

# GOLF.

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

"Far and Sure."

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## Fixtures.

1891.

### JANUARY.

- Jan. 1.—Prestwick St. Nicholas: Club (scratch) and Handicap Medals.
- Jan. 1.—County Antrim: Handicap Hole Competition (Open).  
Lanark: The Orchard Shield.
- Jan. 2.—Country Antrim: Handicap Stroke Competition (Open).
- Jan. 3.—Disley: Annual Meeting and Dinner; Competition for the Annual Cup.
- Jan. 6.—Birkdale: Ladies' Prize (3rd round)
- Jan. 10.—Whitley: Wyndham Cup.  
Wiltshire and District: Gray Medal.  
Disley: Annual Cup, Meeting and Dinner.
- Jan. 13.—Whitley: The Joicey Cup.  
Pau: Arthur Post Medal and Pendant, and the Brooke Challenge Cup and Badge.
- Jan. 15.—Pau: Brooke Challenge Cup, and the Anstruther Shield and Badge.  
Royal Musselburgh: Quarterly Competition.
- 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.
- Jan. 24.—Birkdale: The Captain's Cup.  
Whitley: Crawley Prize.
- Jan. 27.—Whitley: The Joicey Cup.  
Pau: Macnab Cup.
- Jan. 31.—Seaford: Monthly Medal.  
Prestwick St. Nicholas: Bailie Wilson's Medal.  
Royal Liverpool: Winter Optional Subscription Prizes.

### FEBRUARY.

- Feb. 3.—Birkdale: Ladies' Prize.

- Feb. 7.—Whitley: Wyndham Cup.  
Birkdale: Mackenzie Cup.  
Lanark: Quarterly Competition for Gold Ball and other Prizes.
- Feb. 10.—Pau: Town of Pau Gold Medal and St. Andrew's Cross.  
Whitley: Joicey Cup.  
Royal Epping Forest: Kentish Cup.
- 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.
- Feb. 17.—Pau: May Jubilee Medal.
- Feb. 18.—Royal Epping Forest: 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).
- 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.

### MARCH

- Mar. 3.—Birkdale: Ladies' Prize.
- Mar. 7.—Birkdale: Mackenzie Cup.
- 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.
- Mar. 18.—Royal Epping Forest: 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.
- Mar. 24.—Whitley: Joicey Cup.
- Mar. 26.—Pau: Scratch Silver Medal—Ladies' Cup.
- Mar. 28.—Seaford: Monthly Medal.  
Royal Epping Forest: Gordon Challenge Cup; Captain's Prize.

The Riviera, following the fashion of the time, will soon add a Golf course to its other health attractions. The Hermitage Estate Company, who own a fine property at Costebelle, Hyères, and the Grand Hotel D'Albion, have opened a nine-hole course for the benefit of visitors. The links are near the sea, and are described as affording really good sport, one or two of the holes being over 400 yards. It is expected that in a year or two the course will be lengthened to 18 holes.

## THE OPEN GOLF CHAMPIONSHIP.

Has the open Golf championship been a failure? Such is the question that must have suggested itself to any one who has been in the habit of listening to the comments of experts, at the recent meeting at Prestwick, and at similar meetings there and elsewhere in former years. The question is a somewhat sweeping one, and perhaps the answer will depend upon its scope. If it is comprehensive enough to refer to the open championship contest in all its aspects, no one who has studied the matter would hesitate to answer with an unqualified negative.

As attracting together the best golfing talent of the kingdom, the open championship meeting has been an unqualified success. There has hardly been a championship meeting held from which any player, amateur or professional, of proved conspicuous ability, has been absent; and in the sense of bringing about the confederation of the *élite* of the golfing world, the championship gathering must be admitted to have proved eminently successful.

But the meeting must be looked at from other points of view than that from which it is regarded as a mere exhibition of Golf. It must be taken account of as to its ultimate results, and on one point, and that a very important point, it is not so certain that it is looked upon as having been quite as satisfactory as it should be. It has been long considered that the scope of the competition has been too limited to make it decisively certain that the best golfer of the field has won the championship. It has come to be regarded—and among no class is this more true than among those who have actually taken part in the contest, and even won championship honours—as not affording a true test of golfing skill. In what respect it is too limited it is the principal object of this article to set forth.

Though the game of Golf has in theory been reduced to an exact science, it is not, as is pretty well known to those who practise it, a game of pure skill. Apart from the attainment of perfection according to theoretical canons, the element of chance enters into its practice with effects that are often decisive. In some champion contests, the effects of chance may be said to be practically absent. In a contest for supremacy in rowing, for instance, we have two competitors placed under exactly the same conditions, except presumably in the essentials of strength, endurance, and skill, in the possession of which they have met to decide who is most highly endowed. The course is absolutely alike to both, and if one man is more highly gifted than his rival with the qualities that make the best rower, then that man will win if he choose. But in playing a game of Golf, chance, or "luck," is sometimes a very important factor.

Here we have the striking of a ball over three or four miles of pasture land, in which the variety of physical conformation (in relation to the size of the Golf ball) is infinite. Theoretically the course is alike to both competitors (assuming for convenience that there are but two), but in practice this is not so. The game may be compared with a sort of cross-country steeplechase, the obstacles to be met with being totally unknown to the riders. The riders may be equally well mounted and equally skilful equestrians, but one may by chance encounter fewer obstacles than the other, and so win the race. Given two golfers, equal in skill and in staying powers, and playing an equally good game, and it would be safe to predict that in the course of a medal round the element of chance or "luck" would, in nine cases out of ten, operate against the one or the other to such an extent as to make it a matter of improbability that they would tie. The chance of tying at the lowest score for the championship, is still more remote. It has occurred only twice in the championship contests in thirty years. Skill in the game of Golf is comparative not absolute. There never was and never will be a perfect golfer, one of whom it can be said that his play could not be improved upon.

It has been somewhere stated of Allan Robertson, that, if his lowest score to each hole over St. Andrews be taken, the total for his round of that links was 56 strokes. Yet the record for the links is 73 strokes. Now why should not Allan Robertson, or for that matter some players of equal skill who have succeeded him, not have holed out St. Andrews in a

single round in 56 strokes, or even less, for to do so is clearly not a physical impossibility? The answer to some extent is that the greatest skill cannot prevent the element of chance from influencing the score. Nevertheless, the degree of skill necessary to the winning of, say, the championship, is of a high order, and is possibly nearly as great as any human being can hope to attain to. To some few the use of the clubs has become almost a second nature. But even in this case the maximum of skill will not enable its possessor to drive a ball from the tee to a place that may be measured by less than at least several square yards. But within that area what possibilities may there not be for the next shot? The lie of the ball may be so bad, the result of pure chance, that it may mean practically a stroke added to the score. Take as example the ground that extends between the tee and the third hole over Prestwick, that in which occurs the famous "Cardinal" bunker so well known to all good golfers. To negotiate the Cardinal bunker in two with any certainty of success, a long drive and a clear lie are requisite. If the ball rests in such a position as that it cannot be played with the brassie—and it sometimes does so rest—a prudent player will not try to get over in two, lest a worst thing befall him, but will play short, send his ball perhaps only a few yards forward with the iron, for a better lie. This may happen to one player, while the other with a better lie gets well over the bunker in two, and the result is that the more fortunate player will likely get the hole in one stroke less than his less fortunate opponent. Now the player who took three to get over the bunker may have played as faultless a shot from the tee as the other, but the luck has been against him. This was strikingly exhibited at the recent championship meeting when three out of four (certainly with the wind against them) failed to get to the right side of the bunker in two. Supposing two players playing a match, such a mishap might be attended with disastrous consequences as to its result, might in effect mean the loss of the match. Such a consequence has often happened in actual experience.

Of course, it may be said that the chance of bad luck operates as much against the one player as against the other. Theoretically, that is no doubt true, but the theory of the average of probabilities is one thing, and an eighteen or thirty-six hole game at Golf is quite another. It may be granted that the philosophy of chance or probability would in the long run reduce any two players to the same position as regards luck but hardly within the limits of a single day's Golf. Playing a round every day for any lengthened period would equalise the chance element of the game between two players, the equality reaching nearer and nearer the absolute, the greater the number of rounds played; but in one or two rounds practice has demonstrated that one player may have all the luck against him. Is it not one of the commonest expressions relative to a match, that one of the players had "none of the luck," or that the other had "all the luck"? It is not at all unlikely, that, were the best professional and amateur golfing talent, such as, for instance, met at Prestwick recently, to play thirty-six holes every day over the same ground for a week under medal conditions, the lowest scorer would be a different man every day. This probability has been confirmed over and over again in cases where the champion, challenged by some one of his dissatisfied opponents, has been defeated by the challenger almost the very next day. Such circumstances of themselves tend to prove the not entirely satisfactory character of the open championship. Not that the results of these events have always been a matter of luck, far from that; but they go to show that the winning of the championship is not altogether devoid of—well, of the character of a "fluke." Undoubtedly the open championship meeting has always brought to the front some pre-eminently good golfer, but he is only one of a number of pre-eminently good golfers, and, if called upon to defend his laurels, there and then, might very likely be unable to retain them.

In short, it is the opinion of experts that, as satisfactorily determining who is the best golfer, the open championship has been a comparative failure; that something more than a single day's Golf is necessary to decide who is most worthy to wear the badge of supremacy in the golfing world; and that in respect of time the open championship should be assimilated to the amateur championship. Though widely different from the open event as to its conditions, this contest lasts for three days, and

the winner has to go round the links probably six times, and must play a game superior to that of at least six different opponents (unless he obtain a bye, or byes). To accomplish this requires, to say the least, the highest attainable proficiency in the game. Of course, it may be argued that the amateur championship is not a perfect institution. That of course is granted. But no contest that could be devised for deciding the championship would be perfect. The nature of the game will not permit of that; and all the advantage that is claimed for the amateur championship contest, is, that it is played under less imperfect conditions than those that regulate the contest now principally under criticism. No absolute remedy is possible. What is wanted is a condition of things that will combine the maximum of skill with the minimum of chance; and the minimum of chance, it has been already pointed out, can only be an approximation.

The remedy is, therefore, to extend the time for the open contest to three days, and, the medal game being still adhered to, to decide that the lowest aggregate scorer of, say, six rounds of the links on three consecutive days shall be the champion for the year. But the question here suggests itself—is that a conveniently practical arrangement? The cry in some quarters has been that it would not, that many of the professionals could not spare the time and the expense of a three days' contest away from home. Time was, when there was something in that objection, but not at this advanced and rapidly progressing stage of the game of Golf. The professionals are indeed the very men who are most loudly calling for an alteration in the conditions of the meeting in the lines above indicated. Indeed, as it is, many of them spend a week away from home when they are present at and take part in the contest. There is nothing, therefore, in this solicitude on behalf of the professionals, and if there were the professionals are so convinced that a change is desirable that they would willingly submit to the inconvenience. The amateurs concerned are, to a man, in favour of the change, and they are now more than ever entitled to be heard and to be considered. Nor does there seem any likelihood of difficulties being placed in the way by the clubs who have the direction of the contest. The time accordingly seems ripe for introducing a reform in the present arrangement.

In connection with this matter it has been further pointed out that the emblems of the championship are not quite worthy of a confederation that has assumed such vast proportions as the confederation of golfers. Such a brotherhood ought to be able to produce an emblem more in keeping with the importance of the event, which, important as it now is, might be made of much greater significance with more attractive concomitants. It is also suggested that more inducement in the shape of prizes should be offered to the professionals. To bring about this advisable change a further alteration in the conditions would be necessary, for it could hardly be expected that the clubs—Prestwick, Royal and Ancient, and Honourable Company—who, by rotation take charge of the meeting, should, as they do at present, contribute the whole of the necessary funds. Other leading clubs, or for that matter all clubs, might be called upon to contribute towards making the event more attractive than it even now is. Such an increase in the money prizes is desirable, because in the event of a three days' contest, this means a greater reward for the professionals for their longer absence from their business.

Many clubs would probably be glad to contribute, and the result of reform in this and the other directions would certainly be to give greater *éclat* to the open championship meeting, and a new impetus to the highest form of skill as revealed in the golfers' art.

J. MCBAIN.

During the progress of a cricket match, a Scotch policeman of rather Falstaffian proportions was standing inside the ropes, and obscuring the view of some young men behind him. Said one of them addressing him, "I'm sayin', policeman, can ye play at draughts?" "Middlin'," returned the policeman good-humouredly; "but what way dae ye ask?" "Because I think it's aboot time ye were makin' a shift," was the reply. "Ah, weel," returned the guardian of the peace, "if I mak' a shift, it'll be to tak' a man."

