

GOLF.

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

"Far and Sure."

[REGISTERED AS A NEWSPAPER.]

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1896.

FEBRUARY.

- Feb. 7.—Royal Cornwall : Monthly Medal.
Feb. 7 & 8.—Seaford : Scratch and Monthly Medal and Prizes.
Feb. 8.—Enfield : Monthly Handicap.
 Wilmslow : Fifth Winter Competition.
 Saltburn : Club Medal.
 Ranelagh : Monthly Medal.
 Royal Epping Forest : "Bogey" Competition.
 Trafford : Monthly Medal.
 Southend-on-Sea New : Captain's Prize.
 Fairhaven : Monthly Medal.
 St. George's (Sandwich) : Monthly Medal.
 Seaford : Monthly Medal.
 Littlestone : Monthly Medal.
 Cumbrae : Monthly Medal.
 Moseley : Captain's Prize ("Bogey" Handicap).
 Saltburn : Monthly Medal.
 North Warwickshire v. King's Norton.
 Hampstead : Monthly Medal.
 Guildford : Monthly Medal.
 Balham : Monthly Medal (Senior).
 Royal Isle of Wight : Monthly Medal.
 Kenilworth : Carey Franklin Prize.
 Cleveland : Mr. March's Prize.
Feb. 11.—Enfield : Ladies' Monthly Handicap.
 Birkdale Ladies : First Captain's.
Feb. 12.—Saltburn : "Bogey" Competition.
 Robin Hood v. Harborne (at Harborne).
 West Middlesex : Committee Meeting.
 Kenilworth v. Atherstone (at Atherstone).
Feb. 12 & 13.—Pau : Ville de Pau Gold Medal.
Feb. 13.—Woodbridge Ladies : Monthly Medal.
 Royal Epping Forest : Godwin "Bogey" Competition.

- Feb. 13.—Royal Norwich : Monthly Medals.
Feb. 14 & 15.—Pau : St. Andrew's Cross.
Feb. 15.—Disley : Winter Silver Medal.
 Saltburn : Captain's Prize.
 Mid-Surrey : Monthly Medals (Senior and Junior).
 East Finchley : Monthly Medal.
 North West Club (Londonderry) Ladies : Monthly Medal.
 King's Norton : Captain's Prize.
 Robin Hood v. Moseley (at Moseley).
 Lansdown : "Bogey" Competition and Monthly Medal.
 Royal Worlington and Newmarket : Monthly Medal.
 Rochester : Monthly Medal.
 Finchley : Quarterly Competition for Challenge Cup.
 Northwood : "Bogey" Competition.
 Ravenscliffe : Monthly Medal.
 North Manchester : Captain's Cup.
 Fairhaven : President's Cup ; R. Walmsley Prize.
 West Middlesex : Monthly Medal.
 Romford : Monthly Medal.
 Wimbledon Ladies : Monthly Medal.
 Rochester Ladies : Monthly Medal.
 Harrogate : Monthly Medal.
 Tooting : "Bogey" Handicap.
 Formby : Monthly Subscription Prize.
 Warwickshire : Mr. Bouch's Prize.
 Southwold : Monthly Bronze Medal.
 Ealing : "Bogey" Competition.
 Balham : Monthly Medal (Junior).
 Kenilworth v. Barton-under-Needwood (at Kenilworth).
Feb. 18.—Cumbrae : Club Prize and Sweepstakes.
Feb. 19.—Pau : Macnab Challenge Cup and Badge.
 Kenilworth : Carey Franklin Prize.
Feb. 20.—Pau : Professional Tournament.
Feb. 21.—Littlehampton : Captain's Cup.
Feb. 22.—Enfield : "Bogey" Competition (Kenilworth Cup).
 Lytham and St. Anne's : Captain's Cup.
 Birkdale : First Captain's.
 Royal Epping Forest : Gordon Cup ; Captain's Prize
 Monthly Medal.
 Willesden : Short Handicap.
 Woodford : Captain's (Final).
 North Warwickshire v. Alcester.
 Littlehampton : Medal and Sweepstake.
 Kenilworth v. Barton-under-Needwood (at Barton).
 Cleveland : Mr. March's Prize.
Feb. 25.—Enfield : Ladies' "Bogey" (Wyndcroft Prize).
 Waveney Valley : Monthly Medal.
 Burnham : Gold and Silver Medal.
Feb. 26.—Robin Hood v. Yardley (at Yardley).
 Warminster : Monthly Handicap.
 Kenilworth v. Atherstone (at Kenilworth).
Feb. 27.—Glamorganshire Ladies : Monthly Medal.
 Royal Cromer : Monthly Medal.
 Romford : Ladies' Competition.

PROFESSIONAL MATCH.

WILLIE DUNCAN v. JACK WHITE.

The concluding stage of this match was played over the links of the Royal Worlington and Newmarket Golf Club, at Mildenhall, on Saturday. The day was dull, but without rain, and the green was in fine order. The phrase, "the finest inland links in the country," has become almost without meaning, so many greens having been thus labelled; but we really very much question whether any other inland links comes near this splendid course. The greens are simply magnificent, and would compare favourably with those of many sea-side links, and the lies throughout the green are very good indeed. None of the holes afford tame Golf, and several of them are of a very sporting character. We were glad to notice that the green committee are gradually doing away with those "sacred circles," which one so easily got into without even being aware of their existence. The crowd which accompanied the match was not a large one, but contained several of the most prominent members of the two clubs interested. Mr. W. T. Linskill officiated as umpire.

Shortly after eleven o'clock the men went to the first tee. Duncan had the honour, and topped his shot, the ball going into a whin some forty yards from the tee. White had a fine drive, taking the line to the left, but the ball slightly came round and pitched in the bunker. Acting in accordance with the local rules, Duncan dropped and lost one, playing his third with his cleek, and he got away a fine shot. White took 2 to get out, and his fourth shot he did not get fairly away, going to the right. Duncan had a good brassie shot, playing the like. His opponent, playing the odd, was short of the green, and the St. Andrews' man pitched his iron shot nearly dead. White ran the ball up, but was past the hole. Neither man got his putt down, and Duncan took the first hole in 7 to 8. Both men had fine tee shots, going to the second, Duncan, having the advantage, being on the edge of the green. White's approach was rather strong, while Duncan was nearly dead. Neither got their third down, Duncan missing a short one, and the hole was halved in 4. Both got their drives well away from the next tee, but Duncan was a little to the left, with rather a hanging ball. He took his cleek, and topped the ball, while White had a good brassie shot to the right. Duncan's third went to the left, while the North Berwick man's approach was on the green. Playing the odd, the Cambridge professional was some yards past the hole, and White holed a splendid putt, taking the hole in 4. Driving to the fourth, both men got good shots, and their approaches were on the green. Duncan's third was dead, but his opponent with a magnificent putt got down in the like. White 4 up. Going to the next hole, both had good tee-shots, and equally good seconds, going to the right. Duncan's approach was to the left, some seven or eight yards from the hole, while White did not get nearer with his. The St. Andrews man got down a beautiful steal, and White also holed his, with an equally fine putt. From the next tee White landed in the bunker, while Duncan was to the left. White got finely out, while Duncan, trying to spare his shot, having taken the brassie, sliced his ball, and got behind a tree to the right. His approach went over the green, while White was to the right on the green. Duncan was past the hole with his next, and White with another marvellous putt, holed out in 4, and stood 5 up on the match. The seventh is a short hole, a cleek-shot only being required to reach the green. Neither got on to the green, but Duncan laid his second dead, while White's approach was some yards past the hole; nor was his next dead, the hole falling to Duncan in 3. The latter had a magnificent drive to the eighth, while White sliced his and got into the bunker on the right. With his next he got out, and had a fine brassie shot straight on the hole. Duncan's second was a splendid brassie-shot, but it reached the bunker in front of the green. However, he got well out, and was on the green in one less than his opponent. Notwithstanding this advantage, he putted so indifferently, that he took 6 to the hole, while White was down in 5. The North Berwick man also took the next hole in 3, to his opponent's 4, and was thus 6 up, at the end of the first nine holes. Going to the long hole, White sliced his drive, and lay on the grass near the road. Duncan carried the bunker, with a splendid tee-shot. Both got good seconds, but White did not get on to the green with his third, while Duncan was nearly dead with his. White's approach was a bit to the right, and, not holing his putt, Duncan took the hole in 5, to his opponent's 6. Going to the eleventh, both got fine tee shots. White's approach was strong, while Duncan was short. His next was dead,

but White, with another magnificent putt, took the hole in 3. Both were well over the bunker from the next tee, but Duncan, though having the advantage in the drive, was not lying well. White had a magnificent brassie shot, and nearly reached the green, while the Cambridge professional got into the rushes on the left. He made a good recovery, and got on to the green with his next, and laid his putt dead; but White, having played a good approach, again put in a fine putt, and carried off the hole in 4, to Duncan's 5. White 7 up. The next hole was halved in an indifferent 5. Going to the fourteenth, White kept the line, while Duncan went to the left. White's second shot was to the right of the green, while Duncan struck a tree, and got into a bad lie. He got well out, however, and laid his putt dead. White fozzled his third, but was almost dead with his next, and, holing the putt, the result was a half in 5. White showed better form than his opponent at the next hole, having two fine shots with his play club, while Duncan, taking his cleek for his second, was short of the ditch. White had the better approach, and, getting down with his fourth, while Duncan failed in the like, stood 8 up on the match. Going to the short hole, White did not reach the green from the tee, which Duncan did, and his approach was rather strong. Duncan laid his second dead and holed out in 3, to his opponent's 4. Playing to the seventeenth, Duncan's tee shot was a "tonker," while White was a bit to the right. He played the odd, and got in a good brassie shot. Duncan went to the left, remembering his experience in the first round. White's approach was to the left, while Duncan over-ran the hole. The North Berwick man's putt was a little short, and, not getting down with his next, he took 6 to the hole, while Duncan holed out in 5. White 6 up. Driving to the home hole, Duncan got into the bunker on the right of the green, while White was quite straight, and nearly up. Duncan got well out, but did not get his putt down, which White did, holing a very fine one, and the round ended with White being 7 up on the match, and 18 holes to go. The approximate scores were:—

White	...	Out,	8	4	4	3	4	4	5	5	3=40	} 80
		In,	6	3	4	5	5	4	4	6	3=40	
Duncan	...	Out,	7	4	6	4	4	6	3	6	4=44	} 85
		In,	5	4	5	5	5	5	3	5	4=41	

After an interval of an hour for lunch, the men started on their last round. White again got into the bunker from the tee, while Duncan got in a fine straight shot. White had a bad lie in the bunker, and just got out with his second, while, with his brassie, he got in a good third. Duncan also had a fine brassie shot. White's next shot landed in the bunker to the right of the green. He recovered well, but was unable to make up his disadvantage, as Duncan had a good approach, and got down in 5, to the Worlington man's 6. Going to the second, Duncan landed in the bunker to the right of the green, while White was straight, though a little short. Both got on to the green with their second. Duncan was short with his third, while his opponent made a fine bid for the hole, just shaving the edge of it. Duncan got his putt down, and the hole was halved in 4. White 6 up. Both got fine drives from the next tee, Duncan having a slight advantage. White took his brassie, and went to the right, while Duncan, hitting a perfect teaser, almost got home. White's approach was not on the green, but his next was dead. Duncan was not dead with his third, but he managed to hole the putt, and thus was 5 down on the match. The next hole White took in 3 to Duncan's 4, holing another splendid putt. Going to the fifth, White was short of Duncan with his drive, but both were to the right of the green with their second. Both reached the green with their approach, but neither holing their next, a half was called in 5. From the next tee White got into the bunker, while Duncan went to the left. White got well out, while Duncan, lying heavily, had the misfortune to get into the "sacred circle,"—the only one left on the course. He appealed to the umpire, who decided he must drop and lose one. His next shot just landed over the ditch. White's approach was rather short, and he required 6 to hole out, but Duncan was one worse, and the whole thus fell to the Worlington professional. White 7 up. Duncan again secured the short hole in 3, to his opponent's 4. Going to the eighth hole both men had good tee-shots, and lay close to one another. White half-topped his second, while Duncan was well up, short of the bunker, with his brassie shot. White had a fine approach, while Duncan was to the right. The St. Andrews man was too strong with his putt, and White, holing his (a splendid one), stood again 7 up on the match. The ninth hole was fin ly halved in 3. Going to the tenth, White had a fine straight drive, while his opponent sliced his, and lay a foot short of a whin. He knocked the ball into the whin with his second, striking a stone with his iron, while, taking his brassie for his fourth, he did not get it well away. White got in a fine brassie shot, and, taking his cleek, was short of the bunker to the right of the green. Duncan had a fine brassie-shot to the left of the green, but White, laying his fourth dead, secured the hole in 5 to his opponent's 8, and thus became dormy. The next hole was halved in 4, and the match thus ended in White's favour by 8 up and 7 to play.

The match may fairly be described as a triumph of putting over driving. Duncan nearly always drove farther from the tee than White, but, when the green was reached, White's phenomenal putting much more than equalised the advantage gained by Duncan in the long game. It is only fair to White to state that he was suffering from rheumatism, and thus could not swing with his accustomed freedom. Both men showed play of a high order, and when the Championship comes round they ought to give a good account of themselves. Mr. Read, the secretary of the Royal Worlington Golf Club, afterwards presented the men with their awards, congratulating them on their well-fought match. The approximate scores for the second round were :—

White	Out,	6	4	5	3	5	6	4	4	3=40.
	In,	5	4							
Duncan	Out,	5	4	4	4	5	7	3	5	3=40.
	In,	8	4							

EAST FINCHLEY GOLF CLUB.

The annual dinner of this club, which took place at the Midland Grand Hotel, St. Pancras, on Saturday, the 25th ult., was the most successful function which has been held in connection with this eminently social and hospitable club. Mr. Walter Hill, the president, was in the chair, and Mr. W. H. Pickard, captain, took the vice-chair, the members and their friends numbering about eighty.

The menu, which we here produce, was unique and characteristic :—

- Fixtures.
- | | |
|--------------------------|---------------------|
| Driver Soup. | Cockie Leekie Soup. |
| The First Putt. | Two more. |
| A Foul. | |
| The Golfer's Blessings. | |
| Sprouts à la Silvertown. | Sliced Spuds. |
| A Lofter. | |
| Salads à la Green. | |
| Council Puddings. | Foozled Jellies. |
| A Bad Lie. | |
| A Cut Divot. | Hard Lines. |
| Settle with your Caddie. | |

After the loyal toasts and that of the "Royal and Ancient Game," which is almost as highly honoured by golfers, Dr. Wylie proposed "The Club," of which, as one of the founders, he was well qualified to speak. In response, Mr. Walter Hill dealt with the history of the club, and prophesied even greater successes in the future than it had met with in the past. Mr. Pickard also briefly acknowledged the compliment.

"Other Clubs," was the toast which fell to the lot of Mr. George Elliot, and well he acquitted himself of the task. In a purely eloquent speech he seemed to bring the whole world within the area of Golf, and when he touched on matters of more local and sporting interest in a genial and gentle vein of sarcasm he caused considerable merriment. Mr. Jeffrey, of Nottingham, and Mr. T. Morton, of Muswell Hill, replied.

