

THE TIMES REPORTS, 1879

[Note: Match reports are given in full, except . . . denotes the omission of an unnecessary section, usually details of the score at the fall of each wicket, which can easily be found on the scorecard provided by Cricket Archive; bowling figures, increasingly included in the actual report but still not the scorecard; or else the inclusion of the scorecard itself.)

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15 May: CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY v ENGLAND ELEVEN

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2263.html)

Day 1 – no report found

Day 2 (report from Saturday 17 May, page 12)

Yesterday England began the batting with Mr Thornton and Lockwood. At this stage there was a very good attendance. Mr Morton delivered the first over and Mr Wood the next. Mr Thornton made a hit for three – this was his only contribution; bowled in his second over.

Ulyett succeeded to the vacancy. He received ten overs for seven runs, and was then caught at wicket. Only 18 runs were totalled when Mr Gilbert joined Lockwood, who, after being missed at long-leg, began to put together a long score in his usual manner. At 34 the bowlers changed ends, and at 48 Mr Ford relieved Mr Morton, and with an additional run the third wicket, Mr Gilbert's, yielded to Mr Lyttelton. Only three runs resulted from the next seven overs. The bowling was now in the ascendant. Fourteen overs were delivered for 12 runs, two of which were wides. At luncheon eight wickets were down for 76 runs.

On resumption of play, Mr Robertson joined Lockwood, and at 91 Mr Morton went on again in place of Mr Ford. Most of the hitting resulted from the professional. Mr Robertson was caught at mid-off with the total at 101 for nine wickets. Mr Posno appeared as last man, and Mr Pegg was brought forward to relieve Mr Wood, whom Lockwood had been freely patronizing. The end soon came with the change of bowler, and the innings terminated at ten minutes past 3 o'clock for a total of 121 runs. All the bowlers were to a certain extent successful. Mr Wood claimed five wickets . . .

The Cantabs commenced their innings with the Hon A Lyttelton and Mr Whitfeld opposed to the bowling of Barratt and Emmett. Some idea of the quality of the bowling may be entertained from the fact of 22 overs being delivered for seven runs. The two leading batsmen seemed quite equal to the occasion, for at the fall of the first wicket, which had been defended for an hour and a half, 58 runs were recorded. The second realized 68. A splendid hit to leg for 5 by Mr D Q Steel, just previous to the time fixed for drawing stumps, evoked general applause.

Day 2 (report from Monday 19 May, page 12)

Considerable doubt was entertained on Saturday whether, in the most favourable circumstances, the above match could be completed in the few hours allotted for play. Nearly half-an-hour earlier than usual, Messrs Lyttelton and Steel, the "not outs" of Friday evening, for 46 and 11 respectively, were at their wickets. Mr Robertson and Emmett delivered the first and second over.

A powerful square leg hit by Mr Steel sent the ball clean over the fence, and six runs were recorded for the feat, but soon after this gentleman had to retire, caught at point. Mr Bligh made no stand, and thus the third and fourth wickets were telegraphed at the same total – viz., 108. After this the bowling of Emmett, although occasionally erratic, proved very fatal. Mr Lyttelton was caught with the total at 120. his fine innings of 57 comprised two fours, four threes, nine twos &c.

Mr Jarvis was caught at mid-off and Mr Ford in the slips. Seven wickets, 130. Mr Lancashire played into the hands of cover point and Mr Pigg fell to the wicket-keeper. Ulyett came on at 151, and in the second subsequent over Mr Morton retired. This brought the University innings to a close with a total of 34 runs in advance of England. Time, 1h 30m. The bowling is rather curious - viz., Barratt, 32 overs, 35 runs, no wicket . . . Emmett . . seven wickets.

England began their second innings with Lockwood and Ulyett. In Mr Wood's third over, Lockwood's wicket fell for naught. Mr Gilbert hit so freely that at 43 Mr Morton relieved Mr Ford. The first ball from the change bowled Ulyett clean, and Mr Pearson was given out leg before with the trifling score of 2 affixed to his name. Two overs later, Mr Hargreaves played into the hands of point; and Mr Gilbert, after a very spirited innings of 40, also gave Mr Pigg a chance not to be declined. The bowling of Mr Morton about this period is especially noteworthy. He took three wickets in five balls. Emmett and Barrett exhibited a sterner defence, but on the fall of the former - caught in the slips - the innings was virtually ended, as Mr Posno made a very brief stay. Tenth wicket, 104. Time, 4h 30m. Mr Morton obtained six wickets . . .

The Cantabs now required 71 to win. Messrs Lyttelton and Jarvis went in first to the bowling of Messrs Robertson and Emmett. At this period there was a large gathering of spectators, and every movement seemed to increase the interest which had not flagged throughout the day's proceedings. Mr Jarvis left in the third over, clean bowled, and in the fifth Mr Jones was caught at point. Mr Steel came next but did not stay long; three wickets, 28 runs. Of this number Mr Lyttelton made a magnificent hit into the orchard for five. Mr Bligh, in conjunction with Mr Lyttelton, brought up the fourth wicket to 51, when the latter returned the ball to the bowler. Mr Ford made no stand, and Mr Whitfeld a very feeble one. Six wickets, 56.

Only a few minutes of the stipulated time for drawing stumps were now on hand, but these just sufficed to obtain the number of runs wanted to win, with four wickets to spare.

15 May: MARYLEBONE CLUB AND GROUND v SUSSEX

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2264.html)

Day 1 – no report found

Day 2 (report from Saturday 17 May, page 12)

Sussex made a sad start yesterday at Lord's. They selected Mr Sharp and H Phillips to commence their batting against Rylott and Flowers, who had charge of the ball. Before a run was scored Mr Sharp's wicket fell, and Mr Francis took possession of it. It was hoped when J Phillips came that these failings would be remedied, but they were not.

The third wicket required more taking than the two previous ones, although the score moved at a disproportionately slow rate. The hopes of Sussex rested chiefly on Charlwood, who appeared third wicket down. Before a run was recorded for him he had the misfortune to fall foul of his wicket, and the telegraph announced four men out for a total of 12 runs. How this beginning was afterwards improved will be seen from the score . . .

Day 2 (report from Monday 19 May, page 12)

A very little time sufficed on Saturday to bring this match at Lord's to a close. When stumps were drawn on the previous evening the defeat of Sussex was regarded as a certainty, though not to the extent of an innings and 74 runs, which the subjoined score proves to have been the case. Umpires – Farrands and Flanagan.

19 May: MARYLEBONE CLUB AND GROUND v YORKSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2265.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 20 May, page 14)

No match in which Yorkshire is concerned can be destitute of interest. Some years have passed since Marylebone was its opponent, and this circumstance had, no doubt, something to do in attracting yesterday by far the largest assemblage at Lord's during the present season. Considering the greatness of Yorkshire in a cricket sense, the eleven selected to contend with Marylebone appeared to be defective in batting power.

The ground certainly was not very lively at the start - viz., 12 o'clock - but later in the day the scoring was slow and effected with difficulty. Ulyett and Dobson received the early overs from Shaw and Morley. From the sixth ball of the latter the first wicket fell. Hall then appeared, and the score reached 14, when Ulyett - once missed at long on - was afterwards taken there. Matters brightened when Haggas became the partner of hall, and 41 runs were registered when the latter fell to Morley, who shortly after obtained another wicket with the total at 46.

Thewlis and Lockwood were partnered up to 66; the former then played on. He had previously given a chance to Mr Stratford at forward short-leg. The rapid fall of the remaining wickets was not reckoned upon. Lockwood saw them all fall, and brought out his bat for 31 runs out of a total of 94 . . . Morley . . seven wickets.

Messrs Russel and Parke were selected to lead off the Marylebone batting. To them were opposed Bates and Emmett. The telegraph announced one run when the leg stump of Mr Parke was shot down by Bates. A speedy compensation was made for this disaster by Mr Pearson, who, in conjunction with Mr Russel, brought up the score to 30. Here, however, a separation was effected by Emmett, and Mr Vernon occupied the vacated position.

Now came some splendid all-round cricket. The batting at both wickets provoked a great deal of applause among the spectators, who had not hitherto been very demonstrative. Mr Pearson - once missed at long-off - put together the largest score of the day; Mr Vernon somewhat less in extent, but not in finish. Yorkshire tried all their bowling forces against these gentlemen. Mr Vernon ran himself out and Mr Rhodes joined Mr Pearson. At 5.30 the 100 appeared on the telegraph, and with the total at 120 Mr Pearson retired - caught at point. After this the innings soon terminated. Six bowlers were tried, but two only with success - viz., Bates . . four wickets; Emmett . . five wickets.

Yorkshire, now 36 runs in arrear, began their second innings with the same leaders as in the first. Ulyett saw three of his companions come and go in a way which for speed and ineffectiveness was not calculated upon. At 7 o'clock stumps were drawn. State of the game as shown below. Umpires, Wild and Mycroft. Play will be resumed to-day at the usual time.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 21 May, page 12)

The necessity for resuming play in this match at Lord's yesterday earlier than usual is not manifest. No danger whatever existed that a third day would be required to finish the game, seeing that with the cessation of

play on Monday each side had completed an innings and three Yorkshire wickets were down for 11 runs.

Lockwood and Ulyett, the not-outs for 0 and 4 respectively, were first attacked by Shaw and Morley. Both were repelled until 15 runs were added. Ulyett then played Shaw back and Thewlis went to the assistance of Lockwood. The batting of this sturdy pair raised a hope that the bowling resources of Marylebone would be so severely tested that Yorkshire might save a single innings defeat. They had six wickets to fall and five runs in hand when Morley surrendered the ball to Mr Stratford, who is described as a slow bowler with a very great curl.

Half the wickets were disposed of with the total at 50. The remaining half fell in so short a space of time and for such trifling contributions that inquiry was prompted as to whether Yorkshire had sent up a well-considered representative team. Ten wickets, 59 runs . . . Mr Stratford . . five wickets. Time, 1 o'clock.

Marylebone now had a "set" of 24 runs. Mr Russel and Barnes went in to get them. Six overs were shared between Bates and Emmett, and four runs resulted therefrom. Emmett then bowled Mr Russel clean, and Mr Vernon occupied his place. Yorkshire were unable to effect another capture, and at 40 minutes past 1 o'clock Marylebone were pronounced winners by nine wickets . . .

22 May: CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY v MARYLEBONE CLUB AND GROUND

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2266.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 23 May, page 10)

This annual match began at the University ground yesterday. The Cantabs, having won the toss, deputed the Hon A Lyttelton and Mr Whitfeld to proceed forthwith to the wickets. Shaw and Mycroft had charge of the early bowling. Much astonishment was created at the retirement of Mr Lyttelton from the second ball of the second over without the slightest contribution. Mr A G Steel then appeared.

Runs came apace, and with the total at 25 Hearne displaced Mycroft. Still the running proceeded at so rapid a rate that at 56 Barnes came forward at the same wicket, and Mycroft went on at the pavilion end as a relief to Shaw. Despite these frequent changes, the telegraph was continually on the shift, testifying to the advance of the score. Just one hour and a quarter was spent in the endeavour to get the second wicket. Mr Steel then retired with the total at 88, towards which he contributed 52, by two fours, four threes, nine twos and a balance of singles. His brother succeeded him, but to little purpose. He merely withstood five overs and was then bowled without a run.

Between Messrs Bligh and Jones the score-sheet received large accumulations. Both played first-class cricket. Mr Jones left with the total at 167 and Mr Bligh at 186. Among the figures of the latter was one five, drive to the orchard, which certainly included one for an overthrow, one four, one three and five twos. Mr Wood, who went in last man, evoked considerable applause by the vigour of his hitting and unexpected results. He made a square leg hit for five; this was speedily followed by a drive for four. Two more runs were accorded to him and then came the end of the innings for 231 runs. The University team included eight "Blues," towards which Trinity contributed a full share. Five bowlers were engaged . . . Mycroft . . six wickets . . .

Marylebone started their batting with Mr Booth and G Hearne. Messrs A G Steel and Morton were entrusted with the ball. In the eleventh over Mr Booth's wicket fell, and Wild filled the vacancy caused thereby. The newcomer made a leg-hit for four, and then another trimming ball from Mr Steel led to his dismissal. Two wickets were lost for 26 runs when Mr Studd appeared, and Hearne was caught at short leg by one of his own side, who fielded for Mr Jarvis. Nothing of note occurred subsequently, and play was adjourned at 6.30 to 12 o'clock this day.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 24 May, page 12)

There was no play in this match at Cambridge yesterday owing to a continuous fall of rain.

Day 3 (report from Monday 26 May, page 9)

If proof were required to show the high degree of proficiency attained by the Cantabs this year, the above match, just finished, supplies a very convincing one. In the month of May, 1878, they beat Marylebone by an innings and 34 runs, while on Saturday last they were victors to the extent

of an innings and 78 runs, although in the Marylebone team there were no less than seven professionals, considered, doubtlessly, quite equal to the requirements of the occasion, both in point of bowling and general usefulness.

When, however, the play of Thursday ceased, the superiority of the Light Blues manifested itself in a completed innings of 231 runs against five wickets of the other side lost for 57 runs. Continuous rain on Friday necessitated a postponement of the play till the following morning, when it was resumed at a quarter before 12 o'clock.

Barnes received the first over from Mr Morton, which he turned to account by a drive for four. Mr A S Barnes drove the same bowler for three. A separation was effected by Mr A G Steel, with the score at 82 for six wickets. Mr G B Studd came, but was not long able to withstand Mr Morton - clean bowled. Hearne almost immediately after left, caught at cover point, high up. Seventh and eighth wickets, 87. Shaw drove Mr Morton straight for four, three singles were added hereto and then Mr Whitfeld caught him in the slips. In the next over Mycroft was stumped, and the innings terminated for 95 runs. Time, 12h 45min. Mr Steel . . claimed five wickets . . .

Marylebone, now 136 runs in arrear, sent in Mr Booth and Barnes to the bowling of Messrs Morton and A G Steel. The run-getting was not rapid. Ten overs were delivered and from the third ball of the eleventh Barnes fell to Mr Morton, and in the next over Mr Booth, after being missed by Mr Jones, yielded to the direct assailings of Mr Steel. Three wickets 10 runs, towards which Mr J E Studd contributed nothing. The bowling continued its triumph. Wild made a very short stay at the wicket, and Hearne shorter still. Half were lost for 14 runs. Flowers made a better stand, but the runs obtained between him and Mr A S Barnes were few in comparison with the number of balls presented; the former was well caught at long-on and the latter in the slip. Seven wickets: 27. Luncheon.

On resumption of play Mr G B Studd and Hearn were partnered. Mr Wood went on at the Pavilion wicket as a relief to Mr Steel, and in his third over Hearn was clean bowled by him. Shaw took his place and evinced a disposition to stay. He received 14 overs and scored 10 runs. Being caught at long-on, Mycroft joined Mr Studd. This partnership was of short duration, as Mr Studd ran himself out and thereby brought the innings to a close for 58 runs. Mr Morton . . obtained five wickets . . .

26 May: CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY v GENTLEMEN OF ENGLAND

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2267.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 27 May, page 12)

The published list of names did not fully accord with the persons who at the outset of play yesterday put in an appearance. Soon after 12 o'clock Messrs Lucas and Thornton took their stations at the wickets. Mr Morton led off the bowling at the orchard end of the ground, and from the second ball of the fifth over Mr Thornton was caught off him in the long-field on. Only four runs were at this time recorded, the half of which belonged to him.

Mr Walker went to the vacated station, and the score-sheet received accumulations up to 24, when Mr Morton obtained another wicket - viz., that of Mr Walker. His figures were one four, two threes, one two and two singles. Mr A J Webbe next joined Mr Lucas, now batting in his usual form. A four to leg, followed by a drive for a similar figure, did not escape the notice of critical observers, few though they were at this stage of the proceedings. The stay of Mr Webbe was brief and disappointing - clean bowled for two runs. Mr Pearson came at three wickets down for 45 runs, but, like his immediate predecessor, he left early - clean bowled. Four wickets, 51. The Hon E Lyttelton appeared next, and, with him, signs of a heavy shower, which soon necessitated a suspension of play till after luncheon.

Mr Lyttelton contributed 14 runs and was then caught by short-slip. Before Mr Vernon had obtained this number Mr A G Steel displaced Mr Wood, who had been bowling from the outset at the pavilion wicket, and from the first ball of the fifth over Mr Vernon retired, stumped off the change bowler. Mr Fryer made but three hits that assisted the score; caught at mid-off. Seven wickets, 115. At 124 Mr Ford relieved Mr Morton. Here, again, the change had its effect in striking Mr Robertson's off stump. But the most noticeable event occurred shortly after in the dismissal of Mr Lucas, who had kept possession of his wicket three hours and a quarter, having in the meantime played one of the finest innings of the season. His 70 included five fours, three threes, ten twos and a balance of singles. His return to the pavilion was accompanied with general cheering.

The subsequent scores, though not large, had the merit of being well earned. The innings occupied nearly four hours and resulted in a total of 146 runs. Mr Morton . . claimed five wickets . . .

The Cantabs began their innings with the Hon A Lyttelton and Mr Whitfeld, and not under the most favourable circumstances as regards weather. Mr D Buchanan bowled the first over from the pavilion wicket. More than half an hour was occupied in putting together 20 runs. Rain then put another stop to the proceedings . . .

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 28 May, page 7)

Rain fell so persistently in the early part of yesterday that the University ground was not in a playable condition at the time announced for continuing the match. In fact, until 4 o'clock a pretty general idea was entertained that the match would not be further proceeded with. The brothers Steel were first to appear at the wickets. From the third ball of

the second over Mr D Q Steel fell to the wicket-keeper. Mr Ford filled the vacant position. At 77 Mr Robertson surrendered the ball to Mr Pearson. Notwithstanding the weather there was a goodly company. Six wickets, 94 runs.

Mr Lancashire stood next in the order of going in. At 102 Mr Robertson again took charge of the bowling at the orchard wicket, and at 111 Mr Thornton relieved Mr Buchanan; but the change was of short duration. Mr Lancashire played into the hands of slip, and Mr Pigg, after putting together six runs, gave a fatal chance to point. Mr Morton played cautiously, as the Cantab score was gradually creeping up to that of the other side. Great reliance was placed in Mr Ford, who turned every ball to the best possible account. He fell at length to Mr Fryer, who caught him in deep field. His long score comprised five threes and 12 twos.

Only one wicket now remained to fall, and three runs were required to tie. This number Mr Wood obtained before Mr Robertson caught him off his own ball. This event brought the second day's play to a close . . . It is proposed to resume play to-day at a quarter-past 11 o'clock.

Day 3 (report from Thursday 29 May, page 11)

The unsettled state of the weather with its adverse effects upon cricket is becoming a wearisome story, and yet it cannot well be left unnoticed, seeing how materially a match may be and is influenced by it. According to Tuesday's arrangement the match in question would have been proceeded with much earlier yesterday than was the case but for heavy showers, and in consequence of this delay a most decided victory was withheld from the Cantabs.

It may be remembered, when the second day's play ceased, each party had completed an innings of 146 runs. Messrs Lucas and Walker were first at the England wickets yesterday. Mr Morton led off the bowling from the pavilion end of the ground, and Mr Wood followed at the orchard. Both got hit so freely that, with the total at 30, Mr Pigg relieved Mr Morton, and on an advance of ten runs Mr Ford appeared. Notwithstanding these changes, the score travelled at a brisk pace to 63, when Mr Lucas retired, caught over the bowler's head. This let in Mr Vernon, and with the total at 71 Mr Walker was caught between wickets. Very few runs were added hereto previous to luncheon.

In the second over afterwards Mr Vernon returned a ball to the bowler, and in the next over was caught at cover-point. Mr Thornton fell foul of his wicket, and thus five were down for 98 runs. Nothing deserving special attention occurred during the remainder of this innings, which terminated at 4 o'clock for 126 runs . . . Mr Wood . . . seven wickets.

The Hon A Lyttelton and Mr Whitfeld commenced the first innings of the University. Mr Buchanan delivered the first over from the pavilion wicket. Both Mr Whitfeld and Mr Jones left with the total at three. Mr A G Steel then joined Mr Lyttelton and the batting soon began to triumph. Figures of large size advanced the score. Eleven runs were scored from one over. Several bowling changes were resorted to. At 6.25 the telegraph announced 100 runs scored, and only 27 more were required to win the match.

Every ball was watched with special interest, and in some cases with anxiety. Mt Lyttelton made a "sixer," which with other telling hits brought up the total to within half a dozen runs of the required number.

At 6.30 precisely the bell announced "time," and the match was left in the state described by the score annexed . . .

26 May: MARYLEBONE CLUB AND GROUND v DERBYSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2268.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 27 May, page 12)

Very few visitors were attracted to Lord's yesterday (Monday) to witness the commencement of this match, although the weather was moderately fine during the greater part of the day. The game began at 12.10, M.C.C. going first to the wicket, but they made a very indifferent stand against the bowling of Mycroft and Flint, off whom the same number of runs (28 in 33 overs) were scored.

Derbyshire fared but little better, the most noticeable feature of the innings being the fact of Foster scoring 50 out of the 73 runs made while he was at the wicket. He was, however, missed by Clayton at point before he had scored, and eventually succumbed to a catch at that position in the field. The visiting team were all out at 4.40, and in 20 minutes Marylebone went in a second time.

When three wickets had fallen for about a dozen runs, at 5.40, the rain, which had been threatening for some time, stopped play for ten minutes, and as soon as they had turned out again and a couple of overs had been bowled, the players were compelled once more to beat a retreat from the same cause. Play was shortly resumed, and Messrs Stratford and Duncan getting together they so able resisted the bowling that at 60 Hay was sent to the relief of Mycroft, and the latter a few overs subsequently deposed Flint at the pavilion end, to whom he returned the ball after sending down a couple of overs. Just as "time" was about to be called at 7 o'clock Mr Stratford, who had played well for his runs, was caught in the slips . . .

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 28 May, page 7)

Very few remarks on the cricket shown on the concluding day of this match are necessary. More unfavourable weather can scarcely be imagined than that of yesterday. The turf was in such a soddened state from the heavy rain during the night and the continual showers of the day that the players all round had the greatest difficulty in keeping a footing. M.C.C. had lost five wickets for 78 runs in their second innings when play ceased over night, and principally by the excellent batting of Mr Duncan the side managed to score 108 before they were finally disposed of. Hay was the most successful bowler, his analysis reading . . 5 wickets.

The county team required 86 runs to win - a task which they failed to accomplish. Foster, who had batted so well on the previous day, was again top scorer, but his contribution fell far short of that he obtained in his first innings. Hearne took six wickets, all bowled, and at one minutes to 5 o'clock, when their last wicket fell, Derbyshire were 16 runs in arrear . . .

26 May: NOTTINGHAMSHIRE v LANCASHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2269.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 27 May, page 12)

This, the first county match of the season, was commenced at Nottingham yesterday in full and cold weather. Daft and Oscroft opened the batting, the bowling being intrusted to McIntyre and Nash. Oscroft was missed at short leg by Barlow, and soon afterwards he returned one to Watson, who had relieved McIntyre at 20, but the bowler failed to hold the ball.

The two batsmen carried the score to 83, when Oscroft was given out leg before wicket for 49. Soon after Selby's advent rain stopped play for the day, the total standing at 97 for the loss of one wicket.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 28 May, page 7)

This match was resumed at Nottingham yesterday. At 6 o'clock rain stopped the play.

Day 3 (report from Thursday 29 May, page 11)

The above match, commenced on Monday at the Trent Bridge ground, was continued yesterday, but left drawn, as will be seen by the score. Oscroft and Shrewsbury especially played fine cricket.

29 May: MIDDLESEX v SURREY

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2270.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 30 May, page 6)

The tremendous downpour which lasted from 10 o'clock on Wednesday evening till nearly 4 on the following morning put Lord's Ground into such a condition that great difficulty was experienced in finding a spot so late as 2 o'clock in the afternoon on which wickets could be pitched at all. That eventually selected was within 70 yards of the tennis-court, immediately facing the clock. The slightest pressure of the foot revealed the wet and spongy condition of the turf, and it need hardly be said that the prosecution of a county match under such circumstances was far from being satisfactory.

