



1895

*The Country Club of Rochester*

# Articles

# 1895

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## A New Country Club.

A county club, similar in organization and purposes to the Tuxedo Club, is to be formed by a number of gentlemen connected with the Genesee Valley Club. A committee composed of William S. Kimball, Hiram W. Sibley, Josiah Anstice, James A. Watson and A. Erickson Perkins has been appointed to perfect an organization and select a site for a club house and grounds. The lease of a large tract of land in the vicinity of the city is contemplated. The committee will meet in a few days to select a site. The buildings will be erected at once.

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## THE NEW COUNTRY CLUB.

### Probability That the Membership Limit Will be Extended to 150.

The future of the Country Club, which was informally organized at the Genesee Valley Club New Year's day, is assured as far as membership is concerned. It was decided to limit the original membership to one hundred, and this list is now filled. It is made up of the most "clubable men" in the city, to quote the phrase made by Sidney Smith, men who are closely associated in the business and social life of the city, and are certain to be most congenial members of such an organization.

One of the leading gentlemen interested in the movement said to the Democrat and Chronicle reporter yesterday: "We have not only filled the complement of our membership, but we have a number of applications on our list, from persons in every way equally desirable. It is not unlikely that we shall decide to increase the membership of the club to one hundred and fifty and there will be no difficulty in filling the list with gentlemen who will be in all ways acceptable. The idea has met with the most enthusiastic reception and the success of the club is assured in advance."

"Has any decision been made in the matter of a site?"

"No, we are not yet incorporated and there is no one who has authority to make a decision, nor could we close a contract, if we felt so inclined. The prospective members meet almost every day, and the subject is talked over. We have plenty of desirable sites offered. They are on the lake side, in Brighton, north, east and south of the city, in fact, in every direction except out West avenue. They are all being carefully considered and the site that is selected will be one that will assure the club the most suitable of homes."

Another prospective member of the club also declined to be definite as to the location of any of the pieces of property under consideration. "There is no use in beginning to specify," said he, "for, to name and describe all the sites we have in view, would fill a page of your paper, and, as there is no prospect that a speedy selection will be made, that would be a sad waste of space. We have at least fifty pieces of property offered to us, and it is impossible to forecast the result. Some of the members are anxious to be by the lake side, and a few of the parcels of land are so situated; others prefer the upper river region, while still others are more inclined to consider the roads and the intrinsic beauty of the spot than to advocate any special locality. Wherever we go, it will be far enough to make a nice drive and not far enough to be inconvenient, and the equipment will be of the best. The club is certain to be a success."

## County Club Decides on a Site.

The gentlemen interested in the success of the recently organized Country Club met Saturday evening at the Genesee Valley Club. The committee appointed some time ago on organization presented its report and after discussion the members decided to lease as a temporary home for the club the Parson's farm on East avenue. The farm will be secured for one year with a privilege of removing the lease for two additional years.



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## Country Club of Rochester.

Albany, Feb. 21.—The Country Club, of Rochester, was incorporated with the secretary of state to-day to provide means for the recreation and entertainment of its members. The managers are William S. Kimball, Hiram W. Sibley, James S. Watson, Josiah Anstice, J. Warren Cutler, Frederic P. Allen, Erickson Perkins, Warham Whitney, George Wüder, George H. Ellwanger, Thomas J. Devine, Eugene T. Curtis, George Moss, Gilman N. Perkins and Edward S. Martin.

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## PREPARING FOR SUMMER

The Country Club Has Little to Do  
to Possess Its New Home.

## TEMPORARY EXPEDIENT

The Fixed Home of the Club Will be  
on the Water and Probably on the  
Upper River—The Plans for  
Its Conduct.

The Country Club will find its house ready for it by the time the roads are settled and the driving season begins. The property is held under lease and the improvements will be only such as will make it a pleasant and convenient resort for the time, as it is not likely that it will be the permanent home of the club.

The farm and house are the property of E. Bloss Parsons, formerly of this city, but now of New York, who was and is one of the most notable lovers and owners of horses in the state. As a consequence, the place is equipped with ample stables, giving stall room for some twenty horses, and this is one of the first requisites of the club. A little painting and papering will be done, and the needed facilities for the comfort of the members and for the cooking and serving of meals will be added. A veranda will also be built across the front and side of the house.

