

THE TIMES REPORTS, 1878

[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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16 May: CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY v MARYLEBONE CLUB AND GROUND

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2163.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 17 May, page 11)

The University yesterday began their second match on level terms. Marylebone was not represented by a good eleven, but Cambridge played their full strength. Play began at 12.18, the weather being fine. Marylebone won the toss and sent in Messrs Russell and Hoare.

The Marylebone innings needs but very little description, as the batsmen could not stand against the bowling of Mr A G Steel. The first wicket fell before a run was scored . . the ninth and tenth for 69. Flowers, a Nottinghamshire player, obtained best score. Mr A G Steel, 27 overs and 1 ball (10 maidens), 40 runs for eight wickets . . .

The innings was finished at luncheon time, and just before 3 o'clock the batting of Cambridge was begun by Mr Lucas and the Hon A Lyttelton. Shaw had charge of the bowling from the Pavilion end and Morley from the Orchard end. In the latter's second over he bowled the Hon A Lyttelton. His brother came and after the score had reached 16 he fell to the same bowler. Mr Jarvis stayed with Mr Lucas till the total had reached 29 . . . At 4.45 Cambridge had equalled the Marylebone total.

There were now two good batsmen in, Messrs Lucas and A G Steel. When 80 was put on the telegraph Flowers bowled at Morley's end. A grand drive off Flowers for five by Mr A G Steel brought the 100 up. The next ball delivered to Mr Lucas, who went in first, was given out l.b.w. his fine innings of 49 included one four, four threes and nine twos - seven for 103. At 5.45 stumps were drawn for the day, with Cambridge 60 runs in advance. Mr Steel batted splendidly, and Shaw at one time bowled 13 maidens in succession and at another 11.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 18 May, page 10)

The high wind had not left us yesterday, and it continued to blow throughout the day. Mr A G Steel, the not-out of Thursday, was joined by Mr Morton, who made ten by two threes and two twos, and then succumbed to Shaw. Nine for 144. Ten singles were made, and then Mr Wood, the last comer, fell to a bailer. Mr A G Steel carried out his bat, and his score contained one five, two fours, six threes and five twos . . .

At one o'clock Messrs Russell and Hoare began the Marylebone second innings, and the same order of going in was adopted as in the first venture. Messrs Wood and Morton bowled, the former at the pavilion end. Three wickets fell for 12, all to Mr Morton. Mr Wood then got his first wicket by bowling Mr Mellor. No advance was made by Mr Turner, who was well caught in the slip - four and five for 14. Mr Vernon was very busy getting a four and two twos off Mr Wood, two threes and a two off Mr Morton - six for 31. Flowers and Mr Rhodes kept it up to luncheon time, when the score was 36.

Mr Rhodes was caught at short leg before another run was added, seven down. Mr A G Steel went on in place of Mr Wood, and Shaw was stumped without making a run - eight for 37. The ninth wicket fell for 41 and the last for

53. Flowers was again the highest scorer, taking out his bat for 19 . . .
Cambridge University won the match by an innings and 33 runs.

20 May: CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY v YORKSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2165.html)

Day 1 – no report found

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 22 May, page 12)

Play in this important match at Cambridge was resumed yesterday shortly after 12 o'clock with the Hon A Lyttelton and Mr Lucas at the wickets, the not-outs of the previous day for 19 and 15 respectively. Armitage and Emmett continued the bowling.

From the first ball of the third over Mr Lucas was run out. The Hon E Lyttelton then joined his brother with a deputy runner. Another vacancy soon occurred, which Mr Whitfeld supplied, but not for long – clean bowled. When Mr D Q Steel and the Hon E Lyttelton were together the bowling was severely tested. In fact, no less than seven changes occurred before Mr Steel left; and this triumph of the bat continued until Mr Lyttelton was caught by Emmett off his own ball. Mr Lyttelton's score of 74 was composed of two sixes – two hits into the corn field – two fours, six threes, eleven twos and single. When this brilliant batsman was disposed of Emmett soon brought the innings to a close, with the score as under. Play will be resumed to-day at 11 o'clock.

Day 3 (report from Thursday 23 May, page 16)

Although the weather of yesterday fell considerably short of the genial characteristics of the third week in May, it was a decided improvement on that which accompanied the first and second days of this match on the University ground. At the close of Monday's play Yorkshire had completed an innings, and the University had scored 26 runs without loss of wicket. On Tuesday the whole time allotted for play was consumed in completing this innings of nine wickets – one absentee – for 192 runs.

Yorkshire, with 87 runs in arrear, commenced their second innings yesterday soon after 11 o'clock. Lister and Ulyett started the batting as before. Mr A G Steel selected the orchard wicket to bowl from and Mr Morton the Pavilion. Twelve overs were delivered for seven runs. At this point Lister left, clean bowled. Lockwood came and soon began to hit with his accustomed freedom. The first change of bowling was made with the score at 17 – viz., Mr Ford in place of Mr Morton, but the batting prevailed. This induced the Hon E Lyttelton to try the effects of a few lobs. The device soon succeeded, and Ulyett retired after an excellent innings, which brought up the second wicket to 54.

At this rate of procedure the match would certainly have been relegated to the drawn list, for the subsequent play was slow, until Mr Steel resumed bowling at his old end. Lockwood made a lofty hit, which directed the ball into the hands of slip. Greenwood left in the next over, and Myers soon followed him. Half the wickets were down for 66 runs. Beaumont made no stand, and Emmett but a feeble one. Bates, who came out well in the first innings, cut a poor figure in the second. Up to this time the bowling of Mr Steel had succeeded in taking four wickets in seven overs for three runs. Hill joined Armitage, and the score advanced to 93, when the latter fell to a catch at forward short leg. Pinder, the last man, saw Hill

stumped, and the Yorkshire innings brought to a close in consequence. Time occupied in getting 100 runs, two hours and three-quarters.

The University required 14 runs to win. This number was obtained without loss of wicket. Fifteen years have elapsed since a similar match was played at Cambridge, and to beat such a county as Yorkshire now is by ten wickets may be regarded by the University as an achievement.

20 May: MARYLEBONE CLUB AND GROUND v KENT

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2166.html)

Day 1 – no report found

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 22 May, page 12)

At the close on Monday's play in this match at Lord's each side had completed an innings. The great minority of runs in which Kent was left necessitated a follow-on yesterday. There was very little improvement in the second innings, Hearne being the only batsman who reached double figures. Rylott took six wickets in 33 overs . . . Kent were defeated by an innings and 104 runs.

20 May: NOTTINGHAMSHIRE v AUSTRALIANS

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2167.html)

Day 1 – no report found

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 22 May, page 12)

Yesterday dawned promisingly, but at 11 o'clock the sky became overcast and a series of sharp showers fell. These delayed play until 25 minutes past 1. The wind was very high and the weather generally uncomfortable, but this did not prevent a large number of spectators putting in an appearance. In fact, at one time there could not have been less than 10,000 present.

Selby and Wild, the not-outs with 21 and 10 respectively, faced the attacks of Midwinter and Mr Allan. Eleven runs were made off the first five overs. The smart fielding of the Australians again called forth repeated applause. Both batsmen soon got merrily to work, and at 89 Mr Allan gave way to Mr Garrett; while at 91 Mr Spofforth bowled in lieu of Midwinter. At luncheon 95 runs were recorded.

On resuming, the fielding was again characterized by its freedom. Three figures were hoisted at ten minutes past 3 o'clock. This brought on another change in the attack. Mr Horan relieved Mr Spofforth at 101, and in his opening over Wild was well caught at long-field-on. Five wickets, 110 runs. Mr Cursham came to the aid of Selby, and very smart runs followed. The most notable hit was an on-drive by the professional for four. Mr Allan relieved Mr Garrett at 128. The run-getting now received a check, five only been secured from seven overs.

Mr Cursham, who had given promise of a long innings, was caught at mid-off, and six overs later an easy catch at short leg disposed of Selby. The latter's chief hits were two fours, three threes and 15 twos. Seven wickets, 135 runs. The last three batsmen were disposed of for 18. Total, 153. Of the five bowlers engaged, Messrs Horan and Allan were the most successful; the former took five wickets . . .

With a debt of 90 runs to rub out in their first venture, the Australians proceeded to the wickets a second time. C Bannerman and Midwinter faced the bowling of Shaw and Morley. The first five overs were unproductive. C Bannerman then drove Morley to the Pavilion for three, which he quickly followed up with a hit to leg for two and an off-drive for four. His free hitting, however, was brought to a sudden close by a catch at mid-on. One wicket, 16 runs.

Mr Horan's stay was short – well caught at wicket; and A Bannerman, who took his place, substituted his leg for his bat and paid the penalty. The partnership of Midwinter and Mr Spofforth promised better things for some little time; but the latter was unfortunate enough to play on at 34 – four wickets down. Mr Garrett came to the aid of Midwinter, and both played very carefully. The last-named did not seem by any means at home with Shaw's deliveries. Mr Garrett, on the other hand, hit with decision, making one splendid drive to the off over the heads of the people, for which, on account of its being a boundary hit, only three were allowed.

Almost immediately after this stumps were drawn. Should the match be over early to-day a single wicket game will be played between four Australians and four of the Nottingham team.

Day 3 (report from Thursday 23 May, page 16)

The interest in the above match abated considerably on the third and concluding day. Whether the spectators of the previous two days thought that the game was virtually over or not, but a very scanty number visited the old Trent Bridge ground to see the finish. Although the Australian batsmen played with caution, they were unable to cope with the Notts bowling. The whole of the Colonials were dismissed for 76 runs, and thus suffered defeat by an innings and 14 runs.

In a single-wicket match which followed between four Australians and four Nottingham players, the Colonials fared better. In their first innings they scored 15, against 2 by their opponents. Notts followed on, and had lost two wickets for 10 runs when stumps were drawn.

23 May: MARYLEBONE CLUB AND GROUND v LANCASHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2168.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 24 May, page 12)

The weather at the commencement of this match at Lord's yesterday was cold and dull, and continued so throughout the day. Lancashire won the toss, and began batting with Mr Hornby and Barlow at half-past 12. Shaw bowled the first over from the Pavilion wicket, and a single resulted.

From the second over, delivered by Morley, an off drive for four and a single were scored, although the ground was somewhat dead, thereby causing the ball to travel slowly. The total moved on to 24, chiefly from the free hitting of Mr Hornby; he was then stumped. The two following wickets fell quickly. Mr D Q Steel and Barlow made a firm stand, and brought on Mycroft in place of Morley. At 75 Mr Steel was caught at short leg. The wickets after this fell with unexpected rapidity. At 88 Hearne relieved Mycroft, and soon claimed two wickets. Barlow played the innings through, and obtained a full third of the entire score. Shaw bowled 49 overs for 32 runs and obtained six wickets.

Marylebone started badly; they obtained half their wickets for 26 runs. This excited surprise. Mr Stratford and Captain Roebuck were the only representatives of Marylebone who exhibited anything like form. The bowling of Mr A G Steel, as at Cambridge, proved very difficult. Thus in 17 overs 3 balls he obtained five wickets for 12 runs. The innings lasted but one hour and a quarter for 58 runs.

No extra of any kind occurred during the day. Lancashire lost three wickets of their second innings for nine runs. Messrs Hornby and D Q Steel were not so easily disposed of, for when stumps were drawn at 6.30 neither was out. Umpires, Farrands and Nixon.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 25 May, page 12)

The second day's play in this match at Lord's was accompanied by fitful and heavy showers. Messrs Hornby and D Q Steel, the not-outs for 22 and 14 respectively, resumed their batting at half-past 12, Marylebone time. Morley and Shaw occupied the same bowling stations as on the previous evening, nor was any change needed throughout the innings.

Notwithstanding the heavy condition of the ground, 16 runs were scored in 14 minutes. With the total at 53 for four wickets, Morley shot Mr Hornby's off stump a considerable distance from the other two. Mr Hornby's score, unlike those usually obtained from his bat, consisted chiefly of singles. Mr Steel, the only double figure scorer afterwards, went in third and came out sixth. His chief hit was an off drive which sent the ball through the trees which skirt the nursery and obtained five runs from it. Eventually he was bowled off his thigh with the total at 66. Nothing worthy of special mention occurred afterwards, and the innings closed for 84 runs. Shaw . . took six wickets . . .

Marylebone required 126 runs to win. Mr Tylecote and Hearne went first to the wickets, opposed to Mr A G Steel and M'Intyre. Mr Tylecote lost his partner at 17, and Mr Stratford came. At 29 Watson went on with slows, but Mr Steel proved more effective, for at 39 he got Mr Tylecote's wicket, in

the next over Mr Vernon's, and in the second subsequent over Mr Stratford's. The scoring after this was of a very feeble character, saving that of Mr Russell, which just reached double figures.

The innings terminated soon after 5 o'clock, when Lancashire were pronounced winners by 59 runs. The bowling of Mr Steel was certainly very destructive - viz., 23 overs and three balls, 30 runs; seven wickets . . .

27 May: MARYLEBONE CLUB AND GROUND v AUSTRALIANS

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2171.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 28 May, page 11)

Over 4,000 persons visited Lord's ground yesterday to witness one of the most extraordinary spectacles that has occurred at this place for a long time past. The Australians were not thought very highly of in their recent contest with Notts, but they showed themselves in a very different light yesterday, for better fielding has rarely occurred. Marylebone were provided with a well-selected team, but with the exception of Mr Hornby no one exhibited anything worthy the name of a defence.

Mr Ridley won the toss, and decided upon sending Messrs W G Grace and Hornby to the wickets. Mr Allan started bowling from the nursery end, followed by Mr Boyle at the pavilion. Mr Grace hit the former for four, but from the next ball he was caught at short leg. Mr Booth's off stump was struck before he scored a run. Mr Ridley then joined Mr Hornby, and the score advanced to 25. At this stage Mr Spofforth, a renowned bowler, very soon disposed of the latter. In the next six overs seven of the Marylebone wickets fell for six runs . . . Mr Spofforth, five overs and three balls, four runs, six wickets. He took three wickets in three successive balls during his fourth over.

C Bannerman and Midwinter began the Australian batting at 1.30, and within two hours, including luncheon, the whole eleven were got out for 41 runs - only one double figure. The bowling was intrusted to Shaw and Morley . . .

Marylebone resumed batting with Messrs Grace and Webbe; and great indeed was the disappointment caused by Mr Grace's quick retirement, without a run. It signified little who went in, for Messrs Spofforth and Boyle were determined upon their speedy dismissal. Four wickets fell for one run. Flowers and Wild held together long enough to bring the score up to 16. at 4.50 the innings closed for 19.

The Australians required but 12 runs to win. This number cost them one wicket, so that the Colonials beat the greatest and most powerful club in the world by nine wickets. They were loudly cheered by the assembled multitude for the achievement. Umpires, Sherwin and Rylott.

27 May: CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY v GENTLEMEN OF ENGLAND

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2170.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 28 May, page 11)

Although the ground was very heavy at the start Messrs I D Walker and Thornton were not long in making two excellent scores. But they were not backed up by the rest of their team in a very satisfactory manner, as only one double figure, and that of no magnitude, was recorded after their retirement. The most successful bowlers were Mr Lucas, who took five wickets . . .

The innings of the Hon A Lyttelton on the part of the University was a fine performance throughout; his chief hits were five fours, two threes and four twos. At the call of time the total of the other side was reached at the cost of three wickets. Umpires, W Slinn and M M'Intyre.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 29 May, page 13)

When play in this annual match at Cambridge ceased on Monday, the England party had completed an innings, and three wickets of the University were lost for 100 runs. Messrs A G and D Q Steel, the not-outs for 13 and 7 respectively, resumed batting yesterday at 12h 18m. Two substitutes were needed in the field before Mr Buchanan started the bowling.

Fourteen runs were quickly added, when Mr D Q Steel retired. Mr Whitfeld next appeared, and the scoring advanced rapidly till rain suspended play for an hour and a half. To an ordinary observer the ground was by no means in a fitting condition for making a score, but Mr A G Steel dispelled the illusion by procuring nearly 50 runs in a comparatively short time, while his companion adopted an opposite course - namely, that of scoring singles. By the aid of one four, nine threes and 13 twos, he effected the largest score of the match and brought up the fifth wicket to 183. Mr Jones then became the partner of Mr Whitfeld, but was caught at the wicket without contributing a run.

The Hon I Bligh played a free innings, and by means of a hit for four he advanced the total to 200. Several changes were resorted to without effect until Mr Buchanan, who had been allowed to retire a while to the pavilion for rest, came forward again and took up the bowling at the wicket he had left. From the first ball Mr Bligh was clean bowled. His chief hits were the 4 alluded to, 5 threes and 3 twos. Mr Morton was the only remaining batsman who evinced any promise of staying. Mr Whitfeld had Mr Wood for his fifth partner, who, though not staying, because he had scarcely a chance, saw him out, and the result of ten wickets was announced to be 256 runs. Five bowlers were engaged, but the most successful were Mr fryer, who obtained five wickets . . .

The Gentlemen began their second innings under the inconvenience of a bad light. Messrs Walker and Hargreaves were first in, opposed to Mr D Q Steel at the orchard wicket and Mr Maul the pavilion. Mr Walker was caught from the first ball presented, and Mr Crutchley, who succeeded him, made but two runs and was then disposed of by an exceedingly clever piece of fielding on the part of Mr D Q Steel. The batting now assumed a daring rather than a wise course of action. With such a wicket keeper as Mr A Lyttelton a batsman is compelled to use great caution. Mr Thornton seemed hardly to

think so. Three wickets fell for 21 runs. Mr Hargreaves left at 34 and, shortly after, play for the day ceased.

Day 3 (report from Thursday 30 May, page 6)

Thirty-five minutes sufficed yesterday to bring this, the last match of the University series to be played at Cambridge, to a close. Messrs Fryer and Turner, the not outs of Tuesday for nine and one respectively, added seven, when the latter was clean bowled. Mr Fryer, from a nearly straight drive, put on four, but in the eleventh over of the morning he was caught at point. Four overs subsequently Mr Thomas experienced a similar fate, and Mr Buchanan, in the twenty-fourth, was caught at the same station though off a different bowler.

Mr Wood obtained five wickets for 39 runs . . . Less than 25 overs were delivered for 60 runs. The University won the match by an innings and 96 runs.

30 May: LANCASHIRE v SURREY

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2173.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 31 May, page 6)

Lord's Ground was not attended yesterday with a large company to witness this county match, although among the contenders were first-class amateurs and Professionals also. Middlesex won the toss and sent Messrs I D Walker and A J Webbe to the wickets forthwith. Southerton and Barratt had charge of the early bowling.

Runs came slowly - only four resulted from six overs. In the seventh Mr Webbe was driven on to his wicket, and Mr walker immediately afterwards was taken at slip. A much better display of batting occurred on the part of Mr Hadow, who kept Barratt away while three of his companions fell in quick succession to his insidious slows. Mr Stratford soon got busy when his turn came, but at 38, in hitting to leg, he struck his wicket.

Mr Vernon then became Mr Hadow's partner, and the prospects of Middlesex soon brightened. So carefully did these defenders play that the score reached 59 before Barratt was taken on. Mr Hadow gave a chance to Mr Shuter in the first over delivered by Mr Strachan. Eighty runs were totalled before the sixth wicket - Mr Vernon's - fell. Of the remaining batsmen Mr Robertson got into double figures. Mr Hadow was eventually caught at long off. The innings closed for 105. Barratt was the most successful bowler. He took six wickets in 21 overs and a ball for 27 runs.

Jupp and Humphrey started the Surrey batting, opposed to Messrs Hadow and Henderson, but their scoring was not very efficient. Mr Game and Barratt were the only scorers of note, the former chiefly by boundary hits. At the fall of the tenth wicket Surrey were in a minority of 21 runs. Two Middlesex wickets of the second innings fell for 54 runs. Play was then discontinued for the day. Umpires, Nixon and Thoms.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 1 June, page 13)

A victory of 113 runs on the part of Middlesex was not calculated upon at the outset of this match at Lord's on Thursday, but at the close of an innings each a pretty general opinion prevailed that Surrey was essentially the weaker team. At the close of the first day's play Middlesex had lost two wickets of their second innings for 54 runs.

Yesterday play was resumed shortly after 12 o'clock by Messrs Webbe and Turner, the "not-outs" for 22 and nine respectively. Only five runs resulted from 11 overs, so that the early scoring may be regarded as slow. A rally ensued, and Mr Webbe put together 12 runs, half of which were the proceeds of one over. His partner left him with the total at 72, and Mr G W Scott filled the vacancy. The new-comer presented a chance to point at an early stage. This, however, was declined, and Mr Scott was afterwards fortunate to see seven of his companions come and go. Half the wickets realized 117 runs; the remaining half 50. Of the four bowlers engaged, Southerton was the most successful. He took five wickets . . .

Surrey now required 189 runs to win. Mr Game and Jupp started to get them, but they fell short of expectation. Four wickets fell for 31. Pooley hit vigorously, and on his retirement the telegraph announced 69 for eight

wickets. After this the end soon came, and the tenth wicket fell for 75. Mr Robertson's bowling commanded attention, as it deserved. He took six wickets in 28 overs for 22 runs . . .

30 May: YORKSHIRE v AUSTRALIANS

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2175.html)

Day 1 – no report found

Day 2 (report from Saturday 1 June, page 13)

The latter have been making quite as great a sensation at Huddersfield during the last two days as they did in London in the early part of the week. At the close of Thursday's play, Yorkshire had completed an innings for 72 runs, while only four wickets of the colonials amounted to 87 . . .

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

Very little interest was excited by this match at Huddersfield on Saturday, as the end was foreseen when stumps were drawn on the previous evening. Twenty-three runs were then wanting to win and eight men to get them. This number was obtained with six wickets to spare.

30 May: NOTTINGHAMSHIRE v LANCASHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2174.html)

Days 1 and 2 – no reports found

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

At the conclusion of this match at the Trent Bridge Ground on Saturday, Notts were declared winners by eight wickets. This marked defeat is attributed to the unusually weak team which Lancashire brought to the contest. Mr Hornby, though a host in himself, had not fully recovered from the injury of Monday at Lord's. The bowling of Shaw and Morley was very destructive; the former claimed 10 wickets and the latter eight.

3 June: SURREY v AUSTRALIANS

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2179.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 4 June, page 10)

Since these visitors from afar set foot on our shores rather more than a fortnight ago, their movements have absorbed a considerable portion of cricket intelligence. Considering their long voyage and very recent arrival, the Nottingham match ought not to take been regarded otherwise than in the light of a preliminary encounter, and the success of Notts as an imperfect criterion of the real or relative merits of the visitors as they then appeared.

The extraordinary overthrow of Marylebone last week produced an opinion of quite a different and more decided kind, as the victory obtained was not the result of more than the ordinary chances incident, to cricket, but of well-organized action, a head and arm to direct and regulate the pitch of the ball and an array of fielders competent for any position in which even under the necessity of changes they were placed; done, too, without noise, gesticulation or unnecessary bustle. Nor can the victory over the Yorkists at the close of the week be regarded as much less triumphant, as the team they had to meet was quite as good as that at Lord's.

But the contest to which still larger numbers looked began yesterday at the Oval. Long before the time announced for play, thousands were present, and the visitors were positively hemmed in while having a little practice, so eager were the public to catch a glance. Taken in group they represent physically almost any other Eleven that might be selected in England for a similar encounter as that about which they were preparing to engage. Three are from Victoria, seven from New South Wales and one from Tasmania.

When the ground became cleared the Australians took the field. A thick unbroken ring of spectators was visible, and the gallery filled to its utmost capacity. An excellent pair of wickets was provided, and a soft summer day rendered the progress of the match far more pleasant and enjoyable than any which hitherto has accompanied the cricket of the present season.

Shortly after 12 o'clock Messrs Lucas and Shuter took their stations at the wickets opposed to Mr Allan (Pavilion end) and Mr Boyle (contra). As the score moved on somewhat rapidly, Mr Spofforth deposed Mr Allan. Only three runs resulted from five overs and three balls. At this stage Mr Lucas was well caught in slip, low down, and his place was supplied by Jupp, who made a clean hit to leg for four. This with a single closed his account — clean bowled. Three wickets, 28.

Mr Lindsay seemed ill at ease, but his partner manifested great confidence, and chiefly through him the scoring during the first hour owed it advancement. A straight drive for three and two singles constituted Mr Lindsay's total, caught in slip. Mr Carmichael received but two balls. Half the wickets down for 52 runs. Pooley now joined Mr Shuter, and at 63 Mr Allan went on at the lower wicket, and in Mr Spofforth's next over a medium-pace ball from him brought Mr Shuter's fine innings to a close. His chief hits were one four, six threes and three twos.

Mr Strachan began with a cut worth but two, but enlarged to four by means of an overthrow. Seven wickets, 81. The only remaining incidents of note

are the scores made by Pooley and Southerton. The latter brought out his bat. Total, 107. Duration of innings, two hours. The bowling of Mr Spofforth is noteworthy – thus, eight wickets, 27 overs, 52 runs.

The Australians began batting with C Bannerman and Midwinter, at 3.20. During the first hour nearly all the scoring was done by Midwinter and Mr Horan. Two wickets fell for 33. Half were down for 55, which included a splendid catch by Mr Strachan, and the dismissal of Mr Garrett. Mr Murdoch made an excellent stand, and brought up the eighth wicket to 93. The innings closed shortly after 6 o'clock for 110, or three runs in advance. Barrett also took eight wickets for 58 runs, but for 46 overs and 2 balls.

Nearly 18,000 persons passed the gates, and so great was the inconvenience of exit and entrance at luncheon time that the committee have resolved that there shall be no re-admission by ticket . . . Umpires, Lillywhite and R Humphrey.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 5 June, page 11)

The character of the ground at the Oval underwent a material change yesterday in consequence of the long and heavy downpour which commenced soon after daybreak. Play began earlier than on Monday. It may be remembered, when stumps were drawn on the first day, that each side had completed an innings, and one Surrey wicket was down also for 11 runs.

Jupp added but two to his overnight score – finely caught at point. Mr Game then joined Mr Shuter, and a square-leg hit over the fence evoked general and hearty cheering. An off drive for three and a single completed his total. Pooley assisted in advancing the score to 46, when Mr Shuter left. The next four wickets fell so rapidly that the eighth realized but 58 as a total. Then came a stand, until Jones, hesitating about a run, had his wicket very properly put down. Mr Strachan brought out his bat, and the innings, which lasted just two hours, closed for 80 runs.

The Australians required 78 to win, and they sent Mr Horan and Midwinter in first, opposed to Mr Strachan and Barratt. From the fourth ball of the first over Mr Horan played on. The next six overs were maiden. Midwinter took a long time in getting 15. Bannerman appeared with the score at 25 and three wickets down, and left at 72. This is the best innings he has hitherto made. The end was now near. Mr Garrett effected six runs from one over, and the match was then declared in favour of the Australians by five wickets. Time, 5h 30m.

3 June: MARYLEBONE CLUB AND GROUND v DERBYSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2177.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 4 June, page 10)

Owing to the great attraction at the Oval the attendance at Lord's yesterday was, comparatively speaking, very small. Derbyshire went in first, and were all out before luncheon for the trifling score of 36. On the Marylebone side, only two attained to double figures, and these of no very great magnitude. A difference of 38 runs existed in favour of Marylebone at the close of an innings each.

In the second venture of Derbyshire more vigour was displayed, especially on the part of Platts, who put together 50 runs, chiefly by hard and determined hitting. At the fall of the tenth wicket 118 runs were announced as the second total of Derbyshire, and when play for the day ceased the score stood thus. Umpires, Farrands and Nixon.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 5 June, page 11)

One hour and a half proved long enough to bring this match at Lord's to a conclusion. The spectators were few, less than 50. Messrs W G Grace and Russell, the not outs for 15 and 5 respectively, recommenced batting shortly after 12.

After 17 runs had been put on Mycroft crossed over, and Platts took the place of Hay at the pavilion wicket. At 56 Mycroft clean bowled Mr Russell, and from the next ball Mr Jeffreys also fell to Mycroft. Runs came slowly up to 68. At this stage Mr Grace left, caught in slip. Wheeler made an off drive for four, and subsequently the winning hit . . .

3 June: KENT v NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2176.html)

Final report (report from Wednesday 5 June, page 11)

The revival of county cricket at Malling, once the most famed centre in Kent, has not proved so successful as many anticipated. Notts brought together a very strong team to do battle with a very weak one, and as a result Kent were signally beaten. The eleven averaged little more than three runs per man in their first innings, and Morley took seven wickets for nine runs in 22 overs. On the other side Daft and Selby scored more than 100 from their joint bats.

At the close of an innings each Kent were 98 runs in arrear, and when stumps were drawn on Monday four wickets of their second innings had fallen for 21. Fifty-five minutes sufficed yesterday to bring the match to a finish, when Notts were pronounced winners by an innings and 78 runs.

