

GOLF.

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

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1892.

JANUARY.

- Jan. 1.—Royal Cornwall : Monthly Medal.
Jan. 2.—Lytham and St. Anne's : Captain's Cup.
Birkdale : Monthly Medal.
Lundin : Handicap Medal.
Manchester : Monthly Medal.
Royal Liverpool : Winter Optional Subscription Prizes.
Redhill and Reigate : Turner Medal.
Aldeburgh : Monthly Medal.
Brighton and Hove : Berens Medal.
County Down : Wallace Cup.
Jan. 5.—Whitley : Joicey Cup.
Birkdale : Club Ladies' Prize.
Carnarvonshire : Monthly Medal.
Jan. 9.—Warwickshire : Club Cup (Final).
Tooting : Monthly Medal.
Didsbury : Captain's Prize.
Dalhousie : Handicap Match (Third Round).
Brighton : Royal Eastbourne v. The Club (at Brighton).
Guildford : Monthly Handicap.
Littlestone : Monthly Medal.
Jan. 11.—Pau : Arthur Post Medal and Pendant (Scratch) ; Sir V. Brooke Challenge Cup and Badge.
Jan. 13.—Pau : Sir V. Brooke Challenge Cup and Badge (Second Round) ; Anstruther Shield and Badge (Open).
Jan. 16.—Warwickshire : Lefroy Prize (Final).
Royal Epping Forest : Quarterly Medal.
Formby : Pearson's Prize.
Lytham and St. Anne's : Bury Cup.
County Down : Railway Cup ; Club Monthly Prize.
Disley : Winter Handicap Medal.

- Jan. 19.—Whitley : Joicey Cup.
A. Kirkaldy v. Taylor for £27, at Burnham.
Jan. 20.—Royal Epping Forest : Spurling-Kentish Medal.
Jan. 23.—Birkdale : Captain's Cup.
Disley : Annual Meeting.
Jan. 25.—Pau : Captain's Prize.
Jan. 30.—Royal Epping Forest : Gordon Cup.
Seaford : Monthly Medal.

FEBRUARY.

- Feb. 2.—Whitley : Joicey Cup.
Birkdale : Club Ladies' Prize.
Carnarvonshire : Monthly Medal.
Feb. 5.—Royal Cornwall : Monthly Medal.
Feb. 6.—Royal Liverpool : Winter Optional Subscription Prizes.
Lundin : Half-yearly Meeting.
Manchester : Monthly Medal.
Birkdale : Monthly Medal.
Lytham and St. Anne's : Captain's Cup.
Redhill and Reigate : Club Medal.
Brighton and Hove : Berens Medal.
County Down : Wallace Cup.
Feb. 13.—Formby : Pearson Prize.
Guildford : Monthly Handicap.
Littlestone : Monthly Medal.
Feb. 14.—Dalhousie : Handicap Match (Fourth Round).
Tooting : Monthly Medal.
Didsbury : Captain's Prize.
Feb. 15.—Pau : Town of Pau Golf Medal (Scratch) ; St. Andrews Cross (Open).
Feb. 16.—Whitley : Joicey Cup.
Feb. 17.—Royal Epping Forest : Spurling-Kentish Medal.
Pau : Town of Pau Gold Medal (Second Round) ; St. Andrews Cross (Second Round).
Feb. 20.—Royal Epping Forest : Foursome Competition.
Lytham and St. Anne's : Bury Cup.
County Down : Railway Cup ; Club Monthly Prize.
Disley : Winter Handicap Medal.
Feb. 22.—Pau : May Jubilee Medal (Handicap, Holes).
Feb. 27.—Royal Epping Forest : Gordon Cup.
Seaford : Monthly Medal.
Feb. 29.—Pau : Duke of Hamilton's Medal and Pendant (Scratch, Members Only) ; Macdab Challenge Cup and Badge (Handicap limited to 18 strokes).

MARCH.

- Mar. 1.—Whitley : Joicey Cup.
Carnarvonshire : Monthly Medal.
Mar. 4.—Royal Cornwall : Monthly Medal.
Mar. 5.—Brighton and Hove : Berens Medal.
Redhill and Reigate : Turner's Medal.
Royal Liverpool : Winter Optional Subscription Prizes.
Lundin : Handicap Medal.
Manchester : Monthly Medal.
Birkdale : Monthly Medal.
Lytham and St. Anne's : Captain's Cup.
County Down : Wallace Cup ; Railway Cup ; Club Monthly Prize.

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.

EDINBURGH GOLFERS' SMOKING CONCERT.

Encouraged by the success which attended their effort last year, the Golfers' Committee arranged to hold a second (and what will now probably be an annual) smoking concert on a colossal scale. The event took place on December 22nd in the Oddfellows' Hall, and was a complete and gratifying success. Mr. B. Hall Blyth again presided, and there was a crowded attendance. No effort had apparently been spared to arrange an attractive and varied programme, and patrons of the concert had the double satisfaction of knowing that, while the shilling charged for admission did something towards furthering the interests and welfare of their favourite game, it also entitled them to revel to their hearts' content in an entertainment provided by nearly thirty performers, including sentimental and comic singers, instrumentalists, and reciters. The accompaniments were played in his usual masterly fashion by Mr. Arthur Lumsden, who also contributed a concertina solo. To the outsider, whose acquaintance with "smokers" and similar gatherings is not very extensive, the presence of so many humorous vocalists must have come as a revelation. Every style under the sun seemed to be represented, and the most finical critic could hardly have failed to find one or other to his taste. Mr. W. Breck, who was well received at last year's concert, was again a warm favourite, and gave quite a professional rendering to several popular ditties. Messrs. G. B. Paterson, T. Lamb, and Danson also won a fair share of applause. Some really excellent baritones were heard; and, although space will not admit of anything like a detailed description, special mention may be made of the contributions of Messrs. J. G. Stephenson, J. A. Stewart, and J. Mackintosh. Tenors, too, were well to the fore, and the tasteful method of Mr. J. Borthwick, the clarion-like notes of Mr. George Easton, and Mr. J. B. Wyles' pleasing voice were each in their way thoroughly enjoyable and much appreciated. Among the instrumental soloists, Mr. F. Ross made a most creditable appearance; and a word of praise is due to the duet (violin) and the flageolet solo of Messrs. Hanning and Dempsey.

The elocutionary element, although scarcely up to the all-round excellence of the musical, was fairly well sustained. Smoking concert audiences are never hypercritical, and the applause bestowed upon the various performers was as general as it was liberal and hearty. It has been recorded somewhere by one who evidently made some claim to be a student of golfing nature that the most earnest devotees of the game, including its most brilliant and successful exponents, are very rarely either musicians or poets. While not altogether agreeing with this somewhat sweeping assertion, one is bound to confess that if all the songs and "pomes" that have ever been penned in honour of the grand old game were ferreted out and placed on exhibition, the show would not be a very imposing one, either in point of quality or quantity. The following are two specimen verses of what is probably the latest Golf pæan, sung for the first time at the Golfers' Smoking Concert. The author may, at least, be credited with the best intentions, but it may be hoped—though in no captious spirit—that his Golf is better than his poetry. It is sung to the tune of "Tramp, Tramp, Tramp," and was received with every mark of favour, the chorus being vigorously taken up by the audience:—

Of the game of Golf we sing,
Which is now the "proper thing,"
Though by "duffers" whiles described as just a "craze;"
But we who for thretty years
Have played on through hopes and fears
Hear its praises said and sung without amaze.

Chorus.

Golf, Golf, Golf, my boys, is charming;
Golf's the game for every one but bores;
When our mother earth gave birth
To this game of health and mirth
She entrusted it to Scotland's rugged shores.

Here this game of Golf is played
By ilk man and blooming maid,
And your wives and mothers likewise take a "round;"
While the highest in the land
Gladly join the golfing band;
Sure there's not a game like Golf can now be found.

After a tolerably wide experience, it has frequently struck the writer that golfers, as a general rule, manifest an unmistakable leaning towards the sentimental or serious style of ballad in their musical moods. Let any one drop in upon a party of golfers indulging in a little harmless conviviality after a day's play, and the chances are ten to one that the vocalists will never get beyond anything livelier than "Mary Morison," "Scots wha' Hae," "Doon the Burn, Davie, Lad," or other songs equally dolorous, though, of course, none the less beautiful.

It may be, perhaps, that ditties which are characterised by a strong vein of pathos, or the soul-stirring sentiment of "Scots wha' Hae," are more in harmony with the feelings of the golfer, who, at the close of the game, is fain to console himself with the reflection that—

"'Tis better to have played and lost,
Than never to have played at all."

If on occasions such as these the purely comic element is introduced, it will generally be found that the performer is a little outside the pale of the earnest and enthusiastic golfer. Has any one ever heard a full-fledged caddie, even in his most extravagant and bibulous mood, attempt to carol a humorous song? I did once, and pray the gods of Golf that I may never be fated to face the ordeal again. A solo on the Chinese fiddle was by comparison a sympathetic and soothing performance. On the whole, therefore, it may not be too presumptuous to premise that Golf in its relationship to music will almost invariably be found tinged with an air of sadness and regret. And, after all, does it not seem the most natural? It is surely not difficult to imagine the placid melody in a minor key conjuring up visions of the match so recently lost—"By a six-inch putt, Sir!" and bringing to the singer, and perchance to his listeners, such solace as may be found in Whittier's lines:—

"Of all the sad words of tongue or pen,
The saddest are these—It might have been."

All the "might have beens" of the day are still rankling in his mind, but they quickly yield to the subtle charm of good music, and, as its spell grows stronger upon him, he will, like a lone philosopher, reflect that life is in great part made up of missed putts and fozzled drives, and will manfully determine to "set a stout heart to a stae brae," and again bid defiance to all comers.

It only remains to add that the Edinburgh Golfers' Smoking Concert of 1891 was, thanks to the untiring exertions of the committee, a thorough success, and the Braid's fund will doubtless reap a substantial benefit from their enterprise.

THE CHIEF.

GLASGOW GOLF CLUB.

The annual meeting of Glasgow Golf Club was held in the Religious Institution Rooms on Monday, the 21st ult., Dr. Clark (captain) in the chair. The secretary (Mr. Milne) submitted his report. In this it was stated that there were on the roll—honorary members, 7; life members, 28; and annual members, 495; total, 530, an increase of 90. The financial condition of the club was excellent. During the year the course had been much improved. Among other things two new putting-greens had been put down. A shelter for the caddies was projected, and it was hoped that with this, and the supervision which might be given, that the service of these necessary aids to the game might be improved. Various alterations had been made in connection with the management of the club-house. The report was adopted. It was agreed to appoint a committee to consider the propriety of presenting a piece of plate to the secretary and the treasurer. Office-bearers were appointed, Mr. John Risk being the new captain. Mr. Wm. Milne was reappointed secretary, and Mr. Turnbull treasurer.

BRIDGE OF WEIR—RANFURLY CASTLE CLUB.—The fourth stage of the competition for Messrs. Weir and Scott's prize concluded on Saturday afternoon in miserable wet weather. The following is the result:—Mr. Thomas Carruthers, jun., beat Mr. W. N. Scott by 3 holes up and 2 to play; Mr. Robert Brownlie, jun., beat Dr. Sandeman by 2 holes up and 1 to play; Dr. Mudie beat Mr. R. P. Lyle by 3 holes up and 2 to play; Mr. John Thomson beat Mr. R. Stevenson by 3 holes up and 1 to play. The players in the semi-final stage play off as under before January 9th, 1892:—Mr. Thomas Carruthers, jun., against Mr. R. Brownlie, jun.; Dr. Mudie against Mr. John Thomson.

UNION BANK CLUB (EDINBURGH).—The autumn handicap competition for the captain's and other prizes, postponed from the autumn holiday, was held at the Braids, on Friday. The following were the prize-winners:—1, Mr. Masson, 79; 2, Mr. Henderson, 91; 3, Mr. Gordon, 96; 4, Mr. Dunlop, 97; 5, Mr. Gowans, 99.

EDINBURGH REGISTER HOUSE CLUB.—The Christmas competition for club medal and other prizes was played over Musselburgh links, on Friday, when the following were the prize-winners:—1 and medal, Mr. A. Tawse; 2, 3, and 4 (tie), Mr. A. Foster, Mr. F. Taylor, Mr. A. Runciman; 5, Mr. J. M. Marr.

ANNUAL DINNER OF THE MORAY GOLF CLUB.

On Wednesday evening, 16th inst., the members of the Moray Golf Club held their third annual dinner in the Station Hotel, Elgin. There was a very large attendance of members and friends, the non-playing members of the club being also well represented. Mr. John Rodger, Lossiemouth, vice-captain of the club, in the regretted absence of Captain Dunbar Brander, of Pitgavenny, one of the patrons of the club, presided, while the croupiers were Mr. J. M'Isaac, the treasurer, and Mr. R. B. Gordon, the secretary.