Mr. Odhams, who proposed the "Officers and Committee," dwelt on the immense amount of labour which fell upon the executive of an important club like this. Mr. Scott (the hon. secretary) replied, and Mr. Harrison (a member of the committee) also responded.

Mr. Lindley Jones proposed the health of "The Chairman," and paid a warm tribute to the work which Mr. Hill had done for the club. No eloquence was, however, required, to arouse the enthusiasm of the members, who appreciate Mr. Hill's services so thoroughly, and the toast was drunk with musical honours.

Briefly and feelingly Mr. Hill thanked the members for the reception which had been accorded to him.

"The Visitors," proposed by Mr. A. E. Law, was responded to by Messrs. Ernest Clarke, Tyrrell, and R. W. Clarke. Mr. Ernest Clarke who, we understand, holds an important position in the Royal Agricultural Society, spoke, as a distressed agriculturist, upon the present agricultural depression and the large amount of land which has, of recent years, gone out of cultivation. He created much amusement by foretelling the dawn of a new prosperity to the landowner, who would be able to profitably utilise this vacant land by letting it at high rents for Golf links.

The toast of "The Ladies" was proposed in a witty speech by Mr. A. J. Shepherd, and responded to by Mr. W. Wylie.

The musical programme was excellent, and space only prevents our describing it fully. Special mention should, however, be made of Messrs. Elliott Winn, Wallace, Podmore, Gibson, Neville, Farmer, and Arthur Hilton.

A most enjoyable evening was brought to a close by the singing of "Auld Lang Syne."

CONCERNING THE "OFF SEASON."

We cannot always act; we must sometimes think; and even the golfer finds times when play he cannot. For, despite the fact that Golf is more constantly played throughout the year than any other game, yet, at the present season of the year, we must often have to lay aside cleek and driver, aye, and niblick, too, for we all use it, some men, it may be, more than others.

The "fall" comes—not in the American, but in the Scottish sense of the word—and Nature covers the green with a white blanket; to keep the frost from killing the grass, let us hope, is her meaning, and it is kindly to think so. Then man goes not out to miss short putts and make long excuses, and only the voice of the caddie is heard in the land. "A maist unnecessary deespensation o' pröveedence, this snaw," is what the more staid and philosophical members of the craft may say; others will also speak about it "in lighter vein," and in words not generally used by happy and contented people, and supposed not at all to be used among polite or Parliamentary folk.

It is at these "off seasons" that the club smoke-room is full of an evening; and the game is not left behind, even there. No game, perhaps, seems to demand from its devotees so much talk. The man usually modest about his achievements in other fields of life will, after a fairly good round for him, with readiness detail his good strokes in a manner which to the uninitiated would seem most boastful.

In describing a great Law of Life a well-known writer has said of boasting that "it is excluded"; in Golf it has been glorified into a science, one of the most subtle. When a cricketer returns to the pavilion after a well-played innings he acts after the true tradition of the game if he modestly remarks that he was lucky in not being held behind the wicket before he had scored, and, if still congratulated by those around him, he will probably say that the bowling had got very loose. Cricketers there are, even good ones, to which the above does not apply; one has met them even as captains of first-class elevens, but they do not follow the true spirit of the game, and are seldom popular. In football, tennis, and other games the same rule applies, and a man who lauded the particular merits of his own try or goal, or the back-hander which won him the set, would be looked at with surprise and not afterwards encouraged to speak. The golfer, on the other hand, would consider he was doing himself and the golfing world an injustice if he did not recount the feats of prowess he believed he had accomplished. Thus lack of conversation is never noted in those places where golfers most do congregate. The phenomenal putts, the long steals, the iron shots laid dead out of almost impossible lies form subject-matter for much converse. During a season of long inaction, owing to bad weather or the state of the green, the class of the players in a club is almost impossible for a casual visitor to determine; for the veriest duffer will tell of as really fine strokes as the scratch man, and mention them as if they were of common occurrence. Should our visitor be likely to leave before the green was again playable, matches would be arranged on the most liberal terms.

But there is a class of men who are not content with the mere recounting of their own scores and strokes, and who, ever ready to air their pet hobbies, find in the "off season" a good opportunity and an augmented audience. These men are the theorists of the game, and their function it is to explain its true scientific principles and its defects, for which latter they have always remedies, and to discuss the styles of its various exponents. The theorist's handicap is generally rather smaller than his real skill would warrant; but if a man talks much, he cannot expect to "receive" much. He is often a player in receipt of about six strokes, who has reached this point by sheer perseverance in a theory of playing of his own, which will, however, never be able to carry him further up the scale; or one who, though placed at this figure by the handicap committee of

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his club, considers he has only to have the luck of the scratch man to reach his level. Once, in a private match, with many short putts not holed out, he may have thought he did an 80 round, but alas! on the medal day 95 will be about his best figure. Others there are, well qualified to speak, though not prone to much talk until drawn out by the professional theorist, who well knows how to get at the "authorities." "That was a good round of yours yesterday," or some such remark will be sufficient introduction to a discussion on some point of law or the mannerisms of a leading player. Our "professional" theorist will at first assume a very humble attitude, looking as if every word from the great man was treasure, and asking questions with childlike simplicity. He is, however, but waiting his time, and when it comes he will state, in not a few words, his conclusion of the whole matter. It might be supposed that due deference would be shown by him to the opinion of his learned friend; but no, he does not even give signs of having heard a word of what has been said, he simply states his theory which, indeed, was all he ever intended to do. He will then leave his long-suffering victim and go in search of fresh fields and pastures new, quite happy if he feels he has propagated his doctrine: and his friend is also happy—*now*.

The stymie question is one on which the professional theorist is happiest. He is generally an anti-stymieist and will give a hundred instances of how he has lost matches, probably even tournaments, by being unable to hole a twenty-foot putt, owing to his pet aversion. He takes it for granted that you will not be rude enough to suggest the possibility of his having missed so easy a stroke had nothing been in his way; though had he holed such a putt once in a score of times, he would have been a much better putter than most men one knows.

Passing from the "professional," we find in the "off-season" a host of amateurs, who, from lack of better employment, have joined his ranks. There is, for example, the player of the old school, a crack hand in his day—the day of Tommy and Strath—who will for ever contend that the play was better, and the links harder, in those bygone times. Even the youngest of us can remember St. Andrews very different from now, and certainly harder in some respects; but we care not to join in a controversy which cannot be proved one way or the other, and find it best to agree with our "elder," if not owing to the conclusiveness of his arguments, yet from a very proper, but not always shown, deference to our "father" in the game.

In the "off-season" we will be offered many and beautiful clubs, at prices ranging from cost, or "just three half-crowns," up to a sovereign. Clubmakers at this season have leisure to make as good clubs as can be bought elsewhere, especially if a small something be added to the foreman, or crack workman in the shop. Yet many clubs are sold in the smoke-room, and the buyer generally repents him of his bargain.

Some men have stores of old clubs "real split hickory, a thing you can't get now-a-days," or "one that belonged to poor Davie Strath;" they sell them to those who have not yet fully learned the deeper mysteries of Golf and the ways of its exponents. There are men who buy clubs every day and resell some of them. They have always a few extra drivers to dispose of, probably also a patent cleek or two that they have found does not answer; these they will sell, if possible, in the days when the business of exchange or purchase has to take the place of the business of arranging matches. A common reason for selling a patent driving cleek is that it really drives too far for the seller's purpose; this is often a very successful bait. The lobby of the club-house is the favourite place for carrying on this sale, and the unwary is apt to receive a not unkind, but unpleasant blow from the club which is being practised with prior to its purchase.

Though there are no chances of prizes or victories in hard-fought matches to delight the heart of the golfer in the "off season," yet he is by no means dissatisfied with his game: in fact, his opinion of himself is probably at its very highest point after a long spell of inaction. The bad shots have faded from his memory and only the good ones remain, and so he can only

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picture himself at his best. This is in accordance with one of the most fortunate laws of the human mind, and is aided by the constant recital of the story of success.

It is narrated of a young fellow named Horner, who at the Christmas season by a simple operation had acquired possession of a plum, that he expressed his self-satisfaction in a manner almost unwarranted by the magnitude of his accomplishment; had he been older he might wisely have waited till the following morning before so definitely pronouncing on his own virtue. If in this "off season," there are no golfing "plums" going, there may yet remain for us that joy of self-satisfaction which, though possibly not becoming or even deserved, is yet most pleasant.

J. L. LOW.

THE APOSTATE.

Loving the game, else fancy-free,
A blither golfing lad than he
The South had never seen;
Far spread his fame from East to West,
The jealous North own'd him the best
That trod a Southern green.

But once it chanc'd that on a day
God Cupid mark'd him at his play,
And envy fill'd his heart—
By so great skill, full well he knew
That mortal man could aim as true
As his own winged dart.

So, without warning cry of "Fore!"
He strung his bow and smote him sore,
And watch'd to see him die.
Then soon—alas! the victim found
That Love can deal a deadly wound
From out a maiden's eye!

Poor youth! he loved! In that same hour
He learnt a newer fancy's power,
Writ in a girl's fair face;
His soul with alien flames was fired,
Sport was forgot; love, all-desired,
Came and usurp'd its place.

And now his clubs rust on the wall;
No more he drives the whizzing ball
Along the breezy slopes—
He leaves the "hazard's" mimic strife,
And turns to face a sterner life
Of matrimonial hopes.

RALPH CORNAH.

NAIRN—AMATEUR RECORD.—Playing with Rev. J. M'Millan on Wednesday, January 29th, Mr. J. J. Annan made the amateur record for the green. He went out in 37, and home in 36, total 73. The former record was held by Mr. Horace Hutchinson at 75. The professional and amateur records are now the same, the former being held by Jos. Dagleish. The following is the detailed score:—Out, 4 3 4 4 6 3 5 4 4=37; in, 3 6 4 4 3 5 3 3 5=36, total 73.

STIRLING.—The monthly medal was played for on Saturday, February 1st. Scores:—Mr. D. Mills, 94, less 10=84 (winner); Mr. R. D. Fraser, 103, less 12=91; Mr. D. A. Miller, 101, less 10=91.

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A WHITE GOLF BALL.

Last week we mentioned in "Tee Shots" that the secret of making a white gutta ball had at last been discovered, and since then we have put to the test of actual play one of the balls made throughout in white gutta percha. It was one of the "Henley" balls, and we understand that this firm are at present busily engaged in laying up for seasoning a large stock of the new ball. The behaviour of the new white ball when played with the club is exactly the same as the fine black gutta balls of the same firm. It rebounds when dropped on a stone slab as high, it is as far and sustained in its carry with the driver off the tee, and it is as true on the putting green. Though not absolutely white, it is as near an approximation as any golfer could wish, for when the weather is clear the ball is as easily distinguishable on the course as the painted one. The colour is a dullish creamy white, but no doubt the resources of chemical science may yet devise a method of making the material as colourless as a sheet of note-paper, without endangering its elasticity. Taken as it is, however, the appearance of the new ball marks, in all probability, the beginning of a new era in golf-ball manufacture. The ball we tried was a 27½ Henley, in the well-known Union Jack markings. It was quite fresh from the mould, having only been made two days before. After 36 holes' play, in all kinds of bad and indifferent lies, it bore fewer marks of hard usage than a painted ball would have done, showing, notwithstanding its freshness, that the material was hard and well consolidated, while a mark here and there with the iron in no way detracted, of course, from its colour, nor left any black, wide, chipped streaks of vanished paint. We recommend golfers to try the ball for themselves.

WHITBY GOLF CLUB.

At the fourth annual meeting of the members of this popular club, which took place at the Crown Hotel, on Thursday, 23rd ult., the Rev. Canon Austen, rector of Whitby, presided over a large attendance, amongst those present being Messrs. J. H. Corner, J.P., W. H. S. Pyman, J.P., W. S. Gray, R. Raine, J. Moore, W. Robinson, A. Robinson, Fryer (Sandsend), G. E. V. Austen, T. Walker, T. Preston, T. Atkinson, H. Hallgate, A. Simpson, T. Parrington, G. Meares, H. S. Tayler, R. Linton, R. Coulman, R. B. L. Johnston, G. B. Mitchell, R. Spanton, Stephen, J. Jones, Rev. G. M. Storrar, and others.

The secretary (Mr. R. B. L. Johnston), in his annual statement, said that the past year had been the most eventful in the history of the club. From the small beginnings at Goathland in 1892, a really important club had been established, and now the Whitby Golf Club could hold its own, in many respects, with any other Yorkshire club. The new links at Uppang owed their birth, to a great extent, to Mr. J. Moore. He and the other members of the committee deserve great credit for the manner in which they overcame the many difficulties that had to be contended with in obtaining land for, and laying out, the new course. Since the opening day, the popularity of the club had continued to increase, as the number of members conclusively proved. At the present moment there were sixty-eight gentlemen playing members, forty-four lady members, and seven honorary members. In addition to the members, the links had been used by some 500 visitors, which proved the necessity of a popular holiday resort such as Whitby having Golf links close at hand. Of these 500 visitors, many played daily during their visit, and without exception, all expressed their great satisfaction at such a sporting little course having been provided by the club in such a short space of time. The want of proper club accommodation had engaged the attention of the committee for some time, and they had arranged to become tenants of the White House Inn from 3rd April next. Mr. Pyman, owner of the property, had agreed to build suitable rooms attached to the house for the accommodation of the members, and it was anticipated that the proposed arrangements would work satisfactorily. It was hoped that the difficulties which arose with regard to the small part of the links which was not Mr. Pyman's property, were now at an end, and the land question being once settled, and some fixture of tenure secured for the club, it was contemplated to make several improvements in the course, the most important of which would be the lengthening of the two first holes by nearly 100 yards in each instance. (Applause.) Tait, the first professional, was a failure—(laughter)—but they were fortunate in securing the services of Edward McDonald, of Montrose, in his place. He had proved himself to be a capital professional and greenkeeper, and was universally popular with all the members of the club—especially with the ladies. During the past season silver challenge cups had been presented to the club by Mrs. Walter H. S. Pyman (for ladies), and by Mr.

E. W. Beckett (vice-president), and Mr. T. N. Preston. Mr. W. S. Gray had also given a handsome gold monthly medal to be competed for by ladies, and Mr. Preston presented a silver medal, the scores in the competition for which were intended as a guide in framing handicaps.

The treasurer's account showed the balance in 1894 to have been £17 2s. 8d.; subscriptions for 1895, £78 15s. 6d.; by visitors, £95 8s.; donations, £74 8s. and £42 10s.; the total receipts being £328 4s. 11d., and the expenditure £286 16s. 5d., leaving a balance of £41 8s. 6d. Unpaid subscriptions amounted to £17 15s. 6d., increasing the balance to £59 4s.