## EDINBURGH GOLFERS' SMOKING CONCERT.

Under the management and patronage of Edinburgh golfers a smoking concert, on a large scale, was held in the Oddfellows' Hall, Forrest Road, Edinburgh, on Saturday, the 20th ult. Mr. B. Hall-Blyth occupied the chair. This gentleman, it will be remembered, played a prominent part in bringing about that consummation, so much desired and now so much appreciated by Edinburgh golfers—the acquisition of the Braid Hills. Mr. Blyth was accompanied to the platform by Councillor Kinloch (the Hill Ranger, and a genuine friend of the golfers), Mr. Thomas Carmichael, S.S.C., and others.

There were nearly three hundred visitors present, and the proceedings, which lasted from 7 p.m. to 11 p.m., were throughout of a most harmonious character. The Chairman, who is exceedingly popular with all golfers, created some disappointment by confining himself to a simple expression of the pleasure it gave him in presiding over what is probably the first social gathering of Edinburgh golfers.

Those responsible for the drawing up of the programme can hardly be congratulated on the result of their efforts. There has probably never been a programme so "subject to alteration," and as there were upwards of forty items, the printed list was of little or no use to those present. After many years' experience of smoking concerts, I am bound to say, that a more motley crowd of "talent" has never come under my notice. They were of all sorts and sizes, from the fat little man with the drooping moustache and pathetic facial expression, who warbled his tenor ditties with a sentimental fervour that not even the 'baccy laden atmosphere could abate, to the comparatively attenuated young man, whose sepulchral bass notes seemed to be drawn from the region of his boots. A smoking concert without comic singers would be like "Hamlet" with the Prince left out, so, as a matter of course, there were several in the field. The amateur comic singer is at all times a somewhat depressing individual, and it must be confessed that the golfers comic men were a feeble lot. With the exception of Mr. Breck, whose two humorous effusions and a stump speech were fairly good, the comic element was decidedly below the average standard of such gatherings. One "artist" figured as a topical vocalist. He was careful to inform the audience that his song was entirely original. No one could ever have doubted it.

Had the managing committee (who will know more about such matters when the next smoker comes round) placed the performers on this occasion in a kind of sieve, and riddled out the rubbish, they would have been able to provide a much more compact and, on the whole, a better class entertainment, and the "vocal villainies" perpetrated would have been much less numerous. Among the most praiseworthy contributions were "Mary" and "The Lea Rig," sung by Mr. John Borthwick; and although Mr. George Wilson was not in his best form, he gave "La Charmante Marguerite" with characteristic taste and finish. Mr. J. P. Wood gave an exceptionally fine rendering of Pinsuti's "Bedouin Love Song," and Mr. J. O. Sinclair's version of "I fear no foe" was appropriately spirited and vigorous. An agreeable variety was lent to the proceedings by Mr. F. Ross, whose violin solo, an air with variations from "La Sonambula" was played in a very creditable way. Mr. John Stewart was a little out of his depths in Mendelssohn's "I'm a Roamer," although it must in fairness be said that the song was unfortunately placed in the programme, and was not listened to with that quietness and attention which it undoubtedly merited. The same gentleman took a very praiseworthy share in several concerted pieces, though it would be impossible to find words too strong in which to protest against such Vandalism as that of substituting "Potterrow" and "hens and a" for "the day may da" in Burns' immortal lines. Messrs. Miller, Whitelaw, and Stewart might reasonably have been supposed to know that such puerile nonsense was at once "an insult" to the intelligence of their audience and a slur upon our national poet. An Indian club performance by Mr. Michael Bruce, a recitation by Mr. Kinross, and songs by Messrs. McIntosh and Jackson were also enjoyable items, and when at 11 o'clock the pipes went out, the audience gave every indication of being perfectly satisfied with the first smoking concert held under the auspices of the Edinburgh golfers.

THE CHIEL.



## THE LINKS O' TROON.

AIR: "Gae bring to me a pint o' wine."

Gae bring to me mi golfin' clubs,  
An' tack't shoon, mi strappin' caddie,  
I'll hae a roun o' links o' Troon,  
An' haud mi ain, I trow, mi laddie.  
On bigget tee the ba' is set,  
On "evil bent" I heel the gutta;  
But fortune serves us baith alike,  
Mi neebor taes an' gets a rutter.

Freen Mac, he taks the niblick tilt,  
An' I win oot wi' rippin' mashie,  
We baith get tae the "Seal" in three,  
Ilk bringin' tilt a rattlin' brassie.  
We put it oot an' onward speed,  
"Black Rock" in solemn silence listening;  
Wi' bated breath, her breakers hushed,  
Tae ba' an' lav'rock sweetly whistlin'.

Oor thoughts are ourie as we tee,  
For "Gyaws" are jaws o' gravest danger,  
For if we in the burnie drap,  
Or stimied by the palin' linger,  
We lose a stroke, the hole is lost,  
Begin tae funk, oor brains bamboozle;  
We scart oor pows tae fin' the faut,  
An' aiblins end in chronic fozzle.

Though sair forfaught, we tee again,  
An' drive "Dunure"-wards cautious, doubtin';  
The Doctor's grave, tak' patience tae't,  
'Tis easier innin' there than outin'.  
If in you maun, don't dribble o'er,  
Nor strike the yonter bank in pressin';  
The middle o't is safest grun',  
Tak tent tae that when ba' addressin'.

Noo "Gyaws" an' Highets grave ahint,  
Through "Greenan's knowes" an' "Ailsa's" valleys;  
The golfers hie their merry way,  
Wi' cheerfulness an' witty sallies.  
Till "Turnb'ry" stans in tow'r in mien,  
Sae castle-like to wile the player  
To nerve himsel' by hook or crook,  
To reach the fortress through the air.

In ane freen Mac the summit scaled,  
Mysef' the noo I needna mention;  
"Tel-el-Kebir," I'll try an' win,  
At least, sae far, 'tis mi intention.  
A bonnie drive right down the vale,  
O' bunkers on each side beware o';  
The man wha wins the battle here,  
He maun for certain sure tak "care o'."

We speil the ladder an' tak breath,  
An' get a view in a' its beauty,  
O' Bonnie Ayr an' Prestwick Links,  
An' then fa' tae mair serious duty.  
We see the cross abune the "Monk,"  
Right at oor feet his cowl inverted;  
A hazard sair, whilk mony a young  
And vet'ran golfer has diverted.

But o'er we maun an' drive the ba',  
Through heather, dogrose, and through thistle;  
Then holin' out we turn about,  
An' wet at Thorburn's well our whistle.  
Stout hearts we need as "Sandhills" stans,  
A lofty bunker to get over;  
Baith elbow creesh and steady swing,  
Are needed for the great endeavour.

Noo hamewards-bound we face the "Fox,"  
Wha' scarce belies its tricky nature;  
For foxes mair than golfers meant,  
If frae the straught they dare to venture.  
The right is fu' o' fir an' furze,  
The left a bunker christened Hades—  
Though mony gie't a plainer name,  
Aye, mony mair than hav'rin' caddies.

The warst is past, noo "Burmah's" reached,  
The rest is maistly halflin's playin';  
The velvet turf, the billowy knowes,  
Wi' bloomin' heath their tops arrayin'.  
Save for a cup or rabbit scrape,  
Put past your niblick an' your mashie;  
We're back again tae real downs,  
Sae soft tae tread, sae fresh an' grassy.

We, cosie "Alton" holed in three,  
But "Crosbie" taks fu' mony a stinger;  
A langsome hole wi' kittle grun',  
Ye've whiles a drooper, whiles a hinger.  
Put powther in't, ye'll need it a',  
To sen the gutta onward wingin';  
Weel loftin' o'er uncannie lies,  
Tae putting-green, o'er hazards swingin'.

The "Garden" needs nae turfin' stroke,  
A clean hit drive will set you right on;  
Or, maybe if your drivin' short,  
You'll land it wi' a quarter iron.  
Be certain when you face the "Well,"  
E'er drivin' o'er the gruesome palin',  
See hoo in bonnie sunlight bathed,  
The Arran hills the lift are scalin'.

For Goatfell aim, avoid the field,  
Then keep the right o' Mitchell's Sand-box;  
Ye'll fetch the green an' hole out weel,  
As safe as bannet in a band-box.  
To drive your next, keep to the left,  
The right is dangerous near the "Rabb t";  
Beware the ditch an' Craigend dyke,  
An' loft your ba' an' saftly lab it.

Tae end oor roun', we tee the "Home,"  
Was nomenclature e'er sae happy?  
We'll drive it weel an' hole it out,  
An' tae the club an' hae a drappie.  
We'll gie the chiels oor clubs tae clean,  
An' get a knife an' fork frae Fleemin';  
Oor appetite is gie an' keen,  
An' win or lose, oor faces beamin'.

W. G.

ON A NORTHERN LINKS.—GOLFING CLERGYMAN (to parishioner's opponent in a single, after having finished a round).—"Was Dougal saying any of these nasty wee words when he was getting into the bunkers?"

DOUGAL'S OPPONENT.—"No! he dammed the utterance instead of uttering the d—ns!"

At a well-known green, not many miles from Edinburgh, it is the practice to remove the flags from the holes after the week's play is over. During the summer months, the green is generally occupied till night descends. On one occasion, the man whose duty it is to take in the flags remarked to a sympathising player: "It's Sunday mornin' every Saturday nicht afore a' get the flags in."

An old caddie, who had just finished carrying a round in a soaking rain, was advised by the custodian of the links to "gang hame and change, or he wud catch cauld." "Change what?" inquired he. "Yer claes," replied the other. "Change my claes!" was the exclamation; "Ood man, I've naething at aame but a paper collar tae change wi'."

## THE EMPLOYMENT OF CADDIES.

A FEW months ago, when Willie Park, Jun., the then champion, issued a challenge to play any golfer for a certain money stake and the honour of maintaining premier position as a player, there was some hesitation shown by St. Andrews professionals in responding to the challenge. This want of alacrity on the part of St. Andrews led a writer in a Scottish weekly contemporary to say some unkind things of St. Andrews professionals, and to hint with undisguised candour at the decadence of St. Andrews as the home of Golf, and of its professionals as the foremost exponents of the game. All golfers know now that the jibe was unmerited, that Kirkcaldy accepted the challenge and beat Park. At that time, we replied to the critic, and put forward certain considerations to show that, if golfers wished to foster high-class professional talent with the object of maintaining the honour of certain greens, something must be done to improve the *status* of the caddie and the professional player, analogous to the movement which had been initiated to rear a good, self-reliant school of professional county cricketers.

We rejoice to see that this step has now been taken by the Royal and Ancient Golf Club of St. Andrews. In a recent issue we printed the full report of the Committee of Management entrusted with the duty of framing a scheme of rules regulating the duties, remuneration and behaviour of the caddies at St. Andrews. Shortly summarised, the salient features of the scheme are these—(1) a paid officer to be employed, through whom the members of the club shall engage their caddies; (2) a register of caddies to be kept by this officer, and a copy to be hung in the club house; (3) the fixing of a tariff for the hiring of caddies; (4) a separate register for professional players who may also be registered as caddies; (5) this paid club officer to receive the clubs of members from the caddies, and to pay them; (6) a benefit fund to be instituted for the relief of registered caddies in case of accident, sickness, old age, or destitution, the contribution of the caddies to be threepence per week. Professor Knight, who is well known for the interest he has long taken in the subject, Mr. Fordyce and the other members of the sub-committee have unquestionably bestowed much care and thought on the formation of the scheme. Its primary recommendation is that it does not consist in mere eleemosynary relief without supplying a much-needed stimulus to thrift and forethought on the part of the class who are to receive the assistance. The caddies themselves are to be contributors, and as their registration depends upon a certain not too rigid standard of public behaviour it is difficult to see in what respect they should be loth to further its success. Those with any character to lose may be trusted to be far-seeing enough to understand that by the mere sacrifice of a solitary pint of beer a-day they are not only laying up a future provision for themselves, but, what is more important, for their wives and families in the event of any untoward event happening

to the precarious breadwinner. By contributing to this insurance fund also the really first-class professional players—those men upon whom St. Andrews may rely to defend its *prestige* as a Golf playing centre—by heartily seconding the efforts of Professor Knight and his coadjutors, will be, to a very large extent, relieved of the carking, worrying care as to future contingencies which the unstable conditions of their calling necessarily present, and will be enabled to devote themselves to perfecting their science in all departments of the game. But better than all this will be the wholesome moral effect which the regulations will have in raising the tone of the caddie as a class. The much needed rehabilitation of character of which we spoke in a previous article will at least have been begun. Their effect in another direction will also be salutary. The hirer of the caddie will be absolved from that undignified “argybargy” with his henchman as to the just reward of his labour; and while in the one case the caddie will know that his blustering cannot have any effect on the paid official of the club who acts as the buffer between payer and payee, the payer preserves his self-esteem intact by the reflection that the scale of remuneration for the caddie’s services has been fixed by the committee at no illiberal or unjust figure.

