

# GOLF

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

"Far and Sure."

[REGISTERED AS A NEWSPAPER.]

No. 17. Vol. I.]  
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FRIDAY, JANUARY 9TH, 1891.

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



1891.

JANUARY.

- Jan. 10.—Whitley : Wyndham Cup.  
Wiltshire and District : Gray Medal.  
Disley : Annual Cup, Meeting and Dinner.  
Royal Epping Forest : Gordon Challenge Cup ; Captain's Prize.  
Tooting Bec : Monthly Medal.  
Littlestone : Monthly Medal.  
Redhill and Reigate : Allen Medal, postponed from 3rd on account of the snow.
- Jan. 13.—Whitley : The Joicey Cup.  
Pau : Arthur Post Medal and Pendant, and the Brooke Challenge Cup and Badge.  
Royal Epping Forest : Kentish Cup.  
Hayling Island Ladies Club : Monthly Competition for Bath Challenge Star.
- 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.  
Royal Epping Forest : Quarterly Medal, &c.  
Redhill and Reigate : Club Medal.
- Jan. 21.—Royal Epping Forest : Spurling-Kentish Gold Medal ; Noakes Cup.
- Jan. 23.—Redhill and Reigate : Dinner at the Métropole—Sir Trevor Lawrence, M.P., President, in the chair.
- Jan. 24.—Birkdale : The Captain's Cup.  
Whitley : Crawley Prize.
- Jan. 26.—Cambridge University : General Meeting.
- Jan. 27.—Whitley : The Joicey Cup.  
Pau : Macnab Cup.
- Jan. 31.—Seaford : Monthly Medal.  
Prestwick St. Nicholas : Bailie Wilson's Medal.

- Jan. 31.—Royal Liverpool : Winter Optional Subscription Prizes.  
Royal Epping Forest : Gordon Challenge Cup ; Captain's Prize.  
Haydock Park : Legh Challenge Cup ; Annual General Meeting and Dinner.

FEBRUARY.

- Feb. 3.—Birkdale : Ladies' Prize.
- Feb. 7.—Whitley : Wyndham Cup.  
Birkdale : Mackenzie Cup.  
Lanark : Quarterly Competition for Gold Ball and other Prizes.  
Bowdon : First Monthly Medal Competition with Optional Sweepstakes.  
Haydock Park : Captain's Cup.
- Feb. 10.—Pau : Town of Pau Gold Medal and St. Andrew's Cross.  
Whitley : Joicey Cup.  
Royal Epping Forest : Kentish Cup.  
Hayling Island Ladies Club : Monthly Competition for Bath Challenge Star.
- Feb. 12.—Pau : Town of Pau Gold Medal and St. Andrew's Cross.
- Feb. 14.—Whitley : Crawley Prize.  
Lytham and St. Anne's : Captain's Cup Competitions.  
Tooting Bec : Monthly Medal.  
Littlestone : Monthly Medal.
- Feb. 17.—Pau : May Jubilee Medal.
- Feb. 18.—Royal Epping Forest : Spurling-Kentish Gold Medal ; Noakes Cup.
- Feb. 21.—Whitley : Emmerson Prize.  
Birkdale : Club Medal.  
Prestwick St. Nicholas : Meikle and McLaren Prizes.  
Disley : Fourth Winter Handicap.  
Dublin : Monthly Medal (final).
- Feb. 24.—Whitley : Joicey Cup.
- Feb. 28.—Birkdale : The Buckley Cup.  
Seaford : Monthly Medal.  
Royal Epping Forest : Gordon Challenge Cup ; Captain's Prize.  
Royal Liverpool : Winter Optional Subscription Prize.  
Haydock Park : Legh Challenge Cup.

MARCH

- Mar. 3.—Birkdale : Ladies' Prize.  
Hayling Island Ladies Club : Monthly Competition for Bath Challenge Star.
- Mar. 7.—Birkdale : Mackenzie Cup.
- Mar. 10.—Pau : Duke of Hamilton's Medal and Pendant ; Macnab Challenge Cup and Badge.  
Whitley : Joicey Cup.  
Royal Epping Forest : Kentish Cup.
- Mar. 12.—Pau : Havemeyer Cup.
- Mar. 14.—Pau : Annual Meeting to elect Officers.  
Whitley : Crawley Prize.  
Lytham and St. Anne's : Captain's Cup Competition.  
Tooting Bec : Monthly Medal.  
Littlestone : Monthly Medal.
- Mar. 18.—Royal Epping Forest : Spurling-Kentish Gold Medal ; Noakes Cup.

## GOLF FOR DUFFERS.

MR. RIDER HAGGARD has hitherto been known as one of our foremost novelists, but it would seem, judging from an article he has just contributed to *The Graphic* with the above heading, that the author of "King Solomon's Mines" must now be numbered among distinguished golfing recruits. Golfers will welcome the accession to their ranks of a man of letters who by the works of his pen has given English readers all over the world so much pure and supreme enjoyment. In the present article he deals with Golf sympathetically and humorously, and possibly in time to come he may find the game and its vicissitudes sufficiently interesting to form the basis either of a story, or as a humorous sidelight to brighten and enliven the general action of fiction, though this is not a quality which Mr. Rider Haggard stands so much in need of as many of his contemporaries. The following extracts will convey to golfers an idea of the keen appreciation with which Mr. Rider Haggard approaches the game and its difficulties:—

"Now as all men know, or ought to know, the game of Golf consists in striking a small ball of some hard material into a series of holes—generally eighteen in number—with a variety of wooden and iron-headed clubs, which experience has proved to be the best adapted to the purpose. At first sight this looks easy enough. Indeed, strange as it may seem, the beginner sometimes does find it fairly easy—for the first time or two. He takes the driver with that beautiful confidence which is born of ignorance; hits at the ball somehow, and it goes—somehow; not a full drive of 180 yards or so, indeed, but still a very respectable distance. Arrived safely in the neighbourhood of the first green, he is told that he must put the ball into a hole about the size of a jam-pot. Perhaps he does it at the first attempt, and from a distance whence an experienced player would be quite content to lay his ball near the hole. Then he remarks that 'it seems pretty easy.' Probably his adversary will assent with a sardonic smile, and wait for the revenge that time will surely bring. He need not wait long; it may be to-day or to-morrow; but an hour will come when he will see the triumphant tyro scarcely able to hit the ball, much less to send it flying through the air, or wriggling sinuously into the putting-hole, perhaps from a dozen yards away. He will see him cutting up huge lumps of turf behind it—this diversion is called 'agriculture'—or smiting it on the head with such force as to drive it into the ground, or 'topping' it so that it rolls meekly into the nearest bush, or 'pulling' it into the dyke on the left, or 'toeing' it into the sand-bunker on the right; doing everything, in short, that he should not do, and leaving undone all those things that he should do. For days and weeks he will see him thus employed, and then, if he is a revengeful person, he will take some particularly suitable occasion, when the ball has been totally missed three or four times on the tee, say, to ask, if he, the tyro, 'really thinks Golf so very easy?'

"Let none be deceived—as Golf is the most delightful game in the world, so it is also the most difficult. It is easier even for a person who has never handled a gun to learn to become a really good shot than for him who has not lifted cleek or driver to bloom into a golfer of the first water. To the young, indeed, all things are possible, but to few of those who begin after thirty will it ever be given to excel. By dint of hard practice and care, in the course of years they may become second or third-rate players, but for the most part their names will never appear as competitors in the great matches of the world of Golf. To begin with, but a small proportion will ever acquire the correct "swing," that is the motion of the arms and club necessary to drive the ball far and sure. We have all heard of and seen the St. Andrew's Swing, but how many can practise it with the results common at St. Andrews and elsewhere among first-class players

When success attends in the swing, then the ball is topped or heeled, and when the ball goes off well, then the less said about the swing the better. It is instructive to watch any gathering of golfers made up for the most part of players who have not been bred to the game. The majority of them are content with the half-swing, they do not lift the club over the shoulder. If asked their reasons, they will say with truth, that there is only some thirty yards difference between a drive from a half and a drive from a full swing, and that the former is far easier and more certain than the latter. Quite so, but it is not the game; and he who aspires to learn to play the game will prefer to swing full and fail gloriously rather than to attain a moderate success in this fashion. But the swing is only one of a hundred arts that have to be learned before a man can pretend to play Golf. Till he has mastered these, or a goodly proportion of them, he does not play, he only knocks a ball along, a humble amusement with which, alas! most of us must needs be content for the term of our natural lives. Golf, like Art, is a goddess whom we must woo from early youth if we would win her; we must even be born to her worship. No other skill will avail us here, the most brilliant cricketer does not necessarily make a first-class golfer; on the contrary, he must begin by forgetting his cricket; he must not lift himself on his toes and *hit* like a batsman making a drive. Doubtless, the eye which helps a man to excel in shooting, at tennis, or cricket, will advantage him here to some extent, but, on the other hand, he will have much to forget, much to unlearn. He must clear his mind of all superstitions, he must humble his pride in the sand, and begin with a new heart and a meek spirit, well knowing that failure is his goal.

"It may be said, Then why have anything to do with such a hopeless sport? Let him who asks play Golf once, and he will understand why. He will go on playing because he must. Drink, opium, gambling—from the clutches of all these it is possible to escape, but from Golf, never! Has anybody ever seen a man who gave up Golf? Certainly dead donkeys are more common than these. Be once beguiled to the investment of five shillings in a driver, and abandon hope. Your fate is sure. The driver will be broken in a week, but what will you be? You are doomed for life, or till limbs and eyesight fail you—doomed to strive continually to conquer an unconquerable game. Can we not easily conceive a man middle-aged, happy, prosperous, regular in his attendance at business, and well satisfied with an annual outing at the seaside? And can we not picture him again after Golf has laid its hold upon him? He is no longer happy, for he plays not better and better, but worse and worse. Prosperity has gone, for the time that he should give to work he devotes to the pernicious sport. He has quarrelled with his wife, for has he not broken all the drawing-room china in the course of practising his 'swing' on Sundays, and estranged his friends, who can no longer endure to be bored with his eternal talk of Golf? As for the annual outing, it does not satisfy him at all; cost what it will, he must be on the links five days out of every seven.

"And yet even for those who will never really master it, the game is worth the caddie. To begin with, it has this startling merit, the worse you play the more sport you get. When the golfer tops his ball, or trickles it into a furze-bush, or lands it in a sand-bunker, it is but the beginning of joy, for there it lies patiently awaiting a renewal of his maltreatment. His sport is only limited by the endurance of his muscle, or, perchance, of his clubs, and at the end of the round, whereas the accomplished player will have enjoyed but eighty or a hundred strokes, the duffer can proudly point to a total of twice that number. Moreover he has hurt no one, unless it be the caddie, or the feelings of his partner in a foursome. By the way, the wise duffer should make a point of playing alone, or search out an opponent of equal incapacity; he should not be led into foursomes with members of the golfing aristocracy, that is, if he has a proper sense of pride, and a desire not to look ridiculous. He should even avoid the company of members of his own family on these occasions, lest it chance that they lose respect for a man and a father who repeatedly tries to hit a small ball with a stick with the most abject results, and is even betrayed by his failure into the use of language foreign to the domestic hearth. Here is advice for him who has been bitten of the mania. Let him select a little-frequented inland links, and practise on them studiously about two hundred days a-year for

three years or so, either alone, or in the company of others of his own kidney. By this time, unless he is even less gifted than the majority of beginners, he will probably be able to play after a modest and uncertain fashion. Then let him resort to some more fashionable green, and having invested in an entirely new set of clubs, pose before the world as a novice to the game, for thus he will escape the scorn of men. But let him not reverse the process. Thus he who, in his ignorance or pride, takes train to Wimbledon, and in the presence of forty or fifty masters of the art, solemnly misses the ball three times on the first tee, may perchance never recover from the shock.

"Nor will those years of effort and of failure be without their own reward. He will have tramped his gorse common till every bush and sod is eloquent to him of some past adventure. This is the short green, that by some marvellous accident he once did in *one*, driving his ball from the tee even into the little far away putting-hole. Here is a spot which he can never pass without a shudder, where he nearly killed his opponent's caddie, that scornful boy who, for many days accustomed to see him topping and patting his ball along from green to green, remained unmoved by his warning shouts of 'fore,' till one unlucky hour, when by some strange chance he drove full and fair. Crack! went the ball from his brassy. Crack! it came full on the youthful head thirty yards away, and then a yell of agony, and a sickening vision of heels kicking wildly in the air, and presently a sound of clinking silver coin. There, too, is the exact place, whence for the first (and perchance the last) time he drove over the beetling cliff, and out of the great bunker, the long way too, not the ladies' way—a feat not often accomplished by the skilful. A hundred and ninety-one yards that drive measured, though it is true an envious and long-legged friend who had forced his own ball an inch deep into the sand of the cliff, stepped it at a hundred and eighty-four. He can never forget that supreme moment, it will be with him till his dying hour. Our first large salmon safely brought to bank, a boy's first rocketing pheasant, clean and coolly killed, these afford memories that draw as near to perfect happiness as anything in this imperfect world, but it may be doubted if they can compare to the sense of utter triumph, of ecstatic exhilaration with which, for the first time, we watch the ball, propelled by our unaided skill, soar swiftly over the horrid depths of an hitherto unconquered bunker. There is a tale—a true one, or it would not be produced here—that, being true, shall be told as an example of noble patience fitly crowned and celebrated.