6 June: SOUTH v NORTH

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2181.html)

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

Viewed purely in the light of sound and cultivated cricket, no match in the year's programme possesses a stronger claim to notice than this, and if promoted for a strictly benevolent purpose not one is more deserving of public support. When the sides are well balanced, as was the case yesterday, the interest, as a matter of course, increases. Messrs Prince, with their usual generosity, have the use of their ground, seeing that the match was set apart for the benefit of "The Cricketers' Fund."

An excellent pair of wickets was pitched at 11 o'clock, and at 12.32 play commenced with Mr W G Grace, who bowled the first over to Oscroft, which produced no runs. Southerton, from the Chelsea end of the ground, also started with a maiden. In the fifth over Oscroft was caught at point, and Selby joined Lockwood. The hitting, though slow, was lasting. No less than 31 runs were scored before the second wicket was taken. Shrewsbury had his share of 23 overs and scored nothing. Ulyett received 18 balls and scored two runs, and four wickets fell for 49.

After this the batsmen displayed a large amount of stubbornness, Emmett especially so. His 50 (not out) contained four fours (leg-hits and drives), four threes (chiefly cuts) and seven twos. Neither Shaw nor Morley scored a run, and the innings terminated at 5.10 for 156. Four bowlers were engaged. Mr W G Grace obtained four wickets . . .

The South commenced batting with Messrs G F Grace and Russell. The principal hits were a three and a four (both drives). At 6.30 stumps were drawn, with the score as understated. Umpires, Willsher and Carpenter.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 8 June, page 13)

The progress made in this match yesterday at Prince's was not of a very rapid character, and although the ground was by no means dead, the scores did not assume the large and comprehensive figures, both as regards the individual and aggregate, to which the public of late years have been accustomed. Messrs G F Grace and Russell, the not outs of Thursday for 10 and 11 runs respectively, resumed batting within a few minutes of the stipulated time. Shaw led off the attack from the pavilion end of the ground, and Morley followed it up.

Nine consecutive maiden overs were bowled. Mr Russell then broke this quiet course of procedure by a hit to leg, which realized two runs. Afterwards the fielders were kept on the alert, and the scorers also. At 34 Emmett relieved Morley but 57 runs were got together before Ulyett, who had displaced Shaw, bowled down both the mid and off stumps of Mr Grace. A more determined resistance to all attacks was made by Mr Gilbert. Hits resulting in large figures were frequent. Mr Russell left at 78. Jupp, Charlwood and Mr W G Grace contributed feebly for such a trio of bats. At the fall of the last named the total for five wickets was announced on the telegraph as 120. Mr Gilbert brought up the sixth wicket to 155. His handsome contribution of 55 involved no apparent chance. Of the rest Humphrey and Lillywhite were the only batsmen possessed of any defensive power. The innings terminated at 5h 10m for 197 runs . . .

The North commenced their second innings with some regard for the value of time, as it became evident the match would be left in an unsatisfactory condition if the parties to it did not move at a brisker pace. Oscroft and Lockwood were not idle, certainly, while permitted to stay at the wickets. The former, however, became too impatient, and was punished by the wicket keeper. Selby joined Lockwood and promised to turn his opportunity to account. At this stage the time arrived for drawing stumps, and further play was adjourned to 11.30 this morning . . .

Day 3 (report from Monday 10 June, page 10)

As nearly four days have elapsed since the above match began at Prince's, it may be well to refer to one or two important stages of its progress. When stumps were drawn on Thursday the North had completed an innings and the South possessed themselves of 25 runs without the loss of a wicket. A large portion of the following day was consumed in carrying this innings through with a balance of more than 40 runs in their favour. Sufficient time was afforded for the North to go in a second time on Friday and score 65 runs at the cost of one wicket.

From the late hour at which play was resumed on Saturday, it soon became evident that the match would not arrive at a satisfactory conclusion. Lockwood and Selby, the not-outs for 35 and 12 respectively, carried the score forward at a rapid rate, notwithstanding the attacks of Mr W G Grace at the Chelsea end and Lillywhite at the other. Ninety-six runs were totalled when Mr Gilbert accepted the ball from Lillywhite. The change soon proved effective. Lockwood played a ball hard on to his wicket. His contribution of 55 was the result of batting which cannot be over-estimated. Another superb defender of the wicket appeared in the person of Shrewsbury, and, with the score at 118, Southerton relieved Mr Grace. In this instance the change had no effect - at least it was very slow in producing any. Twelve overs were delivered for 11 runs. Mr Gilbert then bowled Selby off his pad.

The association of Ulyett and Shrewsbury existed for some time, although very few runs resulted therefrom. In nine cases of ten the perilous practice of hitting a straight ball to leg meets with a speedy punishment. So in Ulyett's case. Four wickets, 136. Wild next joined Shrewsbury, but his runs came slowly. Just previous to luncheon-time a heavy fall of rain causes suspension of play until 3 o'clock.

Shrewsbury maintained a defiant position and punished the bowling at a rate of a run per minute. Wild left with the total at 175 - caught easily off a slow. Emmett came and drove Southerton splendidly to the off for 4, and, as he seemed in the cue for repeating this kind of performance, Lillywhite went on again at his old end. Five overs ensued, when a heavy thunderstorm broke over Chelsea, and, as there appeared to be little chance of pursuing the play to any useful purpose, stumps were drawn at 4.30 and the match declared drawn also.

6 June: MARYLEBONE CLUB AND GROUND v HAMPSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2180.html)

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

So far as the above match at Lord's has proceeded, the fate of Hampshire may be predicted with a tolerable amount of correctness. Marylebone were as strong at starting as the old cricketing county was weak. Marylebone began the batting at 12.15, and at luncheon time had four wickets down for 79 runs. At 10 minutes past 4 the innings terminated for 155 runs.

Hampshire occupied the wickets one hour and 25 minutes for 24 runs. The wide difference in the results of an innings each necessitated a "follow on." At the close of the day's play Hampshire had lost two wickets for 32 runs. Umpires, Flanagan and Sherwin.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 8 June, page 13)

Very little time was needed yesterday to bring this contest to a definite issue. At the close of Thursday's play each side had completed an innings, but with widely different results. Hampshire, being in a minority of 131 runs, were, in conformity to Law 46, necessitated to "follow on." Before stumps were drawn two wickets of their second innings were lost for 32 runs.

Messrs Booth and Duncan, the not outs for 0 and 6 respectively, resumed batting yesterday at ten minutes past 12 o'clock. Only three runs were added when Mr Duncan's wicket fell. Young then joined Mr booth, a single was added, and, as in the first innings, the bowling of Rylott carried all before it. In fact, Mr Booth alone was able to resist it. He saw five of his companions come and go for the insignificant number of five runs.

At the fall of the ninth wicket (Mr Booth's) the total amounted to 65. Nothing was added thereto. Rylott delivered 33 overs for 26 runs, and took eight wickets. Time, one hour exactly. Marylebone won by an innings and 66 runs.

10 June: SOUTH v NORTH

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2183.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 11 June, page 8)

The continuation of this title day after day might, and probably would, be wearying to the eye of a constant reader if it did not suggest a different set of ideas evolved by different agencies. During three days of the last week the North and South were doing battle at Hans'-place for the benefit of the Cricketers' Fund, an institution of many years' standing, while yesterday it was understood at Marylebone that North v South was promoted for the benefit of the "ground" for professionals attached to the Marylebone Club. Although both have a philanthropic design, they differ materially in their character and scope.

For a long time past the Whit-Monday match at Lord's has been considered as one of the most telling and profitable in the programme of annuals, and holiday folk who understand cricket and do not mind a long journey to see the game well illustrated, would probably choose the North and South before any other. Hence the crowds to the time-honoured grounds yesterday. It should be borne in mind, although the title of both matches is the same, the lists composing it are not; nevertheless first-class talent abounds as much in one as the other.

Play began shortly after 12 o'clock with Messrs W G Grace and Gilbert at the wickets. Shaw and Mr A G Steel had charge of the early bowling. The weather was fine and the whole area of the play looked as true and fresh as the most exacting could desire. Four runs resulted from Mr Steel's balls. The professional, however, quickly captured Mr Gilbert's wicket. A much firmer stand was made when the Hon E Lyttelton joined Mr Grace, but most of the runs were got off Mr Steel. The score advanced rapidly to 30. At this stage Mr Lyttelton was caught at the wicket.

Mr Lucas next appeared. Contrary to his usual custom, he scored slowly. Nearly all the runs for a considerable time came from the other end. Morley relieved Mr Steel with the score at 51. Only ten runs were added, when Mr Grace fell to Shaw. His chief hits were six fours, one three and five twos. After this Mr Steel resumed at his old end, and in his fifth over Mr G F Grace was caught off him at wicket. Mr Ridley received one ball. Rain then stopped play for 20 minutes.

On being resumed, five overs were bowled for four runs. Another heavy shower occurred. At 2.37 Messrs Ridley and Lucas again took their stations at the wickets, and the score travelled faster than at any previous stage of the game. Shortly after 3 o'clock the first 100 appeared on the telegraph. Mr Lucas left at 106. Between Messrs Hadow and Ridley the score increased very fast. Frequent changes of bowling were resorted to, with but little effect, till the total reached 181, when Shaw succeeded in taking Mr Ridley's wicket. Mr Hadow, in attempting a fifth run from a straight drive, was thrown out by Mr A G Steel. The innings closed, at 4.40, for 202 runs. Shaw took six wickets in 70 overs for 60 runs.

The North sent in Mr Hornby and Lockwood. Both left with the total at 21. Barlow and Mr D Q Steel brought the fourth wicket to 56. After this there were few points calling for remark. When stumps were drawn for the day, eight wickets registered only 118, this imperilling a "follow on." Umpires - Farrands and Nixon.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 12 June, page 10)

The above match at Lord's was continued yesterday under difficulties. Heavy showers at frequent intervals not only stopped the play, but made the wicket soft and the foothold of the fielders very insecure. No one calculated at the close of play of Monday evening that the two outstanding wickets of the North side would be able to push the score from 118 to 180. Yet such has been the case.

Play was resumed at five minutes past 12 o'clock with Shaw and Greenwood to the bowling of Mr W G Grace, who started with an over from each end. The third over was delivered Mr Lucas. In the course of 20 minutes the total reached 130. Rain then caused a suspension for rather more than an hour. On resumption Greenwood was missed at mid-off before the 10 was completed. At 144 Mr Hadow relieved Mr Grace and the score travelled rapidly up to 168. After luncheon, Shaw played a ball into the hands of slip. Nine wickets, 172. In the second subsequent over Morley also lost his situation in precisely the same way. With one exception the score of Greenwood, who brought out his bat, was the result of first-class batting. Mr Grace obtained five wickets . . .

The South side began their second innings as before. Shaw continued his bowling from the pavilion wicket. A single from Mr Gilbert was the first run scored. Ulyett delivered five overs for 19 runs; he then gave the ball to Mr A G Steel. The change checked the runs for a while, although 50 were recorded at 4 o'clock. Another downpour put a stop to the proceedings for 35 minutes. Mr Steel gave place to Morley, who in his sixth over bowled Mr Gilbert. One wicket, 59 runs. The Hon E Lyttelton then became partner with Mr Grace, and at 68 Mr Steel resumed bowling. Emmett succeeded him, and from his first over Mr Lyttelton's wicket fell. Two for 81.

Mr Lucas stayed a long time for a small score, but he saw Mr Grace out. The principal hits of the retiring batsman were nine fours (chiefly drivers), two threes (cuts) and nine twos (various). Messrs Hadow and G F Grace enlarged the score considerably; the latter left with the total at 170 for seven wickets. Soon after stumps were drawn . . .

Day 3 (report from Thursday 13 June, page 10)

During the early part of yesterday the play in this match at Lord's was as dull and fitful as the weather itself. Within two hours of its close a great change came over the scene. When the South concluded their second innings at half-past 12 o'clock, they left their opponents 226 to get.

This number, without any checks from adverse weather, would, it was said, furnish abundant employment for the men of the North if they succeeded in obtaining it. They, however, went to work with a will, and, contrary to general expectation, effected the runs required within five minutes of the time agreed upon for drawing stumps. The way of proceeding was this: -

Mr Hornby and Lockwood went in first. They were opposed by Messrs W G Grace and Hadow. The former bowled all through the innings, but Mr Hadow delivered only five overs when he surrendered the ball to Mr G F Grace at the pavilion wicket. Mr Hornby was caught at cover point with the score at 41. Before Barlow received a ball rain fell heavily, and play as a matter

of course was for some time suspended. At luncheon-time the score stood at 54.

Mr Ridley went on when a single had been added. For a long time the play was unusually steady. Forty minutes were consumed in scoring 25 runs. Lockwood was caught at long-on. Two wickets, 79. Ulyett started with four singles. He then returned a ball to Mr Grace, who declined to hold it. As Mr Ridley's slows were not effective, Mr Gilbert came forward at 87, and five runs later Ulyett's wicket fell. Mr D Q Steel joined Barlow, and with these two batsmen the running grew more lively than hitherto. Another interruption from rain occurred, the score at this time being 102.

Play was resumed at 4.20, with but a faint chance of winning the match. The ground played remarkably well, considering the amount of rain and the wear and tear incident to three days' work upon it. Barlow went in to meet a ball from Mr Grace, but missed it and was stumped. Considerably more than half the runs required were now got and only four wickets down.

The brothers Steel were next together, but from an unwise attempt to make five runs when only four could safely be accomplished, Mr D Q Steel received his dismissal from the hands of Mr Lucas. Five wickets, 139. Emmett played cautiously at first. Mr Ridley went on again at his own end and clean bowled Mr A G Steel with his first ball. Six wickets, 157. Greenwood and Emmett advanced the score to 198, and the excitement caused by a good hit was of an "all round" character. Pooley effected a parting by a good catch.

When Pinder joined Emmett 28 runs only were wanting, and this number was accomplished without further loss of wicket. The last hour's play compensated in a great measure for the inconveniences and disappointments caused by the ungenial weather which accompanied the match during the various stages of its progress.

13 June: SURREY v CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2186.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 14 June, page 10)

The Light Blues made their first appearance this season at the Oval yesterday. Long before play began, the weather was quite June-like and full of promise. Cambridge were fortunate in the toss and decided upon going in first, with the Hon E Lyttelton and Mr Lucas as their leading representatives. Little or no fault could be found with the wickets, although they played slow owing to recent rainfalls.

Mr Lyttelton received the opening over from Barratt. Nothing came of it. Strange to say, Mr Lucas was bowled from the first ball presented to him by Johnson (a colt), who took his station at the pavilion end of the ground. The Hon A Lyttelton then joined his brother. These gentlemen brought up the total to 38, when the latter ran himself out. Mr Whitfeld came, and a considerable time elapsed before the third batsman, the Hon E Lyttelton, was caught at wicket. His principal hits were one four, one three and five twos. The second subsequent ball dismissed Mr D Q Steel in precisely the same manner as that of his predecessor. Mr Jarvis was caught in the slip after a hard-hitting, yet not chancy, innings of 18, in which were one five and two fours, all drives to the off. Five wickets, 97.

Great things were expected of Mr A G Steel, but he was clean bowled by Johnson for 12 runs, ten of which were singles. Before Mr Lancashire left, the score reached 137. Mr Kingston hit hard and made eight runs from three consecutive balls. A heavy shower delayed play for 15 minutes. The last man proved a great supporter to Mr Whitfeld, and, in fact, neither was out when play for the day was discontinued due to rain.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 15 June, Page 13)

A great deal of surprise was occasioned yesterday at the signal defeat of Surrey in the above encounter at the Oval. When play ceased on Thursday the University had a wicket to fall; but, as is frequent the case, the last man proved troublesome.

The first change of bowling during the innings was brought on at 243, when Blamires replaced Johnson, and another change was resorted to at 253, when Southerton received the ball from Barratt. Only three runs were recorded afterwards, as Southerton's slows led to the retirement of Mr Morton. Mr Whitfeld, the not out, played a splendid innings, offering but one chance. His chief hits were one five, four fours and three threes. The great number of byes must be attributed to the absence of a long-stop during Johnson's bowling.

Surrey made a wretched beginning with the bat. Five wickets fell for 22 runs; seven for 26. Elliott and Barratt were the only representatives of the county able to withstand the bowling brought against them. Mr Steel got three wickets for 38 runs and Mr Morton four for 22 runs. As the total was 150 less than that of Cambridge, Surrey had to follow on.

Messrs Lucas and Steel bowled all through the second innings. Half the wickets were taken for 15 runs, and the remainder averaged less than six runs each. Mr Steel claimed seven for 20 runs and Mr Lucas four for 22.

Cambridge won the match by an innings and 112 runs . . . The visitors might be counted without effort or difficulty.

13 June: YORKSHIRE v SUSSEX

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2187.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 14 June, page 10)

The progress made in this match yesterday at Wakefield was not very great. Sussex went in first and completed an innings for less than 100 runs. Mr Anstruther, who led off the batting with 37, set an excellent example, which, however, was not imitated by such an approach to it as the friends of Sussex and the cricket world in general could have desired. With the exception of Charlwood and Francis, the scoring was feeble in the extreme for such a county . . .

Day 2 - no report found

Final report (report from Monday 17 June, page 13)

The strength - or, more properly speaking, the weakness - of Sussex has been made manifest in this match at Wakefield, which began rather late on Thursday last and was continued, with broken successions on account of foul weather, up to Saturday afternoon. It was the first recent match of importance on the College-green ground, and, notwithstanding the ungenial character of the atmosphere, nearly 4,000 persons were attracted to the spot.

Sussex had the choice of bat or ball, and Mr Anstruther, who captained the team, chose the former. At the fall of the tenth wicket for 98 runs, play for the day ceased. Seven bowlers were engaged: of these Emmett, Pinder and Ulyett only proved successful. They claimed three wickets each, the first for 27 runs, second 17, third 7.

The batting of Lockwood and Ulyett deserves special mention, not merely for the number of runs, but the style in which they were effected. No less than six bowlers, with a variety of changes incident thereto, were severely tested in their attempts to part this stubborn pair. Charlwood, fielding mid off, missed Ulyett, but in the next over Lillywhite sent down a ball with a break back that took his off stump. Emmett punished Fillery by sending one of his balls on the Pavilion for four, and another beyond it for six, in the same over. He required but little time to put together 18. A catch by Mr Francis at deep mid off then stopped the starring of the Yorkshire captain. Lockwood followed almost immediately after. So also did the fall of the tenth wicket for 204 runs. Lillywhite obtained five wickets . . .

It became evident if Sussex on Saturday could make a tolerable score the match would be a drawn one, and to this object the Southerners directed their best energies; but the loss of Messrs Anstruther and Mare on Friday evening for insignificant figures was not very inspiriting. Play was resumed at 20 minutes to 1 o'clock with Humphrey, "not out" for 10, and Charlwood. The latter left surprisingly soon. Ellis and Lillywhite moved the score upward by hard hitting, and great hopes were here entertained of saving at least a single innings' defeat. Fillery, too, played with spirit and determination. When, however, the tenth wicket fell, the books proclaimed Yorkshire winners by an innings and four runs.

13 June: HAMPSHIRE v KENT

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2184.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 14 June, page 10)

The parties herein concerned met yesterday at Southampton. Kent went in first and completed an innings for 151. Hants fell short of this when time was called, but they had one wicket to fall . . .

Day 2 (report from Saturday 15 June, Page 13)

Play in this match, on the Antelope Ground, Southampton, was resumed yesterday within a few minutes of 12 o'clock. Eleven runs were added to the overnight total by the one Hampshire wicket left to fall. The bowling of Hearne was very effective. He claimed a large share of the ten wickets that were declared forfeit.

Kent made a very good, though not very large, score in their second venture. Lord Harris was by far the most successful batsman engaged in the match. His hitting all round exhibited a great command of the bat. At 4.30 the Kent innings terminated for 158 runs. Tate and Young claimed nearly all the bowling honours of Hants . . .

Day 3 (report from Monday 17 June, page 13)

The full score of this match, played at Southampton, shows Kent to be the winners by 108 runs. In the double innings Tate got 18 wickets [9, actually!] . . . Hearne, the most successful of the six bowlers on the other side, obtained 13 wickets . . . The balance of runs, making up the total of 200 acquired by Hampshire, resulted from the bowling of Mr Shaw and M'Canlis.

17 June: GENTLEMEN OF ENGLAND v AUSTRALIANS

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2189.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 18 June, page 7)

If, after what has been said and written of Prince's Ground for years past, a stranger visited it for the first time yesterday, he would have been led to exclaim, "Surely the glory is departed from it." The crowd appeared to be greater than ever, the playing space less, and the accommodation altogether disproportionate to the actual needs of the occasion. Far too much of the rough element, also, was apparent.

The ground at the start was in a heavy condition, and rendered worse by two subsequent showers, heavy, though short. At five minutes past 12 the Australians, who had won the toss, sent in C Bannerman and Midwinter to the bowling of Messrs W G Grace and A G Steel. Runs came slowly, and in fact ten balls were bowled to Midwinter before the chance of a safe run presented itself. Eventually a catch at point close to the ground disposed of him with the total at 20. Mr Horan assisted in raising the second wicket to 32.

Mr Murdoch displayed a vast amount of patience. Mr Grace sent down ten consecutive maiden overs. A splendid hit for four by Bannerman off Mr Steel suggested the idea of a change, and Mr E M Grace went on to bowl at the south wicket. A single resulted from his fourth ball, but nothing from five subsequent overs. At length Bannerman was admirably caught at deep mid-off, making thus far a total of 44 runs for three wickets. His chief hits were three fours (cuts), two threes (leg and cut) and three twos. A Bannerman then joined Mr Murdoch, who had consumed a deal of time in making a single. Bannerman also made a long stay, but not a profitless one. He saw four of his companions go. Mr Gregory left with the total at 67, and Mr Boyle, the last man, at 75. three bowlers only were engaged. Mr W G Grace, unchanged, delivered 52 overs . . .

The Gentlemen of England selected Messrs W G Grace and Gilbert to commence their batting, opposed to Messrs Spofforth and Allan. At this time the weather was somewhat settled, and the crowd formed an unbroken ring, in some places of six or eight deep. Every run was carefully watched, and, as far as shouting went, amply rewarded. Nor was the splendid fielding of the Colonials unnoticed or passed over without a cheer. Before a parting of the above-named batsmen could be effected, the score had risen to 43. Mr Gilbert was then well taken at wicket, and Mr Hornby joined Mr Grace. A second parting (Mr Grace) was accomplished at 53, and Mr Hornby at 61.

Mr G F Grace and Mr Lucas were partnered sufficiently long to advance the total to within one of the other side. The latter left at this stage, and Mr E M Grace joined his brother for a brief period. Mr G F Grace was caught at mid-on with the total at 82 for six wickets. The Hon A Lyttelton and Mr Steel played up to time with an additional three runs to the last wicket. Umpires, Willsher and Waddy.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 19 June, page 11)

When stumps were drawn on Monday evening the Colonials had completed an innings for 75 runs, and six wickets of the England side got ten beyond this number. Yesterday the Hon A Lyttelton and Mr Steel, the not-outs for

five and one respectively, received the early overs from Messrs Spofforth and Boyle. The latter added but four to his overnight score when he was clean bowled by Mr Spofforth. Seven wickets, 89. The Hon E Lyttelton contributed a single only. Thus far the difference between the two scores was not very material.

The next hour brought with it a great change. Mr Strachan, in conjunction with Mr A Lyttelton, carried up the ninth wicket to 106. At this stage the latter gentleman left, caught in slip, and Mr Bush filled the vacancy caused by his retirement. Before the tenth wicket was taken the liveliest portion of the innings occurred, and the greatest bowling changes. When the last wicket fell the score had advanced to 139, of which Mr Strachan claimed 21 runs, not out – a thoroughly sound innings, so far as it went. Five bowlers were engaged, but only three proved successful. Mr Boyle obtained seven wickets . . .

The Colonials had now a heavy arrear to rub off. Mr Horan and Midwinter appeared first to the bowling of Messrs W G Grace and Steel. A cut for four by Midwinter off Mr Grace was rewarded with an "all round" cheer, for the feeling of the visitors was evidently in the direction of encouragement while fighting an uphill game. A miss of a very easy catch at cover point gave Midwinter an opportunity of making the second score during the match. However Mr Lucas could have failed to hold the ball was a matter for wonderment.

Mr Horan made a very brief stay, a catch at mid-off disposed of him with the total at 5 for one wicket. A Bannerman then joined Midwinter, but left him soon, in fact he ran out. C Bannerman fell quickly to Mr Steel, and the impression now began to prevail that it was "all over" with the Colonials, as three wickets for 14 runs presented very faint hopes to build success on. Great reliance was placed upon Mr Spofforth, but even he failed to advance the score beyond 25 when a catch at mid-on announced his departure. Mr Murdoch took a long time in obtaining seven runs.

Midwinter left at 38 – caught splendidly at long-on. Five wickets were down when Mr Garrett came in, hit hard, and before retiring brought up the score to 57, towards which he contributed three fours (all drives). Mr Blackham next joined Mr Murdoch. At 61 the latter was caught at wicket. Two runs were now wanting to save the innings. Mr Boyle came, but disaster seemed destined to tread upon the heels of disaster. A bye was recorded, and then both Mr Blackham and Mr Gregory were caught in Mr Steel's next over. Mr Allan, the last man in and out, played "on," and the disappointing innings of the Colonials came to a close at 4.15 for 63 runs, and the Gentlemen of England were, in consequence, declared winners by an innings and one runs. Messrs W G Grace and Steel bowled throughout . . .

Within half an hour of the finish of the match people flocked in, but the only return for their shilling was an announcement of the Colonial defeat just mentioned . . .

17 June: MARYLEBONE CLUB AND GROUND v SUSSEX

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2190.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 18 June, page 7)

Very few persons attended this match yesterday at Lord's owing, no doubt, to the great attraction at Hans-place. Play began at 12.15 with Messrs I D Walker and Jeffreys at the wickets as representatives of Marylebone. Despite the heavy state of the ground, the leading batsmen soon began to score, and at 34 Lillywhite, who had started the bowling from the Pavilion wicket, crossed over, and Hide afterwards transferred the ball to Fillery; 50 runs were recorded before Mr I D Walker played into the hand of slip. This kind of free hitting was kept up till half-past 1 o'clock, when rain delayed play till nearly 4.

On resumption Messrs Jeffreys and Shuter carried the score up to 107, when the former was clean bowled by Hide, who a short time previously had resumed at his old end. Mr Meek had but one ball, but Mr Stratford and Flowers contributed liberally to the Marylebone score, which at 6.25 had reached a total of 228. Sussex played out the remaining portion of time without the loss of a wicket. Umpires, Flanagan and T Mycroft . . .

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 19 June, page 11)

Rain prevented this match at Lord's from being resumed yesterday till nearly a quarter-past 1 by the Marylebone clock. It seemed to possess little interest. Sussex had to follow on, and at the close of the day this once highly famed county was found to be, in sporting parlance, "nowhere," and the match was left in the state described by the score annexed . . .

Day 3 - no report found

17 June: DERBYSHIRE v KENT

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2188.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 18 June, page 7)

In the presence of but few spectators this match was commenced on the county ground at Derby yesterday. The weather was fine, though at times of a threatening character. Umpires, Messrs Goodhew and J Horsley . . .

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 19 June, page 11)

This match was continued at Derby yesterday, a goodly number of spectators being present on the ground. The weather was delightfully fine. When our parcel was despatched the score stood as follows: [Derbyshire (2) 67/1.]

Day 3 (report from Thursday 20 June, page 8)

Again favoured with beautiful weather, this match was brought to a conclusion yesterday. There were again present a large number of spectators, who evinced the greatest interest in the game . . .

20 June: MIDDLESEX v AUSTRALIANS

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2193.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 21 June, page 10)

A large company was attracted to Lord's yesterday to witness the fourth of these metropolitan series. Middlesex came to the contest extremely weak in bowlers, and although their opponents did not start their batting with much promise of success they improved materially as they proceeded.

Three wickets fell for 13 runs and five for 35. The sixth added but a single thereto. Messrs Gregory and Bailey made a determined stand. The ninth wicket realized 146 and the tenth 165. Five bowlers were engaged. Mr Henderson took four wickets . . .

Middlesex commenced their batting with Messrs Walker and A J Webbe, opposed to Messrs Spofforth and Boyle. Twenty-six runs were scored before the first wicket was taken; the second fell at 48. Then came so determined a stand on the part of Mr Webbe and the Hon A Lyttelton that the score reached 107 before they were parted. The uncertainty of cricket then developed itself in the fall of five wickets for an additional six runs. No stand worth speaking of was made against Mr Garrett, who took during the innings seven wickets in 30 overs for 38 runs. Mr Allan obtained three wickets . . . Nearly 6,000 persons were present . . .

Day 2 (report from Saturday 22 June, page 13)

Within five minutes of 12 o'clock yesterday the above match at Lord's was resumed. It may be remembered when Thursday's play ceased each side had completed an innings. The Australians preserved the same order of procedure at the wickets as in the first innings. Messrs Hadow and Henderson were charged with the early bowling as on the previous day.

