

GOOLF.

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

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1896.

JANUARY.

- Jan. 3.—Seaford : Tournament.
Royal Cornwall : Monthly Medal.
- Jan. 4.—Finchley : Monthly Medal and Captain's Prize.
Redhill and Reigate : Monthly Medal.
Woodbridge : President's Prize.
Royal Liverpool : Winter Optional Prizes.
Macclesfield : President's Challenge Cup.
Birkdale : Third Medals.
Fairhaven : Monthly Medal.
Woodford : Captain's Prize and Monthly Medal.
North Manchester : "Bogey" Competition.
Bowdon : Monthly Medal.
Manchester : Captain's Cup.
Brighton and Hove : Berens Gold Medal.
Northwood : Monthly Medal.
West Middlesex : "Bogey" Competition.
Great Yarmouth : Monthly Medal.
King's Norton : Monthly Challenge Cup.
North-West Club (Londonderry) : Monthly Medal.
Hythe : Monthly Medal.
Neasden : "Bogey" Competition.
London Scottish : Monthly Medal.
Raynes Park : Monthly Medal.
Bullwood : Monthly Medal.
Tooting : Monthly Medal.
Southwold : Monthly Competition (Match).
- Jan. 6.—Pau : Harrison Cup (Third Round, Handicap limited to 18 strokes).
Woodbridge : Monthly Medal.
Hunstanton : Monthly Medal.
- Jan. 7.—Pau : Sir Victor Brooke Cup and Badge (First Round. Handicap limited to 18 strokes).
Royal Blackheath : Monthly Medal.

- Jan. 7.—Edinburgh : Monthly Medal.
Royal Cornwall Ladies : Monthly Medal.
Mid-Surrey Ladies : Monthly Medal.
- Jan. 8.—Pau : Sir Victor Brooke Cup and Badge (Second Round. Handicap limited to 18 strokes); Anstruther Shield and Badge (Open Handicap).
Saltburn : "Bogey" Competition.
- Jan. 9.—Woodbridge Ladies : Monthly Medal.
- Jan. 10.—Bury : Monthly Medal.
Chester : Gold Medal (Fifth Competition).
- Jan. 10 & 11.—Seaford : Scratch and Monthly Medals and Prizes.
- Jan. 11.—Ranelagh : Monthly Medal.
Birkdale : Hon. Secretary's Prize (Final).
Fairhaven : President's Cup.
St. George's (Sandwich) : Monthly Medal.
North Manchester : Mr. W. Craven's Gold Medal.
Southend-on-Sea (New) : Captain's Prize.
Trafford : Monthly Medal.
Southport : Monthly Competition.
Seaford : Monthly Medal.
Romford : Monthly Medal.
Littlestone : Monthly Medal.
Cumbrae : Monthly Medal.
Moseley : Captain's Prize.
Saltburn : Monthly Medal.
Wilmslow : Fourth Winter Competition.
Saltburn : Club Medal.
Enfield : Monthly Medal.
- Jan. 13.—Pau : Arthur Post Medal and Pendant (Scratch).
- Jan. 14.—Enfield : Ladies' Monthly Handicap.
- Jan. 15.—West Middlesex : Committee Meeting.
- Jan. 16.—Royal Epping Forest : Godwin "Bogey" Competition.
- Jan. 18.—Royal Worlington and Newmarket : Monthly Medal.
Robin Hood v. Kidderminster.
Mid-Surrey : Monthly Medals (Senior and Junior).
Ravenscliffe : Monthly Medal.
Northwood : "Bogey" Competition.
Royal Epping Forest : Quarterly Medals (First and Second Class).
Willesden : Monthly Medal (Short Handicap).
Rochester : Monthly Medal.
West Middlesex : Monthly Medal.
King's Norton : Captain's Prize.
North-West Club (Londonderry) : Ladies' Monthly Medal.
Disley : Winter Silver Medal.
Wimbledon Ladies : Monthly Medal.
Rochester Ladies : Monthly Medal.
Harrogate : Monthly Medal.
East Finchley : Monthly Medal.
- Jan. 19.—Disley : Schofield Prize.
- Jan. 21.—Cumbrae : Club Prize and Sweepstake.
- Jan. 25.—Lytham and St. Anne's : Captain's Cup.
Royal West Norfolk : Monthly Medal.
Cheadle : Fourth Winter Monthly Medal.

A LESSON FROM THE AUTUMN MEETINGS.

The autumn meetings of 1895 have been characterised by one peculiar feature which should be noted by golfers ere it passes from our memory. It has been the victory all along the line of the veterans. In 1894 a number of brilliant players of the younger sort came to the front with a rush, and not only carried off the chief honours, but also did so with record competition play. As this took place on the back of the boom in the game of Golf, public opinion, proverbially fickle, at once declared that such well-known names as Mr. Horace Hutchinson, Mr. Leslie Balfour-Melville, and Mr. J. E. Laidlay, would be seen no more in the premier place in the lists of winners in the great competitions, for with the growth of the game had arisen a new and superior class of players.

The autumn meetings have discredited such Golf prophets, and quite turned the tables on the younger golfers. All along the line victory rests, at the close of 1895, with the first class golfers of past years, whose day was supposed to be done. The tide of battle was turned when Mr. Leslie Balfour-Melville unexpectedly fought his way to the front at the Amateur Championship meeting at St. Andrews, and wrested the honour from Mr. John Ball, jun. The Amateur meetings only served to demonstrate that this was no mere spasmodic, but, on the contrary, a flowing tide. Mr. J. E. Laidlay, more easily and decisively still, displaced Mr. Fred. G. Tait at the St. Andrews autumn meeting. And at the similar meeting at Hoylake, Mr. Horace Hutchinson, day after day, so far out-distanced Mr. John Ball, jun., and Mr. H. H. Hilton, that they could scarcely be called good seconds.

Different minds will explain this, the characteristic feature of the play of 1895, in different ways. Having been present and having closely watched a good part of the play, the writer is disposed to attribute it mainly to the difference in moral power—to the greater power possessed by the more experienced players of throwing off discouragement, and playing up to their very best in the teeth of bad luck.

Mr. Horace Hutchinson in an interesting article in the first number of the "Badminton Magazine" explained the success of the young and successful players on the principle that nothing succeeds at Golf like success. That article, however, was written before the recent tide of defeat had overtaken them. Probably he could now write a second article elucidating the reverse of that principle, namely, that brilliant and quick success may lead to quick defeat. Success, it is true, leads a man to have confidence, which is desirable; but it, when oft repeated, may also lead him to have over-confidence, which is dangerous. Even if success has not this moral effect it unquestionably has another effect—it of necessity gives its possessor little or no experience in playing a losing and uphill game. Consequently when a young and brilliant player experiences bad luck or bad form at the beginning of an important competition he over-resents, it and breaks himself and his fortunes against what he should quickly and quietly get past. This, it seems to me, was the cause of Mr. F. G. Tait's failure in the autumn competitions at St. Andrews. In spite of bad putting on the first green, by which he sacrificed two strokes, Mr. Tait did the first nine holes in 38, and was 1 stroke better than the winner at the eleventh hole: but bad luck overtaking him, or, more correctly, a bad drive bringing him adversity, at the twelfth hole, his inability to endure "hardness," to make the most out of adverse conditions, lost him his chance, when it was a good one, of retaining the King William IV. medal.

This sudden and decisive reverse has not been due to a marked improvement in the play of the seniors, which enabled them to outstrip the juniors in 1895, as they had been outstripped in 1894. On the contrary, it has been brought about by a falling-off on the part of the younger men. This is conclusively proved by the returns of the principal meetings. The Amateur Championship, because a hole competition, does not afford very tangible evidence whereby to compare the play of one year with that of another; but the most ardent admirer of Mr. Leslie Balfour-Melville will hardly contend that he defeated

Mr. John Ball, jun., when the latter was playing his best game. The St. Andrews and Hoylake autumn meetings afford more conclusive evidence, as we have the winning scores of each year.

Now, last year Mr. Fred G. Tait won the Royal medal at St. Andrews with the fine score of 78, and Mr. J. E. Laidlay the second, or Club gold medal, with the score of 80. This year Mr. Laidlay defeated Mr. Tait in the same competition, but he did not do so by reducing Mr. Tait's score of 78. On the contrary, he won it with a score of 79, which would only have secured him second place in 1894. The victory, therefore, of Mr. Laidlay over Mr. Tait must be attributed more to the falling-off of the latter than to the improvement of the former. The same explanation is afforded us of the victory of Mr. Horace Hutchinson and the defeat of both Mr. Hilton and Mr. Ball at Hoylake autumn meeting. It was because the latter gentlemen were not playing at the top of their game, and not because the former was making record competition scoring, that Mr. Hutchinson won the Dowie silver cup with a score of 81, and the Kennard gold medal with the score of 80. Both had been won repeatedly with equally good scores; in fact, last year Mr. Hilton won the Dowie cup with exactly the same score.

It is to the falling off on the part of the younger players that the autumn meetings specially call for attention. To what is it due? I believe it is mainly due to the fact that these, the outstanding competitions of the golfing world, are all played by *score*. The favourite form of the game, and that most generally indulged in in friendly matches is *hole* play. The reason is not far to seek. The element of competition comes in and acts as a strong incentive, especially to a young golfer who hardly finds the same excitement in Golf which he does in other games. When this incentive is withdrawn in the medal competitions his score frequently mounts up by several strokes on the round in spite of the fact that he is playing in good form. I might, in illustration of this, cite the case of Mr. John Ball, jun., who though the most experienced player of all the younger golfers, was beaten by Mr. Horace Hutchinson on both the Tuesday and the Thursday of the Hoylake meeting in the medal play, but who, on the intervening Wednesday, played Mr. Horace Hutchinson and Mr. Charles Hutchings by holes and easily defeated both. The older golfers are naturally, if less, inspired by the spirit of competition in hole play, less affected by the absence of it in score play.

J. L. MORROW

The English Illustrated Magazine for January opens the new year with a very interesting number. At a time when foreign affairs are in a highly critical condition, there is a good deal of appropriateness in giving a view of our Foreign Secretary, and his long list of illustrious ancestry as English statesmen. This article is from the pen of Mr. J. M. Bulloch, who, if we mistake not, is a distinguished golfing graduate of Aberdeen, and of whose *Alma Mater* he has recently been the chronicler. The article is illustrated with a fine page portrait of the Marquis of Salisbury, and throughout the text are scattered reproductions from portraits of members of the House of Cecil. The number is very strong in fiction, including contributions from Louis Becke, Arthur Macarthur and Stephen Crane. Next in importance to the article on Lord Salisbury's family, the description of the discoveries in "The New House in Pompeii," by Mr. Marriott, finely illustrated from photographs, reconstructs anew for us something of the inner life surroundings of the dwellers in the buried city.

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SUNDAY GOLF IN SCOTLAND.

A special meeting of the Edinburgh Burgess Golfing Society, called by requisition, was held on December 23rd, in Queen Street Hall. Mr. Robert S. Bryson, the captain of the society, occupied the chair, and there were between 200 and 300 members present. The requisition calling the meeting was in the following terms:—

"We, the undersigned, being of opinion that the recent by-law (prohibiting Sunday Golf) passed by the Council is contrary to the wishes of the majority of the members and the constitution of the club, desire a special meeting in order that the feeling of all the members be taken."

Councillor Cranston moved that the by-law be rescinded. He said it was far from his intention personally to advocate golfing on Sunday, and he did not believe that there was a member in the room who was anxious to have the by-law rescinded purely on the question of golfing on Sunday. To him, as to others, it was purely a question of non-interference with the rights and privileges of members. (Applause.) He complained of the terms of the reply postcard accompanying the letter of Mr. Bryson to the members requesting support at that special meeting. In that post-card the query was whether members approved of Sunday Golf or not? That was not the question. (Loud applause.) The question was whether they approved of the by-law or not, and it was grossly unfair to seek to confuse the issue in that way. He could quite well have answered "No" to the post-card—because he would not play Golf personally on Sunday—but he distinctly disapproved of the by-law because it interfered with the liberty of others. (Applause.)

Mr. James Purves, S.S.C., seconded the motion.

Mr. Richard Wedderspoon moved the previous question. A gentleman who had already spoken charged the Council with want of manliness. That gentleman said he would not play Golf himself on Sunday; but where was the manliness in saying so, and yet taking up a position of hostility to the by-law? He could not see how that gentleman could support Golf on Sunday and yet not play himself. ("Oh, oh.") A great many members of the Burgess Society had ample opportunities of playing Golf on week-days, and having six days on which to play they might leave the Sunday alone. (Applause.)

Mr. James Scott, assistant clerk of Session, seconded the previous question.

Professor Rutherford said that he came merely to give a vote, but that when he saw no other speaker rising for the purpose of supporting the previous question, he felt unable to remain silent. He was not a straight-laced Sunday observer. He went to church on Sunday morning very regularly, but he also went for a walk on Sunday afternoon. Although he felt he must take exercise in the open air, he should not like to see Golf played on Sunday. (Applause.) He had lived in Germany, in Austria, and in France; he had seen how the Sunday was spent there, and he should not like to have the Continental manner of observing the Sunday introduced into old Scotland. He begged the club to remember that they were a body of men who should set an example to the community. If they played Golf on Sunday, there were a great many boys who would be delighted to have football on Sunday—(cries of "Why not?")—and if they were to allow football matches on Sunday, their Scottish Sunday would become somewhat different from what it had been. He thought they should not sneer at the quietness of their Sunday. He was not a straight-laced Sabbatarian, but he liked to see a quiet Scottish Sunday. Most of them had Saturday afternoons to themselves upon which to play Golf. He thought the Council had acted rightly in the example they had shown to Scotland and the whole world.

Ex-Bailie Macpherson said he was not going to touch upon the religious aspect of the question, and a few remarks on the lines he had made at a former meeting might suffice. He asked the meeting to look at the situation they found themselves in. They had been told what would be the result of the adoption of Councillor Cranston's motion. It would be thought any one who chose might play Golf on Sunday. He asked them to look on what the Council said. The adoption of Councillor Cranston's motion meant the resignation of their entire Council. He went further, and said, from personal knowledge, that it also meant the resignation of many of their best members. (A voice: "Question.") He wanted to take a clear business view of the facts, and the facts he was stating were made on the authority of several members, who felt that their consciences would be outraged by the rescinding of the by-law. He himself would not resign over the result—(hear, hear)—but he said that if there were any religious question in this matter he would hesitate before taking a step that would compel his fellow-member to sever his connection with the society. A great deal had been said about the liberty of the subject, and a very good case might be made in support of it. Supposing he were to go into a non-smoking compartment of a railway train and insist upon smoking, he could get up a very good case on behalf of the liberty of the subject

if he were objected to. ("Oh.") He might manufacture a case where his liberties were thought to be interfered with, and a little of that sort of thing might be attributed to the gentlemen who wished to play Golf to the offending of the consciences of others. He moved that the proposal of the Council be adopted.

On a show of hands between the previous question and Councillor Cranston's motion, it appeared that the meeting was pretty equally divided. A vote by cards was then taken, and after these had been counted, the chairman announced that Councillor Cranston's motion was carried by 108 votes to 96. The result was received with loud applause.

The chairman, in reply to Mr. Menzies, said the Council regarded the rescinding of the by-law as a vote of censure, and intimated their resignation.

The effect of the rescinding of the by-law is that henceforth Golf on Sunday is permissible at Barnton, though possibly under regulations to be adopted by the new Council.

BALLADE OF DEAD GOLFERS.

Where are the golfers we used to know,
The jolly comrades, with whom we played,
As much-prized partner or dreaded foe?
"Badminton" has their prowess portrayed,
And, for duffers and fozzlers, displayed
Stance and swing which they copy awry;
Where are now in life's masquerade
Those far-famed players of days gone by?