"A wanderer musing in a rugged place was, of a sudden, astonished to see and hear an old gentleman, bearing a curiously shaped stick, walking up and down and chanting the *Nunc Dimittis* as he walked. Moved by curiosity, he came to the aged singer, and asked,

"Why do you chant the *Nunc Dimittis* on the edge of this gulf?"

"For this reason, sir," he answered, pointing to a Golf-ball that lay upon the turf. "For seventeen years and more I have attempted, almost daily, to drive a ball across that bunker, and but now I have succeeded for the first time. The object of my life is attained, and I am ready to die. That, sir, is why I sing."

"Then the wanderer took off his hat, and went away, marvelling at the infatuation of golfers.

"Golf is a man's game, but here, too, women assert their rights. Not that they are all fond of it; by no means. On the contrary, a young lady has been heard, and recently, to express her decided opinion that a law should be passed against its practice during the summer months. This was a lawn-tennis young lady. And another informed this writer that she held Golf to be a 'horrid game, where everybody goes off like mad, glaring at a little ball, without a word for anybody.' Others, it is true, attack the question in a different spirit—they play, and play well. It is curious to observe their style; that they do everything wrong is obvious even to the male incompetent. They stand in front of the ball, they swing their club wildly in preparation, and finally bring it down with an action that suggests reminiscences of a cook jointing veal; but the ball goes, for these young ladies have a good eye and a strong arm. Perhaps no woman-player could ever attain to a really first-rate standard, for however vigorous she may be she cannot drive like a man. But with practice there seems to be no reason why she should not approach and put as well as any man; and certainly she can talk golfing-shop with equal persistency.

"And now this duffer will conclude with a word of advice to the world at large—that they should forthwith enter the noble fraternity of duffers, of those who try to play Golf and cannot. They will never succeed—at least, not ten per cent. of them will succeed. They will knock balls from green to green, and reverence Mr. Horace Hutchinson more truly and deeply than the great ones of the earth are generally revered; that is all. But they will gain health and strength in the pursuit of a game which has all the advantages of sport without its expense and cruelty; they will note many a changing light on land and sea; and last, but not least, for several hours a week they will altogether forget their worries, together with Law, Art, Literature, or whatever wretched occupation the Fates have given it to them to follow in the pursuit of their daily bread. For soon—alas! too soon—the votary of Golf—that great gift of Scotland to the world—will own but one ambition, an ambition but rarely to be attained."

STRICT GOLF.

CLAIMING THE HOLE; OR THE VICISSITUDES OF A BLACKHEATH FOURSOME.

I.

Partner and I, 'gainst Z and Y,  
Started a foursome game;  
I had vowed strict Golf, and to let nothing off,  
But whatever I could to claim.

To capture the first, thought keenly athirst,  
Our chance looked a trifle blue,  
We were down in five. After fozzling their drive,  
Our opponents were dead in two.  
With his putter's head, as his ball lay dead,  
Z scraped an atom of coal  
From the putting line. Was I "cutting it fine,"  
When I instantly claimed the hole.

II.

One to the bad, was a little sad  
When we'd only three to play.  
Still, a real good match. In a grave patch  
On the course our enemy lay.

Y had the hit, and steadied a bit  
His brassie behind the ball;  
Then he made a shot, which to designate "hot,"  
Seemed a measure of praise too small.  
But he "grounded" pat, no doubt about that,  
To my partner a glance I stole,  
"Under local rule three," I cried, "you'll see  
I am right when I claim the hole."

III.

State of the game, was somewhat the same  
As it was at the primary tee;  
Suffice to say, we had one to play,  
And were even as even could be.

The honour was mine, my drive it was fine,  
And to see where it chanced to fall  
I stepped in front, and so bore the brunt  
Of the drive of a fair hit ball.  
'Twas a shrewdish whack, brought pain to my back,  
And anguish to my soul,  
When my partner said, "that was driven by Z,  
And he's quietly claimed the hole."

B. S.

ALGY.—"Aw, what's the mattah that you've got youah arm in a sling, Gussie?"

GUSSIE.—"Well, aw—you see they had me keeping scoah at the Golf tournament yesterday afternoon—aw—and I pwesume—aw—stwained the muscle of my arm with the exawcise."





## GOLF AT BLACKHEATH.

To the Editor of GOLF.

SIR,—May I correct a slight inaccuracy in one of your last week's "Tee Shots"? You say that the London County Council 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, also that the London County Council limit play to 2 o'clock in the afternoon. I know nothing about other commons, but I do know that the Council's notice, with reference to Blackheath, is to the effect that no persons shall play Golf on the heath after 8 a.m. without a fore caddie with a red flag, and that no Golf shall be played on the heath after 2 p.m. on Saturdays. Now, saving all rights of myself and others to play Golf on the Blackheath Links, when and how we like, I have good reason to believe that it is the opinion of most thinking golfers in this district that compliance with the notice I have set forth above would conduce to the comfort of players, as well as of such of Her Majesty's lieges as are not members of the noble army of golfers.

I am, Sir, &amp;c.,

B. S.

Blackheath, 3rd January, 1891.

To the Editor of GOLF.

SIR,—I have read with much pleasure the letter in your paper from "Early Bird," as to the institution of an early morning Golf Club at Blackheath. The early morning, in my opinion, is the best time to play there, red flag or not. The idea of a club for early morning play was one I endeavoured to carry out some three or four years ago, but I allowed it to drop for reasons I should prefer to give verbally. I did, however, get together the names of some fifteen men who were favourable to the scheme, and these names are very much at "Early Bird's" service, as well as any other assistance or information that I can give him. I should like, if possible, to be put in direct communication with "Early Bird" as soon as possible. I enclose my card.

5th January, 1891.

Yours faithfully,

"THE WORM."

[If "Early Bird" will communicate with the Editor, the card of "The Worm" will be sent on to him.—ED.]

## WHAT IS A GOLF CLUB?

To the Editor of GOLF.

SIR,—I notice a letter from "G. M." telling us who he is going to put his money on. It is interesting to us, and very generous of him to give us a free tip like this.

His argument is, that what is oldest is best. Now my experience is the reverse, and I know hardly any industry or game which has not been improved upon by time.

I suppose, as one instance, when he is in a hurry to get from one place to another by sea, he goes in a sailing boat, as steam being an invention, he would not approve of this innovation. Of course, he always travels by coach in preference to rail?

Perhaps he will tell me why putting is easier with the old-fashioned wooden putter, with the weight concentrated by lead in one particular spot, and the shaft placed so that the player must stand nearly a yard off to putt, than it is to putt with the new putter where the weight is evenly distributed all over the club-head, and the shaft joins the head in such a position as to enable the player to stand over his ball when putting?

Yours truly,

January 2nd, 1891.

PROGRESS.

## QUESTIONS ON THE RULES.

To the Editor of GOLF.

SIR,—I beg to tell "Stickler," with regard to his second query (page 187), and my answer (page 199), that he read between the lines correctly.

The word "impression" to me has always meant mark. What is to prevent my chalking my niblick, and so leaving a mark, but not an impression, on a hard road? A mark is a guide, and the spirit of the rule is clearly against that.

The rule, as proposed to be amended, will obviate any such quibble.

Mr. Everard's suggestion, to have a bye-law with regard to 5 and 6, is a good one.

My contention is that, as cricket pitches are known to the golfers, they should be avoided like other hazards, and subject to similar penalties.

I am, Sir, &amp;c.,

KORUNEPHOROS.

## ADVICE TO LEFT-HANDED PLAYERS.—A CORRECTION.

To the Editor of GOLF.

SIR,—Would you kindly make a small correction in my last week's letter, "Advice to Left-handed Players"?

In paragraph 4, line 6, after wrist insert "and hand, and" so that the passage will read, "and putting force into the ball, as if it was hit with a continuous weapon, formed of left arm, left wrist and hand, and the whole length of the club and club-head."

Faithfully yours,

SENEK.

Some time ago a clerical member of the Alnmouth Club played a match with Mungo Park there. It appears that Mungo is not altogether a total abstainer, and that the clergyman who made the match with him thought he might do worse than enlist the professional for a time in the tee-total ranks. If Mungo won the match he was to get 10s., but if he lost he was to take the pledge for six months. From start to finish the contest was a close one, and Mungo only succeeded in halving the match by holing a long putt at the last hole. The smile of relief that stole over the poor professional's countenance spoke more than words could utter. "The match being halved," said the clergyman, "we shall have another to-morrow on the same conditions." "Na, faegs," said Mungo, "it's been owre near!"

Secretaries of Golf clubs who wish copies of the Golf Score-book issued by Bovril (Limited), and which we recently reviewed, may obtain supplies for distribution among members by writing to Bovril (Limited), Farringdon Street, E.C., or R. & R. Clark, Edinburgh, and enclosing a club card as a guarantee, to show that the books are reaching the hands of genuine golfers. Individual members of Golf clubs may also obtain the book by stating the name of the clubs to which they are attached.

REMARKABLE GOLFING INCIDENTS.

Mr. Harry Hart, Honorary Secretary of Prestwick Golf Club, is my authority for the following remarkable incident:—Some years ago a couple on Prestwick Links had finished holing out at the "Wall Hole," or the twelfth hole, and had gone to the tee to drive to the thirteenth hole, making way for a couple coming behind. Of the couple in front he who had the honour had teed his ball, the couple behind in the meantime playing an approach shot. This approach shot overran the green on to the teeing ground beyond, and just as the player was in the act of hitting his ball from the tee the shot from behind rolled close up to the teed ball, so that the player from the tee caught them both with one stroke. Both the drive and the approach shot were of course spoilt, the one ball going one way and the other another way, the result being a rub on the green for both balls. Mr. McTaggart Cowan, Glasgow, was one of the parties to this remarkable transaction.

Charlie Hunter, Prestwick, was a witness of the following incidents. Colonel J. O. Fairlie, and Major Phillips were playing a single. At the eleventh hole of the old twelve-hole course, Major Phillips had just holed out, and had stooped down to lift his ball from the hole. Colonel Fairlie, who was out of sight, of the hole, lofted a high shot for the green. Major Phillips had scarcely withdrawn his hand from the hole with his ball, when that of Colonel Fairlie dropped clean to the bottom, the ball never having touched anything from the moment it left the club till it reached the bottom of the hole.

These two incidents are probably unique in Golf. The following incident was also witnessed by Charlie Hunter, who was one of the principal parties concerned. Charlie Hunter was playing as a partner with Mr. J. L. Stewart, in a foursome. Old Adam Andrew had been carrying to a party in front. Charlie Hunter drove a ball, which was observed to fall very near Andrew. On coming up the ball could be nowhere found, and it was in a place where it must have been seen. Andrew declared that he had never seen the ball. Charlie Hunter, however, suggested that Andrew should turn out the balls, which he carried in an outside breast-pocket, in his possession, and when they were turned out among them was found the missing ball. There could be no mistake about the ball, as besides other marks of identification it bore the initials "J. L. S." It had been played in to Andrew's pocket, who, not so young or so bright as he had once been, was quite oblivious of the fact.

The writer was close at hand, and may claim to have seen a rub on the green of a precisely identical character happen to Mr. Horace Hutchinson while he was playing in the amateur championship meeting last held at Prestwick. Mr. Hutchinson was driving to the sixth hole, when his ball dropped into the coat pocket of a gentleman—was it Mr. D. Leitch, St. Andrews?—who was sitting in the bent to the right, and within fifty yards of the hole. I think I have heard of this occurring somewhere else.

J. MCB.

Mrs. Kendal during an engagement at the Prince of Wales' Theatre, Birmingham, was the recipient of a curious compliment, taking the shape of a glove which some fair owner had split in her vigorous applause of the accomplished actress. The glove was accompanied by an effusion more or less poetical, and concluding as follows:—

"My hands they met so madly  
That my glove was split in two,  
And this result of enthusiasm  
I send as a proof to you."

It has been suggested that a small exhibition of pictures, portraits, and other relics and objects of interest connected with Eton would be appreciated by Etonians on the occasion of the ninth celebration of the jubilee of the school, which falls next year. Old Etonians who are possessed of any relics connected historically or by association with Eton, portraits of celebrated old Etonians in their earlier years, or pictures of the place, and who would be willing to lend them for a month in the early summer, are asked to communicate with Mr. J. P. Carter, The Timbralls, Eton College.

Review.

YOUR FIRST GAME OF GOLF. By Gerald Hillinthorn. (Day and Son.)

One might have thought that even in the nineteenth century there were some things still too sacred for the pen of satire and the brush of ridicule. It would appear that there are not. A gentleman writing under what for his own sake we may fervently hope to be a *nom de plume* has given to the world a small illustrated book named "Your First Game of Golf," which shows the game from the point of view of one who clearly has veneration for nothing. The first picture in the book represents the great Golf Stream. It is a very pleasing picture (the illustrations in this irreverent little book are all excellent) but the joke occurred a year or two ago in *Punch*. This is but fitting Nemesis, for many of *Punch's* jokes have occurred a year or two before elsewhere. But, passing by this *réchauffé*, we light on a vignette, over the page, which is horribly typical. It is a beginner kicking into limbo the book called the "Rules of Golf." This is excellent. It is what beginners always do. If ever they do see a book of rules at all, which is a little doubtful, they send it to perdition without delay. By the bye, we might ask Mr. Gerald Hillinthorn (the irreverent author's name or pseudonym) why is it "Your First Game of Golf"? why not "My First Game of Golf"? It has all the peculiar charm of autobiography.

