

THE TIMES REPORTS, 1872

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

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13 May: MARYLEBONE CLUB AND GROUND v SURREY

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/1/1734.html)

Days 1 and 2 (report in Times on Wednesday 15 May, page 10)

It seldom happens that a match of this kind begins and ends in a single day. Play was not attempted on Monday in consequence of wet weather, and the spots selected for the wickets were shifted yesterday to former ones, nearly facing the tennis court at Lord's. All things considered, they stood the wear and tear pretty well.

At the outset the game assumed a very unusual appearance. Marylebone won the toss and sent in their two great chieftains, Mr W G Grace and Smith. Contrary to all expectation, the former retired from the fourth ball of the first over, and the latter from the third ball of the subsequent over. Neither scored a run. In fact, the first seven wickets fell before a run of any kind was recorded, and the whole innings was completed in 40 Messrs for 16 runs, a circumstance that may challenge a parallel.

Jupp and R Humphrey started the Surrey batting. Both very soon retired. Pooley was the only man on this side who appeared to have any hit in him. The bowling throughout was unquestionably good. Rylott and Howitt were especially fortunate. At the close of the innings Surrey were in a majority of 33 runs.

Marylebone resumed their batting with Mr Grace and Smith. The first five wickets fell for 51 runs, the remaining five added 20. Southerton got seven wickets from 38 overs and Mr Strachan two wickets from 10 overs.

At half-past 5 Surrey addressed themselves to the task of getting 37 runs. Jupp and R Humphrey began amid considerable excitement. The first wicket (Jupp's) fell for six runs, Palmer left at 10. Then came T Humphrey, and was caught in the slip off the first ball. Pooley retired from a splendid catch effected by the bowler, and Mr Strachan added only a single, thus making five wickets down for 27 runs. At half-past six o'clock the requisite number was obtained by Surrey, with five wickets to spare.

Only three "extras" were recorded during the entire match. Umpires, Royston and Wootton.

Additional note: Friday 17 May, page 7

In reporting the match played at Lord's on Tuesday between Marylebone and Surrey, we said that the circumstance of a whole innings being completed in 40 minutes for 16 runs might challenge a parallel. A correspondent points out that in July, 1852, in a match played at Hungerford-park, Berks, All England v 22 of Hungerford, the former were disposed of for 12 runs only - 11 off the bat, three the highest score.

16 May: SOUTH v NORTH

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/1/1736.html)

Day 1 (report Friday 17 May, page 7)

Prince's Ground was visited yesterday by a large company. It was the first of four North and South matches contemplated during the present season. The South won the toss and elected to go in. The wickets were excellent and played faultlessly throughout the day.

Mr W G Grace and Jupp received the early overs, opposed to the bowling of Shaw and Barratt; 30 runs were scored in 15 minutes. At this period Jupp was caught at point. Mr G F Grace then joined his brother, but the partnership proved to be very brief in its duration. Two wickets, 33 runs. Mr Yardley came, and with him some of the finest batting ever witnessed. He scored 73 runs in 100 minutes, without giving the slightest chance. His hits were all round, and included one five, three fours (drives), six threes, five twos and singles. He retired with the score at 168.

Mr Grace followed soon after. The remaining six wickets added by 10 runs, owing to the bowling of Barratt, a left-hand slow with a peculiarly awkward twist. He got two wickets in one over and three in another. The innings closed at 4.40. This lateness arose in a great measure from an inexcusable delay in starting. When stumps were drawn the North had two wickets down for 47 runs. Play resumed to-day at 11.30.

Days 2 and 3 - no reports found

16 May: OXFORD UNIVERSITY v MARYLEBONE CLUB AND GROUND

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/1/1735.html)

Day 1 (report Friday 17 May, page 7)

This annual contest was commenced yesterday at Oxford. The ground was very dead and the weather dull. Mr Hadow played a fine innings of 43 and Mr Wallroth hit freely. The bowling of Wootton proved destructive.

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

Play in this match was resumed yesterday, at 12 o'clock, by Mr Isherwood, not out for 1, and Mr Coote, not out for 8. The former added three and the latter 12 – the highest score of his side . . .

The second innings of Oxford commenced as before with Messrs Townshend and Ottaway, under very unfavourable circumstances, as rain fell heavily. Mr Ottaway could not advance beyond three runs, and Mr Hadow joined Mr Townshend. The second wicket (Mr Hadow's) fell for 11. Mr Harris came next, but rain stopped play altogether by 3 o'clock. It will be resumed this day somewhat earlier than usual, weather permitting, in order, if possible, to bring the match to a satisfactory conclusion.

Day 3 – no report found

20 May: SOUTH v NORTH

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/1/1737.html)

Day 1 (report on Tuesday 21 May, page 11)

By far the largest gathering at Lord's this season was attracted thither yesterday to witness the above-named match. Owing to recent heavy rainfalls the wickets played false, the ball travelled sluggishly and the task of run getting was beset with more than ordinary difficulties. Play began at 12.10 with Mr W G Grace and Jupp at the wickets, opposed to the bowling of A Shaw and Barratt.

With the score at five Jupp was caught by the bowler, and R Humphrey joined Mr Grace. When 25 runs were totalled J C Shaw went on at Barratt's end. After three overs had been bowled, Mr Grace have a chance to mid-off, which, instead of being accepted, added a single to his previous score; but he was disposed of without further contributing. Mr Yardley then came forward and played his first ball into the hands of mid-on. Mr Ottaway also made a brief stay, and Pooley failed to obtain a run. Six wickets fell for 69.

Charlwood adopted a freer style and succeeded much better than some of his companions, but for a really great match it was a tame and dull affair. It occupied little more than two hours and closed for 95 runs . . .

The North selected Bignall and Lockwood to open their batting account. The latter was beautifully caught at deep square leg from a lofty hit. Smith only survived seven runs. Daft, quite as much puzzled with the deceptive twisting of the ball as the rest, retired for four, after being once missed at mid-off. In short not one of the North side was able to reach double figures, and in the course of an hour and 20 minutes the innings was completed for 37 runs.

The second innings of the [South] was more remarkable than the first. Mr Grace and Jupp started the batting as before; but before they were parted Barratt was put on in place of Shaw, and succeeded wonderfully. He got seven wickets in 13 overs and two balls. Mr Yardley was stumped from the first ball, and five others were similarly short-lived. At 6.30 the tenth wicket fell for a total of 86. Play was continued half an hour longer, though under a bad light . . .

Day 2 (report on Wednesday 22 May, page 7)

Little more than two hours sufficed to bring the second day's play in this match at Lord's to a definite conclusion. When stumps were drawn on Monday three innings out of the four were completed, and one wicket of the North (Mr Dale's) was down for 14 runs.

On resumption of play yesterday at 12.15 Smith joined Bignall, but the latter was soon caught at point from a "potty" hit. Two wickets, 21. Daft presented a baulking catch between wickets, which was declined. His subsequent play appeared to be more careful, but it was positively tedious. One of the overs he received raised doubts with regard to its co-efficients. He was eventually well caught behind the bowler low down. It may not be amiss here to remark that Willsher at this stage of the match bowled 10 overs (9 maiden) for two runs, and got Smith's wicket.

The largest score of the innings was effected by Carpenter, who, notwithstanding, "dragged a slow length along." At 61 Lillywhite took up the bowling at Willsher's end and Carpenter was caught at mid off. Five wickets for 63. From this period to the close of the innings nothing transpired calling for special mention, except the batting of Barratt, which was vigorous and effectual. The sixth wicket fell for 68 . . tenth, 92. By the aid of the full score attached there will be no difficulty in ascertaining that the South won by 52 runs.

23 May: CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY v MARYLEBONE CLUB AND GROUND

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/1/1738.html)

Day 1 (report on Friday 24 May, page 5)

This annual match commenced yesterday at Fenner's Ground shortly before 12 o'clock. Marylebone won the toss and sent in Mr Dale and Smith to the bowling of Mr Powys at the town end and Mr Raynor contra.

Fourteen runs were scored in the first half hour and fifty in the hour, notwithstanding that at one period thirteen overs were bowled for two singles. Mr Powys sent in eight successive maidens. The first wicket (Smith's) fell for 81 runs. Mr Jeffreys played a ball "on" when but two runs were added. Mr Booth then joined Mr Dale, and at luncheon time the total added to 118.

On resuming play, runs came very fast, 37 being got together in 20 minutes. When Mr Booth's off stump was struck, 168 runs were recorded for three wickets. At ten minutes past 4 the second hundred was entered upon. Mr Dale's long and successful innings terminated by a catch at point. He occupied the wicket for three hours and a half, and gave but one chance in the early stage of his innings, and one which led to his retirement. Eight fours, 10 threes and 14 twos were among the hits realizing his total of 132.

The University offered very feeble resistance to the Marylebone bowlers, and at the close of the day's play no less than seven wickets were down for 24 runs . . .

Day 2 (report on Saturday 25 May, page 10)

Play was resumed yesterday at the appointed time. Half an hour sufficed to bring the first University innings to a close. The eighth wicket fell for 34, ninth and tenth 44 . . .

Being in a minority of 190, Cambridge had to "follow on," and at 1 o'clock Messrs Tabor and Longman were once more at the wickets. Shaw bowled the first over and Farrands the next. Mr Longman cut each bowler for three and then lost his wicket. Mr Fryer joined Mr Tabor and the hitting became earnest. The score advanced to 39, when Barratt went on at Farrands' wicket. The first hour's play produced 70 runs, and of this number Mr Fryer claimed 49. He was eventually caught by the wicket keeper. His score of 61 was composed of three fours (chiefly leg hits), six three, seven twos and 17 singles. The most remarkable feature of the second University innings was the taking of three wickets by Farrands in three consecutive balls. Only 155 runs were totalled, and hence Marylebone won the match by an innings and 35 runs.

