



A HISTORY OF THE
ROYAL AND ANCIENT GOLF CLUB
ST. ANDREWS

H. S. C. EVERARD

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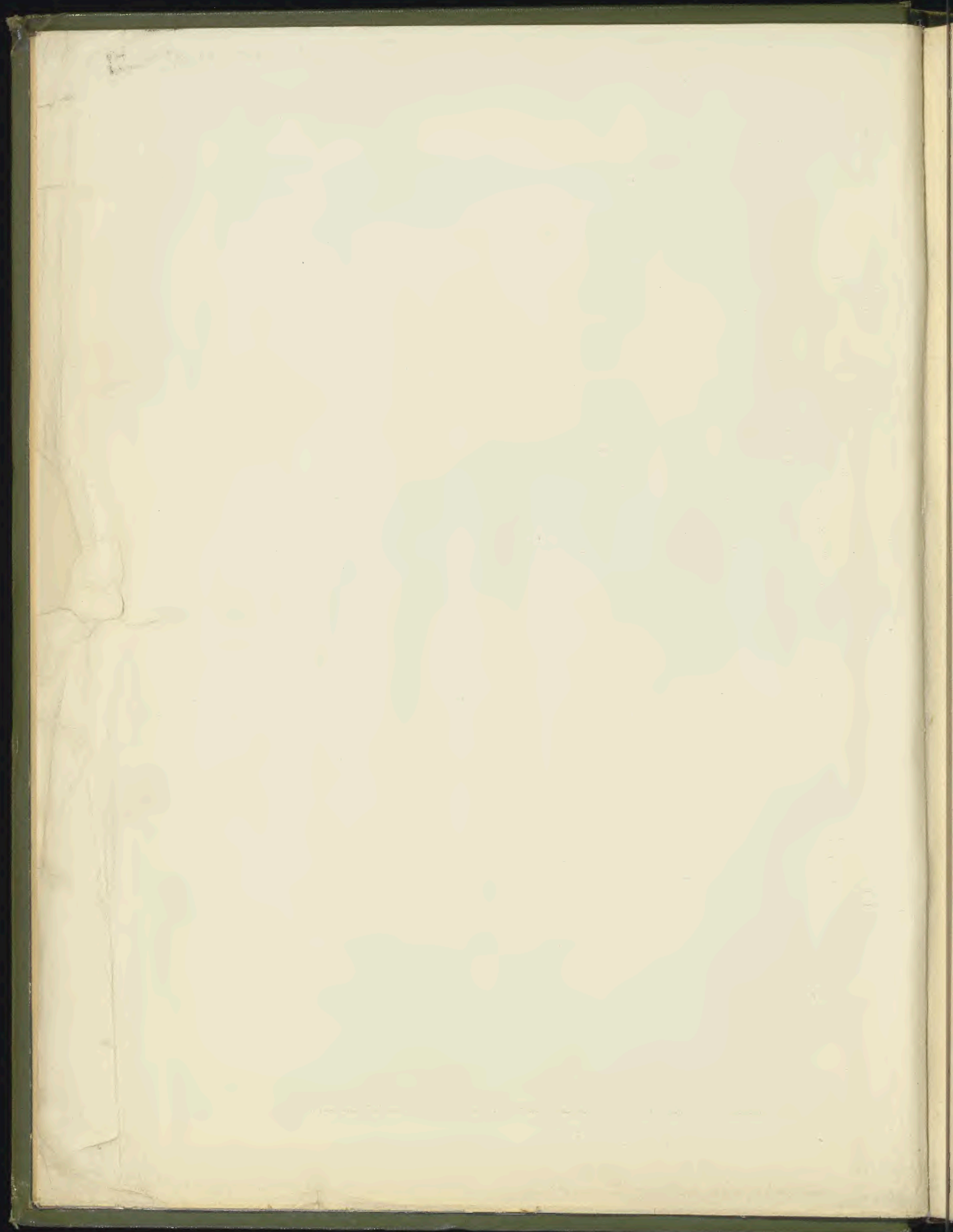


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Frontispiece.



FINISH OF FIRST TOURNAMENT HELD AT ST ANDREWS.
MR R. CHAMBERS (WINNER) PUTTING.



A History of the
Royal & Ancient Golf Club
St Andrews from 1754-1900



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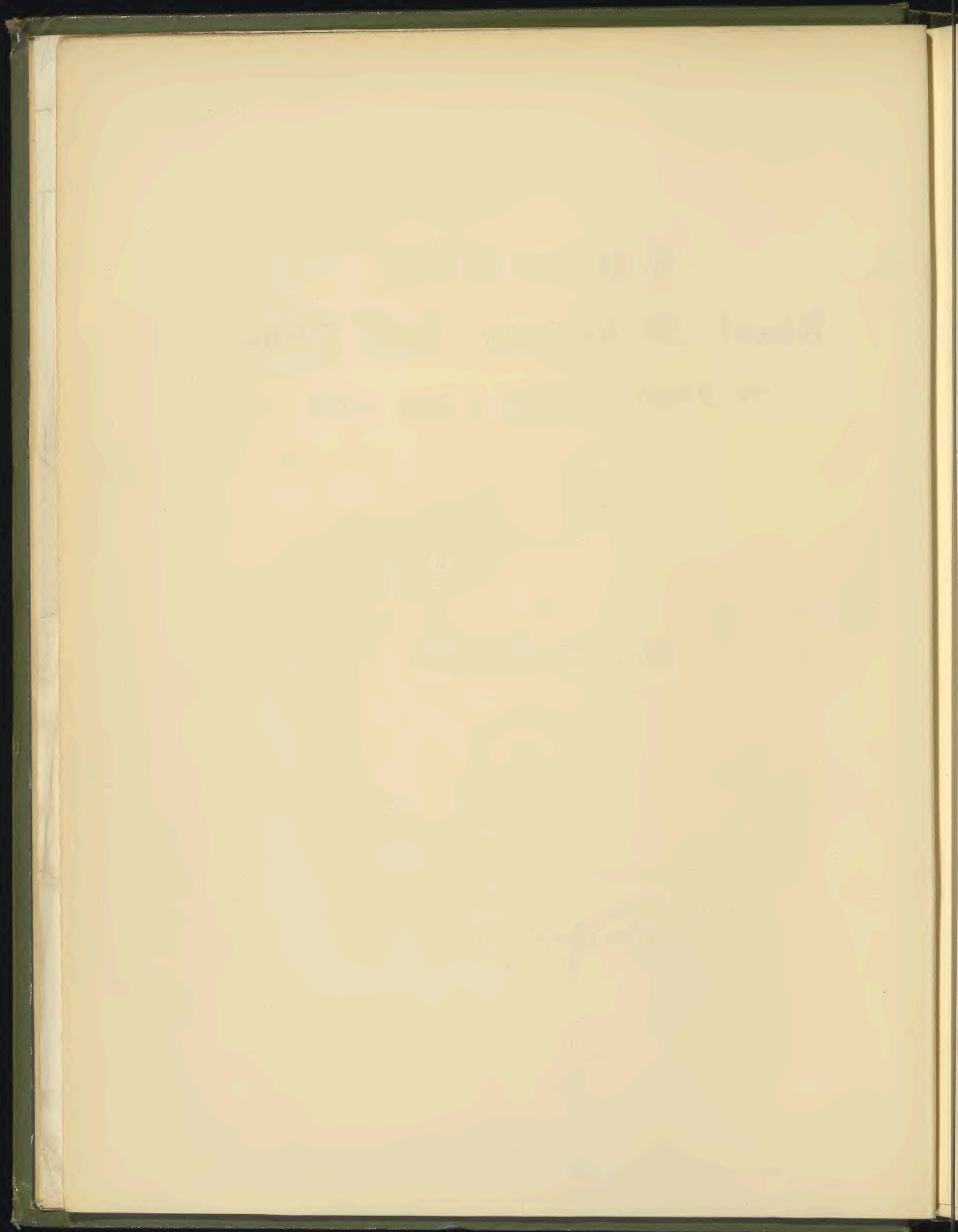
A History of the
Royal & Ancient Golf Club
St Andrews from 1754-1900

BY

H. S. C. EVERARD



WILLIAM BLACKWOOD AND SONS
EDINBURGH AND LONDON
MCMVII



P R E F A C E.

THIS book consists for the most part of articles originally contributed to 'Golf Illustrated,' the proprietor and editor of which paper I desire to thank for permission, readily and courteously given, to reprint them here. To Messrs Harper also my thanks are due for their permission to republish Mr Cunningham's article on Dutch Golf. To the Committee of Management of the Royal and Ancient Club I am greatly indebted, for, in the first place, they most kindly allowed me access to the interesting old Minutes, and, besides, have granted me special permission to have photographed for reproduction such portraits or articles in the possession of the Club as it might seem desirable to include in this book for purposes of illustration.

I am also indebted to Provost Murray, who on behalf of the town has given me every facility

for photographing the portrait of Mr Durham of Largo in the Town Hall; and, incidentally in this connection, I think a word of congratulation is due to Mr Thomas Rodger, who has performed a task of exceptional difficulty, as he assured me, with, I think, marked success. The Council of the King's Body Guard for Scotland (the Royal Company of Archers) have been most kind in allowing the portrait of St Clair of Roslin in the Archers' Hall to be photographed for reproduction; my thanks are due to them also. As I have said on page 38, I am under an obligation to Dr Hay Fleming, to whom I am indebted for the loan of his little book of historical notes, and for his researches in the matter of the Dempster lawsuits; also to Mr David Loudon for many valuable remarks, and in particular for the photograph on page 117, representing the St Andrews of an older day; and lastly, to my friend Mr James Cunningham, who has been so good as to put his article at my disposal.

H. S. C. EVERARD.

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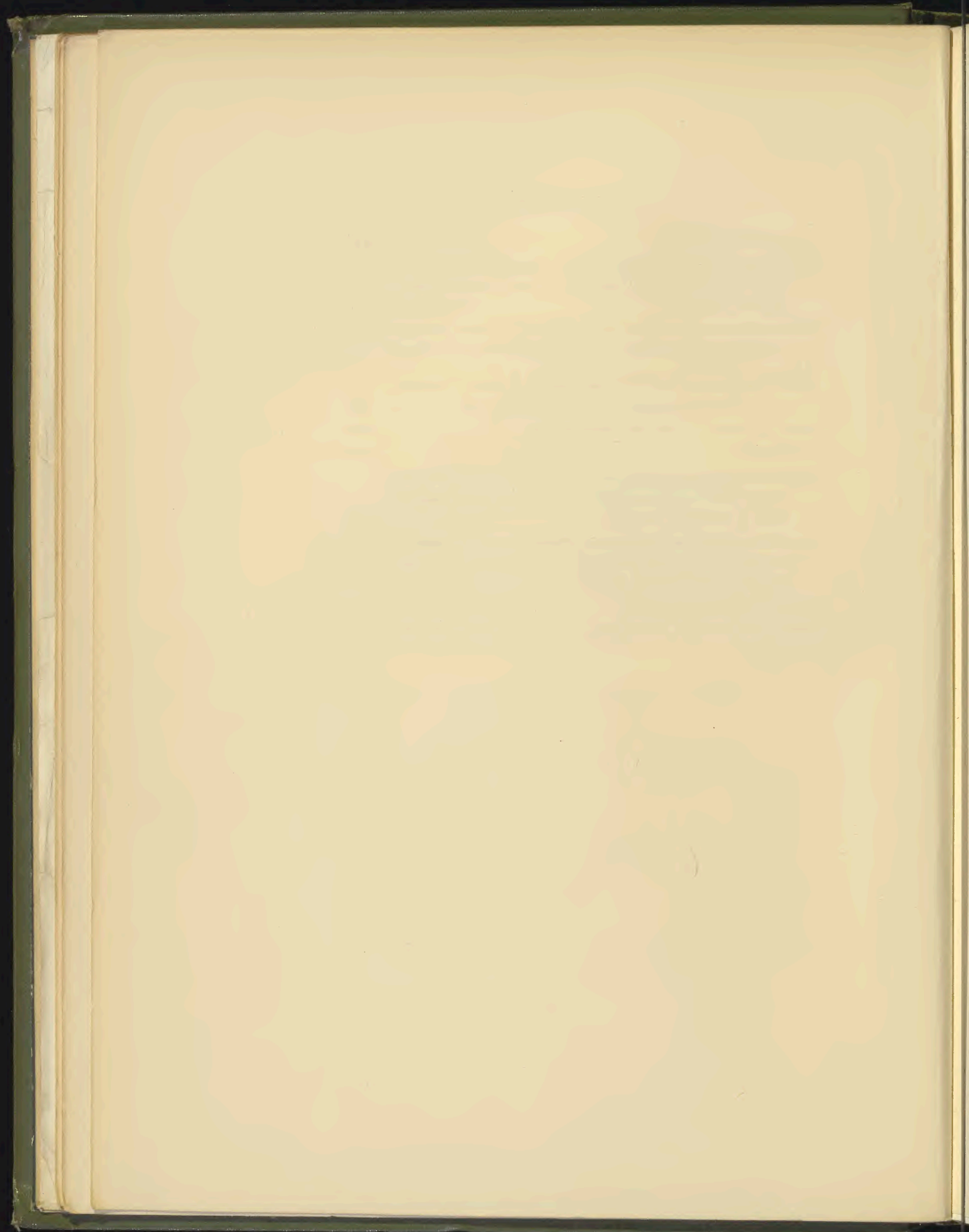
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History of the Royal and Ancient Golf Club.

I.

The Home of Golf.

[BY JAMES CUNNINGHAM.]

"Concerning snakes. No snakes of any kind are to be met with throughout the whole Island."—Chap. lxxii. of Horrebow's 'Natural History of Iceland.'

GOLF has been for so many centuries peculiarly a Scottish game, that it has naturally been claimed by Scotsmen as an invention of their own. There are, however, some reasons for supposing that it is not native to our soil, but may have been borrowed from the Dutch. Traces of a game, which was at least a kind of golf, strike the eye even of the casual tourist in Holland. Such of them as came under the notice of the present writer, "Vacuus Viator" for a few weeks in the year 1899, are here strung together for the consideration of those few persons who may be interested in the historical aspects of Golf.

I was working my way through the Dutch pictures in the Rotterdam Gallery, steering my course by the stars in Baedeker, and I had arrived at No. 263 by Jan Steen (1626-79, A.D.), "Feast of St Nicolas, a family group." This picture I was doggedly examining, when I was surprised to notice in the centre of the canvas the figure of a little boy who holds in his hand an undoubted golf-club. Now, Jan Steen is not an artist who deals in broad effects: when, for example, he paints you the graceful curves of a potato-peeling, there can be no doubt in your mind as to what sort of vegetable the peeling belongs to. There is the same perfect fidelity about this drawing of a golf-club: it is a boy's driver, with a long head, rather of the Hugh Philp or pre-bulger shape, and reddish in colour: the head is nicely "whipped" to a thin shaft with black string: there is a grip of leather or similar stuff: and there are two small, round, black marks in the face about an inch apart, resembling the ends of two small pins driven into the wood. The club is about the right length for the boy, who is holding it above his head. I feel sure that that boy played golf; for though there are more ways of wielding a golf-club than of making tribal lays, only one of them is right, and the boy has it.

In one hand he holds a small, round, grey object, manifestly a golf-ball. The house in which the family



FEAST OF ST NICHOLAS.
BY JAN STEEN.



party is gathered is that of a cobbler, who, by the way, appears very much bored by the festive occasion: he probably was the maker of the ball, which was no doubt covered with leather. The little boy, in fact, has received a golf-club and ball as his present from Santa Claus.

The attendants in the gallery could give me no accurate information about these objects. One man said that the club was used to strike with, but that he had never seen such a thing used in Holland; another futile person informed me that the round object was an apple, which the boy had got from his grandmother, a nice old lady, who would have despised such an ephemeral gift. But Jan Steen is not the man to paint his apples of a whitish colour; the thing is a golf-ball, and the mark on it which my informant mistook for the calyx of the apple is really the seam of the ball, a leather one, probably manufactured by the aforesaid cobbler.

In the large Ryksmuseum of Amsterdam I looked in vain for any specimens of club or ball in the collections of Netherland antiquities.

The well-known picture-gallery in Amsterdam, however, belonging to the Six family, contains a picture by Peter van Hoogh (1630-77), in which there is a golf-club: it is in the hands of a little girl who is playing golf while her elders look on.

The club is inferior in make to the other, and is probably intended to be used with a lighter ball. The obliging and intelligent servant who shows this collection to visitors, on being questioned, began describing a game still played in Holland, which, however, turned out to be the "tame, villatic" croquet; on his attention being called to the difference between a golf-club and a croquet-mallet, he told me that some years ago he had made a club like the one in the picture for his master's children, forming shaft and head out of one piece of wood: in order to prevent the head from splitting (*caput gehen*) he had driven into it two pegs of hard wood. These are the round marks in Jan Steen's club face.

Still keeping my eyes open for traces of golf, I arrived at Middelburg in Walcheren, a delightful old-fashioned Dutch town. Near it lies Veere, now one of the decayed burghs of Holland, once a busy seaport carrying on a considerable trade with Leith, Edinburgh, and the Fife coast towns. It seemed likely that there might be found here some record of the trade in golf-balls, which in the reign of James VI. (*vide* A. Lang's 'Golf' in "Badminton Library") were imported into Scotland from Holland. About this period the ball was sometimes made of wood. The Earl of Caithness, writing of the siege

of Kirkwall, August 1614, says, "The walls were strong, the cannon balls of the besiegers were broken like golf balls, and cloven in two halves." —(A. Lang, 'History of Scotland,' vol. ii. p. 538.) In the town-hall of Veere are still preserved old documents relating to the Scottish trade. The custodian, who seemed also to be the police force of the faded burgh, was very ready to tell all he knew about these papers; and his knowledge is pretty full, for he is engaged in copying out for historical purposes the old contracts made with Scottish merchants. He told me among other things that a person bearing my own name had been Burgermeister of Veere in the beginning of the seventeenth century. He may have been a golfer, too: God rest his soul.

My friend the custodian is learning English at present, and chose to exercise himself in that tongue; so when I broached the subject of golf, the following colloquy took place.

Said I, "Have you ever heard of golf?"

"Golf? Yes, well."

"We play it a great deal in Scotland—generally by the sea, you know."

"Yes, yes! by the sea: also in Holland, so."

"Then it still exists in Holland?"

"Golf in Holland: oh, plenty: like this."

Then he traced with his fingers on the table a curved line.

"Ah!" said I, "you are drawing a golf-club."

"Kklobb," said he, puzzled; "golf, a wave of the sea."

Then it dawned upon me that we were at cross purposes, and that he was thinking of the Dutch word *golf*, a billow. So I learned nothing of golf or golf-balls at Veere, but my friend's mistake showed how the very name of "golf" has been almost forgotten in Holland.

At Middelburg I made the acquaintance of Mr Den Boer, a bookseller of that town, who informed me that a game called *kolf* (pronounced *gol-f*) was played there in a sort of court or alley belonging to a club to which he kindly introduced me.

This is the game of which Mr Lang in "Badminton" has quoted a description taken from 'The Statistical Accounts of Scotland, 1795.' Concerning this game Mr Lang observes, "There is no specific resemblance whatever between golf and the Dutch game called *kolf*." This is true as regards the mode of playing the game, though the clubs and balls used are simply the golfer's iron putter and feather ball of Brobdingnagian proportions. An etching by Rembrandt in the British Museum represents a man, seen through a window, who is

playing this game: this form of *kolf* must therefore be at least as old as the seventeenth century.

Whatever may be the origin of this somewhat effeminate sport, whether it was a bastard form of golf-made-comfortable or a game of independent growth, it seems certain that there was played for many centuries in Holland another Dutch game of golf, *het kolven*, which closely resembled the real article as we know it now, and which existed in Holland at so early a date as to make it probable that the source of golf is to be found there. The earliest mention of golf in Scotland occurs in an Act of the Scottish Parliaments, passed in the reign of James II., 1457, prohibiting "the futball and the golf" in the interests of "schuting" at the butts. It may be significant that in an earlier statute of similar intention, of the year 1424, reign of James I., "futball" only is forbidden.

In Holland we find a still earlier prohibition of the game.

Mr J. Ter Gouw, in his book of Dutch sports, 'De Volksvermaken,' claims that "a game called *het kolven* is a real game of the fatherland: it had Holland for its birthplace and home, and it was unknown to Germans, French, or English, except so far as they had seen it in Holland." It is certainly a very ancient sport in that country. There is a statute of the town

of Naarden, dating from the fifteenth century, to this effect: "No one is allowed in the churches or churchyards to play with golf-clubs (*doen mit kolven*) or balls or at ball-throwing." It may seem to us that a church is an odd place in which to golf, except, perhaps, on hot Sunday afternoons in imagination during the sermon (though, it is not more strange than that at the same date the central aisle of St Paul's should have been the London Stock Exchange); but the large vacant floor spaces and empty intercolumniation for which Batavian ecclesiastical architecture has sometimes been censured, must be kept in mind, and the spacious floor of a pre-Reformation edifice, unencumbered with pews—such, *e.g.*, as the cathedral at Haarlem—would provide a suitable place in all weathers for some sort of putting game, probably with small pins (*paaltjes*) instead of holes. The same may be said of the churchyard and its walks, with the additional advantage that smoking and strong language might there go forward unrestrained. There are in the town church of St Andrews waste spaces, popularly called the believers' galleries, whither the preacher's voice and eye do not penetrate: if Tom Morris were employed to lay these out as putting-greens it might solve the question of Sunday golf.

Even a century earlier than the Naarden statute,

according to Ter Gouw, that is in the fourteenth century, this game, *het kolven*, had been forbidden in certain parts of Amsterdam, probably on account of danger to the lieges. *Het kolven* continued to be played in Holland for some centuries, and we can form a fairly accurate conception of the game from various references to it in literary works.

Bredero is a Dutch poet, born at Amsterdam 1585, died 1618. In his "Moortje," a comedy founded on Terence's "Eunuchus," he introduces a peppery old gentleman, who is standing on the ice watching some golfers: the old man grumbles in this wise, "On my right hand a good man's wife (*i.e.*, a 'lady') got a golf-ball on her pate. Had I the power for once, I should certainly forbid it." From this it may be guessed that the balls were small and light, and that they flew to some distance. It appears from the pictures here produced of Van Ostade and Vandreuer, that Dutch golfers did not mind playing into a crowd. Both strikers and the about-to-be-struck seem as indifferent to the danger as if they were Christian Scientists. In the same poem occurs a line, "He also got a golf-club (*kolfje*) from Klaesje Buytenaer (probably the sixteenth-century Hugh Philp), without knot and without crack." Here the diminutive form of *kolf*, *kolfje*, a little club, is used, just as I have often heard in the east of Scotland a golf-club called a

"gowfie." (*Kolf* in Dutch is pronounced almost exactly like our "golf," if the "l" be sounded; not "goff," as the game is now usually called, but "gol-f," as it was pronounced a generation ago in Scotland.) From this line it appears that the club was small, of somewhat slender make, and of wood. Grabner, an old writer on sports, praises golf as a very pleasant and healthy game, since it was mostly played in the open air, and sharpened the eye.

The poet, Le Francq Van Berkhey (Leiden, 1729), found, as Professor Tait in our day, that the game was not only amusing but instructive, since it provided material for scientific research in calculating the curves described by the ball.

These notices serve to show that a game called *het kolven* was known in Holland from a very remote antiquity, and was still practised down to the eighteenth century.

The game was played on various sorts of ground,—in churches and churchyards, on the tops and sides of the broad grassy dykes, along the roads, where they were open enough, and in winter on the ice.

The earliest representation of authentic golf yet discovered is the Flemish miniature (1500-10), reproduced in the 'Illustrated London News' of 9th June 1894, and described by Mr Mayhew. The "course" is a meadow surrounded by palings. There



FROM ENGRAVING OF PICTURE BY ADRIAN VANDREVER.



are three players, each only having one club: one player has teed and is addressing his ball, but from his "stand," grip, and the look of his club, he does not seem to be meditating a full drive; one of the other players is "holing out." For this stroke he has knelt down: we may not, however, conclude that this was the orthodox position for sixteenth-century putting; for, indeed, one of the opponents has a distinctly protesting air, as who should say, "Do ye ca' that gowff?" The gentleman standing in the doorway wears a nice green shirt: he has the conquering air of one who has just won his match and has stood his opponent the Flemish equivalent for a "small whisky-and-soda."

In the picture attributed to Van Ostade, and owned by the late Colonel Boothby (a reproduction of it appears in the "Badminton Book of Golf"), and in the picture of Vandreuer reproduced here, the game is being played on the ice.

It is improbable that there could have ever been anything exactly like our golf links in Holland. The most probable places for them would be the dunes which protect the west coast from the sea, such as those of Zandvoort, or of Domburg in Walcheren; but these do not appear on inspection to be suitable golfing ground. The grass is too sparse and too coarse; the surface of the ground too hummocky.

They provide admirable bunkers, it is true, but nothing else. Then, the inland parts of Holland are given over to grain growing and fat pasture land, and were probably always too valuable to be used for golfing purposes. Holland, indeed, might be described as a vast cow-park, protected from the sea by a line of bunkers and dams, two necessary accompaniments of golf, but not in themselves sufficient to constitute golf links. It is, therefore, possible that the full development of the long game did not take place except on tracts of smooth ice. That the whole game was somehow played on ice is proved by the complete set of clubs, including various irons, which appear in the Van Ostade picture.

In the picture by Vandrever (Adrian, about 1673), an engraving of which is at Fingask, Perthshire, several players are standing on the ice: the one who is driving off, apparently without having called *Voor* to the skater in front, is left-handed; he plays with a short club as Vardon does, while his antagonist, looking on, boasts a driver which, in the matter of length, would have satisfied the late lamented Bob Kirk.

The other representations of the game here given are from old Dutch tiles in the possession of R. B. Sharp, Esq., the well-known golfer. In the two pictures the players seem to belong to the upper classes of society; whereas the figures in the tiles



OLD DUTCH TILES.
IN POSSESSION OF R. B. SHARP, ESQ.



include types of peasants, who are wielding rudely formed golf-clubs in a workmanlike manner. These serve to prove, what has been pointed out by Mr Mayhew, that golf was a well-known and popular sport in the Low Countries.

Further proof may be found in the existence of of proverbs, still current, which refer to various parts of the game of golf.

In striking off, the player made with the hand a *tuitje* (pronounced "toytee"), our "tee," a "small heap" of sand or other matter, on which the ball was placed in fair position for a clean swipe (*een fiskschen slag*). Hence arose the proverb, *Het balletje op het tuitje zetten*, to place the ball on the tee,—a saying which now bears the meaning, "To venture on a fresh stroke": thus in current use it has survived the game whence it was originally derived. Note the diminutive of *ballet*, English pellet, the little ball, contrasted with the larger balls used in some other Dutch games of ball, such as the *malien-bahn* or *paille-maille*.

There are some other Dutch proverbs, of more or less common occurrence in the language of to-day, which throw light on the game of *het kolven*. *Das is wie een kolfje naar mijn hand*: "That lies to my hand like a golf-club,"—said of anything that exactly suits the speaker. I was told that every schoolboy still uses this proverb. Alas! that the

boys of Holland know nothing of golf except by way of metaphor: they are in a worse case than the young Scotswoman who had "not yet got further than love in the abstract." Another proverb is, "The best golfer will at times make a miss"; another is one of those touches of nature which makes us all kin, "One must not throw the club after the ball." Yet another is very significant of the nature of the course in which the game was played, "You must play the ball as it lies." Now what was this game of *het kolven*, which was played with *kolfjes* so long ago in Holland? That the name was applied to a distinct game, and not to all kinds of games played with any sort of club or mallet, seems certain. The instinct for ball games was strongly developed in old Holland: there were many varieties of bat and ball games, such as *malien-bahn* (*paille-maille*), tennis, &c., each being distinguished by its proper name. We may then conclude that *het kolven* was the name of a specific game of club and ball. From the various scraps of information here collected, it seems that it was played on wide spaces, such as frozen lakes or rivers and country roads; that the ball was struck from a tee and flew long distances through the air; that it was played from hole to hole; that the ball had to be played where it happened to lie, so that

the play between each hole must have comprised several consecutive strokes; that the clubs were slender wooden implements, with grips of leather and heads "whipped" on to a supple shaft, for driving, and metal-headed clubs for other parts of the game; that the ball was a small light object, probably made of leather stuffed with hair or some such material: in a word, that it was golf.

If Holland, then, was the native home of golf, it seems reasonable to seek in the Dutch language the origin of the nomenclature of the game. Mention has already been made of the derivation of "tee" from *tuitje*; and *put*, "a hole," may be connected with the verb "to putt." There is one golfing expression, the derivation of which still remains mysterious,—the word "stymie." I may have my guess as well as another. There is a Dutch verb *stuiten* (pronounced "styten"), meaning to hinder or stop. I would suggest that when an old Dutch golfer found himself "stymied," he did not at once yell for the abrogation of Rule XX., but said *stuit mij* (pronounced "styt my"), which is good Dutch for "It stops me." This phrase, with the elision of *t* before *m* (which would naturally take place in Scotland), would be contracted into "sty' my," "stymie."

Golf, as an outdoor game, is no longer played

by Hollanders. The game which is now or was recently played in the covered courts called *kolfbahnen*, has possibly no connection with the ancient *het kolven*, except the name; but it too was at one time a popular outdoor sport. Its decline and fall are recorded by the learned Ter Gouw as follows. As the game became more and more popular, it came about that the roads were actually sometimes blocked by the players, and the game was naturally forbidden on the highway. In the seventeenth century, the date of Rembrandt's etching mentioned above, golf-alleys (*kolfbahnen*) were laid down in the wine-houses with large level floors, and nicely-turned golf-pins (*kolfpalen*) stuck therein. The balls were made heavy and elastic; they were perfectly round, of worsted wound round a centre and covered with leather; while the clubs (*de kolven*) were finished with heavy copper ends or heads (*klikken*). In the eighteenth century these golf courts or alleys were roofed over to protect them from sun and rain, wind and falling leaves, so that people might golf undisturbed in all weathers. These formed long wooden sheds 80 feet long and 20 broad, covered with tiles; the floor, which consisted of a mixture of earth and lime, was made hard, smooth, and perfectly level. At a quarter-distance from each end stood a pin turned out of

hard wood; for two feet of its height it was thickly coated with bell metal, so as to give a sharp sound when struck by the large leather balls. Round the golf-alley were little tables and stools for the onlookers. So one finds them in North Holland still. The game, in fact, had been reduced almost to parlour golf.

Through the kindness of Mr Den Boer, I was shown the golf-court belonging to the Middelburg club. It stands in a pretty garden behind the club in one of the principal streets of the town. The building is a long shed, perhaps 25 feet in height, lighted by day from the roof, and fitted up with gas pendants for night. The floor is a level space of asphalt, some 60 feet long by 18 feet broad. Round this playing court on its four sides runs a passage 10 feet wide, separated from the playing surface by a strong wooden partition about 2 feet in height. When in play, the surface of the court is thinly sprinkled with sand to make the balls bite. There are certain white lines painted on the floor, which are required for the game; and at a distance of 12 feet from each end stood a stout pin, about 3 feet in height and of considerable weight — 50 or 60 lb. at least. I was shown a *kolf*. The head, made of iron, was very heavy — 1 or 2 lb. probably; it was cut out of sheet-iron

about half an inch thick, was perfectly flat on both faces, and shaped something like an iron without any loft. It might be described as a monstrous putting niblick, with perfectly straight face and back. The shaft was between four and five feet long, of about the thickness of a garden rake handle. Of course it had no spring. It was evidently only to be used with a short swing: indeed, in trying a half-swing I nearly smashed a gasalier. Unfortunately the club porter could not find a single ball on the premises, though he searched all the boxes which stand round the court. The rusty state of the iron and the absence of balls told only too clearly their tale of a neglected and dying game. The balls as described by the porter are rather bigger than croquet balls; they are made of thread tightly wound, and covered with leather. They cost when new five guilders (8s. 4d.), and can be made up again for half that amount. At one end of the court stands a stove for warming the balls, as they are then found to run more truly. I suppose that in winter they get frozen, and have thus to be thawed; just as, on the other hand, American golfers in summer carry round their golf balls in an ice-pail.

I did not form a clear idea how the game was played; but it consists essentially in putting at the pins, with certain modifications introduced by the

sides of the court and the aforesaid white lines. The club porter admitted that the court was now all but disused. He went over a pathetic list of old players by name, known to my companion: how such a one was now dead, another disabled, and so on. So that in Middelburg the game appears to be extinct, as it is becoming in other parts of Holland. As I left the club I looked into the billiard-room, with its three well-kept tables and its comfortable air of daily use; and I breathed a prayer that the day would never be in St Andrews when the board of green cloth would flourish, and the green turf be left to the sheep and the rabbits.

Such was the game which was still played with great vigour in Holland in the eighteenth century. While the sport was in full bloom there was a Dutch Amateur Championship played for annually: the prize, which consisted of a silver golf-club with a velvet grip, bound with gold and silver thread, was subscribed for by the various landlords who owned *kolf-bakken*. As soon as a match of this sort was announced in the journals, famous golfers came from far and near to take part in it. Matches for money stakes were also frequent: in the end of the seventeenth century the landlord of "De Witte en de Zwarte Hond" at Rotterdam wrote over his golf-court these lines, which may be roughly translated thus:—

" Golfers, here hang club and ball :
Players plenty, Rotterdamers all.
Whoever will golf, come to the tee,
But bring some ducats along with ye."

For play was deep and the betting high, and a writer so late as the beginning of this (nineteenth) century assures us that many Amsterdammers had been brought to ruin through the golf-courts. At this period in the gardens round Amsterdam, wherever a fashionable public was expected, nicely - appointed golf-courts were to be found. In playing the game they availed themselves of one singular adjunct which may be commended to the attention of those golfers who are always seeking for some new things, especially in putting. Every one who has been in Holland knows the long straight pipe of the Dutch farmer, with its metal cover. This pipe plays several parts besides its proper one : it is for one thing the barometer of agricultural prosperity. When the price of wheat is high and the farmer's spirits good, he carries his pipe in his mouth raised aloft like the horn of an unicorn ; but when the market is falling, the pipe hangs its head like a tulip in a thunderstorm. It also played its part in golf. When held in the usual way, it interfered with the free use of both hands in swinging the club ; but out of a hindrance they made a convenience : the pipe-stem was held

horizontally between the teeth, and so was not only out of the way but served the knowing ones as a "guide to the hole,"—*hulplijn*, help-line. As we have already said, even this debased form of golf has almost disappeared in Holland. Ter Gouw accounts for this as follows:—

Two enemies have driven out golf between them, billiards and the railway. When the period of railways began, that of the golf-courts closed, and even the old proverb, "As level as a golf-court," was changed into "As level as a railway."

The good Ter Gouw gives no proof of this: and he is perhaps, as regards railways, guilty of the fallacy of *post hoc, ergo propter hoc*. He goes on to say with more show of reason:—

But, after all, the decline of golf had begun some years before, through the competition of the billiard table, which even in country villages drove out the golf-courts. One sees golf-players in North Holland still, but only among peasants and old-fashioned citizens, especially on market days, at Hoorn in the Park. On the island of Texel the same thing has happened—new ideas and encroaching civilisation (*veldwinnende beschaving*) have caused the decay of many peculiar and local customs: among them golf now finds itself left with comparatively few followers.

From which catastrophe may we in mercy be delivered.

"Ill fares the land, to hastening ills a prey,
Where wealth accumulates and games decay."

II.

Early References to Golf at St Andrews.

THE earliest reference to Golf on St Andrews Links, so far discovered, is in a parchment dated 25th January 1552. The original document is in the University Library, and bears on the outside the following note, written in a late eighteenth or early nineteenth century hand: "This is a curious and important document, as it shows the state of the Links at a remote period, and proves that *in times past* the protecting of rabbits and playing of golf on the same field was customary." The deed is a licence by the city of St Andrews to John, Archbishop of St Andrews, for making "cunniggairs" in the north part of their Links. It bears the seal of "Jhon Archbyshop" in red wax—"our rond seill," as he calls it—and the seal of the chapter, "the comoun seill," in yellow wax. The full text may be read in Mr Robert Clark's 'Golf,' second edition, 1893, pp. 123, 124.

John Archbishop Hamilton was the last Archbishop of the Church, the immediate successor of Cardinal Beaton: the character of the right reverend prelate does not compel admiration, as an incident in his career will sufficiently show. After Carberry Hill, when Queen Mary was a captive in Loch Leven Castle, he proposed that she should be put to death, "as the only certain method of reconciling all parties," and, incidentally, of advancing the interests of the Archbishop's own house. "Of all the infamies of that infamous age, this is the most abominable," says Mr Lang ('St Andrews,' p. 183). "Jhon Archbishop" himself, however, came to a violent end, for, being taken at Dumbarton Castle, he was hanged for complicity in the slaughter both of Darnley and Moray.

To return to the parchment: Hamilton acknowledges that he has received permission from the provost, bailies, council, and community to plant and plenish "cunninggis" (rabbits) within the north part of their common Links next adjacent to the Water of Eden. This, however, was under the reservation of the community's right, *inter alia*, to play at golf, football, schuting, at all gamis, with all uther maner of pastime, as ever thai pleis, not only where the rabbits were planted, but in other parts of the Links. He proceeds to confirm, ratify, and approve, for

himself and successors, "in ony tyme cuming," the right of the community and inhabitants to "play at *golff*, futball, schuteing, at all gamis, with all uther maner of pastyme," to remain "pecebill" and perpetual with the said provost and the rest, without any "dykin or closing of ony pairt thair of fra thame, or impediment to be maid to thame thairintill."

Although this is the first specific reference to the game as played at St Andrews, it is clear from the document itself that golf and golfers were already, so to speak, in full swing, and had been so, we may surmise, for a hundred years, more or less. One is led to this conclusion by comparison with the date of the earliest existing allusion to the game. James II., in 1457, decreed that the "futball ande the golf be utterly cryit doune and not usit, and at the bowe merkis be maide at ilke pröch kirk a pair of butts, and schuting be usyt ilk Sunday. And as tuichande the futball and the golf we ordane it to be punyst be the baronys unlaue." Later, in 1471, when James III. was king, patriotic considerations demanded that people should be kept up to the mark in the matter of shooting. "Swa that in defawt of the said wapinschawing our Soverane Lords lieges be nocht destitut of harnes guhen thai haf neid, and that the futbal and golf be abusit in tym cumming, and the butts maid up and schut-

ing usit eftir the tenor of the act of parlyament." Yeomen who could not deal with the bow were to have an axe and leathern targe to "resist the schot of Ingland." In 1491 James IV. ordains that in "na place of the Realme be usit futbawis, gouff or uthir sic unproffitable sports, but for common gude and defence of the realm be hantit bowis schuting and marks therefor ordinit." History repeats itself: we of the twentieth century are being reminded that our citizens must be taught to shoot; football and golf are the popular games of our age, as they have been from the fifteenth century onwards.

Next to Hamilton's deed, and more interesting as a "human document," in chronological order comes James Melville's 'Diary,' 1556-1601. A son of Richard Melville, minister of Maryton, near Montrose, young James, at the age of seven, was sent to school in Montrose. There, as we learn from the 'Diary,' he was trained in learning and exercise of honest games, and taught to handle the bow for archery, "the glub for goff, the batons for fencing, also to rin, loope, to swoom, to warsell, to preive pratteiks, everie ane haiffing his matche and anda-gonist, bathe in our lessons and play." Thus early he seems to have been initiated into the delight of personal rivalry and the charms of a well-contested match. On 1st November 1571 he came as a

student to St Andrews University ; his predilections had ever been in the direction of the "schollar's lyff." Temptation assailed him, but with charming naïveté he remarks, "In respect of my amorus disposition, whereby Satan sought even then to de-boiche me, bot my God gaiff me a piece of his fear, and grait naturall shamefastnes, as a preservative." Though never overburdened with money, he seems to have had enough, and to have been therewith content. "Als I had my necessars honestlie aneuche of my father, bot nocht els ; for archerie and goff, I haid bow, arrose, glub and bals, but nocht a pursse for catchpull and Tauern, sic wes his faterlie wesdom for my weill."

Dereliction of duty seems to be implied in the following extract : — "9th May 1582 : The session authorise a conference with the Earl of March, for gude ordour to be takin for Mr Robert Pont, minister, and for his stipend, that he may be hestit to cum hame, and report ansuer this day aucht dayis."

The Earl of March was Commendator of the Priory of St Andrews, and according to James Melville, he "colluded with the rewellars of the town to hold the ministerie vacand, and in the mean tyme tuk up the stipend, and spendit the sam, with the rest of the Kirk's rents of the

Pryorie, at the goff, archerie, guid cheir, etc."—Melville's 'Diary' (Wodrow Society), p. 126; 'Kirk-Sessions Register,' vol. i. p. 481.

Sunday golf frequently claimed the attention of kirk-sessions in those early ages, thus¹:—

December 18, 1583.—The quhilk day it is delatit that Alexander Milleris tua sonis ar inobedient to him, and that thai, with Nicholl Mane, William Bruce and utheris, thair complices, playit in the golf feildis Sondag last wes, tyme of fast and precheing, aganis the ordinances of the kirk. The session ordanes them to be warnit and accusit thairfor.

March 29, 1598.—The quhilk day Daudid Gray powderar and Thomas Saith tailyour being callit comperit, and being accusit for prophaning of the Saboth day in playing at the gouf eftir nune, confest the samin; and becaus thai war nocht apprehendit with the lyik fault of befoir, thai war admonished nocht to do the samin heireftir, and cravit the session forgiveness, and ar with thair awin consentis actit to pay fourtie s. ilk ane of thame, if evir thai be fund violating the Saboth day.²

December 19, 1599.—The quhilk day the bretheren undirstanding perfytlie that divers personis of thair number the tyme of sessioun passis to the feildis, to the goufe and uthir exercise, and hes no regard for keiping of the sessioun conform to the actis maid thairanent, for remeid quhairof it is ordinit that quhatsumevir person or personis of the sessioun that heireftir beis fund playand, or passis to play at the goufe or uthir pastymes the tyme of sessioun, sall pay ten s. for the first fault, for the secund fault xx. s., for the thrid fault publik

¹ Register of St Andrews Kirk-Session (Scottish Historical Society), vol. ii. p. 515.

² Ibid., p. 846.

repentance, and the fourt fault deprivation fra thair offices; and this to be payit to the clerk, without prejudice of the formar actis maid for keiping of the sessioun.¹

That the Links was a place of popular resort there is thus ample evidence to show. Numerous quotations in addition to the above might be given from the kirk-session records, from Robert Blair's 'Life,' and other sources, to emphasise the fact that St Andrews congregations, in the opinion of their spiritual advisers, were a bad lot: they are described in eminently unflattering terms. One gentleman remarks with painful contumacy, "The divell ane kirk will I gang to"; and again, "The divell burn up the kirk or I come into it." "A more undisciplined set could hardly be imagined as fitting subjects for the rigorous jurisdiction of a kirk-session," says Dr Hay Fleming. On the other hand, one prelate at least, Archbishop Adamson, was clearly no better than he should be, for he walked on the Links on a Sunday, in consequence whereof an outraged member of the laity, Patrick Learmonth, had a shot at him, but seems to have been unsuccessful in bringing the divine to bag.

