

# GOLF.

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

[REGISTERED AS A NEWSPAPER.]

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1895. DECEMBER.

- 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 Ashdown Forest : Monthly Medal.  
Birkdale : R. Jones's Prize (Final).  
Marple : Club Medal and Captain's Prize.  
Kemp Town : 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).  
Cinque Ports : Monthly Medal.  
Neasden : Monthly Medal.  
Alfreton : Bronze Medal ; Ladies' Silver Spoon.  
Warwickshire : Monthly Medal.  
West Herts : "Bogey" Competition.  
Moseley : Monthly Medal.  
Enfield : "Bogey" Competition (Kenilworth Cup).  
Eltham Ladies : Monthly Medal v. "Bogey."  
Wanstead Park : Monthly Medal.  
Glamorganshire :—Monthly Medal.  
Hardwick : Monthly Medal.  
Dec. 29.—Lytham and St. Anne's : Captain's Cup.

- Dec. 29.—Burnham (Somerset) : "Bogey" Competition.  
Dec. 30.—Woodbridge Ladies : Monthly Medal (Final).  
Dec. 31.—Bowdon : Ladies' Monthly Medal.  
Waveney Valley : Monthly Medal.  
Enfield : Ladies' "Bogey" Competition (Wyndcroft Prize).

1896. JANUARY.

- Jan. 1.—Wilmslow : Special Competition.  
Fairhaven : Mr. R. Walmsley's Prize.  
North Manchester : Captain's Cup.  
Trafford : New Year Club Prize.  
Cheadle : New Year's Competition.  
King's Norton Ladies : Challenge Prize.  
Lyme Regis : Monthly Medal.  
Jan. 1 and 2.—Royal Portrush : New Year Meeting.  
Jan. 2.—Woodbridge Ladies : President's Prize.  
Jan. 2 & 4.—Leicestershire : Monthly Medals.  
Jan. 3.—Seafeld : Tournament.  
Royal Cornwall : Monthly Medal.  
Jan. 4.—Finchley : Monthly Medal and Captain's Prize.  
Redhill and Reigate : Monthly Medal.  
Woodbridge : President's Prize.  
Royal Liverpool : Winter Optional Prizes.  
Macclesfield : President's Challenge Cup.  
Birkdale : Third Medals.  
Fairhaven : Monthly Medal.  
Woodford : Captain's Prize and Monthly Medal.  
North Manchester : "Bogey" Competition.  
Bowdon : Monthly Medal.  
Manchester : Captain's Cup.  
Brighton and Hove : Berens Gold Medal.  
Northwood : Monthly Medal.  
West Middlesex : "Bogey" Competition.  
Great Yarmouth : Monthly Medal.  
King's Norton : Monthly Challenge Cup.  
North-West Club (Londonderry) : Monthly Medal.  
Hythe : Monthly Medal.  
Neasden : "Bogey" Competition.  
London Scottish : Monthly Medal.  
Raynes Park : Monthly Medal.  
Bullwood : Monthly Medal.  
Tooting : Monthly Medal.  
Jan. 6.—Harrison Cup (Third Round, Handicap limited to  
18 strokes).  
Woodbridge : Monthly Medal.  
Hunstanton : Monthly Medal.  
Jan. 7.—Pau : Sir Victor Brooke Cup and Badge (First Round.  
Handicap limited to 18 strokes).  
Edinburgh : Monthly Medal.  
Royal Cornwall Ladies : Monthly Medal.  
Mid-Surrey Ladies : Monthly Medal.  
Jan. 8.—Pau : Sir Victor Brooke Cup and Badge (Second Round.  
Handicap limited to 18 strokes) ; Anstruther Shield and  
Badge (Open Handicap).  
Saltburn : "Bogey" Competition.  
Jan. 9.—Woodbridge Ladies : Monthly Medal.  
Jan. 10.—Bury : Monthly Medal.  
Chester : Gold Medal (Fifth Competition).

## PATENT DRIVERS.

There are many Patent Drivers, each variety aiming at the introduction of one or more advantages by the peculiarity of its construction. One point almost universally claimed by the patentees is long driving power, due to some peculiarity of balance, material, or general conformation; but endless are the means by which this end, along with the others claimed, is to be attained. There is the driver with "ballast chambers" for regulating the weight of the head; the indiarubber-cushioned face; the double-ended hammer, which if adopted, would go far to justify that opprobrious cry of "Scotch Croquet" which is such a favourite with the Philistine anti-golfer; and doubtless the introduction of the extra long carry driver, with a dynamite cartridge in the face, is only a matter of time.

Then the multiplicity of materials used in the construction of the patent driver lends a pleasing variety to their consideration; aluminium, of course has been pressed into the service, along with the more vulgar and ordinary varieties of wood, compressed or otherwise, xylonite, vulcanite, celluloid, iron, brass, and steel, not forgetting that the latter has been used for shafts, both as a core to wooden ones, enduing the latter with all sorts of unexpected qualities of suppleness and unbreakableness, and also as simple skewers of toy-like tenuity, having at one end a bloated-looking grip, and at the other an apparently far-gone hydrocephalic case.

All these clubs have their good points, like Mark Twain's horse, but, unfortunately for their patentees, the human golfer, like the cricketer, tennis-player, and athlete generally, has an eye for outline which tells him that the majority of them, though warranted to be joys for ever, will never be considered things of beauty. This factor, appearance, is more essential to successful club-making than is perhaps generally recognised, and although its value is very generally appreciated by the makers of guns, fishing-rods, and cricket-bats, yet there are manufacturers of the implements for other games, such as Golf, who do not seem to have realised that the neat appearance of, say a play club, is more readily recognised than its potential qualities as an implement of the game. This was what rendered difficult the introduction of the bulger and the broadhead, and it may safely be said that their present popular position has only been attained by due regard to their outline and general appearance.

Amongst these patent drivers there is one kind, or rather class, made under several different patents, varying only in details of material or method of construction, in which the shaft is introduced into a hole bored through the head, thus doing away with the "scare" and the whipping, and the possibilities of fracture connected with the old method of junction between head and shaft. This form of club has several other practical advantages, but it unfortunately labours under the curse of ugliness which seems so common a characteristic of patent clubs. No better form of club could be put into the hands of any one learning to swing, both on account of the unbreakable nature of the wood-fibre headed variety, and of the fact that there is no inclination to "heel" with this class of club, since this fatal error is due to a tendency to hit the ball with a prolongation of the shaft, which is not provided in ordinary clubs, but in this kind is the normal spot for impact. This, although without doubt the most important advantage connected with the patent, is not what is generally claimed by the makers. "Having the power behind the ball," and "long carry," are what they put forward; but these are not worth one-half the above-mentioned properties.

A modification of this form of club, originally patented by Anderson, of Edinburgh, is the same maker's present style of patent driver, the principal characteristic of which is the inser-

tion of the shaft into a hole bored through the head, and its being held there by the wedge arrangement commonly used in axe and hammer heads, assisted by a short neck and whipping. This firm has lately modified their driver-heads by encasing them in specially prepared leather, a very great advantage in diminishing wear and tear. Another departure from the usual method of joining head and shaft is seen in Spinks' patent, in which the shaft is inserted into the head and held tight by a brass ferrule driven over the neck. Both these patents aim at carrying the spring of the shaft right down to the head, which is supposed by club-makers to be a great advantage, their contention being that the "scare" and whipping in the ordinary club are defects in its construction, inasmuch as they curtail the spring of the shaft, and thereby lose driving power. If this is indeed the case then Dunn's patent driver should be more powerful than either of these forms of play club, being made all in one piece with no whipping round the neck, this latter peculiarity producing a curiously cold and collarless appearance in an otherwise beautifully modelled club. This idea was tried by Fernie some six years ago, but it has remained for Dunn to bring it to perfection. Durability of course is one of the qualities of this club, made as it is of hickory; but it has its weak point, and that is the neck, which is soft and pliable, without being particularly elastic, so much so, indeed, that it is quite easy to alter the lie of the head by the application of gentle pressure to the neck. It is of course an open question whether this softness detracts from the driving power of the club, or whether it merely has the same effect as a soft face without the disadvantages inseparable from the latter, but this point needs a purely experimental and personal investigation.

Many patent "play clubs," as the driver used to be called, while of course claiming the usual extra number of yards of "carry," make a special point of their patriarchal length of life, due, perhaps, to their being bolstered up with steel, or aluminium, or manganese bronze, in the most-approved style of modern engineering machine design. At first sight of the theory (not of the clubs), this seems to be a great advance in the art of club-making, so far as the consumer is concerned, although rather opposed to the producer's usual practice of "small profits, quick returns" (of the club, for repairs). But what golfer is there who has not heard some brother enthusiast declare that he has been "trying to break this old driver-head for years, and now, thank Goodness! it has gone at last?" Nay, in all probability he has had the same ungrateful desire himself, and for the same reasons; one does not grow to like a club-head in course of years, rather is the original selection made to suit our time-being fancy, and this latter is apt to change with proverbial freedom, so that the head, perhaps of holly or apple, which originally delighted us with its good qualities, has at length become an object of dislike, as annoying in its longevity as a well-to-do relative of ninety and odd years. What then would be the feelings aroused by one of these patent indestructibles after years of impatient longing for their demise? Surely the worst impulses of our imperfect nature are aroused with sufficient frequency on the putting-green and in the sand bunker without adding this cause of offence to the list.

Any one attempting to make a drawing of a Golf club will at once become aware of the difficulties attending the provision of such an unnatural implement with outlines combining the necessary strength with the symmetry desirable, and in the actual process of manufacture this difficulty of course can only be overcome by long practice. Here, then, arises one of the chief obstacles to the successful production of those Golf clubs which differ essentially in shape from the normal pattern. Generations of experience have been required to mould into a

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pleasing shape a lump of beech wood, whipped on to the end of a hickory stick, and some further time will no doubt elapse before a similar result can be attained in connection with many of the patent drivers now in the market. These considerations do not, of course, affect the absolute potentialities of the patent clubs, supposing them to be used by players indifferent to variations from the normal type, but the human golfer as he now exists requires a special education in their use to enable him to make the most of certain of the more advanced forms.

Some eight years ago the first metal-headed driver was made, at the suggestion of a customer, by Messrs. Anderson, of Edinburgh, durability being the primary intention. This head was made of sheet iron, and the difficulty and expense of production were quite sufficient to prevent any repetition of the experiment. Some years after this, another Edinburgh maker tried gun metal for the same purpose, with doubtful success; and this was followed by the use of a white-metal alloy of aluminium, this last idea being patented by Mr. Brougham. This invention was, in turn, modified in detail by Ramsbottom, of Manchester, and Braddell, of Belfast, the former making for even lengthier life by substituting a material called hornite for the wooden blocks which formed the face of Brougham's patent. The chief difference between these two forms of the aluminium club seems to be that Brougham's Patent possesses the better shape and model of head, so far as general appearance is concerned; but, on the other hand, Ramsbottom's method of joining head and shaft gives greater strength at this point; and, further, the hornite face extends from top to bottom of the head, whereas Brougham's wooden block is bounded above and below by the metal shell, which is apt to make ugly marks on the ball if half-topped or taken heavy. This latter consideration, should, of course, be no disadvantage theoretically, but, taken in conjunction with the shallowness of the head, and the highly practical nature of golfing error, it is a somewhat serious drawback. In driving-power there seems but little to choose. Hornite appears to be an excellent material for facing a club, and produces much "sweetness" of impact. Brougham's blocks, on the other hand, can be made of any wood preferred by the user, and, if necessary, faced with leather, this advantage, again, being lessened by a weakness due to the looseness consequent on the alternate expansion and shrinkage of the wood in wet and dry weather.