23 May: MIDDLESEX v YORKSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/1/1739.html)

Day 1 (scorecard on Friday 24 May, page 5) – no report, scorecard only

Day 2 (report on Saturday 25 May, page 10)

In all probability this match, now in course of play at Prince's Ground, will be a close one with regard to results; 141 runs are wanted and nine wickets to go down. All the Yorkshiremen are hitters.

Day 3 (report on Monday 27 May, page 12)

Saturday's play in this important contest at Prince's Ground was commenced at 12.30, with Emmett (not out) for 7 and Lockwood (not out) for 0, against the bowling of Mr R D Walker and Howitt.

When 25 runs had been added to the 15 of Friday evening, Mr Rutter took Mr Walker's place and from his second ball got Emmett's wicket. Hill came, and at 51 Hearne relieved Howitt. Three more runs were marked, and Lockwood played a ball into the hands of cover point. The fourth wicket (Hill's) fell at the same total – viz., 61. Freeman and Rowbotham got so well "set" at luncheon time that more than half the required runs were obtained, and every subsequent over was watched with increasing interest. Rowbotham was caught at mid-off with the score at 82. Half the wickets were now down and 60 runs wanting.

Greenwood – a young player of great promise – joined Freeman, and the latter, immediately after, cut Mr Rutter for 5, but was stumped in the following over. Six wickets, 91. Iddison appeared next, and at half-past 3 the telegraph announced 100. An appeal respecting a doubtful catch at point resulted in favour of Iddison. At 116 Mr R D Walker went on again, but was withdrawn at the termination of one over. The total reached 124 when Greenwood was caught by an expert fielder at mid-off. Hearne resumed bowling at 1.30 in place of Mr Rutter, and from his second over Iddison gave an undeniable chance to the wicket keeper. Eight of the Yorkshire team were now disposed of.

Hicks and Rawlinson in. Both hit freely. Presently a "tie" was announced, and but for an extraordinary piece of bungling among the fielders another wicket must have been forfeited. At 5 o'clock Hicks brought the match to a close with two wickets to spare.

27 May: MARYLEBONE CLUB AND GROUND v YORKSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/1/1740.html)

Day 1 (scorecard on Tuesday 28 May, page 12)

Play in this match at Lord's yesterday commenced within a few minutes of 12 o'clock. Stumps were drawn at 7 . . .

Day 2 (report on Wednesday 29 May, page 12)

Yesterday play in this match at Lord's commenced at 10 minutes past 12. The Yorkshiremen batted with great spirit throughout their second innings, which occupied nearly three hours and a half. Marylebone required 82 runs to win, and this number was obtained for the loss of two wickets. Umpires, Wootton and Royston.

3 June: SURREY v GLOUCESTERSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/1/1744.html)

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

Heavy rain prevented play in this match yesterday at the Oval from being commenced until 12.35. Gloucestershire were successful in the toss and they preferred the bat. Marten bowled the first ball to Mr W G Grace, and Southerton continued at the pavilion end of the ground.

With the score at 11, Mr Matthews was stumped off a slow. Mr Gordon came and was very soon dismissed. Two wickets, 16 runs. What with the effects of the weather and the slow bowling of Southerton, the ordinary style of run getting adopted by Mr Grace could not be sustained, and his wicket fell to Southerton for the trifling score of 13.

Messrs G F Grace and Strachan exhibited a sterner defence. They put on 60 runs before they were parted, not, however, without giving occasional and easy chances to the field. At 86 Mr G F Grace was well caught at long on. His score – the longest of the Gloucestershire side – occupied just one hour and comprised four fours, one three, two twos and 19 singles. Mr Strachan made several good and effective hits, but nothing occurred subsequently, so far as the individual efforts of the batsmen were concerned, to call for special mention. The innings terminated at 4.50 for 153 runs.

Surrey began extremely well, considering it was the first county match of the season at the Oval. Jupp and R Humphrey put on 60 runs in 48 minutes. The early bowlers, Messrs G F Grace and Miles, were then changed, and Mr Brice soon after was mainly instrumental in separating the leading pair; both caught at wicket. The three next fell in quick succession, and at the close of the day's play the score stood thus: . . . [Surrey 75/5.]

Day 2 (report on Wednesday 5 June, page 14)

Yesterday's play in this match at the Oval was of an unusually exciting character. The ninth man, T Humphrey, brought up the total to 108. Marten, missed at short leg, made a run, and from the next over a leg-bye, and the match was brought to a conclusion in favour of Surrey by one wicket.

3 June: OXFORD UNIVERSITY v GENTLEMEN OF ENGLAND

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/1/1743.html)

Day 1 (scorecard on Tuesday 4 June, page 10, but no report)

Days 2 and 3 – no report or scorecard found

10 June: MARYLEBONE CLUB AND GROUND v MIDDLESEX

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/1/1747.html)

Day 1 (report on Tuesday 11 June, page 13)

Taking into consideration the importance of this time-honoured match yesterday at Lord's, it attracted very little interest, probably through the rivalry of the International Boat Race. Very few persons were present when play began with Mr I D Walker and Hearne as representatives of Middlesex at the wickets. The scoring progress of Mr Walker was unusually slow, seeing that he averaged little more than fifteen runs per hour during his stay of 100 minutes. The innings closed for 99 runs.

Messrs Grace and Dale led off the Marylebone batting, but both were quickly dismissed. Messrs Yardley and Filgate were the only pair to reach double figures. In fact, the ground was dead against runs, and it played so treacherously that all attempts were utterly fruitless. Before 5 o'clock the tenth man retired for the trifling total of 67 runs. Thus far only two wickets on each side were clean bowled; one on each side was stumped and seven were caught.

The second innings of Middlesex exhibited greater weakness than the first, for at the close of the day's play nine wickets were lost for 51 runs . . . Play will be resumed this day at 2 o'clock.

Days 2 and 3 (report on Thursday 13 June, page 12)

When play in the match at Lord's ceased on Monday, an innings by each eleven was perfected, and nine Middlesex wickets were also down for 51 runs. Not a stump was pitched on Tuesday, in consequence of the unpropitious character of the weather. Shortly after 12 o'clock yesterday Mr V E Walker, a not out for 8, and Howitt for 5, resumed their batting. After three runs were added by the latter, Shaw bowled him clean, and this brought the second innings of Middlesex to a close. The bowling honours were evenly divided . . .

Marylebone now required 87 runs to win - a number seemingly insignificant when the qualifications of the batsmen are considered. But the battle is not always to the strong. Mr Grace and Smith were first sent in against Mr Rutter and Howitt. Twenty-one runs were scored when Mr Grace was caught at the wicket. At 32 Mr Cobden was caught at mid on, and Smith at cover point in the third subsequent over. Mr Yardley brought on a change of bowling at Howitt's end; 52 runs were telegraphed when Mr Yardley was caught at deep mid off. Shaw added a single and Mr Filgate retired with the total at 63 for six wickets.

Barratt hit very determinedly and soon put together 11, but Mr Bisset quickly disappeared. The eighth wicket fell for 77, and as neither Mr Dale nor Mr Thornton was present, the umpires pulled up the stumps and the match was left in the unsatisfactory state described by the score attached hereto . . .

13 June: SURREY v CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/1/1749.html)

Day 1 (report on Friday 14 June, page 12)

This annual match at the Oval commenced yesterday, and, as the weather was unusually inviting, a large number of persons took the opportunity of witnessing the play. Cambridge won the toss and went in. The wickets were in good condition and the ground played admirably. Messrs Longman and Tabor started the batting against Southerton and Marten as bowlers in chief.

From the third ball of the match Mr Longman ran himself out. Mr Fryer then appeared, and assisted materially in bringing up the total to 39, when Caffyn relieved Marten, and from the first ball of the change Mr Fryer was caught at short slip. Mr Yardley next joined Mr Tabor and made a long and vigorous defence. Mr Tabor was at the wicket just one hour and a half, and 90 runs were scored meantime. Mr Yardley's innings may be regarded as a faultless one, but Mr Tobin's the most successful. The latter occupied the wicket for two hours and a half, and, when bowled for 77 runs, the University innings closed - total, 274. His chief hits were one five (off drive), three fours (various), five threes (chiefly cuts) and ten twos. Time, 5.30 . . .

Day 2 (report on Saturday 15 June, page 12)

Very few persons anticipated such a result as that which Surrey experienced at the Oval yesterday - viz., a defeat by one innings and eight runs. At the close of Thursday's play they had lost two wickets for 57 runs, and a supposed good team of run getters was calculated upon. But such was the variety of bowling [that] Cambridge had at command, and such too their excellence of fielding, that runs came very slowly, and in some instances not at all. Mr A Simmonds was two hours in obtaining 27, the largest score of the innings, which totalled 102.

Surrey, being in a minority of 172, had to "follow on." The quickest run getting in the second innings may be referred to Caffyn and T Humphrey - viz., 30 in ten overs. The first wicket fell for 36 . . tenth, 164. The innings closed at 6h 30m . . .

17 June: MIDDLESEX v OXFORD UNIVERSITY

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/1/1751.html)

Day 1 (report on Tuesday 18 June, page 9)

An unusually large number of persons attended Prince's Ground yesterday to witness the above-named match. Finer weather could not have been desired; the turf was in beautiful condition and the wickets played admirably. Middlesex, having won the toss, sent in Messrs I D Walker and Turner, opposed to Messrs Butler and Pelham as bowlers.