Those present were:—Mr. J. Rodger; Rev. Alex. Lawson; Mr. James Allan, solicitor, Elgin; Mr. J. A. Jeans; Dr. Grant; Mr. Russell; Mr. J. Adams; Mr. F. Davie; Mr. A. Macdonald; Mr. J. Sutherland, architect; Mr. J. M'Isaac; Dr. Kraemar; Mr. J. G. Shiach; Rev. Mr. Watt, Fochabers; Rev. Mr. M'Hardy, Lossiemouth; Mr. J. H. Glennie, Lossiemouth; Mr. R. B. Gordon; Mr. J. Adam, Coulardbank; Dr. Galletly; Mr. D. Forsyth; Mr. W. R. Black; Mr. James Munro; Commander Swan; Mr. F. W. Gibb; Mr. W. M. MacBey; Mr. J. Allan.

An excellent dinner was served by Mr. W. Christie.

The secretary intimated that he had received apologies from the following gentlemen:—Mr. Sutherland, Dornoch; Mr. Birnie, Inverness; and the secretaries of the Nairn, Forbes, Grantown, Cullen, and Buckie Clubs; the president, Mr. T. R. Gordon Duff; the vice-presidents, Mr. Jas. Black of Sheriffston, Mr. Hugh Stewart, and Mr. Patrick Gatherer; Dr. George H. Mackay; Mr. T. W. Greenstreet; Provost Law, Elgin; Provost Brander, Lossiemouth; Mr. John Macleod, H.M. Inspector of Schools, captain of the club.

The Chairman then proposed the "Army, Navy, and Reserve Forces," coupled with the names of Commander Swan and Lieutenant D. Forsyth.

Commander Swan and Mr. Forsyth suitably replied.

Mr. Gibb gave the toast of the "Guests," coupled with the name of Mr. W. R. Black, who replied.

Rev. A. Lawson then rose to give the toast of the evening—"The Club, the Captain, the Vice-Captain, and the Council." He was sure that the success which had attended the Golf club in the few years that it had existed had exceeded even the most sanguine expectations of those who proposed the formation of the club, and they did not fix these expectations low. (Applause.) With regard to the revised rules of Golf, which were being circulated by the Royal and Ancient Club, he thought it was highly desirable that whatever their individual opinions were about some of the rules the Moray Club should adopt them *in toto*. He must say that his own private opinion as to the stinmie had been overturned, and that there had been substituted a new law, under which they could cannon off their opponent's ball. He wondered if it had been the billiard players of the Royal and Ancient that had had the framing of these rules. (Laughter.) He was in full hopes that the great prosperity which had attended the play of the club would soon make it a match for any club in the north—(applause)—when one of their younger players had gone round in 78 strokes. (Applause.) He coupled the toast with the name of Mr. Rodger, the Chairman.

The toast was drunk enthusiastically.

Mr. Rodger, in reply, said that he was sure that they were very much indebted to Mr. Lawson, their founder, for the eloquent way in which he had proposed the club, which they were all so proud of—(applause)—and of which they were also proud to recognise him as the founder. (Hear, hear.) It had not been necessary for him to win a pulpit by his Golf, but, had it been necessary, he was sure that it would not have cost him the slightest exertion to do so. (Applause.) And more especially were they indebted to him for the services he had done to the club by writing those letters on Golf, which were known wherever Golf was played. Some men were before their time, and some men after, but Mr. Lawson saw how the Gulf—or rather Golt—stream—(laughter)—was flowing, and took the tide at the flood. In conclusion, Mr. Rodger said that it was subject matter for congratulation that they had at last beaten Ruckie. (Hear, hear.) Their Buckie friends were their oldest friends, and probably their best friends. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. James Allan then gave the "Town and Trade of Elgin and Lossiemouth," which he coupled with the names of Mr. J. A. Jeans and Mr. J. H. Glennie, Lossiemouth.

Mr. F. Davie proposed the "Secretary and Treasurer of the Club" in very acceptable terms, peculiar to himself.

Mr. R. B. Gordon, replying, stated that now that the club had been got into full swing, as it were, his duties were not so arduous as they had been.

Mr. James M'Isaac, in replying, said that, in connection with the improvements in the greens, the club were greatly indebted to Mr. John

Adam, Coulardbank, for the assistance he had given them. The club had, he said, been spending about £4 weekly on the greens for the last two months. He also referred to the large increase in the number of visitors' tickets taken out during the past season, which numbered seventy-three, as against twenty the previous year. (Applause.) He could also assure them that there was still a substantial balance on the right side. (Applause.)

During the evening a number of songs, &c., were given at intervals by members, the Rev. Mr. M'Hardy, Lossiemouth, giving a comic recitation with considerable effect, and altogether a most enjoyable evening was spent.

THE NAGPUR GOLF CLUB.

GRAND ANNUAL TOURNAMENT.

During the week beginning with Monday, the 16th of November, Nagpur was the scene of the grandest Golf tournament ever witnessed in India. Whether regard be had to the numbers of those who attended, both those who played and those who merely looked on, or to the number, value, and beauty of the prizes, or to the variety and interest of the events, and the closeness of the contest in all of them, or to the enthusiasm and excitement which prevailed throughout the week, everyone present must have admitted that the like was never seen in India. And yet this was the first attempt of the kind that Nagpur has made. The success of the meeting was due partly to the liberal manner in which the residents, from the Chief Commissioner downwards, subscribed towards the prizes; partly to the fact that the meeting was under the patronage of the Chief Commissioner, the President of the club, who himself plays Golf, and whose speech at the prize distribution was a gem of its kind; but chiefly to the enterprise and energy of Mr. Rivett-Carnac, the honorary secretary, to whom all the excellent arrangements of the meeting were due. It must not be forgotten, also, that the success of the meeting was enhanced by the presence of numerous visitors from other parts of the Central Provinces, and even from other provinces, such as Mr. and Mrs. Stiven, from Bombay, and Mr. and Mrs. Betham, from Nassik.

The first event on Monday morning was a driving competition, in which no less than twenty-three players took part. Boundaries were placed about twenty-five yards apart, and no drive was to count if the ball went out of bounds. The boundaries consisted of two rows of flags, which also marked the distance of the drives. Each player was allowed three drives, but the interest was kept up to the very end of the contest by the players taking their first drive in turn, then the second in the same order, and then the third. Fourteen, or more than half of the competitors, failed to keep any one of their drives within bounds, and of the rest not a single one succeeded in getting all three drives in. Fowle, of Manmar, proved the winner with two drives, amounting in the aggregate to 355 yards, Fraser of Nagpur was second with two drives—347 yards. Rivett-Carnac and Wynne were third, 335 yards each. Thomas, of Nagpur, who was first with 327 yards, had bad luck, for his second drive, though quite straight at first, like the other two, met some inequality in the ground and just grazed the boundary. The other four only managed to get in one drive each. It must be admitted that the contest on the whole was a very poor display, but each player probably felt it a kind of ordeal to march up in turn to the teeing-ground and display his skill in the painful silence observed by the crowds of spectators, both ladies and gentlemen, who had assembled, and were seated under the trees close by; and the failure in many instances was also due to an over-anxiety to combine straightness with distance. The prize was a handsome driver presented by Mr. Tytler, of Nagpur, and the entrance-money. Probably the best man won, for Fowle is a very steady driver.

In the afternoon the ladies' single match of one round of the links was played, the first two prizes of Rs. 50 and Rs. 25 respectively being presented by Mr. Wynne, and the third prize consisting of the entrance-money. Although this was a scratch-match, no less than sixteen ladies entered. As each lady had nominated a gentleman to accompany her round the links and keep the score, the bright and lively scene which the links presented during the match can better be imagined than described. Rumour has it that, unlike the golfers of the opposite sex, all the ladies kept their tempers even in the most adverse fortune. The result was attended with no little excitement, when it was ascertained that three ladies had tied for the first prize—Mrs. Kneller, and the two Misses Whitton—with the excellent score of 79 for 12 holes. Mrs. Spence, who played with one of the three winners, and had the advantage by one stroke at the last hole but one, came to grief at the last hole. The ball landed in a bunker, and, forgetting that it might be lifted and dropped behind the bunker under a small penalty, this fair player hammered away at the ball with a niblick

in a most persevering but unsuccessful manner, and took fourteen strokes to the last hole, which made her total score amount to 86. When the tie was played off next morning, Mrs. Kneller was first with 76, three strokes better than on the previous day, Miss Whitton was second with 82, and Miss M. Whitton third.

On Tuesday morning the contest for the President's cup (a handsome silver champagne jug, over Rs. 100 in value, presented by A. P. MacDonnell, Esq., C.S., C.S.I., Chief Commissioner, and president of the club) took place. The fact that this was a scratch contest attracted only the best golfers, and made it in some respects the most important event in the week. The attraction of the valuable prizes, however, induced twenty-one players to compete. The match consisted of two rounds of the links, one round in the morning and one in the evening. At the end of the first round Fraser was at the head of the list with a round of 56. This ought to have been even a better score, as he was 49 at the last hole but one, but he took seven to the last hole (which is ordinarily done in four or five), owing to execrable "lies" at every stroke, the ground being hard at this place and full of gaping cracks. Carnac and Fowle were only one stroke over Fraser, or 57 each, and Burn (late captain of the Cambridge Golf Club and a St. Andrews golfer, who, it was rumoured, had done the St. Andrews round in 89, beating a medal winner) was 59. There were also several scores of 61, 62, &c., and it was evident that the contest would be a very close one. The play in the afternoon for some unknown reason was not so good. Carnac's 59 was the best round, and with his 57 in the morning it was thought his aggregate score would be difficult to beat. His last hole, a three, was attended by a piece of luck, for his second stroke, which would have been well over the green, just grazed the compound railing close by, and landed near the hole. Fraser was much discouraged by a great falling-off and unsteadiness in his tee-drives, but by dint of steady approaches and putting, and by no little kindly encouragement from his opponent, Wynne, he managed to keep his score down. His second stroke to the last hole landed in a dry mud-pond, frequented by buffaloes in the rains, some twenty yards to the right of the hole, and the ball lay in an awkward crack. At this point a friend told him he had two strokes to win and three to tie. This information at a critical point might have put some men off their game, but the informant in this instance probably knew what he was doing. With the niblick Fraser just managed to get the ball out of the bunker, and his next stroke in bad ground landed the ball on the extreme edge of the green. There remained only one stroke to tie, and the ball was still some six yards from the hole. To give a clearer idea of the intense excitement of the moment be it stated that, speaking in general terms, the whole of the Central Provinces and some visitors from other parts of India were seated round the last hole. Suffice it to say, that Fraser managed to pull himself together, and holed the ball by a very careful painstaking putt, and so tied with Carnac. On playing off the tie next morning, after a neck-to-neck struggle, Fraser won the first prize with a steady round of 60 to Carnac's 63. Carnac winning the second cup. This contest is only one of many instances which could be given to show that these two golfers are so equal in skill that it is merely a toss-up which of them will win any particular event; but the sequel will show that, if several days' consecutive play be taken as the criterion, Carnac has, probably, the advantage in persistent steadiness.

On Wednesday and Thursday mornings the two rounds for the club cup were played. Fraser and Carnac had the first two best actual scores, Fraser with 60 and 59, and Carnac with 63 and 59. The first of these rounds, it will be noted, also decided the tie between these two players for the President's prize. At the end of the first round, Wynne and Betham were equal, each with 62, less 10=52, but in the second round Betham, maintaining his steadiness, scored 63, less 10=53, while Wynne's score was not nearly so good. Brockman gained the second prize by steady play, and Clutterbuck was third.

On Wednesday afternoon the handicap match for allied pairs—the most generally popular of all the matches in the week—took place. There were no less than twenty pairs in this contest (each pair consisting of a lady and gentleman drawn together by lot) who went round the links in parties of four, after the manner of a foursome. In the middle of the game the links must have presented an unusual sight to the spectators. At every stage of the course might be seen a party of golfers of both sexes (for the last party had scarcely started when the first party returned home) some in extremest difficulty, some sailing along smoothly on the tide of favouring fortune, while all the graceful attitudes to which the game of Golf gives rise on the part of the fair sex might have been witnessed at a single glance from some favourable point of view on the links. Mrs. Spence and Leefe made the best actual score of 70, an excellent round for an allied pair, and Fraser and Miss Craddock the second best, 71; but both were beaten by Dennys and Miss Mary Whitton, who, with an actual score of 73, received a few more points in the handicap. Miss Mary Whitton was, of course, a partner of the first rank, as some may remember when she won in the allied pairs a year ago with Mr. Glass; but we venture to think that Dennys must have excelled him-

self in an unselfish desire for his partner's success, for he never before played so well when only his own interests were at stake. However, he had his reward, for, while Miss Whitton's prize was a lovely diamond brooch, he won a handsome silver flask. Mrs. Spence, as second of the ladies, won a massive scent-bottle. In the ladies' handicap, on Thursday afternoon, Mrs. Rivett-Carnac won the first prize, a handsome gold curb-chain bracelet, Miss Craddock, after a tie with Mrs. Fuller, winning the second prize, a gold horse-shoe brooch. Judging from the congratulations she received, and the expressions of satisfaction on every side, one could easily see that Mrs. Carnac's victory was a very popular one.