So far as durability is concerned, it seems probable that aluminium-headed clubs cannot be beaten, as this material, if judiciously alloyed, is very tough, and not at all liable to become brittle. The average golfer, however, with the traditions of the game before his eyes, will naturally turn from a metal-headed play club (as he would from a brassy, were the metal anywhere but where it is—i.e., out of sight) to the alternative forms of longevity in clubs. Of the making of these there is no end, and, further than pointing out the various well-known forms, and some of their merits and defects, it is impossible for the writer to go, a practical experience of the relative merits of each one requiring a set of lives, each as long as that claimed for the clubs themselves.

The most natural effort in this direction is that which utilises the harder woods, such as holly, apple, thorn, acacia, and hickory, this last being frequently steamed into shape and sold, together with other durable woods, as "Compressed." Carruthers' Sylviac, Dickson's Wood-Fibre, Paxton's Oak, Jacobs' Gutta-percha, and Simpson's Unbreakable Head, the "Woodgrain" unbreakable head of Angus Teen & Co., are further examples of durable material, and one of the latest additions to the list is a head, patented by Robertson, of Edinburgh, made entirely of leather cemented together in layers and waterproofed. This arrangement has obvious advantages, but it remains to be seen whether constant usage will not tend to separate its component parts. Leather being heavier than wood, no lead is required to make up the seven or eight ounces, and this absence of metal improves the balance of the head, and at the same time lends additional strength to the structure.

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Being waterproofed, the patentee claims for it immunity from the inroads of damp, which of course would be no small additional consideration.

Of the hard-wood heads above mentioned, it may be said that leather faces of sufficient thickness are alone lacking to give them normal driving-power, and their durability of course is not to be doubted, although with bad luck in selection, it is quite within the bounds of possibility that a breakable one may be come across. By normal driving power, that of beech-wood is meant, as the writer would not take upon himself, after the multitude of battles which have been fought over it, to dogmatise on the subject of Hard *v.* Soft Wood for driver heads, preferring merely to use a recognised standard for comparison. Gutta-percha and similar substances, such as vulcanite, have been tried so often in the capacity now under consideration, that their merits have had ample opportunity of making themselves known; but Jacobs' patent head seems to be an improvement in model consequent on careful study of popular types, and as such is likely to win more favour for itself than its predecessors have so far done. One drawback may be mentioned in referring to it, and that is the unfortunate position of the lead, which is so deeply hidden that no alteration in weight can be effected without altogether destroying the balance of the head.

There are, of course, many other forms of patent driver, which, however, differ only in detail from the types above described, and, no doubt, their number will be added to before these remarks appear in print.

#### "MR. PUNCH" AND GOLF.

(BY AN UNCOMPROMISING BIGOT.)

Mr. Spielmann's recent biography of *Mr. Punch* has lately—despite its glaring faults of style—afforded many people a pleasant excuse for refreshing their recollection of his hundred and eight volumes. The process is none the less pleasant that *Mr. Punch* has always been a good friend to sport. Hunting has inspired some of his most famous pictures and supplied some of his most excellent jests. In fishing he has found scarcely less rich material. To shooting he has perhaps done scanty justice, for he has betrayed at times a tendency to condemn the practice of "driving" with all the acrimony and ignorance of a cockney journalist. Cricket he has not disdained to notice, though his artists have not discovered a very intimate acquaintance with the game; while the humble pastime of croquet has more than once helped to fill his joyous page. What wonder then that Golf, which has been so signally avenging Flodden for the last five or six years, should frequently have attracted his attention?

It is rather matter for surprise that until Mr. Du Maurier's picture of "The Golf Stream" (Vol. LXXXIX., p. 174), there is not to be found in *Punch*, so far as we are aware, a single allusion to what the reporters never fail to call the Royal and Ancient Game. Since then, indeed, the *London Charivari* has handled the game with much zeal and boldness; but, I venture to think, with little true knowledge and appreciation. "Arthur Golfour" has been his favourite pun on the name of a celebrated statesman, and that obviously depends for the faintest approach to success upon the (totally erroneous) hypothesis that the "I" in Golf is sounded in pronunciation. A courageous attempt of Mr. Sambourne's (Vol. XCVI., p. 243) to illustrate the darling jape is hardly more commendable. Mr. Balfour's swing, as

A GOLFING CORRESPONDENT informs us that he overheard the following conversation on the opening day of the St. Andrews Golf Championship:—"I am certain I should not have been fit to take part in the Competition if I had not used 'Semotine.' I must have caught a violent chill while practising, in addition to straining myself; every muscle in my body ached, and dreadful pains robbed me of sleep, but, thanks to 'Semotine,' I am in perfect condition again." Every Golfer and Club should keep a bottle on hand, it is an embrocation that acts like magic. 1s. 1½d. and 2s. 9d., of all Chemists and Stores; or will be sent post free for 3d. extra, by the Proprietors, Rowland Walker & Co., Limited, 468, High Road, Chiswick, England. Wholesale of F. Newbery & Sons, King Edward Street, London, E.C.

depicted by the artist, is not the swing of a golfer, whatever it may be, and we are quite sure that the odious, but unmistakable combination of knickerbockers and striped blazer is nothing, if not the offspring of pure imagination. Mr. Sambourne's camera never told such a tale as that, except of those "English" golfers who come North in summer, and who wear out the patience of the genuine devotee, while they destroy the turf of links that are links. Equally painful to the Caledonian eye is the same artist's representation of Mr. Punch himself, dressed like the crack player at a suburban lawn tennis tournament, in the act of driving his ball from a preposterously symmetrical and pyramidal tee, (Vol. CII. p. 1).

From Mr. Charles Keene one was in the habit of expecting something like accuracy in the delineation of things Scottish; and indeed his golfing picture (Vol. XCVII. p. 39) is tolerably satisfactory. There is an invigorating suggestion of St. Andrews about the landscape, despite the presence of the London lawn-tennis players who "don't see the fun o' this game—knockin' a ball into a bush and then 'untin' about for it." The caddie, too, despite his Scotch bonnet, is a true North Briton. But alas! he is carrying his clubs inverted—the heads where the handles, the handles where the heads, should be—as no true caddie ever carried clubs in his life. Yet, notwithstanding this most serious fault, the sketch is charming compared with Mr. J. P. Atkinson's "Fore and 'hind" (Vol. XCVII., p. 300), wherein a young man with an impossible "stand" is about to drive, and succeeds in driving well, although his eye is ostentatiously fixed elsewhere than on the ball. It suggests, in a way, Mr. Phil May's 'Arry playing Golf, in the new Almanack; which, as will appear on one's comparing the distance and the elevation at which 'Arry's ball strikes the man in front, really makes out that ostensible duffer to be a more than tolerable driver. The exquisite humour of wantonly driving into the party immediately ahead of one is eminently characteristic of, and can only be thoroughly tasted by, the breed of golfers which the last six years have produced.

One of Mr. Punch's unhappiest achievements in treating of Golf is Mr. Du Maurier's picture of a professional talking to a gentleman, and telling him, "If ye practise hard for three years ye may be able to tell good play from bad when ye see it." (Vol. C., p. 78). We are not quite sure which is the professional and which the gentleman, but unless we are mistaken, the professional is clad in a "bowler," and a tweed suit, has his trousers turned up, and wears light-coloured spats! Truly, a triumph of observation. But by far the most grievous offender in *Punch's* pages has been Mr. Furniss, who at least has a middling playing acquaintance with the game. His sins are without number, especially those ghastly nightmares of stout, knock-kneed gentlemen, with their toes well turned, in taking full swings, with which he has familiarised us all. That Mr. Furniss's favourite attitude is absolutely impossible, it requires but a single experiment to demonstrate.

The Golf of *Punch*, to sum up, is in the main not the true Golf. It is the Golf of the pot-hunter, the Golf of the man who writes down his score on the putting green, the Golf of the monthly medallist and the weekly handicap competitor; not the Golf of the match-player. It is the Golf of those who regard the game as a violent athletic exercise, analogous to boxing or hurdle-racing, which can only be indulged in without a coat and with tucked-up shirt-sleeves. It is the Golf of those who, following their natural instinct, put their clubs down in bunkers, and who race after their balls, wholly oblivious of their partners. That such an apology for Golf is often to be seen is a lamentable fact, nor is the debased amusement likely to become less common. So much I grant. Yet *Punch* might take pains to preserve some record of the true game.

J. H. M.

RESULT OF THE SCHOOL BOARD.—By a certain train in the morning, on a certain day in each week, a considerable number of men in more or less fancy costumes may be seen winding their way from Acton Green Station to the Chiswick Golf Club. "Hullo, Jim!" quoth a loafer to the regular crossing-sweeper. "What's that lot?" Answer—"Oh, that's the Golf Stream!"

## A NEW GOLF COURSE IN INDIA.

A new course has been opened in India, in the grounds of the Tollygunge Club, situated four miles from Calcutta. It is described as being very fine, and in a short time will even surpass the Dum Dum course of the Calcutta Club. In mentioning the Tollygunge Club (says the *Indian Planter's Gazette*), it is impossible to overlook the valuable services rendered to the club by the Anderson Brothers, of the Park. Mr. John having borne the heat and burden of the day in clearing the jungle, and Mr. Tom the roads. Similar praise is likewise due to Mr. Harry Stuart the able and indefatigable Honorary Secretary, for all the labour he has spent in making the race-course, which will be one of the best in India. Everyone connected with the club also knows what Mr. George Ormiston (an East Lothian golfer, who occasionally has a holiday at Gullane and Luffness), has done for the Calcutta Golf and other clubs, and the leisure hours he has spent for the Calcutta public in many other ways, and the great experience he has had in laying out Golf courses. A competent critic candidly asserts that he believes the Tollygunge Golf course cannot be beaten in India, and few inland courses at home can surpass it. Mr. Ormiston has also laid out a croquet and bowling greens, tennis courts and cricket pitch, and they are fast improving; but owing to the sudden cessation of the rains, they have been somewhat retarded. Meantime the ladies are playing croquet on the bowling green.

The whole of the park is now a beautiful green sward, and the soft sandy soil will vie with the best of inland courses at home, which take years to make. The eighty acres of land have been fully taken advantage of, and a very sporting course of nine holes has been laid out.

There are natural hazards for every hole, and anyone who has played on the Royal and Ancient Links, North Berwick, Prestwick, Machrihanish, Hoylelake, Westward Ho! Sandwich, and other leading courses, may be able to stretch their imagination, and think themselves on those happy hunting-fields of pleasure in the dear old country.

The first hole is called the "Rushes." The first bunker to negotiate is a mound of five feet high, with a sandy pit in front, placed about 100 yards from the back tee. A good drive and a brassie should land you on the green, 335 yards, but a badly-driven ball will lead to no end of trouble in the hazard of long grass. You should be at the bottom of the hole in 5.

No. 2 is called the "Lake" and follows the line between Tolly's Nullah and the long tank, the distance being 466 yards.