A Bannerman left with the score at 11, and Mr Horan at 18. Mr Gregory exhibited a strong defence, and, singularly enough, got the same number of runs as in his first innings. He hit, as usual, very hard, and among his figures were four fours, chiefly drives. Soon after C Bannerman left Mr Robertson came on, but he could do nothing with Messrs Gregory and Garrett. In fact, the score advanced to 93 before the latter was finally caught from a hard hit far over the bowler's head. The same fine style of hitting was continued when Mr Murdoch continued at the wicket.

At 109 Mr Gregory was caught in the slip, and at 159 Mr Murdoch was clean bowled. The score continued to advance with great rapidity till Mr Spofforth, who had made 56, the highest Australian score yet reached, was caught off Mr Henderson. The eighth wicket fell for 240; the ninth and tenth at the same figure, all off Mr Robertson's bowling.

With 284 to win, Middlesex sent in the Hon A Lyttelton and Mr Studd. No stand was made. Five wickets fell for 14 runs. The Hon E Lyttelton and Mr walker raised the score to 72, but when play terminated for the day the total amounted to 79 only.

Day 3 (report from Monday 24 June, page 11)

It rarely happens that any part of a great match is played at Lord's on a Saturday, and the above was one of the exceptions to the general rule. Compared with Thursday and Friday, the attendance was very small. This may be attributed to the prevalent idea that the few wickets left standing on Friday afternoon were hopelessly inadequate to the 205 runs required to win.

With strict punctuality to time, the Hon E Lyttelton and Mr H R Webbe, the not-outs for 37 and 5 respectively, recommenced batting opposed to Messrs Allan and Garrett. It was a thorough cricketing day. The ground had become lively and the batting of Mr Lyttelton quite in harmony with the surroundings. He scored 12 runs from his first over, and the 100 appeared on the telegraph with unexpected quickness. Mr Spofforth received the ball from Mr Allan and Mr Garrett gave place to Mr Boyle. Nearly 30 runs were added when another change of bowling was resorted to, but Mr Lyttelton punished all unsparingly.

At 148, Mr Webbe, who had been playing steadily and with caution, lost his wicket - clean bowled. The hitting of Mr Lyttelton while having Messrs Robertson and Henderson as partners was of the most determined character, the ball was despatched to all corners of the field, and that with unchecked frequency, no less than 14 four, four three and 11 twos, with a fair sprinkling of singles being registered against his name soon after the ninth wicket fell. Mr Salmon, the last man, contented himself with five singles. He, however, saw Mr Lyttelton caught in the slip, and the innings brought to a termination with the unexpected total of 185.

In the space of 05 minutes 106 runs were accumulated by the four wickets on Saturday. The Australians were winners by 98 runs. Of the five bowlers engaged Mr Allan was most successful, as he claimed six wickets . . . The Australians have thus completed four metropolitan matches, three of which they have won - viz., two at Lord's and one at the Oval - and one at Prince's, in the early part of last week, lost.

20 June: SURREY v GLOUCESTERSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2195.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 21 June, page 10)

This annual and highly-popular match with the frequenters of the Oval commenced yesterday at an unusually late hour, and, notwithstanding the attraction at Lord's, between two and three thousand persons attended to witness it. Messrs Lucas and J Shuter received the early overs from Mr Gilbert, pavilion end, and Mr Woof contra.

The start can hardly be stated as promising, for after a single from the second ball Mr Shuter played into the hands of the bowler. Mr Read then joined Mr Lucas, and great things were expected of the new comer, but disappointment ensued when only two runs were accorded to him – clean bowled. More energy was displayed and more success followed the next comer. Various bowling changes were resorted to without effect till the score reached 33, when Mr Akroyd was dismissed from precisely the same cause as Mr Shuter. Mr Game adopted his usual free style of hitting, which contrasted strongly with that of his companion. The score travelled rapidly up to 95, when Mr Lucas retired in consequence of a splendid left-hand catch at point.

After him the only staunch supporter Mr Game had was Mr Strachan, and the score was brought up to 116 when Mr Game left. Several changes of bowling were involved in his, the longest score of the innings. The last five batsmen failed to average four runs each. Six bowlers were engaged, but the only successful ones were Mr Gilbert, who got half the wickets . . .

Gloucestershire were more unfortunate in the start of their batting than their opponents. Five wickets yielded 37 runs only. Messrs W G Grace and Wright pulled up considerably; the latter on this his first appearance made 17 runs in four successive hits – twice missed. At the close of the day the game stood in the state described by the accompanying score . . .
[Gloucestershire 86/7.]

Day 2 (report from Saturday 22 June, page 13)

The interest in this match at the Oval was well sustained yesterday. It required but three-quarters of an hour to bring the Gloucestershire first innings to a close, when 39 runs were recorded in favour of Surrey. Four bowlers were engaged, but Johnson (a colt) proved by far the most successful. He took six wickets in 21 overs for 44 runs.

Messrs Lucas and J Shuter started the second innings of Surrey, and, contrary to expectation, two wickets were lost for nine runs. Mr Akroyd joined Mr Lucas, scored a single and retired – bowled off stump. Mr Game came next, hit, as usual, very freely, but did not stay long enough to make a score of any magnitude – bowled leg stump. Mr Strachan assisted in bringing up the total to 47, when he elevated a ball which fell into the hands of cover point.

Immediately after luncheon both of these batsmen left with the total unaltered. Pooley and Mr Lindsay brought up the score admirably. The eighth wicket realized 101, tenth 136. Mr W G Grace came up to the standard of Johnson, on the other side, who took six wickets.

Gloucestershire required 176 runs to win, and at the close of the day's play four wickets were down for 112. Umpires, Pullen and Jupp.

Day 3 (report from Monday 24 June, page 11)

So confident were the public on Friday evening that the few runs required by Gloucestershire to win the match would be got, especially with six wickets to get them, that a contrary result excited no little surprise. It was thought that Messrs G F and W G Grace, the not-outs for 38 and 13 respectively, were at least equal to the 64 runs required. So effectual, however, was the bowling of Barratt and Johnson on Saturday that one hour sufficed to take all the wickets.

Mr G F Grace added ten to his overnight total, and Mr W G Grace 18 – once missed. Fifth and sixth wickets fell with the total at 143. The four remaining wickets had but 25 runs to get, and of these Messrs Wright and Cranston contributed 12, but at this stage Pooley put down the wicket of the former. It was now thought to be "anybody's game," but when Mr Bush fell to the first ball delivered, Surrey became the favourite.

Mr Matthews, like his immediate predecessor, added nothing. Nine wickets, 159. Woof, the last man, had scarcely a chance for distinguishing himself. He, however, brought out his bat on seeing Mr Cranston's leg stump bowled by Johnson without an additional run to the ninth wicket. A victory of 16 runs over as strong a county as any in England may justly be regarded as a triumph, especially as three years have elapsed since a similar feat was accomplished by Surrey. Johnson claimed five wickets . . .

20 June: NOTTINGHAMSHIRE v DERBYSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2194.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 21 June, page 10)

These counties met yesterday on the Trent-bridge Ground, Nottingham. The scoring was very feeble for two such teams, but this may be attributed in a great measure to the state of the ground . . .

Day 2 (report from Saturday 22 June, page 13)

The long and well-played innings of Daft yesterday left Derbyshire with very faint hopes of coming off, as some imagined, victors. A goodly company assembled on the Trent-bridge ground to watch the chances in favour of the visitors, but more especially to take note of the general character of the play on both sides. From the subjoined score – at an important part of the match – the public will be able to form some estimate of the relative merits of the two elevens. Play will be continued this day.

Day 3 (report from Monday 24 June, page 11)

At the completion of this match at Nottingham it was found that Derbyshire were in a minority of 122 runs. In the last innings three failed to score anything; five others marked single figures only, and none of these to any extent for a rising team. Shaw got seven wickets for 41 runs, and Morley two wickets, 29 runs. Neither Barnes nor Flowers, who delivered 18 overs for 19 runs, was able to get a wicket.

24 June: MARYLEBONE CRICKET CLUB v CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2197.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 25 June, page 10)

On the 16th day of May last Marylebone commenced their annual match against the University at Cambridge. The return was fixed for yesterday at Lord's. It should be observed that the Marylebone team ought not to be regarded as a representative one, seeing that some of their best players were engaged elsewhere. Cambridge won the toss and sent in Messrs Lucas and A Lyttelton. Considering the reputation of Cambridge and the successes gained on their own ground, the attendance at Lord's was not so large as might have been expected. Rylott and Hearne had charge of the early bowling.

Runs came slowly - viz., at the rate of one for every two overs, until the fourteenth. Mr Lucas kept in a long time for three runs. The Hon E Lyttelton joined his brother, and a great change occurred both in the style and effect of the batting. When the second wicket fell the score had risen to 71, more than half the ultimate total. The Hon A Lyttelton's score of 45 comprised one five (square leg), two fours and four twos. The subsequent wickets fell rapidly. At 3.35 the innings closed for 133. Three bowlers were engaged, but two only with success . . .

Marylebone started rather feebly; they lost their first wicket for nine runs and five for 42 - at the rate of a run per minute by their chief men. With the exception of those scored by Messrs Hadow, Hargreaves and Penn, there were no double figures. When the tenth wicket fell a difference of 53 runs existed in favour of the University. Mr A G Steel got seven wickets . . .

Cambridge made an excellent start in their second innings. The first five hits produced 20 runs. At the close of the day two wickets only were lost for 66 runs.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 26 June, page 5)

At the close of Monday's play in this return match at Lord's each party had completed an innings, and two Cambridge wickets were also down for 66 runs of their second innings. The Hon E Lyttelton and Mr Whitfeld, the not-outs for 9 and 0 respectively, resumed batting at 5 wickets past 12 o'clock yesterday.

The partnership was soon dissolved by Mycroft stumping Mr Whitfeld off Hearne, who, with Rylott, led off the bowling. Mr D Q Steel then came forward, and the hitting at both wickets was so lively and severe that the 100 went up quickly afterwards. Mr Lyttelton's innings of 46 was composed largely of big figures, nor was that of Mr Steel deficient in this particular. Chiefly to these celebrated batsmen the score of yesterday must be attributed, as five wickets fell for 20 runs. Total, 173.

Marylebone required 227 to win, but they were all disposed of for little more than half this number, and before 5 o'clock the match was declared in favour of Cambridge by 111 runs . . . Umpires, Price and Sherwin.

24 June: SUSSEX v GLOUCESTERSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2198.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 25 June, page 10)

A large company was attracted to the county ground at Hove yesterday to witness this, the most important match in the Sussex programme, although it was apparent to all that Gloucestershire were by far too strong to admit of much chance of sending them away, as at the Oval on Saturday, beaten. On the occasion in question Sussex was fortunate in the toss, and elected to bat. To the eye of the spectator no ground could be in much better condition.

Play began at 12.30 with Mr Ellis and Phillips at the wickets, opposed to Mr W G Grace and Midwinter. Runs came fast up to 28, when Mr Ellis was caught at point. Mr Francis then joined Phillips, and the scoring continued, chiefly by Phillips. The first change of bowling occurred at 48 – viz., Mr Miles for Mr Grace. His bowling, almost invariably to the off side, proved a kind of net into which several of the Sussex batsmen were ensnared. Mr Francis was caught in the slips. Two wickets, 49.

At 54 Woof, a left-handed medium, supplanted Midwinter. At luncheon the score stood at 61. On renewal of play Mr Gilbert took up the bowling at Woof's wicket, and several batsmen on whom Sussex relied did little more than walk in and out. Phillips was supposed to be able to play the tempting balls of Mr Gilbert, but he was at length overcome. The third wicket fell for 72 . . eighth, 83. A splendid left-hand catch at point brought the innings to a close for 93 at 10 minutes past 4 o'clock . . .

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 26 June, page 5)

Few persons entertained an idea that Sussex had any chance of winning this match, considering the team of which their opponents were composed. It was merely an array of strength against weakness. Sussex started well both with the bat and ball, for they scored 61 runs for two wickets, and they disposed of Mr W G Grace without a run. But these were some of the unexpected incidents of the match.

At the close on Monday's play Sussex had completed an innings for 93 runs, and Gloucestershire lost six wickets for 175. Mr E M Grace added 40 runs yesterday to his over-night score, and although the ninth and tenth wickets contributed nothing, the total reached 231. It soon became evident that all hope for Sussex had vanished. Five wickets recorded only nine runs. Tester and Humphreys made a fair stand and put together 40. The tenth wicket, however, could not get beyond 71. Thus Gloucestershire became winners of the match by an innings and 67 runs.

24 June: YORKSHIRE v NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2199.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 25 June, page 10)

The whole of yesterday was occupied by Yorkshire, at Brammall-lane, in getting 315 runs for seven wickets . . .

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 26 June, page 5)

The second day's play in this match at Brammall-lane, Sheffield, revealed the fact that long scores are yet attainable, notwithstanding the shortcomings of the season hereto. Bates on the Yorkshire side and Selby, on that of Notts, testify to this. From the score annexed it will be seen that Yorkshire has completed an innings for 419 runs, and Notts lost eight wickets for 195.

Day 3 (report from Thursday 27 June, page 10)

It rarely happens that so great a cricket county as Notts has to be placed on the defeated list to the extent of an entire innings and 97 runs. It is also singular that Notts, who had to follow on, produced so feeble a score in their second innings. The Yorkshire bowler Bates was in rare form, and the wickets fell to his assailings for a mere nothing.

24 June: DERBYSHIRE v LANCASHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2196.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 25 June, page 10)

The return match between these two well-known cricketing counties was commenced on the County-ground at Derby yesterday, a very fair sprinkling of spectators being present. As on the preceding days, the weather was delightfully fine . . .

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 26 June, page 5)

The match was continued at Derby yesterday in even more brilliant weather than on the preceding day. The number of spectators present was very large, and above the average amount of interest seemed to be centred in the match, owing, no doubt, to the result of the overnight's play.

When the game ended on Monday evening three wickets (Derbyshire) had fallen for a total of 165, while Lancashire had only scored 112 in their first innings. The Derbyshire innings closed at 1.45 for a total of 250 runs. At 20 minutes to 5 the last wicket of Lancashire fell with the score at 105. Derbyshire thus won the match in one innings, with 33 runs to spare.

THE AUSTRALIAN CRICKETERS (not first-class)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 25 June, page 10)

A match between the Australian Eleven and Twenty-two of the Birmingham Pickwick and District Clubs was commenced at Bournbrook's Grounds, Birmingham, yesterday, under a boiling sun, in the presence of a vast concourse of spectators. The Australians winning the toss took the wickets, which were in admirable condition.

The batting was opened at half-past 12 by the Brothers A and C Bannerman, to whom the Birmingham team opposed two of their best bowlers - Barratt and Tallboys. The Australians at first played very cautiously, simply blocking or returning the balls until they had mastered the style of their opponents' bowling. This was especially the case with the fast balls of Tallboys, which were apparently not to the taste of A Bannerman. His brother was for a time more successful with Barratt's medium balls, which he got over the boundary four times, scoring three threes and a five in rapid succession, but he was caught out at 17.

Horan replaced C Bannerman, but added only three to the score, which then stood at 27. Gregory, the captain, who came next, scored only seven before his wicket fell, and Garrett retired without scoring in favour of Spofforth, who began vigorously and made some magnificent hits, but achieved only a third place in the Australian score with a total of 16. At the close of the innings the Australian score stood at 105, towards which A Bannerman (not out) had contributed 31. When play was suspended for the day one wicket had fallen for two runs by the Birmingham team.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 26 June, page 5)

The conclusion of Monday's play had left the Australians with a score of 105 as the result of their first innings, and the Twenty-two of Birmingham had scored two for one wicket down. Play was resumed yesterday at 20 minutes past 12 under a sun even hotter and in the presence of a crowd still greater than on the first day. The Twenty-two retired with a total score of 123.

The Australians commenced their second innings in the same order as the first, the two Bannermans holding the wickets to the bowling of Barratt and Tallboys, with Jupp as wicket keeper. C Bannerman made some splendid drives, include five threes and two fours, but was stumped by Jupp for 31. Play was suspended shortly afterwards, when the score stood at 56.

Day 3 (report from Thursday 27 June, page 10)

The match between the Australian Eleven and the twenty-two of Birmingham was resumed at Bournbrook yesterday. The Australians, who had commenced their second innings on the previous day and had made a score of 56 for one wicket when stumps were drawn, now took their places at 20 minutes past 12, with A Bannerman and Horan batting to the bowling of Barratt and Ratliff, and Jupp behind the wickets.

Bannerman continued to play with great caution, but had only added two to his previous night's score, making 16, when he played a ball on to his wicket. He was replaced by Gregory, whose play was more lively. Horan was soon after caught out with a score of 13, making 66 for three wickets.

Garrett, who followed him, hit out with great vigour, his best stroke being one that sent the ball over the bowler's head into a pool in the next field, and added five to the score. He was finally caught at long off when the score stood at 87 for four wickets.

Spofforth then joined Gregory at the wickets, and soon brought the score up to 100. Gregory was run out after making 22, and Spofforth was bowled at 15. Murdoch and Bailey then took the bats, but before they could begin a heavy storm drove them from the field to luncheon, and when they returned the ground was so flooded that play had to be abandoned for the day. As the match was expressly for three days, the result is consequently a draw, the totals being as follows: - Australians - first innings, 105; second innings, 116, with four wickets to fall. Birmingham - first innings, 123. About 11,000 people paid for admission to the ground on each of the three days.

27 June: MARYLEBONE CLUB AND GROUND v OXFORD UNIVERSITY

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2200.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 28 June, page 10)

The return match to that played at Oxford ten or twelve days ago was commenced yesterday at Lord's. Judging from the result of a single day's play, the Dark Blues possess more cricketing strength than general report had awarded to them.

Play began at the ordinary Marylebone time. Oxford won the toss and sent in the brothers Webbe. A better pair of wickets could hardly be desired or furnished. Marylebone selected Hearne and Rylott for the early bowling, but finding how easily runs were obtained from both, Mr Francis went on in place of Rylott with the score at 29, and at 42 Mr Foord-Kelcey relieved Hearne. The change, however, availed not, and at 63 Rylott resumed. For a short time a check was given to the strong and frequent hits of these seemingly invincible batsmen. At 83 Hearne appeared for the second time, and at 96 Mr H R Webbe was disposed of by a catch at cover-point, low down.

Mr Heath then came forward, and the score travelled up to 124, when he fell to Rylott. Other changes of bowling were required before Mr Greene was bowled by Mr Bennett, who supplanted Rylott at 152. In about three hours Mr A J Webbe, the captain of the Oxford team, alone scored 100 runs. The fifth wicket fell for 211 and the eighth (Mr Webbe's) for 223. His chief hits were three fives, five fours and 16 threes. His total of 118 is the largest he has even made in a first-class match in the metropolis.

With the exception of Mr Knight no other batsman made any stand. The innings closed at 6 o'clock with a total of 276 runs. Five bowlers were engaged, but the most successful was Mr Foord-Kelcey, who obtained five wickets . . .

Marylebone commenced their innings in due course, and lost two wickets for 45 runs when stumps were drawn for the day.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 29 June, page 13)

It was arranged to begin the second day's play in this match at Lord's half an hour earlier than the usual time, so that, if possible, it might be finished by 7 o'clock. A glance at the score of Thursday evening reveals the fact that Oxford had completed an innings, and that Marylebone had lost two wickets for 45 runs - a circumstance strongly indicative of a draw.

Mr Tylecote and Mr Bennett, the not outs for 33 and 8 respectively, received the opening overs from Messrs Knight and Evans. Two wickets fell for an additional seven runs to the overnight total. At 83 Messrs Longman and Tylecote brought on the first change yesterday - viz., Mr Pearson in place of Mr Evans. As this movement failed in its purpose, Mr Marriott went on at the pavilion wicket and Mr Pearson crossed over. Even this did not answer, for the score rose rapidly to 122, at which stage of the game Mr Heath relieved Mr Pearson.

In the third over Mr Longman made a cut for six, the largest hit of the day. Mr Tylecote also played a free and successful innings, notwithstanding the varied changes of bowling brought against him. His

score of 77 was compounded of five fours, six threes, ten twos &c. Half the wickets were disposed of for 149 runs. At the fall of the ninth a "follow on" was apprehended, but Mr Francis and Rylott averted this by downright hard hitting, and brought up the total to within 61 runs of the opposition. Mr Knight took five wickets for 62 runs in 39 overs.

The great characteristic of the Oxford second innings was the long score effected by Mr Hirst. He was a little over two hours on his defence against bowling as severe as it was various. His hits were two fives, four fours and 15 threes. He went in first and came out seventh. At five minutes to 7 the last wicket fell for 248 and the match was declared drawn. Umpires, Nixon and Randon.

27 June: NORTH v SOUTH

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2201.html)

Final report (report from Monday 1 July, page 11)

This match, for the benefit of George Parr, the veteran Notts cricketer, was played at Nottingham on Thursday, Friday and Saturday, and resulted in favour of the South by ten wickets. The weather each day was brilliantly fine and the attendance was large. The fielding of the North was rather loose. Umpires, Southerton and Wootton.

1 July: OXFORD UNIVERSITY v CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2203.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 2 July, page 10)

It scarcely need to be said that of all the real cricket classed as amateur, the inter-University match stands pre-eminent, and deservedly so, not more for its standing of at least half a century than for the style of the style of play and the display of the "manly and noble game" when the contenders are pretty well balanced. But the results of this annual light and dark blue encounter are much oftener wide than close. There has never been a "tie," but the nearest approach thereto occurred in 1870, when Cambridge won by two runs, and five years later, when Oxford won by six runs. Last year the Light Blues were backed at odds at starting, but early on the second day the promised success of Cambridge was hopelessly gone.

Yesterday the Dark Blues came to Lord's with scarcely any other prospect than as sound a beating as that inflicted on them by their adversaries a year ago. The public generally entertained this view of the case, judging chiefly, though not, perhaps, correctly, by the recorded successes of the two parties: Cambridge, strong in talent, having played on a comparatively dry wicket; Oxford, essentially the weaker team, appearing on grounds absolutely unplayable either in a match or at practice; thus defying the skill of existing talent and going a long way to falsify the form of the new team.

In one respect Oxford seemed to be favoured yesterday, for they brought with them their "familiar weather" – not a ray of sunlight but an all-day promise of rain. The heavy downpour of Sunday had rendered the ground at Lord's soft and dead. Every preparation for a large company testified to the popularity of the match and the expected support of the public. Thousands of visitors dropped into their places before a ball was bowled, and as the day wore on the late comers had to put up with considerable inconvenience in the endeavour to obtain a glimpse of what was going on at or near the wickets.

Soon after 12 o'clock the Hon A Lyttelton and Mr Lucas were seen making their way from the pavilion, bats in hand. The Oxford bowlers at starting were Messrs Evans and Knight, who led off from the entrance wicket. Three runs resulted from the first over, accredited to Mr Lucas, but in the second subsequent over he was caught in the slip. This unexpected stroke of fortune produced some spirited cheering among the Dark Blue supporters from all parts of the ground.

Nor was the entry of the Hon E Lyttelton (captain) allowed to pass without special recognition. The brothers soon began to score but their partnership was severed when Mr A Lyttelton had obtained five only, and a total of 24 for two wickets. Mr Whitfeld appeared, and the score moved steadily upward till at a quarter to one the figures 40 were revealed from the telegraph. As both batsmen seemed to be getting set, Mr Marriott received the ball from Mr Knight. This change appeared for a while to favour the batting, for at 1.13 no less than 80 runs were booked.

Thus far the prospects of Cambridge were as bright as could well be anticipated. Then followed a singular check – viz., two additional runs and two wickets in successive balls. This process of swift destruction was followed up by Mr Evans upon the wicket of the next comer, Mr Jarvis. So

effective indeed was the bowling of Mr Evans that in six minutes he possessed himself of three wickets. Mr A G Steel joined Mr Lyttelton with the total at 84 and five men disposed of.

With the total at 90 Mr Knight resumed bowling, and when three runs were added Mr Evans captured Mr Lyttelton's wicket. From the vehemence of applause, this might be regarded as a triumph, but there should have been borne in mind a let-off by Mr Hirst when the retiring batsman had made but 24 out of his 53 total. It was reserved for the Hon Ivo Bligh and Mr Steel to post the first 100 of the match. They continued to hit freely up to luncheon time, when the score was 133.

On resuming nine runs were added, and Mr Bligh was caught at the wicket. Mr Morton played steadily, as six successive singles demonstrate. In the meanwhile Mr Steel was advancing the score by hitting hard in all directions. Mr Heath relieved Mr Knight, and in five balls the last two wickets fell to him - total, 168. Five bowlers were engaged, but the most successful were Mr Evans, who took five wickets . . .

Oxford began batting with the brothers Webbe to the bowling of Messrs A G Steel and Morton. During the first half-hour runs came freely until, at 39, Mr H R Webbe was caught at mid-on. Mr Heath came, and after another run scored Mr A J Webbe was caught in the slip. Mr Greene exhibited great care and patience. At 48, Mr Lucas relieved Mr Morton, and at 59 Mr Heath's wicket fell to Mr Steel. After this the four subsequent wickets contributed but 15 runs.

Mr Savory joined Mr Greene, and 22 overs were bowled for seven runs. Mr Savory contributed a needed 19 by two fours, two twos and seven singles. The last man also made two fours (drives) and three singles. Mr Greene went in second wicket down and brought out his bat. His score, the largest of his side, was composed of one four (leg), three threes (cuts and drive), six twos &c. The Oxford innings terminated at 6.45 for 127 runs. Mr A G Steel obtained eight wickets in 61 overs for 62 runs . . . Play will be resumed to-day at 12 o'clock.

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

Although very few were greatly surprised at the defeat of Oxford yesterday at Lord's, fewer still calculated upon its being so signal. A difference of 238 runs points conclusively either to the weakness of the Dark Blues at the present time or the unusual superiority of the team against whom they have had to contend. From the play of Monday the public saw pretty clearly which way the match would end, and the assembly yesterday in the early part of the day was much thinner in all parts of the ground than usual. Probably the weather, which had a threatening look about it, had something to do in holding the expected company back, but as the day wore on nearly all the engaged seats were occupied, and a thick ring of spectators, in many places six or seven deep, testified to the interest taken in the match, notwithstanding the apparent one-sidedness.

Play began within a few minutes of 12 o'clock. Cambridge proceeded to the wickets in nearly the same order as on the first day. The Hon A Lyttelton and Mr Lucas made so long and successful a stand against the attacks of Messrs Knight and Evans, who led off, that at 30 Mr Heath displaced the former, and at 47 Mr Kemp relieved Mr Heath. No effect was produced hereby; the score travelled with speed until it reached 64, when Mr A J

Webbe tried a few overs at Mr Kemp's wicket, and Mr Marriott shortly after superseded Mr Evans.

After the telegraph announced 80 and no wicket down, Mr Knight came forward again. But it mattered not who bowled, all got hit, and to such an extent that at 1h 25m the 100 was posted on the telegraph. Mr Evans tried a "cross-over," but as the nursery end failed to suit him he returned to his old wicket. At 119 Mr Lyttelton was caught off him in the slip. Among the hits of the retiring batsman were five fours, six threes and five twos. The Hon E Lyttelton then joined Mr Lucas and continued with him up to luncheon, when the total stood at 147.

On resumption of play a parting was soon effected. Mr Lyttelton was caught mid-on; shortly after Mr Lucas was cleverly taken at the wicket, and great was the joy expressed by the friends of Oxford on seeing so stubborn a defender got rid of. Mr Lucas gave but one chance while compiling the longest innings of the match. His chief hits were nine fours. Three wickets, 150. Messrs Whitfeld and A G Steel were not long together, for the bowling was now in the ascendant, and the fielding remarkable for its effectiveness. Five wickets were captured for 33 runs. The Hon Ivo Bligh and Morton afterwards got well set and brought up the score to 217, when the latter was clean bowled. Mr Ford, the last man, was caught at point, and Mr Bligh brought out his bat with the total at 229. Mr Evans obtained seven wickets . . .

Of the second Oxford innings no scope is offered for remark beyond the disasters which succeeded each other in quick succession. Two wickets fell for two runs . . eighth, ninth and tenth, 32. Mr Steel took five wickets . . and Mr Morton five wickets . . . The innings occupied less than an hour and a half, and Cambridge were declared winners of the match by 238 runs. Umpires, West and Wheeler.

1 July: YORKSHIRE v AUSTRALIANS

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2205.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 2 July, page 10)

Upwards of 14,000 persons were present yesterday on the Brammall-lane Ground, Sheffield, to witness this match. From the result of the day's play herewith given it will be seen that the Yorkshiremen nearly doubled the score of the Colonials.

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

Play in this match at Brammall-lane, Sheffield, was continued yesterday. At the close of an innings each the Colonials were a long way behind the Yorkshiremen, but at the close of the match they were beaten by nine wickets.

