

# GOLF.

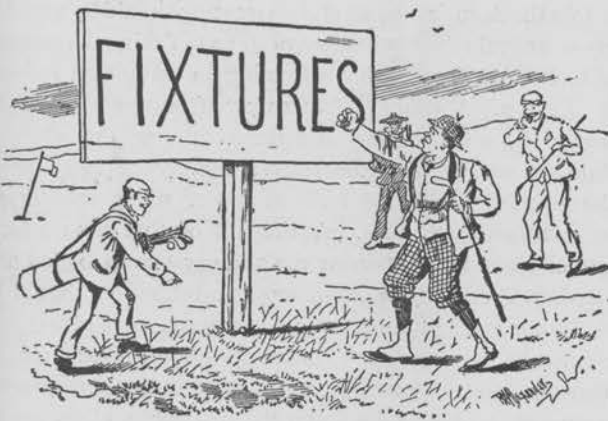
A Weekly Record of "The Royal and Auncient" Game.  
"Far and Sure."

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1891.

## NOVEMBER.

- Nov. 21.—Dublin : Monthly Medal.  
Disley : First Winter Handicap.  
West Lancashire : St. Andrews Meeting.  
Alnmouth : Marsh Painting (Final).  
Lytham and St. Anne's : The Bury Cup.  
Warwickshire : Savile Cup (Tournament).  
Seaton Carew : Club Cup.  
Whitley : Doctors' Cup (final).  
Royal Wimbledon and London Scottish : Joint Medal.  
Ealing : Monthly Medal.  
County Down : County Down Railway Cup.  
Epsom : Monthly Medal.  
Wimbledon Ladies' : Club Monthly Medals.  
Royal Epping Forest : Gordon Cup; Captain's Prize;  
Monthly Medal and Optional Sweepstake.  
Sutton Coldfield : Lloyd Prize.  
Guildford : Oxford University v. The Club.
- Nov. 23.—Coventry : Oxford University v. The Club.
- Nov. 24.—Whitley : Joicey Cup.  
Redhill and Reigate : Handicap Tournament (first and second round).  
Cambridge University : St. Andrews Medal.
- Nov. 28.—Royal Wimbledon : Monthly Medal.  
Royal Liverpool : St. Andrews Day Meeting.  
Ashdown Forest and Tunbridge Wells : Monthly Medal.  
Royal Eastbourne : Monthly Medal.  
Ilkley : Monthly Medal.  
Warwickshire : Club Cup.  
Buxton and High Peak : Monthly Medal.

- Nov. 28.—West Herts : Winter Meeting and Dinner.  
Warwickshire : Club Cup Competition.  
Cambridge University v. Royal Epping Forest (at Chingford).  
Birkdale : Captain's Cup.
- Nov. 30.—Royal Isle of Wight : St. Andrews Day Meeting; Moreton Cup; St. Andrews Cross.  
Burnham (Somerset) : Gold Medal Handicap.

## DECEMBER.

- D. c. 1.—Royal Blackheath : Monthly Medal.
- Dec. 3.—Tynside : Bi-Monthly Competition.
- Dec. 4.—Royal Cornwall : Monthly Medal.
- Dec. 5.—London Scottish : Monthly Medal.  
Brighton and Hove : The Berers Gold Medal.  
Bournemouth : Monthly Medal.  
Sutton Coldfield : Muntz Prize.  
Lundin : Handicap Medal.  
Manchester : Monthly Medal.  
Melbourne : Monthly Medal.  
Redhill and Reigate : Club Medal.  
County Down : Wallace Cup.  
Rochdale : Secretary's Trophy.  
Seaton Carew : Gray's Trophy.  
Warwickshire : Lefroy Prize.  
Richmond : Monthly Medal.  
Ilkley : Niblick Jug.  
Birkdale : Monthly Medal.  
Royal Liverpool : Winter Optional Subscription Prizes.
- Dec. 8.—Whitley : Joicey Cup.  
Birkdale : Club Ladies' Prize.
- Dec. 12.—Littlestone : Monthly Medal.  
West Herts : Monthly Medal.  
Guildford : Monthly Handicap.  
Nairn : Pullar's Medal.  
Wilpshire : Monthly Medal.  
Warwickshire : Military Gold Medal.  
Tooting : Monthly Medal.  
Sutton Coldfield : Medal Competition.  
Formby : Pearson Prize.  
Hayling Island : Monthly Competition.  
Didsbury : Captain's Prize.
- Dec. 16.—Royal Epping Forest : Spurling-Kentish Gold Medal.
- Dec. 17.—Tynside : Bi-Monthly Competition.
- Dec. 19.—Dublin : Monthly Medal.  
Brighton and Hove : The De Worms Challenge Cup; Club Prizes.  
Disley : Second Winter Handicap.  
Seaton Carew : Club Cup.  
Sutton Coldfield : Lloyd Prize.  
Ealing : Monthly Medal.  
County Down : County Down Railway Cup.
- Dec. 22.—Whitley : Joicey Cup.
- Dec. 23, 24 and 28.—Royal Isle of Wight : Single Tournament, for Prize value £10, given by the Club (entries close 22nd).
- Dec. 26.—Royal Wimbledon : Monthly Medal.  
Southport : Christmas Meeting.  
Ashdown Forest and Tunbridge Wells : Monthly Medal.

St. Andrews, N.B. RUSACK'S HOTEL, THE MARINE (on the Links). The Golf Metropolis—Parties boarded. Special terms to Golfers and families. W. RUSACK, Proprietor and Manager. Telegrams :—Rusack, St. Andrews, N.B. Telephone No. 1101.

## A GOLFERS' ASSOCIATION.

IN the judgment of very many golfers the fulness of the time has come when the formation of a Golfers' Association may appropriately be ventilated. There are one or two reasons which have, for some time past, forced the question on the attention of players over a widely dispersed area. First of all, there is the ever increasing and widespread popularity of the game, the rapid growth of clubs with large and influential membership, particularly in England and abroad, and the absence of any really representative, guiding authority which legislates and directs in the interest of the largest number of golfers. Almost alone among high-class sports, Golf stands out as a conspicuous example of a difficult and intricate game, played by thousands upon thousands of our educated classes absolutely without any organisation, with no cohesion among the body of the players, with no code of rules made by duly accredited representatives for golfers as a whole. As one of our able contributors hinted not long ago, it is a democracy being governed by a somewhat exclusive oligarchy, who, like most oligarchies of which the world has heard, have their legislative vision bounded more by the convenience of their own select circle than by the welfare of the State as a whole.

It is certain that this state of things cannot endure for ever. It behoves all golfers, therefore, to look the problem steadily in the face now, to turn over in their minds what would be the best form of changes to propose, and to gauge approximately what system of government would best meet the interests of Golf and golfers as a whole. The first important point that has been borne in upon the minds of all players who have given a thought to the subject is the confusion and doubt which surround the rules. From time to time these rules have been thrown, with a not too ready alacrity and good will, into the melting-pot, some of the bad grammar and slipshod expressions have been retrenched, the supremely comprehensive "&c.," introduced by the old code-makers to meet a point of more than ordinary difficulty and delicacy, has in recent years given place to a fuller and more accurate definition; but, after all is done, the rules as at present in force remain the product and edict of one powerful club. No other club in the country has had a say in the making of the rules; they are made by St. Andrews players for St. Andrews players, and other clubs have no option but to take them or leave them. Yet another code of rules has just been adopted by the Royal and Ancient, and they come into force with the New Year. Probably not nine out of ten players outside of the Royal and Ancient membership know that this is so, and yet those rules establish fundamental changes, upset a few cherished points of the game sanctified by long custom, and generally add another element of bewildering confusion where simplicity and orderly method were by no means formerly conspicuous. In the name of common sense why should golfers go on in this beggarly, hand-to-mouth, haphazard fashion? Why

not let the work be taken up in a thoroughly enlightened spirit, and establish by ample discussion and revision a code of rules in which all representative clubs shall have a voice in the making, and which, at least, shall last for twenty years to come?

Unpalatable as it may appear to many golfers, especially of the old school, the only satisfactory method of restoring order where chaos very largely reigns is to found a Golfers' Association. All the Golf clubs in the world, above a certain minimum membership, ought to be invited to enrol themselves in the federation; and the body marked out for setting the machinery in motion is, of course, the Royal and Ancient. If, however, St. Andrews is disinclined (as in all probability will be the case) to undertake the work of initiating the movement, let the equally powerful St. George's Club attempt the task, resting assured that they will meet with a hearty response in the seconding of their efforts towards the carrying out of a much needed and useful reform. After invitations have been issued, asking Golf clubs to join the Association, all clubs assenting should be asked to pay an annual subscription, say, of £3 3s. Taking the number of Golf clubs at 350, this will bring in an annual revenue of £1,100. A council of twenty golfers should then be elected by voting papers distributed among the affiliated clubs, he who receives the largest number of votes being elected president for the term of office, which should not be less than three years. At the end of that time a fresh council should be chosen by the same system of ballot, and meetings alternately in Edinburgh and London should be held from time to time to transact business and arrange events like the Amateur Championship, the Open Championship, and, above all, a series of inter-club matches among the leading clubs. But the first piece of important work which would naturally have to be undertaken would be a fresh code of rules, made so general and comprehensive in scope as to apply to the game wherever played, leaving clubs, where found desirable, to make special bye-laws to suit local peculiarities. To this end all affiliated clubs should be asked to send in suggestions either as to the reading of the rules or as to changes in their formation, and penalties to be imposed. In connection with the Association, adhesion should be given to a social club in London for golfers, like that now being formed, entrance to which would, of course, be an individual affair, and subject to the same rules as in the case of other social clubs. Here would be the head-quarters of the Association, and notices of motion, suggested alterations, and other business documents would be hung. A permanent secretary, at a small annual salary, would be appointed to look after affairs, and act as the intermediary of the council who, no doubt, would see their way in course of time to found a Professional and Caddies' Benefit Fund on lines similar to those in force at St. Andrews. There are many other points of detail to be considered, but none of them present insuperable objections to the speedy realisation of such an organisation for golfers as that which we now advocate.

## A MATCH WITH THE GREAT MCTURK.

Like a hungry deer from the hills, when they are covered with snow in winter, the great McTurk had come down from the north to enjoy his Christmas holidays. Who that has ever handled a club on St. Andrews Links has not heard of the great McTurk, for has not his fame gone forth into all the golfing world? The ancient inhabitants of that venerable town still point out with pride the identical tree, or at least one like it, which bears to this day the mark at which he used to practise with his iron, and which, many people have heard him say, he used to hit nine times out of ten.

It was in Auld Reekie that we foregathered. There were present, besides the hero of a thousand fights, my friend Lord Tom, who knew about Golf and could play the game, Toodlekins, who told us all about it but couldn't play, Socrates, who loved the game but whose play depended on the state of his liver, Rhadamanthus, an enthusiastic duffer, ever hoping but always topping, and I, the Scribe. The bones of the turkey had been laid bare, the toddy had been brewed and approved, and five pipes and a cigarette were smoked, and we soon engaged in animated conversation. "Ye speak about Golf," cried the great McTurk, seized with a sudden inspiration, and springing to his feet, "just let me see ye grip that stick."

"No, your hand is too far round! No, no, your fingers are wrong! That's no the real St. Andrews grip."

Lord Tom came nearest the ideal, but, except Socrates, none of us were perfect.

"Give me the stick," said the disgusted McTurk; "see, look, what a freedom ye have; that's the way it's done!" But, alas! that model swing was never completed, for the upward motion thereof sent the pipe of Socrates flying to the other end of the room. The space was too limited for the great slashing swipe of the great golfer, and so for the rest of the evening we had to be content to listen as he fought his battles o'er again, and told us of his glorious victories. How the delighted Rhadamanthus listened in admiring silence, and how rash he seemed to think Lord Tom was when he suddenly slapped his thigh and cried, "Well, I'll tell ye what. Rhadamanthus and I will play you and any other man you like to bring with you to-morrow at Musselburgh."

"Eh, man, I've seen the day," said the McTurk, "but I haven't played for twenty years, and my grand old swiper, a real Philp, which I would not part with for ten pounds, is not here. No, no, I could not play a bit now."

"Well, well, never mind. We'll enjoy the outing. Who'll be your partner?"

"Who! but the man who has served his apprenticeship in 'Hell' and has luxuriated on the 'Elysian Fields.' Who better than my good friend Socrates?"

And so it was settled. How proudly Rhadamanthus carried himself. He seemed to think that even a severe thrashing at the hands of the great McTurk would be something to boast of. At this point, however, I, generally known as the Scribe, must change my personality and assume that of Rhadamanthus, as, owing to circumstances which I need not mention, I feel as if I were getting a little confused.

It was late that night before we parted, and my sleep, when at length I laid me down, was troubled. After executing many wonderful drives and making some miraculous putts, I, Rhadamanthus, gradually fell under the influence of the turkey and the toddy. Methought that Lord Tom and I were first in the field, and that after a while we saw the great McTurk approaching with stately step, in his full war paint, being ablaze with a bright red coat, and carrying over his shoulder a mighty club which no man but himself could wield. Following him at a respectful distance came an ancient looking caddie, wearing an immense Scotch bonnet, and tottering under the weight of a great bundle of huge clubs. Ever and anon he moistened a curious looking ball at his lips, and tried, apparently in vain, to press down some refractory protuberance on its surface. At a sign from the McTurk the caddie teed the strange ball, and the great golfer at once stepped forward to address it. The mighty club swung through the air and the result was most wonderful. The ball described a long flight, but no sooner did it touch the ground than in the distance an immense cloud of feathers almost obscured the view. A great shout went up from the crowd of

astonished natives, and one of them irreverently shouted, "My eyes! Jock, he's killed yin o' Tammy Simpson's geese."

