

GOLF.

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

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1892.

JANUARY.

- 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.
Sutton Coldfield : Medal Competition.
West Herts : 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.
Sutton Coldfield : Lloyd Prize.
- Jan. 19.—Whitley : Joicey Cup.
A. Kirkaldy v. Taylor for £27, at Burnham.
- Jan. 20.—Royal Epping Forest : Spurling-Kentish Medal.
- Jan. 21.—Tyneside : Bi-Monthly Handicap.
- Jan. 23.—Birkdale : Captain's Cup.
Disley : Annual Meeting.
Sutton Coldfield : Cleek Prize (Captain Wilson's).
- 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. 4.—Tyneside : Bi-Monthly Handicap.
- 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.
Sutton Coldfield : Muntz Prize.
Richmond : Monthly Medal.
- Feb. 13.—Formby : Pearson Prize.
Guildford : Monthly Handicap.
Littlestone : Monthly Medal.
Sutton Coldfield : Medal Competition.
Dalhousie : Handicap Match (Fourth Round).
West Herts : Monthly Medal.
- Feb. 14.—Tooting : Monthly Medal.
Didsbury : Captain's Prize.
- Feb. 15.—Pau : Town of Pau Golf Medal (Scratch) ; St. Andrews Cross (Open) ; Grand Open Tournament.
- 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. 18.—Tyneside : Bi-Monthly Handicap (Final).
- 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.
Sutton Coldfield : Lloyd Prize.
- 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.
Sutton Coldfield : Muntz Prize.
Edinburgh University : McEwan Medal and Club Prizes.

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.

BABIES AT SEA.

We joined the ship at Colombo; and I packed away my Golf-clubs and balls securely below. In the comparatively short passage from Calcutta and Madras she had collected a prodigious number of Anglo-Indian babies. Waiting for her at Colombo was a numerous contingent of Anglo-Chinese babies, so that by the time we got under weigh there could not have been fewer than sixty of these torments on board. To estimate their exact number was a sheer impossibility, owing to their strong resemblance to each other, especially when crying, an exercise they indulged in with very little intermission. Thus while one baby might be counted more than once, twenty might be altogether passed over. With some passengers, and generally with young men, an attractive mamma or nurse served to identify a particular baby; but this means of identification was only of limited application. The Indian and Chinese nurses made confusion worse confounded; for they were quite as much alike as were their charges, and hence it was impossible to distinguish either baby or nurse.

It struck one at the time of embarkation, how fortunate it was that this cargo had not all to be shipped at the same port and at one time. The thing could not have been done. We saw one "little darling" being assisted up the gangway by his father and mother, and an ayah. At the most critical point of the ascent commenced those rabid symptoms, with which we afterwards became painfully familiar, and it certainly was not his fault that he did not throw all three of his conductors into the harbour. First of all, he managed to envelop himself in his mother's skirts so tightly that she could not move. Extricated from that position, he next by a dexterous twist became hopelessly entangled in his father's legs. All this time he was endeavouring to bite himself free from the hand that held him, and was howling like a demoniac. It may be imagined that this block on the gangway was not appreciated in the launch below, in which nearly all the other Anglo-Chinese babies were waiting. Some were already on the gangway in the arms of their ayahs, and, seeing that their mothers were unable to follow them at once, seemed to conclude that the bitter moment of separation had come. Their arms were stretched out despairingly towards the launch, their little forms swayed wildly in the grasp of their ayahs, to the imminent risk of the balance of the latter, and the morning air was rent with ululations. The mothers, from the launch, rung the changes upon all the encouraging ejaculations they could think of, such as: "I'm coming, darling," "Mother won't be long," and so forth. But all in vain. However, in all these cases, the ship was gained at last without casualty, but with considerable difficulty and delay.

Some of the juveniles, of course, were old enough to walk on board which, to do them justice, they did without recalcitration or screams. Their reckless ascent of the gangway, however, positively made one tremble. With

"Pride in their port, defiance in their eye"

they set foot on the quarter-deck. Calmly they surveyed, and took in at a glance their new field of operations. Amongst these, we may here introduce three young brothers from China, destined to become the terrors of the ship, who only escaped by nimbleness of foot and dimmutiveness of form the vengeance of many an exasperated and outraged passenger.

Well, the whole tribe was shipped at last, and then the decks presented a scene of wild disorder. Babies, baggage, boat-swains, and barbarians crowded every superficial inch. There was nothing for it but to sit quietly down on one's own baggage, more like an outward-bound emigrant than a homeward-bound "globe-trotter"—(the elegant sobriquet applied to travellers for health or pleasure by the parents of the babies)—and wait until something like order was restored. Recollecting the days when "hunt the slipper" was regarded as a fairly exciting game, we soon recognised the superior fascinations of "hunt the baby," a game in which the whole "posse" of fathers, mothers and nurses were compelled to join almost incessantly. On this particular morning the game commenced simultaneously in every quarter of the ship. While father was counting the packages, while mother was below inspecting the cabins, and while the ayah was pacing rapidly to and fro thumping baby's back in a vain

endeavour to make it understand that it was not going to be killed, baby's brother, just able to run, took the opportunity of going forward to superintend the shipping of the cargo, regardless of packing-cases swinging across the deck to the after hatchway, of running steel hawsers and numberless other dangers. Father, after counting the packages a dozen times differently, and at last settling with the coolies, turns round to find that baby's brother has gone. At the same moment, mother comes on deck and discovers the same fact. The ayah knows nothing about him, her attention having been absorbed in baby whose appearance by this time is strongly indicative of convulsions. Thereupon commences the game in earnest. In and out, and round about they go, until at last they hit the scent. The wanderer, perceiving that he is pursued, takes up the spirit of the game, and waddles off with a good lead as fast as he can. His flight is favoured by the numerous obstacles, which present themselves to his pursuers, and it is only by dividing themselves into parties that they are eventually able to intercept him and effect his capture, none the worse for his independent expedition, but only flushed and radiant with the excitement of the game. As he is dragged ruthlessly back to the baggage, his countenance undergoes an ominous change. The shock with which he is deposited on a huge trunk, and the merciless shaking he receives, open the flood-gates, and a torrent of tears is released. This is soon stemmed, however, for father returns to recount his effects, and, finding one missing, starts in search of it. Baby's brother who never misses his opportunity, also starts on another expedition, and the game recommences. This game becomes extremely diverting to spectators when several sets are progressing at the same time. The wrong parents not unfrequently catch the wrong children, and summary chastisement precedes due identification. This order of things excites the indignation of the right parent. He expresses in no measured terms his resentment at this unwarrantable usurpation of his own prerogative, and strained relations are thus established between at least two families for the rest of the voyage.

Our first introduction to Anglo-Indian and Anglo-Chinese babies "on the rampage" certainly did not hold out a very encouraging prospect. We consoled ourselves, however, with the belief that their demoniacal behaviour was only temporary, and due to the excitement of transhipment, and other disturbing circumstances. It was hoped, moreover, that sea-sickness would exercise a subduing influence. Vain hope! The Anglo-Chinese, having already been three weeks at sea, had thoroughly got their sea legs, and, judging from experience, two days more would suffice to perfect the equilibrium of the Anglo-Indians. Again, the weather was magnificent, and gave promise of continuing so; in fact, everything favoured the immediate opening of a successful campaign for all the babies.

The three small brothers from China, of whom mention has already been made, were the most inveterate campaigners. They were always at work, displaying a surprising inventive genius. For a day or two, being not quite at home, they were chiefly engaged in internecine wars between themselves, with such doubtful advantage, however, to any of the belligerents, that they concluded a treaty, by which they bound themselves together in an alliance offensive and defensive against the whole ship, not excepting their parents and their baby brother. First of all, they invented a sort of war-cry—"Jako-pudding"—to spell it phonetically, for we never discovered its orthography. Its meaning, if it had any, was known only to the inventors. Its intended use very soon became obvious. Then, these "*fraterculi*," either together or separately, scoured the decks all day, and carried on a sort of guerilla warfare in the most annoying forms conceivable. The discovery by one or other of them of a luckless voyager composing himself for a noonday siesta at once suggested him as an object of attack. The first onslaught was, perhaps, met with mild remonstrance; whereupon, the attacking party, retiring just out of reach, pointed the finger of scorn at his victim and raised the war-cry of "Jako-pudding." This called into action the other divisions of the army, and an organised attack in front, in rear and on the flank, was commenced and obstinately carried on, until the unhappy object of it, now thoroughly exasperated, sprang from his chair, and made a desperate charge. Then each division retreated in a different direction, howling the war-cry, until distance rendered them safe from a pursuit which could only result, if maintained, in still further discomfort to the pursuer. These guerillas seldom,

if ever, permitted any game to proceed without interruption. If a weary golfer, pining for the fresh breezes and springy greensward of Westward Ho! or St. Andrews, endeavoured to vary the monotony of ship life by trying a gentle tee shot with an old cork, a thousand chances to one some diminutive heads were cracked. Then life became a burden to the offender, for every woman's hand and every woman's tongue were against him for the remainder of the voyage. If they discovered a game of cricket in progress, they would plant themselves in front of the wicket and simply order a cessation. Probably, this was the most dangerous of their exploits, for with a batsman at one end, a bowler at the other, and fieldsmen at various points, it was difficult for them to evade capture. Still, even in this emergency they had an effectual resource. The youngest of the three had a voice of extraordinary power, and the instant hands were laid on him, he threw himself on the deck, roared out "let me go-o-o" in such stentorian tones that he was pretty sure to bring his father to the rescue. The latter would announce in dignified terms that he could not permit his children to be chastised by any one but himself, and would demand and obtain an unconditional release of the culprit. The father, of course, did not even make a pretence of exercising the exclusive prerogative he claimed, and, in the end, the culprit escaped not only the just vengeance of the cricketers, but any correction whatever, and was most opportunely free to proceed to the assistance of his brothers in upsetting some other game in another quarter of the vessel. In one instance, it was a game of ship's curling. The *modus operandi* was now very simple and safe. The trio would stand demurely by the ring, apparently watching with deep interest the blocks as they came whizzing in, propelled by an Indian colonel and an Indian judge. Two blocks would settle so close to the centre mark as to leave it doubtful whether colonel or judge scored the point, and just as the gallant and learned antagonists had gone down on their knees to measure—a by no means "*facilis descensus*," by the way, for a gentleman of the colonel's diameter—one of the "dwarfs" would step in, and with one fell sweep clear the ring of the blocks. Of course, long before the colonel, gasping with rage, has regained the perpendicular, the spoilers have disappeared, and "Jako-pudding" is heard echoing in the distance. The judge is far too flabbergasted at the insult offered to his dignity to speak or move, and thus our heroes once more escape scatheless. But here we must leave them to note other cases.

There was another family on board, on their way home from India; all, except the baby, good and well conducted, when not under the influence of the China trio. The baby exhibited several marked symptoms of the most acute rabies. In his paroxysm, he threw himself down and rolled about, uttering at intervals piercing, inarticulate screams. Then suddenly, leaping to his feet, he started off at a brisk trot pursued by his Burmese attendant, and dashed headlong into the first object that presented itself. It happened, not unfrequently, that this would be the pit of the colonel's stomach, the elasticity of which caused the child to rebound into the arms of his pursuer, who thus effected an easy capture. Once removed to a spot where there was ample room for his gyrations, the plan was to supply him with a card-board collar-box. This, once more supine and rolling, he would attack savagely with his teeth, tearing it to pieces and screaming maliciously, when his mouth was not too full of fragments. We observed this interesting infant on one occasion roll into dangerous proximity to two chess players, absorbed in a hard-fought game. Then Satan entered into him with a vengeance! There was one fiendish yell, one vigorous upward kick, and away went board and men pell-mell, just as a dexterous check-mate was imminent! Cowed for once by the volley of execration hurled at him, and not a little exhausted by the tearing of the spirit, this *enfant terrible* became more tractable; and it was a relief to see him carried away pick-a-back by the Burmese, and to know that for a time at least he slumbered and had ceased from troubling. The bump of destructiveness seemed to be developed to an extraordinary degree in this child. The sight of any thing whole and complete appeared to madden him, and it was only by providing him with a plentiful supply of collar-boxes and biscuit-tins that he was prevailed upon to keep his hands off articles of greater intrinsic value.

Civilised society on *terra firma* tolerates not the presence of

children at late dinner. On the high seas, however, there is wont to be sad disregard of this most wholesome rule. At dinner, on our good ship—somehow, one always speaks of a ship as "good," whether in fact she be good, bad, or indifferent—the comfort of the after end of the saloon was generally marred by the presence of at least one "Jako-pudding," and invariably by that of two little girls, who played unchecked all sorts of games during the meal, varying the entertainment by the surreptitious abstraction of morsels from any dish within reach, whenever the stewards were not looking. In most of the cabins, too, on either side the saloon there was sure to be an infantile tenant in course of being put to bed, and he who does not know what this means cannot be said to know much of things human. Immediately behind our seats at table, on the port side, slept little Teddy. Immediately opposite, on the starboard side, slept little Malcolm. The latter was what might be called a prize baby—a "*rara avis*" at sea. He took his meals "regular" and slept like a top, and really you would not have known he was in the ship had you not occasionally seen him smiling and puking in his nurse's arms. Teddy, on the other hand, was as bad as Malcolm was good. Teddy's mamma always said good-night to him just before dinner, and, knowing his little ways, she had taken care to secure a seat as far away from his cabin as possible. As she left him, Teddy invariably set up a howl, which he maintained lustily throughout the hour and a half of dinner. Teddy's next-door neighbour was a little girl, who appeared to be whining herself into an untimely grave. As soon as her mother deserted her, she made common cause with Teddy and joined heartily in his protest. The regular performance of this duet night after night soon began to tell on those unfortunate individuals who made up the unwilling audience. Melancholy settled on their countenances, their powers of conversation flagged, their appetites fell away, and only their liquor bills increased.