Then the hero of the tale proceeds to a bookseller's and buys a homily on the keeping of the temper, which he practically deals with as he does with the book of rules. The author then goes on to show how he proceeds to the Golf ground and falls into the hands of the local branch of the Camorra—the caddies. Then begins the game of Golf proper, to the active disturbance of turf, clubs, temper—of everything except the little bit of gutta-percha whose *inertia* is so hard to overcome. The following page bears illustrations of a nature which a right-minded person will at once leave, unglanced at. In the first place there is a diagram which we at first took for a plan of the railway system at Clapham Junction, to which is subjoined the observation that "more complicated diagrams exist, but these will be found sufficient for the beginner." He adds that the distance between the feet is determined by the following equation:—

$$\sqrt{\frac{n \sin \theta + \cos \theta}{\tan \theta}} = \frac{x^m}{\pi \mu^2}$$

And opposite are illustrations of "the end of the drive as it should be," and "the end of the drive as it should not be—the latter representing the immolation on the Thug method of the beginner's caddie—in obvious and undisguised satire of that sacred Badminton Golf book, whose patron is the Prince of Wales, whose editor is the Duke of Beaufort, whose principal author is a person who has a particular objection to any form of ridicule. After this it is but as a six inch putt to Hell Bunker that Mr. Gerald Hillinthorn should exhibit his victim in shirt-sleeves, tears and perspiration on the cliff of an artificial hazard, or that he should go on unabashed to sketch a picture of woman as a golfer, with numerous illustrations of the sort of persons who need *not* apply for the situation of Secretary to a ladies' Golf club.

We imagine that we may be doing a service to the golfing world in transcribing the form of advertisement, stating a few of the necessary qualifications:

"Wanted, a Secretary for the Ladies' Golf Club—Westbourne-on-Sea. Must be good-looking. Age, not more than forty; thirty preferred. Must have absolutely no temper at all. Must be a man of the greatest tact and presence of mind, to the extent even of being able to deal with a lady in hysterics. Must be a bachelor, but not averse to matrimony. Must be a man of iron will and inflexible determination. Must be able to listen to twenty ladies talking excitedly, and all at the same time. Must have an answer ready for each of them. Must be put out by *nothing*. Must be ready to go round the links with *anyone*. Must be a financier of no mean order. Out of an annual income of £25 he will be expected to keep the putting-

greens in order, provide prizes for the competitions, which occur once a month, and at which every lady expects a prize, and find a surplus which will be devoted to the erection of a new pavilion."

Those are all the qualifications that Mr Hillinthorn seems to think absolutely indispensable. He may be right, but it would be rash to make any definite statement.

Now, the typical golfer is a person in whom a long course of bunkers has destroyed all capacity for a smile, and even all congenital disposition to profanity. No surgical instrument more delicate than a niblick stroke can get a joke into him. Happily, the typical golfer is non-existent. If he ever existed at all he was perhaps a contemporary of the Dodo. And that any golfer can read and gaze upon this little book without genuine amusement is, to us, inconceivable. The illustrations are brightly and well coloured, and drawn with truth and fancy; and the fun is of a cheery yet delicate sort, which will do no one any harm and some a deal of good.

As all who follow billiards are doubtless aware, the championship has for many years been decided on a table differing in several particulars from that in ordinary use. It is the opinion of many that the time has arrived when the restrictions imposed by the championship table should, if not altogether removed, be at least modified. So strong has been the feeling in the matter that the present champion, who is vastly superior to anyone else at the game in which the spot stroke is barred, invited a number of players, both amateur and professional, to attend a meeting to discuss the question. At this meeting, held on Monday, the 29th ult., several views were expressed, but nothing definite was arrived at beyond an agreement to adjourn until the following Monday. W. J. Peall, who is by general consent the best spot stroke player of the day, all along refused to recognise the right of an individual to call a meeting on his own account, and requested that a meeting of the Billiard Association be convened for Wednesday, January 7th, to consider the position of the top spot, and the size of pockets. In consequence of this decision Roberts has postponed the meeting to be held at his rooms until January 12th.

Dagleish, the professional at Nairn, in playing the round with Mr. Finlay, M.P., the other day returned a score of 73 for eighteen holes. There has been practically no snow or frost at Nairn this winter, and Golf play has not been interrupted.

We regret to hear that Mr. J. Kennedy, a very promising young player, is lying seriously ill at Nairn.

### A CURLER'S CHANT.

Down the rink the stones are roaring,  
Ringing thro' the frosty air;  
Skips from a' the airts are pouring—  
Booming orders everywhere:  
Surging sounds of mimic battle,  
Flash of fastly flitting kowes,  
Clang and clatter, rush and rattle,  
Pealing far o'er heichs and howes!

Chorus: Hip, hip—hurrah for the Skip!  
(Dip his nose in a reaming nip!)  
Dry? Dry! Your skip is dry?  
So is ours—and so am I!  
So are we all—we're all the same—  
Here's the health of the roaring game!

Youth, with cheek as red as roses  
(Cheek elsewhere, you well divine),  
Age, whose red has fled to noses,  
Cheek by jowl have sought the shrine.  
Winds to Age shall vainly whistle,  
Pipe of twinge and twang and ache:  
Trusted Peg may ramp and bristle—  
Such a curl her tryste to break!

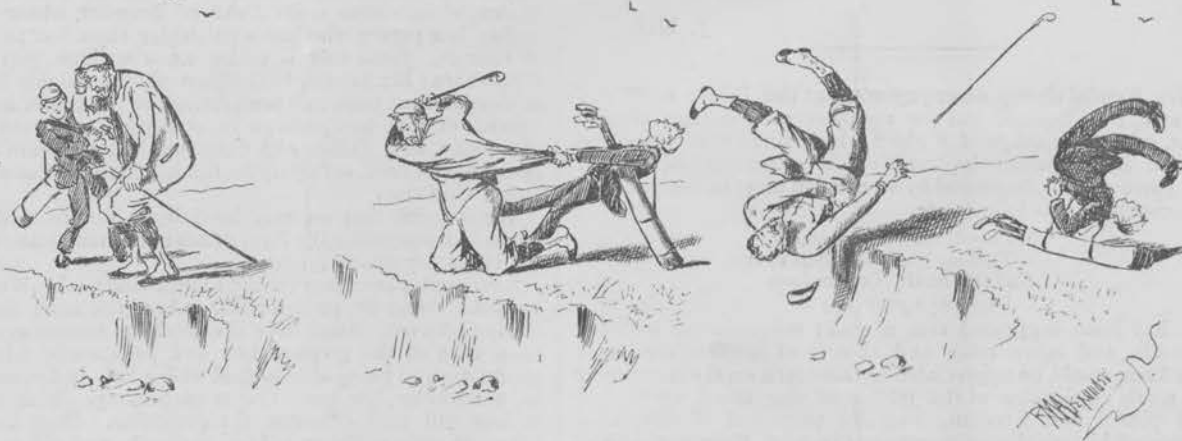
What the charm thus soothes the fragile?  
"Pith, man, pith! Your stane's asleep!"  
What the Siren song the agile?  
"Curly youth, O sweep, O sweep!"  
Death may beck and love may tinkle,  
Sunny eye through fringes peep,  
Eye shall dim and rust the sickle—  
"Sweep, man! Don't you hear me? Sweep!"

JOHN KNOX.

The High Sheriff of Down has announced that football playing on Sundays, which is extensively practised in Ireland, is illegal, and that the police have received instructions to prosecute persons who may in future indulge in it. The game goes on, nevertheless.

How can Cricket and Golf be compared, when the delight of the one devotee is the abhorrence of the other—*double figures*.

The Naval Lieutenant's way out of a difficulty. Idea good, but result disastrous!



Sketched at the Xmas Meeting of the Royal Isle of Wight Golf Club



## GOLF ON SUNDAYS.

WHY is it wrong to play Golf on Sunday? I confess I cannot see the wrong myself for many reasons. Men who do nothing but play Golf all the week, should certainly not require to play it on Sunday. The species who play Golf, however, are mostly busy city or professional men, who work hard in their offices, their consulting rooms or their chambers all the week, to whom a little fresh air and exercise on Sunday are the greatest boon.

Saturday is a universal half-holiday, and if a man can occasionally get away on Friday evening till Monday morning, the change freshens him up for the week.

He gets his game on Saturday. Surely the world must be very narrow minded who begrudges him his round on Sunday.

A Sunday's game interferes with no one's salvation, but the player himself; as caddies are not employed. Herein lies a virtue, for the caddie is not kept away from church, if he has a mind to go; and the golfer must take a double amount of exercise, for he has to carry his own clubs. A very good thing, too. England is a free country where all are at liberty to hold their own views, although Mrs. Grundy often prevents their acting up to them. By all means let those who do not approve of Golf on Sunday stay away, and those who like it, and think it does them good, play.

I do not think it advisable for Golf to be played on Sundays on links like St. Andrews or Wimbledon: they are too near towns, and the feelings of the many should certainly not be shocked for the amusement of the few. But at Sandwich, for instance, this is not the case; men may golf without hurting the feelings of the strictest Sabbatarians, for what the eye does not see the heart does not grieve.

Our English Sunday, and more particularly our Scotch Sabbath, will stand a good deal of remodelling. I do not know that we Britishers are any better men and women for enduring such a day of rest as we do in most parts of the Island once a week. Granted that we are better, however, we are certainly not so happy as our foreign friends, who enjoy their Sunday as a day of pleasure as well as a day of prayer. An Englishman abroad enjoys his Sunday, too, and does not feel deprived by fresh air and exercise, or even a little fun and frolic. What would he do at home? In all probability take too much luncheon and sleep all the afternoon, for want of something better to do; worry his wife, or grumble at the club, instead of enjoying fresh air and exercise on a golfing links. By all means let us reform our Sundays, more especially where we can do so to the advantage of our health. Let Golf, tennis, cricket and lawn tennis, all find their Sunday players. In each of these games only the players participate—no servants, or caddies, are required; and if the player sees no harm in his favourite game himself, why should he listen to the tongue of that interfering Mrs. Grundy, who is luckily very old and fast dying away?

Some men have a curious way of seeing no harm in enjoying Sunday themselves, but expect their wives and children to go to church, and otherwise keep up the family respectability for them. This is a great mistake. The women should do as they like as much as the men; and children should never be dragged to church, unless they themselves wish to go.

Although I so strongly advocate Golf on Sundays, and approve of a week-end out of town, I as strongly deprecate the plan of men arranging their golfing haunts where there is no possible accommodation for their wives. Such arrangements make breaches not easily healed. An energetic housekeeper and busy mother requires change of scene and faces as much as any man. If Golf is a game that necessarily estranges a man from his wife on Sunday, or any other day, the sooner the Benedicts give up Golf the better for all. But if women are warmly welcomed at the links, then by all means let the men play on Sunday or any day, and invite their wives to go with them, if their wives care to do so. A little jaunt out of town for the week-end will do them both good, and a round of Golf on Sundays will be most advantageous to health and spirits.

Amusement is as necessary to existence as exercise; and luckily to a large proportion of our male population, Golf affords both, at little cost or trouble.

MRS. ALEC TWEEDIE.



Not for many years has such a large crowd assembled at the Tron Church, Edinburgh to welcome in the New Year as was the case on the last night of the old year. Although the night was cold, yet, being dry, it was favourable for such a gathering. About half-past eleven a crowd began to collect in the vicinity of the Tron, the High Street and the Bridges presenting at the same time a very animated scene. Itinerant orange vendors pushed their trade in their usual noisy fashion, young men played melodions and concertinas, young women beat tambourines, and bands of half-tipsy youths pushed about in a rough-and-ready way and indulged in snatches of song. The greatest good-humour, however, prevailed, and the policemen present had for the most part little to do. The last minutes of the passing year were occupied by the large crowd which had gathered by this time in watching the effects of coloured lights which were burned at windows up and down the street. Nearly every household between John Knox's corner and St. Giles' was astir, the houses lighted up, and the occupants for the most part at the open windows, looking down upon the moving scene below

As the hand of the Tron Church clock approached the midnight hour, a loud cheer was raised which effectually prevented the bell—"Ringing out the old, ringing in the new"—from being heard. A magnificent display of coloured lights were at the same moment burned with imposing effect, and from one house at least fireworks were let off to the discomfort of the crowd in the street. When the cheering had subsided every one wished his or her neighbour "A Happy New Year," and healths were pledged with equal cordiality.

\* \* \*

A feature of the New Year celebrations in Edinburgh was the sobriety of the great body of holiday makers. The weather was very fine, abundance of amusement was provided, and the public-houses were shut for the day. Indeed in most of the burghs and populous places in Scotland the public-houses were closed, and efforts were made to provide popular amusements for the people.

\* \* \*

The weather is an interesting topic of conversation at present. At Wick, in Caithnesshire, there has been no snow. Roses and all kinds of flowers are in full bloom in the gardens, and strawberries, though not ripe, are of full size. The snow-belt seems to stretch between Exeter on the south and York on the north. For the first time in 35 years the Thames has been frozen over, thus affording some fine sport for the skaters.