Then I myself, I thought, was punished for my rash audacity in playing in such a match by becoming a Golf ball. I felt as if I lay buried under a load of sand in a deep bunker, and the great McTurk was belabouring me with a mighty iron weapon. I groaned. Whether I was ever dislodged from that bunker I know not, but when I returned to my proper consciousness it was to remember that the great work of the day was yet to be accomplished. If Lord Tom and I should, contrary to all human probability, win the match! What fun! What glory! We met at the station in good time, though, by the way, we nearly, after all, lost our train, on account of Socrates trying to demonstrate the utter folly of Lord Tom and I taking on such a match, in which we were certain to be beaten. Socrates, he said, might not be in his usual form, but the great McTurk would prove invincible. Both Lord Tom and I admitted our presumption, but, nevertheless, thought we would venture. If we could even make a passable fight it would be an honour in itself. The great McTurk personally did not enter into our disputes. He merely grumbled occasionally at what he called "the toys" which he had got the loan of, so different from the terrible engines of war which he had laid up in his arsenal at home, and with which so many years ago he had often carried consternation into the ranks of the enemy. Indeed, the very coat on his back was not altogether to his liking. If he had been any ordinary opponent one would almost have been justified in thinking that he had some misgivings. Of course, in his case such a notion would have been most absurd.

A caddie having been found to the chief player's satisfaction—one who could keep silence and not offer unasked advice—the game commenced. Lord Tom, being the best driver on our side and a local player, showed the way with a very good drive, delivered in his own graceful style. The great McTurk followed with a long, raking shot, but wild, and the ball at the end of its flight lay badly bunkered. Then came my turn, but like a young soldier, eager for glory and too anxious to show my mettle, rushed on to destruction. On the green in two was my ambition, and so easily it might have been; but alas! the haste with which I brought the head of the club into contact with the ball, giving a straight sledge-hammer stroke, only damaged the gutta and sent it a few yards forward to lie in a nasty cup. Lord Tom didn't swear on that occasion, at least I did not hear him do so, though he had to play the "two more" by making a somewhat indifferent shot. Socrates saw I was crestfallen, and kindly walked alongside of me for a few yards to comfort me. He assured me that good Golf after all was very much a matter of temperament, and was proceeding to prove that everything depended on careful, deliberate play, when the stentorian voice of his great partner called on him to come and deliver their ball from durance vile. Deliberation, however, did not take the ball out of that bunker, and even the strong arm of the McTurk failed to do the needful. Socrates then, after a few moments' meditation, wished to give up the hole and reserve their strength, but the great McTurk thundered "play on." The ball was now in a better position for a good stroke, and Socrates, getting it clean, laid it well within ours, on the green. That hole was halved, though, but for my bad play, we might have been one up. However, having now made up my mind for defeat and feeling humble, I played better. The game progressed with many ups and downs, till at last I had only a long putt to make to gain the victory. Only one long putt. How anxious I felt. Toodlekins, who had come to see fair play, was greatly excited, and, thinking that it was only Rhadamanthus to make the putt, rashly offered Lord Tom ten nips to one that we would only halve the match. I sent the ball straight for the hole, but rather strong. Yet it looked well, and Lord Tom excitedly cried to Toodlekins, "make it twenty." Poor Toodlekins had scarcely time to say "done," when the ball struck the side of the hole rather sharply, but, being at the proper angle, went to the bottom. I was happy! I had redeemed myself! And was it not a glorious victory! To have fought against the great McTurk and beaten him. As we left the field Lord Tom thought he saw him wiping away a silent tear. Whether or not, the twenty nips afterwards gave us an opportunity of hearing explained the several cogent reasons why the great McTurk and his partner could not have been expected on that occasion to win.

RHADAMANTHUS.

## ADVICE TO YOUNG GOLFERS.

## X.

There is one thing which cannot be too strongly impressed upon all golfers, and it is that every stroke should be played with the utmost confidence and decision. All hesitation about risking a shot, and doubt about its success, should be utterly banished. Confidence in one's own powers is more than half the game, and the proverb that nothing succeeds like success is well illustrated in Golf. It has been said of two of the finest professional golfers ever known that when they played separately there was little or nothing to choose between them as regards excellency; but when they came together as opponents in any match, the one was always certain to surpass the other, owing almost entirely to his having greater confidence. No one who wishes to Golf well should ever go out and play carelessly; unless he has the intention of doing his very best he is better to refrain from the game until he feels capable of putting himself into it. At each stroke, from his first drive till the last putt is holed out, the one all-absorbing thought which ought to occupy a golfer's mind, and animate him for the time being, should be how each stroke can best be played. With tee shots there cannot generally be much room for difficulty, all that has to be done is to take the club and swipe away, seeing at the same time that the ball is properly hit. If there is any tendency to top the ball, or to heel, or pull, this must be corrected. In previous chapters remarks have been made upon the subject, and it is not proposed to say anything further in supplement thereto. Play through the green, however, is complicated by the various conditions affecting the lie of the ball. A bad lie often puzzles a player, he asks himself, "What club shall I take?" and he possibly asks the same question of his caddie. His own ideas and his caddie's differ as to the club which should be used, and the more he looks at the ball the more difficult does he think the lie. In deference to his caddie's superior skill and knowledge he adopts that familiar spirit's advice, and uses the recommended club. But all the time he cannot rid his mind of the idea that he would be better with the club he himself had thought of. What is the result? A miserably fozzled stroke, in nine cases out of ten. Now, every golfer should play his own game, and when he finds his ball in a bad lie he should, after considering his position carefully, make up his mind what club he will use, and play at once; and, however difficult the stroke may be, he should play in the fullest expectation of making a brilliant shot. The same applies to every part of the game, always play in the belief that you can do and are going to do the very best possible at each stroke. In saying the above, it is assumed that the beginner has become tolerably proficient at the game. Until his play is formed, and he has acquired some experience, he must, of course, act in a great measure upon advice given him as he may not be in a position to judge for himself the best thing to be done under difficulties.

The remarks made above apply with particular force to the short game. Get the line and judge the required strength, and putt with the expectation of seeing the ball go down. "He who hesitates is lost," has a singularly apt application to Golf. Hesitation too often results in bad play. After one's mind is made up as to what is to be done, the sooner it is done the better. Moral effect, too, has a great deal to do with one's game. Take for example a player who can do a good round—all except a hole, always the same hole, and this is of very common occurrence. Now there can be no doubt that this bad hole—it may be an easy enough one—is occasioned by the fact that the player in question knows that he invariably breaks down at it, he has, so to speak, acquired the habit of fozzling this hole, and this fact unconsciously affects his play. This detrimental effect will continue until the habit of fozzling that hole has been conquered. The best way of getting over the difficulty is to play the hole by itself until it can be done well two or three times. This will generally be sufficient, but care should be taken to see that the habit is not reacquired, either at the same hole or at any other.

There are various little arts in the game which should be kept in view, as, however unimportant each may be by itself, when taken as a whole they materially influence results. Some of these will now be mentioned.

In putting, if there is the least chance of missing the hole, in fact, whether there is or not, unless there be some good reason for not doing so, such as giving oneself a bad piece of ground to go over, the putt should always be played to lay one's opponent a stymie if the ball does not find the bottom of the hole. This, of course, is only allowable in a hole game. Play so that if you miss the hole your ball will lie between the hole and your opponent's ball. If you do not go down yourself then do the next best thing, that is, prevent your opponent gaining any advantage. The nearer your own ball lies to the hole and the farther away your opponent's, the more difficult is the stymie to negotiate. Some players seem to think that this is unfair. No doubt it has rather a dog-in-the-manger spirit about it, but Golf is not a game for the display of generosity, and every wile which is not a breach of the etiquette of the game is perfectly justifiable, nay, more than that, it is these little finesses, if they may be so termed, which add finish to the game and often make all the difference between a first-rate and a second-rate golfer. It may be said, however, that to play so as to stymie one's opponent is by no means an easy matter. A turn of the ball too much or too little and the stymie will not "come off," and your ball lying beside the hole, but not shutting up the way to it, will serve as a guide to your opponent, and, as the saying goes, "make the hole bigger" for him. To put the matter shortly, if you do not lay your opponent a stymie you are very likely to give him an advantage, owing to your ball lying close to the hole and thereby acting as a guide to him. In order to illustrate the importance of stymies, the writer may state that he has seen an important professional match practically decided, on one green at any rate, entirely by the number of stymies which the one player laid his opponent, and which the latter failed successfully to negotiate.

In competitions where the scores are taken as the basis for fixing the order of merit, stymies are not allowed. In such cases—medal play, as it is often called—either player can have another player's ball lifted if he finds that it interferes with his stroke. The majority of matches, however, are played by holes, and golfers will do well to practise stymies, not how to stymie their opponents, but how to negotiate a stymie successfully, should they find themselves placed in a position requiring this display of skill. In a previous chapter some hints were given as to the best way of playing this latter stroke.

(To be continued.)

J. A.

## THE BIRKDALE LINKS.

Among the numerous Golf clubs which have of late been springing up like mushrooms all over the kingdom, few possess links of such a naturally interesting character as the Birkdale Club. This club was founded in July, 1889, and numbers now about ninety members, twenty of whom are ladies, to whom a separate six-hole course has been assigned. Birkdale is a township on the Lancashire coast, about twenty miles from Liverpool, and adjoins Southport, the well-known watering-place, which latter town has for some years possessed a flourishing Golf club of its own. The Birkdale Links are within a quarter of an hour's walk from the Lancashire and Yorkshire (Birkdale) Station. The tramway from Southport also runs close to them. The club-room is at the Portland Hotel, on the links, and is an exceedingly comfortable and commodious one.

At present the course is only a nine-hole one, and the utmost distance between any of the holes does not probably exceed three hundred yards, but the interest and variety are very great. From the club-house a walk of about fifty yards brings us to the first teeing-ground, which is at the top of a bank about ten feet high. From this vantage point the first green may be seen at a distance of about one hundred and thirty yards. The green is about twenty yards square, bounded on three sides by a low cop, and on the fourth by the sloping side of a grass grown sand-hill. Directly between the tee and the green, however, at the distance of about fifty yards, there is a high perpendicular bank, with wil ows growing at the top. At the foot of this bank lies sand, and to the left of it a bunker. The green may of course be reached in one stroke, either an iron or

a cleek being used, according to the fancy of the player, or the state of the wind. This hole is a favourite one, and to make the stroke successfully, and see the ball gracefully rise over these intervening dangers, to drop dead on the green within a few yards of the hole, gives one of the most delightful sensations perhaps in the whole round.

The tee for the second hole is on the top of a pretty high sandy hill, whence a bird's-eye view of the whole of one side of the links is obtained. Between this hill and the second green there is a level stretch of ground, and further off a range of low grassy hills, lying amongst which are several small bunkers. These difficulties may be easily carried in the drive if a course well to the left be taken, and the green will be then within an iron shot, the only obstacle being a low cop and a small bunker.

The third hole is the longest. The drive is over a conical grassy hill about fifty yards distant, and, if only moderately straight, will land the ball on good lying ground. Thence a full iron shot over a double cop will reach the green. This green is within a range of grass-grown sand-hills, lying in the form of a horseshoe, and is approached through the open back part of the shoe.

The fourth hole lies over the hills forming the front part of the horseshoe. These hills are fully eighty yards from the tee, and in the direct line for the holes are about twenty-five feet high. A little to the left of the direct line the hills are considerably lower, but as at this point there is a very large and deep bunker at their summit, the safer course is to take the direct line for the hole, and make the drive over the highest part of the hills. These hills being surmounted by the drive, the ball will lie on turf, and an iron shot will reach the green, which, however, must be approached cautiously, as it slopes a little away from the player, and there is danger of the ball rolling under the cop at the other side.

The line to the fifth hole lies over two meadows, the difficulties being two low cops and then a high double cop, with a straggling willow hedge on the top of the nearer one.

To reach the sixth hole the line is over a little cop and level grass land, towards a break in a long line of sandy hills. A fair drive will carry the ball close to this break in the hills, just on the other side of which the green lies, in a cup-like hollow, guarded in front, however, by an insidious bunker.

The seventh hole is an easy one, the only difficulty being a low, broken cop about 120 or 130 yards away. The eighth hole is behind a range of grass-grown sand-hills, which in the direct line to the hole and to the left lie nearer the tee than they do on the right, and, in addition, they are of a rough and difficult character, having several small bunkers among them. The judicious plan is, therefore, to play well to the right. The ball will then lie at the foot or just on the slope of the hills, and an iron shot will reach the green. The last hole is within a full iron shot, but is a rather nervous one, inasmuch as the stroke has to be played over a fenced-off piece of ground, which is out of bounds. There is very little loose sand on the links in the line of play, and, although there are many difficulties, a bad stroke nowhere suffers unduly, the punishment being always fitted to the crime. The greens are not all that could be desired, but, doubtless, this defect will be remedied in time.