But it is impossible within the limits of this paper to give an exhaustive account of the miseries endured in the floating nurseries. "*Ex uno*"—or rather, "*e paucis disce omnes*." The few instances given are only samples of countless others; and we only write these few lines to warn travellers of what they may expect, if they make their journeys at that season of the year when Anglo-Indian and Anglo-Chinese families are shifting

G. T.

A NEW LOFTING IRON.

The Blockley Electric Lighting and Manufacturing Company, Limited, Worcestershire, have brought out a new patent in the shape of a lofting iron. The improvement consists in grooving with horizontal lines the blade of the iron, so as to give "grip" to the ball when played. The idea, of course, is not an absolutely new one, for we remember to have seen many years ago, at North Berwick, the veteran, Mr. J. R. Whitecross, with a similar iron, though in his case the iron was notched with horizontal lines as well as with perpendicular lines, after the model of the nicking of the Golf ball itself. Willie Park has also embodied to some extent the same idea in his patent lofter, for though the blade is not grooved with lines, it is so grooved as to give both grip and spin to the ball. The object sought to be attained in both cases is to prevent the ball with its polished surface "skidding" on the more polished surface of the iron, to make the blow at once more secure and true, and at the same time to impart a backward spin to the ball after it leaves the club, so that when it reaches the ground it shall not run more than a few yards after landing on the green. In both cases this object is attained. We have submitted the Blockley iron to ample and thorough test, and found that the run of the ball after it pitched on the green was very slight, there being a perceptible drag as the ball rolled over the turf. One thing we noticed was that the balls have to be exceedingly well painted. Where the paint is dry and imperfectly mixed the roughened surface of the iron causes it to chip with great freedom. That, of course, is not a defect in the iron, but in the paint of the balls. Altogether, we think the improvement thus introduced is a thoroughly practical and useful one.

A GOLFING COMEDY.

Scene.—The exterior of club-house on breezy Golf links. Comely maiden standing in doorway. Lanky youth reclining on bank a short distance away. Two golfers approaching in the distance. Sundry caddies playing marbles on patch of bare ground near.

As the golfers draw near, hotly disputing some intricate law of the game, the lanky youth carelessly assumes an upright position, and tugs at his cap, standing vacantly before them.

The thick-set one, Smith, a man of pedagogical bearing and florid complexion, buckling his eye-glass somewhat arrogantly over his weaker orb as he inspects the youth, exclaiming, "Ah—no, all right, my caddie's up at the house."

"You may carry for me," put in Smith's companion, with well-measured deliberation, and in a low, gaunt voice. This man was as a shadow beside his friend, and somewhat sacerdotal in appearance.

"Taint that, sir, I wants to speak t' ye," replied the youth, transferring the weight of his frame from one leg to the other awkwardly.

"Eh! what? Come, be quick," cried Smith, again struggling with his refractory eye-glass.

"Yer professional's leavin', aint 'e?"

"Yes—why! What of that?"

"I'd like the berth, sir. I wants to marry 'is sister, an' then there'll be no call for yer to lose 'er as yer 'ousekeeper."

"You—how's that? Are you a first-class player?"

"I ain't played yet, sir; but I'd be willin' to practise a bit, so as I could learn you gents as wants it—same as Macdougall does."

The glass fell from Smith's eye, and a cobweb would have tripped him up; his companion, Mr. Spoffins, subsided quietly on to the bank. Neither spoke.

The lanky youth became somewhat awed by the prolonged silence which ensued. His unreasoning powers told him the gentlemen should be pleased at this unlooked-for opportunity of replacing their green-keeper; yet he felt nervous, and again transferred the weight of his frame to the leg upon which it had originally rested.

A few moments slipped by, and Smith took no heed of his fallen glass; while Spoffins carried the air of an inspired poet on his countenance—he seemed to be dreaming. By-and-bye each looked toward the club-house, and noting the sportive caddies wrangling beneath the eyes of the maid, who still stood in the doorway, remembrance of their bent came back to them, and in silence they resumed their walk on to the links. The would-be professional did not follow; he was sorely puzzled.

"Now, lads, where are our clubs?" sang out Smith, with sprightly buoyancy, as he scented at hand the battle he was about to wage with the mild and taciturn Spoffins.

There was a flutter among the caddies, and presently two heavily-laden urchins followed the recently arrived golfers to the first tee.

"There's that noisy little bounder, Jones, in the club-room. We won't go in," Smith had remarked, as they neared the house. "He parades the excellence of his clubs and his own play until it makes me sick. It's all because those idiots on the committee make him owe two."

The teeing-ground was reached, and Smith airily proposed a couple of half-crowns on the match, "just for the fun of the thing." Spoffins, being naturally easy-going, and lacking in will-power, acquiesced. The honour was spun for, and Spoffins faced his teed ball. He did not say he expected to fizzle his shot, being, as we have seen, a silent man; but he felt nervous.

A somewhat constrained swing. Crack! And away flew the ball, soaring gradually, and then seeking the ground some hundred and thirty yards off.

"A fairish drive; but, Spoffins, you *do* want 'swing,'" observed Smith, in good-humoured, slightly patronising tones. They knew each other sufficiently to criticise one another's play—at least Smith did.

Smith now faced his ball, indulged in an exaggerated preliminary waggle, and then drove. His club slightly grazed the top of the ball, so that it rolled gently off the tee. Swifter than lightning, his face flushed with angry annoyance, and, turning upon the unfortunate caddies, who were properly placed, he exclaimed: "You young idiots! why don't you keep out of my line of sight?"

Spoffins stood by with an air of regretful sympathy upon his countenance, though, doubtless, there was joy in his heart. He had paid Smith numberless half-crowns for such matches.

Taking his brassy, the discomfited player now placed his ball within a yard or so of his opponent's, and the match proceeded. Smith's play did not improve, and Spoffins won the hole.

The next hole was a short one. Spoffins drove on to the extreme edge of the green. Here was an opportunity for Smith. He prided himself upon accurate play; could he but lay his ball dead, as he usually did from this tee, the hole would be his to a certainty. Taking his cleek, he looked carefully to his stance, and drove. The ball was topped, and bumped into a hazard before the tee disastrously.

"Damnation!" he yelled, flinging the club from him savagely, so that it broke. Then, seeing Spoffins' look of horrified astonishment, he added, really unconscious of his oath, "Good Gad, Spoffins, I nearly swore! It's too awful, my luck; isn't it? I stood right; I never felt steadier; and look at the result. I will chuck this hole."

At the next tee, Spoffins fozzled his drive most horribly; though his opponent carried an air of forced calmness, being, truth to tell not a little ashamed of his outbreak. Spoffins knew that he was inwardly boiling, and the fact put him off his game.

Smith, who was a schoolmaster, and short-sighted as to his eyes, suspected his friend—the Divinity lecturer, Spoffins—of harbouring silent contempt for all who allowed irritation to ruffle their composure; an unjust suspicion, it is almost needless to add, for the taciturnity of Spoffins is in reality nothing but the result of constitutional nervousness.

His opponent, having topped his drive, Smith now felt confident of winning the next hole. There was something majestic in his calmness, he swung well and truly, and—missed the ball completely.

Spoffins glanced at him, fearing the worst. Smith was resolute; there should be no further outbreak.

"Spoffins, old man, it's my clubs," he said, with a tremulous shake in his voice, breaking the driver across his knee with easy deliberation, and handing the two portions to the caddie. "I'm awfully sorry to spoil your game, but it's no use going on; the fact is, my clubs must have been put near a fire while wet; and they're all warped out of the straight. I'll have new shafts put in all of them before coming out again."

"Hi! Smith!" suddenly broke upon the ears of the two discomfited golfers; and after a nervous struggle with his eye-glass, Smith exclaimed, "Why, it's that little brute, Jones; ta-ta, old man, say I had to catch a train."

But Mr. Jones was too nimble afoot to be thus denied, and, as Smith turned away, his *bête noir* appeared round some bushes, considerably out of breath.

"Hi, Smith, have you got my clubs?" he gasped out, "my caddie swears yours took them away in mistake—anyhow, yours are at the house."

The careless, guilty caddie, who had waited on Mr. Smith in fear and trembling during the past quarter of an hour or so, slowly revolved the club-bag he carried under his arm, and along the greater part of its length the little group deciphered in awesome silence, "Sam Edmonton Jones," displayed in huge, white letters.

The finale of this tragic golfing comedy passeth description. Smith had recklessly broken the two pet clubs which Jones valued beyond all others. The former, with his glaring eye-glass, has been a stranger to those links for many a week, and rumour hath it that he, with his better-half and olive branches, is recruiting at some distant watering-place, where the wail of the golfer is unknown, and human beings are able to wander carelessly abroad, without suffering dread and fearsome anguish from the everlasting cry of "Fore."

THE NEW RULES.

THE revised rules came into force on the first day of the New Year. In their ultimate shape they do not differ very materially from the old code; and thus the painstaking labours of the influential committee which investigated the question and made a series of recommendations, have been set aside by the Royal and Ancient Club. There is no explanation as to the reasons why it was considered to be inadvisable to adopt some of the proposed draft rules recommended by the committee; as a matter of historical interest and guidance, it would be interesting to obtain a summary of the arguments which set them aside. In any case, however, there is but small encouragement for an influential body of players, like those who discussed and considered the many important points of the rules, giving up leisure and valuable time for the service of a powerful club, when so little is produced as the outcome of their labours to show that their efforts were appreciated at the proper value. But there the rules now stand, with many of their imperfections still unredeemed, and clubs must take them as they are.

In a previous article we pointed out the differences between the revised rules and the proposed new draft rules. At that time attention was drawn to the rule about shielding or exposing a ball to the wind when on the putting-green; and as we had never seen the practice against which the rule operates, we thought that the point needed clearing up by calling attention to what appeared to be the absurd wording of the rule. Since then "H. R. C." and a champion from the ranks of the Honourable Company of Edinburgh Golfers—both of them Scotsmen—have thrown some light on the practice against which the rule is framed. After all that has been said, however, we still believe that the practice is far from being a common one. Probably it is more rampant in the North than in the South; but whether this be so or not we still maintain that it is absurd to place legislation on the golfing statute book against a practice which properly belongs to the domain of gentlemanly etiquette rather than to legitimate infringement of the game. With just as much reason the Royal and Ancient ought to have included in the same rule a penalty for "speaking on the stroke," or for any of the other well-understood observances attached to a fair and gentlemanly contest, and which, for the first time, they have embodied in the rules as "Etiquette of Golf." A rule such as this, to which we draw attention, ought to have no place whatever in any code; and neither "H. R. C." nor the Honourable Company's champion need to be told how prone many players are to put an opponent in a social pillory, to administer the "boycott," when it is suspected that his play is not above a wholesome suspicion of sharp practice. The rule, indeed, implies a certain low standard of morality among players, which we would fain believe is very far from existing. It is sure to lead to endless squabbles and bickerings, with much subsequent unpleasantness; and the committee of the club would have been well-advised to expunge a rule which distinctly implies that golfers as a class are prone to debasing practices akin to those of the man with "the pea under the thimble," or the lowest class of turf tout.

Following the lead of "H. R. C.," the champion of the Honourable Company finds the rules to be as good as golfing wisdom can make them. He defends the "lost ball, lost hole" rule with energy, though with a curious departure from the reasoning of one so logical, he admits the unfairness of the rule as applied to the Swilcan, the Eden, and the Sea at St. Andrews. But may we point out to him

that other courses than St. Andrews have their water hazards, and that provision has always been made for a ball lost in, or irrecoverable from water. The new rules say that, "If the ball lie or be lost in water, the player may drop a ball, under the penalty of one stroke," but that if you have the misfortune to drive your ball down a rabbit hole, or if your ball is carried by a cross-wind among the bent, and cannot be found in five minutes, the hole is lost. No one denies that bad play ought to be punished, but, as Mr. Hutchinson has said, "Let the punishment fit the crime." The accident of a lost ball ten out of a dozen times is not due to bad play, but to what is compendiously described as bad luck. In a valuable letter in last week's issue, "D. D." shows by chapter and verse that the "lost ball, lost hole" rule is a modern innovation of ten years' standing, while "the stroke and distance" rule had been played at St. Andrews for at least half a century. What we contend for is that the penalty is out of all proportion to the crime, and makes match play at three or four holes in a round many times a mere promenade and not a contest. On a crowded green we recognise the drawback of stroke and distance as a hindrance to other players; but in that case it is for clubs, even like the Royal and Ancient, to make a local bye-law embodying such a *modus vivendi* as the suggested draft rule of their own committee—a penalty of two strokes, and tee another ball on the near side of the hazard. The principle of stroke and distance, however, ought to be recognised in the rules, and the bye-laws should cover the exigencies of local requirements. It is fallacious reasoning on the part of one so acute as the champion of the Honourable Company to contend that "the most fundamental of all principles is that a hole must be played out with the balls struck from the tee." It is no more a fundamental principle of Golf than it is of any other game. With just as much plausibility might it be asserted that a cricket match must be played out with the same ball, and that a lost ball from a big drive means the winning of the innings. The ball and the cricket bat, the Golf club and the gutty, are simply means to an end, and that end is to draw out an exhibition of the most various skill in the surmounting of difficulties and in coping with the ability of an antagonist.