With these changes the building will be a comfortable and acceptable home for the club during its experimental stage. In speaking of the matter yesterday, one of the members said:

"We shall not spend much money upon the leased house, for it is not needed. The building is a fine, old fashioned country residence, quite suited to our needs, except in certain matters of equipment. These are trifling. The house will need to be freshened up a bit, with paint and paper and the kitchen, serving rooms and dining room fitted with the needed facilities, but beyond this, and the building of the piazza of which you speak, there is really nothing that requires to be done, this year except the furnishing. As to this, it should be of the simplest order. A country club does not call for the elaborate fittings that are found in one's own house or in city clubs. The finish of the rooms should be such as one would expect to find in the country and the floor coverings are in better taste if they are in Japanese matting warmed and colored by a few rugs, than if they were of any more costly material.

"The present arrangement," said the gentleman, "is experimental. We are convinced that there is in this city a field for a country club, and we have taken the lease of the property on the extension of East avenue for two years, to test the matter. We have no doubt that our own judgment will be sustained by that of the club men of the city, and that the country club will be a permanent success. Granting this, however, we have no idea that the present site will be that chosen for the home of the club, when a home is built. We shall, I take it, be near the water, for that opens ways for certain forms of sport to which many of the members are devoted. To so place the club house, we must go to the river, the lake or to Irondequoit bay. The lake is the ideal place, but it is too far away. A country club, to be successful, *must* be within easy reach of the city, either by driving or by cars. It should be so situated that when a man leaves his business at 3 o'clock in the afternoon it will be possible for him to go to the club, have his game of tennis, golf or his bit of a row, and be back to the city in time for a 7 o'clock dinner. The lake is too far away for this, and the only desirable point on the bay, the Sea Breeze, which would be an ideal location, is open to the same objection, and is also too public, unless the club owned the whole property, which would involve too great an investment. When the club adopts a fixed location and builds its house there will be every comfort and convenience, with no display. The endeavor will be made to adapt the house to the idea which lies back of the club, and to make it what one would endeavor to make his own country house, simple, comfortable and suited to the modes of country living."

The impression conveyed is that the club members are apt to find a home upon the upper river, as both the lake and the bay are considered too remote, and it is desired to be upon the water.

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## The Country Club Meets.

A meeting of the managers of the Country Club was held yesterday afternoon, and a committee was appointed to draw up a constitution and by-laws. When the committee reports and the constitution is adopted the permanent officers of the club will be chosen. The managers chose Gilman N. Perkins as temporary chairman, and J. Harry Stedman as manager, to fill the vacancy caused by the death of William S. Kimball.

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## Country Club to Meet.

The members of the Rochester Country Club will meet in the Genesee Valley Club house at 9 o'clock to-night, to elect officers and to adopt a constitution and by-laws.

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## Country Club Election.

The Country Club met at the Genesee Valley Club last evening and completed its organization by the adoption of a constitution and by-laws and the election of officers. The board of managers is the same as the incorporators of the club, with the exception of J. Harry Stedman, who was chosen to fill the place vacated by the death of William S. Kimball. The officers chosen are as follows: President, Hiram W. Sibley; vice-presidents, A. Erickson Perkins, James S. Watson; secretary, George Wolfer; treasurer, Gilman N. Perkins; committee on grounds and sports, J. H. Stedman, James S. Watson, George H. Ellwanger; house committee, J. Warren Cutler, Josiah Anstice, Wareham Whitney.

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## Visited the Country Club Grounds.

A coachload of the members of the newly organized Country Club visited the club reserves yesterday afternoon just to see how things were progressing, and incidentally to indulge in a chase over the fields in pursuit of the golf balls. Golf promises to become quite popular as a summer game in Rochester, and provides exercise equal to that derived from lawn tennis. It is especially enjoyable on a chilly day, as those who participated in yesterday's game found after their ride.

## COUNTRY CLUB OPENING.

**It Will be Informal But the Social Attraction of the Day.**

The formal opening and housewarming of the old Bloss Parsons residence, the newly-acquired quarters of the Country Club, will take place to-day. While this is the first general visit to the place by the members of the club and their friends, no definite programme of entertainment has been prepared. The house committee has secured an orchestra, which will render an entertaining musical programme, and the committee on sports and grounds have made ample preparations for those so inclined to enjoy such popular sports as golf, lawn tennis, etc.

Grounds containing the necessary number of links and extending over two miles have been laid out for the golfers, of whom there is a goodly number in the membership of the club.

Lunch will be served from 1 o'clock throughout the afternoon. A large flag staff has been erected in front of the house and a handsome flag, the gift of Mrs. Hiram W. Sibley, will be unfurled. For the convenience of visitors not wishing to drive, suitable conveyances will connect at Brighton with Park avenue cars, leaving the Four Corners at noon hour and 12:36, 1:12, 1:48, 2:24, 3:18, 4:12, 5:08 and 6.