Surrey won the toss, and at a quarter to 3 o'clock Mr Lucas and Jupp appeared at the wickets. Messrs Stratford and Ford had charge of the early bowling. Jupp seemed somewhat posed with Mr Stratford, and with the score at 10 he retired – caught at wicket. Mr J Shuter was splendidly taken at forward square leg off the same bowler. Mr Game also made a brief stay, and Mr L A Shuter briefer still, and to no profit. Four wickets, 21 runs.

Mr Lindsay next joined Mr Lucas, and the batting of both was for a considerable time well sustained. Mr Lucas left first, but, unlike the great majority of his side, he kept the ball on the floor. Half the wickets were down for 44 runs. Boardman (a "colt"), in conjunction with Mr Lindsay, kept the attention of the scorers on the stretch, and runs came fast and the bowling changes were frequent. With the total at 93 Messrs Stratford and Ford were seen again at the wickets to which they were appointed at the start of the innings. A very fine piece of stumping terminated Boardman's career.

Pooley gave an easy chance to the wicket-keeper, and Mr Lindsay left shortly after. In his liberal contribution of 45 there were no less than 29 singles. The tenth wicket fell at 5.35 with a total of 117 runs. Among the bowlers engaged only two were successful – viz., Mr Stratford, who . . . obtained six wickets; and Mr Ford . . . four wickets.

Surrey took their stations in the field at 5.55. Barratt and Blamires were the early bowlers. The Hon A Lyttelton drove Barratt for four, but he was soon after caught at deep mid-on. Mr Walker was then joined by Mr Hadow, and the score advanced to 47, when Barratt handed the ball to Southerton. This transfer soon rendered Mr Hadow's retirement necessary, and Mr Pearson, who filled the vacancy, added nothing further to his fame or to the score. The day's play then ceased. Total 56, for three wickets, as shown by the accompanying score. Umpires, Thoms and Street.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 31 May, page 13)

It is just a year ago that the same counties met at Lord's, represented, however, by teams differing materially from those which figured yesterday on the Marylebone ground. Middlesex retained six of the 1878 eleven; so also Surrey, and though the strength imported to both sides was considerable, Middlesex – at least on paper – seemed to possess the greater advantage in the present match by the amended list.

As previously observed, the play of the first day was far from being satisfactory owing to the condition of the ground. In order to get the match finished yesterday, if possible, Messrs Walker and Webbe presented themselves at the wickets three-quarters of an hour earlier than the usual Marylebone time for commencement. Southerton led off the bowling from the pavilion end of the ground, and Blamires continued from the opposite.

The score quickly advanced to 81, when Mr Walker retired. A stubborn resistance was made by the Hon E Lyttelton, and at 97 Barratt went on at Blamires's wicket. At about 12 o'clock the telegraph announced 100. Very soon after this Mr Vernon was splendidly caught at long off. Six wickets were now down and 108 totalled for them. Mr Green, driven on to his wicket early, left with a trifling score. Mr Ford made no sign, but Mr Stratford assisted in bringing up the ninth wicket to 127, and Mr Lyttelton added two, when Pooley stumped him easily. This brought the innings to a close . . . Time, 12.55.

Surrey, 12 runs in arrears, started their second innings with Messrs Lucas and Game. The early bowlers were Messrs Stratford and Ford. Only one run speared on the telegraph when Mr Game retired. Mr J Shuter received but two balls; the last proved fatal. Jupp ten went to the assistance of Mr Lucas, and the score moved at a laggard pace. At 19 Mr Robertson relieved Mr Stratford, and in the second over of the change Jupp's wicket was disarranged. This bad beginning received but little assistance from Mt Lindsay, who returned the ball to the bowler. Boardman then joined Mr Lucas, but the runs gained were out of all proportion to the wickets taken - viz., five for 38, at which stage Mr Lucas retired.

The greater part of the subsequent runs resulted from Boardman's bat. Pooley came in at 43 and left at 55. At 64 Mr Stratford deposed Mr Robertson, and in his second over Southerton was caught at forward square leg. On the retirement of Boardman the innings might be considered at an end. At 4 o'clock the tenth wicket fell with the total at 74. Mr Ford . . . claimed seven wickets.

Middlesex required 63 runs to win, and to effect this number Messrs Pearson and Webbe went in to the bowling of Southerton and Barratt. The former received but two overs, neither of which he turned to account - caught mid-on. Mr Webbe, in conjunction with Mr Hadow, carried the score up to 36, when the latter was thrown out by a substitute - a splendid piece of fielding certainly. Several changes of bowling were had recourse to during the partnership of the brothers Lyttelton; 57 runs were marked in the books when Mr Alfred's wicket fell to Blamires. The six runs wanting were speedily obtained when Mr Walker went in, and at 3 minutes to 6 the match was won by Middlesex with six wickets to spare . . .

2 June: OXFORD UNIVERSITY v GENTLEMEN OF ENGLAND

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2271.html)

Day 1 – no report found

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 4 June, page 6)

One of the "test" matches played annually at Oxford is that between the University and Gentlemen of England. A fairly strong team journeyed from the metropolis on Monday morning to oppose the Oxford Eleven; but the match fell short of its interest owing to Messrs H R Webbe (the Oxford captain), Evans and Knight being unable to play on account of the "schools."

Dull weather prevailed on Cowley-marsh at the outset, and before long the rain came down; but the Gentlemen, who won the toss, elected to go in first. The wicket was soft and slippery, and no batsman, excepting Mr A J Webbe, made any stand, Mr Jellicoe proving himself to be a formidable bowler. During luncheon-time the force of the rain increased, and in consequence play was abandoned for the day.

The weather forecast at the Radcliffe Observatory on the Woodstock road early yesterday morning foretold another wet and unfavourable day for the continuance of this match. Later in the day, however, the sun shone out brightly, completely dispelling the gloom and driving away the occasion light showers which had prevailed, but it only remained fine for about a couple of hours, when a heavy storm came on. The Oxonians commenced their first innings at 20 minutes to 1 o'clock, represented by Messrs Foljambe and Greene, the bowling being shared by Messrs Buchanan and Robertson. The first-named batsman began by hitting the veteran bowler's first ball well to square leg for three, but before ten overs had been bowled for 8 runs Mr Greene was sent back to the pavilion, and another wicket fell with the score at 10. Runs came very slowly, the wicket being in a miserably wet condition.

With 22 as the total, three additional wickets fell in succession, and by luncheon-time, 2 o'clock, eight batsmen had been disposed of and only 33 runs were recorded. A quarter of an hour after resumption of play sufficed to bring the innings to a close for the small total of 47. Mr Robertson's analysis reads 27 overs, 15 maidens, 24 runs and seven wickets. Mr Pearson fielded exceedingly well at point. The second essay of the Gentlemen was commenced under more favourable auspices. The Oxford bowling was completely mastered. When stumps were drawn at a quarter to 7 o'clock the score stood thus: . . [Gentlemen of England 74 and 185/5; Oxford University 47.]

Day 3 (report from Thursday 5 June, page 6)

Play in this match at Oxford was resumed yesterday, and ended in favour of England by 185 runs.

2 June: SOUTH v NORTH

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2272.html)

Day 1 – no report found

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 4 June, page 6)

Upon a close examination of the long and varied list of matches promoted by the Marylebone Club this season, no one seems better calculated for a holiday company than the North v South. It dates far back in cricket history and has well sustained its early popularity. Last year it was played at Lord's for the benefit of the Marylebone professional cricketers' fund, but the proceeds of the gate this week are to be assigned to an individual member – viz., Alfred Shaw.

Great preparations had been made for the occasion, as an unusually large assemblage was expected on Monday, which would be followed up in proportion to the interest produced by the match in its progressive stages. The fears entertained about the weather were sadly realized on Monday; the forecasts were in a double sense dispiriting, first by the announcement of "western breezes, with rain and a low temperature in the morning," which proved too true, and subsequently "improving," which was just the reverse of truth. The ground was in such a condition that no attempts were made to play upon it, and the disappointed visitors moved off in groups with evident reluctance until the projected holiday scene presented as miserable an outlook as can well be imagined.

Yesterday but faint hopes were entertained that Tuesday would prove more congenial for cricket than its predecessor. About 2 o'clock, however, rain ceased, and wickets were pitched near the tennis-court. Although the North had three times as many professionals as the South, the sides, in points of general merit, were not out of proportion. Mr Hornby, captain of the North, won the toss and began the batting in conjunction with Daft.

Mr W G Grace delivered the first ball from the nursery end of the ground, and Daft was caught off it in the slip. Lockwood came, and nine overs were bowled for 12 runs; he was caught at mid-on from the bowling of Mr Stratford, who had taken the place of Hearne. The vacancy thus caused was filled by Ulyett, who played a much faster game than Mr Hornby. Three wickets were lost for 37 runs when Mr Steel appeared. It required two or three changes of attack before Mr Hornby surrendered. After this the wickets fell very fast until Shaw and Pinder were partnered. This pair hit the score up fast, although the latter gave an easy chance to mid-off which the fielder did not accept. The innings occupied two hours and a half, and totalled 92 runs. Mr Grace . . . claimed five wickets . . .

Messrs Grace and Lucas appeared first to bat for the South. Shaw selected the pavilion wicket to start the bowling from. The scorers were soon set to work. Mr Grace drove one ball over the garden wall adjoining the armoury, for which six runs were accredited to him; this was followed by another hit of a similar character and value, the ball being found on the roof of the tavern. This also realized six runs. Ulyett, however, put an end to this starring by a running catch. First wicket, 26 runs.

Mr Lucas followed quickly after, caught at short leg. Mr Hadow was soon placed on the dismissed list – clean bowled. Messrs Penn and Ridley were together for three overs without augmenting the score to the extent looked

for. Only 37 runs were got together when Mr E Lyttelton fell to Shaw, and Lord Harris left, with the total at 44, caught at cover-point – a splendid piece of fielding, certainly. Hearne then partnered Mr Ridley, and at a quarter to 7 play was discontinued owing to the badness of the light. Umpires, Farrands and Wild.

Day 3 (report from Thursday 5 June, page 6)

The westerly breeze which sprang up soon after daybreak yesterday produced a beneficial effect in a very few hours. Plenty of sunshine and a moderate wind were the chief agencies needed for putting into order the havoc made by heavy and oft-recurring rainfalls. Lord's Ground came in for its share of benefit, and at an early hour a large number of Alfred Shaw's friends and admirers of good cricket presented themselves to witness the first run scored on the third day fixed for the match.

When play on Tuesday concluded (be it remembered Monday was a blank owing to continuous rain), the North had completed an innings and six wickets of the South were down for 54 runs. Mr Ridley and Hearne, the "not outs" for seven and three respectively, resumed their batting at the appointed time, opposed, as overnight, to Shaw and Morley.

Runs came slowly, and as the batsmen appeared to be obstinate Mr Steel was substituted for Morley, and in his sixth over he shot Mr Ridley's mid-stump clean out of the ground. The telegraph announced 76 as the total for seven wickets. The first innings of the South may be said now to have virtually closed. A running catch at short leg got rid of Hearne, and a fine catch at point disposed of Steele with the total at 80. The four wickets were obtained in less than five complete overs. Shaw . . claimed six wickets . . .

The North, with 12 runs in hand, began their second innings at ten minutes to 1 o'clock, Marylebone time. Mr Hornby and Lockwood were selected to appear first at the wickets. Messrs Grace and Lucas had charge of the early bowling. Only eight runs were registered when Lockwood's off-stump fell. Ulyett appeared, and a very spirited resistance was offered to the attacking parties, no matter how they were changed about. Steele, who deposed Mr Grace, got severely punished by Ulyett, and, as Hearne fared little better, he gave place to Mr Stratford, and eventually Mr Hornby was stumped off the last comer. Two wickets, 40 runs. Selby offered no effective resistance, although his partner was showing the way to win. Mr A G Steel assisted in bringing up the fourth wicket to 57, when an appeal to the umpire necessitated his retirement. At luncheon 61 runs were announced.

On resumption of play Messrs Grace and Lucas bowled. The latter possessed himself of Daft's wicket with the total at 62. Shrewsbury, though not up to his usual form, played steadily, while his partner was setting bowlers and fielders too at defiance. At 80 Shrewsbury left and Emmett took his place, but not for any length of stay. Pinder was caught at forward short leg for two runs, Shaw at mid-off for 0, and Morley, after being once missed, became a victim to the wicket-keeper. Ulyett brought out his bat after making by far the largest score in the match. Time, 3h 50m . . .

The South now required 106 runs to win. Lord Harris and Mr Grace commenced the uphill task. As before, to Shaw and Morley was assigned the early bowling. Mr Grace played the third ball received to the last-named bowler, but he failed to hold it. This, however, mattered little, as in Shaw's

second over the favoured batsman was caught at long-on. Mr Lucas then joined Lord Harris, and for a long time the scoring became slow; thus 16 overs were delivered for ten runs. At this stage Mr Steel supplanted Morley, but after bowling six overs for 11 runs, he returned the ball to Morley. With the total at 27 Lord Harris was clean bowled.

The result of the match was now pretty clearly foreseen. Shaw's bowling threatened to carry all before it. Half the wickets were lost for 48 runs. Mr Hadow saw 12 maiden overs bowled. His off-stump was then prostrated. Hearne came, and was caught in the slip off Shaw's second over. Mr Stratford appeared ill at ease during his brief stay. Thus far Shaw had been instrumental in capturing all the wickets. The end was near, and at a quarter-past 6 the innings closed for 56 runs, thus leaving the North winners by 49 runs. Shaw bowled 43 overs for 21 runs and claimed eight wickets . . . Nearly 3,000 persons were present.

5 June: MIDDLESEX v YORKSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2275.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 6 June, page 6)

The merest glance at the sides chosen to represent these important and leading counties will be sufficient to show the fitness and capabilities both of amateurs and professionals for the encounter. No doubt the public thought so, or there would not have been so large and demonstrative a company at Lord's, especially after the North v South match on the same ground a day or two before, and the divided favours consequence upon the match at the Oval going on at the same time.

Yesterday was a promising day for cricket, although at times cloudy and cool. The wickets were pitched nearly opposite to the tavern and armoury, and at the accustomed time Yorkshire, who had won the toss, sent in Mr Dury and Hall. The early bowlers were Messrs Robertson and Stratford, and a wicket was gained with the score at five. Ulyett then came, and before another parting could be effected just 50 runs were added. The two next batsmen in succession left at 57, and this included Lockwood, much to the disappointment of many Yorkshire visitors.

Bates made up for it, after being missed early. His chief hits were four fours, almost straight drives, one three, cut, seven twos &c; Ulyett's hits were three threes, ten twos and 23 singles. The innings also of Mr Wood, who, though missed early at long leg, displayed some very fine cricket. The eighth wicket realized 118 runs, and the two subsequent ones brought up the total to 183. Five bowlers were engaged, but three only with success . . . Duration of innings, four hours.

The Hon A Lyttelton and Mr I D Walker commenced the Middlesex batting. The latter led off with a leg hit for four; this was followed up with another spirited hit of nearly the same value. Mr Lyttelton retired for a single, clean bowled by Bates from the pavilion wicket. A fine catch at deep mid-off closed Mr Hadow's brief career, and Mr Walker left shortly after. Four wickets were lost for 29 runs. Messrs A J Webbe, Pearson and Vernon put a better face on the matter, for the seventh wicket reached 92. Cole ran himself out unwisely, and Mr Stratford failed to take warning by his fate. Walker did not receive a ball. The innings terminated at 6.40 for 95 runs . . .

Being in a minority of 88 runs, Middlesex resolved upon a "follow on" at once, although there were scarcely ten minutes in hand. Mr Walker and Cole played out time and scored five runs, as is shown by the score annexed. Umpires, Nixon and Hill.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 7 June, page 12)

The second day's play in this match at Lord's was characterized by few special features of interest. When stumps were drawn on Thursday evening each side had completed an innings, and Middlesex were so much in arrear that they had to "follow on." At the call of time five runs were marked, two of which belonged to Mr I D Walker and three to Cole, neither out. Within a few minutes of the accustomed time yesterday they resumed batting.

Bates delivered the first over, and from the first ball of it Mr Walker was caught by the wicket keeper. Cole left soon after, but with an addition of five to his overnight score. These early shortcomings were by no means atoned for till the Hon A Lyttelton and Mr A J Webbe were in possession of the bats. The fourth wicket brought up the total to 79. At 4 o'clock half the wickets were down, but, chiefly by the aid of Mr Lyttelton, just 50 runs were added to this number. His hits were one four, four threes, four twos and 24 singles. Mr Stratford also played a good innings, but not with success to the same extent as Mr Lyttelton, for want of a companion.

With the fall of the tenth wicket the telegraph announced a total of 179. The York fielding was scarcely so sure and smart as during the first Middlesex innings; this may be attributed in a great degree to the soft and slippery condition of the ground, which had suffered severely from a heavy downpour during the night. Six bowlers were engaged. Bates delivered 28 overs for 51 runs and claimed five wickets - all from catches . . .

Yorkshire started on their winning journey at 5.25 p.m. They required 92 runs. Hall and Ulyett were first appointed to the task. The score reached 23 when the first wicket fell, and with the addition of five the ball was thrown up amid much shouting at the departure of Mr Dury. A pretty general opinion was expressed that the match could not be finished within the prescribed time, but the chances and changed incident to cricket manifested themselves in a striking manner when Lockwood and Ulyett were partnered. Both hit with such vigour and success that the attendant on the scorers and the telegraph was kept in full exercise. Lockwood made the only five hit during the match, an on-drive, and Ulyett's fours and threes soon narrowed the number required.

At the appointed hour for drawing stumps less than 20 runs were wanted, and the game was proceeded with for nearly a quarter of an hour, when the scorers by standing up announced a tie, and almost immediately after the winning hit . . . The books were well kept by Hearne and Mycroft . . .

5 June: SURREY v GLOUCESTERSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2277.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 6 June, page 6)

So far as the present season has advanced, fine cricketing days have been of rare occurrence. One, however, was experienced yesterday, when the first of two matches annually played between these counties saw a commencement at Kennington Oval. But that it proved somewhat slow during the early proceedings, the wicket may be said to have been perfect. Therefore, there was nothing to deter Surrey, who had won the toss, from going in. Mr Lucas and Jupp were the early batsmen, and Mr W G Grace and Midwinter started the Gloucestershire bowling.

Surrey's misfortunes began early. In one over from Midwinter Mr Lucas was caught at mid-off, and Mr J Shuter given out "leg before," and thus two of the home team's best batsmen were disposed of for 11 runs. Twice Jupp played Mr Grace to leg for four, but the bowler was quickly avenged, as a catch at square leg got rid of Jupp when the total reached 21.

Three wickets were now down, but before another fell the score was exactly doubled. This was accomplished by the steady batting of Mr Lindsay and Boardman, the former severing the partnership by playing a ball on to his wicket. Mr Wyatt and Boardman were together for nine overs, when a shooter completely defeated the latter. Half the wickets, 48 runs. Without addition Mr Wyatt was caught at the wicket. At luncheon the score stood at 50.

The first over upon resumption proved fatal to Mr Strachan - caught at cover-point. Barratt, who filled the vacancy, made but a brief stay, and with his dismissal eight wickets were down for 52 runs. A long stand was made by Blamires and Potter, and although the cricket they displayed lacked elegance, it proved very profitable. Mr Gilbert deposed Midwinter at 75, and at 88 Potter was caught at third man, and Blamires soon afterwards played into the hands of slip. Time, 3.42. Mr Grace bowled 52 overs 2 balls for 43 runs and 5 wickets . . .

The Gloucestershire innings began at a quarter-past 4 with Messrs Gilbert and W G Grace. Barratt and Blamires, both left-handed, had charge of the bowling, which met with spirited opposition. In 21 overs 32 runs were realized. Then a capital catch at long-on disposed of Mr Gilbert. Midwinter joined Mr Grace, and the defence proving stubborn, several changes were tried; but it was not until 106 runs were recorded that a sharp catch at slip disposed of Midwinter.

The vacated position was occupied by Mr G F Grace, and runs still came freely. Fortune favoured Mr W G Grace, who had a life at the hands of Mr Wyatt at 114, and should have been stumped by Jupp at 132. The day's play closed without further loss to the western county.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 7 June, page 12)

Fine as Thursday was for cricket, yesterday was even better, but the heavy rain had done much to impair the wicket. When play ceased on the previous evening Surrey had completed an innings for 88 runs and Gloucestershire had lost two wickets only for 137. Mr W G and G F Grace were the not-outs

respectively with 93 and 12, and at a quarter-past 12 they again went to the wickets. Southerton and Barratt had charge of the attack, which was well met.

By 12.40 Mr W G Grace had completed his 100, the score then standing at 151. Despite the numerous plans adopted to dissolve the partnership, the brothers continued to score freely, and by 1.35 the second century had to be posted. From a ball bowled by Mr Strachan, Mr W G Grace then had his third life at the hands of Southerton at point. This mattered little, as in the same bowler's next over Mr Grace's off stump was upset. Three wickets, 200 runs. The departing batsman's fine display included a square leg hit for six, a five (four overthrows), ten fours, four threes and 15 twos. Mr Cole, new to the western county eleven this season, joined Mr G F Grace and nine runs were added previous to luncheon. Five of these were gained by a fine on-drive from Barratt by Mr Cole.

Upon resumption, Mr Strachan and Blamires had charge of the bowling. The former soon gave up possession to Southerton, in whose third over a catch at slip disposed of Mr Cole. Four for 222. With no addition to the total, Mr G F Grace also retired - clean bowled - his finely-played contribution including three fours, two threes and eight twos. Half the wickets down. The other five gave very little trouble, and at 3.45 the innings closed for 239 runs. Southerton bowled 46 overs for as many runs and five wickets . .

With a deficiency of 151 runs, Surrey commenced batting operations a second time at 5 minutes past 4. Messrs Shuter and Lucas faced the bowling of Midwinter and Mr Grace. Both of the batsmen performed well, Mr Shuter showing fine defence and hard hitting, while Mr Lucas played in his accustomed style. As runs were more readily made off Mr Grace, he retired in favour of his brother, Mr G F Grace, at 43. The first ball of the new bowler Mr Shuter played hard to square leg and was easily caught. One for 43.

Soon after the incoming of Jupp, Mr Lucas should have been caught at point by Mr W G Grace. This cost Gloucestershire dearly, as the old Cantab saw five wickets fall and played out time. Mr Strachan was the only batsman to keep him company for any length of time. The Surrey captain was disposed of at 94 by a catch at point. Mr Lucas and Potter were together at the call of time . . .

Day 3 (report from Monday 9 June, page 12)

Play in this match at the Oval was delayed on Saturday morning for a while owing to unfavourable weather. Very little interest was attached to the third day, from a certainty of the defeat that awaited Surrey, and the attendance fell far short of that ordinarily witnessed at Kennington on similar occasions. Mr Lucas and Potter, the "not-outs" for 36 and 1 respectively, appeared at their wickets in due course. Messrs W G Grace and Miles were appointed to the early bowling.

Twenty overs were delivered for 10 runs. Mr Lucas, who seldom makes a mistake when hitting to leg, gave the wicket keeper a chance far too precious to be denied. Blamires came and went, leaving no record of his doings beyond a cipher. Barratt then joined Potter, and the score travelled somewhat nimbly up to 150, when the latter returned the ball to Mr Grace. One run was required to save a single-innings defeat when Southerton appeared as last man. He made a square-leg hit for two to begin

with, and presently a single. Barratt, however, soon after gave in to a catch at slip, and thereby brought the innings to a close for 154 runs. Mr W G Grace . . claimed four wickets . . .