Seniors, whose praise set our hearts aglow,
Popular captains of last decade;
Whose names were the sign for the wine to flow.
In the foursomes their word was obeyed,
And their smallest suggestion essayed.
Laurels they won on our heads now lie;
We have broken the records they made,
Those far-famed players of days gone by.

Where are they? Some sit in arm-chairs low,
By the changes of weather dismayed;
Some still walk the links, but feeble and slow;
To the colonies others have strayed,
And to Golf the colonials persuade;
Speaking of others, we pause and sigh,
For in their quiet graves are laid
Those far-famed players of days gone by.

Envoi.

Golfers, your fate you cannot evade,
Father Time coming in wins his tie.
Read here your epitaph which is made:
"Those far-famed players of days gone by."

Y. Y. M.

HOLE IN ONE.—On Saturday, the 21st December, Dr. R. Magill, the popular hon. secretary of the Newcastle (Co. Down) Golf Club, performed this feat. He was playing with Mr. W. J. MacGeagh in the medal round, and at the second hole his tee shot found the bottom of the tin. The distance to the green from the short tee, which is at present in use, is about 140 to 150 yards. Dr. Magill drove with a driving mashie, pitched short of the green, and his ball rolled about sixty feet and quietly rested in the hole. The day was clear and bright, and the ball was seen all the way by both players and caddies. It is needless to add that the usual penalty was demanded by the caddie and promptly paid.

GOLFER'S ELBOW.—The following letter appeared in GOLF, September 13th, 1895:—"To the Editor of GOLF.—Sir, I suffered very much from this distressing complaint, and obtained no relief until I tried a preparation which I found advertised in your valuable columns. I refer to Walker's 'Semotine,' which in a little while quite cured me. I always keep a bottle of Semotine by me, and after a day's golfing invariably apply some of it to my limbs, which I am thus able to keep fit and supple. In the hope that this recommendation may be found useful to others, I am, Sir, &c., Twenty-five Years a Golfer. Rusack's Marine Hotel, St. Andrews, Fife, August 26th." In bottles, 1s. 1½d., 2s. 6d., and 4s. 6d. Of all Chemists, Stores, &c., or will be sent post free for 3d. extra by the proprietors, Rowland Walker & Co., Limited, 468, High Road Chiswick. Wholesale, F. Newbery & Sons, London, E.C. Established 1746.

BRIDGE OF ALLAN GOLF COURSE.

Bridge of Allan has long held a first place in Scotland as a favourite resort for invalids and the holidaying public generally, especially in spring and late autumn and winter. Its mean temperature during these seasons is the highest in Scotland; the cold north wind blows harmlessly over it, and if old Sol anywhere shows his cheery face, the Mine Wood and the villa-clad slopes below it are sure to intercept the gladdening rays. It has also strong claims as a watering-place from the existence of the mineral wells, the source of which is in some disused copper mines running far into the hill behind, specially efficacious in affections of the stomach and liver. But, in these times, when the Golf epidemic is so prevalent, no watering-place need expect to flourish unless it can claim as one of its attractions "a good Golf course." The indwellers of the "Bridge" have wakened up at last to the knowledge of this stern truth, and after a good deal of prospecting the necessary and suitable ground has been found, and the Bridge of Allan Golf Course is an accomplished fact.

The site selected is at Sunnyslaw, on the height behind the village, and the scenic beauty of the place is probably unique in this country. The decision of the question as to which is "the best inland course in Scotland" will probably not be arrived at without much tribal warfare, and consequent bloodshed. So many places lay claim to the title, each able to quote in support of its claim the dictum of Scotland's "Father of Golf," that it would be supererogatory to add another. But to claim for Scotland's latest course that it has the finest site, from a scenic point of view, is only its due. Its natural position is unsurpassable. From "The Fairy Knowe," near by the second hole, the view is one of the most extensive and charming in Scotland. On the north and north-west it is bounded by the noble and rugged Grampians, with the Strath of the Allan, richly wooded, between; to the west lies the fertile vale of Menteith, with Ben Lomond's peak against the sky, and to the south the Vale of Forth, with its winding river glittering in the sun, and Stirling Rock, "with its towers and town," rising in mid-distance—such a scene of enchantment, were so much Scottish history was made, and round which the great "Wizard of the North" has cast a glamour of poetry and romance, is to be found nowhere else.

Should the follower of the gutta be off his game, and topped balls and turf-tearing be the result, his exertions will be amply repaid by the feast of natural beauty which will be his, and the invigorating hill air of the place will brace up his whole system, and cause him to forget that he ever had a liver.

The best, because easiest, way to the course is by the Sunnyslaw Road, although there are alternative paths which may attract the more athletic, and it may be reached in about eight minutes' walk from the main street of the village.

The first teeing ground is not far from Sunnyslaw Farm, and it is proposed to erect a small club-house near by. A short experimental course was laid out some months ago, extending over one large field only, but another has now been added, and every advantage has been taken of the natural characteristics of the ground by Tabor, the green-keeper. The writer had the privilege of playing the first game over the new course with the professional a few days ago.

The drive from the first tee, close to the Sunnyslaw Road, is uphill, and a well-hit ball will carry to within an easy wrist shot of the green; but a substantial five-foot dyke has to be crossed, and the pitch will have to be a perfect one to avoid being punished severely. The first green is on the slope, and a 5 would be fair value. The drive to the second hole is also uphill, and the hole lies at the corner of the field, beside the Fairy Knowe—a 4 hole. A well-hit iron shot will carry to the third green, but the line is close to a dyke, and a too long carry will reach the wood behind the hole—a 4, with a possible 3, or a probable double figure should the ball carry over the slope to the right of the hole. The teeing ground for the fourth hole is far above the green, and while it might be driven in by a perfect shot, the corner of a wood has to be negotiated, and there is always the possibility of driving into the wood beyond. The safe line is somewhat to the right, and a 4 would be as good as need be. The fifth hole is one of the most exacting on the course, the drive being uphill, and the corner of the wood, with several high trees, coming in the way of a full drive in the straight line. The safe way is to the right, and, still uphill, the green will seldom be carried with the second. Until the putting green here is much improved, a 6 would be none too many. The sixth is the sporting hole of the course. Driving off the high ground, the corner of the wood comes into the line, requiring a very perfect shot to carry it clear, the safer line to the right is over the same wall encountered at the first hole, and a long second will be required to carry to the green; a topped ball from the tee is likely to find its way into the whins in front, and, if the dyke

is not carried, some engineering will be necessary to extricate it. A too vigorous approach to the green will be apt to find its way into the wood behind. The sixth green is the best on the course, and, with no bad luck, the hole may be taken in 5. Going to the seventh hole, a pulled ball will find its way into the wood to the left; but, if the safe line to the right is taken, the second should be on or near the green, with a consequent 4. The drive to the eighth hole involves the only crossing on the course, intersecting as it does the line to the first hole, but the teeing grounds are close together, and there is no real danger. The carry is uphill, with whins as a hazard on the left. A short iron shot for a second should reach the green, but it is on the slope, and holing out is difficult—a 4, or perhaps 5. A cleek shot should reach the last green from the tee, and a 3 would form a fitting finish to a good round. A 40 for the round would be perfect Golf, and until the putting-greens are got into good order, anything under 50 will not be bad play. Several of the greens may have to be relaid, particularly the first, fifth, seventh, and eighth, but the others should be got into condition by judicious cutting and rolling and a little levelling here and there. Through the green the lies are, as a rule, remarkably good, especially considering that the ground is almost in its natural state as yet, and regular play upon it will soon bring it into good order. As the turf is old lea, and foggy, the grass does not grow rank, and there is every likelihood that, with attention, it will be kept down during the summer, and permit play all the year round. Altogether there can be little doubt that the new Bridge of Allan Golf Course is destined to rank high among the inland courses, and certainly it will be a great attraction for visitors coming to the "Bridge." Special terms are to be made for strangers, and the course, being a private one, will be free from many of the disadvantages attendant upon those which are open to the public. The club committee is large and representative, Captain Edmund Pullar being the president, and they have applied themselves vigorously to the task of forming the club, which already consists of well on for 200 members. Captain Frank J. Pullar is the popular captain, a keen sportsman generally, already familiar with the use of the clubs, and just such a one as is required at the head of a new enterprise to make it successful.

R. W.

ENFIELD GOLF CLUB.

Monthly medal competition, December 14th.—Mr. A. Leslie, 90, less 8=82; Mr. J. Maitland, 106, less 18=88; Mr. A. Hill, 109, less 10=99. Mr. Leslie having won in October, Mr. Maitland will be eligible to play in the final competition.

Ladies' monthly handicap, December 17th. Winner.—Mrs. A. W. Hutt, 128, less 18=110.

Ladies' practice prize.—For the two best scores, nine holes, under medal rules, played during November and December, any days except Saturdays.—Mrs. A. A. Ogden, 78, 90=168, less 34=134, winner; Miss Beazley, 86, 87=173, less 36=137; Mrs. Sewell, 90, 96=186, less 36=150; Miss Crouch, 87, 105=192, less 36=156. The prize, a very pretty gold and platinum brooch, was kindly presented for competition by a member.

Winter meeting, December 26th, eighteen holes, under medal rules, for two prizes presented by the captain (Mr. F. H. Pyman). The first prize (a silver-mounted walking-stick) was won by Mr. A. Leslie; Mr. A. Bass taking the second prize, a box of balls.

Mixed foursome competition, December 26th, eighteen holes, under medal rules, for two prizes presented by Mr. H. M. Bourne. The first prize (a silver-mounted shoe-lift and button-hook in case) was won by Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Hutt; Mr. and Mrs. F. Porter taking the second prize. The scoring in both competitions was high, the course being covered with snow, and very wet. The mixed foursomes in the afternoon being played through a storm of sleet and snow.

Kenilworth cup, "Bogey" competition, December 28th.—Mr. A. Hill (8), 8 down (winner); Mr. O. Sparks (11), 9 down; Mr. E. Hunter (14), 11 down; Mr. A. Leslie (5), 11 down.

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SUNDAY GOLF IN SCOTLAND.

BY a majority of twelve votes the Edinburgh Burgess Golfing Society have carried a resolution, at a special meeting of the club, rescinding the by-law passed by the Council prohibiting Sunday Golf on the course at Barnton, the vote carrying with it the resignation of the Council. When one looks dispassionately at the whole of the proceedings connected with this objectionable by-law, which has kept the club in a ferment of agitation for months, one realises what a miserable little squabble it has been over a quantity of goats' wool. To think that the Council of a club, or any individual member of it, with the implied or expressed sanction of his colleagues, should be able, in a fit of Cromwellian audacity, to bar gates, padlock them, and station the green-keeper to warn off members who visited the course on a Sunday afternoon, as if they were gypsies or poachers, without raising hostility on the part of a large body of members, was not to be expected for a moment. Autocratic rule, even with some constitutional safeguards, is never a safe one; and the Council, by their dismissal last week, will have leisure to ponder over the effects and the fruits of their Strafford-like rule. Such illegal action as theirs has done more to win sympathy for the cause they hoped to crush than years of steady persuasive propaganda. Even the Convener of the Sabbath Alliance of Scotland tardily recognises this fact as the outcome "of this childish worry over Sunday Golf." His letter to the *Evening Dispatch* is a remarkable change of front on the part of a militant Society, but the Convener sums up the situation tersely and well when he says that "most people are disgusted with the Pigotism and pietism that have been imported into the controversy." As we predicted, the rescinding of the by-law has been supported by golfers who have no sympathy with Sunday Golf, nor with any desire to enjoy a game on that day, but who looked upon the Council's by-law as a monstrous restriction of individual freedom.

Councillor Cranston and Mr. James Purves stated the case of the objectors to the by-law cogently, temperately, and effectively, being able to show that the Council had not acted altogether with frankness towards the members who had elected them to power as guardians of the interests of the whole and not of a clique, whether Sabbatarian or non-Sabbatarian. In this respect the presentment of their case compares favourably with the supporters of the Council who sought unavailingly to divert attention from the main issue. This was notably the case with Professor Rutherford, who tried to frighten the meeting by conjuring up the *bête noir* of a continental Sunday, and who with more than the usual smug complacency of a travelled Scot allowed it to be inferred that the French, the Germans and the Austrians were to be despised because they preferred a little wholesome relaxation to carrying the marks of outward piety, but inward revolt, to secret drinking, and to other illicit pastimes on Sunday. Has Professor Rutherford's residence abroad caused him to forget the broad-minded tolerance of his illustrious countryman?

O ye wha are sae guid yoursel',
Sae pious and sae holy,
Ye've nought to do but mark and tell
Your Neebour's fauts and folly!
Whase life is like a weel-gaun mill,
Supply'd wi' store o' water,
The heapet happer's ebbing still,
And still the clap plays clatter.

By 108 votes to 96, the members of the Society have thus got rid of the by-law, and those who feel inclined are

free to play Golf at Barnton on Sunday. The question is now in the position in which it originally stood, and before injudicious, hot-headed intolerance drove a wedge of dissension into the ranks of a Golfing Society with an unbroken history of over two hundred years behind it. Is it too much to appeal to the good sense, the fair play, the intelligence, the toleration, the mutual friendliness, the wish to do by others as they would be done by, of all the members to leave the question where it now is, and thereby to restore a harmony in a deservedly great golfing institution which ought never to have been disturbed? The by-law advocates have been fairly and squarely beaten; let them accept their defeat in the same spirit as they would lose a close match—genially and pleasantly. Those are counsels of prudence; but should other counsels prevail, one is constrained with sorrow to recognise that a further re-opening of the question may eventually lead—though at present the portents are all the other way—to the dismemberment of one of the great clubs which links us with the past, to futile wranglings, to embittered friendships, and to a distressing exhibition of bigotry on the part of Scotsmen for all the world to scoff at.

WEST CORNWALL GOLF CLUB.

The annual meeting of the West Cornwall Golf Club was held on Lelant Towans on Saturday, Mr. J. W. Wilkinson in the chair. Mr. P. Marrack, hon. treasurer, presented the balance-sheet for the year ending November 30th, showing expenditure to be £266, of which over £149 was spent on the greens. The officers were elected as follows:—President, Lord St. Levan; vice-presidents, Messrs. T. B. Bolitho, M.P.; R. W. G. Tyringham, and Robert Fox; captain, Mr. F. A. Lang; hon. treasurer, Mr. P. Marrack; hon. secretary, Rev. R. F. Tyacke; assistant secretary, Mr. W. J. Taylor. The vacancies in the committee were filled by the election of Rev. C. R. D. Carter and Messrs. Pike and Gow. The annual report is as follows:—

Since the last annual meeting the committee has given special attention to the course, having employed a staff of five men for some months, and the whole eighteen greens of the long course are now in good order. The ladies' course, also, has been carefully attended to, and is much improved. The putting-greens in both courses have been enlarged, and, where necessary, alternative greens provided. The sheep-grazing has been again let to Mr. H. H. Trevithick, and Mr. R. W. G. Tyringham has taken the rabbit-shooting for the ensuing year. The club still progresses, and an increase of seven members is shown, after allowing for resignations and the death of Mr. T. C. Praed, who was one of the vice-presidents of the club from its formation. Some hundred of visitors have used the links during the past year, and of these eighty-eight paid for a month's or a week's play. The committee, finding the accommodation for luncheons too small, has built a dining-room adjoining the Cot, with a covered way from the kitchen, and, turning the old dining-room into a bedroom, has provided a ladies' dressing-room.

The club competitions are—(1) club challenge cup (under handicap); (2) Bolitho challenge cup (scratch), won twice successively, and retained by Mr. J. Rogers; (3) club prize (scratch); (4) Fox medal (best aggregate score in any six competitions out of the twelve monthly handicaps), eighteen holes each, played in the year; (5 and 6) spring and autumn handicap prizes, given by competitors (open to those standing first or second in either of the preceding six monthly handicaps); (7) Seton challenge trophy for ladies (scratch); (8) club prize for ladies (eighteen holes, under handicap). The thanks of the club are due to Mr. R. Fox for his continuance of the Fox medal. Votes of thanks were unanimously given to the treasurer, hon. secretary, assistant secretary, donors of prizes, and the chairman, and the sympathy of the club with the hon. secretary, and regret at his absence through illness, was expressed.