THE "SATURDAY REVIEW" ON THE NEW RULES.—The *Saturday Review*, writing on the new Golf rules, says:—"For medal play three new and salient points are 'that no member shall play any stroke on a putting-green before competing,' that he 'may not discontinue play on account of bad weather,' and that 'the penalty for the breach of any rule is disqualification.' The remainder of the book provides little food for reflection. The division treating of 'etiquette' merely embodies what every golfer, with the smallest pretensions to rank as such, knew before. The melancholy thing is that it has been found necessary or desirable to print it. It should be observed that the golfer must allow the party in front not only their second shots, but also to get out of range, which two things are by no means synonymous. For the rest we would fain have seen a paragraph devoted to that worst of nuisances, the single player, who persists in obtruding himself on a crowded green, expecting as much deference to be shown him as to a properly-constituted match. If we mistake not, it has been found necessary on the Innerleven links to pass a special rule dealing with this subject. The local rules remain much what they were, and, inasmuch as we are mainly concerned with those of general application, need not be discussed. The whole might with advantage have been carefully sub-edited, but the thanks of the now large golfing community are due to the committee of revision, who undoubtedly have left the rules in a condition somewhat more satisfactory than that in which they found them."



QUESTIONS ON THE RULES.

To the Editor of GOLF.

SIR,—Rule 18 says: "A ball stuck fast in wet ground or sand may be taken out and replaced loosely in the hole it has made."

Will you kindly give the interpretation of the above rule upon the following point in your next issue.

In playing a match on soft, clayey ground, A, after a high drive, finds his ball embedded and "stuck fast" in the clay. He then carefully takes out the ball and replaces it gently in the hole, *i.e.*, in the mouth of the hole it has made. The clay, however, having slightly closed, the aperture will only allow the ball to rest in, or on the mouth of the hole, and without a little pressure it will not descend to the bottom of the hole. A contends that he was right in replacing the ball in the hole, *i.e.*, in or on the mouth of the hole, and allowing it to rest where it lay without pressure. B's contention is that the ball must be replaced loosely at the bottom of the hole it has made, and, if necessary, pressure must be used to replace the ball "in the hole it has made," that is to say, loosely at the bottom of the hole.

I am, Sir, &c.,

SUBSCRIBER.

West Herts Golf Club, January 4th, 1892.

[A's contention, if conceded, would mean that the lie of the ball should be improved, which is contrary both to the spirit and letter of the rule. A created for himself a temporary hazard, and he must abide by the consequences which the position of his ball entails. He is entitled to loosen the ball, but no more; and if his opponent insists, the ball must go back to its original position, whatever it be. We think, therefore, that B was right.—ED.]

ST. ANDREWS PLAYERS.

To the Editor of GOLF.

SIR,—I am dismayed at what I hear of the doings of the Royal and Ancient. Abolish the stymie! They will abolish Old Tom next, and fill up the burn. Allan Robertson and Major Glennie, to say nothing of Mr. Blackwood and Sir R. Hay, must surely have turned in their graves. I apologise for what I said of the Englishmen. I remember when a youngster passing the Royal and Ancient Club window with great awe, and of looking at all members of the club as a distinctly superior species, while a medal winner was a demi-god. Now my opinion is, for the voting majority on the stymie question, that they are but common mortals like myself. Old Whyte Melville would have had a gallant fight over this, and I am sure Lord Inglis would have sarcastically sat upon the Iconoclasts.

I would like to point out a reason which, I think, makes the St. Andrews Club appear averse from encouraging champion and

other tournaments on the green. The great majority of the members are very mediocre players. They have taken houses at St. Andrews for the season, and want their regular two rounds a day—just as we require here two quinine pills—for the good of their health. If anything occurs to interrupt their daily matches they grumble. Even their own medal day is to them an unmitigated nuisance, as they are relegated to the rank of spectators, and lose their daily beloved rounds, while the week before and the week after the medal their motions are disturbed, and the regular easy-going foursomes are startled by the raking, long-driving, ambitious young players of singles, either getting into medal form, or taking their revenge from some tough rival. The mediocrities have to wait long for a start, hang over their approaches (a proceeding always fatal to a mediocrity), and are hurried in their putts, knowing that a Laidlay and a Hutchinson, with a dark semi-circle of admirers behind them, are, with more or less (generally less) good nature, waiting for them to hole out. A champion tournament makes things doubly worse, and for weeks our poor golfers are forced to take their Golf either when the early bird is looking after the worm, or when the kye come home, either time not conducive to good Golf for a middle-aged, easy-going man, and certainly exasperating to his temper when he thinks how his holiday is being ruthlessly spoiled by a crowd of fame and medal-hunting giants.

There is a great deal to be said for the mediocrity. No doubt you have often witnessed what I have tried to describe: and now some enthusiasts wish the championship to be extended to a week at least. What with monthly medals, championships, and medal meetings, where would our poor mediocrities be then? Now, if competitions are to grow as they have of late been growing, you will have to establish in England, Scotland, and Ireland, certain courses, sacredly set apart for medal competitions and championships. Then will the grumblers in the clubs cease their grumbling; then they will have room for their gentle, stately, and somewhat slow circuits of their beloved green; then will the club committees be able to turn their attention to everything that pertains to the good of the game, and our old St. Andrews become, as it once was, and as it should be, the queen of the golfing world.

I am, Sir, &c.,

G.

Florida, U.S.A., December 14th, 1891.

THE NEW RULES.

To the Editor of GOLF.

SIR,—I agree with the remarks of the "Honourable Company," and you will find that the Scotch clubs will in the future, as in the past, follow the lead of the Royal and Ancient.

Our attention should, therefore, be applied to thoroughly understanding the new rules, and if they are defective in wording, punctuation, or otherwise, to do all that we can to get the defects remedied. The punctuation is bad, and your correspondent's letter regarding Rule 15 would have been more to the point if it had dealt with the proper punctuation.

I have a few questions to ask regarding the meaning to be put upon certain parts of Rules 4, 14, and 34, which I will in the first place quote.

Rule 4, *inter alia*, says:—"Any movement of the club which is intended to strike the ball is a stroke."

Rule 14 says:—"When a ball lies in or touches a hazard, the club shall not touch the ground, nor shall anything be touched or moved, before the player strikes at the ball."

Rule 34, last sentence, says:—"The putting-line must not be touched by club, hand, or foot, except as above authorised, or immediately in front of the ball in the act of addressing it, under the penalty of the loss of the hole."

My questions are:—

(1.) If after addressing the ball the player in the upward part of his swing strikes a part of the hazard, such as the side of a

bunker, a growing whin, paling, or such like, and then stops, is it a stroke?

(2.) If in a bunker the player, before addressing his ball, stretches out his club to a distant part of the hazard, and feels the sand to learn what force is required for the stroke, or if he sits down on or leans against the side of a bunker or paling in order to get better at the ball, does he lose the hole?

(3.) May a player not sole his putter in front of the ball while addressing (which is almost the invariable habit of players in taking the line), under the penalty of losing the hole, and if so, what is the penalty in medal play? I presume disqualification! See Rule 12 of medal play.

Your kind replies to these will much oblige.

I am, Sir, &c.,

A.

January 4th, 1892.

(1.) This point has been fully answered (see page 368, vol. II.).
 (2.) We think that feeling in the bunker with the club before playing is distinctly illegal. There is, however, no objection to a player sitting down or leaning against a paling in order to play a stroke, provided the stroke is a legitimate one, and not a "scoop." (3.) According to the new rules, the prevalent practice of placing the club before the ball preparatory to the putt is illegal. The penalty would be loss of the hole in match play, and disqualification in medal play.—Ed.]

THE "TRUFLITE" GOLF BALL.

To the Editor of GOLF.

SIR,—It has come to our knowledge that some of the "Truflite" Golf balls have been breaking while in play. On inquiry at our works we find that in one batch of balls a foreign substance accidentally got into the mixing. At the time we thought this would have no injurious effect on the ball. Practical results have proved otherwise. We shall be glad to exchange any of these broken balls for sound ones. We trust this explanation will remove any idea that the "Truflites" are liable to break.

I am, Sir, &c.,

SLAZENGER AND SONS.

THE NEW BUNKER RULE.

To the Editor of GOLF.

SIR,—I think Colonel Fordyce has been misled by the punctuation of the new Rule, No. 15. The rule is clearly intended to define a "hazard." It says that a bunker of any description is a "hazard," and that water, sand, loose earth, &c., are also "hazards."

My copy of Jamieson's Scottish Dictionary defines a "bunker" as (1), "A bench, or sort of long low chest, that serves for seats," and then follow secondary and other definitions.

A "sand bunker" in the same work is defined as "a small well-fenced sand-pit."

I have italicised the "well-fenced," as the words are apparently not in the Colonel's copy of Jamieson.

I think all the same that Colonel Fordyce's suggestion as to how the rule should have run in defining a "hazard" a very good one, but that the new rule, as it stands, is quite sufficient for everyone who has not made up his mind to be misled, and the punctuation is clearly defective.

I am, Sir, &c.,

T. T. A. A.

January 2nd, 1892.

WEST LINTON.—Three prizes were played for on New Year's Day. Best scores:—Messrs. R. Alexander, A. Ramsay, R. Millar, and Major Fergusson. Ground hard, and red balls in use.



We would call the attention of golfers to an advertisement of the Pau Golf Club which appears in another column. A grand amateur open tournament will be held at Pau from February 15th to February 20th. The first scratch prize will be a £50 cup, and there are handicap prizes of silver cups of the value of £15, £10, and £5. The entries close on Saturday, January 23rd. It is to be hoped that our best Scottish and English golfers will try and put in an appearance.

* * *

Both *Whitaker's Almanac* and *Hazell's Annual* contain articles on Golf. In the first case, we believe that Mr. Horace Hutchinson is the author of the article reviewing the history of the game for the past year. The article is short and crisply written; and the facts are all up to date and accurate. So much, however, cannot be said for *Hazell's*, which contains some inaccuracies.

* * *

The Richmond Golf Club intend to improve their course in the Spring by making sand bunkers in several places on the course. Permission from the Crown, however, has first to be obtained.

* * *

The professional Golf match, for £50 a-side, arranged between Willie Fernie, Troon, and the champion, Hugh Kirkaldy, which was broken off last month on account of the illness of the latter, is to be played at Machrihanish about the end of January.

* * *

On hearing a certain player recount his drives "de tee," *Fabula narratur.*



LANARK.—The members of the Lanark Golf Club inaugurated the New Year with a competition by handicapped couples for the Orchard shield and badges. The greens, fortunately, had been rolled before the frost set in, but they were frozen into keeness, which rather surprised some of the players. The play, in consequence, was very uncertain, and the prizes were gained with 126 for the twenty-eight holes, which was the net score of Messrs. John Smith, jun., and John Marr Davidson. Appended is a list of the scores recorded:—Messrs. J. Smith, jun., and J. M. Davidson, 126 net; Mr. George S. Seaton, jun., and Rev. James Macmeeken, 127; Messrs. John Vassie, jun., and Adam Paterson, 129; Messrs. Alexander Paterson and William Davidson, 129; Mr. James Annan and Rev. Mr. Smith, 130; Mr. J. Stodart and Sheriff Birnie, 136; Dr. Vassie and Mr. Stodart, 140; Messrs. Haddow and Frame, 141; Rev. D. Mackintosh and Mr. Hatrick, 144; Messrs. J. A. Vassie and D. M. Cassels, 144.

LEITH CALEDONIAN GOLF CLUB.—North Berwick was visited by the members of this club on New Year's Day to compete for club prizes. The following were found to be the winners:—Mr. Robert Park, 95, less 2=93; Mr. John Henderson, 91, plus 3=94; Mr. W. J. Laing, 105, less 9=96; Mr. Charles Garvie, scratch, 96. The greens were in excellent condition, but the scoring was high on account of the wind, which was very troublesome on the way out.

Eminent Golfers.

XXI.—MR. LESLIE M. BALFOUR.

In his dual capacity of golfer and cricketer, Mr. Leslie Melville Balfour has been a public character for many years. He has attained such eminence in both pursuits that he is well qualified to act, so to speak, as a "ruling councillor" in either. He is the most conspicuous example of the possibility, denied by some, of excelling in each game, though, perhaps, it would be more just to regard him as the proverbial exception which proves the rule, just as in the case of Peter Latham, the wholly antagonistic, yet in a way kindred games of tennis and racquets, are synchronised and thoroughly mastered by one player.

The sixth son of a family of eight, Mr. Balfour was born in 1854. His earliest recollections are of the links—indeed, there hangs a tale thereby. Some years ago he was a witness in a court of law, the evidence required being that of golfers and others intimately acquainted with St. Andrews Links. The question was put by Lord Kinnear, "How old are you?"—"Twenty-five." "How long have you played Golf?"—"Over twenty years"; but this answer, in his opinion, rather understated the actual time. The solemnity of the occasion was inadequate to repress laughter in court, in which judge, counsel, and all alike joined. It is certain that, having begun thus early, he lost none of his enthusiasm for it as years went on; probably the contrary, for he must have begun to realise ere long that he was better than his companions.

The writer has a recollection, not overmisty, of those, alas, rather far-off days, wherein he used to play with Mr. Balfour when both "were boys together." Even then the latter was a wonderful player for his age; he always drove well, and with extraordinary precision, and always seemed to win his matches. More familiar acquaintance has confirmed the impression that Mr. Balfour is one of the best amateurs ever seen on the links. At one time it hardly appeared worth while for anybody to enter for a medal if he were in the field; but in those days the brilliant golfers known to us now had not arisen, the standard of play was not nearly so high, and scores well over 90 were frequently good enough to win first or second honours.

Mr. Balfour was for seven years at Edinburgh Academy, and proved himself when there an excellent all-round athlete. When under fourteen years of age he won the hurdle race (120 yards over ten flights), and also the open race in the inter-scholastic games; this last, indeed, he carried off in two consecutive years, but was unable, owing to an accident, to compete on a third occasion. He also won the School hundred yards, and was captain of the Academy at both cricket and football. He was, moreover, one of the International team, and played for Scotland against England. Having an excellent eye, he seems to have taken to every game like a duck to water, and when lawn-tennis first came into vogue he speedily found that he was a better player than most, for he won the Championship of Scotland one year, and was runner-up on two other occasions.