Messrs Gilbert and Bush went in to get four runs, the number required to win. Each got a single, and subsequently a hit to leg for four by Mr Gilbert settled the matter. Gloucestershire were accordingly pronounced winners by 10 wickets. Umpires, Humphrey and Pullin.

5 June: KENT v NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2273.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 6 June, page 6)

So far as this match on the St Lawrence Ground, Canterbury, has proceeded, it promises to be well remembered for the unusually large scores effected in its early stages. Notts won the toss and took advantage of the beautiful condition of the wickets by going in first.

Shrewsbury and Oscroft gave the Kent bowlers and fielders, too, plenty of exercise, as 66 runs were recorded when the first wicket fell. This number, however, was trifling compared to the cost of the second wicket, which totalled 258. Oscroft left at 264, Flowers at 272, and when play ceased for the day the telegraph announced 293, and but four wickets down.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 7 June, page 12)

Notts continued their innings yesterday sufficiently early to get through it before 2 o'clock. It will be seen from the score affixed that every batsman contributed something to the enormous total of 384. Kent had either an unusually weak team or a run of adverse luck. Lord Harris, Messrs Penn and Mackinnon were the only representatives of this famed cricket county who reached the domain of double figures.

Day 3 (report from Monday 9 June, page 12)

Long before the termination of the first day's play in this match at Canterbury the defeat of Kent was foreseen, not merely on account of the huge pile of runs at the time scored, but from the superiority of the Nottinghamshire Eleven in the leading essentials of the game. In fact, there were few among them that came short of first-class either with bat or ball, while in some instances their claims to both positions came hardly be disputed.

When stumps were drawn on Thursday 293 runs were scored by Notts for the loss of four wickets. On the following morning Kent had the good fortune to get the remaining six at the average cost of 15 runs each. Seven bowlers were tried during this long innings, but three only succeeded. O'Shaughnessy delivered 81 overs for 108 runs and claimed six wickets – not one clean bowled . . .

Kent selected two redoubtable champions as leaders of the forlorn hope. Morley in conjunction with Shaw very soon effected the overthrow of Mr Absolom, and Hearne then joined Mr Mackinnon; but his brief stay indicated the power of Morley's bowling. When Mr F Penn appeared, the scorers prepared for more active business, and as Shaw's bowling seemed likely to become expensive, Barnes superseded him, and with the score at 57, Morley made way for Wright. This change led to the dismissal of Mr Penn, caught at cover point.

Lord Harris assisted in bringing up the total to 81. at this stage Shaw went on again. Mr Mackinnon left with the total at 100. As an example of the "staying" qualities of the retiring batsman, it is sufficient to say that he defended his wicket for three hours at the rate of 14 runs per

hour. Lord Harris adopted a freer style in getting 33 before being caught at long-on. Total, 114. After this the wickets tumbled fast and the innings closed for 126. Morley claimed five – four clean bowled . . . Time, 6 hours 30 min.

Being in a minority of 258, Kent continued their batting up to the call of time, when 19 runs were scored for the loss of one wicket. On Saturday Mr A Penn and Ingram, the "not-outs" for 12 and 3 respectively, resumed batting at a quarter to 12 o'clock. Morley and Barnes had charge of the bowling. Mr Penn added seven runs to his overnight score – caught in slip – but Ingram nothing. In fact, Mr Penn was the only batsman who could make a stand worth speaking of. Barnes claimed seven wickets . . . Notts won the match by an innings and 180 runs. Umpires, Daft and Goodhew.

5 June: OXFORD UNIVERSITY v MARYLEBONE CLUB AND GROUND

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2276.html)

Final report (report from Saturday 7 June, page 12)

A very moderate team of the leading club opposed the Oxford University on Cowley Marsh, Oxford, on Thursday and yesterday. Chiefly owing to the fine play of Thornton, Fowler and the captain of the University Eleven, the Club and Ground were defeated by six wickets. Rylott bowled exceedingly well, taking 10 batsmen at a cost of 97 runs, while M'Lachlan for Oxford secured nine wickets for 77 runs.

5 June: LANCASHIRE v DERBYSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2274.html)

Day 1 – no report found

Day 2 (report from Saturday 7 June, page 12)

At the close of Thursday's play in this match, which took place on the Old Trafford ground, Manchester, each side had completed an innings, Derbyshire scoring 64 and Lancashire 81. Barlow's bowling was the feature of the day, securing three wickets with successive balls.

Rain interfered with play yesterday, and owing to the dead state of the ground Derbyshire made but a poor stand, and were in the end beaten by seven wickets.

9 June: NOTTINGHAMSHIRE v YORKSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2279.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 10 June, page 7)

Very little could be done in this match yesterday on the Trent-bridge ground in consequence of wet weather. Notts won the toss and went in, but were stopped altogether before 6 o'clock.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 11 June, page 10)

The Trent Bridge ground was in such a soddened condition yesterday that play could not be proceeded with until a quarter-past 2 o'clock. Several good scores were effected notwithstanding the difficulties attendant upon this state of things. The 10th Notts wicket fell for 170 runs.

Day 3 (report from Thursday 12 June, page 13)

It rarely happens that Yorkshire presents such a meagre score as that of yesterday. This, however, is to be attributed to the condition of the Trent-bridge ground, which was dead against the batsmen. It was nearly hap 3 before any attempt at play was made. Little more than an hour sufficed to get all the wickets. The bowling of Shaw is noteworthy. In 26 overs and three balls, he obtained five wickets for 10 runs. Morley got four wickets, but at a more expensive rate.

At 5 o'clock Yorkshire commenced their "follow on" with Ulyett and Hall. Only a run each was scored when rain fell so fast that no further attempts were made to continue the match, and it was declared drawn.

9 June: MIDDLESEX v GLOUCESTERSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2278.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 10 June, page 7)

Owing to the soft and unsatisfactory condition of the ground at Lord's yesterday, it was resolved to postpone the commencement of this match till to-day. Wickets pitched early.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 11 June, page 10)

Play began at 11h 45m with Messrs Walker and A J Webbe at the wickets, opposed to Mr W G Grace and Midwinter as bowlers-in-chief. Ten overs were delivered for 10 runs acquired, when Mr Walker, usually a safe judge of a run, made a wrong calculation and lost his wicket in consequence. The Hon A Lyttelton then joined Mr Webbe, but a fine catch at square-leg brought on his brother. At this time 17 runs only were scored for the loss of two wickets.

Mr Webbe retired soon after, with the total at 20, and Mr Pearson left with the addition of a single, though not of his own contributing. At 24 Mr H R Webbe's wicket fell to a trimming ball of Midwinter's. In this rapid way half the wickets were lost. Mr Vernon proved a more abiding companion to the Hon E Lyttelton, and the score advanced to 35 before he received his dismissal from Mr Grace. Mr Stratford made no sign, and while Mr Robertson was at the wicket eight overs were bowled for six runs. A sharp catch at short-leg dismissed Mr Robertson for a single, and an easy catch at point in Mr Grace's next over got rid of Steele. This brought the innings to a close, as Mr Henery did not appear when wanted. Total, 41 runs. There were no extras. Mr Grace . . claimed six wickets . . . The innings occupied little more than an hour.

Gloucestershire started with Messrs W G Grace and Gilbert. The weather was now truly genial, and visitors began to flock in. Mr Robertson and Steele had charge of the ball. Sixteen overs were delivered for 15 runs. The bowlers then changed ends. From the third over of the change Mr Grace was caught at third man for an unexpectedly small contribution. Midwinter created no sensation, and but for the spirited operations of Mr Gilbert and subsequently those of Mr Cole, there would have been little room for choice between the counties. Seven wickets were lost for 53 runs. Eventually Mr Bush, by an on drive for four, advanced the score to 70, and almost immediately after Steele clean bowled Mr Miles. This terminated the innings at five minutes past 4 o'clock . . .

Although a minority of 29 runs is not a large one under some circumstances, in the present instance, considering the state of the ground, still heavy, it required a great effort to overcome it. Two better men could not have been selected to face the difficulty than Messrs Walker and A J Webbe. Both played with care, skill and confidence. When 26 runs were acquired Mr G F Grace deposed Midwinter at the Pavilion wicket. This, however, did not check the scoring to any great extent. Mr Gallop went on at Mr W G Grace's end. The first hour's play realized 40 runs. Mr Webbe left at 46, clean bowled. The brothers Lyttelton were partnered up to 55.

But the most exciting part of the play occurred during the last hour between Messrs Pearson and Vernon. The free hitting of these batsmen when

together soon brought the 100 into prominence amid general cheering. At 7 o'clock stumps were drawn, with the score as understated. Umpires, Thoms and Pullin.

Day 3 (report from Thursday 12 June, page 13)

Great disappointment was caused yesterday by the abandonment of this match at Lord's, but the state of the weather and the ground was against its being proceeded with.

12 June: MARYLEBONE CLUB AND GROUND v KENT

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2280.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 13 June, page 10)

Many were the apprehensions before noon yesterday that the above match would meet with a fate similar to Middlesex and Gloucestershire in the early part of the week; for the showers, though intermittent, were sufficiently drenching to make the ground in its most favoured parts rotten, and the foothold of the fielders, no matter where stationed, to a great extent unsure.

Soon, however, as opportunity presented itself for a start, even under adverse circumstances, Marylebone sent Mr Ross and Barnes to the wickets, which were pitched nearly midway up, and almost in a line with the centre of the pavilion. The company at the outset of play might be easily numbered; in fact, at the brightest period of the day such a task could be performed without much mental effort. Hassan and O'Shaughnessy were the bowlers at the start.

Eight overs were delivered, from which seven runs resulted. G Hearne deposed Hassan, and from the first ball of the change Mr Ross received his dismissal. Four wickets were lost with the figures at 17. Messrs Duncan and Roberts checked this massive levelling. The latter assisted in bringing up this total to 40, when he was clean bowled. Flowers contributed two singles. Mr Stratford did not enter upon a second over, nor turn the first to any account, being clean bowled. Rylott effected a two and a single, and Pilling three singles. In this way matters proceeded till a few minutes past 4, when Mr Duncan brought out his bat with by far the best score of the day. Four bowlers were engaged . . .

Kent began batting with the brothers Hearne, opposed to Mycroft and Barnes, the early bowlers. A very wild attempt at a third run led to F Hearne's retirement, and the brother soon after followed, caught in the slip. Nor did matters improve much during the partnership of O'Shaughnessy and Mr F Penn. Between the Hon Ivo Bligh and Lord Harris the score moved along, though at a slow pace for such powerful bats. Rylott deposed Barnes, and in his first over Mr Bligh was caught off him in the slip. Half the wickets were thus lost for 33 runs.

Lord Harris shortly after gave a chance to third man, which he declined. At 47 Barnes went on at Mycroft's end, and in his first over accepted a ball returned to him by Mr Jones, and one run later Lord Harris was taken at long-on. The innings now rapidly neared its close. Mr Foord-Kelcey gave in to a smart catch at long-on - total, 55 for eight wickets. Nothing was added hereto. Duration of innings, 1 hour and 20 minutes . . .

Marylebone started their second innings nine runs in advance. Mr Ross played into the hands of slip with the total at 13 for 1 wicket, and Hearn was caught at short leg very soon after. Only 33 were totalled at the call of time for 4 wickets. Umpires, Farrands and Price.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 14 June, page 13)

The statistics of this match - revealed in part by the score - embody several curious features. It rarely happens that two such elevens as those

who began the contest at Lord's on Thursday contrive to complete it in the space of six hours. Yet here a fact remains. True, the weather did not favour run-getting, and to this cause in a great measure must be referred the scantiness of the four totals. When play ceased on the first day each side had completed an innings, and four Marylebone wickets were lost also for 33 runs.

Yesterday, Flowers, the "not out" for eight, was partnered with Mr Duncan, the gentleman who signalized himself in the first innings of Marylebone. The bowling of G Hearne, however, would not admit of a repeated score on the part of either batsman. Flowers was caught at mid-off from the first ball presented to him, and Mr Duncan left immediately after - caught at short leg. Messrs Vernon and Stratford were somewhat puzzled with their task. The score rose by slow degrees to 42, when Mr Stratford also surrendered to the attack of Hearne.

A little more life was infused into the proceedings when Rylott occupied the wicket. A fine left-hand catch at point terminated Mr Vernon's career with the total at 53. Pilling's contribution came opportunely, as it enabled Rylott to go ahead. At the fall of the ninth wicket 63 runs were telegraphed. The innings closed after three were added thereto. Five kinds of bowling were tried, but three only with success - viz., Hearne delivered 25 overs and one ball for 21 runs, and claimed 8 wickets . . .

Kent now required 76 runs to win - a mere trifle, so to speak, in some circumstances - and they sent in the brothers Hearne first to get them. Mycroft and Barnes were, however, in opposition. Before the first over could be completed an appeal to the umpire was made, and F Hearne left his wicket. O'Shaughnessy occupied the vacated spot. G Hearne disappointed by stopping at a single. O'Shaughnessy followed suit. Lord Harris failed altogether, caught in slip. Four wickets, two runs.

The Hon Ivo Bligh brought up the figures to 17. A fine straight drive near to the Pavilion and as fine a catch awoke the silence of the small company who witnessed the affair; Mr Penn had to retire. Mr Jones contributed only a single - clean bowled. The stay of Mr Foord-Kelcey was also very brief and disappointing. Seven wickets were now down for 21 runs.

Although great reliance was placed on Mr Bligh, he had the weakest of supporters in three successive companions. Two seemed quite unequal to the attacks of Rylott, and the other deficient of the knowledge of when to run and how. Thus, by mistakes and shortcomings, Kent, instead of scoring the winning number easily, were left in a minority of just 50 runs . . . in the double innings 27 wickets were lost through catches and only eight clean bowled . . .

12 June: YORKSHIRE v SURREY

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2282.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 13 June, page 10)

The downpour was so heavy in Hull about the time announced for the commencement of this match yesterday, that, after waiting an hour or two, the captains decided to abandon play until to-day. The ground presented a pitiable sight.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 14 June, page 13)

The parties concerned in this match at Hull were able to make a beginning yesterday, though not in very favourable circumstances. Surrey went first to the wickets, but the heavy state of the ground militated against runs. No less than four batsmen, looked to for a few, came out with ciphers, Jupp among them. Mr Shuter displayed an admirable defence and made more runs than all the rest. The tenth wicket fell for 50.

Yorkshire began their innings with Ulyett and Hall, and at the close of the day's play 55 runs were obtained for the loss of one wicket.

Day 3

Notwithstanding the total loss of the first day through very bad weather, and scarcely half a day's work accomplished on the second, Saturday afforded time and opportunity enough to play the match out. Nearly 2,000 persons were attracted to the match at Hull, probably with some curiosity to see how easily Surrey would be beaten. At the close of Friday's play the visitors had completed an innings for 51 runs, while with only one wicket down the Yorkshire score amounted to 55.

The Surrey bowling on Saturday proved more effective, and the remaining nine wickets were cleared off at the rate of seven runs each. When Surrey had to face Bates and Emmett they made a very feeble resistance indeed. The former obtained six wickets . . . Yorkshire won the match by an innings and ten runs.

12 June: OXFORD UNIVERSITY v A W RIDLEY'S ELEVEN

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2281.html)

Day 1 – no report found

Day 2 (report from Saturday 14 June, page 13)

In this match it will be seen at a glance that on both sides were men of mark and distinction in the cricket world. Play began on Thursday on the Christ Church ground, and when stumps were drawn Mr Ridley's side had completed an innings – one man short – for 76 runs, and seven university wickets were down for 51 runs.

The name of Evans figures conspicuously in the opening innings. He obtained six wickets in 31 overs and three balls for 42 runs. Mr Jellicoe three wickets in 31 overs for 31 runs. On the other side the bowling of Shaw and Morley quite sustained its high professional character . . .

Day 3 (report from Monday 16 June, page 13)

University cricket at Oxford may be said to have terminated on Saturday last, when the tenth wicket in this match fell to Morley. From the outset of play on Thursday Mr Ridley's side was most in favour, the bowling being considered. Long scores were next to impossible from the dead state of the ground (Christ Church) and frequent heavy rain. It will be seen from the complete score hereto attached that the Oxonians were defeated by 52 runs, Marylebone will play two matches during the vacation with Oxford city.

16 June: YORKSHIRE v KENT

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2284.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 17 June, page 12)

The parties concerned in this match met yesterday on the Bramall-lane ground. In the early part of the morning the weather was fine. Yorkshire won the toss and went in, but had not proceeded far when rain came down so persistently that it put an entire stop to play soon after 1 o'clock.

Ulyett's batting was very fine; one ball dropped clean into the pavilion, but by a very questionable piece of judgment he ran himself out. There was a large attendance.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 18 June, page 10)

Nearly 7,000 persons visited the Bramhall-lane-ground, Sheffield, yesterday, to witness the continuance of this match. Each side was enabled to complete an innings. As will be seen from the score, the results were not very wide. Lord Harris achieved the highest individual honours. Play will be resumed to-day at the usual time.

Day 3 (report from Thursday 19 June, page 13)

Notwithstanding the disagreeables attendant upon the early stages of this match, in the end it proved to be an interesting and very pleasant affair. Kent, it is true, lost by 61 runs, but this did not occasion much surprise, as the Yorkshire team was from the beginning taken for choice by the generality of cricketers.

The bowling of Peate yesterday was very effective. He claimed six wickets in 33 overs for 38 runs. The greatest number of runs obtained during the match is accredited to Lockwood - viz., 54; next to him, Lord Harris, 50; and then Ulyett, 49. About 3,000 persons were present at the Bramall-lane Ground yesterday to witness the closing stages of the match, the weather being very fine.

16 June: MARYLEBONE CLUB AND GROUND v NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2283.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 17 June, page 12)

From 9 o'clock till 12 yesterday rain fell so heavily in the neighbourhood of Marylebone that the above match was not attempted. The afternoon proved fine, and many persons who hastened to Lord's in the expectation of seeing a little play had to return disappointed.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 18 June, page 10)

It is quite possible if two hours more had been expended yesterday upon this match at Lord's it would have been got through. As matters now stand, Notts will go again to the wickets to-day and obtain, if possible, 100 runs with eight men, otherwise the match will be lost to them.

A few words will suffice to show the character and condition of the match during the various stages of its progress. Marylebone won the toss and sent Messrs Hornby and Studd to the wickets at 11.45. Shaw led off the bowling from the pavilion end of the ground. Morley was stationed opposite. The fielders were soon busy. Mr Hornby patronized, or rather dealt so severely with Morley that he gave place to Barnes. Runs still travelled so briskly that 49 were recorded before a wicket fell. Mr Studd left and Mr Duncan took his place; a catch at short leg, however, announced an immediate dismissal. The Hon E Lyttelton made quite as brief and profitless a stay as his immediate predecessor - caught at long-on.

The batting increased in vigour while Mr Vernon and Mr Hornby were partners. When the latter retired the telegraph proclaimed 55 runs for four wickets. After this scarcely anything transpired more than the excellent innings of Mr Vernon worthy of record. Shaw bowled throughout, and delivered 35 overs for 38 runs and claimed five wickets . . .

Notts began batting with Daft and Oscroft; the former, though evincing considerable care, was unable long to ward off the attacks of Rylott. His successor (Selby) gave way more easily. Shrewsbury appeared when the figures 20 were telegraphed for two wickets. As runs now came with greater freedom Clayton deposed Mycroft, and the change soon produced the desired effect. A splendid piece of fielding on the part of Mr Hornby got rid of Oscroft. Half the wickets were down for 48 runs. Barnes displayed an amount of stubbornness that contrasted admirably with the easy surrenders of half his professional brethren. The innings closed at 10 minutes to 5 o'clock for 70 runs. Clayton . . claimed six wickets . . .

Excepting three instances the scoring of mar in their second innings was weakness itself, and Mr Ly, who made the largest score, was missed easily in short slip before he got a run. Nearly all the profitable work was done when Mr Vernon left. After his retirement the wickets tumbled with a rapidity that provoked ridicule, and the innings closed at 6.40 for 78 runs. Shaw . . obtained six wickets . . .

As the rule at Marylebone is to play out time, the few minutes that Notts were again on their defence were sufficient for the capture of two wickets for one run.

Day 3 (report from Thursday 19 June, page 13)

When play in this match at Lord's ceased on Tuesday, three innings were completed, and two wickets of the fourth were down for one run. Yesterday, Oscroft, the "not out," in conjunction with Daft, resumed the Notts batting at 12 o'clock. Rylott delivered the first over from the Pavilion wicket, and Mycroft continued from the opposite.

After four successive maidens, Oscroft made a drive for three; Daft copied this example, although at the cost of greater effort and some danger. These exploitings checked, the play lapsed into extreme slowness; 20 runs took 50 minutes to procure. Mycroft gave place to Clayton, who delivered eight overs, and then returned the ball to Mycroft. It occupied one hour and 20 minutes to get the stubborn batsmen parted. Daft returned Rylott his own ball. During the partnership of Oscroft and Daft no less than 19 overs were delivered by Rylott for two runs. Some idea of the staying qualities of Oscroft may be formed from the fact of his being one hour and three quarters at the wicket for 21 runs. Selby and Barnes played a more lively game, and an idea began to be entertained that Notts had yet a chance of winning. At lunch the telegraph announced 58 for four wickets.

Soon after resumption of play Selby left with the total at 64. There were now five wickets to go down and 40 runs to get. Occasionally the score received assistance from random fielding, and now and then a run from the urging of lookers-on. When Barnes retired the total had reached 84. Flowers had his mid stump shot down by Mycroft with the slight addition of two to this number. Shaw appeared as ninth man, and soon lost the company of Scotton, caught long-on. These assailants seemed to be fully aware of the weak points in the last man's defence, and they planted themselves safe for a catch. With the first ball came the opportunity. Morley retired with a cipher to his name, and the match terminated in favour of Marylebone by 16 runs . . . Umpires, Wild and Nixon.

19 June: SURREY v CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2287.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 20 June, page 10)

Cambridge were not represented at the Oval yesterday by their full strength (owing to the unavoidable absence of the brothers Steel), and the same remark may be applied to Surrey, who, however, placed in the field a fairly good team. Having won the toss for Cambridge, the Hon A Lyttelton elected to go in with Mr Whitfeld, and at a quarter-past 12 play began, the attack being led by Barratt and Blamires.

The wicket could hardly be surpassed and the bowling proved exceedingly true. Eleven overs were bowled for seven runs, including two leg-byes. Then in one over from Blamires Mr Lyttelton secured ten runs. After delivering five successive maiden overs the bowler took his revenge by upsetting Mr Lyttelton's wicket. One for 19. The partnership of Messrs Whitfeld and Jones was dissolved by a catch at slip. Two wickets, 43 runs.

The Hon Ivo Bligh partnered Mr Whitfeld, and a stubborn resistance was offered to the bowling, although runs came tardily. A capital piece of fielding brought about the retirement of Mr Whitfeld, who had batted very patiently. This was quickly followed by the dismissal of Mr Studd, clean bowled. Mr Ford succeeded to the vacancy, and at lunch time the score stood at 57.

After the interval the Hon Ivo Bligh hit with great freedom and effort. Various stratagems were resorted to, but without avail until 94 runs were recorded. At this period Mr Ford made way for Mr Jarvis. The score rapidly rose to 126. Three wickets then fell in quick succession. Messrs Jarvis and Lancashire were clean bowled in one over, and Mr Morton was caught at point three overs later. Mr Wood went to the assistance of Mr Bligh, when eight wickets were down for 130. At five minutes to 5 a cheer signalized the completion of Mr Bligh's century. A smart catch at the wicket at length got rid of Mr Wood. The innings closed at 5.11 for 225 runs. Mr Bligh carried out his bat, having performed exceedingly well. In his long innings were 10 fours, 7 threes and 11 twos . . .