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



With the dawn of another year we send hearty greetings and cordial good wishes to all golfers, at home and abroad. May veterans who have followed the Royal and Ancient game for the best part of a life, feeling their muscles becoming stiff and less responsive than of yore, and their eye slightly more dim, be long able to find relaxation and health on the breezy links, and solace amid the carking cares of the world. May the sick, the infirm, the wearied in mind and body gain re-established vigour and relief; may impetuous, strong-limbed, long-driving youth enrich manhood by the assiduous practice and cultivation of a tolerant, gentle spirit towards feebler mortals on the links, and find that the game, its memories and its associations are not idle, profitless distractions, but a means of permanent well-being and improvement, based on a foundation sure as adamant! May our golfing sisters grow in beauty, grace and charm by the aid of the fast-spreading pastime among the gentler sex in all quarters of the world; may our professionals and caddies never be able to say farewell to Hope and Fortune, but buoyed up, self-respecting, thrifty, and industrious, be able to look upon the turn of the year as a period when, like the Romans, they can mark their career, *albo dies notanda lapillo*.

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The Corporation of Bournemouth are at present engaged in a difficult task. A new type of "crusader" has arisen to perturb the serenity of the Council Chamber; and it is clear from the correspondence which has been published and the memorial which has been presented to the Corporation that the golfing crusader is not a whit less pitiless than his prototype of old. The Bournemouth golfers are crying out about the shortness of their links. Some of them complain that the opportunity for playing the iron approach is almost eliminated, that the bunkers are too narrow, that they are too near the tee, that they lack sand, that they are too picturesque in their variety, and so on. The golfer who has signalled himself most in the controversy is one who chooses the *nom de guerre* of "Hard Hitter." Hard hitting generally results in fozzling, but it is not a marked peculiarity of "Hard Hitter's" literary style.

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This gentleman wants a green committee appointed; he objects to the predominance of blind holes in the round, to the pattern of the bunkers, and cannot understand why all sorts and conditions of golfers are not allowed to play off the banks of built bunkers, finally eulogising the cop bunkers of Hoylake as an improvement upon the form selected by Tom Dunn. It is a very easy matter to criticise a green when it is made, and when fozzlers and good players combined have played over it; but it is quite another question when the critics are asked

to lay out the ideal green on their own account. The correspondence shows that the critics are unanimous only on one point—the shortness of the holes and the length of the round generally. No one is disposed to dispute the justice of the complaint; but the Bournemouth Corporation have an equal claim to remind "Hard Hitter," and his coadjutors in the agitation, of the truth of the proverb that you cannot make a silk purse out of a sow's ear. The extent of the ground at the disposal of the Corporation is limited; it was an unsightly waste before it was made, at very great cost, into a pleasing Golf course; and though the links have been of great financial good to the town, the Corporation, who spent the ratepayers' money in making the links, have a duty to discharge to those who have to pay the piper eventually, by considering how and in what way they would be justified in asking for more money for extension purposes. We mention this point in order to show that in a Corporation undertaking like the making of links as an adjunct to the town, there is more than the golfing side of the problem to consider.

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In the analysis of "Hard Hitter" there is an implied rebuke to the skill of Tom Dunn as a layer-out of greens, with which we are not in the least disposed to agree. At Bournemouth, Dunn has made marvellous use of the very poorest material; and the wonder is not that some of the holes can be criticised, but that there are any holes for hard-hitting golfers to criticise. With the single exception of Old Tom Morris, no player has had such a long and varied experience of laying out greens here and abroad as Dunn has, and we hope that the Corporation will give due heed to the trained experience of their "Custodian" before finally embarking on any undertaking involving the expenditure of the ratepayers' money. It is no use for "Hard Hitter" to urge that the appointment of a green committee would get over the difficulty. There can be no analogy between a Golf club founded by a body of golfers, and governed by, and for them, and a Corporation, which provides the links, and maintains their upkeep for the public good. The City of Edinburgh Corporation, placed with their Braids course in circumstances similar to the Bournemouth Corporation, do not elect a green committee of golfers to tell them how to do their work. No; but they listen to representations, and consult their "Custodian" as to the feasibility of the suggestions and improvements; and that is the only constitutional method here.

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Again "Hard Hitter" objects to blind holes; he wants them all to be seen. Blind holes are no objection on any course, and "Hard Hitter's" experience must indeed be limited if he has waited all this time to discover their solitary existence at Bournemouth. There are blind holes at Sandwich, Prestwick, Troon, North Berwick, Gullane, Machrihanish—indeed all the leading greens of the country have blind holes. They vary the play and make the approach shots, not a question of hard hitting or of scuffling, but of genuine skill and judgment. As to the much decried "cockney hazards," of miniature mountain ranges erected at Bournemouth and many other greens, and the plain, unadorned wall-like cop, it is purely a question of individual taste as to which form coincides best with the general features of the landscape, and is least offensive to the eye. Some men prefer beer to wine, and skittles to billiards; there is no crime in opting for your choice. But in preferring his cop bunker to the artistic mountain range, we believe that "Hard Hitter" is the spokesman of the minority of players who have tried with the labouring nibleck both classes of hazard. At any rate, "Hard Hitter" has only to serve on a green committee for a short time to find out why it is necessary to prevent cricket brethren like himself from playing off the banks. It is the misfortune—nay, the crime—of all the tribe of hard hitters at Golf to carry huge divots away with their strokes, generally leaving them where they fall; and if indiscriminate hitters were allowed to mount the banks of bunkers and to play the ball where it lay, those bunkers, built at some cost, and adding a pleasing diversity to the landscape, would soon be as completely razed to the ground as if they had been bombarded by an ironclad. It is thus a salutary and chastening rule to cause hard hitters

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

to lift their ball off the bank and drop it in the sand, where, doubtless, it is a less pleasing pastime to get it out.

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Whatever may be the outcome of the present agitation, we hope that an amicable *modus vivendi* will be arranged between the Corporation and its critics—the one side anxious and willing to grant all it can, and the other side tolerant, full of compromise, and grateful for the work already achieved, in an unusually difficult undertaking, both by the Corporation and its greenkeeper. Bournemouth, as a health resort, has immensely improved its position by the opening of its Golf course, and many convalescents, who have some right to be heard, have regained health and strength by the gentle exercise over its short green, when a longer green and more fatiguing play might not have done them nearly so much good. But local golfers should not be too clamant, nor too bitter in their criticisms of what they already possess, in case an unjustifiable prejudice and opposition should be raised to their claims on the part of the population which has the onus to provide the funds for their satisfaction and realisation.

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The laws of China count getting out of temper in public as an offence, the punishment for it being five days' imprisonment. It is clear from this that the Royal and Ancient Game has not yet become one of the recognised institutions of the Celestials. When it does, and when the experience of a bunker and a bad lie is as widely extended as the use of chop-sticks, reasons for the prompt repeal of that law will soon become apparent!

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A foursome of thirty-six holes was played at Tooting on Boxing Day between Mr. J. P. Croal and Peter Paxton against Mr. J. Newlands Thomson and Thomson, the professional attached to the Balham Club, who recently played a fine match against Ben Sayers. In the first half of the match the Balham players were 5 up. Thomson, who is only twenty-two years of age, played a perfect game, and did not make a single mistake, the same remark applying to Paxton's play. Mr. Croal, however, was not playing up to his usual form, and both he and Paxton found their opponents' lead of five holes too severe a task to reduce, and the match ended in favour of Balham by a substantial victory of 4 and 3 to play. Mr. Newlands Thomson played a strong game throughout.

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The Americans are still pushing ahead with Golf. W. F. Davis, the professional of the Newport Golf Club, Rhode Island, laid out a course early last month on the estate of Mr. G. W. Vanderbilt, at Biltmore, North Carolina, where the host had a large family party assembled for the Christmas holidays. The gathering partook somewhat of the nature of a house-warming, to celebrate the opening of the mansion. The building of the house and the laying out of the grounds have cost over five millions of dollars, or upwards of £1,000,000. It is pleasing to lovers of the Royal and Ancient Game to think that the American millionaire does not consider his princely domain complete without a Golf course. May he have many a happy match over it! A better selection than that of Davis for planning out the course could not have been made. He is probably the best professional player in America at the present time, and we are glad to hear that he has done his portion of the work on Mr. Vanderbilt's estate skilfully and well.

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The American ladies are as keen golfers as their sisters on this side of the Atlantic. At the Lake Forest Golf Club, near Chicago, for example, many ladies devote their forenoons to an enjoyable round of the green. All of them play in short skirts and "shirt waists," and wear a low-heeled, broad-soled shoe. Mrs. Chatfield-Taylor, the wife of the President, is described as being one of the greatest enthusiasts among the ladies. Robert Foulis, of St. Andrews, is the professional.

The result of the Edinburgh Burgess Golfing Society's meeting anent Sunday Golf is already known to everybody, the long and bitter discussion having given wide publicity to the affair, and aroused a lively interest among golfers. There is no use in supposing that the question of Sunday Golf in Scotland is thereby settled, and that no more will be heard of the subject. The members of the Burgess Club, who have been victorious, as they wisely pointed out, were not fighting for the propriety of Sunday Golf; they fought for freedom of the individual, and against a by-law passed by the Council of the Society, disallowing play on Sunday. Their gain, however, cannot but affect the general question, and give freedom all round, and they are therefore to be congratulated upon the gallant fight they have made, and on their substantial victory. No better club could have been chosen in which to raise the question than the famous and venerable Burgess, and its example is sure to be followed by many others in Scotland, so that ere long a peaceful Sunday game may be had there as easily as in England. Southern players may sympathise with instead of sneering at the upholders of the "Scottish Sawbath," for it ought to be remembered that before the influence of Puritanism, which came from England, soured Sunday and week-day life in Scotland, the land of Knox used to be known as favourable to healthy exercise after church service on Sunday.

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The Council of the Burgess Society from first to last have made themselves appear foolish in the discussion. They made a mistake, to begin with, in not taking the opinion of the Society before framing the by-law, and they made a mistake, to end with, by resigning on the ground that the rescinding of the by-law was equal to a vote of censure. The Council, on the whole, has been a most useful and energetic body, and to its credit, be it said, the Society has been rescued from difficulties and restored to prosperity. The greater the pity that this blunder has led to resignation. All councils and committees should remember that they exist not to dictate to members and clubs what is to be done, but to carry out their wishes. If, in a hurry, they have to pass a law or by-law, to the best of their judgment they are doing right, but they must find out as soon as possible if they have interpreted aright the feelings of the club. It does not follow that the club has no confidence in the Council at all, even if in one matter it votes against them. Then, again, it was worse than foolish to issue the circular that they issued before the meeting, asking members to say whether or not they approved Sunday Golf. That was not the question, for, as some of the speakers remarked, they could vote against the obnoxious by-law without committing themselves to a general approval of Sunday Golf.

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Professor Rutherford, of Edinburgh University, made a curious contribution to the Burgess debate. The learned professor said he was unable to remain silent, for though he went to church only on Sunday morning and took a walk in the afternoon, he should not like to see Golf played. He was afraid of the Continental Sunday, and preferred the quiet Scottish Sunday, and so on. This seems to have tickled some of his students, who say that their Professor—who is one of the most brilliant teachers of physiology—is in the habit, on Monday mornings, of displaying to his class "demonstrations" which have been prepared on Sunday, sometimes by the aid of vivisection, and that he glories in letting the young men know how useful Sunday may be for physiological experiment. Another specimen, this, of Satan reproving sin. But, according to some others of the students, it is a "compounding for sins he feels inclined to, by damning those he has no mind to," for, say these others, "we never knew our professor was a golfer at all, though he is alleged to have spoken out thus on Sunday Golf." So the vivisection goes on, and it is doubtful now whether the "subject" will have any arms left to use Golf club, walking stick, or scalpel.

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It is stated that in the course of the past ten days only one resignation has taken place in the Edinburgh Burgess Golfing Society over the question of the rescinding of the by-law, namely,

that of Mr. David Campbell, S.S.C. Within the same ten days nine new members have been added to the roll at an entrance fee of ten guineas.

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It would appear that in Scotland the Conveners of County Councils must be golfers to entitle them to the honour. The Convener for Midlothian is Sir James Gibson-Craig, of Riccarton, who has taken great interest in the formation and success of the Baberton Club. The Earl of Wemyss, who is Convener of East Lothian, has always been identified with Golf, and, though over three score and ten, has a daily round of the links. The Convener of Fife, Mr. Cathcart, of Pitcairnie, is an office-bearer of the Royal and Ancient Club, of which he is one of the oldest and most esteemed members. Sir George Houston-Boswall, who is County King of Berwickshire, is also a golfer, and in the season is often seen enjoying the game at North Berwick.

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The Earl of Moray visited Aberdour last week, and surveyed the ground on which it is proposed to lay out a Golf course. He expressed much satisfaction with the contemplated plans.

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Mortonhall course—now firmly established in the reputation of being one of the most delightful for a day's play—has been immortalised in an illustrated volume which contains a dozen scenes, done in beautiful style, by Messrs. M. and T. Scott, of the Leadervale Photographic Works, Newington, Edinburgh. The Club-house, the Marsh Bunker, the Khyber Pass and Green, the Pond, the Quarry, the Knowe Green, the Saddle, the Valley, the Elfin Pond, the Home Hole, all come in for attention, and without doubt nothing finer has ever been produced in the line of photographic reproduction than is to be found in this Mortonhall volume. For attitude the drawings of the captain driving off, and Mr. Gregor McGregor in the Quarry, are worth study. Edinburgh ought to be glad that in these days when photography has so much to do with Golf and everything else, there is a local firm which may save golfers and others going to Germany or anywhere else for preparing in permanent form the best productions of the photographer.

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Islay is now well-known to golfers by the splendid course at Machrie Bay, laid out by Willie Campbell a good many years ago, and visited since by hosts of players who are all delighted with it. Golfers who know Islay will be glad to hear that another course is proposed near the head of Lochindaul, within a mile and a-half of Bruich Caddich Pier, and three miles from Bridgend, where there is a good hotel, as announced by us last week. Play over this new course will be a good change for visitors to Machrie, the Bridgend side of the island being very interesting.

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In "The Book of Islay," recently issued for private circulation by Mrs. Ramsay, of Kildalton, proprietor of Machrie course, much will be found regarding the past history of an island that seems destined to be a chosen resort of golfers. The story of Islay, as there told, is of a stirring and highly eventful character, commencing with the invasion of the Dalriadic Scots, following which came many other invasions, which all left their mark on the island. Mrs. Ramsay has done a good work in printing this handsome volume, which, it appears, was partially prepared for publication by the late Mr. Ramsay.

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The Americo-Venezuelan war scare, which has disturbed the peace of Christmas, 1895, cannot be disregarded by those who are interested in Golf, and especially those who export clubs and balls, as the majority of our manufacturers now do. The new tariff, with the great increase of rates, which is proposed as a complement to the "scare" will undoubtedly affect Golf clubs and balls sent from Great Britain, on which the duty will be

much higher. This will cause the Americans to do more in the way of the home manufacture of these articles. A London paper points out that the supply of American heiresses to this country will be diminished, but to golfers this is a matter of no consequence.

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"Timothy" differs from us on that last point, and says it is of the same importance as the other—for we shall cease to supply American heiresses either with long or short "spoons."

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Mr. T. T. Gray, the distinguished player, has presented to the Royal Musselburgh Club a scratch trophy for annual competition in January. It is of unique design, being in the form of a cross, of which the centre is formed by a score of sixpenny pieces neatly arranged.