It hardly falls within the scope of the present article to treat his cricketing career in any exhaustive manner, but if any reader is desirous of having such information the reference may be given to *Cricket* of May 16th, 1889, where a sketch and

portrait of Mr. Balfour may be found. The more salient points in that notice may be summarised somewhat as follows:—Having in 1872 stepped into the front rank of Scottish cricketers by scoring 150 for Edinburgh against Glasgow, from 1876 onwards he, by a series of wonderful successes, earned for himself the title of Scottish champion. Year by year he scored his centuries, many of them; and in 1882 captained the Edinburgh team against the Australians, making the best score in each innings against them. In 1887 he had an average of 58·6, and in 1888 of 58·1, his best score in the latter year being 159, which included twenty-seven fours. He is a rapid scorer, and consequently a favourite with the gallery; his principal hits are late cuts and square leg hits. As a wicket-keeper he has few, if any, rivals in Scotland, and when necessary is an admirable field at cover-point. He was the first Scotchman not connected with the English Universities who played in an I Zingari team against Gentlemen of England. The article proceeds: "Apart from these attributes, if Mr. Balfour fails with the bat his cricketing worth is always proved by his generalship, and it is often this quality which pulls his team through many a keen tussle." These particulars may be supplemented by two or three scores made since the article in question was published.

In 1889, for Grange v. Dalkeith, 98; in 1890, Grange v. Dalkeith, 121 not out; Glamis Castle v. Arbroath United, 141 not out, this being the first innings he ever went in first and carried his bat. In 1891 he only played four times, making 97 on one occasion, and 99 not out on another, again going in first and carrying his bat. Cricket is a game which in Scotland is esoteric rather than exoteric in its nature; in England it is the game of the multitude, and is more or less shouldered out of existence by, amongst other things, Golf. Greatly, therefore, is it to Mr. Balfour's credit that with a purely Scottish cricket education he should have made such excellent use of his opportunities. Had his lines been cast in some cricketing county in England, where he would have had the benefit of constant practice with the best professionals, he would almost certainly have been good enough to take part in Gentlemen and Players, and all the



more important matches. Scotch cricketers, moreover, are somewhat handicapped by the nature of the wickets, which are dull and dead as compared with those in England. Still, Mr. Balfour in his English matches with the I Zingari and other clubs has done well.

But this is somewhat of a digression, and it is time to revert to Mr. Balfour in his golfing capacity. It may be assumed, nay, it is demonstrable, that he has won more medals of the Royal and Ancient than anyone ever did before. This, indeed, appears to be his chief characteristic, that he so frequently appears to advantage in scoring competitions, as thus:—Winner of King William IV. medal:—1875, 93; 1876, 91; 1877, 89; 1883, 88; 1889, 87. Of gold medal:—1874, 87; 1880, 91; 1881, 91; 1885, 88. Of silver cross:—1890, 83. Of Bombay medal:—1876, 98; 1879, 94; 1880, 87; 1883, 85; 1885, 90. Of George Glennie medal:—1883, 173; 1885, 178; 1886, 181; 1889, 180; 1890, 173.

It appears therefore that twenty medals have fallen to him; none but he have ever won the autumn medal five times, or won it three consecutive years; and what is perhaps most noticeable of all, as showing continuous steady play, in the eleven years during which the medal for aggregate score has

been under competition he has won it five times. The best of his scores, 83, is a lowest on record for medal play, but he has to share this honour with Messrs. Alexander Stuart and J. E. Laidlay. In 1881, Mr. Balfour joined the Honourable Company, and has won the spring medal at Musselburgh three times, tied for it once, won the November medal four times, and a silver medal, given in 1887 for second prize, twice consecutively. His best score in these competitions is 81. Considering that these are the only two clubs for whose medals Mr. Balfour ever plays, this record is a remarkable one. He has played in the Amateur Championship, and reached the final once, and on two other occasions has been in the last four.

In match play at St. Andrews he has not yet succeeded in breaking 80, though he has twice had that figure, one of the occasions including, curiously enough, a good honest miss of the globe—his club-head not passing within a foot of the ball. This was due to a very bad stand; his foot slipping on the downward motion of the club, the *status quo ante* was unexpectedly preserved. One point about Mr. Balfour is somewhat remarkable, and that is the very fine game he generally plays when entirely out of practice, indeed one of the 80's above alluded to was made when he had not touched a club for months, and after he had been playing cricket all the summer. At St. Andrews he considers himself out of form if on ordinary occasions he takes more than 85 to the round. He further considers that his game is now to the full as good as it ever was, or perhaps better, and that the improvement, if any, is due in great measure to the fact of clubs and balls being better than they used to be when he first began his victorious career.

Certainly Mr. Balfour is a magnificent driver, very straight, and very long; this he supplements with a shot peculiarly his own, a low running approach to the hole with his iron; the amount of run he gets on to this shot is very remarkable, and is done apparently with a powerful pushing stroke from the forearm. It is particularly well adapted to St. Andrews Links, where it is usually more deadly than the loft-and-lie description of iron shot though of this also Mr. Balfour is a master. All golfers are fallible, and this gentleman's mistakes are usually to be seen on the putting-green, where they are apt to prove fatal. This is the one weak point in his panoply, and is probably due to his habit of dwelling too long on his putts, thus losing as it were the first intention; but at all the rest of the game he is as steady as a rock, and most particularly in his driving. Physically he has many advantages, having very strong arms and wrists, big shoulders, and a grasp of iron—and he is besides very strong on his legs; in height he is about 5 feet 9 inches; and his weight is about 12 stone.

A more careful, painstaking player it is impossible to conceive. Sir Walter Simpson gives us the advice, "When you are five holes up, play greedily for more;" but it is advice which not every one finds himself well able to follow. Not so Mr. Balfour; the proper temperament is his; if he were dorny nine he would take as much pains over every individual stroke as if the match depended on it. Mr. Balfour's brothers all play Golf; one of them is well known as a good player, viz., Mr. Elliot S. Balfour, who won the May medal at St. Andrews in 1881, with 88. Another, Mr. R. A. A. Balfour won a medal at Hoylake, though this was before the days of Mr. John Ball, junr. What is bred in the bone has come out in the flesh, for the father of these gentlemen, Mr. James Balfour, is also known to fame. Three times he won the Club gold medal, in 1853, 1857, and 1861, with scores of 93, 101, and 102. The first of these was the best that had ever been made for the autumn medal, and deserved a better fate than second prize, but the celebrated Captain Stuart of Fasnaeloch, 72nd Highlanders, also made a record and won the first medal with the splendid score of 90. Mr. Balfour, senr., to the present day is an excellent partner in a foursome, being as steady as possible, and an efficient craftsman where baffies, old world spoons, and the like, can be profitably employed. He has embodied some of his experiences in a handy little book of reminiscences, not the least interesting part of which is a description of the Links as they used to be as compared with their present condition. Altogether there is no name more intimately associated with Golf of the best quality than that of the Messrs. Balfour, *père et fils*.

H. S. C. EVERARD.



ASHDOWN FOREST AND TUNBRIDGE WELLS GOLF CLUB.

Christmas meeting.—Though there was quite a large field on Saturday, the 26th December, the first day of the meeting, only eight cards were received, and the scoring was somewhat "tall." This was due a good deal to the difficulty of putting with the frost just breaking. In addition to the usual monthly medal, the club gave a Christmas present to the winner. Mr. A. D. Stevenson has not appeared on these links for some time past, but managed to win on the post. Scores:—

Gross. Hcp. Net.			Gross. Hcp. Net.		
Mr. A. D. Stevenson	109	18 91	Dr. J. C. Fox	109	14 95
Mr. H. H. Turner	97	5 92	Dr. J. Magrath	106	11 95
Mr. F. A. Lee	102	10 92	Mr. A. Crerar	107	11 96
Mr. J. O. Scott	110	18 92			

Monday, December 28th. The Forest Row cup was the fixture for to-day, and though the attendance was even greater than on Saturday, the returns were equally few, and the scores, with the exception of two, still sadly high. The winner, who is the captain elect for 1892, is to be congratulated on a return to his old form. Scores:—

Gross. Hcp. Net.			Gross. Hcp. Net.		
Mr. H. Jeddere-			Dr. J. C. Fox	105	14 91
Fisher	93	13 80	Mr. F. A. Lee	102	10 92
Mr. H. M. Bray-			Mr. A. H. Newington	98	5 93
brooke	86	3 83	Mr. Lawford An-		
Mr. Leonard An-			drews	100	3 97
drews	106	22 84	Mr. W. R. Lee	115	17 98
Mr. J. S. Scott	96	9 87	Mr. J. O. Scott	117	18 99
Mr. Fred Swainson	99	10 89			

Tuesday, December 29th, was remarkable for some really first-class Golf on the part of Mr. F. Fairlie and Mr. F. G. Tait, who, in their match, halved the game and also each went round in 77, a very remarkable performance considering the state of the green. Their figures seem worthy of record:—

Mr. F. G. Tait:—											
Out	...	...	4	4	5	4	4	5	3	4	4=37
Home	...	...	6	3	5	4	5	4	5	4	4=40
Mr. F. Fairlie:—											
Out	...	...	5	4	4	5	4	4	4	4	4=38
Home	...	...	5	3	5	4	5	5	4	4	4=39

Mr. J. S. Scott's team administered a beating to Ashdown Forest, but it is only fair to the club to say that they were not playing anything like their strongest team. In the afternoon the interest centred in a foursome, in which Messrs. Fairlie and Colt defeated Messrs. Tait and Faithfull 4 up and 3 to play, halving the bye. The winners played grand Golf, hardly making a mistake. Score of the morning match:—

MR. J. S. SCOTT'S TEAM.			ASHDOWN FOREST GOLF CLUB.		
	Holes.			Holes.	
Mr. F. Fairlie	...	0	Mr. F. G. Tait	...	0
Mr. H. S. Colt	...	6	Mr. H. M. Braybrooke	...	0
Mr. F. E. Faithfull	...	0	Mr. A. H. Newington	...	0
Mr. G. H. Goldney	...	2	Rev. A. T. Scott	...	0
Mr. J. S. Scott	...	13	Mr. R. M. Tabor	...	0
Mr. J. O. Scott	...	0	Mr. F. A. Lee	...	9
		—			—
		21			9

MORAY GOLF CLUB.—A match was held by the members of this club at Lossiemouth for prizes on New Year's Day, when, owing to the fine weather, there was a large turn-out of players. Mr. James Munro came in first with a score of 88, less 7=81; Mr. W. M. MacBey being second with a net score of 82 strokes.

ABERDEEN.

The members of this club competed on Saturday over the Balgownie course for their scratch medal and the Davidson cup. Few competitors entered, the ground being very hard. The result of the competition showed that Mr. D. Littlejohn won the Davidson cup with the score of 91, less 6=85; while Mr. R. A. Nicholson won the scratch medal with 88. The following are the lowest scores:—

Gross. Hcp. Net.			Gross. Hcp. Net.		
Mr. D. Littlejohn...	91	6 85	Mr. R. A. Nicholson	88	+2 90
Mr. R. D. Leslie	97	8 89	Mr. W. S. Gill	112	18 94
Dr. J. Moir...	95	6 89			

BIARRITZ GOLF CLUB.

A handicap sweepstakes was played for on Christmas Eve on the "Colonel Bogey" system. The imaginary score was as follows:—5 5 4 6 6 6 4 4 6=46, and the match was twice round the links—eighteen holes. This score, although not the "gallant Colonel's" best form, proved sufficiently steady to escape defeat. Three members only succeeding in halving the match with their imaginary antagonist. Sir William Style, Bart., with a handicap of 15, and Capt. Livingstone and Mr. F. Stewart, who both started from scratch, were the three who divided the pool. The rest of the starters, there were eighteen in all, suffered, more or less, severe defeats. This was the first time this system has been tried on these links. It seemed to work well, and the opinion upon it generally was favourable, and certainly justifies another trial on the first opportunity.

BIRKDALE GOLF CLUB.

The second competition for the Captain's cup took place on Saturday, the 26th ult. The scores under 100 net were as follows:—

Gross. Hcp. Net.			Gross. Hcp. Net.		
Mr. Wm. Bowker...	99	17 82	Mr. G. D. S. Crow-	110	15 95
Mr. Geo. Crowther..	99	12 87	ther		
Mr. W. E. Buckley..	108	15 93	Mr. C. A. Colman...	116	18 98

The third medal competition on Saturday last resulted in Mr. G. Crowther recording a second win. The scores under 100 net were as follows:—

Gross. Hcp. Net.			Gross. Hcp. Net.		
Mr. G. Crowther ...	96	13 83	Mr. Wm. Bowker...	115	16 99
Mr. G. D. S. Crowther	105	16 89	Major Pemberton ...	119	20 99
Mr. T. O. Clinning	126	28 98	Mr. F. Baker	129	30 99

BRIGHTON AND HOVE GOLF CLUB.

The first monthly competition of the New Year took place on Saturday, January 2nd, when Major Marriott scored a very popular win for the Berens medal, after a tie with Mr. F. E. Badham. Score:—

Gross. Hcp. Net.			Gross. Hcp. Net.		
Major Marriott ...	101	16 85	Mr. H. R. Scott ...	110	20 90
Mr. F. E. Badham	103	18 85	Mr. J. Campbell ...	116	22 94
Rev. C. O. Vincent	105	18 87	Major Dudgeon ...	120	25 95
Mr. W. W. Thompson	102	13 89	Mr. H. T. Ross ...	111	14 97
Mr. H. W. Street...	104	14 90	Mr. C. G. Heathcote	110	12 98

Nine players made no return.

