

THE TIMES REPORTS, 1883

[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. During the 1883 season the Times began to include full bowling figures in the scorecard more regularly.]

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7 May: MARYLEBONE CLUB AND GROUND v SUSSEX

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2672.html)

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

Yesterday at Lord's the County were placed on their defence. The Rev F F J Greenfield and H Phillips were opposed by Flowers and Dr W G Grace. The ground was rather slow and the batting was not brilliant. Mr Humphreys showed good form until he fell to a dextrous piece of stumping by Pilling. Mr Thornton also made a useful contribution of 21 prior to being secured somewhat easily at leg. The first and second wickets fell for 11, the third for 13, the fifth for 69 and the last for 91.

The Marylebone batting was opened by Dr W G Grace and Mr Fowler to the attacks of Hide and Juniper. A good start was made, considering the heavy state of the ground, but at 30 Mr Fowler, who had hit vigorously, was taken in the slips. The Gloucestershire captain batted with great caution and saw the downfall of Mr E J C Studd, Mr Russel, Flowers and Mr Robson prior to playing a ball round into the hands of short-leg, having occupied the wickets a little more than an hour for his 17. The total ultimately reached 103. Time, 5.30. Sussex went in a second time . . .

Tuesday 8 May, page 10: THE MARYLEBONE CLUB

The committee of the M.C.C. have called before them the umpires of the club to impress upon them their determination to put an end to the present unsatisfactory working of Law X [Note: regarding throwing], and have instructed them to carry out in the most stringent manner the spirit as well as the letter of the law. They have further impressed upon them that it is their duty to "no ball" any bowler as to the fairness of whose delivery they entertain any doubt.

Day 2 - no report found

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

When play ceased in this match at Lord's on Monday each side had completed an innings - Sussex for 91 runs and Marylebone for 103. The county was thus a dozen runs behind, and when stumps were drawn they had lost four wickets in their second innings for 56. The heavy downpour of Tuesday rendered play impracticable.

Within a few minutes of 12 yesterday Sussex continued their batting, but not with any great success, owing to the bowling of Dr W G Grace. The innings closed at five minutes to 1 for the meagre total of 73. Marylebone now required 62 to win. Mr Fowler hit with great freedom prior to being clean bowled. Dr W G Grace and Mr E J C Studd were then partnered, and the latter made the winning hit by sending the ball to square leg for three. Time 1.45. Marylebone thus won by nine wickets.

10 May: CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY v MARYLEBONE CLUB AND GROUND

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2673.html)

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

Owing to the moisture of the ground little headway was made in this match at Cambridge yesterday, as a very late start was made. The University went in first and lost seven wickets for 76.

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

Brief play only was practicable in this annual match at Cambridge on Thursday, but yesterday the weather proved far more genial and an interesting day's cricket was witnessed. When the game was restarted, Mr Baines, the not-out of the previous day, was accompanied to the wickets by Mr J A Turner, on behalf of the University, who had previously lost seven batsmen for 76. Flowers and Rylott led the attack for Marylebone.

When only eight runs had been added to the over-night total, Mr Baines fell to a catch at wicket. Eight down. Mr C A Smith arrived, and runs were obtained at a most tardy pace, until at length Rylott found his way into the newcomer's wicket. Mr C E Chapman came next on the list, and having witnessed the departure of Mr Turner and Mr Willock, carried out his bat, the total having reached exactly 100.

Mr Maynard and Barnes opened the batting for Marylebone against the attacks of Messrs C T Studd and Smith. At the outset the scoring was very meagre, as the first four wickets only realized six runs apiece. Later on, however, the batting improved and brought about several changes in the bowling; the innings ultimately realizing 159. Stumps were now drawn for the day . . .

Day 3 (report from Monday 14 May , page 10)

Rain caused play in this match at Cambridge to be delayed on Saturday until 2.50, when fresh wickets were pitched. Eventually Marylebone won by nine wickets, the winning hit being made a few minutes past 5 o'clock.

14 May: SOUTH v NORTH

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2675.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 15 May, page 5)

The Whit-Monday match at Lord's yesterday for the benefit of the Cricketers' Fund was a success, although, owing to the adverse weather, the attendance was not quite up to the average. Neither side was strongly represented, and there was not apparently a great deal to choose between them.

After a delay until 10 minutes past 1, the North, having won the toss, deputed Mr Hornby and Ulyett to start the batting. Woof led off the attack from the pavilion wicket. Mr Hornby gained a single in the first over, and in the second he hit a ball of Dr Grace's to square leg for three. This he soon supplemented with another leg hit from Woof, also for three. Ulyett remained until 11 runs had been scored, when he was clean bowled by Wood. The Hon M B Hawke joined Mr Hornby, who, having obtained two-thirds of the 21 runs registered, was caught at wicket. Two down.

Lockwood appeared, and Mr Hawke soon sent the ball to the boundary on the leg side for four, but at 31 he was secured at point. Bates, who was warmly greeted on entering the field, assisted Lockwood, and after remaining five overs for a single, his off stump was struck. Four for 33. Hall filled the vacancy, and nothing but singles were obtained in the few overs previous to luncheon, when the total stood at 40.

After the interval Hall and Lockwood resumed the batting, while Dr Grace and Woof took charge of the early bowling. Sixty-four runs were recorded, and then Hall was caught by Woof at cover-point. Grimshaw appeared to aid Lockwood, but the latter, within a few overs, fell victim to venturesomeness. Six for 73. A single was secured by Emmett and then Grimshaw returned - clean bowled. Seven down. Emmett was soon afterwards bowled; but the partnership between Peate and Wild conducted the total from 80 to 102, when Dr Grace with a one-handed catch got rid of Wild. Hill came in, and five singles were the product of a corresponding number of overs. At 10 minutes past 4 Hill got out of his ground and before he could recover himself his bails were knocked off. Total 115.

Dr W G Grace with Mr A P Lucas were placed on their defence for the South, while Peate and Bates were intrusted with the bowling. After five overs had been sent in rain delayed play for nearly a quarter of an hour. A single only had been added when Mr Lucas was clean bowled, and with the total at 14, Mr Fowler played the ball into the hands of Grimshaw in the long field. Hearne was bowled without scoring; but Dr Grace continued to hit freely, and at 33 Emmett superseded Bates. The second ball of the change the Gloucestershire captain sent to leg for four. Runs now came at a very tardy pace until at length, after many changes, Dr Grace had to retire through the joint efforts of Mr Hornby at slip and Peate. His chief hits were seven fours, two threes and six twos. Fothergill hit freely and well for his not out contribution . . .

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 16 May, page 7)

The brilliant morning of yesterday gradually grew dull, and those who had hoped that we should have one of those rare visitations in the shape of a bright spring day were disappointed. Fortunately the rain held off, but the atmosphere was exceedingly close. A large company was present to witness the continuance of this game at Lord's. When stumps were drawn the previous evening the

North had finished an innings for 115, eight of their rivals' wickets having been secured for 128. The innings of the South closed speedily yesterday morning.

With the moderate balance of 13 against them, the North started on their second venture with Mr Hornby and Ulyett. Dr W G Grace and Woof were again intrusted with the attack. The start was most disastrous, as when only a couple of runs had been obtained Mr Hornby fell to slip, and when the total had reached 11 Mr Hawke was clean bowled. Ulyett's next companion was Lockwood, and for a considerable time the many variations brought by the bowlers to separate them were in vain. Ultimately, what under ordinary circumstances would have been a grand hit got rid of Ulyett, who was caught at deep square leg. His chief hits were five four's, one three and five two's. Three for 94. Bates came in, and in the following over Mr Penn went on to bowl. An off-drive for two by Lockwood shot the score up to "100" at a quarter to 2. a dozen runs later on the last mentioned batsman fell to point. In his contribution of 60 there were three four's and eleven two's. Hall arrived to the assistance of Bates, and when the luncheon interval was announced the score stood at 114 for four wickets.

The interval over, some rather promising play was shown for a little while, but at 129 Woof was placed on again, and the fourth ball sent in by him Bates returned. The resistance offered by Hall and Grimshaw was of a most sturdy character, and despite many changes of attack they succeeded in conducting the score to 212 before Grimshaw cut the ball into the hands of point. His 55 consisted of five fours, one three, eight twos and singles. Emmett did not remain in long, and gave way to Wild. A change of bowling was tried at 220, when Mr Gilbert delivered up the ball to Dr Grace. Singles now preponderated until Hall was secured at wicket, two four's and five two's being his chief contributions. Eight for 230. The two remaining wickets added 17 runs, and soon after half-past 5 the innings closed for 247.

The South now had 235 to gain for victory, and at the close of the day they had secured 30 of this number at the cost of three wickets.

Day 3 (report from Thursday 17 May, page 7)

The interest taken in the continuation of this match soon evaporated when play at Lord's was resumed yesterday. It may be recollected that when stumps were drawn on Tuesday the South had started their second innings with 235 runs to win, and 30 of these had been gained at the cost of three wickets. Messrs Tylecote and Lucas (the two not-outs with six and eight respectively) resumed the batting. The bowling was shared by Peate and Lockwood.

Wickets fell rapidly, as at 32 Mr Tylecote was clean bowled, at 37 W Hearn fell to mid-off, and when six had been added Mr Cave obstructed his wicket. Six down. Fothergill aided Mr Lucas in advancing the score to 59, when the latter was bowled, having played patient cricket during nearly two hours for 22 runs. A fine ball of Peate's disposed of Fothergill, and the innings eventually terminated for 64 runs. Mr Grace had injured his hand on Tuesday and did not bat. The North were winners by 170 runs.

14 May: NOTTINGHAMSHIRE v SURREY

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2674.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 15 May, page 5)

The first of the great county engagements was begun yesterday, on the Trent-bridge ground at Nottingham. The weather, at first dull and cloudy, cleared up during the afternoon, and several thousands of spectators witnessed some decidedly interesting play.

The visitors, with the choice of innings, commenced batting on the slow but not difficult wicket, with Messrs Shuter and Cattley, to the bowling of Shaw and Wright. The Surrey captain was out the second ball he received from Shaw, who also bowled Mr Cattley for a single. Abel and Mr Read, however, quite altered the game, and by some excellent batting the score rose rapidly. Unfortunately, these batsmen received very little support, no fewer than five Surrey batsmen failing to score. Abel's excellent innings contained a four, two threes and nine twos. Mills bowled with great success, taking four wickets . . .

Shrewsbury and Scotton, who went in first for the home county, put on 40 runs before the latter was dismissed. Then three wickets fell rapidly; but Flowers and Shrewsbury batted well till Shrewsbury was caught at point, just before time was called for the day.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 16 May, page 7)

On the Trent-bridge grounds, at Nottingham, yesterday, the home county scored a decisive victory over Surrey by an innings and 58 runs. when play ceased on Monday the visitors had made 87, while Nottinghamshire with only have their wickets down had scored 82.

Yesterday the match was continued in bright and fine weather. Flowers was quickly out, but Smith and Mills made a stand and carried the score over the 100 before they were parted. Then Shaw joined Smith, and hit freely, while the colt played patiently. Numerous bowling changes were tried, but the total rose steadily to 156 before Smith was smartly stumped for a capital 26. Shaw was out soon afterwards and the innings eventually closed for 188 - or just 101 runs on. Mr Roller bowled very successfully, his five wickets being obtained . . Barrett's bowling was severely punished . . .

Surrey went in a second time, but Shaw and Mills carried all before them and dismissed the 11 for the meagre total of 43. Mr Read alone reached double figures, while, as in their first innings, no fewer than five batsmen failed to score. Shaw claimed seven wickets . . .

14 May: SUSSEX v HAMPSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2676.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 15 May, page 5)

The first encounter of the season between these counties began yesterday on the Sussex county ground at Brighton, the home team having considerably the better of the day's play. The weather was fine when, shortly after noon, Hampshire began batting.

Messrs Thorne, Seymour and Longman were quickly out, but Messrs Davies and Wynyard hit pluckily, and before the latter was bowled the total had reached 45. Mr Davies batted well for his runs. His 42 was a most praiseworthy display. Juniper and Hide were the most successful bowlers . . .

Against their opponents' total of 94, Sussex did not open well, but Mr Newham, Mr Blackham and W Humphreys hit hard, and at the drawing of the stumps the home county were 59 runs on with three wickets in hand.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 16 May, page 7)

The home county followed up the advantage gained on the first day by securing an easy victory over Hampshire yesterday at Brighton. On resuming the Sussex batting Hide did not add many to his overnight score, while Juniper and Seneschal were soon dismissed, and the innings closed for 196.

In a formidable minority of 102, Hampshire went in again, but before the bowling of Juniper, Mr Smith and Humphreys, they made a very poor show and were dismissed for the meagre total of 60. Sussex thus won with an innings and 42 runs in hand.

17 May: CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY v C I THORNTON'S ENGLAND ELEVEN

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2677.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 18 May, page 6)

The recent improvement in the weather has been very grateful to cricketers, and with a continuance of sunshine we may look for vastly different play from that shown in the first few weeks of the season. So far batsmen have been at such a disadvantage as to have no chance of really doing themselves justice.

Yesterday's match at Cambridge was the second important engagement of the University team. The first was against the M.C.C. last week. Mr Thornton, who always gets together a strong eleven, was not less fortunate than usual, as a glance at the names will prove. Having won the toss, the England side went in, and though the innings presented no startling features, some of the batting was distinctly good.

Mr Lyttelton hit freely, and had made 28 out of 50 when a catch at the wicket dismissed him. He was the second man out. Mr Lucas and Ulyett stayed some time together, their play showing a very strong contrast. Ulyett, who gave a chance in the long field almost directly after he went in, hit in most vigorous fashion, while Mr Lucas perhaps carried caution to excess. The professional was out at 91, but Mr Lucas remained in till the score had reached 144, his innings of 39 occupying nearly two hours and three-quarters. Peate, towards the close of the innings, played freely and well. The last wicket fell at 5 o'clock for 175. Seven bowlers were tried for the University . . .

On the University going in to bat, Mr J E K Studd was soon bowled, but Mr Wright stayed while the Hon M B Hawke hit, and at the call of time the score was 49 for one wicket. Mr Hawke had several bowlers against him, but no change made any difference to his play. Among other fine hits, he drove Mr Rotherham for 5.

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

At Cambridge yesterday a splendid batting performance was achieved by the Hon M B Hawke and Mr C T Studd. These two gentlemen came together with the score at 94, and despite the efforts of ten bowlers were not separated until they had added 160 runs. Mr Hawke, who was not out 32, with Mr Wright not out nine at the drawing of stumps on Thursday evening, continued the Cambridge innings soon after noon yesterday, the score being 49 for one wicket. Peate and Ulyett were the bowlers.

It was very soon evident that the Yorkshire amateur was in his best form. He scored very rapidly, all his hits being hard, clean and well-timed. The total was at 71 when Mr Lucas relieved Ulyett, while a little later Peate gave way to Mr Rotherham. Mr Wright was caught at point at 94, and then commenced the long stand between Mr Studd and Mr Hawke. The 100 soon went up, and between that time and the luncheon interval, although there were frequent changes of bowling, the score rose at a great pace, the batting of both gentlemen being really admirable. When the adjournment took place the score had reached 147, Mr Hawke 85 and Mr Studd 29.

When the game was resumed, the bowling was completely mastered. Ulyett, Peate, Mr Lucas, Mr Rotherham, Barnes and Mr Leatham all tried, but without effect, and the 200 was put up at a quarter

to 4. Still the batsmen played in admirable style, Mr Hawke, in particular, punishing the bowling with great severity. Mr Schultz and Mr Thornton afterwards tried to separate the batsmen, but it was not until Peate went on again that at last Mr Hawke was caught at long-off. His grand innings of 141 included a five, nine fours, 11 threes and 12 twos. Three wickets for 254. Only 18 more runs had been added when Mr Studd was bowled. He also had played really perfect cricket for his runs, his hits being three fours, six threes and 13 twos. The latter part of the innings was only noticeable for the batting of Mr Baines. Ulyett bowled with great success, and the last six wickets went down for 45 runs; the innings closing for 317. Ulyett took six wickets . . .

The England team had a few minutes' batting before time was called, and lost one wicket.

Day 3 (report from Monday 21 May, page 8)

On Saturday at Cambridge time alone robbed the University of a victory over the England Eleven, as with seven wickets to fall they only required 44 runs to win when stumps were drawn. The feature of the day was the brilliant batting of the Hon Alfred Lyttelton, who scored 115 out of the 183 runs made while he was at the wickets. He was batting for three hours without giving a chance. His chief hits were 12 four's, five three's and 15 two's.

Mr Lucas, who went in first wicket down, remained a long time, playing a splendid defensive game, while Mr Lyttelton hit. Before these two were separated they added nearly a hundred runs to the score. After Mr Lucas was out, Ulyett came in, but was quickly dismissed, and at luncheon the total was 125 for three wickets, Mr Lyttelton being not out 74. Mr Schultz, who followed, made 10 before being stumped at 171, while 12 runs after Mr Lyttelton was finely caught in the long field. After he left little of note occurred save the free batting of Mr Heath, and the innings terminated for 229. Mr Currie was the most successful bowler . . .

Wanting only 88 runs to win, but with no time to get them in, Cambridge changed their order on going in a second time, and principally by the hard hitting of Mr Paravicini they had made just half the runs for the loss of three wickets when time expired.

17 May: LANCASHIRE v DERBYSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2678.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 18 May, page 6)

The Derbyshire Eleven were very poorly represented at Manchester yesterday, and, as might have been expected, had all the worst of the play against the powerful Lancashire team. Mr Hornby, Barlow and Mr Roper played splendid cricket, and Briggs and Watson completely mastered the weak bowling and worn-out fielding of the Midland County. The weather was delightfully fine throughout, and some 6,000 spectators witnessed the day's play.

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

Lancashire gained a most decisive victory over Derbyshire yesterday at Manchester, by an innings and 160 runs. At the close of Thursday's play Lancashire had completed a first innings of 332, and Derbyshire had lost five wickets for 38.

The game was resumed yesterday morning at a few minutes after 12. Mr Smith and Platts, not out with 5 and 17 respectively, continued the Derbyshire batting to the bowling of Nash and Barlow. The score was slowly raised to 46, when Mr Smith was smartly caught at the wicket. The last few batsmen offered a most feeble resistance, and the innings closed for the poor total of 54. Barlow took five wickets . . and Nash five wickets . . .

Derbyshire, being 278 runs to the bad, had, of course, to "follow on." Mr Smith and Chatterton were the first two batsmen, the bowling being again intrusted to Nash and Barlow. Chatterton was out at 16, but Mr Smith hit freely and well, scoring 33 runs out of 35 before being dismissed. The game was so entirely hopeless that little or no interest attached to it. Some good batting was shown by Cropper and Mr Evershed, but at the fall of the last wicket the score only amounted to 118. under no circumstances would Derbyshire be likely to hold its own against so strong a team as Lancashire; but the defeat might have been less severe had Mr L C Docker, Mr Maynard and W Mycroft been able to assist their county. Four bowlers were tried in the second innings. Crossland took four wickets . . .

21 May: MARYLEBONE CLUB AND GROUND v YORKSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2680.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 22 May, page 10)

A formidable team of Yorkshiremen entered the lists against the leading club yesterday at Lord's. A large company was present to witness the encounter. Marylebone won the toss, and Mr Hornby and Dr W G Grace took up their positions at the wickets. Peate and Harrison were intrusted with the attack.

The opening was poor, as when only five runs had been registered Dr Grace fell a victim to a splendid ball of Peate's. his place was taken by Mr C T Studd, who almost fell a victim to venturesomeness before he had scored. Having escaped this, he batted in his usual elegant style. With the score at 19 he lost the company of Mr Hornby, who was taken at mid-on. The partnership between Mr Studd and Barnes was of a most productive nature, as it was not until the total had been more than doubled that the amateur was bowled. Lord Harris did not have much opportunity of showing his brilliant batting as, after only making four, a ball of Peel's found its way into his wicket. Four for 65.

The next three wickets only realized 19 runs. Pilling, who has often shown that he possesses batting capabilities of no mean order, had a worthy assistant in Rylott. The three figures were signalled at five minutes to 3 o'clock. A catch by Sugg at mid-on disposed of Rylott, which brought the innings to a termination at a quarter-past 3 for 125.

Yorkshire in their batting ran their rivals very close. Ulyett and Sugg were opposed by Flowers and Rylott. A splendid right-hand catch at mid-off disposed of Ulyett, while Sugg retired clean bowled. Pilling's skill ultimately got rid of Grimshaw and Hall, and the innings closed for 121. With the slight difference of four runs in their favour, Marylebone went in a second time, and at the close of the day's play had lost four wickets for 27 runs.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 23 May, page 10)

Yesterday, at Lord's, this match was concluded before a moderate company of spectators. When stumps were drawn the previous evening each side had completed an innings, and the Marylebone Club, having a balance of four runs in their favour, had begun to bat a second time, but had lost four wickets for only 27.

Mr C T Studd, the overnight not out, with 17, was joined by Flowers, but with only three added to the total a ball from Peate found its way into the professional's wicket. Mr Hornby came to the aid of Mr Studd, and these two batsmen were not parted until 68 had been registered, when a catch at the wicket disposed of Mr Studd, his brilliant innings of 40 comprising five fours, six twos and eight singles. Six down.

Mr Russel was the new comer, but at 85 Mr Hornby returned the ball to Bates. Mr Payne came in, and soon lost the companionship of Mr Russel, who was clean bowled. Eight for 91. Pilling and Mr Payne hit freely, the 100 going up at 12.40. Eight runs later, however, Mr Payne retired, clean bowled. The innings ultimately closed for 113, within a few minutes of 1 o'clock.

Wanting 118 runs to win, Yorkshire went in a second time, Ulyett and Emmett facing the bowling of Flowers and Mr Studd. The score rose quickly, the changes in the bowling having no effect, and within a few minutes of 4 o'clock Ulyett by a single won the match for his county by ten wickets. Among his contributions were nine fours, three threes and nine twos. Emmett's chief hits were a four, two threes and four twos.

21 May: DERBYSHIRE v SURREY

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2679.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 22 May, page 10)

The second of the new fixtures arranged for Surrey this season was commenced yesterday at Derby against the home county, The weather was bright and fine, but only a moderate company of spectators were present. Derbyshire, with the choice of batting, of course, went in first.

Mr Smith and Chatterton did well, but they received poor support. At luncheon nine wickets were down for 79, while the innings terminated just after resuming with the addition of a single to the previous score. Barratt bowled remarkably well, taking five wickets . . .

Surrey opened their innings with Mr Shut and Henderson to the attack of Richardson and Cropper. The amateur was quickly out, but Henderson showed very promising form and, with Abel, made a useful stand. Later on Maurice Read batted steadily and well, while Mr Roller hit hard. The last wicket fell at 129, or 49 runs ahead. Cropper and Brelsford were the most successful of the four bowlers . . .

Derbyshire went in a second time, and when stumps were drawn had two wickets down for 25, thus with eight wickets to fall the home county were still 24 runs behind their antagonists' first innings.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 23 May, page 10)

Yesterday this match was continued on the county ground at Derby. The home team, who had considerably the worst of the previous day's play, yesterday played a remarkably good uphill game, and at the drawing of stumps had considerably the best of the match, as the southern county, with four of their best wickets down, wanted 76 to win.

When the contest was resumed, Foster, the overnight not-out, was joined by Mr R P Smith. Both batted well, and after the former left, Mr Docker and the Midland captain hit in a most determined fashion. At the luncheon interval five wickets were down for 133. On continuing, nine batsmen were out for 183; then Platts and Richardson hit vigorously, and before the innings closed had added 43 runs. Mr Docker's 52 was an admirable batting display, including a four, a three and ten twos. Barratt was the most successful bowler, taking seven wickets . . .

Wanting 178 runs to win, the southern captain began batting with Henderson, to the bowling of Richardson and Brelsford. The opening was very unpromising, as Henderson, Abel and Maurice Read were all out for ten runs. Then Mr Shuter and Mr W W Read got together, and before they were parted had raised the score to 64, when Mr Shuter was bowled for an excellent 34. Mr Roller followed him, and with Mr Read played out time.

Day 3 (report from Thursday 24 May, page 6)

Derbyshire beat Surrey on the county ground at Derby yesterday by 51 runs. Overnight Surrey, with six wickets to fall, were left with 76 runs to win; but this task proved too heavy for the southern county, and in 35 minutes the innings was over for the addition of 24 runs. Mr Read and

Mr Roller, who were not out at the drawing of stumps on Tuesday evening with 40 and 12 respectively, were opposed yesterday by Cropper and Brelsford.

Mr Roller was immediately out l.-b.-w., and three other batsmen were dismissed before a run had been scored. Mr Read batted in good style, but could get no one to stay with him, and the innings closed for 126, leaving Derbyshire with a victory, as stated above. Mr Read's excellent not-out innings of 55 included three fours, five threes and eight twos. Brelsford was the most successful bowler, taking five wickets . . .

24 May: MARYLEBONE CLUB AND GROUND v KENT

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2682.html)

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

The visit of the Kentish eleven, under the captaincy of Lord Harris, to Lord's yesterday has shown that, to a great extent, the county may regain its former strength. Kent won the toss, and Lord Harris and Mr R S Jones were their first representatives against the attacks of Attewell and Rylott.

Unfortunately the first named batsman was hit on the head, and this caused a short delay. For a few overs Lord Harris showed considerable skill, making seven in a couple of hits. Attewell then gave way to Woof, and the latter sent in a ball which Lord Harris misjudged and had to retire. One wicket down. G G Hearne arrived, and a little before 1 o'clock the 50 was signalled. Five runs later Rylott handed the ball to Woof, who, at 58, disposed of Mr Jones. Mr Wilson arrived, and at luncheon time the total stood at 116.

The interval over, Rylott's second ball proved fatal to Mr Wilson, who was cleverly disposed of by Sherwin. Three for 116. Mr Gibson and Captain Inglis did not stay long at the wicket, though the latter hit hard during several overs. Hearne, who was the next disposed of, caused the 200 to be registered at 5 minutes to 4. When 37 had been added to this number he was taken at wicket. Seven down. His chief hits were five 4's, five 3's and nine 2's. Wootton joined Captain Renny-Tailyour and with the score at 252 Attewell resumed bowling. Captain Renny-Tailyour carried out his bat. His principal items were five 4's, eight 3's and eight 2's. The innings terminated at 5.15 for 284.

Marylebone went in, but up to the present they have made a very poor show . . .

Day 2 (report from Saturday 26 May, page 8)

Play in this match was continued at Lord's yesterday. At the close of the first day's play, Kent had concluded an innings for 284 runs, and half of the Marylebone wickets were captured for 68. Woof and Sherwin both batted well and the innings closed for 156. The hits of Woof, the top scorer, were two 4's, six 3's, four 2's &c.

Marylebone were now 128 in arrear, and in their follow on they offered a most feeble resistance, as the 11 batsmen only averaged four runs a-piece. The innings closed for 50. The score appended will show that Kent won by an innings and 78 runs.

24 May: OXFORD UNIVERSITY v MARYLEBONE CLUB AND GROUND

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2683.html)

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

There was a remarkably good and even day's cricket at Oxford yesterday, when a moderate eleven of the M.C.C. had slightly the best of the opening of the match against the University. The weather was bright and fine, and the wicket in capital order. Mr C F H Leslie is still absent from the Oxford eleven, and will be unable to play until the trial matches in the metropolis.

Mr Kemp won the toss for the University, and sent in Messrs Shaw and Hine-Haycock to oppose the bowling of Flowers and Parnham. Both batsmen hit well, and consequently Mr Robertson took the ball from Parnham at 37. The total, however, was taken to 61 before a separation was effected and Mr Shaw was finely caught at point. Mr Walker and Mr Asher were soon out, but Mr Kemp and Mr Hine-Haycock made another stand. The Oxford captain was bowled at 103, and Mr Ruggles-Brise followed in. At length Mr Hine-Haycock was dismissed for a faultless innings of 66, which included four fours, two threes and nine twos. The remainder of the innings was only noticeable for the brilliant hitting of Mr Ruggles-Brise, who, after the first few overs, batted admirably. His chief hits were five fours, four threes and six twos. The last wicket fell with the score at 209. Flowers bowled with great success, taking 5 wickets . . .

The M.C.C. opened very badly, losing three wickets for eight runs. When Mr Hamilton and Flowers got together, however, they completely mastered the Oxford bowling. Before they were parted no fewer than 123 runs were put on. Then the amateur was taken at point for a brilliantly-hit 54, while two overs later Flowers was caught at mid-on for a splendid 70, which included ten fours, two threes and five twos. Messrs Pember and Rhodes were next together, but no other wicket was obtained up to the call of time.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 26 May, page 8)

Yesterday's cricket at Oxford proved of a most interesting character, as the University, after having all the worst of the game, played up most pluckily and had a considerable advantage at the drawing of stumps. This was due in a great measure to the brilliant hitting of Mr Walker, who was in while 118 runs were scored, and the remarkable bowling of Messrs Peake and Robinson in the club's second attempt.

