

THE TIMES REPORTS, 1869

[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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13 May: OXFORD UNIVERSITY v MARYLEBONE CLUB AND GROUND

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/1/1576.html)

Day 1

The annual and highly interesting match between the University of Oxford and Marylebone Club and Ground commenced on the University ground, Cowley March, yesterday. The University were first at the wickets, and had to retire for the small score of 75. Messrs Evetts (21) and Tylecote (15) were the bats who made anything like a stand against the bowling of Mr W G Grace and Wootton.

Marylebone were exceedingly well represented by W G Grace and T Hearne, the former making 86 (not out) by magnificent play, and the latter 37. The splendid catch made by Mr Fortescue, who had to run about 20 yards, was the great event of the day's play.

Days 2 and 3 - no reports found

20 May: CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY v M.C.C. AND GROUND

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/1/1579.html)

Day 1 – no report found

Day 2

Messrs Yardley and Thornton, the two "not outs" for 34 and 12 respectively on Thursday evening, resumed their batting at the stipulated time yesterday, and maintained their defensive position until their conjoint scores amounted to 86 runs. Mr Brune and Mr Stow contributed liberally to a total which was of a fair average character. Hearne proved the most successful bowler, having taken half the wickets.

On the University side there were seven Trinity men, and it is worthy of remark that during the double innings of Marylebone only one "extra" resulted. Cambridge had the trifling "set" of 58 for their second innings. This number was quickly attained, and long before sunset the match was brought to a conclusion in favour of Cambridge by seven wickets . . .
Umpires, Dakin and Smith.

31 May: MARYLEBONE CLUB AND GROUND v SURREY

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/1/1582.html)

Day 1

A heavy rainfall on Monday morning, about an hour previous to the stipulated time for play, necessitated a considerable delay. Soon after 1 o'clock, however, Messrs Grace and Sutton were at the wickets to represent Marylebone, while Southerton and Griffith alternated the early overs.

Twenty-two runs were effected when Mr Sutton was cleverly stumped. The hitting increased in freedom, and before a second separation the score had travelled on to 60 and upwards. After this the wickets fell fast. Mr Grace played a splendid innings, which terminated with a catch by the bowler – a superb piece of fielding. At a quarter-past 4 the last Marylebone wicket fell and 134 runs were totalled.

Jupp and Humphrey commenced the Surrey batting. Mr Grace gave the first over; Wootton replied with two trial balls, then a wide. In Wootton's second over Jupp's off-stump was prostrated by a ball that few persons could contend against successfully. The next man received a quick dismissal, and Griffith was caught from the tenth ball of his innings. Three wickets fell for eight runs, and five for an additional ten.

All the work seemed to rest on the shoulders of Humphrey. At 35 Grundy went on at Mr Grace's end. Mortlock made the first big Surrey hit – viz., an off-drive for four. When Humphrey's leg stump fell seven wickets were disposed of, and but 46 runs scored. At 6.30 the innings terminated for 51, and as Surrey were in a minority of 83 they had to "follow on." When stumps were drawn three wickets of the second innings had realized but 14 runs. Play will be resumed to-day at 12 o'clock.

Day 2

A few words will suffice to illustrate the manner in which Marylebone gained a decisive victory at Lord's yesterday, notwithstanding the advantage of Surrey in the choice of innings. It was unquestionably a wise movement on the part of the successful toss to place Marylebone at the wickets, seeing that the ground played extremely dead, on account of the heavy rain of Monday morning. With this disadvantage at the outset, Marylebone obtained a full average total in their first innings.

Surrey had not half a dozen batsmen who brought their hitting proclivities with them. Thus, in their first venture, only one got into double figures. Nor were any scores achieved in the second worth particularizing except two. When Monday's play ceased Jupp was the "not out" for five. This number increased considerably after Pooley joined him at 12.30 on Tuesday morning. Upon the retirement of Pooley the next comer did not survive a second ball, and thus five wickets could only reckon up 28 runs. H H Stephenson got on pretty well until he made a hit which deservedly cost him his wicket. Mortlock added nothing. Seven wickets, 44 runs.

Now came an unexpected change. Bristow appeared, and, although he offered many temptations to the field, from his defective estimate of a run, he succeeded, with Jupp, in augmenting the eighth wicket to 84. Two changes of bowling were had recourse to in order to get rid of Jupp, who had

occupied the wickets during two hours and a half for 26 runs. When caught in the slip the subsequent play offered nothing worthy of remark.

At 2.20 Marylebone sent in Mr Filgate and Biddulph to make four runs. Biddulph claimed one, and Mr Filgate, by a splendid off-drive for three, was accredited with the desired hit. Marylebone consequently won by 10 wickets. Umpires, Royston and Farrands.

31 May: OXFORD UNIVERSITY v GENTLEMEN OF ENGLAND

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/1/1584.html)

Day 1

This match was commenced at Oxford on Monday, when the Gentlemen of England were the first to defend the wickets, which they did most efficiently, for at the fall of the last wicket, at 6 o'clock, 246 had been made. The innings occupied the whole of the day up to 6 o'clock, with the exception of one hour for dinner. The University began their innings immediately afterwards, and when the stumps were drawn had made 31 for the loss of three wickets.

Day 2 - no report found

31 May: NOTTINGHAMSHIRE v YORKSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/1/1583.html)

Day 1

This great match commenced on Monday at the Trent-bridge Ground, near Nottingham, and was brought to a close yesterday. In the first innings of Notts 111 were scored, while Yorkshire only made 43. In their next innings Notts made 204, leaving their opponents 273 to get to win.

Yesterday Yorkshire commenced their second innings and made a hard struggle to retrieve their defeat. They, however, only succeeded in making 171, Notts thus winning the match with 101 runs over. Some exceedingly good cricket was exhibited on both sides, and the attendance of spectators was very large. The ground was in fine condition.

3 June: SOUTH v NORTH

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/1/1585.html)

Day 1

Much disappointment ensued from yesterday's play at the Oval. The North were fortunate in the toss, and still more in the result of their first innings, having obtained 125 runs. The South lost eight men for four runs, and the eleven only totalled 39. As a matter of course, they had to follow on. At the close of the day's play five wickets were down for 27 runs.

Day 2

Play in this match was resumed yesterday at 12.20. Mr Grace, the "not out" for 14, was joined by Pooley. From the third ball Mr Grace was caught at short slip. Mr V E Walker came and made a determined stand, both against Freeman and Wootton, who bowled in a really first-class style. At 56 Emmett relieved Wootton, and Pooley suffered from the change, being bowled in the second over. Lillywhite, in conjunction with Mr Walker, added 43 to the score, where the former was caught at point.

Thirteen runs were now put together as the basis of a second North innings. Willsher unfortunately had little opportunity of displaying his defensive capabilities, for Mr Walker was caught at short slip in the second over permitted to the last comer. Mr Walker's innings deserves special mention; it was not only the longest of the match, but was compounded of splendid hits, both large and small. With the fall of Southerton the innings closed. The North had 20 to get. This cost them one wicket.

7 June: MARYLEBONE CLUB AND GROUND v HAMPSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/1/1586.html)

Day 1

The representatives of Hampshire arrived so late at Lord's yesterday that play in the above-mentioned match did not commence till nearly 1 o'clock. Hants won the toss, and proceeded forthwith to the wickets. Mr Campbell and Wootton bowled the early overs.

Ubsdell, one of the leading batsmen, was taken at square-leg with the score at 5. Holmes then joined Carter; six runs were added, when a second severance occurred. Mr Lucas presented a bolder front to the adversary than either of the foregoing. Twenty-three runs were quickly recorded. This brought on Hearne at Mr Campbell's end, and the bowling was so well sustained that no other change was needed . . . Half the wickets fell for a total of 36 runs, and the remaining half added but six hereto.

At a quarter past 2 Messrs Sutton and Case were defending the honour of Marylebone against the attacks of Tate and Martin. Three overs were bowled for five runs; from the last ball of the third over Mr Case was compelled to retire. After this the hitting became so fruitful in runs that three changes of bowling were had recourse to before the second wicket fell, and 89 runs recorded. Mr Filgate joined Hearne. The latter was badly missed at point by Mr G Ede, when he had scored 71. At 158 he was run out by a dextrous piece of Hampshire fielding, which, truth to speak, was, as a whole, far from being "up to the mark." Tate succeeded in getting two wickets in two consecutive overs . . . At 6 o'clock the Marylebone innings closed for 190 runs.