* * *

Dr. Argyll Robertson, Oculist to the Queen in Scotland, whose name has been familiar as one of the best of golfers at St. Andrews and other greens for many years, has resigned his Lecturership on Diseases of the Eye, in the Edinburgh Royal Infirmary, which he has held with much success for thirteen years. Dr. Argyll Robertson has always been a favourite with his students, and in social life he is much esteemed by all who have the pleasure of knowing him.

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The Thorntree Golf Club, Prestonpans, have got subscriptions to the extent of fully £111 for the laying-out of their new course at Preston Links. The member of Parliament for the County, Mr. Haldane, donor of the Haldane County cup, gives £10 10s. to the scheme, and the well-known golfer, Mr. Marcus Brown, subscribes £5.

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"Slow but sure," is the progress of the Aberlady and Gullane Railway. In the list of Bills for next Parliament the North British Railway ask two more years, or until 1898, for the acquisition of lands for the Railway authorised by Parliament in 1893. Three more years, or until 1901, are asked for the completion of the work, so that those who survive till next century may be confident of the result, as this looks like business.

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In the Kilmarnock Fine Art Exhibition, some of the municipal authorities show that they have artistic capabilities of no mean order. One of the pictures is "Golfers, St. Nicholas, Prestwick," the artist in this case being Bailie Kellie.

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Peter Paxton has been down to Lord Iveagh's estate, Elvedon Hall, Norfolk, laying out an eighteen-hole course, and he finds that it will make one of the best private courses at present existing. It consists of 600 acres of sandy soil, and the course laid out extends to nearly four miles in length. The hazards are chiefly natural, including sand-pits, gorse bushes, and stone walls. A ladies' course was also laid out one mile in length.

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"THE BRIC-A-BRAC WILL."—It is a curious thing how fortune ebbs and flows in enterprises theatrical. A little more than two months ago the production of the "Bric-a-Brac Will" at the Lyric was received with somewhat spiteful disfavour by the critics, who vied with each other in predicting the speedy extinction of the piece. But in spite of all prophecy it survived, and had quickly developed all the elements of a popular success, when the termination of a lease brought its promising career to a close. Mr. Wilson Barrett had a claim on the Lyric, so, on Saturday night, Mr. Horace Sedger had to withdraw his comic opera just when he was feeling its success most assured. Perhaps the play will be revived elsewhere, and it would certainly be a pity to lose it altogether. In many respects the revised

version of the "Bric-a-Brac Will" was of distinctly better class than the ruck of latter-day comic operas, which are little more than variety shows. Without being, perhaps, on quite the same level, it was a return to the style of "Olivette," "Madame Favart," and "La Mascotte," and, as such, deserved to be welcomed. With the accession of Miss Florence St. John, moreover, the cast was exceptionally strong, and the music of Emilio Pizzi was all that could be desired. With a longer run, several of the songs would certainly have "caught on," and become popular possessions. The duet, "When a Maiden Loves," and the solo, "Fie, Fie, Fie," are as pretty and taking as any airs which have come to us from comic opera for a long time. Besides the good music, there were pretty dances, good acting, and hearty laughter in plenty; and as all that the critics complained of petulantly, was, after all, proved to be easily remediable, there is no reason why the "Bric-a-Brac Will" should not enter upon a successful run at another house.

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An Amateur Championship delegate writes with reference to our "Tee Shot" of last week:—"I note in your Tee Shots for this week that you want information about the delegates present at the Amateur Championship meeting. They were, as far as I can remember, Royal Blackheath, Royal and Ancient, Honourable Company, Panmure and Dalhousie, St. George's (Sandwich), Westward Ho! Royal Albert (Montrose), and Captain W. H. Burn, Hon. Secretary of Amateur Championship competition. There may have been one or two others. I do not remember, I rather think there was a Hoylake representative present. Carnoustie has, I believe, been mentioned in connection with the Amateur Championship as to its green. Of course there is no doubt that Carnoustie is now reckoned as being the best all-round green for playing Golf on, barring St. Andrews. But the Dalhousie people did not, I believe, see their way to holding a competition at the time suggested. With regard to the "widening" of the circle of clubs who are represented, I do not know about English clubs; but I suppose no difference is made. I knew last year of Scottish clubs that came within my ken, which you do not mention in your list, and therefore I conclude all clubs were asked to send delegates to the meeting. Such delegates had to have the authority of their club as being representatives. The previous year, when the Amateur Championship was held at Hoylake, I know that the Royal Golfing Society of Perth was asked to send a delegate. So I think we may safely conclude that all clubs are asked every year to send delegates."

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Willie Dunn, who has been attached as professional to the Shinnecock Hills Golf Club, U.S.A., sailed on the *Etruria* for England, Saturday, December 14th. He will go to Biarritz, France, where for several years past he has, during the winter season, maintained a club shop and a school of instruction. He will probably return to the United States in February, in order to complete the work of laying out the eighteen-hole course of the Ardsley Golf Club, Dobbs Ferry, N.Y.

SEATON CAREW GOLF CLUB.

Boxing Day competition.—A medal competition, under handicap, was held on Boxing Day on the Seaton links for prizes given by Dr. A. E. Morison and the hon. secretary (Mr. C. J. Bunting). The sixteen members who took part in the competition had to contend against the tail-end of the south-east gale which has been blowing with such fury for the last two days. The weather was very cold, and there was a great deal of blown sand on the links and on most of the putting greens from the recent tempest. These weather conditions, whilst deplorable from a low scoring stand-point, yet from a hygienic point of view, were highly invigorating, giving the golfer that glow of healthy feeling which participants in the game can truly appreciate. The result of the competition was a tie between Messrs. R. Scott, O. K. Trechmann, and the Rev. C. B. Hunter, which will be played off at a future date. Mr. Scott's gross score of 89, evidenced, under the above-mentioned weather conditions, very strong golfing on his part.



CLUB ETIQUETTE.

To the Editor of GOLF.

SIR,—It is a very well-known thing that it is a gross breach of etiquette for one gentleman to treat with another's groom whilst the latter is in his employment and under no notice to leave. I would have bet my "bottom dollar" that this was equally applicable to Golf clubs as regards club-servants. I have referred to my Book of Rules, but, unfortunately, can find no trace of it in the "Etiquette of Golf." So, I presume, I am mistaken, for I am told, upon the very highest authority, that in Golf it is now and then, only just now and then, done upon the quiet. Now, can you, Sir, or any of your readers, enlighten me further upon this point? Are such dealings really permissible without indicating in the slightest bad-breeding, want of good taste, or bad form; if so, many clubs have, through ignorance no doubt, been very heavily handicapped.

"Coach" has not yet touched upon this subject. His article upon it will be looked forward to with the greatest interest by one who,

Sir,

"WANTS COACHING."

QUESTIONS ON THE RULES.

To the Editor of GOLF.

SIR,—I shall be glad to have your ruling in the following case. A and B are playing for a cup (match play), A gives B 3 strokes at the second, eighth, and fourteenth holes. They tie at the eighteenth.

Should they go on till one of them wins a hole or play the match again? If the former, B has the advantage; if the latter, a long time is taken up.

Is there a rule on the subject, and what is the usual custom?

I am, Sir, &c.,

P. A. CH. DE CRESPIGNY.

[Where no rule has been embodied in the conditions governing the competition, the usual practice is for both players to mutually agree upon a method to decide the tie—either one hole, three, or five, according to the manner in which the handicap ceded falls upon certain holes, so as to make the short tie a fairly proportionate representation of the round. Sometimes, owing to lack of time, and the trouble of arranging another set match of the full round, the players frequently abide by the result of a toss. There is no settled rule nor custom, though the tendency is, in competitions like the above, to set apart another day for the playing of a full round, which, after all, is the only fair method of settling the match. Ed.]

To the Editor of GOLF.

SIR,—In your last issue, Mr. J. A. Tweedale asks what is the penalty, if any, in the event of two competitors playing each

other's balls in medal play; to which you reply that, according to Rule XXVII., there is no penalty.

I venture to submit that Rule XXVII. applies to *match* play only. If a player play his opponent's ball, he loses a stroke; but if his opponent then play the player's ball, the penalty is cancelled. But how can you, in medal play, cancel a penalty which is incurred, not as against the particular parties with whom a player is going round, but as against the entire field of competitors?

Rule XII., for medal play, lays it down that "The penalty for any breach of rule shall be disqualification." Either, therefore, both competitors are disqualified, or there has been no breach of rule.

The latter proposition cannot, I think, be maintained. There has been a distinct breach of Rule X. "A ball struck from the tee shall not be changed before the hole is played out"; the qualification, "unless with his opponent's consent," has no bearing on the case in medal play, excepting it be in the case of a ball becoming unplayable, and the player may (innocently) obtain an advantage, possibly considerable, by the mistake.

There is not, I think, any other rule which applies to the case.

I am, Sir, &c.,
C.

Manchester, December 24th.

[It is quite true that Rule XXVII. applies to match play, and all the objections which our correspondent conjures up were present to our mind when we answered the question. Our correspondent seems to imply that both competitors ought to be disqualified for having exchanged balls; but wherein lies the equity of such a contention? In all likelihood, both balls were lying cheek by jowl, or, at least, within a short distance of each other. It cannot, therefore, be urged that either of the players gained an advantage over the field by improving his position, or that the chances of the field were in any way diminished by the accidental exchange. Not only would disqualification be an absurd penalty, but it would be an incorrect penalty, inasmuch as Rule XIV. of the Special Rules for Medal Play clearly shows that the circumstance of the exchange of balls is amply provided for and sanctioned in the reply which we gave.—Ed.]

GOLF AT HYÈRES.

To the Editor of GOLF.

SIR,—Many golfers are just now on the look out for some place to go for the winter.

It may interest them to know that I have received most favourable reports from Hyères, that the course is quite in good order, and the greens are splendid. The new club-house is finished, and there is every prospect of a most successful season.

I hope to be there about the middle of January, and will send you full details of the course, which has been lengthened, and a small ladies' course has been laid out by the professional, who has been at work since September.

I am, Sir, &c.,
RALPH SLAZENGER,
Captain of the Club.

PATENT DRIVERS.

To the Editor of GOLF.

SIR,—In an article on Patent Drivers in GOLF of December 27th we notice that it is mentioned that the defect in our "all-one-piece" drivers is that they are "soft and pliable." This we beg to differ with. When we first sent them out we acknowledge that they were a little soft at the neck as the wood was rather green. We had thought that the steaming of the wood would have hastened the seasoning of it. We did ourselves an incalculable amount of harm through sending these clubs out too soon. With experience we can now turn the clubs out perfect.

Then again it is mentioned that the "absence of whipping gives the clubs a curiously cold and collarless appearance." This is easily remedied. We paint them black to resemble

whipping when requested to do so. It is worthy of note that although we have turned out over 600 of the all-one-piece clubs we have not had one per cent. returned to us smashed, and then only through an internal flaw, or the face has gone through using too high tees. Even this would have been remedied had a leather face been put on in good time.

Again, it is said that the idea originated from Femie some six years ago. In justice to ourselves, we must say that before patenting our invention we were unaware of this. It may interest you to learn that one of the largest timber merchants in the trade cannot keep up the supply, so that we have now to book orders, and send them out in rotation. We are also getting infinitely superior wood now (split hickory), and, as we have to pay more for it, we are compelled to raise the price. We can show you a number of letters, which will prove all we have said; or, better still, we will send you a club, which we will be glad for you to try to alter the lie by gentle pressure at the neck. We write this letter in no acrimonious spirit, but merely to refute a statement from one of your correspondents which is likely to do us a considerable amount of harm otherwise. We thank your correspondent for what good he has said of the club, and we hope to convince him of its merits by sending him one of our next lot, when seasoned. At present we are completely sold out of all one-piece drivers, and will have none seasoned for at least a month or six weeks.

We are, Sir, &c.,
T. DUNN & SON.
Bournemouth, December 30th.

"THE GOLFERS' MANUAL."

To the Editor of GOLF.

SIR,—In your Tee Shots of December 13th, you refer to "The Golfers' Manual" as one of the very best books ever written on the game. I quite agree with you in that opinion, and venture to say that, since it appeared in 1857, there has been no work on Golf given to the world in which its teachings and precepts cannot be traced, and, I am sorry to add, in at least one notable instance, even slavishly copied, without one word of acknowledgment by any one, except the late Robert Chambers in his writings on the subject. The fact that the Manual has long been out of print may account for the liberties taken with its text and diagrams.

The author was editor of the *Fife Journal*, printed at Cupar, where also his book was published in 1837, and all its teachings and directions were submitted for approval to the best amateur and professional talent then at St. Andrews before going to press. Some years' acquaintance with the original enables me to say that the likeness of Allan is a capital one.

I am, Sir, &c.,
B.

GOLF AT PAU.

To the Editor of GOLF.

SIR,—At this season of the year when so many people are thinking of leaving the fogs and frosts of England, and coming away in search of warmth and sunshine, yet hesitating where to go, it may not be inopportune to suggest (at any rate to golfers), that they could not do better than come straight to Pau. To begin with, the links, always good, have been marvellously improved since the writer played on them two years ago. The club rejoices in the possession of an energetic and intelligent green committee, and the alterations have been well thought out and carried into effect, without going exhaustively into the changes. I may mention that many of the greens have been enlarged and improved, new tees made, and that many of the holes now are of that particular length which only two of the finest wooden club-shots can reach, a length much appreciated by all good and true golfers. Up to the time of writing, the weather has been warm and beautiful, and

Christmas Day was like a brilliant September day at home. On the other hand, we may expect a little frost and snow later on, but we must remember that we are within twenty-six hours of London.

With regard to amusements, I know of no other place so well supplied. In addition to most excellent Golf, we have good roads for cycling and driving, good hunting, pigeon shooting, polo, and what is very rare, a most excellent, real tennis court, as well as lawn tennis and cricket later on. All this in the midst of most beautiful scenery; and finally there is the further inducement of a comfortable English club, greatly improved in its management during the last year or so, and containing a couple of English billiard-tables. To any of my brother-golfers, hesitating where to go, I would say, come herefat once; leave London eleven o'clock, arrive Paris about seven, dine comfortably, and drive across Paris to Gare d'Orléans, catching the 10.22 *rapide*, arriving Bordeaux in time for early breakfast, and Pau for luncheon.

I am Sir, &c.,
CHAS. HUTCHINGS.

English Club, Pau, Dec. 28th.

FORFARSHIRE.

The monthly competition for the Paton medal of the Montrose Ladies' Club was held on the ladies' driving course on Friday. The conditions on which the medal was presented by Mr. George Paton, Mall House, are that the medal should be played for on the last Friday of each month all the year round, alternately by holes and strokes. The medal was won by Miss Duncan, with the very good score of 79 for the eighteen holes. The next best scores were:—Miss A. Woodward, 81; Miss Watson 85; Miss J. Woodward and Miss K. L. Millar, 85; Mrs. Dickson, 88. After the match the Golf caddies were entertained to tea by one of the young lady members of the club.

The members of the *Dundee Advertiser* Club, on Saturday on Monifieth Links, competed for a number of prizes presented by Mr. W. C. Leng. There was a large turn-out of players, and one or two excellent totals were handed in to the secretary. Unfortunately the weather was most unfavourable for an enjoyable game, showers of snow falling during most of the afternoon. The following is the prize-list:—First Class—1st average and 1st sweep, Mr. Alexander Buchan, 82; 2d average and 2d sweep, Mr. Robert Donn, 94; 3, Mr. William Still, 80; 4 and 3d sweep, Mr. Allan Bell, 91; 5 and 4th sweep, Mr. John Macrae, 90; 6, Mr. Alexander Davidson; 7, Mr. James Melville, 92; 8, 9, and 10 (tie), Mr. John Inglis 99, Mr. W. F. Black and Mr. Alexander Bowman; 11 Mr. J. D. Brown. Second Class—1st average and 1st sweep, Mr. R. A. Clark; 2d average and 2d sweep Mr. John Clark, 3 Mr. William Scott, 4 Mr. Peter Paton, 5 Mr. George Proctor. Third Class—1st average and 1st sweep, Mr. J. M'Dougall; 2d average and 2d sweep, Mr. William Fleming, 3 and 3d sweep, Mr. Finlay Currie, 4, Mr. Alexander Garland, 5, Mr. David Clark, 6 Mr. John Strachan, 7 Mr. Joseph Graham.