The third hole is well named the "Cardinal," known to all golfers over the Tweed as the most gigantic bunker on the Prestwick Links. It is at present a drive of eighty yards over water, but a little later in the season the tank dries up and leaves a fine grass bottom with sand bunkers. It will be one of the most difficult hazards in the course, which will catch many a badly driven ball. Some other bunkers have yet to be thrown up near the hole, which measures 353 yards, and should be accomplished in 5.

No. 4 is named the "Ginger-beer" hole, a name well known on St. Andrews Links, and, no doubt, that or some other more agreeable beverage will be acceptable at the half-way house on a hot morning. To get to this green, however, many difficulties have to be overcome. First of all there is a large deep dry tank with sandy bottom in front of the tee, which requires a very steady drive of 100 yards to clear, and a badly heeled ball might be landed in the middle of long grass left as a hazard, and further on another similar grass hazard has to be negotiated, as well as a sand bunker made out of an old jump. This is the longest hole, 492 yards, and should be very fine play in 6.

The "Punch Bowl," named after the sporting holes on Machrihanish and Hoylelake Links, is No. 5, and another formidable bunker faces you from the tee; to safely get over this and a sandy ditch beyond requires a carry of 120 yards. With a good brassie, the green should be very near, and, with a well-directed iron shot, not to go too far, to carry the wall beyond, should lay your ball safely for a 5. Successful endeavours have been made to make this green resemble a punch bowl, and the distance of the hole is 340 yards.

Next comes the "Kitchen Door" hole, which is in closer proximity to that quarter; but the name must be familiar to all St. Andrews players, and recall unhappy remembrances, should it be your misfortune to get into the bunker there which bears that name, and adjoins another well-known bunker called "Hell." The distance to be traversed is 423 yards, and the tee shot is over long grass, which is a carry of 110 yards. A similar hazard a little further on has to be negotiated with a good brassie, and the third shot should place your ball in the proximity of the hole. There is a trappy ditch in front of the green,

and it requires a well-directed iron shot to be near home, but a 6 should be accomplished.

Now we come to the "Pass," which requires straight driving, otherwise your ball may seek seclusion in the house compound, or in a tank on the other side.

The second shot requires a good cleek to carry the *jheel* in front of the green, and you should be within reasonable distance of making an easy 5. The grass bottom *jheel* is not a difficult hazard to get out of, and if you are fortunate in carrying it in your second, with the gentle slope, your ball should run on to the green, but if you over-drive this hole, rough ground on the other side might cause trouble. This hole is 333 yards, and may recall reminiscences of the "Schipka" at North Berwick, which brings sadness to many if not in real good form.

The next, which is called the "Himalayas," sounds formidable, and this is one of the most interesting of the holes. The tee shot is pretty easy sailing, and should land in good country, but the second requires strong nerves, with a deep valley and mountainous range facing you. Do not expect to see the snowy mountains with Kinchinjugh and Everest in the distance, but any ordinary golfer will think the deep ditch and little hills quite sufficient to face. The second shot should be on the green, but if you get much to left or right the *nullah* or *jheel* will be the resting place, and to go beyond a sandy bunker will make it unpleasant. The distance is 311 yards, and should be a 5.

The "Maiden" at Sandwich need only be mentioned to cause admiration in all and dread to many. This is the shortest hole on the green, being only 181 yards, and should be reached in 4. In front of the tee is a sandy bunker, and beyond is a mound and the *jheel*, which has also to be carried, otherwise grief will be great.

The course measures 3,234 yards from the back tees, and 3,036 from the forward tees.

The *doob* grass greens are already in fair order, and all through, the green, which has needed a great deal of making up is wonderful. In another month or so the round should be done under 50, and some of the "cracks" will soon show what stuff they are made of after the tameness of the Maiden.

The opening of the Tollygunga Club Golf course took place on Saturday, November 23rd, when a handicap match for a silver bowl presented by Mr. G. A. Ormiston commenced, but owing to the rain it had to be postponed.

The result of the match was—Mr. L. G. Dunbar, first, with 54, 50=104 (scratch), and Mr. Mitchell-Innes, second, with 52, 53=105 (scratch).

There were twenty entries.

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### SOME NEW GOLF CLUBS.

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The ingenuity of club-makers is always busy devising some new point of departure in the improvement of the Golf-club, whether head, shaft, grip or material; and, it must be confessed, generally with success. We have recently received from Messrs. R. Anderson and Sons, the well-known club and fishing-rod makers, of Princes Street, Edinburgh, three new clubs which they have lately brought out. One is a bulger, the other a bulger-brassie, and the third a curious little novelty, made from suggestions by the Earl of Wemyss. This last-named club is called "The Unionist," and, as we mentioned in "Tee Shots" some time ago, its christening by Lord Wemyss is not only quasi-political but distinctively humorous. In the report of the entertaining speech made in March last at the annual dinner of the London Scottish Golf Club, it will be found that Lord Wemyss had some scathing criticisms to make on the modern iron player, and particularly on Mr. Horace Hutchinson, who, his lordship said, had advised golfers always to take a bit of divot in playing their approach shots with the iron. The scarred surfaces of the greens have appealed pathetically to the lord of Gosford's gaze, and, as a keen golfer, who may be seen any day during the Parliamentary recess on Luffness, he has thought that some effort of his own was worth attempting to induce golfers generally to minimise the effects of iron play, and, if possible, to go back to the good old baffle. Hence the design of "The Unionist"—a name which has been applied to the club, because it does not wear the green! In appearance the club is very much like a greatly filed away brassie spoon. It is one inch broad across the head, one and a-half inches deep in the face, which is very much "grassed," and it has a brass sole. The length of the shaft is the same as that of the ordinary iron; and the

club is intended to be used in approach shots, either lofted or run up. There is no doubt that it serves that purpose equally as well as the iron, and with far less injury to the turf. In Scotland the club has already found much favour among golfers; and many golfers in the South to whom we have shown the club, and who have experimented with it, are also much enamoured at the ease with which they can get balls away with it out of heavy lies when they cannot obtain nearly so much success with their iron. Play with the iron is notoriously a difficult, as well as a delicate art to acquire; and the use of the "Unionist" in the hands of those who cannot or who have not passed the *pons asinorum* in handling the iron puts them practically on a level with better and more skilled players. There can be no doubt that such a club is needed, and we are certain that its use will become more extended—attended by all the blessings of harassed greenkeepers—as the merits of the club are proved in actual play.

The other two clubs of Messrs. Anderson are singular in this, that the head is a wooden core surrounded back and front by an encasing of leather. The shaft is on the lines of their well-known patent, which has already been noticed—it passes through the neck and comes out at the sole. Since introducing this method of fixing the shaft, with shortened neck and fine spring down near the head, Messrs. Anderson, while guaranteeing that their clubs were unbreakable at the neck, found that the faces, even of the best beech, broke up and splintered, especially if play took place in wet weather on inland greens. To remedy this defect they have bound the head completely in leather, which is hardened by a special preparation. The outcome of the improvement is to make the club heads to all intents and purposes unbreakable—face as well as neck; and, writing after trial, we should say that the striking surface of the club has been vastly improved by the addition of the hard, durable leather. A word of praise ought to be given to the beauty and delicacy of finished workmanship appearing on these clubs. The shafts are as highly polished as mahogany, and finer seasoned wood we have not handled in a long and varied experience.

Scottish and English Golfers who were present at Portrush, at the big Autumn tournament held there, could not help noticing the broad-headed driver clubs sent out by John Aitken, the club-maker attached to the Royal County Club at Portrush. The appearance of the club took the fancy of some of the players, and it was played with in the competitions; and many of them found their way to Southern and Northern greens in the bags of the visitors. The club is known as "The Bap," the name given in the Scots tongue to the round break-fast roll. The head, which is made of the finest Irish beech, is three inches broad, with a face of 1½ inches in depth. The great driving power of the club is unmistakable, and has only to be tried to be realised. We saw Mr. T. T. Gray drive the ditch at the eighth hole at Luffness from the back tee, and get on to the green, against a slight head wind, on a competition day in September last, with one of Aitken's drivers—a very long carry indeed. The breadth of the head looks ungainly, but it is effective by reason of the large, vibrating quantity of wood, instead of dead-weight of lead, in the driving impact; and for really good drivers "The Bap" undoubtedly brings a large accession of power.

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A NEW COURSE FOR ISLAY.—A meeting of those favourable to the formation of a Golf course at Uisguinte was recently held in the Public Hall at Bridgend, Islay, Mr. James Forbes presiding. The Chairman stated that the tenants of Gorian and Uisguinte had kindly agreed to place the necessary land at their disposal, and, if a sufficient number supported the proposal, a professional would be engaged to come and lay off a course. It was unanimously resolved to form a Golf club, and an influential committee, with Mr. Forbes convener, was chosen. Mr. John Cullen, National Bank, was appointed treasurer, and Messrs. Robert Cullen and Hector Macfadyen joint secretaries. Thirty members were enrolled, and the yearly subscription fixed. The proposal is meeting with great favour, and Mr. Forbes has already received promises of valuable support. The proposed course is admirably situated at the roadside near the head of Lochindaul, within a mile and a half of Bruichladdich pier, and three miles from Bridgend.

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"SCOTSMAN" CLUB.—The monthly medal and other prizes were played for over the Braids on the 18th. The winners were:—Medal and 1st prize, Mr. J. Chumley, 77 less 6=71; 2, Mr. J. Morgan, 91, less 18=73; and 3, Mr. W. Walter, 93, less 17=76.

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SOUTHWOLD GOLF CLUB.—Bronze medal competition, December 21st:—Winner, Mr. C. J. Waller, 106, less 10=96.

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THE FAR AND SURE GOLF BALLS are splendidly seasoned, and are 9s. 6d. per doz. for twelve dozen. Wisden's re-made Balls at 8s. are the best that can be obtained, 21, Cranbourne Street, London, W.C.

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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.



At the meeting of the Tantallon Golf Club, held last week, to receive the report of the Council as to a club-house, it was announced that, as the result of a plebiscite of the members, about ninety were in favour of the proposal to take a villa which had been named at £2,800, and the debentures to be taken amounted to £800. About half that number were opposed to the movement, most of them saying they would resign if it were carried out, while the remainder, or about one hundred and fifty members, made no reply. On the whole, the verdict may be taken as a favourable one. Before discussion of action as to the future could go on, it was, however, announced that the party offering the house had raised the price to £3,000. It was also brought under notice by the captain that, from a legal point of view, it was doubtful whether the majority could in any way bind the minority, seeing there was no constitution or rules binding the society as a corporate body. Some discussion took place over these matters, and eventually it was agreed that the Council should at once have a constitution framed for the club, to be submitted to an early meeting, and a special committee was appointed from among the members of the society to canvas those who had not replied, and see what further support could be got for the proposed scheme.

The committee appointed to prosecute the club-house scheme for the Tantallon Club were Messrs. J. M<sup>c</sup>Caul, S.S.C.; Davidson Smith, C.A.; J. Macrae, D. M. Jackson, and the Rev. John Kerr. The secretary was instructed to give them all information about the opinion of the members who were favourable, unfavourable, or neutral towards the scheme, and it is to be hoped that all who wish to see this much-felt want at North Berwick supplied will give the committee their assistance. Much indignation was expressed by members of the Tantallon Club at the withdrawal by the party of the house called Garve Villa when what was considered a "firm" offer had been made; but there are other houses which might serve the purpose of the promoters if it be only for a time. Whatever happens the formation of a club at North Berwick of which summer visitors can have the privilege may be regarded as a certainty before another season comes round.