The Chairman said it seemed to him the reports were so entirely satisfactory that they might heartily congratulate themselves upon the success which the club had attained in so short a time. (Applause.) They had established a very successful club at Whitby, and no one would regret having transferred the club from Goathland. Their expectations had been fully realised. He was brought into connection with a considerable number of visitors during the season, who came to Whitby to play Golf, and, from what he had heard from both ladies and gentlemen, he knew they all expressed themselves extremely satisfied with the links at Uppang. The club from a local point of view was also a decided success, as there were many persons in Whitby who wanted some kind of pastime which could be entered into, more particularly by the ladies, and Golf gave the desired opportunity, as players of both sexes and all ages could participate in the game.

Mr. W. H. S. Pyman seconded, and the report was unanimously adopted.

Mr. Parrington moved a vote of thanks to the donors of prizes, Mr. W. S. Gray, Mr. H. S. Tayler, the auditor, and "The Match Girl Company."

Mr. J. H. Corner seconded, Mr. T. Taylor supported, and the motion was carried unanimously.

The election of officers was then proceeded with, Lord Normanby was appointed president; the Rev. Canon Austen, Rev. E. B. Hare, Sir George Elliot, Bart., and Mr. E. W. Beckett, M.P., vice-presidents; Mr. J. Moore, captain; Mr. R. B. L. Johnston, hon. secretary and treasurer.

The following gentlemen were appointed on the committee:—Messrs. W. H. S. Pyman, T. Preston, G. B. Mitchell, T. Taylor, W. G. Robinson, G. Meares, R. W. White, and W. S. Gray.

A hearty vote of thanks to the secretary for his work was carried with acclamation.

The gentlemen's monthly medal was competed for on Wednesday Jan. 29th. The weather was fine, the links in good order, and there was a large number of competitors. The winner proved to be Mr. John Anderson, with a score of 109, less 22=87; followed by Mr. J. Moore with 95, less 4=91; and Mr. T. N. Preston, 109, less 16=93.

LEASOWE GOLF CLUB.

The annual general meeting was held in the Alexandra Hotel, Liverpool, on the evening of the 30th January, Mr. Rodk. Johnston, captain, being in the chair. The statement of accounts for 1895 showing a credit balance of £163 14s. 8d. was submitted, and passed unanimously, general satisfaction being expressed at the very favourable result of the year's working, especially as so much money had been expended on the improvement of the greens, and the extension of the club premises.

Dr. J. E. Burton was elected captain for the year 1896; Mr. David Walker, hon. treasurer; Mr. John Cromarty, hon. secretary. The following gentlemen were elected to the committee:—Messrs. John Ball, jun., E. A. Cunnell, F. A. Cooper, W. H. Roxburgh, R. W. Lee, John A. Gray, John A. Brodie, and Govan Hewat.

PROPOSED EXTENSION OF MUSSELBURGH COURSE.—Some time ago a sub-committee was appointed at a conference between Musselburgh Town Council and a number of local golfers to consider and report upon the advisability of extending the present Golf course into an eighteen-hole course by reclaiming land for that purpose at the sand-banks lying between the mouth of the Esk and Levenhall. After consideration the committee, it is understood, will recommend to the first meeting of the Town Council that an expert's opinion should be taken upon the best method for reclaiming the land. In a minute the committee state that they have taken the opinion of parties engaged in the reclaiming of land in different parts of Britain, and have also had communications on the subject from Holland. It is suggested that about sixty acres would need to be reclaimed, and the average estimated cost of doing so by means of the basket wickerwork and silting-up process would be about £20 an acre, or not exceeding £1,500. It is further suggested that a trial of this process should be made as an experiment.



Among the visitors to Bournemouth who have been playing frequently over the links are two well-known St. Andrews veterans in the golfing world, Lieut.-General George H. Moncrieff, recently in command of the forces in Dublin, and Sir Uthred Hay Dunbar. The Earl of Leven and Melville, is presenting, through the Corporation, a silver challenge cup. Particulars as to the conditions of play will be duly announced.

* * *

Since the issue of the list of fixtures of the Buxton and High Peak Golf Club, Mr. Bythway has resigned the hon. secretaryship of the club, and has been succeeded by Mr. A. Macbean, Park Holm, Buxton.

* * *

A member of the theatrical profession, who has been playing in Dundee, had a rather expensive round of Golf on St. Andrews links the other day. The attractions of the game caused him to lose his train, and he had to hire a special train to take him to Dundee, to be in time for the evening performance. For his conveyance he had to pay 5s. a mile, or £3 15s., as the penalty of a too devout worship of the Royal and Ancient Game.

* * *

An assistant-professor in St. Andrews University had his skull fractured last week by a youth who played off too soon from the tee. In St. Andrews the rule is that the players in front must be allowed out of distance, and it cannot be too stringently acted upon, if accident is to be avoided.

* * *

Willie Auchterlonie and Archie Simpson, along with three professionals from England, leave on February 17th for Pau. They are to remain ten days in France.

* * *

Evidently clubs are awaking to the duty of encouraging professionals more than has hitherto been done. One of the big events of the forthcoming golfing season is to be a great Professional Tournament at Aberdeen, beginning Wednesday, April 29th, for which arrangements are in progress. Either the week before or after the Championship, when all the professionals are in Scotland, would have been the best time to secure a large and representative gathering. Pau has also got £70 subscribed for a tournament, to which a few leading professionals have been invited.

* * *

The additions to the club-house of the Ranfurly Castle Golf Club, Bridge of Weir, have now been completed, and the club is to be congratulated on the comfort provided for members by the new accommodation. The course as extended has been under careful treatment for some time, and is now in splendid condition.

* * *

Considerable additions are to be made to the club-house of the Gullane Golf Club, more especially in improving the lava-

tory accommodation, and for next season the club-house is to be open to all who are members of the club. The new water supply will be in full operation shortly, so that a run upon this popular summer resort may be expected in the holiday time of the year,

* * *

"Timothy" writes suggesting that, "as Golf now does so much good to Her Majesty's subjects, Her Majesty ought to abolish the present allowance of a bottle of whisky to a player's caddie when a player holes a hole in one, and instead award a donation from the Treasury to the player—same as she does when any of Her Majesty's lady constituents sees fit to present her husband with triplets."

* * *

IN MEMORIAM.—E. P. WRIGHT.

Nae mair we'll meet him on the green,
Sae genial, frank, and free,
Nor feel his friendly grasp, nor catch
The sparkle o' his ee.

For him nae mair the club and ba'
He lo'ed and played sae weel;
For freens the grief, the void, the loss
O' sic a canty chiel.

* * *

Sae deft, sae neat, sae true his game,
Sae fu' o' promise fair,
Till ruthless Death a stymie laid,
And noo he plays nae mair.

But, in a corner o' the hearts
O' Midland gowffers a',
Will lang be mem'ries fresh and green
O' him that's noo awa'.

* * *

At the special general meeting of the members of the Lytham and St. Anne's Golf Club, on Saturday, January 25th, it was decided to build a club-house at the St. Anne's end of the new links, and to raise the sum of £8,000 in four per cent. debentures. This amount has already been promised by a few of the members. The annual subscription was raised to £2 2s., as from March 1st next. No charge will be made for lockers, and every member will be provided with a locker in the new club-house. The rule as regards visitors was altered, only three free days being allowed in the club year.

* * *

The Town Council of Pau has voted a thousand francs (£44) to the Pau Golf Club for a prize in a forthcoming competition.

* * *

A meeting of the Perth Town Council was held last week—Lord Provost Dewar presiding—to consider an offer by the King James VI. Golf Club for the laying out of the Friarton Island as a Golf course. It appeared from the minutes that the proposal of the Golf Club was to arrange with the present tenant of the island for renouncing his lease in favour of the club, and that the Water Commissioners should grant a new lease to the club for thirty years, at a sum not exceeding the present rent, which was about £220. It was not the intention of the Golf Club to exclude non-golfers from the island, and the cost of laying out the course was estimated at £2,000. The club, however, indicated that they would be satisfied with a break in the lease in favour of the Commissioners, if they desired, at some future time, to resume possession for public purposes. The Commissioners approved the proposal, and ordered the details to be adjusted. The opinion was expressed that walks might be laid round the island for the benefit of the inhabitants.

* * *

In connection with this new Golf movement in the fair city it is interesting to note, as the name of the above club would

indicate, that Perth is one of the most ancient Golf centres in Scotland, and that it shares with Leith in immemorial traditions of the Royal Game. Perhaps the very earliest reference in verse to the game is that by Henry Adamson, in "The Muses Threnodie," which celebrates the praise of the games, Olympic-like, in which Adamson (who was a "stickit" minister) and his two friends, George Ruthven and James Gall, used to join. These games were Archery, Curling, and Golf, a fine combination. Ruthven, grieving over Gall's death, says :—

And ye, my clubs, you must no more prepare
To make your balls flee, whistling in the air,
But hing your heads, and bow your crooked crags,
And dress you all in sack cloth and in rags.

Even with all our modern enthusiasm, it is doubtful whether the clubs used at Golf have had greater honour done to them than by this old poet, who asked them to bow their crooked crags, or necks, and mourn with him over the departure of his dear friend from the Perth Links.

* * *

"The Stereo-photochromosome" was the subject of an address by Mr. Ives of Philadelphia before the Royal Society of Edinburgh last week, and the instrument was described as one which by the aid of the photographic process accomplished for light and colour what the phonograph accomplished for sound, and the kinoscope for motion. He said the instrument marked a great advance on anything that had preceded it, and had great possibilities before it in the reproduction of colour. If all that is said of the new invention be true, we may expect to see the picturesque colours of the Golf Links brought out by the instrument the working of which is said to be very simple.

* * *

Golfers will be sorry to hear from Mr. Hilton, in his weekly notes to *The Sporting Chronicle*, that "owing to an old standing injury" he has been "compelled to give up the pleasures of Golf for the time being." Everyone will hope he will be able to have some practice in time for the Championship in May.

* * *

The Burns celebrations have come and gone once more, and we have had to endure the usual spate of oratory over the excellencies and the failings of the great Scottish bard. Before long the centenary of his death will call forth more speeches. There seems to be dawning an impression that this continual feasting and drinking and speech-making over Burns is a farce, and worse, that it takes the place of a worthier commemoration of the poet, namely, the study of his life and works. Never more than to-day was Burns needed to exalt the virtues of simplicity, honesty, and independence, and to lash hypocrisy and affectation. The logic of our anti-Sunday Golf folks would have been a good subject for him, though he was not a golfer. To all who would study Scotland's national bard we would commend the new edition of Chambers' "Burns," by Mr. Wm. Wallace, who is known as a writer on Golf and other subjects, and is a devoted student of Burns. Mr. Swinburne, in the *Nineteenth Century* for this month, has a beautiful tribute of eighteen stanzas on Burns. This is one :—

But never since bright earth was born
In rapture of the enkindling morn,
Might God-like wrath and sun-like scorn
That was, and is,
And shall be while false weeds are worn,
Find words like his.

* * *

Among the many Burns' anniversary dinners held last week it is pleasing to note one in which Tom Dunn and his son took part at Bournemouth. A dinner in celebration of Burns' anniversary took place at the Shaftesbury Hotel, Bournemouth, on Saturday, January 25th. As Mr. and Mrs. White, of the Shaftesbury, have spent a number of years in Scotland, the dinner was carried out in real Scotch style, and a special vote of thanks was afterwards accorded them. The Haggis, which

came from Edinburgh, was played in on the pipes by John Duncan Dunn, in full Highland Dress. After dinner, the chairman (Tom Dunn) said a few words about the never-to-be-forgotten "Robbie," and the various toasts were drunk in Mountain Dew. The evening's entertainment concluded with an impromptu concert. Recitations and songs were rendered by Messrs. Shepherd, Davidson, Kilgour, Cochrane, Twitchett, Hazel, Tom Dunn, Collins, and John Dunn.

* * *

At a meeting of the Literary Society of St. Mark's Church (Edinburgh), the minister, the Rev. Mr. Drummond presiding, Mr. D. M. Jamieson read a paper on Sabbath observance in which he said that Scotland, between the Reformation and the accession of James VI. to the English throne was not nearly so strict as it was at a somewhat later period, and quoted from the records of the Kirk Session of Perth, about four persons who were publicly rebuked "for playing at Gowf on the North Inch of Perth, in the time of the preaching afternoon on the Sabbath." That, he said, carried the dangerous implication that if the golfers had been a little more discreet in choosing their hour of play, nothing would have been said, and proved that golfing was practised on Sundays long ago. From that and very many similar cases they were driven to conclude that rigid Sunday observance and extreme Sabbatarianism was a much more modern thing than they imagined. A correspondent of the *Edinburgh Evening Dispatch*, which keeps the ball of this question merrily rolling, tells how one of the first Protestant ministers of Leith, John Durie, spent his Sunday afternoons, not in golfing but in another kind of exercise. "The gown was na sooner af, and the Bible out of hand fra the Kirk, when on ged the corslet and hangit was the hagbot, and to the fields." If corslets and 'hagbots' on Sunday, why not bulgers and cleeks? is the writer's query.

* * *

Golf in Golfing districts seems never to pall. It now takes its share in evening entertainments. The song "Gouffin," to which we lately referred, was capitally given by Mr. Shaw Stewart at a North Berwick concert lately. At a concert at Dirlton, last week, Mr. A. Foggo sung a humorous parody on Whyte Melville's song about the old horse, entitled, "The place where I spoilt my medal round." In a lecture on "Bonnie Scotland," given at Aberlady and Gullane, Dr. Maxwell Adams introduced some humorous golfing slides, which were highly applauded. Bisset's Hotel, with the popular landlord, was also thrown successfully on the screen.

* * *

The death is announced of Mr. Haig, of Blairhill, one of the most popular, and esteemed landlords in Clackmannan and Kinross, and the heir male of the Haigs of Bemerside. One of Mr. Haig's daughters is married to Mr. A. Stuart, the celebrated golfer.

* * *

A lady living in Paris suggests that the golfers' cry of "Fore!" must be of French origin, as the warning cry of the Parisian cabby has the same sound. "Caddie" is also said to be the French *cadet*.

* * *

We understand that arrangements are being made whereby some of the best Edinburgh lady players will in all likelihood compete at the forthcoming Ladies' Championship in order, if possible, to wrest the supremacy from Lady Margaret Scott. One of the Scottish ladies, Miss M. Aitchison, is in the front rank of players.

REDHILL AND REIGATE GOLF CLUB.—Mr. G. H. Emmet signalled his election as captain for this year at the annual meeting, held on Saturday, February 1st, by winning the handicap (the monthly medal all even against "Bogey") and the scratch gold medal and prize. Mr. C. W. Link and Mr. S. Peerless tied for the second place.



THE RULES OF GOLF.

To the Editor of GOLF.

