

"Far and Sure."

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FRIDAY, DECEMBER 20TH, 1895.

Price Twopence. 10s. 6d. per Annum, Post Free.



DECEMBER. 1895. Dec. 20.—Littlehampton: Captain's Cup. Dec. 20.—Littlenampton: Captain's Cup.

Dec. 21.—Willesden: Long Handicap.

Northwood: "Bogey" Competition.

Littlehampton: Medal and Sweepstakes.

Ravenscliffe: Monthly Medal.

Mid-Surrey: Monthly Medals (Senior and Junior).

North Manchester: Captain's Cup.

Wakefield: Monthly Medal.

Revel Workington and Newworkster, Monthly Medal. Royal Worlington and Newmarket.: Monthly Medal. Formby: Monthly Optional Subscription Prize (Final).
Birkdale: Mr. R. Jones's Prize.
Fleetwood: Monthly Medal.
Rochester: Monthly Medal.
West Middlesex: Monthly Medal.
King's Norton: Captain's Prize.
North-West Club (Londonderry): Ladies' Monthly Medal.
Fast Finchley: Monthly Medal. North-West Clib (Londonderry): Ladies I East Finchley: Monthly Medal. Disley: Winter Silver Medal. Wimbledon Ladies: Monthly Medal. East Finchley: Monthly Medal. Minchinhampton: "Bogey" Competition. Rochester Ladies: Monthly Medal.

Rochester Ladies: Monthly Medal.
Harrogate: Monthly Medal.
Lansdown: "Bogey" Competition and Monthly Medal.
Southwold: Monthly Bronze Medal.
Fairfield (Manchester): Mr. Court's Prize.
Wanstead Park: Quarterly Medal.
Seaford: Competition for Monthly Medal Winners.
Tonbridge: Monthly Medal.
Northwood: Monthly "Bogey" Competition.
Eltham: Monthly Medal (Score).
Balham: Captain's Cup.

Dec. 22.—Burnham (Somerset): "Bogey" Competition.
Dec. 23 to 28.—Royal Norwich: Christmas Meeting.
Dec. 24.—Cumbrae: Club Prize and Sweepstake.
Dec. 25 & 26.—East Finchley: Christmas Competition.

Dec. 25 & 26.—Ilkley: Christmas Cup. Dec. 25 & 26.—Balham: Sweepstakes.

Dec. 25, 26, 27 & 28.—Littlestone: Christmas Meeting.
Dec. 26.—Finchley: "Bogey" Competition and Optional Sweepstake.
Royal Epping Forest: "Bogey" Competition.
Cheadle: Christmas Competition.
Trafford: Christmas Club Prize.
Manchester: Christmas Club Prize. Manchester: Christmas Club Prizes.

Manchester: Christmas Club Prizes,
Morecambe and Heysham: Mayor of Lancaster's Prize,
Minchinhampton: "Bogey" Competition.
Southend-on-Sea New: Captain's Prize.
North Manchester: "Bogey" Competitions,
Fairhaven: Mr. R. Walmsley's Prize.
Royal Cromer: Club Monthly Medal.
Woodford: Club Handicap.
Royal Ashdown Forest: Christmas Meeting.
Birkdale: Mr. R. Jones's Prize.
West Middlesex: "Bogey" Competition; The Peal Silver
Challenge Putter.

Challenge Putter.

Muswell Hill: "Bogey" Medal,
Southport: Christmas Prize. Southport: Christmas Prize.

Bentley Green: Monthly Medal.
Romford: "Bogey" Competition.
Warminster: Monthly Medal.
Sapperton Park: "Bogey" Competition.
Minchinhampton: "Bogey" Competition.
Rochester Ladies: Competition.
Leasowe: Boxing Day Sweepstakes.
Wellingborough: Monthly Medal.
Royal Guernsey: Monthly Medal.
Enfield: Winter Meeting.
Southwold: Handicap (Medal).
Lytham and St. Anne's: Boxing Day Competition.

Dec. 26, 27 & 28.—Littlehampton: Special Open Christmas Meeting.
Dec. 27.—Ventnor: Henderson Prize.

Dec. 26, 27 & 28.—Littlehampton: Special Open Christmas Meeting.
Dec. 27.—Ventnor: Henderson Prize.
Woodbridge: President's Prize (Final).
Dec. 27 & 28.—Royal Eastbourne: Winter Meeting.
Dec. 28.—Royal Epping Forest: Gordon Cup; Captain's Prize;
Monthly Medal.
Cheadle: Monthly Medal.
Buxton and High Peak: Monthly Medal.
Scarborough: Ladies' "Bogey" Competition.
Royal West Norfolk: Monthly Medal.
Ealing: Monthly Medal. Royal West Norfolk: Monthly Medal.
Ealing: Monthly Medal.
Royal Ashdown Forest: Monthly Medal.
Birkdale: R. Jones's Prize (Final).
Marple: Club Medal and Captain's Prize.
Kemp Town: Monthly Medal.
Sidcup: Monthly Medal.

Sidcup: Monthly Medal.
Dumfries and Galloway: Monthly Medal.
Chislehurst: Monthly Medal.
Huddersfield: Monthly Medal.
Royal Wimbledon: Monthly Medal.
Royal North Devon: Monthly Medal.
Ventnor: Waltham Cup (Final).
Taplow: Monthly Medal.
Ilkley: Monthly Medal.
Woodbridge Ladies: President's Prize (Final).

PROFESSIONAL MATCHES.

TAYLOR v. BRAID, AT WEST DRAYTON.

(From our Special Correspondent.)

One of the most interesting and closely contested thirty-six-hole matches seen near London for many years, was that which was played on Saturday over the green of the West Drayton Golf Club, between J. H. Taylor, the Open Champion, and James Braid, formerly of Elie, Fifeshire, and now engaged as a club-maker at the Army and Navy Stores. Taylor is nearly as well known among golfers all over the country as Mr. Balfour is in public and political life; and, therefore, of his reputaion and playing form there is no need again to re-tell the story which has so often been chronicled in these pages. Suffice it to say, that on Saturday he played a sound, consistent, and at times a brilliant game, characterised by dash, and fine accuracy of judgment in approach. Braid, a cousin of Rolland, is not so well known as his formidable opponent; but those who have seen him play in matches from time to time, or who, like the writer, have had the difficult task of playing against him, knew hat he had the best of games in him, and that he only needed practice and opportunity to show the stuff of which he is compactly compounded. That opportunity came on Saturday, and the result of halving the match with Taylor, amply proves that those who appreciated Braid's form, were not wide of the mark in setting high value upon his play. drives a remarkably long ball off the tee, with all the dash and vigour of Rolland. His approach play is also remarkably good, and there is nothing to cavil at in his putting with the cleek. On Saturday he invariably got from 10, 15, to 20 yards the better ball off the tee than the Champion, but notwithstanding this pull in On Saturday he making his opponent play the odd so frequently, Taylor, with fine imperturbability and nerve, looked upon it as a matter of course, and generally squared the disadvantage, and often reversed the position when the hole-side was reached. Braid only needs plenty of play and a few more matches like that of Saturday to bring him to the front rank of present-day players, for he has the confidence, the nerve, and the physique of a grand player.

The West Drayton club are to be congratulated on having arranged

The West Drayton club are to be congratulated on having arranged such a fine exhibition of Golf. Several hundreds of spectators, many of whom were ladies, turned out to see the game. The course is quite close to the station, and is within easy access of the West End of London owing to the good and frequent service of trains. The membership is getting on for 200, but as most metropolitan clubs are full, golters in search of a course which is near and full of interesting play ought to make a note of these links, while the subscription and the entrance fee are low. The weather on Saturday was fine, though the frost of the preceding night had rendered the putting greens a trifle sticky and greasy. The players suffered a little from the mud on the ball when holing out, resulting from a lofted approach shot; but certainly Thomson, the professional, who hails from East Lothian, could not have lad the course generally in better trim. Everyone was pleased with its condition. Until Saturday Thomson held the record of the green at 72, but in the last round Braid went one better than this by holing out in 71. Mr. J. Gairdner, of the Richmond Club,

Braid led off with a long shot, slightly pulled, which just failed to carry the brook, and dropped in. Taylor was short of the brook, and in the odd he got his second a trifle heavy which lay short of the green. Braid had to lift and drop, but his recovery was a good one, and as Taylor played the like too strong, getting out of holing distance, the hole was indifferently halved in 5. Both had fine tee shots at the next hole, Taylor in the odd lying dead. Braid was too strong in the like and failed to hole in the odd, allowing Taylor to assume the lead in a perfect 3. Playing the third hole Braid was too short in the odd, strong with his next, and failed to hole in his fourth, leaving Taylor, who was dead in 3, an easy chance to hole, of which he took prompt advantage, and stood 2 up. The fourth hole was a well-played half in 4, and then Braid, after hitting a beauty off the tee, holed a 15-foot putt in grand style amid applause, though Taylor just

acted as umpire.

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missed the hole in the like. Taylor I up. Going to the sixth hole Taylor was a trifle short in his approach, and again just lipped the hole for a 3. Braid lay dead off a fine approach shot and holed out in the next, squaring the match. Going to the railway Braid landed beyond the hole, while Taylor did not give the enclosure room enough and went over, necessitating a lift and drop. His next shot was dead, but Braid, with plenty of cut on his approach, played boldly at the hole, and got down in 2, making him I up. At the hole across the railway Taylor sliced his drive a little, and his second with the brassie was taken a little thick, failing thereby to carry the brook. Braid, on the other hand, got well over on to the green with his cleek in 2. Though Taylor made a fine recovery, after lifting out of the brook and dropping, by laying his ball two club-lengths from the hole, the leeway was too great to make up, and Braid secured another hole. The end hole out was a well-played half, and then came a piece of sensational play out was a well-played half, and then came a piece of sensational play at the tenth. Braid's ball lay to the right off the tee, while Taylor's was straight on the line. Braid with his cleek played a high-lofted shot right on to the flag. The ball fell dead, this shot being greeted with a round of applause. Taylor, in no way disconcerted, showed the crowd that he could better even that fine approach shot. With his iron the Champion played exactly the same shot, and placed his ball nearer the hole, a performance which was warmly applauded. Braid had to play the odd, and very nearly holed, but Taylor, playing a bold shot for the hole two club-lengths away, holed out and reduced Braid's lead to one. At the eleventh hole Taylor almost stimied his tee shot with a clump of trees between him and the hole, and slicing with his brassie, he got among heavy ground to the right, while his third was brought up dead near the green. Braid got well up on the green in 2, and was practically dead in the like, while Taylor, failing to hole in two more, was again 2 down. Braid, by going too much to the right off the next tee, very nearly landed in the railmuch to the right off the next tee, very nearly landed in the rall-way, while Taylor, warming to his work, hit a beauty on to the green. Out of a heavy, awkward lie Braid had to play a strong shot, which ran a long way past the hole; he was too strong in the next, and failed to get in in the fourth, finally losing the hole. Braid I up. The thirteenth was a fine half in 3, and at the fourteenth Taylor was prevented from squaring the match by a piece of mud on the ball, which deflected it just as it was a state lie. At the foreign the Taylor played will so of the hydreg while on the lip. At the fifteenth Taylor played wi le of the hurdles, while Braid, rather injudiciously, got close up to them. He had to play the ball to the side, away from the hole, and Tayl r was enabled, after seeing his opponent play the 2 more, to square the match. The next was an uneventful half, but at the seventeenth, Taylor, with a beautiful approach, got down in 3, Braid this time missing an easy half, owing to the mud on the ball. The end hole was well played by both men, Braid being hardly treated for a half at the hole-side. The first half of the match thus ended in Taylor being 2 up. The scores were :-

In the afternoon the gathering of spectators was considerably augmented, and they were treated to a brilliant exhibition in all departments of the game, notably by Braid. Nothing of importance took place until the third hole was reached. Braid had holed a fairly long putt, whereat there was some applause. Taylor had a fairly easy putt for a half, which he just missed, in all probability due more to the mud on the ball than to his defective play. Thereupon some ore in the crowd, with conspicuous bad taste—we should hope that he was not a golfer -loudly applauded the incident of Taylor having missed his putt, a piece of gratuitous impertinence which Taylor very energetically and very justly resented. The incident, however, evidently irritated the Champion during the next three holes and sensibly affected his game. He lost the next hole also, and allowed Braid to square the match, mainly through slicing his tee shot among the rough ground. The next was well halved, but Taylor again assumed the lead at the sixth hole through Braid putting himself out of holing distance. Taylor got on the green at the seventh, Braid lying beyond. The last named was short in his approach, while Taylor, dead in 2, added his two holes of the morning to his credit. The eighth hole was notable for fine putting on both sides. Braid holed from the edge of the green, a shot to which Taylor responded amid applause, and the hole was halved. By means of a very fine approach which lay six inches from the hole, Braid picked one hole off the Champion's lead, squaring the match once more at the eleventh where Taylor foozled his second with the brassie and got into the brook. At the twelfth hole Braid foozled an easy putt at the hole-side, and gave Taylor a stimy. But the Champion holed beautifully and stood again 1 up. Braid captured the hole at the fourteenth, and Taylor re-asserted his lead of 1 at the fifteenth, while at the next he had a chance to get dormy, but failed by lipping the hole The excitement had risen perceptibly in the course of the last few holes, which was intensified by the play of the seventeenth hole. Braid drove a low ball, which carried level with the flag, slightly

off the green, Taylor being twenty yards short. The Champion's odd was short, and here Braid had a fine chance to again square the match. But his ball was caught up suddenly in a rough fall on the edge of the green, and therefore no advantage was secured to him by his fine tee shot. The result was a halved hole, with Taylor dormy. The last hole looked as if it would be an easy half for Taylor, but Braid, by a long putt in playing the like, won the hole, and halved the match amid hearty cheers. Both players were warmly congratulated on their plucky, tough fight. The scores were:—

After the match was over an adjournment was made to the cosy smoking-room of the club. Here Mr. Ernest Humbert, a member of the committee, and one of the founders of the club, presented the players with the purse of twelve guineas which had been subscribed. In a few graceful sentences Mr. Humbert expressed to both players the pleasure the match had given to members and friends, and how much they appreciated the fine exhibition of Golf. Taylor, in returning thanks, made a charming little speech, which impressed every one who heard it with the fine, generous instincts of the man. He and Braid, said the Champion, returned their sincere thanks for the kind way in which the members and others had followed the varying fortunes of the game. He could honestly assert that he had never played a better game in his life than he had done against Braid; and, although he knew that Braid was a good player, he acknowledged that the form shown by his opponent that day was a revelation to him. In the circumstances, he was pleased to think that the match had been divided.

J. THOMSON V. T. YEOMAN AT HONOR OAK. (From our Special Correspondent.)

The Honor Oak and Forest Hill Golf Club, one of the youngest in the Metropolis, is showing hopeful signs of a vigorous vitality. the view of giving a stimulus to the club, a professional match was arranged by the committee between J. Thomson, the green-keeper at Balham, and T. Yeoman, who has charge of the Honor Oak course. match, which was one of thirty-six holes (four rounds), came off on Saturday last, in presence of a good muster of members of the club and visitors, Thomson is one of the most promising young golfers in the South, and he showed what he could do on his own green about a month ago when pitted against an experienced match player like Ben Sayers, of North Berwick. Though defeated on that occasion by 5 up on thirtysix holes, he was not disgraced, and Ben Sayers was the first to express his admiration for the plucky stand made by his youthful opponent. Thomson was not quite up to his usual form on Saturday, but he proved more than a match for Yeoman, who was easily beaten on his own more than a match for Yeoman, who was easily beaten on his own green. The Honor Oak professional will require a good deal more practice before he can hope to compete successfully against Thomson; but he has a good style, and, with youth on on his side, he may, by-and-by, develop into a first-rate player. He seemed to be suffering from excessive nervousness, which, to a large extent, accounted for the poor appearance he made. He foozled a good many of his drives, occasionally exhibited great lack of judgment in the short game, and on the green missed some easy putts. He took 46 to the first nine holes, against 41 by Thomson who was found that turn. In the second round the Balbara son, who was 5 up at the turn. In the second round the Balham professional increased his lead to 8. He had the first five holes in 4 each, but he spoilt his card by taking 7 to the sixth hole and 6 to the seventh, his score for the nine holes, being 42 against 44 by Yeoman. In the third round Yeoman showed an improvement at the start. He won the first two holes, and halved the third; but at the ninth, Thomson had increased his lead by one, his score being 42, and Yeoman's 44. At the beginning of the last round, Thomson stood dormy 9, and, halving the first hole in 4, he was the winner of the match by 9 up and 8 to play. The next four holes in the bye were halved. Both players came to grief at the sixth hole. The green is guarded by a fence, a ditch, and a belt of trees. First Thomson, and then Yeoman, drove into the fence, and both were very severely punished. Veoman played four shots, hitting the fence each time, until the thing became quite monotonous, and failing to get over the obstruction, he at last gave up the hole in disgust. Thomson, who did not fare much better, followed his opponent's bad example by hitting the fence twice in succession, and ultimately picked up his ball without holing out. This exhibition afforded considerable amusement to the "gallery," and one jocular member was overheard to remark that he thought he could do as well himself. The seventh

hole was not very much better, being halved in 6. The next was won by Veoman in 4, and the last fell to Thomson in the same number—Yeoman missing his drive, and taking 7 to the hole. Thomson was thus 1 up on the bye, and 10 up on the thirty-six holes. His score for the last nine holes was 44, and Yeoman's, 48. The total scores for the thirty-six holes (making a fair allowance for the one not played out) were:—Thomson, 169; Yeoman, 182.

The course is at present in a rough state, and will require the expenditure of a considerable sum before it can be said to satisfy the aspirations of even the average golfer. It is pleasantly situated, within three minutes' walk of the London and Brighton Station, and five minutes from the London, Chatham, and Dover Station. The ground being on a slope is naturally drained and fairly dry even at this time of the year. At least two of the holes are of a distinctly sporting character. The drive from the eighth tee is over a belt of trees, with rough, broken ground beyond. But the last hole is the most difficult in the round, the drive taking in a steep hill, the intervening ground being very rugged. A topped ball is certain to be severely punished, but a good, clean drive will land you on the green. All of the hazards, so far, are natural, consisting of trees, wooden fences, ditches, broken ground, and a pond at the fourth hole. It is intended to extend the course to eighteen holes next spring, there being plenty of ground available for the purpose; and a separate course for the ladies will be formed. The present membership of the club is 165, forty of the number being ladies. A considerable proportion of the members are Scotsmen, not a few St. Andrews men among them. Mr. John Penn, M.P., is president of the club; the captain for the year is Mr. John Hunt; and the secretary Mr. Wm. Wingate. Commodious premises, situated midway between the two railway stations, have been rented as a club-house.

THE RETORT COURTEOUS.