It should be mentioned that Pilling was so overcome by heat as to be unable to field, and consequently Wild kept wicket during the University's innings. The weather was fine, though close during the early part of the day, but towards the close rain fell and stopped play for some time. The following was the state of the match on Thursday evening: - Oxford University, first innings, 209; M.C.C., first innings, 165 for five wickets.

Day 3 (report from Monday 28 May, page 12)

At Oxford on Saturday the wet weather prevented the continuation of the above match, which subsequently ended in a draw . . .

24 May: CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY v YORKSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2681.html)

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

After a lapse of one season this interesting fixture has been revived, and yesterday the match began on the University Ground, Cambridge. The weather was most favourable. The University at 10 minutes past 12 began batting with Mr Wright and the Hon J W Mansfield. The bowlers were Harrison and Peate.

The start was disastrous, as in the second over from Harrison Mr Mansfield was bowled, and a similar fate quickly befell Mr Hawke, who followed. Two wickets were down for 12 runs when Mr C T Studd joined Mr Wright. Some improvement was now made. The Cambridge captain hit freely, while Mr Wright batted very steadily. The total had reached 42 when Mr Wright, who had been "backing up" much too freely, was run out by Harrison as the latter was about to deliver the ball. Mr Roe came next. But only stayed while Mr Studd, by some clever hits, increased the score to 53. Mr Paravicini did a little better; but, in making his runs, he was badly missed at long-on by Sugg. All this time Mr Studd was playing excellent cricket, but the support accorded to him was extremely poor. Mr Baines was speedily out, and at the interval the score was 72 for six wickets.

Afterwards Mr Studd was well taken at the wicket, his innings of 47 including two fours, seven threes and six twos. Messrs Turner and Topham were together when the 100 went up, but with five runs added the innings came to a conclusion. Harrison took four wickets . . .

Ulyett and Emmett started the Yorkshire innings against the bowling of Messrs Studd and Turner. Both hit freely, and the score was soon up to 36, when Messrs Paravicini and Topham took up the bowling. Emmett, after being missed at cover-point, was well caught at long-off. Sugg came in, but was caught at long-off when the score reached 60. Afterwards there was some excellent batting by Ulyett, Lockwood and Bates. Ulyett was at last stumped for 44, in which were a four, five threes and seven twos. At the close of the day Yorkshire, with three wickets to fall, were 38 runs ahead.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 26 May, page 8)

Yesterday's cricket at Cambridge was unmarked by any special feature. The bowlers were again seen to far greater advantage than the batsmen. At scarcely any time during the day was the scoring rapid, and in all less than 200 runs were made for the 13 wickets that fell . . .

Day 3 (report from Monday 28 May, page 12)

Owing to the heavy rain at Cambridge on Saturday no further play was possible in this match; consequently it was abandoned as a draw. The County had all the best of the game overnight . . .

24 May: SURREY v HAMPSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2684.html)

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

Surrey cricketers have not shown any promise of improvement in the encounters yet engaged in, and on as fine a wicket as one could wish to see on Kennington Oval they were unable to dispose of their rivals until a very formidable total had been made against them.

Messrs Seymour and Underdown opened the batting, but when 17 had been obtained the latter was caught at slip. Mr Longman's partnership with Mr Seymour proved far more productive. The former having made a late cut for four and his companion an on drive with a like result, Mr Diver at 43 relieved Barratt. Eventually Mr Seymour succumbed to a catch at point. Three for 74. Five runs later Mr Longman was stumped, while five runs afterwards Mr Lacey played a ball on to his wicket. Mr Hargreaves's stay was short and unproductive, but the partnership of Messrs Wood and Wynyard was far more remunerative. At a quarter past 3 150 runs were announced.

Various alterations in the attack followed, but without any appreciable effect on the batsmen, as five successive overs yesterday 33 runs. Both these batsmen were, however, ultimately clean bowled, and the innings terminated for 229. Surrey went in and batted so well that when stumps were drawn they had only lost four wickets and had accumulated 137 runs.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 26 May, page 8)

Productive as had been the innings of Hampshire on Thursday at Kennington Oval, that of Surrey yesterday exceeded all expectation. On the previous evening they had obtained 137 runs at the cost of only four wickets . . .

Day 3 (report from Monday 28 May, page 12)

Owing to the unfavourable weather on Saturday, there was not very much play in this match at Kennington Oval. When stumps were drawn on the previous evening, Hampshire had completed an innings for 229 runs, while Surrey, before they were all disposed of, had amassed the large total of 650, the highest score made in a first-class match. Hampshire went in a second time, and when stumps were drawn for the day had scored seven runs without the loss of a wicket.

It was not until within a few minutes of half-past 2 that play could be continued, Messrs Seymour and Bencraft resuming the innings. The score rose steadily, the 50 being signalled just before 3 o'clock, and although several variations in the bowling were tried, 69 runs were obtained before a parting was effected, through the agency of Abel, who was put on at the pavilion end, and from the first ball he sent down Mr Bencraft was caught by Mr W W Read at point. His 45 comprised five fours, one three, four twos &c. Mr Longman came in, and rain interfered with the match for a few minutes, but, on continuing, the total reached 98, when the rain again stopped play, and, after a quarter of an hour's delay, it was decided to abandon the match, it being drawn at 4.45.

28 May: MIDDLESEX v GLOUCESTERSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2685.html)

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

The annual match between these counties was commenced at Lord's yesterday. Fine weather had the effect of attracting a very large company of spectators to witness the game. Within a few minutes of noon Mr Walker, who had won the toss, was accompanied to the wickets by Mr J E K Studd, the bowling being intrusted to Dr W G Grace and Woof. At the luncheon interval 116 had been reached. The innings closed at 2.55 for 131.

Dr W G Grace and Mr Gilbert opened the Gloucestershire innings to the attacks of Burton and Mr C T Studd. Runs came fast, and although the variations in the bowling were frequent, the batsmen were not parted until they had taken the score to within 9 runs of the hundred, Mr Gilbert then being out to a catch at wicket. The innings closed at five minutes past 6. Middlesex, who were 48 runs in arrear, commenced their second innings . . .

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

The attendance at Lord's yesterday to witness the continuation of the match between these counties was larger than on the previous day. When stumps were drawn on Monday night the Gloucestershire team had had the better of the game, as at the close of their first innings they were 48 runs more than their opponents. Middlesex had commenced their second innings and had scored 31, no wicket being lost.

Messrs Walker and Lucas continued the batting to the bowling of Woof and Mr Gilbert. The score rose fast, but at 68 Mr Walker's wicket was disturbed by a ball from Dr W G Grace. His hits comprised five fours, a three and seven twos. Mr C T Studd joined Mr Lucas, and these two before a parting was effected had added 92 runs to the score, when Mr Studd played a ball into the hands of cover-point. Mr Pearson came in, but he obstructed his wicket and had to retire. Mr J E K Studd came to the aid of Mr Lucas, and runs again came fast. The "200" went up just before luncheon. On play being resumed, Mr Studd was quickly bowled, and Mr Lucas was ultimately disposed of. His principal items were eight fours, three threes and ten twos. The innings closed at ten minutes to 4 o'clock.

Gloucestershire, wanting 237 to win, sent in Mr Gilbert and Dr E M Grace to the bowling of Mr C T Studd and Mr Robertson. Dr Grace was caught and bowled at 26, and Mr Taylor came in, but at 46 he was secured at mid-on. Dr W G Grace joined Mr Gilbert and the score rose rapidly, the "100" being hoisted at 5.40, but without any addition to the score the former was taken at slip. Two runs later Mr Gilbert was caught also, having played rather a lucky innings. His hits included a four, five threes and seven twos. The other wickets realized only 49, and the innings closed at a quarter to 7 for 151. This Middlesex won by 85 runs.

31 May: CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY v GENTLEMEN OF ENGLAND

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2686.html)

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

The last match of the Cambridge season was commenced yesterday on the University ground. Fine weather favoured the cricket, and there was a good attendance of spectators. The Gentlemen had got together a decidedly strong 11, six of whom have at one time or another been in residence at the Universities. Cambridge suffered from the absence of the Hon M B Hawke, who, next to Mr Charles Studd, is certainly the most dangerous batsman in the team.

The Gentlemen won the toss, and at first it seemed highly probable that they would make a big score. Messrs I D Walker and T S Pearson opened the innings, and before they were parted the score had reached 61. Mr Walker was out first, his freely-hit innings including three fours and two threes. Mr Lucas and Mr Pearson carried the total to 100, and then both gentlemen were dismissed, Mr Pearson being caught at the wicket and Mr Lucas bowled. After this a rapid change came over the game. Messrs Topham and C T Studd bowled with great success, and the innings which had opened so well was finished off for 153. Mr Topham . . five wickets . . .

The university batting was generally good. Mr C T Studd was caught at point when he looked firmly set; but his runs were obtained in his accustomed style. Mr J E K Studd played far better cricket than in any previous match this season. Included in his 57 were four fours, four threes and eight twos. The Hon J W Mansfield, who so far has disappointed expectation, for once did justice to his abilities and made 42 in very taking style. The innings closed for 209, and stumps were then drawn for the day, Cambridge having an advantage of 56 runs. Mr Rotherham was the most successful bowler for the Gentlemen . . .

Day 2 (scored but no report from Saturday 2 June, page 12)

Day 3 (report from Monday 4 June, page 9)

On Saturday the Cambridge eleven defeated a powerful team of the Gentlemen of England by eight wickets. The match was well contested throughout, although the University had an advantage during the greater part of the game, and such a brilliant victory was quite unexpected.

31 May: OXFORD UNIVERSITY v LANCASHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2688.html)

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

One of the new matches of the season's programme was commenced yesterday at Oxford, where Lancashire had all the best of the game against the University. In the absence of Messrs A G Steel and V F Royle, the county was not playing its full strength, while Oxford were considerably weakened by the continued absence of Mr C F H Leslie.

Lancashire went in first, and after losing several of their best wickets, Mr S M Crosfield, a young amateur from Warrington, played brilliant cricket. Added by Robinson and Briggs, matters greatly improved, and the total eventually reached 167. Oxford on going in made a promising start, but after Mr Hine-Haycock was out, Mr Walker was the only batsman on the side that played the bowling of Crossland with any confidence, and he was unfortunately run out when apparently well set. Mr Asher made 15, but none of the others scored double figures.

In a majority of 66 runs on the first innings, Lancashire went in again for a quarter of an hour's batting, and in that time lost a wicket for 19 runs - Mr Hornby playing a ball on to his wicket.

Day 2 (scored but no report from Saturday 2 June, page 12)

Day 3 (report from Monday 4 June, page 9)

The powerful Northern county gained an easy victory over the University at Oxford on Saturday.

31 May: MARYLEBONE CLUB AND GROUND v DERBYSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2687.html)

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

There was not a very large number of spectators at Lord's yesterday to witness the commencement of this match. Derbyshire, having won the toss, sent Mr Smith and Chatterton to the wickets, the bowling being intrusted to Flowers and Rylott.

Chatterton was bowled when the score was at 27, and Mr Docker came in. Runs came fast, and, after several variations in the bowling, Rylott was put on again. This change was successful, as with the first ball of his over Mr Docker was caught at cover-point. Two wickets for 73. Mr Smith was out at 86; his principal hits were four fours, three threes and six twos. The seventh wicket fell for 96, the ninth for 129, and the innings ultimately closed for 132.

The Marylebone Club then went in, with Barnes and Flowers, to the attacks of Mycroft and Brelsford. Barnes was soon out, as was Gunn; but G G Hearne came to the assistance of Flowers, and it was not till the County total had been passed that the former was clean bowled. Flowers continued his free hitting for some time, but when he had made 131 he was bowled. His chief items were 12 fours, 15 threes and five twos. The last wicket fell for 243. Derbyshire then went in . . .

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

Through the effective bowling of Flowers at Lord's yesterday, the play in this encounter was of brief duration. When the game ceased on Thursday each team had completed an innings, and Derbyshire, who were in a minority of 111 runs, had lost two wickets for 20. The resistance offered to Marylebone was so feeble that the county were defeated by an innings and 29 runs. Flowers took six wickets . . .

31 May: SURREY v GLOUCESTERSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2689.html)

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

The match between these counties at Kennington Oval yesterday was noteworthy from the fact that at the close of an innings each, the difference between the two scores was very small. The attendance was very large.

The Graces kept together until the score had reached 75, when, after many variations to the attack had been made, the Gloucestershire captain was caught behind the bowler. Neither Mr Pullen nor Mr Cave did much; but Mr Gilbert proved an able partner to Dr E M Grace, who was ultimately caught at slip. His chief hits were nine 4's, two 3's and four 2's. Mr Gilbert saw the remainder of the side dismissed and the innings closed for 174.

Surrey's batting nearly came up to that of their opponents, and at the close of play there was only a difference of seven runs between them.

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

These counties continued their match yesterday at Kennington Oval. At the close of Thursday's play Gloucestershire had an advantage of seven runs, and the innings closed for 198 at 3.45.

Surrey now required 206 to win, a task that very few thought they would be equal to. At 5.55, however, the second century was telegraphed, and soon afterwards Mr W W Read, with an on-drive for three, won Surrey's first match of the season by seven wickets. Mr W W Read's chief hits were 15 fours, two threes and three twos, and Maurice Read's 20 fours, five threes and four twos.

4 June: OXFORD UNIVERSITY v GENTLEMEN OF ENGLAND

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2693.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 5 June, page 10)

In bright summer weather the last of the University trial matches at Oxford was commenced yesterday against a fairly strong team of the Gentlemen of England. Eight out of the visiting eleven had played last week against Cambridge, the places of Messrs Forbes, Law and Thornton being filled on the present occasion by Messrs Frank, C C Clarke and Robertson.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 6 June, page 12)

After a very good and keenly-contested match, the Oxford University Eleven gained a victory over the Gentlemen of England at Oxford yesterday by 66 runs. The weather was most favourable, but the ground did not wear well and a new wicket had to be pitched for each innings. This unusual course gave the batsmen a decided advantage, and during the day 463 runs were obtained.

4 June: MARYLEBONE CLUB AND GROUND v NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2692.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 5 June, page 10)

Many spectators were present at Lord's yesterday to witness the play in this match. The Marylebone team was not up to its usual strength. The Club, having won the toss, elected to bat, and sent in Messrs W G Grace and Mr Russel to the attacks of Shaw and Mills. The innings ultimately closed for 82. Shaw secured half the wickets . . and Mills also took five . . .

At a quarter past three Messrs C W Wright and J A Dickson opened the batting for the county, which terminated at 6.25 . . . The Club then went in a second time . . .

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 6 June, page 12)

The result of the first day's play in this match at Lord's left the County with a decided advantage, as at the close of an innings each they had 82 runs in hand. They feature of yesterday's play was the way Marylebone batted in their second innings, Dr W G Grace's chief hits being six fours and four threes. Woof took six wickets for 15 runs; and Notts were beaten by 41 runs.

4 June: LANCASHIRE v KENT

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2691.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 5 June, page 10)

Some remarkable cricket was witnessed yesterday at the Old Trafford Ground, Manchester, in the match between Kent and Lancashire. Lord Harris had not been able to secure his best eleven, and on paper the match seemed all in favour of Lancashire. The Kent men, however, had the advantage of going in first on an excellent wicket, and made exceptionally good use of their opportunity.

The honours of the day were divided between Lord Harris and Mr R S Jones. Lord Harris's 118 included fifteen fours, a three and twelve twos. Mr R Jones's 83 comprised eight fours, a three and nine twos.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 6 June, page 12)

Mr Hornby batted finely at Manchester yesterday, and Lancashire now has a reasonable chance of winning a match which at one time looked altogether in favour of Kent. The Lancashire captain made the splendid scores of 88 and 96, and was at the wickets for three hours and 45 minutes. In his first innings he obtained 11 fours and in his second 13. Lancashire is now 132 runs ahead with a wicket to fall.

Day 3 (report from Thursday 7 June, page 6)

At Manchester yesterday, Lancashire accomplished a remarkable performance against Kent. After having to follow on, they put the southern county in to obtain 136, a task that proved utterly beyond their powers. Barlow and Watson bowled throughout the innings with extraordinary success. The former obtained six wickets for 32 runs and Watson four wickets for 18.

Thus Kent suffered defeat by 70 runs. it is but fair to state that the wicket was worn and helped the bowlers a good deal yesterday.

4 June: HAMPSHIRE v SUSSEX

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2690.html)

Day 1 - no report found

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 6 June, page 12)

The batting at Southampton yesterday showed a great improvement on that of the previous day, for whereas on Monday 19 wickets fell for 204, yesterday 289 runs were scored for 14 wickets.

Sussex did not add to their overnight total of 94. The home county played up remarkably well in their second attempt. Sussex went in a second time with 197 to get to win . . .

Day 3 (report from Thursday 7 June, page 6)

Sussex, after having considerably the better of the game against the home county at Southampton on Tuesday, yesterday batted in very poor form; and, despite several mistakes in the field, Hampshire scored an unexpected victory by 31 runs.

Sussex had only three wickets down overnight for 109; but the remaining batsmen only added 51. This result was in a great measure due to Dible, who obtained 10 wickets in the match for 66 runs.

7 June: NOTTINGHAMSHIRE v LANCASHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2694.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 8 June, page 10)

In the first match this season between these famous northern counties began yesterday at Trent-bridge, Nottingham, the home team, notwithstanding the fact that six men got double figures, made only 110.

Mr Hornby, who with Barlow opened the Lancashire batting, was missed before he had got a run, and three or four times afterwards. The chief figures in his innings of 62 were five fours, six threes and eight twos.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 9 June, page 12)

The match at Nottingham between these two famous northern counties ended yesterday in an easy victory for Lancashire by nine wickets.

7 June: SURREY v MIDDLESEX

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2695.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 8 June, page 10)

Surrey put a strong team into the field against Middlesex at the Oval yesterday. The home county started batting in a dismal treacherous light. Still the batsmen hit most effectively. In Mr W Read's splendid innings of 73 were 11 fours and four twos; in Mr Roller's eight fours and two threes; and in M Read's six fours and two threes. Total, 274. Burton took five wickets for 90 runs.

Middlesex went in in even a worse light than that experienced by their opponents . . .

Day 2 (report from Saturday 9 June, page 12)

Surrey defeated Middlesex at Kennington Oval yesterday by ten wickets.

7 June: YORKSHIRE v KENT

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2696.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 8 June, page 10)

The home county gained an immense advantage yesterday over Kent at Dewsbury. They went in first and made 275, while the visitors lost their six best wickets for the meagre score of 33. The feature of the day's play was the brilliant batting of Bates, who made 79 with but one mistake. His figures were three fours, 12 three and seven twos.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 9 June, page 12)

Yorkshire achieved a decisive victory over Kent yesterday at Dewsbury by an innings and 131 runs.

11 June: MARYLEBONE CLUB AND GROUND v LANCASHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2697.html)

Day 1 - no report found

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 13 June, page 12)

At Lord's yesterday this match was brought to a definite issue in less than two hours. The second innings of M.C.C. finished for 80 runs, and Lancashire were set the task of getting 72 runs to win. The fine free hitting of Mr Hornby and the exceedingly careful, though much less productive, batting of Barlow enabled them to score a victory by ten wickets, the requisite number of runs being obtained in 58 minutes.

11 June: ORLEANS CLUB v CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2698.html)

Day 1 - no report found

Day 2 (report from Saturday 9 June, page 12)

This match was begun at Twickenham on Monday. The University went in first, and, although eight variations in the bowling were resorted to, it was not until 381 had been reached that the last wicket fell. Mr Mansfield's 117 was composed of 25 threes, 10 twos and singles. The Orleans Club then went in, and at the close of the day's play had lost one wicket for 21 runs.

On the match being resumed yesterday the innings realized 158. Being 223 runs behind, the Club followed on . . .

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

This match was concluded at Twickenham yesterday. When stumps were drawn the previous evening the Orleans Club had followed on and were still 47 runs behind, with six wickets to fall. The innings closed for 273.

The University, wanting 51 to win, went in a second time, but in obtaining these four batsmen were dismissed, and the obtained score will show that Cambridge won by six wickets.

11 June: YORKSHIRE v SUSSEX

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2699.html)

Day 1 - no report found

Day 2 (report from Saturday 9 June, page 12)

Sussex had all the best of the opening day's play against Yorkshire at Sheffield, scoring 182 against the home county's 95 for nine wickets. Thus when play was resumed yesterday, a follow-on appeared almost inevitable. Peate and Harrison however hit with great determined and carried the total to 126.

With an advantage of 56 runs Sussex went in a second time, but only made 128. Wanting 185 to win, Yorkshire had lost for wickets for 81 at the expiration of time.

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

After a keenly contested match Sussex defeated Yorkshire at Sheffield yesterday by three runs. When play was resumed the home county, with six wickets to fall, wanted 104 to win.

Hall and Lockwood played splendid cricket in a bad light, and when the fifth wicket fell only 62 were wanted. None of the other batsmen however afforded Hall much assistance, and Sussex won a well-deserved victory amidst a scene of the greatest excitement.

14 June: LANCASHIRE v OXFORD UNIVERSITY

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2700.html)

Day 1 (scorecard but no report from Friday 15 June, page 5)

Day 2 (report from Saturday 16 June, page 12)

Very little progress was made at Manchester yesterday owing to the heavy rain. It will be remembered that overnight Lancashire had completed an innings for 427, while the University had lost one wicket for six runs.

The game was resumed in threatening weather soon after 12 yesterday. Mr Harrison was bowled in Barlow's first over, and Mr Hine Haycock was dismissed at 21. After this the wet came on again, and eventually further play was postponed until to-day.

Day 3 (report from Monday 18 June, page 12)

Oxford University suffered a crushing defeat at the hands of Lancashire at Manchester on Saturday. Against their opponents' great score of 427, the University had lost three wickets for 28 overnight. On Saturday they completed their innings for 115 and, following on, were all dismissed for 102; thus Lancashire won by an innings with 210 runs to spare.

14 June: SURREY v CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2702.html)

Day 1 (scorecard but no report from Friday 15 June, page 5)

There was a large number of spectators present yesterday at Kennington-oval to witness this match. Surrey went in after the University. When eight of their wickets had fallen for 110, it seemed probable that they would have to follow on, but Pooley and Mr Cattley played very steadily and the ninth wicket was not taken until the score stood at 146. The innings closed for 150.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 16 June, page 12)

The feature of yesterday's cricket at Kennington-oval was the batting of Mr C T Studd in the second innings of Cambridge University. He went in first wicket down, and, having seen the dismissal of seven of his companions, remained unconquered at the end of the day. In his batting he gave three difficult chances. His principal hits were 17 fours, six threes and 18 twos.

Day 3 (report from Monday 18 June, page 12)

When stumps were drawn in this match at Kennington Oval on Friday, Cambridge, who were 56 runs to the good in their first innings, had lost eight wickets for 287 in their second. On continuing the game on Saturday, the University had added 20 runs to their overnight score before their last wicket fell. Mr C T Studd's brilliant innings included 17 fours, eight threes and 19 twos.

Surrey, who required 364 to win, were all disposed of for 163. Among Mr W W Read's hits were six fours, one three, ten twos. Mr de Paravicini obtained four wickets for 26 runs and Mr C T Studd four for 43. The score appended will show that Cambridge won by 200 runs.

14 June: MIDDLESEX v YORKSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2701.html)

Day 1 (scorecard but no report from Friday 15 June, page 5)

Yesterday's play in this match at Lord's proved of a most even character . . .

Day 2 (report from Saturday 16 June, page 12)

Very fine cricket was yesterday shown in this match by Mr Ridley on the one side, and Ulyett and Hall on the other. But for the spirited hitting of the first-named, Middlesex would have made an indifferent show.

Yorkshire gained a five wickets' victory at 7.35. Rain delayed the game during the early part of the day and influenced the attendance considerably.

18 June: MARYLEBONE CLUB AND GROUND v CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2703.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 19 June, page 10)

Compared with their performance against Surrey last week, the batting display of Cambridge at Lord's yesterday was rather dismissing; but considering the strength of the team opposed to them they did some very creditable work. The fielding of both teams was excellent.

The match is the last in which the Cambridge eleven will appear previous to their contest against Oxford, which begins on Monday next. From the score appended it will be seen that Cambridge are 168 runs "on," with seven wickets intact.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 20 June, page 12)

This match was continued at Lord's yesterday most satisfactorily. Cambridge, who were 51 runs to the good on the first innings, had overnight lost three wickets for 97 runs. yesterday the tenth wicket fell at 243, at five minutes past 3, leaving the M.C.C. no fewer than 295 runs to get to win. It is worthy of mention that Rylott obtained four of the Cambridge wickets at an average cost of nine runs.

Messrs Greenfield and Lucas were again the early representatives of the M.C.C. Mr Greenfield was the first to go at 56, and Mr Lucas went at 81. To Barnes the chief praise is due. He began rather feebly, but his hitting later on was exceedingly fine. His principal hits were a five and 11 fours. In the result Cambridge, at 6.30, won the match by 81 runs.

18 June: ORLEANS CLUB v OXFORD UNIVERSITY

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2705.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 19 June, page 10)

Oxford entered the lists against the Orleans Club at Twickenham yesterday.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 20 June, page 12)

At the close on Monday's play in this match at Twickenham, Oxford possessed a decided advantage, as they had finished an innings for 191, while seven of their rivals were dismissed for 64.

Yesterday the four outstanding wickets were captured for an addition of 70. Mr Asher's remarkable score of 182 for Oxford was the feature of the day's play. Orleans now require 394 to win.

Day 3 (report from Thursday 21 June, page 10)

With the heavy burden of 393 runs to obtain in order to avert defeat, the Orleans Club started their second innings against Oxford at Twickenham yesterday. The University bowling and fielding were excellent. An hour and ten minutes' play found only 163 runs obtained and five wickets lost.

After luncheon the remaining six added but 40. Total - 103. Mr Peake claimed seven wickets . . . The complete score appended will show that Oxford gained a decisive victory by 290 runs.

18 June: NOTTINGHAMSHIRE AND YORKSHIRE v THE REST

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2704.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 19 June, page 10)

The England team got together by Mr E M Grace made a good score of 242 at Bradford yesterday against an eleven of Yorkshire and Notts. When the combined county eleven went in Ulyett hit hard, but was twice missed . , .

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 20 June, page 12)

There was some excellent batting by the combined counties' team at Bradford yesterday, no fewer than nine batsmen out of the 11 reaching double figures. In England's second innings six wickets went down for 67, Mr E M Grace and Mr Pullen alone showing to advantage. At the close of the day's play, with three wickets to fall, England were 90 runs on.

Day 3 (report from Thursday 21 June, page 10)

Yesterday, at Bradford, this match ended in an easy victory for the combined counties over the England team by six wickets. The chief feature of the day's play was the batting of Shrewsbury, whose not out 57 included 10 fours.

18 June: SUSSEX v KENT

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2706.html)

Day 1 (scorecard but no report from Tuesday 19 June, page 10)

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 20 June, page 12)

Kent fared very badly at Brighton yesterday morning, but afterwards Mr Tylecote and Mr Thornton saved their side from disaster, and in the end the visitors' total reached 227, only 46 behind the Sussex score.

Day 3 (report from Thursday 21 June, page 10)

Sussex, who had lost seven wickets over night for 156, concluded their second innings at Brighton yesterday for 259. Mr Wyatt and Phillips both played splendidly, the amateur's 51 including eight 4's and two 2's, and Phillips' 53 nine 4's and five 3's. Kent wanted 306 to win, but the last proved quite beyond their powers and they were beaten by 140 runs.

21 June: SOUTH v NORTH

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2708.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 22 June, page 10)

The Surrey executive have decided to reward the services of Edward Pooley, the well-known wicket-keeper, with the proceeds of this match, which began at Kennington-oval yesterday. Both teams were fairly strong. North was captained by Mr Hornby and South by Dr W G Grace. Uncertain weather prevailed during the day and rain fell occasionally, but this did not prevent several thousand spectators being present.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 23 June, page 12)

In spite of the uncertain weather at the Oval yesterday, a large company assembled to witness the second day's play in this match. The close of an innings each found the North 51 runs in arrear, but they batted so well in their second venture that the game is left in a most interesting state.

Day 3 (report from Monday 25 June, page 10)

The prospect of an interesting finish to this match attracted a large number of visitors to Kennington Oval on Saturday. When play ceased on the previous evenings the South were left wanting 165 runs for victory, and with an innings in which to get them.

Mr Lucas and Dr Grace set about this task at 12.15, opposed by Barlow and Peate. When Hide, the last man, went in, 25 runs were still wanting. A splendid ball from Bates, however, disposed of the new comer for an addition of two only. Total 142. Thus a closely-contested match was won by the North by 22 runs.