One is not surprised to hear that forty or fifty members of the Tantallon are against raising the subscription from 15s. to £2, to keep a club-house going. These do not use the green much, and only join the club to get the little use of the green which they require, the year's payment being as much as they would have to pay for a fortnight if they were not members of a club. But, on the other hand, a great many who regularly visit the course complain of the defective hotel accommodation, and the great need of a club-house. Would it not be possible to keep all the members in the club together, even if the scheme were adopted, allowing objectors to pay 15s. as before, and not to be entitled to the club-house except perhaps on competition days, while those who regularly used the club would pay the £2.

Before the meeting of last week was called a good many members were wondering at the delay of the Council in giving in its report. The delay was explained by the captain, who said

that he had heard that the New Club had been trying to get a club-house elsewhere, and had they succeeded their old house would have been for sale. He had written the New Club, making an offer, but got a reply that at present the club-house was not for sale. It is apparent from this report that the New Club is not quite satisfied with its domicile, which is not to be wondered at, as for such an important club the house is far too small and limited in many ways.

In the new regulations they are drawing up, the Corporation of the City of Edinburgh are preparing the way for taxing Golfers on the Braids, and players of other games, a fact which ought to receive the attention of all whom it may concern. The citizens of Edinburgh gave up rights of Golfing at Bruntsfield for the gift of the Braids, and they must see that these are not filched from them by any new laws of the Council.

Sunday Golf, it appears, had played an important part in the recent election at Trinity College, Dublin. Mr. Wright, who was defeated by Mr. Lecky, was an advocate and practitioner of the Sunday game. Mr. Wright's zeal in this direction was well-known, but it did not hinder his acceptance as the "orthodox" candidate with the majority of the clerical electors and the Divinity students, although they were appealed to not to vote for him for his views on Sunday Golf. We may, therefore, suppose that in Dublin the Sunday game is quite the "orthodox" thing.

Two alterations of considerable importance are to be made on the Gullane course, which will tend to make it a little more difficult. At the sixth, or Race-course Hole, the putting green is to be carried ninety yards further on westward, thus lengthening the hole considerably, and naturally lengthening further the present Long Hole, the teeing-ground for which will be placed a corresponding distance back. At the twelfth, or Slope Hole, the present flat table putting green is to be abolished, and the putting green is to be over the bunker, which lies below the present green.

Dunbar, always counted one of the healthiest resorts on the east coast of Scotland, and a favourite place with golfers who like bracing air, has had a severe epidemic of typhoid fever, which has created great alarm in the town, a good many deaths having occurred. Steps are being taken to get a new water supply, the pollution of the present supply being the cause of the epidemic.

The Greenock Golf Club, which has 300 members, is to have a club-house costing £700. "Sugaropolis" will therefore be able to shelter its golfers in rain, which is much needed in a city, the appropriate ensign of which is "a duck with an umbrella up."

*Thisbe* and *Clorinda* in the Edinburgh Empire Palace Pantomime of "Cinderella," instead of being made ugly as the custom is, are modern girls on the outlook for husbands. The former hails from Girton, the latter can play Golf, and the former can pronounce it properly, as this stanza shows:—

T.—I'm really a first-class wrangler,  
C.—I can play a game at Golf.  
T.—We are both so very clever;  
But it's sad we don't go off.

It has hitherto been popularly supposed that there were, as Mr. Lehmann showed in his recent article, only five subscribing clubs towards the institution of the Amateur Championship, and connected with its control. Now it is interesting to learn from the correspondence in last week's issue, that the composition of the controlling body is wider and more representative of the game in both countries; indeed, if each club sent a delegate to the annual meeting, which was empowered to discuss an agreed-upon agenda paper relating to the rules, among other

points, we should have a good working Golf Union in embryo, and one whose decision would be accepted as fairly authoritative. The following is the complete list of the clubs that subscribed, in 1886, for the Amateur Championship Cup, and with whom the management of the Amateur Championship rests :—

- |                                      |  |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| 1 Royal and Ancient.                 | 13 New Club, North Berwick.              |
| 2 Royal Liverpool.                   | 14 Tantallon.                            |
| 3 Royal Wimbledon.                   | 15 Luffness.                             |
| 4 Hon. Company of Edinburgh Golfers. | 16 Royal Albert, Montrose.               |
| 5 Royal Blackheath.                  | 17 Aberdeen.                             |
| 6 Prestwick.                         | 18 King James VI. (Perth).               |
| 7 Dalhousie.                         | 19 Almouth.                              |
| 8 Royal North Devon.                 | 20 Gullane.                              |
| 9 Edinburgh Burgess.                 | 21 Innerleven.                           |
| 10 Troon.                            | 22 Formby.                               |
| 11 Bruntisfield Links.               | 23 Panmure.                              |
| 12 West Lancashire.                  | 24 St. George's, Sandwich (added later). |

\* \* \*

Considering, however, the growth of the game in the last ten years, there are very many important and wealthy clubs which have sprung up that would be glad to share in the subscribing of the funds so as to lessen the expense necessarily entailed upon the club over whose green the competitions are at present restricted. But the widening of the subscription list would necessarily give rise to some claim for consideration in the allocation of greens. Take Dalhousie and Panmure for example. They have a fine green at Carnoustie, and local golfers are anxious to see the Championship played there. Have the Dalhousie and Panmure delegates ever urged the claims of Carnoustie upon their fellow-delegates ; and if not, why not ? If they have, what are the reasons which prevented Carnoustie from sharing in the dispensing of Amateur Championship patronage ? Then there are Westward Ho ! Troon, North Berwick (now possessed of a Championship green, if any can be found), Montrose, West Lancashire, Luffness, Gullane, Aberdeen, Formby, and Leven. All these greens come up to the requisite standard of the highest play ; and there would be no difficulty in constituting a fairly wide and representative rota, if the executive of the local club was willing to undertake the management of the competition in any settled year.

\* \* \*

There may be reasons against the suggested widening which we do not know, and of which we have not heard ; and perhaps the clubs mentioned are not anxious for the honour of entertaining the cohort of amateurs on their green on account of the trouble and expense. But one of the advantages of a Union, formed of delegates coming from influential clubs like the above, would be that an annual grant could be voted from its funds towards the expenses of the Championships, Amateur and Open, which are held on the rotation greens, and, above all, to render the Open Championship prize money a little more worthy of the game and its patrons. It is naturally a very costly and burdensome undertaking for the club that arranges the Open Championship in any particular year ; and the wonder is that the prospect of lightening the financial burdens on their club funds and their members' pockets do not impel them to seek relief in allowing a larger number of clubs willing to share the honour to come in as entertainers. It seems to us that a compact, useful body, constituted on a rough-and-ready basis of geographical proportion, has been for years losing a very valuable opportunity to render lasting service to the government of the game and the reform of its rules—always supposing that delegates from the above twenty-four clubs attend and deliberate at the annual Golf Cabinet Council. A little more light on the proceedings of the delegates, and the number who annually attend, would be useful and instructive.

\* \* \*

The Committee of the Luffness Golf Club have voted a sum of five guineas to the Morris Testimonial Fund from the funds of the club. The Rev. J. H. Tait has also given 10s. to the scheme in recognition of his esteem for the veteran who laid out Luffness course and has always taken an interest in its success.

Willie Park has reported favourably on the proposed course for Dalkeith, referred to last week, and an active Committee of fourteen gentlemen has been appointed to negotiate with the Marquis of Lothian for a lease of the ground.

\* \* \*

Overheard on the Drayton Links during the match between Taylor and Braid.—After the players had holed out and were going to the tees—"Oh, come along, and let us see them hit out of the little box."

\* \* \*

A new Golf Club has just been inaugurated at Perth. The golfers among the teachers of Perthshire met the other day and formed themselves into a club, of which Mr. Kennedy, Logierait was chosen Captain, and Mr. D. S. Lowson, Perth, secretary and treasurer—these, along with Messrs. M'Kim, Scone, and Fairweather, Kinnaird, to form the Committee of Management.

\* \* \*

The Epsom Club is fortunately situated among metropolitan clubs. It has a fine, long course, all of it covered with springy, short down turf, almost as good as a seaside green ; it is easily accessible to busy City men, and its charming club-house is full of a cosy, social comfort, pleasing to behold and to enjoy. The course is full of interesting and varied play, and the medium, short and long holes have been very judiciously blended throughout. Finer putting greens cannot be found anywhere, especially in the variety of undulations over which the putt has to be made before the ball is at the bottom of the hole. The condition of the putting greens is surprising when one learns that they are practically in their natural state, and that not much in the way of elaborate dressing and "doctoring" is needed here. The course is situated nearly 400 feet above sea level, and the air, clear, crisp, and bracing at this season of the year, is as good as can be got by a long journey to the seaside. The view from the top part of the course over the surrounding country, with the picturesque little town, replete with racing memories, lying snugly at the bottom of the hill, is, apart from an enjoyable game, worth a day's walk to see. The club is in a very flourishing condition, with a good waiting list.

\* \* \*

The annual dinner of the St. David's Golf Club, Harlech, North Wales, took place at the Castle Hotel, Harlech, on the 18th inst., when the club entertained the grazing tenants of the links and a representative gathering of the neighbourhood. The hon. secretary, Mr. W. H. More presided, supported by the Revs. D. Owen, D. Richards, Messrs. Bryan, Allaway, and Capt. Jones. After an excellent dinner served by Mr. F. Dean Smith, the usual toasts were duly proposed and honoured, followed by a smoking concert of a most enjoyable character. The executive are to be congratulated on the good feeling which exists between the club, the land interest, and the general public. Negotiations for tenure of the Golf ground have been brought to a satisfactory conclusion, and considerable expense is being incurred in improving and extending the eighteen-hole course. The sandy nature of the subsoil renders it capable of absorbing almost any quantity of moisture, and steps have been taken to prevent threatened sand-drift on the lies for the 11th and 12th holes by introducing the St. Andrews "sedge" and promoting existing "bents" growth on the more exposed sandhills. The club is steadily increasing, and the executive will spare no pains to perfect the green in every possible way.

\* \* \*

The latest advices from Teneriffe are to the effect that the links at Orotava are progressing successfully. Some unavoidable delay occurred in bringing the water from a spring in the mountains and laying the piping round the links ; but at last it is all done, and every inch of the links can now be irrigated with hose. A well-known golfer, captain of a club in Worcestershire, was delighted with what he saw, and said that the game and all the arrangements connected with it in Teneriffe ought to be a great success. The ladies have taken a keen interest in the game, and practise regularly. At present

they play below the Botanical Gardens. The membership of the club is increasing rapidly. The charming villa of the Marquesa de la Quinta is being arranged as a temporary clubhouse, and with water laid on, it will be first-class. In addition to Golf, clay pigeon shooting will be indulged in. Steps are being taken in Europe to try to secure a steam-carriage to convey thirty or forty persons. If this succeeds it will make the links at Santa Ursula a grand success.

\* \* \*

Mr. P. C. Anderson, the ex-Amateur Champion, sails on a voyage to Australia, for his health, in January.

\* \* \*

On Friday last Mr. W. H. Sims Reeve, of Brancaster, and "Tingey," the professional there, left Brancaster at 6 a.m., got to Worlington at 11, and played Mr. Arthur Lee Barber and Jack White a match of eighteen holes. The result was that the Brancaster contingent were 3 down.