When five overs had been delivered these gentlemen changed ends, and soon after Mr Ridley was brought on. The first wicket fell for 27 runs. Mr R D Walker then joined his brother, and as both batsmen evinced a disposition to stick, Mr Isherwood relieved Mr Butler, but the change produced no benefit to the assailants. Mr I D Walker was at length finely taken at the wicket. Mr Green received but three balls. After luncheon the batting of Hearne exhausted all the bowling resources at command. His score of 91 comprised one five, four fours (chiefly drives), five threes, 10 twos and singles. The innings extended over six hours and resulted in a total of 250 runs. Seven bowlers were engaged . . .

The University began their batting with Messrs Townshend and Ottaway. Howitt bowled the opening over without any result. Mr Rutter got punished by Mr Townshend, and was taken off . . .

Day 2 (report on Wednesday 19 June, page 7)

It is quite likely that this match at Prince's, which began on Monday and continued yesterday, will occupy the whole of this day and then be left unfinished. The scoring up to this present time has been heavy, and the general belief is that runs will still be abundant.

Messrs Townshend and Ottaway resumed their stations at the wicket yesterday within a few minutes of the announced time. Mr Ottaway retired first, after a really well-played innings of 33. Mr Townshend was full three hours on his defence. His chief hits were one five (drive), four fours (chiefly drives), seven threes (various). Mr R D Walker bowled from the northern wicket up to luncheon time, Hearne went on afterwards. Both the Hon G Harris and Mr Francis played the varied bowling brought against them with judgment and determined.

After the fall of the eighth wicket for 190 runs the University batting went off rapidly. Mr Isherwood was caught at short leg for a very magnificent contribution. Mr Butler did not survive two overs, and Mr Pelham's stay was even of less endurance. The latter gentleman's wicket was the only one bowled during the innings, which closed, at 5.20, for just 200 runs.

Mr I D Walker and Mr Turner recommenced the Middlesex batting, opposed to Messrs Butler and Law. From the third ball of the 14th over Mr Turner was clean bowled. Mr Green then came forward, and in conjunction with Mr Walker gave the field plenty of employment up to the call of "time."

Day 3

The third day's play in this match at Prince's commenced yesterday within a few minutes of the stipulated time. Mr I D Walker and Mr Green soon enlarged their overnight scores, the former by 19 runs and the latter by 13. Mr Rutter made a splendid on drive fully worth six runs, but the batsman seemed inclined to take less for the hit than its value, rather than undergo the fatigue of an extra run and incur a probable risk of position.

In the after part of the day the bowling force of the University appeared well nigh exhausted. Hearne punished it severely, and in one instance he sent the ball at a rapid pace past the mulberry trees far across the croquet-ground beyond. But all real interest in this match had by this entirely vanished, and very little excitement manifested itself. The sixth wicket realized 200 runs . . the eleventh 277 . . . The bowling was subject to a great variety of changes.

Two hours yet remained for the University to reduce as much as possible the 328 runs "set" for them. Messrs Townshend and Ottaway began the task, but the former was caught easily at point with the total at nine. Mr Hadow played well up to his companion until 32 were scored - caught at cover point. Mr Tylecote next joined Mr Ottaway, and 43 were obtained, when the latter was caught in the slip. The Hon [G] Harris made an unexpectedly brief stay - bowled for three. Mr Garnier came forward, and some of the cleanest hitting during the whole three days was displayed between him and Mr Tylecote. "Time" was called when 92 runs were totalled and the match declared drawn. Umpires, Willsher and Thoms.

17 June: MARYLEBONE CLUB AND GROUND v CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/1/1750.html)

Day 1 (report on Tuesday 18 June, page 9)

A return match to one played at Cambridge on the 23rd of May last took place at Lord's yesterday. Play began at 12.18, but from the opening of the University innings to the close the progress was extremely slow. Two or three of the scores made are entitled to special mention on account of the sound and careful style exhibited in obtaining them by Messrs Longman and Baily. The only hit for five was made by Mr Powys, who evidently went in for hard hitting, and he to a certain extent succeeded . . . Time occupied, 3 hours 10 min.

The innings of Marylebone briefly dismissed. Mr Grace's off-stump was sent clean out of the play when he had scored but four runs. Mr Powys and Mr Bray had charge of the early bowling, but it involved a curiosity. Mr Powys on the first over of the innings delivered a ball from which two runs (wides) resulted; the second was a no ball, the third a bye, the fourth a no ball, the fifth a leg bye and the two balls.

Mr Harvey, who had taken Mr Powys' place at 39, bowled the fifth, sixth and seventh wickets in three consecutive balls; the eighth and ninth wickets fell for 57 and the tenth for 83. The fielding laid itself open to adverse criticism, seeing that no less than 21 extras were claimed by Marylebone . . . Play will be resumed to-day at 12 o'clock.

Day 2 (report on Wednesday 19 June, page 7)

When Monday's play in this match at Lord's ceased, each side had completed an innings, and two Cambridge wickets were also down for 23 runs. Messrs Yardley and Tabor, the not-outs, for 7 and 4 respectively, resumed the batting yesterday at 10 minutes past 12 o'clock. Shaw and Barratt were the bowlers.

The latter gave way to Wootton at the expiration of seven overs. So effectual was the change that no double figures were realized after the dismissal of the two leading batsmen. The third wicket fell for 51 runs . . . eighth, ninth and tenth, 78. One absentee.

Marylebone required 95 to win. They started indifferently, as five wickets fell for 19 runs. Mr Grace, however, batted in such style that he not only pulled the match out of the fire, but obtained the highest score. His 54 included three fives (two off drives and a cut), two fours, two threes and eight twos. Soon after 4 o'clock he made a square leg hit for two runs, which brought the match to a termination in favour of Marylebone, with five wickets to spare. Umpires, Farrands and Biddulph.

17 June: YORKSHIRE v SURREY

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/1/1752.html)

Day 1 – no report found

Day 2 (report on Wednesday 19 June, page 7)

This match was resumed yesterday on the Bramall-lane Ground, Sheffield, in the presence of an immense concourse of spectators.

Day 3 – no report found

20 June: SURREY v SUSSEX

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/1/1754.html)

Day 1 – no report found (missing page?)

Day 2 (report on Saturday 22 June, page 12)

Surrey lost three wickets for one run at the commencement of yesterday's play, and this brought their innings to a close with a minority of 112 runs. They had to "follow on," and at the close of their second innings a "set" for Sussex of 1209 resulted. Of this number 45 were obtained for the loss of one wicket. For such a match the attendance at the Oval hitherto has been very good. Play will be resumed this day at 12 o'clock.

Day 3 (report on Monday 24 June, page 10)

The amount of runs required of Sussex on Saturday was obtained at the expense of two wickets, and they consequently won the match by eight wickets. Among the notable features in the three days' play were the batting of W Humphreys and Charlwood and the wicket-keeping of Phillips on the Sussex side, together with the excellent and successful defence of Mr Simmonds on the part of Surrey. There is also the still more remarkable fact that throughout the whole match, in which 32 wickets were taken, only three were clean bowled.

20 June: MARYLEBONE CLUB AND GROUND v OXFORD UNIVERSITY

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/1/1753.html)

Days 1 and 2 (report on Saturday 22 June, page 12)

In many respects it may be said that this return match has proved to be a disappointing one. It began late on Thursday and was finished before 5 o'clock yesterday. When the first day's play ceased Marylebone had completed an innings for 243 runs, and nine University wickets were down for the trifling total of 71.

Messrs Francis and Isherwood jointly enlarged the score by 17 on the second day of play, and with this contribution the innings terminated. The bowling of Wootton and Shaw was very searching and required batsmen of no uncommon order to withstand it. For instance, Shaw took four wickets in 38 overs (23 maiden) for 33 runs; Wootton five wickets, 39 overs (20 maiden), 52 runs.

Being 157 in arrear, Oxford had to "follow on." Mr Isherwood got nine runs out of the first 11 scored. He then had to contend with a ball that beat him. Mr Ottaway made two fours from one over of Barratt's, and this successful hitting brought Wootton forward once more. In the sixth over Mr Ottaway retired. Mr Townshend was soon after bowled off his pad. Mr Tylecote then came, and Wootton got punished, more especially by Mr Hadow, who made ten runs by three hits in quick succession. The match, however, possessed no interest whatever, and it closed for 124 runs, thus leaving Marylebone winners by one innings and 33 runs. Umpires, Smith and Rylott.

24 June: OXFORD UNIVERSITY v CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/1/1755.html)

Day 1 (report on Tuesday 25 June, page 5)

The annual meeting of the Light and Dark Blue Elevens at Lord's is now regarded as one of the "events" of the season, and, notwithstanding the increased tariff for admission, no less than 12,000 persons attended yesterday to witness the early progress of the match. At the outset Cambridge were, generally speaking, first favourites, and this opinion gained strength as the day wore on.

Messrs Longman and Tabor began the Cambridge batting at 11.30, opposed to Mr Butler at the Pavilion wicket and Mr Ridley contra. When 19 runs were obtained Mr Francis relieved Mr Ridley, and at 35 ends were changed. At 47 another change was made, and this practice continued until 104 runs were scored, when Mr Tabor was caught at long leg. Mr Fryer, who hitherto has not been very successful in similar encounters, made a very fine innings of 46, composed of six fours, one three, two twos &c. - caught mid on. Mr Yardley next joined Mr Longman, and at luncheon time only the two fore-named gentlemen had lost their wickets, while 200 were recorded.

Upon resumption of play the same rapid style of scoring from the bat continued. Mr Longman was three hours and a quarter on his defence. Mr Thornton occupied but ten minutes in making six hits, which realized 20 runs. Mr Baily was bowled off his pad for two twos, and Mr Tobin played "on," without contributing anything; six wickets, 290. Mr Cobden made 12, and was caught mid off.

