

## THE BRITISH OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP

HARRY VARDON'S FIFTH SUCCESS.

BY OUR BRITISH CORRESPONDENT.

The Open Championship of Great Britain, which took place from Monday to Friday, June 26th to 30th, on the course of the Royal St. George's Club at Sandwich, where Mr. Travis gained his victory in the amateur championship in 1904, resulted in a most popular victory for Harry Vardon, after a tie with Arnaud Massy, the French player, and ex-open cham-

described the various alterations that have taken place on the Sandwich course in recent times, and it has only to be said here that, while some people praised them, the general body of players, especially the professionals, criticised them severely, especially the new arrangement of the tenth hole where the green is now on the edge of a precipice, making the approach a



British Open Championship.  
Watching Harry Vardon at the seventeenth green in the fourth round.

pion. It was in some respects an exciting tournament, but the first three days, which were devoted to working off the first two rounds which were in the nature of a qualifying competition, the top sixty and all who tied for the sixtieth place going forward for the remaining two rounds on Thursday, were rather wearisome in consequence of the record number of entries, 226, and the necessity that there was for dividing the field into three sections.

The weather on the whole was fine; but there was some rain at nights and there was for the most part a fairly strong wind blowing. I have in the Foreign Notes on previous occasions

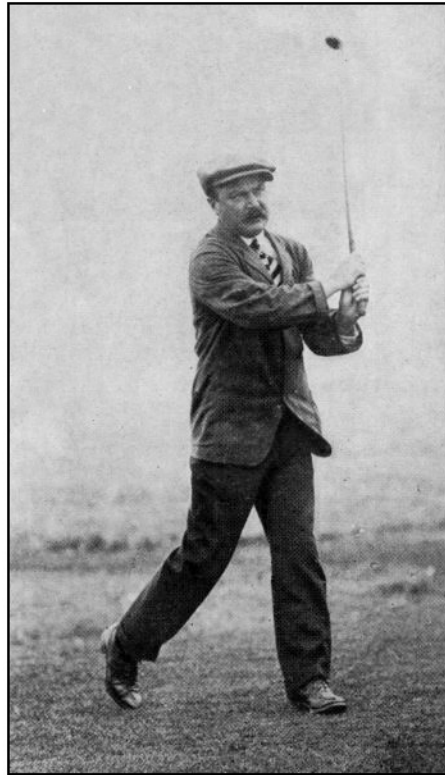
most dangerous one. The entry included all the leading British amateurs and professionals except Mr. Robert Maxwell, and a good sprinkling of foreign and colonial representatives, the latter including Mr. Charles Evans, Jr., of Edgewater, Chicago, and Mr. J. G. Anderson, of the Brae-Burn Country Club, Mass. The championship took place in the week following the Coronation festivities in London when everybody was glad to escape from the metropolis; but, though there was such a large attendance of players and officials, there were not more than a thousand spectators on the course on any day, Sandwich not being a very accessible place.



Harry Vardon,  
Winner of the British Open Championship, after  
a tie with Arnaud Massy.

Mr. Evans was drawn to play in the first section, and he made a splendid start, going to the turn in 35 strokes, despite the fact that on his way there he missed his tee shots at both the fifth and seventh holes. On the return journey, which is the more difficult of the two, he was not putting well, and took 43 strokes to get in, his total for the round being 78, the leading score in that section being done by an amateur in Mr. H. W. Beveridge, 75. The chief professional in the section was Edward Ray, who went round in 76, so that Mr. Evans's score comparatively was quite good. It should be mentioned that the St. George's Vase competition, an amateur two-round stroke affair had been played only a week or two previously

on this course when an amateur in Mr. E. Martin Smith did a record score of 68. Nobody came near touching this in the championship, the best that was done being 71. Mr. Anderson, who was in Mr. Evans's section, took 86, and was thus early in difficulties. In his second round Mr. Evans put on another 78. He played good golf in this round, but was again in trouble at the fifth hole, while at the last one he lost his ball, and a hole which ought to be got with an easy 5 cost him 7. At the end of the play in his section he tied for ninth place, Edward Ray being at the top with 148. Mr. Anderson did another round of 86, and with an aggregate of 172 failed to qualify for the succeeding

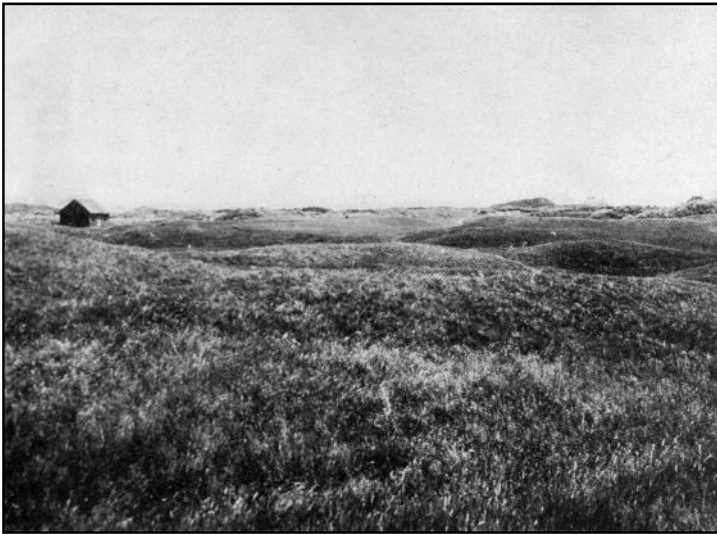


Arnaud Massy.  
The French professional who tied with Harry  
Vardon for first place in the British Open  
Championship, but lost on playing off.