Surrey began batting with Messrs Shuter and Lucas, opposed to whom were Messrs Morton and Wood. The early overs gave great promise. Mr Shuter played brilliantly and secured no less than 22 of 23 runs scored in three overs from Mr Morton. The bowlers then changed ends. At 32 Mr Shuter played a ball back, and six runs later Mr Lindsay fell to Mr Wood. Jupp partnered Mr Lucas, and these batsmen played out time.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 21 June, page 12)

At the close of the first day's play in this match, commenced at Kennington-oval on Thursday, there was great promise of an interesting contest. Cambridge had completed an innings for 225 runs, and Surrey had lost two wickets for 76 runs.

Unfortunately for the home team rain fell during the night, and their chances of equalling their opponents were much diminished. Mr Lucas and Jupp, the overnight not-outs, with 26 and 14 respectively, resumed batting yesterday at a quarter-past 12. Opposed to them were Messrs Wood and Ford,

until the score stood at 88, when Mr Morton took the place of the last-named. This plan proved profitable to the visitors, as Mr Lucas was clean bowled by Mr Morton's third delivery. Two wickets, 88 runs.

All hopes of a close struggle were shortly at an end. Jupp witnessed the departure of the remaining batsmen – five of whom failed to be of any use – and carried his bat out for a carefully played 31. The innings closed at five minutes to two for 120 runs. Mr Wood bowled with great success, taking seven wickets in 44 overs at a cost of 41 runs . . .

Being in a minority of 105 runs, Surrey had to follow on. Jupp and Mr Shuter led the way at ten minutes to 3. Messrs Wood and Ford had charge of the attack. The first wicket, that of Mr Shuter – caught at point – fell for three runs; a bad beginning, certainly. Mr Lucas and Jupp were not separated until 34 were registered, the former being then caught at mid-off. In his contribution was a fine off drive for five.

Matters now looked gloomy for Surrey. Jupp could get no one to stay with him for any length of time. He was ultimately caught at short leg. An off drive for five was his chief hit. Seven wickets for 90 runs. The question whether Surrey would suffer an innings defeat was soon decided, but what appeared inevitable was only averted by two runs. Time, 5.35 . . .

The task of three runs was accomplished without loss by Cambridge, who thus won by ten wickets. Umpires, Watts and Southerton.

19 June: MIDDLESEX v OXFORD UNIVERSITY

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2286.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 20 June, page 10)

At Lord's yesterday Middlesex won the toss, and within a few minutes of 12 o'clock Messrs Walker and Green went in to the bowling of Messrs Evans and Jellicoe. Misfortune attended Mr Green at the start, for he was badly run without the chance of recording a figure for himself. Mr Vernon achieved a brilliant innings of 54, compounded of three fours, five threes, seven twos &c. The innings was not very fertile in incident. The fifth wicket fell for 106 runs and the eleventh for 158. Four bowlers were engaged . . .

Messrs H R Webbe and Heath began the Oxford batting. Steele led off the attack from the lower wicket and Mr Stratford took his station at the pavilion. The early stages of the play were accompanied with unusual disaster. Three wickets were lost for eight runs; the fourth amounted to 12 and the next to 16. All this was the work of little more than half an hour.

Some very spirited hitting followed this dismal state of things. Messrs Hirst and Haskett-Smith brought on a change of bowling at 37 - namely, Mr Robertson in place of Mr Stratford. It mattered little, however, and runs came by fours and threes with such frequency that the telegraph attendant was kept in active employment. One ball was returned with such force to the bowler that he retired on account of a disabled hand. During the first hour 50 runs were recorded.

Mr Cottrell went on in place of Steele at 54, but only for three overs, and in getting back to his wicket after an attempt to run Mr Hirst slipped, and the wicket-keeper turned the misadventure to account. At this time 69 runs were recorded. Before the seventh wicket was captured the score amounted to 96. Then came a falling off, and the sanguine supporters of Oxford foresaw a considerable minority of runs likely to be included in the total. This proved to be the case - viz., 45 . . .

The Oxford innings closed sufficiently early to allow Messrs Walker and Green to recommence for Middlesex. These gentlemen played up to time. Umpires, Farrands and Price.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 21 June, page 12)

There were not many persons present yesterday to witness the recommencement of play in this match at Lord's. At the appointed time Messrs Walker and Green, the not-outs for 14 and 10 respectively, were at the wickets. From the first ball of the morning Mr Walker was caught, and Mr Lyttelton filled the vacancy caused thereby, and, in conjunction with Mr Green, brought up the total to 48, when the latter miscalculated time and distance, and, for the second time in the match, figured on the score-sheet as run out.

Mr Vernon hit Mr M'Lachlan as well as Mr Jellicoe with his accustomed freedom and this suggested a change at both ends. At 65 Mr Thornton deposed the former, and a few runs later Mr Knight went on in place of the latter. Mr Lyttelton left at 73 - caught at square leg. Mr Pearson's impatience lost his wicket. The subsequent contributions were small. A fine catch with one hand by Mr Webbe stopped the career of Mr Vernon. The

sixth wicket realized 98 runs . . ninth and tenth, 135. Six bowlers were engaged . . .

At ten minutes past 3 o'clock Oxford commenced their second innings, with Messrs Webbe and Heath. They required 181 runs to win. Steele was deputed to lead off the bowling from the lower wicket, and Mr Henery to operate at the other. But faint hopes, however, were entertained of a Dark Blue success. When Messrs Heath and Greene got pretty well set, the Middlesex captain thought it politic to try a few underhand slows, and the device soon succeeded in the capture of Mr Heath's wicket. The score at this period stood at 70, towards which Mr Heath contributed 61 by two fours, six threes, eleven twos and singles. By way of contrast, it may be stated that his partner, Mr Greene, scored but seven in about the same time.

Mr Thornton came next, and the weakness of the bowling began to manifest itself in the necessity for frequent changes and also in the gradual advance of the score. At 5.30 the 100 appeared on the telegraph amid all but general acclamation. 81 runs were wanted and only three wickets lost. This number decreased rapidly during the next hour. When Mr Hirst was caught in the slip five wickets were down with the total at 149. The result could now be plainly seen. No extension of time which had been suggested was necessary, for at ten minutes to 7 the necessary hit was accomplished and the University were declared winners by six wickets. Bowling analysis . . .

19 June: LANCASHIRE v KENT

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2285.html)

Day 1 – no report found

Day 2 (report from Saturday 21 June, page 12)

A slight alteration was perceptible in the Kent team who played at Sheffield in the early part of the week when they turned out against Lancashire at Old Trafford on Thursday. The absence of the Hon Ivo Bligh was a great loss.

A good start was given to the Kent score by Messrs Mackinnon and Absolom, which moved at the rate of nearly a run per minute during the first hour. Hearne contributed nothing, Mr F Penn but two, and the third wicket fell for 68 runs. Lord Harris made a determined stand. With the total at 85 Mr Mackinnon retired and Mr Foord-Kelcey took his place, but he stayed only a short time. The varied kinds of bowling seemed to perplex all but the Kent leader, who compiled a score of 42 without any other chance than that which led to his dismissal. The innings terminated shortly after 11 o'clock . . . Total, 128.

Lancashire selected Mr Hornby and Barlow for leading batsmen. These so strained the attacking force of Kent that nearly every device was had recourse to for a separation. Nearly 100 runs were registered before the first wicket fell, although several chances were given by Mr Hornby while putting together his contribution of 61. Mr Royle joined Barlow, and at 111 Barlow gave place to Mr Kershaw; and these two gentlemen played out time, when the score stood at 135 for the loss of two wickets.

Play was continued yesterday in magnificent weather, and Kent were defeated by an innings and 45 runs.

23 June: MARYLEBONE CLUB AND GROUND v CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2289.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 24 June, page 11)

Among what are considered "trial matches" in the programme of this University, that played annually with Marylebone is regarded as the most severe, and as a consequence the most attractive. Rather more than a month has elapsed since Marylebone met the University team on their own ground, and owing to the actual superiority of the Light Blues the latter came off conquerors by an innings and 78 runs. In the return match appointed to be played yesterday at Lord's great care was taken by the executive to avoid a second defeat. Neither of the sides was composed of the same persons exactly - far from it. The University had two changes, Marylebone seven; and these changes, on the part of the latter especially, were manifest improvements.

In the early part of the morning the ground was thought to be slow, and this, perhaps, might have been the reason for sending the visitors to the wickets, which played very well throughout the day. Shaw and Morley were chosen for the early bowling; the Hon A Lyttelton and Mr Whitfeld were first to oppose it. The play all round was characterized by steadiness. No great scores were made - in fact, five really good batsmen left with the total at 34. Mr D Q Steel made a stand, but failed to run up a total of any magnitude. From the eighth wicket to the eleventh only one run was added, but Mr Morton had no opportunity, as he did not receive a ball. The innings lasted about two and a quarter hours for a total of 72. The bowling analysis reads thus: . . .

Without loss of time Marylebone proceeded with the business in hand. Messrs I D Walker and F Penn took their stations at the wickets. The scorers were set to work at once and kept close to it. Mr Walker left at 27, and Mr Vernon filled the vacancy, though not for long. Mr A G Steel was successful in the capture of both. Less difficulty was experienced in getting rid of the Hon E Lyttelton than his opponents expected, and Mr Pearson gave no trouble.

But how to dispose of Mr Penn was the question. He defied all the bowling and punished nearly all alike. A finer innings has seldom been witnessed, not to be estimated so much on account of its length as the truly elegant, masterly and forcible style of batting. His innings of 134 afforded scarcely a chance but that gladly seized upon to secure his dismissal. In his score were one five (an almost straight drive), nine fours, ten threes, 19 twos &c. He survived eight companions and at length succumbed to the dexterity of Mr Lyttelton behind the wicket. Mr Tylecote, Morley and Shaw recorded a four each. The innings terminated at 6h 35min for a total of 241 . . .

Messrs A Lyttelton and Whitfeld went on again to play out time. Eleven runs were acquired, as shown by the subjoined score. Umpires, Nixon and Sherwin. Nearly 4,000 persons visited the ground during the day.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 25 June, page 13)

A shower of about twenty minutes' duration yesterday impeded to some extent the resumption of play in this annual match at Lord's. Soon as practicable

the Hon A Lyttelton and Mr Whitfeld, the not-outs for 6 and 5 respectively, took their stations at the wickets. Both resisted Morley and Shaw vigorously and to purpose.

The score was augmented to nearly 40 within the first half-hour. Some of the runs, however, composing this number were obtained at considerable hazard, and the daring of Mr Whitfeld received frequent checks from his companion and captain of the blue team. Eventually he lost his wicket in attempting a second run where it was not obtainable. Another shower drove one and all concerned in the play to the nearest shelter.

Mr A G Steel occupied the wicket vacated by Mr Whitfeld, and the total advanced to 47. Here a thunderstorm arose and the ground soon became saturated. Two dull hours were passed away in the hope of proceeding with the match, but the stumps were at 4.30 pulled up.

Day 3 - no report found

23 June: DERBYSHIRE v LANCASHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2288.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 24 June, page 11)

According to announcement, the above-named match was commenced yesterday at Derby. The residents won the toss and went in soon after 12 o'clock and occupied the wickets nearly three hours. Seven Lancashire wickets were down at the call of time for 113 runs.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 25 June, page 13)

The second day's play in this match at Derby was accompanied with rough weather; the attendance, notwithstanding, came fully up to the standard of expectation. Lancashire, who were ahead on the first day, followed up their success yesterday, and at length won the match with five wickets to spare.

26 June: SURREY v MIDDLESEX

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2292.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 27 June, page 10)

Owing to the heavy rain in the early part of yesterday, the Oval was not pronounced fit to enter upon this contest till nearly half-past 3 in the afternoon. Surrey won the toss and sent Messrs Lucas and Shuter to the wickets forthwith.

For a while the scoring, as might be expected, was very slow. Messrs Ford and Stratford had change of the early bowling. Mr Shuter was caught at point with the score at 18. Jupp then appeared, and nine overs were delivered for one run. At 28 Mr Robertson deposed Mr Stratford. The change, however, seemed to suit Mr Lucas, as he enlarged his score at a somewhat rapid rate - i.e., 14 runs in four overs. At 43 Mr Pearson's slow round deliveries were tried in conjunction with the fast bowling of Steele. The score, nevertheless, went ahead, and Mr Ford resumed at 65, and seven runs later Mr Stratford was tried again.

The next change occurred at 86, but Mr Walker's underhands failed in their effect. Jupp played Mr Ford well to leg for five, and exactly three hours from the start of the innings three figures were posted on the telegraph. A chance offered by Mr Lucas to the bowler, Steele, was declined, but at 123 this accomplished batsman surrendered to a catch at cover-point. His score of 62 was compounded of two fives, two fours, one three, ten twos and singles. Two wickets were now down for 123 runs. Boardman's contribution fell short of expectation, and Jupp left with the total at 137. Messrs Strachan and Birley played up to time. Umpires, Potter and Farrands.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 28 June, page 12)

When play ceased at Kennington Oval on Thursday evening Surrey had lost four wickets for 144 runs. Yesterday there was nothing to prevent the match being proceeded with shortly after 12. Accordingly, Messrs Strachan and Birley, the not-outs, with four each, resumed batting, opposed by Messrs Robertson and Ford.

In the seventh over Mr Birley was taken at point, and half the wickets were down for 155 runs. Mr Wyatt had a life at the hands of Mr Webbe at leg, but was dismissed when 174 runs were registered. Pooley and Mr Strachan, despite a double change of bowling, were companions while 33 runs were accumulated. The latter was then caught at slip. Seven for 207. The outstanding wickets realized but five runs, and were disposed of in less than six overs. Thus the venture closed at 1.26 for 212 runs . . .

Middlesex started batting with Messrs Webbe and Walker, opposed to whom were Southerton and Blamires. Mr Walker was disposed of by the long-stop. One for 20. Mr Pearson had only made seven, when he gave an easy chance to Barratt at point. Various plans were adopted in the hope of separating the batsmen, but the score-sheet registered 71 before Mr Webbe was caught at slip. Mr Lyttelton did not meet with much success. He retired - clean bowled - at 90. Mr Vernon joined Mr Pearson and the score travelled at a brisk rate. At 123 the former played a ball loftily to short leg, and the chance was not allowed to pass.

Mr Studd came in. Shortly afterwards Mr Pearson had a second life. At length his finely hit, though rather lucky, innings was brought to a close by a catch at long-off. His items included four fives, five fours, four threes and three twos. Half the wickets for 178 runs. The remainder added 53. Of this number Mr Salmon claimed a very large proportion. The innings closed at 6.20. Surrey commenced their second innings at 6.40 . . .

Day 3 (report from Monday 30 June, page 9)

The agreeable change in Saturday's weather induced a large number of persons to visit the Oval to witness the third day's play, although there were but faint hopes of seeing the match finished. When stumps were drawn on Friday, each side had completed an innings with but a slight difference in the results, and Surrey had also made 11 runs of a second innings without loss of a wicket. On Saturday the innings of Surrey was brought to a close for 121 runs. The bowling analysis reads thus: . . .

The task set for Middlesex was not a very formidable one. 103 runs were wanted, with three hours to get them. Messrs E Lyttelton and A J Webbe started, and a very indifferent start they made. The latter retired for four. At 11 Mr Lyttelton ought to have been dismissed, but escaped. He, however, fell to Southerton shortly after. Messrs Walker and Studd then got together, and very soon the aspect of the game underwent a great change. The score reached 62, when Mr Studd returned a ball to the bowler. Mr Pearson filled his place.

Nearly 30 runs were accumulated before Mr Pearson's wicket fell. A few more were required when Mr Vernon joined Mr Walker, and, these being soon got together, Middlesex won the match by six wickets . . .

26 June: MARYLEBONE CLUB AND GROUND v OXFORD UNIVERSITY

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2291.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 27 June, page 10)

Such was the condition of the ground at Lord's yesterday that no attempts were made to proceed with this match.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 28 June, page 12)

Soon after 12 o'clock yesterday a start was made in this match at Lord's in the presence of a very small company. Oxford won the toss and sent Messrs Webbe and Heath to the wickets, which were unavoidably heavy. Mycroft and Shaw were chosen for the early bowling.

Mr Webbe left in the first over, and before he managed to score a run. Mr Greene came, and at six Mr Heath was caught by the wicket-keeper. Mr Thornton assisted in augmenting the total to 13. At this stage a catch by long-slip disposed of him, and Mr Hare filled the vacant situation. For a while the play was steady but not over productive. Both Mr Greene and Mr Hare contributed seven, but Mr Hirst, who went in fourth wicket down, was clean bowled from the first ball. Total, 18.

This disastrous beginning was atoned for to some extent by Mr Haskett-Smith, who not only exhibited an admirable defence but collected his runs by free and masterly hitting. Mr Fowler received his dismissal at the hands of Mr Green, fielding at cover point. Mr Evans then joined Mr Smith, and the play all round became more lively after luncheon, when the telegraph announced 60 runs for eight wickets. Mr M'Lachlan put together the same number of runs as Mr Smith, though in a much shorter time. The innings occupied rather more than three hours and produced 90 runs . . .

Marylebone deputed Messrs Tylecote and Russell to head their forces, and a much better choice could hardly have been made, although the latter fell to the devices of Mr Jellicoe earlier than might have been contemplated. Mr Ross proved more successful. On his retirement the second wicket claimed 33 runs. Mr Green, in conjunction with Mr Tylecote, brought up the third to 71. Some splendid cricket was exhibited while these celebrated batsmen were partners. Mr Green eventually was caught at short leg and Mr Tylecote at point. The latter put together the longest score of the match by three threes, eight twos and five singles. A running catch with the left hand high up, which disposed of Mr Jeffreys, elicited general applause. The sixth wicket reached 96. After this the contributions, except in one instance, were limited to single figures, and the innings closed for 118; one man short when wanted, and that man the captain.

Full three-quarters of an hour was left for play, and Oxford started their second innings with Messrs Heath and Greene. Both lost their wickets, and Messrs Thornton and Hare played out time. Total, 38 runs. The match was then declared drawn. Umpires, Nixon and Wild.

30 June: OXFORD UNIVERSITY v CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2293.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 1 July, page 11)

The gloomy forebodings indulged in last week respecting the fate of this important annual match, on account of the weather and the condition of Lord's ground, were entirely dispelled yesterday. The action of sun and wind and the absence of rain since Friday had so tempered the spot selected for wickets that a better pair could hardly be desired. Long before the time for commencement of play a large company presented itself, consisting in a considerable degree of past and present University men to whom the match in question was specially interesting.

The first inter-University contest dates back about half a century. Sometimes for a series of years the Dark Blues carried all before them; a similar run of fortune then favoured the Light. A wide difference in results almost as frequently attended one as the other. Taking the gross completed number up to the present time each party has won 21 matches.

With this level start Oxford – who, as last year, won the toss – elected to bat, and at ten minutes past 12 o'clock sent Messrs Webbe and Heath to the wickets. Cambridge intrusted Messrs Steel and Morton with the early bowling; the former from the pavilion end of the ground, from whence the first over was delivered. The score soon reached 27, when Mr Wood relieved Mr Morton. After nine runs were added a catch at long off from a full-pitched ball terminated Mr Webbe's career. Mr Greene came next, but retired after an unexpectedly brief stay, and Mr Thornton copied the example of his predecessor to a nicety. Most of the runs for some time subsequent to the appearance of Mr Hare resulted from singles. The score advanced to 78 at luncheon time, and of these 30 were singles, half of which were scored in succession – one characteristic of the fielding.

Soon after the resumption of play Mr Heath received his dismissal – caught in slip – and Mr Hare played "on." Half the wickets were lost for 79 runs. Messrs Haskett-Smith and Hirst proved stubborn, and although the style of the former laid itself open to adverse criticism, the figures 114 appeared on the telegraph when the sixth wicket fell. Mr Fowler then became the partner of Mr Hirst, but he remained with him but a short time – caught at wicket. A better help-mate was found in Mr Evans, who assisted materially in bringing up the total to 147, when Mr Hirst gave a chance to the wicket-keeper which it is hardly necessary to say he did not fail to accept. Neither Mr M'Lachlan nor Mr Jellicoe could withstand Mr Steel, both clean bowled from a first ball. Total, 149. Duration of innings, three hours.

Cambridge began batting with the Hon A Lyttelton and Mr Whitfeld, opposed to Mr Evans, pavilion wicket, and Mr Jellicoe, contra. The defence of both was very obstinate and long. They were together one hour and forty minutes; 85 runs in the meantime. Nearly all the bowling resources of Oxford were had recourse to in order to effect a parting. Mr Whitfeld was the first to surrender – played "on." Mr Lyttelton was caught at mid off and Mr Bligh clean bowled by Mr Thornton. It is somewhat remarkable that this gentleman – the second change – bowled 11 maiden overs in succession and got two wickets.

At the call of time Mr Steel was the not out, with the total at 155 for five wickets. The company was variously estimated, but in the absence of

any official statement the conjecture of 10,000 persons is not, perhaps, extravagantly wide. Play will be resumed to-day at the usual time. Umpires, Farrands and Wheeler.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 2 July, page 13)

The heavy rainfall which continued from daybreak yesterday till the afternoon made it impossible to go on with this match at Lord's, as the ground was reduced to the soft and boggy condition of a week or two ago. Should the weather permit, it is proposed to resume play to-day an hour earlier than usual.

Day 3 (report from Thursday 3 July, page 10)

Notwithstanding the unfavourable weather of Tuesday, which prevented play from being proceeded with at all, and the wet and gusty character of yesterday, the match was brought to a conclusion early, and, as might have been expected, very much in favour of the Light Blues.

It was purposed to recommence at 11 o'clock on the third day, but a storm arose which prevented this. As soon as practicable Mr A G Steel, the "not out" for 34, resumed batting, in conjunction with Mr Ford. Mr Evans had charge of the bowling at the Pavilion wicket and Mr Jellicoe the Nursery. When 13 runs were added to the overnight total Mr M'Lachlan displaced Mr Evans. Almost immediately after the change Mr Ford gave an easy chance to slip, which was declined.

Mr Thornton went on at the Nursery wicket with the total at 178. The next two wickets, however, fell to Mr M'Lachlan - viz., sixth and seventh, for 181. Here another heavy shower drove the players to shelter. Mr Jarvis received a summary dismissal at the hands of Mr M'Lachlan, and Mr Wood then went to the aid of Mr Steel, who had been batting in a masterly and successful manner. Mr Wood contributed five towards the 189 which the telegraph accorded to the ninth wicket. Mr Morton appeared as last man, but before having a fair chance of making a name for himself Mr Steel left him, caught mid-off. Total, 198. In his innings of 64, the longest and most successful during the match, were three fours, five threes and ten twos. Five bowlers were engaged . . .

Oxford, now 49 runs in arrears, began their second innings with Messrs Webbe and Heath. The latter was caught of Mr A G Steel in short slip before scoring a run. Mr Greene came next and played steadily. With the total at seven, Mr Webbe left, caught at point off Mr Ford. The score began to expand a little when Mr Hare joined Mr Greene. A catch in short slip disposed of the last comer, at 20, and Mr Haskett-Smith occupied the vacated wicket. More was expected of Mr Haskett-Smith than three twos. Half the wickets were down for 26 runs. Mr Hirst added two singles. Mr Steel then bowled him clean.

All interest in the match had by this time entirely vanished, and the only hope that could be entertained was the leaving a few runs for Cambridge to go in against; yet such was the bowling of Mr Steel and the nature of the ground that runs were indeed difficult of attainment. Mr Greene proved a veritable hero in his cause, and by two fours, four twos and singles he contributed more to the Oxford innings than seven others of his side put together. Both Mr M'Lachlan and Mr Jellicoe, who went in late, scored a four each, and at the fall of the tenth wicket the total amounted to 64.

Messrs A G Steel and Ford bowled throughout, with the following results: -
Mr Steel, 38 overs, 23 runs, seven wickets; Mr Ford, 38 overs, 40 runs,
three wickets.

Cambridge now required 16 runs to win. Messrs Morton and Whitfeld were
sent to get them. The former was clean bowled from the third ball
received. Mr Lyttelton then made short work of the assigned task, and
Cambridge were pronounced winners by nine wickets.