\* \* \*

Over England during December there has been little more than one unbroken run of hard frost, and in London the month has been, upon the whole, more severe than any we have had during the last fifty years. Gales have been very rare even in the Western and Northern parts of the kingdom, but snowstorms were somewhat frequent over England, those of the 19th and 20th being heavy in the Midland, Eastern, and Southern districts. The weather, as experienced in Scotland and Ireland, has been of a somewhat variable nature, spells of severe frost being interspersed with comparatively genial intervals, in which temperature was either equal to or a little in excess of its average level. The mean temperature of December was below the average excepting in the extreme north of Scotland, where there was a slight excess. On many days of the month Stornoway had the highest in the three kingdoms. In London the mean temperature was only 30·5 degs., or lower than in any month of the last fifty years, the nearest approach to it being in December 1840, when the mean was 31·4 degrees.

\* \* \*

**THE CADDIE AS MORALIST.**—A clerical foursome on St. Andrews links was all square and two to play. At the next hole one of the party had a putt of about eighteen inches for a half. He remarked, "I suppose you'll give us that." There was a moment's silence, and it seemed as if good nature was about to grant the dispensation desired, when a caddie—a true thorough-bred—indignant at perceiving the rigour of the game thus endangered, broke in: "Na! Na! there's nae tick here; pay your way and be respectit." The offending cleric could not resist this pointed appeal to his moral sense. He addressed himself to his putt with as good grace as could be expected, but certain pronounced twitchings made it clear that the player was unnerved by the timely reproof. Report saith that the caddie was more than gratified with the fruit of his exhortation; that his side finished *two* up; and that the reverend gentleman, who has now completely recovered from both beating and rebuke, is thinking of promoting the young moralist to the office of beadle.

\* \* \*

Golfers who wish at this time, not only to assist a deserving charity, but to provide themselves with warm clothing for playing in, cannot do better than patronise the Scottish Home Industries Association, whose vice-patron is Princess Louise, Marchioness of Lorne. The aim of the Association is to promote, improve, and develop the home industries in Scotland, and a *depôt* has been opened at 14, Lower Grosvenor Place, London, S.W., where an extensive selection of Harris and other home-spun tweeds will be found. A large stock of Gairloch yarn and shooting stockings, Shetland goods, household linen, and Ayrshire embroideries are also for sale at moderate cost, and a selection of patterns can always be forwarded.

We mentioned last week that it was proposed to revive the game of Golf at Girvan, a watering place on the Ayrshire coast. The proposal has become an accomplished fact, and the old club which used to play on the public park has been resuscitated. The club have, however, wisely decided in reviving the game, to secure a course over which they shall have exclusive rights; and have accordingly leased a piece of ground on the north side of the River Girvan and the harbour, and Willie Fernie the other day laid out a nine-hole course which extends to about one and a-half miles. Fernie pronounces the ground to be in every way well adapted for the game. The holes are from 150 to 290 yards apart, and the hazards consist of sand bunkers and whins. The course lies along the margin of the sea shore, so that there is the added danger, as at North Berwick and Musselburgh, of having to play a ball off the beach. Play has been commenced, the club having already attracted to its ranks between 40 and 50 members, and altogether the prospects of the game in Girvan are very bright. The acquisition to the village as a watering place will be considerable, and it will no doubt be looked upon as a great attraction to intending visitors to the place. The railway station is within about 100 yards of the first tee.

\* \* \*

While a gentleman in Hampshire was feeding birds from the dining-room window the other morning, a rook flew down from a large cedar close by, seized an unsuspecting blackbird, twisted off his head in a second, and began to devour him before the observer could rush out to the rescue. This incident shows the recent severity of the weather.

\* \* \*

A water rail which was found floating in the Eden Brook at the Lingfield racecourse was found to be choked by having attempted to swallow head foremost a small bull head (*Coltus gobio*). It stuck in the throat of the bird, and the curved spines on the gill covers prevented its return.

\* \* \*

*Scene.*—Scotch links, 13th hole. *Time.*—Before the Education Act of 1872.

GOLFER (to Caddie).—"Boy, what's my score?"

CADDIE—"I no' ken. Sixty and a wheen mair; ye ken best y'rself."

\* \* \*

*Mutatis mutandis.*—After the Act.

GOLFER (to Caddie).—"Boy, what's my score?"

CADDIE (promptly).—"Twae above av'rage; 5, sir; 67."

Golfer returns to town a determined advocate of compulsory education.

\* \* \*

A Guildford correspondent writes that a scheme is being promulgated with the object of placing Banstead Downs, Banstead Heath, Burgh Heath, and Park Downs, near the famous Epsom Downs, under the control of a body of conservators. The Hon. Francis Baring, who is the owner of 4,500 acres in the parish of Banstead, and is tenant of 1,500 acres more, is the promoter of the scheme. It is claimed that these Surrey commons should be placed under proper control, as provided by the Metropolitan Commons Preservation Act. The waste lands in question lie some 500 ft. or 600 ft. above the sea level, and the invigorating breezes to be obtained on them render them especially suitable for the purposes of health and recreation, and of enormous advantage to the working classes. They are admirably adapted for various games, for which purposes they are already used to a certain extent, but it is believed that under proper regulation and management they would be more extensively used by hundreds for the purposes of healthful recreation. The proposal will be considered by the Board of Agriculture.

\* \* \*

A company has been formed to establish a health resort at Tusculum, and in connection with it an Anglo-Italian club for purposes of sport, and a racecourse. The capital is represented as being mainly English, though Roman bankers will furnish 2,500,000f. of the 10,000,000f. required. Signor Crispi has received the representative of the syndicate, and has assured him of his sympathy and support in the scheme.



Surrey cricketers will be glad to hear that there was no foundation for the story that Mr. M. P. Bowden had died in South Africa. He is alive and well, and engaged in mining operations in Mashonaland.

\* \* \*

London cricketers will learn with regret the death of Joseph Hunter, the well-known Yorkshire professional. Hunter, who only recently completed his thirty-third year, first played for his county in 1881, and in the following year was regarded as one of the best wicket keepers of the day. In the course of his county engagements that summer he was credited with the dismissal of no fewer than fifty batsmen. In 1884 he was member of the team which under the captaincy of Shaw visited Australia. Owing to some trouble with his hands he had not played much since 1888.

\* \* \*

A singular sporting match has, it is stated, been arranged to come off early in March. The Earl of Shrewsbury and the Earl of Lonsdale will drive for a wager twenty miles on the high-way between Leicester and Melton Mowbray. In the first five miles their lordships will drive trotters in single harness; in the next five miles they will drive a pair of trotters; in the third stage of five miles they will ride as postilions with a pair of horses; and they will drive a four-in-hand during the last five miles. Why not have a Golf match, too?

\* \* \*

For getting on in the world a cheery laugh is a valuable ally. We are apt to think well of, and to befriend, if necessary, the man who never fails to see the point of our witticisms, and gives loud and hearty evidence of his appreciation.

\* \* \*

A fancy-dress festival was held on Monday night, the 29th ult, on the ice of the Thames Valley Skating Club, near Teddington Railway Station. There was a large and fashionable attendance, and many of the dresses were very picturesque. The scene was altogether novel and brilliant, and the festival lasted until midnight.

\* \* \*

CRICKET CURIOSITIES.—People who like gathering facts in connection with the time-honoured English game will doubtless be highly interested in the following, culled from an account of a cricket match played at Colombo against the Australian team which lately visited this country. The writer who said, "what we want is facts and what we want are grammar," would, were he here, certainly admit that he had got both in the following paragraphs:—

"Pilling" is "the famous Yorkshire wicket-keeper"!  
 "Christoffelsz again distinguished himself by causing Burn's bails to fall, the wickets not being disarranged in the least."

The following is explicit:—"Lyons' first and second balls were sent for two and one by Whiting, and then Stevens cut the last ball of the over hard. It passed out of reach of Trott, was not fielded by the ship's doctor at cover point, and the batsman ran. Gregory from mid-off ran and secured the ball, while there was confusion between the runners. Whiting ran, but Stevens did not, and a good throw in with Blackham at the wicket sent back Whiting hopelessly run out"! In fact, we all ran!

Again:—"Stephens then neatly cut Boyle, each for two, and so appeared."

An extensive knowledge of proverbial lore, we should say, is required for one to fully appreciate the following:—"It then transpired that Lyons was in the adjoining club house, and that he really needed the doctor. He had been wearing a big double-decker solar hat and had not thrown it off to bowl. He had a blow in the neck certainly, but the *sum* is proverbially no respect of size."

A singular little combination between batsman and wicket-keeper is revealed in the following:—"Block secured a single, and then nearly ran himself out, calling for a run which the wicket-keeper ran for."

We conclude with a really tragic item:—"The third ball of Boyle's next over was too effective again. He enticed Ohlmus out of his ground, and missing his hit he would have been stumped had he not been bowled."

ADDRESS TO "THE BULGER."

BY THE GHOST OF OLD PHILP.

Not "Lamb the frolic and the gentle,"  
 Of whom the waggish Wordsworth sang;  
 Our Mr. Lamb's the cause of mental  
 Anguish and despairing pang.

Ah, Mr. Lamb! I little guessed,  
 When reading of your derring-do,  
 You were to work your evil bent  
 To wring my heart and wreak me rue.

Though dear to me our Ancient Game,  
 Its very trials, hazards, rubs,  
 Not mine to smirch a brother's fame—  
 'Twas I, at least, was King of Clubs.

But gruesome feries now I hear—  
 My newer life's a leelang flutter—  
 Of much, alas! I'm filled with fear,  
 But most I dread a bulger putter!

Many the tale I'm told I wis—  
 For gammers yarn and Waghorn\* blethers—  
 But biggest bam to me is this—  
 That balls no more are made of feathers.

Now ghostly golfers round me crowd,  
 And fleer and flout and mow at me,  
 And gibbering goblins cry aloud—  
 "A rummy maker Philp must be!"

Nay more—a climax to my woes!—  
 I still can hear the fiends applaud—  
 My first and dearest patron rose—  
 "'Tis I accuse Old Philp of fraud!"†

Think of the heirlooms ripe with age,  
 In dear, dead hands the trusted, tried!  
 'Tis Lamb has cursed the heritage,  
 Has wrecked the trust, and dashed the pride!

'Mid geck and gibe and sneer and flout,  
 'Mid croak of heir and fiend's guffaw,  
 The melancholy thought will out—  
 "'Deed, Mr. Lamb, I'm weel awa'!"

OLD PHILP

(In the "Edinburgh Evening Dispatch").

A minister of the Church of Scotland, the late Dr. Campbell, was one day watching a carpenter do some repairs to his house. The carpenter whistled "Maggie Lauder" as he laboured and worked in time to the tune. "Saunders," said the Doctor presently, "Can ye no whustle a more solemn and Godly tune while ye are at work?" "Ay, weel, minister, if it be your will," and he immediately changed the tune to the "Dead March in Saul," still planing in time to the music. The worthy minister looked on for some minutes in silence, and then said "Saunders, I hae another word to say till ye. Did the guidwife hire ye by the day's work or by the job?" "The day's work was our agreein', minister." "Then, on the whole, Saunders, said the Doctor, dryly, "I think ye may just as weel gae back to whustling 'Maggie Lauder.'"

\* Waghorn, a sterling golfer of old, who being nineteen times falsher than the devil, was crowned king of liars. He seems to have left issue.

† It is only in a place such as this that any association between golf and fraud could even be suggested.—O.P.



PRESTWICK ST. NICHOLAS.

New Year's Day was a delightful golfing day in Ayrshire. The ground, though still with a substratum of frost-bound soil, was softening under the influence of a comparatively high temperature. The links of the Prestwick St. Nicholas are always more or less crowded (if the weather permits) on a New Year's Day, chiefly on account of one of the club's principal fixtures occurring on that day. That was the case on Thursday, last week, when the club scratch medal, and handicap medal presented by the late Robert Howie Smith, one of the originators of the club, and for many years one of its most prominent members, were competed for. Most of those who came out played in foursome, and only eight couples entered for the medals. These were—Mr. T. M'Laren, Mr. H. M. Giles, Mr. John Gray, Mr. Andrew Boon, Mr. James Gibson, Mr. John Gibson, Mr. Matthew Smith, Mr. A. S. R. Gilchrist, Mr. Andrew Muir, Mr. J. Hamilton, Mr. David Bone, Mr. James Andrew, Mr. John Wallace, Mr. W. T. Morton, Mr. W. Kennedy and Mr. J. Bowden.

On a comparison of the cards it was found that the scratch medal had been won by Mr. Andrew Boon, who was also the winner last year. Mr. Boon's score of 82 for the double round, included a 37 for the second round—viz., 4 5 3 4 5 4 4 4 4=37. The handicap medal went to Mr. Andrew Muir, with 90, less 12=78. Underlined are details of the scores handed in:—

	Gross. Hcp. Net.		Gross. Hcp. Net.
A. Muir ...	90 12 78	John Gibson ...	88 scr. 88
A. Boon ...	82 scr. 82	D. Meikle ...	106 12 94
L. M'Laren ...	96 14 82	J. Wallace ...	106 12 94
D. Bone ...	85 scr. 85	W. T. Morton ...	105 9 96
W. Kennedy ...	99 14 85	M. Smith ...	114 18 96
Jas. Gibson ...	87 scr. 87	J. Hamilton ...	110 12 98

INTERESTING FOURSOME.—The four scratch men in the New Year's Day medal competitions, made up and played in the afternoon an interesting foursome match, a sort of return match to one played on the same day of the previous year. The partners were Mr. John Gibson, Ayr, and Mr. David Bone, Glasgow; against Mr. James Gibson, Prestwick, and Mr. Andrew Boon, Prestwick. The match was very closely contested, but it eventually resulted in a victory for the last-mentioned couple, Messrs. Gibson and Boon, by one hole. The match on the previous occasion was won by Messrs. Gibson and Bone, by three up and two to play.