\* \* \*

The annual dinner of the Leicestershire Golf Club took place at the Assembly Rooms, Leicester, on Thursday, December 12th. The president, Mr. J. A. Corah, occupied the chair, and he was supported by Mr. J. Talbot Fair (hon. secretary, Lytham and St. Anne's), Mr. James Mellor (hon. treasurer, Lytham and St. Anne's), Mr. Gillett (hon. secretary, Bowdon), Mr. A. Corah (Bowdon), Mr. Trevor Jones (Charnwood Forest), Mr. A. Lorrimer (captain, Leicestershire), and many other members and friends. Mr. J. Talbot Fair proposed "The Leicestershire Golf Club," which was replied to by the president, who stated that the club was progressing in a prosperous manner, and that the limit of membership was complete. Mr. H. Simpson Gee proposed, in his usual happy style, "The Health of the Visitors," which was responded to by Messrs. Mellor, Gillett, and Woolley (Loughborough). The evening was enlivened by several songs and instrumental selections. Dr. Pope sang Mr. Billson's "The Song of the Putter," which was received with great applause. The entertainment concluded with "God save the Queen" and "Auld Lang Syne," sung in the true Scotch style, and thus ended a most enjoyable evening, made doubly interesting by the presence of the friends and warm supporters of the "noble game" from Lancashire.

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#### FORFARSHIRE.

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On Wednesday, 18th inst., a match was played over Elliot course, Arbroath, by Bob Scott, Arbroath, and Bob Simpson, Carnoustie. The weather at the start was wet, but it cleared up somewhat about the middle of the game. There was a good attendance of spectators. Both players drove magnificently throughout the game, but in putting Simpson experienced very hard lines. Scott's total for the outward half was 37, while Simpson required 40, the former being three holes up at the turn. Going home the wind somewhat interfered with the driving. Scott landed in 40, while Simpson required 1 more. Scott finishing four holes and an equal number of strokes up. Scores:—Scott—Out, 5 8 4 3 4 3 2 5 3=37; in, 4 5 5 4 5 3 4 5 5=40. Simpson—Out, 6 6 4 4 4 4 4 5 3=40; in, 4 4 5 4 6 4 4 5 5=41.

**BASS ROCK GOLF CLUB.**—The annual business meeting of this club was held in the Oddfellows' Hall, North Berwick, on the 17th., Mr. A. Hutchinson (captain) presiding. From the report of the hon. secretary and treasurer, Mr. G. Tait, the affairs of the club financially and otherwise were shown to be very satisfactory. Mr. Hutchinson and Mr. Tait were re-elected captain and secretary and treasurer respectively, and Messrs. A. Wallace and A. Bisset were appointed members of committee in room of those retiring by rotation. It was agreed that only eight monthly competitions be held during the year for the handicap trophies instead of nine as formerly. A recommendation was made to the committee that the maximum of handicap, which, following the extension of the links, was increased to 24 strokes as an experiment, be reduced to 18 as formerly.



WANTED, A GOLF UNION?

To the Editor of GOLF.

SIR,—I beg to thank your correspondents, "B. S." and "N. F.," for their courteous correction of an error in my article. I perceived the error myself, but too late for correction before the article went into print. I would therefore beg readers to substitute the words "Open Championship" for "Amateur Championship" in the sentence, "Let me take the Amateur Championship for choice." With this substitution, and a similar one in the sentence, "governing the conditions of the Amateur Championship," and the further one of "Amateur Championship" for "Open Championship" in the sentence, "meet again at the Open Championship," the article will read correctly. It is evident that, for the purpose set forth in my article, the clubs governing the Open Championship would furnish a better and more compact governing body than those connected with the Amateur Championship.

I am Sir, &c.,

ERNEST LEHMANN.

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PLAYING OFF TIES.

To the Editor of GOLF.

SIR,—May I be allowed to say one word with reference to the correspondence on this subject which is appearing in your columns.

Surely the ambition of every golfer worthy of the name is to get his handicap reduced as quickly as possible. Is not the idea of a player actually desiring to have his handicap kept up in order that he may have a better chance of winning a "pot," revolting to every true lover of the game?

Trusting that you may find space for this protest against conduct so opposed to the true spirit of the game,

I am Sir, &c.,

A TRUE GOLFER.

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THE CAPTAIN'S PRIVILEGES.

To the Editor of GOLF.

SIR,—Having recently been appointed captain of our club, I am anxious to secure to my office all the privileges which are due to it. A blessed whisper has reached my ears that there exists a certain unwritten law that the captain has priority at the starting tee, although there may be several balls teed before his. Can you tell me, sir, if this is a recognised privilege, and so either make it a merry or miserable Christmas for

Yours, obediently,

A CAPTAIN.

[On competition days, if the captain is present, it is usual to allow him to tee off first and begin the competition. But we know of no unwritten law to the above effect, nor of any other privilege which differentiates the captain from the ordinary members in playing off the tee or through the green.—ED.]



## THE RECREATIONS OF WOMEN.

## I.

IN 1694—just two hundred years ago—a little relic was unearthed at Sutton, in the Isle of Ely, which caused a great flutter of excitement among local antiquaries. It resembled one of the metal discs fixed in the blinkers of horses, rather than a knob from the lid of a modern teapot. It was, however, nothing more nor less than a silver umbo, or boss, from the middle of an ancient shield. Many similar relics had already been brought to light, but this was unusually remarkable because of a series of bitter or noxious Runes upon its surface, which was supposed to be efficacious in bringing various evils upon an enemy. An interesting inscription, moreover, showed to whom this magical shield originally belonged. The fair Saxon owner was none other than Eadwen, the mother of the austere Godric, who was afterwards known as Saint Goderick, of Finchale. "Surely a woman would have no such article!" the girl of the nineteenth century may be tempted to observe. There was need for shield and sword too, in those barbarous times. It was no unusual thing, gentle reader, for a woman to fight, sword in hand, at the head of her brave men, in defence of what was right. Our women were then familiar with warfare, and accustomed to scenes of butchery. Nevertheless, at times, their frenzied war-cry gave place to singing and the fierce onslaught to dancing. They played, moreover, at *tæfo*, a naughty game of chance; they practised with bow and arrow; they kept hawks in their bedrooms, and discarding for awhile their natural modesty, they joined the men when hunting. Neither must needlework, which absorbed much of their leisure, be forgotten. None could excel the carefully-wrought tapestry and embroidery of the Saxon and Norman ladies; hence, what they produced was greatly prized, not at home alone, but on the Continent as well.

## MINSTRELSY.

There were few means during the early eras of our history of gratifying a taste for music. Young girls imbued with this passion were forced to seek instruction in far-off cities. Having painfully acquired a rudimentary knowledge of the art of singing, it was, perhaps, only natural for them to desire to follow the example of the professional gleemen, who, to gain an honest livelihood, travelled all over Europe, giving exhibitions of their skill, not only as musicians, but as jugglers. In the ranks of these itinerant minstrels were many maidens of gentle blood, who were descended from the kings and nobles of our land.

By their costume, which was pretty and unique, these English minnesingers were easily known. A tight-fitting blue jacket, trimmed with silver spangles and rich embroidery, and adorned with epaulettes of bright ribbon, set off the glee-maiden's figure to advantage. A striped skirt, designedly cut short that it might be no hindrance to the wearer when walking; scarlet stockings, buskins of Spanish leather, and a broad hat, bedecked with gaudy ribbons, completed her dress. With a chain around her neck, and a lute slung jauntily over her shoulder, the romantic maiden wandered forth in search of fortune.

Some travelled with dogs or performing bears, whilst others varied their singing with dancing or acrobatic feats. In their dancing, which consisted mainly of violent movements and contortions, such as hopping, leaping, and tum-

bling or somersault-throwing, these venturesome young ladies assumed a number of singular attitudes.

They threw yfere  
Their mouthes, so that through their play  
It seemèd as they kyste alway.

Chaucer speaks of *tomblesteres* and *tombsteres*, that is, vaulting or tumbling dances; words no doubt derived from



FEMALE TUMBLING, THIRTEENTH CENTURY.  
(MS., Cotton Library).

the Anglo-Saxon verb, *tomban*. In this poet's translation of the "Roman de la Rose," he speaks of balancing minstrels as *tymbesteres*, who played upon the *timbræl*:—

There was manye a tymbestere  
Couthe her crafte full parfythy;  
The tymbres up full of subtely  
They cast and heut full oft  
Upon a fynger fayre and softe  
That they fayled never mo'.

They are also termed *Saylours* and *Sauters*, from the Latin and French verbs, *salire* and *sauter*—to leap, to jump, or to skip. Hence, in Langland's "Vision of Piers Plowman" (Edward III.), we read:—

I can neither saylen ne saute.

Illustrations of females indulging in these violent dances may be found in the Harleian MS.; also in MSS. in the Cotton and Bodleian Libraries.

## DANCING.

May games, holidays and public festivals were supposed to confer upon maidens in a state of servitude, opportunities for the display of their skill in dancing—a recreation belonging peculiarly to their caste. Their prescriptive license was apparently renewed at these joyous gatherings, when our fair Saxon damsels openly paraded their terpsichorean accomplishments, and were duly rewarded with liberal largess, not only from their mistresses and masters, but from the assembled guests as well.

It was customary, during the twelfth century, for the girls of the household to dance in the presence of their employers, every evening after prayers, to the rhythmical beating of the *timbræl*. To encourage a further development of this harmless recreation, the best dancers were rewarded with wreaths of flowers, which were publicly exhibited by being hung across the streets. The artistic arrangement of garlands and chaplets was a favourite occupation among the ladies of this period—flowers being then worn by the fashionable of both sexes.

From the following lines in Spenser's "Epithalamium" we may infer that dancing was often accompanied with singing:—

The damseis they delight  
When they hear the timbrels smite,  
And there unto dance and carol sweet.

In the gorgeous pageants and processions of the Middle Ages, which were common throughout the kingdom, woman played a conspicuous part. The girls of London are said to have greatly enjoyed these fêtes; they danced along the streets playing the cithern, an instrument resembling a modern guitar. As late as the reign of Richard the First, it was common for maidservants to dance before their masters' doors. The Moorish or morris dance is said to



DANCING.

(M. Barrois' MS. of Comte d'Artois).

have been introduced into this country in the time of Edward the Third, by John of Gaunt, when he returned from Spain. That we derived it from our neighbours in France or Holland seems a more probable theory.

The expenses of these pageants formed an important item in the parochial accounts. Each parish retained its own dancers, whose dresses were sometimes lent in cases of great emergency to neighbouring parishes. This custom scarcely survived the fifteenth century.

In the ancient domestic dances the ladies and gentlemen held each other alternately by the hand. To this the most popular movement the name carole was given, the word being subsequently used as a general term for any dance.

#### UNDER FEMALE PATRONAGE.

As passive spectators the fair sex greatly enjoyed military sports, the baiting of animals and sword-play.