GLASGOW GOLF CLUB.

The annual meeting of the Glasgow Golf Club was held on Friday evening in the Religious Institution Rooms, at which there was a large attendance. The report and statement of accounts showed that fifty-one new members had been enrolled during the year, but taking into account those who had been deleted from the membership on account of death and other causes, the membership had only increased on the year from 664 to 671. The accounts showed that the balance against the club at present is £425 ts. 2d., and that all the available cash on hand is £25 7s. to meet a debt of £385 19s. 6d. Mr. J. R. Motion, captain of the club, who presided, moved the adoption of the report. Several members criticised the accounts, one declaring that the club was in a critical financial condition. Mr. John Hamilton said that with a judicious cutting down of expenditure the financial condition of the club would soon right itself. There had been a large extra expenditure this year over acquiring the Blackhill course. He then gave an estimate of the expenditure and income for next year, giving the expenditure at £883 19s. 8d., and the income £1,153, leaving a favourable surplus of £270. By careful management he anticipated that the debt on the club would be wiped out in two or three years. The report was then adopted. Mr. John Hamilton was elected captain for the ensuing year.

LYTHAM AND ST. ANNE'S GOLF CLUB.

Fourteen gentlemen, members of the Lytham and St. Anne's Golf Club, having each made an appropriate present as a prize for play at the Christmas season, Boxing Day was chosen as the day of the competition, and the weather was fine though very cold and seasonable. About sixty competitors went out, and the net scores up to 100 were:—

	Gross.	Hcp.	Net.
1 Mr. W. Newbigging	90	4	86
2 Mr. J. A. F. Eltoft	98	8	90
3 Mr. D. E. Anderson	101	10	91
4 Mr. J. F. Pearson	104	12	92
5 Mr. G. Edmondson	107	14	93
6 Mr. G. F. Smith	91	+3	94
7 Mr. J. H. Hulton	100	6	94
8 Mr. W. Cross	110	16	94
9 Mr. J. A. S. Fair	105	10	95
10 Mr. J. T. Wright	100	4	96
11 Mr. J. F. Mugliston	101	4	97
12 Mr. H. T. Parke	105	8	97
13 Mr. E. Harrison	110	13	97
14 Mr. A. Brown	98	scr.	98
Mr. W. G. P. Miller	113	15	98
Mr. T. G. Edmondson	114	15	99
Mr. T. S. Turnbull	103	3	100
Mr. B. Thompson	108	8	100
Mr. T. Baxter	114	14	100

The winners of the prizes were as numbered before the names. The donors of the prizes were:—The captain (Mr. T. S. Turnbull), the hon. treasurer (Mr. James Mellor), the hon. secretary (Mr. J. Talbot Fair), Mr. T. H. Miller, Mr. R. S. Boddington, Mr. S. F. Butcher, Mr. T. H. Rushton, Mr. H. Bowman, Mr. F. W. Walker, Mr. J. Buckley, Mr. E. Hulton, jun., Mr. W. H. Worthington, Mr. E. N. Barley, and Mr. J. Bles. The best gross scores were by Mr. W. Newbigging, 90; Mr. G. F. Smith, 91; Mr. J. A. Brown, 98; Mr. J. A. F. Eltoft, 98. The optional sweepstakes were won—first by Mr. D. E. Anderson, and second and third divided by Mr. G. F. Smith and Mr. J. H. Hulton.

On Boxing Day the lady subscribers of the Lytham and St. Anne's Golf Club had a competition over their own links at St. Anne's-on-the-Sea, for four prizes presented by four members, and the result was as follows, the play being handicap:—First prize, Miss E. Terry, 90, less 4=86; second prize, Mrs. R. S. Boddington, with 90 net; third prize, Miss Watson, with 93 net; for the fourth prize there was a tie—Miss M. Mugliston, 94 net; Miss M. Salt, 94 net; Miss C. Salt, 94 net. This tie will be played off. The weather was very favourable.

The very worst weather of all the so far bad-weather winter was experienced on Saturday last, when the third competition was played by the members of the Lytham and St. Anne's Golf Club for the cup presented by the captain; so no wonder that the competitors who went out numbered not more than thirty-nine, and that there were not many good scores. Rain morning and afternoon, at times very heavy, and a gusty and biting east wind were the order of the day. The net scores under 105 were:—

	Gross.	Hcp.	Net.		Gross.	Hcp.	Net.
Mr. J. F. Pearson	97	12	85	Mr. T. Baxter	114	14	100
Mr. E. Holt	101	12	89	Mr. J. Mellor	105	4	101
Mr. J. A. F. Eltoft	102	8	94	Mr. G. Edmondson	115	14	101
Mr. R. Dewhurst	108	13	95	Mr. C. A. Birley	118	17	101
Mr. B. Thompson	104	8	96	Mr. J. Ormrod	120	18	102
Mr. N. Macbeth,				Mr. H. N. Brown	106	3	103
jun.	102	5	97	Mr. R. S. Jewison	118	15	103
Mr. J. W. Sarjeant	117	18	99	Mr. J. H. Boardman	123	19	104
Mr. A. Entwistle	106	6	100				

Mr. J. E. Pearson, St. Anne's, therefore put in the win, and received the silver memento given by the club. The best gross scores were by Mr. J. F. Pearson, 97; Mr. E. Holt, 101; Mr. N. Macbeth, jun., 102; Mr. J. A. F. Eltoft, 102. The optional sweepstakes were won—first by Mr. E. Holt, second by Mr. J. A. F. Eltoft, third by Mr. R. Dewhurst. The winners of competitions for the Captain's cup up to the present time are Mr. F. H. Stewart, Manchester; Mr. T. C. Midwood, Salford; and Mr. J. F. Pearson, St. Anne's-on-the-Sea.

FORMBY CLUB.—Saturday had been provisionally fixed for the final contest among the six winners-in for actual possession of the monthly optional subscription prize. As, however, the date was found inconvenient for several players who had holiday engagements, a postponement to a future day, left open, was agreed to. The morning proved favourable for practice, but the afternoon brought a blinding rain which continued, with short intermission, for hours, and drove players into the club-house.

THE RECREATIONS OF WOMEN.

II.

HAWKING.

FALCONRY or hawking, was the art of training and flying birds to take other birds. Its origin is ancient and obscure; nevertheless from the Heptarchy to the time of Charles the Second it constituted one of the chief amusements in this country. The zenith of its popularity was reached at the beginning of the seventeenth century, and, strange though it may appear, during the next century it was rarely practised.

At one time a lady of rank was seldom seen abroad, without a hawk upon her wrist; this usage was regarded as a criterion of nobility, and nothing was thought more dishonourable than for anyone to give up a hawk. These birds accompanied their owners wheresoever they went—to church, to battle, or even beyond the sea. In Barclay's translation of Sebastian Brant's "Stultifera Navis," the Ship of Fools, the indecency of bringing hawks and hounds to church is severely censured. (Fifteenth century.)

The ladies are said to have greatly excelled the gentlemen in their skill at hawking. They generally hunted the heron, or harnser, and waterfowl of different kinds, by means of a species of falcon, called the marlyon. The great liking developed by the ladies of the twelfth century for this manly recreation is alluded to by John of Salisbury. Many old drawings still extant show them engaged in this rural pastime, either rousing the game with tabour or drum, or by the assistance of dogs.

Marie, Duchess of Burgundy, the daughter of Charles the Bold, unfortunately died through an accident whilst hawking, in the year 1482.

ARCHERY & HUNTING.

The long bow was known in Anglo-Saxon times, although its use does not appear to have been general. When it first became a military weapon in England is very uncertain. The cross-bow was far more popular than its fellow, because it was not so difficult to manage. At the Battle of Hastings, in the year 1066, the cross-bow was employed, whereas the long-bow was not used with any degree of efficiency before the reign of Edward the Second. It was then, in the

fourteenth century, that the science of archery became a favourite amusement with the populace. Not only was this reaction encouraged by the Government, but a royal proclamation was issued by Edward the Third, commanding all persons to practise with the bow and arrow on holidays and feast days, not, however, during the hours of divine service. At the same time quoits, football, cock-fighting, GOLF (cambuca), and club-ball, were strictly forbidden. So important was the use of this defensive weapon, that Latimer, in one of his sermons before Edward the Second, strenuously enforces the practice of archery from the pulpit.

"In my time," he observed, "my poor father was as diligent to teach me to shoot as to learn me any other thing, and so I think other men did their children. He taught me how to draw, how to lay my body in my bow, and not to draw with the strength of the arm as other nations do, but with the strength of body. I had my bows bought me according to my age and strength; as I increased in them so my

bows were made bigger and bigger: for men shall never shoot well except they be brought up in it. It is a godly art, a wholesome kind of exercise, and much commended in physic." (Published 1549.)

Sometimes, sitting astride their saddles, the ladies rode alone to the open fields; they startled the game by the winding of horns; they pursued with dogs and shot with arrows. At other times they accompanied the gentlemen, and were placed on temporary stands, in order that they might let fly at the game as it passed by, without the trouble of rousing and pursuing it. On these occasions the beasts were previously caught and confined in enclosures. When liberated the animals were surrounded by sportsmen who drove them from cover to cover, until they were within bow-shot of the eager Nimrods.

In the "Squier of Lowe Degre" the king, addressing his daughter, says:—

Ye shall be set at such a tryst
That hert and hynde shall
come to your fyste.

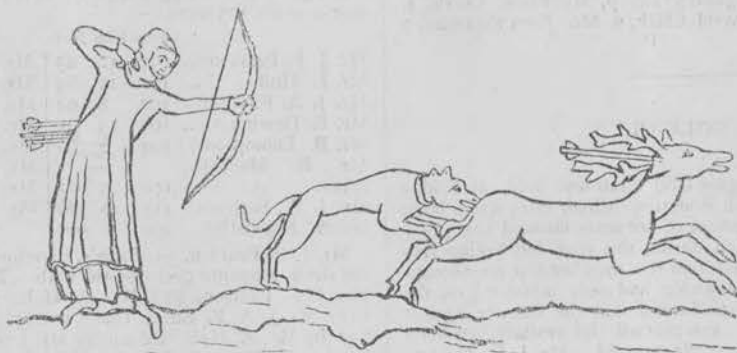
An illustration in the "Ménagier de Paris" represents a lady shooting with

a bolt, a blunt-headed arrow, at a rabbit, and from a fourteenth century manuscript Strutt copies a lady shooting at a stag.

When Princess Margaret, the daughter of Henry the Seventh, was on her way to Scotland, she killed a buck with an arrow, at a hunting party at Alnwick (Leland's "Collec-



HAWKING, FOURTEENTH CENTURY.
(MS., British Museum).



LADY HUNTING, FOURTEENTH CENTURY.
(M.S., Royal Library).

tanea"). Similar feats were performed by the daughters of Henry the Eighth. Queen Bess was inordinately fond of the chase, and frequently joined her nobles in following the hounds. The infirmities of age failed to lessen her love for this recreation; she relished the sight though unable to join in the sport. At Cowdrey, on one occasion, sixteen bucks, all having fair law, were assured, were pulled down by the greyhounds to gratify her desire.

The introduction of fire-arms in her reign caused the national interest in archery, and hunting with bow and arrow, slowly to decay.

COCK-THROWING.

This barbarous pastime was once keenly relished, more perhaps by fair ladies than brave men. The game was highly popular in most parts, and was seldom omitted in the Shrovetide programme—the English commemoration of the Roman Carnival.

The unfortunate bird was placed in an earthen pot, constructed so that its head and tail alone could be seen. Two-pence was charged for four throws with the cock-stele, or cudgel, at the vessel containing the fowl, which was suspended three or four yards above the ground. Sometimes the bird, tied up in a bag, was brutally tortured almost to death before the inhuman merriment came to an end. Incidentally, we may mention that the money collected at these and similar assemblies was used as a parochial fund for the relief of the poor.

Until patronised by the aristocracy of the land, this savage sport was considered *infra dig.* In the "Northern Mother" a daughter is seriously warned to go neither to "the wrestling no shooting the cock."

This cruel amusement was retained in many schools as late as the last century. In Scotland the schoolmasters often presided over the battle, and claimed the runaway cocks or fugees as their perquisite. To show the legitimacy of this ancient custom, Brand mentions how the pupils of the School at Ramera petitioned the pedagogue for a cock he owed them, "to throw sticks at."

SEDENTARY GAMES.

Chess, draughts or check-board, dice, tables (or backgammon), cards, and a masquerade termed "mumming" are a few of the quiet indoor games which absorbed the attention of ladies during the Middle Ages. Chess is of great antiquity, and is supposed to have been invented in India or China. It was believed to have been introduced into this land by the Crusaders. If, however, we put faith in the following incident, it shows that our Saxon forefathers were early acquainted with the intricacies of this alluring game.

A messenger from the renowned Charlemagne discovered Witikind, the King of the pagan Saxons, and his Queen, Escorfaus de Lutise, playing chess in their palace at Tre-moigne. The King was so enraged with the news the messenger brought that, in a paroxysm of ungovernable temper, he broke the chess-board into splinters.

The tables or boards on which the game was played were of curious workmanship, and were constructed of jasper, chalcedony, ivory, bone, or wood. The king was called *Rex* (*Rey*, Strutt); the queen, *Virgo* (*Reyne* or *Ferce*, Strutt); the Bishop, *Alphinus*, that is, an archer originally; the knight, *Miles*, a horse-soldier; the pawn, *Pedes* or *Poun*, a foot-soldier; and the castle, *Rock*, from *Roccus*, a fortress or tower, which was afterwards corrupted into *Rook*. Hence the Host of the Garter alludes to chessmen when he playfully terms the unwieldy Falstaff "Bully-Rook."

In the "Romance of Hiron," King Ivoryn caused his daughter to play chess with the brave Hiron; and Miranda and Ferdinand are similarly engaged in Shakespeare's "Tempest"; whilst in the "Frankleyn's Tale," Chaucer relates how Lady Doringen's melancholy was alleviated by means of tables and chess.

Dice—This pastime was known to the Romans, for dice, in ivory and terra-cotta, have been found in the ruins at Herculaneum; but whether they introduced its usage into Britain, it would be hard to say. Dice were employed at



DICE PLAYING.
(Whitney's Emblems, 1586).

the time of the Conquest, and their use gave rise to much intemperance. During the Middle Ages, Kings and nobles were in the habit of passing whole nights in shaking the dice-box, which, in its most primitive form, was merely the hollow bone of an animal. Subsequently, dice-boxes were made of wood or ivory, the insides being carefully striped or fluted, to prevent cheating with cogged or loaded dice. An article was, moreover, invented for this purpose. It consisted of a funnel, fixed mouth downwards over a numbered disc. In this case the dice were not marked. Dice-making was once an important industry. Sometimes dice were made out of the bones of enemies slain in battle, often of silver, and on rare occasions of gold. "High and



BACKGAMMON.
(Barclay's Ship of Fools).

low men were," according to Douce, "false dice; being made chiefly at Fulham, they were called High and Low Fulhams." The High Fulhams were the four, the five, and the six. "The London Prodigal" thus enumerates false dice:—"I bequeath two bale of false dice, videlicet, high men and low men, fullams, stop cater-traies and other bones of function."

Draughts.—Strutt terms this recreation a "modern invention"; it was, however, mentioned in 1551 by Taylor, the Water-poet, and was probably not unknown to the ancients.