Two golfers with handicaps not quite at "scratch," At the Mid-Surrey Golf Club were playing a match; The holes were "all square"-that is funny, you say-And yet so they were, I assure you, that day, When they came to the tee that is faced by the pond, Where a good drive's required to carry beyond. Now the face of the first player joyfully shone, For he'd lately been what golfers call "coming on;" And blithely he cried, with his ball on the tee, "This pond has now lost all its terrors for me." But at Golf such temerity sometimes is rash, For, after his stroke, came an ominous splash, And he must have wished he those words could recall, As he watched the next player addressing his ball. From a careful clean drive did that little ball soar, Till in safety it fell on the opposite shore; Then that player turned round, and quoth smilingly he, "This pond has now lost all its terrors for me."

FREDERICK URWICK.

Mid-Surrey Golf Club, December 11th.

For those in search of a change, or a quiet holiday with Golf as one of the amusements, the shores of Cardigan Bay appear to be very admirably suited. Not only is there a fine eighteenhole course at Borth, but the air is mild and equable, yet bracing. There are four miles of sandy beach, which is quite safe for children and bathers; there is plenty of boating, fishing, tennis, bowls, archery and shooting, and there are the remains of a primeval forest to be seen for several miles along the shore. Above all, there is a comfortable hotel, where the charges are moderate, in the Cambrian, at Borth.

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EXTENSION OF THE HASTINGS AND ST. LEONARD'S GOLF COURSE.

(From our Special Correspondent.)

The members of the Hastings and St. Leonard's Golf Club are not going to lag behind their brethren in other parts of the county of Sussex in their determination to advance the interests of the Royal and Ancient Game by every means in their power. The club, which was started in a humble way little more than two years ago, has continued to make steady progress, until it is now established on a firm basis, with a membership of 200. The Mayor and Corporation of Hastings, with a public spirit that does them honour, came to the assistance of the committee and granted permission to play over a portion of the common lands situated about a mile and a quarter to the east of the town at an tlevation of 600 feet above the sea-level. A piece of pasture-ground adjoining, having been secured, Tom Dunn's unique experience was called into service in laying out a capital nine-hole course, which for the last two years, has afforded abundant opportunities for enjoying really sporting Golf. A finer situation it would be difficult to find, the links commanding extensive views all round the coast. But the members of the Hastings and St. Leonard's Club were not going to rest for ever satisfied with a short course. Like all true golfers, they resolved to have a full eighteen-hole links if the thing could possibly be accomplished. They cast longing eyes on several acres of fine grass land further east, in the possession of the Rev. W. C. Sayer-Milward, and negotiations, opened with that gentleman about six months ago, resulted in the committee acquiring sufficient ground for an extension of the course. With the assistance of Douglas Rolland, of Rye, they set vigorously to work about two months ago, and have succeeded in arranging nine first-rate holes, which, in conjunction with the original nine, will form, at no distant date, one of the best Golf courses in the South of England. The club is comfortably housed in an elegant pavilion which has recently been erected at a cost of £500. There are separate apartments for the Ladies' Club, which is in a prosperous condition and now numbers about fifty members, most of whom are enthusiastic lovers of the game.

The first of the new holes starts to the east of the club-house, which is situated midway between the old and the new course. About twenty yards from the teeing-ground is a formidable natural hazard in the form of a bank surmounted by a hedge. The latter is being cut down, but the bank will remain to punish the topped ball. The putting green is nicely placed in front of the fence that divides it from the adjoining field, while to the left is a farm building. The distance from the tee to the hole is 318 yards, and the "Bogey" allowance is 4. To the teeing ground of the second hole there is a walk of about a hundred yards, crossing the cart road leading to the farm. This is undoubtedly a drawback, but it could not be avoided owing to the proximity of the farmhouse and buildings. A fine stretch of level ground on the other side of the road gives ample scope for seven good holes. The lies for the most part are excellent, and a series of artificial bunkers have been made. These bunkers, which were planned by Mr. A. C. Young, a member of the club, take the form of a double row of grassy mounds about three feet in height, separated by six feet of loose sand. They are placed about a hundred yards from the tee, and would have had a more natural and picturesque appearance if the outline had been irregular instead of perfectly straight. The second hole skirts the road for a distance of 407 yards, and the "Bogey" score is fixed at 6. The third (110 yards) is a short cleek shot over a thick growth of bushes on to a pretty green. At present it is a very ticklish hole, and a topped ball stands every chance of being lost in the thicket; but it is intended to clear away some of the more luxuriant growth. "Bogey" has been generous in allowing 4 for the hole. The fourth (240 yards) is a difficult hole. There is a hedge a few yards from the tee; the putting green is guarded by a yawning gully used as a cart road, while immediately behind is another hedge ready to entrap a too strongly-played ball. The green is one of the finest and largest we have seen, but the intervening ground is rather rough and swampy, a defect, however, that drainage and tramping will soon remedy. The fifth (180 yards) is bounded on the right by a high hedge, necessitating a straight drive. A good cleek shot will land the ball on another beautiful green, nearly half an acre in extent. The sixth (303 yards), turns back towards the club house, and crosses a hedge, which is to be cut down and replaced by a bunker. The seventh (170 yards) takes a north-easterly direction, crossing the sixth, and the next (343 yards), takes a south-westerly curve. To the teeing ground of the last hole (320 yards), the road is re-crossed, and the player retraces his steps over the first hole of the extended course. The green is well guarded by the bank and hedge already mentioned. The

new ground is in wonderfully good order considering that only two months' labour has been bestowed upon it. A good deal still remains to be done in the way of completing the drainage, levelling the rough ground, and making a few more bunkers, and this work is being carried out with the utmost vigour. Special attention is being devoted to the putting greens, which the committee are determined to make as good as any that are to be found in the South of England. The greater part of the course stands on a sand rock, which affords a dry and firm foundation. Altogether the club may be heartily congratulated on the unequivocal success that has so far attended their labours. No small share of the credit is due to the captain of the club, Dr. B. G. Frith, whose enthusiasm, untiring energy and business capabilities have been of invaluable service to the committee. James Keddie, the club professional, also deserves much praise for the eagerness with which he has thrown himself into the arduous work that has had to be gone through during the past two months. Keddie is not only a hard-working green-keeper, but a painstaking and intelligent coach, in which capacity he is largely employed by members.

The extended course was inaugurated on Wednesday, the 11th inst., by a luncheon in the club-house, and a series of matches between pro-fessionals and amateurs. There was a large muster of members of the club and their friends; while not a few townspeople, who had probably never seen the game played before, attended out of curiosity. The committee were unfortunately not able to secure the presence of Taylor, the Champion, to give an exhibition of his golfing skill, but they did the best they could, and arranged an interesting foursome between J. Keddie and J. Braid (professionals) and Mr. H. S. Colt and Mr. A. C. Young. Mr. Colt stands in the front rank among the younger amateur golfers of the present day. He is an experienced match player, and is one below sreatch at St. Andrews. Mr. Young has not been so much heard of. It is little more than four years since he seriously took to the game at Lossiemouth, and during that short time he has made remarkable progress. He is a scratch man at Seatime he has made remarkable progress. He is a scratch man at Seaford and Bournemouth, where he has distinguished himself on more than one occasion. Mr. Colt and Mr. Young ought to have been a match for Braid and Keddie, but as it turned out, the amateurs got rather a bad beating. Mr. Young played a steady and, at times, a brilliant game, but his partner was a little off his usual form, being especially weak on the green, and missing several short putts. These errors were not altogether atoned for by his splendid driving. Keddie, in the short game, exhibited precision and judgment. His putting, as a rule, was irreproachable; but his driving was occasionally erratic, as a rule, was freptoachable, but his driving was blicing and topping the ball more than once, and driving out of bounds. Braid was in his best form. Both in driving and in playing through the green he never showed to greater advantage. He made several brilliant brassie shots, and only once or twice did he betray a little laxity on the green. The first two holes were halved in 5; the next fell to the amateurs, who got into trouble at the fourth hole, and gave it up. The next five holes were captured by the professionals in a succession of 4's. They were thus leading by 5 when they started on the new course. The first hole was won by The first hole was won by the professionals in 4; but at the next Keddie sliced his drive, and was badly bunkered in the hedge on the other side of the road. It cost them 3 more strokes to get out, and they took 8 to the hole, against 6 by the amateurs. The twelfth was halved in 3; the next was captured by the amateurs in 4, the professionals coming to grief in the hedge beyond the green, and giving up the hole. Braid and Keddie were now 4 up, their lead being increased at the next hole, which was taken in 3. A half at the fifteenth; then the professionals carried off the three last holes, making them 8 up on the eighteen holes.

Braid and Mr. Young were afterwards pitted against Mr. Colt and

Keddie, and this proved an extremely interesting foursome. The first-mentioned couple ran away with the first six holes. Keddie missed his drive at the third, and was bunkered in the face of the hill, taking 3 to get out; while the fifth was lost, through Mr. Colt missing a very short putt. The seventh, eighth, and ninth were carried off by Mr. Colt and Keddie, who thus reduced their opponents' lead to 3 at the

It being now past one o'clock, the play was interrupted, and the company to the number of about a hundred adjourned to the clubhouse, where a sumptuous luncheon was provided. The captain of the club (Dr. Frith) presided, and was supported, among others, by the Mayor of Hastings (Major Weston), Rev. W. C. Sayer-Milward (president of the club), Rev. G. A. Foyster, Rev. Dr. Carr. Captain Oldfield, Dr. Croucher, Messrs. Christopherson, T. Breeds, W. Carless, Andrew Murray, A. L. Sayer, H. C. Willmott, Chas. Searle, J. Upson, F. A. Langham, — Saw, A. J. Brymer, A. R. Inskipp, H. S. Colt, and A. C. Young. The toast of "The Queen" having been duly honoured. duly honoured,

The Mayor proposed "Success to the Hastings and St. Leonard's Golf Club." He remarked that he knew as little about Golf as any Golf Club." He remarked that he knew as little about Golf as any-body in that room. Until it was introduced into Hastings by some of the friends sitting around him, he hardly knew there was such a game. He had occasionally watched the players, and could not possibly understand what they saw in the game. (Laughter.) He had been

told by a friend of his, who hesitated before he commenced to play, that he now found Golf very fascinating, and that it knocked cricket out of time. If it did that, he was bound to say it must be a most interesting game. When the idea of starting a Golf club was first mooted in Hastings he was pressed into the service to assist in getting the application made to the Corporation sanctioned. He thought the Corporation acted wisely in granting the request of the club for permission to play on the ground they now occupied. Although he did not play Golf himself, he believed from what he had seen that it was not only an attraction and a means of recreation to those who lived in towns, but it was an almost absolute necessity that there should be a Golf club in a place like Hastings, where they depended so much on visitors. The success of the Hastings Club was due in large measure to the committee and the president, the Rev. Mr. Sayer-Milward, to whom they owed a debt of gratitude for the interest he had taken in the formation of the club, and for his continued attachment to it. He hoped the club would continue to prosper.

The Rev. W. Sayer-Milward, in responding to the toast, said that, in whatever he had done for the club, he had been actuated by the feeling that they must, in these days, keep well ahead. In Golf, as in everything else, they must keep in the front line. Their club, in extending the course and erecting a new house, showed that they were determined not to let the grass grow under their feet. He proposed the health of their captain, Dr. Frith, who had so kindly and hospitably entertained them that day, and who was continually to be seen on the course working as hard as he could for the benefit of the club.

(Cheers.)

The toast was enthusiastically responded to by the company.

The Captain, in replying, said they could all look back with pleasure on the growth of their club. Three years ago Golf was almost unknown in Hastings. The club was started just over two years ago, and they could contemplate with satisfaction all they had done. started with a sporting nine-hole course—too sporting for many of them. Their handicaps then were 40, but the highest was now 24. They had succeeded in putting up a new club-house, which was greatly admired. About six months ago the committee thought the time had arrived when they should form a full eighteen-hole course. The difficulties in the way were very great, as it was almost impossible to acquire land so close to a growing town like Hastings. The committee were, in fact, bunkered, and would have been bunkered still had it not been for the president, who, as the ground landlord, came to their aid, and enabled them to open their new course that day. But they wanted more resident members. They deserved greater support from the townspeople, who benefitted by the club. If they had a larger membership they could improve their links still further. They had an estimate of £80 for levelling the ground at the first hole, and if they had more money they could carry out further improvements. He urged the importance of members joining the club before January 31st, when they would be admitted as original members at the reduced subscription.

Mr. Andrew Murray (treasurer), in proposing "The Press," coupled with the representative of Golf, stated that the new course had cost about £240. They had received in subscriptions from members about £140, and they wanted about £100 to pay off the deficiency created by the extension of the course.

At the conclusion of the luncheon proceedings the foursome between Braid and Mr. Young and Keddie and Mr. Colt was resumed, the former couple starting on the new course with 3 in their favour-a lead which they soon increased. At the twelfth hole—the shortest in the new round—Mr. Colt had a pretty cleek shot on to the green, and Keddie, with a long putt, holed out in 2. This was the best played-hole of the day. At the end of the round of eighteen holes, Braid and Mr. Young stood 8 up, doing the nine new holes in the remarkably low score of 36, and beating "Bogey" by four strokes. The details were:—5 5 3 3 3 4 3 5 5=36. This was the best performance of the day. Playing another nine holes over the old course in continuation of the same foursome, Braid and Mr. Young won the first hole, which made them 9 up and 8 to play. The feature of the subsequent game was the brilliant manner in which Mr. Young negotiated two stimies at the third and sixth holes, and he was justly rewarded by the applause of the "gallery" for this clever exhibition in a part of the game that demands the greatest precision and nicety. In the bye of seven holes Braid and Mr. Young increased their lead by three, making them 12 up on the twenty-seven holes.

A match of thirty-six holes was played during the day between John Ross, of Seaford, and G. D. Keddie, of Chiswick. These two professionals were pretty-evenly matched, and gave a very creditable exhibition of their powers. Ross had rather the advantage throughout, and was leading most of the way, finishing 5 up and 4 to play. He did the first round in 80-37 out and 43 in; and the second in 81. Keddie's

scores were 83 and 84

The weather was all that could be desired for Golf, and the whole proceedings passed off with the greatest success. We shall always cherish pleasant recollections of an enjoyable day spent on the breezy hights of Hastings, and of the genial hospitality of the captain and committee of the Go.f Club.

HINTS TO BEGINNERS .- VI.

MATCH AND MEDAL PLAY.—THE STIMIE.—CULTIVATE A BOLD GAME.

This paper will conclude my second series of Golf for Beginners, and will be confined to certain remarks on Golf generally. Let us begin with Medal and Match play. It is a fact which cannot well be denied that medal play engrosses far too much not only of the ordinary golfer's time, but also of his thoughts. Not that he cares so particularly to have the medal in his keeping as that he is always counting his strokes and asking his friends in what number they can do the round. No doubt with some the fascination of medal play lies in the chance of winning a sweepstake which is usually to the fore on medal day. Medal play is either monthly or quarterly, but whichever it be, very few of the winners care to take away the medal, which involves the conveying it back to the club before medal day comes round again. The fault I have to find with medal play is its great want of interest. One bad hole, wherever it may occur, and it may occur at the first hole or any other, takes away at once all chance there is of winning; and wherever that comes to pass the remainder of the round is a very dull business, so much so that often players break off and retire from the contest. Neither can it be reckoned as a help to make the game more lively that the presence of a companion on a medal round enables these two to combine medal play with match play, and play a match one against the other as well as keep score for the medal. The two games cannot be so combined with advantage. It is impossible to fix the attention on both. It has only to be tried to prove what a failure it is. In medal play the whole attention must be given to playing stroke after stroke, and hole by hole; and this is totally distinct from match play. If your whole care is fixed upon the one, the interest in the other must go to the wall. How often, too, does a man go on with the game after his interest in it has passed, simply for the sake of helping his partner to complete his round because his chance of the medal is still good? For one who at the half-round is still in the game, five of every half-dozen are completely out of it. Ten or twelve out of fifty or sixty starters alone render up their score.

The advantage of match play is that the interest in the game is maintained from the beginning to the end. When a hole has been lost, there is always the possibility that the next may be won. Where many have been lost, time is still left to retrieve the misfortune. Even when the player finds himself over-matched, and the game is ended with, say, five holes to play, still the interest in the game is maintained, for the bye has to be played, which is as good and as interesting as a new game. Therefore my beginner will be wise, if from his first commencement, he holds at its proper value the scoring game of medal play. It really is the poorest side of Golf. To use a vulgar expression, the game is not worth the candle, i.e., the

trouble and worry of playing it.

If after repeated efforts the player succeeds in doing a round much under what he has done before, and he can boast "I have done the round in so few," there is very little in it. The reply is both so disappointing and yet so just "It will be a long while before you do it again." Of course the only test of real progress in medal play must be the average result of some dozen consecutive rounds. If medals are very desirable things, of which I am not so very certain, there seems to me no reason why they should not be given for match play equally with medal play. Probably the only reason lies in the fact that medal play is completed in one day, while match play requires many weeks before the series of matches are brought

THE FAR AND SURE GOLF BALLS are splendidly seasoned, and are 9s. 6d. per doz. for twelve dozen. Wisden's re-made Balls at Ss. are the best that can be obtained, 21, Cranbourne Street, London, W.C.

to an end. But it seems to me that there is a way in which match play also might be brought to a conclusion in one day. It has not been tried, as far as I know, but still it is not at all unworthy of consideration; neither do I see why it should not make a far more interesting day's sport to the members of a club than a meeting for medal play. My idea is this, every arrangement should be made as for match play, handicaps carefully re-arranged, and partners drawn. Each match will be complete in itself, and all will be played in the round before lunch. The winner will be he who has beaten his partner by the greatest number of holes. If in the result some winners be proved to have tied, the afternoon will afford opportunity for playing the ties off. The weak point in the crude suggestion seems to lie in the fact that after the second round there might still be left some ties. But if the question of match play for day matches were seriously thought of, it is evident that a solution to this, the only difficulty, would easily be found. I could suggest several solutions, but it is not the object of this paper that I should do so. I state so much for what it is worth, and to promote investigation, to see whether something more cannot be done to promote match play, and match play that can be confined to one day's play. To all of us who prefer match play to medal play-and we are the majority of golfers-such a substitute would be welcomed. This would also enable the club to offer prizes from time to time of clubs and balls, drawing fuller meetings on club days, and giving life to the club. This plan would also be open to foursomes, in which all delight. If the proposed union of clubs for counties or districts meets with favour, we shall have much for which to thank the Union, if, by its efforts, matches between club and club become as common for golfers as they are for cricketers.