Important documents relating to the Links are those of 1611, 1612, 1614, 1620. Archbishop Glad-

¹ Register of St Andrews Kirk-Session (Scottish Historical Society), vol. ii. p. 913.

stances contracts to grant to the provost and community confirmation of all the infeftments made by him or his predecessors to the inhabitants. The subject of contract is—

The landis of Pilmure, that pece of land callit the Saltgers, the Links of Sanctandrois as the samyn lyis in lenth and breid, with the Mussil Scap to the Watter of Edin as the samyn ebbis and flowis, with the lands callit the North Hauch and the landis callit the Sowth Hauch, thair commoun landis and commownetie of the said Cietie.

This contract of 7th December 1611 was ratified by the Scottish Parliament in 1612: in 1614 (August 18) the Archbishop granted a charter to the city, and on the 28th February 1620, James the Sixth ratified, approved, and for ever confirmed Gladstane's charter of 1614 and the contract of 1611. It thus appears that an indefeasible title to the Links, subject always to a servitude of golf, was vested in the city.

Glimpses of student life at St Andrews in those early days are only occasionally to be met with. After Melville, the next interesting character is the great royalist leader under Charles I., James Graham, Marquis of Montrose. He matriculated 26th January 1627, being then in his fifteenth year. If Melville was the student, the reading man immersed in his Aristotle and books, Montrose, on the other hand, "had a good time," and probably

did not expend any large amount of midnight oil in bootless investigations as to the behaviour of Greek enclitic particles. He stands revealed to us a generous open-handed young fellow, popular among his contemporaries, giving suppers, relieving distress, tipping caddies, grooms, and beggars all round. A thorough sportsman, he was devoted to hunting, hawking, archery, tennis, and golf. His prowess at archery was undoubted, and his rooms were decorated with trophies of bows and the medals he had won. Interesting contemporary evidence¹ exists in his accounts (1628-29) in which are entered several items of his golfing expenses at St Andrews, at Leith, and at Montrose.

Item : efternoon for my Lord's lose at the golfe, 10 sh.

Item : for balls in the tinnes court of Leth, 16 sh.

Item : for two goffe balls, my Lord going to the goffe ther,
10 sh.

Item : the nynth day in Montrois, my Lord playing at the
golfe with the laird of Lusse, for two golf-balls,
24 sh.

Item : My Lord taking ane drink in Jhone Garns before he
went out and after he came from the golfe,
45 sh. 4d.

Item : the nynteen day to ane boy going to St Andrews
for clubs and bals to my Lord, for bearing his
charges having been [some] nights waiting on
them, 32 sh.

¹ Memorials of Montrose and his Times, vol. i. p. 172.

Item: for sax new clubs and dressing some auld clubs, and for bals, 11 lb. 8 sh.

Item: to James Pett for furnishing my Lord with bows and arrows and clubs that year [1628], 7 lb. 8 sh.

Item: to the boy who carried my Lord's clubs to the field, 3 sh.

Item: to the poor, and boys who carried my Lord's clubs that week, 8 sh.

These few extracts give the outlines of a picture of which the details in imagination are easy to fill in. James Pett was the clubmaker of the day, whose daughter nursed him when he was sick. On 19th May our hero is hard at golf on the Links of St Andrews, but the 24th of that same month is noted as "the beginning of my Lord's sickness."

For the last month the boy had been feasting like an alderman and riding like an Arab. The scene changes, and now he is disclosed to us in a sick chamber, passing through the phases of an alarming illness to luxurious convalescence, and cherished with various delicacies, speaking the well-cared for invalid — such as chickens, jelly, sack, and sugar, and possets; the daily purveyor of the same being "James Pett's dochter," that is to say, the daughter of the man who provided him with golf clubs and bows.¹

The Laird of Lusse, Sir John Colquhoun, was Montrose's brother-in-law, the husband of his eldest sister, Lady Lilius Graham. After nine days of

¹ Napier's *Life of Montrose*, p. 38.

wedded life we find the Marquis hurrying off to St Andrews to play golf.

To the courtesy of Dr Hay Fleming I am indebted for permission to reprint extracts from his little book, 'Historical Notes or Extracts concerning the Links of St Andrews, 1552-1893,' now out of print. The learned doctor remarks that he has gone through all the Minute-books of the Town Council, from 1656 to 1865, so far as they are extant. All before 5th October 1656 are lost: there is also a blank from 5th October 1697 to 18th February 1706, and the volume extending from 1729 to 1743 is likewise missing.

An entry dated 12th October 1659 shows that the grazing of the Links was let by the Town Council so far back as this date: numerous other extracts follow, all relating to rouns and tacks, and covering a long period of years. There follows "a motion made in behalfe of Sir James Sharp of Strathtyrum," 11th October 1725, "that the marches and march stones betwixt the town and him might be settled and fixt, the Council agrees thereto, remit that affair to the a[nnual?] Committee to act and doe therein and to report to the Council."

24th September 1726.—The Council allowed William Gib, deacon of the Baxters, to put and place his black and white rabbits in the Links during the

Council's pleasure ; that he shall have the privilege of disposing of them ; *but the Links are not to be spoiled where the golfing is used*, and the Council may recall the grant at a month's notice.

24th March 1768.—Doctor Stewart produced an agreement between the dean-of-gild, bailies, treasurer, and late convener, and Provost Lumsdaine, "relative to the settling the marches and placing march stones betwixt the lands of Strathtyram, and the North Haugh and Pilmor Links belonging to the town." Both parties had named arbiters who were "to examine old men and take their opinion thereanent." The Council approved of the agreement, confirmed the appointment of the arbiters, and appointed them, "with what witnesses might be brought before them, to be put upon their oaths as to the settlement of said marches, and placing march stones, as said is, and that their determination shall be final."

On 29th November 1769 a contract of excambion was signed by James Lumsdaine, Esq. of Strath-tyrum, Mary Lillias Sharp his wife, and the Town Council. The Lumsdaines made over to the town "that piece of their lands of Strathtyrum lying by east and north Swilkin burn, and consisting of six acres, two roods, thirty-eight falls, and twenty-three elns, to be measured, staked off, and march stones sett at the sight of the partys. A right of way

along the road leading westward was reserved to the heritors and possessors of the North Haugh and to the inhabitants of the city: also to the tenants and possessors of Strathtyrum, who, besides, were to be entitled to the use of the washing green, on the same terms as the inhabitants of the city. A clause in the deed ran as follows: "It is also agreed that the part of the Links as presently golfed upon shall be kept entire, and not ploughed up nor enclosed by the Town of St Andrews or their tenants." Dr Hay Fleming remarks on this, "There is no saying how much influence this clause had on the Town Council in 1797 and 1799, nor how much we are consequently indebted to the old Laird of Strathtyrum for preserving our rights over the Golf Course."

18th March 1777.—A petition is given in by Robert Nicol, tacksman of Pilmuir Links and Town's Commonty, asking that the Golf Links should be marked out so that he might not encroach thereon by ploughing or otherwise; that a certain part of the other Links should be set aside for the inhabitants casting feal and divot. This entry shows that before this date the Golf Course was not marked off, and that the inhabitants took their feal and divot from any other part of the Links that suited them.

15th November 1785.—The tack is taken off the

hands of Robert Nicol, and roused anew for nineteen years, *reserving always the Golf Links as formerly*, and with power to the inhabitants to "cast feal and divot according to use and wont."

In 1797 the city is in debt, and in 1798 sells the Links to Mr Erskine of Cambo, afterwards Earl of Kellie, who, after a brief tenure, disposes of them to Charles and Cathcart Dempster, the heroes of the celebrated lawsuit elsewhere described. The only reservations were, first, in favour of all inhabitants and others who should resort to the Links for the purpose of playing golf; and second, the superiority involving a yearly payment of £42 sterling. In 1848 that also was sold to the trustees of Mr James Cheape for £1000.

III.

The Origin of the "Royal and Ancient."

PROBABLY there may chance to be readers of this page who at some time or other have found themselves unwilling occupants of the big room of the Royal and Ancient, detained there by stress of weather, when they would have preferred to be playing golf.

And since it is generally held that the next best thing to playing golf is reading about it, these storm-stayed golfers may probably have beguiled a few minutes by a study of the names of medal winners, which, with their respective scores, are to be seen mounted on cardboard, framed, and reposing on the top of the golf-boxes.

The earliest winner there given is Mr Walter Cook, W.S., in 1806, score 100; and as we glance down the list we observe that the three figures are not broken until the year 1834, when Mr Robert Oliphant, jun. (father of the well-known Mr T. T.



ROBERT OLIPHANT OF ROSSIE.

III.

The Origin of the "Royal and Ancient."

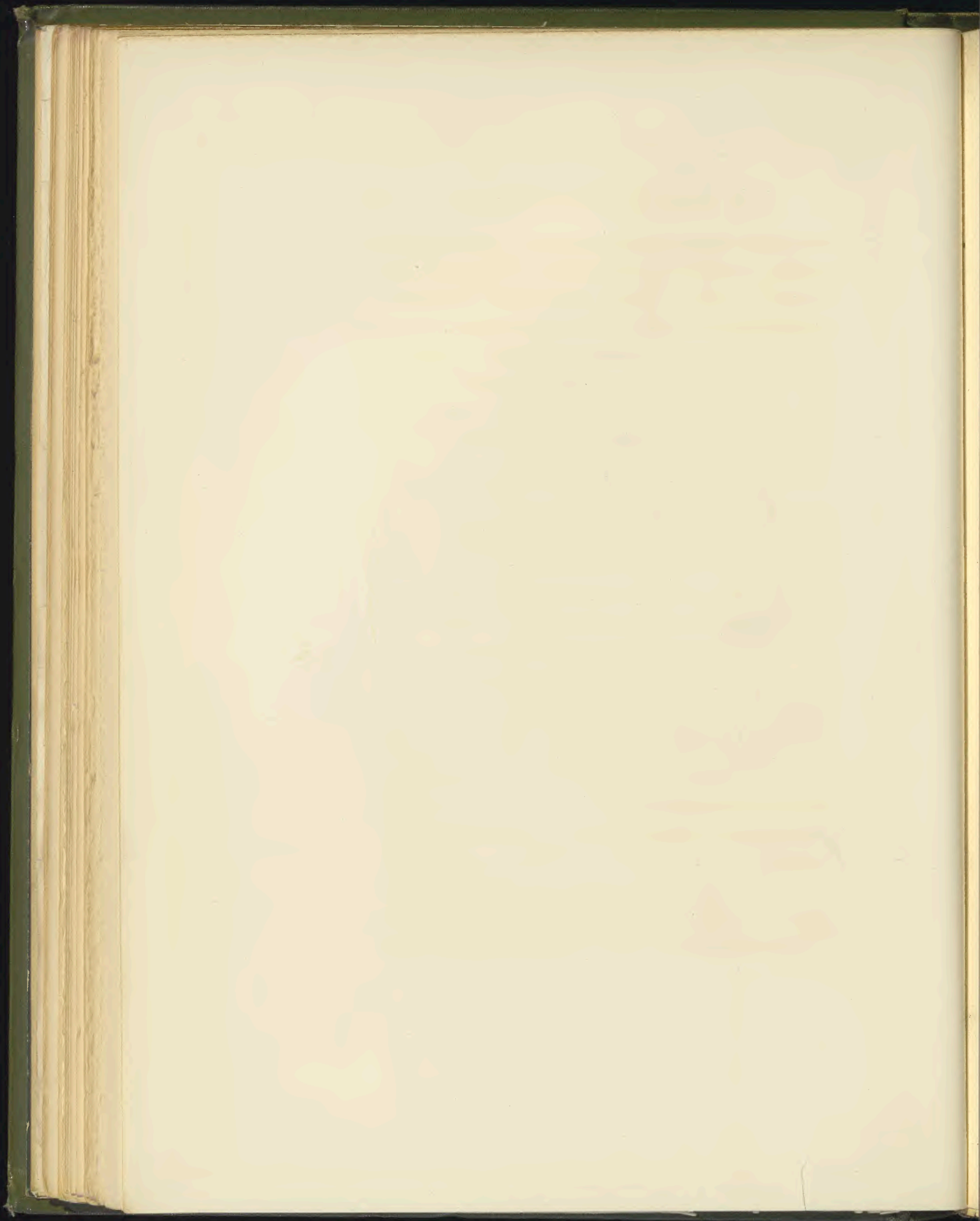
PROBABLY there will always be readers of this page who at some time or other have found themselves unwilling occupants of the big room of the Royal and Ancient, driven there by stress of weather, when they were more prepared to be playing golf.

And since it is generally the case that the best thing to playing golf is to read about it, these winter-stayed golfers may amuse and enlighten the minutes by a study of the history of British golf, which, with their respective names, is now all mounted on cardboard covers and hanging on the top of the golf-boxes.

The earliest winner recorded in the Walker Cook, W.S., in 1806, score 121; and as we glance down the list we observe that the same figures are not broken until the year 1834, when Mr Robert Oliphant, jun. (father of the well-known Mr T. T.



ROBERT OLIPHANT OF ROSSIE.



Oliphant), holes the course in 97. From this it might readily be supposed (and the present writer fell into the same mistake), that there exist few or no records of competitions anterior to 1806, and that a score of 100 was scarcely ever beaten by them of old time; the fact of the matter being, however, that competitions are chronicled pretty completely since 1754, and that scores in the nineties surprise us by their comparative frequency.

First a word as to the minute-books in which are preserved these interesting records. The books are in a surprisingly good state of preservation, the ink a little faded in places, but the entries all legible, and written for the most part in distinct clear hands. Competitors for prizes all signed their names; and in some cases it is rather pathetic to trace the same signature, bold at first, while the player was in the heyday of youth or middle age; then, as years rolled on, more feeble, the strokes shaky, and letters ill-formed, until at length, after, it may be, twenty or thirty years, the doughty old warrior has quitted the stage for ever.

However, to return to the origin of the Royal and Ancient.

On 14th May 1754, twenty-two "Noblemen and Gentlemen, being admirers of the ancient and healthfull exercise of the Golf," met together and drafted

certain Articles and Laws in playing the Golf; the first and second pages of the minute-book recording their resolution are here photographically reproduced (pp. 49, 50). Many well-known Fife names appear in the list of signatures: Earl of Elgin, Wemyss of Wemyss Hall, two Bethunes, Oswald of Dunnikier, James Cheape, to indicate a few; and all the signers, as is abundantly evident later, were animated by a heart-whole devotion to the game which calls forth our respectful admiration.

As to the "Articles and Laws," they, of course, have something in common with our Rules of to-day—yet one or two provisos seem puzzling. Why, for instance, must your tee be upon the *ground*? Where else *could* it be? And if by chance one preferred one's tee suspended, like Mahomet's coffin, in mid-air, where would be the harm?¹

Law 13 is interesting: "Neither Trench, Ditch, or Dyke made for the preservation of the Links, nor the Scholars Holes, or the Soldiers Lines, shall be considered a hazard." The Scholars' Holes, in all probability, were in the neighbourhood of what is now the Old Station, where, in fact, there are putting-holes at the present day; but where the "Soldiers' Lines"

¹ The writer is informed by Mr David Loudon that this amounts to a prohibition of artificial tees, as sand, or other substance. The ball apparently had to be placed flat upon the ground, or on any natural rise.

can have been the present writer has been wholly unable to discover. Although these localities are expressly declared not to be hazards, yet the player, as will be seen, is nevertheless penalised to the extent of having to play with an iron: a very real penalty, as any one may imagine, having once handled specimens of the awesome weapons fashioned by the Tubal Cains of the eighteenth century.

Having therefore their "Articles and Laws" settled, our enthusiasts subscribe for a Silver Club, paying five shillings apiece towards the purchase of this outward and visible sign of golfing prowess, which was to be open for competition to all and sundry in Great Britain and Ireland. Having drawn lots for the order of starting, with the proviso that the odd man (if any) should play with the last party, preliminaries were complete. It now becomes necessary to transcribe the next clause, in order that readers may exercise their ingenuity in deciding for themselves what was the actual process under which the winner was held to emerge victorious. Here, then, are the words:—

After the figures are drawn, the set or match beginning with No. 1, &c., shall go out first, with a clerk to mark down every stroke each of them shall take to every hole; then by the time they are at the Hole of Leslie, the second set, beginning with No. 3, shall strike off; and so all the rest in the same order, each set having a clerk. And

when the match is ended, and the whole golfers have played to the last hole (being 11 holes), and played in again to the Hole of Hill (in all, 22 holes), then a scrutiny of the whole clerks' books or jottings is to be made, and the player who shall appear to have won the greatest number of holes shall be declared to be the winner of the match; and if there shall be two or three or more that are equal, then these must play from the Hole of Craig to the Hole of Cartgate, and back again by themselves, in the order of their figures, before the match can be decided.

Now there are two or three points about this minute which seem to invite elucidatory comment at the hands of the scholiast, for the interpretation to be placed on the language seems open to question.



IV.

The First Competition. Method of Scoring.

IN the first place, the nomenclature of the holes is different from that in use to-day and for many long years past. It will be observed, also, that the course at that time consisted of twenty-two holes, not eighteen. The extra holes seem to have been placed respectively—one between the present Home Hole (at that time known as the Hole of Hill) and the Burn Hole (Hole of Leslie, or Bridge Hole); the other, probably midway between the Burn Hole and the corner of the Dyke, known as the Hole of Bafield. The Hole of Cartgate is the present third hole; and the Hole of Craig, therefore, must have been the hole between the Home Hole and the Burn Hole.¹

Ties then, according to the minute, were decided by playing four holes out and home, starting from the Hole of Craig.

¹ Mr Loudon suggests that the Hole of Craig was so named from its proximity to the Dhu (Doo) Craig.

Now, to decide the rather important question, Who was the winner? must have been as perplexing as to point to the winner of the Caucus Race, when the Dodo, with commendable impartiality, announced that they had all won.

“A scrutiny of the whole clerks’ books and jottings is to be made.” Very good. The whole clerks, as we know, jotted down the strokes taken at every hole; but it does not seem to have occurred to anybody to add them all up, as we do nowadays, and decide by the lowest score. No; “the player who shall appear to have won the greatest number of holes shall be declared to be the winner.”

Now, does this mean that if A holes out in four at any given hole, for which B, C, D, E, and F require, each of them, more than four—does this mean that A wins a hole from each—that is to say, five holes altogether,—and so throughout? If so, some rather remarkable results must have ensued, as may be seen from the following hypothetical competition:—

- A. 444454434434454454—73
- B. 544656645444563474—86
- C. 473484423724845367—85
- D. 657354545435464753—85
- E. 544657656633474454—88
- F. 575554424354664554—83

In the first hole it will be seen that A wins from B, D, E, and F. The accompanying table shows, similarly, how each competitor fares:—

	A	B	C	D	E	F
1.	4	1	4	—	1	1
2.	3	3	—	2	3	—
3.	2	2	5	—	2	1
4.	3	—	3	5	—	2
5.	1	1	—	1	1	1
6.	2	1	2	2	—	2
7.	3	—	3	2	—	3
8.	3	1	4	1	—	4
9.	3	1	5	1	—	3
10.	2	2	—	2	1	5
11.	2	1	5	2	2	—
12.	1	1	1	—	1	1
13.	3	2	—	3	3	1
14.	4	1	5	1	—	1
15.	1	5	—	1	1	1
16.	2	2	5	—	2	1
17.	2	—	1	2	2	2
18.	1	1	—	5	1	1
<hr/>						
Holes won	42	25	43	30	20	30
Score .	.73	86	85	85	88	83

In the above table of scores, A is incontestably the best of the field, every one of whom he beats in match play, as well as in score. Yet in spite of his steady and brilliant game he is defeated by C, who thus would become the "Captain of the Golf." While D and F respectively score 85 and

83, their sum total of holes nevertheless falls far below that of C.

This system, apparently, is all in favour of the man who plays an unsteady, in-and-out sort of game, while the real golfer has but a poor chance. It would perhaps hardly be within the strictest limits of truth to assert that under no conceivable circumstances could the best man win, but it may safely be said that few methods could be devised which would better ensure the reward of the unfit.

The writer has also worked out an alternative method, which results equally in the discomfiture of A ; but it is unnecessary further to trouble the reader with calculations, for on any interpretation of the minute it seems pretty clear that the desired object of annoying A as much as possible has been attained.

That the Ancients, before very long, became alive to the shortcomings of this system is evidenced by a minute under date 9th May 1759.

In order to remove all disputes and inconveniences with regard to the gaining of the Silver Club, it is enacted and agreed by the captain and the gentlemen golfers present, that in all time coming whoever puts in the ball at the fewest strokes over the field, being 22 holes, shall be declared and sustained victor. And in case a ball should be drove into a hole, or road, so that it cannot be played out, then in that case it shall be at the option of the

player, to play the ball where it lyes, or to take it up and throw the ball back at least six yards, and to allow his adversary one stroke for his so doing.

Returning to the minute of 14th May 1754, we note the provision, that "Every victor is to append a silver ball to the club for the year he wins"; the entry money, also, was at his disposal. "No coaches, chaises, or other wheel machines or people on horse-back, or dogs of any kind," were allowed on the links when the match for the Silver Club was "a-playing." This is really very sensible, and is proof positive that our forefathers approached the subject, and also the hole, with all becoming seriousness. It were surely not amiss to revive this piece of legislation, and give effect to it as for present-day use.

Not indeed that one is much harassed by equestrians on a medal day, nor by wheeled machines—coaches and chaises vex us not; but, on the other hand, who has not repeatedly suffered from the ubiquitous cur of low degree, which delights in obtruding his unwelcome presence what time we are about to wrestle with the all-important putt which is to win or tie for the medal?

Power was vested in the captain or his deputy to superintend the links, and in the event of any encroachments made upon them by highroads or otherwise, complaint was to be made to the Lord Provost

and Magistrates; the links being then, as now, the property of the town. Advertisements were to be inserted in "both the Edinburgh newspapers," at least a month before the day fixed upon for competition for the Silver Club.

Such are the principal provisions of the celebrated minute of 1754, signed by a dozen subscribers. We may imagine with what zest they started off to the links, when once these important preliminaries had been satisfactorily disposed of. But somehow or other the field seems to have dwindled down to very modest dimensions, no more than four warriors having ultimately faced the starter, if there was one, on 14th May. The prize was played for in terms of the regulations, and "gained by Bailie William Landale, merchant, St Andrews, in testimony whereof the hail subscribers who played have hereto set their hands. Signed John Stuart, Robt. Douglas, Peter Douglas." Thus ended the first competition recorded in the annals of the Royal and Ancient.

V.

"Captain of the Company."

DR JAMES GRIERSON in his rare 'History of St Andrews,' first edition, 1807, remarks, that though the Silver Club was played for *apparently* every year, yet that the dignity of "Captain of the Company" was really elective. He goes so far as to say that all these competitions were bogus concerns; that it was "always fixed before proceeding to the field who is to return victorious in the contest for this honour." "And though it is entered on the records of the Society that such a gentleman, on such a day, and in such a party, won the Silver Club by striking the ball into the hole in a certain number of strokes, this part of the record is fictitious, and well known to be no test of good play." That there "might be such a test, therefore, and a real record of the best players, the Society, in 1806, purchased a Gold Medal to be played for annually."

Whether, then, are we to accept this assertion of

Dr Grierson, or are we to consider the minutes as *bonâ fide* representing what actually took place? It seems a matter to be determined on the internal evidence afforded by the minutes themselves. If we accept the author's statement—in support of which it must be noted that, writing in 1807, he ought to have known what he was writing about,—if we accept it, then all comparison of ancient with modern becomes valueless, and the whole subject is largely shorn of its interest. But, on the other hand, excellent though Grierson's history is in other respects, it is the work of one not connected with the city, to which he was but an infrequent visitor, being himself a medical practitioner in Lasswade. He may possibly, therefore, have received information, which he accepted and set down as accurate, without taking the precaution of verifying it at first hand—perhaps from lack of opportunity. To the present writer it seems far more likely that the records are what they profess to be. Why, for instance, when the unsatisfactory working of the minute of 14th May 1754 began to dawn upon the Society, should they have taken the trouble to evolve a better system of ascertaining the winner? They did so, as already explained, in 1759, when scores began to be added up and counted. Besides, at one period there was a Silver Cup played for, and a Gold Medal, both of which,

however, seem, like Horam the son of Asmar, to have vanished into thin air, after a few competitions. But the winning scores did not differ very widely from the winning scores for the Silver Club; and there can have been no object in "faking" the returns for obviously genuine contests. The dispute "with regard to the gaining of the Silver Club, and consequent election of the captain, seems conclusively to refute the statement advanced by Dr Grierson.

In 1755 there was a triple tie for the trophy between the winner of the previous year (Landale), James Leslie, and Thomas Boswall, the last a "writter" in Edinburgh: the spelling transports us in imagination to the entertaining columns of the 'Sporting Times'; but what is intended to be expressed is "writer"—*Anglicè*, solicitor. The tie was decided at the early hour of eight in the morning, in favour of Mr Boswall.

Other winners, up to 1764, the first year in which a score is given, were as follows: In 1756 and 1761, Master Alexander Duncan of Craigtone; in 1757 and 1760 there were no competitions, as "non appeared" save one or two; in 1758 and 1762, Hugh Frazer of Lovat; in 1759, "Sir James Carnegie, Member of Parliament"; and in 1763, Sir Hary (*sic*) Seton. With this decade, 1754 to 1763, both inclusive, closes the earliest stage of the competition, that in which

the mere names of the winners are given ; thenceforward their scores in every instance are recorded as well.

There now appears on the scene a very interesting character, William St Clair of Roslin, concerning whom a slight digression seems not out of place. The founder of "the lordly line of high Saint Clair" came over with the Conqueror, or so tradition says ; his son, William de Sancto Claro, known as the seemly Saint Clair, was one of the many Anglo-Norman barons who settled in Scotland in the reign of David I., from whom he obtained a grant of the barony of Roslin, Mid-Lothian, confirmed to his son, Sir William, in 1180. His descendants obtained the earldom of Orkney ; and from the same stock sprang the Earl of Caithness. Various doughty deeds are recorded of the family in succeeding centuries, especially in the reign of Edward I., in the struggle for the independence of the Scottish monarchy.

The William Saint Clair of the early part of the fourteenth century is the hero of a romantic hunting story. King Robert the Bruce had frequently hunted without success a fleet white deer in the Pentlands, and was somewhat annoyed that "his hounds could not prevail." Asking his nobles whether they had any dogs in their possession which might do better, Sir William St Clair replied that he had two called

"Help" and "Hold," and added, "not thinking that any should charge his words, that he would wager his head that they should kill the deer before ever she came over the marche burne; but the words no sooner vanished in the aire, but it was declared to the king, who takeing indignation that his hounds should be speediest, would have him abide att his word, and laid against his head all Pentland Hills and Pentland Moor, with the Forest." Saint Clair was somewhat taken aback at the serious aspect of affairs, but with laudable piety invoked the assistance both of the Virgin Mary and of St Catherine, to save him from danger. His orisons were no sooner ended than the deer, "by clamour of the people being raised," broke cover, heading straight away for the march burn.

Following the chase himself on a gallant steed, Saint Clair saw the deer pass into the stream, whereupon he threw himself off his horse in despair. Just at this crisis of his fate, however, "Hold" caught up the deer in the brook, while "Help," an instant afterwards, headed the quarry back to the winning side of the stream, where it was despatched. The king, who had witnessed the chase from a convenient eminence, embraced Sir William, and was as good as his royal word: for he bestowed upon him lands and heritages, the mere names of which demand three

particularly long lines of print to specify in the pages of the old chronicler from whom this story is extracted.

In gratitude to St Catherine, Saint Clair built the Chapel of St Catherine in the Hopes, and sent a priest to the grave of that holy woman, "in which there is a precious oyle, that issueth from her bones, to bring him thereof, that he might carry it to his new - builded chapell." But the priest, becoming weary, fell asleep, and lost the "precious baulme," whereupon Sir William sent workmen to dig at the spot where the man of God had yielded to fatigue. The result was all that could be desired, for "presentlie up sprung a fountain, which to this day hath like a black oyle swimming upon it." Sir William, after this, in company with Sir James Douglas and Sir Robert Logan, the king being now dead, "tooke Bruce his heart, enclosed in a little coffer of gold, and delicately spiced, to Hierusalem"; however, it never arrived, for the party were driven by contrary winds into Spain, where St Clair was slain while fighting against the Saracens. The family acquired property in Fife in the fifteenth century, the William Saint Clair of about 1470 having compromised with his elder brother in a dispute; as a result, Sir Oliver relinquished to him the barony of Dysart, the castle of Ravenscraig, and other lands adjacent.

Sir Walter Scott in "Rosabelle" ('The Lay of the Last Minstrel,' cant. vi.) refers to Ravensheuch, and to the tradition which says that a blaze of light in Roslin Chapel betokens the approaching death of a Saint Clair.

The barons were also said to be buried in their armour.

"Seemed all on fire that chapel proud,
Where Roslin's chiefs uncoffined lie;
Each baron, for a sable shroud,
Sheathed in his iron panoply.

There are twenty of Roslin's barons bold
Lie buried beneath that proud chapelle;
Each one the holy vault doth hold—
But the sea holds lovely Rosabelle!"

Rosabelle was the fourth daughter of the Earl of Stratherne, and wife of Henry St Clair, second of the line.

VI.

William St Clair of Roslin.

THE William St Clair of our minutes, then, at once arrests attention, not only on account of his distinguished lineage, at which we have briefly glanced, but also because he was the last representative thereof, and because, moreover, in golf and other athletic pursuits he stood out as a man of mark in his generation.

He was born in 1700, and married Cordelia, daughter of Sir George Wishart of Clifton Hall, but his family all died young.

About 1735, having parted with all his estates, or what remained of them, he considered that he ought to surrender the office of Grand Master Mason of Scotland, which had been hereditary in his family for centuries. Accordingly, on St Andrew's Day, 1736, he resigned, but the representatives of thirty-two lodges, while receiving the resignation, elected St Clair himself their Grand Master, and con-

stituted themselves into the Grand Lodge of Scotland.

Sir Walter Scott, in 'Provincial Antiquities,' thus describes him :—

A man considerably above six feet, with dark-grey locks, a form upright, but gracefully so, thin-flanked and broad-shouldered, built, it would seem, for the business of the war or the chase; a noble eye of chastened pride and undoubting authority, and features handsome and striking in their general effect, though somewhat harsh and exaggerated when considered in detail. His complexion was dark and grizzled, and, as we schoolboys who crowded to see him perform feats of strength and skill in the old Scottish games of golf and archery used to think and say amongst ourselves, the whole figure resembled the famous founder of the Douglas race. . . . In all the manly sports which require strength and dexterity Roslin was unrivalled; but his peculiar delight was in archery.

Scott then goes on to say that it was Roslin's custom to announce to every candidate admitted into the Royal Company of Archers that he became member of a body privileged to act as the King's Bodyguard should his Majesty ever visit his ancient metropolis. Scott also tells us that when Roslin was buried in the chapel the bases of the pillars "were slightly indented, to make room for his corpse, in consequence of his uncommon stature."

This personal testimony of Sir Walter as to St Clair's excellency at golf and archery is interesting,

and shows that he retained his play up to a late period in life; for Sir Walter was not born till 1771, and St Clair died, if the date be correctly given, in 1778.

In 1763 his signature first appears in our minutes; in 1764 he wins the Silver Club in 121 strokes. This, it must be remembered, was for twenty-two holes. A simple calculation shows that this is equivalent to a score of 99 for eighteen holes,—surely an excellent performance for a man of sixty-four, playing with feather balls, and with the uncompromising clubs of which specimens are to be seen in the *reliquaire* of the Royal and Ancient! Among the Honourable Company of Edinburgh Golfers, whose headquarters at that time were at Leith, St Clair was also a man of mark. In 1771 they commissioned Sir George Chalmers to paint his portrait, full length, in golfing dress. Mr Clark says in a note—

This fine picture was disposed of at the sale of the Club's effects in 1831. It is now in the hall of the Royal Company of Archers. Mr St Clair is in the costume of a golfer, with a round blue Scotch bonnet, and stands in the attitude of driving a ball from the tee.

In 1761, and again in 1771, he was Captain of the Honourable Company; and in 1776 he won the Silver Club given by the town of Edinburgh. This



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"This fine picture was deposited at the sale of the Club's effects in 1816. It is now in the hall of the Royal Company of Golfers. Mr St Clair is in the costume of a golfer, with a kilted skirt, broad brooch, and stands in the attitude of drawing a club from the bag."

In 1765 and again in 1771, he was Captain of the Honourable Company, and in 1776 he won the Silver Club given by the town of Edinburgh. This



ST CLAIR OF ROSLIN.



was on 3rd March, a spring meeting. In October of the same year we find him again to the front with a score of 103 at St Andrews. Thus he probably won everything that he could win in the way of prizes in this successful year.

When "Old Tom" won a professional competition at the age of sixty-one, he was looked upon as a sort of rejuvenated Æson, and the occurrence was deemed sufficiently remarkable, as indeed it was; yet here, as we have seen, St Clair adds five years to sixty-one, and is victorious all along the line.

It is to be noted that his 103 at St Andrews was for eighteen holes. The day after his first victory (1764) the following minute was recorded:—

The Captain and Gentlemen Golfers present are of opinion that it would be for the improvement of the Links that the first four holes should be converted into two. They therefore have agreed that for the future they shall be played as two holes, in the same way as presently marked out.

The minute is signed by St Clair. No Scot, it may be remarked in passing, ever uses the word "presently" in its usual signification, but always in the sense of "at present." The language seems to mean, therefore, that the course was one of eighteen holes on 4th October, the date of the minute. One hole was probably taken away from between the present eighteenth and the Burn Hole, and the

other from between the Burn Hole and the corner of the Dyke, thus giving eighteen, as the same holes were played both ways.

In 1768 the remarkable veteran wins again with a score of 106, this being his last appearance as a winner. Thus his three victories averaged 102 and a fraction, and they were gained at the ages of sixty-four, sixty-six, and sixty-eight. After this last year he still keeps going, so to speak, and is a regular competitor; but after 1776 the manuscript page knows him no more, his signature in that year, two years before his death, being pathetically shaky, as of one to whom "the gout, serpigo, and the rheum" were no strangers, but unwelcome concomitants of "palsied eld." And so we bid farewell to one for whom our sympathy—our admiration—can scarce fail to be aroused, separated though he be from our own time by a gap of well over a hundred years.

A photograph shows the winner in 1765 to have been the Hon. Francis Charteris, with 108.

VII.

James Durham of Largo.

MR JAMES DURHAM, of Largo, is one whose memory all golfers should revere, for he has several claims to distinction.

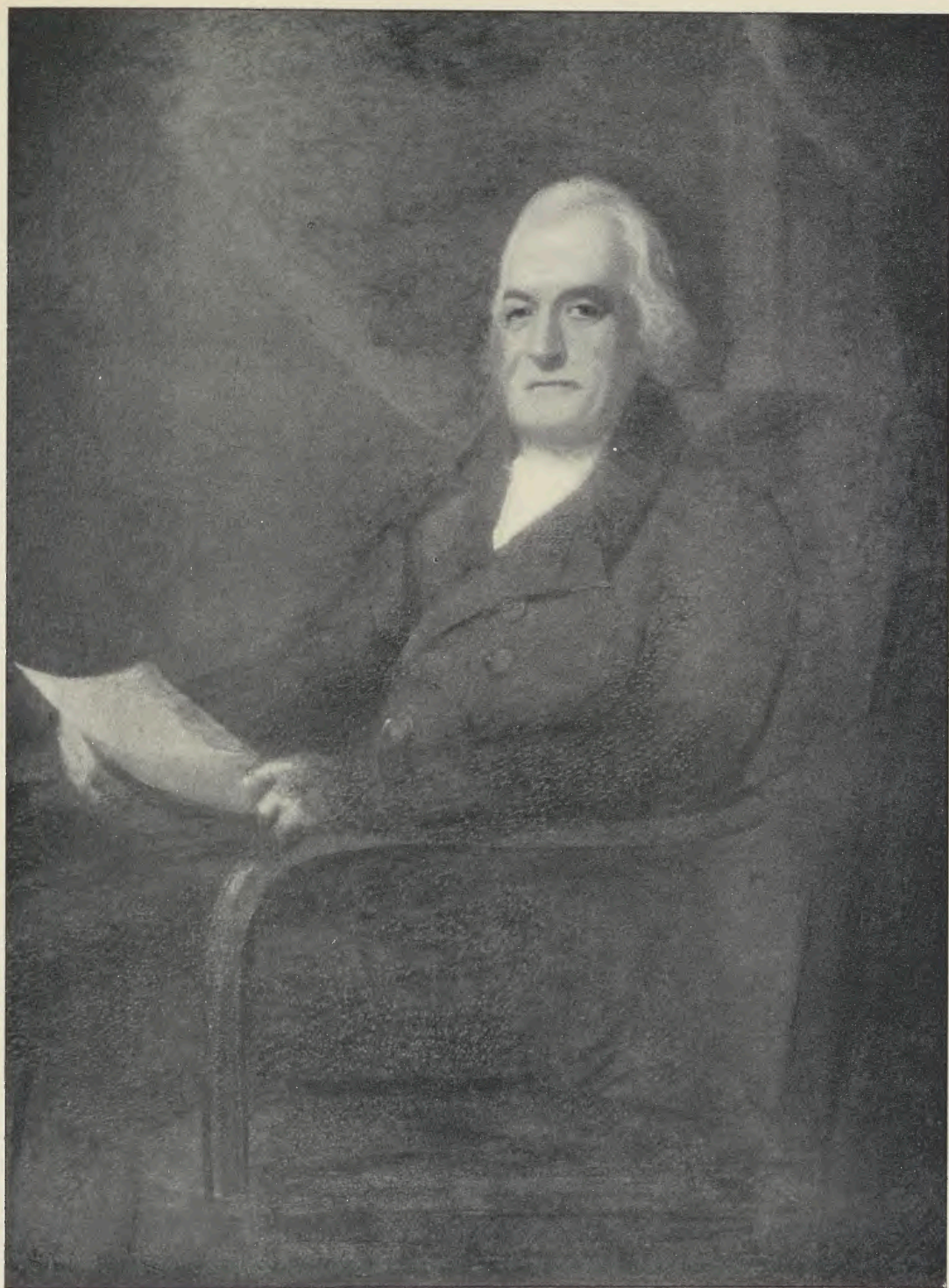
It is clear, to begin with, that no more zealous adherent of the game ever lived. His signature first appears in 1756; we do not find it again till 1761, but in two of the intervening years there was no competition. He is absent also from 1762 to 1765, both inclusive; but from 1766 to 1790 he plays in every competition save one, twenty-four times out of twenty-five. In 1794 he plays again, and in 1802 for the last time.

This, then, is a golfing career falling not far short of fifty years, in the course of which he made two rather surprising records of different sorts. The first was in 1767, when he won the Silver Club with 94, a truly remarkable score, when we consider that it was made in a sort of palæolithic age of golf, when

clubs, to judge by the specimens extant, bore about the same relation to those of to-day as a flint and steel to a wax match ; balls, too, not much better ; and the condition of the links themselves—well, of that we have no evidence—perhaps it is safe to say that the greens were not always carefully rolled.¹ Even at the present time, and especially on a medal day, it is consistent with experience to state that players of the most solid reputation may hand in cards (if they do hand them in) bearing totals in excess of Mr Durham's famous score ; it is speaking literally by the card to say that there are golfers who have at one time and another holed the course below 80, and who yet, to their vexation, have barely defeated a three-figure score on the occasion of spring or autumn medal. But that Mr Durham's performance was one of extra merit is clear from the fact that it remained a record for no less than eighty-six years, nobody having even tied with it until the year 1853, when Captain J. C. Stewart, of Fasnacloich, won the King William IV. Medal at the autumn meeting with 90, Mr James Balfour, father of Mr Leslie Balfour-Melville, being second with 93 ; but not until the Sixties does Mr Durham's score begin to be beaten pretty regularly.

His next claim to notice is in 1780, thirteen years

¹ Mr David Loudon says the links were "almost an untrodden waste."



JAMES DURHAM OF LARGO.

From a portrait in Town Hall, St Andrews.



afterwards; but the distinction is of another sort, for he wins the trophy indeed, but with a score which, for magnificent proportions, has never been surpassed, and but once equalled — 123; Mr James Morison of Naughton having in the year immediately preceding returned similar figures.

About that period the old golfers would seem to have been affected by some sinister influence, for the average of the winning scores for fourteen years work out at within a very small fraction of 113,—a sad deterioration from the days of St Clair of Roslin, and not to be named in comparison with the great feat of Durham himself, of whom, an outstanding figure, we take leave, as has been said, in 1802.

It may not be generally known that the term "Auld Reekie," as applied to Edinburgh, is due to Durham. He "was in the habit of regulating the time of evening worship by the appearance of the smoke of Edinburgh. When it increased in density, in consequence of the good folk preparing supper, he would say, 'It is time, noo, bairns to tak the buiks, and gang to our beds, for yonder's Auld Reekie, I see, putting on her night-cap'" (Chambers). "Yonder stands Auld Reekie; you may see the smoke hover over her at twenty miles' distance" ('The Abbot,' chap. xvii.).

The names of a few winners in these earlier

years may be given. In 1769, George Forrest, who was a Professor of Civil History in the University, score 102; in 1770, Henry Bethune of Nydie, 102; in 1775, the Earl of Balcarres, 108, who again won in 1782 with 121: there is a note to the effect that on this occasion the weather was very bad. Ninian Imrie, Patrick Rigg, John Hay of Leys, Roger Aytoun of Inchdairney, John Balfour of Fernie, Walter Boswell, Alexander Duncan, Robert Low of Clatto, all figure as winners, though in no instance is the score remarkable save for the fact that the recorder's pencil must have been considerably the worse for wear when the last hole was reached.

In 1781 we first meet with the signature of Mr Stuart Grace as secretary, the grandfather of Mr Charles Stuart Grace, the present treasurer of the club. In 1785 Captain John Cheape seems to have stemmed the tide of ill-fortune or bad play, so conspicuously apparent during the preceding years, for he wins the Silver Club with the excellent score of 98, he being the second man who managed to keep within double figures. Having arrived at this point, it may be convenient to defer for the present any further remarks as to the Silver Club competitions. Retracing our steps, therefore, we shall glance at such other entries as seem worthy of notice, bringing the whole up to date—viz., 1785.

VIII.

A Tariff for Payment of Caddies.