30 June: YORKSHIRE v NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2294.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 1 July, page 11)

The parties herein concerned met yesterday on the Bramall-Lane Ground, Sheffield. Notts went in first. The result of the innings fell short of expectation, and Yorkshire came pretty close to it for the loss of three wickets only . . .

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 2 July, page 13)

Play in this match at Sheffield was resumed yesterday at half-past 1 o'clock with Ulyett and Bates at the wickets opposed to the bowling of Morley and Shaw. The former added three runs to his overnight score and was then taken by the wicket-keeper; the latter was caught at short-slip. Emmett made a firm stand, as did Mr Bottomley. The score reached 150 when Barnes relieved Morley, but three of the wickets yet to fall were captured by Flowers. The innings closed for 180 runs.

Notts started their second innings very badly. Four of their chief batsmen contributed a less average than two runs each. Flowers exhibited the sternest defence of any . . .

Day 3 (report from Thursday 3 July, page 10)

It will be seen from the score subjoined that this match, played at Sheffield during the first three days of the present week, terminated in favour of Yorkshire by nine wickets. The attendance yesterday was unusually small for a county match of so much importance to cricketers in the north.

3 July: GENTLEMEN v PLAYERS

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2295.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 4 July, page 10)

Owing to the extremely unfavourable state of the weather yesterday this match, arranged to be played at the Oval, was not attempted. It is purposed to proceed with it to-day if possible.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 5 July, page 7)

Of the two matches arranged for the present season between the amateur and professional cricketers of England, the first should have seen a commencement at Kennington Oval on Thursday. This, however, was altogether impracticable owing to an almost incessant fall of rain from early morning until late in the afternoon.

Yesterday, although showery, contrasted favourably with its predecessor, and a start was effected at half-past 12. The Gentlemen, who were certainly not the best eleven that could have been got together, won the toss and sent in Messrs W G Grace and Lucas to the wickets. Shaw led the attack on behalf of the Players. The wicket played well, considering the through soaking it had received. Only 13 runs were produced from 29 overs. Then a speedier rate of scoring was adopted by both batsmen. Mr Grace played Morley to leg for five and drove him for three, a similar hit to the latter being made by Mr Lucas. At 24 Midwinter deposed Morley. At luncheon only 32 runs were registered, the result of an hour and five minutes' batting.

Soon after the renewal Mr Grace retired, clean bowled. One for 34. Mr Lyttelton then joined Mr Lucas, and the scoring soon became brisk. Thrice Mr Lyttelton drove Midwinter to the on for four. He then played Shaw – who previously had bowled 38 overs for five runs and a wicket – to square leg for five. Morley was again tried. Emmett displaced Shaw and Barlow deposed the first-named at 79. It was not, however, until the score had reached 83 that a separation was brought about. Mr Lucas, who had been batting for nearly two hours, was then clean bowled by a bailer.

Mr Ridley came in. While he made five Mr Lyttelton secured 15. The latter was the first to go – caught at the wicket. Three for 103. Mr Shuter scored all the runs while Mr Ridley was with him, including a fine off-drive for five from Barlow. With the figures advanced to 110 Mr Ridley was dismissed. The vacancy was filled by Mr Hornby, soon after whose arrival Mr Shuter drove Shaw to the off for five. This proved his last contribution – caught by third man. Half the wickets, 117 runs. Messrs Vernon and Hornby now became associated. Both hit with characteristic freedom. An on-drive by the latter off Shaw realized five.

Rain delayed play at 4.45. Upon a renewal, the first over proved fatal to Mr Hornby, clean bowled. Six for 153. Despite several alterations in the mode of attack, Messrs Steel and Vernon added 42 runs. The Middlesex amateur then made way for the next in order. Mr Steel witnessed the fall of the remaining wickets, and carried out his bat for a finely-played 49. The innings closed for 250 runs at 6.50. Shaw bowled 59 overs and 3 balls for 51 runs and three wickets . . . Umpires, Southerton and Street.

Day 3 (report from Monday 7 July, page 12)

Very few contests between the cream of the amateur and professional elevens of England have been characterized by more surprises and disappointments than that played at the Oval on Friday and Saturday last. The Gentlemen kept entire possession of the wickets on the first day, and nine out of the 11 advanced into the column of double figures.

The professionals started their batting with Ulyett and Jupp on Saturday at 12.20. Messrs A G Steel and Evans were commissioned to lead off the bowling, and, as will be seen presently, continued with such success that they were not changed throughout the double innings. The first and second wickets fell before a run was scored - viz., Ulyett caught at point and Lockwood in the slip. Barlow then joined Jupp, and a few singles were added to two fours made by the latter. An appeal to the umpire resulted in the retirement of Jupp. Thus far Mr Steel had bowled eight overs for four runs and gained three wickets. Oscroft surrendered to him shortly after for 0.

[Barlow] and Selby evinced a disposition to stay and the score advanced to 36, when the latter was caught between cover point and mid off. Three runs later Barlow's wicket was captured by Mr Evans. For a short time Emmett and Midwinter showed promise of putting a better face on the score-sheet, but at 55 Mr Evans prostrated the leg stump of Emmett. Neither Shaw nor Pooley contributed anything, and but for [Morley] - who is usually reckoned at a low figure - the total would have assumed extremely small proportions. Midwinter left for the same reason as Jupp. Total, 73. Analysis of the bowling: - Mr Steel . . seven wickets . . .

With 147 runs behind, the players "followed on" with Ulyett and Jupp, opposed, as before, to Messrs Steel and Evans. In the third over of the latter Jupp received his dismissal at third man; in the fifth Lockwood was caught at point; in the ninth Ulyett was clean bowled; and Oscroft in the tenth. Selby and Barlow carried the score up to 23 only, while half the wickets were down. The sixth reached 31, the seventh 32. Shaw retired at 42, Pooley at 48. The innings occupied one hour and 25 minutes, and the Gentlemen won the match by an innings and 126 runs. Bowling . . Mr Evans . . seven wickets.

3 July: SUSSEX v KENT

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2296.html)

Final report (report from Monday 7 July, page 12)

Progress in this match at Brighton was so frequently checked by adverse weather that only 61 runs were scored at the cost of five wickets when the first day's play ceased. Friday proved favourable, as an innings was completed by each party, and 23 runs were added to Kent's total for the loss of one wicket. On Saturday the remaining nine brought up the second innings of Kent to 96. Sussex required 157 runs to win. The bowling of Bray and Shaughnessy, however, prevented an approach to this number. Each got five wickets, and Kent won the match by 103 runs.

7 July: GENTLEMEN v PLAYERS

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2297.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 8 July, page 10)

In so unfit a condition was the ground at Lord's yesterday morning for the purposes of a great match that it became questionable whether it ought to be proceeded with, although the sun was shining brightly and a stiff breeze, somewhat fitful, accompanied it. At a quarter-past 2, however, play began with Daft and Oscroft at the wickets, in opposition to Messrs Steel and Grace.

Only two runs were scored when Oscroft left and Ulyett came. A stand of considerable duration ensued. Daft defended his wicket with much skill and caution, while his partner played marvellously. With the total at 41 Daft retired, clean bowled. Selby made a brief stay, also clean bowled by Mr Evans, who relieved Mr Grace at 31. Half the wickets were lost for 67 runs. Barnes joined Ulyett at this total, and the hitting by both became free and remunerative.

Mr Grace, who resumed bowling at 56, obtained the sixth wicket 30 runs later. Shaw was the only subsequent helpmate to Ulyett worthy of note. The telegraph announced 120 at the fall of the eighth wicket. Ulyett's really magnificent score - considering the condition of the ground - was composed of one four, three threes, 11 twos and 26 singles. Shaw's not-out innings contained one three and five twos. The tenth wicket fell for 121 runs. Bowling . . .

Messrs Grace and Lucas first essayed the amateur batting. Shaw selected the Pavilion end of the ground to bowl from, and Morley took the opposite. Mr Grace exhibited a feeble defence, and a fine left-hand catch at point disposed of him for three runs. Mr A Lyttelton assisted in bringing up the second wicket to 16. Lord Harris then joined Mr Lucas, and by slow degrees the figures 24 were reached. At this stage Lord Harris hit sharply to point, where the ball was secured. As the published order of going in was not departed from, as in one case the week previously, Mr F Penn became the fourth partner of Mr Lucas. Both batsmen struggled hard to push the lagging score along, but at 39 Shaw completely disarranged the wicket of Mr Penn, and play for the day was not further proceeded with.

Shaw bowled surprisingly well. In 31 overs and 2 balls he obtained three wickets for 11 runs. Umpires, Farrands and Nixon.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 9 June, page 10)

When the first day's play in this annual match at Lord's ceased the Players had completed an innings, and four wickets on the Gentlemen's side were lost for 39 runs. Yesterday play was resumed at 11.40. Mr Lucas, not out for 15, had Mr Ridley as his fifth companion. It need hardly be said that the wickets were sadly out of condition.

Shaw and Morley continued the bowling at the same stations as those occupied on Monday. The scoring proceeded slowly, notwithstanding the great proficiency of the two now in as "bats." When 54 runs were marked on the score-sheet Mr Ridley was compelled to retire awhile, owing to a sharp blow in his face from the ball. Mr Hornby joined Mr Lucas. Before any

additional runs were obtained Mr Lucas's wicket fell to the direct assault of Shaw. The score was taken up to 59, when Mr Steel gave Pilling a chance, which this rising wicket-keeper gladly availed himself of. Both Mr Hornby and Mr Vernon left with the score at 63; the latter caught at mid-off, the former bowled.

Mr Ridley re-appeared at this stage, and, in conjunction with Mr Shuter, forwarded the score to 74. Little hope was entertained of carrying this total much further when the last man made his appearance; yet, curiously enough, Mr Evans made the largest score of the innings, and not out. Mr Ridley being stumped by Pilling, the batting of the Gentlemen thus far terminated. Bowling: - Shaw . . seven wickets . . .

At 1.40 Ulyett and Oscroft commenced their second innings. Messrs Steel and Evans had charge of the early bowling. Ulyett left at 15, his companion at 16 and Daft at 22. Selby was bowled at 26. Lockwood altered the complexion of the score-sheet considerably. Mr Evans crossed over, and Mr Grace went on at the lower wicket. At 62 Mr Steel resumed and Mr Evans returned to his first wicket, and at 71 he had the good fortune to bowl Lockwood clean, and with his next ball he treated Barnes in a manner precisely similar. Emmett hit very freely, and the telegraph announced 100 when Mr Grace went on at the pavilion wicket. This change had an immediate effect, and Emmett retired. Shaw gave no trouble - caught at cover-point from the first ball received. The end was now near, as Morley, the last man, endeavoured, but in vain, to add a run to the total - 103. Bowling . . .

In the most favourable circumstances of weather there was scarcely time for the Gentlemen to get 116 runs, the number required to win, but a tremendous downpour completely dispelled the idea of proceeding further with the match till to-day.

Day 3 (report from Thursday 10 July, page 12)

It was resolved not to resume play in this match at Lord's yesterday till after luncheon, in order that the ground might recover as much as possible from the drenching of recent rainfalls. So late as 3 o'clock it was found still to be in a condition although unfit for cricket, and the match was in consequence declared "drawn." Such a result has only happened twice previously within the last 40 years.

10 July: NOTTINGHAMSHIRE v DERBYSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2299.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 11 July, page 10)

These counties met for the first time this season on the Trent-bridge ground yesterday. There was an average attendance of visitors, although the weather could hardly be called fair.

Notts having won the toss began batting with Daft and Oscroft. Derbyshire made choice of Mycroft and Hay to lead the attack. The play was cautious and somewhat slow. At 15 Daft retired – caught in the slip. Selby came, and the score moved up to 40, when Oscroft left and Shrewsbury occupied the vacated wicket. Mycroft had just previously crossed over. The batting of Selby may be regarded as the chief feature of the Notts innings, which occupied three hours and totalled 159 runs.

Derbyshire began badly and ended worse. About three-quarters of an hour sufficed to complete their innings. No less than seven ciphers figure on the score-sheet, and at the fall of the tenth wicket only 16 runs were registered. Morley bowled seven overs and two balls for seven runs and seven wickets. In the "follow on" two wickets were lost without a run.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 12 July, page 12)

The second day's play in this match at Nottingham was totally devoid of interest. Excepting Foster and Mr Wallroth, no one made any stand worth speaking of. When stumps were drawn on Thursday evening Derbyshire had lost two wickets of their second innings. Little more than an hour sufficed yesterday to finish the match in favour of Notts by an innings and 99 runs.

10 July: LANCASHIRE v YORKSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2298.html)

Final report (from Saturday 12 July, page 12)

In really beautiful weather these counties commenced their match at Old Trafford, near Manchester, on Thursday last, and during the day upwards of 4,000 visitors patronized the ground. The wicket was dead, as may be supposed, when play began; but, owing to the high wind and sun, matters mended considerably in this respect before hostilities ceased for the day.

Yorkshire won the toss and their captain elected to bat; but they made an indifferent start against the bowling of Mr A G Steel and Crossland, the former taking seven wickets for 34 runs and the latter three wickets in eight overs for nine runs. Bates, Emmett and Wood were engaged in the attack on Lancashire's first innings, and Messrs Hornby and A G and D Q Steel shared the batting honours pretty equally, no one else making a score that was noteworthy. Stumps were drawn for the day with the total at 142 for the loss of eight wickets.

There was again a very large attendance yesterday. Lancashire completed their innings for 180, and the visiting team being only able to score 59 in their second innings, Lancashire won the match by an innings and 32 runs.

14 July: KENT v SURREY

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2300.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 15 July, page 10)

With the first match of the season between these counties, the annual cricket week at Tunbridge-wells was commenced yesterday. To the light nature of the soil must be attributed the comparative excellence of the wickets, for during the early morning rain fell sufficiently heavy and continuous as to have rendered most grounds totally unfit for cricket. The attendance was certainly not large.

Kent won the toss and went to the wickets with Messrs Absolom and Mackinnon. To Southerton and Blamires the early bowling was intrusted. The first two overs were productive of 11 runs, including an on-drive for six out of the ground by Mr Absolom. This pace soon slackened, and at 17 Mr Mackinnon's wicket was upset. G Hearne filled the first vacancy and assisted Mr Absolom in advancing the score to 27, when a well-judged catch at long-off disposed of the latter. Two for 29. The association of Mr F Penn and G Hearne proved both lengthy and profitable. Potter was substituted for Blamires at 48 and Mr Strachan relieved Southerton at 57; but a separation had not been affected at lunch-time.

During the interval rain fell heavily and delayed a fresh start until 3.20. When the partnership had been productive of 72 runs, a catch at slip disposed of Hearne. Lord Harris joined Mr Penn, and Blamires was commissioned to resume at his old end. Three figures were posted at six minutes to 4, and only one run was added before Lord Harris was well caught at long-on. Mr Bligh joined Mr Penn, who almost directly gave a hard chance to Mr Strachan. The same bowler's next over witnessed the retirement of Mr Bligh - caught at slip. Half the wickets down and 102 runs registered.

Mr Penn did not long survive the incoming of Mr Cunliffe, being clean bowled with the total of 111 for six wickets. His chief items were six threes and ten twos. As F Hearne, who was sent for to take the place of Mr A Penn, did not arrive in time, only three more wickets remained, and these averaged eight runs. The innings closed at 5 o'clock for 135 runs . . .

After an interval of 20 minutes Surrey sent in Messrs Lucas and J Shuter, opposed to Bray and O'Shaughnessy. The visitors' misfortunes began early, Mr Shuter being caught at mid-off from the second ball he received. Jupp then joined Mr Lucas. The latter made a remarkably fine square-leg hit out of the ground for six, but the second subsequent ball glanced from his hip on to his wicket. Two wickets, 12 runs.

Potter filled the vacancy, and just as the batsmen appeared thoroughly set, a misunderstanding arose which cost Potter his wicket. Three for 31. Mr Howell came in. The addition of 11 having been made, Jupp was forced to retire. Messrs Howell and L A Shuter played out time.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 16 July, page 10)

When stumps were drawn on Monday evening at Tunbridge-wells the home county had completed an innings for 135 runs, and Surrey had lost four wickets for 46. Yesterday, at 20 minutes to 12 Messrs L A Shuter and Howell, the not-

outs with two and eight respectively, continued batting. As at the commencement of the innings, Bray and O'Shaughnessy had charge of the attack.

Eleven overs were delivered for five runs and a wicket. Half the wickets, 51 runs. On the association of Humphrey and Mr Shuter, the look out of Surrey improved considerably. When 33 runs had been made since the last wicket fell, it was deemed advisable to try G Hearne in place of Bray. The separation, however, came from the opposite end, Mr Shuter's middle stump being upset by O'Shaughnessy's second subsequent ball. Pooley came in and remained to the close of the innings . . .

Having a balance of 24 runs in hand, Kent began their second innings at half-past 1, and were all out at 3.45 for 38 runs . . . Blamires took six wickets . . . With the task of 63 runs before them Surrey sent in Mr Lucas and Jupp, who had as opponents Bray and O'Shaughnessy. In nine overs 14 runs were obtained, and at 5.20 Surrey won the match by eight wickets.

14 July: YORKSHIRE v DERBYSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2302.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 15 July, page 10)

The chief feature in the play of yesterday at Sheffield was the large score made by Foster against bowling of a first-class character. But for him the Derbyshire total would have assumed very small proportions. One Yorkshire wicket fell for one run when play for the day ceased.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 16 July, page 10)

The two counties were enabled yesterday to bring their match to a termination. From the severe defeat experienced by Derbyshire in a very recent encounter, few if any Yorkshiremen calculated upon being beaten; yet such was the case. The bowling of Mycroft had much to do with the Derbyshire success.

14 July: MIDDLESEX v NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2301.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 15 July, page 10)

So unfavourable was the weather yesterday at the time for commencing this match at Lord's that play was postponed till after luncheon. Rain continued, and at 3 o'clock it was decided to proceed with the match to-day at 11 o'clock, weather permitting.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 16 July, page 10)

Although the executive had resolved to make up for the loss of Monday by beginning the match earlier than usual yesterday, the weather sternly forbade the carrying out of their resolutions. A long delay occurred in consequence of the condition of Lord's Ground, and it was not till 4 o'clock that Middlesex, who had won the toss, began the batting with Messrs I D Walker and A J Webbe. The early bowling was intrusted to Shaw and Morley.

The first wicket fell for ten runs. After this the bowling was punished. At 45 Flowers went on at the lower wicket in place of Morley. The change soon produced the desired effect. The Hon A Lyttelton made a good score, but his brother left the total where he found it - viz., at 52. From this time to the close of the innings nearly all the interest centred in Flowers; the catches by Shaw did not, however, escape notice. Half the wickets were lost for 62 runs; the remainder added 20. Duration of innings, two hours and 20 minutes . . .

Shrewsbury and Oscroft started the Notts batting against Mr Ford, pavilion wicket, and Steele contra. Shrewsbury left with the total at 10, and Selby, in conjunction with Oscroft, brought the figures up to 18, when time was called and play for the day ceased. Umpires, Thoms and Carpenter.

Day 3

Play in this match yesterday at Lord's began at 11.30 with Oscroft and Selby at the wickets. Messrs Ford and Stratford continued the bowling, and with a tolerable degree of success, although the two men in manifested an evident disinclination to yield to the attacks of either. When these were parted, and Barnes was placed also on the dismissed list, the greatest difficulties of Middlesex were overcome.

Oscroft's hits were four threes, three twos and two singles; Barnes's four twos and four singles. These comparatively small scores from such great batsmen will convey some idea of the state of the ground. The score advanced to 57, when Scotton was caught over the wicketkeeper's head. The remaining batsmen made so brief a stay that only nine runs were added when the tenth wicket fell. Time, 1h 20min. Mr Ford . . claimed six wickets . . .

The Hon A Lyttelton and Mr A J Webbe were foremost as batters in the second innings of Middlesex. Shaw and Flowers delivered the early overs. Mr Lyttelton left with the total at six and Mr Walker occupied the vacated place. Runs came very fast. Morley in consequence relieved Flowers, but

the score reached 58 before the second wicket fell, and the third was telegraphed at 69. The bowling got checked for some time afterwards. Before the sixth wicket fell 100 appeared on the telegraph. Only one wicket was clean bowled during the innings. Both Mr Robertson and Mr Webbe were favoured with a double life. In fact so uncertain was the foothold that much of the fielding was materially affected by it. The innings realized 141 runs . . .

Notts deputed Oscroft and Shrewsbury to diminish as much as possible the 157 runs acquired by Middlesex. They could not win the match in the time allotted for play, but they rubbed off 74 runs for the loss of two wickets, and the match was left drawn . . .

17 July: SOUTH v NORTH

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2304.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 18 July, page 11)

Play in this match at the Oval for the benefit of Southerton commenced yesterday. The South won the toss and began batting at 12.25 with Messrs Lucas and W G Grace. Shaw and Morley were deputed to open the attack.

From the last-named runs came freely. Mr Grace twice drove him for four, while Mr Lucas performed the feat once. Morley, however, met with more success than the slow bowler, as in his ninth over Mr Lucas was disposed of by a right-handed catch at point – a clever piece of fielding which met with well-deserved applause. One wicket, 23 runs. Mr J Shuter was smartly caught at point from the third ball he received, his only contribution being a leg snick for four. The brothers Grace were together for a brief period. A catch at long off got rid of Mr W G Grace with the score at 34. The vacancy was filled by the Hon E Lyttelton, but the scoring was exceedingly slow.

At 43 Shaw was removed in favour of Bates. The alteration soon took effect. Five maidens were bowled and a wicket obtained, that of Mr Lyttelton. Mr G F Grace and Midwinter were partnered nine overs. The latter was then caught at long on, and half the wickets were down for 47 runs. Mr Vernon assisted Mr G F Grace, but not for very long, as at 52 he gave the wicket-keeper a chance, which was accepted. Mr Strachan, the next comer, was even less successful than his predecessor, being clean bowled at 54. Seven down. Mr Tylecote partnered Mr G F Grace. Sixteen overs were delivered for five runs, following which the old Oxonian's middle stump was upset. Pooley was caught at mid-on at 69, and a return to the bowler by Mr G F Grace, who had played very steadily and well, brought the innings to a close for 77. Time 3.50 . . .

The North innings began at a quarter-past 4, Mr Hornby and Barlow first occupying the wickets. Opposed to them were Messrs Tylecote and W G Grace. Barlow played with his accustomed steadiness, but the Lancashire gentleman hit at almost anything. He seemed, however, to possess a charmed life, and was thrice missed by Midwinter. A lofty drive in front of long off at length proved fatal to Mr Hornby, who had secured two-thirds of the 30 runs obtained.

Ulyett and Barlow offered so determined a resistance that the bowling had twice to be changed before a separation was effected. Barlow was the first to go – caught at point; two for 69. Two overs later Ulyett was clean bowled; and from the fourth ball he received Oscroft was caught at the wicket. Four for 72. Bates and Lockwood displayed excellent cricket, and were, despite the several plans adopted by the opposing side, unseparated at the call of time. Umpires, Humphrey and Martingale.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 19 July, page 12)

Throughout yesterday the cricket witnessed at Kennington Oval was of a slow character. Overnight the North had lost four wickets for 111 runs, being then 34 in advance of their opponents. Lockwood and Bates, the not outs, with 20 and 19 respectively, continued their innings, opposed by Midwinter and Mr G F Grace.

Before either batsman had increased his score, Bates's dismissal was effected by a catch at mid-off. Lockwood remained but a brief period after he was joined by Mr Royle, being easily caught at point. His well-played innings closed at 115, and at the same total Mr Royle was caught at the wicket. Emmett was finely caught at cover point with the total at 134. Pinder played the ball back to the bowler; Morley was caught at long-on, and the innings closed at a quarter-past 1 . . .