1 July: SUSSEX v KENT

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2204.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 2 July, page 10)

Little more than thirty years since, a match between these neighbouring counties was considered equal, if not superior, to any in the season's programme. Now Sussex is extremely weak, both in attack and defence, and Kent not strong. The "annual" has now, however, been allowed to die out, and, although the county ground at Brighton was not thronged yesterday, the old spirit manifested itself audibly whenever the play on either side evoked the records of the past.

Day 2 - no report found

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

Yesterday the above match, played on the County ground at Hove, was brought to a close in favour of Sussex by 47 runs. In some respects it resembled a Kent and Sussex contest of the last generation, when three-figure individual scores were but little known, and when scarcely any batsman with two completed innings left his wicket without some contribution to the total, although it might be small; when bowlers too - not numerous as now - were able to go through a match without being continually shifted.

On the present occasion, five bowlers performed the work attached by three days' play. Messrs A Penn and Cunliffe got six wickets each and Hearne seven. Sussex relied upon Lillywhite and Fillery; the former took 12 wickets and the latter seven. No very long scores were made on either side. Lord Harris obtained 56 runs for Kent in his double innings, the largest during the match; and J Phillips 43 for Sussex. Although the fielding laid itself open to adverse criticism, on the first day especially, there were only ten extras during the match out of an average of a trifle over 100 runs per innings.

The return match is announced to be played on the 18th inst. at Tunbridge Wells.

1 July: DERBYSHIRE v ALL ENGLAND ELEVEN

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2202.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 2 July, page 10)

In the presence of a goodly number of spectators, this match was commenced at Derby yesterday. Overnight a fall of rain had been experienced; this, together with an occasional shower yesterday, had not, however, materially affected the state of the wicket. The Eleven having won the toss, Oscroft, as captain, elected to bat. Operations were accordingly commenced at 12.20. The following is the score: . . [All England 190; Derbyshire 80/6.]

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

This match was continued at Derby yesterday. The weather was dull cold and threatening, and the number of spectators was considerably less than on the previous day. When play ceased on Monday evening Derbyshire had obtained 80 runs for the loss of six wickets, while their opponents had secured 190 in their first innings. At 12.5 play was resumed. The eleven won by seven wickets . . .

4 July: GENTLEMEN v PLAYERS

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2206.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 5 July, page 10)

For many years the great array of amateur against what is called "professional" talent was confined to Lord's Ground, but now the matches bearing this appellation which come off during the season are not unfrequent in various parts of the country. The nearest approach to the old institution is that at the Oval which usually precedes the "annual" at Lord's. If the habitué of the time-honoured match can forget the associations of Marylebone in days long gone by, he will be able, generally speaking, to extract quite as much delight from the cricket at one place as at the other. One thing is certain - viz., that Surrey patronizes the match quite as liberally as Middlesex.

The teams chosen yesterday were not considered by many to be the strongest; but opinions on this point wavered considerably. Any cricketer, however, looking at the list engaged for the match in question will be able to discover talent of the highest order. The Gentlemen, having won the toss, sent in Messrs W G Grace and Lucas to the bowling of Shaw and Morley. The first hit of importance was made by Mr Grace, who sent Shaw to the "on" for four. Three overs later Mr Lucas left with the total at 13. The two next in succession failed signally. Three wickets, 26.

Mr Hornby then joined Mr Grace, but the bowling was too good to make runs fast. Mr Hornby by a leg-hit scored four; this with two singles made up his contribution - clean bowled. The Hon E Lyttelton, unexceptionally a fast run-getter, was also clean bowled for a trifle. Mr G F Grace brought up the fifth wicket to 57. The only point deserving of notice in the subsequent part of the innings was the stumping of Mr Steel. Eight wickets, 74. Mr W G Grace, who went in first, came out last - caught at short leg. Shaw and Morley bowled throughout . . . Total, 76. Duration of innings, 1h 45m.

The Players started with Barlow and Midwinter, but neither was able to maintain his station at the wicket long, nor did Lockwood exhibit his usual form; in fact, the three contributed but ten runs. After this the batting became stubborn even against the admirable and varied bowling with which they had to contend. Selby and Shrewsbury proved very troublesome. The fifth wicket reached 77. Pooley joined Shrewsbury, and the score was taken up to 87, when the latter was caught at slip. No further remark is necessary, as the remainder got but 16. Tenth wicket, 122. Mr Steel obtained six wickets . . . The fielding throughout could scarcely be surpassed.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 6 July, page 13)

It was not to be expected that the feeble score attached to the name of the Gentlemen in their first innings would be copied in the second. The task of rubbing off an arrear of 46 runs was commenced on Thursday evening, but only 29 were obtained at the cost of one wicket (Mr Lucas) when stumps were drawn. Mr Hornby, the not out for 17, in conjunction with Mr W Grace, recommenced batting yesterday within a few minutes of the stipulated time.

Before a ball was bowled by either Shaw or Mycroft, a good company had assembled at the Oval, evidently anticipating some unusual effort in dealing with an uphill game. Great reliance was placed on Mr Hornby, but he added five runs only to his overnight score, when Pooley stumped him off Shaw. The next wicket contributed nothing. When Mr G F Grace joined his brother runs came somewhat slowly, considering the proclivities of the batsmen, but then it should be stated the bowling demanded an unusual amount of caution as well as defensive skill. With the total at 60 Morley relieved Mycroft, and nine runs later Shaw gave place to Ulyett. These changes seemed to favour the batsmen, for presently Mr W G Grace made a leg hit for four, and his brother a capital on-drive for five, both off Morley. This free style of hitting soon shot the score up to 100.

At 107 Mycroft resumed, and at the same total Midwinter relieved Ulyett. Despite even these further changes the telegraph was continually on the shift. At length Barlow was tried, and through him Mr W G Grace received his dismissal. Four wickets, 134. The next went for a cipher. Lord Harris then joined Mr G F Grace. A few singles were contributed, after which a ball from Morley sent one of the bails from Mr Grace's wicket a distance of 40 paces. Some very fine batting was displayed while Mr Tylecote and Lord Harris were partnered. The former left with the score at 171 for seven wickets. Mr Steel filled the vacancy, and before another parting could be effected the second 100 appeared on the telegraph. Lord Harris left at 201. The innings shortly after closed for 202. Shaw was the most successful bowler. He got six wickets . . .

The Players required 156 runs to win. Barlow and Jupp went in first, opposed to Messrs W G Grace and Steel. The first wicket fell for 16 runs and the third for 46. Shrewsbury and Jupp were the only players capable of making anything like a stand. The tenth fell for 101, thus leaving the Gentlemen winners by 55 runs. Umpires, Southerton and Humphrey.

8 July: GENTLEMEN v PLAYERS

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2207.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 9 July, page 11)

What some people are pleased to call the "great week" at Lord's opened yesterday with a contest between the amateur and professional strength of England, or, at least, what is to be so considered. A slight difference in the list published a week ago might be observed, but not so material a one as to alter the general opinion then entertained respecting the equality of talent composing the sides.

Last year the Gentlemen won by a wicket only, and a more exciting finish could scarcely have been witnessed. Seven of the winning side on that occasion were selected a short time since to play on the present. Among the professionals four changes also occur, certainly not for the worse. Considering the importance of this annual encounter, great care and watchfulness became necessary respecting the spot set apart for wickets, and in this particular the most scrupulous could find little, if anything, to complain of.

The idea indulged in by some that the Australian gathering a few miles distant would sensibly affect the numbers at Lord's was dispelled at a very early stage of the game, for the ground, perhaps, never presented a "goodlier array" of visitors of the cricket class generally - in fact, it would not be easy to make mention of any match since the institution of Gentlemen v Players in 1806 when so large a share of public patronage was more decidedly evinced by those who go to see the "manly and noble game" thoroughly developed irrespective of any other object.

The Gentlemen won the toss, and within a few minutes of 12 o'clock, Messrs W G Grace and Lucas took their stations at the wickets. Shaw and Emmett were selected by Daft for the early bowling. The scorers were soon busy, nor were the attendants upon the telegraph allowed to nod. Mr Lucas played with his usual patience and care, but his partner hit away with freedom and success, fours and threes being not uncommon. The first change of bowling occurred at 36 - viz., Ulyett in place of Emmett. At 42 Mr Lucas left. The Hon A Lyttelton came, and the score sheet received such a rapid contribution that at 80 Ulyett surrendered the ball to Morley, and a few overs later Barlow relieved Shaw. These changes availed not, as 100 runs were scored in about one hour and a half. Midwinter was tried and punished like the rest. At luncheon time the score stood at 134 for one wicket.

On resumption of play, Shaw went on again, and although the run-getting slackened in pace, only a few minutes elapsed before 150 appeared on the telegraph. A run later Mr W G Grace was well taken at slip. His chief hits were 10 fours, seven threes and six twos. The Hon E Lyttelton then joined his brother, and the batting at both wickets became free and productive; one hit to leg sent the ball to the roof of the tennis court. At 212 Ulyett relieved Shaw, and with his third ball clean bowled Mr A Lyttelton. After this the total shot rapidly up to 240, when another change occurred - namely, Midwinter for Morley. Half the wickets were lost for 256. At 5.20 the telegraph announced 300. Seven runs later Mr G F Grace was caught at long-on. Mr Appleby appeared as last man, and after scoring three runs brought out his bat. Duration of innings 4 hours 55 minutes. No less than six bowlers were engaged. Shaw proved very expensive . . . Total, 310.

The Players made a very bad beginning. Only 16 runs were recorded when Shrewsbury was caught at point; Barlow was bowled - off stump - at 29, Midwinter was caught and bowled at the same figure, and Daft was caught in the slips for a single . . .

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

The changes incident to cricket are not only very many, but at times very extraordinary, no matter how carefully a match may be constructed or how efficient each and all concerned in it may likewise be. The above can be cited as an instance; for when the first day's play ceased the Gentlemen had completed an innings for 310 runs, while four wickets of the Players were down for 39, and yet the total reached 231. Instead of the match being "all over in a few hours" on Tuesday, it promises to continue throughout this day and then be relegated to the drawn list.

How this expected change has been brought about may be easily shown. Lockwood and Ulyett, the not outs for 14 and 2 respectively, resumed batting within a few minutes of the stipulated time. The latter added but four runs to his overnight total, when a catch at cover point off Mr Appleby necessitated his retirement. Five wickets were now lost for 48 runs. Selby joined Lockwood, but the partnership was of short duration, Lockwood being caught at the wicket.

Then followed a series of surprises. Emmett and Selby within an hour changed the aspect of the match entirely. Both hit with great force, and so rapidly did the score travel that at 96 Mr W G Grace went on in place of Mr Appleby, and at 104 Mr Steel transferred the ball to Mr Strachan. The batsmen, instead of being checked in their running course, enlarged their respective scores in almost every over. With the total at 130 Mr Steel resumed, and Mr Appleby was again in charge of the ball at the Nursery wicket in place of Mr Grace. Fours and threes came so freely that Mr G F Grace tried a few overs, but the Yorkshiremen could not be got rid of even by him. At 2 o'clock (luncheon-time) the total amounted to 163.

On resumption of play, Mr Steel was observed at the lower wicket, and in his second over clean bowled Emmett, whom he had missed at point in the previous over. Total, 177. Thus 125 runs were scored between the fall of the sixth and seventh wickets. Emmett's chief hits were five fours, two threes and eight twos. The same spirited and successful style of scoring was kept up by Pooley, notwithstanding the continual changes of bowling. At five minutes past 3 o'clock 200 appeared on the telegraph amid demonstrations of applause as hearty as they were general. A "follow on" was not desired by any one who had the interest of the match at heart, and as every run diminished considerably the chance of such an event, the telegraph was watched with more than ordinary anxiety.

At 3.30 the "follow on" was averted, and almost immediately afterwards, Selby, who had played as fine an innings as any concerned in the match, was caught at short mid-on. Shaw received but two balls, the last of which he returned to the bowler. Morley appeared in his usual character of last man, but he was able to say what none of the rest could, "not out," Pooley being well caught in the slips and thereby bringing the innings to a close. Time, 3h 35m. Seven bowlers were engaged . . .

With 79 runs in hand, Messrs W G Grace and Lucas commenced the second innings shortly before 4 o'clock. Shaw started from the Pavilion wicket

and Morley contra; and in the third over Shaw clean bowled Mr Grace with the total at six. Mr Ridley appeared, and the hitting at both wickets soon produced a total of 50. Ulyett went on in place of Morley and Emmett relieved Shaw. At 134 Mr Ridley was caught at long field on. Lord Harris left at 153 and Mr A Lyttelton at 157. Mr E Lyttelton next joined Mr Lucas and assisted in bringing the total up to 181, when rain put a stop to the play.

Day 3 (report from Thursday 11 July, page 11)

A long time has elapsed since a match at Lord's produced 1,006 runs, yet this was the total announced at a quarter to 7 o'clock yesterday, after three days' play by the above-named. It is a match to be remembered for its many striking incidents. Nearly 12,000 persons were present during the three days, and the interest in the play was well sustained throughout. Although the Gentlemen are winners by 206 runs, there has never been a more efficient team of Players, who, though beaten, may justly claim an allowance for what is called ill-luck.

Mr Lucas and the Hon E Lyttelton, the not outs for 84 and 17 respectively on Tuesday evening, were at the wickets shortly after 12 o'clock yesterday. Morley and Shaw had charge of the early bowling. In the seventh over of the former Mr Lucas was clean bowled. Five wickets were down for 199 runs. In the splendid score of the retiring batsman were 11 fours and three threes. Mr G F Grace joined Mr Lyttelton, and the figures 220 soon appeared on the telegraph. At this stage Ulyett relieved Morley. The stay of Mr Grace was unexpectedly brief - caught at mid on for three. Since the last fall 31 runs had been put on.

At this rate of proceeding it was quite evident that the Players had no chance of winning the match. Mr Hornby came and the score travelled to 240, when Ulyett, who had been severely punished, gave way to Emmett; and in the second over Mr E Lyttelton was caught off him at point. His hits were 11 fours, one three, two twos and 15 singles. Mr Hornby retired soon after, clean bowled. Messrs Steel and Strachan played each a vigorous innings and brought on three changes of bowling. At 1h 45 the telegraph announced 300, which at luncheon was increased to 322. A few overs sufficed to bring the innings to a conclusion with the slight addition of four runs. Seven bowlers were engaged, but Shaw was by far the most successful, as he obtained six wickets . . .

The Players commenced their second innings at five minutes past 3 with Daft and Selby; 406 runs were required to win; but, as this was an almost impossible feat, their chief object was to make a "draw" of the match. Misfortune, however, attended them at the outset. Mr Appleby obtained three wickets in nine balls for eight runs. Midwinter joined Selby, and both batsmen assumed a defiant bearing. Mr Ridley went on in place of Mr Steel, and shortly after Mr W G Grace relieved Mr Appleby.

With the score at 63 Midwinter was caught at mid-off, and Emmett became the fifth partner of Selby. The score increased to 107, when Selby returned the ball to the bowler. He made the largest scores in the match, realizing 152 runs. The eighth wicket fell for 188 and the tenth for 199. Mr Grace obtained four wickets . . . Umpires, Nixon and West.

8 July: ORLEANS CLUB v AUSTRALIANS

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2208.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 9 July, page 11)

The Australians played yesterday at the Orleans Club, Twickenham, against an eleven of Mr C [I] Thornton's (Captain of the Orleans Eleven). The Colonists were fortunate in the toss, and deputed the Bannermans to make first essay at the wickets. Barratt and Mr Powys had charge of the early bowling.

A wicket was obtained at the cost of seven runs. Mr Horan joined A Bannerman, but the new-comer, after contributing three, was caught at the wicket, having been twice missed previously. Very little stand was made till after the fourth wicket fell. Mr Garrett assisted A Bannerman in raising the score to 61, when the former was stumped. Mr Murdoch came, and 30 runs were added, when Rylott clean bowled him. Mr Spofforth stayed in until the score reached 118, when Rylott caught him off his own ball.

A Bannerman had Mr Bailey for his eighth companion, and without doubt some of the best batting of the innings occurred meantime. Four changes of bowling were made before a separation could be effected - a fine catch at long-off. Eight wickets, 164. Seven more runs were added, and A Bannerman, who went in first, brought out his bat with the highest individual score as yet attained by any of the Australians in this country. He made 12 threes, nine twos and 17 singles. Barratt got five wickets . . .

Messrs Thornton and I D Walker started the Orleans Club batting. The first wicket fell for 14 runs . . . The fifth reached 48. Mr Fryer played a splendid innings for 61, and not out. At 6.20 the last wicket fell for 132 . . . The Australians played out time.

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

Play in this match at Twickenham was resumed yesterday at 12.20. The brothers Bannerman, not out for five each, were not long partnered. Mr Horan made a very firm stand against the attacks of Rylott and Barratt. His chief hits were 11 threes. Half the wickets were lost for 110 runs. At 4 o'clock the second innings closed for 172, or one run more than was acquired in the first.

Messrs Walker and Thornton led off the Orleans batting. Both proved very troublesome. Mr Thornton left with the score at 67. Mr Leigh brought it up to 90. Mr Fryer, in conjunction with Mr Walker, played out time. As the play was limited to two days, when stumps were drawn the match was declared drawn also.

11 July: NOTTINGHAMSHIRE v SURREY

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2210.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 12 July, page 10)

This annual match was commenced yesterday on the Trent-bridge ground, Nottingham. For two such counties the scoring was extremely feeble. Surrey went in first, with one man short, and completed an innings for 45 runs. on the other side five were disposed of for eight runs, and the tenth wicket fell for 86. A slight improvement attended Surrey in their second innings as far as it went – viz., three wickets, 39 runs.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 13 July, page 9)

As might have been expected from the first day's play in this match at Nottingham, it required but little time yesterday to bring it to a close. A slight glance at the subjoined scores will show that Surrey was beaten by ten wickets.

11 July: LANCASHIRE v YORKSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2209.html)

Final report (report from Saturday 13 July, page 9)

The match played during the past two days between these counties came to a conclusion yesterday, when Lancashire secured an easy victory by an innings and 26 runs. Mr A G Steel took 14 wickets in 79 overs and three balls for 112 runs.

15 July: KENT v SUSSEX

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2211.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 16 July, page 11)

Among the numerous fixtures for yesterday was this return match at Tunbridge Wells. So far as it has proceeded it differs in many respects from the first match played at Brighton about a month ago. In consequence of some slight misconception on the part of the public, the attendance fell short of expectation. This, no doubt, will be remedied to-day, if the weather continues fine.

On account of the lateness of the South-Eastern train, play did not begin till nearly three-quarters of an hour beyond the stipulated time. Sussex won the toss, and sent in Mr Anstruther and H Phillips to the bowling of Hearne and Mr A Penn. Runs came slowly. Mr Anstruther was beaten by a splendid ball from Hearne, and Mr Mare joined Phillips. The new-comer, after being missed from the first ball received, assisted in enlarging the score to 37, when Phillips was caught at short slip. A similar fate was recorded for Mr Whitfeld in the same over.

A fine running catch disposed of Mr Mare with the total at 44. Mr Bettesworth, a very hard hitter, sent the ball from square leg out of the ground and scored six runs, but in trying to repeat the act he hit short and was caught. Charlwood's score of 37 was not altogether devoid of chances. His chief hits were six threes and six twos. Seven wickets, 92. Thus far the contributions, for a county team, were much below the standard of expectation. Lillywhite, however, was in form, and played one of those sturdy innings with which his name is often associated. Fillery played "on" without a run, and Mr Goldsmith was caught at an early stage of his innings for three. When Mr Browne, the last man, joined Lillywhite the score increased rapidly till it reached 149, when Mr Browne was caught and Lillywhite brought out his bat. His chief hits were one four and nine threes. Mr Cunliffe obtained six wickets . . . The unusually large number of byes is mainly attributable to the state of the ground, which not only defied the most skilful fielding, but was positively dangerous.

Kent began their batting with Messrs Mackinnon and Absalom. During the first hour the runs came at the rate of one per minute. Messrs F and W Penn made tolerably even scores, and Lord Harris, with the highest figures of the day, was not out when stumps were drawn. Umpires, Luck and Payne.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 17 July, page 7)

The return match at Tunbridge-wells which terminated yesterday in favour of Kent by an innings and 36 runs atones fully for their recent defeat at Brighton. At the close of Monday's play Sussex had completed an innings for 149 runs, and six Kent wickets were down for 155. Lord Harris and Mr Jones, the not-outs, resumed batting yesterday at 11.45.

Both played sound cricket and carried the total up to 195, when Mr Jones was caught at wicket. Ingram, a professional of promise, then joined the Kent leader, but the partnership proved to be of short duration, as Lord Harris was caught at point when only three runs were added to the seventh fall. His score - the largest of the match - was compounded of eight threes, nine twos and 34 singles. Mr A Penn, who followed, failed to

withstand two overs. Ninth wicket, 201. Sometimes the last man gives an unexpected amount of trouble. It turned out so in the present instance. Mr Cunliffe and Ingram brought up the total to 243, when the latter was taken at point off Lillywhite, and with this event the innings came to a close. Five bowlers were engaged . . .

Sussex started their second innings with Lillywhite and H Phillips opposed to Mr Cunliffe and Hearne. The score travelled to 19, when the former hesitated in playing a ball from Hearne and lost his wicket. Before another wicket was captured Mr A Penn received the ball from Mr Cunliffe. A striking change resulted from Mr Penn's bowling, as in ten overs, eight of which were maiden, he took three wickets for one run, and at the close of the match the books accredited him with six wickets in 13 overs and three balls for three runs. It was lamentable to witness such a defence as Sussex made on this occasion . . .

15 July: LEICESTERSHIRE v AUSTRALIANS (not first-class)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 16 July, page 11)

This contest, looked forward to by the town of Leicester with especial interest, began yesterday on the new ground at half-past 12 o'clock. The county won the toss and went to the wickets forthwith. For a long time the batting was in the ascendant and 113 runs were recorded for the first wicket; the fifth reached 167. After this the colonials disposed of the remainder at a very trifling cost, as the innings closed for 193. Nearly 12,000 persons were present.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 17 July, page 7)

Nearly 16,000 persons were present yesterday to witness the continuance of the above match on the New Ground and Leicester. This increasing interest is doubtless in a great measure due to the successes already achieved by the local players, and to the probability of a still more satisfactory issue if time will permit of the match being played out.

Rylott's first nine overs were maidens, and took two wickets. Wheeler's splendid innings contained ten fours and two threes, without a chance . . .

Day 3 (report from Thursday 18 July, page 10)

A very great and unexpected change was produced yesterday in this match at Leicester from the first hour's play. When stumps were drawn on Tuesday evening each side had completed an innings, and four Leicestershire wickets of the second innings were down for 129 runs. Play was resumed yesterday within a few minutes of 12 o'clock. Parnham and Rodwell were first at the wickets, opposed to Spofforth and Garrett. The five last men added but 15 runs, and the innings concluded at 12.20 for 145 runs.

The Australians now wanted 209 runs to win, and they sent in Bannerman and Mr Murdoch. The batting on the part of Bannerman was of so defiant a character that all the bowling resources at command were tried without any effect on his wicket. His chief hits were one five, 23 fours, three threes &c. So rapidly were the runs produced that by 5 o'clock the match was won by the Australians, with eight wickets to spare.

(Potted scores, not first-class) Leicestershire 193 (Sankey 70, Wheeler 60, Panter 20, Collier 20*; F R Spofforth 5 wkts, T W Garrett 4 wkts) and 145 (Wheeler 65, Panter 32; F R Spofforth 4 wkts). Australians 130 (D W Gregory 23, J M Blackham 24*; Rylott 3 wkts, Parnham 3 wkts, Randon 3 wkts) and 210/2 (C Bannerman 133, W L Murdoch 24, T P Horan 40*).

15 July: YORKSHIRE v SURREY

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2213.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 16 July, page 11)

Very few persons were present yesterday to witness this match at Sheffield. The residents went in first and occupied the wickets nearly the whole day. Upwards of 300 runs were scored. Surrey have seldom figured so disastrously in a great match, for when stumps were drawn half their wickets were down at an average of less than three runs each from the bat.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 17 July, page 7)

This one-sided match at Sheffield terminated yesterday in favour of Yorkshire by an innings and 104 runs.

15 July: MIDDLESEX v NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2212.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 16 July, page 11)

The chief feature in this match at Lord's was the long score made by Mr Hadow against the bowling and fielding with which he had to contend. It will be seen by the score that he got more runs than all the rest of the Middlesex team . . .

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 17 July, page 7)

Play in this match at Lord's was resumed yesterday at a quarter-past 12 o'clock. Selby, the not-out for 25, had daft as his companion. Steel and Mr Hadow were the bowlers at starting. Runs came very freely. The first 100 for Notts was proclaimed at 12.30, and at 138 Daft was caught by the bowler, Mr Henderson, one of the early changes.

Selby left four runs later. His fine innings of 62 comprised two fives, two fours, four threes, five twos and a balance of singles. The tenth wicket fell shortly before 4 o'clock with 49 runs less than Middlesex. The same free style of hitting which characterized the first innings of Middlesex was continued up to the close of the second day's play.

Day 3 (report from Thursday 18 July, page 10)

In this match at Lord's, which terminated yesterday, a great deal of work was performed of a somewhat trying character, on account of the hot weather, to which cricketers are as yet hardly reasoned. The play of the third day began at five minutes past 12 o'clock. It should be stated that when stumps were drawn on Tuesday evening Middlesex had lost six wickets of their second innings for 173 runs.

Messrs Buckland and Salmon were confronted by Shaw and Morley. Only three runs were added to the overnight total when Mr Salmon was stumped. Mr Henderson then joined Mr Buckland. For a short time the hitting was very free and productive. On Mr Buckland's retirement the score stood at 196 for eight wickets. Runs came so rapidly that at 2.10 Morley surrendered the ball to Barnes, and from the third over of the change Mr Henderson was clean bowled. Nine wickets, 219. With an additional two runs the innings closed. Time 12.55. Four bowlers were engaged . . .

Twenty-five minutes elapsed before Notts began the hard task of obtaining 271 runs. Mr Tolley and Oscroft began. The bowlers were Steele and Mr Pearson. With the score at 67 came a parting, Mr Tolley being caught at wicket. Selby joined Oscroft, and these carried the score up to 113, notwithstanding three changes of attack. Selby left at this figure. Daft took his place, and the scoring travelled to 151, when Oscroft retired, caught at deep square leg.

The match had now resolved itself into a question of time. Five wickets were lost for 208. Scarcely an hour was left to get 63 runs. This they failed to accomplish, for when time was called 19 runs were wanting, and though there were two wickets supposed to be fully equal to the needed quantity, the match was left drawn. Umpires, Carpenter and Howitt.

18 July: MIDDLESEX v YORKSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2216.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 19 July, page 11)

For so good a match as this the attendance at Lord's yesterday was somewhat scant. Middlesex won the toss and sent in Messrs I D Walker and A J Webbe. When the Yorkshire team were in the field three well-known and efficient professionals were absent, whose places were filled by amateurs.

Bates delivered the first over from the pavilion wicket – a maiden. Ulyett's first over produced nine runs, and the first ball of the third over bowled Mr Webbe clean. Less success followed the two next comers. In short, four wickets fell for 16 runs. Then came a long and determined stand, necessitating the use of nearly all the bowling resources at command. Mr Pearson's contribution – the largest of the day – consisted of 11 fours (all round), four threes, four twos &c. The innings terminated soon after Mr Pearson was bowled. Time, 3h 40m. Of the six bowlers engaged only three proved successful . . .

Yorkshire started with Haggas and Ulyett, opposed to Mr Hadow and Steele. Disaster attended the outset; Haggas received but one ball, and Mr Dury, who succeeded him, was clean bowled by the next. Emmett came, and with him the fortune of Yorkshire gradually developed itself. Both hit with great power and freedom, and before they were parted the score advanced to 43. The next contributor of note was Freeman, who assisted in bringing up the fifth wicket to 79. Armitage then joined Emmett, and at 95 the latter was clean bowled. Within a few minutes of 6 o'clock the 100 was hoisted on the telegraph. Some fears were entertained of a follow-on, but Hill and Armitage averted this and the innings closed at 6.55. Play for the day then ceased. Five bowlers were engaged; Mr Pearson took half the wickets . . . Umpires, Thoms and Pinder.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 20 July, page 12)

If cricket is "work," the parties concerned in this match at Lord's yesterday had most assuredly a hard time of it. The weather was extremely hot, and from the commencement of the play to the time of drawing stumps there was little cessation from hitting and running. At the close of Thursday's play each party had completed an innings. Middlesex, with 53 runs in advance, deputed the brothers Webbe to lead off the second innings.

Caution characterized the outset. Runs came slowly until 18 were reached, when a freer style of hitting was adopted, evidently the result of more confidence. Several changes of bowling were resorted to before any impression could be made. With the total at 84 Mr H R Webbe's wicket fell to Hill. Next to appear was Mr Hadow, who, like his predecessor, kept the fielders in constant exercise. Mr A J Webbe, who, strange to say, scored precisely the same number as his brother, was also clean bowled. To the further credit of the two batsmen neither gave a chance.