There is one stroke which my beginner should practise till perfection is attained, because every now and then this stroke becomes a necessity if the hole is to be halved or won. It is simply a stroke of knack and practice, and may be easiest learned on a lawn-to pass one ball over the other, in the case of a stymie. It is by no means difficult; any one can learn it. Besides sometimes enabling a player to save a match by it, my beginner will find that the delicacy of touch required will give him increased power over his lofter in several other uses to which at times it must be put. Respecting the stymie itself, I have not much to say. All that can be said against it has been written over and over again. It seems to have as many friends as enemies. I may be called a friend, because very little was heard against it before Golf came to England, and I am very jealous of its ever coming to pass that there should be two games of Golf-Scotch Golf and English Golf. I may err in what I say, but my impression is that arguments against the stymie have been more pressed since matches at Golf for large stakes have become more frequent. But we should remember that after all Golf is only a game, not a science; and in losing the stymie, we should lose that which, whenever it happens, is always a source of mirth and amusement. That which adds a laugh and promotes chaff in a game, which with many is taken very seriously, is not lightly to be given up. No one can deny that a hole won or halved by playing over a stymie, is a thing not soon forgotten. Therefore, so long as Scotchmen are satisfied with it, so long am I.

The next piece of advice I have for my beginner is to cultivate a bold game. Nothing tends so much to the reverse of this as medal play. It is tar better for the beginner to wait before he joins in this element of Golf until he has passed from a beginner to a proficient. In abstaining at the first from medal play he loses very little. It is no great honour to take a medal by a large handicap from a scratch player. Nowhere does a handicap tell so much against scratch as in medal play, whereas a scratch player goes round generally at a fairly level average. The least improvement in the play renders the handicap a fixed and telling penalty against him; but to a beginner, medal play must ever be of a very damping character. He generally gets depressed from the very first stroke and systematically goes on from bad to worse; whereas in match play each hole carries its own disappointments or encouragements, and leads to forcing the player ever to play up. The old adage, "a hole is never lost till it is won," applies to every one of the holes throughout the game. Even 5 up and 6 to play may, by a supreme effort, lead to a halved round.

Therefore, I cannot too strongly insist upon my beginner sticking to match play, if ever he wishes to succeed as a golfer. Sometimes a partner is not forthcoming, and the round has to be played by oneself. On such an occasion instead of marking strokes, it is by no means an uninteresting game to estimate a number at which each hole can be done by himself; another, to play a match between his possible self and his actual self. Such times also are just the occasions for practising those strokes which are the weakest points of his game. Very small things add to the comfort of Golf. Easy shoes, with thick soles and five good nails in the soles and two in the heels, are far preferable to heavy laced boots. The shoes give better play to the ankles and help that spring of the whole body which is so essential to be acquired. There is no reason whatever against the use of gloves for those whose hands suffer from the friction of the club-handles. The gloves should be soft and thin, and all the fingers should be cut off and thumbs also. Gloved fingers are fatal—delicacy of touch is lost thereby. Some find that constant play causes corns to come at the bottom of the fingers, especially the third and fourth. No cure or amelioration of the painful hardness is superior to the simple remedy of moistening the places with castor oil. This should be done continuously, and if persevered with all corns will disappear. Sometimes elderly players feel a little tired as they go the round, and thereby fall off in their play. Nothing helps more to restore vigour and get the eye in again than a "wee nippie" at the ninth hole; but it should be really a wee drop. A teaspoonful is plenty; no more than can be contained in a little scent-bottle and carried in the waistcoat pocket. A cigarette, for some, has also the same effect of steadying the nerves and pulling the player together. Tight braces are a great hindrance to a free Before commencing they should be let out to their fullest extent, or better still, taken off altogether. suffer, after a long day's walk, from aching and swelling of the feet, so much so that it makes sleep difficult and restless. A German professor told me, many years ago now, when I was on a walking tour, to rub the feet over with rum before going to bed. Not only would it promote sleep, but the feet next morning would be as they would have been had I not walked the day before. I have proved this remedy to be infallible on many occasions. These things are very simple, but it is not every one who knows them. As I am writing for beginners, I ought to say that no man is too old to enjoy a game at Golf, if he has still the power left of taking a walk. Even to those who find walking wearisome, Golf helps to draw out the power of walking, and gives a zest to what by many is only taken as a duty to health. To the retired merchant, who has made his fortune, and wishes to end his days free from the cares and worry of money-getting, and who has cultivated no other pursuits than those connected with his business, Golf comes as a means of filling up his leisure hours, and saves him from that terrible ennui which comes upon so many, and shortens their days, when they exchange work for leisure. Nothing is more terrible than for a man who never had a moment to spare to find himself landed in a position where he has positively nothing to do. Should such be the case with any of my readers, then I say, Take up Golf. We all know that as we grow older the heart begins to show signs of wearing out, and for this the physician recommends riding and slow walking; but, except to those who are born naturalists, we all know what a wearisome business a walk or ride becomes without any particular object. Golf is the only game which promotes the action of the heart without distressing it, the reason being that the walk is broken whenever the ball is reached. What can a man want more, as he takes his daily exercise, than fine air, a pleasant walk, an interesting game, and the companion of his choice?

COACH.

GOLFER'S ELBOW.—The following letter appeared in Golf, September 13th, 1855:—"To the Editor of Golf.—Sir, I suffered very much from this distressing complaint, and obtained no relief until I tried a preparation which I found advertised in your valuable columns. I refer to Walker's Semotine, which in a little while quite cured me. I always keep a bottle of Semotine by me, and after a day's golfing invariably apply some of it to my limbs, which I am thus able to keep fit and supple. In the hope that this recommendation may be found useful to others, I am, Sir, &c., Twenty-five Years a Golfer. Rusack's Marine Hotel, St. Andrews, Fife, August 26th. In bottles, 1s. 14d., 2s. 9d., and 4s. 6d. Of all Chemists. Stores, &c., or will be sent post free for 3d, extra by the 1roprietors, Rowland Walker & Co., Limited, 468, High Road Chiswick. Wholesale, F. Newbery & Sons, London, E.C. Established 1746.



OUESTIONS ON THE RULES.

To the Editor of GOLF.

SIR,-Will you kindly give your opinion on the following

Two players in a competition, after the drive for the home hole, play each the other's ball, and play the hole out with the wrong balls, the mistake being discovered only after both balls have been holed out.

What is the penalty, and the reason for the same (a) in a medal competition, (b) in a "Bogey" competition?

I am. Sir, &c.,

J. A. TWEEDALE, Hon. Sec. Wilmslow Golf Club.

[There is no penalty in either case. See Rule XXVII.—ED.]

THE PENALTY STROKE.

To the Editor of GOLF.

SIR,-I beg to thank Mr. Rowland Ross for the trouble he has taken to enlighten me on the methods of play which obtained in his time. Had I known that the St. Andrews rule as to moving the ball while addressing it on the course or puttinggreen would call down such a fulmination from a player who has acted as adviser to the umpire in such an important match as that mentioned, between old Willie Park and Tom Morris, and who actually with such success played with I D. Brown against Willie and Davie Park in the days of "the Rook," I might possibly not have asked for the interpretation of such a rule from old and experienced golfers. What, may I humbly ask, could the umpire in the match mentioned have known of the rules, if he had to be advised on Question I, as to moving the ball accidentally from the tee, or what could Tom Morris be thinking of in "indulging in an antic, caper, or prank," such as was "never done in our days"; or what could Willie Park mean by claiming a stroke for such a movement of the ball? Why, indeed, was a rule framed to meet such a case, since Mr. Ross, or Willie Park, or Tom Morris, or J. D. Brown, or "the Rook" never did such things? However, there was evidently a rule for such absurd practices, and Mr. Ross evidently knew the rule, and applied it, no doubt, to Tom's satisfaction and Willie' discomfiture.

It is not possible for me to tell how much we poor golfers of to-day would give to be able to avoid such "antics" as moving the ball while addressing it, or even missing it altogether sometimes, as in that case there would not require to be any rules bearing on such "capers," and therefore fewer rules to misinterpret.

Oh! those weary rules! What have we golfers done to suffer our purgatory in this world with the rules? Here have I been trying my best to conform to them, and one which seems

the simplest of all-the ball in water rule-I have been misinterpreting. For when my partner has driven into the water I have coolly asked my caddle to lift the ball from the water, dropped it, and played, instead of taking the penalty stroke as my stroke, and allowing my partner again to play as Mr. Ross tells us is the rule in such a case. I may, however, in excul-pation, say, without boasting of the players it has been my fortune to have seen-of course, only at a distance-and merely to give Mr. Ross some indication that I have looked on at good matches, and seen some of the rules put in practice by good players, that I believe I have once seen a namesake of his, Mr. A. M. Ross, when his partner had driven into water, lift the ball from the water, drop and play it. After what Mr. Ronald Ross tells us in Golf, of the 29th ult., I do not say that Mr. A. M. Ross was right in so doing, but would, under correction, submit, that since he did so, there can be two interpretations to the rule, and that one of them, that of Mr. A. M. Ross, or that of Mr. Ronald Ross, must be wrong. Can we not have some authoritative tribunal to which we can refer such a seemingly simple, but, to some people, ambiguous rule for elucidation.

Mr. Ross has kindly taken some pains to give us his ideas of what should be done in the cases of Questions 2 and 3, mentioned in GOLF of November 8th, i.e., moving the ball while addressing it on the course or putting-green, and I sincerely thank him therefor, the more so when I remember that he himself never gives way to such "pranks," and accordingly must have felt that he was writing down to my level. His ingeniously-put cases are worth much, and are consistent with "the proper rule" of which he speaks. Would he add to the benefit he has already conferred by quoting me the proper rule in full, and the code from which it is taken? Since this correspondence commenced, my intellectual powers have been so strained by the answers published to three simple Golf questions, that I fear my power of observation may be faulty, and that I must have missed it when consulting the numerous codes of rules which I felt bound to refer to on reading the answers of your correspondents. It may seem fabulous, but I assure you that I have examined the codes of St. Andrews, the Honourable Company, Aberdeen, the Thistle, Musselburgh, Bruntsfield, the Burgess, and Blackheath, from the middle of last century till now, and those of a host of young clubs, including many Scottish and many English clubs, in search of this rule, but hitherto without successs. I fear, however, that it may not be acceptable to most golfers, as the replacing of the ball might lead to many difficulties. Nevertheless, with the sanctity of antiquity, and the advocacy of Mr. Ronald Ross, it might find more favour than it at first blush arouses, and especially if it acts as a check on such new-fangled capers, antics, or pranks as playing the ball designedly from a bad to a good lie, and which have given such a peculiar prominence to one inquiring for advice.

Might I respectfully suggest to you, Mr. Editor, that a portrait should be obtained for posterity of a player who seems to have been more than equal to Willie or Davie Park in their best days, who never missed the ball on the tee, and never moved by accident a ball from a bad lie, and yet has never made himself conversant with the rules of the game generally accepted by golfers, but who knows the proper rule, and will, I trust, instruct us therein in your next issue.

I am Sir, &c.,

ASSOCIATION.

December 16th.

PLAYING OFF TIES.

To the Editor of GOLF.

SIR,-Allow me to thank you for the insertion of my letter last week, and your reply thereto. You will understand which side I take when I say that I disagree with you in your decision; and if you will allow me I should like to say a little more on the matter. During the past week I have personally consulted four parties-two secretaries and two committeemen -and they agree with me that every medal competition must be treated separately, and what law governs the one must

govern the others, whether it be Alpha or Omega. One secretary had a case analogous. In his club there are ten monthly medal competitions during the year. Before playing the last one four men had two wins each, and another, one, their handicaps after each win being considered. The last competition was secured by the party who had previously scored one, for which he was again handicapped, and played off the tie for the charm on the reduction. He never imagined that it should have been otherwise, for, as he said, "If the other four enter the

tie on two considered scores, why not I? Here is another way of putting it. A club (say our own) has eight medal competitions. Previous to playing the last one, seven men have wins for which they are reduced. The eighth is secured by another player who is likewise "cut." According to your argument the seven enter the tie on reductions, while the eighth (because he won the last competition) retains the handicap he beat the seven with and plays the tie untouched. Good business for No. 8; he, thus specially favoured, has it all his own way, and, on his former play, cannot but win. No, Sir; I honestly admit I cannot see the justice of such reasoning. You say, "If the contention of A were conceded the effect would be to penalise C unjustly." You must admit that, in playing the tie, all should have the same chance, and, that admitted, C must play in the tie on his considered handicap for latest win. Again, the tie, you say is "a competition which has not yet been decided." Exactly; I have held this all along, and nobody can make it anything else, and as "it has not yet been decided," it is surely just that it should be decided on the handi-caps the players were left with after the score of the last winner had been considered. After he is subjected to the same treatment that former winners have endured, then the tie comes to be played. The case in point is not in connection with tournament play, where so many rounds are played on a fixed handicap. It is a series of eight competitions, each of which carries with it a prize and the custody of the medal for a month. The charm is a "special" thrown in at the end of the season, which acts as an inducement to bring out members, and goes to the man who wins oftenest.

I trust you will be somewhat indulgent with me; my "little more" has been too elastic, I fear, but if you can see your way to encourage a little discussion on the query, it might help to

settle a grievous bone of contention.

I am Sir, &c., GOLFER.

WORM CASTS.

To the Editor of GOLF.

SIR,—"C. G. C." should use one and a half buckets of fresh slaked lime with eight buckets of water. Mix and stir in a tub; let the mixture settle for a few hours, then use the clear water holding the lime in solution. The worms come up in large numbers immediately. The lime can be used again with a fresh supply of water. A weak solution of paraffin oil and water is also a remedy, but it is not so effective and thorough as the lime-water.

I am, Sir, &c.,

WANTED, A GOLF UNION?

To the Editor of GOLF.

SIR,—There would appear to be a mistake in Mr. E. Lehmann's article in your last number, the writer having transposed the bodies governing the Open and the Amateur Championships respectively.

The five clubs, viz., the Royal and Ancient, the Honourable Company, the Prestwick, the Royal Liverpool, and the St. George's referred to by Mr. Lehmann as governing the conditions of the Amateur Championship, are in fact, the clubs discharging that duty in reference to the Open Championship.

As one who has played Golf in the South for many years, I know that the Royal Blackheath and Royal Wimbledon Golf

Clubs, were two of the clubs which originally subscribed for the purchase of the Amateur Championship cup in 1886. I believe that there twenty-three subscribing clubs at that date, sixteen Scotch and seven English, and that these twenty-three clubs (with the addition of the St. George's Club) form the body governing the conditions of the Amateur Championship.

If you, Sir, see fit to insert this, I trust Mr. Lehmann will pardon my offering this correction to a statement in his excel-

lent article.

I am Sir, &c.,

December 16th.

EARLSFERRY AND ELIE GOLF LINKS.

To the Editor of GOLF.

SIR,—In reference to the letter of the hon. secretary of the Elie Golf House Club re the state of the links, I should like to ask, if what has been stated in your paper is "wholly unfounded"—

1. Why the greenkeeper has been changed?

2. If the opinion of scratch St. Andrews players is not as good as that of the golfing community of Elie?

3. He says it is managed by three clubs. How long has the third been added; before or after the paragraphs appeared?

4. What was the composition of the committee that authorised this letter? Has one never played round the green in 1895? How often the others, between January 1st and October 5th?

5. Are a few good putting-greens all that constitute a good Golf course?

6. Will silence and contempt or honest labour be most likely to improve Golf links? We have had plenty of the former.

The chief obstacle to improvement having been removed, it seems rather late to open up old grievances.

7. Did not a member of this committee acknowledge that he had known what was going on for two years? I don't think the Freemen are likely to be humbugged by the red-herring that I want to drive visitors away, as my interests lie entirely in the direction of making a winter residential place in addition to the present short summer season.

I think the thanks of golfers are due to the present greenkeeper, for the manly way in which he worked during summer,

under trying circumstances.

No blame can be attached to the committee of either the Earlsferry or Earlsferry Thistle, the former being keen on reform, and the latter only having been represented after the complaints were made.

I am, Sir, &c.,

FRANCIS JOHN OUTHWAITE.

Craigforth, Earsferry.

GOLF AT MILFORD-ON-SEA.

To the Editor of GOLF.

SIR,—In the Autumn of this year I was at Milford-on-Sea, and I think it may interest your readers to know of the existence, at that quiet and pretty spot, of Golf links.

Milford-on-Sea is a comparatively unknown place on the Hampshire coast. It immediately faces the "Needles," and is

close to Hurst Castle.

The village is referred to at some length in the recently published book on the "Climates and Baths of Great Britain" (Vol. 1.) The course is one of nine holes, and was laid out two years ago by the professional from Bembridge. The first two holes, both of which are protected by bunkers, run parallel to the sea, and are within a few yards of the shore. A sliced drive is severely punished, as the ball finds itself on the stony beach.

The third hole, similarly protected, is prettily placed close to Sturt Pond. The fourth, a short one, requires judgment in playing, for a slight deviation from a straight drive, or an insufficient allowance for windage, will bring the player into difficulties from gorse and whins. If the drive is correctly played there is still a very true "approach" to be made, for the green is a small one, and should the ballover-run it, or fall short, rough and stony ground is its fate. A reasonably long drive will place the ball on the fifth green, and this hole offers no special difficulties.

In playing to the sixth, a particularly nasty hedge, thick and broad, has to be crossed, and it is at just the aggravating distance from the tee. If the drive is short the lie is usually, a bad one, and forcible language is not unknown in playing this hole. Should the player get well away from the seventh tee, he may feel fairly certain of reaching the green without finding many difficulties, but woe betide a topped, pulled, or sliced drive. The eighth must be approached with caution, for if the hole is but slightly over-played a ditch is the penalty. The home hole is without bunkers or other obstacles, but if the south-west wind is high, varied experiences of driving "up the wind" are to be had.

Taken as a whole, the links are difficult ones, for bad strokes meet with more severe punishment than they perhaps deserve. The membership (ladies and gentlemen) is at present small, and visitors are made very welcome, and a most modest subscription is charged for a month's play. A small pavilion was recently opened by Colonel Cornwallis West, of Newlands Manor. There is a high-class hotel capitally situated about five minutes from the links, and lodgings can be secured in the village. The local doctor is the courteous and energetic secretary of the Golf Club. Milford-on-Sea is worth a visit from any one who wants a quiet change, and some Golf, in a healthy and picturesque Hampshire village, where parades and bands are unknown. I understand that the links are to be enlarged and improved; by now this may be un fait accompli. I should add that the golfer must be prepared for some lost balls, and must not be above carrying his or her own clubs. Good caddies are scarce.

I am, Sir, &c., XIT.

PUTTING GREENS AND TEES IN INDIA.

To the Editor of Golf.

SIR,—Our attention having been called to the remark made by your correspondent H. R. W. E., in your issue of 13th inst., that possibly the portion of Dalziel's Patent Tee composed of india-rubber would not stand the heat of an Indian sun, we, as the manufacturers of said india-rubber have, pleasure in stating that there is no necessity for fear on this score, as the rubber is of first-rate quality, and in the event of any of the tees being wanted for India, would be made specially to stand the heat of the sun, we being in the habit of regularly making large quantities of india-rubber specially treated to stand the Indian climate.