*The Tournament.*—How anxious were they to witness the dangerous conflicts in which their pet champions engaged when tilting at each other. The jousts, or lance-games, were in fact organised in honour of the ladies, one of whom always presided as judge or referee. Her opinion was sought in critical cases, and her decision was always paramount and as unalterable as the law of the Medes and Persians. Hence in the Age of Chivalry every true knight was wont to select for himself a tutelary saint from the bevy of fine ladies who graced the lists with their presence. To this incomparable embodiment of virtue and beauty he made most solemn vows, and addressed himself in the hour of direst peril. A glove, a kerchief, or a ribbon, with a glance from love-lit eyes, has sent many a brave warrior to his fate.

Though vehemently denounced by the clergy, these dangerous sports grew increasingly popular. Their popularity was due perhaps to two causes—the vanity of the nobility in trying to outvie each other in the ostentatious

splendour of their equipages, and an insatiable love of admiration, which the display of their prowess elicited from the divine syrens who presided.

Minute particulars are given in the "Traites des Tournois," concerning the management of these military spectacles. The king of arms, attended by heralds and pursuivants, announced the decision to the conqueror, and afterwards conducted him to the Lady of the Tournament. When the victorious knight was brought before her, she carefully uncovered the prize, which had previously been concealed, and presented it to him. The lucky recipient, of course, received it graciously, and in return politely kissed the donor; he was, moreover, permitted "to kiss her two damsels likewise, if it were his pleasure," and rarely was there knight who could withstand the charm of such a trio of sweet lips. After this ceremony the successful combatant conducted the lady to the dance as his partner-elect. Festivities of no ordinary character concluded the day.

In Shaw's "Dresses and Decorations of the Middle Ages" there is a beautiful coloured illustration of the Lady of the Tournament delivering the prize.

Edward the Fourth commanded John Tiptoft, Earl of Worcester, to draw up a series of rules, for the better regulation of these rough amusements. The words, with which the ordinance closes, may be quoted:

..... "Reserving always to the queenes highness and the ladies there present the attribution and gift of the prize, after the manner and forme accustomed."

*Bull and Bear Baiting.*—Modern ladies will perhaps be somewhat disgusted when they learn that the representatives of gentleness, in past generations, greatly encouraged the vicious and degrading pastimes of bull, bear and dog baiting.

It has been truly said, that few things are more permanent and less liable to change than a nation's diversions. The savage amusement in which our half-civilised Saxon forefathers prided was common even in the reign of Henry the Eighth, for Erasmus, when visiting this country, says, many herds of bears were then maintained for this sport. There was in fact, scarcely a town or village of any size, that did not possess a bull-ring.

A grand bear-baiting was instituted for the delectation of Queen Mary, when she visited her sister the Princess Elizabeth, who was under the custody of Sir Thomas Pope, at Hatfield House. It is recorded that "their highnesses were right well content" with the sickening spectacle. After Elizabeth ascended the throne, she entertained the French and also the Danish ambassadors with a specimen of English bull and bear-baiting, "tempered," writes Holinshed, "with other merry disports."

In the "Book of Sports" this recreation, which so annoyed the Puritans, not because of the torture inflicted upon the animal, but because of the pleasure the spectators derived therefrom, were prohibited on Sundays.

Ancient custom and the sanction of royalty helped, no doubt, to quiet the consciences and to deaden the sympathy of the maidens and matrons of by-gone days. As late, however, as 1825 their interest in such brutal exhibitions was not wholly dead. Wombell's celebrated lion, Wallace, was pitted against half-a-dozen hounds. The *Times* after giving vent to a burst of indignant disgust at the cruelty of the spectacle, and the supineness of the Warwick magistracy, concludes by adding: "Several well-dressed ladies viewed the contest from the upper apartment of the factory."

*Fencing and Sword-play.*—During the "Sword and Buckler Age," the bear-gardens were constantly thronged by fair votaries, who came to prize-fights, sword-play, or similar feasts.

To check the annoying disturbances to which these vulgar pastimes gave rise, a law was passed in the reign of Edward the First, whereby offenders were liable to forty days' imprisonment. As this stringent measure proved ineffectual a mulct of forty marks was added in order to abate the nuisance.

The decline of sword-fights and fencing is thus bewailed in Henry Potter's Comedy, "The Two Angry Women of Abbington" (1599): "Sword and buckler fights begin to grow out of use; I am sorry for it; I shall never see good manhood again; if it be once gone this poking fight of rapier and dagger will come up, then a tall man, that is a courageous man and a good sword and buckler man, will be spitted like a cat or a rabbit."

HENRY J. HILLENNE.

(To be continued.)

BELLS OUT OF TUNE.

What is the song that I hear in the chime,  
 Sung by the bells at this merry Yule time?  
 Oh! to my weary mind all that they say  
 Is, "Come along, come along, why do you stay?  
 Go and play golf, you are wasting a day."  
 Golf on the brain! Golf on the brain!  
 This time last year I could call myself sane;  
 No carking care had I; no wear and tear had I,  
 Oh! Shall I ever be happy again!

What is the tale of the verdure so green,  
 Carpets of moss, with soft fairy-like sheen?  
 To my distorted soul, all that they cry  
 Is, "Oh dear me! Oh dear me! What a bad lie!"  
 They say nothing else, and I cannot think why.  
 Golf on the brain! Golf on the brain!  
 This time last year, I could call myself sane;  
 Now but a slave am I, given to rave am I,  
 Rave at the ball that's becoming my bane.

What is the story the smooth upland tells  
 As it echoes the sounds of the sweet chiming bells?  
 That velvety green sward is whispering to me,  
 "Oh shouldn't I, shouldn't I, make a good tee!"  
 And no other beauty at all can I see.  
 Golf on the brain! Golf on the brain!  
 This time last year, I could call myself sane;  
 Now I wend wearily, on my way drearly,  
 No turn there seems to this very long lane.

What are the sandbanks that lie on the shore,  
 The dunes that the poets have honour'd of yore,  
 That stretch in waste solitude out t'wards the sea?  
 They are nothing but horrid bad bunkers to me;  
 A place where no average golfer should be.  
 Golf on the brain! Golf on the brain!  
 This time last year I could call myself sane;  
 Now all things seem to be in a bad dream to me,  
 In the deft toils I may struggle in vain.

What is the rhythm that runs in my ear,  
 As I list to the bells that chime out the Old Year!  
 That ring out the Old, and the New one ring in,  
 To me there is only one sound in their din,  
 "You'll never play golf—what a fool to begin!"  
 Golf on the brain! Golf on the brain!  
 This time last year I could call myself sane;  
 Time is now aging me, golf is enraging me,  
 May the New Year, which we welcome again,  
 To me, and all golfers, bring peace in its train.

ROSE CHAMPION DE CRESPIGNY.



A RICHMOND TEAM v. A NORTHWOOD TEAM.

This, the return match to that which took place at Sudbrook Park on the 12th, was played at Northwood, on Thursday, the 19th, when the home team succeeded in turning the tables on their former conquerors, though by a narrow margin. The day was favourable; although dull it was dry—a good golfing day, which is something to be thankful for now-a-days.

RICHMOND.		NORTHWOOD.	
	Holes.		Holes.
Mr. J. B. Chamberlain	9	Dr. E. W. F. Stiven	0
Capt Reade, R.N.	6	Dr. H. Dane	0
Mr. F. E. Badham	0	Mr. A. J. Evelyn	4
Mr. R. Warner	0	Mr. Herbert Chipp	4
Mr. L. Penrhy	0	Mr. L. W. Webster	7
Mr. G. Peache	0	Mr. H. A. G. Stiven	3
Mr. S. Peel	0	Mr. A. M. Hooper	8
Mr. L. F. Robertson	3	Mr. J. G. Hooper	0
	<u>18</u>		<u>26</u>

Northwood, 8 up.

BEXHILL GOLF CLUB.

The annual general meeting was held at the Sackville Hotel on Wednesday, December 18th. Dr. Wallis was in the chair, and there was a very good attendance of members. The statement of accounts for the past year, showing a balance in hand of over £100, was submitted and passed. Mr. W. G. MacGregor was unanimously elected as captain for the ensuing year. Lord Cantelupe's generous offer of a cup, of the value of twenty guineas, was very cordially accepted.

Monthly medal competition, December 18th.—

Gross. Hcp. Net.			Gross. Hcp. Net.				
Mr. J. H. Escolme	87	10	77	Mr. A. E. MacDonnell	94	9	85
Rev. F. W. Pawson	99	20	79	Dr. Garrard	94	7	87
Mr. A. R. Inskipp	89	8	81	Mr. F. Bond	101	14	87
Mr. W. G. MacGregor	91	7	84	Mr. H. Z. Dunn	108	20	88
Mr. J. B. Escolme	94	9	85				

Ladies' monthly medal competition, December 19th.—

Gross. Hcp. Net.			Gross. Hcp. Net.				
Miss M. H. Smith	105	5	100	Miss F. Ritson	111	+3	114
Miss E. Fraser	114	5	109	Miss M. Lloyd	134	16	118
Miss Scrivens	127	18	109	Miss Lloyd	145	24	121
Miss Hickman	135	24	111				

BOURNEMOUTH GOLF CLUB.

Monthly medal, December 19th;—

Gross. Hcp. Net.			Gross. Hcp. Net.				
Mr. Lowthian Bell	77	8	69	Mr. H. E. H. Kent	83	4	79
Capt. Anderson	83	9	74	Mr. L. G. Browne	90	8	82
Mr. A. K. Holt	93	19	74	Dr. Harsant	90	7	83
Mr. T. H. Haviland	79	4	75	Mr. Franklin G. Le-			
Mr. D. H. W. Rob-				froy	105	20	85
son-Burrows	81	6	75	Col. Butler Bowden	99	14	85
Capt. W. G. Wyld	86	10	76				

Fourteen others sent in no returns. The links were very wet, the greens being in a frightful condition.

BIRKDALE GOLF CLUB.

Despite some fog and a white frost on the ground, which combined to account for at least a score lost balls and for high scores, a moderate field assembled and took part in the first of three rounds, for a prize presented for Christmas-week competition by Mr. R. Jones, and open to handicaps over 18, the two winners to play off, under special handi-

cap, for possession, on December 28th. The best cards were :—Dr. Baildon, 119, less 19=100; Rev. W. B. Hutton, 127, less 25=102; Mr. W. H. Hayes, 129, less 25=104; Mr. R. Marmon, 127, less 22=105; Mr. G. Brown, 151, less 30=121. Dr. Baildon thus put in a win, and took the first sweep, Mr. Hayes taking the second.

DISLEY GOLF CLUB.

The second winter handicap was played on Saturday December 21st. Mr. A. H. Dixon put in a win for the Winter medal, and Mr. J. Hampson for a prize presented by Mr. R. E. Branthwaite, for members with handicaps over 15. The following were the best scores :—

Gross. Hcp. Net.			Gross. Hcp. Net.		
Mr. A. H. Dixon ...	95	11	84	Mr. A. N. Monk-	...
Mr. C. G. Satter-	...	...	...	house ...	100
thwaite ...	93	6	87	Mr. J. M. Leake ...	108
Mr. J. Hampson ...	112	25	87	Mr. J. H. Smith ...	103
Mr. G. Hicks ...	102	14	88	Mr. H. C. Garrett...	105
Mr. C. H. Roth ...	109	20	89	Mr. A. Crewdson ...	113
Mr. F. Robinson ...	112	23	89	Mr. H. D. Tonge ...	105
Mr. G. F. Schofield	99	6	93	Mr. W. T. L. Esk-	...
Mr. A. B. Scholfield	96	2	94	rigge ...	117

The Hodgkinson foundation medal for the four best gross scores made during the year at any competition, has been won this year by Mr. T. G. Yates, with the following scores :—74, 79, 80, 81=314.