CLEVELAND GOLF CLUB.

The season was brought to a close on Saturday at Coatham links, Redcar, the competition being for the club medal. A strong wind spoiled play considerably, and the scoring was high. Mr. E. R. Wethey with a net allowance of 4 secured first honours with 94. Mr. C. E. Scott secures the medal for having a majority of wins (4) during the past season. The scores were:—

Gross. Hcp. Net.			Gross. Hcp. Net.		
Mr. E. R. Wethey	98	4 94	Mr. D. Mackay ...	106	3 103
Mr. J. Scott	106	10 96	Mr. C. E. Scott ...	117	5 112
Mr. H. Roberts	97	scr. 97	Mr. T. N. Muller ...	136	18 118
Mr. G. Buxton	129	27 102	Mr. W. Young	131	10 121

EAST LOTHIAN GOLF CLUB.

The first quarterly meeting of this, the oldest club in connection with Gullane links, was held on Saturday last, when there was a good muster of players. Owing to a severe gale low scoring was practically impossible, and many of the "cracks" came to grief at the top of the hill. On comparing cards, it was found that the club prize, a handsome silver cup, was tied for by Mr. R. McGowan and the Rev. John Kerr. On playing off the tie Mr. Kerr won.

HARRISON CLUB, EDINBURGH.—This club played their usual New Year's Day handicap competition in the Harrison Park on Friday. After several ties, the following is the result:—1, Mr. James Campbell; 2, Mr. R. Coutts; 3, Mr. J. Blyth; 4, Mr. P. Weir; 5, Mr. J. Alderson; 6, Mr. D. A. Henderson; 7, Mr. J. Allan.

FORFARSHIRE.

On Friday the monthly competition of the Stonehaven Club for the medal and other prizes took place at Cowie, with the following result:—1st prize and medal, Mr. W. B. Cornack; 2nd, Mr. R. Falconer; 3rd, Mr. A. L. Wood; 4th, Mr. A. B. Annandale; 5th, Mr. J. C. Roberson.

The members of two or three of the Montrose clubs competed for money and other prizes. A hurricane of wind from the north prevailed during the time of play, rendering low scores out of the question. All the winners of average prizes came in above their registered numbers, some of them considerably above. Mercantile.—There was a comparatively poor turn-out of players from this club. Mr. James Findlay won the prize for the lowest score on the green with a total of 87. Average prizes were won as follows:—First Class—1st and 2nd, tied for by Mr. G. Croall and Mr. W. Gordon; 3rd, Mr. J. Wishart; 4th, Mr. A. Paterson; 5th, 6th, 7th, tied for by Messrs. J. Milne, T. Sheret, and J. Hardie; 8th, 9th, and 10th, tied for by Messrs. E. Cobb, G. M'Intosh, and D. Burgess. Second Class—1st, Mr. W. Findlay, 93, 2 above; 2nd, Mr. T. Millar; 3rd, Mr. D. Stott; 4th, Mr. G. Reid. Winner of prize for lowest score in third class, Mr. C. D. Napier. Mechanics.—Winners of average prizes:—1st, 2nd, and 3rd, Messrs. J. Wishart, J. Jarvis, and J. Milne, tied for, each 14 above; 4th, Mr. A. Davidson, 16 above; 5th, Mr. E. Cobb, 17 above; 6th, Mr. G. M'Intosh, 18 above; 7th, Mr. J. Smith, 19 above; 8th, Mr. A. M'Lean, 21 above; 9th, Mr. J. Young, 23 above; 10th and 11th, tied for, Messrs. C. Foreman and D. Black, each 24 above; 12th, Mr. J. Pearman, 28 above; 13th, Mr. G. Jarvis, 31 above; 14th, Mr. D. Rodgers, 32 above.

The members of the Broughty Club held their usual competition on New Year's Day on Monifieth Links. As each of the competitors contribute a prize, and each receive one, the contest may be termed an all-prize competition. The weather was splendid, but the ground was lumpy on account of the frost, and although the balls could be got well away from the tee the succeeding shots were difficult to manipulate. There were twenty-two members playing, but only four succeeded in breaking the century, viz., Messrs. James Bowman, 97; David Smyton and W. K. Lorimer, 98; and Alexander Bowman, 99. The leading prizes were gained as follows:—First Class—1st, Mr. James Bowman, 97, 1 below; 2nd and 3rd, Messrs. David Smyton and Alexander Bowman, both 4 above. Second Class—1st, Mr. James Ireland, 112, 8 below; 2nd and 3rd, Mr. Edward Rowan and Master William Bowman, both 113, 7 below; 4th, Mr. W. K. Lorimer, 98, 4 below. A neat silver trophy, in the form of a Maltese cross, with clear polished shield in the centre, was presented by Mr. William Smith, watchmaker, and was played for under a specially prepared handicap. The winner proved to be Mr. James Bowman, who had the best scratch score on the green, 97, less 8 odds=89. The next in order were Mr. W. K. Lorimer, 98, less 7=91; Mr. David Smyton, 98, less 6=92; and Mr. Alexander Bowman, 99, less 7=92.

The members of the Scotsraig Club competed on New Year's Day for a number of prizes presented by the captain of the club, the Rev. C. Halliday. The conditions were two rounds of the course (handicap). There was a large turnout, the weather being all that could be desired. At the close, on examination of the cards, the result was as follows:—the first six being prize-winners:—Mr. W. E. Methven, 93, less 10=83; Mr. G. Millar, 95, less 12=83; Mr. R. Law, 101, less 18=83; Mr. D. Law, 102, less 18=84; Mr. A. S. Thomson, 85, scratch=85; Mr. P. K. Sellars, 100, less 12=88; Mr. A. Niven, 107, less 18=89; Mr. W. Hogg, 92, less 2=90; Mr. W. Smith, 99, less 8=91; Mr. G. B. Black, 100, less 8=92; Mr. D. M'Gregor, 102, less 10=92; Mr. W. Davidson, 104, less 10=94; Mr. W. Sim, 97, less 2=95; Mr. M. Carr, 113, less 14=99.

FRASERBURGH.

The secretary of the Fraserburgh Golf Club received from Lord Saltoun three medals, in gold, silver, and bronze, to be played for among the club members on New Year's Day. The medals are of beautiful design, and, altogether, are most artistic articles. Round the band are the words, "Fraserburgh Golf Club," while in the centre is a shield on which are displayed conspicuously crossed clubs, interwoven with a scroll with ball at foot, and the figures "1891" as a finish. The articles, which were supplied by Messrs. Jas. Crichton and Co., George Street, Edinburgh, can only be competed for by members of the club. The receipt of the medals has created much interest in local golfing circles. As the medals are to be played for in three classes, the full strength of the club will be on the ground. The only matter for regret is that Lord Saltoun's absence in London prevented him from taking part in the competition. The medals presented by Lord Saltoun to the local club were played for over the Corbie course on Saturday. The weather was unsettled. The medals were played for in classes. The winners were:—Gold medal, Mr. James Stephenson; bronze medal, Mr. Lewis R. M'Allan. The competition had been fixed for New Year's Day, but was postponed in consequence of the weather.

ILKLEY GOLF CLUB.

The monthly medal (eleventh month) and Christmas cup competitions were played on the above links on Saturday, 26th ult., and Monday, 28th ult., and some excellent scores were made. During the past week of fog and gloom the moors have been favoured with brilliant sunshine. The Optional sweepstakes in connection with the medal was won by Mr. P. N. Salmond, and Mr. A. L. Booth was successful in the Christmas cup sweep. The winner of the medal and cup was Mr. R. G. Scott, with a net score of 87. Several players declared for both events with one score:—

Monthly medal:—

	Gross.	Hcp.	Net.
Mr. R. G. Scott, Ilkley	120	33	87
Mr. P. N. Salmond, Ilkley	118	30	88
Mr. W. F. Potter, Ilkley	117	27	90
Mr. F. H. Burn, Witley	130	40	90
Mr. R. Bramwell Davis, Sandwich	110	14	96
Mr. W. H. Scott, Ilkley	121	25	96
Rev. Irton Smith, Ilkley	126	9	97
Mr. A. L. Booth, Poole	133	36	97
Mr. B. Richards, Leeds	138	38	100
Mr. G. R. Meredith, Leeds	149	45	104
Mr. A. Potter, Ilkley	124	20	104
Mr. A. J. Stanfield, Wakefield	122	18	104
Mr. J. Todd, Ilkley	150	45	105
Mr. B. Hirst, Ilkley	135	20	115
Mr. F. Steintal, Ilkley	162	45	117
Mr. E. Fletcher, Ilkley	146	27	119
Mr. A. W. Godby, Ilkley	164	40	124

No returns from Messrs. C. G. Broadwood, H. W. Wild, Puttee, F. Tristram, and others.

Christmas cup:—

	Gross.	Hcp.	Net.
Mr. R. G. Scott, Ilkley	120	33	87
Mr. P. N. Salmond, Ilkley	118	30	88
Mr. A. L. Booth, Poole	125	36	90
Mr. W. F. Potter, Ilkley	117	27	90
Mr. F. H. Burn, Whitley	130	40	90
Dr. Bampton, Ilkley	132	40	92
Mr. P. N. Lee, Ilkley	104	12	92
Mr. C. A. Hudson, Ilkley	132	40	92
Mr. W. H. Scott, Ilkley	121	25	96
Mr. R. B. Davis, Sandwich	110	14	96
Mr. D. F. Douglas, Ilkley	118	20	98
Mr. B. Richards, Leeds	138	38	100
Mr. A. Potter, Ilkley	124	20	104
Mr. A. J. Stanfield, Wakefield	122	18	104
Mr. J. Todd, Ilkley	150	45	105
Mr. A. W. Godby, Ilkley	150	45	105
Mr. F. P. Wild, Ilkley	122	13	109
Mr. B. Hirst, Ilkley	135	20	115
Mr. F. Steintal, Ilkley	162	45	117
Rev. G. Frodsham, Ilkley	163	45	118
Mr. E. Fletcher, Ilkley	147	27	120

No returns from Messrs. C. G. Broadwood, H. W. Wild, A. Irwell, W. M. Barwick, Rev. Irton Smith, and others.

LIMPSFIELD CHART GOLF CLUB.

An interesting foursome was played on Friday between Messrs. F. A. and W. E. Fairlie and Mr. H. S. Colt, partnered by Douglas Rolland, the club professional. The play in the morning was not, perhaps, up to the form expected of such high-class players, the game ending in a rather easy win for Mr. Colt and Rolland by 4 up and 3 to play, Messrs. Fairlie being 2 up on the bye. The afternoon's play, however, saw the brothers Fairlie, who had, in a great measure, got over the difficulties of a new green, turn the tables by 4 up and 2 to play. An additional match of eleven holes was also played, which the Messrs. Fairlie won by a stroke at the last hole. After lunch, the form had reached a high standard, the very finished short game of the brothers being much admired; Rolland we have seen play better, his driving, though, of course, very long, being at times rather wild, which always means severe punishment at Limpsfield. His partner, Mr. Colt, however, played his usual steady game. We wish we could see more such Golf over a green that is well worthy of it; true, there are only nine holes, but they are nine sporting holes, and a thorough test from first to last.

LEVEN.—On New Year's Day the Innerleven Golf Club held a sweepstake competition, when ten couples took part. On comparing cards, it was found that Mr. R. R. Prentice gained first prize with a score of 100 strokes, less 12=88; Dr. Cownie, second prize at 90 scratch. Third prize was tied for by James Forgan at 105, less 14=91, and Mr. William Henderson, 91 scratch.

LONDON SCOTTISH GOLF CLUB.

The monthly meeting of this club was held at Wimbledon, on Saturday, the 2nd inst. About fifteen couples started from the Iron House, and the following returns were handed in:—

Gross. Hcp. Net.			Gross. Hcp. Net.				
*Mr. T. C. Hedderwick	99	18	81	Mr. K. B. Brown	92	2	90
Mr. Alex. Mackay	101	15	86	Mr. T. R. Pinkerton	91	scr.	91
Mr. A. E. Walker	91	2	89	Mr. E. Lehmann	102	6	96
Major Lindsay	95	6	89	†Mr. G. G. Kennedy	122	25	97
Mr. John Walker, jun.	103	14	89	Mr. D. S. Froy	109	5	104

*Winner of first-class medal. †Winner of second-class medal.

LYTHAM AND ST. ANNE'S GOLF CLUB.