Between the Birkdale and Southport Clubs plenty of sport may be obtained, and the two links form a very pleasant contrast to each other.

**PERTH ARTISAN GOLF CLUB.**—The final round of the competition for several prizes presented by Captain Livingstone took place on the North Inch on Saturday afternoon. Although the course had to be changed owing to the flooded state of the river Tay, better scores were put in than those of the previous Saturday. The following are the prize-winners:—Mr. J. Stewart, 145, 11 below; Mr. E. Robson, 128, 10 below; Mr. J. Williamson, 131, 10 below; Mr. P. Robertson, 128, 6 below; Mr. J. Cobb, sen., 121, 5 below; Mr. F. Grant, 128, 5 below; Mr. D. M'Laren, 134, 4 below; Mr. J. Allan, 145, 3 below; Mr. J. Cobb, jun., 118, 2 below; and Mr. W. Robson, 146, 1 below. The following scores were not put into the prize-list:—Mr. W. Anderson, 115; Mr. A. Reid, 121; Mr. J. Brown, 122; Mr. J. Brough, 127; and Mr. W. Young, 128.



FIVES BALLS FOR PRACTICE.

To the Editor of GOLF.

SIR.—Your correspondent, "J. C. M. B.," advocates the use of fives balls for driving practice at Golf. May I be allowed to remark that good results may practically be obtained by simply swiping at corks. Dr. McPherson favours this advice, and I have frequently seen men keeping up their swing on board ship during a long voyage in this way. After all, fives balls (I speak, of course, of the Eton *genus*) are only corks wound round with wadding and covered; and although, of course, they will fly much better than the cork *pur et simple*, yet one can certainly tell in either case whether a clean drive has been hit or not. I have also noticed another method of practice, but not having tried it cannot vouch for its usefulness. A string of some sort (preferably, I believe, elastic) is attached to the Golf ball, and again fastened to a pin set up in the ground at a fixed distance in front of the striker. Now, the ball when hit will obviously be allowed to travel onwards a distance equal to twice the length of the connecting string. It is claimed that this affords valuable practice with a minimum of trouble. I was not able to discover *how* the string was attached to the ball. But is not driving against a net quite as good? With apologies for taking up your valuable space,

I am, Sir, &c.,

H. G. B. E.

Eton College, Windsor, November 10th.

THE VALUE OF A STROKE.

To the Editor of GOLF.

SIR.—The following is the result of an analysis of the medal cards of the St. George's Golf Club, Sandwich, from 1887 (November 5th) to 1891 (May 19th)—26 days in all—undertaken with the object of finding how often a stroke is useful.

The players on any day were divided into five classes, according to the club handicap: class A, scratch to 3; B, 4 to 6; C, 7 to 9; D, 10 to 14; and E, 15 and over. This classification was made merely for conveniently abridging the work, and the divisions are purely arbitrary. It was supposed that each player in class A played a match, according to his card, with each player in class B on the same day; so that, if there were 5 players in class A and 7 in class B, we should get 35 separate matches. It was then noted how often, out of the 35 times which each hole was played, (1) that hole was halved, and (2) the hole would be halved if A gave B a stroke. The results for all the days were added together, and we thus learn how often in a given number of matches a stroke would be useful to B at each hole—(1) to win it, or (2) to halve it. Similar calculations were made for supposed matches between A and C, A and D, A and E; B and C, B and D, &c. The total number of hypothetical matches thus considered was 19,160, about 1,000, at least, being played between any two classes. There were, of course, more players of class E than

of class A, and, therefore, more matches including players of the former class than the latter. To get a properly representative result, not unduly influenced by the preponderance of the longer handicaps, the matches of each kind were reduced to percentages before adding the results together.

I need hardly say that the numerical results which follow take no account of that uncertain factor, the "moral effect" of a stroke. If any one is sufficiently certain of the direction in which this acts, he must, of course, modify the figures accordingly.

The following table exhibits the number of times in 1,000 matches of all kinds when the weaker player (1) wins with a stroke, (2) halves with a stroke, (3) uses a stroke in either way — (3) being the sum of (1) and (2)—for each hole of the Sandwich course. The holes are placed in the order indicated by the column (3), which may be taken as a criterion of the difficulty or uncertainty of the hole :—

Hole.	WEAKER PLAYER.		
	(1) Wins with Stroke.	(2) Halves with Stroke.	(3) Uses Stroke.
XVI. ...	301	294	595
XI. ...	285	269	554
V. ...	272	273	545
X. ...	274	270	544
XVII. ...	269	255	524
III. ...	263	254	517
II. ...	263	251	514
XVIII. ...	264	244	508
I. ...	252	255	507
VIII. ...	259	245	504
XII. ...	250	254	504
XIII. ...	241	248	489
IV. ...	244	227	471
IX. ...	216	230	446
XV. ...	211	216	427
XIV. ...	204	215	419
VI. ...	206	207	413
VII. ...	191	214	405
General average ...	248	246	494

It is thus on the average 3 to 1 against a stroke being used to win, and 3 to 1 against its being used to halve; and even betting that it is used at all. This is for the average hole of the Sandwich Course. If we take the sixteenth hole, the odds are 3 to 2 on the stroke being used, instead of even chances; if on the other hand we take the seventh hole, the odds are 3 to 2 against its being used, and these are extreme cases.

To put the matter in another light, a "hole up" to start with is worth on the average 2 strokes (this is in the average match, we shall consider later the effect of the relative merits of the players). If the course is an easy one, made up of holes as easy as the sixteenth at Sandwich, three "holes up" are worth 5 strokes only instead of 6. If there should be constructed somewhere a course with holes all like the seventh at Sandwich (which, God forbid!) then two holes up would be worth 5 strokes instead of 4. It may be presumed that most courses are if anything somewhat easier than Sandwich, and, therefore, the value of a "hole up" is not quite two strokes, or the betting is rather against a stroke being useful.

The value of a "hole up," however, though an interesting question in itself, is not the actual object of this investigation. I may perhaps recall to the minds of your readers that I proposed\* a general table for all links according to which strokes should be taken in match play. I have not since seen any reason to alter my opinion that this table is on the right lines. It was, however, urged by one of your correspondents, and I think by yourself, Sir, in advising another correspondent, that the length of the holes should be taken into consideration in assigning strokes. If I may venture to put a definite interpretation on this remark, it would be that where (say) three strokes are to be given, the holes should be selected so that the average

value is very near the general average value of a stroke. We may take the numbers in column 3 of the above table to represent the value of a stroke at each hole in turn; and it is apparent that if three strokes were given at holes V., XI. and XVI. the receiver of odds would have a decided advantage; while if they were given at VI., VII. and XIV. the giver would be favoured.

My reply to the objection is that the advantage gained or lost is in general small. Take the case just quoted as an example. Suppose a universal table drawn up which indicated for the stroke-holes on a certain links holes similar to the V., XI. and XVI. at Sandwich. The receiver of odds would have  $595 + 554 + 545 = 1,694$  chances out of 3,000, whereas the proper average would be  $3 \times 494 = 1,482$ ; he would thus be a gainer to the extent of 7 per cent. on his three strokes, or not quite a quarter of a stroke altogether. Considering that when making the match from the handicaps "all fractions of a stroke less than half are neglected, and all greater than half counted as one," I think we may conclude that no serious injustice is done even in this extreme case.

As a further example I have taken the table actually suggested by me and worked out the differences from the average for the Sandwich course for the various odds. The sign + means that the receiver of odds is by this particular table a gainer, and the sign - means that he is a loser, by the particular fraction of a stroke specified; it being considered that he is equitably treated when the average value of his strokes is that for the average hole.

No. of Strokes Received.	Difference from Average.	No. of Strokes Received	Difference from Average.	No. of Strokes Received	Diff. from Average.
1	-.05	7	-.16	13	+.08
2	-.02	8	-.05	14	-.05
3	-.09	9	-.03	15	+.09
4	+.05	10	+.05	16	+.02
5	-.08	11	+.16	17	+.05
6	+.10	12	-.10	18	.00

The worst cases are thus those of 7 and 11 strokes, and yet here the total injustice does not amount to one-sixth of a stroke! I doubt whether any convenient table could be constructed to give much better results, and I think one may fairly say that if there are special advantages about any table, such as that of being universally applicable, we may fairly neglect the small discrepancies between different holes as regards stroke-value.

Finally, though I have already trespassed considerably on your space, I should like to give a few figures as to the variation of stroke-value with the skill of the players. In the above investigation all matches have been lumped together, just as they are in making handicap rules. But they were kept separate in the course of the work, and it is interesting to note how small is the difference between matches of very different kinds. In the following table is given the number of times a stroke is used out of 1,000, if a player of the class denoted on the left plays one of the class denoted along the top. Thus, if a class D player (handicap 10 to 14) plays a class B player (handicap 4 to 6) he uses 515 strokes out of 1,000.

	B	C	D	E
A... ..	542	537	506	454
B... ..	—	516	515	464
C... ..	—	—	484	464
D... ..	—	—	—	445

I do not give the figures for the different holes for fear of being tedious; but, generally speaking, the differences between matches of nearly equal players and of unequal are more marked in the difficult holes. For instance, B uses 9 per cent. more strokes against A than E does, on the average; for the hardest (7th) hole at Sandwich this rises to 17 per cent., and for the 5th hole it falls to 3 per cent.

I must not conclude without acknowledging the generous assistance which has made this laborious investigation possible; indeed, the work is scarcely mine at all, but that of another, and a most enthusiastic, golfer. There are other interesting matters

\* GOLF, May 1st, 1891, p. 106.

on which the analysis gives information which I shall hope to send you in a future communication, if so many figures do not weary your readers.

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

IRON CLUB HOUSES.

To the Editor of GOLF.

SIR,—Seeing in GOLF a wish expressed for the experience of any one who could help with an opinion as to the merits of iron club-houses, I can say that, having put up several on shooting grounds and deer forests, my opinion may be of use. Having to live in one for some weeks in September and October, I found that, as a general rule, they are too hot in the sun, and too cold at night. A very valuable improvement, however, has lately been introduced into these houses. The best houses we now know of for Golf are made by the Wire Wove Waterproof Roofing Company, Queen Victoria Street, London. The one at Burnham, in Somerset, gives entire satisfaction. Last, but not least, it is a cheaper and more comfortable habitation than others.

I am, Sir, &c.,  
DEER STALKER.

Nairn, N.B., November 14th, 1891.

THE OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP.

To the Editor of GOLF.

SIR,—With regard to this discussion, I think it may be admitted that both parties were a little to blame—the disqualified players for their simplicity in not making themselves better acquainted with the particulars, and the management in not boldly meeting the difficulty by allowing all those presenting themselves before the draw to play. If they had done so they would have been just as much blamed by the so-called sportsmen and sticklers, but the apparent loose practice of the past and the inefficient manner of advertising would have biassed all right-thinking people in their favour. So far as the championship is concerned, the result would have been the same; but as regards the money prizes, disqualified winners should in some way be compensated, and the matter ended.

So far as I can see, the only relevant complaint against the management is the scurvy manner in which the match was advertised. I have no interest in your paper, but as it devotes its columns to nothing else but Golf, and is seen on the tables of all Golf clubs, and has apparently a professional circulation, so to speak, I think it would be wise in future for the managers of all open matches to advertise the same in GOLF, and not bother secretaries with circulars. The dispute will do good, and render the proceedings more business-like in future.

It is absurd for professionals to expect the list of entries to remain open until the hour for drawing, but I suppose their looseness of opinion arises very much from the fact that the match is sometimes played on Prestwick, which is a private course, and permission to play has to be got beforehand by those desiring to compete, which application for permission to play may have been treated as an entry. At St. Andrews, where there are so many players of all kinds, and no permission to play is required, it can easily be seen that the management could not, as a matter of course, enter all those known to be about. All championship matches should be played on Golf courses open to the public, and at places most convenient for the majority of the players. With regard to your suggestion, can it reasonably be expected that professional players, not often blessed with an over-abundance of money for expenses, should go to Sandwich or Portrush, the best greens in England and Ireland? Is it even reasonable to expect the great majority of competitors to travel and reside for a week practising in such an out-of-the-way place as Prestwick. As the blue ribbon of the race-course is competed for year after year on the same ground, I do not see why golfers should be trotted about from place to

place to compete for the blue ribbon of the Golf course. St. Andrews has been continuously the head-quarters of Golf for hundreds of years; it is the best course, and I would, therefore, suggest that all championship matches be played there. I am not a St. Andrews player, and am, therefore, quite unbiassed. I have played on nearly all the Scotch greens, and, in my opinion, nothing in Scotland beats St. Andrews. With the exception of Sandwich in England and Portrush in Ireland, I understand the Golf courses out of Scotland are not by nature well adapted for bringing out all the best points of the game.

I have another suggestion to make, viz., the appointment of a championship committee, to consist of nine members, three being from England, three from Ireland, and three from Scotland, under the convenership of Mr. Grace, secretary to the Royal and Ancient, the respective sections of such committee being elected by the leading clubs of the respective countries in such way and manner as they may agree on.