Tables, or Backgammon is said to have been an invention of the tenth century. The name is perhaps derived from the Welsh words *back* and *cammon*, which signify a little battle. The ancient board or table used in this game was not divided by a medial line, neither were the points pyramidal, but parallelograms. Loaded dice were much used at one time.

Cards are said to have been designed in the fourteenth century, to amuse Charles the Sixth of France, who was afflicted with a mental derangement, by Jacques Gringonneur, a Parisian painter. The page of Charles the Fifth, however, speaks about them in his Chronicle: "Et vous qui etes noyseux jouex de cartes et de des." Fosbroke, however, contends that the game is of Spanish origin. The suit of clubs upon the Spanish cards is not represented by trefoils, as with us, but by clubs or cudgels, of which we retain the name, though we have lost the design; the spades are swords (Spanish, *Espadas*) in this case, the original name is retained, and perhaps a slight resemblance of the figure.

In the reign of Henry the Eighth card-playing was a favourite court amusement. The Princess Margaret played



CARDS.
(Barclay's Ship of Fools).

cards with her intended husband at Harbottle Castle. Catherine of Spain, the Consort of Prince Arthur, who afterwards married bluff King Hal, was also an expert player.

So alarmingly did the card fever spread that a prohibitory statute was deemed necessary. Stow, referring particularly to the citizens of London, says, "From All Hallows eve to the day following Candlemas day there was, among other sports, playing at cards for counters, nails and points, in every house." In the "Poesye of Princelye Practise," a poetical treatise written and presented by Sir William Forrest to Edward the Sixth, this seasonable advice appears:—

Att ale howse wo sit, at mack or at mall,
Tables or dyce, or that cardi's men call,
Or what oother game owte of season dooe,
Let them be punysched without all rescue.

Edward the Fourth had previously made the playing with dice and check-board unlawful; Henry the Eighth forbade the use of dice except at Christmas; James the First, on the contrary, rendered "the damnable art of dice-playing," as pious John of Salisbury terms it, a lawful recreation, as he also did bowling, tennis, tables, nine-holes and "many other games to be hereafter invented."

HENRY J. HILLËNNE.

(To be continued.)



ABERDEEN.

BON-ACCORD CLUB.—The annual Christmas competition in connection with this club took place on Wednesday and Saturday. The weather on both occasions proved unfavourable to good scoring. The prizes were generously supplied by Mr. Chivas, Messrs. Black and Ferguson, and Mr. A. Simpson. The following were the winners:—First-class, Mr. R. Reid; Mr. J. Fraser; Mr. W. Greig, sen.; Mr. A. Jaffray; Mr. J. Donaldson; Mr. J. Twigg; Mr. G. Farquhar; Mr. T. Paton; Mr. J. Duthie; Mr. W. Smart; Mr. P. Duff; Mr. W. Mair; Mr. J. Rattray; Mr. W. Greig, jun.; and Mr. J. Ogilvie. Second class—Mr. B. Mann; Mr. C. Wilson; Mr. A. Crombie; Mr. J. Harker; Mr. J. Rae; Mr. J. Jamieson; and Mr. J. Douglas. The members held their annual "smoker" in the evening, under the genial chairmanship of Mr. John Harker (captain of the club), when, with songs and recitations, a happy evening was spent.

ALDEBURGH GOLF CLUB.

A fair number of members put in an appearance for the Christmas meeting. On Monday there was a competition against "Bogey." The wind was cruel, and Mr. C. E. Salmon deservedly won the sweep, with 1 up.

On Tuesday, the monthly medal winners in 1895 met in the final. Again the wind was most punishing, and Mr. W. F. Thompson's win was, under the circumstances, a very good performance.

On Thursday, the Newson-Garrett cup was the order of the day—medal play, handicap limited to 18 strokes. Mr. Jno. Sherwood, one of the limit men, played a steady game, and romped in with 5 to spare.

Full details of the final monthly medal and the Newson-Garrett cup are appended:—

Final round for monthly medal, December 24th:—Mr. W. F. Thompson, 95, less 7=88; Mr. C. E. Salmon, 104, less 7=97; Mr. F. Aste, 110, less 10=100; Mr. John Sherwood, 120, less 18=102. No returns from the remainder.

The Newson-Garrett cup, December 26th:—

Gross. Hcp. Net.			Gross. Hcp. Net.				
Mr. John Sherwood.	102	18	84	Mr. H. Cowell	110	18	92
Mr. C. E. Pearson.	97	7	90	Mr. Jno. Fry	111	17	94
Mr. A. F. Stewart.	97	7	90	Mr. G. H. Garrett.	117	18	99
Mr. J. V. Thompson	100	10	90	Mr. H. L. Garrett.	118	18	100
Mr. H. W. Richards	103	11	92	Mr. W. F. Thompson	109	7	102

No returns from the remainder.

BALHAM GOLF CLUB.

Captain's cup.—Winner, Dr. Shattuck, 77; second prize, Mr. A. E. Goodson, 84; third prize, Mr. F. J. Randall, 85. Special, for best nine holes, Mr. J. Newlands Thomson, 44.

BEDFORD GOLF CLUB.

Monthly medal, played December 14th.—

Gross Hcp. Net.			Gross Hcp. Net.				
Mr. H. Steedman	100	24	76	Lieut.-Col. D. Brough-			
Mr. C. F. G. Hervey.	91	12	79	ton	95	8	87
Mr. N. R. Slator	91	12	79	Lieut.-Col. J. H. Shaw	107	20	87
Maj.-Genl. Layard.	96	15	81	Mr. S. Fuller	99	11	88
Col. Grant	102	20	82	Mr. J. B. Forsyth	101	11	90
Mr. C. E. S. Innes.	89	6	83	Col. G. Hamilton	112	22	90
Mr. W. R. Heneage	99	16	83	Mr. W. M. Poole	110	18	92
Mr. S. Fielder	99	15	84	Mr. A. B. Suther-			
Mr. A. E. A. Holme-				land	112	20	92
sted	104	20	84	Mr. P. Bell	119	24	95
Mr. H. E. Tredcroft	93	8	85	Mr. G. Shelton	121	20	101

No returns from others.

BEDFORD v. NORTH BEDS.

Played over North Beds. Links at Biggleswade, on Boxing Day, and won by Bedford by 23 holes. The links were covered with snow, and red balls had to be used. The greens were in good order and well swept.

BEDFORD.		NORTH BEDS.	
	Holes.		Holes.
Mr. W. C. Fletcher ...	9	Mr. P. Payne ...	0
Mr. E. E. Aphthorp ...	8	Rev. H. Payne ...	0
Col. D. Broughton ...	9	Mr. T. S. Pearson-Gregory ...	0
Rev. G. F. Aphthorp ...	0	Mr. H. Payne ...	3
	26		3

BENTLEY GREEN GOLF CLUB.

December handicap competition, played Thursday, December 26th. The snow which fell on Christmas Day very materially affected the number of entries, and made low scoring an impossibility. Result:—Mr. R. W. Caldwell, 108, less 20=88; Mr. C. H. Morton (scratch), 98; Lieut.-Col. W. T. McLeod, 107, less 7=100; Maj. G. R. B. Patten, 118, less 16=102. Lieut.-Col. J. E. Harden, no return.

BENTLEY GREEN LADIES' GOLF CLUB.

The following is the result of the December handicap competition, which was played on Saturday, December 28th:—

Gross. Hcp. Net.		Gross. Hcp. Net.	
Miss B. Davison ...	128 22 106	Mrs. C. H. Morton ...	150 28 122
Mrs. S. H. Harri-son ...	138 28 110	Mrs. Corrance ...	149 24 125
Mrs. Openshaw ...	133 16 117	Miss H. A. Addin-sell ...	160 35 125
Mrs. Edwardes ...	120 2 118	Miss Colvin ...	149 22 127

Miss E. Burdett and Miss Ethel Colvin, no returns.

BIRKDALE GOLF CLUB.

The second of the two preliminary rounds for the valuable prize (limited to handicaps of 18 and over) given by Mr. R. Jones, was played on Bank Holiday on hard greens, but free from the fog or hoar frost which beset players in the former round. The Rev. E. J. Williams recorded a win. Chief scores:—Rev. E. J. Williams, 101, less 20=81; Rev. W. B. Hutton, 114, less 25=89; Mr. S. Coal-bank, 118, less 20=98; Mr. T. N. Leighton, 122, less 23=99.

The interesting Christmas competition (limited to handicaps of 18 and over), for which Mr. R. Jones had given a handsome prize, was concluded on Saturday, happily just before rain set in, the two winners of the preliminary rounds playing off under special handicap, the Rev. E. J. Williams (scr.), and Dr. Baildon (15). Dr. Baildon won the prize by 3 strokes.

BURBAGE COMMON v. NARBOROUGH.

Played at Burbage, December 26th. Scores:—

BURBAGE.		NARBOROUGH.	
	Holes.		Holes.
Mr. R. H. Robertson ...	0	Mr. W. T. Clarke ...	3
Mr. H. Davis ...	3	Mr. C. H. Wilmer ...	0
Mr. Hugh Bryan ...	0	Mr. F. M. Crick ...	9
Mr. A. E. Hawley ...	0	Mr. H. R. Morris ...	4
Mr. J. A. Farmer ...	1	Mr. A. Green ...	0
Mr. Hugh Bryan ...	12	Mr. F. B. Wilmer ...	0
	16		16

BURNHAM (BUCKS.) v. HILLINGDON.

Played at Hillingdon on Saturday, December 21st.—

BURNHAM (BUCKS.)		HILLINGDON.	
	Holes.		Holes.
Mr. R. Dawson ...	1	Rev. A. H. Cochran ...	0
Mr. R. E. B. Wilmot ...	4	Mr. H. B. Mayne ...	0
Mr. A. E. Wilmot ...	0	Mr. C. M. Newton ...	0
Mr. F. C. D. Haggard ...	0	Mr. C. M. Woodbridge ...	9
Mr. A. E. Bellairs ...	0	Mr. F. C. Woodbridge ...	3
	5		12

Foursomes:—

Mr. R. Dawson and Mr. R. E. B. Wilmot ...	0	Rev. A. H. Cochran and Mr. H. B. Mayne ...	4
Mr. F. C. Haggard and Mr. A. E. Bellairs ...	0	Mr. C. M. Woodbridge and Mr. F. C. Woodbridge ...	6
	0		10

BURNHAM (BUCKS) GOLF CLUB.

The Bank holiday competition was held on December 26th. A driving north-east wind, with snow and rain, made play exceptionally difficult, but good scores were sent in by Messrs. Sykes and Dawson. Scores:—

Gross Hcp. Net.		Gross Hcp. Net.	
*Mr. J. D. Sykes ...	88 8 80	Mr. H. Downes ...	114 15 99
†Mr. R. Dawson ...	88 5 83	Mr. J. E. Bowen ...	114 12 102
Mr. C. M. van Agnew ...	105 15 90	Mr. R. H. Barrett ...	127 25 102
		Mr. R. R. Holmes ...	124 20 104

* Gold medal.

† Silver medal.

Many competitors made no return.

BODMIN v. ST. KEW.

Played on the County Links, Bodmin Racecourse, on Friday, December 27th. Scores:—

BODMIN.		ST. KEW.	
	Holes.		Holes.
Mr. E. M. Bannerman ...	0	Mr. Magor ...	0
Mr. W. Wilkinson ...	1	Mr. Melvill Sandys ...	0
Mr. Young-Jamieson ...	0	Mr. Leveson Campbell ...	8
Mr. Matthews ...	0	Mr. Stone ...	7
Brigade-Surgeon Elliot ...	2	Mr. Warne ...	0
Mr. H. O. Every ...	1	Mr. Pinch ...	0
Mr. B. Bannerman ...	0	Mr. N. Bray ...	11
Mr. R. Pease ...	5	Mr. C. Campbell ...	0
Mr. L. Campbell ...	0	Mr. J. Bray ...	2
	9		28

Majority for St. Kew, 19 holes.

BURGHLEY PARK v. BELTON PARK.

Played at Burghley Park:—

BURGHLEY PARK.		BELTON PARK.	
	Holes.		Holes.
Mr. W. L. de B. Thorold ...	7	Mr. Stuart MacRae ...	0
M. H. M. Bell ...	0	Mr. W. E. Thompson ...	5
Mr. H. B. Waite ...	4	Capt. C. A. Young ...	0
Mr. C. N. Day ...	2	Mr. W. Thackeray ...	0
Mr. R. Wyche, jun. ...	4	Rev. E. R. S. Nicolls ...	0
Mr. P. R. Lowe ...	7	Rev. W. A. H. Thorold ...	0
	24		5

BURY GOLF CLUB.

On Boxing Day there was played upon the Bury links a most interesting competition for a series of prizes presented by Messrs. J. W. Kay, G. A. Kay, E. H. Kay, A. H. Kay, Farr, Perham, Nicoll, and Butcher, as well as for an optional sweepstake. There was a large turn-out of players. Owing to the frost, the putting greens were not in good condition for putting, consequently the scores ranked somewhat high. The closeness of the struggle, however, indicates that the handicapping must have been very fairly done. The following returns were made:—

Gross. Hcp. Net.		Gross. Hcp. Net.	
Mr. G. A. Kay ...	115 16 99	Mr. F. Murgatroyd ...	138 25 113
Mr. E. Kitchener ...	113 10 103	Mr. J. Sharples ...	149 30 119
Mr. E. H. Kay ...	120 16 104	Mr. H. T. Bull ...	149 30 119
Mr. A. H. Kay ...	118 11 107	Mr. F. Perham ...	129 7 122
Rev. C. B. Knox ...	121 13 108	Mr. H. W. Freston ...	138 16 122
Mr. J. W. Kay ...	124 16 108	Mr. J. Byrom ...	154 30 124
Mr. S. F. Butcher ...	113 4 109	Dr. Baird ...	156 30 126
Mr. C. B. Farr ...	125 15 110	Mr. A. Nuttall ...	163 30 133
Mr. C. H. Piggott ...	140 30 110	Mr. H. Stelling ...	159 25 134
Mr. D. Nicoll ...	129 18 111	Mr. R. Maginnis ...	172 30 142
Mr. W. French ...	142 30 112	Mr. L. Aitken ...	167 20 147

Mr. G. A. Kay won the first prize in the sweepstake, Mr. E. Kitchener the second, Mr. E. H. Kay the third, Mr. A. H. Kay the fourth, the Rev. C. B. Knox the fifth, Mr. J. W. Kay the sixth, Mr. C. H. Piggott the seventh, and Mr. French the eighth. Several players did not return cards.

CLEVELAND GOLF CLUB.

ENGLAND v. SCOTLAND.

On Boxing Day the annual friendly match was played in cold but dry weather, a strong easterly wind blowing along the course. The links are now in perfect condition, a groundman being permanently employed, who takes great pride in his work, and is ably directed and assisted by John Taylor, the club professional. The respective nationalities mustered fifteen players a-side. The match was at times

somewhat exciting as the respective couples finished their rounds. But owing to the strong play of some veterans from over the Border, Scotland ultimately won by 27 holes:—

ENGLAND.		SCOTLAND.	
	Holes.		Holes.
Mr. J. T. Walton ...	0	Mr. C. D. Mackenzie...	8
Mr. A. C. Cochrane ...	0	Mr. J. L. Scott ...	5
Mr. W. Huddard ...	0	Mr. C. E. Scott ...	1
Mr. A. P. Whitwell ...	0	Mr. H. Roberts ...	9
Mr. M. Bell ...	2	Mr. D. Mackay ...	0
Mr. J. Harrison ...	5	Mr. I. W. Kyle ...	0
Mr. J. Roddam ...	8	Mr. W. Hogg ...	0
Mr. J. Lambert ...	3	Mr. A. MacKinlay ...	0
Mr. J. Bowman ...	3	Mr. R. McCurrock ...	0
Mr. T. C. Davison ...	0	Mr. Geo. Fidler ...	3
Dr. Lennard ...	0	Mr. T. W. Ridley ...	2
Mr. T. N. Muller ...	0	Mr. W. T. Mackay ...	1
Mr. E. Binns ...	0	Mr. T. Hurst ...	2
Mr. A. Field ...	0	Major J. A. Macfarlane ...	4
Rev. H. C. Staveley ...	0	Mr. W. Young... ..	13
	21		48

The annual meeting of the club, which is in a most flourishing condition will be held at the Cleveland Hotel (now tenanted by Mr. D. Mackay), on January 9th.