21 June: MARYLEBONE CLUB AND GROUND v OXFORD UNIVERSITY

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2707.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 22 June, page 10)

Heavy rain fell during Wednesday night and yesterday morning, causing Lord's ground to play very dead when the above twelve a side match was commenced. Marylebone, having won the toss, went in.

Mr Game, who gave two difficult chances, hit with quite his old vigour, his 92 including 17 fours, a three and six twos. Beyond Messrs A G Steel and Miller the others did little, and the innings closed for 220. Oxford went in . . .

Day 2 (report from Saturday 23 June, page 12)

At the end of the first day's play in this match at Lord's, Marylebone had completed an innings for 220 and Oxford had lost a wicket for 60 runs. Mr Steel and Fothergill bowled well yesterday, and the ten remaining wickets only added 105.

With 55 runs to the good, Marylebone went in again at 20 minutes to 2, and kept the Dark Blues in the field until stumps were drawn for the day. Indeed, the Oxford bowling was completely mastered, and they missed several catches. Lord Harris's hits included five 4's, three 3's and five 2's; Mr Steel's six 4's, seven 3's and eight 2's; and Mr Thornton's five 4's, four 3's and three 2's. The last wicket fell for 337, and the game was left drawn greatly in favour of the Club.

Saturday 23 June, page 12: OXFORD v CAMBRIDGE

The 49th match between the Universities will be played at Lord's on Monday next and two following days. Of the previous 48 contests Cambridge has won 24 and Oxford 22, two matches being left unfinished. The elevens on Monday will be as follows: -

Oxford. - Messrs M C Kemp (captain), A G G Asher, E W Bastard, W E T Bolitho, T R Hine-Haycock, C F H Leslie, H V Page, E Peake, G E Robinson, H G Ruggles-Brise and J G Walker.

Cambridge. - Mr C T Studd (captain), Hon M B Hawke, Mr P J T Henery, Hon J W Mansfield, Messrs P J de Paravicini, W N Roe, C A Smith, J E K Studd, H G J Topham, J A Turner and C W Wright.

The Oxford team includes five of last year's players (Messrs Kemp, Leslie, Peake, Robinson and walker) and Cambridge seven (Mr C T Studd, Hon M B Hawke, Messrs Henery, de Paravicini, Smith, J E K Studd and Wright).

25 June: OXFORD UNIVERSITY v CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2710.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 26 June, page 8)

Although in the minds of a great many people this year's University match was looked upon as a foregone conclusion for Cambridge, the interest taken in the play itself was as strong as ever, and there could not have been less than 10,000 spectators at Lord's yesterday. During the early morning the weather was fitful, but at noon it became more settled. An excellent wicket had been prepared (a little nearer the pavilion than the nursery end), and the Light Blues gained a great advantage in winning the toss and being enabled to go in at once.

The great feature of their innings was the superb batting of Mr Wright, who went in first and was the eighth to leave. The clean, free style in which he batted left scarcely anything to be desired, as, playing dangerous balls with caution and precision, he very rarely neglected an opportunity of scoring. Oxford fielded very well, their returns to the wicket being particularly smart. It may be noted that seven of the ten wickets were bowled. Towards evening heavy showers fell, and the ground after half-past 4 was gradually thinned of on-lookers.

Punctually at noon the Dark Blue team, who had lost the toss, turned out into the field. Messrs J E K Studd and Wright first took possession of the wickets. Mr Robinson led off the attack from the pavilion end, the rest of the team being disposed as follows: - Mr Kemp, wicket-keeper; Mr Walker, point; Mr Peake, short-leg; Mr Ruggles-Brise, mid-off; Mr Page, slip; Mr Leslie, long-leg; Mr Hine-Haycock, long-slip; Mr Asher, cover-slip; Mr Bolitho, cover-point; and Mr Bastard, mid-on.

From the first ball delivered Mr Kemp made an appeal for a catch at wicket against Mr Studd, which was negated, and nothing came from the opening over. The bowling from the nursery end was intrusted to Mr Page, who had his men placed thus - Mr Kemp, wicket-keeper; Mr Walker, point; Mr Robinson, slip; Mr Peake, short-leg; Mr Ruggles-Brise, square-leg; Mr Leslie, mid-on; Mr Hine-Haycock, mid-off; Mr Bolitho, cover-point; Mr Bastard, third man; and Mr Asher, long-

on.

His first over was also a maiden, but the sixth ball sent in by Mr Robinson gave Mr Studd an opening for a very clean off-drive along the ground to the boundary. At 39 Mr Page went on in lieu of Mr Robinson at the pavilion wicket. Almost immediately afterwards an appeal for leg-before was unsuccessfully made against Mr Wright. A beautiful cut by Mr J E K Studd off Mr Bastard caused 45 to be registered; but before another run had been secured this batsman was dismissed by a bailer. One down. Mr Hawke saw Mr Wright drive a ball of Mr Page's to the on for four; but the first he received himself struck the middle stump. Two for 48.

Mr C T Studd, the Cambridge captain, was warmly greeted on leaving the pavilion. The second ball sent to him by Mr Page he cut through the slips for three, thus causing the 50 to be signalled. Runs continued to be gained at about the rate of one per minute. The fielding of the Dark Blues was excellent, notably that of Mr Walker at point. Mr Wright having hit the ball round to leg for four, Mr Robinson superseded Mr Page at 70. This change did not at all check the batsmen. On the contrary, the run-getting was accelerated, as the new bowler's three overs yesterday 15 runs. At 90, Mr Robinson gave way to Mr Leslie. Still no separation was effected, and at 97 Mr Peake superseded Mr Bastard. After exactly an hour and a half's play 100 runs were telegraphed. With the total at 107, the Cambridge captain was caught by Mr Kemp, who stood about five yards behind the wicket to Mr Peake's bowling. Three for 107. Mr Mansfield joined Mr Wright, who was batting in a clean, steady style, and by a late cut for three took the total to 110. Nineteen runs were added when luncheon was announced, Mr Wright being not out 61.

After the customary interval, Mr Peake relieved Mr Robinson, and the last ball of his opening over Mr Mansfield played on. Mr de Paravicini's stay was brief - bowled, leg stump. Half the wickets were now lost for 158. Further disasters were in store for Cambridge, as Mr Henery was bowled, off stump, and Mr Roe, leg-stump. Mr Peake since he resumed had taken three wickets in four overs for two runs. Seven for 159.

Mr Wright next had Mr Turner for a companion. The latter was evidently not at home with either bowler, and runs came at a very tardy pace. At 181 rain caused a delay of a quarter of an hour. The scoring now became very slow until, at 192, Mr Bastard handed the ball to Mr Peake, and at 20 minutes past 4 the 200 was reached. A further variation in the attack was now tried, Mr Page resuming for Mr Robinson. Three singles resulted from seven overs, when Mr Wright, by a leg-hit for four, sent his score up to 100. When only a couple of singles had been added he fell to a catch at deep slip. He had been batting for three hours and a half in grand style. His chief hits were 14 fours, two threes and eight twos. Eight for 210. Mr Smith assisted Mr Turner; but at 214 a heavy downpour of rain caused a stoppage of the game for an hour and five minutes. On play being resumed, the innings soon closed, Mr Smith being clean bowled and Mr Topham caught at wicket. Time 5.55. Total, 215.

At ten minutes past 6 Mr Walker (nursery) and Mr Hine-Haycock started the Oxford batting. Messrs C T Studd and Smith were the bowlers. To the former's attacks the fieldsmen stood thus: - Mr Wright, wicket-keeper; Mr Mansfield, point; Mr Henery, mid-off; Mr Hawke, mid-on; Mr de Paravicini, cover slip; Mr Turner, cover-point; Mr Topham, extra mid-off; Mr J E K Studd, deep long-on; Mr Roe, long-off; and Mr Smith, slip. For Mr Smith the places were: - Mr Wright, wicket-keeper; Mr Mansfield, point; Mr Henery, mid-off; Mr Hawke, long-stop; Mr de Paravicini, deep long-off; Mr Turner, mid-on; Mr Topham, slip; Mr J E K Studd, cover=slip; Mr Roe, long-leg; and Mr C T Studd, cover-point.

With the exception of a straight drive for four and a late cut for three, both made by Mr Hine-Haycock, nothing was done in the first 17 overs, when Mr Smith made room for Mr Topham. Nothing came of the change, and at a quarter to 7 rain stopped play for the day.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 27 June, page 9)

If any illustration is needed of the vicissitudes a game of cricket is capable of undergoing, it was amply furnished by the second day's play in the University match at Lord's. Whatever hopes for success the friends of Oxford might have had on Monday evening soon drooped in the early part of yesterday. Their rivals has batted on an almost perfect wicket, while the heavy and frequent downpours yesterday morning quite saturated the ground. Difficult as it unquestionably was to obtain runs, few people were prepared to see ten Oxford wickets go for only 28 runs, as 27 of the 55 registered as a result of their first innings had been obtained overnight without the loss of a wicket.

This in a great measure was due to over-anxiety - four batsmen fell to catches at slip and three were unfortunately run out. In the evening matters improved, and the timely resistance offered by Mr Walker and Mr Page put a different complexion on affairs. These batsmen quite stemmed the tide which seemed to have so steadily set in against Oxford. The Dark Blues are now only ten runs in arrear and have yet seven wickets to fall, so that there is till a chance of an interesting finish.

As usual on the second day, play began at half-past 11, when Messrs Walker and Hine-Haycock (the not-outs with 12 each) took up their positions at the wickets. Mr Smith (nursery end) and Mr C T Studd were again entrusted with the bowling. A single to Mr Walker and a no-ball were the only items added to the score when Mr Hine-Haycock retired - clean bowled. One for 29. As Mr Leslie went in rain fell slightly; but the game was proceeded with for a little time. The first ball Mr Smith sent to him the new comer drove to the on for three, and the last of the same over Mr Walker hit to leg for a couple. The concluding ball of the fourth over Mr Leslie sent round to leg. Two runs were successfully made, but in attempting a third Mr Walker's wicket was upset before he could get within the crease. Two for 36. Rain now stopped play for ten minutes.

Mr Grant-Asher then appeared as a companion for Mr Leslie, and an appeal for "leg before" against the former was answered in favour of the batsman. He did not long survive this, however, as he soon played the ball into the hands of slip. Mr Kemp arrived, but his association with Mr Leslie was immediately severed by the latter being taken at short-slip. Three and four for 36. Mr Bolitho gave an opportunity to slip which was let escape, and at ten minutes past 12 rain fell so heavily that a retreat to the pavilion was necessary. A delay of an hour and 40 minutes ensued, after which each batsman added a single in three overs, when Mr Bolitho was caught at slip. Half the wickets for 39 runs.

Mr Ruggles-Brise brought the total to 40. A heavy shower caused the interval to be prolonged until half-past 3. A late cut for four by Mr Ruggles-Brise having been made off Mr Smith, this batsman in the same over had his off stump upset, while without the addition of a run Mr Kemp failed to keep a ball of Mr C T Studd's out of his wicket, and Mr Peake, who took the last-named batsman's place, was smartly caught at slip. Thus the sixth, seventh and eighth wickets were all lost at 44. Mr Robinson came to the assistance of Mr Page, and, after having given a difficult chance to slip, he drove a ball of Mr C T Studd's to the off for three. Mr Page cut the next ball to third man, and Mr Robinson, injudiciously calling him, ran himself out. Nine for 48.

Mr Bastard aided Mr Page; and the former, with an off-drive for three off Mr Smith, shot the score

up to 50. Three singles came from four overs, and then Mr Page made a straight drive. One run was secured, and in attempting a second, Mr Page was run out. The innings thus closed for 55 at 4 o'clock. Mr C T Studd took four wickets . . .

With the depressing balance of 160 runs against them, Oxford followed on at 20 minutes past 4. The order of going in was varied, and Mr Walker was accompanied to the wickets by Mr Leslie. Mr C T Studd (pavilion) and Mr Smith were again the bowlers. The first four overs produced five runs. Mr Walker then made seven by off and on drives. When 15 had been obtained, Mr Leslie, who had not played with his usual confidence, was clean bowled. Mr Page came, and when he had gained a single he should have been stumped, but escaped. Taking advantage of this indulgence, he drove the second ball he afterwards received to the on for two.

Twenty runs were the result of twenty-five minutes' play. Both batsmen now showed the utmost care; Mr Page cut the ball cleanly for three and two, while Mr Walker also obtained four by similar hits. So well did the batsmen seem set that at 46 Mr Smith gave way to Mr de Paravicini. The first ball of the change Mr Page drove well to the off for four, and a square-leg hit for two by the same batsman caused the 50 to be signalled at 5.15. A further variation in the attack was tried, Mr C T Studd handing the ball to Mr Topham. Still no good resulted, and at 70 the bowlers crossed over. Mr Page gave a very hard chance to Mr Henery in the long field which was let slip. Mr Walker then cut a ball of Mr Topham's for four, and his companion made an off drive for a like number from Mr de Paravicini. The original bowlers - Messrs C T Studd and Smith - resumed the attack at 81. Another difficult chance of being stumped was then given by Mr Page, who immediately afterwards shot the total up to 90, and the "100" was indicated precisely at 6 o'clock, amid the hearty cheers of the spectators. Mr Roe relieved Mr Smith for a few overs; but the separation was effected by the other bowler, who caused Mr Page to be easily caught at extra mid-off. His useful, if somewhat fortunate, innings was made up of five 4's, a 3, eight 2's and singles.

Mr Hine-Haycock filled the vacancy, and Mr Smith resumed bowling. The batting was now very steady, and at 6.25, 120 runs were registered. Mr Roe came on again for Mr Smith at 126. Two singles were secured in four overs, and then Mr Walker failed to keep a ball of Mr C T Studd's out of his wicket. His chanceless innings comprised two 4's, two 3's and ten 2's. Mr Kemp joined Mr Hine-Haycock, and although the bowling was twice changed they played out time, the total having reached 150 for three wickets.

Day 3 (report from Thursday 28 June, page 10)

The possibility of a close finish caused a large company to be present at Lord's yesterday. Oxford's ill-fortune, however, did not leave them, and the wicket was all against the batsmen. Mr Wright again hit remarkably well, and the Light Blues secured their 25th victory against 22 by their rivals.

Oxford continued their batting at half-past 11 with Messrs Hine-Haycock and Kemp. Messrs C T Studd and Smith were entrusted with the attack. A single only was secured in four overs, and then Mr Hine-Haycock played under a ball which slip secured. Four for 151. Mr Bolitho arrived, and at 11.55 the "160" was signalled. A square-leg hit for four was the only important item until 170 was signalled at noon. Directly afterwards Mr Kemp was bowled off stump. Half the wickets for 170.

Mr Ruggles-Brise's innings was unproductive, and Mr Grant-Asher joined Mr Bolitho. The latter's best hit was an on-drive for four. When 183 had been obtained he succumbed to a catch at mid-off;

seven down. Mr Peake joined Mr Grant-Asher. The latter at 198 substituted his leg for the bat and paid the penalty. Mr Robinson, who succeeded him, fell to a bailer without scoring. Nine for 199. Mr Bastard gained a single, which caused the "200" to be signalled at twenty-five minutes to 1. Two off-drives for four each were made by Mr Peake. Mr Bastard, who narrowly escaped being run out, was eventually caught at slip, and the innings closed at 10 minutes to 1 o'clock for 215.

Cambridge now wanted 56 runs to win, and sent in Mr J E K Studd and Mr Wright to get them. Messrs Peake and Bastard were the bowlers. A late cut for four was made by Mr Studd from the first ball. A bye and a single came from the next four overs, and the Mr Studd was easily caught at point. Mr de Paravicini came in, and at 19 Mr Peake relieved Mr Bastard, while at 28 Mr Robinson gave way to Mr Page. Mr de Paravicini hit the ball to cover-point, but it was so curiously placed that the fieldsman had not a fair opportunity of touching it. At 35 Mr de Paravicini was easily secured at slip; two down.

Mr C T Studd appeared, and Mr Wright made four by an excellent cut. Mr Bastard displaced Mr Peake at 41; but the latter immediately afterwards went on at the other end. Great surprise was evinced when at 47 Mr C T Studd was cleverly caught at wicket; three down. Mr Mansfield now joined Mr Wright. The latter with two cuts for four each brought the score level, and an on-drive for four by the same batsman won by match for Cambridge by seven wickets.

25 June: YORKSHIRE v NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2711.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 26 June, page 8)

Yesterday's play in this great county match at Sheffield went all in favour of the bowlers, and during the day no fewer than 16 wickets fell at a cost of only 116 runs. In the first innings of Yorkshire Alfred Shaw bowled in a style quite worthy of his best days, and took six wickets for 27 runs.

The Nottingham innings opened fairly well, but after a stoppage for rain there was an extremely collapse, and five wickets fell in six overs. Nearly 10,000 spectators witnessed the game.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 27 June, page 9)

Chiefly through the admirable batting of Gunn and Scotton at Sheffield yesterday, the visitors' total reached 87, or only three runs behind Yorkshire's first innings. Yorkshire made a disastrous start in their second attempt, losing three wickets for nine runs. Afterwards, however, Ulyett and Grimshaw hit well, the former being not out at the call of time.

Day 3 (report from Thursday 28 June, page 10)

The match at Sheffield between Yorkshire and Nottingham had yesterday to be abandoned as a draw, Nottingham wanting 54 runs to win with four wickets to fall. After half-past 3 yesterday rain fell without cessation, and the captains at last decided that it would be useless to attempt to continue the game. In the second innings of Nottingham Peate bowled wonderfully well, and took five wickets in 18 overs (8 maidens) at a cost of only 17 runs.

25 June: DERBYSHIRE v LANCASHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2709.html)

Day 1 (scorecard but no report from Tuesday 26 June, page 8)

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 27 June, page 9)

At Derby yesterday, Lancashire gained a most decisive victory over Derbyshire by an innings and 78 runs. This result was in a great measure due to the very fine bowling of Watson, who in the two innings took 12 wickets at a cost of 67 runs.

28 June: GENTLEMEN v PLAYERS

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2712.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 29 June, page 10)

At Kennington Oval yesterday the first of the two annual trials of strength between the amateur and professional talent of England was commenced. The Players won the toss, and at 10 minutes past 12 sent in Barlow and Ulyett. The innings closed at a quarter to 5 for 203.

Then the Gentlemen went in. Lord Harris and Mr C T Studd both batted well . . .

Day 2 (report from Saturday 30 June, page 12)

Perfect cricket weather and the chance of witnessing some masterly displays of batting caused the attendance at Kennington Oval yesterday to be exceedingly large. It was the general opinion at the end of the first day's play that there was every chance of an even contest, and the score shown by the Gentlemen in their first venture showed that they were a very strong batting eleven.

The Players tried all the combinations of which they were masters to get rid of them; but did not succeed in doing so until their score had been passed by 32. It will be noticed that they scored to a man, and with two exceptions reached double figures. Bates showed excellent form for his side, and up to the present has played the innings of the match by securing 76, when he had his leg stump knocked clean out of the ground. The last wicket fell at 181, leaving the Gentlemen 150 to obtain for victory to-day.

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

Visitors to Kennington Oval on Saturday last had an opportunity of witnessing a most exciting termination to this match - viz., a tie. When stumps were drawn on the previous evening the Gentlemen were left with 150 runs to win and an innings in which to get them - a task, considering they had scored 235 in their first venture, it was generally thought they would prove more than equal to.

The heavy storm which burst over London on Friday night, however, caused the wicket to be rather slow, and run-getting was far more difficult than had been expected. Play was resumed at ten minutes past 12, when Messrs Lucas and Hornby started the batting; Peate and Flowers led off the bowling. Each batsman made a four from Peate - Mr Lucas by a cut and Mr Hornby with a drive. When the total had only reached 18, however, the last-named fell to a capital catch at extra mid-off.

Mr Studd joined Mr Lucas and runs came at a very slow rate. With the score at 25, Barnes superseded Peate, and four runs later Barlow relieved Flowers. Both bowlers were most difficult to deal with, but the batsmen played steadily on, until at 49 Emmett relieved Barlow, and from his first ball Mr Studd was caught at long field off. Lord Harris was clean bowled without scoring, and when he had made a single only, Mr Wright's off stump was struck out of the ground. Two and three for 49, four for 50.

Mr Steel joined Mr Lucas and soon infused some life into the game, scoring two fours by leg hits

from Barlow and cutting Emmett for four and three. A two-fold change in the attack was adopted at 72, when Ulyett bowled from the pavilion wicket and Barnes at the other end. Mr steel obtained four from each bowler by a leg hit and cut, and at luncheon the total had reached 86 without further loss of wicket.

Soon after the interval Mr Steel was out l.b.w. Five for 91. Mr Lucas, who was playing in his best style, next had Mr Forbes for a partner. Eight runs only were added, however, when the new comer was caught on the off side, and at 104 Mr Leslie was served in exactly the same manner. Seven down. Mr Kemp did little; and Mr Frank assisted Mr Lucas. This partnership was characterized by great care on both sides, but at 136 the latter was clean bowled. Nine down.

Only 14 runs were required for victory when Mr Rotherham made his appearance. Half a dozen of these were obtained, and then the last-comer should have been taken at long-on by Bates. The opportunity was, however, let escape. Amid great excitement, a hit by Mr Lucas brought the scores level. The Players, however, would not leave a stone unturned to avert defeat, and Peate was put on. Nothing was obtained from his first ball, but the second found its way to Mr Rotherham's wicket, and the first tie game in, from a cricket point of view, the most important encounter of the season was placed on record.

28 June: HAMPSHIRE v SURREY

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2713.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 29 June, page 10)

There was a good and even day's cricket at Southampton yesterday, when the return match was commenced between these southern counties. For the visitors Mr W W Read played a splendid innings of 70, which included two sixes, nine fours and two twos. He gave one chance in the long field, but otherwise his batting was admirable. Young bowled remarkably well, taking five wickets . . .

Hampshire had lost two wickets for 51 at the call of time, and are now 117 runs behind with eight wickets to fall.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 30 June, page 12)

The cricket yesterday at Southampton, in the return match between these counties, was of a very even description. The Hampshire innings, which overnight stood at 51 for one wicket, was continued at 11.35, and chiefly by the splendid efforts of Mr Seymour the total reached 154.

Surrey, with 14 runs to the good, went in a second time, but with the exception of Mr W W Read no batsman did very much, and the total reached only 115. Hampshire had thus 130 runs to get to win, and when stumps were drawn for the day the home county required 64 to win with four wickets to fall.

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

Surrey beat Hampshire at Southampton on Saturday after an exciting finish by 30 runs. With four wickets to fall in the last innings and 64 runs to get to win, the home county resumed their batting at 20 minutes to 12.

In a little over half an hour, Barratt, Mr Horner and Maurice Read dismissed the remaining batsmen, who had only added 33 between them. M Read's analysis was a remarkably good one, his three wickets only costing 12 runs.

Saturday 30 June, page 12: THE AUSTRALIANS CRICKETERS

We understand that a meeting of county secretaries and other gentlemen was held yesterday afternoon in the pavilion at Kennington Oval. The cause of the gathering was to consider a proposal emanating from Australian cricketers that they should pay another visit to England next season; but instead of the terms hitherto agreed upon - viz., that they should receive half the gate money - they hoped to halve the receipts obtained from the letting of grand stands and others erected on the grounds.

The latter part of this proposition was not entertained by the meeting. It is understood, however, that should the Colonists wish to play against English teams on the terms of receiving half the gate money there would be little difficulty in arranging matches.

2 July: SURREY v SUSSEX

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2716.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 3 July, page 10)

On an excellent wicket and before a large muster of spectators these counties began their first match of the season at the Oval yesterday, the date being about a month earlier than usual. Sussex, who went in first, did little, the last batsman being dismissed at 80. Barratt bowled extremely well.

Surrey occupied the wickets for the rest of the day. The first 100 was signalled at 4.10, the second at 5.40, while the third took only an hour to obtain. Mr Shuter batted with remarkable freedom. He stayed at the wickets two hours and three quarters and then remained unconquered; his chief hits were seven 4s, a 3 and nine 2s. The innings closed for 301, or 221 in advance of the other side.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 4 July, page 10)

Wickets at the Oval yesterday fell rapidly, and at luncheon no fewer than nine had collapsed for 98. although the fielding of Surrey was not very good. After the interval the end soon came, and Surrey were pronounced winners by an innings and 119 runs. Henderson took four wickets . . .

2 July: MIDDLESEX v KENT

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2714.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 3 July, page 10)

There was a large number of spectators present at Lord's yesterday to witness the opening day's play in this match. Kent, having won the toss, batted first; but, mainly through the destructive bowling of Burton, who claimed seven wickets in 45 overs (27 maidens) for 44 runs, they were all disposed of for 109.

Messrs I D Walker and J E K Studd opened the Middlesex batting, and only 15 runs were scored when Mr Studd was clean bowled. Mr Lucas came in, but at 37 he played the ball on to his wicket. Mr C T Studd filled the vacancy, and runs came very fast, an off-drive of four by Mr Studd causing the "100" to be signalled at 4.55. Mr Walker was clean bowled at 112. Neither Mr Pearson nor Mr Leslie did anything. Messrs de Paravicini, C T Studd and Henery all batted well . . .

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 4 July, page 10)

When play ceased in this match at Lord's on Monday, Kent had completed an innings for 109, and their rivals had lost eight wickets for 249. yesterday morning, at 11.35, Mr de Paravicini, not out 58, was accompanied to the wickets by Winterburn. The latter and Burton were both bowled, the innings closing at 11.45 for 252. Mr de Paravicini carried out his bat for 61.

Kent, who wanted 143 to avert a single-innings defeat, went in a second time and realized just 90 runs more than in their first venture. The home county required 57 runs to win, and this task they accomplished with the loss of four wickets, Mr Walker making the winning hit (an off drive for one) at 5.40.

2 July: NOTTINGHAMSHIRE v YORKSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2715.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 3 July, page 10)

In fine weather yesterday this return match was commenced on the Trent-bridge Ground at Nottingham. The wicket at times played queerly, and the bowlers throughout appeared to have an advantage. Shrewsbury, Gunn and Scotton batted well for the home county, who completed an innings for 151. Yorkshire fared worse, losing eight wickets for 52, Bates and Hall alone showing any form.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 4 July, page 10)

Yesterday, at Nottingham, the home county beat Yorkshire by nine wickets. Yorkshire, who had lost eight wickets overnight for 52, raised their total to only 61, and had consequently to follow on.

Ulyett and Hall commenced remarkably well, and up to luncheon 61 runs had been scored without the loss of a wicket. After the interval, however, the wicket played very queerly, and the team were all out for 114. Shaw took eight wickets in the match at a cost of 58 runs, Flowers six for 41 and Attewell three for 20.

5 July: LORD SHEFFIELD'S XI v W G GRACE'S XI

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2719.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 6 July, page 10)

The team got together by Lord Sheffield to oppose Dr Grace's eleven, at Sheffield-park yesterday, was a very strong one. Dr W G Grace and Mr Gilbert batted exceedingly, scoring between them 154 out of a total of 249 runs made from the bat.

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

There was some brilliant batting at Sheffield Park yesterday by Shrewsbury and Dr Grace. The professional played an admirable innings of 67 for Lord Sheffield's side, the total of their innings reaching 231, or 35 behind their opponents' score. Mills took two wickets for 23 runs and Wright four for 45. At the drawing of stumps Mr Grace's team had scored 99 in their second attempt for the loss of one wicket.

Day 3 (report from Monday 9 July, page 7)

Lord Sheffield's team played excellent cricket at Sheffield-park on Saturday, and beat Dr Grace's Eleven by six wickets.

This result was mainly due to Alfred Shaw. The famous Nottingham professional took six wickets in the second innings of Dr Grace's Eleven for 43 runs, and when Lord Sheffield's side went in with 203 runs to get to win, he hit hard and well for 73. Barnes also played capital cricket, taking four wickets and scoring 29 not out.

5 July: LANCASHIRE v YORKSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2718.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 6 July, page 10)

Over 16,000 people were present at Old Trafford, Manchester, yesterday, to witness the first day's play in the match between Lancashire and Yorkshire, and throughout the day the game was watched with the keenest interest. Lancashire went in first, but, except Messrs Roper and Taylor, no one could do much with the splendid bowling of Harrison and Bates. The young fast bowler took seven wickets for 43 runs, and Bates three for 14 runs.

When Yorkshire went in to bat, Hall played with commendable patience and care, and was at the wicket while 129 runs were scored. Lockwood batted in excellent style, and when stumps were drawn for the day, the visitors, with a wicket to fall, had an advantage of 53 runs.

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

Yorkshire, yesterday, at Manchester, defeated Lancashire by eight wickets, a result mainly due to the excellent batting of Hall and Lockwood and the bowling of Harrison, Ulyett and Emmett. This is the first time that Lancashire have been beaten this season.