## COUNTRY CLUB AT HOME

Its Members Enjoyed the Day at  
the New Quarters.

## ARE FOND OF GOLFING

The Bloss Parsons Residence Near  
Brighton Transformed Into a  
Model Rural Club  
House.

An interesting event to many Rochester people was the opening yesterday of the new quarters of the Country Club at the old E. Bloss Parsons homestead near Brighton. The club numbers exactly 100, which is the limit of membership. Only members of the Genesee Valley Club are eligible to membership. Nearly all of the members took occasion to visit the new quarters yesterday and although no definite programme had been arranged the afternoon was a most enjoyable one for all present.

An orchestra furnished music from under the shade of a spreading maple in front of the house and everything possible had been arranged for the comfort and enjoyment of all. Luncheon was served from 1 o'clock during the afternoon, about 125 of the club members and their wives and friends partaking. Many of the equipages which tooted out to the club were very handsome. Among the most noticeable were the four-in-hands of Hiram W. Sibley, James S. Watson and Warham Whitney.



The fact that the club members will be frequent visitors to their new quarters will add much of life to the village of Brighton and, in more ways than one, will benefit the town, as they propose many improvements. Although the road from Brighton to the club property has been somewhat improved this season, it is not yet what it should be, in the minds of the club members, and they express the opinion that the authorities of the town of Brighton owe it to themselves to put a little more time and money onto this, the principal one of their highways.

Many of the members who enjoyed the day at the club house yesterday had not been on the grounds before, since the improvements were made, but without an exception they expressed themselves as greatly pleased with the property as it is at present, and all are anticipating many a pleasant hour at the country club during the coming four months. Four-in-hands will leave the Genesee Valley Club house at frequent intervals during the summer, and members desiring to reach the farm by the cars will find conveyances awaiting them at Brighton. A telephone in the house makes it possible to make any arrangements which may be necessary.

Golf will be the principal out of door sport at present, as tennis will not be taken up for a time. The golfing grounds are spacious and well laid out, the grass being cropped short for the convenience of the player. The members are agitating the subject of laying a cinder path from Brighton to the club house, a distance of about a mile and three-quarters. A subscription list has already been started and the co-operation of outside wheelmen is invited, as, if the path is laid, it will furnish a fine spin for all wheelmen who may choose to make use of it for a short country ride. The expense of such a path is estimated at about \$300.

The country club, in connection with some city clubs, has become quite popular in many places, and members of the Rochester Genesee Valley Club organized the present club last January, under the direction of a committee, of which the late William S. Kimball was chairman, composed of Hiram W. Sibley, Josiah Anstice, James S. Watson and A. Erickson Perkins. The officers of the club are: President, Hiram W. Sibley; vice-presidents, James S. Watson and A. Erickson Perkins; secretary, George Wilder; treasurer, Gilman N. Perkins. The house committee consists of Josiah Anstice, J. Warren Cutler, Warham Whitney and Treasurer Gilman N. Perkins, ex-officio. The following is the committee on grounds and sports: James S. Watson, George H. Ellwanger, J. Harry Stedman and President Hiram W. Sibley, ex-officio.

Grounds have been prepared for golfing, and those who chose indulged in this game, while others more quietly inclined occupied chairs on the broad piazzas or under the shade of the handsome trees in the yard about the house, or strolled down the shady lane with its primitive stone walls leading to the back end of the farm from the club buildings. A large flagstaff in the front yard displayed a handsome new flag, the gift of Mrs. Hiram W. Sibley. For the convenience of those not wishing to drive, conveyances met the electric cars during the afternoon at Brighton and carried the guests direct to the club house. This is to be a permanent arrangement for the convenience of the club members.

The farm which is at the disposal of the club, includes about 100 acres, very favorably situated and well kept up, and is in charge of a superintendent. A force of twelve servants will be kept at the house during the summer months and until October. The broad piazzas add materially to the attractiveness of the house and the interior has been repapered and made as convenient and bright as possible. The cafe is a model of neatness, the lunch room and the rooms set apart for the use of ladies are roomy and convenient. The stables furnish space for twenty-five horses. A plentiful supply of pure cold water is furnished from a well back of the house, being pumped by a windmill. In fact the only thing that could be suggested as being lacking is a body of water for rowing, to make the place a model one, for just such an end as it is intended to meet.