MINUTE-BOOK No. 2 begins 4th May 1766, running afterwards concurrently with No. 1, and being concerned for the most part with the records of social gatherings. The first entry is to the effect that the admirers of the ancient and very healthful exercise of golf did bind themselves "to meet once every fortnight, by eleven of the clock, at the Golf House, and play a round of the Links, in terms of the regulations, for the Silver Club." Strictly interpreted, this would mean that they would count their scores, but there is no record that this was done in these fortnightly gatherings; more probably, one would think, they solaced themselves with the more engaging pastime of match play. The day's work over, they further bound themselves, under awful penalties, to adjourn to Bailie Glass's house, and to pay each a shilling for his dinner. Worthy souls! Well might it be that they would look forward to the prospective

delights of these symposia with keen anticipatory enjoyment. How one would prose of his achievements at the Cartgate, and another detail his misfortunes at the oddly-named Hole of Rhi, known to-day as the High Hole!

In June 1771 a tariff for payment of caddies and fore-caddies was agreed upon: "Fourpence for going the length of the hole called the Hole of Cross, and if they go further than that hole they are to get sixpence—and no more"; and so on in proportion. "Any of the gentlemen of this Society transgressing this rule are to pay two pint bottles of claret at the first meeting they shall attend."

In August of this year there is mention of a gold medal in the following terms: "The Captain and Society appoint the Gold Medal to be played for on Wednesday, the 2nd October next, and the Silver Club to be played for on Thursday, the 3rd October next, and appoint notice thereof to be made in the Edinburgh papers." This competition was not restricted to members, but was open to any amateur, as appears from the terms of the advertisement:—

GOLFING AT ST ANDREWS.—To be played for on the Links there, upon Wednesday, the 2nd October next, by any gentleman golfer, a Gold Medal, seven guineas value, given by the Captain and Society of Golfers at St Andrews. The Silver Club annually played for there is to be played for the day after.

(Signed) HENRY BETHUNE.



ONE OF THE CADDIES IN MR LEES' PICTURE.

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ONE OF THE CADDIES IN MR LEES' PICTURE.



The competition duly took place, the winner being Mr Colin Beveridge, a member whose score, 101, compares favourably with that of Mr Imrie, who won the Silver Club next day with 109.

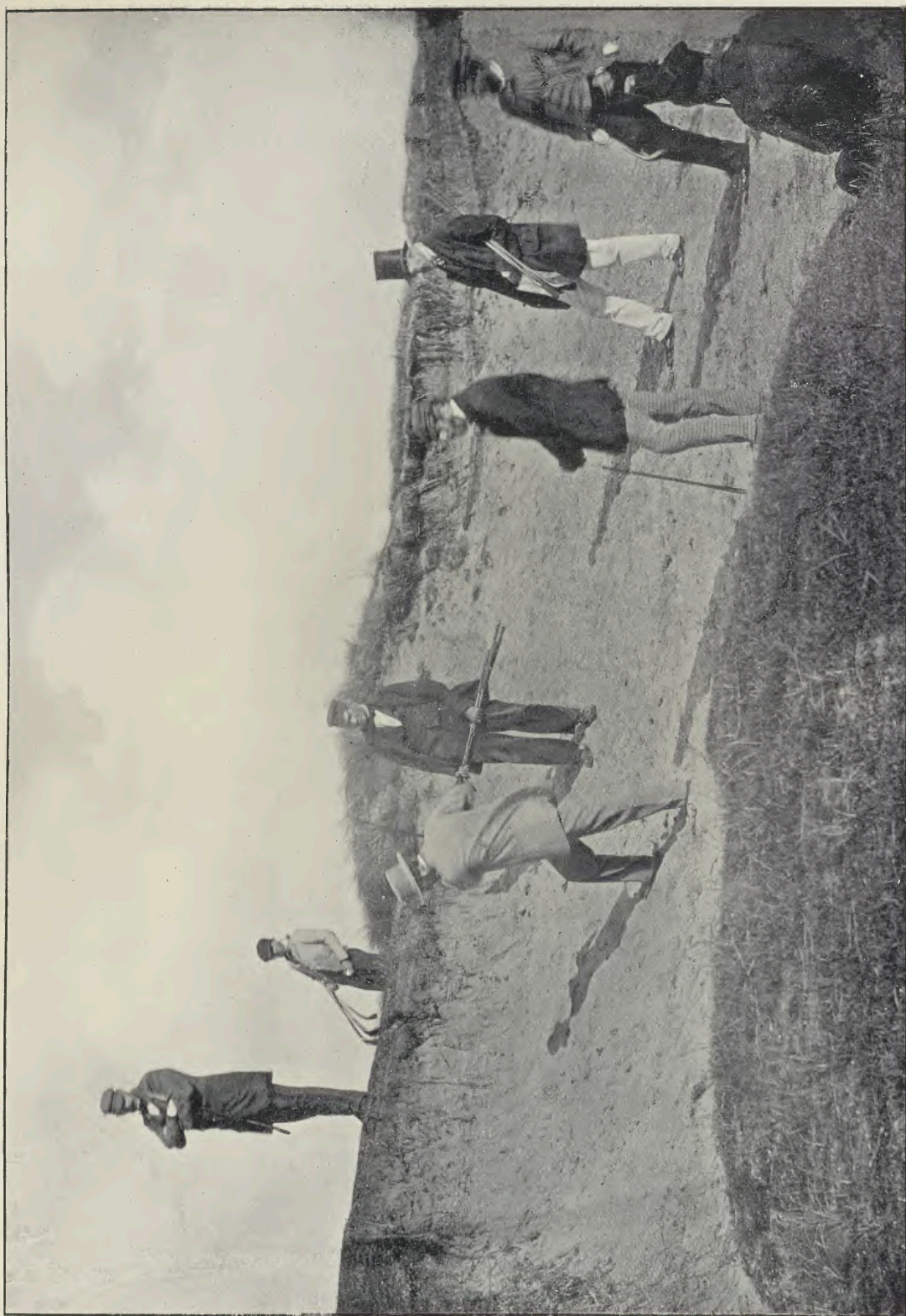
In a previous minute recording the business transacted at one of the fortnightly meetings held at Bailie Glass's, there occurs the following suggestive entry, appended as a note—"Were comfortably refreshed for two shillings each.—J. H." Words fit, though few!

IX.

Early Competitions.

WHILE the competition for the Silver Club was the principal event in the golfing year, there are a few records of others ancillary thereto ; of secondary interest perhaps, but serving, so long as they lasted, as a sort of prelude to the more important event, for they always took place on the day immediately preceding it.

We have already seen how, in 1771, a Gold Medal was played for and won by Mr Beveridge : in 1772 the competition was for a Silver Cup. It is not entirely clear whether this was a Challenge Cup, or whether it became the property of the winner,—perhaps the latter supposition is more probably true. At any rate the competition proceeded on the same lines as that for the Gold Medal ; it was advertised in the usual papers ('The Mercury' and 'Courant'), and the cup was to be of the value of £8—open to all amateurs. Notwithstanding the chance thus



LONG WILLIE.

SANDY PIRIE.



offered, however, the field did not assume unmanageable proportions, three couples only entering, including St Clair of Roslin and James Durham. The winner proved to be Dr Forrest with 106,—the same Professor of Civil History who, three years before, had won the Silver Club, and with it the distinction of being "Captain of the Golf." One is driven to the conclusion that the professors of old days were better golfers than their descendants of to-day! Was it not a professor to whom Long Willie or some one remarked, with excellent candour and probable truth, "Ca' that a drive? A could drive a better ba' mysel' wi' an auld kail-runt." Ichabod!

In 1773 the Society seems to have thought it no longer advisable that the Silver Club should be the subject of open competition; it was restricted accordingly to such as, for one year at least, had been members either of this or the Leith Society—*i.e.*, the Honourable Company. The decision having been come to in May that a cup was to be given, in June an extraordinary meeting was called by the Captain, which did nothing but confirm the former decision; a third meeting was held in September to fix the day (6th October), and to announce the value of the cup, £8, the competition for which was to be advertised.

First and last, this particular prize must have provided ample material for conversation, for, in

addition to the three meetings held in respect of it, when the actual day for play arrived the proceedings were somewhat remarkable. Mr Arnot holed the links at 105, but an objection was lodged against him for contravention of the rules. He had "pulled back his ball"; most likely he raged, like the heathen, at missing a short putt. Disqualified? the reader suggests. Not a bit of it: they managed things better in those days, if you were not always careful to hole out; and Mr Arnot had another chance; "re-play the competition" was the order. This was done two days later, when Mr John Halkat proved the lucky man, with 114. Later, this gentleman is mentioned as being "Rector of the Grammar School," and as having been appointed Chaplain to the Society. His name nowhere appears as winner of the Silver Club, but in 1774 he repeated his Silver Cup victory with 113. The day was very rainy, we are told in a note, and the links covered with water.

The minute, fixing the date of play for this year, refers to "the Silver Cup, value eight guineas," which seems to lend colour to the supposition that it was a Challenge Cup. But whether that be so, or whether the Society grew tired of providing cups for Mr Halkat to deck his sideboard withal, it skills not to conjecture; what is certain is that there are no further records of any competitions other than those



WILLIAM ARNOT, ST ANDREWS.

attempts at the three meetings held in respect of it, when the second day his play arrived the proceedings were somewhat remarkable. Mr Arnot holed the ball at once, but an objection was lodged against the correctness of the rules. He had "pulled back his ball", most likely he raged, like the heathen, at missing a short putt. Disqualified? the reader suggests. Not a bit of it: they managed things better in those days, if you were not always careful to hole out; and Mr Arnot had another chance; "re-play the competition" was the order. This was done two days later when Mr John Halkat proved the better man with six. Later, this gentleman is mentioned as being "Bursar of the Grammar School," and as having been elected Chaplain to the Society. His name comes forward as winner of the Silver Club Cup in 1811, and in 1812 his Silver Cup victory with six. During the year rainy, we are told in a note, and the Club ground with water.

The money, being the stake of play for this year, seems to be the Silver Cup value eight guineas, which seems to lead us to the supposition that it was a Challenge Cup. But whether that be so, or whether the Society were used to presenting cups for Mr Halkat or such his valiant and valiant, it skills not to conjecture. What is certain is that there are no further records of any competitions other than those



WILLIAM ARNOT, ST ANDREWS.



for the Silver Club,—none at least for several years to come.

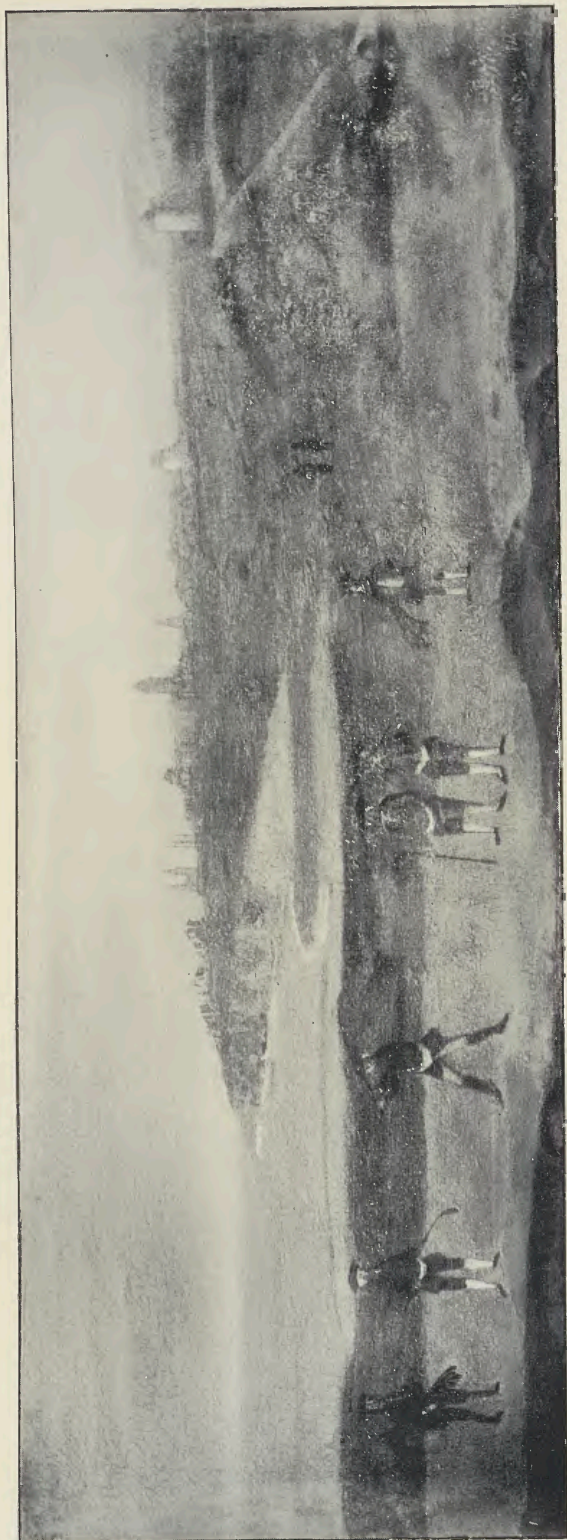
In 1777 the Captain and his Council appointed “that in time coming none of the Society shall tee their golf-balls within less than a play-club length of the hole from which they are to strike off, nor at a greater distance than four lengths of said club from the hole.” There are some now playing, certainly Old Tom, who well remember this rule being in force; of course, with the hundredfold increased play of late years it would be impracticable to retain it. Next, it is gently hinted to “Captains of the Golf” (in 1779) that their position is one involving responsibilities; that they were not to be, as it were, a sort of golfing counterpart of the “tulchan” bishops of Scottish history, who received the revenues of the Church merely to hand them over to the nobles—dummies, figureheads—what you will. No; the office was sacrosanct in the eyes of every good golfer, and must be worthily filled, or not at all,—“If he does not attend all the meetings to be appointed through the year, he shall pay two pints of claret for each meeting he shall be absent at, to be drunk at such meeting; but this regulation is not to take place if the Captain be not in Fife at the time.”

The expression to be “absent at” any function has all the charm of novelty, but there is no need to

bother about style when you have made your meaning clear.

The next minute to claim attention has reference to the disreputable garments worn by our predecessors on the links, and to the resolution arrived at when they came to realise the nature of their shortcomings in this respect: "*August 4th, 1780*—This day the Society took into their consideration that their golfing jackets are in bad condition; have agreed that they shall have new ones—viz., red with yellow buttons. The undermentioned gentlemen have likewise agreed to have an uniform frock—viz., a buff colour with a red cap. The coat to be half lapelled according to a pattern produced, the button white": here follow the signatures of the eleven who were to array themselves in "dyed garments from Bozrah"—the Earl of Balcarres at their head. Four years later they seemed to have changed their ideas as to what would be the most becoming raiment, and declared that the uniform was to be "a red coat, with a dark-blue velvet cape, with white plain buttons, with an embroidered club and ball of silver on each side of the cape, with two large buttons on the sleeves."

The first mention of "a ball, as usual," occurs in 1785, not as Mr Clark says, in 1786.



OLD PICTURE IN ROYAL AND ANCIENT CLUBHOUSE.
ARTIST UNKNOWN.



X.

**Early Scores. The Inception of the
Stimy, &c.**

THE general average of winning scores in these early days does not show, as might have been supposed, any steady progressive movement, such as is to be noted in the golf of the present day; on the contrary, if one may say so without offending the shades of the departed, the "Captains of the Golf" not infrequently went successively from bad to worse.

Thus, while in the decade 1765-1774, both inclusive, the average is 107.3, that of the next ten years works out at 112.3. We have noted two cases of isolated brilliancy—Mr Durham's 94 in 1767, and Captain John Cheape's 98 in 1785. Between the last date and 1800 four more players in all succeeded in breaking 100. These were Alexander Duncan, in 1791, 99; Alexander Anderson, in 1795, 99; John Dalyell, in 1799, 98; and in 1800, Robert

Pattullo, who, with 96, approaches nearest to Mr Durham's position.

About this period the game seems to have reached its high-water mark; for it is possible, by selecting a decade, 1795-1804, to strike a winning average of 99.7, after which the play again steadily deteriorates: indeed it is somewhat remarkable that with the exception of a 98 by Mr Dewar of Gilston, 1805, and a 98 by Mr Alexander Guthrie, in 1808, no two-figure score is to be found until Mr Oliphant's 97 in 1834. Again, from that date onwards to 1850, a first prize of the Royal and Ancient was only twice won under 100. Are we then to suppose that the standard of play was considerably higher just before the dawn of the nineteenth century, and four or five years afterwards? Figures, it is said, can be made to prove anything; but the conclusion seems irresistible.

A minute of 8th October 1789 is interesting, as bearing upon the "stimy" question—"The Society resolve that in all time coming, in the course of playing over the links, any ball shall lye in the way of his opponent at the distance of six inches upon the hole green, it shall be in the power of the party playing to cause his opponent to remove said ball. And this resolution to continue in force till altered by the Society." The wording of this

resolution, it is charitable to suppose, was not dictated by Mr Halkat, "Rector of the Grammar School," if he was still alive. But before this six-inch rule, the game must have been fertile in interesting episodes. Let us suppose the case of all square and one to play; let the two balls be not touching, but within a quarter of an inch of each other, in a straight line for the hole, and a full drive, approach, or long putt to be played when nearing, or already upon the last green. If the man who had to play the odds happened to be, in the words of the old caddy, "a fine, free-spoken gentleman," here, *par exemple*, would surely be his opportunity. Even now, it will be seen, the rule applies only to the putting-green, the "hole-green," as it is called; so the "free-spoken" gentleman would still have a chance while playing through the green. Perchance in another hundred years or so the six-inch limit may be further extended, or, who knows? the stimy disestablished altogether. If so, the element of variety, the dexterous little pitch, belauded by pro-stimy men, can always be secured by surrounding your holes, or some of them, with little ramparts or *schanjes* of whole or half bricks, as was pointed out some years ago by Mr Horace Hutchinson.

We now bring the golf of the eighteenth century to a close, having touched upon such entries in the

books as may be noteworthy. The remainder, for the most part, consists of records of meetings, of the election of new members "properly recommended," and, year after year, the names of the subscribers who paid their five shillings entry money for the Silver Club Competition. The next important item is dated 5th October 1805—"Which day it was resolved that a Gold Medal should be played for on the Friday of the ensuing annual meeting, to be kept by the winner till the Friday of the next annual meeting, when it shall be again played for. The name of the winner to be engraved on the medal." Accordingly, in 1806, and onwards, in October, the first Wednesday was devoted to the Silver Club, and the Friday next following to the new competition for the Club Gold Medal. It was interesting to see how extraordinarily close the respective winning scores were during the first five years; the first year of all they were the same. William Dalglish won the Silver Club at 100; and at 100 also Walter Cook won the New Medal (this gentleman also won in 1807 and again in 1817). At the end of five years the total scores are—for the Club 516, for the Medal 517. After this, however, the Silver Club has much the best of it for several years. Nobody seems to have won both prizes in the same week. On the other hand, for the first ten years' play for the Gold Medal, the

names of four men only are given as winners: Walter Cook twice, William Oliphant twice, Dr James Hunter of the United College three times, and Robert Pattullo thrice in succession. Pattullo is well known as a name of renown: later, Robert Pattullo, jun., wins the Gold Medal twice; probably the same man of whom Old Tom has often been heard to speak with respect, expressing great admiration for his driving powers—"Maister Pattully wis just a grand player." Sir David Moncrieffe (like his son Sir Thomas) made his mark in the golfing world, winning the Gold Medal twice, and the Silver Club once.

In 1812 the rules were revised, the amended code consisting of seventeen as compared with the thirteen of 1754. Perhaps the most noticeable points are that if the ball is in a rabbit-burrow, the player may drop it behind the hazard and play with an iron without losing a stroke,—exactly the same procedure as was followed when the ball lay in "the supernumerary hole on the hole-across green,"—a provision which would give Old Tom a fit were you to suggest it now.

The stimy rule was also remodelled: you were now allowed to lift the stimying ball anywhere upon the course, but *not* on the putting-green, unless the ball lay directly between the other and

the hole—within a distance of six inches. In 1814 the club resolved that thereafter each member should pay an annual subscription of one guinea: the names of ninety-one subscribers are given. The last of the entries in the first two volumes of minutes bears date 11th October 1822, and records a tie for the Gold Medal between Sir David Moncrieffe and Mr Charles Shaw at 109. The tie was won by Mr Shaw with 113.

XI.

An Ancient Lawsuit and other Matters of Interest.

WORTHY of all admiration is the public-spirited manner in which the clubmen of old safeguarded the interests of golfers, resisted all encroachments, and battled for their rights whenever these were seriously threatened. About the year 1803 mischief was in the air; and it developed into "a guid ganging plea," which kept the Society busy for the next ten years, until finally their case was decided in their favour by the House of Lords, the Society having been victorious all along the line.

The first mention of impending trouble occurs in a minute dated 15th January 1803, the preamble of which was as follows:—

The meeting, taking into consideration the state of the Links, which have been of late rendered almost entirely useless for golfing, in consequence of Mr Dempster, the present proprietor, having converted them into a rabbit-



warren, by bringing new colonies of these animals from different places, by letting them to a tenant with a view to multiply the breed, and of profiting by the sale, are convinced that both from long prescription as well as from the reservation expressed in the third article of the minutes of roup which conveyed the property of the said Links from the town to Lord Kellie, and afterwards transferred to Mr Dempster under the same reservation that the Links are to be preserved entirely as in times past for the purposes of Golf.

This narration, on the face of it, seems to show that the Society had pretty good grounds of action. They then resolve, in common phrase, to send round the hat, with a view to fighting Mr Dempster in the Court of Session, other golfing societies also to be invited to contribute. A general meeting is to be called, at which proxies are to be valid; a committee is nominated, and advertisements are to be put in the papers.

All which was approved and confirmed at a meeting held in the ensuing March. A "prosecution" of Mr Dempster and his tenant was to be instituted in the Court of Session; and even distant Madras, Bombay, and Bengal were to be given an opportunity of signifying their approval in the tangible form of rupees.

The irrepressible Mr Dempster meantime continued his evil courses; he encroached, he ploughed

up, he defaced. Besides, he made a dyke between the third and fourth holes, or tried to; so the Society resolved to keep a jealous eye on it and on him. The question arose—Were the inhabitants of St Andrews and others at liberty to kill the rabbits, as they had been in the habit of doing from time immemorial? Counsel replied, with many ingenious and beautiful periphrases, that Mr Dempster's purchase of the Links did not invalidate that right. Feeling ran high, as we can see from a significant entry, and took the form of an assault on the lieges, or one of them, "against the peace of our sufferin' Lord the King," in the words of Mr Daniel Grummer. Mr John Fraser complained of the "malevolent threatenings" indulged in by Mr Dempster, whose warrener, moreover, "nearly murdered" Mr Fraser. What, if any, satisfaction the victim obtained does not appear. This was in 1807, four years or so from the beginning of hostilities. Thus the quarrel, even then, was "a very pretty quarrel" as it stood.

There is no mention of anything relating to the squabble after this until 1813, when it is stated at a meeting that the case is to be heard in the House of Lords in the course of a fortnight. It is resolved that Mr W. Cook, W.S. (who thrice won the Club Medal), should represent the Society, as being famil-

iar with all the circumstances. The Lords decided unanimously in favour of the Society. In 1814 an annual subscription of a guinea was imposed, whereupon several members resigned; but their resignations were not accepted, nor would they be accepted until "the debts incurred by the Club in conducting the appeal case against Mr Dempster shall be paid and discharged, as those debts were incurred while those gentlemen were members of the Club." Thus ends the affair Dempster. Even one unskilled in the law can see that he had but a sorry case; but perhaps he was one to whom the long word in Liddell and Scott may not be inapplicable, whereof the meaning and interpretation there given is "early-rising-base-informing-sad-litigious-plaguy-ways."

In 1812 golf seems to have flourished to an extent which justified the demand for a resident clubmaker. So a committee was appointed to make inquiries and advertise for some properly qualified person, whom the Society undertook to "countenance and support."

In 1817 the town authorities approached the Society with a view of obtaining assistance in the enlargement of the town-hall. In the event of the Society rendering substantial aid, the town would be prepared, by Act of Council or otherwise, to assure them the full use of the hall in perpetuity



SIR DAVID BAIRD, BART.

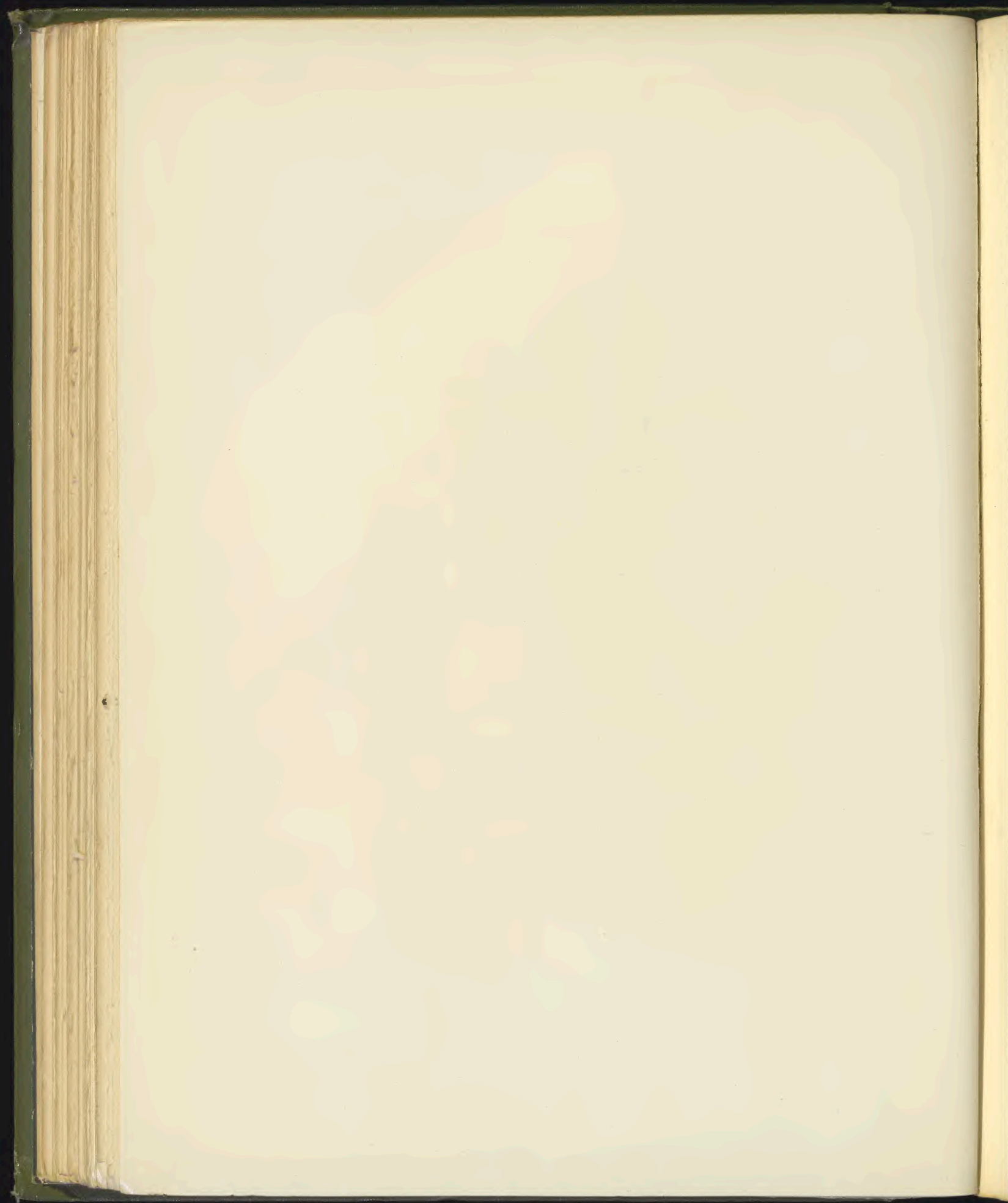
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As time goes on it seems to have amounted to an action which justified the demand for a resident committee. So a committee was appointed to make inquiries and advertise for some properly qualified person whom the Society undertook to "congratulate and support."

So that the town authorities approached the Society with a view of obtaining assistance in the reconstruction of the town-hall. In the event of the Society rendering substantial aid, the town would be prepared, by Act of Council or otherwise, to exempt them the full use of the hall in perpetuity



SIR DAVID BAIRD, BART.



on the occasions of their annual meetings. The sum asked for was nearly £300; but it was decided that this proposal could not be entertained. They were, however, willing to raise £100 for the purpose of procuring the accommodation of a hall and supper-rooms for their meetings. This was agreed to and confirmed. Shortly afterwards it was announced that the money had been collected, and would be handed over on the conditions agreed upon.

In 1818 occurs a rather singular entry to the effect that the course had recently been much injured by carriages. If the word used had been "carts" it would have been more intelligible, as these do cross the Links in order to bring back mussels and sea-ware. However, the Society, as usual, won't stand any nonsense, and direct the secretary to take effectual measures to stop the practice, and to prosecute the first person who may be found trespassing. In 1819 the Silver Club, which had done duty for sixty-five years, had to be superannuated, for it would hold no more balls. Accordingly a new one was procured, the cost of which was defrayed, partly by subscription, partly by the Club funds. The period over which vol. iii. of the minutes extends is 1800-19.

XII.

The Club and the Magistrates.

VOLUME IV. is a bulky tome, extending over a long period—1819-54. A new chaplain to the society is appointed, the Rev. Mr Ferrie, *vice* Principal Playfair deceased. Captain Cheape, his proposer, to celebrate the occasion, “produced a pint of claret, an example admirable; seconded by Mr Guthrie, who produced another pint of claret.”

Thus there was no lack of Falernian to toast the Society’s spiritual adviser, and doubtless the honours proceeded right merrily, as in the “Heir of Linne” :—

“There sat three lords upon a rowe
Were drinking of the wine so free.”

In September 1819 there seems to have been a competition of some sort for ball-makers, club-makers, and caddies, but the result is not recorded. At the same time Hugh Philp was appointed club-maker to the Society, he whose putters command



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Thus there was no lack of *Patronage* to trust the Society's spiritual adviser, and *Amusing* the *Members* proceeded right merrily, as in the "*Heir of Lathry*"—

"There sat three lords upon a row
Were drinking of the wine so free."

In September 1819 there seems to have been a *competition* of some sort for ball-makers, club-makers, and caddies, but the result is not recorded. At the same time Hugh Philp was appointed club-maker to the Society, he whose putters command



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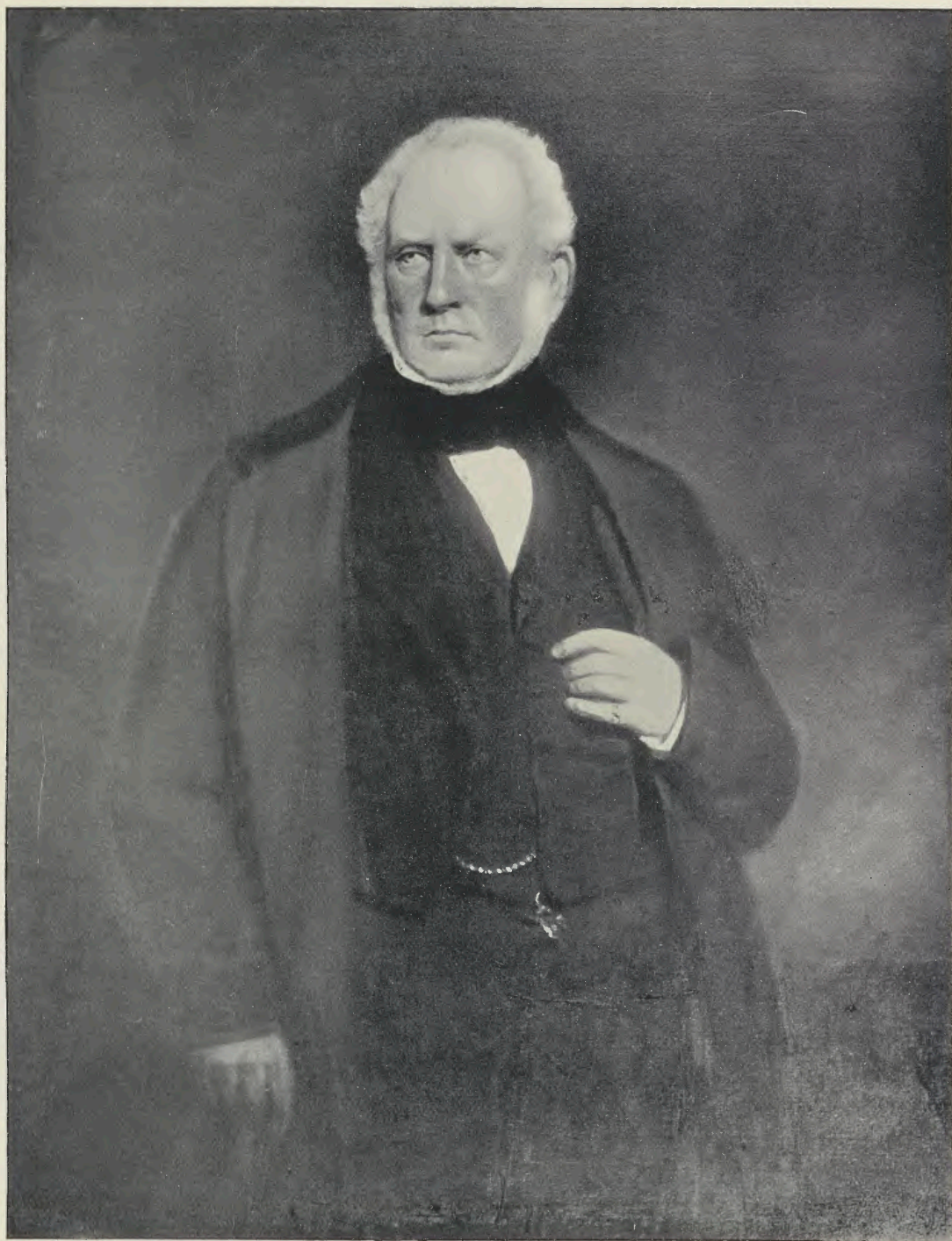


fancy prices at this day,—as much as £5 has been given for one formerly in the writer's possession, purchased originally for one shilling amongst a job lot of old clubs.

Since Mr Dempster had been satisfactorily suppressed in 1813 the Society had enjoyed a few years of peace and quiet; now, however, in 1820, they conceive their interests, in common with those of all golfers, to be again seriously threatened. Most important entries, as affecting the whole fortunes of the Club in the future, are those of 5th May and 14th July 1820. From these it appears that an extraordinary meeting was convened, to take into consideration the action of the Magistrates and Town Council of St Andrews, who, having "feued," or let, to several individuals, portions of the course between the first and second holes, had thereby illegally encroached upon the Links, to the detriment of golfers, who enjoyed a prescriptive right thereto from time immemorial, according to the best obtainable evidence. Having the most earnest desire to see the matter amicably settled, and having inspected the ground in question, the Club committee caused a line to be staked off as the southern boundary of that part of the course; in case, however, the magistrates should not agree to this delimitation of frontier, the meeting resolves that all possible legal measures

shall be taken in vindication of their rights; and they repudiate responsibility, collectively or individually, for any accidents occasioned to individuals, or injury to property arising from the measures adopted by the magistrates. A large committee is nominated, who are instructed, *inter alia*, "to take care that a road of ten feet is preserved from the south-west corner of Mr Richard's park to the first hole." Notwithstanding "conciliatory resolutions of the Club on the 5th May last," the magistrates persisted in their encroachments. Here it seems the duty of the impartial historian to remark that it may be open to question whether the resolutions were, in effect, so conciliatory as the framers thereof appeared to think.

If you say to a man, "Here, I want to square this thing up amicably; and if you don't agree to this boundary of mine I'll punch your head," well, a captious person might argue that the words savoured less of the conciliatory than the aggressive; yet this, practically, was the position taken up by the Society. However, this is merely an academic question. The fact remains on record that the magistrates not only "ploughed up and cropped" the land in question, but "erected several houses" thereon. The Society do not abandon all hopes of amicable settlement, but appoint a sub-committee



SIR HUGH LYON PLAYFAIR.

From picture in possession of Royal and Ancient Club.



with a view to the re-establishment of friendly relations, failing which, legal proceedings are to be taken, and a subscription list opened to defray the cost. Now, in order to present a connected narrative of these events, it is necessary to skip over a long interval of time, and come down to the year 1853. Up to 1835 the Club was without any "local habitation"; they held their meetings at Bailie Glass's, at the Black Bull Tavern, and elsewhere, leading apparently a sort of nomadic life.¹ But in this year "the Union Club" was inaugurated for the benefit of such members of the Golf Club or the St Andrews Archer's Club as might care to avail themselves of its privilege.

The premises were situated on part of the ground now occupied by the Grand Hotel; entrance money for each member was his share of the £5 paid to Mrs Peerie for rent of the parlour, and five shillings a-year subscription. The prime mover in these arrangements was Major (afterwards Sir) Hugh Lyon Playfair, who did so much for St Andrews: his portrait hangs in the large room of the Royal and Ancient. Fifty-eight original members were admitted, the list including all or most of the leading golfers of the day.

¹ The Black Bull was situated at the corner of South Street and Castle Street.

This much explained, we now come down to 1853, nothing between 1820 and 1853 being recorded, nor any allusion made to the strained relations earlier existing, as we have seen, between the Golf Club and the municipal authorities. What had happened is explained in a minute dated 16th March 1853.

The meeting having taken into consideration that in the year 1820 an agreement was entered into between the city of St Andrews and this Society, whereby in consideration of the Club abandoning their opposition to the Town Council fencing part of the Links eastward from the Swilcan Burn for building purposes, the Town Council, by minute of 13th October 1810, *inter alia*, became bound to give the Club a piece of ground east of the first hole for the site of a new golf-house, when they should think proper to erect it; and further, that the members of the Union Club had agreed to erect a club-house, and have requested this Society to assign to them the right to a site for such building, secured to the Golf Club by the minute of Town Council referred to, resolve to agree to said request, &c.

The Club, therefore, assign their right and title to the piece of ground to the Union Club with power to build. Two months afterwards, however, 4th May 1853, this assignation of title is rescinded, the Golf Club reserving and retaining in their own hands the right to build. But the important resolution is proposed that the Royal and Ancient Golf Club and the Union Club (subject to concurrence on the part



ST ANDREWS HOME HOLE.

SHOWING (ON RIGHT) BRIDGE OVER THE SWILCAN, LIFEBOAT HOUSE;
 AT UPPER END OF ROAD, HUGH PHILP'S SHOP, ALLAN ROBERTSON'S HOUSE;
 AND TO THE LEFT, THE OLD UNION PARLOUR.



of the latter) should be united, and that membership of the Golf Club should be held to carry with it membership of the Union Club as well, and participation in all its privileges. This proposal came up at the ensuing autumn meeting, moved by Mr John Grant, and seconded by Mr Whyte-Melville, and was unanimously carried. Thus the old Union Parlour and the Royal and Ancient were amalgamated, and shortly afterwards the erection of a club-house began.

On the whole, then, it seems that the committee in 1820 acted with judgment, and arranged what must be regarded as a satisfactory compromise. The whole episode seems to have been not without some beneficial effect upon the municipal authorities, for four years later, in 1824, on the encroachment question again cropping up, the attitude assumed by them, so far from being high-handed or masterful, is eminently the reverse. A site was required for a lifeboat house, and a piece of ground just east of the Swilcan Burn, adjoining what was then the turnpike road (now the road to the Old Station) was selected. But it was not desired to take any further steps without the sanction of the Club, though it appeared that such a building would "not interfere with or encroach upon the golfing course." Moreover, as the object was highly laudable and humane,

it was trusted there would be no opposition on the part of golfers.

There was none, and the lifeboat house was built. Shortly afterwards the magistrates proposed to close a road through the Links immediately to the east of the first hole, by which means a considerable portion of ground would be gained for golf; this was agreed to, and a subscription paper was opened.



CLOTHES BLEACHING.



XIII.

Club Uniform and Subscriptions. The Silver Putter. Royal Patronage.

WE have already touched upon the question of the Club uniform. The late Colonel R. T. Boothby used to maintain that, properly speaking, it consisted of a plain blue coat, with the Club buttons; and he himself, shortly before his decease, by providing himself with a garment of this description, endeavoured to revive a custom which seems to have lapsed. A minute of 3rd November 1820 bears out his contention, and enacts that the uniform shall be as above described.

Neglect of the Links now seems (1823) to have occasioned considerable trouble, George Robertson, the keeper, after repeated "wiggings," is dismissed as incompetent or incorrigible, and David Pirie, weaver and caddy, is appointed to supersede him.

Flagrant violations by driving carts across the course betwixt the first and second hole, and likewise on the green at the second hole,

are recorded; a Green Committee is appointed to supervise, but (1827) share the fate of George Robertson—being sent to the right-about for failure in carrying out the duties imposed upon them.

Notwithstanding the fact that an annual subscription of 10s. 6d. from all members had been imposed in 1823, in lieu of 5s. green money from playing members, the Society, in 1827, was in low water, and resolved to discontinue the allowance of two guineas paid annually to the Leith clubmaker for attending at the general meeting. Some difficulty, too, seems to have been experienced in inducing new candidates to pay their entry money when elected, considerable arrears being outstanding upon that account. Accordingly, in terms of a standing resolution of the Club, it was decided to hold the proposer of a candidate liable for the entry money. From the year 1764 to 1824 inclusive, complete records exist of the scores made by the respective winners of the Silver Club; after 1824 the names only of winners are given.

It is to be inferred, then, that the competition came to be regarded as a competition in name only, and not as a test of merit, for which there existed the Club



MR S. C. THOMSON. MR GEORGE WHYTE-MELVILLE. MR GEORGE GLENNIE. SANDY PIRIE. COLONEL J. O. FAIRLIE. TOM MORRIS.
CAPTAIN MAITLAND DOUGALL. MR LITTLE GILMOUR.



Gold Medal. Those who were acquainted with the late Mr John Whyte-Melville may be interested to learn that his name appears as the winner of the Silver Club, with a score of 110, in the year 1823.

In 1828 the Gold Medal would not hold any more names, so a new one had to be provided. It was proposed that each player entering should subscribe 5s. in order to provide the money; but this did not find favour, and the cost was defrayed by private subscription.

A Rules Revision Committee was appointed this year, and, on their labours being completed, copies of the New Rules were sold to members at one shilling each.

In 1831 it was recommended that—

“A Handicap Stakes should be subscribed for among the members and played for annually.”

A committee was formed, with Mr John Whyte-Melville as convener, to arrange matters, and give effect to the proposal. The pay of the Links Keeper, £2, 10s. a-year, was now thought inadequate, and was doubled.