We are Sir, &c.

THE CLYDE RUBBER WORKS COMPANY, LIMITED,
R. B. BLACK,
Secretary.

THE PENALTY STROKE.

To the Editor of GOLF.

SIR,—I read with great interest your article upon the penalty stoke, and think it is an excellent exposition of what the rule ought to be. It clearly shows that the rule, as it now stands, is altogether a departure from old custom, although we do not quite agree as to what old custom was, and there can be few who are not convinced of the necessity of the establishment of a Union to make the rules clear.

Mr. Lehmann's article in last week's issue is welcome, although he is not thoroughly informed as to the composition of the body which governs the Amateur Championship meetings, which includes the following clubs: Royal and Ancient, Honourable Company of Edinburgh Golfers, Royal Liverpool,

Prestwick, Royal Wimbledon, St. George's, Royal Blackheath, Tantallon, West Lancashire, Panmure, Dalhousie, Royal Albert, Royal North Devon, whose delegates were present at the last meeting and voted upon the question of altering the final heat from one to two rounds, which alteration was carried.

I notice in last week's issue that "J. P. C." asks me a question as to the ball being accidentally moved by the player's partner, a point which had not escaped my consideration. In reply I would point out that it is the player's prerogative alone to move any obstacle, and that if he allowed his partner, or caddie, to move it, they only act as his deputy, and that the penalty of their misdeed must be his.

Rules XVI., XXIV., XXV., &c., all bear out my contention, and regard the act of the player, his partner, or either of their

caddies, as one for which the player is responsible.

I am, Sir, &c., N. F.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

W. E. R. D.—You can use either side of your hand, according to fancy. The older school of players generally brush lightly with the back of the hand. It depends more on what the player does with his hand than the side which he uses, whether or not there is a compliance with the spirit of the rule.

ROYAL MELBOURNE GOLF CLUB.

The Victorian cup, which is given by this club to be plaved for by all members of a recognised Golf Club in Australasia, was played for on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, November 4th, 6th, and 8th, on the links at Caulfield. It is at present the only prize that represents the Championship of Australasia. It was competed for by representatives of several colonies, though of course it is difficult for each club to send its best members. On the first day's play Dr. Swift, of Adelaide, and Mr. Balfour-Melville, of the Royal Melbourne, were equal, and it seemed to promise an exciting contest between the two colonies, but Mr. Balfour-Melville on the second day avenged the victory of Auraria in the Melbourne cup by making such a good score that practically no one else was in it. If he had not broken down on the second last hole he would have easily broken the record of the links. He was 6 holes up on "Colonel Bogey" and 2 to play, which 2 he lost, and finished four holes up on the day to Dr. Smith's 4 holes down. Mr. Balfour-Melville's score was:—Out, 6 3 5 5 4 3 4 5 5=40; in. 4 5 4 4 5 4 3 7 6=42; total, 82. Dr. Hope, of Geelong, succeeded in passing Dr. Swift on the last day and finished second. For the second time the Amateur Championship of Great Britain and Australia has been held by two brothers. Two years ago Mr. D. Anderson held the Home Championship, and his brother, Mr. M. L. Anderson, held the one here, and now Mr. L. Balfour-Melville holds the Home one, and his brother has just won the one here. On Wednesday and Friday a handicap trophy was also played for. The following are the results:—

cap trophy was also played for. The following are the results:

Victorian cup:—Mr. R. A. A. Balfour-Melville, Royal Melbourne, even with "Colonel Bogey"; Dr. Hope, Geelong, 10 down; Dr. Swift, Adelaide, 11 down; Mr. A. Clark, Royal Melbourne, 16 down; Mr. A. Nash, Royal Melbourne, 21 down. Twenty-one players started for the competition. Result of two days' handicap competition against "Colonel Bogey" (open to all members of a recognised Golf Club):—Mr. H. Culleton, Surrey Hills (10), 3 up; Mr. T. Brentnall, Royal Melbourne (10), 2 up; Mr. R. A. A. Balfour-Melville, Royal Melbourne (scratch), 1 up; Dr. Hope, Geelong (3), 1 down; Mr. G. A. Kay, Royal Melbourne (10), 2 down; Mr. D. Brown, Royal Melbourne (5), 3 down; Mr. A. E. Colebrook, Bathurst (10), 3 down; Mr. T. J. Ledingham, Royal Melbourne (13), 4 down; Mr. A. Nasa, Royal Melbourne (5), 8 down; Mr. A. Loughnan, Sydney (15), 8 down; Dr. Swift, Adelaide (scratch), 10 down; Mr. J. M. Bruce, Royal Melbourne (10), 10 down; Mr. A. Clark, Royal Melbourne (3), 11 down; Mr. H. Hosken, Surrey Hills (15), 11 down; Mr. J. A. M'Harg, Royal Melbourne (13), 13 down; Mr. G. Aytoun, Royal Melbourne (14), 15 down; Mr. J. B. Matthews, Adelaide (10), 19 down; Mr. G. B. Vasey, Royal Melbourne (15), 26 down. Fortyfive players competed for the above.

STIRLING CLUB.—The monthly medal was played for on Saturday. The weather was very stormy, and there were few cards returned. Scores:—Colonel Crawford (winner), 103, less 10=93; Major Dalrymple Hay, 107, less 10=97; Mr. George Thorne, 116, less 18=08.

"SATAN'S SAND-IRON."

It certainly was a most extraordinary-looking weapon, and, as my eye fell on it there, against the opposite wall, I rose from my eminently comfortable chair in Jemmy Sinclair's eminently comfortable smoking room, and sauntered over to inspect it more closely.

That it must have first seen the light many generations ago, was evident at the first glimpse. The thick, ponderous shaft, nearly black with age, spoke to its venerable antiquity; it must have been the father of all niblicks. The unrounded corners of the blade suggested that it owed its existence to some dead and gone inventor's idea of shortening the face of an ancestral iron by a barbaric semi decapitation. What, however, finally put the climax to my curiosity was that a near inspection disclosed the fact that this relic of bygone Golf was firmly and permanently fixed to the wall by strong, heavy, iron clamps, apparently built into the masonry.

I looked over my shoulder and saw that my host had turned in his chair and was also gazing at the object of my scrutiny with a far more serious expression on his usually jovial countenance than I was accustomed to see there.

"Where the dickens did this old specimen of the prehistoric ages come from, Jemmy?" I asked, stretching out my hand towards the instrument in question.

"Don't touch the beastly thing," said Sinclair, hurriedly, seeing my movement. "I know it's all nonsense; but I hate seeing anyone near it."

I confess I was somewhat astonished at such an abnormal sentiment from so usually matter-of-fact a personage as James Sinclair." Why, does it bite?" I asked with some amusement; "and is that why you've got it fastened up so securely? What is it, Jemmy-a fetish of sorts, or an infernal machine?"

"You are a bit nearer the mark than you may possibly imagine," was the reply. "I see you are a little curious about the old club, so come back to your chair, put your face into some whisky and soda, and I'll tell you all I know about it.

"In the first place," he continued, when I had complied with his instructions and succeeded in getting on terms with a favourite but refractory pipe,-"in the first place, it is an heirloom, and may not be parted with under severe penalties, or it would never be here, I can tell you. In the second place, for more than two generations it has been known in our family by the reassuring title of 'Satan's Sand-Iron'; and where it was originally forged, if not in the nether regions, I can give you no idea '

"I didn't know you were so well connected," I said, as Jemmy paused and consulted his tumbler. "How far down in the family tree does the 'Son of the Morning' come in? I think that you mentioned that it was one of the Sinclair heir-

"I doubt whether we can actually claim relationship with your friend, himself," answered my host grimly; "but from the old family traditions it would appear that the ancestor who planted 'his unfortunate descendants with that diabolical tool, would have made a very fair understudy for the Deuce himself. He was a younger brother of my great grandfather's, who ran away to sea in his boyhood, and returned to the society of his rela ives some thirty years later, a weather-beaten, dour-looking, silent man, with a decided past, as they would say in these days.
"The story goes that he was very reticent about himself and

his adventures, and the origin of his wealth-for wealth there was, unquestionably, as a result of his sea-faring toils and dangers; but, somehow, rumours and hints and travellers' tales came creeping up one by one, voiceless and unauthenticated, associating the returned wanderer's name with stories of the slave trade and its attendant horrors-aye, and worse! It was pretty freely asserted that Jonathan Sinclair had seen the "jolly Roger" floating in the breeze over his head, and knew what "walking the plank" meant. Folks in the neighbourhood were not over fond of meeting that hard, lined face, and those cold, glittering eyes, in the lonely country lanes; and the schoolchildren, though ravenous for the tea that awaited their return, would go a mile out of their way home sooner than encounter

the 'black Captain,' as they called him."

"By George! Jemmy," I could not help interposing. "I must say you are depicting a most lovable character, in this description of your venerable ancestor. Get on to the niblick. Did he brain a bishop with it, or what?"

"I fancy he would have been quite capable of even such

unorthodox behaviour as that," said Sinclair. "But it is not recorded authentically among his misdeeds. What, at all events, we know he did, was to buy this old house and a good bit of land in the neighbourhood, and settle down to the engrossing pursuit of Golf over the old links opposite. It is recorded of him that he never rose to any abnormal pitch of excellence at the Royal and Ancient Game; but that in the matter of language-as a master of brilliant and variegated blasphemy-he was absolutely unrivalled.

"Tradition narrates," pursued Jemmy, "that, getting once, during an important match, in an unplayable place in the big bunker guarding the last green, he glared at the ball for some moments in a silence that of itself seemed redolent of sulphur and brimstone, and then said slowly and deliberately: 'If Hell could forge a sand-iron that would fetch the ball out of that place, I'd shake hands with the devil who brought it to As he spoke, his caddie-a dark, forbidding-looking stranger, whom he had chartered that morning for the day's work, in the absence of his usual attendant-handed him a club out of the pack. Jonathan Sinclair, looked at it in some surprise and asked the man where he had got it from. The reply was that it had been given him with the other clubs when they started. The old slaver-buccaneer examined it carefully, shrugged his shoulders with an oath, went up to his ball, and to the surprise of his antagonist not only got it out, but actually laid it stone-dead. 'It is worth while having the devil for a club-maker,' he shouted recklessly, as he holed the putt out, and walked home triumphant. It is said, however, that that was the last round of Golf the old sinner ever played. His health failed suddenly, and before another month was over he had gone-as he is reported to have said-'to pay for the new sand-iron.' He left this house and property to the successive second sons of the Sinclair family (that, of course, is how it came to fall into my hands), with a proviso that this infernal tool was to be provided a home on the premises in perpetuity-and there the confounded thing is." "My dear Jemmy," I said, "I really don't see that you have

much cause to grumble at 'Satan's sand-iron.' It is quite on the cards that, but for that admirable instrument, your charming great, great, grand-uncle, might very possibly have turned pious in later years, and endowed some church or charity with the excellent domicile which now owns you for its master. That would have been much worse for you than giving some slight filial attention to the father of all niblicks. Is it still supposed to be vested with supernatural powers?"

"I don't know about supernatural powers, exactly," said Jim; "but, it was always said that no man could ever play with it more than once. Whoever it might be, it was his last round of Golf, if he took 'Satan's sand-iron' out with him."

"What crass superstition," I said. "I've a great mind to

take it out myself to morrow morning.

"That, Pll take care you don't, old chap," said my friend. "I had a sickener of that just three years ago, in poor John

Armstrong's case."
"What?" I asked. "Do you really mean to say your diabolical heirloom ever authentically acted up to its traditional reputation? My dear Jemmy, I should have thought you of all men would be above such superstitions."

Sinclair sat silently gazing into the fire for some moments.

THE GOLFER'S FRIEND is the name appropriately applied to HALVIVA EMBROCATION, because it is the most effectual remedy for Rheumatism, Lumbago, Sciatica, Aches, Sprains, Stiffness of Joints, and Golfer's Elbow, yet discovered. 2s. 9d. and 4s. 6d. a bottle, of all Chemists, or post free from THE HALVIVA COMPANY, LIMITED, 4, Temple Chambers, E.C.

"I think I am altogether above superstition in the abstract,' he said at last, slowly. "In this case, even, it was probably all sheer chance. All I can say is that I saw a man play with that club once, and, as those clamps will testify, I never intend to see it used again. Look here, Dick," he went on, "I hate the remembrance of that day three years ago; but you shall hear the story and judge for yourself if I am a superstitious fool in my dread of consequences where "Satan's Sand-iron" is concerned. You never came across John Armstrong, did you?"

I shook my head.

"Well he was a man who used to come down here in the late autumn, with his wife and child, partly on account of the fine air for them, partly on account of the fine Golf for himself, They used to take Mrs. MacLellan's house, down by the sea, for a couple of months, you know. I can't say I ever had much of a liking for him; he was too aggressively argumentative, and fancied himself a lot. He would argue on every subject under heaven, and always from the unorthodox point of view. Religion was his favourite subject, I remember, and he used to enunciate some pretty startling views, though he was by no means an atheist. He was a violent man, given to explosions of temper, though I think his heart was in the right place.

"One night he had come over here for a pipe and a chat with me, and he, like you, noticed that old club, and worried its story out of me. The family tradition seemed to arouse all the pugnacity in his disposition. He jeered by the hour over the fallacy of silly superstitions, became so aggressive that he very nearly insulted me outright, and finally insisted on my letting him give old Jonathan Sinclair's niblick an airing the next day, when he had to play off the final heat of a visitors' tournament which had been got up that autumn. Nothing less would content him-he wanted in his own person to prove the absurdity of these cock-and-bull stories. At last, for the sake of peace and quietness, I consented. The club was only hanging on the wall at that time, not fastened up as it is now, and he went home vaunting the superiority of modern thought and the crass credulity of past generations.

"The next morning he called here for the club, and we walked down to the links together. It was, I remember, a perfect day for Golf-dry, crisp, and with very little wind. The final heat of the visitors' tournament was expected to produce a very exciting match, and there was quite a little 'gallery' of twenty people or so to witness it, amongst them little Muriel Armstrong, John's small six-year-old daughter, and the very apple of the man's eye. Rough as he might be at times to others, to her he was always as loving and gentle as the tenderest woman on earth could have been. Such a pretty, soft, affectionate, blue-eyed, golden-haired little thing she was

"Well, it was as fine and close a match as I ever want to see. Both Armstrong and his antagonist were playing up to the top of their form, and neither man ever got more than one up at any time. Armstrong was the more slashing player of the two, and drove much the longer ball; he was a bit erratic, however, and got badly bunkered more than once. On each occasion, somehow, 'Satan's Sand-Iron' stood him in excellent stead, and twice in the course of the round he managed to lay himself nearly dead from bad lies in sand. 'Wherever it came from, old Jonathan's niblick knows how to do the trick, he said to me on the second of these occasions. This was at the seventeenth hole, and Armstrong was one up; the phenomenal shot he had just made left him a two-yard putt for the hole and the match. Like all irritable men, he found it difficult sometimes at a crucial point to control his nerves, and I could see he was a bit 'on the shake' on this occasion. However, he steadied himself with a strong effort, holed the putt, and the match was won. It was with a sigh of relief that he straightened his back and turned to shake his opponent's extended hand, and to kiss his little daughter, who came running to him full of triumph at 'daddy's' success.

"As Armstrong walked to the last tee to play off the bye, I could not help noticing how great the strain on his nerves must have been, from the contrast his demeanour presented, now that that strain was relaxed, to what it had been before. He was joking, laughing, almost boisterous in his mirth. 'You have been a good, quiet, little mouse,' he called out to Muriel; 'but you need'nt keep so far away from me now it's all over. We shall have a fine present to take back to "mummy," sha'nt we, my pet?' And so they started to play that last fatal

"Armstrong's drive was a fine low ball, but he half-topped his second shot, and went into a very bad place near the left hand corner of the bunker protecting the home green. I saw his face flush ominously as he held out his hand for the niblick—'Satan's Sand-Iron.' I was in a line with him about ten yards to his left, and Muriel was holding my right hand. It was not an easy get-out for him, though hardly as difficult as those he had successfully negotiated during the match. Whether he was flurried, or careless, or what, I don't know, but three times he essayed the task and three times failed. Then he let his temper get the best of him. 'Go back to your master, the devil,' he hissed out between his clenched teeth, and hurled the club away.

"How it happened I don't know. I suppose the grip stuck in his left hand as it sometimes will Anyhow, instead of going straight ahead in safety, that accursed weapon flew round to the left. I just saw something hurtle through the hair, and thenoh, my God! Dick-there was a dull thud alongside me and Muriel Armstrong lay in a little heap on the turf. I knelt down and lifted her in my arms, her lovely golden hair falling

over my shoulder.

"One little faint moan from the pretty baby mouth, one little shiver through the pretty childish limbs, and all was still for ever. 'Satan's sand-iron' had struck her full on the temple.
"But, ah, Dick! the real horror that overwhelmed me—the

horror I shall never forget as long as I draw breath -was to see poor Armstrong's agony, as he knelt there beside the child he loved so tenderly—the one thing he worshipped; to hear his impassioned appeals to his little Muriel 'not to pretend'; just to open her eyes and tell 'daddy' she was not so much hurt after all; only to kiss him once and tell him she forgave him.

"At last the truth seemed to come home to him-that never more would he hear the words of affection from the sweet little lips; never more see the light of love in the bright blue eyes. Then he suddenly rose to his feet and looked up at the sky

"Looked up at the blue heaven with a face absolutely transfigured with passion, with wild demoniacal rage. He lifted up his clenched fist and shook it in defiance.
"'You coward, you coward, you cruel brute, you God!' he

shrieked, 'Where is your vaunted mercy, now?

"Then he hid his face in his hands for a space while a man might count a score. When he raised it again, few of his old friends would have recognised it. 'Come along, Muriel, come back home to lunch,' he said, and held out a hand to something we could not see, and bent his head as he walked off, and chattered away in response to the words we could not hear.

"The mercy of God had come to poor John Armstrong. He

was, and still is, hopelessly but harmlessly insane.