The Hon E Lyttelton joined Mr Hadow after luncheon, and runs proceeded still at a rapid rate, especially on the part of the last comer. At 171 Mr Hadow was caught, nearly mid on. Mr Pearson fell short of expectation, but Mr Vernon added considerably in passing the 200. Another stern defender was forthcoming in Mr Salmon, who with others brought up the total to 346.

It will be seen from the score that Emmett took four wickets . . . Yorkshire proceeded to their second innings, and had scored 25 without loss of wicket when stumps were drawn.

Day 3 (report from Monday 22 July, page 11)

At the close of Friday's play three innings were completed and 25 runs added to the Yorkshire score. Mr Dury and Armitage, the not outs for 13 and 11 respectively, continued the batting on Saturday within a few minutes of the stipulated time. The running proceeded at a great speed, and at 87 Steele went on in place of Mr Stratford. The change soon produced the effect desired, Mr Dury being caught at point.

Between Ulyett and Mr Roper tens cropped up so fast that the telegraph plates were continually on the shift and the bowlers also. To part this stubborn pair required a great length of time, for the total reached 194 before Mr Pearson relieved Steele, and from his first ball Ulyett was caught at long-on from a splendid hit (in front of the pavilion). Emmett appeared after the fall of the third wicket, but did not stay very long. Hill then joined Mr Roper, and in the second over Mr Roper returned the ball to bowler. His principal hits were ten fours (nearly all drives), one three and seven twos. Half the wickets were now down for 215 runs.

Freeman went to the assistance of Hill, and with rather more than 20 runs added Mr Pearson transferred the ball to Steele. The running, however, continued, chiefly from Mr Stratford's balls. Mr Robertson relieved him at 255, and Freeman was caught at mid-off immediately after. Haggas assisted Hill in bringing up the score to 276, when a smart right hand catch, nearly mid-off, disposed of Hill. Seven wickets down. Bates gave hopes at starting that Yorkshire would be able to pull up runs sufficient to win the match. He, however, was too hasty and ran himself out.

Mr Carter joined Haggas, and at 5 o'clock the figures 300 were seen on the telegraph. Mr Carter was evidently too ill to proceed, and Mr Leatham appeared as last man. He made a very brief stay - caught at point, and the innings closed at a quarter past 5 o'clock for a total of 309. Six bowlers were engaged . . . During the three days' play 996 runs were scored, 542 of which were claimed by Marylebone [sic], who thus won the match by 90 runs.

18 July: KENT v HAMPSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2214.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 19 July, page 11)

Yesterday the second match in the programme of the week at Tunbridge-wells began with Kent at the wickets, opposed to Messrs Young and Powys. During the whole day the heat was excessive, so that places of shelter were highly prized. Kent kept in nearly all day and scored upwards for 400 runs. Hampshire had obtained 16 runs without loss of a wicket when stumps were drawn.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 20 July, page 12)

Some disappointment has attended the promised engagements of the Tunbridge-wells "week" by the wide results in the two matches played; so wide that in both instances they were concluded in the early part of the second day. That between Kent and Sussex ended in the defeat of the latter by an innings and 36 runs, while Hants fared still worse, for at the close of the match Kent were proclaimed victors by an innings and 181 runs.

18 July: LANCASHIRE v NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2215.html)

Final report (report from Saturday 20 July, page 12)

This match was commenced at the Old Trafford Ground, Manchester, on Thursday, and completed yesterday in favour of Lancashire by ten wickets. Notts, as may be seen from the score, was not represented by some of its prominent players.

22 July: CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY v AUSTRALIANS

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2217.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 23 July, page 10)

Among the thousands who visited Lord's ground yesterday might be found a very large portion who went solely to witness cricket in its loftiest attributes. Each party has done great things in their varied contests this season, and now, in the public mind, came the severest trial to both. Cambridge lost the services of Mr Lucas, a host in himself, and who usually leads the batting. On the present occasion the Hon A Lyttelton and Mr Whitfeld were selected to go in first. The Australians deputed Messrs Boyle and Allan to deliver the early overs.

The defenders soon showed themselves to be in earnest, and a run per minute was recorded during the first quarter of an hour. This rate increased up to 44, when Mr Whitfeld was bowled off his pads by Mr Spofforth, the first change. The Hon E Lyttelton appeared and soon put together 15, and then, much to the disappointment of the spectators generally, ran himself out. No cause for alarm, however, existed, as the two wickets down realized 63 runs. Mr A G Steel played so well up to his companion that at luncheon time 167 runs were totalled.

These rapid advances necessitated several bowling changes, but Mr Steel, who resisted all, ran himself out. Mr Lyttelton retired soon after his successful partner. His score of 72 was composed of one five, two fours, three threes &c. Messrs D Q Steel and Jarvis were not long partnered, but the score stood at 187 when Mr Steel returned the ball to the bowler. The Hon Ivo Bligh made a considerable stand and assisted in bringing the second 100 on the telegraph - caught in the slips with the total at 227. Mr Jarvis left at 243 clean bowled. Mr Morton was caught and point and Mr Pigg was bowled for a ;ole number. Mr Ford's not-out innings exhibited a great mastery in the art of batting. The innings closed at a quarter-past 4 for 285 runs. Six bowlers were engaged . . .

C Bannerman and Mr Murdoch commenced the Australian batting at 4h 40m. The start was promising, as 23 runs were made from Mr A G Steel and Morton in six overs. In the fourth over of the latter Bannerman was clean bowled, and Mr Horan's off stump fell from the next ball. Mr Gregory was caught at wicket with the total at 45. Mr Garrett assisted in bringing up the fourth wicket to 71 - clean bowled - and at 78 Mr Spofforth's wicket fell to Mr Steel without a run. Mr Murdoch played a splendid innings of 47. His score comprised six fours, two threes and four twos. The remaining portion of the innings, excepting the score of Mr Allan, calls for no remark. The seventh wicket fell for 88 . . the last 111. Only two bowlers were engaged - Mr Morton, seven wickets . . .

Although the University fielding was hardly up to the mark, they left their opponents with 174 runs in arrears. This necessitated a follow on.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 24 July, page 11)

Great disappointment was occasioned at Lord's yesterday by the rapid and unlooked-for termination of this match. When stumps were drawn on Monday evening each side had completed an innings, but with results so wide that the Australians had to follow on in conformity with Law 46. Scarcely

anybody entertained an idea that they were at least unequal to the arrears, judging from what has hitherto occurred.

A large company had assembled to witness the continued batting of Messrs Spofforth and Allan. The weather, though cloudy when play began, cleared up and was all that could be desired for the occasion. Mr Steel delivered the first ball of the morning to Mr Spofforth, from which a bye resulted. From the second ball of the next over Mr Morton, with a fast [delivery], captured Mr Spofforth's wicket. C Bannerman came, and from his own bat scored 16, when Mr Allan left - caught and bowled Mr Morton. Two wickets, 41 runs.

Mr Horan exhibited a very stern defence and the score advanced to 60, when Mr Bligh, fielding at mid off, threw Bannerman out. After this the collapse began. Mr Murdoch joined Mr Horan and was caught at cover point from the first ball. In the next over Mr Gregory's wicket fell to Mr Morton, and from the next ball Mr Bailey experienced the same fate. Thus four colonial wickets were taken in two consecutive overs.

Mr Garrett then joined Mr Horan and the score was carried to 77, when Mr Garrett's wicket fell to Mr Morton. Only two men were left to rub off the arrears, now 97. All hope of their so doing vanished, although at 1 o'clock the 100 appeared on the telegraph. Mr Blackham hit very hard and brought on the first change of bowler - viz., Mr Ford in place of Mr Morton. The end soon came. Mr Horan, who went in third, came out eighth, and in the next over Mr Blackham was easily caught at wicket, and the innings terminated for 102; consequently Cambridge won the match by an innings and 72 runs . . . Umpires, Price and Clayton.

22 July: SUSSEX v SURREY

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2220.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 23 July, page 10)

The early proceedings in this match at Brighton yesterday were not characterized by incidents at all unusual or noteworthy. Play began at 12.30 with Messrs Akroyd and J Shuter at the wickets, opposed to Messrs Smith and Lillywhite.

The leading batsmen were not long partners, Mr Akroyd being bowled with the score at 13, and Jupp took his place. Before three overs were completed, Sussex found an abundance of active employment, as the ball was despatched to all quarters of the field. At 47 Mr Smith transferred the ball to Fillery, and at 68 Mr J Shuter was caught, nearly mid off. Humphrey then joined Jupp. Soon after the 100 was posted a splendid running catch by Charlwood disposed of Jupp, and ten runs further on Hide, the second change bowler, pitched the ball up nearly to the crease, which completely beat the batsman.

Pooley would have been out early had not a strange kind of bewilderment seized the fielders in the immediate locality of the wickets. The score progressed at a rapid rate while Messrs Strachan and Shuter were at the wickets. At 5.30 the 200 went up, and just an hour later the innings closed for 274.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 24 July, page 11)

Whether out or at home misfortune seems to attend the representatives of Sussex. Very faint were the hopes entertained by its patrons that their once formidable county would come out of the above contest at Brighton in the character of victors. The result of Monday's play left them in a minority of 158 runs. They tried their best yesterday to escape a single innings defeat, but were unable so to do, and when the last wicket fell Surrey were pronounced winners by an innings and 49 runs.

22 July: KENT v DERBYSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2218.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 23 July, page 10)

Play in this match at the Mote Park, Maidstone, was commenced yesterday, and when stumps were drawn the score stood thus: . . [Kent 155 and 77/0; Derbyshire 79.]

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 24 July, page 11)

In this match at Mote-Park, Maidstone, Kent were declared winners yesterday by 125 runs. Perhaps the most singular feature in the two days' proceedings was the number of wickets lost through catches - viz., 13 on each side, six in the first innings of each and seven in the second. The chief scorer was Mr Absolom, who got together 70 runs by eight fours, three threes, four twos &c. On the other side Mr R P smith played a sound innings of 49.

22 July: NOTTINGHAMSHIRE v YORKSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2219.html)

Day 1 (scorecard but no report on Tuesday 23 July, page 10)

Day 2 – no report found

Day 3 (report from Thursday 25 July, page 11)

When these counties meet, the trial for mastery is, generally speaking, a severe one, as both have always a strong team at command. Singularly enough, in the first match of this season, played at Sheffield late in June, the Yorkshiremen won by an innings and 97 runs. The "return" at Nottingham during the present week went in the opposite direction, and Notts were declared winners by an innings and 64 runs.

25 June: SURREY v YORKSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2223.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 26 June, page 10)

Sunshine about the metropolis has again become scarce. Rain and gloom were the chief characteristics of yesterday's weather, and the gathering at the Oval to witness this return match was considerably thinner than in all probability it would have been with a more genial atmosphere. Play began about 3 o'clock, when Bates and Hall, on the part of Yorkshire, were at the wickets opposed to Mr Strachan and Barratt.

Owing to the somewhat heavy condition of the ground, runs came slowly. Before 20 were scored a wicket fell, and Lockwood went to the assistance of Hall. A long and successful stand was made against the varied bowling changes brought against them. Lockwood left with the score at 71, caught short slip. The four next wickets averaged less than seven runs each. Hill and Armitage took the score up to 124, when the former was caught at slip; and seven runs afterwards the latter was taken at long field off. No further loss was sustained at 7 o'clock, when stumps were drawn.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 27 July, page 10)

With more genial weather than that which attended the first day's play in this match at the Oval, greater progress was made yesterday. When stumps were drawn on Thursday only eight wickets were down and 154 runs scored. Haggas and Hunter, the not-outs for 20 and 9 respectively, with the assistance of Watmough, brought up the Yorkshire total to 170. Six bowlers were engaged, but Barratt took half the wickets in 65 overs and three balls for 85 runs.

Surrey led off admirably with Messrs J and L A Shuter. The first wicket fell for 71 runs, Mr J Shuter bowled, off stump. Jupp came, and the score travelled to 103. Mr L A Shuter left from a sharp catch at slip. Humphrey followed, and with him a great change in the aspect of the match. He saw the downfall of eight wickets, while he brought out his bat in triumph. Total 165. On this side there were also six bowlers . . .

The difference of only five runs at the conclusion of an innings each imparted an additional interest to the match, which will be continued this day.

Day 3 (report from Monday 29 July, page 6)

Although Surrey suffered a second defeat at the hands of their northern opponents in their return match at the Oval on Saturday, it was by far less severe than that experienced at Sheffield about a fortnight since. At the close of an innings each on Friday last the totals were so near as to justify an opinion that Surrey would recover the lost laurel. Before the day's play closed, however, Yorkshire had obtained 78 runs for two wickets, and this circumstance brought the visitors again into favour.

On Saturday play was resumed at 12.15. Lockwood and Haggas, the not-outs for 28 and 19 respectively, resumed batting in opposition to Barratt and Street. The start was ominous. Lockwood added a single and was caught at square leg. Armitage came - he also put on a single and retired. The

state of things soon received a check, for with half the wickets down 113 runs were registered. Towards the number Haggas contributed freely by hard hits. Hill and Emmett brought up the score to 147, when the latter was caught at cover point. Two runs later two wickets fell. Mr Riley was the only survivor who gave any trouble, for when Watmough retired scoreless he brought out his bat for 24. Time, 2.20 . . . Total number of runs, 177.

Surrey now required 183 to win. Mr L A and J Shuter went in first, opposed to Emmett and Bates. Before a runs was scored Mr J Shuter was clean bowled. A firm stand and a large number of runs were recorded when Humphrey and Mr L A Shuter were partnered. Several changes of bowling were resorted to. At 65 Humphrey was run out by a clever piece of fielding at short leg. Jupp's stay was neither long nor profitable - caught at point. Pooley joined Mr Shuter, and the score travelled to 99, when three wickets fell in rapid succession - viz., Pooley caught short slip, Mr Strachan bowled first ball and Mr Shuter in the following over.

Barratt stayed long enough to see the 100 posted. Mr Bray played "on" at 101 and Southerton bowled at 103. Four runs later Johnson's wicket fell, and Yorkshire were declared winners by 75 runs. Six bowlers were engaged, but only three with success. Bates obtained five wickets . . . Time, 6 o'clock. Umpires, Pinder and Wild.

25 July: HAMPSHIRE v DERBYSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2221.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 26 July, page 10)

Play in this match at Southampton began yesterday at a few minutes past 12 o'clock. Hampshire started the batting and made a very poor fight of it, as they were all out in less than two hours for 65 runs. The weather was cloudy, without rain.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 27 July, page 10)

At almost every step in the progress of this match at Southampton a great disparity in the strength of the teams declared itself. Half the Nants wickets in the first innings fell at an average of little more than three runs to each, while on the other side it reached nearly five-and-twenty. The bowling, too, was equally wide; thus in the double innings of Hants, Mycroft obtained 10 wickets in 54 overs and a ball for 82 runs, against four wickets of Mr Hargreaves in 23 overs for 55 runs. Nor was the difference in the fielding scarcely less apparent. It will be seen from the full score attached that Derby won by an innings and 63 runs.

25 July: LANCASHIRE v GLOUCESTERSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2222.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 26 July, page 10)

Manchester was favoured yesterday with pretty much the same kind of weather as that reported from other cricket centres, "Rainy and dark." Lancashire were unable to complete an innings.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 27 July, page 10)

It will be seen from the score that the weather at Manchester enabled the parties herein concerned to complete an innings each with a slight difference of 28 runs. There was also sufficient time to proceed with the Lancashire second innings, and with so much profit that doubts exist as to bringing the match to a definite issue.

Day 3 (report from Monday 29 July, page 6)

Notwithstanding the vigour which accompanied the play of Saturday in this match at Old Trafford, time did not admit of a satisfactory issue, and it was left drawn. It rarely happens that eight bowlers are needed by Gloucestershire in the prosecution of a single innings. Messrs Bush, Cranston and Robinson only were left untried. Mr E M Grace obtained four wickets . . . Total, 262, of which Mr Hornby claimed 100.

Gloucestershire required 236 to win, and when time arrived for drawing stumps five wickets were lost for 125, and the match, as before stated, was left drawn.

29 July: KENT v SURREY

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2224.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 30 July, page 11)

A goodly company attended this match yesterday at the Mote Park, Maidstone. Kent were at the wickets until a quarter-past 6 o'clock and totalled 333 runs, of which Mr Frank Penn claimed nearly half. Among his hits were 20 fours (various) and eight threes.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 31 July, page 12)

Nearly 700 runs were scored in three completed innings, and yet a victory of ten wickets ensued. The long score made by Kent in their first innings gave them an advance that required a double effort on the part of Surrey to overtake.

The weather yesterday was showery in many parts of Mid-Kent, and the Mote-Park, Maidstone, did not altogether escape. Despite this the gathering was quite up to the standard of expectation. Hearne obtained nine wickets in the double innings of Surrey and Mr A Penn six . . . The most successful on the other side were Street four wickets . . .

29 July: YORKSHIRE v GLOUCESTERSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2225.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 30 July, page 11)

Considering the importance of this match and the grand array of talent concentrate on the Bramhall-lane ground yesterday, a large concourse of spectators was reckoned upon, although the weather was cloudy and threatening. Yorkshire had the choice of innings, and without delay they commenced batting with Hall and Ulyett.

Both scored very freely, notwithstanding the wily character of the bowling with which they had to contend. The Yorkshire innings occupied the greater part of the day, although the total was not extravagantly large. Mr Miles obtained four wickets . . . Gloucestershire had lost four good wickets for 59 runs when play for the day ceased.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 31 July, page 12)

Judging from the condition of this match at the close of yesterday's play, there is promise of a busy third day, if Gloucestershire is to win. Probability, however, points to a draw.

Day 3 (report from Thursday 1 August, page 8)

Nearly 800 runs were scored in this three-day match at Sheffield, and of this number Yorkshire made 244 more than their opponents. But for Mr W G Grace, the Gloucestershire scoring would have assumed very puny proportions for a first-class cricket county. Their bowling must have gone off sadly to allow of such tall figures as may be seen at a glance at the full score given below. The attendance to witness this defeat was very large.

1 August: NOTTINGHAMSHIRE v GLOUCESTERSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2226.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 2 August, page 11)

Glorious weather accompanied the play of this match yesterday at the Trent Bridge Ground. Gloucestershire won the toss and went to the wickets forthwith. Messrs W G Grace and Gilbert received the early overs from Shaw and Morley. Soon after the score had reached 70, the ball was transferred from Morley to Barnes. Mr Moberly played an excellent innings, and Mr Smith, the top scorer, gave a great deal of trouble to the fieldsmen.

The innings terminated for 168. Notts lost two wickets at the call of time for 74 runs.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 3 August, page 5)

The principal part of yesterday in this match at the Old Trent-bridge Ground was occupied by the Nottinghamshire batting. At the close of Thursday's play Gloucestershire had completed an innings for 165 runs, and Notts lost two wickets for 74. Shrewsbury and Daft (the not outs of the previous evening) resumed their resistance to the attacks of Messrs Miles and W G Grace at 12.5 yesterday.

The stay of these batsmen proved brief, as both of them left with the total at 89 - Daft clean bowled and Shrewsbury caught at point. Four wickets down. Selby and Wild conducted the score to 108, when the former was clean bowled, and at 1.25 Wild whose innings was rather a lucky affair, played into the hands of square leg. The partnership of Flowers and Barnes proved very productive. The bowling underwent nearly all the changes that Gloucestershire could devise; yet for some considerable time this sturdy pair defied all attacks until the "200" was passed, when Flowers succumbed to the bowling. Among his hits were three fours and five twos.

Barnes then trod closely on the heels of his companion, and at the fall of the tenth wicket remained unconquered - total 258. With 93 runs to the bad Gloucestershire went in a second time, and when stumps were drawn had lost two wickets for 74 runs. Play will be resumed this day.

Day 3 (report from Monday 5 August, page 11)

Unfavourable weather and the hitting of Mr W G Grace prevented the above match at Nottingham being brought to a definite issue on Saturday last. At the close of an innings each Gloucestershire were 93 runs in arrears, and when stumps were drawn on Friday 74 of these were obtained at the cost of two wickets.

On Saturday the two not outs (Mr W G Grace 32 and Mr E M Grace 5) resumed batting and soon rubbed off the debt incurred on the first venture. In fact, Mr W G Grace remained at the wickets during the greater part of the day, his score of 116, obtained in the best style, being made up of four fours, ten threes, 12 twos and singles. The tenth Gloucestershire wicket fell for 253 runs. Five bowlers were engaged . . .

Notts now required 161 runs to win, and had obtained ten of them for the loss of a wicket when stumps were drawn and the match left unfinished.

5 August: THE CANTERBURY WEEK

KENT v ENGLAND

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2228.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 6 August, page 6)

The hold which the cricket carnival at Canterbury has on the public seems to strengthen with time. Probably never since the institution of "the week" has so large a number been present to witness the opening match, and rarely has the grand old city put on so gay an attire to welcome them. The ground, owing to the recent rains, was in capital order and a good wicket had been prepared.

The first game on the programme was between an eleven of England and thirteen of Kent. The latter county has shown such rare form this season when their full strength has been put out that, with two additional men, they should be able to contend successfully with any team brought against them. It would be premature at present to hazard an opinion about the match under notice, but it seems highly probable that the county that has owned such cricketers as Alfred Mynn and Fuller Pilch will render a good account of themselves.

England won the toss, and at 12.20 Messrs W G Grace and A J Webbe took up their stations at the wicket. Mr A Penn and Hearne were the chosen bowlers, the former opening the attack from the lower wicket. Five runs were realized in the first over. Mr W G Grace cut Hearne for two, but did not seem to relish some of the young Kent professional's later deliveries. Twice Mr Webbe cut Mr Penn for four, but having made nine out of 15 the Oxonian fell to an easy catch at slip. This early success was, of course, greeted with considerable applause by the partisans of Kent.

Shrewsbury partnered Mr W G Grace, and after five unproductive overs had been delivered, started his account with a late cut for two. Scoring seemed by no means an easy matter, and maiden overs were certainly not the exception. Principally by boundary hits the figures advanced to 38, when Mr Grace narrowly escaped being captured by Mr Cunliffe at leg. This let off availed him very little, however, as in the second subsequent over Hearne cleverly secured him from a low and short return. Two wickets for 39.

Selby arrived to Shrewsbury, but by the uneasy manner which he played upon first coming in gave very little hopes of a lengthy stay. But he soon improved, and with Shrewsbury, who was performing in capital style, afforded the visitors to the ground a rare batting treat. Of the two bowlers Hearne was the more severely punished, and at 71 he gave way to Mr Cunliffe, a medium pace bowler. Another change was resorted to at 76, and although the run-getting received a check, the two Notts professionals continued to bat very finely. At 97 Mr Foord-Kelcey was deputed o relieved Mr Tufnell, and three singles in his first over caused the "100" to be signalled a few minutes before 2. When the adjournment for luncheon was made (2 o'clock) the score stood at 104 - Shrewsbury, not out, 39 and Selby 32.

After the customary interval, the early bowlers, Mr A Penn and Hearne, resumed. The first over proved fatal to Selby, causing the third wicket to fall at 107. Mr Ridley followed, but quickly lost the companionship of

Shrewsbury, whose excellent innings was brought to a close by an easy catch at slip. Four for 121. Midwinter's success in recent matches has not been great, nor did he show to much advantage on the present occasion. Having stayed while 21 runs were accumulated, he was bowled off his pad. Half the wickets were down and 142 runs registered when Mr G F Grace joined Mr Ridley. Runs now came briskly, and the mode of attack was several times altered. Mr Penn and Hearne changed ends at 164, and, as this had no effect, Messrs Cunliffe and Foord-Kelcey were commissioned to try later on. The separation was brought about in Mr Foord-Kelcey's second over, Mr Ridley being finely caught and bowled. Six for 179.

Flowers, the next to appear, started his account with a fine off drive for four from the fast bowler, and the cricket again promised to be of a lively character. The score having been raised to 189, however, Mr G F Grace was very neatly taken at slip. Seven for 189. With the addition of one only, Flowers had to beat a retreat, both batsmen going in one over from Mr Cunliffe. Wild and Shaw were together for a very short time, the former being disposed of at 190 by a sharp catch at slip, and the disposal of Morley brought the innings to a close at 4.40 for 192 runs.

After an interval of nearly half an hour Kent started batting with Messrs Absolom and Mackinnon to the bowling of Shaw and Morley. The hop county met with an early reverse, Mr Absolom having to retire when only three runs were obtained. Mr F Penn joined Mr Mackinnon, but at 13 a sharp catch at the wicket disposed of him. Thus far Kent had fared badly, but the association of Hearne and Mr Mackinnon altered the aspect of affairs. Steadily the score reached 41, when Morley was deposed by Mr W G Grace, and at 62 Shaw, who had sent down eight successive maidens, gave up the ball to Midwinter.

Six runs after the alteration, Hearne, in hitting round to leg, narrowly escaped being caught by the wicket-keeper. Recourse was again had to Shaw when 54 runs were totalled, but no separation had been effected when stumps were drawn.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 7 August, page 10)

The heavy rains which fell during Monday night caused rather anxious moments to those concerned in the management of "the week" at Canterbury. Fortunately, however, the storm passed over at daybreak, and as the time approached for the resumption of hostilities the weather was gloriously fine. But the downpour had had its effect on the wickets, which did not play nearly so true as on the previous day. There was again a large attendance, and the interest taken in the match was unabated.

Play was resumed at 11.35, when Mr Mackinnon and Hearne were opposed by Shaw and Morley. It soon became evident that the batsmen could do little against the bowlers. Twelve overs produced but a couple of runs. When six only had been added to the overnight total Hearne gave a difficult chance to slip, of which that fieldsman failed to avail himself. Mr Mackinnon, however, did not fare so well, as at 76 he played a ball to point, where it was secured. Three wickets down.

Lord Harris filled the vacancy thus caused, and both batsmen set themselves to play the bowling in the only manner with which it could be successfully dealt - viz., cautiously. By this means the score steadily advanced until at 12.40 the "100" was signalled. Numerous changes were resorted to. Mr W G Grace, Midwinter and Ridley all failed to make any impression on the

stubborn defenders. At 162 an opportunity of running Lord Harris out was let slip, and at luncheon the batsmen remained unvanquished.

The interval over, the spell was soon broken. Morley and Shaw had resumed bowling, and in the former's third over Hearne had to retire. In his admirable score were eight fours, a three and eleven twos. Four wickets, 199 runs. Mr Yardley came, but failed to make any very great impression on the score sheet through a good catch at wicket, although his well-known elegant style characterized his batting during his brief stay. Five for 205. Mr Bligh joined Lord Harris, and once more the batting triumphed. It was not, indeed, until 251 runs were recorded that the former was taken at point.

Lord Harris's turn now came, as at 263 he returned the ball. His brilliant innings was composed of nine fours, eight threes and ten twos. Mr Foord-Kelcey, who had taken Mr Bligh's place, did not long survive the downfall of his chief. Seven wickets down. The two remaining batsmen added 31 runs - Mr Cunliffe caught at point and Ingram at mid-on. Total, 294. Time, 4.40.

England were now 102 runs in arrear, which Messrs Webbe and Grace started to rub out. The former again proved unfortunate - caught at mid-on when six only had been made, while at 22 Mr W G Grace cut the ball to cover point, where it was secured. Selby and Shrewsbury conducted the total to 36, when the first named suffered a similar fate to that experienced by Mr Grace, while at 62 Shrewsbury was clean bowled. Mr Ridley and Midwinter played out time, and when stumps were drawn the total stood at 97.

Day 3 (report from Thursday 8 August, page 9)

There are many people who regard Wednesday as an off-day in "the week" at Canterbury. Consequently, the attendance at the St Lawrence ground was not so large as on Monday and Tuesday. The weather proved most enjoyable throughout, a refreshing breeze tempering the powerful effect of the sun. Owing to the early reserves of England in their second innings, much of the interest in the match had evaporated at the close of the second day's play, the affair being looked on as a foregone conclusion for the home county.

At 20 minutes to 12 Mr Ridley and Midwinter (not out with 34 and 19 respectively) faced the attacks of Messrs Cunliffe and F Penn. Scoring was apparently easy, although the wicket played indifferently. At 113 Mr F Penn crossed over and Hearne relieved Mr Cunliffe. Both bowlers acquitted themselves so admirably that extreme caution was necessary on the part of the batsmen. Twenty-two runs only were the product of 28 overs, and at 133 Midwinter was clean bowled; while, without alteration in the total, Mr Ridley retired - caught at point. Six wickets down.

Flowers and Mr G F Grace shared five overs, when the former fell to a catch at cover-point, and, with the addition of a single only, Wild, who had taken his place, was clean bowled. Eight for 143. Shaw aided Mr G F Grace in carrying the total up to 173. The former was then taken at mid-off and one run later Mr G F Grace lifted the ball to long field-off. Total, 174. Time, 1.25.