In 1832 we meet with the first mention of double holes on the putting-greens. It is proposed by the Chief of Clanronald that on each green, except the first and last, there should be two holes instead of one. That the set on the east end of the green

be played on going out, and those on the west coming in.

By this means all delays and obstructions, which occasion great inconvenience and are frequently the source of irritation between parties, will be wholly prevented.

On the 3rd November 1820, a somewhat singular bet had been made in the following terms :—

Sir David Moncrieffe, Bart. of Moncrieffe, backs his life against the life of John Whyte-Melville, Esq. of Strathkinness, for a new Silver Club, as a present to the St Andrews Golf Club, the price of the Club to be paid by the survivor, and the arms of the parties to be engraved on the Club, and the present bet inscribed on it. No balls to be attached to it. In testimony of which this bet is subscribed by the parties thereto.

The signatures follow. On 25th September 1833, Mr Whyte-Melville, "in a feeling and appropriate speech," expressed his deep regret at the lamented death of Sir David Moncrieffe, one of the most distinguished and zealous supporters of the Club. Mr Whyte-Melville, while lamenting the cause that led to it, had pleasure in fulfilling the duty imposed upon him by the bet, and accordingly delivered to the Captain the Silver Putter. Though no balls were to be attached to it, he hoped the Club would agree with him as to the propriety of attaching to it the Gold Medals; that as the Silver Clubs commemorated



JOHN WHITE MELVILLE OF MOUNT MELVILLE.

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JOHN WHYTE-MELVILLE OF MOUNT MELVILLE.



the names of the Captains, so the Putter should bear record to those who had signalised themselves by the superiority of their play at golf.

This, then, is the history of the handsome Silver Putter, to which at present is attached two Gold Medals engraved with the winners' names.

Advocates for the retention of the "stimy" may be interested to learn that for a year the game was played without stimies; but, presumably, the change was not regarded as an improvement, for whereas in September 1833 a motion for their abolition was unanimously carried, in 1834 the new rule was rescinded, and the former practice reverted to.

Engrossed in the minutes are copies of the letters which passed between Major Murray Belshes and Sir Herbert Taylor, private secretary to his Majesty King William IV. These letters are six in number, and disclose the circumstances under which his Majesty consented to become patron of the Club, and to bestow upon it the designation of "Royal and Ancient."

Letter No. 1, 9th January 1834, asks Sir Herbert respectfully to communicate to the King the earnest wish of the members that, as his Majesty was Duke of St Andrews, he would be graciously pleased to become patron of the Club. Also, since the Club was, with the exception of the Edinburgh Club, the

oldest in Scotland, that his Majesty would permit it to be styled Royal and Ancient.

No. 2, from Sir Herbert, announces that the King approves of the designation "Royal and Ancient," but regrets that he cannot become its patron; for ever since his Majesty's accession to the throne he has been compelled to decline similar requests from other societies, and to give any preference, however well merited, might prove embarrassing.

In No. 3, Major Murray Belshes is peculiarly gratified to learn that his Majesty has been pleased to accede to that request of the members, in so far as to approve of the Society being styled Royal and Ancient, but is very sorry to find that circumstances prevented his Majesty becoming patron of the Club. Major Murray Belshes had not been aware of the rule laid down by his Majesty, and, indeed, would not have ventured to make the request at all, had it not been for the fact that Lord Kinnaird had informed him that his Majesty had recently consented to become patron of the Perth Society, and to approve of its being styled "Royal." That being the case, and under the peculiar circumstances of his Majesty being Duke of St Andrews, it appeared to Major Murray Belshes that if any preference were to be given, the Golf Club of St Andrews, of the two, was perhaps the better entitled to it, not only from the

above circumstance, but from its being nearly a century older, and from its members being entirely composed of a great portion of the nobility and gentry of Scotland. Many of these were in different quarters of the world, and though most gratifying to every member of the Club, yet to those far distant from their native land such a mark of honourable distinction conferred upon them by their sovereign would be received with feelings of the deepest gratitude and pleasure.

By means of these forcible arguments, the pertinacious Major succeeded in carrying his point, for in No. 4 Sir Herbert Taylor admits that the precedent cited had escaped his Majesty's recollection. His Majesty therefore acquiesced in the wish of the Club that he should become its patron, as being Duke of St Andrews. The remaining letters notify the King's decision to the secretary of the Club, for the information of the members.

We have already made mention of a singular bet; another, undated, but probably about 1830, was as follows :—

The medal holder backs himself to play from the first hole of St Andrews Links to the Toll-bar on this side of Cupar in 200 teed strokes, leaving the tees to be decided by the Umpires, for ten sovereigns; if a ball is lost, a new ball is to be struck off as near as possible to the place where the lost ball seemed to alight, without losing a stroke.

The result is not recorded ; but on the face of it the bet would seem to have been a good one for the medal holder, who, presumably, could drive, or he would not have won the medal. The distance, as near as may be, is nine miles (15,840 yards). If, therefore, the player drove at only an average of 100 yards, he would still arrive at Cupar in about 158 shots, and have a large margin to spare.



ROBERT CHAMBERS.

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ROBERT CHAMBERS.



XIV.

Major Murray Belshes and the Royal and Ancient Medals.

No member of the Royal and Ancient has ever striven harder to advance its interests than Major Murray Belshes. We have seen how, through his instrumentality, the King was persuaded to confer upon the Club its present title, which was no sooner accomplished than the Major began to devote his attention to the subject of medals. Up to 1836, as we know, the Gold Medal was the only prize given by the Club; but

as there were numerous first-rate players at the game of Golf who competed for it, he conceived that it would tend to increase the interest in that game among these competitors were an additional prize competed for yearly; and, entertaining this opinion, he had procured, and had great pleasure in presenting to the Club, a "Silver Cross of St Andrew," to be competed for annually at the May meeting.

This prize, however, was fettered by a condition which, looking back, we cannot but think some-

what unfortunate, although it had been the subject of much earnest consideration on the part of the donor. This condition ran as follows: "The Gold Medal and Silver Cross never to be held at the same time by any one individual. In the event of the winner of the Silver Cross becoming the winner of the Gold Medal also, the Silver Cross to be surrendered to the Club and played for on the day following that on which the Gold Medal is played for."

Now, take such a case as that of Mr J. E. Laidlay in 1895, whose 78 and 79 at the spring and autumn meetings in the same year remain unbeaten,—a marvellous record of brilliancy. Under the old system Mr Laidlay would have been shorn of half his honours; besides, an element of confusion is introduced into the records, for we are met by the not infrequent anomaly of the score for a *second* prize being given as lower than that which won the *first* prize,—for the same system used to apply to all medals. In later years Mr George Condie, Admiral Maitland Dougall, Mr S. C. Thomson, and one or two others were sufferers; for it is not apparent, without considerable research, that they were the outstanding players of their respective years. In 1836, the first year of the new competition for the Silver Cross, the winner was Mr James Condie,

father of the grand player, Mr George Condie, the Johnnie Ball of his generation.

In 1837 the King presented the valuable Gold Medal, which is the first prize at autumn meetings. The letter announcing his Majesty's gift was as follows :—

ST JAMES'S PALACE,
January 6th, 1837.

SIR,—I have the honour to transmit, by the King's command, a Gold Medal, with green riband, which His Majesty desires you will present in his name to the Royal and Ancient Golf Club at St Andrews, and which His Majesty desires should be challenged and played for annually by that Society. The King orders me to add that His Majesty has great satisfaction in availing himself of this opportunity to evince his approbation of that ancient institution.—I have the honour to be, Sir, your most obedient servant

(Signed) H. WHEATLEY.

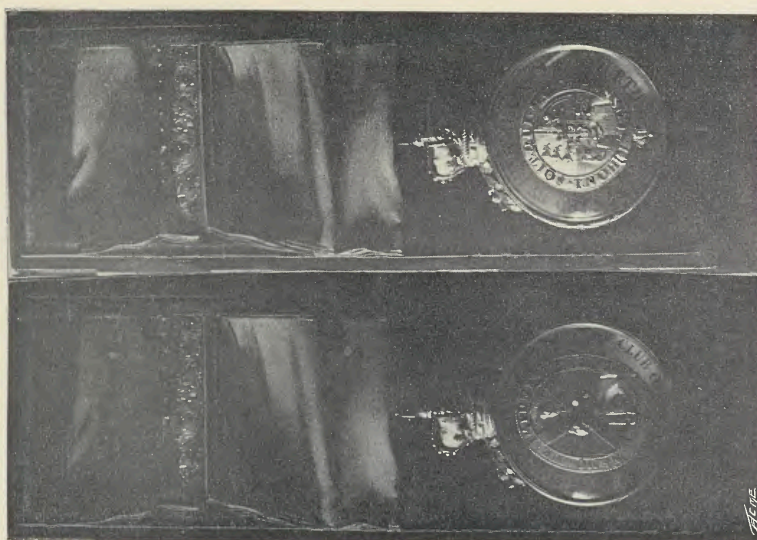
To Major MURRAY BELSHES.

The medal bears on it the Royal Arms, and on the reverse the arms of St Andrews, and the following inscription: "Presented by His Majesty King William IV. to the Royal and Ancient Golf Club at St Andrews." Mr Robert Bruce of Kennet, an ex-captain, stated that the Club was well aware that to the deep interest in its prosperity and to the influence possessed by Major Murray Belshes it owed the valuable gift just presented. A vote of thanks was unanimously carried.

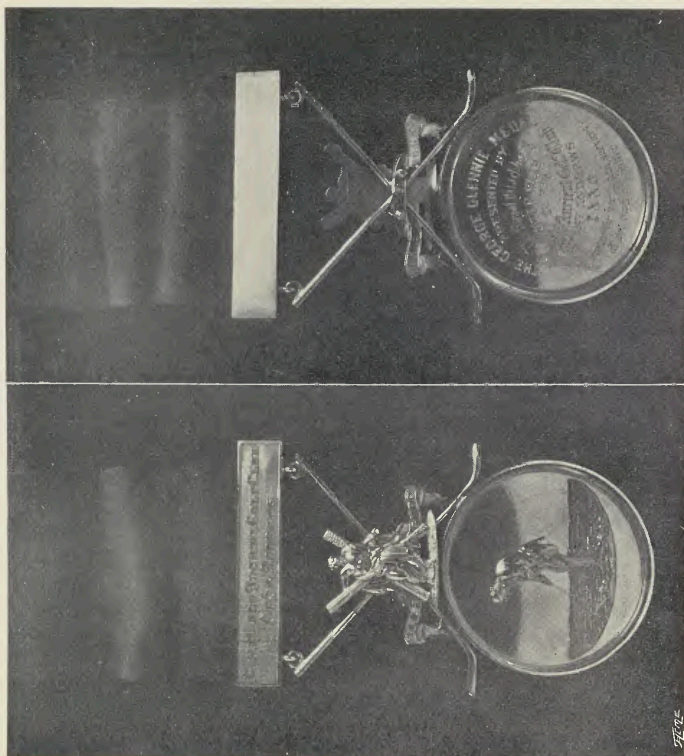
At this time, then, the Club Medals were disposed as follows : The Silver Cross was played for annually on the first Wednesday in May ; the Gold Medal of the Club on the Wednesday of the autumn meeting ; and King William IV.'s Medal on the Friday of the autumn meeting. If the winner of the Silver Cross became the winner of the Gold Medal or of King William IV.'s Medal, the Silver Cross had to be surrendered to the Club and played for on the day following that on which the Gold Medal or King William IV.'s Medal was played for. If the winner of the Gold Medal became also the winner of the King's Medal, the Gold Medal had to be surrendered to the Club and played for on the day following that on which the King's Medal was played for.

Lastly, the winners of the Gold Medals were debarred from playing for the Silver Cross, and the winner of King William IV.'s Medal was debarred from playing for the Club Gold Medal.

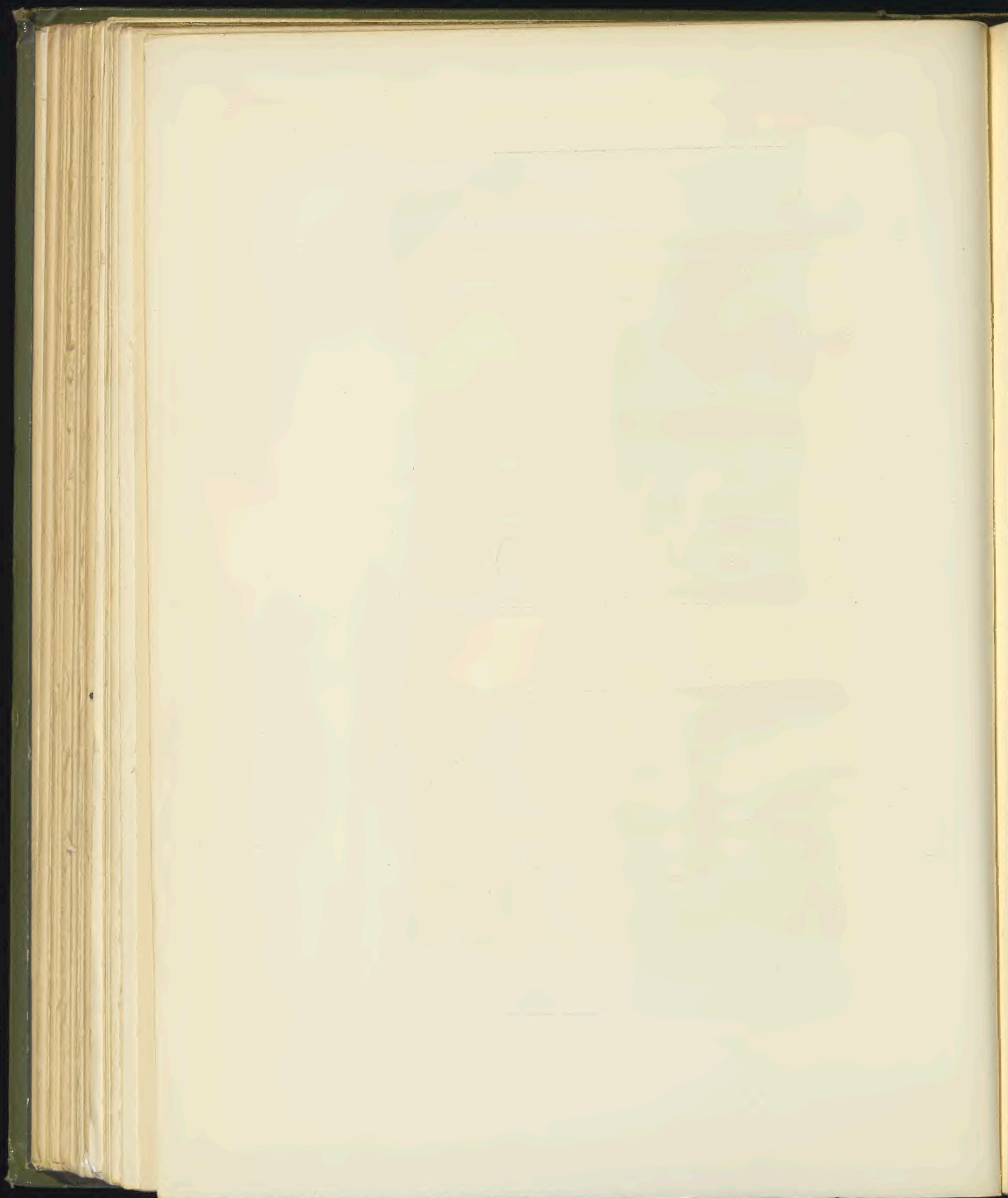
The late Mr Robert Clark, alluding to the bewildering number of trains running over different railway systems, once remarked, "A man has to be exceptionally sober to get safely away from Carnoustie." No less is required of him who would understand the intricacies of these medal restrictions, framed, as it would seem, probably intentionally, for



KING WILLIAM IV. GOLD MEDAL.



THE GLENNIE MEDAL (P. 209).



the express purpose of clipping the wings, as it were, of any possible Johnnie Ball, and preventing him winning more than one prize. A duplicate of the Royal Medal was ordered to be procured, the expense of which was to be defrayed by subscription, the winner to hold the duplicate, and the medal itself to remain in the custody of the Club, inasmuch as, in case of loss, it would be impossible to replace it.

The next service rendered to the Club by Major Murray Belshes was a successful appeal by him that her Majesty Queen Adelaide, as Duchess of St Andrews, should become its patroness, following upon which, in 1838, her Majesty presented the Society with the Adelaide Medal, with a request that it should be worn by the captain on all public occasions. In after years this custom, at first adhered to, seems to have fallen into desuetude, for in 1852 a letter from Colonel Murray Belshes was read, in which he made the complaint that no public notice was ever taken of the Royal Adelaide Medal which he had the honour to present to the Club from her late Majesty Queen Adelaide. He remarked that it was given for the purpose of distinguishing the captain in office from the other captains present, their uniforms being all alike. It had been his wish that it should be played for at

the annual meeting along with the Silver Club, as an appendage to the office of captain, and it appeared to him to be a pity that the Club should possess two Royal medals and nothing be known about it. This, no doubt, was regarded as quite a reasonable remonstrance, and directions were given accordingly.

The next thing recorded of this general benefactor—1838—is the presentation by him to the Club of “an exceedingly splendid case for containing the Royal Medal, and having therein finely burnished plates for engraving the names of the winners of that medal.” Just previous to this the gallant Colonel, as he then was, was entertained at a complimentary dinner given in his honour, and in recognition of his invaluable services to the Club; and later a committee was requested to prepare an address to be presented to him, expressive of the deep feeling of respect, esteem, and gratitude entertained by the Society towards him. This was no more than his due, for we have seen how, first, his appeal to the King was successful; and, secondly, how in three consecutive years—1836, 1837, 1838—he enriched the Club with the Silver Cross, the William IV. and Adelaide Medals.

XV.

Various Matters of Interest—Historical and otherwise.

IN 1838 some trouble with regard to annual subscriptions seems to have led to the resignation of certain members. At a meeting in March of that year it was moved that a subscription of £1 be paid annually by every member, in lieu of 5s. paid by those attending the annual meeting. In May following this proposal was discussed and further postponed, and it was pointed out that a minute of October 1814, imposing £1, 1s. annual subscription, had never been rescinded. In October 1831 the new proposal was agreed to, and a month later instructions were given to notify members by means of circulars to that effect. But in May 1839 the resolution was rescinded, of which fact members who had resigned were to be made acquainted; and, instead of £1 subscription from every member, 5s. was to be collected from all who used the Links at any period during the year.

In March 1838 Colonel Murray Belshes brought forward a proposal which, had it been adopted, would have borne hard upon rising young golfers. It was to the effect that no player should be eligible to compete for the Club medals before attaining the age of twenty-one years. Consideration was deferred, and ultimately it fell to the ground for lack of a seconder; but seven years afterwards the Colonel recurred to the subject, challenging the correctness of the minute, and giving notice of his intention to bring the matter up again. However, nothing seems to have come of it, for the records thereafter are silent as to the proposed change.

In October 1838, it was unanimously resolved that a lost ball should entail the forfeiture of a stroke as well as of the distance—a rule applicable to match play only; for, in 1845, Sir Ralph Anstruther gave notice of motion, subsequently carried, that the rule should extend to medal competitions.

Up to this year, as we have seen, the Club Medal and King William IV.'s Medal were played for on different days, but in 1831 an important alteration was carried, on a motion, after due notice, by Major Playfair. This was:—

That all medals, with the exception of the Silver Cross, be played for on the same day and at the same hour, the first on the list of players to hold the Royal Medal, the second the Club Medal; and that the medals be played for on Wednesday.

In October 1842 the starting hour was fixed at eleven, instead of twelve o'clock, Mr Whyte-Melville entering his dissent. Ordinary matches were allowed to start before the competition began.

In July 1839 some gentlemen were fined bottles of claret for "reflecting on the secretary"; and others had to pay for the somewhat singular offence of "ordering hot waters."

It can scarcely be supposed that this entry refers to hot waters for ablutionary purposes; rather, perhaps, is to be inferred that these Scots were so fallen from their natural high estate as to prefer the wine of the country in diluted to undiluted form, and met with retribution accordingly.

In October 1845 the Club was again on the alert to resist encroachments on the Links. It was stated that a survey had been made with a view to the construction of a branch railway to St Andrews, from the station of the Edinburgh and Northern Company's line at Guard Bridge, and it was apprehended that the golfing course would be interfered with. The proposed plan would have had the effect of separating the putting-green at the Burn Hole from the remainder of the course. A committee appointed to safeguard the interests of the Club remonstrated with the Company, who, in consequence, agreed to modify their scheme, and construct their line farther to the south, so as to avoid the Links altogether, provided

that the consent of the road trustees could be obtained. This consent the committee did obtain, not, perhaps, without some difficulty, for it was stated that an awkward turn in the public road would be necessitated by the proposed plan. However, the Club carried its point, increasing for us the already large debt of gratitude we owe our predecessors.

In October 1845 Colonel Playfair presented to the Club a Silver Medal, given by the Golfing Society of Bombay, and proposed that the Captain of the Bombay Club should be considered an honorary member of the Royal and Ancient in all time coming. It was agreed that the new medal should be played for annually in May, and be the second prize after the Silver Cross. A few months afterwards an alteration in this arrangement was mooted, and a suggestion put forward that the Bombay Medal should be competed for in July, but the motion was withdrawn. The new medal was subject to the same restrictions as the others, and could not be competed for by holders of the Club Gold Medal, or of the King William IV.'s Medal. A very severe penalty for foul strokes in medal play was proposed at this time, namely, an addition of three strokes to the score, but the motion was lost. In 1835 it had been resolved that no alterations should be made on the golf course without the authorisation of a general meeting. In 1846, certain changes having been made

and bunkers filled up, it was resolved that thenceforth no such changes should be allowed unless by permission of the Finance Committee. The five shillings green money imposed in 1839 on playing members was now reduced to two-and-sixpence.

It is no uncommon thing after a medal day at St Andrews to observe on the Links fragmentary trails, as of a paper chase, eloquent testimony of disaster and disgust. But, for a brief spell in the year 1847, it was not open to the disappointed player to relieve his feelings by the destruction of his card, or if he did, he had to pay a fine of ten-and-sixpence: once started, he must persevere to the bitter end. After this rule had been passed, three gentlemen came under its operation at the next ensuing competition; two paid the fine, but the third had to be applied to officially. After a short life and a merry one, however, the rule was abolished, or at least the penalty for its non-observance.

In 1848 it was agreed to present to the future winners of the three principal medals a silver medal, recording the winner's name, the date, and number of strokes; that with regard to any other medal, the winner might provide himself with a silver commemorative medal, this permission to be granted respectively to any medal-holder who might wish to enjoy such record of his success.

In 1850 Colonel Murray Belshes was written to

with a view to ascertaining whether he had any objection to an alteration of the rule debarring the Club and Royal Medal holder from competing for the Silver Cross. He replied that the regulation was made for the purpose of preventing any great player carrying off every prize; that he did not see any reason for altering his decision, arrived at after mature consideration, and in consultation with many friends; but, at the same time, if a general meeting were unanimously in favour of the alteration, he would not object. The restriction, however, remained in force; and in October of that year Mr George Condie, who had won the Silver Cross in May, had to surrender it on winning the Club Gold Medal.

Writers in the present day have sometimes alluded to the old rule applying to unplayable balls; it was passed in May 1852, and ran as follows:—

When the ball lies in a hole or in any place that the player considers it not playable, he shall, with the consent of his adversary, lift the ball, drop it in the hazard, and lose a stroke. Should the adversary say, however, that he thinks the ball playable, then he (the adversary) plays the ball; if he makes the ball playable in two strokes, the two strokes count as if the player had played the ball; the player then plays the ball as if he himself had played it out; but if the adversary does not get the ball out at the two strokes, then, as stated above, it is lifted and dropped, a stroke being lost.

The volume under notice closes with 1854, but on the fly-leaf are recorded the following quaint bets, dated 1st November 1822 :—

Mr Bruce of Grangemuir bets that he will produce a leg of mutton against the September meeting of the Club superior to one to be produced by Mr Haig of Seggie, for a magnum of port to the Club. Taken by Mr Haig.

Mr Bruce also bets that he will produce at December meeting next a leg of white-faced mutton superior to one to be produced by Mr Glass, Kinaldy, for a magnum of port. Taken by Mr Glass.

The Captain bets that he will produce a ham superior to one to be produced by Mr Bruce against next meeting, for a magnum of port. Taken by Mr Bruce, he producing his leg by the next March meeting.

St Andrews, 6th December 1822.—The which day gigots of mutton with acknowledged black faces were produced by Thos. Bruce and Patrick Glass, Esq. The minutes not having been read, the Society adjudged Mr Bruce's mutton to be the best produced, in respect of which Mr Glass paid his magnum of port; but as the minutes bear that *white-faced* not *black-faced* mutton was to be judged of, they ordain the respective gentlemen to produce white-faced mutton by the meeting on the first Friday of March next, which they agree to under the same terms as formerly.

(Signed) ROBERT BRUCE, Acting Captain.

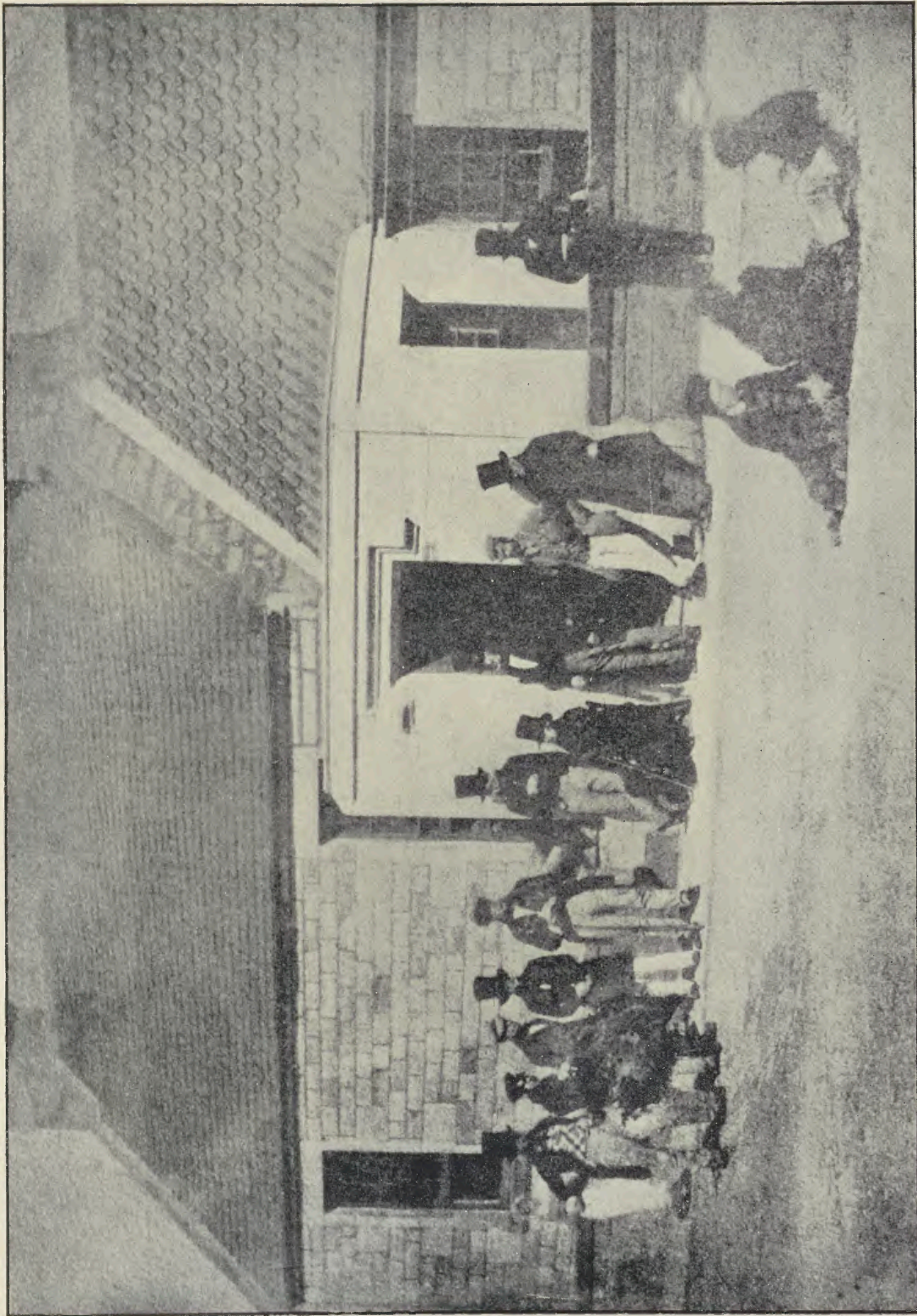
"A joint of mutton and any pretty little tiny kick-shaws, tell William cook," says Shallow to Davy; he should have added after "mutton," "with an acknowledged white (or black) face."

XVI.

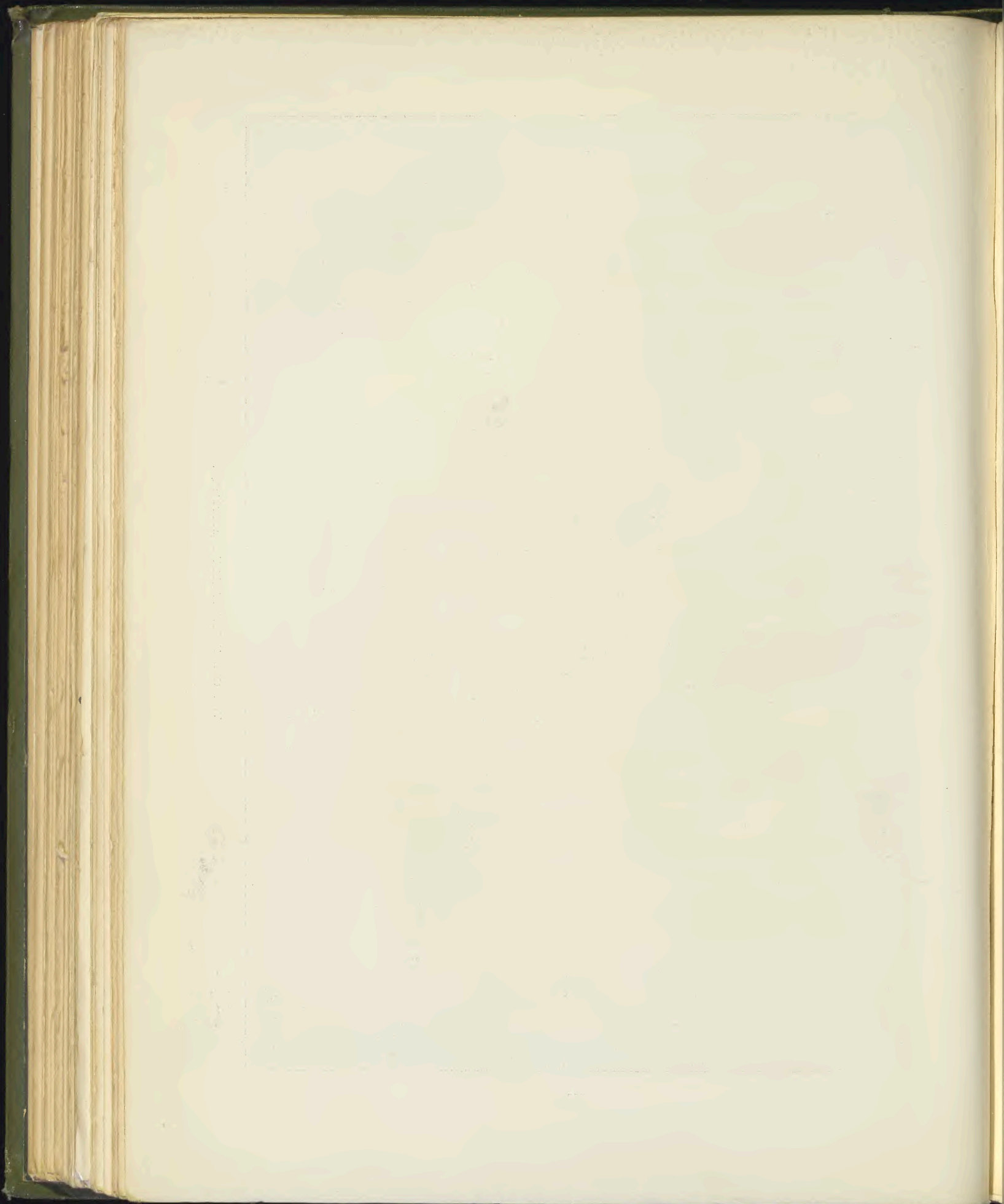
The Old Union Parlour. Building of New Club-house. A New Town-hall. The First Tournament.

ALTHOUGH at the present time the Royal and Ancient exists as a body corporate, an undivided whole, it was not always thus, as we have already seen, for in earlier days there were two clubs, the Royal and Ancient and the Union, the latter renting premises known as the Union Parlour, situated on ground whereon the Grand Hotel now stands. Membership of the one did not necessarily imply membership of the other, though as time went on, and general opinion tended more and more towards a scheme of final amalgamation, members of the one club were invariably admitted members of the other.

In 1852 the Union Parlour began to consider its position, which, financially, was sound. The same could not be said of its drains : "*Its walls and roof are considerably shaken, and the latter in many places*



THE OLD UNION PARLOUR (ABOUT 1848).



in a very bad state of repair." These circumstances did not predispose the Committee to any great alacrity in recommending the purchase of their premises, which might have been had for £750. They advised, on the other hand, that a new club-house should be built, on ground free of feu-duty, secured by a minute of the Town Council, dated 5th August 1820. The funds in hand, together with a loan of £500, would be sufficient for the erection of a building in every respect adequate to the accommodation of members. If this proposal should find favour, it was further recommended that entrance-money for new members should be £3, annual subscription £1, and payment for life-membership £10.

This report was unanimously adopted; but subsequently, in order to avoid any legal question as to the right of the Golf Club to assign to the Union their interests secured under the Town Council minute of 1820, it was decided that it would be expedient to obtain a site from the Town Council by feu. That body agreed. Evidence was taken from the oldest caddies that the proposed site, north of the flagstaff, did not form part of the golf course; that therefore no golfer could object to the erection of a club-house upon it. The ground accordingly would be advertised by the Town Council, as required by statute, and feued by public roup before

the end of May (1853), the proposed upset feu-duty being one guinea.

Preliminaries having thus been satisfactorily arranged, the Committee requested Mr Whyte-Melville to lay the foundation-stone with masonic honours; and about June or July building operations seem to have begun. In October 1853 it was proposed, in the Union, that "*it is desirable that the Royal and Ancient Golf Club and the Union Club should be united; and that, with a view to this union being effected, every member henceforth admitted into the Golf Club shall thereby be held to become a member of the Union Club, &c.*" In October 1854 the Golf Club minuted a resolution to the same effect, providing that the names of candidates for the Golf Club should be placed on the walls of the Union Club fourteen days before the ballot took place,—except at general meetings in October and May, when members might be "*admitted by ballot as at present.*" Notwithstanding the mutual wish for amalgamation, however, this event—to be noticed in due course—did not take place for more than twenty years.

In May 1854 the Union Club issued an appeal to its life members to provide additional funds to meet increased expenses. By 1856 £163 had come in from this source, fifty-two out of seventy-nine



THE CLUB.

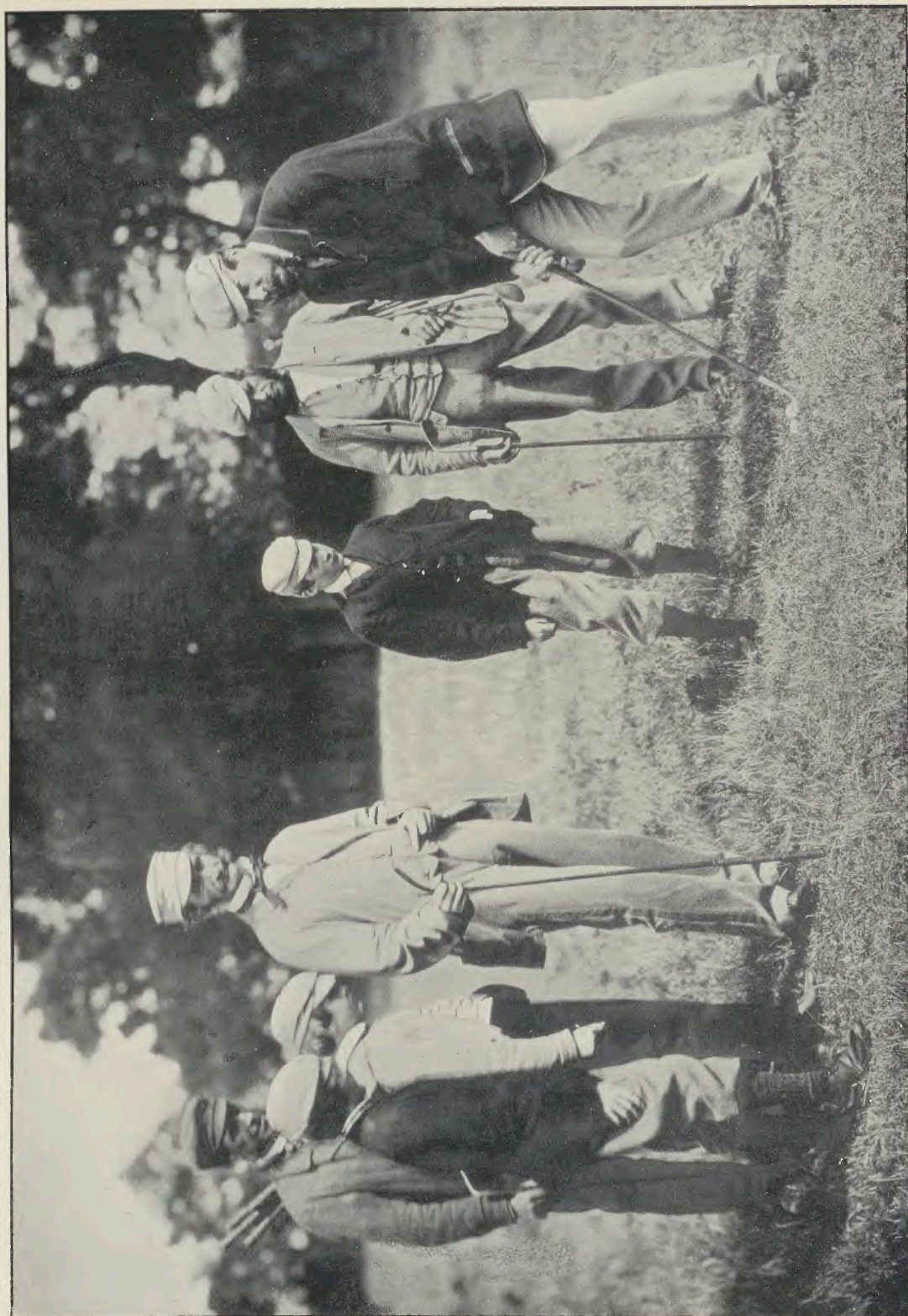


responding. In that year the total cost of the new Club-house was ascertained to be £1967, 1s. 9d., of which sum £500 had been borrowed on the security of the property, the remainder having been met by the available funds of the Club. Thus, appropriately enough, almost exactly a hundred years to the very month after "*the admirers of the antient and healthfull exercise of the Golf*" had drafted the first rules, we find the association possessed of a local habitation and a name—to wit, a comfortable Club-house just completed, and every indication of increasing prosperity. Let us therefore take leave of our building, *quâ* building, having established it securely on the spot where so many of our readers know it, and let us gather up a few entries relating to other matters.

2nd May 1855: "*It was agreed that henceforth there shall always be two holes on the green at the High Hole, and THAT on Medal days as well as at other times.*" In September 1855 Walter Alexander and Alexander Herd, caddies, were appointed to take charge of the course at a salary of £6 betwixt them, David Anderson having resigned. Many now living will remember the familiar figure of old "Watty," quite a character in his way; an excellent "coach," with a native aptitude for dry philosophical remarks. Having an unbounded faith

in the skill of professionals, he contrived, nevertheless, successfully to dissemble his just contempt for the amateur's game, and was always provided with the necessary words of exhortation and valuable advice at a critical juncture,—a splendid type of the old race of caddies, now almost extinct.

In 1856 Sir Robert Hay proposed and carried a motion to the effect that "*in MATCH playing every ball must be played where it lies, or the hole be given up. That in MEDAL playing a ball may, under a penalty of two strokes, be lifted out of a difficulty of any description and teed behind the hazard. These two rules not to apply when the ball is more than half covered with water.*" A sum of £25 was voted for the improvement of the putting-greens, under the superintendence of Allan Robertson, and a further small sum (annually) for the purpose of providing medal-winners with "*some decoration which may be retained and worn by them.*" In this year both the Union Club and the Royal and Ancient were approached by the municipal authorities in respect of the contemplated erection of a new town-hall, the old building in Market Street being no longer adequate to the increasing necessities of the population. After due consideration, the Union Club voted £100, payable in four annual instalments, and the Royal and Ancient contributed £50, in five in-



WATTY ALEXANDER.

SIR HOPE GRANT.
COLONEL FAIRLIE'S SONS.

TOM MORRIS.

COLONEL J. O. FAIRLIE.



stalments, on the understanding that their members respectively should be entitled to the free use of the new premises for the purpose of holding their meetings and the customary balls. The Town Council assented to these proposals, which they ratified by a minute dated 11th December 1857.

A rule passed in 1857 to the effect that medal-winners must attend the "Club Ordinary," or, in default, forfeit the right of possession, did not long remain in force, and was rescinded in 1860. Tournaments nowadays are as common as blackberries, and, apart from the Amateur Championship, evoke but a languid interest. Far otherwise was it with the first competition of the sort, to which reference is made in a minute of 6th May 1857. A communication from the secretary of the Prestwick Golf Club was read, and also a letter from Mr Fairlie, suggesting a competition, to be played in foursomes, between eight clubs—St Andrews, Perth, Musselburgh, Blackheath, Carnoustie, North Berwick, Leven, Prestwick. Play was to take place either at Prestwick or St Andrews, according to the decision of a majority of competing clubs. The Royal and Ancient entertained the proposal, stipulating only that the tournament should not be held during any general meeting of the Club. Accordingly a committee was appointed, and the dates fixed for

29th, 30th, and 31st July. Meanwhile three other clubs entered—Dirleton Castle, Edinburgh Burgess, and Edinburgh Bruntsfield. The result was as follows :—

FIRST ROUND.

Royal Blackheath beat Royal Perth by 8 holes.
Edinburgh Burgess beat Montrose Royal Albert by 12 holes.
Edinburgh Bruntsfield beat Prestwick by 3 holes.
Royal and Ancient, St Andrews, beat Dirleton Castle by 10 holes.
Leven beat Musselburgh by 2 holes.
North Berwick, a bye.

SECOND ROUND.