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**W**ANTED--A competent woman cook for the Country Club; best of references absolutely necessary. Apply Wednesday morning between 10 and 12, room 30 Reynolds arcade. 26

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## THE EVER GLORIOUS DAY

Although There Will be No Public  
Celebration, it Will be Observed.

## ATTRACTIONS ALL ABOUT

The Lake and Bay Resorts, the Parks  
and Near-by Pleasure Grounds Else-  
where Will All Cater to the  
Pleasure-Seeking Crowds.

Rochester has no old-fashioned celebra-  
tion of Independence Day this year, and  
so far as such things go will have to fall  
back on the memories of 1894, but the day  
will not be allowed to go by without due  
observance, for all that. The small boy  
will be much in evidence, and the firecrack-  
er will make its usual amount of noise,  
and get in its customary number of slight  
casualties. The brilliant sky rocket will  
also soar aloft, to drop an occasional spark  
on some building, or send its smoking  
stick earthward to hit some hapless wight  
on the head.



The observance of the Fourth will not be confined to the small boy, however, nor will he monopolize the sport incident to the day. While there will not be a general celebration of the Fourth, there will be many celebrations on a smaller scale, and he is an unfortunate individual indeed who will not have some place to go and some company of friends to help him honor the anniversary of the nation's birth. The Country Club will keep open house for their friends at their country seat on the Brighton road, and the usual mild sports of these gentlemen, and a private display of fireworks will round out a pleasant day.

On the river at Clarissa street there will be aquatic sports, which lovers of the water will flock to see, while at Genesee Valley park there will be displays of fireworks both afternoon and evening. The day display is something of a novelty, but the programme promises to be a very enjoyable one, and doubtless thousands who do not feel disposed to go farther in search of pleasure will find all they want in Rochester's favorite breathing place. One of the most attractive as well as unique observances of the day will be the picnic of Clan McNaughton at Mumford. The programme embraces all of the known Scotch games and contests, and the brawny Scotchmen will be there in all the glory of kilt and bare legs, dancing to the music of the bagpipes.

the bagpipes.

At Ontario Beach, the bay, Manitou Beach, Summerville and Windsor Beach there will be more than the usual attractions and crowds, and excursions will run to Niagara Falls, Conesus lake and other favorite resorts. Altogether there is a likelihood that several thousand people will say that the Fourth comes but once a year, and make this an excuse for getting all the enjoyment out of the day possible. There seems to be no reason why every one who so desires should not succeed admirably in this endeavor.

The new auditorium at Ontario Beach has been advanced far enough to permit of its being used this afternoon for an orchestral concert, which will commence about 2 o'clock and continue until evening. No admission fee will be charged. T. R. Levis of the Ontario Beach Improvement Company, said, last night, that every effort is being made to have the building ready by the first of next week for the inauguration of the season of comic opera. Much of the scenery has been finished and the drop curtain by John Z. Wood was completed yesterday. It is one of Mr. Wood's best efforts and is beautiful in color and design. The curtain is a duplicate in length of the new curtain at the Lyceum theater, which is also the work of Mr. Wood.

The principals and chorus of the new Empire Opera company are still in active rehearsal for the opening and the comedians, Chapman and Tre Denick, are making things merry generally for their friends and the guests of the Hotel Ontario.

The Country Club house committee has arranged for a quiet but pleasant afternoon, in celebration of the Fourth, with refreshments, music and outdoor games at its new house in Brighton. Luncheon will be served at 1 o'clock and a base ball game between two teams composed of members of the club will be played at 3:30. The makeup of the clubs cannot be definitely determined until the game is called, as it is expected that some will back out when the hour arrives, although it is rumored that two very large and prominent clergymen will captain the teams. Especial accommodations have been arranged for ladies and children and the cars will leave the four corners at 12:36, 1:12 and 2:24 o'clock and will be met by a coach and the club conveyances at Brighton, which will return to meet cars as late in the afternoon as desired.

The Rochester Cricket Club will play the locals at Auburn to-day. The Rochester boys have been practicing continually for the past month, and are prepared to give the men of the prison city a short and decided defeat. The number of enthusiasts in this city are small in number, but they are strong and enthusiastic players. They will play Buffalo and Syracuse at an early date.

The Thirteenth Ward Athletic Club will hold its annual aquatic sports on the river at Clarissa street this morning, commencing at 10 o'clock. The programme will consist of boat and tub races, for which a number of entries have been scheduled. Prizes are offered for the winners of the events and considerable amusement is promised in seeing the tub races.