During the coming and going of these gentlemen Mr Yardley was unceasing in his contributions. Scarcely an over was presented to him without yielding some return. He was upwards of two hours at the wicket, and averaged more than a run per minute meantime. The innings closed at ten minutes past 5 for 388 runs . . .

Oxford sent in Messrs Ottaway and Townshend against Messrs Powys and Raynor. In the sixth over Mr Ottaway was caught about three yards behind the wicket. Mr Hadow was bowled with the total at 40, and Mr Townshend at 41. Mr Tylecote retired for a very insignificant score, caught in the deep field, and at 68 Mr Harris lost his leg stump. Mr Wallroth fell to the wicket-keeper, while a bail ball decided the fate of Mr Francis. Eight wickets, 68. Messrs Law and Ridley were partnered for a very short time. The former was beautifully thrown out by mid on, and the innings a few minutes afterwards came to a close for the trifling total of 72.

The innings of both parties up to the present time may be considered as great surprises. It is impossible to forecast what turns the game may take, but the Oxford chance of winning is unquestionably very remote. Umpires, Wootton and Hearne . . . Play will be resumed at 11.30 this day.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 26 June, page 11)

It was quite 12 o'clock yesterday before Messrs Townshend and Ottaway took their places at the wickets to commence the second innings of Oxford. The cause of this delay arose chiefly from a heavy shower which fell an hour previously. Owing to the dead state of the ground it was next to

impossible to score with much freedom. Hence 30 minutes were consumed in obtaining 11 runs, a striking contrast to the previous day.

Mr Townshend's off stump fell with the score at 13, and Mr Hadow survived only nine balls, from which he realized nothing. Mr Tylecote, in conjunction with Mr Ottaway, brought up the first hour's total to 29. Four runs were added, when Mr Raynor relieved Mr Bray, who bowled the second over from the Pavilion wicket. The hitting now improved considerably, both in force and effect. At 1h 50m the telegraph board announced 50 runs. At this stage Mr Cobden came forward and Mr Powys for a while retired from bowling.

Runs were for a while earned with difficulty. At 65 Mr Powys went on again, and at 2 o'clock 77 runs were totalled. The bowling was shortly after resumed by Mr Bray at the wicket from which he started. Mr Tylecote gave a chance to long-stop at 80, which was, however, declined; but before the over was completed Mr Ottaway placed a ball into the hands of short-leg. Three wickets, 82 runs, of which the retiring batsman claimed just one-half.

Mr Wallroth made a very brief stay - caught at short-slip - and Mr Harris was bowled from the first ball. Before the completion of another over, Mr Tylecote's innings terminated, after a well-acquired score of 40; Messrs Law and Francis advanced the total to 102, when the former was caught in the slips, and at 115 the latter at mid-off. Messrs Isherwood and Ridley batted with great spirit under depressing circumstances; an ill-judged run disposed of one, and the other brought out his bat, as the "last man" received but one ball, which completely upset his wicket.

This closed the proceedings at 4 o'clock in favour of Cambridge by an innings and 166 runs, the easiest win on record . . . Although the weather yesterday was damp and cloudy and the match sadly deficient in interest, there was a very large attendance . . .

27 June: NOTTINGHAMSHIRE v YORKSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/1/1757.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 28 June, page 7)

The first day's play in this great match at Nottingham yesterday was interrupted by rain.

Day 2 (scorecard only given in Saturday 29 June, page 12)

Day 3 (report from Monday 1 July, page 12)

One hundred and eighty-eight runs were required of Yorkshire on Saturday in order to win this great county match; but only four of the eleven contributed anything worth speaking of, and at the close of the innings they were in a minority of 50 runs. Out of the 40 wickets taken during the three days' play, 22 resulted from catches. A very large number of persons visited the Trent-bridge Ground, Nottingham, to witness the progress of the game.

1 July: GENTLEMEN v PLAYERS

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/1/1759.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 2 July, page 12)

Lord's Ground was visited yesterday by nearly 4,000 persons to witness this great annual match. The heavy rainfall at daybreak proved serviceable, and good wickets were obtained without difficulty. The Players won the toss, and at a quarter past 12 Humphrey and Jupp awaited the attack of Messrs Buchanan and Powys. The former gentleman delivered the opening over from the western, or pavilion, wicket.

At 14 Jupp's off stump fell. Lockwood came and the score moved on freely. When it had reached 40 Mr Buchanan changed ends, and Mr Appleby relieved Mr Powys. With the total at 53 Lockwood was stumped, and Daft entered the arena, heralded with applause, but he soon retired, bowled from the second ball. Carpenter next joined Humphrey, and the score advanced to 78, when a catch at corner [cover?] point left the latter once more without a partner. Smith made an unexpectedly brief stay and was caught at cover point off a very bad hit. Shortly after his retirement Humphrey was driven on to his wicket. His innings of 46 was by far the most finished specimen of batting displayed throughout the day, and equal to anything of the kind during the season.

Pooley's mid-stump was struck at 97. Shaw and Southerton then infused a little vigour into the play. An easy chance at long leg was declined, but with the addition of two runs the fielder atoned for his mistake but a match at mid-off, and thus A Shaw had to make room for his namesake. The difficulty of getting the last wicket brought Mr Powys forward again. At 136 J C Shaw was clean bowled. Time, 3h 48m. The fielding throughout the innings was in many ways very defective . . .

The gentlemen started with Messrs W G Grace and Hornby, opened to the bowling of Southerton and M M'Intyre. With the score at 19 Mr Grace was missed by J C Shaw at short leg, but at 25 Mr Hornby's off-stump was completely shot down. Mr Ottaway played a very fine innings; 50 runs were totalled in the first half hour. Shaw then bowled seven maiden overs in succession. The second wicket (Mr Ottaway) fell for 58. A Shaw took up the bowling at 72, the change had no effect, and at 100 M'Intyre resumed.

Mr Grace's large hits contributed materially towards the 77 runs appended to his name; caught at short slip. A fine cut by Mr Yardley was one among the few fives of the day claiming notice. At the call of time the Gentlemen had lost seven wickets for 178 runs. Play will be resumed this day at 12 o'clock.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 3 July, page 14)

Play in this match at Lord's was resumed yesterday within five minutes of the stipulated time. Mr Appleby, the "not out" for six runs, had Mr Powys for his partner. J C Shaw bowled the first over from the eastern wicket, and M'Intyre continued at the other. The second ball of the latter took Mr Powys' off stump. Mr Bisset came, and the score advanced steadily to 187, when Mr Appleby retired. The last ball of the next over proved fatal to Mr Bisset, and the innings then closed.

Humphrey and Jupp began the second innings of the Players with 51 runs in arrear. Mr Powys put down a ball to Humphrey in his third over that completely beat the batsman. Lockwood then joined Jupp, and before this pair could be parted the arrears were rubbed off. Lockwood was at the wicket nearly two hours, and scored 60 runs in masterly style. His chief hits were four fours, eight threes and five twos. Another fine display of batting occurred between Daft and Carpenter, yet differing very materially in results. Daft played with great caution at the commencement of his innings, but in the course of time he evinced greater freedom of action and kept possession of his wicket for nearly four hours, and obtained the largest score of the match - viz., 102 runs. Carpenter consumed 105 minutes in getting 29 runs.

A great change followed the retirement of the two last-named players. Smith was caught from the fifth ball received, Pooley from the third, and M'Intyre in the succeeding over. Fifth and sixth wickets, 226; seventh, 232. A Shaw began his score with three fours, and by the aid of an unusual amount of extras 274 runs were realized when the innings closed. Time, 6 hours 50 minutes. The bowling was characterized more by variety than effectiveness . . .

The Gentlemen now required 224 to win, and they sent in Messrs Hornby and Ottaway. It was, however, difficult to perceive this wisdom of extending the usual time allotted for a day's work. Each batsman hit very free, and a score of 26 resulted. At 7.25 Mr Hornby was caught at short-leg, and further play was adjourned till 12 o'clock this day. It is quite possible that the Gentlemen may yet "pull the match out of the fire;" if so, it ought to be regarded as an achievement.

Day 3 (report from Thursday 4 July, page 10)

It may probably be remembered when Tuesday's play in this match closed, the Gentlemen required 224 runs and had nine wickets to get them with. The odds were very much against them starting yesterday, but in less than one hour the tide turned in their favour. Messrs W G Grace and Ottaway were together at the wickets more than two hours, and during this time no less than 178 runs were recorded.

Mr Grace was the first to leave, being caught in the deep field with a score of 112. His chief hits were three fives (drives), seven fours (various), three threes (cuts), 14 twos (chiefly to leg). Only four runs were added when Mr Ottaway retired, caught at cover point. This gentleman's subscription of 48 was the product of two hours and a half's highly finished batting.

The match was now virtually settled. Change after change of bowling had been for some time tried to little purpose, and it was merely a question of wickets. The matter was set at rest in about half an hour by Messrs Dale and Yardley; both his fearlessly, and at 3.35 the latter despatched the ball to square leg for four runs, and the match was declared to be won by the Gentlemen with seven wickets to spare. Umpires, Hearne and Biddulph . . .

4 July: GENTLEMEN v PLAYERS

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/1/1760.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 5 July, page 12)

The Oval match between the above parties commenced yesterday at Kennington. With few exceptions, the sides were the same as those at Lord's in the early part of the week.

The Gentlemen made a long innings, and three of their number totalled 280 runs . . . Two good wickets were lost on the other side for 32 runs, when time was called. Play will be resumed this day at 12 o'clock.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 6 July, page 12)

When play on Thursday ceased the Gentlemen had completed an innings, and the Players lost two wickets for 32 runs. Yesterday Daft and Humphrey, the two not outs for 0 and 19 respectively, recommenced the batting within a few minutes of the appointed time. The wickets fell fast until Southerton joined Humphrey. Six bowlers were put on before a separation could be effected.

