

"Hard by, in the fields called the Leith Links, the citizens of Edinburgh divert themselves at a game called golf...Of this diversion the Scots are so fond, that when the weather will permit, you may see a multitude of all ranks, from the senator of justice to the lowest tradesman, mingled together in their shirts, and following the balls with the utmost eagerness."

Tobias Smollet, writing in 1771