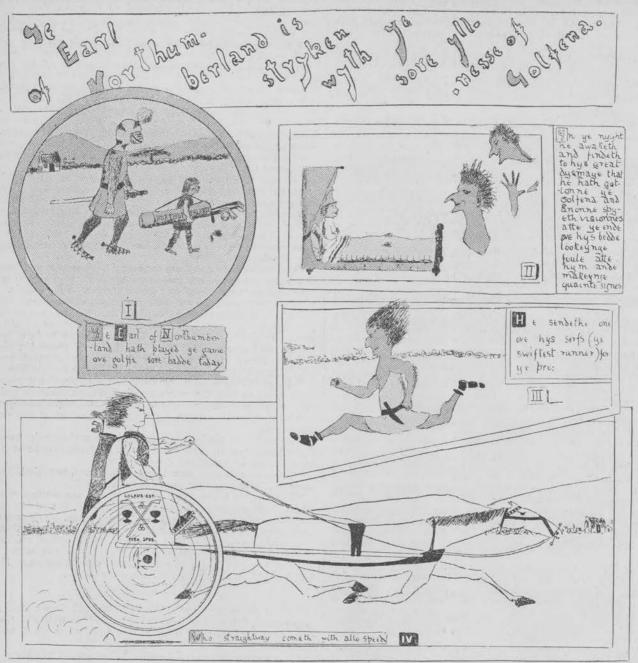
"You don't wonder now, Dick," said my old friend, after a long silence, "that I had bricks taken out of the wall, and that damned thing fixed in as firmly as iron and mortar would hold it, do you?

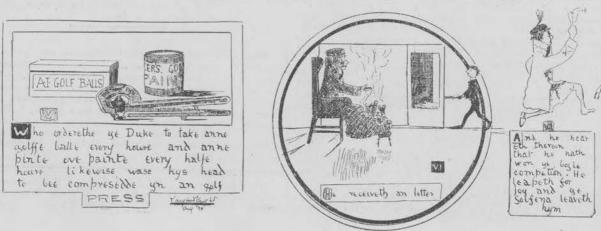
"It is a gruesome story," I said. "Pass me the whisky."

FRED. C. MILFORD.

OLD TOM, who has been in London this week giving sittings for a very fine life-size portrait, which is being painted by Messrs. Dickinson and Foster, New Bond Street, called upon us the other day for a "crack." Tom has quite recovered from his recent attack of lumbago, and is as genial and hearty as ever. On Wednesday, in company with Mr. A. J. Robertson, he paid a visit to the Furzedown course of the Tooting Bec. Golf Club, with which he was immensely pleased, and, from a golfing point of view, thought very highly of. He returns home on Saturday night.

MUSSELBURGH. - M'Laren's Café and Restaurant adjoins the Links. Luncheons, dinners and teas. Golf-club boxes, 7s. 6d. per annum. Rooms for meetings. Telephone, No. 4.





A CHRISTMAS NIGHT'S DREAM. (With apologies to the Raven.)

I remember, I remember, how one night in cold December, When the wither'd leaves had fallen and the flowers bloomed no more,

In my bed I lay, reposing, and my heavy eyelids closing, Courted sleep, my senses dozing, when I heard—I wasn't

sure-

Heard a sound like gentle banging of a somewhat distant door,

Muffled banging of a door.

Hardly worth while to awaken, I was probably mistaken, And, with sigh of sweet contentment, vowed the trifle to ignore.

Pleasant, incoherent jingle with my dreams began to mingle, When again I heard a single, little bang, just as before; And I knew it for the banging of a horrid distant door—

Just a bang, and nothing more.

Lazily I turned, and wondered who so foolishly had blundered As to leave a door half open on a breezy winter's night; And I hoped he might be smitten with the plagues by which 'tis

written

Pharoah and his hosts were bitten—wished him ev'ry kind of blight;

And I found it so refreshing that my heart again grew light— Grew comparatively light.

Not for long this peace, however; for, in spite of all endeavour To hermetically seal my eyes and ears in sleep, 'twas vain; And I cursed my own existence as, with measur'd soft insistence,

In the far and dreamy distance, came that muffled bang again,

With a slow reiteration, meant to drive you quite insane— Drive you perfectly insane.

I am glad that only muttered were the curses that I uttered As I sprang from off my couch, all drowsy dalliance put to flight,

As I seized upon the matches, and, with short and angry snatches,

Made a dozen futile scratches e'er I got the thing to light;
E'er I wandered, half distracted, through the cold and
gloomy night,

Through the banging hideous night.

On the stairs I listened, craving for the sound which set me raving,

The night was still, and silence reigned; the peace for which I yearned.

Not a sound, to aid detection, came from any one direction, "It has stopped," was my reflection, as with joy to bed I turned

To partake of undisturbed repose, which I had surely earned, I had fully, amply earned.

Oh! the sweet delicious dozing, when the eyes with sleep are closing,

And the spirit, freed from earthly care, to heaven tries to soar,

All my senses were refusing to perform coherent musing,
And perception I was losing, when a sound I heard once
more.

And I knew it for the banging of that ghastly distant door, Of that beastly banging door.

Hurling curses without number on the thing that spoilt my slumber,

Once again I took a candle, vowing vengeance to the knife, Breathless on the stairs I waited, with my pulse and breathing bated,

For the gentle sound I hated, all my angry feelings rife; I would bang it as it never had been banged in all its life,
In its silly useless life!

There I waited and I waited, with my pulse and breathing bated,

But once more a stolid silence reign'd o'er all from top to base;

And, to make the thing more riling, ev'ry door was shut and smiling—

Yes, I'll swear that they were smiling, smiling in my very face;

Not a sound of banging was there from a door in all the place,

Not a bang in all the place.

There I stood for hours and listened, till the glint of dawning glistened,

With a firm resolve to stay there till the culprit should be found,

All the time that I was standing in an attitude commanding On that cold and dismal landing, there was not one single sound,

Not a single sound of banging from the silent doors around, Not the faintest, slightest sound.

Take this hint, I give it gladly: doors may quake and quaver madly,

They will stop the very minute you put foot upon the floor. This is my determination, though for fost'ring irritation

There is nothing in creation like the banging of a door,
It may bang itself to Bedlam, I will seek it out no more,
I will only cry "encore."

Ah! That night in cold December I am likely to remember, For I thought the whole performance an unutterable bore; And they said I was demented, that the story was invented, Which I very much resented, for the friends I lov'd before Won't believe that I was looking for the banging of a door, Just a bang, and nothing more.

ROSE CHAMPION DE CRESPIGNY.

A DOUBTFUL BOON.

"A Scotch professional golfer has patented a system of teaching, by which he guarantees a perfect swing in one hour's lesson."

Daily Paper.

I've been a golfer twenty year
In rain and shine, in heat and snow,
And till the "Churchyard" green looms near
A-golfing still I mean to go.
Mine is an undistinguished game,
But I enjoy it all the same.

I never play for fame or pots,
I'm seldom under ninety-nine,
Sometimes, I fear, my iron shots
Are short, my drives quite off the line;
A long putt holed is a delight
That keeps me wakin' half the night.

Though I can drive a decent length,
I sometimes note that caddies smile
When I exert my utmost strength
In what is called the "Headsman" style.
I used to make a vow each Spring
To cultivate a better swing;

I always put it off until,
Last week, I journeyed down to Troon,
Partly my old vow to fulfil,
But more because that priceless boon,
A "perfect swing" is waiting there
For all who have an hour to spare.

And to my joy, within the hour,
I learned that perfect swing, and yet,
Though free and graceful, full of power,
That swing I gladly would forget,
The bliss it brings is dashed with gall,
or now I cannot hit the ball.

RIX.



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The open Championship for 1896, takes place at Muirfield, the links of the Honourable Company of Edinburgh Golfers, on the 10th and 11th of June.

The secretary of the Royal Liverpool Golf Club has suggested the week beginning May 11th for the Ladies' Golf Union to hold their Championship meeting, and the hon secretary of the Union has accepted the date, which will be confirmed at the next meeting of the Council. From May 11th to 15th, both inclusive, ladies will be permitted to play at Hoylake without passes. At any other time they can only play on being introduced by a member, and on obtaining passes available for the day of issue only, from the secretary (Mr. W. Ryder Richardson.) Ladies are not allowed to play on Saturdays or competition days.

On the Saturday before the Ladies' Championship (May 9th) the Moreton Ladies' Golf Club intend to offer two valuable prizes to be played for on their links—one a scratch, the other a handicap prize, open to all ladies of a recognised Golf Club. Moreton Station is only five minutes by train from Hoylake. Full particulars will be given in due course.

The Earl of Aberdeen is evidently doing his best to encourage in Canada the Scotch national games—curling and Golf. In the former, as appears from the Annual of the Royal Club, noticed by us last week, he took an active part during the season, and to the Canadian Golf Association the Earl has presented a fine silver cup. This has to be won at the Championship competition, and becomes the absolute property of the golfer who wins it three times. In the first competition there were representatives from Ottawa (the head-quarters of the association), Quebec, Montreal, Toronto, and Kingston, and the cup was won by Mr. T. Harley, an old East Lothian player now at Kingston. Lord Aberdeen presented the cup and the medal (which is won outright) to the winner. Next year the Canadian Championship meeting is to be held at Quebec. The Kingston Club, which Mr. Harley now represents, was curiously enough founded by a native of Dirleton parish, while Mr. Harley himself is a native of the neighbouring parish of Aberlady. The best time for Canadian Golf is in the spring and fall of the year. In summer the greens are too much "baked" by the sun to admit of the best play.

In carrying out their remit from the general meeting of October 21st, the Committee have had several houses under consideration which were offered for a club-house to the Tantallon Golf Club. Of these Garve Villa, the property of Mr. Horsburgh, which is offered at £2,800, appears the most suitable. The Committee have drawn up a statement of the probable cost of carrying out the scheme, and have summoned a general meeting for the 18th. This will be over before our present number is issued, but next week we shall give the result of the meeting. The report of the Committee, which shows

that the scheme of a club-house will require the annual subscription (now 15s.) to be raised to £2, will, no doubt, cause a good deal of discussion.

"Professor" Fernie is making good progress with his patent system of teaching the game of Golf. He has had fifty or sixty Glasgow players through his hands, and the results are reported to be very satisfactory. It is his intention, by-and-by, to make a tour through England, but for the present his operations are directed towards the enlightenment of his own countrymen in the mysteries of the art.

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The Weekly Scotsman, whose Christmas number is one of the most remarkable pennyworths ever placed in the hands of the public, publishes prize essays, for which liberal money awards have been made, on "The best Sport for Women and the best Sport for Men" respectively. "Golf first, other games nowhere, seems" (says the editor) "to be the verdict of sportsmen, if we may judge from the essays sent in per cent, were in favour of Golf—a surprising result when the number of rival sports is considered. Cycling was next, with 25 per cent., and the rest went chiefly to cricket, football and swimming. . . ." Here is a funny argument in favour of natation. "Some fine day when the golfer, the cricketer and the swimmer go a-holidaying together, the swimmer may save the lives both of himself and his two friends. It is not likely that they, as golfer and cricketer, will ever manage to do a like service for him." We have a suggestion to make to the editor of the Weekly Scotsman, namely, that he should tabulate a list of all the points given by all his contributors, male and female, in favour of the Royal and Ancient Game. Future generations would then know the reason why the last nineteenth century generation went out heart and soul after Golf.

Mr. Adam T. Gillies, who exalts Golf on the highest pinnacle as the best sport for men, after drawing a line of distinction between sports which lead to health and those which tend to induce premature muscular and nervous failure, points out weaknesses in the latter direction in cycling, football, &c., and pleads for Golf that it affords facilities for all, and presents none of the drawbacks noticed in some other games. "Walking," he says, "is considered by the medical faculty to be the best of all outdoor exercises; but to cover on foot so many miles daily, simply because one ought to do so, is an uninteresting task. It is here the game of Golf asserts its superiority over other recreations, because it affords opportunities for indulging in that easy comfortable exercise so necessary and so beneficial to the average man. It gives plenty of walking with an object, and by the time a player has gone a round of the links he has gained an amount of healthful exercise and enjoyment no other pastime could offer, and achieved an amount of walking he would otherwise probably have never attempted." Other reasons follow, the essay being quite a terse and interesting contribution in praise of Golf, worthy of being widely circulated and read.

Miss Mary K. Arnott, who in name of the ladies awards the palm to Golf as the best of sports, says the question is "a distinctly modern one. Not so long ago a mild game of croquet was almost the only form of sport—if one may apply such a name to it—in which they were expected to engage. But now we have changed all that, and the modern maiden, to say nothing of the 'new woman,' is hardly less restricted as to her sports than her brother is." Cycling runs Golf hard, says the essayist, but Golf gets the palm. It can be played all the year round, is suitable for all ages, specially suitable for those of delicate constitution, or those of advanced years, makes walking, the best of exercises, more beneficent and interesting than it would otherwise be; is, like Cleopatra's charms, of infinite variety and never stale, teaches discipline of mind and temper, does not require riches for its enjoyment. Such a game, says the writer, "is surely recreative in the fullest sense of the word, and may be considered worthy of being ranked as the best sport for health and pastime."

There was a merry gathering of the members of the Muswell Hill Golf Club at the Holborn Restuarant last Friday evening, the occasion being the first annual dinner in connection with this young and enterprising institution. Mr. Wm. Lowe (captain of the club) was called upon at short notice to take the chair in the unavoidable absence of Mr. R. D. M. Littler, Q.C. (the president), and he was surrounded by a company numbering 120 gentlemen, including about a score of visitors. Among those present were Mr. T. D. Bolton, M.P., Mr. R. M. Routledge (from Trinidad). Messrs. Percival Hart, George Carrie, J. Walker, J. Anderson, R. Gilmour Thomson, T. Morton, W. G. Greenwood, T. W. White, H. E. Fisher, S. Peto, Carr Jackson, W. Somerville, and H. Foster Cutler; Drs. Lough, Reid, and Malcolm; Messrs. C. A. Ensell, E. J. Semple, A. Wilson, D. A. Watson (hon secretary), and J. T. Mill (hontreasurer). A récherché dinner having been partaken of, and the usual loyal and patriotic toasts duly honoured (Mr. Carr Jackson, responding for the "Army, Navy, and Reserve Forces"), Mr. G. Carrie (who was the first captain of the club, and had, perhaps, more to do with its formation than anyone else) proposed "The President," expressing regret that Mr. Littler was prevented from taking the chair at the first annual dinner of the club. Mr. P. Hart, in submitting the toast of "Prosperity to the Muswell Hill Golf Club," said they had completed two years of their exist-ence; they had 282 gentlemen and fifty lady members; a fine eighteen-hole course, and a comfortable club-house. course was not in absolute perfection at present, he believed it would be so by this time next year. He referred to the initial difficulties the committee had to overcome before they secured the ground over which they now enjoyed the game. They were now in possession of one of the best inland courses around London, at a rent of £200 a year for seven years. The club was essentially a playing club, and it would be for the committee to consider how many members the ground would stand. He thought that 350 would be the utmost number they could put on the course; and when the committee had fixed the limit, they would do their level best to make the club the best and strongest on the north side of London. The whole company applauded these encouraging remarks, and the toast was drunk with the greatest enthusiasm.

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The captain responded in a felicitous little speech in which he narrated some of the difficulties the committee had to encounter at the outset of their career. The first difficulty they had to contend with was a too generous flow of water on the course in the winter time; but they hoped the drainage would be completed before next winter, and that they would ultimately have a good dry course. Alluding to the nature of the hazards at Muswell Hill, he observed that furze and water were now recognised as legitimate hazards on any inland Golf course, while trees lent an additional charm to the landscape. At Muswell Hill they had both trees and long grass-the latter form of hazard being particularly objectionable in the opinion of some. He was certain that within another year the Muswell Hill course would challenge comparison with any in the neighbourhood of London. Mr. Davies, in giving "the Committee and Officers," created much merriment by suggesting to the committee that they should really try to do something to put an end to the obnoxious practice of profane swearing on the course. It was a practice he strongly deprecated, and rurely indulged in himself. They had an excellent course; the hazards in the shape of fences ditches, hedges, and gaps, were everything that could be desired—in fact they were much too efficient for the purpose. Mr. Tom White, the late captain, responded to the toast.

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Mr. J. Anderson proposed "Brother-Golfers and Visitors," who were represented, among others, by Mr. R. M. Routledge and Mr. T. D. Bolton, M.P., and these two gentlemen respectively acknowledged the honour. The last toast on the list was "The Ladies," submitted by Mr. Stewart, and responded to by Mr. D. A. Watson. The speeches were interspersed and enlivened by songs and musical sketches. Messrs Watson, Rowan, and Cameron gave a most enjoyable rendering of

Burns's famous song, "Oh, Willie Brewed a Peck o' Maut." They showed a true appreciation of the pawky humour of the scene depicted by the national bard, and their dramatic interpretation of the line "We are na fou, we're nae that fou," was irresistably comic. It was, in fact, too good not to be repeated, and the company insisted upon an encore. Mr. Hart sang "Sir Marmaduke" in first-rate style; Mr. Nye gave a pleasing rendering of the beautiful song, "A May Morning," which just suited his sweet tenor voice, and for which he received an encore; Mr. Davies was not less successful in his singing of "In Cellar Cool"; while Mr. Archer, in his clever musical sketch, "The Rural Railway Ride," and a song, entitled "The City Man," contributed not a little to the enjoyment of the company. Mr. Josiah Booth was a most efficient accompanyist. Amid songs, speeches, and the fragrant fumes of cigars, the hours passed all too quickly, and the club are to be congratulated on the success of their first festive gathering.

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Samuel Tucker, the professional at St. Andrews, Yonkers, U.S.A., James Foulis, professional of the Chicago Golf Club, and R. Foulis, professional of the Lake Forest Golf Club, sailed from America for Scotland on December 7th. They will spend three months in this country, afterwards returning to America.

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Messrs. Longmans & Co. are to publish in January a new book by Mr. Andrew Lang, entitled "A Monk of Fife, a Romance of the Days of Jeanne d'Arc. Done into English, from the Manuscript in the Scots' College of Ratisbon, by Andrew Lang," with Illustrations and initial letters by Selwyn Image. "The Red True Story Book" is Mr. Lang's contribution towards a merry Christmas for children, old and young, in 1895. In preparing the interesting story book, he has been assisted by Mr. S. R. Crockett, Mr. Rider Haggard and others. Next year he promises for the festive season, "something quite as true as history, and quite as entertaining as fairies."

Messrs. Roberts, Somerville and Co., the eminent firm of tweed manufacturers, Galashiels, N.B., are again bringing under the notice of golfers and others the cloth for which the firm have everywhere received the highest commendation. Gentlemen preparing their rig-out for next golfing season would be wise to write direct to this firm for patterns of these tweeds, and secure their suits from the makers, thus saving the intermediate profits. The firm send patterns post-free to any address, and promise to supply orders by return of post, carriage paid. We believe the members of the firm are adepts both at Golf and curling, which ought to help them in manufacturing suitable garments for the games.

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The town of Mansie Wauch and Norman Macleod is not going to be left in the lurch. Hitherto the golfers there who take the lead from the minister, Dr. Gray, and the doctors—Ballantyne and Lucas—have gone to Musselburgh or further afield for their game. Now Dalkeith is to have a green of sown. The Marquis of Lothian, it is understood, is willing to come to terms for a course at Lothian Bride, where there is some fine old pasture-land with a royal gate for an entrance already provided.