Other large clubs might follow the example of St. Andrews with advantage. Indeed, were it possible, there should have been something approaching to a federation of the chief organisations on this point—certainly in Scotland. In England, of course, the caddie population is not so stable, or such a fixed quantity as at St. Andrews or Musselburgh. In the South, caddies fluctuate at certain seasons of the year between a plethora and a dearth; the carrier of clubs to-day, is painting a house to-morrow, running shop errands, bottling beer, or maladroitly attending to burst water-pipes in frosty weather. In any case, the committees of clubs have here an opening for something like conjoint action, and a model on which to work when a move is decided upon. The benefit fund at St. Andrews will depend largely for its success on the voluntary contributions of members. Seeing, however, that golfers all over the country visit St. Andrews at some time or another, in order to enjoy the exhilarating sport afforded by that green, the appeal might very well have been made wider in its scope. We heartily congratulate the committee on the step they have taken, and shall be glad to aid their good work by receiving and acknowledging subscriptions to the Benefit Fund, enforcing, at the same time, Professor Knight’s appeal:—“He gives twice who gives quickly.”

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GOLFER (solemnly).—“There has just been a death in my family. Show me some neck-wear.”

THE PROPRIETOR.—“A near relative?”

GOLFER.—“My mother-in-law.”

THE PROPRIETOR.—“Ah, something gay!” (Throws out an assortment of reds and blues, and secures his trade for all time.)

## Tee Shots.

We wish all our readers a Happy New Year! To Secretaries of Golf clubs we wish to express our indebtedness for their great kindness in facilitating the labours connected with the conduct of this journal by the prompt manner in which they have forwarded reports of competitions and other incidents connected with the sport. We hope that we may rely upon their aid in the year which has just dawned to make the journal bright, interesting, and thoroughly representative of every golfing interest.

\* \* \*

FIRST GOLFER (who had seen second ditto and some friends wending their way towards the links at a late hour the previous evening).—"How many rounds had you last night?"

SECOND GOLFER.—"Four or five, I forget which."

FIRST GOLFER.—"What! you must have been playing in the dark then."

SECOND GOLFER.—"Oh, no; we had only one round of the links. We had the rest in the club-house."

FIRST GOLFER looks puzzled, but after some cogitation wonders how second golfer negotiated the hazards on his homeward course.

\* \* \*

As some Golf players grow older, they see what poor players they used to be, but fail to see that they still remain in that condition.

\* \* \*

We understand that the proposed match between the brothers Fernie, Willie and George (Troon), and the brothers Campbell (Bridge of Weir), is off in the meantime. The Fernies are willing at any time to go on with the match, which would have been for £25. The event was to have taken place about Christmas, and some disappointment will be felt at missing it during the festive season.

\* \* \*

JAILER.—"Well, what would you like to work at while you are here, you can have a choice?"

NEW ARRIVAL.—"At my own trade if you please, Sir."

JAILER.—"And what is that?"

NEW ARRIVAL.—"I'm a Golf player."

\* \* \*

The Ranelagh Golf Club, Barn Elms, which was started in October, is now in good working order, and shows a steady increase in the membership. Under the supervision of Captain Beak, the course has been thoroughly overhauled and the greens attended to, while other points of detail tending to facilitate the enjoyment of golfers have not been overlooked. It will, doubtless, interest many golfers in and around the metropolis to know that at this season of the year when frost and snow have put an end for a time to their favourite sport, skating in peace and quiet may be enjoyed at Ranelagh, the privilege being included in the Golf membership. Pigeon-shooting may also be enjoyed by arrangement with the authorities of the club. The club is open for play from the 9th of August to the 21st of April inclusive, with the exception of the Oxford and Cambridge Boat-race day, when the club will be open to members of the Ranelagh Club only. Members of the Ranelagh, Hurlingham, and of any recognised London club are, subject to the approval of the committee, eligible without ballot. Ladies, and gentlemen not members of any recognised London club, may be elected by the committee of the Golf club. Intending candidates are allowed to play a trial round, and a particular point to be noticed is that play is permitted on Sundays.

\* \* \*

A well-known gentleman cricketer, after the first few shots broke his club-head. Handing the club to the club-maker, he inquired what kind of wood it was made of. "Sycamore," was the reply. "Then," said he, "let me try something else, I'm sick o' more of that kind."

A lady was playing round the long course at Yarmouth a few days ago, and on striking off from tee over the fence towards Caistor, she landed in the whins. Players and caddies came up together, and were surprised to find a well-grown young rabbit sitting close to the ball. There was a little blood on his ear, and he had evidently been struck and partially stunned by the ball. Needless to say, the caddies soon dispatched the rabbit, and a difference of opinion as to the ownership of the spoil materially interfered with their usefulness during the remainder of the round.

\* \* \*

While golfers for the most part are snowed up in the south of England, it is interesting to learn that the links at Westward Ho! are quite free from frost and snow. Golf there has not been stopped a day this winter. A little snow fell one day last week but it did not lie on the ground, possibly owing to the close proximity of the links to the sea, and to the quantity of salt in the soil. On Monday, the 22nd ult.; the sun shone out brightly and there was not a particle of snow on the links, though a little lay all round in the neighbouring fields. The greens were in capital order, and not a trace of frost in the ground. The roads, however, were quite hard. Nineteen golfers were out. Rain fell on Tuesday the 23rd, washing away all the snow from the fields and converting the roads into mud.

\* \* \*

The London County Council have begun to legislate on Golf. They have intimated that on all the commons within their jurisdiction it will henceforth be necessary for players to have a fore caddie, who shall carry a red flag to warn strangers. They also limit play to 2 o'clock in the afternoon. This hour is much to early too stop play. In fine weather it is not until between 4 and 5 o'clock that visitors begin to appear on the open spaces, while in the winter months the commons at Tooting, Blackheath, and Wimbledon are absolutely deserted. The County Council should leave Golf unfettered in the winter months and allow golfers to play until 3.30, or 4 o'clock in the spring and autumn.

\* \* \*

Golf play at Wimbledon being impossible, owing to the severe frost and snow, curling has been adopted by many golfers as a substitute. There is a fine sheet of ice in Wimbledon Park, and here many frost-bound golfers enjoy themselves. Among the keen curling golfers were to be seen Dr. Purves, Mr. R. Thompson, Mr. R. F. Denniston, Mr. F. Crawford, Mr. J. Franklin-Adams, Mr. W. Porteous, Mr. R. Usher, Mr. A. Lubbock, Major Roberts, Mr. J. Robertson, Mr. J. L. Ridpath, and Mr. G. Chatterton.

\* \* \*

Not a flake of snow has fallen at Nairn. The weather is lovely, and Golf goes on merrily. Mr. Finlay, M.P., is enjoying his holiday, and plays twice a day. A number of other players are also enjoying the fine weather. The professional, Dalgleish, has beaten his record by doing the 18 holes in 73 not less than three times within a few days. A lot of money has been spent in improving the course.

\* \* \*

POLITICAL TRUTHS IN GOLFING PHRASEOLOGY.—Mr. W. A. Bell, the Unionist candidate for the Leith District of Burghs, addressed a public meeting the other night in the Town Hall, Musselburgh. He said that the Home Rule ball, to adopt a golfing simile, had been "teed" in a very unexpected manner by Mr. Gladstone. Mr. Gladstone had begun by a very brilliant stroke—(laughter)—and others of an equally good nature had followed. It had, indeed, appeared as if only a good "loft" with the iron was required to land it on the green. But Mr. Gladstone had apparently not seen the very awkward "bunker" staring him in the face. The ball started well enough, but it hesitated on the brink. (Cries of "Oh, oh," "Quite safe," and laughter.) But then it had rolled back and disappeared in a cloud of sand—(laughter, cheers, and slight interruption)—and he did not think there was any chance, in spite of the efforts that would be made to extricate it, of their ever seeing much of that Home Rule ball again. (Loud cheers and some hisses.)



Information has been received from Wisbech of an extraordinary scene amongst the skaters there. Some local matches had been arranged on the canal, but the sluice-keeper, named Pogson, broke up the ice by letting in the water from the River Nene. The feeling against the sluice-keeper became intense. A great crowd assembled with threats of vengeance near his house. Pogson was roughly handled, and had to run for his life. He took refuge in his house afterwards, and a thousand people assembled and broke windows and did other damage, also burning his effigy.

\* \* \*

"You are an authority on all things athletic, feats of strength, &c., &c., I believe," remarked a well-known golfer to our editor. The latter bowed and replied "What can I do for you?" "I wish you to tell me which is the stronger, the female shop-lifter, or the woman who holds up a train?" (The querist's funeral is to-morrow.)

\* \* \*

"I've won again," she sweetly cried;  
 "What luck I have at play."  
 "Not luck, my darling," he replied,  
 "It is your winning way."  
 (Then the osculation began.)

\* \* \*

"I think I'll get out and stretch my legs a little," said a tall man, as the train stopped at a station. "Oh, don't," said a passenger who had been sitting opposite to him, and who had been much embarrassed by the legs of his tall companion; "don't do that! They are too long already."

\* \* \*

Sleighting in London is curious enough to be chronicled. "Two years ago," writes a correspondent, "I was planning a tiger-shoot with a certain sporting captain of my acquaintance on the club steps in Hongkong. A year ago I met him again in another part of the world and we spent an afternoon casting bullets for an elephant-rifle in the mess kitchen. I ran against him the other day in Piccadilly. 'Come and have a bit of sleighting,' said he. So we hunted up his home-made sleigh, persuaded a horse hirer, who had misgivings, to let us have a horse, and then we had a rattling drive about town. In Regent's Park the going was perfect, and Portland Place was as good as the Boston mill-dam. But the comments of the street boys and the sweepers were the best part of it. 'Hi, Bill, see the Roosian coves!' said one. 'Are ye enjying it?' inquired another as we bumped over the stones. 'Good old North Pole!' said a sympathetic bus driver. And when we nearly ran into a cabman he remarked severely, 'Now then, just remember yer aint in Switzerland!' But it is good to get such a reminder that old-fashioned winter has not quite left us for good."

\* \* \*

Dr. Morell, who had furnished Handel with the words of an oratorio the composer had in hand, was aroused one morning at five o'clock by a thundering rapping at his door. Going to the window he saw Handel in his carriage, and asked him what he wanted at that time of day. "What is the meaning of de vord 'billow'?" shouted the composer. After a good laugh at being called up to answer such a question, the doctor shouted back that billow was a wave—a wave of the sea. "Oh! de vave!" said Handel; and, without another word, he bade his coachman drive home.

\* \* \*

Some years ago a lady living in the East Riding of Yorkshire, when walking in the fields near the house, was joined by a cock pheasant—a wild-bred one, as none were reared on the place then—which accompanied her in her walk, and only left when she went near the house to go in. This went on regularly for some months, the bird becoming so tame that he would take hold of the lady's skirt and walk with it in his beak. The pheasant would always come out of the plantation when the lady was alone, but when accompanied by any else he would stand at a distance and crow, plainly showing that he remembered her and would have nothing to say to any one else.

## Correspondence.

### AN EARLY MORNING BLACKHEATH CLUB.

To the Editor of GOLF.

SIR,—Unfortunately for many golfers, business prevents them enjoying a game through the day.

I have noticed that in Scotland there are many clubs which are formed for the purpose of promoting early play.

The round at Blackheath, for example, can be easily played in an hour, and, as a rule, there is a fair number of gentlemen to be seen playing there before breakfast.

It seems to me that if a small club were formed with a limited number of members it would meet with support, and I for one should be glad to see it inaugurated.

The Blackheath club have a sort of vested right in the Heath, I understand, but if the competitions of the proposed club were held restricting the hour of play to not later than say 9 a.m., it could not, so far as I can see, in any way interfere with their players.

Of course, play would necessarily be limited to the summer months.

Yours truly,  
 EARLY BIRD.

December 20th, 1890.

### A CURIOUS INCIDENT.

To the Editor of GOLF.

SIR,—I see among your "Tee Shots" the narrative of an incident wherein a golfer on the course at Carnoustie struck off with his ball the head of a pipe which an onlooker was smoking, and describes the incident as unique in golfing annals.

I cannot cap the story with one more extraordinary, but I can claim to have had a similar experience. It was only the other day at Tooting that in driving from the first tee I hit the pipe in my caddie's mouth, breaking off the head and sending it almost as far as the ball; the caddie at the time was standing some 70 or 80 yards in front of the tee. He retained the stalk of the pipe in his mouth and was none the worse for what happened.

Yours, &c.,  
 J. S. R.

London, December 22nd, 1890.

### REMOVING SAND BEHIND BALL.

To the Editor of GOLF.

SIR,—While playing a short time ago in a foursome with a lady, the lady had to drive off. She hit the ground behind the ball, causing the ball to roll just off the tee of sand. After our partners had played, I was about to remove the sand just behind the ball (I may as well mention she had a very high tee), when I was informed that the sand might not be touched.