TYNESIDE CLUB.

There was a large attendance of players on Ryton Willows on New Year's Day, when the sixth competition for the winter cup took place. Eight couples started for the trophy, and at the finish it was found that Mr. F. Smith, handicap 12, and Dr. J. Limont, handicap 16, had tied for first place, Mr. J. E. Davidson being next with a net score of 91. Scores:—

	Gross. Hcp. Net.		Gross. Hcp. Net.
Mr. F. Smith ...	103 12 91	Mr. W. Farr ...	103 6 97
Dr. Limont ...	107 16 91	Mr. C. A. Ridley ...	97 scr. 97
Mr. J. E. Davidson ...	107 15 92	Mr. J. Mather ...	115 18 97
Mr. Jas. Hedley ...	100 6 94	Mr. J. G. Sharp ...	110 12 98
Mr. T. Sharp ...	111 16 95	Mr. W. D. Robb ...	120 22 98
Mr. R. T. Batey ...	111 15 96	Mr. J. T. Nisbet ...	124 22 102

Messrs. G. W. Walters (2), J. C. Scott (25), G. F. Charlton (scratch), and T. B. Bewick (3), made no returns.

Mr. F. Smith and Dr. Limont played off their tie for the Winter Cup at Ryton on the 3rd inst., in favourable weather. The result was that the doctor, keeping up the excellent form he has shown this season, won by three strokes on the handicap.

DUNAVERTY GOLF CLUB.—CAMPBELTOWN.

The last monthly competition for the Vannan gold medal took place on Saturday, the 27th ult., under very favourable circumstances. It was won by Mr. James Taylor. The best scores were:—James Taylor, 89, less 4=85; John Moffat, 97, less 8=89; Andrew Ronald, 106, less 12=94.

HARRISON GOLF CLUB.—EDINBURGH.

This club held their usual competition for prizes appropriate to the season in the Harrison Park, Edinburgh. Eight couples started, and ten holes were played with the following result:—

	Gross. Hcp. Net.		Gross. Hcp. Net.
L. G. Ross ...	46 scr. 46	J. Allan ...	55 6 49
A. M'Farlane ...	54 7 47	D. A. Henderson ...	53 4 49
R. Glass ...	48 scr. 48	J. U. Anderson ...	57 8 49
J. Blyth ...	54 5 49	J. Alderson ...	58 8 50

FORFARSHIRE.

On New Year's Day a number of clubs in the county held competitions which were generally well attended, the weather being exceptionally mild for the season. The effect of the fresh was not, however, conducive to low scoring, the greens being sloppy and stiff. At Montrose the links presented a stirring appearance, the members of three clubs—the Victoria, Mercantile, and Mechanics—being out.

In the Victoria Club competition the prizes for the lowest scores were carried off by Walter Reid, who came in at 86, the next in order being L. S. Smith, at 88, and D. M'Kenzie following with 91. The prizes decided by the average were won as follows:—1, A. Adam, one below registered number; 2, John Sim, 5 above; 3, James Thom, 5 above; 4, F. M. Japp, 6 above; 5, William Edwards, 8 above; 6, William Mitchell, 8 above; 7, John R. Mitchell, 9 above; 8, James Cameron, 9 above; 9, George Gray, 10 above.

There was a large turn-out of the members of the Mercantile Club, and some excellent scores were registered. A special prize for the lowest score on the green was carried off by William Cobb, who went the round at 79, a splendid performance when the state of the ground is considered. His card showed the following details:—

Out ...	...	7	4	4	3	2	5	4	4	5=38
In ...	...	4	5	4	4	5	5	4	5	5=41

The other prizes were decided by average, the winners being as follows:—D. Wyllie, 86; J. R. Davidson, 105; both at number; A. Macdonald, 89, 3 above; J. M. Smith, 87; George Croal, 90; both 5 above; E. Cobb, 88; C. Thom, 87; R. Cobb, 89, all 6 above; Alex. Cook, 99, 7 above; J. C. Pairman, 95; D. Valentine, 113, both 8 above.

In accordance with what has now become an established annual custom, the caddies employed on Monifieth Links on New Year's Day presented Bob Dow, the veteran professional and respected keeper of the Royal Albert Club-house, with a large cake of shortbread. Hospitable recognition was made of the gift, the caddies being entertained in the afternoon to tea in the club-house.

The Broughty Ferry Golf Club held a New Year's Day competition at Monifieth, which was taken part in by eighteen members. All the players got prizes, some of which were of a very substantial character. They were the contributions of members, and were played for under handicap. Mr. James Nicoll carried off the leading prize in the first class. Mr. W. Young, with the excellent scratch score of 81, secured a large New Year's cake; while Mr. George Wright, with 85, won a volume of poems. The leading prize in the second class—a gentleman's gold ring—was gained by Mr. James Bowman, with the capital score of 94, being ten under his registered number. The second prize, a flask, was gained by Mr. D. G. Glennie. Appended is the prize list:—First class: First prize and first sweepstake, James Nicoll, 92, 4 below; second prize and second sweepstake, William Young, 81, 1 above; third and fourth prize and third sweepstake (tie), Daniel Drimmie, 99, and Irvine Drimmie, 101, both 2 above; fifth prize, D.

Smyton, 97, 3 above; sixth and seventh prizes (tie), George Wright, 85, and J. H. Dunlop, 99, both 4 above; eighth prize, John Kidd, 8 above; ninth prize, A. Bowman, 9 above; tenth prize, D. Bisset, 12 above; eleventh prize, F. A. Begg, 14 above. Second class: First prize and first sweepstake, J. Bowman, 94, 10 below; second prize and second sweepstake, D. G. Glennie, 7 below; third prize, W. K. Lorimer, 1 below; fourth prize, William Smith, 3 above; fifth prize, A. Walker, 4 above; sixth prize, R. B. Cowan, 5 above; seventh prize, Andrew Millar, 8 above. Special prizes for most fives (tie), W. Young, George Wright, and James Bowman, with eight fives each.

CLEVELAND CLUB.

The club challenge cup was played for on Coatham Links last Friday and Saturday, but a thick fog and the bad state of the ground, spoiled what would otherwise have been a good competition. Mr. C. E. Scott was returned the winner with a net score of 98. No player has succeeded in winning the cup twice during the season, and the medal will therefore have to be played for by the twelve winners of the series of contests. Scores:—

	Gross.	Hcp.	Net.		Gross.	Hcp.	Net.
Mr. C. E. Scott ...	113	15	98	Mr. C. Mackenzie	112	5	107
Mr. E. H. Welbey	104	5	99	Mr. P. Raine ...	131	22	109
Mr. J. Scott ...	111	12	99	Mr. J. Kyle ...	132	20	112
Mr. H. Roberts ...	104	scr.	104	Mr. D. McKay ...	116	3	113
Mr. G. Kay ...	126	21	105	Mr. W. Young ...	125	10	115
Mr. H. Scott ...	133	27	106	Mr. J. Rodham ...	130	10	120

DORNOCH.

The New Year was ushered in here with lovely weather, and the usual New Year's Day competition was conducted under the most favourable conditions. The greens were in excellent order considering the season of the year, and there was a capital attendance of members. Teams were drawn by Mr. Sutherland, secretary, and Mr. Bridgeford, the former's side winning by three strokes only. In the sweepstakes the winners were:—J. Sutherland (scratch), 89; J. Campbell (scratch), 91; Alexander Morrison, 99 (less 8), 91; Alexander Angus, 102 (less 9), 93; Hugh Munro, 102 (less 9), 93; and G. Bridgeford, 100 (less 6), 94.

EAST LOTHIAN CLUB.

The first quarterly meeting of this club for 1891 was held at Gullane on Saturday last, Jan. 3rd, when there was a fair muster of members. The best scratch scores returned were:—Wm. Whylock, 85; St. Clair Cunningham, 86; Andrew Usher, 88. For the club handicap prize—a silver lamp, Messrs. Whylock and Usher tied, but the latter gentleman generously waived his claim in favour of Mr. Whylock, who has taken a farm in Suffolk, and retires from the ordinary membership of the club. The East Lothian, formerly known as the Farmers' Club, is the oldest club having a habitat at Gullane, and many of the best golfers of the district have been and are numbered among its members. Not the least distinguished of these is the last prize-winner, Mr. Whylock having for some years been in the front rank of district players, and popular with all who knew him. At the club-dinner, which is always a feature of the meetings of the club, Mr. Cunningham, the President, in the name of the members wished Mr. Whylock success in England, and it was unanimously agreed to make him an honorary member of the club.

GLASGOW CLUB.

The competition for the monthly medals took place over Alexandra Park on Saturday. The weather was fine, but the ground was somewhat heavy from recent rains. The only noticeable score in point of merit was that of Mr. David Bone who, going round in 75, less 39=36, won the club medal. Under-noted are the results:—

CLUB MEDAL.—D. Bone, 75, scr.=75; J. Thomson, 80, less 2=78; F. G. Tulloch, 82, scr.=82.

WILSON MEDAL.—A. Raeside, 89, less 11=78; W. E. Bond, 85, less 5=80.

SCOTT MEDAL.—D. S. Sinclair, 90, less 13=77; Alex. McDonald, 96, less 16=80.

NORTH BERWICK.

On New Year's Day the links at North Berwick presented a very animated appearance, affording a marked contrast to the quiet prevailing at Christmas, when railway communication between Drem and North Berwick was interrupted. There were, however, few matches of more than ordinary interest. On Tuesday afternoon of last week, Ben Sayers and Davie Grant engaged in a friendly single. Each was in fine form, and an interesting game ensued. Sayers completed the round in 73, and succeeded in beating his opponent at the gate by three up and two to play. Grant also played a splendid game, especially in the out half. On Wednesday afternoon, Mr. George Dalziel and Sayers engaged in a foursome Mr. George Wylie and Mr. Hadow. The couples were very equally matched, and as a consequence the play throughout the game of eighteen holes proved exceedingly close. At Pointgarry, in disc, the match stood all even and one to play, Mr. Dalziel and the professional just winning at the home hole. In the beginning of the week, Mr. Hadow and Mr. Wylie had several rounds of the green in company. On Saturday last the course was somewhat busily occupied. The competition for the monthly trophy of the Bass Rock Club was postponed for a week; but during the day a good number of visitors and residents enjoyed a round of the green.

INNERLEVEN GOLF CLUB.

The annual New Year's meeting of this club took place on Thursday, the 1st inst., under handicap. Though snow still lay on Largo Law in mass, and there was curling on several neighbouring waters, eight couples turned out. Bating the fact that the putting-greens were somewhat treacherous, the conditions were not bad for the season; still some of the scores were unduly high. The players were:—J. H. Smith and Alex. Wallace, W.S.; Dr. D. Wallace and R. W. B. Creeke; Dr. A. F. Crole and W. Henderson; W. Hearsay Salmon and Robert Russell; J. G. Ballingall and A. Inglis; W. H. Dalrymple and John Adamson; James Anderson and J. Macgibbon; T. C. Balfour and A. Dewar.

The winners tied thus:—Dr. Crole, 97, less 4=93; James Anderson, 105, less 12=93; R. Russell, 97, less 4=93.

CUMBRAE CLUB.

The half-yearly competition for the silver medal presented by Mr. Alexander Smart took place over the links at Millport, on Saturday, the conditions as to the weather and the ground being on the whole favourable. There was a large turn-out of competitors, and the medal was won by Mr. H. A. Davidson. The following are the best scores:—H. A. Davidson, 99, less 18=81; T. C. MacFarlane, 106, less 12=94; J. C. Sharpe, 112, less 18=94; Wm. MacFarlane, 104, less 5=99.

MORAY CLUB.

A competition for ten prizes, presented by members of the club, was held on Thursday, the 1st inst., on the Lossiemouth course. The following were the winners:—C. D. Wilson, 92, less 9=83; W. J. B. Macdonald, 90, scratch; Mr. James M'Isaac, 94, less 4=90; J. M. M'Leod, H.M.I.S., 96, less 6=90; Mr. Smith, rector, 106, less 15=91; F. Davie, 91, scratch; J. Christie, 94, less 3=91; J. Munro, 101, less 6=95; F. J. Adams, 105, less 6=99.

FRASERBURGH.

The monthly competition for the handicap gold medal came off on Saturday, and attracted a large turnout of competitors. The trophy was secured by Mr. William Noble, with a total of 77, less 3=74. The next half-dozen competitors obtaining points were Messrs. P. Davidson, 90, less 12=78; G. M. Joss, 80; James Milne, 83, less 3=80; P. Noble, 85, less 5=80; P. Mutch, 83, less 3=80; and M. Ritchie, 81.

CARLTON GOLF CLUB—EDINBURGH.

This club held its annual competition at Musselburgh on New Year's Day, when there was a large turn-out of members. On the cards being handed in, it was found that William B. Taylor had won the scratch gold medal and silver challenge cup with the score of 88, and Dr. Haultain the handicap gold medal with the score of 91, less 3=88.



ABERDEEN.