The hop county now had the easy task set them of obtaining 73 runs to win. This number was pretty easily scored. Messrs Mackinnon and Absolom started the batting, and some free hitting was soon indulged in. A change of bowling had to be resorted to before Mr Absolom was caught at wicket. Mr

Yardley came in, but a good catch at forward short-leg dismissed him at 51, and three runs later Mr Mackinnon was well caught at mid-off. Messrs Cunliffe and F Penn remained in company until England's score was tied, when the former fell a victim to the wicket-keeper. Mr Bligh next appeared, and made the winning hit at 4.10. It will be easily seen from the full score appended that Kent won by eight wickets.

5 August: SURREY v SUSSEX

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2229.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 6 August, page 6)

The "return" to a match played at Brighton on the 22nd and 23rd of July was commenced yesterday on Kennington-oval. In the first encounter Surrey gained an easy victory over their rivals by an innings and 44 runs. Sussex, however, sent a more representative team into the field yesterday than they did on that occasion, and so far as one can judge from the first day's play a much closer game may be anticipated.

The heavy rains which fell on Saturday and Sunday seemed to have had but little effect on the Oval, and Sussex, who won the toss, sent in Mr Anstruther and H Phillips to oppose Southerton and Barratt. Neither of these batsmen were able to show much resistance to the attack, as in the fourth over Phillips played into the hands of slip and in the fifth Mr Anstruther was bowled - off-stump. Two wickets, nine runs - certainly not a hopeful start.

Steady play characterized the partnership of Messrs Greenfield and Whitfeld. Twenty-seven overs produced but 18 runs. Mr Greenfield then substituted his leg for the bat and paid the penalty, while J Phillips, who succeeded him, scored a single off Barratt but succumbed to the first ball he received from Southerton. Four for 30. Charlwood joined Mr Whitfeld and immediately got to work. During his stay at the wicket the total was more than doubled, although the bowling was twice altered. At 55 Johnson relieved Barratt, and at 58 Southerton handed the ball to Mr Bray. The former change soon had the desired effect, Charlwood, who had given two chances, being driven on to his wicket.

Lillywhite hit away in the most vigorous manner, scoring five times as fast as his companion, until 103 runs were recorded, when he was easily taken at mid-on. Mr Bettsworth next came to the assistance of Mr Whitfeld. Despite the various tactics adopted by the attacking party the score travelled with nimble steps to 171, when Mr Bettsworth was caught at slip, and seven overs afterwards Mr Whitfeld ran himself out. The last-named gentleman played a careful innings, composed of three fours, three threes, nine twos and singles. Eight for 176. The two remaining batsmen added little, and at 5.15 the innings closed; total 185. Of the five bowlers engaged Barratt and Southerton proved by far the most successful. They each took four wickets . . .

Surrey went in at 5.35 and when stumps were drawn had lost two wickets for 57 runs. Umpires, Street and Payne.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 7 August, page 10)

There was a marked falling off in the attendance at Kennington Oval to witness the return match between the above counties. The weather again held fine. When stumps were drawn on Monday Sussex had completed an innings for 185 runs, and Surrey lost two wickets for 57 runs. Jupp and Mr Read (the not outs, with 24 and 10 respectively) faced the bowling of Lillywhite and Mr Smith.

The run-getting soon proceeded at a rapid rate, so much so that at 89 Mr Greenfield went on with lobs in place of Lillywhite, and at 94 Tester relieved Fillery. These changes put a decided check on the batsmen. Tester delivered nine overs for 5 runs, and then Mr Read played into the hands of short slip. Three for 120. Humphrey and Jupp quickly took the score to 159, when the former was compelled to retire - caught at slip. Mr L A Shuter joined Jupp, and both batsmen kept triumphantly on for some time. Jupp made two excellent drives for 5 each, but at length, when 198 runs were recorded, he was easily stumped.

Half the wickets were now down for 198 runs. The last half fell lamentably short of this number, as they averaged but 4 runs apiece. Total, 218. Time, 5 o'clock. With 33 runs to the bad, Sussex began their second venture, and when stumps were drawn had lost four wickets for 55 runs.

Day 3 (report from Thursday 8 August, page 9)

When play in the above match at Kennington Oval ceased on Tuesday there remained but very faint hopes of Sussex being able to gain a victory. These were by no means strengthened yesterday morning by Me Bettesworth (not out, 7) returning the ball to the bowler without having added a run to his overnight total.

In fact, Mr Anstruther was the only Sussex batsman able to cope with the bowling brought against him. So defiant was he that it was only for want of a companion that he had to retire, the innings closing at 1.40 for 93 runs. The three bowlers engaged all took wickets. Barratt claimed five . . .

Surrey now wanted 61 runs to win, and sent in Messrs J and L A Shuter to obtain them. The former soon set vigorously to work, cutting Mr Smith for four and driving him to the off for a like number. Nor was his brother idle. So well did these two play that several changes were resorted to, and it was not until 53 were recorded that Mr L A Shuter received his dismissal - clean-bowled. One down. Only eight runs were wanting when Mr Read joined Mr J Shuter. These were soon obtained, and Surrey left victors by nine wickets. Mr J Shuter's not-out contribution was composed of a seven, a six, two fives, three fours, two twos and singles.

5 August: DERBYSHIRE v YORKSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2227.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 6 August, page 6)

There was but little progress made in the above county match at Derby yesterday, and when stumps were drawn the score stood as follows: . . . [Derbyshire 106; Yorkshire 73/7.]

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 7 August, page 10)

So severe were the thunderstorms at Derby yesterday that it was decided to postpone play in this match until to-day (Wednesday), when, should weather permit, the game will be resumed half an hour earlier than usual.

Day 3 (report from Thursday 8 August, page 9)

At the end of Monday's play in the above match at Derby, the home county had completed an innings for 106 and Yorkshire lost seven wickets for 78 runs. Such a terrific thunderstorm visited the Midland Counties on Tuesday that not a ball was bowled. Yesterday, however, the weather proved more favourable and play was resumed.

Few people were prepared for so exciting a finish as that which took place, and fewer still expected to see Derbyshire gain a victory over such a county as Yorkshire. This they did, however, by seven runs.

7 August: KENT v MARYLEBONE CLUB AND GROUND

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2230.html)

Day 1 (report from Thursday 8 August, page 9)

Thirty-five minutes after the termination of the match against England a fresh wicket was selected and the second game commenced – Twelve of the Marylebone Club and Ground v Twelve of Kent. The latter were the first to occupy the wickets. Messrs Mackinnon and F Penn led off the batting, opposed by Mr W G Grace and Morley.

The start proved rather disheartening, as from the fourth ball delivered Mr Mackinnon was caught at wicket. Mr Absolom came, and should have been taken at slip when he had made nine only. Thus let off, the batsmen kept triumphant possession of the wickets until 44 was reached, when the last comer retired, clean bowled. Hearne and Mr F Penn again proved obstinate to the many attacks brought against them.

Shaw, Mr Powys and Ridley were all tried, but it was not until the score had been carried to 92 that the amateur was splendidly taken at slip, and at the same total Lord Harris was got rid of by a one-handed running catch at deep slip. Mr Yardley again failed to make anything of a score. Hearne and the Hon Ivo Bligh were now together, and the pair played out time, when the score stood at 107 for five wickets.

Day 2 (report from Friday 9 August, page 8)

There are few sights more delightful than the Ladies Day in Canterbury week. For miles round the Thursday is looked forward to with pleasurable anticipations, and great are the preparations for the interesting day. The only thing indispensable for the occasion is fine weather. No matter what the quality of the cricket may be, crowds are sure to flock to the St Lawrence Ground if the rain will only keep off and the sun shine.

Yesterday there was nothing left to be desired in this particular; and although many of the weather-wise foretold wet during some part of the day, their unwelcome prophecies remained unfulfilled. The sun shone brightly from the time the first ball was bowled until stumps were drawn. Certainly the horizon was fringed with heavy clouds, but these only had the effect of keeping us grateful for the fine weather we were enjoying.

Long before noon the cricket-loving part of the community had taken up their positions. Later on every variety of vehicle – from the four-in-hand to the dog-cart – brought its load of spectators. Soon the upper side of the ground became thronged, and while the afternoon was yet young there was a complete ring of spectators, in many places five and six deep. As the day was devoted to them the ladies took care to make the most of it and their numbers greatly exceeded those of the gentlemen. Almost numberless were the varieties of costume worn, and some of them, it must be confessed, had a most bewitching effect. The scene, in fact, was purely English. The quiet landscape, with its fields teeming with produce ready for the reaper's hand, contrasted pleasantly with the small field of a few acres in extent where the learning, wealth and beauty of the neighbourhood had assembled to witness a cricket match.

Altogether the day may be regarded as a complete success. Indeed, there was one especial cause for the enthusiasm of the spectators. Of course, the sympathies of a very large majority were Kentish, and here was Kent, their own county – the county which at one time could throw down the gauntlet and care not who picked it up – carrying all before it. Already 13 of their men had beaten the combined forces of England, and now at the close of Thursday's play they almost had within their grasp a victory over the greatest club in the world. No wonder, therefore, that they should have been unsparing in their admiration. Plenty of music had been provided, three bands being in attendance; but why that of the Royal Artillery should have been stationed in an out-of-the-way place behind the tents one can hardly understand. Altogether, however, the arrangements were admirable, and the executive are to be congratulated on the success which attended the 37th anniversary of the Ladies' Day.

At 20 minutes before noon the Hon Ivo Bligh and Hearne again took their stations at the wickets. Mr W G Grace and Shaw led off the bowling. Twenty runs came from the first 16 overs, the principal items in which were two cuts for four, each by Mr Bligh. At 130, Shaw handed the ball to Morley, in whose third over the symmetry of Mr Bligh's wicket was completely spoilt, two stumps being knocked clean out of the ground. Six wickets, 136 runs. Mr Foord-Kelcey came next on the list, and a single by this gentleman was the only hit in the four following overs. This modest contribution he soon afterwards supplemented with an on-drive to the boundary for four off Mr Grace. This bowler, in fact, came in for rather liberal treatment, and at 154 Mr Powys with his fiery-paced deliveries went on. Still no result.

Another bowler had to be tried, and Mr Cotterill relieved Morley. To show his relish of this change Mr Foord-Kelcey drove his first ball to the on for four, and in the second over Hearne cut the ball for a similar number. Finding that Mr Powys did not answer, Morley took his place at 169, and in his third over Hearne hit the ball well to long-leg, and in that which followed cut it, for both of which hits four were registered. It was quite evident, therefore, that this would not do, so at 180 Mr W G Grace resumed, and at 182 Shaw deposed Mr Cotterill. Nine maiden overs were now sent down in succession, and an hour and three-quarters were occupied in the compilation of 80 runs. Continued successes at length inspired over-confidence, and Mr Foord-Kelcey ventured too far to a ball of Mr Grace's, played it and was run out. Seven for 193. Mr Jones's stay proved brief – run out through bungling on the part of both batsmen. Mr Tufnell joined Lord Harris, and at luncheon the total stood at 210.

The second over after the interval Mr Tufnell was caught at slip, and Ingram was clean bowled before he had made a single. Mr A Penn joined Hearne and stayed 11 overs while three byes were made, when a catch in the slips disposed of him, and Hearne carried his bat out for a well-earned 60. Among his hits were five fours, three threes and nine twos. Total, 216. six bowlers were engaged, four of them with success. Mr W G Grace took four wickets . . .

At a quarter to 4 o'clock Messrs Anstruther and W G Grace faced the bowling of Mr A Penn and Hearne. The beginning proved rather disastrous – Mr Anstruther caught behind the bowler in the first over and Mr W G Grace's off stump prostrated in the second. Two wickets, three runs. Messrs Mitchell and Ridley remained together for five overs, during which the latter made a single, when he was easily taken at slip. Three for four runs. Mr Cotterill gave a very difficult chance to point from the first ball he received. The bowling continued of too good a nature to be trifled

with, and for some overs both batsmen played with extreme caution. Mr Mitchell then set to work and obtained three fours in two successive overs – by a cut, an on-drive and a leg-hit. Mr Cunliffe, however, could not make such headway and at 34 skied the ball to mid-on, where it was secured. Four down.

Mr Clarke came, and brought on Mr Foord-Kelcey at 45 in place of Hearne, whose ball Mr Mitchell played into the hands of long-slip. Mr Barnes did not appear at home with the attack, and at 61 was clean bowled. Captain Kingscote went to aid Mr Clarke. Each batsman made a four by an off-drive and a leg-hit in one over of Mr A Penn's. They remained in company until 79, when Captain Kingscote was driven on to his wicket. The remaining four batsmen fell at brief intervals for an average of little more than seven runs each – Mr Clarke caught at wicket, Messrs Powys and Webbe bowled off-stump and Shaw mid-stump – total, 109. Time, 5.50. Of the three bowlers, Messrs A Penn and Foord-Kelcey each claimed five wickets . . .

Being 107 runs in arrear, Marylebone, at a matter of course, followed on. So far as the second innings had proceeded, however, they were even less fortunate than in their first, as when stumps were drawn at 6.45 four wickets were down for 33 runs.

Day 3 (report from Saturday 10 August, page 5)

There was a general lull yesterday in the proceedings at the St Lawrence Ground, Canterbury. Although the weather was delightfully fine, there was a sad falling-off in the attendance, and the interest taken in the game was not so keen. Marylebone recommenced their batting; Messrs Mitchell and Anstruther were opposed by Mr A Penn and Hearne.

Both batsmen seemed quite at home with the bowling. The first hit of importance was a drive for four by Mr Anstruther, which was quickly followed up by three boundary hits of similar value. Thirty-one runs were the product of 18 overs. At 64, Hearne, who had been punished rather severely, relinquished the ball to Mr Foord-Kelcey. This proved a wise manoeuvre, as Mr Anstruther at once succumbed to the new bowler. Mr Clarke's hitting proved weak, and he was soon caught at mid-off. Half the wickets were now down for 75 runs.

Mr Barnes was far from being at home with either bowler, and at 85 he let a ball of Mr Foord-Kelcey's get into his wicket. Mr Webbe profited by the rather loose fielding. He at once gave a chance, which was unaccepted. Fourteen runs then accrued from six overs, and at 99 Hearne supplanted Mr Foord-Kelcey. It was left to the other bowler, however, to effect a separation, which he did by tempting Mr Mitchell to play into the hands of mid-off. Eight for 102. The four remaining wickets averaged eight runs apiece. Total, 116. Time, 1.35. Three bowlers were engaged, two with success. Mr Foord-Kelcey took six wickets . . . and Mr A Penn five wickets . . .

Kent now required 20 runs to win, a number which cost them little effort, From the full score attached it will be seen that Kent secured their second victory of the week by nine wickets. Umpires, Farrands and Willsher.

8 August: SURREY v MIDDLESEX

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2231.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 9 August, page 8)

There was a fairly large attendance yesterday at Kennington Oval, where a good wicket had been prepared for the return match between the Metropolitan counties. Surrey won the toss and went to the wickets forthwith.

The great feature of the innings was the productive partnership of Messrs Read and Lindsay, during which no less than 76 runs were put on. The former went in first wicket down with the total at eight, and did not leave until it had reached 158, when he was stumped. His hits included eight fours, four threes and 12 twos. The innings closed at 4.20 for 171. Five bowlers were tried by Middlesex. Mr Stratford took six wickets . . .

The hitting of the visitors was not very free. Although no less than six of them went into double figures, they did so to a very slight extent. The fourth, fifth and sixth wickets all fell at 57, and the tenth at 98. Southerton delivered 21 overs for five wickets . . . As it was now within a quarter of an hour of "Time," stumps were drawn for the day.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 10 August, page 5)

The whole of yesterday at Kennington Oval was occupied by the Surrey batting. When stumps were drawn on Thursday each side had completed an innings, there being a balance of 73 runs in favour of the home county. The fielding of Middlesex was hardly up to the usual standard. With one exception, the whole of the Surrey team scored.

Mr J Shuter hit away so vigorously that he alone obtained as many as the whole of the other side put together. His innings was composed of a six, three fives, eight fours &c. The tenth wicket fell for 267. Of the six bowlers engaged, Mr Stratford proved by far the most successful; he delivered 63 overs for six wickets and 113 runs. Play will be resumed to-day, when Middlesex have 341 runs to get to win, and an innings in which to obtain them.

Day 3 (report from Monday 12 August, page 11)

Rain fell so persistently in the metropolis during Saturday morning that play in the above return match did not commence until half-past 2 o'clock. Middlesex, who required 340 runs to avert defeat, began their second innings with Messrs I D Walker and U P Hill. Barratt and Southerton took charge of the bowling.

The commencement proved rather disappointing, as when eight runs only had been made a smart catch at wicket disposed of Mr Walker. Mr A J Webbe filled the vacancy. Runs came at a very tardy pace, as the deadness of the ground prevented the ball travelling very fast. The total reached 29 when the bowler found his way to Mr Hill's middle stump, and Mr H R Webbe joined his brother. The chief part of the hitting was done by Mr A J Webbe. The total had been nearly doubled before either batsman gave a chance, when Mr H R Webbe should have been caught at mid-on. He profited little, however,

from this indulgence, at Street, who relieved Barratt, clean bowled him in his first over. Three wickets, 61 runs.

Mr Pearson's stay proved brief, through an excellent running catch at long slip with the left hand. Mr Scott impressed the spectators favourably by a good drive for four, and with the total at 80 Barratt resumed. The bowling was now far too good to admit of liberties being taken with it. Twenty overs produced a single. No wicket, however, fell, and as the time that remained for the capture of the six outstanding wickets was getting short Barratt handed the ball to Mr Bray. The hitting then became a little freer, and at 95 Southerton displaced Mr Bray and Street crossed over.

Still no result, so at 106 the bowlers changed ends, and two runs later Street retired in favour of Barratt. This latter change soon had the desired effect, as at 110 a dextrous catch at wicket got rid of Mr A J Webbe. This gentleman had played a capital innings, composed of four fours, three threes, two twos and singles. Mr Buckland joined Mr Scott, and no further wicket had fallen when stumps were drawn and the game left unfinished.

8 August: LANCASHIRE v YORKSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2232.html)

Day 1 – no report found

Day 2 (report from Saturday 10 August, page 5)

But little progress was made in the above county match, commenced at Huddersfield on Thursday, and at the close of yesterday's play the score stood as follows: . . [Yorkshire 47 and 150/4; Lancashire 123.]

Day 3 (report from Monday 12 August, page 11)

Owing to the unfavourable weather on Saturday, the matches between Yorkshire and Lancashire, at Huddersfield, and Marylebone Club and Ground and Somersetshire, at Lord's, were abandoned.

12 August: GLOUCESTERSHIRE v NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2233.html)

Day 1 (scorecard but no report from Tuesday 13 August, page 8)

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 14 August, page 5)

But little progress was made in the above match at Clifton yesterday . . .

Day 3 (report from Thursday 15 August, page 12)

It was feared by many that the above match, at Clifton, would end in a draw. The batting on the first two days had not been of a prolific character; but it was expected that freer hitting would be shown yesterday. Such, however, did not prove the case.

Notts required 181 runs to win when they began their first innings; but the bowling, especially on the part of Mr W G Grace, was of too good an order to admit of much run-getting, and when the last Nottingham wicket fell they had not obtained half the requisite number. From the score appended it will be seen that Gloucestershire won by 109 runs.

12 August: SUSSEX v YORKSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2234.html)

Day 1 – no report found

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 14 August, page 5)

On Monday the "return" between the above counties was commenced at Brighton and continued yesterday, when the wickets played dead, and owing to heavy rain the game at 3.40 had to be postponed until to-day.

Day 3 (report from Thursday 15 August, page 12)

Although most people naturally expected the Yorkshiremen would win the above return match at Brighton, judging from Monday and Tuesday's play, few were prepared for the feeble stand Sussex made in their second venture. It rarely happens that a county eleven making such a puny score as 35 in their first innings does not show some more determined resistance in their second.

The second Yorkshire venture closed for a total of 191, and Sussex were left 251 runs to win. Five of their wickets fell for 15, seven for 16, eight and nine for 19 and ten for 24. When the innings closed at 4.40, Yorkshire were thus left victors by 226 runs.

15 August: ENGLAND v GLOUCESTERSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2235.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 16 August, page 9)

Last year a Gloucestershire Eleven were able to cope successfully with the nominally combined forces of England, although it must be confessed that the scoring all round was not of so free a character as the portentous title would have led one to anticipate. This season it has been thought well to repeat the encounter, and yesterday was appointed for the opening day at Kennington-oval.

The weather at times threatened to be unfavourable; but fortunately it contented itself with threats. The wicket, however, had been appreciably affected by the recent rains, and played much slower than could have been wished. Gloucestershire won the toss, and Messrs W G Grace and Gilbert at once proceeded to the wickets. Bates and Emmett bowled.

Mr Grace made a lucky cut for four – the sole item out of eight overs. Mr Gilbert then effected an off-drive for four. Beyond these two hits no headway could be made against the bowling – at least, to any extent. At 19 Mr Gilbert played into the hands of cover point. Midwinter showed his usual care until at 29 he was run out, while four runs later Mr Moberly returned the ball. Mr G F Grace joined his brother. Still runs came at such a tardy pace that an hour and a quarter was expended in the compilation of the first 50. There was now every hope of a long partnership on the part of the brothers Grace, but this was soon afterwards dispelled by Mr W G Grace being completely beaten by a ball of Emmett's. Four for 53.

Fifteen runs were added when Messrs G F and E M Grace were in company, when the latter fell an easy victim to the wicket-keeper. Mr Townsend aided Mr G F Grace in conducting the total to 98, when a capital catch at long-on dismissed the latter gentleman. The remaining four wickets averaged but five runs apiece. Total 118. Bates took 5 wickets . . .

With this moderate total to beat, England sent in Messrs Walker and Webbe to the attacks of Mr W G Grace and Midwinter. Runs came at a much brisker rate than had characterized the play during the early part of the day. Fifteen overs produced 35. This flourishing state of affairs was then rather summarily closed, Mr Walker being caught at long-on, and at 38 Mr Webbe retired, clean-bowled. The hitting of Lockwood did not realize expectation. Ulyett and Read were together for some little time, until at 72 the Yorkshireman was taken at long-on. Mr Read saw the dismissal of the five batsmen who followed . . .

Day 2 (report from Saturday 17 August, page 11)

There was but little headway made in the above match at the Oval yesterday. Rain had fallen heavily during the night and early morning, causing the wickets to play very dead. Towards noon, however, the prospect brightened, and at 25 minutes past 12 Mr Read and Barratt (the "not outs" with 38 and 6) were again on their defence. Messrs W G Grace and Gilbert took charge of the bowling.

Eleven runs resulted from seven overs, when Barratt returned the ball and brought the innings to a close; time, 12.40. All the bowlers engaged took wickets . . .

Gloucestershire, with 45 runs to their credit, occupied the wickets a second time. The game continued without interruption for 40 minutes, during which time 27 runs were scored at the cost of a wicket. Rain now necessitated the players seeking shelter. As the ground was still in a very wet condition at 5 o'clock, the executive decided to postpone further play until to-day despite the very marked disapprobation of a clamorous crowd.

Day 3 (report from Monday 19 August, page 11)

Owing to the slight progress made in this encounter on the second day (Friday) at Kennington Oval, it was feared by many that it would be left in an undecided state. But the rain had rendered the wicket so slow and treacherous that there could be very little hope of heavy run-getting, and on Saturday the bowlers had decidedly the best of the situation. At the close of Friday's play each side had completed an innings and Gloucestershire had lost a wicket in their second for 27 runs.

Play was resumed at 11.50. Messrs Moberly and W G Grace (the not-outs with 4 and 19) faced the bowling of Emmett and Bates. The batsmen showed considerable skill in parrying the attacks of their rivals, until at length Ulyett displaced Bates. It was left to Emmett, however, to effect a separation, which he did by causing Mr W G Grace to play the ball into the hands of long slip. Two wickets, 57 runs.

Mr G F Grace came, but soon lost the company of Mr Moberly — clean bowled. Mr E M Grace joined his brother. Ten runs were quickly put on. Here Bates, who had resumed at 57, retired in favour of Barratt, and Emmett crossed over. This tactic had a most telling effect. With 17 balls Emmett brought about the downfall of four wickets. In fact, except the admirable not-out contribution of Mr G F Grace, the rest of the innings was devoid of any noteworthy feature. Midwinter, who had been injured on the first day in fielding a ball, was absent. Emmett took eight wickets . . .

England now wanted 74 runs to win, and sent in Messrs A J Webbe and Walker. Messrs W G and G F Grace were intrusted with the bowling. Fourteen out of 17 runs were placed to the credit of Mr Walker when a catch at cover point dismissed him. Ulyett came, but left most of the hitting to his companion, and at 35 retired clean bowled, while in the following over Mr Webbe was cleverly caught at point. Three for 35.

Mr Read and Lockwood were now partnered and both played such good cricket that any doubts which might have existed as to the result were soon dispelled. They carried the total to 65, when Lockwood was caught at point. Shrewsbury came to the assistance of Mr Read, and at 4.25 the latter made the winning hit by a cut for 3. From the full score appended it will be seen that England won by six wickets. Umpires, Pullin and Southerton.

15 August: LANCASHIRE v AUSTRALIANS

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2236.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 16 August, page 9)

For some little time past the Australians have been lost in a labyrinth of matches against Eighteens and Twenty-twos. They have at last emerged from these encounters, and yesterday their Eleven took the field against an equal number of Lancashire at the Old Trafford Ground. The Australians were successful in the toss, but preferred to put their opponents on the defence, and Mr Hornby and Barlow were opposed by Messrs Boyle and Garrett.

The start was disheartening. Six wickets fell for 16 runs. Fortunately the latter part of the Lancashire team offered a sterner resistance. Watson and Mr Lancashire obtained 55 runs between them, or more than half of the entire score. The innings closed for 97 runs. Mr Spofforth took 9 wickets . . .

The Australians sent in the two Bannermans. One of these was unfortunate enough to be run out when he had made 15 only. Mr Horan joined C Bannerman, and the pair successfully defied the many changes in the bowling until stumps were drawn, and the total stood at 100. Play will be resumed this day.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 17 August, page 11)

Although rain fell during yesterday at Old Trafford, satisfactory progress was made in this match. The promise of a long score held out by the splendid start of the Australians was not fulfilled. Proceedings commenced at half-past 12, Barlow and M'Intyre bowling to the not-outs, C Bannerman (55) and Mr Horan (26).

Ten runs had been slowly accumulated when the first-named batsman was forced to retire. In his excellent contribution were seven fours, four threes and four twos. A series of disasters now set in. Mr Horan was caught at slip, bringing the third wicket down for 110; and the remaining seven added but 30, and thus by ten minutes to 2 they were all disposed of for 140 runs.

Owing to a heavy thunderstorm which visited the neighbourhood during the luncheon interval, the second innings of Lancashire was not commenced until 20 minutes past 3. Mr Hornby was dismissed when only ten runs were scored, and the association of Barlow and Mr Kershaw proved productive, and caused the aspect of the game to alter considerably. When play ceased for the day Lancashire had lost six wickets for 129 runs, and there seems every probability of a close contest.

Day 3 (report from Monday 19 August, page 11)

Lancashire showed considerable improvement in their second venture against the Australians at the Old Trafford Ground, Manchester. Bad weather, however, did not permit of the match being brought to a decisive issue. The Colonists were left 120 runs to win, and when rain stopped play at 4 o'clock they had obtained 47 of these without loss of a wicket.

19 August: GLOUCESTERSHIRE v SUSSEX

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2238.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 20 August, page 9)

For several years there has been an idea afloat of holding "a week" at Cheltenham. This season it has taken a practical shape, and two of the Gloucestershire county matches have been devoted to the purpose - viz., against Sussex on the first three days of the week and against Yorkshire on the last three. The spot selected for the occasion is the excellent cricket field which adjoins Cheltenham College. The weather yesterday was fine and the attendance for an opening day large. Both counties were fairly represented.

Gloucestershire won the toss, and at 12.40 Messrs Gilbert and W G Grace took up their stations at the wickets. Messrs Greenfield and A Smith took charge of the early bowling. Both batsmen adopted extremely cautious tactics. Seven runs only were the product of the first nine overs. Mr W G Grace then played easily into the hands of mid-on. Mr Moberly now came, and Mr Gilbert made the first hit of importance - to leg for four. Nor did his companion long remain idle, as a few overs afterwards he made two cuts, which yielded seven runs. This free style of hitting continued for a little time. Mr Greenfield's bowling seemed to be quite to the liking of the batsmen, until at length that gentleman induced Mr Moberly to lift the ball into the hands of cover-point. Two for 35.

Mr G F Grace joined Mr Gilbert. Both batsmen soon showed signs of making a steady resistance. At 57 Lillywhite relieved Mr A Smith. An hour was expended in the compilation of the first 60 runs. The score continued to travel at this steady pace, the only hits worthy of note for some time being to square-leg for four by Mr Gilbert and an off-drive by Mr G F Grace for the same number. As no wicket fell, Mr Greenfield gave up the ball to Hide at 68. Still no result; so after luncheon Mr Greenfield resumed, and his first ball Mr Gilbert drove to the off for four.