COUNTY DOWN GOLF CLUB.

The monthly medal of the above club was played for on Saturday, December 21st, with the following result. The weather was very fine and some good scoring took place:—

Gross. Hcp. Net.			Gross. Hcp. Net.		
*Mr. G. Todd ...	97	20	77	Mr. D. J. Lindsay..	101 16 85
Mr. F. B. Newett ...	97	18	79	Mr. W. J. Hurst ...	107 20 87
Mr. W. J. MacGeagh	90	10	80	Major Wallace ...	98 10 88
Dr. Magill ...	96	16	80	Mr. James Hurst ...	120 25 95
Mr. G. M. Shaw ...	85	4	81	Major Feilden ...	114 18 96
Mr. F. Workman ...	112	28	84	Mr. R. H. McIlwaine	114 16 98

* Winner.

Several others were over 100 net.

CAPTAIN'S PRIZES.

The qualifying competition for the above prizes took place on Saturday last at Newcastle. The trains from Belfast brought a very fair array of competitors; but, as it was raining in torrents, there seemed little prospect of any one getting round without a sound drenching. At two o'clock nearly all the Belfast players returned by the express, regarding the day as hopeless, and scorning the prophecy of the "residents" that the weather was about to clear. At about 2.15 p.m., however, the rain ceased and the wind dropped almost entirely; a leaden sky gave place to the brightest blue, and a most enjoyable round was obtained by those who remained. The competition is decided by the gross score, the competitors being divided into two classes. In the first class Mr. James Woodside qualified with a score of 86 gross, and in the second class Mr. F. B. Hewett returned a 99 gross, but as he has already qualified to play in the final for these prizes the second class qualification fell to Hr. A. A. Ussher, who returned the rather poor card of 127 gross.

DONCASTER GOLF CLUB.

On Saturday, December 14th, the Grosvenor cup was played for by medal play, under handicap, with the following results, in a heavy storm of wind and rain:—Mr. P. H. Chrimes, 108, less 15=93 (winner of cup and two-thirds optional sweepstakes); Mr. A. Wickham, 111, less 15=96 (winner of one-third optional sweepstakes); Mr. J. Clark, 112, less 15=97; Mr. J. W. Young, 112, less 12=100. Other competitors were over 100, or sent in no returns.

On Saturday, December 21st, the record for the nine holes was lowered by the professional, F. Goldsmith, with the following fine score:—4 5 3 4 3 4 5 5 4=37.

DULWICH AND SYDENHAM HILL GOLF CLUB.

December monthly medal:—

Gross. Hcp. Net.		Gross. Hcp. Net.	
Mr. D. D. Pontifex	94 12 82	Mr. T. G. Treadgold	108 9 99
Mr. Jas. Alexander	102 12 90	Mr. F. C. Nunn ...	116 17 99
Mr. I. D. Douglas	107 17 90	Lieut. J. F. Lea,	
Mr. W. B. Silverlock	113 20 93	R.N. ...	119 20 99

No returns from several members.

Mr. Pontifex is a well-known M.C.C. and Streatham cricketer, being particularly good as a wicket keeper. Considering that he only took up the game a few weeks ago, his score is very creditable, and he is to be congratulated on his win.

"Bogey" competition.—This competition, held on Boxing Day, for a silver cup kindly presented by Mr. J. Lawson Johnston, was won by Mr. B. A. Bristowe.

ELTHAM LADIES' GOLF CLUB.

Boxing Day competition. Sweepstakes won by Miss F. Kinder, with a net score of 78. Only six members competed. The scores were as follows:—

Gross. Hcp. Net.			Gross. Hcp. Net.		
Miss F. Kinder ...	95	17	78	Miss A. M. Richard-	
Miss M. A. Richard-				son ...	96 12 84
son ...	89	6	83	Mrs. Bryans ...	106 21 85
Mrs. Laird...	92	8	84	Miss Knapping ...	106 13 93

The monthly medal on December 28th was won by Miss Maud Richardson, who ended all even with "Bogey." Returns were made by twelve players. Scores:—Miss Maud Richardson (5), even; Miss Kinder (13), 4 down; Mrs. Mackern (scratch), 5 down; Mrs. Laird (6), 5 down; Miss F. Kinder (13), 5 down; Miss A. Bloxam (15), 6 down; Mrs. Bryans (16), 6 down; Miss Knapping (10), 7 down; Miss Sheringham (13), 9 down; Miss C. Bean (14), 10 down; Mrs. Ireland (9), 11 down; Mrs. Whyte (14), 12 down.

FALMOUTH GOLF CLUB.

The winners of the autumn series of monthly handicaps played off for the two prizes on Friday, the 20th ult. The weather was fine, and the course and greens in good order. Mr. J. F. H. Owen well deserved the first place, which he secured with the gross score of 97. This is the lowest score which has been made in a competition since the club was started in 1894, but was equalled by Mr. C. R. Broad in August last. Mr. Robert Fox took the second prize, and Messrs. J. S. Paige, and E. S. Lock divided the optional sweep.—Mr. J. F. H. Owen, 97, less 21=76; Mr. Robert Fox, 104, less 26=78; Mr. J. S. Paige, 103, less 14=89; Mr. E. Lock, 108, less 19=89; Mr. C. R. Broad, 105, less 13=92. Messrs. W. W. J. Sharpe, C. Tucker, J. Freeman, and W. Saunders made no returns.

FINCHLEY GOLF CLUB.

December 26th.—"Bogey":—Mr. J. W. James 2 down; Mr. A. MacGregor, 8 down; Mr. J. Heal, 9 down; Mr. D. Watson, 9 down. Others over 9 down or no returns.

HERNE BAY GOLF CLUB.

Monthly medal, Saturday, December 28th:—

Gross. Hcp. Net.			Gross. Hcp. Net.		
Mr. E. J. Todd ...	90	7	83	Mr. E. W. Senior...	114 7 107
Mr. T. R. Warhurst	114	17	97	Mr. F. Bawcomb ...	135 25 110
Mr. W. E. Faulkner	131	25	106	Mr. F. H. Neale ...	159 20 139
Capt. Hall ...	114	7	107		

Six others no returns.

A private match (foursome), the result of a challenge from two members of the Neasden Club, was also played, and Herne Bay won by 5 holes up.

KEMP TOWN GOLF CLUB.

Monthly medal, Saturday, December 28th:—Mr. S. St. B. Emmott, 106, less 18=88; Mr. R. P. Lawrence, 109, less 18=91; Mr. A. O. Jennings, 114, less 16=98; Mr. M. K. Peacock, 112, less 13=99; Mr. F. E. G. Little, 117, less 18=99. Several players made no returns or were over 100 net. Strong wind.

LEICESTERSHIRE GOLF CLUB.

A competition was held on Thursday, December 26th, for a club cup, to be won by the member returning the lowest score for twenty-seven holes in medal play under handicap. The ground was, unfortunately, frozen very hard, and the putting-greens were keen and difficult, while a sharp east wind, which blew throughout the day, added to the discomfort of the players. About thirty members entered for the cup, which was won by Mr. H. S. Elliott with a net score of 138. The following were the best scores:—

Gross. Hcp. Net.			Gross. Hcp. Net.		
* Mr. H. S. Elliott	165	27	138	Mr. B. W. Russell	182 27 155
Mr. A. Lorrimer ...	149	10	139	Mr. B. Lorrimer ...	174 16 158
Mr. F. Ashwell ...	159	18	141	Mr. C. J. Billson ...	189 30 159
Mr. E. W. Beale ...	166	19	147	Mr. W. N. Toller ...	193 33 160
Mr. M. Lorrimer ...	168	21	147	Mr. J. S. Anderson	188 27 161
Mr. F. M. Pope ...	167	18	149	Mr. H. G. Warburton	216 52 164
Mr. W. Whetstone...	165	15	150	Mr. H. T. Arnall-	
Mr. E. Jones ...	180	30	150	Thompson ...	201 36 165
Dr. Turner ...	182	31	151	Mr. J. A. Cush ...	190 32 168
Mr. H. L. Goddard	176	22	154	Mr. T. B. Jones ...	189 18 171

* Winner.

On Saturday, December 28th, a competition took place for a Club

cup, to be won by the member returning the lowest score for nine holes in medal play, under handicap; all wooden clubs barred. Rain fell heavily throughout the afternoon. Result:—

Gross. Hcp. Net.			Gross. Hcp. Net.		
* Mr. E. Jones ...	52	10 42	Mr. A. Lorrimer ...	54	3 51
Mr. B. Lorrimer ...	50	5 45	Mr. J. A. Corah ...	58	7 51
Mr. E. W. Beale ...	51	6 45	Mr. H. S. Elliott ...	59	7 52
Mr. G. W. Hillyard ...	49	2 47	Mr. B. W. Russell ...	61	9 52
Mr. F. M. Pope ...	55	6 49	Mr. J. S. Anderson ...	62	9 53
Mr. H. L. Goddard ...	56	7 49	Mr. H. G. Warburton ...	70	17 53
Mr. O. J. Taylor ...	58	8 50			

* Winner.

Many other players competed.

LITTLESTONE LADIES' GOLF CLUB.

Christmas meeting.—In consequence of the extremely bad weather, very few members ventured to compete on Christmas-Day and Boxing-Day for the medal and "Bogey" competition. On the 25th, Miss Mary Stringer, with a handicap allowance of 16, won a handsome silver-mounted scent-bottle; and on the following day Miss Mayo carried off the challenge clubs and memento.

Medal competition, December 25th:—Miss Mary Stringer, 104, less 16=88; Miss Phillips, 95, less 2=93; Miss Stringer, 97, less 2=95; Miss H. Stringer, 107, less 10=97. Five others no return.

"Bogey" competition, December 26th:—Miss Mayo (20), 5 down; Miss Stringer (2), 6 down; Miss Hilda Stringer (10), 7 down; Miss Phillips (2), 8 down. Two others no return.

On Saturday, December 28th, a medal competition, under handicap, for mixed pairs, was played on the long links. A strong westerly breeze rendered the coming-in holes difficult. Ten couples entered, but only seven made returns. Half of the combined handicaps were taken:—

Gross. Hcp. Net.		
Miss Stringer (2) and Mr. A. J. Stanley (3) ...	101	3 98
Miss E. Cobb (12) and Mr. R. G. Macmillan (9) ...	115	11 104
Miss M. V. Stringer (14) and Mr. A. Gibbins (10) ...	122	12 110
Miss C. South (14) and Mr. F. Faithfull-Begg (13) ...	127	14 113
Miss Rowlandson (16) and Mr. O. B. Martin (12) ...	129	14 115
Miss M. Cobb (14) and Mr. J. A. Thomas (11) ...	133	13 120
Miss South (12) and Mr. F. L. Rawson (3) ...	132	8 124

Miss Dollye Rowlandson and Mr. R. Lawson, Miss Hilda Stringer and Mr. F. A. Lyall, Miss Edith Rowlandson and Mr. H. E. Johnson made no returns.

MID-SURREY GOLF CLUB.

Monthly medal competitions, December 21st.—Seniors—Handicap 1 to 12:—

Gross Hcp. Net.		Gross Hcp. Net.	
* Mr. S. H. Fry ...	92 9 83	Mr. H. R. Morrison	100 11 89
† Mr. A. F. Waters ...	86 2 84	Mr. A. Anderson ...	90 scr. 90
Mr. E. A. Walker ...	89 4 85	Mr. F. Cancellor ...	101 9 92
Mr. C. G. Patrick ...	96 10 86	Mr. C. N. Cobbett ...	98 6 92
Mr. J. Clapp ...	93 6 87	Mr. E. G. Finch ...	103 10 93
Mr. J. Gibson ...	95 8 87	Mr. C. A. Gosnell ...	103 8 95
Mr. A. Ritchie ...	97 8 89	Mr. C. H. Trimmer ...	107 12 95
Mr. E. C. Davidson ...	97 8 89		

* Wins Senior medal and two-thirds sweepstakes.

† Prize club for best gross score, and one-third sweepstakes.

Juniors—Handicap 13 to 24:—

Gross. Hcp. Net.		Gross. Hcp. Net.	
* Mr. J. M. C. Austin ...	96 14 82	Mr. A. Roberts ...	106 15 91
* Mr. F. Shackle ...	100 18 82	Mr. A. T. Lawden ...	108 15 93
Mr. H. F. W. Gwatkin ...	110 24 86	Mr. T. D. Ashmore ...	111 18 93
Mr. I. Ivimey ...	111 24 87	Mr. E. L. Mansergh ...	108 14 94
Mr. E. G. Whitehead ...	104 14 90	Mr. G. M. Taylor ...	112 16 96
Mr. R. W. Shepard ...	114 24 90	Mr. W. W. Wheeler ...	120 24 96
		Mr. S. K. Scott ...	120 24 96

* Tie for Junior medal.

Forty-two made no returns.

Mr. E. A. Walker, 85 net, wins October Senior medal after previous ties with Messrs. G. A. Bell and J. Clapp.

MUSWELL HILL GOLF CLUB.

On Boxing-Day a large number of members competed, but, owing to the bad weather, few scores were completed and returned. The following are the best cards returned:—Mr. John Walker, 5 down; Mr. H. Collet, 5 down; Mr. C. W. Cooke, 6 down; Mr. A. M. Kyd, 8 down; Mr. W. Swann, 8 down; Mr. F. B. Smith, 10 down; Mr. W. Somerville, 11 down; Mr. C. Ensell, 11 down.

MORECAMBE AND HEYSHAM GOLF CLUB.

The usual Christmas competition of this club, took place on the club's links at Heysham on Boxing Day. The day was fine, but bitterly cold, and with the hard frozen ground, good scoring was out of the question. There were between twenty and thirty competitors, of whom the following were prize-winners.

Gross Hcp. Net.		Gross Hcp. Net.	
Dr. Glegg ...	94 3 91	Mr. R. Charnley ...	110 14 96
Capt. Le Feuvre ...	99 7 92	Mr. B. H. Cookson ...	108 11 97
Mr. A. J. Swift ...	110 18 92	Mr. R. Preston ...	109 11 98
Mr. W. Stewart ...	92 +1 93	Mr. John Leeming ...	112 13 99

During the afternoon a putting competition took place, which was won by Capt. Le Feuvre, Lancaster, after tying twice with Rev. Geo. Willis, Ellel. A competition, for a prize presented by Mr. R. Preston, ex-Mayor of Lancaster, concluded on the 26th inst. The conditions for this prize being, that the competitor who returned the lowest aggregate of three net scores, out of a series of eight competitions to win. This prize was won by the Secretary, Mr. B. H. Cookson, with an aggregate, for his three best cards, of 232. Subjoined are the players who put in the best cards:—Mr. B. H. Cookson (18), 232; Mr. A. J. Swift (18), 244; Mr. W. A. Wade (20), 255; Mr. John Leeming (13), 256; Dr. Glegg (2), 261; Mr. R. Preston (13), 262; Capt. Le Feuvre (6), 264.

PRESTWICK GOLF CLUB.

Golfers at Prestwick on Saturday had unusual weather for the game, snow falling from shortly after ten o'clock, and continuing till well on in the afternoon. The links in consequence were anything but playable, and the few couples who ventured out in the competition for the monthly handicap medal returned with big scores. The following are the only scores recorded:—Mr. E. A. Miller, 109, less 18=91; Mr. John M'Neill, 107, less 12=95; Mr. John Harvey, 105, less 7=98; Mr. J. H. Wilson, 112, less 5=109.