The newsboys of the city will be given a picnic at Windsor Beach to-morrow, free of charge. The special train for the conveyance of the boys will leave the Rome, Watertown & Ogdensburg station at 8 o'clock, and upon the arrival at the beach the following programme of sports will be engaged in: Base ball game, 100 yard dash for boys under 13 years of age, 220 yard dash open to all, standing broad jump, running broad jump, standing high jump, running high jump, three legged race, sack race, swimming race. Good prizes will be given for the winners in all of these events, and a hearty good time is looked forward to. Dinner will be had at the hotel at 11:30.

A very attractive celebration will take place at Kelly's beautiful grove to-day. The Scottsville Methodist Church will have charge of the arrangements. Rev. Dr. P. S. Merrill, formerly of this city, and now of Buffalo, will be the orator of the day. The Scottsville ladies will furnish dinner at the grove. Music will be furnished by the Scottsville band. Excursion train will leave the B., R. & P. depot at 9 o'clock A. M.

The members of the C. M. B. A. will hold their annual picnic at Congress Springs, Avon, to-day. A large number of the members are planning to go, and a royal time is expected. The programme for the day will be after the fashion of the picnics now-a-days and consist of a series of athletic games and a base ball game, with a little football sandwiched in on the side.

Great preparations have been made for the observance of the Fourth at Manitou Beach, as well as at the other lake resorts, and the managers of the Charlotte



## A COUNTRY CLUB OUTING

The New Organization Entertains  
Its Friends.

### LITTLE ONES INCLUDED

The Children had a Day of Romp and  
Pleasure—For the Elders There  
Were Golf and a Game of  
Base Ball.

The house committee of the Country Club is to be complimented on its forethought in arranging for the entertainment of its members and friends at the club-house grounds yesterday afternoon, and is also to be congratulated on the manner of the entertainment. The first judicious feature in connection with the arrangements was in allowing the visitors, who were accompanied by little folks, the entire forenoon in which to make all necessary preparations for the journey, and the same measure kept the youngsters in partial control and prevented them from exhausting themselves and the guardians in an entire day of excitement.

Everything for the comfort of the expected guests was arranged by the committee during the morning, and when the carriages began to arrive, shortly after noon, all was in readiness for both old and young to enjoy themselves at once. And they did that very thing; at least the youngsters had their fill of unadulterated enjoyment, as their noise and laughter, which could be heard from a distance, indicated, and if there was a single grown person who did not have a pleasant half dozen or more of hours, his countenance belied his feelings. Those who did not make the trip in their own conveyances, started shortly after 12 o'clock, as the large conveyances furnished for them at Brighton were necessarily slow, while the others who drove over, came somewhat later, and there was an almost unbroken procession at the club-house driveway from 12 until 2 o'clock. Bicycles were also brought into requisition by many, and the front lawns resembled a wheelmen's club quarters, with the scores of machines standing about.



At 1:30 o'clock luncheon was served to all in an informal manner upon the verandas, and not until this necessary function had been completed were the children enabled to shake off every tinge of restraint and go in for the fun which they had anticipated. They were by a unanimous acknowledgment the most happy element of the day and made a pretty sight in their bright summer clothing among the old trees and in the adjoining fields, where they fired off explosives and "whooped it up" in true American style. As soon as they became in the least wearied with one amusement there were plenty of other means provided, and the knowledge that they could romp at will was the crowning feature of it.

There were fully fifty of them there and, while there was no real danger for their being injured, yet each one of the 150 adults present considered it his or her particular duty to look after their safety.

While the juveniles considered it valuable time lost to remain quiet for an instant, their elders were content and perhaps compelled by reason of their hearty luncheon, to spend a couple of passive hours in chatting, watching the children and listening to the music by the Genesee Falls band, which rendered some unusually fine music throughout the afternoon. This company of musicians has been recently re-organized with new instruments and their selections were universally complimented.

A few of the more active men amused themselves during the intervals previous to the base-ball game in playing golf, on the club links, which are marked out in a large field across from the club house, but that sport was a little too vigorous for the heat of the day, although the effort was enjoyed by the others from the lawns, which command an excellent perspective of the golf links. Nine links have been marked averaging 350 yards each, making a total distance of something less than two miles. Six links were played yesterday with a score of 47 points to a link, which is considered good playing.

At 3:30 o'clock the base ball game was called. This was anticipated as the great event of the afternoon and such it proved. As nearly all of the players were college boys, the sons of club members, or men who have not yet become too stiff for athletic exercise, the game was played with a snap that made it both interesting and exciting beyond the expectations of everyone.

