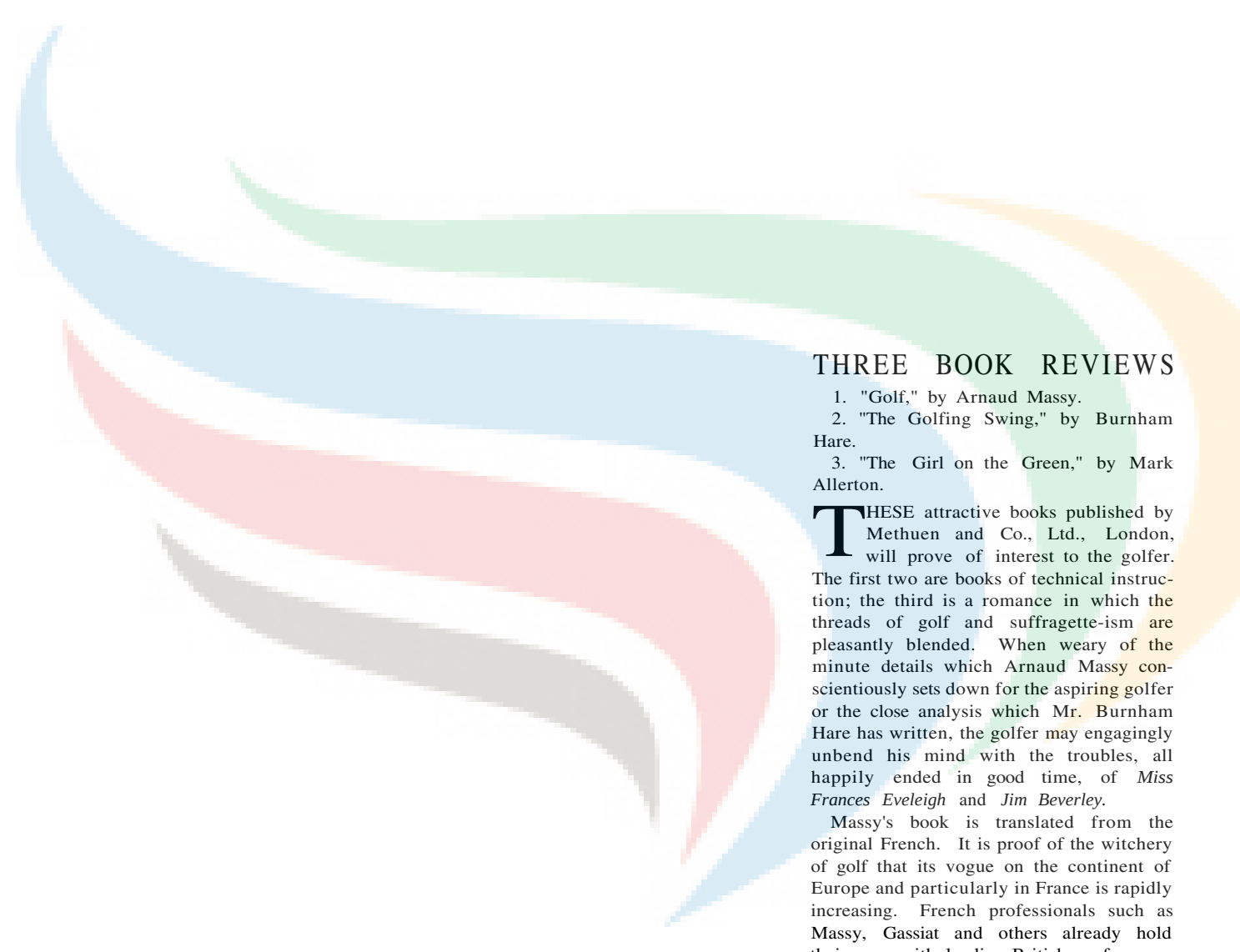




THREE BOOK REVIEWS

1. "Golf," by Arnaud Massy.
2. "The Golfing Swing," by Burnham Hare.
3. "The Girl on the Green," by Mark Allerton.

THESE attractive books published by Methuen and Co., Ltd., London, will prove of interest to the golfer. The first two are books of technical instruction; the third is a romance in which the threads of golf and suffragette-ism are pleasantly blended. When weary of the minute details which Arnaud Massy conscientiously sets down for the aspiring golfer or the close analysis which Mr. Burnham Hare has written, the golfer may engagingly unbend his mind with the troubles, all happily ended in good time, of *Miss Frances Eveleigh* and *Jim Beverley*.

Massy's book is translated from the original French. It is proof of the witchery of golf that its vogue on the continent of Europe and particularly in France is rapidly increasing. French professionals such as Massy, Gassiat and others already hold their own with leading British performers, while there are amateurs such as M. Francois de Bellet and M. Pierre Deschamps whose enthusiasm for the game is unlimited and their skill such as only the very best can overcome. Massy's book is upon orthodox lines and can safely be recommended as wise in its counsels and cautions. A useful hint is given in the remark that no two clubs are used in quite the same way, and that the difference is especially great in the methods used with wooden and iron clubs. With the former, Massy points out, the ball is displaced by a wide circular movement which is made almost as though no ball was to be encountered.

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THREE BOOK REVIEWS

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With the irons the ball is struck with a shorter, sharper blow. The chapter on putting traverses well-known ground, following Vardon in his *Complete Golfer*. One little point Massy makes which we will reproduce for the benefit of those who sometimes miss short putts: "The nearer one comes to the hole the tighter should be the grip and the slower the whole movement of the club." The book is illustrated and shows Massy to possess a decidedly vertical style. Of its effectiveness and soundness there can be no doubt.

Mr. Burnham Hare writes an uncommonly interesting little book on the Golfing Swing. His object is to show that the mechanism of the swing depends on "fore-arm" rather than wrist. The turning over and turning back again of the hand is the characteristic feature of the swing; this has almost universally been described as wrist action, but incorrectly so according to Mr. Hare.

There is no doubt that a certain amount of harm has been done by uncritical talk about the function of the wrists. It is much better to study the movements of the hands; in this way a less restricted arm motion is secured. At the same time the turning of the wrists under the club, at the top of the swing, is a feature of much significance.

Mr. Hare remarks that as the pronation (palm downwards) of the left hand and wrist turns the clubhead away from the ball the rotation of the left shoulder forward translates the clubhead upwards and backwards. It is a nice question whether rotation of the left shoulder is active or passive, i.e., whether it follows or leads the arms. In a sense, of course, shoulder and arms, time themselves together, but we are inclined to think the shoulder is follower rather than leader. Mr. Hare has written a chapter on iron play and another on putting which treats of play on the greens in thoughtful and original fashion.

R. STANLEY WEIR.