Blackheath beat Leven by 12 holes.
Edinburgh Burgess and Edinburgh Bruntsfield halved.
Royal and Ancient, St Andrews, beat North Berwick by 4 holes.

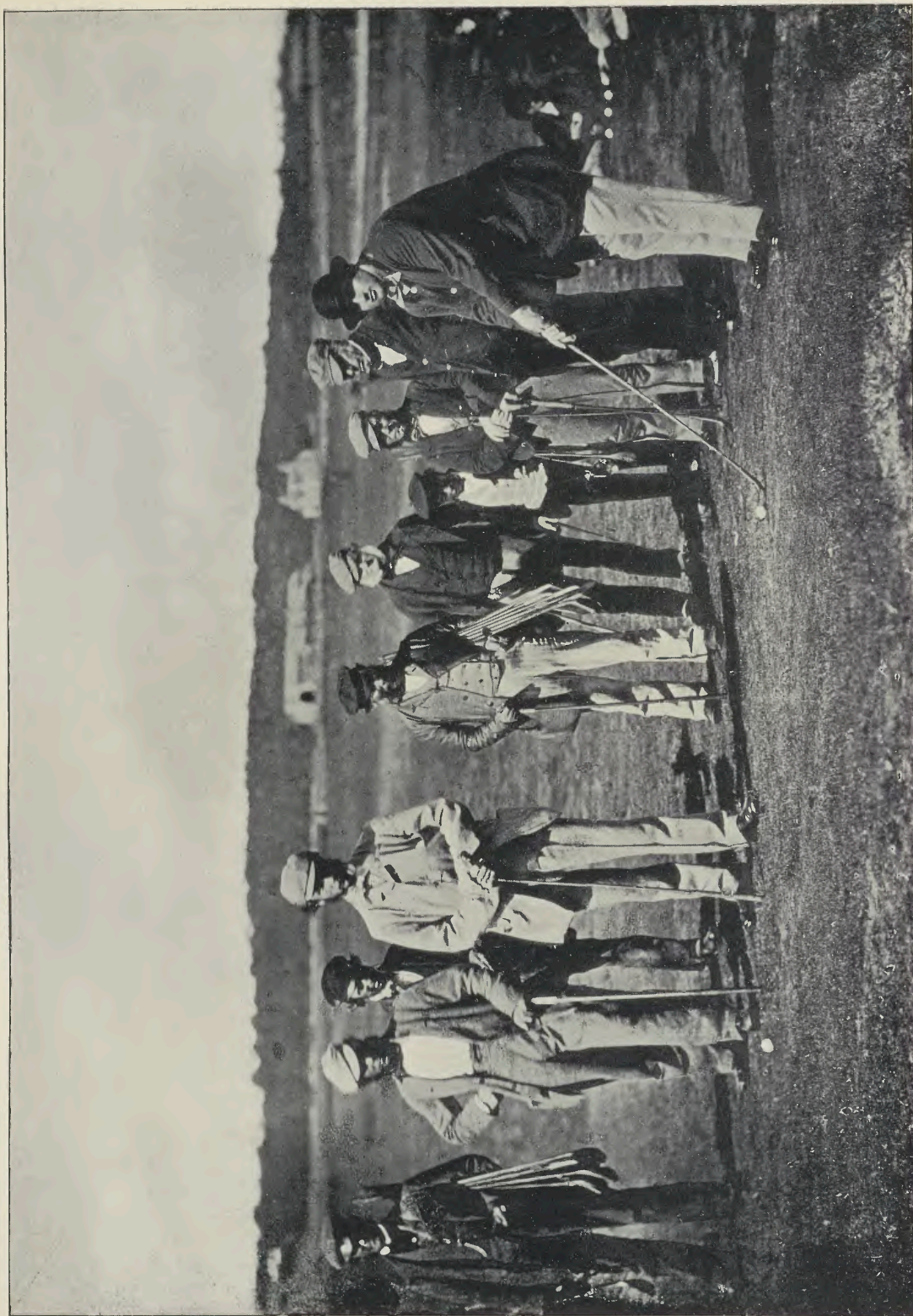
THIRD ROUND.

Blackheath beat Bruntsfield by 6 holes.
Royal and Ancient beat Burgess by 3 holes.

FINAL.

Blackheath beat Royal and Ancient by 7 holes.

The result, it will be seen, was a triumphal march for Blackheath; nor is this surprising when we consider that its representatives were Mr George Glennie and Captain J. C. Stewart of Fasnacloich, the brilliant Johnnie Ball of his generation. These



PIRIE.

TOM MORRIS.

MR ROBERT CATHCART
OF PITCAIRLIE.

D. ANDERSON
("DAW").

ALLAN ROBERTSON.
MR WALLACE OF BALGRUMMO.

MR HAY WEMYSS.



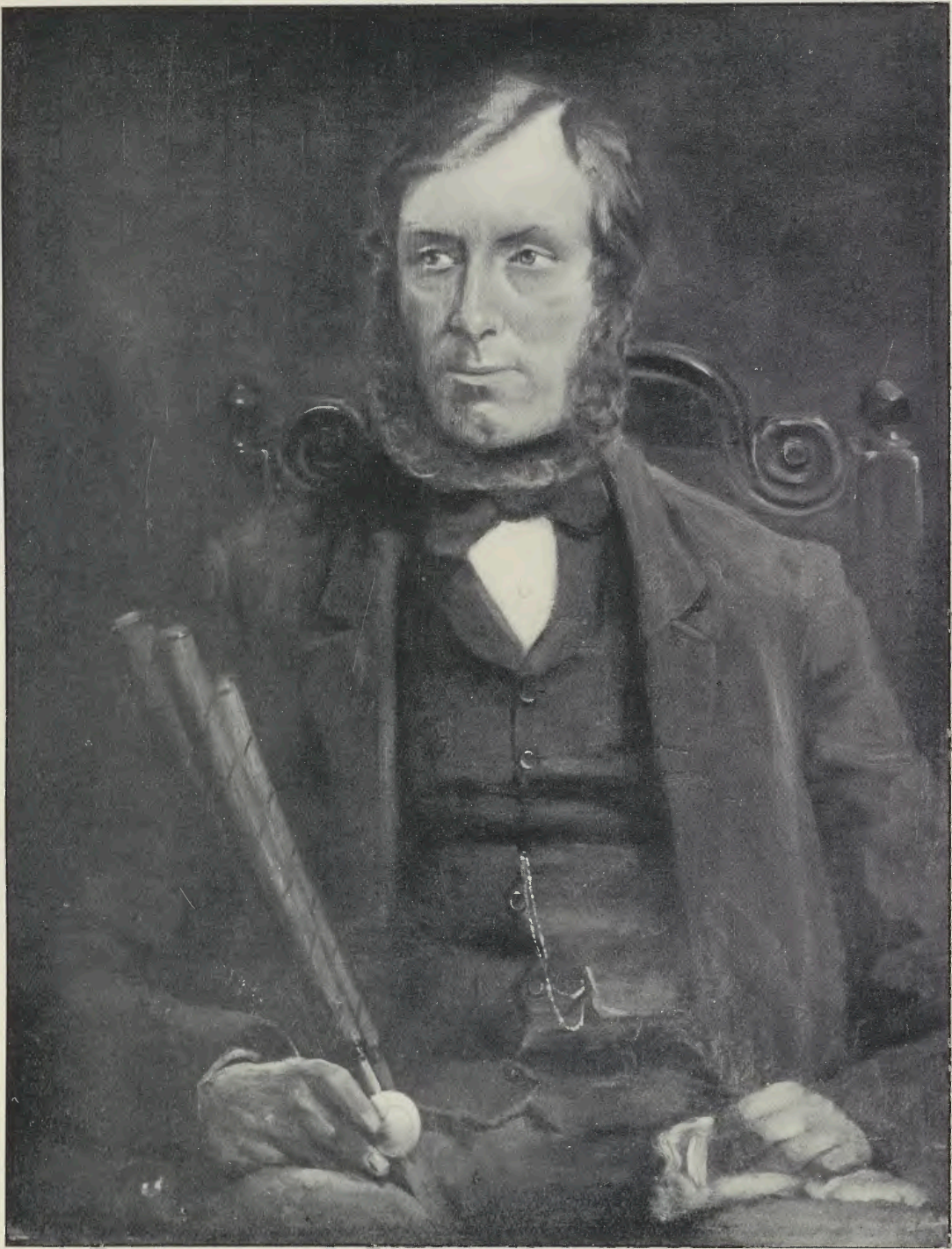
two brothers-in-arms were elected life-members of the Royal Blackheath Club in consideration of their victory, by which that Club was constituted Champion Golf Club of the world. The Royal and Ancient representatives were Captain Maitland Dougall and Mr S. C. Thomson. Other well-known players also competed, amongst whom were Mr Robert Chambers, jun., for Musselburgh; Sir Thomas Moncrieffe and Mr James Condie for Perth; Mr (afterwards Sir) Robert Hay for North Berwick; Mr Robert Clark for Bruntsfield; Mr David Wallace for Leven; and Mr J. O. Fairlie for Prestwick.

XVII.

**Deaths of Allan Robertson and Sir Hugh
Lyon Playfair. Feu of Ground near
Swilcan Burn proposed by Magistrates.
Marriage of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales.
H.R.H. Patron and Captain of the Club.
Appointment of Tom Morris as Custodian
of the Links.**

IN 1857 Mr George Thomson brought forward and carried a motion that a small sum should be voted annually for the purpose of providing medal-winners with a decoration, to be retained and worn by them. These seem at first to have been silver-gilt, for in 1872 Mr Robert Clark moved that henceforth they should be of gold.

In the same year a change was made in the manner of election of candidates for the Royal and Ancient. Up to that time one black ball excluded; but Mr Whyte-Melville moved and carried a resolution that



ALLAN ROBERTSON.

From picture in possession of Royal and Ancient Club.



no candidate should be excluded unless one black ball were put into the box for every eleven members present at the ballot.

We now come to an event which deeply moved the whole golfing world—the death of Allan Robertson. How Allan would have fared in competition with the leading players of to-day is a much-debated question into which we need not now enter : but that he was a most remarkable player all may admit ; for after the lapse of many decades the glamour of his name remains, and his memory is green to-day. In such admiration was he held amongst his contemporaries, that Mr Sutherland reflected popular opinion when he remarked, on hearing of his death—“ They may shut up their shops and toll the bells, for the greatest among them is gone.”

In September 1859 the Royal and Ancient passed the following resolution :—

This meeting has heard with deep regret of the death of Allan Robertson, and they desire to record on their minutes the opinion, universally entertained, of the almost unrivalled skill with which he played the game of Golf, combining a ready and correct judgment with most accurate execution. They desire also to express the sense of the propriety of his whole conduct, and unvarying civility with which he mingled with all classes of golfers, of his cordiality to those of his own, of his integrity, his happy temper, and the anxiety he always manifested to promote the comfort of all who frequented the

Links. They desire an extract of this minute to be transmitted to his widow, with an expression of their sympathy in her affliction.

The Union Club also

considered some acknowledgment to be due for the eminent services of the late Allan Robertson in improving the game of Golf, and extending its practice throughout the kingdom, and was of opinion that for this purpose a moderate annuity should be purchased for his widow.

A committee was chosen

to apply by letter, or otherwise, to golf clubs, all golfers and others, to whom the name of Allan Robertson was familiar, for subscriptions to carry out this object.

The meeting also voted £25 for the purpose specified.

About this time several ladies and gentlemen inaugurated a movement having for its object the instruction and improvement of the condition of the caddies, and a subscription in support of that movement was voted. St Andrews now sustained another severe loss in the death of Sir Hugh Lyon Playfair, who, as Provost, had worked unceasingly in furtherance of the interests of the city, and introduced countless improvements.

To him [says a minute, May 1861] the Union Club is indebted for its very existence: for many years it was entirely and most prudently managed by him. To the last of



WILLIE DUNN. MR. B. DE C. NIXON. MR. GEORGE GLENNIE. CAPTAIN MAITLAND DOUGALL.
MR. ORD CAMPBELL. MR. S. C. THOMSON. COLONEL J. O. FAIRLIE.



his life it was fostered by his constant watchfulness over its welfare, and—in spite of the many important public duties he imposed upon himself for the benefit of this city and neighbourhood—by his unwearied attention to every matter of detail which could tend to promote the completeness of the Club or the comfort of its members.

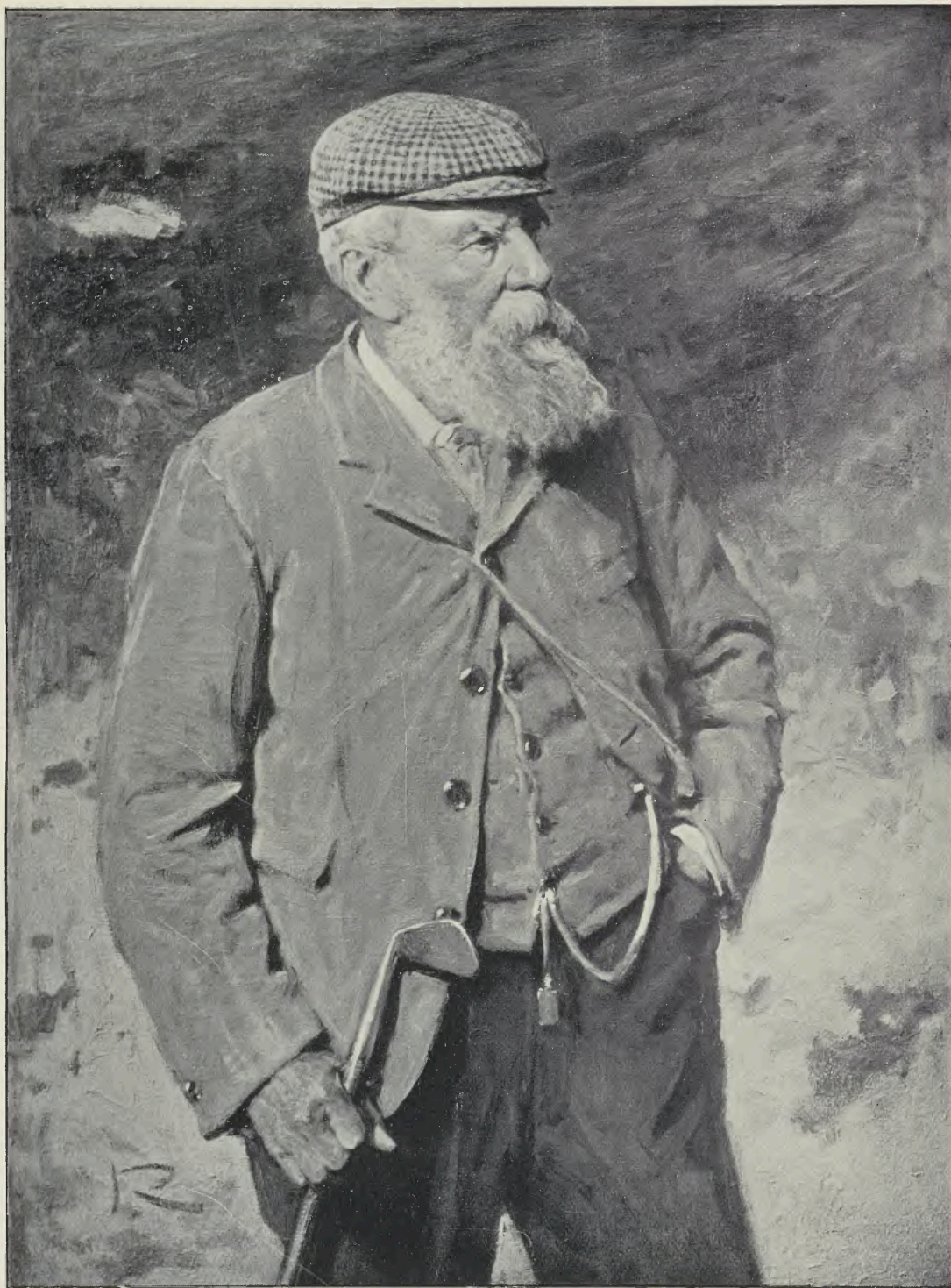
The next entry to which we draw attention is important, as still further exemplifying the cautious scrutiny to which the Royal and Ancient subjected any proposals emanating from the municipal authorities which might conceivably affect the rights of golfers. In October 1862 a plan was submitted showing a small portion of ground lying westward of the Lifeboat House and on the east side of the Swilcan Burn, adjoining the golf course. The magistrates desired to feu this piece of ground, in order to make a proper termination to the range of houses called Gibson Place, and they asked the Club to sanction the proposal. In reply the Committee observed :—

It appears from the minutes of the Club, date February 6th, 1824, that when the Club consented to the erection of the Lifeboat House by the Town Council, they did so upon the express condition and declaration that, in case at any future period the house should cease to be appropriated to the purpose of keeping a lifeboat, the ground whereon it is built should revert to and become part of the golfing course over which the servitude of golfing extends. There is no doubt, therefore, that the Club could insist that if the building ceases to be used for the purpose for which it was erected (which

is now intended) the site of it should be restored to the golf course. There is equally little doubt that the Club might prevent the Town Council from feuing any additional piece of ground adjoining said site.

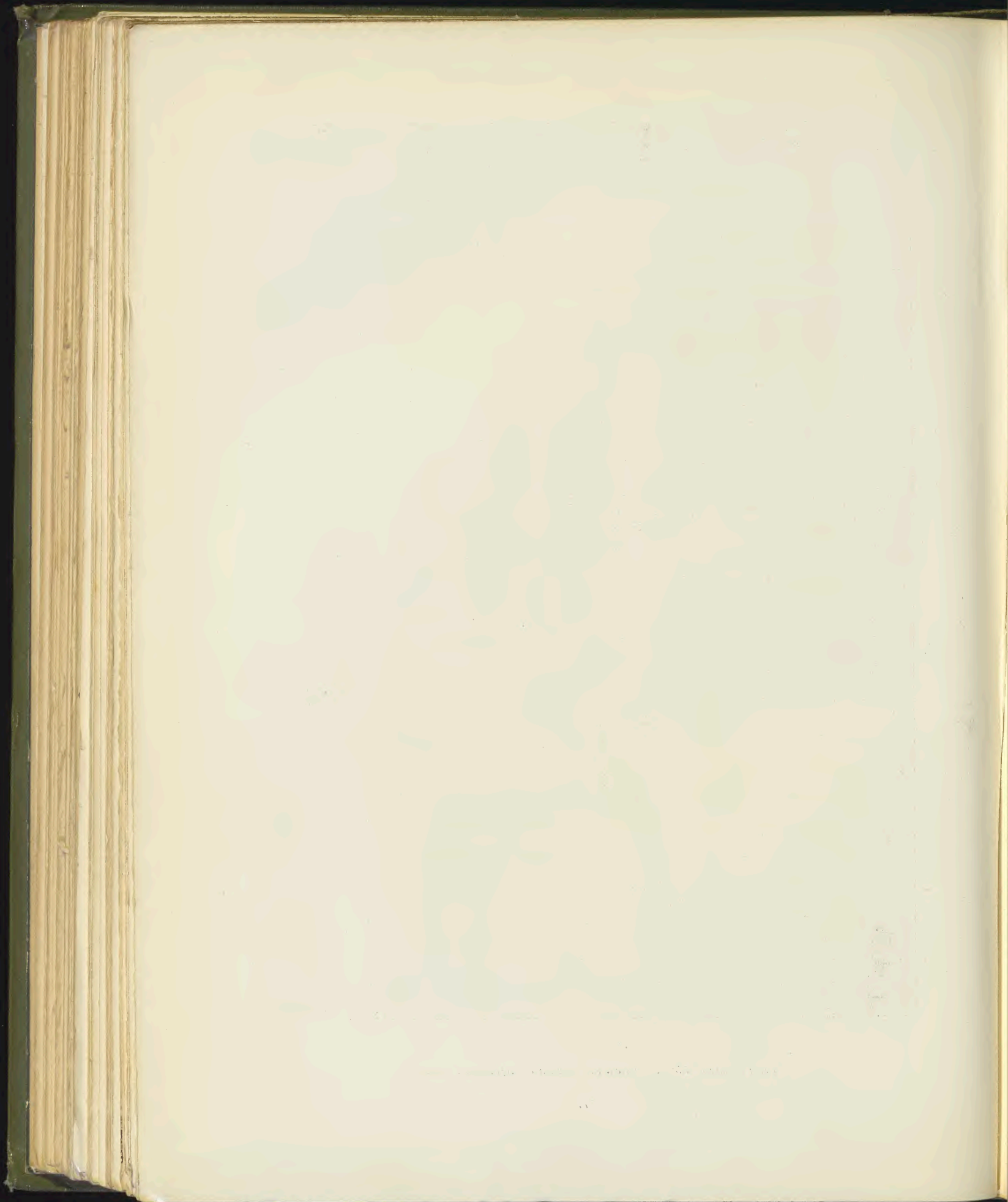
Having thus in no uncertain manner defined their rights and position, they did not propose to offer any opposition to the plan, inasmuch as it appeared that the north boundary of the ground would run in a straight line with the north enclosure walls of the Links feus eastward from the Lifeboat House, and that, consequently, there would be no material encroachment. Besides, as the new house to be erected was to have "a neat elevation," and was to be in harmony with the buildings already erected, the Committee considered it would be detrimental to the Links to allow the Town Council to feu the piece of ground in question. The Committee accordingly recommended the Club to sanction the proposed feu, in so far as their rights extended, on the understanding that it should not extend farther northwards than the line of the back walls of the buildings in Gibson Place; and also, if the Club should find it necessary to obtain from the town any additional ground for the enlargement of the club-house, the Council should afford all reasonable facility to the Club for doing so.

In June 1863 addresses of congratulation were sent to her Majesty the Queen, and to their Royal



TOM MORRIS,

From picture by Sir George Reid in possession of Royal and Ancient Club.



Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales, on the occasion of the Prince's marriage. The Prince was asked to become Patron of the Club.

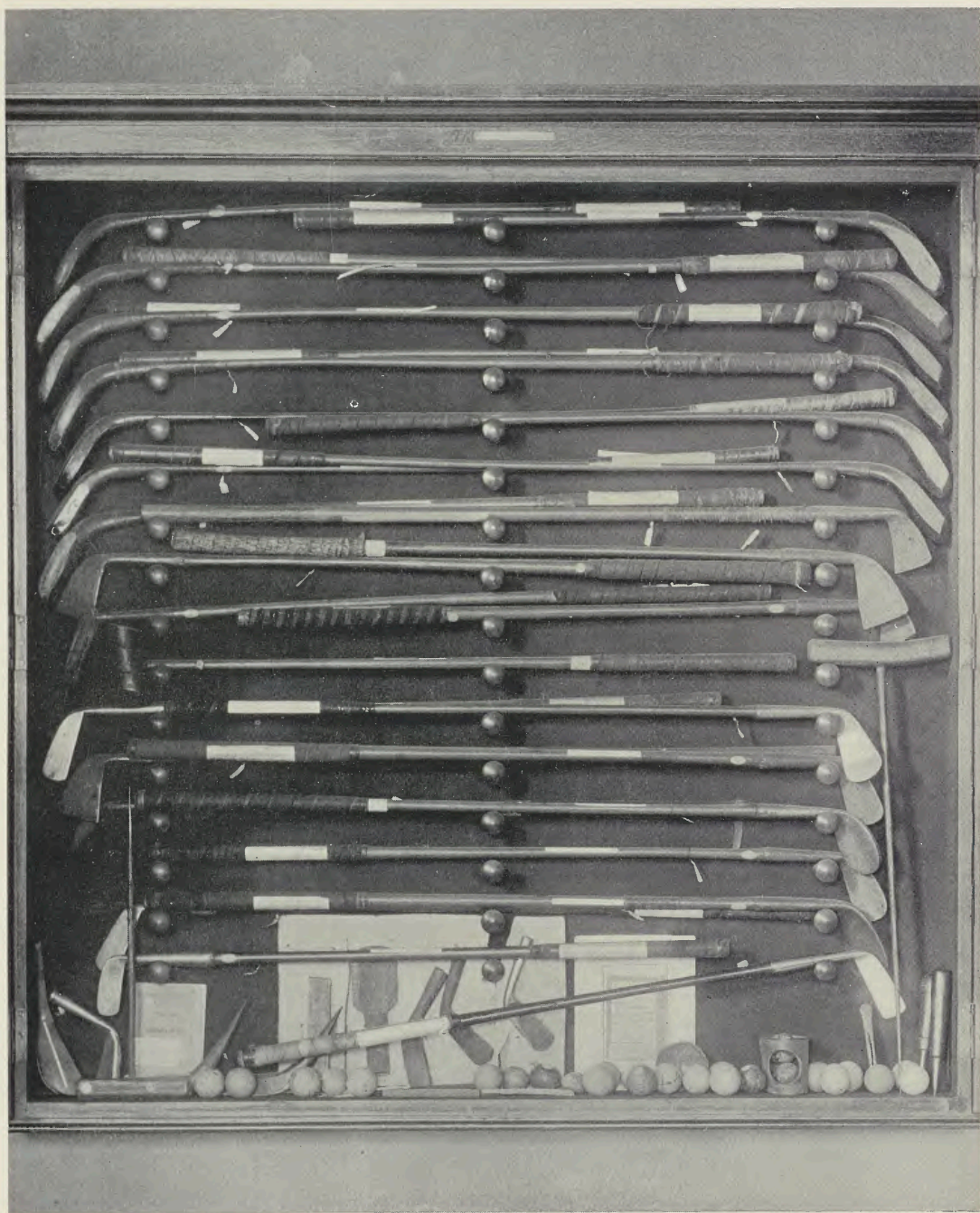
Understanding that your Royal Highness has some knowledge of and considerable proficiency in the ancient and noble game of Golf, we humbly crave your patronage to our Royal and Ancient Club, where the game is played over ground superior to any other in Great Britain.

To this Lieut.-General Knollys replied, conveying his Royal Highness's thanks for the congratulations, and signifying the pleasure it would give the Prince to become Patron of the Club. On an intimation from Lord Dalhousie that his Royal Highness had signified his intention of becoming Captain of the Club, a motion that the Prince should be elected a member of the Club was carried by acclamation, and he was nominated as Captain in the usual manner.

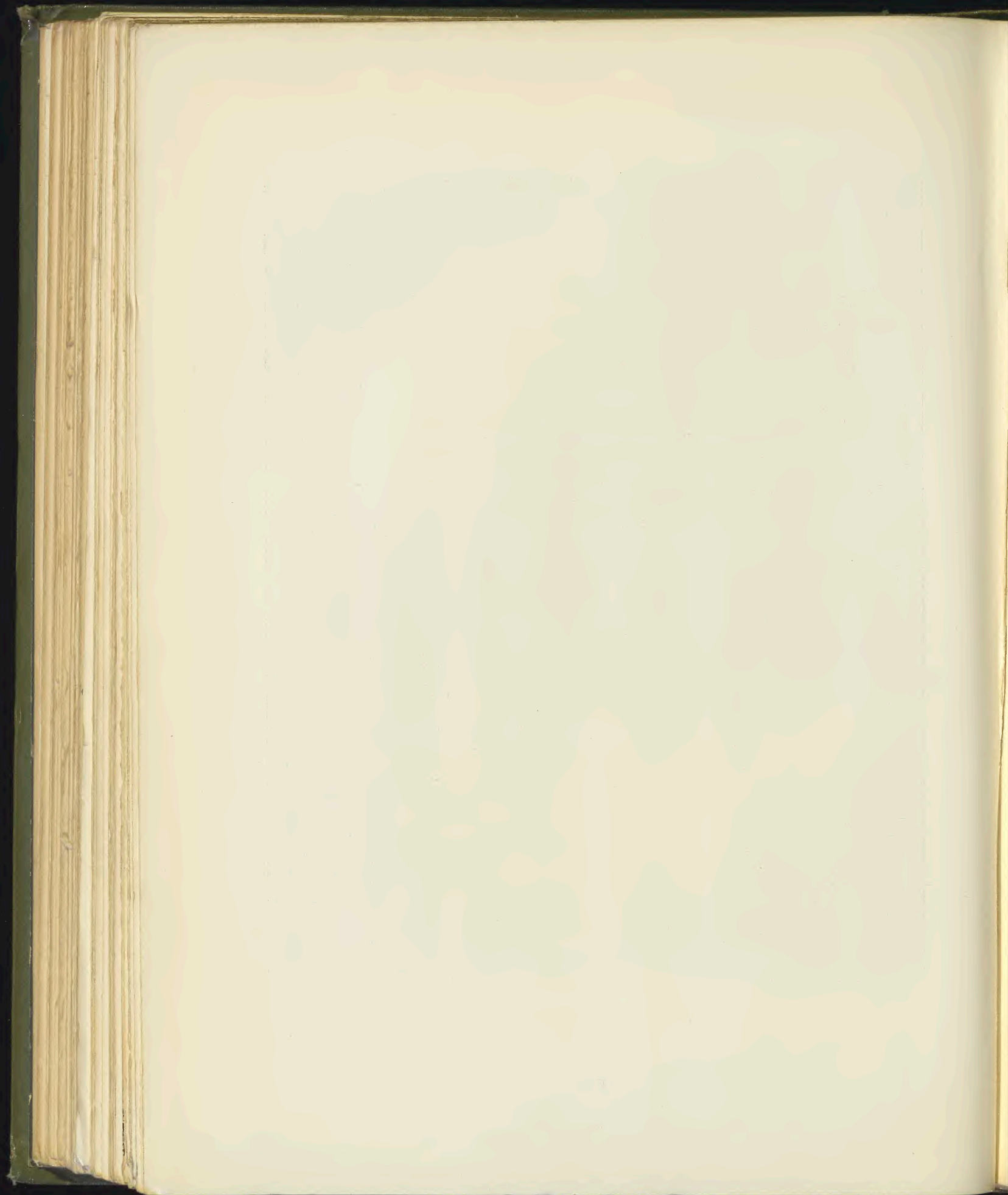
At the meeting in September Mr J. Whyte-Melville, in the name and at the special request of his Royal Highness, took the chair as his representative. A golden ball, in lieu of silver, was attached to the Silver Club on this occasion.

Alexander Herd now resigned the custody of the Links, and the Committee accordingly were authorised to appoint a custodian at a salary considerably larger than that hitherto given. Thereupon Major Boothby gave notice of a motion that a professional golfer

should be employed as a servant of the Club, and that the entire charge of the course should be entrusted to him. Subsequently a large majority was found to be in favour of the proposal, as a result of which Tom Morris was introduced from Prestwick. His duties were explained to him : to keep the putting greens in good order, to repair, where necessary, and to make the holes. For heavy work, carting, &c., he was to be allowed assistance at the rate of one man's labour for two days in the week, and it was understood that he was to work under the Green Committee. Emblems of office were then handed over to him—to wit, a barrow, a spade, and a shovel—in prophetic instinct, belike, that “saund,” and ever “mair saund, Honeyman,” would be in future ages the watchword of the newly-appointed Chief of the Links. The sum of £50 per annum was voted by the Union Club for payment of the custodian's salary, and £20 for the upkeep of the Links. The Town Council were informed that it was the intention of the Club to repair the Links eastward from the Swilcan Burn, and they were requested to instruct the Inspector of Works accordingly, so that the proposed repairs might not be interrupted.



OLD CLUBS AND BALLS.



XVIII.

**Old Curiosities. Abolition of Sweepstakes
on Medal Days and subsequent Revival.
Caddy Regulations. Increased Subscrip-
tion. Membership limited to 750.**

MANY curious old clubs, balls, and other articles connected with the game are enshrined in the *réliquaire* of the Royal and Ancient, forming an interesting illustration of Golf in its earlier stages of evolution. The credit of this idea seems to have been due to Admiral Bethune, who, in 1864, moved that

it was desirable to preserve a record of remarkable matches and interesting incidents relative to the Royal and Ancient game of Golf, as played at St Andrews and elsewhere, and that the Committee be requested to collect such articles relative to the game as they may think necessary, and to make such arrangements to render them accessible to members as may be consistent with their due preservation.

The perennial question of how best to secure, as

far as possible, equal conditions of weather for all players ranking as first-class in medal competitions, has agitated successive generations of golfers. The entries became so increasingly numerous that intervals of several hours divided the first player from the last; and it was certainly a hardship that, of two equal players, one, by the luck of the draw, might play his round under easy conditions, while the other was compelled to face such weather as might, and frequently did, render success impossible. The question, it may be remembered, was decided at the autumn meeting of 1900, when Mr Cunningham was successful in carrying a motion of classification. So long ago as 1866 the same question arose, and was keenly debated. Major Boothby, on behalf of Sir Hope Grant, moved that on medal days the players be classified and play in their respective classes. Mr Gilbert Mitchell Innes seconded, but Captain Oswald and General Moncrieff respectively moved and seconded the previous question as an amendment, which was carried by a narrow majority—21 to 17. This was in May; but in the following October the Major and Sir Hope, nothing abashed, returned to the charge, putting their motion in a somewhat different form—viz., “That gentlemen who proposed to play for the medal, and not for the sweepstakes, should have the advantage of striking

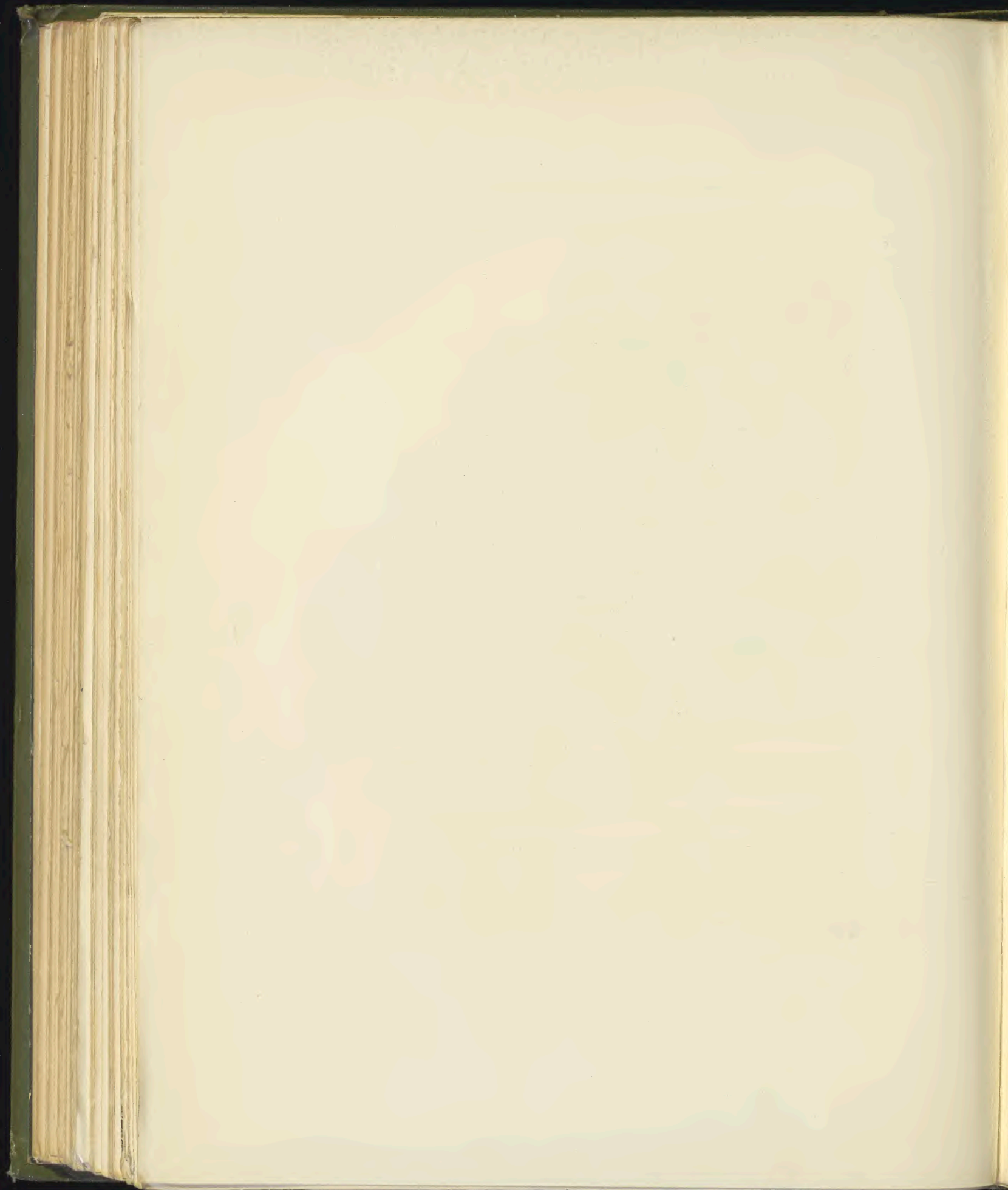


GENERAL MONCRIEFF.

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GENERAL MONCRIEFF.



off first." This, however, was defeated by a large majority.

Next, in May 1868, Mr Alexander Kinloch moved that there be no handicap on the medal day, and also that matches be allowed to start up to eleven o'clock, but not after that hour, until all the players for the medal had started. Both these proposals were agreed to, as was a motion by Mr Clark, in October, that in medal play it should be in the option of the player nearer the hole to play first. A short experience of medal play without the added excitement of a sweepstakes, seems to have convinced the Club that its revival was desirable. Accordingly, in May 1869, Mr M'Whannel gave notice of a motion—

That at the meeting to be held in May 1870, and at all following meetings, sweepstakes shall be revived, under the following conditions—viz., That all members, at the time of declaring their intention to the Secretary of playing for the medal or sweepstakes, shall state whether they are to play with or without odds for the sweepstakes, and that all who declare to play without odds shall start for the medal play before those who agree to accept odds in the sweepstakes.

Major Boothby moved the previous question as an amendment, but the motion was carried. The effect of this would seem to have been, that in order to be entitled to priority in starting everybody elected to play without odds; accordingly,

seven years later (1877), we find a motion by Mr Mansfield—

That there is a compulsory sweepstakes of ten shillings each for those who elect to start for the Club Medals without odds, in addition to the optional handicap sweepstakes, the scratch players retaining the privilege of starting.

This was met by an amendment that former medal - winners and their partners should have priority. Eventually these two motions were withdrawn in favour of a motion by Major J. D. Buchanan Hay, which became the finding of the meeting :—

Intending competitors shall have their name entered on the list of players by six o'clock P.M. on the day previous to the Medal Day, when the order of starting shall be immediately drawn, and a list placed in the Club-room at 10 A.M. on Medal Day; parties not present on the green when their names are called to be placed at the bottom of the list.

This motion therefore implied a reversion to the evil against which the scratch players had protested in 1866, but no definite plan was actually formulated until Mr Cunningham raised the question in 1900, although the matter was again discussed in 1889-92. He divides the competitors into two or more classes, according to their Club handicap, and starts the various divisions and individual couples in each

division by ballot. This method has been found to work perfectly well in practice, nor have any complaints been heard during the period in which it has been in operation.

In 1868, Mr Hope of Luffness gave a donation of £7, 10s. for the erection of a fence to protect the terrace and the putting-green at the Home Hole.

By the passing of the St Andrews Links Act, regulations as to the employment of caddies have now been placed on a satisfactory footing, but in former years the subject was one of considerable difficulty. Attempts had been made to grapple with it in 1860 and 1863, and again in 1870 a committee prepared a report on the subject. Its chief provisions were that no boy under eleven years of age should be allowed to carry clubs; that they should be required to continue their education; and that intemperance, incivility, or dishonesty should entail dismissal. A cap with a Club badge should be worn, and no boy should be allowed to break an engagement for an afternoon round, under penalty of forfeiture of half his forenoon's play. A caddy was to be considered a boy until he reached the age of eighteen years. A tariff of charges was to be posted up in the Club, and an appeal made to members to employ no boy who did not wear the badge. At

an Extraordinary General Meeting, specially convened in February 1875, to discuss these rules, some alterations and modifications were made. The age was raised to thirteen, and caddies were divided into two classes, receiving half-a-crown and two shillings respectively for two rounds. These labours of the committee, however, were all thrown away, and matters drifted into their former unsatisfactory state, for in May 1875 a motion was carried that—

It be remitted to the Green Committee to reconsider the whole question of the rules regarding the pay and discipline of the caddies.

In 1871 it was agreed to levy a subscription of five shillings per annum on every member of the Club who played on the Links; and further, that failure to pay such subscription should entail disqualification on a member winning a medal.

About this time the Union Club began to revise its conditions of membership. Members admitted after 1st January 1871 were called upon to pay £2 instead of £1, the entrance-money remaining at £5 as before; and in 1873-74 the annual subscription was still further raised to £3, and entrance-money to £7. The Club was limited to 750 members, and the following important addition was made to the rules:—



MR ROBERT CATHCART.

WATTY ALEXANDER.

GENERAL MONCRIEFF.

PIRIE.

MR GEORGE WHYTE-MELVILLE.

SIR HUGH LYON PLAYFAIR.



All members of the Royal and Ancient Golf Club of St Andrews previous to October 12th, 1853, who were not then members of the Union Club, shall be eligible for the same by ballot on the same conditions as other candidates—viz., that they shall be proposed by one member of the Union Club and seconded by another, and that their names shall be placed on the walls of the Club (the list being signed by the Secretary) at least fourteen days previous to the ballot taking place. No ballot shall take place unless twenty members actually vote, and one black ball in ten shall exclude, the result to be declared by the Committee of Management or the Secretary. Whenever the number of 750 members shall be reached the ballot shall be closed, and not reopened until there are vacancies. Ballots shall take place on the first Wednesday of February, Wednesday of the May meeting, first Wednesday of August, and Wednesday of autumn meeting.

It was agreed that the name of the Club should be printed The Union Club, St Andrews. Events were thus tending towards an amalgamation which a little later, as we shall see, was carried out.

XIX.

Revival of Championship. Abolition of Restrictions on Silver Cross. Amalgamation of Union Club with Royal and Ancient.

THAT Goliath of his generation, young Tommy Morris, having won the Champion Belt thrice in succession—in 1868, 1869, 1870—girdled himself therewith for good and all: it came into his own possession, and the competition came to an end.