SIR,—For a Scotsman, Mr. Ochterlonie, like Mr. John L. Low, Mr. Ronald Ross, and some of his countrymen who have lately enlivened your correspondence columns, displays a very rudimentary knowledge of the game, and the literature affecting the rules. It is we Southrons, Sir, with your invaluable aid, who are teaching Mr. Ochterlonie and his compatriots some new and startling facts about the rules. For example, Mr. Ochterlonie appears to be wholly ignorant of the fact that within the last twenty years the rules have been revised and altered several times, and that wide departures from the old rules in the shape of new penalties have been adopted. The last revision took place in 1891. Nor has Mr. Ochterlonie yet appreciated the fact, Scotsman though he be, that rules for singles and foursomes are “confusedly hurled” throughout the volume. Rules I., II., III., and IV. are singles; Rules V., VI. are foursomes; so are XXIV., XXV.; and others are a mixture of both styles of play. But even he suggests amendments in the sacred words of the Code. This a cheering prospect for reformers, for it looks as if he may yet be “on the side of the angels” who are striving to bring about the representative authority he so much desires to see established.

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

WANTED, A GOLF UNION?

To the Editor of GOLF.

SIR,—I have read with great pleasure Mr. J. L. Low's article under the above heading, and also, with great amusement, a so-called “Leal Scot's” remarks upon that letter. As far as I can make out, the only reason “Leal Scot” brings forward for a Golfing Union is that he wants the prize-money to be raised for professionals at the Open Championship. This is surely not sufficient ground for altering a state of things which has worked so well and for so long. There are several statements which “Leal Scot” makes that are so absurd that they cannot (even on the authority of an anonymous writer) be allowed to go uncontradicted. He states, for instance, that “the first-class player” compares unfavourably with “the English duffer” in his knowledge of the rules of the game. I have had the pleasure of acting as umpire in some of the most important matches played in recent years, and have also some knowledge of “first-class players” generally, and I have never yet found them show that the present rules were insufficient for their guidance. The first-class players who cannot understand the present rules must be very rare birds indeed. I think, therefore, that Mr. Low is perfectly right when he infers that it is the English duffer, and not the rules, that needs mending. “Leal Scot” appears not to have got at Mr. Low's points, as he kindly informs him of the fact that football is played in many

ways and Golf only in one. This, of course, was just Mr. Low's argument, namely, that Golf would come to be played in this many-sided manner, if subjected to the same treatment. These little hints on football must, however, be very amusing and refreshing to Mr. Low, who I remember as playing in football and Golf matches on the same day, such was his great keenness for both forms of sport. “Leal Scot” would also make out that cricket, curling, and other sports are under a form of government, but Golf under none at all. This, of course, only means that Golf is not under the form of government of which he approves. He follows out the same idea when he calls my friend an “intolerable and ignorant heretic.” I always thought that a heretic was one who put forward an opinion contrary to those established, but it must now be held to mean one who supports the present state of things but differs from “Leal Scot.” “Leal Scot” would also have us look for guidance at the “democratic statutes,” which same so-called democratic statutes prohibited the people from playing Golf at all that they might follow after military sports. Until “Leal Scot” can bring forward some strong reason for a change that I have never heard advocated by Scottish players of experience, I will hold by the old way.

I am, Sir, &c.,
W. T. LINSKILL.

Cambridge, February 1st.

NORTH BEDS GOLF CLUB.

To the Editor of GOLF.

SIR,—I was rejoiced to see in your issue of GOLF, of January 24th, so descriptive an account of these links, by the popular and genial hon. secretary of the club. These links have merely to be known to be appreciated, and in my humble opinion would be the greatest source of recreation to many London players, who would, I can safely say, frequently repeat their visits. Twenty minutes or half an hour's quiet walking would take them to the pavilion from the railway station at Sandy. Conveniences for any lengthened stay can always be obtained.

I have seen many inland links, but to my mind I have not seen any that can equal these as a good sporting course, and with greens kept in the most perfect order, affording the golfer the greatest possible pleasure and delight to play upon. These links are known amongst us in the neighbourhood as the Sandy links, and rarely do we hear them called the links near Biggleswade. The name itself is so striking, so familiar, and sounds so sweet to the ears of every Scotchman. As an old St. Andrews boy I would strongly recommend a trial of these links to all golfers.

I am, Sir, &c.,
C. E. S. INNES.

Vice captain, Bedford Golf Club.

Bedford, January 31st.

PAINFUL GOLFING ARM.

To the Editor of GOLF.

SIR,—After playing double my usual rounds at Golf on December 31st, I awoke next morning with great pain in my arm and shoulder. This gradually improved, but still persists, and seems entirely confined to the musculospiral nerve. There are painful points where the nerve pierces the external intermuscular septum and the fasciæ about the elbow, and numbness with tingling in the dorsum of the thumb and first finger (not of second). Having met with another case which has persisted for ten months, and finding that it entirely spoils one's enjoyment of Golf, it has seemed worth while bringing the subject to your notice. It appears to be due to repeated sudden and whip-like contractions of the triceps bruising the musculospiral nerve, and I think it arises when the muscle is defective

in tone, and consequently the change from rest to contraction is more marked. Very graduated exercise and fresh air, with gentle friction of the arm, relieve the condition most permanently.

I am, Sir, &c.,
FRED EDGE, M.D.

Wolverhampton.

HAS GOLF PROGRESSED?

To the Editor of GOLF.

SIR,—I knew Tommy Morris and Davie Strath very well, and have played with the *former* very often, and over various greens. I am perfectly certain that he would have been quite able to hold his own with any professionals of the present day, and on any links.

I am Sir, &c.,
W. T. LINSKILL.

Cambridge, February 3rd.

To the Editor of GOLF.

SIR,—In reply to your correspondent, Mr. J. Ramsay Robertson, "Has Golf Progressed?" I beg to say that I consider the game has improved, but the improvement is due in my opinion to the following conditions:—1st, the gutta percha ball. It has more elasticity, and its sphere is far superior to the old leather and feather ball, which was frequently driven out of shape. 2nd, the predominance of iron clubs now-a-days, in comparison with the old wooden clubs used some fifty years ago, tends considerably to improve the play. If a ball lay in long grass or in a cuppy lie, it was the long, mid, short, or baffy spoon that was used then, as a leather and feather ball, if hacked with the iron once or twice, was rendered almost useless, the expense of the ball being also a serious item, costing from 2s. 6d. to 4s. The "spade" (heavy iron) and lofting cleek were almost the only iron clubs used then. 3rd, the links are now kept in better order. In the old days a mowing-machine was unheard of on a Golf links. The putting-greens were cut with a scythe, and the grass through the course seldom if ever touched. Now the putting-greens are kept like lawns, and the course cut and rolled.

I am, Sir, &c.,
TOM DUNN.

Golf Pavilion, Bournemouth,
February 3rd.

DIVERTICULA.

To the Editor of GOLF.

Full many a shaft at random sent
Finds mark the Archer never meant.

SIR,—I take the liberty of sending you the enclosed, not so much on account of its literary merit as on account of the peculiar coincidence which brought it into my possession.

With the view to spending part of New Year's Day in what I have always considered to be the healthiest and most rational form of recreation, I invited my friend, Mr. McSmasher, a brother Scot, to join me in a game of Golf. I might almost say that in doing so, I had two motives, one of which was that he is always pleasant and good-natured, and the other that it affords me infinite pleasure to see him play, for he is a shinty player, having a style so peculiar that spectators are apt to fancy he adopts it solely for their amusement.

There are no golfing technicalities by which I can accurately describe his style of play, but when he addresses himself to his ball, he lifts his club in a perpendicular fashion high up into the air, then makes it describe three circles round his head, at the third of which he jumps from off his feet, at the same moment exclaiming excitedly "Hooch!" after which manifestation of enthusiasm he brings the club down with the whole weight of his body, using such force that something is bound to go, either

the ball or the turf. I can testify to the latter, for I have seen it.

This year Mr. McSmasher afforded me the usual amusement, and at the last hole of the second round he observed, "Well, something is pound to co this time. I will either miss the doo or hit the pigeon," which observation was more curious than it was calculated to be, for when he played his club went clean through at the lowest part of the neck. Yet, notwithstanding the accident, the ball went off beautifully, but the head, which also took flight along with the ball, found its mark in the breast of a wood pigeon, striking it with such force as not only to kill it, but to expose the whole contents of the interior of its crop to view, which, on being examined, was found to contain, with the exception of a few stones or gravel only, a considerable quantity of small fragments of paper, about a handful. On extracting these fragments and, observing some writing upon them, I preserved them for the purpose of putting them together at my leisure, in order that I might thereby ascertain the nature of the composition. In vain I tried to put these fragments together, they were so crumpled and so small; but, always bearing in mind that "all things come to him who waits," I did not despair, but continued at my task whenever opportunity presented itself, and at last, after nearly exhausting the whole of my mechanical and literary ingenuity, had my perseverance eventually crowned with success. Fearing, however, that the composition might occupy too much valuable space, I have made it more concise in form; in doing which, I hope I have rendered it more lucid to those who read it than it originally was to me.

I am, Sir, &c.,
R. J. B. TAIT.

"BRUTUM FULMEN.

"Such a remarkable coincidence as I am about to relate should have occurred in America or somewhere abroad, where marvellous things always do occur, instead of in our quiet, plain, matter-of-fact country, and if it were not for its positive truth I should not now relate it.

"On Saturday when the elements seemed to be a little at variance with each other, my friend Mr. Stewart, who is well known to me, went out golfing on the Braid Hills amid a grand wild chorus of thunder and lightning, which made the earth and the people tremble; but enthusiastic golfers, whose determination for the annihilation of their opponents amounts to such a fixity of purpose that everything else appears 'so mean and poor' give little heed to such trifling things as thunder-storms, blizzards or hurricanes.

"Mr. Stewart put down on the first tee a newly-made-up ball of Dickson's—now Dickson's made-up balls stand against reaping machines—when, just as he was in the act of bringing down his club, a flash of lightning, which was too quick for him, struck the ball before he could bring round his club in time to be first. In this, of course, he may be excused, as lightning is generally very quick. The effect of the lightning upon the ball was curious. It was melted, and spread over the ground like a thin india-rubber plaster, in such a manner that Mr. Stewart could not even pick up a bit.

"Perhaps he will not believe in made-up balls again, but I would assure him that no balls will stand against lightning, and would advise him to be thankful that his feet did not go off in the same manner as his ball. The ball was left lying (this, however, I fancy should read, he was lying, but here part of the paper was hopelessly torn.)"

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

H. Y. J.—No; for record score purposes the score ought to be made in a competition and on the first two rounds.

LOBANG TIGA.—We think that A followed the usual practice with balls on the putting-green, because by dropping behind the water a hazard was created at the hole side, and this is not and cannot be the intention of the rule. It is otherwise with balls on the course, and here B would have been right in insisting that A should drop behind. But on the putting-green the ball is lifted and dropped, without a penalty, on either side of the water, but not nearer the hole, so as to give a clear line to the hole. In these circumstances we think that the committee's decision was wrong.

W. S. B.—Yes, it is a stroke. The ball is in play, and must not be touched except to strike it with the club, and count two.

JUSTICE.—The wood of the club-head is good and the grain all right. In the hands of a good player it would have lasted, in all probability, for years; but the player who has been using it has constantly hit his ball off the neck, notoriously the weakest part of a driver. In these circumstances we are not surprised to see its condition.

WEST DRAYTON GOLF LINKS.

THESE links, which were opened in June last, were started by three or four local gentlemen, who secured leases for fourteen years of upwards of eighty acres of land, and of the Old Mill House as a club-house. The club-house, which is an old-fashioned, commodious building, and has been comfortably

subscription to the club is three guineas, but only £1 11s. 6d. is payable by members joining now for the rest of the current club year, *i.e.* to 1st June next. The first 100 members were elected without entrance fee, but an entrance fee of three guineas has now been put on.



THE CLUB-HOUSE.

furnished, is within three minutes' walk of West Drayton Station on the main line of the Great Western Railway, and thirteen miles from London. The links have been carefully laid out, and as the whole of the course is old pasture excellent greens were easily made. The course is flat, but there are a good many natural obstacles, and additional sand bunkers have recently been made. There are eighteen holes, none of which cross each other, and the first tee is quite close to the club-house. The

The club was brought into notice by the recent Professional Match, held on the links, between Taylor (the Open Champion) and Braid, of the Army and Navy Stores, when, after brilliant play, they tied for the prize offered by the club, Braid in his second round beating the record of the green with a score of 71, the previous record being held by Thomson, the club professional. The Amateur record of the club is 78, played by Mr. J. Gairdner, of the Richmond Club, in a match with Mr.

Garden Smith last summer. The whole of the subsoil of the links is gravel, so little inconvenience is caused by wet weather. The Great Western Railway Company have recently agreed

clubs nearer London; while the proximity of the station obviates any expense in getting from the train to the links. Sunday play is, of course, allowed; but lady members, who



THOMSON.

MR. GRIMSDALE.

MR. E. HUMBERT.



GOING TO THE SIXTH HOLE.

to give tickets at the reduced rate of a fare and a quarter for the double journey to members of the club, thus the expense of the railway journey will be little if any more than that of other

pay no entrance fee and a subscription of £1 is. only, are prevented by the rules from playing either on Saturdays, Sundays, or any public holidays.

THE AMATEUR STATUS IN GOLF.

A CURIOUS and supremely interesting piece of correspondence, which golfers and Golf club executives everywhere should carefully note, was published under the above heading in last week's issue. The Green Committee of the Royal and Ancient were asked by Mr. Walter Bancroft, of the Derbyshire Golf Club, whether certain professional cricketers and football players ought to be admitted to the membership of Golf clubs as amateurs, and whether if they entered as amateurs for the Amateur Championship at St. Andrews the leading club in Golf would recognise their amateur status. Unfortunately, neither Sheriff Henderson nor Captain Burn answer directly the specific question that was put to them, but by a kind of *ex cathedra* utterance they declare in abstract and general terms that the Green Committee at St. Andrews is "clearly of opinion that the fact of being a professional in another branch of sport in no way disqualifies any one from being an amateur at Golf." There is a suspicion of delicate irony in this phrase; for if one looks at the etymological definition of the word "amateur," it will be seen that the committee may have had in their mind the fact that a professional cricketer taking up Golf could not play the game otherwise than in an amateurish fashion, that is to say, in an unskilful, feeble, crude, faulty manner. That may be granted as a consideration affecting the present circumstances of the game, but we have a right to look further ahead than the present day, and to realise that within ten years probably young professionals in other sports, taking occasion by the hand, may find it to their pecuniary advantage to cultivate Golf as cricket, hockey, and football, are now now being exploited. It is in view of the ultimate consequences which the decision of the Royal and Ancient may have that we now at this early stage call attention to the danger and possible abuse lurking ahead.

If trainers, professors, and teachers of athletic sport are to be allowed to compete as amateur golfers, then we think that a great responsibility is thrown on all clubs who admit pseudo-amateurs among their members. The primary consideration in cricket and football is the gate-money, and if a Golf Union existed, or were soon to be formed, any clubs containing hybrid amateurs would be debarred, and we think rightly, from competing in amateur events. Recreation would be turned into a paying business, and the largest and wealthiest clubs would be induced, as in cricket and football, to turn their athletic ability to monetary value, and golfers of the kind Mr. Bancroft mentions might be hired by all kinds of improper inducements to join clubs and be paid to remain members. Golfers may be disposed to say that this contingency is never likely to arise in Golf. Why? It is an abuse which has cropped up in every other kind of sport, notably in football, and why should the arena of Golf be spared, if the inducements are sufficiently attractive, from the invasion of the hybrid amateur? It is on record that clubs in other sports have been asked by the governing executives to be very particular in electing members on these very grounds, so as not to become objectionable; and it is in the interest of maintaining amateur sport pure that we venture to comment on the serious danger which may arise from the decision of the Royal and Ancient.