Friday morning and afternoon were devoted to the champion foursomes. The players arranged their own partners, and, as the match was not a handicap, Fraser and Carnac were the favourites. In one of the ties they met Stiven, one of their Bombay rivals, who, with Dr. Macdonald, had twice beaten them by one stroke at Nassik. Stiven had an excellent partner in Mr. Betham, but, though they made a good fight of it, Carnac and Fraser won rather easily. The final tie between Fraser and Carnac and Burn and Craddock was a close-contested match all through. A detailed account of every stroke would not be uninteresting, but it will be sufficient here to say that Craddock, who had been putting remarkably well, lost a fair chance of making the game even all and two to play by missing a short putt. If he had holed the ball, the game would at least have been brought up to the last hole, and the effect on his opponent might even have changed the fortunes of the match. As it happened, Fraser and Carnac won the next hole, and the match by 2 up and 1 to play, and gained as their prizes each a handsome cigarette box of silver and cedar wood.

On Saturday morning the Central Provinces cup was won by Spence, who made two good rounds of 64 and 61, which, after deducting his 15 points, gave him an aggregate of 110. Dr. Pilcher, with 66 and 73 and 28 points was 111, or only one stroke behind. Spence has now placed himself in the first rank of Nagpur golfers, and Dr. Pilcher's success gave general satisfaction, for he is a most persevering and enthusiastic player. In addition to these events a gold medal was to be awarded for the best aggregate of any three rounds in the gentlemen's single matches. This medal also carried with it the title of championship of the club for the year 1891-92. A silver medal was also given for the best single round in the same matches. Fraser, with his first round of 56 on Tuesday, won the latter, and up to Friday afternoon he and Carnac were equal for the gold medal, Fraser having three rounds of 56, 59 and 60, and Carnac 57, 59 and 59. On Saturday morning, however, Carnac, who, as already mentioned, maintains his steadiness to the last, made two rounds of 58 and 59, while Fraser was 65 and 62 (was this due to the fancy ball the night before, we wonder?). Carnac clearly deserved this success, for it will be noted that during the whole week he had only one round over 59, when he was playing the exciting tie with Fraser for the President's cup.

The result of the various contests was on the whole very satisfactory. Among other elements of satisfaction was the fact that two of the prizes went to visitors from outside the Central Provinces, Messrs. Betham and Fowle.

At the prize distribution on Saturday afternoon all the world and its friends were assembled. The prizes were distributed with all grace and pleasantness by Mrs. MacDonnell, who has only recently come from England, but has already made herself extremely popular amongst us. An excellent and graceful speech was made by Mr. MacDonnell. He gave an interesting account of the history of Golf in Nagpur, referring to the exploits of some of the Nagpur golfers at Nassik, and mentioning the names of some of the most prominent among the lady-golfers. In the course of the speech an amusing incident occurred. Mrs. Wilson's little boy, a fine chubby youngster, stalked forward into the middle of the vacant space formed by the audience, and stared at the Chief Commissioner. With true oratorical skill the latter, good-humouredly making a happy hit of the incident, pointed to the little fellow to illustrate and enforce what he had just been saying about the rapid growth and progress of the club, and its healthy condition and promise.

Of the other events in the week the theatricals on Tuesday, the dance at the New Residency on Wednesday, and the Fancy Ball on Friday, we have neither time nor space to tell. It is sufficient to say here that they materially added to the pleasure of a memorably successful week.

EDINBURGH CORPORATION CLUB.—The usual monthly handicap competition of this club took place at the Braids, on Friday last. The weather was pleasant, but, owing to the frost, the putting at some of the holes was most uncertain. The first prize was gained by Mr. George Somerville, Procurator-Fiscal, with a scratch score of 94; while the second and third prizes were won by Councillors Mackenzie and Macnaughten respectively.

A GOLFERS' ASSOCIATION.

SOME misconception appears to have arisen in one or two quarters with reference to the aim of the article which appeared in these pages a few weeks ago, advocating the foundation of a Golfers' Association. It seems to have been supposed that in urging golfers everywhere to look thoroughly into this question, to consider whether it was expedient to take any steps in the direction of establishing such an Association, we had the idea primarily of giving a fillip to the proposed social Golf club, of which the Association was simply to form an adjunct. This was by no means the case. The article was written simply with the view of ventilating the project, and to elicit the views of all sorts and conditions of golfers thereon. We did not foresee that action would follow so soon upon the suggestion towards gathering the consensus of opinion, "aye or nay," of Golf clubs; but when Major Baird Douglas promptly issued a circular to secretaries asking their views on the point, we saw no harm in backing up that appeal, since there was a desire expressed that the movement should arise outside the circles of our larger and more influential Golf clubs. It is true that in that circular the social Golf club scheme was interwoven with the Association proposal in a manner which rendered it difficult to discriminate which was the more important portion of the appeal; but seeing that the main idea of the letter was to call attention to the article which appeared in these pages, the inference was manifest that it was the Association and not the club scheme which golfers had, in the first place, to consider. All that Major Baird Douglas did was, to use the phrase of Richie Moniplies when he presented Nigel Oliphant's petition to King James on Blackheath, "to put in a wee bit sifflication o' his ain."

Nor can we agree with Mr. Laidlaw Purves, and some other correspondents, that any great harm is done by this appeal. The principal thing is to gauge opinion and feeling, to find out what clubs, and how many, are willing or unwilling to help the movement forward. This was the object of the article which was written, and we were anxious to find out, by throwing the columns of the paper open for discussion, in what direction the sympathies and aspirations of golfers leaned. So far the expression of opinion has largely been in favour of founding an Association; but if the same end was sought to be achieved by an individual golfer, taking a short cut in appealing direct to Golf club authorities, we do not see that there is any cause, as yet, for lamentation or prophecy of failure. The results of the inquiry would surely be made public, and if there was to be an Association the ultimate form which it should assume would not depend on the will or inclination of the individual who, in the first instance, made the appeal, but on the average desire of the clubs giving assent. Major Baird Douglas, therefore, may see his way later on to enlighten us as to the measure of response which his appeal has received up to the present time, and whether there is any hope of the

movement taking practical shape. It had been the intention of the Editor, after an interval for discussion, to find out the clubs willing to acquiesce in the suggestion, and then to place the results before the readers of the paper, so that action of a definite character might be taken. But in this we have been forestalled; and if several appellants now enter the field, each claiming to be the only and true authoritative mouthpiece of golfers, secretaries and committees will become so bewildered as to who is the real Richmond that the whole affair will run the too evident danger of lapsing in ridicule and merriment.

Our correspondent, "J. K.," fears that the Scottish Golf clubs may be overlooked, and that there is a possibility of a schism between North and South of the Tweed. For a truly average view by the North of the South let us commend to his consideration the pithily expressed letter of "H. R. C." This "brither Scot," this High Priest of *laissez faire*, would ban with bell, book, and candle any sacrilegious body of golfers who dared to lay their hands on the St. Andrews rules, or even to suggest the assimilation of penalties in match and medal play. In his eyes the game and its rules are as perfect as they can well be made, and that the only direction in which reform should tend is to lick the players into shape and not the Golf code. But like many another disciple of the *laudator temporis acti*, he allows sentiment and prejudices to take the place of reason, reflection, inquiry, improvement, and a desire to advance with the progressive spirit of the times. No one, we should think, is disposed to deny that Golf is a Scottish game, but "H. R. C." has failed to note that many of the penalties endeared to him by old associations were not in force among the grand old past masters of the game at St. Andrews. They are modern excrescences introduced by recent reformers to meet the exigencies of a crowded green and the temporary convenience of a larger number of players. That is all; and those who, like ourselves, have thought and written much about the game and its rules, are really more conservative than the Conservatives themselves in wishing to have something like a statutory uniformity established. We fear, therefore, that the tone of "H. R. C.'s" letter reflects the prevalent attitude and spirit of a large section of Scottish golfers in the North, and that in the event of an Association being founded, a large adhesion of Scottish Golf clubs could not, in the circumstances, be looked for, at least in the early stages of the movement. This defection would, of course, not only be a subject of great regret, but of weakness, and would hinder an Association from being a truly representative body for some time to come. But as we pointed out at the beginning of this article, the first important step is one of initiation; and when this has been achieved, then, like the snowball, the movement will grow as it moves forward.

An elderly gentleman was watching two golfers driving off from the tee, and on one of them topping his ball and sending it only a foot or two, remarked, "Eh! sir! but ye dae ye're puttin' at the wrang end."



THE GOLFING ASSOCIATION.

To the Editor of GOLF.

SIR,—Your correspondent, "H. R. C.," is, he avers, a "Scotchman," and, as he says in regard to the imaginary slanders of those holding opinions differing from his, he "ought to know." But, had he not said so, it would not have occurred to me that any one coming from beyond the Tweed would have adduced his nationality as an argument against what he is pleased to consider the innovations sought to be introduced into some of the rules of Golf by the poorer players in England.

I dare not trespass on your space to the extent I would desire in support of the proposed uniformity of rules—the greatest reason for a Golfing Union or Association. But there is one statement in your correspondent's letter which has been so often employed by our opponents, that it must evidently have considerable weight with them, and must be supposed by those who use it to have considerable power on others. It is employed by "H. R. C."; it was employed at the general meeting of the Royal and Ancient Golf Club in May last; and it has been repeated to me since by some on whom it had some influence in causing them to vote at the said meeting against the reception of the rules recommended to the club by the committee which the club itself appointed. The argument is that, as Golf is an ancient Scottish game, therefore the rules at present in force in Scotland should be accepted by all golfers, and if any wish to form an association, and draw up rules differing from the rules of the Royal and Ancient Club, by all means let them do so; but they, in that case, must also change the name of the game they wish to play, and call it by some other name, such as "Golfette," or "Hashed Golf," or such like.

If we must accept the rules of Golf from the country from which it was brought, we should, I believe, go to Holland for the rules; but, as there is not a copy of these to guide us, we must look to Scotland to tell us what the rules have been, as far as written records can do so. On looking at these written records, I do not find that they support "H. R. C.'s" argument. They tell me that the game which "H. R. C." and others are pleased to call Golf is not, in regard to some important rules, the Golf of my boyhood.

They tell me that some rules, which English golfers wish to see altered, are not the rules under which the gentlemen who moved and seconded the rejection of the committee's report upon the rules at the St. Andrews Spring Meeting played in their youth. They tell me that medal play is played under some rules which were formerly those of what "H. R. C." calls "Golf," and that the match play of to-day is regulated by some rules which he considers belong only to what he is pleased to call "Bastard Golf." To those who speak of "Golf made easy," "Golfette," &c., we may well say, and with truth on our side, that call it what you like, the game you are at present playing is not Golf as known to us old golfers, or to our ancestors. I wish to avoid following your correspondent's example by troubling you with "wandering and disconnected remarks," and will, in proof of the above, confine myself to the changes which have been made in some important rules, which changes some

English players wish to see abolished from the Royal and Ancient Club match play, and will speak only of those changes which have taken place within the memory of many players. The rules are those relating to lost and unplayable balls.

In 1851 the rule as to a *lost ball* was as follows:—"If a ball is lost, the player (or his partner, if a double match) returns to the spot where the ball was struck, tees another ball, and loses both the distance and a stroke." This rule continued in force both in match and medal play till 1882.

The committee of 1881 proposed the following change:—"A lost ball is a lost hole in match-playing, *except when lost from the tee*, in which case the player or his partner in a double match strikes another teed ball from the same teeing ground, and loses both the stroke and the distance." In medal play the old rule was retained. (The committee recommended that the old rule of 1851 should be restored.)

The rule at present in force in match play is yet simpler, and runs as follows:—1891. "In match-playing a ball lost entails the loss of the hole."

Thus the match rule in force up till 1882 remained the rule for the "Bastard Golf," and the rule for match play was changed. In 1891 the committee recommended that the old rule of 1851 should be restored. The rule as to *unplayable balls* has been as violently dealt with.

In 1851 the rule was, "When the ball lie in a hole, or in any place that the player considers it not playable, he shall, with the consent of his adversary, lift the ball, drop it behind the hazard, and lose a stroke. Should the adversary say, however, that he thinks the ball playable, then he (the adversary) plays the ball; if he gets the ball out of the place in two strokes, these two strokes count as if the player had played the ball. The player then plays the ball as if he himself had played it out; but if the adversary does not get the ball out at two strokes, then, as stated above, it is lifted and dropped, a stroke being lost."

In 1857 this rule was altered as follows:—"In *match* playing every ball must be played wherever it lies, or the hole be given up. In *medal* playing a ball may, under a penalty of two strokes, be lifted out of a difficulty of any description, and teed behind the hazard."

Here, again, the old game is departed from, and the rule of more than a century thrown aside.

To show that the members of the Royal and Ancient are not at one as to what should entail a penalty and what should not, let me give one marked example.

Before 1851 the rule as to a ball striking anyone was, as far as I can find, that such should be treated as "a rub of the green," and no penalty was exacted. In 1851 the rule as to striking an adversary ran as follows: "If, however, the player's ball strikes an adversary, or his adversary's caddie or clubs, the adversary loses the hole." There was no special rule for medal play.

