wiped off, as the expenditure in future years will be more than covered by the income. A groundman is now permanently engaged, and the links will soon rank among the best of the inland greens. The list of members is now full, and there are further applications for membership, and this young club starts its second year with every prospect of a successful career. The retiring officers were all re-elected.

Afterwards the members dined together at the Ram's Head Hotel, and the president, Mr. W. J. Legh, of Lynn, took the chair. A large number of members were present, and the rest of the evening was filled up with speeches and music.

#### THE ASHDOWN FOREST AND TUNBRIDGE WELLS LADIES' GOLF CLUB.

In spite of the cold weather and the fact that the putting-greens were partially covered with ice, some of the members of the above club competed on Wednesday, the 7th inst., for the usual monthly medal. Scores:—

	Gross.	Hcp.	Net.		Gross.	Hcp.	Net.
Miss Andrews	103	6	97	Miss Banister	148	32	116
Miss Birch	113	3	110	Miss E. Banister	156	34	122
Mrs. Stewart	125	5	120				

Two other ladies made no return.

At the conclusion of the match Miss Lee, on behalf of sixty-eight members, presented Miss Andrews, the hon. sec., with a handsome testimonial "as a small token of our appreciation of your valuable services in connection with the club."

#### CALCUTTA GOLF CLUB.

Even in spite of the races and other attractions, Saturday, the 20th December, brought out a good number of "royal and ancients" to compete for a handsome prize of the value of Rs. 100. But, although the afternoon was all that could be desired in the way of golfing weather, the scores were not particularly good, 48 being the lowest scratch figures. A good, heavy downpour of rain would, no doubt, revive the grass and level down the many small cups which entrap even good players, and the next competition round the new course will doubtless show a considerable improvement.

The first prize was won by Mr. W. M. Yule, with a very creditable score of 45, and, on playing off the tie for second honours, Mr. R. L. Morgan carried away the cup. The following are the leading scores:—

	Gross.	Hcp.	Net.		Gross.	Hcp.	Net.
W. M. Yule	49	4	45	F. E. Patteson	51	2	49
R. L. Morgan	52	6	46	A. C. Marshall	52	2	50
Geo. A. Ormiston	49	3	46	F. W. Howse	60	9	51
J. C. R. Johnston	49	2	47	M. R. Quin	59	7	52
E. J. Sinkinson	52	5	47	J. H. Lane	61	9	52
J. Adamson	48	scr.	48	W. T. Reid	58	5	53
H. C. Boyd	48	scr.	48	Dr. R. C. Sanders	57	3	54
H. C. Begg	49	scr.	49	D. A. Campbell	58	4	54
J. F. Macnair	49	scr.	49	W. Mitchell	59	5	54

#### LITTLEHAMPTON GOLF CLUB.

Friday, January 2nd.—Mr. A. J. Constable's medal. Scores:—

	Gross.	Hcp.	Net.		Gross.	Hcp.	Net.
Mr. A. J. Constable	107	17	90	Mr. A. Holmes	112	15	97
Mr. H. E. Harris	121	30	91	Mr. R. Holmes	112	12	100
Mr. J. C. Constable	131	35	96	Mr. E. C. Goff	117	17	100

Saturday, January 3rd.—Monthly handicap. Scores:—

	Gross.	Hcp.	Net.		Gross.	Hcp.	Net.
Mr. H. E. Harris	113	30	83	Mr. R. Holmes	108	12	96
Mr. E. Goff	104	17	87	Mr. R. A. Blagden	118	20	98
Mr. A. J. Constable	110	17	93	Mr. J. C. Constable	142	35	107
Mr. A. Holmes	110	15	95				

#### TENBY GOLF CLUB.

The fortnightly handicap took place on Wednesday, January 7th, with the following result:—

	Gross.	Hcp.	Net.		Gross.	Hcp.	Net.
A. T. Lewis	108	3	105	Mrs. Remfry	155	42	112
T. A. Rees	106	scr.	106	Colonel Voyle	124	8	116
E. O. Durrant	116	8	108	Captain Westby	131	15	119
Colonel M. Lloyd	109	scr.	109	Miss E. Wood	168	52	119
G. H. Logan	114	3	111	O. W. Span	142	20	123
G. Smyth	111	scr.	111	Colonel Lewes	141	18	123
H. J. Allen	148	36	112	A. E. Harrison	141	15	129
R. G. Durrant	113	scr.	113	B. V. Hill	141	10	131

#### WHITLEY CLUB.

The Wyndham Cup (the gift of the Captain, Mr. F. W. Wyndham) was again played for last Saturday over the Whitley links. Dr. Limont and Mr. R. T. Thomson also played off their double tie for the Emmerson and Joicey Cup, the final in the former competition resulting in the doctor winning by one stroke, scores:—Dr. Limont, 113, less 16 = 97; Mr. R. Thomson, 95, owes 3 = 98. These players were re-handicapped for the Joicey trophy, Dr. Limont under the new order of things having a handicap allowance of 14, against Mr. Thomson owes 3, but after a good game Mr. Thomson carried off premier honours by one stroke. The Wyndham cup competition was won by Dr. Limont, handicap 14, his score being 99, several of the remaining contestants made no returns, the hard nature of the ground interfering with good play, and the attendance of members was but small.