Hampshire recommenced their batting with Mr G Ede and Hemsted, and when stumps were drawn three wickets were lost for 50 runs. Play will be resumed to-day at 12 o'clock. Umpires, Grundy and Royston.

Day 2 - score given but no report

7 June: SURREY v SUSSEX

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/1/1587.html)

Day 1

The parties herein concerned met yesterday at the Oval, which was in superb condition. Sussex availed themselves of the privilege of going in first. They brought with them four "colts," the majority of whom proved very serviceable. Mr Smith, who captained the team, received the second over of the match and a portion of the 100th. He occupied three hours and a quarter at the wicket, and his score reached 77 runs.

Mr Green also signalised himself by several large hits. Three changes of bowling were introduced during his stay at the wicket. Dummer, one of the colts referred to, exhibited an excellent defence and was the "not out." The innings occupied four hours and ten minutes, and resulted in a total of 253 runs. Five bowlers were engaged, four of whom went on twice.

Surrey began their batting, as usual, with Jupp and Humphrey. In the third over, Humphrey – much to the astonishment of everybody – was clean bowled for a single by one of the Sussex colts. No other Surrey wicket was taken yesterday. Umpires – Willshire and Luck.

Days 2 and 3 – score given but no report

10 June - KENT v SURREY

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/1/1588.html)

Day 1 - scorecard but no report

Day 2

It may be remembered that at the close of Thursday's play Surrey had completed an innings for 80 runs and nine Kent wickets had fallen for 138. Willsher and Henty, the "not outs" for 30 and 12 respectively, resumed their stations soon after midday. The former added 40 and the latter 25 to their overnight scores. Stephenson, Griffith and Mortlock played good innings, but all the rest of the Surrey party fell so short that Kent had but 11 to get when put in a second time, and the match was won by them easily. Umpires, Luck and Caesar.

14 June: MARYLEBONE CLUB AND GROUND v CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/1/1589.html)

Day 1

The "return" match between the above commenced yesterday at Lord's. From heavy rainfalls in the early part of the morning play was postponed till half-past 12 o'clock. The ground had been prepared with care, and the portion set apart for the wickets shielded to some extent, so that it was not over wet. Cambridge won the toss and sent in Messrs Preston and Dale. Mr G Grace bowled from the lower wicket and Wootton the pavilion. Neither was changed throughout the innings.

Nineteen runs were made in the first half-hour. Mr Dale was caught easily at square leg. Mr Money then joined Mr Preston, and at 28 both were out, the former by a tremendous shooter and the other bowled off his leg. Messrs Thornton and Brune were the only remaining members of the University who appeared equal to the first-class bowling with which they had to contend. Mr Thornton was missed very early, and he afterwards played the innings through and effected the largest score. His long hits were one five, two fours and four threes (chiefly drives) . . .

Marylebone began their innings with Messrs Grace and Sutton. The wickets fell fast. Mr Grace made 24 out of the first 25 runs recorded. Messrs Green and Balfour got into double figures; all the rest were out for very insignificant returns. A catch at long-leg by Mr Yardley deserves mention. Marylebone were in a minority of five runs at the close of their innings. Messrs Absolom and Brune bowled throughout . . .

When time for discontinuance of play arrived the University lost four wickets for 64 runs in the manner set forth in the accompanying score. Umpires, Grundy and Royston. Play will be resumed to-day at 12 o'clock.

Day 2

Cambridge have gained double honours this year in their contest with Marylebone. In the match at Cambridge on the 19th and 20th of May they won by seven wickets, and in the "return" at Lord's yesterday they headed Marylebone by 116 runs. It may be remembered that at the close of Monday's proceedings the University were five runs in advance on a first innings each, and had scored 64 for the loss of four wickets in their second innings.

Play began very late yesterday owing to the non-arrival of Mr Money, who, in fact, did not appear at all, in consequence of a hurt received on Monday evening. Mr Absolom went to the wicket thus vacated, and played in his usual form up to eleven runs. Sawdust was greatly in demand, for a heavy shower previous to commencing play had rendered the ground unsure and deficient in foothold. At 81 Mr Weighell was badly missed by Wootton in the slip. Presently an irresistible shooter prostrated two stumps. Mr Brune and Mr Montgomery brought on nearly all the bowling that Marylebone possessed, but the last man was not overcome until 181 runs were totalled.

Marylebone began well with Mr Grace and Sutton. When these chieftains were parted the remaining wickets fell with unexpected rapidity. Thus Hearne was bowled at 47, Mr Green at 55, Mr Wilkinson at 62, Mr Rutter at 64,

Captain Watson at 68, Colonel Milman and Captain Stewart from the two following balls. Wootton, the tenth man, made a hit for two and was immediately after bowled. Thus ended the match. Time, 6h 30m.

14 June: SURREY v OXFORD UNIVERSITY

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/1/1590.html)

Day 1

This annual match was played at the Oval yesterday. Oxford won the toss and put their opponents in. Play began at 12.40, and before two hours elapsed every Surrey wicket was disposed of. The Oxford fielding elicited much approbation; the only mistake – if it may be so called – was at deep square leg. Eight were caught out, one stumped and one bowled off his pads. Mr Pauncefote took three wickets in nine overs.

Oxford lost their three early batsmen for 17 runs. Messrs Digby and Pauncefote made a stand and brought the score up to 72, when the former, who played a very spirited innings, lost his near stump. Mr Evetts next appeared, and before he left no less than 190 runs were telegraphed. At the close of the day's play the hitting averaged 50 runs per hour continuously. It ought, however, to be observed that Mr Pauncefote was missed by point at 27 and by bowler at 54. The bowling was by no means commensurate with the hitting capabilities of Oxford; hence the wide difference in the totals shown by the score attached. Play will be resumed this day at 12 o'clock. Umpires, Caesar and Mortlock.

Day 2

When stumps were drawn at the Oval on Monday evening, Surrey had completed an innings for 94 runs, while Oxford reckoned 237 runs at the cost of six wickets only. Messrs Pauncefote and Hill, the "not outs" for 82 and 23 respectively, recommenced the batting yesterday at 12.35.

The former added 41 and the latter 50 to their overnight scores. Mr Hill gave no chances, but Mr Pauncefote was twice missed. Mr Miles, who went in very late, helped materially in augmenting the already large total ascribed to the eighth wicket. During the play of yesterday 125 runs were produced in 90 minutes. The bowling underwent many changes, but Bristow's claimed by far the largest amount of success. The entire innings occupied four hours and a half, and yielded an average of 80 runs per hour.

Humphrey and Jupp first addressed themselves to an uphill task. Jupp's stay was unusually brief and his contributions correspondingly small. Stephenson succeeded him, but retired. Two wickets, 15 runs. Mr Akroyd, unlike the foregoing, made a determined stand. No perceptible chance was offered to any fielder during the two hours and three-quarters he defended his wicket. Griffith played a determined as well as a successful game.

Mr Mayo's score resulted from good all-round hitting. On his retirement 137 were totalled; the subsequent additions call for no special remark. The bowling was, upon the whole, inferior to that of the first day's play, hence the large number of "extras." It was quite evident that Surrey were overmatched, and their defeat by an innings and 96 runs failed to excite any amazement.

17 June: MARYLEBONE CLUB AND GROUND v OXFORD UNIVERSITY

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/1/1592.html)

Final report

When Marylebone went to Oxford about five weeks since to play the above match, they came back winners by an innings and 30 runs. The "return" was appointed to be played at Lord's during the past week. Thursday, however, turned out so unfavourably that no attempt to commence the match was made. On Friday a more genial atmosphere prevailed, and play began shortly before noon. At the close of the day the University had 57 runs accredited to them for a first innings, and Marylebone 209. One Oxford wicket of the second innings was also lost, and 26 runs recorded when stumps were drawn.

On Saturday Messrs Fortescue and Digby, the "not outs" for 15 and 6 respectively, resumed the batting at 12 o'clock. Wootton and Mr Grace continued the bowling. From the second ball delivered, Mr Fortescue's leg stump was prostrated to a "break back" peculiar to Wootton. A single was contributed by Mr Tylecote in the first over, but mid-off caught him quickly after. The alliance of Mr Pauncefote with Mr Digby promised better things; the bowling, however, predominated. Eleven overs were delivered for two runs. At 56 Mr Digby fell in precisely the same manner as his immediate predecessor. Mr Evetts came and the score-sheet recorded 72, when he, the fourth man, retired.