In 1881 the committee appointed to revise the rules consisted of Robert Cathcart, Esq., Sir Alexander Kinloch, Bart., James Mansfield, Esq., Dr. D. Argyll Robertson, Charles Anderson, Esq., and Capt. Randle Jackson. In 1890 the committee appointed for the same purpose was composed of Lord Kingsburgh, B. Hall Blyth, Esq., Horace Hutchinson, Esq., George Jackson, Esq., Henry Lamb, Esq., W. Laidlaw Purves, Esq., and Daniel Stewart, Esq. If "H. R. C." will carefully look at the names embraced in the two committees, all members of the Royal and Ancient Club, he will find that they are those of some of the best known men in the golfing world, eminent either as first-class golfers, or old golfers well conversant with the rules of Golf from their early days. How did these committees propose that the rule as to striking an opponent, &c., should run in medal play? The 1881 committee recommended that it should be as follows: "If the player strike his opponent or his clubs, or his caddie, the opponent shall lose one stroke." The committee of 1890 suggested the following: "If a competitor's ball strike the other player, or his clubs, or caddie, it shall be considered a rub of the green."

When such differences of opinion exist, and they could be largely multiplied, among such well-known and good golfers, is it unreasonable to ask that an association should be formed, representative of all clubs, which should consider and determine the rules under which the game should be played? It is not by such methods as "H. R. C." uses in his letter that the mem-

bers of the two committees will be brought to agree. That is only to be arrived at by golfers meeting and hearing the arguments for or against the introduction of such a penalty as was proposed, and determining, by a vote of the majority, the rules which seem most just and most conducive to the pleasure of all.

am, Sir, &c.,

D. D.

To the Editor of GOLF.

SIR,—Before the question of a Golfing Association takes any more definite shape, it is to be hoped that those who are agitating for it will carefully consider the result of the formation of an Association which would leave out the principal Scotch clubs.

The chief aim of an Association presumably is to secure uniformity of the rules of Golf, and the interests of Golf generally, not of any particular section; but if such an Association were formed without the adhesion of the Scotch clubs, it would lead to a regular schism between North and South, which is scarcely the wish of the majority of English golfers, and would not be calculated to advance the interests of Golf generally.

It will probably be found that a great many clubs would gladly join the proposed Association if they knew that it would include the principal Scotch and English clubs, headed by the Royal and Ancient Club, but would hold aloof therefrom otherwise.

If such an Association had its head-quarters at St. Andrews, most clubs could easily be represented there by some member who also belonged to the Royal and Ancient Club, and in this way the leading club would have a preponderating voice in its deliberations, to which other clubs would probably willingly consent.

In your issue of the 27th November, I expressed the opinion that if the Royal and Ancient declined to lead in this movement, doubtless the undertaking would be a success if conducted by the St. George's Club; but after further consideration I withdraw that opinion, feeling that the unity of English clubs alone would not be satisfactory, and would be too dearly bought by a breach between Scotch and English golfers.

If, as was suggested by Dr. Purves in your issue of the 11th inst., you, Mr. Editor, undertake to ascertain the clubs which are willing to join an Association, it would make it easier for the clubs to reply, if you could state definitely whether the Royal and Ancient Club was willing, or not, to give its support to the movement, and they would feel less hesitation in considering the proposal coming from you than from any other particular club, remembering that you began your Journal with a statement that "a fair field and no favour" would be your guiding principle.

I am, Sir, &c.,

J. K.

December 15th, 1891.

To the Editor of GOLF.

SIR,—Dr. Purves' letter on this subject in GOLF of 18th December seems to me to have a great deal of force. He says: "It would, in my opinion, be detrimental to the success and recognition by many clubs of the Association if it were connected preponderantly with any one Golf club, and still more so if connected with a social club, proposed to be run as a proprietary one." I quite agree with him if the connection contemplated is to be one of full membership, that is to say, if the members of the Association committee are to be selected from among the members of the Golfers' Club. No doubt Major Baird Douglas himself will readily see how such a limitation would detract from the authoritative and representative character of the proposed Association, and I venture to hope that he will welcome a suggestion, which, in my opinion, would remove the objection. Probably the Association, when fully formed, would consist of one or more representatives from each of the Golf clubs in England above a certain strength of

membership. This would be a large body, and could only meet occasionally, say, once a year; but it would no doubt elect from among its members a small permanent committee to transact its business in the interval. Would it not be a convenient arrangement if the Golfers' Club were to offer head-quarters' accommodation to this committee, making its members honorary members of the club *pro tem.*, on suitable terms? This slight connection, one merely of *locale*, would, I think, be free from the objections felt by Dr. Purves and others, and would be an advantage in securing as widely as possible among the members of English Golf clubs both interest in the discussions of this committee and acceptance of its decisions.

The idea of a Golf Association has long been simmering in the minds of English golfers, and we all ought to be grateful to Major Baird Douglas for having had the energy to take a practical first step towards its realisation; but I have no doubt that it would greatly facilitate the success of both schemes if they were worked on distinct lines of organisation, with no other connection than that I suggest.

I am, Sir, &c.,

F. S.

To the Editor of GOLF.

SIR,—I think that the proposed Golfing Association suggested by Dr. Purves, if agreed to by English Golf clubs, would only end in estrangement with the Royal and Ancient Golf Club of St. Andrews.

I would suggest that all English and other Golf clubs should simply agree to adopt the new rules, as passed at the autumn meeting of October, 1891, of the St. Andrews Club.

These rules ought to be quite sufficient for any one calling himself a golfer.

I am, Sir, &c.,

S. MURE-FERGUSON.

Warnford Court, Throgmorton Street,
December 22nd.

GOLF IN THE CANARY ISLANDS.

To the Editor of GOLF.

SIR,—Some of your readers, who may be thinking of visiting sunnier climes during the winter, may be glad to hear that a Golf club has been started here, of which Mr. R. M. Blandy is president, and Mr. E. C. Barker hon. secretary. Links have been made on the hill behind the Santa Catalina Hotel. Subscription to the club £1 1s. per annum. Visitors to Santa Catalina Hotel one week free, for one month 5s., for the winter 10s. 6d.

I am, Sir, &c.,

WALLACE W. CRAGG,
Lieut-Colonel.

Las Palmas, Grand Canary, December 10th, 1891.

GOLF TOURNAMENT AT PAU.

To the Editor of GOLF.

SIR,—In my last letter I mentioned that it was proposed to hold an Amateur Golf Tournament on these links in the first week in February. The town of Pau has—with its usual liberality—voted us a "subvention" of £80, which the committee propose to divide thus: 1st, a £50 cup—scratch; 2nd, a £15 cup—open handicap, with prizes for the second and third. This amateur tournament is open to members of all recognised Golf clubs in the world.

The hon. secretary, Mr. Morris Post, will be much obliged

if the secretaries of the different Golf clubs will furnish him—at the earliest date possible—with the names of any members of their clubs who intend competing. Entries will close on the 15th of January, and the committee will then decide whether there are sufficient entries to justify holding the tournament, when a notice will be placed in GOLF to that effect. Absent members of the Pau Golf Club are also requested to make their entries.

Besides the land route by Paris, golfers can travel to Pau *via* Bordeaux—by the steamers of the General Steam Navigation Company from London, and by the boats of the Pacific Mail, and most lines from Liverpool. Return tickets are given by all these Companies.

I am, Sir, &c.,

A. H. FOSTER-BARHAM,

Pau, December 14th, 1891.

Captain Pau Golf Club.

"S. P. CHARCOAL."

To the Editor of GOLF.

SIR,—“S. P. Charcoal” can be obtained from the maker, Mr. W. Walker, 18, Market Place, Manchester.

I am, Sir, &c.,

J. ARTHUR HUTTON.

Disley.

THE WEIGHT OF GOLF BALLS.

To the Editor of GOLF.

SIR,—In a recent number your correspondent “Analyst” asked for an explanation of the marking of Golf balls, and as no one has replied I venture to do so.

The figures 26, 27, &c., represent pennyweights (troy), and not drachms (avoirdupois). The drachm is only a little heavier than the pennyweight, and hence the error fallen into by your correspondent and others. The origin of troy weight being used is that the feathers, from which all Golf balls were formerly made, were sold by troy weight. I believe it is by that measure that ostrich feathers are still sold.

The variations in weight and size to which “Analyst” refers, occur very seldom in the balls produced by the best makers. I have tested great numbers of them, and have found them as a rule weigh within a few grains of their marked weight.

I am, Sir, &c.,

ALEX. DAVIDSON.

Wimbledon, December 19th, 1891.

THE NEW RULES.

To the Editor of GOLF.

SIR,—I expected to find in this week's issue of your paper some further comments on the New Rules recently issued by the Royal and Ancient Club, but, except the letter of “H. R. C.” from Manchester, I am disappointed to find that your article of last week remains unnoticed.

In default then of any one better fitted for the task, may I take up my parable, and comment on your last week's article.

I think “H. R. C.” has pretty clearly explained the necessity for the rule regarding players or their caddies moving on the putting-green whilst a stroke is being played. The Rule as it now stands merely embodies what has always hitherto been considered “good form” in regard to this matter. Formerly there was no penalty; now there is. Alas!—perhaps I may be permitted to say—that it should be so.

Then, again, you utterly reject the “lost ball, lost hole”

Rule, and say that the proper penalty is loss of the stroke and the distance. Now what are the facts? Rule 28 is the “lost ball, lost hole” Rule. But turn to the “Local Rules for St. Andrews Links” and look at Rules 2 and 3. If the ball cannot be recovered from the Swilcan burn in the one case, or from the Eden or the Sea, in the other, then the “lost ball, lost hole” Rule is overridden by the Local Rule.

Why should this be so? Why should there be exceptions to this Rule? The reason is plain enough to any one who has mastered the principles of the game, but it will take some space to set forth.

The most fundamental of all principles embodied in the Rules is, that a hole must be played out with the balls struck from the tee, and that such balls may not be moved, changed, or handled in any way, except by legitimate strokes of the club.

It follows, as a matter of stern logic, from that principle, that if a player catches a “raker” to what would be between square leg and long-on at cricket, and sends his ball into impenetrable gorse where it is lost, he loses the hole, because he has not played it out with the ball struck from the tee.

But it is the chief glory of the game that it can be played on ground of every conceivable character. And here equity (see Rule 40) comes in to adjust what would be a hardship if the above Rule were rigorously enforced under all circumstances. The sinuous Swilcan burn is a hazard on the St. Andrews Links which is always “in evidence”—it must be negotiated somehow or other in playing the first and last holes of the round. There is no getting round it; and on the other hand there is, as the best players as well as the worst know to their cost, much getting into it. The burn is ordinarily only a few inches deep, and a ball getting into it is usually easily recovered, but the Swilcan rages down in flood at times when golfers are abroad, and the floods leave deposits of oozy mud which in places are much given to the swallowing up of gutties, which it occasionally in high floods vomits forth in high dudgeon on the adjacent sea beach to the gratification and enrichment of hordes of youthful bare-legged scads.

Even your hard-and-fast rule of loss of the stroke and the distance, would work hardship if enforced in the case of a ball driven into the Swilcan; moreover, it would seriously disorganise the game of other players if everybody who lost a ball in the Swilcan had to walk back (say) a hundred yards or more, and drop another ball for another attempt to carry the hazard. And so it has been laid down from time immemorial that a ball lost in the Swilcan does not carry with it the ordinary penalty, but the player is permitted to drop another ball on the line on which his lost ball entered the water, keeping of course the burn still between him and the hole.

Much the same reasons could be urged for the other exceptions to the rule in the case of the Eden and the Sea, but I need not trouble you with these in detail.

What lesson do these exceptions in the St. Andrews Code teach? Surely this, that if all Golf clubs would only do as the Royal and Ancient Club has done on its own ground, namely, make equitable exceptions to this rule, and other rules too, *when local circumstances necessitate them*, we should hear a great deal less of the carping criticism of the rules which has been so much in vogue recently.

But, you will say, why have one rule for match play, and another rule (No. 5)—the one which you so highly approve—for medal play on this point? I was not behind the scenes when the medal play rules were framed, but I can imagine some individual, with a fine turn for equity beaming in his countenance, suggesting that it would be extra hard lines for a player to be put out of the running altogether merely because he chanced in his round to make one unlucky shot. For be it remembered that in medal play it is not, as in match play, merely a question of losing one hole, but of being disqualified in the whole of the eighteen holes. I am not very sure that that equitable individual was wise in his generation, but anyhow let us give him the credit of good intentions. Only pray don't let us spoil our fine old match game by striving after uniformity under conditions so dissimilar.

Golf greens are of such infinite variety that it can never be possible, as it is possible for cricket, lawn tennis, &c., to have one rigid set of rules applicable to all greens alike. You may organise a Golfing Association to legislate for Golf, but what would

its efforts in that direction come to? It might polish still further—and some more polish is certainly wanted—the rules embodying the *principles* of the game; but it would certainly have to leave to local clubs the local application of them.

