

GOLF AT PINEHURST.

Our Village Has the Finest 18-Hole Links in the South.

The popularity of golf still continues in the ascendent, rolling over the country like a great tidal wave and gaining power as it advances, and high water mark seems farther away than ever. The royal and ancient game furnishes ideal recreation for old and young of both sexes, and it has evidently come to stay.

Each year the question of the facilities afforded for golf becomes a more potent factor with many Northern people in making their choice of a winter home in the South. Indeed, large numbers of golfers make an annual pilgrimage to the Southern States for the sole purpose of enjoying their favorite game, and the proprietors of many resorts have thus been led to provide for this class of people. But at no place in the South can the enthusiastic golfer find such excellent facilities for gratifying his love of this healthful sport as in Pinehurst, where the large, conveniently arranged and well-kept links, combined with the mild climate and invigorating air, afford ideal conditions for indulging in this fascinating game.

The Pinehurst Links was constructed during the season of 1897-98, when a field comprising sixty acres of cleared ground, located about three minutes' walk from the centre of the village, was taken for this purpose, and two courses, of six and nine holes respectively, were laid out under the direction of an expert. During the following summer the grounds were thoroughly overhauled, a handsome and conveniently arranged club house was erected, and improvements were made in various directions until it would seem that nothing more could be desired.

Throughout the winter the climate of Pinehurst is especially favorable for the enjoyment of golf, the clear blue sky and bright warm sunshine tempting old and young, and weak and strong to indulge in this healthful game. Golf was undoubtedly the most popular pastime in the village last winter, and every pleasant day found the grounds thronged with enthusiastic players, many of whom were attracted to Pinehurst by the fame of the excellent links. Many tournaments were held, and interest in the game increased as the season wore on. Two beautiful cups of Mexican Pedrera onyx, with base, top and handles of burnished gold plate, were offered by Mr. Tufts for the players making the two best 18-hole records during the season. The first was won by Dr. E. R. Pfarre of Brooklyn, N. Y., who made the 18 holes in 89. The second was a tie between Rev. P. M. Prescott of Washington, D. C., and Mr. George C. Dutton of Boston, who each had a record of 93.

The great interest which our villagers manifested in the game last winter made

it evident that larger grounds were needed, and at the close of the season preparations were made to enlarge the links to 18 holes, and more than double its original size. The fair green was also widened, the putting greens were enlarged, and such other improvements as the experience of last season suggested were made.

The Golf Links now covers one hundred and fifty acres and is surrounded by a woven wire fence. There are three courses, of six, nine and eighteen holes, respectively. The links is laid out on rolling ground, from which all bushes have been removed, and no two holes are alike. The new addition provides a great natural variety of hill and dale, and of level and gully, thus affording a most interesting course for experts. The fair green is fifty yards wide and receives the best attention. It is frequently rolled and the grass is kept closely cropped. The putting greens are made of clay, and are sixty feet square. They are rolled every morning, and are sprinkled with sand so that they shall not be too fast. All moisture quickly disappears in the sandy soil and the grounds are in condition for play at any time when rain is not falling.

In making the additions and improvements this season neither time nor money

attractive design, conveniently arranged, and is fitted with everything necessary for the comfort and pleasure of the players.

On entering the building the visitor finds himself in a well furnished reception room which extends across the whole front of the structure and occupies nearly one-half of this floor. Large windows on three sides admit an abundance of light, and an open fire-place is pro-

used as a workshop by the professional golfer who has charge of the links.

The ladies' dressing room opens off the reception room, to the left. This is also supplied with lockers which are rented at the same rate as those for the gentlemen. Back of this apartment is the ladies' toilet room. The ladies' and gentlemen's dressing rooms both contain mirrors, and the lockers are fitted with Yale locks.

A wide piazza runs around three sides of the building and is supplied with seats for spectators. On the south a stairway leads from the piazza to the second floor. This story is open on all sides and commands a fine view of the field. It is provided with seats and those who do not care to play can sit here and watch the game.

The building seems well adapted to serve the purpose for which it was intended and little conveniences are constantly being added as their need appears.

John Dunn Tucker, the well-known professional player who made an enviable reputation as a teacher here last season, remains in charge of the links. He will be assisted by his brother, who is also a noted professional player and teacher, and their services will be available as instructors.

A bicycle track is laid out around the links, and is very popular with lovers of the wheel, many of whom enjoy a daily ride along this well kept path. Wheels are rented at the Bowling Alley, so that all may enjoy this exhilarating exercise.

This season a number of beautiful cups will be offered for tournaments for both ladies and gentlemen. Tournaments will probably be held four times a month during the season, two for ladies and two for gentlemen, with an occasional mixed foursome. Some of the tournaments will be handicap and others not. There will also be cups for the best season's scores—one for ladies and one for gentlemen.

Everything has been put in first class order ready for the opening of the season, and the Pinehurst Links will undoubtedly prove one of the star attractions of the village during the coming winter.

Followed the Doctor's Advice.

Justice—What have you to say in answer to the charge of stealing this man's plank walk?

The Accused—I took it by advice of my physician, yer honor. He told me to take a long walk every day. This was the first long walk I saw today, and of course I took it.—*Boston Transcript.*



Section of Pinehurst Golf Links



GOLF CLUB-HOUSE.

has been spared. Everything that wise forethought and expert knowledge could suggest has been done, and undoubtedly Pinehurst now has the finest 18-hole golf links in the South.

Located on high ground near the beginning of the course is the handsome new clubhouse. This building is of very

provided for heating on cool days, when the blazing logs of pitch-pine diffuse a cheery warmth and light and add to the comfort and pleasure of the occupants. Here the golfers can find shelter in case of a sudden shower, or when tired can gather and discuss the merits of the fascinating sport and recount the interesting games they have played or witnessed.

Leading off this room to the right is the gentlemen's dressing room. This contains lockers of good size which are rented to the players for \$1.00 for the season, or 50 cents per month. Back of this room a door to the left opens into the gentlemen's toilet room, and on the right is a small room