The Hawick Golf Club recently held a smoking concert, at which Mr. James Barrie, hon secretary of the club, was presented with a valuable revolving bookcase and books, and an illuminated card of life-membership, in appreciation of his long and able services to the club. Mr. Barrie, in thanking the members for their kindness, spoke of the great progress which Golf had made in Hawick within the last few years.

Mr. John Penn, M P., has been entertaining a shooting party at Archerfield, and capital sport has been had. The Duke of Athole and Lord Balfour of Burleigh, Secretary for Scotland, were members of the party.

Mr. J. McArthur Moir, of Hillfoot, has presented to the Dallas Golf Club a silver challenge medal. The medal bears the donor's coat-of-arms and motto on one side, and on the other, space for the names of winners, the first to have the honour being Mr. J. B. Wyles, Commercial Master, Dallas Academy, with a score of 83.

"Two years ago," says the New York Herald, "Golf was hardly known in this country, but now it occupies one of the most prominent places in the list of American sports. It has been said by veteran golfers who are thoroughly posted on the game in the old country that the growth in America during this past season is fully equal to a five years' growth in England."

A French priest is now going the rounds who is reported to have given the best French definition of Golf in remarking that he had seen Monsieur le Ministre "playing football with two sticks."

Mr. Thomas Gilroy, to whose appointment as secretary to the Seaford Golf Club we referred last week, has done much for the Royal and Ancient Game in treland during the last fifteen years. His advice has been continually sought whereever new greens were projected, and it was always unstintingly and ungrudgingly given. As to giving hints to beginners, Mr. Gilroy had no equal. No tyro was too weak for Mr. Gilroy to take in hand, and whether he played 16 or 60 to a hole Mr. Gilroy's urbanity was ever unruffled, and nought but words of pleasant counsel and healthy encouragement escaped his lips. The writer well remembers early lessons generously given him at Portrush by Mr. Gilroy, and on one occasion after breaking three of his mentor's clubs going to one hole, Mr. Gilroy laughingly remarked, "I'll bring you a club after luncheon that you'll not break," and sure enough after luncheon Mr. Gilroy turned up with an old driver of McEwan's with a steel core in the shaft! Mr. Gilroy is indeed the father of Irish Golf in the truest sense. Con amore, he worked as no paid pioneer ever worked, and his name is known and reverenced upon every Irish green, and many an Irish discussion has been prevented from turning into an Irish row by the simple words, "Well, Tom Gilroy says so," rendering further wrangling futile. Ireland has sustained a loss, and Sussex has gained thereby. We trust Southern golfers will not fail to profit from the vast experience and intricate knowledge Mr. Gilroy possesses of all departments of the game.

The United Gutta Percha and Rubber Company (Limited), Craigpark Works, Glasgow, are the makers of a good ball, known as the "St. Andrew," which has found much acceptance among players in Scotland. It is of the ordinary pattern, well nicked and painted (a trifle too thickly coated, perhaps), flies well off the club, with plenty of carry in its flight, and behaves well on the putting green. For Southern greens, where water hazards abound, the "St. Andrew" ball ought to be received with favour, for it floats, and can therefore be recovered from ponds and rivers.

The Kettering Golf Club, at a special general meeting held on Saturday last, had under consideration the question of opening the club to members, at a lower subscription, at the discretion of the committee. It was ultimately decided to admit members without entrance fee, and at an annual subscription of not less than 10s. The present members will keep on at the old subscription, but the lower price will meet the existing needs of a number who, whilst being interested in the game, have not the spare time or means to enable them to participate, at the higher subscription.

TROON LADIES' GOLF CLUB.—The monthly competitions were held on Saturday. The weather being stormy, the attendance was small, and the scores were not up to usual. Winner of scratch competition, Miss Mary F. Bishop, 61. Winner of handicap competition, Miss Flora Gilmour, 73, less 8=65.



ABERDEEN.

VICTORIA GOLF CLUB.—The members of this club competed on Wednesday and Saturday of last week, over the usual links course, for the scratch and handicap and aggregate prizes. The weather was very unfavourable on both days for good Golf, and, in consequence, very few scores were handed in. On comparing the cards at the close it was found that Mr. T. B. Reith had won the scratch medal for the month with a score of 84, while the handicap and aggregate prizes first-class players resulted in a tie between Messrs. T. B. Reith, 84, and J. Rennie, 92, less 8=84. Among the remaining cards the following had the lowest figures: Messrs. J. H. Shepherd, 92, and G. Souter, 95.

ABERDEEN GOLF CLUB.—The monthly medal competition was held on Saturday, December 14th, over the Balgownie course, under very bad weather conditions. The best card returned for the scratch medal was 91 from Mr. J. B. Craigie. The bowl, given by Mr. A. J. W. Storie, and played for under handicap conditions, was tied for by Mr. J. B. Craigie (scratch), 91, Mr. M. M. Duncan, 93, less 2=91, and Mr. T. Todd, 93, less 2=91. Mr. L. S. Anderson did the round in 92, plus 3=95.

A match took place between the Professors and Students over the Balgownie Links on Saturday, December 14th. The professors won by 6 holes. Permission to play over Balgownie Links was kindly granted by the secretary of the Aberdeen Golf Club.

ARDEN GOLF CLUB.

The monthly cup competition for December was played on Saturday, December 7th. Play was almost impossible, as snow lay over the links. Mr. F. A. Bainbridge proved to be the winner. Scores:—Mr. F. A. Bainbridge, 97, less 6=91; Mr. O. Airy, 101, less 5=96; Mr. A. E. Wilson-Browne, 100, less 2=98; Mr. E. P. Wright, 103, less 4=99. Several others made no return.

Several others made no return.

November's "Bogey" competition was won by Mr. A. E. Wilson-Browne, who was 2 up, with a handicap of 2. Mr. A. E. Wilson-Browne won the captaincy for 1896 having returned six lowest gross scores for the monthly cup during the year. He also takes the prize given for the six lowest net scores returned for the same competition.

ARDEN V. KENILWORTH.

This match was played at Solihull, on Wednesday, December 11th, and resulted in a win for the home team by 8 holes.

ARDEN.			KENILWOI	RTH.		
	Ho	les.			Ho	les.
Mr. A. E. Wilson-Browne Mr. E. P. Wright Mr. O. Airy Mr. F. A. Bainbridge Mr. M. C. Lord Mr. W. P. Wilson-Browne	•••	3 4 0 0	Mr. M. T. Brown Mr. A. C. S. Glover Mr. A. Duchesne		***	0
	1	16				8

BRIGHTON AND HOVE GOLF CLUB.

Friday, December 13th.—A "Bogey" competition took place in most unfavourable weather, a gale blowing from the north-west making it impossible for anyone to hope to defeat "The Colonel." The prize, a handsome silver cigarette box for the table, presented by Mess. H. R. Knipe and S. S. Schultz, was won by Mr. P. Tindal Robertson. The following scores will show how the good players were discomfited:— "Bogey's" score, 78.—Mr. P. Tindal Robertson (11), 8 down; Hon. Ivo Bligh (2), 9 down; Mr. R. S. Greenhill (13), 9 down; Mr. H. E. Acklom (3), 10 down; Mr. E. J. Game (7), 10 down; Mr. D. E.

Cardinall (II), 10 down; Mr. H. R. Knipe (I2), 10 down; Mr. J. Brock (5), 11 down; Mr. P. A. Willett (8), 11 down; Mr. T. S. D. Selby (II), II down; Major G. Edwardes (I4), II down; Mr. J. F. Chance (7), 12 down; Mr. P. de Worms (10), 13 down; Mr. R. B. Reid (7), 14 down; Mr. George Rumsey (8), 14 down; Mr. G. R. Burnett (15), 14 down. Twenty made no returns.

At five p.m. the annual general meeting of the club was held at the Clarence Rooms, Hotel Metropole, when Mr. P. A. Willett was elected to be the captain for the ensuing year. Mr. H. F. de Paravicini was reinstated on the committee, and Messrs. A. C. Woolley and Fra er Baddeley were elected to serve in place of Messrs. W. O. Baily and S. S. Schultz, who retire by rotation. The meeting terminated with the

usual votes of thanks.

In the evening the annual dinner took place at eight p.m. in the handsome Octagon Room of the Clarence Suite of the Hotel Metropo'e, to which sixty-nine sat down, in spite of some few disappoin ment, at the last moment. The tables were very tastefully decorated with silks and flowers in the club colours of red and orange, and a most excellent dinner was perfectly served, reflecting great credit on the manager of the hotel and his assistants. The "Queen" having been toasted in the usual hearty manner among Englishmen, the other toasts, and installation of the new captain, Mr. P. A. Willett, by the retiring one, Mr. H. F. de Paravicini, whose year of office he has every reason to be proud of, were soon over, and during the remainder of the evening Messrs. Eustace Ponsonby and Victor Tapling gave several songs and recitations, ably assisted by Messrs. H. E. Acklom and Wil iam Keen.

On Saturday, the 14th, the competition for the De Worms challenge cup and the club prize for winners of the Berens monthly medal took place. The following are the principal scores:—

	Gross	s. Hcp.	Net.	G	ross. l	Нср.	Net.
*Dr. Bruce E. Goff *†Dr. Brock	80 87	scr.	80 80	Mr. E. J. Game Mr. E. F. S. Tyle-		9	88
Hon, Ivo Bligh	85	2	83	cote	96	7	89
Mr. H. E. Acklom	89	4	85	Mr. D. E. Cardinall I	103	14	89
Mr. F. M Luther	102	16	86	Mr. F. L. Rawson .	93		90
Maj. G. Edwardes .	104	18	86	Mr. C. O. Walker	95	5	90
				Mr. P. Tindal			
				Robertson I			
Mr. P. de Worms	100	13	87	Mr. A. O Jennings 1	105	13	92
Mr. R. S. Gre nhill	104	17	87	Mr. R. B. Reid 1	102	Q	93
				Mr. C. R. Hartley 1			
Mr. Duncan Furner	95	7	88	Capt. Congreve 1	115	20	95
				Mr. E. Pinto I			
			* T	ied.			

† Dr. Brock wins club prize, value £5, for winners of monthly medal.

Thirty-six p'ayers made no returns. Weather fine; wind light, N.W. to W.

BRIGHTON AND HOVE LADIES' GOLF CLUB

Monthly medal, December 11th. Owing to a bad day, very few competitors: — Mrs. A. O Jeonings (winner of medal and scratch prize and six balls), 100, less 29=71; Mrs. Cripps, 109, less 27=32 (won the backle); Miss Reid, 110, less 24=36; Mrs. Baker, 101, less 14=37. Mrs. Keen again won the patting competition with 21.

BALHAM GOLF CLUB.

December me lal.—Mr. A. Cole, 106, less 18=88; Mr. G. Larkins, 93, less 2=91; Mr. F. J. Randall, 104, less 9=95; Mr. A. E. Rowarth, 104, less 9=95

BIRKDALE GOLF CLUB.

In the second round for the honorary secretary's prize the field on Saturday was limited to sixteen, rain being almost incessant. Mr. S Bateman put in a win and took the first sweep, Mr. W. Bowker securing the second. Scores:—Mr. S. Bateman, 97, less 8=89; Mr. C. A. Atkinson, 109, less 18=91; Mr. J Sykes, 113, less 18=95; Mr. W. Bowker, 109, less 12=97; Rev. W. B. Hutton, 132, less 27=107. No returns from eleven others.

CHISWICK LADIES' GOLF CLUB.

The monthly medal was played for on December 11th. A dense fog and frost made good scoring an impossibility:—Miss Anning, 134, less 17=117; Mrs. Sim, 188, less 20=118; Miss Malet, 132, less 12=120; Mrs. Finnis, 138, less 14=124. No other returns.

CLAPHAM COMMON GOLF CLUB.

Men's medal.—Mr. S. G. Wallis Adams, who in November won the monthly medal in such brilliant style, was again the victor on December 5th in the contest for the Cronin monthly medal. Mr. C. E. Last ran him very close this time. A very strong wind was blowing, and this caused most of the players to return higher scores than

usual:—Mr. Wallis Adams, 95, less 6=89; Mr. C. E. Last, 98, less 8=90; Mr. T. Ravenhill, 113, less 18=95; Mr. S. H. Wells, 121, less 22=99. Several others made no returns.

Ladies' medal.—The Committee handicap medal was played for over the short course on December 10th:—Mrs. Greenfield, 123, less 27=98; Miss A. H. Bradbury, 123, less 23=100; Mrs. Woodhead, 115, less 12=103; Mrs. Hu ry, 132 (not handicapped). Several others made no returns.

CHESTER GOLF CLUB.

The fourth competition for the gold medal was played for by the ladies on Tuesday, December 10th. The day was perfect for Golf, but, owing to counter-attractions, only the keener golfers turned out. The medal was won by Miss Cogswell, she having been fortunate in winning it twice this year. The following cards were handed in:—

Gr	oss. H	cp.	Net.			G	ross.	Hcp.	Net
*Miss Cogswell	95	24	71	Mrs.	Tyrer	224	100	13	87
†Miss A. Rowley	96	21	75 1	Miss	Shand		102	15	87
Mrs. James Frost	91	15	76	Miss	G. Cogswell	***	91	3	91
Mrs. Hanney 1	08	24	84						

* Win in for medal and first sweepstake. † Second sweepstake. No returns from Mrs. Archer, Miss M. Rowley, and Miss F. Shand.

DIDSBURY GOLF CLUB.

The third monthly winter competition took place on Saturday, December 7th, with the following result:—

Gross.	Gross, Hcp. Net.						
Prfessor T. II. Core. 98							
Mr. Jno. Gell 104					12	98	
Mr. C. T. Sloan 104							
Mr. C. H. Schill 105	15	90	brough	103	4	99	
Mr. A. Galbraith 101	10	16	Mr. W. H. Young	113	14	99	
POLI	- 12		1				

There were twenty-one entries.

FORFARSHIRE.

On Carnoustie Links on Saturday, December 14th, the second of the series of the winter monthly hardicap competitions of the Dalhousie Club took place. Play as usual was against "Colonel Pogey," whose figures for the round stand at \$2. The ground during the past fortnight has hardly been in a fit state for Golf, and consequently the attendance of members on the course has been rather limited. The weather on Saturday was dull, and during the forenon a good deal of rain fell. Mr. R. B. Sharp, who was late in starting, played an excellent game, and held the "Colonel" pretty tightly all the way round. At the turn the scratch man had the advantage, but near the hnish the light gave way, and Mr. Sharp had to be content with a level draw against "Bogey." Mr. Sharp's figures for the eighteen holes were put down at \$2. The winners were:—First, Mr. R. B. Sharp, square; second and third, tie, James Duncan (4), 4 down; Mr. W. H. Blyth Martin (5), 4 down; and Mr. W. Mann (8), 4 down.

GRIMSBY AND CLEETHORPES v. HESSLE (E. YORKS).

This match was played on Saturday, December 14th, and Cleethorpes, the home team, won by 3 up :-

GRIMSBY AND CLE	ETH	ORPES		Hessle.					
		Ho	les.			Ho	les		
Mr. J. Barker	500	966	2	Mr. T. P. Cooke	***	***	0		
	200	444	6	Mr. J. J. Frazer	444	140.6			
Mr. J. F. Wintringha	m		0	Mr. C. O. F. Saner	4440	444	1		
	***		0	Mr. W. S. Wright	9.896	10000	2		
Mr. T. M. Hawkins	111	+1.4	0	Mr. F. Grotrian	1000	14441	2		
			-				-		
			S				5		

THE EDINBURGH BURGESS SOCIETY AND SUNDAY GOLF.—The following circular has been issued:—" Edinburgh Burgess Golfing Society, 11, York Buildings, Edinburgh, December 12th, 1895. DEAR SIR,—The following requisition, signed in accordance with Rule XVI., having been received, viz:—"We, the undersigned, being of opinion that the recent by-law (prohibiting Sunday Golf) passed by the Council is contrary to the wishes of the majority of the members and the constitution of the club, desire a special meeting in order that the feeling of all the members be taken."—I am directed by the captain to call a special meeting, to be held in the Queen Street Hall, No. 5, Queen Street, Edinburgh, on Monday, December 23rd, 1895, at eight o'clock p.m. As the business of this meeting is of the utmost importance, I hope you will find it convenient to be present.—I am, yours faithfully, Arthur S. Muir, Honorary Sccre'ary."

GUILDFORD GOLF CLUB.

The monthly medal competition took place on Saturday, December 14th, in fine weather. There was a good muster of players, and thirteen cards were returned. Mr. W. M. Corrie was far ahead of anyone else in his gross and net results, making a very steady round of 84, which, with his allowance of 6, left him with a net of 78. The full results are given below:

Gro	oss,	Нср.	Net.	G	ross.	Hcp.	Net.
Mr. W. M. Corrie .	84	6	78 1	Mr. H. L. Forbes	94	3	91
Mr. W. P. Trench .							
Mr. J. A. Ross							
LieutCol. Webster	103	15	88	Mr. C. Sante	100	7	93
Mr. E. S. Trouncer	94	5	89	LieutCol. Sykes	105	10	95
Mr. R. Howell					113	18	95
Mr. J. C. Taylor	105	15	90				

The "Bogey" sweep, which has been open to all members since the middle of September, was closed on December 13th. None of the competitors were able to secure a victory over "Bogey," but two cards showed a result of a halved match. These two, Lieut.-Col. Webster and the Rev. H. C. Gaye, are at present ties for the prize.

HALIFAX GOLF CLUB.

Monthly medal, Decembe	r 14th :			
Gross, E	Icp. Net.	G	ross. Hcp.	Net.
Mr. J. H. Bottomley 135	46 89	Mr. L. H. Long-		
Mr. J. R. Pollitt 124	34 90	bottom	138 32	106
Mr. Fred Uttley 140	12 98	Mr. John Bairstow	129 22	107
Mr. H. J. Homfray 121 2				III
Mr. F. Fletcher 135				112
Mr. F. Barraclough 121	16 105	Mr. A. F. Firth	131 16	115
Mr. G. W. Highley 133	28 105	Mr. S. W. Highley	131 14	117

HEADINGLEY GOLF CLUB.

Monthly medal, pl					Result		
G	ross.	Нср.	Net.		Gross.	Hcp.	Net.
Mr. F. P. Joscelyne	100	9	91	Mr. C. Richardso	n 107	14	93
Mr. J. P. Thompson	110	19	91	Mr. J. E. A. Title	y 110	14	96
Mr. H. Oxley	99	6	93	Mr. A. Barran .	. 124	25	99
Mr. J. B. Bower							

HEATON MOOR GOLF CLUB.