9 July: GENTLEMEN v PLAYERS

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2721.html)

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

Such a team as that selected to represent the Gentlemen against the Players yesterday at Lord's has rarely been put into the cricket-field. Although the ground was naturally somewhat difficult, owing to the storm of Sunday night, the amateurs, combating one of the most formidable teams of professional bowlers, not only set the combination against them at defiance for the whole of the day, but when stumps were drawn had merely lost seven of their batsmen for 409 runs.

Play began within a few minutes of noon, when the Gentlemen, who had been successful in the toss, opened the batting. Dr W G Grace and Mr Lucas were opposed by Harrison and Barlow. The Gloucestershire captain for several overs batted in a style that led his admirers to hope that he would give an exhibition of the great skill that has won him such a world-wide reputation. This promise, however, was not fulfilled, as when Harrison, who has made his first appearance in important engagements this season, had been hit about in all directions, and had relinquished the ball to Peate, the latter clean bowled Mr Grace at 39. Mr C T Studd arrived, and in company with Mr Lucas made a most determined stand. Careful play was adopted by both batsmen for some time, and although the bowling was excellent, it was considered desirable frequently to change it. The 50 was signalled at 12.55 and the 100 just before luncheon.

After the interval a separation was speedily effected, Mr Studd being clean bowled. His chief hits were two fours, a three and six twos. Lord Harris filled the vacancy, and the batting was again in the ascendancy. No fewer than 42 runs were added before the new comer fell a victim to a delivery from Harrison. Three down. Mr Steel came in and Mr Lucas's careful and masterly innings was terminated at 179. His principal items were two fours, five threes and six twos.

Mr Ridley and Mr Steel continued the triumphant hitting shown by their predecessors; the latter (who had made five fours, six threes, seven twos and singles) was dismissed through the combined agency of Shrewsbury and Barnes, while Mr Ridley skied the ball into the hands of forward cover-point, having made four fours, one three, seven twos &c. Six for 344. Mr Tylecote (who had Mr Hornby for a partner for some little time) was next joined by Mr Forbes . . .

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 11 July, page 12)

Yesterday Mr Tylecote, soon after completing his hundred, fell to the dexterity of the wicket-keeper, and this terminated the innings for 441, or only seven less than the number previously made in this match. Mr Tylecote's innings was a most noteworthy performance, and was remarkable for its vigour. He made 11 fours, seven threes and 11 twos among his hits.

Several of the players displayed wonderful batting form. Ulyett headed the list with seven fours, four threes, eight twos and singles. Hall and Shrewsbury hit freely, and Barnes, who went in fourth wicket down, saw the dismissal of his companions. His chief items were six fours, one three and seven twos.

Notwithstanding the excellent score of 236, a follow on was of course inevitable, and at five minutes to 6 Barlow and Barnes were faced by the bowling of Mr Studd and Mr Rotherham. Many

changes were tried, but all proved fruitless, as at the close of the day 75 runs had been recorded by the professionals without any mishap.

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

This match was concluded at Lord's yesterday before a large company of spectators. When stumps were drawn on Tuesday night the Players had followed on, being 205 runs behind, and in their second venture they had obtained 75 without mishap.

Yesterday Barnes and Barlow, the not outs, with 45 and 22 respectively, continued the innings. The score quickly rose to 92, when Barlow returned the ball to Mr Steel. Ulyett joined Barnes, and the "100" was hoisted at 11.55. Although several variations in the bowling were tried, it was not until 159 had been registered that a parting was effected, Barnes being caught at the wicket. Among his hits were seven fours, five threes and eight twos. Hall filled the vacancy, but ten runs later was clean bowled. Three for 169.

Shrewsbury came to the assistance of Ulyett. Only 12 runs had been added when the latter was caught at long-on. Four down. Bates came in, and the "200" was reached at 1.30, despite all the bowling changes, runs came at a very rapid pace. Bates was eventually caught at long-on and Shrewsbury at mid-off, the innings terminating at five minutes past 4 for 312.

The Gentlemen wanted 108 to win, and at 4.25 Mr Lucas and Dr Grace started to get them. Dr Grace was caught at slip at 23, and Mr Studd came in, but at 44 a catch by the wicket-keeper dismissed him also. Lord Harris arrived and the score was taken to 101, when he was clean bowled. Mr Steel joined Mr Lucas and the former, by a leg hit for four, won the match for the Gentlemen by seven wickets.

9 July: SUSSEX v SURREY

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2722.html)

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

There was a capital day's cricket at Brighton yesterday in the return match between Surrey and Sussex, 370 runs being scored for the loss of 18 wickets.

Sussex won the toss, but the early play was only moderate. Juniper and Mr Newham, however, put on 42 runs for the last wicket. Surrey, unlike Sussex, started brilliantly, but afterwards showed a marked falling-off. At present Surrey are 60 runs ahead with two wickets to fall.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 11 July, page 12)

Mr Newham and Mr Whitfeld batted splendidly in the home county's second innings at Brighton yesterday. By their efforts, Sussex, who at one time had all the worst of the game, were in a much better position at the drawing of stumps. Surrey, with five wickets to fall, now want 63 runs to win.

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

There was an exciting finish yesterday at Brighton, where Surrey beat the home county by two wickets. Overnight the visitors, with five wickets to fall, wanted 63 runs to win. On resuming yesterday Mr Shuter, Abel and Chester were quickly out, but Pooley and Mr Horner hit off the runs and won the match.

12 July: LANCASHIRE v SURREY

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2724.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 13 July, page 8)

The home county had all the best of the first day's play in their match with Surrey at Manchester yesterday. Barlow played an invaluable innings. Barratt bowled remarkably well, taking eight wickets for 72 runs. Surrey opened badly, and at the drawing of stumps had lost seven wickets for 46.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 14 July, page 9)

Mr Walter Read yesterday at Manchester played a splendid innings of 127 for Surrey against Lancashire, and chiefly by his efforts the visitors, who were 105 runs behind on the first innings and who had to follow on, completely changed the position of the game. Lancashire now, with all their wickets to fall, require 184 runs to win the match.

On Thursday Surrey had lost seven wickets for 46, and yesterday they increased this total to 99. On going in a second time, Mr Read and Henderson added 174 runs before they were parted, and after this Messrs Read and Shuter put on 41 before the former was bowled. Lancashire had a few minutes' batting, and when stumps were drawn for the day they had scored 12 without the loss of a wicket.

Day 3 (report from Monday 16 July, page 7)

Lancashire gained a sensational victory over Surrey at Old Trafford, Manchester, on Saturday. Each county in turn had held an advantage during the game, and on the last morning the home side, wanting 184 to win with all their wickets to fall, commenced very badly, five wickets falling for 60 runs.

Then Barlow and Mr Payne played good cricket, and before the latter was dismissed had raised the total to 113. Afterwards Briggs hit with great freedom, and eventually Lancashire won an interesting match by three wickets.

12 July: GLOUCESTERSHIRE v YORKSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2723.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 13 July, page 8)

The cricket yesterday at Gloucester in the first match this season between the above counties was very greatly in favour of the visiting team, who, when stumps were drawn for the day, had lost but one wicket and were only 37 runs behind the Gloucester total.

The home county commenced well, the brothers Grace scoring 62 runs of the first wicket. After this Mr Cranston batted in fine form, but very little assistance was rendered by the other members of the team, and the innings closed for 143. When Yorkshire went in Ulyett showed splendid form. Three times he drove the ball out of the ground for six, and when stumps were drawn for the day he was still not out, Yorkshire having scored 106 for the loss of one wicket.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 14 July, page 9)

Owing to a heavy downpour of rain yesterday at Gloucester there was no possibility of continuing the above match after lunch time. Ulyett yesterday increased his overnight score of 67 to 80, and Bates hit well, but owing to Woof's excellent bowling the other batsmen did very little, and the whole side were got rid of for 196, or 53 runs on.

In a few minutes' play before luncheon the home side lost one wicket for seven runs, and are now 46 runs behind with nine wickets to fall. Woof in Yorkshire's innings obtained six wickets for 57 runs and Mr Page three for 63.

Day 3 (report from Monday 16 July, page 7)

Heavy rain on Saturday at Gloucester caused this interesting county match to be abandoned as a draw. This finish left Yorkshire with a slight advantage, Gloucestershire with nine wickets to fall being 46 runs behind.

16 July: MIDDLESEX v SURREY

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2726.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 17 July, page 10)

The return match between these counties was begun at Lord's yesterday before a large number of spectators. Middlesex, having won the toss, elected to go in, Messrs I D Walker and Webbe being their first representatives. The total reached 52 before the first wicket fell, Mr Walker being caught at third man.

Mr J E K Studd came in, but 17 runs later lost the company of Mr Webbe, who was taken at slip. Mr C T Studd filled the vacancy, but soon lost the assistance of his brother, who played a ball into point's hands. Mr Ridley and Mr de Paravicini during their stay put on no fewer than 118 runs. The latter was eventually dismissed by a fine catch at long-off. Mr Ridley remained until the score had reached 351, when he skied a ball into the hands of point. His chief hits were one five (a hit to leg), nine fours, six threes and 13 twos. The innings closed at five minutes past 6 for the large total of 375. Surrey then went in . . .

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

This match was brought to a rather unexpected termination at Lord's yesterday. On Monday evening when stumps were drawn Middlesex had finished an innings for 375 and Surrey had lost one of their batsmen for 64. Yesterday morning Messrs Diver and Cattley, the not-outs of the previous day with 48 and 10 respectively, continued the Surrey innings to the bowling of Mr C T Studd and Burton.

Mr Diver, after adding four to his overnight score, failed to stop a ball of Mr C T Studd's. Henderson's stay was brief. Mr W W Read joined Mr Cattley, and although several variations in the bowling were tried the "100" was hoisted at 12.20. Twenty runs later Mr Read was caught by the wicket-keeper. Four down. Maurice Read came in, but at 149 lost the company of Mr Cattley, who was clean bowled. Mr Shuter filled the vacancy, and the score rose very fast until 193, when a delivery from Mr C T Studd completely mastered the last-named batsman. Maurice Read was then bowled by Burton. The innings closed at 4 o'clock for 293.

Surrey, being 82 runs behind, began their second venture. The wickets fell very rapidly and the innings only realized 111. Middlesex now wanted but 30 to win, and these they obtained without mishap, Mr Webbe, by a cut for three at 6.40, winning the match for Middlesex by ten wickets.

16 July: KENT v SUSSEX

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2725.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 17 July, page 10)

Kent were more strongly represented at Maidstone yesterday than in previous engagements this season and made a far better show than in their earlier matches. Lord Harris played a very fine, though not faultless, innings of 95, and good cricket was shown by several other members of the Kent team. The Sussex fielding was good, but the visitors had started their innings badly when stumps were drawn for the day.

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

The first match of the Maidstone week was brought to a conclusion yesterday, Kent beating Sussex by an innings and 36 runs. Owing to the excellent bowling of Mr Christopherson, the visitors fared very badly in their innings and were compelled to follow on.

Mr Whitfeld played admirable cricket in Sussex's second innings, his 53 not out including seven fours, a three, six twos and singles. Very little assistance, however, was rendered by the other members of the side, and they were all disposed of for 111, Kent thus winning as stated above by 36 runs with an innings to spare. Lord Harris took the last three wickets for 13 runs.

16 July: YORKSHIRE v LANCASHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2727.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 17 July, page 10)

Yesterday's play at Sheffield in the opening of the return match between these counties was of a most sensational character, the fast bowlers on both sides proving simply irresistible.

Lancashire, who went in first, were all out for the small total of 83, Harrison and Ulyett taking five wickets each at a cost respectively of 22 and 16 runs, while Yorkshire on going in fared but little better than their opponents, their innings closing for 93. Crossland's four wickets only cost 10 runs, and Barlow's three but 35.

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

Yorkshire gained a brilliant victory over Lancashire at Sheffield yesterday by eight wickets. Overnight the visitors, who were ten runs behind on the first innings, had lost two wickets in their second for 19. Yesterday rain delayed the resumption of play, and afterwards stopped the game for some time.

Eventually Lancashire, chiefly by the patient batting of Barlow and the free hitting of Mr Royle, concluded their innings for 127, leaving the home county 118 to get to win. Ulyett and Hall put on 94 for the first wicket, when the former was dismissed for a splendid 61. Hall was out at 101, but Lockwood and Mr Lumb quickly hit off the runs, and Yorkshire won by eight wickets.

19 July: MIDDLESEX v NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2730.html)

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

Another heavy score was added yesterday to those already made at Lord's this season. Both counties were strongly represented, Mr G B Studd making his first appearance since his return from Australia. Nottinghamshire won the toss and opened their innings with Mr C W Wright and Shrewsbury, to the attacks of Burton and Mr C T Studd.

Mr Wright paid the penalty of his rashness when the score was at 16, and Barnes joined Shrewsbury. Runs came very fast, although several bowling changes were resorted to, and it was not until 85 had been reached that Shrewsbury was dismissed by a catch at the wicket. His principal hits were seven fours, a three and three twos. Flowers came in and the "100" was soon afterwards signalled; and, despite all the various modes of attack, the "200" was hoisted at 3.30. Twenty-seven runs later, Flowers played on, his brilliant, though not faultless, innings of 95 including 17 fours, two threes and a two. Three down. Gunn arrived, and rain stopped play for some little time.

On play being resumed, the run-getting continued; but at 252 Barnes's fine innings was brought to a close by a catch at forward cover-point. Among his hits were ten fours, two threes and seven twos. The fifth wicket fell at 281, the sixth and seventh for 284 and the eighth for 290. Walter Wright then joined Scotton, and at 5.25 the former batsman, by a single, sent up the "300." Wright was eventually splendidly caught at point and Scotton easily stumped, the innings terminating at 5 minutes past 6 for 342. Mr Walker was the most successful bowler, as he claimed six wickets . . .

At 6.25 Mr Webbe and Mr Walker opened the home county's venture to the bowling of Shaw and Wright, Mr Walker being well caught by Shaw at slip when only eight runs had been acquired, and Mr Lucas came in; but one run later Mr Webbe played on and Mr C T Studd, who had taken his place, was caught at deep mid-on at 22. Stumps were then drawn for the day . . .

Day 2 (report from Saturday 21 July, page 10)

Visitors at Lord's yesterday must have been disappointed at the small total the home county made. Mr G B Studd was the highest scorer for his side, his hitting being very brilliant. At the close of Thursday's play Nottinghamshire had completed an innings for 342, while their rivals had lost three wickets for the meagre sum of 22.

Owing to rain, a late start was made, play not being resumed until 1.30, when Mr Lucas, the overnight not-out (with four), was accompanied to the wickets by Mr Ridley, the bowling being shared by Shaw and Wright. Mr Ridley's stay was short and unproductive. Mr Pearson joined Mr Lucas. The former batsman, however, was bowled at 47, this being the fifth wicket down. Mr G B Studd filled the vacancy and ought to have been caught by Wright at long-on when he had scored three. The total having reached 79, Mr Lucas fell to a catch at the wicket. Six down. Mr de Paravicini came in and runs were got rather fast, the "100" being signalled at 4.5. Mr de Paravicini was dismissed 27 runs later by Scotton at long-off.

Mr Robertson joined Mr G B Studd, but after making 10 he was bowled by Flowers. Eight for 152.

Burton got out of his ground at the same total and had to retire, and Winterburn, the last man, came to the assistance of Mr Studd. The latter, however, was well caught at long-off, his fine innings being composed of nine fours, two threes, six twos and singles. The innings thus closed at 5 o'clock for 170. All the bowlers tried were successful. Wright secured four wickets . . .

Middlesex, who were 172 in arrears, had to follow on, and at 5.20 Mr Webbe and Mr Walker went in, to the attacks of Flowers and Wright. After 10 minutes' play, rain stopped the game, and, as it did not leave off, stumps were drawn at 6.15.

Day 3 (report from Monday 23 July, page 7)

Wet weather on Saturday prevented this match at Lord's being brought to a definite issue. On Friday evening Nottinghamshire had a very material advantage, and the chances of success were most unquestionably in favour of the midland counties, as they had secured 342 in their first innings against 170 by their rivals, who had gained 12 runs in their second venture without loss of wicket.

In consequence of rain, a start was not effected until 20 minutes past 3, when Messrs Walker and Webbe, the not-outs, were opposed by Wright and Flowers. From the first ball bowled Mr Walker made a single, and a little later on Mr Webbe sent a ball of Flowers's to square leg for three, while in Wright's next over he secured four by a hit in the same direction. This caused Attewell to relieve Wright at 29. An addition of five runs was made, and then rain stopped play for a few minutes. On resuming, Flowers gave up the ball to Shaw. Three runs came from eight overs, but the rain again interfered with the game at 4.10.

After ten minutes' interval, however, a continuation was made. Runs were then obtained at a very slow pace. Mr Webbe by an off-drive for two sent "50" up at 4.35. Wright resumed bowling at 65, and at 75 Shaw gave way to Barnes. From the second delivery of Wright's eleventh over Mr Walker had the misfortune to play on; among his hits were a 4, two 3's and six 2's. One for 80. Mr Lucas joined Mr Webbe. Attewell was again tried in place of Wright when the score had reached 89, and three runs later Flowers relieved Barnes. Mr Lucas, by a single, caused the "100" to be hoisted at 6.25.

Mr Webbe made two off-drives for four each in an over of Flowers, and Wright was put on at the pavilion wicket, while Barnes resumed at the Nursery end. This last change was successful, as off the last ball of the second over Mr Lucas was well taken at the wicket. Two for 120. Mr Lucas's batting was a model of patience, as he had been in an hour and five minutes for seven runs. Mr C T Studd came in, and after five overs had been sent down for a single, stumps were drawn, the match thus being left unfinished. Mr Webbe's fine not-out innings was composed of eight 4's, four 3's and seven 2's. He made one rather lucky hit when his score was 47, the ball going dangerously close to Shaw at slip . . . Out of 133 overs bowled no less than 84 were maidens.

19 July: KENT v SURREY

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2729.html)

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

There was some splendid batting at the Mote-park, Maidstone, yesterday, when no fewer than 380 runs were scored, for the loss of 12 wickets.

Surrey went in first, and lost four wickets for 35 and five for 69, but then Messrs W W Read and Diver hit with great brilliancy and put on 121 for the sixth wicket. Mr Read's 61 included ten 4's, a 3 and four 2's, and Mr Diver's 88 fifteen 4's, a 3 and four 2's. In all the visitors' total reached 274. Against this Kent made a very fair opening, losing only two wickets in making 106 runs.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 21 July, page 10)

There was some heavy scoring at Maidstone yesterday, when the match between Kent and Surrey was continued; 401 runs being made for the loss of 12 wickets. Lord Harris and Hearne both played fine cricket for Kent, who over night had lost two wickets for 106 runs, and in the end the total reached 325. Hearne hit seven 4's, a 3 and ten 2's, and Lord Harris six 4's, four 3's and five 2's. Towards the close of the innings there was some vigorous cricket by Mr Penn and Mr Kemp, who, together, put on 87 runs.

Surrey started their second innings badly, losing three wickets for 51 runs. Mr W W Read and Mr Shuter, however, played brilliantly, and increased the score to 172 before the Surrey captain was out for a clean-hit 62, in which were nine 4's and five 2's. At the drawing of stumps for the day, Surrey, with six wickets to fall, were 131 runs to the good.

Day 3 (report from Monday 23 July, page 7)

The concluding match of the Maidstone week ended in a very even draw. Heavy and continuous rain prevented any play taking place on Saturday at the Mote-park, where the county teams, after waiting until after luncheon, decided to abandon the game . . .

19 July: DERBYSHIRE v YORKSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2728.html)

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

At Derby yesterday, Yorkshire, who won the toss, went in first and were batting the whole of the afternoon, their innings closing just before time for 299. Hall, Ulyett and Emmett batted splendidly, the first-named's 74 including two 6's, both square-leg hits, two 4's and seven 2's. Towards the close of the day Hunter gave unexpected trouble and carried out his bat for 51. Chatterton bowled extremely well, taking five wickets for 61.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 21 July, page 10)

Very little cricket took place at Derby yesterday, the home side, who commenced their innings at noon, scoring 79 for the loss of two wickets up to luncheon, and being unable to continue their batting afterwards.

Mr Evershed was bowled at eight, but Chatterton and Platts batted very steadily and caused numerous bowling changes before the former played on just before the adjournment. After waiting until late in the afternoon it was resolved to postpone further progress until to-day.

Day 3 (report from Monday 23 July, page 7)

The wet weather greatly interfered with this county match at Derby, both on Friday and Saturday. At the drawing of stumps on Friday Yorkshire had completed an innings for 299, while the home side had lost two wickets for 79. No play was practicable until after 3 o'clock on Saturday, and the game had to be abandoned as a draw at 6 o'clock.

23 July: YORKSHIRE v SURREY

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarhive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2731.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 24 July, page 8)

At Sheffield yesterday, in the first match this season between these counties, Peate did some extraordinary bowling for Yorkshire. The home county went in first and were all dismissed for 116. Bates played a brilliantly-hit innings of 55.

Surrey then went in, but only scored 31, the lowest total made in a county match this year. Peate's analysis gives the following remarkable result: - Sixteen overs, 11 maidens, five runs and eight wickets. Surrey, of course, had to follow on, and at the drawing of stumps had lost five wickets for 33.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 25 July, page 10)

Yesterday, at the Holbeck Grounds, Leeds, the Surrey Eleven suffered a severe defeat, Yorkshire beating them by an innings and three runs. Some such result had been foreshadowed by the play on Monday, and in yesterday's cricket no very lively interest could be felt. The attendance, however, was larger than had been expected.

Henderson and Mr Roller batted with commendable resolution and raised the overnight score of 33 to 71. The both batsmen left. During their partnership rain stopped the game for half an hour. Henderson's innings of 41 demands warm praise; in respect both of good defence and vigorous hitting it was an excellent performance. The total only amounted to 82, five wickets falling after the rain for 14 runs. Yorkshire's bowling was again admirable. Harrison took five wickets for 23 runs, [Peate] three for 25 runs and Emmett two for 17.

26 July: NOTTINGHAMSHIRE v SUSSEX

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2733.html)

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

Nottinghamshire had all the best of the day's play with Sussex on the Trent-bridge Ground at Nottingham yesterday. The visitors did so badly that they were all out for 61, Attewell bowling most successfully and taking five wickets for 21 runs, while Shaw's four only cost 20 runs.

Mr C W Wright and Shrewsbury made a capital start for the home county, scoring 64 before the amateur was bowled. Barnes came in and another splendid stand was made - the total being up to 134 before the second wicket fell. At the drawing of stumps, Nottinghamshire, with seven wickets to fall, were 120 runs on.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 28 July, page 10)

Yesterday, at Nottingham, the Home County, who had scored 182 for the loss of only three wickets overnight, concluded their innings for 230. Shrewsbury's magnificent 98 included seven fours, seven threes and 15 twos.

Sussex, who were in a minority of 169, made 142 in their second attempt, and were thus beaten in an innings with 27 runs to spare. The play was prolonged for ten minutes after the usual time in order that the match should be finished last night. Mr Wyatt and Humphreys were the only batsmen who gave the Nottingham bowlers any trouble, this pair putting on 84 for the fifth wicket.

26 July: LANCASHIRE v GLOUCESTERSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2732.html)

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

At Old Trafford, Manchester, yesterday, the home county had an immense advantage over Gloucestershire. The match was originally fixed to take place at Aigburth, Liverpool, but the locality was changed on account of the state of the Liverpool ground.

Mr A G Steel and Barlow dismissed the Gloucestershire Eleven for the meagre score of 34, each bowler taking five wickets. Lancashire lost five wickets for 69, but Briggs and Mr Payne batted well and the total reached 153. Woof's six wickets cost 55 runs.

Gloucestershire did much better in their second attempt, but at the drawing of stumps, with seven wickets to fall, still wanted 37 to save an innings defeat.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 28 July, page 10)

As was generally expected after Thursday's play at Manchester, Lancashire gained a very easy victory over Gloucestershire yesterday. Overnight the visitors, after going in a second time, lost three wickets for 82, thus being still 37 runs behind.

Yesterday the last seven batsmen added only 54, leaving Lancashire 18 to get to win. Mr Hornby and Barlow quickly made these, and the home county team won by 10 wickets. Crossland bowled very successfully, taking four wickets for 28 runs, and Mr A Steel's four wickets cost 56.

26 July: SURREY v YORKSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2734.html)

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

A return match to that played at Holbeck at the beginning of the present week, in which Surrey were defeated by an innings and three runs, was started yesterday at the Oval. Play began soon after 12 o'clock, when Yorkshire, who had won the toss, sent in Mr Hirst and Hall.

The last wicket fell at 4.25. There were three bowlers engaged. Surrey started their batting with Mr L Shuter and Henderson.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 28 July, page 10)

This match was continued yesterday at Kennington Oval in the presence of a comparatively small number of spectators. On the previous day Yorkshire had completed an innings for 181, and Surrey had lost six wickets for 138.

Mr J Shuter, who had gone in at the dismissal of the fourth batsman, saw the rest of his side come and go, and was left not out with 52 runs. His principal contributions were a six (four from an overthrow), five fours, four threes and a two. The innings terminated at 12.45 for 166.

In consequence of rain, play was not resumed until after the luncheon interval. Yorkshire then offered a most stubborn resistance to the attacks of their rivals, and when stumps were drawn had lost seven wickets for 174 runs.

Day 3 (report from Monday 30 July, page 7)

On Saturday this match was continued in fine weather and before a large company of on-lookers at Kennington-oval. When stumps were drawn on Friday, Yorkshire, after an innings had been finished by either side, were 15 runs to the good and had lost seven wickets in their second venture for 174. Eight for 240. The last two wickets only put on 11 runs.

Surrey now required 267 to win, and defeat appeared almost inevitable, especially so after four wickets had been taken for 34 runs. Maurice Read and Henderson, however, put quite a different complexion on affairs, and the fifth wicket did not fall until 107 was registered. Seven for 114. Abel joined Maurice Read, and these two set all efforts to separate them at defiance for a considerable time. Mr Horner came in, and as only eight minutes were required for the expiration of time the batsmen played out time, and thus the game was left drawn.

30 July: MARYLEBONE CLUB AND GROUND v SOMERSETSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2736.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 31 July, page 11)

Somersetshire met a Marylebone Eleven of quite average strength at Lord's yesterday. The county went in first and none of them failed to score. Ambler carried off the palm with 76. Mr Sainsbury's hits included two fours, four threes and four twos; and Mr Terry's seven fours, two threes and six twos. Total 302.

Marylebone started their innings, but the subjoined score will show that up to the present time their batting has not been equal to that of their rivals.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 1 August, page 10)

Marylebone, after losing five of their best batsmen overnight for only 51 runs, gave a most unexpected resistance to the visitors' attack at Lord's yesterday, principally through the agency of O'Shaughnessy and Major Pennycuick. The last-named joined the Kentish professional when the score was at 122. It rose to 195 before O'Shaughnessy was taken at long-on. His chief hits were 11 fours, six threes and six twos.

Being 107 in arrear, the home eleven followed on. Mr Heath and Barnes were opposed by Mr Winter and Gregg. No parting was effected between these batsmen until 100 was reached, when Barnes was bowled. His innings comprised three fours, four threes and 10 twos. Rain stopped play at five minutes to 4. after an interval of an hour the game was resumed, but time did not allow of the match being finished . . .

30 July: DERBYSHIRE v SUSSEX

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2735.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 31 July, page 11)

Sussex had all the best of the day's contest against the home county at Derby yesterday. Sussex, who went in first, were not dismissed until half-past 5, their total amounting to 250. Derbyshire began their innings . . .

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 1 August, page 10)

In fair weather, but in the presence of a small company, this county match was concluded at Derby yesterday. The home county, who had lost five wickets overnight for 15 runs, increased their lead to 97, and, of course, had to follow on.

In their second attempt they fared even worse than before, and were all out for 85, Sussex thus winning by an innings and 68 runs. The visitors' bowlers were remarkably successful, J Hide taking seven wickets in the match for 47 runs, Juniper six for 69 and Mr Nicholls three for 26.

30 July: YORKSHIRE v GLOUCESTERSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2737.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 31 July, page 11)

Three of the Gloucestershire batsmen were seen to great advantage yesterday at Bradford, where the Western county began their return match against Yorkshire. The brothers Grace went in first, and put on 53 before they were parted. Mr Cranston, who then took Dr W G Grace's place, hit very freely and carried his bat through the remainder of the innings. His chief figures were nine fours and seven twos. Emmett and Harrison each took four wickets at a cost respectively of 32 and 50 runs.