The sooner your new English clubs, which have been formed in such numbers of late, realise this fact, the sooner will peace reign. Let them set to work to frame their own local rules, overriding where local Swilcan burns, and Edens, and Seas demand it, the principles embodied in the rules, and handed down from remote antiquity. But, at the same time, let them walk warily in this matter, and hold tight to fundamental maxims, except when clear necessity exists for adopting an opposite course. Let not English Golf degenerate into "Golfette," "Hashed Golf," or "Golf made easy," of which there seems to be some danger. On one point you may rest assured, and that is, that few Scotch clubs will follow such a lead. I speak from personal conviction alone, of course, but I am pretty sure of the sentiments of

THE HONOURABLE COMPANY OF EDINBURGH GOLFERS.

December 18th, 1891.

THE NEW BUNKER RULE.

To the Editor of GOLF.

SIR,—I wish to call attention to paragraph 15, page 9, of the new rules of Golf. It runs thus: "A hazard shall be any bunker of whatever nature, water, sand, loose earth, mole-hills, &c." Now, "sand bunker" is defined in Jamieson's Scottish Dictionary (a standard book of Scottish terms) as a "small sand-pit." Gravely, to lay it down as a rule that a "sand-pit" shall be water, loose earth, or a mole-hill, seems a misuse of terms, if not nonsensical. Besides, it is giving the go-bye to a good old Scottish term, long associated with the game of Golf, and well understood by all true golfers.

I would suggest that the rule run thus: "A hazard shall be a difficulty of whatever nature, such as a sand-bunker, water, and so on."

I am, Sir, &c.,

ALEXANDER D. FORDYCE.

St. Andrews, December 21st, 1891.

QUESTIONS ON THE RULES.

To the Editor of GOLF.

SIR,—Will you kindly decide the following cases:—

(1.) A and B are partners in a foursome; A has the honour, and misses the ball, which remains in the tee. B, in addressing the ball, causes it to roll off the tee. Can he replace it and play, or does it count a stroke, and must A play?

(2.) In a foursome competition a match is halved, and another hole has to be played to decide it. In one of the couples the man who drove at the previous hole again drives. The mistake is not discovered till both sides have played several strokes. Can the hole be claimed by the couple who drove properly?

I am, Sir, &c.,

FRANCIS E. CUMING.

The Royal Belfast Golf Club, December 28th.

[(1.) Yes; B can replace it without counting a stroke, and he must play the shot. (2.) Yes, the hole can be claimed by the couple who followed the proper order of rotation. It is always advisable, however, to claim the penalty at once, and before a second shot is played; but, the mistake having been discovered before the hole was played out, the penalty stands good.—ED.]

AMATEURS AND MONEY PRIZES.

To the Editor of GOLF.

SIR,—One of our members having won a prize, value £5, desires to have the money paid to a neighbouring club to make him a life member of said club. He fears, however, that if he did so it would endanger his standing as an amateur. Kindly say through your journal whether his fears are well founded or not.

I am, Sir, &c.,

EDWARD F. CAMPBELL, Hon. Sec.

Dungannon Golf Club, Killyman Rectory,
Moy, Co. Tyrone.

[The request of the member is certainly an unusual one; he might as well ask the club to pay his taxes or his tailor's bill. It is in the discretion of the committee to say what form the special prize should take, and the member must take it or leave it. But he cannot take hard cash, either directly or indirectly, by means of a cheque from the secretary of his own club to the secretary of another club. That is a colourable evasion of the etiquette which governs the status of amateur players, and the suggestion ought to be frowned upon.—ED.]

A LADY'S PRIZE GOLF COSTUME.—Miss Helen Stewart, of West Park, St. Andrews, has won the *Gentlewoman's* prize for the best design for a Golf costume suitable for any season. Miss Stewart gives the following description of it:—"Nothing can be nicer for golfing than an easy shirt and light short skirt for useful wear. Of course the shirt could be of cotton, silk or flannel, according to the season; I prefer loose sleeves, and a turn-down collar or a band. Then the cuffs should be made with a button and sleeve links. Anything tight about the arms or wrists prevents the Golf-club swinging easily. The lighter the tweed, serge, or homespun skirt is the better. The Irish homespuns are light and warm, and yet do not blow about and get in the way, should it be very windy. It is better to be too short than too long. If the skirt is made on a Swiss band of the same material, it helps to keep the blouse tidy, and is most comfortable for walking, because the skirt hangs so easy from it. I have one which hooks at the side (left), which serves for the placket hole. I would have no foundation for this skirt. A few rows of stitching round the hem of skirt would improve the look. A jacket is most necessary to put on after playing. This could be of the same material as the skirt, and double-breasted, or made with lappels to close, if required, and two deep useful pockets on each side to hold gloves and balls. A sailor hat, or the 'Brighton' shape, in straw or felt, would be suitable."

GOLF AT CANNES.—It will be news to some of our readers to be told that they can get Golf at Cannes. A club has been recently formed. For many years there have been some spasmodic efforts to start the game in the heart of the Riviera, but with no success. Now, however, thanks to the energy, influence, and tact of the Grand Duke Michael of Russia, all the preliminary difficulties have been surmounted. The course of nine holes has been laid out by the Pau professional, Lloyd, who considers that it promises to be a really first-class inland course. It is already open for play, and all inquiries will be gladly answered by the hon. secretary, Rev. L. J. Fish, Villa Hauterive, Cannes.

CRYSTAL PALACE CURLING CLUB.—The members of this club put in their first appearance on the ice this season on Thursday, the 24th of last month. A start was not made until somewhat late in the afternoon, and the short daylight and thickening fog did not allow them much time to indulge in their sport. A spirited game was, however, played between two sides skipped respectively by Mr. W. O. S. Pell and "Captain" G. C. Snelling, resulting in a win for Mr. Pell's side by two shots. Arrangements were made for a large gathering on the day after Christmas, but the weather, alas! scattered these to the winds.



The Amateur Golf Championship Tournament has been fixed to take place over the links of the St. George's Club at Sandwich in May, 1892. It will begin on the 11th of that month, and be continued on the following days. The St. George's Champion Grand Challenge Cup, open to all amateurs and competed for under the rules of medal play, has been placed in the same week, and will be played for at Sandwich on the 10th of May.

* * *

This will be the first occasion of the meeting taking place so far south. The committee of St. George's Club have wisely kept the dates clear of the Easter and Whitsuntide holidays. The St. George's Challenge Vase is perhaps the most handsome prize that exists in the golfing world, and there goes along with it a silver duplicate cup, costing some twenty guineas, which becomes the property of the winner. It is to be hoped that the cracks from Scotland will muster in good force, for hitherto Mr. John Ball has reigned supreme at Sandwich. Year after year he has carried off the St. George's Vase. Last summer when he achieved his third successive victory there began to be grumbling against the course. The round, it was said, was too much a test of physical endurance. The committee were urged to retain the usual "tees," and not to lengthen the holes by using what are known as the "champion tees." If any heed is paid to this grumbling a mistake will be made. Long driving is no doubt wanted, but without long driving there cannot be first-class Golf. Any Scottish players who come south will find the links quite worthy of the honour that is now for the first time to be conferred on them.

* * *

The committee of the Richmond Golf Club ought to have been satisfied with the large turn-out of players at Sudbrook Park on Saturday to take part in the various competitions of the Christmas meeting. Considering that there had been five days of hard frost, with a continuous fog, right up to Friday evening, the chances were a thousand to one against any play at all. But the temperature rose, the fog disappeared, and Saturday morning was almost as mild and clear as a spring day.

* * *

Sudbrook Park is a fine old English mansion, said to have been built by Sir Christopher Wren. It is a mile and a-half from Richmond Station, situated in the midst of most picturesque grounds. There are many similar mansions of red brick, faced with Portland stone, in the neighbourhood; but the original owners have either parted with them outright, or have gone further away from the City. This mansion of Sudbrook was formerly a residence of the Marquis of Bute; now it is a residential hotel, and here the Golf club has its quarters. And very comfortably and cosily the members are housed, while the tariff is most reasonable.

The extensive grounds have been leased to the club, and on them an eighteen-hole course has been laid out. Probably the course was not seen at its best on Saturday, owing to the weather. The tees were sloppy, so much so that a secure foothold was well nigh impossible. It seemed as if the committee, or the greenkeeper, had chosen tees that had formerly been played from, because there was an entire absence of grass on the bulk of them, with the result that after a dozen couples had played from them they were as miry as a bog. The committee might very well have taken the tees back ten or a dozen yards, and placed them on the hardest piece of grass-grown ground to be found. The grass would have prevented the foot from slipping, whereas by standing on soft mud, on what appeared to be old tees, it was risky in many cases to take a full swing.

* * *

The course is a fairly long one, and at one or two holes it is pretty well diversified to make the sport interesting. But taken as a whole the character of the holes suffer from sameness. There is a great lack of hazards, and if the committee are not too prone to take offence from a disinterested stranger who competed on Saturday, he would offer the suggestion that they might greatly enhance the interest of their course by erecting many more hurdles. There ought to be one at every hole to be cleared with the drive, and there also ought to be another twenty yards from the hole; so that all players, and especially beginners, should know how to play the lofting iron. At present a topped ball anywhere near the green is just as likely to lie dead at the hole side as the most skilfully-played iron shot of the scratch player. This should not be; and as at present constituted the course is too plain sailing for all players alike, but more particularly for beginners.

* * *

It was said on Saturday that the limit handicap is 36. This is absolutely out of all proportion to the difficulties of the course. 18, or a stroke a hole, ought to be the limit on such a green, because any player who can drive a fairly long ball has just as good a chance of holing out in 4 or 5 as a scratch player, play he never so scientifically and well.

* * *

If the club can get permission to keep a few hundred sheep on the course, to erect as many hurdles as they choose, or, better still, to dig trenches and bank them up like a steeple-chase water-jump, near the putting-greens, and placed so that players must play *over* them and not *round* them, then the course would in a short time be one of the best around London.

* * *

A good many visitors entered for the Walton Cup, among them being a few pretty good scratch players, notably Mr. T. R. Pinkerton, of the London Scottish, who used to be one of the best amateur players in Scotland. His score of 86, and Mr. A. T. Jockel's 84, must in the heavy state of the course be considered very good performances. The strangers received a kindly and cordial welcome from the secretary, Mr. Charles Cowper.

* * *

A player lately described another whom he had noticed playing before him on the links, and who possessed an exceedingly elaborate style, but had very little return of success—more ornamental than useful, in fact—thus:—"He wound himself round and round like a corkscrew, and then unwinding himself with great rapidity, his club occasionally came in contact with the ball, and sent it a long distance in one direction or another."

* * *

Playing over Monifieth Links on Saturday, Mr. William Young finished with the fine record of 79 strokes. Considering the state of the putting-greens, many of which are just now covered with sand, and in an exceedingly rough condition, the score of 79 shows remarkably fine play.



ABERDEEN.

The usual Christmas competition of the Victoria Club took place on Friday last over the links course. The weather was not very favourable, a strong hoar frost lying all over the green; but the majority of the members who competed played with red balls, and this difficulty was successfully overcome, a number of very good scores being returned. The prizes numbered ten in all, five going to players in the first class and five to players in the second class. They were presented by members and friends of the club, and all were suitable to the season. Ties were decided by the lowest handicaps, and of the large field who turned out (some twenty-five couples starting) the following were found to be the winners:—

First-class players:—

Gross. Hcp. Net.		Gross. Hcp. Net.	
Mr. A. M'Connachie	80 scr. 80	Mr. W. Pollock	90 7 83
Mr. L. Anderson	84 3 81	Mr. W. H. Reid	90 6 84
Mr. A. R. Williams	88 5 83		

Second-class players:—

Gross. Hcp. Net.		Gross. Hcp. Net.	
Mr. J. Milne	95 18 77	Mr. G. Anderson	100 4 96
Mr. G. Souter	93 6 87	Mr. J. H. Jamieson	105 9 96
Mr. J. Jack	104 12 92		

Among the remaining cards the following had the lowest figures:—Messrs. A. Mitchell, 92; D. Jessiman, 94; Alex. Cooper, G. Mortimer, and G. Hendry, 95; W. Stalker and D. Gunn, 96; D. J. Innes, 99; W. Bowman, 96; J. Law, 97; A. Mitchell, 92; and J. Forrest, 96.

The members of the Bon-Accord Club held their competition, on Saturday, over the nine-hole course, on the town's links and Broadhill, of which two rounds were played. A decided fresh set in in the morning, and the wind was very high. The ground was very sticky, and all against good play. A fairly large number of members, however, turned out—though the scoring was high, the only score worthy of note being a 90 by Mr. W. Smart, who carried off the first prize. There were eight prizes in all, and they were won as follows:—1, Mr. William Smart; 2, Mr. Robert Reid; 3, Mr. James Fraser; 4, Mr. James Florence; 5, Mr. Andrew Ducat; 6, Mr. William Allan; 7, Mr. Charles Smith; 8, Mr. William Gellatly.

ALDEBURGH GOLF CLUB.