Mr Hill next appeared, and, after four overs, Mr Pauncefote's off-stump was struck by Wootton. Mr Hill played by far the best University innings. At 96 he necessitated the first change of bowling. Grundy went on at Mr Grace's end. Still the same fine style of batting continued, and Mr Hill was compelled to give in solely for want of a companion. The tenth wicket fell at a quarter to 2 o'clock for 131. Marylebone were declared winners by an innings and 21 runs.

21 June: OXFORD UNIVERSITY v CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/1/1593.html)

Day 1

More than 40 years have elapsed since the cricket chieftains of Oxford and Cambridge first ventured to "try conclusions" at Lord's, and from 1838 to the present time their annual meetings have formed a striking and very important element in the Marylebone programme. Yesterday the "Blue and Dark" were again due at Lord's, and much preparation attended the event; but the weather proved a sad disappointment to many. Chilliness, rain and gloom were its prevailing characteristics – to such an extent, in fact, that no attempt to commence play was made till half-past 3 o'clock.

Messrs Preston and Dale then appeared at the wickets on behalf of Cambridge. The first over was delivered by Mr Miles from the Pavilion wicket, and Mr Pauncefote officiated at the other. From the third ball of Mr Miles's sixth over, Mr Preston was caught at wicket. Mr Money came, got a single from Mr Miles and was caught in a manner similar to his immediate predecessor. Mr Richardson began with a cut for four, and in the following over he effected an equally bit hit by an off-drive. Another hit for two completed what was expected to be a long and wealthy innings – caught in the slip.

Mr Yardley joined Mr Dale with the score at 32. At 49 Mr Dale was missed by Mr Gibbon at mid-off, but from the next ball he was dismissed by cover point – four wickets, 50 runs. Mr Thornton seemed to cast aside his recently improved style of batting for that of the more rustic order. He made the largest score, but his altitudinizing contrasted unfavourably with the more artistic method adopted by Mr Yardley and others. 100 runs were scored in two hours, although the ground could not be otherwise than heavy from the quantity of rain which fell for five hours continuously previous to the commencement of the match.

At 79 Mr Fortescue relieved Mr Miles, and in the second subsequent over Mr Walter went on at Mr Pauncefote's end. Another change occurred at 148, when Mr Hill succeeded Mr Walter. At 155 Mr Miles went on a second time. Mr Thornton maintained his defensive position for one hour and 35 minutes. Some very good batting was exhibited on the part of the Cambridge captain (Mr Stow) and also of Mr Absolom. The latter soon evinced a tendency for whole measures, and his score of 30 took but little time to rattle together. Mr Weighell received but one ball, which found a secure resting-place in the hands of point. The innings closed comically – that is, two batsmen were at one wicket and Mr Brune was declared "not out." Total, 164 . . . Duration of innings, three hours and ten minutes.

At 6.50 the Oxford batting began with Messrs Fortescue and Gibbon. Cambridge commissioned Messrs Absolom and Brune to commence the attack. Two runs sprang from the first over. Mr Fortescue possessed himself of eight, when "time" was called, and play adjourned to 11 o'clock this day.

Day 2

The scene at Lord's yesterday was of a far more agreeable and exciting character than that of Monday, when the above match began. There came a change in the weather and also in the general aspect of the game, more

especially as the day wore on. Notwithstanding the doubled price for admission, the ground was liberally patronized and nearly 2,000 persons were present to witness the commencement of play at 11.25.

The first ball was bowled by Mr Absolom to Mr Fortescue, who left his wicket overnight with a score of eight. From the tenth ball his leg stump fell. Mr Digby filled the vacancy caused by Mr Fortescue's retirement. The hitting soon demanded a change of bowler, and Mr Money went on at Mr Brune's end. Mr Digby made a hit to leg from the last ball of the first over delivered by the change, and from the last ball of the second over he was caught at mid-off. Two wickets, 29.

When Mr Tylecote, in conjunction with Mr Gibbon, brought up the total to 33, the latter played a ball just within the wide grasp of its active bowler. Mr Pauncefote began with a single, and was within an ace of ending there. After his fortunate escape he appeared to be endued with new life and large confidence. He necessitated another change in the bowling department, and saw seven companions come and go. Mr Hill received his share of eight overs, and then lost his leg stump. Five wickets reached 52 runs.

At 54 Mr Weighell took the ball and bowled five overs, when Mr Money returned to his old wicket. Mr Evetts was stumped off him, after being missed in the slip. Six wickets, 75. Mr Mathews survived four overs and was then caught easily by the bowler. Mr Walter joined Mr Pauncefote at 81 and was caught mid-on at 87, and Mr Miles fell to Mr Money's slows, as four of his predecessors had done. Mr Pauncefote's batting was chiefly instrumental in avoiding the disagreeable necessity to "follow on." The ninth wicket fell for 92 and the tenth for 99 . . .

At 12.45 Cambridge recommenced batting with Messrs Dale and Preston. The bowling was intrusted to Mr Miles and Walter. From the third ball Mr Preston was bowled by Mr Miles and Mr Money came in. The score increased very slowly; nine overs were delivered for four runs. When only five runs were recorded Mr Walter bowled Mr Dale, and Mr Money was stumped off the third ball of the subsequent over. The overthrow of three such men so unexpectedly created a new sensation among the supporters of the light blues. Four wickets fell for seven runs, and five for 11.

Mr Yardley and Mr Thornton were now looked upon as certain to put a better face upon this dim picture. The former, however, made "no sign" - a bailer from Mr Walter silenced him. Mr Richardson to some extent subordinated the bowling, and although it was at times very difficult to play, contrived to bring up the total to 47 before the sixth wicket fell. Mr Weighell also combated the bowling with great spirit and determination. At 58 Mr Thornton retired, Mr Weighell at 89, and at 91 the innings closed . . .

Oxford now required 157 runs to win. They went in as before. The first stand was made by Mr Digby. Three wickets were lost for 16 runs. Mr Pauncefote then brought up the total to 54 before another parting could be effected. The fifth advanced to 85, and some ideas were entertained that Oxford might yet possess themselves of 72 and win the match. The subsequent batsmen, however, soon dispelled every elusive hope; the sixth and seventh wickets added but five runs, the eighth and ninth three more, and the tenth an additional five; thus being in a minority of 58 runs.

This makes the 35th match played by these Universities, of which Oxford claim 16 and Cambridge 17. Two were drawn.

24 June: GENTLEMEN v PLAYERS

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/1/1595.html)

Day 1

A very large company was attracted to the Oval yesterday to witness this popular contest. The Gentlemen won the toss and went to the wickets forthwith. In the first hour 68 runs were scored and in the second 53. The innings occupied three hours and a half, and resulted in a total of 200 runs. At the close of the day the Players had lost four wickets for 106.

Day 2

It may be remembered that at the close of play on Thursday the Gentlemen had finished their innings for 200 runs, and four wickets of the other side had fallen for 106. Silcock, the "not out" for 12, was joined yesterday by Humphrey. Nine runs resulted before their occupancy of the wickets was dissolved - that is, Humphrey's leg bail was knocked off. Silcock played the longest innings of his side, and gave but one chance; he defended himself against five changes of bowling and was two hours and a half in getting 49. At the fall of the ninth wicket the Players were 16 runs in advance of their opponents. Mr Buchanan (on three times) delivered 68 overs . . .

The Gentlemen entered on their second innings at 3.40, with Messrs Cooper and Grace. These secured 105 before a parting could be effected; neither gave a chance but that which occasioned their discharge. At the close of the day 193 were totalled for three wickets. The attendance yesterday was a very large one. Play will be resumed to-day at 11 o'clock.

Day 3

The third day's play in this truly great and admirably contested match began at 11.30 on Saturday. Great caution characterized the batting at the outset, as Silcock and Emmett were in fine "form" as bowlers. Emmett delivered five maidens. From the first ball of the sixth Mr Lubbock made a cut for five. Seventeen minutes were expended in getting seven runs. Mr Lubbock was shortly after caught at short slip by the right hand high up.

Mr V E Walker joined his brother, the other "not out," but from the third ball of the partnership Mr I D Walker was caught in the slip. Fourth and fifth wickets, 208. Mr Thornton and Mr V E Walker put on 39 runs in half an hour. At 238 Mr V E Walker was caught at short leg. Mr Marsland responded to a call from Mr Thornton, but by some mistake in judging the run Mr Thornton lost his wicket. Mr Absalom and Mr Maitland brought up the ninth wicket to 266, when the former made a splendid cut, but was caught off it . . .