Though perhaps nothing could have added to Tommy's renown as a golfer, this has always seemed to the present writer, in common phrase, rather hard luck on that incomparable player—for he, by reason of his very excellence, barred himself from the chance of winning further honours—viz., in 1871—when there was no competition. There is no reason to suppose that he would not have won the 1871 Championship, had there been a Championship to win, for when the

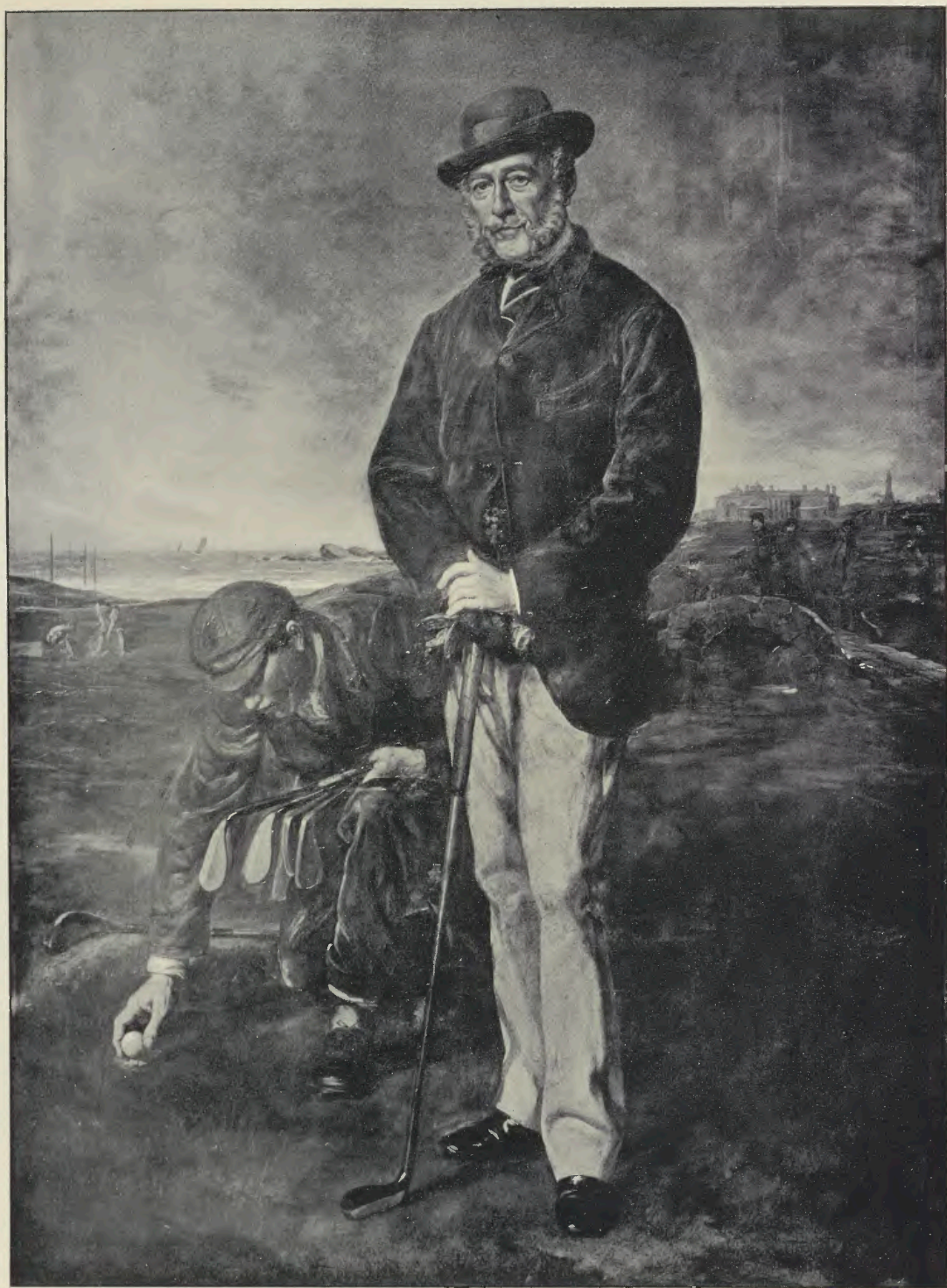
competition was again set on foot he was once more the winner—in 1872. To have carried off five Championships in succession would have been a feat not easily equalled.

In May 1872 a letter from the secretary of the Prestwick Golf Club was read, in which was suggested the desirability of reviving the Champion Belt competition. The Green Committee were empowered to enter into communication with other clubs with a view to effecting this object, and they were authorised to contribute a sum not exceeding £15 for the purpose. In accordance with the authority thus given, it was stated in October that arrangements had been made with the Prestwick Club to provide a new trophy, to be competed for alternately at Prestwick, Musselburgh, and St Andrews, and that a contribution of £10 would be made from the funds of the Club for procuring it.

In 1874 a motion was brought forward that a lost ball should entail loss of the hole except when struck from the tee, but it was lost on a division. At the same meeting, on a motion by Major Boothby, seconded by Admiral Maitland Dougall, the Green Committee were instructed to confer with the representatives of Colonel Murray of Belshes, with a view to procuring their consent to the removal of the

restrictions which existed as to the competition for the Silver Cross. As we have before shown, the holders of the Gold Medal were debarred from competing for it. Accordingly, in May 1875, a reply was read. Mr Dickson, agent for the deceased Colonel Murray, and for his successor, Lord Clinton, expressed the opinion that the Club should take the matter into its own hands, as he was certain that this course would be more in accordance with Lord Clinton's feeling than that he should be required to reply to any application. It was also stated that the donor of the Silver Cross, some time before his decease, had signified his desire not to stand in the way of the removal of the restrictions, if the Club should consider it desirable. It was then proposed by Admiral Maitland Dougall, and seconded by Mr Robert Clark, that the restrictions should be declared at an end, and that the resolution should take effect as from that day. The motion was unanimously agreed to.

At the same meeting Mr Skene of Pitlour stated that his Royal Highness Prince Leopold had signified his desire to become a member of the Club. He therefore proposed that his Royal Highness should be admitted an honorary member. Sir Hugh Hume Campbell, Bart., seconded the motion, which was unanimously agreed to, and instructions were



JOHN WHYTE-MELVILLE, ESQ. OF BENNOCHY AND STRATHKINNESS.

From the portrait painted for Royal and Ancient Golf Club by Sir Francis Grant, P.R.A.



given to notify the fact to the Prince's private secretary.

Mr Whyte - Melville's portrait, by Sir Francis Grant, *P.R.A.*, had now been received (1874), and hung in the large room of the Club, in the position which it now occupies.

In May 1876 effect was given to a recommendation of the Green Committee—

That the ball must be teed not nearer the hole than eight nor further from it than twelve club-lengths, except where special ground has been marked by the conservator of the Links, which shall be considered the teeing-ground, and the balls shall be teed within, and not in advance of such marks.

In September 1876 H.R.H. Prince Leopold, having gained the Silver Club, was duly installed as Captain of the Club, and took the chair accordingly.

We now come to an important event in the Club's history. So far back as 1853 amalgamation of the two Clubs—the Union and the Royal and Ancient—had been thought desirable, and with that end in view the Union minuted a resolution to the effect that any member admitted to the Golf Club should thereby be held to become a member of the Union Club, to which the Golf Club responded with a resolution that the names of all candidates for admission should be placed on the walls of the Union

Club fourteen days previous to the ballot (except at general meetings in October and May). Thus, although the idea was entertained as an ever-present possibility, a desirable consummation, no practical steps were taken until 4th May 1876, when Mr Oliphant moved that a committee of the Union Club be appointed to consider and report on the advisability of amalgamation. Mr Oliphant, Major Boothby, and Mr Grace were appointed, with Mr Whyte-Melville as chairman. This committee accordingly framed a report, which was submitted to the general meeting in September 1876. Their recommendations were that—

(i) The Union Club shall be merged in the Royal and Ancient, and that the latter shall be the sole designation of the amalgamated Club. (ii) That the remaining members of the R. & A. who have not joined the Union Club shall be made life-members of the amalgamated Club, without payment, but they shall be deemed supernumerary members in excess of the 750, to which number the Club is limited. (iii) That the entrance-money to future members shall be £8, the annual subscription £3, and the sum payable for life-membership £35. (iv) That all members of the Club playing on the Links at any time during the year shall pay five shillings as "green money." (v) That the committee of the present R. & A. shall cease to exist, and the committee of the Union Club, as at present constituted, together with the Captain of the R. & A. for the time being, shall be the committee of the amalgamated Club, and shall, in addition to their present duties, undertake the management of the

green. (vi) That a special committee be appointed to revise the rules of the Union Club, making such alterations and additions as may be necessary to give effect to the amalgamation of the two Clubs, and shall submit the same for confirmation at the next general meeting of the Club.

The committee made the further recommendation: That the Club should provide a handsome Challenge Medal or Cup, to be played for yearly during the first week in August; such prize to be open to all members of the Royal and Ancient Club, and to all amateur golfers of eighteen years of age and upwards who might be nominated, a fortnight previously, by two members of the Club and approved by the committee.

This report was circulated amongst members, together with a list of members of the Royal and Ancient, who would become honorary members if the report should be adopted.

At the next general meeting — May 1877 — the proposals i, ii, and iii, as above printed, were adopted. With regard to No. iv, Mr E. L. Blyth moved and carried a resolution that no green money be levied. Instead of No. v, as above, was submitted the following :—

That the Council and Green Committee of the present Royal and Ancient Golf Club shall cease to exist, and the Committee of the Union Club, as at present constituted, together with the Captain of the R. & A. Golf Club for the

time being, and four new members (two of whom shall, in the first instance, be chosen from the Green Committee), shall be the Committee of the amalgamated Club. The powers and duties of the Committee shall be the same as those defined in Rule xvi. of the Union Club, but they shall, in addition, have the management of the green, and two instead of one of their number shall retire annually.

Proposal No. vi, that a Special Committee be appointed to revise and make the necessary alterations in the rules of the Union Club, was agreed to. It was resolved that these resolutions should be reported to the Royal and Ancient Golf Club. That body accordingly, on 1st May 1877, having received them, accepted them, and declared the amalgamation to be complete as from that date. The suggestion as to a Challenge Medal or Cup was not entertained.

The Royal and Ancient now printed and circulated an appeal to all golfers for assistance in the better preservation of the Links: "(i) By always putting back and pressing down pieces of turf which they may cut out when playing with irons or other clubs; (ii) by teeing their balls only at the places marked out for the purpose. If these suggestions are generally carried out, the green will be in a better state than has been the case for years past, and the chances of getting 'bad lies' and 'cupped balls' will be greatly diminished."

XX.

George Glennie.

MANY a small urchin practising putts on the sacred green at the last hole has been startled out of his composure by the stern accents of Old Tom, one of the principal joys of whose life is to sit, framed as it were at his window, like a spider in its web, and ejaculate in stentorian tones, "Hey, boy, hey!" on appropriate occasions. He must have been kept busily employed about 1877 and onwards, for access was rendered easy by the accidental destruction of the fence on the south side opposite his shop. To repair this fence, or to erect a new one, might have seemed a simple enough question; nevertheless it was one which gave rise to considerable correspondence, and not until 1880 was it finally settled.

In November 1877 application was made to the Town Council, either to erect or to authorise the erection of a fence; that was the first step. But no answer having been received by February 1878, in

March a sub-committee was appointed to confer with the Town Council, with power to agree to contribute such portion of the necessary expense as they might think desirable. Nearly ten months of incubation were spent by the Town Council in brooding over the matter and hatching out a reply, at the end of which time, having arrived at the conclusion that some proposal or request had been made to them, they wrote to ask what it was. Accordingly, it was resolved to explain to them that the proposal or request was that a fence should be erected for protection of the putting-green at the last hole, at the side of the road in front of the clubmakers' shops, and in or about the line of a previously existing fence, destroyed in 1877. We thus hole out at the point whence we started, having finished the round, over a circular course, in fourteen months, the match at this stage being all square. No details as to the play of the second round are to hand, but it would seem that the Town Council played the stronger game. The second stage was somewhat longer than the first, requiring for completion eighteen months instead of fourteen, but the end of it is thus described :—

It was stated that the Town Council, at their last meeting, had empowered the Links Road Committee of the Council to erect a fence of posts and chains on the south side of the Links, at the first hole from Golf Place to Swilcan Burn, on

condition that the work shall be done by said Committee, and that the Club shall pay the whole cost. It was also stated that the cost of the post and chains would be about £38. It was agreed to defray the expense of the fence in the event of its being erected by the Town Council.

In April 1878 the Green Committee received instructions to submit their proposals to a general meeting before proceeding to fill up any bunkers, or otherwise materially to alter the golf course; they were instructed also to procure a new plan of the Links.

In December of the same year a communication from the Town Clerk of Earlsferry was read, requesting a contribution towards enabling the inhabitants of that place to carry on a law plea which had been instituted by Sir James Malcolm, with the view of preventing the Earlsferry and Elie Golf Clubs from cutting the grass round the putting-holes, and to have them restricted to certain hours for golfing. The consideration of this matter was deferred, but nothing further is mentioned of it.

A letter of sympathy and condolence, signed by the Captain of the Club on behalf of the Committee, was sent to Mr Whyte-Melville, on the occasion of the sudden death of Major Whyte-Melville, his only surviving child. This was the celebrated novelist, who, it may be remembered, was thrown from his horse

and instantaneously killed. This sad event was followed within three weeks by another, the decease of Lady Catherine Whyte-Melville,—a double bereavement from which Mr Whyte-Melville never afterwards recovered, passing away himself not long afterwards, full of years and honour indeed, but a pathetic grief-stricken figure.

No amateur of his generation was ever held in higher repute than Mr George Glennie. Inseparably connected with St Andrews and Blackheath, it was but fitting that they should unite to do him honour: his 88 in 1855 at St Andrews stands as an imperishable memorial,—a score which, made under very different conditions from those which now prevail, yet remained unbeaten until 1884. But though this was a landmark in his golfing career, medal-playing did not in those days appeal to the fraternity as an altogether alluring pastime; it was regarded with tolerance rather than enthusiasm, endured as a necessary evil, much as *paterfamilias* is inclined to regard Christmas with its imposing files of bills. The match was the thing, and the keenly-contested foursome rather than the exclusive single. And it was as a match-player that Glennie excelled: yeoman service did he for Blackheath, whereof an instance has already been noted in these pages, when, with Captain Stewart as his partner, he won the first

tournament. None was ever imbued with a more whole-hearted devotion to the game; none ever more earnestly, if unobtrusively, upheld the integrity of its interests and traditions. It is then satisfactory to think that his memory remains green; that the Royal and Ancient have a tangible token, a Glennie Medal, which annually recalls the name of this great player,—a trophy which furnishes an undeniable test of that quality wherein he himself excelled—steadiness. It is to this medal—to the history of it—that we now propose more particularly to refer.

In August 1880 a letter from the captain of the Blackheath Golf Club was read, offering to present a gold medal to the Royal and Ancient, to be called the “George Glennie” Medal. It set forth that the members of that Club, being desirous of testifying their gratitude to Mr Glennie for his great and long-continued services as their honorary secretary and treasurer, presented the testimonial, and did so in the belief that in this form it would be more gratifying to Mr Glennie than any personal gift. The letter alluded to Mr Glennie’s long connection with the Royal and Ancient, and added incidentally that it was desired to keep the proposal from the knowledge of Mr Glennie. The Club having accepted the medal with many thanks, various proposals and amendments were discussed as to the manner in which it should

be competed for. Mr Purdie proposed that it should be awarded to the player who made the lowest aggregate score at the two meetings; but this motion was defeated, on being put against an amendment by Mr Bruce Johnstone, who moved that—

The medal be competed for at such time as the Committee of Management may fix, and upon being won, shall be retained by the winner until a lower score shall be made upon the occasion of any future annual competition.

This amendment ultimately became the resolution of the meeting.

This was in September 1880. On 5th September 1881 a communication from the captain of the Blackheath Club was read, transmitting the medal on behalf of the members. The medal was laid on the table. It was agreed to play for it in terms of the foregoing resolution, and to advertise the fact that it would be so played for at the then next meeting. On 27th September it was resolved to call the attention of the general meeting, to be held next day, to the wording of the resolution of 28th September 1880, and particularly to the words, "any future annual competition therein." It was stated that doubts had arisen as to the tenure of the medal—whether, for instance, a person making a lower score at the May meeting than that at which the medal was gained would be entitled

to receive it. A letter from Mr John Penn, captain of Blackheath, was read, in which he expressed the gratification of the members of that club at the acceptance by the Royal and Ancient of the medal. With regard to the question whether a lower score made in May would oust the holder who had won in September, it was agreed that the lowest score made in September 1881 should carry with it the Glennie Medal, the holder to retain it till May; and that meantime it should be remitted to the committee to consider the terms under which the competition should in future be conducted. In March 1882 Captain Randle Jackson wrote to the Blackheath Club proposing that the medal should be awarded to the player making the lowest aggregate score at the spring and autumn meetings; the medal to be awarded in autumn. A reply was received that the Blackheath Club highly approved of this proposal, which, it was further stated, was extremely gratifying to Mr Glennie himself. Accordingly, in May a formal motion was made to the above effect; an amendment that the medal should be awarded to the player making the lowest score at either of the spring or autumn meetings was thrown out. Thus the Club reverted to the original motion of Mr Purdie, 28th September 1880, an arrangement which remains in force at the present day.

In 1881 the celebrated rule was passed which provided that a ball driven into the Station-master's Garden should entail the loss of the hole; and in 1882 a new and revised edition of the whole body of rules was issued,—an edition which remained in force until it was superseded by the code recently compiled by the Rules of Golf Committee.

XXI.

Handicaps. The Bombay and Calcutta Cups.

THE Royal and Ancient was never wildly enthusiastic over handicaps, nor ever regarded with any particular favour that form of the game, popular elsewhere, which consists in the hunting of the pot. Rightly or wrongly, it has held the opinion that this sort of thing is, as it were, a debased coinage, minted one knows not where, but in any case wholly unworthy to pass current as golf,—the golf known as such to the custodians of its traditions. Up to 1882 the Royal and Ancient was content with its two competitions in the year,—one, it is true, for prizes intrinsically valuable, the other for rewards severe in their simplicity. The attitude is almost Hellenic, detesting barbaric pomp, caring for little save the mere glory of victory, and honourable mention in the annals.

To the average Englishman the Odes of Pindar,

even with the advantage of Mr Ernest Myers's excellent translation, are apt to be somewhat flat and uninteresting, yet all who read them may well respect a race for whom, in their "pancratia," the olive, the bay, the pine, and the parsley represented the *ne plus ultra* of honour and renown. In like manner, to win even a Bombay Medal of the Royal and Ancient, a task of no little difficulty, was held to confer a sufficient distinction in the golfing world. This being the general attitude maintained by the Club, a new departure in 1882 may be regarded as somewhat significant. This was the institution of the Calcutta Cup. In July of that year a letter from the Calcutta Club was received, in which it was stated that several members, having received so much attention from the Royal and Ancient during a short visit to St Andrews, were desirous of presenting that Club with a mark of respect for their kindness. It would take the form of a handsome Silver Cashmere Cup, value sixty guineas, to be played for annually, on terms to be decided upon as the Club might think best.

This letter having been acknowledged, the next step was the adoption of a report in 1883, by a committee, that the Cup should be awarded to the member making the second lowest aggregate score of the spring and autumn meetings; but in 1884

a fresh committee recommended the rescission of this proposal, and the substitution of a scheme whereby the Cup should become a prize competed for under handicap. It was ultimately decided that it should take the form of a handicap tournament, the odds being by holes. In 1885 Colonel Boothby moved that a prize should be presented to the Calcutta Golf Club; accordingly, a plain massive Silver Tankard was selected, with ebony stand, and despatched to Calcutta. In March 1886 a letter of acknowledgment was received, conveying the best thanks of the Club for the very handsome prize.

In September 1882 the question of an International Golf Match was mooted, and a committee was appointed to confer together, and consider whether such a competition would conduce to the interests of the game. Eight clubs were represented—Westward Ho, Hoylake, Wimbledon, Blackheath, the Honourable Company, Prestwick, Perth, and the Royal and Ancient; but the idea was not carried out.

A proposal that the Open Championship should not be held during the medal week of the Royal and Ancient, was met by an amendment that the arrangement should continue, which was carried.

In 1883 Mr Oliphant moved, in terms of previous

notice, that a resolution passed on 4th May 1870 should be rescinded: it was to the effect that on medal days all members who declared to play for the sweepstakes without odds should have priority of starting. The motion was agreed to.

The same year affords the unique instance of the captaincy of the Club being offered to the same gentleman a second time. Mr Whyte-Melville had held the post in 1823; and in token of the universal esteem in which he was held, no less than of the services rendered by him during this long period of years, it was resolved to request him again to accept the appointment, as to which, Carnegie says with truth in '*Golfiana*,' "a better Captain never graced a dinner." He agreed, but on 16th July he died. The committee placed on record their deep regret at the decease of the "Father of the Club"—he had joined in 1816—and in particular, their sense of the uniform urbanity and courtesy with which he had discharged the duties of chairman for a period of over thirty years. It was thought that the expressed wishes of members and past captains would be best carried out if no election to the office of captain took place,—that the duties should be performed by the retiring captain, or, failing him, by the senior past captain resident in St Andrews. It was agreed also that no ball should be held, though the

dinner took place as usual for the presentation of the medals.

Mr Whyte-Melville's death left a blank indeed. The hospitable board at Mount Melville had been a rendezvous for all golfers. The host's enthusiasm for the game may have been equalled, it has certainly never been excelled. In his early days he was a magnificent horseman, while in other branches of sport, if he did not actually participate in them, at any rate his sympathies were enlisted with those who did.

If the writer may be permitted to plagiarise from himself, he would repeat what he has elsewhere written, that when, aged eighty-six, Mr Whyte-Melville died, "he passed away mourned by all with whom he had been brought in contact, as a true Christian gentleman and valued personal friend."

In September 1884 the standing problem of how best to lessen the crowd of starters on medal days was faced by Mr Henry Lamb, whose proposed plan, however, being somewhat of a revolutionary nature, was not adopted. He moved that all competitors should pay an entrance fee of five shillings, the proceeds to go to the medal-winners in the proportion of two-thirds and one-third; but on the previous question being moved a considerable majority supported the amendment.

A subscription having been asked for by the town for the purpose of adding to the accommodation in the Town Hall, the request was favourably received. In consideration of the fact that the Club had a right to the free use of the Town Hall (as we have already explained), a sum of fifty guineas was voted from the Club funds. The legality of this decision was questioned by Captain D. S. Stewart, who was vehemently opposed to the projected expenditure.

Having written to the committee asking that the payment should be delayed until he had had an opportunity of consulting counsel on the subject, he was informed that, as the vote had been made by a general meeting, the committee were of opinion that they were incompetent to deal further with the matter, which had now passed out of their hands.

A month or two afterwards, however, Captain Stewart wrote again, saying that counsel advised him that it was within the power of a general meeting to vote the donation in question, and that being so, he did not propose to prosecute his opposition to the vote.

In May 1884 it was unanimously resolved to send an address of sympathy to her Majesty the Queen on the occasion of the death of H.R.H. Prince

Leopold, Duke of Albany. In the address occurred the following words :—

We recall with feelings of painful interest the visits of his Royal Highness in 1876 and 1877, when he officiated as Captain of our Royal and Ancient Club, and endeared himself to all its members by the happy courtesy and kindness with which he discharged all the duties of the office. It touches us to think that a career which then seemed so bright and promising has been suddenly closed, to the great grief of your Majesty and the loss of the country which had begun to reap the benefits of his Royal Highness's rarer gifts and culture.

A somewhat similar address was sent to H.R.H. the Duchess of Albany.

In September of the same year Mr Stuart Grace intimated his resignation of the post of Honorary Secretary,—an office which he had held for about thirty years, having been connected with the Club for forty-two years. A letter of cordial appreciation of his services was minuted, declaring that Mr Grace had spared no pains to advance the interests of the Club, and had conducted its business, frequently entailing a large expenditure of time and trouble, with courtesy and kindness to all.

He had consistently refused any remuneration or formal acknowledgment of his services; the Club therefore desired to express their indebtedness to him for so many years of gratuitous work.

A motion was brought forward that a salaried secretary, not a member of the Club, should be appointed; but an amendment was carried "that the committee be instructed to appoint a man of business, who may be a member of the Club, at a salary of sixty guineas per annum, or such larger sum as may appear to them desirable—said salary to include clerk's fees."

XXII.

Amateur Golf Championship.

THE election to the post of captain had always been in the hands of the past captains, but in September 1884 it was proposed to transfer the choice to the hands of the members themselves: "that a name should be proposed by one member and seconded by another, and be sent to the secretary in sufficient time to enable him to post the name or names fourteen days before the date of meeting. If no name is so posted, the Committee of Management to nominate a captain for the year." The motion, however, was rejected by a large majority.

In May 1885 a communication from the hon. secretary of the Wimbledon Golf Club was read, stating that that club had instructed their committee to urge the Royal and Ancient Club to take steps for the formation of an Association of Golf Clubs bound to accept one uniform code of

rules. The communication was allowed to lie on the table.

In 1885 a great tournament was held at Hoylake, memorable in its concluding stages for a terrific encounter between Mr Horace Hutchinson and Mr John Ball, *tertius*, which eventuated in a narrow victory for the former, who, accordingly, had to meet Mr A. F. Macfie in the final. The Scotsman, however—the very incarnation of steadiness and accurate play—disposed of his formidable antagonist, and became virtually the Amateur Champion. We use the qualifying adjective, inasmuch as at that time the arrangements whereby the victor should be hailed the leading amateur of the year were not yet complete; but the success of the tournament was such as to induce the Liverpool Club to open a correspondence with the Royal and Ancient with a view to assuring its annual continuation. Accordingly, in January 1886, Mr Hall Blyth, captain of the Liverpool Club, addressed a letter to the Royal and Ancient suggesting that it should take the lead in promoting an annual tournament under the auspices of the principal clubs in the United Kingdom, which clubs, it was proposed, should be asked to subscribe towards a trophy, to be held for the year by the club from which the winner of the tournament should have entered. The letter ex-

plained that the idea of the Liverpool Club in holding their competition, decided in April 1885, had been to pave the way for an annual competition, the winner of which could properly be called "Amateur Golf Champion."

It was suggested that the tournament should be played in turn over three or four links to be afterwards fixed—two or three in Scotland and one in England. This letter was approved, and it was remitted to a committee to make all necessary arrangements. As a result, at the next general meeting in September, it was reported that it had been arranged to hold the tournament at St Andrews on the 21st of that month, and that the sum of fifteen guineas would be paid as a contribution towards the cost of the trophy. On 28th September it was reported that the necessary arrangements had been completed, and that a trophy had been subscribed for by various clubs; also that Mr Horace G. Hutchinson had been the winner of the first tournament, held at St Andrews on the 21st and following days, and that he had entered as a member of the Royal and Ancient.

In March 1886 the committee placed on record their deep regret for the loss sustained by the death of the Very Rev. Principal Tulloch, chaplain of the Club, of which he had been a member for thirty

years, and had frequently been associated with them in its management.

In May the Town Council sent a letter to the Club, with a recommendation that golf should not be played on that portion of the Links between the club-house and Clark's Wynd, the road crossing the Links, during the months of June, July, August, and September, except on the occasion of any particular match or medal. This suggestion, had effect been given to it, would have utterly spoiled both the first and eighteenth holes. The Club accordingly refused to countenance it. They resolved, however, to place a fresh notice in the club-house requesting that, in order to prevent inconvenience and accident, no one would drive balls except from the proper teeing-grounds.

The Edinburgh Municipality, having applied to Parliament for power to put a stop to the playing of golf on Bruntsfield Links, an appeal was made in 1887 to the Royal and Ancient for a subscription towards a fund for opposing the Bill. Various letters were read, in one of which it was stated that the Bill had been abandoned; whereupon, of many amendments to an original motion, that of Mr James Mansfield became the finding of the meeting. It was to the effect that if the Bill were reintroduced, the sum to be voted from the Club



THE CALCUTTA CUP (P. 214).



THE JUBILEE VASE.



funds should be £100. Ultimately the Club escaped with a payment of £15. In July 1887 Captain D. S. Stewart (who was captain of the Club in that year) intimated his willingness to present a Silver Cup in honour of her Majesty's Jubilee, to be played for in September in a handicap tournament. While leaving it to the committee to make from time to time such regulations and conditions as they might think desirable, he offered a few of his own: amongst others, that there should be an entrance fee of 20s., and that the stakes should be divided, in the proportion of three-sixths, two-sixths, and one-sixth amongst the last three survivors. It was unanimously resolved to accept Captain Stewart's kind offer.

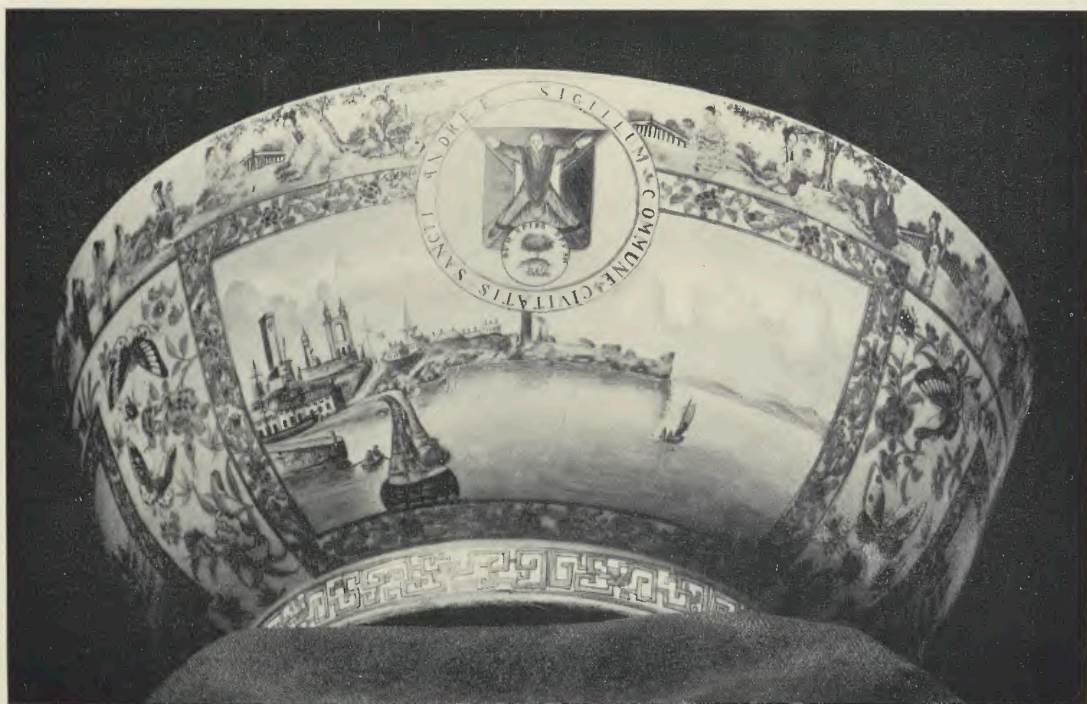
Thus the Club was in possession of two handsome handicap prizes,—the Calcutta Cup, wherein the odds were by holes, and the Jubilee Vase, with the odds by strokes,—the respective competitions being held annually in August and September. It having been brought to the notice of the Club that there was in the College Museum an old china Punch-bowl belonging to the Club, having portraits of some of the members of the period when it was made painted upon it, inquiries were set on foot; and it was suggested that the Bowl should be reclaimed from the College authorities, and kept in

some convenient place in the Club. In reply to the secretary's letter, two extracts from the minutes of the Literary and Philosophical Society of St Andrews were received, from which it appeared that the Bowl had been presented to the Royal and Ancient by Mr Patrick F. Robertson, and, at the instance of Major Playfair, had been deposited in the Museum on 30th November 1850 for safe custody, as the Club at that time had no proper place in which to keep it. The Museum Committee accordingly restored the Bowl to its owners.

In May 1888, on recommendation by the Committee of Management, it was unanimously resolved to abolish life-membership.

The burning question of stimies or no stimies ever and anon crops up to divide the golfing world into rival camps, and is usually discussed with an energy which would not discredit theological professors of opposing convictions.

This was the case about the period with which we are dealing (1888), in the spring of which year Mr Horace Hutchinson, as a sort of Peter the Hermit, or leader in the *jehad* or religious war, ran a tilt against the existing order of things. "If the opponent's ball lie in any degree between the player's ball and the hole, or if it interfere in any way with his stroke or his stance, it may be re-



CHINA BOWL.





CHINA BOWL.



moved at the option of the player. But his opponent has the choice of lifting the ball or playing first." Such was the motion he invited the Royal and Ancient to accept. That body, however, like the adder, refused to hearken; and the charmer was defeated by a majority, perhaps rather unkindly described as "overwhelming." He had a doughty ally in Captain W. H. Burn, the seconder of the motion, who, three years later (1891), returned to the charge on his own account. Struck with the obvious unfairness of stimies in big competitions, he moved: "That in all competitions which are decided by holes, the player may remove his opponent's ball from any position it may occupy upon the putting-green, but such act of removal shall be equivalent to the opponent having played his ball in turn and holed it."

The captain argued that no man could reasonably object to having a putt given to him, and not to be under the necessity of holing out. Mr Mure Fergusson seconded. The motion, however, was lost by a large majority. A similar fate overtook a motion by Mr Henry A. Lamb, who now stepped into the fighting ranks, assisted by his second, Captain Burn, in September 1891.

He adopted as his own the proposal formerly put forward by Captain Burn and defeated, from

all which it appears that the stimy, like the poor, will always be with us. Mr Horace Hutchinson, however, was partially successful in his 1888 campaign; for he induced the Royal and Ancient to extract from the main body of their rules those relating to local accidents, such as the Swilcan Burn, the Eden, and the Station-master's Garden, and group them under separate headings. Thus a concession was made to the English clubs, for it was now possible to use the main body of rules wherever golf was played.

XXIII.

**Application to Town Council for Extension
of Ground. New Medals. Regulation
of Medal Competitions. Caddies' Em-
ployment Regulations. Rules of Golf
Revision.**

By a "feu disposition" granted by the Town Council in favour of the Union Club on 3rd March 1854, it had been provided that the Club should not be at liberty to erect any building other than a parapet wall and rail on the southern part of the piece of ground thereby feued, for the space of 25 feet from the south boundary northwards. But it was found that the frequent westerly gales which visit St Andrews with such persistency were almost a source of danger to any one entering or leaving the building, as the swing-doors could hardly be opened. It was thought desirable, therefore, to erect a porch, but as this could not be done without encroaching on the 25

feet above mentioned, special application was made to the Town Council for permission to build a porch, the restriction in the deed notwithstanding. No difficulty was experienced in obtaining the necessary permission, which was granted in October 1888. A similar application, made with respect to some ground $6\frac{1}{2}$ feet to the east by 30 feet north and south, was not successful.

The Building Committee of the Club averred that the acquisition of this piece of land would be of great advantage to the internal arrangements of the Club, and that as the footpath at that point was about 17 feet wide, its diminution by 6 feet would not inconvenience the public. As to terms, the committee, while leaving themselves entirely in the hands of the Town Council, would be prepared either to feu the necessary ground, or to exchange for it an equivalent portion from the north-west side. The Town Council, however, explained that there were serious legal difficulties in the way : having submitted the question to counsel, they were informed that they would be exceeding their authority were they to entertain the application ; and that, therefore, they felt it their duty to dissuade the Club from building, at a cost of at least £300, on a piece of ground the title of which would be bad, with the chance of having to pull the building down in the end. This, of course, was un-

answerable ; so the matter dropped, after the Club had defrayed the cost of counsel's opinion.

As the Club Gold Medal by this time (1888) was entirely covered with the names of winners, it was resolved to obtain a new one, and to affix the old to the Silver Putter, in accordance with the usual custom.

In 1889-90, the Club at a general meeting authorised the purchase of a Gold Medal, to be presented for competition among the local clubs, a small badge to be retained by the winner. It was agreed that the medal should be played for on the Saturday of the week after the spring meeting of the Royal and Ancient ; the competition to be open to the Thistle and St Andrews Clubs, and any other clubs approved by the committee. The first winner was Sandy Herd, afterwards an Open Champion.

From 7th October 1889 to 3rd May 1892, discussions were continually arising, and proposals being brought forward, as to the best method of dealing with the large number of competitors on medal days. We have already shown that the same question arose so far back as 1866, and that in 1868 the handicap sweepstakes were abolished, but, later, were restored. Thus, while the evil was generally admitted, it seemed to pass the wit of man to devise a satisfactory remedy. In 1889 the malcontents returned to the charge, and found the committee to be unanimous

in their opinion that the handicap in connection with the medal should be abolished. Their proposal to this effect, however, fell to the ground for want of a seconder, being thrown out at the spring meeting in 1890.

At the ensuing autumn meeting Colonel Boothby moved that some scheme be devised whereby members who could lay claim to any properly recorded score of 100 or under should have the priority ; but in 1891 it was decided that there would be great difficulty in giving effect to this proposal : the committee, however, remained of opinion that it was desirable to abolish the handicap. An amendment was now proposed, "That two lists be placed on the Club table,—No. 1 for medal and scratch sweepstakes ; No. 2 for medal and handicap sweepstakes. That members who enter for No. 1 be ineligible to enter for No. 2, and that members entered for No. 1 start first." Consideration of this was postponed till the next general meeting, September 1891, but on being brought forward as a substantive motion, and the previous question being moved, the amendment was carried. A similar fate befell a motion by Colonel Boothby in May 1892, "That in all the Club medal competitions, those members who in any Club competition have a recorded score of 100 or under be drawn together." Once more, therefore, the whole question was shelved.



JAMES WILSON
(CLUBMAKER).

WILLIE DUNN.

BOB ANDREW
("THE ROOK").

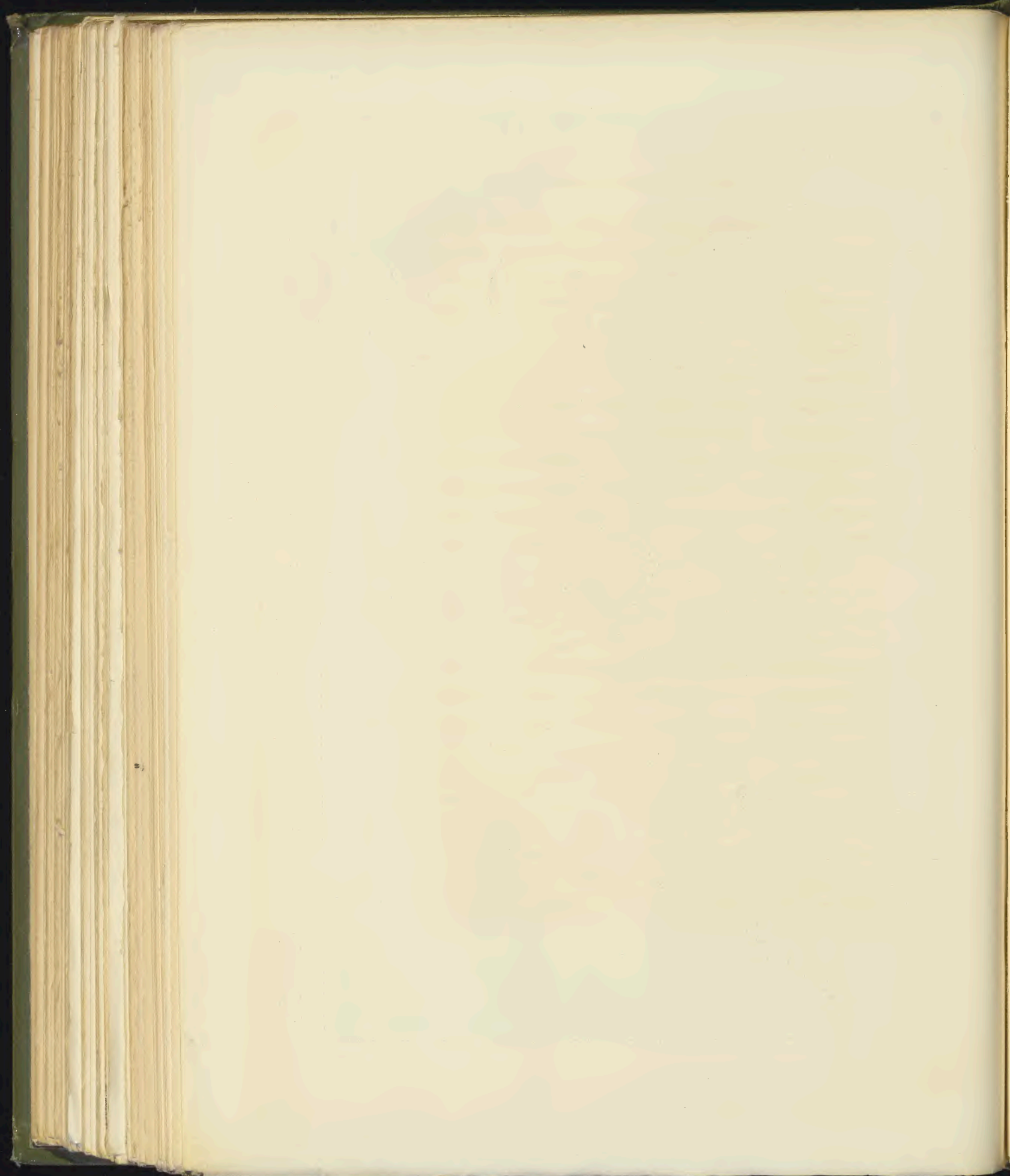
WILLIE PARK.

TOM MORRIS.

ALLAN ROBERTSON.

D. ANDERSON.

BOB KIRK.



In 1890 the Club took up the question of the employment of caddies, which, indeed, urgently demanded attention, and the endeavour was made, not without success, to place the matter on a more satisfactory footing. A printed report by the committee was circulated, from which it appeared that inquiries had been addressed to some forty or fifty clubs; while all had experienced some measure of difficulty, several which had no control of their greens (the links being public commons) had succeeded in adjusting rules which had been observed better than the rules existing at St Andrews. Among the evils specially noted were the exorbitant rates demanded by caddies—higher indeed than on any other green in the country, except Musselburgh. Many may remember the manner in which the guileless wayfarer was beset by hordes of ragamuffins at St Andrews station; how, in despair at their battle-cry, “Kairy for you, sir? Kairy for you, sir?” he would surrender, as it were body and soul, being “deaved” out of all his wits by the insistent clamour; how, ultimately, in too many cases, he was unconscionably fleeced. Again, a resident would engage a caddy by the month or by the year; clothe him, feed him, perhaps, help him through the dark winter months when work otherwise and pay are scanty and precarious—all for what? To be thrown over at the

first opportunity, if there appeared a chance of making an extra shilling from the unsuspecting stranger.

These were abuses truly, and in many cases prevented help being extended to those who proved themselves such ungrateful miscreants. To remedy this state of things certain suggestions were made by the committee in charge of the question. A club officer was engaged, Mr Nicholas Robb, retired from the Royal Navy after twenty-three years' service. He had high testimonials from the officer commanding the Coast-guard, and held the Board of Trade silver medal for brave and praiseworthy conduct in saving life. The new duties were set forth in detail,—to act as hall-porter; to engage caddies and pay them; to look after members' clubs; to keep a register of caddies; and generally to keep order amongst them in the vicinity of the Club. A tariff was instituted—1s. 6d. per round during July, August, and September; 1s. 6d. for the first round, 1s. for each subsequent round during the remainder of the year. Professionals 2s. 6d. per round, and their caddies' fee. A benefit fund was established for the help of deserving caddies invalided or in necessitous circumstances, and the Club was invited to contribute £25 to £50 as a nucleus, and such further grant annually as might seem desirable. It was recommended also that the caddies themselves should be required to subscribe 3d. a-week as a

condition precedent to participation in its advantages. Such were the main provisions of the new scheme, which was finally adopted, after some slight modifications had been suggested by representatives of the caddies themselves.