The home county lost four wickets for 52; but Bates and Lockwood then got together and greatly improved matters.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 1 August, page 10)

No fewer than 339 runs were scored at Bradford yesterday for the loss of only nine wickets. The Yorkshiremen, who had lost five wickets overnight for 118 runs, increased their total to 328, principally by the aid of some brilliant batting by Bates and Emmett, and some free, fast, but extremely lucky hitting by Peel and Peate. The two latter put on 126 runs for the eighth wicket.

Gloucestershire, owing to an injury to Woof's hand, lost that bowler's services, and were consequently at a great disadvantage. Going in for their second attempt, the brothers Grace batted very finely and put on 94 before they were parted . . .

Day 3 (report from Thursday 2 August, page 10)

So remote was the prospect of an exciting match yesterday at Bradford that only a small company visited the ground. Gloucestershire's second innings, in which four wickets had fallen overnight for 129 runs, was completed for 213.

Mr Pullen, a young batsman who has been unfortunate this season in having few opportunities for practice, played admirable cricket and punished the Yorkshire bowling with great severity. His career was closed at last by a catch at the wicket. Mr Leatham, Mr Gilbert and Painter all reached double figures. Emmett took four wickets for 39 runs and Harrison four for 45.

Yorkshire had only 63 runs to get to win, and the task was so easily accomplished that the Northern county won the match by eight wickets. Ulyett's hitting, as usual, was of a vigorous character.

2 August: SURREY v SOMERSETSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2739.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 3 August, page 10)

The large score made by Somersetshire against rather a strong eleven of the Marylebone Club at Lord's last Monday caused great interest to be taken in this match at Kennington Oval yesterday.

Having won the toss, the visitors elected to go in; Mr Ross and Ambler were their first representatives, the bowling being shared by Johnson and Barratt. Only four runs were obtained when the first wicket fell, and the bowling of Barratt was so destructive that they were all disposed of for the meagre total of 84. Barratt secured seven wickets . . .

Mr Bowden and Mr Roller began the batting for Surrey at a quarter to 2, Ambler and Fothergill being intrusted with the attack. It was not until 96 had been reached that a separation was effected, Mr Bowden being bowled. Henderson joined Mr Roller, but the latter was dismissed after an addition of 22 runs; among his hits were five fours, three threes and seven twos. Mr W W Read came in. Both batsmen hit freely and, despite the variations in the bowling, the 200 was signalled at 4.35. Mr Read was ultimately bowled; his chief items were seven fours and seven twos.

At 237 Henderson was taken at square-leg for a well-played innings of 51; his principal hits were eight fours, a three and five twos. Four down. Six wickets had fallen for 312 when Abel joined Mr Diver, and at 6.30 stumps were drawn for the day.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 4 August, page 12)

Surrey's fortunes this season have decidedly improved. Although defeated at the beginning of last week by probably the strongest county in England, they have shown that they possess players of more than ordinary calibre. When stumps were drawn in this match on Thursday at Kennington Oval, the visitors had finished an innings for 84, and the home county had lost six wickets for the large total of 338.

Yesterday, Mr Diver, not out, 63, and Abel, not out, 8, continued the Surrey batting to the bowling of Mr Bastard and Mr Fowler. Runs came very fast, as it was not until 398 had been scored that Mr Diver was taken at slip. His innings was composed of a five (three from an overthrow), 13 fours, five threes and six twos. Chester joined Abel, but 21 runs later the last named batsman was secured by mid-on. Eight down. Johnson was run out after an addition of six, and Barratt, who succeeded him, was clean bowled at 449. Time 1.35.

Somersetshire now wanted 365 to avoid an innings defeat; but this task they were unable to accomplish, the score reaching only 152. Barratt claimed six wickets . . . It will be seen by the score appended that Surrey won by an innings and 213 runs.

2 August: NOTTINGHAMSHIRE v GLOUCESTERSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2738.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 3 August, page 10)

Although the western county were weakened at Nottingham yesterday by Woof's absence, they nevertheless played a powerful side against the home team. Gloucestershire won the toss, and had the misfortune to lose Dr W G Grace at the outset before a run had been scored, Scotton severely injuring his hand in effecting a good catch.

Dr E M Grace and Mr Moberly, however, hit well and put on 78 runs before they were parted. Later, Messrs Townsend and Pullen made an admirable stand. The former's 65 included a drive for six clean out of the ground, a four, eight threes and seven twos. He gave two chances but his hitting was very fine. The innings closed for 229. Shaw bowled well all through, taking six wickets for 62. Nottinghamshire, when stumps were drawn, had lost a wicket in making five runs.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 4 August, page 12)

Barnes and Walter Wright yesterday, at Nottingham, made a splendid stand for Notts against Gloucestershire, raising the score from 16 for three wickets to 204 for four, thus putting on no fewer than 188 runs. Barnes's hitting was very fine, his 120 including 11 fours, 13 threes and eight twos. He was seen in his very best form, punishing all the bowling alike.

Walter Wright went in first on Thursday evening and was still not out when time was called yesterday. In the absence of Woof the Gloucestershire bowling was very weak. Each batsman was missed at the wicket, Barnes once and Wright twice; still very great credit is due to both the Nottingham professionals. At the close of yesterday's play the home county were 35 runs on with five wickets to fall.

Day 3 (report from Monday 6 August, page 10)

At Saturday at Nottingham the Gloucestershire county eleven were defeated by Nottinghamshire in a single innings with 36 runs to spare. The splendid batting of Barnes and Walter Wright was the chief cause of this victory, but, in the absence of Woof, the Gloucestershire bowling was very weak. The home side continued their innings on Saturday, and before they were all disposed of, the total had reached 371. Shaw hit very freely towards the close, and Wright carried out his bat for 127 - a very fine exhibition of care and patience.

The Western county had no chance of winning when they went in a second time. Dr E M Grace and Mr Gilbert alone got into double figures, these two batsmen scoring 81 out of 103 runs made from the bat. Barnes took four wickets for 30 runs and Gunn two for 15 runs.

Saturday 4 August, page 12: THE CANTERBURY WEEK

This annual cricket week begins at the St Lawrence ground on Monday next. Play begins at 12 o'clock, on Monday, and at half-past 11 on each subsequent day. The bands of the Royal Artillery (from Dover, by permission of Colonel Goodenough, C.B.) and of the Cavalry Depot (by permission of Colonel Le Quesne) will play on the ground during the week. The players will be chosen from the following: . . [full team lists follow for Marylebone Club and Ground v Kent from Monday to Wednesday, and Kent v Middlesex, from Thursday to Saturday.]

6 August: KENT v MARYLEBONE CLUB AND GROUND

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2741.html)

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

With this match the annual week of cricket at Canterbury was begun on the St Lawrence Ground yesterday. In point of attractiveness it contrasted very unfavourably with the opening match of last year, which was, it will be remembered, between the Australians and Kent. But for the dull and showery weather of the forenoon, however, the attendance would probably have been good; as it was the numbers were certainly below the average of first days.

The cricket for the most part was slow and uninteresting, but there were periods when it was of very excellent quality. During the four hours of play 240 runs were scored for the loss of seven wickets. While Messrs C T Studd and Thornton were together 36 runs were obtained. Messrs Mitchell and Whitfeld were in company while 41 runs were put together, but the best stand of the day was made by Messrs Whitfeld and Clarke, who raised the score from 154 to 240. Mr Whitfeld's batting was certainly the feature of the day's play, though the Kent fielding generally was exceedingly good.

Owing to the late arrival of several of those engaged, the commencement of play was delayed until 35 minutes past 12. Mr Mitchell, who was successful in the toss, sent in Dr W G Grace and Mr Thornton. Mr Foord-Kelcey began the bowling, and met with an unlooked for success in his first over, a splendid catch at short leg disposing of Dr Grace. Barnes came in and made one or two good hits on the off side, but Hearne's bowling was the chief feature of the cricket at this period. Only 39 runs had been secured when Barnes was clean bowled by Mr Foord-Kelcey, who thus had the first two wickets accredited to him.

Mr C T Studd was next in, and appeared to give two very difficult chances to the wicket keeper off Mr Foord-Kelcey. At 69, as the batsmen continued to score pretty easily, Wootton relieved Mr Foord-Kelcey. Off the new bowler Mr Thornton was missed at mid-off by Mr Foord-Kelcey. At 74 Mr L Bligh relieved Hearne, and in his second over a catch at mid-on got rid of Mr Thornton, whose hitting, as usual, had been very free. His score of 41 included five fours. Before the game was proceeded with further the adjournment was made for luncheon.

After the interval Mr A G Steel went to the assistance of Mr C T Studd. The bowlers were as before, and Mr L Bligh quickly met with another success. He completed the over in which the third wicket fell, and in his next Mr C T Studd was neatly caught at short mid-on. Although disposed of for a comparatively small score Mr C T Studd played excellent cricket. Mr Whitfeld came in next and showed good defence. Mr Steel made a capital late cut for four off Mr Bligh, and by ten

minutes past 3 the score amounted to 100. for some time subsequently, the cricket was exceedingly slow, only three runs being made in 17 minutes. The fielding was close and the bowling appeared difficult. At 103 the bowlers changed ends, and the rate of the run-getting improved, but to a very slight extent only. Indeed, the total had only advanced to 111 when a fine catch low down at third man disposed of Mr Steel.

With Messrs Whitfeld and Mitchell together the play was brisker, though the last comer did nearly all the scoring. He drove Wootton to the off and cut Mr Bligh late, for each of which he secured four runs. Mr Bligh was removed in favour of Mr Foord-Kelcey at 122, but the old Oxonian did not meet with any success; Mr Mitchell cut him for four, Mr Whitfeld played him to leg for a like number, and at 141 Mr Foord-Kelcey gave up the ball to Hearne, who, 11 runs later, clean bowled Mr Mitchell. In the course of his innings he had hit four balls to the boundary.

With the incoming of Mr G B Studd, Wootton took the ball from Mr Paterson (who had been bowling since the score reached 141), and quickly disposed of the Middlesex amateur. Seven wickets were down for 153 runs when Mr Clarke joined Mr Whitfeld, and, despite several changes of bowling, coupled with smart fielding, these batsmen were still together when stumps were drawn. They increased the total by 87 runs, and neither committed any grievous error.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 8 August, page 11)

Bright weather for the greater portion of the time, with a much larger attendance of spectators, caused the second day on the St Lawrence Ground to contrast most favourably with the opening day's experiences. The cricket, too, was of a livelier kind, though the batting of the county in their first innings proved a comparative failure.

Five of the Kent Eleven left without contributing a run, and excepting the scores of Hearne, Mr Tylecote and Mr L Wilson, only 25 runs were made off the bat. The three named between them secured no fewer than 129, Hearne's innings being the most profitable. In the "follow" Mr Patterson showed much patience, and may be expected to make ample amends for his non-success in the first innings.

Punctuality was observed in continuing the game, as at 11.33 Mr Foord-Kelcey bowled the first ball. The innings closed at 20 minutes past 12. Seven bowlers were tried, but only four of them obtained wickets. Kent began their innings at 12.35, and by 17 minutes past 4 it was at an end for 164 runs. With 131 runs to get to save an innings defeat, Kent sent in Messrs Patterson and L Wilson.

Day 3 (report from Thursday 9 August, page 10)

As was anticipated from the position of the game at the close of the second day's play, Kent suffered a most decisive defeat yesterday. The weather was remarkably boisterous, showery and cold, and the concluding stages of the contest were watched, under cheerless conditions, by a very small number of spectators.

Overnight Kent, who were 131 runs behind on the first innings, had lost one wicket in their second for 44 runs. Mr W H Patterson and Hearne were the not-outs with 19 and four respectively. Messrs C T Studd and Steel were the bowlers, and in the former's second over the second wicket fell, Mr

Patterson being caught at short leg. The total had only been increased by four.

Matters continued to go badly for Kent. Lord Harris was got rid of cheaply, and Hearne, who had been batting altogether more than an hour, left at 65. Messrs Tylecote and L Bligh now became associated and some good cricket was witnessed. Both hit well, but Mr Bligh obtained runs at a quicker rate. Before they were separated the score required to save a single innings defeat was secured, and five wickets still remained. Mr C Wilson and Captain Renny-Tailyour put on 30 runs while together, but the last three wickets added but 16, and the M.C.C. were left with the moderate number of 64 runs to get to win. In securing this number one wicket was lost. The M.C.C., therefore, at ten minutes past 4, won the match by nine wickets.

To-day the return match between Kent and Middlesex begins. The home county will be represented by the same team as in the above match, and Middlesex by a strong batting side.

6 August: SURREY v NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2742.html)

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

Nottinghamshire began their return match with Surrey at Kennington Oval yesterday. The home county were well represented, but the visitors were weakened by the absence of Barnes and Sherwin, who are playing at Canterbury. Surrey, who were fortunate in the toss, elected to go in, and at 10 minutes past 12 Abel and Mr Bowden started their batting, to the bowling of Shaw and Wright.

Only seven runs had been gained when Abel was clean bowled. Henderson filled the vacancy. The score rose very steadily, and a change in the attack was made at 41, Attewell taking the ball from Shaw, while eight runs later Flowers replaced Wright. The former alteration proved successful, as at 57 Mr Bowden was splendidly caught and bowled, Attewell taking the ball with his left hand, high up. Two wickets down. The last-named batsman's principal hits were a five (four from an overthrow), three fours, a three and five twos. Mr W W Read came in, but at 83 lost the company of Henderson, who was caught at slip. Maurice Read joined Mr W W Read, and at luncheon the total was 97 for three wickets.

On the game being continued, Shaw and Wright opened the attack. Mr W W Read, by a single, sent up the "100" at 2.50, but the last ball of Wright's third over took his leg stump. Four for 104. Mr Shuter came next, but was caught at slip before he had scored. Five for 112. Mr Diver was bowled without any alteration in the total, and Mr Roller succeeded him. Maurice Read misjudged a ball of Flowers' at 145. Mr Bainbridge joined Mr Roller and a great change came over the game. Four after four was scored by Mr Roller, and a delivery from Flowers he hit right over the grand stand, securing six runs. Despite the variations in the bowling, "200" was signalled at 4.25, the last 50 runs being obtained in half an hour. Pearson was tried at 225, and his first ball Mr Roller played into the hands of point. His 81 included a six, 13 fours, two threes, two twos and singles. The two outstanding wickets added 10 runs, the innings ending at 4.55 for 236. Wright claimed four wickets
...

Shrewsbury and Mr Dixon opened the Nottingham innings to the bowling of Barratt and Johnson. Mr Dixon was bowled at 39. Mr C W Wright joined Shrewsbury, and these two played out time.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 8 August, page 11)

A very interesting day's cricket was witnessed by those who visited Kennington-oval yesterday. The attendance did not fall far short of Monday's - numbering nearly 9,000. Shrewsbury's free innings and the fine hitting of Selby and Mills were the chief features of the Midlands county's innings.

At the close of the previous day, Surrey had finished an innings for 236, while their rivals had lost one batsman for 73. Shrewsbury (not out, 36) and Mr C W Wright (not out, four) continued the Nottingham batting yesterday, the early bowling being shared by Barratt and Johnson. Runs came very slowly, both batsmen playing with great care. At 95 Mr Wright was caught at the wicket. Flowers came in, but after making 28, got out of his ground and had to retire. Three for 150. Gunn joined Shrewsbury, but, after an addition of 18, returned the ball to Abel. Four down. Attewell

filled the vacancy. At luncheon time, Shrewsbury was not out 86 and Attewell not-out one.

The interval over, runs came rather faster than before, but when the score had reached 188, Shrewsbury, who only wanted three to complete his hundred, was taken at the wicket. Among his hits were 15 fours, three threes and four twos. W Wright came in, and by a single sent 200 up at 3.10. Attewell played on at 205, and Selby joined Wright. The former, after making a single, gave a difficult chance to Abel at slip. Wright was caught at third man at 221, and Pearson, who succeeded him, was secured at slip seven runs later. Eight wickets for 228.

Mills came next, and despite all the variations in the bowling, 300 was hoisted at 4.25. Runs were scored at a very rapid pace, all the bowlers being punished alike, and 350 was reached at 4.55. Barratt, who had been tried several times, was put on again at 371, and his third delivery proved fatal to Mills, whose off-stump was bowled. Nine for 375. No fewer than 147 runs were accumulated during the companionship. Mills's principal hits were nine fours, a three and two twos. Shaw joined Selby and should have been caught by Johnson at forward short-leg at 389. The 400 was signalled at 5.30. Five runs more were added, and then Shaw was caught in the long field straight behind the bowler. Time, 5.35; total, 405. Selby's not-out innings comprised 13 fours, six threes, six twos and singles. Barratt claimed five wickets . . .

In a minority of 169, Surrey began their second venture, Mr Shuter and Henderson being opposed by Shaw and W Wright. Two changes in the bowling took place before stumps were drawn, Gunn replacing Wright at 17, while Shaw gave up the ball to Attewell at 21. This, however, had no effect on the batsmen . . .

Day 3 (report from Thursday 9 August, page 10)

Rain prevented this match at Kennington Oval being brought to a definite issue yesterday. At the conclusion of Tuesday's play each side had completed an innings, and Surrey, who were 109 behind, had started their second venture and had 28 without mishap. It was not until 4.25 that Mr Shuter (not out 17) and Henderson (not out 11) continued the Surrey batting. Shaw and W Wright were intrusted with the attack.

Mr Shuter made a single in Shaw's first over, and Henderson drove a ball of his next over to the on for two, while Mr Shuter secured four from an off drive off Wright. Henderson was run out in attempting a second run at 50, the wicket being finely thrown down by Attewell from short leg. Time 4.45. Mr Diver joined Mr Shuter. Flowers went on in place of W Wright at 52. Runs came very fast. Mr Diver made an on drive off Flowers for four and Mr Shuter cut Shaw for the same number. Gunn relieved the last-named bowler at 68. Mr Dixon missed catching Mr Diver at cover-point in Gunn's second over. Rain stopped play for a few minutes at 5.15. Gunn gave up the ball to Attewell at 98. This alteration had the desired effect, as, after Mr Shuter by an on drive for three had caused the hundred to be hoisted at 5.25, Mr Diver was splendidly caught by Selby at long off. Two for 102.

Rain again interfered with the game at 5.30. At 5.45 Mr W W Read filled the vacancy, and runs came very slowly. Mr Shuter obtained three in the slips off Flowers, but in Attewell's next over he was bowled. His principal hits were seven fours, three threes and eight twos. Rain now fell very fast, causing the players again to retire at 6.5. Ten minutes later stumps were drawn, the match thus ending in a draw . . .

6 August: YORKSHIRE v DERBYSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2743.html)

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

There was no opportunity yesterday at Sheffield of commencing the return match between the above counties until half-past 3 in the afternoon. A drizzling rain fell all morning, but afterwards the weather cleared up and the latter part of the day was bright and pleasant.

Yorkshire won the toss, and Ulyett and Hall began the batting. The total reached 52 before the first wicket fell, Ulyett being bowled for a freely played 36. When stumps were drawn for the day six wickets were down for 135 runs.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 8 August, page 11)

The Yorkshire bowlers carried all before them at Sheffield yesterday, and Derbyshire suffered a crushing defeat by an innings and three runs. Peate and Harrison bowled finely in the first innings of Derbyshire, the former taking five wickets for 36 runs and the latter four wickets for 28 runs. Only two batsmen reached double figures.

In a minority of 103 runs, Derbyshire went in a second time, and a fair start was made, Mr Maynard, Chatterton, Mr Docker and Mr Smith all playing good cricket, and the score at the fall of the third wicket being 60. then the wickets fell rapidly, and Harrison dismissed the last four batsmen by seven runs. The innings closed for 100, the game having being continued 35 minutes beyond the usual time.

6 August: HAMPSHIRE v SOMERSETSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2740.html)

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

These counties commenced a match at Southampton yesterday. Having won the toss Somersetshire went in, but with the exception of Messrs Roe and Hildyard none of the others did much, the innings closing for 102. Hampshire went in . . .

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 8 August, page 11)

Hampshire yesterday, at Southampton, beat Somersetshire, in their first meeting with that county, by seven wickets. It seems probable that when the visitors went in a second time they would be defeated in a single innings, as when Fothergill, the last man, joined Mr Bastard, the total was 107, or 42 runs behind. These two batsmen, however, added 74 to the total before Mr Bastard was bowled. Hampshire required 38 runs to win the match, and this number was not obtained without the loss of three wickets.

9 August: THE CANTERBURY WEEK

KENT v MIDDLESEX

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2745.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 10 August, page 10)

Yesterday's weather was a great improvement on that of Wednesday, the rain, which at one time threatened, fortunately holding off. The wicket yesterday did not seem much affected by the rain of the previous day. The attendance was as large as ever, and the cricket was quite worthy of the two counties . . .

Day 2 (report from Saturday 11 August, page 10)

The second day's play in this match cannot be said to have equalled that of Thursday, and the same remark may well be applied to the weather, which was cold and windy, rain frequently interrupting the game. Considering all things the attendance was good.

Middlesex overnight lost five of their wickets in the first innings for 169 runs. To this number the remaining batsmen added yesterday 125. Mr C T Studd, who had gone in on the previous evening at three wickets down for 72 runs, continued to play remarkably good cricket and was not out at the close of the innings. His 105 included 13 4's, two 3's and nine 2's, and, but for two chances given by him at the wicket, his play was most admirable. Mr Studd's was the highest innings made during the week.

Kent started their second innings very promisingly. Lord Harris again batted most vigorously, but having made 32 out of 40, he was forced to leave to attend to his Parliamentary duties in London. Mr Tylecote and Hearne played useful cricket, as also did Mr C Wilson, but none of the others rendered any assistance worth speaking of, and Middlesex were left with the easy task of getting 41 runs to win. This number they secured for the loss of one wicket.

9 August: LANCASHIRE v NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2746.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 10 August, page 10)

The return contest between these Northern counties was commenced on Old Ground at Manchester yesterday, before a large number of spectators. The visitors won the toss and went in first. The wicket played queerly, however, and Nottinghamshire, who were batting for two hours and three-quarters, made only 110 runs. Watson bowled with remarkable success, his analysis reading 44 overs and a ball (25 maidens), 41 runs and seven wickets. Crossland's three wickets cost 31 runs.

When Lancashire went in they fared so badly at starting that four of their best batsmen were out for 56 runs. The brothers Steel then got together and completely mastered the Nottingham bowling. Up to the call of time the two old Cambridge batsmen were still in. Lancashire have now all the best of the game, as, with six wickets to fall, they are only one run behind.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 11 August, page 10)

Owing to the heavy rain at Manchester yesterday, no progress could be made in the above county match. The players waited until nearly 1 o'clock, when the weather continued so boisterous and stormy that the captains resolved to postpone further play until to-day.

Day 3 (report from Monday 13 August, page 10)

On Saturday, at Old Trafford, Manchester, the return match between Lancashire and Nottinghamshire ended in a draw, the visitors at the finish being still 18 runs behind with eight wickets to fall.

The Lancashire innings, in which four wickets were down for 109, was not finished until half-past 4 in the afternoon. The brothers Steel played splendid cricket and put on 99 runs for the fifth wicket, their batting being distinctly the feature of the match. Mr A G Steel made six fours, two threes and six twos in his 60, and Mr D Q Steel hit nine fours, five threes and six twos.

Notts went in for a second time when only an hour and 50 minutes remained for play. Shrewsbury and Mr Wright showed capital cricket and made 44 for the first wicket. The amateur was then out to a sharp catch at slip, and a good catch at square leg got rid of Shrewsbury when the score reached 70. Flowers and Barnes were together when the match was left drawn.

9 August: GLOUCESTERSHIRE v SOMERSETSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2744.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 10 August, page 10)

At Clifton yesterday the home county had slightly the better of the day's cricket against Somersetshire. Gloucestershire won the toss and, going in first, completed an innings for 131. The brothers Grace and Mr Townsend batted very finely. Dr W G Grace's faultless 40 included two fours, a three and eight twos. Mr Winter obtained three wickets for 12 runs and Mr Bastard four for 47.

When Somerset went in they lost five wickets for 17 runs; Messrs Sainsbury and Hildyard, however, batted well, and at the call of time they were only 33 runs behind their opponents' total. Dr W G Grace took five wickets for 39 runs and Woof three for 33 runs.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 11 August, page 10)

The cricket at Clifton yesterday was of a very much higher character than on the first day, the home county having all the better of the game when time expired. Dr W G Grace again batted in fine form, and he received valuable assistance from Messrs Moberly and Cranston. Dr Grace's 43 included six fours, one three and one two, and Mr Moberly's 58 seven fours and five threes. It was unfortunate that Fothergill, whose five wickets only cost 23 runs, should have been unable to bowl very much owing to an injured hand.

Somersetshire began their second attempt well, making 73 for the loss of two wickets. Afterwards, however, they did not do so well, as will be seen from the appended score. They now want 163 to win, with five of their best wickets down.

Day 3 (report from Monday 13 August, page 10)

An easy win for Gloucestershire by 114 runs was the result of this county match at Clifton on Saturday. So certain was the success of the home team that little interest could be felt in the cricket.

Mr Parfitt played a capital innings and, among other hits, made a splendid drive for six. Very feeble support was accorded him, and the second innings of Somersetshire, in which five wickets had fallen overnight for 102 runs, was completed for 150. This was the first time this season that Gloucestershire had won a match.

13 August: THE REST v LANCASHIRE AND YORKSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2747.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 14 August, page 8)

The match arranged under the above title for William Mycroft's benefit was commenced yesterday on the county ground at Derby. By years of good work Mycroft has thoroughly earned a recognition of his services. Unfortunately, the match lost some of its importance which was expected to attach to it. The England team was - on paper at least - very weak, and the counties suffered from the absence of Messrs Hornby, Royle and A G Steel.

Looking at the constitution of the sides, an easy victory for Lancashire and Yorkshire might safely have been predicted, but so far as play proceeded yesterday, all expectations were upset. Going in first, with the ground in a state to help the bowlers, the combined counties only remained at the wickets till 25 minutes to 4, a patient display by Barlow and some free hitting by Briggs being the features of the innings.

When England went in the wicket had improved, and some very fine batting was shown by Barnes and Shrewsbury, the former's play being free from anything like a mistake. From the following score it will be seen that the England team are 39 runs ahead and have six wickets to fall.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 15 August, page 10)

Mycroft's benefit match at Derby was continued yesterday, there being again a large and appreciative company on the ground. The attendance, however, was not quite equal to that of Monday, probably on account of an unpleasant change in the weather. The match still went in favour of the England eleven, a surprising fact when the constitution of the sides is taken into consideration.

Overnight England's score stood at 118 for four wickets, and yesterday the total was raised to 224. Hearne and Platts played extremely well together, and put on 84 between the falls of the sixth and seventh wickets. With smarter fielding, however, Platts might twice have been run out. Hearne's batting this season has been most excellent and consistent, and his innings of 44 yesterday was played in his best manner. Crossland took the last four England wickets at a very small cost, and altogether his analysis showed seven wickets for 45 runs.

When the combined counties went in for the second time Ulyett quickly hit up 26, making two drives for six each. Barlow played very patiently, and at the drawing of stumps the counties were 65 runs behind with six wickets to fall.

Day 3 (report from Thursday 10 August, page 6)

Less than an hour's play at Derbyshire yesterday proved sufficient to bring Mycroft's benefit match to a conclusion, the England team winning by an innings and 19 runs. At the drawing of stumps on Tuesday evening the game stood in the following position: Lancashire and Yorkshire, first innings 79, second innings, 80, for the loss of four wickets; England, first innings, 224.

Yesterday rain delayed a start until five minutes to 1. Barlow and Hall were the not outs, and continued the innings of the combined counties. Only ten runs had been added when Barlow was out, and Emmett and Hall got together. These two put on 15 runs, and then came a complete collapse. A catch at slip sent back Emmett, and three runs later Hall, Peate and Crossland were all dismissed. Pilling and Watson stayed for a little time, but the innings closed for 126, and the England side were left with a single innings victory. A scratch match was afterwards played between elevens, captained by Mr Docker and Emmett. The latter side made 68 for three wickets.

13 August: SOMERSETSHIRE v GLOUCESTERSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2748.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 14 August, page 8)

At Taunton yesterday, in the return match between these counties, Gloucestershire had the good fortune to win the toss, and going in first were not all dismissed until 6 o'clock, their total amounting to 371.

The feature of the day was the splendid batting of Dr W G Grace and Mr Moberly, who together put on nearly 150 runs for the second wicket. Mr Moberly played a faultless innings of 121. His cutting and off-driving were as good as ever, and his hits were 19 fours, four threes, six twos &c. Dr Grace, too, made no mistake in getting his runs. He went in first and was out with the score at 185. Six fours, three threes and four twos were included in his 75. There was more good batting shown for the same side by Mr Townsend and Mr Vizard, the former of whom hit finely for 56, while the latter carried out his bat for 49.