I am, Sir, &c.,

MID-SPOON.

November 11th, 1891.

PAINTING GOLF BALLS.

To the Editor of GOLF.

SIR,—Why does "An Amateur" recommend those who wish to paint their Golf balls to go through all the messy process he so elaborately describes, when the article can be procured all ready made in a sixpenny tin of Hubbuck's Patent White Zinc Paint? I would sign my name, by way of backing up my opinion, but last time I did so in your columns on the subject of "Etiquette of Golf" I got such a wiggling from an anonymous and fiery Edinburgh Scot that I am really afraid of exposing my patronymic again, especially as this present letter distinctly encourages the expenditure of "saxpence."

I am, Sir, &c.,

X. Y. Z

November 14th, 1891.

QUESTIONS ON THE RULES.

To the Editor of GOLF.

SIR,—I should be glad if you would allow me to occupy a little of your space with regard to the rules about hazards.

Supposing between the tee and the hole there is a large expanse of gorse bushes, and a ball goes into a bush at the end nearer the hole. Behind this bush there is a small clear part. Can the player drop the ball on this space, and ground his club, or must the ball be treated as still in the hazard, and the player either not ground his club or go right behind all the bushes and drop the ball? I have heard several players differ on the point, and I think it would be of interest to a great number to know exactly what can be done.

I am, Sir, &c.,

HAZARD.

London, November 16th, 1891.

[If there is a clear space behind the bush, sufficient in the judgment of the player to allow him to swing his club and clear the obstacle in front, undoubtedly he can ground his club if there is grass. If, however, he prefers it, the player may go back behind all the bushes and drop. The chief point to bear in mind in a case of this kind is to have the hazard between the player and the hole; and option is usually given to the player to decide whether he will drop on a clear spot in the centre of the range of bushes, or go back behind the entire clump as far as he pleases.—ED.]

GIRVAN.—The second prize competition of the Girvan Golf Club took place on Saturday, the 7th inst. The afternoon was fine, and there was a good turn-out of members. The first prize was presented by Mr. David Andrews, captain of the club; the second prize by Mr. Fernie, Troon; and the third by Bailie Aitken, Girvan:—1st, Rev. S. C. Fry, 113, less 20=93; 2nd, Mr. A. C. Scott, 102, less 8=94; 3rd, Mr. Robert M'Connell, jun., scratch, 95; Mr. David M'Connell, scratch, 98; Mr. G. Dougal, 108, less 10=98.

## Eminent Golfers.

### XIX.—MR. S. MURE FERGUSSON.

Perhaps little astonishment need be felt that inquiries have been made as to whether Mr. S. Mure Fergusson was to submit to the penalty of eminence; whether he would facilitate the task of the searcher after truth, whose mission it should be to discover his golfing abilities to the world, or, on the contrary, ensconce himself in a shelter trench of coy reserve, and deprecate any attempt to chronicle his deeds of valour. Yet, certainly, no golfer now living has a greater claim to a place among celebrities than he; nor would it appear that his exploits stand in much need of discovery, since they are sufficiently well known already, both north and south of the Tweed. But needs must when an Editor calls; this tyrant must in some sort be pacified; hence, it becomes necessary, with the subject's consent, to investigate such incidents of his career as might prove interesting.

Let us say, then, that Mr. Fergusson was born in Perth, in 1854; that he spent his early days at St. Andrews, but did not begin Golf till comparatively late in life. It might be well to explain that this is a relative term; fourteen was the age at which he actually did begin, an age, however, at which many St. Andrews boys could boast themselves to be players of twelve years' standing; but, for practical purposes, it appears in this case to have been early enough. Between that age and twenty, he, doubtless, marched in the accustomed path of youth; drove black balls into other people's faces, was shouted "fore" at, and paid no attention, and, perhaps, now and then appeared behind irascible elders in the act of putting, all which things are justly abhorred of the more cultured golfer, who is left to extract such consolation as he may from the reflection, "*Maxima debetur pueris reverentia.*" Arrived at years of discretion, viz., twenty, Mr. Mure Fergusson was elected a member of the Royal and Ancient, on whose list of medal-winners he forthwith caused his name to appear. This, of itself, is a noteworthy achievement, for, in a large number of cases, fine young



players, who are newly elected, fail to do themselves justice at a first attempt, and require considerable practice before they can assume the unruffled calm which is indispensable before a medal can be won in a large field comprising all the best players. Mr. Mure Fergusson, however, is, in this respect, the very ideal of a successful player; he showed it thus early in his career, and it has been his distinguishing characteristic ever since. Many a one "assumes a virtue though he has it not," and there is no lack of players who assume that particular virtue of playing a losing game better than a winning one. Without endorsing the general correctness of this assumption, it must yet be said that this is really a feature of Mr. Fergusson's play; he has just those qualities a golfer ought to have; when anything important is at stake, then is the time he is most

likely to come to the front; he has that invaluable ingredient of bull-dog determination which stood Bob Fergusson in such good stead in his more important matches, while as for nervousness, perish the thought! the word has no meaning for him, he simply cannot understand it.

In this first medal of his, he made a wonderfully auspicious start, having holed the first hole in 4, he followed this up by a 3 at the second—a figure he attained by having the good fortune to hole an iron shot; he finished with a total of 91. From 1874 to 1880, having gone into business, he practically gave up the game; not entirely so, however, since his name appears as winner

of the gold medal in 1877 with 94, but from 1880, onwards, he has played with tolerable regularity. Hence, we find his name frequently figuring in the gallery of winners. Thus, in 1881, he again won the William the IV. medal with 90; in 1886, with 84, and in 1888, with 85, while in 1885 he placed the spring medal to his credit with 89. So far as these scores are concerned, it will be seen that his later efforts compare remarkably favourably with his earlier ones; his score of 84 is within one stroke of the medal record of the green, but, notwithstanding this, Mr. Fergusson is of opinion that at the present time he is able to play a stronger game to the extent of four strokes than ever he did in his life before. He attributes this to the fact that he has now substituted stiff shafts for the supple ones which he formerly used. If proof were wanting to test the

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correctness of Mr. Fergusson's assertion as to the relative strength of his present game, it might be found in his recent performances at Felixstowe, as noticed in this paper at the time. For the long course, he holed the round in 78, beating the former record by four strokes; the details are here reproduced:—Out, 4 4 5 4 4 4 4 5 5 = 39; in, 4 4 4 5 5 4 4 4 5 = 39; total, 78.

Within a week he capped this performance by holing the shorter course in 72. These scores speak for themselves, but there is in addition independent testimony by excellently qualified judges as to the perfect nature of his play on these occasions. Felixstowe may be said to be his happy hunting ground *par excellence*; his visits to St. Andrews being confined to the spring and autumn meetings. But on the Suffolk green he has played regularly since 1885, and has won prizes there more numerous than he can mention. Wimbledon and Hoylake he is familiar with, but no longer belongs to either of these clubs; at Guildford he has made his mark, and the first nine holes there in 32 is a performance not likely to be beaten; the total of the round in which this occurred was 74, a record for that green, but with such a start it might have been considerably better. The only other green with which he is acquainted is Sandwich, where, however, he usually fails to do the best that is in him, as the climate somehow does not appear to suit him, and he rarely feels well there. Still he has twice been second to Mr. John Ball, junior, for the St. George's cup competition, and has also carried off the Cinque Ports medal. A match he played there against Mr. Arnold Blyth should also be noticed, for it was one on which no less than £2,000 depended. Mr. Fergusson in the first nine holes was four ahead, a lead he easily maintained to the finish of the thirty-six holes. More recently, however, Mr. Blyth at Sandwich turned the tables upon Mr. Fergusson, winning a splendid match by one hole out of 36. In the Open Championship at St. Andrews in October last, Mr. Fergusson headed the list of the large field of amateurs, treading closely on the heels of Willie Fernie and the two Kirkaldys.

In the matter of physical strength and stamina, Mr. Fergusson has been handsomely endowed by nature; those readers who are acquainted with the classical Doric of Burns will recollect the expression "a buirdly chiel," which may not inaptly be used to indicate his general build and appearance. About 5 feet 10½ inches in height, he has a chest measurement of 44 inches, showing great depth from chest to back, his weight is about 13 st. 10 lb., and his arms are like bars of steel, the shoulder muscles and triceps being particularly well developed. Hence he plays a remarkably long and powerful shot up to the hole with a sort of forward drive with cleek or iron, at that sort of distance which is just short of a full shot. His style of playing a short approach is extremely taking, his general address and manipulation suggesting a most thorough control over this important stroke. In driving he has a full round swing, deliberate in character, and of great power; a swing which enables him to make an exceedingly long carry. When the green is reached, there are few who can excel him at the short game, for his holing out, which he does with a cleek, is of a deadly description. From all which it appears that there are no points in the game where anyone could expect to gain an advantage over him, and, when in his best form, he is undoubtedly equal to any amateur living. He generally, as has been remarked, plays his best when some important match or medal is to be contested, on which occasions his extraordinary self-possession and self-confidence are invaluable to him. It is an excellent plan to drive him into a whin bush when you are his partner, for he is likely to darken counsel in the enemy's camp by destroying the whin, and driving the gutta up to the hole from its depths, as if it were a teed ball. As a cricketer also, he has been successful chiefly as a bowler, right hand fast medium, and for the Crystal Palace Club he has captured many wickets. The accompanying photograph, taken by an amateur, is a most successful one.

H. S. C. EVERARD.

**ELECTRIC CLUB.**—The monthly medal competition of the above club was held on the Braids on November 13th. The weather being exceedingly stormy there was only a moderate turn-out of players, Mr. William Russell winning with a score of 108, less 25=83.



On Wednesday afternoon, the 11th inst., the Douglas (Isle of Man) Golf links were opened by His Excellency the Lieut.-Governor, in the presence of a large gathering. The Lieut.-Governor having driven the first ball, the game began, Gen. Brereton and Mr. Cruickshank leading off. The best scores were: Mr. Milne, 71; Mr. Christopher, 75; Mr. Cruickshank, 77; Mr. Corlett, 79. The Douglas links have just been laid out for Mr. George Drinkwater by Tom Morris, and the nine holes comprise 3,135 yards, with plenty of hazards. Links are shortly to be opened at Ramsey and Castletown.

The recently formed City of Newcastle Club has been presented with a challenge cup (the gift of the president, Mr. J. W. Pease), and several of the leading tradespeople in the city also intend to follow the example of Mr. Pease, and give a trophy for competition. The club, which will probably begin operations during the course of next month has, in reply to a request, generously consented to assist in the formation of an artisans' club for Newcastle.

Ex-Provost Ballingall, of Dundee, has, through Mr. Colquhoun, Maulesbank, Carnoustie, sent a cheque for a handsome sum in aid of the stall at the Carnoustie Golf Links Bazaar, which is to be presided over by Mrs. Colquhoun and party.

Professionals will be glad to know that it is intended to have a great gathering of our best amateur and professional players at Pau, in the South of France, shortly. Many valuable prizes will be given, and copious hospitality will be extended to the visiting players. The expenses of the selected professionals will be paid to and from Pau. As there are one or two very good French professional players at Pau, it will be interesting to see how they cope with such predominant weight as is embodied in the persons of Douglas Rolland, the Kirkaldys, Sayers, Paxton, Brown, of Malvern, and others.

Prestwick St. Nicholas Golf Club have completed the preliminary arrangements for the acquisition of the new links, for which their committee have been for some time negotiating. Last week a large meeting of the club met and ratified the negotiations of the committee previously sanctioned, and a twenty years' lease of the ground has been obtained. The meeting also authorises the erection of a new club-house, at an estimated cost of £1,600. The action of the club in this matter is likely to have a very important and very beneficial bearing on the future of the club. The membership is increasing rapidly, and it has been decided, when it reaches 300, that the entry money shall be raised from £3 3s. to £5 5s. The work of preparing the new links will be proceeded with at once.

An endeavour is to be made this week to get golfers who reside in Dundee to inaugurate dumb-bell and Indian club classes in the fine gymnasium recently erected in that city. The promoters of the scheme contend that a much better swing and stronger stroke could be developed by a course of training, under a qualified instructor. The matter will be discussed at a meeting to be held this week, and should the classes be formed Mr. Cleave will undertake the duties of instructor.

The Guildford Club play a ten a-side match with Oxford University Golf Club on Saturday next, November 21st, when play will begin at 11.45.

\* \* \*

RECORD OF WEST LANCASHIRE GOLF CLUB, BLUNDELL-SANDS.—Alexander Herd, the new professional of this club, who has recently come from St. Andrews, secured the record of the green when playing against Mr. Helenus R. Robertson on November 14th. His score of 73, which it will be noticed does not contain any figure above a 5, was as follows:—Out, 5 4 4 4 5 4 3 4 5=38; in, 4 4 3 4 2 4 5 5 4=35; total, 73. The St. Andrew's meeting of this club is to be held on Saturday, when a large number of players are expected to compete for the various prizes.

\* \* \*

Willie Fernie, playing over Troon links the other day, put together a somewhat curious score, which, though four strokes over his record of 68, contained a record for the nine holes out (reversed round). The peculiarity of the score, however, is that two of the holes going out were taken in one and two strokes respectively. The one was from a full shot off the tee going from "Garden" to "Crosbie," and the two going from "Alton" to "Burmah," a fine drive and a long putt accomplishing this. The details of the full round were: Out, 5 3 4 1 5 2 4 4 4=32; in, 5 5 5 5 4 4 4 4 4=40; total, 72. It should be noted that the score out was actually done in 31 shots, Fernie playing into the field going to the first hole and having to lift, losing a shot.