DUDLEY GOLF CLUB.

The monthly handicap competition was held on December 21st, the play being difficult owing to the frost. In the lower handicaps Mr. E. S. Angove (20) was the winner, with a net score of 89. Mr. J. S. Morris (14) being second with 90. In the higher handicaps Mr. J. G. Jones (25) won with 81 net, Mr. J. W. Naylor (22), being second with 88.

ELTHAM GOLF CLUB.

Monthly medal, Saturday, December 21st :—

The adverse influences of frost and fog told heavily against low scoring on these links at the December competition, though matters improved somewhat as the day wore on, and the best scores were made in the afternoon. As the subjoined list shows, the result was a tie between Dr. E. J. D. Mitchell and Mr. Fred Bloxam. Both winners have come on wonderfully during the last twelve months, and are rapidly forcing their way to the front rank. Notwithstanding the unfavourable weather sixty-five players took the field. The following are the net scores sent in below 100.

Gross. Hcp. Net.			Gross. Hcp. Net.		
Dr. E. J. D. Mitchell	93	6	87	Mr. W. H. Richard-	...
Mr. Fred. Bloxam	97	10	87	son ...	93
Mr. A. Lindley ...	99	11	88	Mr. J. C. Anderson.	108
Mr. W. M'Arthur...	97	8	89	Mr. F. G. Bampfylde	102
Mr. A. Poynder ...	103	14	89	Mr. A. S. Johnston.	92
Mr. J. Richards ...	107	18	89	Mr. W. G. Mitchell.	100
Mr. G. Spurling ...	97	7	90	Mr. P. A. Newton ...	105
Mr. P. Read ...	98	8	90	Mr. R. A. Patterson	109
Mr. T. J. Baillie ...	101	11	90	Mr. C. C. Blogg ...	114
Mr. T. Whyte ...	93	2	91	Mr. F. A. Kebbel...	104
Mr. A. Poland ...	101	10	91	Mr. A. B. Hutchings	105
Mr. F. S. Ireland...	91	+1	92	Mr. L. P. Kekewich.	107
Mr. P. F. G. Lord ...	97	5	92	Mr. H. A. Laird ...	107
				Mr. T. Cutter ...	113

HAMPSTEAD GOLF CLUB.

The monthly medal was played for on Saturday, December 21st, and the result was as follows :—Mr. F. R. Morris (captain), 102, less 14=88; Mr. Weeden Dawes, 106, less 15=91; Mr. W. J. Barton, 107, less 10=97. Others 100 or over.

HITCHIN AND NORTH HERTS GOLF CLUB.

Monthly medal. December 20th :—Mr. W. J. Hughes, 87; Mr. E. B. Lindsell, 99; Mr. A. H. Foster, 109, less 5=104; Mr. W. Onslow Times 111, less 5=106; Mr. T. W. Fry, 120, less 10=110; Mr. P. T. Harris, 122, less 10=112; Mr. Raymond Lucas, 132, less 10=122.

KENILWORTH LADIES' GOLF CLUB.

On Thursday, December 19th, the quarterly competition for the Smith-Turberville silver teapot took place, with the following result :—Miss Darlington, 100, less 5=95; Miss O'Leary, 101, less 5=96; Miss L. Sidebottom, 108, less 11=97; Miss Verrall, 102, less 2=100. No returns from Mrs. W. H. Mitchell, Miss Sidebottom, and Miss Stead.

LITTLESTONE GOLF CLUB.

Monthly medal.—Played on December 14th, in fine and calm weather :—Mr. J. MacCombie, 102, less 15=87; Mr. C. Igglesden, 103, less 16=87 (tied); Mr. J. H. Hedderwick, 93, less 3=90; Mr. S. S. Still, 106, less 16=90; Mr. A. Gibbings, 104, less 10=94; Mr. Edgar Taylor, 111, less 14=97. On playing off the tie, Mr. C. Igglesden won. Eight others over 100 net, or no returns.

LITTLESTONE LADIES' GOLF CLUB.

Monthly medal, December 14th.—Played for in splendid weather, the course in excellent order, and considerably lengthened :—Miss Stringer, 89, less 4=85; Miss Ethel Cobb, 100, less 12=88; Mrs. MacCombie, 106, less 15=91; Miss Hilda Stringer, 104, less 10=94; Miss Rowlandson, 110, less 16=94. Miss South, Miss C. South, Miss E. Rowlandson, Miss M. Cobb, Miss M. V. Stringer, and Mrs. Trower made no returns.

ROBIN HOOD v. YARDLEY.

Played at Hall Green :—Mr. H. Lowe and Mr. E. W. Mason each completed the round in 82, which is the record score for the links :—

ROBIN HOOD.			YARDLEY.		
	Holes.			Holes.	
Mr. H. Lowe ...	0	...	Mr. E. W. Mason ...	1	...
Mr. E. Fordred ...	7	...	Mr. T. Barton ...	0	...
Mr. F. A. Lindner ...	2	...	Mr. C. Howitt...	0	...
Mr. T. B. Barker ...	0	...	Mr. S. Thornley ...	1	...
Mr. A. Woolley ...	4	...	Mr. J. H. Ketley ...	0	...
Mr. J. F. Jordan ...	0	...	Mr. J. Hoskins...	3	...
		13			5

ROYAL ARTILLERY, (WOOLWICH) GOLF CLUB.

Third "Bogey" ompetition Wednesday, December 18th :—Major Coker (5), 2 down; Lieutenant Hankey (7), 2 down; Captain Hornby (11), 3 down; Lieutenant Thwaites (12), 3 down; Vet.-Major Whitfield (16), 4 down. Only a small muster. The above were the only returns made.

ROYAL DUBLIN GOLF CLUB.

Monthly handicap, December 14th. Scores :—

Gross. Hcp. Net.			Gross. Hcp. Net.		
Mr. D. F. Moore ...	90	12	78	Dr. Traill ...	93
Mr. G. C. Greene ...	87	8	79	Col. Willoughby ...	95
Mr. F. H. Orr ...	89	10	79	Mr. A. S. Hussey ...	94
Mr. M. A. Shea ...	91	12	79	Mr. C. W. Webb ...	97
Mr. J. S. Moore ...	87	7	80	Mr. J. L. Morrow...	103
Mr. P. M. Watson	91	9	82	Mr. H. Dodd ...	100
Mr. J. H. Barrington	91	8	83	Mr. J. R. Blood ...	107

The competition for the Club medal, to be played for by the winners of the several monthly handicaps during the present year, was held on Saturday last. Mr. J. S. Moore was the winner, with a good gross score of 83. Scores :—

Gross. Hcp. Net.			Gross. Hcp. Net.		
Mr. J. S. Moore ...	83	7	76	Mr. D. F. Moore ...	100
Mr. J. H. Barrington	89	8	81	Mr. E. O'Farrell ..	106
Mr. H. J. Daly ...	94	11	83	Mr. J. P. Barrington	106
Mr. J. O'Hagan ...	104	17	87		11

ROYAL EPPING FOREST GOLF CLUB.

Godwin "Bogey" competition, December 19th.—Result :—Dr. J. D. Cruickshank, 1 down; Mr. E. A. Read, 3 down; Mr. Arthur Boney, 5 down; Mr. A. B. Smith, 5 down; Mr. J. D. Geddes, 6 down; Mr. J. Latham, 6 down; Mr. Sidney Kemp, 7 down; Mr. Alfred Kemp, 7 down; Mr. C. E. Greig, 7 down; Mr. A. W. Good, 7 down; Mr. P. Waterlow, 8 down; Mr. F. F. McKenzie, 8 down; Mr. H. A. Gardom, 9 down; Mr. J. W. Greig, 9 down; Mr. H. E. Powell, 9 down; Mr. E. G. Sawyer, 10 down; Mr. J. O. Milledge, jun., 11 down; Mr. H. Scrivener, 11 down; Mr. H. J. Hill, 12 down; Mr. W. N. Atherton, 12 down; Mr. G. T. B. Cobbett, 13 down; Mr. Mr. S. Maxwell, 13 down; Dr. W. Whitelaw, 15 down.

ROYAL LIVERPOOL GOLF CLUB.

Thursday, December 12th, was a miserable day; there was a cold east wind, with heavy rain showers, which was most unfortunate for the caddies of the above club, as it was the day fixed for their annual competition. The weather frightened many from playing, but they turned up in full force at the tea, which was given by the club in the national schools. The hon. treasurer gave away the prizes. For the medal (scratch), G. Cassidy and J. Randalls tied with 95, on playing

off, the former won. Handicaps (first class), over an eighteen-hole course :—

Gross. Hcp. Net.			Gross. Hcp. Net.		
*E. Jones ...	97	9 88	T. Lever ...	96	scr. 96
†T. Ball ...	106	14 92	J. Sherlock... ..	110	14 96
†C. Roberts ...	101	9 92	H. Bennett... ..	97	scr. 97
W. B. Bird ...	108	14 94	J. Verrinder ...	98	1 97
J. Randalls... ..	95	1 94	J. Eccles ... ..	118	16 102
G. Cassidy ...	95	scr. 95	R. Cooper ... ..	117	14 103

\* Wins first prize, 10s. † Divide second and third prizes, 6s.  
Eight others made no returns.  
Second class, over a course of twelve holes :—

Gross. Hcp. Net.			Gross. Hcp. Net.		
*G. Nicholson ...	61	scr. 61	A. Pulford ...	75	3 72
†F. Evans ...	76	12 64	J. Bird ... ..	82	10 72
†Noel Jones ...	79	14 65	G. Bird ... ..	91	18 73
C. Moorby ...	70	scr. 70	W. Jones ...	89	10 79
H. Roberts ...	82	12 70	J. Hawke ...	86	5 81
J. Smith ...	74	3 71			

\* First prize, 5s. Second prize, 3s. Third prize, 2s.  
Three others made no returns.

SIDMOUTH GOLF CLUB.

A very interesting match was played on the links at Sidmouth between ten members of this club and a like number of the Budleigh Salterton Golf Club, on Friday, December 20th. The morning was devoted to singles, and resulted in an easy victory for Sidmouth; but after an adjournment for luncheon, which was served in the Pavilion, the visitors, in mixed foursome play, turned the tables on the home team, winning all along the line. Much satisfaction was expressed at this friendly meeting of the two clubs, and it is to be hoped that many gatherings of this sort may be arranged during the golfing season. The following is a complete list of the scores.