The weather here took a turn for the better last week, and on New Year's Day was all that the most fastidious golfer could desire. Consequently there was quite a large turn-out of members of the Aberdeen Club over the Balgownie Course on that day, though only 11 couples started in the match between the married and single members of the club, the majority of the members preferring to engage in single and foursome matches amongst themselves. The fixture was rather hurriedly arranged after a match with a club from the south had fallen through for the present, and, to make the various couples something like equal, was played under the hole handicap at present existing. The match turned out a very interesting one, and ended, as was generally anticipated, in a win for the married men, some of whom, notably Mr. Wilkie, played an almost perfect hole game. But for his extraordinary performance the game would have been a very close one indeed. The following are the detailed scores:—

MARRIED.		SINGLE.	
	Holes.		Holes.
Dr. Joseph Ogilvie ...	4	Mr. G. A. Simpson ...	0
Mr. W. R. Reid ...	0	Mr. R. A. Nicholson ...	4
Mr. A. J. W. Storie ...	2	Mr. Andrew Macpherson ...	0
Dr. Macdonald ...	6	Mr. A. T. Glegg ...	0
Mr. C. C. Macdonald ...	2	Mr. F. Laing ...	0
Professor W. M. Ramsay ...	0	Mr. G. J. Murray ...	5
Mr. J. A. M'Clymont ...	0	Mr. Thomas Todd ...	1
Mr. G. G. Wilkie ...	16	Mr. A. J. R. Thain ...	0
Mr. R. D. Leslie ...	1	Mr. W. C. H. Jopp ...	0
Mr. J. S. Watt ...	0	Mr. H. F. Campbell ...	0
Mr. W. T. Kilgour ...	0	General Rutherford ...	5
Total ...	31	Total ...	15

Majority for married members, 16 holes.

The usual monthly competition for the scratch medal and Colonel Burgmann's Cup took place on Saturday last over the Balgownie course, when there was again a large turn out of competitors, though very few returned cards. The weather was again exceedingly favourable, and the result of the competition showed that Mr. Fred M'Crae, with the excellent score of 84, had carried off both prizes. The following are a few of the best scores handed in:

Gross. Hcp. Net.		Gross. Hcp. Net.	
Mr. Fred M'Crae ...	84 scr. 84	Mr. R. D. Leslie ...	96 6 90
Mr. H. F. Campbell ...	98 12 86	Mr. James Moir ...	96 3 93
Mr. C. F. Hayne ...	93 6 87	Mr. C. C. Macdonald ...	94 scr. 94
Mr. W. F. Orr ...	88 scr. 88	Mr. Hamilton-Grierson ...	113 15 98

On the same day the members of the Bon-Accord Club held their monthly competition for the scratch and handicap medals over the course on Aberdeen Links. There was a good turn-out of competitors, and on the cards handed in being compared it was found that Mr. James Florence, with a score of 90 (7 off), 83, had won both medals. The following players were next in order—A. Smart, 94; and George Flett and R. Milne, 99.

RANFURLY CASTLE CLUB.

The usual monthly meeting of the Ranfurly Castle Club took place over the ground at Bridge of Weir on Saturday, when the monthly handicap medal was played for by sixteen couples. Lying as it does at a considerable height above the sea level, the links were still affected by the frost, and the putting, in consequence, somewhat uncertain. A comparison of the cards showed that Mr. A. McPherson, farmer, had won the trophy. The principal scores are subjoined:—

Gross. Hcp. Net.		Gross. Hcp. Net.	
Mr. A. McPherson ...	107 30 77	Mr. W. B. Baxter ...	119 30 89
Mr. A. C. Weir ...	112 27 85	Mr. W. Brown ...	122 30 92
Mr. E. A. Walker ...	96 10 86	Mr. R. P. Lyle ...	102 10 92
Mr. T. Frame ...	99 12 87	Mr. W. Gillies ...	100 5 95
Mr. R. Brownlie, jun. ...	111 22 89	Mr. A. Stewart ...	98 3 95

EDINBURGH THISTLE CLUB.

This club met at the Braid Hills on Saturday to play a sweep-stake and special prize competition, which resulted as follows:—W. Rankine, 94, less 26=68; D. Scott, 89, less 18=71; J. Bell, 77, less 5=72; R. S. Thomson, 80, less 8=72 (tie); D. Grant, 83, less 7=76. Twenty players took part in the competition.

ST. ANDREWS.

Since Christmas there has been a good deal of golfing on St. Andrews Links, the weather having been eminently suitable for the purpose, and considering the season the green has been in splendid order. The railway strike had evidently kept a number of the steady frequenters of the green at home, but there were some adventurous spirits who had come to enjoy their holidays on the links, and, altogether, things in the golfing world here have been cheerfully busy.

The members of the Royal and Ancient have taken a great amount of interest in the railway dispute, and to show their sense of approval of the conduct of the men who have been "loyal to the Company," they are subscribing for a testimonial to the St. Andrews railway employes. Quite the most notable event during the bygone week was the feat by Mr. R. A. Hull, of holeing the short hole outward in one stroke. It was blowing a north-easterly gale, that is to say, dead ahead, and Mr. Hull playing his long spoon did the needful in beautiful style. The usual penalty on such rare occasions is for the player to present his caddie with a bottle of whisky (Stewart's Golfing Blend!). And it is to be presumed that Mr. Hull would not be allowed to escape. By-the-bye, does Mr. Macpherson or any of your correspondents know on what previous occasions the short hole was taken in a single stroke.

On the last day of the year the members of the Royal and Ancient held their usual monthly handicap competition. There was a good representative field. The following was the result:—

Gross. Hcp. Net.		Gross. Hcp. Net.	
Dr. Argyle Robertson ...	94 4 90	R. A. Hull ...	99 4 95
H. F. Macfie ...	92 +1 93	—Blackwell ...	99 2 97
H. A. Bethune ...	98 5 93	G. Jackson ...	106 8 98
H. S. C. Everard ...	94 scr. 94	R. Gilroy ...	102 4 98

The same day the East-End Club held their New Year's competition, when the Trotter medal and prizes presented by Capt. G. Jackson were played for. The members of the East-End Club have not many opportunities of playing Golf, and the scores, though they appear somewhat tall, were very creditable to the men. The result was as follows:—T. B. MacLaren (winner of medal), 102; T. B. Black 103; T. G. Black, 109; W. Gordon, 111; A. Gordon, 112; A. Greig, 112; James Gourlay, 112; W. Cross, 113; W. Brown, 120; W. Duncan, 129.

*Apropos* of the correspondence on "Length of Drives," "Sceptic" has surely been misinformed as to the length of Mr. A. Molesworth's drive at St. Andrews in 1877. It is really an extraordinary drive to get from the tee at the third hole to the bunker beyond the "table," and there yet remains a greater shot to reach the ginger-beer hole. Mr. Molesworth was certainly a wonderfully fine player at the time he engaged Tommy Morris—and was defeated; but it will require strong testimony to substantiate the statement that he drove the fourth hole in one.

EAST OF FIFE CLUB.

The ninth competition for the monthly silver medal of this club was held on Saturday afternoon. Weather and condition of ground favourable. Few competitors, and resulting in R. Williamson, Pittenweem, securing the same with a score of 82, less 10=72.

REDHILL AND REIGATE GOLF CLUB.

The snow prevented any competition being held for the Allen medal on Saturday last, and it has therefore been postponed until the 10th inst. This medal can only be won when there are eight competitors.

We learn that the club will hold a dinner at the Hotel Métropole under the presidency of Sir Trevor Lawrence, M.P., on Friday, the 23rd inst. A large muster of members and their friends is anticipated.

ROYAL LIVERPOOL GOLF CLUB.

The third competition of the Royal Liverpool Golf Club for winter optional subscription prizes, which was postponed from the previous Saturday on account of snow, took place on Satur-

day at Hoylake, and the weather was fine, but the play was difficult and fluky in consequence of the large amount of water and snow on the links. There was a small attendance, only twenty-one couples competing. Upon the cards being examined, it was found that Mr. Charles Holt had put in a win for the first optional subscription prize with his score of 96, less 15=81. A win for the second optional subscription prize was recorded in favour of Mr. H. S. Bowen with his score of 109, less 22=87. Mr. George Hamilton won the first sweepstake, the second and third being divided between Mr. J. Kirke Crooks, Mr. A. B. Cook, Mr. "John Sopper," and Mr. J. H. Wild. The following are the scores:—

Gross Hcp. Net.		Gross Hcp. Net.	
Mr. Charles Holt ...	96 15 81	Mr. C. H. M. Duranty	118 26 92
Mr. E. J. Hamilton	90 7 83	Mr. John Ball, jun.	86 +7 93
Mr. G. R. Wilson ...	105 20 85	Mr. A. G. Steel ...	106 13 93
Mr. J. K. Crooks ...	101 15 86	Mr. C. T. Dixon ...	112 18 94
Mr. A. B. Cook ...	89 3 86	Mr. W. H. Wilson	108 14 94
Mr. "John Sopper"	85 +1 86	Mr. George Bird ...	110 15 95
Mr. J. H. Wild ...	100 14 86	Mr. R. J. Ker ...	102 7 95
Mr. H. S. Bowen ...	109 22 87	Mr. George Wild ...	117 20 97
Mr. R. W. Brown...	91 4 87	Mr. F. Hermon ...	102 5 97
Mr. George A. Gilroy	92 5 87	Mr. P. Brown ...	125 26 99
Mr. T. L. Ferguson	101 13 88	Mr. Arthur Turpin	101 2 99
Mr. T. R. Bulley ...	101 12 89	Mr. Peter Williams	128 22 106
Mr. J. Farrar ...	101 11 90	Mr. A. C. Jones ...	124 18 106
Mr. A. H. Crossfield	104 12 92	Mr. St. Clare Byrne	132 25 107

KINGHORN.

The unusually fine weather on Thursday, the 1st inst, attracted a large number of golfers from Edinburgh, Kirkcaldy, and elsewhere, and all day the course was crowded. An interesting competition for small prizes took place among the members of Kinghorn Golf Club and Kinghorn Thistle. The following were the prize winners:—Mr. Thomas Storrar, scratch, 79; Mr. Henry Maiden, 91, less 12=79, tie for first and second prize; Mr. Williamson, Edinburgh, 99, less 18=81. Other good scores were—Mr. G. B. Key, Kirkcaldy, 94, less 12=82; Mr. William Hay, 82.

TENBY GOLF CLUB.

The regular fortnightly handicap of the above club was played on Wednesday, Dec. 24th, with the result that Col. M. Lloyd and Mr. G. Prust tied with a net score of 114. This tie was played off on Dec. 27th, when Mr. Prust won with a net score of 117:—

Gross. Hcp. Net.		Gross. Hcp. Net.	
Col. M. Lloyd ...	119 5 114	Mr. T. A. Rees ...	128 scr. 128
Mr. G. Prust ...	129 15 114	Mr. H. J. Allen ...	170 36 134
Mr. G. H. Logan ...	123 5 118	Mr. L. R. Wood ...	160 23 137
Col. Voyle ...	126 8 118	Mr. R. J. Statham	175 36 139
Mr. St. G. Caulfield	121 scr. 121	Mr. F. E. Remfry	178 36 142
Mr. R. T. Dixon ...	129 5 124	Mr. O. W. Span ...	166 23 143
Mr. A. P. Hart ...	129 5 124	Capt. Costley ...	187 15 172
Col. W. Lewes ...	144 18 126		

Mr. A. T. Lewis, Col. Malcolm, Mr. H. T. Smyth, and Mr. G. Smyth retired.

Tie between Col. Lloyd and Mr. G. Prust:—

Gross. Hcp. Net.		Gross. Hcp. Net.	
Mr. G. Prust ...	132 15 117	Col. M. Lloyd ...	129 5 124

BRIGHTON AND HOVE GOLF CLUB.

A competition was held on New Year's Day for prizes kindly presented by Capt. W. Sandeman and Mr. H. R. Knipe. The weather was perfect, the day being mild and genial, which was very enjoyable after the recent severe weather, but the rapid thaw made the links rather greasy, and pools of water lay on some of the greens. Mr. W. O. Baily put in a very fine round of 88 gross, and carried off Capt. Sandeman's prize very easily. It should be mentioned that some of the teeing grounds were put further forward, which made the course a little shorter than usual. Mr. T. S. D. Selby and Mr. W. Renshaw tied for Mr. Knipe's prize with 86 net. The tie

was played off in the afternoon, when Mr. W. Renshaw proved successful, doing the nine holes in 49.

Gross. Hcp. Net.		Gross. Hcp. Net.	
Mr. W. O. Baily ...	88 7 81	Mr. T. G. Horne ...	112 18 94
Mr. T. S. D. Selby	102 16 86	Capt. W. Sandeman	112 16 96
Mr. W. Renshaw ...	104 18 86	Mr. J. F. Chance...	113 16 97
Mr. H. W. Street...	105 16 89	Major Marriott ...	118 19 99
Mr. H. E. Acklom	100 9 91	Lieut.-Col. Galwey,	
Mr. A. Pollock ...	100 8 92	R.E. ...	115 15 100
Mr. F. H. Campion	117 24 93	Mr. E. W. Parker...	130 30 100
Mr. W. Carr ...	102 8 94		

Eleven players were over 100, or made no return.

The first competition of the New Year for the Berens medal was held on Saturday, January 3rd, and resulted in a tie between Mr. J. Brock and Mr. H. E. Acklom, which has still to be played off. The following is the score:—

Gross. Hcp. Net.		Gross. Hcp. Net.	
Mr. J. Brock ...	96 9 87	Mr. C. O. Walker...	104 14 90
Mr. H. E. Acklom	96 9 87	Mr. T. S. D. Selby	106 16 90
Mr. F. G. Horne ...	106 18 88	Mr. H. W. Street...	106 16 90
Mr. J. F. Chance ...	105 16 89	Mr. P. A. Willett...	106 14 92

Twelve players made no return.