stages. All the scores in the three sections were lumped together for the qualifying business, and the highest that qualified was 162, Mr. Evans being in the twenty-sixth place, while at the top was George Duncan with 144, Edward Ray, Harry Vardon and J. H. Taylor being next to him with 148.

A large number of the professionals signed a protest on the second day about the position of the holes being changed while the competition was in progress; but the committee dismissed it. There was probably a technical

has a very difficult approach, he holed his mashie shot for a 2. He was out in 35, and this was promising. However, he got into trouble at the tenth hole, to which I referred at the opening. With two good shots he reached the green, but his ball trickled over the precipice and into the bunker. With his next he was in the rough, and after that he made another visit to the original bunker, the hole altogether costing him 8. To dispose of him finally, I may say that in the afternoon, knowing, of course, that he had no



British Open Championship.  
The approach to the second hole (325 yards) which Mr. Chas. Evans, Jr., did in 2.

infringement of the rules; but it seemed to be necessary in the peculiar circumstances of the qualifying competition. Of course, all the scores made in these two rounds were carried forward to the fourth day when the remaining two rounds were played.

Mr. Evans had a bad time on that Thursday. He did well enough in a way in the morning round with another 78, having one good piece of luck and one very bad piece. At the second hole which is 325 yards and

chance of getting among the top lot, he let his game down and played a very indifferent round of 89, which gave him an aggregate of 323, or twenty strokes more than what proved to be the winning score.

The finish of the championship was the most exciting we have had for a long time. George Duncan broke down, chiefly as the result of trying to do too much. He told me that he thought it would be necessary to do an aggregate of 290 to

win, and could not understand the scores being so high as they were. That also is more than many other people could understand; but there can be no doubt that most of the players were rather afraid of the approaches. Harry Vardon was one of the first of the leading players to finish his four rounds. He had played very steadily in three of them and was putting well, but in his fourth he did a rather poor 80, and his aggregate was 303, which at that time did not appear likely to win or

the back of the hole, but just came out again. Arnaud Massy, however, who had been putting brilliantly all along, really did tie, and as his last long putt all but went down he came very near to winning the championship. The final scores and placings were as follows:

Name.	Club.	1st Rnd.	2nd Rnd.	3rd Rnd.	4th Rnd.	Tl.
H. Vardon,	South Herts...	74	74	75	80	303
A. Massy,	St. Jean de Luz..	75	78	74	76	303
A. Herd,	Coombe Hill.....	77	73	76	78	304
Mr. H. H. Hilton,	Royal and Liverpool .....	75	74	78	76	304
E. Ray,	Ganton.....	73	72	79	78	305
J. Braid,	Walton Heath....	75	75	74	78	305



British Open Championship.  
The far side of the new tenth green at Sandwich, showing the trouble that awaits the player who is too strong with his approach. Mr. Chas. Evans took eight for this hole.

tie. There were seven or eight players out making their last rounds, who had good chances to beat him; but one after another they came in and failed to do so. In most cases the play depended on the last hole or two. Mr. Hilton looked very much like doing the trick, but missed a great opportunity by taking 5 to the sixteenth, which is a short hole, instead of 3. Sandy Herd had a four-yard putt to tie, and his ball hit

J. H. Taylor,	Mid-Surrey...	72	76	78	79	305
G. Duncan,	Hanger Hill....	73	71	83	79	306
L. Ayton,	Bishop's Stortford	75	77	77	78	307
F. Robson,	West Surrey....	78	74	79	78	309
J. Hepburn,	Home Park.....	74	77	83	75	309
F. Collins,	Llandudno.....	77	76	83	84	310
J. Piper,	Southdown .....	78	79	80	74	311
T. G. Renouf,	Manchester....	75	76	79	81	311
T. Ball,	Raynes Park.....	76	77	79	80	312
J. Sherlock,	Stoke Poges....	73	80	76	84	313
Mr. H. E. Taylor,	Richmond	83	73	76	81	313
W. E. Reid,	Banstead Downs	78	79	80	76	313
C. H. Mayo,	Burhill.....	78	78	79	78	313
R. Jones,	Wimbledon Park..	80	76	85	72	313
M. Moran,	Royal Dublin....	72	78	83	81	314
Mr. E. Blackwell,	Royal and Ancient .....	71	81	82	80	314