Will any of your readers kindly inform me whether the sand may or may not be moved?

I am, Sir, &c.,  
 E. H.

[The sand in question may be removed.—Ed.]

### QUESTIONS ON THE RULES.

To the Editor of GOLF.

SIR,—I should be much obliged if you would answer the three following questions in your paper on Friday next, as nobody in this part knows for certain which side is right and which not. The difference of opinion has arisen out of a prize which is to be offered by three clubs here, for the three presidents to play for. One president dictates to the other two

what they are to do, neither haughtily nor ill-naturedly, but on the score of having played the game longer and knowing more about it. Possibly it may be so. The other two presidents, who are far better players, would like to have the rules settled by, say, a couple of members of the three clubs, and so a hitch has arisen. The younger presidents do not quite believe that what the elder president has stated is absolutely Golf Law, and, therefore, we write to you and wish to know:—

1. One competitor objects to play with the other two and so make a threesome on the score of nervousness, and prefers to play with another player (*not* one of *his own* club). Is that permissible and customary? Or ought the other two (who would prefer playing a threesome), to insist upon its being played so?

2. Has a competitor a right to object to having a marker in a match of this description on the score of nervousness and blocking the ground too much?

3. Is it necessary for a special marker to be a professional who belongs to the ground, for a match of this description, which the elder president declares to be the case?

When talked about, it was agreed that the match should be under Special Match Rules.

If you would answer these, I should be much obliged.

I am, Sir, &c.,

FROST-BOUND.

Chipping Norton, December 22nd.

[(1) It is customary when an odd number tie in a competition, and one objects to playing three balls, for the odd man to play off the tie with a member of the club to which he belongs; or, failing this, to play with any amateur on intimating the arrangement to his opponents for their acceptance. (2) In open competitions the choice of marker is left solely to the committee. (3) The above applies to the third question.—Ed.]

#### THE CLIMATE AT NAIRN.

To the Editor of GOLF.

SIR,—You will be surprised, no doubt, when I tell you that Golf goes on uninterruptedly here. Pray, observe the date of this letter. We had a telegram from a golfer saying he was snowed up south, and could not get on. If my advice had been taken in your paper, lately, golfers would have enjoyed an uninterrupted game up to now. To-day is lovely, and golfers are hard at work. The thermometer in the shade is at 39°, the wind being coldish.

Yours faithfully,

J. H. CORBALLIS, J.P.

Nairn, N.B., December 20th.

#### GOLF CLUB AT DIEPPE.

To the Editor of GOLF.

SIR,—I should be glad if any of your readers could inform me whether a Golf club has been started at Dieppe, and, if so, the name and address of the Secretary there.

Yours truly,

B. HENSON.

Biarritz, France.

[The editor stayed at Dieppe in September and there was no Golf club there at that time. It has been suggested, however, in our columns that the ground around Dieppe appears to be suitable for a Golf course, and that the authorities of the British Consulate, who do so much for English visitors in promoting lawn-tennis, tournaments and cricket matches, might try to do something for the golfers. There is a good course at Dinard, on the same coast.—Ed.]

#### ADVICE TO LEFT-HANDED PLAYERS.

To the Editor of GOLF.

SIR,—Now that the rising generations of young men are more and more becoming acquainted with the game of Golf, allow me, as one who first swung a club and drove a feather ball in 1835, to give a word of advice to the present and future students of the game. I would particularly address those who are left-handed.

Now a left-handed man, though he is troublesome to his comrades, acts apparently wisely when he plays cricket left-handed. He wants his strongest wrist, hand and arm to take the lowest place in handling his bat, and he therefore has his left hand, &c., to block with, to drive with, to cut with, and to hit to the leg with. But let my left-handed friends beware of being led by this example to do the same when playing the game of Golf. The right-handed player is in that game at a great disadvantage. He has the weak wrist, hand and arm, where he wants the strong one, at the head of his club. I do not hesitate to say that the naturally weak grip with his left hand and wrist is the cause of most of the difficulties that beset the right-handed man in his study and practice of the game of Golf.

I feel certain that the left handed man ought to make the best golfer. He has the strong grip ready with his strong left hand, wrist and arm—his right hand, wrist and arm being subservient to the left. This combination of forces is, I believe, wanted to ensure success at Golf.

In giving a man his first lesson in the game, my object has been to make him swing the club with his *left hand only*, so as to impress upon him that the main force required depends upon the left hand gripping the shaft firmly; and putting force into the ball, as if it was hit with a continuous weapon, formed of left arm, left wrist, the whole length of the club and club-head. The work to be done with the right hand, wrist, &c., coming in only as a second power to control and guide the ball—a power to be used only in moderation. My old friend Colonel Hutchinson, uncle of Mr. Horace Hutchinson, advised me, in the olden time, when we had many games together at Westward Ho! to put out the forefinger of my right hand, and grip the club only with the remaining fingers, whenever I found myself gripping slackly with my left hand. There are very few right-handed players who might not derive advantage from following this advice.

It is almost impossible to go round a links in a foursome with a professional without his saying to one or other of the players: "You are gripping too tight with your right hand," or "You are gripping too slack with your left."

The left-handed man will stand in no need of such advice, but will grip his club as he ought to do, and in my judgment will make a fairly good player before his right-handed brother.

Faithfully yours,

SENEX.

Westward Ho! December 19th.

#### LENGTH OF DRIVES.

To the Editor of GOLF.

SIR,—I wish it to be distinctly understood that what I meant by saying in my first letter on this subject that "180 yards is a very long drive" was that 180 yards is a very long drive, *carry and run included*. And so it is.

Referring to "Credo's" letter in your issue of last week I would be greatly obliged if he would favour me with the name of the maker of the suspenders which the Yankee, who made that record drive, wore at the time of the feat, as I certainly in future will never wear those of any other maker. You, Mr. Editor, have my full address.

Yours faithfully,

December 20th, 1890.

CELT.

To the Editor of GOLF.

SIR,—In accordance with a hint thrown out by yourself at the end of my communication last week with reference to length of drives, at Prestwick, I have had the distance from the tee to the far side of the "Cardinal" bunker going to the third hole, and the fourth hole, from the tee to the hole, measured in a rough way. To have measured the ground with exactitude would have required professional skill with the use of the theodolite, on account of the inequality of the ground, and the fact that the drive to the fourth hole is for a considerable part of the distance over the course of the Pow Burn. But my approximate measurement of the distance enables me to say that the distance to the far side of the bunker is not less than



230 yards, and is probably more; and that the distance from the tee to the fourth hole is about 250 yards.

Perhaps your esteemed contributor, Professor Tait, might from scientific calculation inform us what force it would require to carry an ordinary Golf ball from the tee over a point 230 yards distant, that is eight feet higher than the tee.

Yours faithfully,

J. McB.

Ayr, December 20th, 1890.

To the Editor of GOLF.

SIR,—I am glad that my letter as to the alleged drive of 326 yards at Prestwick should have elicited the reply from "J. McB.," which obviously gives the truth about the matter.

I now write to make a suggestion. It is, that you should establish in the columns of GOLF a record of the longest drives that have actually been made at Golf, so that the champions of the future should know exactly what they have to beat. In each case particulars of date, and, if possible, measured lengths should be given, together with the names of any reliable witnesses who may have been present. Information has reached me of a very long drive made by Mr. Arthur Molesworth in the year 1877, which was recorded in the *Scotsman* of the time. Mr. Molesworth is reported to have carried the fourth hole at St. Andrews from the tee—the distance being reported as 380 or 390 yards! Mr. Henry Lamb was present, and may be disposed to authenticate the fact. Perhaps this case may suffice as a starting-point, and your readers may judge whether the drive was really made.

I would suggest that your correspondents should be more careful than heretofore in distinguishing the "carry" of the ball from the full length of the drive.

Yours truly,

December 29th, 1890.

SCEPTIC.

[The length of the fourth hole out at St. Andrews is 367 yards.—ED.]

## WHAT IS A GOLF CLUB?

To the Editor of GOLF.

SIR,—I do not see that a definition of a Golf club is needed. Those Golf clubs now in existence are the evolutionary outcome of the survival of the fittest, and they are found to be, as yet, the best means known of getting the ball from the tee to the hole in the fewest number of strokes. But inventions and novelties are the order of the day in Golf clubs; and it is possible that some wise-headed golfer will devise a club, or a series of clubs, which will attain the desired end better and more rapidly. Of this, however, I am sceptical. I believe in the accumulated experience of our golfing ancestors, and shall pin my faith to the forms of the clubs they have left us against all the croquet mallets, hammers, or billiard cues in existence, though each weapon may be wielded by a veritable Roberts in skill.

There is nothing to prevent any player using a weapon of the character your correspondent describes. To do so would not be illegal, but, as the caddie would say, "it wudna be Gowf." The chances are a thousand to one against his accomplishing the feat of holing the ball more speedily or more accurately than the player armed with a cleek, putter, iron, or mashie of common orthodox form. He might indeed use a walking-stick, or an umbrella, or a cricket bat; because these would be the Golf clubs of his choice and no one could object.

But, Sir, I would put my money on the other man armed with the cleek, or the putter, as we commonly know it.

I am, Sir, &c.,

December 29th, 1890.

G. M.

## THE RANELAGH CLUB.

To the Editor of GOLF.

SIR,—The committee of the Ranelagh Golf Club desire me to ask you to be good enough to make known through your paper that a few more members are required to enable them to

open the club-house for refreshments, and also, that members elected during the month of January will not be required to pay an entrance-fee.

It is intended shortly to introduce a weekly medal competition, to be played on Saturdays through the present season. Forms of application may be had of

Yours faithfully,

W. E. BEAK,

Sec. and Manager.

Ranelagh Club, Barn Elms,  
Barnes, S.W., December 29th, 1890.

## Competitions.

### FORFARSHIRE.

Though Saturday, the 20th ultimo, was not the best sort of a day that could be desired for Golf, a hard frost prevailing and the ground feeling like iron, a good few players were out. The Monifieth Club played off the ties resulting from their last competition. For Mr. D. Anderson's clubs for players in the first-class, Messrs. David Robertson and Geo. Wright stood equal with 250 as their aggregate score for the two rounds. On Saturday, Wright managed to secure the clubs, coming in at four strokes under his opponent, the scores being:—Wright, 85; Robertson, 89. The tie between Messrs. David Dempster and Alex. Hutchison for the second scratch prize resulted in favour of the former, who came in at his previous score of 85, while Hutchison required two more for the round. The average prizes and sweepstakes were decided as follows:—1st average and 1st sweep, Geo. Wright, 85, being 3 above; 2nd average and sweep, Alex. Hutchison, 87, 4 above; 3rd sweepstake, S. M. Low, 94, 5 above; 4th and 5th sweepstakes, tie between D. Anderson, 91, and T. Christie, 96, both 7 above.

On Saturday forenoon, the members of the *Dundee Advertiser* Golf Club competed for a number of prizes at Monifieth. There was a large turn out of players, and some fairly good scores were made, though the putting-greens, owing to the frost, upset the closest calculations. Extra prizes were given in the first class for cards showing the most 5's, in the second class for the most 6's, and in the third class for 7's. Mr. Arthur Forsyth, while unable to record a single 5 in the round, had seven 4's, but having come to grief at three holes his card did not shine conspicuously. The best scores were:—First class: William Still, 87; Alex. Bowman, 90; John Inglis, 90; P. Wallace, 95; A. Buchan, 96. Second class: William Scott, 104; W. F. Black, 105, and P. Williamson, 109, were the best. In the third class A. Garland was lowest with 120. The principal prize winners were:—First class: 1, P. Wallace; 2, Alex. Buchan; 3, J. Brown; 4, Alex. Bowman. Second class, 1, W. Scott; 2, P. Williamson; 3, Jas. White; 4 and 5, W. Black and Robert Clark (tie). Third class: 1, Allan Bell; 2, J. Strachan; 3, J. Livingston; 4, J. Calvert.