Nobody is ever satisfied with the rules of golf as they may happen to stand: they are approved neither in sample nor in bulk; the constantly recurring cry, therefore, is for revision, alteration, modification, codification, and what not. In obedience to this law of nature, in 1890 certain alterations were suggested, and a communication regarding them was received on behalf of the delegates from the clubs represented at the Amateur Championship Meeting in that year.

As a result the following committee was appointed to revise the whole rules: Captain D. S. Stewart (convener), Mr Henry A. Lamb, Mr B. Hall Blyth, Captain G. H. Jackson, Dr W. Laidlaw Purves, Lord Kingsburgh, and Mr Horace G. Hutchinson. They were to report to the general meeting in May 1891 any decision then arrived at, to be subject to confirmation at the autumn meeting, and no alteration to take effect till 1st January 1892. The committee did report, and suggested further that the rules as amended should be remitted back to them for some verbal alterations. An amendment that the committee be thanked for their labours and discharged

being withdrawn, it was resolved to remit the rules back to them to be rearranged, on the understanding that no change in the fundamental rules was to be introduced.

In accordance with this resolution, in September 1891 the Revised Rules, which meanwhile had been printed and circulated, were adopted, and came into force in January 1892. With regard to the desirability of penalising balls driven over the wall at the second and fifth holes, and into the field at the third hole, the Green Committee, in September 1892, recommended, in the first case, a penalty of stroke and distance, but were not in favour of any further alteration. The proposal, however, was rejected by a large majority. Thereafter a resolution by Mr A. Stuart was adopted, that as the Revised Rules had so recently been accepted, any future alteration should only be considered at a general meeting, if proposed by the Green Committee. Any requisition, however, signed by twenty members proposing an alteration, to be put before the general meeting by the committee.

XXIV.

The Ownership of the Links.

WE now have to deal with some important matters involving transference of ownership of the old historic Links, their purchase by the Club, and subsequent acquisition by the magistrates on behalf of the town. The first official notification that any change was in contemplation was received on 7th July 1890, in form of a communication from Mr Cheape of Strathtyrum, in whose possession, and that of his family, the Links had been for generations, that he was willing to sell them to the Club on certain conditions. The committee being unanimously of opinion that the acquisition of the course was desirable, appointed a sub-committee to make all necessary inquiries, and enter into negotiations. On 4th August the steps taken by the sub-committee were reported, and further information was given on 3rd February 1891. From this it appeared that Major Bethune had offered, on behalf of the com-

mittee, to purchase the Links for £3000, subject to the approval of the general meeting in May. The conditions were proposed that they should be handed over to the Club on the expiration of the lease with the then tenant, and that until that time Mr Cheape should pay £60 a-year to the Club to represent the rent of the Links. This offer was declined by Mr Cheape, on the ground that it would materially diminish the letting value of the farm of Balgove; he nevertheless renewed a promise formerly given, that should he change his mind the Club should have the first refusal.

At this stage matters rested for a time—in point of fact for two years,—for the next entry bears date 23rd February 1893. A special meeting was then called in consequence of a notice having been given in the Town Council for the purpose of appointing a committee to consider the advisability of extending the golf course. It was unanimously resolved to request the proprietor to offer the committee an opportunity of taking the sense of an extraordinary general meeting as to the question of purchase, if it should happen that the proprietor was approached by any public body or individuals having a similar end in view. Having replied that in the first instance he was desirous of taking advice, Mr Cheape, on 18th April 1893, intimated that he was

willing to sell to the Club upon terms thereafter to be decided.

The committee accordingly unanimously resolved to submit to the general meeting in May two propositions: (first) that the meeting should declare whether the Links should be acquired; (second) that if the Club were in favour of that project, a special committee with full powers should be appointed to carry it out and conclude the whole transaction, including the raising of the necessary funds, whether by admission of new members or in such other manner as might seem desirable. The matter coming up in due course, on 2nd May the foregoing resolution was read, but was withdrawn in favour of one proposed by Mr A. Graham Murray, the chairman, in these terms:—

That a special committee be appointed to confer with the proprietor of the Links with a view to the purchase thereof, with powers to said committee to enter into provisional arrangements for the purchase, such arrangements to be subject to the approval of the Club. That the said committee shall frame such scheme or schemes as shall seem best for the raising of the funds necessary for the transaction, and shall, if necessary, take professional advice, and shall report the whole matter to a general meeting to be summoned for that purpose.

On the unanimous adoption of this motion a special committee was appointed, consisting of the trustees

of the Club and thirteen other members. They were empowered to meet a committee of the Town Council in conference, that body having expressed a wish to discuss the matter. At the next general meeting—26th September 1893—the special committee gave in their report, which had meanwhile been printed and circulated. After a recapitulation of Mr Graham Murray's motion, the report stated that a conference had been held with the representatives of the Town Council, who, while not advancing any definite proposition, discussed the matter in a friendly spirit. This discussion convinced the committee that there were valid reasons which precluded any hope of a joint purchase. These were, first, that they were advised that probably the Links could not be acquired for the purpose of forming a golf course by the Town Council under the provisions of any public Act of Parliament, and a private Act would entail considerable delay, even if obtained, which was open to doubt. Secondly, the town councillors frankly explained that any joint arrangement would necessitate any new course being made public. Now, the moving incentive towards the acquisition of the Links by the Club was, it was surmised, that the Club should have a private course.

The town councillors had expressed apprehensions

as to the probable attitude of the Club if it became the purchaser: would it keep up the old course as heretofore, for instance, and would it tolerate the public practice of walking over the whole extent of the Links? The committee reassured them on these points, and then obtained legal advice as to whether it would be competent for the Club to form a new course and reserve it for the sole use of members. Counsel replied in the affirmative. A valuation was next obtained, the valuator being a civil engineer of position and experience. Acting upon his advice, the committee made an offer of £5000 to Mr Cheape, £3000 to be left on the property at 4 per cent, and not to be called up for a fixed period. The offer was conditional on the approval of the Club.

The report next defined the position as it then stood—namely, that Mr Cheape had agreed to sell for £5000, subject to certain conditions, of which the more important were: entry to be at Martinmas 1893; £3000 to remain on the property at 4 per cent for six years; the property to be conveyed subject to all existing leases, servitudes, and rights-of-way; and that there should be a right of pre-emption at £5000 in the proprietor of Strathtyrum, who, further, reserved certain rights of digging in the shell-pits and laying drains, and stipulated that he and all his family and guests resident at Strathtyrum should

have the right to play on any new course that might be made. The remainder of the report dealt with the negotiations between the special committee and the then tenant, and with the financial aspect of the question, into the details of which it is, perhaps, unnecessary to enter. Broadly stated, the requisite sum could be raised, as to part thereof, by the admission of a hundred new members at an increased entrance payment of £15, which would produce £1500; £3000 could be left on the land, according to bargain; while £2500 could be borrowed on the security of the club-house—making £7000 in all. The report concluded with details relating to the payment of interest, the expenditure necessary for upkeep of the new course, and the establishment of a sinking fund.

Letters were now read which had passed between the secretary of the Club and a committee of the Local Authority, who, it appeared, were

sorry to learn that the Royal and Ancient Club have intervened, and notwithstanding the city's negotiations, are also negotiating with Mr Cheape. They express a hope that your Club will reconsider their position. The city has no desire to restrict any existing rights of playing golf; on the contrary, they are prepared to promote a Bill in Parliament for the acquisition of the Links, and to make mutually satisfactory agreements with all interested in the playing of golf or other games. They feel sure that Mr Cheape would

be prepared to deal with the city on equable terms, and it would surely be a pity for your Club to intervene between Mr Cheape and the public representatives of St Andrews.

This letter, it will be observed, is remarkable for the use, twice over, or rather misuse, of the word "intervene," and gives an utterly incorrect presentment of an actual matter of fact. In familiar phrase, the boot was on the other leg; it was the Town Council who had "intervened" and not the Club. This aspect of the matter was presented for their consideration in a letter which pointed out that as negotiations had been entered into in 1890, and nearly concluded, and again at the beginning of 1893, before any offer, provisional or otherwise, had been made (it was believed) by the Town Council, the action of the Club could scarcely be characterised as "intervention." The rejoinder to this was a notification that on 25th September a large meeting of ratepayers and of the general public had been held, and resolutions passed that the meeting cordially approved the action of the Town Council, being of opinion that it was vital to the best interests of St Andrews that the Links should become the property of the Corporation, which would have the support of the meeting in whatever further steps it might deem necessary to take.

XXV.

More about the Sale of the Links.

FOUR resolutions were unanimously adopted, of which, as to the first three, the gist was—the confirmation of the provisional arrangements with Mr Cheape; the approval of the financial scheme; and the appointment of a sub-committee to lay out a new course, the appointment to rest with the special committee already in charge. The fourth resolution ran as follows:—

That in the event of the Town Council within two years obtaining the necessary sanction from Parliament, the Club will, if Mr Cheape consents, hand over the Links to the town, or otherwise will offer no opposition to the town acquiring the Links, subject to such conditions as to the use of the Links as may be mutually agreed upon, provided in either case that the Club be repaid the purchase price and such sum as they may have expended in acquiring the same, and laying out any new course.

Thus the matter rested at the end of the general meeting, 26th September 1893. On 4th December

it was resolved to call an extraordinary general meeting, for the purpose of considering certain resolutions with regard to the maintenance of the Links, and the use thereof by the Club and the public.

On the 16th December, however, the resolution was rescinded, in consequence of information received by the committee to the effect that the Town Council, by a majority of 21 to 5, had resolved to promote a Bill for the acquisition of the Links, and to petition for the same in the usual form. On 16th February 1894 it was reported that Mr Graham Murray, in conjunction with a sub-committee of the special committee appointed in May 1893, had been in negotiation with the Town Council as to the conditions on which the Club would be prepared to carry out the fourth resolution above quoted. It was stated that the sub-committee wished an extraordinary general meeting to be called to consider the draft agreement now laid before the meeting, and to adopt such resolutions as might be considered necessary. In view of the great importance of the issues, the committee thought that the restriction upon discussion prescribed by one of the rules regulating procedure at extraordinary general meetings should be removed, and resolved to propose the suspension of the rule in question.

On 10th March 1894 the extraordinary general

meeting assembled, when Mr Graham Murray detailed all that had taken place, specially explaining that the duties of the committee appointed in May had ceased with the appointment of a sub-committee to lay out a new course; that therefore he, Sir Alexander Kinloch, Major Bethune, Sheriff Henderson, Mr Blyth, and Mr Cheyne had represented the Club in discussion with the Town Council. The result was a draft agreement, to the terms of which it was understood the Town Council were willing to agree; and while he and those acting with him were prepared to recommend its adoption, it was to be understood that the Club as yet was entirely free and uncommitted.

The proposed draft agreement was then laid before the meeting and discussed clause by clause,—it being explained that before final adoption it would have to be submitted to the Town Council for approval. It is unnecessary to enter into details as to the numerous suggestions and amendments that were made in the course of debate; but it may be well to give an abstract of the completed document as adjusted after discussion.

The preamble stated that the Town Council had applied to Parliament for permission to acquire the Links, then in possession of the Club; that whereas the Club in the past had kept up the golf course,

and were willing to do so in the future, and further, were ready to lay out and keep up a new course, and to make certain contributions to the Town Council upon certain terms, that therefore an agreement had been entered into. As to the terms—

(i.) The Club, on receiving £5000 from the Town Council, would convey to them the Links of St Andrews under the purposes of the Bill before Parliament. If Mr Cheape refused his consent, the Town Council to be at liberty to put in force the compulsory powers of the statute, and obtain a title as allowed by law; but in such case purchase-price and compensation to the Club to be £5000 and expenses, neither less nor more. (ii.) The Town Council to relieve the Club of the obligation to pay £100 per annum to the grazing tenant during currency of his lease, but to receive from the tenant £100 per annum, the proportion of the cumulo rent of Balgove farm agreed to be allocated to the grazing of the Links under agreement between the Club and Mr Cheape. (iii.) The old and new courses to be kept up and managed by a committee consisting of five members of the Royal and Ancient and two nominated by the Magistrates and Town Council. Licensing of caddies to be in the hands of the Town Council, who, however, would not grant licences except on the application of the Club.

(iv.) The Club to maintain the old course as efficiently as before, and lay out and maintain a new course within lines as marked on a plan. (v.) The old course to be always open to the public free of charge, except that for the space of one month in each year the committee might close it for repairs, but not in June, July, August, or September. (vi.) The new course to be open to the public free of charge, except in July, August, and September. In those months it would be open only to members of the Royal and Ancient, to citizens on the electoral roll of St Andrews, and to the proprietor of Strathtyrum, his family, and guests. Tickets might be issued to the public at not less than 2s. a-day, 7s. 6d. a-week, or £1 a-month, provided that such a number should not be issued as would result in the overcrowding of the course. The money thus obtained to be at the disposal of the Club. (vii.) Both courses at no time to be closed simultaneously. (viii.) The Club to pay to the Town Council £125 for a period of sixty years, after which time the moneys leviable as charges for tickets on the new course to be applied to the upkeep of both courses. (ix.) The agreement was entered into subject to sanction of Parliament and to any alteration which Parliament might make, under the reservation that if, in the opinion of Sir Charles Pearson, Q.C., M.P.,

Dean of the Faculty of Advocates, such alterations should materially affect the interest of either party, they should be at liberty to withdraw from the agreement. Two motions were then unanimously adopted—the first approving the conditions of the amended agreement as above; the second authorising a committee, now appointed, to take all necessary steps for the purpose of securing the due fulfilment of the conditions of the agreement, if completed, or if not completed, then for securing that the rights of the Club in the Links should not be impaired by the provisions of the Bill.

Six months now elapsed, and at the next general meeting, 25th September 1894, the report by the special committee was submitted by Mr Graham Murray, the convener. It was stated that the duties laid upon the committee, when appointed in March, were—(i.) To endeavour to arrange with the promoters upon the lines of the agreement then approved by the Club; (ii.) in the event of the promoters refusing to accede to the views of the Club, to lodge a petition against the Bill; and (iii.) in the event of a parliamentary contest, to do what seemed best in the circumstances for effecting a compromise or opposing the Bill. Negotiations accordingly followed, but unfortunately the committee were unable to persuade the promoters to

accept the proposed agreement. No alternative, therefore, remained but to petition against the Bill. The Bill came before a Committee of the House of Commons on 25th April. The case for the promoters was heard, and one witness for the Club was examined. At the close of his cross-examination a strong indication was given by the committee that they thought the matter should be arranged.

The special committee accordingly again met the promoters, and were successful in adjusting an agreement with them, which agreement they were unanimously of opinion was, under the circumstances, in the best interests of the Club. The agreement was embodied in the Bill, which was passed by the House of Lords, and became law by receiving the Royal Assent on 20th July.

It remains only to notice the alterations made in the agreement as finally adjusted and incorporated in the Bill. In Resolution iii. the clause as to licensing of caddies had disappeared, and instead thereof is a provision that all regulations of the Green Committee applicable to play and the order of starting shall be submitted to the Town Council for approval, but such approval shall not be unreasonably withheld; in case of disapproval, an appeal lies to the Sheriff Principal of Fife, failing whom, to the Lord President of the Court of Session, whose decision is to be final.

In Resolution vi. "ratepayers of St Andrews, including their children," are made free of the new course, this phrase being substituted for "citizens on the electoral roll." The charge for tickets is to be "not more than 2s. 6d. a-day, 8s. 6d. a-week, or £1, 1s. a-month," instead of "not less than 2s. a-day, 7s. 6d. a-week, or £1 a-month." An additional clause was inserted, making it incumbent on the Club to maintain the Ladies' Course, as marked in a plan; the Club to be entitled to let the course to the Ladies' Club for their exclusive use, and to receive the rent, which is to be handed over to the Town Council. The clause empowering a reference to Sir Charles Pearson is, of course, struck out.

On 4th February 1895 it was reported that notice of the intention of the Commissioners to purchase the Links under the Links Act, 1894, had been served on the trustees of the Club and the secretary.

XXVI.

The Open Championship. Revision of Conditions. Testimonial to Tom Morris. Completion of New Course. Tournament.

IN November 1892 the Prestwick Golf Club had entered into correspondence with the Royal and Ancient and with the Honourable Company, and made certain suggestions with a view to the Open Championship being placed upon a new and wider basis. As a result of their communication, a representative of the Club was deputed to attend a conference of the three Clubs, and was instructed to report the result of the deliberations.

In September 1893 the report was laid before a general meeting. It bore that the competition should take place annually in succession on the greens of the three Clubs as hitherto; and in order to meet a generally expressed wish that the competition should be extended to England, it was resolved to

include the greens of the Royal Liverpool Golf Club at Hoylake, and the St George's Golf Club at Sandwich, in turn with those of the three Scottish Clubs. The succession was fixed as follows: 1894 at Sandwich, 1895 at St Andrews, 1896 at Muirfield, 1897 at Hoylake. The competition was to be one of 72 holes or four rounds of 18 holes each, two rounds to be played each day for two days. Each competitor to pay 10s. entry money, to be used as part of the prize fund, to which each of the associated clubs should contribute £15 annually. The prizes to amount to £100 annually, divisible as follows:—

First, £40 to the winner, of which £10 to be expended on a Gold Medal, and £30 to be given in money to a professional, or in plate to an amateur golfer; second, £20; third, £10; fourth, £7; fifth, £5; sixth, £4; seventh, eighth, and ninth, £3; tenth and eleventh, £2; twelfth, £1.

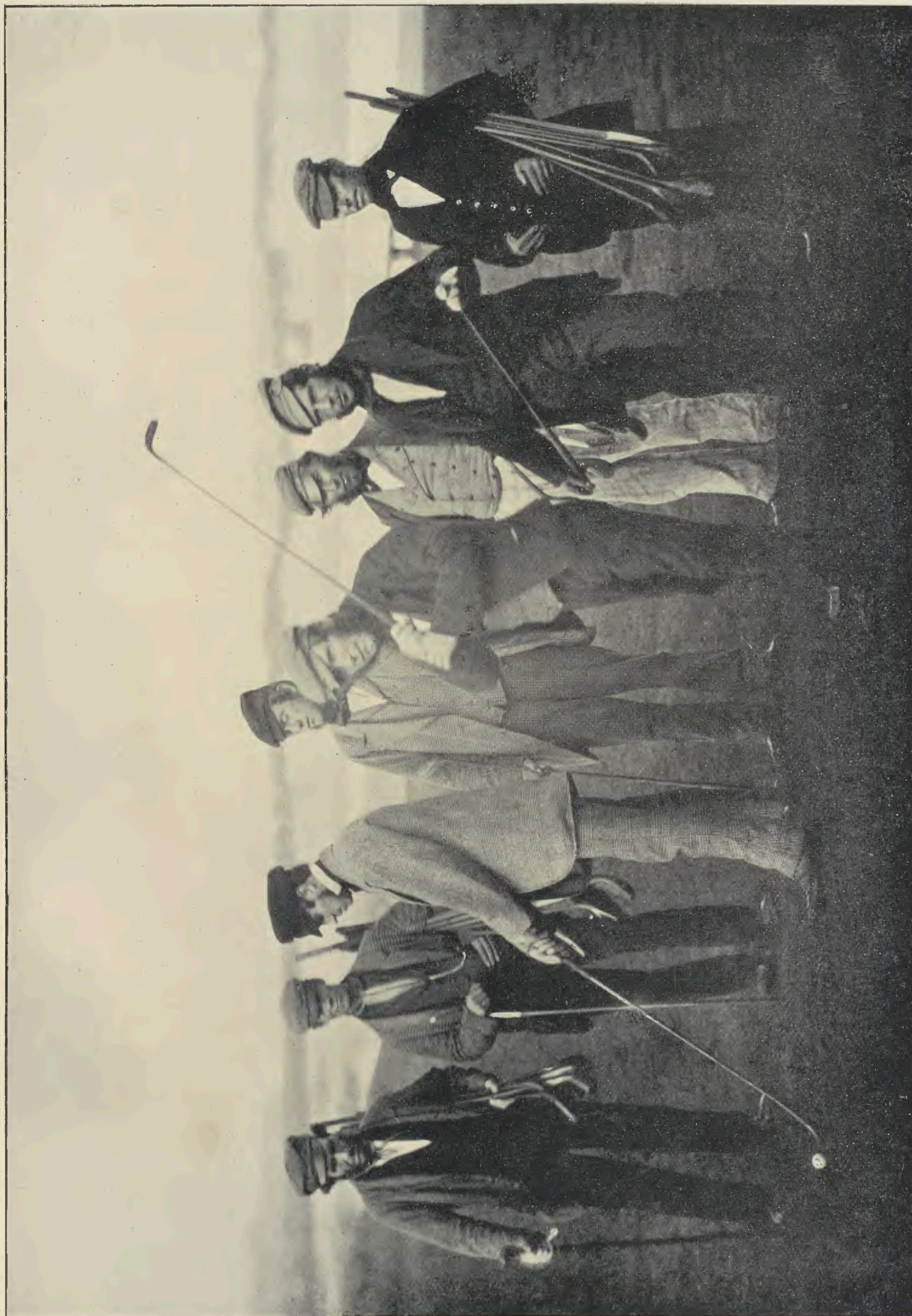
No prize except the first to be open to an amateur.

The general arrangements in each year, including the date of the competition, to be left to the club on whose green the competition would be held, that club to defray incidental expenses.

In September 1897 the allocation of prize-money was somewhat altered in details. The amounts to be received by the first and second men respectively remained as before, but the total number of prizes

available was restricted to six instead of twelve: to the third man was allotted £15; to the fourth £10; and to the fifth and sixth £7, 10s. each. The number of competitors having by this time increased to an inconvenient extent, a weeding-out process had become necessary. Accordingly it was resolved that any competitor who should be twenty strokes behind the leading score at the end of the second round on the first day should be compulsorily retired. A proviso was added that if there should not be thirty-two professionals within this limit, then the first thirty-two professionals might compete, and if among them there were a tie or ties for the last place on the list, then all who had so tied might compete.

In July 1895 a committee was appointed to report as to the best means for carrying out a proposal to present Tom Morris with a testimonial. Accordingly an extraordinary general meeting was called, at which the following resolution was unanimously adopted: "That the sum of £100 be voted from the funds of the Club towards the Tom Morris Testimonial Fund," and the committee were instructed to issue a fresh appeal for subscriptions, and to notify the adoption of the resolution. In April 1896, after hearing a letter from Mr George Todd Chiene, C.A., the committee agreed to recommend that £500 should be applied in the purchase of an annuity of £80, and



JAMES WILSON (CLUBMAKER),
 BOB ANDREW, ("THE ROOK"),
 WILLIE DUNN, WILLIE PARK, ALLAN ROBERTSON,
 TOM MORRIS, BOB KIRK,
 D. ANDERSON ("DAW"),



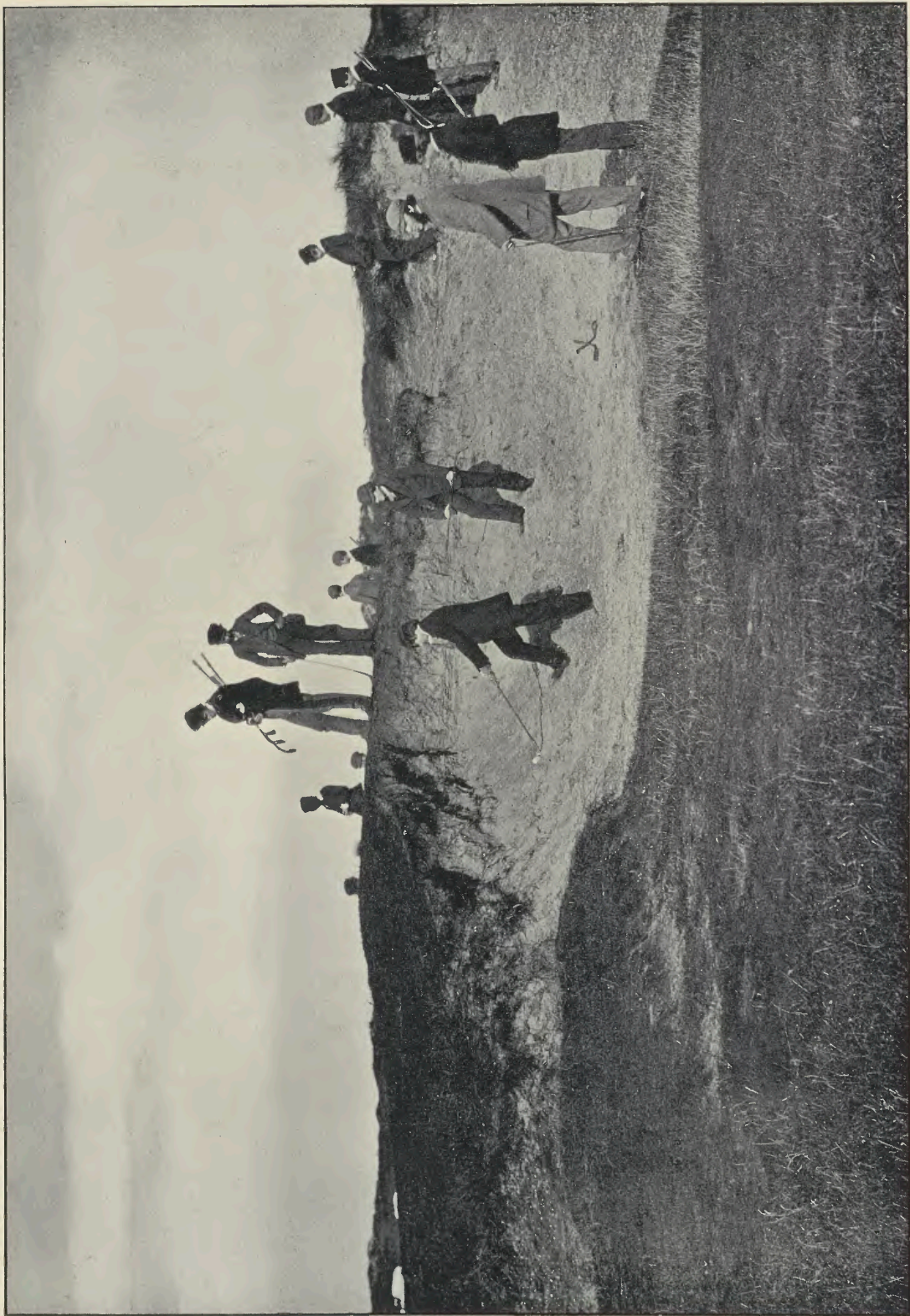
that the balance of the money subscribed, about £700, should be invested in the names of the trustees of the Club, and the interest thereon paid to Tom during his life; that thereafter the sum remaining should be applied for the benefit of his daughter, Mrs Hunter, and her children, in such manner as the trustees might decide.

At the general meeting in May 1896 the report was adopted, subject, however, to the deletion of the provision in favour of Mrs Hunter and her children. By this time the subscriptions had amounted to £1240, with the prospect of a slight increase before the close of the lists, which it was proposed should be on 15th May. The result, therefore, would be that Tom would have an income of over £100 a-year, in addition to what he received as greenkeeper, and from other sources.

On 24th September 1895 the convener of the sub-committee appointed to lay out the new course reported that the capital expended up to 10th April, when the course was open for play, amounted to £1763, 1s. He stated further that the sub-committee were of opinion that they could now be discharged, and that the course should be placed under the charge of the Green Committee. At an extraordinary general meeting, held on 25th October, it was resolved that there should be an annual com-

petition played on the new course, open to members of the Club. Accordingly, in May 1896, the Green Committee reported that they were of opinion that no new medal should be instituted, but they would recommend that the Calcutta Cup competition should be transferred to that course, the competition to take place at the usual time. This recommendation was carried out, though not without some opposition. Two motions in favour of a return to the old course have since been brought forward, but not carried. It may be added that in June 1895, immediately after the Open Championship, held that year at St Andrews, and won by J. H. Taylor, a tournament had been held on the recently opened course. It resulted in favour of Sandy Herd, who scored $86 + 86 = 172$; W. Fernie second, $86 + 87 = 173$; Andrew Kirkaldy, Tom Vardon, and Mr F. G. Tait next with 175.

We now come to the history of the preliminary correspondence and proceedings which led up to the eventual election of the body known as the Rules of Golf Committee.



WILLIE DOW.



XXVII.

Rules of Golf Committee.

ABOUT the year 1896 there arose in England a considerable agitation in favour of a Golf Union. There was an impression abroad that the game, its rules and general government, were in a more or less chaotic condition of drift. Opinion, however, was sharply divided. Scotland, in the main, preferred to remain true to its old, if tacit, allegiance to the Royal and Ancient, whose authority England also was not indisposed to acknowledge, but only on condition that the Royal and Ancient should take some immediate and practical steps in the direction of remedying existing evils.

A sort of compromise was ultimately arrived at. There existed already a body—the delegates of clubs represented at the Amateur Championship—whose functions, though primarily concerned with that competition alone, might, it was thought, be usefully extended at that juncture. Any recom-

mendation to the Royal and Ancient, coming from such a body, could scarcely fail to receive due consideration. That, in effect, was what followed.

At a general meeting of the Royal and Ancient in May 1896, a circular from the delegates was read.

Mr Hall Blyth, it stated, has given notice that he will make the following motion at the meeting of delegates to be held at Sandwich: "That this meeting make arrangements for calling a general meeting, to be held in Edinburgh, to which all Golf Clubs shall be invited to send a representative, for the purpose of discussing the advisability of forming a Golf Union, and, if so agreed, to take the necessary steps to have such a union formed."

The Club unanimously instructed their representative to oppose any such motion as that mentioned in the circular. Shortly afterwards the delegates met at the Amateur Championship, and discussed the matter in an informal manner, the general opinion arrived at being embodied in a lengthy correspondence, which was submitted to the Royal and Ancient at their ensuing autumn meeting, September 1896.

Two points were made clear by these letters,—first, that in the opinion of the delegates no support should be given to any scheme tending to set up, or to attempt to set up, any authority as a rival to the Royal and Ancient; second, that it

would be well if the Royal and Ancient would consider the possibility of evolving some scheme that would enable important clubs explicitly to recognise its authority,—tacit recognition not being deemed sufficiently satisfactory. Proceeding to the discussion of details, the delegates made some suggestions.

These were, in brief: (1) That the Royal and Ancient should appoint from amongst its own members a special committee, to consist of such number of members as might be determined—half to be elected as representing the Royal and Ancient, the other half as representing some other great Clubs. (2) That the powers of such committee should be limited to dealing with proposals relating to the rules and customs of golf. (3) That no rule should be repealed or altered, nor any new rule made, unless approved by a majority of those present in committee, and confirmed by the next general meeting of the Club. (4) That on all questions of interpretation of the rules, the committee should be the ultimate court of appeal. (5) That the committee should meet twice a-year. The letter embodying these proposals was dated 5th June, and was acknowledged in a reply stating that the suggestions were approved generally by the Committee of Management. On 10th July another letter was written

to the secretary of the St George's Club, on behalf of the Committee of Management, who adopted the above proposals, which they were prepared to lay before a general meeting. As to the first clause in the letter addressed to them, they suggested that the proposed committee should consist of fourteen members (eight to be a quorum); that the Royal and Ancient should nominate seven of their own members; and that seven other clubs should be invited to nominate one member each.

These clubs, it was suggested, should be The Honourable Company of Edinburgh Golfers, Prestwick, Royal Blackheath, Royal North Devon, Royal Liverpool, St George's, and Royal Portrush. The chairman would be a representative of the Royal and Ancient, and have a casting as well as a deliberative vote; and the committee, it was proposed, should meet twice a-year at St Andrews. Following upon this, a circular letter was sent to the delegates of the Amateur Championship, informing them of the action proposed to be taken. Replies were received from about a dozen clubs, all in cordial approval.

The chairman of the general meeting accordingly proposed and carried a motion expressing approval of the letter of 10th July addressed to the secretary of the St George's Club, and it was resolved to

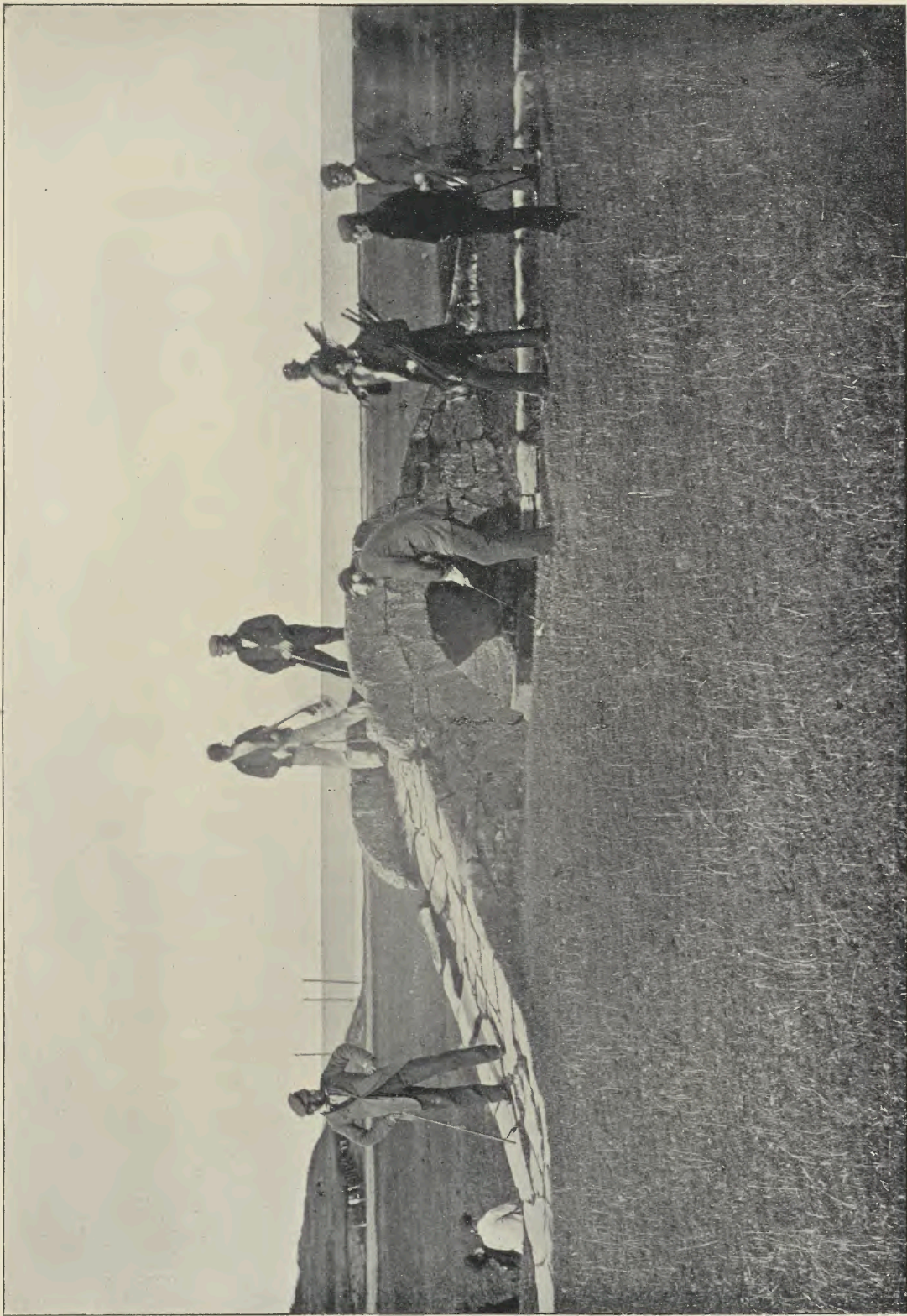
appoint a special committee to formulate a detailed scheme to be submitted to the next spring meeting for adoption.

In May 1897 this committee presented their report, which in substance was identical with the letter of 10th July above mentioned, but amplified somewhat as to minor details. At this stage, however, two letters were read—one from the Edinburgh Burgess Club, the other from the Royal Albert Golf Club, Montrose. In both strong disapproval of the proposed scheme was expressed, these clubs being of opinion that matters should rest entirely with the Royal and Ancient; but if representatives of other clubs should be imported, then, the objectors claimed, representation should be granted to them also. The Burgess Club, the Royal and Ancient was reminded, was the oldest in the country, having been established in 1735; while the Royal Albert also could lay claim to great antiquity.

This sharp cleavage of opinion amongst Northern golfers was followed by a division on Mr Cathcart's motion, seconded by Mr Charles Hutchings, "That the report of the special committee be adopted." Colonel R. T. Boothby moved as an amendment, seconded by Mr F. G. Tait, "That it be not adopted, and that no action be taken upon it."

The amendment was carried by a majority of three, the numbers being 64 to 61. Thereupon Mr Cathcart, on behalf of himself and the other members of the special committee, intimated their resignation. The deadlock thus created was more apparent than real; and an ingenious way out of the difficulty was found by Mr Hall Blyth, who adopted in its entirety the derelict report of the special committee, which he brought forward at the next general meeting, September 1897. It was met by an amendment, proposed by Captain W. H. Burn, and seconded by Mr F. G. Tait.

The principal terms of this amendment were that the Royal and Ancient should appoint a committee of fifteen of its members, to be called the Rules of Golf Committee. The names suggested were: Mr Leslie Balfour-Melville, Mr Ernley R. H. Blackwell, Mr B. Hall Blyth, Captain W. H. Burn, Mr H. S. Colt, Mr H. S. C. Everard, Mr J. O. Fairlie, Mr S. Mure Fergusson, Mr R. A. Hull, Mr C. Hutchings, Mr H. G. Hutchinson, Mr J. E. Laidlay, Mr J. L. Low, Mr R. B. Sharp, and Mr F. G. Tait. Their powers were to be limited to dealing with proposals relating to, or questions of interpretation arising on, the rules and customs of golf, and on all such questions they were to be the final authority.



TOM MORRIS.

ALLAN ROBERTSON.
MAJOR BOOTHBY.



Any resolution to amend or repeal an existing rule, or to make a new rule, would have to be carried by a majority; but no resolution would be operative unless endorsed by a two-thirds majority of members present at a general meeting of the Club. The term during which the committee should hold office was fixed at three years; and provisions for fresh elections, filling vacancies, place of meeting, and other details were inserted. Hereupon, with the consent of the meeting, Mr Hall Blyth withdrew his motion, and Captain Burn's amendment was adopted. Thus the Rules of Golf Committee sprang into existence.

In July 1897 the committee placed on record their sense of the great loss the Club had sustained by the death of Colonel R. T. Boothby. An enthusiast in all manner of sport, a frequent medal-winner at St Andrews, Perth, and elsewhere, for ten years Colonel-commandant of the Fife Volunteer Artillery, he had taken besides an active part in the welfare of the Club, of which he had been a member for over forty years.

A military funeral was accorded the deceased gentleman, and hundreds of mourners attended, coming from the whole length and breadth of Scotland. The silver clubs and balls, draped in black, were borne by the Club officer; while an enormous con-

course of the general public gave eloquent testimony to the universal esteem in which Colonel Boothby was held.

In May 1898 a proposal emanated from Hoylake that an International Golf Match, Scotland against England, should be held; but in September it was unanimously agreed that no action should be taken in the matter. At the same meeting it was resolved that the entrance-money for all new members should henceforth be £20.

The writer has now traced the history of the Royal and Ancient Golf Club, as disclosed by its minutes, through a course of a hundred and forty-four years; a history, he may perhaps venture to hope, not altogether devoid of interest to the reader. By the courtesy of Mr C. S. Grace, the writer is able to subjoin a memorandum as to the cost of alterations and additions to the Club-house during recent years—that is, from 1872 to 1900.

[MEMORANDUM

MEMORANDUM AS TO COST OF ALTERATIONS AND
ADDITIONS, ETC., TO CLUB-HOUSE SINCE 1872.

				£	s.	d.
1872-3	.	.	.	710	3	5
1873-4	.	.	.	768	3	11
1880	.	.	.	185	0	0
	.	.	.	1,682	3	4
to	.	.	.	370	17	7
	.	.	.	284	2	1
	.	.	.	499	13	6
1890	.	.	.	1,742	11	11
1891	.	.	.	395	9	3
	.	.	.	49	1	11
	.	.	.	126	3	6
to	.	.	.	58	6	6
	.	.	.	566	5	0
	.	.	.	1,832	0	0
1900	.	.	.	1,111	15	9
				<hr/>		
				£10,381	17	8

XXVIII.

The Dempster Case.

ALTHOUGH the litigation between the Club and the Dempsters took place a hundred years ago, yet such enormous interest was aroused by it, that the echoes of this battle-royal are faintly heard even to the present day. Though this generation of golfers is probably unaware of the fact that such an important lawsuit ever took place, yet the writer has heard the matter mentioned by older members of the Royal and Ancient, and by some of the inhabitants of the town whose memory extends back over several decades. It seems not unfitting, therefore, that the allusion already made in a preceding chapter should be supplemented by a further account. The writer has been fortunate in gaining access to a valuable book, which is out of print—viz., 'Session Cases, St Andrews University, 1804-09,' in which the whole case is set forth at very great length: from this original authority, therefore, the following account

is taken. For information contained in the last part of this paper the writer is indebted to the researches of Dr Hay Fleming, whose authorities are the Town Council minutes, Dow's 'Reports of Cases upon Appeals and Writs of Error in the House of Lords,' and Morison's 'Dictionary.' The plaintiffs in the case, or "pursuers," were Hugh Cleghorn, Esq.; Dr James Playfair, Principal of the United College of St Salvator and St Leonards; Dr Thomas Melville, physician; and Colonel John McGill, all inhabitants of and residing in the City of St Andrews: the Right Honourable Thomas Earl of Kellie; Robert Patullo, Esq. of Balhooffie; Thomas Bruce, Esq. of Grangemuir; James Cheape, Esq. of Strathtyrum; Major John Lumsden of Lathallan; George Cheape, Esq. of Pusk; Colonel John Thomson of Coats; John Anstruther Thomson, Esq. of Charleton; David Glass, Esq. of Smiddygreen, and John Dalzell, Esq. of Lingo, for themselves, and for other gentlemen in the neighbourhood of St Andrews, who have been in use to resort thither for the purpose of playing golf upon the Golfing Links of St Andrews. Defendants were Charles Dempster, merchant in St Andrews, Cathcart Dempster, his son, and James Begbie, their tenant in the Links of St Andrews or Pilmore. In their statement of case the plaintiffs averred that "The

Links of St Andrews have from time immemorial been used by the inhabitants and others for the exercise of golf. From very early times a Society, known by the name of the Golfing Society of St Andrews, consisting of the most respectable inhabitants, and the gentlemen of the county, had regularly met at fixed periods for the purpose of golfing on the Links. This institution has been extremely useful to the town, and has always met with great encouragement from the magistrates. This may have contributed to render the exercise so fashionable as it is at St Andrews, though it seems pointed out by nature as the most proper exercise for the inhabitants of that city. The smooth downs stretching along the sea-shore give the strongest invitation to an amusement so conducive to health. But whatever causes may be assigned for the fact, nothing can be more certain than that the exercise of golf is preferred to all others at St Andrews, and generally considered as a sort of necessary of life." This is a not uninteresting preamble, from which we learn, it will be observed, that beneficent nature herself has indicated the form of recreation best adapted to the needs of the inhabitants, that golf is, as it were, a necessary of life. "For ages," the plaintiffs continue, "the Links had been used as a common, subject, however, to certain rights, as

of feal and divot, and bleaching, but under this restriction, that these privileges were to be used without injury to the Links as a golfing course, the *chief purpose* for which they were reserved." There were always some rabbits on the Links, but as it was open to anybody to kill them, they did not multiply, and they were carefully kept away from the course as being destructive to it.