The clubs were seemingly unknowns, as neither were designated by a name; being captained by Messrs. Lee and Mumford, respectively. Following are the names and positions in which they played: Lee's team, Macomber, pitcher; Harlan, first base; B. Whitbeck, catcher; L. Allen, second base; Lee, short stop; C. Whitbeck, third base; Averill, left field; Powers, center field; Martin, right field.

Mumford's team: Adams, pitcher; Curtis, second base; Mumford, catcher; L. Ward, first base; Norton, short stop; C. Whitbeck, third base; Bowman, left field; Wilmerding, right field, Eastwood, center field. H. P. Brewster officiated as umpire, and a very stern and determined autocrat he proved to be. Although on several occasions a desire was born in the breasts of the players of both teams to annihilate him, they were not bold enough to criticize, after a number had been fined for "back talk." Eugene T. Curtis was the official scorer, regardless of the fact that he did not know a base hit after he had had several introductions, and he was also somewhat inconvenienced, and the players as well, in losing track of who should face the plate at the opening of each inning. But both officials did their best and the game was not very materially affected by them. During the second inning Harlan, the first baseman on Captain Lee's team, was unfortunate in having his finger ripped open by a ground ball and retired to be succeeded by Lockwood. Both pitchers played ball during the entire game and errors, hits and runs were evenly distributed in small lots between the two teams throughout. In the seventh inning Gurney Curtis, of Captain Mumford's team, was injured in running. He was making a swift dash for second base and slipped on the uneven ground in such a manner as to strain his ankle. His hurt, like the one gotten by the reverend baseman, was not serious but prevented further play. The score resulted in a victory for Captain Lee's stars by a score of 6 to 5, and after the release and suspension of the umpire the crowd adjourned to the club house and were soon riding homeward, the little people tired but happy and their elders pleased with the afternoon's outing.

## GOOD ROADS MEN HERE

The Assembly Committee Entertained at the Country Club.

### A TOUR OF INSPECTION

The Committee Has Visited Four Other States, and Has Learned Much on the Subject Before It—Messrs. Higbie and Overton Talk.

The assembly committee on good roads arrived in this city yesterday morning, on its trip through the state. The committee consists of Richard Higbie, of Suffolk county; C. J. Smith, of Monroe; H. J. Staley, of Schoharie; Henry Krenrick, of Sullivan; J. E. Overton, secretary, of Long Island (Kings), and F. W. Johnson, sergeant-at-arms, of Erie. The party was driven to the Country Club, where it was entertained by John A. C. Wright. Others present were: George Moss, Park Commissioner Henry Huntington, Supervisor E. F. Ellsworth, Supervisor A. E. Babcock, of Brighton, and Ernest R. Willard. Luncheon was served at the club house, and the party remained there until nearly 5 o'clock in the afternoon, when they started for Charlotte. They were driven about the village and along the lake shore, and expressed themselves as greatly pleased with the place. It was nearly 8 o'clock before the committee reached the Powers. Later in the evening, M. F. Tobin, assemblyman from New York city, arrived. He had been detained by business from coming with the rest of the party.



To-day the committee will meet the board of supervisors and will consult with them regarding plans for the improvement and care of the roads of the county.

The committee has already made trips into Massachusetts, Connecticut, New Jersey and Pennsylvania, in all of which states much has been done for good roads of late, and the assemblymen have received many valuable suggestions from what they were told and shown by the authorities on the subject there. They have also journeyed through a large part of New York state, and have consulted with the supervisors of many of the counties.

"One of the most important questions before us," said Mr. Higbie, to a Democrat and Chronicle reporter last night, "is whether the money tax system or the old day's work system shall be used for the improvement of the roads. Strange to say, we have found the old system, which seems to have survived even to these days of improvement, in operation in every place in the state except one, Onondaga, and only one town elsewhere has decided to change to the new system. The general opinion of the committee seems to be in favor of the new system. Under the old plan, where a man is supposed to contribute a day's labor to represent so much of his property for the work on the roads, we have found that things have been running along in a very slipshod manner. The path masters are supposed to see that the labor is contributed by each man whose property is assessed. If the man doesn't want to do the work himself, he pays money enough to hire somebody else. But the trouble is the path masters have not been attending to their duties in many places. They are usually neighbors or friends of the people assessed, and the latter are allowed to do about as they please. In consequence, the amount of work done is really very little. If the money tax system were substituted, and money for the work paid into one fund, things would run much more smoothly, and the necessary work mapped out would be done.



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unanimously that the worst stretch of road  
they encountered was that between Schen-  
ectady and Albany.