The scoring continued to be slow. Lillywhite bowled 17 maiden overs in succession. At 90 Hide again relieved Mr Greenfield. Four wickets now fell quickly. Mr G F Grace was very finely caught and bowled, Mr E M Grace bowled (middle stump), Mr Gilbert well caught at long-on, and Mr Fairbanks bowled (off-stump). Six for 102. Messrs Smith and Townsend were next in partnership, and, despite many changes in the attack, these gentlemen kept together until the score had reached 180, when Mr Townsend was bowled. The three remaining wickets added but 17 runs, and Mr Smith carried out his bat for a well-earned contribution, composed of two fours, six threes, six twos and singles - total, 197. Of the six wickets engaged, three were successful. Hide took seven wickets . . .

As there was now but little time left, stumps were drawn. Play will be resumed to-day at 11 o'clock.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 21 August, page 11)

There were rather serious indications of wet weather during the early morning at Cheltenham yesterday. As the time for recommencing hostilities approached, however, the clouds cleared away a little and the prospect brightened. Play began 25 minutes before noon. Sussex sent in W and G

Humphreys to commence the batting. Messrs W G Grace and Gilbert bowled throughout.

The ill-fortune which has attended Sussex during the present season did not desert them on this occasion. Both the Humphreys were dismissed before a run could be made – Walter caught at square leg from the second ball, while his brother played into the bowler's hands. J Phillips and Mr Greenfield were now in company, but not for long. The former effected a nice clean cut for two – the first hit of the innings – but immediately afterwards Mr Greenfield returned the ball in a very easy way. Three wickets for two runs was a most disastrous affair, and, in fact, seemed to exercise a disheartening influence on the rest of the team.

Charlwood joined Phillips, and for a time there was a little promise of some resistance being offered to the attack. Such promise, however, was not fulfilled, as when ten runs only had been added, J Phillips also returned the ball. Four for 12. Lillywhite stayed while four runs were put on, when he fell to a catch at cover point. Payne and Charlwood conducted the total to 23. The former then had to retire, clean bowled; and Charlwood, who had made a square-leg hit for four, returned the ball in a most easy manner. The end soon came. Tester was bowled at 28, and Hide and Mr Weighell both served in a similar manner a run later on. Duration of innings, one hour exactly. Mr W G Grace took six wickets . . .

Sussex, being 168 runs still in arrears, proceeded to the wickets a second time, after an interval of half an hour. The order of going in was this time varied. Mr Greenfield and Smith went in first. Messrs W G Grace and Gilbert again took charge of the bowling. The commencement was a slight improvement on the first venture, but still not of a nature to inspire confidence. Both wickets fell at 7, Smith being caught at wicket and Mr Greenfield clean bowled. Charlwood and Phillips now joined partnership and steadily altered the aspect of affairs. Fifty runs occupied 50 minutes in their attainment. No hits of any great magnitude were made, and at luncheon the total stood at 53.

The interval over, both batsmen kept triumphantly hitting until 93 runs were made, when a change of bowling was resorted to. Mr Gilbert handed the ball to Mr G F Grace, in whose second over a very sharp catch at wicket dismissed Charlwood. Among his hits were two threes, nine twos &c. Three for 97. Lillywhite led off with an on-drive for four, but was unfortunate enough to play the ball hard on to his wicket with the score at 108. The next three batsmen were rapidly got rid of – Mr Weighell caught at point, Tester bowled leg stump and G Humphreys caught and bowled with the right hand high up. Seven for 124.

W Humphrey joined Phillips, and both played so steadily for a few overs that it was still hoped the single innings defeat would be averted. All chance of this, however, was soon lost. At 138 W Humphreys was easily caught at mid-off and Hide returned the first ball he received. Nine down. The last wicket added four runs, when a good piece of stumping dismissed Payne and brought the innings to a close. Phillips had played a capital not out innings, composed of three fours, three threes, seven twos and 32 singles – total, 142. Time, 4.45. Mr Grace took seven wickets . . .

From the full score appended it will be seen that Gloucestershire were victors by an innings and 26 runs. Umpires – Messrs Pullen and C Payne.

Today (Wednesday) a match will be played under the title of United South of England v Eighteen of Cheltenham and district.

19 August: SURREY v KENT

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2239.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 20 August, page 9)

Among other indications of the rapid waning of the cricket season the number of important return matches which cluster around the appointments of the present and following week is not the least significant. Nor is this process confined to first-class matches alone, as nearly from every centre the "return" note is sounded. On the 29th ult., Surrey and Kent were confronted at Mote-park, Maidstone, and yesterday the same counties met at the Oval. Notwithstanding the slight change in the team which gave Kent the victory of ten wickets at Maidstone, it appeared formidable enough for Surrey in its present enfeebled condition, even if supported by a full share of that luck which is one of the characteristics of cricket.

The disappointments attending some recent matches at the Oval did not sensibly affect the gathering of yesterday. There was a fair sprinkling of visitors before a ball was delivered, and the inflow was steadily maintained throughout the day. Play began late, with Messrs Absolom and Mackinnon at the wickets, opposed to Southerton and Barratt as bowlers in chief.

The start boded ill for Kent. Mr Absolom received his dismissal at the hands of the wicket-keeper when a single only was recorded. Hearne came, but lost the company of Mr Mackinnon with the total at six. The steadiness of Hearne, combined with the skilled batting of Mr F Penn, brought about a favourable change, and the score travelled up to nearly 40, when Street went on at the lower wicket, from which Southerton had been bowling without effect. Runs came slowly up to 68, when Mr Penn was stumped. His contribution of 37 was the result of thoroughly sound cricket.

Lord Harris went in next, and came out last. He maintained his position at the wicket for two hours and a half, amid various changes of bowling. His chief hits were two fives - cut and on-drive - six fours and one three, 13 twos &c. The innings occupied five hours and a half, and resulted in a total of 211 runs. The eighth and ninth batsmen were both run out in the same over. Five bowlers were engaged, but the most successful were Barratt, who obtained five wickets . . .

The brothers Shuter proceeded first to the Surrey batting, and a wicket was forfeited without a run . . .

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 21 August, page 11)

Up to the present time no impediments have presented themselves to the steady prosecution of this match, and yet it has not made the headway it ought to have done. At the close on Monday's play Kent had completed an innings and Surrey lost one wicket. The slight indications of wet weather yesterday passed off, and although but little sunshine attended the progress of the game, rain absented itself altogether. From any elevated spot on the Oval the ground exhibited strong marks of the heavy strain upon the equalities of its surface and at times the wickets itself appeared to be hardly up to the ordinary standard of truth and excellence.

Soon after 12 o'clock Mr L A Shuter and Humphrey recommenced batting for Surrey. Not a run was then on the score-sheet; the loss of one wicket, however, could be readily discerned. Mr A Penn delivered the first over from the Pavilion wicket to Mr Shuter. At the fall of the second wicket 27 runs were recorded, of which Humphrey claimed 20. great expectations were formed of Mr Read, in consequence of his two recent not-out innings against Gloucestershire. Two hits, however, realizing seven runs, completed his contribution in the present instance.

Jupp proved invaluable. His slow, though liberal score of 52 saved the "follow on." Southerton was the only double-figure scorer that backed up Jupp. At 121 Southerton was badly missed at long on. This let-off was turned to account, for at 4.45, when the tenth wicket fell, the total amounted to 159 runs. Five bowlers were engaged. Mr A Penn, who went through the innings, obtained five wickets . . . The fielding of Kent laid itself open to much adverse criticism.

The Hon Ivo Bligh and Mr Absolom started the second innings of Kent, opposed to the slow bowling of Barratt and Southerton. Both were punished. From 12 overs 28 runs were produced. At this stage Mr Absolom was caught at point. Hearne next appeared, and nearly all the bowling resources of Surrey were brought into exercise without getting the wicket of either at the time prescribed for drawing stumps. As matters now stand there is a likelihood of the match occupying the whole of to-day, with the improbability of its being brought even then to a definite issue. Umpires, Fryer and Caffyn.

Day 3 (report from Thursday 22 August, page 9)

Notwithstanding the manoeuvres adopted by Kent to force this match at the Oval to a termination, they failed and disappointed, and Surrey came out of the contest undefeated. At the close of Tuesday's play Kent had entered upon a second innings and scored 99 runs for the loss of a wicket.

The Hon Ivo Bligh, one of the not-outs, was soon dismissed yesterday - caught in slip. The first hit of importance was by Mr F Penn - a sort of long-hop to leg - for six. When the score reached 125 Street went on at the lower wickets in place of Barratt, and shortly after Mr Read relieved Southerton with a few lobs. Johnson, too, was tried, but the hitting of Mr F Penn and Hearne prevailed. At 172 Southerton resumed, and the scene underwent a complete transformation. From six successive balls Mr Penn scored 22 runs.

Hearne left with the total at 197, and with his departure, to suit the supposed necessities of the match, a style altogether rustic was adopted by the remaining batsmen. Mr Foord-Kelcey made three fours in two overs. Mr Penn was then stumped, and four others were similarly treated in quick succession. This may be explained to some extent by a seeming resolve to play "with" cricket rather than play "at." At luncheon time the score stood at 217 for six wickets.

On resumption the village-green style was continued to the close of the innings, which reached 244 runs. Time, 3h 15m. Five bowlers were engaged, but two only with success. Thus Barratt obtained five wickets . . . Southerton also five wickets . . .

Surrey now required 296 to win - an impossible task considering the time at disposal. The brothers Shuter played carefully, but were parted at 19.

Jupp followed Mr L A Shuter. His usual care and patience served him and his county admirably on the occasion, for, noteworthy the first-class bowling, of Mr Foord-Kelcey especially, he resisted every attack, and at the call of time brought out his bat. Southerton followed suit, and the match, much to the gratification of the supporters of Surrey, was left drawn. Umpires, Caffyn and Fryer.

19 August: DERBYSHIRE v NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2237.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 20 August, page 9)

As far back as the 20th of June a match was played at Nottingham between the above counties, when Notts won by 122 runs. The "return" commenced yesterday at Derby. No very large scores were made on either side during the day. Oscroft stood forth most prominently with 30 and not out.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 21 August, page 11)

So far as this return match at Derby has proceeded, Notts appear to have the best of it. Many changes, however, may occur before the last necessary ball is bowled.

Day 3 (report from Thursday 22 August, page 9)

The second innings of Derbyshire finished yesterday at 20 minutes past 1 with a total considerably below what was anticipated, and Notts were left with the "set" of 63 runs. Mycroft obtained all the wickets that were lost - two clean bowled - but Selby maintained a defiant position and scored more than half the runs required for winning. Eventually Notts claimed the match by seven wickets.

19 August: YORKSHIRE v MIDDLESEX

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2240.html)

Final report (report from Wednesday 21 August, page 11)

On the 18th ult., Yorkshire appeared at Lord's to play Middlesex, and after a sharp contest of three days, during which 996 runs were scored, Max obtained a victory of 90. The team taken to Sheffield this week to play the "return" underwent a material change in its composition, nor was that of Yorkshire left unaltered, and although many thought it much improved by change, the early progress of the match scarcely warranted such an opinion, as some of their reliable bats exhibited less skill than usual in the art of defence, and albeit four managed to lift themselves into the region of double figures, the elevations failed to attract much observation. A great deal of surprise was certainly occasioned by the rapid fall of wickets from the fifth to the close of the innings, which culminated in 94 runs.

Middlesex led off with great vigour in the persons of Messrs A J Webbe and I D Walker. It mattered little who bowled, as few overs were barren of runs. The first six wickets realized 272 runs. The remainder presented a striking contrast, as they contributed only nine from their joint efforts.

For such a centre as Yorkshire the scoring from beginning to end was feebleness itself, and Middlesex won this return match by an innings and 94 runs.

22 August: GLOUCESTERSHIRE v YORKSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2241.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 23 August, page 11)

The largest number of spectators ever present at Cheltenham to see cricket assembled at the College Ground yesterday. Although the weather was dull and the sky overcast, there could not have been an attendance of less than 2,000 or 3,000 people during the afternoon. They were well rewarded by an excellent day's cricket. The match was the "return" against Yorkshire, and the fact that the Northern county had gained a signal victory in the first encounter at Sheffield gave additional interest to the game. Gloucestershire were deprived of the services of Midwinter, while Pinder is still unable to play for Yorkshire.

The visitors won the toss, and at a quarter-past 12 o'clock sent in Lockwood and Ulyett. The early bowling was intrusted to Messrs Miles and W G Grace. Ulyett soon got to work. Nine runs were accredited to him out of the first ten, when he hit the ball hard to long field-on, where Mr Moberly ran and secured it. Hall joined Lockwood, and the latter made two nice clear cuts for four from successive balls. The score was steadily advanced to 47, when Lockwood was unlucky enough to be disposed of by an exceedingly fine catch at long-on. Two wickets, 47 runs. Mr Roper came to the assistance of Hall. Runs were obtained at a very tardy rate; and at 47 Mr Roper was easily taken at wicket. Emmett came next, but was well caught at cover point before he had scored, while Bates and Haggas offered a feeble resistance to the attack, both of them returning the ball to Mr W G Grace. Six for 68.

After the luncheon interval Mr Carter and Hall played a few lively overs. The former gentleman made 15 runs in four hits. But he also was tempted to return the ball to the Gloucestershire captain. Seven for 84. This was certainly not a very hopeful outlook for Yorkshire. The aspect of affairs was soon altered, however, when Hill came to the assistance of Hall. The 100 was signalled at 3.30. The batting continued to prosper until at 136 a two-fold change was resorted to, and Messrs Townsend and G F Grace were substituted for Messrs W G Grace and Miles. This proved a move in the right direction, as Hill played "on" in Mr Townsend's third over. Eight for 140.

Armitage came, and again the batting triumphed. The score travelled gradually onwards, despite the changes in the attack. At last Mr E M Grace was tried, and after a few overs induced Armitage to play the ball back to him. Nine for 204, the last three wickets having thus put on 136 runs. Hunter, the last man in, came to the aid of Hall, and when stumps were drawn the innings remained unfinished. Play will be resumed to-day at 11 o'clock.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 24 August, page 11)

Heavy rain fell during Thursday night and Friday morning, and after waiting until 4 o'clock, when a heavy thunderstorm passed over the ground, it was resolved to postpone play until to-day.

Day 3 (report from Monday 26 August, page 8)

Fortunately a crisp breeze on Saturday morning blew the rain-laden clouds away from the neighbourhood of Cheltenham and permitted an excellent day's cricket to be played. There were about 3,000 spectators present. As might be expected, the wicket was rather dead after the heavy rain of Friday, but it improved as the day wore on. When play ceased on Thursday evening the Yorkshiremen had lost nine wickets for 212 runs.

On Saturday the game was resumed at 11.45, and 10 minutes sufficed to bring the innings to a close, without the addition of a run. Hall carried out his bat for a very fine contribution, composed of four fours, two threes, 12 twos and singles. Six bowlers were engaged, four with success. Mr W G Grace . . took six wickets . . .

Twenty-five minutes having elapsed, Gloucestershire sent in Messrs W G and E M Grace to the attacks of Bates and Emmett. Success attended the visitors at the outset. A single only had been made, when Mr E M Grace played the ball into the hands of slip, a fate which soon afterwards befell Mr W G Grace. The first half of the Gloucestershire wickets fell for 56 runs - less than half the number required to save the follow on. The remaining portion of the batsmen, however, gave much more trouble than had been bargained for. Mr Townsend batted extremely well for his score of 41, and was ably backed up by Messrs Fairbanks, Bush and Cranston.

Towards the close of the innings the fielding of the Northerners became rather wild, and it was not until the total had reached 173 that the last wicket (Mr Miles's) was disposed of through a good catch at long-field-on. Of the six bowlers engaged five were successful. Bates took four wickets . . .

Yorkshire went in for a second time with 29 runs in hand, and at the close of the day had lost two wickets for 20 runs. The match was thus left drawn. Umpires, Pullen and Pinder.

22 August: NOTTINGHAMSHIRE v MIDDLESEX

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2243.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 23 August, page 11)

Owing to the unusual number of large individual scores made in the match at Lord's between the above counties in the middle of July, it was left drawn after a hard contest of three days' duration. The "return," which commenced yesterday on the Trent-bridge ground, was regarded with considerable interest in the Midlands counties, and another hard struggle was calculated upon. There is, however, no national game more likely to baulk public anticipation than cricket.

Middlesex selected two good batsmen to lead off and compile, if possible, another great score. Mr Webbe failed signally. As he fell to the first ball Shaw presented to him. Messrs Walker and Hadow played with a care and caution becoming the danger attending the attacks of both bowlers, Morley especially; but half the wickets were, in fact, lost for 27 runs. No stand worth mentioning occurred until Mr Stratford put in an appearance. He not merely defied his assailants to remove him, but made an excellent score withal. Bit for him Middlesex would indeed have cut a sorry figure. At the fall of the tenth wicket the telegraph announced a total of 85.

From the commencement of the Notts innings to the close of the day's play the hitting was free and remunerative, with the exception of that of Oscroft, who left with the total at 12 for the first wicket down. Selby contributed freely, and Shrewsbury also, the latter not out at the call of time . . .

Day 2 - no report found

Day 3 (report from Monday 26 August, page 8)

When the first day's play in this match at Nottingham ceased, Middlesex had completed an innings and three wickets of the other side were down for 198 runs. On Friday no attempt was made to pursue the game in consequence of the condition of the ground and almost continuous rainfalls. Although the weather of Saturday was not exceptionally genial, the match was proceeded with. Shrewsbury, one of the not-outs, proved very stubborn and brought out his bat, contributing 72 towards a total of 165. No less than seven bowlers were engaged in this long and productive innings. Mr Hadow, the most successful, obtained four wickets . . .

The feebleness of Middlesex in their second innings contrasted strangely with the doings of the same batsmen on a previous occasion with Notts. All real interest in this match had evaporated before the stumps were drawn, as its unfinished condition was foreseen.

22 August: KENT v LANCASHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2242.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 23 August, page 11)

As far back as the third week of June the representatives of Kent went to Old Trafford to play their first match this season with Lancashire, and came back beaten by nine wickets. The "return" stood for some time as a Canterbury fixture, but a little while since it was changed for West Malling, once a great centre of cricket in England. Play began yesterday at 12.30 with Mr Hornby and Barlow at the wickets, opposed to Mr A Penn and Hearne.

With the score at 113 three wickets were lost, and half were down at 130. Mr Appleby hit very hard, seven fours, nearly straight drives, being among his contributions. Mr Royle, who made the highest score, was once missed at slip and once at mid-on. The innings closed at 5 o'clock for 262 runs. Kent lost three wickets for 84 runs. Play for the day ceased at 6.30.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 24 August, page 11)

Nearly every match of importance fixed to be played yesterday in England was damaged or stopped altogether in consequence of heavy rainfalls. The above escaped interruption sufficiently to enable the parties actively concerned to push the play to a definite conclusion. Kent came out of the contest thoroughly beaten - i.e., if an innings and 56 runs will bear such an interpretation.

To the bowling of Watson and Barlow the conquest by Lancashire is largely due. The latter claimed 10 wickets and the former six. Kent had a very different team to confront at Malling than at the Oval, and a little of their wasted batting resources in the middle of the week would have served them admirably towards the close of it.

26 August: SURREY v NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2245.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 27 August, page 11)

During the early stages of this return match at the Oval, a thick mist enveloped the ground, and cricket may be said to have been played under really disadvantageous conditions. In fact, of all weather the most to be avoided is a fog. Notts won the toss, and although the ground was dead, they elected the bat. Oscroft and Wild led off, opposed to the bowling of Southerton and Barrett.

Owing to the deadness of the ground, runs came at a tardy pace. At 12 Wild was caught at wicket. Selby gave promise of a stay by scoring six runs off two hits. Here, however, his progress was stopped by a catch at extra mid off. Shrewsbury then became the partner of Oscroft, but the connection was sundered by a catch in the slip, and Barnes occupied the wicket deserted by Oscroft. At luncheon time the score stood at 55. On resumption 18 overs were bowled for seven runs. Half the wickets fell for 69. The remainder pulled up beyond expectation, chiefly through the free batting of Flowers. Time, 5h 15m. Barratt obtained five wickets . . .

Surrey fared badly, for when stumps were drawn they had lost four wickets for 19 runs. for such an unfavourable day the attendance was very large.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 28 August, page 9)

During the first half-hour of yesterday's play an almost general opinion was entertained that Surrey must "follow on." Four wickets had fallen overnight for 19 runs, and the first two of the following morning added but a single. Owing, however, to the stand made by Barratt matters brightened. Considering the nature of the bowling and the heavy condition of the ground, his score of 16 may be regarded as an achievement. At a few minutes past 1 the "follow on" was averted, and the prospect of many hours' play opened out. Three bowlers were engaged, and all took wickets; thus Shaw . . six wickets . . . Duration of innings, 1 hour 55 minutes.

Notts, having 74 runs in hand, commenced their second innings with Wild and Oscroft opposed to Southerton and Barratt. The first wicket fell for 15 runs. Selby came and a considerable time was consumed in the endeavours to get the second wicket, which realized 45 runs. He saw five of his companions retire before a smart piece of stumping on the part of Pooley led to his own dismissal. His chief hits were an on-drive for five, two fours (legs), three threes and two twos (chiefly drives). When stumps were drawn, eight wickets were lost for 148 runs.

Day 3 (report from Thursday 29 August, page 10)

Play in this match at the Oval was continued yesterday till half-past 5 o'clock, when Notts were declared winners by 139 runs. It may be remembered when stumps were drawn on Tuesday, each side had completed an innings, and Notts had lost eight wickets of their second innings for 148. A quarter of an hour sufficed to capture the outstanding wickets for an additional 9 runs . . .

Surrey required 232 runs to win – an impossible task for the time at disposal. Mr L A Shuter and Jupp started the batting, and a very bad start it proved to be, as Jupp left without scoring at all and Mr Shuter with the total at 7. When 6 were added Humphrey was caught at point, and Mr Read fell to a catch by third man up with the total at 24. Mr J Shuter then joined Mr Lucas, and the score travelled at a much brisker pace than that which preceded it. He gave one chance to wicket-keeper and another to mid-off. These misses enabled him to carry his bat through the innings, which realized 92 runs. Morley obtained five wickets . . .

Notts have thus won both matches with Surrey this season, with great balances in their favour.

26 August: GLOUCESTERSHIRE v LANCASHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2244.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 27 August, page 11)

Yesterday was a somewhat notable day in the annals of Lancashire cricket as being the first time the county ever appeared in Gloucestershire. Wickets were pitched on the Clifton College grounds, which owing to recent heavy rains played dead. Gloucestershire having the choice of innings sent their opponents in.

They started well with Mr Hornby and Barlow, and put together 30 runs before a wicket fell. Then came a sad falling off. Mr Royle played well up to Mr Hornby, after being missed at an early stage of his innings. At 3.20 the last wicket fell for 151 runs. Only two bowlers were engaged throughout - viz., Mr W G Grace, who obtained six wickets . . . Gloucestershire lost three wickets for 92 runs when rain stopped further play.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 28 August, page 9)

The weather at Clifton yesterday was decidedly adverse to cricket. Rain fell heavily during Monday night. Every effort was made to forward the game, but several showers checked its progress. The feature of the innings was the not out contribution of Mr G F Grace. His chief hits were four fours, three threes, 11 twos &c. The innings closed at 3h 30m for 198 runs. Five bowlers were engaged, all with success; thus Mr A G Steel claimed five wickets . . .

Lancashire, with 47 runs in arrears, commenced their second innings with Mr Hornby and Barlow. When 14 runs were scored, a heavy downpour prevented further progress of the play.

Day 3 (report from Thursday 29 August, page 10)

Although the weather at Clifton yesterday was fine, the wicket had become so damp from the rainfalls of the previous evening that play was not resumed till nearly half-past 12 o'clock. Barlow and Mr Royle were the only two of Lancashire able to make any stand. The fifth and sixth wickets fell for 66 runs, and the remainder added 12. Gloucestershire won by eight wickets.

29 August: SUSSEX v AUSTRALIANS

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2248.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 30 August, page 8)

Considering the uncertain state of the weather and the gradually contracting hours of sunshine, it is to be regretted that so much time was frittered away yesterday in preparatory practice on the Sussex county ground. Before noon a much larger company was attracted to the spot than usual. Some dissatisfaction was expressed at the delay, as no apparent cause was forthcoming. Sussex had but few backers even among their own folk. The reason for this was obvious enough when the discomfitures of one side are contrasted with the successes of the other.

Sussex won the toss and sent in Messrs Sharp and H Whitfeld, opposed to the bowling of Mr Spofforth and Mr Allan. The first three overs produced two runs each. Even this moderate scoring received a check, as in the eighth over Mr H Whitfeld was clean bowled with the total at 7. Charlwood joined Mr Sharp and the score advanced to 28, when Mr Boyle displaced Mr Allan. This was the only change during the innings. Great cheering greeted the figures 40 on the telegraph; but this rate of progress soon received a check, for after a single was added hereto by Charlwood, he received a ball from Mr Boyle that completely beat him. Thus far the runs obtained were at the rate of one per minute.

Mr Sharp left with the total at 50, just half of which resulted from his own bat. Mr Greenfield played with great care and caution owing to the difficulty of getting a ball through the defiles of such an accomplished and watchful team of fielders. He saw six of his companions come and go. A fine catch at short leg disposed of Mr Anstruther with the total at 63 for six wickets. The innings occupied one hour and three-quarters and totalled 80 runs . . .

The brothers Bannerman began the colonial batting. Mr Greenfield and Lillywhite had charge of the ball. A Bannerman left with the same total as that of the other side at the same stage. This augured well for Sussex. Better fortune was in store as both Mr Horan and Mr Bailey retired with the total at 11. Mr Murdoch failed altogether, and when Mr Gregory was bowled at 23 half the wickets were down, and six for 24.

Mr Garrett was caught at cover-point, low down. Mr Spofforth surrendered to a well-measured catch at deep mid-off. Mr Allan's stay was not long. At 4 o'clock the figure 50 appeared on the telegraph, amid general manifestations of surprise. The two last wickets pulled up considerably and advanced the total to 75. Mr Greenfield . . . obtained four wickets . . .

The second innings of Sussex excited more surprise than had been expressed at any other stage of the game. The batsmen seemed to be altogether unequal to the attacks of Messrs Spofforth and Boyle, and the wickets fell with such rapidity that at the time of drawing stumps the score-sheet presented the following extraordinary appearance: . . . [Sussex 80 and 41/9; Australians 75.]

Day 2 (report from Saturday 31 August, page 11)

Little can be said of the play in this match at Brighton yesterday, as little had to be done to finish. On Thursday each party had completed an innings with a difference of five runs only in favour of Sussex, while the latter lost nine wickets of their second innings for 41. It required but little time to capture the outstanding wicket, with an addition of six runs. The bowling of Messrs Spofforth and Boyle is noteworthy. The former took six wickets . . .

It was nearly 1 o'clock before the colonials commenced the easy task of acquiring 53. The brothers Bannerman began and achieved 24 of the number. Both were caught off Lillywhite. The addition of three only on the part of Mr Horan came below general expectation. Mr Bailey, however, made up for his short-comings, and at 4 o'clock the Australians were pronounced winners by seven wickets. Umpires, Paine and Hide.

At the conclusion of the above an improvised match between Eighteen Gentlemen of Sussex and the Australians commenced. At the close of the day the former had lost 13 wickets for 102 runs. Play will be resumed to-day.

29 August: GLOUCESTERSHIRE v SURREY

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2246.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 30 August, page 8)

Play in this match at Clifton began late. Surrey won the toss and went in. At first the ground played dead, but improved as the day wore on. The first wicket fell for 17 runs, and the third advanced to 81. Mr Shuter and Jupp hit hard and brought on several changes of bowling.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 31 August, page 11)

As matters stand at present the representatives of the latter county are in the position of men threatened with defeat, unless time should come to the rescue. At the close of the first day's play Surrey had scored 156 runs for the loss of three wickets. Although this run of success did not continue to the close of the innings, it will be seen that the score reached high figures, considering the state of the Clifton ground, when the tenth wicket fell.

The resident team began their batting with unwonted feebleness, as the first three were unable to compass 10 runs. In fact, only four during the innings were able to reach double figures, and these to no great extent. When stumps were drawn for the day nine wickets were lost for 84 runs, so that a "follow on" is the next thing to a certainty.

Day 3 (report from Monday 2 September, page 12)

When an innings by each side was completed early on Saturday the results were so wide that the resident team had to "follow on." Contrary to general expectation, several good scores were effected, but the match ended in a draw - time prevented its being otherwise.

At the outset on Thursday a strong impression existed in the neighbourhood of Clifton and elsewhere, in fact, that Gloucestershire would retrieve their laurels lost at the Oval a short time since, but they have not, and, considering the position of the game at one stage of it, Gloucestershire have come out of the game much better than was expected.