The monthly competition for the president's cup took place on Saturday, in weather us bad as its clerk could make it, and on puttinggreens, with the links throughout, sodden with rain. Scores:—

	Gross.	Hcp.	Net.		G	ross, l	dep.	Net.
Mr. Stelfox Mr. Hunt Mr. Glover Mr. Gow Mr. Dewse	103 103 105 99 106	10	93 93	Mr. Spilsbury Mr. Thomson Mr. Stirling Mr. Miniati	***	99 102 101 116	7 5	95 95 96 103

The first named was the winner, and the sweep was divided between Messrs. Hunt and Glover.

KENILWORTH GOLF CLUB.

The Kenilworth cup was played for on December 14th, Mr. F. Carter, the winner, having won it twice before, it now becomes his own property.

	Gross.	Hcp.	Gross, Hcp. N				
Mr. F. Carter	95	20	75	Rev. Mr. Macdona	100	14	86
Mr. J. Kinmond							
Mr. W. G. Etheridge	97	16	81	Mr. A. C. S. Glover	100	II	89
Mr. T. Latham							
Mr. W. Stead	95	II	84	Mr. E. C. Cooper	105	13	92
Eight others sent in	no	retur	n.				

KING'S NORTON GOLF CLUB.

The final competition for the possession of the ladies' monthly medal took place on Thursday, December 12th, in pouring rain and driving wind. Mrs. Symonds (winner), 109, less 6=103; Mrs. Holcroft, 123, less 12=111; Mrs. W. G. Goode, 136, less 21=115; Miss M. Wolseley, 122, less 5=117; Miss Wynn and Miss Swinford made no return. An extra prize was given for the aggregate of the three lowest net scores sent in during the year for this competition. This prize was won by Miss May Wolseley, who sent in the following scores—95, 99, 100.

KING'S NORTON V. ROBIN HOOD.

Played at King's	Norton	, De	cem	ber 11th. Score:-			
King's No	ORTON.			ROBIN H	OOD.		
		Ho	les.			Hol	es.
Mr. A. D. Charles		10.2	0	Mr. H. Lowe	200	100	1
Mr. S. R. Baker		***	3	Mr. E. Fordred	***	7.5	0
Mr. S. Jebb Scott	1044000	***	0	Mr. E. W. Mason		5.12.67	1
Mr. P. F. Wallis		2.55	1	Mr. F. Lindner	***	2.4.6	0
Mr. F. Holliday	***	YEA	4	Mr. S. Harris			0
Mr. C. J. Hart	+3+3	Kee.	2	Mr. J. F. Jordan	1398	100	0
			-				-
			IO				2

Majority for King's Norton, 8 holes.

KETTERING v. NORTHAMPTON.

The tie was played off on Thursday, December 12th, with the following result :-

KETTERIN	G.			Northamp	ON.		
		Ho	oles.		Hol	es	
Mr. W. Meadows		777	1	Mr. N. Dawson		33	0
Mr. R. B. Wallis	1000	104	0	Mr. B. B. Muscott	100	1576	8
Mr. C. Saunders	22.	244	0	Rev. H. H. Stewart	1	1272	1
Mr. F. Mobbs		***	0	Mr. W. C. Henderso	n		I
Mr. A. Barlow	***	***	C	Mr. G. M. Tebbutt		***	2
Mr. A. H. Bryan		***	2	Mr. R. Scriven		***	0
Mr. A. G. Leighton	***		3	Mr. A. E. Phipps	F9.9	***	0
Mr. E. P. Toller	++1	***	11	Mr. H. Marshall		***	0
			-				-
			17				12

LYTHAM AND ST. ANNE'S GOLF CLUB.

The weather on December 11th was most unfavourable for the competition for the gold badge on the ladies' links of the Lytham and St. Anne's Golf Club, a steady and heavy downpour of rain from noon, succeeding a damp, dark, and disagreeable morning; but, notwithstanding this, a fair number of ladies went out, and the cards returned with scores of under 120 net were:—

G	Gross, Hcp. Net.							
Mrs. J. B. Parkinson	IOI	14	87	Miss H. Oram		116	20	96
Mrs. Rushton	112	25	87	Miss E. Salt	***	113	16	97
Miss Rushton	113	23	90	Mrs. Tweedale	***	119	17	102
Mrs Eason	98	6	92	Miss Mallett		142	25	117
Mrs. Brown	93	SCI.	93				25	- 3

Several ladies did not send in their cards. It will be seen that the result was a tie between Mrs. J. B. Parkinson and Mrs. Rushton. This tie will have to be played off. The last winner was Mrs. H. L. Wright.

MANCHESTER GOLF CLUB.

The third monthly competition in connection with the Captain's cup took place on Saturday, December 7th, at Manley Park. A large number of members took out cards, but, owing to the very unfavourable weather in the early part of the day, several had to give up before completing the round. Mr. John Macalister, with the lowest gross score, 89, less 4, tied with Mr. R. Brown, with 95, less 10. The following are the returns under the century:—

		Gross, Hcp. Net.				
Mr. John Macalister	89 5	84	Mr. T. C. Dean 1	03 12	10	
Mr. R. Brown	95 10	85	Mr. E. O. Schneider 1	08 16	92	
Mr. G. Haig	94 7	87	Mr. A. C. Knight	96 3	93	
Mr. E. Gittins 10	07 20	87	Mr. A. Harden I	08 15	93	
Mr. E. H. Smith 10	06 18	88	Mr. W. W. Lyall I	18 25	93	
			Mr. W. C. Adamson			
Mr. J. J. Franklyn . 10	08 18	90	Mr. H. Smith I	10 13	97	
Mr. W. Bell	91 src.	91				

MILFORD-ON-SEA GOLF CLUB.

The December monthly competition for the Bruce medal, was won by Miss Clarke. A cleek competition was won by Mr. Kennedy, Miss J. Pothecary being second.

MORETON LADIES' GOLF CLUB.

In most wretched weather the monthly medal was played for on the 11th inst. Owing to the heavy rain only sixteen members took out cards. The returns of those that completed the round were:—Miss K. Ball, 95, less 8=87; Miss Spence, 101, less 12=89; Miss M. Ball, 95, less 5=90; Miss Jackson, 108, less 16=92; Miss B. Comber, 118, less 25=93; Miss M. Comber, 123, less 24=99. Ten members made no returns.

MARPLE v. OWEN'S COLLEGE (VICTORIA UNIVERSITY, MANCHESTER).

These clubs played a match on Saturday on the Marple Links, Marple winning by 20 holes :---

MARPLE.			OWEN'S COL	LEGE.		
	Hole		is.		Ho	les.
Mr. G. Sherwin		I	Mr. G. G. Campion			0
Mr. H. P. Hill	1000		Mr. T. H. Core	***		0
Mr. A. Simon	1000	4	Mr. A. Harden	444	1000	0
Mr. R. D. Callison	19.84	0	Dr. G. H. Bailey	444	***	0
Mr. F. Barlow		O	Dr. Lean		14.	2
Mr. C. H. Rorth	***	13		***	177	0
Mr. F. Cox	***	4	Mr. G. J. Fowler	***	444	0
		-	The state of the s			-
		22				2

NEASDEN GOLF CLUB.

		Carried Co.	
Annual	coold	merial	
Truitueri	COLU	TITLEFFE	Contract Contract

Gross	Hcp.	Gross. Hcp. Net.				
74	+1	75	Mr. S. Haward	97	16	81
77	2	75	Mr. E. N. Vowler	-98	16	81
			Mr. W. J. Grierson	97	14	83
96	21	75	Mr. F. J. Debenham	99	12	87
87	9	78	Mr. A. E. L. Slazenger	104	10	94
93	12	81				
	74 77 86 96 87	74 +1 77 2 86 11 96 21 87 9	74 +1 75 77 2 75 86 11 75 96 21 75	74 +1 75 Mr. S. Haward 77 2 75 Mr. E. N. Vowler 86 11 75 Mr. A. H. Beard Mr. W. J. Grierson 96 21 75 Mr. F. J. Debenham 87 9 78 Mr. A. E. L. Slazenger	74 +1 75 Mr. S. Haward 97 77 2 75 Mr. E. N. Vowler 98 86 11 75 Mr. A. H. Beard 94 Mr. W. J. Grierson 97 96 21 75 Mr. F. J. Debenham 99 87 9 78 Mr. A. E. L. Slazenger 104	96 21 75 Mr. F. J. Debenham 99 12 87 9 78 Mr. A.E.L. Slazenger 104 10

Special prizes for best scores out and home :- Out-Messrs, R. H. Glanfield and C. A. Barton tied. Home-Messrs. E. N. Vowler and T. H. Lewis tied.

NORTHWOOD v. RICHMOND.

Medium handicap match.—The following match took place at Sudbrook in half a gale of wind and heavy rain, with the following

Northwo		RICHMOND.						
		H	oles.			Ho	oles,	
Mr. E. W. Stiven	***		0	Mr. J. B. Chamberla	in	222	9	
Dr. Dane	***		0	Capt. Reade, R.N.	***		9	
	***		0	Mr. C. V. Godby	***	2.51	1	
	252	***		Mr. J. B. Wood	***	Ver	10	
Mr. H. Chipp	***	***		Mr. R. Warner	***	***	2	
Mr. H. Stiven	400			Mr. Sydney Peel	***	***	0	
Mr. L. W. Webster	***			Mr. E. A. Peacher	***	400	0	
Mr. A. M. Hooper	(0.00)	200	1	Sir H. Pottinger	***	1144	0	
			_	STATE OF THE SECOND			777	
			8				28	

Richmond, 20 up.

The guests had a good round in bright sunshine before the match, and they went home with the determination to reverse the balance at the return match, which is to be played off at Northwood on Thursday,

PORTMARNOCK (DUBLIN) GOLF CLUB.

On the 14th inst, the December monthly medal was played for over the links at Sutton. The weather was on the whole favourable, although a strong westerly wind was blowing, which made low scoring rather a difficult matter, especially for those who have recently taken up the game. There was a large entry, and after a keen competition the winner turned up in Mr. W. C. Pickeman, who did each round in 45, and, with a handicap of 9, brought out his net score at 81. This being the third time Mr. Pickeman has won the medal during the year, he now becomes entitled to a facsimile in gold of the monthly medal. The second prize went to Mr. H. L. Bourke with 82, while that muchimproved player Mr. R. M'Quater, came third with 86. The following were the best returns made :-

	Gross.				ss. Hcp.	
Mr. H. L. Bourke	112	30	82 86	Mr. H. C. Roper I Mr. E. C. Bowker I Mr. W. H. Roper I Mr. Alan Roper I Mr. J. E. Scott I	23 30 12 18 16 18 28 30	93 94 98 98

REDHILL AND REIGATE GOLF CLUB.

The following were the best scores returned in the monthly medal competition on the 7th instant:—Rev. J. H. Bland (12), 2 down; Mr. C. L. Reade (3), 3 down; Mr. G. H. Emmet (10), 5 down; Colonel J. Freeland (10), 8 down; Dr. H. J. Cooper (20), 8 down.

ROBIN HOOD v. OLTON.

Played at Hall Green, December 14th :-

ROBIN HOOD.			OLTON.								
		Hol	es.			Ho	les.				
Mr. H. Lowe (capta	ain)	200	3	Mr. W. M. Cox		***					
Mr. E. Fordred		***	7	Mr. F. M. Chatterle	y	40	0				
Mr. F. Lindner	***		0	Mr. E. Bond		1000	3				
Mr. E. W. Mason	***			Mr. F. Feeny							
Mr. T. B. Barker	***	***	0	Mr. W. F. Haydon	(caj	otain)	1				
Mr. F. Stableford	***	***	3	Mr. E. Silk	***	***	0				
Mr. S. Harris		***	0	Mr. J. Heaton	***	***	3				
Mr. J. F. Jordan	***	455	2	Mr. J. Heaton Mr. E. Rowlands	***	13454	0				
							1				
			26	and the same			7				

ROCHDALE GOLF CLUB.

The fourth quarterly competition for the Stevens shield, with club prize added, took place on the King's Road Links on Saturday. The following were the net returns under 100, the winner being Mr. W. A. Scholes with 85 net:—Mr. W. A. Scholes, 88, less 3—85; Mr. F. Pilling, 93, less 5—88; Mr. W. S. Petrie, 95, less 3—92; Mr. G. D. McLennan, 104, less 9=95.

ROMFORD GOLF CLUB.

Monthly medal, Dece	ember 1	14th:		
Gr	oss. Hep	Net.	Gross, Hcp. Net.	S
Mr. D. Womersley . 9	3 8	85	Mr. C. C. Knowles 104 14 90)
Mr. F. Lawrence 8	9 2	87	Mr. S. Brown 97 5 92	2
Mr. H. E. Fenner 10	2 12	90	Mr. J. J. Read 99 4 95	ŝ
Mr. E. E. Benthall . 10	3 13	90		

ROYAL ARTILLERY (WOOLWICH) v. ROYAL ENGINEERS (CHATHAM).

Played at Chatham on Saturday, December 14th. A good match, ROYAL ARTHLERY. ROYAL ENGINEERS

	10/7/10/10/2011	H	oles.			Ho	les.
Major Coker	***	23.7	3	Lieut. Sladen .		***	0
Capt. Crampton		- 200	3	Lieut. Gwynn .		***	0
Capt. Lachlan		11	2	Major Stafford.	** ***	>>>	0
Capt. Hornby	200		0	Tent. Mahon .		100	3
Lieut. Thwaites	200	2000	0	Capt. Close .	44 444		3
Capt. Strange	444	1996	I	Lieut. Ley .		250	0
Capt. Rich		111	0	Capt. Haynes .	** ***	244	-1
							-
			9				7

Majority for Woolwich, 2 holes; four matches to three.

ROYAL ASHDOWN FOREST AND TUNBRIDGE WELLS GOLF CLUB.

Monthly medal :-Gross. Hcp. Net. Gross, Hcp. Net. *Mr. F. Hessenberg 96 18 78 Mr. L. B. Burns ... 91 *Mr. F. R. Lucas ... 97 Mr. A. D Stevenson 93 19 78 Rev. A. T. Scott ... 92 86 Mr. W. A. B. Mus-14 79 Mr. A. F. White ... 101 Mr. A. A. Cust †Mr. W. R. Spreckley 103 24 79 80 14 13 88 Mr. M. Drummond 89 Q Mr. A. A. Curteis... 92 Mr. E. D. Morgan 98 18 80 Mr. J. Bigwood, M.P. ... 95 10 85

* Tied for medal and divided first sweep. 1 Winner of Yewhurst gold clubs. + Winner of third sweep.

ROYAL EPPING FOREST GOLF CLUB.

"Bogey" foursome competition, December 14th. Result:—Messrs. C. J. Fox and J. G. Fowler, I up; Messrs. F. F. McKenzie and W. E. Hall, 2 down; Messrs. W. H. Boney and G. Hillyard Swinstead, 2 down; Messrs. C. R. P. Andrews and Wm. Walker, 2 down; Messrs. J. B. Shaw and J. Cleghorn, 3 down; Dr. W. Francis and Mr. T. R. Bastard, 4 down; Messrs. A. Boney and A. Greenlees, 4 down; Dr. J. D. Cruickshank and Mr. H. J. Hill, 4 down; Messrs. F. H. Swinstead and J. W. James, 5 down; Messrs. S. Ridgers and G. R. Mewburn, 5 down; Messrs. E. A. Tewson and Wm. Pearce, 5 down; Messrs. A. Kemp and E. A. Read, 6 down; Messrs. J. W. Greig and C. E. Greig, 6 down; Messrs, S. Kemp and J. W. M. Guy, 7 down; Messrs. J. G. Spence and H. J. Bowen, 7 down; Messrs. A. B. Smith and C. W. Cooke, 8 down; Messrs. D. Munro and C. Grundy, 8 down; Messrs. S. Lovering and G. Whitley, 8 down;

Messrs. W. G. MacGregor and J. O. Milledge, jun., 9 down; Messrs. W. H. Davies and H. Collet, 9 down; Mr. A. W. Good and Rev. E. A. Stuart, 11 down; Messrs. H. Lowen and W. H. Martin, 11 down; Messrs. G. T. B. Cobbett, and E. J. Naldrett, 12 down; Messrs. Wm. Nicholls and E. L. Latham, 12 down; Messrs. W. J. Crump and F. J. Farquharson, 14 down; Messrs. Wm. Challice and H. S. Harris, 15 down.

ROYAL EASTBOURNE LADIES' GOLF CLUB.

The monthly medal of this club was played for on Tuesday, December 10th, with the following result:—

Gross, Hcp. Net.					Gross, Hcp. Net				
Miss Dowker	20.0	78	3	75	Mrs. Pott	102	20	82	
Miss M. Smith	***	81	4	77	Miss E. de B. Scot	108	24	84	
Miss Lane		97	18	79	Miss L. Hoare	108	18	90	
Miss G. Mills	***	89	8	81	Mrs. S. Whitfeld	104	11	93	
Miss M. C. Reid	***	82	scr.	82	Miss Lambert	103	9	94	

ROYAL NORWICH GOLF CLUB.

The second anniversary meeting was held on Thursday and Friday, November 7th and 8th. On the first day rain fell persistently, but, nevertheless, there was a large turn-out of members, and the scoring was fair. A condition of the meeting is that a competitor cannot take more than one prize, and this led to rather a curious passing round of the honours. Mr. T. Ireland, who takes the scratch gold medal, was by this rule debarred from taking, also the handicap, and it was therefore tied for by Mr. Lock and Mr. Notley. Mr. Lock, however, came in for more important honours on the following day, so it falls absolutely to Mr. Notley. Mr. Deuchar takes second scratch prize and Mr. Tingey second handicap prize. Mr. G. E. White won the long handicap prize with a very meritorious score. Scores:—

Gross.	G	Gross, Hcp. Net				
Mr. T. Ireland 90	3	87	Dr. Everett	110	16	94
Mr. C. H. A. Lock 91	3	88	Mr J. A. Harmer	114	20	94
Mr. F. Notley 104	16	88	Mr. F. Jewson	103	8	95
Mr. J. C. Tingey 108	18	90	Mr. J. H. Gwillim	109	14	95
Mr. R. Jewson 102	IO	92	Mr. W. S. Wilcox	IIO	13	97
Mr. W. H. Gill 112						
Mr. J. J. W. Deucher 93 Mr. H. Cozens-Hardy 102	scr.	93				
Mr. H. Cozens-Hardy 102	8	94	Mr. G. E. White	III	25	86

The following were over 100, or made no returns:—Mr. E. T. Boardman, Revs. J. F. Darrell, W. S. Wright, E. B. Pearse, and J. H. Shakespeare, Dr. Watson, Messrs. H. Cooper Pattin, A. Smith, J. D. Smith, J. P. Raven, R. Lee Barber, G. E. Ellis, C. Steward, H. C. Bolingbroke, E. Nuthall, A. J. Clark, E. Rice, A. W. Jones, and W. Pinder.