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"There is also the question as to whether convict labor should be employed on the roads. Convicts have done a great deal of work on roads near the state prisons. There are many other questions before us, too many to explain.

"We have already consulted with many of the counties' boards of supervisors, although there are still some we have missed. We have not been to all the counties these supervisors represented, but, frequently, we would have two or three boards meet together in some town that we might consult with them jointly.

"What do I think about the roads in this locality? Well, I haven't had time yet to see many of them. Neither has the rest of the committee. In fact, we have not seen enough to form an opinion, for so far we have only been to the Country Club and the lake. We expect to make a tour of inspection through the county later."

Mr. Overton, of Suffolk county, said last night: "There has been considerable agitation of the subject of good roads since the appointment of this committee. In the other states we have visited we have found that much has been done in this direction. After these visits we started to go through this state. We have notified the boards of supervisors to send representatives to inspect the roads, and by the time we get back to Albany we expect to have a pretty thorough knowledge of what condition the roads of the state are in, and what are the best remedies, for we take it for granted many of them are in a very bad condition. In fact, we have already found that the condition of very many of the country roads is deplorable. We are trying to do away with the old day's work system, which has had its day. There is a law which allows towns to have money expended on roads and to abolish the "working out" system, but, as only two towns have taken advantage of this, it has accomplished little good. The supervisors seem to be chary of doing anything toward improvement.

Improvements

"In Massachusetts they have adopted what is called a 'state aid law.' They appropriate a sum which is expended under a state commission. Last year this sum was \$300,000 and this year \$400,000. They are building what they call state roads or thoroughfares, between the leading markets. Of course there is not enough money to finish all of these, and when the state has been able to build only a part of a road the county has completed the work. In some instances the state has built a stretch of road between two points, and has left a long space between this and the two points to be connected. Then the county has seen the good effects of a nice stretch of road, and has completed the work.

"New Jersey has appropriated \$300,000 this year, and there is one state commissioner who has control of this money and a consulting state engineer. The roads are located by petition from property owners the consent of the owners of three-fourths of the abutting owners being necessary. The property owners pay one-tenth of the cost, the county one-third, and the state the balance. In Connecticut the town pays one-third, the county one-third and the state one-third. The New Jersey plan seems to be the favorite, and three-fourths of all the people we have met seem to be in favor of some sort of state aid. There seems also to be a general tendency in favor of a wide tire law for heavy wagons."

The committee admits that the roads of this state are about the worst in the Union and they point to the fact that the relay bicycle riders who have been traveling from Chicago to New York have state

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## First Separate Company Outing.

The members of the First Separate Company, N. G., S. N. Y., were the guests of the Country Club, at Brighton, yesterday afternoon. The guardsmen took chartered electric cars at the Arsenal and were met at the Brighton end of the line by the Genesee Falls band and escorted to the club house. The company gave a drill in extended order in the afternoon and a parade in the evening. Luncheon was served to the guests on the lawn in front of the Country Club house.

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## THE GOLF TOURNAMENT.

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It Will be Held on the Links of the  
Country Club To-Morrow.

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To-morrow afternoon there will be a golf tournament on the links of the Country Club in the town of Brighton. It is not to be a handicapped event as was the one on Tuesday last, but there are fourteen members who will take part in the game.

There are to be eighteen holes on the course and some interesting work is promised. The game will start directly after luncheon, which will be served at the Country Club about 1 o'clock. It is expected that this meet will surpass the tournament held early in the week, as it is to be an open event.

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## THE "TEES AND CADDIES"

Golf Fever Becoming an Epidemic  
Among Rochesterians.

### THISTLE CLUB LINKS

The Mecca of Society Pilgrims—The  
Tournaments—Mr. Gourly, the  
Professional Greenskeeper,  
Talks About the Game.

Golf has stepped with remarkably rapid strides into the favor of Rochesterians this fall. A year ago the game was almost unknown here and even in the spring the enthusiasts could be counted on the fingers of one hand. "Caddies," "links," "bunkers," "puts" and "drives" were terms known only to the favored few who observe closely the doings of English and metropolitan society or are devoted followers of Andrew Lang. To-day these are the spices with which society people are seasoning conversation. If they are used with a delightful inconsequence and sangfroid what matters it whether word and meaning pull together? The vocabulary of good form includes them. The handicap tournament held a few weeks ago for the country Club cup presented by Erickson Perkins and the open tourney now under way in which the prize is a handsome cup, presented by Thomas J. Devine, Erickson Perkins, Josiah Anstice and J. H. Stedman, are the absorbing topics of conversation among club men this week and the issue of the match between Frederick P. Allen and W. B. Lee in the final round is awaited with no little interest.