Foreseeing that this question was sooner or later likely to arise, we have devoted some attention to the legislation of

other sports affecting this point of "when is a professional not a professional?" Now, the definition of the word "amateur" means in its broadest and generally accepted sense, a person who cultivates any sport or art merely for the love of it. The dictionary defines it as "one who cultivates any study or art from taste or attachment, without pursuing it professionally; one who practises an art, especially a fine art, not as a livelihood or profession, but for the love of it . . . ; in athletic sports an athlete who is not engaged in contests open to professional athletes, or who uses any athletic art as a livelihood." The American Dictionary defines "an amateur athlete as one who practises athletics for his own physical improvement or pleasure, and not as a business or for gain." By the courtesy of Mr. W. B. Curtis, the President of the Amateur Athletic Union of America, we have been enabled to consult all the definitions of "amateur" in sport, which he has collected with so much painstaking labour and research. These definitions refer to rowing, athletics, swimming, skating, racquets, cycling, billiards, bowling, boxing, cricket, football, fencing, racing, lacrosse, lawn-tennis, and snow-shoeing. Going back to the time of the first Reform Bill, we find that "amateur" meant, roughly speaking, a gentleman by birth, profession and education, and it excluded as coming within its scope "any tradesman, or men who had competed in open events against professionals, working mechanics, or persons engaged in any menial duty." The definition drew the line at manual labour, and debarred clubs from competing who had mechanics or professionals in their midst. The exclusion of tradesmen and mechanics was merely the attempt to import into sport the social and class distinctions which had previously existed in the franchise; but as time went on we find that the amateur definition was liberalised, and the exclusion of the working man from sport removed. Twenty years ago the limitation was excised, and in its place appeared a sentence which we commend to the careful attention of Sheriff Henderson and Captain Burn. It was the exclusion of any man from amateur sport "*who taught, pursued, or assisted in the pursuit of athletic exercises of any kind as a means of livelihood.*" The English Amateur Rowing Association in 1894 excluded an oarsman who had "ever taught, pursued, or assisted in the practice of athletic exercises of any kind for profit," and "*who is disqualified as an amateur in any other branch of sport.*" The Union des Sociétés Françaises de Sports Athlétiques excludes as an amateur any man who "at any time of his life has been paid instructor or drill master of exercises." France, Belgium, Italy, and Spain follow the general line in their definition that an amateur is one who lives on his own income. In Canada and the United States an amateur is defined as one who has "never taught, pursued, or assisted in the pursuit of athletic exercises as a means of livelihood," and "who does not abandon or leave his daily vocation for the purposes of training," who "engages in sport for pleasure and recreation only, and during his leisure hours, and who does not abandon or neglect his usual business or occupation for the purposes of training." In 1865 the English Amateur Athletic Club gave a definition of "a gentleman-amateur." He was "any gentleman who has never competed in an open competition, nor for public payment nor admission money, nor with a professional for a prize, public money, or admission money; who has never at any period of his life, taught, pursued, or assisted in the pursuit of athletic exercises as a means of livelihood, and is not a tradesman, mechanic, artisan, or labourer." "This, the first definition," says Mr. Curtis, "of an amateur athlete ever officially promulgated for any branch of sport, still

lives, and its fundamental principles underlie all subsequent amateur legislation. Additions and omissions and amendments have been made, but the theories of this original definition, except those concerning a man's occupation and social standing, still endure, and to-day practically govern the athletic sports of the world." It is also curious to learn that among the duties of the general committee of the English Amateur Athletic Association was the duty "to prosecute any professional who competes as an amateur." One of the amendments made in the original definition as given above was to abolish the exclusion of "tradesman, mechanic, artisan or labourer," and to provide that a man shall be excluded from competing as an amateur "where gate money is charged." In 1893 the American Amateur Athletic Union passed a rule that "no person shall be reinstated as an amateur who becomes a professional," followed in February, 1895, by this amendment, that "no person who has at any time become a professional shall be reinstated as an amateur." The same Union states that no one is an amateur "who has received or competed for compensation or reward in any form for the display of exercises or example of his skill in, or knowledge of, any athletic exercises, or for rendering personal services of any kind to any athletic organisation." The same definition and rule hold good in Canada, New South Wales, New Zealand, Queensland, Scotland, Victoria, and Holland. Further, in June, 1894, the International Athletic Congress, which met in Paris to make arrangements for the revival of the old Olympic Games, and to adopt an international definition of an amateur, in answer to the question, "Who may be considered amateurs in athletics?" passed this resolution:—

Every person who has never taken part in a contest open to all comers, nor has competed for a prize in money or for a sum of money, regardless of the source from which it has been collected, particularly from admissions to the grounds, or with professionals, and who has never at any period of his life been a professor or paid instructor of athletic exercises.

Another resolution was also passed, to this effect:—

That one cannot be an amateur in one sport and a professional in another.

These instances show that the whole tendency of amateur sport legislation is to prohibit the very thing which the Royal and Ancient say may be tolerated in Golf. It is opposed to common sense to say that a man may compete as a professional in one branch of sport, and as an amateur in another. There ought to be no dividing line in amateur sport of any kind, across which it may be permissible for the professional to step, and claim its privileges or exemptions. It is a question of status easily defined and easily understood; and to argue that a man who subsists for two-thirds of the year on cricket and football gate-money, or on a salary paid by an association for his services in the field, is an amateur in the sense in which he has hitherto been recognised on the links, is paltering with the question, and opening the door to flagrant abuses. We are not concerned to argue the question in any individual sense in connection with particular players. What we are concerned about is the lowering of the hitherto high and pure standard of amateur Golf, and we hope that the Royal and Ancient may be induced to revise and amend their definition of amateur. The practical suggestion we would make to them and to all Golf clubs is that a wider view of athletic sport should be taken than the one which is embodied in the present definition of an amateur golfer. All that is needed is to insert a sentence in the present

definition stating that an amateur is one "who has never at any period of his life taught, pursued, or assisted in the pursuit of athletic exercises of any kind as a means of livelihood or profit, and who is disqualified as an amateur in any other branch of sport." This amendment would meet the whole case, and will, if adopted in time, avoid a great deal of future trouble.

OUR VILLAGE BLACKSMITH.

Beside the turnpike road, you'll see
Our village smithy stands;
 But there's not a sign of a chestnut-tree
 In all the broad uplands.
Our Smith is strong; he stronger still
 Is the language he commands.

His hair is crisp and black, 'tis true,
 His skin too, like the tan,
 And he looks the whole world in the face,
 Though he owes whate'er he can;
 And says that, till his credit fails,
 He fears not any man.

Our village children never stay
 To gaze at the sparks once more,
 They'd like to see the flaming forge
 And hear the bellows roar;
 But he catches them an awful whack
 If they come inside the door.

Toiling—rejoicing—borrowing,
 To swell the store that's shrunken,
 Each morning sees our smith at work,
 Each evening sees him drunk;
 Something attempted, not much done,
 Before the sun has sunk.

Thanks, thanks to thee our worthy friend
 For the lesson thou hast taught,
 That shoeing done at three-and-six
 May be sometimes dearly bought,
 And on your flaming forge, we find
 You scamped the work we brought.

ROSE CHAMPION DE CRESPIGNY.

WAVENEY VALLEY GOLF CLUB.

The annual meeting was held at the club-house, near the railway station at Bungay, on Wednesday, the 29th ult., Mr. E. de Poix, the president, being in the chair. The meeting was well attended. The report showed that the progress of the club had been maintained, and that the financial position was satisfactory. The receipts for the year ended December 31st amount to £172 19s. 3½d., the payments standing at £168 os. 9d. Of the sum required for the construction of the club-house, erected in 1894, £200 had been raised by debentures, the balance having been met from current revenue. The interest due on the debentures has been paid during the current year. It is expected that the committee will be able to repay a portion of the debentures next January.

The number of members has been increased during the year, and now stands at nearly double the figure shown in 1893, while the net income of the club has been approximately trebled since the balance-sheet for that year was drawn up.

The rates of subscription and green-money (standing at £1. 1s. and 10s. 6d. for gentlemen, and at half those amounts for ladies) were modified so as to admit members residing at a distance exceeding fifty miles at half the rate of subscription, the green money remaining unaltered. The president (Mr. E. de Poix), the captain (Rev. J. H. White), and the hon secretary (Mr. F. J. M'Laughlin) were re-elected.

The monthly medal was won by the Rev. F. Page Roberts, while the ladies' medal was taken by Mrs. A. B. How with the good score of 55, less 7=48.



ABERDEEN.

ABERDEEN GOLF CLUB.—February medal.—Scratch medal: Mr. M. M. Duncan, 79. Mr. A. J. W. Storie, handicap bowl: Mr. S. Duguid, 93, less 18=75; Mr. M. M. Duncan, 79, less 2=77; Mr. James Davidson, 85, less 8=77; Mr. A. W. Mitchell, 83, less 5=78; Mr. J. A. R. Glennie, 93, less 14=79; Mr. A. H. L. M'Kinnon, 95, less 16=79; Mr. W. F. Orr (scratch), 80; Mr. D. S. Rose, 90, less 10=80; Mr. H. E. Spence, 93, less 12=81; Mr. W. K. Burnett, 99, less 18=81; Mr. H. C. Hadden, 88, less 7=81; Mr. James Williams, 87, less 5=82; Capt. Brooke, 89, less 5=84; Mr. W. T. Moffat, 101, less 16=85; Mr. G. Whyte, 97, less 12=85; Dr. James Moir, 92, less 6=86; Mr. B. S. M'Lellan, 93, less 6=87; Dr. J. Ogilvie, 96, less 8=88; Capt. Jones, 104, less 16=88; Dr. Thomas Milne, 107, less 16=91.

ALDEBURGH GOLF CLUB.

Monthly medal competition (gentlemen), 1st February. Notwithstanding the almost perfect day for golfing but few members put in an appearance for the second monthly medal of 1896, and Mr. S. R. Bastard had things all his own way.—Mr. S. R. Bastard, 92, less 1=91. The remainder made no returns or were over 100.

ASHDOWN FOREST AND TUNBRIDGE WELLS LADIES' GOLF CLUB.

Monthly medals and putting match, played on Saturday, February 1st:—

Gross. Hcp. Net.			Gross. Hcp. Net.		
* Mrs. C. Green ...	83	1 82	Miss Birch ...	92	+ 1 93
Miss G. Morgan ...	95	12 83	Miss Moor ...	105	12 93
Mrs. S. Whitfield ...	95	11 84	Mrs. Gordon ...	114	21 93
Miss Malden ...	96	12 84	Miss A. Scott ...	108	14 94
† Miss Playford ...	110	23 87	Miss Skipwith ...	118	24 94
Miss M. Parsons ...	96	8 88	Miss Andrews ...	96	1 95
Miss E. Reade ...	101	12 89	Miss S. Green ...	103	7 96
Miss D. Wilson ...	110	20 90	Miss Stone ...	116	20 96

* Gold medal and Greenhall scratch. † Silver cup.

Putting on nine greens:—Mrs. G. Moor, 21; Mrs. Green, Mrs. J. Fisher, Miss Reade, Miss Malden, and Mrs. Whitfield, 22; Miss Andrews and Miss A. Scott, 24; Miss Birch, Miss Morgan, Miss M. Parsons, and Mrs. Russell, 25.

BARTON-UNDER-NEEDWOOD GOLF CLUB.

Monthly cups, played for on Saturday, February 1st. Eight returns were sent in under scratch. Scores:—

Gross. Hcp. Net.			Gross. Hcp. Net.		
* Mr. K. Lowe ...	97	22 75	Mr. A. Palmer ...	95	8 87
Mr. W. J. Menzies ...	112	36 76	Mr. F. Jennings ...	96	6 90
Mr. J. Hartland ...	98	20 78	Mr. P. S. White ...	99	9 90
Mr. E. A. Brown ...	115	36 79	Mr. A. Maxwell ...		
Mr. A. W. Cadell ...	99	18 81	Tod ...	108	18 90
Mr. H. G. Nadin ...	95	13 82	Mr. H. B. Whetstone ...		
Mr. A. G. Jennings ...	104	22 82	stone ...	111	20 91
Mr. G. M. Day ...	107	25 82	Mr. W. Ward ...	116	24 92
Mr. S. H. Evershed ...	100	16 84	Mr. G. E. Lowe ...	111	18 93
† Mr. C. Palmer ...	94	9 85			

* Wins handicap cup.

† Wins scratch cup.

BIRKDALE GOLF CLUB.

The fourth round for first and second-class medals was played in fine weather on the links of the Birkdale Golf Club on Saturday, a fair field mustering. Mr. E. H. Sheldon, 101, less 13=80, put in the win for the first class, the other cards below 100 net being:—Mr. A. Gilmour, 108, less 16=92; Mr. F. W. H. Campbell, 100, less 7=93; Rev. W. Scott, 100, less 7=93; Mr. W. W. P. Shatwell, 102, less 8

=94; Mr. W. Bowker, 107, less 12=95; Mr. F. W. Price, 111, less 16=95. In the second-class Mr. H. J. Byrom scored the win with 120, less 30=90, the next best being Mr. W. H. Hayes, 118, less 25=93, and Mr. J. W. H. Ditchfield, 133, less 30=103. Mr. A. Gilmour took the first day prize, and Messrs. Campbell and Scott tied for the second.

BOURNEMOUTH GOLF CLUB.

On Monday, January 27th, a match was played on the Bournemouth Links, six a-side, resident members against non-resident members of the Bournemouth Golf Club, and resulted in a somewhat unexpected win for the residents. The weather was not all that could be wished for, as a nasty drizzle kept on most of the day.

RESIDENTS.		NON-RESIDENTS.	
	Holes.		Holes.
Mr. F. H. Haviland ...	4	Mr. A. C. Young ...	0
Mr. D. H. W. Robson-Burrows ...	0	Mr. H. E. H. Kent ...	1
Mr. A. Pontifex ...	0	Mr. H. E. H. Acklom ...	0
Mr. Lowthian Bell ...	1	Mr. W. S. Sheldon ...	0
Colonel H. D. Fryer ...	3	Mr. W. Nicholson ...	0
Mr. H. Smith ..	2	Captain Anderson ...	0
	10		1

In the afternoon two foursomes were played, and resulted in Messrs. Kent and Sheldon beating Messrs. Harland and Robson-Burrows, and Messrs. Nicholson and Anderson winning from Messrs. Lowthian Bell and H. Smith.