W. M. Watt, Dirlerton.....	76	80	79	79—314	Jean Gassiat, Golf de Chan-				
E. Jones, Chislehurst.....	77	82	81	75—315	tilly .....	80	82	79	84—325
Joshua Taylor, Acton.....	79	81	80	75—315	J. Soutar, West Hill.....	86	76	81	82—325
Mr. L. B. Stevens, Royal					A. Grant, North Berwick...	82	80	83	81—326
Cinque Ports .....	79	83	77	76—315	A. E. Hallam, North Man-				
F. Leach, Northwood.....	75	79	87	75—316	chester .....	77	83	81	85—326
Mr. Robert Harris, Acton...	77	80	76	83—316	Mr. F. C. Carr, Handsworth	82	79	81	84—326
J. Johnstone, Hythe.....	82	79	78	78—317	E. Risebro, Sheringham.....	82	80	86	78—326
A. F. Kettley, Edgware ....	79	77	81	80—317	O. G. V. Tuck, South Staffs	77	78	85	86—326
T. R. Fernie, Turnberry.....	80	78	76	83—317	P. Hills, Harrogate.....	80	77	89	81—327
J. Ockenden, Wembley.....	75	78	81	83—317	C. Hughes, Chester.....	84	78	83	83—328
E. Whitcombe, Weymouth..	77	85	80	76—318	Mr. E. A. Lassen, Lytham				
S. Ball, Wrexham.....	82	76	85	75—318	and St. Annes.....	81	79	85	85—330
R. Thomson, North Berwick	77	76	85	81—319	J. Cowan, Ayr Municipal...	79	83	85	85—332
J. Rowe, Ashdown Forest...	74	80	81	84—319	Mr. E. N. Layton, Royal				
J. Hambleton, Flixton.....	83	78	78	80—319	Cinque Ports .....	78	82	87	86—333
L. Holland, Church Bram-					W. J. Jefferies, Hallowes...	77	84	88	85—334
pton .....	81	81	77	80—319	A. Matthews, Rhyl.....	79	79	87	90—335
W. H. Horne, Chertsey.....	74	76	84	85—319					
E. Goodban, Royal Cinque					According to regulation Vardon				
Ports .....	81	81	73	79—319	and Massy played off their tie on the				



British Open Championship.  
On the sixth green at Sandwich during the play-off between Massy and Vardon, the latter picking his ball out of the hole.

Hon. M. Scott, Royal North				
Devon .....	78	80	81	81—320
Mr. L. O. Munn, Castle				
Rock .....	78	76	83	83—320
W. H. Ball, Bangor.....	81	79	84	77—321
T. Guard, Culverden.....	83	75	81	82—321
C. Johns, Manor.....	79	79	83	80—321
Mr. H. W. Beveridge, Royal				
Cinque Ports .....	75	79	83	85—322
W. H. Fulford, Moortown..	75	83	81	83—322
Mr. A. V. Hambro, Royal				
St. George's .....	81	77	84	80—322
J. D. Edgar, Northumberland	80	82	83	78—323
Mr. C. Evans, Jun. Edge-				
water, U. S. A.....	78	78	78	89—323
F. A. Larke, Bungay.....	82	80	81	80—323
Mr. S. G. James, St. Mar-				
garet's .....	80	82	83	79—324
J. Gaudin, Fulwell.....	77	84	82	81—324
T. Simpson, Lytham and St.				
Annes .....	80	82	83	80—325

following day, two rounds of stroke play having to be done, and the men playing together. Vardon was in very fine form in the long game and in his approaching also, playing just like the Vardon of the old days, but his putting up to the turn was distinctly weak, and up to the twelfth hole he had missed four of about a yard. At that point the scores were equal, but afterwards Vardon settled down to a brilliant game, and a couple of bad holes by Massy gave Harry a lead of five strokes at the

end of the round, his score being 74 and Massy's 79. Massy was not nearly so good through the green; but he was holing everything at three yards and under. The Frenchman, however, had small chance in the afternoon, and when Vardon had a lead of ten strokes at the sixteenth Massy, on the way to the seventeenth, picked up his ball and resigned the encounter to his opponent, who was loudly cheered on his way back to the club house.

was the last previous occasion on which a tie took place. He was getting his putts down all right for the greater part of the championship; but not many people like his style of putting in these days. He is using a wooden putter, and using it in just the same way that he would use an iron one.

It transpires that for some five months before the championship he had been undergoing a kind of training, being put on a special diet by a



British Open Championship.  
Players and spectators going to the seventh in the play-off between Vardon and Massy.

This victory will do Harry Vardon a lot of good. He has now won the open championship five times, like Braid, and nobody else has won it so many. His putting has been such a source of trouble to him in recent years that most people had come to the conclusion he would never win that fifth championship. His last success was in 1903. Curiously enough when he won his first championship in 1896 he had to play off, after a tie with Taylor, and that

doctor golfer who was interested in him. This diet consisted of a meatless breakfast and lunch, a good dinner and only one glass of whiskey or its equivalent per diem, while he was also restricted to four pipes of tobacco, the latter rule being the one that troubled him most. The system certainly seemed to have brought him to a state of fitness, for he was looking very well at Sandwich, and I have rarely seen him play his long game better.