As the Players were 170 in arrear at the close of the innings they were compelled to "follow on." In their second innings they lost five wickets for 89 runs. Pooley and Daft played with great spirit and success until Daft retired. From this stage of the game until the fall of the last wicket no incident claiming special notice occurred. The Gentlemen required 13 runs to win. This number cost them one wicket.

8 July: ENGLAND v NOTTINGHAMSHIRE AND YORKSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/1/1761.html)

Final report (from Wednesday 23 July, page 10)

The above match was brought to a conclusion at 7.55 last evening, England winning by nine wickets. It is worthy of notice that 19 out of the 20 Counties' wickets fell to the Sussex bowlers, Southerton taking 12 and Lillywhite 7.

15 July: SURREY v MIDDLESEX

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/1/1763.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 16 July, page 10)

The first match this season between these counties commenced yesterday at the Oval shortly after 12 o'clock. Surrey were fortunate in the toss, and they sent their opponents at once to the wicket. Several really excellent batsmen retired for trifling figures, but the contribution of Mr I D Walker amply atoned for their shortcomings. The Middlesex innings occupied four hours and a quarter, and resulted in a total of 181 runs.

Viewed as a whole, the fielding of Surrey was unusually good. At the close of the day's proceedings Surrey had five wickets down for 86 runs. Play will be resumed to-day at 12.15.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 17 July, page 11)

At the conclusion of the first day's play Middlesex had completed an innings for 181 runs, and five wickets of Surrey were lost for 86. Mr Strachan and Pooley, the "not outs" for 21 and 3 respectively, resumed their batting yesterday within a few minutes of the stipulated time. Runs came apace - viz., 60 in 35 minutes, but this free style of hitting was kept up with but little variation till the tenth wicket fell for 227 runs . . .

The chief features of the second Middlesex innings was the batting of Mr A Tabor, who went in first and came out ninth . . . Surrey required 71 to win. The leading batsman (Humphrey) was caught from the first ball; but the second wicket realized 65 runs. Mr Game came third, and was bowled by the second ball received. The winning hit was shortly after made by Mr Howell.

18 July: NOTTINGHAMSHIRE v YORKSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/1/1766.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 19 July, page 7)

A large company was attracted to Prince's Ground yesterday to witness this important county match. The scoring was by no means large. At the close of the day the following results were published. Play will be resumed at 12 o'clock to-day. Umpires, Willsher and Carpenter.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 20 July, page 8)

As this match progresses the interest in it increases. When stumps were drawn on Thursday, Yorkshire appeared to be sadly behind. But soon after resumption of play yesterday came a favourite change. Nearly three hours were expended in getting four wickets. At the close of the innings the Yorkshire score was 49 more than that of Notts. Every run was well striven for and deservedly obtained.

At the close of the second day's play Notts had lost four wickets for 77 runs. The match attracted the largest company hitherto seen in Prince's Ground. Play will be resumed this day at 12 o'clock.

Day 3 (report from Monday 22 July, page 10)

Regarded in a strictly speaking cricketing sense, this was by far the best contested match hitherto witnessed, not merely at Prince's Ground but in London during the present season. It fluctuated materially in its progress from Thursday noon to Saturday evening, each side being in turn the favourite at considerable odds.

The play of the third day developed talent of the highest order, especially when Yorkshire had to struggle against 125 runs to win, and half their wickets were down for about one-fourth of the required number. Pinder and Kaye proved obstinate, and several changes of bowling were had recourse to. Every run was watched with anxiety.

The seventh wicket (Pinder's) fell for 79 and the eighth (Kaye's) for 82. Hill advanced the score to 109 and Clayton to 118, when he was caught, and Notts declared winners by six runs - a remarkably close result for a really great county match . . .

22 July: MARYLEBONE CLUB AND GROUND v SOUTH

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/1/1767.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 23 July, page 5)

The thunderstorm which visited London yesterday caused considerable delay in the commencement of this match at Lord's. The South won the toss, but the batting did not begin till half-past 3, when Jupp and R Humphrey led off, in opposition to Shaw and Clayton as bowlers in chief.

At 33 Mr Grace relieved Clayton, and at 42 Farrands went on at the other end. 50 runs were scored in the first hour. Six were added hereto when the first wicket (Humphrey's) fell. Silcock put together 20 in quick time, but a catch at slip dismissed him. Charlwood then became Jupp's partner, and before these could be parted several changes of bowling occurred. Jupp was in nearly three hours for 61 runs. The third wicket had 142 runs recorded.

Mr G F Grace then joined Charlwood; 40 runs were added before the former was well caught in the long-field. After this the hitting became still more potent. Charlwood sent two balls on to the upper roof of the Pavilion, and then from two consecutive balls delivered by Mr Grace two fives resulted. At the call of time only four wickets were down for 196 runs. It is proposed to resume play strictly at 12 o'clock this day, in order to get the match completed if possible.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 24 July, page 5)

Play in this match at Lord's was delayed some time yesterday in consequence of the soft state of the ground. Charlwood, one of the "not outs" for 59, added nine, when a ball from Shaw bowled him clean. Pooley, the other "not out" for seven, brought up his figures to 12, a fine running catch at long on then disposed of him. Six wickets, 218. The subsequent portion of the innings has no claim to special mention. Total, 245.

Mr Grace and Smith started the Marylebone batting at 1.55 against two Sussex bowlers, who were unchanged throughout. Mr Grace had scored seven runs when to all appearances he was run out; the umpire, however, thought otherwise. A chance was offered to Pearce at long on in the 14th subsequent over, but declined; a chance also occurred to mid-on and was not accepted, but in the following second ball Pearce atones for his previous failure. When Mr Grace retired six wickets were lost for 53 runs. Lillywhite after this obtained three wickets in five overs.

The innings closed for 78 and Marylebone had to follow on. At the close of the day 58 runs were scored without the loss of a wicket.

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

The defeat sustained by Marylebone in this resumed match yesterday was very significant - viz., that of an innings and 23 runs. Play began at 12.20, with Mr W G Grace, a "not out" for 42, and Smith. No reason was assigned for the absence of Captain Rowley, the other "not out" for 16.

In about a quarter of an hour 12 runs were added to the over night total, of which Smith claimed 10. Mr Grace was caught at the wicket off a very erratic ball. After Mr Grace's departure the resistance to Southerton and Lillywhite was of a very feeble character. Smith was caught at mid-on, with the score at 80. Messrs Strachan and Crawford were disposed of in one over from Southerton. Four wickets, 87.

Shaw and Mr Jeffreys brought up the score to just 100 at a quarter-past 1; six were added when Mr Jeffreys left. Price commenced with a square leg-hit for three, and for a while a stand was made; most of the runs, however, proceeded from Shaw. At 116 Price was caught at cover point, with the total at 117 for six wickets. Biddulph joined Shaw, but the game was evidently "up" when Shaw retired. Seven wickets, 133. Farrands fell to the first ball received, and Clayton, the last man, added five singles and a two previous to being caught by the bowler . . . Time, 2 hours 15 minutes.

25 July: SOUTH v NORTH

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/1/1768.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 26 July, page 11)

The attendance yesterday at the Oval was perhaps the largest of the present season. The match was promoted for the benefit of Griffith, for many years a professional attached to the Surrey Club . . .

Day 2 (report from Saturday 27 July, page 12)

From the subjoined score it will be seen that the South won this match by eight wickets. Umpires, Humphrey and Stephenson.

29 July: KENT v SUSSEX

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/1/1770.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 30 July, page 10)

The first match of the present season between these counties commenced yesterday at the Angel Ground, Tonbridge. The wickets played tolerably true, although frequent falls of the fielders betrayed the want of closer care and attention as regards the quality of the sward. Sussex won the toss and went in.

Mr Absolom and Willsher had charge of the early bowling. The first wicket fell for six runs, but the fourth realized 58. At this stage Charlwood came forward and continued to the close of the innings. His batting was the feature of the day . . .

Mr Thornton and Willis started the Kent batting. Both soon set the scorers to work. Mr Thornton was not long in putting together 14, for in one instance the ball was sent over the boundary wall; the feat elicited a round of applause, but did not occur a second time. Willis played a very sound innings, and on his retirement 58 runs were recorded for Kent. With the exception of Mr Rodger, no other batsman subsequently reached double figures, and at the close of the day's work – abruptly broken off by rain – Kent had lost nine wickets for 98 runs. Southerton and Lillywhite bowled throughout. Play will be resumed to-day at 12 o'clock, weather permitting.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 31 July, page 8)

The weather was so unfavourable yesterday at Tonbridge that play was several times broken off. At 5 o'clock stumps were drawn.

Day 3 (report from Thursday 1 August, page 7)

A quarter of a century ago such a defeat as that inflicted upon Kent yesterday by its neighbour would have created astonishment and provoked inquiry. Sussex certainly were the favourites at starting on Monday, and continued in favour to the close of the game.

Kent began their second innings with 298 runs to get. Great reliance was placed upon Mr Thornton, and he, in consequence, led off the batting in conjunction with Mr Morris. The former got 10 runs in three hits. With these his starring ended, evidently much to the disappointment of sensation seekers. Mr Harris played a steadier game and succeeded in bringing on a change of bowling. Three wickets, however, fell for 27 runs and four for 38.

With the total at 54, Mr Harris was finely caught at mid-off. Willsher came, but soon lost the company of Mr Rodger – bowled mid stump. Henty began with a single and left off at the same figure. Seven wickets, 62. From Bennett but little was expected, but before he was disposed of the score reached 143. The loss of Southerton was seriously felt. Phillips was out of place as a bowler, quite as much as his deputy behind the wicket. Mr Absolom made a brief stay, and his successor effected one run in one over, when not only a stump but the whole wicket was in disorder.