ROMFORD GOLF CLUB.

"Bogey" competition (36 holes), December 26th.—Mr. D. Womersley, 11 down; Mr. F. Lawrence, 11 down; Mr. J. J. Read 12 down; Mr. H. A. Gardom, 16 down; Mr. D. Hill, jun., 16 down; Mr. S. Kemp, 17 down; Mr. S. H. Petre, 18 down.

Captain's prize, December 28th:—Mr. J. J. Read, 88, less 4=84; Mr. D. Hill, jun., 97, less 10=87; Mr. H. C. Fenner, 99, less 12=87; Mr. F. Lawrence, 96, less 2=94; Mr. F. Spackman, 108, less 11=97; Mr. C. C. Knowles, 110, less 12=98.

ROYAL WIMBLEDON GOLF CLUB.

Monthly handicap challenge medal, December 28th:—

Gross. Hcp. Net.		Gross. Hcp. Net.	
Mr. J. R. Dunlop Hill ...	95 12 83	Mr. H. Seton-Karr ...	97 7 90
Mr. J. D. Charrington ...	90 6 84	Mr. W. Michie ...	99 9 90
Mr. T. Mackay ...	87 2 85	Mr. D. Forde ...	100 10 90
Mr. A. Davidson ...	96 10 86	Mr. A. G. Rickards ...	111 21 90
Col. G. Farie ...	87 scr. 87	Mr. W. J. Cundell ...	102 11 91
Mr. G. L. St. Quintin ...	92 5 87	Mr. F. E. Faithfull ...	92 scr. 92
Mr. G. Edwardes Jones ...	105 18 87	Mr. R. Thomson ...	96 4 92
Mr. O. R. Mounsey ...	95 7 88	Mr. N. R. Foster ...	91 +2 93
Mr. F. J. Walker ...	94 5 89	Mr. J. Taylor ...	103 10 93
Mr. G. E. Tabor ...	98 9 89	Mr. H. H. Batten ...	105 12 93
Mr. T. G. Harkness ...	99 10 89	Mr. J. MacFarlan ...	111 18 93
Major J. Alexander ...	103 14 89	Mr. H. B. Forde ...	110 16 94
Mr. W. Dowson ...	107 18 89	Mr. H. W. Bradford ...	111 15 96
Mr. F. A. Fairlie ...	86 +4 90	Mr. W. R. Portal ...	115 16 99
Mr. J. M. Henderson ...	94 4 90	Mr. C. W. Harrison ...	120 10 110
Mr. H. C. Willock ...	95 5 90	Mr. A. H. Molesworth ...	111 +1 112

No returns from thirty-four players.

ROYAL ISLE OF WIGHT GOLF CLUB.

The Christmas meeting of the above-named club commenced on Thursday, December 26th, in half a gale of wind and heavy rain, in consequence of which the scoring was not up to the average, and the number of entries was small. Major Lamont was the winner of the scratch prize (the Bembridge gold medal), and the first handicap prize (the Eaton memorial gold putter), with a score of 95. Major W. H. Gordon taking the club prize, value £5, with a net score of 96. On the second day of the meeting (when the weather had improved somewhat), a "Bogey" competition took place for a club prize, value £5, and the captain's prize. Mr. C. Davenport Knight became the winner by halving the match with "Bogey." The following are the scores:—First day.—Major Lamont (scratch), 95; Major W. H. Gordon, 112, less 16=96; Mr. W. H. Fisher, 100, less 3=97; Mr. M. Tabureau, 107, less 9=98; Mr. C. Davenport Knight, 111, less 13=98; Dr.

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Reid, R.N. (scratch), 99. The remainder were either over 100, or made no return.

Second day.—Mr. C. Davenport Knight, halved; Mr. G. Prideaux Brune, 2 down; Capt. Grimes, 4 down; Mr. A. F. Brown, 5 down; Mr. N. F. Fisher, 6 down; Rev. C. Shilson, 7 down.

ROYAL NORTH DEVON GOLF CLUB.

Monthly medal, Saturday, December 28th. Twenty-six started. weather wet. South-east wind:—

Gross. Hcp. Net.		Gross. Hcp. Net.	
*Mr. W. E. Dunsford	91 +1 92	Mr. F. P. Lemarchand	96 2 94
*Major Harding	99 7 92	Mr. J. E. Michell	109 13 96
Mr. St. C. Stobart	94 scr. 94	Mr. C. G. Lefroy	107 10 97

* Tie.

SHERINGHAM GOLF CLUB.

The monthly medal was played for on Saturday, December 28th, the weather was very stormy, and a strong wind was blowing, therefore very few cards were returned. Scores:—

Gross. Hcp. Net.		Gross. Hcp. Net.	
Mr. C. B. Lee	101 18 83	Mr. A. Tennyson	102 14 88
Warner	94 10 84	Mr. P. A. Underhill	96 7 89
Mr. A. Cooper	95 11 84	Rev. H. C. Rogers	104 8 96
Major Stopford	95 11 84	Hon. J. Mansfield	123 25 98

SOUTHPORT GOLF CLUB.

The Christmas handicap prize given by the Southport Club was competed for on Bank Holiday by a numerous field, and in fair weather, the course being clear of hoar frost. Mr. H. A. Matear won with 86 net, and took the first sweep. The second and third sweeps were won by the third and fourth cards, presented by Mr. G. Duffus and Mr. R. O'C. N. Deane. Scores:—

Gross. Hcp. Net.		Gross. Hcp. Net.	
Mr. H. A. Matear	104 18 86	Mr. H. E. Mason	111 16 95
Mr. J. M. Dixon	112 25 87	Mr. C. Smith	116 20 96
Mr. Geo. Duffus	94 5 89	Mr. H. Thomson	107 10 97
Mr. R. O'C. N. Deane	105 13 92	Mr. S. A. Ashington	106 7 99
Mr. J. E. Pearson	94 1 93	Mr. T. O. Clinking	117 18 99
Mr. C. Stewart	109 16 93	Mr. W. Thomson	112 12 100
Mr. J. M. Dewhurst	111 18 93	Mr. J. H. Knowles	118 18 100
Mr. W. T. Rowley	100 5 95		

The following were over 100 net or made no return:—Messrs. W. E. Mason, Jas. Dewhurst, J. G. Dixon, J. Morison, R. Lewis, R. Ivy, W. G. Clinking, C. Legh, F. Walley, W. Webber, H. T. Scowcroft, J. C. Heald, H. Shelmerdine, H. B. Barlow, R. A. Nicholson, H. Kidson, S. Aitken, P. Davies, H. Wall, H. Coverdale, E. B. Kellett, W. H. Watson, G. Swire, P. Ashworth, W. M. Wylde, W. Pierpoint, R. Howarth, F. D. Irvin.

TAPLOW GOLF CLUB.

Competition for captain's prize. Medal play under handicap. Two rounds, on either of first three Saturdays in December. Capt. G. J. Metcalfe (14), 93, 85=178; Mr. G. B. Darby (11), 99, 89=188; Mr. G. E. Moore, M.D. (18), 95, 93=188; Mr. R. Russell (20), 98, 95=193; Capt. W. E. Beak (10), 99, 104=203.

THAMES DITTON AND ESHER v. A SURREY COUNTY CRICKET TEAM.

Played on Boxing-Day:—

S. C. C. C.		THAMES DITTON.	
	Holes.		Holes.
Mr. R. Howell	6	Mr. C. K. Harrison	0
Mr. B. Howell	3	Jones (professional)	0
Mr. W. H. Game	0	Mr. H. Davenport	4
Mr. E. J. Game	0	Mr. C. Martineau	1
Mr. W. T. Grayburn	0	Mr. P. Walker	5
Maurice Read	0	Mr. E. M. Corbett	1
Brockwell	0	Mr. F. Corbett	6
G. Ayres	0	Mr. W. H. C. Wilson	11
	9		28

TROON GOLF CLUB.

The Sandhills and Club medals were competed for on Saturday, December 28th, but a fall of snow, which came down in the early part of the day, prevented a great many from taking part in the competition. Only those who went out early could finish, and they at much higher figures than usual. Mr. James Donaldson was the winner of both medals, with 105, less 12=93; and the only four other cards handed in were—Rev. W. Grainger, 121, less 18=103; Mr. N. M'Naughton, 124, less 18=106; Mr. George Barclay, 127, less 16=111; Mr. W. F. Salmon, 129, less 17=112.

WAKEFIELD GOLF CLUB.

Ladies' medal.—Played on December 18th, and resulted in a tie, which, when played off, Miss Nelson won by 3 strokes. Result:—

Gross. Hcp. Net.		Gross. Hcp. Net.	
Miss Nelson	132 36 96	Miss N. M. Haigh	106 4 102
Mrs. Murray	124 28 96	Mrs. Hurst	112 6 106
Mrs. Stewart	119 20 99	Miss F. E. Percy Tew	125 16 109
Mrs. Creswick	109 9 100	Miss K. Percy Tew	126 16 110
Miss M. Percy Tew	137 36 101		

Monthly medal.—Played on December 21st. Greens were irregular through frosty weather. Only four cards were returned out of eighteen entries:—Mr. O. G. Mackie, 104, less 20=84; Mr. A. H. Newbald, 111, less 15=96; Mr. H. M. Briggs, 115, less 18=97; Mr. J. A. Bean, 120, less 23=97.

WEST HERTS GOLF CLUB.

The usual monthly "Bogey" competitions were played over the club course at Bushey on Saturday last. Handicaps 12 and under:—Mr. B. M. Barton, 3 down; Mr. J. S. Crawford, 4 down; Rev. E. P. Anderson, 5 down; Dr. A. Dunbar Walker, 5 down; Mr. Howard Williams, 8 down. Handicaps over 12:—Mr. H. Fisher Smith, 4 down; Mr. W. Webster, 4 down; Mr. W. G. Barton, 6 down; Mr. E. M. Bristowe, 9 down.

WEST MIDDLESEX GOLF CLUB.

Monthly medals (handicap), Saturday, December 21st:—

Gross. Hcp. Net.		Gross. Hcp. Net.	
*Mr. R. Hall Woodhouse	78 5 73	Mr. H. E. Pegg	95 9 86
Mr. H. Ludlow	82 1 81	Mr. R. W. Regge	97 10 87
Dr. S. C. Murray	92 9 83	Mr. W. C. Prance	97 7 90
Mr. Clifford Gibbons	92 6 86	Mr. W. G. Greig	100 9 91

* Winner of silver medal.

No return from ten other players.

Gross. Hcp. Net.		Gross. Hcp. Net.	
*Mr. M. G. Pechell	97 18 79	Mr. A. L. Houlder	106 16 90
Mr. H. Francis	91 11 80	Mr. A. J. Godlee	107 16 91
Dr. A. Routh	98 16 82	Mr. W. F. Bourne	106 14 92
Mr. E. B. Ellington	97 12 85	Mr. E. Bird	110 14 96
Mr. A. W. Marriott	99 12 87	Mr. W. G. Chapman	114 17 97
Mr. W. Bartlett	102 14 88	Mr. A. G. Low	115 16 99
Mr. W. Grindlay	106 18 88	Mr. F. E. Ward	116 17 99
Mr. J. Turner	108 20 88	Mr. P. L. Mummery	117 18 99
Mr. G. E. S. Fryer	102 12 90		

* Winner of bronze medal.

No return from twenty-one other players.

Boxing Day "Bogey" competition, Thursday, December 26th:—Mr. H. Ludlow (1), 3 down; Mr. S. Chick (6), 5 down; Mr. H. S. Mahony (13), 5 down; Mr. C. H. Martin (4), 6 down; Mr. W. H. Miller (5), 6 down; Mr. A. Hart (10), 6 down; Mr. J. R. P. Phillips (12), 6 down; Dr. A. Routh (16), 6 down; Mr. R. W. Regge (10), 7 down; Mr. W. F. Bourne (14), 7 down; Mr. W. B. Skinner (14), 7 down; Mr. F. Carver (4), 9 down; Mr. E. Bird (14), 9 down; Mr. H. Rossi-Hammond (20), 9 down; Mr. J. Moody Stuart (16), 10 down. No return from sixteen other players.

Putting competition. The silver challenge putter, presented by Mr. C. N. Peal. Saturday, December 28th. Won by Mr. T. G. Hewitt.

WILLESDEN GOLF CLUB.

Monthly medals, December 14th and 21st :—

	Gross.	Hcp.	Net.		Gross.	Hcp.	Net.
*Mr. J. K. Hume...	94	15	79	Mr. F. Chase ...	104	12	92
†Mr. W. F. Mapleston ...	89	5	84	Mr. G. F. Handley.	115	20	95
Mr. H. Higgs ...	92	5	87	Mr. J. Winkfield ...	116	20	96
Mr. Langham Carter	99	12	87	Mr. P. Calkin ...	119	20	99

* Winner of long handicap medal. † Winner of short handicap medal.

WOODBIDGE LADIES' GOLF CLUB.

The final for the president's prize, *i.e.*, the six best net scores made in monthly competitions during 1895, plus the net score in the final, took place on Monday, December 23rd, with the following result (six best net scores) :—Miss Soppitt, 57, 56, 57, 58, 54, 54, final 61=397; Mrs. Hicks, 64, 61, 63, 57, 56, 63, final 65=429. Miss Soppitt, therefore, holds the president's prize for the coming year.

The final for the monthly medal took place on Monday, with the following result :—Miss L. F. Stains, 54, less 15=49; Mrs. Howey, 59, less 7=52; Miss Soppitt, 69, less 15=54; Miss K. Hewetson, 62, less 5=57. No return from Miss Burness and Miss J. Hewetson.

LEVEN THISTLE CLUB.—The annual general meeting of the Leven Thistle Golf Club was held in the club-house on Thursday evening, December 26th. About forty members were present. Mr. Thomas Porter, the retiring captain, took the chair and called upon the hon. secretary (Mr. John T. Ireland) to read his report on the working of the club during the past year. Seventy-six new members have joined during the past year, and the membership is now three hundred and twenty-three. The report also included a résumé of the competitions and matches held during the year. Mr. James Neaves, the treasurer, next gave a statement of the finances of the club. The statement showed the club to be in a very prosperous state, there being a goodly balance over after a lot of extra expenditure for new club boxes and furniture. The meeting afterwards proceeded to elect office-bearers for the ensuing year. Mr. Thomas Porter intimated that he did not desire to be re-elected captain, as he considered the honour should go round, and the meeting unanimously elected Mr. Robert Robertson; Mr. Ireland was unanimously re-elected secretary, and Mr. James Neaves treasurer. There were four vacancies to fill on the committee, and there were five members nominated. The following were found to be elected after the ballot :—Messrs. William Marshall, James Kerr, James Morris, and Dr. A. F. Crole.

CUMBRÆ GOLF CLUB.—Dr. J. C. Macgown is the winner of the monthly medal presented by the vice-captain, with a score of 102, less 7=95. A unique and interesting competition took place during last week for a prize presented by the doctor, the conditions restricting the players to the use of one club. To those knowing the many tricky places on the course, it can be well understood that the feat of playing with a single club was not easy. All the players chose the brassie as being the most powerful weapon, and there was some really good play. The winner was Mr. John Houston, with the most creditable score of 101, less 3=98.

SOUTHWOLD GOLF CLUB.—December 28th. Quarterly silver challenge medal won by Mr. B. Whitmore, 109.

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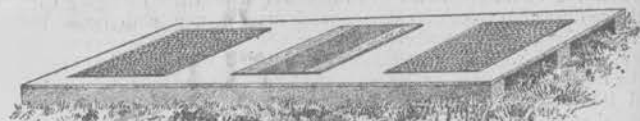
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