#### COUNTY (ANTRIM) GOLF CLUB.

Links, Portrush.—The usual monthly competition for the club silver challenge cup came off on Saturday last. The meeting was comparatively small, and the ground being covered with a hoar frost, rendered lost balls too frequent an occurrence to allow many good returns to be made. The cup was won by Mr. W. H. Mann, the three best scores handed in being Mr. W. H. Mann, 103, less 18 = 85; Mr. T. Gilroy, 85, owes 2 = 87; Mr. J. S. Alexander, 109, less 18 = 91.

#### CORNWALL COUNTY GOLF CLUB.

January handicap was played on Tuesday, the 6th inst. The ground being like iron, and the putting-greens owing to the frost as rough as "they make them," Mr. Edyvean as usual did two steady good rounds of 52 and 54; the play took place in a bitter cold easterly wind, which was rather against good play.

	1st Round.	2nd Round.	Gross.	Hcp.	Net.
Mr. E. Cochran	58	53	111	20	91
Mr. B. F. Edyvean	52	54	106	scr.	106
Dr. Elliott, A. M. S.	71	64	135	40	95
Mr. C. H. Hext	58	57	115	5	110
Mr. E. Drew	67	75	142	40	102
Mr. W. P. Matthews	65	69	134	40	94
Mr. Melvill Sandys	65	69	134	14	120
Mr. Young Jamieson	67	62	129	18	111

Mr. R. P. Edyvean, no return.

#### NORTH BERWICK.

The weather here last week was more favourable to curling than to Golf, and accordingly not a few of the votaries of the royal and ancient game embraced the opportunity afforded by the kindly disposition of Jack Frost of enjoying the roaring pastime. Throughout the week the links were comparatively deserted, and on Saturday last a covering of snow necessitated the postponement of the first competition of the year amongst the members of the Bass Rock Golf Club. Amongst the few players who were round the snow-clad course on Saturday were General H. C. Brewster, Sir George Clark and Lady Clark, and Major Johnston. The putting-greens having been well cleaned by the greenkeeper and the players being provided with an ample supply of red-coloured balls, the games were found to be by no means unenjoyable.

At the annual business meeting of the members of the Bass Rock Golf Club the following were appointed office bearers for the ensuing year:—Mr. Adam Hogg, captain; Mr. John Brown MacLachlan, secretary and treasurer; and Messrs. W. Auld, J. Forrest, J. Mitchell, A. Hutchison, and A. Hogg, members of committee. As a further inducement to players, it was agreed to have two handicap monthly trophies offered for competition instead of one as formerly, the second badge to be awarded to the competitor holding the next best record in the monthly contests. It was also arranged that, besides the annual scratch and allowance medal play, special prizes should be offered in the months of April and October. The club was stated to be in a very prosperous position financially, a considerable balance remaining in hand. The exceptionally attractive card of prize competitions, &c., for the year will doubtless have a tendency to largely increase the numbers of this now flourishing club.

In the district during the past week the greens presented a quiet appearance, curling being resorted to by a good many golfers.

## EDINBURGH TEACHERS' GOLF CLUB.

The quarterly competition for medals, charm, and prizes was held on Musselburgh Links on Saturday, when the following were prize-winners:—1, Mr. John Brown (Donaldson's Hospital), 93, less 16=77; 2, Mr. Thomas A. Buttar, 95, less 15=80; 3, Mr. J. M. Niven, 98, less 15=83; 4, Mr. Jas. Halley, 97, less 13=84. The best scratch score handed in was 88 by Mr. John Brown, Leith.

## "SCOTSMAN" CLUB.

The Braid Hills cup was competed for on Saturday over the Braids course, seven couples taking part in the competition. Notwithstanding that the greens were very hard from the frost, and the greater part of the course white from snow, some good cards were handed in, Mr. R. H. Thom being the winner with 83, less 7=76, and Mr. A. Hamilton second with 79, less 2=77.

## LEITH GOLF CLUB.

The members of the above club held their monthly competition for scratch and handicap medals. Result:—Scratch medal, J. Duncan, 68; handicap, D. Hutchison, 79, less 12=67.