The monthly medal was played for on the club links at Brockenhurst, on Saturday, February 1st. Several members went out, in order to have a game on good turf and greens. The course was in first-class order, and some very good returns were sent in, Mr. Haviland's score of 78 being very fine. Scores:—

Gross. Hcp. Net.			Gross. Hcp. Net.		
Mr. F. H. Haviland ...	78	4 74	Mr. J. Gundry ...	91	8 83
Mr. S. H. W. Robson-Burrows ...	83	6 77	Capt. Anderson ...	92	9 83
Mr. H. E. H. Kent ...	83	6 77	Mr. W. S. Sheldon ...	88	4 84
Mr. A. Pontifex ...	86	6 80	Hon. R. C. Telle-		
Mr. H. D. Lewin ...	92	11 81	mache ...	105	20 85
Mr. G. H. Piercy ...	94	13 81	Mr. A. H. Cooper ...	99	12 87

Thirteen others made no returns.

BOWDON GOLF CLUB.

The eighth of the present series of monthly medal competitions was played on Saturday, February 1st, at Dunham Village, in fine weather.

Forty-two competitors took out cards, and of these only thirteen succeeded in returning net scores below 100, although the course was in fine order. Mr. Holden proved to be the medal winner, with the fine score of 42, plus 41=83, and also won the first prize in the sweepstakes, the second and third falling to Messrs. Smelt and Muirhead. Mr. Smelt repeated the feat accomplished by Mr. Muirhead, on December 7th last, i.e., taking the eighth hole in two strokes each round.

The following are the net scores below 100:—

Gross. Hcp. Net.			Gross. Hcp. Net.		
Mr. H. Holden ...	83	scr. 83	Mr. A. G. Hogg ...	99	5 94
Mr. S. Smelt ...	92	8 84	Mr. G. Wothington ...	104	10 94
Mr. T. Muirhead ...	96	8 88	Mr. W. B. Edmond-		
Mr. C. H. Occleston ...	92	3 89	son ...	110	16 94
Mr. W. Bellhouse ...	107	18 89	Mr. S. W. Gillett ...	97	2 95
Mr. F. C. Morgan ...	92	scr. 92	Mr. E. Withington ...	97	2 95
Mr. F. Platt-Higgins, M.P. ...	111	18 93	Mr. W. Rycroft ...	114	18 96

Twenty-nine competitors were either over 100 or made no returns.

BRIGHTON AND HOVE GOLF CLUB.

Monthly medal, Saturday, February 1st:—

Gross. Hcp. Net.			Gross. Hcp. Net.		
Mr. C. O. Walker ...	89	5 84	Major G. Edwards ...	106	18 88
Mr. W. H. Abbey ...	100	15 85	Mr. C. R. Hartley ...	106	18 88
Mr. A. C. Woolley ...	95	8 87	Mr. A. De Worms ...	110	20 90
Mr. H. T. Ross ...	93	5 88	Capt. Congreve ...	119	20 99

Twenty-six competed, in fine weather.

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY GOLF CLUB.

The competition for the Linskill cup (scratch), the St. Andrews medal for first class (15 and under), and the Pirie memento for second class (16 and over), took place on January 30th, over the links at Coldham Common. The new course of eighteen holes is a very great improvement on the old round, many more legitimate hazards existing, there being now some danger at nearly every hole. The putting-greens are greatly improved, and reflect credit on Willie Duncan and Joe

Spaxman. The late torrents of rain and early morning frosts have rendered the course somewhat sticky, but, alas! this is the fate of most inland greens. Play begun at 12 a.m., and there was a large turn-out of players. One round (eighteen holes) was played; Mr. W. T. Linskill started the couples:—

	Gross.	Hcp.	Net.
Mr. V. H. Pennell, Trinity	85	8	77
Mr. B. Hilliard, Clare... ..	83	5	78
Mr. J. A. Scott, Jesus	80	1	79
Mr. B. C. Thompson, Pembroke	81	2	79
Mr. J. Barnicot, Pembroke	97	15	82
Mr. F. W. Beckford, Trinity	83	1	82
Mr. A. C. Cochrane, Trinity	88	6	82
Mr. A. C. Lawrence, Trinity Hall	84	2	82
Mr. N. R. Crum-Ewing, Pembroke	88	5	83
Mr. J. G. McCall, Christ's	89	5	84
Mr. E. H. C. Craig, Clare	93	8	85
Mr. B. Darwin, Trinity	85	scr.	85
Mr. F. H. Newnes, Clare	89	4	85
Hon. O. R. Vivian, Trinity	92	6	86
Mr. C. E. Marshall, King's	97	8	89
Mr. M. Copland, Pembroke	95	5	90
Mr. A. Heathcote, Trinity	95	5	90
Mr. H. M. Rose, Sidney	106	14	92
Mr. W. D. Harmer, King's	97	3	94

Thirteen players made no return.

Second class:—

	Gross.	Hcp.	Net.
Mr. H. Brodhurst, Pembroke... ..	107	25	82
Mr. H. R. Urwick, Trinity	104	22	82
Mr. R. R. Conway, St. Catherine's	107	24	83
Mr. P. S. Nicol, Trinity Hall... ..	103	20	83
Mr. C. Ross, Trinity	103	16	87
Mr. H. H. Ogilvie, Clare	110	16	94
Mr. R. M. Munro, Clare	111	16	95

Mr. J. A. Scott, Jesus, thus wins the Linskill cup, Mr. V. H. Pennell, Trinity, the St. Andrew's medal, and Mr. H. Brodhurst, Pembroke, the Pirie memento.

CANNES GOLF CLUB.

Foursome competition, January 31st. Prizes given by Mrs. Woodward were played for in beautiful weather. Scores:—

	Gross.	Hcp.	Net.
Miss Ludlow and Mr. A. H. Crosfield	114	22	92
Miss Willoughby and Mr. R. Soames... ..	112	16	96
Mrs. Shelton and Mr. J. F. Sharples	121	20	101
Mrs. Stubbs and Col. Cragg	122	18	104
Miss Halford and Capt. Philip Green... ..	116	10	106
Miss Schenley and H.I.H. The President	135	29	106
Mrs. Tenney and Count Sierstorpf	115	9	106
Mrs. F. Walker and Col. Adams	136	30	106
Miss Hodgson and Mr. T. B. Dugdale	138	27	111
Miss Harbord and Mr. Fred. Walker	135	23	112
Miss F. Halford and Col. Woodward... ..	133	21	112
Miss Potter and Mr. W. Travers	130	10	120

ENFIELD GOLF CLUB.

January 25th, "Bogey" competition (Kenilworth cup):—Mr. A. Leslie (5), 2 down, winner; Mr. O. Sparks (11), 4 down; Mr. A. W. Hutt (11), 5 down; Mr. A. Bass (7), 6 down; Mr. G. F. N. Beazley (11), 6 down; Mr. W. G. Scott (17), 7 down.

January 28th, ladies' "Bogey" competition (Wyndcroft prize):—Mrs. E. Hunter (14), 6 down, winner; Mrs. A. W. Hutt (14), 10 down; Mrs. F. Porter (14), 14 down; Miss Beazley (27), 15 down.

FINCHLEY GOLF CLUB.

Monthly medal and captain's prize, February 1st:—

Gross. Hcp. Net.			Gross. Hcp. Net.				
Mr. C. M. Bailhache	101	19	82	Mr. J. Stephens	113	18	95
Mr. H. B. Wimbush	91	6	85	Mr. W. Howe	115	19	96
Mr. J. W. James	95	7	88	Mr. A. B. Smith	109	13	96
Mr. W. G. MacGregor	97	8	89	Mr. A. Macgregor...	110	12	98
Mr. J. Heal	110	19	91	Mr. J. Carter Harrison	116	17	99
Mr. F. H. Swinstead	102	10	92	Mr. W. P. Harrison	119	18	101
Mr. D. Watson	109	17	92				

FORFARSHIRE.

On January 21st the monthly competition of the Montrose Ladies' Club for the Paton medal, came off under favourable weather conditions. Final.—Miss J. Woodward beat Miss A. Woodward.

GLASGOW GOLF CLUB.

The monthly competition of the Glasgow Club was held over the Blackhall course on Saturday, when forty-five pairs took part. The following are the winners of the various classes:—First class (club medal).—Mr. R. Bone, 80. Second class (Wilson Medal)—Mr. W. Colman, jun., 74. Third class (Scott medal)—Mr. A. Russell, 80. The best scores were:—First class (club medal).—1, Mr. R. Bone, 84, less 4=80; 2, Mr. A. M'Vean, 86, less 5=81; Mr. J. T. Irving, 85, less 4=81; Mr. W. Macfarlane (scratch), 82; Mr. A. M. Macdonald, 87, less 5=82; Mr. C. B. Macfarlane, 82, plus 1=83. Second class (Wilson medal).—1, Mr. W. Dolman, jun., 86, less 12=74; Mr. J. Colville, 91, less 11=80; Mr. W. D. Strachan, 92, less 12=80; Mr. W. Scott, 96, less 11=85; Mr. P. A. Steven, 93, less 8=85; Mr. John Humilton, 96, less 8=88; Mr. W. A. Thomson, 98, less 9=89. Third class (Scott medal).—Mr. A. Russell, 93, less 13=80; Mr. John Lunn, 103, less 16=87; Mr. A. R. Brown, 107, less 18=89; Mr. C. Farquharson, 107, less 17=90; Mr. H. Cameron, 109, less 18=91; Mr. H. Fulton, 108, less 14=94; Dr. M'Laren, 112, less 18=94; Mr. T. Kerr, 112, less 18=94; Mr. A. Thomson, 112, less 18=94.

GREAT YARMOUTH GOLF CLUB.

Monthly medal, played for on February 1st:—Mr. Charles Hope 89, less 5=84; Rev. W. A. Green, 106, less 15=91; Rev. H. H. Lucas, 105, less 10=95.

HERMITAGE GOLF CLUB.

On Saturday, over the Hermitage (Norbury) course, Dr. F. W. Abbott won—for the second time, and the trophy now becomes his own—the captain's silver-mounted prize putter, beating Mr. H. Howard in the final by 9 up and 8 to play. Considering the bad state of the course (wet and heavy), he played a very sound game. On the first occasion, Mr. A. L. Hunt was the runner-up. The presentation will take place on Saturday afternoon next, at the club-house, when the captain will offer other prizes on handicap terms.

HYÈRES GOLF CLUB.

Weekly handicap, January 25th:—

Gross. Hcp. Net.			Gross. Hcp. Net.				
Mr. W. Jackson	101	20	81	Mr. J. Grahame	111	15	96
Mr. G. H. Port	98	13	85	Stewart	111	15	96
Mr. J. Dawson	101	12	89	Mr. G. R. Corbett	111	15	96
Mr. G. Bromage	111	20	91	Mr. J. R. Radcliffe	127	25	102
Comte Tredicini de				Mr. Mark E. Collet	109	4	105
Saint Severin	126	35	91	Mr. E. Sèol	152	35	117
Mr. S. Radcliffe	118	25	93				

KINGS NORTON GOLF CLUB.

Monthly cup, Saturday, February 1st. Scores:—

Gross. Hcp. Net.			Gross. Hcp. Net.				
*Mr. S. R. Baker	86	12	74	Mr. W. G. Goode	110	24	86
Mr. A. B. Whitfield	96	18	78	Mr. H. S. Lowe	95	8	87
Mr. A. D. Charles	89	8	81	Mr. A. G. Brinton	112	24	88
Mr. A. K. Baillie	102	18	84	Mr. T. W. Piggott	100	10	90

* Winner.

Several other players made no returns.

LONDON SCOTTISH GOLF CLUB.

Monthly Medal, February 1st:—

Gross. Hcp. Net.			Gross. Hcp. Net.				
*Mr. H. E. Fisher	87	10	77	Mr. Geo. W. Duncan	95	6	89
†Sir Geo. Newnes, Bart.	95	14	81	Mr. S. G. Warner	105	16	89
Mr. J. G. Maclean	90	6	84	Mr. J. N. Parkes	110	21	89
Mr. A. Anderson	85	scr.	85	Mr. A. Taylor	108	18	90
Mr. G. G. Kennedy	103	18	85	Mr. J. H. Davidson	99	8	91
Dr. Carter	95	8	87	Sir T. Galwey	109	18	91
Capt. Sutherland	101	14	87	Mr. A. Thompson	117	25	92
Mr. D. S. Froy	88	scr.	88	Mr. John W. Duncan	90	+3	93
Mr. K. B. Brown	90	2	88	Mr. F. Single	108	14	94

* Winner of medal.

† Winner of second medal.

LANARK GOLF CLUB.

The members competed for the gold ball on Saturday in splendid weather. There was a large turn-out, and the greens were in first-rate order; but, notwithstanding, the scoring was somewhat above what it should have been. After all had gone round the eighteen holes, the result of the play was found to be that Mr. Horn, with 89, less 5=84, and Mr. Hodgson, with 92, less 8=84, had tied for the prize. Mr. Jas. Arthur Vassie, with 89, less 4=85, and Mr. Swan, with 97, less 12=85, tied for the next place. In the afternoon the play was continued in single and double matches, and reports of the following were

handed in:—Mr. Vassie won his match against Sir W. C. Anstruther; Mr. Renwick, giving half one, beat Mr. L. Stuart; Messrs. Horn and Jas. Arthur Vassie halved a level match; Mr. R. McKeane beat Mr. J. H. Brown, playing even; Mr. John Smith, jun., beat Mr. Paterson by the last hole; Messrs. J. M. Davidson and James Gilroy, jun., were too strong for Messrs. Jas. Annan and W. D. Brown.

MACCLESFIELD GOLF CLUB.

The fifth monthly handicap for this season was played on Saturday last. Scores:—

Cross. Hcp. Net.			Gross. Hcp. Net.				
Mr. J. W. Burgess...	94	12	82	Mr. A. G. Gray ...	106	13	93
Mr. W. F. Taylor...	107	22	85	Mr. W. Welsh ...	119	26	93
Mr. E. Budden ...	113	25	88	Mr. E. L. Oliver ...	114	21	93
Rev. D. Wilmot ...	115	26	89	Mr. F. W. Sears ...	125	30	95
Mr. E. Wright ...	119	27	92	Mr. J. G. Barclay ...	124	28	96

Three cards not returned, and three over 100 net.

MARPLE GOLF CLUB.

Ladies' competition, January 27th:—Mrs. Tattersall, 73, less 20=53; Miss Eskrigge, 66, less 5=61; Miss Bradshaw Isherwood, 74, less 5=69; Mrs. Fletcher, 89, less 30=59; Mrs. Hamilton, 97, less 15=82; Mrs. Bailey, 93, less 35=58; Mrs. J. Fergusson, 97, less 20=77. No other scores returned.

MID-SURREY LADIES v. WANSTEAD PARK LADIES.

Played over the links of the former on January 24th, with the following results:—

MID-SURREY.		WANSTEAD PARK.	
	Holes.		Holes.
Miss C. Morgan ...	4	Mrs. Worransam ...	0
Miss M. Freeling ...	0	Mrs. White ...	1
Miss Holmwood ...	7	Mrs. Redwood ...	0
Miss A. Roberts ...	6	Miss Kindersley ...	0
Miss M. Bowyer ...	1	Mrs. Bell ...	0
Miss Sparrow ...	11	Mrs. Field ...	0
Miss Burke ...	2	Miss Holden ...	0
	31		1

Foursomes:—

MID-SURREY.		WANSTEAD PARK.	
	Holes.		Holes.
Miss C. Morgan and Miss A. Roberts ...	2	Mrs. Worransam and Mrs. White ...	0
Miss M. Freeling and Miss Burke ...	0	Mrs. Bell and Miss Holden ...	0
Miss Sparrow and Miss M. Bowyer ...	11	Mrs. Redwood and Mrs. Field ...	0
	13		0

MUSWELL HILL GOLF CLUB.