\* \* \*

TOOTING AMATEUR RECORD BROKEN.—Mr. Arthur Denman, playing with Mr. Dunlop Hill, succeeded in lowering the amateur record at Tooting with a score of 75, made up as follows:—Out, 4 6 7 3 5 3 4 3 3=38; in, 4 4 3 6 6 2 3 4 5=37; total, 75.

\* \* \*

HOLE IN ONE AT GREAT YARMOUTH.—Notices of holes done in one stroke do not seem so fashionable now as they were a little time ago. Possibly this is because these occurrences are more frequent. It might be well to put on record the fact that the veteran golfer, Mr. G. C. Snelling, holed the sixteenth, or Short hole, on the Great Yarmouth Links in one stroke on Friday, the 6th inst. The hole is guarded by whins, only the flag on the top of the tall pin in the hole being visible from the tee. Mr. Snelling was engaged in a friendly match on the eve of the first day of the club's autumn meeting. Walking on to the green after the tee shots, Mr. Snelling's ball was not visible, but was shortly discovered at the bottom of the hole. A gentleman in Her Majesty's service, who happened to be perambulating the green, made an assertion that the ball had reached its position without the aid of any "agency outside the match."

\* \* \*

The total membership of the recently-formed City of Newcastle Club has now reached a total of 175. Tom Fernie, late Ardeer Club, has been appointed professional to the club.

\* \* \*

A CHRISTMAS PRESENT.—For weary golfers at home and abroad, "Tee-Shot Bitters" at the nineteenth hole!

## YE CHRONICLE OF ST. ANDREW.

(BEING ST. ANDREW'S DAY AS HELD IN CALCUTTA.)

1. It came to pass, in the year one thousand eight hundred and four-score and one, in the City of Palaces, dwelt certain wise men from a far country beyond the great sea.
2. (In that year the rulers of the city did that which was right in their own eyes.)
3. Now these wise men assembled themselves together, and they said one to another, Go to, let us remember the brethren whom we have left.
4. For behold we be in a far country, and it shall come to pass that men shall say of us, Ye be nameless on the earth: ye have fled from the land of your nativity, because the land of your nativity is poor.
5. This thing, therefore, will we do; we will make a great feast, so that the nose of whomsoever smelleth it shall tingle, and we will call to mind the ancient days and the mighty deeds of our fathers.

6. So they appointed a day, and many were gathered together,—a mixed multitude from the Land of Cakes and of Thistles, from the West and from the North, and from the Isles of the Sea.

7. And behold a great feast was prepared, and men in white raiment ministered unto them, and a ruler of the feast was appointed, and set in the midst.

8. And forthwith to each man was given a writing of the good things of the feast, and the writing was in a tongue no man could understand, for the language was the language of the *Crapaud*, which signifieth, in the heathen tongue, a frog.

9. And some there were who pretended to know the writing, and the interpretation thereof. Now, these were hypocrites; for they knew but six letters of the writing, and these letters were H A G G I S, and even this much was a great mystery.

10. And the dishes no man could number. The people ate mightily, as it were the space of one hour. And no man spoke to his neighbour till his inner man was comforted.

11. And while they ate, behold there drew near three mighty men of valour, clothed in many-coloured garments; and they bore in their arms musical instruments shaped like unto a beast of prey.

12. And they blew mightily upon what seemed the tail thereof, and straightway came thereforth shrieks and sounds as it were the howling of the damned.

13. And the hearts of the people were comforted, for this is that wherein their great strength lieth.

14. And wine was brought in vessels; but the children of the North would none of these; for they quenched their thirst with the dew of the Mountain, which is the water of fire.

15. Then spake the wise men of the congregation unto them, and called to mind the ancient days and the mighty deeds of their fathers. And the people rejoiced exceedingly.

16. Now it came to pass when they had eaten and drunken greatly, even unto the full, that the hinges of their tongues were loosened—yea, even the joints of their knees.

17. And the ruler of the feast fled to his home, and a third part of the multitude followed, and a third part remained, saying, "We thirst;" and a third part rose up to play.

18. And they played after the fashion of their country, and their movements resembled the peregrinations of a hen upon a griddle, which is hot. Yet they seemed to think it pleasant, for they shouted for joy.

19. Now as for them that were athirst, behold their drinking was steady, but their limbs were not so; yea, they also shouted for joy, and sang amazingly.

20. And they answered one to another and said, that notwithstanding the crowing of the cock, or the dawning of the day, they should still partake of the juice of the barley. So they encouraged one another with these words.

21. Now it came to pass that, as they sat, one came and said that he had seen a strange fire in the sky, but what it was he could not tell.

22. And some said, It is the moon; and others said, It is the sun; and some said, Doth the sun rise in the west? and others said, This is not the west, but the east; and some said, Which is it? for we perceive two in the sky.

23. And one said, I see nothing. Now the name of that man was Blin Foo. He was son of Fill Foo, and his mother's name was Haud Foo; and his brethren Bung Foo, Sing Foo, Greet Foo, and Dam Foo, were speechless.

24. Then each man bade his neighbour farewell, embracing and vowing eternal friendship, and some were borne home by men in scanty raiment, and others in carriages which jingled as they went; and others drove their own chariots home, and saw many strange sights; for they found grass growing and ditches in the midst of the way where they had not perceived them before.

25. And it came to pass that in the morning many lamented, and took no breakfast that day; and the men in white raiment brought into them many cunningly devised drinks, yea, pick-me-ups, for their tongues clove to the roofs of their mouths, and the spittle on their beard was like unto a small silver coin, even a sixpence.

26. But when they thought of the previous day, they rejoiced again, for they said, Our brethren whom we have left, will hear of it at the feast of the New Year, and they will remember us and bless us, and our hearts and hands shall be strengthened for our labour here.

ANSTRUTHER CLUB.—The competition for the monthly medal took place on Saturday over the Billowness course. Two rounds were played. Mr. John Fairweather, Cellardyke, was the winner, with a score of 85, less 5=80. Mr. James Laurie was second with a scratch score of 84.



ABERDEEN.

The match between the Aberdeen and Victoria Clubs, to which I referred in last week's letter, duly came off on Saturday over the Balgowan course. A perfect deluge of rain fell on Friday afternoon and night; but Saturday turned out fine, though somewhat dull in the early part of the day. The rain, however, did a world of good to the course, and the various putting-greens could not have been in better condition. The match was, as usual, decided by holes, and twenty-three players started on each side. After a capitally-contested game between the majority of the couples, Victory declared for the Aberdeen Club by 18 holes, fourteen of their players gaining 43 holes, while seven players on the Victoria side put on a total of 25 holes, the remaining two couples halving their matches. The members of the visiting team were most hospitably entertained by their partners in the club-room on the conclusion of the match, and altogether a very pleasant day was spent. The following is the full score by holes:—

ABERDEEN CLUB.		VICTORIA CLUB.	
	Holes.		Holes.
Mr. J. H. Craigie	5	Mr. J. Russell	0
Mr. W. F. Orr	6	Mr. A. Cooper	0
Mr. C. C. Macdonald (capt.)	4	Mr. D. J. Innes (capt.)	0
Mr. F. K. Weir	0	Mr. L. Anderson	2
Mr. B. S. M'Lellan	1	Mr. R. Balmain	0
Mr. W. R. Reid	1	Mr. J. B. Banks	0
Mr. W. Moir	0	Mr. R. W. Beedie	1
Mr. R. D. Leslie	0	Mr. A. Mitchell	7
Mr. F. C. Diack	3	Mr. J. Gray	0
Dr. J. Ogilvie	0	Mr. G. Mortimer	1
Mr. W. G. Jamieson	3	Mr. W. H. Reid	0
Mr. J. R. Whyte	0	Mr. R. Anderson (2)	4
Mr. T. Todd	0	Mr. J. Forrest	1
Prof. Wilson	0	Mr. J. Duncan, jun.	0
Mr. W. C. H. Jopp	1	Mr. W. Pollock	0
Mr. G. Turriff	6	Mr. J. Hazlewood	0
Mr. J. A. Adamson	0	Mr. J. Stewart	9
Mr. W. Graham Walker	3	Mr. T. Crighton	0
Mr. J. B. Craigie	2	Mr. G. Hendry	0
Mr. G. J. Murray	1	Mr. D. Jessiman	0
Mr. F. Laing	1	Mr. G. Barron	0
Mr. J. S. Cornwall	6	Mr. T. M'Rae	0
Mr. J. A. Montgomerie	0	Mr. T. Niven	0
	43		25

Majority for Aberdeen Club, 18 holes.

ALNMOUTH CLUB.

The last of the series of preliminary rounds for the Marsh prize was played off last Saturday. The gift takes the form of a water-colour drawing, and has been competed for nine times this season, and the individual winners will shortly be called upon to play off the final. Nine competitors started in all, in fairly good weather, and Messrs. T. Tate and F. W. Wyndham tied for premier honours at 89. The tie was played off last Wednesday. Scores:—

Gross. Hcp. Net.		Gross. Hcp. Net.	
Mr. T. Tate	96 7 89	Mr. J. B. Radcliffe	92 scr. 92
Mr. F. W. Wyndham	110 21 89	Mr. J. E. Davidson	112 15 97
Mr. W. R. Heathley	110 20 90	Mr. J. Robertson	104 7 97
Mr. T. L. M. Orde	97 7 90	Mr. F. T. Ridley	101 3 98

Mr. J. Lowrie made no return.

EDINBURGH CITY CHAMBERS GOLF CLUB.—The monthly competition for the "Skinner" medal was held on the Braid Hills on Saturday. Result:—1, Don Cameron; 2, D. W. Walker; and 3, John Wotherspoon.

ASCOT LADIES' GOLF CLUB.

The last of the monthly competitions for Mrs. Wood's and Mrs. H. C. Clarke's prizes was played on Thursday, the 12th inst., when Mrs. H. Blackett won the scratch prize for the second time, and the Hon. E. Milman and Miss F. Magniac tied for the handicap prize with net scores of 88 each. Scores:—

Gross. Hcp. Net.		Gross. Hcp. Net.	
Hon. E. Milman	96 8 88	Baroness Berkeley	105 10 95
Miss F. Magniac	98 10 88	Miss R. D. Hay	96 scr. 96
Mrs. H. Blackett	92 scr. 92	Miss Magniac	112 16 96
Miss V. Hanbury	111 19 92	Miss Ida Clement	98 scr. 98
Miss C. Bruce	103 8 95		

BATH GOLF CLUB.

The November meeting of this club was held on the links near Sham Castle on Thursday and Friday (12th and 13th November). Fortunately the weather on both days was fairly good, which was rather unexpected after the violent gale on the day previous, but the ground was very spongy, and this prevented good scores from being made.

Thursday morning, November 12th:—

Gross. Hcp. Net.		Gross. Hcp. Net.	
*Mr. W. Fairbanks	95 8 87	Mr. P. V. Turner	103 10 93
†Captain Comber	117 30 87	Captain Crawford	106 12 94
Mr. J. N. Willan	102 12 90	Mr. Barstow	121 23 98
Mr. C. Cammell	115 25 90	Captain Donaldson	124 22 102
Mr. Hill	105 12 93		

\* Winner of the captain's medal, with memento for best scratch score.

† Winner of the silver tankard, with memento for best score under handicap.

No returns:—Captain Corse Scott, Mr. E. Clutterbuck, Captain Archdale, Dr. Maitland, and Colonel Ricketts.

Thursday afternoon, November 12th:—

Gross. Hcp. Net.		Gross. Hcp. Net.	
*Mr. C. Cammell	114 25 89	Capt. Crawford	108 12 96
†Mr. A. C. Crawford	103 14 89	Mr. Barstow	121 23 98
†Mr. G. H. Clark	106 14 92	Mr. Treadgold	123 20 103
†Capt. Corse Scott	98 4 94	Major Sykes	123 14 109
Col. Ricketts	114 19 95		

\* Winner of first handicap prize. † Winners of optional sweepstakes.

No returns:—Messrs. M. B. Cammell, E. Clutterbuck, G. W. Chapman, Capt. Archdale, and Major Davidson.

Friday morning, November 13th:—

Gross. Hcp. Net.		Gross. Hcp. Net.	
*Mr. A. B. Hill	103 12 91	Mr. J. N. Willan	107 12 95
†Mr. C. Cammell	115 23 92	Major Sykes	112 14 98
Mr. P. V. Turner	103 10 93	Mr. Barstow	122 23 99

\* Mr. A. B. Hill won the first prize presented by Col. Ricketts for best score under handicap.

† Mr. C. Cammell won the second prize given by the Bath Club for second best score under handicap.

Capt. Donaldson, Capt. Crawford, Mr. Bigland Wood, Col. Ricketts, Capt. Comber, made no returns.