Golf was first brought directly to the notice of Rochester people a year ago by the late William S. Kimball, who took several local men down to his links at Nantucket. The autumn months of last year saw the South park links laid out and called into use by Mr. Kimball, Frederick P. Allen, J. H. Stedman, W. W. Webb, Josiah Anstice and a few others. These links proving unsatisfactory, when the Country Club took possession of the Bloss-Parsons property on East avenue, an effort was made to have one laid out on the club grounds. The result is that links with nine holes, covering some thirty acres, occupies the property on both sides of East avenue in front and rear of the club house. The course doubles upon itself, but this is not felt to be a serious defect. Mr. Gourly, the "greens keeper," said yesterday to a Democrat and Chronicle representative:

"Rochester golfers have what may be made one of the best links that I have ever driven a ball over. As it is, few equal it, but the judicious expenditure of a little money in constructing more bunkers and thereby increasing the difficulties of play would be a great advantage. Especially is a bunker needed to guard the home hole."

The golf interests were centered and brought under a permanent organization on the 28th of last September, when the Thistle Golf Club was formed with these men upon the roster: President, J. H. Stedman; vice-president, Charles H. Anget; treasurer, Frederick P. Allen; secretary, J. Warren Cutler, and captain, Josiah Anstice. From eight the number of members has increased to thirty, but many others not upon the roll, especially women, are by invitation being initiated into the mysteries of "tee" and "caddie," and may be seen any pleasant afternoon moving with more or less professional drives from teeing ground to hole.

The golf fever had been steadily spreading during the late summer months, but not till after the international tournament at Niagara-on-the-Lake, held September 11-14, did it become epidemic. The provoking cause was the enthusiastic report brought back by Mr. and Mrs. Gurney Curtis, Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Stedman and Frederick P. Allen.

Mr. Gourly, whose professional services have been secured to coach the inexperienced and superintend improvements to the grounds now being made has been kept continually on the go by the eager aspirants to golfic fame. He found time yesterday, however, to accompany the reporter over the links and give a few points on the game. He said: "Golf is played by two or more sides each using its own ball. Two is the usual number of sides and as many players as wish may participate. The game consists in playing the ball from 'tee' into 'hole' by successive strokes over the links. The score is kept by 'holes' in the amateur game, a 'hole' being counted for the side that puts the ball into a hole in the least number of strokes after leaving the teeing ground, and in the professional game by strokes taken in covering the whole course. The distance from tee to hole is, as you see, considerable and the skill consists in accurately placing your ball. Long drives are not always the winning strokes. The game commences by each side playing a ball from the first teeing ground. The side winning the first hole makes the first drive from the second teeing ground. One round of the links—on these grounds, nine holes, is a match.

"After the balls are struck from the tee the ball furthest from the hole to which the parties are playing should be played first. Should the wrong side make the first stroke, the opponent may recall it before his side has played. In playing through green all loose and impediments within a club's length of a ball not lying or touching a hazard may be removed, but loose impediments which are not within this distance must not be disturbed under penalty of one stroke. The term 'hazard,' which I used a minute ago, applies to any obstruction in the course, such as the embankments and ditches which have been constructed in different parts of the field, fences, ditches, trees or the East avenue roadbed. Bunker is a synonymous term. These bunkers serve to increase the difficulties of making a round and thus call a player's skill into use.



“Here are a few rules that you should also notice: If a player's ball strike or be accidentally moved by an opponent or an opponent's caddie or clubs, the opponent loses one hole.

“If a player's ball strike or be stopped by himself or his partner, or either of their caddies or clubs, or if, while in the act of playing, the player strike the ball twice, his side loses the hole.

“If a player when not making a stroke or his partner, or either of their caddies touch their side's ball, except at the tee, so as to move it, or by touching anything else cause it to move, the penalty is one stroke. A ball must be played wherever it lies or may, under penalty of two strokes, be lifted out of any difficulty and lead behind it.”

Among the devotees of the game here are the following: Josiah Austice, Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Stedman, Hiram Sibley, Mr. and Mrs. James Watson, Mr. and Mrs. Richard Harlan, Miss Harlan, Mr. and Mrs. Gurney Curtis, Mr. and Mrs. A. B. Eastwood, W. B. Gee, Edward G. Miner, Jr., Frederick P. Allen, W. W. Webb, Erickson Perkins, Edward S. Martin, Charles H. Angel, J. Warren Cutler, J. Craig Powers, John Oothout, L. L. Allen, S. Edward and S. Clarke.