

BOSTON SWELLS AT GOLF.

Men of the 400 Play on the Irvington Oval and
at the Country Club Links—Messrs Dexter,
Hunnewell, Gardner, Peabody and Others
Wield Sticks—Fair Women Also Play.



THE SHEEP WHO TRIM THE GRASS ON THE GOLF LINKS.

The royal and ancient game of golf, which has been played for two centuries or more in the old country, has come to Boston, seemingly to stay.

From a few improvised links at Mr James Lawrence's country place at Groton, where the game in this part of the country started some four years ago, the golfing interest in and about Boston has now reached a point where there are three courses or sets of links at the Country club at Clyde park, a professional instructor who teaches would-be golfers the mysteries of the game every fine afternoon, and in the morning has a class of members of the Boston athletic association, who knock the ball about on a few home-made links out in the Berkeley oval just across Huntington av.

This instructor is Willie Cambell, formerly of Musselbury, then of Prestwick, Scot, and a golfer of much note in the old country.

He came into prominence some six years ago, when he was defeated by "Jamie" Morris, with whom he was matched for £25 a side. A few months later Cambell had a return match with Morris and won handsomely. He then beat Willie Park at Musselbury and North Berwick.

He then sent out a standing challenge to play any one for £100 a side. This challenge was taken up by Archie Simpson of Carnoustie. St Andrews, Musselbury and Carnoustie were the four greens selected for play. Cambell won easily.

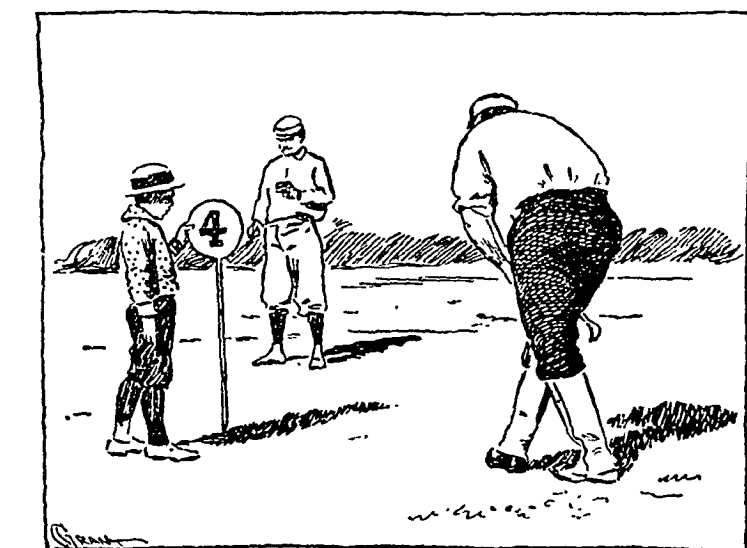
It is said that Cambell's reputation at Prestwick is, to quote the aforesaid authority, "monumental," he having "holed the round" there in the marvelous score of 71, which does not mean a whole lot to the lay mind which does not grasp what holing the round means and does not know where Prestwick is and can't see any reason why rounds should be more difficult to hole at Prestwick than at any other place.

Cambell may be seen any afternoon wandering on the green at the Country club dressed in a loose dirt colored tweed suit with cap to match, and usually with a "brass" or "a niblick" or a "massie" or some other implement of the trade slung over his shoulder. He is a tall, sturly,

thereby beating all previous Country club records.

Unquestionably the most skilful man in handling the clubs at the Country club is Mr Geo. T. Dexter. He is continually sand-papering irons, splicing and mending sticks, not only his own but those of other people.

The pay of the caddies, or rather "caddies" at the Country club is 15 cents a



A CLOSE APPROACH.

round of the links, or 25 cents if said "caddie" "shacks," so to speak, for two.

The golfers at the Country club have had much trouble with them, and it is not an unusual thing to hear the caddy remark just before a man is about to make a stroke, "That's about three worse than your last score," or "Mr so and so did it in two drives," all of which is not likely to steady a man's play.

One of the poles at the Country club behind the club house is near the traps where the members shoot clay pigeons, and

which can be found in a dozen well-known authorities, the most modern and "up to date" of which is "Golf," by Horace S. Hutchison, in the Badminton library, in which are contributions by Lord Wellwood, Sir Walter Simpson, Rt Hon A. J. Balfour, Andrew Lang and others; in fact, by the best authorities on golf in the world. There is a little handbook of the game published in England called "The Golfers' Handbook," by Robert Foran, which is a neat and cheap little compendium.