At 2.20 Stephenson and Emmett commenced the final innings of the match. The bowlers at starting were Messrs Grace and Buchanan. Two wickets fell for 11 runs; the third and fourth for 19. Hearne ran himself out by attempting four for a hit which limited itself by time to three only. Four wickets, 28. Now came a change. The hitting of Silcock and Summers advanced the total to 54, when the first change of bowling was introduced -

viz., Mr Absolom for Mr Grace. At 83 Mr Grace resumed, and Silcock got his "leg before" at 88.

Humphrey assisted in augmenting the score to 108, when he was dismissed for the same infraction of law as that committed by his immediate predecessor. Willsher played a capital innings, and 172 appeared on the telegraph, which signalled at the same time the eighth man's departure. From this stage of play to the close great excitement prevailed, and at 6.48 the tenth wicket fell for 216 runs, thus leaving the Gentlemen winners by 17 runs only out of a gross number of 915 . . .

28 June: GENTLEMEN v PLAYERS

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/1/1597.html)

Day 1

Play began at Lord's yesterday soon after 12. Messrs W G Grace and Hornby were first to the wickets, in opposition to Wootton and Silcock. From the second ball of the fourth over Mr Grace was bowled, and but two runs as yet obtained. Mr Money came, and was bowled by Wootton in the eighth over. Two wickets, 11 runs. Mr Lubbock occupied the vacancy, but lost Mr Hornby at 18, caught in slip. Another rupture was soon effected by Silcock; and Mr Cooper retired. Four wickets, 23.

With Mr I D Walker came some splendid all-round play. The batting, however, was getting so much in the ascendancy that at 59 Willsher went on at Wootton's end, and at 80 Griffith relieved Willsher. At 82 Mr Lubbock was bowled. Mr Yardley came forward, and the score increased at a rapid pace from the hitting at both wickets. Mr Yardley misjudged a run and retired immediately after. The sixth wicket realized 140 and the seventh 159. Here the innings virtually ended. Mr Walker played remarkably well. His chief hits were four fours, six threes and six twos. Mr Lubbock made a splendid off-drive for five.

At 4.25 the Players started with Summers and Bignall. Five wickets fell for 30 runs. Humphrey and Summers were the only two out of the eleven who made any stand worth speaking of. The eighth wicket fell for 72 and the tenth for 80. The last was characterized by a splendid piece of fielding by Mr I D Walker . . . As the players were 83 in a minority, they had to "follow on." The day's play closed at 7 o'clock, to be resumed to-day at 12.

Day 2

Shortly after 12 o'clock yesterday Wootton and Summers, the "not outs" for three and nothing, resumed the batting. The former added nine to his overnight score. He was then caught by the bowler. Silcock made but two successful hits; these realized seven runs. Daft appeared to be out of "form," considering what his form used to be. Four wickets fell for 59 runs.

Jupp now joined Summers. The play on the part of the new comer was a perfect pattern of patience and good judgment. Summers exhibited a totally different style, but one that commended itself, nevertheless, to all who admire free and elegant hitting. Upon his retirement the score-sheet declared 102 runs to be the value of the fifth wicket. Griffith received but one ball. Nor did Humphrey contribute much towards a score acknowledged on all hands to be extremely poor and in need. He was caught mid-off, with the total at 116 for seven wickets. Bignall began with a single, which enlarged itself to five by means of an overthrow from Mr Hornby. Afterwards he made an off-drive for six. A fine piece of fielding on the part of Mr Grace at short leg brought his hard hitting to a close. Eight wickets, 136.

From this point to the close of the innings the play of Willsher and Jupp produced much excitement. Willsher, after two narrow escapes, put together 24 runs quickly; Jupp got out through a scrambling piece of running. He

was a long time at the wicket, and have no other chance to his opponents than that of which they gladly availed themselves. The innings closed at 4.15 for 180 runs . . .

At 4.35 Mr E M Grace commenced the batting of the final innings. From the third ball of the third over Mr Grace was bowled by a shooter from Silcock. Mr Hornby came and made but a brief stay - two wickets, 3 runs. Mr W G Grace, in the seventeenth over, drove a ball for seven runs; two maidens followed; then another fine drive for four. At the fall of the fourth wicket Mr Lubbock joined Mr Grace. At 40 Willsher went on in place of Wootton, and Mr Grace left a vacancy to be supplied by Mr I D Walker. The new comer, so great in the first innings, answered by three balls in the second.

Mr Money was missed when scoring eight, but most unmistakably bowled after two runs more were obtained. At 85 Wootton returned to his old place, and did not leave it till the match was finished. Mr Yardley was a "tower of strength" to his party, although Mr Appleby, at a quarter to 7, made the winning hit with three wickets to spare. Other particulars may be gleaned from the accompanying score: . . .

1 July: SURREY v MARYLEBONE CLUB AND GROUND

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/1/1598.html)

Day 1

A "return" match between the above was commenced yesterday at the Oval, the chief feature of which was the long "not out" innings of Mr W G Grace. Play began at 12.20, with Marylebone at the wickets. The innings occupied nearly three hours and averaged fully 70 runs per hour . . .

Surrey led off badly, having lost three wickets for 14 runs. From this stage of the game to the fall of the sixth wicket the score made considerable advance, but much more from the ninth to the tenth; 48 runs were put together by Mr Potter and Street. At 6.50 the innings closed, when Surrey were found to be in a minority of 97 runs . . .

Day 2

Play was resumed yesterday at the stipulated time. It may be remembered that at the close of the first day's play each party had completed an innings, with a difference of 97 runs in favour of Marylebone. Mr Potter and Griffith went in first, but no stand was made until Stephenson and Jupp were partnered, when the score advanced from 18 to 67. After this four wickets fell rapidly.

Bristow and Humphrey played so well that by their joint exertions the eight wickets realized 125. Three cuts for five each by Humphrey claimed special approbation . . . Marylebone required 34 runs to win; of this number Mr Thornton got 13 from three balls. At 5.35 Marylebone won the match by nine wickets.

5 July: MARYLEBONE CLUB AND GROUND v NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/1/1600.html)

Day 1 – no report found

Day 2

The play yesterday was full of interest. Summers and Wild, the “not outs” for 9 and 0 respectively, recommenced the batting a few minutes past noon. Summers soon fell to Mr Grace, and Daft then went to the vacant wicket. He began cautiously, and was nearly two hours in scoring 20 runs. The bowlers during this time manifested signs of weakness and impatience, and frequent changes were brought on. Wild hit with great freedom, and A Shaw also exhibited considerable mastery over the varieties of bowling brought to bear on him.

As the day wore on Daft’s confidence in himself evidently strengthened, and at the close of play, a few minutes before 7 o’clock, his wicket had not been taken, though eight of his companions had fallen and the innings closed. It will be seen from the score that the double totals of Notts amount to 424 – a large one for Lord’s Ground. The work cut out for Marylebone to-day is to get 313 runs.

Day 3

Very few matches of the present season have awakened so much interest as the above, which commenced at Lord’s on Monday, at noon, and finished yesterday evening. It assumed a length of novelty from the length of time which has elapsed since Notts, as a county, last met on the same ground to play Marylebone. The difference between the totals of July, 1843, and those of yesterday are significant; they then amounted to 319; yesterday to 746. Only one innings was left unplayed on Tuesday evening, and 313 runs were required on the part of Marylebone to win.

Mr Grace was relied upon to do the major portion of this work, and he did not disappoint. The great Nottingham bowler, J C Shaw, found in Mr Grace the only man who could subordinate him. He was on his defence three hours and a half, and averaged 35 runs continuously. Among his ponderous hits were one forward drive to the Nursery-ground, seven fours and nine threes (various). Although none of the first-class bowling could get at his wicket, one ball of a crooked and very slovenly character did. The seventh wicket fell for 201 runs, and with it all the hopes of Marylebone. The innings closed for 210; Nottingham, therefore, won by 102 runs. Six bowlers were engaged . . .

5 July: KENT v SUSSEX

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/1/1599.html)

Final report

The return match between these two celebrated cricketing counties commenced at the Crystal Palace ground on Monday. Sussex won the toss and went to the wickets forthwith. The innings occupied little more than an hour and a half. Willsher and Bennett bowled throughout.

Kent started well – viz., 55 for two wickets. The fifth wicket fell for 77 and the tenth for 115. At the time for drawing stumps five Sussex wickets were lost for 49.