Now in 1797, Mr Thomas Erskine of Cambo, subsequently the Earl of Kellie, bought the Links from the Magistrates and Town Council. In the articles of roup there was inserted a restrictive clause, repeated in the feu-right granted to the Earl, which forbade the ploughing up of the Links in all time coming: they were to be "reserved entirely, as it has been in times past, for the comfort and amusement of the inhabitants and others who shall resort thither for that purpose." The Earl of Kellie after a short tenure sold the Links to Mr Charles Dempster, who no sooner acquired the property than he began to make use of it in a way utterly prejudicial to the rights of golfers, expressly reserved to them from the earliest times. At the time of this purchase by Dempster, the tenant was one James Ritchie, a butcher, who pastured only sheep on the Links, in accordance with usage; but the new proprietor, having bought up Ritchie's lease,

let the Links to James Begbie for a *rabbit-warren*, at three times the former rent. Speedily the rabbits waxed amain, and multiplied exceedingly, until their depredations became absolutely unendurable: it was averred that the filling up of the holes as fast as they were made, if that could be done, would not repair the damage, for the turf, which it required a succession of ages to produce, being once removed, would not grow again upon the sand laid bare by the rabbits: in short, if Mr Dempster were to plant, enclose, or plough up the land, he could not render it more unfit for the use on account of which it was specially reserved. Also, in order more completely to guard the rabbits from all inconvenience in their new habitations, Mr Dempster "has placed stamps and traps, and poison in the open grounds, in order to destroy the dogs who follow their masters to the Links, in which he has been but too successful." Accordingly the Court was asked to declare—
"(1) That the pursuers and others had good right and title to play golf on the Links,—a right vested in them from time immemorial; (2) that the defendants should be prohibited from molesting plaintiffs in exercising this right; (3) that defendants should be ordained to desist from putting or keeping rabbits on the Links; (4) that they should be ordained to remove or destroy the rabbits; and (5) that they

should pay £100 sterling damages and expenses." All this is set forth in a wealth of verbiage and prolixity which commands the warmest admiration. Lord Polkemet as Ordinary heard the case, but adjourned it for production of evidence of title and other documents. The defendants, while admitting the apparent right of inhabitants and others to play golf, (1) denied plaintiffs' title to pursue, and (2) alleged that no material harm was done to the Links by the existence of a rabbit-warren. With respect to the reservation of the right of golfing, the defendants denied that it was a right acknowledged by law, or that a right so described was capable of being established as a restraint upon the use of property; and again, supposing such a privilege could be effectually reserved, they denied that plaintiffs had any *jus quæsitum* in such privilege, and they denied their title in law to maintain an action upon the reserved privilege, whatever action might be competent to the magistrates or others.

Now follows a lengthy argument on the question of servitudes, fortified by references to Roman law and to decided cases. Of these, the most telling seems to be that of the Town of Dysart *v.* Sinclair, in which the corporation had set up a plea of prescriptive right to bleach linen on land acknowledged to be the property of Colonel Sinclair of

Sinclair. If, then, argue our present plaintiffs, the Court decided in favour of Dysart (who founded upon prescriptive usage alone, there being no express grant, when there is, as now, an express grant), your Lordship's decision *a fortiori* must be in our favour. If there had been a grant in the case of Dysart, it would never have been brought to a question. It comes with a singularly bad grace from the defendants, they continue, to deny effect to the reservation in dispute, made for the comfort of the inhabitants of St Andrews. If there had been no servitude of golfing, the magistrates might have obtained at least three times the consideration or purchase-money for the feu. The Links were let at £42 to James Ritchie, a reasonable rent, on the footing that the privilege of golfing was preserved; yet defendant receives no less than £130 from his tenant, although he professes to allow the Links to be kept for golfing in terms of the reservation. Thus he has acquired the property upon the faith of his allowing full effect to the servitude, for a consideration not the third part of what the magistrates would otherwise have obtained, and in defiance of his own contract he now disputes the reservation.

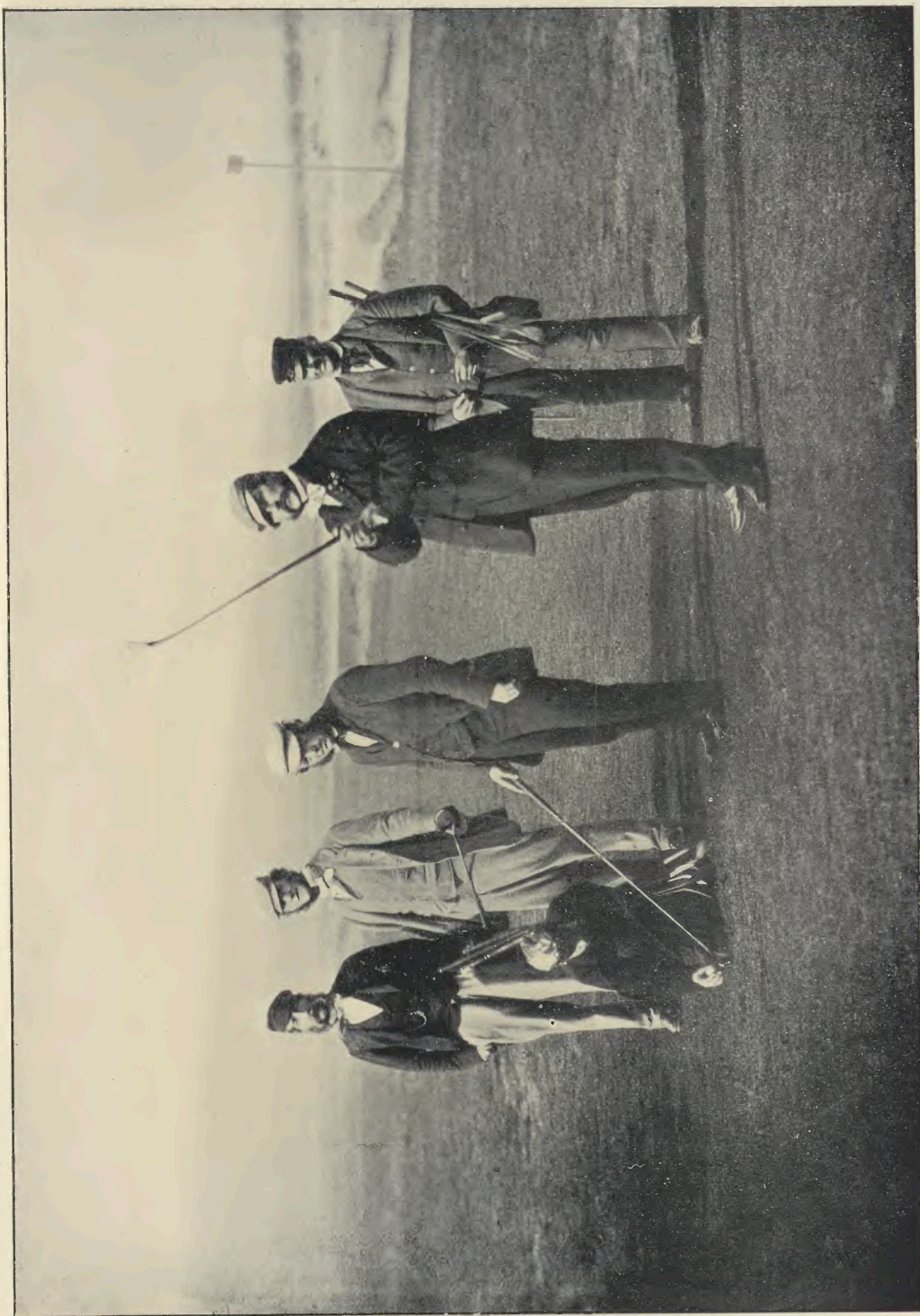
Plaintiffs now anticipate and traverse a possible argument against the legality of the privilege claimed.

The Acts of 1457 and 1491 may be cited, they remark, and quote those clauses crying down football and golf as unprofitable sports. These Acts, however necessary at the time, are now in desuetude, as expressly mentioned by Sir George Mackenzie in his 'Observations'; and if that was so in his time, how much the more now, after the lapse of another century? The mass of the people is not now trained to war, but encouraged to employ themselves in the arts of peace, leaving the defence of the State to the military establishments. Hence golf is not now an unprofitable sport, but an innocent and often necessary exercise to relieve the human frame from the pernicious effects of those sedentary occupations to which a great part of the people is devoted. It need not detract from the force of this argument that a State emergency existed even more pressing than in 1457 and 1491. Invasion had been threatened by "the common enemy of Europe." "As a means of defending our altars and household gods against this adversary, it has been considered as necessary that every man at present should be trained to the use of arms. But even the volunteer, after doing his duty at drill, may be allowed, if he has any further leisure, to amuse himself at golf." No argument, therefore, it was maintained, could be derived from

the Acts of Parliament in desuetude, nor from the then state of public affairs, against the privilege in question.

Now follows a highly technical and rather uninteresting argument traversing the denial of defendants that plaintiffs had any *jus quæsitum* in the privilege reserved. Briefly stated, the points are these: The privilege is reserved for the comfort and amusement of the inhabitants and others. Leaving aside "the others" for the moment, how can it be denied that such of the plaintiffs as *are* inhabitants *have* a *jus quæsitum* in this servitude? It has never been disputed that magistrates of a burgh can purchase a right for the general use of the inhabitants, or that such right, when purchased, could be vindicated by those, or by any of those, in whose favour the right was granted. In this case the right was expressly reserved by the magistrates and council for behoof of the inhabitants. How, then, can it be denied that these have a proper *jus quæsitum*, and are entitled to maintain the privilege in question? As to the title of those who are not inhabitants,—the "others,"—it is submitted that they are in *pari casu* with the inhabitants. When they resort to the golf links they are *pro hac vice* inhabitants of the city, and contribute by paying for their entertainment while there, and

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MR GEORGE WHYTE-MELVILLE. MR GEORGE GLENNIE. COL. FAIRLIE. SANDY PIRIE.
CAPT. MAITLAND DOUGALL.



by dealing with the burgesses in their different callings, to the support of the town.

Plaintiffs now addressed themselves to the task of showing that the establishment of a rabbit-warren on the Links was contrary to the *bonâ-fides* of the feu-contract and destructive of their right. To this end they put in evidence certain tacks or leases. The first was granted in December 1732 to John Kirk for nineteen years at 183 pounds Scots. It clearly showed that sheep only were to be pastured on the Links, though there was no express restriction as to the golfing course. The next was to James Lumsden of Rainniehill for nineteen years from 1751. This tack reserved a right to the inhabitants to cast divots, under the restriction always of not hurting the golf links. If any question of damage should arise, the magistrates were to inquire into and adjudicate: if they found the Links had been damaged, Lumsden was to be liable to a fine of 20 pounds Scots. Further, "the whole inhabitants of the city shall have liberty during this tack to shoot, take, or destroy rabbits in any place of the said Links or commonty, without hurt to the said golf links." Next, the Links were let to David Martin of Denbrae for nineteen years at £33, 6s. 8d., with the usual reservation to the burgesses to cast divots, under the restriction always that no damage be

done thereby to the golf links, under penalty of 20 pounds Scots. In 1775 the Links were let to Robert Nicol, in Seafield of Kincaple, for nineteen years under the same conditions.

In none of these leases was liberty given to the tenants to make a rabbit-warren, and it is clear that they had no powers to convert the grounds to such a purpose; but in the next lease the magistrates put the matter beyond a doubt. Nicol gave up his lease while it had yet eight years to run; whereupon the ground was let to James Ritchie, butcher in St Andrews, for nineteen years, at £42 a-year. His lease, in addition to the usual reservations as to feal and divot and damages, contained the following express clause: "He shall not have it in his power to make use of the Links as a warren, but the magistrates shall have power to give orders at any time for the destruction of the rabbits in said Links in such way and manner as they please, the tacksman being also allowed to destroy them himself." This lease was granted in 1786. In 1797 the magistrates intimated a sale of the Links by public roup, inserting in the conditions of sale the clause upon the terms of which this action was brought. It has to be admitted that the clause in question did not, *totidem verbis*, expressly prohibit the feuar from using the Links

as a warren, nor did it prohibit planting, enclosing, or other uses inconsistent with the privilege of golf. But, on the other hand, it did expressly declare that the ground was to be reserved entirely, as it had been in times past, for the comfort and amusement, &c., of the inhabitants and others. Thus a reference to the conditions imposed in times past clearly showed a prohibition of warrens and other modes of culture inconsistent with the privilege of golfing. Constructively, also, the feuar was to employ the Links exactly as in time past—viz., for pasture of sheep. Had it been otherwise, the magistrates would have pointed out the advantages of the ground as a situation for a warren, and would have indicated the increased amount of rental which would have been derivable from this source. They did not do so, but instead they reserved the rights of golfers.

About this time the Earl of Kellie purchased Ritchie's lease, and without attending to the terms of the disposition from the magistrates or thinking of the consequences, had it in view to make a rabbit-warren on the Links. But when he was informed how prejudicial such a course would be to the interests of golfers, and how subversive of their rights, he immediately abandoned it. After a brief tenure of the property, the Earl of Kellie sold it to the

Messrs Dempster, under the conditions and reservations before mentioned. The new proprietors, in managing the pasture, put upon it sheep of too large a size, requiring a richer pasture, instead of making use of the small sheep fitted for the grass. Having then failed in this method of managing the ground, they determined to take revenge on the plaintiffs by establishing a rabbit-warren; and accordingly they let the Links for this express purpose to the defendant, James Begbie, at a rent of no less than £130 a-year. Colonies of rabbits were introduced, and effectual means taken to protect them; they burrowed all over the Links, which before very long would be utterly ruined for golfing purposes if steps were not taken to remove the evil. Defendants maintained that plaintiffs kept a man to repair damages made by the rabbits, and that it was due to the carelessness of this man that the Links were not in as good condition as ever they were, and that a sum of five shillings judiciously laid out would remove every source of complaint. In reply to this, plaintiffs said they never kept a man for the purpose of repairing holes made by rabbits. They paid a man a guinea a-year to walk round the Links the day before each monthly meeting, to "cut out any of the holes used for the game of golf which might have been filled up or out of order." Besides, it

would be impossible for any man, however careful, to repair the damage done by the rabbits : he could only fill up the holes with sand, which would impede the game almost as effectually as if they were left open.

Defendants also said that rabbits will not break whole ground on a whole surface, but only where the turf has suffered injury from an iron club will they scrape holes. Plaintiffs deny the first of these assertions ; and as to the injuries done by iron clubs, these instruments, they say, are never used on the smooth green. " Its proper office is to dig the ball out of holes, or sands, or other difficulties. But if it is occasionally used by ignorant or bungling players so as to injure the green, then, according to the defenders' own statement, the rabbit follows and makes a hole, instead of allowing the grass or turf to recover itself from the injury done to it by the iron club."

This is the end of the " Information," Golfers of St Andrews against Charles Dempster, &c., 8th Feb. 1805. At the bottom of the page, written in ink, is this note : " 18th February 1806. — The Court with great unanimity gave judgment in favour of the Pursuers, and also found them entitled to the expence of Extract." One is not surprised at this decision : right and justice were conspicuously upon the side of the plaintiffs, while the flimsy nature of

the defence, if defence it can be called, is equalled only by the cynical disregard of their plain obligations evinced by the Dempster party. Their strongest point, such as it was, seems this, that Lord Kellie, who had been Captain of the Club or Golfing Society in 1798, wrote a letter in 1799 to George Forgan offering a lease for nineteen years. In this missive Forgan was authorised to "protect the rabbits or convert the ground into a rabbit-warren." Lord Kellie promised him rabbits from Cambo; the rent was to be £70 the first year, £100 for some years afterwards, and at an after period £110. Forgan in his deposition states that he could have paid the rent in no other way but by using the Links as a warren. Corroborative evidence as to this letter is given by the town clerk, Mr Stuart Grace, who, however, also deposes that in his opinion the transaction would not have been agreed to by the Town Council if any such intention had been expressed. That, as the private man of business of the Earl of Kellie, he knew that the Links had been let as a warren, but, so far as he knew, the Town Council knew nothing of this. He was confident that the Links would have been sold for a greater price by the town if a power had been granted to convert them into a warren.

Upon this evidence the defendants argue that,

looking to Lord Kellie's position as ex-captain of the Club, it was clear to demonstration that the Society knew perfectly well that the Links had been in time past, and were to be in time coming, possessed as a warren. Besides, it was absurd, nay, improper, that defendants should lose the only use that 250 acres of ground can be made of, because there happened to be a servitude of golfing over a twentieth part of it, the more so as all damage could be remedied for a guinea or two a-year. It is only fair to record that Cathcart Dempster, on the 25th January 1803, wrote to Mr Cleghorn, captain of the Club, offering to find a person to keep the Links in as good order as heretofore, and that he himself would pay the difference between such person's wages and the sum then expended by the Club for the repair and upkeep of the course. He was persuaded that all complaints arose from the laziness and incapacity of the person employed by the golfers. No lease to George Forgan was ever drawn up: all he did was to "sow some peas on the grounds," and he resigned his rights to the Dempsters for the price of the bolls of peas he had sown.

The names of the witnesses, no less than their depositions, are interesting: Forgan, Robertsons, Morris, Kirk, Fernie, and others, represented now by another generation.

Charles Robertson, ball-maker and caddy, deposes that he had been employed by the golfers to take charge of the Links for twenty-five years; that his employment consisted in making new holes previous to every monthly meeting of the golfers. That since these operations on the part of the Dempsters, the golfers had found it necessary to make a rule that when a ball gets into a scrape or hole, the party playing it may take it out and throw it over his head without losing a stroke, but must play the next with an iron club, by which the stroke is reduced. That there are scrapes over the whole part of the golfing course, and that scarcely a match is played now in the course of which several strokes are not lost by the balls getting into the holes, and that balls are frequently lost in the holes. That for the first twenty years deponent received twenty shillings a-year to take charge of it, but that after the charge became more troublesome, in consequence of the increase of the rabbits, the gentlemen voluntarily doubled the allowance for the last three years before he gave it up on account of the extra trouble.

George Robertson, junior, ball-maker and caddy, deposes that Charles Robertson told him he would not keep the Links now for three guineas, so troublesome was the task. Deponent one day with John Morris had counted 895 repairs, and on another

occasion 1197. Deponent knew that a party of gentlemen came from Aberdeen and Edinburgh to play on St Andrews Links: that he attended Mr Black every day: that the party played two, two and a half, or three rounds a-day for a week: that he heard them say the course was the best for playing golf they had ever seen, and they meant to return annually; but he heard them complain of the frequency of the rabbit-scrapes: that he had seen Mr Black's ball get two or three times into a scrape in the course of a day's play, and some days not once: and he saw him once break his iron club by a twist with his arm, seemingly in a passion at his ball having been in a scrape. That since Mr Dempster's purchase a round is seldom played without the ball getting at least once into a scrape, which seldom happened before.

William Robertson, ball-maker, aged 60, had been a caddy for fifty years: in the earlier part of his life there was a great deal of play on the Links, in consequence of the College being well attended. There were then a great many whins round the shepherd's house, and the rabbits were "thickest" there.

Most of the witnesses agree in stating that before the Dempsters' purchase there were few rabbits on the Links, and that every one who chose was allowed to kill them.

Donald Fraser, town officer, deposed that he had published an advertisement through the town requiring people to keep their dogs from the Links, because poison had been laid down to kill vermin. He did this at the Dempsters' desire.

David Tod of Balmungo said he had been a member of the Town Council at the date of the sale of the Links to the Earl of Kellie. He considered that the town had no right to sell the Links for a warren, and that they would have been prevented by the golfers had they attempted to do so, and that this was the reason why no express liberty to use it as a warren was inserted in the disposition: that the Links could be most profitably used as a warren, and therefore he would have thought it his duty to have had an express liberty inserted in the advertisement of the sale of the Links, in order to increase the price: he thought they would have given several hundreds more if sold as a warren.

George Law, aged 56, ball-maker and caddy, had known the Links since he was ten years old: there were more rabbits in his earlier days than for some time afterwards, but they had again increased: in those days there were twenty balls played for one now: that this was owing to the College being much better attended then, and the balls being so much cheaper: that tradesmen could afford to buy them, the

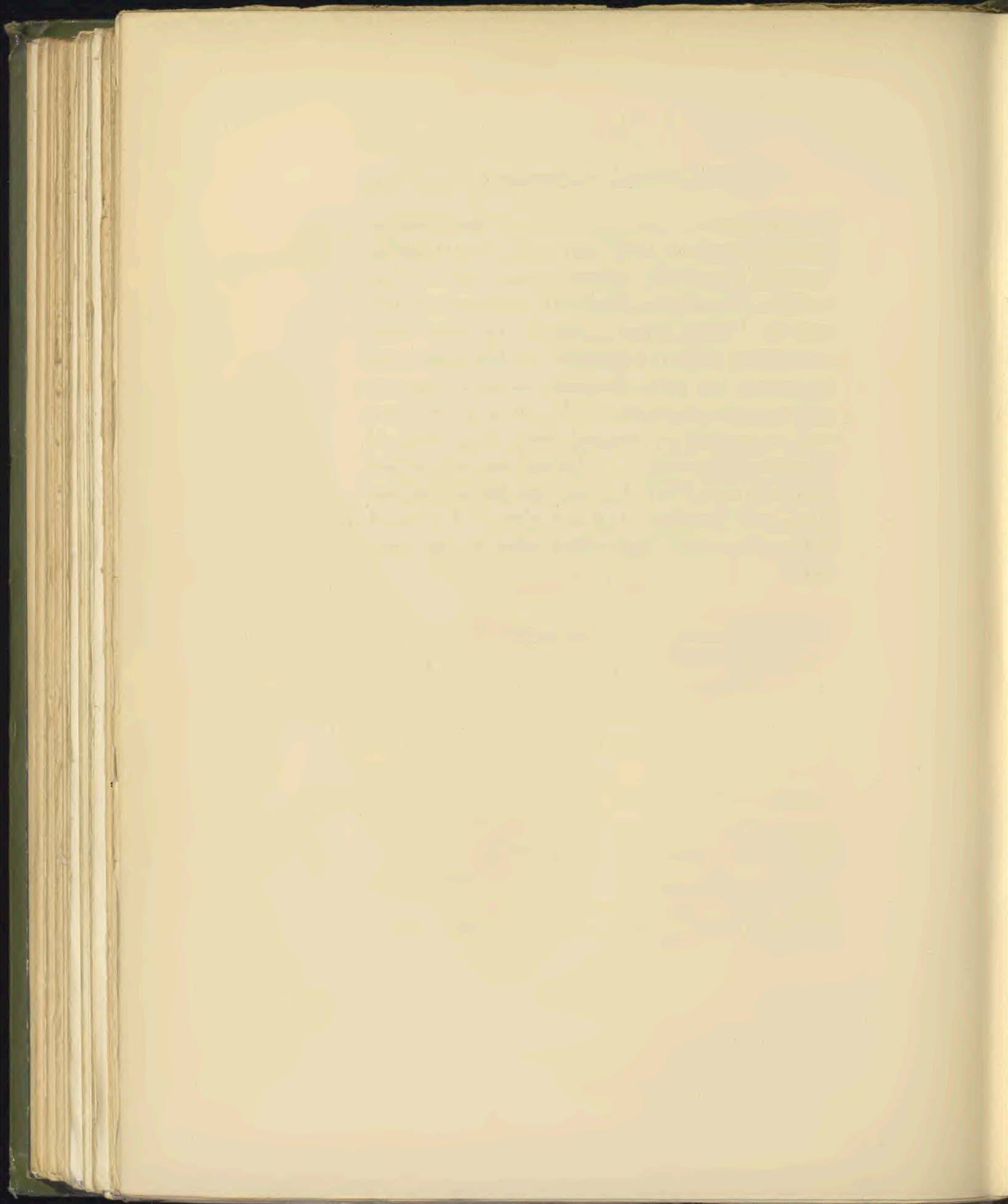
price of a ball being then threepence or fourpence, and now tenpence: a great many balls were then lost between the seventh and eighth holes, the present sixth and seventh Heather and High holes, and there were always rabbit-holes in the hazard there: that he recollected the Links kept by George Mill, Peter Robertson, Charles Robertson, Thomas Robertson, and Robert Morris.

The depositions are dated 5th and 6th September 1805. Judgment, as already mentioned, was given in favour of plaintiffs in 1806. Yet this was by no means the end of the celebrated "Rabbit Case," which dragged its weary length along until it found its way to the House of Lords, its tiresome path being strewn with interlocutors, cross appeals, and hair-splitting arguments of such intricacy and complexity that even Lord Eldon the Chancellor found himself landed in a *cul-de-sac* of the most ample and accommodating proportions. And this was the argument which floored his Lordship,—an argument which he had, and no wonder, "infinite difficulty in understanding." In one of the interlocutors they had found that "defendants had no right to *keep* rabbits, but negatived the alleged obligation on them to *destroy* their own rabbits; and if it had rested there one could have understood what was meant: because if others had a right to *destroy* the rabbits, that might suffi-

ciently prevent their being *kept*. But on reviewing this interlocutor, the Court found they were wrong in declaring the right of the plaintiffs to kill and destroy the rabbits, and recalled this part of the interlocutor. That reduced the finding to this, that defendants were *not* to *keep* rabbits, but were not bound to *destroy* or *remove* them: if, then, they were *not bound to destroy or remove* them, nobody else having a right to do so, and yet were bound *not to keep* them, what was to be done? Since the time of the application to Augustus by the people of the Balears for a military force to suppress the rabbits, he believed that there never had been a contest between men and rabbits carried on with so much spirit."

In 1806 the Town Council joined the plaintiffs in fighting the Dempsters. Interlocutors and appeals followed, but the Golf Club and magistrates, meanwhile relying on the old right to kill rabbits, sent out a whole army of inhabitants to wage a war of extermination against them. The defendants failed to appreciate the simple beauty of this summary expedient, and applied for a bill of suspension and interdict, which was granted. Appeals followed, and interlocutors as usual, until at length the whole case was argued in the House of Lords, who finally remitted back to the Court of Session to review all

the interlocutors complained of, and afterwards to proceed as to them shall seem meet. At this stage, therefore, it seemed to promise material sufficient to provide an interesting parallel to *Jarndyce v. Jarndyce* in 'Bleak House'; but in the end these expectations failed of realisation. But it "only came to an end," as Lord Moncreiff has said, "by the rabbits coming to an end." We bid it a fond farewell in quoting a marginal entry in a copy of Morison's 'Dictionary.' "This case was upon appeal remitted to the Court of Session for further consideration, 3rd December 1813, but since that time no further proceedings have taken place in the case, 1818."



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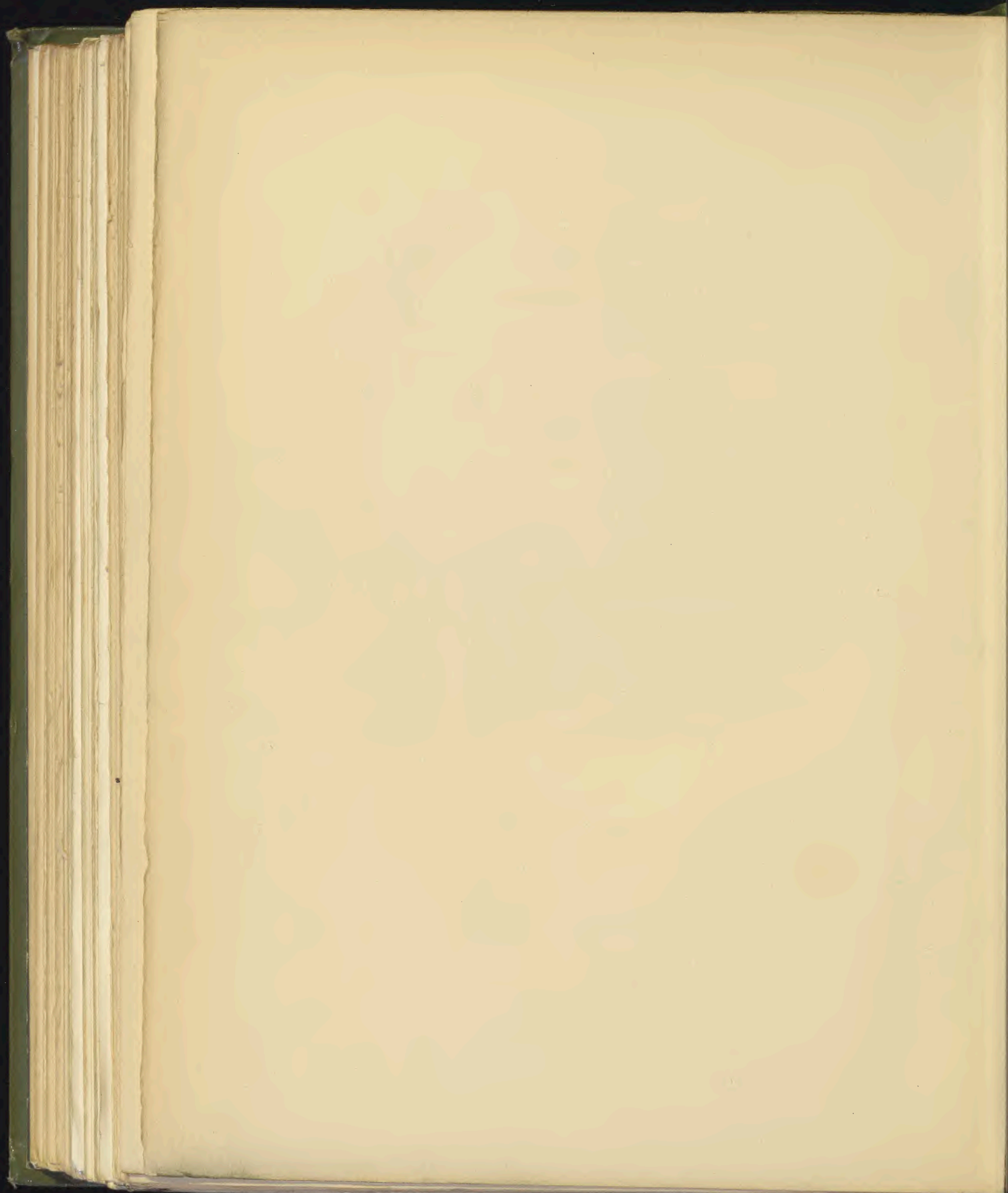
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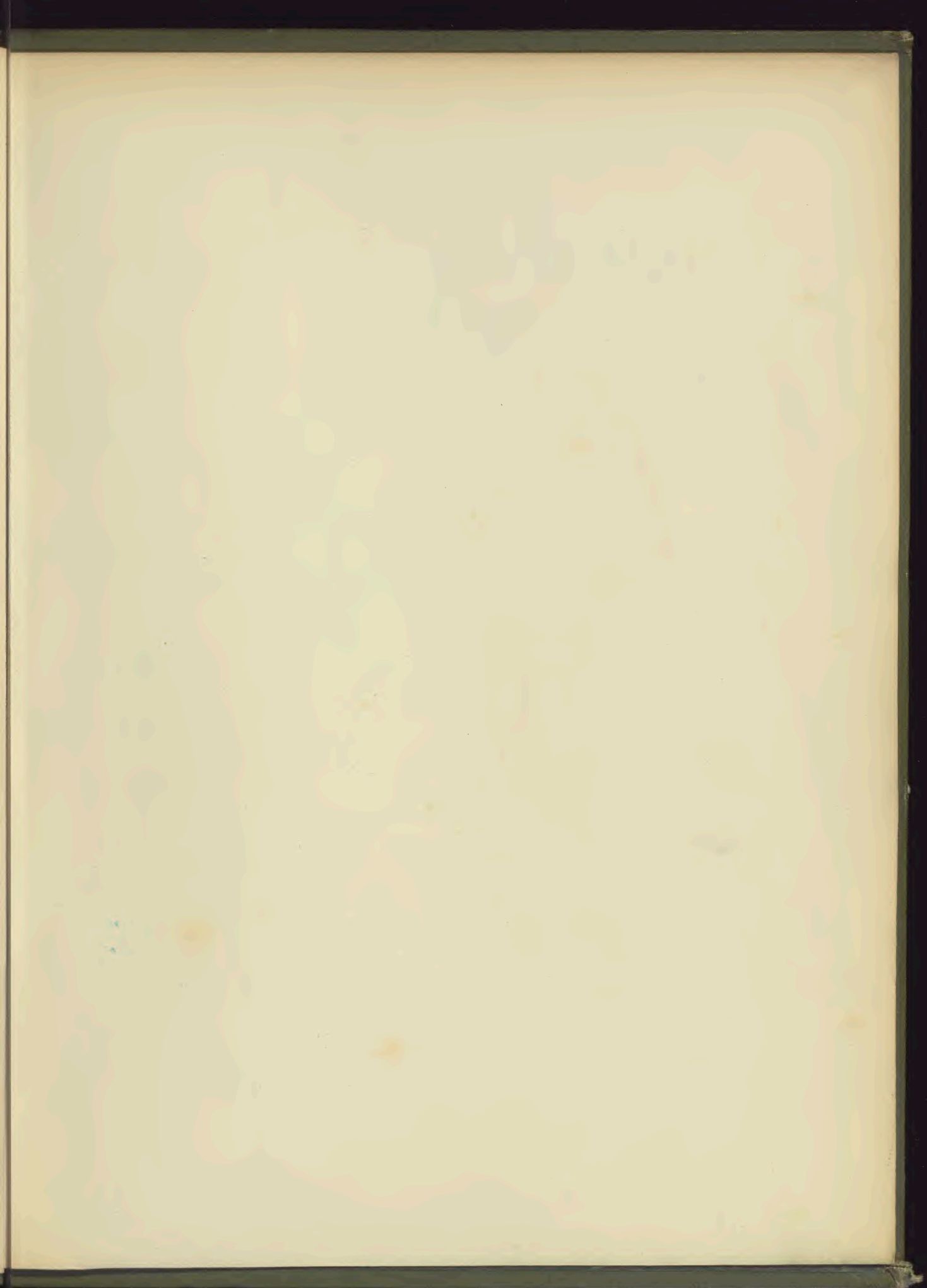
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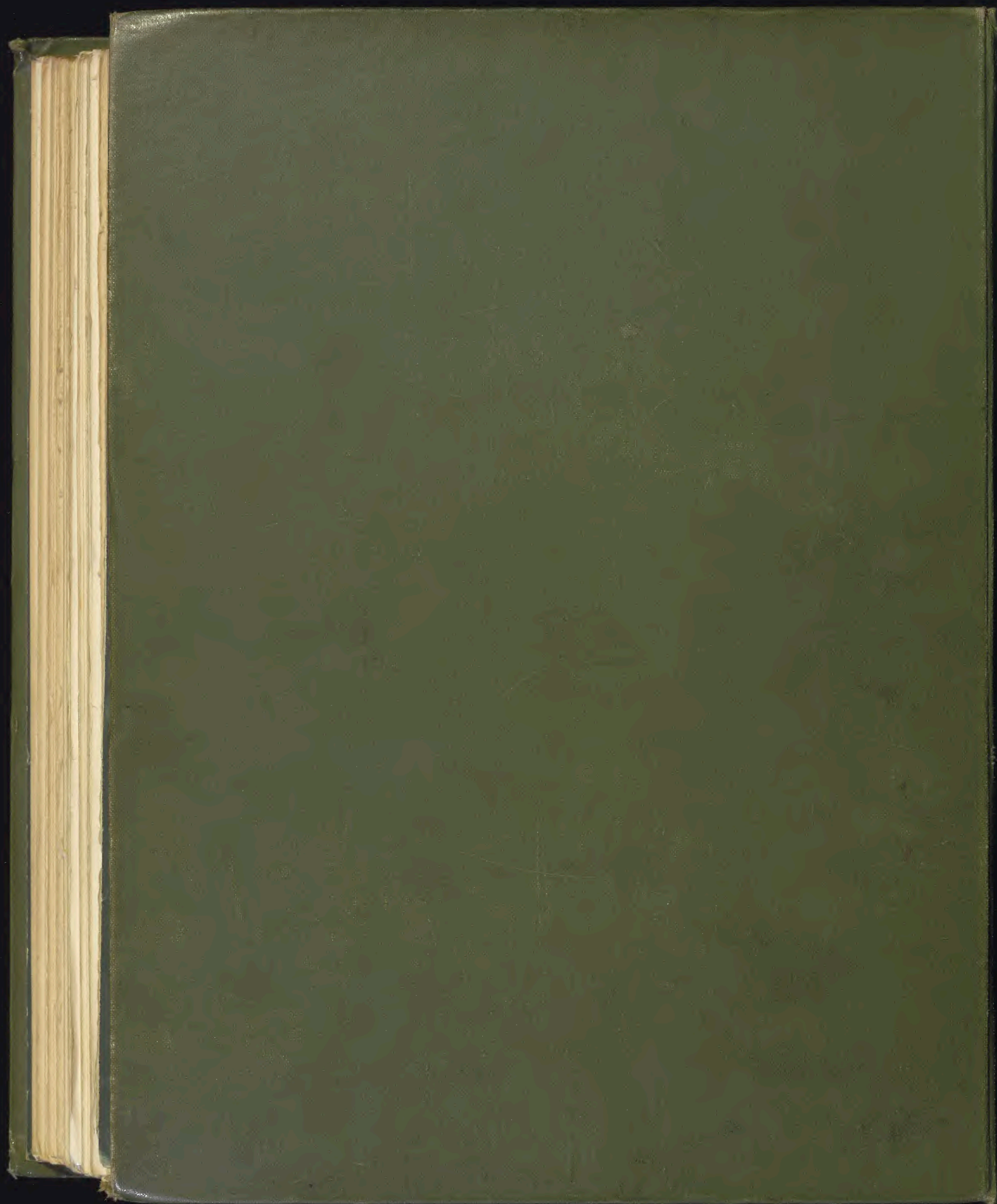




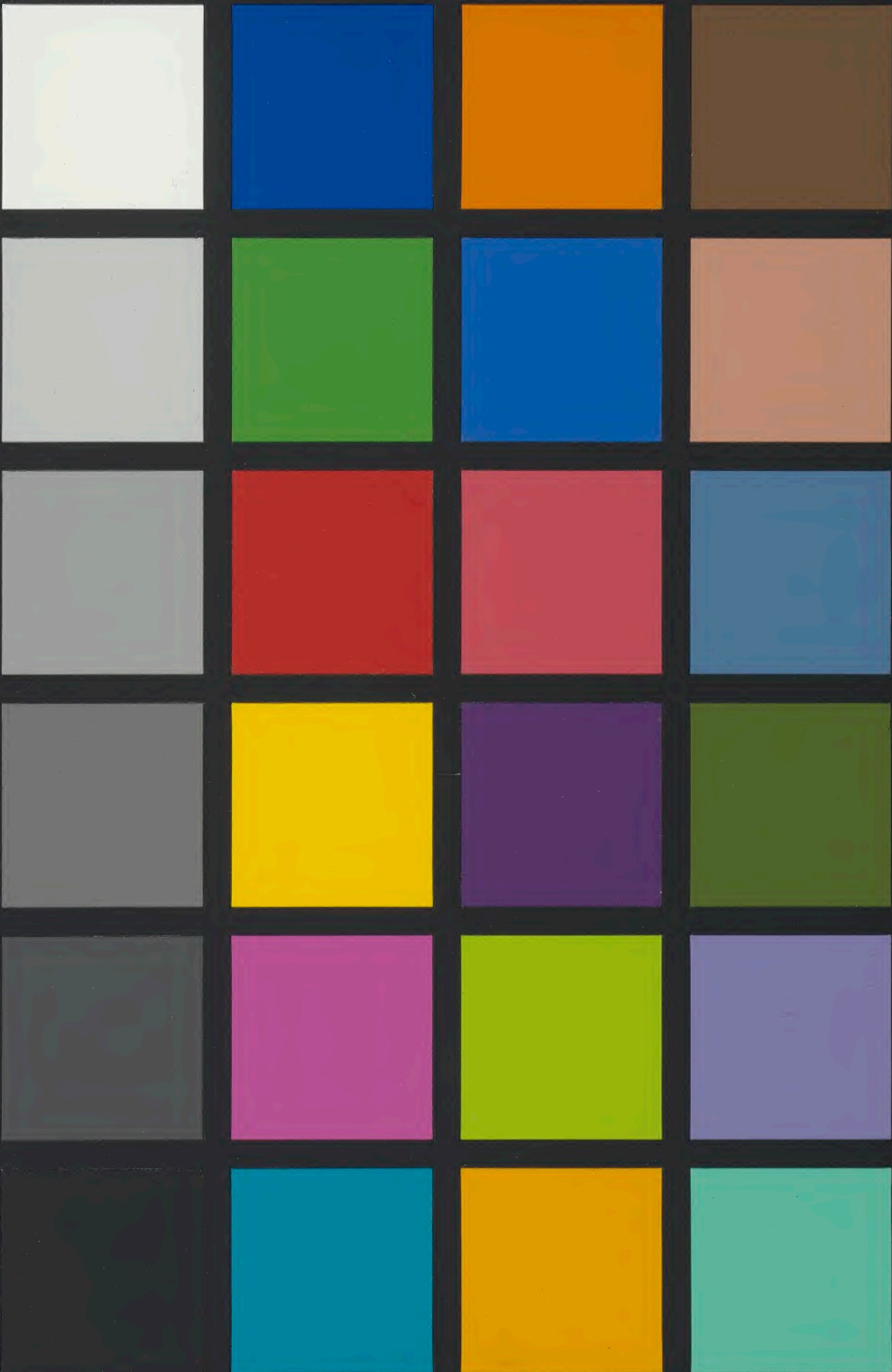








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