29 August: NOTTINGHAMSHIRE v KENT

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2247.html)

Day 1 (scorecard but no report from Friday 30 August, page 8)

Day 2 (report from Saturday 31 August, page 11)

Play in this match on the Trent Bridge ground yesterday was resumed within a few minutes of the stipulated time. Despite frequent interruptions from rain, Notts completed their innings, with 92 runs in advance of their opponents. Kent went in a second time, and lost one wicket for eight runs, when play for the day ceased.

Day 3 (report from Monday 2 September, page 12)

It may with truth be said that the elements fought against cricket on Saturdays and in some centres of England fiercely – at Brighton, for instance, almost in the form of a hurricane, so that scarcely any progress was made by the Australians against the Eighteen of Sussex. On the Trent Bridge ground rain fell in such torrents and with such frequently that nearly all the afternoon was expended without making much advance towards the finish of the game.

In one respect Kent had no cause to complain of the ungenial character of the weather, as it saved them a decided defeat. Excepting two or three instances their scoring was of an exceedingly feeble description, and but for Hearne and Mr Tufnell the Kent bowling was considerably below the standard for such a county. From the score attached it will be seen that Kent had two wickets to fall and eight runs to get to avoid a single innings defeat. The weather befriended them, and the match was left "drawn."

2 September: PLAYERS v AUSTRALIANS

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2249.html)

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

Seeing that the long list of engagements entered into by the Australians is rapidly coming to nought, such a match as that provided at the Oval yesterday could scarcely be wanting in public patronage. It was not. Thousands were attracted to the spot before the umpires set the contenders in array, and the number gradually increased until one of those densely compact circles was formed so characteristic of Kennington when an "event" transpires. Within the last week or two some contention has taken place between contracting parties to this match on the subject of finance, and it is to be regretted that any check to the good understanding which has hitherto prevailed should occur now that the visitors are on the eve of quitting our shores.

'The Players of England' is a phrase capable of bearing a free interpretation; but it cannot in the present instance be made to mean a representative team for England - i.e., the strongest eleven capable of being produced. They were withal found good enough to impress the Colonials with an idea that they had a force to battle with of by no means an indifferent or secondary character.

It was nearly half-past 12 before play began. As the Players had choice of innings, they took the field. Although the ground looked fresh, it was very dead. The brothers Bannerman were first at the wickets, opposed to Watson (Pavilion end) and Barratt. Eight overs were bowled for five singles, and with the total at 12 A Bannerman was caught at mid on. Mr Horan filled the vacancy, but made a profitless stay; Mr Murdoch also. Three wickets, 16 runs. Mr Spofforth next joined C Bannerman. For a time the run-getting was tediously slow, until Bannerman threw aside his reserve and began to hit out.

With the score at 46 came a change of bowling - viz., Lillywhite vice Watson, and with the total at 59 Mr Spofforth went out to meet a tempting low ball, but, missing it, was easily stumped. Mr Bailey made no sign, and thus five wickets were taken at an average of 10 runs each. Mr Gregory played the first ball received, but directed the next to cover point. In the same over Mr Blackham was stumped. Mr Boyle made some resistance, and assisted in bringing up the total to 64, when a catch at cover point led to his dismissal. Eight wickets were now disposed of at an average of eight runs each. Thus much at luncheon time.

On resumption of play Hearne went on at the Pavilion wicket. All the run-getting fell to the lot of Bannerman. Mr Garrett contributed nothing, nor did the last man, Mr Allan. At 77 Bannerman was caught at point and the innings terminated. His chief hits were three fours, four threes and six twos; no extra of any kind. The bowling of Barratt will be chronicled among the marvels of the season, as in 29 overs for 43 runs he obtained all the wickets.

Rigby and Barlow were chosen to lead off the Players' batting. As the bowling of Messrs Spofforth and Garrett was full of danger, caution was exercised, and for awhile runs came very slowly - viz., only one in five overs and 12 in 15. Mr Allan displaced Mr Garrett, and from a fine left-

hand catch Rigby was disposed of. Phillips came. For some time the defence was very stubborn, but soon after Barlow fell to the wicket-keeper.

Mr Spofforth carried all before him. Thus Hearne was bowled at 59, Charlwood and Wheeler caught at the same figure, Wheeler and Watson bowled. With the addition of three runs H Phillips, who had joined his brother, was caught at mid-on and Lillywhite at long-off. Barratt came, and evinced no disposition to stick, bowled offhand. M'Intyre, the last man, was not to be got rid of at the rattling rate of the previous half-dozen representatives of England; the score had reached 82 when he gave a chance to the wicket-keeper. This brought the innings to a close and the first day's play also. Mr Spofforth . . . obtained seven wickets . . .

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 4 September, page 3)

So close a result as that of yesterday at the Oval was not looked for, because, in fact, such events rarely occur. Generally speaking, the Players were not the favourites at starting. They, however, came out of the contest better than many expected, and although they have lost the match, their conquerors have not much to boast of. For what are eight runs on a well contested match of two days' duration? Next to nothing. The trifling difference of five runs at the close of an innings each on Monday contributed to the interest of the match very materially.

The brothers Bannerman began the second innings soon after 12 o'clock. Hearne and Barratt - both left-hand bowlers - delivered the early overs. Fourteen runs resulted from the first 12. At 29 M'Intyre went on at Barratt's end, and Barlow relieved Hearne. From this double change two wickets were obtained from 13 overs. Thus C Bannerman played "on," and Mr Horan, who succeeded him, drove the first ball for four, but the second clean bowled him. As on the previous day, Mr Murdoch retired scoreless. A similar fate - to the surprise of many - befell Mr Spofforth. Four wickets were thus lost for 49 runs.

A Bannerman, who, it may be said, had contributed full half without a chance, now played into the bowlers' hands. Messrs Allan and Bailey exercised great caution during their partnership, which, when sundered, revealed a total of 60. Mr Allan's place became void from playing "on" and was filled by Mr Boyle, whose stay, like several of his predecessors, proved brief. Seven wickets, 61 runs.

On resumption of play after luncheon Mr Gregory joined Mr Bailey. Four maiden overs were sent down by Barlow. From the fifth Mr Bailey was clean bowled; also Mr Blackham. At this time the company was estimated at 15,000. Mr Garrett, the next man in, seemed disposed to stay. At 84 M'Intyre crossed over and Barratt resumed. The change soon produced the desired effect, as from the first ball of Barratt's second over Mr Garrett was caught at cover point. This brought the Australians' second innings to a close for 89 runs. Time, 3h 35min. M'Intyre obtained six wickets . . .

The Players now required 85 to win and much diversity of opinion existed as to their attainment. Rigby and Barlow led off the batting as on the previous day, and with one exception the same order of going in was continued. Messrs Spofforth and Allan had charge of the early bowling. Thirteen runs resulted from 11 overs. Mr Spofforth then captured Barlow's mid stump. J Phillips came and at 23 Rigby fell to Mr Allan.

Thus far the Players seemed to have the best of it. This view of the matter was strengthened when Hearne made 11 runs from three leg hits. With the total at 38 came the first bowling change - viz., Mr Garrett vice Mr Allan, and in his second over he clean bowled Hearne. Those who placed reliance on Charlwood were not disappointed. He also put together 11 runs by three hits. A double change of bowling was then resorted to, and Mr Spofforth bowled Charlwood from the first ball. Wheeler joined Phillips, but a parting soon came as the latter returned the ball. Half the wickets were now down for 60 runs, and the game was considered "anybody's."

Here, however, the tide turned in favour of the fielders. At 67 Watson was bowled, leg stump; four runs further on H Phillips retired, run out, and Wheeler bowled. At 73 Lillywhite left, clean bowled. Twelve runs were still wanting when Barratt, the last man, joined M'Intyre; three of these were obtained when the slow bowler was himself bowled, and the match thereby brought to a close in favour of the Australians by eight runs. Mr Spofforth obtained five wickets . . . A better contested match has seldom been witnessed.

Mr John Conway, secretary of the Australian Cricket Team, writes: - "Anticipating that the match between the Australians and the Players would be concluded in two days, the Australians did intend to play a supplementary match on Wednesday, but, wishing to be in their best form when they meet Gloucestershire on Thursday, Friday and Saturday at Clifton, they now think it would be wise to have a day's rest before fulfilling that important engagement. The announcement made by the Press was at my request; and it is with reluctance that we abandon the third day's cricket."

2 September: YORKSHIRE v I ZINGARI

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2250.html)

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

The chief feature of yesterday's play in this match at Scarborough was the "round hundred" made by Mr Webbe, who went in first and saw nearly all of his companions retire. Play will be resumed to-day.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 4 September, page 3)

Yesterday was occupied in getting through the Yorkshire innings of nearly 300 runs, as every man scored, and nine out of the 11 up to double figures. Mr Verelot, whose name did not transpire among the I Zingari batsmen on Monday, proved very handy and efficient behind the wicket.

Day 3 (report from Thursday 5 September, page 8)

Admitting that the company assembled at Scarborough at the commencement of this match was not, in a cricket sense, very large, yet it embraced a considerable portion of the resident gentry of the district, together with a sprinkle of visitors to this favourite north-country watering place, who appeared to take a lively interest in the game during the various stages of its career. On Monday the "Wanderers" occupied the greater part of the day at the wickets, and when stumps were drawn on Tuesday each party had completed an innings, but with great difference in the results.

I Zingari started on their second innings batting expedition yesterday at noon under the load of 121 runs to shake off in the shape of arrears. The possibility of their winning this match was altogether out of the question, and consequently their hopes and aims were directed chiefly to the avoidance of a single innings defeat. On this occasion they had their complement of batsmen.

The brothers Webbe were deputed to go in first, and, as there was no lack of variety in the bowling, it had to be played with a caution commensurate thereto. To show that these batsmen were not daunted by the character of the attack any more than by its variety, 40 runs were chronicled at the fall of the first wicket. Nearly 70 were recorded for the second. After this Yorkshire gradually obtained the mastery, for when the tenth wicket fell only 35 runs were required by them to win. This number was easily obtained . . .

5 September: GLOUCESTERSHIRE v AUSTRALIANS

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2251.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 6 September, page 9)

Very few, if any, of the Australian matches hereto played have given rise to more speculation as to results than the one which commenced yesterday on the ground at Clifton. Whatever opinions, too, may have been indulged in respecting the inferiority of some elevens with which the colonials have had to contend, there exists no room for cavil about the quality of the Gloucestershire team, be the issues of the contest what they may. Fortunately the weather was fine, and as a consequence the company was large.

The Australians won the toss, but sent the resident team to the wickets, which were as usual here somewhat dead. Play began at ten minutes past 12 o'clock with Messrs W G Grace and Gilbert, opposed to the bowling of Messrs Spofforth and Allan. The first wicket (Mr Gilbert's) fell for 18, and Mr Moberly then joined Mr W G Grace. After this total had been doubled, the last-named batsman was caught at mid-off. Thus far the score did not realize expectation. Mr G F Grace also fell very short of his anticipated contribution. Three wickets, 43 runs.

When Mr Townsend joined Mr Moberly a firmer stand was made against the wily attacks of both bowlers, for the score advanced to 61 before a separation could be effected. Mr R M Grace made a yet firmer stand and brought out his bat, although with a score contrasting widely with the figures of times gone by. In fact, it was no easy matter to achieve a long score with such antagonists as Messrs Spofforth, Boyle and Garrett. The innings terminated at 25 minutes past 3 for 112 runs. Mr E M Grace made two fours and three threes. Mr Spofforth obtained seven wickets . . .

The Australians made a far more successful start with the bat than their opponents, and, what is not a little singular, they approached the Gloucestershire total to within a run when play for the day ceased, though with only four wickets down.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 7 September, page 10)

When the long run of success attending the Australians in various parts of England is thought out, it will not occasion much surprise to find that Gloucestershire even has been compelled to yield. The magnitude of the defeat, however, cannot fail to create considerable amazement in the cricket community at large. At the close of Thursday's play they had approached the innings of Gloucestershire with only four wickets down, and but for the liberal contribution of Mr Spofforth yesterday the results of an innings each would not have been very remote.

But the extreme feebleness of Gloucestershire in their second venture at the wicket could hardly be accounted for, much less expected. Only one of the brothers Grace was able to reach double figures, and in this instance to no appreciable extent. None of the bowling suited them sufficiently to obtain anything like a mastery over it. Mr Spofforth obtained five wickets, Mr Garrett three and Mr Allan two. The average runs from the bat were a mere trifle beyond seven per man.

At one time a single innings defeat was contemplated as a certainty, but at 3.30 this was averted, merely, it would seem, to give the Australians an opportunity of getting 15 runs and then to claim the match by ten wickets.

5 September: YORKSHIRE v MARYLEBONE CLUB AND GROUND

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2252.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 6 September, page 9)

This was the second match of the Scarborough week. It began yesterday soon after 12 o'clock . . .

Day 2 (report from Saturday 7 September, page 10)

The progress made in the second day's play at Scarborough was not very great. The result of an innings each, however, caused a little excitement, as a tie is not of every-day occurrence. Marylebone proceeded with their second innings late in the afternoon, and had lost three wickets when stumps were drawn.

Day 3 (report from Monday 9 September, page 8)

Had there been another hour of sunlight on Saturday, this match at Scarborough would in all probability have been remarkable for the closeness of its results. It began on Thursday with Marylebone at the wickets, who completed their first innings for 181 runs. On the following day Yorkshire did precisely the same thing.

On Saturday Marylebone continued with 26 runs in hand for three wickets down overnight. Mr Hornby, not out for 19, added eight to his score and was then badly run out. Mr Thornton hit, as usual, very hard, but had fewer opportunities of sending the ball to the extreme verge of the field, and even beyond it, than the first day presented. The bowling of Bates proved very effective, no less than seven wickets being apportioned to him, and in every case for a stunted score.

Yorkshire required 115 runs to win. Ulyett handed in 40 of this number and Mr Dury 14, so that nearly half resulted from two bats. The bowling of Morley kept the subsequent scoring under, for the seventh wicket failed to advance beyond 91. It is quite likely that the remaining four would have got the 24 runs yet wanting, but the stern call of "Time" prevented further attempts, and the match was drawn . . .

9 September: GENTLEMEN OF ENGLAND v AUSTRALIANS

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2253.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 10 September, page 6)

Our colonial visitors do not seem to require much time for rest; examples many might be readily furnished in proof hereof; the most recent, perhaps, is not the least striking. Their second match with Gloucestershire at Clifton was finished a very short time before Saturday's sunset, and yesterday the same eleven were at Scarborough, ready at noontide to face the Gentlemen of England. Early in the day there was a large attendance, which gradually thickened as the match proceeded. The Australians won the toss, and having made choice of bat, sent the brothers Bannerman to the wickets, opposed to Messrs A G Steel and A H Evans, the leading bowlers.

Before a run was recorded A Bannerman played the ball "on." Mr Horan went to the vacated wicket, and for a while the batsmen scored nearly run for run; but at 32 C Bannerman was caught by the wicket-keeper, though not off the same bowler. Mr Spofforth contributed a fair share of the 70 runs exhibited on the telegraph at luncheon time. On resumption, both batsmen were summarily dismissed. Messrs Murdoch and Blackham were for a considerable time partnered, and two changes of bowling occurred before the latter was disposed of. Shortly after 5 o'clock the last wicket fell for 157 runs.

No time was lost in the prosecution of the match. Messrs Thornton and Ridley were first to represent the amateur batting of England. Both played with spirit and soon put together the number of runs given in the accompanying score. Play will be resumed to-day at 12 o'clock.

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

The telegram received on Monday's play in this match at Scarborough was unusually perplexing and defective. Hence arose the substitution of Mr Thornton's name and score for that of Mr A Lyttelton. These gentlemen started the English batting and ran the score up to 20, when the former was clean bowled. Mr Ridley came, and, in conjunction with Mr Lyttelton, played up to time, when 76 were totalled at the cost of two wickets, the second being that of Mr Lyttelton, which, like the first, fell to the attack of Mr Garrett.

Play was resumed yesterday earlier than the specified time, with Mr Ridley, "not out," 21, and Mr Hornby. Both soon fell to Mr Spofforth, and neither Mr Steel nor Mr Forbes seemed to possess any resisting power or skill to cope with such an adversary. Mr Webbe offered a bolder front and made the best score of the morning. This is certainly not saying much, as the eight wickets to go down contributed but 33 runs altogether. It will be seen from the score that the gentlemen began well, although they ended badly.

The only interest attachable to the match at this period was the character of the Australian batting, which certainly set the bowling at defiance, notwithstanding few possessing any skill with the ball were overlooked. Every man scored - Mr Murdoch and C Bannerman together just 100, Messrs Bailey and Blackham upwards of 70, Messrs Spofforth and Horan 30. Being confined to two days, the match could not be played out, and when the time

arrived for drawing stumps the Australians possessed a total of 249 runs for eight wickets. Here the match ended, drawn.

To-day the Colonials have agreed to meet "Eleven Players of England" at Prince's Ground, Chelsea, and if the men selected put in an appearance the contest will in all probability be as severe a one as any during the season. The chief drawback is its limitation to two days' play, unless they begin earlier than usual and turn the time they have on hand to the best account.

11 September: PLAYERS v AUSTRALIANS

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2254.html)

Day 1 (report from Thursday 12 September, page 4)

A more glorious day for cricket than yesterday has not presented itself during the season. This doubtless tended in a great measure to draw the large concourse of spectators to Prince's Ground at an early stage of the announced proceedings. The Australians, having choice of innings, sent, as usual, the brothers Bannerman first to the wickets, selected for the occasion by Willsher and Henty.

Little could be done with the bowling of Shaw and Ulyett, and the first wicket fell for nine runs. Mr Horan then joined C Bannerman, and the hitting soon began in earnest, especially on the part of the latter. With the total at 28 Barrett relieved Ulyett, but, as the change did not pay, M'Intyre was tried. His first ball was sent by Mr Horan to leg for four. After this the scoring proceeded at a very slow pace, 16 overs being bowled for half-a-dozen runs. A catch at the wicket disposed of Mr Horan with the total at 58. Mr Spofforth came, and when three runs were added the luncheon-bell rang.

At a quarter to 3 the players were again in the field. Shaw continued his bowling up to 81, when he resigned in favour of Blamires. The new-comer received hearty patronage from both batsmen, now well set. Other changes were resorted to, but the total had passed the 100 on the telegraph before Mr Spofforth was caught at point. This rate of progression foreshadowed the improbability of playing the match out. Mr Gregory next partnered with Bannerman, and the score travelled on to 116, when a catch precisely similar to that which disposed of Mr Spofforth terminated Bannerman's innings; he was at the wickets more than three hours for 61 runs. His hits were of the "all-round" character, and he well deserved the applause awarded on his retirement.

The batting prevailed when Messrs Gregory and Murdoch were together, notwithstanding frequent changes in the style of attack. One chance offered by Mr Gregory to long-on and not accepted evoked a few derisive cheers. The fifth wicket, Mr Murdoch's, was not taken till nearly 5 o'clock. Mr Bailey made a very feeble stand. Up to this period all were caught out. Mr Garrett's was the only wicket bowled throughout the day. On his retirement the light thickened, and at the appointed time for drawing stumps only seven wickets were down for a total of 187 runs.

Day 2 (report from Friday 13 September, page 8)

The chequered character of the weather yesterday contrasted widely with that of Wednesday, when this match at Prince's began. There was a large company nevertheless. At a quarter to 12 the Players were in the field, and Messrs Gregory and Blackham, the "not-outs" for 30 and 14 respectively, at the wickets. Barratt and M'Intyre had charge of the early bowling.

Very cautious play characterized the outset. Twelve overs were delivered without a run. Mr Blackham then drove Barratt to the "on" for three. The next seven overs yielded six runs. As a relief from this slow and profitless work, Ulyett accepted the ball from Barratt, and his third over was signaled by a drive for four to the credit of Mr Gregory. A double

change was tried in the persons of Blamires and Shaw. The score had risen to 215 when Mr Blackham retired in consequence of an injury to his thumb.

Mr Boyle then became Mr Gregory's partner and assisted in bringing up the score to 228 - caught at wicket. Mr Allan gave a chance to point which Selby did not accept. It mattered little, however, to anybody, as Mr Gregory shortly after was caught at square leg, and the innings terminated as Mr Blackham could not re-appear. Time, 1.45. Six bowlers were engaged . . . The wickets obtained will be found in the score. Only one, it will be seen, was clean bowled.

A heavy fall of rain prevented the Players from batting until nearly 3 o'clock. Ulyett and Rigby were the first to appear at wickets not very lively. They, however, made an excellent start, despite the bowling of Messrs Spofforth and Garrett; each scored a four off Mr Spofforth, the former by an on drive and the latter by a leg hit. Considering the character of these bowlers, some surprise was occasioned at Mr Garrett handing the ball so early to Mr Allan. The change had no effect upon the obstinate batsmen who soon carried the score up to 43 when Mr Allan transferred the ball to Mr Boyle. Exactly one hour was expended on the compilation of 50 runs. Ulyett then made an on drive, from which, aided by an overthrow, four runs resulted. Subsequently six runs were recorded from one over of Mr Boyle's, and as this rate of proceeding had a winning look for the Players about it, Mr Garrett resumed at his own end, and from his second ball Rigby's wicket fell. Total 65.

Selby and Shrewsbury left for eight each, the latter caught at point. Lockwood joined Ulyett, and before they were parted the telegraph announced 100 runs. Thus far the results of the innings promised to be not very wide. Ten runs were added when Mr Garrett crossed over and Mr Allan relieved Mr Spofforth. Other changes were adopted, as Ulyett appeared to be declaring himself invincible. He lost his third partner with the total at 123, and Flowers then joined him. Twenty runs had been added when Ulyett, who had been two hours and a half at the wicket, fell to Mr Spofforth. His score - the largest of the match - consisted of seven fours, three threes, eight twos and a balance of singles - in all, 79.

The remaining half were disposed of quickly, and the innings terminated at ten minutes to 6 with a balance of 76 runs in favour of the Australians. Mr Garrett obtained seven wickets . . . The Australians were heartily cheered on their departure from the ground.

13 September: WEST OF SCOTLAND v AUSTRALIANS

Final report (report from Monday 16 September, page 11)

In order to fulfil this engagement the Australians had to compass a distance of nearly 450 miles in a surprisingly short space of time. They were at Chelsea on Thursday at sunset, and at noon on the following day the Bannermans were at the Partick wickets, apparently quite up to the mark for any bowling with which the twelve were provided.

Nearly 50 runs were scored before the first wicket fell, with 73 the second. The play was kept up with spirit, and 158 runs appeared on the score-sheet when luncheon-time arrived. Messrs Spofforth, Gregory and Murdoch contributed more than 100. Neither Mr Blackham nor Mr Bailey were able to play and substitutes had to be provided. The innings lasted rather more than four hours and averaged about a run a minute from the bat. Two Scotch wickets were down at the call of time, and 49 runs scored.

On Saturday play began within a few minutes of the appointed time, and a much larger company was attracted to Partick (Glasgow) to witness the proceedings. The Australians, however, made short work of the innings, which amounted to 90 runs only. This necessitated a "follow on." Mr R Sharp defended himself admirably and brought out his bat; nearly all the rest patronized single figures, and the match terminated in favour of the Australians by an innings and 83 runs.

(Potted scores, not first-class) Australians 253 (A Bannerman 27, C Bannerman 33, F R Spofforth 48, D W Gregory 41, W Murdoch 37, T Garrett 26; A D Dunlop 5 wkts, P Russell 3 wkts). West of Scotland 99 (Chalmers 38; T W Garrett 5 wkts) and 86 (R Sharp 40*; F R Spofforth 7 wkts).

19 September: SOUTH v NORTH

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2255.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 20 September, page 9)

Never probably at so late a stage of the season has a match of this character and magnitude been attempted in or near the metropolis. Doubtless there have been many assuming the title; that is all. The long list of important fixtures exhausted itself weeks ago, and as a rule the season was then, or shortly after, regarded as over. Yet with little effort two elevens under the above designation were assembled yesterday at the Oval.

The primary object of the meeting was charity. The lamentable catastrophe in connection with the Princess Alice steamer was not unfelt by cricketers as a community, and it was thought a match between the North and South would enable its promoters to swell the funds now being raised to alleviate the great distress consequent upon the sad event. At the outset it was understood that the players would be content with their bare expenses. All that was wanted to make the project a success was fine weather and a large company.

The North won the toss, and sent in Ulyett and Lockwood to the bowling of Barratt and Hearne. Both were hit so freely that at 41 the slow bowler surrendered the ball to Mr Ridley. In the first over of the change Ulyett was missed at long on. At 49 Mr Lucas relieved Hearne. The change seemed rather to suit than perplex, so far as Ulyett was concerned. Soon after the telegraph announced 70, Mr G F Grace accepted the ball from Mr Lucas, and in the next over Barratt resumed. A further change occurred at 93, and Hearne proved mainly instrumental in the riddance of Ulyett – caught mid-off. Shrewsbury then joined Lockwood. At 1.50 the first 100 appeared on the telegraph, and at luncheon 110 runs were recorded for the loss of one wicket.

Without any addition hereto Lockwood was clean bowled. Selby proved very troublesome. It mattered little to him who bowled; he seemed to possess the faculty of placing the ball anywhere, not unto long distances. Shrewsbury left with the total at 162, caught at long leg. Daft's stay was not a very lengthened one; Oscroft's, short and profitless. Five wickets, 189. Emmett, in conjunction with Selby, played up to time, when the score stood at 259 and half the wickets to go down.

The weather, though cool, was in other respects genial, and it is said during the day nearly 2,000 persons attended the match.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 21 September, page 8)

The hope of making this match at the Oval in all respects worthy of remembrance, play was resumed yesterday earlier than usual, for the heavy scoring of the North on Thursday boded the probability of leaving the match unfinished, unless it should happen that the South were so unfortunate as to necessitate a "follow on."

Selby and Emmett, the not outs, for 64 and 28 respectively, maintained a stubborn defence until 280 were passed. Then came a remarkable change. Mr G F Grace had possession of the ball, and three wickets were soon accorded

to him for inconsiderable scores. Total 303. Eight bowlers were engaged .
. . .

The South made an ominous start with Messrs Thornton and Shuter. Neither seemed at all equal to the attacks of Shaw, and the telegraph announced three runs for the first wicket and 11 for the second – a striking contrast to that of the other side at the same stage. Messrs Lucas and Ridley were not quite so easily disposed of, although it was sufficiently evident to any looker-on that the bowling of Morley, as well as that of Shaw, required a great deal of management. A hit for three seldom occurred, and singles were not the outcome of haphazard hitting. It may be remarked, by the way, that the ground suited the bowlers to a nicety. Mr Grace, who went in third wicket down, was alone able to contend with them, and he brought out his bat with the total at 64, towards which he contributed rather more than a third. Shaw obtained five wickets in 37 overs for 33 runs, Morley also five in 36 overs 29 runs.

Mr Thornton appeared early in the "follow on," and retired in the second over. Five other wickets fell in quick succession, saving that of Mr Grace, who at the close of the day's play claimed 29 runs out of the total of 68. As the match must of necessity be brought to a speedy issue, a "return" will be proceeded with and continued up to 6 o'clock to-day.

Day 3 (report from Monday 23 September, page 11)

If the sum actually realized by this match at the Oval "in aid of the Princess Alice Fund" has fallen short of expectation, it may be asked was not the expectation raised too high. Taking into account, however, the disadvantages with which the project was surrounded, there is cause for congratulation, while it shows incontestably what that national game of cricket is when properly wielded – a power.

The match itself disappointed many, for when the parties were assembled on Thursday and the sides scrutinized, it was clearly seen that in bowling strength alone the North were vastly superior, and when the large score of 259 runs was recorded for five wickets at the close of the day all real interest in the play ceased. One of two things was obvious – either that the North would carry all before them or that the match would be relegated to the drawn list. The former happened, as the South were discomfited by an innings and 123 runs. The presence of Mr W G Grace (announced) would, doubtless, have given a different complexion on the whole affair, or, at all events, have lessened the defeat, although, on paper, the North were decided favourites, seeing there was not a "make-weight" in the whole team.

A great deal of business was got through on Friday – viz., the second half of the North innings, a complete first innings of the South, and six wickets of their second, realizing altogether not more than 125 runs, one of the saddest spectacles of the season. On Saturday Mr G F Grace, not out for 29, was joined by Lord Harris, who had to confront Shaw and Morley, the latter merely to complete an over. Emmett then went on.

Lord Harris made a single and was caught at wicket. Pooley joined Mr Grace, and a little lively play ensued. At 81 Emmett transferred the ball to Bates, and the score travelled, chiefly by small figures, to 97, when Morley re-appeared, and Pooley, from his second ball, was caught in the slip. There were only two wickets to fall when Mr I D Walker joined Mr Grace, but these two caused 18 runs to be added. At 1.30 the innings terminated. With the exception of Mr Grace only three double figures were

attained, and these to no extent worth the mention, during the two innings of the South. In both Mr Grace brought out his bat and scored from it nearly half the total effected by his ten confederates. Five bowlers were engaged in the first innings, but only three with success; thus - Shaw obtained 5 wickets . . .