Friday afternoon, November 13th:—

Gross. Hcp. Net.		Gross. Hcp. Net.	
*Mr. Barstow	111 23 88	Mr. A. C. Crawford	105 12 93
†Mr. B. Cammell	104 14 90	Col. M. P. Ricketts	113 19 94
†Mr. P. V. Turner	102 10 92	Mr. C. Cammell	117 23 94
Mr. A. B. Hill	105 12 93	Major Sykes	115 14 101

\* Winner of first handicap prize. † Winners of optional sweepstakes.

Capt. Donaldson made no return.

BIRKDALE GOLF CLUB.

The first monthly medal competition took place on Saturday, the 7th inst., in very wet weather, the field being consequently small. The scores were as follows:—

Gross. Hcp. Net.		Gross. Hcp. Net.	
Mr. W. E. Buckley	95 16 79	Mr. C. A. Colman	111 18 93
Mr. R. G. Hayward	99 18 81	Mr. T. O. Clinning	119 26 93
Mr. G. D. S. Crowther	99 14 85	Mr. F. Baker	131 not h'cp.
Mr. G. Crowther	100 12 88		

LARGS CLUB.—The following are the best scores made in the game for the captain's medal on Saturday:—Mr. John Baldie, 56, less 6=50; Mr. John H. Boyd, 85, less 18=67; Mr. Thomas S. Colquhoun, 88, less 18=70; Mr. William Easton, 92, less 18=74; Mr. Robert Wood, 94, less 12=82; Mr. George Barclay, 100, less 12=88; Mr. Andrew M. Thomson, 101, less 6=95.

## BOURNEMOUTH GOLF CLUB.

## MONTHLY MEDAL.

Gross. Hcp. Net.			Gross. Hcp. Net.		
Mr. D. W. H. Robson	...	98	scr.	98	
Burrows ...	109	14	95	Mr. F. Stokes	...
Mr. R. H. Hodge...	107	10	97	Mr. W. Pott	...

Rev. J. Collard, Rev. O. K. Prescott, Messrs. J. Druitt, D. Preston, F. N. Hervey, made no return.

## DIDSBURY GOLF CLUB.

The competition on Saturday, 14th inst., for the monthly medal, presented by the captain, and optional sweepstakes resulted as follows:—

Gross. Hcp. Net.			Gross. Hcp. Net.		
Mr. J. G. Fleming...	114	20	94	Mr. T. D. Stewart...	106
Dr. Godde-Smith ...	116	20	96	Mr. W. Cownie ...	119
Mr. R. L. Taylor ...	116	19	97	Mr. H. R. Coubrough	100
Mr. A. Galbraith ...	117	20	97	Mr. W. H. Young...	120

## FORFARSHIRE.

The members of the Broughty Club held a competition on Saturday last at Monifieth for scratch and average prizes, consisting of balls and other golfing appliances. The weather was all that could be wished for. The best scores were as follows:—Mr. Alex. Bowman, 95; Mr. F. A. Begg, 96; and Mr. James Nicoll, 97. The prizes in the first class were won as follows:—Scratch, Mr. A. Bowman, 95; first average, Mr. J. Nicoll, 97, 1 above; second average, Mr. J. Bowman, 101, 3 above. Second class scratch and first sweepstake: Mr. Thos. E. Suttie, 102, 13 below; first average and second sweepstake: Mr. A. Miller, 106, 9 below; second average and third sweepstake: Mr. James Belford, 103, 7 below.

The ties in the first class in the recent competition among the members of the Monifieth Club were played off on the afternoon of Saturday last. Messrs. David Dargie and David Robertson were tied for the scratch prize, and on playing off they both came in level at 88. It was then agreed to play an additional two holes. From his tee shot Robertson lay well on the green, while his opponent drove into the burn. The hole went to Robertson in 3, Dargie taking 6 to get down. Going to the second hole Robertson again showed fine play, finishing with another 3 and winning the tie. In the average competitions Mr. Alex. Simpson came in first at 87; Mr. David Smith, second, at 91; Mr. J. C. Burns, third, at 91; and Mr. Dargie, fourth, at 88.

The monthly sweepstakes competition of the Dalhousie Golf Club was held at Carnoustie on Saturday. The weather being excellent, there was a large turn-out of players. Three of the competitors tied for the prize, namely, Mr. J. L. Luke, 88, less 2=86; Mr. H. M. Robinson, 92, less 6=86; and Mr. James Duncan, 92, less 6=86. Some good scores were made, among the best being—Mr. David Anderson, 88; Mr. R. B. Sharp, 88; Mr. H. B. Gilroy, 92; Mr. James Cunningham, jun., 93.

On Saturday afternoon, in playing off a tie with Mr. David Ramsay, jun., for the first-class scratch prize in the Carnoustie and Taymouth Golf Club competition, held the previous week, Mr. James Simpson defeated Mr. Ramsay, and secured the prize. Mr. Simpson was in exceptionally good form, and did the round at the remarkable score of 78, which was made up as follows:—

Out ...	4	4	5	4	5	3	6	4	5=40	} 78
In ...	4	4	3	4	6	4	5	4	4=38	

We understand a foursome match has been arranged between Messrs. William Young and George Wright, of the Monifieth Club, against Messrs. William Still and James Melville, of the Dundee Advertiser Club. A well-contested and interesting match should result.

## FORMBY GOLF CLUB.

The second of the winter monthly competitions for the Pearson prize took place on Saturday, the 14th inst., with the following result:—

Gross. Hcp. Net.			Gross. Hcp. Net.		
Mr. F. E. M. Dixon	88	scr.	88	Mr. W. E. Bland ...	114
Mr. J. Talbot Fair...	107	15	92	Mr. J. Shepherd ...	102
Mr. H. Eccles ...	107	14	93	Mr. W. M. Wylde...	115
Mr. J. E. Dean ...	106	10	96	Mr. F. A. Rockliff...	128
Mr. J. S. Remer ...	123	27	96	Mr. P. S. McCulloch	110
Mr. E. Hewer ...	99	2	97	Mr. J. E. Pearson...	113
Mr. D. Webster ...	108	11	97	Mr. R. W. Hutton...	114
Mr. F. C. Calthrop...	117	20	97	Mr. O. Blandell ...	123

Messrs. J. Ainsworth, H. Allen, J. B. Arkle, H. F. Bardswell, J. S. Beauford, A. Bright, J. R. Brooke, A. B. Canty, E. C. Edgecombe, J. B. Fortune, W. S. Higgin, H. H. Hosack, G. A. Johnstone, J. H. Law, E. C. Lowe, J. C. Lowe, F. Pocklington, G. Rheam, J. Welch, and Capt. J. Low made no return.

## FRASERBURGH.

The annual meeting of the Fraserburgh Golf Club was held in the Academy, Mid Street, on Wednesday evening, Mr. John Riach, captain of the club, presiding. There was a large attendance of members present. The secretary and treasurer's reports were submitted, and were considered highly satisfactory, the latter showing a substantial sum at the credit of the club. The two gold medals competed for during the year were presented to the winners, viz., Mr. G. M. Joss, the scratch trophy, and Mr. Robert Mutch, the handicap medal. Lieutenant Gairdner, R.N., at the request of Lord Saltoun, intimated that his Lordship was to present to the club, for competition, three gold medals, in gold, silver, and bronze. It was resolved to engross in the minutes the club's appreciation of his Lordship's continued liberality and interest in the club. Lieutenant Gairdner also presented a brass cleek-putter to the club, to be presented to the member at the new year's competition making the lowest score for the nine Home holes. The office-bearers for the ensuing year were elected as follows:—Honorary captain, Lord Saltoun; captain, Mr. Thomas Park; vice-captain, Rev. G. Wauchope Stewart; secretary and treasurer, Mr. John Cranna, jun., and Mr. David Bruce; council: Messrs. James Milne, G. M. Joss, George Stephen, Wm. Noble, and Wm. Grant.

## GREAT YARMOUTH v. CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY.

A team match was played between Cambridge University and Great Yarmouth last week. There were fourteen players on each side. Yarmouth won by nine holes. There was some good play, and the performance of Mr. J. L. Low, for Cambridge, was almost a record. He made the first nine holes in 34, a record never yet beaten, and the last nine holes in 42; total, 76. The following is a list of the teams and the holes won:—

GREAT YARMOUTH.		Holes.	CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY.		Holes.
Mr. W. P. Fulcher ...	...	5	Mr. R. A. Nicholson ..	...	0
Mr. J. G. Gibson ...	...	4	Mr. W. T. Linskill ...	...	0
Mr. W. O. S. Pell ...	...	0	Mr. E. C. P. Boyd ...	...	3
Mr. R. Whyte ...	...	0	Mr. J. L. Low...	...	4
Mr. A. L. Jockel ...	...	2	Mr. A. M. Chance ...	...	0
Mr. A. T. Jockel ...	...	1	Mr. J. E. Pease ...	...	0
Mr. A. H. Newington ...	...	1	Mr. A. M. Joshua ...	...	0
Mr. W. E. Hughes ...	...	0	Mr. C. C. Bethune ...	...	1
Mr. H. M. Bell ...	...	0	Mr. E. D. C. Strode ...	...	3
Mr. A. Rotherham ...	...	8	Mr. E. C. Hambro ...	...	0
Mr. E. G. Ashton ...	...	2	Mr. C. M. Hutchinson ...	...	0
Capt. H. C. Best ...	...	0	Mr. J. B. Whitelaw ...	...	2
Dr. T. Browne ...	...	0	Mr. G. R. M. Harvey ...	...	2
Major C. C. Welman ...	...	1	Rev. F. Faithful ...	...	0
		24			15

## GUILDFORD GOLF CLUB.

The monthly medal, November 14th. Weather fine, course very heavy after the recent rain. Scores:—

Gross. Hcp. Net.			Gross. Hcp. Net.		
Mr. W. M. Corrie...	95	13	82	Mr. J. Kenrick ...	96
Mr. H. L. Forbes...	92	9	83	Mr. B. Howell ...	97
Mr. W. D. Marshall.	97	13	84	Mr. W. P. Trench...	107
Mr. H. H. Playford...	93	6	87	Mr. D. L. Poole ...	104
Mr. H. A. Harvey...	102	13	89	Mr. A. H. Robinson	116
Mr. J. A. Ross ...	92	2	90	Mr. R. B. Reid ...	116

CUMBRAE GOLF CLUB.—The monthly competition for the medals presented by the captain, Mr. Alexander Russell, and Mr. James Allan was held on Saturday over the links of the Cumbrae club. Owing to the recent heavy rains, the course was in many parts soft and spongy, and spoiled many good shots; some of the greens were also rather difficult to manoeuvre. The day was remarkably mild, and the turn-out of members very fair, but the scores were unusually high, every pair as they came in complaining of their bad luck. The following are the best scores handed in:—Mr. William M'Farlane 107, less 5=102; Mr. John Reid, 119, less 12=107; Mr. James C. Sharp, 111, less 4=107; Mr. James Waddell, 126, less 18=108; Mr. Archibald Cameron, 118, less 8=110; Mr. John M'Farlane, 139, less 18=121; Mr. John Y. King, 143, less 13=130. Mr. William M'Farlane is the winner of the Russell medal, with a net score of 102, while for the James Allan medal two players have tied—Mr. James Waddell, 126, less 5=121; and Mr. John M'Farlane, 139, less 18=121.

MOFFAT GOLF CLUB.—The monthly competition for the Bodesbeck medal took place on Saturday. The weather was favourable, and the course and putting-greens were in excellent playing order, but the turn-out of members was not so numerous as usual. The medal was won by Mr. John Duncan, Academy House (scratch), with a score of 91.

LADIES' GOLF AT ST. ANNE'S-ON-THE-SEA.

The third and final competition for the handsome prize presented by Mrs. George Parkinson to the lady subscribers of the Lytham and St. Anne's Golf Club took place on the ladies' own links, at St. Anne's (twice round), on Wednesday, November 11th. The day was most unfavourable, a very heavy gale setting in about eleven a.m., accompanied with torrents of rain, and, consequently, only six ladies went out. The prize was given for the best two net scores out of three competitions, and it has been won by Miss M. Lythgoe, St. Anne's, with net scores of 93 and 96; total, 189. The following were the net scores of all the ladies who sent in returns, giving the total of the two best net scores:—

	Oct. 28.	Nov. 4.	Nov. 11.	Total.
Miss M. Lythgoe, St. Anne's ...	101	93	96	189
Mrs. R. H. Prestwich, Manchester ...	95	100	96	191
Miss Constance Salt, Lytham ...	98	96	...	194
Mrs. Eason, Lytham ...	105	95	...	200
Mrs. A. Brown, St. Anne's ...	98	104	105	202
Mrs. Miller, Singleton Park ...	100	104	...	204
Miss A. H. Thompson, St. Anne's ...	104	100	...	204
Mrs. E. Catterall, St. Anne's ...	107	103	...	210
Miss Edith Fair, Lytham ...	118	96	...	214
Miss Maud Salt, Lytham ...	124	117	...	241
Miss Smith, Bolton ...	131	116	...	247
Miss Whipp, St. Anne's ...	122	130	...	252
Miss Mugliston, Lytham ...	123	141	...	264
Miss Fair, Haigh ...	135	138	...	273
Miss Molyneux, Lytham ...	134	141	...	275
Miss M. Terry, St. Anne's ...	145	132	...	277
Mrs. Hermon, St. Anne's ...	96	...	...	...
Miss May Mugliston, Lytham ...	107	...	...	...
Miss E. Lythgoe, St. Anne's ...	108	...	...	...
Mrs. E. Harrison, St. Anne's ...	133	...	...	...
Miss J. Hargreaves, St. Anne's... ..	148	...	...	...
Mrs. Badeley, Blackpool ...	163	...	...	...
Miss Rosie Fair, Lytham ...	100	...	...	...
Mrs. F. W. Catterall, St. Anne's ...	109	...	...	...
Miss E. Bindloss, Lytham ...	116	...	...	...
Miss Bindloss, Lytham ...	135	...	...	...
Miss E. H. Salt, Lytham ...	145	...	...	...