## NAIRN.

Some excellent play has been made during the last week or two at the Nairn Golf course. Mr. Finlay, M.P., Mr. A. T. Lawrence, and other players from the South, who spent the Christmas holidays here, have not lost a single day by bad weather. Playing in a match with Mr. Finlay, Mr. Dalgliesh broke the professional record, making the fine score of 75—a feat which he repeated on two subsequent occasions. On Saturday twenty competitors entered for the first competition for the Pullar medal. It was won by Master William Finlay, Newton, with the score of 95, reduced by 18 of handicap to 77. The lowest scratch score was 88, made by Mr. D. Young.

## ELECTRIC GOLF CLUB.

The monthly medal was played for on Friday, the 9th, over the Braids. Greens very hard and rough, with a slight coating of snow, causing high scoring all round. Mr. J. Christie was the winner with a score of 100, less 20=80.

## CUMBRAE GOLF CLUB.

The usual competition for the medal presented by Mr. John McFarlane, was engaged in by the members of the Cumbrae Golf Club at Millport, on Saturday, under favourable conditions as to weather, but over rather wet ground. There was less than an average attendance of players. The medal was won by Mr. T. McFarlane, the best scores being, T. McFarlane, 96, less 12=84; J. C. Sharpe, 115, less 18=97; Archd. Cameron, 105, less 6=99.

## Curling.

## BONSPIEL AT COBBINSHAW.

The members of the Mid-Lothian Province of the Royal Caledonian Curling Club enjoyed an excellent day's sport on Thursday, the 8th, at Cobbinshaw Loch in playing for the Club's Provincial Silver Medal. During the eleven years which have passed since the formation of the Province this bonspiel has only been played upon four occasions, thanks chiefly to the variability of recent winters, and as three years at least had elapsed since last it had been brought off, curlers in the district looked forward to it with quickened interest. The company of curlers, to the number of about 250 in all, left the Caledonian Railway Station, Edinburgh, by special train at a quarter to eleven o'clock, and, on arrival at the loch side, found the ice in grand condition, and a capital range of rinks laid out by Mr. P. Shaw, who subsequently discharged the duties of umpire. The necessary preliminaries over, the signal was given at a quarter to one o'clock, and play began. In the draw, which took place about the middle of December, 33 pairs of rinks found themselves pitted against each other, but as not infrequently happens the fixture itself saw a few absentees. The Penicuik Club, for instance, was not in evidence on Thursday, and what with this and lapses in other quarters, the number of games played was

probably between 28 and 30. Altogether 19 clubs were represented—some by a couple of rinks, others by as many as five. The ice, as has been indicated, was in excellent condition. At first it played rather heavily, and for an end or two the participants in the game found some difficulty in getting a stone into "the hoose," but after a while—in less than an hour perhaps—it became delightfully keen. For a number of players, indeed, it proved just a trifle too keen, and the man who could obey his skip's instruction to "guard" was the exception rather than the rule. It was a day in short, "when a guard was worth a guinea." A strong and biting wind which blew across the rinks interfered to some extent with the accuracy of shots, but the strength of the wind was forgotten in the keenness of the ice and the clearness of the air, and the players enjoyed their game with their wonted demonstrative enthusiasm. After three hours' spirited play, a comparison of the cards showed that the silver medal, which goes to "the club making the highest average majority of shots," had been won by the Rosslyn Club, who, playing two rinks, had 26 shots up on their aggregate, equal to an average of  $8\frac{2}{3}$  shots on the three rinks they had entered. The Merchiston Club had actually an aggregate of 24 shots to the good in their contests with their different opponents, but while they only played three rinks, they had entered four, and their average therefore came out as 6. The other prize competed for—the pair of curling stones and handles which Sir James Gibson Craig, President of the Province, presented to the rink making the greatest majority over its opponents—was secured by the Waverley Club rink of which Mr. H. Gilmour was skip. Mr. Gilmour and his team, as the returns showed, had managed to score at five times the rate of his opponents—registering 40 shots against the 8 totalled by the Holyrood rink skipped by Mr. James Gibb. At the close of the game the players returned to Edinburgh and intermediate stations by special train. Appended are the full details of the day's play, with the averages struck in the case of the two leading clubs:—

## ROSSLYN.

A. Mochrie ... ..	26	Dalkeith, Dr. Gray ... ..	16
J. Blackwood ... ..	26	Dalkeith, G. Pirrie ... ..	10
	52		26

Up, 26 shots; average up, on three rinks entered,  $8\frac{2}{3}$  shots.