On Saturday, 26th ult. the members of this club competed for a silver cup presented by Mr. Newton Garrett, to be played for on Boxing Day in each year, the cup to be the property of the member winning it three times. The day was fine, but a high wind prevented good scoring, and Mr. E. V. Longstaffe was the winner of Mr. Garrett's cup with the net score of 94:—

Gross. Hcp. Net.		Gross. Hcp. Net.	
Mr. E. V. Longstaffe	112 18 94	Mr. Sam Garrett	115 9 106
Mr. G. H. Garrett	114 18 96	Mr. Herbert Cowell	122 9 113

Messrs. Bright, Prosser and Wrightson made no return.

BOLTON GOLF CLUB.

The first competition of this club was held at its new ground in Great Lever on Saturday, December 26th, 1891. The match was once round the course of nine holes. The prize, a medal given by the club, was taken by Mr. Bertram Brown. The best gross scores were:—Mr. A. Entwistle, 58; Mr. H. T. Parke, 62; and Mr. B. Brown, 62. The first optional sweepstakes was taken by Mr. B. Brown, the second by

Mr. W. E. Walker, and the third was tied for by the Rev. H. E. Burgess and Mr. A. Entwistle.

Gross. Hcp. Net.		Gross. Hcp. Net.	
Mr. Bertram Brown	62 12 50	Dr. Yates	76 10 66
Mr. W. E. Walker	66 12 54	Mr. E. Walker	79 12 67
Rev. H. E. Burgess	70 15 55	Dr. Kershaw	85 15 70
Mr. A. Entwistle	58 3 55	Rev. J. E. Hewison	88 12 76
Dr. Flitcroft	65 8 57	Mr. A. Morris	97 15 82
Mr. H. T. Parke	62 5 57	Mr. T. Walker	105 15 90
Dr. Lissaman	71 6 65	Mr. J. Duxbury	116 15 101
Mr. H. Broadbent	78 12 66		

Messrs. F. Topp and C. E. Whitehurst, no returns.

BROOK HILL GOLF CLUB (OAKHAM).

The autumn meeting of this club was, by special arrangement, allowed to extend over the whole of last week; but, owing to the frost which set in on Thursday, the 24th ult., the majority of themembers were unable to complete the two rounds, and the contest thereby lost considerably in interest. The course consists of nine holes, and the competitors had to go twice round. The lowest scratch score is 100. The following were the only returns sent in:—

Gross. Hcp. Net.		Gross. Hcp. Net.	
Rev. E. V. Hodge	130 26 104	Mr. J. Story	169 36 133
Mr. W. Neilson	141 27 114	Rev. H. W. Fitch	137 3 134
Mr. J. T. Johnson	146 29 117		

BURNHAM GOLF CLUB.

The monthly gold medal handicap was decided on Monday, the 28th ult. There was a small entry, owing probably to the weather, the day being wet and uncomfortable, but with little wind. The following are the principal scores:—

Gross. Hcp. Net.		Gross. Hcp. Net.	
Mr. W. S. Holt, junr.	105 14 91	Rev. F. N. Smith	131 27 104
Mr. T. C. Brice	116 20 96	Mr. T. Holt	124 20 104
Rev. Canon Kennard	122 18 104	Mr. T. C. Hooman	130 24 106

FELIXSTOWE GOLF CLUB.

The Christmas meeting of this club began on Saturday, the 26th ult., when the competition was for a prize value £3 3s., presented by the club. The play was not up to the average, and it will be noticed that there was not one gross score of 100 or less, and this high scoring must, in a measure, be attributed to the strong wind. The greens showed that the usual amount of care had been spent on them. The following were the principal scores returned:—

Gross. Hcp. Net.		Gross. Hcp. Net.	
Mr. A. Poynder	113 17 96	Mr. C. G. Havell	106 9 97
Mr. Chas. H. Downes	116 20 96	Dr. J. Harper	116 18 98

The rest of the competitors were 100 net, or over.

The meeting was concluded on Monday, when the monthly challenge cup was competed for. This was won by Dr. Dawson Williams, of the *British Medical Journal*, with a very good net score of 87. Mr. A. Poynder again showed good form, and was second with a net score of 91, whilst Mr. F. W. Wilson, who made the best gross score of the day, was third.

In playing off the tie for the club prize Mr. Poynder easily defeated his opponent, Mr. Charles H. Downes, who only succeeded in completing the course in 121.

The returns were as follows, viz.:—

Gross. Hcp. Net.		Gross. Hcp. Net.	
Dr. Dawson Williams	111 24 87	Mr. J. R. Jefferies	118 22 96
Mr. A. Poynder	108 17 91	Mr. J. A. Chalmers	112 16 96
Mr. F. W. Wilson	103 9 94	Mr. C. P. Fox	119 20 99
Mr. P. W. Everett	104 9 95	Mr. Chas. H. Downes	121 20 101
Dr. J. Harper	113 18 95		

Several competitors made no return.

FORFARSHIRE.

The monthly sweepstakes competition of the Dalhousie Club, which had to be postponed a fortnight ago owing to a snowstorm, was played at Carnoustie on Saturday. The weather was excessively cold, and there was not a large turn-out of players. Notwithstanding that there was a good deal of water lying on the course and putting-greens caused by the thaw, some very good scores were recorded. The prizes were gained as follows:—1st, Mr. H. B. Gilroy, 86, less 5=81; 2nd, Mr. C. E. Gilroy, 86, scratch; and 3rd tied for by Mr. W. R. Sharp, 95,

less 6=89; and Mr. W. Ballingall, 89, scratch. Mr. R. B. Sharp came in at 90 strokes, Mr. G. A. Gilroy at 95, and Mr. Daniel McIntyre at 96.

On Saturday, at Monifieth, the *Dundee Advertiser* Club competed for a number of prizes presented by Mr. W. C. Leng. There was a capital muster of players. The course was in fairly good condition, considering the severe frost of the past week and the thaw on Saturday morning, while no fault could be found with the putting-greens as a whole. The best scores in the first class were those of Mr. William Still, 90; Mr. John Inglis, 93; Mr. Robert Donn, 95; Mr. Alexander Bowman, 96; and Mr. William Duguid, 97. In the second class, Mr. Alexander Davidson, 104; Mr. Allan Bell, 105; Mr. William Scott, 105; and Mr. William M. Crompt, 105, were lowest. Mr. James Buik, in the third class, was scratch with a creditable 117. Prizes were won by the following:—First Class: 1st average, Mr. R. Donn; 2nd, Mr. John Inglis; 3rd, Mr. William Duguid; 4th and 5th (tie), Mr. Alexander Bowman and Mr. James U. Wallace; 6th, Mr. William Still. Second Class: 1st average, Mr. William Scott; 2nd and 3rd (tie), Mr. William M. Crompt and Mr. Victor V. Branford; 4th, Mr. John Livingston; 5th, Mr. Allan Bell; 6th and 7th (tie), Mr. Alexander Davidson and Mr. Peter Williamson; 8th, Mr. James Farquhar. Third Class: 1st average, Mr. Jas. Buik; 2nd, Mr. John Calvert.

GUILDFORD GOLF CLUB.

Frost reduced the Christmas prize meeting to a one-day affair, and then the course was in a very unfit state for play—very soft and wet on the top, and against low scoring. Several players went round, but a good many failed to disclose the result of their efforts. The two winning scores show that these are players, who are not disconcerted by adverse surroundings.

Mr. Bulmer Howell's prize, for the benefit of the caddies, was won by Mr. H. L. Forbes with three remarkably low scores.

The Pinkerton cup, open during Christmas week, unlimited entries, secured a poor entry, owing to the frost, and a similar prize will probably be offered at Easter. The winning score last week was made by a member playing with a visitor, and remains to be considered by the committee.

December 26th. Scores:—

	Gross.	Hcp.	Net.		Gross.	Hcp.	Net.
Mr. B. Howell	92	5	87	Mr. H. T. Cattley	109	14	95
Mr. F. L. Rawson	97	9	88	Mr. H. L. Forbes	104	8	96
Mr. C. A. Woodhouse	112	20	92	Mr. D. L. Poole	104	8	96
Mr. S. Mure-Fergusson	92	+3	95	Mr. W. F. Richmond	117	20	97
Mr. J. Kenrick	99	4	95	Mr. E. W. Sargeant	117	20	97
Col. Jelf Sharp	107	12	95	Col. G. Lamb	108	9	99

J. TAYLOR v. A. KIRKALDY.

The first round of the professional match for £27 between the above players came off at Winchester. The day (December 22nd) was wintry to the last degree. The links of Winchester were hard as iron, and encrusted with rime, which made it hard at times to discover the globe of gutta-percha after the long drives of the players (mostly over 250 yards, one of Kirkaldy's reaching to 273 yards). The greens, good and true as they would have been in their natural state, were now (what an American friend of mine once suggested as an improvement on the game) like asphalt, and there was little chance of stopping a lofted ball on the green, while the rattle of the ball as it approached the hole reminded one of the sound of the pea in a roulette table. About thirty ardent Winchester and foreign golfers assembled at the Pavilion at 11 a.m., and some discussion took place as to whether the match should be played off then or postponed. It was commenced by Taylor, to whom Kirkaldy politely yielded the honour, and who drove off a fine shot from the tee at 11.30. It would be tedious to describe the play to each of the thirty-six holes, but it suffices to say that considering the state of the course and greens it was as good as good can be. Bad luck attended both players at times. Taylor broke his favourite iron playing to the first hole, and another one that was lent to him shortly after, having to approach with his cleek during the latter part of the day's play. Kirkaldy, too, was baffled with one or two manifest pieces of bad luck. It was obvious to all spectators that had the course been in its ordinary state at least 10 or even more might have been reduced in the score of each round. As it was it stood as follows:—

First Round—

Taylor—Out	...	7	4	4	5	5	5	5	4	4=43	87
In	...	4	5	6	5	4	4	5	6	5=44	
Kirkaldy—Out	...	6	5	5	4	6	5	5	4	4=44	88
In	...	5	6	6	4	6	4	4	5	5=44	

Second Round—

Taylor—Out	...	6	4	4	4	5	5	5	5	5=43	84
In	...	4	5	5	5	5	4	4	5	4=41	
Kirkaldy—Out	...	6	4	4	5	6	5	5	4	5=44	84
In	...	4	5	5	5	4	4	3	5	5=40	

Thus the match was of the closest, and the excitement of all was kept up to the end, when Taylor ended 1 hole up on the 36, and 1 stroke better in the general score.

On January 19th the return match is to be played at Burnham, near Bridgewater, in Somersetshire, over most sporting links of true sand turf, and no end of yawning bunkers and sandhills to negotiate. We recommend as many as can not to fail in witnessing the finale of this splendid match.

LYTHAM AND ST. ANNE'S GOLF CLUB.

A goodly number of the members of the Lytham and St. Anne's Golf Club met on Boxing-day (Saturday last), in the club-room and on the links at St. Anne's-on-the-Sea, and wished each other the compliments of the season, as they turned out for the annual Christmas competition. Thirty-five players faced the tee. The keen frost had suddenly broken up, and a rapid thaw had set in, followed by rain, which continued from 10 a.m., until about one o'clock, and made it anything but pleasant for the morning players. There was a good list of prizes to be competed for, presented by Mr. J. Talbot Clifton, president of the club; Mr. T. H. Miller and Mr. Sydney A. Hermon, two of the trustees of the club, and Mr. J. A. S. Fair, one of the members of the council. The scoring during the day, with one or two exceptions, was not particularly good. The best gross scores were:—Mr. A. H. Doleman, South Shore, 93; Mr. J. Talbot Fair, Lytham, 101; Mr. A. B. Scholfield, St. Anne's, 106; Mr. J. Marcus Rea, St. Anne's, 107; and the best net scores were, Mr. J. Talbot Fair, 101, less 13=88; Mr. A. Tod, St. Anne's, 109, less 20=89; Mr. A. H. Doleman, 93, less 2=91; Mr. R. B. Hardman, St. Anne's, 109, less 18=91; Mr. H. N. Brown, St. Anne's, 108, less 16=92; Mr. J. A. F. Eltoft, St. Anne's, 108, less 13=95; Mr. J. Bradbury, South Shore, 113, less 18=95; Mr. P. Swanwick, Wimslow, 115, less 20=95; Mr. T. H. Miller, Singleton Park, 113, less 17=96; Mr. J. Craig, St. Anne's, 118, less 22=96. The first prize was won by Mr. J. Talbot Fair; the second by Mr. A. Tod; the third by Mr. A. H. Doleman; the fourth by Mr. R. B. Hardman, and the fifth by Mr. H. N. Brown. The first optional sweepstakes was won by Mr. J. Talbot Fair; the second by Mr. A. H. Doleman; and the third was divided between Mr. J. Bradbury and Mr. J. A. F. Eltoft. The full score of the play was as follows:—

	Gross.	Hcp.	Net.
Mr. J. Talbot Fair, Lytham	101 13 88
Mr. A. Tod, St. Anne's	109 20 89
Mr. A. H. Doleman, South Shore	93 2 91
Mr. R. B. Hardman, St. Anne's	109 18 91
Mr. H. N. Brown, St. Anne's	108 16 92
Mr. J. A. F. Eltoft, St. Anne's	108 13 95
Mr. J. Bradbury, South Shore	113 18 95
Mr. P. Swanwick, Wimslow	115 20 95
Mr. T. H. Miller, Singleton Park	113 17 96
Mr. J. Craig, St. Anne's	118 22 96
Mr. W. H. Crossland, Manchester	117 20 97
Mr. S. Fisher, South Shore	113 15 98
Mr. G. Harper, Ashton, Preston	112 13 99
Mr. E. M. Whipp, St. Anne's	116 17 99
Mr. A. B. Scholfield, St. Anne's	106 6 100
Mr. James Mellor, Failsworth	122 22 100
Mr. J. Marcus Rea, St. Anne's	107 6 101
Mr. F. Bradshaw, South Shore	126 25 101
Mr. James E. King, St. Anne's	115 13 102
Mr. N. Cockshutt, Preston	118 16 102
Mr. T. C. Midwood, Salford, Manchester	120 18 102
Mr. W. P. Fullagar, Lytham	128 25 103
Mr. E. Redfern, St. Anne's	124 20 104
Mr. C. Addison Birley, Bartle Hall	125 17 108
Dr. C. de M. Palmer, Buxton	132 20 112
Mr. J. Muirhead, Blackpool	144 18 126

The following did not send in any returns:—Messrs. E. Harrison, St. Anne's; A. E. Fair, Lytham; S. A. Hermon, St. Anne's; H. Fisher, Wrea Green; W. H. Harrison, Lytham; J. A. Brown, St. Anne's; W. Newbigging, St. Anne's; E. Catterall, St. Anne's; and W. H. Hampson, South Shore.