The South began their second innings at 40 minutes past 1. Messrs Lucas and Shuter were the first representatives. Shaw started the bowling, and his second delivery Mr Lucas played hard on to his wicket. Mr G F Grace came in and was soon disposed of by a catch at cover point. Two wickets, seven runs. At 13 Mr Shuter played a ball straight to mid-off. Mr W G Grace scored eight, while Midwinter secured seven. Bates went on in place of Shaw. Mr Grace drove his first ball back, but the bowler was unable to hold it. A fine cut for three was then made off Morley by Mr W G Grace, but this proved to be the last item previous to the dismissal of Midwinter, clean bowled. Four for 33.

Mr Lyttelton stayed with Mr Grace until the total reached 45. A catch at the wicket then caused him to make room for Mr Vernon, who retired at 47. Mr Strachan should have been stumped at 61, and gave a hard chance to Morley at mid-on. Mr Grace had a life at the hands of Barlow at long-off. Twice the mode of attack was altered. At 92 Mr Grace forfeited his position, and with his dismissal the innings virtually closed, as the last three wickets added but nine runs. Time 5.50.

Wanting 45 to win, the North commenced their task at 6.15 with Barlow and Ulyett. The attacking party were first represented by Midwinter and Mr W G Grace. Nearly all the runs were obtained off Mr Grace, who at 21 gave up the ball to Mr Tylecote. This steadied the run-getting, and at 25 Ulyett had to make way for Oscroft. No further loss was sustained, and at five minutes past 7 the North were declared winners by nine wickets.

17 July: KENT v MARYLEBONE CLUB AND GROUND

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2303.html)

No report, but full scorecard given on Saturday 19 July, page 12)

21 July: OVER 30 v UNDER 30

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2305.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 22 July, page 7)

Play in this very important match at Lord's yesterday was not attempted owing to heavy and long-continued rainfalls. It was resolved to pitch wickets to-day earlier than usual, provided there is a chance of proceeding with the match; but it ought to be stated that a very great change must occur in the next few hours in order to put the ground into condition for cricket.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 23 July, page 5)

Had the weather not been so severely opposed to cricket, this match would, in all probability, have proved the most interesting of the season. A glance at the list of combatants will show that the amount of talent brought together yesterday at Lord's could not have been mended much by changes. The sides were well balanced. The only disadvantage experienced by the juniors was the substitution of Mr Bligh for Lord Harris, who was absent through a family bereavement.

As no play took place on Monday, it was resolved to start early yesterday, provided the weather should be favourable. Rain did not prevent this contemplated early movement, but the condition of the ground did, and no attempts were made to begin till 1.30, when the junior side, having won the toss, appeared first at the wickets in the persons of the Hon A Lyttelton and Barlow. Mycroft started the bowling from the Pavilion end of the ground, and Shaw continued it at the other.

The first wicket fell for 16 runs, towards which the retiring batsman, clean bowled, contributed 15. Mr F Penn then joined Barlow and the second wicket reached 38, when Mr Penn retired, caught in slip. Nearly an hour was then occupied in luncheon and the presentation of a testimonial to Mr W G Grace. The subsequent portion of the innings included some of the best batting of the day by Mr G F Grace. At the fall of the tenth wicket the telegraph announced 111 as the total. Time, 5.25.

Over Thirty deputed Mr W G Grace to lead off the batting in conjunction with his brother Mr E M Grace. The start was to some extent ominous, as the hero of the day lost his wicket to the third ball, delivered by Morley. Mr Townsend appeared, and the assailants found other brief dismissals beyond their power. The two men in batted with such freedom and success that at the call of time 79 runs were recorded for the one lost wicket. Umpires, Farrands and Nixon.

PRESENTATION TO MR W G GRACE. — At Lord's yesterday a handsome clock and chimney ornaments, with £1,400 in money, were presented to this well-known cricketer. The presentation originated in Gloucestershire, which is naturally proud of its pre-eminence as a cricketing county, due to the Grace family, and especially to Mr W G Grace. Lord Fitzhardinge, who was the chief speech-maker yesterday, alluded to the fact that the Prince of Wales was one of the donors. He said that the original idea was to purchase a practice for Mr Grace, but he had talked the matter over with the Duke of Beaufort and they thought that Mr Grace was old enough and

strong enough to choose a practice for himself. (Laughter.) he could only say on the part of the people of Gloucestershire that they wished him as much success in his profession as he had gained in the cricket field.

Mr Grace expressed his gratitude in a brief reply, and Lord Charles Russell, as one of the oldest members of the Marylebone Club, added a few words. He was an old cricketer, and the greatest enjoyment he had had in the cricket-field for many years past was in seeing Mr Grace play. He looked upon cricket as the sport of the people, from the prince to the peasant, and he was delighted to see that it was increasing in popularity year by year, and that it some respects also it was being better played. He had certainly seen better bowlers than Mr Grace, but he could say, with a clear conscience, that he had never seen a better field and he had never seen any one approach him as a batter.

More than agility was wanted in playing cricket. The game must be played with head and heart, and in that respect Mr Grace was pre-eminent. Looking at Mr Grace's playing, he was never able to tell whether that gentleman was playing a winning or a losing game. He had never seen the slightest lukewarmness or inertness in him in the field. His heart and soul were in the game. The Marylebone Club held its ground for the practice and promotion of good sound cricket, and it was for that reason they had such great delight in taking part in this testimonial to Mr Grace, who was in every respect of the word a thorough cricketer. The clock bears the following inscription: - "Presented to Mr W G Grace on July 22, 1879, on the occasion of the match Over Thirty v Under Thirty, played in his honour at Lord's."

Day 3 (report from Thursday 24 July, page 10)

When play in this match at Lord's on Tuesday ceased, only one innings was completed. This yielded 111 runs. One wicket on the seniors' side was also lost, and for this 79 runs were recorded. Such being the case, a widespread opinion was entertained that the match could not be finished yesterday, and it would therefore be classed among the drawn. But a state of things occurred which led to a victory on the part of the seniors by seven wickets.

At 11.20 Messrs E M Grace and Townsend, the not outs, recommenced batting. The latter contributed a trifle to his overnight batting and was then caught in the slips. Selby came and left with a cipher appended to his name. Mr Grace enlarged his score to 40, when a fine catch dismissed him. Both Oscroft and Wild made a determined stand and the latter brought out his bat. Four batsmen on this side added nothing to the general score, which amounted to 138 runs . . .

The Hon A Lyttelton and Mr G F Grace began the second innings of the juniors. Neither stayed long. Two wickets fell for six runs. Mr F Penn and Ulyett gave trouble, the latter eventually was caught at square leg and the former at the wicket. Half the wickets were lost for 47 runs. Barlow, after making the highest score of the innings, was disposed of in precisely the same way as Ulyett was. The leap from the fifth to the seventh wicket was considerable - viz., 30 runs. Nothing of note occurred subsequently, as the total received merely an accumulation of three runs. Only one wicket was bowled, the remaining nine were lost through catches. Total 80 . . .

The most exciting part of the match was to follow. 54 runs were required to win, and a large company had by this time assembled to witness the concluding portion of the play who had seen but little of that which had preceded it. Messrs E M and W G Grace went first to the wickets, opposed to Morley and Barlow. The hitting proceeded with great vigour, especially on the part of Mr E M Grace, who hit Barlow four times in one over for four runs each hit; but the ball was then transferred from this bowler to Bates, and in his third over Mr W G Grace was caught off him at cover point. First wicket, 35.

Mr Townsend helped to enlarge the number to 44 - clean bowled. Daft then came, made one fine leg hit for four and was clean bowled soon afterwards. Three wickets, 51. Mr Grace and Selby brought up the total to the required winning number at 5.20, with seven wickets to spare . . .

24 July: KENT v YORKSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2306.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 25 July, page 10)

A better day could hardly have been selected for the return match between these counties than yesterday. The finely situated ground at the Mote-park, Maidstone, was in consequence well attended. Kent won the toss and went to the wickets, which, although apparently in excellent condition, played somewhat slow.

Against the bowling of Bates and Peate the first three batsmen met with little success. Of 25 runs secured at the fall of the third wicket their combined share added to 7 only. Messrs F Penn and Foord-Kelcey played with considerable freedom. Mr Penn's items comprised four fours, while Mr Foord-Kelcey obtained five. When the latter was dismissed five wickets were down for 73 runs, and the remaining half realized but 33. The innings closed at 3.45 . . .

Ulyett and Taylor appeared as the early representatives of Yorkshire. Opposed to them were Bray and Mr A Penn. A change of bowling had to be resorted to before the first wicket fell, and the runs amounted to 25. Emmett and Hall took the score to 60, at which stage the Yorkshire captain was very smartly caught at point. Champion gave little trouble, being easily taken at cover-point with the score at 65. Hall witnessed the departure of Pinder and Peate, and was then caught at point. With his dismissal the venture closed, at 6.13, for 90 . . .

Kent went in a second time, and when play ceased the score stood as under . . . [Kent 108 and 2/0; Yorkshire 90.]

Day 2 (report from Saturday 26 July, page 12)

When play ceased on Thursday evening, Kent, with a balance of 16 runs in their favour on the first innings, had secured two runs in their second innings without loss of wicket. Messrs Absolom and A Penn were the not-outs.

Peate started the bowling, and with his first ball got rid of Mr Penn. Mr Absolom was caught at point. Some of the best batting of the innings was witnessed while Messrs F Penn and Foord-Kelcey were partnered. Despite two changes of bowling, the total reached 70 before a separation was effected. Mr Foord-Kelcey was then clean bowled, and Mr Penn quickly shared a similar fate. Half the wickets were now down for 83 runs, and the remainder realized but 22. The innings closed at ten minutes past 3 . . .

Wanting 122 runs to win, Yorkshire started with Crooks and Ulyett, opposed by Mr A Penn and O'Shaughnessy. From the second ball, Crooks was easily caught at point, at 19 Taylor was caught at forward short leg, and seven runs later a catch at point disposed of Lockwood. Scoring was effected at a rapid rate during the association of Ulyett and Bates. The latter secured an on-drive for five and another for four in one over. At 51 Bates left. Hall met with little success, and five wickets were down for half the runs required.

Ulyett's innings was full of thorough cricket. The finish proved highly interesting. Emmett and Champion, while together, put on 31 runs, and when Pinder left but 12 were required by Yorkshire. Four of these were made by Peate, who, however, directly afterwards was caught at mid-off. Thus the match terminated in favour of Kent by seven runs . . .

24 July: LANCASHIRE v GLOUCESTERSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2307.html)

Final report (from Saturday 26 July, page 12)

Old Trafford ground was visited by nearly 8,000 persons on Thursday to witness the commencement of this important match. Play began late with Mr Hornby and Barlow at the wickets. Mr W G Grace and Midwinter were commissioned to the early bowling. With the total at 24 Mr G F Grace deposed Midwinter.

The change proved effective when 33 runs were recorded. Mr Hornby at this stage retired, clean bowled. The scoring travelled by steady strides up to 58, when Mr Steel left. Mr Chadwick then joined Barlow, and Midwinter resumed bowling. After a few overs fruitful in runs, Mr Townsend relieved Mr W G Grace. At 92 Mr Gilbert accepted the ball, and at 105 Mr Miles, whose first ball Barlow directed into a dangerous locality. Barlow occupied the wicket nearly two hours for 32 runs, the largest score of the innings. Before Mr Chadwick left 116 were totalled. Mr Royle retired at 143. The next five wickets realized 41, and at a quarter past 6 o'clock play for the day ceased . . .

Yesterday the number of spectators exceeded that of the previous day, and the weather was again very fine. Against the bowling of Mr A G Steel and M'Intyre the western county made but a poor show. In their first innings only two reached the dignity of double figures, and in the inevitable follow three only succeeded in accomplishing this task. The combined total amounted to but 135 runs. Lancashire, whose fielding was exceedingly good throughout, thus won by an innings and 49 runs.

28 July: MARYLEBONE CLUB AND GROUND v LANCASHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2308.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 29 July, page 10)

At the present time Lancashire is regarded as one of the most formidable cricket counties, although the existence as such is, comparatively speaking, of a modern date. The high position attained is attributed to the excellence and variety of the bowling always at command, while at the wickets and in the field there is seldom anything witnessed short of sound and first-class cricket.

Marylebone got the start yesterday, and began the batting at 12h 15min. With three exceptions the club scored feebly. Half the wickets were captured for 56 runs. The most important stand was made by Flowers. He put together 32 (not out), by one five, three fours, two threes, four twos and a single – examples of good all-round hitting. Mr Tylecote's contribution consisted of two fours, four threes, one two and seven singles. Duration of innings – two hours and three-quarters. Bowling . . . Total, 103.

The County Palatine selected Mr O P Lancashire and Barlow to appear first at the wickets. Shaw and Morley had charge of the early bowling. Barlow left with the score at 4. Mr A G Steel filled the vacant place, and the hitting at both wickets soon became free and effective. Several changes of bowling were had recourse to before these batsmen were disposed of. Each made 31 runs. Others who followed gave considerable trouble. Mr Rowley made the largest score of the day. Among his figures were one five (nearly a straight drive), one four (drive), three threes and two twos (various). Crossland also hit with great freedom and power. Half the wickets fell for 99 runs; the sixth reached 155. The remainder did not long resist the attacks of Morley and Shaw. At 6.25 the telegraph announced 168 runs as the total. Bowling . . .

There were 20 minutes in hand when Mr Tylecote and Flowers appeared for the second time at the Marylebone wickets, opposed to Mr Steel and Crossland. The former got punished severely; three fours were marked in one over. Crossland's "high delivery" got a wicket within a few minutes of the time fixed for drawing stumps. Umpires, Nixon and T Mycroft.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 30 July, page 10)

Play in this match at Lord's was resumed yesterday at a quarter to 12 with Messrs Tylecote and Russel, the not-outs for 16 and 2 respectively, at the wickets. Mr Appleby and M'Intyre had charge of the early bowling.

Both got hit freely, and 65 runs were recorded when Mr Appleby was displaced by Mr Steel. The second wicket of the innings fell for 66. Mr Turner then joined Mr Russel, and shortly after Crossland went on at M'Intyre's end. Other changes were resorted to, and the third wicket was captured at 97. The next added nothing. Mr Duncan proved extremely obstinate and was not overmastered till he had put 42 on the score-sheet and brought up the seventh wicket to 168. Mr Salmon defied successfully all attempts to dislodge him, and although Mr Seymour was the only batsman on this side who declined to contribute anything, the tenth wicket reached 206 runs. Bowling . . .

Mr O P Lancashire and Barlow appeared first at the wickets to diminish as much as possible the "set" of 142 required to win. Nearly an hour was spent in the endeavour to part this stubborn pair, and 46 runs were recorded when the first wicket fell. Mr Steel maintained his defiant position till 39 were added. With such a score at the cost of two wickets only, the match was seemingly safe for Lancashire. But here a change set in - Shaw and Morley crossed over. The latter got three wickets in two overs, and, in fact, there was but one run added from the time Mr Steel left till the seventh wicket fell. Mr Rowley was alone able to withstand the attacks of these two assailants, and, quite contrary to general expectation an hour previously, Marylebone at 6.20 won the match by 32 runs. Bowling . . . There was not one wide ball during the match.

28 July: YORKSHIRE v GLOUCESTERSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2309.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 29 July, page 10)

Unlike the matches hitherto played at Sheffield this season, the above was favoured with truly summer-like weather. As a matter of course, a very large company attended to witness the varied points of the game, respecting which nearly all the parties concerned have to a greater or lesser extent rendered themselves famous.

Mr W G Grace and Midwinter were first at the wickets, but neither made the stand expected of them. Messrs E M Grace and Townsend came off badly. In fact, the four just named averaged less than nine runs per man. But a great change soon followed, especially when Mr Gilbert had possession of the bat. His long score of 97 included hits of almost every kind. Mr Bush also contributed liberally towards a total of 253, the figures announced at the fall of the tenth wicket. Yorkshire marked 25 runs, no wicket down, when play for the day ceased.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 30 July, page 10)

The whole of yesterday was occupied by Yorkshire at the wickets. The first innings fell 125 runs short of their opponents, and a "follow on" was inevitable. Gloucestershire found far more trouble in obtaining the second set of wickets than the first. Ulyett remained firm up to the close of the day, and when stumps were drawn he had 69 runs placed to his credit, all thoroughly well deserved. Nearly 8,000 persons were present to witness the continuance of this important match, and a large gathering is expected to-day.

Day 3 (report from Thursday 31 July, page 10)

Scarcely anybody expected when stumps were drawn on Tuesday evening to find Yorkshire at the head of the poll. This was, however, the case yesterday. The batting of Ulyett had very much to do with this change in the condition of the match. The bowling of Bates and Peate took the Gloucestershire batsmen by surprise. Three returned from their wickets without a run, three others contributed but seven, and the whole team collapsed at 63. Yorkshire were in consequence declared winners by seven runs.

31 July: KENT v SUSSEX

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2310.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 1 August, page 8)

So far as this county match, commenced yesterday at West Malling, has proceeded, Kent seem to be in a fair way of success. Sussex went in first and lost four of their early wickets for an average of about five runs per man. H Phillips, the celebrated wicket-keeper, made a long and determined stand, and, in conjunction with Mechen and Charlwood, the score travelled considerably over 100. The tenth wicket fell for 146.

Kent led off with Messrs Absolom and Cunliffe, opposed by Lillywhite and Mr Turnbull. In this case three wickets realized nearly half the total of the other side . . .

Day 2 (report from Saturday 2 August, page 10)

The progress made in this return match on Thursday at West Malling was not great. Sussex had completed the innings for 146 runs. Kent lost three wickets for 117. Play began late and was checked twice. The Sussex innings closed at half-past 4 o'clock. Five bowlers were engaged . . . During the two hours allotted for the Kent batting, the score moved by rapid and sometimes long strides. The first wicket realized 39 runs, the second 50 and the third 90.

The Hon Ivo Bligh and Mr Blackman, the not outs for 26 and 17 respectively, recommenced their batting yesterday within a few minutes of the stipulated time. These carried the score to 150. Both retired shortly after. The only other noteworthy incident was the batting of O'Shaughnessy. Total - 209.

Sussex commenced their second innings with 63 runs in arrears. Three wickets fell for four runs. The remainder contributed 143, making a total of 147. Kent required 85 runs to win, and this number they were unable to reach, and Sussex, contrary to expectation, won the match by 11 runs.

31 July: NOTTINGHAMSHIRE v GLOUCESTERSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2311.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 1 August, page 8)

Owing to rain no play in this match at Nottingham was attempted yesterday.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 2 August, page 10)

Yesterday play in this match on the Trent-bridge ground began at 20 minutes past 11 o'clock. Notts, having won the toss, sent Oscroft and Daft first to the wickets. The innings was completed at half-past 4 for 172 runs. The principal feature of the day's play was the batting of Oscroft and Mr W G Grace. Some of the fielding was "below the mark."

Day 3 (report from Monday 4 August, page 12)

A drawn match under ordinary circumstances is sure to be accompanied by a certain amount of regret and dissatisfaction. But in a great and important contest – one which attracts visitors to it by thousands – the disappointment is proportionately increased. The arrangement between the above counties to meet on Thursday at the Trent-bridge ground for the first time this season proved of no avail, in consequence of rain, which continued throughout the day. On Friday the weather was all that could be desired, and Notts, having won the toss, sent Oscroft and Daft to the wickets, opposed to Mr W G Grace and Midwinter.

The latter left with the score at 12. Selby came, and the hitting at both wickets soon necessitated a change of bowler at both – to be again changed by the time that 80 runs were registered. Selby retired at 82 and Shrewsbury at the same figure – caught at point. Barnes then joined Oscroft, and after the score had reached 100, Barnes, caught at slip, made way for Mr Foljambe, who assisted in bringing up the total to 114. The free hitting continued with Scotton after Oscroft, who had been upwards of three hours at the wicket, retired with 76 runs appended to his name. About 40 runs were added to the six wickets down, making a total of 172. Time, 4h 30m.

Messrs Grace and Gilbert began the Gloucestershire batting, opposed to Morley and Shaw. No less than 77 runs were registered when the first wicket fell. Midwinter made no stay, and Mr Grace was left alone at the call of time with a score of 51 towards a total of 80. On Saturday Messrs G F Grace, Cranston and Gribble were the only double-figure contributors, although 117 runs were added to the overnight total. Mr W G Grace escaped three chances and piled up 102 runs notwithstanding. The innings closed at 3 o'clock for 197.

Although the difference between the results of an innings by each side was but 25, all real interest in the match now ceased, as it was impossible to bring it to a decisive issue. Barnes and Oscroft put together 67 runs in the second innings of Notts by batting of a high order, and 120 were totalled at the call of time for five wickets. The match was then declared drawn.

4 August: THE CANTERBURY WEEK

KENT v ENGLAND

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2313.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 5 August, page 5)

Some years since it was the practice of county committees to so fix their matches as to avoid clashing with those arranged to be played during the old-established annual at Canterbury. It those days the cream of English cricket was to be seen on the famous St Lawrence-ground. The gradual falling-through of this excellent custom has, however, done much to depreciate the character of the matches played recently, more particularly on the present occasion.

A rather heavy shower yesterday morning caused some anxiety to those who have the interest of the affair at heart; but on the whole the weather left little to be desired. The first match arranged for decision was that between Thirteen of Kent and Eleven of England, begun at 12.25. Unsuccessful in the toss, England had first to take the field, Mr Cunliffe appearing as substitute for Mr W G Grace, who had not arrived. The chosen batsmen were Mr Mackinnon and the Hon Ivo Bligh; opposed to them were Shaw and Motley.

Considerable caution was exercised during the opening overs, six of which realized but four runs. With the second ball of the next Mr Mackinnon failed to compete, and thus Kent lost a wicket when but four runs were registered. G G Hearne filled the vacancy. While he was in Mr Bligh cut Motley finely for four and obtained two singles. Hearne's dismissal was effected by a smart catch at the wicket. Mr F Penn joined Mr Bligh, and although both of them hit with freedom, the score advanced at a slow pace. Mr Steel deposed Motley, and Mr Bligh surrendered to him. Three for 40.

Mr Jones became Mr Penn's second partner, and, despite a double change of bowling, the score by lunch time reached 67. After the interval Messrs Steel and Grace had charge of the attack, and at 81 Mr Grace completely defeated Mr Penn. Four down. In each of Mr Grace's next two overs a wicket fell, Mr Foord-Kelcey being caught at long-on and Mr Blackman at mid-off. During the association of Messrs Jones and Absolom the score was taken from 92 to 122. The remainder of the wickets fell in rapid order, and the innings closed at 4.25 . . .

At a quarter to 5 Messrs Thornton and Grace began batting on behalf of England, opposed by Mr A Penn and Bray. Mr Thornton quickly set to work, but having made seven in three overs he was clean bowled. Mr Grace was well caught in the long field, Mr Steel stumped, Selby given out leg before and Ocroft caught at point; and thus five wickets were disposed of for an average of nine runs. Over anxiety to score caused Flowers to lose his position at 48, and 10 runs later Barnes retired - clean bowled. No stand whatever was made, and the innings terminated for the surprisingly small total of 72 at 10 minutes past 6 . . . Play then ceased.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 6 August, page 11)

So far as the weather was concerned yesterday it compared rather unfavourably with its predecessor. The cricket itself, however, proved of

a much more attractive character. The chief feature of the day's play was the fine display of batting on the part of Mr F Penn, Mr Jones and Oscroft. When play ceased on the previous evening each side had completed an innings.

Kent commenced a second innings at 20 minutes to 12; as before, Mr Mackinnon and Hon Ivo Bligh were the early batsmen. The attack was first entrusted to Motley and Barnes. England met with an early success as, when only one run had been secured, a fine catch at deep slip disposed of the Hon Ivo Bligh. Hearne then became Mr Mackinnon's second partner, and the result of the association compensated considerably for the speedy downfall of the first wicket. A check to the run getting was experienced at 21, when a sharp return to the bowler proved fatal to Mr Mackinnon. The vacancy was filled by Mr F Penn.