## MERCHISTON.

R. Marshall ... ..	27	Oxenford, M. Henderson ...	7
D. P. Laird ... ..	24	Dalkeith, R. Craig, jun. ...	11
C. Hay ... ..	14	Holyrood, J. Sutherland ...	23
	65		41

Up, 24 shots; average up, on four rinks entered, 6 shots.

## WAVERLEY.

H. Gilmour ... ..	40	Holyrood, James Gibb ...	8
J. Herdman ... ..	18	Ratho, W. Baillie ... ..	13
A. Hamilton ... ..	13	Corstorphine, J. Stenhouse ...	15
T. S. Aitchison ... ..	11	West Calder, R. Wight ...	31
C. M'Gregor ... ..	20	Corstorphine, J. Armour ...	20
	102		87

Up, 15 shots.

## MID-CALDER.

John Tod ... ..	30	Ratho, J. Glendinning ...	13
G. Hennan ... ..	16	Stow, Thomas Gibson ...	19
	46		32

Up, 14 shots.

## TEMPLE.

J. Tait Burton ... ..	28	West Calder, W. Millar ...	13
John Kerr ... ..	21	Craiglockhart, J. Kerr ...	25
T. Morton ... ..	20	Craiglockhart, W. Morris ...	23
	69		61

Up, 8 shots.

## WEST CALDER.

J. T. Mungle ... ..	19	Lasswade, G. Handasyde ...	10
R. Wight ... ..	31	Waverley, T. S. Aitchison ...	11
A. Mitchell ... ..	22	Lasswade, R. Ketchen ...	22
Captain Stewart ... ..	17	Currie, James Rowat ...	23
W. Millar ... ..	13	Temple, J. T. Burton ...	28
	102		94

Up, 8 shots.

## CORSTORPHINE.

James Simpson ...	24	Currie, L. Cunningham ...	92
J. Stenhouse ...	15	Waverley, A. Hamilton ...	91
J. Armour ...	20	Waverley, C. McGregor ...	31
	59		25

Up, 7 shots.

## STOW.

D. Thorburn ...	22	Northern, P. W. Smeaton ...	18
T. Gibson ...	19	Mid-Calder, G. Hennen ...	16
	41		34

Up, 7 shots.

## GLENCORSE.

Major Sandford ...	18	Kirknewton, Capt. Wilkie ...	17
John Craik ...	20	Holyrood, C. Johnston ...	15
	38		32

Up, 6 shots.

## CRAIGLOCKHART.

D. Morris ...	21	Northern, D. McDonald ...	24
John Kerr ...	25	Temple, John Kerr ...	21
W. Morris ...	23	Temple, T. Morton ...	20
	69		65

Up, 4 shots.

## KIRKNEWTON.

Captain Wilkie ...	17	Glencorse, Major Sandford ...	18
W. Dick ...	20	Coates, J. Duncan ...	15
	37		33

Up, 4 shots.

## EDINBURGH NORTHERN.

James Ewart ...	17	Holyrood, J. Byers ...	18
P. W. Smeaton ...	18	Stow, D. Thorburn ...	22
D. McDonald ...	24	Craiglockhart, D. Morris ...	21
	59		61

Down, 2 shots.

## LASSWADE.

G. H. Handasyde ...	10	West Calder, J. T. Mungie ...	19
R. Ketchen ...	22	West Calder, A. Mitchell ...	22
James Sclater ...	14	Coates, H. Cheyne ...	10
	46		51

Down, 5 shots.

## COATES.

G. Cunningham ...	20	Oxenford, R. Ainslie ...	19
John Duncan ...	15	Kirknewton, W. Dick ...	20
H. Cheyne ...	10	Lasswade, Jas. Sclater ...	14
	45		53

Down, 8 shots.

## CURRIE.

James Rowat ...	23	West Calder, Capt. Stewart ...	17
James I. Davidson ...	13	Dalkeith, E. Dawson, jun. ...	25
L. Cunningham ...	19	Corstorphine, J. Simpson ...	24
	55		66

Down, 11 shots.

## DALKEITH.

E. Dawson, jun. ...	25	Currie, J. I. Davidson ...	13
Dr. Gray ...	16	Rosslyn, A. Mochrie ...	26
G. Pirrie ...	10	Rosslyn, J. Blackwood ...	26
R. Craig, jun. ...	11	Merchiston, D. P. Laird ...	24
	62		89

Down, 27 shots.

## OXENFORD.

M. Henderson ...	7	Merchiston, R. Marshall ...	27
R. Ainslie ...	19	Coates, G. Cunningham ...	20
	26		47

Down, 21 shots.

## RATHO.

J. Glendinning ...	13	Mid-Calder, John Tod ...	30
W. Baillie ...	13	Waverley, J. Herdman ...	18
	26		48

Down, 22 shots.