Golf under difficulties would be the most suitable heading for any report of the play on the links at St. Anne's-on-the-Sea on Saturday last, when the members of the Lytham and St. Anne's Golf Club played in the fourth competition for the captain's cup. Frequent showers, a strong breeze, and miniature lakes all over the course were not at all conducive to good scoring, and it could, therefore, scarcely be any surprise to find that out of fifty-three players all but fourteen were so much dissatisfied with the results of their play, that they did not send in any returns. There was not one gross score under 100, the best being Mr. G. F. Smith, Bolton, 101; Mr. F. C. Morgan, Manchester, 104; Mr. W. Newbigging, St. Anne's, 104; Mr. A. B. Scholfield, St. Anne's, 107. The best net scores were:—Mr. T. Baxter, St. Anne's, 109, less 20=89 (who will, therefore, be one of the six winners of competitions to play off in the final); Mr. F. T. Wright, Tyldesley, 104, less 8=96; Mr. W. Newbigging, St. Anne's, 104, less 7=97; Mr. J. Talbot Fair, Lytham, 110, less 12=98; Mr. J. H. Hulton, Bolton, 113, less 15=98. The first optional sweepstakes was won by Mr. T. Baxter, the second by Mr. F. T. Wright, and the third by Mr. W. Newbigging. The winners of the captain's cup competitions now are:—On October 10th, Mr. J. Marcus Rea, St. Anne's, 92, less 8=84; on November 7th, Mr. C. W. Fisher, Blackpool, 102, less 15=87; on December 5th, Mr. L. Pilkington, Pendleton, Manchester, 105, less 17=88; and on January 2nd, Mr. T. Baxter, St. Anne's, 109, less 20=89. The full return of last Saturday's play was as follows:—

	Gross.	Hcp.	Net.
Mr. T. Baxter, St. Anne's	109	20	89
Mr. F. T. Wright, Tyldesley	104	8	96
Mr. W. Newbigging, St. Anne's	104	7	97
Mr. J. Talbot Fair, Lytham	110	12	98
Mr. J. H. Hulton, Bolton	113	15	98
Mr. F. C. Morgan, Manchester	104	4	100
Mr. J. Eccles, junr., Ashton, Preston	108	8	100
Mr. G. F. Smith, Bolton	101	scr.	101
Mr. A. B. Scholfield, St. Anne's	107	6	101
Mr. E. Redfern, St. Anne's	123	20	103
Mr. J. F. Pearson, St. Anne's	127	20	107
Mr. A. Darbyshire, Manchester	125	15	110
Rev. C. Billington, Lytham	120	9	111
Mr. D. E. Anderson, Manchester	128	16	112

The following did not send in any returns:—Mr. D. MacIvor, Lymm; Mr. W. P. Fullagar, Lytham; Mr. J. A. F. Eltoft, St. Anne's; Mr. T. C. Midwood, Manchester; Mr. E. W. Hermon, St. Anne's; Mr. E. Holt, Manchester; Mr. R. B. Hardman, St. Anne's; Mr. E. Harrison, St. Anne's; Mr. C. W. Fisher, Blackpool; Mr. D. A. Donald, Manchester; Mr. B. Thompson, St. Anne's; Mr. F. Topp, Bolton; Mr. F. Bradshaw, South Shore; Mr. W. H. Crossland, Manchester; Mr. J. Bradbury, South Shore; Dr. Palmer, Buxton; Mr. H. Fisher, Wrea Green; Rev. Canon Hawkins, Lytham; Mr. R. Lythgoe, St. Anne's; Mr. A. E. Fair, Lytham; Rev. W. G. Terry, St. Anne's; Mr. E. Micholls, Buxton; Mr. E. M. Whipp, St. Anne's; Mr. J. A. Brown, St. Anne's; Mr. J. J. Doyle, South Shore; Mr. G. Harper, Ashton, Preston; Mr. S. Fisher, South Shore; Mr. H. Bowman, Manchester; Mr. A. H. Doleman, South Shore; Mr. W. H. Ramsden, Manchester; Mr. H. N. Brown, St. Anne's; Mr. S. F. Butcher, Bury; Mr. P. Swanwick, Wilmslow; Mr. W. H. Hampson, South Shore; Mr. W. Hoyle, Ramsbottom; Mr. J. Muirhead, Blackpool; Mr. W. H. Harrison, Lytham; Mr. G. H. Uttley, St. Anne's; Mr. W. G. P. Miller, Thistleton.

MACCLESFIELD GOLF CLUB.

A special handicap match was played here on New Year's Day. Thirteen members started, but seven cards only were returned. The first place was won by Mr. M. H. Hall, with a net score of 93, Mr. S. Adshead and Mr. F. Tylecote tying for the second, with 97.

On Saturday last the usual monthly handicap was played by fourteen members, twelve cards being returned. The following are the principal scores:—

Gross. Hcp. Net.			Gross. Hcp. Net.				
Dr. Sheldon	105	8	97	Mr. C. J. Edmondson	115	12	103
Mr. F. Edmondson	124	25	99	Mr. F. Tylecote	119	10	109
Mr. G. C. Greenwell	106	5	101	Mr. J. W. Burgess	123	10	113

PAU LADIES' GOLF CLUB.

The course has been much enlarged, and is now more difficult than formerly, the scratch score being raised from 66 to 72. The club rooms have been increased and charmingly furnished, and when the new portion of the course is worked up into good order it will, without doubt, be the finest ladies' course in the world. The rooms and accommodation are now perfect. An opening handicap of nine holes was played on December 9th, Miss M. Hatch winning, Miss Henry coming in second. The scores of the two first regular handicaps are given below.

First handicap, played on December 14th :—

Table with 4 columns: Player Name, Gross, Hcp, Net. Lists scores for Miss N. Ross, Miss Henry, Miss Hatch, Hon. M. St. Aubyn, Miss F. Barham, Miss M. Newall, Mrs. Maud, Mrs. A. Troyte, Mrs. Jones, Miss Y. Newall, Miss Kane, Miss Morris, Miss Cunninghamham, Miss G. Cunninghamham, Miss Mackay.

Also played : Hon. E. St. Aubyn and Miss C. Halkett.

Second handicap, played on December 21st:—

Table with 4 columns: Player Name, Gross, Hcp, Net. Lists scores for Miss M. Ross, Miss Hatch, Hon. M. St. Aubyn, Miss Y. Newall, Miss Ross, Miss G. Cunninghamham, Hon. E. St. Aubyn, Miss Henry, Mrs. A. Troyte, Miss M. Newall, Mrs. Jones, Mrs. Scarisbrick.

Also played : Miss De Longuenil, Mrs. Maud, Lady Cunninghamham, and Miss Hay.

PRESTWICK ST. NICHOLAS.

The annual competition for the club medal (scratch) and the Harvie Smith medal (handicap) took place on New Year's Day. The weather was favourable, and there was a good muster of players, the following players starting in the game of eighteen holes :—Messrs. A. L. K. Gilchrist and David Bone; Messrs. And. Muir and John Hamilton; Messrs. James Todd and A. Y. Peattie; Messrs. Walter Barr and J. M'Bain; Messrs. D. Walker and M. Smith; Messrs. J. Donaldson and J. Parker; Messrs. C. I. Hight and John Gray; Messrs. Jas. Gibson and A. Boon; Messrs. Jno. Gibson and R. Pyper; Messrs. A. Dunbar and W. Giles; Messrs. D. Ferguson and H. M. Giles; Messrs. J. H. O. Beirne and J. N. O. Davidson; Messrs. Jno. S. Watson and W. A. Kennedy; Juncillor Meikle and Mr. Jas. Andrew; Messrs. W. T. Morton and C. L. Randall; Messrs. J. Bowden and J. Howat. The cards showed that the club medal had been tied for at scratch by Messrs. D. Bone, A. Boon, Jas. Gibson, C. L. Randall, and Jas. Andrew, at 84; the latter, having 3 of odds, tied at 81 with A. Dunbar for the handicap medal. The following are the best scores recorded :—

Table with 4 columns: Player Name, Gross, Hcp, Net. Lists scores for Mr. Jas. Andrew, Mr. A. Dunbar, Mr. A. Boon, Mr. D. Bone, Mr. J. Gibson, Mr. C. L. Randall, Mr. Jas. Meikle, Mr. M. Smith, Mr. D. Walker, Mr. C. I. Hight, Mr. W. A. Kennedy, Mr. A. L. K. Gilchrist, Mr. A. Y. Peattie, Mr. J. Howat, Mr. H. M. Giles, Mr. John Gibson, Mr. John Gray.

Forty new members were admitted.

REDHILL AND REIGATE GOLF CLUB.

The Turner medal of this club was played for on the Earlswood links on the 2nd instant, with the result shown below. This and other recent performances of the winner will, doubtless, cause the handicap committee to honour them with their attention. Score :—

Table with 4 columns: Player Name, Gross, Hcp, Net. Lists scores for Mr. G. H. Emmet, Mr. W. B. Avery, Mr. A. Schacht, Mr. F. W. Aste, Mr. T. P. Shepherd.

A larger number of cards than usual failed to reach the score-box.

RHYL GOLF CLUB.

LADIES' HANDICAP.

The monthly contest for the ladies' prize was held on Monday, January 4th, in bright frosty weather. Result :—

Table with 4 columns: Player Name, Gross, Hcp, Net. Lists scores for Miss A. W. Pennant, Miss K. Lloyd-Williams, Miss Lloyd-Williams, Miss Lloyd-Williams, Miss Lloyd-Williams, Miss Lloyd-Williams, Miss Lloyd-Williams, Miss Lloyd-Williams, Miss Lloyd-Williams, Miss Lloyd-Williams.

Miss Mainwaring made no return.

RICHMOND GOLF CLUB (SURREY).

The monthly medal competition took place at Petersham on Saturday, the 2nd inst., the winner being Mr. A. Walker, whose card was 104, minus 22=82.

The following are the scores under 100 net :—

Table with 4 columns: Player Name, Gross, Hcp, Net. Lists scores for Mr. A. Walker, Mr. W. T. Sutthery, Mr. S. F. Higgins, Mr. J. G. Wylie, Mr. E. M. Walsh, Mr. H. E. Knight, Mr. H. M. Davidson, Mr. H. E. Taylor, Mr. R. E. Yerburgh, Mr. M. Hill, Mr. E. S. Grey, Mr. M. G. Davidson, Mr. F. E. M. Walsh.

ROCHESTER GOLF CLUB.

The monthly medal competition was played on 26th December. Scores :—

Table with 4 columns: Player Name, Gross, Hcp, Net. Lists scores for Mr. A. Schacht, Mr. A. Sealy, Mr. G. Anderson, Mr. S. Bulmer, Mr. R. Winch.

Several other members played, but made no return.

ROYAL EASTBOURNE GOLF CLUB.

The winter meeting began on Monday, 28th ult. The weather was very unfavourable in the early part of the day, but improved later on. Mr. E. O. Langham won the first club prize, value £5, and scored a win for the Swinford Prize; the second club prize, value £3, was taken by the Rev. H. Von E. Scott. The result of the day's play is given below :—

Table with 4 columns: Player Name, Gross, Hcp, Net. Lists scores for Mr. E. O. Langham, Rev. H. Von E. Scott, Mr. S. M. Mellor, Mr. Robert White, Mr. W. R. Richardson, Hon. Ivo Bligh, Col. E. W. Shaw, Mr. Remy Elmsley, Mr. A. Mayhew, Capt. R. L. Cowper, Capt. T. E. Gordon, Mr. F. H. Mellor, Dr. G. E. Fooks, Major T. Harris, Mr. A. M. Wilkinson, Mr. F. W. Goldsmith, Mr. G. R. Carnac, Mr. Allan Woodroffe, Mr. M. J. Godby, Mr. W. G. Sheldon, Rev. H. C. Barnes, Laurence.

Total entries 64, the remainder over 100 or no returns.

Tuesday, 29th December.—On the occasion of the second day's play, the weather proved even worse than on the first, the wind being stronger and attended by frequent showers. Major Harris won the first club prize, value £5, and the monthly medal, and scored a win for the aggregate prize, but was debarred by the rules from taking it. Three gentlemen tied for second in the aggregate, but as one of these, Mr. E. O. Langham had won a club prize on the preceding day, he did not enter for the final contest, which was fought out between Mr. F. H. Mellor and Hon. Ivo Bligh—the latter proving victorious and taking the aggregate prize, value £5, Mr. Mellor having to console himself with the second club prize, value £3.

At the annual general meeting, held at the Queen's Hotel in the evening, Mr. Horace G. Hutchinson was elected captain for the ensuing year. The meeting was succeeded by the annual dinner, to which forty-two members sat down.

The result of the day's play will be seen below :—

Table with 4 columns: Player Name, Gross, Hcp, Net. Lists scores for Major T. Harris, Mr. F. H. Mellor, Dr. G. E. Fooks, Mr. H. G. Hutchinson, Hon. Ivo Bligh, Remy Elmsley, Mr. G. R. Burge, Capt. R. L. C. Coles, Mr. M. J. Godby, Mr. S. M. Mellor.

There were sixty entries; but the remainder were either over 100, or "no returns."

ROYAL ISLE OF WIGHT GOLF CLUB.

The Christmas meeting of this club began Wednesday, 23rd December, and was, as usual, well attended. Notwithstanding the severe frost, the links were found to be in excellent condition. Eleven and a-half couples started for the single tournament. After a keen competition, Mr. R. A. H. Mitchell won the club prize, defeating Mr. G. W. Ricketts, who took second prize.

On Saturday, 26th ult., fifteen couples started for the Bembridge gold medal (scratch), and the Eaton gold putter (handicap). Owing to the tempestuous weather, good scoring was impossible. Mr. F. W. Fisher

and Mr. G. D. Rowe tied for the scratch prize, and on playing off, Mr. Fisher won the Bembridge medal, and Mr. G. D. Rowe took the Eaton challenge gold putter, having made the best handicap score.

Gross. Hcp. Net.			Gross. Hcp. Net.		
*Mr. G. D. Rowe	101	12 89	Mr. Wm. Gordon	107	9 98
Mr. L. B. Keyser	105	9 96	Rev. C. Shilson	113	14 99
Mr. F. Quick	105	8 97	Mr. E. Prothero	108	9 99
Mr. H. H. Longman	109	12 97	Brig.-Surg. J. Law.	105	5 100
Mr. W. F. Fisher	101	3 98			

* Ties for Bembridge medal.

The following were over 100 net, or gave no return:—Capt. R. Alexander, Mr. H. Bradby, Mr. A. F. Brown, Mr. C. E. Cottrell, Mr. J. Croft, Capt. J. F. C. Hamilton, Sir A. Clarke-Jervoise, Mr. L. T. Le Marchant, Col. H. Lumsden, Mr. H. Michell, Mr. R. A. H. Mitchell, Major Monckton, Mr. Guy Pym, Rev. W. H. Richards, Mr. G. W. Ricketts, Dr. W. Reid, R.N., Mr. A. S. Tabor, Mr. M. Tabuteau, Capt. Twynan, Mr. W. H. Dudley Ward, and Mr. J. W. Wright.