When the total reached 45 Shaw and Mr Grace took the places of the two Notts professionals. Mr Grace's fifth ball just tipped the bails off Hearne's wicket. Three for 47. Mr Penn continued to score freely on the arrival of Mr Jones, but only 10 runs were added when the former ran himself out. Mr Foord-Kelcey began by securing nine runs in six overs. At 73, Mr Grace retired in favour of Mr Steel. A capital catch at long-on effected a separation, Mr Foord-Kelcey making way for Mr Blackman. Mr Cunliffe joined Mr Jones at 140; but ten runs later the excellent innings of the last-named terminated, and at ten minutes past 4 the twelfth wicket fell for 174.

England required 245 runs to win, and began their task with Oscroft and Selby, opposed to Bray and Mr A Penn. The defence of both batsmen was admirable; but runs were at first slowly made. At half-past 6 play ceased.

Day 3 (report from Thursday 7 August, page 10)

Yesterday dawned bright and promising, but shortly before the time arranged for play there were indications of rain, and later on several slight showers fell. At the usual hour the players took the field, but before a ball was bowled another shower necessitated a hasty retreat. Subsequently matters grew worse. Rain came down in torrents and the wind blew with sufficient force to upset one of the tents on the east side of the St Lawrence Ground. It seemed as if the contest would have to be suspended for the day, but fortunately at 3 o'clock there were signs of improvement, and at 3.30 preparations were again made for a start.

Overnight England had secured 105 of 245 runs required to win, and had lost three wickets. Messrs Grace and Thornton, the not outs for 7 and 18 respectively, resumed their innings, opposed by Bray and O'Shaughnessy. Both batsmen hit freely, but Mr Grace secured the greater share of the runs. The score speedily advanced to 126, which number, however, proved fatal to Mr Thornton, smartly caught at slip. Two other wickets fell in rapid order. When the score had reached an addition of one run, Mr Steel was clean bowled and Barnes caught at slip. Flowers partnered Mr Grace, but before any further score was made rain interrupted play for a quarter of an hour.

On resumption the batting was of a vigorous character. Bowlers had anything but a pleasant time of it. The ball was greasy and foothold a matter of great difficulty, consequently everything was in favour of the batsmen. A finer display of hitting has seldom been witnessed this season, and what at one time looked a certain victory for Kent was converted into a

decisive defeat. The mode of attack was six times changed without effect, and at half-past 5 England won by four wickets . . . Umpires, Farrands and Willsher.

4 August: SURREY v SUSSEX

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2314.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 5 August, page 5)

Yesterday the first of the annual matches between these counties was played at Kennington Oval. Surrey completed one innings . . .

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 6 August, page 11)

During the long and successful innings of Surrey in this match at the Oval, no less than five bowlers were engaged . . .

Sussex started batting with Messrs Greenfield and Pedley, opposed to the bowling of Southerton and Blamires. The former was caught in the slip with the total at 10. H Phillips then came forward, and a stand of some duration ensued. With the score at 36, Mr Pedley fell an easy victim to Pooley. This event brought Mr Whitfeld to the assistance of Phillips, who by sound and earnest hitting was chiefly instrumental in the obtainment of 46 at luncheon time.

On resumption of play Potter became the coadjutor of Southerton, and the wickets fell with a rapidity not calculated upon. Mr Whitfeld retired at 55 – caught in the slip, and J Phillips added but a single thereto. Mr Howard escaped a chance offered to mid-on, and H Phillips left shortly after – caught, like Mr Whitfeld, in the slip. His contribution of 41 was composed of one five, one four, two twos and singles. Mr Howard was caught at wicket for six. Of the remainder, nothing need be said. The innings closed at a quarter past 4 for 80 runs . . .

Being 183 runs in arrear, Sussex had to “follow on,” and at the close of the day 48 runs were recorded for the loss of two wickets. Umpires, Caffyn and Payne.

Day 3 (report from Thursday 7 August, page 10)

The third day's play in this match at the Oval began at 12.15 and ended at 4.20. Saving the patient stay of Mr Whitfeld and the tolerably free hitting of Howard and Millard, little occurred claiming notice. Pooley's dexterity behind the stumps was rewarded by the capture of five. Surrey won the match by an innings and 35 runs.

4 August: DERBYSHIRE v YORKSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2312.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 5 August, page 5)

Yorkshire made an indifferent beginning yesterday in this match at Derby. At luncheon time they had lost eight wickets for 45 runs, and but for Pinder the score would have assumed extremely small proportions for such a county. At the close of the day Derbyshire recorded 129 runs for eight wickets.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 6 August, page 11)

Owing to a heavy and continuous fall of rain for several hours yesterday, this match at Derby made but little progress . . .

Day 3 (report from Thursday 7 August, page 10)

Seldom, very seldom does it happen that the bowling on either side is so good that two persons only are needed to go through a match of three days' duration. It may be remembered at the close of Monday's play in the above contest at Derby Yorkshire had completed a first innings and Derbyshire but a portion of theirs. On the following day but little progress was made owing to rain.

Yesterday the match was brought to a conclusion in favour of Derbyshire by an innings and two runs. This great triumph is mainly due to the bowling of Hay and Mycroft. Each claimed ten wickets in the double innings of Yorkshire at an average of about seven runs per wicket. The small number of "extras" recorded speak favourably of the Derbyshire fielding.

7 August: GENTLEMEN OF KENT v GENTLEMEN OF ENGLAND

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2315.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 8 August, page 11)

The second match which yesterday saw a commencement was between 12 Gentlemen of Kent and 12 Gentlemen of England. Play began at about half-past 11, the Gentlemen of England, who were successful in the toss, commencing defensive operations with Messrs W G Grace and Russel. The chosen bowlers were Messrs Foord-Kelcey and A Penn.

But a short period had elapsed when Mr Russell retired, caught at the wicket. Mr Steel filled the vacancy. Both batsmen hit with freedom, and the score reached 50 runs in less than an hour, principally by the efforts of Mr Steel. Eight runs subsequently Mr Tufnell was called upon to relieve Mr Foord-Kelcey, but runs came as easily as before. At 81 another change occurred; Mr Absolom went on in place of Mr A Penn. Still the bowlers were kept in subjection, and by a quarter-past 1 three figures were posted. Rain soon after interrupted play for a quarter of an hour.

In the second over after the resumption, Mr Steel gave a chance, which was not accepted. This mistake cost the side dearly, as the Lancashire representative continued to bat in a very effective style. The association of Messrs Steel and Grace was not broken up until it had been productive of 125 runs. Mr Grace then retired, and Mr Studd joined Mr Steel, but contributed nothing. Mr Mitchell opened his account with a leg hit for four. A catch at slip got rid of him, with the total at 143. Mr Whitfeld succeeded to the vacancy. Fourteen overs yielded 20 runs.

Mr Steel, who went in second wicket down, was then dismissed, having secured the greater portion of the runs registered. Among his contributions were 11 fours, three threes and ten twos. Half the wickets, 163. Mr Whitfeld made a good stand, and so also did Mr Cottrell, but of the remainder nothing need be said. At 5.25 the innings closed for 241 runs.

At the call of time Kent lost four wickets for 37 runs. There was a good attendance considering the unsettled state of the weather.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 9 August, page 11)

Matters were certainly not promising when play should have been commenced yesterday. Rain was then and had been for some time previously falling steadily. Shortly after 3, however, affairs took a favourable turn, and at 3.35 a start was made. The wicket was then in a most slippery condition; but although foothold was alike difficult for batsmen and bowlers, the state of the ground favoured the former.

The Hon Ivo Bligh went to the wickets with Mr Jones, the overnight not out for 10. Messrs Steel and W G Grace were deputed to bowl. Scoring seemed easy of accomplishment and the figures steadily advanced. Twice the Hon Ivo Bligh cut Mr Grace for four, and at 65 the Gloucestershire representative was removed in favour of Mr Cottrell. With few runs added the Hon Ivo Bligh should have been caught from a lofty return to Mr Cottrell. The batsman signaled his escape by scoring seven runs in the following over of Mr Clarke, who had at 76 relieved Mr Steel.

A catch at short leg at length caused the Hon Ivo Bligh to make way for Mr Haskett-Smith, and five wickets were down for 95 runs. The new comer's stay was both brief and unprofitable. He was clean bowled at 103. Mr Mackinnon filled the vacancy. Numerous stratagems were adopted for the purpose of effecting a separation, but the score reached 174 before Mr Mackinnon sanguinely attempted to get a third run for an excellent cut and paid the penalty. With the fall of this wicket play ceased for the day.

Day 3 (report from Monday 11 August, page 10)

At the close of Friday's play the Gentlemen of Kent had lost seven wickets for 174 runs, and were still 67 runs behind the total of their adversaries. Mr Jones, the "not out," in company with Mr Cunliffe, commenced operations at 11.35 on Saturday. Apparently, there was little hope of the match being completed. Mr Jones only added to the runs obtained off the bat, and his splendid innings finished for 82, in which there were three fours, five threes and eight twos. The innings closed at 11.55 for 181 runs.

With a balance in hand of 60 runs, the Gentlemen of England began their second innings with Messrs Grace and Whitfeld against the deliveries of Messrs A Penn and Foord-Kelcey. A very bad start was made, as when but four runs were registered both Mr Grace and Mr Steel figured on the dismissed list. Mr Studd partnered Mr Whitfeld and both played carefully. At 35, however, the first-named was neatly taken at point. Mr Whitfeld witnessed the retirement of Mr Russell and Mr Evans, the former caught at cover-point and the latter ten yards behind the wicket. Mr Lucas and Mr Whitfeld were partnered up to 60, when Mr Whitfeld was clean bowled. Various changes of bowling were had recourse to till the last wicket fell for 158 runs. Time, 4 o'clock.

Kent started their second innings at 4.15. The bowling of Messrs Grace and Steel proved very destructive on a treacherous wicket. Over-anxiety to score lost Kent two wickets, one of them Mr F Penn's. Five fell for 52 runs. Eventually England won by 131 runs.

7 August: YORKSHIRE v MIDDLESEX

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2316.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 8 August, page 11)

Owing to heavy rainfalls, no play in this match at Huddersfield took place yesterday.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 9 August, page 11)

It rarely happens that a match between two really great counties can be proceeded with as far as this was yesterday at Huddersfield. It was booked for a three days' encounter. On Thursday no play was attempted on account of rain, and in all probability but little time will be required today to complete what has been begun, as only 52 runs are required by Yorkshire to win - i.e., if they succeed in so doing.

Day 3 (report from Monday 11 August, page 10)

The play of Saturday in this match at Huddersfield did not occupy much time. Yorkshire required but 52 runs to win, but this number cost them five wickets.

11 August: NOTTINGHAMSHIRE v MIDDLESEX

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2317.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 12 August, page 7)

Among the "return" matches now being played everywhere the above, begun at the Trent-bridge ground yesterday, stands out prominently as well on account of the merit of the respective teams engaged as the likelihood of its being carried to a definite issue, which was not the case with the match at Lord's, owing to bad weather.

Oscroft and Selby began the batting, which for the first half hour did not augur very well, as only four runs were recorded for two wickets. Shrewsbury was caught at 21, Oscroft at 39 and Flowers at 42. Then came a great change. Barnes carried the total to 147. Wild played with his accustomed freedom and success, while Scotton brought out his bat for 84. Thus the weakness at the start was fully atoned for by the strength at the close - viz., 249 runs.

The little time on hand was turned to account by Messrs Webbe and Walker on the part of Middlesex. They put together just 50 runs before the call of time, and neither out.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 13 August, page 10)

Play in this match on the Trent-bridge ground was carried on yesterday with great vigour, although Middlesex fell so far short of runs at the close of their innings as to necessitate a follow-on. It was in the second essay with the bat that their resisting powers began to develop themselves.

True, at 24 Mr Thornton gave a chance, but he nevertheless scored 72 runs in 55 minutes. The Hon A Lyttelton exceeded this number in a style which evoked frequent expressions of delight among a large assemblage of spectators capable of estimating it. There is the promise, as the score now presents itself, of an excellent day's cricket on this the third day of the match.

Day 3 (report from Thursday 14 August, page 10)

What in all probability would have been a hard-fought match if played out was spoilt yesterday by rain. Middlesex made a grand second innings of 318 runs for six wickets. The batting of the Hon A Lyttelton was especially noticed. He gave but one chance - viz., at 84, while compiling 102 runs, against bowling of a high order. The match was of necessity left drawn.

11 August: YORKSHIRE v LANCASHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2318.html)

Final report (from Wednesday 13 August, page 10)

When a judicious pick of the talent known to exist in these great districts is made, cricket of a high order is expected and almost invariably ensues, notwithstanding the disappointments and surprises which attend the game. The above match at Sheffield presented some unusual features.

On the side of Lancashire, who went in first on Monday, four wickets, towards the close of the innings, fell in succession without a run. Ulyett's bowled gained seven out of ten. When stumps were drawn for the day Yorkshire were considerably in advance of their opponents, although their innings was not completed.

The long-continued and brilliant display of batting yesterday on the part of Bates, a "not out" for 53, proved of great value to his side, which produced a total of 353 runs. Lancashire strove nobly against these huge figures, but were able only to score 186 in their final innings. Yorkshire were therefore declared winners of the match by an innings and 80 runs.

14 August: GLOUCESTERSHIRE v MIDDLESEX

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2320.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 15 August, page 12)

The Clifton week will be remembered by the long score made yesterday without the completion of an innings – viz., 439 runs for eight wickets.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 16 August, page 11)

When stumps were drawn on Thursday in this match at Clifton, no fewer than 439 runs were scored by Middlesex for eight wickets. Fortune favoured this county at the outset; first by winning the toss and then crowning all the early batsmen with a double figure, and in one case a triple. The celerity, too, with which the scoring travelled is also deserving notice; the third wicket realized 171 runs, the product of one hour and 50 minutes. More than 100 were added hereto when Mr Walker left, and these figures were carried to 382 when Mr A J Webbe, who went in second wicket down, and withstood every kind of attack of the scientific kind, surrendered to a lob. His chief hits were 15 fours, four threes and 12 twos. Both Mr H R Webbe and Mr Stratford tested the bowling resources of the adversary to a considerable extent, and the whole day was spent by Gloucestershire in the capture of eight wickets as before mentioned.

Messrs Studd and Stratford were the not-outs for 18 and 34 respectively. Play was resumed yesterday at the stipulated time, and the innings terminated for 476 runs. Mr W G Grace and Gilbert were the first to enter on the defence for Gloucestershire and, despite the efforts of Messrs Walker, Robertson, Ford and Stratford with the ball, they maintained their stand until 161 runs had been accumulated. Mr Grace was then caught at mid-on.

Two hours and a half had elapsed from the commencement of the innings, and on Midwinter joining issue the score was further augmented to 213. Mr Gilbert was the next to depart, and with the exception of one chance had played remarkably well for 99. When play ceased for the day Gloucestershire had still one wicket to fall and had scored 314, and then required 82 runs to prevent a follow on.

Day 3 (report from Monday 18 August, page 6)

Although the "forecasts for Saturday, issued at 8 p.m. on the previous day," made no mention of rain in any part of the kingdom, there was quite fall sufficient at Clifton to render the ground very slow for the early cricket. Gloucestershire added six runs to their overnight total, which, being 156 in arrear of Middlesex, necessitated a continuance of the batting, for which Messrs E M Grace and G F Grace were appointed first.

A great deal was expected from the early start, but disappointment ensued. Both left with the score at five; the former clean bowled and the latter caught at point. Messrs Townsend and Gribble were partnered up to 37. A catch by Mr Pearson in the slip brought Mr Gribble's career to a close, and Mr Moberly went to the vacated wicket. A stand of considerable endurance followed, which called for a change in the mode of attack. Despite this, the men in charge of the books were kept in a state of unrest, as nearly

every over yielded a quantity of runs. In proof whereof, 118 runs were recorded at the fall of the fourth wicket.

At this stage of the game Mr W G Grace appeared, not unaccompanied with applause. As yet a single innings defeat was possible, and much depended upon the issues of the next half-hour. Mr Grace soon began to dispel any misgivings on this point. Fours, threes and twos were rattled together in quick succession until at 6 o'clock he possessed 81 runs and not out. Seven wickets were down for a total of 267, or 111 runs on. This being, however, the third day of the match it was of necessity left drawn. By a slight process of arithmetic it will be seen that for 27 wickets taken in this contest 1,033 runs were scored, thus averaging nearly 40 runs each, although four fell for a cipher.

14 August: SURREY v KENT

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2322.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 15 August, page 12)

A most excellent pair of wickets was provided by the executive at the Oval for this important match, which commenced yesterday at 15 minutes past 12 o'clock. Surrey, having won the toss, sent Mr L A Shuter and Jupp in first to the bowling of Hearne and Bray.

A catch at wicket disposed of Jupp with the total at 11. Mr J Shuter then joined his brother, and as the running continued at a rapid rate Mr Foord-Kelcey displaced Hearne. The change, however, was in favour of the batting. Shaughnessy went on at Bray's end, and for a while the running received a check. Mr Absolom next appeared at the pavilion wicket. 94 runs were totalled when Bray went on again, and Mr J Shuter soon fell to him. His really sound innings of 45 was composed of five fours, six threes, a two and singles. Mr Read disappointed altogether. At luncheon, three wickets were lost for 105 runs.

Mr L A Shuter brought up the fourth wicket to 135. Another fine display of batting may be referred to Humphrey, who tested the bowling resources of Kent to a severe degree. Of the 217 telegraphed on his leaving, he claimed 57 without presenting a chance saving that which led to his retirement. Stumps were drawn at 6.30, when the score stood as under. Umpires, Street and Fryer.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 16 August, page 11)

Surrey were all day at the wickets on Thursday without bringing their innings to a close. One wicket only was left to fall, and but little time was spent yesterday on its capture. Pooley and Blamires, the not outs for 37 and 27 respectively, were confronted by G Hearne and Bray. Two runs were recorded by Blamires, and then a catch at the wicket settled the matter. The large number of extras contrasted unfavourably with the fielding of the other side. Bray proved very successful in the bowling department. Five were caught off him and three wickets taken clean.

Kent selected the Hon Ivo Bligh and Mr Mackinnon to commence their batting, and for a while both gave promise of following the example set by Surrey. Blamires, however, cut the career of the former very short, and Hearne occupied the vacated wicket. A splendid hit for five was all that this youthful professor could accomplish, being caught at the wicket off a slow. Mr Foord-Kelcey fared very little better, and Mr Pattison far worse. Mr Absolom, after a few precluding twirls of the bat, got the ball to leg for a single; two were subsequently added, and then the telegraph board announced 51 runs with half the wickets down. The seventh reached 52, towards which Mr Mackinnon on his retirement claimed just half.

On resumption of play after luncheon, F Hearne and Henty put a little better face on the score-sheet, but such a diminutive total as 89 necessitated a follow on. The Surrey bowling honours were equally divided between Southerton and Blamires. Both were relieved during the innings. Only two Kent batsmen were clean bowled; all the rest were caught.

The great change accompanied the continued innings with the same batsmen as before. These put together just 100 runs. Both surrendered eventually to Blamires, as did the third wicket. Messrs Foord-Kelcey and Pattison played up to 6.30, when stumps were drawn.

Day 3 (report from Monday 18 August, page 6)

Probably the only persons really disappointed on Saturday in this match at the Oval were a few who posted thither shortly after 1 o'clock and found "all over." From the outset of the play on Thursday to its close Kent had but a very faint chance of coming off well. The absence of Lord Harris and the brothers Penn, &c., was especially felt, as a certain amount of interest would have been sustained, even if defeat were regarded as sure.

Shortly after 12 o'clock Mr Foord-Kelcey, "not out" for 29, with Mr Pattison recommenced batting, in the hope of contributing freely to the 54 which would save a single-innings defeat. Their praiseworthy intentions were not, however, rewarded to any extent. Mr Pattison played "on" for two, and Mr Absolom retired for a single. Half the wickets were down and 146 runs scored when Mr Cunliffe joined Mr Foord-Kelcey. Southerton and Blamires seemed resolved to part this pair, and they were not long in effecting their purpose. Hearne and O'Shaughnessy, by the aid of a little loose fielding, brought the score more forward than was expected. Henty came in at 176 and Hearne left at 181. Bray, the last man, joined Henty, and 10 runs were added before Bray gave a chance to mid-on which could not very well be declined. This event brought the match to a close, leaving Surrey winners by an innings and a run.

Thus the "return" proved more unfavourable to Kent than the previous contest at Tunbridge-wells about a month since, when their defeat was limited to eight wickets. Umpires, Fryer and Street.

14 August: LANCASHIRE v NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2321.html)

Day 1 – no report found

Day 2 (report from Saturday 16 August, page 11)

The Old Trafford Ground, Manchester, was well patronized on Thursday, when the above match commenced. Notts won the toss, and sent Oscroft and A Shrewsbury to the wickets, opposed to Mr Steel and Barlow. No stand of any importance was made till Scotton put in an appearance.

With the total at 90 Crossland relieved Barlow, and at 116 M'Intyre displaced Crossland. When 125 were obtained Scotton's mid-stump was parted from the other two. Shaw kept M'Intyre at bay for a considerable time, and surrendered to him after contributing 24. The tenth wicket fell for 162.

Favourable weather added to the attractions of yesterday, and the company was again large. Lancashire began and completed their innings, which realized 184 runs. Four bowlers were tried.

Day 3 (report from Monday 18 August, page 6)

The somewhat sudden and altogether disagreeable changes in Saturday's weather at Manchester led to an unexpected termination of what in all probability would have proved a well-fought if not a completed match. It may be remembered, when stumps were drawn on the second day's play, each party had got through an innings with a comparatively slight difference in results. Notts, moreover, had lost one wicket for 78 runs.

Selby and Scotton, the "not-outs" for 14 and 39 respectively, were, as on Friday evening, confronted by Mr A G Steel and M'Intyre. The batsmen were evidently posed by their assailants, and Selby soon gave way. Scotton and A Shrewsbury were not, however, to be disposed of quite so easily. They kept the score moving, though not at the rapid pace as on some other occasions of late.

The cheering sunshine which accompanied the outset of the match had now given place to a thick light, producing, as a matter of course, an unfavourable effect on the play all round. Pilling – a young and already unsurpassed wicket-keeper – performed his part well. On the riddance of Shaw the difficulties of the Notts innings were surmounted. If otherwise the match could not have been completed, owing to heavy and continuous rain, and it was consequently declared "drawn."

18 August: DERBYSHIRE v NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2323.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 19 August, page 9)

This return match at Derby attracted a large company yesterday. The residents won the toss and went to the wickets forthwith. So destructive, however, was Motley's bowling that scarcely any stand worthy of record was made against it. Motley claimed seven wickets, and only 59 runs were recorded for the whole team. Notts fared better, although some of their choice bats retired for very diminutive figures.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 20 August, page 6)

Little more than a quarter of an hour was needed yesterday morning to dispose of the three Notts wickets left untouched overnight. Mycroft possessed himself of all, and the innings terminated for 110 runs.

Mr Shuker and Ridley started the second batting of Derby in opposition to Shaw and Motley. The wickets fell surprisingly fast – the first for seven runs and the fifth for 20. The highest individual figure was eight. Motley and Shaw were unchanged throughout the innings – the former claimed seven wickets and the latter three. At 3.20 Notts were declared winners by an innings and 15 runs.

18 August: GLOUCESTERSHIRE v YORKSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2324.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 19 August, page 9)

Although the weather at sunrise yesterday was not very promising for the "Cheltenham week," as the day wore on it brightened into sunshine. The wickets were, nevertheless, heavy from recent rainfalls. Yorkshire were fortunate in the toss and they chose the bat, and a very bad beginning they made. Ulyett was caught at point without a run, and his partner proved equally unfortunate.

Lockwood and Bates put a better face on the proceedings. Half the wickets, however, were lost for 49 runs. A much stouter resistance was offered by Hall and Emmett, and before they could be separated Messrs Townsend, G F Grace and Gilbert were called upon to relieved Midwinter and Mr W G Grace, the bowlers at starting. Emmett carried the score to 119, when he was clean bowled. The subsequent portion of play was characterized by no peculiar features. The innings lasted three hours and 50 minutes and totalled 135 runs. Nine wickets out of the ten were lost through catches.