The second day's play commenced at 12.30 yesterday. It presented but little attraction to the public. At 4.35 p.m. the last ball was bowled, and Kent were acknowledged the winners by seven wickets.

8 July: NOTTINGHAMSHIRE v SURREY

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/1/1601.html)

Day 1 – scorecard but no report

Day 2

At the close of the second day's play (Friday) Surrey had lost six wickets in their second innings for 84 runs. Only 20 were added on Saturday, when the last man retired. Notts now wanted 81 to win. This number cost them one wicket . . .

12 July: MIDDLESEX v SURREY

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/1/1603.html)

Day 1

The first county match played by Middlesex this season commenced yesterday at Lord's. At 12.20 Mr R D Walker began the batting for the home county. The innings occupied an hour and 50 minutes. 54 runs were reached at the fall of the fifth wicket; the remaining five realized 46, thus making a total of 96.

Surrey were barely an hour at the wickets. Mortlock was the only man who made any stand worthy of record. Howitt accomplished the great feat of bowling Jupp, Pooley and Mr Mayo in one over. Surrey played a man short . . . These, with four "byes," gave Surrey a total of 37.

The second innings of Middlesex began at 4.15 and was finished by 6. It differed but little from the first in its general characteristics, and totalled 89 . . . Surrey began the fourth and last innings of the match at 6.15, and scored 43 runs at the time of drawing stumps without loss of wickets.

Day 2

Rather less than two hours sufficed to bring the above match to a close yesterday. Mr Akroyd, one of the "not outs" when stumps were drawn on Monday evening, added but two runs before his leg stump was struck by Howitt. More than half an hour was consumed by Jupp in getting nine runs. Mortlock also required considerable time to get ten runs. He was well caught by long stop.

The most lively hitting was manifested by Mr Mayo, who put together 20 runs well and with scarcely a chance to any fielder. At the fall of the fifth wicket for 76 runs many thought Surrey might yet be able to obtain the needed number for winning, but when the seventh and eighth men left [with?] the score 105 all hope fled. The ninth contributed nothing, and as Surrey played a man short the innings closed, leaving Middlesex winners by 43 runs. Howitt and Hearne were the chief bowlers . . .

15 July: GENTLEMEN OF THE SOUTH v PLAYERS OF THE SOUTH

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/1/1605.html)

Day 1

The most remarkable run-getting match of the season, so far as it has advanced, began yesterday at the Oval. Only seven men could be displaced from their wickets during the whole day, and the number of runs recorded when stumps were drawn averaged 67 per hour. Charlwood gave but one chance in putting together 136. The wickets were very good, and answered admirably. Play will be resumed this day at 12 o'clock.

Day 2 - no report found

Day 3

After a fierce struggle of three days the above match was brought to a conclusion on Saturday evening. No less than 1,136 runs were scored for 21 runs - a thing hitherto unheard of. Both parties seemed to have had quite enough of the encounter. Every batsman scored something; 15 went into double figures and three into treble. The Gentlemen's innings lasted eight hours and ten minutes.

26 July: NORTH v SOUTH

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/1/1610.html)

Day 1

This long-looked for match was commenced on the Bramall-lane Cricket-ground, Sheffield, yesterday morning, in the presence of a large concourse of persons. The South first went to the wickets, and at the close of their first innings the score stood as under: . . [South 173 all out.]

Day 2

This match was resumed on the Bramall-lane Cricket-ground, Sheffield, yesterday. When the stumps were drawn on the previous evening the South had completed their first innings for 173, and six wickets of the North had fallen for 118. Iddison and Coward took up the play. The former was cleverly caught off the first ball bowled to him; Emmett played a lively not-out innings for 25. The total scored was 163, being 10 short of their opponents.

The second innings of the South was distinguished by the good play of Mr I D Walker and Mr G F Grace, and the excellent bowling of Freeman, who took seven wickets for 45 runs. At the time our parcel was despatched the score stood as under: . . . [South (2) 111 all out.]

(By Telegraph)

The North played a short second innings for 55, of which Lockwood scored 24.

29 July: NOTTINGHAMSHIRE v SURREY

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/1/1611.html)

Day 1

This "return" match commenced yesterday at the Oval. Surrey won the toss and proceeded to the wickets forthwith. The innings lasted nearly five hours and a half, and realized 206 runs . . .

Nottingham began their batting with Summers and Bignall. At 36 the first wicket (Bignall's) fell, and at the time for drawing stumps 68 were scored without further loss. Southerton delivered eleven successive overs for one run. Play will be resumed this day at 12 o'clock.

Day 2

At the close of Thursday's play Surrey had completed their first innings, and Nottingham had lost one wicket for 68 runs. Mr Beevor and Summers, the "not outs" for 20 and 29 respectively, recommenced batting yesterday at 12.15. The second wicket (Summers) fell for 81 and the third (Oscroft) 96. Daft then joined Mr Beevor, and before they were parted 77 runs were added. Daft continued at the wicket throughout the innings, and scored 93 without giving a chance to any fielder.

At the fall of the tenth wicket there was a difference of 150 runs in favour of Notts . . . When stumps were drawn for the day the score stood thus: . . . [Surrey (2) 16/1.]

Day 3

The above match was brought to a conclusion on Saturday evening in favour of Notts by six wickets. It may be remembered that at the close of the second day's play each side had completed an innings, and Surrey had lost one wicket for 16 runs. Mr Potter and Jupp, the "not outs," resumed the batting at five minutes past 12.

The former added ten to his over-night score and then played a ball from A Shaw into his wicket; the latter brought out his bat. The hitting both of Humphrey and Jupp deserves special mention. Humphrey made two fives, two fours, four threes &c. in his usual free and finished style. He had to contend against six kinds of bowling, widely differing in character; what, however, the good bowling could not effect, the indifferent did. Jupp proved superior to all. His chief hit realized seven runs.

At 172 Daft went on with slows, and, strange to say, he took five wickets in 14 overs and two balls. This event, no doubt, had the effect of so far subordinating Surrey as to lead to the easy success of Nottingham. The 5.30 the last innings of the match began, and within two hours 61 runs were scored, two more than were necessary for winning . . .

5 August: SURREY v YORKSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/1/1612.html)

Day 1

This return match was commenced yesterday at the Oval. Surrey won the toss, and sent Mr Potter and Pooley to the wickets. The bowlers at starting were Freeman and Emmett. Mr Potter's wicket fell with the score at 20. Jupp was, as usual, extremely stubborn. His wicket was the last that fell during the first innings, which occupied three hours and a half . . .

Yorkshire began their batting with Rowbotham and Lockwood. The former got 36 runs while the latter scored a single. Rowbotham had to contend against four bowlers, all twice on. He was eventually taken at short-leg, and the first wicket realized 166 runs. Lockwood played a fine defensive innings and was not out when stumps were drawn.

Day 2

In consequence of a heavy rainfall yesterday morning, play in the above match was not resumed until 3.50 p.m. When Lockwood and Rawlinson, the "not outs," first appeared the wickets were in a sodden state. Lockwood added seven to his overnight score and was then clean bowled. Iddison's wicket fell in the next over.

Freeman, who now joined Lockwood, adopted a vigorous style of hitting, and very soon caused 250 to be posted. At 273 Freeman was caught, and in the third subsequent over Lockwood was stumped, after being at the wicket four hours. He gave no chance but that which led to his dismissal. Five wickets, 275. Here the Yorkshire innings virtually ended, as only nine runs resulted from the remaining five wickets. It may perhaps be worth while to note the fact that eight of the Yorkshire party got but 17 runs, but the other three 258. Six bowlers were engaged . . .

Surrey, with 97 in arrear, commenced their second innings at 6.40, and at 7 o'clock two wickets were lost for 15 runs.

Day 3

The good fortune which attended Humphrey on Saturday afternoon at the Oval enabled the Surrey eleven to pile up a total quite unexpected at the early stages of their second innings. The batsman in question was at the wickets for three hours and 20 minutes. During this long period he gave two good chances, but neither was accepted. His chief hits were three fives (off and on drives, and a cut), five fours, two threes and ten twos (various).

Among the few other incidents claiming notice was a very difficult catch at deep square leg by Ullathorne, which elicited general and well-merited applause. At the fall of the second wicket on Friday evening only 18 runs were recorded; the tenth realized 176; time, 4.55 p.m. Five bowlers were engaged . . .

Yorkshire needed 80 runs to win. Rowbotham and Lockwood commenced the batting, and 33 runs were obtained when the former was caught at mid-on.