This brought the match to a termination, leaving Sussex victors by nearly 150 runs . . .

1 August: SURREY v YORKSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/1/1774.html)

Days 1 and 2 (report from Saturday 3 August, page 12)

A return match between these counties was commenced on Thursday at the Oval. It scarcely excited the interest it deserved; and the attendance was, comparatively speaking, very small.

Surrey began the batting with Jupp and T Humphrey. Both retired for trifling scores, while Palmer, the third man, added nothing. R Humphrey played a fine innings of 70, and this brought the game into a more healthy condition than the friends of Surrey calculated upon. On his retirement the score had reached 147 for seven wickets. Several liberal scores were afterwards effected, so that 194 were totalled when the tenth wicket fell . . .

The batting of the Yorkshire men, especially that of Lockwood, was very fine. He scored 121 runs without giving a chance. Pinder also defended his wicket admirably to the last. His chief hits were – one five and five fours (all drives). The innings closed for 145 runs . . .

In the second innings of Surrey Jupp was missed at wicket when he had scored five. Play will be resumed this day at 12.

Day 3 (report from Monday 5 August, page 8)

When Friday's play in this return match at the Oval ceased each party had perfected an innings, and 82 runs were, moreover, obtained by Jupp and Humphrey on the part of Surrey without loss of wicket. Under these circumstances the cricket of Saturday was regarded with more interest by the public generally than in previous stages of it. The "not outs" referred to added 52 runs before they were caught, but the subsequent contributions – saving that of Mr Boulton – were of such meagre description that great disappointment ensued. Seven wickets realized only 19 runs and the total 172 . . .

Yorkshire required 22 runs to win, and they sent in Hill and Pinder to get them. This was a task of easy accomplishment, and Surrey was beaten by ten wickets.

THE CANTERBURY WEEK

Report from Tuesday 6 August, page 8

The bright hopes entertained concerning this annual week of cricket were sadly dimmed by the unfavourable weather of yesterday. The ground at St Lawrence was, perhaps, never in finer condition, and the spots selected for the three distinct wickets evinced special skill and attention, but not a ball was bowled throughout the day, as rain fell persistently till nearly 4 o'clock.

From sickness and other causes, considerable changes were made in the lists of players; thus Charlwood was appointed to take the place of Mr E M Grace, and A Greenwood, at the eleventh hour, was, by the kindness of Iddison, permitted to fill the vacancy caused by Mr Mitchell's unavoidable retirement. Mr Tennent appeared for Mr Hornby, also unable to keep his appointment. Morley was substituted for A Shaw, and Bignall for Mr Dale.

The old city did not assume its wonted gay appearance. Nearly all the principal shops were closed for the "Bank holyday," and the comparatively few visitors knew not how to amuse themselves or where to go. Should the weather of this day be more genial it is proposed to commence play at 11 o'clock, the match being "North v South."

5 August: SOUTH v NORTH

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/1/1775.html)

Day 1 (report from Wednesday 7 August, page 10)

Yesterday morning broke fine, and the hopes entertained of pleasant and suitable weather were fully realized. A stiff breeze from the west swept across the St Lawrence ground, and this produced a very beneficial effect upon it. The captain of the South was fortunate in the toss, and at five minutes past 11 o'clock Jupp and Humphrey took their stations at the wickets – which played well throughout the day. Shaw and Lockwood had charge of the early bowling.

From the third ball of the first over Humphrey made a very unwise attempt to force a run, but failed in his purpose. Mr Fryer came, and Jupp, from a square-leg hit, obtained four. This was the only figure recorded for him, being bowled by Lockwood before the second over was completed. Mr I D Walker joined Mr Fryer, and with these gentlemen the best batting of the innings was clearly manifest – the latter especially distinguishing himself. At 37 Mr Walker was clean bowled by Shaw, and Mr Thornton filled the vacancy caused by his retirement. The new-comer got four runs from his second ball, and repeated this achievement from the fourth ball. Three hits produced ten runs, and then followed a broken wicket.

Charlwood, in conjunction with Mr Fryer, brought on the first change of bowling – viz., Morley for Lockwood – and at 70 Emmett supplanted Morley. A slight check to the scoring resulted from the displacement of Shaw by M'Intyre, but at 89 Lockwood resumed, and 100 runs marked the progress of the first hour and a half. Charlwood was caught at the wicket, and Mr Grace next joined Mr Fryer. Three chances were given to the field by the latter before he was caught at cover point. Pooley was missed with his score at 6, and Hearne received but two balls.

Mr Fryer's long and successful score of 55 was composed of 11 fours, one three, two twos &c. The eighth wicket fell for 124, ninth 127. At this stage of play the two bowlers, as well as the two batsmen, were left-handed. Willsher was caught at point and the innings closed for 131 runs .
. .

The North began with Bignall and Lockwood. Mr Fryer led off the bowling from the upper wicket, and Lillywhite continued from the opposite. Bignall offered a good chance early, but, as two fielders attempted to discharge the duty belonging only to one, neither succeeded. The batting both of Lockwood and Greenwood commended itself strongly to the discriminating portion of the spectators. The latter certainly gave a fair chance to mid-off which Mr Grace failed to accept, but this was perhaps the only one during an innings of 52 runs.

At 3.30 the North had got together 100 runs for the loss of a wicket. Greenwood was shortly after well caught in the long field. His chief hits were ten fours, one three &c. The necessity of a change in the bowling did not enforce itself upon the attention of the proper parties until the total had exceeded that of the entire Southern innings. Lockwood eventually fell to Lillywhite. The score of this young batsman was put together extremely well, and comprised seven fours, three threes &c.

Daft and Carpenter brought on five changes of bowling; at 262 Daft was well caught at wicket. Mr Tennent was next in and out. Five wickets, 264. Emmett joined Carpenter, but a good catch at deep field disposed of the latter, with the total of 275. M'Intyre made a very brief stay, caught at point. Pinder came and was also caught at point. Nine wickets, 311. Shaw and Emmett were together at the call of time. The attendance was unusually large for the second day, and comprised many of the leading families both of the city and neighbourhood.

Day 2 (report from Thursday 8 August, page 8)

At the conclusion of Tuesday's play the South had completed an innings for 131 runs, and nine wickets of the other side were down for 313 runs. Play was resumed yesterday somewhat later than it ought to have been, considering the amount of business set down in the programme.

Emmett, a "not out" for 24, added three to his over-night total, but Shaw was soon disposed of, and the innings came to a close in less than a quarter of an hour. Total, 319. The bowling underwent a great variety of changes, but, singular enough, Lillywhite got all the wickets . . .

The South, being 188 runs in arrear, commenced their second innings in the same order as the first. M'Intyre and Lockwood had charge of the early bowling. Jupp was "let off" by the wicket keeper in the second over. The subsequent running was very slow, and two or three unaccepted chances occurred before the first wicket fell. With the score at 38, Shaw relieved Lockwood, and shortly after Morley was tried at the other end. Jupp fell to him, and Mr Fryer was bowled at 51. Mr Walker's stay was unusually brief - caught at mid-off. Three wickets for 59.

Humphrey played a really good innings of 28 against bowling of a first-class character and a very vigilant field. In proof of this only one extra resulted from the double innings of the south. Charlwood soon ran up a score of 22. Mr Thornton went in for the "sensational," but his stay at the wicket was limited to two hits of four runs each. Mr Grace did not appear, owing to his Canadian engagements, which necessitated a preparation for the start from Liverpool this day.

All interest in the match had by this time entirely vanished, and the end of it was evidently desired by the visitors generally. At 1.20 the ninth wicket fell for 142 runs, thus leaving the North victors by an innings and 46 runs - an event quite unlooked for . . .

7 August: KENT v GENTLEMEN OF MARYLEBONE CRICKET CLUB

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/1/1776.html)

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

This was the second match of the week. Kent won the toss, and at 4.40 they sent in Messrs Thornton and Penn. There is as yet no telling what the end may be, but the beginning was very bad. From the second ball Mr Thornton, it is said, called Mr Penn to run a bye, the ball was thrown at the wicket so cleverly that it fell before Mr Penn could recover his steps.

Mr Norris came forward and made six runs previously to being caught in short slip. Mr Betts effected four runs by two hits, and then found his off stump prostrated; three wickets, 34. Mr Thornton was driven on to his wicket just before Shaw was bowled. The brothers Crawford were together for a long time, and by steady and judicious batting brought up the total to 84 before they were parted. Several other instances occurred during the innings of really fine and effective play. At 7 o'clock the eleventh wicket fell for 169 runs . . .

Day 2 (report from Friday 9 August, page 5)

The Ladies' Day - as the fourth day of the cricket week is usually designated - was sadly damaged by a heavy rainfall in the morning; in fact, the ground was not in a playable condition till half-past 12 o'clock, when Messrs Walker and Turner appeared at the wickets, opposed to Mr J C Crawford and Shaw as bowlers.

Mr Walker received a summary dismissal without contributing a run. Contrary to general expectation, Mr Mitchell, who had taken no part in the fielding of the previous day, came out to bat. His innings was a very long and trying one to the Kent side. His total was composed for 14 boundary hits for four each; six threes, nine twos &c. He ought, however, to have been run out at 16.

With the score at 32 Mr Turner's wicket fell to an attack from Shaw. This made room for Mr Fryer, who was bowled from Shaw's first ball to him. Mr Higgins then joined Mr Mitchell, and 50 runs were totalled when the first change of bowling occurred. The third ball of the change produced the effect desired, and the place occupied by Mr Higgins was afterwards filled by Mr Balfour, who put together six runs only in two hits - clean bowled. Mr Radley, also an absentee at the commencement of the match, became the next partner to Mr Mitchell. Runs were now obtained with greater freedom than before, and 80 were recorded as the result of as many minutes. Another heavy rainfall delayed the play till half-past three.