Somersetshire had a few minutes' batting before the drawing of stumps, and in that time had lost one wicket for 27 runs.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 15 August, page 10)

A fine batting performance was accomplished at Taunton yesterday by Mr Sainsbury and Mr Newton. Somersetshire had followed on in a minority of 192, and two wickets were down for 57 runs when the two gentlemen mentioned got together. Mr Newton's play at first was not faultless, but afterwards he batted admirably, and Mr Sainsbury was seen to advantage all through. Before they were parted no fewer than 135 runs had been added, and the heavy balance was cleared off.

Mr Newton was out at 192, his fine innings of 63 including eight 4's, four 3's and five 2's. Mr Sainsbury kept up his wicket until the call of time, and had then scored 90. In addition to this, Mr Sainsbury hit very brilliantly in the first innings for 59, made up of eleven 4's, two 3's, a 2 and seven singles. More good batting was shown during the day by Mr Welman, Mr Roe and Mr Parfitt. Somersetshire are now 20 runs on and have six wickets to fall.

Day 3 (report from Thursday 10 August, page 6)

The return match between Gloucestershire and Somersetshire ended at Taunton yesterday in an eight wickets' victory for Gloucestershire. Overnight Somersetshire had followed on in a minority of 192, had cleared off this balance and were 20 runs to the good for the loss of four wickets when stumps were drawn for the day.

Yesterday Mr Sainsbury increased his score of 90 to 116 and was then well taken at point. He had played splendid cricket in both innings. The chief hits of his 116 were 11 fours, five threes and 12 twos. Another very good innings was played by Mr A H Evans, the old Oxford captain. Going in when seven wickets had fallen for 227, he carried out his bat for 59, in which were eight fours, three threes and three twos. Fothergill also batted well.

Gloucestershire were set 152 runs to get to win, and such fine cricket did Drs W G and E M Grace play that 83 of these were obtained before a wicket fell. Dr E M Grace was then caught at long-on for a well hit 43. On Mr Moberly joining Dr W G Grace, the score again rose fast. At 122 the Gloucestershire captain was dismissed for an excellent innings of 52 made up of four fours, two threes, five twos and singles. Mr Townsend came next and the runs were soon hit off, Gloucestershire winning, as stated above, by eight wickets.

16 August: KENT v YORKSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2750.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 17 August, page 8)

Great interest was taken in the first day's play of the return match between these counties at the Bat and ball Ground, Gravesend, yesterday. Yorkshire won the toss, and Hall and Ulyett commenced their batting at ten minutes past 12, to the bowling of Wootton and Mr Christopherson.

Only 15 had been obtained when Ulyett had the misfortune to play on. Mr Hawke joined Hall, but before he had scored he returned the ball. Two for 20. Bates came in and the 50 was hoisted at 1 o'clock. Two runs later, however, he was finely caught by Lord Harris running from long-on. Lockwood filled the vacancy, and runs were scored very fast. Hearne went on in lieu of Mr Christopherson at 72. The alteration had the desired effect, as he bowled Hall after an addition of four. Four down. Mr Lumb came to the assistance of Lockwood. Both batsmen hit freely and at luncheon the score was 96.

After the usual interval the game was continued, Lockwood, by a cut for four, sending up the "100" at 2.45. The score rose very rapidly, the professional making the majority of the runs. A few minutes before 6 o'clock, Lockwood was caught by the wicket-keeper, standing some distance behind the wicket. His fine, faultless innings was composed of 23 fours, nine threes, 22 twos and singles. Stumps were then drawn for the day . . .

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

Visitors to the Bat and Ball Ground, Gravesend, yesterday must have been greatly disappointed by the meagre scoring made by the home team, with the exception of Lord Harris, who batted brilliantly in both innings. Overnight Yorkshire were credited with 349 for the loss of seven wickets, Lockwood out of this number having contributed 208.

Grimshaw, not out 11, and Peate continued the Yorkshire batting at 11.15, to the bowling of Mr Christopherson and Wootton. Peate was out without any alteration to the score, and Hunter took his place. Mr Christopherson disposed of Grimshaw after an addition of 33. Harrison, the last man, was secured at mid-on, and the innings closed at five minutes to 12 for 392.

Mr Patterson and Lord Harris opened the batting for Kent to the bowling of Peate and Harrison. After 18 overs had been sent down for 41 runs, Ulyett relieved the last named bowler. Mr Patterson, by a leg hit for three, caused "50" to be signalled at 12.40. Seven runs later, however, he was caught at slip. One down. Hearne came in, but did not give the bowlers much trouble, as when he had made 2, Ulyett clean bowled him. Mr Tylecote filled the vacancy, and at luncheon the score was 86.

On resuming, Mr Tylecote was bowled, and the Hon Ivo Bligh, who followed, was beaten by a ball from Peate, after securing six. Four for 104. O'Shaughnessy fell to a catch at slip at 118. Mr Wilson's stay was brief and unproductive, as also was Mr Foord-Kelcey's. Seven for 131. Mr L Bligh joined Lord Harris, but had to retire clean bowled at 140. The remaining two batsmen only added eight, and the innings ended at 3.20. Lord Harris's fine not-out innings comprised seven fours, nine threes, six twos &c.

Kent, who were 244 runs in arrear, followed on at 3.45. Mr Patterson and Lord Harris again commenced the defence, the early bowling being shared by Peate and Ulyett. Mr Patterson had the misfortune to play on at 37. Hearne came in, but was bowled with the score at 53. Mr Tylecote joined Lord Harris, and runs were obtained very rapidly. At length, Emmett, who had previously gone on in place of Peate, bowled Lord Harris. His principal hits were nine fours, eight threes and four twos. The seven outstanding wickets added 45 and the innings ended for 150. The appended score will show that Yorkshire won by an innings and 94 runs.

16 August: GLOUCESTERSHIRE v MIDDLESEX

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2749.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 17 August, page 8)

An extraordinary batting performance was accomplished yesterday at Clifton by the Hon Alfred Lyttelton and Mr I D Walker, who, while they were together, raised the Middlesex score from eight to 332. This was more than has even before been made in a first-class match.

The two gentlemen played steadily for a time, but when they had got set, the score rose at a tremendous pace. A complete mastery was obtained over the weak Gloucestershire bowling, and the frequent changes had no effect whatever upon the batsmen. Mr Walker gave two chances of being stumped, and was also missed in the long field, while throughout his wonderful innings Mr Lyttelton only gave two chances. Mr Walker had his 145 in three hours and twenty minutes. His chief hits were two sixes, 17 fours, four threes and 14 twos. Mr Lyttelton hit one six, 21 fours, five threes and 19 twos. Such a performance has been surpassed in a match of minor importance, but has never been approached in a contest between two first-class counties.

The batting of Messrs Walker and Lyttelton, of course, dwarfed everything else that occurred yesterday, but some excellent cricket was shown by Messrs C T Studd and Pearson, the former of whom is still not out.

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

The Middlesex eleven were not all disposed of yesterday at Clifton until the score had reached the enormous total of 537. The splendid batting of Messrs Lyttelton and Walker on Thursday made it probable that a large number of runs would be scored by the visiting side, and yesterday Mr C T Studd increased his overnight total of 57 to 91 before a catch at the wicket disposed of him.

Gloucestershire, owing to the fine hitting of Mr Moberly, Dr W G Grace and Mr Gilbert, had when time was called put together 181 for the loss of seven wickets. Thus the home team, with only three wickets to fall, are still 356 runs behind.

Day 3 (report from Monday 20 August, page 10)

The match between the above counties, which was brought to a conclusion on Saturday at Clifton, will long be remembered for its many points of interest. On the first day the extraordinary batting of Messrs Alfred Lyttelton and I D Walker, who made 324 runs between the fall of the first and second wickets, was sufficient to render the match one of the most remarkable of the present season.

The way in which Gloucestershire saved the game on Saturday was another feature worthy of special note. Having to follow on against the enormous number of 348, the western county lost five wickets for 75 runs, when Dr Grace was joined by Mr Gilbert. The defeat of Gloucestershire seemed almost certain, as two hours and a half were still left in which to finish the game. Both batsmen played very carefully, and the score was steadily increased to 170 before Dr W G Grace was caught at the wicket for a well-played innings of 85, which comprised five fours, six threes,

nine twos and 29 singles. Mr Gilbert, by some very fine batting, ran up his score to 79 before he was caught at long-on.

When the last man came in there still remained ten minutes for play, but Messrs Fairbanks and Page kept up their wickets, and the match ended in a draw. At the conclusion of the game, the Gloucestershire eleven, with one wicket to fall, were still 114 runs behind.

16 August: SOMERSETSHIRE v SURREY

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2751.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 17 August, page 8)

Notwithstanding a splendid innings of 93 by Mr W W Read, the visiting county had none the better of the return match between Surrey and Somersetshire yesterday at Taunton. With the exception of a very finely hit innings of 55 by Mr Diver, the other Surrey batsmen rendered him little assistance, and out of a total of 193 these two made no fewer than 148 runs.

The Somersetshire team played very well, and when stumps were drawn for the day they were only 26 runs behind with three wickets to fall. The weather was very fine.

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

Surrey were playing an up-hill game at Taunton yesterday against Somersetshire, and, getting rid of their opponents very easily in the fourth innings of the match, gained a victory by 75 runs. On Thursday Surrey had made 193 and Somersetshire 167 for seven wickets. The last three Somersetshire wickets added 61 runs yesterday, and the total reached 228 - 85 runs to the good.

On going in for the second time, the Surrey eleven for the most part batted very moderately. Abel and Maurice Read did fairly well, and Mr W W Read played another splendid innings; but the others did very little, and it was only some useful assistance by Chester and Barratt that enabled Mr Read to bring the score to 195. Mr Read, as in the first innings, carried out his bat - a wonderful performance. His hits yesterday were 13 fours, a three and five twos.

Somersetshire went in to get 161 runs, but failed completely in their attempt. Only two members of the team reached double figures; the others could not make much headway against Barratt's bowling, and the side were all out for the meagre total of 85. Barratt bowled 25 overs and three balls (five maidens) for 28 runs and eight wickets.

20 August: THE CHELTENHAM WEEK

GLOUCESTERSHIRE v SURREY

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2752.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 21 August, page 8)

Surrey, who had the good fortune to win the toss against the home county at Cheltenham yesterday, were batting the whole of the day.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 22 August, page 10)

The cricket yesterday in the first match of the Cheltenham week was of a very disappointing character. On Monday Surrey were at the wickets all day, scoring 261, and it was expected that the Gloucestershire total would certainly be a large one. Yesterday six of the best batsmen were out for 42 runs, and the whole side were disposed of for 109, of 152 runs behind the Surrey total.

Having to follow on, the second innings of Gloucestershire was commenced by Drs W G and E M Grace. When stumps were drawn for the day the home county had lost six wickets in their second innings and were still ten runs behind.

Day 3 (report from Thursday 23 August, page 8)

The first match of the Cheltenham week was brought to a conclusion yesterday, resulting in favour of Surrey by nine wickets. The western county had no chance of winning after the conclusion of the second day's play, the game then standing as under: - Surrey, 261; Gloucestershire, 109 and 142 for six wickets.

The total was increased by the last two batsmen yesterday to only 171. Surrey had but 20 runs to get to win, and this number was obtained for the loss of one wicket.

20 August: NOTTINGHAMSHIRE v MIDDLESEX

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2754.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 21 August, page 8)

The return match between Nottinghamshire and Middlesex was begun yesterday at Nottingham. The day's cricket was remarkable for the fine play of three batsmen - Barnes, Flowers and Gunn. These, between them, scored no fewer than 230 out of the total of 288. The home county were at the wickets from noon until past 6, when stumps were drawn for the day. It was too late at the conclusion of the Nottinghamshire innings for the Middlesex batsmen to go in.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 22 August, page 10)

In pleasantly fine weather yesterday the return match between these counties was continued on the Trent-bridge Ground, at Nottingham. It will be remembered that the whole of Monday was occupied by the Nottinghamshire batsmen, who completed an innings shortly before time for 288.

Against this formidable score the visitors sent in Messrs Webbe and Walker yesterday, shortly before noon. Several batsmen fell in quick succession, and with six down for 161 a follow-on appeared probable, but Mr G B Studd hit vigorously and well, and when the innings closed the metropolis county were 64 runs behind. Shaw and Gunn bowled successfully, each taking three wickets at a cost respectively of 41 and 34 runs.

Nottinghamshire, on going in a second time, fared very badly, and in the 50 minutes before stumps were drawn they lost four good wickets for 27, thus, with six wickets to fall, they are 91 runs on.

Day 3 (report from Thursday 23 August, page 8)

The return match between Middlesex and Nottingham ended yesterday in a draw, the visitors at the finish having four wickets to fall and wanting 243 runs to get to win, so that the result was distinctly in favour of Nottinghamshire.

Neither side had much advantage when play was resumed yesterday. Barnes and Flowers were the not outs, and with only three runs added to the score the former was missed at extra mid-off by Mr G B Studd. This mistake entailed the most serious consequences, for before they were parted Barnes and Flowers added no fewer than 134 runs. Nottinghamshire were all out for 254, and it was only time which saved Middlesex from a disastrous defeat.

20 August: KENT v LANCASHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2753.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 21 August, page 8)

Some very interesting cricket was witnessed by those who visited the Bat and Ball Ground, Gravesend, yesterday. Kent, having won the toss, elected to go in. Lord Harris and Mr Patterson opened the batting to the bowling of Barlow and Watson. Both batsmen played with great care, but when 20 had been obtained Lord Harris was taken at the wicket. The innings terminated at five minutes past 3 for 92. Watson secured five wickets . . .

Barlow and Mr Hornby opened the Lancashire innings at 3.25, the early bowling being shared by Wootton and Mr Christopherson. Barlow was bowled with the score at 10, and Mr Taylor, who followed, was dismissed by the next ball. The innings ended at a quarter to 5 for 97. Wootton claimed seven wickets . . . Kent went in a second time . . .

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 22 August, page 10)

An unexpected victory was gained by Kent over Lancashire at the Bat and Ball Ground at Gravesend, yesterday. When stumps were drawn on Monday, Kent, who, after an innings each had been completed, were five runs in arrear, had lost five batsmen in their second attempt for 48. The innings yesterday closed for 118 at ten minutes past 1.

Barlow and Mr Hornby commenced to get the 114 required by the visitors for victory, but runs were made slowly. Great excitement prevailed when Pilling (the ninth man in) came to the aid of Crossland, as the northern team wanted 33 to win. Pilling was caught at mid-off at 83, and Nash, the last man, joined Crossland. Nine runs were quickly obtained, but then Nash was also caught at mid-off, Kent thus winning by 21 runs. Great credit is due to Wootton, who bowled exceedingly well, taking six wickets at a cost of only 37 runs.

20 August; SUSSEX v YORKSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2755.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 21 August, page 8)

Charlwood's benefit match - the return match between Sussex and Yorkshire - was begun at Brighton yesterday. The contest was additionally interesting from the fact that in the first match between these counties at Sheffield last June Sussex, after a close fight, gained an unexpected victory by three runs.

Yesterday, too, Sussex, though distinctly the weaker side, had nothing the worse of the day's play. They went in first, and their total in the end reached 174. Bates obtained five wickets for 55 runs.

On Yorkshire going in to bat, Ulyett was speedily bowled, but Hall and Mr Lumb made a useful stand and increased the score to 34. At the drawing of stumps the score was 80 for four wickets. There was a large attendance during the day, and it may be of interest to state that Lord Sheffield headed Charlwood's subscription list with £100.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 22 August, page 10)

Yesterday, at Brighton, after having all the worst of the game on Monday, the Yorkshiremen played up with great nerve and spirit, and when the innings closed, shortly after 4 o'clock, the total had reached 331. Hall, who had gone in first, carried out his bat for 124.

The home county, who were in a minority of 157, went in a second time, but did very badly against Bates's bowling, and when play finished for the day five wickets were down for 56. Thus with five wickets to fall, Sussex want 101 to save a single innings defeat.

Day 3 (report from Thursday 23 August, page 8)

At Brighton yesterday Yorkshire gained a very easy victory over Sussex in one innings, with 52 runs to spare. The position of the game on Tuesday evening was that Sussex, with five wickets to fall in their second innings wanted 101 runs to avert a single innings defeat. Yesterday they made only 49 of these runs, and so were decisively beaten. Bates took in the match 11 wickets for 112 runs.

23 August: SURREY v LANCASHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2758.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 24 August, page 8)

The return match to the one played at Manchester in July, when after a rather exciting finish Lancashire won by three wickets, was begun yesterday at Kennington-oval before an attendance of nearly 10,000. The scoring was not very heavy in either of the first innings, but in the second venture of Lancashire a complete mastery was obtained over the home eleven's bowling. The fielding of Lancashire was extremely good, but that of Surrey was at times very loose.

Having won the toss, Lancashire commenced batting with Barlow and Mr Hornby at ten minutes past 12 to the bowling of Barratt and Mr Horner. Barlow made a single off the third delivery of Barratt's, and Mr Hornby was caught at mid-off from the next. One down. Mr Taylor came in, and, after making an off-drive for two and a cut for three, he was bowled. Briggs, who succeeded him, was caught by cover-slip, with the score at 18. Robinson joined Barlow. With successive balls Mr Horner bowled Robinson and Mr Royle. Four and five for 124.

Mr Payne filled the vacancy. Runs came very fast from Barratt's bowling, and the "50" was signalled a few minutes before 1 o'clock. At 56 Mr Payne was caught by the wicket-keeper, standing some distance behind the wicket. His 23 was composed of five fours and a three. Six down. Watson came to the assistance of Barlow, but the former was taken at long-on a single later, and Barlow played in without any alteration in the total. The latter had batted very patiently for 12, as he had been in a little over an hour. Crossland and Pilling put on 18 before Crossland was caught at third man. Nash did not give much trouble to the Surrey bowlers, and the innings ended at 1.25 for 75. Mr Horner took six wickets . . .

Henderson and Mr Bowden opened the Surrey batting to the attacks of Watson and Crossland. Mr Bowden was bowled, middle stump, when only six runs had been obtained, and Mr Roller came in. Watson dismissed Henderson at 12, and three runs later he also bowled Mr Roller. Mr W W Read and Maurice Read increased the score to 30, when the latter was disposed of by Crossland. Mr Shuter followed in, but after Watson had sent down a maiden to Mr W W Read, he was bowled. Five for 30.

Mr Diver came in. Mr W W Read had his off-stump bowled down at 39, and Abel joined Mr Diver. The "50" was hoisted at 335. The amateur got out of his ground at 57 and Pilling cleverly stumped him. Seven down. Mr Key was bowled at 60 and Barratt shared the same fate at 64. Mr Horner and Abel scored 18 between them before they were parted, and Surrey finished their innings at 4.15 for 82. Crossland took seven wickets . . .

In a minority of seven runs, Lancashire, after an interval of 25 minutes, sent in Mr Taylor and Barlow, the early bowling being shared by Barratt and Mr Horner. Both batsmen played with great care and the score rose very slowly. The "50" was signalled at 20 minutes to 6, and, despite the bowling changes, no separation was effected when "Time" was called . . .

Day 2 (report from Saturday 25 August, page 6)

Another very interesting day's cricket was witnessed in the continuation of this match at

Kennington Oval yesterday. The scoring was far superior to that of the previous day. Mr Taylor's and Barlow's batting was the chief feature of the day's play; and that, together with Mr Royle's fine fielding, was greatly appreciated by the spectators. When stumps were drawn on Thursday each side had finished an innings, Surrey then being seven runs to the good, and Lancashire in their second attempt had scored 96 without mishap.

Mr Taylor and Barlow continued the visitors' innings to the attacks of Barratt and Mr Horner at five minutes past 12. The "100" was reached soon after the start, and runs were obtained rather fast. Henderson relieved Mr Horner at 127, but the separation was effected by the other bowler, Mr Taylor being caught at point one run later. One down. The retiring batsman's principal hits were nine 4's, five 3's and fourteen 2's. Briggs, who filled the vacancy, was clean bowled at 149. Robinson came in, and Barlow by a single caused 150 to be hoisted within a few minutes of 1 o'clock. Robinson was secured at slip after an addition of 12.

Mr Hornby joined Barlow, and should have been stumped by Mr W W Read after scoring a single; in Barratt's next over Mr W W Read again let him off, but the first delivery of Barratt's third over proved fatal to him, as he was finely taken by Maurice Read in the long field. Mr Royle obstructed his wicket after making an on-drive for four and a single. Five for 171. Mr Payne was dismissed when only six were required for the "200," and Watson came to the aid of Barlow. Barratt crossed over at 198, and Watson played the first ball he received from him into the hands of cover-point. Seven down. The players now retired for luncheon, Barlow being 77 not out.

After an interval of 50 minutes the game was resumed. The second century was hoisted five minutes later. Crossland scoring very fast, a double change in the bowling was tried at 229. Mr Horner relieving Henderson and Maurice Read Barratt, Crossland skied Read's first ball to the boundary, but off the third he was easily taken by third man. Eight for 233. Pilling was out "leg before" after a single had been added, and Nash took his place. Barlow was caught at slip at 240. His runs comprised six 4's, two 3's, nine 2's &c. Barratt claimed five wickets . . .

Wanting 234 for victory, Surrey sent in Mr Shuter and Diver at 3.40, the bowling being intrusted to Watson and Crossland. The latter bowled Mr Shuter's middle stump down when only 13 had been scored. Abel came in, but Watson disposed of him before he had made a run. During the partnership of Mr W W Read and Diver 47 runs were added to the score before the latter was bowled by Nash at 67. Maurice Read failed to stop a delivery from Crossland at 89 and had to retire. Henderson filled the vacancy, and the "100" was registered at 5.20. Mr Read was out to an appeal for "leg before" at 107.

Mr Roller joined Henderson, but soon lost his company, as he was taken at the wicket at 112. Bowden was bowled by Watson at 122, and Mr Key came in, and, in conjunction with Mr Roller, succeeded in taking the score to within 55 of their rivals. When play ceased for the day, Surrey, with three wickets to fall, wanted 56 to win.

Day 3 (report from Monday 27 August, page 8)

At Kennington Oval on Saturday Surrey just reversed the result of the first match between these counties. At the conclusion of Friday's play the home team required 56 runs for victory with only three wickets to fall. The last day's play was therefore invested with unusual interest, as the two not-outs of the previous evening had put on 56 runs during their partnership. Indeed, they had batted in such excellent style that the partisans of the southern county were most hopeful of success.

Mr Roller, not out, 35, and Mr Key, not out, 32, continued their innings, to the bowling of Crossland and Watson, at 12 o'clock. Mr Key made a cut for three and later on two on-drives for four each off both bowlers. A double change was made at 198, Nash and Barlow being intrusted with the attack. This for a time stopped the run getting. Not for long, however, and Mr Key by a four through the slips caused "200" to be hoisted. Crossland again went on at 217. Mr Roller, by hitting the last named bowler to leg for four, took the score to 230. After a single and a bye had been obtained, Briggs went on in lieu of Crossland, Barlow being the other bowler. In the former's second over Mr Roller, by an on-drive for two, won the match for Surrey by three wickets at ten minutes to 1.

Mr Key's innings was composed of eight fours, three threes, six twos and seven singles, and Mr Roller's four fours, three threes, nine twos and 12 singles. It may be noted that Surrey has not yet lost a county match on the Oval this season.

23 August: YORKSHIRE v MIDDLESEX

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2759.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 24 August, page 8)

Yesterday the play of Mr I D Walker and Mr A Lyttelton for Middlesex against Yorkshire, at the St John's ground, Huddersfield, was extremely good. Mr Walker made 13 4's, a 3 and five 2's, and Mr Lyttelton nine 4's, a 3 and two 2's. Mr C T Studd also played in excellent style. The Yorkshire bowling was severely punished, and no one had a really good analysis. There was some very steady play for Yorkshire, and at the drawing of stumps the score had been increased to 29.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 25 August, page 6)

There was some more heavy scoring at Huddersfield yesterday in this return county match, 300 runs being made for the loss of ten wickets. Overnight, Middlesex had played a first innings of 305, while Yorkshire on going in to bat had made 29 for the loss of one wicket.

Yesterday the home county did not do well at starting, and the score for three wickets was only 37. On Ulyett joining Mr Lumb, however, a mastery was obtained over the Middlesex bowling. Mr Lumb all through played with the greatest caution, while Ulyett, on the other hand, hit brilliantly. Between them they put on 91 runs before Ulyett was out for a freely hit 65. Afterwards Mr Lumb received useful assistance from Peel and Grimshaw, but Yorkshire only saved the follow-on by ten runs. Going in first wicket down, Mr Lumb carried out his bat for a very patient and invaluable innings of 70. He made five fours, three threes and nine twos.

Middlesex on going in for the second time lost one wicket for 18, but when Mr G B Studd and Mr Lyttelton got together runs were scored rapidly. At the drawing of stumps no other wicket had fallen, and Middlesex were 162 runs on.

Day 3 (report from Monday 27 August, page 8)

The Middlesex and the Yorkshire county elevens brought their seasons to a close at Huddersfield on Saturday. The match ended in a draw, Yorkshire, when stumps were drawn, having six wickets to fall and wanting 114 runs to get to win. Overnight Middlesex, who gained an advantage of 69 runs on the first innings, had gone in for the second time and made 93 runs for the loss of one wicket.

On Saturday, when the game was continued by the not-outs, Mr Lyttelton and Mr G B Studd, the former added 24 to his score, but the latter was speedily dismissed. Mr C T Studd played well, and later on there was a useful stand made by Mr Greateux and Mr Paravicini. The last three wickets fell in one over from Peel, Mr Greateux, of this year's Harrow eleven, carrying out his bat for 44 - a fine performance for a schoolboy.

Yorkshire had 312 runs to get before they won, but there was no time to obtain that number. They, however, batted so well that at the finish the home county had nothing the worst of the game. Hall followed up his recent successes by playing an admirable innings of 87, not out, and Mr Lumb rendered him useful assistance. Ulyett and Bates had previously done well.

23 August; GLOUCESTERSHIRE v NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2756.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 24 August, page 8)

Barnes played another splendid innings yesterday at Cheltenham in the return match between Gloucestershire and Nottinghamshire. His 86 consisted of 13 4's, three 3's, six 2's and singles; and he only gave one chance. Gunn was his partner while 97 runs were made. Eight wickets fell yesterday for 230 runs. There was a good company on the Cheltenham College grounds.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 25 August, page 6)

There was a fine batting performance yesterday at Cheltenham by Mr Vizard and Mr Page. Gloucestershire went in against the Nottinghamshire total of 276, and lost eight batsmen for 82 runs.

A follow on and a disastrous defeat for the home county then seemed imminent, but at this point of the game Mr Vizard joined Mr Page. The former batted steadily and well, and Mr Page, though hitting freely, played a very sound game. The Nottinghamshire bowling was frequently changed, but all to no purpose. The two young batsmen successfully defied all who were brought against them, and before the drawing of stumps had added 98 runs.

Gloucestershire still want 19 runs to save the follow on, and it will be hard fortune, indeed, if after such a fine performance they fail to make the necessary number. The match is the second and concluding contest of the Cheltenham week.

Day 3 (report from Monday 27 August, page 8)

There was some very fine batting on Saturday at Cheltenham in the concluding match of the cricket week. In the early part of the day Messrs Page and Vizard continued the Gloucestershire innings and, thanks to the free hitting of Mr Page and the careful and patient batting of Mr Vizard, the Western county were very soon saved the necessity of a follow on.

The total had reached 213 before Mr Page was out, "leg before wicket," to Wright for an invaluable innings of 93. The batting shown by the Old Cheltenham boy during the week was so good that a number of his old schoolfellows presented him with a handsome clock. Mr Vizard carried out his bat for a very useful 49.

Nottingham, on going in a second time, were 60 runs ahead, and it was almost certain that the match would end in a draw. A bad start was made, but on Flowers joining Shrewsbury the Gloucestershire bowling was completely mastered. Flowers hit very hard and Shrewsbury batted in excellent style. Later on there was another long stand by Gunn and Selby, the latter for the first time this season playing a three-figure innings. When time was called and the match left drawn, Nottingham were 392 runs ahead and had four wickets to fall.

23 August; SOMERSETSHIRE v HAMPSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2757.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 24 August, page 8)

The batting of Mr F W Terry yesterday at Taunton was the chief feature of the first day's play in the return match between Somersetshire and Hampshire. By some splendid hitting he scored 121 out of 186 runs made while he was at the wickets. His chief hits were a seven (five for an overthrow), a five (four for an overthrow), 14 fours, seven threes and four twos. The visiting county were not very strongly represented and had all the worst of the day's play.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 25 August, page 6)

Although the Hampshire county team played a very uphill game yesterday at Taunton, they were beaten by Somersetshire by five wickets. It will be remembered that the visitors fared very badly on the first day, being 169 runs behind with only two wickets to fall. Yesterday the last two wickets added 44 runs. At the conclusion of the innings Hampshire were only 125 behind.