Rawlinson then joined Lockwood and the play all round was characterized by extra vigilance and caution. Runs came slowly; 16 were added to the first wicket total when Rawlinson retired, and Freeman took his place. Only one big hit occurred (a four to leg) before Freeman was caught at leg. Three wickets, 62. Iddison, in conjunction with Lockwood, brought up the score to 81 a few minutes before the time appointed for drawing stumps.

Lockwood's innings exhibited batting of the highest order. Southerton bowled eight maiden overs in succession. It will be seen from the full score attached that Yorkshire won their "return" match by seven wickets. Umpires, Willsher and Chatterton.

9 August: SOUTH v NORTH

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/1/1613.html)

Day 1

No weather could have been more unpromising for cricket than that of yesterday morning. Fortunately the heavy rain clouds cleared away to a great extent by noontide, the sun broke through and a stiff breeze sprang up, so that before 1 o'clock the St Lawrence ground was in a condition to play. Great pains had been bestowed upon the spots most likely to be selected for the wickets, which fully answered expectation.

The South won the toss and put the North in. Summers and Mr Hornby received the early overs from Southerton and Willsher. From the last ball of the fourth over Mr Hornby attempted a run, but failed to effect it in consequence of the expert fielding of Mr Lubbock at short leg, and the first wicket realized nothing; Bignall came, and from the second ball of the tenth over the first hit worth recounting occurred. Summers was caught at mid-off from the third ball of Southerton's tenth over, when ten runs only were totalled.

Although the ground was by no means lively, 36 runs were put together in the course of an hour. At 38 Bignall, according to the verdict of the umpire, was caught in the slip, although to the spectators generally he appeared to be run out. Mr Mitchell received seven balls, from the last of which he was splendidly caught; four wickets, 41. Wild scored a single from the first ball presented to him, the next took his leg stump. Price now joined Plumb, who went in third man. At 50 Plumb was missed by Mr W G Grace at long on. In the next over a ball played into the quarter fielded by Mr Thornton was secured. Mr Appleby got two fours (drives) and two singles when he was stumped; seven wickets, 63.

After luncheon M'Intyre joined Price, and the hitting assumed a much freer character than at any previous stage of the play. Price made three fours from three successive balls by Willsher - all fine drives. At half-past three just 100 runs were posted on a new telegraph, not, generally speaking, very correctly worked. At 102 Mr W G Grace went on at Willsher's end, and from the first ball of the change M'Intyre was caught at deep square leg, and from the third ball of the same over Wootton had to retire; nine wickets, 106. J C Shaw had scarcely a chance for run-getting, as Price, from a very bad hit, was caught, and the innings in consequence brought to a close. Time, 3h 45m . . .

The South began their batting with Mr W G Grace and Jupp, and very much was expected of them. J C Shaw delivered his first and second balls to Mr Grace; no runs resulted. The third ball got his wicket. Mr G F Grace appeared, but was also bowled by Shaw without a run. A magnificent catch at short leg by Summers got rid of Jupp, and thus three wickets fell without a run. So unlooked-for a beginning created no little astonishment among all who witnessed it; 22 balls were delivered before the scoring began. Mr I D Walker confronted Shaw and Wootton until 11 runs were placed to his credit; he then played a ball into his wicket.

At 38 M'Intyre went on at Wootton's end, but the bowling of Shaw was such that little or nothing could be made of it. He delivered 15 maidens in succession. At 52 Mr Lubbock made 22 runs in eight hits. He then made way for Mr Thornton, who was clean bowled after two hits of four each. Mr V E

Walker followed soon after, and the innings closed at 6 o'clock precisely. Shaw bowled 37 overs and one ball (30 maiden), 19 runs; eight wickets.

At 6.20 the North resumed their batting with Mr Hornby and Wild, and when stumps were drawn four wickets were down for 38 runs.

Day 2

At 11.40 yesterday Summers, the "not out" for five runs, was joined by Plumb. Thirteen overs were bowled by Willsher and Southerton for four singles. Plumb was first to leave the wicket. He played a ball to short leg and started for a run, but so admirably was it fielded by Mr Lubbock that he could not escape. Mr Mitchell in attempting a short run fell and hurt his leg, but so indifferently was the ball fielded in this instance that he made good his return. It was necessary for him to retire awhile.

M'Intyre then became the partner of Summers, but the bowling was so true that singles only could be effected for a considerable time. Eventually M'Intyre got Willsher twice through the slips, and soon after a fine drive for four relieved the slow process of run getting. A catch at square leg led to M'Intyre's dismissal. Six wickets, 68.

Mr Mitchell resumed batting. Just an hour was expended upon 30 runs, a pretty good proof of the quality of the play all round. Summers now began to hit with greater freedom; he so punished Willsher that at 78 Silcock went on, and at 95 Mr G F Grace relieved Southerton. 104 was now totalled, when Summers was caught at square leg. Of this number he claimed 40, by five fours (a cut, two drives and a leg), four twos and a dozen singles.

Upon the retirement of Summers — amid much applause — Mr Appleby supported Mr Mitchell and Southerton resumed bowling. As both batsmen seemed inclined to stay, Mr W G Grace tried a few overs at Silcock's end. The eighth wicket fell for 140 and the ninth for 144. J C Shaw appeared; he was missed at long field from the first ball delivered, but turned a subsequent hit to account. Mr Mitchell's score was compounded of three fours, one three, one two &c, the result of masterly batting. The innings terminated at 3.30 for 154 runs . . .

The South began their batting with Mr Grace and Jupp. This was perhaps the most interesting stage of the match; the weather, though a trifle too cold for the second week of August, was fine, and the company not only fair but, numerically speaking, imposing. Both batsmen evidently brought all their skill and energy to bear, and the fielders were by no means indifferent to the importance of the occasion. Shaw led off admirably and Wootton followed suit. The batsmen, however, soon proved their ability to cope with their powerful assailants. Twenty-seven runs were scored when Mr Appleby went on in place of Wootton. Runs, however, accrued so fast that at 51 M'Intyre relieved Shaw. As the change had no beneficial effect Shaw resumed at 74. Just 80 runs were made in the first hour. Wootton took up the bowling again, and from his third ball Mr Grace added another four to his long list. 100 runs were posted as the work of 70 minutes.

M'Intyre changed ends. The first semblance of a chance was offered by Mr Grace to mid-off, but without success. At 96 a second occurred, and was readily accepted. This brought up the total to 134 for the loss on one wicket. Mr Grace's chief hits were 3 fours, five threes and seven twos. Silcock partnered with Jupp, but retired without contributing anything. Two wickets, 142. Mr Lubbock made two from his first over, and when 11

runs were required to win, one over from M'Intyre sufficed . . . From the full score attached it will be seen that the South won the match by eight wickets.

11 August: KENT v MARYLEBONE CLUB AND GROUND

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/1/1614.html)

Day 1

This, the second match of the series, commenced yesterday at 12 o'clock precisely. Marylebone, having the choice of innings, sent Mr W G Grace and Mr Nicholson to the wickets forthwith. Willsher and Bennett were the bowlers selected at the start. Mr Troughton fielded at point; Mr Lubbock, short leg and mid-off; Mr Lipscomb, slip; Mr Thornton and Mr Ottaway, mid-off and long leg.

The first seventeen runs were all got from Willsher. The bowling, in fact, so far as it had proceeded, suited both batsmen to a nicety. 47 runs were obtained before the first wicket (Mr Nicholson's) fell; Mr Green came, and such was the ascendancy gained by the bat over the ball that in 90 minutes 100 runs were registered. Marten went on at Willsher's end, but he was punished with as much severity as the chief whom he had undertaken to succour. Mr Lipscomb then tried a few overs at Bennett's end, from one of which no less than 11 runs resulted.

At 149 Bennett resumed, merely, it would seem, to be knocked about everywhere. 190 runs were got together when Mr Green's leg stump was forcibly struck by Mr Lipscomb. Mr Green's score of 65 was compounded of 12 fours, two threes and three twos. This gentleman's innings may be quoted as a sample of the big hits which characterized to a considerable extent the run-getting of the whole day. Mr Grace gave three chances, two of which were declined; the last was accepted by Bennett in the slip. Third wicket, 223, of which Mr Grace claimed 127.

Mr I D Walker left the fourth wicket at 232. Mr Ponsonby and Mr Frederick were for a long time partnered, and many were the devices among the bowlers to effect a separation. Mr Frederick got 12 runs off Willsher in three consecutive balls; the remaining portion of his time at the wicket was admirably employed. On his retirement Mr Fitzgerald appeared, and rattled together 26 in a few minutes. Six wickets, 337.