The second day was devoted to the contest for the Colman cup, the blue ribbon of the year, a handsome silver loving cup, presented by the president, Mr. J. J. Colman. This competition consists of two rounds (thirty-six holes), and over the very sporting links at Rabbit's Hill is a severe test of a golfer's powers. The progress of Golf in Norwich was brought into strong relief by the scores returned when compared with those sent in a year ago. The winning score then was 196, and the runner-up 207. This year Mr. C. H. A. Lock improved upon this no less than 26 strokes, and five players beat last year's score. Of Mr. Lock's score too much cannot be said. His 80 for the first round was an exhibition of most brilliant Golf, and established an amateur record for the green which will not easily be broken, the previous best in any competition being 89. The merit of the performance may be judged from the fact that in the numerous professional matches which have been played over the links by such men as Taylor, Rolland, Sayers, and White no score below 78 has been recorded, and in the Norfolk Amateur Golf Championship played here last year, 90 was the lowest card returned. The details of Mr. Lock's first round were:—

This he followed up with a 90, and easily secured first place. The performance is not the less remarkable that Mr. Lock commenced Golf when the club was started two years ago. Mr. Deuchar (the holder) took second place with a score 8 strokes better than his winning score of last year. Scores:—

ore or fast year. Scores:						
				1st R'd	and R'o	i. Total.
Mr. C. H. A. Lock	283	***	7.55	80	90	170
Mr. J. J. W. Deuchar	***	300	0.00	92	96	188
Mr. T. A. Ireland	4.6.6	500	(***)	96	94	190
Mr. R. Jewson	193	***	***	90	IOI	191
Mr. F. lewson	1699	***		96	96	192
Mr. J. H. Mannall	***	200		97	103	200
Mr. E. B. Pearse	***	9.000	244	101	100	201
Mr. E. Rice	***		***	102	106	208
Mr. E. T. Boardman	494	200	0000	106	103	209
Others were over 210, or	made	no re	urn.		15.79	

The November monthly medal, played for the same day, the first round in the above counting, under handicap. Mr. Lock was an easy

	oss, Hcp.					
Mr. G. H. A. Lock.	80 3	77	Mr.H.C. Bolingbroke 106	16	90	
Mr. R. Jewson	90 10	80	Rev. E. B. Pearse . 101	10	91	
Mr. E. Rice I	02 18	84	Mr. J. J. W. Deuchar 92	SCT.	92	
			Mr. J. H. Gwillim . 106			
Mr. J. H. Mannall .	97 10	87	Mr. T. A. Ireland 96	- 3	93	
Mr. F. Jewson	96 8	88	Mr. E. Nuthall 118	20	98	
Mr. J. C. Tingey I						

Others were over 100, or made no return.

Ladies' December medal.—The above was competed for on Wednesday, December 4th. A high wind was blowing, and Miss Hardy's score is a most creditable one. Miss Hardy secures the silver medal, and Mrs. Tingey the bronze. Scores:—

Gr	Gross, Hcp. Net.		
Miss M. Cozens- Hardy 7 Miss M. W. Mot-	9 1 78	Miss H. Steward 102 Miss Deuchar 100 Miss V. Rackham 107	8 92
	3 2 81	Mrs. Hanning Lee 109	
Miss Bond 8 Miss A. P. Barwell 8		Mrs. Tingey 132	20 112

Mrs. Hales, Miss H. M. Bullard, Miss M. Smith, and others made no returns.

The competitions for the monthly silver and bronze medals took place at Hellesdon on Thursday, December 12th. There was a deuse fog in the morning, while in the afternoon heavy rain and wind supervened. Messrs. Harmer, Watson, and Rice tied for the silver medal with a net score of 90, while the Rev. W. S. Wright secured the bronze medal for long handic up players with a net score of 110. Some thirty players took out cards, our few w re returned, among whom were —

Gross	Нср.	Net.	Gross. Hcp. Net.
			Mr. J. C. Tingey 113 18 95 Mr. C. H. A. Lock 97 scr. 97
			Rev. H. C. A. Back 109 12 97
Mr. J. H. Gwillim 10	7 14	93	No. of the second

ROYSTON GOLF CLUB.

The monthly medal was played for on December 5th, the scores were high owing to the heavy wind. Mr. H. Pigg, having won it before, could not hold it again, which left Mr. Barnes Lawrence and Mr. G. F. Phillips to play off the tie, which Mr. Phillips won:—Mr. H. Pigg, 107, less 11=96; Mr. H. C. Barnes Lawrence, 108, less 5=103; Mr. G. F. Phillips, 106, less 3=103; Mr. H. N. Barclay, 116, less 12=104; Mr. R. F. Crossley, 123, less 14=109. Tie:—Mr. G. F. Phillips, 84, less 3=81; Mr. H. C. B. Lawrence, 92, less 5=87. No other returns.

This club played a match on December 7th, on the Royston Links, v. Cambridge University, when the home team won by two holes:—

Royst	ON.			CAMBRIDO	E.		
		Hol	Holes,				
Mr. H. C. Barnes I	awren	ce	5	Mr. K. Mc L. Mars	hall	444	0
Mr. C. Pigg	1000	1000	0	Mr. B. Darwin		***	2
Mr. J. W. Greig	10000	1220	0	Mr. B. C. Thompso	n	900	4
Mr. E. Flint	244	***	0	Mr. H. H. Marriott	222	114	5
Mr. I. L. Clark	***		0	Mr. N. R. Cram-Ev	ving	444	
Mr. J. K. Mather		***	0	Mr. B. Hilliard		100	
Mr. H. Pigg		***	2	Mr. F. H. Newnes			0
Mr. E. L. Milner Barry			9	Mr. F. H. Newnes Mr. W. Finlay	***	***	0
			-				-
			16				14

SALTBURN GOLF CLUB.

The club medal competition took place on Saturday, at Saltburn. Wind rather interfered with play, especially at the first tee, when several competitors came to grief. The new bunkers at the third, sixth, and seventh holes, are a great improvement, and will probably be extended and added to. The lies through the green are excellent.

"Bogey's" score of 82 is, in the opinion of many good players, rather too low; the committee will probably revise it, and add a couple of strokes. Scores.—Mr. W. F. Whitwell, 103, less 12=91; Mr. J. F. Whitwell, 102, less 6=96; Mr. Hugh Whitwell, 108, less 12=96; Mr. F. W. Griffin, 116, less 20=96. Other competitors over 100.

SCARBOROUGH GOLF CLUB.

The monthly medal was played for on Saturday, and was won by Mr. F. Bedwell, who finished I down against "Bogey." The other scores returned were:—Mr. L. P. Edwards, 6 down: Captain Freeth, 6 down; Mr. Brumell, 7 down. The remaining competitors made no return, or were more than 10 down.

SEAFORD GOLF CLUB.

The last monthly competition for the year took place on December 14th, and resulted in three players tieing with fair scores of 83 each. The weather was most favourable for low scoring, but the Seaford links is by no means so easy to play in winter as it is in summer. Puttinggreens and course throughout in fine order for the season of the year. Scores:—

Gi	G	Gross, Hcp. Net.			
Mr. W. Pontifex Dr. G. Shaw I Mr. H. A. Curteis Capt. G. Nugent	101 18 83 85 2 83	Mr. H. E. Currey Mr. T. S. Whitfield.	99 IO 99 8		

Several others made no return.

SHERINGHAM GOLF CLUB.

The ladies' monthly medal was played for on Monday, December 16th. The day was unfavourable for good scoring. The following returned cards:—

returned cards :-	ross.	Hen	Not		C	ross. l	Hen.	Not
Miss G. M. Cremer Miss F. K. Moone Mrs. H, Stopford Miss Drever	72 76 81	7 8 12	65 68 69	Miss J. Cremer Miss Cremer Miss Upcher	***	80 99 103 116	2 13 15	78 86 88

SOUTHPORT GOLF CLUB.

The sixth round in the second series of senior and junior competitions was reached on Saturday, when thirty-five players contested in miserable weather. Mr. T. Aitken recorded a win in the senior, and Mr. T. O. Clinning in the junior section, Messrs. Clinning, Aitken, and W. T. Rowley taking the three sweeps in order named. Scores:—

Senior—					
Gro	ss. Hcp.	Net.	Gross.	Нер.	Net
Mr. W. T. Rowley of Mr. R. Deane 10	14 5	89 90	Mr. J. B. Southern 102 Mr. H. Thomson 105 Mr. R. C. Ivy 103 Mr. H. B. Barlow 113	10	95 97
	oss. Hep	Net.	Gross.	Нср.	Net
Mr. James Dixon 1	17 25	92	Mr. L. Williamson 113 Mr. Cicero Smith 116 Rev. T. T. Lee-Jones 120	20	96
Fight senior and four	teen in	nior :	were over the too or else	made	. 170

Eight senior and fourteen junior were over the 100, or else made no returns.

STANMORE GOLF CLUB.

This competition took place on Saturday, December 7th, with the following results:—President's medal, winner, Mr. E. Hart, 100, less 15=85.

~ ~	G	ross. I	Icp.	Net.				G	ross. I	Icp. 1	Net
Mr. E. Hart		100	15	85	Mr.	S.	Klein	***	110	13	98
Mr. John Woods									IIO	12	95
Mr. E. Smith		97	3	94	Mr.	W	. M. Sing		109	10	99
Mr. S. Brunton	2.83	109	15	94							

Mr. Grinling's medal (winner, Mr. Harry Grinling).—Mr. Harry Grinling, 104, less 16=88; Mr. H. M. Winearts, 115, less 18=97; Mr. John Rand, 121, less 20=101; Mr. S. G. Skelton, 127, less 26=101.

ST. GEORGE'S GOLF CLUB, SANDWICH.

Monthly	medal,	Decem	ber	14th
---------	--------	-------	-----	------

	Gross.	Hcp.	Net.	G	ross. 1	Hcp. 1	Net.
Capt. Urmston	88	3	85	Mr. H. Nicholls	98	9	89
Mr. T. R. Mills	. 88	3	85	Mr. G. P. Leach	102	12	90
Sir B. Edwards	. 99	13	86	Mr. W. C. Anderson	106	16	90
Col. Parker	92	5	87	Col. Shewell Mr. R. C. Harrisson	113	22	91
Mr. W. M. Leggatt	. 93	6	87	Mr. R. C. Harrisson	106	14	92
Mr. W. Gay	96	9	87	Mr. I. N. Lockver	116	24	92
Mr. A. Bewes	100	12	88	Capt. Austen	96	2	94
Mr. C. H. P. Carte	91	2	89	Mr. A. C. Adam	103	9	94
Rev. Hyde Smith	. 93	4	89	Mr. J. L. Ridpath	105	11	94
Mr. H. Marzetti	105	16	89	Mr. T. Boyce	116	20	96
Other returns wer	e over	100					

TONBRIDGE GOLF CLUB.

December 11th.—Ladies' monthly challenge medal:—Mrs. J. Le Fleming, 53, less 12=41 (medal); Mrs. M. L. Hall, 58, less 10=48; Miss A. Le Fleming, 60, less 8=52. Others no return.

TRAFFORD GOLF CLUB.

Eighteen took out cards for the monthly medal here on Saturday last in miserable weather, the consequence being very few returned them, Mr. Brayshaw putting in a win for the month. The following are the returns under 100 net:—Trafford monthly medal—Rev. H. H. Brayshaw, 97, less 3=94; Mr. S. B. Graves, 98, less 3=95; Rev. D. Dorrity, 109, less 12=97.

THAMES DITTON AND ESHER LADIES v. ELTHAM LADIES (A TEAM).

Played over Thames Ditton and Esher links Monday, December 9th.

ELTHAM.

		Holes.			Holes.
Miss K. Walker	14.5	10	Mrs. Richardson		0
Miss Edgell	500	3	Mrs. McArthur	***	0
Miss A. Walker	44.4	1	Miss Richardson	18.85	0
Miss Barker	444	9	Mrs. Ireland	2000	,., 0
Miss Johnson	443	4	Mrs. Archie Keen		0
Miss S. Trollope	**	10 7	Mrs. White	944	0
		10			_
		34			0

WEST HERTS GOLF CLUB.

On Saturday last the usual monthly medal handicap competitions were held over the club course at Bushey. Handicaps of 12 and under: -Dr. A. Dunbar Walker, 93, less 9=84; Mr. A. G. Bradley, 95, less 10=85; Mr. Howard Williams, 95, less 8=87; Mr. B. M. Barton, 93, less 5=88; Mr. Isidore Clifford, 101, less 11=90; Mr. John Jackson, 103, less 12=91.

John Jackson, 103, less 12=91.

Handicaps over 12:—Rev. E. P. Anderson, 92, less 13=79; Mr. J.

A. Simson, 102, less 16=86; Mr. W. R. Carter, 110, less 16=94.

WEST LANCASHIRE LADIES' GOLF CLUB.

The St. Andrew's meeting of this club, took place last week, and resulted in Miss Welch with (scratch) 89, winning the first handicap prize, and Miss E. Shelmerdine, with 104, less 12=92, winning the second. Twenty-seven couples played, and the following were the scores returned under 100:—

	Gross, Hcp.	Net.		G	ross.	Hcp.	Net.
Miss Welch	89 scr.	89	Miss G. F. Taylor	ř	93	+4	97
Miss E. Shelmerdine	104 12	92	Miss Carr		94	+3	97
Miss C. S. Chilton	96 3	93	Mrs. Wimshurst	200	III	14	97
Miss Young	93 +3	96	Mrs. Sumner	12.	115	18	97
Mrs. Warr						SCr.	
Mrs. Johnson	112 16	96	Mrs. Petitjean	1927	107	9	98

WILMSLOW GOLF CLUB.

The third winter competition took place on Saturday, December 14th, when thirty-three members turned out. Mr. C. S. Hoare won the Boddington cup, and qualified for the final competition for the memento, and won the first sweepstakes. Mr. G. Bickham won the second sweepstakes. There was a tie between Mr. Judge Parry and Mr. R. A. Tatton for the Haworth cup and qualification for the final competition for the memento, and they will have to play off. The following are the scores under 100 net:—Boddington cup—

tite the beated different				9			
G	G	ross.	Нер.	Net.			
Mr. C. S. Hoare	80	SCI.	80	Mr. J. H. Milne	93	5	88
				Mr. J. A. Tweedale			91
Mr. G. Bickham	90	6	84	Mr. R. A. Bradley	97	5	92
Mr. T. A. Bradley							94
Mr. J. A. Hutton				Mr. J. J. Brickhill.	99	2	97
Mr. A. N. Cumming	90	3	87				

Haworth cup :-				
Gr	oss. 1	Нер.	Net.	Gross, Hcp. Net.
Mr. Judge Parry	98	13	85	Mr. P. O. W.
Mr. R. A. Tatton	98	13	85	Browne 108 15 93
				Mr. C. W. Stochr 110 16 94
Mr. J. Beaumont I				
Mr. H. Lancashire	110	20	90	mell 113 17 96
Mr. W. Wood I	104	13	91	Mr. H. Lathbury 110 13 97

NORTH BERWICK GOLF CLUB.—The weather here was favourable for Golf on Saturday, December 14th, and the course was fairly brisk with friendly matches. In connection with the Bass Rock Golf Club, the tie amongst seven members for the second and third handicap trophies resulted in Mr. J. Marr securing the second award, at 96, less 8=88, and Mr. A. Bernard the third, at 107, less 15=92. The competition for these trophies extends over the year. Among those who visited the course for the day was Willie Park, jun., who played a couple of rounds.

WOKING LADIES' v. PRINCE'S.

This match was played on Wednesday, December 11th, at Mitcham, and resulted in a win for the visitors.

Singles.—	
Woking,	PRINCE'S.
	les. Holes.
Miss Pascoe	7 Miss M. E. Phillips o
Mrs. Willock	3 Miss Rostron o
Miss Knight	5 Miss Langley o
Miss Shirreff	o Miss Hassard Short 2
Mrs. Cameron	o Miss Rutter o
Mrs. Lewis	o Miss M. Langley I
	-
	15
Foursomes.—	the late of the la
Woking.	PRINCE'S.
Hole	
Miss Pascoe and Mrs. Willock	I Miss M. E. Phillips and Miss
DATES A MISSISSIAN WATER THE INCOME.	Rostron 0
Miss Knight and Mrs. Came-	Miss Langley and Miss Rutter o
ron	3
Miss Shirreff and Mrs. Lewis	o Miss M. Langley and Miss
	Short 6
college of the specification in the pro-	4

WOODBRIDGE GOLF CLUB.

The monthly medal final, took place on Monday, December

Gro	ss. Hcp.	Net.	G	ross.	ncp.	mer.
Maj. R. King 9	4 10	84	Maj. Howey	106	13	93
Capt. Pole Soppitt . 9	4 10	84	Mr. F. J. W. Wood	103	4	99
Mr. W. B. Garrard 9	9 14	85	Mr. L. W. Hayward	117	18	99
Mr. A. J. Hayward 10	7 20	87				

No returns :- Sir R. Musgrave and Mr. Blomfield.

SEAFIELD GOLF CLUB,-The competition for the scratch and monthly medal and prizes was held over Leith Links on Friday and Saturday, December 13th and 14th, and resulted as follows:-Scratch medal, Mr. R. Robinson, 43; monthly medal and first prize, Mr. T. Mason, 45, less 4=41; second prize, Mr. F. P. Cochrane, 45, less 3½ =41½; third and fourth prize, Mr. A. Stoker, 46, less 4=42, and Mr. R. Gibson, 46, less 4=42; fifth prize, Mr. A. Rodger, 47, less 4½=42½; sixth prize, Mr. A. M. Johnston, 45, less 2=43, and Mr. H. M. Wallace, 49, less 6=43.

MEYRICK GOLF CLUB - Monthly medal competition, December 7th. Result :- Winner, Mr. S. A. Foreman, 97, less 7=90.

FORMBY GOLF CLUB,—Owing to bad weather the number of players on the Freshfield Links on Saturday, December 14th, for the sixth monthly optional prize competition was much smaller than usual. The win-in was recorded, and the single sweepstake taken by Mr. J. S. Remer, with 110, less 17=93; the next six best cards reading—Mr. Osbert Blundell, 100, less 6=94; Mr. H. Wakeham, 110, less 15=95; Mr. J. W. McConnell, 109, less 14=95; Mr. J. E. Twining, 112, less 16=96; Mr. J. E. Pearson, scratch, 97; Mr. J. R. Osgood, 119, less 17=102. The six winners who will compete next Saturday, December 21st, for actual possession are—Messis. Oswald Dobell, A. B. Rathbora, W. McClalland, B. B. Sylver, S. Smelt, and J. S. Bayer. Rathbone, W. McClelland, R. P. Sykes, S. Smelt, and J. S. Remer.

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