Result of monthly medal, Saturday, February 1st:—

Gross. Hcp. Net.		Gross. Hcp. Net.					
Mr. G. H. Swinstead	82	4	78	Mr. Alex. Macgregor	97	11	86
Mr. J. W. James	85	7	78	Mr. J. B. Shaw	97	10	87
Mr. G. M. Nicoll	87	8	79	Mr. W. S. Bax	102	15	87
Mr. H. Collet	91	11	80	Mr. F. W. Hindley	105	18	87
Mr. P. H. Jose	94	12	82	Mr. Geo. Carrie	99	10	89
Mr. A. H. Cooke	92	9	83	Mr. J. T. Mill	99	10	89
Mr. F. H. Swinstead	92	9	83	Mr. H. T. S. Kemlo	100	11	89
Mr. T. Ormiston	96	12	84	Mr. T. W. White	105	16	89

NEASDEN GOLF CLUB.

“Bogey” competition, February 1st:—Mr. G. G. Smith, 1 down; Mr. J. C. Monsell, 3 down; Mr. J. A. Bell Beattie, 3 down; Mr. C. S. Gover, 5 down; Mr. L. G. Sloan, 6 down; Mr. F. Rushworth, 7 down; Mr. A. C. Nicoll, 7 down; Mr. R. Taubman, 7 down; Mr. E. N. Vowler, 7 down; Mr. M. Lescher, 8 down; Mr. F. B. Mims, 8 down; Mr. H. W. Lawrence, 9 down; Mr. G. Goodsir, 9 down. Remainder over 9 down, or no return.

NORTH BERWICK.

On January 30th an interesting competition amongst the boys connected with Miss Lucy Hope's reading-room took place over the North Berwick course. The contest was limited to lads under sixteen years, but the twenty competitors included several good players, most of them being caddies employed on the green here. Miss Hope's kindness to the youth of the community connected with the reading-room which she lately instituted is well known, and her generosity was further manifested in offering four prizes for the boy competitors. These awards, which were played for under handicap, were:—1st, three clubs; 2nd, two clubs; 3rd, one club; and 4th,

two golf balls, the last being for the highest net score. To encourage the boys Ben Sayers also presented a silver medal (scratch.) Andrew Gullane proved the winner of Sayers' merit award with the very creditable score of 91. The chief handicap results were as follows:—W. Merriles, 92, less 6=86; John Morton, 111, less 25=86 (tie); George Thomson (Rhodes), 101, less 14=87; G. Livingstone, 94, less 5=89; J. Thomson, 100, less 11=89; T. Forrest, 95, less 5=90; A. Gullane, 91, scratch; J. Ferguson, 106, less 12=94; G. Thomson, 109, less 12=97; D. Grant, 110, less 12=98. The prize-winner for the highest score was William Williamson, at 307, less 30=277.

The Amateur Champion paid a visit to the North Berwick links on Saturday, and engaged in an interesting three-ball encounter with Major D. Kinloch and Mr. W. Mure. In the forenoon, Major Kinloch, who showed excellent form, succeeded in winning from Mr. Balfour-Melville by 3 up and 2 to play. A second round in the afternoon produced a stiff game between the Amateur Champion and Major Kinloch. With 3 to play, they stood all even, but Major Kinloch secured the next two holes, and, accordingly, won at Point Garry by 2 up and 1 to play. Mr. Mure lost to both of his opponents.

On Saturday the members of the Bass Rock Club held their first competition of the year for the handicap trophy. There was a good muster of players. On a return of cards, the trophy was found to have been tied for by Mr. D. M. Jackson, at 82 (scratch), and Mr. James Hutchison, at 88, less 6=82. The details of the score of Mr. Jackson, who was in capital form, especially in his home game, were as follows:—Out, 5 5 6 5 4 4 5 6 4=44; in, 3 4 5 4 3 5 5 4=38; total, 82.

NORTH WARWICKSHIRE GOLF CLUB.

Monthly cup, played for February 3rd:—Mr. F. R. Mayou, 113, less 25=88 (takes cup); Mr. E. Mason, 99, less 9=90 (takes sweepstake); Mr. L. Clive, 108, less 16=92; Mr. C. Clive, 108, less 16=92; Mr. S. K. Thornley, 108, less 14=94; Mr. C. V. Howitt, 105, less 11=94; Mr. T. R. Barton, 108, less 10=98. Messrs. Chinn, Barker, Horne, Lindner, Ketley, Weller, Freer, and Symonds, over 100 net.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE GOLF CLUB.

Mr. Clement Barker and Mr. C. A. Rastall, the winners of the monthly medal competitions for the Second Division for their respective half-years in 1895, played off the final. Two rounds of eighteen holes were played. An excellent match was won by Mr. C. A. Rastall, by 4 strokes. The round were as follows: Mr. C. A. Rastall; first round, 103; second round, 103=206, less 38=168; Mr. Clement Barker; first round, 91, second round, 105=196, less 24=172.

The monthly medal competitions have resulted as follows:—Saturday. First Division:—Mr. J. Johnstone, 98, less 11=87; Mr. T. G. Mellors, 101, less 14=87; Mr. W. R. Lymbery, 103, less 16=87. Mr. J. Forman and Mr. C. F. Dobson did not return their cards.

Second division.—Mr. A. Harwood, 107, less 20=87; Mr. H. D. Snook, 112, less 20=92; Mr. G. C. Hine, 115, 22=93; Mr. C. A. Rastall, 113, less 18=95; Mr. J. D. Pearson, 115, less 17=98. Mr. P. W. Allen did not return his card.

Owing to the heavy rain the scores ruled high, and several members did not complete the round. Messrs. Johnstone, Mellors, and Lymbery played off the tie, the result being that Messrs. Johnstone and Mellors again tied. Messrs. Johnstone and Mellors played off their tie, resulting in a win for Mr. Johnstone, who played an excellent round of 91.

Thursday. First division:—

Gross. Hcp. Net.			Gross. Hcp. Net.				
Mr. F. J. March	91	11	80	Mr. C. Barker	103	13	90
Mr. C. B. Edwards	97	13	84	Mr. J. Bows	100	9	91
Mr. E. A. Coutts	96	11	85	Mr. E. Williamson	103	12	91
Mr. J. Bright	99	13	86	Mr. C. R. Hemingway	98	6	92
Mr. W. P. Snook	96	9	87	Mr. J. Dolman	107	12	95
Mr. J. M'Meeking	98	10	88	Mr. J. C. Warren	102	6	96
Mr. J. Hall	92	3	89				

Mr. H. M. Robinson and Mr. F. T. Green did not return their cards.

Second division:—

Gross. Hcp. Net.			Gross. Hcp. Net.				
Mr. E. W. Barnes	108	18	90	Mr. W. Reeve	125	24	101
Mr. A. Baker	115	17	98	Mr. A. H. Pearson	127	24	103
Mr. T. M'ulloch	120	21	99	Mr. E. W. Hendy	135	—	—
Mr. J. H. Brown	124	24	100				

Mr. H. W. Pine and Mr. A. Oliver did not return their cards.

The annual meeting of the members of the Nottinghamshire Golf Club was held at the George Hotel, Nottingham. There was a large attendance, over which the captain (Mr. J. Hall) presided. Among those present were also Ald. J. Bright (Mayor of Nottingham), Dr. Powell, Messrs. J. McMeeking, J. Doleman, R. D. Oswald, R. F. Carey, H. Russell, J. Johnstone, A. T. Ashwell, C. R. Hemingway,

J. Harris, J. Bowes, James Forman, E. A. Coutts, J. C. Warren, A. N. Bromley, A. Wootton, W. Bridgett, H. P. Pine, W. Ross, R. Taylor, E. J. Cooper, J. D. Dale, J. H. Hardy, G. H. Wallis, P. W. Allen, C. P. Dixon, C. A. Morris, H. M. Robinson, T. H. Walker, R. Edwards, F. T. Green, A. Harwood, W. F. M. Webb, and T. G. Mellors. The annual report was read by the captain, who moved its adoption.

The committee reported that the year 1895 had been the most successful in the history of the club. The membership now amounts to 198, as against 168 at the corresponding time last year. At the beginning of the year considerable anxiety was caused by the threatened encroachment of the extension of the M. S. and L. Railway. Satisfactory arrangements had been made, by which only the fourteenth and fifteenth greens would be interfered with, and for this disturbance compensation had been promised by the company. The thanks of the club were due to the Corporation for their kindly assistance and support during the negotiations with the railway company. During the year considerable alterations and improvements had been made on the greens and the course, and the committee desired to record their thanks to the green-keeper for the excellent way in which he had done his work. Gratitude was also due to Mr. W. F. M. Webb, who had provided sand-boxes for the use of the club. A caddies' shelter, which had been an urgent necessity for a long time past, was now in course of construction. Chiefly through the instrumentality of the Notts Club, the East Midland Union of Golf Clubs had been instituted, and their first annual meeting held on the Bulwell Links in May last, when the Championship was won by Mr. A. E. Park, of Grantham, and the Club Team Championship by the Notts Club, who were represented by Mr. J. Hall, Mr. J. C. Warren, Mr. C. R. Hemingway, and Mr. A. N. Bromley. During the year seventeen matches had been played, of which fifteen were won and two lost, and 532 holes scored, as against 86 by the club's opponents. The opposing clubs were Kettering, Sheffield, Belton Park, Leicester, Derby, Lincoln, Charnwood Forest, Skegness, Sempringham, and Bulwell Artisans. The two matches lost were against Kettering and Sheffield, and in both cases were played away from home. Two professional matches of thirty-six holes had been played during the year, the first between J. H. Taylor, the Open Champion, and J. Herd, the club professional, resulting in a win for the Champion by 6 up and 4 to play; and the second between Taylor and Willie Aveston, of Cromer, when the Champion won by 3 up and 1 to play. In this match the professional record of the green was lowered to 75, both players doing the round in this exceptionally fine score. The amateur record was now 82, and was held by Mr. J. Hall. The club challenge cup was won at the spring meeting by Mr. C. R. Hemingway with a score of 91, and at the autumn meeting by Mr. J. Hall with 86. A hole tournament under handicap was won by Mr. R. T. Graveley, and a foursome tournament under handicap resulted in the victory of Messrs. A. N. Bromley and C. P. Dixon. For the first six months of the year the monthly medal winners were Mr. A. N. Bromley in the first division and Mr. C. Barker in the second; for the last six months Mr. F. T. Green, first division, and Mr. C. A. Rastall, second division, were the successful players. The committee noted with much pleasure the progress and success of the Bulwell Artisans' Club. They appreciated the courtesy of the players, and thankfully acknowledged the assistance rendered by them in the preservation of the greens and the course generally. It was a matter of regret that no reduction of debt had been possible during the past year, owing chiefly to heavy expenditure on the greens.

Mr. G. Harry Wallis seconded the motion, and the report was unanimously adopted. The cash account submitted by the hon. treasurer (Mr. Henry Russell), who proposed its adoption, showed the year's payments to have been £275 8s. 1d., and the receipts £275 13s. 8d. At the beginning of the twelve months the balance due to the bank was £268 8s. 10d., and at the close, £268 3s. 3d. The year's subscriptions reached the sum of £269 15s. Ald. Bright seconded the adoption of the account, and expressed a hope that a serious effort would be made during the present year, if not to wipe off the balance at the bank, at all events to considerably reduce it. In reply to a question concerning the cost of extension and up-keep of the links, the chairman said that the expenditure of £144 under this head included two guineas a week for labour; and where there were eighteen greens, and the soil was very friable, as at Bulwell, they must expect in a dry season to have repairs to be done and perhaps greens relaid. The treasurer's report was then adopted, and the election of officers was proceeded with. Mr. J. C. Warren said he was expressing the feeling of every member of the club when he proposed that Mr. J. Hall be re-elected captain for the ensuing year. (Applause.) Nobody had devoted more time to the affairs of the club than he. Mr. Ashwell seconded, and remarked, like the proposer, that, as a player, Mr. Hall was *facile princeps*. The motion was unanimously carried with acclamation. The captain, having briefly acknowledged the honour, proposed the re-election of Mr. J. Johnstone to the position of vice-captain. (Applause.) Mr. A. N. Bromley seconded, and Mr. Johnstone was unanimously re-elected.

Owing to the resignation, which was regretted, of Mr. Russell, the hon. treasurer, Mr. J. Bowes was unanimously elected to that office, and Mr. E. A. Coutts and Mr. T. G. Mellors were unanimously re-elected secretaries. All three honorary officers were cordially thanked for their labours on behalf of the club. A committee was appointed by vote, to consist of Messrs. J. McMeeking, J. C. Warren, A. N. Bromley, C. R. Hemingway, J. Harris, R. F. Carey, J. Doleman, F. T. Green, H. Russell, and J. B. Wells. Votes of thanks concluded the proceedings.

NORTHWOOD GOLF CLUB.

Monthly medals, Saturday, February 1st. Senior:—

Gross.Hcp.Net.		Gross.Hcp.Net.	
Mr. J. G. Hooper...	99 11 88	Dr. H. Dane	... 103 6 97
Mr. C. Plummer	... 92 scr. 92	Dr. L. Ogilvie	... 113 15 98
Mr. J. R. Scully	... 100 7 93	Mr. A. W. Soames	109 10 99
Mr. W. L. Mansergh	100 6 94	Mr. H. O. Wills	... 114 14 100
Mr. Herbert Chipp	105 9 96	Mr. H. A. G. Stiven	111 10 101

Junior:—Mr. R. B. Fraser, 120, less 30=90; Mr. W. R. H. Stewart, 118, less 25=93; Mr. B. E. Laurence, 123, less 25=98; Mr. E. Cooper, 125, less 25=100; Mr. J. F. Muirhead, 125, less 25=100.

OXFORD UNIVERSITY GOLF CLUB.

Weekly handicap, Friday, January 31st.—First class:—Mr. C. R. Jelf, 87, less 10=77; Mr. E. C. H. Wolff, 89, less 12=77; Mr. P. A. Lushington, 85, less 4=81; Mr. H. G. B. Ellis (scratch), 84.

Second class:—Mr. G. E. V. Austen, 91, less 24=67; Mr. G. A. Vulliamy, 93, less 20=73; Mr. R. Francis, 99, less 24=75; Mr. H. E. Tyser, 92, less 14=78; Mr. S. L. Watkinson, 93, less 14=79; Mr. H. B. Leete, 98, less 16=82; Mr. A. Hassall, 115, less 24=91. Thirty-one entries, no returns from the rest.

RAYNES PARK GOLF CLUB.