Very full references are made to golf in the "Sports and Pastimes of the People of England," by Joseph Strutt, and "Blane's Runabouts," not to speak of that most excellent book "Forty-five Years of Sport," by J. H. Corbally, all of which may be found at the public library.

"Scotch croquet," as a sarcastic tennis player in England once called golf, is, to the uninitiated, a simple, not to say innane game. Briefly, it consists of knocking into sticks of different shapes a ball about the size of a very large marble multiplied by three, into a series of holes placed at distances varying from 100 yards to 150 yards apart.

There must be nine holes, there may be 18 holes, and in order to add to the excitement and difficulty of the game obstructions or "bunkers" are placed between. These "bunkers" or "hazards" common are banks or hedges or gravel pits or stone walls or marsh ground, or anything which may bother the players, and for this reason different kinds of clubs are needed, according to the ground which is to be played over.

That golf is a game requiring great skill is proven by the fact that it is at present one of the oldest existing games known to the civilized world. It has a history, traditions and literature distinctly its own, and ranks with polo and handball as one of the oldest games. But neither polo nor handball has anything like the history or the present popularity of golf.

The name of golf is usually thought to be akin to the German kolbe (club), and may be a Celtic form of that word, but this has been disputed at great length and with much display of learning. Whether Scotland borrowed golf from Germany or Germany borrowed golf from Scotland, or whether both countries borrowed the game from Holland is a mooted point as yet undecided.

It is certain that in the reign of James VI that Scotland bought her golf balls from Holland, and this looks as if the game originated in Holland.

Golf in Scotland was a popular game in 1457 at the time it became the subject of an act of the Scottish parliament because it was taking the place of archery. Then the English were the masters of the Scotch at shooting the long bow and as it was extremely important to Scotland that they should not be so, an act of parliament was passed to the end that "the put ball and golf be utterly cryt dune."

John Robertson and Pat Rogie were prosecuted for "playing of the sofff on the links of Leith every Sabbath the time of the sermons," and this happened in 1592. Many notable scenes and figures in the history of Scotland are associated with golf. Mary Queen of Scots, her enemies affirm as showing her indifference to the fate of Darnley, a few days after his murder "was seen playing golf and pall mail in the fields beside Colinton."

It was while Chalmers was playing golf on the links of Leith that he received his first intelligence of the breaking out of the Irish rebellion in 1642. The bad tidings so affected the king that he at once broke up the match and drove to Holyrood.



THE COUNTRY CLUB

square-shouldered man, with a light mustache. Next summer he will be at the Essex County club at Manchester.

In addition to the links at the Country and Essex county clubs there are links at Mr H. H. Hunnewell's place at Wellesley hills, Mr Wickerson's at Dedham, Mr Francis Peabody's place at Danvers and the Hoosierwick club at Milton, and undoubtedly in the near future there will be links at many more country places about Boston. The number of those who play golf (or "golf" in which way the game is called by those who practice it) in these parts may be inferred from some of the entries in the recent tournaments at the Country club: Mr H. C. Leeds, Mr Bavard Thayer, Mr S. B. Bennett, Mr Arthur Hunnewell, Mr Lawrence Curtis, Mr E. B. Haven, Mr Washington Thomas, Mr T. J. Coolidge Jr, Mr George Dexter, Mr F. L. Higginson, Mr George Lee and Dr W. Appleton.

Every pleasant afternoon the golfing enthusiasts, under the fostering eye of Willie Cambell, foregather on the lawn of the Country club, appropriately attired in golf caps and knickerbockers; then "put across the greens," looking for all the world like pictures of Mr Balfour in Punch, and the "caddies" (pronounced "caddies," heaven knows why,) then trail patiently in the rear heavily loaded with a great queer shaped arrangement filled with golf clubs.

Among the most prominent figures seen every afternoon at the Country club in addition to those before mentioned is Mr Richard Sweet Milton, who takes a deep and abiding interest in the game, and divides honor with Willie Cambell in teaching the young idea how to golf.

Mr William Pratt Lyman, Mr Sumner Paine, Mr John L. Gardner, Mr William Edward Silsbee, Mr H. G. Otis, Mr William Paige Lawrence, Mr Jinx Taylor, Mr Henri Sigourney, Dr De Blois and of George M. Barnard daily practice on the Irvington oval.

It may be parenthetically remarked that Mr H. H. Hunnewell Jr has the only real golfing coat in this country, or at all events in these parts. It is a scarlet roundabout with plain brass buttons.