Monday, 28th December.—On this day a novelty was introduced in shape of a Bogey Tournament, for a prize presented by Mr. F. Quick, which proved very popular, this competition being much more in the spirit of real Golf than the modern system of playing by strokes.

Fourteen couples started, but the "Bogey" defeated all. The following players were one down, and divided the prize:—Messrs. G. W. Ricketts, W. Gordon, and L. B. Keyser.

ROYAL JERSEY GOLF CLUB.

Saturday, December 26th.—A prize presented by Mr. E. Orange, and Col. Mackenzie's prize:—

Gross. Hcp. Net.			Gross. Hcp. Net.		
*†Lieut.-Col. Mayne	94	9 85	Mr. E. J. Edwardes	116	22 94
*†Mr. G. Christie	107	22 85	Major Scott	95	scr. 95
†Mr. C. A. Leape	88	scr. 88	Mr. A. Lushington	100	5 95
Mr. G. M. Robertson	105	14 91	Mr. A. W. Gordon	100	5 95
Capt. Sumner	99	7 92	Col. Campbell	107	12 95
Capt. Fairlie	99	6 93	Capt. Mohl	114	9 95
Major Little	107	14 93	Major Richardson	117	22 95
Rev. W. B. Holland	113	20 93	Mr. G. Hornby	97	scr. 97
Lieut.-Col. Robin	114	21 93	Major-Gen. Renton	110	11 99
Capt. Robin	98	4 94	Dr. Comerford	110	11 99
Mr. H. Spencer	98	4 94	Mr. G. P. Pipon	122	22 100
Mr. R. R. Renton	107	13 94	Mr. T. W. Barker	108	5 103

* Tied. † Divided sweepstakes.

Thirteen players made no return.

ROYAL LIVERPOOL GOLF CLUB.

The second competition under handicap for the winter optional subscription prizes, took place at Hoylelake last Saturday, when there was a fair turn-out of players, considering the inclement weather. A strong wind prevailed from the north-west, and the day was raw and cold, with occasional showers. Thirty-two couples started, and, as the returns will show, the scores were not good. A win in for the first-class optional subscription prize, limited to fourteen in the handicap, was secured by Mr. F. Hermon with his score of 90, less 2=88, Mr. Cumming Macdona recording a win in for the second-class optional subscription prize, 15 to 30 in the handicap, with his score of 117, less 22=95. The first sweepstake fell to Mr. F. Hermon, and the second and third were divided by Mr. John Ball, jun., and Mr. Cumming Macdona. The result of the play was as follows:—

First-class optional subscription prize:—

Gross. Hcp. Net.			Gross. Hcp. Net.		
Mr. F. Hermon	90	2 88	Mr. T. L. Ferguson	112	13 99
Mr. John Ball, jun.	86	+9 95	Mr. T. W. Crowther	103	2 101
Mr. C. J. Crowther	108	12 96	Mr. G. R. Cox	105	4 101
Mr. H. C. R. Sievwright	102	5 97	Mr. W. W. Dod	117	14 103
Mr. J. H. Knight	106	9 97	Mr. A. Turpin	104	scr. 104
Mr. W. H. Wilson	109	12 97	Mr. Jas. Fairclough	111	5 106
Mr. J. J. Crosfield	109	11 98	Mr. R. Goold	114	7 107
Mr. Geo. Bird	112	13 99	Mr. Ed. Whineray	111	4 107
			Mr. J. E. Pearson	117	9 108

Fifteen competitors made no return.

Second-class optional subscription prize:—

Gross. Hcp. Net.			Gross. Hcp. Net.		
Mr. Cumming Macdona	117	22 95	Mr. Theo. Turpin	128	23 105
Mr. F. W. Carson	116	19 97	Mr. R. H. Blain	126	20 106
Mr. John Stewart	120	23 97	Mr. J. A. Smith	123	16 107
Mr. A. Huntington	116	18 98	Mr. W. C. Aspinall	131	24 107
Mr. G. F. Milligan	117	17 100	Mr. H. S. Bowes	128	18 110
Mr. W. W. Sandbrook	125	24 101	Mr. A. Dod	130	16 114
Mr. A. Travis	118	16 102	Mr. G. Wild	131	16 115
Mr. E. H. Higgins	122	17 105	Mr. S. M. Crosfield	129	not
			Hon. C. H. Vivian	132	h'cpd.

Fourteen competitors made no return.

SEAFORD GOLF CLUB.

Monthly medal, December 26th, 1891:—

Gross. Hcp. Net.			Gross. Hcp. Net.		
Mr. A. P. White	107	18 89	Mr. R. A. Baillie	114	17 97
Mr. J. E. Shaw	104	12 92	Mr. Gordon Blois		
Mr. T. J. Baillie	109	13 96	Johnson	112	15 97

Several gentlemen made no returns, or were over 100 each. The weather was very windy and the lies bad and heavy, but the greens played better than could be expected after the frost.

SEATON CAREW GOLF CLUB.

The opening competition for the New Year took place for the Wilson shield on Saturday, January 2nd, was very well attended, and resulted in an exciting tie between three players, Messrs. P. B. Kent, O. K. Trechmann, and Seymour Walker. Considering the frost that was on the ground the putting-greens played untrue, and, as no reliance could be placed on any stroke through the green and the gusty westerly wind, the respective scores show really very clever play. Mr. Walker's score of 91 was the best of the day on merit. During the holidays many visitors and players of distinction have visited the green, including Mr. H. J. Simpson, president of the Porthcawl Golf Club, who played a game with the honorary secretary, Mr. C. Cooper, and was lavish in his praise on the sporting character of the green. Mr. G. S. Gibb and Mr. E. W. Smithson were present on New Year's Day, and enjoyed the outing and the high state of efficiency of the course. Dr. E. S. Robson and Mr. E. W. F. Walker were also present from Durham, whilst on Saturday Mr. J. Kelso Hunter, of Carlton, and Mr. J. Liddle, of Dumbarton, played a foursome with two of the Seaton members, and considered that the Seaton green was one of the finest in the kingdom. Scores:—

Gross. Hcp. Net.			Gross. Hcp. Net.		
Mr. Seymour Walker	91	8 83	Mr. A. Robinson	99	10 89
Mr. O. K. Trechmann	95	12 83	Mr. G. Newby	93	4 89
Mr. P. B. Kent	98	15 83	Mr. C. Cooper	96	7 89
Mr. A. B. Crosby	98	12 86	Mr. C. O. Trechmann	119	25 94
Mr. H. Simpson	103	16 87	Mr. A. R. Paton	119	25 94
Mr. C. J. Bunting	101	13 88	Mr. E. W. Walker	113	18 95

Messrs. J. Roddam, A. B. Wilson, W. S. Woodiwis, H. Luck, A. F. Trechmann, T. N. Friend, G. E. Casebourne, L. K. Fawcitt, and Rev. F. Savory made no returns.

ST. ANDREWS.

The monthly handicap of the Royal and Ancient Club was played for on Wednesday, with the following result:—

Gross. Hcp. Net.			Gross. Hcp. Net.		
Mr. A. F. Macfie	83	+2 85	Mr. A. Wallace	106	12 94
Mr. S. G. Burton	103	16 87	Mr. A. W. Anstruther	113	14 99
Mr. D. I. Lamb	86	+2 88	Mr. H. Leech Porter	116	15 101
Mr. W. Ballingall	90	scr. 90	Mr. A. Lindsay	119	16 103
Mr. L. M. Balfour	90	+2 92	Mr. J. H. E. Allen	127	22 105
Mr. E. Scratton	100	8 92			

TENBY GOLF CLUB.

The usual fortnightly handicaps took place on Monday and Wednesday, December 21st and 23rd, with the following results:—

LADIES.

Gross. Hcp. Net.			Gross. Hcp. Net.		
Miss Eva Vachell	95	21 74	Miss Clifton	82	scr. 82
Miss Durrant	88	10 78	Miss Voyle	95	scr. 95
Miss Edith Vachell	87	8 79			

Mrs. Fisher retired.

GENTLEMEN.

Gross. Hcp. Net.			Gross. Hcp. Net.		
Colonel Voyle	117	21 96	Mr. H. J. Allen	135	20 115
Mr. H. B. Span	127	30 97	Capt. Westby	133	15 118
Mr. H. T. Smyth	129	30 99	Mr. H. Costley	153	34 119
Mr. G. T. Smyth	105	scr. 105	Colonel Lewes	150	23 127
Mr. St. G. Caulfield	122	11 111	Colonel M. Lloyd	138	10 128
Colonel Fitzgerald	149	36 113	Mr. G. H. Logan	144	11 133
Mr. T. A. Rees	122	7 115			

Three competitors retired.

The professional is William Newbock. He was selected out of several applicants, and is giving general satisfaction. He thinks the course a very sporting one, though only nine holes. It is in first-rate condition from December 1st to March 30th, as the grass is then short. Frost does not cause much trouble to players here, and snow rarely lies on the ground for more than a few hours. There are now 58 members in the club.

THE COUNTY CLUB, PORTRUSH.

NEW YEAR'S MEETING.

Save in the matter of weather, the New Year's meeting of the County Golf Club, held on Friday and Saturday last, was a highly successful one. The strong blasts from the Atlantic, often culminating in wild squalls of rain, greatly interfered with the play, and rendered good scoring impossible. There was a large attendance of players, representing all the Golf clubs in Ireland. Friday's match was in heats and by holes under handicap, and the premier prize, with a memento prize added, was the M'Calmont challenge cup, now first played for, while a second prize was awarded to the runner-up, the competition being open to members of the County Club. At 9.30 twenty-four players started from the first tee, and a similar number from the tenth tee, the heats being over nine holes of the course. Some of the best players dropped out in the third and fourth heats, and as the event progressed the interest began to gather round the fortunes of Messrs. N. J. Gilroy, A. D. Gaussen, G. M. Shaw, and John Woodside. The first-named, who had not hitherto evinced the family talent for Golf, played a very creditable and steady game, but, like Mr. Gaussen, was put out in the semi-final. The decisive struggle then lay between Mr. John Woodside and Mr. G. M. Shaw (Belfast), who, giving four strokes, beat his youthful rival, a resourceful and rising player, by 3 holes up and 1 to play. The following are the heats, the figures denoting the handicap:—

First Heat.—Mr. Norman J. Gilroy (8) beat Mr. John Black (8); Mr. J. S. G. Usher (6) beat Mr. F. Koeller (9); Mr. W. H. Webb (4) beat Mr. J. H. S. Russell (5); Mr. C. J. Webb (9) beat Mr. John Patrick (9); Mr. A. J. Patrick (10) beat Mr. J. R. Eccles (11); Mr. Thomas Dickson (3) beat Professor M'Master (9); Mr. J. Wood (3) beat Dr. W. D. Moore (4); Mr. Thomas Gilroy (scratch) beat Mr. G. V. Craig (10); Captain M'Calmont (9) beat Mr. T. M'Keown (11); Mr. C. J. Johnstone (10), bye; Mr. John Woodside (7) beat Mr. W. Wilson (9); Mr. J. S. Alexander (6) beat Mr. James Stewart (10); Mr. W. Anketell (11) beat Mr. S. Wilson (9); Captain Ross (5), bye; Major Ormsby (8) beat Mr. J. S. Exham (9); Mr. A. D. Gaussen (6) beat Mr. Hugh Adair (5); Colonel Knox (10) beat Mr. J. M. Davies (8); Mr. R. Woodside (9) beat Mr. J. Patrick, jun. (8); Mr. G. M. Shaw (3) beat Mr. J. Massey (10); Mr. H. J. Daly (10) beat Mr. Thomas Stewart (10); Mr. R. R. Gilroy (4) beat Mr. James Dickson (9); Mr. J. M'Keown (5) beat Mr. Adam Duffin (8).

Second Heat.—Mr. N. J. Gilroy beat Mr. J. S. G. Usher; Mr. W. H. Webb beat Mr. C. J. Webb; Mr. Thomas Dickson beat Mr. A. J. Patrick; Mr. J. Wood, bye; Mr. T. Gilroy beat Captain M'Calmont; Mr. John Woodside beat Mr. C. J. Johnstone; Mr. J. S. Alexander beat Mr. Wm. Anketell; Captain Ross, bye; Mr. A. D. Gaussen beat Major Ormsby; Mr. R. Woodside beat Colonel Knox; Mr. G. M. Shaw beat Mr. H. J. Daly; Mr. R. R. Gilroy beat Mr. J. M'Keown.

Third Heat.—Mr. N. J. Gilroy beat Mr. W. H. Webb; Mr. T. Dickson beat Mr. J. Wood; Mr. John Woodside beat Mr. T. Gilroy; Captain Ross beat Mr. J. S. Alexander; Mr. A. D. Gaussen beat Mr. R. Woodside; Mr. G. M. Shaw beat Mr. R. R. Gilroy.

Fourth Heat.—Mr. N. J. Gilroy beat Mr. T. Dickson; Mr. John Woodside, bye; Mr. A. D. Gaussen beat Captain Ross; Mr. G. M. Shaw, bye.

Semi-Final.—Mr. John Woodside beat Mr. N. J. Gilroy; Mr. G. M. Shaw beat Mr. A. D. Gaussen.

Final.—Mr. G. M. Shaw beat Mr. John Woodside.