SEATON CAREW GOLF CLUB.

In rather a small field of players Mr. C. J. Bunting was successful in carrying off the ninth competition for the Wilson gold shield as his first success in the golfing world, having played a capital game, taking 89 for the first round and 50 for the seven holes going out. Both the weather and the state of the course naturally produced indifferent scores, and the sand which the easterly gale had blown on to the course made the playing difficult and uncertain. Scores:—

	First Seven holes		Total.	Hcp.	Net.
	round.	going out.			
Mr. C. J. Bunting ...	89	50	139	27	112
*Mr. W. Parves...	81	45	126	8	118
*Mr. C. B. Williamson	84	46	130	12	118
Mr. G. E. Casebourne	100	49	149	30	119
Mr. C. Cooper...	87	44	131	11	120
Mr. O. K. Trechmann	95	42	137	17	120
Mr. G. Newby ...	87	41	128	8	120
Mr. E. W. Walker ...	102	49	151	30	121

\* Tied for second.

Messrs. A. B. Crosby, A. F. Trechmann, A. Livingston, and C. H. Backhouse made no return.

BOWDON GOLF CLUB.

Notwithstanding the fact that the course was in an almost impossible state for play, owing to a combination of surface thaw and frozen snow, the members of the above club played off three scratch handicaps on December 26th and 27th last. Under the circumstances, Mr. F. C. Morgan's scratch score of 111 in the first round was excellent.

The following are the scores:—

Gross. Hcp. Net.		Gross. Hcp. Net.	
Mr. F. C. Morgan ...	111 scr. 111	Mr. W. S. Mainprise	172 14 158
Mr. S. W. Gillett ...	138 8 130	Mr. T. W. Killick	178 18 160
Mr. H. F. Ransome	147 8 139	Mr. E. F. Alford ...	173 12 161
Mr. Douglas Carlisle	148 8 140	Mr. H. Staffurth ...	189 18 171
Rev. W. M. B. Lutener	163 12 151	Mr. W. M. Neild ...	212 12 200
Mr. F. V. Williams	170 12 158		

SECOND HANDICAP.

Gross. Hcp. Net.		Gross. Hcp. Net.	
Mr. H. F. Ransome	135 scr. 135	Mr. F. V. Williams	164 16 148
Mr. Douglas Carlisle	139 3 136	Mr. W. M. Neild ...	186 25 161
Mr. H. Staffurth ...	171 30 141	Mr. T. W. Killick ...	184 20 164
Mr. S. W. Gillett ...	145 scr. 145	Mr. F. Platt-Higgins	266 35 231

THIRD HANDICAP.

Gross. Hcp. Net.		Gross. Hcp. Net.	
Mr. S. W. Gillett ...	135 scr. 135	Mr. F. C. Morgan	127 +20 147
Mr. H. Staffurth ...	173 36 137	Mr. Douglas Carlisle	152 scr. 152
Mr. T. D. Cummins	132 +9 141	Mr. H. F. Ransome	149 +4 153
Mr. W. Neild ...	178 36 142	Mr. T. W. Killick ...	188 30 158
Mr. F. V. Williams	162 20 142	Mr. F. C. Uogg ...	220 33 187

## ROYAL EASTBOURNE GOLF CLUB.

The Christmas meeting of this club began on Saturday, the 27th ult., with the usual monthly medal, which was won by Col. E. W. Shaw with the capital net score of 83. Mr. Horace Hutchinson was round in 87, a wonderful score considering the state of the ground. In the afternoon the annual general meeting was held at the Queen's Hotel, when the statement in the report that "financially and otherwise, the condition of the club is in all respects satisfactory," was shown to be correct. The only question of interest arising was a proposal to enlarge the course into one of eighteen holes, which would confer an immense boon on the ever-increasing number of members, should the proposal prove to be feasible. Eventually a committee was formed to report on the possibility of carrying out the scheme. Lord Vernon was elected captain in the place of Mr. Mayhew for the ensuing year; Mr. Holcombe Ingleby retains the hon. secretaryship; while Mr. A. M. Wilkinson takes the post of hon. treasurer in lieu of Col. Shaw, resigned.

On Monday, the 29th ult., in spite of a bitter north wind, forty-eight players turned out to compete for the Ingleby prize the £5 cup, and £3 prize presented by the club. Mr. G. H. Lawrence won the two former with a net score of 85, his first success after some years of ill-fortune. The hon. secretary of the Brighton and Hove Golf Club carried off the second prize.

On Tuesday, the 30th ult., the wind was still keener, and the ground, if possible, harder than on the previous day, and, in the circumstances, Capt. Best's score of 95, less 10=85 was a fine performance. This, again, was the first win on this green of one of our oldest and steadiest players, and it carried with it not only the best prize of the day, viz., the £5 cup presented by the club and a win for the Bruce prize, but also the aggregate prize, a solid silver putter, presented by Mr. Lambert for the best aggregate net score of the meeting. Mr. Shepherd won the second prize.

Appended are the full scores of the two days' play:—

Monday, December 29th:—

Gross. Hcp. Net.			Gross. Hcp. Net.				
Mr. G. H. Lawrence	106	21	85	Col. E. W. Shaw	105	12	93
Mr. H. E. Acklom	99	11	88	Mr. R. V. Marsfield	110	17	93
Dr. H. S. Gabbett	111	22	89	Mr. E. Devas	115	22	93
Mr. F. W. Fison	119	30	89	Capt. H. Best, R.N.	104	10	94
Rev. H. Von E. Scott	97	7	90	Col. J. F. Pierson	116	22	94
Mr. T. E. Blundell	112	22	90	Mr. F. W. Goldsmith	120	24	96
Mr. T. H. N. Beresford	113	22	91	Mr. E. A. Shepherd	113	16	97
Mr. H. Ingleby	104	12	92	Mr. J. M. Bruce	115	16	99
Mr. T. W. Mott	112	20	92	Mr. G. Rivett-Carnac	115	15	100
Mr. H. Hutchinson	89	+4	93	Mr. C. Lethbridge	121	21	100

Twenty-eight players made no returns, or were over 100.

Tuesday, December 30th:—

Gross. Hcp. Net.			Gross. Hcp. Net.				
Capt. H. Best, R.N.	95	10	85	Mr. E. F. S. Tyle-	104	9	95
Mr. E. A. Shepherd	103	16	87	cote	104	9	95
Col. E. W. Shaw	100	12	88	Mr. F. W. Goldsmith	119	24	95
Dr. H. S. Gabbett	112	22	90	Mr. T. E. Blundell	119	22	97
Mr. J. M. Bruce	107	16	91	Mr. R. M. Tabor	113	15	98
Mr. S. M. Mellor	110	19	91	Mr. H. E. Acklom	108	9	99
Mr. T. W. Mott	111	20	91	Capt. T. S. Gordon	109	10	99
Capt. C. Lyon	98	6	92	Mr. E. O. Powell	109	10	99
Rev. H. Von E. Scott	99	7	92	Mr. C. Lethbridge	121	21	100
Mr. G. P. Leach	109	16	93				

Twenty-four players made no returns, or were over 100.

## COUNTY (ANTRIM) GOLF CLUB.

## NEW YEAR'S MEETING.

Links, Portrush.—This annual fixture came off on January 1st and 2nd in beautiful weather. While the newspapers were teeming with reports of severe frosts and snow-storms Portrush was enjoying a spring-like atmosphere, for in this favoured spot frost is a rare phenomenon and snow-storms almost unknown. Several new holes had been opened out since the autumn meeting, and though a great deal of labour had been expended on them they were necessarily severe on all ranks of players. So fine, however, are their natural capabilities that they will soon come to be considered the best of the eighteen. They add

about half-a-mile to the course, and raise the "par" of the green by about eight or ten strokes. The first day's match was in heats and by holes under handicap, for which there were thirty-one entries, and resulted in the discovery of a phenomenon in the person of Mr. J. H. Pigot, of the Dublin Golf Club—a golfer of recent standing, but who bids fair to become a scratch player before another New Year's meeting comes round. Below are the several heats, each heat consisting of nine holes, and the figures attached indicating the number of strokes given from scratch:—

FIRST HEAT.—Mr. R. Young, 8, beat Mr. H. A. Macaulay, 8; Mr. F. Köeller, 9, beat Mr. J. S. Newman, 7; Mr. F. Cuming, 6, bye; Mr. G. Combe, 3, beat Mr. Hugh C. Kelly, 6; Major Ormsby, 7, beat Prof. Macmaster, 10; Col. Beresford Knox, 11, bye; Mr. S. Wilson, 8, bye; Mr. J. Patrick, 9, bye; Dr. Wylie, 9, beat Mr. E. H. Clarke, 6; Mr. C. Topping, 6, bye; Mr. J. Young, 10, bye; Mr. J. H. Pigot, 7, beat Mr. C. J. Webb, 10; Mr. D. Christie, 6, beat Dr. A. R. Law, 4; Mr. T. Gilroy, scratch, beat Capt. Molesworth, 3; Dr. A. Traill, 8, bye; Mr. J. S. Alexander, 5, beat Mr. R. R. Gilroy, 6.

SECOND HEAT.—Mr. R. Young beat Mr. F. Köeller; Mr. G. Combe beat Mr. F. Cuming; Col. Beresford Knox beat Major Ormsby; Mr. J. Patrick beat Mr. S. Wilson; Dr. Wylie beat Mr. C. Topping; Mr. J. H. Pigot beat Mr. J. Young; Mr. T. Gilroy beat Mr. D. Christie; Mr. J. S. Alexander beat Dr. A. Traill.

THIRD HEAT.—Mr. R. Young beat Mr. G. Combe; Mr. J. Patrick beat Col. Beresford Knox; Mr. J. H. Pigot beat Dr. Wylie; Mr. T. Gilroy beat Mr. J. S. Alexander.

SEMI-FINAL.—Mr. R. Young beat Mr. J. Patrick; Mr. J. H. Pigot beat Mr. T. Gilroy.

FINAL.—Mr. J. H. Pigot beat Mr. R. Young.

The second day's match was by strokes under handicap, and was looked forward to with interest as being the first practical test of the difficulties of the newly-arranged course. Mr. Pigot again headed the list on the net score, the best gross score being 87 by Mr. T. Gilroy, who was however perhaps six or seven strokes from his best form. By the conditions of the match the first prize fell to Mr. F. Cuming and the second to Capt. Molesworth. Thirty-six players competed, and the best twenty-six returns being as follows:—

Gross. Hcp. Net.			Gross. Hcp. Net.				
Mr. J. H. Pigot	95	20	75	Mr. J. S. Alexander	113	18	95
Mr. F. Cuming	97	18	79	Dr. C. S. Magill	113	18	95
Capt. Molesworth	96	10	86	Dr. A. R. Law	111	15	96
Mr. H. A. Macaulay	111	24	87	Mr. D. D. Christie	114	18	96
Mr. T. Gilroy	87	+2	89	Mr. A. D. Gausson	114	18	96
Col. Beresford Knox	123	33	90	Dr. A. Traill	119	23	96
Mr. Jas. Young	121	20	91	Mr. R. R. Gilroy	115	18	97
Mr. J. S. Newman	113	22	91	Mr. W. H. Webb	116	18	98
Dr. Wylie	118	25	93	Mr. H. C. Kelly	124	26	98
Mr. R. A. Collingwood	118	24	94	Mr. H. Adair	117	18	99

## ROYAL BELFAST GOLF CLUB.

The opportunity afforded by the Christmas holidays was fully taken advantage of by the members of this club for a day or two's play, and although the weather was not all that could be desired, still it was very much more favourable for golfing purposes than the generality of the weather we have been experiencing lately. On Christmas Day several private four-somes and singles were engaged in at Holywood, and on Friday the 26th ultimo, a competition took place for a prize kindly presented by the Ladies Club. It was played for in foursomes by holes (nine) under handicap, those having 20 of odds and under being drawn as partners with players of higher handicaps. Twenty-five couples started. In the semi-final Messrs. C. Topping and F. M. Harris played against Messrs. S. C. Kelly and A. S. Mater, the latter being beaten by one up; and Messrs. C. H. Meares and A. Duffin met Messrs. G. M. Shaw and L. B. Barker, the former couple winning by three up and two to play. As it was getting dusk when the final came to be played it was agreed to decide it by 5 holes, Messrs. Topping and Harris getting three strokes, and they were ultimately beaten by Messrs. Meares and Duffin by two up.



The course and putting-greens were in good order, and, in spite of the strong easterly breeze that was blowing, some good play was shown. There must have been over sixty players on the links during the day.

On Saturday, 27th ultimo, a considerable number of the members journeyed to Newcastle (County Down) where a good day's play was enjoyed, although the wind off the sea was blowing right across the links, which are very much exposed. It was piercingly cold.