### NORTH BERWICK.

The weather during Christmas week was altogether of a seasonable character, and considering the period of the year, the North Berwick links were very well occupied. On Thursday the 18th ult., Captain R. G. Suttie and Mr. J. R. Whitecross had a friendly round. The game proved somewhat remarkable from the fact that, although these players are about equally good and the result of a match on level terms is extremely uncertain, on this occasion no fewer than nine of the ten holes out fell in succession to Captain Suttie. Mr. Whitecross broke the monotony of the game and delayed defeat by wresting the end hole from his opponent, and his play now showed a remarkable improvement. The great advantage in favour of Captain Suttie in the out half, however, ultimately gave him an easy victory. On Friday afternoon, the 19th ult., Sir A. Napier and Mr. J. C. Innes engaged in a foursome Sir J. Hay and Captain N. M. Wylie. The former couple were successful over their

opponents by four holes up and three to play. The bye also fell to Sir A. Napier and his partner. On Saturday, the 20th ult., a very keen frost prevailed and had its natural effect on the course, although the smoothness of the putting-greens here render them comparatively playable in frost. Few matches of interest took place. Mr. Hadow and Mr. G. Wylie enjoyed a single of two rounds, the former winning in each instance. Among the more promising of those who have recently joined the fraternity of golfers, some very fair play was exhibited on Saturday. Major Johnston, who was last year one of Sayers's pupils, had a very creditable round in the forenoon. Captain Tattersall, who commenced play only some six months ago, is a very long driver, and, with more attention given to his iron play and putting, he may soon become a first-rate golfer. Playing two rounds with Sayers, he acquitted himself very well, the interest, however, being mainly confined to a kind of driving competition. Mr. G. Wylie, Major Isaacson, and Captain Tattersall have frequently gone round in company and engaged in three-ball matches over the links here, the advantage generally remaining with Mr. Wylie. General H. C. Brewster, a very enthusiastic player, has been often round the course of late in company with Sir G. Clark. Active preparations have been in progress at the various hotels here for the reception of Christmas visitors, and these invariably include a good proportion of golfers.

The anticipations of a gay and busy Christmas time at this resort were suddenly and rudely dispelled by the great railway strike, and as far as concerned visiting golfers, the festive period this year has been passed in a singularly listless and uneventful manner. For several days past the votaries of the Royal and Ancient Game have been conspicuous only by their absence from the links. The deserted aspect of the green was indeed relieved somewhat during the past week by the presence of a group of visitors, probably unknown hitherto in the annals of North Berwick links. It was impossible to imagine what club might be honoured by the membership of these prominent strangers, who entered at least with great spirit into the Royal Game. The mystery was unravelled by a telegram read at a public meeting of railway men on Friday. It was couched in the following terms:—"North Berwick contingent just arrived. Glad to hear of firm stand. Nearly all professional golfers." Although this flattering description had evidently been dictated by the enthusiasm rather than by the skill of the players, it was nevertheless pleasing to observe how kindly they took to the change in driving—from a steam engine to a golf-ball. On Saturday forenoon last, Sayers and W. Thomson (professionals) engaged in a friendly single. Ben, who proved in first-rate form, completed the out-half of 10 holes in the very low figure of 37, and he ultimately beat his opponent by four holes up and three to play. Requiring 18—4 4 3 3 4—for the first five holes home, Sayers thus finished the fifteen in 55. He had accordingly well in hand the round in the remarkably fine score of 68 or 69; but, owing to a heavy shower of sleet interrupting, the bye was left unplayed. Thomson also gave a good account of himself. Comparatively few players left the teeing-ground on Saturday forenoon; but later in the day the green was fairly well occupied by resident golfers.

#### WHITLEY CLUB.

In wintry weather the third contest for the Emmerson prize took place on the Whitley links, on the 20th ult. The ground was very hard for play, and the attendance of members was small. The scores naturally were high, and only two players (Messrs. Thomson and Limont) made anything like a decent show. Scores: Mr. R. T. Thomson, owes 3, and Dr. Limont, receives 16, tied for the prize with a net score of 95.

It was decided to play off the tie on Christmas Day, and there was a large number of members present on that day, in fact the attendance was "record" for the club. A heavy fog interfered considerably with play, but the greens were in splendid condition. The programme was opened with the Joicey Cup competition, six couples starting for the event. On the cards being handed in, it was found that Dr. Limont, receives 15, and Mr. R. T. Thomson, owes 3, had again tied. Scores—Dr. Limont, first round, 62; second round, 52—Gross 114,

handicap 16—net 98. Mr. Thomson, first round 47, second round 48—gross 95, owes 3—net 98. Mr. Thomson and Dr. Limont have now tied for the Emmerson prize and the Joicey Cup. With the exception of Mr. J. Hedley (net 105) none of the other competitors made any returns.

An optional sweepstake with a revised handicap followed, a large entry having been secured, the result being that Dr. Limont (who is playing in good style at present) won, his score being 103 net, with an allowance of 21. Mr. R. T. Thomson was second (from scratch) with 95. The undecided tie between these players will be played at a later date.

#### DISLEY GOLF CLUB.

The second winter handicap was contested on Saturday, December 20th, in fine but frosty weather. The snow which had fallen the previous day covered the whole of the links, and low scores were impossible.

Mr. H. C. Garrett took the first sweepstake prize with a net score of 102 (130, less 28) and he also secured a win for the winter handicap medal.

#### CALCUTTA GOLF CLUB.

The annual general meeting of the Calcutta Golf Club was held at the Pavilion, on the 24th November, at which the accounts for the season ended the 31st of October last were passed as most satisfactory, and a vote of thanks recorded to the retiring committee.

This flourishing institution is daily increasing in membership, which shows the signs of the present day in wishing to master the only game which can be thoroughly enjoyed by both old and young, and more especially by those dear old "Curriebat Wallas" who are constantly being asked after the welfare of their "poor liver," when they seek the seclusion of their native heath after a hard-earned holiday, or after having gathered in the "oof" of ages to rank as an Indian Nabob. To hasten such a coveted position it has been suggested to form a club prospecting company on the Maidan, having as its object the digging for "clod nuggets."

The club much regrets that it will shortly lose its president, Sir Stuart C. Bayley, who has been made a life member, and it was unanimously resolved to ask the Hon. Sir Charles A. Elliott to succeed him.

The following gentlemen were selected to manage the affairs of the club for the current season:—Mr. J. F. Macnair, captain; Mr. Wm. Jardine, honorary secretary and treasurer; Mr. Geo. A. Ormiston, honorary ground secretary; Messrs. H. C. Begg, A. C. Marshall, A. F. Simson, and Dr. R. C. Sanders, members.

Saturday afternoon, November 29th, was all that could be desired for Golf, cool, calm, and the sky cloudless, which brought out a muster of forty members to compete for a silver cup and other prizes. The contest was a keen one, three having tied with a net score of 46, which will be decided during the week. The course and greens have improved since the opening day, being four strokes better, and the following are a few of the best scores handed in:—

Gross. Hcp. Net.			Gross. Hcp. Net.		
J. C. R. Johnston	49	3 46	R. L. Morgan	55	6 49
F. E. Patteson ...	48	2 46	Dr. R. C. Sanders	51	2 49
J. Taylor ...	51	5 46	A. F. Simson ...	49	scr. 49
A. C. Marshall ...	49	2 47	H. C. Boyd...	50	" 50
J. F. Macnair ...	48	scr. 48	L. G. Dunbar ...	50	" 50
J. Adamson...	49	" 49	D. A. Campbell ...	54	4 50

The ties in the match played on the 22nd November for a silver cup were decided in favour of Mr. J. C. R. Johnston with a fair score of 44.—J. C. R. Johnston, 47, less 3=44; F. E. Patteson, 50, less 2=48; J. Taylor, 53, less 5=48.

#### WEST CORNWALL GOLF CLUB.

The frost and snow have not travelled as far as Lelant, and the West Cornish golfers have for the last week or so enjoyed capital golfing days, with a temperature ranging from 38° to 48°. Metropolitan golfers should note that in the hardest

winter for many years there has been capital golfing weather during Christmas week, and that it is not necessary to go to Pau to enjoy Golf with sunshine and comparative warmth. The December monthly handicap was played on the 27th, but very few players entered, and still fewer returned their cards. For the first time for many months there was no representative from the Artists' Colony, and only one from Penzance. Score:—H. H. Batten, 113, less 9 = 104; Rev. R. F. Tyacke, 124, less 18 = 106; T. H. Cornish, 161, less 24 = 137.

Since the above was written, it is but fair to say there was a slight fall of snow on the day following the handicap, but it melted almost as soon as it fell.

#### TORQUAY LADIES' GOLF CLUB.

This club, which was successfully started last spring, and which now numbers some thirty members, under the captaincy of Miss Saunders, with Miss McDonall as an able secretary, held its first meeting of the present season on Monday, December 15th, when a prize, presented by Mr. Dykes, hon. secretary to the Torquay and St. Mary Church Golf Club, consisting of two handsomely finished Golf clubs, was competed for by eleven members, who all started scratch in order that the handicap committee might have a line from which they could work for the club handicap. Result:—Miss Hawkes, 106; Miss Saunders, 111; Miss Colhoun, 114; Miss L. Oldfield, 118; Miss T. Barttelot, 124; Mrs. Ballantine Dykes, 124; Miss Wollen, 128; Miss McDonall, 131; Miss Wise, 137; Miss F. Sealy, 148; Miss E. Wollen, 148.

On the 19th ult. a challenge brooch, presented by the Rev. G. T. Warner to the club, was played for. The conditions are that it be played for monthly during the six months of the season, and that each winner wears it for a month, and that the lady who wins it the most times shall retain it till the next season. Result.

Gross Hcp. Net.	Gross Hcp. Net.
*Miss L. Oldfield ... 104 16 88	Miss Saunders ... 117 6 111
†Miss T. Barttelot... 111 19 92	Mrs. B. Dykes ... 131 19 112
Miss Wise ... 121 23 98	Miss McDonall ... 134 21 113
Miss Hawkes... 112 10 102	Miss E. Wollen ... 140 25 115
Miss Wollen ... 129 23 106	Miss Barttelot... 141 16 125
Miss Colhoun... 111 2 109	Miss F. Sealy... 155 25 130

\* Holder of brooch and wins club prize. † Wins the sweepstakes.

#### GEORGE GOLF CLUB (EDINBURGH).

The final tie for Mr. Robinson's cup was played over Musselburgh Links on Christmas Day between Mr. W. M. Archibald and Mr. D. M. Jackson. The greens, owing to the recent frost and the thaw of the previous evening, were not in a condition to conduce to good scoring, and at the end of two rounds the result stood: Jackson, 91 (scratch); Archibald, 97, less 2 = 95.

#### TYNESIDE GOLF CLUB.

The competition for the winter cup was played off on Thursday afternoon, the 18th ult., in cold and frosty weather, the ground being very hard. This was the fifth contest for the trophy this season. The scores were high, and resulted as follows:—

Gross Hcp. Net.	Gross Hcp. Net.
Mr. C. A. Ridley ... 97 2 95	Mr. T. A. Hutton... 118 13 105
Mr. R. T. Thomson. 99 +1 100	Mr. J. G. Sharp ... 120 12 108
Mr. W. Teesdale ... 107 6 101	Mr. C. D. Ismay ... 133 25 108
Mr. J. G. Burdon ... 115 10 105	

The remainder of the players made no returns.

#### SUTTON COLDFIELD GOLF CLUB.

The December monthly handicap was played on the 6th ult. The day was a fine one, and the greens were in good condition. Scores:—

Gross Hcp. Net.	Gross Hcp. Net.
Capt. Helyar ... 113 28 85	Mr. F. H. Winder 135 20 115
Mr. F. Rathbone 113 26 87	Mr. A. L. Lloyd 149 28 121
Rev. F. Oliphant 113 14 99	Mr. H. M. Eddowes 136 12 124
Mr. E. P. Peyton 145 36 109	Mr. G. A. Muntz 132 scr. 132
Mr. H. E. Wright 126 15 111	

Nine other players made no returns.

#### SEATON CAREW GOLF CLUB.

The competition for the club cups took place on Saturday, the 20th ult., in cold weather. The ground was as hard as iron making it peculiarly difficult to play the ball when it lay in the slightest unevenness. The quantity of snow on the ground made it necessary to play the game with red balls.

After the cards were examined, Mr. A. Robinson was found to be the winner with the net score of 68, being 2 below scratch play.

Gross Hcp. Net.	Gross Hcp. Net.
Mr. A. Robinson ... 76 8 68	Mr. G. E. Casebourne 97 20 77
Mr. C. J. Bunting... 90 20 70	Mr. A. B. Crosby ... 86 7 79
Mr. O. K. Trechmann 84 11 73	Mr. C. Cooper ... 87 7 80
Rev. F. L. Cope ... 92 19 73	Mr. C. B. Williamson 93 8 85
Mr. A. B. Wilson ... 94 20 74	Mr. A. R. Paton ... 107 20 87
Mr. G. Newby ... 82 5 77	

Messrs. R. E. Leach, P. A. Raps, E. R. Whitwell and H. Simpson made no returns.