Result of monthly medal competition, played February 1st. First division:—

Gross.Hcp.Net.		Gross.Hcp.Net.	
Mr. E. G. Fradgley	97 14 83	Mr. S. G. Wallis	...
Mr. C. E. Maddock	91 2 89	Adams	... 104 8 96
Mr. W. H. Glanville	107 16 91	Mr. G. E. Limmer	113 16 97
Mr. A. D. Fradgley	112 18 94	Mr. H. Jenkins	... 111 12 99
Mr. S. Sharpe	... 110 16 94	Mr. G. A. Pryce	...
Mr. H. Martin	... 111 16 95	Caxon	... 119 18 101

Second division:—Mr. G. Midgley Taylor, 108, less 20=88; Mr. W. Dell, 115, less 20=95; Mr. J. J. Stuart Edwards, 121, less 24=97.

ROYAL ARTILLERY, WOOLWICH, GOLF CLUB.

Fourth "Bogey" competition, February 1st. Played on a good golfing day:—Captain King (7), 1 up; Captain Rich (10), all even; Major Coker (4), 2 down; Captain Crampton (6), 3 down; Captain Mansell (16), 3 down; Captain Minchin (7), 4 down; Colonel Bainbridge (15), 5 down; Lieutenant Tyler (15), 5 down.

ROYAL CROMER GOLF CLUB.

There was a good muster of competitors for the club monthly medal, played for on Thursday, January 30th. On no occasion since the formation of the club has the weather been so fine for a January competition, the contrast in this respect between this and last year being most marked. The winner was the Rev. C. Bradshaw Foy, 101, less 18=83. Mr. R. W. Ketton ran the winner very close with 93, less 9=84. The optional sweepstakes were shared by Messrs. P. M. Lucas and J. W. Scott. Appended are some of the scores:—Rev. C. B. Foy, 101, less 18=83; Mr. R. W. Ketton, 93, less 9=84; Mr. P. M. Lucas, 84, plus 3=87; Mr. J. W. Scott, 104, less 13=91; Mr. I. H. Mannall, 103, less 10=93. Among other competitors were:—Mr. H. Forbes Eden, Mr. E. Carroll, Mr. G. L. Charlesworth, Mr. R. N. Fenner, Mr. H. Broadhurst, M.P., Dr. McClure, and Mr. Robt. Reid.

ROYAL LIVERPOOL GOLF CLUB.

The third competition for the winter optional subscription prizes of the Royal Liverpool Golf Club took place on Saturday, February 1st, at Hoylake, in springlike weather. The links were in splendid order, and nearly forty couples started. The win for the first-class optional was recorded in favour of Mr. Paul Springmann, with 89, less 7=82. He also took the first sweepstake, the second and third being divided by Messrs. H. St. Clare Byrne and C. Pilkington, who were each 83 net. In the second class, Mr. E. M. J. Phillips put in a win for the optional, with 116, less 25=91, several gentlemen ahead of him in the list not having entered. The tie between Messrs. J. K. Housden and G. R. Cox, at the last monthly competition, resulted in favour of Mr. Housden, who returned a net score of 90, to Mr. Cox's 91. The following were the best scores returned:—First class (up to 14 in handicap)—Mr. P. Springmann, 89, less 7=82; Mr. H. St. Clare Byrne, 94, less 11=83; Mr. C. Pilkington, 95, less 12=83; Mr. G. G.

Hamilton, 88, less 4=84; Mr. St. Clare J. Byrne, 96, less 11=85; Mr. W. Lowndes, 99, less 14=85; Mr. T. W. Crowther, 87, plus 1=88; Mr. J. E. Pearson (scratch), 88. Second class (15 to 30)—Mr. B. H. Hilton, 108 less 22=86; Mr. G. Jager, 106, less 18=88; Mr. S. Ravenscroft, 106, less 16=90; Mr. A. D. Hannay, 108, less 18=90; Mr. E. M. J. Phillips, 116, less 25=91.

RYE GOLF CLUB.

Monthly medal, played February 1st:—

Gross. Hcp. Net.		Gross. Hcp. Net.	
Dr. E. W. Skinner	103 23 80	Mr. W. Carless	115 23 92
Rev. G. L. Bates	95 12 83	Mr. H. Waldron	111 18 93
Mr. C. Igglesden	97 13 84	Mr. H. Morse-	
Mr. W. E. Foster	113 24 89	Hewitt	108 10 98
Mr. A. M. S. Graeme	102 13 89		

All other scores over 100 net.

Silver cup:—

Gross. Hcp. Net.		Gross. Hcp. Net.	
Rev. G. L. Bates	98 12 86	Mr. H. Waldron	110 18 92
Mr. W. Carless	109 23 86	Mr. C. Igglesden	105 13 92
Mr. H. Morse-		Mr. A. M. S. Graeme	109 15 94
Hewitt	99 10 89		

All other scores over 100 net.

SEATON CAREW GOLF CLUB.

Gray trophy.—The ninth competition for this prize took place on the Seaton Links on Saturday last in fine golfing weather, the only drawback to low scoring being the quantity of blown sand on the links. On examining the cards it was found that the Rev. E. Sykes was first with a steady score of 98, less 18=80, Mr. Balfour, the captain of the club, being second with a fine gross score of 82. The excellence of Mr. Balfour's performance can be judged by comparison with the scores of the other competing members. There was a good turn-out of members, twenty-three taking part in the competition, of which the following made returns:—

Gross. Hcp. Net.		Gross. Hcp. Net.	
Rev. E. Sykes	98 18 80	Mr. O. K. Trechmann	97 8 89
Mr. R. Balfour	82 +1 83	Mr. C. J. Bunting	95 4 91
Mr. S. Walker	90 5 85	Mr. T. Danby	102 9 93
Mr. A. B. Crosly	93 8 85	Mr. F. W. Purvis	101 6 95
Mr. W. Purves	94 7 87		

SHERRINGHAM GOLF CLUB.

The gentlemen's monthly medal was played for on Tuesday, January 28th. Scores:—Mr. G. H. Bramley, 88, less 4=84 (winner); Mr. H. Forbes-Eden, 92, less 7=85; Mr. W. P. Frean, 95, less 8=87; Mr. J. W. Scott, 97, less 10=87; Rev. W. W. Whistler, 99, less 10 89; Dr. Astley Cooper, 101, less 10=91.

The ladies' monthly medal was played for on Monday, January 20th. Miss Drever was found to be the winner.—Miss Drever, 82, less 10=72; Mrs. Bramley, 83, less 3=80; Miss G. Cremer, 89, less 7=82; Miss Upcher, 104, less 15=89.

STAFFORDSHIRE GOLF CLUB.

The monthly medal was played for on Wednesday, January 29th. The greens were in good condition, and the weather all that could be desired for play. Mr. C. S. Hayward was the winner, with the net score of 85:—

Gross. Hcp. Net.		Gross. Hcp. Net.	
Mr. C. S. Hayward	88 3 85	Dr. C. H. Greaves	104 13 91
Mr. A. Finch	102 12 90	Mr. A. P. Brookfield	114 20 94
Mr. C. A. W. Gilbert	103 12 91	Mr. T. E. Everett	118 19 99

ST. DAVID'S GOLF CLUB, HARLECH.

Monthly handicap, Saturday, February 1st. Scores returned:—

Gross. Hcp. Net.		Gross. Hcp. Net.	
Mr. H. J. Wright	115 21 94	Mr. R. C. Bailey	119 17 102
Mr. A. Osmond Wil-		Mr. G. Ashmore	118 14 104
liams	100 5 95	Mr. H. Cleland	129 25 104
Mr. W. N. Griffith	118 17 101		

ST. NEOTS v. BEDFORD.

Played at Bedford over the new eighteen-hole course on February 1st. St. Neots won by 20 holes. Scores:—

ST. NEOTS.		BEDFORD.	
	Holes.		Holes.
Mr. Percy C. Tomson	4	Mr. C. E. S. Innes	0
Mr. A. C. Sweeting	0	Mr. W. C. Fletcher	1
Mr. J. A. Ennals	7	Mr. H. E. Tredcroft	0
Mr. A. B. Brackenbury	1	Mr. A. E. Holt	0
Mr. A. W. McNish	0	Mr. N. P. Symonds	4
Mr. F. N. Butler	3	Mr. C. F. G. Hervey	0
Mr. S. G. Wilkinson	10	Mr. N. R. Slator	0
	25		5

THAMES DITTON AND ESHER GOLF CLUB.

The ladies' quarterly meeting took place on Tuesday and Wednesday, January 28th and 29th, when the following scores were made. Monthly medal:—

Gross. Hcp. Net.			Gross. Hcp. Net.		
Mrs. Taylor	117 22 95	Mrs. Geo. Bird	128 25 103		
Miss Barker	106 10 96	Miss Mathias	124 20 104		
Miss A. Walker	108 10 98	Miss M. Sandys	135 30 105		
Miss S. Trollope	108 10 98	Miss Sillem	128 18 110		
Miss Edgell	108 8 100	Miss Cooper	132 20 112		
Mrs. Lyons	126 24 102	Miss W. Trollope	145 24 121		

Challenge prize:—

Gross. Hcp. Net.		Gross. Hcp. Net.	
Miss K. Walker	87 2 85	Mrs. Lyons	119 24 95
Miss A. Walker	100 10 90	Miss Barker	107 10 97
Miss Sewell	98 6 92	Mrs. Geo. Bird	124 25 99
Miss Edgell	101 8 93	Mrs. W. H. Game	131 25 106
Miss S. Trollope	103 10 93	Miss M. Sillem	132 18 114

The "Bogey" prize was won by Miss Edgell, 2 down; and the prize for the best aggregate score in the two medal rounds was won by Miss A. Walker, 208, less 20=188.

TOOTING BEC GOLF CLUB.

Monthly medal:—

Gross. Hcp. Net.		Gross. Hcp. Net.	
Mr. J. T. Steen	97 12 85	Mr. H. W. Forster,	
Mr. A. Hood	94 8 86	M.P.	95 scr. 95
Mr. O. E. Coles	93 6 87	Colonel C. H. Coles	114 18 96
Mr. C. E. Nesham	92 3 89	Mr. E. C. Bambridge	110 12 98
Mr. F. G. Hogg	103 14 89	Mr. D. Russell	118 16 102
Mr. E. Harvey	106 16 90	Mr. L. N. S. Pass-	
Mr. R. Stewart Bain	104 12 92	more	121 18 103
Mr. R. K. Harvey	109 16 93	Dr. Seymour Taylor	122 16 106
Mr. R. Alston	112 18 94		

WARWICKSHIRE GOLF CLUB.

The links are now in capital order for the time of year, and an unusually large number of members and visitors have been playing lately. Upwards of eighty members have already entered for the tournament for the valuable silver candlesticks presented by Mr. Bouch, the entries for which close on the 8th of February; and much interest has been evinced in the competition. The fixtures for 1896 have now been printed and distributed to the members, the value of the various stakes and prizes amounting in the aggregate to over £350. Matches have also been arranged with Oxford University, Worcestershire, and Coventry, and altogether the club is looking forward to an exceptionally busy and prosperous season.

WEST MIDDLESEX GOLF CLUB.

The Radford "Bogey" competition, Saturday, February 1st:—Mr. W. Bartlett (11), 2 up; Mr. A. L. Houder (12), 3 down; Mr. G. Rumsey (3), 4 down; Mr. R. W. Regge (7), 4 down; Mr. S. Chick (5), 5 down; Mr. C. M. Bayfield (11), 5 down; Mr. P. Barlow (4), 6 down; Mr. E. Farr (5), 6 down; Mr. W. Hern (10), 6 down; Mr. J. Ryan (4), 7 down; Mr. W. Jackson (7), 7 down; Mr. H. Mahony (10), 7 down; Mr. E. Bird (11), 7 down; Mr. W. Prance (5), 8 down; Mr. H. Francis (8), 8 down; Mr. W. W. F. Bourne (11), 8 down; Mr. J. Hardie (13), 8 down; Mr. F. B. Becker (7), 9 down.

Not entered for the Radford:—Colonel H. B. Buchanan (15), 1 down; Mr. R. Gridley (12), 3 down; Mr. J. H. Mummy (15), 3 down; Mr. S. Cowell (14), 4 down; Dr. C. S. Murray (7), 6 down; Mr. J. D. Hart (11), 7 down; Mr. E. Woodger (14), 8 down; Mr. A. H. Miskin (14), 8 down; Mr. R. G. Warner (11), 9 down; Colonel O. Menzies (12), 9 down.

No return from twenty-three other players.

WEST MIDDLESEX LADIES' GOLF CLUB.

On Friday, January 31st, the members of this club held their annual general meeting in their club-room, which has been much enlarged since last year, Mrs. Bartlett presiding. On the retirement of Mrs. Bartlett from that office Miss Hart was unanimously elected captain. Mr. Frank Carver kindly consented to act again as hon. treasurer, and Miss Hale was re-elected hon. secretary. The vacancies in the committee were filled by the election of Miss Griffith and Miss Allnutt. On the same day a competition of eighteen holes, under handicap, was held, the first prize, a silver-clasped Circassian belt, presented by Miss Yeames, being won by Mrs. Priestley, the club prize going to Miss Spence. Scores:—

Gross. Hcp. Net.		Gross. Hcp. Net.	
Mrs. Priestley	110 24 86	Miss Hale	104 8 96
Miss Spence	97 9 88	Miss Griffith	104 8 96
Mrs. Bartlett	97 8 89	Miss Hart	103 5 98

Several others made no returns.

WEST DRAYTON GOLF CLUB.

The result of the first medal day, last Saturday, was as follows. The greens were in capital condition:—

Gross. Hcp. Net.			Gross. Hcp. Net.				
Mr. E. Humbert ...	93	10	83	Mr. O. Campbell ...	106	20	86
Mr. J. Williams ..	103	20	83	Mr. H. C. Haldane	105	16	89
Mr. P. V. Broke ...	87	3	84	Mr. H. Ludlow ...	94	1	93
Mr. C. Gibbons ...	91	5	86	Mr. H. E. Pegg ...	102	9	93

WOKING LADIES' GOLF CLUB.

The January medal was played for on Monday, the 27th:—Miss Pascoe, 91, less 7=84; Mrs. Lewis, 127, less 37=90; Miss Shirreff, 105, less 8=97; Mrs. Willock, 116, less 10=106; Miss Knight, 116, less 8=108; Mrs. Travers, 127, less 37=112.

The putting prize was won by Miss Knight, 23; Miss Pascoe, 24; Mrs. Lewis, 25; Miss Shirreff, 25; Mrs. Travers, 26; Mrs. Willock, 26; Mrs. Corrie, 26; Mrs. Sawyer, 27; Mrs. Palmer, 30.

BROMLEY AND BICKLEY GOLF CLUB.—The winner of the monthly competition on Saturday, February 1st, was Mr. A. E. Willett, 81 net.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

All Communications for Publication to be addressed to "The Editor, GOLF, 80, Chancery Lane, W.C." Cheques and Postal Orders to be crossed "London and South-Western Bank, Fleet Street Branch."

Competitions intended for the current week's issue of the paper must reach the Office not later than **Tuesday Morning**.

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