Singles.—Gentlemen :—

SIDMOUTH.		SIDMOUTH.	
	Holes.		Holes.
Mr. J. M. Cripps ...	0	Mr. C. M. Leese ...	6
Mr. W. W. Rhoades ...	0	Mr. E. Hawker ...	7
Mr. A. P. Percival ...	0	Mr. S. G. B. Wollaston	0
Captain Tosswill ...	0	Rev. E. Wilton South... ..	9
Mr. C. Roberts... ..	0	Mr. O. C. Bragge ...	3
	0		25

Ladies :—

Miss Theobald... ..	3	Miss Bayley ... ..	0
Miss Porter ... ..	0	Miss F. Dashwood ...	6
Miss Tosswill ... ..	0	Miss Bigge ... ..	5
Miss Lampen ... ..	5	Miss Favell ... ..	0
Mrs. G. Bryan ... ..	0	Miss Leese ... ..	4
	8		15

Foursomes :—

SIDMOUTH.		BURLEIGH.	
	Holes.		Holes.
Mr. C. M. Leese and Miss Bayley ... ..	0	Mr. J. M. Cripps and Miss Porter ... ..	2
Mr. O. C. Bragge and Miss F. Dashwood ... ..	0	Mr. Roberts and Miss Tosswill ... ..	1
Mr. E. Hawker and Miss Bigge ... ..	0	Mr. W. W. Rhoades and Miss Lampen ... ..	2
Mr. S. G. B. Wollaston and Miss M. Dashwood... ..	0	Mr. A. P. Percival and Miss Theobald ... ..	3
Rev. Wilton South and Miss Leese ... ..	0	Capt. Tosswill and Mrs. Bryan ... ..	0
	0		8

SEAFORD GOLF CLUB.

The winners of the monthly medals played off for the club prize, on the 21st inst. Seven competitors turned up, but only three cards were returned, the winner proving to be Mr. Hugh Thomson, one of the best of the local players, with the fair net score of 83. Weather beautiful and links in fair order.

SEASCALE GOLF CLUB.

The winners of the four monthly competitions for the silver and bronze medals presented by Mr. H. Braithwaite, the hon. secretary, viz., Mr. Gordon Wordsworth, Mr. P. S. Russell, Sir Henry Pottinger, Bart., and Mr. A. G. Russell, played off the semi-finals and final tie on Saturday and Tuesday, December 15th and 17th.

Mr. P. S. Russell beat Mr. Wordsworth by 3 up and 1 to play; Mr. A. G. Russell had a bye, Sir Henry Pottinger being unable to play.

In the final Mr. A. G. Russell beat Mr. P. S. Russell by 2 up and 1 to play, and thus secured a popular win. Both the Messrs. Russell are young players, and have taken a considerable amount of interest in the club since its formation. Mr. A. G. Russell for some considerable time held the record for the links.

ST. NEOTS v. HUNTINGDON.

Played at St. Neots on Tuesday, December 17th, ending in a victory for St. Neots by 9 holes.

HUNTINGDON.		ST. NEOTS.	
	Holes.		Holes.
Mr. C. J. Money penny,	0	Mr. B. C. Thomson ...	2
Mr. R. Lindsell ...	0	Mr. A. P. Brackenbury	2
Mr. A. C. Sweeting ...	3	Mr. A. C. McNish ...	0
Mr. P. G. S. Payne ...	0	Mr. J. A. Ennals ...	6
Mr. M. G. Maule ...	5	Mr. G. S. Wilkinson ...	0
Mr. J. E. H. Vernon ..	0	Mr. F. N. Butler ...	7
	8		17

THAMES DITTON AND ESHER v. ASHLEY PARK.

Return match, played at Thames Ditton, December 18th :—

THAMES DITTON.		ASHLEY PARK.	
	Holes.		Holes.
Mr. H. A. Harvey ...	8	Mr. A. Read ... ..	0
Mr. F. Corbett ... ..	0	Mr. A. Read ... ..	4
Mr. R. Howell ... ..	1	Mr. E. S. Trouncer ...	0
Mr. W. H. Game ... ..	3	Mr. R. J. Barley ...	0
Mr. H. Davenport ...	2	Mr. J. N. Bush ... ..	0
Mr. E. M. Corbett ...	0	Mr. J. S. Sassoon ...	0
	14		4

TIMPERLEY GOLF CLUB.

The lady members of the club have for the past two months been engaged in an American tournament, under match play, for a prize presented by Dr. W. Ager Renshaw. The competition was concluded on Friday, December 20th, and Miss Dippie proved the winner, her consistent play securing her fifteen matches out of sixteen played. Miss James, with thirteen wins, took the sweepstakes. The prize, a very handsome one, consisting of silver sugar-basin, cream-jug, teaspoons, sugar-tongs, and two Worcester cups and saucers, was presented by Mrs. Renshaw after the close of the competition.

TONBRIDGE GOLF CLUB.

December 21st.—Monthly medal and sweepstakes (handicap), and hon. secretary's challenge cleek (scratch score) :—

Gross. Hcp. Net.			Gross. Hcp. Net.		
*Mr. J. A. Pott ...	91	20 71	Mr. C. W. Carles... ..	95	15 80
†Mr. S. Kennington	79	5 74	Mr. L. B. Burns ...	87	6 81
Mr. C. H. Pattison	106	30 76	Mr. J. Le Fleming	110	28 82
Mr. C. Bent ... ..	91	13 78	Mr. K. Preston ...	113	30 83
Mr. J. Le Fleming,			Mr. Geo. Furley ...	102	16 86
jun. ... ..	85	6 79	Mr. A. T. Penny ...	111	18 93

\* Medal and first sweepstakes. † Cleek and second sweepstakes.

TORQUAY LADIES' GOLF CLUB.

The monthly medal competition took place on Friday, December 20th. There were seven entries. Names and scores as follows :—

Gross Hcp. Net.			Gross Hcp. Net.		
Miss Wollen ...	86	15 71	Miss Pemberton ...	97	12 85
Miss Chambers ...	87	9 78	Miss Colhoun ...	114	29 85
Miss Oldfield ...	95	13 82	Miss Collett ...	121	20 101

Miss E. Colhoun sent in no card.  
The "Bogey" competition during the month was won by Miss Wollen.

TYNESIDE GOLF CLUB.

Fifth competition for the prize presented by Mr. W. S. Burrell. Played on Thursday, December 19th :—

Gross. Hcp. Net.			Gross. Hcp. Net.		
Mr. F. E. Thew ...	90	8 82	Mr. A. E. Carr ...	108	16 92
Mr. F. T. Ridley ...	86	scr. 86	Mr. R. Y. Batey ...	105	11 94
Mr. W. H. Ritson... ..	100	9 91	Mr. W. D. Robb ...	106	12 94

Other players made no return.

## WIMBLEDON LADIES' GOLF CLUB.

Monthly medal. Saturday, December 21st.—

Gross. Hcp. Net.			Gross. Hcp. Net		
Miss Pascoe	76	3 73	Miss Bardswell	101	17 84
Miss Issette Pearson	76	scr. 76	Miss Clark	90	5 85
Miss Hassard Short	86	9 77	Miss Henderson	93	8 85
Miss Lena Thomson	85	3 82	Miss Sant	98	11 87
Mrs. Archer	103	18 82	Miss Aston	99	12 87
Mrs. King	90	7 83	Miss Jacomb	109	22 87
Miss Phillips	84	1 83	Mrs. Richards	104	12 92
Mrs. Willock	85	2 83	Miss K. H. MacFarlan	104	10 94
Mrs. Foster	95	11 84			

A large number of players did not return their scores.

The tournament, which has been going on during November and December, was won on the 19th by Mrs. Willock, who played the final with Miss Hassard Short. First heat:—Mrs. Spencer Whitehead, Mrs. Cameron and Miss Hassard Short, byes; Miss Tee (9), walked over; Mrs. Lawrell (11), scratched; Miss Pearson (scr.) beat Miss Delcomyn (24); Mrs. Dowson (16) beat Mrs. Foster (11); Miss Pascoe (3) beat Mrs. Henderson (22); Miss K. MacFarlan (10) beat Mrs. Thorne (19); Miss Lena Thomson (3) beat Miss E. R. Faithfull (11); Mrs. Pollock (20) beat Miss Ida Kenyon-Stow (9); Mrs. Robert Browne (24), walked over; Mrs. G. Banbury (19), scratched; Miss Edith Scott (4), beat Miss Kenyon-Stow (1); Miss L. Field (17), beat Mrs. A. King (7); Miss Horne (12), walked over; Mrs. Horne (18), scratched; Mrs. Willock (2), beat Mrs. Archer (18); Miss Phillips (1) beat Miss N. Muir (4).

Second heat:—Mrs. Whitehead (14) beat Mrs. Cameron (6); Miss Hassard Short (9), beat Miss K. G. Tee (9); Mrs. Dowson beat Miss Pearson; Miss Pascoe beat Miss K. MacFarlan; Miss L. Thomson beat Mrs. Pollock; Miss E. Scott beat Mrs. R. Browne; Miss L. Field beat Miss Horne; Mrs. Willock beat Miss Phillips.

Third heat.—Miss Hassard Short beat Mrs. Whitehead; Miss Pascoe beat Mrs. Dowson; Miss L. Thomson beat Miss Scott; Mrs. Willock walked over; Miss Field (scratched).

Semi-final.—Miss Hassard Short beat Miss Pascoe, by 4 up and 2; Mrs. Willock beat Miss L. Thomson, by 1 hole.

Final.—Mrs. Willock beat Miss Hassard Short, by 4 up and 2.

Tuesday, December 17th.—In beautiful weather a match was played against the Mid-Surrey Ladies' Golf Club, which resulted in a win for the home team. Scores:—

WIMBLEDON.		MID-SURREY.	
Holes.		Holes.	
Mrs. Willock	4	Miss A. Roberts	0
Miss Pascoe	5	Miss F. Ravenshaw	0
Miss L. Thomson	1	Miss M. Freeling	0
Mrs. A. King (capt.)	0	Miss C. Morgan	2
Miss Hassard Short	4	Mrs. Craven (capt.)	0
Miss M. Nicol	7	Miss M. Bowyer	0
Miss K. G. Tee	0	Miss Sparrow	2
Miss K. Macfarlan	1	Miss Burke	0
	22		4
Foursomes:—		Holes.	
Mrs. Willock and Miss L. Thomson	3	Miss A. Roberts and Miss Ravenshaw	0
Miss Pascoe and Miss K. MacFarlan	0	Miss Freeling and Miss Morgan	6
Miss Hassard Short and Miss Tee	0	Mrs. Craven and Miss M. Bowyer	1
Mrs. King and Mrs. Dowson	4	Miss Sparrow and Miss Burke	0
	7		7

## WOODBRIDGE GOLF CLUB.

The tie for the monthly medal final was played off on Tuesday, December 17th, with following result:—Major R. King, 88, less 10=78; Captain Pole Soppitt, 96, less 10=86. Major King's score (which is a record for the new eighteen-hole course) reads as follows:—Out, 5 7 4 4 8 4 4 4 6=46; in, 5 6 4 5 4 4 4 5 5=42; total 88.

## WOODFORD GOLF CLUB.

Quarterly medals, December 14th.—

Gold:—Mr. R. S. Cox, 96, less 9=87; Mr. E. A. Tewson, 97, less 6=91; Mr. H. E. Kaye, 104, less 12=92; Mr. D. Munro, 107, less 12=95; Mr. E. J. Morris, 109, less 12=97; Mr. W. Kemsley, 106, less 8=98.

Silver:—Mr. A. Rankine, 104, less 14=90; Mr. C. J. Glanfield, 109, less 15=94; Mr. H. Dickson, 111, less 15=96. Nine others over 100 net.

FORMBY CLUB.—The six winners in the second series of competitions for monthly optional prizes essayed on Saturday to play off on the Freshfield links for actual possession. After a short experience, however, of the deepening fog and white frost, nothing but lost balls resulted, and the competition stood postponed.

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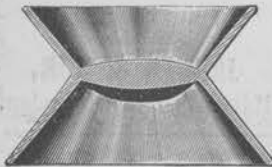
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