NORTH BERWICK.

Little animation has been witnessed over the links here during the past week. Visitors have now departed for a season, and the stormy and unfavourable golfing weather lately experienced went far to give the green a desolate appearance. On Saturday, Mr. Leslie M. Balfour paid a visit to North Berwick, and was twice round the green in company with Mr. Charles L. Blaikie. Mr. Edward S. Mitchell Innes was also engaged in a friendly match. Visiting and resident golfers on Saturday enjoyed a very pleasant game, the day being an ideal one, the greens showing splendid order, and the course being anything but crowded. Playing last week with Sir W. Des Vœux, Davie Grant exhibited rare form in the outward half. At the shorter holes he had as many as three 2's in succession, and turned at the unusually low figure of 34 for the ten holes out, or rather less than an average of 3½ per hole. He failed to complete the round under 70, however, getting into difficulties on nearing home. Ben Sayers has had little or no practice over the course recently, having been otherwise busily engaged.

For Muirfield links, the new course of the Honourable Company, Mr. W. G. Blossom made a record score on Saturday. He had two rounds with Mr. R. H. Johnston, and in one of these he finished in the very fine figure of 80—40 out and 40 home. As may be judged from the details of his score, Mr. Blossom exhibited an excellent and steady game from start to finish. The figures were as follows:—

Out ... ..	4	5	5	4	5	4	3	6	4=40	} 80
In ... ..	5	5	5	5	4	3	4	4	5=40	

OXFORD UNIVERSITY GOLF CLUB.

The weekly handicap was played on Friday, November 13th. Result:—

	Gross.	Hcp.	Net.		Gross.	Hcp.	Net.
Mr. A. E. Ripley ...	94	7	87	Mr. R. W. Macan... ..	108	9	99
Mr. A. Moncrieff ...	105	15	90	Mr. G. R. Hamilton	109	8	101
Mr. H. T. Knight... ..	103	4	99	Mr. E.G. Carmichael	114	13	101

The second round of Inter-Collegiate foursomes resulted as follows: Trinity beat Exeter; Magdalen beat Wadham; Queen's beat Lincoln; Brasenose w.o. (New).

OXFORD UNIVERSITY v. WARWICK.

Played at Warwick on Thursday, November 12th, and won by Oxford by six holes, although Warwick won four matches to Oxford's

three. The result was mainly due to the fine form shown by Mr. H. Nicholls, whose driving was the feature of the day.

OXFORD.		WARWICK.	
	Holes.		Holes.
Mr. H. T. Knight ...	0	Col. Boothby ...	1
Mr. W. D. Davidson ...	4	Mr. W. O. S. Pell ...	0
Mr. F. H. Stewart ...	0	Hon. and Rev. H. C. Moncrieff	0
Mr. R. B. Pearson ...	2	Mr. A. K. Ashton ...	0
Mr. H. Nicholls ...	8	Mr. T. Latham ...	0
Mr. A. E. Ripley ...	0	Mr. F. C. Hunter Blair ...	2
Mr. P. Balfour... ..	0	Mr. H. Smith ...	3
Mr. H. Pelham ...	0	Hon. R. H. Lyttelton ...	2
Mr. J. G. Smith ...	0	Mr. A. Rotherham ...	0
Hon. D. H. Cairns ...	0	Mr. N. W. Brown ...	0
	14		8

PAU GOLF CLUB.

A correspondent writes:—The thirty-fifth season of this—as Golf clubs go—ancient club, has opened under very cheery circumstances. In the first place, the links have been very considerably enlarged by the purchase of the Pigeon Club grounds, where the lawn-tennis courts are now placed, and also four new holes for the Ladies' Golf Club; so that the ground occupied by the tennis and by the ladies club at the south-east corner of the Plaine can now be played over. The land over Jordan also improves year by year; the greens are in splendid condition, and for inland links Pau is hard to beat.

In the second place, the club-house which we thought already so comfortable, has been completely metamorphosed. Mr. J. M. Post, the hon. sec., has been hard at work all the summer, urging on the dilatory Pau workmen to get things in order for the opening of the season. All now is ready for the advancing army of golfers from the north. The two cottages have been joined, giving place for a large smoking-room, from the bay window of which the whole links can be viewed. Upstairs, new dressing-rooms, lavatories, and a bath-room, have been added. The ladies have a charming sitting-room which, no doubt, they will soon decorate with taste, where the latest Pau gossip will be discussed over a cup of "Josephine's" best tea. The club is very much indebted to Mr. Post for the trouble he has taken. No one who has not had to do with the Pau contractor and workman can fully appreciate the amount of patience it requires before such a well-finished work can be completed. That it is completed we may heartily congratulate ourselves, while thanking him for the comforts he has provided us with.

The medal programme will be practically the same as last year, but it has been impossible to fix the exact dates; the race fixtures not having been as yet published.

January.—Arthur Post medal; Brooke challenge cup; Anstruther shield; Macnab cup.

February.—Town gold medal; St. Andrew's cross; May jubilee medal; Captain's prize.

March.—Hamilton gold medal; Havemeyer cup; Ladies' gold and silver medal.

April.—Morris Post prize; Ridley cup; Macdona cup.

In addition to these it is proposed to hold in February—about the time of the big steeplechases—a professional and amateur competition. Very valuable prizes will be competed for, and arrangements made to defray the expenses to and from Pau of a number of the first professional players. The hon. secretary will shortly put himself in communication with the Scotch and English clubs on this subject. It is hoped that the Pau Golf week will become one of the great events of the golfing year, and those who know what Pau hospitality can testify what "a good time" awaits those who decide to come over here next February.

Among players already here are Capt. Herbert Naylor Leyland, Lieut.-Col. Buscarlet, Mr. J. Morris Post, Mr. Herbert Maud, Mr. W. Dalziel, Mr. J. R. Boreel, Mr. A. H. Foster-Barham (captain), Mr. Reginald de Longueil, Lord Herschell, Sir Victor Brooke, Messrs. Ronald and Victor Brooke, junr., Sir John Nugent, Rev. Acland Troyte, Mr. J. B. Morris, Mr. H. Ross, and Major Malcolm Patton.

RANELAGH CLUB.

The first competition for the weekly medal given by a member of the committee to be played for on any day during the week, resulted for that ending 14th inst. in the scores below, the winner being Mr. J. G. Wylie.

	Gross.	Hcp.	Net.		Gross.	Hcp.	Net.
Mr. J. G. Wylie ...	103	15	88	Mr. C. Bramley ...	116	20	96
Mr. C. Wintle ...	115	24	91	Mr. W. Jackson ...	115	18	97
Mr. R. Dawson ...	118	25	93	Mr. C. O'Malley ...	122	25	97
Mr. R. Bramwell				Capt. Cowper Coles	108	10	98
Davis ...	109	14	95	Mr. J. F. Leese ...	123	25	98
Mr. W. Russell ...	108	12	96	Mr. W. H. Miller... ..	117	18	99

Other scores were 100 and over, or no returns were given in.

## ROCHESTER GOLF CLUB.

Result of match, played at St. Mary's Links, Chatham, on November 10th, between the officers of the Royal Engineers and the Rochester Club:—

ROYAL ENGINEER OFFICERS.			ROCHESTER.		
	Holes.			Holes.	
Major Preston ...	10	Mr. C. Lake ...	0		
Mr. C. G. Burnaby ...	0	Mr. G. Style ...	0		
Mr. R. S. Walker ...	0	Mr. K. MacDonald ...	0		
Mr. J. B. Barsten ...	3	Mr. A. Sealy ...	0		
Mr. E. C. Seaman ...	0	Colonel A. Langdon ...	9		
Mr. C. B. Gwynn ...	0	Mr. T. Winch... ..	1		
	13		10		

## ROYAL CORNWALL GOLF CLUB.

The first of the winter series of monthly handicaps was played on the County Links on Friday, November 5th, and was easily won by the Hon. George Molesworth, a very promising young player, who, with a little professional coaching, would soon give a good account of himself, and no doubt will keep up the reputation of the name he bears, so well known in the golfing world. Scores:—

	1st Rnd.	2nd Rnd.	Gross.	Hcp.	Net.
Hon. Geo. Molesworth ...	60	60	120	30	90
Mr. E. Cochran ...	53	54	107	12	95
Mr. C. H. Hext ...	49	51	100	5	95
Brigade-Surgeon Elliot ...	60	57	117	20	97
Mr. Herbert Mansel ...	53	58	111	12	99
Colonel Parkyn ...	62	68	130	30	100
Rev. W. Matthews ...	58	65	123	18	105
Mr. R. Rogers ...	70	64	134	27	107
Mr. Melvill Sandys ...	53	62	115	6	109

## ROYAL JERSEY GOLF CLUB.

Saturday, November 7th.—The monthly prize:—

Gross. Hcp. Net.			Gross. Hcp. Net.				
*†Col. L. Campbell ...	97	14	83	Lieut.-Col. Mayne... ..	103	9	94
Mr. G. Hornby ...	85	1	84	Capt. Mohl... ..	108	14	94
†Dr. Comerford ...	96	12	84	Rev. W. Holland ...	112	18	94
†Major Little ...	101	17	84	Capt. Robin ...	100	4	96
Major Scott ...	91	scr.	91	Capt. Fairlie ...	102	6	96
Mr. R. Lattimer ...	100	7	93	Mr. W. H. Monckton	114	17	97
Mr. T. W. Barker ...	99	5	94	Mr. D. Turnbull ...	114	15	99

\* Winner of prize. † Divided sweepstakes.

No returns from several players.

## ST. GEORGE'S GOLF CLUB (SANDWICH).

Monthly medal, November 15th:—

Gross. Hcp. Net.			Gross. Hcp. Net.				
Capt. Eccles ...	101	18	83	Mr. J. L. Ridpath	104	11	93
Capt. J. C. Tattersall	91	8	83	Mr. A. Adams ...	104	10	94
Mr. F. T. Welman	91	4	87	Dr. Flint ...	115	20	95
Mr. O. R. Luxford	102	15	87	Mr. J. Abernethy... ..	117	22	95
Mr. W. P. Matthews	101	10	91	Capt. Austen ...	110	13	97

The remainder were either over the hundred, or made no return.

## SOUTHPORT GOLF CLUB.

The monthly medal was played for on Saturday, 14th November. Scores:—

Gross. Hcp. Net.			Gross. Hcp. Net.				
Mr. W. M. Wylde... ..	96	16	80	Mr. Thos. Aitken ...	106	16	90
Mr. W. Rowley ...	96	14	82	Dr. Bell ...	116	25	91
Mr. W. E. Bland ...	99	16	83	Mr. H. Sidebottom..	106	12	94
Mr. R. H. Prestwich	90	6	84	Mr. T. O. Clinning..	117	20	97

No return was made by several members.

## STAINES GOLF CLUB.

The second monthly medal meeting was held on the links, Shortwood Common, on Saturday last (November 14th). The following were the scores:—

Gross. Hcp. Net.			Gross. Hcp. Net.				
Mr. M. W. Mossop... ..	98	18	80	Capt. Warren ...	108	12	96
Capt. F. R. Harrison	99	12	87	Mr. F. Tyler ...	120	20	100
Mr. F. B. Maddison	95	8	87	Mr. W. G. Rigden... ..	117	14	103
Mr. A. K. Farlow... ..	106	12	94	Rev. F. C. Williamson	115	12	103
Mr. A. Somervail ...	115	20	95				

Six other players did not return their scores.

## SUTTON COLDFIELD GOLF CLUB.

The November medal competition was held on the Streetly Links, on Saturday, the 14th inst., when Mr. J. H. Chavasse took the bronze medal and sweepstakes. Scores:—

Gross. Hcp. Net.			Gross. Hcp. Net.				
Mr. J. H. Chavasse .	97	23	74	Mr. F. Rathbone ...	105	16	89
Mr. J. E. Evershed..	110	25	85	Mr. F. Winder ...	116	27	89
Mr. P. A. Bourke ...	114	27	87	Mr. H. M. Eddowes	106	14	92
Major Lockyer ...	105	17	88				

Several players made no returns.

## TOOTING BEC GOLF CLUB.

The monthly medal was played for on Saturday. There was a fair attendance of members, but the number of "no returns" was far higher than the ordinary average. Owing to the recent rain the putting-greens and course generally were very heavy.