## HOLYROOD.

J. Buyers ...	18	Northern, J. Ewart ...	17
C. Johnston ...	15	Glencorse, J. Craik ...	20
James Gibb ...	8	Waverley, H. Gilmour ...	40
J. Sutherland ...	23	Merchiston, C. Hay ...	14
	64		91

Down, 27 shots.

## CRYSTAL PALACE CURLING CLUB.

Members of this club and several of their friends have been having a "roarin'" time of it again this week, the ice being in the most perfect condition.

Friday and Saturday were all that could be desired, so far as weather was concerned, the sun shining brilliantly with a keen frost all day long. On these two days some most interesting and hard fought games were played with results as below.

During the luncheon interval on Saturday the curlers did their best to show their appreciation of a suggestion made by Sir J. Heron Maxwell, which took a practical form in the shape of a most "toothsome" dish of "lobscouse," served up boiling hot on the side of the lake, and if we ought to judge by results the success of the suggestion was "immense."

Should the frost continue, the members are looking forward to some interesting matches with Provincial clubs, including one against the Birmingham Club for a Royal Caledonian Curling Club medal.

On Friday, the 9th inst., Messrs. W. E. Hughes, A. Elmslie, W. A. Dewar, Admiral Sir John Dalrymple Hay, with Sir J. Heron Maxwell (skip) defeated Messrs Robert Whyte, G. C. Snelling, W. O. S. Pell, J. G. Gibson, and Major H. H. Crookenden (skip) by seven points.

On Saturday, the 10th inst., Mr. G. C. Snelling, Mr. A. G. Gibson, Major H. H. Crookenden and Sir J. Heron Maxwell (skip), were defeated by five points in a match against Mr. W. O. S. Pell, Mr. W. A. Dewar, Admiral Sir John Dalrymple Hay, and Mr. J. G. Gibson (skip); and on another rink a game played between Messrs. G. O. Jacob, W. E. Hughes, C. S. Paterson and C. C. Wylie (skip), against Messrs. W. G. Head, Kaenel, Bennet and Houston (skip), resulted in favour of Mr. Wylie's side by four points.

## APPLEGARTH v. ST. MUNGO.

These clubs played a bonspiel on Castlemilk pond. The ice was in excellent condition and very keen. Scores:—

APPLEGARTH.		ST. MUNGO.	
H. Gardiner ...	21	William Macdougall ...	17
John Burgess ...	21	Robert W. B. Jardine ...	9
John Graham ...	21	Sir Robert Jardine ...	6
William Jardine Paterson ...	21	James Byers ...	21
	84	David B. Richardson ...	17
			70

## ARBROATH v. PANMURE.

A match between these clubs for the Caledonian district medal was played at Lochlands, Arbroath. Scores:—

ARBROATH.		PANMURE.	
Rev. Mr. Proudfoot ...	20	Rev. Mr. Cesa ...	21
Mr. Finlayson ...	16	Mr. G. Young ...	12
	36		33

## BERWICK v. RESTON.

Two rinks each of these clubs played on Duns Castle Loch for a medal of the Royal Caledonian Club. Skips and scores:—

BERWICK.		RESTON.	
H. G. McCreath ...	16	J. Allan ...	11
W. C. Caverhill ...	13	W. Weatherhead ...	12
	29		23

## DALKEITH v. WAVERLEY.

Played on Dalkeith Pond for a R.C.C.C. medal. Scores:—

DALKEITH.		WAVERLEY.	
Dr. Gray ...	12	H. Gilmour ...	20
G. Perrie ...	9	A. Hamilton ...	26
R. Craig ...	15	T. S. Aitchison ...	21
G. Dawson ...	17	J. Herdman ...	27
	53		94



## DALRY.

The Dalry curlers had a field-day on their pond, the ice being again in splendid condition. The combatants, in the final round for the club's jug, occupied the central space, and the game was watched with keen interest. Alongside of it was proceeding a game which had also some interest, that between Mr. Blair of Blair and Mr. Wilison for a load of meal for the poor. Results:—Robert Marshall (jug winner), 21; James Watson, 13; Alex. Willison, 32; Blair of Blair, 24; John Dickie, 20; James Graham, 12; Robert Speir, 24; W. Logan, 8; Wm. Gilbert, 22; J. Campbell, 15; Hugh Boyd, 22; R. Reid, 8; J. Baxter, 27; W. Dick, 22.