#### ROYAL JERSEY GOLF CLUB.

The secretary's prize and optional sweepstake were played for on Saturday, December 20th, with the following result:

Gross Hcp. Net.	Gross Hcp. Net.
*† Mr. A. Salmonson 111 23 88	Lieut.-Col. Robin... 115 21 94
† Col. McKenzie ... 94 5 89	Capt. Robin ... 99 4 95
† Mr. T. C. Robin... 97 8 89	Mr. H. Spencer ... 99 4 95
† Capt. Fairlie, R.N. 98 9 89	Mr. W. Field ... 109 13 96
Mr. A. Lushington... 95 5 90	Mr. W. Griffith ... 112 15 97
Major Scott, R.A.... 94 2 92	Mr. Taylor, P.W.V. 112 15 97
Lt.-Col. Stevenson... 110 18 92	Capt. Sumner,
Capt. Cavendish ... 119 27 92	P.W.V. ... 107 9 98
Mr. G. Robertson ... 108 15 93	Mr. J. E. Edwardes 127 27 100
Mr. A. Robertson ... 118 25 93	Major-Gen. Renton. 112 11 101

\* Winner of prize.

† Divided sweepstake.

Five other players made no returns.

#### NEW FOREST GOLF CLUB.

The eighth monthly handicap for the club gold medal took place at Bramshaw on Saturday, the 13th ult. The weather was bright and fine, no wind; the ground covered with a white hoar frost, and very firm, over which the balls travelled very fast and long distances after pitching. The putting-greens, having been well swept, were very fast and true, altogether making play very pleasant. There were twelve entries for the medal, and Mr. A. H. Goldfinch, who handled a golf club but four days previous to the meeting for the first time, making the very creditable gross score of 105, and, being given the usual beginner's handicap of 25, very easily carried off the medal with a net score of 80. The foursomes for the shield were not played off, as time would not permit. Scores:—

Gross Hcp. Net.	Gross Hcp. Net.
Mr. A. Goldfinch 105 25 80	Mr. J. Goldfinch 129 25 104
Capt. H. C. Aitchison, R.N. ... 112 14 98	Mr. P. Norris ... 126 18 108
Lieut. P. de Crespigny, R.N. ... 97 +4 101	Mr. R. Macleay 128 20 108
Lieut. J. Goldfinch, R.N. ... 97 +4 101	Rev. H. White ... 114 4 110
Col. A. C. Macleay 118 16 102	Mr. E. Charlton 112 scr. 112
	Mr. J. Jeffreys ... 128 16 112
	Mr. T. Mason ... 136 24 112

#### NOTTINGHAM GOLF CLUB.

The monthly competition for December was held on the 13th and 18th ults. On the former day the ground was very hard, making accurate putting out of the question. On the 18th, owing to a partial thaw and subsequent frost the putting-greens were a sheet of ice. The number of players was consequently small, and the scoring of only an average character. Results:—

Gross Hcp. Net.	Gross Hcp. Net.
C. F. Dobson... 104 27 77	J. McMeeking ... 95 3 92
S. Groves ... 104 18 86	G. C. Hine ... 120 27 93
R. D. Oswald ... 91 scr. 91	P. W. Allen ... 126 27 99

Several players made no returns.



## BURNTISLAND GOLF CLUB.

The customary competition for Christmas prizes took place on Friday and Saturday the 19th and 20th ult., and attracted a large field. The following were the principal prize-winners:—

Gross. Hcp. Net.				Gross. Hcp. Net.			
John Isles	...	75	8 67	W. Duncan	...	74	4 70
G. Waddell	...	72	4 68	J. Wood	...	71	scr. 71
J. Robertson	...	67	+ 2 69	W. Elder	...	76	5 71
T. Gordon	...	77	8 69				

The winter medal and added prizes were the subject of competition on Saturday. Rain fell during the play, which resulted as follows:—W. Duncan, 70, less 4 = 66; H. Moyes, 70, less 2 = 68; A. Jackson, 75, less 5 = 70; R. Dover, 70, plus 1 = 71; R. Carmichael, 76, less 5 = 71.

## ST. ANDREWS UNIVERSITY GOLF CLUB.

A match was played on Saturday, the 13th ult., over St. Andrews links, between teams representing the United and St. Mary's Colleges. The day was fine, and the green in splendid condition. The match ended in a heavy defeat of the "Celestials" by seventeen holes. Among some good scores were those of Messrs. T. Carmichael, 87; D. W. M. Hodge, 87; J. T. Patterson, 88; and Alex. McKenzie, 89. The following is the detailed list:—

ST. MARY'S.		UNITED.	
Holes.		Holes.	
Mr. T. Carmichael	4	Mr. C. Anderson	0
Mr. J. T. Patterson	0	Mr. D. W. M. Hodge	0
Mr. R. Barclay	0	Mr. R. Johnston	4
Mr. A. Cant	2	Mr. R. L. Proudfoot	0
Mr. J. Williamson	0	Mr. H. M. Kyle	4
Mr. J. S. Clarke	0	Mr. C. A. King	2
Mr. A. Brown	0	Mr. A. McKenzie	13
Total	6	Total	23

The above club met the "Edinburgh Teachers" Golf Club in the return match over St. Andrews links on Saturday, the 20th ult. Good weather favoured the match. The greens, however, were on the hard side, owing to recent frost. The students were in their best form, and won a rather one-sided game by 90 holes. It should be mentioned, however, that the Teachers were minus one or two of their usual team. The best scores were those of Messrs. Walter Anderson (85), P. C. Anderson (88), and T. Carmichael (89). The details are:—

ST. ANDREWS UNIVERSITY.		EDINBURGH TEACHERS.	
Holes.		Holes.	
Mr. T. Carmichael	10	Mr. R. Forrest	0
Mr. J. T. Patterson	2	Mr. T. King	0
Mr. P. C. Anderson	8	Mr. J. King	0
Mr. D. W. M. Hodge	3	Mr. E. King	0
Mr. R. Johnstone	7	Mr. Jas. Thomson	0
Mr. R. Barclay	2	Mr. J. Balsillie	0
Mr. R. L. Proudfoot	6	Mr. T. Adams	0
Mr. Alan Cant	7	Mr. W. Stephen	0
Mr. H. M. Kyle	9	Mr. Chas. Symington	0
Mr. J. Williamson	4	Mr. Jas. Halley	0
Mr. Walter Anderson	12	Mr. W. R. Hay	0
Mr. Alex. McKenzie	9	Mr. A. J. G. Barclay	0
Mr. C. A. King	11	Mr. Jas. Fraser	0
Total	90	Total	0

Majority for University, 90 holes.

## SEAFORD GOLF CLUB.

Monthly medal competition, December 26th:—

Gross. Hcp. Net.				Gross. Hcp. Net.			
J. Fletcher Farn-				Henry Tanner	115	16	99
combe	107	18	89	Joseph Whitehorn	121	22	99
Percy L. Whitehorn	118	20	98				

Six more gentlemen started, but handed in no cards.

The ground was excessively hard, and in places there was a little snow. The state of the greens rendered accurate putting impossible.

## COUNTY DOWN GOLF CLUB.

The third monthly competition for the prize played for under handicap by the members, took place on the links at Newcastle on the 20th ult., when the number of competitors was rather small, owing to the hard weather of the preceding day. The winners of the two competitions of October and November were Mr. T. S. Ferguson and Mr. R. H. Wallace respectively. The following were the net scores of under 100 for the competition under notice:—

Gross. Hcp. Net.			Gross. Hcp. Net.		
Mr. A. N. Charley...	91	16 75	Mr. T. Dickson ...	101	10 91
Mr. T. S. Ferguson...	103	20 83	Mr. E. Young ...	105	14 91
Mr. R. H. Wallace	114	24 90	Mr. S. Ferguson...	120	28 92
Mr. G. Combe...	100	10 90			

## THE ROYAL NORTH DEVON GOLF CLUB.

The monthly medal, the memento with it this time being a gilt travelling clock and the usual sweepstakes, were played for on Saturday last. The weather was very fine, but rather a cold wind blew from the east, which may account for the indifferent scoring. It is worthy of note that Golf has not been stopped once this winter as yet, though a little snow fell around Westward Ho, none lay on the links, which fact may be attributed to their being so near the sea and the proximity of the Gulf Stream, likewise the presence in the soil of large quantities of salt. Messrs. Clutton and Didham tied for the medal; on playing off Mr. Didham won.

Mr. Clutton won the first sweep, Major Harding took the second prize.

Names.	Gross.	Hcp.	Net.
Mr. R. Clutton (M. S.)	113	20	93
Mr. C. Didham (M.)	102	9	93
Major Harding (M. S.)	110	14	96
Capt. Ball (M. S.)	107	12	97
Mr. F. Lemarchund (M. S.)	114	15	99
Mr. W. H. Toller (M. S.)	112	9	103
Mr. J. J. Harding (M. S.)	110	6	104
Major Hopkins (S.)	126	15	111
Major Piggott (M. S.)	129	17	112
Col. Swettenham (M.)	130	18	112
Mr. T. G. Keats (S.)	161	18	143
Mr. C. S. Carnegie (M. S.)	No Return.	6	
Lieut.-Col. Winterscale (M. S.)		10	
Mr. T. G. J. Heathcote (M. S.)		13	
Mr. C. A. Smith (M. S.)		17	
Mr. P. Winterscale (S.)		22	
Mr. J. W. Cooke (M.)		27	

The following played but did not compete:—Major-General Molesworth, Capt. Molesworth, R.N., Rev. G. Willes, Messrs. Bathe, F. Cooke, Eden, Hume, Cruikshanks, and Surgeon-General Fuller, &c., &c.

## FELIXSTOWE GOLF CLUB.

A match between local players of the Felixstowe Club and seven members of the Cambridge University Golf Club was played at Felixstowe on December 11th ult. The result was an easy win for the Cambridge team, though it is only fair to say that through the absence of some of the best local players, each member of the home team was overmatched. Mr. C. G. Tunks was the only Felixstowe player who won his match, while Mr. Cheston, Mr. Downes, and Mr. Marriott did well against their more powerful opponents.

CAMBRIDGE.		FELIXSTOWE.	
Holes.		Holes.	
Mr. D. A. M. Brown	4	Mr. H. I. Hibberd	0
Mr. R. A. Nicholson	10	Mr. C. G. Havell	0
Mr. J. E. Pease	0	Mr. C. G. Tunks	1
Mr. T. H. Watson	1	Mr. C. F. Cheston	0
Mr. H. P. Frean	11	Mr. J. A. Chalmers	0
Mr. A. M. Joshua	3	Mr. C. H. Downes	0
Mr. W. Rendell	1	Mr. C. J. B. Marriott	0
Total	30	Total	1

Majority for Cambridge, 29 holes.

On Saturday Mr. E. C. Austen-Leigh won the heat for the syndicate prize with a net score of 88. Patches of snow and the frozen condition of the turf made low scoring difficult. On the previous day a club prize, value three guineas was played for, with the following result:—1st, Mr. H. J. Hibberd, 98, less 6=92; 2nd, Mr. C. G. Havell, 105, less 9=96; 3rd, Dr. Dawson Williams, 128, less 24=104; 4th, Mr. W. K. Allen, 133, less 16=117. There were no returns from Messrs. Quilter, Jeffries, Cheston, Wilson, Bignon, and Lankester.

#### REDHILL AND REIGATE GOLF CLUB.

Owing to the snow still lying on the ground to the depth of some three or four inches, there were very few players for the medals on the 26th ultimo, and only two completed the round, viz., Mr. Schacht (winner of the medal) and Mr. W. B. Avery. The scores, it is needless to say, will not bear publication.

The competition for the aggregate prize offered in June last for the six best medal scores between midsummer and the end of the year is now concluded, Mr. Schacht being an easy winner with a total of 491, or rather less than 82 per round. Mr. Greensill Allen takes second place with 498, and Mr. F. P. Browne third with 501, Mr. W. B. Avery fourth with 518, Mr. W. H. Pelly fifth with 546, and Mr. C. Hall sixth with 554.

#### ABERDEEN.

The usual Christmas competitions of the Victoria and Bon-Accord Clubs were duly brought off last week over the course on Aberdeen links. At one time it looked as if both competitions would have to be postponed, as the ground was covered with snow only a week before; but happily a thaw set in before Christmas Day, when the competition of the Victoria Club was brought off. It rained, however, without intermission during the whole time that play lasted, and a number of the putting-greens were under water. Notwithstanding these unpromising conditions, however, there was a large turnout of competitors, some seventeen couples in all starting. The prizes, which were played for under handicap, were of a character suitable for the season, and were presented by Messrs. J. Law, W. Mackenzie, J. Pirie, C. Robertson, and G. Brewster, all members of the club. They were divided equally between first and second class players, and were won as follows:—First class players—1, leg of mutton (presented by J. Law), A. M. M. Dunn (scratch), 87; 2 and 3, tie between A. M'Connachie (scratch), 88, and A. M'Kay, 97 (9 off), 88, for a Christmas cake (presented by W. Mackenzie), and 50 cigars (presented by G. Brewster). Second class players—1, A. D. Leiper, 108 (12 off), 96, pipe (presented by J. Pirie); 2, J. Milne, 113 (15 off), 98, ham (presented by C. Robertson); while G. Hendry, 107 (4 off), 103, and C. Robertson, 111 (8 off), 103, tied for the third prize, 50 cigars (presented by G. Brewster), and divided. The prizes were presented to the various winners at the club-house immediately upon the conclusion of the competition.