Gross. Hcp. Net.			Gross. Hcp. Net.				
Mr. A. J. Robertson	88	4	84	Mr. C. A. S. Leggatt	98	6	92
Mr. F. Taylor ...	92	8	84	Mr. W. Jeans... ..	109	16	93
Hon. L. Ashley ...	100	15	85	Mr. J. Robb ...	101	8	93
Mr. A. Denman ...	87	scr.	87	Major Lindsay ...	99	6	93
Mr. J. P. Croal ...	94	4	90	Mr. R. Fogg ...	118	20	98
Mr. G. H. Gill ...	106	16	90	Mr. E. H. Stevenson	118	13	105

Many players made no returns.

## THE WARWICKSHIRE GOLF CLUB.

The autumn meeting of this club began on Wednesday, 11th inst. Rain had fallen during the previous night and continued all day, a high wind increasing to a gale in the afternoon. The competition for the Moncrieff silver carvers resulted in a win for Mr. W. O. S. Pell, the captain of the club, with a splendid round of 95, less 2=93; Mr. M. Brown was second, and Mr. T. Latham third. Among the other players were Mr. W. Ricketts, Mr. F. C. Hunter-Blair, and Mr. W. Maclaren. Friday was devoted to a foursome competition by strokes. Fine weather again favoured the players. The winners were Colonel Boothby and Mr. W. O. S. Pell, 102, less 2½=99½; Hon. and Rev. R. C. Moncrieff and Mr. F. C. Hunter Blair, 105, less 4½=100½, were second, and Mr. M. Hill and Mr. S. H. Le Fleming, 130, less 21½=108½, third. The next pairs were Messrs. W. M'Laren and J. M. Heathcote, 124, less 14=110, and Messrs. M. Brown and C. G. Graham, 121, less 9½=111½. The autumn meeting concluded on Saturday, when the weather was beautiful, and the links much improved after three fine days. Mr. W. O. S. Pell won the Shaw gold medal, scratch, and captaincy of the club with a score of 95; Mr. F. C. Hunter-Blair and the Hon. R. H. Lyttelton were equal second at 98, scratch. The last two tied for the handicap prize, and Mr. P. A. Leaf, 108, less 14=94, and Mr. W. O. S. Pell, 95, less 1=94, were equal third. Mr. Pell, who had played well all the week, becomes captain of the club for the third year in succession. The Savile cup tournament, handicap by holes, begins next Saturday.

## THE £10 CUP COMPETITION AT CHESTER.

This event, briefly chronicled last week, came off at Hwarden Bridge, and so popular did it prove that there were fifty-five entries for the open competition, of which the chief attraction was a £10 cup, presented by the Hon. C. H. Vivian and Mr. John Urmsom, to be won outright. A liberal handicap was allowed, as many as fifty strokes to some, who it seemed wanted after all a few more! A gold medal for the best scratch score of the day was presented by the club, and prizes to the value of the entrance-fees were distributed among the second and third. As a consolation for being No. 15 on the list, a prize of £1 was offered. Two players tied for this, and on "playing off" a Blundellsands' golfer was the lucky one. The day was not auspicious for the visitors, the light obscuring the distances of the holes, and confusing the judgment. Still, it was fine, the greens were in good order, true and keen, and the lies through the green, although somewhat heavy, fairly good. The bunkers were, as usual, very dirty, and not too well defined, although the local players know where to find them from bitter experience. The visitors seem also to have made their acquaintance, and the gross scores were all round not so good as in the August open competition. A good many Hoylake players tried their luck again, and Blundellsands also sent a greedy (pardon the word) contingent, and, of course, there was a strong mustering of the local players, all with formidable handicaps, including the popular member for the Eddisbury Division, Mr. Henry Tollemache, M.P.

For some time it was thought that the return of Mr. C. Lace of a net 86 would stand unchallenged, and that he would be hailed the winner of the cup, but unfortunately for him and the club a mistake had been made in the totals of Mr. L. D. Stoddart's two figures of 44 and 45, which had been reckoned as 99 instead of 89 gross, thus making him, with a handicap of 4, 1 less than Mr. Lace, namely, 85

net, and this proved to be the absolute pride of place, and consequently entitled to the final possession of the cup. Mr. Stoddart had played a fine round of 89, being 7 points behind Mr. John Ball, junr., whose card stood at 82, which easily secured the club gold medal for the best scratch score. Mr. Lacey was second on the list with 86, and entitled to the first money prize, and close up came Mr. Ball with 87 (82+5), who received the second stakes, and following him were a couple of 88's, which went unrewarded. The remaining scores were so close that it was apparent the handicapping committee had calculated form to a nicety. General regret was expressed that the well-known figure of Mr. H. Hilton should be conspicuous by its absence, only to leave Mr. J. Ball alone in his glory. These two usually have a close tussle for the best scratch score. Another familiar "swing" was also not to be seen on the tee, Mr. J. Rowley being deterred from playing owing to indisposition. The following is a *fac simile* of the best scratch score:—Out, 5 4 3 6 5 4 4 6 5=42; in, 6 4 5 6 6 2 3 4 4=40; total, 82. The failing here is curiously enough at the fifth short hole across, a favourite trap of Mr. Ball's, where he required 5 for a three hole. The rest of the card is in accordance with his usual excellence. Mr. Stoddart's 89 was made up as follows:—Out, 6 6 5 6 3 5 4 4 6 =45; in, 6 4 5 5 5 4 4 5 6=44. Mr. Stoddart is clearly a player of no mean capacity, and could doubtless improve upon this score with a longer acquaintance of the links. Appended are the scores:—

	Gross.	Hcp.	Net.
*Mr. L. D. Stoddart, West. Lanc.	89	4	85
†Mr. C. Lacey, Chester ...	119	33	86
‡Mr. J. Ball, jun., Hoylake	82	+5	87
Mr. W. D. Jolliffe, Chester ...	118	30	88
Mr. O. Blundell, West Lanc.	104	16	88
Mr. A. Barker, Chester ...	140	50	90
Mr. R. Haigh, Hoylake ...	111	20	91
Mr. R. F. Fisher, Chester ...	107	15	92
Mr. C. F. Mould, Chester ...	138	45	93
Mr. R. Blain, Chester ...	118	25	93
Mr. T. Dixon, Formby ...	99	5	94
Mr. W. H. Shuter, Eddisbury ...	134	40	94
Mr. H. Tollemache, M.P., Chester	130	35	95
Mr. C. H. Smith, Chester ...	116	20	96
Mr. H. Stock, Chester ...	114	18	96
Mr. W. T. Rowley, Southport ...	121	25	96
Mr. J. Campbell, Leasowe ...	123	25	98
Mr. A. Shaw, Chester ...	121	23	98
Mr. R. Gould, Hoylake ...	108	8	100
Mr. R. Wilkinson, Chester ...	141	40	101
Dr. Davidson, Hoylake ...	107	6	101
Mr. W. Hayes, Chester ...	143	40	103
Mr. E. Gardner, Chester ...	139	35	104
Mr. F. Evans, Chester ...	135	30	105
Mr. Rollo, West Lanc. ...	127	21	106
Mr. H. Wilson, Chester ...	124	16	108
Mr. R. T. Richardson, Chester ...	139	30	109
Capt. Drummond, Eddisbury ...	142	32	110
Mr. J. S. Moreton, Eddisbury ...	143	32	111
Mr. G. T. Johnson, Chester ...	162	50	112
Mr. J. G. Smith, Chester ...	137	20	117
Mr. J. Moreton, Eddisbury ...	138	20	118
Mr. G. H. Rogerson, Chester ...	168	45	123
Captain Young, Chester ...	147	22	125
Mr. F. H. Lloyd, Chester ...	186	50	136

\* Winner of the £10 cup. † 1st sweepstakes. ‡ Scratch gold medal and second sweepstakes. A good many made no return.

UNITED SERVICE GOLF CLUB.

The monthly medal was played for at Haslar on Saturday, November 7th, and was won by Dr. Reid, R.N., with a net score of 86. These links are now in excellent order and the greens are perfect. Scores:—

	Gross.	Hcp.	Net.		Gross.	Hcp.	Net.
Dr. Reid, R.N. ...	89	3	86	Mr. L. G. Bonham			
Mr. F. N. Templer	97	10	87	Carter ..	107	8	99
Dr. Handyside, R.N.	105	13	92	Col. J. S. Walker...	111	10	101
Capt. Vidal, R.E. ...	106	8	98				

QUEEN OF THE SOUTH V. DUMFRIES AND GALLOWAY.—An eleven a-side match between these clubs—the former of which has only sprung into existence during the summer—took place over Kingholm course on Saturday afternoon. The heavy rain of the Friday rendered the ground very soft and disagreeable to play upon, and the state of the putting-greens likewise militated against good scoring. Over the first nine couples, the victors had only a majority of 3, but their last two men being in the exceptional position of standing 18 holes up, which made the young club winners by 21 holes. One or two of the scratch players were absent on both sides.

WEST HERTS GOLF CLUB.

The usual monthly medal handicap competition was played over the club course at Bushey on Saturday last, scores being given below. The club winter meeting will be held on the 28th inst. :—

	Gross.	Hcp.	Net.		Gross.	Hcp.	Net.
Mr. W. Wilson ...	99	12	87	Mr. E. R. Harby ...	109	21	98
Mr. Thomson Glover	91	4	87	Mr. O. W. F. Hill...	120	21	99
Mr. A. B. Chalmers	93	6	87	Mr. H. J. Cottam...	118	15	103
Mr. J. D. Pattullo..	105	15	90	Mr. Neal ...	127	22	105
Mr. Denton Scholes	108	18	90	Mr. C. E. Fry ...	131	22	109
Mr. Howard Williams	106	14	92	Rev. E. H. Perry ...	135	25	109
Mr. A. H. Wallace	101	9	92	Mr. E. F. Jackson...	133	22	111
Mr. B. M. Barton ...	101	8	93	Mr. C. Davis ...	140	25	115
Mr. A. A. Macnab..	117	24	93	Mr. J. E. Ewer ...	144	26	118
Mr. A. Melville ...	97	scr.	97	Mr. J. P. Dick ...	124	not h'cpd	

WHITLEY GOLF CLUB.

The event set down for decision on the roth inst. was the competition for the Joicey cup, this being the second contest this season for the trophy. Favourable weather prevailed, and twelve competitors started, and first honours were secured by a beginner at the game, Mr. W. C. Beale, with a net score of 86. Details:—

	Gross.	Hcp.	Net.		Gross.	Hcp.	Net.
Mr. W. C. Beale ...	116	30	86	Mr. G. W. Williams	97	3	94
Mr. F. T. Ridley ...	93	5	88	Mr. E. S. Osborne	105	11	94
Mr. G. F. Charlton	93	3	90	Dr. Treadwell ...	101	5	96
Mr. J. W. Wood ...	95	5	90	Mr. B. Brumell ...	113	17	96
Mr. J. B. Radcliffe...	93	scr.	93				

Messrs. T. A. Hutton, F. W. Wyndham, and J. Milton retired. Mr. F. T. Ridley was successful in the optional sweepstakes, and Messrs. Charlton and Wood divided second honours.

CALLANDER V. OBAN.—A friendly competition took place on Callander course between nine members of the Callander Club and the same number of the Oban Club. The Oban players were declared the winners by 1 hole.

DUNFERMLINE.—The monthly competition for the Gilmour medal took place over the Ferryhills course on Saturday. Messrs. J. W. Mathewson and R. Mathewson tied with a net score of 85 each. The former had a handicap of 15 and the latter 25.

HADDINGTON GOLF CLUB.—This club having been allowed the privilege of playing over that part of the Garleton Hill situated to the west of the public road, of which Mrs. Cunningham is tenant, a course has been laid out, and extends to nine holes. The undulating character of the ground gives much variety to the course, and players will have some rather stiff hazards in the shape of whins to face. The Garleton course was opened on Saturday, when the club competed for a special prize, presented by Mr. W. T. Ferme. There was a good turn-out of players. Scores were high, as a result of the rough state of the green, on which much necessarily remains to be done. Mr. Ferme was the lowest scorer, and the prize accordingly went to the second lowest scorer. The best cards were as under:—Mr. W. T. Ferme, 107, less 12=95; Mr. D. Croal, 123, less 18=105; Mr. J. G. Croal, 113, less 7=106; Mr. T. W. Kemp, 121, less 15=106; Mr. T. Black, 108, less 1=107.

INNERLEITHEN.—Mr. F. I. Dalziel, the present captain of the club, having presented a handsome silver liqueur stand as a prize, the first competition for it took place over the home links. The play was under handicap. Although the course was much flooded by the recent rains, play was uniformly good. The winner of the prize was Mr. Dalziel himself, with a score of 101, less 30=71. The Ballantyne medal was also played for, and it now becomes the property of Mr. William Lyon, whose average net score over the four competitions is the best.

LEITH GOLF CLUB.—The final of the Archibald cup was played over Musselburgh Links on Friday in very rough weather. The following are the scores:—Mr. W. M. Archibald, 47, 48, less 2=93; C. Gilson, 51, 52, less 2=101.

PRESTWICK ST. NICHOLAS.—The tie resulting in the competition for Captain Larke's prizes was played off on Saturday by Mr. A. Boon at scratch, Mr. J. Wallace with 12, and Mr. K. Pyper with 16 of odds. The result of the game of eighteen holes showed that the first prize had been won by Mr. Boon with a scratch score of 85. Mr. Pyper got second prize at 88, with 16 of odds, and the third fell to Mr. Wallace at 93, with 12 of odds.

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