Saturday's competition was by strokes under handicap, twice round the course, and open to members of all recognised Golf clubs. This was the first occasion on which thirty-six holes were played over, and this extended play was adopted in order to test the endurance and steadiness of those competing. The first prize, a handsome gold cross, given by the captain of the club (Mr. Mann), was won by Mr. John Woodside, who again came to the front, and is rapidly approaching the category of scratch players. Mr. R. R. Gilroy and Mr. G. V. Craig (Derry) tied for second place, the former with a remarkably fine score, and a day will be fixed for playing off the tie. There were sixty entries, and the scores returned under two hundred were as follow:—

Gross.	Hcp.	Net.	Gross.	Hcp.	Net.		
Mr. John Woodside	187	28	159	Mr. J. M'Keown	213	28	185
Mr. R. R. Gilroy	180	20	160	Captain Ross	211	26	185
Mr. G. V. Craig	216	56	160	Major Ormsby	232	40	192
Mr. A. D. Gaussen	197	28	169	Mr. H. J. Daly	246	52	194
Mr. James Dickson	220	48	172	Mr. G. C. Green	230	36	194
Mr. W. H. Webb	195	20	175	Mr. Hugh Adair	219	24	195
Mr. E. Maguire	215	40	175	Mr. E. M'Manus	239	44	195
Mr. James Stewart	232	56	176	Mr. John Patrick,			
Mr. J. H. Pigott	198	16	182	jun.	236	40	196
Mr. G. M. Shaw	190	8	182	Mr. R. A. Corry	248	52	196
Mr. T. Gilroy	175	+8	183	Mr. J. S. G. Usher	229	32	197

The new club-house is now in course of erection, at a cost of upwards of £1,200, and on a site commanding an excellent view of the links. The new house, it is expected, will be finished by the 1st of July next, after which date the present club-house will be set apart for the use of the members of the ladies' and juvenile branch of the club. The annual subscription to this branch, which has been recently formed, is fixed at 10s. 6d., with an entrance-fee, when the membership reaches fifty, of 10s. 6d., but an exception is made in the case of wives, daughters, sisters, and sons (the latter under fourteen years of age) of the gentlemen of the club, who will continue to be admitted without entrance-fee. The number of annual subscribers is now about fifty. Simultaneously with these changes, the monthly subscription for ladies and juveniles has been raised to 7s. 6d., but wives, daughters, sisters, and sons (the latter under fourteen years) of members of the club will be charged, as heretofore, 2s. 6d.

WEST LANCASHIRE GOLF CLUB.

The annual New Year's Day meeting was held on the links at Hall Road, on Friday, when two club handicap prizes were competed for. Overhead the weather was all that could be wished for, but the ground was very heavy, and in many places was covered by water. Mr. L. D. Stoddart and Mr. J. E. Pearson tied for the prizes and the 1st and 2nd sweepstakes, and Mr. G. R. Cox, jun., won the third sweepstakes.

The following were the scores returned of less than 100 net:—

Gross.	Hcp.	Net.	Gross.	Hcp.	Net.		
Mr. L. D. Stoddart	88	1	87	Mr. R. Goold	99	4	95
Mr. J. E. Pearson	95	8	87	Dr. T. B. Grimdale	97	1	96
Mr. G. R. Cox, jun.	90	2	88	Mr. H. K. Layborn	115	18	97
Mr. Frank Harrison	104	15	89	Mr. Thos. B. Sampson	127	30	97
Dr. Hewer	94	4	90	Mr. J. Fairclough	101	2	97
Mr. A. G. Rankine	97	7	90	Mr. F. E. M. Dixon	102	3	99
Mr. W. R. Gardner	112	20	92	Mr. G. Segar	126	27	99
Mr. W. Staveley Taylor	99	5	94				

An unusually large number of players failed to return their cards.

GLASGOW CLUB.—The monthly medal competition of this club took place on Saturday last, under very unfavourable conditions. The winners were:—

Club medal:—

Gross.	Hcp.	Net.	Gross.	Hcp.	Net.		
Mr. David Bone	80	scr.	80	Mr. W. Mitchell	87	4	83
Mr. J. W. J. Watt	88	5	83				

Wilson's medal:—

Gross.	Hcp.	Net.	Gross.	Hcp.	Net.		
Mr. W. A. Thompson	89	9	80	Mr. J. Brown	88	7	81
Mr. A. M. M'Donald	86	5	81	Mr. W. H. Campbell	92	11	81

Scott medal:—

Gross.	Hcp.	Net.	Gross.	Hcp.	Net.		
Mr. Archibald Millar	96	18	78	Mr. William Smith	101	18	83

COMRIE CLUB.—On New Year's Day this club played a very enjoyable match in the forenoon for prizes kindly presented by Mr. Rodgers, Glasgow, along with a sweepstake from the players. Twelve couples turned out, the following being the prize-winners:—Dr. Temple, scratch, 103; Mr. W. Drummond, 120, less 15; Mr. D. Christie, 118, less 12; Mr. Henry Campbell, 112, less 3; Mr. P. Brough, 129, less 12; Mr. D. Hamilton, 121, less 9; Mr. W. Dallas, 118, less 5; Mr. Dun. Comrie, 125, less 12; Mr. J. M'Nab, 126, less 12. In the afternoon competition the prizes were kindly presented by Mr. D. Ferguson and Messrs. Dallas, Stark and Stewart, Glasgow, &c., with the following result (handicaps as in forenoon), viz.:—Messrs. D. Christie and P. Brough, 99, equal; Dr. Temple and Dun. Comrie, 100, equal; Mr. C. Robertson, 113, less 9; Mr. John Graham, 125, less 20; Messrs. Henry Campbell and P. M'Intyre, 108, equal.

NAIRN.—The course here had been well patronised during the holidays, the presence of Hugh Kirkaldy, who has been playing over the green for the past fortnight, giving a stimulus to the local players. On Friday a foursome was played by Mr. Hollams and Master Clive Laurence, London, against Mr. A. T. Laurence and Kirkaldy, the former winning by 3 holes. In the afternoon, Mr. Hollams and Dalgleish, the local professional, beat Mr. Laurence and Kirkaldy by 2 holes. On Saturday, Master William Finlay and Dalgleish beat Mr. Hollams and Kirkaldy by 1 hole; and in the afternoon, Master Clive Laurence and Kirkaldy halved a match with Mr. Laurence and Dalgleish.

THISTLE CLUB, LEVEN.—This club held a competition on New Year's Day for prizes, when twenty-three members took part. Mr. D. Chalmers came in first at 95, less 12=83; second prize, Mr. John Smith, 94, less 10=84; third prize, Mr. D. Forster, 97, less 8=89. Next best scores:—Mr. R. Elder, 100, less 10=90; Mr. D. Greenhill, 100, less 10=90; Mr. Wm. Marshall, scratch, 90.

BRIDGE OF WEIR.—RANFURLY CASTLE CLUB.—Friday being New Year's Day and a general holiday, the links of this club were crowded with members and visitors. The weather was excellent for golfing, being dry and bracing, and the sun shone brightly all day. The links were in splendid condition, and a large number of interesting and exciting foursomes were played. The following are a few of the results of the principal matches played:—Willie Campbell, the professional golfer, and Mr. R. B. Mitchell played against Mr. John Thompson and Dr. Mudie, and after a most exciting contest the former couple came off victors on an eighteen-hole match by 5 holes up. Messrs. Thomas Carruthers, jun., and John Brown engaged in a match with Messrs. David Adams and Alexander White, and beat the latter couple by 3 holes up and 2 to play, also on an eighteen-hole round. On Saturday the members of this club competed in very boisterous weather for the monthly gold medal. Considerable interest was taken in the contest this month for the medal, as it is of a special costly design. Consequently the entries were numerous. Undernoted are the best scores made, which, considering the gale of wind blowing mostly all day, are considered good:—Winner of medal, Dr. Sandeman, 99, less 10=89; 2nd, Mr. R. B. Brownlie, jun., 103, less 8=95; 3rd, Mr. D. K. McLeish, 126, less 30=96. During the afternoon Willie Campbell engaged in a contest with Dr. Mudie and Mr. R. B. Mitchell for the best of balls on an eighteen-hole round. Campbell did a round of nine holes in 40, and ultimately beat his opponents by 2 holes up. To-morrow (Saturday) the monthly gold medal contest takes place. This month's medal competition will be a special one, it being the first of the year.

ALBAN CLUB.—This club had its usual outing at Gullane on New Year's Day. Nine couples competed for prizes, given principally by members of the club. The first place was taken by Mr. W. D. Stewart, his net score being 88. The other prizes were won by Baillie Macpherson, Messrs. S. Walker, A. Hamilton, jun., L. Macpherson, C. A. Macpherson, and Councillor Mackenzie.

EDINBURGH ST. ANDREW GOLF CLUB.—A prize presented by Mrs. Strachan, to which a sweepstake was added, was played for over Musselburgh Links on New Year's Day. A most enjoyable day was spent, and it was found that Mr. William Stirling had won Mrs. Strachan's prize. Messrs. Bain, Auchterlonie, R. Knowles, sen., J. Knowles, and W. A. Miller also won prizes.

EAST OF FIFE CLUB.—The New Year's competition of this club took place on Friday, for prizes subscribed in the district. The prizes, as usual, consisted of useful articles and money prizes, ranging from 17s. to 2s. The weather was good, and the course in fairish condition, and the prizes were well competed for. The following was the result:—1, Mr. R. Williamson; 2, Mr. A. Rodger; 3, Mr. D. Lawrie; 4, Mr. William Smith, jun.; 5, Mr. W. Deuchast; 6, Mr. J. Lumsden; 7, Mr. J. Clauncher; 8, Mr. A. Tod; 9, Mr. G. Williamson; 10, Mr. W. Brown; 11, Mr. William Smith, sen.; 12, Mr. A. Welch; 13, Mr. John Whyte; 14, Mr. J. Law; 15, Mr. J. N. Young; 16, Mr. R. Dewar; and 17, Mr. William Lumsden. The monthly competition for the silver medal of this club was held on Saturday afternoon. The weather, although fine, was cold, and few competitors turned up. Mr. George Williamson, Pittenweem, became the winner with a scratch score of 79.

CUMBRAE CLUB.—The half-yearly competition for the "Smart" medal took place on Saturday afternoon. The weather was blowing almost half a gale, which interfered a good deal with the scoring, making the play very uncertain. The ground was in very fair condition considering the wet weather. A number of spectators witnessed the game, which at times was very exciting, especially when clearing the Redan. The following are the principal scores:—Messrs. William Macfarlane (winner), 95, less 4=91; Angus Henderson, 110, less 18=92; William Ross, 117, less 18=99; J. L. Davidson, 108, less 4=104; D. C. Sharpe, 111, less 4=107; Joseph McCreddie, 128, less 18=110; H. W. Davidson, 117, less 4=113; John Cunningham, 138, less 18=120; John Allan, 147, less 18=129.

BURNTISLAND.—The monthly competition for Miss Kirke's medal took place over the High Bents course on Saturday. There was a fair muster of competitors, but the scoring was so greatly above the average, owing to a gale of wind, that several of the members did not hand in their register. The best scores were by Mr. H. Kinsman (92) and Mr. R. Dover (94).

TOM MORRIS, FORGAN, PATRICK, WILLIE PARK, and PAXTON'S Clubs, Irons, &c.; FAR AND SURE, A1, SILVERTOWN.

N.B.—Eclipse and Thornton's Balls, Caddie Bags, Dumb Caddies, Travelling Cases, Hole Cutters, Tins, &c., always in stock.

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This Club has been established in the interests of Golf for the association of gentlemen who are already members of Golf Clubs, and who alone are eligible for election. The Committee consists entirely of Captains and members of Committee of eighty representative Golf Clubs of the United Kingdom.

The Club is distinct and representative, and will afford through its medium a point of agreeable reunion, and the advantage of a most convenient centre for meeting in town, easy of access to all parts, and to the principal railway stations.

A considerable and distinct portion of the building of Whitehall Court, with separate entrance, has been reserved for the requirements of the Club; and affords excellent reading, dining, private dining, supper, smoking, writing, card, and billiard rooms, conservatory, &c., as well as a spacious banquetting hall for the holding of the special periodical dinners of the various Golfing Institutions; and for the convenience of members a large number of bedrooms within the Club have been provided.

The premises are fitted with electric light, telephone and tape machines, and will be ready for the reception of members on February 1st.

The coffee and dining rooms will be provided with a first-class French cuisine. Four hundred original members will be admitted at an annual subscription of five guineas.

Applications for membership and all communications to be addressed,
THE SECRETARY,
(Temporary Offices) Hyde Park Court, Albert Gate, London, S.W.

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GOOD Club and Ball Maker wanted for six months; travelling expenses paid; highest wages given.—Apply, with testimonials, to Mr. W. DUNN, Golf Club, Biarritz, France.

TO LET, Furnished, for two or three months from February 1st, Walton House, Eastry—2¼ miles from Sandwich. Contains four sitting and eight bedrooms, gardens, stabling, two tennis courts.—Apply, "R." c/o Messrs. W. DAWSON & SONS, 121, Cannon Street, E.C.

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(SEASON 1891-92.)

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It is proposed to hold on these Links

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A Grand

GOLF AMATEUR TOURNAMENT,

Open to Members of all Golf Clubs.

SCRATCH PRIZE:

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HANDICAP PRIZES:

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Golfers intending competing are requested to make their entries as early as possible.

ENTRIES CLOSE ON SATURDAY, JANUARY 23RD, and Competitors are requested to forward their Handicaps through the Secretary of the Club to which they belong.

Should the number of entries not justify the holding of this tournament, a notice to that effect will be inserted in GOLF, January 29th.

Pau may be reached by the following routes:—

London to Paris, Paris to Pau, *via* Chemin de Fer d'Orleans.

London to Pau, *via* Bordeaux, General Steam Navigation Company, Fridays.

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