The Bon-Accord Club's competition took place on Saturday, the 27th ult., that being the most suitable day for their members. They were favoured with excellent weather, and some very good scores were returned. The prizes were six in number, one going to scratch players, while the other five were played for under handicap. The competition resulted as follows:—Scratch prize, William Smart, 86; 1st handicap prize, L. Anderson, 89 (5 off), 84; 2nd, J. Fraser, 97 (12 off), 85; 3rd, H. Glass, 96 (9 off), 87; 4th, J. Florence, 97 (7 off), 90; and 5th, A. Smart (5 off), 91.

#### BUCKIE.

CHRISTMAS COMPETITION.—A handicap competition among the members of the Buckie Club took place on Christmas Day. The following were the prize-winners:—1st, silver medal, W. F. Johnston, 81 (scratch); 2nd, Golf balls, Robert Annand, 89 (6 off), 83; 3rd, Golf balls, R. Duguid, jun., 96 (12 off), 84; 4th, Golf ball, John Simpson (scratch), 91, and John L. M'Naughton, 103 (12 off), 91=tie. There were ten competitors in all, and the competition took place over the new 18-hole course which has just been laid out.

#### TROON CLUB.

The conditions for playing Golf in the west of Scotland, on Saturday, cannot be said to have been very favourable. What with the railway strike, and the consequent uncertainty of travelling, and the frost, which made the ground as hard as iron, only seven players turned out in competition for the Sandhills gold medal, and for places in the monthly medals' competition. These seven players were Messrs. R. M. Downie, Geo. Morton, J. Adam Anderson, Wm. Renwick, Jas. W. Wallace, Alex. Gilmour, and Alex. Walker. Of these seven players, only two handed in cards, viz.—J. Adam Anderson, 104, less 14=90; W. Renwick, 97, less 6=91.

Mr. Anderson was accordingly winner of the Sandhills medal, and as he was already in the competition for second-grade monthly medal, it fell to Mr. Renwick to be placed. There being no other cards, there were no awards for first and third grade places.

#### PRESTWICK CLUB.

The Prestwick Club competed for the usual monthly medal on Saturday, when there was an unusually small turn-out of competitors. The round of eighteen holes was played, and the result of the play was that Mr. J. M. Glen was the winner of the medal with 19 off 81. The best scores were:—J. M. Glen, 100, less 19=81; J. H. Wilson, 93, less 6=87; W. S. Wilson, 86, owes 3=89.

#### BRIGHTON AND HOVE GOLF CLUB.

The winter prize meeting of this club, fixed for Friday and Saturday, 19th and 20th December, could not be held owing to a heavy fall of snow on the previous night.

The first annual dinner of the club took place at the Old Ship Hotel on Thursday, December 18th. Fifty-four members sat down to a capital dinner and enjoyed a very pleasant evening.

#### ROYAL EASTBOURNE GOLF CLUB.

Monday was the first day of the Christmas meeting, and, although the course was difficult owing to the frost, there were 48 players. Mr. G. H. Lawrence, 106, less 21=85, won the £5 cup presented by the club, and scored a win for the Ingley prize. Mr. H. E. Acklom won the £3 prize presented by the club with 99, less 11=88. Mr. Horace Hutchinson's 89 was the lowest scratch score.

#### GOLF AT GIRVAN.

Golf, which was formerly played in a desultory sort of way at Girvan, on the Ayrshire coast, seems likely to be soon revived there again. A preliminary committee have been appointed, with Mr. F. T. R. Kennedy, of Dalquharran, as patron; Mr. David Andrews, solicitor, as captain; and Mr. P. F. McKenna, solicitor, as hon. secretary and treasurer. Willie Fernie, Troon, has been asked to look over the ground, which is close to the sea, with a view to forming a nine-hole course.

#### WARWICKSHIRE GOLF CLUB.

The December competition should have been decided on Saturday, but the snow on the common was some four inches in depth and rendered Golf impracticable. Owing to the severe weather the game has been at a standstill in this district for three weeks. The final competition for the Everard cup will be held next Saturday, and that for the club cup a week later. Several new members were elected on Saturday, and there are now 170 on the roll.

#### FRASERBURGH.

The monthly competition for the scratch gold medal came off on Saturday. Mr. Joss was again first with an excellent 79. The following were the four next best cards handed in:—Mr. Wm. Noble, 84; Mr. Jas. Milne, 86; Mr. Methuen Ritchie, 86; and Mr. R. Mutch, 87.

## ROYAL ISLE OF WIGHT GOLF CLUB.

The Christmas meeting of the above club took place at Bembridge last week in fine but cold weather, and the frozen ground on some of the mornings rendered putting somewhat difficult. Most of the week was taken up in a "Match play" Tournament for a prize presented by the club, and the two who were left in for the final, were Mr. L. B. Keyser and Captain Ronald Alexander, the former started favourite but was unexpectedly defeated by Captain Alexander, after a well fought game.

Mr. H. H. Longman put in his first win on Friday and it was a good one, he takes the Eaton Memorial putter, and having bought himself in the selling lottery, takes some "stuff" besides. Mr. Dudley Ward, who from his play of late should have had an easy win with his present handicap, put in for second place, taking the Rev. W. H. Richard's prize. He ought to be a hot favourite for the Easter meeting. He presented an antique silver bowl for the best second round, which was carried off by the ever steady Mr. Forrester Brown. Lieut. Innes Gairdner, R.N., pulled off a win for the Fisher prize which he now keeps. His plan for getting out of a difficulty at one time in a bunker, was somewhat amusing. Mr. T. W. Wright won the Bembridge gold medal (scratch). He took the duties of captain owing to the absence of Mr. David Brown through indisposition.

The Spithead Hotel was quite full and between 30 and 40 golfers sat down to the table d'hôte each evening, and the nights were passed in a real merry manner.

The following is the result of the medal plays :

	Gross.	Hcp.	Net.
H. H. Longman (Eaton Memorial putter) ...	99	16	83
W. H. Dudley Ward (Rev. W. Richard's prize) ...	105	20	85
G. W. Ricketts ...	97	9	88
T. G. Wilson ...	110	22	88
J. W. Wright (Bembridge gold medal, scratch) ...	89	1	88
Captain R. Alexander ...	106	13	93
Lieut. Innes-Gairdner, R.N. (Fisher prize) ...	96	3	93
F. Quick ...	103	10	93
Rev. W. H. Richards ...	110	16	94
Rev. C. Shilson ...	108	14	94
A. Forrester Brown (Dudley Ward prize) ...	102	7	95
C. E. Coterell ...	106	11	95
G. D. Rowe ...	113	18	95
Major Bethune ...	100	4	96
L. B. Keyser ...	106	9	97
T. Henery ...	104	6	98
W. F. Fisher ...	103	3	100
Wilson Hoare ...	105	5	100

W. R. Anderson, H. C. Clarke, Dr. J. Law, Captain J. F. C. Hamilton, J. Croft, D. M. Brown, W. Mitchell-Innes, Captain D. A. Kinlock, Professor Ray Lankester, E. M. Protheroe, and Captain Twynam were over 100 net or made no return.

## EDINBURGH THISTLE CLUB.

This club met on Saturday the 20th, ult. at the Braid Hills to play for their monthly trophy. Only fourteen players turned out. The green was very hard with the frost. Notwithstanding, some very good scores were recorded. The first nine holes being played resulted in Mr. P. Brown winning the trophy with a score of 37, less 6=31. The winner also played the best scratch score.

## DUBLIN GOLF CLUB.

The final heat of the competition, by holes under handicap, for the Captain's (Mr. R. H. Charles) prize, was played off on Saturday, 13th December, between Mr. J. W. Peisley-White and Mr. D. Christie. Mr. White gave Mr. Christie 11 strokes in the round of 18 holes, and a most interesting and exciting match was the result, both players having a hard battle to fight. Mr. White won the 1st, 4th, 5th, 11th and 16th holes, and Mr. Christie the 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 12th, 13th and 15th, the remaining holes being halved, the latter thus winning by

two up and one to play, and securing the Captain's prize, Mr. White receiving second prize. This has been one of the most interesting and successful competition the club has ever held. Mr. Christie must now be looked on as one of the most promising players in the club, as he only commenced Golf during the present year.

The usual monthly handicap for the club medal was played on Saturday, the 20th December. The weather was most reasonable, there being a keen frost, and consequently the balls travelled splendidly, but, as might well be imagined, putting was very uncertain. Mr. J. H. Pigot was the winner with a gross score of 99 handicap 25 net 74.

The following were the returns handed in :—

	Gross.	Hcp.	Net.		Gross.	Hcp.	Net.
Mr. J. H. Pigot (winner) ...	99	25	74	Mr. J. Brown ...	104	20	84
Mr. A. L. Figgis ...	101	25	76	Mr. D. Christie ...	101	16	85
Mr. F. E. Cuming ...	90	13	77	Mr. V. Kyrke ...	105	19	86
Mr. J. H. S. Russell ...	103	25	78	Mr. J. W. P. White ...	103	15	88
Mr. G. C. May ...	110	30	80	Mr. J. O. Wylie ...	113	25	88
Mr. W. Keating ...	111	30	81	Mr. J. Lumsden, Jun. ...	97	7	89
Mr. T. McCullagh ...	111	30	81	Mr. J. M. Dickson ...	107	17	90
Mr. J. J. Shaw ...	113	30	83	Mr. W. R. Joynt ...	127	30	97
				Mr. R. Dow ...	128	30	98

The St. Stephen's Day competition has long been looked forward to by Dublin golfers, and attracted a goodly number of members of the club on the 26th December. A highly satisfactory day's play was experienced, the weather being all that true lovers of the game could desire, and the Christmas meeting of 1890 must be looked on as having been most successful. The competition was for two prizes presented by the club, and eleven couples made a start at 11 a. m. The scoring was not as low as it might have been, but probably the festivities of Christmas Day had something to do with that! Mr. H. Lumsden was the winner with a gross score of 91, less 15=76. Mr. J. H. Pigot being runner up with a gross score of 101, less 20=81. The following were the returns handed in :—

	Gross.	Hcp.	Net.		Gross.	Hcp.	Net.
Mr. H. Lumsden (winner) ...	91	15	76	Mr. V. Kyrke ...	105	19	86
Mr. J. H. Pigot (runner up) ...	101	20	81	Prof. Palmer ...	114	22	92
Mr. J. Lumsden, jun. ...	91	7	84	Mr. G. N. McMurdo ...	116	23	93
Mr. J. Brown ...	104	20	84	Mr. W. R. Joynt ...	123	30	93
Mr. J. Petrie ...	92	7	85	Mr. J. O. Wylie ...	119	25	94
Mr. Keating ...	115	30	85	Mr. H. McKean ...	125	30	95
Mr. J. W. Peisley White ...	101	15	86	Mr. W. Hone ...	106	7	99
				Mr. J. M. Dickson ...	116	17	99
				Mr. R. Dow ...	130	30	100

Several members made no return. The links are most promising for the coming summer, several improvements having been recently made in the form of new holes and hazards, and it will be hard to find a more interesting, or better course, in Great Britain.

## Curling.

## SUNDERLAND.

A meeting of those interested in the game was held at the Fountain Head, Sunderland, a large number being present. The principal object was the reconstruction of the Sunderland club, and it was decided to carry on the organization with several needed improvements, and the election of officers resulted in Sir Hedworth and Lady Williamson, being appointed patron and patroness, respectively; Councillor Burlinson, president; Mr. T. G. Carrick, hon. sec. and treasurer.

## SIR SYDNEY H. WATERLOW'S CHALLENGE CUP.

The competition for Sir Sydney H. Waterlow's challenge cup presented to the curlers of Dumfriesshire took place on Castle Loch, Lochmaben, altogether 132 rinks from various parts of the country, or 528 men were engaged in the contest. Snow fell during the night, and a slight thaw having set in yesterday forenoon, the ice proved a trifle "drug," but it improved as the play progressed. The cup was won by Moffatt with a total gain of 101 shots, or 16 5-6 per rink, and Mr. Michael Johnstone, Archbank, having the highest individual gain of 29 shots, holds the cup for one year.



## BLACKBURN.

The members of this club met on the pond on Monday the 22nd ult., and played for the points medal. The ice was keen, and after a very pleasant and enjoyable game the medal was won by James Smith with 21 points. As this was the last year the medal was to be played for, the various winners then played off, when Mr. John Storrie, Stoneheap, was declared victor, and the medal became his property.