## TAIN.

The annual competitions for trophies held by the Easter Ross and St. Dunus Curling Club took place at the club's pond near Tain. The ice was in excellent condition, and a large number of competitors were forward. The trophies offered were valuable, there being a silver cup presented by Mr. Macfie of Edterton, a silver biscuit basket presented by Mr. Graenie of Cuppleasant, and the silver Jubilee medal. Mr. Angus Munro became winner of the cup with a score of 19 points. Mr. Roderick Finlayson and Mr. Alexander Ramsay tied for the second prize with scores of 16 points. The tie was played off, with the result that Mr. Finlayson beat Mr. Ramsay by 3 points. Mr. Finlayson thus became the winner of the biscuit basket, and the Jubilee medal goes to Mr. Ramsay for one year. The members of the club have had continued practice during the past ten days, and the ice has continued throughout in very good condition.

## DOUNE.

The final competition for the handsome trophy presented to the Doune Club by Lord Moray, to be played for by the point game, resulted in its being won by Mr. David Ferguson, with a total over the four competitors of 34 points. The next highest were Messrs. James Buchanan and Wm. Gray with 27 each, and the Rev. G. S. M'Kay, 24. The best scores in the last competition were made by Rev. G. S. M'Kay, Peter Fergusson and James Black, 7 points each. The annual match between the president and vice-president resulted as follows:—

PRESIDENT.		VICE-PRESIDENT.	
James Clark	15	Rev. G. S. M'Kay	19
James Rutherford	14	D. Fergusson	30
James Innes	23	S. Thomson	20
	52		69

## UPPER STRATHEARN PROVINCE.

This Province played their annual match on Drummond Loch for a silver jug presented by the late Baroness Willoughby de Eresby. Ten clubs were represented, and the ice was splendid. The result was as follows:—

UP.		DOWN.	
Monzievairst and Strowan	18	Crieff	0 $\frac{3}{4}$
Cultoughy	17	Strathallan, Meath Moss	4 $\frac{3}{4}$
Monzie	15	Trinity-Gask	9
Drummond Castle	14	Muthill	18 $\frac{3}{4}$
Lavers and Comrie	5	Abercairney	26 $\frac{3}{4}$

The cup is therefore won for the year by Monzievairst and Strowan Club.

## TVNESIDE.

The Tyneside club played three rinks from Jarrow and Hebburn at Newcastle, on the 8th inst. in beautiful curling weather. The contest was for the Royal Caledonian Medal, and the Newcastle Club ran out easy winners. The following were the players:—Tyneside, J. Ayton (skip), J. G. Scott, J. W. Parker, J. Mackison, 24; Jarrow, W. Semple (skip), J. Robertson, P. Charters, G. Archibald, 22; Hebburn, H. Golder (skip), Dr. Thompson, S. Oak, J. Heslop, 14; and Dr. Inglis (skip), R. Stark, J. Roy, R. B. Jardine, 16.

## SUNDERLAND.

The principal event at the headquarters of the Sunderland Club on the 8th inst. was the contest between rinks skipped by Messrs. Laverick and Watson, the following being the result:—Messrs. J. J. Reeves, S. Miller, A. Cameron, G. Graham, and H. Watson (skip), 14; Messrs. A. McCallum, Dr. Liston, R. Cooke, J. Gillespie, and J. Laverick (skip), 8.

## BROXBURN.

The competition for stone handles took place on Drumshoreland Pond amongst the members of the Broxburn Curling Club. In the first ties, T. Anthony beat R. Wallace by 10 to 8 shots; Captain Cleghorne, a bye. In the next tie, T. Anthony beat Captain Cleghorne by 17 to 7. Afterwards R. Wallace challenged Anthony's rink to play for two bags of meal for the poor, which W. Brand took up. This game ended in favour of Wallace, the score being—R. Wallace, 33; T. Anthony, 10; W. Brand and Captain Cleghorne then skipped the same rinks for a bag of potatoes, the result of which was—W. Brand, 16; Captain Cleghorne, 6. The following are results of matches played yesterday on good ice:—

W. Brand	18	G. Mitchell	6
W. Brand	9	R. Wallace	8
G. Paterson	21	G. Mitchell	3

## NEWCASTLE.

The Newcastle Curling Club was well to the fore during last week, the weather and condition of the ice being all that could be desired. On the 7th inst. five games were played, the successful rinks being skipped by Messrs. Barbour, Brown, Steel, Marshall, and Hiddlestone.

The Newcastle Club had another very successful day's sport on the Ryton pond last Saturday. The single-handed competitions for the Meikle Cup and Mr. Taylor's gold medal were won by Mr. James Telford, and he was also successful in carrying off the pair of handles, given by Mr. Heslop, for the player having the highest aggregate score in the Meikle and Taylor competitions. There were seventeen competitors, and Mr. Telford's scores were 22 points in the cup and medal contests, and 44 for the aggregate score.

