

**REMINISCENCES OF
GOLF ON
ST.ANDREWS LINKS**

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Reminiscences of Golf on St.Andrews Links by James Balfour

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JAMES BALFOUR

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BY
JAMES BALFOUR

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CHAPTER I.

LINKS.

HAVING played golf on these Links for somewhere about forty-five years, it has occurred to me to note for my own amusement some of the changes that have taken place during that time in this, one of the most fascinating of all athletic games.

The changes naturally resolve themselves into those on the Links—the Balls—the Clubs.

Before speaking of these, however, it may be well to mark the change of habits in the players during this generation. When I first visited St. Andrews there were only a few resident gentlemen who played, and some occasional strangers from a distance, from Musselburgh, Leith, and Perth. The custom then was to meet in the small Union Parlour in Golf Place about twelve o'clock, and arrange the matches. Parties at once proceeded to play, and if the match was finished two or three holes from home they immediately turned and played their second round, taking a glass of ginger beer at the fourth or "Ginger-beer" Hole. If, however, they