Mr V E Walker played in a far more artistic style, and was "not out" at 7 o'clock, when stumps were drawn. Mr Ponsonby was run out by a masterly piece of fielding . . . Play will be resumed at 12 o'clock this day.

Day 2

Yesterday the weather was all that could be desired for cricket. It would be difficult to imagine a more charming scene of its kind than was presented at the St Lawrence Ground - a picture not to be witnessed elsewhere. In fact, the proper area for playing the match was circumscribed by the thick circle, numbering from six to seven thousand persons, who had seats appropriated to them for the occasion. Probably the oldest and most regular visitor to this annual meeting never witnessed so large and fashionable attendance.

It is well to state by way of "refresher" that at the close of Wednesday's play 428 runs had been scored and only nine wickets down. Shortly before noon Mr V E Walker, the "not out," received the first ball. Willsher started the bowling and Bennett replied. When 19 runs had been recorded

Willsher changed ends and soon after Mr Tennent was stumped off him. Colonel Parnell fell to the last ball of Mr Lipscomb's second over. Ten wickets, 449. Mr Forster came, but before he had a chance of making himself famous Mr V E Walker was capitally caught at short leg. Twenty minutes sufficed to bring the remnant of the Marylebone innings to a close. Total, 449 runs. Mr Walker's score was compounded of five fours, two threes, one two and singles . . .

Bennett and Payne led off the Kent batting. For the first half-hour three deputies were provided for Marylebone fielders not present. Mr Grace bowled the first over, which realized four runs from one hit by Bennett. Colonel Parnell selector the second over. When 23 runs were scored, Mr Fellows went on at Colonel Parnell's end, and at 37 Mr V E Walker at the opposite wicket. The hitting of Bennett was very free, and in his score of 33 were six fours, chiefly to leg. Payne was befriended at mid-off when his figures were 21, but in the next over he played a ball on. Two wickets, 67.

Mr Ottaway came and did not leave his wicket for nearly three hours. His score of 51 was the offspring of really elegant and scientific play. Among his most notable hits were six fours (chiefly to leg), one three and four twos. With the total at 80 Mr Green relieved Mr Fellows. At 98 Mr Grace resumed. Mr Thornton made several astonishing hits, which, if run out, would have procured a larger total than is accredited to him. Mr Troughton's chief hits were three fours, all to leg. Mr Lipscomb was caught from the first ball. Nine wickets 196. At 203 Henty's leg stump fell, and Marten was bowled from the first ball presented to him. This closed the innings for 203. Time 5h 25m . . .

In consequence of the great difference in the totals Kent had to "follow on." Mr Rodger and Payne began the batting; from the third ball delivered by Mr Fellowes, Payne played "on," and Mr Lubbock took his place. With the total at 31 Mr Lubbock had the misfortune to play "on" also. When time arrived for drawing stumps the total had risen to 31 . . .

Day 3

The concluding portion of this match was carried on yesterday under very disagreeable and disappointing circumstances. Rain prevented all hope of play until 5 o'clock, and when resumed the wickets were by no means in a fit and proper condition. Messrs Thornton and Rodgers, the "not outs" for 11 runs each, played spiritedly; the former made four fours in one over from Mr V E Walker. The innings of Mr Ottaway was extremely short-lived - bowled first ball.

Mr Pepys, by hard and well directed hitting, got 44, just the same number as Mr Thornton, with whom he for a considerable time acted. Mr Troughton also contributed liberally, but the rest of the team fell so short of expectation that at the fall of the eleventh wicket only 158 were totalled. The double innings of Kent amounted to 361; the single innings of Marylebone to 449. from these figures it will be at once seen that Marylebone won the match by an innings and 88 runs . , .

16 August: SURREY v MIDDLESEX

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/1/1615.html)

Day 1

This return match commenced yesterday, at the Oval, shortly after 12 o'clock, with Mr R D Walker and Hearne at the wickets. Street and Bristow were the bowlers, neither of whom was changed during the innings. Middlesex played a man short. Hearne was missed at an early stage of the business, but Mr Ratliff, who got the best score, gave no chance . . .

Pooley and Mr Potter started the Surrey batting; the former was fully three hours at the wicket and obtained more runs than all the Middlesex team put together. During the last hour of his innings he gave four chances. When stumps were drawn for the day Surrey had four wickets down for 157 runs.

Day 2

When play was discontinued on Monday at the Oval, four Surrey wickets were disposed of for 157 runs. Jupp and Humphrey, the "not outs" for 26 and 0 respectively, recommenced batting yesterday shortly after noon. Humphrey received the first over, from which four byes resulted. Jupp failed to make a telling hit until the second ball of the 17th over was delivered; from this ball came a cut for four.

Jupp's play was the chief feature of the innings. He gave no chance of any kind, and was not out when the tenth wicket fell, although on his defence for three hours. During this time he added 80 to his over-night score. The fielding of Middlesex was by no means up to the mark, no less than eight fair catches being offered without advantage taken. The bowling was severely tested; only one wicket fell to its direct action . . .

In the second innings of Middlesex, Mr Nixon, by several large hits, soon rattled together a score of 54. He was missed in the slips before he had mustered a single. At the close of the day two wickets were down for 134.

Day 3

Few matches this season have produced so many unexpected results as the above, which terminated yesterday at the Oval. When stumps were drawn on Tuesday 134 runs were scored by Middlesex in their second innings, at the cost of two wickets. Mr I D Walker was one of the "not outs" with 19, and Mr R D Walker the other for 46. The third day's business began at 12.10.

Street and Bristow delivered the early overs. The batting soon assumed so defiant a bearing that Mortlock's slows were tried. These, however, did not pay, as no less than 19 runs resulted from 12 balls; 66 were added to the overnight total in 40 minutes, in consequence of the weakness of the bowling generally. Humphrey displaced Mortlock, and from the second ball of his fifth over he took Mr I D Walker's off stump. Three wickets, 200.

At 216 Street changed ends, and Mr Pauncefote was bowled in the fourth subsequent over. At 247 Mr R D Walker, who had been three hours and a half on his defence, was caught off the bowler, and Mr V E Walker received his

dismissal from a similar process. Hearne made a hit forward which realized six runs . . .

At 3.40 Surrey commenced the final innings of the match, with 37 runs to win. Most persons present expected to see this magnificent "set" accomplished without much ceremony. Messrs Collyer and Potter had to face Howitt and Mr R D Walker; five maidens were bowled, and then Mr Potter ran himself out. Jupp came and got 15 quickly, but at this stage Mr Collyer's mid stump was fairly struck by Howitt. In the next over Jupp was caught at short leg. Three wickets, 16.

Stephenson from the second ball of the subsequent over was caught at point. No advance. Griffith and Humphrey were now together; the former did not survive two overs, and, like three of his predecessors, scored nothing; a splendid catch at long-on led to his dismissal. Mortlock joined Humphrey; a leg-bye and a single run advanced the score to 18, when Mortlock's off stump fell.

The task of winning was now assigned to Pooley; his first hit, a straight drive for four, elicited much applause; a drive for three from Humphrey also evoked cheers. At 26 Humphrey laid himself open to the wicket-keeper, and Mr Akroyd became Pooley's partner; the last comer scored a single and retired.

Six runs were still wanting, with two men to get them. The Middlesex captain managed his forces admirably, but he was unable to keep the batting of Pooley in subjection, and the winning hit was effected by a piece of fielding not altogether deficient in novelty and bustle . . .

16 August: SUSSEX v LANCASHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/1/1616.html)

Day 1

Play in this return match commenced yesterday at 12.25. Lancashire won the toss and went in, although they demurred for a while about the wickets, which certainly were not quite up to the ordinary standard of the Hove Ground, Brighton. The scoring at the start was very feeble. Burrows and Mr Seymour were, in fact, the only men of the North who could play either Southerton or Lillywhite . . .

The first Sussex total only exceeded that of Lancashire by six runs. When stumps were drawn the score stood thus: . . . [Lancashire (2) 33/1.]

Day 2

The above match was finished yesterday evening. Sussex won by five wickets.