TROON CLUB.—The usual monthly competition for the Sandhills gold medal took place on Saturday, when the weather conditions were anything but favourable, a high wind and some rain interfering with good scoring. Mr. H. E. Clifford took first place with (16) 92; Mr. J. Raeside was second with (16) 103; Mr. Alexander Walker, 108.

LITTLESTONE GOLF CLUB.

On Friday and Saturday last, 25th and 26th ult., a foursome tournament was held on the Littlestone ground to compete for a double prize, kindly presented by Mr. C. Wintle. Mild and, on the whole, very favourable weather gave place to the previous hard frost, and the fresh genial air of the southern coast came as a welcome change to those who had just quitted the fog-begrimed blackness of London. As was to be expected at Christmas time there was not a very large entry, but nine couples entered for the competition.

First Round.—Messrs. H. T. Wright and W. L. Croll, giving one stroke, beat Messrs. H. and F. W. Stringer by 8 up and 7 to play. The remaining couple drew byes.

Second Round.—Messrs. T. S. Hindmarsh and C. E. S. Foyer, receiving 3 strokes, beat Messrs. H. T. Wright and W. L. Croll, but only won at the nineteenth hole; Messrs. R. Lawson and Graham Thoms, giving 5 strokes, beat Messrs. A. J. Stanley and H. E. Johnson, also, however, only at the nineteenth hole. Messrs. F. Jefferson and J. Fleming, giving 2 strokes, beat Messrs. G. Seton and C. Wintle by 6 up and 5 to play; Messrs. J. Bannon and G. H. Samson, giving 2 strokes, beat Messrs. W. R. Dockrell and L. E. G. Abney, here also, however, only by playing a nineteenth hole.

Third Round.—Messrs. R. Lawson and Graham Thoms, giving 11 strokes, beat Messrs. T. C. Hindmarsh and C. E. S. Foyer by 6 up and 5 to play; Messrs. J. Bannon and G. H. Samson, giving 4 strokes, beat Messrs. F. Jefferson and J. Fleming by 1 hole, but only after finishing the round all even, and playing a nineteenth hole.

Final Round.—Messrs. J. Bannon and G. H. Samson, receiving 4 strokes, beat Messrs. R. Lawson and Graham Thoms by 3 up and 2 to play, thus winning the prize, which consisted of two ivory paper-knives prettily mounted with silver.

This little Christmas meeting proved a great attraction, and between thirty and forty members and their friends were upon the green.

MACCLESFIELD GOLF CLUB.

A special handicap sweepstake was played on the ground at Upton on Boxing Day. The first place was taken by Mr. G. Cawley Swindells with a net score of 76, the second by Rev. D. Wilmot with 77, and the third by Mr. A. Johnson with 81.

Sixteen members afterwards joined in a foursome handicap, the following being the four best net scores, viz.:—Messrs. A. Sheldon and G. H. Swindells, 71; Messrs. G. C. Swindells and F. Tylecote, 73; Dr. Duffus and Mr. S. Adshead, 73; Messrs. J. Boden and A. Johnson, 73.

PRESTWICK.

The weather being favourable on Christmas for outing, there was a large turn-out of golfers on both the Prestwick and St. Nicholas Links. The following are a few of the matches played over Prestwick Links:—Mr. George Wilson and James Cunningham, playing against Captain Douglas Stewart and Archie Simpson, won the match by 2 up and 1 to play. Mr. J. G. Walker beat Mr. D. Reid in two matches—the first by 3 up and 2 to play, and the second by 2 up and 1 to play. Mr. David Kidston, giving a stroke to Mr. Arrol, won the first round by 5 up and 4 to play, and lost the second by 1 hole. Mr. R. H. Balloch, getting a half from Mr. A. Walker, won two matches. Mr. Barclay was 3 up and 1 to play against Mr. Singleton. Mr. Johnstone Douglas was 6 up and 5 to play in the first match with Mr. Walter Alston, and lost the second by 6 up and 4 to play. Mr. George Wilson beat Captain Douglas Stewart by 2 up and 1 to play. Mr. J. R. Donald was 3 up and 2 to play against Mr. Hugh Hutcheson. Mr. P. Campbell beat Mr. Dunlop by 5 up and 4 to play. Mr. J. O. Brown, giving a half to Mr. J. G. A. Baird, M.P., halved the match. The following matches were played over the St. Nicholas Links:—Messrs. J. Foulds and W. Allan beat Messrs. R. Hewitt and Ralston by 2 holes. Messrs. D. Moore and W. Bain were 3 up against Messrs. T. Andrew and Joseph Gray. Messrs. W. Robertson and J. Meikle halved the first round with Messrs. D. Strathie and J. Howat, and lost the second by 1 hole. Messrs. W. Robertson and W. Beaton halved the first round with Messrs. M. Smith and C. Cameron, and won the second by 1 hole. Messrs. J. Andrew and J. Thomson halved a match with Messrs. M. Smith and J. Cowan. Captain Larke beat Mr. D. M. Alexander by 4 holes. Messrs. J. Wallace and D. Ferguson were 2 up and 1 to play in the first round against Messrs. J. Andrew and Joseph Gray; the second was halved. Messrs. M. Smith and C. Cameron beat Messrs. J. Meikle and W. Robertson by 1. Captain Lake and Mr. D. M. Alexander, playing against Messrs. G. Crymble and W. J. Templeby, beat them by 2 up and 1 to play. The members of Prestwick Golf Club held their monthly handicap competition for the gold medal on Saturday, ten

couples starting on the game of eighteen holes. The cards showed that the medal had fallen to Mr. R. G. M'Millan with a score of 90, with 24 of odds; Mr. G. M. Wilson was second at 92; Mr. W. B. Wilson, 93, both at scratch; Mr. A. Kennedy Erskine, 94, with 6 of odds; Mr. W. Towers Clark, 94, with 18 of odds.

RANELAGH GOLF CLUB.

Scores for medal competition for week ending 26th December, 1891:—

Gross. Hcp. Net.				Gross. Hcp. Net.			
Mr. H. F. Highton..	104	25	79	Mr. W. H. Miller...	119	25	94
Mr. R. Bramwell				Mr. L. E. G. Abney	108	12	96
Davis	100	14	86	Mr. C. O'Malley ..	119	22	97
Mr. R. Dawson ...	111	25	86	Mr. W. Russell ...	109	11	98
Mr. W. F. Thompson	107	20	87	Mr. A. Waldy ...	117	18	99
Mr. M. Friend ..	101	7	94				

RICHMOND GOLF CLUB.

The annual Christmas meeting of this club was held on Saturday last, December 26th (Boxing Day), at Sudbrook Park, Petersham. There was a large attendance of members, and a considerable number of players from other clubs. The day was unusually fine, and the ground was in good condition, notwithstanding the late severe frost.

The Walton silver cup, limited to a handicap of 18, and open to members of any Golf club, attracted a large field, and was won by Mr. W. B. Westhead, of the Felixstowe Club, with a gross score of 90, less 12=78.

The captain's challenge cup, limited to a handicap of 20:—

Gross. Hcp. Net.			Gross. Hcp. Net.		
*Mr. A. T. Jockel...	84	scr.	84	*Mr. R. E. Yerburch	104 20 84
*Mr. H. M. Davidson	93	9	84		
			* Ties.		

* Ties.

Scratch prize cup.—Winner, Mr. A. T. Jockel, 84.

Open handicap prizes.—Silver medal, Mr. R. E. Yerburch, 104, less 27=77; gold scarf pin, Mr. H. M. Davidson, 93, less 9=84. Iron club, Mr. A. Allan (scratch), 85; Mr. J. G. Wylie, 103, less 18=85—ties.

Other scores:—

Gross. Hcp. Net.			Gross. Hcp. Net.				
Mr. H. Frisby, jun.	106	18	88	Mr. C. Cowper	122	30	92
Mr. A. Walker	115	27	88	Mr. D. Craigie Millar	111	18	93
Mr. T. Glover	96	7	89	Mr. H. W. Stock	123	30	93
Mr. J. R. Dunlop Hill	98	9	89	Mr. T. Croysdale	112	18	94
Mr. A. L. Jockel	93	3	90	Mr. W. Harriss	130	36	94
Mr. A. J. Robertson	94	4	90	Mr. W. Low Lawson	115	21	94
Mr. P. R. Don	91	scr.	91	Mr. G. Metzger	130	36	94
Mr. E. H. Stevenson	104	13	91	Mr. F. Holdsworth	119	24	95
Mr. W. Lindsay	113	22	91	Mr. E. M. Walsh	126	30	96
Mr. E. C. Davidson	113	22	91	Dr. Gardiner	105	6	99

Other players were over 100.

ROYAL CORNWALL GOLF CLUB.

The return match between the Married and Single Lady members of this club took place on Tuesday, December 22nd. The result was somewhat of a surprise, the Single side completely turning the tables on their opponents. Each side having won one match, it was decided to play again on Tuesday, January 5th. Score:—

MARRIED.		SINGLE.	
	Holes.		Holes.
Mrs. Young-Jamieson	2	Miss A. Barnett	0
Mrs. Salmon	1	Miss E. Gilbert	0
Mrs. Simpson	3	Miss Alms	0
Mrs. Every	5	Miss Peter Hoblyn	0
Mrs. Edyevean	0	Miss Page	4
Mrs. Charles Hext	0	Miss Fenwick	2
Mrs. Fenton	0	Miss C. Vyvyan	11
	11		17

Majority for Single, 6.

ROYAL NORTH DEVON GOLF CLUB.

On Saturday last, in a south-west gale, accompanied with rain, nineteen players started for the monthly medal and other prizes. Mr. A. H. Boyd, 96, less 3=93; Mr. W. H. Toller, 97, less 3=94. The rest a hundred and over, or no returns.

ROYAL JERSEY GOLF CLUB.

Saturday, December 19th, Major Little's prize :—

	Gross.	Hcp.	Net.		Gross.	Hcp.	Net.
*†Mr. J. Robertson	101	14	87	Capt. Robin	97	4	93
Mr. C. A. Teape ...	89	scr.	89	Mr. C. Renton	104	10	94
Dr. Comerford ...	100	11	89	Major Scott	95	scr.	95
Major Little	103	14	89	Mr. T. C. Robin	99	4	95
†Lieut.-Col. Robin	108	18	90	Major Richardson...	113	18	95
Capt. Prendergast...	108	18	90	Mr. G. Hornby	97	scr.	97
Capt. Fairlie	97	6	91	Mr. W. H. Monckton	115	17	98
Mr. R. Renton	104	13	91				

Eleven players made no return.

* Winner.

† Divided sweepstakes.

ROYAL WIMBLEDON GOLF CLUB.