## CHIRNSIDE v. AYTON.

A Caledonian Club district medal was played for between these clubs at Chirnside Bridge. Result:—

CHIRNSIDE.		AYTON.	
Hon. E. Majoribanks	28	W. Martin	15
R. N. Slight	20	E. White	18
	48		33

## LASSWADE.

On very keen but twisted ice, a match was played. After five hours' exciting play, the following was the result:—

R. Ketchen	39	G. Handaside	37
Dr. Maxwell	33	W. Davie	30

Both sides frequently "peeled" during the day, the winners coming away at the last end.

## WAVERLEY CURLING CLUB (KIERHILL).

On magnificent ice a capital game was enjoyed by the members, and after a most exciting and close finish, ended in Mr. Jack's rink (23) winning over Mr. Veitch's (22) by one point.

## EDINBURGH NORTHERN v. COATES.

This match was played with four rinks a side—two rinks on the ice of each club—with the following result:—

EDINBURGH NORTHERN.		COATES.	
Rev. Cor. Giffen	15	Dr. John Duncan	11
James Ewart	16	T. Rutherford Clark	15
P. W. Smeaton	22	A. Bishop Culpepper	16
D. M'Donald	15	Edward Blyth	23
	68		65

Majority for Edinburgh Northern, 3.

## EAST LOTHIAN CUP COMPETITION.

On Saturday the curlers of East Lothian, representative of the various clubs in the county, journeyed to Balgownie to compete for the handsome cup, presented by the Earl of Wemyss. The ice was keen and the weather suitable. Yesterday proved the victors of the day. Appended were the results:—

YESTER.		FIRST TIES.	
A. Bertram (skip)	9	W. Gemmell (skip)	11
R. Wilson (skip)	12	C. Dickson (skip)	5
	21		16

ATHELSTANEFORD.			HADDINGTON.		
J. Brunton	...	18	W. Baillie	...	8
W. Gillespie	...	7	J. D. Watson	...	10
		25			18
WHITTINGHAME.			DUNGLASS.		
A. Purves	...	10	J. Hood	...	7
W. W. Gray	...	11	W. Riddell	...	12
		21			19
STEVENSTON.			EAST LINTON.		
T. Elder	...	10	Colonel Anderson	...	5
H. Drysdale	...	7	James Pettigrew, jun.	...	10
		17			15
NORTH BERWICK.			ABERLADY.		
J. Brodie	...	15	J. McLaren	...	5
A. Wallace	...	10	G. Sinclair	...	7
		25			12
BALGONE.			DIRLETON.		
R. G. Suttie	...	7	I. Morrison	...	8
J. Tweeddale	...	13	W. Ford	...	6
		20			14
SECOND TIES.					
YESTER.			NORTH BERWICK.		
R. Wilson	...	8	J. Brodie	...	4
A. Bertram	...	7	A. Wallace	...	6
		15			10
ATHELSTANEFORD.			BALGONE.		
W. Gillespie	...	3	J. Tweeddale	...	10
J. Brunton	...	12	R. G. Suttie	...	4
		15			14
(After tying.)					
STEVENSTON.			WHITTINGHAME.		
H. Drysdale	...	8	A. Purvis	...	2
T. Elder	...	6	W. W. Gray	...	3
		14			5
THIRD TIES.					
STEVENSTON.			ATHELSTANEFORD.		
T. Elder	...	8	J. Brunton	...	5
H. Drysdale	...	6	W. Gillespie	...	7
		14			12
Yester, a bye.					
FINAL.					
YESTER.			STEVENSTON.		
A. Bertram	...	6	T. Elder	...	4
R. Wilson	...	12	H. Drysdale	...	5
		18			9

Majority for Yester, 9 points.

### MIDDLESBRO' CALEDONIAN CURLING CLUB.

Thanks to "John Frost" the members of this club had a rare time of it last week. A practice game was played on Tuesday by teams skipped by Mr. W. Longstaff and Mr. John Davidson, the former winning rather easily by 25 to 10. On Wednesday, two rinks journeyed on to Durham to play the Durham City Club, for a Royal Caledonian medal, on splendid ice. The City Club were easily defeated by the large majority of 28 shots. Subjoined are the rinks and scores:—

#### NO. 1 RINK.

MIDDLESBRO' (17).		DURHAM (14).	
Mr. W. Young (skip).		Mr. J. Imrie (skip).	
Mr. W. Longstaff.		Mr. W. Macfarlane.	
Mr. D. Mackay.		Mr. W. Lockie.	
Mr. W. C. Smith.		Colonel Monks.	