16 August: YORKSHIRE v NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/1/1617.html)

Day 1

The return match between these two counties commenced on the Bramall-lane Cricket-ground, Sheffield, yesterday. The weather was favourable and the attendance very large. Notts won the toss, and sent in Bignall and Summers to the bowling of Freeman and Emmett. They were quickly disposed of for nine, their places being filled by Oscroft and Daft, by whom some of the finest play of the day was shown. The former scored 26 and the latter 50. The play of F Wild was frequently applauded. At 5 o'clock the score stood as under: . . . [Notts 177/7.]

Day 2

This match was resumed yesterday on the Bramall lane-ground, Sheffield, in the presence of upwards of 5,000 spectators. At 5 o'clock the score stood as under: . . [Yorkshire 205 all out.]

Day 3

This well-contested match, played on the Bramall-lane ground, Sheffield, was concluded yesterday, and resulted in an easy victory for Yorkshire.

19 August: NOTTINGHAMSHIRE v KENT

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/1/1618.html)

Day 1

This return match commenced yesterday at the Trent-bridge Ground, Nottingham. The ground was in tolerable condition. Nottingham went in first and sent Wild and Price to the wickets against the bowling of Bennett and Mr Lipscomb. The play was very good all round, runs being freely made, and the fielding, on the whole, was excellent . . .

Day 2

This grand match was resumed yesterday morning at the Trent-bridge-ground, Nottingham. The weather was fine and there was a good attendance of spectators. The two "not outs" of last night, Bignall and Biddulph, succeeded in raising the score to 277 before they were parted. M'Intyre and Wootton made very good scores - the former 99 and the latter 60. The bowling of Kent was weak. The innings closed for a total of 446.

The Kent team then went in, but the bowling of Notts was too much for them, and they only scored 52. After a short interval Kent commenced their second innings, and when our parcel was despatched the score stood as under: . . [Kent (2) 22/0.]

Day 3

Play in this match was resumed on Saturday morning at the Trent-bridge-ground, Nottingham, Mr R E White (who had carried out his bat on the previous evening) and Mr Kelson going to the wickets to the bowling of M'Intyre and J C Shaw. The bowling was exceedingly true and the batting steady, when White skied Shaw and was easily taken by Wild (44 for two wickets).

Palmer joined Kelson, but was finely caught at the point by Wootton, after scoring two. Mr Rodger was the next man, and played very carefully, scoring very slowly. Kelson was well in and made a splendid cut for five off J C Shaw, and soon afterwards was clean bowled by M'Intyre, after a fine innings, for 29. Mr Norton joined Rodger and handled the bat very carefully. There were several changes of bowling, and at length Daft was tried with his "slows." His first ball "downed" Norton's wicket, and his third was struck by Bennett to the short slip and easily taken. Henty next came in, and he and Rodger made a stand until the dinner bell rang, 100 being on the telegraph board.

Play was resumed after dinner, and the Kent men were finally disposed of for 113. The match was thus won by Notts in one innings with 281 runs over.

19 August: SUSSEX v SURREY

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/1/1619.html)

Final report

Of late there have been many extraordinary matches, but none more extraordinary than this. It was promoted to benefit Charles Ellis, for many years Sussex wicket-keeper. Notwithstanding three days of uninterrupted play, and in which 867 runs were scored, the third innings was little more than half finished when stumps were drawn on Saturday evening, and the match declared drawn also.

Surrey won the toss, and at 12.15 they placed Mr Alexander and Pooley at their wickets (Hove Ground, Brighton). Southerton bowled the first over to Pooley, from which two runs resulted. Fillery, more successful, struck Mr Alexander's off bail from the second ball delivered. Jupp then appeared, got three runs and was missed by Southerton off his own ball. After this the hitting began in earnest. Jupp was four hours and a half on his defence, during which time he had Pooley, Mr Potter and Humphrey to assist in bringing up the total to 215 for four wickets. A capital catch soon after led to the dismissal of Humphrey; five wickets, 234. Mortlock's stay was a brief one; finely caught at mid-on. At the close of the day 242 runs were scored for six wickets only.

On Friday, Stephenson, the "not out" for 13, was joined by Griffith. Every change of bowling likely to prove of service was had recourse to on the previous day; Southerton again led off, and an easy chance to Lillywhite being declined, Griffith turned his good fortune to account. A second chance also from the same liberal hand was not taken proper advantage of. 282 were recorded when Stephenson's wicket fell.

Mr Akroyd and Griffith kept the fielders continually on the move; the latter was at length easily stumped, and Bristow, missed from the first ball, was bowled by the second. Nearly 300 runs were registered when the tenth man came in, but before the tenth wicket fell the total reached 377. Time, 1 hour 45 minutes.

Humphreys and Lillywhite began the Sussex batting, and Street and Griffith (slows) were the bowlers. The eleventh ball from Griffith proved fatal to Lillywhite. First wicket, 12 runs. Mr Winslow punished the slows so persistently that at 43 Bristow went on. 65 runs were scored in the first hour, when Mr Winslow was caught at cover point. The third wicket (Humphreys') fell at 75, and the fifth (Charlwood's) for 125. Mr Cotterill punished the slows, which were reintroduced at 125, more than any member of the Sussex team; at 188 he was clean bowled. The ninth added four and the tenth a single. Total, 193.

Sussex, still 184 in arrear of the Surrey innings, had to "follow on," and at 12.15 on Saturday they commenced their disheartening task. Contrary to expectation, they rubbed off the arrears and effected 113 runs besides for the loss of seven wickets, when, as before observed, stumps were drawn and the match left in the state indicated by the full score attached . . .

23 August: SURREY v KENT

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/1/1620.html)

Day 1

A large company was attracted to the Oval yesterday to witness this county match, the last of the season. Kent won the toss, and sent Mr Thornton and Payne to the wickets. The first ball was bowled by Southerton at 12.25, and from the fourth Mr Thornton made an on-drive for four. From the first ball of Street a catch in the slips led to the dismissal of Payne. With the score at 19, Mr White ran Mr Thornton out. Mr Kelson came; 11 overs were bowled and 12 runs obtained therefrom, when Jupp, stationed behind the bowler, caught Mr E A White. Three wickets, 31 runs.

Mr Norton was missed early in the slip, but scored two singles afterwards. Mr L A White then joined Mr Kelson; but retired immediately, being bowled by the first ball. Bennett made a determined stand. He was at the wickets rather more than two hours. His chief hits were a five (square leg), two fours and one three (cuts), six twos (various). Nine wickets fell for 99 runs. The first change of bowling occurred at the tenth wicket, Bristow in place of Street and Griffith for Southerton. The last man, Marten, was twice let off by the wicket-keeper. The innings concluded at 4.35 for 152 runs . . .

Surrey began their batting with Mr Potter and Pooley. Fifty runs were scored before the first wicket (Mr Potter's) fell . . .

Day 2

There is good reason for thinking that the above match at the Oval will be a closely-contested one. Play was resumed yesterday at 12.15. Pooley added a single to his over-night score and was then caught off Croxford, a new bowler of some promise. Mr Howell, the other "not out," had Jupp for his second companion, whom he also survived. Humphrey got 20 runs from five hits; but the most remarkable feature in the Surrey innings was the unusual evenness of the scores and the general contribution to the total . . . Time, 4 hours 35 minutes.

Nearly half an hour elapsed before Kent commenced their second innings, and the two leading batsmen were not out when stumps were drawn. The hitting of Mr Thornton engrossed attention and was the subject of almost unceasing eulogy. He made two sixes - one of which to leg went clean over the fence - two fives, two fours, two threes, two twos and 15 singles. The attendance was a very large one, and the day's proceedings appeared to give general satisfaction.

Day 3

These rival counties finished their cricketing course for the present season yesterday at the Oval. The match in question was a "return" to that played in the early part of June, at the Crystal Palace, which Kent won by nine wickets. When the stumps were drawn on Tuesday evening last, each party had completed a first innings, and Kent had also 87 runs without loss of wicket in their second innings.

Mr Thornton, one of the "not outs" for 55, just doubled this number in quick time, but Payne added a single only to his overnight score. Bennett came next, and retired without a run. A similar fate attended Mr Kelson, who succeeded him. Meanwhile Mr Thornton, by a leg hit for three and an "extra," brought up the third wicket to 99. Mr Norton then joined him, and the score advanced to 154, when Mr Thornton played a ball "on." Previous thereto, Mr Thornton scored 47 runs to his partner's eight. Croxford batted well for 23. Kent played a man short, but totalled 284 runs notwithstanding.

At 6.30 the match was declared "drawn." From the full score attached it will be seen that 737 were totalled during the three days - an average of 244 per day. Umpires, Caesar and Luck.