At 90 Willsher changed ends, and Mr Thornton went on at Shaw's wicket. Very shortly after Mr Ridley received a ball from Willsher that overtaxed his judgment. His score was compounded of three threes (drives and a cut), two twos and singles. Six wickets, 110. Mr Tennent next appeared, and at 134 Mr Warde relieved Thornton; seven runs were added, when Mr Tennent's off stump was prostrated by Willsher. The innings of Mr Tritton extended only to the delivery of a first ball, and Mr Powys did not offer a very stern resistance. Nine wickets, 155. Mr Ponsonby played on very steady until caught at cover point. Lord Clifton played on the third ball, and this brought the innings to a close for 204 . . .

The second innings of Kent proceeded in the same order as the first. Mr Thornton made 23 runs in as many minutes. At the close of the day five wickets were down for 69 runs.

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

At the close of Thursday's play each party had completed an innings, and five Kent wickets also were down for 69 runs. As the weather yesterday was far more settled than that of the day before, the game was pursued under less difficulties. The ground showed to advantage and the wickets wore well. Soon after 12 o'clock Mr Morris, "not out" for 28, and Mr J C Crawford, "not out" for a single, re-commenced batting against Messrs Powys and Ridley as bowlers.

Mr Morris was caught at the wicket in the first over. Mr Warde came next - bowled by a slow. Seven wickets, 74. Henty joined Mr J C Crawford, and between them there was the most telling part of the morning's play. Eventually Mr Crawford's leg stump was shot down. Nothing of moment occurred afterwards. Eighth wicket, 88; ninth, 94; tenth, 102 . . .

Marylebone commenced the final innings of the match at 1.30 with Messrs Walker and Turner; the first wicket fell for seven runs and the second for 30. Mr Fryer distinguished himself for the second time during the week. His chief hits were four fours, three of them in succession, off Willsher. The next stand of importance was that of Messrs Ridley and Tennent; both, however, were dismissed with the score at 62. Eleven runs were yet wanting, and of these Mr Tritton got six and Mr Higgins five. The match was concluded at 2.45 in favour of Marylebone by five wickets . . . Umpires, Hearne and Fryer.

12 August: SUSSEX v KENT

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/1/1780.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 13 August, page 9)

Some slight misunderstanding respecting the right of Shaw to take part in a match between these counties caused a delay of more than an hour from the specified time of commencing. At length Kent went to the wickets, which played well, but tumbled rapidly. Only three of their defenders were able to reach double figures. Henty played a good not-out innings for 21, composed of two fours, one three, five twos &c. The tenth wicket fell for 105. Southerton and Lillywhite bowled throughout . . .

Sussex started their batting with Mr Mare and Humphreys; 13 runs were scored when Willsher and Mr Lipscomb "crossed over." At 32 Bennett went on, and Humphreys retired quickly after. Mr Jeffrey was unfortunately run out before he had an opportunity of making a good hit, and Charlwood disappointed his friends by the feebleness of his contribution. Three wickets, 45. When Fillery and Mare were partnered the score rose rapidly, and Mr Mare was not out when the time arrived of discontinuing the first day's play.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 14 August, page 11)

Scarcely anybody having a knowledge of the cricketing strength of these counties expected that Kent would be beaten yesterday by an innings and 35 runs. Yet such is the fact, and a painful one, seeing that Sussex was by no means "up to them mark" in point of fielding. Mr Mare highly distinguished himself as a batsman, and to him must a large share of the victory be accredited. Willsher was very unsuccessful in his bowling, and Mr Lipscomb got but one wicket in 37 overs . . .

Kent began their second innings with just as many runs in arrear as their first innings amounted to. Two wickets fell for nine runs and five for 15. Messrs F F Crawford and Tootell played with great spirit; but Bennett, by a strange defect of thought, handled the ball. The remainder of the innings possessed no feature of interest whatever . . .

The attendance on the New Ground, Brighton, was very limited, owing in a great measure to the absence of agriculturalists, now busily engaged in harvest operations.

12 August: SURREY v NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/1/1779.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 13 August, page 9)

Play in this return match at the Oval yesterday commenced at 12.15. The wickets were not quite so good as they have hitherto been during the present season. Notts won the toss, but lost five wickets for 33 runs and seven for 55. Daft and M'Intyre then got together, and, without giving a chance, brought up the total to 203 before the former was stumped. The innings lasted four hours and produced 209 runs . . .

So deadly was the bowling of M'Intyre that he disposed of five Surrey wickets in 11 overs, and only four runs resulted . . .

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 14 August, page 11)

In the play of yesterday at the Oval several unlooked-for changes occurred. It may be remembered that Surrey had lost five wickets for 17 runs when the stumps were drawn on Monday. R Humphrey, the "not out," kept his wicket up, notwithstanding the fierce attacks of M'Intyre, and chiefly through him the score ultimately advanced to 60. His chief hits were three fours, one three and three twos.

Being 149 in arrear, Surrey had to "follow on." The second innings was very fruitful in runs, although Jupp failed to contribute anything towards it. A long and determined stand was made by Mr Chenery and R Humphrey, but not without giving a chance. The third wicket realized 107 and the fourth 109. Then came several examples of free hitting, which lasted long enough to bring the eighth wicket up to just 200 runs. Shortly after, play for the day was discontinued.

Day 3 (report from Thursday 15 August, page 8)

Taken altogether, the above match, played at the Oval, may be regarded as the most extraordinary of the present season. At the close of Monday's play Notts had completed an innings for 209 runs, and Surrey had lost five wickets for 17 runs. On the second day the tenth wicket realized but 60, and Surrey had to continue the batting. Great dependence was placed on Jupp, but he failed signally; all the rest, however, with one exception, reached double figures; even "extras" followed suit. When stumps were drawn on Tuesday eight wickets were down for 203 runs.

Yesterday Messrs Bray and Boulton, the "not outs" for two runs each, recommenced the batting soon after 12 o'clock, and a very unexpected stand was made; they completely mastered the bowling, nor was the ninth wicket obtained until the score advanced to 292. The innings lasted till 3.20 and totalled 315. Mr Boulton's long score was comprised of one five (drive), nine threes, 11 twos and 11 singles . . .

Notts required 167 to win, and they had only two hours and three-quarters to get them in. Oscroft and Bignall began the uphill task. Street and Mr Strachan were appointed to the early bowling. 25 overs produced 25 runs. Bignall was then clean bowled. Wild and Oscroft pushed the score up to 61, when the former played "on." A change of bowling was resorted to at 79.

In the first over Oscroft was stumped, and in the fourth Daft was beautifully caught by a substitute at mid on. After this the wickets fell rapidly; thus, the fifth for 95; sixth, seventh and eighth for 98. Selby and Morley then got well set and played up to time - viz., 6.30 - when the match was declared "drawn."

15 August: MIDDLESEX v SURREY

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/1/1781.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 16 August, page 8)

A return match between these celebrated cricket counties was commenced yesterday at Prince's Ground. Middlesex won the toss and sent in Messrs Walker and Turner. The first wicket fell for 13 runs. Mumford joined Mr Walker, but scored nothing. Hearne got 26 runs from 45 balls. The innings of Mr Merton commended itself strongly to the critical observer, as also that of Mr Walker . . .

Surrey selected Humphrey and Jupp to open their batting account. These were not parted till 60 runs were scored. Messrs Howell and Chenery advanced the total to 84, and at the close of the day five wickets were disposed of for 120 runs . . . Play will be resumed to-day at 12 o'clock.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 17 August, page 6)

From the play of yesterday, it was evident that the real strength of Middlesex was not represented, and the match in consequence failed to interest as it would have done under a better arrangement. Eight of the Surrey Eleven attained to double figures in one complete innings. These amounted to 189 runs, while the double figures in two Middlesex innings realized but 170. At the fall of the tenth Surrey wicket 202 were totalled from the bat, and 22 more resulted from "extras." With two or three exceptions, the Middlesex bowling was extremely weak for such a county . . .

In the second innings of Middlesex, the three leading batsmen retired for 20 runs, and the two next in succession added five only. Messrs Merton and Bird made a stand, and these gentlemen brought on the first change in the bowling. At 56 the centre stump of the latter was driven six yards from the other two. At 90 Mr Merton was caught in long field. At 5.20 the runs in arrear were rubbed off, and almost immediately after the ninth wicket fell for 96 runs. Mr Teape came in last and scored two runs while his companion, Mr Thornton, was caught at long leg, and the innings thereby came to a close, leaving Surrey five runs to get. This number was easily accomplished, and they won the match by ten wickets . . .

With this match the cricket season at Prince's Ground terminated.

19 August: SUSSEX v SURREY

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/1/1782.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 20 August, page 10)

There was a very good attendance yesterday to witness this match on the New Sussex County Ground, Brighton. For some reason not explained a deal of time was frittered away before Mr Mare and Humphreys took their station at the wickets. Mr Strachan bowled the first over and Street the second. From the fourth ball of the latter Humphreys was caught at mid-off when only three runs were scored. Mr Jeffrey came next, and Mr Mare was bowled by the second ball of the following over. Charlwood then joined Mr Jeffrey, but another severance was soon effected by Street, who now claimed three wickets for 15 runs.

This rapid triumphing on the part of Surrey received a check when Lillywhite went to the assistance of Charlwood. The last comer was within an ace of being caught from the first hit, but on the second subsequent over he made a splendid drive for five, sending the ball to the extreme boundary of the field. With the score at 35 Mr Bray continued the bowling in place of Mr Strachan. In the second over of the change Lillywhite's wicket fell. Fillery at first played the slow and cautious game, apparently with the idea of taking the measure of his adversaries.