## BERWICKSHIRE COUNTY COMPETITION.

Eleven of the associated clubs in Berwickshire met on Duns Castle Loch and competed two rinks each on splendid ice, for a very handsome silver kettle, presented some years ago by the Right Hon. E. Marjoribanks, M.P., for annual competition. Skips and scores :—

FIRST DRAW.			
SWINTON V. GREENLAW.			
A. Whillans ... ..	10	J. Nisbet ... ..	9
J. Chalmers ... ..	12	J. Renton ... ..	7
	22		16
CHIRNSIDE V. LEES AND LITHILLUM.			
R. N. Slight ... ..	11	W. A. Calder ... ..	12
Dr. Macvie ... ..	11	J. Fulton ... ..	7
	22		19
COLDSTREAM AND HIRSEL V. ALLANTON			
J. J. Laidlar ... ..	16	R. Dods ... ..	11
R. Rule ... ..	11	John Herriot ... ..	14
	27		25
LAMMERMOOR V. DUNS.			
T. Rodger ... ..	14	J. B. Kellie ... ..	10
A. Grant ... ..	14	G. Nisbet ... ..	10
	28		20
RESTON V. AYTON.			
W. Weatherhead ... ..	9	A. Thomson ... ..	11
John Allan ... ..	11	E. C. White ... ..	7
	20		18
Foulden a bye.			
SECOND DRAW.			
SWINTON V. FOULDEN.			
A. Whillans ... ..	14	Rev. H. Fleming ... ..	15
J. Chalmers ... ..	13	A. P. Hope ... ..	8
	27		23
LAMMERMOOR V. COLDSTREAM AND HIRSEL.			
T. Rodger ... ..	14	J. J. Laidlar ... ..	10
A. Grant ... ..	12	R. Rule ... ..	14
	26		24
CHIRNSIDE V. RESTON.			
R. N. Slight ... ..	12	J. Allan ... ..	7
Dr. Macvie ... ..	20	W. Weatherhead ... ..	5
	32		12
CURRIE V. KIRKNEWTON.			
These old rivals met on Keirhill Pond on Friday, the 26th ultimo, to compete for a R. C. C. Club medal. The ice was in splendid condition. After a very pleasant game, Currie were declared the victors by 35 shots. Scores :—			
CURRIE.		KIRKNEWTON.	
J. M. Rowatt ... ..	25	Captain Wilkie ... ..	8
L. Cunningham ... ..	29	Robert Marshall ... ..	11
	54		19

## CORSTORPHINE.

Four rinks played on Friday, the 26th ultimo, for the rink medal and the Sanderson Cup, the successful rink to possess the medal, and the second successful rink to possess the cup. First round—James Stenhouse, 21; Gavin Jack, 7; James Simpson, 12; John Amour, 10. Second round—James Stenhouse, 17; James Simpson, 16. Result—Medal, J. Stenhouse; cup, J. Simpson.

Twenty-one members competed for Mrs. Macfie's prize and the points medal, and both were won by Mr. John R. Stenhouse with 10 points.

## ABINGTON.

The annual competition for the Married and Single Medal took place on Saturday, the 26th ultimo, on good ice, when the single men won the medal with a majority of 41 shots. Mr. David Paton's rink, being the highest winner on that side, has the honour of keeping the medal for the year. Scores :—

SINGLE.		MARRIED	
Mr. David Paton ... ..	32	Mr. George Kerr ... ..	7
Mr. Allan Colthart ... ..	30	Mr. John Dickson ... ..	19
Mr. Robert Haddow ... ..	26	Mr. William Hunter ... ..	15
Mr. William Brown ... ..	18	Mr. Alex. Cranston ... ..	27
Mr. Hope Hunter ... ..	18	Mr. James M'Morran ... ..	20

## ALLOA PRINCE OF WALES V. DOLLAR.

A match between rinks representative of these clubs was played on the pond of the latter on the 20th ultimo, with the following result :—

PRINCE OF WALES.		DOLLAR.	
Alex. Gall ... ..	19	Dr. Thom ... ..	24
James Grant ... ..	24	W. J. Haig ... ..	27
W. Drysdale ... ..	28	John Breingan ... ..	16
	71		67

## DRYFESDALE (LOCKERBIE).

The competition for the rink medal of this club was finished on Monday, the 22nd ult., when the ice was very keen. The game was very exciting, and was witnessed by a large number of spectators. The medal was won by Mr. T. Gladstone, the scores being :—T. Gladstone, 21; R. Dodds, 8.

## FORRES.

Two competitions for the Royal Caledonian Curling Club's medal took place on the 22nd ult.—one at Dyke and the other at Forres. The Forres Club met the Auldearn Club at Blairs Loch, when the former won by a majority of 18 points, the scores being :—Forres, 50; Auldearn, 33. Two rinks a side. The Elgin Club met the Dyke Club at Logiebuchory, the former being victorious by a majority of 13 points, the scores being :—Elgin, 47; Dyke, 34. A thaw set in before any of the contests were completed, interfering with the play.

## GALASHIELS.

The first match of the season was played on the Gala Curling Club pond between the president and vice-president's rinks—Messrs. Nisbet and Milroy. The ice was in capital condition, and an exciting game ended in favour of the president by three shots.

## ANNAN V. SPRINGKELL.

A match between Annan and Springkell club took place on Springkell Loch, between five rinks a side. Ice in fine order. The match was well contested, and after a spirited game Annan won by 20 shots up. The following were the skips :—

ANNAN.		SPRINGKELL.	
William Underwood ... ..	21	J. Carruthers ... ..	11
James Mundell ... ..	21	W. Carlyle ... ..	12
George H. Wright ... ..	21	P. Lockhart ... ..	12
John Pool ... ..	9	J. Thomson ... ..	21
Andrew Tweedie ... ..	21	T. Richardson ... ..	17
	93		73

## WAVERLEY CLUB (KEIRHILL).

Mr. Veitch won both Glendinning jug and M'Laren medal by 10 and 12 points respectively, after a tie by four players. The members afterwards enjoyed a splendid game by rinks, and Mr. Jack's rink won by 4 points after a most exciting game.

## BALLATER.

A game enjoyed on Saturday afternoon the 20th ult., when three rinks played as follows :—1st, R. Lawson, 13; Troup, 10. 2nd, J. Reid, 5; Watson, 17. 3rd, Captain Cook, 15; D. Mitchell, 6.

## CURRIE.

The rink competition for the silver kettle presented to the club by the late Sir William Gibson Craig, Bart., of Riccarton, took place on Malleny Pond, with the following results :—First tie—L. Cunningham beat Sir James H. Gibson Craig, Bart.; J. M. Rowatt beat James Davidson. Final tie—J. M. Rowatt beat L. Cunningham, and won the kettle.

## BATHGATE.

A match was played on Boghead between rinks skipped by Mr. John Russell and Mr. John Gowans, and resulted—Russell, 21; Gowans, 15. Another game, skipped by Mr. J. Macnab and Dr. Tennent resulted—Tennent, 25; Macnab, 21.

## BLAIRGOWRIE.

The opening match of the season was played on the Lochy. Scores :—

PRESIDENT.		VICE-PRESIDENT.	
W. A. McIntyre	30	J. Bridie	28
J. Robertson	27	T. Leslie	16
Major Chalmers	22	J. D. Fell	25
	79		69

## DUNS.

The members of Duns Curling Club competed on Duns Castle Loch for the patron's jug, a very handsome silver trophy, presented by the patron of the club, Mr. Hay of Duns Castle, for annual competition by rinks. The ice was keen and true. Skips and scores :—

FIRST DRAW.			
Dr. M'Watt	17	J. C. Rae	4
G. Nisbet	15	Rev. W. D. Herald	5
W. Crawford	14	A. Tindall	8
A. Ewart a bye.			

SECOND DRAW.			
G. Nisbet	14	A. Ewart	7
Dr. M'Watt	19	W. Crawford	7

The final tie was to be played on the 23rd ult., and the associated clubs of the county were to compete on the 24th ult. for a silver kettle, presented by the Right Hon. E. Marjoribanks, M.P.

## MUSSELBURGH.

The Musselburgh Club inaugurated the season's play on Newhailes Pond, on Monday the 22nd, on a magnificent sheet of ice. A two rink match was played, in which the rink skipped by Mr. Gulland scored a decisive victory after a most exciting game against a rink skipped by Mr. Young. The pond after the improvements recently carried out gave the greatest satisfaction, and a number of interesting club matches were fixed. Mr. Legat, the president of the club, has presented a handsome point medal to be competed for.

## MIDDLESBRO'.

The Middlesbro' Curling Club played off their final tie for the rink medals, at Linthorpe, on the 25th December. The teams were :—J. Struthers (skip), J. Mackay, E. Longley and J. Macfarlane; and W. Young (skip), J. Fryer, L. Giers, W. Longstaff. Struthers' team won by eight to five after an excellent game. Thirteen ends were played, but only one was scored at each end.

## LANARK.

The competition for the rink gold medal was finished on the 27th ultimo, and resulted in the rink skipped by Mr. Vassie again carrying off the trophy. The results of the different ties are as follows :—

FIRST TIE.			
Mr. Vassie's rink	30	Mr. McLellan's rink	19
Mr. Mitchell's,,	30	Mr. Jack's,,	21
Mr. Lindsay's,,	31	Mr. Lockhart's,,	14
Mr. Dickson's,,	27	Mr. Smith's,,	24

SECOND TIE.			
Mr. Vassie's rink	30	Mr. Lindsay's rink	21
Mr. Mitchell's,,	25	Mr. Dickson's,,	17

THIRD TIE.			
Mr. Vassie's rink	29	Mr. Mitchell's rink	19

## MID-CALDER.

This club met on Calder House Pond and competed for Lord Torphichen's silver cup and single-handed medal. Ice keen, day favourable, and competition strong. At the close of the competition, Mr. Peter Turner and Mr. Smith, Crofthead, were declared winners of the cup and medal respectively, the former scoring 16 points and the latter 15. A handsome jug presented to the club by the young Master of Torphichen was afterwards played for, and won by Mr. Gardner, Langton, with a score of 18 points.

## ST. MUNGO (DUMFRIESSHIRE) v. CORRIE.

These clubs met on Castlemilk Pond, when Corrie won by a majority of 32 shots. The ice was in good condition, and some good play was witnessed. The scores were as follows :—

ST. MUNGO.		CORRIE.	
Sir R. Jardine	21	T. Johnstone	17
D. J. Bell-Irving	17	J. Common	21
D. B. Richardson	13	M. Halliday	15
R. W. B. Jardine	21	W. Common	13
James Byers	15	J. M'Glasson	21
William M'Dougall	7	R. M'Call	21
T. Carlyle	17	J. Lindsay	17
J. Gowanloch	3	William Brown	21
	114		146

## WEST CALDER.

The annual competition for the rink medal took place on the Hermand Pond. Four rinks entered, and the ties resulted as follows :—

FIRST TIE.			
William Millar	18	J. T. Mungle	19
Captain Stewart	15	Andrew Mitchell	14
SECOND TIE.			
J. T. Mungle	18	William Millar	16

## LANGHOLM.

The members of the Eskdale Club competed yesterday for coals for the poor. There were four rinks a side, and some close and exciting play resulted. The ice was in splendid condition, and the games were 21 ends. Scores :—

J. Malcolm	22	J. Kerse	12
J. Hyslop	19	Walter Scott	18
J. Burnet	19	H. Graham	18
William Scott	19	D. McKnight	15

## LARKHALL.

Dalserf and Larkhall Clubs played the first round on Monday, the 22nd ult., for the Duke of Hamilton's gold medal. Results :—

William Bruce	20	Joseph Hutchison	16
H. Crawford	28	William Templeton	13
J. Thomson	22	Thomas Brown	18
Andrew Brown	22	Thomas Gardiner	16
J. G. Tait	18	Andrew Lohar	16
D. Wane—a bye.			

## MOFFAT v. ABINGTON.

A spiel between the above clubs was played on the Dumfriesshire Pond, Moffat. Results of game of 21 ends :—

MOFFAT.		ABINGTON.	
John Young	20	J. Paton	10
Jas. Johnstone	16	John Morton	31
Michael Johnstone	22	John Hunter	16
John A. Johnstone	4	J. Colthart	27
W. M. Crosbie	12	Wm. Clerk	15
	74		99

## CORRIE (DUMFRIESSHIRE).

The members of this club have just completed the competition for their rink medal. The ice was good throughout the competition. Final—J. Common, 21; T. Johnstone, 12. The medal was thus won by Mr. J. Common.

## ANNAN.

A match took place on Corrieknowes Loch between rinks representing Mr. J. Boyd, of Petane, and Mr. S. Boyd, Annan. After a well contested game the match ended :—Mr. Boyd Petane, 21; Mr. S. Boyd, Annan, 16.

## DIRLETON.

The competition for the point medal took place on good ice, and after keen competition, the medal was won by James L. Guild, The Abbey, North Berwick, with a score of 19 points, James Morrison being second with 18 points.