When they followed on Mr Wood hit very finely, and Messrs Prothero and Longman played very careful cricket. Several of the other batsmen rendered very useful assistance, and the total of the second innings reached 222. This left Somersetshire 98 to get to win, and, owing to the excellent batting of Messrs Sweet, Terry and Evans, the required number was obtained for the loss of five wickets. In the two innings of Hampshire Fothergill took ten wickets for 106 runs.

27 August; SURREY v KENT

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2761.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 28 August, page 10)

The return match between these counties was commenced at Kennington Oval yesterday before a very large attendance. Having won the toss, Surrey sent in Messrs Bowden and Diver at five minutes past 12 to the bowling of Wootton and Mr Christopherson.

Mr Bowden returned the ball after making 11 runs out of 31. Henderson came in, but only ten had been added when a delivery from Mr Christopherson completely mastered Mr Diver. Two for 41. Mr W W Read, who filled the vacancy, was caught at mid-on at 46. Maurice Read came in and by an on-drive for four caused 50 to be signalled at 1 o'clock. The last-named batsman was disposed of by Wootton ten runs later. Four down. Mr Shuter joined Henderson and, although changes in the bowling were rather frequent, no separation was effected up to the luncheon interval, when the score was 92.

On resuming the game at 10 minutes to 3, Mr Christopherson and Wootton were the bowlers. Henderson by a single sent up the 100 five minutes later. Hearne relieved Mr Christopherson at 108, and off the second ball of his first over Henderson was finely taken by Lord Harris at cover-slip. Five down. Mr Roller came to the assistance of Mr Shuter and runs were scored very rapidly. Mr Roller gave a rather difficult chance to Mr Christopherson at mid-off at 144. The 150 was reached at a quarter to 4. Mr Christopherson resumed bowling at 159 and the last ball of the second over Mr Shuter returned to him. Six for 167. Among Mr Shuter's hits were seven fours, two threes and five twos.

Mr Key, who followed in, was caught at cover-slip after making 11. Seven for 186. Abel came in and by a single caused the second century to be registered at 4.30. Runs came very fast. Change after change in the bowling was resorted to, but without success, and the 300 was hoisted at a quarter to 6, Mr Roller having just previously completed his 100. The latter was missed by Mr Thornton in the long field when he had made 116. The alterations in the attack had no effect, and when time was called at a quarter-past 6 both batsmen remained not out. Mr Roller's principal hits up to the present are a five (two from an overthrow), 16 fours, three threes and 12 twos.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 29 August, page 8)

Although the scoring at Kennington Oval yesterday was not as heavy as on the previous day, still some very fine defence was shown by the Kentish batsmen, who occupied the wickets from a quarter to 1 for the rest of the day. At the conclusion of Monday's play Surrey had scored 346 for the loss of seven wickets. Yesterday Mr Roller, not out 132, and Abel, not out 51, continued the home team's innings at ten minutes to 12, the early bowling being intrusted to Collins and Wootton.

Three runs were obtained from seven overs, and then Abel, by a two off Wootton, caused the 350 to be signalled at 12 o'clock. After an addition of 18, Mr Roller was splendidly caught by Mr Wilson at deep long on. His principal hits were a five (two from an overthrow), 16 four's, three three's and 15 two's. Eight for 368. Mr Horner came in, but only three had been scored when Abel was beaten by a delivery from Wootton, who clean bowled him, breaking the middle stump. Among his hits were eight four's, a three and seven two's. Mr Horner was taken at the wicket and the innings

closed at 12.25 for 378. Wootton claimed six wickets . . .

At a quarter to one Kent sent in Mr Patterson and the Hon Ivo Bligh to the attacks of Barratt and Mr Horner. Mr Patterson was taken at slip when only three runs had been obtained. G G Hearne filled the vacancy. Both batsmen played with great care and the score rose very slowly. The "50" was reached at 1.30. Henderson went on in lieu of Barratt at 53, and off the second ball of the third over Mr Bligh made a very lofty hit in the long field, but Mr Key misjudged the ball and it went to the boundary. He did not long survive this let off, however, as Henderson clean bowled him with his next delivery. Lord Harris joined Hearne, and at luncheon the score was 71.

On resuming after the usual interval runs were obtained very slowly. Mr Roller relieved Mr Horner at 90, but this change did not have the desired effect, the "100" being hoisted at 3.35. After several alterations in the attack Maurice Read was tried in place of Henderson at 131, and with his second ball he clean bowled Lord Harris, who had played very fine cricket for 41, which included a four, a three and nine twos. Three down. The same bowler also disposed of Mr Tylecote at 139. Mr Wilson was out to an appeal for "leg before." The Rev R T Thornton came in and "200" was registered at 5.25.

Despite several bowling changes it was not until 10 minutes past 6 that Mr Thornton was bowled. Stumps were then drawn for the day, Kent wanting 53 to save the "follow on" with four wickets to fall.

Day 3 (report from Thursday 30 August, page 4)

A very international day's cricket was witnessed by those who visited Kennington Oval yesterday. The weather was rather dull and the attendance was not so large as on either of the two previous days. When stumps were drawn on Thursday, Surrey had completed an innings for 378, and Kent had lost six batsmen for 246, this with four wickets to fall they required 53 to save the "follow on."

Hearne, the overnight not out, with 76, was accompanied to the wickets by Mr Marchant at ten minutes to 12, the bowling being shared by Barratt and Maurice Read. The amateur after making eight was clean bowled by Read. Seven for 254. Mr Christopherson came in, but only a single was obtained when Hearne was bowled; the latter had not added anything to the score since last evening. His principal hits were - eight fours, two threes and eight twos. Mr Christopherson was taken at the wicket. Nine for 261. Collins and Wootton were now together, and 38 were still wanting to save the "follow on." Collins was caught by the wicket-keeper soon afterwards without any addition to the score, the innings closing at a few minutes past 1 for 299. Maurice Read claimed six wickets . . .

Surrey, who had a balance of 79 in their favour, commenced their second venture with Maurice Read and Mr Shuter at 1.20, to the attacks of Wootton and Mr Christopherson. Read, after making ten out of the 11 runs that were scored while he was in, was bowled - middle stump - by Mr Christopherson. Mr Key joined Mr Shuter, but the latter at 42 was finely caught by the wicket-keeper. Mr W W Read filled the vacancy. Wootton gave up the ball to Collins at 42. This alteration proved disastrous to Mr Read, who was clean bowled in Collins's third over. Mr Roller joined Mr Key, and at the luncheon interval 57 runs were registered.

On resuming the game at 2.50, Mr Roller returned the second ball he received from Collins. Four for 57. Mr Diver, who followed, was caught at third man at 60. Henderson came next. Mr Key

was easily taken at mid-on 11 runs later. Among his hits were six fours, three threes and two twos. Six down. The innings quickly closed. Henderson played on at 80, Abel was caught at cover-slip at 85, Barratt was bad at 89 and Mr Bowden was dismissed at 92. Time, 3.45. Mr Christopherson bowled remarkably well, taking eight wickets . . .

Wanting 172 to win, Kent sent in Mr Tylecote and the Hon Ivo Bligh to the bowling of Henderson and Mr Horner. The former's first ball found its way into Mr Tylecote's wicket. Lord Harris came in and runs were scored very fast. Lord Harris, after making a splendid drive for four into the pavilion, appeared to be caught off the next ball but one at third man, by Henderson; on Thoms, the umpire at that end, being appealed to, gave it not out. The Hon Ivo Bligh returned the ball at 27, and Mr Wilson, who followed in, was bowled at 28. Hearne came in, but lost the company of Lord Harris at 45, the latter being caught by Abel at slip, who took the ball with his left hand. Mr Patterson joined Hearne, and 50 was hoisted at 4.40. The professional was bowled by Mr Roller, who had just relieved Mr Horner. Five for 66.

The Rev R T Thornton filled the vacancy, and although the changes in the bowling were frequent the "100" was reached at ten minutes to 6. In the remaining 25 minutes only 12 runs were scored, and when "time" was announced, Kent wanted 60 for victory with five wickets to fall. Mr Patterson's chief hits were two fours, five threes and a two. It will be seen by the complete score appended that the match was drawn.

27 August: SUSSEX v NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2762.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 28 August, page 10)

Both counties were well represented at Brighton yesterday, when this return encounter, the last fixture on the Nottinghamshire programme, was commenced in the presence of a large number of people. The visitors had the good fortune to win the toss, but Shrewsbury, Mr Wright and Barnes were all out by the time the core reached 63.

At this point of the game Gunn joined Flowers, and 92 runs were added before another wicket fell. Gunn hit very brilliantly for 52, which was made up of ten fours, three twos and six singles, and gave no chance. Flowers, on the other hand, played more carefully than usual and his innings was deserving of great praise. After Flowers was out four wickets went down very rapidly, but Mills and Sherwin gave some trouble, and the total reached 248. Sussex had 55 minutes' batting before the drawing of stumps, but in that time only made 28 runs for the loss of one wicket.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 29 August, page 8)

Walter Wright and Attewell, the Notts professionals, bowled splendidly yesterday at Brighton in the return match between the above counties. The Sussex batsmen nevertheless played very pluckily, and owing to the steady and defensive batting of Humphreys and Mr Newham, and Mr Wyatt and Jesse Hide, the "follow on" was averted. Wright obtained six wickets . . .

Nottinghamshire, on going in a second time, with 70 runs to the good, did not do well at the start. Mr C W Wright, Shrewsbury and Flowers were all out when the total was 21. Barnes and Gunn then got together, and these two batsmen played out time.

Day 3 (report from Thursday 30 August, page 4)

At Brighton yesterday, after an excellent day's cricket, Sussex managed to make a very capable draw against Nottingham. The wicket played queerly in the early part of the day, and but for Gunn's brilliant hitting the visitors would have fared very badly. That professional scored a splendid 68, in which were 11 fours and five twos. In all the innings amounted to 159. Juniper and Mr Hyde bowled exceedingly well, the former taking five wickets for 55 and Hide three for 41.

Sussex were left with 230 runs to get to win with about three hours' play before them. It was therefore only partnerships to play for the draw, which was first rendered possible by the patient defence of Tester and Humphreys, and afterwards accomplished by Messrs Wyatt and Whitfeld. While the former pair were in together the Nottingham men tried all their bowlers and fielded up finely, but nothing could tempt the batsmen to hit. The two amateurs got together at the fall of the fourth wicket for 79 and were not parted up to the close of play, when Sussex, with six wickets to fall, wanted 85 runs to win.

27 August; GLOUCESTERSHIRE v LANCASHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2760.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 28 August, page 10)

In the return match between Gloucestershire and Lancashire at Clifton, the home county remained at the wickets all yesterday, losing eight wickets for 323 runs. Mr Cranston far exceeded anything he has done previously, and Dr W G Grace scored his first innings of 100 this season.

These two batsmen got together when the total was 75 for three wickets, and it was not until the total had reached 201 that Dr Grace was splendidly caught and bowled by Mr Taylor. Dr Grace gave a chance to slip when he had made 108; but Mr Cranston's innings was free from anything like a fault. The chief hits were - Dr Grace, nine fours, three threes and 20 twos; and Mr Cranston, 11 fours, nine threes and 16 twos.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 29 August, page 8)

The Gloucestershire Eleven played up extremely well at Clifton yesterday, and when play ceased for the day they had every prospect of securing a victory over their northern opponents. The western county, it will be remembered, were batting all through Monday, and made 323 for eight wickets. Yesterday their innings was finished with the addition of a single run.

Lancashire on going in to bat began badly, but some very fair form was shown by Barlow, Briggs and Mr Royle. Later on Watson did well, but the best batting of the day was that of Pilling, who hit well, besides showing capital defence. The visitors, however, were all out for 190, and being 134 runs behind had to follow on. This time they fared even worse than before. Woof bowled extremely well, and Robinson only played him with confidence. At the drawing of stumps Lancashire, with five wickets to fall, wanted 44 runs to save an innings defeat.

Day 3 (report from Thursday 30 August, page 4)

By their victory over Lancashire at Clifton yesterday, Gloucestershire gained their first triumph this season in a match of importance. It will be remembered that over night the score stood - Gloucestershire, 324; Lancashire, 190 and 910 for five wickets. Thus the latter with five wickets to fall still wanted 44 to avert a single innings defeat.

Yesterday Robinson and Mr Payne went on with the Lancashire batting, and chiefly by the professional's splendid hitting the total eventually reached 213. Robinson's grand score of 90 included seven fours, seven threes and nine twos. The western county were left with 80 runs to get to win, and this number cost them four good wickets. Dr E M Grace and Mr Moberly were out at 19, but Dr W G Grace and Mr Pullen played up well, and although they were both got rid of before the match was won, it was practically their batting that secured the victory.

30 August: SURREY v DERBYSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2764.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 31 August, page 8)

The return match between these counties was commenced at Kennington Oval yesterday. Surrey, having won the toss, started batting at 12 o'clock, Mr Shuter and Mr W W Read being opposed to Mycroft and Marlow.

Both batsmen scored very fast, and a change in the attack was made at 45, Chatterton replacing Mycroft, while at 51 Marlow gave up the ball to Cropper. The former alteration was successful, for, when 60 had been signaller, Mr Shuter was out to a catch at the wicket. Henderson joined Mr Read. Runs were obtained very fast off Cropper's bowling, so that at 90 Marlow resumed. Henderson by a single sent up the "100" at 10 minutes past 1, but at 122 he was struck by a delivery from Mr Docker and had to retire in consequence of the injury he had received. Mr Diver came in, but lost the company of Mr W W Read at 137, the latter being caught by the wicket-keeper. Among his hits were 11 4's, three 3's and five 2's. Maurice Read was bowled after making a single. Three for 138. Mr Roller, who succeeded him, remained in until just before the luncheon interval, when he returned the ball. Four for 149.

On resuming play, Mr Diver was accompanied to the wicket by Mr Key, Mr Docker and Mycroft having charge of the bowling. The "150" was reached at ten minutes to 3, and only 25 minutes had elapsed before Mr Key, by a cut for two, caused the second century to be hoisted. Mr Diver was clean bowled after an addition of 19, for 69, which included 12 4's, three 3's and four 2's. Abel was dismissed by a catch at the wicket at 250. Six down. Mr Bowden assisted Mr Key to take the score to 295 before he was also caught by the wicket-keeper. Seven down.

Henderson was greatly cheered when he resumed his innings. Mr Key, by an on-drive for four, sent up "300" at 4.20; but he was taken at the wicket three runs later. His principal contributions were five 4's, three 3's and seven 2's. Marlow disposed of Mr Horner at 318 and Henderson was caught by the wicket-keeper at 339, the innings closing at 4.50. No fewer than six batsmen were caught at the wicket. Seven bowlers were tried . . .

Mr Maynard and Chatterton opened the visitors' innings at 5 minutes past 5, the bowling being shared by Barratt and Mr Horner. Chatterton was bowled when only one run had been obtained, and Mr Maynard was finely caught by Mr Shuter at cover point. Two down. Platts and Mr Docker were now together, but the partnership did not last long, as Mr Docker got out of his ground at 19 and had to retire. Platts was taken at slip at 32. Mr Smith and Foster kept together until just before "time," when the amateur had the misfortune to play on. Stumps were then drawn for the day . . .

Day 2 (report from Saturday 1 September, page 10)

The second day's cricket in this match at Kennington Oval was, although the weather was very dull, far more interesting than the first day's. When stumps were drawn on Thursday Surrey had finished an innings for 339, and the visitors had lost five wickets for 62. Yesterday, Foster, the overnight not-out, with 20, was accompanied to the wickets by Mr W W Evershed at 11 o'clock. Barratt and Mr Horner were the bowlers.

The amateur was bowled at 81, and Marlow, who followed, was secured at cover-point after an addition of three. Seven for 84. Mr Walker was dismissed by Mr Roller at 87. Nine down. Cropper joined Foster, and the "100" was reached at five minutes to 12. Runs came fast, and "150" was registered at 12.40. Ten runs later Foster was bowled for a well played 81, which included nine 4's, five 3's and six 2's. Cropper was out without any alteration in the score, and the innings closed at 12.55 for 160. Barratt claimed five wickets.

Being 179 in arrear, Derbyshire "followed on", Mr Smith and Chatterton commencing their second attempt at ten minutes past 1 to the attacks of Barratt and Mr Roller. Only eight had been obtained when Barratt bowled Chatterton. One down. Mr Maynard filled the vacancy, but soon lost the company of Mr Smith, who was caught at point. Two for 8. Mr Docker was bowled with the score at 19. Foster joined Mr Maynard, and should have been caught by the wicket keeper before he had scored. Both batsmen hit freely, and at the luncheon interval 47 runs were registered.

On resuming, Foster was run out at 51. Platts came on, but was bowled at 78, and Cropper took his place. The score now rose very fast, and, despite the bowling changes, the "100" was signalled at five minutes past 4, while very soon afterwards their first innings total was passed. Abel, who had relieved Barratt at 150, bowled Cropper at 164. His chief hits were six 4's, two 3's and seven 2's. Six down. Mr Evershed came to the assistance of Mr Maynard, and the former, by hitting Mr Key to leg for four, averted a single innings defeat at 4.35. Mr Maynard played on when only eight runs were required for the second century. He had played well for 84, which comprised eight 4's, four 3's, eight 2's and singles. Mr Walker was next in, and "200" went up at 4.50. The last-named batsman, however, was taken at cover-point at 211. Marlow joined Mr Evershed, and only 20 minutes had elapsed when "250" was telegraphed.

Maurice Read went in on lieu of Mr Horner at 271, but Mr Evershed made no fewer than 14 off his first over - two on-drives for four each and two off-drives for a four and a two. In his next over, however, he clean-bowled Marlow. Mycroft was the last man in, and Mr Evershed, after cutting Maurice Read for two 4's, by a single caused "300" to be hoisted at 20 minutes to 6. He was bowled by Henderson, however, without any addition to the score. His principal hits were 15 4's, two 3's and five 2's. Eight bowlers were tried . . .

Wanting 122 to win, Surrey went in a second time, Mr Shuter and Mr Bowden being opposed by Mycroft and Marlow. Mr Bowden was bowled by Marlow at eight and Mycroft bowled Mr Shuter at 10. Abel and Barratt then played out time . . .

Day 3 (report from Monday 3 September, page 5)

Surrey finished up their season on Saturday by defeating Derbyshire at Kennington Oval. The first match between these counties, in May, at Derby, Surrey lost by 51 runs. When stumps were drawn on Friday the visitors had been in twice, scoring in the two innings 460 runs, and Surrey wanted 122 to win, 16 of which they had obtained for the loss of two wickets. Abel, not out one, and Barratt, not out four, continued the innings on Saturday at five minutes past 11, to the bowling of Mycroft and Marlow.

Four runs came from 10 overs, 20 being signalled at a quarter past 11. Chatterton relieved Marlow at 21, but the wicket was obtained off the other bowler, Barratt being caught by the wicket-keeper running to square-leg. Two or 32. Mr W W Read joined Abel, and Cropper went on in lieu of Mycroft without any alteration in the score. Mr W W Read by a cut for two sent up 50 at 11.55.

Despite the variations in the attack Mr W W Read by a single caused the 100 to be hoisted at 12.30. After an addition of 16, Mr W W Read was easily caught by Cropper at mid-on. Among his hits were nine fours, a three and five twos. Four for 116.

Maurice Read came to the assistance of Abel, and the latter, by an on-drive for two, won the match for Surrey by six wickets at 10 minutes to 1.

30 August: YORKSHIRE v MARYLEBONE CLUB AND GROUND

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2765.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 31 August, page 8)

Bates and Peate gave two very good batting performances yesterday at Scarborough in the second fixture of the Cricket Festival - the return match between the Marylebone Club and Yorkshire. The M.C.C. team was not a strong one and Yorkshire were without the services of Hall, Harrison and Hunter.

Bates hit very brilliantly, scoring no less than 75 out of the 112 runs made while he was batting. During the time that he and Emmett were together the total was increased by 66. Later in the innings, when eight wickets were down for 132, Peel was joined by Peate, and, owing to the free hitting of the latter and the careful batting of the former, 88 runs were added before the pair were parted. Then Peate was caught at the wicket for a very useful and vigorously hit 60. Bates's hits were nine fours, five threes, five twos and singles, while Peate's included a 6, five fours, three threes and five twos. At the concluded of the Yorkshire innings stumps were drawn for the day. Barnes was the most successful bowler, taking six wickets . . .

Day 2 (report from Saturday 1 September, page 10)

The M.C.C. were batting most of the time yesterday at Scarborough, and at the drawing of stumps the match was left at a most interesting stage. The county had completed an innings overnight for 228, and it was against this total that Mr Thornton and Daft went in yesterday shortly after noon. Emmett and Peate were the bowlers.

Both batsmen were quickly dismissed. Barnes, who followed, was bowled by a ball that he did not attempt to play, and three wickets were down for 14. Hearne and Gunn made a stand, and chiefly by the latter's batting the record was increased to 40 before Hearne was got rid of. Then several more batsmen were out in quick succession. Peate sent back Flowers and Mr Allcock with successive balls at 58, and four runs later Emmett bowled Gunn. With seven wickets down for 62 there seemed every prospect of a "follow on," but Messrs de Paravicini and Schultz got together, and in spite of frequent bowling changes put on 118 runs before the former was out for a vigorously hit but far from faultless 60. Mr Schultz was unfortunately run out for an excellent 51, and then some exceedingly hard hitting by Mr Vernon raised the total to 222 before the innings closed. Peate's four wickets averaged ten runs and Emmett's five were obtained at a cost of 81.

Yorkshire, whose advantage on the first innings was only six runs, sent in Ulyett and Mr Lumb to begin their second attempt, and at the drawing of stumps 39 had been made without the loss of a wicket.

Day 3 (report from Monday 3 September, page 5)

The second match of the annual cricket festival at Scarborough terminated on Saturday in a draw in favour of Yorkshire. Each team had completed an innings overnight, the county for 228 and Marylebone for 222. Yorkshire had also gone in a second time and scored 39 without losing a wicket.

On resuming on Saturday, several of the home side were seen to great advantage. Ulyett especially batted splendidly and made 84 out of 130 runs scored while he was in. His figures included two sixes (both driven out of the ground), ten fours and eight twos. Bates did little, but Lockwood and Mr Hirst got together at 136 and were not parted until the total was 204. The rest of the innings was noteworthy for the splendid hitting of Lockwood, who was at length got rid of - eighth wicket down. Not another run was made afterwards and the innings closed for 262. Gunn bowled exceedingly well and took three wickets at a cost of 16 runs . . .

The M.C.C. only had about 50 minutes' batting, and in that time lost two wickets for 63 runs.

30 August: SOUTH v NORTH

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2763.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 31 August, page 8)

Before a large and an appreciative company the second match of the Tunbridge Wells Week commenced yesterday. The Southern team went in first, and began so badly that five good wickets were down for 59 runs. Then, however, Mr Gilbert and J Phillips made a determined stand and at luncheon the score had been increased to 113, Phillips just having been dismissed for a patient 17. Most of the other batsmen hit freely and when the innings closed at a quarter to 4, the total had reached 163. Mr Gilbert was out ninth for an admirable 43. Watson and Barlow bowled with excellent effect, the former taking five wickets for 79 and Barlow a like number for 58.

The Northern side did not make a much more promising start than their opponents, Dixon, Barlow and Shrewsbury being out at 40. Hall and Robinson, however, got together and played splendidly. The former was not out at the call of time for 53, an innings marked by all the batsman's usual care. Robinson's 31, on the other hand, was vigorously hit and almost equally valuable. The North, with five wickets to fall, are now only 31 runs behind.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 1 September, page 10)

Hall again played very finely yesterday at Tunbridge Wells, in the concluding match of the cricket week. He increased his score of 55 to 127, and was not out until the score had reached 309. While he was batting on Thursday he played very steadily and carefully, but at times yesterday he hit freely. His 127 included one seven (four for an overthrow), 15 fours, five threes and seven twos. Mills, Butler and Watson hit very vigorously, and the Northern side were not got rid of until the total, as stated, had reached 309.

In a minority of 146, Dr W G Grace and Dr E M Grace commenced the second innings of the South at a quarter to 4. Dr E M Grace was out at 15, but when Mr Gilbert came in some very good cricket was shown, and 51 runs were put on before the second wicket fell. There is very little to say about the batting after this. Humphrey played steadily for his runs, but the others could do very little indeed against the bowling of Crossland; and the innings was over in an hour and 40 minutes for 108. The North thus won the match by an innings and 38 runs.

The most successful of the Southern bowlers were Dr W G Grace and A Hide. Each obtained three wickets, the former for 60 runs and the latter for 75 runs. For the North Crossland took eight wickets for 57 runs and Watson two for 12.

3 September: THE REST v NOTTINGHAMSHIRE AND LANCASHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2766.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 4 September, page 5)

Rain seriously interfered with the opening of the last match of the Scarborough Festival yesterday. In the morning the wet continued persistently until luncheon time, but held off afterwards sufficiently to allow a start to be made about a quarter to 3. Mr C W Wright and Shrewsbury, who began the batting for the combined counties, were opposed by Peate and Bates.

Eight runs were scored, and then rain drove the players to shelter once more. This interruption lasted until a quarter to 5, when the game was resumed. The ground, however, was by then thoroughly saturated, and both batsmen scored freely. When stumps were drawn shortly before half-past 5, 54 runs had been put on without the loss of a wicket.

Considering the composition of the two teams, the title of the match is something of a misnomer. Nottingham, it is true, is well represented in the counties, but no Lancashire cricketer of note is included, while the England side, with the exception of Lord Harris and Mr C H Allcock, is made up entirely from Yorkshire and Middlesex.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 5 September, page 7)

There was some very fine batting yesterday at Scarborough in the last match of the Cricket Festival. On Monday the combined counties had scored 54 runs without the loss of a wicket. Yesterday they increased this number to 326 for the loss of nine batsmen, and Mr Crosfield alone failed to get into double figures. The chief contributors to this large score were the three Nottingham professionals - Gunn, Barnes and Shrewsbury.

The record was raised yesterday morning to 79 before Shrewsbury was unfortunately run out for a finely played 50. At 95 Mr Wright was also run out, and with the total at 119 Flowers was bowled. Then Barnes was joined by Mr Schultz and a long stand was made. No fewer than 69 runs were put on before Barnes was caught behind the bowler, and at 192 Mr Schultz was stumped. Mr Daft made 23 in very good style before being caught and bowled by Mr Allcock. Six wickets were down for 220 when Mr Lancashire and Gunn got together, and another prolonged resistance was offered to the bowling. Before the partnership was ended 52 runs were added to the total.

Mr Lancashire was bowled at 272, Gunn was dismissed at 294, and, with the addition of 13 runs, Mr Crosfield was got rid of. Mr Porter and Attewell played out time, the total, when stumps were drawn for the day, being 326 for nine wickets. It is understood that as rain interfered so greatly with the play on Monday, the game will be extended to Thursday if necessary.

Day 3 (report from Thursday 6 September, page 4)

The combined counties had all the best of yesterday's play at Scarborough. Overnight they had lost only nine wickets in making 328, and yesterday, on continuing, they added 22 runs before the innings closed for 348. The England captain tried nine bowlers, Peate being the most successful, taking five wickets . . .

Ulyett and Hall opened the England innings, and the former, after making ten in a couple of hits, was unluckily stumped at 17. Lord Harris joined Hall, and runs came steadily until the Kentish captain was run out soon after luncheon. The score then was 56 for two wickets. Hall left 20 runs later on for a capital 36, but Bates and Lockwood made a good stand, before the former was bowled at 112. From this point the game went all against the batting side. The last six wickets put on only 21 runs, and in Mr Allcock's enforced absence, owing to an injury to his hand, the innings closed for 133. Walter Wright took four wickets . . .

England, who were 215 behind, had, of course, to follow on, and at the drawing of stumps had lost one wicket for seven runs.

Day 4 (report from Friday 7 September, page 5)

The concluding contest of the Scarborough Festival terminated in a decisive victory for the combined counties over the England team by an innings and 31 runs. The scores on Wednesday night were - Nottinghamshire and Lancashire, 348; England, 133; and the latter, having followed on, had also lost one wicket for seven runs in their second attempt.

Rain fell in the forenoon yesterday and prevented a resumption of play until nearly 1 o'clock. Mr Thornton, who was joined by Mr Frank, opposed the bowling of Walter Wright and Attewell. Runs came freely until at half-past 1 wet interrupted the game again, and after waiting some time it was resolved to have an early luncheon. The score then was 43 for one wicket. The rain continued for some time and completely destroyed the interest in the match.