At 96 Mr Chenery commenced bowling. This change, however, suited the batsmen too well to be long continued, and Mr Strachan went on again; 122 runs were recorded, when another change of bowling was resorted to. Eventually Fillery played a ball to mid-on, where it was secured. Six wickets, 129. The batting seemed to be in the ascendant, until Charlwood was given out for striking the ball a second time, a circumstance that evoked to a considerable extent the displeasure of the spectators. Charlwood's chief hits were five fours, one three and 12 fours. Every man contributed something to the 198 which composed the total. Time 5h 15min .

. . .

Surrey began their innings with Jupp and Richard Humphrey; 34 runs were scored in 20 minutes, the latter was then caught at point. Mr Simmons made a very brief stay, only long enough to get a single; and Mr Akroyd, in miscalculating time and distance, was run out. The business of the first day then came to a close.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 21 August, page 4)

Unless the time allotted for the third day's play be better economized than during the first and second, the probability is that the match will be left "drawn." It may be remembered that Jupp was not out for 22 runs when stumps were drawn on Monday. Mr Chenery joined him yesterday to receive the early overs from Southerton and Lillywhite.

Runs came very slowly until Mr Chenery began the practice of driving. At 53 Jupp's centre stump fell, and Mr Strachan appeared. The hitting at both wickets was hard and profitable. The score advanced to 75 before Mr Chenery's off stump was struck by a slow. Pooley and Mr Strachan together pushed the score along by large hits. The most noteworthy was one made by the latter, which counted for seven runs, including three from an overthrow. In order to check the successful hitting of the batsmen above-

named, Fillery relieved Southerton, but the change availed nothing, and at 157 Southerton returned.

Mr Strachan was well caught at point, after a fine defensive display of cricket. His chief hits were one seven, two fours, three threes, six twos &c. Pooley was got rid of in precisely the same way as his companion. The remaining portion of the innings possessed no features of peculiar interest, and the tenth wicket fell for 190 runs, a very near approach to that of the other side. Time, 3h 54m.

C W Shaw and Humphreys led off the batting for Sussex, as in the opening innings of the match. Street bowled the first over from the sea end of the ground, and Mr Bray the second from the other. Four runs resulted from the first over. From the last ball of the sixth Mr Mare's leg stump fell. After this the run-getting was very rapid. Mr Strachan went on at Mr Bray's end, and 70 runs were recorded as the product of three wickets . . .

Day 3 (report from Thursday 22 August, page 10)

When stumps were drawn on Tuesday each side had completed an innings, and 123 runs were furthermore recorded in favour of Sussex for the loss of four wickets. This more than ordinary scoring was not sustained yesterday. Charlwood added seven to his overnight total, and Fillery only four. In short, the remaining six wickets averaged about nine runs each, and the Sussex total fell in consequence very far short of what might have been reasonably expected - viz., 186.

The batting of Mr Akroyd proved of immense service to Surrey, and doubtlessly turned the scale in favour of that county. This gentleman was two hours at the wicket, and meantime completely exhausted all the bowling resources that Sussex had at command until he was well-nigh exhausted himself. His score - the longest made during the match - was put together by one five, four fours, nine threes, ten twos and 19 singles. This variety of hitting is, perhaps, the best commentary upon Mr Akroyd's batting accomplishments.

As the time approached for closing play, the interest in the match very much increased. T Humphrey and Bray were in at 6 o'clock with the game undetermined. Less than ten minutes afterwards the winning run was effected, and two wickets left unrepresented. The fielding of Surrey throughout was much in advance of the other party, and to this circumstance in some measure must their marked success be attributed.

22 August: KENT v SURREY

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/1/1785.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 23 August, page 4)

Play in this county match, at the Chote-park [sic], Maidstone, did not begin till very late yesterday, owing to the non-arrival of several Surrey players from Brighton. Kent won the toss and sent Surrey to the wickets forthwith, which played very false. So deadly was the bowling of Mr Lipscomb that in three overs he took the wickets of R Humphrey, Pooley, Mr Chenery and Mr Boulton for five runs. Jupp, T Humphrey and Southerton made a tolerable stand, but the innings closed for a total of 86 runs only.

Kent began their batting with Mr White and Willis; the first ball was bowled by Southerton and the fifth by Street. The first wicket fell for 20 runs, the fifth for 43 and the sixth for 51. Mr J C Crawford and Willsher played up to time.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 24 August, page 10)

Yesterday the play in this match at Mote-park, Maidstone, was resumed within a few minutes of the time agreed upon. Mr J C Crawford and Willsher, the "not outs" for seven and three respectively, so advanced the score that the totals of an innings each promised to be pretty near equal; so, indeed, they proved to be. The batting weakness of the Kent team was, however, painfully apparent . . .

The second innings of Surrey began with Jupp and R Humphrey, and although Mr Lipscomb and Willsher were again the bowlers, both seemed to have lost the secret of a successful attack. Forty runs were recorded in 28 minutes. A chance given by Humphrey, but declined by Henty, led to a large amount of extra work in the field. Jupp was also missed in the slip soon after. Mr Boulton came, and the score reached 153 before the second wicket (Humphrey's) fell. The third realized 167. Pooley and T Humphrey brought up the fourth to 183, when the former was caught mid on. Freeman was the next to come and go - caught at long leg. The sixth wicket recorded 246. Mr Chenery and Mr Kingsford were in at the call of time.

Day 3 (report from Monday 26 August, page 4)

At the finish of Friday's play each side had completed an innings, and six Surrey wickets were furthermore lost for 256 runs. Soon after 12 o'clock on Saturday Willsher resumed the attack. Messrs Chenery and Kingsford, the "not outs," added 15 and 11 respectively to their overnight scores; eight wickets, 280. Street and Southerton made free use of the bat and brought up the figures to 319, when the former was clean bowled. The innings was now virtually at an end, as Marten, the last man, offered no material resistance.

Few if any noteworthy incidents characterized the second innings of Kent, which did not occupy two hours. Mr J C Crawford effected the largest hit of the match - an on drive for six runs. The first five wickets averaged about 12 runs each, the remaining five little more than six each. Hence Surrey proved victors by 230 runs. The entire bowling may be thus epitomized: . . . Umpires, Fryer and Mortlock.

26 August: SURREY v KENT

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/1/1787.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 27 August, page 8)

The "return" match between these two counties commenced yesterday at the Oval. Jupp and Humphrey went in at 12.15, opposed to Shaw and Willsher, who bowled the early overs.

The first wicket fell for 23 runs. It occupied more than two hours to acquire 66, when Mr B N Akroyd retired. The next three wickets added but 16. Pooley and Strachan by expert hitting brought up the seventh wicket to 144. Nothing requiring special notice occurred during the remainder of the innings, which realized a total of 157 . . . Remnant and Willis began the Kent batting.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 28 August, page 11)

Only one Kent wicket was lost on Monday evening when stumps were drawn, and 23 runs scored. Mr F F Crawford and Willis, the "not outs" for 16 and 13 respectively, continued the batting shortly after 12 o'clock yesterday.

The bowling of Mr Strachan and Street was so effective that half the wickets were captured for 42 runs. Mr J C Crawford made the longest hit of the innings - viz., an on drive for five. He was eventually disposed of by a magnificent piece of fielding on the part of Mr B Akroyd. A very free style of play was adopted by both Willis and Croxford, and they advanced the total to 85; they were then parted. The innings closed soon after for 92 - Time, 1h 35m.

Mr B N Akroyd and T Humphrey resumed the Surrey batting. Twenty runs were recorded when the former played "on." R Humphrey made two successful hits and then returned the ball to the bowler. Five leading men were out for 53 runs, and the one-sided look of the game began in some measure to disappear. A good catch at mid-off got rid of Freeman, with an additional two runs. The remaining wickets, however, proved to be very expensive. Mr S H Akroyd and Mr Chenery scored 40 each, Pooley and Mr Strachan nearly as many. The entire innings produced 197 runs . . .

Day 3 (report from Thursday 29 August, page 8)

It may be remembered when the second day's play in this return match at the Oval ceased, three innings were completed and Kent had "a set" of 262 runs. The uphill task was begun yesterday, at a quarter-past 12 o'clock, by Willis and Remnant.

Three runs resulted from the first ball delivered to the latter, but Willis was caught at the wicket almost immediately after. Mr Rodger came next; before, however, he had a chance of scoring Remnant retired. Mr Tootell received one ball, and this fell into the hands of a vigilant fielder in the slips. Three wickets, six runs. An ominous beginning, certainly.

Mr F F Crawford joined Mr Rodger, and by careful play the score advanced to 21, when the latter was caught mid-on. Crawford then appeared, and only one run resulted from seven overs in succession. Anxious to get on, Mr

Crawford unwisely attempted a run from a ball that went straight to a man. By this time half the wickets were lost for 22 runs.

Croxford achieved the longest score during the match and brought on five changes of bowling. With the exception of two or three slender faults he got his runs well. His chief hits were five fours, seven threes &c. The subsequent portion of the play possessed no interest whatever. At 4 o'clock Bennett, the tenth man, went in, and came out without surviving two overs. The innings totalled 133 runs. Surrey claimed the match by 129 runs.

With this last county match the cricket season, properly so called, terminates.

26 August: GLOUCESTERSHIRE v SUSSEX

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive,
www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/1/1786.html)

Final report (from Thursday 29 August, page 8)

The return match, which was commenced in the Clifton-college grounds on Monday, terminated yesterday in favour of Gloucestershire, with 60 runs to spare, the western county disposing of the whole of the Sussex wickets in the second innings in about an hour and a half.