#### NO. 2 RINK.

MIDDLESBRO' (36).		DURHAM (11).	
Mr. J. Struthers (skip).		Mr. J. Carrick (skip).	
Mr. R. F. Helm.		Mr. O. W. Wilson.	
Mr. G. Dickson.		Mr. W. Wardropper.	
Mr. E. Longley.		Mr. W. Cooke.	

The great event of the week took place Thursday and Friday, on the Middlesbro' Club's pond at Linthorpe. The Gfers cup, value fifteen guineas, kindly presented by the much respected

patron of the Club, John Gfers, Esq., J.P., for competition by one rink from each of the principal clubs in the North of England. Unfortunately, three of the clubs entered could not compete owing to previous arrangements for Caledonian medals. However, such doughty champions of the roaring game as Malton, Darlington, Kipplin, Durham City and Middlesbro' turned up in good time. The draw resulted as follows:—Kipplin (holders) v. Middlesbro'; Darlington v. Durham; Malton, a bye. Some very good play was shown on both rinks, the result being that Kipplin and Durham were out. The draw for the second ties resulted in Malton and Darlington being pitted against each other, and after a most exciting game Malton were declared the victors by one shot.

Malton and Middlesbro', were therefore left in the final, which was played on Friday, from ten to one, before a large and enthusiastic crowd of ladies and gentlemen. A finer exposition of the game has seldom been seen.

#### FIRST TIES.

KIPPLIN (10.)		MIDDLESBRO' (17).	
Mr. R. Earl (skip).		Mr. John Struthers (skip).	
Mr. W. Fowler.		Mr. W. Young.	
Mr. J. Barker.		Mr. W. Longstaff.	
Mr. J. Elders.		Mr. R. F. Helm.	
DARLINGTON (15).		DURHAM (9).	
Mr. W. Swan (skip).		Mr. W. Wilson (skip).	
Mr. G. Struthers.		Mr. J. Imrie.	
Mr. J. Cudworth.		Mr. W. Lockie.	
Mr. S. Harrow.		Mr. J. Carrick.	

#### SECOND TIES.

MALTON (13).		DARLINGTON (12).	
Mr. W. J. Anson (skip).		Mr. W. Swan (skip).	
Mr. Sandy McNab.		Mr. G. Struthers.	
Mr. A. Brown.		Mr. J. Cudworth.	
Mr. J. Reid.		Mr. S. Harrow.	

#### FINAL HEAT.

MALTON (10).		MIDDLESBRO' (15).	
Mr. W. J. Anson (skip).		Mr. J. Struthers (skip).	
Mr. Sandy McNab.		Mr. W. Young.	
Mr. A. Brown.		Mr. W. Longstaff.	
Mr. J. Reid.		Mr. R. F. Helm.	

### TYNESIDE v. NEWCASTLE.

ROYAL CALEDONIAN MEDAL COMPETITION.—A match between the representatives of these clubs took place last Friday, on the pond of the latter club, and created great excitement amongst followers of the game. The Newcastle Club is the oldest in the North, having been established in 1843, and their record is one to be proud of, seeing that they have never lost a medal competition in England, whilst they have only been defeated twice in Scotland. They, however, narrowly escaped defeat last Friday, seeing that they only beat their rivals (an offshoot from the old club) by one point after an exciting game. The scores were:—Newcastle, No. 1 rink (skip, Mr. J. Telford) 21; No. 2 rink (skip, W. Marshall) 13; No. 3 rink (skip, T. Taylor) 20; total 54. Tyneside, No. 1 rink (skip, J. Stewart) 12; No. 2 rink (skip, W. Semple) 19; No. 3 rink (skip, J. Ayton) 22; total 53.

### TUDHOE v. DURHAM.

The members of the above club met at Spennymoor on Friday to play off their fixture, Tudhoe winning by five points after good play.

#### TO CORRESPONDENTS.

All Communications to be addressed to "The Editor, GOLF, Copthall Avenue, London Wall, E.C." Cheques and Postal Orders to be crossed "GOLF & Co."

Competitions intended for the current week's publication must reach the Office not later than **Tuesday Morning**.

No notice can be taken of anonymous communications.

GOLF may be obtained at the Railway Bookstalls of Messrs. W. H. Smith & Son; G. Vickers, Angel Court, Strand; at Herbert Styles, 3, Fishmonger Alley, and 7, St. Mary Axe, E.C.; at EDINBURGH from J. Menzies & Co., 12, Hanover Street; at GLASGOW from J. Menzies & Co., 21, Drury Street; at ABERDEEN from Mr. Alex. Murray; and at ST. ANDREWS from W. C. Henderson & Son; or at the Office of GOLF, Copthall Avenue, E.C., to which address Subscribers are requested to write in the event of their not being able to obtain the paper.