Gloucestershire started batting with Messrs W G Grace and Gilbert, opposed to Bates and Peate. Four wickets were lost at the call of time for 57 runs.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 20 August, page 6)

The unceasing story about rain and its influence upon cricket comes from Cheltenham in a strain approaching to sadness. Play was not attempted yesterday till nearly 2 o'clock. Mr Moberly and Midwinter, the not-outs, then resumed batting, and in about 20 minutes advanced the score by 20 runs. Several changes of bowling were had recourse to in order to part them, but without avail. At 3.20 the players were "rained in," and no further attempts were made during the day to proceed with the match.

Day 3 (report from Thursday 21 August, page 11)

At the close of Tuesday's play in this match at Cheltenham, Yorkshire had completed their first innings and Gloucestershire, with four wickets down, claimed 119 runs. Midwinter, not out for 27, added 23 to them yesterday, when he was caught at point. Mr Moberly, the other not out for 29, enlarged his figures to 61. A great deal of vigorous hitting ensued, and at 4.30 the innings closed for a total of 269.

Yorkshire played out time and lost one wicket of their second innings for 63. The match was then left drawn.

18 August: SUSSEX v SURREY

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2325.html)

Days 1 and 2 – no reports found

Day 3 – scorecard only without report from Thursday 21 August, page 11)

21 August: KENT v LANCASHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2327.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 22 August, page 9)

Canterbury fared no better than London yesterday with respect to weather. Despite this Lancashire, who had won the toss, made a beginning of the match, with Mr A N Hornby and Barlow at the wickets, opposed to the bowling of G Hearne and Bray. The score was carried to 29 when a thunderstorm necessitated the abandonment of the game till to-day.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 23 August, page 11)

An early start was made yesterday morning, Mr Horny and Barlow continuing their innings at 11 o'clock. The bowling was intrusted to Bray and G Hearne. Twice during an hour the bowling was changed, and twice was the game interrupted by rain. The score, however, was taken to 70 by a few minutes to 12. Then play had to be suspended until 10 minutes to 3.

Four overs after the renewal Mr Hornby's innings terminated. Mr Royle and Barlow were together while 24 runs were obtained, the former being the first to retired - clean bowled. Barlow witnessed the departure of Mr Taylor, and was himself caught at slip with the figures at 119. The remaining wickets fell rapidly, and the innings closed for 144.

At 5.25 Kent sent in Messrs Absolom and Mackinnon to oppose Barlow and M'Intyre. Mr Absolom had a life at the hands of Mr Palmer at mid-off, and at 35 Mr Mackinnon was caught at the wicket. G Hearne came in, and no further loss was sustained.

Day 3 (report from Monday 25 August, page 8)

The St Lawrence ground, Canterbury, never presented a more pitiable condition for cricket than on Saturday. On the preceding Thursday only 29 runs were scored without loss of wicket, owing to rain. Friday brought with it sufficient intervals of fairer weather to allow of the Lancashire innings being completed for 144 runs, and a score of 59 effected by Kent for the loss of one wicket.

No attempts whatever were made on Saturday to continue the play. The players appeared on the ground at 1 o'clock, and, seeing how unlikely it was to get a dry wicket for hours to come, agreed to abandon the match.

21 August: GLOUCESTERSHIRE v NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2326.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 22 August, page 9)

This was the second match in the programme of the "Cheltenham week." Notts lost the toss and took to the field, which was very soft, owing to recent rainfalls. Messrs W G Grace and Gilbert went first to the wickets. Shaw and Motley had charge of the early bowling.

By somewhat slow degrees the score travelled up to 33, and then Mr Grace retired, clean bowled. Midwinter went to the vacated wicket and soon brought on a change of bowling - viz., Barnes instead of Shaw. Midwinter appeared to patronize Barnes too freely to admit of his long continuance, and Wright displaced him. At 58 Midwinter was caught at mid-off, and Mr E M Grace joined Mr Gilbert. Notts were now getting the upper hand, and eight wickets fell at an average of about ten runs each. Rain checked the play afterwards.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 23 August, page 11)

Play in this match at Cheltenham was resumed yesterday within a few minutes of 12 o'clock. Oscroft and A Shrewsbury, the not-outs for 2 and 3 respectively, were confronted by Mr W G Grace and Midwinter. One run was added to the overnight total, when one was caught at square-leg and the other at the wicket. This indifferent beginning was not improved by Scotton, who failed altogether.

Barnes and Selby brought up the score to 29, when the former was bowled. No stand of any moment occurred except by Selby, who brought out his bat with the total at 65. The second innings of Gloucestershire was characterized by much free hitting at the commencement, and the tenth wicket fell for 119. Time, 3.50. Notts lost one wicket for two runs when stumps were drawn.

Day 3 (report from Monday 25 August, page 8)

A striking illustration of the truth of the adage "A match is never lost till won" was afforded by the play of Saturday at Cheltenham. It may be remembered that when stumps were drawn on Friday Gloucestershire had completed their double innings and one wicket on the Notts side was also down. At this stage Gloucestershire had totalled 242 runs and Notts 67, with nine wickets to go down. In order, therefore, to win the match Notts required an average of rather more than 19 runs per wicket. Few if any persons present entertained an idea of a task like this being accomplished against bowling as strong as it was diversified.

A Shrewsbury, the "not-out" for two, resumed his batting in conjunction with Barnes soon after 12 o'clock. Mr W G Grace and Midwinter had charge of the early bowling. Each batsman seemed to adopt caution as his watchword, and runs came somewhat slowly; but they did come sufficiently to require a change of bowling. Mr E M Grace tried a few overs, but, as these did not pay, Mr Gilbert went on. The batsmen, however, had by this time got well set, and it mattered little about the changes; all were punished,

and to such an extent that 146 runs were recorded when the second wicket fell.

Selby then joined Shrewsbury, and the score had nearly reached 160 when Mr W G Grace made an appeal to the umpire and Shrewsbury retired with the largest score of the match, put together by figures of all ordinary sizes. Although the game now seemed perfectly safe for Notts, the batting was continued with befitting care by Oscroft and Flowers up to 5.30, when the last needed hit was made, and Notts were declared winners of the match with six wickets to spare.

It is worthy of remark that of the 1,601 runs scored during the three days there was not one wide. Only ten batsmen were clean bowled, as against 18 caught. In the first innings of Notts Mr W G Grace and Midwinter bowled throughout. In the second innings there were six bowlers. Only two succeeded . . .

The "win" on the part of Notts is regarded as a great triumph, seeing it was effected in opposition to an extremely powerful and accomplished team, against probabilities, and, furthermore, by thoroughly sound cricket.

25 August: SURREY v YORKSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2330.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 26 August, page 9)

Throughout the season, which is now rapidly nearing its close, the weather has so often proved adverse to cricket that slight showers, even of frequent recurrence, are but little heeded now. The above important match at the Oval yesterday testifies hereto. Before a ball was bowled the attendance indicated a resolve to see as much of this return match as possible, and as the day wore on the company occupied space to the extent of former times, when a match between Surrey and Yorkshire was regarded as an event.

In a positive sense the teams brought together yesterday were strong, but they might have been stronger. Rain had not affected the Oval to the extent of a doubtful wicket, although, as a matter of course, it could not be a very lively one. Yorkshire won the toss and sent in Ulyett and Walker; the early bowling was intrusted to Southerton (Pavilion wicket) and Blamires contra.

Ulyett required a fresh partner when one run had been scored. Lockwood came, and stayed till 12 were recorded. Bates evinced more defensive capabilities than his two immediate predecessors. When nearly 50 had been reached Barratt relieved Blamires. Such was the effect of the change that Ulyett retired at once, caught at short leg. Bates left immediately after. Taylor was the only other scorer able to attain double figures. After luncheon the wickets fell surprisingly fast, and the innings terminated at 4.30 for 92 runs, unaided by a single extra.

Surrey were almost as unfortunate at the start of their innings as Yorkshire. Mr Shuter and Jupp were confronted by Bates and Peate. Two chances were given by Jupp at a very early period of his innings, and both declined; Bates bowled him, however, for a single. Neither of the brothers Shuter appeared to be at ease; both were caught out for trifling scores. In fact, six wickets fell for 26 runs and the ninth for 42. Blamires proved stubborn, and exhibited considerable freedom of action withal. He twice sent Peate to square leg for four, and by other hits of smaller value he was mainly instrumental in elevating the total to 59, without losing his wicket. Duration of innings, two hours. Bates and Peate bowled throughout - the former . . . eight wickets. Umpires, Hill and Caffyn.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 27 August, page 6)

No attempts were made yesterday to resume play in this match at the Oval. The weather forecasts were distressingly true. The match will be proceeded with to-day if possible.

Day 3 - no report found

25 August: NOTTINGHAMSHIRE v KENT

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2329.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 26 August, page 9)

This return match was commenced yesterday on the Trent-bridge Ground, Nottingham, before a large assembly. Notts won the toss and sent Oscroft and A Shrewsbury to the wickets. The greater portion of the day's batting was consumed by Notts, so that Kent had lost but five wickets at the call of time.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 27 August, page 6)

Although storm and shower did not leave Nottingham unvisited yesterday, sufficient opportunities were afforded for persevering in the play of this match so as to bring it to a decisive issue. The Trent Bridge ground could hardly be expected to present the crowded assemblage which fair and settled weather assists so much in drawing. Nevertheless, the company was tolerably large, and one that appreciated the efforts of Kent to come out of the contest with honour if not with success.

At the close of Monday's play Notts had completed an innings with a total of 253 runs, obtained in an unusually brief period; Kent had lost half their wickets for 48 runs. Mr Foord-Kelcey, the "not out," was joined by Lord Clifton yesterday, and these batsmen brought up the total to 25. Motley then deprived Lord Clifton of his partner, and F Hearne went to the vacated wicket. The bowling at this stage was evidently too severe to be long contended with, and the tenth wicket fell at 3 o'clock for 109 runs.

Being 144 runs in arrear, Kent had to follow on. Mr F Penn offered a very firm resistance to Motley, who seemed bent on carrying all before him. Lord Clifton was his chief supporter. Eventually the scoring stopped at 100, and Kent were in consequence beaten by an innings and 44 runs.

25 August: GLOUCESTERSHIRE v LANCASHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2328.html)

Day 1 – no report found

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 27 August, page 6)

The College Close at Clifton was in such a condition yesterday that the above match could not be proceeded with, and it is feared that Midwinter will find that the match promoted for his benefit will, like several others this season, result in failure and disappointment. Much, however, depends upon the weather of to-day.

Day 3 – no report found

28 August: GLOUCESTERSHIRE v SURREY

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2331.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 29 August, page 4)

Heavy rains had so saturated the ground at Cirencester yesterday that it was next to imp the play cricket upon it.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 30 August, page 6)

The deferred play in this match at Cirencester began yesterday at 12.30. Surrey won the toss and proceeded to the wickets forthwith. Mr Shuter and Jupp made a very good beginning, although opposed by Mr W G Grace and Midwinter. Mr Read proved more formidable still to these famed Gloucestershire bowlers. He was eventually caught at deep square leg for 48 runs. The innings closed for 155 runs.

Mr Grace claimed eight wickets in 62 overs for 81 runs. Gloucestershire had lost two wickets for 49 runs at the call of time.

Day 3 (report from Monday 1 September, page 8)

The progress made in this match on Friday at Cirencester was scarcely equal to the time industriously expended on it. At the close of the day Surrey had completed a first innings for 155 runs, and Gloucestershire had lost two wickets for 49 – Mr W G Grace and Midwinter out. Batting was resumed on Saturday by Messrs E M Grace and Gilbert, the not outs for six and nine respectively. Blamires and Southerton had charge of the early bowling.

Mr E M Grace contributed a single and retired. Mr Moberly's stay was not a lengthy one, nor that of Mr G F Grace – the latter caught in the slips, the former at mid-on, both off the same bowler. Mr Gilbert left at 64, caught in the slips. Messrs Townsend and Fairbanks displayed some of the liveliest batting of the match. While together it became politic to relieve Southerton by Potter, and shortly after this change Barratt went on at Blamires' wicket. The score kept moving, nevertheless, till 128 runs were recorded.

At this stage a ball played into the vicinity of slip was secured by Potter. Very soon afterwards Mr Townsend was "driven on" by Blamires, who a few overs previously had displaced Barratt. The remaining portion of the innings produced nothing to call for mention. Four bowlers were engaged, but Blamires deserves special notice. He claimed seven wickets for 59 runs in 50 overs and a ball. Total, 154.

Surrey started their second innings with one run in advance of Gloucestershire. As there was not time to play the match out the interest in it rapidly declined. Mr W G Grace made a rapid clearance of the wickets. Messrs Shuter and Burls were alone able to resist him for any length of time. He obtained seven wickets in 21 overs and 2 balls for 35 runs. The ninth wicket fell for a total of 79 and the match was left drawn.

1 September: GENTLEMEN OF THE NORTH v GENTLEMEN OF THE SOUTH

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2332.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 2 September, page 4)

It rarely happens to meet with two amateur elevens of such strength on the first day of September as were present at Scarborough yesterday to take part in the above match. Considering the long run of adverse weather, the ground was in fair condition. The South won the toss and sent Messrs W G Grace and Hadow to the wickets forthwith. Messrs A G Steel and Forbes had charge of the early bowling.

Mr Grace soon began to make his mark, though by small figures. His first hit that excited attention was to leg from Mr Steel, which realized three runs, but he dispensed his patronage to Mr Forbes with a liberality that suggested the propriety of taking him off at 30 and appointing Mr Appleby in his stead. The batting, however, received no check from the first change, and Mr Hornby was put on at Mr Steel's wicket. Both batsmen seemed defiant and other changes were resorted to. Eighty-three runs were nevertheless recorded before the first wicket fell.

The Hon Ivo Bligh then joined Mr Hadow, and the score kept moving till 109 runs were recorded. Mr Hadow then retired, caught at cover point. All the effective bowling from this stage of the game to the end came from Messrs Appleby and Wood. Both Mr Bligh and Mr Thornton scored 33 runs. The number of extras pretty nearly equalled Mr Grace's well-accomplished score of 45. If the innings, therefore, has a distinctive feature, it must be claimed by this special contributor . . . Total, 231. This closed the day's play.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 3 September, page 10)

The second day's play in this match at Scarborough was not accompanied with the favourite weather which added so materially to the enjoyment of the first. In fact, the match was not proceeded with yesterday till nearly half 3 o'clock. Messrs Hornby and Dury started the northern batting in opposition to Mr W G Grace and Francis.

Notwithstanding the deadened condition of the ground, the score travelled up to 51 before the first wicket fell. Mr A G Steel, in conjunction with Mr Hornby, necessitated a change of bowling, and Mr Evans came forward. A beneficial result soon ensued, and Mr Hornby left at 69. This let in Mr Royle, who stayed till 87 were recorded for three wickets. Mr D Q Steel retired at 124, but the great accession of runs during his visit came from his brother, who made the second score of the day. Mr Forbes taxed the bowling resources of the South somewhat severely, and a continuance is promised. At the call of time seven wickets were down for 210 runs. As a matter of course, the weather proved a great drawback to the expected attendance of visitors.

Day 3 (report from Thursday 4 September, page 5)

Although the chances of bringing this contest at Scarborough to a definite issue within the allotted time yesterday were somewhat remote, the approach of the northern total to that of the southern when stumps were drawn on

Tuesday kept the interest in the match from flagging. Two of the three wickets to go down had obstinate defenders, so obstinate, in fact, that before they received their dismissal the score exceeded that of the other side by 12 runs.

Very much depended now upon the speed with which the second innings of the South was consummated. Messrs W G Grace and H R Webbe were the first to repel the attacks of Messrs A G Steel and Forbes. Great astonishment was created at the quick dismissal of both, more especially as one run only resulted from their joint endeavours. Mr A J Webbe, following the example of his brother, contributed nothing. This unaccountably bad start was to some extent atoned for by the Hon Ivo Bligh, Mr Thornton and Mr Hadow, who ran into double figures, notwithstanding the varieties of bowling and the vigilance of the field. Four wickets were, however, lost for 26 runs, but the fifth realized 81.

Mr Bligh's "cutting" prepared the way for a tolerable total. Mr Francis brought up the 100 by a square-leg hit for four. After this the telegraphic shiftings were frequent and the innings was continued up to half-past 4 o'clock, when 147 runs were recorded, thus leaving the North 136 to win.

Messrs Hornby and Dury went in to get them, if possible; Messrs W G Grace and Evans had charge of the bowling. Both were hit with freedom. Mr Dury, probably spurred by impatience, ran himself out for 13. Mr A G Steel then joined Mr Hornby. These gentlemen played with great spirit and success until their proceedings were checked by the call of time. Just 100 runs were scored in the short space of time allotted, but as 36 more were wanting the match was declared drawn.

4 September: YORKSHIRE v I ZINGARI

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2333.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 5 September, page 6)

This the second match in the Scarborough programme began yesterday, and supplied all parties concerned in it with abundant exercise. The county team won the toss and sent Mr Dury and Hall to the wickets at 25 minutes past 12 o'clock. Though late in the season the weather was all that could be desired, save a little chilliness as eventide approached.

Messrs A G Steel and Evans had charge of the early bowling. Both were hit very freely, and when 33 runs were reached Mr Francis went on at Mr Evans's wicket. This change led to the dismissal of Hall, which let in a more successful hitter - viz., Mr Wood. As the score travelled at a rapid rate, Mr Francis transferred the ball to Mr Forbes and Mr Evans relieved Mr Steel. This device, however, did not answer expectation. Eventually Mr Dury was caught at mid-off with the total at 88 for two wickets. Soon after Mr Steel resumed bowling he had the good fortune to bowl Mr Wood clean. Three wickets, 93 runs.

The difficulty of dissolving the partnerships of Messrs Riley and Rhodes was found to be much greater than many anticipated. The bowling changes were frequent but ineffective till the total had passed a long way beyond the second 100. The honour of conquering this defiant pair of batsmen was divided between Messrs Steel and Forbes. The fielders had a busy outing, as 282 runs were scored at the cost of seven wickets when play for the day ceased.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 6 September, page 10)

The long string of double figures which characterized the first half of the Yorkshire innings on Thursday was not copied by those who followed the fall of the fifth wicket. All retired for singles. When stumps were drawn on the evening referred to, 282 runs were recorded for seven wickets.

Messrs Landon and Motley, the not outs for four and two respectively, resumed their batting yesterday shortly before noontide. The former succumbed early to the assailing of Mr Steel, but the latter was enabled to resist him successfully to the end. Mr Leatham made a brief stay, but Peate, the last man, soon surrendered. Mr Steel obtained the three wickets in question at the trifling cost of five runs. This was an agreeable counteraction to some of his bowling on the day previous. The Yorkshire total amounted to 298 runs.

I Zingari selected Messrs Hadow and Marriott to open their scoring account. Opposed to them were Mr Motley - fast right hand - and Peate. With the total at 14 Mr Hadow left, clean bowled. Mr A G Steel then joined Mr Marriott, and by somewhat slow degrees ten runs were added when the second wicket was forfeited. The Hon Ivo Bligh contributed liberally towards the 46 telegraphed at the dismissal of Mr Steel, caught in the slip. Mr Forbes, next on the rota, saw Mr Bligh clean bowled by Mr Motley, with the total at 63. Only one run was added when the fifth wicket fell. The only stand made after this must be attributed to Messrs [H] R Webbe and Evans. The sixth wicket realized 75 runs, and the seventh carried the figures up to 125. The innings then virtually terminated, as but two runs were added.

Being 171 runs in arrear, I Zingari continued the batting, but with much better success than in the first innings. Mr Marriott put together 29 runs against the same bowling before he surrendered to Mr Motley, but Messrs Forbes and Steel were able to defend their wickets up to the call of time, when 75 runs were recorded. I Zingari have still a very uphill game to fight. It is impossible, however, to reckon upon the changes that may accompany this Scarborough match before the last necessary ball is bowled.

Day 3 (report from Monday 8 September, page 10)

This, the second match in a series of three proposed to take place at Scarborough, was concluded on Saturday, and, like the first in the early part of the week, occupied three days in playing and was then relegated to the drawn list. When stumps were removed on Friday evening Yorkshire had completed an innings; so also had the "Wanderers," but with results so wide that the latter had to follow on.

When play was resumed at 12.15 on Saturday they were still 96 runs in arrear, with nine wickets to fall. Messrs Forbes and Steel, the not outs for 39 and 15 respectively, were confronted as before by Messrs Motley and Peate. A catch in the slip disposed of Mr Steel, and the Hon Ivo Bligh filled the vacancy caused thereby. Hard and brilliant hitting soon brought the defaulting number into a narrow compass and suggested withal a change of bowling. Mr Motley handed the ball to Mr Wood. The batsmen seemed to have a liking for the transfer; at least they turned in to good account. Mr Bligh's contribution of 39 was marked with several figures of a large size, the offspring of cuts and drives. On his retirement (caught in the slip) Mr Hadow appeared, and the scoring continued at a brisk pace till a catch led to the dismissal of Mr Forbes. Four wickets, 157. Here luncheon intervened.

A single innings defeat, though unlikely, was not warded off upon renewal of play by Messrs Hadow and Webbe. A couple of overs sufficed, however, to settle the point, and before the fifth wicket fell I Zingari had 30 runs in hand. The Yorkshire bowling admitted of several changes, and a "lob" effected what a more scientific delivery could not accomplish. The long score made by Mr Evans foreshadowed an unfinished match; the ninth wicket realized 287 runs and the tenth enlarged these figures to 311, thus leaving Yorkshire's "set" of 141 runs. Time, 5h 25m.

The few minutes in hand Mr Dury and Hall employed in getting 16 runs. The match was then declared drawn. Seven bowlers were engaged in I Zingari's innings . . . Neither Hall nor the Messrs Dury, Landon and Wood obtained a wicket, though conjointly they bowled 56 overs.

8 September: YORKSHIRE v MARYLEBONE CLUB AND GROUND

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2334.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 9 September, page 8)

A morning with a brighter prospect of a seasonable day for cricket could hardly have opened yesterday, and the executive, desirous of bringing the last match on the Scarborough programme to a definite issue, started the play half an hour earlier than usual. Yorkshire, successful in the toss, sent Messrs Dury and Motley to the wickets forthwith. As Mycroft had not arrived thus early, the bowling was intrusted to Mr Francis and Flowers.

The scoring proceeded at a very slow pace. In fact only five runs were registered when the first wicket fell. Mr Riley exhibited a better defence even with Mycroft against him. Not so Mr Motley, whose stay produced very little in the shape of runs. Mr Wood's contribution is characterized in the score by the same humble figure. Hall joined Mr Riley and a great change soon took place. Both hit freely; but the latter, after putting 25 together without much hazard, was caught in the slip. Four wickets, 44. Mr Rhodes brought up the fifth to 54. Walker, by steady and careful play, kept his assailants at a distance till 72 runs were obtained; an easy chance to mid-off was then offered and accepted.

Hall had an excellent partner in Mr Carter. While together 100 appeared on the telegraph, but very soon after Mr Francis dissolved the partnership. Mr Leatham's contribution came opportunely, as the total of 103 for seven wickets was by no means adequate to the needs of the occasion. At luncheon 128 were recorded. To this number was added 20 when the last wicket fell. Hall signalized himself as much by the freedom of his hitting as the figures which resulted therefrom.

The weather, hitherto so favourable, took an opposite turn soon after Marylebone commenced their innings. A long delay ensued, and in order to proceed with the match after the downpour had abated fresh wickets were pitched, and the play continued up to the call of time . . .

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 10 September, page 6)

So unfavourable was the weather yesterday at Scarborough for cricket that it was resolved to abandon the above match altogether. The two previous matches comprised in the programme of the "Scarborough week" were left drawn, chiefly from the same cause.