A number of ladies have taken to golf at the Country club, thereby adding much to the picturesque quality of the scene every afternoon. What does it matter if they have knocked the stoepchase course all to pieces and increased the number of water jumps from one to at least 20 by tearing up the green?

The Country club has 160 sheep from Capt Perkins' place in New Hampshire with a shepherd to look after, or rather, tend the flock. The entire duty of these sheep is to keep the grass short on the links. It is said that a committee has been appointed by the Newport golf club to come up and examine the Country club links, as they are supposed to be the best in the country.

Mr Arthur Hunnewell has made far and away the best drive made at the Country club this season. He drove from hole 8 to hole 9, holes being in the race ground, over two holes, the polo course and landing directly in the hole, a distance of nearly 100 yards. Three men were playing. The first man did it in three drives, which was considered very good. The second did it in two and then Mr Hunnewell came along with a single drive

on shooting days playing golf behind the house is not wholly unattended with the exciting element of danger.

The club has planted a number of willow trees along the road and by the gates, said trees, according to rumor, having been planted for the purpose of protecting passersby and citizens of Brookline from the wild drives of the golf enthusiasts.

Furthermore, although the polo players at the Country club are, as a rule, a fearless

The great Montrose was "hard" at golf on the links of St Andrew's in May, 1628, and in the following year he had a match with "Sweet Mistress Magdalene Carnegie" and so "having taken a drink at John Gorn's" he takes horse for Kinnaird to meet the young lady who is the next day to be his wife; but scarcely have the marriage bells ceased ringing than Montrose is at his clubs again.

The Duke of York, afterward James II, was also an enthusiastic golfer.

The most celebrated links "across the pond" are the links of St Andrews, the links of Musselbury and East Fife, the links of Montrose, the links of Aberdeen and the King James VI golf club, which plays upon the North Inch of Perth. St Andrews, Musselbury and Prestwick are the most notable links in the world. All of the above links are in Scotland.

In England the best known links are those of the Royal North Devon golf club, at Westward Ho. The Blackheath club is the oldest club in England, but it is to Westward Ho that golf owes its chief start in England.

The London Scottish volunteers and the London Scottish golf club have rival clubs on Wimbledon common with a mutual struggle for existence.

Then there is the Royal Isle of Wight golf club at Bembridge, and the newest golf club in England, the links of Sandwich, within eight miles of Ramsgate. There are also good links at Felixstowe and Great Yarmouth, and as a matter of fact, Scotland, England, and even Ireland, where golf is comparatively a recent institution, are so scattered over with links that there is here no space to enumerate them.

Hence all the technical terms and their meanings, as "baff," "baffy," "black spoon," "bunkers," "cleeks," "driving," "dress," "foyle," "topping," "wiblicks," "brassy," and the like are not explained herein, and the reader is respectfully referred to the before mentioned authorities.

In the book on golf in the Badminton library, on page 7 is an extract from the "Pictorial History of 1890," covering two pages and a half. The extract is an alleged humorous description of golf, but it is quoted in full and in all seriousness by our friend, the editor of "Golf," to show what a heathenish people we Americans are, and he dismisses it with the remark that "this astonishing nonsense about a familiar game may perhaps suggest distrust of the



STROKE FROM THE TEE

set, it is rumored that during the coming season they will wear baseball masks to protect them from the golfers.

Laughing at the Country club while golf is in progress is full of pleasing uncertainties, much such uncertainty as sitting in the window of a military prison when the guard has order to "hit a head when they see it." A member of the club, not long ago, while peacefully eating his chops and green peas, was missed by about two inches by a golf ball, which came merrily clashing through the window at his back.

How about iron shutters with lipholes until the players learn how to play? Incidentally, and merely as a suggestion, why couldn't golf be played on horseback, or, rather, ponyback?

With larger balls and larger holes it could be done perfectly.

This is not the place for the rules of golf.

accounts which travelers give of savage religions."

Petal Cloths and China Sets.

The tea cloths oftenest seen now are what are called petal cloths. A loose bunch of roses or nasturtiums or carnations or any flower with a large petal is embroidered in one corner as if carelessly thrown down, and from it scattered all over the cloth, the loosened petals have carelessly blown.

On the tea table, too, now more than formerly, is seen the little china tete-a-tete sets, usually on a matching china tray. The little hot water kettle, the tea caddy and spoon and the tiny egg glass give enough variety to the materials to keep the china of one kind.—New York Times.