Monthly handicap challenge medal, December 26th :—

Gross. Hcp. Net.			Gross. Hcp. Net.		
Mr. Arthur Adams..	96	10 86	Mr. W. Michie ...	102	9 93
Mr. H. Becher ...	98	12 86	Mr. J. Murray ...	105	12 93
Mr. A. H. Molesworth	84	+3 87	Mr. J. Franklin-Adams ...	102	8 94
Mr. E. Field ...	97	10 87	Hon. Ivo Bligh ...	102	8 94
Mr. N. R. Foster...	86	+2 88	Mr. W. Johnston ...	110	15 95
Mr. W. L. Purves...	88	scr. 88	Mr. D. F. Park ...	113	18 95
Mr. A. Pollock ..	93	5 88	Mr. A. Davidson ...	106	10 96
Mr. R. F. Denniston	95	7 88	Mr. J. Gane ...	112	16 96
Mr. C. A. W. Cameron	93	4 89	Mr. A. N. Morley...	112	15 97
Mr. R. T. Thomson	92	2 90	Mr. A. L. Corry ...	115	18 97
Mr. W. D. Davidson	95	5 90	Mr. J. Taylor ...	108	10 98
Mr. J. M. Henderson	94	4 90	Mr. W. J. Cundell...	109	11 98
Mr. W. C. Anderson	106	16 90	Mr. G. Nicol ...	108	8 100
Gen. R. Grant ...	103	12 91	Mr. F. J. Walker...	106	5 101
Mr. W. Morley ...	106	15 91	Mr. J. D. Charrington	113	8 105
Mr. E. Turle ...	104	12 92			

Champion medal (scratch).—Mr. A. H. Molesworth, winner (2½ times first), 83 87 84; Mr. W. L. Purves (2 times first), 90 88; Mr. N. R. Foster (2 times first), 83 84; Mr. H. A. Lamb, (1 time first), 84; Mr. R. Durnford (1 time first), 91; Mr. W. Bazalgette (½ time first), 87. Scores made in competitions between January and April, October and December, 1891.

The Silver Iron, Foursomes Tournament.—First Heat.—The Draw.—Messrs. J. Gane (16) and H. Jackson (18) v. Messrs. G. F. Muir (12) and W. Gordon (9); Messrs. H. W. Horne (8) and E. M. Protheroe (9) v. Messrs. C. Plummer (scr.) and J. R. Dunlop Hill (12); Messrs. W. L. Purves (scr.) and G. Nicol (8) v. Messrs. H. T. Grundtvig (18) and W. Morley (15); Messrs. F. E. Faithfull (4) and P. Strickland (7) v. Messrs. F. J. Walker (5) and A. Adams (10); Messrs. A. H. Molesworth (+3) and T. W. Lang (4) v. Messrs. J. Franklin-Adams (8) and R. T. Thomson (2); Messrs. R. Whyte (4) and N. R. Foster (+2) v. Messrs. W. Bazalgette (3) and C. F. Grundtvig (18); Messrs. R. Ritchie (7) and G. E. Jones (18) v. Messrs. E. Turle (12) and M. Tabuteau (9); Messrs. J. S. Russell (4) and A. C. Adam (8) v. Messrs. J. L. Ridpath (9) and J. H. Driver (9).

Second Heat.—Messrs. F. Pownall (15) and R. H. Caird (9); Messrs. R. H. Pringle (6) and C. A. W. Cameron (4); Messrs. W. J. Cundell (11) and E. Sidgwick (9); Messrs. J. M. Henderson (4) and A. Davidson (10); Messrs. A. Pollock (5) and A. N. Cumming (6); Messrs. E. A. Walker (6) and C. W. Harrison (18); Messrs. J. Murray (12) and E. Field (10); Messrs. W. C. Anderson (16) and W. Rutherford (4); Messrs. G. F. Muir and W. Gordon; Messrs. H. W. Horne and E. M. Protheroe; Messrs. W. L. Purves and G. Nicol; Messrs. F. E. Faithfull and P. Strickland; Messrs. A. H. Molesworth and T. W. Lang; Messrs. W. Bazalgette and C. F. Grundtvig; Messrs. E. Turle and M. Tabuteau; Messrs. J. S. Russell and A. C. Adam.

Third Heat.—Messrs. Pringle and Cameron; Messrs. Cundell and Sidgwick; Messrs. Pollock and Cumming; Messrs. Murray and Field; Messrs. Muir and Gordon; Messrs. Purves and Nicol; Messrs. Bazalgette and Grundtvig; Messrs. Russell and Adam.

Fourth Heat.—Messrs. Cundell and Sidgwick; Messrs. Murray and Field; Messrs. Purves and Nicol; Messrs. Bazalgette and Grundtvig.

Final Heat.—Messrs. Murray and Field; Messrs. Bazalgette and Grundtvig.

Winners.—Messrs. J. Murray and E. Field.

DUMBARTON.—The monthly silver medal competition was played on Saturday in very bad weather, when Mr. William Craig won with a score of 95, less 3.

SUTTON COLDFIELD v. NOTTINGHAM.

This match was played on the 28th December, on Bulwell links. The weather was everything that could be desired, and the greens, with one or two exceptions, were in first-rate order, and reflected credit on the ground man. A fairly large company, including several ladies, watched the play with interest. The Sutton Coldfield Club had, perhaps, scarcely their best team; but it included Mr. A. M. Chance, the scratch Cambridge man. The match resulted in a very decided victory for the Nottingham players, who ended with 30 holes to the good, Mr. Chance alone winning his game. His driving was very long and straight, and his play all through—particularly when it is remembered that the course was quite new to him—admirable, and would no doubt have won him his match, even had his opponent been playing up to his recognised form. The feature of Mr. Doleman, the Nottingham captain's, play (which is always steadiness itself) was his putting, several shots finding the bottom of the hole from long distances, thus making him too hard a nut for Mr. Chavasse (a rapidly improving player) to crack. Major Lockyer suffered from a run of consistent bad luck, but his opponent, Mr. Clouston, was playing a very strong game, and could hardly have been beaten had circumstances been considerably reversed. Mr. Oswald (whose iron shots were deadly) and Mr. Ashwell also accounted for their opponents in very decided fashion, but the remaining Sutton players, Mr. Rathbone and Mr. Albright, are to be congratulated on the good fight they made for victory. When the necessity for knowing a course is taken into account, the Sutton players have no need to grumble at their defeat, and will doubtless take their revenge when the return match is played on their own ground in the spring. The details are as follows :—

NOTTINGHAM.		Holes.	SUTTON COLDFIELD.		Holes.
Mr. Doleman (capt.)	...	5	Mr. Chavasse	...	0
Mr. Warren	...	0	Mr. Chance	...	6
Mr. Clouston	...	9	Major Lockyer	...	0
Mr. Oswald	...	7	Mr. Bourke	...	0
Mr. Russell	...	2	Mr. Rathbone	...	0
Rev. A. C. Beckton	...	2	Mr. Albright	...	0
Mr. Ashwell	...	11	Mr. Winder	...	0
		36			6

Majority for Nottingham, 30 holes.

THE MANCHESTER GOLF CLUB.

The Christmas meeting of the Manchester Golf Club took place on Saturday, 26th December, over the links at Whalley Range, adjoining Manley Park. There was a large attendance of members, but owing to the sudden change in the weather the ground was in a semi-frozen condition that rendered low scoring next to impossible. The following was the best scoring for the club prizes :

Gross. Hcp. Net.			Gross. Hcp. Net.				
Mr. T. D. Cummins	88	4	84	Mr. H. Bowman ...	104	10	94
Mr. H. Macdonald	96	12	84	Rev. H. Brayshaw ...	111	15	96
Mr. A. C. Knight ...	90	scr.	90	Captain Farrant ...	114	15	99
Mr. F. Jones	107	15	92	Professor Core ...	119	18	101
Mr. A. Darbyshire	99	7	92	Mr. J. Hemingway	124	20	104
Mr. R. L. Taylor ...	110	18	92	Mr. S. Kneale ...	138	30	108
Mr. L. D. Stewart	100	7	93	Mr. J. A. Brewis ...	136	15	121

The tie for the first and second prizes was afterwards played off in a nine-hole round, and resulted—Macdonald 45, Cummins 47. The contest for the captain's prize for the heat, second round (nine holes), in the club competition, resulted as follows :—

Net.			Net.		
Mr. A. C. Knight ...	...	44	Mr. R. L. Taylor ...	...	48
Mr. A. Darbyshire ...	...	44½	Mr. G. Kneale ...	...	49
Mr. H. Bowman ...	...	45	Captain Farrant ...	...	49½
Mr. F. Jones ...	...	45	Professor Core ...	...	51
Rev. H. Brayshaw ...	...	46½	Mr. J. W. Hemingway ...	...	51
Mr. L. D. Stewart ...	...	47½	Mr. J. A. Brewie ...	...	63½

The winners of the first and second prizes were ineligible to compete for the captain's prize.

WARWICKSHIRE GOLF CLUB.

Saturday's competition was the last for the club cup. The weather proved much warmer, but the greens were bad after the frost. There were twelve players, and the result came out thus :—Mr. W. M'Laren, 111, less 19=92, first; Mr. J. F. Wright, 124, less 30=94, second; and Rev. A. E. R. Bedford, 117, less 20=97, third. The next best scores were Mr. T. Latham's and Captain Shaw's, 98 each.

WHITLEY GOLF CLUB.

The Joicey cup was competed for at Whitley on December 22nd, Owing to recent frosty weather the ground was in a very hard condition, and play was poor in consequence. Out of a field of four players Mr. J. Milton won, his score being 118, less 12=106.

WOODFORD GOLF CLUB.

The Christmas club handicap was played off on Boxing Day, when fifteen players turned up, and, as the day was fine and the course in dry condition, very fair scores were returned. Since the last competition very great improvement has been made in the course by altering some of the holes, thus preventing all crossing and bringing in a clump of trees with a pond as an additional feature for the drive off the second tee. The eighth hole has been somewhat shortened in order to gain a very sporting approach over holly bushes with rushes behind, and woe betide any man who cannot play straight. The brothers Hunt are showing great improvement, and after playing a tie for the first round they decided to play off again in the afternoon, and Mr. C. B. Hunt was returned the winner with a creditable total of 83 net, Mr. B. B. Hunt taking second place with 96 net. Scores:

Gross. Hcp. Net.				Gross. Hcp. Net.			
Mr. C. B. Hunt ...	103	20	83	Mr. H. E. Kaye ...	126	25	101
Mr. B. B. Hunt ...	116	20	96	Mr. J. C. Mead ...	130	27	103
Mr. E. A. Tewson	105	8	97	Mr. R. H. Dodge ...	118	12	106
Mr. E. S. Morris ...	118	20	98	Mr. A. H. Tozer ...	125	18	107

Cards also handed in by Messrs. P. Mead, A. Spicer, C. Akers, A. Siggers, G. Fraser.

PERTH ARTISAN GOLF CLUB.—The second and final round in the competition for the licensed victuallers' gold medal was played on the North Inch on Saturday. On account of the frost and the recent thaw, the ground was in bad condition, but, notwithstanding, several good scores were made. The following are the prize-winners:—1st (gold medal and club prize), Mr. D. M'Laren, 123, 11 below; 2nd, Mr. James M'Arthur, 143, 7 below; 3rd, Mr. W. Young, 120, 5 below; 4th, Mr. John M'Arthur, 130, 1 above; 5th, Mr. James Brough, 126, 1 above; 6th, Mr. William Munro, 146, 2 above; 7th, Mr. Robert Halley, 125, 3 above; 8th, Mr. J. Younger, 138, 3 above; 9th, Mr. W. Anderson, 114, 4 above; 10th, Mr. J. Cobb, jun., 123, 5 above; 11th, Mr. D. Whyte, 143, 5 above. The following are the best scores in the final round:—Mr. J. Brough, 56; Mr. P. Stewart, 58; Mr. A. Reid, 60; Mr. D. M'Laren, 60; Mr. John M'Arthur, 63; Mr. R. Halley, 63; Mr. J. Cobb, jun., 63; and Mr. G. Martin, 64.

BURNTISLAND CLUB.—So numerous were the competitors and exciting the contest that the usual Christmas match assumed this year almost the proportions of a tournament. Play was begun on the links on Wednesday, and owing to the short days was continued till Saturday at dusk. The considerable sum subscribed for prizes was expended on seasonable fare, and distributed amongst the top scorers in the order of merit as follows:—Mr. R. Gordon, 71, less 5=66; Mr. R. Carmichael, 72, less 5=67; Mr. H. Addison, 78, less 10=68; Mr. W. Stevenson, 77, less 8=69; Mr. W. Addison, 77, less 8=69; Mr. A. Lyon, 78, less 9=69; Mr. J. Venters, 71, less 2=69; Mr. W. Duncan (scratch), 70; Mr. P. M'Artney, 78, less 7=71; Mr. W. Malone, 78, less 7=71; Mr. W. Smith, 83, less 12=71; Mr. D. Connel, 74, less 2=72; Mr. J. Adamson (scratch), 73; Mr. J. Ross (scratch), 73; Mr. R. Dover, 72+2=74; Mr. J. Wood, 73+1=74; Mr. T. Heard, 78, less 4=74; Mr. J. Connel, 82, less 7=75; Mr. W. Elder, 81, less 5=76; Mr. R. Morgan, 83, less 7=76; Mr. W. Kinnel, 82, less 6=76; Mr. J. Robertson, 75+2=77; Mr. W. Reid, 86, less 9=77; Mr. J. C. Wallace, 78, less 1=77.

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The *Shooting Times* says—"Messrs. HOGG & SONS have designed a Coat which will fill a want long felt... cunningly devised so as to give great play to the shoulders."—July 25th, 1891.

The *Right Hon. A. J. BALFOUR* writes:—"I am obliged to you for the coat, which seems to me well adapted for Golfing and other out-door sports."

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