A match by holes was arranged in the forenoon, "Royal Belfast" v. "County Down," the majority of the players being members of both clubs. The County Club ultimately won by ten holes, the results of the matches, all being level, being as follows:—

ROYAL BELFAST.		Holes.	COUNTY DOWN		Holes.
Mr. G. M. Shaw	...	2	Mr. G. Combe	...	0
Mr. G. S. Clark	...	0	Mr. W. H. Smiles	...	0
Mr. P. Howell	...	0	Mr. H. Herdman	...	14
Mr. A. N. Charley.	...	2	Mr. H. Agnew	...	0
Mr. A. Combe	...	0	Mr. W. L. Wheeler	...	2
Mr. H. M. Charley, jun.	...	4	Mr. S. Wilson, jun.	...	0
Mr. W. Wilson	...	0	Mr. T. Ferguson	...	9
Mr. A. S. Matier	...	0	Mr. R. B. Walkington	...	3
Mr. A. Duffin	...	0	Mr. J. Bell	...	1
Mr. J. MacCormac	...	0	Mr. R. H. Wallace	...	0
Mr. C. McFerran	...	0	Mr. W. Gregg	...	0
Mr. J. L. McFerran	...	1	Mr. R. Clarke	...	0
Mr. J. M. Weir	...	0	Mr. Jas. Pinion	...	2
Mr. J. Topping	...	12	Mr. H. Campbell	...	0
Total	...	21	Total	...	31

The usual competition for the Belfast Club's handicap medal also took place on Saturday at Holywood, the winner being Mr. Jas. Woodside with a score of 101, less 20=81. The other returns under 100 net, were as follows:—

Gross. Hcp. Net.		Gross. Hcp. Net.	
Mr. F. G. Cuming	... 102 20 82	Mr. C. Topping	... 114 20 94
Mr. S. Wilson, sen.	... 112 20 92	Mr. H. Davis	... 120 25 95
Mr. D. C. Kemp	... 112 18 94	Mr. Jas. Hyndman	119 20 99

The lower handicapped members, several of whom were competing, do not seem to have been playing up to their usual form.

ROYAL JERSEY GOLF CLUB.

A prize, presented by Major-Gen. Renton, and a sweepstake handicap, limited to eighteen, were played for on Saturday, Dec. 27th, with the following result:—

Gross. Hcp. Net.		Gross. Hcp. Net.	
*Mr. J. M. Robin	... 101 18 83	Mr. A. C. Salmonson	111 18 93
†Mr. G. Robertson	99 15 84	Capt. Fairlie	... 103 9 94
†Lt.-Col. Stevenson	106 18 88	Gen. Renton	... 105 11 94
Mr. C. A. Teape	... 92 3 89	Mr. T. Latimer	... 112 18 94
Col. M'Kenzie	... 96 5 91	Dr. Hodder	... 110 15 95
Capt. Robin	... 96 4 92	Mr. D. Turnbull	... 111 16 95
Mr. T. C. Robin	... 101 8 93	Mr. G. D. M'Kenzie	113 18 95
Mr. W. Griffith	... 108 15 93	Lieut.-Col. Mayne	107 10 97
Lieut.-Col. Robin	... 111 18 93	Mr. A. L. Scott	... 117 18 99

\* Winner of prize. † Divided sweepstake.

No returns from six other members.

ALDEBURGH GOLF CLUB.

On account of the unfavourable weather there were very few competitors for the monthly silver medal, which was won by the youngest member of the club—namely, Mr. C. G. Salmon, with the net score of 94:—

Gross. Hcp. Net.		Gross. Hcp. Net.	
Mr. C. G. Salmon	... 106 12 94	Mr. Edmund Garrett	135 27 111
Mr. J. B. Pettit	... 104 scr. 104	Mr. Hugh Garrett	... 140 27 113
Mr. C. Salmon	... 120 9 111	Mr. F. A. D. Bright	140 27 113

Curling.

DARLINGTON.

The attendance of players and spectators at the Darlington Pond on Thursday, the 1st inst., was very large, and much interest was taken in the play. The slight frost on the previous night had made the ice in good condition, and a well-contested game took place. The following are the scores:—No. 1 rink: Messrs. R. Graham (skip), T. E. Miln, S. Harrow and J. Veitch, 24; Messrs. G. Struthers (skip), W. Swan, J. McIntyre and T. Hamilton, 14. Rink No. 2: Messrs. R. S. Benson (skip), Dr. Laurence, J. Graham, jun., J. Logan, 27; Messrs. A. Cudworth (skip), W. E. Brown, J. Kennaugh, and James Graham, 12.

TYNESIDE.

The Tyneside Curling Club held the Maxwell Cup and Blandford Medals competition on the 2nd inst. on Fenham Lake, Newcastle. Both of the above named were won by J. Ayton. J. Ayton scored 30 points to A. Beattie's 11; J. G. Scott, 28, against G. Archibald's 27; P. Chater's 25 to J. W. Parker's 24; H. Golder and T. B. McKinlay both 10, and J. A. Laidlow scored 13 to T. Senrie's 9.

NEWCASTLE.

The Newcastle Club held a series of competitions on the pond at Ryton on the 2nd inst., the ice being in splendid condition for play. Mr. James Telford beat Mr. J. Marshall by 16 to 14. Later on in the day a rink of non-smokers were defeated by a rink of smokers by 19 to 16. Mr. Hiddleston acted as skip for the winners, and Mr. Taylor in a similar capacity for the losers.

BLYTHSWOOD v. LOCHWINNOCH.

The annual competition for the district medal of the Royal Caledonian Curling Club came off at Castlesemple Loch, Lochwinnoch. Blythswood won by 51 to 31.

CALDERWATERHEAD.

The members of this club continued their competition for the silver-mounted curling stone handles. The contest is being conducted in an all-round tourney, and so far has resulted as follows:—Colonel Forrest, 23; W. Pettigrew, 22; Thomson Lambie, 24; W. Pettigrew, 19. The ice was in capital order.

CALDERWATERHEAD v. BONKLE (NEWMAINS.)

These clubs played a match with three rinks a side on the new curling pond at Shotts. After three and a-half hours the result was as follows:—Calderwaterhead, 59; Bonkle, 67.

GREENLAW.

The members of the club played two games on rather slushy ice. First game: Captain Nisbet, 17; J. Allan, 3. Second game: Captain Nisbet, 9; Mr. W. Lyal, 4.

KILMARNOCK.

The tournament under the auspices of the Crosshouse Curling Club has been concluded. The following are the winning skips:—1st prize, Mr. Mitchell, Auchinleck, £10; 2nd, Mr. David Aird, George Hotel, Kilmarnock, £5; 3rd, Mr. Currie, Plann, £2; 4th, Mr. Munn, Wheat Sheaf Hotel, Kilmarnock, £1.

ST. JOHN'S (PERTH.)

The members of this club played for medals by points. The ice was in good condition. The following were the winners:—Alexander Beveridge, 24; James Hutchison, 23; ex-Bailie Love, 19; William Elliot, 18; Thomas Forgan, 16; Robert Johnstone, 16; Alexander Robertson, 14; Peter McIntyre, 14; John Patterson, 13; David Morrison, 13; Robert Stewart, 13; William Bayne, 10; D. L. Gregor, 9.

KIRKNEWTON.

This club competed at points for a pair of curling-stones and handles presented by the patron, Mr. J. A. Maconochie-Welwood of Meadowbank. After a keen contest Mr. James Smart was declared winner with a score of 26 points: 2, K. C. Harwell, 19; 3, Alexander Marshall, 18. The rink medal was competed for as under:—First tie—Wm. Dick, 12, and Captain Wilkie, 8; R. Marshall, 15, and R. Morton, 3, Second tie—W. Dick, 16, and R. Marshall, 13.

The members met to play for a prize presented by Mrs. Maconochie of Meadowbank. After a keen contest on slightly biassed ice Mr. William Dick was declared the winner with a score of 23 points. A second prize, given by the secretary, was won by Mr. A. Cunningham, who scored 16 points.

LASSWADE.

Points medal: Winner, Robert Ketchen, Bonnyrigg, 26. Miss Dundas' curling stones: R. Ketchen, C. Clark, and Thomas Pringle tied—22 each. Finishing tie: Robert Ketchen, 3; Thomas Pringle, 2. President's rink medal: W. Davie, 13; G. H. Handasyde, 2; Thomas Pringle, 12; Robert Ketchen, 3. Final tie: W. Davie, 6; Thomas Pringle, 2.

MID-CALDER.

The members met and played for the rink medal. The ice was in splendid condition, and the play unusually good. When the final tie was played the rink skipped by Mr. Peter Turner was declared winners of the medal. A match was played between Mr. Hennan and Mr. Thomas Wallace, the latter winning by 3 shots.

The silver handles presented to the Mid-Calder Curling Club by Mrs. Smith of Georgeville were played for on Calder House Pond; and, after an exciting contest, Mr. Hennan was declared the winner with 33 shots, Mr. Gardner Langton being second with a score of 29.

RENFREWSHIRE CLUB.

This club played on Corsebar Pond, Paisley, for the challenge trophy presented by the late Mr. P. C. Macgregor of Bredland. The trophy was won by Captain Cook with 21 points. Mr. Walter Bowie was second with 19 points.

DALKEITH.

The Jubilee Cup, presented by Mr. Eben. Dawson, was played for on somewhat dull ice. Eleven ends were played, and Mr. Pirrie's rink won by 17 to 1. On playing off by points Mr. George Pirrie won with 29 points, Dr. Thomson being second with 23 points.

FORTROSE.

A curling match was played on the Rosehaugh Pond—Rosehaugh v. Inverness—three rinks a side. Rosehaugh—J. D. Fletcher, 32; General Stevenson, 19; T. Henderson, 17. Inverness—Mr. Lobban, 19; Mr. Mackay, 19; Mr. M'Farlane, 20. Majority for Rosehaugh, 8.

ALLOA v. ALLOA PRINCE OF WALES.

On Monday, the 29th ult., the annual match between three rinks a-side of these clubs was played on splendid ice, with the following result:—

PRINCE OF WALES.		ALLOA.	
Mr. A. Gall ...	14	Mr. W. Brown ...	18
Mr. J. Grant ...	24	Mr. R. Knox ...	19
Mr. W. Drysdale ...	20	Lord Balfour of Burleigh ...	9
	58		46

AIRDRIE v. GLASGOW NORTHERN.

These Clubs played at Gartlee, Airdrie, for the Royal Caledonian district medal, Result:—Airdrie, 99; Northern, 31—majority for Airdrie, 68 shots.

SOUTH-WEST OF SCOTLAND CLUB BONSPIEL.

The South-West of Scotland Grand Curling Club held their bonspiel on Castlesemple Loch, Lochwinnoch. Play was carried on with a strong wind blowing, though the ice was in fair condition. The cup presented by Mr. J. Shand Harvey of Castlesemple in 1886 has not been competed for since 1887. The winning club was the General Neil, of Bark'p, Dalry, with an average gain of

16, Dalry Union being second with a gain of 14. The highest winning skip was William Wilson, of the General Neil, who is entitled to a handsome pair of curling-stones presented by Mr. John Keanie, Lochwinnoch. Thirty-one clubs competed, representing eighty-two rinks.

ABINGTON v. CRAWFORD.

A match between these clubs, four rinks a-side, took place on Abington ice of twenty-five heads. Scores:—

ABINGTON.		CRAWFORD.	
Mr. Robert Colthart ...	35	Mr. John Watson ...	11
Mr. John Morton ...	15	Mr. James Cranstoun ...	22
Mr. John Hunter ...	24	Mr. Thomas Gibson ...	23
Mr. James Paton ...	19	Mr. George Hunter ...	33
	93		89

ABINGTON v. CRAWFORDJOHN.

A return match between these clubs, five rinks a-side, took place on Abington ice of twenty-five heads. Scores:—

ABINGTON.		CRAWFORDJOHN.	
Mr. Robert Colthart ...	29	Mr. James Hislop ...	11
Mr. John Morton ...	19	Mr. James French ...	23
Mr. Wm. Clark ...	22	Mr. John Cranstoun ...	15
Mr. John Hunter ...	13	Mr. Edward French ...	27
Mr. James Paton ...	18	Mr. Alex. Renton ...	26
	101		102

MELROSE.

A match between the married and single, six rinks a side, was played and resulted in a tie. Skips and scores:—

MARRIED.		SINGLE.	
Mr. Seton Karr ...	9	Mr. Sanderson ...	15
Mr. Lothian ...	10	Mr. Curle ...	17
Mr. Salmond ...	8	Mr. J. C. Turnbull ...	11
Mr. Simson ...	8	Mr. Deans ...	14
Mr. Wishart ...	20	Mr. M. Turnbull ...	8
Mr. Aitchison ...	13	Dr. Calvert ...	3
	68		68

CRYSTAL PALACE CURLING CLUB.

There has been curling on the ponds reserved for this club every day during the fortnight preceding the 3rd inst. The ice has varied with the changes of weather, but has, on the whole, been keen and good. Several rinks, skipped respectively by Sir J. Heron and Mr. J. G. Gibson, have played some very keenly contested games. The president, Mr. J. B. Alston, and the energetic secretary, Dr. Erskine, have been well to the fore. Amongst other curlers, Sir H. Dalrymple Hay, Mr. R. Tod, Mr. Stewart, Mr. C. Leith Hay, Mr. Ivor Heron Maxwell, Mr. Head, Mr. W. A. Dewar, Mr. A. Elmslie, and Mr. Daniel Lamb (Toronto) have made frequent appearances on the ice. "The Sassenach" has been represented by such well-known southern and frozen-out golfers as Mr. Sidney Clarke, Mr. W. E. Hughes, Mr. Adrian H. Newington, Mr. W. O. S. Pell, Mr. J. M. Sawyer, Mr. E. P. Shute, and Mr. G. C. Snelling. Most of the last-named gentlemen have thrown their first "hog" since the 22nd of last month, and are now ardent votaries of the roaring game.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

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

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