Eventually another start was made at five minutes to 3, and the batsmen, playing steadily, took the total to 80, when Mr Thornton was run out for 49. Hall came in, but Mr Frank did most of the scoring until at 102 he was bowled for 46. Lord Harris was quickly caught at the wicket, but Hall and Ulyett made a capital stand. The latter made a splendid drive out of the ground for six, but at 136 he was out to a grand catch at long-on by Mr de Paravicini, who was fielding as a substitute. Bates succeeded and hit very hard at first, but later on the wickets fell rapidly, and as Mr Allcock being again unable to bat, the innings and match terminated at 25 minutes to 6 for 184 . . .

3 September: SUSSEX v DERBYSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2767.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 4 September, page 5)

There was some capital batting by the Sussex team yesterday at Brighton in the return match between Sussex and Derbyshire. Going in first at a quarter past 12, the home county remained at the wickets for four hours and a quarter, scoring 269. The innings was remarkable for the fine hitting of Messrs Newham and Wyatt, and the steady, careful play of Mr Whitfeld and Tester. It will be remembered that this match brings to a conclusion the county cricket for the season.

Sussex won the toss and commenced batting with Jesse Hide and Lester to the bowling of Mycroft and Marlow. Runs came freely at first, so at 23 Mr Docker went on for Marlow. Only three runs had been added when Tester was disposed of, caught at cover-slip off Mycroft. Mr Newham came in and at once began hitting freely. Many changes of bowling were tried, but the score rose rapidly, and it was not until 70 runs had been added that Hide was bowled for an excellent innings of 40. Humphreys joined Mr Newham, and when the luncheon interval was taken, the total was 103 for two wickets. Mr Newham had at this time made 42 by some very fine cricket.

After the resumption of the game, the score was quickly taken to 126, when Mr Newham was caught by the wicket-keeper, who was standing several yards back. Included in his admirable innings were a five (four for an overthrow), six fours, one three and six twos. Humphreys played on at 34, and then Messrs Whitfeld and Wyatt were together. Another long stand was made, and although change after change in the bowling was resorted to, the pair put on 87 runs before they were parted. Mr Wyatt was bowled by Cropper at 221 for a splendid innings of 52, which comprised nine fours, five twos and singles. Soon after Mr Whitfeld was also bowled for a very patient 42. After his departure only Mr Bettsworth's hitting is worthy of mention, and the side were out at 20 minutes past 5 for 269. Mycroft was the most successful of the Derbyshire bowlers, taking four wickets . . .

Derbyshire had 20 minutes' batting, and when stumps were drawn for the day had lost one wicket for 12 runs. There was a good attendance on the ground, and though the wind was high, the weather was fine and bright.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 5 September, page 7)

The admirable batting of Chatterton and Mr W W Evershed yesterday at Brighton saved Derbyshire a single innings defeat at the hands of Sussex. It will be remembered that on Monday evening the home county had completed the first innings for 269, while Derbyshire had lost one wicket for 12 runs.

Yesterday the game was renewed at 20 minutes to 12. With the exception of Foster, the Derbyshire batsmen did very little against the Sussex bowling. By some fine free hitting Foster used his utmost endeavours to avert a follow on, but without avail. His 58 included eight 4s, two 3s and four 2s. The Derbyshire innings closed at 3 o'clock for 156, or 113 behind.

On going in a second time, Messrs Smith and Docker took the score to 28 before the fall of the first wicket, but afterwards there was a rapid downfall. At 40 no fewer than four batsmen were got rid

of, and when Chatterton and Mr Evershed got together, six wickets were down. As 73 runs were still required to save the single innings defeat, it seemed almost certain that the match would soon be over, but the two batsmen played magnificently. Notwithstanding numerous changes of bowling, the total was increased by 98 before Mr Evershed was bowled for an admirable innings of 56. The greatest credit is due to these two batsmen for the coolness and determination they displayed at so critical a point in the game. Mr Evershed's chief hits were nine 4s, a three and three 2s.

Mr Walker and Chatterton played out time, when the total was 167 for seven wickets. Derbyshire are now 54 runs on with three wickets to fall. In Derbyshire's first innings Humphreys was the most successful bowler, taking four wickets . . .

Day 3 (report from Thursday 6 September, page 4)

The last county match of the season ended at Brighton yesterday in an entirely unexpected, but most creditable victory for Derbyshire over Sussex. On Tuesday it will be remembered that having to follow their innings against a majority of 113, Derbyshire started their second attempt so badly that six wickets fell for 40 runs, and a single innings defeat seemed inevitable. Chatterton and Mr Evershed played up pluckily and well, however, and at the drawing of stumps had raised the score to 167 for seven wickets, Chatterton being then not out.

Rain fell heavily during the early morning yesterday, and the wicket was very slow and difficult when play was resumed. Chatterton was at length dismissed for 61, in every way an excellent display of batting, and in which the chief figures were seven fours, a three and six twos. The innings in all amounted to 216. A Hide, who was not kept on nearly long enough, took three wickets . . .

Sussex were left with 104 runs to get to win, but as the wicket got worse as time went on the task proved quite beyond their power. Mr Whitfeld played his usual patient game and carried out his bat for a careful 26, but J Hide and Tester were the only others who made double figures, and when the innings terminated at a quarter to 5 for 74, Derbyshire were left with a victory for 29 runs. The chief credit of this performance lies with Marlow, whose effective bowling got rid of six batsmen . .

With the interesting match between Sussex and Derbyshire which ended at Brighton last evening, the county cricket season of 1883 terminated. Although there has been an absence of the excitement which attended the contests with the Australians last year, there has been a great deal of genuine healthy interest taken in the games, while the cricket all-round has been above the average.

Nottinghamshire is the only county which has had but one reverse, and although Yorkshire has won nine out of 16 games as against four out of 12 by the Midland county, Nottinghamshire is generally allowed to be the "champion county" of the year. Middlesex started badly; but wound up the season with some very heavy scoring. Rapid strides have been made by Surrey this season, the batting of Mr W W Read standing out as the most prominent feature. Mr Hornby has not done so well for Lancashire as in former years; but the batting of Barlow and Watson's bowling in some measure compensated for it. Gloucestershire has shown great falling off, the absence of Midwinter from their ranks being a great loss to them. Lord Harris batted as well as ever for Kent, and has a grand average of 42.11. The liberality of Lord Sheffield in trying to bring out colts at the beginning of the season for Sussex has not met with the success one could have wished, although it may be noted they defeated Yorkshire. Lockwood carries off the palm of the highest individual score of the season, viz., 208 without a chance at Gravesend against Kent, while Mr W W Read is credited with the highest aggregate number of runs - 948.

Glancing at the principal counties in alphabetical order, we find that Derbyshire played in eight matches, in two of which they defeated the southern counties - Surrey and Sussex; they lose five, being twice beaten by Lancashire and one by Sussex, Yorkshire and Surrey; the remaining match with Yorkshire on their own ground was drawn. Foster averaged 18.7 in 11 innings, for 205 runs; Mr L C Docker, 18.2, 13 innings, 236 runs; Mr E J Maynard, 17.6, nine innings, 159 runs; and Mr W W Evershed, 14.14, 15 innings, 224 runs. In the bowling Marlow took 17 wickets for 19.12 runs each; Chatterton, 15 wickets for 19.8; Brelsford, 16 wickets for 20.16; Cropper, 16 wickets for 21.1; and W Mycroft, nine wickets for 18.

Gloucestershire's season has not been successful, especially when the prowess of the western county a few years ago is remembered. They played 12 matches and three of these ended in victories, two, however, were against Somersetshire, while the only win with a county in the front rank was over Lancashire, at Clifton. Twice they were defeated by Surrey and once by Middlesex, Lancashire, Nottinghamshire and Yorkshire; the three remaining games were drawn. Dr W G Grace again heads the list of batsmen with an average of 36.17, having played in 18 innings for 665 runs, his chief individual contribution being 112. Mr J Cranston comes second with 33.16 in 10 innings (two not outs) for 270; Mr W R Gilbert averages 28.7, 18 innings (3 not outs), 427 runs; Dr E M Grace, 24.4, 18 innings, 436 runs; and Mr H V Page, 21.8, 11 innings (two not outs), 197 runs. The bowling has been below the average - Woof took 42 wickets at a cost of 18.36 runs each; Dr W G Grace 43 wickets for 26.37; and Mr W R Gilbert 14 wickets for 29.3.

Kent opened their season very unfortunately, losing their first four matches, viz., Lancashire, Yorkshire, Sussex and Middlesex, while later in the season they were again defeated by Yorkshire and Middlesex. Success attended only two of their engagements - Sussex and Lancashire (the Northern county losing a well-fought game by 21 runs). Ten matches were played in all, both the out and home encounters with Surrey being left drawn. Lord Harris has been in rare batting form, and in his 18 innings (once not out) accumulated 725 runs, or an average of 42.11; his lordship also scored most in an innings, 118. The Rev R T Thornton averaged 29.3, eight innings (three not outs) for 148 runs; Mr A Penn, 23.2, six innings (one not out), 117 runs; Mr M C Kemp, 23.1, four

innings, 93 runs; Mr L Wilson, 18.3, 11 innings (two not outs), 165 runs; Mr G G Hearne, 17.2, 18 innings, 308 runs. Of the bowlers, Mr S Christopherson secured 38 wickets for 16.25 runs each; Wootton, 37 wickets for 19.36; O'Shaughnessy, three wickets for 20; Collins, six wickets for 21.1; Mr A Penn, 15 wickets for 22; G G Hearne, 22 wickets for 24.21; Mr F Lipscombe, 16 wickets for 26.11; and Lord Harris, seven wickets for 39.3.

Lancashire won half of the 12 matches in which they were engaged. Indeed they began so well that the first four were placed to their credit, two against Derbyshire and one with Nottinghamshire and Kent. Subsequently in the season they beat Surrey and Gloucestershire. They were twice defeated by Yorkshire and once by Kent, Surrey and Gloucestershire; the match at Manchester with Nottinghamshire was drawn. Barlow batted creditably, averaging 26.1 in 21 innings (three not outs) for 469 runs; Mr A N Hornby also averaged 26.1 in 20 innings (one not out), 495 runs; Briggs, 19.5 (19 innings) 366 runs; Mr E Taylor, 18.8 (11 innings), 206 runs; and Mr E Roper, 18.1 (ten innings, one not out), 163 runs. Watson bowled well, claiming 60 wickets for 11.50 runs each; Crossland took 44 wickets for 13.27 runs; Barlow, 66 wickets for 13.59 runs; Mr A G Steel, ten wickets for 15.2 runs; and Nash, 18 wickets for 17.10 runs.

An acquisition was made to its ranks by Middlesex this season, as Mr A P Lucas elected to play for them instead of for Surrey, as he had done heretofore. The county engaged in ten matches, four of which they won, defeating Kent twice and Gloucestershire and Surrey once; they were beaten by Surrey at the Oval and by Yorkshire at Lord's; the four remaining games were drawn. The Hon A Lyttelton has a magnificent average of 68.4 in seven innings (one not out), for 412 runs; Mr A W Ridley added 52 in six innings (one not out), 260 runs; Mr C T Studd, 51.2 (twelve innings, three not outs), 461 runs; Mr I D Walker, 34.8, 18 innings (two not outs), 552 runs; Mr A P Lucas, 31.3, seven innings (one not out), 189 runs; Mr G B Studd, 29.6, seven innings, 209 runs; Mr P J de Paravicini, 25.8, 13 innings (three not outs), 258 runs; and Mr A J Webbe, 21.6, ten innings (two not outs), 174 runs. Mr C T Studd was credited with the greatest number of wickets - viz., 56 at a cost of 17.41 runs each; Burton took 51 wickets for 18.47; and Mr I D Walker 22 wickets for 20.2

Nottinghamshire only suffered one defeat out of their 12 matches, and that at the hands of Lancashire by nine wickets. They were four times successful, overthrowing Yorkshire, Surrey, Sussex and Gloucestershire, while they played two drawn games with Middlesex, and one each with Lancashire, Gloucestershire, Surrey, Yorkshire and Sussex. Barnes has not shown any falling off in his batting, and comes first with 38.10 in 18 innings (two not outs) for 618 runs; Flowers, 32.9, 18 innings (one not out), 553 runs; Shrewsbury, 30.10, 19 innings (one not out), 550 runs; Gunn, 28.6, 17 innings (one not out), 454 runs; Selby, 27.4, 14 innings (two not outs), 328 runs; W Wright, 24.2, 16 innings (five not outs), 266 runs; Mills, 21.2, 10 innings, 212 runs; and Scotton, 15, seven innings (one not out), 90 runs. Shaw without any difficulty comes first among the bowlers with a record of 54 wickets for an average of 11.34 runs each; Flowers took 32 wickets for 15.6; Attewell, 17 for 18.6; Gunn, 10 wickets for 18.7; Barnes, 16 wickets for 20.4; and W Wright, 34 wickets for 21.19.

The Surrey programme was enlarged this season, as, in addition to their usual first-class county matches and that against Cambridge University, they have met Hertfordshire once and Leicestershire, Hampshire and Sussex twice. Seven of the 16 important contests were won, as they were victorious over Sussex and Gloucestershire twice, and Middlesex, Lancashire and Derbyshire once. Five games were lost - viz., Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire, Lancashire, Middlesex and Yorkshire, and four drawn (two with Kent and one with Nottinghamshire and Yorkshire). Mr W W Read heads the batting with 37.23, in 29 innings (four not outs) for 948 runs; Mr K J Key averaged 36.4, six innings (one not out), 184 runs; Mr W E Roller, 27.23, 25 innings (one not out), 671 runs;

Mr J Shuter, 25.11, 29 innings (two not outs), 686 runs; Maurice Read, 21.18, 30 innings (five not outs), 543 runs; Abel, 21.15, 28 innings (four not outs), 519 runs; Mr E J Diver, 21.9, 18 innings (one not out), 366 runs; and Henderson, 16.11, 26 innings, (one not out), 411 runs. Barratt carried off the palm in the bowling department with 99 wickets at an average cost of 17.1 runs each; Mr W E Roller took 38 wickets for 17.17; Henderson, 27 wickets for 18.9; Maurice Read, 22 wickets for 20.9; Mr C E Horner, 35 wickets for 23.10; and Johnson, 12 wickets for 25.1.

Sussex engaged in 10 matches, and of these they won three (Yorkshire, Derbyshire and Kent) and lost six (Nottinghamshire, Yorkshire, Derbyshire, Kent and Surrey twice). The game with Nottinghamshire at Brighton was drawn. Mr H Whitfeld is at the top of the list of batsmen with 31.1, 15 innings (four not outs) for 342 runs; Mr G N Wyatt averaged 24.8, 16 innings (one not out), 368 runs; Mr W Newham, 23.1, 16 innings (one not out), 346 runs. Of the bowlers, J Hide comes first with 34 wickets at a cost of 15.25 each; Juniper second with 18 wickets for 18.11 each; W Humphreys 20 wickets for 19.18; and A Hide 26 wickets for 23.6.

Yorkshire won more than half the matches in which they participated - nine out of 16. They beat Kent and Lancashire twice, and Middlesex, Surrey, Gloucestershire, Derbyshire and Sussex once. Two games - with Nottinghamshire and Sussex - were lost; and those with Gloucestershire, Derbyshire, Surrey, Middlesex and Nottinghamshire were drawn. Hall heads the batsmen with 40.9, having played in 26 innings (seven not outs), for an aggregate of 769; Mr E Lumb averaged 29.8 in 13 innings (four not outs), for 269 runs; Ulyett, 29.7, 25 innings, 732 runs; Lockwood, 27.19 (23 innings (three not outs), 559 runs; Bates, 19.7, 23 innings, 444 runs; Hunter, 17.11, 18 innings (six not outs), 215 runs; Peel, 16.1, 17 innings (two not outs), 241 runs; Hon M B Hawke, 15.6, 11 innings, 171 runs; Emmett, 14.7, 22 innings, 315 runs; Peate, 12.1, 17 innings (three not outs), 169 runs; and Grimshaw, 11.10, 13 innings, 153 runs. In the bowling Harrison was put on oftener than the rest of the team, and obtained the greatest number of wickets at the least cost - 81 for 11.42 runs each; Peate second, 59 wickets for an average of 12.15; Emmett, 32 wickets for 13.3 runs; Bates, 39 wickets for 16.33; Peel, 32 wickets for 17.12; and Ulyett, 26 wickets for 17.22.

A table of results is appended: -

	Total matches			
	Played	Won	Lost	Drawn
Derbyshire	8	2	5	1
Gloucestershire	12	3	6	3
Hampshire	6	2	3	1
Kent	10	2	6	2
Lancashire	12	6	5	1
Middlesex	10	4	2	4
Nottinghamshire	12	4	1	7
Somersetshire	6	1	5	0
Surrey	20	10	5	5
Sussex	12	4	7	1
Yorkshire	16	9	2	5

10 September: T EMMETT'S XI v R G BARLOW'S XI

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2768.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 11 September, page 7)

A Yorkshire team, under the captaincy of Emmett, and an eleven selected from the counties of Nottinghamshire and Lancashire under that of Barlow, were to have commenced a match on the Holbeck Ground, near Leeds, yesterday. Rain fell so fast during the morning that the ground became completely soaked. The weather brightened a little in the middle of the day, but as the downpour came on again, it was decided to postpone play until to-day, when an early start will be made.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 12 September, page 6)

In the presence of some 3,000 or 4,000 spectators yesterday the first of the two matches, arranged between teams of Northern professionals captained respectively by Emmett and Barlow, was begun at the Holbeck Recreation Ground, Leeds. Rain had prevented a start being made on Monday, but yesterday, though the weather was cold and unpleasant, a full day's play took place, each side having completed an innings by the expiration of time.

Emmett, with the choice of batting, sent in Bates and Hall shortly before noon to face the bowling of Watson and Flowers. Bates made eight out of the first nine runs, and was then missed in the long field by Gunn. This mistake proved of a very expensive character, as Bates afterwards hit most brilliantly. Nash took the ball from Watson at 29, and at 40 Flowers gave way to Barlow. Hall was missed at the wicket from this last change, but eventually he was out leg before to Watson, who had resumed bowling. The score was then 62, of which Hall had scored only 11. Ulyett came in, and the total was rapidly taken to 89, when Bates was also out leg before wicket for a splendid 64, in which were nine fours, two three and four twos. Lockwood was clean bowled for a single soon afterwards, and Walker was finely caught at point at 104.

With five added Ulyett was bowled for a capital 27, and Emmett, after making nine, fell to a well-judged catch at long-off. At luncheon the score stood at 128 for six wickets. The rest of the innings was noteworthy only for the steady batting of Grimshaw, who carried out his bat for 21, the total reaching 149. Flowers bowled exceedingly well, taking three wickets in 21 overs (10 maidens) for 22 runs . . .

Barlow's side made a bad commencement, and so well did Harrison and Peate bowl that the 11 were all dismissed for 79, Barnes and Barlow alone obtaining double figures. Peate's analysis was four wickets in 33 overs (17 maidens) for 31 runs; and Harrison's five wickets in 28 overs (13 maidens) for 36 runs . . .

Day 3 (report from Thursday 13 September, page 4)

At the close of Tuesday's play, at the Holbeck Recreation Ground, Leeds, an innings had been completed on each side, Emmett's eleven having an advantage of 70 runs. The totals were 149 and 79. Yesterday the match was brought to a conclusion.

Emmett's team went in for the second time at a quarter past 12, and remained at the wickets until just before 2 o'clock, 124 runs being scored in rather less than an hour and three-quarters. One brilliant performance made the innings remarkable. Bates, who opened the batting with Hall, was the last man out, his splendidly-hit 79 including three sixes, four fours, one three and 13 twos. In the whole match Bates made 143 runs, and his batting deserves unstinted praise. The support he received yesterday was very poor, Ulyett alone reaching double figures. Nash bowled with great success, taking six wickets . . .

Barlow's Eleven had 195 to get to win, but with the wicket in a very difficult state the accomplishment of such a task was practically out of the question. The downfall that ensued, however, caused general surprise. Flowers, Gunn and Pilling did their best, but to no purpose. Three wickets were down for six runs and the whole side made only 58. Emmett's team thus gained a decisive victory by 136 runs. Peate and Emmett bowled unchanged and had each a capital analysis. Peate took five wickets for 28 runs and Emmett five for 30. Both were in admirable form, and the ground helped them materially.

13 September: NOTTINGHAMSHIRE v MARYLEBONE CLUB AND GROUND

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2770.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 14 September, page 4)

On their own ground at Trent-bridge, Nottingham, yesterday, the champion county team of the year were dismissed for the meagre total of 23 - the smallest score made in any match of importance this season. The M.C.C., who were unable to send down a very strong eleven, went in first, and chiefly by the free hitting of Mr Ford and the steady cricket of W Hearn and F Hearne, they made 91 runs for four wickets.

Then came an extraordinary change. Walter Wright bowled with great success and the remaining wickets fell for the addition of eight runs. W Hearn was caught at cover-point for an admirable 33, Mr Russel bowled for a single, Fothergill caught at the wicket without scoring and Woof clean bowled. Rylott and Mycroft were both caught in the slips, and the innings, which had given every promise of a good score, finished off just after half-past 3 for 99. Wright's five wickets were obtained . . .

The county on going in made a most extraordinary start, and no fewer than five batsmen were dismissed for one run scored from the bat and two leg-byes. With the total at two, Shrewsbury was caught at extra mid-off, and with one added Barnes was clean bowled, Mr Dixon played on, Flowers was caught at mid-off and Shacklock caught behind the bowler; Gunn was bowled at seven, and Wright just later sent back by a catch in the slips. With seven wickets down for 10 runs, there seemed every prospect of a follow on, but Mills and Smith steadily added nine runs for the eighth wicket, and eventually the follow on was just averted by four runs only. Woof and Rylott bowled splendidly as the wicket did not help them in anything like the degree that a glance at the score would lead one to anticipate. Woof's analysis read as follows . . .

The M.C.C. went in a second time, and at the drawing of stumps had scored 13 without losing a wicket, and they are consequently now 89 runs on with all their wickets to fall.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 15 September, page 10)

The Marylebone team more than maintained their advantage over the county team at Nottingham yesterday, and at the close of the day the game stood greatly in their favour. Overnight it will be remembered that the visitors had scored 99 in the first innings and dismissed Nottingham for 23, the smallest total made in a match of importance this season. Marylebone had then gone in a second time and made 13 without losing a wicket.

Yesterday when play was resumed the weather was bright and fine, but the attendance very small. The not-outs, F Hearne and Scotton, were opposed by Walter Wright and Shaw. With six added Hearne was caught and bowled, and Mr Ford succeeded. Runs came freely after this, and the score had reached 51 before the amateur was smartly run out. G G Hearne followed, but lost Scotton at 67, letting in W Hearn. From this point the cricket was very slow, both batsmen playing with the greatest caution. At 86 the Kentish professional was bowled for a patient 13, and just before luncheon W Hearn was caught at slip, the total at the interval being 96 for five wickets.

On resuming, Attewell and Mr Russel hit well, but after the former was got rid of there was little of

note in the batting, and the innings finished off for 149 shortly before 4 o'clock. Shacklock, a fast right-handed bowler, was remarkably successful towards the close of the innings, and took four wickets in the course of nine overs and a ball (2 maidens) for 18 runs . . .

Nottinghamshire had 226 to get to win, but after Shrewsbury and Mr Dixon had made a promising start there was a collapse almost equal to that which occurred on Thursday. At 29 the first wicket fell, and nine runs later five batsmen were out. Two more wickets were obtained at 46, and at the expiration of time the total was only 52 for seven wickets. Thus the county with three wickets to fall now want 174 runs to win.

Day 3 (report from Monday 17 September, page 10)

In the course of about 40 minutes the match at Nottingham between the county team and the M.C.C. was on Saturday brought to a conclusion. Nottinghamshire suffered a severe defeat, being beaten by no fewer than 121 runs. Some such result had been so certain from the state of the score overnight that very few people thought it worth while to visit the ground. The attendance did not at any time number more than 200.

At the drawing of stumps on Friday, the score of Nottinghamshire's second innings was 52 for seven wickets. With three wickets to fall, 174 runs were wanted to win, and the task, of course, was a hopeless one. Mills hit with great power for his 34, but despite all his efforts the innings ended for 104, and the match was brought to a conclusion with the result mentioned above. Fothergill took five wickets for 30 runs, Woof three for 40 runs and G G Hearne two for 11 runs, all three men bowling uncommonly well. A scratch match filled up the afternoon.

17 September: T EMMETT'S XI v R G BARLOW'S XI

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/2/2771.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 18 September, page 5)

The return match between these teams was begun at Batley yesterday, under much more promising circumstances than those which inaugurated their previous meeting at Holbeck last week. Barlow's Eleven was the same in every respect as on that occasion, but Emmett had strengthened his side with Peel and Mr Martin Riley in place of Clegg Walker. The weather was dull and slightly overcast, but there was a large attendance.

A start was eventually made, at a quarter to 1. Barlow won the toss and began batting with Gunn as a partner against the bowling of Peate and Harrison. The Nottinghamshire professional made nearly all the runs, and had scored 21 out of 25 when the fast bowler dismissed him. Barnes was quickly out, but Briggs and Barlow batted steadily, and a double bowling change was tried, Peel and Bates going on. The former soon bowled Briggs, and at luncheon the total was 62 for three wickets.

Rain fell during the interval, but at 3 o'clock the weather cleared up sufficiently to allow of a resumption of the game. Peel and Bates then shared the attack, and Shrewsbury was caught at mid-on at 77. Flowers joined Barlow and a capital stand was made. At 106 the last-comer was stumped, and one run later Barlow was dismissed, the six best wickets being down for 107. The next few batsmen, however, gave unexpected trouble. Robinson and Pilling put on 31 runs before they were parted, and then the former and Watson took the score to 189. Finally the innings closed for 203, a very much better result than was at one time anticipated. Peel's analysis was remarkably good, his four wickets being taken in 21 overs and three balls (seven maidens) for 35 runs . . .

Emmett's team had only about 25 minutes' batting, and in that time Ulyett and Hall hit with great determination and scored 41 runs without losing a wicket.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 19 September, page 6)

When stumps were drawn on Monday at Batley the score was in the following position: - Barlow's eleven, first innings, 203; Emmett's eleven, with no wicket down, 41. The weather yesterday was much brighter and pleasanter than on the previous day, and a very large company visited the ground.

Play began at 10 minutes past 12, Ulyett and Hall, not out with 22 and 17 respectively, going on with the first innings of Emmett's eleven to the bowling of Nash and Watson. Ulyett's vigorous hitting soon caused Nash to be displaced by Flowers. Then score reached 64, and then, in attempting a drive, Ulyett was bowled for 42 - a first-rate display. So good a start having been made, there was every hope that the total of Barlow's team would be surpassed. However, from the fall of the first wicket the batting was very poor. Bates, Mr Riley, Lockwood, Hall and Emmett were dismissed in rapid succession, and with six wickets down the total was only 95. Peel and Grimshaw put on 13 while they were together and made matters look a trifle better, but when Harrison, the last man, went in one run was still wanted to save the "follow on." Amid a good deal of excitement two runs were obtained, and then Harrison was run out. The innings thus closed for 125, or 78 behind. Watson and Flowers bowled with marked success . . .

After luncheon the second innings of Barlow's team was commenced by Barlow and Gunn. Up to a certain point the batting, though fairly good, was not in any way exceptional. Briggs's play was by far the best. However, when eight wickets had fallen for 119, Watson and Crossland became partners, and these two players gave a surprising exhibition of free and vigorous play. Changes of bowling were tried without success, and at the call of time the total had been raised to 196 and neither batsman was out. Barlow's eleven, with two wickets to fall, are now 274 runs ahead.

Day 3 (report from Thursday 20 September, page 10)

At Batley yesterday Barlow's Eleven gained a decisive victory over Emmett's Eleven by 202 runs, thus completely reversing the result of the first match between the same teams at Holbeck last week, when Emmett's team proved successful by 136 runs. At the drawing of stumps on Tuesday Barlow's team had a very strong advantage, being 274 runs to the good with two wickets to fall. The scores were - Barlow's Eleven, 203 and 196 for eight wickets; Emmett's Eleven, 125.

Play was resumed at a quarter past 12, and it was not until 1 o'clock that the innings closed, the total reaching 255. There was most vigorous, though rather lucky, hitting by Crossland, Nash and Watson. The chief hits of Watson's 68 not out were ten fours and eight twos, while in Crossland's 51 were six fours, five threes and six twos. Peate took five wickets . . .

Emmett's team were left with 334 runs to win, but there was no time to make such a number, and the only chance was to play for a draw. The batting, however, was of a moderate description only, and the result was scarcely ever in doubt. Ulyett and Hall played well and scored 48 for the first wicket, but after they had been got rid of there was little done. Emmett and Harrison hit with some freedom, but when the last wicket fell the score was only 131. Thus Barlow's team won as stated above. Watson bowled most successfully, taking five wickets . . .